



## HAN HAN The Three Gates

Fiction  
500 pp.  
Origin: China

**ABOUT THE STORY:** Since childhood, Lin Yuxiang is particularly talented in learning languages and in literature. In spite of his high interests and his self-consciousness, he is nonetheless clumsy and idle. After many school years without any problems thanks to his presumed literary talent, at the age of 15 he faces the admission exams for high school. The forthcoming exams represent his first real trial and his parents pay for him costly private lessons

in order to be sure that he succeeds. But he finds all the teachers around him inconsistent, boastful, dogmatic. Four months and many events – even love affairs – go by. At the exams Lin Yuxian succeeds as much as is needed in order to attend the best district-school, but not a more important and renowned metropolitan-school. His parents, thanks to a politician's recommendation and to 30.000 *yuan* offered to the dean, have him accepted by a Shanghai school, where he is selected on the basis of false sport credits. Lin Yuxiang has now to face strict athletic training, iron discipline, tiresome control, and strong competition among students, most of which are there like him, only on recommendation or bribery. Lin Yuxiang comes to hate school life and refuses to cope with hypocrisy and competitiveness. Eventually he ends up expelled from the school and socially isolated.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Han Han was born in Shanghai in 1982 and with the publication of *The Three Gates* in 2000, written when he was only 17, he obtained a very large literary success. The novel is highly autobiographical and concerns one of his main literary themes: the criticism towards the Chinese school system. Hanhan is a very well known and loved eclectic young artist: he is a poet, a writer, a singer and a car-race champion.

### PRESS REVIEWS:

"The highly personal style with which Han Han talks about conflicts, changes, grudges let us believe that this is only the first sparkling flash of a very young and true talent." *Tieba Baidu*

"A very promising writer." *Arte.tv*

### FOCUS ON:

An author who is very well known everywhere in Asia and is on his way to become a star in the West too. A novel that since its publication has sold in China more than 3 million copies. Rights are sold for publication in France.