

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 5-4: Do You Remember, Darling (1)

Can it really be sixty-two years ago that I first saw you? It is truly a lifetime, I knew. But as I gaze (注视) into your eyes now, it seems like only yesterday that I first saw you, in that small café (咖啡馆) in Hanover (德国一城市) Square (广场). From the moment I saw you smile, as you opened the door for that young mother and her newborn baby. I knew, that I wanted to share the rest of my life with you. I still think of how foolish I must have looked, as I gazed (注视) at you, that first time. I remember watching you intently, as you took off your hat and loosely shook your short dark hair with your fingers. I felt myself becoming immersed (专心的) in your every detail, as you placed your hat on the table and cupped (成杯状) your hands around the hot cup of tea, gently blowing the steam away with your pouted (鼓起) lips. From that moment, everything seemed to make perfect sense to me. The people in café and the busy street outside all disappeared into a hazy (有雾的) blur (模糊不清). All I could see was you.

All through my life I have relived (重新活过来) that very first day. Many, many times I have sat and thought about that the first day, and how for a few fleeting moments (瞬间) I am there, feeling again what is like to know true love for the very first time. It pleases me that I can still have those feeling now after all those years, and I know I will always have them to comfort me. Not even as I shook and trembled (发抖) uncontrollably in the trenches (战壕) did I forget your face. I would sit huddled into the wet mud, terrified, as the hails of bullets and mortars (炮弹) crashed down around me. I would clutch my rifle (步枪) tightly to my heart, and think again of that very first day we met. I would cry out in fear, as the noise of war beat down around me. But, as I thought of you and saw you smiling back at me, everything around me would be become silent, and I would be with you again for a few precious moments, far from the death and destruction. It would not be until I opened my eyes once again, that I would see and hear the carnage (残杀) of the war around me. I cannot tell you how strong my love for you was back then, when I returned to you on

leave in that September, feeling battered (被打击), bruised (被伤害) and fragile (脆弱). We held each other so tight I thought we would burst. I asked you to marry me the very same day and I whooped (大声吼叫) with joy when you looked deep into my eyes and said “yes” to being my bride.

I’m looking at our wedding photo now, the one on our dressing table, next to your jewelry box (首饰盒). I think of how young and innocent we were back then. I remember being on the church steps grinning (露齿而笑) like a Cheshire cat (卡通中的猫), when you said how dashing (时髦) and handsome (英俊) I looked in my uniform (军服). The photo is old and faded now, but when I look at it, I only see the bright vibrant colors of our youth. I can still remember every detail of the pretty wedding dress your mother made for you, with its fine delicate lace (花边) and pretty pearls. If I concentrate hard enough, I can smell the sweetness of your wedding bouquet (花束) as you held it so proudly for everyone to see.

(To be continued next week).

2. Discussion:

1. Describe the relationship of this man and his wife.
2. How do you know if this is a long or short term marriage?
3. How characteristic is this of marital relationships in modern China?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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| 197. Your hand feels cold. | 你的手摸起来很冷。。 |
| 198. Don't be so childish. | 别这么孩子气。 |
| 199. Don't trust to chance! | 不要碰运气。 |
| 200. Fasten your seat belt. | 系好你的安全带。 |
| 201. He has a large income. | 他有很高的收入。 |
| 202. He looks very healthy. | 他看来很健康。 |
| 203. He paused for a reply. | 他停下来等着 • 回答。 |