Recent Memoirs - October 2018

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A Quest for Freedom / G Raman Ethos Books, Singapore 2018 300p. 9789811181238 \$ 25.00 / null 500 gm. 1.Raman, G. 2.Lawyers - Singapore - Biography

A Quest for Freedom – freedom from poverty, freedom to learn, freedom to live – without fear or favour. This has been the quest of Gopalan Raman, known to most of his friends and fellows in the legal fraternity as G Raman. His critical mind and outspoken nature led to his arrest and detention without trial whilst he was still a practising lawyer. Despite the ordeal, he returned to practising, and teaching younger entrants to the hallowed profession, one which he still upholds in the highest regard.

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Heritage Dim Sum: A Teacher Remembers / Koh Kong Chia Celestial (Select Books Pte Ltd), Singapore 2018 xii, 260p. 9789811183638 \$ 15.00 / null 350 gm.

Through engrossing, easy-to-read anecdotes, a pioneer-generation Singaporean recounts the significant milestones in his life, including his varied experiences as a classroom teacher, university tutor, vice-principal, senior lecturer, assistant director, Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation International civil servant, specialist advisor and newsletter editor. Koh Kong Chia taught English in Singapore, Port Moresby, Kota Kinabalu, Sandakan, Tawau, Chengdu and Beijing over a span of 33 years. The sights, sounds and charms of old Singapore as seen through his perspective growing up in the post-war colonial period are also lovingly conveyed, as is his lifelong fascination with Chinese dialect opera. This book hopes to provide a unique appreciation of Singapore's heritage and culture through the lens of someone who had a ringside seat witnessing the birth of modern Singapore from the 1940s onwards.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=417963

Life In Plastic / Wolfies Wu Straits Times Press Pte. Ltd., Singapore 2018 272p. 9789814827010 \$ 28.00 / null 480 gm. In this entertaining and often touching memoir, well-known plastic surgeon Woffles Wu lifts the lid on his early childhood, his growing-up years in London and his life as a young doctor in Singapore. He also writes about his role models in life, going on a remarkable "US tour" to talk about plastic surgery, what it is like being famous, and much, much more. Filled with short standalone pieces covering the different stages of his life, each page of this book takes you deeper into his mind as well as into the past.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=422026

Guards Gone Wild / Loh Teck Yong , Kate Fernandez and K. G. Orphanides Loh Teck Yong, Singapore 2018 208p.

9789811162121

\$ 18.00 / null

Guards Gone Wild! is Teck Yong's memoir of his experiences in the security industry. There's plenty to tell. Scams perpetrated by security agencies and guards. Intense confrontations with delinquents and work colleagues. Funny moments to make you laugh and frustrating moments that made him cry! Perhaps his story will cause you to form a new opinion about security guards.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=422028

Tall Order: The Goh Chok Tong Story, Volume 1 / Peh Shing Huei

World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd., Singapore 2018

xxxii, 280p. Includes Index 9789813276048 \$ 45.00 / HB

Goh Chok Tong was an improbable Prime Minister for an unlikely country. He had neither the connections nor the cunning to rise to the top, and was even once famously derided by his mentor Lee Kuan Yew for being "wooden" in his communication skills. Except for an imposing height most unusual in this part of the world, he was an ordinary man. He lost his father at a young age, lived in a two-bedroom public flat with his mother and four siblings and needed a government bursary to complete university. Yet somehow he succeeded. Tall Order tells the extraordinary story of his life and

Yet somehow he succeeded. Tall Order tells the extraordinary story of his life and career over half a century, revealing how Singapore's second Prime Minister rose through a combination of strength, wit and a political nous which many, including himself, did not know he had. In this first of two volumes, Goh navigated years of a challenging apprenticeship to Lee, scoring numerous policy successes but also suffering political blows and humiliation.

He was the man who first made Neptune Orient Lines, Singapore's national carrier, profitable, before entering politics. The stellar corporate stint was followed by his many novel policies and institutions that have since become household names in the country: Medisave, Total Defence, Residents' Committee and Nominated Member of Parliament. But the highlights were counterposed by setbacks, including overseeing the People's Action Party's first electoral defeat after independence at the Anson by-election.

In the hands of acclaimed author and journalist Peh Shing Huei, this authorised biography reveals the private deliberations and negotiations between Goh and Lee before the maiden leadership transfer of independent Singapore. Tall Order is the first biography of Goh. This riveting book offers rare insights into Singapore's biggest and most important political and economic stories.

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Tall Order: the Goh Chok Tong Story, Volume 1 / Peh Shing Huei World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd., Singapore 2018 xxxii, 280p. Includes Index 9789813276130 \$ 30.00 / null 600 gm.

- 1.Goh Chok Tong, 1941-2.Prime ministers Singapore Biography 3.Politicians Singapore Biography

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