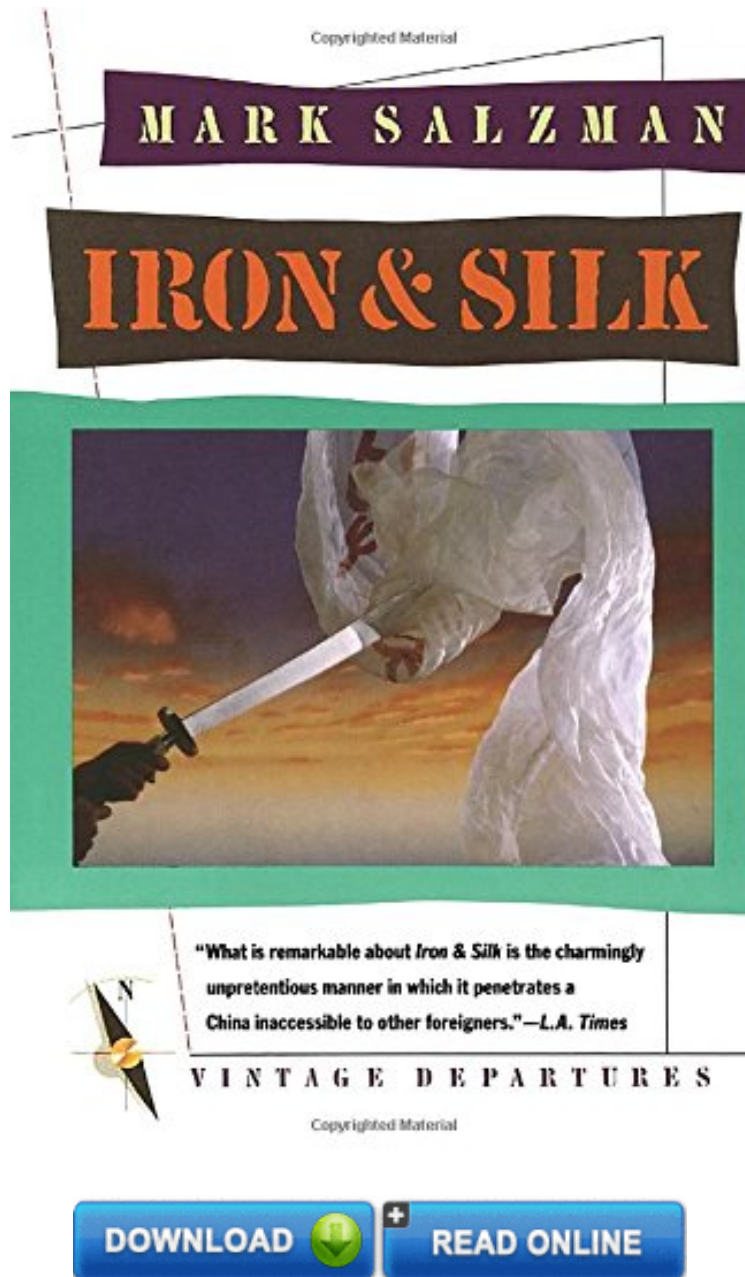


(Download free ebook) Iron and Silk

## Iron and Silk

Mark Salzman

ePub / \*DOC / audiobook / ebooks / Download PDF



#423829 in Books Vintage 1987-10-12 1987-10-12 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .58 x 5.221, .46  
#File Name: 0394755111224 pages Great product! | File size: 54.Mb

**Mark Salzman : Iron and Silk** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Iron and Silk:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This Wonderful Autobiographical Account...By C. Hardman...is must reading for those with an interest in Chinese martial arts and culture. The author describes his journey through China, the people he meets on the way including the legendary Teacher Pan. Quite a bit of the book describes his encounters with ordinary Chinese people and how he comes to appreciate the culture through his experiences. In

essence, Salzman learns to see things with Chinese eyes--including his martial arts training in Wushu. I also recommend the pre-quel to this book, "Lost In Place", Salzman's second autobiographical book, before or after this one. The two volumes go well together and provide a fascinating portrait of academic and martial growth. PERFECT for young people who are interested in martial arts as a lifelong pursuit, or anyone with an interest in Chinese culture living in China to study. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Stuff of Legends By George Roy This book is the stuff of legends! 'Iron and Silk' one of a triad of books by Americans teaching in China. As a group, these books together clearly illustrate the blind men and the elephant that is China. The other two books are 'River Town' by Peter Hessler and 'Pretty Woman Spitting' by Leana Adams. During eight years managing foreign teachers in China, the concept of a "Karmic Magnet" was my only way to account for the wide range of experiences that each teacher encountered. On that basis, Mark Salzman has proven himself to be an extraordinary individual. I can only envy him his enlightenment and his experiences. My only caution would be that the China that Salzman experienced may well be vanishing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Liked the story from its release By for life Liked the story from its release. While it details Salzman's experience going from a kung-fu movie lover who learns Mandarin and then heads out on an adventure/experience of a lifetime learning from a wushu master. It also gives light on little cultural differences learned which makes it most memorable.

Salzman captures post-cultural revolution China through his adventures as a young American English teacher in China and his shifu-tudi (master-student) relationship with China's foremost martial arts teacher.

.com In 1982, Salzman flew off to teach English in Changsha, China. He writes of bureaucrats, students and Cultural Revolution survivors, stripping none of their complexity and humanity. He's gentle with their idiocies, saving his sharpest barbs for himself (it's his pants that split from zipper to waist whilst demonstrating martial arts in Canton). Though dribs of history and drabs of classical lore seep through, this is mostly a personal tale, noted by the Los Angeles Times for "the charmingly unpretentious manner in which it penetrates a China inaccessible to other foreigners." From School Library Journal YA This anecdotal record of a young man's encounter with the Chinese and their way of life offers unique insights to readers. Salzman had majored in Chinese literature at Yale, and his first job after graduation in 1982 was teaching English to students and teachers at Hunan Medical College in Changsha. He met this considerable challenge with sensitivity, humor, and imagination, and was quickly regarded with respect and affection. Salzman had studied martial arts since he was 13, and he continued his practice in Changsha, where one of China's foremost experts, Pan Qingfu, accepted him as a pupil. Readers will become aware of the many styles of the sport, and, incidentally, the real meaning of "kung fu." The personalities encountered range from Salzman's students and teachers to calligraphers, peasants, fishermen, and bureaucrats. Each fascinating episode illuminates the way to a deeper understanding of Chinese culture and character. This book is also notable for its unusually attractive design: the handsome calligraphy on the binding and chapter headings was done by the author. Rita G. Keeler, St. John's School, Houston Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This is a book full of China, full of wonder. Salzman taught English in Changsha, Hunan, for two years, studied Chinese boxing with a master, helped his Chinese friends, and perceived Chinese life with the writerly eye of a young Hemingway. Although, or because, he flies no political banner and takes no ideological stance, he gives us a bouquet of sketches which distill a range of Chinese people into essences and scenes we immediately understand and feel. Some scenes are sharply, unpretentiously funny; others start the tears to which China reduces (elevates?) her friends. For those who see "China" as an abstraction, whether as enemy, hope of the future, or market, this book is the cure. Read it and get your friends and patrons to read it too. A quiet classic, not to be pigeonholed as a China book. Charles W. Hayford, Ctr. for Far Eastern Studies, Univ. of Chicago Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.