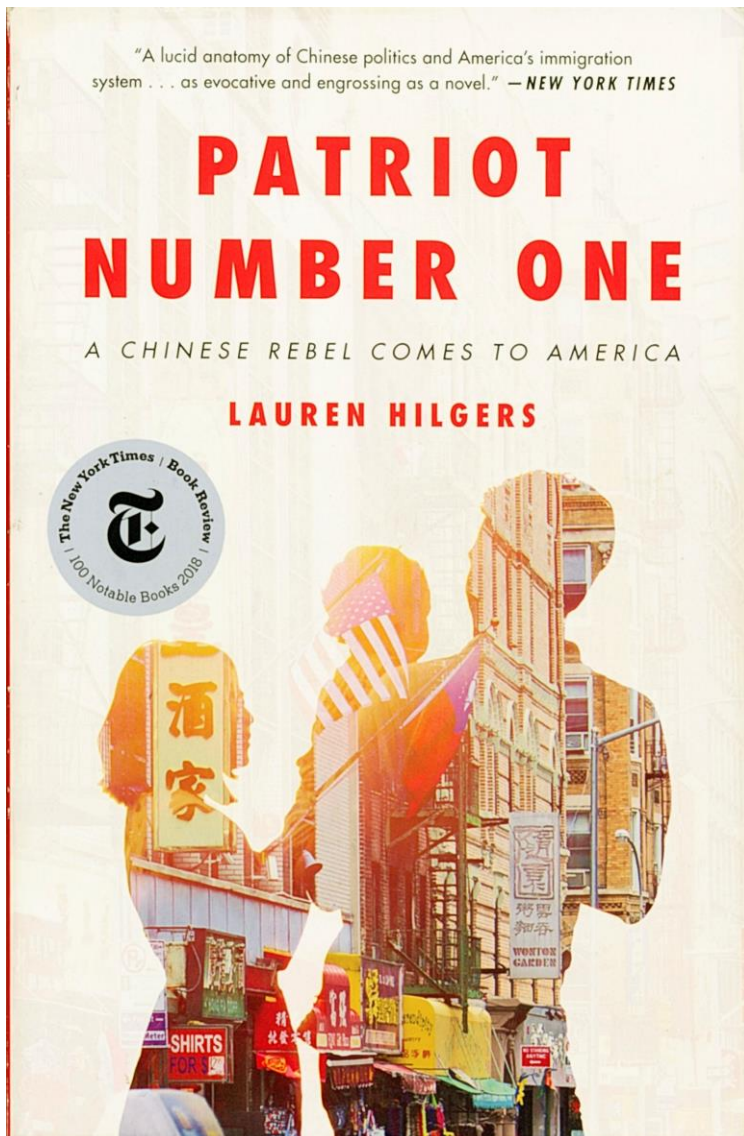


Patriot Number One

by Lauren Hilgers



A *New York Times* Notable Book of 2018

“As evocative and engrossing as a novel.”
—*New York Times*

“A superb account of Chinese immigrants in America... Stealing the show is Zhuang, irrepressible, quixotic, an endlessly scheming operator who finds his calling in activism.... [*Patriot Number One*] tells a powerful human story about America and the world in 2018.”
—*San Francisco Chronicle*

Patriot Number One follows a village revolutionary from Southern China and his family through a byzantine network of employment agencies, language schools, underground asylum brokers, and illegal dormitories that Flushing New York’s Chinese community relies on for survival.

- Under the alias Patriot Number One, Zhuang Liehong had stoked pro-democracy protests, hoping to change his home for the better. Instead he was the spark that sent his village into an uproar—pitting residents against a corrupt local government.
- Sensing an impending crackdown, Zhuang and his wife left their infant son with relatives and traveled to America. With few contacts and only a shaky grasp of English, they had to start from scratch.
- *Patriot Number One* captures the joys and indignities of building a life in a new country—and the stubborn allure of the American dream.

