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Gweilo

The extraordinary adventures of a young Italian in 1980s China

by Maurizio Romano

Genre: Biography

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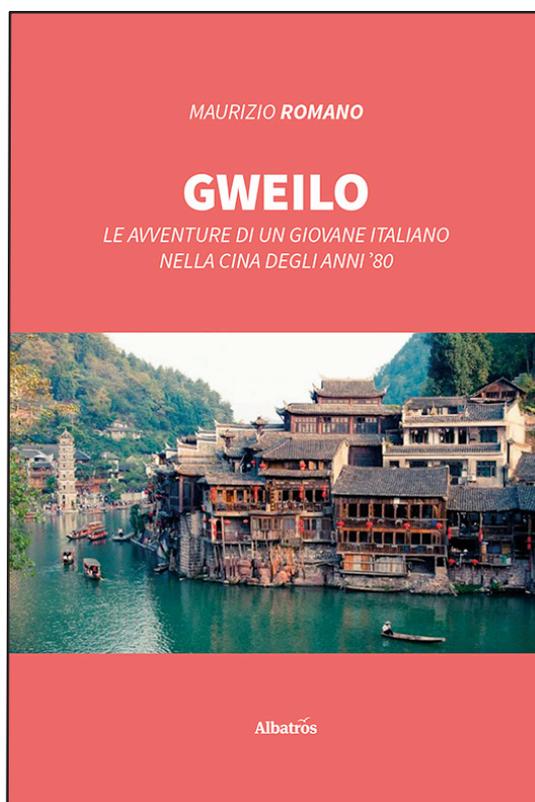
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Albatros il Filo Group is delighted to announce the book release of
Gweilo. The extraordinary adventures of a young Italian in 1980s China
by Maurizio Romano



Some memories are so powerful that, if passed on, can become a life lesson for future generations. This is why the author, Maurizio Romano, decided to preserve his extraordinary life-changing experience in a book.

With a compelling first-person narrative, the author shares his memories as a *Gweilo* (Chinese term for foreigner) in an old China unknown to the world. A country of fairy-like landscapes, strong principled culture, and a poor population, who, through the ancient proverbs, learnt to appreciate the small things most people would take for granted.

Maurizio Romano was born in Naples, Italy, in 1956 and lived there until 1983. That year his life changed drastically. He got married, moved to Milan and started his business adventure with the People's Republic of China. At the time, China was just coming out of the Maoist era and was considered a mysterious and enigmatic country. It was slowly opening its doors to the rest of the world, which it had previously isolated itself from. To Maurizio, this was absolutely fascinating and out of this world; he felt like he was on a 1950s movie set. During his trips, he went through a series of experiences – from comical to emotional – that strengthened him as an entrepreneur and made him the man he is today. The charm and magic of the old People's Republic doesn't exist anymore, but it remains in his heart and memories. This is what pushed him to recount his incredible journey, being one of only a handful of *Gweilos* that had the chance to appreciate and get to know China in those years. With this book, Maurizio wants to honor the courageous and noble people of the Republic, who, in exchange for a small bowl of rice, set the basis for the future generations and modern day China.

Maurizio's daughter Valentina, born in 1991, grew up listening to her father's fascinating stories of 1980s China. She is the one who pushed him to compile his memories and had a fundamental role in the making of GWEILO.

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