* Neko font, http://nekofont.upat.jp/en/

Melbourne 2018

mó e

mó zie

mō mō

xyxy's nickname, which means cat or kitty, was given by her cousin in 1994 when xyxy was borned. xyxy that time had no rights or abilities to change it. xyxy's parents think this is a catchy name. There is an old saying that the kids who named after animals, especially some pets, like dogs or cats, an be raised much more easily and safely.

The nickname itself sounds different when different people use them in different situations, the image above shows three common pronounce options. xyxy's parents use the first two the most, and other families use the third one more.

What is the meaning of a name? What names mean to everyone? Can the name present the person his/herself? Can we know people just from their names?

xyxy now has abilities to change names, and though she has many different fake names, she is now not passion about giving herself names. She does not have English name and has some new names based on the real one. Do different names mean different versions of xyxy? Will she be someone new during her growth? If so, what changed her?

What makes her the person she is today?

This 100-page encyclopedia is designed for everyone who wants to explore his/herself, like xyxy.

xyxy is a complicated person, and her usual way of designing is result-driven. However this time, she tried her best to see if she can just focus on the process, and follow random ideas.

Exploring oneself is with laughs and tears. This book just shows a small part of it. Some pieces of story details connect with each other. Though it is very personal, this might also help people think of the impact that random elements in someone's life can make. Besides of that, it also provides a method for others to explore themselves.

This book was made as a part of the task for Experimental Typography course in the Master of Communication Design at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University (RMIT) in the first semester of 2018, led by Vincent Chan. The reason for making this book is to design a print-on-demand encyclopedia that serves as a collection of experimental typographic works.

This encyclopedia is only based on the memory data of xyxy's 2018 version. Lots of thanks to all xyxy's families, teachers, friends, strangers and everything around.

(10/5/2018) This is her second version of the book. Today morning, also the day she received her first version, she for the first time in her life said "F**k you" to a real person because she thought she got a spam call. However, she later realized that it is actually her fault and she made apologizes to the postman many times through the phone and in person. As a return, she got the curse back and got threatened by him, who emphasized that he is the one who works for the government and xyxy is a student, she would definitely get into trouble if this happens again.

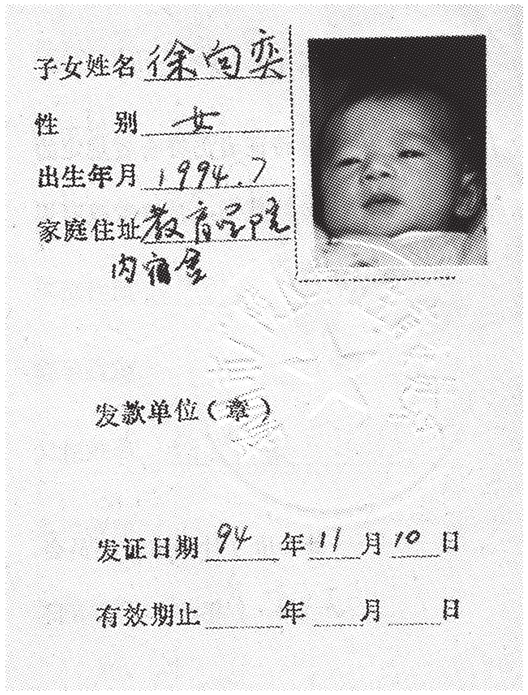
The only thing in her mind is to escape, escape from the room, the house, the city, the country, into space. It is her second time to get threatened, the first time happened in Mechelen, and nobody helped her. This time Sushi was there.

When she connected these things and thinking of the meanings of homes, safety, and trust, she burst to cry. Chips and Rubin were there for her this time.

"Why am I always crying?" xyxy asked herself.

It is so hard, to write, to read, to think of and to answer.

Birth



<<<<
The official prove-
ment of xyxy's birth.

Translation:
Name: Xiangyi Xu
Gender: Female
Date of Birth:
07/1994
Adress: Educa-
tion college

Provement unit
(stamp)
(National Population
and Family Planning
Commission)

Date of provement
10/11/1994
Expiration date / /

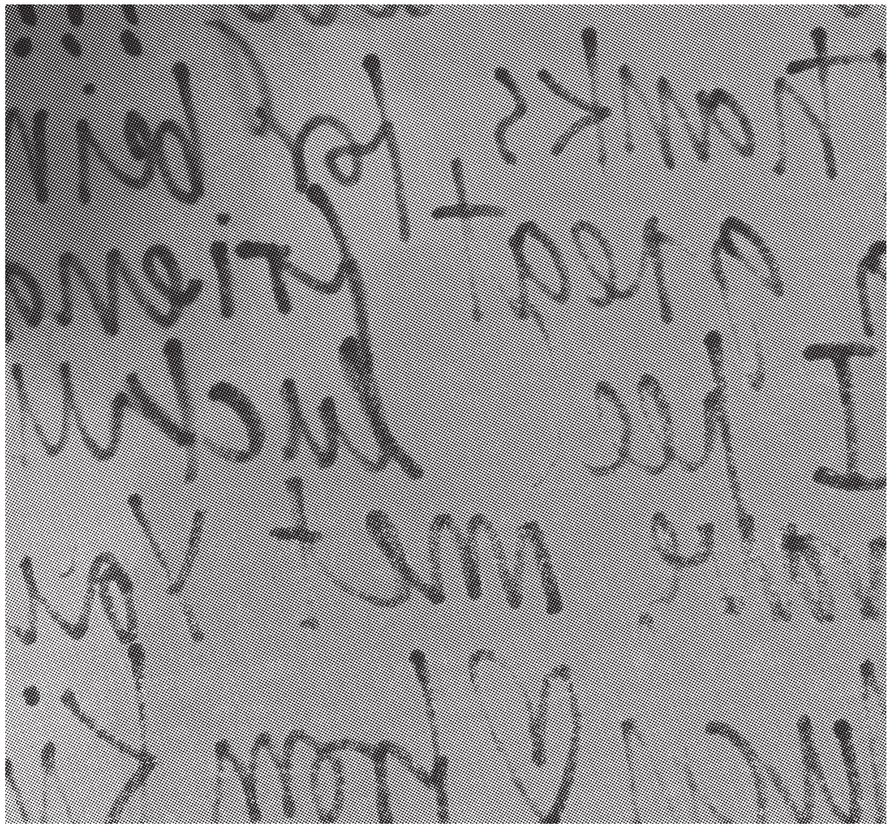
Here is the proof of xyxy's birth, a piece of official paper that proves xyxy's birth. The document was proven by National Population and Family Planning Commission. Unlike the policy of having two children in one family these years, that time every family can only have one child, so xyxy does not have any sisters or brothers.

This document also has an expiration date. xyxy has no idea what would happen if the valid date comes. Why this paper can prove she was born. Is she the one on the paper? Was she born in real? How to prove that?

Children who were born after the 31st of August were required to go to school one year after the ones who were born before that, so xyxy's parents changed the date of her birthday. However, the date cannot be seen as a fake one; it is the lunar date of her birthday anyway.

The other date is the first day of September.

Card



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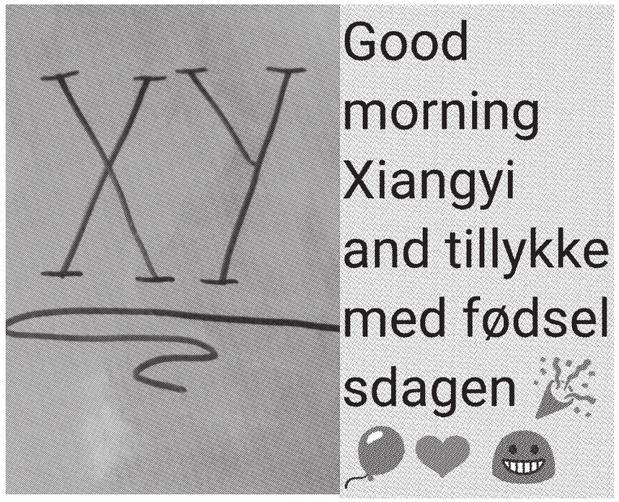
Back of the birthday
card xyxy received
in the morning of
1st September,
2017, from Kim.

Kim



<<<<
Cover of the card (left) and the message (right) xyxy received in the morning of 1st September, 2017, from Kim.

Dad

<<<<
The messages xyxy recieved in the morning of 1st September, 2017, from her father.

Translation:
11:56 am
One message was withdrawed
12:00 pm
(picture of the cake he found online)
Happy birthday!

The withdrawn message is another picture of the cake. The reason was the second cake looks more delicious.

xyxy does know why that her father does not celebrate his birthdays and he even hides his birthday date. Her mother did not celebrate hers before, but she begins to do that.

It is a tradition in xyxy's hometown that people need to have long noodles for birthdays. Affected by the western culture, cakes are also welcome, especially for kids. When xyxy was in primary school, some of her classmates bought cakes for everyone on their birthdays. As the cakes they brought getting bigger and bigger, this also becomes a way of showing off.

There is another tradition to celebrate "big birthdays", which usually at integer ages. xyxy's parents invited around 30 people to a big restaurant for a big dinner to celebrate xyxy's 10-year-birthday. There were some friends of xyxy's, some other family members, and friends of xyxy's parents. Actually, It was already better than many birthday celebrations. Most of the time, friends of parents are the main guests. It reminds xyxy of weddings. In her eyes, it is a personal thing and do not need to be celebrated in front of so many people. Besides of that, everyone can grow up, why should we celebrate that?

Some people also have habits of organizing birthday parties. This kind of child-only parties, xyxy has only been invited once. That time, she even did not know she needs to bring gifts.

In 2017, xyxy's friends celebrated her birthday. Kim sent her warm messages in the early morning and had breakfast with xyxy. She also gave xyxy birthday cards and presents she made. Aditi spent the afternoon with xyxy. They had ice creams and a long chat. Liang sent her long messages to express her thoughts about xyxy's birthday. Sushi and Yang bought her cake and Cherry sent xyxy an inspiring message.

But still, why do people celebrate birthdays?

For xyxy, it is an excellent chance to meet old friends, say goodbye to the old herself, and prepare for the new one.

However, xyxy's birthday is always the first day of the new academic years in China. xyxy's parents are teachers, so that day was usually a busy day. In the years from studying in the primary school to studying in the universit, that day was always the day xyxy left the people she was familiar and met new groups and new environments.

Does her birthday mean more?

<<<<
The message xyxy received on the 1st September, 2017, from Cherry.

Translation:
Every birthday is a turning point.

<<<<
Screenshots of the facebook homepage of xyxy on 1st September, 2017.

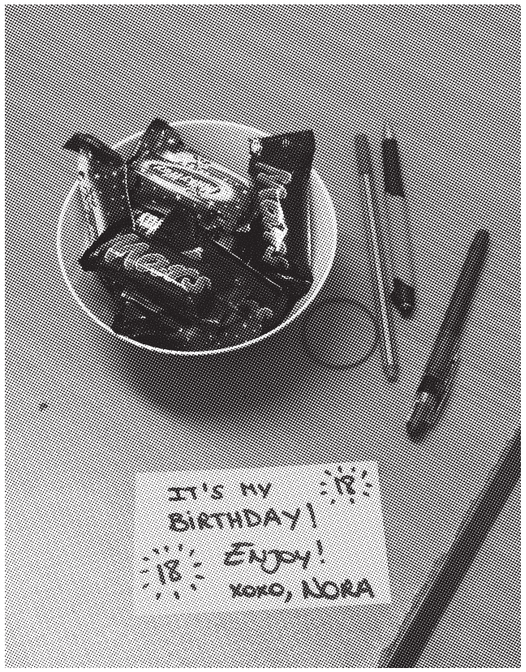
Translation:
5 years ago
01/09/2012
Start studying Jiangnan University

01/09/2010
Start studying Yangzhou High School in Jiangsu Province. Yangzhou, Jiangsu*, China

23 years ago
01/09/1994
xyxy was born

*Jiangxi is a system mistake.

Taste



<<<<
Nora shared some sweets with the whole building xyxy lived in Mechelen.

It was her 18th birthday.

<<<<
xyxy's home in Mechelen, Belgium. The window was her room's window and the bike was hers, though got stolen several months later.

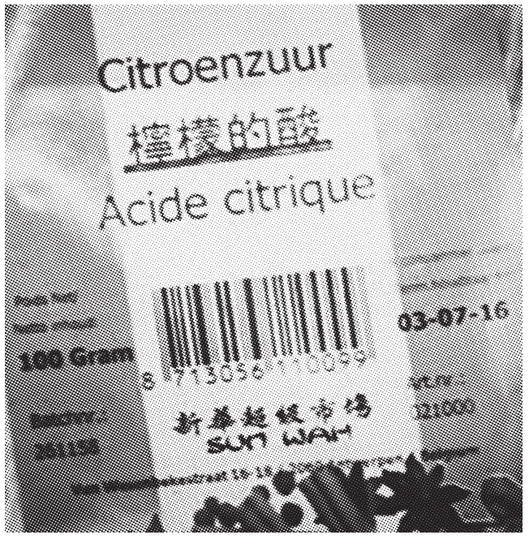
Birthday may also mean something sweet.

xyxy never forgets the day that Nora shared the sweets on her birthday. It connected birthdays with the feeling of happiness, which is a new lesson that xyxy learned. xyxy's parents say that the birthday is the hard day for mothers, so in xyxy's minds, birthdays do not feel that sweet, instead, it brought stress and suffers. Sometimes xyxy does not want to talk about her birthday. But this time, she felt great thinking of that, and she understood more meanings of birthdays.

xyxy lived in the student house in Mechelen that time. That place was mixed with people from different countries. Because of different living habits and timetables, they did not see each other very often. Though some were her friends, xyxy was not familiar with most of them.

However, it is still the place xyxy would like to call it home, at least for that time in Mechelen.

Space



<<<<
A package xyxy found in the only Chinese shop in Mechelen.

There would never be something always sweet.

Sometimes, xyxy is sensitive. As Mars said, it is not possitive, but anyway, that is why she felt touched when she saw the words " the sour of lemon" on the package. When xyxy read it, she felt the acid in her mouth. Not that strong sour, it is a tasty sour, a fresh sour. There is a space between the words and the feelings, it needs to be understood and fulfilled, with her experience, and her imagination.

xyxy believes it is hard to describe tastes, as hard as the feelings. If someone can suitably do that, that can be seen as art. Though for this time, xyxy thinks it is a mistake of translation.

Maybe the reason that xyxy felt touched was not only the words themselves. She found it in the only Chinese shop in Mechelen. It was a tiny shop, and mainly as a restaurant. xyxy had her birthday dinner there, and several weeks later, Gillian told xyxy that her husband was doing the tutor job for them.

Mechelen is small and xyxy likes small cities. There is always enough space for someone to stay alone and think about everything around. There, people want to spend time with themselves and someone close.

Of course, mostly with themselves.

Distance

<<<<
Three big points between China and Mechelen: Frankfurt Airport, Brussels Airpot and Mechelen Train Station.

There is always a distance in the space or between spaces. People sometimes can notice it, sometimes not. About that, people always have their understandings.

People around xyxy often think xyxy is from another planet. Sometimes she thinks that is true. Sometimes, xyxy feels she is close with everyone, and sometimes she thinks she is back to her planet, far away from everything.

There are always somewhere in the long journey that can make people lost.

How to avoid the mistakes?

xyxy was very confused about that, but the answer is surprisingly simple: Try as much as you can, as hard as you can, as many times as you can, and then, learn the lessons.

Most of the time, people themselves have the abilities to do that, but people around will worry a lot. The feeling about that is strange and xyxy does not like that. So when they care about xyxy in this way, xyxy can always feel the distance between herself and them.

Last time, a interviewer asked xyxy what will make her feel unhappy, or even angry. xyxy answered that is when someone told her that she could not do that.

xyxy is also the person who does not know how to say no to others.

Home

<<<<
A photo xyxy took on the day trip with her Belgium classmates, October, 2014.

In Belgium, many people asked xyxy the question “do you miss home?” and that always happened when they see any Chinese related stuffs. Luckily, there are not many Chinese shops or restaurants around Mechelen.

The answer to that question always goes with no, and it is disappointing for some people. Some would even make jokes like “Oh, foreign countries are too good, and you do not even want to come back!”

xyxy does not like this kind of words, mainly because she does not understand what respond or information they want to get. xyxy understands this is a kind of way to care, but she feels uncomfortable about that.

Thank the technology, xyxy can always communicate with families and friends in China online. In daily life, she can take care of herself and she can cook Chinese food. She does not feel that she is abroad, especially in Australia. She gets used to the life now. Besides of that, she is always busy meeting and learning something new, so there is no time for homesick, and people who ask the questions will not buy the tickets anyway.

xyxy does not think there is any places perfect, or even somewhere better. Besides, home is somewhere in mind, in the heart, and she does not need to miss it.

Home is always with xyxy.

<<<<
A Dutch introduction of Mechelen, designed by xyxy in 2014.

Translation:
This is a city, here people speak Dutch. In the center, there is a big market. Around that, there are many cafes and restaurants. Typical Belgium. Don't drink water, drink beer. Have some fries with Belgium stew beef, which is delicious and cheap, with a glass of red wine. It is good to sit in the park with birds and dogs or hot chocolate. The name is/it is/you cannot dance in Mechelen. For the first time, I rode the horse here. I will be here for half a year. I come from China. Help it become international.

Mechelen, a small city in Belgium, which takes around half an hour to travel by train from the capital city Brussels. xyxy went there around her birthday in 2014 for exchange study. It was her first time to travel abroad and her second time of taking flight. Before the journey, she knew nearly nothing about Belgium, except chocolate. However, she did not feel afraid of facing the new environment.

xyxy spent half a year in this small city, and she tried so many things she never imagined before.

There are three official languages in use in Belgium, Dutch, French, and Deutch. The language xyxy learned was Dutch and that is also the language for Holland. The Dutch teacher said, the language is for people to communicate, and what you need to learn is to begin a conversation. So the teacher taught her the most useful thing, a song, called *Het is enn Nacht*, which is an old song that everyone who speaks Dutch knows. xyxy can always sing this song with everyone from Belgium or Holland she now meets. However, she did not make any new close friends because of that.

Anyway, that was such a lovely time. xyxy communicated with different people, animals, the environment, the culture, and herself.

That time also becomes a starting point for xyxy. She began to help herself explore the bigger world, and get out of her comfort zone. For the first time, xyxy rode bicycles alone between cities, went horse riding, spent so long time alone, and made new friends.

She felt she has never been so brave, so fearless, so free. She trusted the city, and more importantly, herself,

So xyxy.

Communication

Communication is a problem xyxy had for a long time. Most of the time, she prefers listening to others instead of expressing herself. At first, xyxy thought herself could not do that, but now, she knows it is part of her personality, and she begins to accept that but still keeps practicing the skills.

It does not mean that her old ways of communicating with others were totally wrong. The counselor xyxy met in 2018 thought it would because xyxy did not have any sisters or brothers and did not spend enough time with other kids in her childhood. That is why her communication skill stays in the very beginning stage, there is a long-developing way to go. All her need to do is to try and learn. Actually, xyxy tried a lot even without noticing her problems. She went to parties; She joined clubs; She went abroad alone.

In 2017, Adam gave xyxy a task, which required xyxy to design a zine about a place around the school. That time, xyxy's life was mostly between the home and the school and she lived really close. The cozy space of her room was where she spent the most of the time, and the window was the place she has the connections with the outside world. This place was with her strongest feelings, and she starts to ask herself and even ask the world.

Why did xyxy choose to leave her home country? And

Window

<<<<
A zine *Xiangyi and her window*, xyxy designed in 2017, directed by Adam and Kim.

A5 sized, printed in black on white and yellow paper.

how does xyxy communicate with the new environment?

After around one month, xyxy designed the site-specific booklet that embodies a sense of place, without the need to answer to any clients' commercial requirements. That little zine takes xyxy's personal life stories as the basis, and it shows how she feels about the space, and how she understands the world.

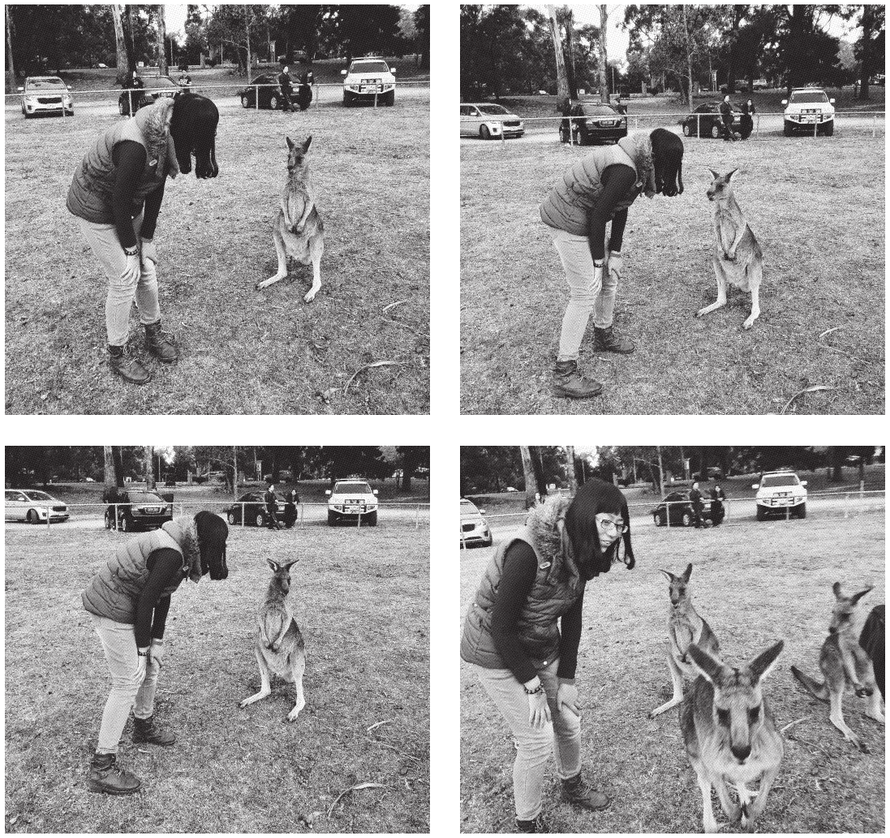
Including you.

<<<<
(overleaf)
xyxy learned how to communicate with horses, Mechelen, 2014.

Because the teacher did not speak English, her roommate Mara helped her all the way in the whole process.

But she said xyxy is a good horse rider, at least a good learner.

Conversation



<<<<
The process of xyxy making a conversation with kangaroos in Melbourne, 2017.

Reflection

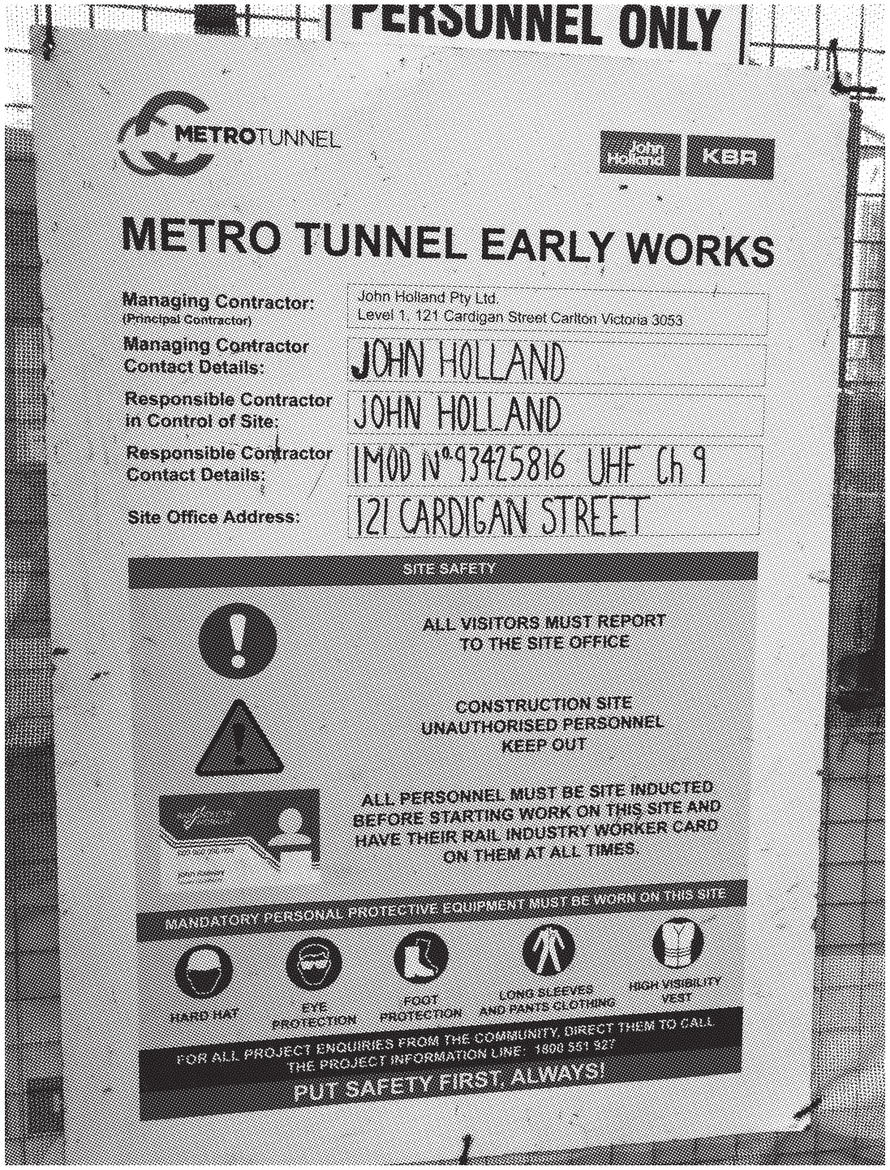
<<<<
On a road trip, xyxy found the name of this car is the same with her name.

The car is actually the first car that took her to the camping place that time.

Now xyxy is wondering what relationship between the number “129” and herself.

Duan wondered if it is xyxy’s weight.

Sadly not.



<<<<
A photo xyxy took on Swanston Street, near City Bath, Melbourne, 2017.

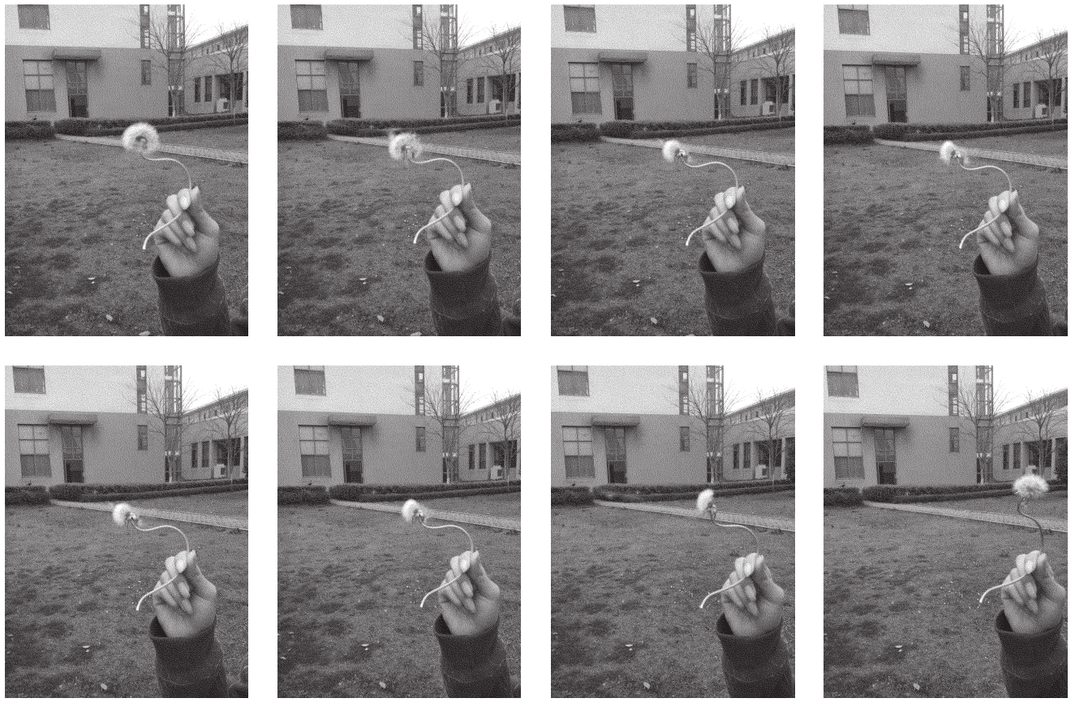
It is a country that is so far and so near. A country that xyxy spent the Christmas Eve with her friend's family. A country she for the first time tried skiing. A country xyxy used to go there twice a month. A country that xyxy for the first time got the chance to see her favorite band's concert. A country that lives her Belgium families. A country that xyxy wants to stay longer.

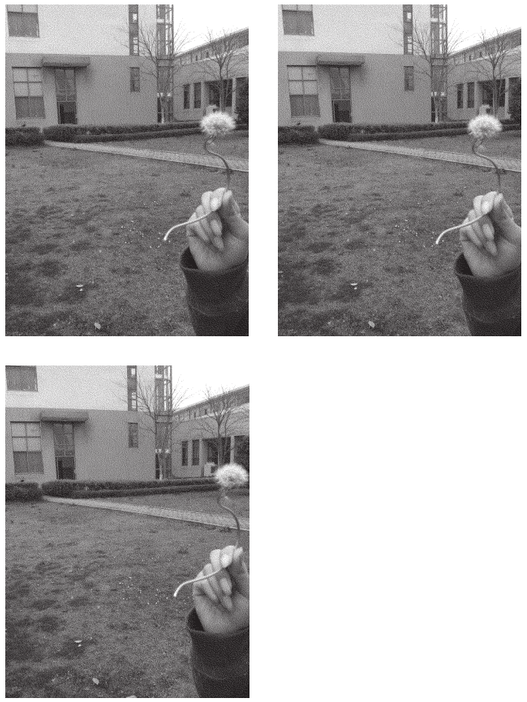
Duan told xyxy that people sometimes will connect something with themselves. It is a reflection.

When xyxy sees things like dit, xyxy misses Holland, misses her friends, misses her families.

Sometimes misses xyxy herself.

Flow





<<<<
A process of Zhi Blowing dandelion, photo by xyxy, in Jiangnan University.

Most of the time, xyxy cannot make her own decisions, she is more with the flow.

xyxy has the problem with decision making, especially what to order in the restaurant. Normally, she just waits for others, and then follows others' decisions. It seems that she does not care about anything, and she is satisfied with most of the arrangements.

It is not hard to understand why she has this kind of personality. She grew in that way. Her parents helped her with most of her decisions, and what she needs to do is to accept. These years, parents realized the problem, so they began to let xyxy make her own choices, like let her choose what to do, where to go and most of the plans of her life.

However, xyxy feels lost most of the time. There are so many choices, which one is a better one, which one should xyxy choose?

Besides of that, she also realized that she needs to be responsible for her choices, which frightened herself even more.

Can xyxy control her life?

<<<<
A photo xyxy took in the concert, Amsterdam, November, 2014.

It is weird that though xyxy is always with the flow, what she likes might not the one that everyone likes. In contrast, she would change from like to dislike when she finds more and more people begin to love the same thing.

xyxy likes a Japanese rock band. Diao introduced it to her, and she was not that like the style at first. However, she found the songs of the band become better and better. She can feel the strong feelings inside, so she began to be a fan.

In 2014, she for the first time to go to their concert. It was in Amsterdam. xyxy went there early, and the place was not that huge, so she can see the eyes of Taka. They were so bright.

Recently, the band cooperates with many international artists, and the number of fans becomes larger and larger. In 2014, there are only hundreds of Chinese fans, and now there are a lot more.

Generally, xyxy felt happy for them, also felt a little bit sad. She found herself not that crazy about them any more. She did not listen to their songs for several months.

Last year, they came to Melbourne, xyxy saw the news but did not go.

She cannot buy the tickets anyway. They were sold out in just five minutes.

<<<<
The photos xyxy and Hanne playing with the famous "I amsterdam" city card.

Amsterdam is a charming city. xyxy spent some time there with Hanne, her most important Belgium family member.

That time when they were in Amsterdam, they went to the museum and walked around the city center. They went to some designer shops. xyxy likes their funny Dutch way of expression. They use their products to make jokes, nerdy jokes, which is xyxy's favorite. xyxy also got a balloon on the road, Hanne tied it to xyxy's wrist, like treating a little girl. Some people saw that and said "so cute."

That time, there was Christmas market in the square and Hanne bought xyxy a special food for Christmas. xyxy knows food in Holland. They fry everything. So she was not surprised when she saw the food.

It was sweet.

Hanne studied interior design for three years and was in the same course of Interior & Service design with xyxy. She now lives with her boyfriend in Holland. xyxy and her sometimes send parcels to each other.

But xyxy still misses her and that time a lot.

xyxy likes everything fun and wants to be a person that can bring herself and others fun.

One time, xyxy was in the interview, the interviewer asked her the name of her favorite designer. xyxy has no ideas. She likes many design works, but she does not know the designers. She picked Stuart in the end. That time, she cannot even pronounce the surname of his. The interviewer was very surprised, so she asked “Stuart Geddes?” to make sure they are on the same page. xyxy answered yes. Then she asked xyxy to pick her favourite projects. xyxy did not remember Stuart’s projects, so after a long time of thinking, she said, he is funny, and that matters the most.

Last time, when she told Stuart the story, Stuart said, it is the best answer. Though she did not get the job, she still thinks it was a funny experience.

Another thing that can bring xyxy fun is freedom. She has the problem of making choises, but she still wants more options.

Take the layout design as an example. xyxy does not understand grid system well, so she usually goes with feelings. Most of the time, she uses handwritten elements and hand-drawings to avoid the shortage. She sometimes also feels she is not that free with the system. However, now she understands that with the rules, there are fun things to do, and breaking the rules can also be fun.

In daily life, xyxy also set herself rules. She smiles and laughs, but not all the time. People often ask her if she is ok when she does not smile. However, xyxy does not think her smile or laugh good-looking. Her father always thinks her behavior of laughing is too much, especially the sound. It is not suitable for a girl, or a lady. So xyxy always controls her emotions for most of the time.

Recently, she starts to free herself step by step. She is still young that she can afford mistakes and do not have to be afraid.

There are still chances and hope.

<<<<
xyxy (left) and her cousin (right).

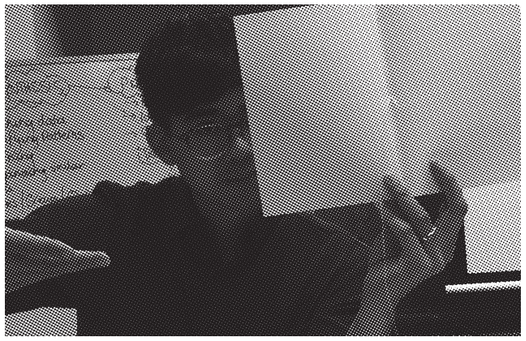
<<<<
(overleaf)
xyxy in White night, Melbourne, 2017.

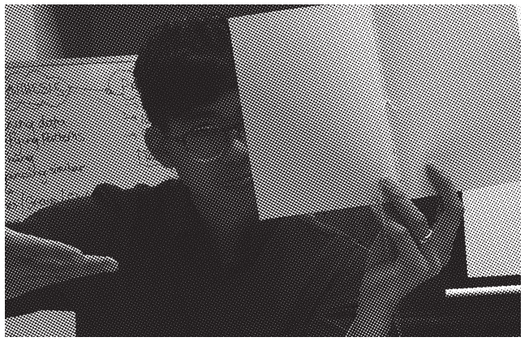
The singer of the band she met gave her glasses and refused to get them back. It was a fun night.

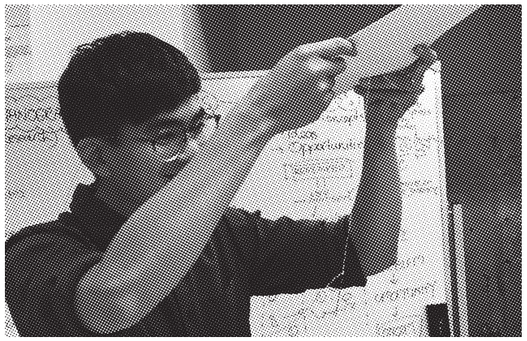
Photo taken by Jiaqi Chen.

In 27th April of 2018, xyxy cut hair herself, the length was similar with this.

Vincent







<<<<
Vincent was showing the process of making books.

Vincent, xyxy's teacher of the Experimental Typography course. The reason that she chose this course is because the western system is different from the eastern one that she learnt before. Personally, she was not that into typo as well. However, she now finds that typo is not that boring, many details in her life are related to typo. Typo is everywhere.

Vincent is also very funny, xyxy always feels happy to see him. She likes his bright yellow jacket and smiles.

xyxy remembered that one day she was crying in the studio while Kim was with her. Vincent also came. He said the school is not the most important thing, and the school and the course is to make students happy. He said that his position is also to help students feel happy. It was so inspiring and helped xyxy a lot.

xyxy had lots of fun having this course. Most of the time she felt free not only in the class but also doing the assignments. There are so many options to play with. She does not feel afraid or difficult to communicate with Vincent. He was her friend when he showed her his pets.

xyxy's parents want xyxy to be a teacher in the future. If it becomes real many years later, xyxy hopes she can be the teacher like Vincent.

Balloon

<<<<
A balloon xyxy found in Building 9, Melbourne, 2018.

xyxy thinks she is emotional. When Mars saw this, she said it is too negative. Ok, she is full of emotion.

xyxy sometimes can feel the emotions of the objects, though she knows it is actually the reflection of herself. On 29th April, 2018, she went to Queen Victoria Market and saw a toy stall. She found what she want and when she prepared to pay and go, she saw a little bear in the corner. The bear looked so sad and worried. Though he is not that attractive and well-designed, xyxy brought him home in the end.

xyxy has some toys and they are always with xyxy in different homes. To xyxy, they are not just toys, they are families. She thinks it may because of the experience when she was a child.

That time, she was too young to protect her toys. Some families or parents' friends came and the toys just accidently disappeared. xyxy was angry and tried to get them back, but her parents always said it is ok, they are just toys.

They said, people always come first.

Wallet

<<<<
xyxy's wallet
in 2018.

The wallet was
designed and hand
made by Kaili.

Includes a Bank
card, a student
card, a Metro card,
a Medicare card,
a ROC Club card, the
card for the appart-
ment, photo of xyxy
and her parents.

<<<<
xyxy's wallet in 2015, on the first day she received.

The wallet was designed and hand made by Kaili.

Includes a Bank card, two student cards (one is Jiangnan University card, one is Thomas More College card), a transport card, the keys for the appartment and the bike, photo of xyxy and her parents.

Teacher Dai always lets xyxy care about the relationship in the layout. He said it is the same thing with the relationship between people. It needs to be clear. If they are close, they need to be close; if they do not connect with each other, they need to be very clearly separated.

The relationship is also a thing that makes xyxy does not feel the freedom. It is tricky. Sometimes she feels being supported, while sometimes being restricted.

As xyxy mentioned before, her parents affect her a lot, and the influence can be good or bad. Her parents always say that xyxy would always be the baby in their eyes. Before, xyxy felt sweet, but now, she feels stressed and sometimes even angry. She wants to grow up and being an adult. She believes her parents want that as well, but at the same time, they still want xyxy to keep being a child.

xyxy thinks that might because they also want to feel being needed and being kind of useful. They feel that their child is growing up and begin to leave them, they do not like the feel, so they use the relationship to tie them up.

In another way, though now they are trying to let xyxy do many things on her own, they still have habits of helping xyxy make decisions and give all kinds of advice. The relationship would make the behavior more reasonable.

<<<<
xyxy and Zhi, Jiangnan University, 2015.

How to treat the relationship with parents or families?

It is so hard. Everything is changing. xyxy is changing; Her parents are changing; The world is changing. So how to get the balance?

xyxy does not know the answer. xyxy has no previous experience as a child, and for her parents, it is also their first time being parents. They all make mistakes.

Sometimes friendship also worries xyxy a lot. xyxy has good friends, but sometimes there are still problems.

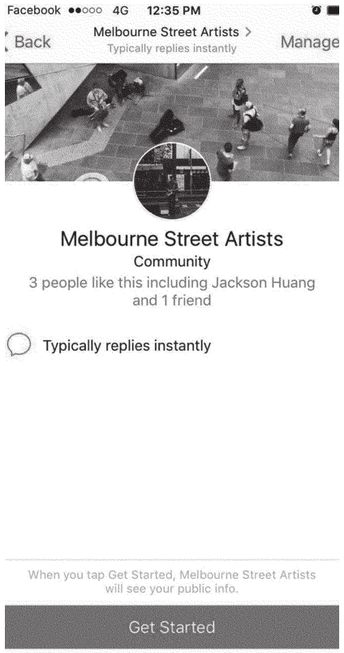
In 2015, Zhi and xyxy joined the dragon boat activity. They can get along well with strangers and work as a team. However in the past five years, there were so many dramas between them and sometimes they still get angery with each other now. xyxy feel the friendship is always easy to begin, but hard to stay.

Friendship needs people to contribute together. If one of them gives up, usually the friendship would end.

That is the thing. We are all in the same boat.

Actually xyxy wanted to call that ship, because of the "friendship". But Nick said it is too small, so xyxy just leave it as boat.

Hackathon



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(left)xyxy's team in Facebook Hackathon, Melbourne, 2017.

(right)The project they did in the 24 hours.

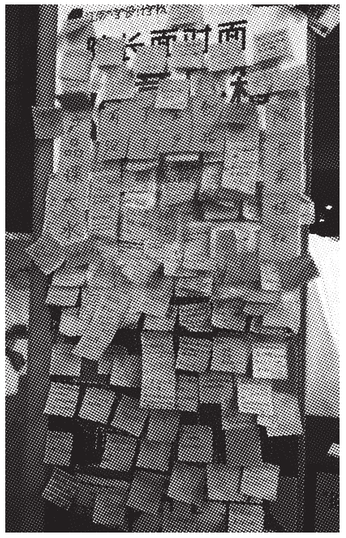
In 2017, Xinyi invited xyxy to join their team for Facebook Hackathon in Melbourne. It was her first time to join the event like this. She felt excited but a little bit afraid, because she barely knows nothing about coding.

She trusted her team members and they trusted her... for doing nothing. In the following 24 hours, they together did a project for the street artists in Melbourne. Most of the time, her team members have struggled with different codes while she got nothing to help. The situation was a little bit embarrassing. She wanted to help, but in 24 hours and for this specific project, she barely can do anything. However, the thing is none of her team members complained about her. They gave her lots of confidence, and she felt so grateful to them.

After that, she began to trust herself. She is now not afraid of joining any similar events. She went to a Metro one and two Good For Nothing (GFN) ones. Though she felt uncomfortable about most of the process, she still learned a lot and forced herself to keep trying. The GFN ones were so fast-paced that she can hardly catch up. However, she cherishes the chance to know and explore the industry.

In November 2017, because of joining the Metro Challenge, she got the chance of having her first paid short-term working experience in Metro Company.

Speak out



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Students' feedback about the College of Design, Jiangnan University, 2015.

Trust also gives people the courage of speaking out.

When xyxy was at Jiangnan University, their dean of the college was very popular among students. Most students felt free to complain anything about him and the college. One day, there was a chance to give feedbacks to the college, and many students used their ways to express. The language they used was very casual and with lots of jokes. They even printed the dean on the paper money. xyxy likes that atmosphere, and she believes it was a good start.

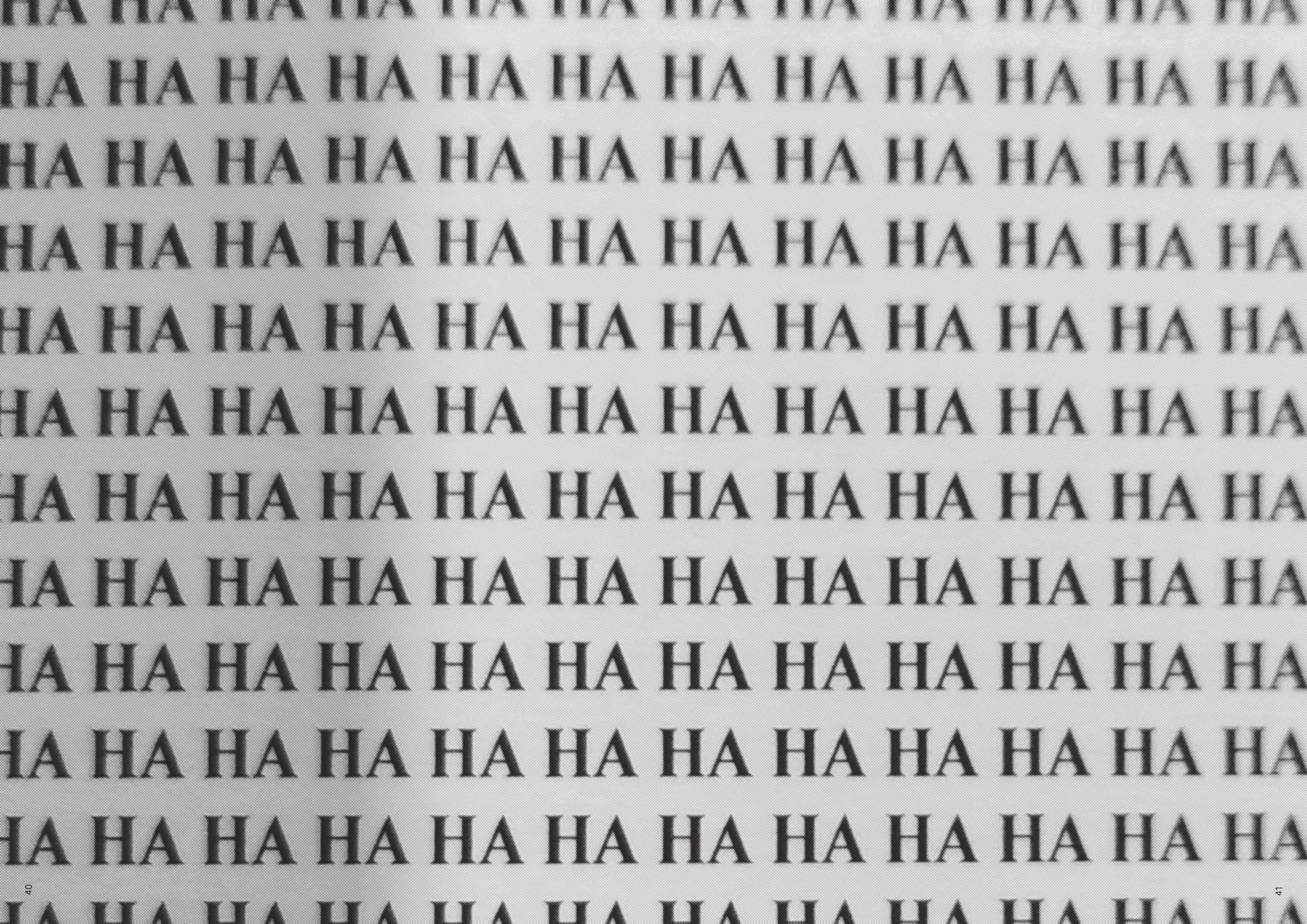
However, the dean Xiangyang Xin was changed after her graduation. xyxy does not know what kind of person the dean is now. She did not go back there for about two years and not many people talked about that person.

As xyxy mentioned before, her parents adviced her many times to be a teacher. Their main reason is that the job is stable and with more free time. However, xyxy thinks the position has more meanings and responsibilities. xyxy does not trust herself can be a good teacher, at least now.

Why most of the Chinese students do not speak out in class or school, especially in universities? Why so many students hate school and think they learn nothing from it?

Can xyxy become a good teacher?

What is the standard for being a good teacher?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Stuart

<<<<
Stuart.

Drawn for
post-digital book,
by xyxy, 2017.

For a long time, xyxy avoided talking about herself. She can pretend she does not exist. That is weird, xyxy knows.

However, things changed a lot since she came to Melbourne. Last year, she connected as many projects as possible to herself. If the theme does not match, then the style or the language would be hers. Her design becomes more and more personal, and the things she talks about and thinks of are more and more self-centered. xyxy does not know if it is a good thing. But at least she is quite happy designing for herself. She knows the chances would not be many especially when she gets a job.

Her self-expression attracted some people's interests, but sometimes also restricted her.

The most frequent question she met is "Do you want to be an artist or a designer?"

It is a hard question, and that was a thing that worried xyxy a lot. Now xyxy feels ok to be both. In her eyes, the main difference between the artist and the designer is their targets. She is willing to communicate different feelings by using different visual languages for different projects.

Sometimes xyxy still worries about her works are too personal. She discussed that issue with some classmates and teachers.

Stuart told her that design is personal.

Democracy

<<<<
A photo taken
by Deng in Ikea,
China, 2018.

Translation:
Democratic Design,
design for everyone.

<<<<
(overleaf)
A photo taken
by xyxy, 2017.

The original book
belongs to Stuart,
and xyxy has no
clue about the
name of the book.

(11/5/2018)
Stuart did not
remember the
book either, but he
laughed a lot when
he was reading,
like always.

When xyxy told Deng Stuart's words, Deng sent her a photo he took in Ikea, China.

In Jiangnan University, people talked a lot about the relationship between China and design. xyxy herself has no idea of Chinese design, but she understands that there are some Chinese visual languages. Is Chinese design still kind of personal design?

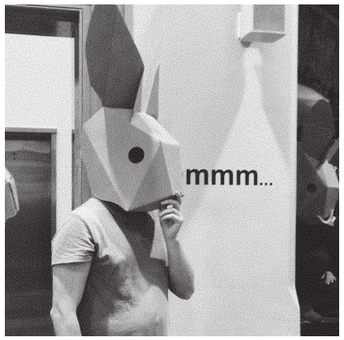
In the past years, so many strange things happened in China. xyxy does not want to discuss anything political, however, she now finds it is impossible. For the post-digital book project, her initial idea was about Google in China. The result would be a 210-page-book of 404. xyxy thought that was too much, however, things even got worse recently. xyxy worries a lot about the country and the government like many people. It is not only because she cares about the country that her families live, but also herself, the environment, the future and furthermore.

Maybe it is better to design for the society instead of nationality.

Design for people, design for the human.

Designing by the human.

Human rabbit



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Photos that xyxy joined the activity of Human Rabbit, organized by RMIT Gallery and mmmm... studio from Spain, 2017.

xyxy joined the human-rabbit activity in 2017. Rabbit is a kind of cute animal. However, it turns into a role that breaks the balance of environment in Australia. So RMIT Gallery and mmmm...studio let human rabbits walk on the street, and let people think of that.

How do people treat these strangers? How do people see the differences?

Surprisingly, most of people on the street treated xyxy well. They invited xyxy to have selfies or took pictures of her. Many people tried to talk with xyxy and got the idea of doing this. Some kids even gave her some carrots to eat.

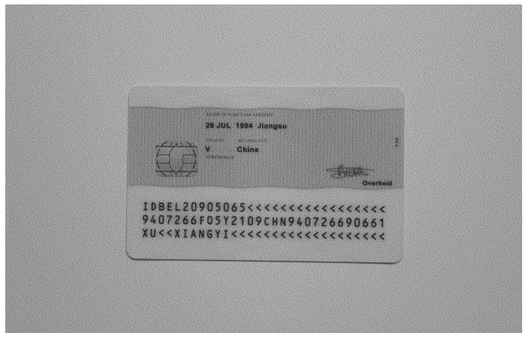
For xyxy herself, she felt not that afraid because of the big rabbit head cover. She got the chance to talk with people that she seldom talks with and that includes Brad, though the conversation was quite short.

She felt more welcome as the rabbit, but honestly, not that belonging. All the behaviors on the street told her that she is different.

She knows that.

You do not have to tell.

Resident card



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The resident card xyxy had during her stay in Belgium, 2014-2015.

xyxy had a resident card in Beigium. With it, she can go to any countries in Europe, except the UK, without carring the passport all the time. That was the biggest reasons that attracted xyxy to study in Europe again.

On the last day of her stay in Belgium, her bank card was cut and this card which reminds her that she was in this community was taken back by the government.

Now she does not feel that she belongs to any specific community. She always wants to try new things and communicating with new people, instead of sticking to something or someone all the time.

She herself can be seen as a community.

Round

"Round & round & round, get all ya want...

What do you want to record? xyxy means, if we do not have to think about the equipment or technology.

Personally, She wants to record every second of her life, though most parts are really normal, even boring. Actually, that does not matter. As you know, most of us are living in different boxes, and all our moments are being recorded as time spins."

"Round & round & round, what should be done...

Who wants to be sentenced? Nobody, okay? But why are people still getting sentenced anyway?

Here is a little story that little children can also understand. It all starts with you becoming a.....circle!"

These are two projects xyxy designed in 2017 and they are both about rounding stuffs.

In the theory of traditional Chinese wisdom, life is also round as well. Everything has the reason and everything has an end. Everything affects everything and the energy in the world would never end.

Ok, the wisdom above is xyxy's bullshit.

xyxy found her food is usually in the shape of circles.

xyxy likes the tarts but she did not buy them herslf. The first time she tasted that is because Sushi bought for her, then Xiaoli came to see her from Canberra and shared some with xyxy, and the third time she had was from Waynne.

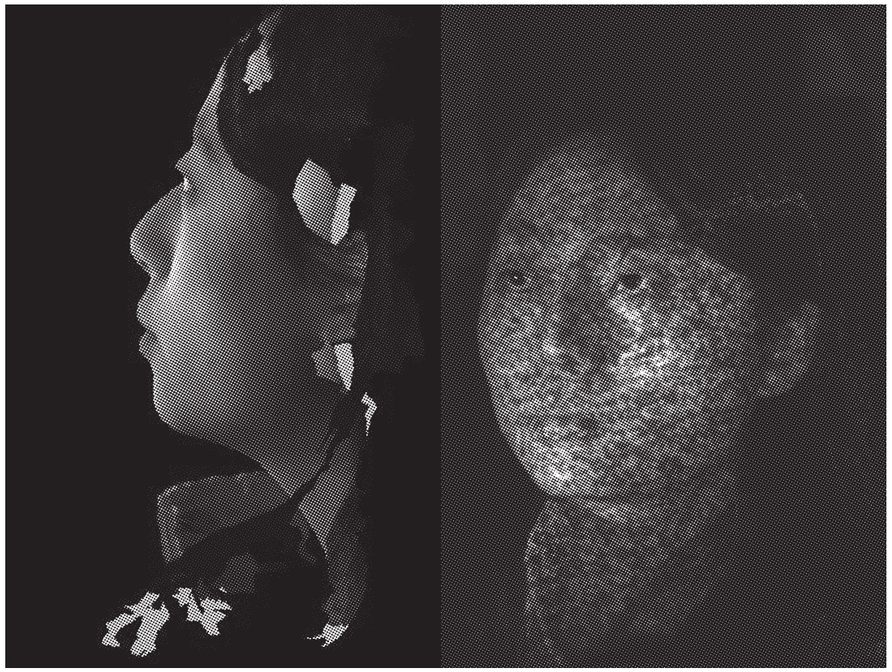
They were all smelled so good and from the same shop.

<<<<
Photos of xyxy's meals, 2017.

Swing

<<<<
Photos that xyxy playing the swing near the beach, on the Great Ocean road, 2017.

Face



<<<<
Photos that xyxy took in Dutch Design Week, the machine was designed by Delft Technology School, the purpose of doing this was designed for taking 3D photos for further use, like making masks, Holland, 2014.

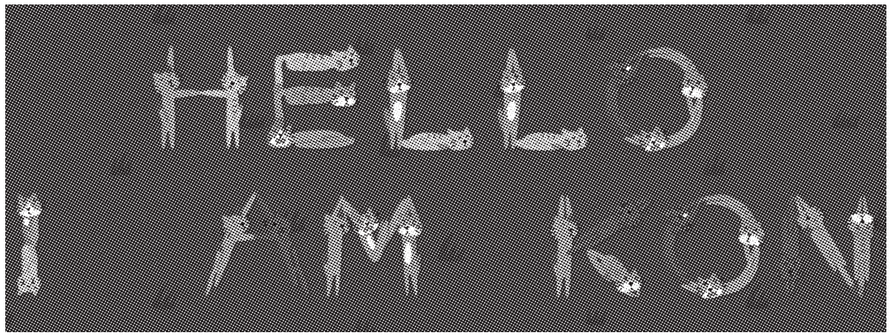
<<<<
Screeshot of the message Rubin sent to xyxy on WhatsApp, 2017.

xyxy believes some faces can tell stories and that would be better than emoji.

Rubin has that face. The photo he used for WhatsApp matched his personality well. When he sent xyxy messages, xyxy can even hear his dramatic shouting. Compared with that, emojis he used cannot do that. That is the reason that so many people now use meme or stickers to express more feelings.

Today it is easy to make personal meme and stickers, xyxy sometimes uses her friends' photos to communicate without typing too many words.

It was fun. At least to xyxy.



<<<<
A Japanese cat font for xyxy's fake name, Kon.

(ว๑´ω`)ว๑))kongjiangだよ

<<<<
A kaomoji for xyxy's fake name, Kongjiang.

Besides of emoji and meme, emoticon and kaomoji are other languages xyxy uses a lot. Most of them are in Japanese style. Though xyxy did not have the chance to go to the country, the style affected her a lot.

The Japanese style is the main style in the College of Design at Jiangnan University. The reason of that is because many years ago, the dean at that time studied in Japan and brought many materials and resources back. The teachers of xyxy's encouraged the concept of Chinese style, so students can easily found Japanese style as their references.

xyxy used to think her style is also a little bit Japanese, and some of her habits and interests also influenced by the Japanese culture. But now, she thinks her style changed and not that Japanese anymore.

xyxy has her own style.

But she still wants to go to Japan someday.

Room 939

In 2016, xyxy designed the branding of Room 939, a bakery & cafe in Wuxi, China.

The owners of Room 939 lived in Japan for a long time, and they like xyxy's Japanese-ish style.

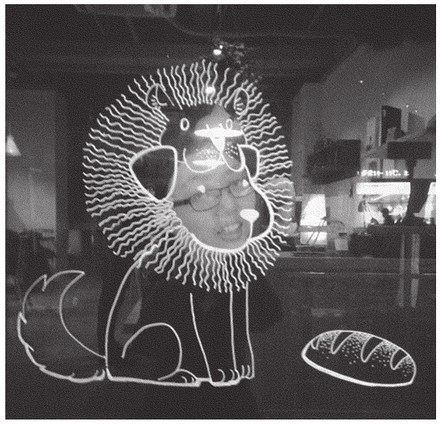
It all started with a greeting card. In 2015, the owner Angela just started her business from home. xyxy just came back to Wuxi from Europe and wanted good bread, so she went there to have a try. Because she knew the meeting place was Angela's home, so she brought a greeting card with her drawings for her. Angela liked it, and they become friends.

Angela planned to have a real shop for a long time, and one day, Angela and her sister Vivien asked xyxy if she wants to design an illustration for them. In the biginning of 2016, xyxy designed a huge poster for their brand new Room 939. Then the branding system showed. People got interested in and felt happy about that. More and more people go there, and it becomes popular.

However, what really matters to xyxy is the friendship with Angla and Vivien. she has been treated as a little sister. They always protect her and care about her. She feels very grateful for that.

In 2017, Angela was sick heavily and went back to Japan for relaxing and better treatment, only left Vivien in Wuxi. xyxy did not know what happened to her and got worried.

Hope to see them back to Room 939 again.



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Hand written and hand-drawing branidng of Room 939, designed by xyxy, made by xyxy and Zhi, 2016.

Lune

<<<<
Lune the shop and the croissants they made.

<<<<
Watercolor drawings inspired by Lune croissants.

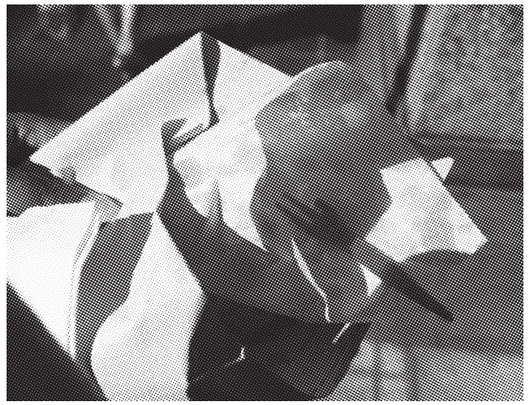
Room 939 is famous for its croissants and waffles. While here, Lune is the most well-knowned place for croissants. Its branding sysytem is very attractive, and their croissants are very delicious.

xyxy's favorite flavor is with the harm and cheese, and if she wants the almond one, she goes to Gontran Cherrier.

The croissant is xyxy's third favorite kind of the bread. She likes it a lot, and it always makes her happy. However, she did not try that in France, though it is so French.

Besides of eating croissants, xyxy also draws them. They are actaully easy to draw.

French fries



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A famous fries shop in Brussels. The secret is the oil they use.

It was too yummy, xyxy even swallowed a part of the fork.

French fries started from Belgium. xyxy felt sad about that. There are not much delicious food in Belgium and the most famous one named after France.

So pity.

There is a very famous shop for fries in Brussels. Its opening time is really limited, and there is always a long queue in front of the shop. The sauce costs extra money, so most of the time, xyxy would just go with a little bit salt or with nothing. The fries were still excellent. xyxy likes eating fries in the park, sitting on the bench around the lake. There were many birds in the park. It was always fun to see geese chasing each other and see the kids around.

Antwerpen

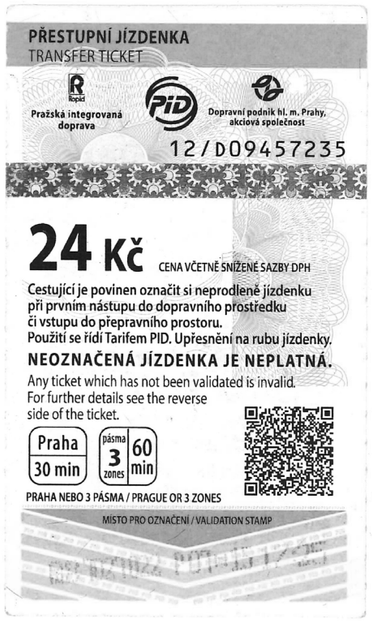
xyxy believes the best waffles and fries are in the Belgium train station.

xyxy's favorite train station is in Antwerpen. The station is huge and the buildings are very elegant with long history. Another reason is that it is usually not that busy as the Brussels one, but you can still feel the energy inside.

In front of the station, there is a square and a Ferris wheel. On the other side of the street, it is the China Town. xyxy likes to go to Antwerpen, it is the city for design and always has many exciting things to explore. It is also nice to see people walking in the main streets.

xyxy met some photographer and videographer in the station. Some of them stayed there for many hours, or even days to get the perfect footage.

<<<<
The train station in Antwerpen, 2014.



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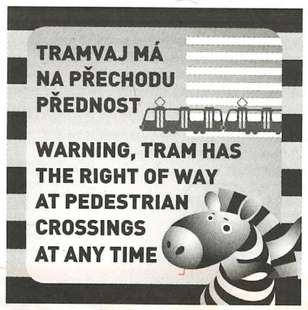

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<<<<
Tram tickets xyxy bought in Czech Republic, 2015.

xyxy likes this kind of paper tickets.

xyxy thought people from Czech were not that friendly, but they taught her to use the paper tickets and helped a lot about everything.

The trams in Prague were usually very crowded, and xyxy does not know why but she likes taking the tram there, especially nights. There is a famous tram going through a bridge and many drawing about that can be seen as the city symbol.

xyxy has many strange stories about Czech, it was a nice experience.

Tuna

<<<<
A tram which has tuna advertisement, Melbourne, 2018.

There is a saying that if somewhere is too crowded, it would be like the Satin can. When xyxy saw this tram that has the tuna package printed on, she laughed a lot because of this, though the tram is not that crowded.

xyxy likes this kind of nerdy jokes, no matter it is on purpose or not.

Ok, xyxy knows she already mentioned that before many times, but she will keep telling that in the future.

De Lijn

<<<<
The bus ticket of Belgium, 2014.

And the nails were quite long... (ewwww)

The price of bus tickets is always lower when people buy more at the same time. xyxy used to buy 10-time-tickets in Mechelen, but because she never understands how they account the times, so the tickets have never been fully used. Some helps about maths needed there.

In the Winter of 2015, xyxy took a bus from Prague to Cesky Krumlov. xyxy bought the return tickets at the ticket office. xyxy is not sure whether she misunderstands or not because the staffs' English is not that clear. But if she guessed in a right way, what they said was that she could only purchase student tickets online. It was different from many other places.

That bus was strange as well. Everyone except xyxy had partners and most of them were Korean. xyxy sat in the middle of the 5-people seat at the back of the bus and felt so cold. Things got worse when xyxy got back. It was late and snowed heavily. The town was so dark and quiet. There were only tourists walking on the street. The bus did not come on time, and nobody could make sure that bus would come or not. Luckily, after standing in the snow for about one hour, the bus came and took everyone there back to Prague.

But Cesky Krumlov was sooooooooo beautiful. xyxy hopes someday she can go there again, but not alone.

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发票号码 09919258

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锡客运站	扬州	63	全	扬州汽运集	大型高一大型高	
乘车日期	开车时间	车次	座号	上车地点		检票门
16-12-14	15:30	WK0698	7	无锡站三楼		39

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无锡旅游集散中心 详询欢迎至车站一楼门店
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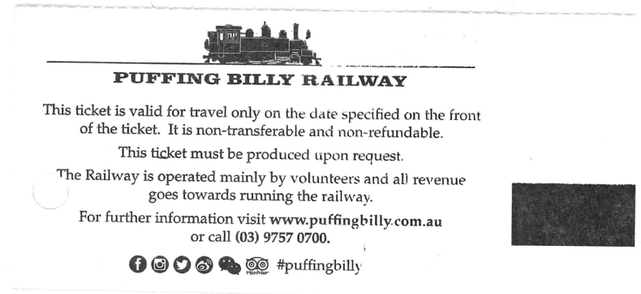
<<<<
The coach ticket of xyxy returned back home from her university, from Wuxi to Yangzhou, 2016.

On the back of the ticket is the advertisement about the station and the related service.

Many cities xyxy lived do not have the tram system. People living there would take buses. However, when the distance gets a little longer, like from city to city, people also choose other public transports as well. In Europe, it is common to take bus or train; in Australia, it is common to take flights; in China, you really need to think of the distance and make decisions respectively.

From the city Wuxi to Yangzhou, it is always easy to take the coach. It uaually takes xyxy 40 minutes from school to the station, and two hours to Yangzhou Station, then, 30 minutes bus to get home. Hao does not like taking the coach, so he usually chooses to take the train to Zhenjiang, a city near Yangzhou, and then take a coach back home. xyxy tried doing this sometimes, but she did that mainly because the price can be quite low. xyxy should admit that it was not that convenient.

Though the time and money cost for xyxy to transfer between home and the university are quite low, compared with many other classmates, she did not go back home often, even less than most of them.



PUFFING BILLY RAILWAY

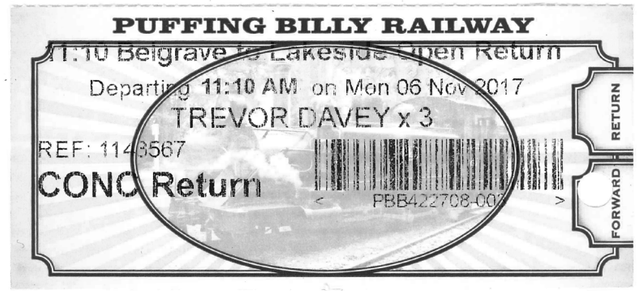
This ticket is valid for travel only on the date specified on the front of the ticket. It is non-transferable and non-refundable.

This ticket must be produced upon request.

The Railway is operated mainly by volunteers and all revenue goes towards running the railway.

For further information visit www.puffingbilly.com.au or call (03) 9757 0700.

#puffingbilly



PUFFING BILLY RAILWAY
11:10 Belgrave to Lakeside Open Return
Departing 11:10 AM on Mon 06 Nov 2017
TREVOR DAVEY x 3
REF: 1143567
CONC Return
PBB422708-00
RETURN
FORWARD

<<<<
The ticket of Puffing Billy Railway, with Xinyi, 2017.

In 2017, Xinyi invited xyxy to join the trip for the Puffing Billy Railway in Melbourne. It was a pleasant experience except the heavy wind, and they got starving all the way. They did not expect that long.

xyxy said hello to nearly everyone she saw from the window, and they also waved to her back. She also enjoys watching people wearing uniforms and operating different machines.

When xyxy sits on the window of the train and let the legs outside of the window, she thought about that if Sheldon is here, he would be very happy.

This year, Xinyi moved to Sydney and started her new working life there, sometimes xyxy thinks of her, and if she wants to see her now, she needs to take a flight.

In 2018, Jiaqi asked xyxy if she wants to take that train again. xyxy said probably no. She wants to save the limited tolerance chance for her families.

Route

<<<<
The view xyxy saw from the back window of the train to Luxembourg.

It was her first time to go to another country by train, with her bike and was the only one in her cabin.

City

<<<<
The view xyxy saw from the one of the buildings designed by Gaudi, Spain, 2014.

In China, railways are always in the suburb of the city, and people do not take trains that often. So when people look out of the window from that, it is hard to see the city itself.

In Spain, xyxy enjoyed most was seeing how Gaudi played with the architecture. Everything in his buildings is so exciting that you really cannot help not saying “wow” to them.

Like this window.

Barcelona is a great place to travel, and it was the first city that xyxy traveled alone. Traveling alone is great except the eating part. The restaurants xyxy wanted to have meals in required at least two people.

It is very common to receive flyers on the streets. In most of the cities in China, flyers are everywhere, especially around the main stations.

Normally, xyxy says “no, thanks” to people who give her flyers. But it is interesting to see how people squeeze everything in such a small piece of paper. Sometimes it takes a long time to get all the information.

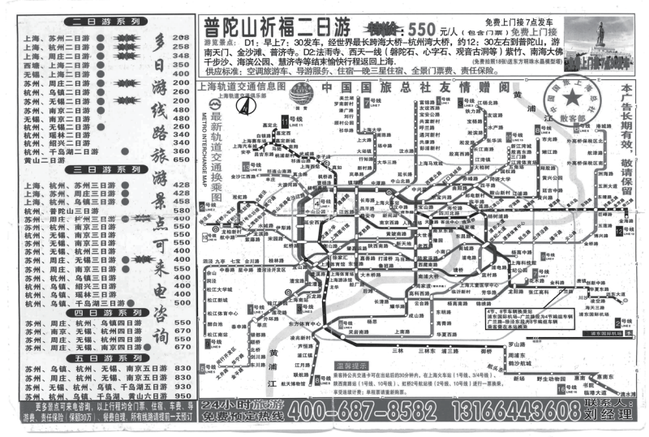
In 2018, after the Art Book Fair in NGV, when she was on her way back home, she walked on a piece of flyer, and not surprisingly, she slipped over.

It was hurt. People walking by helped her to stand up.

But maybe not that hurt enough.

Because at the moment of falling, xyxy was thinking about the information of the paper they used.

“Is it Coated paper? Is it 80 grams? Awww...”



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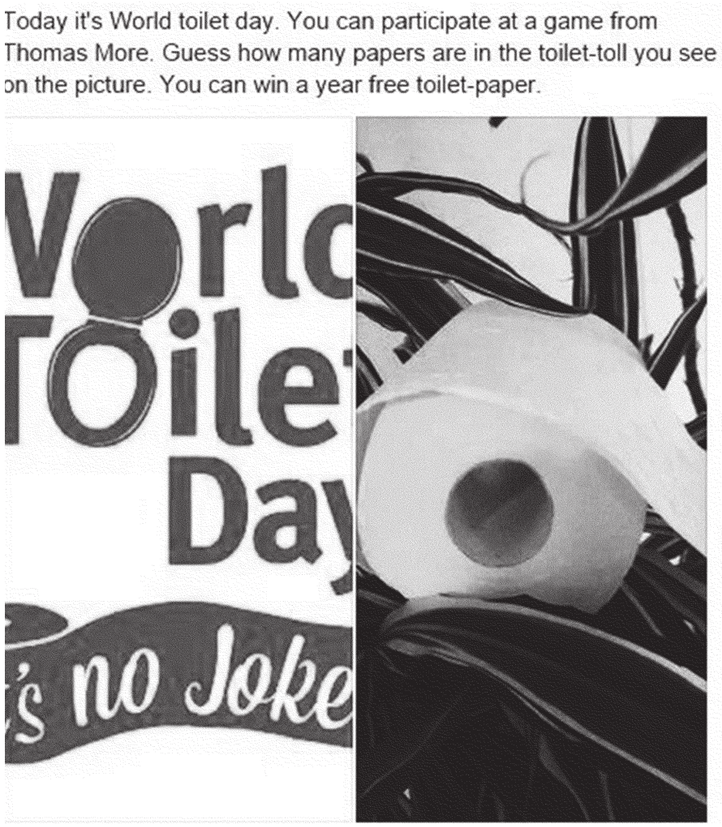
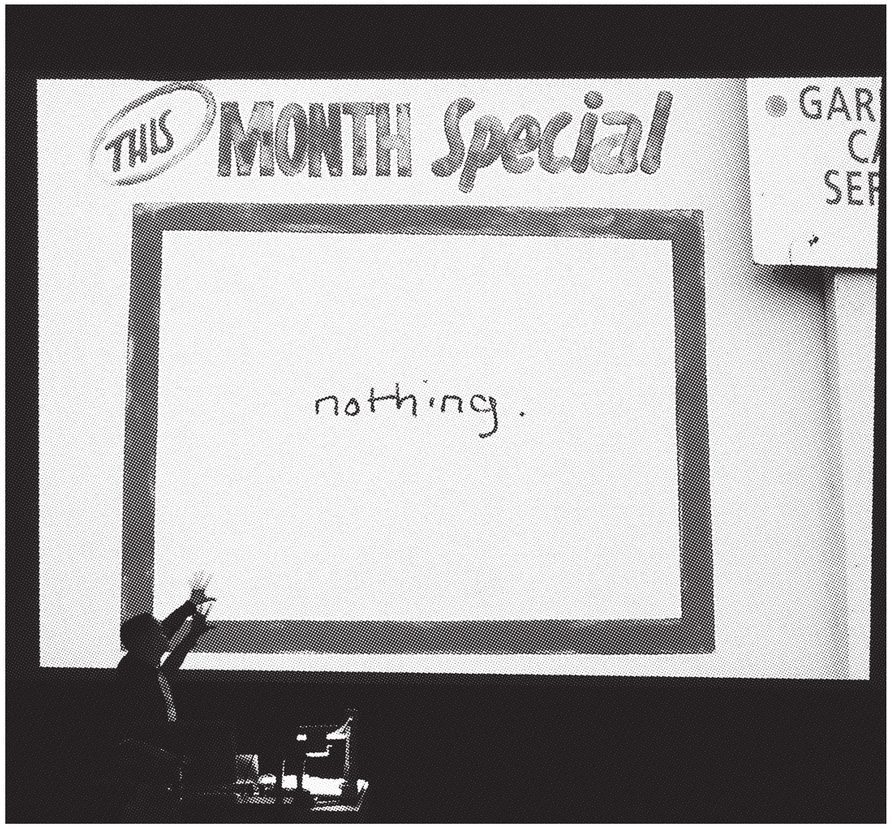
The flyer xyxy received on the coach from Yangzhou to Shanghai. The advertisements on the flyer are all about the traveling information around Shanghai.

Post



<<<<
The screenshot of the post about World Toilet Paper Day on Thomas More page on Facebook.

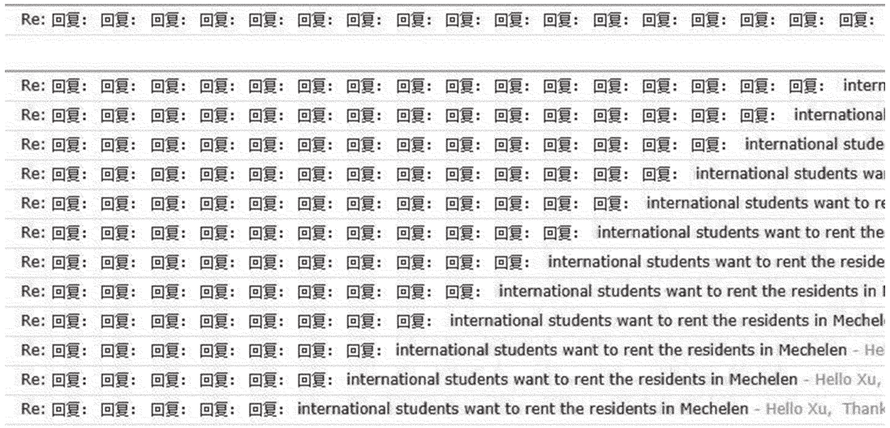
Advertisement



<<<<
Emmmm... xyxy cannot remember which lecture this was.

But the lecture was fun and it was about typography.

E-mail



<<<<
Screenshot of part of the e-mail list between the landlord and xyxy, 2014.

xyxy used to feel afraid of e-mails, but she began to learn the rules by making thousands of mistakes. Though she is still making some of them now.

However, e-mail is still a better choice for her to contact with people. Making phone calls is the actual thing that she would truly afraid of. xyxy needs enough time to think about the information and find out what and how to respond. That is the real challenge for her. So maybe mailing is the best.

Fewer and fewer people seldom send real letters to each other. When xyxy's cousin goes traveling, she usually sends xyxy postcards or gifts. xyxy learns from that. In 2018, xyxy sent postcards to her parents and cousin from Phillip Island. Michael said fewer people send postcards now. xyxy did not bring glue, so Marie licked the stamp and stuck that on the cards.

Several months later, they received the postcards, and they shared the happiness with xyxy.

xyxy did not tell them that, when she was writing and drawing on that postcards, she almost cried.

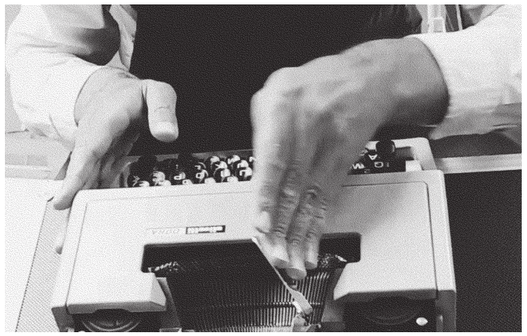
It was too cold, and she missed them.

Mail

<<<<
A photo of xyxy reading in the post office in Melbourne, 2018.

The photo was taken by Stone.

Typewriter



Hanne's grandmother showed xyxy a secret shop in Gent. It was a small bookshop, and through a little door, there was a space for the collection of typewriters. When grandma said that she has a secret place to show xyxy, her face was so cute that xyxy will never forget.

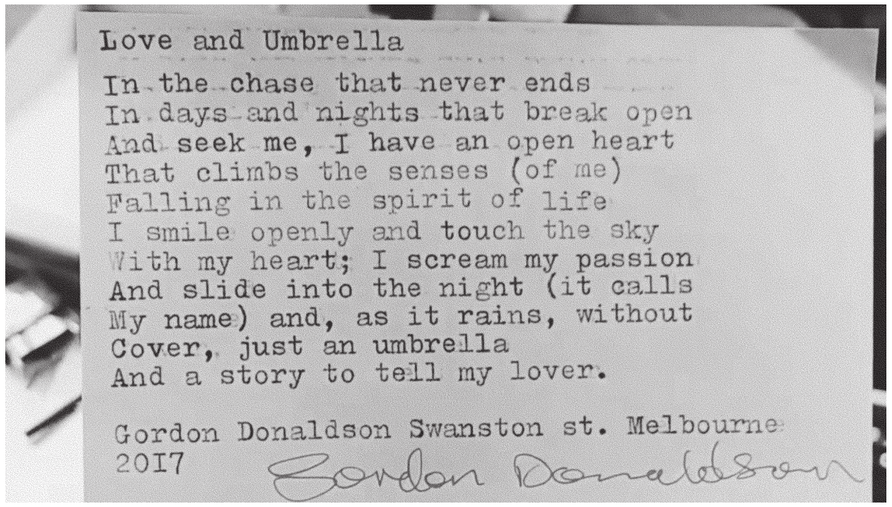
xyxy's grandma left this planet several years ago. She was born on the first day of the new year, and passed away on the day before the lunar new year that year. xyxy sometimes feels regret that she did not spend more time with her and sometimes even mad at her.

In 2014, Hanne introduced grandm to xyxy when xyxy said she wanted to travel in Gent. So xyxy got the chance to walk around Gent with this adorable lady. She picked xyxy up from the train station and showed xyxy around for several hours. xyxy sometimes feels she is the grandma of hers.

However, xyxy later heard from Peggy that grandma actually could not walk for that long time. That is the reason that they do not travel together.

xyxy cried that night.

Umbrella



Love and Umbrella

In the chase that never ends
In days and nights that break open
And seek me, I have an open heart
That climbs the senses (of me)
Falling in the spirit of life
I smile openly and touch the sky
With my heart; I scream my passion
And slide into the night (it calls
My name) and, as it rains, without
Cover, just an umbrella
And a story to tell my lover.

Gordon Donaldson Swanston st. Melbourne
2017 Gordon Donaldson

<<<<
xyxy got a poet on the road, Melbourne, 2017.

xyxy lost her umbrella on a raining day.

In the morning of the day, she for the first time took a photo of it. In the afternoon, xyxy was on the street looking for it.

It was not a new umbrella, and it was always there with xyxy for a long time.

It was pretty.

xyxy felt so sad that after reading the poet she got, she cried. The author of the poet is a street artist, just give him some words, and he can write the poet in only five minutes.

It took xyxy long time to find another umbrella. She kept thinking of the old one and compared it with every one. That is not the right thing, xyxy knows.

She just cannot help herself sometimes.

She bought that umbrella online. When she found the shop information from the purchase record, she found that the shop was already closed and there are no same ones on the market.

Today (4/5/2018), it rained again.

Today (10/5/2018), it rained again.

<<<<
A board xyxy found in the stall, Melbourne, 2017.

xyxy does not like handshaking, instead, she likes hugs.

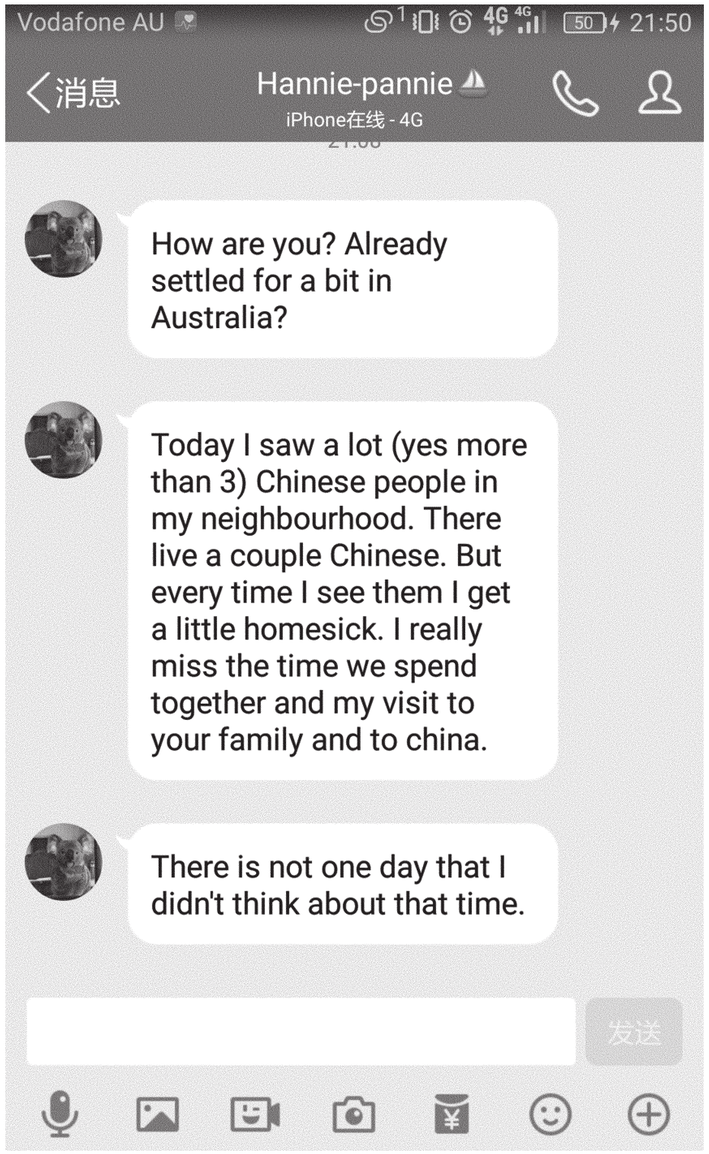
When she met Hanne's mother and grandma for the first time, she got kisses and cuddles. At first, she felt a little bit surprised, but she becomes used to that since then.

When xyxy said she like hugs, she means, she prefers that. She herself sometimes still shy to do that. When people hug her, she will still be a little bit stiff.

She prefers saying no to handshaking. She sometimes have one step back to avoid doing that, which is rude in most of the situations.

To shake or not? That is her question.

She talked about that problem with the therapist and Chips before. The reason of Chips the name is that his name sounds similar to the chip brands which xyxy likes the most. On the day of xyxy received the first version, he and Rubin hugged her like brothers.



<<<<
Screenshot of the messages Hanne sent to xyxy, 2017.

<<<<
(overleaf)
xyxy and Kaili, Jiangnan University, 2015.

They tried to use light to draw a heart but failed.

Old time

<<<<
The graduation photo of xyxy in primary school, 2006.

It has been around ten years since xyxy left primary school. Now, she cannot remember all the names, especially some teachers'.

Many of her classmates changed a lot. Her friends that time now are not that close anymore. Most of them began to work, and one of them work back to the same school. Some of them already get married, and some will get married this year. One already had a baby and got divorced. In 2017, one of the girls in the photo above passed away.

xyxy sometimes feels herself not in the same world as theirs.

Kids

<<<<
A photo of the group of OutBeyond, 2017.

That day, xyxy and her group members made a big meal. However, their group leader did not come back on time, so they took the photo to show off.

xyxy has the abilities and patience communicating with kids most of the time. She thinks it is mainly because her mother was a teacher in kindergarten before.

In 2017, she joined the voluntary program of OutBeyond Company and went camping with a group of Chinese kids. They met many problems in the whole process. The most significant problem is that nobody wanted to speak English. The Chinese teacher let all the volunteers ast like they cannot speak Chinese, but these kids found out the truth very quickly. So the group tutors chose to play games to build their confidence and trust. Several days later, many students were willing to use English. Another problem was that one kid did not want to have the shower for the whole week. He was so smelly that all the boys sharing the same room asked him out nearly every night.

What to do with that?

Add a swimming session in the plan.

From the experience, xyxy learned a lot about group spirits and communication skills. She found herself more open and cheerful, and not afraid of challenging herself.

She also becomes friends of the tutors and be confident with making friends with kids in the future trips.

xyxy learned the traditional instrument, called Pipa, in her childhood.

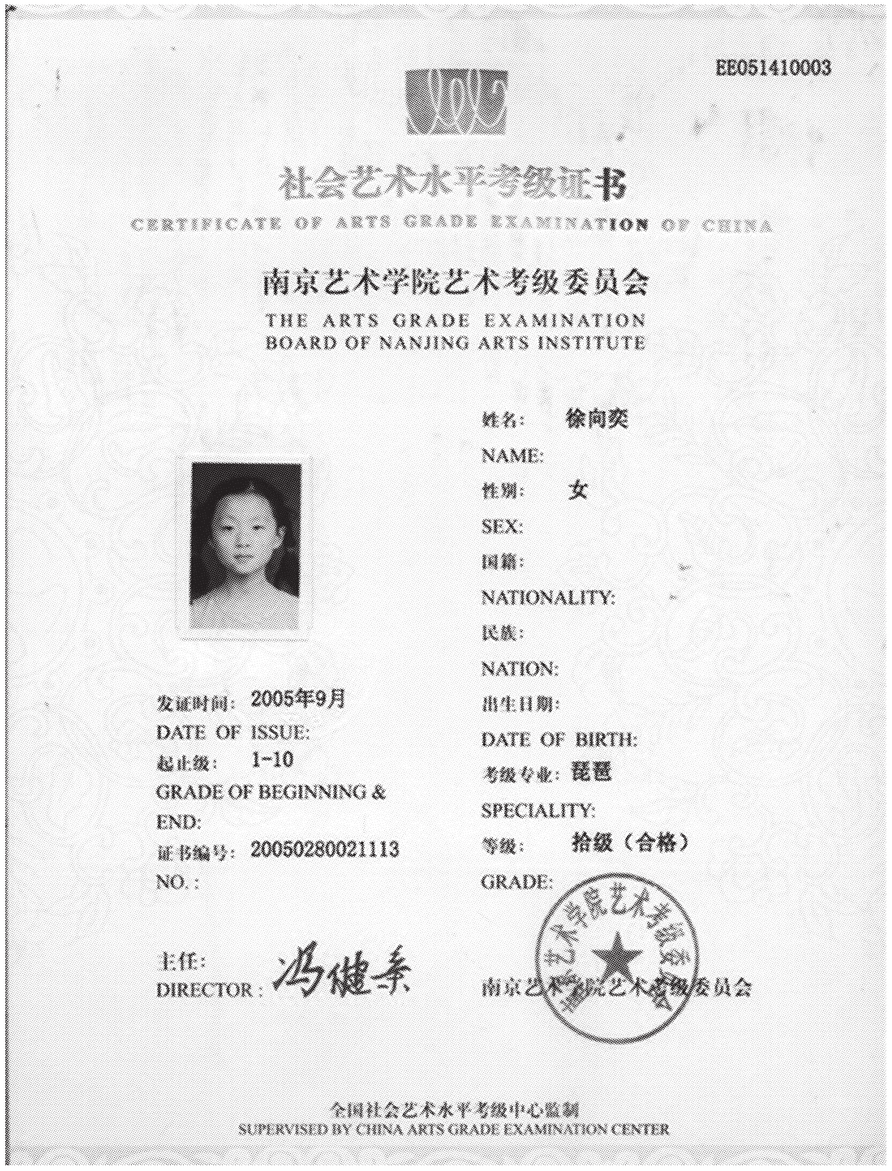
She started that around seven years old. It is common for kids in China to learn something extra at that age. They call that "interests." Many parents choose the instruments, mostly piano. xyxy's parents thought that was too common, violins might hurt her neck, and drums are too loud. There is a friend of theirs is the teacher of Pipa, so they sent xyxy to learn that.

xyxy began to play Pipa for several hours every day. However, she had problems remembering all the music scores, so her learning speed was always not that fast. Besides of that, she did not understand the music and do not know how to communicate with music. That time, what she learned was the technic part, so after a long time, she found she was not that interested.

However, learning instruments that time was not only for interests, it was also a way to get extra scores for applying schools. So xyxy's parents asked her to pass the tests of the highest grad. In 2005, xyxy finally finished all her tests and got the certificate.

Till 2018, though xyxy tried to play Pipa and got interested again several times, she now cannot play a full song.

This certificate did nothing help with her application and got no limited time, not like her paper of birth.



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社会艺术水平考级证书

CERTIFICATE OF ARTS GRADE EXAMINATION OF CHINA

南京艺术学院艺术考级委员会

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等级: 拾级（合格）
GRADE:

发证时间: 2005年9月
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起止级: 1-10
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南京艺术学院艺术考级委员会

全国社会艺术水平考级中心监制
SUPERVISED BY CHINA ARTS GRADE EXAMINATION CENTER

<<<<
The certificate of arts grade examination of China, 2005.

Peggy

<<<<
The screenshot of the video that Peggy teaching xyxy playing cello, 2014.

Hanne's families are mostly music related. They took xyxy to music museum and listened to the concerts.

xyxy likes concerts, especially when she sits beside the instruments, the physical waves made by instruments can bring much more to her. Sometimes she can be too relaxed and have lots of thoughts running through her head, though that looks like she sleeps.

xyxy likes Cello all the time, and her father also likes that a lot. Peggy, Hanne's mother gave her the chance to try. Besides of Cello, Peggy also taught xyxy playing piano, and the first song was Carnon.

Thank you

<<<<
The photo of the person that inspired xyxy to draw watercolor during trips, Spain, 2014.

xyxy drew watercolor a lot in Europe and that brought her many friends. She was inspired by a man near the beach in Barcelona. He said nothing but drew for a long time. xyxy watched him for a while and began to have the idea of trying that.

At first, she used tools borrowed from Hanne. After trying for several times, she found out that she can control it, and it was so much fun. So she bought similar ones from Germany Amazon and started to teach herself. Unitil 2018, she has three sets of watercolor pigments and keeps trying different ways of expressing.

However, she still have no chance to say "thank you".

<<<<
The studio xyxy studied during 2009-2012.

The number of this place is 100.

The reason that xyxy can teach herself watercolor is that she has the basic knowledge of drawing. That started from this building.

From 2009, she came to learn to sketch in this place. In the following years, she spent most of her time there. There are lots of tears and bloo...no, dramas there.

This place is for students who want to study art or design in universities, so xyxy, like many others, left this place after she graduated from high school. But when xyxy was free on holidays, she sometimes still goes back to this place and visit the teachers.

It is the place for many students like xyxy to begin their dreams of arts. However, xyxy does not think the drawings here are creative, or "art." But this place can give students enough skills so that they can get to another platform for further developing and improving.

Now is also the time for all the flowers around open.

<<<<
Screenshots of Signal's Instagram, 2018.

xyxy found the Signal Art group in 2017. From that, she learned a lot about art, especially the art in Australia. She enjoyed the most is the 5-day one about street art and the darkroom ones. Some teachers liked her work and posted some of them on their social media.

However, this group was based on the government, and they aim to help with the young generation, so they limited the age under 25. That is why she joined as many events as she can in these two years.

xyxy has only one year to go, so she applied to all the workshops and went as many as she can.

CLOSED

IT IS WITH MUCH SADNESS THAT WE HAVE HAD TO CEASE TRADIDING THIS BUSINESS.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANNK ALL OF OUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS AND FRIRIENDS FOR YOUR 25 YEARS OF PATRODNAGE. CHEERS!

MAL & ALL OF THE STAFF AT THHE OXFORD SCHOLAR HOTEL.

Goodbye

<<<<
Say goodbye to "bye", written by Aditi, 2018.

xyxy does not like saying goodbye to anyone or anything she likes.

But sometimes she has to.

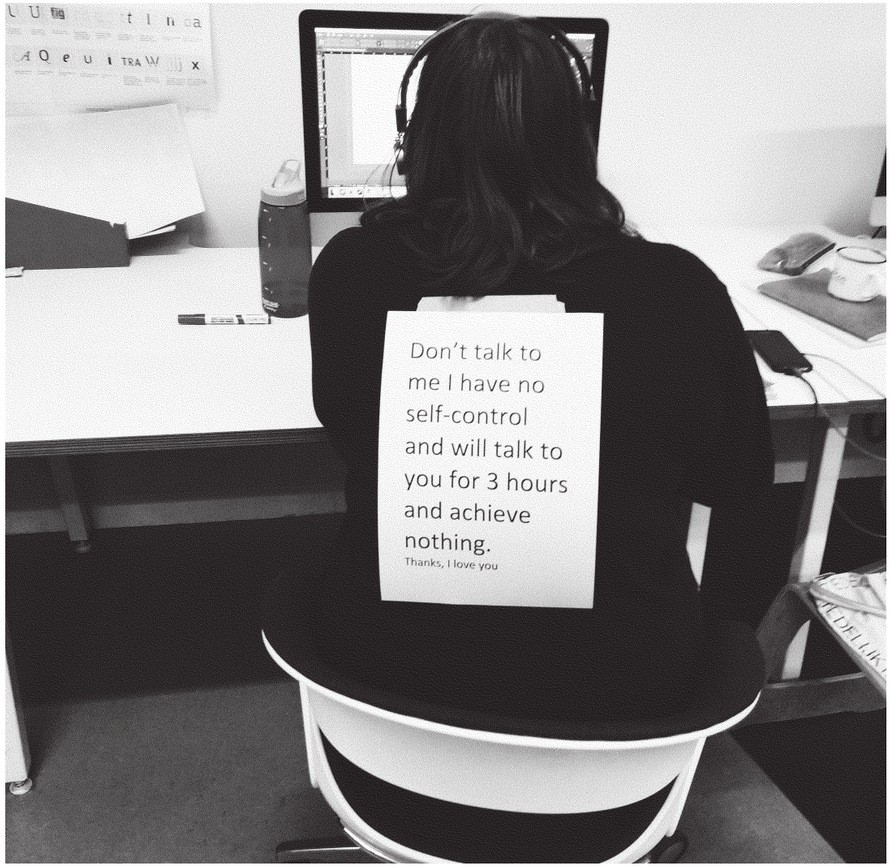
Sometimes she waits for others to say first.

Sometimes she escapes.

Now she is kind of crazy and does not know what she is writing. In her mind is the song goes like “It is the time to say goodbye...”

Actually, there are many songs that xyxy likes about farewell.

Leah



<<<<
A slang designed by the Leah, photo taken by xyxy, 2018.

<<<<
(overleaf)
The hotel beside Building 80 closed after 25 years, 2017.

<<<<
Some of the diaries
xyxy made, 2015.

今天 6:22 下午

Hey!
I really enjoy your work :)
I'm helping run an artist market and would love to have you involved.
If you could give me an email address I can shoot you through some details.
Cheers,
Ruby

<<<<
An invitation
message sent
to xyxy, 2017

From 2015, xyxy used to post most of her diaries online and open to everyone she knows. However, in 2018, she stopped doing it.

The main reason is she felt so stressful and unhappy. It is true that the diary helped her to experience life more detailed and kept some thinkings of the life. Diaries also practiced her drawing skills and helped her to make more friends. However, her parents asked her to only show the positive things, so her bad moods were all hidden in mind. She tried to ignore them, but sometimes it does not work. Posting and communicating with everyone every day is also a kind of pressure to her. But without the pressure, she now sometimes write diaries, sometimes not.

But when she looks back, she still finds it is a nice thing to have the record of almost everything.

It is more like the provement of life and time.

It is not like being there again though.

xyxy got the chance of trying local markets because of this message she got on Instagram.

The first market she did was in Collingwood, Sushi helped her a lot, and that is why they found the best place for the almond croissants. That day, Xinyi came to help as well. It was cold, and she bought coffee for xyxy. Xinyi also taught xyxy to sell herself.

Actually, that is the most important lesson xyxy need to learn overall.

Till 2018, xyxy practiced the communication skills in other markets she did, including the chance to sell on Art Book Fair in NGV.

<<<<
The screenshot of NGV instagram about Art Book Fair, 2018.

xyxy was selling books. That day she had two books to sell, but the post-digital ones were printed in a wrong way.

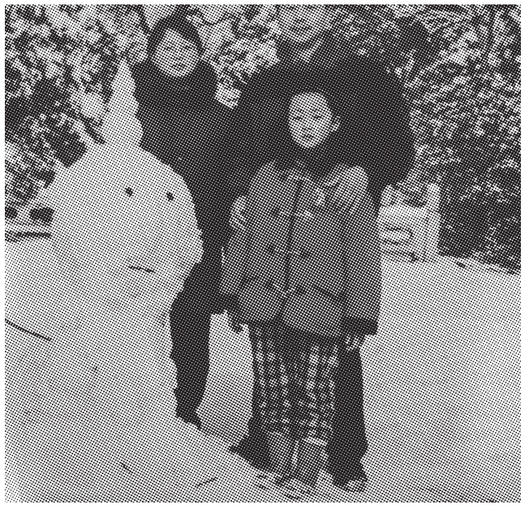
<<<<
Noel was walking in the studio on the research method class, Melbourne, 2018.

For the Research Methods course in 2018, xyxy decided to do something about visualizing experience inspired by the dairy habit.

Noel suggested xyxy to explore more ways of write traveling diaries. However, she found it more challenging to develop a visual language that can describe the different experience from different senses. As she mentioned before, she likes to see how people describe the feelings. If those abstract things can be visualized, that can be art.

The final result would be an exhibition or a series of books. xyxy is not sure right now.

Families



<<<<
A photo of xyxy's family. (the snow man is included, at least in that year)

<<<<
(left, bottom) A photo of xyxy and Kim. (xyxy's Australian sister)

<<<<
(right, bottom) xyxy and some of her families were celebrating Spring Festival, 2017.

Families mean people who are in the same family, and they are the initial target readers of xyxy's diaries.

xyxy knows some families since she was born. They always call xyxy's nicknames till now.

Besides of them, xyxy has other families. They might live far away or speak other languages. They usually look quite different from xyxy.

When xyxy meets new friends, she sometimes gives them new nicknames. Some of her friends accepted while some did not.

But they say, they can still be families.

xyxy also has many unique families. For example, dot dot, her first dog; Dundun, her first penguin; Baobao, her first tiger; Sang, Monster and Zhen, three little bears she adapted from 30th of April, 2018. Besides of her toy family members, she also saw her works as families, especially the ones from these two years. They are not perfect, but she still feels the relationship.

<<<<
One of the red envolopes xyxy drawed.

The words were written by xyxy's father.

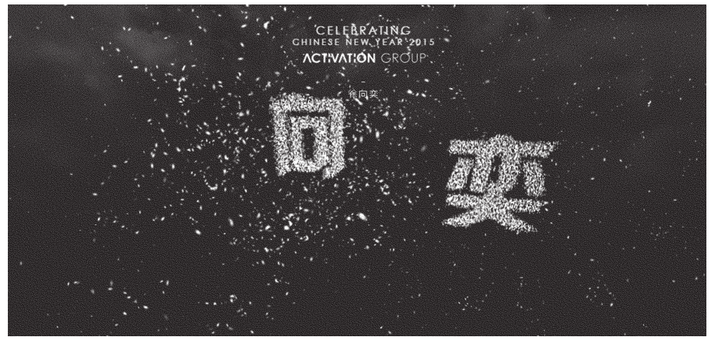
Spring festival that Chinese people celebrate in the lunar new year, and becomes one of the only chances for many people go back to their hometown and meet their families.

2018 is the first time for xyxy missing the chance of celebrating the Chinese new year with her families in China. Instead, she spent a normal day with a big meal in Melbourne with her roommates and friends.

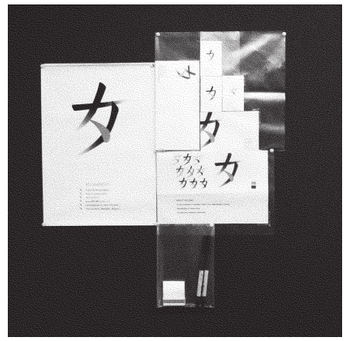
It is a tradition that people give kids red envelopes. In 2016, xyxy designed her own version of red envelopes for her families and friends. She drew, and her father wrote with a brush.

2016 is the year of the monkey. xyxy's mother was born in the monkey year. xyxy and her father were born in the year of the dog.

And yes, 2018 is the year of the dog.



<<<<
xyxy's name in firework form.



<<<<
xyxy's old logos.

xyxy, a strange person who was born in the year of dog but named as a cat. It is not hard to understand why she is so complicated.

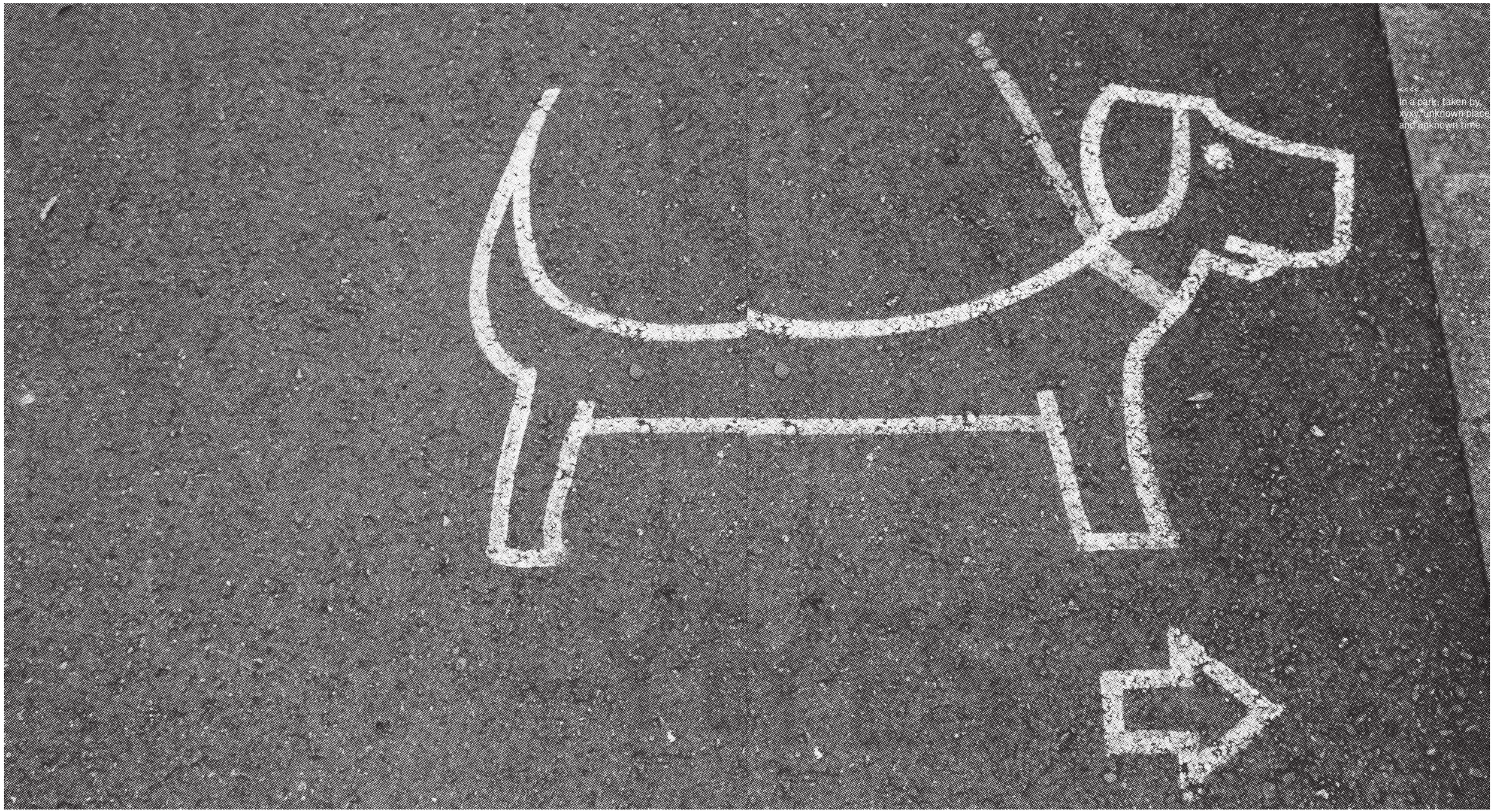
xyxy's way of remembering all the things around is connecting them with some details. So her thoughts can jump quickly from one piece to another.

There are already more than ninety pages talking about herself, so maybe it is not that necessary to say more. But actually she has many more stories to tell.

Nice to meet you :-)

Hope to see you soon.

xoxo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xxx, unknown place
and unknown time.

* Dogphabet, http://www.dogica.com/dogfont.html

<<<<
A graduation photo of xyxy, taken by Kaili, Jiangnan University, 2016.