We have known each other for nearly two years. We first met on a train that travelled from Lijiang to Dali in Yunnan Province in April, 2019. Yang was not supposed to be on that particular train. He lost his luggage in Lijiang, and he had to make that accidental detour. It was as if fate. He was sitting with his mother, talking about what part of Dali they wanted to visit. I had been to Dali, a city I loved much, for three times, so naturally the topic connected us. We talked very happily, and we exchanged WeChat contacts. In a short three months, we committed to a relationship on July 22, 2020.

He returned to Canada on XX, and we video called very often. Even though we have a 15-to-16-hour time difference, we kept the calling on throughout the 270 days apart. He would set an alarm at 6AM to have a nighttime call with me. He provided me with

In XX of 2020, in the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in China, he decided to fly back to China. Everyone thought it was a risky move, but he decided the risk was worth it to see me in person.

On April 17 2020, as the lockdown has been lifted, I brought him to see my parents. He brought many gifts that are tailored to my parents’ preferences. He made the food, and did the laundry. The visit established him as a model partner.

In May 2020, we were finally able to return to Lanzhou of Gansu Province, Liang’s hometown. I re-designed my apartment, and Yang lead the renovation. We picked every piece of furniture together. Knowing that Yang loves movies, I picked a projector for him. I am found of fresh flowers, and despite the pandemic, boutique has never disappeared from our home.

His father lamented that in XX, Yang was so determinant of going back to China to visit me, that nothing could have persuaded him. Now that you are together and well, they wished to see us proceed into a happy marriage.

On July 22, 2020, the anniversary of our commitment, with the blessings from our parents and friends, we registered in China for marriage. While legally we have been married, we have yet gone through all the traditions and family protocols. On August 13, we performed the engagement ceremony.