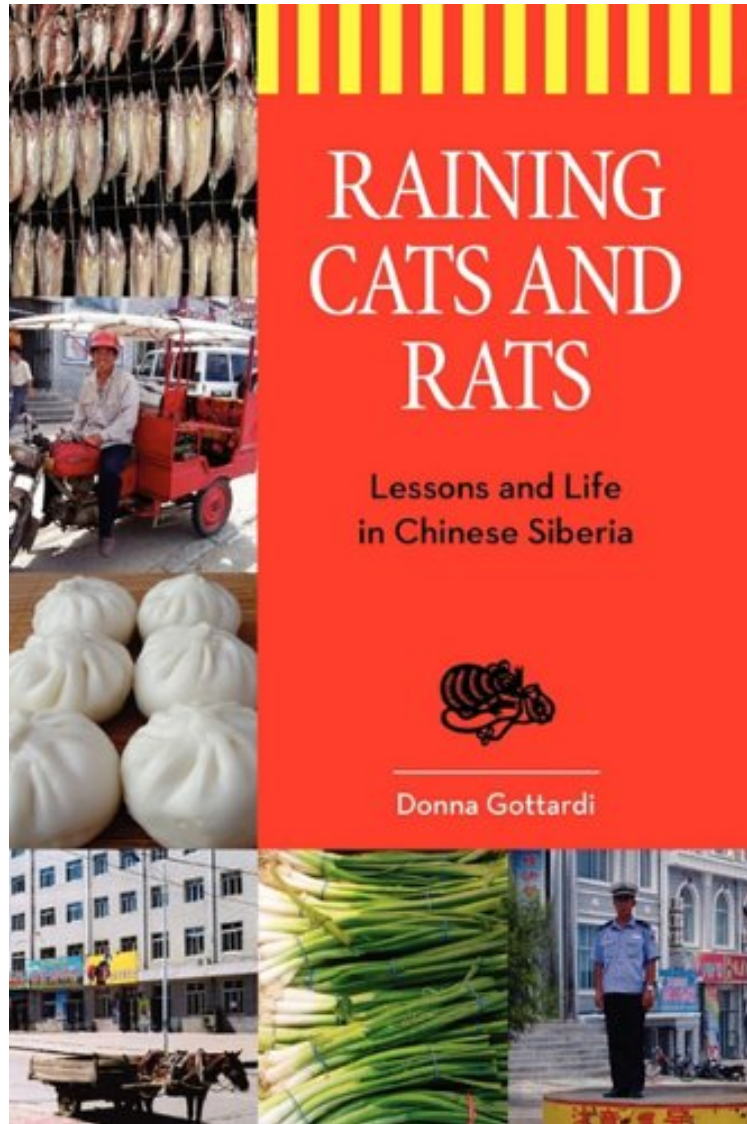


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## Raining Cats and Rats: Lessons and Life in Chinese Siberia

*Donna Gottardi*

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**Donna Gottardi : Raining Cats and Rats: Lessons and Life in Chinese Siberia** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Raining Cats and Rats: Lessons and Life in Chinese Siberia:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Engaging Travel Memoir By Brahman B. Levy I am sure I will never go to Chinese Siberia but Donna Gottardi's vivid and charming account is the next best thing. Actually, I would argue it is a better thing. I don't have to suffer the small and large indignities and obstacles she encountered and recounts with humor and grace. And still, I was able to spend time with Donna and the fascinating cast of characters she shares

with us. If you are interested in China but don't think you will spend months in a small town in China, very close to the Russian border, this book is for you! Jody W 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. "An Endearing Book by a Seasoned World Traveler!" By Modern Transcendentalist Gottardi's chronicle, which weaves its way through the culture shock of teaching in a foreign land, reminds the reader why we love to travel and explore new worlds. She has you laughing throughout the whole book, except on those pages where she makes your eyes water. This book is perfect for the person who respects the risk that every remarkable adventure carries with it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing By carolin@shell This book had potential. It jumped around. I also would have been happy without the negative comments about America in a book that was written about someone teaching in communist China. Really?

Donna Gottardi answered an internet ad for a teaching job in the last town in northeastern China, on the border with Russia—in Chinese Siberia. Without knowing a word of Chinese, or a single person in China, Gottardi booked a ticket to one of the greatest adventures of her lifetime. In a matter of weeks, she found herself in the front of a classroom full of Chinese teachers of English, in a place 10,000 miles from her friends, her family and her home. Find out how her trust in others and in herself opened a window into this rural Chinese outpost and to its people. Laugh along with the many interesting predicaments Gottardi finds herself in as one of the first Western educators to live and work in Fu Yuan and as the only native English speaker. Witness how Gottardi begins to help the teachers not only to learn English, but to understand Americans as she learns to understand the people of rural China and navigate through the cultural maze of unfamiliarity that has become her latest everyday reality.