

## SYNOPSIS

East Wind: West Wind is set in Nanking city, and 170 miles west of Shanghai. It takes place in 1911 during the changing of government from imperial to republic. The story tells about the life story of a traditional Chinese woman, named Yang Kwei-lan, through her inner thoughts and feeling. She was betrothed to a Chinese man who had studied twelve years in America to become a doctor.

As soon as they got married, he decided to move away from his ancestral home and built his own household. Relying on her traditional upbringing, she attempted to please her husband by being his servant, yet it was useless because of her husband had never paid attention on her efforts. However, she then tried to change her view and her husband's interest began in her. She learned much about western culture through books and manners shown by him until she doubt the wisdom of her ancestor and brought a better understanding of the westerner within her.

Few months later, her brother who also studied abroad, went back to China by bringing a western woman named Mary as his wife. They did not straight go home but stay in Kwei-lan's residence until her parents' anger was subsided. This incident undeniably shocking the family particularly his mother because the mingled marriage between Chinese and Westerner was strictly forbidden in past Chinese culture. Her mother, then, permitted her brother and his wife to stay in his ancestral home, in which this moment was apparently used by her mother and father to persuade her brother to leave Mary and married to a woman to whom he had been betrothed. He insisted to refuse his parents' plan and

made his parents feel disappointed. His mother, later, died in grieves of thinking her unfilial son. After her mother's death, her brother chose to leave the ancestral house and built his own household with Mary. The whole moments delivered Kwei-lan into a woman who could comprehend between the past and present situation and somehow, made her growing wiser than before.