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**The Oracle Bone Inscriptions from Huayuanzhuang East** - Adam C. Schwartz  
2019-11-18  
Since 1899 more than 73,000 pieces of inscribed divination shell and bone have been found inside the moated enclosure of the Anyang-core at the former capital of the late Shang state. Nearly all of these divinations were done on behalf of the Shang kings and has led to the apt characterization that oracle bone inscriptions describe their motivations, experiences, and priorities. There are, however, much smaller sets of divination accounts that were done on behalf of members of the Shang elite other than the king. First noticed in the early 1930’s, grouped and periodized shortly thereafter, oracle bone inscriptions produced explicitly by or on behalf of "royal family groups" reveal information about key aspects of daily life in Shang society that are barely even mentioned in Western scholarship. The newly published Huayuanzhuang East Oracle Bone inscriptions are a spectacular addition to the corpus of texts from Anyang: hundreds of intact or largely intact turtle shells and bovine scapulae densely inscribed with records of the divinations in which they were used. They were produced on the behalf of a mature prince of the royal family whose parents, both alive and still very much active, almost certainly were the twenty-first Shang king Wu Ding (r. c. 1200 B.C.) and his consort Lady Hao (fu Hao). The Huayuanzhuang East corpus is an unusually homogeneous set of more than two thousand five hundred divination records, produced over a short period of time on behalf of a prince of the royal family. There are typically multiple records of divinations regarding the same or similar topics that can be synchronized together, which not only allows for remarkable access into the esoteric world of divination practice, but also produce micro-reconstructions of what is essentially East Asia's earliest and most complete "day and month planner." Because these texts are unusually linguistically transparent and well preserved, homogeneous in orthography and content, and published to an unprecedentedly high standard, they are also ideal material for learning to read and interpret early epigraphic texts. The Huayuanzhuang East oracle bone inscriptions are a tremendously important Shang archive of "material documents" that were produced by a previously unknown divination and scribal organization. They expose us to an entirely fresh set of perspectives and preoccupations centering on a member of the royal family at the commencement of China's historical period. The completely annotated English translation of the inscriptions is the first of its kind, and is a vibrant new source of Shang history that can be accessed to rewrite and supplement what we know about early Chinese civilization and life in the ancient world. Before the discerning reader are the motives, preoccupations, and experiences of a late Shang prince working simultaneously in service both for his Majesty, his parents, and his own family.

**Oracle Bones** - Peter Hessler 2009-03-17  
A century ago, outsiders saw China as a place where nothing ever changes. Today the country has become one of the most dynamic regions on
earth. In Oracle Bones, Peter Hessler explores the human side of China's transformation, viewing modern-day China and its growing links to the Western world through the lives of a handful of ordinary people. In a narrative that gracefully moves between the ancient and the present, the East and the West, Hessler captures the soul of a country that is undergoing a momentous change before our eyes.

**The Origin and Early Development of the Chinese Writing System** - W. Boltz 1994

**Oracle Bones Divination** - Kostas Dervenis 2013-12-17 The first complete guide to this ancient Greek form of divination • Explains how to cast and interpret this oracle using either coins or traditional animal bones • Reveals how the use of oracle bones predates the I Ching • Includes the complete matrix of oracle interpretations reconstructed by the author from stanzas in ancient Greek temples In ancient Greece methods of foretelling the future were widespread, whether they were official oracles of the gods or simple dice games to divine one’s luck. One of the most popular and accessible ways of determining one’s fate and fortune was through the ritual casting of animal bones, similar to the casting of coins or yarrow stalks with the Chinese I Ching. Kostas Dervenis explains how to interpret the casting of the oracle bones—either traditional sheep anklebones or coins—to answer your questions on love, health, wealth, and the future. Using the original stanzas discovered in ancient Greek temples in Greece and Turkey, the author reconstructs the complete matrix of interpretation for each possible casting of the bones. He explores how this practice traces back to the Golden Age of the Neolithic period in Greece, Turkey, and Bulgaria—predating the I Ching—and how it is still practiced today as the popular folk game of "knucklebones." Providing the first complete guide to this ancient practice, Dervenis allows anyone to cast the bones for guidance, inspiration, and insight into their fate.

**Bronze Age in China** - Source Wikipedia 2013-09 Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Pages: 30. Chapters: Shang Dynasty, Oracle bone, Oracle bone script, Yinxu, Sanxingdui, Chinese bronzes, Taotie, Tomb of Fu Hao, Battle of Muye, Xia Shang Zhou Chronology Project, Battle of Mingtiao, Erlitou culture, Longshan culture, Shang archaeology, Upper Xiajadian culture, Kayue culture, Zhukaigou culture, Jinsha, Lower Xiajadian culture, Erligang culture, Qijia culture, Siwa culture, Bo Yi Kao, Bajinbao culture, Panlongcheng, Wucheng culture, List of Bronze Age sites in China, Majiayao culture, Xingan, Tong Bei, Zhaoge. Excerpt: The Shang Dynasty (Chinese: ) or Yin Dynasty ( ) was according to traditional sources the second Chinese dynasty, after the Xia Dynasty. They ruled in the northeastern regions of the area known as "China proper" in the Yellow River valley. According to the chronology based upon calculations by Liu Xin, the Shang ruled between 1766 BC and 1122 BC, but according to the chronology based upon the Bamboo Annals, they ruled between 1556 BC and 1046 BC. The results of the Xia Shang Zhou Chronology Project place them between 1600 BC and 1046 BC. According to historical tradition, the Shang Dynasty followed the (possibly mythical) Xia Dynasty and preceded the Zhou Dynasty. While some direct information about the Shang Dynasty comes from Shang-era inscriptions on bronze artifacts, most comes from oracle bones - turtle shells, cattle scapulae, or other bones, which bear glyphs that form the first significant corpus of recorded Chinese characters. Other sources on the Shang come from historical records of the later Zhou Dynasty and the Han Dynasty Shiji, or Records of the Grand Historian, by Sima Qian. The inscriptions on the oracle bones are divinations, and because they can be gleaned for information on many topics from the politics and economy to the art and medicine of the period, they provide...

**Animals Through Chinese History** - Dagmar Schäfer 2018-12-13 This innovative new collection opens a door into the rich history of animals in China. This title is also available as Open Access.

**The Ancestral Landscape** - David N. Keightley 2000 An ETHS graduate of 1949 brings ancient China to life with careful scholarship, producing a brilliant synthesis of Shang civilization.

**Visible Language** - Christopher Woods 2010 This unique exhibit is the result of collaborative efforts of more than twenty authors and loans
from five museums. It focuses on the independent invention of writing in at least four different places in the Old world and Mesoamerica with the earliest texts of Uruk, Mesopotamia (5,300 BC) shown in the United States for the first time. Visitors to the exhibit and readers of this catalog can see and compare the parallel pathways by which writing came into being and was used by the earliest kingdoms of Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, and the Maya world.

**Ancient Central China**-Rowan K. Flad
2013-01-21 Ancient Central China provides an up-to-date synthesis of archaeological discoveries in the upper and middle Yangzi River region of China, including the Three Gorges Dam reservoir zone. It focuses on the Late Neolithic (late third millennium BC) through the end of the Bronze Age (late first millennium BC) and considers regional and interregional cultural relationships in light of anthropological models of landscape. Rowan K. Flad and Pochan Chen show that centers and peripheries of political, economic and ritual activities were not coincident, and that politically peripheral regions such as the Three Gorges were crucial hubs in interregional economic networks, particularly related to prehistoric salt production. The book provides detailed discussions of recent archaeological discoveries and data from the Chengdu Plain, Three Gorges and Hubei to illustrate how these various components of regional landscape were configured across Central China.

**These Bones Shall Rise Again**-David N. Keightley
2014-08-13 David N. Keightley’s seminal essays on the origins of Chinese society are brought together in one volume. These Bones Shall Rise Again brings together in one volume many of David N. Keightley’s seminal essays on the origins of early Chinese civilization. Written over a period of three decades and accessible to the non-specialist, these essays provide a wealth of information and insights on the Shang dynasty, traditionally dated 1766–1122 or 1056 BCE. Of all the eras of Chinese history, the Shang has been a particularly elusive one, long considered more myth than reality. A historian with a keen appreciation for anthropology and archaeology, Keightley has given us many descriptions of Shang life. Best known for his analysis of oracle bones, he has looked beyond the bones themselves and expanded his historical vision to ponder the lives of those who used them. What did the Shang diviner think he was doing? The temerity to ask such questions and the insights they have provided have been provocative and, at times, controversial. Equally intriguing have been Keightley’s assertions that many of the distinctive features of Chinese civilization were already in evidence during the Shang, 3000 years ago. In this collection, readers will find not only an essential reference but also the best kind of thought-provoking scholarship.

**China in the Early Bronze Age**-Robert L. Thorp
2013-03-25 One of the great breakthroughs in Chinese studies in the early twentieth century was the archaeological identification of the earliest, fully historical dynasty of kings, the Shang (ca. 1300-1050 B.C.E.). The last fifty years have seen major advances in all areas of Chinese archaeology, but recent studies of the Shang, their ancestors, and their contemporaries have been especially rich. Since the last English-language overview of Shang civilization appeared in 1980, the pace of discovery has quickened. China in the Early Bronze Age: Shang Civilization is the first work in twenty-five years to synthesize current knowledge of the Shang for everyone interested in the origins of Chinese civilization. China in the Early Bronze Age traces the development of early Bronze Age cultures in North and Northwestern China from about 2000 B.C.E., including the Erlitou culture (often identified with the Xia) and the Erligang culture. Robert L. Thorp introduces major sites, their architectural remains, burials, and material culture, with special attention to jades and bronze. He reviews the many discoveries near Anyang, site of two capitals of the Shang kings. In addition to the topography of these sites, Thorp discusses elite crafts and devotes a chapter to the Shang cult, its divination practices, and its rituals. The volume concludes with a survey of the late Shang world, cultures contemporary with Anyang during the late second millennium B.C.E. Fully documented with references to Chinese archaeological sources and illustrated with more than one hundred line drawings, China in the Early Bronze Age also includes informative sidebars on related topics and suggested readings. Students of the history and archaeology of early civilizations will find China in the Early Bronze Age the most up-to-date and wide-ranging introduction to its topic now in print. Scholars in Chinese studies will use this work as a handbook and research guide. This volume makes fascinating reading for anyone
interested in the formative stages of Chinese culture.

**Shape of the Turtle, The**-Sarah Allan Many Chinese philosophic concepts derive from an ancient cosmology. This work is the first reconstructions of the mythic thought of the Shang Dynasty (ca. 1700-1100 B.C.) which laid the foundation for later Chinese patterns of thought. Allan regards the myth, cosmology, divination, sacrificial ritual, and art of the Shang as different manifestations of a common religious system and each is examined in turn, building up a coherent and consistent picture. Although primarily concerned with the Shang, this work also describes the manner in which Shang thought was transformed in the later textual tradition.

**Genesis in Ancient China**-Ginger Tong Chock 2014-10-24 Was the Genesis story of Creation recorded in China soon after the time of Moses? China’s earliest known script of more than 3200 years ago reveals it was. With evidence culled from Chinese mythology and the ancient Classics, you will see how the graph formations of just forty oracle bone characters narrate a story line based on the Genesis chapters one to three. These graph characters re-enact scenes of the creation of the firmament, of man formed from the soil and in the likeness of God, the Garden of Eden, the two trees, the Serpent, the Fall, the banishment, the sacrificed lamb, and man’s mandated obedience to God. They speak out in Genesis in Ancient China to reveal the identity of the true God of earliest China to be the same God of Genesis

**Writing and the Ancient State**-Haicheng Wang 2014-05-12 Writing and the Ancient State explores the early development of writing and its relationship to the growth of political structures. The first part of the book focuses on the contribution of writing to the state’s legitimating project. The second part deals with the state’s use of writing in administration, analyzing both textual and archaeological evidence to reconstruct how the state used bookkeeping to allocate land, police its people, and extract taxes from them. The third part focuses on education, the state’s system for replenishing its staff of scribe-officials. The first half of each part surveys evidence from Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Maya lowlands, Central Mexico, and the Andes; against this background the second half examines the evidence from China. The chief aim of this book is to shed new light on early China (from the second millennium BC through the end of the Han period, ca. 220 AD) while bringing to bear the lens of cross-cultural analysis on each of the civilizations under discussion.

**Chinese Writing**-Hsi-kuei Ch’iu 2000

**Chinese Calligraphy and Culture**-Huiwen Li 2018-12

**Writing and Literacy in Early China**-Feng Li 2012-05-01 The emergence and spread of literacy in ancient human society an important topic for all who study the ancient world, and the development of written Chinese is of particular interest, as modern Chinese orthography preserves logographic principles shared by its most ancient forms, making it unique among all present-day writing systems. In the past three decades, the discovery of previously unknown texts dating to the third century BCE and earlier, as well as older versions of known texts, has revolutionized the study of early Chinese writing. The long-term continuity and stability of the Chinese written language allow for this detailed study of the role literacy played in early civilization. The contributors to Writing and Literacy in Early China inquire into modes of manuscript production, the purposes for which texts were produced, and the ways in which they were actually used. By carefully evaluating current evidence and offering groundbreaking new interpretations, the book illuminates the nature of literacy for scribes and readers.

**History of Writing**-Steven Roger Fischer 2004-04-04 From the earliest scratches on stone and bone to the languages of computers and the internet, A History of Writing offers a fascinating investigation into the origin and development of writing throughout the world. Commencing with the first stages of information storage, Fischer focuses on the emergence of complete writing systems in Mesopotamia in the fourth millennium BC. He documents the rise of Phoenician and its effect on the Greek alphabet, generating the many alphabetic scripts of the West. Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and Japanese writing
systems are dealt with in depth, as is writing in pre-Columbian America. Also explored are Western Europe's medieval manuscripts and the history of printing, leading to the innovations in technology and spelling rules of the 19th and 20th centuries.


Daily Life in Ancient China-Mu-chou Poo 2018-06-21 This book employs textual and archaeological material to reconstruct the various features of daily life in ancient China.

Returning to Memory An Exhibition of Oracle Bone Script-Yaxiao Li 2019 Oracle bone script was the earliest form of Chinese characters carved on turtle plastrons and animal bones using a sharp tool. Oracle bone script was used for divination through fire in the Shang dynasty (c.1600-1046 BCE). This research explores ways to promote and enhance audience interest in the script through storytelling strategies that use interactive technology in an exhibition context. Through the course of this study, I found that there is a lack of publicity and cultural engagement with oracle bone script and that this has contributed to the general public knowing little about its historical importance. Therefore, I have created a proposal for an exhibition that showcases, through various means, this significant Chinese historical legacy. researchers.

Routledge Handbook of Early Chinese History-Paul R. Goldin 2018-05-15 The study of early China has been radically transformed over the past fifty years by archaeological discoveries, including both textual and non-textual artefacts. Excavations of settlements and tombs have demonstrated that most people did not lead their lives in accordance with ritual canons, while previously unknown documents have shown that most received histories were written retrospectively by victors and present a correspondingly anachronistic perspective. This handbook provides an authoritative survey of the major periods of Chinese history from the Neolithic era to the fall of the Latter Han Empire and the end of antiquity (AD 220). It is the first volume to include not only a comprehensive review of political history but also detailed treatments of topics that transcend particular historical periods, such as: Warfare and political thought Cities and agriculture Language and art Medicine and mathematics Providing a detailed analysis of the most up-to-date research by leading scholars in the field of early Chinese history, this book will be useful to students and scholars of Chinese history, Asian archaeology, and Chinese studies in general.

The Oracle of Stamboul-Michael David Lukas 2011-02-08 Set in the heart of the exotic Ottoman Empire during the first years of its chaotic decline, Michael David Lukas’ elegantly crafted, utterly enchanting debut novel follows a gifted young girl who dares to charm a sultan—and change the course of history, for the empire and the world. An enthralling literary adventure, perfect for readers entranced by the mixture of historical fiction and magical realism in Philip Pullman’s The Golden Compass, Orhan Pamuk’s My Name is Red, or Gabriel García Márquez’s One Hundred Years of Solitude, Lukas’ evocative tale of prophesy, intrigue, and courage unfolds with the subtlety of a Turkish mosaic and the powerful majesty of an epic for the ages.

The Origin of Chinese Characters - YUAN-Sophie Ma 2020-11-24 Travel back in time to understand the origin of some Chinese characters and how they evolve with this book. Chinese characters are the oldest continuously used writing system in the world. Over the time, the set of characters has evolved through various forms. Some representatives include: - oracle bone script (甲骨文), ancient Chinese characters used on animal bones or turtle shells from over 3000 years ago; - large seal script (大篆), a traditional reference to Chinese writing from before the Qin dynasty; - small seal script (小篆), the first set of characters that was standardized across China from over 2000 years ago. They finally become the regular script (楷书), the square-shaped Characters that are used nowadays. Some of the most common chinese characters were created from simplified pictures of objects, called pictograms (象形字). Most of the characters in this book are under this category, so it's easy to understand their meanings by just
looking at the shapes. Three ancient scripts (oracle bone script, large seal script, small seal script) are included at the bottom left corner of each page to illustrate the evolutions. The regular script forms with their pinyin (Chinese pronunciation) are included at the bottom right corner as this is the form we are using everyday now. It is fascinating to see how these characters carry their core meaning while transformed into shapes that also align with the styles of different scripts. Sometimes, it needs a little bit of effort to recognize the connections between different scripts. Imagination is the key. I hope the book is fun for all readers, parents and children, teachers and students, Chinese speakers and non-Chinese speakers. Reading Chinese is easier and more interesting than you think.

A New Literary History of Modern China - David Der-wei Wang 2017-05-22 Featuring over 140 Chinese and non-Chinese contributors, this landmark volume, edited by David Der-wei Wang, explores unconventional forms as well as traditional genres, emphasizes Chinese authors’ influence on foreign writers as well as China’s receptivity to outside literary influences, and offers vibrant contrasting voices and points of view.

Chinese and Sumerian - Charles James Ball 1913

The Guodian Laozi - Sarah Allan 2000 The first major publication in English on the bamboo slips excavated from a late fourth century B.C. Chu-state tomb at Guodian, Hubei, in 1993. The slip texts include both Daoist and Confucian works, many previously unknown. This monograph is a full account of the international conference held on these texts, at which leading scholars from China, the United States, Europe, and Japan analyzed the Laozi materials and a previously unknown cosmological text. In addition, the contents include nine essays on topics such as the archaeological background of the discovery, conservation of the slip-texts, and the relation of the Guodian Laozi materials to the received Laozi text. An annotated edition of the Guodian Laozi materials and a previously unknown cosmological text are included, as well as a critical bibliography with summary of Chinese scholarship on the Guodian texts in the year following the conference.

Written on Bamboo and Silk - Tsuen-hsuin Tsien 1962


Eastern Zhou and Qin Civilizations - Xueqin Li 1985-01-01

River Town - Peter Hessler 2002-01 Records the author’s experiences as a Peace Corps English teacher in the small Chinese city of Fuling, during which time he witnessed such events as the death of Deng Xiaoping and the return of Hong Kong to the mainland.

Astrology and Cosmology in Early China - David W. Pankenier 2013-10-10 The ancient Chinese were profoundly influenced by the Sun, Moon and stars, making persistent efforts to mirror astral phenomena in shaping their civilization. In this pioneering text, David W. Pankenier introduces readers to a seriously understudied field, illustrating how astronomy shaped the culture of China from the very beginning and how it influenced areas as disparate as art, architecture, calendrical science, myth, technology, and political and military decision-making. As elsewhere in the ancient world, there was no positive distinction between astronomy and astrology in ancient China, and so astrology, or more precisely, astral omenology, is a principal focus of the book. Drawing on a broad range of sources, including archaeological discoveries, classical texts, inscriptions and paleography, this thought-provoking book documents the role of astronomical phenomena in the development of the ‘Celestial Empire’ from the late Neolithic through the late imperial period.

A Legacy of Elegance - Li Zongkun 2017-10-15 This publication is the product of several auspicious occasions. United College celebrated its sixtieth anniversary in 2016-2017, and the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library marked this occasion by carrying out preservation work...
and cataloguing the collection of forty-four oracle bones, which comprised the majority of this study. The remaining twenty-seven oracle bones belong to the Art Museum, which is pleased to publish them jointly to celebrate the golden anniversary of the Institute of Chinese Studies, of which the museum is an integral part. This year also marks the fortieth anniversary of the Chinese University Press. These milestones occasion the tripartite collaboration.

**Chinese Character Writing For Dummies**

Consumer Dummies 2019-07-23

Learn to write 100 characters in Chinese billions of people worldwide speak Chinese—and now you can learn to write 100 characters in the world’s most spoken language! Whether you’re taking a course, looking to get ahead at work, or just want to up the ante when you’re communicating with Chinese-speaking family and friends, Chinese Character Writing For Dummies gets you up to speed fast. This workbook will guide your first steps in learning Chinese characters. It contains 100 basic characters, including 44 simple characters (pictograms and symbols) and 56 composite characters (ideograms and ideophonograms). It helps you little by little to familiarize yourself with the pieces of the puzzle most frequently used, as well as some basic Chinese writing rules. Offers online bonus content that includes instructional videos, downloadable flashcards, and printable writing pages Shows you how to write 100 Chinese characters Provides instruction for beginners, students, and lifelong learners Gives you helpful tips on how to memorize characters Speaking Chinese will take you far—and learning to write some of the most common characters will only take you farther! Find out how Chinese Character Writing For Dummies can help you today!

**The World on Paper**

David R. Olson 1996-06-20

New perspective on the relation between writing and the processes of thought.

**The Archaeology of China**

Li Liu 2012-04-30

"Past, present and future "The archaeological materials recovered from the Anyang excavations ... in the period between 1928 and 1937...have laid a new foundation for the study of ancient China (Li, C. 1977: ix)." When inscribed oracle bones and enormous material remains were found through scientific excavation in Anyang in 1928, the historicity of the Shang dynasty was confirmed beyond dispute for the first time (Li, C. 1977: ix-xi). This excavation thus marked the beginning of a modern Chinese archaeology endowed with great potential to reveal much of China’s ancient history. Half a century later, Chinese archaeology had made many unprecedented discoveries which surprised the world, leading Glyn Daniel to believe that "a new awareness of the importance of China will be a key development in archaeology in the decades ahead (Daniel 1981: 211). This enthusiasm was soon shared by the Chinese archaeologists when Su Bingqi announced that "the Golden Age of Chinese archaeology is arriving (Su, B. 1994: 139–140)". In recent decades, archaeology has continuously prospered, becoming one of the most rapidly developing fields in social science in the world it had so recently embraced. And so the great ships were left to rot and the records of their journey were destroyed. And with them, the knowledge that the Chinese had circumnavigated the globe a century before Magellan, reached America seventy years before Columbus, and Australia three hundred and fifty years before Cook... The result of fifteen years research, 1421 is Gavin Menzies' enthralling account of the voyage of the Chinese fleet, the remarkable discoveries he made and the persuasive evidence to support them: ancient maps, precise navigational knowledge, astronomy and the surviving accounts of Chinese explorers and the later European navigators as well as the traces the fleet left behind - from sunken junks to the votive offerings left by the Chinese sailors wherever they landed, giving thanks to Shao Lin, goddess of the sea. Already hailed as a classic, this is the story of an extraordinary journey of discovery that not only radically alters our understanding of world exploration but also rewrites history itself.
Chinese Annals in the Western Observatory
Edward Shaughnessy 2019-11-18
Since the beginning of the twentieth century, hundreds of thousands of documents of all sorts have been unearthed in China, opening whole new fields of study and transforming our modern understanding of ancient China. While these discoveries have necessarily taken place in China, Western scholars have also contributed to the study of these documents throughout this entire period. This book provides a comprehensive survey of the contributions of these Western scholars to the field of Chinese paleography, and especially to study of oracle-bone inscriptions, bronze and stone inscriptions, and manuscripts written on bamboo and silk. Each of these topics is provided with a comprehensive narrative history of studies by Western scholars, as well as an exhaustive bibliography and biographies of important scholars in the field. It is also supplied with a list of Chinese translations of these studies, as well as a complete index of authors and their works. Whether the reader is interested in the history of ancient China, ancient Chinese paleographic documents, or just in the history of the study of China as it has developed in the West, this book provides one of the most complete accounts available to date.

Heart of the Dragon
Peter Man 2018-06-09
Victoria, a Canadian teenager adopted from China as a baby, goes through incredible adventures in China and America to discover her mysterious background. Victoria’s odyssey is interwoven with the amazing story of the first warrior queen of China during the Shang dynasty, circa 1200 BCE. Victoria is also linked to a northeastern barbarian tribe at the beginning of the Han dynasty, circa 200 BCE. These barbarians and their descendants would one day rule China and become a part of China. The famous Mulan was from that barbarian ruled era. Many of the mysteries are encoded in the ancient Chinese Oracle Bone writing. Victoria also learns the origins of the Chinese and other ancient civilizations. They are all related to a mythical paradise planet known as Shangala, which colonized the red giants Betelgeuse of Orion and Antares of Scorpio, the latter also known as the Heart of the Dragon.

The Origins of Chinese Civilization
David N. Keightley 1983-01-01