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China Beat on Break

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June 19, 2011 in [Uncategorized](#) by [mcunningham](#) | [Permalink](#)

We're going to put China Beat on hiatus from now until early July so I can get settled in Shanghai (where I'll be based for the next couple of months) and all of our consulting editors and contributors can enjoy some summer vacation.

If you're looking for something to read while we're on break, check out [Danwei](#), which has recently relaunched with a new format; it's now "A web magazine about China," with the first issue featuring an in-depth look at Chinese musical instruments.

For readers trying to find a good China-focused summer book, allow me to recommend Alan Paul's [Big in China: My Unlikely Adventures Raising a Family, Playing the Blues, and Becoming a Star in Beijing](#), released in March by Harper Collins. I devoured this very funny, very touching book last week in a couple of marathon Starbucks visits while I fought jet lag, then ventured over to M on the Bund yesterday afternoon to hear Paul talk about his music (as head of the Beijing blues band Woodie Alan) and writing. But, as LeVar Burton used to say on *Reading Rainbow*, you don't have to take my word for it—I was led to add *Big in China* to my Kindle by [Jeremiah Jenne's great review](#) over at Jottings from the Granite Studio.

We'll be back in a few weeks; until then, you can always follow our occasional Twitter updates and links to suggested readings at [@chinabeat](#).