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Saving Face in China Anne- Laure Monfret

BOOK OF THE FORTNIGHT



Xlibris



China is a difficult place to understand, particularly if you're a foreigner. And, perhaps, the most confusing cultural concept to get your head around is that of 'face'. But this

handy tome explains it all – the historical background, the customs and, most importantly, the pitfalls. Through amusing anecdotes, instructions and even quizzes, the Westerner can learn pretty much all there is to know on how to get by in China without 'losing face' or causing someone else to do just that. It could do with a little criticism over some of the more baffling examples of face loss – but, since those customs won't be changed in a hurry, this could prove to be a Bible for some newcomers to the Middle Kingdom. **Matt Fleming**