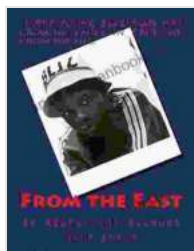


From the East: An Adolescent Account of Exploring Eastern Culture and Identity



As an adolescent growing up in the West, I have always been fascinated by Eastern cultures. The beauty of the traditional arts, the richness of the history, and the depth of the philosophies have always drawn me in.

However, it was not until I had the opportunity to travel to the East that I truly began to understand the depth and complexity of these cultures.



From the East: An Adolescent Account (ENY Book 1)

by Ian Williams

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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In this article, I will share my experiences and reflections on my travels to China, Japan, and South Korea. I will discuss the challenges and rewards of exploring Eastern culture as an outsider, and I will offer my insights into the ways in which these cultures have shaped my own identity.

China: A Land of Contrasts

My first stop on my journey was China. I was immediately struck by the country's size and diversity. From the bustling cities of Beijing and Shanghai to the rural villages of the countryside, China is a land of contrasts.

I was particularly interested in exploring China's traditional culture. I visited the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, and the Terracotta Warriors. I was

amazed by the beauty and grandeur of these ancient landmarks. I also had the opportunity to learn about Chinese philosophy, calligraphy, and painting.

However, I also saw firsthand the challenges that China faces today. The country is struggling to balance economic development with environmental protection. It is also facing a number of social issues, such as poverty and inequality.

Despite these challenges, I found the Chinese people to be warm and welcoming. I was impressed by their resilience and their determination to build a better future for their country.

Japan: A Land of Tradition and Modernity

My next stop was Japan. Japan is a country that has managed to preserve its traditional culture while also embracing modernity. I was fascinated by the juxtaposition of ancient temples and modern skyscrapers.

I visited the ancient capital of Kyoto, where I saw the famous Kiyomizudera Temple. I also visited the bustling city of Tokyo, where I experienced the vibrant pop culture of Japan.

I was particularly interested in learning about Japanese tea ceremony. I participated in a tea ceremony at a traditional teahouse. I was impressed by the beauty and precision of the ritual. I also learned about the philosophy of tea ceremony, which emphasizes mindfulness and gratitude.

I found the Japanese people to be polite and reserved. I was impressed by their sense of community and their respect for tradition.

South Korea: A Land of Innovation

My final stop on my journey was South Korea. South Korea is a country that has undergone rapid economic development in recent decades. It is now a leader in technology and innovation.

I visited the city of Seoul, where I saw the iconic N Seoul Tower. I also visited the DMZ, which is the border between North and South Korea.

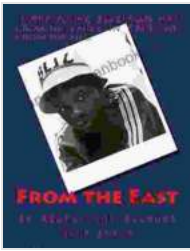
I was particularly interested in learning about South Korea's pop culture. I visited the SM Entertainment building, which is home to some of the most popular K-pop groups in the world. I also saw a K-pop concert.

I was impressed by the energy and creativity of South Korea's pop culture. I also learned about the role that pop culture plays in South Korean society.

I found the South Korean people to be friendly and outgoing. I was impressed by their hard work and their determination to succeed.

My travels to China, Japan, and South Korea were a life-changing experience. I learned so much about these cultures and about myself. I gained a new appreciation for the beauty and diversity of the world. I also developed a deeper understanding of my own identity.

I believe that it is important for everyone to have the opportunity to explore other cultures. It is through these experiences that we can learn about ourselves and the world around us. I encourage you to step outside of your comfort zone and explore a new culture. You may be surprised by what you find.



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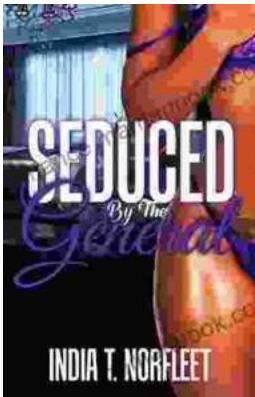
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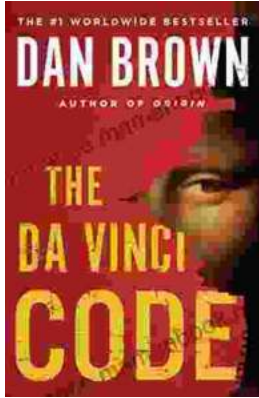
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