

two kinds amy tan analysis

Two Kinds Amy Tan Analysis: Unveiling the Complexities of Mother-Daughter Relationships

Introduction:

Amy Tan's "Two Kinds" is more than just a poignant short story; it's a powerful exploration of cultural clashes, generational trauma, and the suffocating weight of expectation. This in-depth analysis delves into the intricate layers of the narrative, examining the complex relationship between the narrator and her Chinese immigrant mother, the symbolism woven throughout the text, and the lasting impact of the mother's relentless pursuit of her daughter's "potential." We'll dissect the story's themes, character development, and literary techniques to uncover the profound truths hidden within its seemingly simple narrative. Prepare to embark on a journey into the heart of a mother-daughter conflict that resonates with readers across cultures and generations. This comprehensive analysis will provide you with a deep understanding of the story's meaning and its enduring relevance.

I. The Clash of Cultures and Expectations:

The central conflict in "Two Kinds" stems from the clash between the mother's Chinese cultural background and the daughter's American upbringing. The mother, a product of a war-torn China, clings to the belief that her daughter, born in America, possesses untapped potential that needs to be molded and harnessed. This belief fuels her relentless attempts to turn her daughter into a prodigy, forcing her into piano lessons and other activities, disregarding the daughter's desires and individuality. The story powerfully illustrates the challenges faced by first-generation immigrants in balancing their old-world values with the realities of their new home, highlighting the generational gap and the potential for misunderstandings and resentment. This cultural clash shapes the entire dynamic between mother and daughter, fueling the conflict and shaping the narrative's trajectory. The mother's relentless pursuit of the "American Dream" for her daughter, paradoxically, becomes a barrier to their genuine connection.

II. The Daughter's Struggle for Identity:

The narrator's journey is a powerful exploration of self-discovery and the struggle for identity in the face of overwhelming parental pressure. Initially, the daughter tries to meet her mother's expectations, fueled by a desire for her mother's approval. However, as the pressure mounts, she begins to rebel, showcasing a growing sense of defiance and a desire to forge her own path. Her rebellion manifests in various ways, from poor performance in piano lessons to outright rejection of her mother's plans. The story effectively portrays the emotional toll of living under such pressure, depicting the internal conflict between fulfilling parental expectations and embracing one's true self. Her eventual rejection of her mother's ambitions marks a crucial moment of self-assertion and a step toward defining her own identity, independent of her mother's aspirations.

III. Symbolism and Literary Devices:

Tan masterfully employs symbolism throughout "Two Kinds" to enhance the narrative's depth and

meaning. The piano itself acts as a potent symbol representing the mother's hopes and dreams for her daughter, as well as the daughter's resentment and eventual rejection of those dreams. The numerous talent shows and competitions represent the mother's relentless pursuit of validation and the daughter's growing sense of inadequacy and rebellion. The story's title itself, "Two Kinds," symbolizes the fundamental difference in perspectives between mother and daughter, their contrasting dreams, and their struggle to find common ground. The use of figurative language, particularly metaphors and similes, adds layers of meaning, enhancing the emotional impact and deepening the reader's understanding of the characters' internal conflicts.

IV. Themes of Regret and Reconciliation:

"Two Kinds" explores the complex themes of regret and the possibility of reconciliation. The daughter's actions, born out of frustration and rebellion, ultimately lead to a deep sense of regret. She recognizes the pain she inflicted on her mother and the missed opportunities for genuine connection. While the story does not offer a clear resolution of their conflict, it leaves room for the possibility of future understanding and reconciliation. The lingering sense of regret underscores the lasting impact of their strained relationship, hinting at the possibility of future healing and a more profound understanding between mother and daughter.

V. The Enduring Power of the Mother-Daughter Bond:

Despite the conflict and misunderstandings, the story also highlights the enduring power of the mother-daughter bond. The love between the mother and daughter, though often obscured by conflict, remains a potent force throughout the narrative. This enduring bond is evident in the mother's persistent efforts, however misguided, to provide her daughter with a better future and the daughter's underlying love and respect for her mother, despite her rebellion. The story's ultimate message is a poignant reflection on the complexities of family relationships and the enduring strength of the mother-daughter connection, even amidst significant conflict and unresolved tensions.

Outline of "Two Kinds" Amy Tan Analysis:

I. Introduction:

Brief overview of "Two Kinds" and its significance.

Thesis statement: The story explores the complexities of mother-daughter relationships through cultural clashes, generational differences, and the struggle for individual identity.

Overview of the analysis's main points.

II. The Clash of Cultures and Expectations:

Examination of the mother's Chinese cultural background and its influence on her expectations for her daughter.

Analysis of the daughter's American upbringing and its impact on her perspective.

Discussion of the resulting conflict and its impact on their relationship.

III. The Daughter's Struggle for Identity:

Exploration of the daughter's internal conflict between fulfilling her mother's expectations and pursuing her own desires.

Analysis of her rebellion and its manifestations.

Discussion of her journey toward self-discovery and the establishment of her individual identity.

IV. Symbolism and Literary Devices:

Analysis of the symbolism of the piano, talent shows, and the story's title.

Examination of the use of figurative language and its contribution to the story's emotional impact.

V. Themes of Regret and Reconciliation:

Discussion of the daughter's regret over her actions and the missed opportunities for connection.

Analysis of the potential for future reconciliation and understanding.

VI. The Enduring Power of the Mother-Daughter Bond:

Examination of the underlying love and respect despite conflict.

Exploration of the resilience of the mother-daughter bond.

Concluding remarks on the story's enduring relevance and themes.

(Detailed explanation of each point in the outline is provided above in the main body of the article.)

FAQs:

1. What is the central conflict in "Two Kinds"? The central conflict revolves around the clash between the mother's traditional Chinese values and the daughter's American upbringing, leading to a struggle over identity and expectations.
1. What does the piano symbolize in the story? The piano symbolizes the mother's hopes and dreams for her daughter, as well as the daughter's resentment and eventual rejection of those imposed expectations.
1. How does the story portray the theme of cultural clash? The story vividly portrays the challenges faced by immigrant families in balancing old-world values with new cultural realities, highlighting the resulting misunderstandings and conflicts.
1. What is the significance of the story's title, "Two Kinds"? The title highlights the fundamental difference in perspectives between the mother and daughter, emphasizing their contrasting dreams and desires.
1. How does Amy Tan use literary devices to enhance the narrative? Tan uses symbolism, metaphors, and similes effectively to deepen the story's emotional impact and reveal the characters' internal conflicts.

1. What is the daughter's ultimate response to her mother's pressure? The daughter initially tries to comply but ultimately rebels, rejecting her mother's plans and seeking to define her own identity.
1. Does the story offer a resolution to the mother-daughter conflict? The story doesn't provide a clear resolution but leaves room for the possibility of future understanding and reconciliation, emphasizing the lasting impact of their strained relationship.
1. What are the key themes explored in "Two Kinds"? Key themes include cultural clashes, generational conflict, the struggle for identity, the pressure of expectations, regret, and the enduring power of the mother-daughter bond.
1. Why is "Two Kinds" considered a significant work of literature? "Two Kinds" is significant for its honest portrayal of immigrant experiences, the complexities of family relationships, and its exploration of universal themes of identity and self-discovery.

Related Articles:

1. Amy Tan's Writing Style: A Deep Dive: This article analyzes Tan's unique writing style, focusing on her use of imagery, symbolism, and narrative techniques.
1. The Role of Mothers in Amy Tan's Fiction: This piece examines the recurring theme of motherhood in Tan's works, analyzing the complex relationships between mothers and daughters.
1. Exploring the Theme of Identity in Amy Tan's Short Stories: This article focuses on the exploration of identity in Tan's short stories, exploring how characters grapple with their cultural heritage and self-discovery.
1. A Comparative Analysis of "Two Kinds" and "The Joy Luck Club": This analysis compares and contrasts "Two Kinds" with Tan's novel "The Joy Luck Club," highlighting similarities and differences in themes and character development.

1. Cultural Assimilation vs. Cultural Preservation in Amy Tan's Work: This article examines the tension between cultural assimilation and preservation in Tan's writing, exploring the challenges faced by immigrant families.
1. The Impact of Trauma on Mother-Daughter Relationships in "Two Kinds": This analysis examines how past trauma affects the mother-daughter relationship depicted in the story.
1. Feminist Interpretations of "Two Kinds": This article explores feminist perspectives on "Two Kinds," examining the story through a lens of gender dynamics and power.
1. "Two Kinds": A Postcolonial Reading: This article examines the story through a postcolonial lens, exploring themes of power, identity, and cultural hybridity.
1. Teaching "Two Kinds": Strategies for the Classroom: This article provides practical strategies and lesson plans for educators teaching "Two Kinds" in the classroom.

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Joy Luck Club Amy Tan, 2006-09-21 "The Joy Luck Club is one of my favorite books. From the moment I first started reading it, I knew it was going to be incredible. For me, it was one of those once-in-a-lifetime reading experiences that you cherish forever. It inspired me as a writer and still remains hugely inspirational." —Kevin Kwan, author of *Crazy Rich Asians* Amy Tan's beloved, New York Times bestselling tale of mothers and daughters, now the focus of a new documentary *Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir* on Netflix Four mothers, four daughters, four families whose histories shift with the four winds depending on who's saying the stories. In 1949 four Chinese women, recent immigrants to San Francisco, begin meeting to eat dim sum, play mahjong, and talk. United in shared unspeakable loss and hope, they call themselves the Joy Luck Club. Rather than sink into tragedy, they choose to gather to raise their spirits and money. To despair was to wish back for something already lost. Or to prolong what was already unbearable. Forty years later the stories and history continue. With wit and sensitivity, Amy Tan examines the sometimes painful, often tender, and always deep connection between mothers and daughters. As each woman reveals her secrets, trying to unravel the truth about her life, the strings become more tangled, more entwined. Mothers boast or despair over daughters, and daughters roll their eyes even as they feel the inextricable tightening of their matriarchal ties. Tan is an astute storyteller, enticing readers to immerse themselves into these lives of complexity and mystery.

two kinds amy tan analysis: *The Moon Lady* Amy Tan, 1992-01 Nai-nai tells her granddaughters the story of her outing, as a seven-year-old girl in China, to see the Moon Lady and

be granted a secret wish. Suggested level: primary.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Mother Claudia O'Keefe, 1996-05 Mary Higgins Clark, Amy Tan, Joyce Carol Oates and Maya Angelou are among the gifted writers who share their personal reflections on mother in this exceptional collection of fiction, essays and poetry. From a woman's choice to become a mother to the inner workings of a mother's relationship with her children, the full cycle of motherhood is brought to life in these touching works.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Monkey Bridge Lan Cao, 1998-06-01 Hailed by critics and writers as powerful, important fiction, *Monkey Bridge* charts the unmapped territory of the Vietnamese American experience in the aftermath of war. Like navigating a monkey bridge—a bridge, built of spindly bamboo, used by peasants for centuries—the narrative traverses perilously between worlds past and present, East and West, in telling two interlocking stories: one, the Vietnamese version of the classic immigrant experience in America, told by a young girl; and the second, a dark tale of betrayal, political intrigue, family secrets, and revenge—her mother's tale. The haunting and beautiful terrain of *Monkey Bridge* is the luminous motion, as it is called in Vietnamese myth and legend, between generations, encompassing Vietnamese lore, history, and dreams of the past as well as of the future. With incredible lightness, balance and elegance, writes Isabel Allende, Lan Cao crosses over an abyss of pain, loss, separation and exile, connecting on one level the opposite realities of Vietnam and North America, and on a deeper level the realities of the material world and the world of the spirits. • Quality Paperback Book Club Selection and New Voices Award nominee • A Kiriyama Pacific Rim Award Book Prize nominee

two kinds amy tan analysis: Who's Irish? Gish Jen, 2012-08-29 In this dazzling collection of short stories, the award-winning author of the acclaimed novels *Thank You, Mr. Nixon* and *Mona in the Promised Land*—presents a sparkling ... gently satiric look at the American Dream and its fallout on those who pursue it (*The New York Times*). The stories in *Who's Irish?* show us the children of immigrants looking wonderingly at their parents' efforts to assimilate, while the older generation asks how so much selfless hard work on their part can have yielded them offspring who'd sooner drop out of life than succeed at it. With dazzling wit and compassion, Gish Jen looks at ambition and compromise at century's end and finds that much of the action is as familiar—and as strange—as the things we know to be most deeply true about ourselves.

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Hundred Secret Senses Amy Tan, 1995-10-17 *The Hundred Secret Senses* is an exultant novel about China and America, love and loyalty, the identities we invent and the true selves we discover along the way. Olivia Laguni is half-Chinese, but typically American in her uneasiness with her patchwork family. And no one in Olivia's family is more embarrassing to her than her half-sister, Kwan Li. For Kwan speaks mangled English, is cheerfully deaf to Olivia's sarcasm, and sees the dead with her yin eyes. Even as Olivia details the particulars of her decades-long grudge against her sister (who, among other things, is a source of infuriatingly good advice), Kwan Li is telling her own story, one that sweeps us into the splendor, squalor, and violence of Manchu China. And out of the friction between her narrators, Amy Tan creates a work that illuminates both the present and the past sweetly, sadly, hilariously, with searing and vivid prose. Truly magical...unforgettable...this novel...shimmer[s] with meaning.--San Diego Tribune *The Hundred Secret Senses* doesn't simply return to a world but burrows more deeply into it, following new trails to fresh revelations.--Newsweek

two kinds amy tan analysis: Literature for Composition Sylvan Barnet, William Burto, William E. Cain, Cheryl Nixon, 2017 Previous editions had other title information: essays, stories, poems, and plays.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Sometimes I Lie Alice Feeney, 2018-03-13 ALICE FEENEYS NEW YORK TIMES AND INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER "Boldly plotted, tightly knotted—a provocative true-or-false thriller that deepens and darkens to its ink-black finale. Marvelous." —AJ Finn, author of *The Woman in the Window* My name is Amber Reynolds. There are three things you should know about me: 1. I'm in a coma. 2. My husband doesn't love me anymore. 3. Sometimes I lie. Amber wakes up in a hospital. She can't move. She can't speak. She can't open her eyes. She can

hear everyone around her, but they have no idea. Amber doesn't remember what happened, but she has a suspicion her husband had something to do with it. Alternating between her paralyzed present, the week before her accident, and a series of childhood diaries from twenty years ago, this brilliant psychological thriller asks: Is something really a lie if you believe it's the truth?

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Yellow Wall-Paper Charlotte Perkins Gilman, 2024-03-21 She has just given birth to their child. He labels her postpartum depression as »hysteria.« He rents the attic in an old country house. Here, she is to rest alone – forbidden to leave her room. Instead of improving, she starts hallucinating, imagining herself crawling with other women behind the room's yellow wallpaper. And secretly, she records her experiences. The Yellow Wall-Paper [1892] is the short but intense, Gothic horror story, written as a diary, about a woman in an attic – imprisoned in her gender; by the story. Charlotte Perkins Gilman's feminist novella was long overlooked in American literary history. Nowadays, it is counted among the classics. CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN (1860-1935), born in Hartford, Connecticut, was an American feminist theorist, sociologist, novelist, short story writer, poet, and playwright. Her writings are precursors to many later feminist theories. With her radical life attitude, Perkins Gilman has been an inspiration for many generations of feminists in the USA. Her most famous work is the short story The Yellow Wall-Paper [1892], written when she suffered from postpartum psychosis.

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Kitchen God's Wife Amy Tan, 2006-09-21 Remarkable...mesmerizing...compelling.... An entire world unfolds in Tolstoyan tide of event and detail....Give yourself over to the world Ms. Tan creates for you. —The New York Times Book Review Winnie and Helen have kept each other's worst secrets for more than fifty years. Now, because she believes she is dying, Helen wants to expose everything. And Winnie angrily determines that she must be the one to tell her daughter, Pearl, about the past—including the terrible truth even Helen does not know. And so begins Winnie's story of her life on a small island outside Shanghai in the 1920s, and other places in China during World War II, and traces the happy and desperate events that led to Winnie's coming to America in 1949. The Kitchen God's Wife is a beautiful book (Los Angeles Times) from the bestselling author of novels like The Joy Luck Club and The Backyard Bird Chronicles, and the memoir, Where the Past Begins.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Chinese Cinderella Adeline Yen Mah, 2009-05-06 More than 800,000 copies in print! From the author of critically acclaimed and bestselling memoir Falling Leaves, this is a poignant and moving true account of her childhood, growing up as an unloved daughter in 1940s China. A Chinese proverb says, Falling leaves return to their roots. In her own courageous voice, Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph in the face of despair. Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck after her mother dies giving birth to her, and life does not get any easier when her father remarries. Adeline and her siblings are subjected to the disdain of her stepmother, while her stepbrother and stepsister are spoiled with gifts and attention. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not enough to compensate for what she really yearns for -- the love and understanding of her family. Like the classic Cinderella story, this powerful memoir is a moving story of resilience and hope. Includes an Author's Note, a 6-page photo insert, a historical note, and the Chinese text of the original Chinese Cinderella. A PW BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR AN ALA-YALSA BEST BOOK FOR YOUNG ADULTS "One of the most inspiring books I have ever read." -The Guardian

two kinds amy tan analysis: Flight Sherman Alexie, 2013-10-15 From the National Book Award-winning author of The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, the tale of a troubled boy's trip through history. Half Native American and half Irish, fifteen-year-old "Zits" has spent much of his short life alternately abused and ignored as an orphan and ward of the foster care system. Ever since his mother died, he's felt alienated from everyone, but, thanks to the alcoholic father whom he's never met, especially disconnected from other Indians. After he runs away from his latest foster home, he makes a new friend. Handsome, charismatic, and eloquent, Justice soon persuades Zits to unleash his pain and anger on the uncaring world. But picking up a gun leads Zits

on an unexpected time-traveling journey through several violent moments in American history, experiencing life as an FBI agent during the civil rights movement, a mute Indian boy during the Battle of Little Bighorn, a nineteenth-century Indian tracker, and a modern-day airplane pilot. When Zits finally returns to his own body, “he begins to understand what it means to be the hero, the villain and the victim. . . . Mr. Alexie succeeds yet again with his ability to pierce to the heart of matters, leaving this reader with tears in her eyes” (The New York Times Book Review). Sherman Alexie’s acclaimed novels have turned a spotlight on the unique experiences of modern-day Native Americans, and here, the New York Times–bestselling author of *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* takes a bold new turn, combining magical realism with his singular humor and insight. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Sherman Alexie including rare photos from the author’s personal collection.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Children of Loneliness Anzia Yezierska, 1923 Russian Jews in New York City. Cf. Hanna, A. Mirror for the nation

two kinds amy tan analysis: Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother Amy Chua, 2011-12-06 A lot of people wonder how Chinese parents raise such stereotypically successful kids. They wonder what Chinese parents do to produce so many math whizzes and music prodigies, what it's like inside the family, and whether they could do it too. Well, I can tell them, because I've done it... Amy Chua's daughters, Sophia and Louisa (Lulu) were polite, interesting and helpful, they had perfect school marks and exceptional musical abilities. The Chinese-parenting model certainly seemed to produce results. But what happens when you do not tolerate disobedience and are confronted by a screaming child who would sooner freeze outside in the cold than be forced to play the piano? *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* is a story about a mother, two daughters, and two dogs. It was supposed to be a story of how Chinese parents are better at raising kids than Western ones. But instead, it's about a bitter clash of cultures, a fleeting taste of glory, and how you can be humbled by a thirteen-year-old. Witty, entertaining and provocative, this is a unique and important book that will transform your perspective of parenting forever.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Perfect Ruin Lauren DeStefano, 2013-10 Sixteen-year-old Morgan Stockhour lives in Internment, a floating city utopia. But when a murder occurs, everything she knows starts to unravel--

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Woman Warrior Maxine Hong Kingston, 2010-09-01 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • An exhilarating blend of autobiography and mythology, of world and self, of hot rage and cool analysis. First published in 1976, it has become a classic in its innovative portrayal of multiple and intersecting identities—immigrant, female, Chinese, American. • NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD WINNER “A classic, for a reason.” —Celeste Ng, bestselling author of *Little Fires Everywhere* and *Our Missing Hearts*, via Twitter As a girl, Kingston lives in two confounding worlds: the California to which her parents have immigrated and the China of her mother’s “talk stories.” The fierce and wily women warriors of her mother’s tales clash jarringly with the harsh reality of female oppression out of which they come. Kingston’s sense of self emerges in the mystifying gaps in these stories, which she learns to fill with stories of her own. A warrior of words, she forges fractured myths and memories into an incandescent whole, achieving a new understanding of her family’s past and her own present.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Yellow Woman Leslie Marmon Silko, 1993 Ambiguous and unsettling, Silko's *Yellow Woman* explores one woman's desires and changes--her need to open herself to a richer sensuality. Walking away from her everyday identity as daughter, wife and mother, she takes possession of transgressive feelings and desires by recognizing them in the stories she has heard, by blurring the boundaries between herself and the Yellow Woman of myth.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Tears of a Tiger Sharon M. Draper, 2013-07-23 The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car, and many others in the school.

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Bonesetter's Daughter Amy Tan, 2001-02-19 A mother and daughter find what they share in their bones in this compelling novel from the bestselling author of

The Joy Luck Club and The Backyard Bird Chronicles. Ruth Young and her widowed mother have always had a difficult relationship. But when she discovers writings that vividly describe her mother's tumultuous life growing up in China, Ruth discovers a side of LuLing that she never knew existed. Transported to a backwoods village known as Immortal Heart, Ruth learns of secrets passed along by a mute nursemaid, Precious Auntie; of a cave where dragon bones are mined; of the crumbling ravine known as the End of the World; and of the curse that LuLing believes she released through betrayal. Within the calligraphied pages awaits the truth about a mother's heart, secrets she cannot tell her daughter, yet hopes she will never forget... Conjuring the pain of broken dreams and the power of myths, The Bonesetter's Daughter is an excavation of the human spirit: the past, its deepest wounds, its most profound hopes.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Fifth Chinese Daughter Jade Snow Wong, 2019-11-21 Jade Snow Wong's autobiography portrays her coming-of-age in San Francisco's Chinatown, offering a rich depiction of her immigrant family and her strict upbringing, as well as her rebellion against family and societal expectations for a Chinese woman. Originally published in 1950, Fifth Chinese Daughter was one of the most widely read works by an Asian American author in the twentieth century. The US State Department even sent its charismatic young author on a four-month speaking tour throughout Asia. Cited as an influence by prominent Chinese American writers such as Amy Tan and Maxine Hong Kingston, Fifth Chinese Daughter is a foundational work in Asian American literature. It was written at a time when few portraits of Asian American life were available, and no similar works were as popular and broadly appealing. This new edition includes the original illustrations by Kathryn Uhl and features an introduction by Leslie Bow, who critically examines the changing reception and enduring legacy of the book and offers insight into Wong's life as an artist and an ambassador of Chinese American culture.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Going to Meet the Man James Baldwin, 2013-09-17 A major collection of short stories by one of America's most important writers—informed by the knowledge the wounds racism leaves in both its victims and its perpetrators. • “If Van Gogh was our 19th-century artist-saint, James Baldwin is our 20th-century one.” —Michael Ondaatje, Booker Prize-winner of The English Patient In this modern classic, there's no way not to suffer. But you try all kinds of ways to keep from drowning in it. The men and women in these eight short fictions grasp this truth on an elemental level, and their stories detail the ingenious and often desperate ways in which they try to keep their head above water. It may be the heroin that a down-and-out jazz pianist uses to face the terror of pouring his life into an inanimate instrument. It may be the brittle piety of a father who can never forgive his son for his illegitimacy. Or it may be the screen of bigotry that a redneck deputy has raised to blunt the awful childhood memory of the day his parents took him to watch a black man being murdered by a gleeful mob. By turns haunting, heartbreaking, and horrifying, Going to Meet the Man is a major work by one of our most important writers.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Wild Child T.C. Boyle, 2010-01-21 Fourteen “exhilarating” (The Boston Globe) stories that explore “the delicate balance between nature and civilization” (San Francisco Chronicle), from the New York Times bestselling author of The Tortilla Curtain “[A] rollicking collection of . . . good, old-fashioned, funny-suspenseful-head shaking stories.”—The New York Times (Best Books of the Year) There may be no one better than T.C. Boyle at engaging, shocking, and ultimately gratifying readers while at the same time testing his characters' emotional and physical endurance. From “Wild Child,” a retelling of the story of Victor, the feral boy who was captured running naked through the forests of Napoleonic France, to “La Conchita,” the tale of a catastrophic mudslide that allows a cynic to reclaim his own humanity, these tales are by turns magical and moving, showcasing the mischievous humor and socially conscious sensibility that have made Boyle one of the foremost masters of the short story.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Loop of Jade Sarah Howe, 2015-05-07 *WINNER OF THE T. S. ELIOT PRIZE 2015* *WINNER OF THE SUNDAY TIMES / PETERS FRASER + DUNLOP YOUNG WRITER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2015* *SHORTLISTED FOR THE FORWARD PRIZE FOR BEST FIRST COLLECTION 2015* There is a Chinese proverb that says: ‘It is more profitable to raise geese

than daughters.' But geese, like daughters, know the obligation to return home. In her exquisite first collection, Sarah Howe explores a dual heritage, journeying back to Hong Kong in search of her roots. With extraordinary range and power, the poems build into a meditation on hybridity, intermarriage and love – what meaning we find in the world, in art, and in each other. Crossing the bounds of time, race and language, this is an enthralling exploration of self and place, of migration and inheritance, and introduces an unmistakable new voice in British poetry.

two kinds amy tan analysis: African Proverbs for All Ages Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Nelda LaTeef, 2021-11-30 African Proverbs for All Ages is a beautifully-illustrated, engaging picture book about the power of proverbs, how they evolve over time, and the wisdom of various cultures in Africa. It has been said that a proverb is a short sentence based on long experience. Whether you are young or old, proverbs can open your mind to a whole new way of seeing the world. We underestimate children when we assume they are incapable of understanding metaphor and deeper meaning. There are multiple ways that children learn, but for each method by which they learn, they need their imagination engaged and their visual sensibilities ignited. And as adults, we underestimate ourselves when we allow our lives to be about practical matters only. Proverbs can stir our soul and spark our imagination. --Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Ph.D. President Emerita of Spelman and Bennett Colleges In African Proverbs for All Ages, noted anthropologist and educator Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole and award-winning illustrator Nelda LaTeef invite children and adults to explore and reflect on complex notions about relationships, identity, society, and the human condition. A Roaring Brook Press and Oprah Book

two kinds amy tan analysis: Barn Burning William Faulkner, 1979 Reprinted from Collected Stories of William Faulkner, by permission of Random House, Inc.

two kinds amy tan analysis: Typical American Gish Jen, 2014-11-11 This "irresistible novel" of Chinese immigrants navigating the American dream is "startling [and] heartrending, without ever losing its comic touch" (Entertainment Weekly). Gish Jen reinvents the American immigrant story through the Chang family, who first come to the United States with no intention of staying. But when the Communists assume control of China in 1949, Ralph Chang, his sister Theresa, and his wife Helen find themselves in a crisis, struggling to cling to their old-world ideas of themselves. But soon they begin to dream the American dream of self-invention. They transform, poignantly and ironically, from people who disparage all that is "typical American" to people who aspire to the American ideal. With droll humor and a deep empathy for her characters, Gish Jen creates a superbly engrossing story that sparkles with wit while challenging the reader to reconsider what it means to be a typical American. "No paraphrase could capture the intelligence of Gish Jen's prose, its epigrammatic sweep and swiftness The author just keeps coming at you line after stunning line." —The New York Times Book Review

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Pageant of Chinese History Elizabeth Seeger, 1942

two kinds amy tan analysis: International Women's Writing Anne E. Brown, Marjanne E. Gooze, 1995-01-16 The first collection of essays to explore the diversity of female identity as it is expressed in the literature of 29 world writers from 15 different countries.

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Mother-Daughter Book Club Heather Vogel Frederick, 2010-05-11 Acclaimed author Heather Vogel Frederick will delight daughters of all ages in a novel about the fabulousness of fiction, family, and friendship. The book club is about to get a makeover.... Even if Megan would rather be at the mall, Cassidy is late for hockey practice, Emma's already read every book in existence, and Jess is missing her mother too much to care, the new book club is scheduled to meet every month. But what begins as a mom-imposed ritual of reading Little Women soon helps four unlikely friends navigate the drama of middle school. From stolen journals, to secret crushes, to a fashion-fiasco first dance, the girls are up to their Wellie boots in drama. They can't help but wonder: What would Jo March do?

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Joy Luck Club, by Amy Tan Robert C. Evans, 2010 Examines the individual author's entire body of work and on his/her single works of literature.

two kinds amy tan analysis: The Stolen Party and Other Stories Liliana Heker, 1994

two kinds amy tan analysis: *Funny in Farsi* Firoozeh Dumas, 2007-12-18 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Finalist for the PEN/USA Award in Creative Nonfiction, the Thurber Prize for American Humor, and the Audie Award in Biography/Memoir This Random House Reader's Circle edition includes a reading group guide and a conversation between Firoozeh Dumas and Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*! "Remarkable . . . told with wry humor shorn of sentimentality . . . In the end, what sticks with the reader is an exuberant immigrant embrace of America."—San Francisco Chronicle In 1972, when she was seven, Firoozeh Dumas and her family moved from Iran to Southern California, arriving with no firsthand knowledge of this country beyond her father's glowing memories of his graduate school years here. More family soon followed, and the clan has been here ever since. *Funny in Farsi* chronicles the American journey of Dumas's wonderfully engaging family: her engineer father, a sweetly quixotic dreamer who first sought riches on Bowling for Dollars and in Las Vegas, and later lost his job during the Iranian revolution; her elegant mother, who never fully mastered English (nor cared to); her uncle, who combated the effects of American fast food with an army of miraculous American weight-loss gadgets; and Firoozeh herself, who as a girl changed her name to Julie, and who encountered a second wave of culture shock when she met and married a Frenchman, becoming part of a one-couple melting pot. In a series of deftly drawn scenes, we watch the family grapple with American English (hot dogs and hush puppies?—a complete mystery), American traditions (Thanksgiving turkey?—an even greater mystery, since it tastes like nothing), and American culture (Firoozeh's parents laugh uproariously at Bob Hope on television, although they don't get the jokes even when she translates them into Farsi). Above all, this is an unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love. It is a book that will leave us all laughing—without an accent. Praise for *Funny in Farsi* "Heartfelt and hilarious—in any language."—*Glamour* "A joyful success."—*Newsday* "What's charming beyond the humor of this memoir is that it remains affectionate even in the weakest, most tenuous moments for the culture. It's the brilliance of true sophistication at work."—*Los Angeles Times Book Review* "Often hilarious, always interesting . . . Like the movie *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, this book describes with humor the intersection and overlapping of two cultures."—*The Providence Journal* "A humorous and introspective chronicle of a life filled with love—of family, country, and heritage."—Jimmy Carter "Delightfully refreshing."—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* "[*Funny in Farsi*] brings us closer to discovering what it means to be an American."—*San Jose Mercury News*

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two kinds amy tan analysis: *Matched* Ally Condie, 2011-09-20 Cassia has always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her: what to read, what to watch, what to believe. So when Xander's face appears on-screen at her Matching ceremony, Cassia knows with complete certainty that he is her ideal mate . . . until she sees Ky Markham's face flash for an instant before the screen fades to black. The Society tells her it's a glitch, a rare malfunction, and that she should focus on the happy life she's destined to lead with Xander. But Cassia can't stop thinking about Ky, and as they slowly fall in love, Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility and is faced with an impossible choice: between Xander and Ky, between the only life she's known and a path that no one else has dared to follow. Look for *CROSSED*, the sequel to *MATCHED*, in Fall 2011! Watch a Video

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two kinds amy tan analysis: *Lucky Child* Loung Ung, 2010-06-30 After enduring years of hunger, deprivation, and devastating loss at the hands of the Khmer Rouge, ten-year-old Loung Ung became the lucky child, the sibling chosen to accompany her eldest brother to America while her one surviving sister and two brothers remained behind. In this poignant and elegiac memoir, Loung recalls her assimilation into an unfamiliar new culture while struggling to overcome dogged memories of violence and the deep scars of war. In alternating chapters, she gives voice to Chou, the beloved older sister whose life in war-torn Cambodia so easily could have been hers. Highlighting the harsh realities of chance and circumstance in times of war as well as in times of peace, *Lucky Child* is ultimately a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and to the salvaging strength of family bonds.

two kinds amy tan analysis: *Moll Flanders Illustrated* Daniel Defoe, 2021-02-05 *Moll Flanders* is a novel by Daniel Defoe, first published in 1722. It purports to be the true account of the life of the eponymous Moll, detailing her exploits from birth until old age. By 1721, Defoe had become a recognised novelist, with the success of *Robinson Crusoe* in 1719. His political work was tapering off at this point, due to the fall of both Whig and Tory party leaders with whom he had been associated; Robert Walpole was beginning his rise, and Defoe was never fully at home with the Walpole group. Defoe's Whig views are nevertheless evident in the story of Moll, and the novel's full title gives some insight into this and the outline of the plot

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