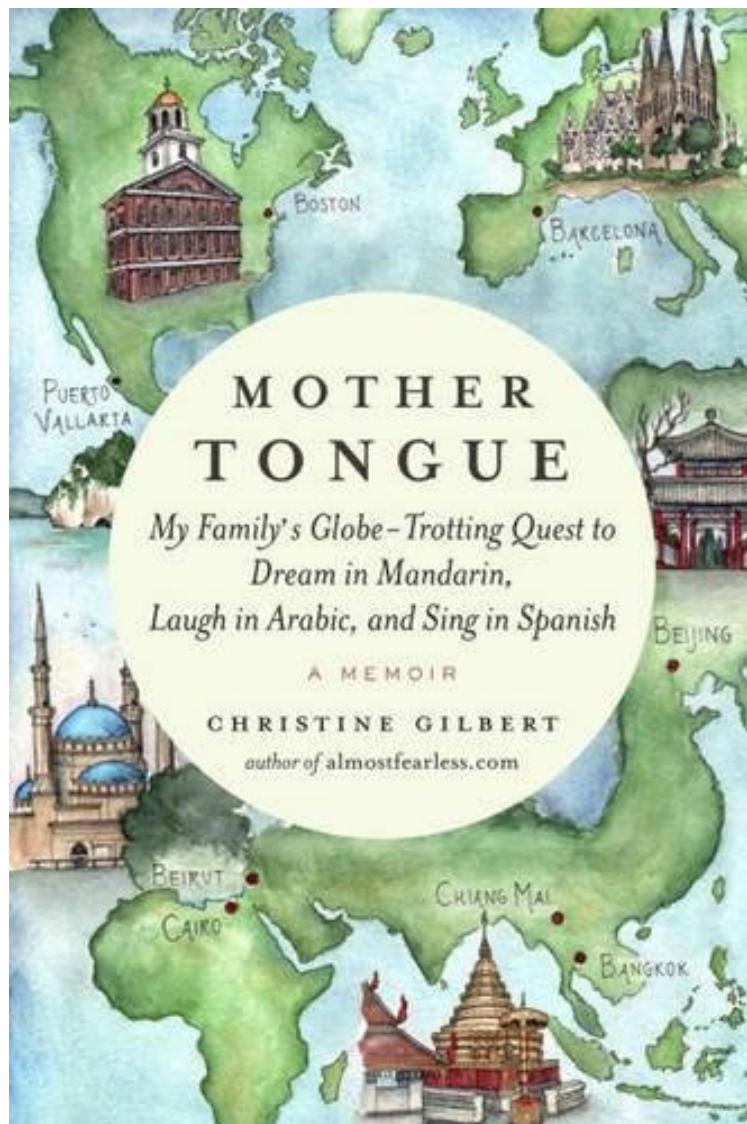


[Mobile pdf] Mother Tongue: My Family's Globe-Trotting Quest to Dream in Mandarin, Laugh in Arabic, and Sing in Spanish

Mother Tongue: My Family's Globe-Trotting Quest to Dream in Mandarin, Laugh in Arabic, and Sing in Spanish

Christine Gilbert

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Christine Gilbert : Mother Tongue: My Family's Globe-Trotting Quest to Dream in Mandarin, Laugh in Arabic, and Sing in Spanish before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mother Tongue: My Family's Globe-Trotting Quest to Dream in Mandarin, Laugh in Arabic, and Sing in Spanish:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Extraordinary and engrossing! By Amanda
The most interesting nonfiction book I've read in quite some time, this book deftly melds personal narrative and the fascinating subject of bilingualism. I stayed up way too late reading this extraordinary book because I couldn't put it down and hope the sequel is in the works. It's a story of education, hope, and extraordinary courage. I'm so blessed to have been touched by the words and even though I've missed the critical window with my own child, I'm intrigued by how early bilingualism in school might be helpful for her in later life. The research was excellent and I can't wait to tell everyone I know about this new subject and incredible author!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful, stellar, engaging! By Elizabeth Mount
I bought this book on pre-order, and having first met Christine when she was traveling through Guatemala, I figured if nothing else, it would invoke a little nostalgia and provide me with some light summer reading. Instead, I found a truly stellar book that I read completely through in three days. The balance of personal narrative and travel information was impeccable. The mix of science-based and emotional reasons for wanting to raise multilingual children was compelling and nuanced. Whether you're a traveler looking for some good reasons to visit the Middle East or Central America, a parent thinking about early learning opportunities, or just a vacationer looking for beach reading, this book is likely to draw you in and give you something to think about. I'm hoping to hear much more about the ongoing travels of Christine and her family... it might be early to ask, but is there going to be a sequel?

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Proof that reality is better than fiction By Roy
I finally finished this morsel of a book. I've been savoring it bit by bit like a chocolate Easter bunny for the last month since it was released. Christine Gilbert hits it out of the park with this masterpiece. Her words can be artful on one page and read like a reference book on another. There's tragedy, heartbreak and joy, but isn't that what life is all about? This book is a love story for everyone. If you love to travel, have children, are fascinated with cultures and subcultures of the world or are just trying to figure out the best way to learn your target language, then this book is for you. It's about a millennial couple wanting the absolute best for their children because at the end of the day, don't they come first? With the World Wide Web bringing the planet closer together in the new century, its powerful prose captures the soul of young and old alike. The Gilberts are providing their small children with a priceless gift, giving them a broader perspective of the world first-hand by traveling to a few places not for the timid or fearful of heart. Gilbert had me laughing out loud and openly sobbing during a cross country flight. Their story is sobering and inspiring. You will get caught up in Gilbert's humble struggles to decrease the effects and onset of dementia later in life by exercising and opening their minds with the proven methods of multilingualism. All I can say is, don't dive into this book with any expectations or assumptions. Just let it unfold and wash over you as Gilbert takes you on her journey with her family. Even though the story wraps up with a book-end finish, it leaves you wanting more. Whether there is a sequel or not, you can catch up with this family's adventure through Gilbert's blog at almostfearless.com or find them on Facebook at Almost Fearless.

One woman's quest to learn Mandarin in Beijing, Arabic in Beirut, and Spanish in Mexico, with her young family along for the ride. Imagine negotiating for a replacement carburetor in rural Mexico with words you're secretly pulling from a pocket dictionary. Imagine your two-year-old asking for more niunai at dinner a Mandarin word for milk that even you don't know yet. Imagine finding out that you're unexpectedly pregnant while living in war-torn Beirut. With vivid and evocative language, Christine Gilbert takes us along with her into foreign lands, showing us what it's like to make a life in an unfamiliar world and in an unfamiliar tongue. Gilbert was a young mother when she boldly uprooted her family to move around the world, studying Mandarin in China, Arabic in Lebanon, and Spanish in Mexico, with her toddler son and all-American husband along for the ride. Their story takes us from Beijing to Beirut, from Cyprus to Chiang Mai and also explores recent breakthroughs in bilingual brain mapping and the controversial debates happening in linguistics right now. Gilbert's adventures abroad prove just how much language influences culture (and vice versa), and lead her to results she never expected. *Mother Tongue* is a fascinating and uplifting story about taking big risks for bigger rewards and trying to find meaning and happiness through tireless pursuit no matter what hurdles may arise. It's a treat for language enthusiasts and armchair travelers alike.

An engaging travel narrative for both language lovers and general audiences. Kirkus says Christine Gilbert takes us, her husband, and her toddler to China, Beirut, and Mexico on a quest to connect with locals and master their languages for as long as it takes. But her plans get hijacked by political and human events. Gilbert's warmth and willpower are contagious, and I especially loved vicariously learning the challenges of Mandarin. Her journey moves us through determination, disappointments, and finally, into joy. Her talent is to make us care! Rita Golden Gelman, author of *Tales of a Female Nomad* Christine Gilbert's intimate, honest narrative, rooted in science, illustrates the courage it takes to be global and raise global kids complete with humor, humility and humanity. I thoroughly enjoyed *Mother Tongue* and encourage anyone who's considered living or traveling abroad with kids to read this book! Homa S. Tavangar, author of *Growing Up Global* Read this book while packing your suitcase. You'll be inspired by Christine's stories of adventure in foreign lands, and you'll be encouraged by how close her family became as they traded risk for reward wherever they went. Chris Guillebeau, NYT bestselling author of *Born for This* and *The \$100 Startup*

"Inspiring... Gilbert balances a young family and her career to take us on an enviable journey around the world while also providing illuminating research on language acquisition for the young and old alike." Jen Lin-Liu, author of *On the Noodle Road*

About the Author Christine Gilbert is a writer, photographer, and documentary filmmaker and is the creator of the popular blog *Almostfearless.com*. Gilbert's site has been mentioned in the *Los Angeles Times* Web Buzz, the *Travel Channels World Hum*, the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, *Brave New Traveler*, *National Geographic Traveler*, and many more publications. Her writing and photography have been seen on *Lonely Planet*, *Rough Guides*, and *BBC Travel*. Originally from the Boston area, Gilbert now lives in Barcelona, Spain, with her husband, Drew, and their children, Cole and Stella.