

## INTERVIEW WITH 罗红梅 (LUO HONGMEI)

问：你叫什么名字？

Q: What's your name?

答：我叫罗红梅，今年 16 岁。家住汶川县水磨镇贾平村二组，我是汉族。

A: My name is Luo Hongmei; I'm 16 years old now. I live in Team 2 Jiaping Village, Shuimo Township, Wenchuan County. I'm Han.

问：5.12 地震是你经历的第一次地震吗？

Q: Was 5.12 Earthquake the first earthquake you ever experienced?

答：是的。

A: Yes.

问：地震那天早上你在做什么？

Q: What were you doing the morning the earthquake happened?

答：我们很高兴的上学。我的生日就是 5 月 7 号那天，那几天都很开心，同学都祝福我，非常高兴，不知道为什么会发生这种事情。

A: Going to school, happily. My birthday was on May 7<sup>th</sup>, I was very happy in those days. My classmates all wished me a happy birthday, I was very happy. Didn't know why this happened.

问：地震时，你在哪里？

Q: Where were you when the earthquake happened?

答：我在楼梯间。我们学校已经是危房了，……当时我们都被冲散了，全部被压在了下面，当时都已经喘不过气，都觉得会死，全都是，我们都全部被压在下面，根本喘不过气。

A: I was in the stair well. Our school building was already dilapidated...we were scattered, and buried under the crowds...we couldn't even breathe. I thought we were all going to die, all of us...we were buried down there...couldn't breathe...

问：心里觉得很害怕？

Q: Scared?

答：恩，是的。后来老师来了，让后面的人往后面退，他们都很害怕，都往前面挤。我们不知道怎么了。后来老师疏导，他们才往后退，有的从而二楼上跳下去，才慢慢疏散，才把我们救出来了。当时我们出来的时候，手上脚上全部都是血，而我，我还不知道为什么，脚全部乌青了。在我下面的一个人，脸已经被踩青了，都不认识了。

A: Yes. Then the teacher came and told the crowd in the back to step back---they were all terrified and shoving around. Afterwards they stepped back, some jumped from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, then we were pulled out. There was blood all over our hands and legs, and me---I didn't even know how I got that---my feet went blue. The person underneath me, his face was treaded, and turned blue, couldn't be recognized any more.

问：当时地震听起来是一个什么声音？

Q: What did the earthquake sound like?

答：当时我们在 3 楼，正在打铃我们就下来。我们都还在说怎么三楼的人怎么把楼都震动了，然后就有人说“是地震”我们就都跑跑跑，直到一个班的人全部都跑下来。

A: We were on the third floor climbing downstairs while it was ringing. We were wondering how people on the third floor could make the whole building shake. Then there was a voice saying: "It's the earthquake." We rushed out until the whole class had run out of the building.

问：你家人或者朋友有在地震中受伤的吗？

Q: Did any of your relatives, families or friends get injured during the earthquake?

答：我妈妈那边的姊妹一共死了 16 个，15 个是表姊妹，有 1 个亲姐姐。我妈妈哭的很伤心，我也哭了。当时知道我们七姨……她对我家很好……不知道为什么就……

A: My mother lost 16 of her sisters---15 of them were her cousins, one was her 7<sup>th</sup> sister, my 7<sup>th</sup> aunt. My Mom cried so sadly, so did I. When I knew my 7<sup>th</sup> aunt was...she had been good to my family...I don't know why she just...

问：你们家附近受灾还是挺严重吧？

Q: The surrounding area of your hometown must have been damaged pretty badly?

答：我们那不算严重。

A: Not really...

问：你们地震过后多久来这边的？

Q: When did you come here after the earthquake?

答：我们8月25号来这边的。

A: We came here on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

问：你觉得生活和以前有什么不一样？

Q: What is the biggest difference in your lifestyle now vs. before the quake?

答：这里不像我们那里，这里的蚊子特别特别多，而且比我们那里大很多，每个人身上都有很多包，有的人还对蚊子过敏，身上留的都是是疤。我没有，我们家是很简单的房子，经常被蚊子咬，自己有处理方法，就没有对这里的蚊子感染。

A: It's not like our place here. There are many mosquitoes, and they are a lot bigger than those in our place. Everybody got bitten. Some were allergic to these mosquitoes, which left them with many scars. But I wasn't. The house of my family had been simple and crude, I got bit quite often but I had my own way to deal with it, so I was not infected.

问：你觉得地震以后，你最大的改变是什么？

Q: What is the biggest change since the earthquake?

答：就是我觉得，少了我七姨的关心。我以前在家里，我们七姨会骂我，很关心我。我家里没做饭没扫地她都会骂我，唠唠叨叨的。当她……就觉得很不舒服……不知道怎么形容……

A: I just feel that there is no more caring from my 7<sup>th</sup> aunt. When I was at home, she used to scold me, care for me. When I didn't cook meals or do the chores, she kept me in line. When she (died)...I just felt so bad...I don't know how to describe it...

问：你觉得四川之外的人对这里的情况了不了解？

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

答：应该了解吧。

A: Yes. I suppose.

问：你以后长大想做什么

Q: What would you like to do when you grow up?

答：他们给我取了个绰号，“诗人诗人”的然后就叫我死人。因为我喜欢把自己的情感写在诗中，他们读起来，都觉得很悲伤都叫我诗人。我想写一首关于我家乡的变化，从地震中走出来的那种。就是想写诗。

A: They gave me this nick name “poet man” which sounds like “dead man” so they ended up calling me dead man. I like expressing my feelings and emotions in my poems, and when they read them they feel very sorrowful and call me “a poet”. I want to write a poem about my hometown and how it changed, about walking out of the haze of the earthquake. I just want to write poems.

问：你有写很多诗吗？

Q: Did you write a lot?

答：有。在家里。我写了很多。有些朋友的，写妈妈的，各种各样的。在家里无聊的时候就写写。

A: Yes. Many poems were left at home. I wrote a lot, ones about my friends, ones about my Mom, various. I just wrote when I was bored at home.

问：这边有几首？

Q: How many do you have here?

答：大概有十几首。

A: About a dozen of them.

问：你给我们念的那个是你最喜欢的吗？

Q: Is the one that you read for us your favorite one?

答：是。因为我们才来的时候，我们寝室里面有个人特别让我感动。我们都睡了的时候，她就借着那微弱的灯光看书。我觉得她非常爱学习的。看到她看书那个情景，我就想她能把自己的梦想实现。

A: Yes. That's when we had just come here and I met this girl in our dorm who really moved and inspired me. She studied in the dim light after we all went to bed. I think she really liked to study. When I saw that scene and saw that she was reading, I wanted for her dreams to come true.

问：所以写了这个？那你的梦想是什么？

Q: So you wrote this? What's your dream?

答：我想当一个护士。因为当时地震的时候我们那里一个护士都没有，医院都垮了，什么都没有。眼睁睁看着自己亲人死掉。我们家门口是平的，当时地震的时候，那些尸体摆在我家前面。当时我想我如果有神奇的力量，我一定会把他们救活。真的。当时家里的人哭得好厉害……

A: I want to be a nurse. Because after the earthquake, there weren't nurses, not a single one, in the town where I lived---the hospital went down and nothing was left...seeing people, your relatives die in front of you and there was nothing you could do about it...The field in front of my house is flat so the corpses were laid there...in front of my home...I was thinking that if I had some magical power, I could surely rescue them...really...my family just cried their eyes out.

问：你觉得你的梦想会不会实现？

Q: Do you think your dream will come true?

答：我们2.3班都很烂。他们说我们是超哥超姐，不爱学习。我们班不喜欢听老师讲课，逃学啊什么的。当时每个姐姐希望我们考上大学，我们都觉得，早知道我们就该多学一点。因为我们是，从小就是，街边的。

A: My class was filled with bad kids...they said we were hooligans and we didn't like studying. My class wouldn't listen to the teacher; we skipped classes, hung out and so on. When the volunteers told us they hoped we could all go to college, we all thought, we should have known better sooner, we should have learned more. Since we were little we were always dawdling.

问：但是你还是努力，要实现自己的梦想。你以后想一直都留在四川还是去其他地方呢。

Q: (You have to keep trying, you have to make your dreams come true.) Would you like to stay in Sichuan or go somewhere else when you grow up?

答：我想去广东。地震的时候，很多广东来的哥哥姐姐对我很好。我就想去看看广东是什么样子，想去谢谢他们在我每次最孤独的时候，都是他们陪在我左右。

A: I'd like to go to Guangdong. After the earthquake, a lot of older brothers and sisters from Guangdong came here. They were all nice to me. I just want to see what Guangdong looks like, and want to tell them thanks for being with me every time I felt lonely.

问：最想念家里面的什么？

Q: What do you miss the most back home?

答：最想念的是我妈妈炒的土豆丝

A: The stir-fried shredded potato my Mom cooked for me.

问：你爸爸妈妈是做什么的。

Q: What do your parents do?

答：我妈妈，她从小，她眼睛跟平常人不一样。很小很小，一条缝一样会被人指指点点的，我也会被人指指点点。我的同学，有的跟我关系不好的同学男同学，会说我的妈妈，会拿我妈妈当笑话，说她的眼睛怎么样怎么样。但是我觉得妈妈的眼睛是最美的。妈妈在一家公司里扫地。爸爸地震的时候受伤了，他很辛苦的时候他头会很痛。家里就靠哥哥挣钱。我在这边都是哥哥给的零用钱

A: My Mom...her eyes...since she was a kid...are different from normal people. They are very very small, like a piece of string. And people sometimes say things about it. They say things about me too. Some of my classmates, the boys who I don't get along well with, they make fun of my Mom, say things about her eyes. But I think my Mom's eyes are the most beautiful ones in the world. She is...a cleaning lady in a company. My Dad was injured during the earthquake, he gets headaches when he's too tired. The whole family is counting on my older brother. My allowance here has always been given to me by him.

问：你们家房子现在怎样？

Q: How's your family's house?

答：国家给我们补贴一点。我们家现在修的平房。还没有修好。我走的时候都还是住的木头房子。

A: The government has partially subsidized us. We are now building a bungalow and are not finished yet. They were still living in the temporary wooden house when I left home.

问：传统里讲的话，自己家里朋友家人去世的时候，人们会说什么？

Q: So in your tradition, what do people say or do when a beloved one passes away?

答：我妈妈会说，你看你七姨对你多好，你要记住你七姨。

A: Like my mom she said: "you knew your 7<sup>th</sup> aunt had been good to you, you must remember her"

问：什么时候回去？

Q: When will you go back to Wenchuan?

答：九月。

A: In September.

问：你平时有什么爱好？

Q: What are your hobbies?

答：我没有什么爱好，就是常常写写东西。

A: I don't have many hobbies, I just write a lot.

问：长大的时候有人教你怎么写诗吗？

Q: Did anyone teach you how to compose poems when you were growing up?

答：没有，就是自己想写就写。很伤心的时候，就会写，就写出来了。就是想起来了就会写。

A: No, I just write when I want to. When I'm upset, I write. I write when I'm in the mood.

问：喜不喜欢看别人的诗？喜欢什么样的诗？

Q: Do you like reading other poets' work? What kind of poets do you like?

答：喜欢。喜欢看让人感觉快乐的诗。

A: Yes I do. I like the kind that make people feel happy.

问：最喜欢的作家？

Q: Who's your favorite author?

答：是女作家冰心。

A: It's this female writer, Bing Xin.

问：还有没有别的话要说？

Q: Do you have anything else that you want to say?

答：我要尽自己最大的力量，让自己过得快乐。做一个快乐的人。

A: Well, I will try my best to make myself live happily, to be a happy person.