



# NÜSHU

## A WRITING THAT GAVE VOICE TO WOMEN

**Giulia Falcini**

Beyond the Great Wall, immersed among the Hunan Province hills, there is Puwei village. Here, the memory of the past is still alive, nourishing the lives of the present days. Puwei figures as an oasis of quietness and traditions. A long time ago, challenging to say exactly when, a group of women started a culture: a unique, precious, deep and rich of values custom.

The huge gap between man and women, along with their immense wisdom, were the driving force to the creation of the Nushu, the only language in the world created and used exclusively by women. It is a code made of rhomboid characters, having a willowy and graceful shape. Men would not pay attention to it, and this code could permit the girls to express their thoughts and their torments freely. Nushu settled in a patriarchal society as a way of communication among women incredibly intimate.

They used to gather in a room where to needle, sing and talk. These moments were, for them, a sigh of relief from an oppressing routine.

### DETAILS

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Giulia Falcini graduated in Specialised Translation at the University of Bologna. She got a Master's Degree in Chinese Language Teaching at the Oriental University of Naples. Giulia often goes to China, a country that she loves deeply. Currently, she works as a translator and interpreter as well as a linguistic and cultural mediator in the fields of education, healthcare and society. Giulia has been studying Nushu for a long time. She got to know it thoroughly, entering into close contact with the villages where this fascinating cultural and linguistic phenomenon had started. Giulia's passion for literary translation led her to translate *Binu e*

*la Grande Muraglia* (published by CSA Editrice in 2017) and *Xi Jinping racconta* (published by Bononia University Press in 2019).