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Sommario/riassunto

This book seeks for an alternative perspective in analysing cultural phenomena to supplement the norm of Western dominant theorising and conceptualisation. It engages notions and concepts of culture developed by Chinese cultural theorists when addressing Chinese teachers' cross-cultural experiences in Australian school settings. This alternative approach acknowledges the fact that the generation and development of cultural theories is contextually based. Through the reciprocated theory-data examination, it enables the arguments: Chinese culture is rooted in its written language (hanzi) which makes culture inseparable from language teaching; the core of the culture is linked back to, streamlined with and continues from China's elongated history; this core has been consistently influential on these teachers' practices and the observable cultural shift in them could be nongenuine mimicry for survival. Document analysis witnesses the current political push for the culture's stability and continuity through the national education system across sectors. This book provides

background information for teachers with cultural backgrounds different from their students', and draws on a bank of practice-based evidence to suggest ways to enhance teacher-student relationships in cross-cultural settings.