

陈桂英

I am Annie. I am 15 and moved to Portland 6 years ago. I first started my chinese education in kindergarten, learning zhuyin and later pinyin to substitute the characters I did not know. After I finished 4th grade however, my family suddenly moved to Portland. In my new school, there were no chinese language courses available so I was unable to continue anymore chinese education until I took a beginners chinese class in the 8th grade for fun. This year is the first year where I am able to take a class to learn more. At home, we used Cantonese and English with no Mandarin which was only used in school. My parents are from Guangdong, a province that mostly speaks Cantonese. From Guangdong to now in Portland, much history has happened.

My dad's family had strong political and military power when he was younger. His grandfather's cousin, Chen Ji Tang, was a powerful general in the military during the war. He and his grandfather, a large trading powerhouse, had a strong bond. During one night when he was around 4 or 5, his house was raided and his father and grandfather were killed. So his mother, his two older sisters and him fled to vietnam. He grew up there until high school. He then flew to new york for college, leaving behind his two sisters, who both later married vietnamese soldiers. He then flew to maryland and texas for further education, where ah ma came to the us. He then travelled to san francisco. He was working under a newspaper company as a solicitor for advertisement spaces. One day, he went to a restaurant to see if they wanted an advertisement space in their paper where he saw Yang Ha Cheung who later came to be my mom.

My mom was born in Guangzhou, a city in the Guangdong province. She spent her childhood there until the family business went under during the communist rule. In search of visa approval, her family stayed in hong kong shortly before being approved to fly out to portland at 17. Later she ended up staying in san francisco working at her sister's restaurant. While working, she met my dad.

陈桂英

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中文提名奖

### 家庭奇遇

我是陈桂英，今年九月满十六岁。六年前我跟我的家人从加州搬到波特兰。我从幼儿园的时候开始学普通话，但我学完四年级以后就突然搬家了。可惜在我的新的学校都没有中文课程，直到初中二年级又上中文初级班。其实从我搬到波特兰以后，我都没有机会学中文，今年是我重新开始学中文。在家里，广东话和英文是两个最常用的语言，所以我只在学校说普通话。我的父母都是在广东出生的，大多数人说粤语。从广东到波特兰，我的家人经历了很大的考验才能来到这里。

我爸爸婴儿的时候，他的家族具有很高的政治和军事的地位。他爷爷的表哥，陈济棠，是国民党的一个高级将领。我的曾祖父是一个成功的商人。一天晚上睡觉时，我爸和家人的房子被盗了，他的父亲和爷爷也被杀死了。后来，他跟他的母亲和两个姐姐逃到越南避难。他整个童年都在越南，直到他高中毕业。越南政府给了他到纽约公费留学的机会。他的两个姐姐后来跟越南军人结了婚。他在纽约读书以后，又去到马里兰继续念书。在那里学了一两年后，又到了德州学习。学成以后，他去了三藩市，在一个报纸公司工作。他常常把报纸的广告栏卖给商店和饭馆的人。有一天，我的爸爸进到一个餐厅问他们的老板有没有兴趣在报纸上登广告。就在那天，我的爸爸遇见了我的妈妈。

我的妈妈是在广东广州出生的，她家在广州有一个小商号，后来商号关门了，她和她的家人搬到了香港。他们在香港申请了美国签证。妈妈十七

岁的时候飞到了波特兰。后来，她去了加州，在她姐的餐厅工作。有一天，碰到了我爸。他们开始谈恋爱，也继续在湾区生活。后来，他们生了四个孩子。所以我出生在圣何塞。

这就是我家人的故事。