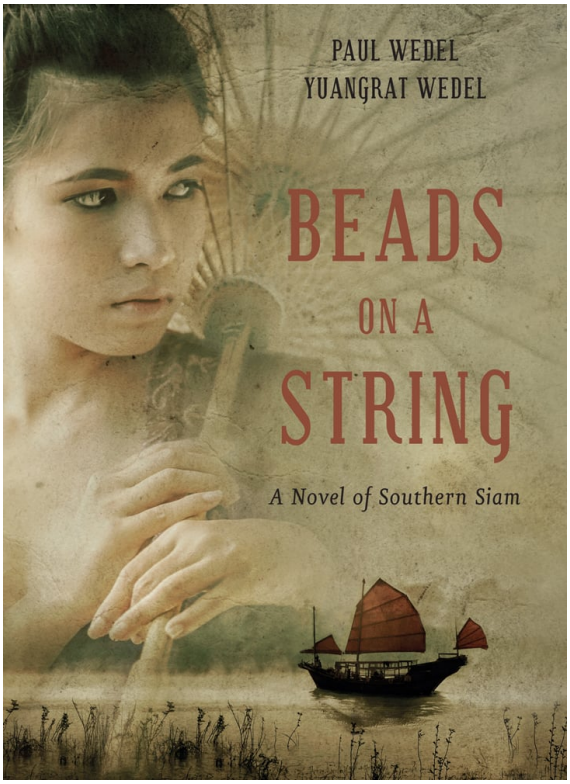
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Beads on a String

A Novel of Southern Thailand

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- Siam at the turn of the 19th century
- Four families in the southern peninsula of Siam (Thailand) are tied together by ambition, revenge, love and tragedy

A young Malay imprisoned for rape reinvents himself as a Siamese aristocrat in royal service. A beautiful young Thai woman seizes control of the family casino and defies the king's ban on gambling to form an underground criminal operation. A guilt-ridden Thai-Chinese sailor seeks enlightenment and purpose as a wandering Buddhist monk. A former slave fights to escape the domination of a Chinese secret society gangster and rises in the increasingly powerful police force. A recreation of life in southern Siam at a time of wrenching change, ***Beads on a String*** weaves together these stories and others, immersing readers in a gripping epic, full of intrigue and insight.

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