

## **History 11B, History of China: 1000-2000**

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### **Second Paper Topic**

Due in class November 19, 2010

**We have read two “love stories” from the Qing dynasty, Shen Fu’s historical memoir, *Six Records of a Floating Life*, and the fictional legend, *The Precious Scroll of Thunder Peak* (dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century). Analyze the various ways that late imperial philosophical and religious currents (Confucianism, Buddhism, cult of *qing*, cult of chastity, popular beliefs, etc.) shape these love stories. Who might have been the intended audiences for each of these narratives? Can the target audiences for each of these texts tell us something about how religious beliefs and practices were shared and/or differentiated by class and gender? Explain.**

The essay should have a clear thesis. You should draw upon the primary and secondary readings for this course to complete this assignment. No outside sources will be allowed for this paper, including online sources. If you quote or paraphrase from a primary or secondary source, you must give proper attribution. *Failure to provide proper attribution for sources constitutes plagiarism.*

The essay should be typed, double-spaced, and 5-7 pages in length. Please number the pages and use a staple or paper clip to fasten the pages of the paper together.