

# Mandarin Corner

[mandarincorner.org](http://mandarincorner.org)



Scan to Follow Us on Wechat

**Note:** If you copy and paste from this PDF, you will get problems with the fonts. To solve this, go to [mandarincorner.org](http://mandarincorner.org) > video > click on thumbnail of video you need > larger thumbnail > look for the tabs below the large thumbnail > video transcript > copy and paste from here.

1

Zhāng āyí zuòmèng dōu xiǎngyào yī gè sūnzi.

张阿姨做梦都想要一个孙子。

Mrs Zhang had alway dreamed of having a grandson.

|     |           |                          |
|-----|-----------|--------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāng āyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
| 做梦  | zuòmèng   | to dream                 |
| 都   | dōu       | (used for emphasis) even |
| 想要  | xiǎngyào  | to want to               |
| 一   | yī        | one                      |
| 个   | gè        | classifier for people    |
| 孙子  | sūnzi     | grandson                 |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

2

Kě tā wéiyī de érzi jiéhūn dōu yī nián le,

可她唯一的儿子结婚都一年了,

But her only son had already been married for a year

|    |        |                           |
|----|--------|---------------------------|
| 可  | kě     | but                       |
| 她  | tā     | she                       |
| 唯一 | wéiyī  | only                      |
| 的  | de     | ~'s (possessive particle) |
| 儿子 | érzi   | son                       |
| 结婚 | jiéhūn | to marry                  |
| 都  | dōu    | already                   |
| 一年 | yīnián | one year                  |
| 了  | le     | (completed action marker) |

3

tā de xífù hái méiyǒu huái shàng hái zi.

他的媳妇还没有怀上孩子。

and his wife still was not pregnant.

|    |           |                         |
|----|-----------|-------------------------|
| 他的 | tāde      | his                     |
| 媳妇 | xífù      | wife (of a younger man) |
| 还  | hái       | yet                     |
| 没有 | méiyǒu    | hasn't                  |
| 怀上 | huáishàng | to become pregnant      |
| 孩子 | háizi     | child                   |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

4

Zhè kě bǎ Zhāng āyí jí huài le.

这可把张阿姨急坏了。

This made Mrs Zhang very anxious.

|     |           |                                                   |
|-----|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 这   | zhè       | this                                              |
| 可   | kě        | (used for emphasis) certainly                     |
| 把   | bǎ        | (used to bring object in front of verb)           |
| 张阿姨 | Zhāng āyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang)                          |
| 急   | jí        | to worry                                          |
| 坏   | huài      | (used after certain verbs) extremely              |
| 了   | le        | (after an adjective, express an excessive degree) |

5

Cūn lǐ gēn tā tónglíng de nǚrén

村里跟她同龄的女人

In her village, most women her age

|    |          |                           |
|----|----------|---------------------------|
| 村里 | cūnlǐ    | in the village            |
| 跟  | gēn      | as (compared to)          |
| 她  | tā       | she                       |
| 同龄 | tónglíng | of the same age           |
| 的  | de       | (used after an attribute) |
| 女人 | nǚrén    | woman                     |

6

dàbùfen dōu yǒu sūnzi sūnnǚ le,

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

大部分都有孙子孙女了,

had a grandson or granddaughter.

|     |         |                              |
|-----|---------|------------------------------|
| 大部分 | dàbùfen | the majority                 |
| 都   | dōu     | all                          |
| 有   | yǒu     | to have                      |
| 孙子  | sūnzi   | grandson                     |
| 孙女  | sūnnǚ   | granddaughter                |
| 了   | le      | (indicate a change of state) |

7

zhǐyǒu Zhāng āyí méiyǒu,

只有张阿姨没有,

Only Mrs Zhang didn't have one.

|     |           |                          |
|-----|-----------|--------------------------|
| 只有  | zhǐyǒu    | only                     |
| 张阿姨 | Zhāng āyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
| 没有  | méiyǒu    | to not have              |

8

tā hěn xiànmù tāmen.

她很羡慕她们。

She envied them.

|    |        |         |
|----|--------|---------|
| 她  | tā     | she     |
| 很  | hěn    | very    |
| 羡慕 | xiànmù | to envy |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |       |               |
|----|-------|---------------|
| 她们 | tāmen | them (female) |
|----|-------|---------------|

9

Tā jiānxìn érxí de shēntǐ yǒu wèntí,

她坚信儿媳的身体有问题,

She firmly believed that her daughter-in-law had a problem.

|    |         |                           |
|----|---------|---------------------------|
| 她  | tā      | she                       |
| 坚信 | jiānxìn | to believe firmly         |
| 儿媳 | érxí    | daughter-in-law           |
| 的  | de      | ~'s (possessive particle) |
| 身体 | shēntǐ  | health                    |
| 有  | yǒu     | to have                   |
| 问题 | wèntí   | problem                   |

10

suǒyǐ yīzài cuīcù érxí qù yīyuàn jiǎnchá.

所以一再催促儿媳去医院检查。

So, she repeatedly urged her to see a doctor.

|    |         |                    |
|----|---------|--------------------|
| 所以 | suǒyǐ   | as a result        |
| 一再 | yīzài   | repeatedly         |
| 催促 | cuīcù   | to urge            |
| 儿媳 | érxí    | daughter-in-law    |
| 去  | qù      | to go to (a place) |
| 医院 | yīyuàn  | hospital           |
| 检查 | jiǎnchá | to examine         |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

11

Érxí yě dǎsuàn yào xiǎohái,

儿媳也打算要小孩,

The daughter-in-law also wanted to have a child,

|     |             |                               |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 儿媳  | érxí        | daughter-in-law               |
| 也   | yě          | also                          |
| 打算  | dǎsuàn      | to plan                       |
| 要小孩 | yào xiǎohái | to have children (colloquial) |

12

zhǐshì yīzhí dōu méi huái shàng.

只是一直都没怀上。

it was just that it had not happened yet.

|    |           |                    |
|----|-----------|--------------------|
| 只是 | zhǐshì    | but                |
| 一直 | yīzhí     | all along          |
| 都  | dōu       | all                |
| 没  | méi       | have not           |
| 怀上 | huáishàng | to become pregnant |

13

Dàn tā bù xiāngxìn zìjǐ yǒu shénme wèntí,

但她不相信有什么问题,

However, she didn't believe there was anything wrong with her

|   |     |         |
|---|-----|---------|
| 但 | dàn | however |
| 她 | tā  | she     |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |          |            |
|----|----------|------------|
| 不  | bù       | not        |
| 相信 | xiāngxìn | to believe |
| 自己 | zìjǐ     | oneself    |
| 有  | yǒu      | to have    |
| 什么 | shénme   | anything   |
| 问题 | wèntí    | problem    |

14

tā rènwéi zhèzhǒng shì zháojí yě méiyòng.

她认为这种事着急也没用。

and she thought this kind of thing could not be rushed.

|     |             |                                                         |
|-----|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 她   | tā          | she                                                     |
| 认为  | rènwéi      | to think                                                |
| 这种事 | zhèzhǒngshì | this kind of thing                                      |
| 着急  | zháojí      | to feel anxious                                         |
| 也   | yě          | (used for emphasis, often before a negative expression) |
| 没用  | méiyòng     | useless                                                 |

15

Wǎnfàn shí, Zhāng āyí duì érzi shuō:

晚饭时，张阿姨对儿子说：

At dinner, Mrs Zhang said to her son:

|     |           |                          |
|-----|-----------|--------------------------|
| 晚饭  | wǎnfàn    | dinner                   |
| 时   | shí       | when                     |
| 张阿姨 | Zhāng āyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |      |         |
|----|------|---------|
| 对  | duì  | towards |
| 儿子 | érzi | son     |
| 说  | shuō | to say  |

16

"wǒ zuótiān zài diànshì shàng kàndào yī jiā yīyuàn de guǎnggào,

“我昨天在电视上看到一家医院的广告，

"I saw an ad about a hospital on TV yesterday.

|      |                   |                           |
|------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 我    | wǒ                | I                         |
| 昨天   | zuótiān           | yesterday                 |
| 在电视上 | zài diànshì shàng | on TV                     |
| 看到   | kàndào            | to see                    |
| 一    | yī                | one                       |
| 家    | jiā               | classifier for hospitals  |
| 医院   | yīyuàn            | hospital                  |
| 的    | de                | (used after an attribute) |
| 广告   | guǎnggào          | advertisement             |

17

shuō tāmen zhuānmén zhiliáo bùynzhèng.

说他们专门治疗不孕症。

It said that they specialized in treating infertility.

|    |          |             |
|----|----------|-------------|
| 说  | shuō     | to say      |
| 他们 | tāmen    | they        |
| 专门 | zhuānmén | specialized |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |         |                       |
|----|---------|-----------------------|
| 治疗 | zhìliáo | to treat (an illness) |
|----|---------|-----------------------|

|     |             |                    |
|-----|-------------|--------------------|
| 不孕症 | bù yùnzhèng | female infertility |
|-----|-------------|--------------------|

18

Yàobù míngtiān dài nǐ xífù qù jiǎnchá yīxià?"

要不明天带你媳妇去检查一下? ”

How about taking your wife to that hospital tomorrow to have them check her?"

|    |       |               |
|----|-------|---------------|
| 要不 | yàobù | how about...? |
|----|-------|---------------|

|    |          |          |
|----|----------|----------|
| 明天 | míngtiān | tomorrow |
|----|----------|----------|

|   |     |               |
|---|-----|---------------|
| 带 | dài | to take along |
|---|-----|---------------|

|   |    |                                                                |
|---|----|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 你 | nǐ | your (when referring to a close relationship, "de" is omitted) |
|---|----|----------------------------------------------------------------|

|    |      |                         |
|----|------|-------------------------|
| 媳妇 | xífù | wife (of a younger man) |
|----|------|-------------------------|

|   |    |       |
|---|----|-------|
| 去 | qù | to go |
|---|----|-------|

|    |         |            |
|----|---------|------------|
| 检查 | jiǎnchá | to examine |
|----|---------|------------|

|    |       |                                        |
|----|-------|----------------------------------------|
| 一下 | yīxià | to do (sth for a bit to give it a try) |
|----|-------|----------------------------------------|

19

Érzi bù nàifán de shuō:

儿子不耐烦地说:

The son impatiently replied:

|    |      |     |
|----|------|-----|
| 儿子 | érzi | son |
|----|------|-----|

|     |           |           |
|-----|-----------|-----------|
| 不耐烦 | bù nàifán | impatient |
|-----|-----------|-----------|

|   |    |     |
|---|----|-----|
| 地 | de | -ly |
|---|----|-----|

|   |      |        |
|---|------|--------|
| 说 | shuō | to say |
|---|------|--------|

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

20

"mā, nǐ bù yào guǎn le!

“妈，你不要管了！

"Mom, stop bothering me with this!

|    |       |                                                                  |
|----|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 妈  | mā    | mom                                                              |
| 你  | nǐ    | you                                                              |
| 不要 | bùyào | don't!                                                           |
| 管  | guǎn  | bother about                                                     |
| 了  | le    | (used in commands or request in response to a changed situation) |

qù bù qù yīyuàn shì wǒmen zìjǐ de shìr."

去不去医院是我们自己的事儿。”

Whether we go to the hospital or not, is our business!"

|    |        |                           |
|----|--------|---------------------------|
| 去  | qù     | to go                     |
| 不去 | bùqù   | not go                    |
| 医院 | yīyuàn | hospital                  |
| 是  | shì    | is                        |
| 我们 | wǒmen  | our                       |
| 自己 | zìjǐ   | one's own                 |
| 的  | de     | ~'s (possessive particle) |
| 事儿 | shìr   | business                  |

22

Zhāng āyí tīng wán, lì mǎ jiǎ zhuāng kū qì bìng shuō dào:

张阿姨听完，立马假装哭泣并说道：

Mrs Zhang immediately started to pretend to cry and said:

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|     |           |                           |
|-----|-----------|---------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāng āyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang)  |
| 听   | tīng      | to listen                 |
| 完   | wán       | to finish                 |
| 立马  | lì mǎ     | immediately               |
| 假装  | jiǎzhuāng | to pretend                |
| 哭泣  | kūqì      | to weep                   |
| 并   | bìng      | and                       |
| 说道  | shuō dào  | to say (the quoted words) |

23

"rénjiā de sūnzi sūnnǚ dōu shàng yòu'éryuán le,

“人家的孙子孙女都上幼儿园了，

"Other people's grandchildren are already in kindergarten

|      |            |                                                                 |
|------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 人家   | rénjia     | other people                                                    |
| 的    | de         | ~'s (possessive particle)                                       |
| 孙子孙女 | sūnzi      | sūnnǚ grandson and granddaughter (together means grandchildren) |
| 都    | dōu        | already                                                         |
| 上    | shàng      | to attend (class or university)                                 |
| 幼儿园  | yòu'éryuán | kindergarten                                                    |
| 了    | le         | (indicate a change of state)                                    |

24

kě wǒ hái yī gè dōu méiyǒu.

可我还一个都没有。

and I have none.

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |        |                          |
|----|--------|--------------------------|
| 可  | kě     | but                      |
| 我  | wǒ     | I                        |
| 还  | hái    | still                    |
| 一  | yī     | one                      |
| 个  | gè     | classifier for people    |
| 都  | dōu    | (used for emphasis) even |
| 没有 | méiyǒu | to not have              |

25

Nǐ bà zǒu le, liúxià wǒ yīgèrén gūlínglíng de.

你爸走了，留下我一个人孤零零的。

Your father has left me alone in this world.

|     |            |                                     |
|-----|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 你爸  | nǐbà       | your father                         |
| 走   | zǒu        | to die (euph.)                      |
| 了   | le         | (completed action marker)           |
| 留下  | liúxià     | to leave behind                     |
| 我   | wǒ         | me                                  |
| 一个人 | yīgèrén    | alone (without company)             |
| 孤零零 | gūlínglíng | all alone                           |
| 的   | de         | (used to form a nominal expression) |

26

Wǒ bùguò shì xiǎngyào gè sūnzi,

我不过是要个孙子，

All I want is a grandson

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|     |           |                       |
|-----|-----------|-----------------------|
| 我   | wǒ        | I                     |
| 不过是 | bùguò shì | nothing more than...  |
| 想要  | xiǎngyào  | to want to            |
| 个   | gè        | classifier for people |
| 孙子  | sūnzi     | grandson              |

27

nǐmen dōu bùnéng mǎnzú wǒ.

你们都不能满足我。

and you can't even satisfy me with this wish.

|    |        |                          |
|----|--------|--------------------------|
| 你们 | nǐmen  | you (plural)             |
| 都  | dōu    | (used for emphasis) even |
| 不能 | bùnéng | cannot                   |
| 满足 | mǎnzú  | to satisfy               |
| 我  | wǒ     | me                       |

28

Wǒ hái bùrú qù sǐ le suànle!"

我还不如去死了算了！ ”

I should just die!"

|     |          |                                                |
|-----|----------|------------------------------------------------|
| 我   | wǒ       | I                                              |
| 还不如 | hái bùrú | to be better off ...                           |
| 去   | qù       | to go                                          |
| 死   | sǐ       | to die                                         |
| 了   | le       | (modal particle intensifying preceding clause) |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

算了 suànle let it be

30

Érxí fàngxià kuàizi, shuō:

儿媳放下筷子，说：

The daughter-in-law put down her chopsticks and said:"

儿媳 érxí daughter-in-law

放下 fàngxià to put down

筷子 kuàizi chopsticks

说 shuō to say

30

"mā, nǐ bié kū le!

“妈，你别哭了！”

"Mom, stop crying!

妈 mā mom (In China, daughter-in-laws call mother-in-laws mom)

你 nǐ you

别 bié do not

哭 kū to cry

了 le (used in commands or requests in response to a changed situation)

31

Wǒ qù, wǒ míngtiān jiù qù."

我去，我明天就去。”

I will go. I will go tomorrow."

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |          |            |
|----|----------|------------|
| 我  | wǒ       | I          |
| 去  | qù       | to go      |
| 我  | wǒ       | I          |
| 明天 | míngtiān | tomorrow   |
| 就  | jiù      | right away |
| 去  | qù       | to go      |

32

Zhāng āyí mǎshàng xiào le qilai .

张阿姨马上笑了起来。

Mrs Zhang immediately stop crying and started to smile.

|     |           |                                                                                  |
|-----|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāng āyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang)                                                         |
| 马上  | mǎshàng   | immediately                                                                      |
| 笑   | xiào      | smile                                                                            |
| 了   | le        | (completed action marker)                                                        |
| 起来  | qilai     | (after a verb) indicating the beginning and continuation of an action or a state |

33

Dì'èrtiān, érxi qù yīyuàn jiǎnchá le.

第二天，儿媳去医院检查了。

The next day, the daughter-in-law went to the hospital and was checked.

|     |           |                 |
|-----|-----------|-----------------|
| 第二天 | dì'èrtiān | next day        |
| 儿媳  | érxi      | daughter-in-law |
| 去   | qù        | to go           |
| 医院  | yīyuàn    | hospital        |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |         |                           |
|----|---------|---------------------------|
| 检查 | jiǎnchá | to examine                |
| 了  | le      | (completed action marker) |

34

Yīshēng shuō méiyǒu wèntí,

医生说没有问题,

The doctor said there was no problem

|    |         |             |
|----|---------|-------------|
| 医生 | yīshēng | doctor      |
| 说  | shuō    | to say      |
| 没有 | méiyǒu  | to not have |
| 问题 | wèntí   | problem     |

35

ràng tā bù yòng dān xīn.

让她不用担心。

and she shouldn't worry.

|    |         |                  |
|----|---------|------------------|
| 让  | ràng    | to let sb do sth |
| 她  | tā      | she              |
| 不用 | bùyòng  | need not         |
| 担心 | dān xīn | to worry         |

36

Bànnián guòqu le,

半年过去了,

Half a year past

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |         |                           |
|----|---------|---------------------------|
| 半年 | bànnián | half a year               |
| 过去 | guòqu   | to pass by                |
| 了  | le      | (completed action marker) |

37

érxí de dùzi háishi méiyǒu xiāoxi.

儿媳的肚子还是没有消息。

and her daughter-in-law was still not pregnant.

|    |        |                           |
|----|--------|---------------------------|
| 儿媳 | érxí   | daughter-in-law           |
| 的  | de     | ~'s (possessive particle) |
| 肚子 | dùzi   | belly                     |
| 还是 | háishi | still                     |
| 没有 | méiyǒu | to not have               |
| 消息 | xiāoxi | news                      |

38

Tā juéde hěn kǔnǎo.

她觉得很苦恼。

Mrs Zhang felt very upset.

|    |       |            |
|----|-------|------------|
| 她  | tā    | she        |
| 觉得 | juéde | to feel    |
| 很  | hěn   | very       |
| 苦恼 | kǔnǎo | distressed |

39

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

Hūrán, tā xiǎngqǐ gébì cūn de lǎo Zhōngyī,

忽然，她想起隔壁村的老中医，

Suddenly, Mrs Zhang remembered the old traditional doctor who lived in a neighbouring village

|     |         |                                      |
|-----|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 忽然  | hūrán   | suddenly                             |
| 她   | tā      | she                                  |
| 想起  | xiǎngqǐ | to recall                            |
| 隔壁村 | gebìcūn | neighbouring village                 |
| 的   | de      | (used after an attribute)            |
| 老   | lǎo     | old                                  |
| 中医  | Zhōngyī | a doctor trained in Chinese medicine |

40

tīngshuō tā néng bāngzhù fùnǚ zēngjiā shòuyùn jīhuì.

听说他能帮助妇女增加受孕机会。

and she heard that he could help women increase the chances of getting pregnant.

|    |          |                    |
|----|----------|--------------------|
| 听说 | tīngshuō | to hear (sth said) |
| 他  | tā       | he                 |
| 能  | néng     | can                |
| 帮助 | bāngzhù  | to help            |
| 妇女 | fùnǚ     | woman              |
| 增加 | zēngjiā  | to increase        |
| 受孕 | shòuyùn  | to conceive        |
| 机会 | jīhuì    | opportunity        |

41

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

Yúshì, tā dài zhe érxi

于是，她带着儿媳

So, she took her daughter-in-law

|    |       |                                         |
|----|-------|-----------------------------------------|
| 于是 | yúshì | as a result                             |
| 她  | tā    | she                                     |
| 带  | dài   | to take along                           |
| 着  | zhe   | (indicate an continued state or action) |
| 儿媳 | érxi  | daughter-in-law                         |

42

qù kàn le zhèwèi lǎo Zhōngyī,

去看了这位老中医，

to see this old Chinese doctor

|    |         |                                      |
|----|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 去  | qù      | to go                                |
| 看  | kàn     | to see                               |
| 了  | le      | (completed action marker)            |
| 这位 | zhèwèi  | this (person)                        |
| 老  | lǎo     | old                                  |
| 中医 | Zhōngyī | a doctor trained in Chinese medicine |

43

bìng dài huí yīxiē Zhōngyào,

并带回一些中药，

and they brought back some prescribed Chinese medicine.

|   |      |     |
|---|------|-----|
| 并 | bìng | and |
|---|------|-----|

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |          |                                |
|----|----------|--------------------------------|
| 带回 | dàihuí   | bring back                     |
| 一些 | yīxiē    | some                           |
| 中药 | Zhōngyào | (traditional) Chinese medicine |

44

tā měitiān dōu ràng érxi hē.

她每天都让儿媳喝。

Mrs Zhang made her daughter-in-law drink it every day.

|    |         |                  |
|----|---------|------------------|
| 她  | tā      | she              |
| 每天 | měitiān | every day        |
| 都  | dōu     | all              |
| 让  | ràng    | to let sb do sth |
| 儿媳 | érxi    | daughter-in-law  |
| 喝  | hē      | to drink         |

45

Bànnián yòu guòqu le,

半年又过去了,

But half a year later,

|    |         |                           |
|----|---------|---------------------------|
| 半年 | bànnián | half a year               |
| 又  | yòu     | (once) again              |
| 过去 | guòqu   | to pass by                |
| 了  | le      | (completed action marker) |

46

kě hǎoxiàng yě méiyǒu zuòyòng.

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

可好像也没有作用。

her daughter-in-law was still not pregnant.

|    |          |                                                         |
|----|----------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 可  | kě       | but                                                     |
| 好像 | hǎoxiàng | to seem like                                            |
| 也  | yě       | (used for emphasis, often before a negative expression) |
| 没有 | méiyǒu   | to not have                                             |
| 作用 | zuòyòng  | effect                                                  |

47

Zhāng āyí gǎndào hěn jǔsàng.

张阿姨感到很沮丧。

Mrs Zhang felt very frustrated.

|     |           |                          |
|-----|-----------|--------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāng āyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
| 很   | hěn       | very                     |
| 感到  | gǎndào    | to feel                  |
| 沮丧  | jǔsàng    | dispirited               |

48

Yī tiān, tā chūqù mǎidōngxi,

一天，她出去买东西，

One day, she went out shopping

|    |        |                       |
|----|--------|-----------------------|
| 一天 | yītiān | one day (in the past) |
| 她  | tā     | she                   |
| 出去 | chūqù  | to go out             |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

买东西 mǎidōngxi to do one's shopping

49

zài jiēshang kàndào yī gè mài Zhōngyào de zhōngnián nánzǐ,  
在街上看到一个卖中药的中年男子,  
and saw a middle-aged man selling Chinese medicine on the street.

|    |           |                                     |
|----|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 在  | zài       | (located) at                        |
| 街上 | jiēshang  | on the street                       |
| 看到 | kàndào    | to see                              |
| 一  | yī        | one                                 |
| 个  | gè        | classifier for people               |
| 卖  | mài       | to sell                             |
| 中药 | Zhōngyào  | (traditional) Chinese medicine      |
| 的  | de        | (used to form a nominal expression) |
| 中年 | zhōngnián | middle age                          |
| 男子 | nánzǐ     | a man                               |

50

tā liú zhe yī liǎn húzi, gèzi bù gāo.  
他留着一脸胡子，个子不高。  
He had a beard and was short in stature.

|    |        |                                        |
|----|--------|----------------------------------------|
| 他  | tā     | he                                     |
| 留  | liú    | to let grow                            |
| 着  | zhe    | (indicate a continued action or state) |
| 一脸 | yīliǎn | all over the face                      |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |      |         |
|----|------|---------|
| 胡子 | húzi | beard   |
| 个子 | gèzi | stature |
| 不  | bù   | not     |
| 高  | gāo  | tall    |

51

Tā zài dìshang bǎi le jǐ zhāng xiàngpiàn,

他在地上摆了几张相片,

On the ground, he displayed a few pictures

|     |            |                                    |
|-----|------------|------------------------------------|
| 他   | tā         | he                                 |
| 在地上 | zàidìshang | on the ground                      |
| 摆   | bǎi        | to exhibit                         |
| 了   | le         | (completed action marker)          |
| 几   | jǐ         | a few                              |
| 张   | zhāng      | classifier for flat objects, sheet |
| 相片  | xiàngpiàn  | photograph                         |

52

xiàngpiàn shàng de nǚrén men dōu bào zhe yī gè háizi.

相片上的女人们都抱着一个孩子。

of women happily holding babies.

|     |           |                                     |
|-----|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 相片  | xiàngpiàn | photograph                          |
| 上   | shàng     | on                                  |
| 的   | de        | (used to form a nominal expression) |
| 女人们 | nǚrénmen  | women                               |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |       |                                        |
|----|-------|----------------------------------------|
| 都  | dōu   | all                                    |
| 抱  | bào   | to hold                                |
| 着  | zhe   | (indicate a continued action or state) |
| 一  | yī    | one                                    |
| 个  | gè    | classifier for people                  |
| 孩子 | háizi | child                                  |

53

Xiàngpiàn pángbiān yǒu yī zhāng zhǐ, shàngmian xiě zhe:

相片旁边有一张纸，上面写着：

Besides these pictures, a piece of paper said:

|    |           |                                        |
|----|-----------|----------------------------------------|
| 相片 | xiàngpiàn | photograph                             |
| 旁边 | pángbiān  | beside                                 |
| 有  | yǒu       | there is                               |
| 一  | yī        | one                                    |
| 张  | zhāng     | classifier for flat objects            |
| 纸  | zhǐ       | paper                                  |
| 上面 | shàngmian | on top of                              |
| 写  | xiě       | to write                               |
| 着  | zhe       | (indicate a continued action or state) |

54

"Zǔchuán mífāng, zhuānzhì bùyn".

“祖传秘方，专治不孕”。

"These are all happy mothers who became pregnant after taking my ancestral secret formula that cures infertility!"

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |          |                                                        |
|----|----------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 祖传 | zǔchuán  | passed on from ancestors                               |
| 秘方 | mìfāng   | secret recipe                                          |
| 专治 | zhuānzhì | (of medicine) to use specifically for the treatment of |
| 不孕 | bù yùn   | infertility                                            |

55

Zhāng āyí kàndào zhèxiē xiàngpiàn,

张阿姨看到这些相片,

Upon seeing these pictures,

|     |           |                          |
|-----|-----------|--------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí  | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
| 看到  | kàndào    | to see                   |
| 这些  | zhèxiē    | these                    |
| 相片  | xiàngpiàn | photograph               |

56

yǎnjīng dōu liàng le.

眼睛都亮了。

Mrs Zhang's eyes lit up.

|    |         |                           |
|----|---------|---------------------------|
| 眼睛 | yǎnjīng | eye                       |
| 都  | dōu     | (used for emphasis) even  |
| 亮  | liàng   | to shine                  |
| 了  | le      | (completed action marker) |

57

Tā zǒuxiàng nánzǐ wèn:"zhè yào zhēn de yǒuyòng ma?"

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

她走向男子问：“这药真的有用吗？”

She then walked towards the middle-aged man and asked: "Does this medicine really work?"

|    |          |                                            |
|----|----------|--------------------------------------------|
| 她  | tā       | she                                        |
| 走向 | zǒuxiàng | to move towards                            |
| 男子 | nánzǐ    | a man                                      |
| 问  | wèn      | to ask                                     |
| 这  | zhè      | this                                       |
| 药  | yào      | medicine                                   |
| 真  | zhēn     | really                                     |
| 的  | de       | (used after an attribute)                  |
| 有用 | yǒuyòng  | useful                                     |
| 吗  | ma       | (question particle for "yes-no" questions) |

58

Nánzǐ zhǐ zhe xiàngpiàn shuō:

男子指着相片说：

The man pointed to the pictures and said:

|    |           |                                        |
|----|-----------|----------------------------------------|
| 男子 | nánzǐ     | a man                                  |
| 指  | zhǐ       | to point at or to                      |
| 着  | zhe       | (indicate a continued action or state) |
| 相片 | xiàngpiàn | photograph                             |
| 说  | shuō      | to say                                 |

59

"Nà dāngrán! Kànkàn zhèxiē māma men,

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

“那当然！看看这些妈妈们，

"Of course it works! Look at these mothers!

|    |         |                              |
|----|---------|------------------------------|
| 那  | nà      | that                         |
| 当然 | dāngrán | of course                    |
| 看看 | kànkān  | to take a look at            |
| 这些 | zhèxiē  | these                        |
| 妈妈 | māma    | mother                       |
| 们  | men     | (plural marker for pronouns) |

60

tāmen dōu shì yīnwèi wǒ de yào cái dédào háizi de."

她们都是因为我的药才得到孩子的。”

They all had babies because of my medicine!"

|       |          |                                      |
|-------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 她们    | tāmen    | they (for females)                   |
| 都     | dōu      | all                                  |
| 是...的 | shì...de | (sentence pattern used for emphasis) |
| 因为    | yīnwèi   | because                              |
| 我的    | wǒde     | my                                   |
| 药     | yào      | medicine                             |
| 才     | cái      | only then                            |
| 得到    | dédào    | to obtain                            |
| 孩子    | háizi    | child                                |

61

Zhāng āyí mǎshàng cóng qiánbǎo lǐ náchū wǔ bǎi kuài qián,

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

张阿姨马上从钱包里拿出五百块钱，

Mrs Zhang immediately took 500 yuan from her purse

|     |          |                          |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|

|    |         |             |
|----|---------|-------------|
| 马上 | mǎshàng | immediately |
|----|---------|-------------|

|   |      |      |
|---|------|------|
| 从 | cóng | from |
|---|------|------|

|    |         |        |
|----|---------|--------|
| 钱包 | qiánbāo | wallet |
|----|---------|--------|

|   |    |        |
|---|----|--------|
| 里 | lǐ | inside |
|---|----|--------|

|    |       |             |
|----|-------|-------------|
| 拿出 | náchū | to take out |
|----|-------|-------------|

|    |       |           |
|----|-------|-----------|
| 五百 | wǔbǎi | 5 hundred |
|----|-------|-----------|

|   |      |            |
|---|------|------------|
| 块 | kuài | yuan (RMB) |
|---|------|------------|

|   |      |       |
|---|------|-------|
| 钱 | qián | money |
|---|------|-------|

62

ránhòu mǎi le píng yào.

然后买了瓶药。

and bought a bottle of the fertility medicine.

|    |        |     |
|----|--------|-----|
| 然后 | ránhòu | and |
|----|--------|-----|

|   |     |        |
|---|-----|--------|
| 买 | mǎi | to buy |
|---|-----|--------|

|   |    |                           |
|---|----|---------------------------|
| 了 | le | (completed action marker) |
|---|----|---------------------------|

|   |      |        |
|---|------|--------|
| 瓶 | píng | bottle |
|---|------|--------|

|   |     |          |
|---|-----|----------|
| 药 | yào | medicine |
|---|-----|----------|

63

Huídào jiā hòu, tā tōutōu bǎ yào fàngjìn mǐfàn lǐ,

回到家后，她偷偷把药放进米饭里，

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

When she got home, she secretly mixed this medicine with the rice

|    |         |                                               |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 回到 | huídào  | to return to                                  |
| 家  | jiā     | home                                          |
| 后  | hòu     | after                                         |
| 她  | tā      | she                                           |
| 偷偷 | tōutōu  | secretly                                      |
| 把  | bǎ      | (used to shift the object to before the verb) |
| 药  | yào     | medicine                                      |
| 放进 | fàngjìn | to put into                                   |
| 米饭 | mǐfàn   | (cooked) rice                                 |
| 里  | lǐ      | inside                                        |

64

ránhòu jiào érxí lái chī wǎnfàn.

然后叫儿媳来吃晚饭。

and invited her daughter-in-law to eat dinner.

|    |        |                 |
|----|--------|-----------------|
| 然后 | ránhòu | then            |
| 叫  | jiào   | to ask          |
| 儿媳 | érxí   | daughter-in-law |
| 来  | lái    | to come         |
| 吃  | chī    | to eat          |
| 晚饭 | wǎnfàn | dinner          |

65

Gānghǎo jīntiān érzi jiābān bù huílai chīfàn,

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

刚好今天儿子加班不回来吃饭,

It so happened, that on this day her son had to work overtime and was not present for dinner.

|    |         |                  |
|----|---------|------------------|
| 刚好 | gānghǎo | to happen to be  |
| 今天 | jīntiān | today            |
| 儿子 | érzi    | son              |
| 加班 | jiābān  | to work overtime |
| 不  | bù      | not              |
| 回来 | huílai  | to come back     |
| 吃饭 | chīfàn  | to have a meal   |

66

zhǐyǒu Zhāng āyí hé érxí.

只有张阿姨和儿媳。

Only Mrs Zhang and her daughter-in-law sat down to dine.

|     |          |                          |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|
| 只有  | zhǐyǒu   | only                     |
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
| 和   | hé       | and                      |
| 儿媳  | érxí     | daughter-in-law          |

67

Zhāng āyí méiyǒu chīfàn, zhǐshì chī le jǐ kǒu cài.

张阿姨没有吃饭, 只是吃了几口菜。

Mrs Zhang did not eat the rice, just took a few bits from the other food on the table.

|     |          |                          |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |        |                           |
|----|--------|---------------------------|
| 没有 | méiyǒu | haven't                   |
| 吃饭 | chīfàn | to eat (rice)             |
| 只是 | zhǐshì | only                      |
| 吃  | chī    | to eat                    |
| 了  | le     | (completed action marker) |
| 几  | jǐ     | a few                     |
| 口  | kǒu    | classifier for bites      |
| 菜  | cài    | dish (type of food)       |

68

Érxí qíguài de wèn: "mā, nǐ zěnmē bù chīfàn?"

儿媳奇怪地问：“妈，你怎么不吃饭？”

Her daughter-in-law felt it strange that Mrs Zhang was not eating much and asked her: "Mom, why don't you eat?"

|    |        |                 |
|----|--------|-----------------|
| 儿媳 | érxí   | daughter-in-law |
| 奇怪 | qíguài | strange         |
| 地  | de     | -ly             |
| 问  | wèn    | to ask          |
| 妈  | mā     | mom             |
| 你  | nǐ     | you             |
| 怎么 | zěnmē  | why?            |
| 不  | bù     | not             |
| 吃饭 | chīfàn | to eat          |

69

"Wǒ xiànzài hái bù tài è, dēnghuì zài chī."

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

“我现在还不太饿，等会儿再吃。”

Mrs Zhang replied, "I am not too hungry now, I will eat later"

|     |          |                                      |
|-----|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 我   | wǒ       | I                                    |
| 现在  | xiànzài  | now                                  |
| 还   | hái      | yet                                  |
| 不太  | bùtài    | not very                             |
| 饿   | è        | hungry                               |
| 等会儿 | děnghuìr | wait a while                         |
| 再   | zài      | then (after sth, and not until then) |
| 吃   | chī      | to eat                               |

70

Wǎnfàn hòu bùjiǔ, érxi shuō tā yǒudiǎn ǎixīn,

晚饭后不久，儿媳说她有点恶心，

Shortly after dinner, her daughter-in-law said she felt a little nauseous

|    |         |                  |
|----|---------|------------------|
| 晚饭 | wǎnfàn  | dinner           |
| 后  | hòu     | after            |
| 不久 | bùjiǔ   | not long (after) |
| 儿媳 | érxi    | daughter-in-law  |
| 说  | shuō    | to say           |
| 她  | tā      | she              |
| 有点 | yǒudiǎn | a little         |
| 恶心 | ǎixīn   | to feel sick     |

71

jiēzhe jiù kāishǐ ǒutù.

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

接着就开始呕吐。

and started to vomit.

|    |        |            |
|----|--------|------------|
| 接着 | jiēzhe | after that |
|----|--------|------------|

|   |     |      |
|---|-----|------|
| 就 | jiù | then |
|---|-----|------|

|    |        |          |
|----|--------|----------|
| 开始 | kāishǐ | to start |
|----|--------|----------|

|    |      |          |
|----|------|----------|
| 呕吐 | ǒutù | to vomit |
|----|------|----------|

72

Zhāng āyí yǒudiǎn jīngyà,

张阿姨有点惊讶,

Mrs Zhang was a little surprised at

|     |          |                          |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|

|    |         |          |
|----|---------|----------|
| 有点 | yǒudiǎn | a little |
|----|---------|----------|

|    |        |             |
|----|--------|-------------|
| 惊讶 | jīngyà | to surprise |
|----|--------|-------------|

73

zhège yào xiàoguǒ zhème hǎo ā!

这个药效果这么好啊!

how strong the effect of the medicine was!

|    |       |      |
|----|-------|------|
| 这个 | zhège | this |
|----|-------|------|

|   |     |          |
|---|-----|----------|
| 药 | yào | medicine |
|---|-----|----------|

|    |         |        |
|----|---------|--------|
| 效果 | xiàoguǒ | effect |
|----|---------|--------|

|    |       |           |
|----|-------|-----------|
| 这么 | zhème | this much |
|----|-------|-----------|

|   |     |      |
|---|-----|------|
| 好 | hǎo | good |
|---|-----|------|

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

啊 ā interjection of surprise

74

Kě érxí tù le hǎojiǔ dōu méi tíng,

可儿媳吐了好久都没停,

But her daughter-in-law kept intermittently vomiting

|    |        |                           |
|----|--------|---------------------------|
| 可  | kě     | but                       |
| 儿媳 | érxí   | daughter-in-law           |
| 吐  | tù     | to vomit                  |
| 了  | le     | (completed action marker) |
| 好久 | hǎojiǔ | quite a while             |
| 都  | dōu    | (used for emphasis) even  |
| 没  | méi    | not                       |
| 停  | tíng   | to stop                   |

75

liǎnsè yě hěn cāngbái.

脸色也很苍白。

and began to look very pale.

|    |         |      |
|----|---------|------|
| 脸色 | liǎnsè  | look |
| 也  | yě      | also |
| 很  | hěn     | very |
| 苍白 | cāngbái | pale |

76

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

Gānghǎo zhèshí érzi huílai kàndào le,

刚好这时儿子回来看到了,

It was during this period that Mrs Zhang's son returned and saw the state of his wife,

|    |         |                           |
|----|---------|---------------------------|
| 刚好 | gānghǎo | to happen to be           |
| 这时 | zhèshí  | at this time              |
| 儿子 | érzi    | son                       |
| 回来 | huílai  | to return                 |
| 看到 | kàndào  | to see                    |
| 了  | le      | (completed action marker) |

77

mǎshàng bǎ tā sòng dào yīyuàn.

马上把她送到医院。

immediately rushed her to the hospital.

|    |         |                                               |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 马上 | mǎshàng | immediately                                   |
| 把  | bǎ      | (used to shift the object to before the verb) |
| 她  | tā      | she                                           |
| 送  | sòng    | to send                                       |
| 到  | dào     | to (a place)                                  |
| 医院 | yīyuàn  | hospital                                      |

78

Yīshēng shuō hǎoxiàng shì shíwùzhòngdú, bìng wèn tāmen:

医生说好像是食物中毒，并问他们：

The doctor said that it looked like food poisoning and asked:

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|      |              |                |
|------|--------------|----------------|
| 医生   | yīshēng      | doctor         |
| 说    | shuō         | to say         |
| 好像   | hǎoxiàng     | to seem like   |
| 是    | shì          | is             |
| 食物中毒 | shíwùzhòngdú | food poisoning |
| 并    | bìng         | and            |
| 问    | wèn          | to ask         |
| 他们   | tāmen        | them           |

79

"Tā jīntiān yǒu méiyǒu chī shénme qíguài de dōngxi?"

“她今天有没有吃什么奇怪的东西？”

"Did she eat anything weird?"

|     |           |                           |
|-----|-----------|---------------------------|
| 她   | tā        | she                       |
| 今天  | jīntiān   | today                     |
| 有没有 | yǒuméiyǒu | to have or not have       |
| 吃   | chī       | to eat                    |
| 什么  | shénme    | anything                  |
| 奇怪  | qíguài    | odd                       |
| 的   | de        | (used after an attribute) |
| 东西  | dōngxi    | thing                     |

80

Érzi huídá shuō:"méiyǒu ba!"

儿子回答说：“没有吧！”

The son replied:" I don't think so!"

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |        |                                               |
|----|--------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 儿子 | érzi   | son                                           |
| 回答 | huídá  | to reply                                      |
| 说  | shuō   | to say                                        |
| 没有 | méiyǒu | haven't                                       |
| 吧  | ba     | (indicating some doubt in the speaker's mind) |

81

Tīngdào yīshēng de huà, Zhāng āyí huāng le,

听到医生的话，张阿姨慌了，

Upon hearing the doctor's opinion, Mrs Zhang panicked

|     |          |                           |
|-----|----------|---------------------------|
| 听到  | tīngdào  | to hear                   |
| 医生  | yīshēng  | doctor                    |
| 的   | de       | (used after an attribute) |
| 话   | huà      | talk                      |
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang)  |
| 慌   | huāng    | to get panicky            |
| 了   | le       | (completed action marker) |

82

xīnxiǎng gāi bùhuì shì tā de yào yǒu wèntí ba.

心想该不会是她的药有问题吧。

and wondered if it was because of her medicine.

|    |          |                            |
|----|----------|----------------------------|
| 心想 | xīnxiǎng | to think to oneself        |
| 该  | gāi      | probably                   |
| 不会 | bùhuì    | will not (act, happen etc) |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |       |                           |
|----|-------|---------------------------|
| 是  | shì   | is                        |
| 她  | tā    | she                       |
| 的  | de    | ~'s (possessive particle) |
| 药  | yào   | medicine                  |
| 有  | yǒu   | there is                  |
| 问题 | wèntí | problem                   |
| 吧  | ba    | ...I presume.             |

83

Érzi kàn tā jǐnzhāng de yàngzi,

儿子看她紧张的样子,

The son noticed her nervousness

|    |          |                           |
|----|----------|---------------------------|
| 儿子 | érzi     | son                       |
| 看  | kàn      | to see                    |
| 她  | tā       | she                       |
| 紧张 | jǐnzhāng | nervous                   |
| 的  | de       | (used after an attribute) |
| 样子 | yàngzi   | appearance                |

84

jiù wèn tā:"mā, nǐ zěnméle?"

就问她：“妈，你怎么了？”

and asked:" Mom, what's wrong?"

|   |     |        |
|---|-----|--------|
| 就 | jiù | then   |
| 问 | wèn | to ask |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|     |        |                  |
|-----|--------|------------------|
| 妈   | mā     | mother           |
| 你   | nǐ     | you              |
| 怎么了 | zěnméi | What's going on? |

85

Zhāng āyí méi shuōhuà, érshì kū le qilai,

张阿姨没说话，而是哭了起来，

Mrs Zhang didn't say anything, but started to cry.

|     |          |                                                                                  |
|-----|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang)                                                         |
| 没   | méi      | not                                                                              |
| 说话  | shuōhuà  | to talk                                                                          |
| 而是  | érshì    | rather                                                                           |
| 哭   | kū       | to cry                                                                           |
| 了   | le       | (completed action marker)                                                        |
| 起来  | qilai    | (after a verb) indicating the beginning and continuation of an action or a state |

86

ránhòu bǎ suǒyǒu de shì dōu gàosu le érzi.

然后把所有的事都告诉了儿子。

Then she told her son everything.

|    |        |                                               |
|----|--------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 然后 | ránhòu | then (afterwards)                             |
| 把  | bǎ     | (used to shift the object to before the verb) |
| 所有 | suǒyǒu | all                                           |
| 的  | de     | (used after an attribute)                     |
| 事  | shì    | thing                                         |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|    |       |                           |
|----|-------|---------------------------|
| 都  | dōu   | all                       |
| 告诉 | gàosu | to tell                   |
| 了  | le    | (completed action marker) |
| 儿子 | érzi  | son                       |

87

Érzi hěn shēngqì, dàshēng duì Zhāng āyí shuō:

儿子很生气，大声对张阿姨说：

Her son got very angry and shouted:

|     |          |                          |
|-----|----------|--------------------------|
| 儿子  | érzi     | son                      |
| 很   | hěn      | very                     |
| 生气  | shēngqì  | angry                    |
| 大声  | dàshēng  | loudly                   |
| 对   | duì      | towards                  |
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang) |
| 说   | shuō     | to say                   |

88

"Mā, nǐ zěnmē zhème yúchǔn!"

“妈，你怎么这么愚蠢！”

"Mom! Why are you so foolish!"

|    |       |         |
|----|-------|---------|
| 妈  | mā    | mom     |
| 你  | nǐ    | you     |
| 怎么 | zěnmē | how?    |
| 这么 | zhème | so much |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

愚蠢 yúchǔn stupid

89

zhèzhǒng piànrén de huà yě xiāngxìn!"

这种骗人的话也相信！ ”

How could you believe in this kind scam?!"

|    |          |                           |
|----|----------|---------------------------|
| 这种 | zhèzhǒng | this kind of              |
| 骗人 | piànrén  | a scam                    |
| 的  | de       | (used after an attribute) |
| 话  | huà      | talk                      |
| 也  | yě       | (used for emphasis)       |
| 相信 | xiāngxìn | to believe                |

90

Zuìhòu érzi hái shuō:" mā, nǐ sǐ le zhè tiáo xīn ba!

最后儿子还说：“妈，你死了这条心吧！

Later, the son said:" Mom, just drop it.

|       |                |                                                   |
|-------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 最后    | zuìhòu         | finally                                           |
| 儿子    | érzi           | son                                               |
| 还     | hái            | also                                              |
| 说     | shuō           | to say                                            |
| 妈     | mā             | mom                                               |
| 你     | nǐ             | you                                               |
| 死了这条心 | sǐlezhètiáoxīn | (expression) give up the idea                     |
| 吧     | ba             | (modal particle indicating suggestion or surmise) |

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

91

Wǒmen shì bùkěnéng huì yǒu háizi de.

我们是不可能会有孩子的。

We can't have kids.

|       |           |                                      |
|-------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 我们    | wǒmen     | we                                   |
| 是...的 | shì... de | (sentence pattern used for emphasis) |
| 不可能   | bùkěnéng  | impossible                           |
| 会     | huì       | will                                 |
| 有     | yǒu       | to have                              |
| 孩子    | háizi     | child                                |

92

Běnlái wǒ shì bùxiǎng shuō de,

本来我是不想说的,

I didn't want to tell you,

|       |           |                                      |
|-------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 本来    | běnlái    | at first                             |
| 我     | wǒ        | I                                    |
| 是...的 | shì... de | (sentence pattern used for emphasis) |
| 不想    | bùxiǎng   | do not want                          |
| 说     | shuō      | to say                               |

93

shànggèyuè wǒ tōutōu qù jiǎnchá le shēntǐ,

上个月我偷偷去检查了身体,

but last month I had a medical examination to look into why we are not having kids

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|     |            |                           |
|-----|------------|---------------------------|
| 上个月 | shànggèyuè | last month                |
| 我   | wǒ         | I                         |
| 偷偷  | tōutōu     | secretly                  |
| 去   | qù         | to go                     |
| 检查  | jiǎnchá    | to examine                |
| 了   | le         | (completed action marker) |
| 身体  | shēntǐ     | (human) body              |

94

qíshí zhēnzhèng yǒu wèntí de rén shì wǒ."

其实真正有问题的人是我。”

and the truth is that I am the one who has problems."

|    |           |                                     |
|----|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 其实 | qíshí     | actually                            |
| 真正 | zhēnzhèng | true                                |
| 有  | yǒu       | to have                             |
| 问题 | wèntí     | problem                             |
| 的  | de        | (used to form a nominal expression) |
| 人  | rén       | person                              |
| 是  | shì       | is                                  |
| 我  | wǒ        | me                                  |

95

Zhāng āyí tīng wán yòu kū le qilai,

张阿姨听完又哭了起来,

After hearing this, Mrs Zhang started crying again

## Stories In Slow Chinese - Medicine

|     |          |                                                                                  |
|-----|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 张阿姨 | Zhāngāyí | auntie Zhang (Mrs Zhang)                                                         |
| 听   | tīng     | to listen                                                                        |
| 完   | wán      | to finish                                                                        |
| 又   | yòu      | (once) again                                                                     |
| 哭   | kū       | to cry                                                                           |
| 了   | le       | (completed action marker)                                                        |
| 起来  | qilai    | (after a verb) indicating the beginning and continuation of an action or a state |

96

tā zhè bèizi dōu bùkěnéng huì yǒu sūnzi le.

她这辈子都不可能会有孙子了。

because she now understood she would never have a grandson.

|     |          |                                     |
|-----|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 她   | tā       | she                                 |
| 这   | zhè      | this                                |
| 辈子  | bèizi    | all one's life                      |
| 都   | dōu      | all                                 |
| 不可能 | bùkěnéng | impossible                          |
| 会   | huì      | will                                |
| 有   | yǒu      | to have                             |
| 孙子  | sūnzi    | grandson                            |
| 了   | le       | (indicate a new situation or state) |