## THE CHOPSTICKS-FORK PRINCIPLE X

2

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The Chopsticks-Fork Principle x 2, A Bilingual Reader by Cathy Bao Bean and Dongdong Chen meets the challenge of Edward Hall's idea that culture is the silent language because "Culture hides much more than it reveals, and strangely what it hides, it hides most effectively from its own participants." By doubling the lan-

guages, our textbook gives voice to two cultures by promoting a new kind of proficiency in a second language and culture through better understanding of the first. This kind of proficiency departs from the overtly philosophical, historical, almost "preaching" approach of so many textbooks. Instead, competence is grounded in material— personal, often humorous, stories followed by innovative as well as more standard exercises—that depicts a modern reality that is enhanced by its functional familiarity, universal appeal, and global relevancy.

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Glenn Nordin, Foreign Language and Area Advisor, Department of Defense

"Are you a Chinese living in the United States, an American learning Chinese, a Chinese student learning English, or a Chinese-American who is learning Chinese language and culture? If the answer is yes, you will enjoy this book and also learn something new from it. It is indeed ingenious for Bean and Chen to produce this hybrid of pleasure reading and language textbook that will help us learn both languages and understand the cultural differences at the same time. This book will serve as a model for learning Chinese language and culture."

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"This is an excellent book for students learning the English as well as Chinese language and culture. It is distinguished by an entertaining and thought-provoking English text while providing a Chinese translation that is both expressive and fluid."

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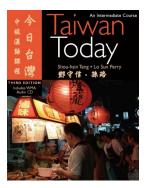
"This bilingual reader is highly recommended as the most original Chinese/English textbook to arrive on the North American scene for many years. Perceptive, challenging, and highly entertaining, it is designed for advanced learners of either language as well as anyone with an interest in a fresh approach to inter-cultural translation. The text provides humorous, yet probing, vignettes drawn from the real-life experiences of a Chinese who emigrated to the United States at an early age and constitutes a practical guide to negotiating the intercultural. It should be required reading insofar as the cultural axis of the world shifts rapidly Eastward in the 21st century. Each lesson is richly annotated, providing vocabulary lists and a variety of exercises. From both the socio-cultural and linguistic points of view, this textbook is a breakthrough."

Dr. Terry Russell, Asian Studies Centre, University of Manitoba

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