

A GENERAL CONCERN: THE FUTURE OF TRADITIONAL CAMPUS NEWSPAPERS

Everywhere, people look down at their phone screens instead of a newspaper or a book. Obviously, we have become accustomed to the convenience brought by the Internet and technology in the current Internet age. The decline of traditional newspapers has become rampant. There are many digital media platforms on the campus of the University City, such as various WeChat official accounts, the Nanyan Observer website, and Weiming BBS of PKU even WeChat groups. As a traditional print newspaper, why should we promote the Nanyan Chinese newspaper continuously? We have to think dialectically.

On the one hand, we should consider whether the newspaper is the best way to get information. Will it have more influence than other forms of media? The first reason against this assertion is about the news transmission. Obviously, in a digital age driven by IT technology, newspaper is inferior to the Internet, because by the latter the audience can conveniently and comfortably read news on the screen of computers at home or cell phones in walking. In other words, the Internet, instead of print media, makes news universally available for the readers. Another reason doubting traditional print newspaper is that the information in this media expires quickly. For example, the manufacturing of a newspaper is a complicated and time-consuming process, which means the update of information in newspaper is day-to-day and its news are always focused on the more distant past. In comparison, news on the Internet can be edited and issued every minute. That is to say, in terms of the function of ensuring the freshness of news, the Internet is far beyond the out-of-mode newspaper. Besides this, it is also false to think that the newspaper is more influential. In fact, the influence of a traditional print newspaper is always limited, due to it having production costs and only issued in certain countries and areas. In contrast, online news is characterized by being free of charge and boundless, which can maximize the impact and publicity of a news globally, because all Internet users worldwide could be potential readers of this news, with no geographic limitation.

On the other hand, compared to traditional paper media, campus newspapers have a special attribute, the campus. The producers and target audiences are also students on campus. Compared with public media, the purpose of campus paper media is more clear and unified. Campus newspaper, as the earliest campus media, has been extended to this day, which undoubtedly proves its role and strength. Campus paper newspaper still has its irreplaceable advantages today: First, reading campus paper newspaper you do not need to search for network signals or FM information, as long as the newspaper is at hand. The campus paper newspaper also has higher preservation value and historical value, and better exerts the social heritage function of the public, compared to the emerging network as a campus media. Third, the campus paper media has more commemorative significance and value, and can better reflect the cultural heritage of the school. While it is more mature and sophisticated, it is also facing inevitable weakness, such as the limited timeliness of information, higher environment costs, and more costs of energy and financial resources.

In my opinion, campus traditional newspaper will never leave us, digital media will not totally replace traditional newspapers. But let's qualify this. Now: so far, no media has really been replaced by a newer one. Newspapers were not replaced by radio, radio was not replaced by TV. What happened is that they all adapted to changing circumstances, finding more of their unique language from their own strengths. Sometimes finding a new market as something niche, premium, like vinyl records did after they were considered dead. But no one in the past, would know that vinyl records now become popular artwork in public? I observed that some books has become the types of the artwork, and stand firmly in nowadays media market.

Just like a university, a newspaper will always need to adapt. As our campus strengthens and grows, we will need another 100 issues of the Nanyan Chinese newspaper to build the community and document our history.

This month marks the 100th issue of the Nanyan Chinese newspaper, launched in 2004, the Nanyan Chinese newspaper of PKU Shenzhen was the first official media for the campus. In the intervening years, the Nanyan Chinese newspaper has delighted, entertained, inspired and informed all the students who has been lived here. This month, to celebrate the occasion, the Chinese newspaper has created a special issue commemorating the anniversary.



Over 100 issues, Nanyan Chinese newspaper has colored the face of campus life on PKU Shenzhen campus. Chen Yunxian (2011, vice-governor), Liang Qin'ning (Son of the last confucianist of China), Xing Kaixuan (chinese young star)... these are just a few of the well-known names that the Nanyan Chinese newspaper team has photographed and interviewed for the cover of the past issue of papers. Furthermore, launched in 2011, the English language Nanyan Observer has introduced international students to the campus, Shenzhen, and beautiful places throughout China. Nowhere else in our campus is vitality, realness and preciseness celebrated so joyfully, which is reflected in the content produced across The Nanyan News Agency print, digital and social media platforms. Each is tailored to the aesthetic and cultural spirit of the departments in Nanyan. Seamlessly blending local perspective with international vision, the Nanyan Observer is the campus's style authority. The Nanyan Observer and The Nanyan Chinese newspapers accompanied with The Nanyan News Agency have flourished for more all these years by continually reinventing themselves, always striving to delight, inform and inspire readers by being a precise and interesting visual enjoyment. All of this, makes me happy to be a small part of the agency.

CELEBRATING THE 100th SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE NANYAN CHINESE PAPER

by Mei Siyu



My work experience in Nanyan

I am a second-year postgraduate student of SEE (School of Environment and Energy), also a reporter for the English Department and a photographer for the Visual Department in The Nanyan News Agency. I have an interesting story about how I joined the The Nanyan News Agency. At the beginning, I was not in the early batch to join the Nanyan in my grade, and that time I'm not familiar with Nanyan at all. Very coincidentally, on March 10 this year, my friend invited me to accompany her to participate in a photography shooting activity held by the Visual Department. She knew I was skilled at shooting and loved photography, she told me she just wanted me to take pictures for her that time. After going out shooting, I shared my photos with everyone in a WeChat group, these photos received good reviews by the leader and the members of Visual Department. Later, they invited me to be a member of the group. After mulling over this invitation, I accepted it because it was an opportunity for me to continue engaging with my love of photography. Later, I gradually came into contact and work with different media teams that are a part of the Nanyan, like Chinese and English newspapers, Nanyan Chinese official website, the Nanyan Observer website and WeChat public account. I love writing and hope to improve my English, at the same time, The Nanyan Observer came into my eyes, after that I started to focus on IT and finally passed the interview in the English Department at the beginning of this semester and finally became a member of our fantastic group.

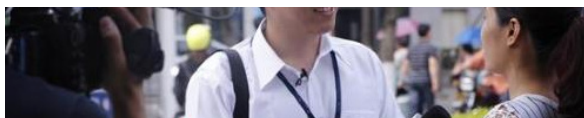
Why I work for Nanyan

To be honest, I joined Nanyan entirely out of love for writing and photography. I believe that every member who actively joined Nanyan and gathered here did so mostly because of love. Nanyan allows me to improve myself through practice and gives the excitement and thrill of the doing news and and staying active as a postgraduate. Obviously, those people who are members of Nanyan are the people who are willing to devote their love into recording and shooting all impressions of things for our campus. And furthermore, each department of Nanyan has important goals, such as the English Department, which reports our school life or the Visual Department which has regular photography shooting. Because of these plans, each member can get exercises in news skills, what's great is, after submitting our work, we can get comments and suggestions from editors or teachers, in other words, review. Through such repeated practice and improvement, not only our professional skills have been improved, but also we get satisfaction

through devoting ourselves to down-to-earth works to our campus. This is why I work for Nanyan.

What can international students learn from Chinese newspapers?

First of all, there is no doubt that the first thing international students can learn from Chinese newspapers is Chinese language, the Chinese skills of international students who can read Chinese newspapers must be very good. By regularly reading each issue of the newspaper, they can strengthen their Chinese reading skills day by day. Secondly, most of the contents of the Nanyan Chinese newspaper are about the recent activities and policies of the campus. The international students can learn about all the important events happening in the PKU Shenzhen campus and the policies closely related to them, such as the building services, the dormitory building service, thus be more familiar with the usage of campus facilities and improve their quality of life in PKUSZ. Finally, compared to the Nanyan Observer newspaper, the recommended articles on tourism and food in Chinese newspapers will be more authentic and in touch with Chinese life. If they are interested in these, it is well worth it to get familiar with the Nanyan Chinese newspaper.



Q & A (Reviews and wishes from students and teachers for 100th issue newspapers)

- Q1** Huang Xiulan, alumna, Peking University Alumni Association Office in Shenzhen
Q: As an alumna who graduated from PKUSZ, have you read the Nanyan Chinese Newspaper?
A: Since the release of the Nanyan Chinese newspaper, I have been paying attention to it. I will read it every now and then. It has been about 12 years since then, but with the development of the emerging media, I got most of the current Nanyan news is from the official WeChat platform and official website. The print newspaper disappear in my eyes gradually.
Q2: In your eyes, what role does Nanyan Chinese newspaper play in our Nanyan big family?
A: I consider Nanyan Chinese newspaper as a archive of Nanyan. Especially when we go out on a visit for business, or have a guest visit, I will take one to let then read, so that they can have a quick acquaintance of the events and historical moments of Nanyan.
Q3: Which issue makes you impressed?
A: The issue about graduation this year, very commemorative.
Q4: Do you have any to say and expect for the Nanyan Chinese newspaper?
A: Wish Nanyan Chinese newspaper will make this platform better spread faster and build stronger teams in the new time.
- Q5** Xing Kaixuan, student of SECE (School of Electronic and Computer Engineering, actor of Happy Planet (A children's TV series, also a childhood memory for all students)
Q: Your impression of the news agency when you first entered PKUSZ.
A: At that time, I felt that the Nanyan News Agency was very official and the news reports were very official too.
Q6: After a year, have you changed your first impression?
A: Yes, Nanyan News Agency is not like the thought at the beginning. Nanyan News Agency has also organized many activities and shared many new knowledge, which is very close to the life of students.
Q7: Which news you get from the newspaper of Nanyan News Agency?
A: Volunteer activities.
Q8: Compared with other platforms, The newspaper has what kind of significance and role in PKUSZ?
A: The news agency is a media that understands our students. It can be said that the newspapers of the news agency are customized for the students.
Q9: Did you pay attention to the newspaper that you reported? Did this report have an influence on your life in PKUSZ?
A: Yes, I remember that many people told me the next day that they saw this report, and even some friends not from PKUSZ found this report.
Q10: Do you have any to say and expect for the Nanyan Chinese Newspaper?
A: I hope that Nanyan News Agency will be better and better.

Campus Singer Competition

THE 6TH “ART CREATION”

On September 25th, the UTSZ managing office held the 6th “Art Creation” Campus Singer Competition and 2018 Welcome Party of University Town of Shenzhen. The goal of the event was to give a “welcome present” to all the teachers and students of UTSZ. Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School, Tsinghua University Shenzhen Graduate School, Harbin Institute of Technology (Shenzhen), Southern University of Science and Technology, and Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology supported this activity as co-organizers.

More than 100 contestants from the different universities and institutes participated in the qualifying rounds, and the best of the best were selected to perform



for the excited crowd at this event. Notably, many foreign students, teachers, and professors also actively participated in the competition, making the evening a unique opportunity for the entire UTSZ to come together. Organizers invited representatives from various districts of University Town to serve as the judges who had the difficult job of choosing the best among the many fine contestants.

The audience held light sticks which transformed the scene into a starry sea. The first performers were the Art Troupe of UT which pushed the atmosphere to high energy immediately with their stylish and fast movements. Then, the singing competition began. The 10 contestants were divided into 3 groups. They sang a variety of songs in different styles, each of which

were judged based on quality. The final victor was decided based on a knockout competition. After each round, the judges gave meticulous feedback to the contestants about the professionalism of their singing and their on-stage performance. Three or four contestants will be selected to move forward, while the other students were knocked out of the competition.

Some performers wrote their own songs, one of them was a PKU doctoral student, Sha Wei (an interview can be found at the end of the article). Most of his songs are based on personal experience as well as emotions, which was visible in his outstanding on-stage performance. Some favored classic songs, such as Liu Yibo from TSU, who sang The Moon Represents My Heart. Liu Yibo’s deep voice on the timeless melody conquered the hearts of the audience and the judges. Others showcased their talents by playing instruments, one such example is Lü Jiacheng from TSU, who did excellently playing different instruments such as guitar and piano. This along with her wonderful voice and excellent skill received a lot of applause and screams from the audience.

When there was a break in the competition, other performances came to the stage. The Art Troupe showed the grace of the Chinese culture by performing a classical dance called the Paper Fan Scholar. Little Lucky, an instrumental ensemble, gave a transporting and romantic performance, and former



“Art Creation” champion, Gan Lin, and the third place finisher Dai Rui, fascinated the audience with their song.

The evening came to a conclusion after 3 fierce rounds of competition, with the following results:

- 1st — Zhang Jiehan from HIT
- 2nd — Lv Jiacheng from TSU
- 3rd — Liu Yibo from TSU



Popularity Award: Liang Jialiang from PKU
Best Potential Award: Sun Peiqi from HIT
Best Performance Award: Sha Wei from PKU
Finalist Awards: Zhang Yifan from SUSTC, Xiong Ruizhi from PKU, Zhang Zicong and Jian Zhuozhu from HIT.
If you are good at singing and addicted to music, you are welcome to join “Art Creation” next year!

Reported by Zhang Wendou

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH SHA WEI

Sha Wei is a doctoral student from School of Urban Planning and Designing, Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School. Those interested listening to his music can visit: <https://music.163.com/#/user/home?id=261581476>

Q: The two songs you sang on the competition were both original but with different styles. Could you share how you came up with these two songs?

A: The first song named 'Sometimes', was based on the lows in my life, and I hoped to encourage myself as well as others who are going through difficulties times in their lives. The second song called 'Love is always late but never absent' was created in September because many of my buddies married in recent time. I admired their sweet love and I wished them all well.

Q: As a doctoral student in science and engineering, do you see a relationship between music and academics? And does music have a place in your future?

A: There is no conflict between music and academics. I have experience in writing songs, so I can do it very quickly. Usually, I can finish the creating and recording in 4 hours with a refreshed feeling after this work, which benefits my studies and academics. Music is an important part in my life. I can't live without music, especially rock music. Although in the competition, the songs I chose were both lyrical, I actually play rock most of the time. Maybe in the future, I will not take music as a career, but I will regard it as my most cherished hobby.

Q: As the winner of Best Performance Award, what do you think of the process and results of this competition?

A: The result was not important. I began to participate in competitions like this since I started at the university. Feeling happy is more important than winning an award. My performance was average because my friends came during the Mid-autumn Festival and we drank a lot, which numbed my throat a little, but I was happy to see that other contestants performed very well that night.

CA Program: Mid-Autumn Festival Party

For thousands of years, the Mid-Autumn Festival has been celebrated around the time of the autumn equinox in China because it is the time when the moon is at its fullest and brightest. This year it happened on September 24th. The festival is one of the three major annual



traditional holidays in China, the others being Chinese New Year and the Dragon Boat Festival.

On September 25th, a wonderful Mid-Autumn Festival party was held by the Campus Advisor (CA) Program to provide both full-time and exchange students an opportunity to learn more about Chinese culture, enrich campus life, and promote international interaction. Of course, mooncakes, the must-have sweet on this special day, were served, but there were lots of surprises in store as well.

The festival dates back to the Tang Dynasty. As with many celebrations in China, there are ancient legends closely associated with it. One of the most well-known stories dating back to that time is Chang E Flying to the Moon, which explains the origin of the custom of admiring the moon during the Mid-Autumn Festival. The celebration at PKU started with a brief introduction of the Mid-Autumn Festival by Jimmy, a Campus Advisor. PKU Shenzhen Graduate School Chancellor,

Wu Yundong, also attended the party, he extended the warmest festival greetings and best wishes to all international

students and other attendees. After the opening, the students were presented with the poem Jing Ye Si, or Night Thoughts, by the Tang Dynasty poet Li Bai. This is one of the most famous poems in the Chinese language. In the poem, Li Bai recounts looking up at the full moon and in the beauty of the moment, feeling a great longing for home. Chancellor Wu first performed the poem for the students as they followed along. Victor Yapmis, Year 2 Management student from PHBS, also stepped up to perform the poem in Chinese. Lastly, Ann Tseng, Year 1 Finance student from PHBS, performed the poem in English.

Afterwards, everyone was divided into 5 teams and played absolutely fun games together. The moon trivia was clearly related to the festival (Do you know when China plans to land a lunar probe on the “Dark Side of the Moon”?), and other games involved ping-pong balls, Oreos, and balloons, which are at least sort of moon-shaped. All students took an active part in



the games and laughed happily. The most exciting part was carrying balloons: two people need to go from the beginning until the end, carrying a balloon in between their bodies. They need to cooperate with each other and be very careful not to drop the balloon. Finally, the first ranked team received cute pandas as the prize!

This party was the first Mid-Autumn Festival event ever organized by the CA Program and it brought a joyful, interesting, and educational experience to international students!

“In Thailand, we always celebrate this season as well for the good fortune. But it’s nice to know about the Chinese holiday’s fairy tale. Then, I also enjoyed the pizza and ice-breaking games!” (Gift Chiewcharnsuwan from Thailand)

“I think the whole thing was organized quite nicely. I really enjoyed the games, especially the question game because it made us interact more.” (Victor Yapmis, from Turkey)

Written by Xia Zhidan



THINGS FROM HOME

—HOMESICK YET?
by Yaren Kasoglu

Dear all Chinese and international students who have gotten through the first months of their academic year in one of the most modern and innovative Chinese cities, Shenzhen! The Peking University Graduate School would like to wish you a pleasant journey throughout your time studying here.

As much as the whole experience within itself is truly amazing, and a chance to spread your wings; it can seem challenging from time to time because of the differences in culture and lifestyle between here and a student's home country or region. It has already been almost two months since international students from around the world arrived to study at either HSBC Business School or School of Transnational Law.

We asked 10 international students a fun question: What did you bring from your home country that is special or you thought you would not be able to find in China?

We know there are always things from home that can never be replaced. Check out what they had to say:

Victor Contreras Kong
28, Chile



It is the traditional drink of Chile. It was a must-have item during my trip.
#Pisco

Ivan Islas Arroyo
30, Mexico



I love my own pillow, it is very soft and basically I cannot go anywhere in the world without it.
#Pillow

Shilpa Ramanujan
21, India



I brought two packs of Indian food: one is poha, it can translated as flat-tened rice. The other one is rajma masala, it is something like spicy kidney bean gravy. I've been saving these for when I crave Indian food.
#Indian food

Deniz Yapmis
23, Turkey



Every time I traveled somewhere and made local friends, my friends would ask me about Turkish coffee and delights. The coffee is made with the ground and it's not filtered. Delights and coffee complete each other in a very pleasant way.
#PillowTurkish coffee and delights

Verena Huber
24, Germany



I brought my friend booklet with me. It is basically about what you share with your friends and what you wish for them. We have been doing this since elementary school.
#Friend booklet

Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong High-Speed Railway

by Luo Jiechunyi

Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong High-Speed Railway

The Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong High-Speed Railway, also known as the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, is a high speed railway which links Guangzhou, Dongguan, Shenzhen and Hong Kong. The High-Speed Railway was formally put into use at 6:44 on September 23th.

The MTR Corporation held a naming contest and the name "Vibrant Express" won out among more than 16,000 suggestions. Some citizens also affectionately call it "The Red Mouse" because the designer used a large amount of red color on it to show the vitality of Hong Kong's society and its economy.

With this new transportation option, the time cost from Guangdong Province to Hong Kong was greatly shortened. For instance, a single trip from Shenzhen to Hong Kong now takes a maximum of 14 minutes, while the journey from Guangzhou to Hong Kong is reduced to 48 minutes.

I took the 10:03 train from Shenzhen to Hong Kong on the first day of its commencement, so I am going to show you how to book a ticket, how to take the high-speed railway train and where to go after arriving.



1. E-Channels are available for the people who have an E-Card, ones without an E-Card need to go through the manual channels. The West Kowloon Customs Office promises that the whole time for this process will be less than 30 minutes and relevant support will be provided for foreigners.
2. When you go back from Hong Kong to Shenzhen, both the departure and arrival procedures will be dealt with on B3 instead of B2.
3. Baggage allowance: 20kg for an adult, 10kg for a child and 35kg for a diplomat.
4. Most of the staff is able to communicate in Chinese, Cantonese and English.

How to book a ticket

1. You can download an app called 12306 which is also an online booking website for both trains and the high-speed railway. Use your passport number to register and then you can start booking your own ticket.
2. Both Alipay and WeChat also have a connection to 12306. There is an icon labeled Air & Rail on the homepage on Alipay, if you cannot find it, please click "More" and search for it. On WeChat, follow the official account named CRTT12306 (or 铁路 12306). None of the options above have an English version, if it is hard for you to read Chinese, you can ask your friend to book tickets for you.
3. Go to Shenzhen North Railway Station and book tickets at the ticket window.

ATTENTION: Foreigners are not able to use the self-service ticket machine to pick up their ticket because it is only available for the second-generation Chinese ID card. Therefore, if you book a ticket online, you should arrive earlier to get your ticket at the manual ticket collection window.



Where to go after arriving in Hong Kong

Harbour City, one of the largest and most diverse shopping malls in Hong Kong, can be seen within walking distance. After passing the auto-ticket reader, first go through Exit A, and then follow Exit F. You could use Google Maps or just follow the crowd through the entrance of the mall. Harbour City offers a wide range of services including shopping, dining, entertainment and sightseeing. Alongside the shopping mall, there is a famous tourist attraction called Victoria Harbour, and tourists can enjoy the fabulous harbour view.

More than 60 food & beverage places are available within the shopping mall. However, you can also go on a discovery and search for some local treats such as Sun Kee Cheese Noodle(新记餐厅), Mobile Soltfee(富豪雪糕车) in the streets and alleys.

Route guide

1. From Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School to Shenzhen North Railway Station:
A.Taxi / Didi Taxi: around 25RMB, takes approximately 22 minutes.
B.Bus: bus no. M169, get on at 北大园 (Peking University Station) and get off at 深圳北汽车站 (Shenzhen North Railway Station). 2RMB per person, takes around 30 minutes.
C.Subway: Take subway Line 7 from 西丽湖 (Xilihu Station) to 西丽 (Xili Station), then transfer to Line 5 from 西丽 (Xili Station) to 深圳北站 (Shenzhen North Station).
2. From Shenzhen North Railway Station to Hong Kong West Kowloon Station: It is 75RMB for second-class seats, 120RMB for first-class seats and 226RMB for business-class seats, takes around 14-24 minutes. There is not any immigration formality before you get on the train. The procedure is done at West Kowloon Station.
3. Departure and Arrival: When you get off, you will reach B4 which is the platform floor. Then, take the elevator to go up to B2 to initially go through the departure procedure of mainland China followed by the arrival procedure of Hong Kong. Remember to keep the railway ticket with you because there is an auto-ticket reader afterwards.



PKU SHENZHEN FILM
ASSOCIATION FILM
SHARING EVENT:
MERRY CHRISTMAS,
MR. LAWRENCE



The PKU Shenzhen Film Association is one of the oldest associations in the Shenzhen Campus. It holds the film sharing activity twice per month to display classic and minor, thought-provoking films. Hu Yayun, one the leaders of the association, intends to extend this meaningful activity, which enriched her life during college years, to the Shenzhen Campus. “We want to show that movies are not limited to those in the theatre chains. We want to let people see that there are so many more enthusiastic filmmakers working hard to make good movies,” said Hu.

The association is also facing a few challenges. The main challenge arises from the nature of the association, as an organization built solely on interest in appreciating films, the leaders find it hard in attracting new members not only interested in watching the films, but also sharing and displaying the films. Acknowledging that the postgraduate students nowadays are facing increasing pressure on schoolwork and career, Li Junhan, the vice president of the association reckon that students still need to balance between these works and interests. “Sometimes you need to slow down a little bit, and give your interests more time,” said Li. One of the rewarding things he thinks of holding these activities was that unfamiliar but social people often come to watch the movies, and they are “on the right track” in appreciating films. Li continued, “I think these people, having gained experience in the society, are realizing the importance of balancing between lives and interest, and are more willing to put more efforts in developing or maintaining an interest.”

In September, the Film Association displayed the movie *Merry Christmas, Mr. Laurence* in the We-space Cafe. This movie is based on the British novel *The Seed and the Sower* (1963), written by Sir Laurens van der Post, depicting his experiences as a Japanese prisoner of war during World War II. It was directed by the



Japanese director Nagisa Oshima, a renowned but controversial director.

The first thing that impressed Hu was the cast list: “This is a cast list that generates chemistry,” said Hu, “I wondered how these stars would collide with each other and make a difference.” True, unlike most of the movies, this movie is

unique in many ways. Firstly, this movie was starred in by two rock stars of the time in Britain and Japan, David Bowie and Ryuichi Sakamoto, who had not received training in acting before. Secondly, this is also the first time Sakamoto composed film music and a sound track. The music he created became a hit at the time. Furthermore, this is also the first movie Takeshi Kitano starred in, which encouraged him to step into the film industry and later become a famous director and actor.

The story took place in a Japanese prison-of-war camp on Java Island, administered by Captain Yonoi (starred by Ryuichi Sakamoto) and Sergeant Gengo Hara (Takeshi Kitano). The other two main characters are Jack Celliers (David Bowie) and John Lawrence (Tom Conti), are two prisoners in the camp.

This movie reveals the conflict between Japanese cultural beliefs and British culture; on a grander scale, love (in a broad sense), understanding, redemption and humanity during war times. While the standpoint during the war makes people opposed to each other, there is always something that we share in common, and love is the way that we arouse these deeper understandings, that build the “brotherhood of man.”

Those that would like to get involved or learn about future events can contact vice president Li Junhan (see QR code). The information of the latest event is posted on Douban and disseminated in various groups. The film association welcomes all interested film lovers to join in the family to host the movie sharing event. Simply talk to them about your idea and interest.



Journey
Under the
Midnight
Sun



by Sun Qing

Journey Under the Midnight Sun is a novel written by Japanese writer Higashino Keigo. It is a masterpiece. The novel was serialized in the magazine from January 1997 to January 1999 and was published in Japan in August 1999. The story revolves around a boy and a girl with different emotions. In 1973, a male corpse was found in an abandoned building in Osaka. After 19 years of hard tracking, the police finally made the truth clear.

The boy, Kiriara Ryouji, and girl, Karasawa Yukiho, share a deep bond of friendship. But their lives are filled with pain, hardship, and cruelty. When I read Kiriara and Karasawa's experience, the Greek myth about Sisyphus who received the punishment of the gods revolved in my mind. He must push the heavy boulder to the steep mountaintop and then silently watch it roll back to the original point for eternity. This action is hopeless, and it will be repeated forever. Although this myth is simple, it is full of meaning. Life for many involves desperate and long-lasting struggle. It is like what Kiriara Ryouji and Karasawa Yukiho have done in the past 19 years: Every time a crime is committed, they probably feel a boulder rolling down in vain. The longer the story is, the more desperate things become.

Kiriara Ryouji, the son of the victim, makes exquisite paper cuts—the boy and girl are hand in hand, the boy wears hats, the girl wears big bows. What a beautiful picture it is, but he has a somber and dark side when dealing with his grief.

The police officer, Sasagaki Junzou, uses the word “guardian” to explain the criminal behavior. For 19 years, he has been attached to the crime.

Each development of the story reveals new layers to the characters. Karasawa Yukiho, who has been living in the shadow of being bullied at a young age, has tried her best to change herself. Everything she did was to make herself the focus of attention and to cover up her unbearable past.

Kiriara Ryouji meets his fate and the relationship between him and Karasawa Yukiho finds its final resting place. When confronted for the last time, Karawawa walks away silently. She doesn't even look back. I can't guess the true thoughts in her heart, maybe Karasawa Yukiho was confused. She is truly alone. The symbiotic relationship is gone.

“There is no sun in my sky, it is always dark, but it is not dark completely because there is something to replace the sun. Although it is not as bright as the sun, it is enough for me. With this light, I can treat the night as a daytime. During the day, I have never had the sun, so I am not afraid of losing.” This is the most famous sentence in the book. I must say that Higashino Keigo's narrative skill is really clever. Each small story, originally published as an independent piece, is related. The O Henry-style ending is unexpected, but it was also reasonable.

Journey Under the Midnight Sun is more than just a mystery novel. What I am concerned about is not only the reveal and plot resolution. Unlike the typical mystery novel, I am left thinking about the hidden sin in the depths of human nature. Once I burst out, I can't even control myself. The endless trip under the midnight sun will inevitably come to an end. In the life of Karasawa Yukiho and Kiriara Ryouji, they never got the hope of redemption. A little sympathetic warmth is the only consolation us readers can give.