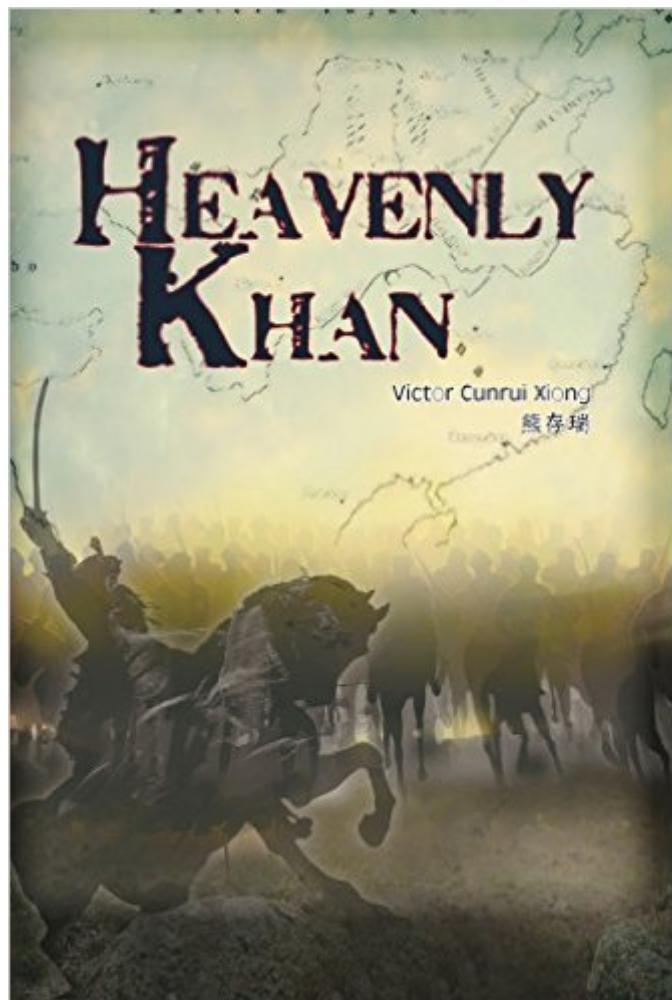


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Heavenly Khan: A Biography Of Emperor Tang Taizong (Li Shimin)



Synopsis

For excerpts, see heavenly-khan.weebly.com

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Heavenly Khan is a historical novel based upon the rise of the Li family as the ruling dynasty of Tang China; coinciding with the fall of the Sui dynasty in the early 7th century. Primarily focusing upon the life and exploits of the acclaimed "greatest sovereign in Chinese History," Li Shimin (otherwise known as Tang Taizong), Victor Xiong began his novel with the Righteous Uprising led by Li Yuan--Li Shimin's father--and the subsequent foundation of the Tang dynasty after the death of the last Sui emperor, Yang Guang. Due to the style of the novel, the reader is placed within this turbulent and chaotic period of warring warlords for control of a fragmented China. Using the early exploits of the fledgling general, Li Shimin, in the Righteous Army (fighting for his father) a sense of his later military prowess and noble countenance is firmly established. Through political machinations, courtly intrigue, assassination plots, and daring scenes the reader quickly gains an understanding of how the Tang dynasty formed and how the personalities of Li Yuan and Li Shimin impacted China. By following his reign, Xiong clearly attempts to prove the claim of Li Shimin's exemplary position as the "Heavenly Khan." From the onset of the novel (in fact from the Author's Note) the reader is immediately aware of Victor Xiong's passion for the subject of Sui-Tang China. By staying true to the historical sources, and only making few adaptations for the benefit of a modern and non-historically trained audience, Heavenly Khan is a great tool for historical aficionados and novitiates alike.

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