

Holding Space – English translations

| Image # | Title | English Translation |
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| 1 | After Cancer | <p>After the completion of my chemotherapy and radiation sessions, I suffered from side effects of these treatments. I had to learn how to adjust my lifestyle and diet to accommodate the loss of certain bodily functions. For instance, my throat and mouth often feels very dry and parched due to the loss of some salivary function and the damaged muscles around my neck stiffen easily. From then on, I would always bring a bottle of drinking water everywhere I go and have to do daily exercises and massages on the neck area to prevent the muscles from hardening, making it difficult for me to swallow my food.</p> |
| 2 | Learn to Live with it | <p>My son has autism, it's not an illness, but it's a lifelong disability...until the day that I pass on, I will still worry about him...</p> <p>For cancer, it's also a lifelong issue. Even though today the doctors can declare the cancer is in remission, but we will not know for sure if she'll have a relapse...</p> <p>If you ask me what has changed, I don't really know...</p> <p>We appreciate life more than before... We don't blame fate for what has happened ... That is not us. No point doing that, right? It will only make things worse. No point lamenting: 'Why did this happen to us? Why us?' Of course, when my son and wife were first diagnosed with their conditions, during the initial period, we're devastated and kept questioning: 'why did this happen to us?' It made us cry, made us angry. That period of anger and grief is over. We've decided to accept things as they are and move on. Learn to live with it, be happy with whatever we have.</p> |
| 3 | A Bad Prediction | <p>During Lunar Chinese New Year last year, the red ribboned ball which wrapped around the incense banner at our home suddenly caught fire. The incident took us by surprise and made us felt uneasy. We decided to go to the temple to offer our prayers and to seek divine advice to decipher the meaning of the incident.</p> <p>When we received the interpretation description from the temple personnel, we had a shock as it was the 100th stick. We referred to the interpretation book to learn more about what the 100th stick symbolised and was very worried and concerned the misfortune will fall unto us.</p> <p>A few weeks later, when my wife, Huihui was diagnosed with cancer. It was then that we realised that our premonition that something bad was going to happen and the interpretation from the temple was somewhat a pre-warning to prepare ourselves</p> |

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| | | <p>for this devastating news and to brace for the very difficult life obstacle that we had to face. When Huihui's diagnosis was confirmed, I set my mind to do all I can to pray and seek blessings for her recovery. From releasing captive animals, lighting longevity lights and candles to raising funds, donations, I tried to do everything I could and also turned vegetarian for the period of her treatment and recovery as my way of helping "ward off" some of the misfortune.</p> |
| 14 | <p>He was Normal to Nine Years Old</p> | <p>White text: When he was born, he went to school and did everything [normally] ... Then at P3, in June, his sickness started coming out, he was just nine years old. So at the start, he was like a normal child. Ah, I can show you a photo of him as a student.</p> <p>Black Text: Just feel that he is who you give birth, lah. You cannot be like this, anyhow treat him like "anything" like this, give him anyhow then be done with , I do my best loh. Because frankly speaking, I was the one who passed "X-Link" to him what. Because "X-Link" is only passed to males; male sure will get it one. Woman will only be carriers, like me.</p> <p>Everything also must depend on ourselves to improve his life. Ah, cannot let him be uncomfortable; not looking nice, never mind. To us, his hair not nice, never mind; ah, wrap a cloth (around his head), also never mind. We just want him to be comfortable then good already ah.</p> <p>Ah, if he is suffering, he won't want it... according to Buddhism, people said, if we don't treat him well, he would have left earlier. When he was suffering a lot, we even have to use morphine. Morphine got stick one (patch), got poke (drip), got injection, everything was used. All three types (of method) ah and he still didn't leave us! So according to Buddhism, someone said hor, you treat him very well, he won't bear to leave us.</p> |