

Contents

<i>List of Illustrations, Figures and Maps</i>	x
<i>Notes on Transliteration</i>	xi
Introduction	1
Part I. First Introductions	
Chapter 1. Beginnings	7
Chapter 2. Relations	12
Chapter 3. Ölgii Town	14
Chapter 4. Drive to Soghakh	19
Chapter 5. First Days with the Family	25
Chapter 6. Two Horsemen	33
Chapter 7. Night-Time and Morning Rituals	36
Part II. Transitions	
Chapter 8. The Young Accountant	43
Chapter 9. The Letter	48
Chapter 10. The First House in the First Street	51
Chapter 11. Thinking about the Past	60
Chapter 12. The Age of the Market	63
Chapter 13. Thick as Cream	72
Chapter 14. Saving Graces	77
Part III. Decisions	
Chapter 15. Living Arrangements	87
Chapter 16. The People Who Move	90
Chapter 17. The Winter Slaughter	96

Chapter 18. Silver Flower	100
Chapter 19. French Extraordinaires	107
Chapter 20. Daughters-in-Law	109
Chapter 21. The Young Uncle	113
Part IV. Into the Past	
Chapter 22. The Shaman's Son	119
Chapter 23. The Closure of the Steppe	122
Chapter 24. The Mongols of the West	125
Chapter 25. New Year's Eve	128
Chapter 26. Kazakhs and Western Mongols	131
Chapter 27. Night-Time Walk	135
Chapter 28. Cossack Warriors and Settler Pioneers	138
Chapter 29. A People Frozen in Time	145
Chapter 30. Four Brothers	148
Part V. New Futures	
Chapter 31. Across the Border	159
Chapter 32. A Scar Necklace	163
Chapter 33. A New Homeland	168
Chapter 34. Family Ties	172
Chapter 35. Kazakh Rebel Fighters of the Altai	175
Chapter 36. One Hundred Per Cent Kazakh	178
Chapter 37. The Red Terror	181
Chapter 38. <i>Kurban Ait</i>	186
Chapter 39. Mongolia's Rich Cradle	190
Part VI. Broken Ties	
Chapter 40. Stuck	199
Chapter 41. The Strong-Willed Girl	201
Chapter 42. Dimpled Bakhytbek	204
Chapter 43. A Short Break	208
Chapter 44. Broken Crown	211
Chapter 45. The Visitor	216
Chapter 46. Journey to Kazakhstan	220

Part VII. New Worlds, Old Ties

Chapter 47. Two Worlds	227
Chapter 48. Brave New World	231
Chapter 49. A First Wedding	238
Chapter 50. Elnara's Journey	242
Chapter 51. An Autumn Wedding	245
Chapter 52. Conclusion: A Magpie's Tale	249
<i>Bibliography</i>	253
<i>Index</i>	260