Dumb Luck Viet Trung Phung

Dumb Luck is a novel written by the controversial Vietnamese writer Vu Trung Phung. Published in 1936, it was a bitter satire of the country's late-colonial obsession with modernization. Due to its realistic depiction of sexual content, the novel was banned in Vietnam until 1986. First published in Hanoi during 1936, it follows the absurd and unexpected rise within colonial society of a street-smart vagabond named Red-haired Xuan.

Published in 1936, Dumb Luck, or Số Đỏ, remains one of Vietnam's most popular and controversial novels. Vu Trung Phung was born and raised in Tonkin Vietnam, which is where he chose the setting of the novel. He died at the age of 27 in 1939, after being persecuted by the anti-communist government of General Phung for his stark portrayals of sexuality. Along with most of his works, Dumb Luck was banned in Vietnam until the late 1980s.

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