



# 美國華聯商會

Peninsula Chinese Business Association

50 Victoria Avenue Suite #208, Millbrae, CA 94030

February 1, 2021

Dear Members and Friends,

February is the time to express love. Coincidentally, the Western and the Chinese Valentine's Days are both in February this year. Are you ready for the big days?

Other than candlelight dinners, greeting cards, gifts, and flowers, may I suggest that you open up your heart's journal. Before I get there, let me share a story with you:

Don and Kate had been married for ten years, without children. Every Valentine's Day, Don would buy Kate a small present and take her out to dinner.

On one Valentine's Day, Don went shopping for Kate. He found a cute little glass bottle ornament that he thought Kate would like. The saleswoman reminded Don that he could write a note and stick it inside the bottle. Don wrote one, folded it, slid it in, and the saleswoman wrapped up the gift.

As usual, Don took Kate out to dinner. He gave her the gift and greeted her, "Happy Valentine's Day." She did not open the present, but instead put it in her purse and thanked Don.

The dinner was a short one, and it did not go well because of the deep silence. On the way home, Kate asked Don to pull over because she wanted to have a conversation. Don parked on the side of the street. He rubbed his hands nervously, not knowing what Kate was about to say.

- *Kate: Have you noticed that something is not right? We ran out of conversation. Do you want to know why? Before I tell you, let me ask. Do you know what love is? It is **Listening**, **Overcoming**, **Valuing**, **Embracing**. I'm sorry, but I don't sense any of those anymore.*

*My feelings have changed, and it is not working between us. We are at the end of the river, and the water has stopped its flow.*

Don went silent, and a tear ran down his cheek. Kate was impatient with Don's silence, so she stepped out for fresh air. Right then, a truck hit the driver seat straight on. Miraculously, Kate survived, but Don was immediately killed.



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While recovering in the hospital, Kate opened the gift. She saw the note, pulled it out, and read:

- *Kate, the best decision I ever made was to marry you. I admit I am not a perfect husband, but I would die without your love. Love you forever, Don.*

It is a sad story. After reading it, it made me realize that there isn't only one way to show affection. In fact, it can change for anyone as time goes by. One's way of showing affection might be perfect for both partners initially, but it won't last forever. Observing the changes along the way is vital to maintaining a relationship. Opening up to your partner will enable you to embrace long-lasting love.

Are you ready to share your heart's journal with your loved ones? Don't keep your feelings and emotions hidden within your heart, waiting and hoping for your special someone to find out.

In my opinion, love stands for "Loyal to Each Other, **O**pen your Heart, **V**alue Serendipity, **E**verlasting Friendship."

Happy Valentine's Day!

Sincerely,

*Johnny DaRosa*

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致：美國華聯商會會員及朋友們，

恭祝大家牛年身體健康，心想事成！

二月份是表達愛意的好時節，剛巧，今年西方及中國情人節均在二月，你們準備好迎接這個溫馨日子了嗎？

在這個濃情蜜意的特別日子，你會為你的伴侶作何安排？燭光晚餐、心意卡、禮物或送花？這都是不會錯的選擇。但我有另一項新鮮提議，就是打開你的心扉。不如先讓我和你們分享一個故事吧。

Don 及 Kate 已是一對結婚 10 年的夫婦，沒有子女。每年情人節，Don 都會安排與太太共晉晚餐及送她小禮物。

情人節當天，Don 也不例外為 Kate 選擇情人節禮物。他在小商店內，看見一個小小的玻璃瓶，很精緻，他想 Kate 會喜歡這禮物。女售貨員告訴 Don，他可以寫一張小便條放入瓶內。Don 聽後，更感到它的別緻。Don 之後便寫了一張便條，細心摺疊好放入瓶內。售貨員將禮物包好，Don 便攜着小禮物，滿心歡喜的赴約。

如往常的情人節一樣，兩夫婦共晉晚餐。Don 為 Kate 送上禮物，並說：「情人節快樂！」Kate 只是冷淡的說聲多謝，也沒有即時拆開禮物，只是把它放進手挽袋。

兩夫婦在進餐期間沒有太多對話，看似是習以為常。但在情人節當下，氣氛便顯得有點孤清。可能倆人都專注進食，沒多久，他們便結賬離開。

在回家路上，Kate 要求 Don 將車子停在路邊，她有話要跟 Don 說。Don 對太太突如其來的要求有點愕然，心想，有什麼重大事情不可待回到家再說？Don 最終將車子停泊在路邊，情緒帶點緊張的搓著手，邊待 Kate 開口說話。



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Kate 仍是一口冷淡語氣說：「你不感到我們之間很不妥嗎？我們已經沒有話題，甚至已到了沒法溝通的地步。」Kate 沒等還在思索問題的 Don 回答，她繼續說：「你想知道為什麼嗎？但我想先問問你，你知道什麼是愛嗎？」Don 還是呆呆的沒答上。

「愛是傾聽、擁抱，愛是互相扶持，彼此重視....但很可惜，我再也感受不到它們的存在。我對你的感覺已改變，我們的愛已是停滯不前。10 年婚姻，我再不渴望有激情，或是美麗的浪花，但我仍然期望，它可以細水長流。」Kate 沒有一刻猶豫的說。

Don 感到非常沮喪，十年光景的婚姻，卻換來太太傷感的控訴，這控訴很傷人，但卻坦白。Don 只感到內心苦澀，淚流滿面。Kate 對 Don 的沉默不語，感到非常失望及不耐煩，她需要冷靜，便決定離開車廂吸口新鮮空氣。

就在這時，一切都在電光火石之間.....一輛卡車直撞上 Don 的汽車.....悲劇中，Kate 僥倖生存，但 Don 卻不幸身亡！

Kate 在醫院康復期間，拆開 Don 送給她的情人節禮物。她發現精緻的小瓶內藏有一張便條，她將便條打開及閱讀....

Kate, 我這生做過最棒的決定，就是與你結婚。我承認我並不是一位完美丈夫，但是如果失去你的愛，我便再沒有生存的意義。永遠愛你的 Don！

看完這個悲劇，我意識到“一本通書睇到老”的態度，並不適用於婚姻。隨著時日流逝，我們對人與事物的心態都會改變，當初倆人的某種良好溝通方式，亦可能變得不合時宜。所以溝通方式也要變得靈活，甚至要做到隨機應變；細心觀察，隨著大家的改變而改變。這對於維持雙方長久關係起著重要的作用。



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你準備好與你的伴侶交心了嗎？不要再讓他猜度、苦候你的心意。今天就向他敞開心扉，說出你所想，分享你的心路歷程。讓大家可以擁抱長久的愛及幸福吧！

我認為愛是彼此忠誠、交心、珍惜緣份，還包括永恆的友情。那你們呢？

祝大家情人節快樂！

美國華聯商會 會長，

*Johnny Darosa*

羅世傑 謹啟

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二零二一年二月一日

中文翻譯 Doris Wong

( 嘉嘉工作室創辦人 )