

Synopsis of
STEAMed Off to China:

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math Adventure in a Foreign Land

Ellie Brown is a seasoned engineer specializing in troubleshooting and fixing digital cellular problems. An urgent phone call from the CEO of her company launches her on a mad dash from San Diego to Beijing to meet up with her team of Chinese engineers and attempt to solve a system outage that threatens to shut down Cphone, a major customer.

Ellie quickly learns that it is not one simple technical problem she is up against. Even people in the government are working to side-track her. There are two other serious problems that must be solved, and Ellie and her engineers have to knock them all out to save Cphone from being liquidated by the government.

Three Cphone engineers join Ellie's team to attack the problems where they lay, including one on top of a top-secret government building overlooking Tiananmen Square. They get a lot of help from the Cphone CEO, but a lot of roadblocks from the Cphone Director of Engineering.

When Ellie's tried-and-true methods falter, she digs deep in her engineering bag of tricks. Then the other female engineer on the team, and the youngest member, surprises them all with insight that leads to a solution.

The team learns from their mistakes and overcomes the second and third technical challenges, all the while being tripped up by the Director. Even knowledge of where to buy a certain popular brand of lady's shoes figures into solving a mystery. At the last challenge, the Director is exposed as a government saboteur, trying to take Cphone down while lining his pockets.

Ellie's trip to China is topped off with a jaunt to Shanghai to be properly outfitted to present the case against the Director in court. Her evidence is so compelling that the evil Director is promptly hustled off to jail.

On return to San Diego, Ellie's longed for hot shower and bed is put off by an episode of office politics. But, she is rewarded with a fancy title...and more responsibilities.