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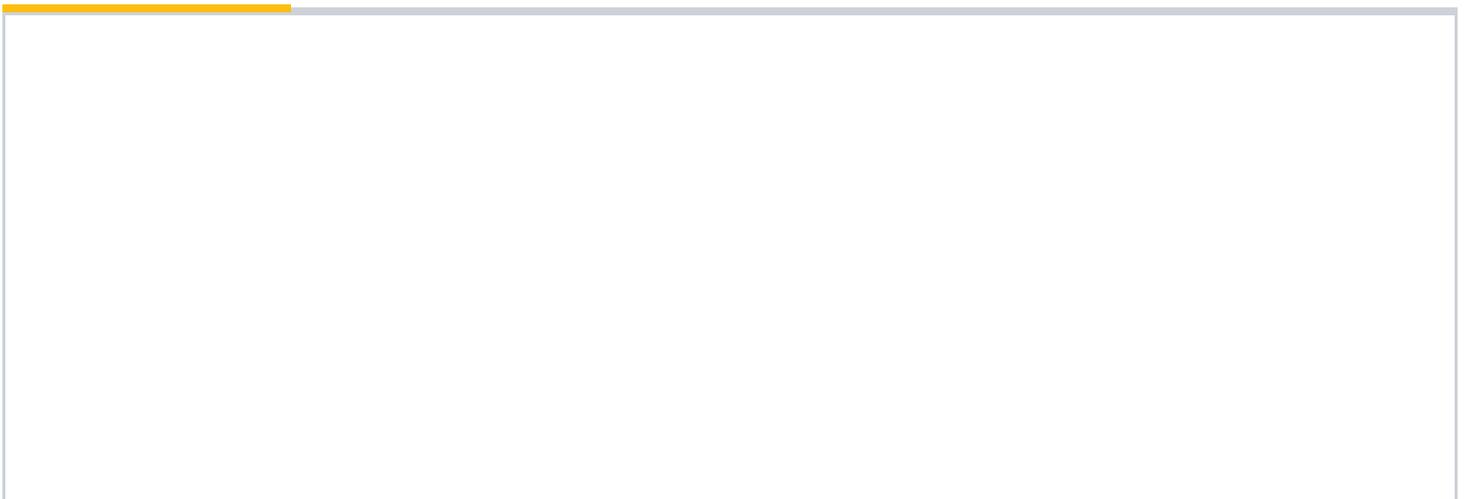
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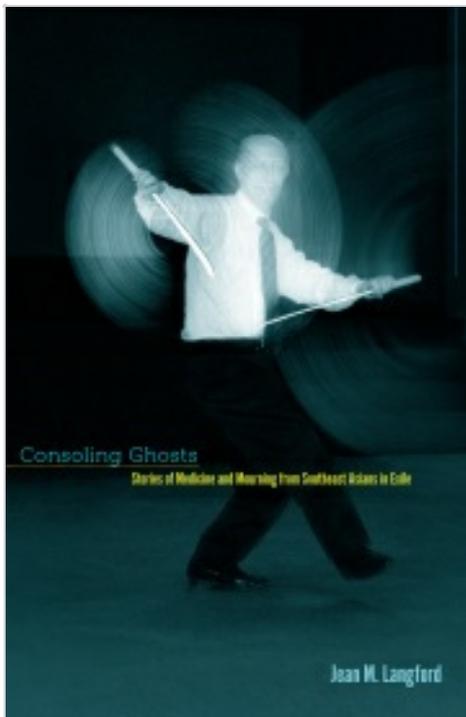


Consoling Ghosts: Stories of Medicine and Mourning from Southeast Asians in Exile



In this Book





Consoling Ghosts: Stories of Medicine and Mourning from Southeast Asians in Exile

Jean M. Langford

2013

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SUMMARY

In conversation with emigrants from Laos and Cambodia, Jean M. Langford repeatedly met with spirits: the wandering souls of the seriously ill, dangerous ghosts of those who died by violence, restless ancestors displaced from their homes. For these emigrants, the dead not only appear in memories, safely ensconced in the past, but also erupt with a physical force into the daily life and dreams of the present.

Inspired by these conversations, *Consoling Ghosts* is a sustained contemplation of relationships with the dying and the dead. At their heart, as Langford's work reveals, emigrants' stories are parables not of cultural difference but rather of life and death. Langford inquires how and why spirits become implicated in remembering and responding to

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