

Liu Sola's uncle was a famous red army general and revolutionary martyr, but she was thrown out of the Red Guards. She trained as a classical pianist at the prestigious Central Conservatory, but made her name as a leather-clad rock and roll rebel. She went on to pen surrealist novels that have become cult classics. Now she sings a particularly Chinese brand of blues in NY. For a more complete biography, please see:

Keyin, Pan. "[Red China Blues Woman.](#)" *Beijing Scene*, March 26-April 1.

**Assignment:** *Chaos and All That*

Discussion questions:

1. What is the time frame of the novel?
2. Why does the author juxtapose disparate elements in the text?
3. Think about the language of the novel: from slang to "bureaucratese" to song lyrics (classical to rock).
4. What does the inclusion of references to classical literature "The Story of the Stone" and "The Golden Lotus" add to the novel?
5. What is the tone of the novel?
6. Think of some really funny moments in this work.
7. Consider: Innocence, Heritage: parents/auntie, Cultural Revolution scenes, Humor, Chaos.

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