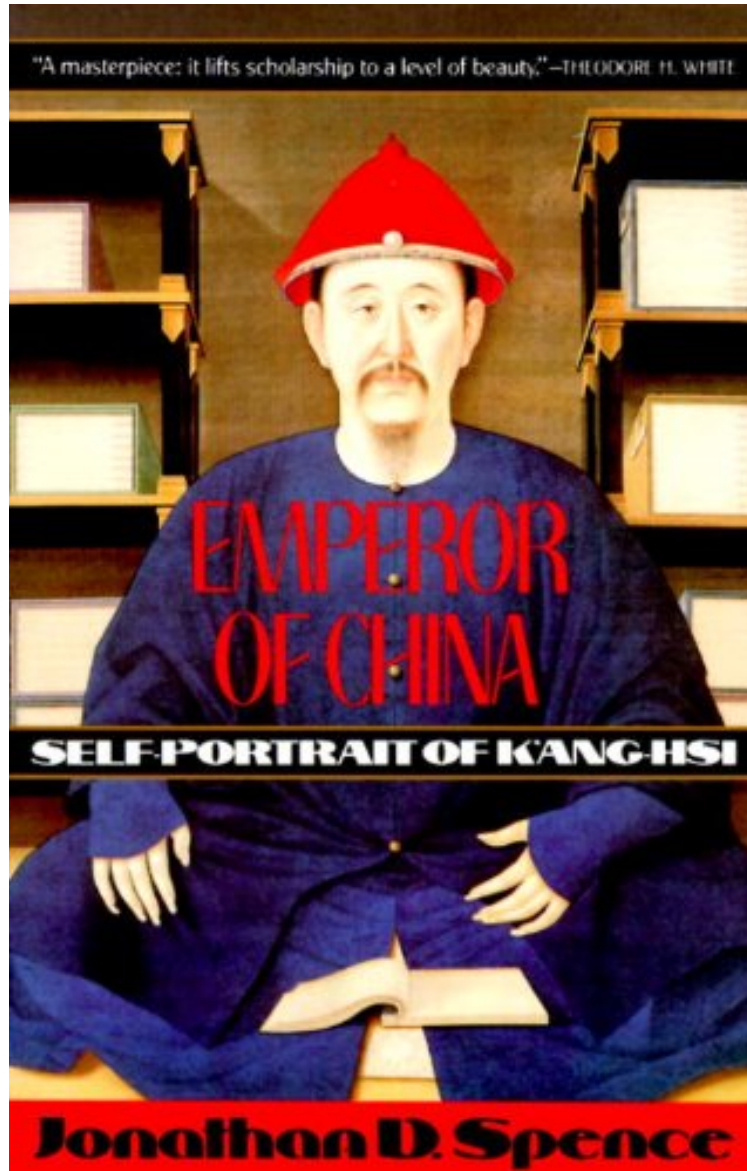


[Free] Emperor of China: Self-Portrait of K'ang-Hsi

Emperor of China: Self-Portrait of K'ang-Hsi

Von Jonathan D. Spence

*Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrang: #1248345 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2012-07-25Erscheinungsdatum: 2012-07-25File Name: B008GOL2P4 | File size: 23.Mb

Von Jonathan D. Spence : Emperor of China: Self-Portrait of K'ang-Hsi before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Emperor of China: Self-Portrait of K'ang-Hsi:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great book.Von Stephen TaylorJonathan Spence's "Emperor of China" is a very unique, creative book. His approach to writing biography -- in this case, the life of the late-17th- and early-18th-century emperor K'ang-Hsi -- is startlingly

innovative. Spence has actually constructed a sort of posthumous autobiography: he extracts segments from the emperor's copious writings and weaves them into a "self-portrait." Thus, we get to know K'ang-Hsi through his own words as he writes of such topics as hunting, invention, the Jesuits, government, and the introduction of Western science. While I don't want to sound like an abstruse literary theorist, Spence's "Emperor of China" is a fine example of how to rework an old text into a new one. That is, in the best tradition of "translation," one author (Spence) actually ends up rewriting another author's (K'ang-Hsi's) very own words. Something in the line of Jorge Luis Borges' short story, "Pierre Menard, Author of the Quixote." As the book cover states, K'ang-Hsi sounds surprisingly modern. And the book's power and ability to excite is not just the product of Spence's genius for writing: for me, personally, this account of Chinese court culture was very revelatory. I find K'ang-Hsi and his China a thousand times more admirable than his contemporaries or near-contemporaries in Europe: indeed, the emperor preceded the best of Europe's so-called "enlightened despots" by almost a century. What a disgrace that we in the United States know so little about such a brilliant reign. On that note, however, Jonathan Spence's many books -- "Emperor of China" among them -- are invaluable aids to fostering our appreciation of this fascinating period in Chinese history. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Pleasant Surprise! Von Kevin Lewis When I picked up my copy of Jonathan Spence's book "Emperor Of China" I imagined it would be a book I SHOULD read and might struggle to keep going about a third in. I was pleasantly surprised! The way Spence has put together the material (16th and 17th century traditional Chinese scholarship) in a colloquial and easy to read manner is almost astonishing. It is more than readable, you can't put it down. The style, Spence says it is "an autobiographical memoir", draws you into the book and also into the mind of the Emperor. I think I've learnt more about the Emperor Kangxi in these 175 pages than I would if I had read a more detailed historical account. The Emperor's wisdom is deep; buy, read, enjoy and re-read!

Kurzbeschreibung A remarkable re-creation of the life of K'ang-hsi, emperor of the Manchu dynasty from 1661-1772, assembled from documents that survived his reign. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. Kurzbeschreibung A remarkable re-creation of the life of K'ang-hsi, emperor of the Manchu dynasty from 1661-1772, assembled from documents that survived his reign. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. Synopsis A portrait of one of China's greatest rulers, Emperor K'ang-hsi (1661-1722).