

APPENDIX I

BIOGRAPHY OF MARY LYNN BRACHT



Mary Lynn Bracht is an American author of Korean descent who now lives in London. She was born in Stuttgart, Germany and grew up in the United States. She studied Anthropology and Psychology at the University of Texas at Austin and received her Master's Degree in Creative Writing at Birkbeck, University of London. Her debut novel, *White Chrysanthemum*, was published in January 2018 by Chatto & Windus Books and Putnam Books and translated worldwide.

She grew up in a large ex-pat community of women who came of age in post-war South Korea. In 2002 Bracht visited her mother's childhood village, and it was during this trip she first learned of the 'Comfort Women' captured and set up in brothels for the Japanese military. *White Chrysanthemum* is her first novel.

APPENDIX II

SYNOPSIS OF WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM

The novel starts on Jeju Island's beach with the two siblings; The older one, Hana is diving with her mother when they search for abalones and the younger one, Emi is waiting on the shore. When a Japanese soldier passes, Hana swims towards Emi, then covers her with their catch while the man speaks to her. He is a Japanese soldier named Corporal Morimoto, who then abducted Hana and leaving Emi behind. The novel then splits between the two women, as Hana becomes a comfort woman, and sixty years later Emi still searches for her sister.

Hana's Perspective (1940s)

Hana is taken to the police station and falsifies her identity, saying that her family has died, so they would not be tracked. Hana and the other Korean girls is taken to a room to change into uniforms and then brought in trucks. Hana then separates from the group and is taken to the ferry with other girls who is then taken to an undisclosed location. On the ferry, Hana is raped by Corporal Morimoto and made this her first sexual experience. She is returned to her group when they arrives at the train station. On the way to Manchuria, she and other Korean women are taken to a brothel.

The next morning, Japanese soldiers who learn of the arrival of the new comfort women, queued to visit Hana. There Hana experienced rape, abuse, torture and violence almost every day. Corporal Morimoto who assigns as a night watchman also visits Hana every night while he is on duty and raped her. Hana escapes from prostitution after living there for a period of time, but is later captured by Corporal Morimoto. He tells her he will take her to Mongolia.

When Hana is brought to Mongolia, she lives with a family consist of father, mother and two children. She can not communicate with them because she does not speak Mongolian. Corporal Morimoto left for a while to arrange his transfer documents, and Hana begin to learn some Mongolian words and about the people who lives with her. She then became close to the family, especially with Altan, the youngest boy because they are in the same age. Morimoto returns, and Hana tries to escape on horseback. Morimoto finally caught up with her, but both are taken by Soviet troops. The soldiers force Corporal Morimoto to commit suicide, and released Hana to the Mongolian family because they exchange her with their

valuables. They brought her back to where they lives. The novel, from Hana's perspective, ends with her wandering around with Altan and swimming in Lake Uvs.

Emi's Perspective (2011)

Emi's perspective begins with her diving as a *haenyeo* (diving woman) with JinHee, a fellow diver. Emi talks about the dreams she often has where she stood on a cliff and heard a girl's voice calling her. Her voice sounds familiar but far. Today Emi is seventy-seven years old, and speaks that diving is a gift her mother taught. Emi talks about how she does not often visit her children because she has a distant relationship with them. She takes a taxi and then the plane flew to Seoul to visit her daughter YoonHui, her son Hyoung, and her grandson YoungSook.

JinHee convinces Emi to go to the inauguration ceremony of the Jeju Peace Park which commemorates Jeju Uprising in 1948. Emi recalls that Jeju Uprising in 1948 causes the massacre of more than twenty thousand islanders. She remembers how her family's house is burned down when she was fourteen. When she attends the event, she notices how everyone carries the same flower, white chrysanthemum, which is a symbol of mourning.

Emi is at the 1,000th Demonstration Wednesday which has taken place since 1992. She remembers how in 1948, before the Korean War began, her father is slashed by a policeman in front of her and her mother. She and her mother flee to a cave in Jeju Bay and survive by eating insects, mosses and creatures in the bay. When they are on the verge of starvation, they returns to their destroyed home. The police find them and took them to the police station. The desk police there forces Emi to marry HyunMo, the police who takes her and her mother there. The forced marriage aims to erase communist influence on Jeju Island.

When Emi returns at the present Demonstration, Emi meets a group of older women and asks if they know Hana. They answer by saying that they were named after flowers, but do not know each other's real names. They talk about women drawn from various locations, such as China, Philippines, Malaysia, and Dutch women. They talk about the first female comfort women to appear, Kim Hak-sun in 1991. Demonstrations continues, and there is a statue of peace that Emi knew resembles Hana's appearances. Emi tells her children that she is not an only child, and that she does not tell them out of shame. She reveals that her sister, Hana, sacrificed herself to save her.

Hyoung asks Emi why she hates their father. Emi then reveals to her children that they were not married because of love but because of war. She was fourteen when she married. Emi does not believe that Hyunmo is married because of

love; but only to get her family's land. She is pregnant at the age of sixteen and is afraid of becoming a mother. After learning that HyunMo accuses her mother of being a communist and had her executed, she told his son that Hyoung were the only thing preventing her from committing suicide. Her son was born in the year the Korean War began. When her husband is on his deathbed, he thanked her for their children, he said he always loved her in his own way, Asking so she not hate him so much after he died, that she lit incense for his ancestors, and that he wanted Emi to forgive him for all thing he done. Emi visits the statue again with her children. She said that it was his sister Hana. She told YoonHui that she is proud that YoonHui went to university, and that she is proud of his son, Hyoung. Emi thinks to herself that she finally found Hana and then rest in peace.

YoonHui's perspective (2012)

Yoon Hui is at the sea and wants to dive to remember what it feels like to be a *haenyeo* like her mother. JinHee is with her, and YoonHui wears her mother's mask. JinHee tells her that Emi is proud of YoonHui. YoonHui visits the statue after her mother died. Lane, her girlfriend, found the artist who made the statue and they shares a black and white photo that inspired the statue. It is from the daughter of a woman who is captured by Uni Soviet soldiers during World War II and had donated it to the Museum of Sexual Slavery. It has the girl label Haenyeo, dated 1993. YoonHui realizes that the farewell statue is Aunt Hana.