

Chapter 1 : "Joy Luck Club" - Free Books & Children's Stories Online | StoryJumper

*Amy Tan is the author of The Joy Luck Club, The Kitchen God's Wife, The Hundred Secret Senses, The Bonesetter's Daughter, The Opposite of Fate, Saving Fish from Drowning, and two children's books, The Moon Lady and The Chinese Siamese Cat, which has been adapted as Sagwa, a PBS series for children.*

Clair are first generation Chinese, immigrants with hidden histories and the scars of living compounded by the terror of a new country and the desire to hold onto tradition and the identity it assigns. Clair, conversely, see their mothers as antiquities, mired in strange ways of life, meaningless superstitions, and the obstinacy of a memorialized yet shrouded past. The novel initiates when the founding member of the Joy Luck Club, Suyuan, dies and her daughter Jing-Mei, Americanized to simply June, is pressured to take her place. Ostensibly, the club is four old women gathering for mahjong sessions and traditional food, but as June soon discovers, it is so much more, a testament to strength and survival, initiated during the brutal Japanese invasion of the Republic of China in WWII. A coping mechanism created to find joy in pain and sustain the human spirit, the club has continued to morph, becoming a receptacle for memories and a monument to the sustainability of the human spirit. The Joy Luck Club has also become a repository of unique culture, a strange idea and uncomfortable world for the four daughters of these strong women who see themselves as having moved beyond their roots and are instead enmeshed in what they see as real world difficulties. Here we also witness the oppression of over-protective parents, the disconnect between families, the inevitable waxing and waning of love, and the immortal truth that no one is truly known or truly remembered. Before meeting Tan in her rebellious, shocking glory, I wanted to first go to the novel that has initiated so much chitter and launched Tan into schools, book clubs, and houses across the world. Told with the distinctive sound of eight different voices, the novel is a merging of short stories almost, as each mother and daughter speaks independently of one another. The conversations are not arranged in any back-to-back fashion, but are instead a free-flow of voices relating defining moments in life. Each voice is distinctive, real, driven by emotion and the nostalgia of looking back over time with understanding, even a certain element of self-forgiveness. Amplifying the disconnect between mother and daughter, figuring out which daughter belongs to which mother was my only qualm with an otherwise faultless and moving introspection on bonds and transition. Perhaps it was just me, but the initial names were introduced too quickly and since the stories did not follow a particular, defined order, it was difficult to relate which story belonged to which character. I soon began referring to the characters by what they had done or achieved and trying to piece them together like this. Of course, the difficulty is partly in the multitude of voices. Eight distinctive main characters is a lot to have in any novel, especially one that is non-linear. Sometimes the daughters were mentioned or were otherwise tied back to their mothers. Sometimes "not or at least seemingly so. The full complexity of family, then, become more difficult as I was drawn into the story and the engaging way in which it was told. I lost track of who was related to whom and who was friends with whom. The reason for all the acclaim is partly in the telling " Tan captivates with her command of language and ability to register emotion with an understated, poignant elegance " and partly in the meaning. The disconnect is broad in how the characters are perceived by the Americans around them and specifically honed for how the second generation children perceive, and attempt to discard, their unique heritage. This was a wise choice and helped my tracking issues since the narrator, Gwendoline Yeo, provided subtle variations on her voice for each character, further grounding the reader in the idea of a cacophony of voices combining together to form an intricate, introspective story.

## Chapter 2 : The Joy Luck Club Notes

*The Joy Luck Club is a tremendously well written book filled with passion, emotion, and love that arises from family interactions. This book is written in the form of eight vignettes, four from four different women (the mothers) and four from their daughters.*

Even so, ten more years had to pass until another Asian-American writer achieved fame and fortune. Two years later, at least four other Chinese-American writers had brisk-selling books. Hong as the reader. At the same time, Japanese-American writers are flourishing. Perhaps not since the literary community "discovered" Jewish-American writers in the s have we experienced such a concentrated ethnic wave. The fact remains, however, that more Asian-Americans are writing, and their books have a fresh and original voice. The Joy Luck Club describes the lives of four Asian women who fled China in the s and their four very Americanized daughters. As its members play mah jong and feast on Chinese delicacies, the older women spin stories about the past and lament the barriers that exist between their daughters and themselves. Through their stories, Jing-mei comes to appreciate the richness of her heritage. Suyuan Woo, the founder of the Joy Luck Club, barely escaped war-torn China with her life and was forced to leave her twin infant daughters behind. Her American-born daughter, Jing-mei "June" Woo, works as a copywriter for a small advertising firm. An-mei Hsu grew up in the home of the wealthy merchant Wu Tsing. She was without status because her mother was only the third wife. She is nearly prostrate with grief when her husband, Ted, demands a divorce. After a breakdown, she finds her identity and learns to assert herself. Lindo Jong was betrothed at infancy to another baby, Tyan-yu. There, Lindo was treated like a servant. She cleverly tricked the family, however, and gained her freedom. She came to America, got a job in a fortune cookie factory, met and married Tin Jong. Her daughter, Waverly, was a chess prodigy who became a successful tax accountant. Clair grew up a wild, rebellious girl in a wealthy family. After she married, her husband deserted her, and Ying-ying had an abortion and lived in poverty for a decade. Then she married Clifford St. Clair and emigrated to America. Her daughter, Lena, is on the verge of a divorce from her architect husband, Harold Livotny. She established him in business and resents their unequal division of finances. Next Character List Pop Quiz!

### Chapter 3 : About The Joy Luck Club

*The Joy Luck Club* By Amy Tan is not and was a recipient of the Commonwealth Gold Award and the Bay Area Book Award. *The Joy Luck Club* was adapted into a feature film.

They call their mah jong group the Joy Luck Club. The stories told in this novel revolve around the Joy Luck Club women and their daughters. Structurally, the novel is divided into four major sections, with two sections focusing on the stories of the mothers and two sections on the stories of the daughters. Jing-Mei relates the story of how her mother Suyuan was the wife of an officer in the Kuomintang during World War II and how she was forced to flee from her home in Kweilin and abandon her twin daughters. Suyuan later found out her first husband died, remarried to Canning Woo, and immigrated to the United States where Jing-Mei was born. The other three mothers relate the stories of their childhood. Through her own ingenuity, Lindo fabricates a convincing story to annul her marriage and immigrate to the United States. The final story of the first section follows Ying-Ying St. Clair, who tells the story of how she fell into a lake during the Zhongqiu festival when she was only four. After being rescued by a group of fishermen, she realizes that she is lost. This experience emotionally traumatizes her, and she is dropped at the shore, and wanders into an outdoor performance featuring the Moon Lady, said to grant wishes. But when Ying-Ying approaches the Moon Lady after the play to wish to be returned to her family, she discovers the Moon Lady is played by a man. In the first story, Waverly Jong talks about how she started playing chess, first with her brothers and then with old men in the playground near her school. At the age of nine, she becomes a national chess champion. This leads to an angry confrontation between the two of them. Lena relates the stories her mother told her when she was younger her great grandfather sentenced a beggar to die in the worst possible manner. Her mother, who seems restless, delivers an anencephalic child who dies at birth. The story of their neighbors and the relationship between the mother and the daughter of the neighboring household is also mentioned. Rose Hsu Jordan wishes to tell her mother that she plans to divorce her husband Ted. She reflects on their relationship. She then goes on to relate an incident in which her family her parents and six siblings go to the beach. Her youngest brother, Bing, drowns. She returns along with her mother An Mei to search for Bing, but in vain. The last story is that of Jing Mei Woo and the pressure that her mother puts on her to perform exceedingly well in some field to be a child prodigy. This disappoints her mother because she wanted her to be a great pianist and Jing-Mei shows no interest in being anything else but herself. Around her 30th birthday, Suyuan presents her an old piano which she used to play as a child. Although Jing-Mei admits she had forgotten how to play the piano, Suyuan encourages her to try again. She admits to Jing-Mei that she still has the talent to be a great pianist, but self-doubt holds her back. American Translation [ edit ] The third section follows the Joy Luck children as adult women, all facing various conflicts. Ying-Ying is very much aware of this and encourages Lena to stop being passive and stand up to her husband or nothing will change. After a disastrous attempt at a dinner party to tell her mother of their wedding, Waverly confronts her mother the morning afterwards and realizes that her mother has known all along about her relationship with Rich and has accepted him. She hires a good lawyer and wins possession of the house, forcing Ted to take her more seriously. She also confronts Suyuan with the belief that she had always been disappointed in Jing-Mei and admitted she could never live up to her high expectations. Suyuan eventually reveals her true meaning; that while Waverly has style, she lacks the kind and generous heart that Jing-Mei has. She also tells Jing-Mei that she understands the frustrations of never being good enough in her eyes and admits she is proud of Jing-Mei. Queen Mother of the Western Skies [ edit ] The final section of the novel returns to the viewpoints of the mothers as adults dealing with difficult choices. When she came to her family for help, they cruelly turned their backs on her mother and told her to leave. When the Second Wife attempts to discredit her, An-Mei quickly makes an example of her by destroying the fake pearl necklace that she originally gave to her, which exposes her cruelty and manipulation. This causes the Second Wife to realize that she has lost control of the household and brought trouble on herself, so she backs down. Fearing bad karma on the way, Wu Tsing honors both An-Mei and her brother as his children and their mother as his favorite 1st wife. Clair reveals how her first husband, a womanizer, abandoned her and how

she married an American man she did not love after relinquishing her sense of control in her life. She later took back her sense of control when she finally had a talk to Lena and convinced her to leave Harold. Jing-Mei and her father fly to China, where Jing-Mei meets her half-sisters and embraces her Chinese heritage. In doing so, she was finally able to make peace with Suyuan. She starts the original Joy Luck Club with her three friends to cope with the War. There is little to eat, but they pretend it is a feast, and talk about their hopes for the future. On the day of the Japanese invasion, Suyuan leaves her house with nothing but a bag of clothes, a bag of food, and her twin baby daughters. During the long journey, Suyuan contracts such severe dysentery that she feels certain she will die. Suyuan then departs, expecting to die. However, she is rescued by a truck and finds out her husband has died. She later remarries, goes to America, and forms a new Joy Luck Club with three other Chinese female immigrants she met at church. She gives birth to another daughter, but her abandonment of her twin girls haunts her for the rest of her life. After many years, Suyuan learns that the twins were adopted, but dies of a brain aneurysm before she can meet them. It is her American-born daughter Jing-mei who fulfills her long-cherished wish of reuniting with them. This becomes a source of conflict for the young An-Mei, as her aunts and uncles deeply resent her mother for such a dishonorable act. They try to convince An-Mei that it is not fitting for her to live with her disgraced mother, who is now forbidden to enter the family home. When her mother came to her family for their assistance, they cruelly refused and disowned her. She later lost her baby son to Second Wife, who claimed the boy as her own child to ensure her place in the household. Wu-Tsing is a highly superstitious man, and Second Wife takes advantage of this weakness by making false suicide attempts and threatening to haunt him as a ghost if he does not let her have her way. Wu-Tsing, therefore, is known to be afraid to face the ghost of an angry or scorned wife. Now fearing An-Mei, Second Wife realizes the bad karma she has brought upon herself and backs down having lost control of the house. An-Mei later immigrates to America, marries, and gives birth to seven children four sons, three daughters. The youngest, a son named Bing, drowns at age four. Lindo Jong Lindo is a strong-willed woman, a trait that her daughter Waverly attributes to her having been born in the year of the Horse. After some training for household duties through her in-laws, she and Tyan-yu married when she turned sixteen. She soon realized that her husband was a mere boy at heart and had no sexual interest in her. Lindo began to care for her husband as a brother, but her cruel mother-in-law expected Lindo to produce a grandson. Determined to escape this unfortunate situation, Lindo carefully observed the other people in the household and eventually formed a clever plan to escape her marriage without dishonouring herself, her family and her in-laws. She managed to convince her in-laws that Huang Tyan Yu was actually fated to marry another girl who was already pregnant with his "spiritual child", and that her own marriage to him would only bring bad luck to the family. The girl she described as his destined wife was in fact a mere servant in the household, indeed pregnant but abandoned by her lover. Seeing this as an opportunity for her to be married and living comfortably, the servant girl cheerfully agreed with Lindo. Freed from her first marriage, Lindo decided to emigrate to America. She married a Chinese American man named Tin Jong and has three children: Clair From a young age, Ying-Ying is told by her wealthy and conservative family that Chinese girls should be meek and gentle. This is especially difficult for her, as she feels it out of step with her character as a Tiger. She begins to develop a passive personality and represses her feelings as she grows up in Wuxi. Ying-Ying marries a charismatic man named Lin Xiao not out of love, but because she believed it was her fate. Her husband is revealed to be abusive and openly has extramarital affairs with other women. When Ying-Ying discovers she is pregnant, she has an abortion and decides to live with her relatives in a smaller city in China. After ten years, she moves to Shanghai and works in a clothing store, where she meets an American man named Clifford St. He falls in love with her, but Ying-Ying cannot express any strong emotion after her first marriage. He courts her for four years, and she agrees to marry him after learning that Lin Xiao had died, which she takes as the proper sign to move on. She allows Clifford to control most aspects of her life; he mistranslates her words and actions, and even changes her name to "Betty". When Lena is around ten years old, Ying-Ying becomes pregnant a third time, but the baby boy is anencephalic and soon dies. Ying-Ying is horrified when she realises that Lena, a Tiger like herself, has inherited or emulated her passive behaviors and trapped herself in a loveless marriage with a controlling husband. She finally resolves to call upon the more

assertive qualities of her Tiger nature, to appeal to those qualities in Lena. She will tell Lena her story in the hope that she will be able to break free from the same passivity that ruined most of her young life back in China. Only when she visits China to meet her half-sisters and tell them about their mother, Jing-Mei finally accepts her Chinese heritage and makes her peace with her mother. Rose Hsu Jordan Rose is somewhat passive and is a bit of a perfectionist. She had an unsettling childhood experience when her youngest brother, Bing, drowned while she was supposed to be watching him, and his body was never recovered. Rose marries a doctor, Ted Jordan, who loves her but also wants to spite his snooty, racist mother. After a malpractice suit, Ted has a mid-life crisis and decides to leave Rose. Rose confides in her mother and An-mei tells her the story of her own childhood. An-Mei tells her that Ted has been cheating on her, which Rose thinks is absurd, but she later discovers this to be true. She hires a good lawyer and fight for possession of the house, which she eventually wins. This forces Ted to take Rose more seriously and not continue taking her for granted. Well into her adult life, she finds herself restrained by her subconscious fear of letting her mother down. She has a daughter, Shoshana, from her first marriage with Marvin Chen, and she is engaged to her boyfriend Rich Schields. When Waverly believes that Lindo will object to her engagement to Rich after a failed dinner party, she discovers her mother had already accepted it.

### Chapter 4 : The Joy Luck Club Quotes by Amy Tan

*Test your knowledge of The Joy Luck Club with our quizzes and study questions, or go further with essays on the context and background and links to the best resources around the web. Context Full Book Quiz.*

The club, which Suyuan founded in China during the war, consists of four women playing mah jong, eating good dinners, and gambling. Suyuan created the club as a way to improve the spirits of her friends during wartime. Her first husband died in the war and she was forced to abandon their twin baby daughters on the side of a road. Soon after, she met and married Canning Woo and moved to America. There, she restarted the club with three other women her age: The mothers remember their childhood in China. When her mother tried to rescue her, she was sent away. Everyone tells An-mei that her mother dishonored their family by marrying again after her husband died. Still, her mother returned to nurse her own mother after she grew very sick. She hated the spoiled young man she was required to live with. She was given enough money to go to America and told to keep her mouth shut about their curse. Ying-ying remembers going to a moon festival as a young girl and finding out that the magic and ceremony is often just an act. The daughters remember growing up with Chinese mothers in California. Waverly was a chess champion, but she quit when she and Lindo fought and Lindo told her it was not as easy to play or not play as she believed. Now she worries that her mother will not accept her second husband. Lena remembers her mother as a meek woman who always wondered what bad thing would happen next. She made Lena just as meek and afraid-but Lena learned from a neighbor that not every problem is the end of the world. She knows her mother can see things before they happen, so she wonders what her mother will think of her relationship with her husband: Rose Jordan has some of the same problems with lack of confidence. Her husband asked her for a divorce recently because she could never make any decisions. Rose still feels guilty because her youngest brother died by accident when she was fourteen. Then she realizes that her mother supports her. She sleeps for three days and then contacts her husband, telling him that she will not leave their house like he wants her to. She will fight for it. June Woo remembers that her mother was never satisfied with her: As an adult, June has always felt inferior to Waverly, and believed her mother thought she was as well. The mothers think about their pasts. An-mei remembers that her mother killed herself to make a better life for her children, because in a marriage with four other wives, that was the only way for her children to have any of the benefits from her rich husband who she was forced to marry, contrary to what her family believed. Ying-ying remembers how she gave up her strength, her will, so that she would no longer be hurt when bad things happened to her. She now realizes that in doing this she has made her daughter weak as well, and resolves to teach her daughter to be strong. Lindo remembers how she came to America, and, looking at her adult daughter Waverly, she sees how similar they are-both inside and out. The book ends with June going to China to meet her half-sisters. Her father is happily reunited with his family.

### Chapter 5 : The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

*The Joy Luck Club is a novel written by Amy calendrierdelascience.com focuses on four Chinese American immigrant families in San Francisco who start a club known as The Joy Luck Club, playing the Chinese game of mahjong for money while feasting on a variety of foods.*

### Chapter 6 : The Joy Luck Club - Wikipedia

*THE JOY LUCK CLUB skillfully explores the often-tense relationships between mothers and daughters. The novel does not perfectly solve all the problems presented within the pages, but brings hope to the characters as they work to resolve and learn from their relationships.*

### Chapter 7 : The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan | calendrierdelascience.com

## DOWNLOAD PDF JOY LUCK CLUB BOOK

*THE JOY LUCK CLUB* by Amy Tan paperback MOVING STORY OF CHINESE-AMERICANS Amy Tan out of 5 stars -  
*THE JOY LUCK CLUB* by Amy Tan paperback MOVING STORY OF CHINESE-AMERICANS.

### Chapter 8 : The Joy Luck Club - Reading Guide - Book Club Discussion Questions

AMY TAN is the author of *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Kitchen God's Wife*, *The Hundred Secret Senses*, *The Bonesetter's Daughter*, and *Saving Fish from Drowning*, all New York Times bestsellers.

### Chapter 9 : The Joy Luck Club (novel) - Wikipedia

*The Joy Luck Club* may refer to. *The Joy Luck Club*, a novel written by Amy Tan; *The Joy Luck Club*, a film adaptation of the above novel; *The Joy Luck Club*, one of production produced by TheatreWorks in Silicon Valley, California.