

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Mandarin Corner
mandarincorner.org



Scan to follow us on WeChat

Note: If you copy and paste from this PDF, you might get problems with the fonts. To solve this, go to mandarincorner.org > Listen to Audio with Transcript > Copy and paste from there

1

Dàjiā hǎo, wǒ shì Eileen.

大家好，我是 Eileen。

Hello everyone, I'm Eileen.

2

Jīntiān ne wǒmen qǐng lái le yī wèi Shànghǎi de péngyou | Duì

今天呢我们请来了一位上海的朋友 | 对

Today, we are having someone from Shanghai. | Right.

3

ránhòu zài Hélán shì dāi le èrshí duō nián

然后在荷兰是待了二十多年

He had been living in the Netherlands for over twenty years.

4

Zhège yě shì tōngguò yī gè péngyou de péngyou rènshi de.

这个也是通过一个朋友的朋友认识的。

We got to know each other through a friend of a friend.

5

Suǒyǐ ne jīntiān wǒ yě shì xiǎngyào qǐng tā lái gēn dàjiā fēnxiǎng yīxià

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

所以呢今天我也是想要请他来跟大家分享一下

So today I'd like to invite him to share

6

tā zài Hóulán shēnghuó, gōngzuò de jīnglì

他在荷兰生活、工作的经历

his experiences living and working in the Netherlands.

7

Ránhòu xiànzài ne tā shì dìngjū Màngǔ le zànshí

然后现在呢他是定居曼谷了暂时

Currently, he is settled in Bangkok.

8

Duì, zànshí dìngjū Tàiguó

对，暂时定居泰国

Yes, for now, I am settled in Thailand.

9

Nǐ shì shénmeshíhou yímín qù Hóulán de?

你是什么时候移民去荷兰的?

When did you immigrate to the Netherlands?

10

Yě bùshì yímín,

也不是移民，

Actually, it wasn't immigration.

11

wǒ shì yī kāishǐ shì qù liúxué, èr líng líng èr nián de shíhou.

我是一开始是去留学，2002年的时候。

I went there to study in 2002.

12

Yīnwèi wǒ shì èr líng líng líng nián kǎo de dàxué,

因为我是2000年考的大学，

I was admitted to a university (in China) in 2000,

13

ránhòu nàge zhuānyè ne jiù bùshì zìjǐ hěn xǐhuan de.

然后那个专业呢就不是自己很喜欢的。

and the major I chose wasn't really what I liked.

14

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Ránhòu jiù yuè dú yuè méi xìngqù

然后就越读越没兴趣

So, the more I studied, the less interested I became.

15

Shàng le yī gè xuéqī wǒ jiù juéding yào chūguó

上了一个学期我就决定要出国

After just one semester, I decided to go abroad.

16

Wǒ māma de mèimei,

我妈妈的妹妹,

My mother's sister,

17

jiùshì wǒ āyí tā shì zài àodàliya, érqǐě shì qù le hěn jiǔ

就是我阿姨她是在澳大利亚, 而且是去了很久

my aunt was in Australia, and she had been there for a long time.

18

Běnlái shì yī kāishǐ shì xiǎng qù àodàliya

本来是一开始是想去澳大利亚

At first, I wanted to go to Australia.

19

Hòulái jiùshì fèiyòng a shénme suàn xiàlai,

后来就是费用啊什么算下来,

But after calculating the costs and everything else,

20

gè fāngmiàn suàn xiàlai, háishi Hólán gèng róngyì yīxiē

各方面算下来, 还是荷兰更容易一些

it turned out that the Netherlands was easier.

21

Érqǐě tā zhèngfǔ nàshíhòu shì yǒu xuéféi bǔtiē

而且它政府那时候是有学费补贴

Plus, the (Dutch) government provided tuition subsidies back then.

22

Jiù guāng xuéféi yī nián jiù yī qiān wǔ

就光学费一年就一千五

The tuition fee was only 1,500 euros per year.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

23

Bǔtiē wán yǐhòu jiù fēicháng piányi

补贴完以后就非常便宜

So, it was very cheap after the subsidies.

24

Yīnwèi wǒ nàshíhòu jìde zài Shànghǎi nàge dàxué shì wǔ qiān yī nián.

因为我那时候记得在上海那个大学是五千一年。

I remember the university in Shanghai was 5,000 yuan per year.

25

Nàge shì yī qiān wǔ ōuyuán dehuà,

那个是一千五欧元的话,

1,500 euros,

26

ànzhào dāngshí huìlǜ yě jiù yī wàn chūtóu yīdiǎn

按照当时汇率也就一万出头一点

according to the exchange rate at that time, was just a little over 10,000 yuan.

27

Érqiě tā yě shì quán Yīngwén shàngkè,

而且它也是全英文上课,

And the classes were all taught in English.

28

lián Hélánrén yě shì yòng Yīngwén shòukè.

连荷兰人也是用英文授课。

Even the Dutch students were taught in English.

29

Nà wǒ dāngshí kǎoshàng le zhège xuéxiào,

那我当时考上了这个学校,

I got admitted to that school,

30

suànshì dú jiǔdiàn guǎnlǐ de, jiù dú wénkē de

算是读酒店管理的, 就读文科的

and I studied hotel management, which is a Humanities major.

31

Érqiě wǒ kěyǐ zhíjiē shàng běnkē

而且我可以直接上本科

Also, I could directly start my undergraduate studies.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

32

Wǒ nà pī wǒ jìde chàbùduō yǒu sānshí duō gè rén qù,
我那批我记得差不多有三十多个人去,
I remember there were about thirty students

33

zhǐyǒu sì gè rén shì zhíjiē dú běnkē.
只有四个人是直接读本科。
and only four of us were able to directly start our undergraduate studies.

34

Érqiě wǒ dú de nàge xuéxiào tā shì zài Hólán de zuì běimiàn,
而且我读的那个学校它是在荷兰的最北面,
The school I attended was in the northernmost part of the Netherlands,

35

yī gè jiào Fúfīslán de yī gè dìfang.
一个叫弗里斯兰的一个地方。
in a place called Friesland.

36

Jiù gēn wǒ yīqǐ qù de nà yī pī...
就跟我一起去的那一批...
Among the four of us who went together,

37

nà sì gè rén zhōng yǒu yī gè tā ne zài āmùsītèdān yǒu rén rènshi
那四个人中有一个他呢在阿姆斯特丹有人认识
one knew someone in Amsterdam.

38

ránhòu qù le méiduōjiǔ ba, kěnéng yī liǎng gè lǐbài
然后去了没多久吧，可能一两个礼拜
Not long after we arrived, maybe after a week or two,

39

wǒmen jiù zìjǐ zhǎo gōnggòngjiāotōng, zuò huǒchē shénme
我们就自己找公共交通，坐火车什么
we figured out how to take public transportation, like trains, by ourselves.

40

Qíshí tā nàbian lí āmùsītèdān hěn yuǎn,
其实它那边离阿姆斯特丹很远,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Actually, Amsterdam was quite far away from where we were.

41

zuò huǒchē yào liǎng gè duō xiǎoshí.

坐火车要两个多小时。

It would take over two hours by train.

42

Zuò huǒchē ránhòu dào āmùsītèdān,

坐火车然后到阿姆斯特丹,

We took the train to Amsterdam,

43

ránhòu tōngguò péngyou hái jièshào zhōumò dǎgōng de dìfang

然后通过朋友还介绍周末打工的地方

and through friends, we found weekend jobs.

44

Nà nǐmen dāngshí jiùshì xuésheng qiānzhèng shì kěyǐ dǎgōng de, shì ba?

那你们当时就是学生签证是可以打工的，是吧？

With the student visa, you were allowed to work, right?

45

Héfa dehuà yī gè xīngqī zhǐ ràng nǐ dǎ shí gè xiǎoshí

合法的话一个星期只让你打十个小时

Legally, we were only permitted to work ten hours a week.

46

Yīnwèi dōu shì Zhōngguó rén de lǎobǎn ma,

因为都是中国人的老板嘛，

But since the bosses were Chinese,

47

suǒyǐ dōu shì tā bāng shì bāng nǐ bàn shí gè xiǎoshí de xǔkě,

所以都是他帮是帮你办十个小时的许可，

they would help us get the ten-hour permit.

48

dànshì fā gōngzī shénme dōu shì àn xiànjīn lái zǒu

但是发工资什么都是按现金来走

But, since the wages were paid in cash,

49

dōu bù zǒu yínháng, suǒyǐ jiù méi suǒwèi

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

都不走银行，所以就无所谓

not through the bank, it didn't really matter (how many hours we worked).

50

Nà dào nàlǐ jiùshì gānggang kāishǐ de shíhòu,

那到那里就是刚刚开始的时候，

When you first arrived there,

51

yǒuméiyǒu shénme bù shìyīng de wénhuà huòzhě huánjìng?

有没有什么不适应的文化或者环境？

were there any cultural or environmental aspects that you found hard to adapt to?

52

Yě hái hǎo

也还好

It was okay.

53

Yīnwèi wǒ píngshí jiùshì...

因为我平时就是...

Because normally,

54

Píngshí jiùshì xīngqīyī dào xīngqīwǔ

平时就是星期一到星期五

I only (had classes) from Monday to Friday,

55

Érqiě wǒ xīngqīwǔ shì shàngwǔ

而且我星期五是上午

and on Fridays,

56

yībān dōu zhǐshì shàngwǔ yǒu kè

一般都只是上午有课

I only had morning classes.

57

Xiàwǔ jiùsuàn yǒu kè yě shàng bùliǎo

下午就算有课也上不了

Even if there were afternoon classes, I couldn't attend them

58

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

yīnwèi wǒ yào zuò huǒchē qù āmǔsītèdān dǎgōng

因为我要坐火车去阿姆斯特丹打工

because I had to take the train to go to Amsterdam to work.

59

Hái yào zuò huǒchē qù? Nǐmen dāngdì méiyǒu dǎgōng de jīhuì ma?

还要坐火车去? 你们当地没有打工的机会吗?

You had to take the train? Weren't there job opportunities locally?

60

Dāngdì dǎgōng jīhuì fēicháng shǎo, jīhū méiyǒu

当地打工机会非常少, 几乎没有

Very few, almost none.

61

Āmǔsītèdān jiù jīhuì bǐjiào duō, yǒu hěn duō...

阿姆斯特丹就机会比较多, 有很多...

In Amsterdam, there were more opportunities. There were many...

62

Yīnwèi wǒmen dōu shì xīngqītiān wǎnshàng,

因为我们都是星期天晚上,

On Sunday evenings,

63

jīběnshàng zuìhòu yī bān huǒchē shàngmiàn

基本上最后一班火车上面

on the last train,

64

nǐ huì fāxiàn yǒu hěn duō Zhōngguó liúxuéshēng

你会发现有很多中国留学生

you would often see many Chinese students

65

jiù dǎ wán gōng a, ránhòu zuò nà tàng huǒchē huíqu

就打完工啊, 然后坐那趟火车回去

heading back after finishing their work.

66

Nà hòumian jiùshì dú le duōshao nián?

那后面就是读了多少年?

How long did you study there?

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

67

Qíshí wǒ méiyǒu sì nián dú wán

其实我没有四年读完

I actually didn't finish in four years.

68

Zài dāngshí dǎgōng de shíhou rènshi nàge Zhōngguó de lǎobǎn,

在当时打工的时候认识那个中国的老板,

I met a Chinese boss while working part-time,

69

jiù chángshì le hěn duō dōngxi.

就尝试了很多东西。

and I tried many different things (jobs).

70

Suǒyǐ hòumian yǒu tuō... zuìhòu jiéshù dào èr líng líng jiǔ nián cái jiéshù

所以后面有拖... 最后结束到二零零九年才结束

So it got delayed, and I finally graduated in 2009.

71

Qíshí zhèngcháng yīnggāi shì èr líng líng liù nián jiù yào jiéshù,

其实正常应该是二零零六年就要结束,

Actually, I was supposed to graduate in 2006,

72

jiù tuō le sān nián

就拖了三年

but I delayed it for three years.

73

Nà hòumian shì zěnmē liú xiàlai de?

那后面是怎么留下来的?

So, how did you end up staying (in the Netherlands)?

74

Wǒ jiù shuō rènshi de nàge Zhōngguó lǎobǎn ma,

我就说认识的那个中国老板嘛,

I mentioned that I met a Chinese boss.

75

jiù wǒ kuàiyào bìyè de shíhou,

就我快要毕业的时候,

When I was about to graduate,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

76

tā jiù wèn wǒ shì xiǎng huíguó fāzhǎn

他就问我是想回国发展

he asked me if I wanted to go back to China

77

háishi xiǎng liú xiàlai bāng tā zuò nàge...

还是想留下来帮他做那个...

or stay and help him (with his business).

78

Tā yě shì kāi jiǔdiàn de, nà gānghǎo shì duìkǒu de zhuānyè.

他也是开酒店的，那刚好是对口的专业。

He owned some hotels, which was exactly my field of study.

79

Wǒ shuō yě kěyǐ liú xiàlai shìshikàn, nà yào zěnmé bàn a?

我说也可以留下来试试看，那要怎么办啊？

So I said: "I could give it a try and stay. But how would that work?"

80

Tā shuō hěn róngyì bàn

他说很容易办

He said it would be easy.

81

Nàshíhòu bāokuò xiànzài kěnéng yě háishi yǒu

那时候包括现在可能也还是有

At that time, and probably still now,

82

jiùshì yǒu yīzhǒng jiào gāojìshù yímín

就是有一种叫高技术移民

there was something called the Highly Skilled Migrant program.

83

Tèbié shì nǐ zài nàbian yǒu xuésheng jīnglì de,

特别是你在那边有学生经历的，

Especially if you had studied and had a diploma from there,

84

yǒu nàbian de wénpíng, nà jiù gèng róngyì shēnqǐng.

有那边的文凭，那就更容易申请。

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

it would be even easier to apply.

85

Zhǐyào nàge lǎobǎn kěn bāng nǐ chū dào yīdìng de gōngzī,
只要那个老板肯帮你出到一定的工资,
The employer needed to offer a certain salary,

86

qíshí nàge gōngzī shì xūyào bào de yě bǐjiào gāo de.
其实那个工资是需要报得也比较高的。
which needed to be relatively high.

87

Jiù nàge shíhou háishi méiyǒu nàme gāo gōngzī de,
就那个时候还是没有那么高工资的,
Salaries weren't that high back then,

88

dànshì tā kěyǐ bāng wǒ bào nàge gōngzī,
但是他可以帮我报那个工资,
but my boss could report a higher salary for me,

89

ránhòu jiù sīdǐxia zài huán huí yīxiē gěi tā.
然后就私底下再还回一些给他。
and then I would return part of it privately.

90

Nà tā hái mán hǎo de, zhège lǎobǎn
那他还蛮好的，这个老板
Your boss was nice!

91

Duì, yīnwèi wǒ bāng tā dǎgōng yě hěn duō nián ma
对，因为我帮他打工也很多年嘛
Yes, because I had worked for him for many years.

92

Ránhòu jiù yīzhí zài nàge jiǔdiàn lǐ gōngzuò?
然后就一直在那个酒店里工作?
So, you kept working at that hotel?

93

Yīnwèi wǒ dāying bāng tā zuò mǎn wǔ nián ma,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

因为我答应帮他做满五年嘛,
Since I had promised him to work for five years,

94

dào èr líng yī sì nián de shíhòu, wǒ líkāi nàge...
到 2014 年的时候, 我离开那个...
by 2014, I left...

95

Nàshíhòu yǐjīng jiào jítuán le
那时候已经叫集团了
At that time, it had already become a group company.

96

yīnwèi tā yǐjīng shì yǒu chàbùduō yǒu shí jiā...
因为他已经是有差不多有十家...
He had around ten hotels by then.

97

Bùshì chàbùduō, yǐjīng yǒu shí jiā jiǔdiàn
不是差不多, 已经有十家酒店
Not around, he actually had ten hotels.

98

Hòulái wǒ jiù xiǎng huàn yíxià huánjīng
后来我就想换一下环境
Later, I wanted to have a change

99

Gānghǎo yě mǎn le nàge shíjiān ma, jiù dāying nàge lǎobǎn
刚好也满了那个时间嘛, 就答应那个老板
and it so happened that our agreed time was over, (so I left).

100

wǒ jiù zìjǐ chūlái jiù qù zhǎo le hòulái yī fèn shì zuò xiāoshòu de
我就自己出来就去找了后来一份是做销售的
After that, I found another job in sales.

101

Yī kāishǐ shì zuò nàzhǒng dǎyīnjī lǐmiàn de hàocái, hái yǒu zuò dēng jù
一开始是做那种打印机里面的耗材, 还有做灯具
At first, I was selling printer consumables and lighting fixtures.

102

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Hòulái yī qī nián de shíhòu kāishǐ zuò diànshāng,
后来一七年的时候开始做电商,
Later in 2017, I started working in e-commerce,

103

zuò xiǎo jiādiàn, zuò Hólán diànshāng.
做小家电, 做荷兰电商。
selling small household appliances online in the Netherlands.

104

Yī qī nián niándǐ de shíhòu hái bǎ wǒ pài dào Déguó...
一七年年底的时候还把我派到德国...
At the end of 2017, I was sent to Germany...

105

Nàshíhòu Déguó kāi le yī gè fēngōngsī,
那时候德国开了一个分公司,
There was a new branch opening in Germany,

106

hái bǎ wǒ pài guòqu zuò Déguó fēngōngsī de fùzérén.
还把我派过去做德国分公司的负责人。
and I was appointed as the head of the German branch.

107

Nǐ juéde Déguórén gēn Hólánrén, Zhōngguórén yǒu shénme qūbié?
你觉得德国人跟荷兰人, 中国人有什么区别?
Do you think there are differences between Germans, Dutch, and Chinese people?

108

Déguórén... yīnwèi wǒ nàge shíhòu cóng wǒ chàbùduō kāishǐ shēnqǐng rùjī,
德国人... 因为我那个时候从我差不多开始申请入籍,
Germans... Since I started applying for citizenship

109

jiùshì kāishǐ bìyè, jiù chángqī liú zài zhè yǐhòu
就是开始毕业, 就长期留在这以后
around the time I graduated and decided to stay long-term,

110

wǒ jiù měinián chàbùduō ràng wǒ māma qù Hólán
我就每年差不多让我妈妈去荷兰
I would have my mom visit the Netherlands every year.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

111

Bāokuò liǎng nián wǒ zài Déguó de shíhòu, shì ràng tā xiān dào Hólán,
包括两年我在德国的时候，是让她先到荷兰，
Even during the two years I was in Germany, I would have her come to the
Netherlands first,

112

ránhòu bǎ tā jiēdào Déguó yīqǐ shēnghuó.
然后把她接到德国一起生活。
and then pick her up and take her to Germany to stay with me.

113

Jiù tā dōu gēn wǒ shuō,
就她都跟我说，
Even she said that

114

tā shuō míngxiǎn Déguórén yào bǐ Hólánrén lěngmò yīxiē | Shì ma?
她说明显德国人要比荷兰人冷漠一些 | 是吗？
Germans are obviously colder than the Dutch. | Really?

115

Wǒmen yǒuyīcì cóng Déguó kāichē huí Hólán,
我们有一次从德国开车回荷兰，
Once, we drove from Germany back to the Netherlands,

116

ránhòu yī jìn dào Hólán biānjìng
然后一进入到荷兰边境
and as soon as we entered the Dutch border,

117

jiù tíng zài yī gè gāosù lùpáng qù chī màidāngláo
就停在一个高速路旁去吃麦当劳
we stopped at a highway rest area to get some McDonald's.

118

Ránhòu yī jìnqù nàge Hólánrén jiùshì fēicháng rèqíng de
然后一进去那个荷兰人就是非常热情地
As soon as we got in (the restaurant), the Dutch person was very warm and friendly,

119

jiù xiàoliǎn a shénme
就笑脸啊什么

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

with big smiles and everything.

120

Wǒ mā shuō, nǐ kàn

我妈说，你看

My mom said,

121

Nǐ dōu bù yòng gēn wǒ shuō jiù jìn Hólán,

你都不用跟我说就进荷兰，

you don't even have to tell me that we are in the Netherlands,

122

wǒ jiù zhī dào yǐ jīng dào Hólán le.

我就知道已经到荷兰了。

I could already tell (by their attitude).

123

Duì, jiù Déguó rén jiù zhēn de shì bǐ jiào...

对，就德国人就真的是比较...

Yes, Germans are really more...

124

Shì nán xiāng chǔ ma?

是难相处吗？

Are they hard to get along with?

125

Yě bù shì nán xiāng chǔ, tā jiù shì bǐ jiào lěng mò yī diǎn

也不是难相处，他就是比较冷漠一点

It's not that, but they are just a bit colder.

126

Bù gǒu yán xiào? | Jiù bǐ jiào gāo'ào yī diǎn

不苟言笑 | 就比较高傲一点

They don't smile as much? | They are more arrogant.

127

Tā jiù jué de zì jǐ gèng liǎo bù qǐ yī diǎn kě néng shì

他就觉得自己更了不起一点可能是

Probably, they feel they are superior or something.

128

Nà qí shí jiù shì zuò wéi huá rén Zhōngguó rén zài Déguó de huà...

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

那其实就是作为华人中国人在德国的话...

So, as a Chinese living in Germany...

129

jiù zài ōuzhōu ba huì yǒu... huì juéde zìjǐ shòudào qíshì ma?

就在欧洲吧会有... 会觉得自己受到歧视吗?

or in Europe in general, did you feel discriminated against?

130

Qíshì shì kěndìng yǒu

歧视是肯定有

Discrimination definitely existed.

131

Hélan yǐjīng shì... wǒ juéde Hélan yīnggāi suànshì zuìhǎo de le

荷兰已经是... 我觉得荷兰应该算是最好的了

The Netherlands is probably the best in this regard.

132

Jíshǐ tā xīn lǐmiàn duì nǐ yǒu qíshì,

即使他心里面对你有歧视,

Even if they do have prejudices,

133

tā biǎomiànshàng hái shì bǐjiào hǎo.

他表面上还是比较好。

they still act nicely towards you.

134

Bù xiàng bǐrú Déguó a, bāokuò Fǎguó a jiù zhēnde hěn kuāzhāng

不像比如德国啊, 包括法国啊就真的很夸张

Unlike, for example, Germany or France, where it can be quite obvious.

135

Bǐrúshuō nǐ qù tāmen lǚyóu qū,

比如说你去他们旅游区,

For instance, if you're in a tourist area

136

nǐ gēn tā shuō Yīngyǔ, tā tīngdedǒng

你跟他说英语, 他听得懂

and speak English to them, even if they understand,

137

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

dàn tā duì huílai de yàobù jiù Déyǔ, yàobù jiù Fǎyǔ
但他对回来的要不就德语，要不就法语
they might still respond in German or French.

138

Tā jiù bǐjiào... bùshì hěn xǐhuan wàiguórén, tèbié shì Yàzhōurén
他就比较... 不是很喜欢外国人，特别是亚洲人
They don't like foreigners that much, especially Asians.

139

Nǐ yǒu tǐyàn ma? Nǐ yǒu zhèyàng de tǐyàn ma?
你有体验吗？你有这样的体验吗？
Have you experienced that?

140

Wǒ hái hǎo, yǒude rén jiù huì....
我还好，有的人就会....
It was okay for me, but there were...

141

Wǒ yǒuxiē tóngxué a shénme
我有些同学啊什么
Some of my university classmates,

142

tāmen jiù fēicháng bù xǐhuan zhèzhǒng báirén, suǒwèi báirén de qíshì a
他们就非常不喜欢这种白人，所谓白人的歧视啊
really disliked white people discriminating against (Chinese).

143

Wǒ shuō yě méiyǒu... Wǒ juéde méiyǒu shénme
我说也没有... 我觉得没有什么
I said it wasn't... I don't think it's a big deal.

144

Wǒ shuō nǐ bìjìng bùshì zài zìjǐ guójiā.
我说你毕竟不是在自己国家。
After all, you're not in your own country.

145

Nǐ bù yào shuō zài ōuzhōu, nǐ jiùsuàn zài Shànghǎi
你不要说在欧洲，你就算在上海
It doesn't just happen in Europe, but even in Shanghai.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

146

Shànghǎi rén hái qīshì wàidìrén ne nàge shíhou

上海人还歧视外地人呢那个时候

Even Shanghainese discriminate against people from other (Chinese) regions.

147

Wǒ shuō nǐ... nà néng zěnmébàn?

我说你... 那能怎么办?

What can you do?

148

Tā zhǐyào bù duì nǐ yǒu rènhé de...

他只要不对你有任何的...

As long as they don't...

149

Tā bù yào lái yǐngxiǎng dào nǐ | Gōngjī xìng shénmede

他不要来影响到你 | 攻击性什么的

affect you... | Attack you or something.

150

Duì, bù yào yǒu gōngjī, bù yào yǐngxiǎng dào nǐ

对, 不要有攻击, 不要影响到你

Right, if they don't attack you

151

huòzhě méiyǒu shénme zhíjiē de yǐngxiǎng

或者没有什么直接的影响

or affect you in any direct way,

152

Bǐrú tā shuō nǐ liǎngjù, nǐ jiù ràng tā shuō ba

比如他说你两句, 你就让他说吧

for example, they just say something bad, just let them say it.

153

nà zěnmébàn ne?

那怎么办呢?

What else can you do?

154

Nǐ yǒu tīng guo jiùshì shuō nǐ de,

你有听过就是说你的,

Have you personally heard anything

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

155

shuō de bǐjiào nántīng de, yìnxàng shēnkè de ma?

说得比较难听的，印象深刻的吗？

particularly offensive or memorable?

156

Hǎoxiàng yě méiyǒu, wǒ shì méiyǒu pèngdào guo yīnwèi wǒ...

好像也没有，我是没有碰到过因为我...

No, I haven't, because...

157

Nǐ yě bǐjiào dīdiào, shìbùshì?

你也比较低调，是不是？

You're pretty low-key, right?

158

Yīfāngmiàn bǐjiào dīdiào,

一方面比较低调，

Partly because I'm low-key,

159

Yīfāngmiàn wǒ qíshí shì méiyǒu tèbié duō de qù gēn...

一方面我其实没有特别多的去跟...

and partly because I don't interact

160

yǒu hěn duō rén qù jiēchù

有很多人去接触

with a lot of people

161

Zhǔyào jiùshì zài wǒ dǎgōng de zhège quānzi lǐ, tóngxué de quānzi lǐ

主要就是在我打工的这个圈子里，同学的圈子里

outside my work and school circles.

162

Zhēnzhèng Hólánrén de péngyou jīběnshàng méi jǐ gè

真正荷兰人的朋友基本上没几个

I didn't really have many Dutch friends.

163

Shèjiāo jiù méiyǒu wánquán qù gēn Hólán rén yīnwèi wǒ bùshì...

社交就没有完全去跟荷兰人因为我不是...

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

I didn't really socialized much with the Dutch because I'm not...

164

Nǐ xiǎng wǒ zhème duō nián zài Hólán,

你想我这么多年在荷兰,

Think about it, in all these years in the Netherlands,

165

cónglái méiyǒu qù guo dà má diàn

从来没有去过大麻店

I've never been to a marijuana shop.

166

Duì, kāfēitīng, tāmen suǒ shuō de shì kāfēitīng

对, 咖啡厅, 他们所说的是咖啡厅

Right, a coffee shop, as they call it.

167

Tāmen jiào coffee shop dànshì qíshí jiùshì dà má diàn

他们叫 coffee shop 但是其实就是大麻店

They call it a "coffee shop", but it's actually a place where you can get marijuana.

168

Ránhòu yě méiyǒu chángshì guo dà má

然后也没有尝试过大麻

I've never tried pot.

169

Yīcì dōu méiyǒu?

一次都没有?

Not even once?

170

Yě méiyǒu cháng guo nàge tāmen de nàxiē dú mógu

也没有尝过那个他们的那些毒蘑菇

And I've never tried those so-called "magic mushrooms" either.

171

Suǒwèi de dú mógu jiùshì lǐmiàn yǒu nàge chéngfèn

所谓的毒蘑菇就是里面有那个成分

The so-called magic mushrooms are the ones with (psychoactive) ingredients.

172

Jiùshì zhèxiē dōngxi wǒ dōu méiyǒu qù...

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

就是这些东西我都没有去...

I've never done any of that stuff...

173

Suǒyǐ wǒ jiù gēn tāmen méiyǒu shénme tèbié dà de gòngtóng yǔyán

所以我就跟他们没有什么特别大的共同语言

So I didn't really have much in common with them.

174

ránhòu ne jiǔbā yèdiàn, hǎoxiàng wǒ shǔ de chūlai yī liǎng cì ba

然后呢酒吧夜店，好像我数得出来一两次吧

As for bars and nightclubs, I have probably only been to them once or twice,

175

Wǒ dōu yǐjīng bù jìde shì qù de...

我都已经不记得是去的...

and I can't even remember when I went...

176

Nà nǐ suànshì bǐjiào zhái ma?

那你算是比较宅吗?

So you're pretty much a homebody?

177

Yīfāngmiàn bǐjiào zhái, yīfāngmiàn wǒ jiù bǐjiào pà chǎo.

一方面比较宅，一方面我就比较怕吵。

Partly because I'm a homebody, and partly because I hate noisy places.

178

Jiù xǐhuan ānjìng | Duì

就喜欢安静 | 对

You like quietness. | Right.

179

Nà nǐ juéde jiùshì Hólánrén gēn Zhōngguó rén zhījiān

那你觉得就是荷兰人跟中国人之间

Do you think there are significant cultural differences

180

yǒuméiyǒu hěn dà de wénhuà chāyì?

有没有很大的文化差异?

between the Dutch and the Chinese?

181

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Jiùshì nǐ gāng qù de shíhòu
就是你刚去的时候
When you first arrived there,

182
huòzhě shuō nǐ zài nàlǐ dāi le zhème jiǔ ba
或者说你在那里待了这么久吧
or after spending so much time there,

183
yǒuméiyǒu shénme yìxiàng shēnkè de wénhuàchōngjī?
有没有什么印象深刻的文化冲击?
did you experience any memorable cultural shocks?

184
Jiù Hóulánrén jiù zhēnde bǐjiào zhíjiē yīdiǎn
就荷兰人就真的比较直接一点
The Dutch are really direct.

185
Zhège hǎoxiàng hěn chūmíng
这个好像很出名
This seems to be a well-known (stereotype).

186
Fēicháng zhíjiē, yǒu shénme tā jiù zhímiàn gēn nǐ shuō.
非常直接，有什么他就直面跟你说。
They are very straightforward and will just tell you things to your face.

187
Dànshì tā méiyǒu... tā bùhuì jìchóu
但是他没有...他不会记仇
But they don't hold grudges.

188
Jiù shuō chūlai jiù hǎo le, jiù guò le
就说出来就好了，就过了
Once it's said, it's done,

189
ránhòu yě bù tài huì fānjiùzhàng.
然后也不太会翻旧账。
and they won't bring it up again.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

190

Zhōngguó rén de máobìng jiùshì xǐhuan jìzhu

中国人的毛病就是喜欢记住

The problem with Chinese is that they tend to remember things.

191

Bǐrúshuō yòu pèngdào shénme shìqing, shàngcì zěnmē zěnmē

比如说又碰到什么事情，上次怎么怎么

For example, if something happens again, they might bring up what happened last time.

192

ránhòu zhēnde shì yào shuōdào shénme diǎn shang,

然后真的是要说到什么点上，

But when it really needs to be addressed,

193

tā yòu pà dézuì nǐ a huòzhě shénme, tā yòu bù shuō

他又怕得罪你啊或者什么，他又不说

they might be afraid of offending you, so they won't say it.

194

Yòu bùhǎoyìsi shuō

又不好意思说

They feel embarrassed to speak up.

195

Ránhòu děng nǐ zǒu le yǐhòu, zài bèihòu gēn língwài yī gè rén

然后等你走了以后，在背后跟另外一个人

After you leave, they might talk to someone else behind your back,

196

tā gāng zěnmē zěnmē, jiù zhèyàng

他刚怎么怎么，就这样

saying things like, "He just did this or that."

197

Zhègè Hélánrén xiāngduì lái shuō hǎo hěn duō

这个荷兰人相对来说好很多

The Dutch are much better in this regard.

198

Érqiě tā fēicháng de zhí,

而且他非常地直，

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

They will be direct with you,

199

yǒudeshíhòu zhí de nǐ jiùshì jiē shòubùliǎo de nàzhǒng
有的时候直得你就是接受不了的那种
sometimes so direct that you can't stand it.

200

Dànshì tā jiùshì juéde jiù yīnggāi shì zhèyàng
但是他就是觉得就应该是这样
But they just think that's the way it should be.

201

Hòulái wǒ xué de wǒ juéde zìjǐ hǎoxiàng yě yǒuyīxiē bǐjiào zhí
后来我学的我觉得自己好像也有一些比较直
Later on, I found myself becoming a bit more direct too.

202

Bāokuò gēn Zhōngguórén yīqǐ de shíhou, yǒudeshíhòu jiǎnghuà jiù huì...
包括跟中国人一起的时候, 有的时候讲话就会...
Even when I'm with other Chinese, sometimes when I speak...

203

Yǒu yī duàn shíjiān jiù huì bùtài gùjí biéren de gǎnshòu.
有一段时间就会不太顾及别人的感受。
There was a period when I didn't really consider others' feelings.

204

Jiùshì yǒu duì Zhōngguórén zhíjiē guo,
就是有对中国人直接过,
Did you ever speak directly to Chinese

205

ránhòu duìfāng hěn míngxiǎn gǎnjué bùshūfu de qíngkuàng ma?
然后对方很明显感觉不舒服的情况吗?
and made them feel uncomfortable?

206

Duì, jiùshì bǐrúshuō wǒ huíguó de shíhou
对, 就是比如说我回国的时候
Yes, for example, when I went back to China,

207

yǒu jǐcì gēn zhīqián de dàxué tóngxué

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

有几次跟之前的大学同学
a few times when I was out with my former college

208
huòzhě gāozhōng tóngxué shénme chūlai
或者高中同学什么出来
or high school classmates,

209
yǒushíhòu jiǎnghuà shénme
有时候讲话什么
sometimes when I said something,

210
yǒu jǐcì tāmen hái shènzhì dōu yǐjīng fǎnyìng dà dào shuō
有几次他们还甚至都已经反应大到说
their reactions were so strong that they would say,

211
Á? Zhège shì kěyǐ shuō de ma zhíjiē? Zěnme zhèzhǒng
啊? 这个是可以说的吗直接? 怎么这种
“Wow? Can you really say that so directly?”

212
Dàn jùtǐ shuō shénme wǒ yǐjīng bù jìde le,
但具体说什么我已经不记得了,
I don't remember the specifics,

213
dànshì yǒu bèi tāmen shuō chūlai guo.
但是有被他们说出来过。
but they did point it out to me.

214
Háiyǒu yī gè jiùshì nàbian de rén bǐjiào kōuménr, xiǎoqi
还有一个就是那边的人比较抠门儿, 小气
Another thing is that (Dutch) people are really stingy

215
ránhòu huì shěng qián, shì ma? | Tā bùshì kōumén xiǎoqi
然后会省钱, 是吗? | 他不是抠门小气
and good at saving money, right? | It's not that they are stingy,

216

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

tā bǐjiào huì suàn

他比较会算

they are just more careful with money.

217

Bǐrúshuō tā mǎidōngxi,

比如说他买东西,

For example, when they need to buy something,

218

tā huì qù bǐjiào bùtóng de chāoshì shāngdiàn

他会去比较不同的超市商店

they will compare different supermarkets or stores,

219

nǎxiē chāoshì zài dǎzhé

哪些超市在打折

checking which ones have items on sale.

220

Tèbié shì yīxiē bùshì tèbié niánqīng de

特别是一些不是特别年轻的

Especially (Dutch) who are not very young,

221

bǐfāng shuō sānshí jǐ suì, sìshí jǐ suì, shènzhì wǔshí jǐ suì de nàzhǒng

比方说三十几岁，四十几岁，甚至五十几岁的那种

maybe in their thirties, forties, or fifties,

222

nǐ shuō tā méi qián, tā bùkěnéng

你说他没钱，他不可能

you can't say they don't have money,

223

Tèbié shì gōngzuò shíjiān cháng le, tā gōngzī yīnggāi hái tǐng gāo

特别是工作时间长了，他工资应该还挺高

especially after working for a long time, their salaries should be pretty high,

224

Dànshì tā jiù huì suàn.

但是他就会算。

but they just like to deliberate over spending money.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

225

Tā yǒu zhège xíguàn shì ma?

他有这个习惯是吗?

It's a habit they have, right?

226

Duì, jiù yǒu zhège xíguàn

对, 就有这个习惯

Yes, they just have this habit.

227

Qíshí wǒ shíjiān cháng le yǐhòu wǒ yě huì suàn

其实我时间长了以后我也会算

Actually, after being there for a while, I also became more deliberate in spending money.

228

Wǒ yī kāishǐ huì zài chāoshì mǎi nàge gòuwùdài

我一开始会在超市买那个购物袋

At first, I would buy shopping bags at the supermarket.

229

Hòulái wǒ kàn Hólánrén

后来我看荷兰人

Later, I noticed that the Dutch people

230

Tāmen dōu shì zìjǐ dài, hái yǒude shènzhīyú dài nàzhǒng biānzhī dài,

他们都是自己带, 还有的甚至于带那种编织袋,

would bring their own bags, and some even brought woven bags,

231

jiù kěyǐ līn gèng duō de dōngxi.

就可以拎更多的东西。

so they could carry more stuff.

232

Jiù shěng gè dài zi? | Duì, jiù shěng dài zi

就省个袋子? | 对, 就省袋子

Just to save on a bag? | Right.

233

Érqiě tā nàbian yǒu hěn duō yào zhuāng diàn a huòzhě shuō rìyòngpǐn diàn a

而且它那边有很多药妆店啊或者说日用品店啊

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Also, there are a lot of drugstores or convenient stores there,

234

Tā jīběnshàng měi gè xīngqī, nǐ dōu néng zhǎodào

它基本上每个星期，你都能找到

and almost every week, you can find

235

mǒu yīyàng dōngxi zài dǎzhé

某一样东西在打折

something that is on sale.

236

tā měi gè xīngqī hái huì zài nǐ de jiālǐ yóuxiāng,

它每个星期还会在你的家里邮箱，

"Every week, (the postal service) would leave a stack of flyers

237

nǐ zhǐyào bù tiē nàgè pái, jiùshì nǐ bù yào

你只要不贴那个牌，就是你不要

(from businesses) in your mailbox,"

238

tā jiù huì diū yīduī nàme hòu de guǎnggào zhǐ

他就会丢一堆那么厚的广告纸

unless you had a sign saying you don't want them.

239

nǐ jiù qù zhǎo

你就去找

They would leave a stack of flyers this thick

240

nǎyīge chāoshì huòzhě nǎ yī jiā diàn tā zài dǎzhé

哪一个超市或者哪一家店它在打折

and you could look through (those flyers)

241

nǐ jiù kěyǐ qù nà jiā diàn qù mǎi.

你就可以去那家店去买。

to see which supermarket or store was having a sale,

242

Tā jīběnshàng zuì dà de yōuhuì jiùshì mǎiyīsòngyī

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

它基本上最大的优惠就是买一送一
and then, you could go to that store to shop.

243

Wǒ juéde zài Zhōngguó, kěnéng mànman dàjiā tiáojiàn hǎo le,
我觉得在中国，可能慢慢大家条件好了，
The biggest discount was usually buy-one-get-one-free.

244

dōu bù tài huì qù suàn zhèxiē le.
都不太会去算这些了。
I feel like in China, as people's living conditions have improved,

245

Jiùshì fǎnzhèng làngfèi yīdiǎn yě méiyǒuguānxi.
就是反正浪费一点也没有关系。
they don't really bother with these calculations anymore.

246

Yě yǒukěnéng wǒ shì juéde Hélánrén jiùshì tā de shíjiān bǐjiào duō.
也有可能我是觉得荷兰人就是他的时间比较多。
It's like, wasting a little bit doesn't matter.

247

Jiùshì tā méiyǒu nàme duō yúlè huódòng
就是他没有那么多娱乐活动
Maybe it's because the Dutch have more free time.

248

Wǒ méiyǒu tīngshuō guo Hélánrén
我没有听说过荷兰人
They don't have as many entertainment activities (as we do).

249

xiàng Zhōngguó rén yīyàng shénme dǎ májiàng a, dǎpái a
像中国人一样什么打麻将啊，打牌啊
I've never heard of the Dutch doing things

250

Tāmen zuì dà de yúlè jiùshì gēn péngyou a, qīnqi
他们最大的娱乐就是跟朋友啊，亲戚
like playing mahjong or cards like the Chinese do.

251

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

zuò xiàlai hē dōngxi a chīfàn a

坐下来喝东西啊吃饭啊

Their biggest form of entertainment is sitting down with friends or relatives

252

Duì tāmen láishuō, chūqù chīfàn yǐjīng shì...

对他们来说，出去吃饭已经是...

to have a drink or a meal.

253

Zuì dà de yúlè le

最大的娱乐了

For them, going out to eat is already...

254

Yě bùshì zuì dà yúlè, jiù yǐjīng suànshì yīzhǒng yúlè xiàngmù le.

也不是最大娱乐，就已经算是一种娱乐项目了。

The greatest form of entertainment.

255

Jiù shénme KTV zhèxiē yě méiyǒu shì ba? | Yě méiyǒu

就什么 KTV 这些也没有是吧？ | 也没有

Well, maybe not the greatest, but it's already considered a form of entertainment.

256

Tāmen píngshí zài jiā kěnéng jiùshì kàn gè diànshì.

他们平时在家可能就是看个电视。

There aren't really places like KTV, right? | No.

257

Tāmen jiù hěn xǐhuan tánlùn yīxiē shénme shìqing | Duìhuà

他们就很喜欢谈论一些什么事情 | 对话

Usually at home, they might just watch TV.

258

Tāmen jiù xǐhuan tán, jiù xǐhuan shuō

他们就喜欢谈，就喜欢说

They really enjoy discussing things. | Having a conversation.

259

Nǐ qù kāi tā de nàge diànshìjiémù, jīhū měi gè píndào

你去开他的那个电视节目，几乎每个频道

They really like to talk about things.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

260

chúle nàxiē xīnwén a diànshìjù huòzhě diànyǐng,
除了那些新闻啊电视剧或者电影,
If you turn on their TV programs, almost every channel,

261

tā jiùshì zài nàbian tāolùn gèzhǒnggèyàng de tí mù
它就是在那边讨论各种各样的题目
except for the news, TV shows, or movies,

262

tāolùn zhèngzhì de, tāolùn mǒu yī gè huàtí shénme
讨论政治的, 讨论某一个话题什么
is filled with discussions on various topics:

263

Dànshì tāmen nàli jiùshì bǐjiào zhùzhòng,
但是他们那里就是比较注重,
politics, a particular issue, and so on.

264

tā bùhuì qù tāolùn mǒu yī gè rén sī yǐn
他不会去讨论某一个人私隐
But they are very mindful

265

Bǐrúshuō nǐ gāngcái zhīqián bǐrúshuō cǎifǎng biéren
比如说你刚才之前比如说采访别人
not to discuss someone's private matters.

266

nǐ kěnéng huì... nǐ de hūnyīn qíngkuàng a,
你可能会... 你的婚姻情况啊,
For example, you mentioned earlier about interviewing someone,

267

shènzhìyú nánǚ péngyou qíngkuàng a
甚至于男女朋友情况啊
and asked about their marital

268

Zhèxiē yībān tāmen dōu bùhuì tán huòzhě shì bùhuì shēnrù
这些一般他们都不会谈或者是不会深入
or relationship status.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

269

Bǐrúshuō wǒmen xiànzài jiāo... wǒ zhǐ huì gēn péngyou shuō

比如说我们现在交... 我只会跟朋友说

They generally don't talk about these or dig deeper into these topics.

270

wǒ yǒu yī gè nán péngyou

我有一个男朋友

For example, they will only tell their friends

271

huòzhě yǒu yī gè nǚ péngyou | Bǐjiào móhu de shuō, shì ba?

或者有一个女朋友 | 比较模糊地说, 是吧?

that they have a boyfriend

272

Jiù shuō yīxià, jiù tí yīxià

就说一下, 就提一下

or a girlfriend. | In a very vague way, right?

273

Nǐ rúguǒ bù shuō, rénjiā bù huì zhǔdòng lái wǎng shēn de wèn nǐ

你如果不说, 人家不会主动来往深地问你

They will just mention it.

274

bǐrúshuō nǐmen shénmeshíhou jiéhūn a?

比如说你们什么时候结婚啊?

If you don't bring it up, they won't press further,

275

Shénmeshíhou shēng xiǎohái? Shénmeshíhou... jiù bù huì shuō

什么时候生小孩? 什么时候... 就不会说

and ask: "When are you getting married?"

276

Zài guó nèi zhè ge shì fēi cháng zhèng cháng de huà tí

在国内这个是非常正常的话题

or "When are you having kids?" They won't ask these questions.

277

Duì, duì tāmen lái shuō zhè xiē dōng xi dōu shì shùn qí zì rán de

对, 对他们来说这些东西都是顺其自然的

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

In China, these are very normal topics.

278

Wǒ yě yǒu pèngdào hěn duō tóngshì Hélánrén

我也有碰到很多同事荷兰人

Right. But for them, these things just happen naturally.

279

yībèizi shēng le sān gè xiǎohái le,

一辈子生了三个小孩了,

I've met many Dutch colleagues

280

dàn liǎng gè rén cónglái méi jié guo hūn de

但两个人从来没结过婚的

who have three children,

281

Yě yǒu nàzhǒng jié le hūn yībèizi dōu méi shēng guo xiǎohái yě yǒu.

也有那种结了婚一辈子都没生过小孩也有。

but they've never been married.

282

Jiù fǎnzhèng gèzhǒnggèyàng de qíngkuàng

就反正各种各样的情况

There are also those who have been married but never had children.

283

duì tāmen lái shuō rènhé qíngkuàng dōu shì zhèngcháng de.

对他们来说任何情况都是正常的。

In any case, every situation

284

Nà shuōdào zhège jiùshì tánlùn yǐnsī de shìqing,

那说到这个就是谈论隐私的事情,

is considered normal to them.

285

qíshí xiàng wǒmen gānggang jiǎng de,

其实像我们刚刚讲的,

Speaking of discussing private matters,

286

zài guónèi shì fēicháng zhèngcháng de yī gè huàtí,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

在国内是非常正常的一个话题,
as we just mentioned,

287

zhǎngbèi wèn wǒmen... kěnéng wèn nǐ jiéhūn méiyǒu
长辈问我们... 可能问你结婚没有
these are very normal topics in China.

288

Gōngzuò duōshao qián shénmede
工作多少钱什么的
Older Chinese might ask you if you're married,

289

nǐ huíguó de shíhou tāmen huì wèn de ma?
你回国的时候他们会问的吗?
or how much you earn at work, and so on.

290

Wèn shì kěndìng wèn
问是肯定问
Do people ask you these question when you go back to China?

291

Suǒyǐ wǒ jiù jīběnshàng huíguó jiù zhǔyào jiùshì zàijiā lǐmiàn,
所以我就基本上回国就主要就是在家里面,
Sure they do!

292

jiù bùtài huì chūqù gēn qítā de yīxiē qīnqī a shénme, jiù hěn shǎo
就不太会出去跟其他的一些亲戚啊什么, 就很少
That's why when I go back to China, I mainly stay at home,

293

Jiùshì chūqù dehuà yě shì gēn wǒ tóngbèi de, bǐrú biǎojiě biǎomèi a
就是出去的话也是跟我同辈的, 比如表姐表妹啊
and I rarely go out to visit relatives.

294

érqiě wǒ yībān bùhuì chūnjié de shíhou
而且我一般不会春节的时候
If I do go out, it's usually with relatives my age, such as my cousins.

295

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Yīfāngmiàn guònián de shíhou huíguó jiù fēicháng lěng, Shànghǎi hěn lěng
一方面过年的时候回国就非常冷，上海很冷
Also, I generally don't go back for the Spring Festival,

296

háiyǒu jiùshì guònián huíqu, nǐ bùshì yào qù nàxiē...
还有就是过年回去，你不是要去那些...
because it's very cold during the Chinese New Year, especially in Shanghai.

297

Zǒuqīnqi shénmede | Jiù bǐjiào fán
走亲戚什么的 | 就比较烦
In addition, when I go back for the New Year, I need to...

298

Wǒ yībān bùhuì guònián de shíhou huíqu
我一般不会过年的时候回去
Visit relatives, right? | (Right,) and it's very annoying,

299

Qiánmiàn jiǎngdào zhège tāmen shěngqián zhège shìqing
前面讲到这个他们省钱这个事情
so I usually don't go back during the Chinese New Year.

300

Jùshuō zài Hélán péngyou zhījiān,
据说在荷兰朋友之间,
Earlier, we were talking about how the Dutch like to save money.

301

nǎpà shì fūqī zhījiān kěnéng chūqù chīfàn dōu shì AA de, shì ma?
哪怕是夫妻之间可能出去吃饭都是AA的，是吗？
It's said that in the Netherlands, among friends

302

Zhège shì kèbǎnyìnxàng ma háishi zhēnde?
这个是刻板印象吗还是真的？
even couples, might go Dutch when they go out for a meal. Is that true?

303

Yīnwèi wǒ méiyǒu zěnmē gēn Hélánrén chūqù...
因为我没有怎么跟荷兰人出去...
Is this just a stereotype, or is it really like that?

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

304

Yě yǒu chī guo jǐcì, shì AA

也有吃过几次，是AA

I haven't really gone out much with the Dutch...

305

Dàn zài nàbiān de Zhōngguó rén yìqǐ chūqù dehuà

但在那边的中国人一起出去的话

Actually, I have been out a few times, and they indeed go Dutch.

306

jiù huì bǐjiào liúxíng shì shénme

就会比较流行是什么

But when Chinese there go out together,

307

Bǐrúshuō zhè cān zhè cì wǒ qǐng, xiàcì jiù huàn

比如说这餐这次我请，下次就换

it's more common to take turns paying for the meal.

308

Jiù hái shì Zhōngguó rén de zhè ge fāng shì

就还是中国人的这个方式

For example, I will pay this time, and next time it will be their turn.

309

Jiù Zhōngguó rén nà ge fāng shì, yīn wèi tā men jiù jué de hǎo xiàng...

就中国人那个方式，因为他们就觉得好像...

It's still the Chinese way.

310

Tài shēng fēn le

太生分了

Right, because they feel that (going Dutch) will...

311

Duì, hái yǒu jiù shì nǐ chī shén me, nǐ bù kě néng wán quán chī de

对，还有就是你吃什么，你不可能完全吃的

Feel too impersonal?

312

Yīn wèi Zhōngguó rén hěn xǐ huan jiù shì fēn xiǎng

因为中国人很喜欢就是分享

Right. Also, when you order something, you may not eat it all by yourself

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

313

Nà nǐ bùkěnéng kòngzhì hǎo fènliang,
那你不可能控制好份量,
and Chinese really like to share food with others.

314

bǐrúshuō wǒ zhèlǐ... zhège cài wǒ chī le sìfēnzhīyī
比如说我这里... 这个菜我吃了四分之一
You can't really keep track of portions,

315

nàge cài wǒ chī sānfēnzhīyī, zhèyàng suànqǐlái jiù hěn máfan
那个菜我吃三分之一，这样算起来就很麻烦
for example, I ate a quarter of this dish

316

Tāmen zhēnde huì zhèyàng suàn ma?
他们真的会这样算吗?
and a third of that dish, it would be too complicated to calculate that.

317

Tāmen bùshì zhēnde huì zhèyàng suàn, tāmen jiù bùhuì zhèyàng chī.
他们不是真的会这样算，他们就不会这样吃。
Do (the Dutch) really calculate like that?

318

Tāmen dōu shì zìjǐ diǎn zìjǐ, suǒyǐ tāmen jiù yě bǐjiào róngyì qù AA
他们都是自己点自己，所以他们就也比较容易去 AA
No, they just won't order like that.

319

Nà tāmen AA bùhuì juéde gāngà, shì ma?
那他们 AA 不会觉得尴尬，是吗?
They just order for themselves, so it's easier to go Dutch.

320

Tā bùhuì juéde
他不会觉得
Don't they find it awkward about going Dutch?

321

Érqiě tāmen shì zhèyàng de,
而且他们是这样的,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

They don't.

322

xiān yī gè rén xiān bǎ zhège zhàngdān fù le

先一个人先把这个账单付了

Here's how it works:

323

Tāmen shì yòng WhatsApp ma

他们是用 WhatsApp 嘛

One person pays the bill first...

324

tāmen jiù zài WhatsApp zhège zǔ lǐmiàn

他们就在 WhatsApp 这个组里面

Since they use WhatsApp,

325

tā huì shuō wǒ zhège shì duōshao duōshao duōshao

他会说我这个是多少多少多少

they'll post in the WhatsApp group,

326

wǒ zhège shì duōshao duōshao duōshao

我这个是多少多少多少

about how much each person owes,

327

Ránhòu nàge fù le qián de rén

然后那个付了钱的人

for example, one person ordered this much.

328

huì fā yī gè tā de yínháng zhànghào jiù yínháng zhuǎnzhàng

会发一个他的银行账号就银行转账

Then, the person who paid

329

Hòulái kāishǐ diànzǐ zhīfù

后来开始电子支付

will send them his bank account so they could transfer money to him.

330

háyǒu yī gè shénme App, zhuānmén yònglái AA de yī gè App

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

还有一个什么 App, 专门用来 AA 的一个 App
Later, with the rise of electronic payments,

331

Jiù fàng zài nàge lǐmiàn, nǐ yī diǎn
就放在那个里面, 你一点
there's even an app specifically for splitting bills.

332

nǐ jiù kěyǐ zhíjiē zhuǎn duōshao qián gěi nàge rén,
你就可以直接转多少钱给那个人,
You just tap it,

333

jiù xiāngduì láishuō fāngbiàn yīxiē
就相对来说方便一些
and you can transfer the exact amount to that person.

334

Wa, tāmen zhēnde shì zhèyàngzi de?
哇, 他们真的是这样子的?
It's relatively more convenient.

335

Jiù zhēnde shì zhèyàngzi
就真的是这样子
Wow, they really do that?!

336

Nǐ yī kāishǐ qù bù xíguàn ma?
你一开始去不习惯吗?
Yes, they do.

337

Wǒ yī kāishǐ yě méiyǒu zěnmē jīngcháng gēn rénjiā chūqù chīfàn a shénme,
我一开始也没有怎么经常跟人家出去吃饭啊什么,
Did you find it hard to get used to this at first?

338

dōu shì zìjǐ yīgèrén.
都是自己一个人。
I didn't really go out to eat with others that much at the beginning,

339

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Nà nǐ hái hǎo, kěyǐ bìmiǎn hěn duō wénhuàchōngjī

那你还好，可以避免很多文化冲击

I was mostly by myself.

340

Duì duì duì, rán hòu gēn Zhōngguó rén de huà, yī bān jiù xiàng wǒ shuō de

对对对，然后跟中国人的话，一般就像我说的

That's good because you could avoid a lot of cultural shocks.

341

Hùxiāng qǐng | Duì, hùxiāng qǐng

互相请 | 对，互相请

Right. Also, when I go out with Chinese, generally, as I said,...

342

Érqiě wǒ bùshì fēicháng jìjiào,

而且我不是非常计较，

Taking turns to pay? | Right.

343

wǒ juéde zhēnde shì péngyou zhījiān de huà wúsuǒwèi.

我觉得真的是朋友之间的话无所谓。

In addition, I am not a petty person

344

Qíshí wǒ juéde Zhōngguó péngyou dàbùfen shì zhèyàngzi de.

其实我觉得中国朋友大部分是这样子的。

and I feel that if it's friends, it won't matter.

345

Jiùshì fǎnzhèng nǐ zhè cì qǐng de shǎo fù le diǎn yě méiyǒuguānxi

就是反正你这次请的少付了点也没有关系

Actually, I feel most Chinese friends are like that.

346

Nǐ zhēnde shì pèngdào nàzhǒng hěn kǒumén de

你真的是碰到那种很抠门的

In any case, if a friend pays less in his/her turn, I won't mind.

347

huòzhě shì jiù wǒmen Shànghǎirén shuō līn bùqīng de rén

或者是就我们上海人说拎不清的人

If I really run into someone who is very stingy

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

348

nǐ jiù bùhuì gēn tā shēn jiāo

你就不会跟他深交

or, as we Shanghainese say, someone who "lin bu qing" (socially insensitive),

349

Jiù kěnéng zhè yī cān jiéshù jiù méiyǒu le

就可能这一餐结束就没有了

I just won't get close to them.

350

Méiyǒu xià yī cān | Jiù méiyǒu xià yī cān le

没有下一餐 | 就没有下一餐了

Probably after one meal, that will be it.

351

Duì, nǐ zhēnde huì gēn tā yǒu xià cān de, jīběnshàng dōu hái xíng.

对，你真的会跟他有下餐的，基本上都还行。

There won't be a next meal. | Right.

352

Érqiě wǒ zìjǐ běnrén bùshì zhèzhǒng hěn jìjiào,

而且我自己本人不是这种很计较，

If it's someone you have many meals together, they are usually okay.

353

jiùshì bǐrúshuō zhè yī cān shì bǐjiào hǎo de, wǒ qǐng

就是比如说这一餐是比较好的，我请

And personally, I'm not that petty.

354

xià yī cān jiù yībān de, nǐ qǐng

下一餐就一般的，你请

For example, if the meal I pay for is more expensive

355

wǒ juéde zhè méi suǒwèi

我觉得这没所谓

and the next one paid by you is cheaper,

356

Wǒ yě bùhuì fēn de nàme qīngchu, jì de nàme qīngchu

我也不会分得那么清楚，记得那么清楚

I won't mind.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

357

Ránhòu tāmen jiùshì qǐngkè dehuà,
然后他们就是请客的话,
I won't keep such a clear record.

358

jiù jiǎshè wǒ jīntiān shuō yào qǐng nǐ lái chīfàn
就假设我今天说要请你来吃饭
Also, when (the Dutch) treats someone...

359

nà zhège shìbùshì mòrèn wǒ yào fùqián
那这个是不是默认我要付钱
For example, if I invite you to a meal,

360

háishi shuō tāmen jíshǐ shì yāoqǐng de rén yāoqǐng nǐ qù,
还是说他们即使是邀请的人邀请你去,
does that mean I need to pay

361

ránhòu yě shì AA de?
然后也是 AA 的?
or even if I invited you,

362

Duì, tā bùshì shuō yāoqǐng, tā zhǐshì yuē fàn
对, 他不是说邀请, 他只是约饭
we still split the bill?

363

Tíyì qù nǎlǐ?
提议去哪里?
Yes, it's not really an invitation to them, they are just suggesting a meal.

364

Tíyì, duì, tā zhǐshì tíyì qù nǎr
提议, 对, 他只是提议去哪儿
Suggesting where to go?

365

Dàn tā bìng bùshì shuō wǒ yào qǐng nǐ chīfàn.
但他并不是说我要请你吃饭。

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Yes, suggesting where to go,

366

Yīnwèi méiyǒu shénme lǐyóu ma

因为没有什么理由嘛

but it's not like they're saying, "I'm treating you to a meal."

367

Néng yǒu shénme lǐyóu?

能有什么理由?

Because there's no reason for that, right?

368

Shēngrì de shíhou

生日的时候

What reason could there be?

369

Shēngrì de shíhou tāmen yě yǒu liúxíng de nàzhǒng,

生日的时候他们也有流行的那种,

Maybe on someone's birthday.

370

jiùshì dàjiā suǒyǒu qù de rén qǐng zhège...

就是大家所有去的人请这个...

Even on someone's birthday, a common practice there

371

jiù píngfēn nà zhāng zhàngdān,

就平分那张账单,

is that everyone who goes

372

jiù shēngrì dāngtiān nàge rén bù chūqián.

就生日当天那个人不出钱。

splits the bill

373

Shòuxīng bù chūqián, yě yǒu zhèzhǒng

寿星不出钱, 也有这种

excepts for the birthday person.

374

Nà yě mán yǒuyìsi de.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

那也蛮有意思的。

The birthday person doesn't pay. There is this kind of situation too.

375

Nà nǐ duì tāmen nàbian de yuēhuì wénhuà yǒu liǎojiě ma?

那你对他们那边的约会文化有了解吗?

That's quite interesting.

376

Jiù gēn guónèi de yǒu bù yī yàng ma?

就跟国内的有不一样吗?

Do you know about their dating culture?

377

Nǐ shì shuō nǎ fāngmiàn yuēhuì?

你是说哪方面约会?

Is it different from what we have in China?

378

Jiù bǐrúshuō... Duì, zhège duì yuēhuì zhège cí

就比如说... 对, 这个对约会这个词

What kind of dating are you referring to?

379

hǎoxiàng wǒmen yě yǒu lǐjiě bù yī yàng, duìbùduì?

好像我们也有理解不一样, 对不对?

For example... Right, it seems like

380

Jiùshì wǒmen de yuēhuì jīběnshàng shì

就是我们的约会基本上是

we have different understandings of the word "dating," right?

381

yǐjīng shì nánǚ péngyou cái huì shuō qù yuēhuì.

已经是男女朋友才会说去约会。

In our culture, dating usually means

382

Zhè fāngmiàn wǒ jiù liǎojiě de bǐjiào shǎo

这方面我就了解得比较少

you're already in a relationship.

383

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Yīfāngmiàn wǒ méiyǒu... wǒ hǎoxiàng duì jiùshì báirén méi shénme xìngqù
一方面我没有... 我好像对就是白人没什么兴趣
I don't really know much about that.

384

Yīfāngmiàn kěnéng wénhuà chāyì shénmede
一方面可能文化差异什么的
On the one hand, I don't really have much interest in white people.

385

érqiě Hólán nǐ zhīdào réngāomǎdà, nǚháizi
而且荷兰你知道人高马大, 女孩子
Partly it's because of cultural differences,
Note: "人高马大" (rén gāo mǎ dà) is a Chinese idiom used to describe someone who is tall and robust, or big and strong. It literally translates to "person tall horse big."

386

Tāmen de gèzi hěn gāo?
她们的个子很高?
and also, Dutch girls are all tall and strong.

387

Nǚháizi de píngjūn shēngāo dōu zài yī mǐ qī shí wǔ dào yī mǐ bā
女孩子的平均身高都在一米七十五到一米八
They are very tall?

388

Zhème gāo?
这么高?
The average height of women there is between 175 and 180 centimeters.

389

Érqiě dōu yī gè zhuàng de bùdéliǎo
而且都一个壮得不得了
That tall?

390

yīnwèi tā cóngxiǎo jiùshì niú'nǎi, nǎilào shénme zhèxiē dōngxi
因为她从小就是牛奶, 奶酪什么这些东西
And they're all pretty strong-built

391

Érqiě tāmen jiù shuōhuà yòu zhí
而且她们就说话又直

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

because they grow up drinking milk, eating cheese and so on.

392

Hěn duō rén shòubùliǎo, Zhōngguó rén de huà?

很多人受不了，中国人的话？

Also, they are very direct in expressing their opinions.

393

Duì, wǒ jiù juéde hǎoxiàng gēn wǒ xiǎngxiàng zhōng nàzhǒng bù yīyàng

对，我就觉得好像跟我想象中那种不一样

A lot of Chinese can't handle that, right?

394

suǒyǐ jiù méiyǒu zài nàbian...

所以就没有在那边...

Yes, so it's not really what I imagined (a girl to be),

395

Érqiě ne wǒ shíjiān cháng le yǐhòu wǒ jiù...

而且呢我时间长了以后我就...

so I never really...

396

wǒ fāxiàn zìjǐ hǎoxiàng shì dānshēn zhǔyì zhě

我发现自己好像是单身主义者

In addition, as I got older,

397

Jiù méiyǒu xiǎng guo tèdì, yīdìngyào qiǎngqiú qù...

就没有想过特地，一定要强求去...

I realized that I embrace being single.

398

Zhǎo lìngyībàn shénmede?

找另一半什么的？

I never felt the need to force myself to...

399

Wǒ zài Shànghǎi hòulái yě shì

我在上海后来也是

Find a partner?

400

qíshí yějiùshì nàbian liúxué rènshi yǒu yī gè,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

其实也就是那边留学认识有一个,
Later in Shanghai...

401

shuō de hěn yào hǎo de yī gè tóngxué, nǚ tóngxué
说得很要好的一个同学, 女同学
Actually I met a girl during my school years in (the Netherlands),

402

Xiànzài yě suànshì míngyìshàng de nǚ péngyou
现在也算是名义上的女朋友
and I was very close to her.

403

Dànshì tā gōngzuò fēicháng máng
但是她工作非常忙
Right now, she's considered my girlfriend.

404

Wǒ bùshì měicì huí Shànghǎi dōu jiàn de dào
我不是每次回上海都见得到
But she's very busy with work,

405

Jiù jùshǎolíduō de zhèzhǒng | En duì
就聚少离多的这种 | 嗯对
so we rarely see each other.

406

Nǐ zhème jiǔ zài Hólán dehuà, yīzhí dōu hěn xíguàn ma?
你这么久在荷兰的话, 一直都很习惯吗?
It's more of a long-distance thing? | Right.

407

Jiù yǒuméiyǒu shénme tèbié xiǎngniàn Zhōngguó de?
就有没有什么特别想念中国的?
During all those years in the Netherlands, were you used to living there?

408

Méiyǒu xiǎngniàn Zhōngguó, dàn Hólán yǒu gè jiùshì tiānqì
没有想念中国, 但荷兰有个就是天气
Was there anything you particularly missed about China?

409

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Lěng, shì ba?

冷，是吧？

I didn't really miss China, but the weather in the Netherlands could be tough.

410

Lěng shì yīfāngmiàn, tā zhǔyào shì fēng dà

冷是一方面，它主要是风大

It's cold?

411

Fēng dà érqiě tā yángguāng bù duō

风大而且它阳光不多

Being cold is one thing, but the main issue is the strong winds.

412

Dāngrán wǒ yě bù xǐhuan hěn shài

当然我也不喜欢很晒

And there's not much sunshine.

413

Xiàng Tàiguó zhèyàng hěn shài, yě bù xǐhuan

像泰国这样很晒，也不喜欢

Of course, I don't like places that are too sunny either,

414

Dànshì tā jiù zhēnde shì yīntiān duō

但是它就真的是阴天多

like Thailand.

415

Huì ràng nǐ yīnyù ma? | Wǒ hái hǎo

会让你阴郁吗？ | 我还好

But in the Netherlands, it's mostly cloudy.

416

Yě yǒu tīngshuō guo yǒu zhèyàng de

也有听说过有这样的

Did it make you feel depressed? | It was alright for me.

417

Jiàn bùdào tàiyang de rén zhēnde jiù...

见不到太阳的人真的就...

but I've heard that some people did have this (problem).

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

418

Yě bùshì wánquán jiàn bùdào, dànshì tā jiù yīntiān duō.

也不是完全见不到，但是它就阴天多。

People cannot see sun really...

419

Yīnwèi wǒ jìde wǒ nàshíhou qù Hólán, yī běn shū gěi nǐ jièshào

因为我记得我那时候去荷兰，一本书给你介绍

It's not that they never see the sun, but it's just mostly cloudy.

420

tā shuō Hólán de tiānqì kànshàngqu jiùshì gāng xià guo yǔ,

它说荷兰的天气看上去就是刚下过雨，

I remember when I first went to the Netherlands, I read a book that described

421

zhèngzài xià yǔ huòzhě mǎshàng yào xià yǔ, jiùshì zhège tiān

正在下雨或者马上要下雨，就是这个天

the weather there as always looking like it had just rained,

422

Érqiě tā tiānqì fēicháng bùwěndìng, jiù fēng fēicháng dà

而且它天气非常不稳定，就风非常大

was raining, or was about to rain.

423

yīnwèi tā zài dàxīyáng pángbiān

因为它在大西洋旁边

And the weather is very unpredictable, with really strong winds,

424

Jīngcháng chuī nàzhǒng yāo... wǒmen jiào yāofēng

经常吹那种妖... 我们叫妖风

since it's next to the Atlantic Ocean.

425

Wa, nà zhēnde shì hěn kuāzhāng

哇，那真的是很夸张

They often have those "devilish" winds, as (we Chinese) call them.

426

Chuī fēng de shíhou, tèbié shì zài dōngtiān de shíhou,

吹风的时候，特别是在冬天的时候，

Wow, that was really intense!

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

427

nǐ wàimiàn jiù zhēnde shì dāi bùliǎo.

你外面就真的是待不了。

Especially in winter, when the wind is blowing,

428

Hòulái kāishǐ yǒu chē le háiǎo

后来开始有车了还好

you really can't stay outside for long.

429

Yī kāishǐ méi chē, nǐ chūqù dōu shì yào zǒu dào bāshìzhàn,

一开始没车，你出去都是要走到巴士站，

Later when I had a car, it felt better.

430

érqiě tā nàbian de gōnggòngjiāotōng...

而且它那边的公共交通...

At first, I didn't have a car, so I had to walk to the bus stop,

431

Āmǔsītèdān hái xíng

阿姆斯特丹还行

and their public transportation...

432

wǒ hòulái cóng líng jiǔ nián jiù bān dào wǒ hòulái zhù

我后来从零九年就搬到我后来住

Amsterdam was okay,

433

jiù bāokuò mǎi fángzi de nàge xiǎo chéngshì

就包括买房子的那个小城市

but after 2009, I moved to the small city

434

Tā qù āmǔsītèdān nǐ yào me zuò huǒchē, yào me zuò bāshì

它去阿姆斯特丹你要么坐火车，要么坐巴士

where I eventually bought a house.

435

Tā nàge bāshì de bāncì, rúguǒ fēigāofēng shíjiān shì bànxiǎoshí yī bān.

它那个巴士的班次，如果非高峰时间是半小时一班。

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

To get to Amsterdam from there, you either had to take the train or the bus.

436

Nà nǐ bùkěnéng zhèng hǎo dào nàbian lái ma

那你不可能正好到那边来嘛

And the bus schedule, if it's off-peak time, is only every half an hour.

437

Nǐ kěndìng yào tízǎo yīdiǎn qù ma

你肯定要提早一点去嘛

You can't expect to arrive just on time, right?

438

Nǐ tízǎo qù wànyī pèngdào zhèzhǒng fēng hěn dà, yǔ hěn dà de tiān,

你提早去万一碰到这种风很大，雨很大的天，

You have to get there a bit earlier.

439

nǐ jiù děngyú nǐ...

你就等于你...

If you happen to go on a day with strong winds and heavy rain,

440

Háiyǒu yī gè jiùshì, gānghǎo shuōdào zhègè

还有一个就是，刚好说到这个

you're just...

441

Hélanrén xiàyǔ shénme tā bùhuì chēngsǎn de, yīnwèi méiyǒu yòng

荷兰人下雨什么他不会撑伞的，因为没有用

Also, speaking of this,

442

O, jiùshì fēng tài dà huì chuī zǒu shì ma?

哦，就是风太大会吹走是吗？

the Dutch don't use umbrellas when it rains, because it's useless.

443

Duì, nǐ chēngsǎn, nǐ gèng bù róngyì zǒu

对，你撑伞，你更不容易走

Because the wind is so strong it would just blow the umbrella away?

444

Yǔ dà de shíhou, nǐ jiù lín, jiù yīzhí zhème lín zhe

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

雨大的时候，你就淋，就一直这么淋着

Yes, with an umbrella, it will be even harder to walk.

445

Suǒyǐ yǒu hěn duō Hélánrén qíshí

所以有很多荷兰人其实

When it rains heavily, you just let it fall on you

446

bùshì zhè jǐnián, shì zhīqián hěn zǎo bāokuò wǒ qù de nàshíhou,

不是这几年，是之前很早包括我去的那时候，

So, many Dutch people...

447

èrshí nián zhīqián jiù tīngshuō yǒu Hélánrén

二十年之前就听说有荷兰人

Not in recent years, but back when I was there,

448

bāokuò kuài tuìxiū de huòzhě yǐjīng tuìxiū jiù yímín qù nánōu a

包括快退休的或者已经退休就移民去南欧啊

twenty years ago, I heard about Dutch people,

449

Shènzhìyú nàge shíhou, wǒ bùshì shuō wǒ xiǎng xiān qù àodàliya ma?

甚至于那个时候，我不是说我想先去澳大利亚吗？

who were close to retirement or already retired, immigrate to Southern Europe.

450

Wǒ nàge àodàliya āyí hái wèn wǒ

我那个澳大利亚阿姨还问我

Even... I mentioned that I initially planned to study in Australia, right?

451

Tā shuō á? Nǐ qù Hélán!

她说啊？你去荷兰！

My aunt who was in Australia asked me,

452

Tā shuō wǒ zhèbiān yǒu pèngdào cóng Hélán yímín guòlai de,

她说我这边有碰到从荷兰移民过来的，

“Why are you going to the Netherlands?”

453

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

shuō Hólán tiānqì hěn chà

说荷兰天气很差

She said she had met people who immigrated from the Netherlands

454

Dàgài jiùshì, bǐrúshuō wǔ liù nián zhīhòu zài huíguó

大概就是，比如说五六年之后再回国

because the weather there is really bad.

455

huì yǒu fǎnxiàng de wénhuàchōngjī ma?

会有反向的文化冲击吗？

When you went back to China, for example, after five or six years,

456

Jiùshì huíguó zhīhòu yǒu nǎ yīxiē dōngxi shì nǐ bù xíguàn de ma?

就是回国之后有哪一些东西是你不习惯的吗？

did you experience reverse culture shock?

457

Nà tài duō le

那太多了

Were there any things you were not used to after returning to China?

458

Tǔtán xīyān zhèxiē wèntí

吐痰吸烟这些问题

So many!

459

Dāngrán nǐ bùnéng shuō ōuzhōurén jiù gānjìng dào bù tǔtán, bù xīyān

当然你不能说欧洲人就干净到不吐痰，不吸烟

Like spitting and smoking.

460

Dànshì jiù méiyǒu gǎnjué xiàng guónèi nàme yánzhòng.

但是就没有感觉像国内那么严重。

Of course, you can't say Europeans never spit or smoke,

461

Yǒu yī duàn shíjiān wǒ huíqu de shíhòu,

有一段时间我回去的时候，

but it doesn't seem as common as in China.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

462

jiù bùxiǎng zài dāi zài Shànghǎi.

就不想再待在上海。

There was a time when I went back

463

Yīfāngmiàn kōngqìwūrǎn, nàshíhou kōngqì...

一方面空气污染，那时候空气...

and didn't want to stay in Shanghai anymore.

464

Xiànzài hǎo hěn duō

现在好很多

On the one hand, there was air pollution,

465

Yīfāngmiàn lùshàng de, tā bùshì yī huán ma

一方面路上的，它不是一环吗

which has improved a lot now.

466

pū nàge shénme shuǐguǎn a, shénme diànxian rù dì la shénme nàxiē

铺那个什么水管啊，什么电线入地啦什么那些

On the other hand, in the inner ring of Shanghai,

467

jiù wā de yītāhútu

就挖得一塌糊涂

the roads were being dug up for laying pipes and burying electrical cables.

468

ránhòu zhǐyào yī chuī fēng, yáng chén a shénme

然后只要一吹风，扬尘啊什么

It was a mess.

469

huòzhě yī xià yǔ jiù quánbù shì nàxiē níng de lù,

或者一下雨就全部是那些泥泞的路，

Whenever the wind blew, there was dust everywhere,

470

jiù yìnxiàng fēicháng chà.

就印象非常差。

or when it rained, the roads became muddy.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

471

Wǒ nàshíhou gāng kāishǐ de shíhou,
我那时候刚开始的时候,
It left a very bad impression.

472

měicì huídào... cóng Shànghǎi huídào āmùsītèdān jīchǎng,
每次回到... 从上海回到阿姆斯特丹机场,
Initially,

473

zǒuchū nàge fēijī de dìyī kè,
走出那个飞机的第一刻,
every time I returned... from Shanghai to Amsterdam Schiphol Airport,

474

nà xī shàngqu de nà yīkǒu kōngqì dōu shì tián de,
那吸上去的那一口空气都是甜的,
the moment I stepped off the plane,

475

zhēnde yīdiǎn dōu bù kuāzhāng
真的一点都不夸张
the first breath of air I took felt sweet,

476

Hòulái gǎnjué ōuzhōu jiù kāishǐ luòhòu le
后来感觉欧洲就开始落后了
and I'm not exaggerating at all.

477

Guónèi bāokuò jījiàn a shénme dōu qǐlái le ma
国内包括基建啊什么都起来了嘛
Later, I felt that Europe was starting to lag behind.

478

Shànghǎi nàshíhou bàn shìbóhuì,
上海那时候办世博会,
The infrastructure in China was really taking off.

479

èr líng yī líng nián de shíhou bàn shìbóhuì,
2010 年的时候办世博会,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Shanghai was hosting the World Exposition in 2010,

480

dìtiě tūrán yīxiàzi chū le hǎo duō xiàn, jiù hěn fāngbiàn

地铁突然一下子出了好多线，就很方便

and suddenly there were many new subway lines, making it very convenient.

481

Duì, xiànzài xiāngbǐ nǐ gāng líkāi de shíhòu

对，现在相比你刚离开的时候

Yes, compared to when you first left,

482

zhēnde biànhuà hǎo dà de | Duì

真的变化好大的 | 对

the changes were really huge. | Right.

483

Nǐ zài nàbian yě gōngzuò hěn duō nián ma,

你在那边也工作很多年嘛，

You worked (in the Netherlands) for many years, right?

484

gōngzuò wénhuà gēn zài guónèi de zhège yǒu qūbié ma?

工作文化跟在国内的这个有区别吗？

Is the work culture different from what it's like in China?

485

Nǐ hǎoxiàng yě méiyǒu zài guónèi gōngzuò | Duì, méiyǒu zài guónèi

你好像也没有在国内工作 | 对，没有在国内

It seems that you've never worked in China. | Right, never.

486

Dàn wǒ zhīdào zài nàbian kěndìng shì

但我知道在那边肯定是

But I know for sure that (in the Netherlands)

487

méiyǒu jiābān zhèzhǒng shìqing.

没有加班这种事情。

there's no such thing as working overtime.

488

Jiùsuàn nǐ zài nàbian de Zhōngguó rén

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

就算你在那边的中国人
Even for the Chinese there,

489

jiù wǒ shàngbān de nàge jiǔdiàn,
就我上班的那个酒店,
at the hotel where I worked,

490

wǒ jìde nàshíhou jiùshì zǎoshang yě méiyǒu shuō dǎkǎ
我记得那时候就是早上也没有说打卡
I remember we didn't have to clock in the mornings.

491

Wǒmen nàge shíhou shì zǎoshang jiǔ diǎn shàngbān, wǔ diǎn xiàbān,
我们那个时候是早上九点上班，五点下班，
We started to work at nine and finished at five,

492

zhēnde shì zhāo jiǔ wǎn wǔ
真的是朝九晚五
a true nine-to-five schedule.

493

Bāokuò zhōngjiān chīfàn de shíjiān, shì bāokuò zài zhège lǐmiàn de
包括中间吃饭的时间，是包括在这个里面的
That included the lunch break, which was part of the working hours.

494

Wǒ gēn wǒ nàge tóngshì, yīnwèi wǒmen shì zhù zài tóngyī gè chéngshì ma,
我跟我那个同事，因为我们是住在同一个城市嘛，
My colleague and I, since we lived in the same city,

495

Wǒmen liǎng gè jīběnshàng dōu néng bǎozhèng jiǔ diǎn zhīqián jìn bàngōngshì
我们两个基本上都能保证九点之前进办公室
could almost always get to the office before nine.

496

Dàn zhǐyǒu wǒmen liǎng gè rén
但只有我们两个人
But it was just the two of us.

497

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Shèngxià de bùguǎn shì qítā de tóngshì huòzhě lǎobǎn
剩下的不管是其他的同事或者老板
None of the other colleagues or the boss

498

cónglái bùkěnéng zhǔnshí jìnlái de
从来不可能准时进来的
ever arrived on time.

499

Ránhòu dào shíjiān le, dào sì diǎn bàn yǐhòu kāishǐ mànman...
然后到时间了，到四点半以后开始慢慢...
And when it was time (to leave), around 4:30, people already started to...

500

Yī dào wǔ diǎn yǒushíhou shènzhì méi dào wǔ diǎn,
一到五点有时候甚至没到五点,
At 5pm, sometimes, not even five yet,

501

lǎobǎn jiù shuō, méi shénme shìqing nǐmen kěyǐ zǒu le
老板就说，没有什么事情你们可以走了
the boss would say: "There's nothing left to do, you guys go home now."

502

Zhème fàngsōng de? | Jiù fēicháng fàngsōng
这么放松的？ | 就非常放松
It was that laxed? | Yes, very much.

503

Zhège hěn hǎo ai
这个很好唉
That's great!

504

Nàbian jiùshì yǒu zhèzhǒng shàngxià jí fēicháng míngxiǎn de guānxi ma?
那边就是有这种上下级非常明显的关系吗？
Is there a very clear hierarchy?

505

Yě méiyǒu
也没有
No.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

506

Jiùshì nǐ shì lǎobǎn wǒ yīdìngyào zūnzhòng nǐ, zhèyàngzi

就是你是老板我一定要尊重你，这样子

For example, if you're the boss, I have to respect you?

507

Méiyǒu, dōu méiyǒu

没有，都没有

No.

508

Érqiě tóngshì zhījiān, bùguǎn nǐ shì zuò jīnglǐ de,

而且同事之间，不管你是做经理的，

Also, among colleagues, whether you're a manager or not,

509

zuò shénme jiù dōu shì zhíjiē... yě méiyǒu xiàng Zhōngguó rén kètào

做什么就都是直接... 也没有像中国人客套

everyone is very direct... It's not like the polite formality you see in China,

510

huòzhě yě bù jiào... suàn kètào shénme, xǐhuan jiào shénme zǒng a

或者也不叫... 算客套什么，喜欢叫什么总啊

where people might call someone "Director" or "Manager."

511

Zhíjiē jiào míngzi, shì ma?

直接叫名字，是吗？

They just call each other by their first names?

512

Jiùshì zhíjiē, dàjiā dōu shì hùxiāng zhíjiē chēnghu míngzi de

就是直接，大家都是互相直接称呼名字的

Yes, everyone just calls each other by their first names directly.

513

Nǐ gèng xíguàn tāmen nàbian de gōngzuò wénhuà háishi guónèi de?

你更习惯他们那边的工作文化还是国内的？

Which work culture do you prefer, theirs or China's?

514

Nà kěndìng shì nàbian a

那肯定是那边啊

Definitely theirs.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

515

Suǒyǐ wǒ jiù cóngláméi xiǎng guo yào zài guónèi zhǎo gōngzuò

所以我就从来没想过要在国内找工作

That's why I've never considered looking for a job in China.

516

Jiùsuàn huí guónèi, jiù gēn xiànzài zài Tàiguó de qíngkuàng shì yīyàng de

就算回国内，就跟现在在泰国的情况是一样的

Even if I do go back to China to stay, it will be like the situation I have now in Thailand—

517

jiù guò yīxiē jiǎndān de shēnghuó lo

就过一些简单的生活咯

just living a simple life.

518

Nǐ yě bǐjiào fóxì

你也比较佛系

You're pretty laid-back.

519

Duì, yě juǎn bùguò biéren

对，也卷不过别人

Yes, and I can't really compete with (Chinese).

520

Yě bùxiǎng qù juǎn, yě fǎngǎn

也不想去卷，也反感

Also, I don't want to and I'm repulsed by (the thought of doing it),

521

suǒyǐ jiù zhèyàng

所以就这样

so that's why I am like this.

522

Wǒ yě shì kàn le nǐ de péngyouquān,

我也是看了你的朋友圈，

I've seen from your WeChat Moment

523

fāxiàn nǐ qù le hěn duō guójiā lǚyóu

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

发现你去了很多国家旅游
that you've travelled to many countries,

524

bāokuò qù le shénme Měiguó
包括去了什么美国
including the United States.

525

Ōuzhōu guójiā jiù bù yòng shuō le, kěndìng dōu qù guo le
欧洲国家就不用说了，肯定都去过了
European countries, of course, you've been to all of them.

526

Nà nǐ zài Měiguó dāi le duōjiǔ?
那你在美国待了多久?
How long did you stay in the US?

527

Měiguó qíshí shì zhèyàng de
美国其实是这样的
Actually, the US....

528

Wǒ nàshíhou bùshì shuō wài pài qù Déguó chàbùduō liǎng nián ma
我那时候不是说外派去德国差不多两年嘛
I was sent to Germany for almost two years, right?

529

Nàbian dehuà jiù bǐjiào qīngsōng... Gōngzuò shì bǐjiào qīngsōng
那边的话就比较轻松... 工作是比较轻松
Life there was pretty relaxed... work-wise, it was quite easy,

530

dànshì jīngshén shàngmiàn yīnwèi Zhōngguó rén gōngsī ma jiù bǐjiào...
但是精神上因为中国人公司嘛就比较...
but mentally, because it was a Chinese company, it was a bit...

531

Yāyī ma?
压抑吗?
Oppressive?

532

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Jiù nèihào, suǒyǐ ne jiù hěn fán

就内耗，所以呢就很烦

It was emotionally draining (dealing with Chinese), so I feel stressed.

533

Fán yòng shénme jiěyā ne? Jiùshì bùtíng de chūqù lǚyóu

烦用什么解压呢？就是不停地出去旅游

What did I do to relieve the stress? I just traveled all the time.

534

Déguó dāi de nà liǎng nián, wǒ qù de...

德国待的那两年，我去的...

During those two years in Germany, I went to...

535

Yīfāngmiàn Déguó, yòu lí ōuzhōu fùdì gèng jìn le

一方面德国，又离欧洲腹地更近了

Well, since Germany is in the heart of Europe, it is close to

536

shénme Ruìshì a, pángbiān Jiékè a

什么瑞士啊、旁边捷克啊

Switzerland, the Czech Republic,

537

bāokuò Dānmài shénme, bāokuò huí Hélán a

包括丹麦什么、包括回荷兰啊

Denmark, the Netherlands,

538

qù Lúsēnbǎo a, Bīlìshí a, Fǎguó dōu hěn jìn

去卢森堡啊，比利时啊，法国都很近

Luxembourg, Belgium, and France.

539

Jiù zhōuwéi pǎo le hěn duō dìfang

就周围跑了很多地方

I travelled a lot around those countries.

540

Ránhòu ne yīnwèi zài nàbian wài pài dehuà ne yǒu bǔtiē jīn,

然后呢因为在那边外派的话呢有补贴金，

Also, since I was on an oversea assignment, I received a subsidy (from my Netherlands company),

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

541

suǒyǐ jiù shōurù yě gèng hǎo yīxiē.

所以就收入也更好一些。

so my income was higher.

542

Suǒyǐ jiù... érqǐě Déguó tā yǒu Déguó hángkōnggōngsī a

所以就... 而且德国它有德国航空公司啊

Plus, with Lufthansa being the national airline,

543

bāokuò nǐ cóng Déguó fēi qítā dìfang zhuǎnjī huòzhě shénme

包括你从德国飞其他地方转机或者什么

and the fact that you can find a lot of cheap flights

544

tā yǒu hěn duō de nàzhǒng... kěyǐ zhǎodào piányi de jīpiào

它有很多的那种... 可以找到便宜的机票

from Germany to other places,

545

Suǒyǐ wǒ nàshíhou chàbùduō bànnián jiù

所以我那时候差不多半年就

I was able to go back to China or Asia

546

kěyǐ huíguó huòzhě huí yīcì Yàzhōu

可以回国或者回一次亚洲

about once every six months.

547

Nà wǒ jiùshì Rìběn, shénme Táiwān a

那我就是日本、什么台湾啊

So I travelled to Japan, Taiwan,

548

shénme bāokuò guónèi jiù yīzhí pǎo

什么包括国内就一直跑

and China.

549

Hòulái wǒ jiù zài zhǎo jīpiào, wǒ jiù xiǎng zhǎo zhǎo kàn...

后来我就在找机票，我就想找找看...

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Later, I started looking for flights, just searching around...

550

Měiguó méi qù guo ma, xiǎng qù kànkàn

美国没去过嘛，想去看看

Since I hadn't been to the US, I wanted to check it out.

551

Tūrán... wǒ jìde nàshíhou shì yī jiǔ nián de shíyuèfèn,

突然... 我记得那时候是一九年的十月份，

Suddenly, I remember it was in October 2019,

552

zhǎodào nàge láihuí... Cóng Fǎlánkèfú qù Niǔyuē de jīpiào

找到那个来回... 从法兰克福去纽约的机票

I found a round-trip ticket from Frankfurt to New York

553

láihuí cái sì bǎi duō ōuyuán | Hǎo piányi o

来回才四百多欧元 | 好便宜哦

for only a little over 400 euros. | So cheap!

554

Ránhòu zài guò yī gè yuè, shíyīyuè

然后再过一个月，十一月

A month later, in November,

555

shì Fǎlánkèfú láihuí Jiùjīnshān

是法兰克福来回旧金山

another round-trip from Frankfurt to San Francisco,

556

jiāshàng yī gè xīngqī de zū chē shì chàbùduō liù bǎi ōuyuán

加上一个星期的租车是差不多六百欧元

plus a week's car rental, was about 600 euros.

557

Jiù juéde hěn piányi, jiù tóngshí bǎ zhè liǎng gè jīpiào dìng xiàlai le.

就觉得便宜，就同时把这两个机票定下来了。

I thought it was a great deal, so I booked both flights.

558

Jiù děng yúshì fēnkāi, liǎng duàn xíngchéng

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

就等于分开，两段行程
So it was two separate trips.

559

Liǎng cì qù de? | Liǎng cì qù de
两次去的? | 两次去的
You went twice? | Yes.

560

Juéde zěnmeyàng nàbian?
觉得怎么样那边?
What did you think of the country?

561

Yě jiù zhèyàng qíshí
也就这样其实
It was just okay, actually.

562

Niǔyuē dehuà, jiù gēn wǒ xiǎngxiàng zhōng chàbùduō
纽约的话，就跟我想象中差不多
New York was pretty much as I imagined it,

563

jiù zhèzhǒng dàchéngshì a shénme
就这种大城市啊什么
a big city vibe.

564

Tāmen nàbian rén gēn ōuzhōu jiùshì Hólánrén yǒuméiyǒu qūbié?
他们那边人跟欧洲就是荷兰人有没有区别?
Is there a difference between the people there and the Dutch?

565

Niǔyuē de dìtiě lǐmiàn hěn luàn, duì
纽约的地铁里面很乱，对
The New York subway was quite chaotic

566

ránhòu gèng rènao yīxiē le
然后更热闹一些了
and it was more lively

567

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

yīnwèi bìjìng shì dàchéngshì
因为毕竟是大城市
after all, it is a big city.

568
Tā jiùshì ōuzhōu de nàzhǒng fēnwéi
它就是欧洲的那种氛围
It has that European atmosphere,

569
ránhòu jiāshàng guónèi de nàge rènao, duì, zhèzhǒng de
然后加上国内的那个热闹，对，这种的
but with the liveliness of China.

570
Nà huì juéde bù ānquán ma?
那会觉得不安全吗?
Did you feel unsafe?

571
Yǒu bù ānquán de gǎnjué
有不安全的感觉
I did feel a bit unsafe,

572
Tèbié shì zài Niǔyuē zài dìtiě lǐmiàn,
特别是在纽约在地铁里面,
especially in the New York subway.

573
bāokuò zài táng rén jiē yě bùshì gǎnjué tèbié...
包括在唐人街也不是感觉特别...
Even in Chinatown, it didn't feel particularly...

574
Érqiě tā nàbian jiùshì jiēdào,
而且它那边就是街道,
Also, the streets there,

575
yǒude dìfang jiùshì xiǎode nàge jiēdào lǐmiàn
有的地方就是小的那个街道里面
especially in the smaller streets,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

576

huì yǒuyīxiē liúlànghàn a shénme
会有一些流浪汉啊什么
there were homeless people.

577

Nǐ bùyào guāng shuō zài nàge piān de dìfang,
你不要光说在那个偏的地方,
This was not just in remote areas,

578

nǐ jiùshì zài shénme suǒwèi dìwǔ dàdào, zui rènao de pángbiān
你就是在什么所谓第五大道, 最热闹的旁边
but near Fifth Avenue, which is super lively,

579

bāokuò hòulái zǒu dào zhōngyāng gōngyuán lǐmiàn yě yǒu kàndào.
包括后来走到中央公园里面也有看到。
and even inside Central Park, you could see (homeless people).

580

Huì hàipà ma? Zhège zài Hólán shìbùshì méiyǒu?
会害怕吗? 这个在荷兰是不是没有?
Were you scared? Is that something you don't see in the Netherlands?

581

Hólán yě yǒu, dàn hólán wǒ jiù bǐjiào gǎn jiùshì wǎnshang chūqù
荷兰也有, 但荷兰我就比较敢就是晚上出去
The Netherlands has (homeless peoples too), but I felt safer out at night there.

582

Zài Měiguó dehuà jiù bù tài gǎn
在美国的话就不太敢
In the US, I didn't feel comfortable (going out).

583

Wǒ jìde yǒuyīcì wǎnshang chūqù, shì qù kàn yèjǐng
我记得有一次晚上出去, 是去看夜景
I remember one night I went out to see the night life,

584

ránhòu huíqu de shíhou mán kǒngbù de.
然后回去的时候蛮恐怖的。
and on the way back, I felt pretty terrified.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

585

Jiù gǎnjǐn xià le... chū le dìtiě

就赶紧下了... 出了地铁

So, I quickly exited the subway.

586

Yǒu qíguài de rén háishi zěnmeyàng?

有奇怪的人还是怎么样?

Did you run into strange people or something like that?

587

Duì, gǎnjué fǎnzhèng zhōubiān jiù bù tài ānquán le zhèzhǒng gǎnjué

对, 感觉反正周边就不太安全了这种感觉

Yes, and it felt very unsafe.

588

Nǐ juéde nàbian de rén yǒuhǎo ma? Jiù pǔtōngrén

你觉得那边的人友好吗? 就普通人

Do you think people there are friendly? I mean, ordinary people?

589

Hǎoxiàng yě bùshì tèbié yǒuhǎo, hái xíng

好像也不是特别友好, 还行

Not particularly friendly, but they were okay.

590

Jiù méiyǒu Hélánrén zhèzhǒng yǒuhǎo

就没有荷兰人这种友好

They're not as friendly as the Dutch.

591

Yě kěnéng shì yīnwèi jiù shēnchǔ zài nàge mòshēng de huánjìng

也可能是因为就身处在那个陌生的环境

Maybe it's because I was in an unfamiliar environment,

592

érqiě shì yīzhǒng bù tài ānquán de gǎnjué

而且是一种不太安全的感觉

and there was this sense of insecurity,

593

suǒyǐ jiù méiyǒu tèbié de qù gēn biéren jiēchù

所以就没有特别地去跟别人接触

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

so I didn't really try to interact with others much,

594

yīnwèi wǒ yīgèrén lǚyóu ma.

因为我一个人旅游嘛。

after all, I was travelling alone.

595

Fǎnzhèng nǐ yě bùhuì juéde yīgèrén qù gūdú

反正你也不会觉得一个人去孤独

You don't feel lonely even when you're alone anyway.

596

Gūdú shì méiyǒu, dànshì qíshí shì qù Měiguó yīgèrén tǐng wēixiǎn de

孤独是没有，但是其实是去美国一个人挺危险的

Not lonely, but actually, travelling alone in the US can be quite dangerous.

597

Hòulái qù... zài Jiāzhōu de nà yīcì jiùshì kāichē ma

后来去... 在加州的那一次就是开车嘛

The time I drove in California

598

kāichē nà cì fǎn'ér dào shāowēi hǎo yīdiǎn

开车那次反而倒稍微好一点

actually felt better.

599

Érqiě shì zài... yǒu yī duàn lù shì yánzhe hǎibiān kāi,

而且是在... 有一段路是沿着海边开，

Also, part of the trip was along the coast,

600

nàge jiù rén huì... xīnqíng huì shāowēi fàngsōng xiàlai yīdiǎn

那个就人会... 心情会稍微放松下来一点

so I felt a bit more relaxed.

601

Érqiě zài nàge shìzhōngxīn wài lǚyóu,

而且在那个市中心外旅游，

In addition, when traveling outside the city center,

602

jiù nàzhǒng jiāowài jiù méiyǒu nàme duō rén

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

就那种郊外就没有那么多人
in the countryside,

603

xiāngxia dìfang jiù méiyǒu nàme duō rén, jiù huì gǎnjué hǎo yīdiǎn.
乡下地方就没有那么多人，就会感觉好一点。
where there weren't many people, it felt better.

604

Huánjìng a gè fāngmiàn yě huì hǎo yīdiǎn.
环境啊各方面也会好一点。
The environment was nicer too.

605

Kāichē shì zhíjiē jiù yòng nǐ de jiàzhào jiù kěyǐ kāi de, shì ba?
开车是直接就用你的驾照就可以开的，是吧？
You can just use your (Dutch) driver's license, right?

606

Wǒ shì zài Hólán bàn de nàge guójì jiàzhào
我是在荷兰办的那个国际驾照
I got an international driver's license in the Netherlands.

607

Hòulái qíshí wǒ juéde shì gēnběn bù xūyào,
后来其实我觉得是根本不需要，
But later, I realized it was actually unnecessary,

608

yīnwèi Měiguórén jiù bǐjiào suíbiàn.
因为美国人就比较随便。
because Americans were pretty laid-back about this.

609

Érqiě nǐ de nàge Hólán jiàzhào shàng qíshí yǒu Yīngwén de ma
而且你的那个荷兰驾照上其实有英文的嘛
Also, my Dutch driver's license already had English on it,

610

tā zhǐyào yǒu Yīngwén de, jiù néng zhīdào nǐ zhè shì jiàzhào jiù xíng.
他只要有英文的，就能知道你这是驾照就行。
so as long as they could see it's a license, they were fine.

611

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Zhīdào nǐ huì kāi jiù hǎo le

知道你会开就好了

They just needed to know you could drive.

612

Yīnwèi wǒ jìde wǒ nàshíhou zū chē de shíhou

因为我记得我那时候租车的时候

I remember when I was renting a car,

613

bǎ wǒ guójì jiàzhào gēn Hólán hùzhào yīqǐ

把我国际驾照跟荷兰护照一起

I showed them my international license and my Dutch passport,

614

tā shuō that is not necessary jiùshì bù xūyào

他说 that is not necessary 就是不需要

and he said, "That's not necessary."

615

Érqiě tā kěnéng yǒu hěn duō ōuzhōurén guòqù zū chē

而且他可能有很多欧洲人过去租车

He had probably seen many Europeans renting cars.

616

tā nàge shàngmiàn yǒu yī gè ōuméng de biāozhì

它那个上面有一个欧盟的标志

There's an EU logo on (our driver's license)

617

yī kàn jiù zhīdào shì ōuméng de jiàzhào

一看就知道是欧盟的驾照

so he could tell right away that it's an EU driver's license.

618

Jiēxiàlái dehuà,

接下来的话,

Next,

619

Jiùshì yào jiǎngdào nǐ shì zěnmeyàng lái dào Tàiguó de?

就是要讲到你是怎么样来到泰国的?

let's talk about how you ended up in Thailand.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

620

Yìqíng de shíhòu kāishǐ, wǒ nàshíhòu shì guò wán nián,
疫情的时候开始，我那时候是过完年，
When the pandemic started, we had just celebrated the Chinese New Year

621

gēn wǒ māma yìqǐ cóng Shànghǎi
跟我妈妈一起从上海
and I was in Shanghai with my mom.

622

Nàge shíhòu guónèi gānggāng kāishǐ bàofā jiù juéde hěn yánzhòng
那个时候国内刚刚开始爆发就觉得很严重
The outbreak had just started in China and it seemed pretty serious,

623

jiù xiǎng qù Hólán dehuà kěyǐ shāowēi bì yīxià,
就想去荷兰的话可以稍微避一下，
so I thought going back to the Netherlands might be a way to avoid it

624

yǐwéi tā hěn kuài jiù guòqù le.
以为它很快就过去了。
thinking that it would pass quickly.

625

Méixiǎngdào hòulái yě chuán dào ōuzhōu,
没想到后来也传到欧洲，
But then it spread to Europe,

626

ránhòu jiù yuèlái yuè lihai, suǒyǐ bù gǎn chūqù.
然后就越来越厉害，所以不敢出去。
and things got worse and worse, so I was even afraid to go out.

627

Jiù yīzhí zài... kùn zài nàlǐ
就一直在... 困在那里
(Me and my mom) were stuck (in the Netherlands).

628

Hòulái děng tā mànman hángbān huīfù le
后来等它慢慢航班恢复了
Later, when flights started to resume

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

629

Shíyuèfèn wǒ jìde shì
十月份我记得是
in October, I remember,

630

Ránhòu wǒ māma jiù shí zài shì nàge qiānzhèng yě xù bùliǎo le
然后我妈妈就实在是那个签证也续不了了
my mom's visa couldn't be extended anymore.

631

Qíshí yǐjīng yúqī le ma,
其实已经逾期了嘛,
It had actually already expired,

632

dànshì tā nàge shíhou jiù bǐjiào sōng le
但是它那个时候就比较松了
but (the Dutch) were pretty lenient at the time

633

jiù zhíjiē jiù fàng tā zǒu
就直接就放她走
so they just let her go back (to China in October).

634

Ránhòu wǒ jiù zài wǒ nàge zhù de dìfang yīzhí dāi zhe
然后我就在我那个住的地方一直待着
But I stayed (in the Netherlands),

635

yīnwèi yī kāishǐ yīzhí dōu shì nàge bǐjiào yánzhòng nàge bìngdú ma
因为一开始一直都是那个比较严重那个病毒嘛
because the virus was still pretty bad at first,

636

yě bùxiǎng chūqù gǎnrǎn a shénme
也不想出去感染啊什么
and I didn't want to go out and get infected.

637

Ránhòu hòulái jiù kāishǐ yǒu yìmiáo chūlái le,
然后后来就开始有疫苗出来了,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Later, when the vaccines started to come out,

638

jiù kāishǐ dǎ dìyī zhēn, dì'èr zhēn

就开始打第一针，第二针

people began getting their first and second doses.

639

Dǎ wán dì'èr zhēn yǐhòu ne jiù kěyǐ kāishǐ chūqù zhǎo gōngzuò le

打完第二针以后呢就可以开始出去找工作了

After the second dose, I could go out and look for a job.

640

Érqiě jiù yī kāishǐ huīfù de shíhou,

而且从一开始恢复的时候，

At first, when things started to reopen,

641

jiù méiyǒu hěn duō rén chūqù gōngzuò de shíhou

就没有很多人出去工作的时候

not many people were going out to work.

642

yǒuxiē bìxū yào yǒu rén qù zuò de gōngzuò

有些必须要有人去做的工作

There were some jobs that just had to be done,

643

bǐrú hòulái wǒ qù zhǎo de jiùshì sòng... zài Hólán yóuzhèng

比如后来我去找的就是送... 在荷兰邮政

like the one I found later, working for the Dutch postal service,

644

kāi nàzhǒng xiǎo de miànbāochē qù sòng nàge bāoguǒ nàzhǒng gōngzuò

开那种小的面包车去送那个包裹那种工作

driving a small van to deliver packages.

645

Jiù qù dàgài zuò le...

就去大概做了...

I worked there

646

cóng èr líng èr yī nián jiǔyuèfèn kāishǐ zuòdào èr líng èr èr nián jiǔyuèfèn

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

从 2021 年九月份开始做到 2022 年九月份
between September 2021 and September 2022.

647

Běnlái shì kěyǐ yīzhí zuò xiàqu de,
本来是可以一直做下去的,
I could have kept working there,

648

jiùshì èr líng èr èr nián jiǔyuèfèn lái Tàiguó dìyīcì dùjià
就是 2022 年九月份来泰国第一次度假
but in September 2022, I took my first vacation to Thailand.

649

Nàge shíhou ne, zhīqián huí Shànghǎi yǒu yī zhāng jīpiào ma
那个时候呢, 之前回上海有一张机票嘛
At that time, I had a ticket to go back to Shanghai,

650

Dànshì nà zhāng jīpiào bùshì qǔxiāo le ma?
但是那张机票不是取消了吗?
but it got canceled (due to the pandemic), right?

651

Wǒ māma nàge shì gǎiqiān le, ránhòu wǒ nàge jiùshì
我妈妈那个是改签了, 然后我那个就是
My mom's ticket was rescheduled, but mine (got cancelled).

652

tā jiù gěi le nǐ yī zhāng dài jīn quàn, Hélán hángkōnggōngsī de
它就给了你一张代金券, 荷兰航空公司的
So, KLM (Dutch airline) gave me a voucher instead.

653

Nà wǒ jiù xiǎng shuō zhǎo yī gè...
那我就想说找一个...
I thought,

654

yīnwèi nǐ rúguǒ zhǐshì zài ōuzhōu jìngnèi yě méiyǒu shénme yìsi ma
因为你如果只是在欧洲境内也没有什么意思嘛
since traveling within Europe wasn't that interesting,

655

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

nà wǒ jiù xiǎng zhǎo yī gè yuǎn yīdiǎn de
那我就想找一个远一点的
I should look for a place further away.

656

Nàge shíhou yě méiyǒu xiǎng guo qù Měiguó,
那个时候也没有想过去美国,
I didn't really consider the US at that time

657

nàge shíhou Měiguó hái tǐng yánzhòng de
那个时候美国还挺严重的
because it was still pretty bad there during the pandemic,

658

érqiě tǐng luàn de yìqíng qījiān
而且挺乱的疫情期间
and things were chaotic.

659

Suǒyǐ hái shì xiǎng wǎng Yàzhōu, dànshì guónèi hái méiyǒu kāifàng
所以还是想往亚洲, 但是国内还没有开放
So, I wanted to go to Asia, but China wasn't open yet.

660

Hòulái zhǎo... wǒ kàn Tàiguó de jīpiào hái tǐng piányi
后来找... 我看泰国的机票还挺便宜
Then, I looked at flights to Thailand, and they were cheap.

661

Jiù zìjǐ jīběnshàng bù yòng tiē, jiù tiē le jǐ shí kuài qián
就自己基本上不用贴, 就贴了几十块钱
I only had to pay a little extra, less than 50 yuan,

662

Érqiě nàshíhou bù xūyào... nǐ zhǐyào dǎ le yìmiáo,
而且那时候不需要... 你只要打了疫苗,
Plus, at that time, you didn't need to take a PCR test if you were vaccinated.

663

yǒu yìmiáo zhèngmíng nǐ bù xūyào qù zuò hésuān de
有疫苗证明你不需要去做核酸的
You just needed to show proof of vaccination,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

664

Nà wǒ xiǎng mán hǎo, jiù guòlái shìshìkàn
那我想蛮好，就过来试试看
I thought that was nice, so I decided to give it a try.

665

yě méiyǒu lái guo
也没有来过
I had never been to Thailand before

666

yīnwèi wǒ yī kāishǐ duì Tàiguó de yìnxiàng,
因为我一开始对泰国的印象,
because my impression of Thailand,

667

hěn zǎo zhīqián jiù juéde hěn luàn.
很早之前就觉得很乱。
was that it was quite dangerous.

668

Wǒ juéde Tàiguó jiù gēn Jiǎnpǔzhài a Miǎndiàn shì yīyàng
我觉得泰国就跟柬埔寨啊缅甸是一样
I thought Thailand was similar to Cambodia, Myanmar

669

Lǎowō zhèzhǒng jiù fēicháng... yòu luòhòu yòu luàn
老挝这种就非常...又落后又乱
and Laos which were backwards and messy.

670

Hòulái xiǎng kěyǐ lái shìshìkàn ma
后来想可以来试试看嘛
But I thought I'd give it a try,

671

Fǎnzhèng yě zhǐshì guòlái lǚyóu ma
反正也只是过来旅游嘛
just for a vacation.

672

Hòulái lái le yǐhòu jiù juéde yìnxiàng jiù fēicháng hǎo
后来来了以后就觉得印象就非常好
After I came here, my impression changed completely.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

673

Chī ya ránhòu wán ya ránhòu xiāofèi yě bùsuàn hěn guì
吃呀然后玩呀然后消费也不算很贵
The food, activities, and the cost of living wasn't too high.

674

Érqiě wǒ nàshíhòu shì Hólán háiyǒu gōngzuò de shíhòu
而且我那时候是荷兰还有工作的时候
Also, at that time, I still had a job in the Netherlands,

675

jiù juéde cóng nàbian de gōngzī ná guòlai huàn Tàizhū
就觉得从那边的工资拿过来换泰铢
so taking my salary and changing it to Thai bahts

676

nà huā qilai jiǎnzhí shì tài shuǎng le
那花起来简直是太爽了
felt amazing!

677

Yī kāishǐ yě méiyǒu xiǎng guo yào guòlái
一开始也没有想过要过来
I didn't originally plan to move here.

678

Hòulái yīfāngmiàn shì guónèi nàshíhòu fēng zhe ma,
后来一方面是国内那时候封着嘛,
But China was still under lockdown,

679

yòu huí bù qù, wǒ mā yě chū bù lái
又回不去, 我妈也出不来
so I couldn't go back, and my mom couldn't come out.

680

yě bù zhīdào yào fēng dào shénmeshíhòu.
也不知道要封到什么时候。
We didn't know when it would end.

681

Nà jiù xiǎng zhǎo yī gè gēn guónèi jìn yīdiǎn de dìfang,
那就想找一个跟国内近一点的地方,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

So I thought about finding a place closer to China,

682

jiù zhìshǎo méiyǒu shíchā.

就至少没有时差。

at least somewhere without a big time difference.

683

Ránhòu yīdàn kāifàng le,

然后一旦开放了，

Once things opened up again,

684

bùguǎn shì jiē wǒ māma guòlái huòzhě shì wǒ huíqu dōu jìn ma

不管是接我妈妈过来或者是我回去都近嘛

whether it was bringing my mom over or me going back, it would be more convenient.

685

Wǒ nàtiān hái gēn nǐ shuō, wǒ shuō

我那天还跟你说，我说

I mentioned to you the other day,

686

qù nàge shāngchǎng lǐmiàn,

去那个商场里面，

I was in a shopping mall

687

kàndào tā zài mài fángzi, mài nàge gōngyù

看到他在卖房子，卖那个公寓

and saw salespeople selling condos (in Thailand).

688

Ránhòu wǒ hái qù zīxún le yīxià,

然后我还去咨询了一下，

I inquired about it,

689

shuō wàiguórén yě kěyǐ mǎi.

说外国人也可以买。

and they said foreigners could buy condos too.

690

Érqiě wǒ yī suàn nàge jiàgé gēn ōuyuán bǐ qilai,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

而且我一算那个价格跟欧元比起来,
When I compared the prices to euros,

691

nà jiǎnzhí jiù... jiùshì shuō báicài jià yīyàng
那简直就... 就是说白菜价一样
(the Thai condos) felt dirt cheap.

692

Nà wǒ jiù xiǎng, rúguǒ kěyǐ bǎ nàbian de fángzi màidiào,
那我就想, 如果可以把那边的房子卖掉,
So I thought, if I could sell my place (in the Netherlands),

693

érqiě zài yìqíng de qījiān, nàbian de fángzi zhǎng de fēicháng lìhai
而且在疫情的期间, 那边的房子涨得非常厉害
especially since property prices surged a lot during the pandemic,...

694

Suǒyǐ wǒ suàn le yīxià, rúguǒ màidiào huán diào dài kuǎn yǐhòu
所以我算了一下, 如果卖掉还掉贷款以后
So I did the math, and after paying off the mortgage,

695

hái néng shèngxià de qián néng zài Tàiguó mǎi yītào quán jià de gōngyù,
还能剩下的钱能在泰国买一套全价的公寓,
I could still afford a fully paid condo here in Thailand,

696

ránhòu hái kěyǐ bàn nàge jīngyīng qiānzhèng,
然后还可以办那个精英签证,
and even get the Thai Elite Visa,

697

ránhòu hái yǒu néng shèng yīdiǎn,
然后还有能剩一点,
with a little left over for living expenses

698

qián yī liǎng nián de shēnghuófèi yě yǒu.
前一两年的生活费也有。
for the first couple of years.

699

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Nà wǒ xiǎng wèishénme bù? Hèlè'èrbùwéi ne?

那我想为什么不? 何乐而不为呢?

I thought, why not?

700

Érqiě wǒ jiù juéding de fēicháng kuài

而且我就决定得非常快

I made up my mind very quickly.

701

Ér líng èr èr nián jiǔyuèfèn lái dìyīcì ma

2022年九月份来第一次嘛

I first came here in September 2022,

702

huíqu yǐhòu gēn wǒ mā shāngliang le yīxià

回去以后跟我妈商量了一下

and after I went back, I discussed it with my mom,

703

mǎshàng jiù juéding mǎshàng cízhí,

马上就决定马上辞职,

and immediately decided to quit my job.

704

dì'èr gè xīngqī jiù dìng le lái zhèlǐ de jīpiào.

第二个星期就订了来这里的机票。

The following week I booked a flight to here.

705

Nǐ māma yě tóngyì le? | En

你妈妈也同意了? | 嗯

Did your mom agree? | Yes.

706

Tā kěnéng shìbùshì gèng xīwàng nǐ zài Tàiguó,

她可能是不是更希望你在泰国,

Maybe she preferred you to be in Thailand,

707

bǐjiào jìn yīdiǎn? | Duì

比较近一点? | 对

closer to home? | Yes.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

708

Érqiě tā zhīdào wǒ fēicháng yǒuzhǔjiàn de yī gè rén

而且她知道我非常有主见的一个人

But she knew I was a very decisive person.

709

wǒ shì zài gēn tā shāngliang, dànshì qíshí tā rúguǒ yǒu shénme

我是在跟她商量，但是其实她如果有什么

I was consulting her, but honestly, if she had any objections,

710

wǒ yě tīngbùjìnqu

我也听不进去

I probably wouldn't have listened.

711

Jiù xiǎng zhèyàng zuò jiù zhèyàng zuò le

就想这样做就这样做了

I wanted to do it, so I did it.

712

Érqiě yě bùshì shénme dà de wèntí, jiù...

而且也不是什么大的问题，就...

And it wasn't really a big matter.

713

Zhège hái bùshì dà wèntí a?

这个还不是大问题啊？

It wasn't a big deal?

714

Suànshì bǎ zhěnggè jiā bān lái le | Dui

算是把整个家搬来了 | 对

I mean, you moved your entire home here. | Right.

715

Hǎo, ránhòu jiù shíyuèfèn... wǒ shíyuèfèn jiù guòlái,

好，然后就十月份... 我十月份就过来，

So, I came over in October,

716

ránhòu guòlái dìyī gè xīngqī jiù zū dào fángzi le

然后过来第一个星期就租到房子了

and within the first week, I found an apartment to stay.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

717

Yī kāishǐ shì xiān qù zhōuwéi zhǎo nàxiē gōngyù

一开始是先去周围找那些公寓

Then, I started looking around at different condos,

718

yào bǐjiào bùtóng de dìduàn a

要比较不同的地段啊

comparing different locations.

719

Zài gòu fáng de shíhòu, shì ba?

在购房的时候，是吧？

You were looking to buy a condo, right?

720

Mǎi fángzi jiù qù hěn duō bùtóng de xiàngmù

买房子就去很多不同的项目

Yes, I visited many different communities.

721

Érqiě wǒ bù yòng zhǎo zhōngjiè,

而且我不用找中介，

And I didn't use a real estate agent.

722

wǒ jiù zìjǐ zhīdào nàge zài shénme dìfang yǐhòu, zìjǐ zhǎo...

我就自己知道那个在什么地方以后，自己找...

Once I knew where they were, I just went there myself...

723

Yī kāishǐ hái zhǐshì zuò qīngguǐ a, dìtiě

一开始还只是坐轻轨啊，地铁

At first, I took the light rail (BTS) or the subway,

724

Hòulái shúxī le yǐhòu kāishǐ zuò tā de bāshì

后来熟悉了以后开始坐它的巴士

but later, once I got familiar with the area, I started taking the bus

725

ránhòu jiù qù kàn

然后就去

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

to explore (these condos).

726

Kàn le wǒ gūji yǒu shíjǐ èrshí gè bùtóng de xiàngmù ba

看了我估计有十几个不同的项目吧

I probably looked at over a dozen different communities.

727

Hòulái jiù zhǎo le nàge qīngguǐ yánxiàn

后来就找了那个轻轨沿线

Then I found one along the BTS,

728

érqiě tā yǐjīng shì suàn chū le Màngǔ

而且它已经是算出了曼谷

which is actually outside of Bangkok.

729

Jiù nǐ de fángzi shì mǎi de bùzài Màngǔ zhōngxīn shì ba?

就你的房子是买的不在曼谷中心是吧?

So, the condo you bought isn't in the center of Bangkok, right?

730

Tā bùsuàn Màngǔ le yǐjīng, tā yǐjīng suànshì Běilán fǔ

它不算曼谷了已经，它已经算是北澜府

No, it's actually in Nonthaburi Province,

731

Dànshì tā qíshí shì yīnwèi zài nà tiáo qīngguǐ yánxiàn ma,

但是它其实是因为在那条轻轨沿线嘛，

but because it's along the BTS line,

732

háishi hěn fāngbiàn de

还是很方便的

it's still convenient.

733

Ránhòu hòulái guónèi kāishǐ kāifàng,

然后后来国内开始开放，

Then, things started to open up in China,

734

ránhòu wǒ jiù juédìng huí Hélán

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

然后我就决定回荷兰

and I decided to go back to the Netherlands

735

bǎ Hólán de fángzi kāishǐ guàpái mài

把荷兰的房子开始挂牌卖

to put my house up for sale.

736

Ránhòu jiù yīqiè hǎoxiàng jiùshì gānghǎo shùnshuǐtuīzhōu, jiù yī bù yī bù,

然后就一切好像就是刚好顺水推舟，就一步一步

Everything just seemed to fall into place, step by step.

737

Bǐrú sìyuèfèn wǒ kànzhòng de xiànzài mǎi de nà tào fángzi

比如四月份我看中的现在买的那套房子

For example, in April, I found the condo I eventually bought,

738

ránhòu sìyuèfèn kāishǐ Hólán nàge fángzi mài chūqu, yǒu xiāoxi le

然后四月份开始荷兰那个房子卖出去，有消息了

and the house in the Netherlands happened to be sold at the same time.

739

shuō jiù kěyǐ mài chūqu, ràng wǒ sìyuè zhōng de shíhou huíqu qiānzì

说就可以卖出去，让我四月中去的时候回去签字

I was told to go back to sign the contract in mid April,

740

ránhòu děng nàbian qiān wán zì, tā nàbian qián dào wèi le,

然后等那边签完字，它那边钱到位了，

and once the payment for this house was in place,

741

jiù xiànzài zhèbiān de fángzi gānghǎo yào fùqián le

就现在这边的房子刚好要付钱了

I needed to pay for the condo (in Thailand).

742

Ránhòu děng zhèbiān de fángzi kuǎn fù wán

然后等这边的房子款付完

And when I paid for the condo,

743

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

ránhòu nàge jīngyīng qiānzhèng yě yǒu xiāoxi, yě yào fùkuǎn le
然后那个精英签证也有消息，也要付款了
the Elite Visa was processed and I needed to pay for it too.

744

Jiù gānghǎo shì... | Hǎo shùnlì agǎnjué
就刚好是... | 好顺利啊感觉
Everything happened... | So smoothly!

745

Wǒ jiù juéde shì fēicháng de...
我就觉得是非常的...
It felt very...

746

Nǐ suàn hǎo dōu méiyǒu nàme zhǔn
你算好都没有那么准
I couldn't have timed it more perfectly!

747

Tā jiù gānghǎo shì nàge yī bù yī bù | Shàngtiān zhù nǐ
它就刚好是那个一步一步 | 上天助你
Every step happened... | God was looking after you!

748

Duì, ránhòu děng wǔyuèfèn wǒ nàbian fángzi jiāo le
对，然后等五月份我那边房子交了
Yes, and in May, once my house (in the Netherlands) was transferred to (the new owner),

749

ránhòu kāishǐ jiù kěyǐ jìhuà shénmeshíhou
然后开始就可以计划什么时候
I started planning

750

yào jiē wǒ māma chūlái shénme
要接我妈妈出来什么
to bring my mom over (to Thailand).

751

Zhège fángzi shì quán kuǎn yào fù de ma?
这个房子是全款要付的吗?
Did you have to pay the full amount for the condo here

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

752

Háishi yě kěyǐ dài kuǎn?

还是也可以贷款?

or could you have gotten a loan?

753

Bùkěyǐ, yīnwèi wàiguórén ma

不可以, 因为外国人嘛

Foreigners cannot get a loan here.

754

Dànshì shì yǒngjiǔ chǎnquán ma?

但是是永久产权吗?

But do you own the property permanently?

755

Shuō shì shuō yǒngjiǔ chǎnquán

说是说永久产权

It's supposed to be permanent.

756

wǒ qíshí duì zhè fāngmiàn dào méiyǒu shénme tèbié dà de...

我其实对这方面倒没有什么特别大的...

Actually, regarding this, I don't have a special...

757

Bāokuò guónèi shuō shénme qīshí nián

包括国内说什么七十年

Even the so-called 70-year lease in China,

758

wǒ jiù bù xiāngxìn shéi néng... | Huó de dào qīshí nián

我就不相信谁能... | 活得到七十年

I just don't believe anyone could... | Live 70 more years?

759

Bùshì huó de dào qīshí nián,

不是活得到七十年,

It's not that,

760

nǐ néng zài nàge fángzi lǐ zhù mǎn qīshí nián, hǎoxiàng bù tài xíng

你能在那个房子里住满七十年, 好像不太行

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

but no one can live in the same apartment for 70 years. It seems unlikely.

761

Nǐ jiùsuàn xiǎng zài nà fángzi zhù

你就算想在那房子住

Even if you wanted to stay,

762

nàge fángzi de jiégòu, zhiliàng dōu bùkěnéng wéichí de dào qīshí nián.

那个房子的结构，质量都不可能维持得到七十年。

the structure and quality of the building may not last 70 years.

763

Ránhòu guòlái de shíhou, nǐ māma guòlái de shíhou,

然后过来的时候，你妈妈过来的时候，

When your mom came over,

764

tā xíguàn zhèlǐ ma?

她习惯这里吗？

did she get used to living here?

765

Tā qíshí gè fāngmiàn dōu fēicháng hǎo,

她其实各方面都非常好，

She was actually doing quite well in every aspect,

766

tā jiù wéiyī yīdiǎn tā jiù juéde zhèbiān tài rè.

她就唯一一点她就觉得这边太热。

except for one thing—she found it too hot here.

767

Tā shuō bùshì yīnggāi rè yī duàn shíjiān, ránhòu liángkuai yīxià

她说不是应该热一段时间，然后凉快一下

She said: "Shouldn't the weather be hot for a while, then cool down?"

768

xiàng guó nèi zhèyàng yǒu sìjì

像国内这样有四季

Like in China where there are four seasons?

769

Duì, tā zhèbiān jiù méiyǒu sìjì ma

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

对，它这边就没有四季嘛

Right, there are no distinct four seasons here.

770

Jiù lián liáng jì de shíhou, wǒ māma dōu juéde yǒudiǎn rè.

就连凉季的时候，我妈妈都觉得有点热。

Even during the cool season, my mom still found it a bit hot.

771

Zhǐyǒu nàme yī gè xīngqī kěnéng shāowēi hǎo yīdiǎn

只有那么一个星期可能稍微好一点

There's only about a week when it's slightly cool,

772

shèngxià de dōu bùxíng

剩下的都不行

and the rest of the time is not okay.

773

Guānjiàn shì wǎnshàng shuì bùhǎo

关键是晚上睡不好

The key issue is that it's hard to sleep at night.

774

kāi kōngtiáo yòu tài lěng,

开空调又太冷，

If you turn on the air conditioner, it's too cold.

775

bù kāi kōngtiáo yòu shízài rè de bùxíng.

不开空调又实在热得不行。

If you don't turn on the air conditioner, it's just too hot to bear.

776

Jiù shízài bùxíng, jiù hòulái jiù zhù le bànnián duō

就实在不行，就后来就住了半年多

So, after living here for over half a year,

777

háishi juéding yào huíqu.

还是决定要回去。

she decided to go back.

778

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Tā yě shì bàn le jīngyīng qiān ma? | Dui

她也是办了精英签吗? | 对

Did she also get the Elite Visa? | Yes.

779

Wǒmen bàn de shì nàzhǒng tā yǒu yī gè jiātíng de

我们办的是那种它有一个家庭的

We got the one that included family members.

780

Wǒ nàshíhou shì wǔ nián de shì liùshí wàn

我那时候是五年的还是六十万

At that time, a five-year visa was 600,000 bahts (\$18,479),

781

jiā yī gè jiātíngchéngyuán shì jiā èrshí wàn

加一个家庭成员是加二十万

and adding a family member cost an extra 200,000 (bahts, \$6,159).

782

Yīgòng bāshí wàn liǎng gè rén

一共八十万两个人

So, it was a total of 800,000 (bahts) for the two of us.

783

Tàizhū? | Bāshí wàn tàizhū liǎng gè rén

泰铢? | 八十万泰铢两个人

Bahts? | Yes, 800,000 bahts for two people.

784

Shì shíwǔ nián de hái shì wǔ nián de? | Wǔ nián de

是十五年的还是五年的? | 五年的

Is it a 15-year or a five-year visa? | Five-year.

785

Nàge jiào jīngyīng qiān ma? Bùshì shíwǔ nián de ma?

那个叫精英签吗? 不是十五年的吗?

Is that called an Elite Visa? I thought it's always 15 years.

786

Méiyǒu, tā yǒu hěn duō zhǒng

没有, 它有很多种

No, there are many types.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

787

Wǔ nián de, shí nián, shíwǔ nián gēn èrshí nián de

五年的、十年、十五年跟二十年的

There are five-year, ten-year, fifteen-year, and twenty-year visas.

788

Qíshí wǒ rúguǒ zhīdào zhèzhǒng qíngkuàng

其实我如果知道这种情况

Actually, if I had known about this situation,

789

wǒ yīnggāi shì zhíjiē bàn èrshí nián de

我应该是直接办二十年的

I probably should have just gone for the twenty-year visa.

790

Bùguò yě méi suǒwèi la

不过也没所谓啦

But it doesn't really matter now.

791

Xiànzài jiù kàn ma, yīnwèi

现在就看嘛，因为

For now, I'm just seeing how things go, because

792

hái méiyǒu guò yàn zhèzhǒng suǒwèi de tǎngpíng de shēnghuó.

还没有过厌这种所谓的躺平的生活。

I haven't gotten tired of this so-called lying flat (laid-back) lifestyle yet.

793

Bāokuò wǒ nàge xiànzài nàge shìyǒu, nàge Tàiguórén

包括我那个现在那个室友，那个泰国人

My current roommate is a Thai guy

794

Tā bùshì tiāntiān shàngbān ma?

他不是天天上班吗？

and he works every day.

795

Tā jiù huì zhěngtiān wèn wǒ

他就会整天问我

He keeps asking me:

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

796

Tā shuō nǐ huìbùhuì wúliáo a?

他说你会不会无聊啊?

"Don't you get bored?"

797

Nǐ shìbùshì yào zhǎo yīxiē shénme shìqing zuò a | Huì ma?

你是不是要找一些什么事情做啊 | 会吗?

Shouldn't you find something to do?" | Do you (get bored)?

798

Wǒ shuō méiyǒuā, wǒ bù wúliáo a

我说没有啊, 我不无聊啊

I tell him no, I'm not bored.

799

Wǒ měitiān Suīrán méiyǒu shénme tèbié de shìqing zuò,

我每天虽然没有什么特别的事情做,

Even though I don't have anything special to do,

800

dànshì wǒ juéde mán kāixīn de.

但是我觉得蛮开心的。

I feel quite happy.

801

Tā hái shuō nǐ měitiān nàme kāixīn

他还说你每天那么开心

He says, "You look so happy every day."

802

wǒ shuō yǒu shénme bùhǎo,

我说有什么不好,

I said: "What's wrong with that?"

803

wǒ shuō wǒ shìbùshì yīnggāi měitiān duì zhe nǐ kū,

我说我是不是应该每天对着你哭,

Should I cry every day

804

nǐ cái huì xīnli píng héng?

你才会心里平衡?

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

so that you will feel better?"

805

Tā qíshí yǒuyīdiǎn xīnlǐ bùpíng héng.

他其实有一点心里不平衡。

He's actually a bit envious.

806

Wǒ juéde kěnéng hěn duō rén

我觉得可能很多人

I think many people,...

807

wǒ bù zhīdào Tàiguó rén zěnmeyàng,

我不知道泰国人怎么样,

I don't know about Thais,

808

dànshì zhìshǎo Zhōngguó rén shì zhèyàng

但是至少中国人是这样

but at least Chinese are like this.

809

Jiùshì wǒ yī xián xiàlai wǒ huì xīnhuāng,

就是我一闲下来我会心慌,

When we have nothing to do, we might feel anxious,

810

juéde hǎoxiàng wǒ jīntiān méi gànshénme shìr.

觉得好像我今天没干什么事儿。

thinking we haven't accomplished anything for the day.

811

Wǒ bù zhīdào wèishénme,

我不知道为什么,

I don't know why,

812

yīnwèi wǒ kěnéng jiùshì hěn duō shìqing dōu jīnglì guo le

因为我可能就是很多事情都经历了

maybe it's because I've already experienced a lot

813

huòzhě shì shuō gāi huīhuò de yě huīhuò guo le.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

或者是说该挥霍得也挥霍过了。
or maybe I've already splurged when I had the money.

814

Jiùshì yě shì nàzhǒng ōuměi rén de nàzhǒng xiāofèi xíguàn
就是也是那种欧美人的那种消费习惯
I adopted the Western consumer habit

815

Bù cúnqián de
不存钱的
in which they don't save money.

816

Nàge shíhou iPhone zhǐyào yī chū
那个时候 iPhone 只要一出
Back then, whenever a new iPhone came out,...

817

Wǒ nà yī nián wǒ bùshì zài Déguó de shíhou,
我那一年我不是在德国的時候,
I was working in Germany, right?

818

Déguó nàshíhou hěn nán mǎi ma
德国那时候很难买嘛
It was hard to get one in Germany.

819

Wǒ jìde yǒuyīcì fēicháng fēngkuáng,
我记得有一次非常疯狂,
I remember one time, it was really crazy.

820

yī chū nàge iPhone,
一出那个 iPhone,
As soon as the new iPhone was released,

821

yī tīngshuō Héland nà jiā diàn, wǒ jiù zhōumò de shíhou,
一听说荷兰那家店, 我就周末的时候,
and I heard a store in the Netherlands had it, on a weekend,

822

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

kāichē sì wǔ bǎi gōnglǐ kāi huí Hólán,
开车四五百公里开回荷兰,
I drove 400 or 500 kilometers back

823

jiùshì wèile mǎi nàge iPhone zuìxīn kuǎn.
就是为了买那个 iPhone 最新款。
just to buy the latest iPhone.

824

Érqiě wǒ nàshíhòu dōu shì mǎi iPhone zhè yīdài de Pro Max
而且我那时候都是买 iPhone 这一代的 Pro Max
In addition, I always got the Pro Max, the latest version.

825

Yīdìngyào Pro Max, jiù zuìhǎo de nàge
一定要 Pro Max, 就最好的那个
And it had to be Pro Max, the best available.

826

Hòulái jiù xiànzài... nǐ kàn wǒ xiànzài yòng Sānxīng
后来就现在... 你看我现在用三星
Now, look at me, I'm using a Samsung,

827

wǒ dōu shènzhì yòng nàge zhōng duān jī le,
我都甚至用那个中端机了,
even a mid-range model.

828

yǐjīng bù yòng tā qíjiàn jī le.
已经不用它旗舰机了。
I don't even use flagship phones anymore.

829

Wǒ jiù juéde zhè zhōng duān jī gòu yòng jiù yǐjīng...
我就觉得这中端机够用就已经...
I think a mid-range phone is good enough...

830

Jiù duì wùzhì zhège yāoqiú bù gāo ma?
就对物质这个要求不高吗?
So, you don't have high material demands anymore?

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

831

Yě bùshì shuō wùzhì bù gāo

也不是说物质不高

It's not that,

832

wǒ jiù juéde yīyàng, jiù méiyǒu bìyào, jiù zhēnde méiyǒu

我就觉得一样，就没有必要，就真的没有

I just think it's unnecessary because they're all the same to me now.

833

Bāokuò chī a shénme dōu yǐjīng hěn suíbiàn le.

包括吃啊什么都已经很随便了。

I've become very casual about things like eating and spending.

834

Shénmeyàng de yī gè qījī ràng nǐ gǎibiàn le zhège xīntài?

什么样的一个契机让你改变了这个心态？

What made you change your thinking?

835

Jiùshì yīnwèi xiànzài kěnéng jiùshì méiyǒu zhǔdòng shōurù le ma

就是因为现在可能就是没有主动收入了嘛

Well, now I don't have an active income.

836

Xiànzài shì bèidòng de, suǒwèi de bèidòng de

现在是被动的，所谓的被动的

It's more passive.

837

Shōu gè fángzū shénmede a?

收个房租什么的啊？

You collect rent?

838

Shōu gè fángzū, bāokuò zhèbiān de yītào fáng de fángzū,

收个房租，包括这边的一套房的房租，

I get rent from (two) properties,

839

guónèi yītào, Shànghǎi yītào

国内一套，上海一套

one here and one in Shanghai.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

840

Shànghǎi yě mǎi le fáng, shì ma?

上海也买了房，是吗？

You also have a property in Shanghai?

841

Shànghǎi zhīqián de shì fùmǔ de

上海之前的是父母的

The one in Shanghai was my parents',

842

Dànshì shì yě yǒu wǒ de míngzi ma

但是是也有我的名字嘛

but my name is on the deed too.

843

Zhèyàng de liǎngbiān jiā qilai

这样的两边加起来

With the income from both places,

844

zài zhèbiān zhèngcháng yě bù yòng shuō tèbié de qù kōumén

在这边正常也不用说特别地去抠门

I don't really need to be particularly frugal.

845

Jiù yǐjīng kěyǐ... píngshí zhèyàng jiù kěyǐ le.

就已经可以... 平时这样就可以了。

I can just live comfortably.

846

Nà wǒ jiù juéde wèishénme hái yào qù hěn juǎn a,

那我就觉得为什么还要去很卷啊，

So, I don't see the point in stressing myself out,

847

hěn pīn a huòzhě shì zěnmeyàng de

很拼啊或者是怎么样的

or working super hard anymore.

848

Nǐ běnlái nǐ zài Tàiguó mǎifáng yě shì wèile

你本来你在泰国买房也是为了

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

Your original plan for buying a condo in Thailand

849

bǎ māma jiē guòlai yīqǐ shēnghuó

把妈妈接过来一起生活

was to bring your mom over,

850

ránhòu xiànzài tā yě lái bùliǎo le

然后现在她也来不了了

but now she won't come.

851

Nǐ yǒu hòuhuǐ zài zhèbiān mǎifáng ma? | Méiyǒu

你有后悔在这边买房吗? | 没有

Do you regret buying the condo here? | No.

852

Tàiguó fángzi nǐ zhǐyào nénggòu zū chūqu,

泰国房子你只要能够租出去,

In Thailand, as long as you can rent it out,

853

tā de huíbào lǜ háishi kěyǐ de.

它的回报率还是可以的。

the return on investment is still decent.

854

Nǐ jiù tóngyàng zhège jiàzhí de fángzi

你就同样这个价值的房子

You wouldn't be able to rent out a property

855

nǐ zài guónèi nǐ shì bùkěnéng zū dào zhège jiàgé, suǒyǐ hái xíng.

你在国内你是不可能租到这个价格，所以还行。

of the same value in China for that price, so it's still okay.

856

Zài guónèi de, xiàng wǒmen sānshí sishí suì de rén

在国内的，像我们三十四岁的人

Back in China, people our age, like those in their thirties or forties,

857

yǐjīng kāishǐ zài xiǎng zhège yǎnglǎo de wèntí le

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

已经开始在想这个养老的问题了
are already starting to think about retirement.

858

wǒ dào le bǐrúshuō liùshí suì le, gōngzuò bùdòng le ya
我到了比如说六十岁了，工作不动了呀
(For example, we will worry that) when we reach our 60s and are unable to work,

859

wǒ zhège méiyǒu érnǚ yào gěi wǒ yǎnglǎo
我这个没有儿女要给我养老
we won't have children to support us.

860

Huì yǒu zhèzhǒng jiāolǜ ma? | Méiyǒu ba
会有这种焦虑吗？ | 没有吧
Do you have this kind of worry? | No really.

861

Jiùshì zěnmeshuō ne,
就是怎么说呢,
It's like... how to say,

862

yǒu yīzhǒng yě shì shùnrán de xīntài.
有一种也是顺其自然的心态。
I have a go-with-the-flow attitude.

863

Hǎoxiàng wǒ juéde Tàiguó rén yě yǒu zhèyàng de xīntài,
好像我觉得泰国人也有这样的心态,
I think Thais have a similar mindset,

864

jiùshì bǐjiào huó zài dāngxià.
就是比较活在当下。
living more in the present.

865

Érqiě tāmen kěnéng gèng fóxì, fójiào guójiā
而且他们可能更佛系，佛教国家
And being a Buddhist country,

866

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

tā gèng xiāngxìn jiùshì yīqiè dōu shì yǐjīng ānpái hǎo de.
他更相信就是一切都是已经安排好的。
they believe that everything is predestined.

867

Jiù nǐ yìngyào qiǎngqiú qù gǎibiàn shénme shì méiyǒu bànfǎ
就你硬要强求去改变什么是没有办法
You can't really force change if it's not meant to be.

868

Zài Tàiguó yě shì zhù le chàbùduō yǒu yī nián le ba?
在泰国也是住了差不多有一年了吧?
You've been living in Thailand for almost a year now, right?

869

Bùzhǐ lo | Bùzhǐ yī nián le
不止咯 | 不止一年了
More than that. | More than a year.

870

Guólái yào yǒu... xiànzài zhèyàng shuō dōu liǎng nián duō le, dì sān nián le
过来要有... 现在这样说都两年多了, 第三年了
It's been over two years now, almost three.

871

Nà nǐ juéde lái le zhème jiǔ, nǐ gèrén yǒu biànhuà ma?
那你觉得来了这么久, 你个人有变化吗?
Do you feel like you've changed since moving here?

872

Guónèi yǒu hěnxǔ dōngxi zhīqián shì fēicháng yànwù,
国内有很多东西之前是非常厌恶,
There were many things in China that I used to dislike,

873

fēicháng de kànbuguàn.
非常地看不惯。
and couldn't stand.

874

Hòulái jiù juéde jiùshì zhè yě shì biéren de yīzhǒng huó fǎ.
后来就觉得就是这也是别人的一种活法。
But now I see it as just another way of living.

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

875

Érqiě bìjìng bùshì yī liǎng gè rén zhèyàng

而且毕竟不是一两个人这样

After all, it's not just one or two people who are like this.

876

Jìrán dàduōshù rén dōu néng zhèyàng

既然大多数人都能这样

Since most people are like that,

877

nǐ wèishénme yào qǔ guǎn biéren zhèyàng ne?

你为什么要去管别人这样呢?

why should I mind about how others live?

878

Zhǐyào tā bù yào lái yǐngxiǎng dào nǐ, shìbùshì?

只要他不要来影响到你，是不是?

As long as they don't affect me, right?

879

Ránhòu yī fāngmiàn wǒ xiànzài yě méiyǒu chángqí zài guónèi

然后一方面我现在也没有长期在国内

Also, I don't live in China now,

880

suǒyǐ wúsuǒwèi

所以无所谓

so it doesn't matter.

881

Háiyǒu... nǐ zuìhòu yǒuméiyǒu shénme tèbié xiǎng shuō de?

还有... 你最后有没有什么特别想说的?

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

882

Xīwàng jiùshì nénggòu zài Tàiguó zhǎodào yīxiē zìjǐ gèng xǐhuan de shìqing

希望就是能够在泰国找到一些自己更喜欢的事情

I hope to find something I really enjoy doing here in Thailand,

883

néng yǒu gèng duō de yīxiē shìqing zuò

能有更多的一些事情做

something that gives me more to do,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

884

Jiù bùhuì xiàng nǐmen shuō de...

就不会像你们说的...

so I won't be, as you guys say...

885

Wǒ qíshí zìjǐ bù juéde wúliáo a

我其实自己不觉得无聊啊

I actually don't feel bored myself.

886

dànshì kěnéng huì hěn duō rén tīng wǒ zhèzhǒng qíngkuàng

但是可能会很多人听我这种情况

But a lot of people, hearing about my situation,

887

huì juéde huìbùhuì wúliáo a shénme

会觉得会不会无聊啊什么

might think I'd be bored or something.

888

Nà nǐ yī tiān dōu zuò shénme? Wǒ yě yǒudiǎn hàoqí

那你一天都做什么？我也有点好奇

So, what do you do in a day? I'm kind of curious.

889

Zuò yīxià wèishēng a,

做一下卫生啊，

I do some cleaning,

890

ránhòu chūqù guàngguang a, mǎi yīxiē dōngxi huílai chī a zhǔ a

然后出去逛逛啊，买一些东西回来吃啊煮啊

go out for a walk, buy some groceries, cook.

891

ránhòu wǎngshàng kàn yīxiē biéren fēnxiǎng de zhīshi a shénme

然后网上看一些别人分享的知识啊什么

I also watch a lot of knowledge-sharing channels online,

892

jīngjì fāngmiàn de hái yǒu shèhuì fāngmiàn de

经济方面的还有社会方面的

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

about economics, society, and so on.

893

Ránhòu xiànzài yǒu gè shìyǒu ma, Tàiguórén

然后现在有个室友嘛，泰国人

And now I have a roommate, a Thai person,

894

jiù wǎnshàng dehuà hái kěyǐ yǒuyīxiē jiāoliú a shénme,

就晚上的话还可以有一些交流啊什么，

so in the evenings, we have some conversations,

895

yǒushíhòu zhōumò de shíhòu huì yīqǐ chūqù

有时候周末的时候会一起出去

and sometimes on weekends, we go out together.

896

Jīběnshàng huì guò yī duàn shíjiān, yǒuyīxiē xīn de dōngxī fājué chū

基本上会过一段时间，有一些新的东西发掘出

Every once in a while, I find something new.

897

Bāokuò jīntiān lái le zhège kāfēitīng, yě shì yī gè xīn de dōngxī

包括今天来了这个咖啡厅，也是一个新的东西

Like today, coming to this café is something new.

898

Yóuqíshì zài yī gè xīn de guójiā,

尤其是在一个新的国家，

Especially in a new country,

899

Qíshí kěyǐ fāxiàn hěn duō xīn de dōngxī gēn rén

其实可以发现很多新的东西跟人

there are many new things and people to discover.

900

Duì, ránhòu rènshi bùtóng de rén a

对，然后认识不同的人啊

Right, and meeting different people.

901

Xīwàng yǐhòu rènshi gèng duō de rén,

Why Did This Chinese Leave Europe After 20 Years Living There?

希望以后认识更多的人,
I hope to meet more people in the future,

902

kěyǐ fēnxiǎng yīxiē biéren de gùshi,
可以分享一些别人的故事,
listen to other people's stories,

903

fēnxiǎng zìjǐ de gùshì gěi biéren tīng
分享自己的故事给别人听
and share my own stories with them.

904

Hǎo de, jīntiān fēichángǎnxiè!
好的, 今天非常感谢!
Thank you so much for today!

905

En, xièxie nǐ | Báibái
嗯, 谢谢你 | 拜拜
Thank you! | Bye!