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## On a Chinese Screen

*W. Somerset Maugham*

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W. MAUGHAM



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**W. Somerset Maugham : On a Chinese Screen** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On a Chinese Screen:

There are fifty-eight sketches in this collection, portraits including European residents in China as well as native types.

About the AuthorWilliam Somerset Maugham was an English author, playwright, and doctor best known for the semi-

autobiographical novel *Of Human Bondage*. Orphaned at a young age, Maugham was raised, unhappily, by his uncle, who urged him into a medical career despite his talent and interest in writing. Maugham gave up his career in medicine after his first novel, *Liza of Lambeth*, sold out its initial printing in several weeks, and next ventured into playwriting with *Lady Frederick*, which was such a success that by the following year Maugham had four plays running simultaneously. Maugham worked for the British Secret Service during the First World War, travelling all over the world before making his home in the south of France after Second World War and using his experiences as inspiration for new stories. Before his death in 1965, Maugham published many more successful novels including *The Letter* and *The Razor's Edge*, both of which were adapted into feature films. Maugham has been remembered as one of the most influential and successful writers of his era, and is believed to have been the highest paid author of the 1930s.