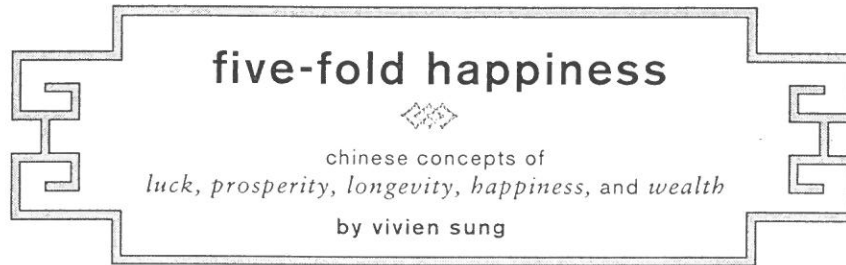




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Surround yourself with lucky symbols, the Chinese believe, and good fortune will come to you. In word and image, this exquisite volume—a delight to hold in the hand—explores the deep meanings of the five-fold symbols of happiness: luck, prosperity, longevity, happiness, and wealth. Drenched in color and lavishly illustrated from ancient and modern sources, **Five-fold Happiness** interweaves both Chinese and English text.

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**Vivien Sung** was born of Chinese parents in Sydney, Australia. A graphic designer, she now lives in San Francisco. She has studied in China and is a frequent traveler there. This is her first book.

I'm sending along this advance so you can get an early look at this exciting package. For review or serial consideration please feel free to give me a call at any time.

Best wishes,

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When author Vivien Sung returned to Australia after a trip overseas, she brought back a clock from New York as a gift to her mother. Her mother seemed apprehensive about accepting it, and then on some pretext insisted she give it to another friend. Her response left Vivien puzzled, even slightly offended. When she pressed further, her mother replied she simply had no use for another timepiece in the house. And then she added, as though it were an afterthought, that for some superstitious Chinese, sending a clock as a gift is considered an omen of death. As it happens, the word ‘clock,’ *zhōng*, is phonetically identical to the word ‘end,’ and combining it with the word ‘to send,’ *sòng*, creates the phrase ‘to send one to one’s end.’ At that moment it dawned on Vivien that there were many things Chinese she did not understand. This stimulated her interest in exploring and deciphering the rich signs, symbols, and superstitions which are inherent in her Chinese heritage.

First-generation Australian, Vivien Sung slips easily between Eastern and Western cultures. She fuses together her Eastern heritage and roots with her Western perspectives, upbringing and aesthetics. Born and raised in Sydney, Australia by parents from Shanghai, China, she took her first trip to Asia at age five to see her grandparents. She returned to China twenty four years later to study Mandarin at Beijing Normal University, and to photograph extensively. She has lived in five cities — Sydney, Wiesbaden (Germany), New York, Beijing, and currently San Francisco.

Vivien graduated from the University of Technology, Sydney, with a degree in graphic design. She has designed books and magazines for Chronicle Books (San Francisco), Rizzoli (New York), Random House (Australia), Fairfax Publications (Australia), and Conde Nast (Australia) among other clients. In her spare time, Vivien searches Chinatowns to find the best red-bean cakes, relaxes at the beach, shops at thrift stores, and takes photographs in black-and-white.

*Five-Fold Happiness* is her first book.