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How to Ride a Train to Ulaanbaatar and Other Essays

Josephine V. Roque

Keyline

A solo female traveler navigates the world and discovers that freedom is possible.

Description

How to Ride a Train to Ulaanbaatar and Other Essays is a coming-of-age story of a woman who leaves home to work in Shanghai following the death of her mother. In a collection of ten travel essays, she writes about living in another culture to learn another language and the experiences that shaped her view on what it means to be her own person, a daughter, a friend, a lover and a citizen of the world.

Sales Points

- Despite advances in technology and maybe even because of it, wanderlust never goes away. The thought of being able to start all over again in a new place will always be appealing. When you move to a new home, how do you deal with issues of identity, and being away from family and friends?
- There are a lot of books written by Americans and Europeans about traveling around Asia but not as many on an Asian exploring their country neighbors. As flights become cheaper and opportunities to relocate become available, books have been falling behind in reflecting about how life is lived in the region by foreigners not coming from countries with an imperial past.
- It is daunting to travel alone as a woman. This collection of essays shows how a solo female traveler can not only navigate the world but that such freedom is possible. While there are blogs written by women that talk about traveling and working overseas, few are reflective. They deal more on the logistics of movement as opposed to shifting perspectives during travel and living overseas as a foreigner.

Author Bio

Josephine V. Roque is a freelance journalist and editor. She has worked in print and online publications in Manila and Shanghai. Joyce obtained her MFA in creative writing from De La Salle University and has received prizes for her essays from the Doreen Fernandez Food Writing Competition and Ateneo Art Awards. She also contributes art criticism and profiles for ArtAsiaPacific Magazine and ArtReview Asia.