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Editor's Note: This is the original Okinawa Hai post on Fukushen Gardens. We published a newer post on this establishment in 2016. We've left all of your original comments in place on this post, but we thought you might want a fresher take on the place.

CONTRIBUTED BY MARY RICHARDSON

One of my favorite places in Okinawa is Fukushen Garden in downtown Naha. I'm happy to introduce it to all you.

I really hope you visit there one day when you're in the area. The garden is a perfect respite from the business of every day life, or if you're creatively inclined, a perfect backdrop for gorgeous pictures.

Ever read Lisa See's novels [*Peony in Love*](#) or [*Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*](#)? Both novels take place in China and have vivid descriptions of lush gardens with stone sculptures and charming secluded spots.

It hit me one day that Fukushen Garden seemed familiar to me somehow, and then I realized that it resembles something out of those stories. Walking through it, I can't help but think about ancient secret writing systems, silk embroidery, and family honor and traditions. (Okay, and maybe some foot binding and lovesick maidens too) However, even without reading those books, the scenery is pretty cool.

I'm a huge believer in letting you experience some surprises for yourself, so I won't give all the good stuff away here. Go, combine it with a Kokusai Street shopping day, and see for yourself...