



This boy is from the Steppe

by *Lü Tao*

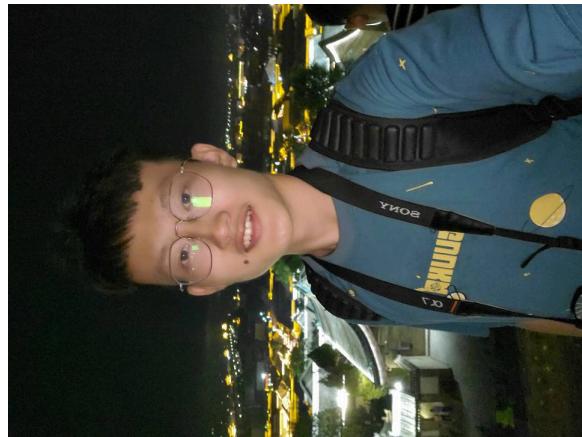
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For You

For auld lang syne



About this book

I'm writing this book to practise LaTeX skills.

'This boy is from the steppe.'

This boy is from the steppe. I've spent most of my childhood in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia. The scene of the steppe in my hometown keeps flashing back in my mind these days. And it inspires me to make this album in memory of my past days. These photographs represent some part of me. To some extent, to read this book is to read about this boy.

It's 20th May. My birthday is just around the corner. Maybe I just want to make a gift myself.

25th May updates. I thought about the meaning of love, purpose of human beings, progress in policy and many and many abstract things. What emerge in my thoughts force me to construct my mind and keep thinking. But I cannot convince myself in the end. Just like an undamped oscillation procedure with a damping of $-\infty$.

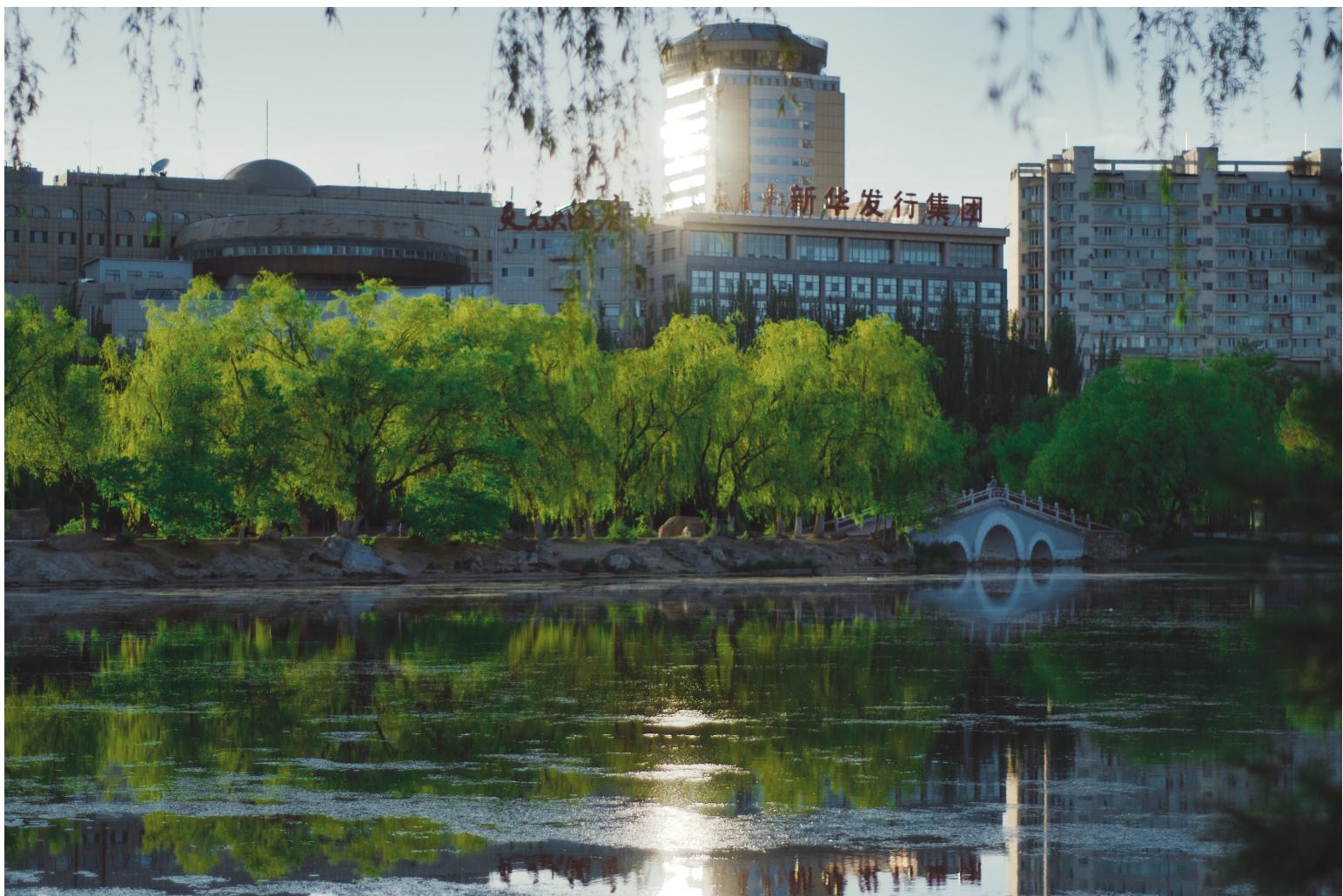
There's a hint of summer in the air.



Culture and Sports Centre It was built in 2019. The park nearby is enormous and is sparsely populated compared with the QingCheng park. It's pretty with numerous flowers in summer.



QingCheng Park It's my most visiting park with flowers in spring, greenery in summer and ice arena in winter.



This is one of small ponds in the park. It feels like silk earlier in the summer.



Most loved branch of Lilac This is my most loved photo when I was a kid. I captured it in 2013 and sent it to my best friends immediately. The splendid tune of color made me fall in love with photograph.



On a late day in May we headed into town to Del's to pick up the chicks,



Next stop was Home Despot, er, Depot. I had the beginnings of a plan in mind for a chicken coop. My idea was to use a dog kennel as a starter coop. HD had some inexpensive dog kennel kits, and I knew that with the galvanized steel I'd have something that could stand up to the rain, sun and termites. I needed something to keep the chickens in, and predators out.



The 6x6x4 kennel seemed about the right size for 6 chickens, which is what I was targeting. My calculations were that six would yield us a decent number of eggs per week. After some reconsideration, we put the

Book Considerations

Solo Photo Book Month (sofobomo.org) is a DIY project to make a photo book in one month. All of the photos must be taken and the book laid out and processed into a PDF in 31 days. This is my second year participating in the event, along with many other photographers all over the world. Last year I did square format B&W, so I was determined to do color and some sort of rectangular format this year. I chose to go all landscape, even though it meant passing on some good verticals I had taken. Also, last year was more of a series of portraits, and this year I was determined to have the book tell more of a story. I struggled to find something that would fit my tight schedule this year when the “chicken project”, which I’d had on the back burner, hit me as a good fit to dovetail with SoFoBoMo.

If you have a comment to share, thoughts on the book, life with chickens, technical info, questions, whatever...drop by

<http://redskiesatnight.com/books/chickens-anyone>

and leave a comment. We’d love to hear from you! There you can also download a PDF version.

For more information about Solo Photo Book Month, visit

<http://sofobomo.org/>

Technical Details

I was really pressed for time to get the book done in the requisite 30 days this year. I threw it together with snapshots taken with a Ricoh GX100 camera. No post processing was done except for some quick levels adjustments in the image editor GIMP. *ImageMagick* was used to batch downsample the images for the web version (144 dpi) or the book version (300 dpi). I designed the book using L^AT_EX (with the wonderful *xetex* and *xdvipdfmx*) for easier adjustments for dead tree publishing. The font used is Garamond. This book was made on Linux.



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