

Fanshen: A Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village

By William Hinton, Fred Magdoff

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More than forty years after its initial publication, William Hinton's **Fanshen** continues to be the essential volume for those fascinated with China's revolutionary process of rural reform and social change. A pioneering work, **Fanshan** is a marvelous and revealing look into life in the Chinese countryside, where tradition and modernity have had both a complimentary and caustic relationship in the years since the Chinese Communist Party first came to power. It is a rare, concrete record of social struggle and transformation, as witnessed by a participant. **Fanshen** continues to offer profound insight into the lives of peasants and China's complex social processes. Rediscover this classic volume, which includes a new preface by Fred Magdoff.

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Editorial Review

Review
Fanshen is an important book. . . . It is an arresting narrative [on] the agonizing story of rural China in turmoil…told with a remarkable evenness of temper and a rare understanding of human weaknesses and strengths. The lessons of Long Bow village, so movingly and compassionately recorded…should be studied and restudied by all.-C. T. Hsu,*Saturday Review*

Fanshen is an extraordinary book. It will dispose of many myths, both those of the Left and of the Right.-C. P. Fitzgerald,*The Nation*

A vivid and compelling ‘grass-roots’ account of life in the village precisely during the period in which the new Communist power was establishing itself. . . . [A] unique contribution to our understanding of life in a northern Chinese village on the eve of the Communist takeover.-Benjamin Schwartz,*New York Times Book Review*

One of the most important books about China which has been written since the Revolution. . . . For anyone who wants to understand anything important about the Chinese revolution of our time, the reading of this book is an absolute necessity.-Joseph Needham,*London Tribune*

From the Inside Flap

"Both a nuanced interpretation of China's rural revolution and a rich source for scholars who pursue questions and interpretations different from Hinton's own."—Andrew Walder, Stanford University

From the Back Cover
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