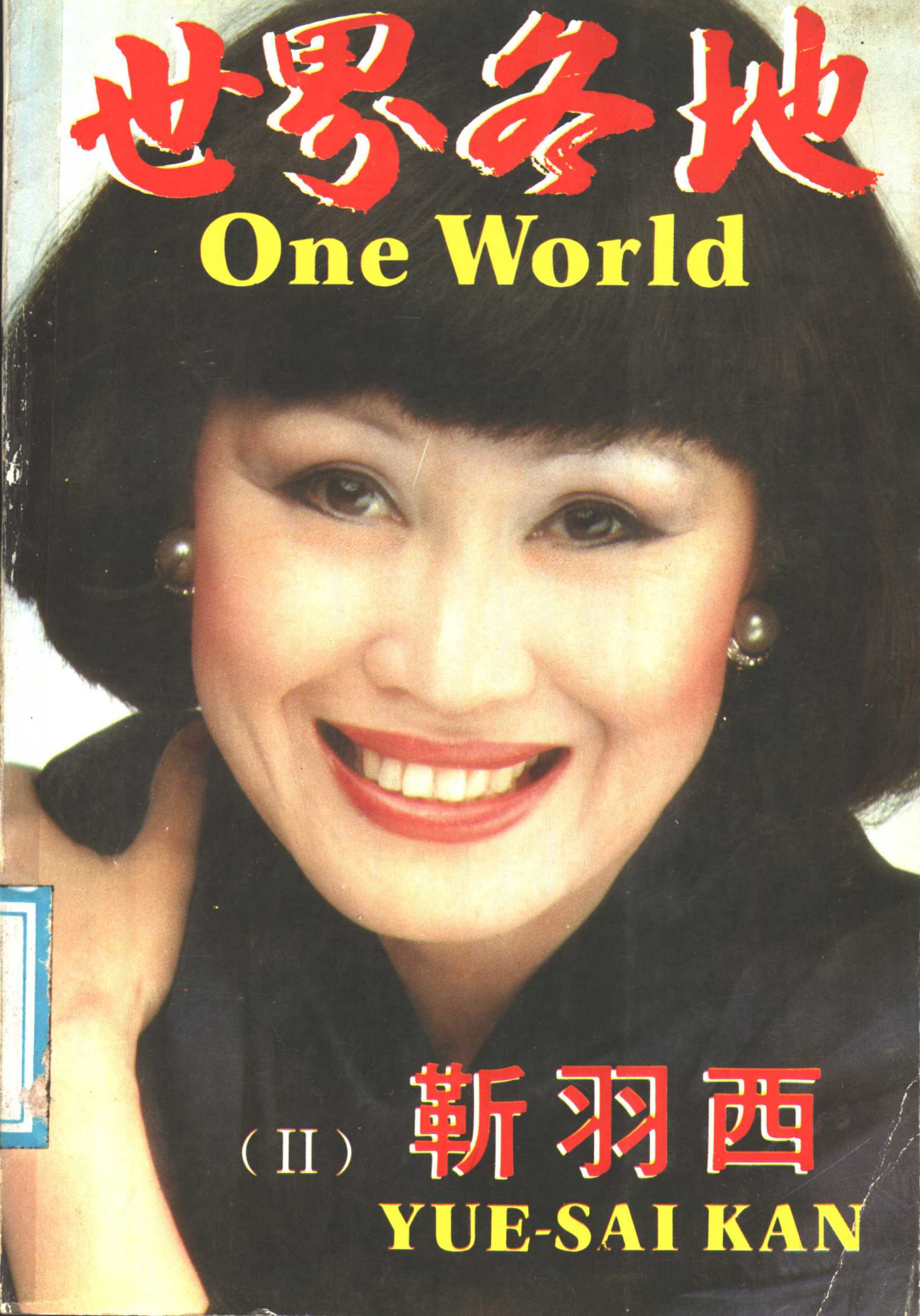


# 世界各地

## One World



(II) 靳羽西

YUE-SAI KAN

**世 界 各 地**  
**( II )**

靳 羽 西

熊猫丛书

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# **ONE WORLD**

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**Yue-Sai Kan**



**Panda Books**

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## 25      **BASEBALL**

Baseball is the national game of America, and during the season fans go wild with excitement. Sometimes, 50,000 people jam into a stadium roaring with excitement cheering every play. When they are displeased with a play, 50,000 people roaring with disapproval can be an awesome sound. I wanted to do a story on this sport because it is a game in which Asians also excel. The Japanese, Koreans and Taiwanese have long been known for their great love and skill in baseball. I firmly believe that, one day, the game will be as popular on the Chinese mainland as it is in Taiwan and Japan.

I myself know embarrassingly little about baseball and that's why this show is produced by one of my male producers who grew up in love with bats and balls and bases.

The legendary American actor Danny Kaye introduced me to Mr. Peter O'Malley, owner of the popular baseball team known as the Dodgers. Mr. O'Malley is one of the most successful owners of a professional baseball team and he is also one of the nicest people in the business — in ANY business! He came to my attention first when he donated a baseball stadium to Tianjin. He's respected by everyone who works with or for, him and his company, in a recent survey, was listed as one of the 100 best companies to work for in America.

You'll meet Dodger manager Tommy LaSorda in this show; he's been manager of the team since 1977 and is funny as well as charming.

"This is an organization with a heart," he says. "The people who run it make those who work for it feel appreciated and very much a part of it." LaSorda then told us how former Dodger catcher Roy Campanella was assured of a lifetime job even after he was paralyzed by an auto accident.

A little known story of Dodger kindness is this: Several years ago, ex Dodger pitcher Don Newcombe was having problems with alcoholism. He pawned his treasured 1955 World Series ring at a shop in downtown Los Angeles. Somehow, O'Malley heard about it. He went to the pawnshop, redeemed the ring and gave it to Newcombe saying it was a present for the pitcher's son upon his eighteenth birthday. O'Malley followed up this gesture with even more special niceness: He gave Newcombe a job as director of community relations. With such trust in him, Newcombe rose to the occasion and fared well.

Many people find the Dodger Stadium in California one of the principal attractions of the game. The team spent \$1 million to landscape the area, planting olive and palm trees in the parking lots and a Japanese garden plunk in the middle of center field!

This colorful team leads both leagues in attendance almost every year. It boasts of 27,000 season ticket holders and, five times in a row, 3 million fans have showed up each year: no other team can claim that distinction. In fact, in 1982, only 6 of the 26 major league teams were estimated to have made any profit at all and none made more than \$1.5 million that year.

Except for the Dodgers. They are estimated to have cleared a cool and classy \$7 million.

Go Dodgers!

I've decided to become a fan.



There's a saying in America that mom, apple pie and baseball are the most important aspects of life in the United States.

Hello, I'm Yue-Sai Kan. Welcome to ONE WORLD.

This is professional baseball. Almost 50 million people attended games in stadiums like this one last year. Americans have been attending baseball games, like the one here tonight, for over a century. They cheer their favorite teams. This team is known as the Dodgers and they are the most popular team in America.

(Music — “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” Song)

“Take me out to the ballgame,

Take me out to the crowd.

Buy me some peanuts and crackerjack,

I don't care if I never get back.

For we'll root, root, root for the home team,

If they don't win it's a shame.

Cause it's one, two, three strike — you're out

At the old ballgame.”

The game of baseball is one the most time-honored institutions in America. There are 26 teams in professional baseball. Each is affiliated with a different major American or Canadian city, and each is popular with its own fans.

Tonight, the New York “Metropolitans”, or “Mets”, are opposing the Los Angeles “Dodgers”. Once a New York team themselves, the Dodgers relocated to Los Angeles over thirty years ago. This makes for fierce rivalry between these two teams. Tonight the Dodgers will play in their own home town stadium in Los Angeles. And it's a sellout; all 56,000 seats on

five seating levels have been sold months in advance. The stadium they play in is a city landmark. It is located on over 300 acres. More than 16,000 cars can park here in twenty-one different parking lots. Peter O'Malley owns the Dodgers.

YSK: Please highlight for me the history of the Dodgers.

Mr. O'Malley: The Dodgers have been in California since 1958. Prior to that we were in Brooklyn, New York for many, many years. The stadium we had was too small, and it was difficult for the people to be accommodated there, so we moved the team to Southern California in 1958. We built Dodger Stadium, and we've been here ever since.

Narration: The exact roots of the game of baseball have long baffled historians. The game as it is known today, however, took its form in America almost 150 years ago. In the beginning it was very informal. Now it is extremely organized and large in scale. True it is a game, but it is also a very big business. Fans pay between \$2 and \$6 per ticket. In addition, teams sell food, souvenirs, and other paraphernalia.

The Dodgers alone employ hundreds of people in various capacities throughout the organization. Many of the employees have been with the team all their lives.

YSK: When we talk about baseball we talk about it as a sport. But there is also the business side of it.

Mr. O'Malley: Well, we sell tickets to the game, and the players are paid high salaries. Our games are on radio and television. We have expenses, and the income must cover those expenses. Fortunately, it is a profitable business and it's a very big success. We attract about 3 million fans a year here to Dodger Stadium — that's a lot of people. The biggest source of our revenue comes from the sale of tickets; the second most important source of revenue would be from sale of the television rights. Usually we will have anywhere from 5 million

to 10 million people watching the telecast of a Dodgers' baseball game.

Narration: Each team has 24 players available but only 9 play at one time. A portion of the field is diamond-shaped. There are a total of four bases, one at each corner of the diamond. The teams take turns at offense and defense.

The offensive team is trying to make contact with the ball using a wood stick, or "bat". This young man, who immigrated to the United States from Taiwan, supervises the many bats owned by the Dodgers. He is a batboy.

YSK: Well, the bat is a stick, right?

Batboy: It's a stick, right. The main thing I do usually is — the bat that they hit the ball with — after they make a hit they run to first base, and the bat is left at home plate. So we're supposed to go up there and get it.

YSK: ... and pick it up?

Batboy: Pick it up and bring it back to the dugout.

YSK: This is the bat?

Batboy: This is the bat; it's made of, I believe, white ash. Every player has his own specifications: how long, what weight — and they have their names on them.

Narration: The player, using the bat, will hit the ball and then run from base to base until the opposing team has the ball in hand. The offensive team's goal is to complete 4 bases. Each time a player does so, that team scores one point or "run".

The defensive team's goal is to catch the ball before it touches the ground or touch the player with the ball before he reaches the base. When they do it three times it will be their turn at offense.

Each team has 9 opportunities at offense and defense. At the end of that time the team with the most points, or "runs", is declared the winner.

Announcer: The squeeze is down. He's gonna score; the ball is fair — it stays fair. Dodgers win 4 to 3. Over 50,000 here tonight, and Bill Russell lays down the expected squeeze.

Narration: As Manager Tommy Lasorda explains to me, baseball has its own unique language. This area, where the team sits, is a "dugout". The place where a player waits his turn to hit the ball is called the "on deck" circle. The men who regulate fair play are termed "umpires". And this area where hundreds of journalists report on the progress of a game is known as a "press box".

The most famous of baseball commentators is Vin Scully, who has been the voice of the Dodgers on radio and television for many years. Millions of Americans know him and his annual salary is said to be 1.2 million dollars.

Scully (announcing): 8 to 4 in favor of the Mets. We're at the bottom of the 8th inning. McDowell comes back and works a sinker outside. Ball 2 — 2 and 0.

Scully: Well, I've been fortunate. I've been with the Dodgers for 37 years, and although you are in the public eye and you pay some price, the enjoyment has been immense. I've loved every minute of it. And I've really been privileged to tag along — to hold on and watch them play.

Scully (announcing): One/two pitch — Marshall swings, misses ... and down he goes.

Narration: The baseball season lasts from April through October, and almost every game is televised, making baseball the most watched spectator sport in America. This emphasis and the fact that Americans have a tradition of idolizing the men who play the game, make some of the players superheroes who are held in very high regard.

Mr. O'Malley: I don't think we create them, I think that their good performance and their friendliness to the fans — all

that adds up to the appeal they have — so that the youngsters ask them for an autograph or ask the players to stop and have their picture taken. They're very popular.

LaSorda: Let's show you the clubhouse.

Narration: Although the Dodgers are in L.A., it is truly an international team. There are members of the organization from European countries, from Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Australia, and of course, all over the United States.

LaSorda: This is Jerry Royce. Jerry, this is Yue-Sai; we're doing a little show here for the baseball fans in China.

Jerry: Hello, nice to meet you.

YSK: Hello; you're very tall.

Jerry: Thank you ... I am very tall. Is this your audience, right here?

YSK: Yes.

Jerry: Hi. How are you?

LaSorda: Up until this moment, nobody in China ever knew Kenny Howe. Now 300 million people are gonna know you.

Kenny: Thank you.

YSK: You want to say (Mandarin)

Kenny: (repeats Mandarin)

Player: (repeats same Mandarin)

Announcer: He's got it.

Narration: The Dodgers have always employed some of the most talented and famous players. This has helped them to win 5 national championships!

Baseball is very popular in many Asian countries, especially Japan, where a homerun is celebrated with fireworks.

Scully: Baseball is played well in the Asian countries

because it is not a game that demands height; it is not a game that demands bulk; it is not a game that demands tremendous strength. Baseball demands speed, agility, good eye/hand coordination — the Asians have that, and it will succeed because of all the ability over there.

Narration: Peter O'Malley is very supportive of baseball as an international sport.

In 1984, as the United States hosted the Olympic Games, the Dodger Organization sponsored an international competition. Many countries sent teams to participate. In 1985 two Dodger representatives went to China to offer advice on baseball, and Chinese coaches came to the United States where they were guests of the Dodgers Organization at Spring Training Camp in Florida. Peter O'Malley has hope that one day the game will be as popular in China as it is in America today.

O'Malley: Now that it's inevitable that baseball will become an official Olympic sport; we will see baseball grow all over the world and, particularly, in China.

YSK: You're building a field in China. Tell us something about that.

O'Malley: Well, that's something ... I'm very proud of that. I thought that if there was a baseball field in China that would be used, it would be a great way to get baseball really started in China. So last fall we selected a site in Tianjin at the Physical and Cultural Institute. And today, the field is being cleared, it's being constructed, and it will open in August of 1986.

Narration: Every year the teams play 162 games each, not counting exhibition or championship games. Right now, the Dodgers are winning this one.

Announcer: Strawberry gets it back in and Gregg Brock is

coming up.

Narration: The crowd has followed the game on a huge scoreboard. They also enjoy a giant television screen which features messages as well as repeating some of the more exciting moments of the game. It is all controlled from inside this room with the use of sophisticated video machinery. Today, the Dodgers have a message for us!

It's exciting to be at a baseball game — cheering the team, singing, watching the happenings on the huge scoreboard. Eating and drinking are all part of the experience. What does one eat at a baseball game? Well, strictly American fare — hot dogs, peanuts, popcorn. It is called “fast food” — quick and disposable like so many things American. Well, that's our show for today. I'm Yue-Sai Kan, from Dodger Stadium, for ONE WORLD.

## 26      **BRAZIL — BAHIA**

Salvador, Bahia wasn't even a confirmed item on the Brazilian shooting schedule until about a week before we left New York. It was the only part of the trip which wasn't arranged through the Brazilian Embassy (in Washington, D.C.) in conjunction with Embratur (the Brazil national tourist organization), but rather separately through the Brazilian Governmental Trade Bureau here in New York. So, there was a little confusion, prior to our arrival, as to who would actually be our main contact in Bahia. We eventually wound up with 2 guides and 2 vans instead of the customary one for an extremely enterprising 2-day shoot which resulted in a nice show delving into African influences in Brazilian culture and society.

Our producer on this segment, Nicole Fauteux, even learned some Portugese as she excitedly anticipated our trip and she found that she used it more than she dreamed she would. Very few people speak English in Bahia. Customarily, the producer scouts out the location and interviews about 4 days before the crew arrives to smooth our way. This is her account of those days:

"I was overwhelmed by the Bahian people from the moment I arrived — that's how warm and friendly everyone was. Still, I knew that this city had mysteries to penetrate and that would be a challenge. To begin, I observed that religion played a huge part here but my tour guide seemed embarrassed



when I questioned her about the ritualistic 'Condomble', an African fundamental religion with Brazilian features. He mumbled that yes, some people practised it but not the educated people — like he. I persisted. Bahia was famous for its 'mae de santos' or high priestess; didn't he know a high priestess we could film? He did.

We drove to the poor side of town and climbed a steep hill in one of Bahia's impoverished neighborhoods. People and animals blocked the streets and donkeys hauled their wares, weaving in between cars and wagons. At the end of a road sat a small, bright green house with no name or marker; only those who are aware of a 'holy place' can find it. Here lived and practised Madame Gilu, a host of patients consulting her daily on their spiritual ills.

Who knows whether what she does works? She was at least ninety and certainly comforted those who came to her for help. My purpose was to report — not judge her healing or prescient powers. I liked her! She read my shells which is a practice akin to palm-reading and she said 'your way is clear'.

Terrific! I could have whatever I wanted — no obstacles. This was too good to be true for in a moment I would ask her to let me film her so that we could share her secrets with you.

That did it. Her mood became black, her face grim. Cameras, she muttered, would destroy the holiness of her home. No problem: we could film her elsewhere. No luck. She was immovable. So much for my clear way.

Madame Gilu's attitude towards television turned out to be shared by the whole city's religious leaders. I was plainly worried; how could we do a show about Bahia and ignore Condomble?

Only one way. The city was home to a handful of Condomble practitioners who earn their living by performing