



車禍 Car accident

大約十年前的某一天，我接到哥哥的電話，他焦急地說：「爸爸出車禍了，趕快回家！」我與老婆急忙趕回老家，抵達醫院急診室時，爸爸已躺在病床上，看起來奄奄一息。醫生說明爸爸因腦出血，必須立即送進加護病房，並表示當晚將是關鍵。所幸爸爸命大，熬過了那一晚；然而不幸的是，他從此失去了與外界的聯繫。

About ten years ago, on a certain day, I received an urgent phone call from my brother, who exclaimed, "Dad's been in a car accident! Hurry home!" My wife and I immediately rushed back to our hometown. Upon arriving at the hospital's emergency room, we found my father lying on a bed, barely clinging to life. The ER doctor explained that Dad had suffered a brain hemorrhage and needed to be transferred to

the ICU, adding that the upcoming night would be critical. Fortunately, my father miraculously made it through that night; however, he subsequently lost all contact with the outside world.

我爸爸每次飲酒後都會性情大變，而且越喝越清醒，話語也從原本的沉默寡言變得滔滔不絕，情緒激昂，簡直就像張惠妹的歌曲《三天三夜》所描繪的情境一般。他彷彿變成了哲學家，出口成章，開始評論起社會時事。我們家人對此也習以為常，心想「他又來了」。大家都認為他不適合飲酒，因為醉酒後的他就像個瘋子，這點與我阿公簡直如出一轍。爺倆還經常相約外出喝酒，這真的讓我媽媽跟我阿嬤非常生氣，簡直就像要爆炸了一樣。

My father's personality would drastically change every time he drank. The more he consumed, the more lucid he became, transforming from taciturn to voluble. His emotions would surge dramatically, almost akin to the vibrant energy depicted in Katy



Perry's song 'Roar.' Our family grew accustomed to it, often thinking, "Here he goes again." Everyone believed he shouldn't drink, as he'd become like a lunatic when drunk—a trait remarkably similar to my grandfather. The two of them frequently went out for drinks together, which deeply infuriated my mom and grandma, sending them into a furious rage.

那時我還住在家裡，常常扮演救火隊的角色，把他們帶回家，避免他們父子倆惹出更大的麻煩，也安撫媽媽和阿嬤的怒火。與其說她們生氣，不如說是擔心，擔心有一天真的會出事。沒想到，真的發生了！雖然不是酒駕，但卻是因為喝酒誤事：他酒後過馬路時，沒有注意到來車，結果被撞飛，頭部撞擊地面，造成腦內出血。這雖然只是一件再尋常不過的交通事故，但發生在自己爸爸身上，卻是痛徹心扉！

Back when I still lived at home, I often played the role of firefighter, bringing them home to

prevent bigger troubles and quelling my mother and grandmother's anger. More than anger, it was a profound worry—a fear that their worst anxieties would someday come to pass. And indeed, that day truly arrived! Although it wasn't drunk driving, the accident was a direct consequence of his drinking. While crossing the road after drinking, he failed to notice an oncoming car, was struck, and thrown, his head impacting the ground and causing a brain hemorrhage. What might seem like a common traffic accident to others was, for me, a profoundly heartbreaking ordeal because it happened to my own father.

從那個意外後，我爸爸因為腦傷，彷彿掉進他自己的宇宙黑洞裡，在自己的世界裡掙扎著，而我們也因此而被迫拉進他的太空迷霧裡，找尋人生的方向及意義。

After that accident, Dad's brain injury



seemed to plunge him into his own cosmic black hole, where he struggled within his own world. Consequently, we were drawn into his cosmic haze, searching for life's direction and meaning.



落葉歸根

Falling Leaves Return to Roots

「落葉歸根」，是我爸爸醉後最常掛在嘴邊的道理之一。總是在他喝得醉醺醺的時候，冷不防地冒出這句話。有一晚，我正沉浸在客廳的電視節目中，他突然走了過來，帶著幾分自豪地對我說：「落葉歸根……葉子會掉落在地上……回到原點……你們學校老師不會教你這個的……」。老實說，當時的我並不想聽，也忘了細節是什麼，但這句話卻在他醉後冗長的言論中，成為我記憶最深刻的一句。

「落葉歸根」，字面上隱含著：「是用來比喻事物最後終須返回本源」。

"Falling Leaves Return to Roots" was one of the drunken philosophies my dad often spouted. He would usually say it when he was tipsy. One night, while I was engrossed in watching TV in the living room, he suddenly approached me, proudly



proclaiming, "Falling leaves return to their roots... Leaves will fall to the ground... Everything will return to the beginning... Your teachers wouldn't teach you this...." Honestly, I don't remember the specifics because I didn't want to listen back then. However, that sentence is the one I remember most vividly from his drunken ramblings. Literally, it implies: "Things will eventually return to their origin."

現在回想起來，這句話對於像我爸爸這樣因腦傷或相關腦部疾病所苦的病人來說，竟是如此可怕地應驗。它一點一滴地剝奪我們從出生開始學習的本能：

Looking back now, it chillingly foreshadows the devastating reality for brain injury and disease patients like my dad. It's horrifying how it gradually strips away the fundamental abilities we acquire from birth: