There s Nothing I Can Do When I Think of You Late at Night (Hardback)

By Naiqian Cao

Columbia University Press, United States, 2009. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 212 x 146 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Set among a remote cluster of cave dwellings in Shanxi province, There s Nothing I Can Do When I Think of You Late at Night is a genre-defying expos of rural communism. In a series of vivid, interlocking vignettes, several narrators speak of adultery, bestiality, incest, and vice, revealing the consequences of desire in a world of necessity. The Wen Clan Caves are based on an isolated village where the author, Cao Naiqian, lived during the Cultural Revolution. The land is hard and unforgiving and the people suffer in poverty and ignorance. Through the individual perspectives of the Wen Clan denizens, a complete portrait of village life takes shape. Dark yet lyrical, Cao s snapshots range from pastoral stories of childhood innocence to shocking accounts of brutality and terror. His work echoes William Faulkner s Go Down, Moses and Sherwood Anderson s Winesburg, Ohio, yet the author s depictions of elemental passions and regional mores make the book entirely his own. Celebrated for its economy of expression, flashes of humor, and an emphasis on understatement rarely found in Chinese fiction,...

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