

大陸資訊及研究中心



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China Dreams

20 VISIONS
OF THE FUTURE

WILLIAM A. CALLAHAN

“William A. Callahan’s *China Dreams...* takes the discussion out of the theoretical world of historical forces and hypothetical scenarios, and gives modern Chinese a voice.”

—Ian Johnson, *New York Review of Books*

“Bill Callahan is neither a dragon slayer nor a dragon hugger, but a scholar steeped in the certainties, doubts, prejudices, visions and wisdom of some of China’s most influential scholars, artists, activists and thinkers. He has done all of us a great service presenting the many voices that speak in China today about the problems and choices that face all of us, Chinese or not, so elegantly and persuasively.”

—Frank Pieke, Chair of Modern China Studies, Leiden University



After celebrating their country’s three decades of fantastic economic success, many Chinese are now asking, “What comes next?” How can China convert its growing economic power into political and cultural influence around the globe?

William A. Callahan’s *China Dreams* gives voice to China’s many different futures by exploring the grand aspirations and deep anxieties of a broad group of public intellectuals. Stepping outside the narrow politics of officials vs. dissidents, Callahan examines what a third group—“citizen intellectuals”—think about China’s future. *China Dreams* eavesdrops on fascinating conversations between officials, scholars, soldiers, bloggers, novelists, film-makers and artists to see how they describe China’s different political, strategic, economic, social and cultural futures. Callahan also examines how the PRC’s new generation of twenty- and thirty-somethings is creatively questioning “The China Model” of economic development. The personal stories of these citizen intellectuals illustrate China’s zeitgeist and a complicated mix of hopes and fears about “The Chinese Century,” providing a clearer sense of how the PRC’s dramatic economic and cultural transitions will affect the rest of the world.

China Dreams explores the transnational connections between American and Chinese people, providing a new approach to Sino-American relations. While many assume that 21st century global politics will be a battle of Confucian China vs. the democratic west, Callahan weaves Chinese and American ideals together to describe a new “Chimerican dream.”

WILLIAM A. CALLAHAN is Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

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Contents

| | |
|---|------|
| <i>List of Figures</i> | ix |
| <i>Preface</i> | xi |
| <i>Acknowledgments</i> | xiii |
| Introduction: China Is the Future | i |
| 1. Officials, Dissidents, and Citizen Intellectuals | 17 |
| 2. Strategic Futures and the Post-American World Order | 44 |
| 3. The China Model and the Search for Wealth and Power | 66 |
| 4. Cosmopolitan, Fundamentalist, and Racist Dreams | 98 |
| 5. Shanghai's Alternative Futures and China's New Civil Society | 124 |
| 6. The American Dream and Chinese Exceptionalism | 144 |
| Scenario: A Chimerican Dream | 163 |
| <i>Notes</i> | 177 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> | 193 |
| <i>Who's Who</i> | 205 |
| <i>Index</i> | 207 |