



## The Hotel on the Roof of the World: Five Years in Tibet

By Alec Le Sueur

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On a par with the best of Bill Bryson and Pico Iyer, Alec Le Sueur's bestselling insider account of life at the world famous Holiday Inn, Lhasa, Tibet (altitude 14,000 feet) pits Communist owners against capitalist manager to create a chain hotel in Shangri-La. Against all odds, heroic Tibetan workers fight with Chinese bosses who turn off the heat in reezing weather when occupancy falls below 20 percent. They struggle against Maoist bureaucrats trying to break up the first Miss Tibet beauty pageant. And they delicately remove the American Express card from the wallet of an apparently deceased guest to cover room charges. Nonstop hijinks make this one of the funniest travel books on the planet.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Le Sueur sees the funny side and provides us with the means of improving our knowledge" on Tibet. " -- *The Guardian*

A hilarious account of a clash of cultures.. a comparison with Fawlty Towers is inevitable, but this is funnier. -- *The Mail on Sunday*

Offers lucid details about living in a place that westerners tend to misunderstand. -- *Time Magazine*

#### From the Publisher

In this remarkable book, Alec LeSueur raises the bar on travel writing. Acclaimed as an instant classic, this book has hit bestseller lists across Europe and become a favorite of booksellers, reviewers and reading groups in the United States. LeSueur's wonderful writing style embraces not only the hilarity of a Communist hotel managed by an American hotel chain with an Italian manager, it sheds new light on the Tibetan political situation. This book is a joy to read.

#### From the Inside Flap

Are They Piping Oxygen or Laughing Gas?

When marketing wunderkind Alec Le Sueur signed on for a five-year stint at the Holiday Inn on the roof of the world in Lhasa, Tibet, no one told him the job required the wit and wisdom of a psychiatrist, the nose of an exterminator, the artistry of an emergency medical technician, and the diplomatic talent of a mortician. A staff trained with Fawlty Towers videos (until the comedies were seized by Communist authorities) served an eclectic mix of celebrities, diplomats, mountain climbers, spiritual pilgrims and cognoscenti circumnavigating the world in their own private jets. Le Sueur literally brings down the house with this internationally best-selling account of Communist owners and capitalist managers trying to create a chain hotel in Shangri-La. High prices, high altitude, high jinks and the ubiquitous Himalayan hamsters help turn the hotel into the set for a Tibetan situation comedy. Take a deep breath as you learn:

- . The story of an Italian manager, who takes time out from bedding down hotel guests to spend a few nights sleeping with his wife.
- . What happens when a pulse is found on an apparently deceased guest after staff has extracted an American Express card from his wallet to cover room charges.
- . How Communist managers tried to break up the first Miss Tibet beauty pageant.
- . The story behind the creation of the Hard Yak Cafe, a cash cow in a land badly in need of hard currency.
- . Why Chinese owners insisted on turning off the heat in freezing weather when occupancy fell below 20 percent.

*The Hotel On the Roof of the World* offers a rare, politically enlightening look at life behind the yak curtain and is a tribute to the heroic people of Tibet, who give all in their determination to make life at the top of the world a daily miracle.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Malcolm Khan:**

What do you think of book? It is just for students because they're still students or the idea for all people in the world, what best subject for that? Just simply you can be answered for that query above. Every person has different personality and hobby for every single other. Don't to be compelled someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great as well as important the book *The Hotel on the Roof of the World: Five Years in Tibet*. All type of book is it possible to see on many methods. You can look for the internet solutions or other social media.

#### **Cora Morrell:**

In this time globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to your account is *The Hotel on the Roof of the World: Five Years in Tibet* this publication consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some exploration when he makes this book. That is why this book appropriate all of you.

#### **Casey Larsen:**

With this era which is the greater man or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you must do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to possess a look at some books. On the list of books in the top listing in your reading list is usually *The Hotel on the Roof of the World: Five Years in Tibet*. This book that is qualified as *The Hungry Mountains* can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upward and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

#### **Sylvia Dozier:**

As a student exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library as well as to make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's heart or real their hobby. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring and can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is for being complicated. Book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever you want. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this *The Hotel on the Roof of the World: Five Years in Tibet* can make you truly feel more interested to read.

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