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4 Miss Emotion: the drama of the new woman reader on the literary marketplace  
Portrait of a woman reader; The biographer's gaze; The editor's gaze; The female gaze in the literary oeuvre; Gossip, rumours or lies? The question of authenticity; Sweet words of seduction: the cult of emotions and the cult of clever women; The reader; Trading emotions: books and business; Conclusion; Notes; 5 Editing her story, rewriting hi/story: the art of female self-fashioning; The concept of self-fashioning; Editorship and the publishing industry; The gentlewoman editor; The professional woman editor  
Gentlewomen critics and team editors  
Courtesan editors; The courtesan collator-cum-copy editor; Male views of editorship; Perceptions of women editors: a view from fiction; Conclusion: editorial negotiations; Notes; 6 Negotiating gentility: the Banana Garden Poetry Club; A literary society for gentlewomen; The circle of poets; The Banana Garden; Simple, solitary and serene: the image of the gentlewoman scholar; The Banana Garden girls in the male gaze; Through female eyes; Women and publishing; The legacy of the Banana Garden club; Whose story is it anyway?; Conclusion; Notes; Epilogue  
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Sommario/riassunto

<P>Exploring the works of key women writers within their cultural, artistic and socio-political contexts, this book considers changes in the perception of women in early modern China. The sixteenth century brought rapid developments in technology, commerce and the publishing industry that saw women emerging in new roles as both consumers and producers of culture. This book examines the place of women in the cultural elite and in society more generally, reconstructing examples of particular women's personal experiences, and retracing the changing roles of women from the late Ming to the early Q

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