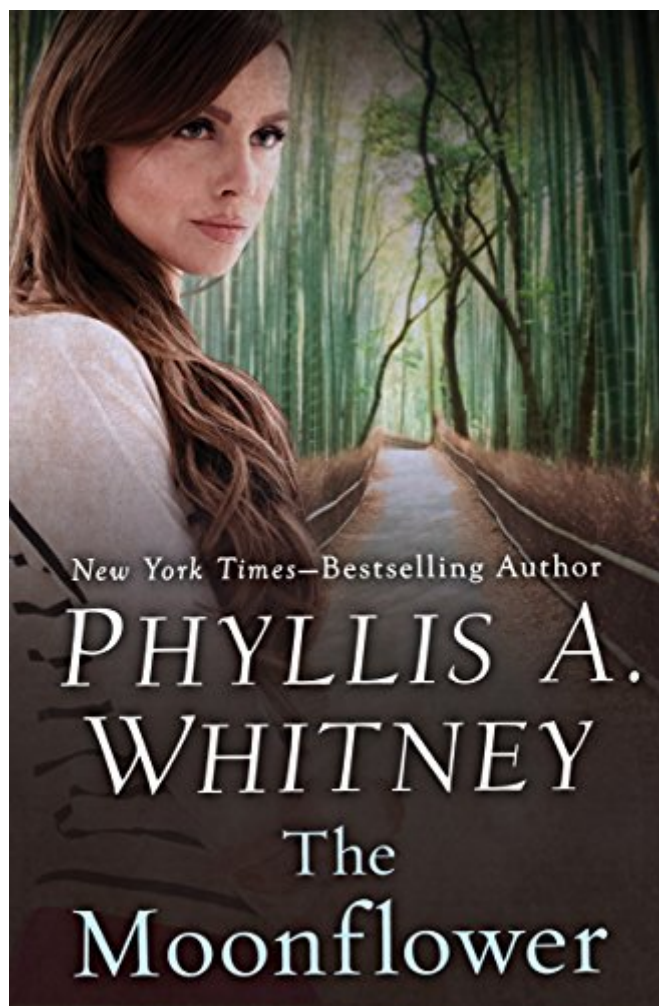


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# The Moonflower



## Synopsis

The wife of a scientist fights for her marriage and her husband's sanity in postwar Japan in this novel by "a superb and gifted storyteller" (Mary Higgins Clark). When Jerome Talbot's brilliant career as an atomic physicist leads him once again to Japan, his wife, Marcia, knows it means yet another long separation, but she hopes to reunite with him soon. Confidently awaiting word to join him, she is blindsided when she receives a letter demanding divorce. Stunned and hurt, she leaves their home in Hawaii to confront Jerome in Kyoto, certain she'll get an explanation to heal her wounded heart. But when Marcia arrives, she can't be sure of anything. Jerome has become a stranger—obsessed, cruel, unhinged, and resolved never to return home—committed only to his work, which reaches back to World War II. Even more peculiar, he's living in unusual intimacy with a close-knit, unnervingly private Japanese family whom Marcia is forbidden to talk to and to whom Jerome seems not only beholden, but enslaved. Marcia resolves to stay in Kyoto until she discovers the secret driving her husband mad and the truth behind a terrible legacy that could threaten both their lives. A "brilliant, absorbing, [and] moving" novel of romantic suspense by a New York Times bestselling, multiple award-winning author who was herself born in Yokohama. The Moonflower is an authentic exploration of life in postwar Japan, as well as a chilling tale of guilt, family secrets, and a marriage at risk in the never-forgotten shadow of Hiroshima (Richmond Times-Dispatch). This ebook features an illustrated biography of Phyllis A. Whitney including rare images from the author's estate.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My only real complaint about the book is the ending. I felt it ended too abruptly and didn't really resolve the issues that had been building throughout the book. I also felt that the "villain" (for lack of a better word) would not have ended it that way or that quickly. But, that said, I think it's one of Whitney's better books. For once, the trouble-making female (who is usually a sister or half-sister) wasn't a part of the plot. There is a child (which Whitney often has) and some trouble-makers, but the plot was very good and gives a look at Japan, immediately after WWII that we don't see very much of these days. As usual, her book is a little like a travelogue, as you get to see what the area the book takes place in is like. In this case, Japan; a country that Whitney is very familiar with.

This thoughtful novel is set in 1950s Japan. Phyllis Whitney spent much of her childhood in Japan, and so her interesting descriptions of Japan and the Japanese culture has an authentic ring to it. The author explores the lingering effects the violence of World War II had on many of the novel's characters. She contrasts how some have the ability to eventually move forward and even grow as individuals, while others are trapped in the horror of their memories. The heroine Marcia, a young woman fighting to save her marriage, is a caring wife and mother. She struggles to get her bearings in a strange land where there is a web of deception surrounding her. Her husband, Jerome, a much older man who she married at the tender age of 18, is a bitter, selfish, and often cruel man. The reader sees Marcia slowly grow and face the possible choices before her.

A wonderful book as usual. Very typical of her style. I always look forward to re-reading books from this author.

No one writes like Phyllis Whitney - This 105 year old lady is an inspiration to me now as she was when I read her books for junior high gals. One of the greatest suspense/romance writers of our era. If you haven't met Phyllis, be prepared to fall in love with her stories and like me, search for

everything she ever wrote. I even bought and studied her How to Write Fiction book before writing my own Christian mystery/romance that is currently being reviewed by an editor! Thanks, Phyllis!

Phyllis Whitney is a very good writer and she intertwines information about Japan's history which you don't mind because it's not boring. I started it not thinking that it would be good because of the things you needed to know about the war. I wasn't that sure of the purpose of having an evil father trying to convince his daughter everyone is evil but in the end it proves there is good in the world. She is a very good writer and I think that to write a good book you must believe in your story and have the desire to write it.

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