**Passing Through Shanghai**

**Dedication and Acknowledgements**

**Introduction. Paul’s Experience Growing up on the Move: Combining Ethnographic and Transcultural Approaches in Expatriate Youth Research**

**Part I: Getting Acquainted**

## Expatriates in Shanghai

## Going to School

## Joining Two Peer Groups

## Fieldwork with “the girls:” real ambitions and fake Louboutins

## Fieldwork with “the boys:” repulsive moments and aesthetic jellyfish

## Meeting Individuals: Four Students’ Narratives of the Self

* 1. Antonia: I consider myself Shanghainese, but others see me as a foreigner
  2. Bjorn: Shanghai is the best thing that can happen to you, if you’re a villager
  3. Arnaud: When you are in-between, you can't be the best at anything
  4. Xia: I’d like to be like Einstein, a citizen of the world

## The Common Ground: Capturing the Heterogeneous Experiences of Expatriate Youths

**Part II: Leaving**

## Retrospectives on the Decision to Move

### To move or not to move: the decision-making process

### Family relations and the idea of “best interest”

### Caught in limbo: fearing the next move

## The Emotional Challenges of Moving

**Part III: Arriving**

1. Making Sense of the City
   1. Navigating the city
   2. Sensing the city
   3. Concluding thoughts on managing life in the city
2. Making Home(s): Houses, Belongings, and Belonging

### Gated community living

### Material practices: belongings, food, and family

### (Trans)local ties: theorizing students’ negotiations of home and belonging

### Concluding thoughts on home

1. Community: The Role of International Schools
   1. Shanghai’s Landscape of International Schools
   2. Image and Community
   3. Learning and Living “Expatriateness”
   4. Privilege and Pressure: Youths’ Experiences at School
   5. Concluding Thoughts on “Expatriateness” and the Role of Schools

**Part IV: Living**

## “My Time is Now:” The Role of Age

* 1. Wrong time to move, right time to be there
  2. Future benefits and the art project “My time is now”
  3. Rejecting “old people”—claiming spaces

## Nightlife: Going Out

* 1. Shanghai’s nightlife spaces
  2. Open doors and open bars: negotiating access and parental concern
  3. Practices and transformations: the Friday night routine
  4. Staging youth culture: concluding thoughts on nightlife practices

## The Shop: Hanging Out

* 1. “The shop is our place to chill”
  2. “The shop is not expat:” The shop as an in-between space
  3. “The shop is somewhat like a park:” The shop as an open space and street
  4. Concluding thoughts on the shop

## “Guests Stay Guests:” The Lack of “Local” Friends

* 1. Autonomous and special? The demarcation of the expatriate community
  2. “We don’t fit in:” The gaze of the “other”
  3. Barriers to “integration” or the difficulties of making “Chinese” friends
  4. Youths’ perceptions of local attitudes towards foreigners
  5. Concluding thoughts on the local-expat youth divide in Shanghai

**Part V: Moving On**

1. Goodbyes and Graduation

## Leaving Shanghai

## Celebrating twice: graduation and goodbyes

## Moving on: anticipation and anxieties

* 1. Reflections on leaving Shanghai and what lies ahead

1. New Beginnings and Concluding Thoughts

Appendices

1. Transcription Rules
2. Table of Figures
3. Student Directory
4. Bibliography