

自序

淬炼与追梦-深圳五年的历程

A Journey of Dreams and Reality: Five Years in Shenzhen

Winnie Mo

有一次回到家乡——都匀，见到师范学校的老同学，他们都已退休。我才恍然大悟：不知不觉间，我们这一代人已步入老年行列。如果当年在 1993 年，全国掀起“下海潮”时，我选择留在都匀师范学校继续教书，如今我也会像他们一样，退休在家，过着成群结队旅游、跳广场舞的日子。

然而，我却依然整天穿梭在教室之间，在孩子群中当“孩子王”。与其说为工作辛苦，不如说享受那忘记年龄的乐趣。退休的老友们，有的羡慕我仍保持着对教学的热情；有的则说我不会享受生活，还在工作。但我觉得，那一群群可爱的小天使让我与他们同乐，忘记自己也该站在老人的行列，还能为他人所需而感到无比满足。

我过着与同龄人不一样的生活，这让我回忆起人生的转折——深圳五年的点点滴滴，至今仍历历在目。我决定将记忆中那些艰难困苦、悲欢离合记录下来，给正在准备外出拼搏的读者一些启示。

在广东一带，人们喜欢在姓名最后一个字前加一个“啊”，所以在深圳认识的人通常叫我“啊碧”，她就是故事的主人。

阿碧毕业后在贵州都匀师范学校担任美术老师。因当时政策允许在职人员“停薪留职”，她毅然投身改革开放的浪潮，选择“下海”，到沿海闯荡。五年间，她在深圳经历了无数寻觅与拼搏，最终辗转来到香港。凭着在大浪中奋力冲击的精神，她实现了曾经梦想的生活。

这五年的深圳生活，仿佛是一座炼狱，让阿碧历经酸甜苦辣、悲欢离合，锻炼出坚韧的意志。她深切体会了人生的艰难、人性的冷暖，也见证了繁华与幻灭。这段经历，不仅是一份严苛的考卷，更是一篇无可替代的成长篇章。

《渐行渐悟》不仅是一部回忆录，更是一条寓言般的旅途。它记录了一个年轻的寻梦者在城市间的漂泊，在灯火与书页之间的徘徊，更见证了一个灵魂如何在生存的试炼中，渐渐走向理解与光明。

Preface

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One day, I returned to my hometown, Duyun, and met some old classmates from the teacher's college. They were all retired. That moment hit me—I realized how quietly time had passed, and we had all entered the stage of later life. If, back in 1993, when China was swept by the wave of “going into business,” I had chosen to stay at Duyun Normal School and keep teaching, I would now be retired too—spending my days traveling in groups and dancing in public squares.

But instead, I'm still moving from classroom to classroom, surrounded by children, playing the role of their “the leader of the pack.” It's not so much hard work as it is the joy of forgetting my age. Some retired friends envy me for keeping my passion for teaching alive; others say I don't know how to enjoy life because I'm still working. But I feel differently—those adorable little angels let me share their laughter, forget where I stand in life's timeline, and feel deeply fulfilled knowing I'm still needed.

My life is different from that of my peers, and that difference takes me back to a turning point—the five years I spent in Shenzhen, memories that remain vivid even now. I decided to write down those struggles, joys, and heartbreaks, hoping to offer a spark of insight to readers preparing to venture out into the world.

In Guangdong, people often add “Ah” before the last syllable of a name, so in Shenzhen, everyone called me “AhBi.” She is the heroine of this story.

After graduating, AhBi worked as an art teacher at Duyun Normal School in Guizhou. When a policy allowed employees to take unpaid leave to pursue other opportunities, she seized the chance and threw herself into the tide of reform and opening up. She chose to “go south,” to the coast, to chase a dream. For five years, she searched, struggled, and fought in Shenzhen before eventually making her way to Hong Kong. With the spirit of someone who dares to ride the waves, she finally achieved the life she once dreamed of.

Those five years in Shenzhen were like a crucible—a fiery trial that tested her resilience. AhBi tasted the full spectrum of life: sweetness and bitterness, joy and sorrow. She learned how harsh life can be, how fickle human nature is, and she witnessed both dazzling prosperity and its inevitable illusions. That chapter was not just a gruelling exam; it was an irreplaceable lesson in growth.

“Gradual Steps, Growing Wisdom” is more than a memoir—it is a journey, almost like a modern fable. It tells the story of a young dreamer drifting between cities, wandering between neon lights and pages of books, and ultimately, how a soul, tempered by the trials of survival, slowly walks toward understanding and light.