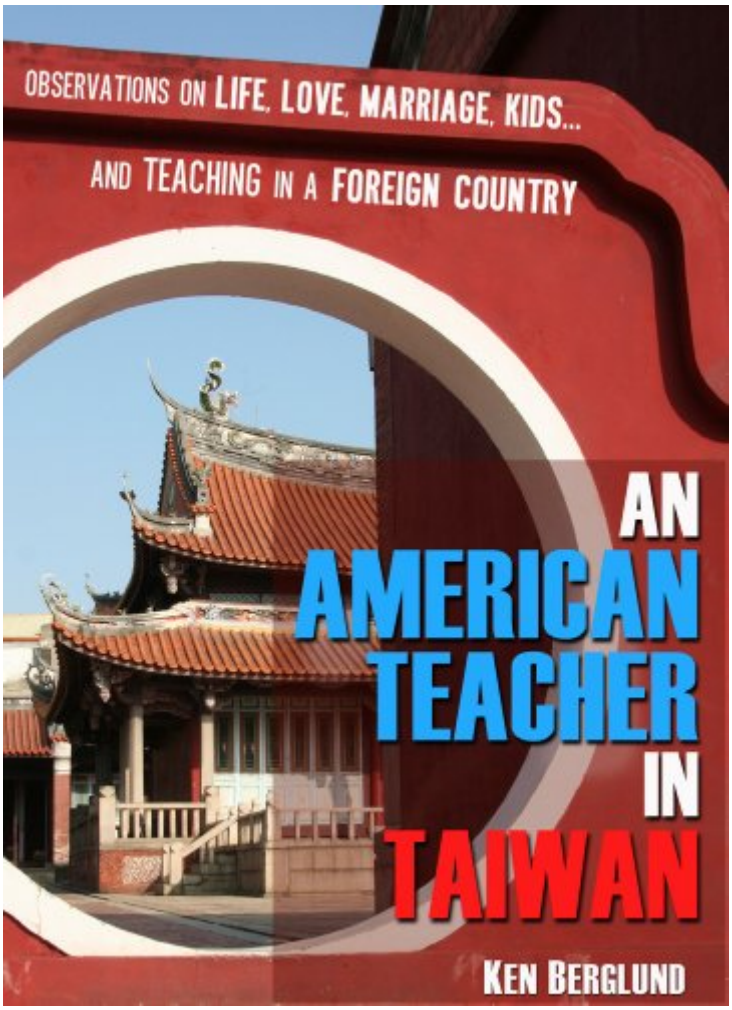
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An American Teacher In Taiwan



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Synopsis

One writer’s experience about living, working, dating, finding love, and raising kids in a foreign country.If you’ve ever thought about teaching English in an Asian country, then this book is for you. You’ll learn what to expect when you arrive, how to pick a good school, what qualifications you’ll need, how to come up with interesting ways to teach foreign kids, and much more.But this book goes much deeper than just teaching. The writer shares some very personal information about dating and finding a deep and meaningful relationship while living abroad. What starts out as a helpful guide to help newcomers arriving in Taiwan turns into a very heartwarming love story, as marriage, children, bizarre customs, and overbearing in-laws enter the picture.Filled with dozens of pictures, the author pulls no punches in his description of life in Taiwan. It’s not always pretty, but it’s always entertaining.READER PRAISE FOR "AN AMERICAN TEACHER IN TAIWAN""A truly unique read."- Clark Reviewer"It was compulsively readable, and I couldn’t put it down!"- A. Jeffers Reviewer"I was so enthralled with the author’s tale!"- Bar Lee Reviewer"A must read for anyone considering teaching English in Taiwan."-Chris Cennedy Reviewer

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Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed reading this book, but then I've had a similar life abroad as Ken and could relate to a lot of his experiences. Anyone who has been to China or Taiwan will appreciate his anecdotes, which are generally spot on. And if you're interested in living or teaching in this part of Asia, this is also a good resource to let you know what's in store. Ken sheds a lot of light on the inner workings of "cram schools" and how easy/hard it is to get by on an EFL teacher's salary.In fact, what really stood out to me in this book is how honest Ken is in sharing his personal life with the reader. The book includes photographs of people close to him and stories about his ex-wife, siblings, and in-laws that I don't think I would have the guts to divulge in my own writing. The teaching chapters are fun and useful, but it's the stuff about dating, raising a family, and dealing with his Taiwanese parents-in-law that make this a truly unique read.One thing you should be aware of, though, is that the book is a direct copy of the author's (now closed) blog. I'm not all that bothered if a blogger wants to monetize what they wrote online, but Ken keeps referring to the chapters here as "blog posts" and at one point even asks you to leave a comment at the end of the article. Um... seriously? These kind of moments broke the flow. I would have liked to see a little more editing take place before the book was published. Likewise, An American Teacher is full of grammatical typos that are harder to forgive coming from an English teacher.So I gotta knock off a star for the presentation, but don't let that deter you. This is definitely a good story and is one of the better "teacher abroad" memoirs I've read.

It starts out like the usual teaching-English-in-Asia story, but keep reading! This guy has an interesting family background and it is interwoven with his experiences in Taiwan. Then he meets and falls in love with a Chinese woman with her own strange family and the plot thickens. They marry and have two children before deciding to relocate to the U.S. It doesn't sound like much, but I got this book for free and was so caught up in the story that I actually PAID for the second installment. That's how good it is. The second book was as good as the first. He now writes fiction and I wish him the best of luck with that, but I hope he will continue to write about his family. I'll buy!

I read this book as I'm preparing to possibly move to Taiwan. There are certainly a lot of interesting thoughts and I did learn some tidbits about Taiwanese culture from the book. The huge problem for me was that as I read through the book, I couldn't help but feel that the author was unlikeable in many ways (always putting the blame on everyone else but himself) and many times really quite a jerk. Reading the book from his point of view really killed it for me... but maybe I will feel differently

once I get there. Who knows.

I really enjoyed this book and the author's advice and stories about teaching in Taiwan. The author is very open and honest, detailing highly personal events. In fact, I have to say that I became more invested in the author's personal life within the book than the teaching overseas aspect. I was so enthralled with the author's tale I purchased the sequel to this book before I even finished the first!

I just read this book this week. The author covers his move to Taiwan from the United States. He covers a number of interesting things about cultural issues he ran into, teaching there, meeting his wife, and other things. It is an interesting read. He writes in an easy going manner, as though in animated conversation. I enjoyed his style. Looking forward to reading more by this author.

I've thought about teaching English in Asia myself, so I was very interested in reading this memoir. I found plenty to like about the story-telling, and a lot to like about the observations and personality of the teacher. I also found some times I'd get frustrated and a little ticked off with the author too - like why did it seem that he didn't work hard to learn Mandarin when he was living so many years in Taiwan? But that's good too - the author did such a nice job of presenting his experiences that I felt like I got to know him, both good and bad points, like anyone you get to get to know as a friend.I'd recommend this book, not just to someone considering teaching English as a foreign language, but to anyone interested in ordinary life in a different country. One criticism: I wish the author had talked a bit more about his classes and students. You'd think they were a big part of his life as a teacher, but there was a lot more about his grumpy future father-in-law than anyone in his classes.

Down to earth and personable. Always like reading about other people's adventure. I wish him and his family good luck.

Although I don't think the author was ill-intentioned I found many sections of this book to be borderline racist against Taiwanese people. Often negative general statements were made about Taiwanese people that weren't justified.Also, I found the structure of this book to be extremely jumbled. At one point he may be talking about getting married to a Taiwanese woman, and the next chapter is his 3rd day in Taiwan. There seemed to be no coherent narrative arc and the chapters weren't insightful.I do not recommend reading this book.

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