

By [Ruth Richards](#)

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**This review is from:** **Understanding Emotion in Chinese Culture: Thinking Through Psychology (International and Cultural Psychology) (Hardcover)**

Important book with depth and power—on Chinese culture, emotion, and much more. Academically grounded and deeply moving. As a scholar of creativity, too, I find myself gratified.

One key point for me, and issue I'll pose to my graduate students at Saybrook University involves this: The cross-cultural differences, and potential lack of some/any common language to bridge them, seems more than important...and well demonstrated...YET... differences seem to diminish noticeably even dramatically (to me at least) in approaching a deeper truth.... And I'd think that would only make sense.

I was delighted to find that Dr. Sundarajan addressed all this and more as I read on, and especially in her last chapter.

I believe I was reading about nuance and savoring when this coming together of ways of knowing hit me strongly. Two converging streams (or more). Two paths coming together. Two paths moving beyond path.

May we all see further by honoring each others' traditions and ways of knowing, meanwhile expanding our own sensitivity and potential.

I could also well imagine, from the author's exquisite tribute to her mother, that the latter was behind, in, and coming through to us, in every word. Wish I could have known her.

I shared the tribute with a good friend who is still aching for a mom who has passed. This dedication (which carried the essence of savoring for me, as well as leaving me feeling less alone in remembering my own parents and grandparents) literally brought tears. And then some lengthy sharing and recollection.

I'm sure I will use this book in many ways, and I thank Dr. Sundararajan for the pleasure and wisdom of this book. Do not miss it! Ruth Richards, Ph.D., M.D., Professor, Saybrook University  
[www.saybrook.edu](http://www.saybrook.edu)