



TRADE SHEET: *Unbound, A Tale of Love and Betrayal in Shanghai*

Title: *Unbound, A Tale of Love and Betrayal in Shanghai*

Author: Dina Gu Brumfield

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SYNOPSIS:

The sweeping, multigenerational story of two iron-willed women, a grandmother and granddaughter, *Unbound* is also a richly textured, turbulent portrait of the city of Shanghai in the twentieth century--a place where everyone must fight to carve out a place for themselves amid political upheaval and the turmoil of war.

Mini Pao lives with her sister and parents in a pre-war Shanghai divided among foreign occupiers and Chinese citizens, a city known as the "Paris of the East" with its contrast of vibrant night life and repressive social mores. Already considered an old maid at twenty-three, Mini boldly rejects the path set out for her as she struggles to provide for her family and reckons with her desire for romance and autonomy. Mini's story of love, betrayal, and determination unfolds in the Western-style cafes, open-air markets, and jazz-soaked nightclubs of Shanghai--the same city where, decades later, her granddaughter Ting embarks on her own journey toward independence.

Ting Lee has grown up behind an iron curtain in a time of scarcity, humility, and forced-sameness in accordance with the strictures of Chairman Mao's cultural revolution. As a result, Ting's imagination burns with curiosity about fashion, America, and most of all, her long-lost grandmother Mini's glamorous past and mysterious present. As her thirst for knowledge about the world beyond 1970s Shanghai grows, Ting is driven to uncover her family's tragic past and face the difficult truth of what the future holds for her if she remains in China.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dina Gu Brumfield is a native of Shanghai, China, where she taught history until she was finally able to join her family in the United States in 1989. After earning her MBA, she worked as a consultant in New York and at various Silicon Valley companies, before quitting to act on her long-held aspiration to write. She lives in Bethesda, MD, with her husband. This is her first novel.

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