

Lovely Memories

4



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Lovely Memories

Prologue

I wrote this book to tell readers about my own clothing stories from the time I can remember, which is 5 to 19 years old. I am 22 at the time of writing this book, but my story is only written until I am 19 because I have barely gone out to travel and bought clothes during the pandemic. The main idea of this book is just like my cover — the hourglass. It shows that during my 22 years of life, readers can see the changes in my styles of dressing, hair color, and adornments. These changes show that my dressing style will change with age. Time passes quickly that we often forget its existence, but I will not forget those meaningful moments because they are in the deep place of my head. I knew my clothing style and hobbies in junior high school, since then, I have often dressed by myself. The book includes changes in the style of dressing, reminiscing about the past, and cherishing past friendships. Memory is a wonderful thing, it lives in the past, exists in the present, but can affect the future.

Forward

I am Yuzhen Huang, I feel very privileged to have made several appearances in this book. I have known Yinghe Zhao for more than fifteen years. She is one of the most important people for me in my life, I learned a lot from her and she teaches me a lot, even if we are not in the same country now, she is in the United States, and I am in China, our friendship never changed, we always talk a lot through social media.

After I read through the book, to be honest, Yinghe's drawing ability is better than before. Her book is full of memories. I am glad she can remember some of the moments we have been through before. And I have the same feeling when I saw some of the stories we have experienced together in our life. I felt comfortable and confident when we danced in junior high school. I am so happy to be part of her most important birthday celebration. I hope one day we can go back to visit our Alma mater again. Although the classrooms we used to have been demolished, other places are also full of memories. I knew Chapter 13 is one of the most important moments she faced in life, growing up without her parents' accompany, I know she has been through a lot and that drives her character — being strong. I know that she is happier than before.

When she asked me to write something about her, I was both nervous and excited. At the same time, thanks for translating those paragraphs into English for her readers, so that they can know her a little more.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: LOVE!LOVE!LOVE! 6

Chapter 2: School Couple Outfit 9

Chapter 3: Silver Medal 12

Chapter 4: Children’s Day Party 15

Chapter 5: CHAMPION!!! 18

Chapter 6: “Marathon” 21

Chapter 7: New Year’s Party 24

Chapter 8: Junior High School Graduation 27

Chapter 9: Unforgettable Memories 30

Chapter 10: Birthday Party 33

Chapter 11: First Salary Gift 36

Chapter 12: Full of Memories 39

Chapter 13: Leaving 42

Chapter 14: High School Graduation 45

Chapter 15: Graduation Trip 48

Chapter 1: LOVE! LOVE! LOVE!

I wore this flower girl dress to Mr. Fang and Ms. Zhao's wedding, which was my aunt's wedding. The wedding was held on an island because my uncle is a resident of the island. The wedding took place in Xiachuan Island, Guangdong Province, China. This place is also my third hometown. The wedding took place 17 years ago when I was five. I remember very clearly how happy and excited I was that day.

On the wedding day, my aunt's makeup artist – *Wu helped me tie my hair and made a chignon*. Tied my hair in a chignon is to *put a crown on my head*, the chignon can hold the crown so that it does not fall off easily. My *hair color was black* on that day because my aunt said that I was too young to dye my hair at that time. I have *adornments* on my head and hands, a crown on my head, and *a wrist flower on my hand*. When I touched the skirt with my hand, there was a rustling sound. The skirt itself still retains the smell caused by the fabric and the dye itself, but it does not smell bad.

The color of the flower girl skirt is grey and white and the shawl (the top) is light blue. It is a Rolled Hems knee-length a-line dress. The skirt is made of polyester and lace. The skirt is similar to the design of a wedding dress. The surface of the dress is rough, stiff, and bulky because the tiny beads on the surface of the dress are rough and stiff to the touch. The dress is beautiful, but when I touched and wore it, I realized that the lace tickles me so I do not like to wear it. So, when I was five years old, it was my first time and my last time to wear this flower girl dress. Conversely, the texture of the shawl is smooth, soft, and thin. The shawl is comfortable not only to the touch but also to covers the body.

When I think about my aunt's wedding, this dress always comes to mind, not only because I had a great time that day, but also because I love the color of that shawl -- light blue,

light blue is one of my favorite colors, light blue makes me feel happy and healing. The only thing that saddens me is that I accidentally lost the shawl after I moved several times, but it still sticks in my mind.



Chapter 2: School Couple Outfit

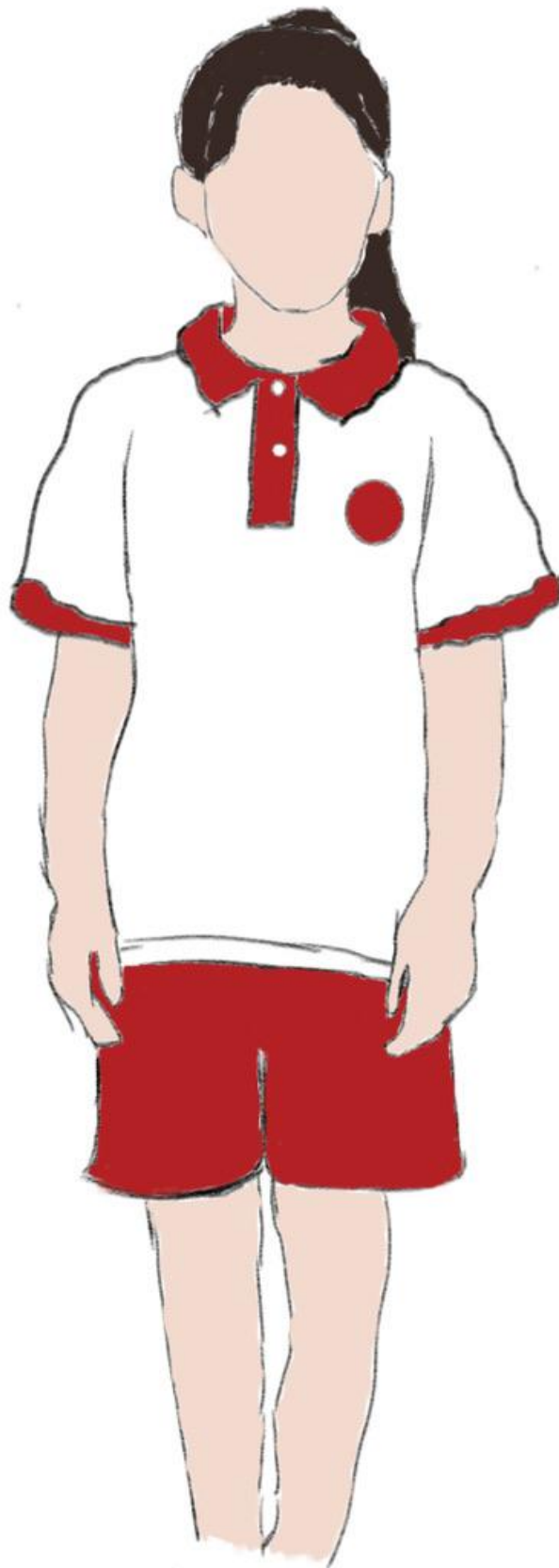
This is the first school uniform of my life, and I wore it for six years in my elementary school in China. We also refer to school uniforms as “couples outfits” because all the students need to wear the same uniforms to school. The first time I wore this couple’s outfit was when I was 7 years old and had to wear a school uniform every day to go to school until I graduated from elementary school (12 years old). The elementary school is located in Taishan, Jiangmen, Guangdong Province, China.

The color of this school uniform is very eye-catching when people see it because of the bright color. When I just started to wear this school uniform, the shirt felt very comfortable and soft when I touched it, but after I wore it or washed it for a long time it pilled, the shorts also have the same situation. When I touched the shorts with my hand, there was a rustling sound. The shirt and shorts still retain the smell caused by the fabric and the dyestuff, it smelled so bad when I got it. After I washed it a few times, it still left some unpleasant smells. But after a long time of washing, the unpleasant smell is gone, and what is left is the smell of laundry detergent. In elementary school, the school regulation is that we have to wear uniforms to school every day, unless there are special circumstances, such as school sports meeting, performance party, and so on. And every schoolgirl had to have her hair tied up, either in a high ponytail, bun, or braid. So the first thing I do when I wake up in the morning is asks my cousin Laoqi to *tie my hair up*. And we are not allowed to wear any *adornments* to school, such as jewelry, rings, earrings, and so on. But I usually wore a watch on my left hand.

The main color of this school couple outfit is Premium Red. Even the color of the school badge is red. This school uniform is composed of two parts, the top is a shirt, there is a red collar, below is a red shorts. It is a double-fold hem’s shirt and shorts. The type of top is a polo shirt and

the shorts is sporty. Wearing this uniform in summer is very sweat-wicking, the top is made of cotton if I remember correctly. Before this uniform was pilling, it was smooth to touch; but after washing it for a long time and pilling, it was rough to touch. The shorts is thin and light.

When I think of my elementary school days, every time I put on this uniform, I feel at ease. I can always think of some fun and meaningful things when I wore this uniform, such as participating in the school drum band, receiving awards, and so on. The red school uniform and the red school badge symbolize fighting spirit. Persevere in any difficulties and do not give up easily. Persistence is victory.



Chapter 3: Silver Medal

The first time I wore this shirt was when I was 10 years old. I wore it to participate in my first long jump competition and I won a silver medal in the long jump. The long-jump is a track and sport in which you run in a straight line on the runway, jump into the air with one foot, and finally, fall into the sand pit with both feet. In competition, the place is determined by the distance of the jump. This sports meeting is also the first sports meeting I have participated in. The sports meeting was located in my elementary school, which is also located in Taishan, Jiangmen, Guangdong Province, China.

I felt soft when I touched the shirt, and it was comfortable when I wore it on my body. The shirt retains the smell caused by the fabric and the dyestuff, so before the competition, I washed it, after that it does not smell bad anymore. Before the long jump competition, I just had my *hair cut to shoulder length*. This is because, at the time, I could not tie my hair by my own. So, my aunt, Ms.Lei, always helped me tie my hair. So on the day of the competition, Ms.Lei helped me tie the top part of my hair into a *bun*, while the bottom part was still scattered around my neck because it was too short to tie.

The main color of this shirt is light blue-magenta, the color of the number “2” on the shirt is light magenta-pink. The type of this shirt is a jersey shirt. This Jersey shirt has a round collar, which is designed to be easy to put on and take off. The jersey shirt is made of cotton. I love wearing it both in gym class at school and at the gym room out of school because it wicks sweat. The surface of the shirt is smooth to touch, and It’s a clingy and light shirt, so it is great for exercising without fear of exposure.

I liked this shirt when I first saw it because the color appealed to me and I like some lighter colors clothes. When I see the silver medal, I can always think of the day I wore this shirt

in the school sports meeting to participate in the competition and receive the award. “亚军” printed on the medal I got means I came second in the race. This jersey shirt also witnessed another happy or important moment for me. Blue-magenta T-shirt gives me a feeling of contentment and appreciation.



Chapter 4: Children's Day Party

This story happened 11 years ago. I was 11 years old when I was in grade 5. Our school tradition is that on Children's Day every grade and every class needs to rehearse a performance and perform it on the evening of Children's Day. But the Children's Day festival in our city is only limited to the students below primary school to celebrate, the junior high school will not celebrate this festival. We are looking forward to the arrival of the June 1st, the day can not only by playing a game to win the award (small snacks or toys), also can undertake lottery, and we can also watch shows in the evening, until the night when we come home the school also send a big bag of snacks to students (all kinds of snacks, such as beverage, candy, potato chips, etc.). That's why my friends and I look forward to this day every year. When I was in grade five, I took part in the first singing performance in my life, which was also my first time singing in public. On this day, the teacher – Ms.Li prepared a set of beautiful clothes and painted rouge and powder for me and my friends – Yanhua, Haiwen, Yingyin, Jiehua, and Yanzhen so that we could perform on the stage. This is the story that happened in Doushan Central Elementary School in Taishan, Guangdong Province, China.

This is a brightly colored show garment. What I like about this suit is that when I smell it for the first time, there is no pungent feeling. There is no retaining the smell caused by the fabric and the dyestuff. On the day of the performance, my teacher – Ms.Li helped Yanhua, Haiwen, Yingyin, Jiehua, Yanzhen, and I put on beautiful makeup which matched the performance garment. Yanhua, Haiwen, Yingyin, Jiehua, Yanzhen, and my *hair*, makeup, and *clothes* are the same. My hair does not *adornment* too much, there were no crowns, tiaras, or barrettes on my hair. My friend and I all have black hair. Our *hair is loose and untied*, with the left side sticking up behind our ears. *Rounded nails*, and we painted *clear nail polish* that day. Wearing *red*

lipstick, pink blush, and light red eyeshadow, applying eye shadow gives me a feeling of softness and brightness, which can make our *appearance* look good and give people the feeling that we are confident about this performance. We were all wearing black stockings.

The main color of the performance garment is red. The garment was made up of two parts, not a one-piece dress. The top consists of a white T-shirt with a red bow hanging down the neck and a red Mini Box pleated skirt on the bottom, the Mini Box pleated- skirt without any patterns. The white T-shirt does not have too much *ornament*, more eye-catching is the red bow. The Mini Box pleated skirt is made of polyester, and it was soft to wear. The T-shirt was made of cotton, the white T-shirt with bubble sleeves and a round collar. When I touched it for the first time, I felt it was very comfortable and not itchy to wear. It's great for summer because it doesn't feel heavy when I wear it, it wicks away sweat, and the surface feels smooth and light.

Although it has been 11 years since the day of Children's Day in grade five, when I think back to that day, I can always think of the performance in fine clothes and makeup and hair on that day. The beautiful clothes make me feel happy and confident about the performance, happy and confident more than panic and nervousness about the performance. The red dress brings me happiness, enthusiasm, and liveliness. I think the red dress brings me good luck because our program won the first prize in the Children's Day performances.



Chapter 5: CHAMPION!!!

This was my last sports competition in Elementary school, I was 11 years old. The competition I participated in this time was the high jump competition of the grade girls group. First of all, I had no idea what high jump was before, but I was suddenly told that the event I was participating in was the high jump competition. I was completely confused at the moment. The competition was held in October. Before October, every week in Gym class, the gym teacher – Mr.Zhou would show me about the high jump. The high jump is one of the sports competitions. It is a movement in which the human body jumps over high obstacles through a series of actions such as running, take-off, jumping high into the air, and landing. On competition day, athletes are allowed to break school rules, wear their own clothes and go back to school instead of wearing uniforms. So that day I prepared a tracksuit for my last race in elementary school. The competition was held on the playground of Doushan Central Elementary School in Taishan, Guangdong Province, China.

I designed my hair on high jump competition day, so I tied up my hair and made a *ponytail*. The hair is still *black*, and there is not much *adornment* on the hands, ears, and neck, because the school rules state that students are not allowed to wear jewelry and cannot dye hair to school. I cut my nails in the *shape of an oval* the day before the competition to avoid scratching by my nails during the high jump. After a couple of jumps, the *skin color* on the face changed slightly, as if a thin layer of red blush had been applied.

Light Pink is the main color of sportswear. This *clothing* was made of Nylon, this is a tracksuit that not only feels soft and smooth to touch but also feels soft and smooth to wear. The top was a thin hooded jacket with a zip and underneath was a sleeveless shirt. Both top and pants have striped stitching contrasting design -- white stripes. The trousers have pockets on both sides

for me to carry small things such as school ID. The top is a ribbed hem and the trousers are skinny cuffs. The hooded jacket and pants are a simple design without too much pattern or embellishment, which is one of the reasons why I bought them. This sportswear is perfect for autumn. It goes well with the weather and will not feel cold or hot when wore it.

Every time I see the gold medal I won in this high jump competition, I will always remember that this garment accompanied me to witness an important moment in my life -- winning the first gold medal in a sports competition. I still wore the garment when I received the award to show my joy and excitement. This makes me full of confidence for my future sports competition. Comfortable clothes help me boost my confidence during the competition. Pink sportswear gives me a feeling of happiness, comfort, and reassurance. As well as celebrating joy, this outfit has also seen me make new friends.



Chapter 6: “Marathon”

This happened 10 years ago, and I was in seven grade. This sport means a lot to me because I represented my class in a “marathon” race, participating in two middle and long-distance running events, 1mile running (7 and a half rounds) on the first day, and 0.5 miles running (4 rounds) on the second day. One of my classmates who ran with me was my best friend after this event. This event happened in October 2012, when I was in junior high school for one month. This activity is located at Renyuan Middle School in Taishan, Guangdong Province, China.

I *tied* my hair up early in the morning and fixed it with hairspray to make sure it does not fall out. I cut my nails into *almond shapes* before the race to remind me not to give up and stick to it during my run. After I finished running, I noticed that the *skin color* of my face and lips had changed, becoming *slightly white*. My lips were not only white but also dry because I was tired after running. During the two days of the long run, I ran barefoot without shoes.

The T-shirt is our class (class six) clothes for this sports meeting. Our class wore it on the days of the sports meeting. It is also a symbol of our class. The design of the T-shirt was designed by headteacher – Tracy Li and her husband Mr.Lin because Tracy’s husband is a manufacturer who sells and designs class clothes. The main color of the T-shirt is white, and the main color of the shorts is pale sky. The T-shirt has a round collar and is made of 100% cotton. The font and pattern in the T-shirt are print techniques. The tapered shorts are made of 93% polyester and 7% spandex. It’s comfortable and smooth to touch both the T-shirt and the shorts. The shorts have pockets on both sides. The waist of the shorts is elastic, and you can freely adjust the waist size that suits you.

Every time I look at the pictures of the school sports meeting, I can always think of my outfit of that day. “好运陆班” print on the T-shirt means good luck class six; The koi fish pattern on the clothes is meant to bring us good luck. Pale Sky color shorts made me relax and will not feel nervous and anxious in the competition. I felt joy, satisfaction, and surprise in this outfit, as it is difficult to have the opportunity to wear the same outfit with the rest of the class at the same time. At the same time, I am very happy that I gained friendship in this sports meeting.



Chapter 7: New Year's Party

January 1, 2013. It was New Year's Day. Therefore, on the last day of every year, December 31, 2012, our school will organize students to perform on stage to celebrate New Year's Day. The performances include singing, dancing, cross talk, martial arts, and so on. In this year's New Year's Party performance, I participated in dancing – street dance, this was my first and last time to participate in the dance performance. This show was not done by myself. It is done by me and my best friends – Yuzhen, Qiuchan, and Wang Ying. The New Year's Day party was held in the auditorium of Renyuan Middle School in Doushan, Taishan City, Guangdong Province, China.

The costumes are not brightly colored. I clearly remember that the costumes on the day of the performance were prepared by Yuzhen and me, and the hairstyle was prepared by Qiuchan and Wang Ying. The music we chose to dance to that day was Fantastic Baby by Bigbang. This is because Bigbang was very popular in China at that time. We all liked the group so much that we chose this song as the background music for the dance. *We did not tie our hair up that day, let it hang around our necks, but we used hairspray to hold the pieces in place so they would not affect us during the performance.* We dyed our hair into a *dark shade of red-orange color.* However, we used temporary disposable hair dye spray to dye our hair into hair color other than black because the school rules cannot dye our hair when one is at school. *We all put an adornment on our left hand - a silver bracelet.* We cut our nails into *squoval shapes* to avoid damaging ourselves, such as scratches, during the performance. *I wore a hat* on my head. The reason for wearing the hat was it looks cool, and it is also to prepare for one of our performance actions. At the ending pose, we throw our hats to the audience.

The color of the T-shirt is white, the color of the pants is sonic silver, and the color of the hat is silver gray. The design of the jacket is black slogan-woven Elasticized trim at cropped hem, but the slogan font color is purple. The collar of the T-shirt is designed with a round collar. This is a baseball hat. This is a pair of sweatpants, its design involves the solid color pants design, without any ornaments on the pants, tight cuffs and waistband can be freely adjusted in size. The T-shirt and pants are made of cotton, which is comfortable and soft to wear. The texture of the T-shirt is smooth to touch.

Ten years have passed since December 31, 2012. But whenever I think back to that day, I can always remember the moment when I enjoyed dancing on the stage with my best friends -- Yuzhen, Qiuchan, and Wang Ying. Exquisite clothes, suitable hairstyles, and favorite background music and dances bring confidence and enjoyment to our performances. We were not only proud of our performance after we finished it, but also proud and surprised of ourselves as long as we talked about it in the following years. Every time the four of us (Yuzhen, Qiuchan, and Wang Ying) reminisce about this event, we smile with joy.



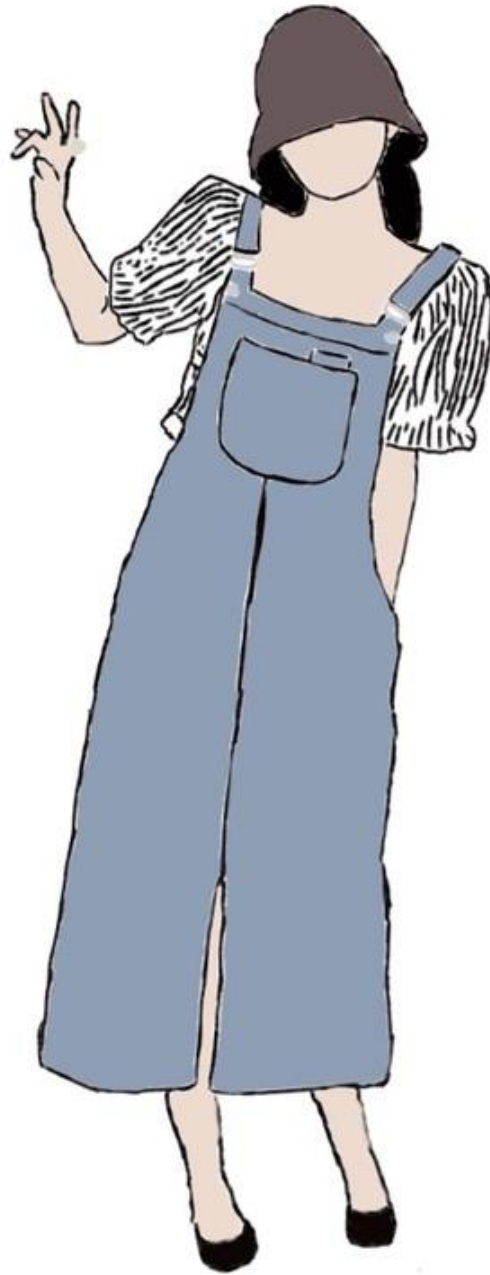
Chapter 8: Junior High School Graduation

In July 2015, twenty days after the high school entrance examination. I went back to school for my junior high graduation. The graduation ceremony was held in a simple way, with President Deng, Vice President Zhao, and Director Chen giving speeches, awarding ceremony, graduation photo albums, and commemorative gifts to the graduates. Then organize and take a group photo. After the graduation ceremony, our class had a party. The graduation ceremony was held in my junior high school, Renyuan Middle School, Doushan Town, Taishan City, Guangdong Province, China.

I clearly remember that the graduation ceremony was held at 9 am. I got up early that day to dress myself up. I did not tie my hair that day, I just hung it over my shoulders. I *wore a hat* on my head. I did not wear makeup that day because I did not know how to do makeup at that time. I *wear a keychain* on my finger. The key chain is a souvenir gift given to us by the school. Each keychain is engraved with the name of the student, the name of the school, and the motto of the school. That day, I cut my nails into a *square shape* and painted *light green nail polish*, because light green nails give me a clean, bright, and elegant visual feeling.

This is a front split maxi denim dress. The T-shirt is a ripped crop T-shirt with black stripes and white is the main color. The sleeve of the T-shirt is a bubble sleeve design. The color of the hat is mocha brown. It is a beanie hat. The front split maxi denim dress is made of 100%lyocell. Maxi denim dress is not only soft and stretchy, it feels smooth to the touch. This denim dress makes me look luxurious. The T-shirt inside is made of 100%polyester. Even after I wash it many times, it can keep its original shape and is not easy to stretch, so it is very comfortable to wear.

Whenever I look through my junior high school photo album, I can always remember that I wore this dress to accompany me through the happy and sad days. Happy because I am very happy to graduate from junior high school and will start my new journey -- high school. Sad because after that day it meant that the classmates who had worked together for three years were going to be separated. Denim skirts give me a feeling of cleanliness and purity. I love and cherish this beanie hat because it was a graduation gift from my best friend, Yuzhen. Every time I wear this hat, the corners of my mouth will rise unconsciously, because I always think of the happy moments of my junior high school.



Chapter 9: Unforgettable Memories

My third hometown is a beautiful island, it is called Xiachuan Island, it is also the place where my aunt - Ms. Zhao's wedding place. I spend almost every summer break on this island. Xiachuan Island is charming and has fine sandy beaches. There are a lot of seafood resources, and I look forward to going to Xiachuan Island every year for fresh and delicious seafood and jackfruit. Every day at five or six o'clock in the afternoon, I can go to the beach and enjoy the sunset while swimming. I can also dig some seafood, such as shellfish (such as clams, mussels, oysters) and small crabs. The last time I went to my third hometown was in August 2015, the year before I went abroad, and I had a great vacation there. The island is located in Xiachuan Island, Chuandao Town, Taishan, Guangdong Province, China.

On the day I left Xiachuan Island, I dressed up myself to bid farewell to my third hometown with the most beautiful look. The weather on the island is very hot so I asked my aunt Ms. Zhao ties my *hair into two plaits*. Wearing a pair of *sunglasses* fits the seaside theme. After going to the island for a week, my *skin color became darker* obviously because of the high reflectivity of the beach and seawater, which resulted in stronger ultraviolet radiation, so my skin was darker than before. I cut my fingers and toes into *round shapes* and painted light *blue nail polish*. Blue nail polish gives me a feeling of fresher.

The color of this dress is white. This is an A-line Maxi dress with many flowers in different shapes. The flowers of the dress are black, yellow, and brown. The flower on the skirt used the print technique, not the embroidery technique. The color of the sunglasses is white. This A-line is made of 100%polyester. This A-line Maxi dress feels smooth, soft, and delicate. The dress rustled when I touched it.

When I think of Xiachuan Island, I always think of the outfit I wore on the day I said goodbye to it. This is because the dress is full of memories, I can always think of wearing it when I walk around on the island, watching the sunset and the sunrise, and other scenes. It is cool to have sunglasses on, but I wore it that day so I would not be seen by my aunt -- Ms.Zhao when I was crying. The different shapes of flowers on the dress match the scenery of the seaside, after putting on it, the mood will involuntarily become better. I really look forward to wearing this outfit to visit my third hometown one day.



Chapter 10: Birthday Party

February 8, 2016. It was Lunar Chinese New Year and my 16th birthday. I always celebrate my Lunar birthday, which falls on the first day of the first lunar month, which is also the Lunar New Year. 2016 is my last birthday celebration in China with my Chinese family and friends because I will come to the United States to reunite with my parents and sister. It was the most memorable birthday I have ever had, even more memorable than my 18th birthday. On February 8, 2016, my aunt gave me a birthday red envelope early in the morning, which means healthy growth. At noon, I had a family reunion dinner with my aunt, Ms.Lei. After the family reunion dinner, I went to the flower market and the snack street in Doushan with my best friends, Yuzhen, Qiuchan, and Wang Ying. At 4 pm we went to a famous restaurant in town to celebrate my 16th birthday -- Green Island Restaurant. Green Island restaurant is located in Fukang Road, Doushan, Guangdong Province, China. At 9 PM, I went back to Ms.Lei's house and held a BBQ party with my family (Qihong, Ziwen, Ms.Lei, etc.) to celebrate my birthday. At 11 PM, they surprised me and bought me a durian cake. I was touched because I had not bought a cake to celebrate my birthday for many birthdays. The BBQ was held in Zhenkou Village, Dooshan, Guangdong Province, China.

This dress was a birthday gift from my best friends, Yuzhen, Qiuchan, and Wang Ying, so I wore this dress all day on my 16th birthday. *On that day, I used curling irons to create Medium score-long wavy roll hair and let my hair fall over my shoulders. I use temporary Disposable Hair Dye spray to dye my hair into a wine red color. On February 5th, 2016, Yuzhen and I went to the nail shop to get nails of the same style, cut nails into the shape of rounds, and the nail shop assistant painted our nails with red nail polish. A pair of silver earrings in my ears.*

The color of the dress is a medium-dark shade of Pink-red. This is A maxi A-line dress. The suspenders involve the design of bows to make the dress look less drab. A white lace edge embellished the skirt on the front. The Maxi A-Line dress has a hidden form zipper on the back for easy wearing. The cuff of the skirt is designed to use bubble sleeves. The skirt is made of 100% cotton, it is comfortable to wear, but the lace edge on the chest makes me feel itchy when I wear it. In my opinion, I would consider this is a 100 percent perfect dress if it did not have a lace edge on the front.

On my birthday every year, I can always think of what I did and wore on February 8, 2016, because I had the most perfect day for 22 years. I feel happiness, love, and surprise when I wear it. I like the design of bubble sleeve very much because it will present a feeling of youth and vitality. Wearing red clothes, red nail polish, and red hair on your birthday and receiving a red envelope all mean happiness, and auspiciousness, which is said to ward off evil spirits.



Chapter 11: First Salary Gift

During the month of June-July 2016, I found a job during the summer vacation. The main content of this job is making toys. I worked there with my best friend, Yuzhen. We went to work together every day and spent a very happy one-month holiday. After a month of work, I got more than ¥1,500 and I am very happy. So I decided to use my first salary in my life to buy something as a souvenir. After the end of work, I, Yuzhen, and Qihong decided to go to the Heishawan (the name of a beach), so finally I decided to buy a swimsuit because there is no swimsuit in my wardrobe, I bought a swimsuit to prepare for a trip to Heishawan. Heishawan is located in Tonggu Bay, Chixi Peninsula, Taishan, Guangdong Province, China.

On the day of the trip to Heishawan, I let my hair hang over my shoulders, not tied up. Cut my nails into *round shapes* to avoid hurting myself or others while swimming. A *red rope* is worn on my left hand. In my family's tradition, underage children (under 18 years old) must wear a red rope on their hands when they go to the seaside, which is said to ward off evil spirits and protect themselves. After playing on the beach for some time, the whole body seems to be dusted with black glitter. Many black glitter spots are sticking to the body because the beach of Heishawan is the only black sandy beach in the world. In my right hand, I *hold a hat*, which is an ornament for taking pictures.

The main color of the swimsuit is wine red. This is a triangle one-piece swimsuit. There are 5 buttons on the front of the swimsuit as an ornament, which is designed with a chest pad (chest pad without a steel base). The design of the hat is very simple, without any *ornaments*, and the color of the hat is white coffee. This is a panama-type hat. The design of the hat is a center dent crown and blocked in a long oval. The swimsuit is made of polyester. It is soft and wearable and can not fade easily. The hat is made of 100% wool, it is soft to touch the hat.

Every time I look at the photos on the social platform, I am reminded of wearing this memorable dress to celebrate the joy of receiving my first paycheck. Wearing this swimsuit makes me feel confident because the red swimsuit made me look whiter than Yuzhen and Qihong, so I am happy. The white coffee color makes me relax and enjoy the trip. Sometimes the scene of going to Heishawan comes to me in my dreams. I hope to visit it again someday.



Chapter 12: Full of Memories

One day in August 2016, I went back to my alma mater with Yuzhen, Qiuchan, Wang Ying, and Yanhua. This is also the last time I go back to my alma mater before going abroad. On that day, we went back to our Alma mater and talked for a long time with our teachers (Tracy Li, Bang Sir, A Long), most of the chat contents included the details of our school life, such as school sports meetings, class status, and other daily activities. We walked through the classroom where we had classes, the dining hall where we had meals, the dormitory where we slept, the playground where we ran, and other full of memories places. The Alma mater is located in Renyuan Middle School, Taishan, Guangdong Province, China.

On the day I returned to my Alma mater, I tied my *hair in a bun*. Put a new pair of *four-leaf clovers earrings* in my ears, because four-leaf clovers were popular at that time. On my left hand, there was a black hair rubber band that Tracy had given to me that day. The hair rubber band has a star on it because she wants me to be the brightest star in our work and life one day. One of my teeth went from *pale yellow to black*, and that tooth was black because of decay, and half of it was broken.

The main color of the T-shirt is white, and the Winnie the Pooh pattern on the shirt uses print technology. This is a black tapered shorts. The T-shirt is made of 100% cotton and is comfortable to wear. But after a few washes, the T-shirt will be pilling. Tapered shorts are made of 100% polyester, with pockets on the front and back, making a total of 4 pockets.

Whenever I look at the photos of my Alma mater, I can always remember the places I have visited that day (classrooms, playground, dining hall, and dormitory). I wore a Winnie the Pooh T-shirt to my Alma mater because I liked the anime Winnie the Pooh. I like this pair of black tapered shorts because I have worn it for 3 years in the dormitory of junior high school.

Black shorts give me a feeling of sadness, and reluctance to part with my alma mater, tears come unconsciously fall when I leave.



Chapter 13: Leaving

On August 7, 2016, Chinese time, I left the place where I had lived for 16 years. I was on a 2:30 pm flight to New York. My aunt, Ms. Lei, and my cousin, Lao Qi, went to the airport to see me off. At 6 pm Eastern Standard Time on August 7, 2016, I first came to the United States after 16 hours of flight. In the calendar, I leave China on the same day and arrive in the United States on the same day because China is 12 hours ahead of Eastern Time. The flight I took when I left China was at Baiyun International Airport, Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China. I got off the plane at John F. Kennedy International Airport in Queens, New York, 11430.

Before I left China, I had my *hair cut* to shoulder length. Not only did I make my hair *French style hair Wavy*, but I also dyed my hair light brown. I *wore a diamond tennis bracelet* on my right hand, which was a leaving gift from my aunt Lei. And an Aquarius sterling silver constellation bracelet from my cousin Lao Qi. This is because I was born in February and the constellation of February is Aquarius, so she gave me an Aquarius bracelet. I have a black backpack on my back, the backpack is my parting gift for myself. I had a green travel pillow in my left hand.

It is a white shirt with short sleeves and a bow on the front. Classic round neck, short sleeve, lace trim on the front (because the lace is white and not drawn on the sketch), and flat bottom hem shirt. The short sleeve is made of 99% cotton and 1% spandex. I am wearing a pair of navy blue ripped jegging jeans. Ripped jegging jeans have 5 pockets, two big pockets in the front, one small pocket on the left, and two big pockets in the back. Ripped jegging jeans is made of 70% cotton, 21% viscose, 7% polyester, and 2% spandex. Although it was comfortable to wear, the jeans faded. The backpack involves a waterproof design, and you can carry it on a rainy

day without getting wet, but the backpack itself is very heavy. The travel pillow is made of cotton, it is comfortable to hold while sleeping at night.

Every time I see the Aquarius sterling silver constellation bracelet on my hand and the travel pillow on my bed, I can recall the scene of leaving. I was sad and happy, nervous and excited that day. Sad because I was leaving the place where I had lived for 16 years to start a new life and adventure in an unknown place. I was excited to be reunited with my parents and younger sister, whom I had not seen in 16 years. Wearing white clothes makes me quiet, can calm my excited and sad mood, and helps me adjust my mood.



Chapter 14: High School Graduation

The time has come to May 2019. This summer, my high school classmates and I separated and went to their own respective worlds. I and my best friends Yanlan, Jingyu, Jiaying, and Haitian met when we were strangers in grade tenth, we parted after we were familiar. The commencement ceremony begins at 9 am and ends at noon. The process of the graduation ceremony was that Mr. Anaya (Principle) and outstanding graduates speak on the stage, the graduates turn the tassel, then all the graduates came to the stage to receive their graduation certificates, then some graduates came to the stage to receive scholarships, and finally is the dissolution (free photo time or leave the school). The graduation ceremony was held in the auditorium of Lower East Side Preparatory High School. Lower East Side Preparatory High School is located at 145 Stanton St, New York, NY 10002.

My hair color was *dark brown* on graduation day. Wearing a graduation cap. I *wore a platinum necklace* with a pendant of a flower with a diamond in the middle (the diamond was fake). I was *holding a bunch of pink roses* from my mother Lucy, which was also the first bunch of flowers I had received in my life, and a certificate congratulating me on winning the scholarship from the school. On my right hand, I still wear the Aquarius sterling silver constellation bracelet given by my cousin. On my left hand, I *wear a black Coach watch* that I bought for my 19th birthday. I did not wear makeup that day, but the color of my lips was *a little white* because my mouth was sick -- it was covered with herpes, and the ointment made it look a little white.

I was wearing a black Maxi A-line dress with two layers underneath. The design of the skirt involves flounced hem and a low-cut back, there is no zipper, and it can be put on directly when wearing, which is very convenient. This black dress is made of 100% silk, it feels

comfortable when you wear it, it is also a summer dress. I was wearing a dark grey graduation gown and cap. The gown has a zipper in the middle of the front, which is convenient for consumers to wear. The graduation gown is made of polyester, it is shrink resistant and quick drying. The Coach watch has eight crystals on its dial and a leather strap dotted with flowers that are also black.

The gown and the A-line dress brought back so many fond memories and happy moments. I was so excited and happy when I put on my graduation gown because it was the first time in my life that I attended a graduation ceremony wearing a graduation gown and a graduation cap. On that day, I wore an A-line dress to attend Jingyu's birthday party and went to Karaoke with Yanlan, Jingyu, Jiaying, and Haitian in the evening to celebrate graduation. In the end, we sang a Chinese song together, called Beijing Dong Lu De Ri Zi, which is about the memories of three years of high school life. After we finished karaoke, we were at the intersection of 100 Fun (the name of the karaoke store, which is located on 9th Avenue, 60th Street, Brooklyn). We shake hands one last time and say, "Take care and goodbye, friend."



Chapter 15: Camp Mason

Two months after my high school graduation ceremony, Yanlan, Jingyu, Jiaying, Haitian, and I decided to organize a graduation trip to make up for our absence from the school's senior trip. Finally, we decided to go to a place called Camp Mason as the first stop of our graduation trip. We had a pleasant trip there for three days and two nights. We tried many firsts there, the first time playing high ropes (Zipline and Giant Swing), rowing (kayak), climbing wall, nature hikes, archery, and many more. Camp Mason is located at 23 Birch Ridge Rd, Hardwick Township, NJ 07825.

On the second day of the trip, I tied a *high ponytail* to prevent myself from hurting myself while participating in the Zipline and Giant Swing. *Wearing a hat* bought at the Shein official online store. On my left hand, I *wear a hair rubber band* from Tracy, my junior high school teacher. I put on a pair of blue reflective *sunglasses* with silver frames. I wear sunglasses on my travels because the sun in New York in July is very hot, and wearing sunglasses can protect the eyes from the high amounts of ultraviolet and infrared rays in the sun. A *thin coat* was tied around the waist. One of my teeth color on the lower right has *turned white* because I had dental implants before I traveled.

This is a pure black T-shirt, which is made of 60% cotton and 40% polyester, what I do not like about this shirt is that after a few washes, it pills and makes it feel rough. The bottom part is a pair of dark blue jeans made of 80% cotton, 18% polyester, and 2% spandex. This pair of jeans involves a hidden form of zipper and button design, it has 4 pockets, convenient for me to go out to keep my phone and money. Tied to the waist is a light blue button-up shirt that is made of 55% Linen and 45% Viscose. The front of the Button-up shirt has 6 faux shell buttons as embellishments and a curved hem. This is a black baseball hat, it is made of 100% cotton.

It was a trip full of memories and numerous firsts were attempted during the journey. I was very tired but very excited during the journey. Wearing a light blue button-up shirt makes me happier than wearing other colors because my favorite color is blue. I find light blue to be healing. It gives me a feeling of comfort and clarity. This trip is all about relaxing and enjoying the scenery with the eyes.



About the author

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Yinghe is a 22 years old college student, she is a junior and currently enrolled in Business and Technology of Fashion at New York City College of Technology. She plans to graduate in the 2023 fall term. She immigrated to the United States in 2016. After she immigrated to New York City, she has been noticed that New York City is one of the most diverse cities in the world. She noticed that people there dressed in a variety of styles, from conservative to sexy. It was there that she found her passion for fashion. This laid a foundation for her to choose Business and Technology of Fashion as her major after graduating from high school. Yinghe talks about the memorable moments she had experienced in her life in this book, and the types of clothing and adornments that she wore to celebrate those memorable moments.