

## Ch1 雨结良缘 A Hope in The Rain

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你知道今天会遇到谁吗？今天发生的事会对你未来有什么影响吗？“活在当下，把握当下”已经成为许多人的口头禅，可是有多少人真正能做到呢？《金刚经》里提到“过去心不可得，现在心不可得，未来心不可得”。那么，什么心才可得呢？

人的相遇都是缘分的组合。我们无法控制谁会出现在你身边，也不需要刻意去控制。顺其自然，静待惊喜。下面的故事给了我深刻的启示。

一天黄昏，没有落日，只有淅沥沥的小雨。她刚为学生补习完而匆匆赶回家，他刚下班而匆匆赶去健身房。两人都走在香港半山的坚尼地道那狭窄的人行道上，一前一后。雨越下越大，她顾不上回头，只想赶上回家的巴士。他紧跟在后面，只见这位长头发，身材匀称的女子，撑着伞，穿着凉鞋，小腿沾满了水珠，短裙的皱褶边也被雨水淋湿，紧贴在大腿上。来到“合和中心 Hopewell Center”的电梯口，这是下山的必经之路。平时这里人来人往，坐电梯也得排队，可那天周围静悄悄的，环顾四周，见不到一个人。他们俩进了同一个电梯，里面空荡荡的。两人抬头望了对方一眼，都开始打招呼了：

她：Hello.

他：Hi, the rain is getting heavier.

他不会讲中文，刚从澳大利亚来到香港工作。她只能结结巴巴说些简单的句子，但从不错过练习英语的机会，于是试着跟他沟通："Oh, yes, my shoes are wet, where are you going?"

他: I am going to the Gym, and you?

她: I am going home.

他: What are you doing in Kennedy town?

她: I teach Putonghua.

他: Oh, you are a Putonghua teacher.

在电梯里的短短几句话对话，仿佛给了她信心。只是有些遗憾，时间跑得太快，电梯门已打开了。‘合和中心 Hopewell Center’，这个中文名字和英文名字的意思有点不同，中文名字‘合和’是讲合作的过程，而英文名字 'Hopewell' 直译是‘希望好’是讲合作前的心愿。‘希望好’正是这两位陌生人需要的。

从电梯出来，雨越来越大，可以用倾盆大雨来形容。无论你有大小的雨伞，也无法前行。路上的行人都纷纷躲进大厦避雨。正值晚饭时间，她建议找个餐厅，既可以避雨，又可以聊天。“是个好机会练习英语”她心里暗暗地想。他当然同意，刚来香港，难得有机会认识这个普通话老师，说不定，日后可以跟她学普通话。

于是他们来到附近唯一的餐厅- 麦当劳。可能来这里吃东西的人大部分是为了避雨，所以顿时‘麦当劳’也人潮涌动，好不容易在一个角落找到两个位置。"You sit here, I will get some for you." 他说. 过了一会儿，他就端来了两个汉堡餐。“我在书上学到的外国人通常吃东西都是 'Go Dutch', 各付各的。”这个念头浮现在她的脑海里，正准备付钱给他。"It's okay, No, worries" 他说。“这个眼前的外国人不像书上描写的，反而有点像中国男人主动为女士买单。”她好奇地自问。

麦当劳的汉堡包餐真的把这两个陌生人变成了熟人。为了不让这个毫无准备的聚会变得沉闷，她绞尽脑汁搜寻所学过的英文单词。雨也停了，“珍惜每个有缘相见的人”，出现在她的脑海里，于是她对他说：“Leave me your phone, we

can talk next time." 他很认真地写下他的手机号码，住家电话还有公司电话，生怕被她遗忘。还画上地图，指出他住所的位置。

刚被大雨洗过的街道变得特别清新，路灯把拥挤脏乱的街市变得格外美丽。他们好像没有话可说，只是静静的享受当下的宁静。是时间说再见了。他直走向健身中心，她默默地独自坐在回家的巴士上。

## **A Hope in the Rain**

*Winnie Mo*

Do you know who you will meet today? How will today's events affect your future? "Live in the moment, seize the moment" has become a common saying for many, but how many people can truly achieve it? In the Diamond Sutra, it is mentioned that "the past mind is unattainable, the present mind is unattainable, and the future mind is unattainable." So, what mind is attainable?

Human encounters are a combination of fate. We cannot control who will appear by your side, nor do we need to deliberately control it. Let things take their course and wait for surprises. The following story gave me profound inspiration.

One twilight, under a sky devoid of sunset hues and graced only by a gentle drizzle, she hurried home after tutoring her students, while he rushed to the gym after a long day at work. Both found themselves on the narrow sidewalk of Kennedy Road in Mid-Levels, Hong Kong, one following the other. As the rain intensified, she pressed forward, eager to catch her bus, unaware of the man closely trailing her. He couldn't help but notice the graceful girl ahead, her long hair cascading down, a small umbrella shielding her, sandals on her feet, and droplets of rain adorning her calves. The hem of her short skirt, damp and clinging to her thighs, added to the scene's allure.

They reached the elevator entrance of Hopewell Center, a necessary path downhill. Typically bustling with people and queues, the place was unusually quiet that evening, with not a soul in sight. They both stepped into the same empty elevator, their eyes meeting for the first time. A spark of connection ignited as they exchanged greetings:

Her: Hello. Him: Hi, the rain is getting heavier.

He couldn't speak Chinese, having just arrived in Hong Kong from Australia for work. She could only stammer out simple sentences but never missed a chance to practice English, so she tried to communicate with him: "Oh, yes, my shoes are wet, where are you going?"

Him: I am going to the gym, and you? Her: I am going home.

Him: What are you doing in Kennedy Town?

Her: I teach Putonghua. Him: Oh, you are a Putonghua teacher.

The brief conversation in the elevator seemed to give her confidence. It was just a pity that time flew by, and the elevator doors had already opened. The Chinese name "合和中心" (Hopewell Center) and the English name have slightly different meanings. The Chinese name "合和" speaks of the process of cooperation, while the English name "Hopewell" literally means "hope well," referring to the wish before cooperation. "Hope well" was exactly what these two strangers needed.

As they exited the elevator, the rain grew heavier, turning into a downpour. No matter how big your umbrella was, it was impossible to move forward. Pedestrians on the road were all seeking shelter in buildings. It was dinner time, and she suggested finding a restaurant to both avoid the rain and chat. "It's a good opportunity to practice English," in her mind. He agreed, having just arrived in Hong Kong and rarely having the chance to meet a Putonghua teacher. Perhaps he could learn Putonghua from her in the future.

They went to the only nearby restaurant—McDonald's. Most people there seemed to be avoiding the rain, the McDonald's became extremely crowded. They finally found two seats in a corner. "You sit here, I will get some for you," he said. After a while, he brought two burger meals. "I learned from books that foreigners usually 'go Dutch,' each paying for their own meal," she thought and preparing to pay him. "It's okay, no worries," he said. "This foreigner in front of me is not like the ones described in books; he seems more like a Chinese man who takes the initiative to pay for the lady," she wondered.

The McDonald's meal turned these two strangers into acquaintances. To avoid making this unplanned meeting dull, she racked her brains, searching for the English words she had learned. The rain stopped, and "cherish every fateful encounter" appeared in her mind. She said to him, "Leave me your phone, we can talk next time." He carefully wrote down his mobile number, home phone, and office phone, afraid she might forget. He even drew a map showing the location of his residence.

The streets, freshly washed by the heavy rain, felt particularly refreshing. The streetlights transformed the crowded and chaotic cityscape into something extraordinarily beautiful. They seemed to have no words left to say, simply enjoying the serene moment together. It was time to say goodbye. He walked straight towards the gym, while she quietly boarded the bus home alone.