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# The Tale of Kiều

By Nguyễn Du  
 Translated by Nguyễn Bình

A poetic classic that has captivated readers for generations is given a new life in Nguyễn Bình's translation.

## Key Selling Points

- A world literature classic:** Vietnam's most treasured literary work from a UNESCO World Cultural Figure, deserving of wider recognition, comparable to the likes of Vergil, Homer, and Shakespeare
- Female-centric story with universal themes:** a gripping narrative of star-crossed lovers, familial duty, and personal sacrifice that continue to resonate across generations.
- A revitalised and accessible translation:** from a translator with a fresh perspective on the text, including extensive notes and commentary

## About the Book

A timeless tale of love, loss, and redemption that has captivated readers for over two centuries.

*The Tale of Kiều* by Nguyễn Du is a timeless poetic masterpiece, revered as one of the greatest classics in Vietnamese literature. Through Thuý Kiều's years of wandering as a woman in 16th-century China, the epic delves into the complexities of human nature, gender, and sexuality.

With a new translation that is attentive to the folksy rhythms of the original form, and complete with detailed notes that position the original in its cultural context—*The Tale of Kiều* will appeal to lovers of a rich story, its couplets lingering and speaking to the most intimate of our human emotions.

## What critics have said...

'...when Nguyễn Du wrote Kiều, the country turned into literature' (*khi Nguyễn Du viết Kiều, đất nước hóa thành văn*)

—Poet Chế Lan Viên

'*The Tale of Kiều* is the encyclopedia of a thousand emotions'

—Phan Ngọc

'*The Tale of Kiều* stands out for the lyrical self of Nguyễn Du as he portrays human life in chaotic times.'

—Nhất Chiều, writer



NGUYỄN DU (1766-1820) was born in Hà Tĩnh Province, Vietnam. He is widely revered as the Vietnamese National Poet Laureate and honoured by UNESCO as a World Cultural Figure for his lyrical masterpiece, *The Tale of Kiều*. Through his inventive use of traditional forms, Nguyễn Du detailed the agonies of his world and asked why injustice was so rampant.



NGUYỄN BÌNH is a writer native to Hanoi, Việt Nam. Bình's translation of *The Tale of Kiều* received the Young Writers Award for Translation from the Vietnamese Writers' Association, and have their poetry in Vietnamese and English featured in magazines and anthologies in Vietnam and the U.S.

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