



# I Love a Broad Margin to My Life (Vintage International)

*Maxine Hong Kingston*

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## **I Love a Broad Margin to My Life (Vintage International)** Maxine Hong Kingston

In her singular voice—humble, elegiac, practical—Maxine Hong Kingston sets out to reflect on aging as she turns sixty-five.

Kingston's swift, effortlessly flowing verse lines feel instantly natural in this fresh approach to the art of memoir, as she circles from present to past and back, from lunch with a writer friend to the funeral of a Vietnam veteran, from her long marriage ("can't divorce until we get it right. / Love, that is. Get love right") to her arrest at a peace march in Washington, where she and her "sisters" protested the Iraq war in the George W. Bush years. Kingston embraces Thoreau's notion of a "broad margin," hoping to expand her vista: "I'm standing on top of a hill; / I can see everywhichway— / the long way that I came, and the few / places I have yet to go. Treat / my whole life as if it were a day."

On her journeys as writer, peace activist, teacher, and mother, Kingston revisits her most beloved characters: she learns the final fate of her Woman Warrior, and she takes her Tripmaster Monkey, a hip Chinese American, on a journey through China, where he has never been—a trip that becomes a beautiful meditation on the country then and now, on a culture where rice farmers still work in the age-old way, even as a new era is dawning. "All over China," she writes, "and places where Chinese are, populations / are on the move, going home. That home / where Mother and Father are buried. Doors / between heaven and earth open wide."

Such is the spirit of this wonderful book—a sense of doors opening wide onto an American life of great purpose and joy, and the tonic wisdom of a writer we have come to cherish.

*From the Hardcover edition.*

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#### **James Donovan:**

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always try to and must have the extra time or they will get lot of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , when we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely of course. People is human not just a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer can unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading guides. It can be your alternative with spending your spare time, typically the book you have read will be I Love a Broad Margin to My Life (Vintage International).

#### **James Wendler:**

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