

Hope is a path

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(HNMC) - After the novel "Loan - From the life of a phoenix" (Tre Publishing House, 2018) made a strong impression, recently, another work by Isabelle Muller - "The daughter of the phoenix" - a haunting autobiography, was translated into Vietnamese (published by Ho Chi Minh City General Publishing House, 2022).



Isabelle Muller is the fifth child of a Vietnamese mother Loan and a French father. Loan was born and raised in Vietnam, but she never gave up and always lived proudly like a phoenix. She strived to live each day for her life and that of her children. That example of determination had a profound influence on her daughter Isabelle Muller: "Today, I know that I could not have survived without my mother's example. I learned from her how to find hope in moments of deep despair, to see obstacles as challenges to overcome. Her strong faith, her Vietnamese blood and her determination were my salvation. Her example helped me overcome all difficulties."

Not directly affected by the war, but the impact of war on Isabelle Muller's life came from her own relatives. Isabelle's family lived for many years in poverty, hardship, being despised by neighbors, even racially discriminated. Her father was brutal, often beating his children. As the youngest daughter in the family, Isabelle had to contact her father during the years when his violence developed strongly while her siblings gradually grew up and left the house. Therefore, she was hurt by her father to the point of despair, wanting to seek death but failed. It was her great love for her mother that helped her keep the terrible secret of her life so as not to "push her mother's life into a dark hell", because she knew that "she would not hesitate to kill anyone who dared to persecute her child". The profound influence of her mother has helped her

overcome all challenges and risks because she knows that “mother Loan will definitely not give up, and it is not without reason that I am her daughter!”. Just like her mother, Isabelle did not give up. Hope is a path for Isabelle to confidently move forward, even when life seems unbearable.

Loving and idolizing her mother, Isabelle always turned to her mother's homeland, Vietnam. In the 1990s, she returned to her roots many times with her mother. These things were told more or less in the book, which was published in Germany in 2009, and immediately after its release, it caused a stir in public opinion in Germany on the topic of sexual abuse. The book was translated into Vietnamese by translator Truong Hong Quang. The author donated 100% of the entire amount received from the book's copyright to the LOAN Foundation (LOAN Stiftung), a charity fund that Isabelle founded in 2016, specializing in implementing education projects for ethnic minority children in the poorest mountainous areas of Northern Vietnam with the hope of helping poor Vietnamese children have a better life.