International Dateline-Another View of the Harbour

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Adventures in Librarianship
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As an alternate approach, the Task Force recommends that all current committees and
task forces be replaced by a single Standing
Committee for Affirmation, designed to re-
spond to the Vice-Director's proposals
quickly and "objectively." Anticipating
high staff turnover on this committee, the
Task Force suggests that the Standing
Committee for Affirmation be staffed with
paid library consultants who are already
familiar with the basic purpose of the
committee and for whom "objectivity"
will cause little stress.

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International Dateline —
Another View of the Harbour City
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My City: A Hong Kong Story
Translated by Eva Hung

Hong Kong in the 1970s—a time of
rapid economic growth, and more signifi-
cantly, of growth in self-confidence and
the forging of a local identity. In a dis-
arming style that is uniquely her own, Xi
Xi weaves a deceptively child-like nar-
rative against the background of the
political and social problems of this com-
plex society. Seldom has a writer captured
the spirit of a generation with such ap-
parent simplicity and ease. "The very first
to depict Hong Kong from a fresh... hu-
mankind and emotional point of view... a place
to live, to work, and to have fun; and for
some, there are not many places in the
world that can replace Hong Kong."
—World Literature Today Renditions Press

Marvels of a Floating City
Edited by Eva Hung

Xi Xi eloquently conveys the mood of
the city during the 1980s in this collec-
tion of stories. In the first half of the de-
cade, the Chinese and British govern-
ments negotiated Hong Kong's fate,
occasioning intense soul-searching and
close scrutiny of their society among the
general population. The old and the new,
the real and the fantastic, Western culture and local
perception are skillfully woven together here to
create narratives of the hopes, anger and fears
which gripped the people of Hong Kong in this cru-
cial period of their history.
—Renditions Press 1997,

Hong Kong Stories:
Old Themes New Voices
Edited by Eva Hung

In telling the Hong Kong story, young
local writers face up to such issues as
rapid economic and political changes as
well as the continuous impact of Western

ideas and mores. They make a conscious
effort to explore their own identity from
a Hong Kong perspective and to describe
Hong Kong's special way of life and the
trials and tribulations of a populace
captured between two cultures.

962-7255-20-3.

A Girl Like Me & Other Stories
Translated by Eva Hung

This anthology presents samples from
the author's entire writing career, rang-
ing from the 1960s to the 1990s. It in-
cludes excerpts from Xi Xi's Stylish for a
Breast, an intensely personal account of
her own battle with cancer. Xi Xi's fasci-
nating rendering of the fusion of East and
West, tradition and modernity that is
Hong Kong assures her place in the liter-
ary annals of this unique society.

"A writer who deserves a place in the
international library."
—Far Eastern Economic Review.

"Her stories blend sophistication with
an unfinishing, childlike wonder."
—Islands Renditions Press 1999, 160

Flying Carpet—A Tale of Fertillia
Translated by Diana Yue

A small island sits south of
Dragonland. This tiny speck,
"smaller than a sesame seed" has a world-famous harbour
rimmed by skyscrapers, an
elite district on a mountain top,
estep, narrow avenues, hawkers,
street-sleepers, noisy markets,
garish signs and borders. Back
and forward in history, we ac-
company the Ips, master furni-
iture makers, the Fas, aerated
water suppliers, as well as Aladdin,
secret possessor of a flying carpet on an
up-and-down journey of the history of
a city very much like Hong Kong.

—Hong Kong University Press 2000, 449

<http://www.against-the-grain.com> 83