

INTERVIEW WITH CHEN HONGLIN'S MOTHER

Q: 请你自我介绍一下, 可以吗?

Could you please introduce yourself?

A: 我是汶川县三江乡邓家村一支队陈红林他们妈妈。

I'm Chen Honglin's mother. I lived in Deng Jia Village, San Jiang Township, Wenchuan County.

Q: 你今年多少岁呢?

How old are you?

A: 今年 33。

I'm 33 years old.

Q: 你们家在这住了多少代了呢?

How many generations has your family lived here?

A: 三代。

3 generations.

Q: 当时陈红林出生, 为什么给他取这个名字呢?

Why did you give Chen Honglin this name when he was born?

A: 那个名字, 我都不知道, 顺口取的。原来取的是陈林, 后来又加了一个红字, 就是陈红林。

That name, I don't know, just came up with it offhand. It was Chen Lin, and we added Hong in afterwards, then it became Chen Honglin.

Q: 5.12 地震是不是你经历的第一次地震呢?

Is the 5.12 Earthquake the first earthquake you ever experienced?

A: 是

Yes.

Q: 那天早上你在做什么呢?

What were you doing that morning?

A: 早上我在我们这儿打水泥路, 在工地上。

I was at the construction site, helping to build a concrete road.

Q: 到中午你也在那边?

You were there at noon as well?

A: 恩，到中午 512 地震的时候把我压在沙子里头，我儿子把我拉出来的
Yes. In the afternoon, when the 5.12 Earthquake happened, I became buried in sand, my son pulled me out.

Q: 那你当时心里是什么感觉呢？
What were you thinking right then?

A: 心头想到是已经完都完了，再也见不到我的儿女们
I was thinking "it's over, it's all over, I won't see my son and my daughter any more".

Q: 当时听到那个声音还是很吓人吧。
The sound it made must have been scary.

A: 恩，很吓人
Yes, very scary.

Q: 什么声音呢？
What was it like?

A: 霍霍霍的就来了，呵呵
Hooooonhg...

Q: 身上有没有什么感觉呢？
What did it feel like physically?

A: 身上啊？当时我总觉得一身无力，人是软的，就像刮大风爬不起来
Physically? I felt powerless, and yet soft, like a wind that's stuck to the ground.

Q: 那当时地震了，你的第一个最担心的是什么呢？
When the earthquake hit, what was the first thing that came to your mind?

A: 最担心的就是我的儿女，只有他们两姊妹，妹妹还在这三江读书
My son and my daughter... just them. Honglin's little sister was in school in Sanjiang.

Q: 当时你的亲戚朋友有没有受伤的呢？
Were any of your relatives or friends injured?

A: 我们老板当是吓昏了，趴在地上，后来还是没有什么事，安全的
Our boss got scared and fainted...fell to the ground, but turned out to be fine, all was safe.

Q: 那就还是没花多长时间都聚齐了吗？
So it didn't take your family much time to find one another?

A: 我当地震后我就去找我们红林，他就在学校，他在三楼。他就说地震来了老师喊跑，一个女生往操场跑，跑到半路就把一只鞋跑掉了，当时摇得很凶，他就把人家的鞋拣着拿下来了

I went to look for my Honglin that day right after the earthquake, he was in school; he was on the 3rd floor. He said the teacher shouted for them to run when the earthquake hit, and a girl lost one of her shoes running to the playground----everything was shaking so badly----he picked up the shoe and took it down with him.

Q: 三江附近受灾重不重？

Was Sanjiang and the area affected?

A: 房子很多都是倒塌的，我们的房子一间都没有了。

Many houses collapsed. Our house too, not a single room remained.

Q: 那你们当时地震后一直都住在这里吗？

So you've been living here continuously since the day of the earthquake?

A: 是的，一直都在这里

Yes.

Q: 就没有不停的搬过去搬过来的吗？

Did you move a lot?

A: 地震房子倒了，我就搬到了我的老家去。我们老家就在那上边，打石头那里，那边就是我的爸爸，养我的爸爸

Our house collapsed, so I moved to my hometown----my hometown is up where they mine rocks (quarry). My father who raised me lives there.

Q: 地震之前你是在这修路，那地震后你的工作这些怎么办呢？

You worked construction building roads before the earthquake, what's your job now?

A: 地震过后就靠国家补贴啊，照顾嘛，关心嘛，我们就重建家园嘛

After the earthquake we relied on compensation and subsidies from the government, you know they are taking good care of us and we're rebuilding our home.

Q: 你觉得四川以外的人对这里的情况了不了解呢？

Do you think people outside of Sichuan know about the situation here?

A: 你觉得四川以外的人对这里的情况了不了解呢？

They do, definitely. Not just know about it, they have given us so much support and care.

Q: 那你觉得以后陈红林长大了你想让他做什么呢？

What do you want Chen Honglin to be when he grows up?

A: 我就想他一直唱歌，因为他从小就喜欢
I want him to keep singing, he's loved singing since he was a child.

Q: 就希望他以后变成唱歌的人吗？
You want him to be a singer?

A: 恩。
Yes.

Q: 你觉得你的孩子以后会不会当明星？
Do you think your son can be a star in the future?

A: 不知道
I don't know.

Q: 希不希望呢？
Do you want him to be one?

A: 希望
I hope so

Q: 那他从小到大平时都喜欢唱歌吗？
Has he always loved singing?

A: 是的，从小到大都喜欢，从小学一年纪的时候就一直唱歌，他的老师都喜欢他。从 512 地震以后，兵哥哥来我们这里修路，他就唱了几首歌给他们听，就开了个一个军民晚会他就表演了给他们看，当时那些兵哥哥都哭了
Yes, since he was a kid, since 1st grade of elementary, his teachers all liked him. After the 5.12 earthquake, the People's Liberation Army soldiers came here to rebuild the road, and he sang a few songs for them---there was an evening party, the villagers and the soldiers---he performed, the soldiers cried.

Q: 他唱的歌是你教他的吗？
Did you teach him how to sing?

A: 不是，他自己想象来唱的，平时我还没有要求他唱
No, he learned all by himself; I never made a point of it.

Q: 他小时候你唱过歌给他听吗？
Did you sing for him when he was little?

A: 我没有，我只是在他小的时候慢慢发现他喜欢音乐这些，我们就在支持他，就给他买音箱啊、DVD 啊这些，用话筒他自己训练、唱
No I didn't. I just found out he liked music gradually, so we gave him our support, bought him a DVD machine, speakers and so on. He trained himself.

Q: 他小时候睡觉你给他唱过歌吗?
Did you sing for him before he went to sleep when he was little?

A: 没有
No.

Q: 那你还没有什么想给红林说的话?
Well then, do you have anything else you want to say to Honglin?

A: 我喜欢你专心的读书，创造自己喜欢的歌啊，或者是另外的一些。不要象爸爸妈妈这样子，没有知识，没有文化，因为只要他创造得出来我永远支持他，爸爸妈妈都支持他
Honglin, I would like you to study hard, write some songs you like. Don't grow up like Mom and Dad who don't have much knowledge or culture. So as long as you can create something, I'll always support you. Mom and Dad always will.

Q: 你给他唱个歌嘛？他说了你会唱。
How about you sing a song for him? He said you can sing.

A: 我不会，我不会唱，嘿嘿
No...No... I can't sing.