

《世紀戰疫》

從電影觀照現況

謝暖霞 (校友)

半年前，同學們大概沒料到這幾個月會經歷這樣一樁世界大事，甚至是本世紀至今死亡人數最多的非戰爭事故¹。說的當然就是這次影響全球的新冠肺炎。今年就讀中五的同學，大部分正正出生於沙士肆虐的2003年，自是對當年之事沒甚麼印象，更遑論其他較低年級的同學了。客觀的說，許是市民的防疫意識提高了，亦是因為有過17年前的慘痛經驗，香港的疫情的而且確控制得比沙士時好得多。撇除大家忙於張羅口罩或消毒用品的不安，對比起歐美國家的家居禁足，香港還沒達到恐慌的狀態，但若有留意國際新聞，不難一瞥不少地區因著是次疫情變成一片荒蕪的景象。疫症至今離結束尚遠，然而一齣9年前的電影《世紀戰疫》(Contagion)最近不斷被人重提，皆因影片猶如一部當今預言書。

電影描述了一個源頭不明的疫症的爆發至終結，影片由一個到訪香港²的美國女人(故事中的零號病人)發病展開，及後她接觸過的人，不論相識與否，全都一個個死去。事件很快觸動衛生部門，甚至國土安全部的關注，並於極短時間內造成全球大流行，多個城市要全面封鎖，世人陷入看不見的恐懼之中。

《世紀戰疫》並未如一般故事有明顯的起承轉合，影片固然有一連串與第一名女死者有關的角色，但幾乎所有情節都是互相割裂並沒太大關連，又或角色的關係只因為疾病的傳播鏈而連繫。事實上，在疫症大流行的今天，全球沒有一人可獨善其身，而本片正正打破了傳統戲劇的結構，描述不同時地人在疫症期間不同方面的

影響：政府的反應、官員的行為、陰謀論者的謠言、試著發國難財的KOL、在家人死後還被逼強制隔離的家屬、盡力為追查疫症源頭而殉職的衛生部門人員、為盡快完成疫苗而用自身測試的科研人員……影片以極其客觀及冷靜的視角，組成一幅疫情下面對末世可能來臨的眾生相，沒有大灑狗血、販賣煽情，畢竟在疫情下，生活就是沉悶，正如被封的小鎮市民日常就是輪候食物配給，重覆又焦慮，但導演卻把疫情下各情況有條不紊地展現出來。電影透過影像及節奏製造強大的張力，拍出了令人窒息的壓迫感，並藉著眾人的經歷，呈現了面對疫症時，人們或自私、或無知、無助、無奈、無情的面貌；還有僵化的官僚主義、經濟與民生的取捨、醫療道德、誰人應先被救……大量今天大家仍沒解決的問題，電影中亦一一提出。

《世紀戰疫》編劇一開始是參考了2003年沙士以及2009年豬流感，希望帶出全球化或會令現代社會受疫情爆發嚴重衝擊，並推敲若疫情比沙士或豬流感更嚴重時，整個社會有何連鎖反應及恐懼。全片就如一齣以戲劇形式呈現社會現象的模擬情境及時局分析。有著這樣嚴肅的命題，加上全明星陣容，難怪與觀眾期望有所落差，故影片當年並沒有引起甚麼迴響。導演史提芬蘇德堡 Steven Soderbergh (不是史匹堡不要弄錯了) 最為人熟悉的是叫好叫座的鬥智盜賊電影《盜海豪情》(Ocean's Eleven) 系列，又或讓茱莉亞羅拔絲成奧斯卡影后的《伊人當自強》(Erin Brockovich)，然而較少大眾知道蘇德堡一出道就憑處女作《性感的謊言》(Sex, Lies, and Videotape) 贏得康城影展金棕櫚獎，以及常被遺忘的奧斯卡最卡電影《毒網》(Traffic)。但無論商業娛樂大片還是獨立藝術電影，蘇德堡擅長的群戲以及對社會問題深刻的探討，在《世紀戰疫》都發揮得淋漓盡至。只需一句對白，便直擊問題的核心，例如筆者極喜愛電影中某官員在封城前說的以下一句話：

"We just need to make sure that nobody knows... until everybody knows"

疫症的傳播，可以是天災，亦可以是人類文明發展而導致的必然後果。縱然科技一日千里，人類依然重蹈覆轍。影片的終結是揭開病毒的源頭，沒有陰謀，卻是宿命。

¹ 截至2020年5月下旬，新冠肺炎的全球死亡人數已超過35萬。2004年印尼海嘯死亡及失蹤人口約30萬。
² 順帶一提，影片有多處於香港取景，同學觀影時不妨留意一下，外國導演鏡頭下的香港影像，呈現另一種質感。

電影廊
P.08

編者：何慧姚老師、廖仲儀老師

悅書林

2019-2020 年度英華女校家長教師會贊助

悅書林

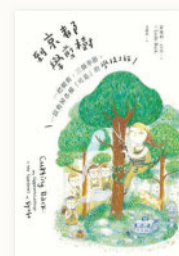
第五十九期

編者：何慧姚老師、廖仲儀老師

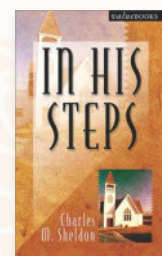
2019-2020 年度英華女校家長教師會贊助

英華人推介

書名 **到京都學剪樹：一把樹剪，三個季節，一段剪掉各種「可是」的學徒之旅**
作者 **萊絲莉·巴克**
出版社 **遠流出版事業股份有限公司**
受訪者 **黃慧瑋老師**
採訪者 **一甲 李慧琪**



Title **In His Steps**
Author **Charles M. Sheldon**
Publisher **Chicago Advance**
Interviewee **Miss Yeung Yau Yan**
Interviewer **Kwok Hoi Ching (3D)**



這本書是講述一個外國女士——萊絲莉前往京都學剪樹的所見所聞。萊絲莉原本有一份自己喜愛的工作，以及一段穩定的感情，但是她的夢想是從事園藝工作。於是，她歷經千辛萬苦，成功進入京都最著名的園藝公司。

在這本書中，令黃老師最深刻的部分在於：萊絲莉如何用盡各種方法請求日本職人教她剪樹，以及日本職人精益求精的精神。

王老師推介這本書，除了希望同學能夠找一份自己真正喜愛的工作以及理想的配偶外，亦要緊記不要忘記實現自己的夢想。書中的萊絲莉為了追逐夢想，毅然放下工作，遠赴日本學習修枝剪葉。「打破規範，勇敢地去實現夢想。」這正正是黃老師希望同學學會的。同時，這本書也記錄了日本傳統園藝師的工作用具、工作內容、日本園藝師的栽培歷程，以及日本對於園藝植物選擇、修剪的美學。對於日本園藝師工作有興趣的同學，這本書很值得參考。

In His Steps is a story about a priest who realized that he had to seize every opportunity to assist others. He learned it the hard way though. It started when he refused to help a tramp. When he finally decided to help by taking the tramp home, the tramp unfortunately passed away. This is when he realized that he should not miss out any opportunity to help. From then on, whenever he had to make decisions, he would ask himself, "What would Jesus do - WWJD?" He even encouraged others to follow his steps and because of that, he had changed the life of many.

Miss Yeung read this book when she was in university. It was a book introduced by her professor who is a Ying Wa alumna. Miss Yeung thinks that WWJD resembles our school name, YWGS Yes We Go and Serve. When we interact with others, we need to adopt both YWGS and WWJD.



■ 書名 讀書便佳
作者 董橋
出版社 牛津大學出版社



這本書由作者讀畢眾多文學作品後的感想和評論集結而成的雜記，書中以對西方文學的評論居多，其中包括詩歌、喜劇和小說。除此之外，書中也論及一些中國古典詩詞作品及毛筆書法等，涵蓋範圍甚廣。

書中包含豐富的文學知識，讀畢的話同學將獲益匪淺。同時，本書也是一個入門媒介，或者說是一張閱書推薦表，對閱讀名著感興趣卻苦於無從入手的同學來說極有參考價值。

本書為讀者展現一個五彩紛呈的文學世界，引領讀者走進該領域。同學讀畢此書後，想必會產生和標題一樣的感受——讀書便佳。

四甲 周育瑩

■ 書名 愛的教育
作者 (意) 埃德蒙多·德·亞米契斯
出版社 天地圖書



這本書是小男孩安利柯的日記，內容包括他與師長、同學的相處過程及父母對兒子的訓勉。作者藉安利柯生活的點滴，反映親情、友情、師生情等對小孩子成長的重要。除此以外，安利柯的朋友雖然來自各個階層，性格不盡相同，例如：相信勤能補拙的施泰勒利、殘障的克勒西和孝順用功的柯禮提等，但他們依然成為知交，可見彼此尊重和接受差異是和平共處的基石。

故事貼近現今同學的日常生活，相信容易引起共鳴。希望同學能學習書中人物感恩和具同理心等特質，引發內心深處已逐漸被淡忘的「愛」，關心別人，追尋快樂。

五甲班 古煒鉦

■ 書名 背影
作者 朱自清
出版社 風雲時代出版公司

這本書收錄了作者四十一篇散文，主要分為議論和敘事抒情兩類。作者文字最大的特點就是「真」，文章描寫的事是真實的，而你從中感受到的感情也是真摯的。

在〈我所見的葉聖陶〉和〈哀韋傑三君〉中，作者不是歌頌那人品德，或是讚揚他的功績，而是描寫他們日常接觸的瑣事，就像他正站在你面前，給你介紹一位好友。

在寫景的文章中，透過細膩的刻畫，讀者輕易就能描繪出那些山水。讀〈揚州的夏日一文〉時，如隨作者坐在西瓜一樣的小划子裡，在水鄉的橋洞下穿來穿去。這番想像正是學習了作者在〈海闊天空與古今中外〉中的方法，作者無法體驗諸色人等的生活，就結交諸色人等的朋友。而我無法遊覽名山大川，就靠遊記日行千里，書籍的作用和妙處正是如此。

五戊 黎心怡

■ 書名 故事新編
作者 魯迅
出版社 風雲時代



這本書由八個小故事組成，所有題材均取材自神話、傳說，在魯迅作品中是鮮有的。

神話、傳說往往只給人空泛的概念，魯迅則用了豐富的想像力，以及根據那時代的生活，塑造出一個個栩栩如生的故事。例如描寫后羿射落九個太陽後的生活，人們已經忘記了這位英雄，他每天也如平民般，要為三餐溫飽而煩惱。

可是，這本書比起魯迅其他著作最不同之處莫過於少了明顯的諷刺。我覺得可以先看附錄，理解更多魯迅的想法，又或者將現實例子套到故事中，這能對故事有新的理解及看法。

四丁 鍾慕瑩

■ 書名 沈從文散文選
作者 沈從文
出版社 天地圖書



這本書選了十三篇散文，分「湘行散記」、「湘行書簡」及「雜文」三類，散文有書信、遊記和議論等不同文體。

在「湘行書簡」中，記載了沈從文與他的太太張兆和的情深；在「湘行散記」中，則記載了對湘西故鄉的真摯感情。書本中還有沈從文層次分明的議論文章，閱讀不同類型的文章能讓同學在寫作時更得心應手。

這本書最讓我覺得驚喜的地方莫過於每一篇文章後的註釋，由於書中有不少內容都與作者遊歷湘西有關，因此難免會有一些方言。這些註釋能讓讀者更明白文章，絕對是閱讀的好幫手。

四丁 黃恩曦



STEM M A G A Z I N E

Compared with books, articles from magazines are often less in-depth but they usually cover the latest developments and updates on specific topics. With the growing popularity of the Internet and online accessibility via portable devices, many traditional magazines are now offering online versions while some have even evolved into solely electronic versions. *STEM Magazine* is a one of the electronic ones which can be subscribed on a monthly basis. Their articles are all downloadable PDFs, making display on mobile devices much more accessible. This exactly suits the reading habits of many nowadays. Starting from this month, a link to the *STEM Magazine* will be shared to all schoolmates through eClass.

OAK RIDGE
National Laboratory

Summit Computer Power At Work

by Richard HARRIS / ORNL

Researchers at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory have used Summit, the world's most powerful and smartest supercomputer, to identify 77 small molecule drug compounds that might warrant further study in the fight against the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, which is responsible for the COVID-19 disease outbreak.

The two researchers performed simulations on Summit of more than 8,000 compounds to screen for those that are most likely to bind to the main "spike" protein of the coronavirus, rendering it unable to infect host cells. They ranked compounds of interest that could have value in experimental studies of the virus. They published their results on ChemRxiv.

The idea was born out of an interest in the coronavirus' entry point into a host cell. When Chinese researchers sequenced the virus, they discovered that it infects the body by one of the same mechanisms as the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS, virus that spread in 26 countries during the SARS epidemic in 2003.



If a drug binds to the spike protein, it may block the virus from infecting human cells.

The similarity between the two virus structures facilitated the study of the new virus.

Jeremy C. Smith, Governor's Chair at the University of Tennessee and director of the UT/ORNL Center for Molecular Biophysics, worked from the assumption that

the two viruses may even "block" to the cell in the same way.

Team member and UT/ORNL CMB post-doctoral researcher Nicholas Smith built a model of the coronavirus' spike protein, also called the S-protein, based on early studies of the structure.

"We were able to design a thorough computational model based on information that has only recently been published in the literature on this virus," Nicholas Smith said, referring to a study published in Science China Life Sciences.

After being granted computational time on Summit through a Director's Discretionary allocation, Nicholas Smith used a chemical simulations code to perform molecular dynamics simulations, which analyze the movements of atoms and particles in the protein. He simulated different compounds docking to the S-protein spike of the coronavirus to determine if any of them might prevent the spike from sticking to human cells.

"Using Summit, we ranked these compounds based on a set of criteria related to how likely they were to bind to the S-protein spike," Nicholas Smith said. The team found 77 small molecule compounds, such as medications and natural compounds, that they suspect may be of value for experimental testing. In the simulations, the compounds bind to regions of the spike that are important for entry into the human cell, and therefore might interfere with the infection process.



- 1-2. This is an awesome feature in the magazine in which simulation videos are available to explain complicated mechanism.
3. "Engineering in the piano, how does the piano work?" STEM, is another publication of the STEM Magazine, in which STEM in Art is introduced.
4. STEM in sports
5. The Drone Racing League is the fastest racing drone on the planet, i.e. 179.6 miles per hour.

STEM Magazine believes triggering curiosity is the foundation of innovation, which results in solutions to global problems as well as rewarding careers for students. It is an informative magazine for young inquisitive minds as it provides a wide range of resources on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. It enables readers to stay updated with the latest development in science and technology that impacts different aspects of our lives.

What's more? There is a career guidance section which allows students to explore various career opportunities related to STEM in every issue. In fact, jobs in STEM are in hot demand all over the world. In the USA, STEM jobs are expected to grow by 18.7%, compared to 14.3% for all fields by 2020. Therefore, it is important to equip youth with the skills and knowledge they need in order to stay competitive in a technology-based society in the future.

By Mr. Dr. Chun Tat



Ghetto at the Center of the World: Chungking Mansions, Hong Kong

Written by Gordon Mathews

Publisher: Hong Kong University Press, Hong Kong (2011)

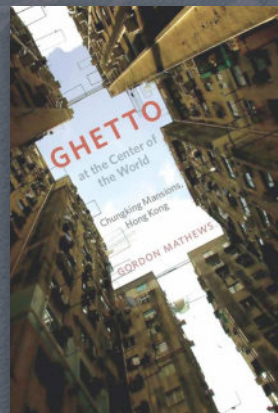
Which module(s) in Liberal Studies are relevant?	Module 4 Globalization
Cross-subject knowledge from...	History
Suitable for whom?	From S4 onwards

Globalization is the process by which the world is becoming progressively interconnected as a result of massively increased trade and cultural exchange. It promotes and increases interactions between different regions and populations around the world. Chungking Mansions in Hong Kong is a good demonstration of cultural and economic globalization.

Chungking Mansions is a dilapidated 17-storey commercial and residential building located in the glitzy Tsim Sha Tsui shopping district. It features low-budget guesthouses, curry restaurants, African bistros, clothing shops, sari stores and foreign exchange offices. It often acts as a large gathering place for some of the ethnic minorities in Hong Kong, particularly South Asians (Indians, Nepalese, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis and Sri Lankans), Middle Eastern people, Nigerians, Europeans, Americans, and many other people of the world.

Gordon Mathews, a professor of Anthropology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, wrote *Ghetto at the Center of the World: Chungking Mansions, Hong Kong*. Professor Mathews describes Chungking Mansions as the centre of “low-end globalization” featuring petty traders, asylum seekers, itinerant workers, small-time entrepreneurs and tourists. He defines “low-end globalization” as the transnational flow of goods (e.g., mobile phones, clothes, shoes, perfumes, watches and computers) involving relatively small amounts of capital and informal transactions commonly associated with the developing countries.

In his book, Professor Mathews explores Chungking Mansions through its history and location. He provides a vivid description of the people who live their lives in the building. The personal stories collected from the traders, shopkeepers, asylum seekers and other people who pass through the building make the book even more engaging. Professor Mathews shows his readers that Chungking Mansions is a microcosm of globalization from an anthropologist's point of view. Anyone who seeks insights into a thorough analysis of low-end globalization should read this book. It is easy to read and has many insightful and provocative observations.



Factfulness – Ten reasons we're wrong about the world – and why things are better than you think

Written by Hans Rosling

Publisher: Flatiron Books (2018)

Which module(s) in Liberal Studies are relevant?	Module 4 Globalization Module 5 Public health
Cross-subject knowledge from...	History

Test yourself:

- Among all the low-income countries across the world today, what is the percentage of girls who can finish primary school?
A. 20 percent B. 40 percent C. 60 percent
- What is the life expectancy of the world today?
A. 50 years B. 60 years C. 70 years
- How has the number of deaths per year from natural disasters changed over the last hundred years?
A. More than doubled B. Remained about the same C. Decreased to less than half

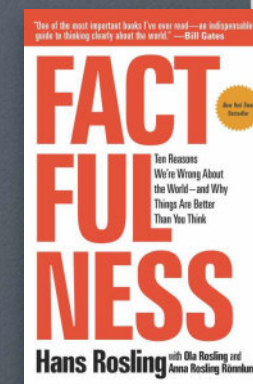
How did you do? Did you get all the answers correct or did you feel like you were doing a lot of guessing? Let's think about our world: War, violence, natural disasters, outbreak of infectious diseases, poverty, political instability. Things are bad, and it feels like they are getting worse, right? The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer; and we will soon run out of resources unless we do something drastic. It is the overdramatic worldview that draws people to the most dramatic and negative answers to the above situation.

In fact, the vast majority of the world's population lives somewhere in the middle-income level. Perhaps they are not what we think of as middle class, but they are not living in extreme poverty. Step-by-step, year-by-year, the world is improving. Though the world faces huge challenges, we have made tremendous progress. This is the fact-based worldview.

Our brains often jump to swift conclusions without much thinking, which used to help us to avoid immediate dangers. We are interested in gossip and dramatic stories, which used to be the only source of news and useful information – our dramatic instincts – are causing misconceptions and over-generalized worldviews.

This book teaches you how to recognize overdramatic stories and gives you some thinking tools to control your dramatic instincts. Then you will be able to shift your misconceptions, developing a fact-based worldview.

Factfulness, like a healthy diet and regular exercise, can and should become part of our daily life. Start to practice it, and you will be able to replace your overdramatic worldview with a worldview based on facts. You will be able to get the world right without learning it by your feelings. You will make better decisions, think critically, stay alert to real dangers and possibilities, and avoid being constantly stressed about the wrong things.



By Miss Cheung Ka Yut

By Mr. Poon Bun Hong, Carson

Answers to the questions:
1. C 2. C 3. C

A/ 書名 **《巴提斯塔的榮光》**
作者 **海棠尊**
出版 **上海人民出版社**
受訪者 **三丙 翁月寧**
採訪者 **三丁 翁菡馨**

一個由精英醫師組成的七人組，創下了心臟移植手術「巴提斯塔」成功率百分之百的奇跡，被譽為「巴提斯塔的榮光」。可是這光榮的醫療紀錄，竟意想不到地因三次連續的失敗，被無情擊碎了。醫院高階院長認為事有蹊蹺，便委以菜鳥醫生田口調查死因。正當田口醫生為調查無果而苦惱不堪時，「邏輯怪獸」一白鳥圭輔突然出現，插手調查。在兩輪逐個審問後，田口和白鳥發現了「巴提斯塔」的驚人秘密：要救人，必須先殺人。



這究竟只是單純的醫療過失，還是一場冰冷的謀殺？一切真相，就從病人躺下那一刻開始……

翁同學之所以選擇這本日語翻譯推理小說，是因為它的情節緊湊，令人不自覺地追看下去。同時，此書也揭露了人性的黑暗面，發人深省。

B/ 書名 **給孩子的港臺散文**
編選 **劉紹銘、梁淑雯**
出版 **香港中文大學出版社**
受訪者 **三甲 黃澄**
採訪者 **三乙 黃曉婷**

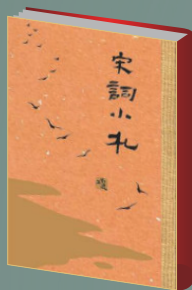
這本書收錄了多位港臺作家的作品，包括阿濃、張曉風等，都是大家耳熟能詳的名字。收錄在書中的散文主要介紹港臺兩地的文化、歷史，甚至是飲食，字裡行間處處可見童趣，讓人不禁莞爾。正如編者所說，雖然這本書的書名是《給孩子的港臺散文》，但卻是一本老少咸宜的讀物。就例如陶傑在〈異鄉夢尋〉的文末寫道：「人生最大的奢侈就是寂靜，到你有所頓悟，你已經步入中年了。」短短一句，卻足以令許多中年人產生共鳴。



黃同學認為這本書就像萬花筒，裡面有色彩、形狀各異的圖案，只要我們用心觀察，就可以從中窺出千變萬化的排列。書中收錄的文章主題、風格各異，但正正是題材多樣，令港臺各種面貌得以切實地呈現在讀者眼前。就像英華這個大家庭，雖然同學性格迥異，並且各有長短，不過正因為這種個體之間的差異，才創造了英華獨特的風景。現在，我們就一起翻開此書，拼砌出只屬於自己、獨一無二的風景吧！

書名 **宋詞小札**
作者 **劉逸生**
出版社 **三聯書店香港有限公司**

作為修讀中國文學科的同學，常常會苦惱應使用什麼素材和詞匯才可以使作品錦上添花。以下想介紹一本包攬不同類別的書，相信能令各位的寫作有所進步。



這本書有百餘首宋詞，作者會在介紹宋詞時補充，方便讀者對它有更深刻的了解。以介紹《鵲橋仙》為例，作者先向讀者簡介了牛郎織女的典故，並說明古代神話是許多文藝創作的常用素材。作者再分析此詞的立意，引入其他作品如〈漁家傲〉、〈二郎神〉、《搏鬥》等，更加凸顯了此詞的特點和蘊涵。最後，作者評價作品裡的句子及用詞，加入自己的評價，給予整篇作品全面的評述。

四戊 石明慧

書名 **日影行**
作者 **小思**
出版社 **山邊出版社有限公司**
索書號 **848 2121**

這本書記錄了作者初次到日本旅行時的見聞，她描述日本某些特點時，我亦感同身受，例如日本注重潔淨的特質和日本的風呂。在旅遊期間，作者仍然無法放下對日本上世紀的恩怨，但她仍然尊重當地習俗。他們在嘗試泡溫泉時，看見日本人是赤裸下水，因此打消了計劃。



此外，作者談到旅遊應以觀察、分析和理解當地的事物為重，才是正確的旅遊態度，我亦贊同。我旅行時總是以走馬看花的態度遊走，對很多景物沒有太深印象。作者在書中的話給我很大啟發，讓我明白旅行時應有的觀念。

四戊 沈欣彤

英華人在看甚麼？

A / B / C / D



C/ 書名 **旅美小簡**
作者 **陳之藩**
出版 **牛津大學出版社**
受訪者 **四戊 胡凱盈**
採訪者 **三戊 麥愷題**

這本書是一本散文集，是作者1955年往美國賓夕法尼亞大學留學兩年間寫成的，共收23篇散文。他是科學家，對科學和宗教有獨特的見解，他離開了風雨飄搖的國家，來到花樹繽紛的土地，心胸開闊，但面對人生的歧路，思前想後，更多的是憂患、徬徨和寂寞，因此寫出來的短文帶有憂鬱的氣氛和鄉愁。書中的文字平白樸素，卻寫出許多深奧的道理。



胡同學認為這本散文集令她深有體會，其中一篇令她印象深刻的就是〈童子操刀〉。這篇以孩子爭奪電視遙控器而演變出的殺人悲劇，帶出科學與社會脫節，引出錯誤運用科技的現象。孩子們瘋狂地愛好電視，為爭看不同的電視節目，一個年僅十歲的孩子便被麵包刀刺死。她覺得生活中其實也有像「童子操刀」的事件，一個明顯的例子便是導彈，導彈固然是先進有用的科技，如果能善用，或許會為世界帶來效益；可是現在導彈淪為國家間互相威脅的籌碼，只是作為破壞世界和平的工具。她認為人類雖然創造出高端科技，但可笑的是，連創造者本身也不會充分運用這些產物，這說明了人類在運用科技之餘，必須檢討科學對社會的影響，並設法教育人，才不致與科學脫節。

D/ Title **The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell**
Author **Chris Colfer**
Publisher **Little Brown**
Interviewee **Yeung Ching Ga, Gianna (4C)**
Interviewer **Chow Long Ching, Jasmine (4A)**

The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell is a fantasy written by Chris Colfer. When the protagonists, Alex and Conner were given a storybook by their grandmother on their 12th birthday, they found out that it was not just any ordinary book but a portal to another dimension. Alex and Conner travelled into the Land of Stories accidentally and in order to

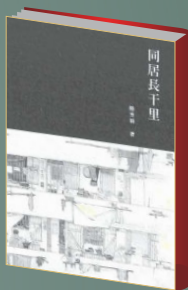


return home, they had to collect seven items of the Wishing Spell. Unfortunately, the Evil Queen wanted to perform the Wishing Spell. Alex and Conner had to gather all the items before the Evil Queen did or else they would not be able to return home safely.

Gianna enjoyed the book a lot. She found the plot intriguing as the personalities of some familiar fairytale characters that she grew up learning about were further developed in this book.

書名 **同居長千里**
作者 **陸秀珊**
出版社 **匯智出版社**

這本書透過一個小孩的視角，展現六、七十年代新市鎮中成長的故事，讓大家隨著作者的筆觸一起走進老香港、體味一份舊時代情懷。我一向對老香港的文化著迷，所以我一看到這本書的封面已經被它深深吸引。封面是由李志清繪畫。畫的是一幢舊式單位，孩子們互相追逐，一道長長走廊充斥著濃濃人情味，看似平淡但又十分有趣。



首篇文章與書名同稱〈同居長千里〉，講主人翁重回已有四十多年樓齡的舊居回憶從前。懷念以前沒有冷得如冰窖般的大型商場，只有海旁吹來的涼風，一邊吃著冰冰涼的冰棒，一邊悠悠地搗著扇子的日子。時間拉回到四十年前，作者還是個從上海來的新移民。一同移居的外婆平時會說流利的上海話。書中外婆的口音為整篇文章增添了趣味。

這本書說的都是六、七十年代小孩子的小故事，作者住在一幢每層樓有十二個單位的大廈，每一個單位都是一個故事，裡面沒有激烈的感情，也沒有曲折的情節，更沒有懸疑的結局，但卻有著細水長流的人間情味。

三丙 羅鈺雯