## Contents

Considering writing	9
JIANGSU LETTERS	15
1980 Letters	16
The first September class	37
The writing scene	41
Trial of the gang of four	52
1981 Letters	58
Humour	70
Solidarity	73
A neighbourhood committee	77
Urban committees	78
The Rui Jui neighbourhood committee	80
About population	89
Promoting the idea	93
2021 Revisiting population	94
XINJIANG JOURNALING	97
Considering influences in Xinjiang	101
1981 Heading out	112
Into Turpan	113
Towards Xinjiang	116
Flaming Mountain: Journey to the West	122



Poetry and identity	132
1981 Urumqi perspectives	144
Eastwards to Gansu	157
Propaganda art	159
Reaching the Yellow River	169
Between the lines	173
Selected references	179