



# Lijia Zhang

Writer, Journalist,  
Social Commentator

Travels from Beijing  
for an American  
Speaking Tour

Spring 2010

## About Lijia Zhang

This determined, talented young woman was born and raised in Nanjing, China. Her articles have appeared in many international publications including *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal/Asian Edition*, *Newsweek* (U.S.); *South China Morning Post* (China); *Japan Times* (Japan); and *The Independent*, *The Observer*, *New Statesman* (U.K.). She is a regular speaker or guest on BBC Radio, NPR and CNN. She is also a talk show host on Bonlive, where she recently interviewed Australian ambassador Dr. Geoff Raby on "How much has China changed." Lijia lives in Beijing with her two daughters. To learn more, visit [www.lijiazhang.com](http://www.lijiazhang.com).

## A few recent activities

Fellowship, International Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa, sponsored by U.S. Department of State, August-November 2009. • Interview, "Social Status of Chinese Women," Chinalogue Episode 2A, Blue Ocean Network/BON TV, August 2009 • Residency, Chateau Lavigny, Switzerland, June 23-July 13, 2009. • Subject of half-hour TV documentary on "Peschardt's People," BBC World, May 2009, and host of shows for BBC World. • Author, "Here Come the Workers," *The New York Times*, May 30, 2009. • Speaker, US Embassy, Beijing, April 24, 2009. • Speaker, Asian Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, March, 2009. • Voted one of "40 Beijing Heroes" by TimeOut Beijing, October 2008.

## Speech topics

Lijia Zhang brings an authentic overview of China's place in today's world, with an insight into the country where she grew up. She can speak on any number of topics relating to her native China, including subjects in her book and dozens of articles. Self-taught in English, she writes with easy charm and speaks with humor and eloquence.

## For further information

To learn more about Lijia Zhang or to inquire about her availability for your organization, please contact Jo Morello at 941-351-9688 or [jo@jomorello.com](mailto:jo@jomorello.com).



**Socialism is Great!**  
**A Worker's Memoir**  
**of the New China**  
by Lijia Zhang

Written in English, this spirited memoir recounts Lijia Zhang's journey from a disillusioned rocket factory girl to organizer of a pro-democracy demonstration in 1989. The book's title was taken from a revolutionary song which she sang with fellow workers while making intercontinental missiles for the Peoples Republic of China.

"...gentle, funny and wry. I enjoyed it tremendously."  
—Arundhati Roy

"Beautiful . . . A notable historical document and a vivid, affecting portrait of a young woman's resolve."  
—Kirkus Reviews

"A truly original contribution to our understanding of modern China."  
—Prof. Jonathan D. Spence, author of *The Death of Woman Wang and Return to Dragon Mountain*

"A literary gem. . . ." —Da Chen,  
author of *Colors of the Mountain*

". . .the story of how idealism and romance can flourish in a cold, hard soil."  
—James Kynge, author of *China Shakes the World*; former Beijing bureau chief,  
*The Financial Times*

"A beautiful memoir...this is a true tale of aspiration: a young woman coming of age in a nation desperately trying to do the same."  
— Peter Hessler, author of *River Town*,  
former Beijing correspondent,  
*The New Yorker*.

• Atlas & Company, Hardcover, \$24; 320 pages, ISBN: 978-0-9777433-7-7.

• Random House, Paperback, \$15; 384 pages, May 2009 ISBN: 978-0-307-47219-9 (0-307-47219-1).

