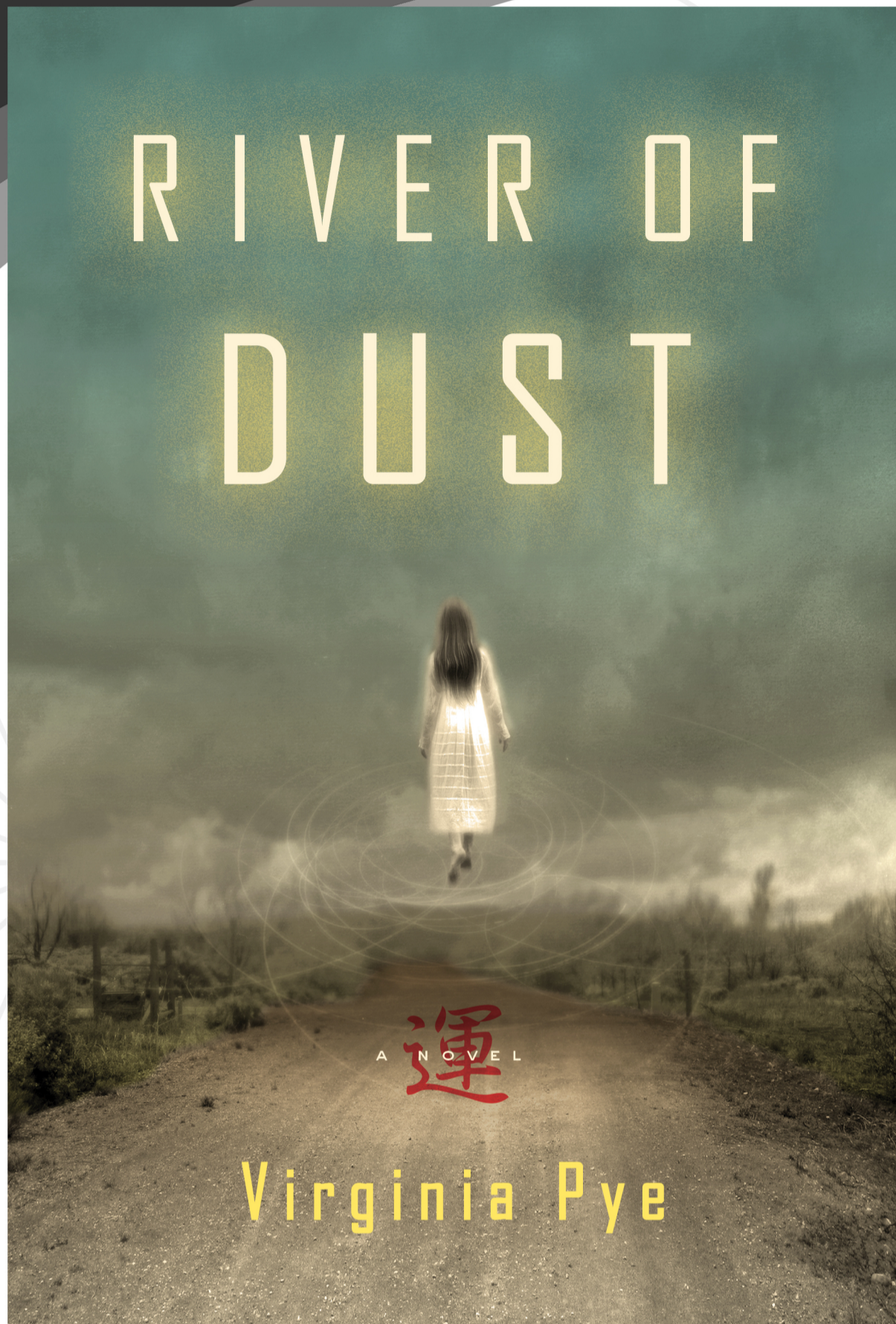




MIT CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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On the windswept plains of northwestern China in 1910, Mongolian nomads swoop down upon an American missionary couple and kidnap their young child. In this story of retribution, these foreigners search for their lost son in a dangerous land that comes to haunt them and change not just what they believe but who they are.

**Friday, May 10, 2013**

3:00p - 4:30p

E40-496, Lucian Pye Conference Room  
1 Amherst Street, Cambridge



Virginia Pye's debut novel, "River of Dust," is an Indie Next Pick for May 2013. Her award-winning short stories have been published in numerous literary magazines. Ms. Pye holds an MFA from Sarah Lawrence where she studied with Joan Silber and Allan Gurganus. At Wesleyan, Annie Dillard was her first mentor. She taught writing at New York University, The University of Pennsylvania, and was chair of James River Writers, a literary non-profit in Richmond, Virginia. She has been awarded fellowships to the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and the Acadia Summer Arts Program, and has attended the Tin House's Writer's Conference. Her father, Lucian W. Pye, was Ford Professor of Political Science Emeritus at MIT and one of America's leading scholars on China.

{Books will be signed and sold at the event}

**Co-sponsored by CIS and MIT Comparative Media Studies/Writing**