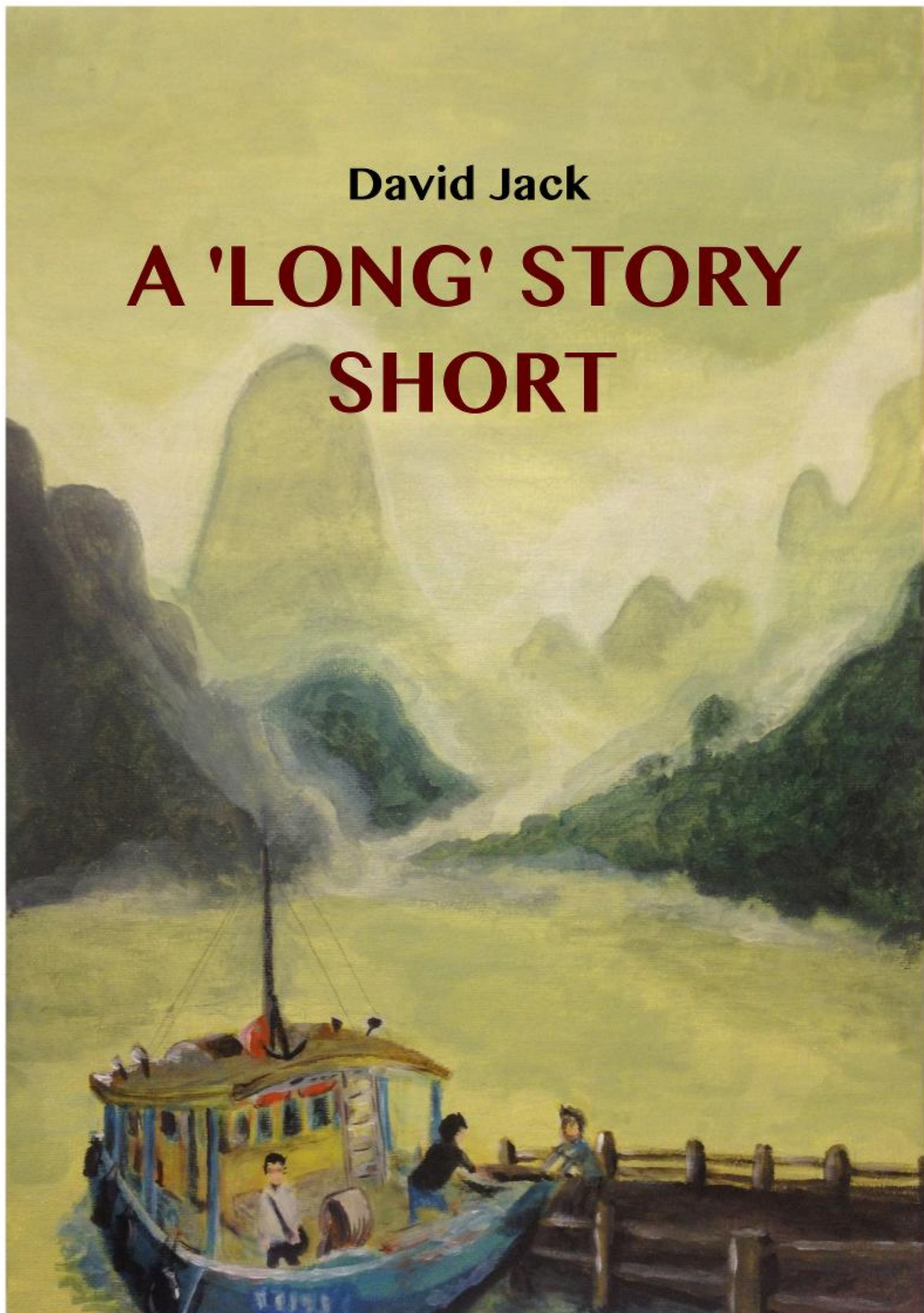


David Jack

A 'LONG' STORY SHORT



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Prepared for the Sydney Zine Fair 2015

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I'VE BEEN LIVING
IN SHANGHAI
FOR FIVE YEARS.

YET, THIS IS THE STUFF
LEGENDS ARE MADE OF.

I NEVER IMAGINED
A PLACE LIKE THIS
STILL EXISTED IN
CHINA.

THIS
DRAGON

LOOKS...
SO REAL

'LONG'
MEANS...
DRAGON

龙

IT
CAN'T
BE

A man in a grey jacket and dark pants is walking across a wooden bridge. He is carrying a brown bag. In the background, there are green mountains, a traditional Chinese pavilion, and a building with people inside. The scene is set in a traditional Chinese landscape.


I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR DRAGONS
IN THE BIG CITIES OF CHINA,

BEIJING,
SHANGHAI,
SHENZHEN,

BUT THEY'RE
ALREADY
CORRUPTED.

I'VE BEEN
LOOKING IN THE
WRONG PLACES.

I HAD BEGUN TO
LOSE HOPE
UNTIL THE VIDEO
OF THIS TOWN'S
MOUHUSHUIGUAI
WENT VIRAL.

A large, colorful dragon sculpture is shown in the foreground. The dragon has a grey head with red horns, a yellow body with green and red patterns, and a long, flowing tail. It is positioned in front of a red structure, possibly a gate or a wall.



THE CHINESE
DRAGON IS
MORE BEAUTIFUL
THAN I EXPECTED.

MAJESTIC,
POWERFUL,
RESPECTFUL,
BUT NOT SOMETHING
TO BE FEARED.



I HAVE TO FIND
OUT MORE. I
TRIED TO ASK
BUT YOU ARE
THE ONLY ONE
WHO WILL TALK
TO ME.



不好意思

你说英文吗？

I GREW UP OVERSEAS
AND I WENT TO HIGH
SCHOOL IN A WESTERN
COUNTRY SO I FEEL
QUITE BORED HERE.

MY FATHER WORKS ON THE
LAKE AND HE KNOWS ALL
THE DRAGON LEGENDS, HE
TOLD ME THAT SOMEONE
LIKE YOU WOULD SHOW UP
SOON.



WE ARE HAVING MORE
ASIAN VISITORS SINCE
THE MOUHUSHUIGUAI
VIDEO WENT VIRAL.

FATHER WAS
WONDERING
WHEN THE FIRST
WESTERNER
WOULD SHOW
UP.



WHY ARE YOU
INTERESTED IN THE
DRAGON?



DRAGONS REPRESENT
UNLEASHED POWER BUT I KNOW
THERE IS SOME INNER BEAUTY
THAT I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND.

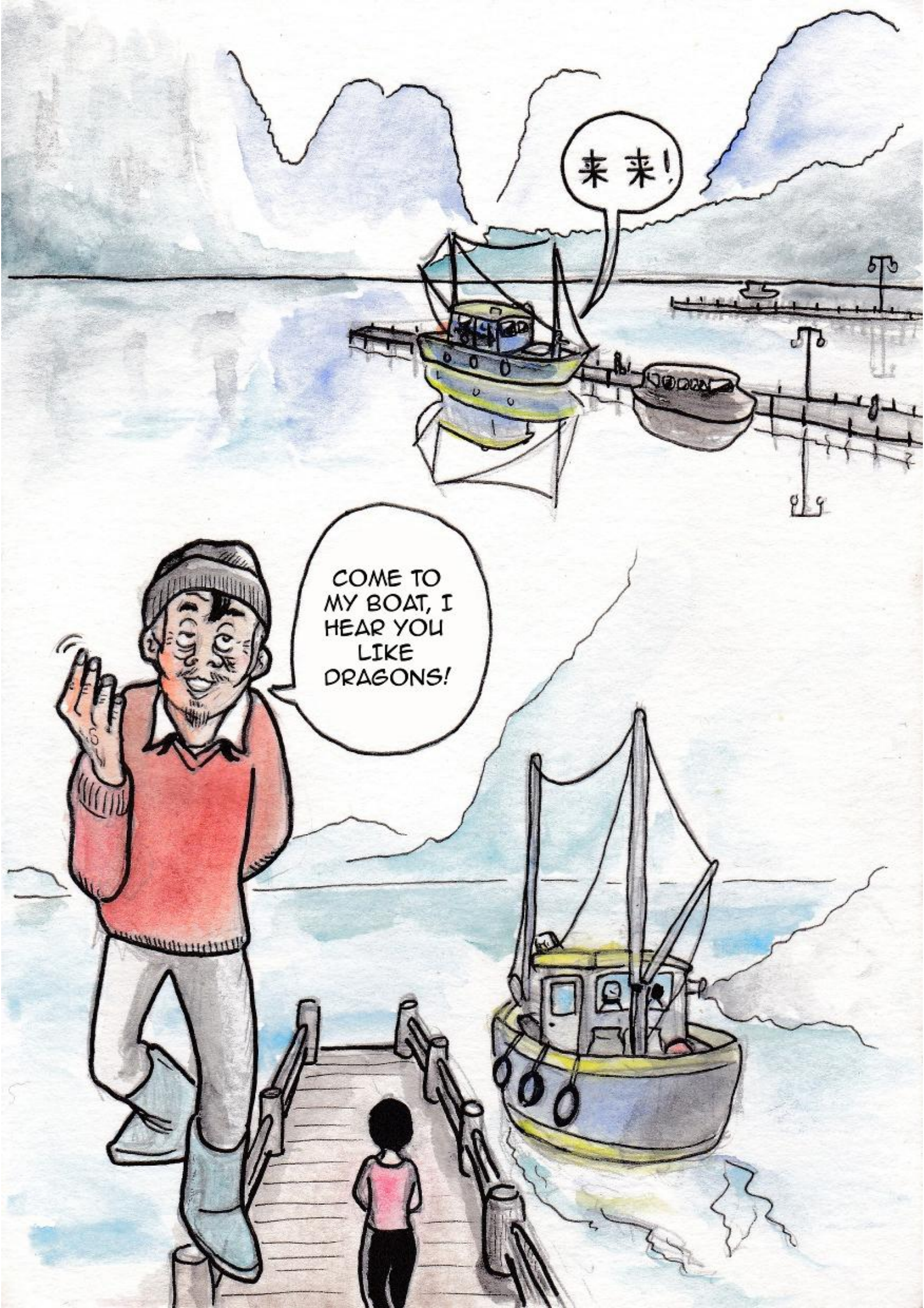


MY FATHER WILL LIKE YOU.
I THINK YOU TWO SHOULD
MEET. I WILL MESSAGE HIM,
HE WILL LOVE TO SHOW
YOU THE LAKE.

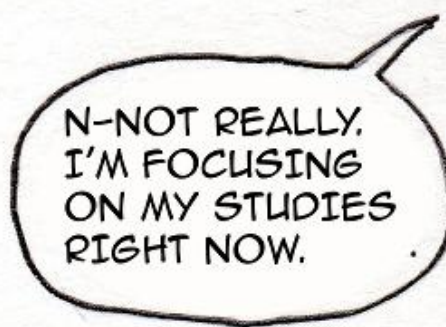


来来!

COME TO
MY BOAT, I
HEAR YOU
LIKE
DRAGONS!









CAN YOU TELL
ME ABOUT
MOUSHUIGUAI?



THERE IS
NO
MONSTER
HERE.



I KNOW THAT.

BUT I'D LIKE
TO KNOW
THE STORY
OF THIS
DRAGON...



YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND



YES, YES... I'M FROM A DIFFERENT
CULTURE AND MY CHINESE IS NOT
GREAT, BUT I CAN GRASP WHEN...



NO, I MEAN
IT'S NO LONGER
IN THE LAKE.



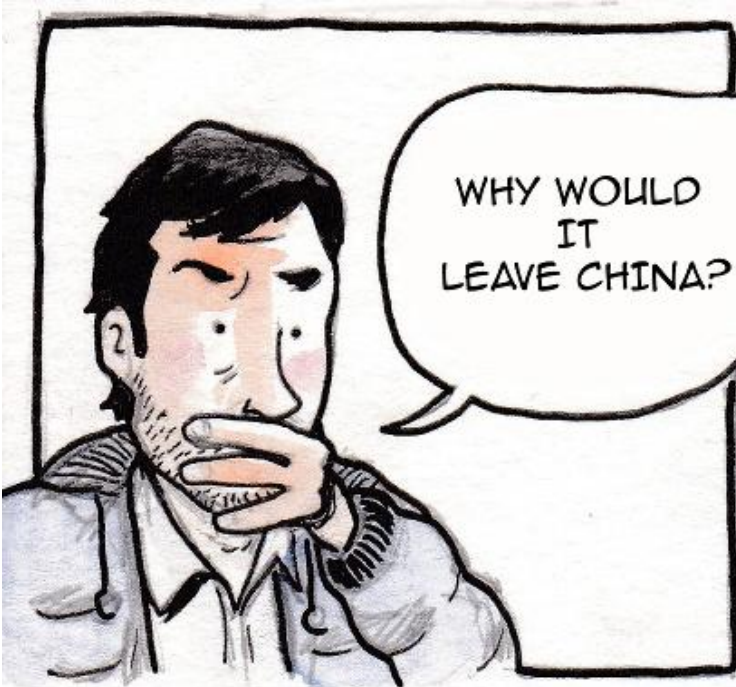
S-SYDNEY
AUSTRALIA?

YES

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND

I TOLD
YOU.





WHY WOULD
IT
LEAVE CHINA?



THERE
WERE
TOO MANY
VISITORS



PEACE
HAD LEFT



NOT
FROM THE
VILLAGE...



BUT...



...FROM THE DRAGON.



I WAS A
BUSINESSMAN
FOR A MINING
CORPORATION
WITH OFFICES
IN AUSTRALIA.



THE DRAGON
CAME TO SEE
ME IN SYDNEY.



WE AGREED TO SWAP
PLACES.

I TOOK MY DAUGHTER
AND HERE WE ARE.



SO ARE
DRAGONS
GOOD OR BAD?

I THINK THEY
CAN BE
CORRUPTED.

