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Chinas Golden Age Everyday Life In The Tang Dynasty

*Here is a fascinating compact history
of Chinese political, economic, and*

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cultural life, ranging from the origins of civilization in China to the beginning of the 21st century. Historian Paul Ropp combines vivid story-telling with astute analysis to shed light on some of the larger questions of Chinese history. What is distinctive about China in comparison with other civilizations?

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What have been the major changes and continuities in Chinese life over the past four millennia? Offering a global perspective, the book shows how China's nomadic neighbors to the north and west influenced much of the political, military, and even cultural history of China. Ropp also examines

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Sino-Indian relations, highlighting the impact of the thriving trade between India and China as well as the profound effect of Indian Buddhism on Chinese life. Finally, the author discusses the humiliation of China at the hands of Western powers and Japan, explaining how these recent

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events have shaped China's quest for wealth, power and respect today, and have colored China's perception of its own place in world history.

Describes the occupations, pleasures, clothes, food, art, and social and civic life of the people in the city of Hangchow.

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"At the time Wang was writing, novels about the Cultural Revolution tended to be fairly conventional tales of how good people suffered nobly during this decade of madness. The system itself was rarely called into question. Wang's book was radically different . . . The idea of how to stand up to power

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*underlies Golden Age." —Ian Johnson,
The New York Times Book Review
Like Gary Shteyngart or Michel
Houellebecq, Wang Xiaobo is a
Chinese literary icon whose satire
forces us to reconsider the ironies of
history. "Apparently, there was a
rumour that Chen Qingyang and I were*

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having an affair. She wanted me to prove our innocence. I said, to prove our innocence, we must prove one of the following: 1. Chen Qingyang is a virgin; 2. I was born without a penis. Both of these propositions were hard to prove, therefore, we couldn't prove our innocence. Infact, I was leaning more

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toward proving that we weren't innocent." And so begins Wang Er's story of his long affair with Chen Qinyang. Wang Er, a 21-year-old ox herder, is shamed by the local authorities and forced to write a confession for his crimes but instead, takes it upon himself to write a

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modernist literary tract. Later, as a lecturer at a chaotic, newly built university, Wang Er navigates the bureaucratic maze of 1980's China, boldly writing about the Cultural Revolution's impact on his life and those around him. Finally, alone and humbled, Wang Er must come to terms

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with the banality of his own existence. But what makes this novel both hilarious and important is Xiaobo's use of the awkwardness of sex as a metaphor for all that occurred during the Cultural Revolution. This achievement was revolutionary in China and places Golden Age in the great pantheon of

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novels that argue against governmental control. A leading icon of his generation, Wang Xiaobo's cerebral and sarcastic narrative is a reflection on the failures of individuals and the enormous political, social, and personal changes in 20th century China.

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Essential research on the Chinese economy for investors and asset managers In this handy new e-book, bestselling author David M. Darst provides the latest information on investment opportunities in China's growing economy. Constraints of language and time zones, geographical

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distance, foreign currency transaction costs, and political and cultural factors can make it difficult to assess, value, and invest in China's economy.

Portfolio Investment Opportunities in China gives investors the information they need to make intelligent choices, including coverage of Chinese history,

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politics, and culture—all with an eye toward helping investors pinpoint those businesses and industries that offer the best potential returns. Covers key factors western investors need to know about China, with specific focus on China's economy, investment landscape, and financial potential

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Written by David M. Darst, CFA, the bestselling author of The Little Book That Saves Your Assets Covers key factors western investors need to know about China, with specific focus on China's economy, investment landscape, and financial potential The Epic History of a World Power

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*from the Middle Kingdom to Mao and
the China Dream*

Everyday Life in the Tang Dynasty

The Social Life of Materials

*How Social Development Decides the
Fate of Nations*

The Cambridge History of Ancient

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China

Everyday Life

Dynastic China: An Elementary History surveys four millennia of China's history. It traced commentaries from the mythological period of Pangu, creator of the Chinese universe, and the Goddess Nuwa, creator of the Chinese people,

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through to the legendary periods of the Xia, Shang and Zhou dynasties to subsequent succeeding dynasties from the Qin Dynasty (221 BC) to the end of the Qing Dynasty (1912 AD). It weaved through brutal political intrigues and conspiracies of China's imperial existence. The persistent enthronement of child

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emperors for the benefits of power-hungry eunuchs, dowagers, members of the imperial clans, generals and warlords formed a large part of the narrative. Encrypted within are salient elements of Chinese philosophical precepts, civilisation values, and political ideals. The core concepts that mould the idea of tian xia ☐

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天 (all under heaven) and tian ming (Mandate of Heaven), and how these guided Chinese perception of their world are painstakingly explained. The profound influence of Confucianism and the functional adoption of the Legalist framework in statecraft are imparted in the context of practicality and idealism. So too

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is the complementary notion of natural dualities, the Yin-Yang (☯ ☯) harmony of contradictions. How these filtered through from philosophy to cultural values are deftly introduced. Imperial obsessions with frontier threats are also incisively presented. So are the diplomatic statecraft of matrimonial kinship, tributary

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exchanges and military engagements adopted to conduct relations. China's perception of people in the frontier region are insightfully described. The application of the Chinese character yi 異 to refer to them, it seems, carries a more gracious nuance to mean "of a distinct or different nature" and not the offensive attribution of

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'barbarian' as made out in western notion. This and many more distinctions in discernment of the Chinese mindset are perceptively elucidated in the book. Buddhism had a profound effect not only on Chinese philosophy and ritual, but also on the material culture of China. Examining the impact of books, bridges,

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sugar, tea and the chair, amongst other things, this text looks at how attitudes to such novelties affected the history of Chinese Buddhism.

Award-winning author Guy Gavriel Kay evokes the dazzling Tang Dynasty of 8th-century China in an masterful story of honor and power. It begins simply. Shen

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Tai, son of an illustrious general serving the Emperor of Kitai, has spent two years honoring the memory of his late father by burying the bones of the dead from both armies at the site of one of his father's last great battles. In recognition of his labors and his filial piety, an unlikely source has sent him a dangerous gift: 250 Sardinian

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horses. You give a man one of the famed Sardinian horses to reward him greatly. You give him four or five to exalt him above his fellows, propel him towards rank, and earn him jealousy, possibly mortal jealousy. Two hundred and fifty is an unthinkable gift, a gift to overwhelm an emperor. Wisely, the gift comes with the

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stipulation that Tai must claim the horses in person. Otherwise he would probably be dead already...

As China reclaims its position as a world power, Imperial Twilight looks back to tell the story of the country's last age of ascendance and how it came to an end in the nineteenth-century Opium War. As one

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of the most potent turning points in the country's modern history, the Opium War has since come to stand for everything that today's China seeks to put behind it. In this dramatic, epic story, award-winning historian Stephen Platt sheds new light on the early attempts by Western traders and missionaries to "open" China even as

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China's imperial rulers were struggling to manage their country's decline and Confucian scholars grappled with how to use foreign trade to China's advantage. The book paints an enduring portrait of an immensely profitable—and mostly peaceful—meeting of civilizations that was destined to be shattered by one of the most

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shockingly unjust wars in the annals of imperial history. Brimming with a fascinating cast of British, Chinese, and American characters, this riveting narrative of relations between China and the West has important implications for today's uncertain and ever-changing political climate.

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Studies in Materials and Society

The Impact of Buddhism on Chinese
Material Culture

The Consequences of Modernity

What Life was Like in Europe's Golden
Age

The Story of China

Rise of the Tang Dynasty

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The Paradox of Economic Boom and Vast
Corruption

There is a unique genre in
traditional Chinese painting, in
which artists would use painstaking
detail to pinpoint everyday life in a
certain place at a certain point of

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history. It provides a compelling insight into the forgotten lives of China's past.

A single volume history of China, offering a look into the past of the global superpower and its significance today. Michael Wood

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has travelled the length and breadth of China, the world's oldest civilization and longest lasting state, to tell a thrilling story of intense drama, fabulous creativity, and deep humanity that stretches back thousands of years. After a century

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and a half of foreign invasion, civil war, and revolution, China has once again returned to center stage as a global superpower and the world ' s second largest economy. But how did it become so dominant? Wood argues that in

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order to comprehend the great significance of China today, we must begin with its history. The Story of China takes a fresh look at the Middle Kingdom in the light of the recent massive changes inside the country. Taking into account

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exciting new archeological discoveries, the book begins with China ' s prehistory—the early dynasties, the origins of the Chinese state, and the roots of Chinese culture in the age of Confucius. Wood looks at particular

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periods and themes that are now being reevaluated by historians, such as the renaissance of the Song with its brilliant scientific discoveries. He paints a vibrant picture of the Qing Empire in the 18th century, just before the

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European impact, a time when China's rich and diverse culture was at its height. Then, Wood explores the encounter with the West, the Opium Wars, the clashes with the British, and the extraordinarily rich debates in the

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late 19th century that pushed China along the path to modernity. Finally, he provides a clear up-to-date account of post-1949 China, including revelations about the 1989 crisis based on newly leaked inside documents, and fresh

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insights into the new order of President Xi Jinping. All woven together with landscape history and the author ' s own travel journals, The Story of China is the indispensable book about the most intriguing and powerful country on

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the world stage today.

This monograph introduces the student to the neo-Ricardian paradigm in economics. It restores the core of economic reasoning to its classical roots with a focus on production and class distribution,

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rather than the optimum allocation of scarce resources.

The Cambridge History of Ancient China provides a survey of the institutional and cultural history of pre-imperial China.

Chronicle of the Chinese Emperors

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China in World History

The Tang Dynasty

Mate Selection in China

The Language of Color in China

From the Origins of Civilization to
221 BC

From Neolithic Cultures through the

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Great Qing Empire, (10,000 BCE -
1799 CE)

Materials play a central role in
society. Beyond the physical and
chemical properties of
materials, their cultural
properties have often been

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overlooked in anthropological studies: finished products have been perceived as ' social ' yet the materials which comprise them are considered ' raw ' or natural ' . The Social Life of Materials proposes a new

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perspective in this interdisciplinary field. Diverting attention from the consumption of objects, the book looks towards the properties of materials and how these exist through many transformations

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in a variety of cultural contexts. Human societies have always worked with materials. However, the customs and traditions surrounding this differ according to the place, the time and the material itself.

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Whether or not the material is man-made, materials are defined by social intervention. Today, these constitute one of the most exciting areas of global scientific research and innovation, harboring the

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potential to act as key vehicles of change in the world. But this ' materials revolution ' has complex social implications. Smart materials are designed to anticipate our actions and needs, yet we are increasingly

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unable to apprehend the composite materials which comprise new products. Bringing together ethnographic studies of cultures from around the world, this collection explores the

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significance of materials by moving beyond questions of what may be created from them. Instead, the text argues that the materials themselves represent a shifting ground around which relationships,

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identities and powers are constantly formed and dissolved in the act of making and remaking.

In this sumptuously illustrated history, now in its second edition, Patricia Buckley Ebrey

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traces the origins of Chinese culture from prehistoric times to the present.

Traces the history of China from 221 B.C. through 1911 A.D., describing the political and social challenges and

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contributions of each ruler.

From the acclaimed author of Enduring Patagonia comes a dazzling tale of aerial adventure set against the roiling backdrop of war in Asia. The incredible real-life saga of the flying band

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of brothers who opened the skies over China in the years leading up to World War II—and boldly safeguarded them during that conflict—China's Wings is one of the most exhilarating untold chapters in the annals of

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flight. At the center of the maelstrom is the book 's courtly, laconic protagonist, American aviation executive William Langhorne Bond. In search of adventure, he arrives in Nationalist China in 1931,

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charged with turning around the turbulent nation ' s flagging airline business, the China National Aviation Corporation (CNAC). The mission will take him to the wild and lawless frontiers of commercial aviation:

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into cockpits with daredevil pilots flying—sometimes literally—on a wing and a prayer; into the dangerous maze of Chinese politics, where scheming warlords and volatile military officers jockey for

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advantage; and into the boardrooms, backrooms, and corridors of power inhabited by such outsized figures as Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek; President Franklin Delano Roosevelt;

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foreign minister T. V. Soong;
Generals Arnold, Stilwell, and
Marshall; and legendary Pan
American Airways founder Juan
Trippe. With the outbreak of full-
scale war in 1941, Bond and
CNAC are transformed from

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uneasy spectators to active participants in the struggle against Axis imperialism.

Drawing on meticulous research, primary sources, and extensive personal interviews with participants, Gregory

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Crouch offers harrowing accounts of brutal bombing runs and heroic evacuations, as the fight to keep one airline flying becomes part of the larger struggle for China ' s survival. He plunges us into a

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world of perilous night flights, emergency water landings, and the constant threat of predatory Japanese warplanes. When Japanese forces capture Burma and blockade China ' s only overland supply route, Bond

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and his pilots must battle shortages of airplanes, personnel, and spare parts to airlift supplies over an untried five-hundred-mile-long aerial gauntlet high above the Himalayas—the infamous

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“Hump” —pioneering one of the most celebrated endeavors in aviation history. A hero ' s-eye view of history in the grand tradition of Lynne Olson ' s Citizens of London, China ' s Wings takes readers on a

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mesmerizing journey to a time
and place that reshaped the
modern world.

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Opportunities in China
Dynastic China
Planetary Modernisms

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Politics

Ming China, 1368-1644

China's Golden Age

Under Heaven

*Why has China grown so fast
for so long despite vast
corruption? In China's Gilded*

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Age, Yuen Yuen Ang argues that not all types of corruption hurt growth, nor do they cause the same kind of harm. Ang unbundles corruption into four varieties: petty theft, grand theft,

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speed money, and access money. While the first three types impede growth, access money - elite exchanges of power and profit - cuts both ways: it stimulates investment and growth but

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produces serious risks for the economy and political system. Since market opening, corruption in China has evolved toward access money. Using a range of data sources, the author

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explains the evolution of Chinese corruption, how it differs from the West and other developing countries, and how Xi's anti-corruption campaign could affect growth and governance. In

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*this formidable yet
accessible book, Ang
challenges one-dimensional
measures of corruption. By
unbundling the problem and
adopting a comparative-
historical lens, she reveals*

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that the rise of capitalism was not accompanied by the eradication of corruption, but rather by its evolution from thuggery and theft to access money. In doing so, she changes the way we think

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*about corruption and
capitalism, not only in China
but around the world.*

*Enter the golden age of
Chinese culture and explore
the everyday lives of its
people.*

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In a tale set in eighth-century China during the T'ang dynasty, the emperor's power dwindles as, one by one, those nearest to him are eliminated, and only eunuch Kao Li-Shih is left to

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save the empire

This engaging, deeply informed book provides the first concise history of one of China's most important eras. Leading scholar John W. Dardess offers a thematically

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*organized political, social,
and economic exploration of
China from 1368 to 1644. He
examines how the Ming
dynasty was able to endure
for 276 years, illuminating
Ming foreign relations and*

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border control, the lives and careers of its sixteen emperors, its system of governance and the kinds of people who served it, its great class of literati, and finally the mass outlawry

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that, in unhappy conjunction with the Manchu invasions from outside, ended the once-mighty dynasty in the mid-seventeenth century. The Ming witnessed the beginning of China's contact

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*with the West, and its story
will fascinate all readers
interested in global as well
as Asian history.*

*Provocations on Modernity
Across Time*

The Reign-by-reign Record of

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China at War
Golden Age
An Elementary History
Daily Life in Traditional China
Silk and Fashion in Tang
China

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Drawing on a vast archive of world history, anthropology, geography, cultural theory, postcolonial studies, gender studies, literature, and art, Susan Stanford Friedman recasts modernity as a networked, circulating, and recurrent phenomenon producing multiple aesthetic innovations across

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millennia. Considering cosmopolitan as well as nomadic and oceanic worlds, she radically revises the scope of modernist critique and opens the practice to more integrated study. Friedman moves from large-scale instances of pre-1500 modernities, such as Tang Dynasty China and the

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Mongol Empire, to small-scale instances of modernisms, including the poetry of Du Fu and Kabir and Abbasid ceramic art. She maps the interconnected modernisms of the long twentieth century, pairing Joseph Conrad with Tayeb Salih, E. M. Forster with Arundhati Roy, Virginia Woolf with

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the Tagores, and Aimé Césaire with Theresa Hak Kyung Cha. She reads postcolonial works from Sudan and India and engages with the idea of Négritude. Rejecting the modernist concepts of marginality, othering, and major/minor, Friedman instead favors rupture, mobility, speed, networks, and

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divergence, elevating the agencies and creative capacities of all cultures not only in the past and present but also in the century to come.

Such is the voice of Shan Sa's unforgettable heroine in her latest literary masterpiece, Empress. Empress Wu, one of China's most

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controversial figures, was its first and only female emperor, who emerged in the seventh century during the great Tang Dynasty and ushered in a golden age. Throughout history, her name has been defamed and her story distorted by those taking vengeance on a woman who dared to become emperor. But

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now, for the first time in thirteen centuries, Empress Wu (or Heavenlight, as we come to know her) flings open the gates of the Forbidden City and tells her own astonishing tale—revealing a fascinating, complex figure who in many ways remains modern to this day. Writing with epic assurance, poetry,

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and vivid historic detail, Shan Sa plumbs the psychological and philosophical depths of what it means to be a striving mortal in a tumultuous, power-hungry world. Empress is a great literary feat and a revelation for the ages.

Buddhism Under the Tang is a history

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of the Buddhist Church during the T'ang dynasty (618-907), when Buddhist thought reached the pinnacle of its development. The three centuries spanned by the T'ang saw the formation of such important philosophical schools as the Fa-hsiang and Hua-yen, the consolidation of the

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T'ien-t'ai school, the introduction of Esoteric Buddhism from India, and the emergence of the Pure Land and Chan schools as the predominant expressions of Buddhist faith and practice. Professor Weinstein draws extensively upon both secular and ecclesiastical records to chronicle the

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vicissitudes of the Buddhist Church. The main focus is on the constantly changing relationship between the Buddhist Church and the T'ang state. Among the topics discussed in detail are the various attempts to curb the power of the Buddhist monasteries, the governance of the Buddhist clergy, the

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use of Buddhism to promote secular political ends, and the violent suppression of Buddhism by Emperor Wu (840-846) and its formal restoration under the last T'ang emperor.

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Oxford University Press,
USA

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Autumn Willows

The Court of the Lion

Causes and Consequences in the
Search for a Spouse

The Cambridge Illustrated History of
China

Empress

Buddhism Under the T'ang

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A Novel of the T'ang Dynasty

***This book examines the
changing nature of dating
and mate selection in
contemporary China, and
addresses a wide array of
both causes and***

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***consequences concerning
mate selection, including
economic change, traditional
cultural norms, evolving
gender roles, and both
marriage and fertility
aspirations.***

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***This is the first book to
explore color history in Asia.
Color is a natural
phenomenon and a
fundamental element of the
universe, and offers a
medium to communicate***

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with others globally. It is a language of signals, such as traffic lights, signs or symbols, and an essential part of society. Color attracts people's attention and transmits important

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information. As such, color language denotes all of the activities of human history, and has been associated with changes in society, economic development, and dynasties replacing the old with the

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***new. The book brings
together many elements of
Chinese history with
reference to the topic of
'color' and has evolved from
the authors' respective
interests in art and design,***

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***teaching and research,
consultancy and publishing.
The topic will be of
increasing importance in the
future as a consequence of
China's increasing influence
in the sphere of global***

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culture. For practitioners of art and design, the book will be a valuable resource; for the general public, interested in the development of Chinese aesthetics over the

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***centuries, it will provide a
new perspective
complimentary to existing
studies about art, design and
the history of the region.
Provides an overview of life
in northern Europe from***

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1500 to 1675

***Presents a collection of
poetry by women poets from
China's Tang dynasty.***

Master Plants Cookbook

Northern Europe, AD

1500-1675

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***A Concise History of a
Resilient Empire
Empire of Style
Poetry by Women of China's
Golden Age
Daily Life in China on the
Eve of the Mongol Invasion,***

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1250-1276

***The Measure of Civilization
Tang dynasty (618–907) China
hummed with cosmopolitan
trends. Its capital at Chang'an
was the most populous city in
the world and was connected***

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***via the Silk Road with the
critical markets and thriving
cultures of Central Asia and
the Middle East. In Empire of
Style, BuYun Chen reveals a
vibrant fashion system that
emerged through the efforts of***

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Tang artisans, wearers, and critics of clothing. Across the empire, elite men and women subverted regulations on dress to acquire majestic silks and au courant designs, as shifts in economic and social

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structures gave rise to what we now recognize as precursors of a modern fashion system: a new consciousness of time, a game of imitation and emulation, and a shift in

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modes of production. This first book on fashion in premodern China is informed by archaeological sources—paintings, figurines, and silk artifacts—and textual records such as dynastic

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annals, poetry, tax documents, economic treatises, and sumptuary laws. Tang fashion is shown to have flourished in response to a confluence of social, economic, and political changes that brought

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***innovative weavers and chic
court elites to the forefront of
history.***

***A comparative history that
reconsiders China's relations
with the rest of Eurasia, Sui-
Tang China and Its Turko-***

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Mongol Neighbors challenges the notion that inhabitants of medieval China and Mongolia were irreconcilably different from each other.

Julian Romane examines the military events behind the

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***emergence of the Sui and
Tang dynasties in the period
581-626 AD. Narrating the
campaigns and battles, he
analyses in detail the strategy
and tactics employed, a
central theme being the***

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***collision of the steppe cavalry
with Chinese infantry armies.
By the fourth century AD,
horse nomads had seized
northern China. Conflict with
these Turkic interlopers
continued throughout the 5th***

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***and most of the 6th century.
The emergence of the Sui
dynasty (581-618) brought
some progress but internal
weakness led to their rapid
collapse. The succeeding
House of Tang, however,***

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provided the necessary stability and leadership to underpin military success. This was largely the achievement of Li Shimin, who later became the second Tang Emperor. By the start of Li

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Shimin's reign as Emperor Tang Taizong, effective military organizations had been developed and China reunified. His military campaigns are examples of tactical and strategic virtuosity

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***that demonstrate the
application of the distinctive
Chinese way of war
expounded in Chinese military
manuals, including Li Shimin's
own writings.
In this major theoretical***

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statement, the author offers a new and provocative interpretation of the institutional transformations associated with modernity. We do not as yet, he argues, live in a post-modern world. Rather

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the distinctive characteristics of our major social institutions in the closing period of the twentieth century express the emergence of a period of 'high modernity,' in which prior trends are radicalised rather

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than undermined. A post-modern social universe may eventually come into being, but this as yet lies 'on the other side' of the forms of social and cultural organization which currently

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dominate world history. In developing an account of the nature of modernity, Giddens concentrates upon analyzing the intersections between trust and risk, and security and danger, in the modern

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world. Both the trust mechanisms associated with modernity and the distinctive 'risk profile' it produces, he argues, are distinctively different from those characteristic of pre-modern

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social orders. This book build upon the author's previous theoretical writings, and will be of fundamental interest to anyone concerned with Gidden's overall project. However, the work covers

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issues which the author has not previously analyzed and extends the scope of his work into areas of pressing practical concern. This book will be essential reading for second year undergraduates

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***and above in sociology,
politics, philosophy, and
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China's Gilded Age
Culture, Power, and***

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A Novel

Suzhou's Golden Age

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*Uses four factors--energy capture
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*appendix of Chinese dynasties
In this fascinating and detailed
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of life in the Tang Dynasty
(618-907), traditionally regarded
as the golden age of China. 40 line
illustrations.*

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recommendations for further reading and an index. Volume 1: From Neolithic Cultures through the Great Qing Empire (10,000 BCE–1799). Volume 2: From the Great Qing Empire through the People's Republic of China (1644–2009).

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