

登上彼岸

Pacific Reflections

方大为 (David J. Firestein)
张爱学 (Zhang Aixue)

著

一个美国外交官看中国
一个中国记者看美国

Essays on Chinese and
American Society and Culture



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在中南海，方大为为美国能源部长澳丽瑞与中国总理李鹏的会谈做翻译。
Firestein interpreting a meeting for U. S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary and Chinese Premier Li Peng at Zhongnanhai.



在人民大会堂，方大为为美国能源部长澳丽瑞与中国副总理邹家华的会见做翻译。

Firestein interpreting a meeting for U. S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary and Chinese Vice Premier Zou Jiahua in the Great Hall of the People.



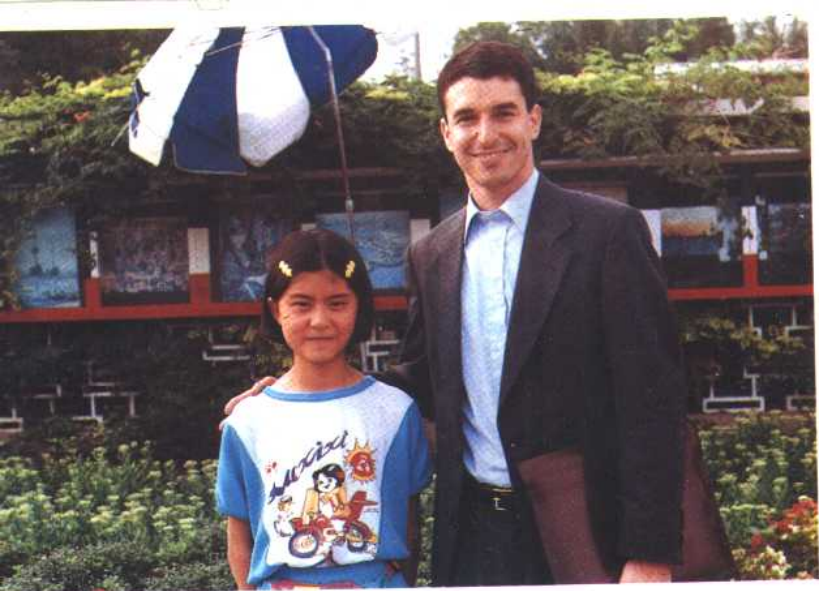
在钓鱼台国宾馆，方大为为美国能源部长澳丽瑞与中国副总理兼外交部长钱其琛做翻译。

Firestein interpreting a meeting for U. S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary and Chinese Foreign Minister and Vice Premier Qian Qichen at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse.



方大为为美国能源部长澳丽瑞和中国外经贸部部长吴仪做翻译。

Firestein interpreting a meeting for U. S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary and Chinese MOFTEC Minister Wu Yi.



“同是父母心”——方大为与李丹合影

“Parents and Kids” — Firestein with Li Dan.



“怀柔小聚”——方大为与朋友铁凝（作家）在怀柔“非政府组织论坛”会议之中。

“Lunch in Huairou” — Firestein with author and friend Tie Ning at the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Forum in Huairou.



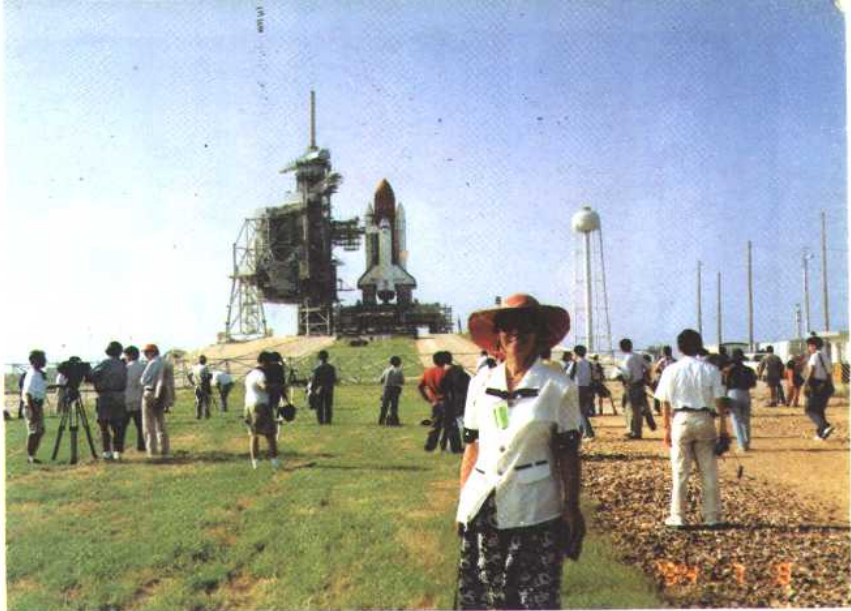
“家常便饭”——方大为与老朋友即他的中国“家”人吴素梅和吴玲。

“An Ordinary Home-Cooked Meal” — Firestein with long-time friends—and Chinese “family” members—Wu Sumei and Wu Ling.



“友谊之声”——方大为与第二届“歌从这方来”主持人马向东。

“Friendly Voices” — Firestein with second annual “Songs from Our Land” co-host Ma Xiangdong.



“人类迈出一大步”——张爱学参观即将发射的“哥伦比亚号”航天飞机。

“A Giant Leap for Mankind”—Zhang observing the launching of the Columbia Space Shuttle.



“儿童通讯社”——张爱学与美国“儿童通讯社”的孩子在一起。

“Children's Express”—Zhang with the children of “Children's Express.”



“热心肠的志愿者”——在美国国庆节，张爱学与志愿者比恩一家在草坪共进晚餐。

“Warm-Hearted Volunteers” —Zhang enjoying a picnic dinner with Mr. Bean and family on American Independence Day.



“弃教务农”——使用着大哥大的农民。

“Leaving the Classroom for the Farm”

—A farmer using a cellular telephone.

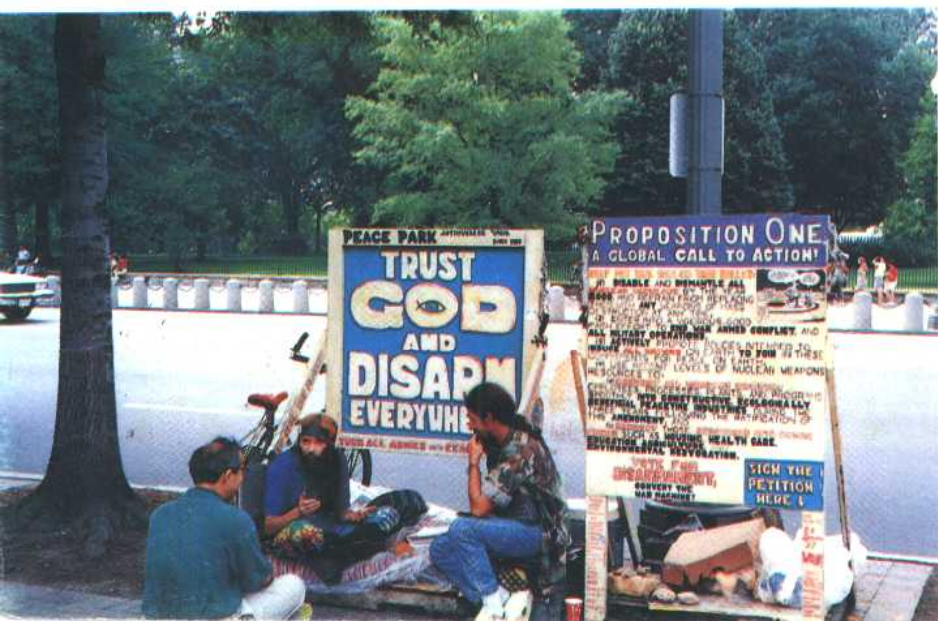


“只留下脚印”——每年七月四日，众多的美国人在华盛顿美国国会前的草坪上欣赏音乐会。

“Footprints Only”—Americans enjoying a concert on the Washington Mall on July Fourth.

“白宫前的抗议者”

“Protesters at the White House”





“垃圾山上的高尔夫球场”——张爱学
与美国 WMX 公司公关部主任孟瑞。

“Golfing on a Mountain of Trash”

—Zhang with Geri of WMX.

“激素无所不在”——张爱学与
格林斯堡市市长艾伦女士。

“This Hormone in Everywhere”

—Zhang with Greensboro Mayor
Carolyn Allen.



桥上的文字

(序 言)

赵 玫

读“大为手记”^①觉得很有意思。因为 David 这个人有意思。他会讲很地道的汉语。他爱中国。很多次来中国,读书或工作。他于是执着于将他的与生俱来的美国式思维融入于中国的文化模式中。他让东西文化碰撞出来的那些思想的火花迸散于他的文字中。他还有很深的感情,对中美两国人民以及对两国的自然万物。他还有很锐敏的思考和很不留情面的批判,而他所有的那些独到的见解又都是源自于他心的深处的那一份关爱。他的愿望是中美人民能世代友好下去。他致力于此,致力于用文字搭建起一座友谊的桥。这是个多么美好的理想。David 便是这样追寻着。他给了我们很多新鲜的观点和知识。很多年轻人喜欢读“大为手记”,包括我的女儿,当然还有我。因为我在他的文字中,读到了很多美国人和中国人的故事。他们的平静而又灿烂的生活。

① 本书作者之一方大为在《北京青年报》英语绿地版中发表的 38 篇文章的栏目名称,即“大为手记”。

01/38/5

读第一篇《墙》。《墙》是开篇，所以它在漫长的“大为手记”中很重要。《墙》文字很短，但却意味深长，让人耳目一新，久久不忘。David 说，美国的大学没有围墙。文化向外伸展着，而不是将知识封闭起来。绿色的草坪将大学校园和社区连接了起来。那是所有渴求知识的人们的共同家园。《墙》令人想到很多，它不仅仅是建筑风格或是教育方式的不同，而且是一种观念，一种沟通的愿望。

David 娓娓道来。我最喜欢的是他充满了情思的那些篇章。譬如他的《归乡》等，那些都是他亲历并为之感动的故事。那是他的生活，也是他的梦想。他的手记使中国的读者了解了一个美国人是怎样对待他身边的生活和怎样怀念那些令他感动的往事的。

在“大为手记”中，我想引起他更多思考的，是对中国的了解。我想 David 已经不单单是站在美国人的立场上来看中国了，而是把自己当作了中国人中的一员。他把自己融入了中国的社会与生活。他是以生活在中国这片大陆的立场上来分析和评点他周围的事物的。他赞美中国人民的友爱和善良，但同时也对一些不尽如人意的社会时弊提出了中肯而锐意的批评。他就是在这个基础上来比较东西文化及观念的异同的。他认为无论是中国的传统还是美国的传统都各有利弊。由此带来观念上的差异。但差异又不是不可调和的，而 David 所作的，就是在这差异中寻求到完美。

同“大为手记”编在一起的，是张爱学女士的 32 篇“微观美国”。如此将美国人看中国和中国人看美国编织在一起，便使这本书产生了一种差异中的美感。因为张女士是记者出身，

于是她的文字便有了很多锐敏的洒脱。她职业的敏感常常使她一下子就看到了社会的本质,那也许就是美国社会的本质。张女士有她自己的眼光,就像 David 有他自己的眼光一样。张女士“微观美国”的另一个特点,是她自己的那开朗的性格跃然纸上,使人在读着张女士的文章时,仿佛能感受到她勇于融入美国社会生活的精神。她的文字为我们勾勒的是一幅幅美国人和美国生活的草图。线条很简洁,而意味却很隽永。

David 和张女士共同做了一件对加强中美友谊很有意义的事情。用他们的心,和他们的文字。他们是架在中美人民之间的一座美丽的桥。那桥正在跨越苍苍茫茫的蓝色的太平洋。

The Writing on the Bridge

(Foreword)

Zhao Mei

I found reading "David's Notes"^① very interesting because David is very interesting. He speaks very colloquial Chinese, and loves China. He's come to China many times to study and work. So he's tried to take his natural-born American style of thinking and incorporate it into the model of Chinese culture. He has enriched his language with those sparks of thought which come from the collision of eastern and western cultures. He also has a very deep feeling for the people and natural environments of America and China. He is very perceptive and critiques unsentimentally; those insights come a genuine concern springing from a place deep in his heart. His hope is that the peoples of the China and the United States can be on friendly terms from generation to generation. He has put a lot of effort into this goal, working

① "David's Notes" is the name of the column in which one of the authors of this book, David Firestein, published 38 articles in the "English Green Section" of the "Beijing Youth Daily".

hard to build with words a bridge of friendship. This is such a beautiful ideal. This is what David seeks. He has given us a lot of fresh ideas and knowledge. Many young people like to read "David's Notes," including my daughter and, of course, me. This is because in his writing, one can read many stories of the American and Chinese peoples, stories of quiet yet brilliant lives.

Take the first article, "Walls." "Walls" was the beginning, so it is very important in the long series of "David's Notes." "Walls" is very short, but its meaning is very deep. It causes a person to hear and see things anew; it's an article that is not soon forgotten. David says that American universities don't have walls, that culture emanates outward; knowledge isn't locked up. Green lawns connect university campuses and the community and the campuses become a common home for all who seek knowledge. "Walls" makes a person think about a lot of things. It's not just about differences in architectural styles or approaches to education. It is about an idea — a desire to communicate.

David has written so much so vividly. The articles I like the most are those he has infused with his own feelings. Take an article such as his "Homecoming." This was his own experience, an experience which moved him. David's articles are filled with his life, and dreams. His writings have helped Chinese understand how an American sees his own

life and his nostalgia for those things which have moved him.

In "David's Notes", I think his understanding of China engendered many of his ideas. I would say that David is no longer just looking at China from an American perspective, but as a Chinese. He has cast himself into Chinese society and life. He analyzes and evaluates his environment from the standpoint of someone who is living on the vast Chinese mainland. He praises the friendliness and kindness of the Chinese people, but at the same time, he fairly and insightfully criticizes some of the less desirable phenomena in Chinese society. And it's on this basis that he compares eastern and western cultures and their conceptual differences. He believes that Chinese traditions and American traditions each have their advantages and disadvantages. This is what produces the conceptual differences. But the differences aren't irreconcilable. What David has done is find the beauty in the differences.

Along with "David's Notes" are thirty-two articles by Ms. Zhang Aixue, "Looking at America." Putting together an American looking at China and a Chinese looking at America has resulted in a sense of the beauty of the differences between the two countries. Because Ms. Zhang is a journalist, her writing is full of perceptive observations. Her professional sensitivity often allowed her to see right to the