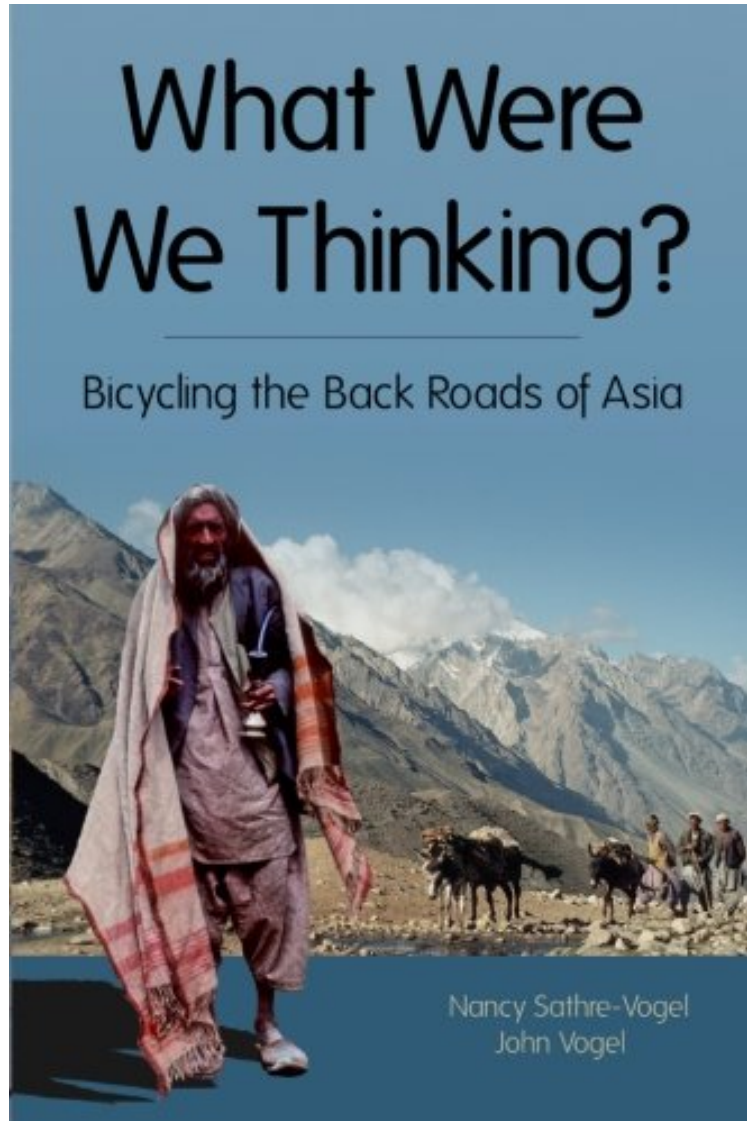


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## What Were We Thinking?: Bicycling the Back Roads of Asia

*Nancy R Sathre-Vogel, John E Vogel*  
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2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. AwesomeBy Jeannette JohnsonAwesome! I couldn't put the book down.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An amazing journey!By David L. RobertsThis was a really engrossing read! I wouldn't have had the guts to take on an adventure like this, but I'm so glad these folks decided to

share it with us so we could get a little flavor of it. I didn't want to put it down. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. What were they thinking? Grand, wonderful thoughts  
By Robert C Ross  
New York Society Library.  
I've recently been re-living a wonderful four week tour of the Silk Road from Western China through Uzbekistan; photos, videos, personal notes and books about the region. We traveled by bus, train, plane, camel and foot, even on our butts sliding down an immense sand dune. A wonderful adventure indeed. These folks did it the hard way, and it was great fun to read about their adventures and wonder whether a long bike trip through the region might be feasible for this codger. Probably not ... but the way that I was treated with such dignity and respect because I was a codger of a certain age ... well it might be more feasible than I think. :)  
For anyone who loves strenuous adventure, this fine book is sure to please ... and encourage grand dreams of adventure and travel.  
Robert C. Ross  
May, 2015

Two strangers teamed up for a once-in-a-lifetime journey that left them both changed forever. What were they thinking? Nancy and John arrived in Pakistan with little more than bikes and dreams. The ensuing year found them pedaling remote pathways of Asia, over mountains and through deserts, dodging traffic, holy cows and the occasional rock thrown at them from a cliff by hostile locals. They explored back roads and tiny villages rarely exposed to western eyes and, after being amazed, repulsed, delighted, shocked, horrified, amused and welcomed by people of many races, these strangers in a strange land melded into the cultures they encountered... and fell in love, both with the beauty of the lands they traveled and, ultimately, with each other. Join Nancy and John wondering what they were thinking as they: - experience the traditional hospitality of families of various religions - are stranded at 15,000 feet in the Himalayas - sleep with holy rats in a temple - smell, hear, and see funeral pyres on the Ganges River - are mobbed like rock stars in Bangladesh - fend off unwanted romantic advances from misled men - are swept away in markets frozen in time - learn that underneath the cultural traditions, people are pretty much the same everywhere

About the Author  
Nancy Sathre-Vogel and John Vogel are both long-term school teachers with a passion for living life on their own terms. After meeting while bicycling Asia in 1990, they have gone on to live in four different countries and travel in many more. Now, they travel on bikes with their children - twin boys who have cycled 27,000 miles through fifteen countries at the tender age of thirteen. Read more at [www.familyonbikes.org](http://www.familyonbikes.org)