

*China Rich Girlfriend* Book Review by Leah

*China Rich Girlfriend* is a romantic drama written by Kevin Kwan and published in 2015. The book is decently long, with a total of 473 pages. The story begins with Carlton Bao, who has just crashed his Ferrari into an expensive shop in London, and is put into a coma. Carlton Bao's family is very rich, and they do everything in their power to cover up the story of what really happened at the crash that day. Eleanor Young helps out Carlton's family with the crash, and she instantly recognizes the resemblance between Carlton and Rachel Chu, the woman engaged to Eleanor's son, Nick Young.

Nick refuses to speak to his mother Eleanor ever since he threatened to break up his relationship with Rachel three years ago in Singapore - and she almost did break up their relationship! Nick was willing to give up his whole life in Singapore, his family and inheritance, to live in New York with Rachel, the woman he loves deeply.

Now, Nick and Rachel are getting married on a beach in California, and Eleanor is not invited to the wedding. However, as soon as Eleanor finds out that a wedding is happening, she flies in on her private helicopter with a man named Bao Gaoliang.

Rachel discovers from Eleanor that Bao Gaoliang is her mysterious father, who she didn't even know existed! Rachel is shocked to also learn that she has a half brother named Carlton. Rachel and Nick then decide that for their honeymoon, they are going to visit China so that Rachel can get to know her father and the rest of her unknown family.

When Nick and Rachel fly into China, they are greeted by Carlton and a famous and influential woman named Colette Bing. Colette hosts a dinner for them all as they learn how Jack Bing, Colette's father, is the fifth richest man in all of China. Colette is so kind and welcoming

to Nick and Rachel, but it seems as though she lives in her own small bubble and doesn't know much about the real world.

Rachel is astonished when Colette invites Rachel to a shopping trip in Paris, and Rachel stands shocked at the way Colette's rich, young friends spend all their money. In Paris, Rachel learns about Carlton's car crash and how he races against Richie Yang, one of Colette's boyfriends. At some point, before another big race, Carlton snaps and mentions that his parents are arguing over Rachel, and Rachel cannot believe the damage she has done to his family in China.

The book continues with scandals, poisoning, and plot twists in order to reveal who some people truly are on the inside. Rachel realizes too late that she is not wanted in China by many people, and that these people are willing to hurt her badly if she does not leave soon.

One thing I appreciated about the book was the fact that the author wrote from different families' perspectives all throughout the book, so I could see what was going on in Rachel's life to Colette's life. I would recommend this book to those 14+ because there are some inappropriate scenes not meant for younger people. The book was very confusing at the beginning, but I loved how everything came together in the end and we could see how all the different people meant something to the whole idea.

This book is the second in a trilogy, with the books *Crazy Rich Asians* and *Rich People Problems*. I plan to read the third book in the trilogy next. *Crazy Rich Asians* was turned into a movie, which I watched and would recommend watching after reading the book, so the movie is less confusing. Also, a new movie titled *Crazy Rich Asians 2* will be put into production in 2025 and will be coming out very soon, so I'm very excited for that to come out. Overall, *China Rich Girlfriend* is a wonderful book!

