



The Smartest Kids in the World: And How They Got That Way

By Amanda Ripley

Simon & Schuster. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 320 pages. How do other countries create smarter kids In a handful of nations, virtually all children are learning to make complex arguments and solve problems theyve never seen before. They are learning to think, in other words, and to thrive in the modern economy. What is it like to be a child in the worlds new education superpowers In a global quest to find answers for our own children, author and Time magazine journalist Amanda Ripley follows three Americans embed-ded in these countries for one year. Kim, fifteen, raises 10, 000 so she can move from Oklahoma to Finland; Eric, eighteen, exchanges a high-achieving Minnesota suburb for a booming city in South Korea; and Tom, seventeen, leaves a historic Pennsylvania village for Poland. Through these young informants, Ripley meets battle-scarred reformers, sleep-deprived zombie students, and a teacher who earns 4 million a year. Their stories, along with groundbreaking research into learning in other cultures, reveal a pattern of startling transformation: none of these countries had many smart kids a few decades ago. Things had changed. Teaching had become more rigorous; parents had focused on things that mattered; and children had bought...



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