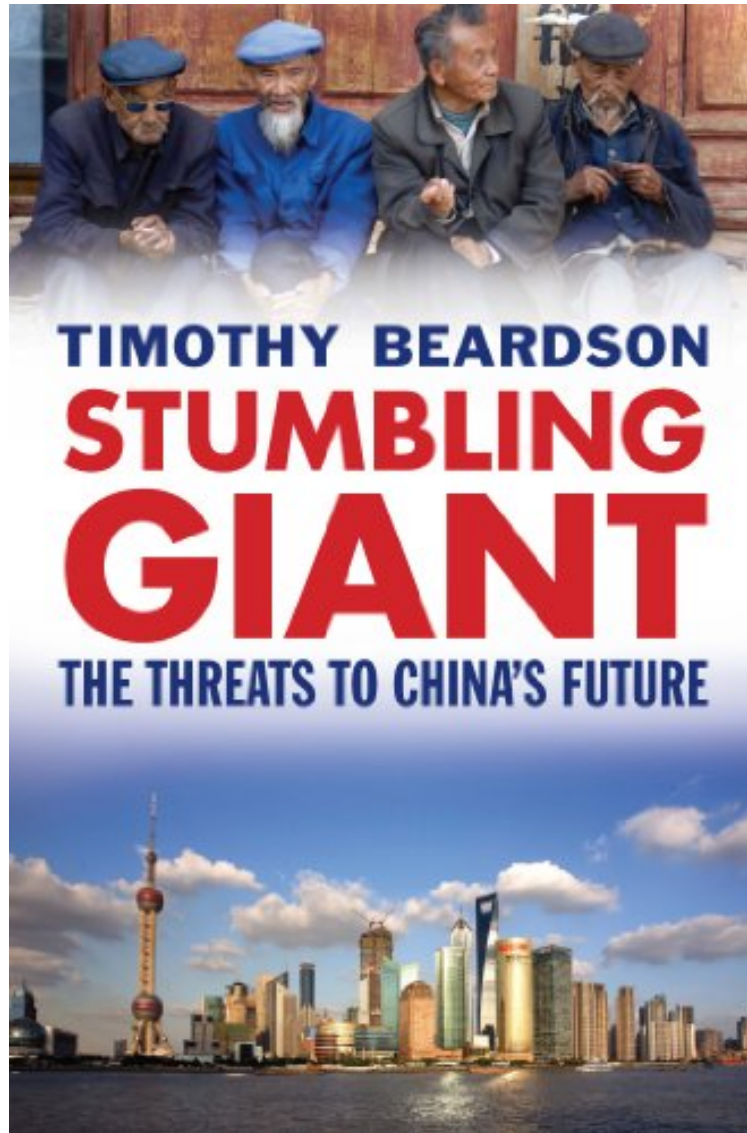


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Stumbling Giant

Timothy Beardson

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Timothy Beardson : Stumbling Giant before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stumbling Giant:

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Exhaustive study of modern ChinaBy WorstcaseA truly scholarly view of modern China. There are three parts: 1. a critical review of China's many present problems; 2. A geopolitical analysis of China in the world;3. A comment on China's future as a superpower. The book is up-to-date and has numerous references (they make up about a third of the Kindle edition). It told me all I wanted to know. Indeed, the geopolitical section was pretty hard going--graduate -school material. Those with economic and cultural interests in

China must read this. 26 of 28 people found the following review helpful. Seeking Truth Through Facts. By Anthony Pettifer. What started as a relatively dry read ended up as a "page turner". A key motive for reading this book was to be better informed for investments. However, I soon discovered Beardson was painting on a far larger and more ambitious canvas. This is not one of those books about doing business in China or of China's impact on business in the rest of the world. It is much more. It is an informed and well researched view about the course of the world in the next ten to twenty years seen through the prism of China's past, present and various possible futures; projecting forward by applying the lessons of history to current economic and social trends (with a cautious investigation of available data). As Beardson makes clear, this book is also a plea from a sympathetic critic for China to do the right thing, for its own good as well as the world's. As one moves through the chapters it is apparent that the author is processing his information with the disciplined mind of both an historian and a financier. The result is complex. He does not pander to his readers with black or white statements (rather he presents in multifaceted Technicolor). He reminds us that selected facts and superficial "spin" is the enemy of true understanding, from whatever side of the world such propaganda comes. He clearly outlines inescapable facts and their implications that today's leaders of China must face, especially demographics. He reminds his readers of Deng Xiaoping's admonition to "Seek truth through facts" and appears in this book honestly to do all he can to live up to that. Many of Beardson's sentences are nuanced, conditional and seem laced with an ironic tone-of-voice. Across the chapters there are repetitions. But, given the author's declared intent to show the multidisciplinary, interconnectedness of his themes this is, I think, deliberate (and also quite useful for a forgetful reader like myself). Reading "Stumbling Giants" is like following the thought processes of a chess grand-master. The author appears in command of multiple pieces (information) and looks at the complex current position and future positions from many possible angles. But this chessboard is not a game: it is the future of the world and of China's place in it. The result is a fascinating read. Finally, when it comes to Beardson's conclusions, he calls it how he sees it and does not pull his punches. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. China is complex and we must learn before we judge the book by the cover.... By Neil McLoughlin. This book is a masterpiece of fact and reality, not fiction! The problem for most professors, undergraduates, post graduates, investment/credit analysts, commercial bankers and consultants is that they read and re-hash the news papers, analytical reports and periodicals which are saturated with bias and ill informed judgemental opinions. The author is using objective analysis, synopsis and distilling a complex history into a readable format. Big corporate management training programs, internal management educational training and the human resources departments should wake up and ensure that any China expansionary expedition should involve real knowledge and cultural understanding. I have spent 35 years in Asia and I am still hungry, fascinated and learning. Such is life! I am not the first to walk the path.....believe me!

While dozens of recent books and articles have predicted the near-certainty of China's rise to global supremacy, this book boldly counters such widely-held assumptions. Timothy Beardson brings to light the daunting array of challenges that today confront China, as well as the inadequacy of the policy responses. Threats to China come on many fronts, Beardson shows, and by their number and sheer weight these problems will thwart any ambition to become the world's "Number One power".

"Timothy Beardson is a brilliant entrepreneur and investment strategist and his observations about China are sobering - and a must-read for the well-informed." (Steve Forbes, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief, Forbes Media) 'A thoughtful reconsideration of China's actual place in the new world order, based on reality rather than fanciful speculation.' (Kirkus s)" About the Author Timothy Beardson founded and ran Crosby Financial Holdings, at the time the largest independent investment bank in the Far East. He is a permanent resident of Hong Kong.