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Reviewed by CTC Touring Officer Mark Waters

Another travelogue! Another cyclist – Christopher JA Smith – riding a very long way and believing it justified the writing of a book that others would want to read... I groaned inwardly at the size of the thing as I settled into my seat on my flight to Beijing – which was ironic, given its title. I need not have worried. Chris Smith seems to be a man of considerable talent. We get to learn a lot about him through the musings in his book and I, for one, would be delighted to go touring with him. I lived every mile of his journey to Beijing, which included a four-month side trip all round India. His tale was never ponderous, always interesting. By the end I felt I had done the trip with him and enjoyed every inch, even the tough ones, which were numerous. As for that woman in China, Chris, you did the right thing and I admire you for it. Buy this book! It's a great read. No prospective traveller heading east should venture forth without reading it.

Info: ISBN 190520325X, 290 pages. Available from, among others, amazon.co.uk

