

## Article for English Corner Discussion

### 1. Article 2 - 2: I want a Home (家)

Jackie Lantry is a part-time hospital clerk (职员) in Rohoboth, Mass. She and her husband have adopted (领养) two girls and two boys from China. When Jackie asked her children what they believed in (), they said "home." It was love: just simple, plain love.

We adopted (收养) Luke four years ago. The people from the orphanage (孤儿院) dropped him off (把他丢下) at our hotel room without even saying goodbye. He was nearly six years old, only 28 pounds and his face was crisscrossed (交叉着) with scars (伤痕). Clearly, he was terrified (害怕的). "What are his favorite (喜好) things?" I yelled (大叫). "Noodles (面条)," they replied as the elevator (电梯) door shut (关闭).

Luke kicked (脚踢) and screamed (尖叫). I stood between him and the door to keep him from bolting (开门栓). His cries were anguished (痛苦的), animal-like. He had never seen a mirror (镜子) and tried to escape (逃走) by running through one. I wound (抱) my arms around him so he could not hit or kick. After an hour and a half he finally fell asleep, exhausted (精疲力竭的). I called room service. They delivered every noodle dish on the menu (菜单). Luke woke up, looked at me and started sobbing (抽泣) again. I handed him chopsticks (筷子) and pointed at the food. He stopped crying and started to eat. He ate until I was sure he would be sick. That night we went for a walk. Delighted at the moon, he pantomimed (打手势), "What is it?" I said, "The moon, it's the moon." He reached up and tried to touch it. He cried again when I tried to give him a bath until I started to play with the water. By the end of his bath the room was soaked (浸湿的) and he was giggling (傻笑). I lotioned (润肤) him up, powdered him down and clothed him in soft pajamas (睡衣). We read the book One Yellow Lion. He loved

looking at the colorful pictures and turning the pages. By the end of the night he was saying, "one yellow lion." The next day we met orphanage officials to do paperwork. Luke was on my lap (膝) as they filed into the room. He looked at them and wrapped (抱) my arms tightly around his waist (腰).

He was a sad, shy boy for a long time after those first days. He cried easily and withdrew (退缩) at the slightest provocation (刺激). He hid food in his pillowcase (枕头套) and foraged (翻寻) in garbage cans. I wondered then if he would ever get over the wounds (伤害) of neglect (忽略) that the orphanage had beaten into (灌输给) him.

It has been four years. Luke is a smart, funny, happy fourth-grader. He is loaded with charm (许多讨人喜欢) and is a natural athlete (天生运动员). His teachers say he is well behaved (好行为) and works very hard. Our neighbor says she has never seen a happier kid. When I think back, I am amazed (惊奇) at what transformed (改变) this abused (被虐待), terrified little boy. It was love: just simple, plain love. Love is primal (最根本). It is comprised of compassion (同情), care, security, and a leap of faith. I believe in the power of love to transform (改变). I believe in the power of love to heal (医治). I believe home is the very best place to give and practice love.

### 2. Discussions:

1. Who is Jackie Lantry? Who is Luke? What is their relationship?
2. What was Luke's initial reaction to Jackie? Why did he act like that?
3. What transformed Luke's behavior?

### 4. Proverbs:

1. Only a life lived for others is a life worth living.
2. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. (Gospel of John 15:13)