

## Excerpts from 飄泊的女兒 Floating Women

My entire life I've only ever wanted to be a remarkable woman. I won't put up with being married off to a man. Of course I have my own fantasies too. I want to toy with the hearts of all men, the same way they toy with women's hearts. I hate that we're born unequal, and that all of society's laws and opinions are made to benefit men. Men can use the power of money to buy women's youths, but women have nothing but their short-lived youths. In the end, a woman is just a toy.

"Weiru, you're too worked up. It's enough that you can see through these things, but why be angry about it? Go to sleep. If men are that abominable, then just don't marry one for the rest of your life. . . Besides, you still have my love."

"Xing, thank you! From now on, I only live and die for you!"

When Weiru said this, her eyes became a bit red. Xingruo also fell silent. In the depths of the night, this pair of drifting women wordlessly listened to the quiet sounds of each other's heartstrings.

「我平生只想作一個奇女子，我不願意將就就嫁個男人，當然我有些幻想，我要玩弄所有的男子，如他們玩弄所有的女人一樣。可恨天生成的不平等，社會上一切的法律一切的輿論都只是方便男人的，男人可以用金錢勢力買女子的青春，而女子呢，除了不長久的青春外便一無所有——到底女子還只是一個玩物而已。」

「畏如你太興奮了，這些東西看透就是了，何必生氣！睡吧，男人再可惡，這一輩子不嫁男人也就完了！.....而且你還有我愛你。」

「星，多謝你！此後我生是為你死也為你吧！」畏如說著眼圈又有些發紅了。星若也有些默然，這一雙飄泊的女

兒，無言的在深夜中互聽心弦的低訴。

"Xing, all the plans I had for my return home have dissipated into nothingness. My two elderly parents are like candles in the wind, and are unable support themselves. As the eldest daughter, I must bear the burdens of my household. This is a time of great difficulty, and everywhere are men without jobs. Someone like me could never compete against them, and so I have resigned myself to being a captive to society . . . This meaningful and beautiful thing called love is now a thing of my past. From now on, I have no thoughts of falling in love. I'll find a wealthy man, even if he's old or a

businessman, and marry him so I'll have a place to live and money to support my parents. Oh, Xing, you're still young, so you'll naturally be able to use your youth to find a good man to marry. Society regards remarkable women as monstrosities, making such a goal impossible to achieve. In the end, our dreams are completely meaningless. We are too weak, and we don't have the strength, so our only option is to become captives. For the time being, I don't want to return to Shanghai. In half a year who knows where I will have drifted off to. But for now, I must prioritize the financial issues before me, which I cannot ignore. I hope you will take care of yourself. Xingruo . . . !”

「星，回家來所謀劃的一切，都成了畫餅，而堂上兩老，又都是風前殘燭，勢不能謀生活，而我是長女，家裏的擔子當然是要我來負擔，可是當此生活難的時代，男子失業的在在皆是，如我更不見得能爭得過男人，因此我現在甘心作社會的俘虜，……戀愛這種雋永美妙的字眼在我已成過去，從今以後我再不想戀愛了，找個有錢的，不管老頭也好，商人也好，嫁個男人告個歸宿，同時也可養我堂上兩老。唉，星，你還年輕，當然你還可以利用你的青春找一個好男人嫁了吧，奇女子只是社會上的怪物，作不到，夢想到底無聊。我們太柔弱，沒有鐵肩膀，最後我們只有作俘虜，我一時不想到上海來，下半年不知又將飄泊何地。第一件事眼前的經濟問題不能不解決，你好自保重吧。星若!……」

Excerpts from 歷史的日記 Lishi's Diary

Lishi! Why didn't you come up with a plan sooner? Why didn't you put on men's clothes and a hat, and assuming the character of a man, ask my family for my hand in marriage? Now that they know you are a woman, they won't allow me to marry you. They've even gone and found this “promising young man” or what have you!

麗石! 你為什麼不早打主意，穿上男子的禮服，戴上男子的帽子，裝作男子的行動，和我家裡求婚呢?現在人家知道你是女人，不許你和我結婚，偏偏去找出那什麼有為的青年來了

