

EXTRACT FROM JAUNTSETTER OF THE WEEK

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Author of 'The Fortune Cookie Chronicles' and New York Times reporter

Last vacation you took that you really loved?

I haven't really taken a "vacation" in years, because I've used all my time off from work to research the book I wrote, [The Fortune Cookie Chronicles](#). I had to travel to do my research, and I loved every minute of it. I had really specific food things I was determined to find, like: "I have to try and find Sichuan alligator," which is Cajun Chinese food, or "I'm going to find the original General's Tso chicken in Taiwan," or "I'm going to find the original fortune cookies." All the trips I took for the book were wonderful.

Best hotel you've ever stayed at?

It's in Auckland, New Zealand called [Mollie's](#), and it's an amazing boutique hotel. It was originally a house and then it organically became larger and larger as it turned into a hotel. I remember when I was being brought to my room, I entered what I thought was a vestibule lounge area - but it was part of my room! It was this gigantic beautiful space with a breathtaking view of the water. It's cute, quaint and opulent all at the same time.



Author: Jennifer 8. Lee

Jennifer 8. Lee is a metropolitan reporter at The New York Times, where she has worked for many years. She harbors a deep obsession for Chinese food, the product of which is [The Fortune Cookie Chronicles \(Twelve, 2008\)](#), #26 on the New York Times Best Seller List, which explores how Chinese food is all-American.

At the Times, she has written about poverty, the environment, crime, politics, and technology. She has been called, by NPR, a "conceptual scoop artist." She was born and raised in New York City, She majored in applied math and economics at [Harvard](#), where she also angst a lot about [The Harvard Crimson](#), a fabulous start-up magazine called [Diversity & Distinction](#), and the Asian American Association. After college, she fled to China and spent a year at Beijing University studying international relations.

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