



The Fifth Beauty

Ellison James

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Deep within Chinese legend and folklore are four great beauties – women of such great beauty and intelligence that each influenced history. This story continues the legend with a little-known, fifth great beauty. The fifth great beauty was responsible for a new tea drying process that created fortunes and increased commerce within China, and eventually bringing about the fall of the last great Qing Dynasty to make way for the modern People's Republic of China. Told from the point of view of Taijin, a lowly scribe working within a tyrannical magistrate's house. A beautiful and mysterious woman called Azra comes to the magistrate in the night, seduces him, and eventually takes his life, leaving the position open for Taijin to take. But first, Taijin must officiate the tea harvest, now late from the magistrate's neglect, and find a way to dry the tea in time to make it to market. The result is Lapsang Souchong tea, renowned for its full flavor and portability over the vast ocean. The mysterious woman is none other than Azra, the demon succubus from the novel Lovestruck Succubus in a past attempt to find love. Fear not though, one can enjoy this story without ever reading the novel, although I would hope this story might entice one to read more about Azra in the future.

This story contains adult subject matter involving sexual relations between adults.

Taijin is a lowly scribe, serving a harsh and ruthless magistrate in ancient China. The magistrate is visited by a beautiful, strange, and powerful woman, Azra, who brings about passion, lust, death, and change to an entire tea-growing region in the southern mountains of China. A short story based on the character Azra, the demon succubus from the novel "Lovestruck Succubus". An exciting read about speculative history in ancient China.

The Fifth Beauty Details

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From Reader Review The Fifth Beauty for online ebook

Laura says

Kindle short, no longer than a 'one shot' piece of fan fiction. Loosely based on Chinese myth/history and is a preface or prequel for the full work Lovestruck Succubus (and yes, that title does rather give everything away). It's erotica, more detailed than 50SoG but not as explicit as some fanfiction, but rides on a plot about the origin of tea.

Obviously written either as a "bedtime story" and teaser for the full work

Rachel says

*downloaded free on ARE

Summer Ellis says

This was a great short story! The history and the bits of superstition entangled in it were really great, allowing the tides to turn for certain characters. Really loved it :)

Cathy says

Free short story. Beautiful cover art.

James tells, briefly, about the 4 great beauties of China who influenced emperors and warriors. The fifth beauty is responsible for the creation of Lapsang Souchong tea.

I have no idea if any of this is really a part of Chinese myth.

Thom Swennes says

It is written (somewhere) of the five beauties. The first, dating from long before Christ was named Xishi. She was reputed, through her magnificent beauty, to cause fish to forget how to swim. Number two was Wang Zhaojun, who's beauty allegedly caused birds to forget how to fly (Chinese beauties seem to have an adverse affect on wildlife). Diaochan was number three and unlike her predecessors didn't make anything do what should come naturally. Instead her beauty outshined the moon causing that celestial body to pale in her presence. Flowers were the unknowing victims of beauty number four, Yang Guifei but this story isn't about any of these but about beauty number five.

Azra is beauty number five although it is hard to describe her as no witnesses to her beauty could never recount her looks as they were so stunned by her presence. One thing is sure; she was a concubine with a rare and deadly talent. She didn't bring down dynasties but she did (indirectly) inspire a tea that a chosen few

enjoy even today (Lapsang Souchong).

This story reads like a Chinese fairytale. This story is featuring not fairies, witches and talking animals but a concubine, woman of the night and an illustrious member of the world's oldest trade, Azra changes history with her mouth, talented tong and remarkable vulva.

I have read more stories by this author and rate this one as one of his better achievements. It was interesting with just an essence of erotica. I think that it would be enjoyed by a broad reading audience.

Sarah Crawford says

A scribe watches a strange woman give a magistrate (related to the emperor) a blowjob. She could be a fox spirit. She has sex with the magistrate and kills him and gives the scribe a blowjob. A beast appears next to her and they both disappear and the scribe takes over the government. The main point of the novel is graphic sex.

Sarah says

A strange, but fascinating story.

Sydney Blake says

The Fifth Beauty by Ellison James is a short story that is based on Chinese legends and mythology. Not being familiar with Chinese literature, I don't know how much of the story is based on real legend, and how much is the author's imagination. While I wouldn't classify this as erotica, it certainly has an adult sexual theme and isn't intended for minors (on a hotness scale of 1-5, I'd give it a 3). The story is about the overthrow of a Chinese magistrate in ancient China by his trusted scribe, with the assistance of a succubus named Azra.

The writing is topnotch. I saw some editing mistakes, but nothing serious. While reading, I got the same kind of vibe that I got from watching the Chinese film Hero. It's a story about a faraway place, in a time long ago, about a culture that's very different from the modern-day Western World. The author captures this foreign world and brings it to life for the reader without getting bogged down in details.

I would have liked a better explanation for the appearance of the dark forces in this story. At first, I thought maybe they were sent by the opposing general. While I thought the epilogue was interesting, I don't think it was necessary, and I thought that Taijin would want nothing to do with Azra, yet he did have a yearning for her. I suppose that was a testimony to the seductive powers of the Huli Jing.

Fantasy and mythology are not really my thing, but this was a short read and I enjoyed the story. If you like reading stories from those genres, then I think you'll like The Fifth Beauty. If you are looking for a graphic erotic tale, this may not satisfy you, but if stories of eroticism offend you, then this isn't the read for you, either.

Vikas Datta says

Strange but engaging

Kathryn Parry says

This was different. A folk tale of sorts, interesting and strangely entertaining. A little bit of erotica thrown into the story.

Patricia J West says**What made the tea special?**

Okay, not my cup of tea but was interesting enough to read, wanted to know about the fifth beauty. Recommend for adult readers.

Arang Lee says**It was awesome**

I liked everything and the story was very descriptive. Also, the characters were very interesting. Very nice book. If you like supernatural you should read this book.

Kelly Atwood says**Outrageously short**

If you're looking for a quick read this is it. Very bland and quick. Found no joy in reading this.

Tanya Pickles says

Well not exactly what I was expecting. Wish it had more of a back story and more care for detail.

Sonia says

Very weird and very short. Graphic sex as well.
