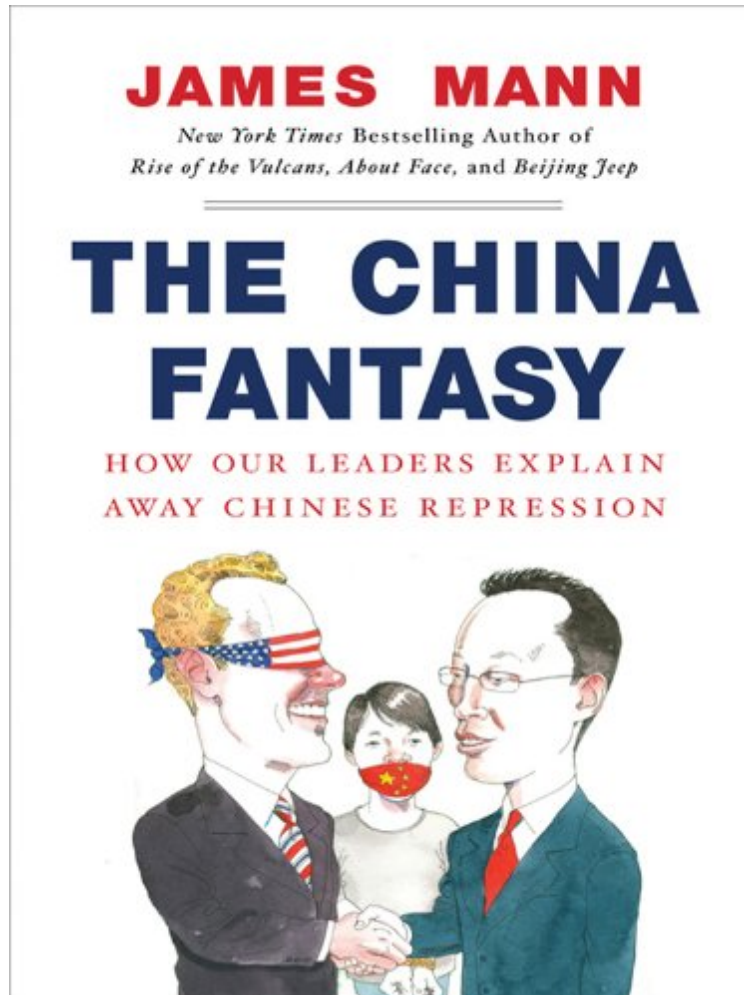


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# The China Fantasy: Why Capitalism Will Not Bring Democracy to China

James Mann

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**James Mann : The China Fantasy: Why Capitalism Will Not Bring Democracy to China** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The China Fantasy: Why Capitalism Will Not Bring Democracy to China:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dated, A Bit Cursory -- But Still a Must Read By JoeOver 10 years after publication, Mann's "Third Scenario" is looking like reality today. China's hegemonic, Leninist party rule is strong as ever, the crush of any dissent as fierce, and any hope for democracy or human rights is absent. America's passion for democracy and human rights has been supplanted by a lust for profit, and China's strategic vision has enabled them to play decades of American leaders like a violin. Only 4 stars, though, because -- besides being dated (his predictions about post-2008 Olympics were quite accurate!), it's more a Readers Digest version of history and events. The 4 stars are earned for simply being one of the few to acknowledge and report on this tragedy. 4 of 4 people

found the following review helpful. stretched out magazine article, but some excellent information

By westwind  
I have read over a dozen books on China recently, and Mann goes into detail on one important aspect that no one else mentions: how our own government officials are being bought out and corrupted by China. He names names and dollar figures on the many American political leaders who have left office and gone directly onto the payroll of China as 'consultants' paid to use their US govt contacts to made introductions. No wonder our government is unwilling to take action re China's hold on our Treasury Bills and economy as a strategic threat or do something about all their predatory economic practices. For example, their economic miracle is based on undercutting the prices of their competition - but China has falsely set their currency exchange rate below actual market values. We complain and do nothing. Why? Could it be because every China expert in the State department retires and becomes a consultant in the pay of China? Some famous names who now work for China as 'consultants' - Kissinger, Madeleine Albright, Clinton's national security advisor Sandy Berger, William Cohen (Clinton's defense secretary), Republican Carla Hills (the US Trade Rep), REpublican Brent Snowcroft (national security advisor to Bush senior). Other than this very interesting insight, I found Mann is a lazy researcher and this books largely reads like a padded magazine article. He tends to make assertions without going into the facts in enough detail to make them persuasive -even when he is correct. For example, he mentions China's harmful role in international politics, but doesn't give the actual stories - that they are the suppliers of missile technology to Iran for example, and are aggressively pursuing oil stakes in the Middle East by arming every despotic regime that more responsible nations are shunning. If the thesis of China becoming neither democractic nor falling apart interests you, there is a highly intelligent in-depth analysis called China's Trapped Transition. The Limits of Developmental Autocracy.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.  
eye opening book about Western perceptions of China  
By Philip Beck  
The observations made in this 2007 book are even more relevant in today's China. By all appearances, China is in fact not moving towards democracy, even as its economy has advanced and its wealth greatly increased. I particularly appreciate the point that the growing urban middle class is not receptive to democracy because they are simply outnumbered by the huge ranks of rural poor, and would stand to lose their privileges in any nationwide free elections. Therefore the Starbucks-sipping urban elite, far from demanding political reform, are becoming a new base of support for the regime. I've lived in China 3+ years and find most of Mann's points to be spot on - highly recommended.

The New York Times bestselling author of Rise of the Vulcans blasts America's policy regarding the world's most populous country

One of our most perceptive China experts, James Mann has penned a vital wake-up call to all who are ignorant of America's true relationship with the Asian giant. Our leaders may posit a China drawn to increasing liberalization through the power of the free market, but Mann asks us to consider a very real alternative: What if China's economy continues to expand but its government remains as dismissive of democracy and human rights as it is now? Calling for an end to the current policy of overlooking China's abuses for the sake of business opportunities, Mann presents a must-read book for anyone interested in global affairs.