

Wonderful  
Xinjiang

王 蒙 和 他 的 新 疆

*A Photographic Journey of China's Largest Province*

*As told through the pen of Wang Meng*

Reader's  
Digest

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# WONDERFUL XINJIANG

**C**hinese writer Wang Meng relives the years he spent in a beautiful, exotic part of China in *WONDERFUL XINJIANG*. Join him as he journeys back to a land of arid deserts and snowcapped mountains, old peasants and young loggers, jubilant festivals and bountiful harvests.

This stunning book takes you right to the breathtaking views of Xinjiang. Here is the Ili river, with its churning water and lapping whitecaps, as well as a placid lake surrounded by magnificent mountain peaks. There is a quiet valley filled with rocks of all sizes, shaped like tigers, elephants, birds, and drums. And where else would you find such a wonderful medley of meadow fescues and trefoils, prince's feathers and knotweeds, Siberian crab apples and water willows?

You'll also encounter beekeepers and herders, as well as a man who earns extra money by butchering, tanning, rug making, mat weaving, cobbling, and haircutting. The same man even knows Uygur traditional medicine and is able to make a diagnosis and write prescriptions!

As in many parts of China, songs play an important role in the life of the people of Xinjiang. Hear the voices of the homecoming travelers, drunkards, and horse-cart drivers hurrying toward their destinations, their songs filled with deep emotion, great passion, and loving tenderness. Whether they are south

*(continued on back flap)*

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## On My Way to Xinjiang

I

At the Jiayu Pass the wind wolves howl,  
Where does the sky begin and the desert end?  
Frontier mountains far from the capital  
With a smile urge me on to their land.

II

Through many suns and moons and time zones,  
Hot and cold climes 'cross a thousand rivers,  
I reunite with the snow of Tianshan  
Whose soaring peaks haunted my dreams.

III

To hell and back my blood hasn't chilled,  
Winds and rains my will have strengthened.  
Sing I shall till my voice is stilled,  
And give my all to this frontier land.

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