



# A CHINESE BESTIARY

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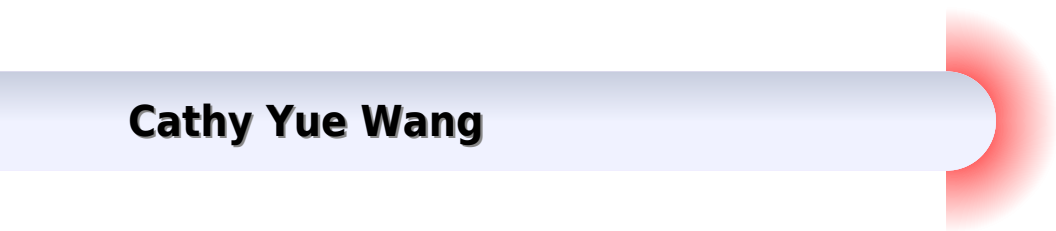


GUIDEWAYS  
THROUGH  
MOUNTAINS  
AND SEAS

*Edited, with an introduction, by*  
RICHARD E. STRASSBERG

# A Chinese Bestiary Strange Creatures From The Guideways Through Mountains And Seas

**Cathy Yue Wang**



## **A Chinese Bestiary Strange Creatures From The Guideways Through Mountains And Seas:**

*A Chinese Bestiary* Richard E. Strassberg, 2002 Richard Strassberg brings the Guideways to life for modern readers by weaving together translations from the work itself with information from other texts and recent archaeological finds to create a lavishly illustrated guide to the imaginative world of early China *Strange Creatures from the Guideways Through Mountains and Seas*, 2014-06-25 *A Chinese Bestiary* presents a fascinating pageant of mythical creatures from a unique and enduring cosmography written in ancient China The Guideways through Mountains and Seas compiled between the fourth and first centuries b c e contains descriptions of hundreds of fantastic denizens of mountains rivers islands and seas along with minerals flora and medicine The text also represents a wide range of beliefs held by the ancient Chinese **A Chinese Bestiary** Richard E. Strassberg, 2023-11-03 *A Chinese Bestiary* presents a fascinating pageant of mythical creatures from a unique and enduring cosmography written in ancient China The Guideways through Mountains and Seas compiled between the fourth and first centuries b c e contains descriptions of hundreds of fantastic denizens of mountains rivers islands and seas along with minerals flora and medicine The text also represents a wide range of beliefs held by the ancient Chinese Richard Strassberg brings the Guideways to life for modern readers by weaving together translations from the work itself with information from other texts and recent archaeological finds to create a lavishly illustrated guide to the imaginative world of early China Unlike the bestiaries of the late medieval period in Europe the Guideways was not interpreted allegorically the strange creatures described in it were regarded as actual entities found throughout the landscape The work was originally used as a sacred geography as a guidebook for travelers and as a book of omens Today it is regarded as the richest repository of ancient Chinese mythology and shamanistic wisdom The Guideways may have been illustrated from the start but the earliest surviving illustrations are woodblock engravings from a rare 1597 edition Seventy six of those plates are reproduced here for the first time and they provide a fine example of the Chinese engraver's art during the late Ming dynasty This beautiful volume compiled by a well known specialist in the field provides a fascinating window on the thoughts and beliefs of an ancient people and will delight specialists and general readers alike *A Chinese Bestiary* presents a fascinating pageant of mythical creatures from a unique and enduring cosmography written in ancient China The Guideways through Mountains and Seas compiled between the fourth and first centuries b c e contain *Snake Sisters and Ghost Daughters* Cathy Yue Wang, 2023-08-29 Politics and paradigm shifts underlying contemporary retellings of fantastic traditional Chinese tales Contemporary Chinese film and literature often draw on time honored fantastical texts and tales which were founded in the milieu of patriarchy parental authority heteronormativity nationalism and anthropocentrism Author Cathy Yue Wang examines the processes by which modern authors and filmmakers reshape these traditional tales to develop new narratives that interrogate the ingrained patriarchal paradigm Through a rigorous analysis Wang delineates changes in both content and narrative that allow contemporary interpretations to reimagine the gender politics and contexts of the tales retold With a

broad transmedia approach and a nuanced understanding of intertextuality this work contributes to the ongoing negotiation in academic and popular discourse between past and present traditional and contemporary and text and reality in a globalized and postmodern world Snake Sisters and Ghost Daughters offers an engaging interdisciplinary investigation of issues at the heart of these traditional tales such as gender and status hierarchy marriage and family life and in group out group distinction Beyond the content of these individual stories Wang ties these narratives together across time using cognitive literary criticism especially affective narratology to shed new light on the adaptation of literary and cultural texts and their sociopolitical contexts

Palaeontology in Public Chris Manias, 2025-01-21 Since the establishment of concepts of deep time in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries palaeontology has been one of the most high profile sciences Dinosaurs mammoths human ancestors and other lost creatures from Earth's history are some of the most prominent icons of science and are essential for our understanding of nature and time Palaeontology and its practitioners have had a huge impact on public understandings of science despite their often precarious and unsteady position within scientific institutions and networks Palaeontology in Public considers the connections between palaeontology and public culture across the past two centuries In so doing it explores how these public dimensions have been crucial to the development of palaeontology and indeed how they conditioned wider views of science nature the environment time and the world The book provides a history of vertebrate palaeontology through a series of compelling case studies Dinosaurs feature of course including Spinosaurus Winsor McCay's Gertie the Dinosaur and the creatures of Jurassic Park and The Lost World But there are also the small mammals of the Mesozoic South American Glyptodonts and human ancestors like Neanderthals and Australopithecines This book shows how palaeontology is defined by its relationship with public audiences and how this connection is central to our vision of the past and future of the Earth and its inhabitants Praise for Palaeontology in Public Surely there is a one way traffic from science to the media In this remarkable collection of papers Chris Manias and the authors explore palaeontological themes from the origin of life to interpretations of human culture through dinosaurs of course and many other fossil taxa Michael J Benton OBE FRS FRSE University of Bristol Palaeontology is a strange science at times arcane yet so accessible that many children dream of hunting for dinosaurs among sun beaten badlands Palaeontology in Public digs into the overlap of these two realms and offers a much needed exploration of how prehistoric beings emerge from stone and enter our collective imagination Riley Black author of Last Days of the Dinosaurs and When the Earth Was Green In this sweeping multi authored compilation reviews consider how ancient animals have been presented to the public for good or for ill From Lucy the australopithecine to Gertie the dinosaur and Jurassic Park never before has so much scholarly content on palaeontology's popularisation been amassed in a single volume Darren Naish vertebrate palaeontologist and author

**Conceptualizing Friendship in Time and Place** Carla Risseuw, Marlein van Raalte, 2017-07-31 The concept of friendship is more easily valued than it is described this volume brings together reflections on its meaning and practice in a

variety of social and cultural settings in history and in the present time focusing on Asia and the Western Euro American world The extension of the group in which friendship is recognized and degrees of intimacy whether or not involving an erotic dimension and genuine appreciation may vary widely Friendship may simply include kinship bonds solidarity being one of its more general characteristics In various contexts of travelling migration and a dearth of offspring friendship may take over roles of kinship also in terms of care *Cultural Differences and the Practice of Sexual Medicine* David L.

Rowland,Emmanuele A. Jannini,2020-01-27 The aim of this book is twofold to promote an awareness of cultural differences in connection with sexual medicine among health care providers and to demonstrate how such differences are relevant to the care and treatment of patients with sexual issues Individual sexuality represents the cumulative effects of biological psychological and cultural influences Yet much of the study of sexuality including issues ranging from sexual identity to sexual response has been conducted through a Western lens Although a substantial body of work in anthropology has taken up the study of human sexuality from a cross cultural perspective two points are notable First this work seldom crosses the desks of medical and psychological health practitioners and second the relevance of specific cultural differences is rarely apparent to the typical sexual health practitioner To address this situation this book adopts a global perspective focusing on how cultural practices and values can impact health care treatment and outcomes In this regard it covers three broad domains Sexual Identity and Orientation Sexual Response and Dysfunction and Sexual Diversity Each chapter consists of two parts a general description of the relevant issues and a discussion of how these issues can be relevant to clinical practice The book offers a valuable practical tool for specialists in sexual medicine and sexual psychology for sexual healthcare givers and for sexological researchers who want to better serve their patients by developing an awareness of and sensitivity to cultural differences and by providing a framework for dealing with issues of sexuality and sexual health that takes cultural values into consideration while adhering to best practices in patient care **Visualizing Dunhuang** Dora C. Y. Ching,2021-06 Located

at the crossroads of the northern and southern routes of the ancient Silk Road on the edge of the Taklamakan desert in western China Dunhuang is one of the richest Buddhist sites in China with nearly 500 cave temples constructed between the fourth and the fourteenth century The sculptures murals portable paintings and manuscripts found in the caves represent every aspect of Buddhism both doctrinally and artistically From its earliest construction to the present Dunhuang has been visualized in many ways by the architects builders and artists who made the caves to twentieth century explorers and photographers conservators and contemporary artists This book explores ways in which Dunhuang has been visualized from its creation to contemporary times Essays by leading scholars from the U S Europe and China cover a wide range of topics from the architecture of cave temples to painting and sculptural programs Buddhist ritual practices expeditionary photography conservation and the contributions of Dunhuang to art history Diasporic Histories Andrea

Riemenschnitter,Deborah L. Madsen,2009-08-01 Chinese migrant communities have reinvented their histories in many

contexts but the process of globalization has accelerated and diversified this phenomenon Their fluid identities innovative modernities and generative talents in overcoming prejudice and multiple dislocations offer powerful examples of creative resistance to placebound traditions and nationalist histories As the velocity of exchange in global media and commerce steadily increases emergent and dynamic diasporas are increasingly influential in transnational discourses This volume engages cultural representations of the subjectivities and loyalties of Chinese migrant communities including analyses of aesthetic texts as well as theoretical approaches in cultural studies The book situates diasporic agency as an historical phenomenon with far reaching political and social implications for both home and host societies and as a major site of contemporary cultural developments By assembling a variety of regional temporal and disciplinary perspectives it interrogates current notions of the diasporic subject raising questions about respective ideological roots and cultural repositories as well as extensions and transgressions of new aesthetic vocabularies Contributors include Roland Altenburger Pheng Cheah Prasenjit Duara Kathrin Ensinger Ping kwan Leung Helen F Siu Tamara S Wagner Mary Shuk han Wong Sau ling C Wong and Nicolas Zufferey

**Player vs. Monster** Jaroslav Svelch, 2023-02-07 An ode to the gruesome game characters we love to beat from the monsters of D D to the mutants of The Last of Us and what they tell us about ourselves Since the early days of video games monsters have played pivotal roles as dangers to be avoided level bosses to be defeated or targets to be destroyed for extra points But why is the figure of the monster so important in gaming and how have video games come to shape our culture s conceptions of monstrosity To answer these questions Player vs Monster explores the past half century of monsters in games from the dragons of early tabletop role playing games and the pixelated aliens of Space Invaders to the malformed mutants of The Last of Us and the bizarre beasts of Bloodborne and reveals the common threads among them Covering examples from aliens to zombies Jaroslav velch explores the art of monster design and traces its influences from mythology visual arts popular culture and tabletop role playing games At the same time he shows that video games follow the Cold War era notion of clearly defined calculable enemies portraying monsters as figures that are irredeemably evil yet invariably vulnerable to defeat He explains the appeal of such simplistic video game monsters but also explores how the medium could evolve to present more nuanced depictions of monstrosity

*Human-Animal Interactions in Anthropocene Asia* Victor Teo, 2023-03-03 This book examines the theme of human animal interactions contextualized against the idea of the Anthropocene Focused on China and its immediate Asian borderlands this interdisciplinary collection provides a powerful and insightful analysis of the ecological challenges that mankind s traditional activities have created Through in depth case studies each focusing on a particular human animal dynamic the book contextualizes and advances the understanding of existing environmental and ecological problems faced by local communities in Asia In particular the book hopes to transcend the duality of the nature versus culture debate by locating animal ecological problems in the behavior of human institutions beliefs and practices which are often affected by prevailing cultural proclivities political ideologies

economic interests and scientific agendas Through interrogation of theoretical concepts of Anthropocene and human animal binary the volume highlights the controversial debates that follow their usage as well as their empirical utility understanding human animal interactions historically thereby engaging a broader interdisciplinary conversation increasingly links these two fields together Providing a platform for discussion and dialogue for a wide audience this book will appeal to students and scholars of environmental history and politics anthropology political science and policy studies China studies and Asian studies more generally

**Environment, Trade and Society in Southeast Asia**, 2015-03-20 In *Environment Trade and Society in Southeast Asia A Longue Dur e Perspective* eleven historians bring their knowledge and insights to bear on the long Braudelian sweep of Southeast Asian history In doing so they seek both to debunk simplistic assumptions about fragile traditions and transformational modernities and to identify real repeating patterns in Southeast Asia s past clientelistic political structures periodic tectonic and climatic disasters ethnic occupational specializations long cycles of economic globalization and deglobalization Their contributions range across many centuries from the Austronesian expansion to the Aceh tsunami and from the Sanskrit cosmopolis to the Asian financial crisis The book is inspired by and dedicated to Peter Boomgaard a scholar whose work has embodied the Braudelian spirit in Southeast Asian historiography This title is available online in its entirety in Open Access

**Diamond Sutra Narratives** Chiew Hui Ho, 2019-07-08 Contextualizing the sutra within a milieu of intense religious and cultural experimentation this volume unravels the sudden rise of Diamond Sutra devotion in the Tang dynasty against the backdrop of a range of social political and literary activities Through the translation and exploration of a substantial body of narratives extolling the efficacy of the sutra it explores the complex social history of lay Buddhism by focusing on how the laity might have conceived of the sutra and devoted themselves to it Corroborated by various sources it reveals the cult s effect on medieval Chinese religiosity in the activities of an empowered laity who modified and produced parasutraic texts prompting the monastic establishment to accommodate to the changes they brought about

*His Stubbornship: Prime Minister Wang Anshi (1021--1086), Reformer and Poet* Jonathan O. Pease, 2021-10-05 After piloting an emperor the age of a college student through China s most drastic government reforms before the modern era Wang Anshi retreated to his Halfway Hill villa at Nanjing where in late middle age he became one of the Northern Song dynasty s three or four most innovative poets He redirected the craft of composing high stakes policy papers into lighter than air evocations of clear eyed grief sensuous Buddhism and intricate reactions to rain on the river or donkey riding up Bell Mountain Acrimony over his redesigned government which he lived just long enough to see totally dismantled remains relevant to Chinese politics and economics Published during his thousand year jubilee this first full English biography since 1937 draws on Wang s essays poems and his vivid seldom explored throne room diary

Home and the World Yuming He, 2020-10-26 China s sixteenth and seventeenth centuries saw an unprecedented explosion in the production and circulation of woodblock printed books What can surviving traces of that era s print culture reveal about the makers and

consumers of these books *Home and the World* addresses this question by carefully examining a wide range of late Ming books considering them not merely as texts but as material objects and economic commodities designed produced and marketed to stand out in the distinctive book marketplace of the time and promising high enjoyment and usefulness to readers Although many of the mass market commercial imprints studied here might have struck scholars from the eighteenth century on as too trivial lowbrow or slipshod to merit serious study they prove to be an invaluable resource providing insight into their readers orientations toward the increasingly complex global stage of early modernity and toward traditional Chinese conceptions of textual political and moral authority On a more intimate scale they tell us about readers ideals of a fashionable and pleasurable private life Through studying these works we come closer to recapturing the trend conscious sophisticated and often subversive ways readers at this important moment in China s history imagined their world and their place within it 2015 Joseph Levenson Book Prize Pre 1900 Category China and Inner Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies

**Landscape and Space** Jaś Elsner, 2022 Through comparative case studies from ancient China ancient Greece Mesoamerican Maya art and across Eurasia via Pompeii this book emphasises the significance of models of landscape in ancient art Notably it explores questions of space both actual and conceptual including how space is configured through form and representation

**Gibbon Conservation in the Anthropocene** Susan M. Cheyne, Carolyn Thompson, Peng-Fei Fan, Helen J. Chatterjee, 2023-04-20 Hylobatids gibbons and siamangs are the smallest of the apes distinguished by their coordinated duets territorial songs arm swinging locomotion and small family group sizes Although they are the most speciose of the apes boasting twenty species living in eleven countries ninety five percent are critically endangered or endangered according to the IUCN s Red List of Threatened Species Despite this gibbons are often referred to as being forgotten in the shadow of their great ape cousins because comparably they receive less research funding and conservation attention This is only the third book since the 1980s devoted to gibbons and presents cutting edge research covering a wide variety of topics including hylobatid ecology conservation phylogenetics and taxonomy Written by gibbon researchers and practitioners from across the world the book discusses conservation challenges in the Anthropocene and presents practice based approaches and strategies to save these singing swinging apes from extinction

**Making the New World Their Own** Qiong Zhang, 2015-05-26 In *Making the New World Their Own* Qiong Zhang offers a systematic study of how Chinese scholars in the late Ming and early Qing came to understand that the earth is shaped as a globe This notion arose from their encounters with Matteo Ricci Giulio Aleni and other Jesuits These encounters formed a fascinating chapter in the early modern global integration of space It unfolded as a series of mutually constitutive and competing scholarly discourses that reverberated in fields from cosmology cartography and world geography to classical studies Zhang demonstrates how scholars such as Xiong Mingyu Fang Yizhi Jie Xuan Gu Yanwu and Hu Wei appropriated Jesuit ideas to rediscover China s place in the world and reconstitute their classical tradition Winner of the Chinese Historians in the United States CHUS 2015

Academic Excellence Award      *The Cultural Revolution on Trial* Alexander C. Cook, 2016-11-07 Introduction Indictment Monsters Testimony Emotions Verdict Vanity Conclusion Index of Chinese terms      **Intellectual Decolonisation** George Hull, 2024-10-18 This book puts contemporary calls for decolonisation in context Featuring an interdisciplinary team of scholars from around the world the book explores and critically assesses the diverse theoretical visions which inform calls for decolonisation of the mind today Contemporary calls to decolonise focus less on politico economic relations between states more on culture and ideas Sometimes museums are the target sometimes universities or academic disciplines sometimes entire legal systems Commentators and activists speak out for others against intellectual decolonisation decolonisation of the mind But what is the colonisation which intellectual decolonisation undoes Under what circumstances can inculcation or acceptance of ideas constitute colonialism As this book demonstrates advocates of intellectual decolonisation give very different indeed incompatible answers to these questions Critically examining conceptualisations of decolonisation spanning a century and four continents the book explores what is at stake in the choice between these theoretical alternatives Some see the aim of decolonisation as truth via the removal of distorting effects of power and bias Others troublingly subordinate truth and knowledge to ethnic or regional identity potentially paving the way for culturally authoritarian politics Intellectual Decolonisation Critical Perspectives is an indispensable resource for teachers students and scholars seeking to deepen their understanding of debates about decolonisation of the mind Individual chapters will interest researchers of the new right wing ethnonationalist political ideologies emerging in Europe Asia and Africa Originally published as a special issue of Social Dynamics this book is also a guide for anyone wondering what decolonisation is all about

## Reviewing **A Chinese Bestiary Strange Creatures From The Guideways Through Mountains And Seas**: Unlocking the Spellbinding Force of Linguistics

In a fast-paced world fueled by information and interconnectivity, the spellbinding force of linguistics has acquired newfound prominence. Its capacity to evoke emotions, stimulate contemplation, and stimulate metamorphosis is really astonishing. Within the pages of "**A Chinese Bestiary Strange Creatures From The Guideways Through Mountains And Seas**," an enthralling opus penned by a highly acclaimed wordsmith, readers attempt an immersive expedition to unravel the intricate significance of language and its indelible imprint on our lives. Throughout this assessment, we shall delve to the book is central motifs, appraise its distinctive narrative style, and gauge its overarching influence on the minds of its readers.

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