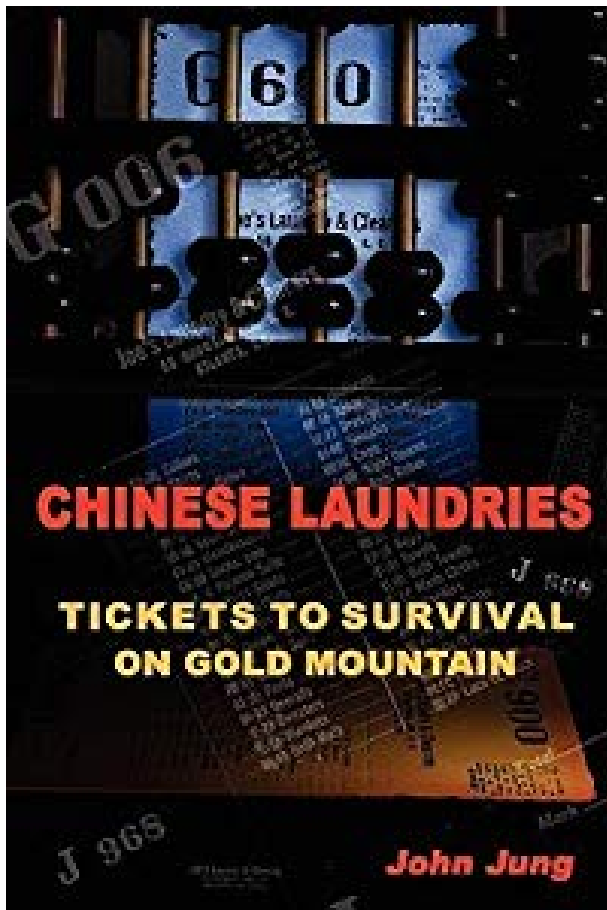


Chinese Laundries: Tickets to Survival on Gold Mountain



Author:	John Jung
ISBN10:	1430329793
Goodreads Rating:	3.92
Published:	February 8th 2008 by Lulu.com
Genre:	Uncategorized
ISBN13:	9781430329794
Language	English
Pages:	258

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A social history of the role of the Chinese laundry on the survival of early Chinese immigrants in the U.S. during the Chinese Exclusion law period, 1882-1943, and in Canada during the years of the Head Tax, 1885-1923, and exclusion law, 1923-1947. Why and how Chinese got into the laundry business and how they had to fight discriminatory laws and competition from white-owned laundries to survive.

Description of their lives, work demands, and living conditions. Reflections by a sample of children who grew up living in the backs of their laundries provide vivid first-person glimpses of the difficult lives of Chinese laundrymen and their families.