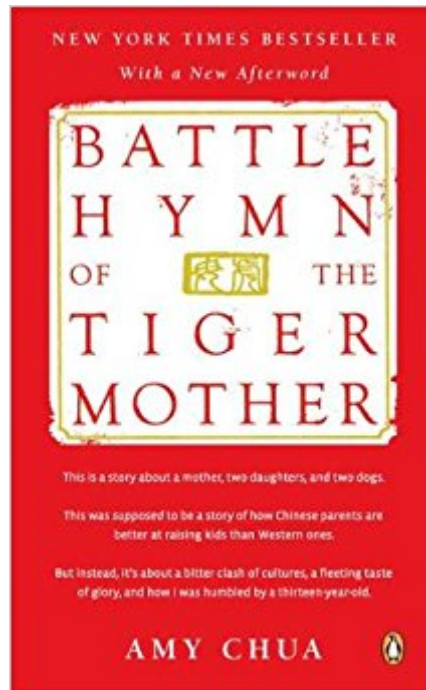




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Battle Hymn Of The Tiger Mother



Synopsis

“[E]ntertaining, bracingly honest and, yes, thought-provoking.” —*The New York Times Book Review* At once provocative and laugh-out-loud funny, *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* ignited a global parenting debate with its story of one mother’s journey in strict parenting. Amy Chua argues that Western parenting tries to respect and nurture children’s individuality, while Chinese parents typically believe that arming children with skills, strong work habits, and inner confidence prepares them best for the future. *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* chronicles Chua’s iron-willed decision to raise her daughters, Sophia and Lulu, the Chinese way and the remarkable, sometimes heartbreaking results her choice inspires. Achingly honest and profoundly challenging, *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* is one of the most talked-about books of our times. “Few have the guts to parent in public. Amy [Chua]’s memoir is brutally honest, and her willingness to share her struggles is a gift. Whether or not you agree with her priorities and approach, she should be applauded for raising these issues with a thoughtful, humorous and authentic voice.” —*Time Magazine* “[A] riveting read | Chua’s story is far more complicated and interesting than what you’ve heard to date -- and well worth picking up | I guarantee that if you read the book, there’ll undoubtedly be places where you’ll cringe in recognition, and others where you’ll tear up in empathy.” —*San Francisco Chronicle* “*Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* hit the parenting hot button, but also a lot more, including people’s complicated feelings about ambition, intellectualism, high culture, the Ivy League, strong women and America’s standing in a world where China is ascendant. Chua’s conviction that hard work leads to inner confidence is a resonant one.” —*Chicago Tribune* “Readers will alternately gasp at and empathize with Chua’s struggles and aspirations, all the while enjoying her writing, which, like her kid-rearing philosophy, is brisk, lively and no-holds-barred. This memoir raises intriguing, sometimes uncomfortable questions about love, pride, ambition, achievement and self-worth that will resonate among success-obsessed parents | Readers of all stripes will respond to [*Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*].” —*The Washington Post*

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Customer Reviews

Chua (Day of Empire) imparts the secret behind the stereotypical Asian child's phenomenal success: the Chinese mother. Chua promotes what has traditionally worked very well in raising children: strict, Old World, uncompromising values--and the parents don't have to be Chinese. What they are, however, are different from what she sees as indulgent and permissive Western parents: stressing academic performance above all, never accepting a mediocre grade, insisting on drilling and practice, and instilling respect for authority. Chua and her Jewish husband (both are professors at Yale Law) raised two girls, and her account of their formative years achieving amazing success in school and music performance proves both a model and a cautionary tale. Sophia, the eldest, was dutiful and diligent, leapfrogging over her peers in academics and as a Suzuki piano student; Lulu was also gifted, but defiant, who excelled at the violin but eventually balked at her mother's pushing. Chua's efforts "not to raise a soft, entitled child" will strike American readers as a little scary--removing her children from school for extra practice, public shaming and insults, equating Western parenting with failure--but the results, she claims somewhat glibly in this frank, unapologetic report card, "were hard to quarrel with." (Jan.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Most critics agreed that *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* is an entertaining read--lively and humorous, written with the intent to shock. More controversial is Chua's stereotyping of Chinese and Western cultures, not to mention her authoritarian parenting methods. Critics judged the book largely by asking the following questions: Should self-esteem come before accomplishment, or accomplishment before self-esteem? If the latter, should it be achieved by threats and constant monitoring? Chua's teenage daughters are undeniably accomplished,

but at what emotional cost? While some reviewers found that Chua's technique borders on abuse and her writing was, at best, self-serving, others were impressed by her parenting results and opined that the West could learn a few things from this remarkably driven Chinese American mother. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Amy Chua has done the United States a huge favor by brilliantly stating the case for one particular kind of preschool and early school parenting. For many, especially those who believe less is more when educating a child from preschool thru sixth grade, Amy is over the top, maybe even abusive. The fact that her kids got straight A's in school and public raves for their instrument virtuosity is often met with a derisive "At what cost?". But now, with the introduction of the 2012 international rankings of the PISA exams, showing the US kids ranking 21st, 17th and 26th in science, reading, and math respectively, the discussion of educational methods and results has achieved a new urgency. How long can our education system lead to such mediocre results without the US slipping in world leadership where it counts, particularly in science and math? What should be done? In their search for answers, educators and policy makers cannot afford to leave Amy's memoir out of consideration. While her methods may not be for everybody, many of her ideas, particularly those that are mirrored in the top PISA performers, are worthy of close study. A good introduction to the PISA experience is Amanda Ripley's *The Smartest Kids in the World*.

I have heard negative talking about this book, so I didn't buy it right away, I borrowed a copy from our local library. After I finished reading, I bought a copy from . It is a book that I like to keep a copy in my own library. I don't completely agree with Amy's way raising her two daughters, but I enjoy reading this book, I like her honesty, sense of humor, and her hardworking. She didn't try to paint a picture that she is a perfect mom, she just wrote her own experience of raising her two daughters. Many people hated that Amy pushed her daughters too hard, but I see Amy pushed herself harder than her daughters. She works harder than any one else. She is a law professor, teaching at Yale Law School, she wrote her book while raising her two children, she learned about piano and violin so she could supervise her daughters practice, she arranged many trips, she wrote notes to her daughters so to bring joy to them, she took care of their two dogs. I was very touched that she brought her mother-in-law to her home when her mother-in-law was fighting cancer, and she visited her sister many times while her sister was fighting leukemia. She does so many things. I admire Amy with my full heart.

This book is an eye opener. Having to raise children myself, I'd say that I firmly believe in teaching children to care for the family, set up disciplinary situations for them, and teach them to care for their mother and father raising them, because without that foundation, they will grow up selfish and do stupid things that hurt others out of their selfishness. I say this book is an excellent starting ground for raising children that won't become selfish people. Selfish people cause a lot of grief so parents need to make sure they set up methods to make their kids disciplined and unselfish. It is not about raising an obedient child because an obedient child can still disguise their selfishness. It is about developing good character.

As a Chinese American and mom of a 2 and a 5 year old, I found this book to be fascinating. I am constantly second guessing my own parenting methods, trying to find the path that's best for my kids. But while there's a slew of resources available here for Western parenting techniques, there's hardly any for Chinese parenting techniques. Good parents look at many resources and use their own reasoning and judgement to determine their own best path, and this book is a goldmine for ideas that contrast with what I'm constantly inundated with, for which I'm very thankful. This is a great read for anyone who wants to be a great parent and is seeking exposure to a counterbalance of Western ideas. My kids both take piano lessons (yes, even at 2) and will continue to take music lessons as long as they live in my house, period. School, and drilling on homework, will always be a priority. But, I won't ever insult my kids, and I'll probably let my kids go to sleepovers and be in a school play, if they like. I will do whatever it takes to open doors for my kids and help push them. But I won't drag them kicking and screaming through a door they don't want to go through. Which, of course, is very hard to figure out when they are 5 and 2. Here's to all parents trying to do the best by their kids. It's definitely one of the hardest things to get right.

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