

Testimonials to *Diary of the Dragon's Daughter – Painting as a Window into Chinese History*

Visit www.bilanliao.com for contact details,
review copies, photos, news release, bio and CV.

You must read (about) her journey to freedom — Li Zhensheng

A moving, beautifully told, magnificently illustrated story of one woman and her family's ordeal during decades of persecution by the Chinese Communist Party.

— Frank Dikotter, Professor, Historian, Author of book series on the modern history of China

Through her beautiful artwork and incredible story, she has inspired many Americans to Never give up your dream. She has been a champion for women's rights through her paintings, lectures and her book... — Gayle Kaler, Mayor, City of Paducah, 2016

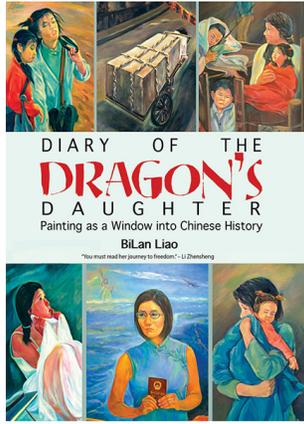
BiLan's story made me laugh, cry and feel outraged that I had no understanding what had gone on in China while I was growing up. Her journey is heroic and her telling is educational and inspirational. Her paintings require one to ask more questions, they are sensational and need to be internationally exhibited as they tell a true journey and family story of a time in history that could easily repeat. After seeing BiLan's paintings and reading her book, I embarked on making a documentary to tell the story in film. She had inspired a major motion picture that will impact the world conversation.

— Sue Ann Taylor, Filmmaker, Blue Heron Films

In *Diary of the Dragon's Daughter* acclaimed artist, sculptor, story-teller BiLan Liao has shown us how to make happen what those of less courage would deem impossible. No fiction writer would dare try to capture BiLan's riveting real-life victory over humiliation, heartaches and government oppression in China. She could have been bitter. Instead, she was better. The latest edition of her life story evocatively portrays why her American dream has become real. — Lee Walburn, Writer

BiLan's "Diary of the Dragon's Daughter" is a story of China's Holocaust that the world must remember. I have written a new score based on her paintings that portray a dramatization of musical history, giving another dimension to her art.

— Juan R. Ramírez Hernández, Composer



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Ms. Liao's book chronicles a tumultuous time in Chinese history, a family's struggle to endure it, and one woman's aspirations and dreams of a better life. The fact that the story is told through words, photographs and paintings makes it comprehensively gripping and compelling. Lessons about life permeate throughout with the sharing of one person's trials, tribulations and ultimate triumph. The 2nd edition describes much more about her life in the U.S. which is especially relevant today - during a time when many immigrants are being viewed with such negativity. If you're a fan of history, art, or tales of human perseverance, you will absolutely love this book. — Vance Farrow, Art professor

Diary of the Dragon's Daughter is a poignant memoir of Chinese artist BiLan Liao's incredible journey growing up in China's Cultural Revolution and defying all odds by achieving the American Dream-freedom. Although Liao's debut book reminds readers of the hardships, profound suffering, and devastating injustices of the Chinese people under Chairman Mao's regime, this is a story of resilience and hope. Liao's breathtaking oil paintings adorn the pages of her narrative, bringing to life vivid memories of both personal tragedies and triumphs like shards of glass melding together a window for readers to view into Liao's dark past and glimpse into this artist's radiantly bright future.

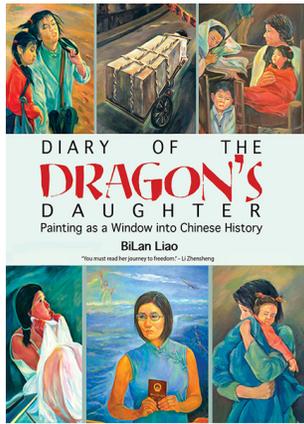
— Christina Rodriguez, Librarian

A Touching and Inspiring Book about an Artist's Journey from China to the US

Illustrated with her beautiful paintings and photos, BiLan Liao's book tells about her journey through the hard times in China and her unwavering pursuit of a better one in the United States. Touching, inspiring, and at times heart-breaking, the book provides insight into the lives of Chinese immigrants. — Qingqing, US College professor

Reading BiLan's remarkable life story gave me insight into true courage and faith in the value of hard work. BiLan's determination to educate herself and bring her daughter to the United States is humbling for those of us who have been able to take freedom of thought and expression for granted. *Diary of the Dragon's Daughter* has inspired me to stay true to my own dreams and to seek ever greater goals in my own life.

— Leslie Safford (Book editor)



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I went to BiLan's book signing and purchased a book and after reading it, I purchased eleven more books! Her story of her dream of freedom in the United States touched me so that I had to share it with my daughters, grandchildren, stepson, nieces, cousin, and an extra copy to loan to my friends. Her story provides life lessons for people of all ages and makes us realize how fortunate we are to live in a land of freedom and plenty.

— (Amazon Customer)

Dragon's Daughter A Must Read

Ms. Liao's *Diary of the Dragon's Daughter* was a riveting story of a life journey through great personal loss and political repression to a determination to be free. With fierce courage and an unparalleled work ethic Ms Liao uses her skills in painting to give people everywhere faith and a sense of beauty in the form of artistic expression as well as life. Every person should read this true story that takes a young woman from the Red Chinese take over of the culture and political landscape of China to the courageous decision to escape repression and resettle in America. Once here she recaptures her life's struggles by painting her way from her early life in China, the death of her father and sister to poverty, hunger and fear to the ultimate achievement of freedom and ultimate success. Beautifully illustrated! — Sears Premier (Amazon Customer)

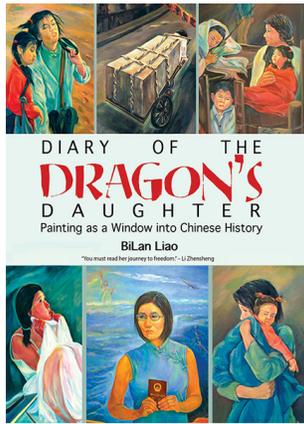
History through Art

This book is an amazing blend of history and art. BiLan Liao is gifted in so many areas and it's a thrill to see them all come together through her writing. The images are vivid and the journey enthralling. Definitely a great read and a super gift!

— Dr. Karen W. Dodson

A Journey to Freedom

This book is the poignant story of a young woman yearning for freedom from oppression in communist China. BiLan Liao chronicles her journey to freedom in the United States through her beautiful, expressive paintings and her sometimes heart-wrenching narrative of her struggles along the way. Her story reminds us how fortunate we are to have been born in the U.S. — Martha Hinton



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A Beautiful, Inspirational Story and Artwork

This book tells an incredible story of a woman, a family, and Chinese history through the author's artwork and words. Being oppressed as a woman in a traditional Chinese culture, struggling and persecuted through Cultural Revolution, BiLan tells an inspiring story of what it means to have hope and pursue your dream. I would recommend this book to all who want to understand the untold Chinese history and to all who want to be inspired.

— Amazon Customer

A Compelling Story of Life, Art, and Triumph

BiLan Liao's new book *Diary of the Dragon's Daughter* is more than just her story. It is history, an art treatise, a compelling life story. Amazingly BiLan has come out of this experience a whole person; kind, loving, well-educated and well-loved by all who meet her. So proud to know her, and to have read this wonderful story.

— Susan French (Artist)

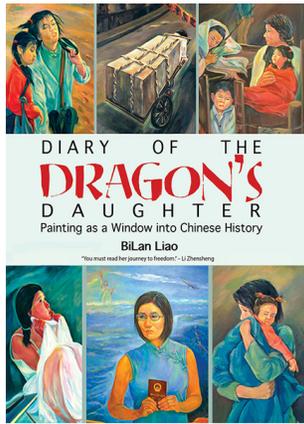
Touching and Beautifully illustrated

The *Diary of the Dragon's Daughter* is a candid memoir that brings home the tragedy of growing up during the Cultural Revolution. BiLan's inspirational story of survival and conquering huge obstacles is moving. Of note were passages where in she is compelled by her desire for art to be the touch tone in her life—truly uplifting.

— Jane Scroggs, Librarian

Changes Pain to Love

The artwork is beautiful and memorizing and displays such a powerful message. BiLan Liao has overcome many obstacles in life and despite the odds she painted her pain away. She could have turned her pain into negativity; however, she has helped others while dealing with her own tragedies. When you hear her story she lets you know no matter what your background is, we all have a story that can be change from pain in to love when you see her work. She has such an uplifting spirit and positive attitude. Her story will definitely touch the heart of many others. — Ambassador Dr. Lenora Peterson



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— Shu-chuan (Amazon Customer)

A touching and inspiring book about an artist's journey from China to the U.S.

Illustrated with her beautiful paintings and photos, BiLan Liao writes about her journey through the hard times in China and her unwavering pursuit of a better one in the United States. Touching, inspiring, and at times heart-breaking, the book provides insight into the lives of Chinese immigrants.

— Madison (Amazon Customer)

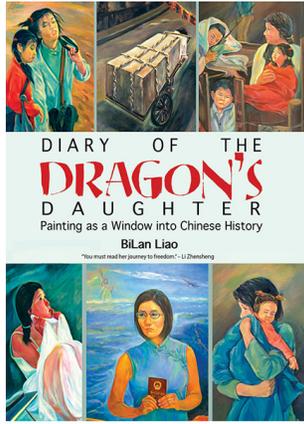
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No mud, no lotus.

I first became acquainted with BiLan as an AFA candidate at the Paducah School of Art & Design. BiLan was a demanding but giving Professor who expected respect from her students which she would give back in spades. In her first-hand account, "The Diary of of the Dragon's Daughter" anyone unfamiliar with China's history or BiLan will feel they have taken her arduous journey with her through her childhood and raising her daughter during the Cultural Revolution. Her history will break your heart, give you faith, inspire you and amaze you. Expect to shed some tears while reading a true reflection on an American Dream coming to beautiful and full fruition.

— Ashlea McMillan (Amazon Customer)



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Brilliant Book

This is an outstanding book that follows the life of an outstanding artist as she struggles to escape from the Communism of China to experience freedom in America. Also, she must conquer the demons of her heart and soul and transcend the consequences of her family's suffering. She is able to overcome the harsh abuse and deprivations of a horrible marriage and find love and happiness with a fine man. It is a testament to the capacity of humans to struggle, fight, persevere and achieve noble and worthy goals that are at the very heart and core of what we seek here on this troubled-planet. Of course, that is freedom and love and by virtue of her tenacity and perseverance she has found both and, in a sense, it was a miracle. I was blessed to have met her several years ago and I can testify to her courage and strength and artistic genius. I would not be surprised if this epic saga becomes a movie-but read it now if you want to truly have gratitude for what we have in America.

— Bill Hernandez (Amazon Customer)

Wonderful paintings along with a trip back into time into old China, this is a must-read book. — Robert Stocker (Amazon Customer)

Beautifully illustrated story of a woman's determination

Beautifully illustrated story of a woman's determination, bravery, and talent to make a better life for herself and family. I'm incredibly inspired. — N. Utley (Amazon Customer)

Amazing Story and Beautiful Artwork!

“Diary of the Dragon’s Daughter” chronicles modern Chinese History through the life of BiLan Liao as told in her beautiful artwork, and incredible story of the human spirit. Hope dwells eternal within us all, and BiLan’s art and her life’s journey will kindle the spirit to “Never give up you dream.” I recommend this book for the classroom as well as by one’s bedside table to remind us all that, “Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.” BiLan, thank you for having the courage to tell your story. — K (Amazon Customer)

BiLan has not only led the painting program, but she is seen by the community as a true advocate for diversity, inclusion and the promotion of human right. She has eloquently presented her life in art and in writing, and given not only the college, but our community, a glimpse of history of the Chinese Cultural Revolution. I write this letter as the president of West of Kentucky Community & Technical College, and a true admirer of both BiLan’s art work and her advocacy of issues of impertinence to our Communities and our nation.

— Barbara M. Veazey, President of West of Kentucky Community & Technical College