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前言

Chian Daily is blessed with some good writers and columnists: Some are Chinese with a world view; others are foreigners with global views of China. But Raymond Zhou stands out-Chinese, yet an outsider who has studied and worked in the United States for 16 years, and brings a unique perspective to whatever he does. He is the quitnessential insider looking out; and the outsider looking in-without any emotional baggage.



内容概要

X-Ray: Examining the China Enigma is a collection of 99 columns Raymond Zhou wrote for China Daily in the past few years. It is one man's adventure into the murky world of mostly mundane changes - progress and frustration that make up the tableau of a country in breakneck growth. Zhou shies away from the big issues that everyone is familiar with; instead, he focuses on controversies that cannot be explained away with broad black-and-white strokes. His keen insight, sometimes infused with biting humor, adds a multi-dimensional hue to what would otherwise be regular issues of the week. What makes Zhou stand out is his unique perspective and his acute rationality. He refuses to join in crowd-pleasing choruses, and he does not take any preconceived stands. He appreciates complexity and encourages the reader to do the same. Vast and sweeping changes are made up of many smaller ones - some expected, others more difficult to digest. By dissecting some of the befuddling happenings of the past few years, Zhou has put a personal mark on cracking the codes - cultural and otherwise - that Barely a contemporary subject is spared in this collection of commentaries run the emerging power that is China. written by Raymond Zhou over the past three years. From the weighty to the frothy, Zhou charts the dramatic changes taking place in China by striving to be a voice of reason. With each topic - China's youth, culture and the arts, the Internet, morality and spirituality, the economy, and East-West relations - Zhou projects the same message: keep an open mind and exercise moderation.



作者简介

Raymond Zhou is a writer who is hard to define or categorize. He is prolific in English and Chinese; his topics and interests cover many areas, from culture to social issues; he is comfortable with all media platforms, including print, online and television, or government-oriented, market-driven and grassroots; and he explores many genres, to genre-busting experi-ments in fusing fiction and non-fiction. Above all, Zhou is praised for his ability to cross the boundaries of languages and cultures. Immersed in both Chinese and Western (specially American) cultures, he often deciphers a Chinese ontroversy from a Western perspective and vice versa. The ease with which he shifts his viewpoint endows him with a rare openness and independence of thinking. Zhou started writing in California's Silicon Valley in the early days of the Internet boom. His focus has shifted from high tech and e-commerce, to travel, arts and culture in general, and form social issues to travel and humor. He began to blur the lines of some of these areas inrecent years. ramondzhou@chinadaily.com.cnAlso by Raymond Zhou: In English-China the Beautiful(2008) In Chinese The Seven Veils of Salome (2007) Hollywood Politics and Economics (2005) Raymond Zhou's Movie Guide (Volumes 1-3,2003-06) On the scene (2002) Looking Through (2000) E-Merchant (1999) Learning to Be Shallow (1998)



书籍目录

Foreword by Zhu LingChapter One: It's the Economy 1. Don't get carried away with GDP 2. Thou shalt not collude on pricing 3. Can you monopolize song selection?

- 4. Pork price swing can be minimized 5. Food safety officials must be on alert 6. Small things make up the big picture 7. Reverse brain drain a sign of the times 8. 'Urban village' an eyesore in growth Chapter Two: It Takes All Kinds 9. Names in stone mark much-deserved appreciation 10. Elevator ladies, checkout clerks and the human touch 11. Don't treat street vendors as the enemy 12. Schlepping for a little respect 13. Birth place no yardstick for place of death 14. News on the move Chapter Three: Inside the Red Compound
- 15. Oath taken with a pinch of salt 16. Sadly, there is an Ah Q in all of us 17. Slap on the wrist not enough for lying officials 18. 'Shameful' exhibition backfires 19. Unconscious reflections of official mind 20. The 'rats' just keep nibbling Chapter Four: Rebel without a Cause 21. Rebelliousness needs outlets 22. Youth facing dilemma of role models 23. Don't let gaokao seal your fate 24. If it's honest work, what else matters?
- 25. In a hugging league of one's own 26. Better teen body image with privacy Chapter Five: In the Wild World of the Web 27. Bloggers' revolution is largely overrated 28. Let's stop lynching by public opinion
- 29. Cat killers could be given alternatives 30. Starbucks in the Forbidden City 31. Mr. Mayor, a netizen is calling 32. Netizen's arguments do not sit 43. Maid in China 44. Sex sells, but tastefulness still vital 45. Adult humor has its place among mature 46. Hong Kong sex scandal Chapter Eight: Highbrow and Lowbrow 47. Arts events for national holidays 48. Grand National Theater. Can you afford it?
- 49. Best comedy knows how to tickle audience 50. Festival gala as tasteless as chicken ribs 51. Too much TV not a good thing 52. Don't parade entertainers as role models 53. Dabbling in real politics 54. Rocker's sad show a lesson to media hounds Chapter Nine: Cherish Our Tradition, Sensibly 55. Appreciate Guoxue as it is 56. Kneeling is a thing of the past 57. Kowtowing not best show of gratitude 58. Is the dragon too fearsome a symbol for China?
- 59. Be sincere in preservation of cultural artifacts 60. No need to standardize a saint's look 61. A memorial service, outsourced 62. Yes, Spring Festival is truly golden 63. Chunyun provides a glimpse of China's reality Chapter Ten: Language Matters 65. Hyperbole in advertising: 64. Hyperbole in advertising redux 66. Platitude overload depreciates language 67. Cutting out the waffle in speeches 68. Taking pride 69. Variety in name not a bad thing 70. Those addresses, they keep changing in our accents 71. A learning fad that's truly crazy 72. Make English learning less agonizing Chapter Eleven: When East and West interact Chapter Thirteen: In the Mood for Humor Afterword Acknowledgments



媒体关注与评论

Raymond Zhou's essays go beyond the usual China coverage of party meetings and GDP stats to illuminate the lives of everyone from street vendors to pop stars, college students to migrant workers, and reel writers to corrupt officials. He zoomes in on all the characters that make this country such a mesmerizing and vibrnt place.

-Austin Ramzy, Time magazine Beijing correspondent Raymond Zhou gently chides his readers to avoid sloganeering and appreiate complexity. His best pieces deal with precisely those parts of Chinese society where the Opposite trend is most strongly at work-online lynch mobs, or baffingly dull official language.

-Mary Elizabeth Hennock, Beijing correspondent of newsweek

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