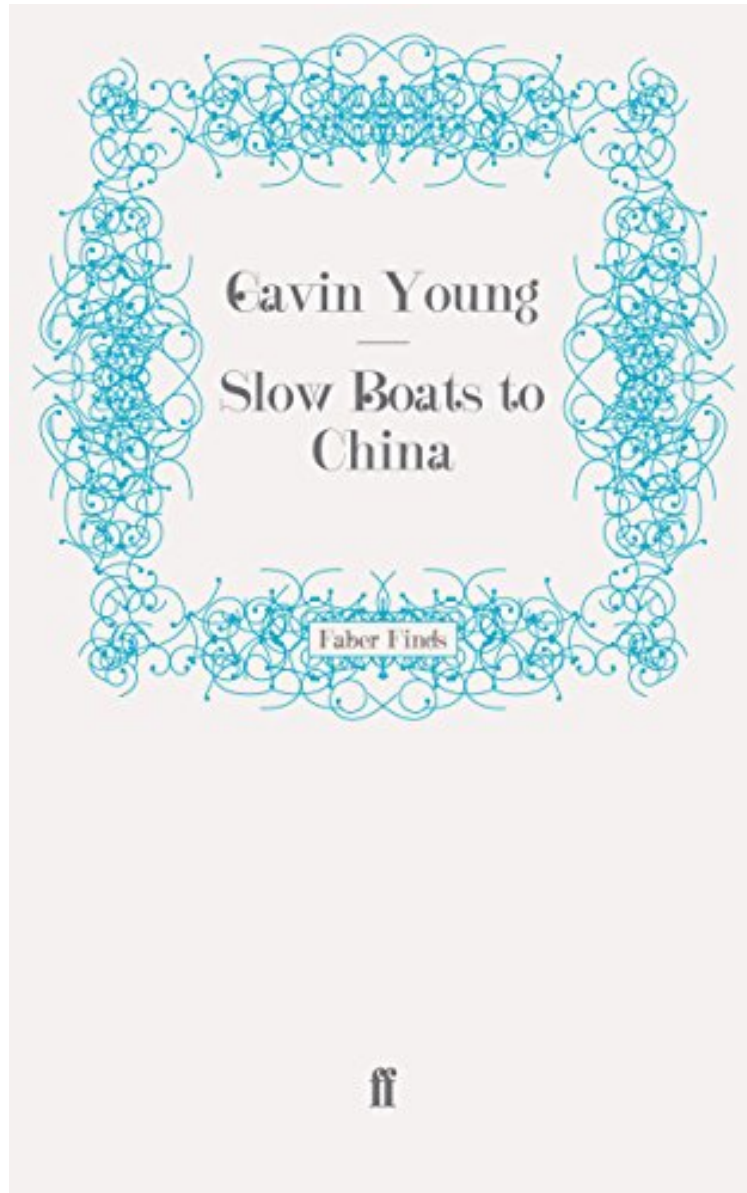


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## Slow Boats to China

*Gavin Young*

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**Gavin Young : Slow Boats to China** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slow Boats to China:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Travel storyBy Terry E. SmythePicked up a copy in the shop at Heathrow in 1984 before getting on my flight to Seattle. Great travel writing. I can't believe a used copy now costs 28 bucks! Guess I'll try the library.....0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Mysterious sea-faring

storiesBy Ukraine readerThis is one amazing book by Gavin Young. I have discovered the author years ago with the help of a small Penguin book titled 'Something of Samoa' that I almost accidentally procured at a local bookstore. Now finally I got my hands on a much larger text by Mr. Young and I can say without hesitation that he has become one of my favorite authors of all times. His prose is easy-to-read yet it remains sophisticated and eloquent; his stories are insightful and picturesque; his baggage of life experience and knowledge is tremendous. *Slow Boats to China* is a great book about seafaring that I can recommend to anyone.

Seven months and twenty-three agreeably ill-assorted vessels are what were required to transport Gavin Young, by slow boat, from Piraeus to Canton. His odyssey teemed with excitement, adventure and colour. Gavin Young's account memorably distils the people, places, smells, conversations, ships and history of the places he encountered in what is his most famous book. The sequel, *Slow Boats Home*, is also reissued in Faber Finds.

About the AuthorGavin Young (1929-2001) was a journalist, writer, and briefly a member of MI6. As a journalist, he was most associated with the Observer, being in the words of Mark Frankland's obituary 'a star foreign correspondent'. When disenchantment with journalism set in he turned to the writing of books. The two most famous ones are *Slow Boats to China* and its sequel *Slow Boats Home*. He himself had a particular affection for two later books *In Search of Conrad* (winner of the Thomas Cook Book Award) and *A Wavering Grace*. These and *Beyond Lion Rock*, *From Sea to Shining Sea*, *Return to the Marshes* and *Worlds Apart* are all being reissued in Faber Finds.