

Beijing By-talk

张本瀛 著 李有光 译 胡伟雄 金 菊 校 Written by Zhang Benying Translated by Li Youguang Proofread by Hu Weixiong, Jin Ju

中国建筑工业出版社 CHINA ARCHITECTURE & BUILDING PRESS

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

北京杂谈/张本瀛著. 一北京:中国建筑工业出版社, 2006

(老北京的故事)

ISBN 978-7-112-08794-5

I.北... Ⅱ.张... Ⅲ.北京市—概况 IV.K921

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2006) 第 116871 号

责任编辑:张幼平 责任校对:梁珊珊

老北京的故事 THE OLD STORY OF BEIJING

北京杂谈 Beijing By-talk

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中国建筑工业出版社 出版、发行(北京西郊百万庄) 各地新华书店、建筑书店经销 北京方舟正佳图文设计有限公司制版 北京 中 科 印 刷 有 限 公 司 印 刷

开本: 880 × 1230 毫米 1/32

印张: 6 字数: 228 千字

版次: 2008年3月第一版

印次: 2008年3月第一次印刷

印数: 2500 册

定价: 39.00元

ISBN 978-7-112-08794-5

(15458)

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作者简介

张本瀛,北京作家协会会员,自由撰稿人。自20世纪70年代末 开始,利用业余时间从事文学创作,曾先后在全国多家报刊、杂 志上发表作品。90年代开始京味文化的搜集、考察、归纳,十 几年来在京城内外数十家媒体上陆续发表了近300余篇反映古今 北京民俗礼仪、旧京生活、传说故事、市井文化、皇家园林、名 人故居、宗教信仰、曲艺及演艺等方面的文章。

About the Author

Zhang Benying, a famous writer and free copywriter in Beijing, have delivered many articles in journals and newspapers in his part time from 1970s. Then in 1990s, he focused his mind on the Beijing culture research. After collecting information, investigating in nature for years, he wrote more than 300 articles which involved the customs, the past life, the fabulous story, civil culture, imperial garden, the residence of celebrity, religion, Peking Opera and Perfomings, etc.

《老北京的故事》丛书以经典建筑、名人踪迹以及旧日风俗为线索,在那些承载过去时代信息,如今或为世人瞩目,或者淡出人们视线的建筑痕迹之中寻觅人文与历史,委婉的文字中间展示的是专属于古都北京的风情。

- 京城内外
- 名人寻踪
- 北京杂谈

The series of the Old Story of Beijing traces the social celebrities, the classical buildings and the lost customs in old Beijing, and clarifies the humane and historical signification of all these relics in smooth words.

- · Travel In the Ancient Capital
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摄影: 康智敏 阴闻霆 李 峰 初宗纲 王建华 张国瑞 李明德 金 菊 张永俊 Photographer:

Kang Zhimin Yin Wenting Li Feng Chu Zonggang Wang Jianhua Zhang Guorui Li Mingde Jin Ju Zhang Yongjun

Beijing By-talk

张本瀛 著 李有光 译 胡伟雄 金 菊 校 Written by Zhang Benying Translated by Li Youguang Proofread by Hu Weixiong, Jin Ju 舒济

我的几位小友,恕我这样称呼他们。"小"是因为他们都是1950年以后出生的,都比我小上二三十岁,现在都风华正茂,个个有着一个不大不小的职务,负着一定的责任。他们在各自的岗位上,都工作得不错,业余爱好,又都酷爱研究老北京。老北京的"老",在我心里衡量的标准,至少是有城门城墙的北京。这几位小友,虽没在中华人民共和国成立前生活过,可是不知怎地,他们爱这座大城市中的"老"味儿到了痴迷的程度。业余时间,他们会钻天觅缝地查找旧书本、旧报刊,走访在世的当事人、里手、行家,实地调查;他们肯花钱买自己需要的、喜爱的老玩意儿,多方面地细致了解,认真体味过去,在自己心里营造出"立体"、"真实"的老北京。这样日积月累地增长知识,陶冶了情趣,提高了鉴赏能力,从中得到快乐与满足,使生活过得挺充实,挺有品位。

这几位小友,也是老舍迷。他们熟读过老舍先生的文学作品。对老舍先生本人的事也知道得挺多。谈起老舍先生来,会滔滔不绝,如数家珍。更有甚者,被老舍先生的文学语言感染得手也发痒,动笔写了起来。小友们无论写老北京的人物、事件、地理风情的文章小段,还是改编老舍先生的小说和其他文学形式,都能以北京腔,写出特有的幽默。它们延续着一种老北京特有的文化品格,为当今社会增添着

属于北京应有的文化色彩。

老舍先生在他的抗战话剧《大地龙蛇》序中写道:"一人群单位,有它古往今来的精神的与物质的生活方式;假若我们把这方式叫作文化,则教育、伦理、礼仪,与衣食住行,都在其中,所蕴甚广,而且变化多端。"并说:"文化亡,必系奴隶。"在当今社会中像他们这样的中青年人并不多,可是他们的爱好,他们的写作,却是社会发展所需要的。旧的东西经过选择、淘汰,在新的社会环境中,用现在的眼光审视再现,就会使美好的文化遗产驻留人间。

张本瀛等几位小友的努力,得到了人们的肯定与尊重。他们利用业余时间写了这套有关"老北京"文化的丛书,其中的每一篇文章都在过去与现在之间穿梭,新的旧的相互交融,让你能看得见、抠得出、闻得着老北京的味儿,从中感觉到北京的美意。虽然文中的个别枝节,可能缺乏更为严格的考证,但这并不影响此套书所要传达出的那种色调和情意。我们品尝美味佳肴,不是讲究色、香、味吗?这套丛书是不是让您也可以品尝一下老北京的色、香、味?

(注: 舒济老师是已故著名京味文学家老舍先生的长女, 现为老舍纪念馆馆长)

Preface

My several "little friends" (please forgive me to call them this way, the reason is they were all born after 1950 and are twenty to thirty years younger than me) are in their best age now, and they all have some titles. They work pretty well and they also love doing research about old Beijing. Old Beijing, for me, refers to the Beijing with the gate and the wall. These little friends, nobody knows why, are crazy about the "old" charm of old Beijing although they never have life experiences in the period before the People's Republic of China founded. In spare time, they look for old books and old periodicals everywhere; they visit alive parties and professionals, and do the fieldwork. They would like to spend money to buy some old things they need and like, so that they can get to know the past from many aspects. As a result, a dimensional and true old Beijing is built up in their own mind. Through these experiences, not only has their knowledge increased but also their appeal and ability to appreciate have been improved. Moreover, they get happiness and satisfaction from it, so their lives are more rich and high-standard.

These little friends are also Lao She's fans. They know Lao She's literature very well, and know about himself as well. When they talk about Mr. Lao She, they can never stop, just like counting their family treasures. Some people are even influenced by the language of Lao She's articles that they have started their own writing. The article segments they wrote might be individual, event, or local condition and custom, might be novel that adapted from Lao She's works or might be articles in other genres. No matter what kind of articles they are, they all keep a typical humor by using Beijing language, which make the Beijing culture characteristics continuing, and also

add more culture factors to the modern society that Beijing should has.

In the drama Dragon and Snake on the Earth which is about the War Against Japanese, Mr. Lao She wrote, "Every group of people have their own living way on spirit and substance aspects. If we call this culture, nearly everything including education, ethics, and proprieties are included in the culture. The extension of culture is very wide and changeable." He also said. "When culture is dead, our nation must be slaves." In the present society, there are few such middle aged people, but their hobbies and their writings are needed for the development of the society. The old things remained after selection and elimination will keep the wonderful culture legacy in the world forever when they are reviewed in the present view in the new society environment.

The efforts these little friends have made

get confirmed and gain respect. They have written a set of books about "old Beijing" in their spare time. When you read their articles, you will go through past and present, and find new things through old things. You can see, feel, and taste the old Beijing, so that you can feel the goodness of Beijing and be proud of it. Although a few details in the books lack more well-knit proof, it won't influence the keynote and emotion these books have expressed. When we taste a delicious meal, we care about the color, smell, and flavor, don't we? When you read this set of books, is it true that you can also taste the color, smell, and flavor of old Beijing?

Shu Ji

(The Elder Daughter of Famous Writer Lao She)

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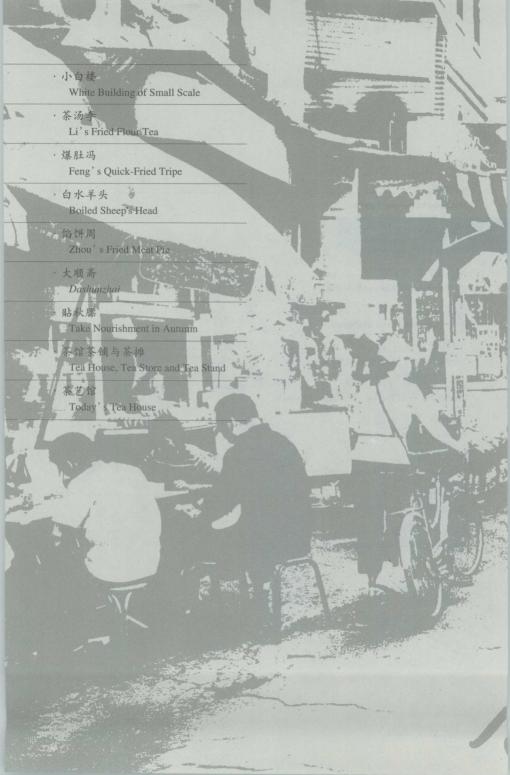
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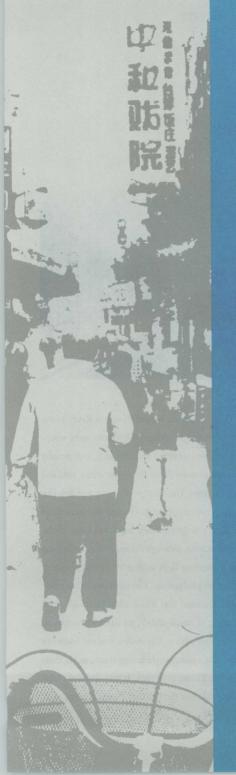
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Snack and Tea

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小白楼

White Building of Small Scale



□ 通惠河中的仿古船 The Archaized Ship in Tonghui River

几十年前,北京京东通惠河的两岸,垂柳弯弯,曲折纵横的水塘与河流相依。塘内是成片的灌木、茂密的芦苇、地毯似的厚厚水草。水美当然鱼肥,鲤鱼、草鱼、鲇鱼、鲫鱼、黑鱼等都个大肉鲜。

那时北京至通州间的路还是砂石铺就,虽坑坑洼洼,却格外繁华。这里最吸引人就是"小白楼",一个清真饭铺。所谓"小白楼"其实并不是纯白色,实际上是清一色的灰砖、灰瓦砌制成的一所坐北朝南的四合院,位于通惠河岸边的十字路口。门楼儿附近有两棵百年老榆树,遮天蔽日罩住整所院落,院内宽敞明亮,收拾得干净利落,正房及东西厢房的老式家具摆放错落有致。踏进这

There is a river named Tonghui River in the east of Beijing, along which there were weeping willows several decades ago, and nearby there were many pools filled with shrub, reed and aquatic grass. The water was so rich that fish like carp, grass carp, catfish, crucian and snakehead were very large and their meat was quite fresh.

At that time, although the road between Beijing and Tongzhou built with gravels was rough, it was quite prosperous. The most attracting place along the road was *Xiaobailou* (a small white building of small scale), an islamic restaurant. As a matter of fact, *Xiaobailou* was not white but grey. It's a quadrangle facing south, made from grey bricks and grey tiles. It was situated at the crossroad near the bank of Tonghui river with

北京杂族

所院落,立刻有人热情打招呼,如沐春风。店老板姓马,慈眉善目,常年戴一顶黑缎子面的瓜皮帽儿,媳妇年轻俊俏,持家有道。最早是马掌柜的爷爷在这块宝地开门立户,信守和气生财,生意一直十分火爆。来"小白楼"的并不都是平民百姓,很多名流显贵也是这里的常客。"京东小白楼"烫金牌就是梁启超先生的墨宝。冬去春来,寒消暑往,"小白楼"就成了京城推杯问盏、谈古论今的"名楼"。

这里每天门庭若市,周围风景如画,店家古道热肠固然重要,关键还是这儿的拿手名菜——"红烧鲇鱼"。这道菜为何叫响京城?说来话长,不过它的成名,从根儿上起,是马掌柜祖上三代潜心琢磨的结果。首先在选料方面,必须严格精选重量为一斤半大小,而且一定是从通惠河现打捞上来的鲜活鲇鱼,并要现场宰杀,去鳞、去五脏,然后在鱼身上切若干个小口儿,撤上少许盐先腌制半个钟头左右,提前进味儿。一切准备完毕后,



□ 位于通惠河岸边的佛舍利塔 Tower Beside Tonghui River

two old elms nearby. The whole yard was shady, spacious and clean, and rooms were decorated with Chinese traditional furniture. When guests arrived there, they would feel at ease. The keeper and chef was a middle-aged man with the last name Ma, who wore a dark skullcap throughout a year. This restaurant was founded by Ma's grandfather and had been always filled with consumers from common people to celebrities and aristocrats. And the restaurant's brand, Xiaobailou in the East of Beijing, was, Mr. Liang Qichao's calligraphy. Mr. Liang Qichao was a Chinese scholar, journalist, philosopher and reformist from Qing Dynasty (1644 -1911) to the early of the Republic of China(1911-1949), who inspired Chinese scholars with his writings and reform movements. As the time went on, Xiaobailou had become a famous building where people could enjoy delicious food and talk freely.

Everyday, the restaurant was filled with guests because of the beautiful surroundings, warm service and above all, the well-known dish: Braised Catfish with Brown Sauce. It had been developed by three generations from Ma's grandfather. Here's the procedure to make it.

First, choose catfish. The proper fish is about 750 grams and must be just taken from Tonghui River. Kill the fish on the spot, scale and remove the harslet, make several cuts on the body of the fish. Then, sprinkle salt on the fish and wait for half an hour. When everything is ready, the fish can be fried. But how about the temperature of the oil? It's OK just when the fish is put in, the oil splash and a fireball forms. At last, sauce, vinegar, shallot, ginger, garlic, anise, orange peel, wine and other