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Lei Yu ('Thunderstorm' In Simplified Chinese Characters/English)



Synopsis

Thunderstorm is a tragic play involving complicated blood relationships and numerous inevitable tragic coincidences that occur in the 1930s in China. It is a dramatic feat with profound connotations and heart-stirring artistry. The story unfolded around Zhou Puyuan, a male character who had been to Germany to study. Cold-blooded, selfish and hypocritical, he was like a dictator of a dark dynasty in his home. Zhou Puyuan is a well-portrayed character in Thunderstorm. All sinful acts were attributable to his domestic autocracy. The profound significance of Thunderstorm lies in its exposure of the close political and ideological bond between Chinese capitalists and the deep-rooted feudal traditions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Cao Yu, a 20th Century, largely pre-Communist Chinese playwright, is very famous in his home country, but virtually unknown in the U.S. His sensibility seems akin to Henrik Ibsen's, though he tends to be even darker. The bilingual editions of two of his plays seem to be the only way a English reader who doesn't know Chinese can become acquainted with him. The translation is more British than American, full of idioms. I have no idea how natural the dialogue sounds in Chinese. The worst feature of these editions is that they're rife with typos--dozens of them. I've enjoyed the challenge of dealing with a major literary figure, though I don't fully trust the translation to capture what makes Cao Yu so major. As a play, THUNDERSTORM is in many ways stronger and less repellant than SUNRISE, but the same elements of sin and social corruption are the primary features. I'd say these works are more valuable as cultural eye-openers than as great live dramas.

JUST SOMETHING I WANT .I AM A COMPOSER ,AND WOULD LIKE TO USE THIS PLAY TO WRITE AN OPERA BEFORE I GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE .TRANSLATION IS PRETTY GOOD .NOT LIKE CHINESE ENGLISH .THIS IS ALSO A BOOK I RECOMMEND STRONGLY TO ALL MY FRIENDS .

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