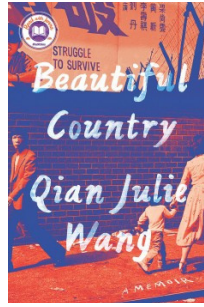


Further Reading

Beautiful Country (Sep 2021)

by Qian Julie Wang

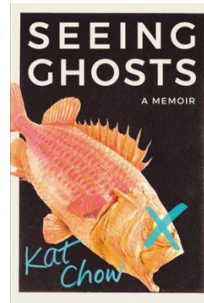
This memoir from a Chinese woman who arrived in New York City at age seven examines how her family lived in poverty out of fear of being discovered as undocumented immigrants and how she was able to find success.



Seeing Ghosts (Aug 2021)

by Kat Chow

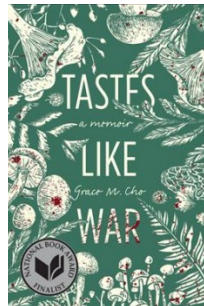
After her mother dies unexpectedly of cancer, a Chinese American writer and journalist weaves together the story of the fallout of grief that follows her extended family as they emigrate from China and Hong Kong to Cuba and America.



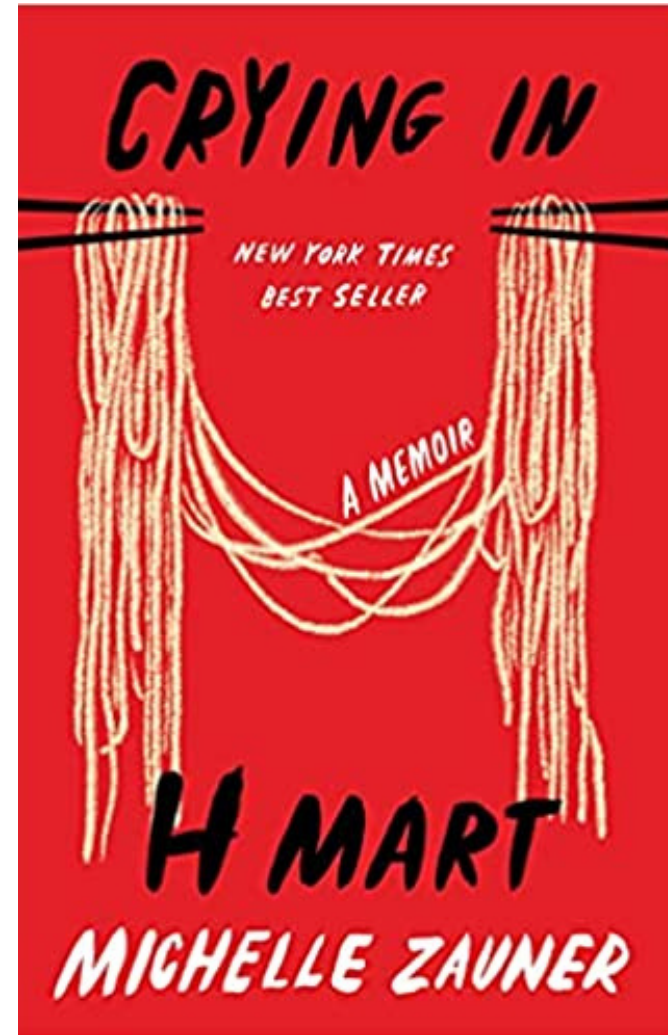
Tastes Like War (May 2021)

by Grace M. Cho

Grace M. Cho grew up in a small, rural American town as the daughter of a white American merchant marine and the Korean bar hostess he met abroad. When Grace was fifteen, her Korean mother experienced the onset of schizophrenia, a condition that would continue for the rest of her life.



BOOK DISCUSSION



Discussion Topics & Questions

FOOD

- Food as an “unspoken language” — how does food serve as a connector between Michelle and her family, as well as a vehicle for expressing her grief?
- There is a profound relationship between food and memory. Why do you think there is such a visceral connection and in what ways does food trigger certain memories for you?

LOVE & FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

- The indirect ways Michelle's mother expresses her love
- The notion of repaying debts to one's parents
- One piece of advice Michelle's mom gives her is to always “save ten percent of yourself” — what does this mean in practice and how does it impact their relationship? Should parents save part of themselves from their children?
- What are the differences between the way Michelle describes her relationship with her mother vs her father? Does this track with how she views her Korean vs American heritage?

IDENTITY

- The push and pull of defiance and obedience in reaction to contradictory expectations that come with mixed-race identity
- Scarcity mentality as it relates to representation in music
- Where does a sense of belonging come from?
- In what ways does grief forge identity?

Courtesy of goldhouse.org/book/crying-in-h-mart/