

ADVANCE PRAISE FOR

“MY TWO CHINAS:

The Memoir of a Chinese Counterrevolutionary”

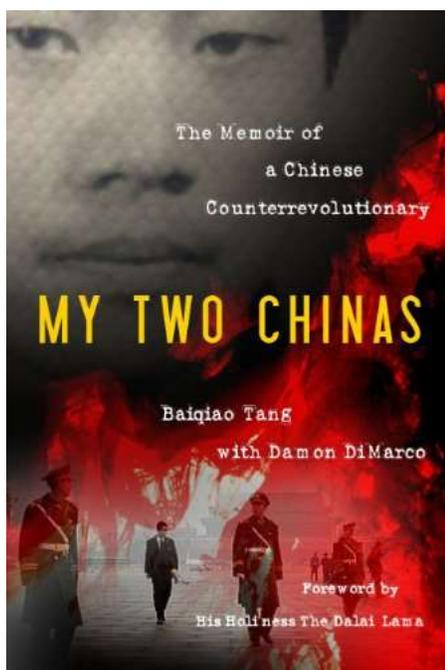
By Tang Baiqiao with Damon DiMarco

With a preface by Jeff Widener, photojournalist and Pulitzer finalist for his iconic “Tank Man” photo,

an introduction by Prof. Robert Thurman, expert on China and Tibet, co-founder of Tibet House,

and a foreword by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama.

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“His Holiness hopes that this book will encourage other Chinese to strengthen their democratic aspirations and put the spotlight on the weakness of the attitudes of some of the current leaders in China.”

- from the foreword by His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama.

“*My Two Chinas* is beautifully written by Baiqiao Tang and Damon DiMarco. The bravery shown by Tang and other Chinese students who stood up to the Communist Chinese government was extraordinary. Their story deserves to be known. This is the place to start.”

- Edward I. Koch, Former Mayor of New York City (from 1978 -1989), influential political commentator.

“I read this book at what seemed a timeless sitting – couldn’t put it down, I found it so incredibly moving. It is a vivid record of human courage and uncompromising intelligence, full of the life of China over the last few decades, with its sufferings and its triumphs, its villains, and its kind and hearty heroes. Since Tang’s story is so utterly real and concerns what is happening in our world in real time, it holds us in the greatest suspense of all – how are the deaths and lives of China’s true patriots going to turn out? I assure you, their success is vital not only to China, but very much to us all! If China’s leadership continues to act out of fear, aggression, and violence, the whole world will face a huge danger! Tang’s book records nothing less than his ‘act of truth,’ as it was called in ancient India: the absolute holding to the principle of goodness in the face of whatever odds.”

- from the introduction by Dr. Robert Thurman, Je Tsongkhapa Professor of Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Studies at Columbia University, noted author, and co-founder of Tibet House

“*My Two Chinas* is a very personal and insightful story about one man’s struggle to be free. I consider it a must-read for anyone encouraged by stories of hope and the good fight. Author Damon DiMarco brilliantly leads the reader through the maze of Baiqiao Tang’s life as he runs from secret police, survives torture and imprisonment, and eventually escapes to the United States. But perhaps best of all, reading this book helped me to answer many questions I had regarding the events that transpired in the crackdown that followed Tiananmen Square. Many pro-democracy activists are still imprisoned in China today. I admire the courage and bravery shown by Baiqiao Tang and thousands of other Chinese like him who shined during those dark days.”

- from the book’s preface by Jeff Widener, Pulitzer-finalist, nominated for the acclaimed “Tank Man” photo taken at Tiananmen Square.

“There are many Chinese—more than a billion of them—but there are relatively few to speak for them: to speak for their rights, their dignity, and their freedom. Baiqiao Tang is one such person. He speaks, not only for himself, but for masses of his countrymen, who are gagged. If the Communist dictatorship in China ever falls, Tang will be one of those who gave it a hard, wonderful push.”

- Jay Nordlinger, Senior Editor, *National Review*

“One can make sweeping statements about China, and they will probably be at least partially true. But a higher level of truth is found in the day-to-day experiences of someone like Baiqiao Tang. Although he writes mostly about his native Hunan Province, this is the story of China. Tang’s grandfather used to complain about the decline of the writing skills of his countrymen. Too bad he isn’t alive to enjoy his grandson’s beautifully written autobiography, which reads almost like a novel. I couldn’t set it down.”

- Prof. James D. Seymour of Chinese Hong Kong University, expert on China and Tibet, author of *New Ghosts, Old Ghosts: Prisons and Labor Reform Camps in China*.

“Tang Baiqiao’s support for Chinese freedom and human rights has remained constant since his days as a student leader during the 1989 democracy movement, as conveyed in this outstanding book. His work and indomitable fighting spirit have made a tremendous impact on the international community. His unwavering belief in China’s future as a democracy makes him a voice to be heeded as the world continues to change.”

-Yan Jiaqi, noted political scientist and dissident; adviser in Zhao Ziyang’s political reform office; leading intellectual during the 1989 democracy movement; author of *Turbulent Decade: A History of the Cultural Revolution*.

“This memoir is courageously written in the ink of blood and tears. It exposes the crimes and human cruelty committed by China’s government behind the guise of prosperity. Despite enormous challenges, Hunan native Tang Baiqiao has struggled ceaselessly to drive the darkness out of China.”

- He Qinglian, renowned economist; critic of Chinese media; author of the international bestseller *The Pitfalls of Modernization*.

“Good versus evil. A fractured nation. A family torn apart. The banished hero continues to fight from exile. This book carries all the hallmarks of myth, and yet it really happened. Tang Baiqiao has torn back the veil. Let the world take a good long look. Here is a true story of Tiananmen Square.”

- Thomas Guo Guoting, leading human rights attorney, law professor, author.

“A soul-stirring story. In telling Tang’s story, Tang and DiMarco highlight the plight of many Chinese dissidents, and do so with keen sensitivity. Over the years, Tang has acted as a beacon of hope and resolve to those who seek change for China. Let the message of this book go forth: we remember Tiananmen Square, and our work has just begun.”

- Jiao Guobiao, noted dissident writer; banned Professor of Journalism Beijing University; author of the ground-breaking essay, *Denouncing the Central Propaganda Department*.

“These days, many people dominate the world spotlight, and often for the wrong reasons. To me, the real hero is Tang Baiqiao, whose commitment to democracy and human rights has never wavered, even when faced with seemingly insurmountable odds. As the eyes of the world focus on China’s economic success, I am proud that Tang Baiqiao continues his fight to defend those vulnerable groups whom the Chinese government persecutes. Young people everywhere should read this book. Tang Baiqiao’s inspiring life will fuel their dreams for a better world.”

- Dan Li, noted AIDS activist in China, winner of the international Reebok Human Rights Award.

“Economics aside, China has the misfortune to be ruled by Communists, dictators, tyrants, and thugs. In 1989, the Tiananmen Square massacre was world news. This book, by an authentic student leader of the uprising, is one part personal memoir; one part back story on a major world event; and one part follow up, casting light on the Chinese democracy movement in exile, where the fight continues. Tang Baiqiao is a dynamic campaigner who continues to fight the good fight. He and his co-author Damon DiMarco have rendered a blow-by-blow account in a book that is engaging, accessible for general readers, and clear as a bell. Perhaps the book will serve as a wakeup call for the international community, which should step up efforts at democracy promotion for such an important country. The China Support Network highly recommends this book.”

- John P. Kusumi, founder of the pro-democracy China Support Network

“Do you remember the massacre that took place at Tiananmen Square? Do you remember the brave souls who gave their lives for democracy? Tang Baiqiao has never forgotten. His excellent book serves a noble purpose: to remind the world of what China lost, and what its people still hope to gain.”

- Xu Wenli, founder of the Chinese Democracy Party, imprisoned for sixteen years for pro-democracy activism, now senior fellow at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University.

“Over the years, I’ve watched many American pundits, corporate executives, and politicians kowtow to China on any number of issues – from China’s Internet censorship and theft of intellectual property to currency manipulation and attacks on the Pentagon. These cowards should draw courage from the example of a man like Baiqiao Tang – who stood up for democracy and freedom in the belly of the Communist beast and, miraculously, has lived to tell us all about it.”

- Peter Navarro, author of *The Coming China Wars* and Professor of Economics and Public Policy, Merage School of Business, University of California-Irvine

“Tang Baiqiao’s *My Two Chinas* is a terribly moving story that shows how a promising young idealist has been considered a criminal by an implacable system. The detailed account of Tang’s eighteen months in jail reminds us that, in the Chinese provinces, wardens and cadres are often brutes who enjoy torturing the inmates. We cannot afford to forget the courage of those young people who took part in the 1989 pro-democracy movement. Their resolve shook China and the world. This is a fascinating account of the itinerary of a generation.”

- Jean-Philippe Béja, author of *The Impact of China's 1989 Tiananmen Massacre*; Senior Research Fellow, CNRS (National Centre for Scientific Research)-CERI (Centre for International Studies and Research), Paris, France

“In the face of oppression most people cower, a few cannot. Baiqiao Tang acted in 1989 and still strives to change China today. His struggle teaches us much about the transformation of ordinary people into extraordinary human beings. This is the amazing story of one man’s journey of constant confrontation and his unbreakable spirit. To read it helps you understand the many nameless and faceless men and women standing up every day to China’s persistent repression.”

- Jeffrey Fiedler, U.S. China Economic Security and Review Commission

“*My Two Chinas* is one of the most moving, witty, and entertaining memoirs to come out of China since the 1989 Tiananmen demonstrations, a graceful collaboration between a splendid mind that yearns for a free China and the sure pen of his English collaborator. As we travel with Baiqiao Tang, one of China’s most famous dissidents, through his days of demonstration, flight, imprisonment and exile, we are reminded of the rule of terror that lies behind China’s growing military and economic might. The next time that economy compels you to buy something made in China, do penance by picking up and reading a copy of this book as well.”

- Steven W. Mosher, President of the Population Research Institute; author of *A Mother’s Ordeal*, *China Misperceived*, *Journey to the Forbidden China*, and *Broken Earth*.