

Escape From Saigon How A Vietnam War Orphan Became An American Boy

Colonialism and war disrupted the lives of millions of Vietnamese people during the 20th century. These are their stories.

The Saigon Sisters offers the narratives of a group of privileged women who were immersed in a French lycée and later rebelled and fought for independence, starting with France's occupation of Vietnam and continuing through US involvement and life after war ends in 1975. Tracing the lives of nine women, The Saigon Sisters reveals these women's stories as they independence, and describes how they adapted to life in the jungle, whether facing bombing raids, malaria, deadly snakes, or other trials. How did they juggle double lives working for the resistance in Saigon? How could they endure having to rely on family members to raise their own children? Why, after being sent to study abroad by anxious parents, did several women How could they bear open-ended separation from their husbands? How did they cope with sending their children to villages to escape the bombings of Hanoi? In spite of the maelstrom of war, how did they forge careers? And how, in spite of dislocation and distrust following the end of the war in 1975, did these women find each other and rekindle their friendship and more in this powerful and personal approach to history.

I have asked permission to dedicate this book to you not only in memory of the haggry evenings I have spent with you in Saigon over the last five years, but also because I have quite shamelessly borrowed the location of your flat to house one of iny characters, and your name, Phuong, for the convenience of readers because it is simple, beautiful and easy to pronounce. You will both realise I have borrowed little else, certainly not the characters of anyone in Viet Nam. Pyle, Granger, Fowler, Vigot, Joe— these have had no originals in the life of Saigon or Hanoi, and General The is dead : shot in the back, so thfcy say. Even the historical events have been rearranged. For example, the big bomb near the Continental preceded and not followed the assassination of the president. I have also changed the names of the characters, and the scruples about such small changes. This is a story and not a piece of history, and I hope that as a story about a few imaginary characters it will pass for both of you one hot Saigon evening.

For anyone who has ever felt like they don't belong, Sigh, Gone shares an irreverent, funny, and moving tale of displacement and assimilation woven together with poignant themes from beloved works of classic literature. In 1975, during the fall of Saigon, Phuc Tran immigrates to America along with his family. By sheer chance they land in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, a small town where they can assimilate into their new life. In this coming-of-age memoir told through the themes of great books such as The Metamorphosis, The Scarlet Letter, The Iliad, and more, Tran navigates the push and pull of finding and accepting himself despite the challenges of immigration, feelings of isolation, and teenage rebellion, all while attempting to meet the rigid expectations of his new life. Fans of coming-of-age memoirs such as Fresh Off the Boat, Running with Scissors, or tales of assimilation like Viet Thanh Nguyen's The Displaced and The Refugees, Sigh, Gone explores one man's bewildering experiences of abuse, racism, and tragedy and reveals redemption and connection in books and punk rock. Against the hairspray-and-synthesizer backdrop of the wisdom of classic literature, and in the subculture of punk rock, he finds affirmation and echoes of his disaffection. In his journey for self-discovery Tran ultimately finds refuge and inspiration in the art that shapes—and ultimately saves—him.

Leaving Saigon

A Novel (Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)

Ru

The Quiet American

Orphan 32

Butterfly Yellow

How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy

A wealthy family shrouded in scandal; a detective tasked with solving an impossible cold case; and a woman with a dark past collide in Hannah Morrissey's stunning new Black Harbor mystery, The Widowmaker...

Few historians of the Vietnam War have covered the post-1975 era or engaged comprehensively with refugee politics, humanitarianism, and human rights as defining issues of the period. After Saigon’s Fall is the first major work to uncover this history. Amanda C. Demmer offers a new account of the post-War normalization of US–Vietnam relations by centering three major transformations of the late twentieth century: the reassertion of the US Congress in American foreign policy; the Indochinese diaspora and changing domestic and international refugee norms; and the intertwining of humanitarianism and the human rights movement. By tracing these domestic, regional, and global phenomena, After Saigon's Fall captures the contingencies and contradictions inherent in US-Vietnamese normalization. Using previously untapped archives to recover a riveting narrative with both policymakers and nonstate advocates at its center, Demmer’s book also reveals much about US politics and society in the last quarter of the twentieth century.

Eleven-year-old Bao Dang remembers watching in horror four years earlier as Communist soldiers dragged his parents from their home. Now an orphan, he begins a journey to escape the oppressive government of South Vietnam. The owner of a small boat, paid in gold, smuggles Bao and his cousin, Binh Pham, down the Saigon River at night to the South China Sea, where he and over one hundred other "boat people" pack into a trawler designed to hold fewer than thirty. For six days, they face danger from the police, weather, and pirates, not to mention the constant threat of capsizing as they take on water while living only on dry, rationed rice. Bao, Binh and the others hope a refugee camp in Indonesia accepts them, but there’s no guarantee. Word has it they may be turned away and even towed back out to sea to starve. Eventually finding a safe haven, Bao harnesses the power of music to heal and help endure months of harsh and dangerous living while he and Binh await word from relatives in the United States, hoping they'll obtain the ultimate gift: freedom.

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

Escape from Saigon

London 1963-75

A War Correspondent’s Memoir of Life and Death in Afghanistan, the Middle East, and Vietnam

The Widowmaker

Inside Out & Back Again

One Woman’s Journey to Freedom

Privileged Women in the Resistance

Discusses the placement of over 200,000 orphaned or abandoned children in homes throughout the Midwest from 1854 to 1929 by recounting the story of one boy and his brothers.

An unforgettable true story of an orphan caught in the midst of war Over a million South Vietnamese children were orphaned by the Vietnam War. This affecting true account tells the story of Long, who, like more than 40,000 other orphans, is Amerasian -- a mixed-race child -- with little future in Vietnam. Escape from Saigon allows readers to experience Long's struggle to survive in war-torn Vietnam, his dramatic escape to America as part of "Operation Babylift" during the last chaotic days before the fall of Saigon, and his life in the United States as "Matt," part of a loving Ohio family. Finally, as a young doctor, he journeys back to Vietnam, ready to reconcile his Vietnamese past with his American present. As the thirtieth anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War approaches, this compelling account provides a fascinating introduction to the war and the plight of children caught in the middle of it.

A moving account of how the largest aerial evacuation in history was performed.

Winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction Winner of the 2016 Edgar Award for Best First Novel Winner of the 2016 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction "[A] remarkable debut novel"—Philip Caputo, New York Times Book Review (cover review) The winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, as well as seven other awards, The Sympathizer is one of the most acclaimed books of the twenty-first century. With the pace and suspense of a thriller and prose that has been compared to Graham Greene and Vladimir Nabokov, The Sympathizer is a sweeping epic of love and betrayal. The narrator, a communist double agent, is a "man of two minds," a half-French, half-Vietnamese army captain who comes to America after the Fall of Saigon, and while building a new life with other Vietnamese refugees in Los Angeles is secretly reporting back to his communist superiors in Vietnam. The Sympathizer is a blistering exploration of identity and America, a gripping spy novel, and a powerful story of love and friendship.

Things We Lost to the Water

Last Flight from Saigon

They Are All My Family

A Boy In The Nazi Death Camps

Nam Moi

Stories

Destination Saigon

A memoir in graphic novel format about the author’s experiences as the son of Vietnamese immigrants who fled to America during the fall of Saigon describes how he learned his tragic ancestral history and the impact of the Vietnam War on his family while visiting their homeland years later.

A captivating novel about an immigrant Vietnamese family who settles in New Orleans and struggles to remain connected to one another as their lives are inextricably reshaped. This stunning debut is "vast in scale and ambition, while luscious and inviting ... in its intimacy" (The New York Times Book Review). When Huong arrives in New Orleans with her two young sons, she is jobless, homeless, and worried about her husband, Cong, who remains in Vietnam. As she and her boys begin to settle in to life in America, she continues to send letters and tapes back to Cong, hopeful that they will be reunited and her children will grow up with a father. But with time, Huong realizes she will never see her husband again. While she attempts to come to terms with this loss, her sons, Tuan and Binh, grow up in their absent father’s shadow, haunted by a man and a country trapped in their memories and imaginations. As they push forward, the three adapt to life in America in different ways: Huong gets involved with a Vietnamese car salesman who is also new in town; Tuan tries to connect with his heritage by joining a local Vietnamese gang; and Binh, now going by Ben, embraces his adopted homeland and his burgeoning sexuality. Their search for identity--as individuals and as a family--threatens to tear them apart, until disaster strikes the city they now call home and they are suddenly forced to find a new way to come together and honor the ties that bind them.

A haunting memoir describes growing up in the shadow of the Vietnam War, the desperate struggle of one family to survive amid the chaos of the fall of Saigon and its aftermath, their escape to freedom, and the return to Vietnam on a personal humanitarian mission. Reprint.

Escape from SaigonHow a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American BoyFarrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)

A Young Girl's Story of Her Family's Escape from Vietnam

Vietnam Paradox

A novel

Refugees and US-Vietnamese Relations, 1975–2000

Escape from Communist Heaven

One Boy's True Story

The True Story of America's Heroic Final Hours in Vietnam

In this sequel to the graphic memoir Such a Lovely Little War, young Marcelino and his family move from Saigon to swinging London in order to escape the war. There, he discovers an exciting new world of hedonists and hippies, while his mother slips further into her bipolar disorder, and Vietnam slips further into tragedy and heartbreak.

In the chaotic final days of the Vietnam War in April 1975, as Americans fled and their Vietnamese allies and employees prepared for the worst, John Riordan, a young banker, the assistant manager of Citibank’s Saigon branch succeeded in rescuing 106 Vietnamese. They were his 33 Vietnamese staff members and their families. Unable to secure exit papers for the employees, Citibank ordered Riordan to leave the country alone. Safe in Hong Kong, Riordan could not imagine leaving behind his employees and defied instructions not to return to Saigon. But once he did make it back on the last commercial flight, his actions were daring and ingenious. In They Are All My Family, Riordan recounts in a vivid narrative how the escape was organized and carried out. He assembled all 106 of the Vietnamese into his villa and a neighboring one telling them to keep their locations secret. A CIA contact told him that only dependents of Americans were allowed to escape on U.S. military cargo planes. Riordan repeatedly went to the processing area and claimed groups of the Vietnamese as his relatives—his wife and children—somehow managing to get through the bureaucratic shambles. Eventually he went back and forth to the airport 15 times. Filling out papers in groups, using false documents and even resorting to a bribe, he succeeded in rescuing the group. For the last round, the group drove the bank van to the airport pretending they had bundles of money to transport. Miraculously, all these gambits worked and the Citibank group made it to Guam and the Philippines, eventually reuniting at Camp Pendleton in California. All the while, Riordan assumed he had been fired for ignoring orders but once the mission was completed, his extraordinary commitment and resourcefulness won him widespread praise from senior officials. Citibank spent a million dollars to resettle the Vietnamese, offering jobs to some of the staff and their spouses. Decades later, Riordan has located the Vietnamese and reconnected with them, sharing accounts of those frantic days and the derring-do it took to get them out to safety. John Riordan is now a farmer in Wisconsin. His story of those fateful days decades ago and their aftermath provides a compelling insight to the courage of individuals when all seemed lost. For all the tragedy of the Vietnam War, this saga is an uplifting counterpoint and a compelling piece of micro-history.

A novel in “the tradition of Michener and Clavell. . . . A sweeping saga that places you dead center in the tumultuous final days of the war in Vietnam” (Casey Sherman, New York Times–bestselling author of The Finest Hours). Saigon is falling. With the North Vietnamese Army approaching, the city is quickly falling into chaos as the city’s inhabitants look for any way to escape. Among them are Matt Moran, a soldier searching for his Vietnamese wife’s terrified relatives; Lisette Vo, a Vietnamese-American TV reporter who risks her life to chronicle the events of that fateful time; and an American businessman who “adopts” three hundred of his employees in a bid to sneak them out. All of these gripping stories and more occur while the enemy tightens its stranglehold on the city. Full of the human triumph and heartbreaking tragedy that marked the end of the Vietnam conflict, “Escape From Saigon brings to life the war-torn lives of the men and women, soldiers and civilians alike, each trying to escape the fall of Saigon before it engulfs them all. A vivid, unvarnished vision” (Winston Groom, author of Forrest Gump).

Compelling, moving, and beautifully written, the interlinked stories that make up We Should Never Meet alternate between Saigon before the city’s fall in 1975 and present-day “Little Saigon” in Southern California---exploring the reverberations of the Vietnam War in a completely new light. Intersecting the lives of eight characters across three decades and two continents, these stories dramatize the events of Operation Babylift, the U.S.-led evacuation of thousands of Vietnamese orphans to America just weeks before the fall of Saigon. Unwitting reminders of the war, these children were considered bui doi, the dust of life, and faced an uncertain, dangerous existence if left behind in Vietnam. Four of the stories follow the saga of one orphan’s journey from the points-of-view of a teenage mother, a duck farmer and a Catholic nun from the Mekong Delta, a social worker in Saigon, and a volunteer doctor from America. The other four take place twenty years later and chronicle the lives of four Vietnamese orphans now living in America: Kim, an embittered Amerasian searching for her unknown mother; Vinh, her gang member ex-boyfriend who preys on Vietnamese families; Mai, an ambitious orphan who faces her emancipation from the American foster-care system; and Huan, an Amerasian adopted by a white family, who returns to Vietnam with his adoptive mother. We Should Never Meet is one of those rare books that truly takes an original look at the human condition---and marks the exciting debut of a major new writer for our time.

Last Men Out

The Lucky Few

Le Van Vien the Tiger of Saigon

Escape with Honor

Honorable Exit

My Last Hours in Vietnam

Means of Escape

Describes the events leading up to the evacuation of all Americans in Saigon after the Vietnam War.

"Peter Arnett is the best reporter of the Vietnam War." --David Halberstam, Journalist and Historian In this intimate and exclusive remembrance on the 40th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, celebrated Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Peter Arnett tells the story of his role covering the controversial Vietnam War for The Associated Press from 1962 to its end on April 30, 1975. Arnett's clear-eyed coverage displeased President Lyndon Johnson and officials on all sides of the conflict. Writing candidly and vividly about his risks and triumphs, Arnett also shares his fears and fights in reporting against the backdrop of war. Arnett places readers at the historic pivot-points of Vietnam: covering Marine landings, mountaintop battles, Saigon's decline and fall, and the safe evacuation of a planeload of 57 infants in the midst of chaos. Peter Arnett's sweeping view and his frank, descriptive, and dramatic writing brings the Vietnam War to life in a uniquely insightful way for this year's 40th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon. Arnett won the Pulitzer Prize in 1966 for his Vietnam coverage. He later went on to TV-reporting fame covering the Gulf War for CNN. Includes 21 dramatic photographs from the AP Archive and the personal collection of Peter Arnett.

The life-changing story of a young boy’s struggle for survival in a Nazi-run concentration camp, narrated in the voice of Holocaust survivor Jack Mandelbaum. When twelve-year-old Jack Mandelbaum is separated from his family and shipped off to the Blechhammer concentration camp, his life becomes a never-ending nightmare. With minimal food to eat and harsh living conditions threatening his health, Jack manages to survive by thinking of his family. In this Robert F. Silbert Honor book, readers will glimpse the dark reality of life during the Holocaust, and how one boy made it out alive. William Allen White Award Winner

Robert F. Silbert Honor ALA Notable Children’s Book VOYA Nonfiction Honor Book

The long-awaited follow-up to the Pulitzer Prize-winning The Sympathizer, which has sold more than one million copies worldwide, The Committed follows the man of two minds as he arrives in Paris in the early 1980s with his blood brother Bon. The pair try to overcome their pasts and ensure their futures by engaging in capitalism in one of its purest forms: drug dealing. Traumatized by his reeducation at the hands of his former best friend, Man, and struggling to assimilate into French culture, the Sympathizer finds Paris both seductive and disturbing. As he falls in with a group of left-wing intellectuals whom he meets at dinner parties given by his French Vietnamese “aunt,” he finds stimulation for his mind but also customers for his narcotic merchandise. But the new life he is making has perils he has not foreseen, whether the self-torture of addiction, the authoritarianism of a state locked in a colonial mindset, or the seeming paradox of how to reunite his two closest friends whose worldviews put them in absolute opposition. The Sympathizer will need all his wits, resourcefulness, and moral flexibility if he is to prevail. Both highly suspenseful and existential, The Committed is a blistering portrayal of commitment and betrayal that will cement Viet Thanh Nguyen’s position in the firmament of American letters.

Surviving Hitler

After Saigon's Fall

Vietnamerica

The Fall of Saigon

How a Few Brave Americans Risked All to Save Our Vietnamese Allies at the End of the War

The Dragon's Song

A Daring Rescue in the Chaos of Saigon?s Fall

The drama of the apocalyptic final hours of the Vietnam War

Winner of the Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction! Perfect for fans of Elizabeth Acevedo, Ibi Zoboi, and Erika L. Sánchez, this gorgeously written and deeply moving novel is the YA debut from the award-winning author of Inside Out & Back Again. 4 starred reviews! In the final days of the Vi?t Nam War, H?ng takes her little brother, Linh, to the airport, determined to find a way to safety in America. In a split second, Linh is ripped from her arms—and H?ng is left behind in the war-torn country. Six years later, H?ng has made the brutal journey from Vi?t Nam and is now in Texas as a refugee. She doesn’t know how she will find the little brother who was taken from her until she meets LeeRoy, a city boy with big rodeo dreams, who decides to help her. H?ng is overjoyed when she reunites with Linh. But when she realizes he doesn’t remember her, their family, or Vi?t Nam, her heart is crushed. Though the distance between them feels greater than ever, H?ng has come so far that she will do anything to bridge the gap.

"A riveting memoir of years of living dangerously."—Kirkus Reviews For the countless readers who have admired Philip Caputo’s classic memoir of Vietnam, A Rumor of War, here is his powerful recounting of his life and adventures, updated with a foreword that assesses the state of the world and the journalist’s art. As a journalist, Caputo has covered many of the world’s troubles, and in Means of Escape, he tells the reader in moving and clear-eyed prose how he made himself into a writer, traveler, and observer with the nerve to put himself at the center of the world’s conflicts. As a young reporter he investigated the Mafia in Chicago, earning acclaim as well as threats against his safety. Later, he rode camels through the world and enjoyed Bedouin hospitality, was kidnapped and held captive by Islamic extremists, and was targeted and hit by sniper fire in Beirut, with memories of Vietnam never far from the surface. And after it all, he went into Afghanistan. Caputo’s goal has always been to bear witness to the crimes, ambitions, fears, ferocities, and hopes of humanity. With Means of Escape he has done so.

Vietnam is a nation with a long and storied history, but this novel touches upon one of its most horrifying chapters: the war between North and South Vietnam in the 1960s and ’70s. Life before that time was quiet for most people in the South, who lived on the riches of the land in peace with their neighbors. Sadly, that changed as the war spread across the country. Innocents were killed by landmines, “traitors” to the revolution were brutally murdered, and fear spread like a terrible disease. Despite that, life went on for River Ha, an innocent young girl whose determination got her through high school in Saigon. That same determination propelled her into Law University in hopes of protecting women and the poor. In the midst of atrocities of a brutal war, River Ha found love with a young American soldier, Steven. Can their love survive the horrors of war? Will they be reunited, or will fate keep them apart? Vietnam Paradox is a novel of love, family, hope and survival through a brutal and horrifying war and into the ensuing years after the war ended in 1975. When the communist government took control of the country in 1975, they confiscated the homes and savings of many South Vietnamese and sent large numbers of the educated population and former military officers to ‘education camps’ in the North. The conflict between North and South Vietnam claimed more than a million lives, and the changes it wrought made life infinitely more difficult for the survivors. This novel, based on the experiences of author Hong Thu Thi Vo (Rose Thu) and her friends and family, offers a heart-wrenching look at life in a country torn apart by war.

A Novel

My Saigon

A Misfit’s Memoir of Great Books, Punk Rock, and the Fight to Fit In

The Local Guide to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Adventures in Vietnam

Saigon Calling

We Should Never Meet

As the Vietnam War reached its tragic climax in the last days of April 1975, a task force of U.S. Navy ships cruised off South Vietnam's coast. Their mission was to support the evacuation of American embassy personnel and military advisers from Saigon as well as to secure the safety of the South Vietnamese whose lives were in endangered by the North Vietnamese victory. The Lucky Few recounts the role of the USS Kirk in the rescue of remnants of the South Vietnamese fleet and the refugees on board. The story of the Kirk reflects one of America's few shining moments at the end of the Vietnam War. Now in paperback in time for the 40th anniversary of the end of the war, The Lucky Few brings to life the heroism of Captain Paul Jacobs and the crew of the USS Kirk.

Indochina, after the second world war, because of the ambitions of the independence, experienced great upheavals that would highlight players who would battle for the control of areas in their possession. If Ho Chi Minh kept hold of Tonkin, in North of the country, the South was the scene of clashes between the nationalist Vietnamese, often Christians, politico-religious movements and the Binh Xuyen, a criminal group that languished in the Cholon area, in West of Saigon. Le Van Vien, nicknamed Bay Vien, was their leader and led the fight against all those who opposed him. The French soldiers, first, then the communists of the Vietminh, financing its struggle with the money he earned brothels, casinos and opium trafficking that he organized with the French secret service and some representatives of the Union Corse. He then joined the new national army with the rank of colonel, before being appointed general by the Emperor Bao Dai. When this latter was pushed out by the new Republican authorities, he opposed them and did not hesitate to make them the war. The American support for the Vietnamese president Ngo Dinh Diem played against him and he managed to escape only with the support of his Corsican associates who had the hand put on the circuits of the opium traffic circuits to France. Arrived in France, he spent his days in the company of the deposed Emperor, Bao Dai, leading the high life in Paris and on the French Riviera. Heavy smoker, he was overtaken by the Cancer who carried him in a few months after he was installed in the Paris region.

More than a million South Vietnamese children were orphaned by the Vietnam War. This affecting, true account tells the story of Long, who, like more than 40,000 other orphans, is a mixed-race child with little future in Vietnam and his dramatic escape to America.

Get a taste of the real Vietnam and its people on a sometimes funny, always fascinating journey from the bustling cities to the out of the way villages, into Buddhist monasteries and along the Mekong - a real delight for armchair travellers and those contemplating their own adventure.

Orphan Train Rider

A Story about Starting O

The Fall of Saigon and the Rescue Mission of the USS Kirk

Saigon Has Fallen

The Saigon Sisters

Song of Saigon

Ru: In Vietnamese it means lullaby; in French it is a small stream, but also signifies a flow - of tears, blood, money. Kim Thy's Ru is literature at its most crystalline: the flow of a life on the tides of unrest and on to more peaceful waters. In vignettes of exquisite clarity, sharp observation and sly wit, we are carried along on an unforgettable journey from a palatial residence in Saigon to a crowded and muddy Malaysian refugee camp, and onward to a new life in Quebec. There, the young girl feels the embrace of a new community, and revels in the chance to be part of the American Dream. As an adult, the waters become rough again: now a mother of two, she must learn to shape her love around the younger boy's autism. Moving seamlessly from past to present, from history to memory and back again,

Ru is a book that celebrates life in all its wonder: its moments of beauty and sensuality, brutality and sorrow, comfort and comedy.

Saigon, November, 1978. Under the cover of darkness a desperate family leaves home and friends, hoping to escape the harsh regime of Communist Vietnam. Their goal is to reunite with the four oldest children sent ahead to the United States, but first they must evade ruthless communist patrols. Eleven-year-old Nam Moi is confused, afraid and now homeless. Her future seems bleak and devoid of hope. The risks are great, but it was not the first time her family had taken risks. Long ago, her Ung ancestors had migrated from China to northern Vietnam. When the country was partitioned in 1954, they moved again to South Vietnam. Nam Moi, or "little girl from the South," was born in Saigon during the Vietnam War. Her family survived the fighting, but living under Communist rule was very hard. After years of planning and debating, Nam Moi’s father made the bold decision to escape, in hope of finding a better life for his children somewhere else. Nam Moi had been taught that sometimes gambles must be taken for a better life. But would this huge gamble bring freedom or cost them all their lives? Nam Moi: A Young Girl’s Story of Her Family’s Escape from Vietnam is a true story of triumph over repression, danger and hardship. Escaping from Vietnam meant traveling on a rusty cargo ship in the South China Sea for months, barely hanging onto life. Nam Moi’s father paid precious gold for the chance to escape the country, but the price the family paid to survive was much higher than gold. They had to start their lives all over again.

A MAIN SELECTION OF THE MILITARY BOOK CLUB A groundbreaking revisionist history of the last days of the Vietnam War that reveals the acts of American heroism that saved more than one hundred thousand South Vietnamese from communist revenge In 1973 U.S. participation in the Vietnam War ended in a cease-fire and a withdrawal that included promises by President Nixon to assist the South in the event of invasion by the North. But in early 1975, when North Vietnamese forces began a full-scale assault, Congress refused to send arms or aid. By early April that year, the South was on the brink of a defeat that threatened execution or years in a concentration camp for the untold number of South Vietnamese who had supported the government in Saigon or worked with Americans. Thurston Clarke begins Honorable Exit by describing the iconic photograph of the Fall of Saigon: desperate Vietnamese scrambling to board a helicopter evacuating the last American personnel from Vietnam. It is an image of U.S. failure and shame. Or is it? By unpacking the surprising story of heroism that the photograph actually tells, Clarke launches into a narrative that is both a thrilling race against time and an important corrective to the historical record. For what is less known is that during those final days, scores of Americans--diplomats, businessmen, soldiers, missionaries, contractors, and spies--risked their lives to assist their current and former translators, drivers, colleagues, neighbors, friends, and even perfect strangers in escape. By the time the last U.S. helicopter left Vietnam on April 30, 1975, these righteous Americans had helped to spirit 130,000 South Vietnamese to U.S. bases in Guam and the Philippines. From there, the evacuees were resettled in the U.S. and became American citizens, the leading edge of one of America's most successful immigrant groups. Into this tale of heroism on the ground Clarke weaves the political machinations of Henry Kissinger advising President Ford in the White House while reinforcing the delusions of the U.S. Ambassador in Saigon, who, at the last minute, refused to depart. Groundbreaking, page-turning, and authoritative, Honorable Exit is a deeply moving history of Americans at a little-known finest hour.

The Nguyen family fled Communist North Vietnam for Saigon and left Saigon years later for America. The beautiful Xuan, oldest of the five daughters, later became an American success.

Sigh, Gone

The Sympathizer

A Family's Journey

The Committed

How the Church Survived the Final Days of the Vietnam War

A moment-by-moment account of the operation by U.S. marines to rescue thousands of American troops and allies in the final 24 hours of the Vietnam War focuses on the stories of 11 young Marines who were the last to leave, in a dramatic story based on first-hand testimonies and recently declassified information. 100,000 first printing The communist takeover of South Vietnam in 1975 is very hard for Viet Nguyen, fourteen, and his family but when Viet foolishly tries to speed up their plans to escape he is arrested and sentenced to the harsh life of a labor camp in the jungle.

This is the newly updated, 2015 version of My Saigon.My Saigon is a complete, in-depth guide to visiting Saigon, also known as Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. I'm a Saigon native, and in this book, I show you locals' places you won't find in any other guidebook. I got tired of seeing tourists in Saigon following incorrect information and tourist-trap restaurants. I wrote my own guidebook, one only a Saigon native could write.Do you know that Saigon locals consider Quan An Ngon (where every other guidebook tells you to go) a terrible restaurant? Do you know that near Ben Thanh Market there's a Japantown full of Vietnamese college hipsters? And that down the road there's a cluster of music bars? Do you know what the guys offering you marijuana are up to? Do you know why you would probably hate a traditional Vietnamese massage? And do you know what the women in tight dresses trying to lure you in for a "massage" are all about? (It's not what you think!) Want to go to a neighborhood Buddhist temple, far outside the tourist circuit? Do you know what the guys offering you necklaces are up to? Do you know what the guys offering you USD? (The same necklaces sold at the tourist markets for \$50+ USD.) How about going to a cat cafe for college students?Want to pick up Vietnamese chicks? (Hey, I'm blunt!) Fun fact: Vietnamese people don't all eat dog meat! But do you want to know why there is zero chance of you unknowingly being served dog meat in Vietnam?I cover everything you need to know to visit Saigon, including the best places to stay, eat, and drink, and how to get around. I cover the basics of Vietnamese language, with language use and phrases, including fun Saigon slang you won't find in any official guide, how to make sense of signs, and how to deal with numbers and currency.Don't know where to stay? I recommend one street that's full of small hotels, all around \$30 USD per night. Choose your own hotel from the many options. Don't know where to eat? I guide you to a few great local Saigonese restaurants, and then tell you where to find authentic Saigon food among the tourist-trap food stalls of Ben Thanh Market.That's my Saigon. And this book will make my Saigon your Saigon.