

barbara demick nothing to envy

Barbara Demick Nothing to Envy is a compelling exploration of life inside North Korea, offering readers an intimate glimpse into the experiences of ordinary North Koreans. Through her meticulous research and heartfelt storytelling, Barbara Demick sheds light on a society often shrouded in secrecy and propaganda. Her book, "Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea," has become a seminal work in understanding the complexities of North Korean life beyond the regime's official narrative. This article delves into the key themes of Demick's work, the impact it has had on global perceptions of North Korea, and why it remains a vital read for anyone interested in human rights, politics, and social resilience.

Understanding North Korea Through Barbara Demick's Perspective

Who is Barbara Demick?

Barbara Demick is an accomplished American journalist and author known for her in-depth reporting on North Korea. Her career spans several decades, during which she has contributed to prominent outlets such as the Los Angeles Times. Her extensive fieldwork and interviews provide a rare and authentic perspective on North Korean society, making her work a pivotal resource for understanding this secretive nation.

The Significance of "Nothing to Envy"

Published in 2009, "Nothing to Envy" is a nonfiction narrative based on interviews with defectors who escaped North Korea. Demick's approach is to humanize the individuals behind the headlines, moving beyond political rhetoric to showcase their personal stories. The book's title itself underscores the paradox of life in North Korea—where citizens often have "nothing to envy" according to state propaganda, yet their lives are filled with hardship and longing for freedom.

Key Themes Explored in "Nothing to Envy"

Daily Life in North Korea

Demick paints a vivid picture of everyday life in North Korea, illustrating how ordinary people navigate a society marked by scarcity, strict control, and pervasive propaganda.

- Food shortages and rationing: Many North Koreans live with chronic hunger, relying on government-issued rations that are often inadequate.
- Work and education: Employment is tied to loyalty and political standing, with education

heavily emphasizing loyalty to the regime and the Kim family.

- **Family and social networks:** Despite hardships, strong familial bonds and community support serve as vital sources of resilience.

The Role of Propaganda and Ideology

Demick highlights how the North Korean government employs propaganda to foster a cult of personality around Kim Jong-il and Kim Jong-un, and to maintain social order.

- **State-controlled media:** Citizens are bombarded with messages portraying North Korea as a prosperous and victorious nation.
- **Myth-making around the regime:** The leaders are depicted as benevolent and infallible, creating a sense of loyalty and fear.
- **Impact on citizens:** Many North Koreans accept or internalize these narratives, though some secretly harbor doubts or seek information from outside sources.

Defectors' Stories: Glimpses Beyond the Border

A core element of Demick's work is the interviews with defectors, which reveal the stark realities behind North Korea's closed doors.

1. **Ji-Lyong's story:** A young man who escapes to South Korea, sharing his experiences of forced labor and ideological indoctrination.
2. **Mi-Rae's journey:** A woman who dreams of freedom and faces harsh consequences for her attempts to learn about the outside world.
3. **Young families:** Their narratives expose the struggles of raising children in an environment of scarcity and surveillance.

Impact and Reception of "Nothing to Envy"

Global Awareness and Policy Influence

Demick's book has significantly contributed to international understanding of North Korea, influencing policymakers, human rights organizations, and scholars.

- Human rights advocacy: The vivid stories have galvanized efforts to address North Korean abuses.
- Diplomatic perspectives: Providing context for negotiations and discussions about North Korea's nuclear program and stability.
- Educational tool: Used in academic settings to foster awareness and critical thinking about authoritarian regimes.

Critical Acclaim and Awards

"Nothing to Envy" received widespread praise for its compelling storytelling and thorough research.

- Winner of the Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction (2010)
- Recognized for bringing human stories to the forefront of geopolitical discourse
- Lauded for its nuanced and empathetic portrayal of North Korean citizens

Why "Nothing to Envy" Remains a Must-Read

Insight into Human Resilience

Demick's work exemplifies the resilience of ordinary people living under extraordinary circumstances. Her portrayal emphasizes that despite oppression and hardship, hope and humanity persist.

Understanding the Power of Personal Storytelling

By focusing on individual narratives, Demick demonstrates how personal stories can challenge stereotypes and foster empathy across cultures and political divides.

Relevance to Contemporary Issues

With ongoing concerns about North Korea's nuclear ambitions, human rights violations, and regional stability, "Nothing to Envy" provides essential context and understanding for policymakers, students, and global citizens.

Conclusion

Barbara Demick's "Nothing to Envy" is more than just a book; it is a vital window into the lives of North Koreans who live behind the Iron Curtain. Through detailed storytelling and rigorous reporting, Demick humanizes a society often depicted only through headlines and diplomatic tensions. Her work underscores the importance of understanding individual experiences amidst geopolitical complexities and reminds us of the universal desire for freedom, dignity, and hope. Whether you are interested in human rights, international relations, or simply compelling storytelling, "Nothing to Envy" offers invaluable insights that resonate long after the last page.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of Barbara Demick's 'Nothing to Envy'?

The book explores the lives of ordinary North Koreans, highlighting their struggles, hopes, and the realities of life under the North Korean regime.

How does Barbara Demick's 'Nothing to Envy' differ from other books about North Korea?

It provides in-depth, personal stories from defectors, offering a rare, humanized perspective on North Korean society beyond political analysis.

Which real-life stories are featured in 'Nothing to Envy'?

The book features detailed accounts of several defectors, including their experiences with poverty, propaganda, family loyalty, and the desire for freedom.

Why has 'Nothing to Envy' gained popularity internationally?

Its compelling personal narratives and insightful portrayal of North Korean society have resonated with readers seeking to understand the human side of this secretive regime.

What impact has 'Nothing to Envy' had on public understanding of North Korea?

It has significantly increased awareness of the everyday realities faced by North Koreans and challenged stereotypes by providing nuanced, first-hand accounts.

Who is the primary audience for 'Nothing to Envy'?

The book appeals to readers interested in international affairs, human rights, North Korean history, and personal stories of resilience and hope.

Has 'Nothing to Envy' influenced policy discussions or activism regarding North Korea?

While primarily a journalistic and literary work, it has contributed to raising awareness and fostering empathy, potentially influencing policy debates and advocacy efforts.

Additional Resources

Barbara Demick's "Nothing to Envy": An Unflinching Portrait of Life in North Korea

Introduction

Barbara Demick's "Nothing to Envy" offers an unprecedented glimpse into the secretive and often misunderstood world of North Korea. Through meticulous research, interviews, and firsthand accounts, Demick crafts a compelling narrative that humanizes North Korean citizens and sheds light on their daily struggles, hopes, and fears. This book stands out as one of the most comprehensive and nuanced journalistic efforts to understand life inside the Hermit Kingdom, bridging the gap between Western perceptions and the realities faced by ordinary North Koreans.

The Genesis of the Book and Its Context

Background and Motivation

Barbara Demick, a seasoned journalist and former Beijing bureau chief for the Los Angeles Times, embarked on her journey into North Korean life amid increasing international concern over the country's nuclear ambitions and geopolitical isolation. Recognizing the dearth of personal stories from North Korea, Demick sought to humanize the political and ideological narratives that dominate Western media.

Sources and Methodology

Demick's approach was rooted in extensive interviews with defectors—former North Koreans who escaped the oppressive regime. These accounts provided invaluable insights into the daily lives of ordinary citizens, their aspirations, fears, and the pervasive control exerted by the state. She supplemented these with expert analyses, satellite imagery, and defector testimonies to build a layered and authentic portrait.

Overview of "Nothing to Envy"

Structure and Narrative Style

The book is divided into thematic chapters, each exploring facets of North Korean society—from family life and education to work, propaganda, and the fear of punishment. Demick employs a journalistic yet empathetic tone, weaving individual stories into a cohesive narrative that captures the complexity of life behind the "bamboo curtain."

Key Themes Explored

- Life under authoritarian rule: The pervasive propaganda, surveillance, and control mechanisms.
- Economic hardship: The impact of sanctions, isolation, and government policies on daily sustenance.
- Family and social bonds: How relationships are shaped by loyalty, fear, and survival.
- Escape and defection: The motivations, risks, and journeys undertaken by defectors seeking freedom.
- Hope and resilience: Despite oppression, stories of perseverance and small acts of rebellion.

Deep Dive into Life in North Korea

The Daily Reality: Food, Work, and Routine

North Korea's economy is one of the most controlled and isolated in the world. Demick's interviews reveal a society where:

- Food scarcity is pervasive: Many families face hunger, relying on government rations that are often insufficient or unreliable.
- Work is dictated by the state: Most citizens are employed in collective farms, factories, or government offices, with little personal choice.
- Routine is regimented: The day begins early with mandatory political meetings, followed by work, and evenings are filled with propaganda broadcasts or family time.

Impact on citizens

The scarcity and rigid schedule foster a sense of resignation but also camaraderie among neighbors and colleagues. Children grow up understanding that their loyalty to the regime ensures survival.

Propaganda and Indoctrination

The North Korean regime employs extensive propaganda to maintain control:

- Cult of personality: The leaders, Kim Il-sung, Kim Jong-il, and Kim Jong-un, are venerated as divine figures.
- Education: School curricula emphasize loyalty to the regime, glorify the leaders, and depict the West as enemies.
- Media control: The state monopolizes information, with citizens having limited access to outside news.

Demick illustrates how this propaganda shapes perceptions, instills patriotism, and suppresses dissent.

Surveillance and Fear

The regime's surveillance apparatus creates an atmosphere of constant vigilance:

- Informants: Citizens are encouraged or coerced into reporting on neighbors or family members.
- Punishments: Defections, dissent, or even perceived disloyalty can lead to imprisonment, forced

labor, or execution.

- Fear of punishment: Many citizens live in apprehension, leading to self-censorship.

This climate ensures a tight grip on individual behavior and maintains regime stability.

Human Stories: The Heartbeat of the Book

Demick's strength lies in her ability to bring individual stories to life, transforming abstract political realities into relatable human experiences.

The Families in Chongjin

Chongjin, a northeastern city, becomes a focal point as Demick profiles families living under the regime:

- The Kim family: Their story exemplifies resilience amid hardship. Despite scarcity, they prioritize education and hope for a better future.
- The Park family: Their son's defection to China underscores the desperation and risks involved.

Defectors' Journeys

Several defectors recount perilous escapes:

- Crossing the border: Many risk death in the treacherous journey through China and Southeast Asia.
- Life after defection: Adjusting to freedom is often complicated by trauma, cultural shock, and the challenge of building anew.

These stories underscore the human cost of political repression and the universal desire for freedom.

The Psychological Toll and Resilience

Demick delves into the mental state of North Koreans:

- Internalized loyalty: Many genuinely believe in the regime's ideology, a testament to the effectiveness of indoctrination.
- Coping mechanisms: Humor, familial bonds, and small acts of defiance serve as resilience strategies.
- Psychological scars: Defectors often carry lasting trauma, guilt, or disillusionment.

Amid hardship, Demick portrays a nuanced picture of hope—an enduring human spirit seeking dignity in an oppressive system.

Critical Reception and Impact

Academic and International Response

"Nothing to Envy" has been lauded for its meticulous research and empathetic storytelling. Scholars appreciate its contribution to understanding North Korea beyond headlines and diplomatic rhetoric.

Influence on Policy and Awareness

The book has influenced policymakers, journalists, and activists by providing a vivid, humanized account that underscores the importance of engagement and the need for nuanced diplomacy.

The Broader Significance

Understanding North Korea Today

Demick's work remains relevant as North Korea continues to pose challenges—nuclear tests, humanitarian crises, and diplomatic tensions. Her portraits remind us that behind the political posturing are individuals whose lives are shaped by the regime's policies.

Lessons on Humanity and Empathy

"Nothing to Envy" teaches the importance of empathy in international affairs. Recognizing the humanity of North Koreans doesn't diminish the need for sanctions or diplomacy but enriches our understanding and approach.

Conclusion

Barbara Demick's "Nothing to Envy" stands as a landmark journalistic achievement—an intimate, comprehensive, and poignant exploration of life inside North Korea. Through vivid storytelling and rigorous research, the book humanizes a society often depicted solely through political lens, revealing the hopes, fears, and resilience of its ordinary people. It challenges readers to see beyond headlines and understand a complex nation rooted in a quest for survival, dignity, and sometimes, change. As North Korea continues to be a focal point of global concern, Demick's work offers enduring insights into the lives of those who live behind the regime's iron curtain, reminding us of the universal human desire for freedom and a better life.

[Barbara Demick Nothing To Envy](#)

barbara demick nothing to envy: *Nothing to Envy* Barbara Demick, 2009-12-29 An eye-opening account of life inside North Korea—a closed world of increasing global importance—hailed as a “tour de force of meticulous reporting” (The New York Review of Books), with a new afterword that revisits these stories—and North Korea more broadly—in 2022, in the wake of the pandemic NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD FINALIST In this landmark addition to the literature of totalitarianism, award-winning journalist Barbara Demick follows the lives of six North Korean citizens over fifteen years—a chaotic

period that saw the death of Kim Il-sung, the rise to power of his son Kim Jong-il (the father of Kim Jong-un), and a devastating famine that killed one-fifth of the population. Demick brings to life what it means to be living under the most repressive regime today—an Orwellian world that is by choice not connected to the Internet, where displays of affection are punished, informants are rewarded, and an offhand remark can send a person to the gulag for life. She takes us deep inside the country, beyond the reach of government censors, and through meticulous and sensitive reporting we see her subjects fall in love, raise families, nurture ambitions, and struggle for survival. One by one, we witness their profound, life-altering disillusionment with the government and their realization that, rather than providing them with lives of abundance, their country has betrayed them. Praise for *Nothing to Envy* “Provocative . . . offers extensive evidence of the author’s deep knowledge of this country while keeping its sights firmly on individual stories and human details.”—The New York Times “Deeply moving . . . The personal stories are related with novelistic detail.”—The Wall Street Journal “A tour de force of meticulous reporting.”—The New York Review of Books “Excellent . . . humanizes a downtrodden, long-suffering people whose individual lives, hopes and dreams are so little known abroad.”—San Francisco Chronicle “The narrow boundaries of our knowledge have expanded radically with the publication of *Nothing to Envy*. . . . Elegantly structured and written, [it] is a groundbreaking work of literary nonfiction.”—John Delury, Slate “At times a page-turner, at others an intimate study in totalitarian psychology.”—The Philadelphia Inquirer

barbara demick nothing to envy: Summary of Barbara Demick's *Nothing to Envy* Everest Media, 2022-03-05T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 North Korea is a country that has fallen out of the developed world. The country is covered in darkness, which is something that teenagers love. #2 In the late 1990s, North Koreans would meet in the dark to escape the prying eyes of the authorities. The girl would lead her boyfriend to a hot-spring resort outside of town, where the grounds were poorly maintained but the trees were still beautiful. #3 When I met Mi-ran, she was a 31-year old woman living in South Korea. She had defected six years earlier. I wanted to know what life was like for defectors in North Korea, so I interviewed her. #4 In 2004, Mi-ran was a kindergarten teacher in a mining town in North Korea. She was working toward a graduate degree in education. She had a dream about her boyfriend, a South Korean civilian military employee, who had married her the previous year.

barbara demick nothing to envy: *Nothing to Envy* Barbara Demick, 2013-05-01 WINNER OF THE 2010 SAMUEL JOHNSON PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION What if the world imagined by George Orwell in *Nineteen Eighty-four* was real? What if everything around you was black and white except for the red letters on propaganda signs? Where spies like Orwell's thought Police studied your facial expressions during political rallies to make sure you were sincere in your expressions and your thoughts? If you couldn't turn the dials of your radio away from the government station? In fact, there is such a place: North Korea, the only country not connected to the Internet by choice. Ruled over by a dictator, visible only in carefully controlled images, it's a mysterious, even sinister country. But it's also a place where 22 million people live, work, and dream of a different life. Journalist Barbara Demick spent a decade covering North Korea's strange politics and regulations. Then one day she met a young woman defector, Mi-ran, who told her about growing up there; about the cinema she used to go to when the country still had electricity, and about the teenage romance which blossomed there. Through Mi-ran's story Demick glimpsed another, more human side of North Korea. In *Nothing to Envy*, Demick re-traces the life of Mi-ran and of five other North Koreans, taking us into the heart of an elusive society. We see her subjects fall in love, nurture ambitions, and struggle with survival and betrayal. Their stories form a haunting portrait of a bizarre society and the cost it exacts on its citizens.

barbara demick nothing to envy: Summary of Barbara Demick's *Nothing to Envy* by Swift Reads Swift Reads, 2019-06-28 Barbara Demick's *Nothing to Envy* (2009) traces the lives of six North Korean defectors from Chongjin, a city in northeastern North Korea in North Hamgyong Province. The narrative examines their daily lives and occupations... Purchase this in-depth summary to learn more.

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barbara demick nothing to envy: When History Had Other Plans Allison McKenzie, 2025-01-28 When History Had Other Plans consists of 12 stand-alone chapters which immediately furnish the reader with attention-grabbing one-liners, as evidenced in its choice of chapter titles - Hitler Ended Racism; More Environmentalism, More CO2; The West Encouraged Putin by Discouraging Him - ensuring that it will pique interest and stir up debate. One line, one story, one chapter. There are no abstractions, no theories, no musings; just verifiable facts.

barbara demick nothing to envy: History's 9 Most Insane Rulers Scott Rank, 2020-05-12 Madness and Power. Can the insane rule? Can insanity be a leadership quality? Scott Rank says yes (well, sometimes) in this fascinating look at nine of history's most notorious rulers, from the Roman emperor Caligula to the North Korean Communist dictator Kim Jong-il. Rank paints intimate portraits of these deeply flawed but powerful men, examining the role that madness played in their lives, the repercussions of their madness on history, and what their madness can tell us about the times in which they lived. In History's 9 Most Insane Rulers, you will meet: • King Charles VI of France, who thought he was made of glass • Sultan Ibrahim I, who was driven mad by the sadistic succession battles of the Ottoman Empire • Caligula, who built temples to himself and whose reign highlighted the lethal tensions between the power of the new Imperial Rome and the prerogatives of the old Roman Republic • The Russian tsar who became known as Ivan "the Terrible" • King George III of Britain, who not only lost his American colonies, but lost his mind as well • Bavaria's "Mad" King Ludwig II, who left the world richer for his fabulous fairy tale castles and his patronage of the composer Richard Wagner Insane rulers did not die off with the last of the mad monarchs who inherited their power. Rank also examines the rise to power of crazed modern rulers, such as Idi Amin, who began as a lowly army cook and rose to the presidency of Uganda, and Saparmurat Niyazov, who ruled Turkmenistan and promoted a bizarre cult of personality around himself. Both entertaining and illuminating, History's 9 Most Insane Rulers is a must-read for anyone interested in the role insanity has played in history.

barbara demick nothing to envy: A Kim Jong-Il Production Paul Fischer, 2024-05-01 The absurd, harrowing, and true story of South Korean cinema stars kidnapped by Kim Jong-Il and forced to make movies before their daring escape (Esquire.com). Before becoming the world's most notorious dictator, Kim Jong-Il ran North Korea's Ministry for Propaganda and its film studios. Underwhelmed by the talent pool available to him, he took drastic steps, ordering the kidnapping of Choi Eun-Hee (Madam Choi)—South Korea's most famous actress—and her ex-husband Shin Sang-Ok, the country's most famous filmmaker. When Madam Choi vanished, Shin went to Hong Kong to investigate—where he, too, was abducted. While Choi lived in isolated luxury, Choi was sent to a prison camp and re-educated. When the couple was reunited, it was announced that they would remarry and act as the Dear Leader's film advisors. Together they made seven films, gaining Kim Jong-Il's trust in the process. While pretending to research a film in Vienna, they flee to the US embassy and are swept to safety. A nonfiction thriller packed with tension, passion, and politics, A Kim Jong-Il Production offers a rare glimpse into a secretive world, illuminating a fascinating chapter of North Korea's history that helps explain how it became the hermetically sealed, intensely stage-managed country it is today.

barbara demick nothing to envy: Seasteading Joe Quirk, 2017-03-21 In these "thought-provoking visions of the future" (The Wall Street Journal), Joe Quirk and Patri Friedman of the Seasteading Institute explain how ocean cities can solve many of our environmental, technological, and civic problems, and introduce the visionaries and pioneers who are now making seasteading a reality. Our planet has been suffering from serious environmental problems and their social and political consequences. But imagine a vast new source of sustainable and renewable

energy that would also bring more equitable economies. A previously untapped source of farming that could produce significant new sources of nutrition. Future societies where people could choose the communities they want to live in, free from the restrictions of conventional citizenship. This extraordinary vision of our near future as imagined in Seasteading attracted the powerful support of Silicon Valley's Peter Thiel—and it may be drawing close to reality. Facing growing environmental threats, French Polynesia has already signed on to build some of the world's first seasteads. Joe Quirk and Patri Friedman show us how cities built on floating platforms in the ocean will work, and they profile some of the visionaries who are implementing basic concepts of seasteading today. An entrepreneur's dream, these floating cities will become laboratories for innovation and creativity. Seasteading "offers hope for a future when life on land has grown grim" (Kirkus Reviews), proving the adage that yesterday's science fiction is tomorrow's science fact.

barbara demick nothing to envy: The Journal of Korean Studies, Volume 19, Number 2 (Fall 2014) Clark W. Sorensen, Donald Baker, 2014-12-16 The University of Washington-Korea Studies Program, in collaboration with Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, is proud to publish the Journal of Korean Studies. In 1979 Dr. James Palais (PhD Harvard 1968), former UW professor of Korean History edited and published the first volume of the Journal of Korean Studies. For thirteen years it was a leading academic forum for innovative, in-depth research on Korea. In 2004 former editors Gi-Wook Shin and John Duncan revived this outstanding publication at Stanford University. In August 2008 editorial responsibility transferred back to the University of Washington. With the editorial guidance of Clark Sorensen and Donald Baker, the Journal of Korean Studies (JKS) continues to be dedicated to publishing outstanding articles, from all disciplines, on a broad range of historical and contemporary topics concerning Korea. In addition the JKS publishes reviews of the latest Korea-related books.

barbara demick nothing to envy: You Know The Glory, Not The Story!: 25 Journeys Towards Ikigai Rahul Singh, Naresh Kumar Agarwal, 2021-09-29 The Japanese word, Ikigai means 'reason for being'. Think of what you love, what you are good at, what you can be paid for, and what the world needs. When these come together, you get your Ikigai. However, Ikigai can be beyond these four components and doesn't have to include any or all of them. The moments each day where you live fully — engaging in a hobby or pursuit, learning, connecting with people, being useful, choosing empathy over apathy, and being in the present — and the small joys that inhabit those moments make your Ikigai. You can have more than one Ikigai and it can change with time. You already have your Ikigai and just need to discover it! The book unveils the life journeys of 25 teens that left India for the uncharted waters of Singapore in the 1990s and early 2000s. Each story started with engineering and took the person to one's calling — dance, filmmaking, entrepreneurship, mountaineering, philanthropy, research, and even monkhood. Did they find their Ikigai? Uncover the pages to find out!

barbara demick nothing to envy: Robert Ludlum's (TM) The Janson Equation Douglas Corleone, 2015-06-02 To prevent a war in Asia -- one that could quickly spread to the rest of the world -- Paul Janson and Jessica Kincaid must learn the truth behind a young woman's murder... Prominent U.S. Senator James Wyckoff hires former government agents-turned-private security consultants Janson and Kincaid to locate his teenage son Gregory. Gregory's girlfriend Lynell has been found strangled in a Seoul hotel, and Gregory has fled the city to avoid being arrested for the crime. But Senator Wyckoff insists that his son is innocent, suggesting that Lynell, who was a translator, may have been murdered because of something she overheard at a recent international conference. And when Janson and Kincaid realize they're being hunted by an assassin, they suspect that this crime--and the cover-up--were orchestrated by a shadowy unit of the U.S. State Department as part of a larger plot to provoke violence between North and South Korea.

barbara demick nothing to envy: East Asia's Other Miracle Alex J. Bellamy, 2017-10-06 East Asia, until recently the scene of widespread blood-letting, has achieved relative peace. A region that at the height of the Cold War had accounted for around eighty percent of the world's mass atrocities has experienced such a decline in violence that by 2015 it accounted for less than five

percent. This book explains East Asia's 'other' miracle and asks whether it is merely a temporary blip in the historical cycle or the dawning of a new, and more peaceful, era for the region. It argues that the decline of mass atrocities in East Asia resulted from four interconnected factors: the consolidation of states and emergence of responsible sovereigns; the prioritization of economic development through trade; the development of norms and habits of multilateralism, and transformations in the practice of power politics. Particular attention is paid to North Korea and Myanmar, countries whose experience has bucked regional trends largely because these states have not succeeded in consolidating themselves to the point where they no longer depend on violence to survive. Although the region faces several significant future challenges, this book argues that the much reduced incidence of mass atrocities in East Asia is likely to be sustained into the foreseeable future.

barbara demick nothing to envy: So Great a Salvation Gene L. Green, Stephen T. Pardue, K. K. Yeo, 2017-10-30 In *So Great a Salvation* nine scholars from the global church reflect on soteriology in the Majority World. The doctrine of salvation is not a mere theological construct but, rather, a matter of eternal life and death that should not be treated lightly, as is often the case. Taking African, Asian, Latin American, and First Nations cultural contexts into account, this book allows readers to see God's creative deliverance in a fresh light.

barbara demick nothing to envy: Stop North Korea! Shepherd Iverson, 2017-03-07 ING_08
Review quote

barbara demick nothing to envy: Contemporary Slavery Annie Bunting, Joel Quirk, 2018-05-15 This volume brings together a cast of leading experts to carefully explore how the history and iconography of slavery has been invoked to support a series of government interventions, activist projects, legal instruments, and rhetorical performances. However well-intentioned these interventions might be, they nonetheless remain subject to a host of limitations and complications. Recent efforts to combat contemporary slavery are too often sensationalist, self-serving, and superficial and, therefore, end up failing the crucial test of speaking truth to power. The widely held notion that antislavery is one of those rare issues that transcends politics or ideology is only sustainable because the underlying issues at stake have been constructed and demarcated in a way that minimizes direct challenges to dominant political and economic interests. This must change. By providing an original approach to the underlying issues at stake, *Contemporary Slavery* will help readers understand the political practices that have been concealed beneath the popular rhetoric and establishes new conversations between scholars of slavery and trafficking and scholars of human rights and social movements. Contributors: Jean Allain, Jonathan Blagbrough, Roy Brooks, Annie Bunting, Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick, Andrew Crane, Rhoda Howard-Hassmann, Fuyuki Kurasawa, Benjamin Lawrance, Joel Quirk, and Darshan Vigneswaran

barbara demick nothing to envy: North Korea in Transition Kyung-Ae Park, Scott Snyder, 2012-10-05 Following the death of Kim Jong Il, North Korea has entered a period of profound transformation laden with uncertainty. This authoritative book brings together the world's leading North Korea experts to analyze both the challenges and prospects the country is facing. Drawing on the contributors' expertise across a range of disciplines, the book examines North Korea's political, economic, social, and foreign policy concerns. Considering the implications for Pyongyang's transition, it focuses especially on the transformation of ideology, the Worker's Party of Korea, the military, effects of the Arab Spring, the emerging merchant class, cultural infiltration from the South, Western aid, and global economic integration. The contributors also assess the impact of North Korea's new policies on China, South Korea, the United States, and the rest of the world. Comprehensive and deeply knowledgeable, their analysis is especially crucial given the power consolidation efforts of the new leadership underway in Pyongyang and the implications for both domestic and international politics. Contributions by: Nicholas Anderson, Charles Armstrong, Bradley Babson, Victor Cha, Bruce Cumings, Nicholas Eberstadt, Ken Gause, David Kang, Andrei Lankov, Woo Young Lee, Liu Ming, Haksoon Paik, Kyung-Ae Park, Terence Roehrig, Jungmin Seo, and Scott Snyder.

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