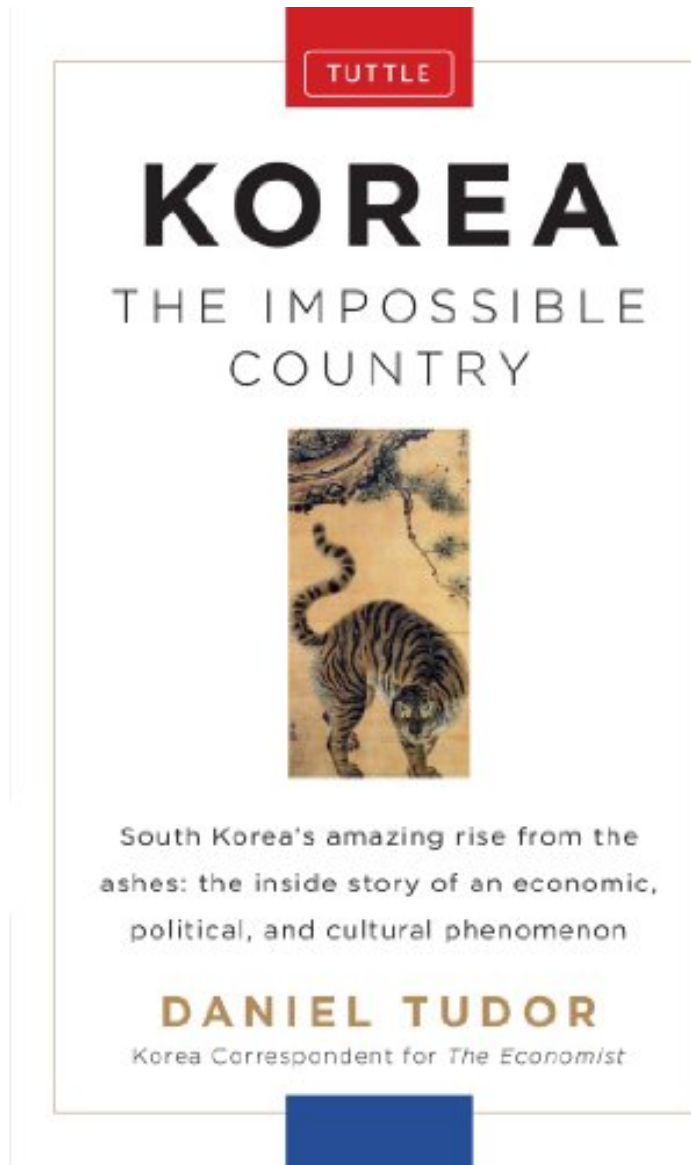


Korea: The Impossible Country

Daniel Tudor

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Daniel Tudor : Korea: The Impossible Country before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Korea: The Impossible Country:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Read before you go By Joshua B. Good Tudor achieves a sweeping overview of South Korea that gives Westerners just enough information to feel as if Korea isn't completely foreign. His emphasis centers on business and culture, though he covers history and food and other subjects. I would have liked to have had a chapter to read about current and future military aspects, such as North and South Korea's cyber war

capabilities, but there are plenty of other books that cover those topics. Overall it was enjoyable and educational. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Daniel Tudor is an excellent journalist with a lot of valuable insights into East ...By JSbordone Definitely in my top five books for East Asian history and culture! Daniel Tudor is an excellent journalist with a lot of valuable insights into East Asian current events in general, but he knocks it out of the park with this one. I'm an international relations major with a focus on East Asia, and this is the first book I recommend for anyone looking to learn about Korean society and history. Tudor incorporates Korean history just enough to explain cultural habits and phenomena, but never too much. He'll draw on Korean words once in a while, so the reader can have a brief encounter with Hangul. He's a phenomenal writer in general, and that shines through here. A gem for anyone looking to understand Korea and the Miracle on the Han in a deeper sense! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Before you take that job By Rick Segal From both a pure historical and business perspective, I found this book to be essential with respect to better understanding the people, culture, and on the ground ways business is done. I work for one of the largest companies in Korea. I understand more and have adjusted my style a bit to accomplish more. The book does focus on the upper middle class to more wealthier part of society so there's a bit of skew and inadvertently some stereotypical commentary that doesn't represent the whole country. Overall, excellent read and recommended.

South Korea's amazing rise from the ashes: the inside story of an economic, political, and cultural phenomenon Long overshadowed by Japan and China, South Korea is a small country that happens to be one of the great national success stories of the postwar period. From a failed state with no democratic tradition, ruined and partitioned by war, and sapped by a half-century of colonial rule, South Korea transformed itself in just fifty years into an economic powerhouse and a democracy that serves as a model for other countries. With no natural resources and a tradition of authoritarian rule, Korea managed to accomplish a second Asian miracle. Daniel Tudor is a journalist who has lived in and written about Korea for almost a decade. In *Korea: The Impossible Country*, Tudor examines Korea's cultural foundations; the Korean character; the public sphere in politics, business, and the workplace as well as the family, dating, and marriage. In doing so, he touches on topics as diverse as shamanism, clan-ism, the dilemma posed by North Korea, the myths about doing business in Korea, the Koreans' renowned hard-partying ethos, and why the infatuation with learning English is now causing huge social problems. South Korea has undergone two miracles at once: economic development and complete democratization. The question now is, will it become as some see Japan, a rich yet aging society, devoid of energy and momentum? Or will the dynamism of Korean society and its willingness to change; as well as the opportunity it has now to welcome outsiders into its fold; enable it to experience a third miracle that will propel it into the ranks of the world's leading nations in terms of human culture, democracy, and wealth? More than just one journalist's account, *Korea: The Impossible Country* also draws on interviews with many of the people who made South Korea what it is today. These include: Choi Min-sik, the star of "Old Boy". Park Won-soon, Mayor of Seoul. Soyeon Yi, Korea's first astronaut Hong Myung-bo, legendary captain of Korea's 2002 FIFA World Cup team. Shin Joong-hyun, the 'Godfather of Korean Rock'. Ko Un, poet. Hong Seok-cheon, restaurateur, and the first Korean celebrity to 'come out'. And many more, including a former advisor to President Park Chung-hee; a Shaman priestess ('mudang'); the boss of Korea's largest matchmaking agency; a 'room salon' hostess; an architect; as well as chefs, musicians, academics, entrepreneurs, homemakers, and chaebol conglomerate employees.

"Daniel Tudor covers all the important issues, yet does not simply tell the more familiar stories but looks deeper and wider to give the full story of Korea today." —Martin Uden, Former British Ambassador to South Korea "Recommended for expats and any readers who are keen to learn more about Asian cultures, *Korea: The Impossible Country* is a well-researched and authoritative window into a country and its people." —The Expat Magazine "Tudor, Seoul correspondent for *The Economist*, provides a fairly perfunctory account of the "miracle on the Han River", which saw South Korea transformed from postwar ruin to prosperous democracy within four decades. The book's real value comes in its exploration of the cultural forces behind the country's zeal for self-improvement." —Financial Times "Sixty years ago, South Korea was an economic wasteland. Today, it is not only the world's 11th largest economy, but also a vibrant democracy and an emerging cultural force. This transformation is the subject of a new book, *Korea: The Impossible Country*, by Daniel Tudor, Korea correspondent for the *Economist*." —Time Magazine "Mr. Tudor pushes into new social and economic territory with his book, including the rising role of immigrants, multicultural families and even gay people in South Korea. He lays out some of the contradictory behavior one finds in South Korea, such as the unending desire for new and trendy gadgets and fashion and yet the tunnel-like view of what constitutes a successful life." —Wall Street Journal "Tudor's *Korea: The Impossible Country* is a fascinating overview of daily life in Korea. Tudor's in-depth analysis is the one of an insider who has never lost sight of the view from the outside. His book helps you feel comfortable right from your first visit in Korea." —David Syz, Swiss Secretary of State for Economic Affairs "With a new generation every five years, it's hard to keep up with Korea. This book is long overdue but Daniel Tudor has done a magnificent job filling the gap. Not only has he captured the new Korea, but he does so in an effortless style that leaves the reader wanting more."

mdash;Michael Breen, author of *The Koreans*"Written with affection and deep knowledge, Daniel Tudor's book fills a huge gap in our understanding of one of Asia's least known countries. His engaging narrative overturns the stereotypes by depicting a society which, though full of stresses, strains and contradictions, has overcome poverty and dictatorship to become a prosperous democracy. South Korea's transformation into a vibrant, modern state is, as he says, a story that deserves to be better known. Tudor has done the "impossible country" a service by opening its secrets to the world." mdash;David Pilling, Asia Editor, *Financial Times*About the AuthorDaniel Tudor has lived in Seoul for a number of years and served as Korea Correspondent for *The Economist* from 2010u2013. His book, *North Korea Confidential* (with James Pearson), was selected by *The Economist* as one of the best books of 2015. He holds degrees from Oxford University and Manchester University in England and has worked in finance in both Korea and Switzerland.