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GOOD LUCK LIFE
The Essential Guide to
Chinese American Celebrations and Culture

Rosemary Gong

Why are so many Chinese restaurants decorated in firecracker red and imperial yellow? What's an ideal hostess gift when accepting a traditional Chinese dinner invitation? Should the lucky money inside a red envelope be spent or saved? The answers to these and many other questions can be found in **Good-Luck Life**, *The Essential Guide to Chinese American Celebrations and Culture*, by Rosemary Gong (HarperResource; February 1, 2005; \$14.95), available just in time for the start of Chinese New Year on February 9.

"I noticed a growing curiosity and thirst for things Chinese as mainstream America is entering and embracing the Chinese culture through intermarriage and adoption," says Rosemary Gong. It is projected that 10% of the U.S. population will hold Asian ancestry by mid-century, yet many of the third, fourth and future generations do not fully understand the traditions surrounding the Chinese festivals and celebrations of life's milestones.

Good Luck Life is a culmination of Gong's efforts to acquaint herself with her cultural heritage after practicing and observing Chinese celebrations while growing up Chinese in America. It details historical facts, legends, common practices, and celebratory foods. Once betuddled herself, Rosemary has compiled an easy-to-read, practical "how-to" and "why" cultural guide. From Dragon Boat Races to the Hungry Ghosts Feast, the Chinese wedding to the Red Egg and Ginger party for a newborn, this is the all-in-one guide for anyone—Chinese or otherwise—who is interested in learning more about this fascinating and complex culture.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Rosemary Gong was born and raised in California. She and her family were the only Asians in their Central Valley town, school, and church. A graduate of San Jose State University's School of Journalism and Mass Communications, she moved to San Francisco to join Saatchi and Saatchi Corporate Communications Group. Chinatown was her choice of residence – just around the corner from her immigrant grandparents. There, she developed an affinity for the places and the customs inherent in her culture.

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