

What We Were Promised

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Summary:

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After years of chasing the American dream, the Zhen family has moved back to China. Settling into a luxurious serviced apartment in Shanghai, Wei, Lina, and their daughter, Karen, join an elite community of Chinese-born, Western-educated professionals who have returned to a radically transformed city.

One morning, in the eighth tower of Lanson Suites, Lina discovers that a childhood keepsake, an ivory bracelet, has gone missing. The incident contributes to a wave of unease that has begun to settle throughout the Zhen household. Wei, a marketing strategist, bows under the guilt of not having engaged in nobler work. Meanwhile, Lina, lonely in her new life of leisure, assumes the modern moniker taitai—a housewife who does no housework at all. She spends her days haunted by the circumstances surrounding her arranged marriage to Wei and her lingering feelings for his brother, Qiang. Lina and Wei take pains to hide their anxieties, but their housekeeper, Sunny, a hardworking girl with secrets of her own, bears witness to their struggles. When Qiang reappears in Shanghai after decades on the run with a local gang, the family must finally come to terms with the past.

From a silk-producing village in rural China, up the corporate ladder in suburban America, and back again to the post-Maoist nouveau riche of modern Shanghai, WHAT WE WERE PROMISED explores the question of what we owe to our country, our families, and ourselves.

The way we were - YouTube The Way We Were- Lyrics. - Duration: 3:26. Streisand101 Lover 458,244 views. 3:26. Aretha Franklin - I say a little prayer (Official song) HQ version. What We Were Promised by Lucy Tan - Goodreads I loved Lucy Tan's What We Were Promised. A true talent, debut author Tan writes prose that is compelling, evocative, funny, and at the same time manages to cut straight to the core of things. Book review What We Were Promised Lucy Tan Chinese ... "What We Were Promised" is bustling with themes like these, ones that focus on the terrifyingly complex facets of what it means to be Chinese-American, an immigrant, and an expat. But Tan certainly has enough bandwidth to handle these heavy topics, sifting them through a single family with forlorn honesty and compassion.

Amazon.com: What We Were Promised (9780316437189): Lucy ... "What We Were Promised glows through its intimate, skillful prose. Tan's debut is a beautiful reckoning with the ever-changing definition of "home" - what it means to have, lose and find family again."—USA Today "Charming debut novel. What We Were Promised Kindle Edition - amazon.com Using smooth prose, carefully developed characters, and Shanghai set against the backdrop of greater China, her debut What We Were Promised brings the Zhen family back to Shanghai to join the upper class after twenty years in the U.S. Commonly Confused Words: Were, We're, and Where We hear he is a whiz of a wiz if ever a wiz there was." (Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg, "We're Off to See the Wizard." The Wizard of Oz, 1939) Answers (a) We're going to Savannah for St. Patrick's Day. (b) We don't know where we'll be staying. (c) Last year we were forced to sleep in the van.

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