

Chi Tuen Hon

My Little Brother

I have a little brother. His name is David. He was born in 1975 in China. He's 39 years old now, and he has two children: a daughter and son.

He looks like my father. He looks great and handsome. He's average height and average weight. He and I both have short black hair.

But my brother and I are very different too. He has a beard but I don't have a beard. I live in New York. He lives in San Francisco. I work at a clothes factory. He is a restaurant boss. I live in a small apartment in the city. He has a large house in the suburbs.

So, my little brother is a good chef; he's good at cooking. He can cook Italian food, Japanese food, American food, and Chinese food. Everybody says it's delicious and wonderful!

He usually travels to New York to visit my family on his vacation. In my home, he's teaching me how to cook my favorite food. I enjoy it very much and I like my little brother very much.

Shelly Zhong

My Son

I have a little boy. He was born in summer. He is average height with short black hair, a pair of big eyes, and a small mouth.

He likes to wear sports clothes, sweatpants, and sneakers. He doesn't like to wear jeans. He likes to exercise. For the past two years, he has been a Taekwondo student. From Monday to Saturday, he studies for two hours.

Every time I go to the parent-teacher conferences, he takes me to see more than one teacher: English, math, reading, science, art, and PE. Then the teacher says he is very friendly and polite, very active, he likes to ask a lot of questions, and he is the teacher's little helper.

At home he arranges his own desk and toys. Sometimes he can help me do my housework: pick vegetables, fold the clothes, and sweep the floor. He can use the rice cooker and fry eggs now. Once when I was sick, I went to bed to sleep. But I didn't have a blanket. He came over and gently gave me a quilt. I felt very warm and happy.

This is my son. His name is Hang Zhou.

Jennifer Alonzo

My Husband

My husband's name is Malcolm. He was born in Staten Island, New York. He's 25 years old. His parents are Honduran.

My husband is an engineer. He studied in Unitec (Technology University Centroamericana) in Honduras. That's where we met. Currently he is studying at CUNY. He's taking his Master's in Mechanical Engineering. He works in Rebhein Studio.

He has three brothers. Their names are Jonathan, Gerardo and Josue. They live in Tegucigalpa, Honduras and their parents do too. Their parents' names are Marielos and Miguel.

My husband is tall and thin. He's average weight. He has curly hair. He has light brown eyes. He's handsome.

My husband is very friendly and polite. He's a very good husband. He's responsible, honest, and intelligent. He likes to watch movies and cartoons. He doesn't like to cook.

My husband is healthy. He eats a lot of fruit and vegetables and exercises four times a week. He likes to walk in the night.

He is busy all day with his work and studies but always has time for me. Two or three times a week we go out to eat dinner. We love our free time together. He likes going to the movies. He likes to travel and make new things.

He is a very good person. He's the most amazing person that God put in my way. I just love him. He is my role model as he is dedicated to his dreams.

Junying Zhen (Letina)

My Mom

My mother's name is Mo Xuehong. She's 68 years old. She was born in Guangzhou, China. She has lived in Guangzhou since 1946. Guangzhou is a big city on the Zhujiang River.

My mom was a machine embroidery worker, but she retired in 1996.

My mom has two daughters, my sister and I. My sister's name is Junyan. She still lives Guangzhou. My mother got married to my dad in 1967. My dad passed away in 1994.

My mom is average height and weight. She has long hair. I look like my mom.

My mom is very friendly and polite. She's a very good mother and wife. She's responsible, honest, and diligent. She likes to watch TV and listen to music. She reads the newspaper every day. She's a wonderful cook. Her dinners are delicious.

My mom is healthy. She eats healthy food. She sleeps eight hours every day and she goes to dance every morning in the park.

My mom will travel to New York next month. I will take her to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, World Trade Center, Central Park, and go shopping at Macy's. I think she will like New York. But winter in New York is very cold. I hope she can stand it.

Fen Fen Liang

My Aunt

My aunt's name is Yan Ping Wu. She is my husband's aunt. She was born in Tai Shan in 1963. She came to the United States in 1999. She has lived in New York for almost 16 years. My aunt lives with us but she works in New Jersey.

My aunt is a babysitter. She is single; she doesn't have children but she loves children. When I gave birth to my second baby, she stopped working to take care of me and my children for almost three months. She cooked, she gave the kids a bath, she cleaned up, she did everything. When my husband was a baby, she helped my mother-in-law take care of him.

My aunt is short and she is average weight. She has short black hair. She speaks loudly but she has a kind heart and she is glad to help others.

My aunt likes cooking. She cooks a lot of delicious food for us in her free time, for example, fried rice, fried noodles, curry chicken, braised beef, and steamed fish. Sometimes she likes to play mahjong, sometimes she takes my children to the park, sometimes she takes them to the zoo, sometimes she takes them to the mall.

My aunt has been taking care of us; she loves everyone and we love her too!

Karin Yang

My Sister

I have a small family. My mother and father are in China, I live in New York, my sister and her husband live in Fuzhou, China, and my brother lives in Fuzhou, China, too. He's not married. I don't have family here.

Let me introduce my sister. She's short and thin. She has beautiful eyes, a small nose, and a small mouth. She's very friendly, and she likes to help others.

She likes purple. She has very diverse interests. She likes reading and traveling in her free time. She's an office manager. She works Monday to Friday.

If she has time, she likes to cook food for friends and family. She likes to sing, too. She sings very well. She likes swimming, but she's not a good swimmer. She likes to drive around and look at the scenery.

I grew up with her, so I know her very well, and I miss her very much.

Song Song Chen

My Uncle

My uncle's name is Zhabi Chen. "Zhabi" means "talking too much" in Chinese - because he really has too much to say. He is 58 years old. He is bald and he has dark brown skin.

He has a daughter and a wife. But they are divorced. His daughter lives with her mother. So he lives alone.

He likes to drink alcohol, like beer, red wine, and cocktails. Sometimes I drink a beer with him. He has many kinds of alcohol at home. He likes collecting wine. Also he likes to go shopping.

He travels a lot for his job, sometimes in Mexico, sometimes in Florida. But I am not sure about his job. I don't know what he does.

Winnie Chen

My Sister

My sister's name is Xiao Yun Chen. She's 35 years old. She was born in August 1980.

My sister is a homemaker. She lives in Queens. She got married in 2009. She has one daughter and one son.

My sister is tall and average weight and she has long hair.

My sister is very friendly and polite. She is a very good mother and wife. She likes to go shopping and watch TV. She doesn't like to cook.

My sister is healthy. She eats a lot of vegetables and fruit.

I see my sister twice a year. I see her on New Year's and then some time during the summer.

Eunice Lin (Lijuan Lin)

My Husband

My husband's name is Ken. He's average height and weight. He has short hair. He's friendly; he likes to talk to his friends.

He works in a restaurant. He's a waiter. He works eight hours a day. He starts work at 4 pm, so every day when he comes home it's almost 1 am.

When he has free time, he plays volleyball with his friends. And sometimes he takes care of our baby. He brings our baby to the doctor or goes to the park.

My husband likes to eat sushi, hotpot, and Korean BBQ. So sometimes when we have a holiday, we will choose one to eat.

Simon Lee

My Mom

My mother's name is Zhouling Zhu. She is 62 years old. She was born in a small town. Now she lives in Songxian County with my father. They live near my brother's home.

My mother is a housewife. She does all the housework for her family. She makes breakfast and cooks lunch and dinner every day. She cleans the house three times a week. She does laundry twice a week. She takes care of my brother's children every day.

My mother has two sons and one daughter. My brother's name is Fengwei Li. My sister's name is Haili Li. My mom got married to my dad in 1976.

My mom is short and average weight. She has short hair and she has a lot of gray hair.

My mom is a Christian. She's very helpful to everyone.

My mom is healthy because she likes to eat vegetables and she walks.

I have not seen my mom for over a year. I hope to see my parents next year!

Garivia Escobar

My Daughter

My daughter's name is Cindy. She's 14 years old. She was born in Metropolitan Hospital in Manhattan.

My daughter is in eighth grade. She wants to be a lawyer.

She looks like her father. She is tall and thin and she has curly hair. She also has her father's small eyes.

My daughter is nice and she has a good personality. She helps people in the street. If she can help, she does it.

Anna Wu

My Niece

My parents live with my brother's family. My parents are retired, so they have time to take care of my niece.

My niece's name is Nicole. She is one year old. She was born in Boston, Massachusetts. Boston is a large city.

My niece looks like my brother: a red face, a pair of big eyes looking forward so brightly, and black hair. But she's also quiet and shy.

When there's a holiday, I like to visit them.

Joyce Wu

My Mother-in-Law

My mother-in-law's name is Qing Yan Wu. She's 61 years old. She was born in Taishan, Guangdong, China. She came to the United States in 2003.

My mother-in-law is a housekeeper. She works at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut. Her work is from 4 pm to 12 am. She has worked there for about eleven years. She likes her job because it is not very hard and the employee benefits are good.

She has a daughter and a son. Her daughter's name is Chun Xia Ruan and her son's name is Li Ming Ruan. They're both married. So I am the daughter-in-law. I live with her son and her grandson in Brooklyn. Her daughter still lives in Connecticut.

My mother-in-law lives with her daughter, but she comes back to Brooklyn and stays with us when she has days off. She rests on Wednesdays and Thursdays. She takes a casino bus from Connecticut to Brooklyn for about three hours. She got married to my father-in-law in 1974. They both work at the casino.

My mother-in-law is average height and average weight. She has short black hair.

My mother-in-law is very friendly and polite. She's a very good mother, wife, grandmother, and mother-in-law. She's responsible and honest. She likes to cook and watch TV. She cooks every day. She also likes to work in her yard. She planted some vegetables, fruit, and flowers in it.

My mother-in-law is healthy. She eats a lot of fruit and vegetables. And she exercises twice a week. In her free time, she likes to stay in bed and take a nap, because she has a backache.

“I like New York. When I am retired, I want to live in New York!” She said. Why? Because her family and many friends are here. And also going shopping and going to the doctor are very convenient.

Amy Chen

My Mother

My mother's name is Ping Xue Li. She's 66 years old. She was born in Taishan, China. Taishan is a small town.

My mother got married to my dad in 1968. My mother has three children: my sister and brother and I.

My mother has short black hair and she is short and thin. But she is healthy because she usually eats healthy food and she loves walking. My mother likes to watch TV at noon, too.

My mother has a little farm. She goes to the farm every morning and grows vegetables. At night my mother cooks dinner and eats together with my dad. She's a wonderful cook.

This is my mother's daily schedule. She enjoys her life now.

Li Hua Bao

My Mother-in-Law

My mother-in-law is Qinghe Huang. She is 80 years old. She has two sons and three daughters. My husband is the youngest son.

My mother-in-law is short and average weight, and she has short gray hair. My mother-in-law has been retired for more than fifteen years. She stays home and does housework and cooks dinner when I go to work.

She really likes to go shopping every day. But her back hurts, so she doesn't walk too much. But she insists on shopping in for around one to two hours a day. Sometimes she buys food for dinner, sometimes she buys for my children. She doesn't like it when I speak loudly to my children because she really loves my children.

In the summer, she plants vegetables in the back yard: eggplants, beans, gourds, and pumpkins. She said it is organic food.

When my mother-in-law feels bored, she makes phone calls to China. She can chat for about one to two hours each time. She talks about the changes in her hometown. She really misses her hometown and her relatives. She is a hardworking and kind person.

Olimpia Morales

My Mother

My mother's name is Belgica Maria. She's short and a little bit skinny. She has short brown hair. My mother has a big family: two sons and four daughters.

My mom lives in the Dominican Republic in a little town. Before she worked sewing clothes, but now she doesn't. But she worked hard before.

She is a very good mother and wife. My father died a long time ago.

My mother is very friendly and helpful, and she is responsible and honest.

She likes to watch TV and likes to cook. She usually goes to church once a week. My mom is the best mom.

Li Tao Yin

My Son

My son's name is Wen Kai Ni. He is 8 years old. He was born in Fuzhou, China.

He came to the United States in April this year. He goes to P.S. 2 in New York. He is in grade 2. He went to kindergarten and first grade in China.

He doesn't speak English, so he should study English very hard, but his teacher speaks English and Chinese. His teacher told him to read aloud 20 minutes a day.

I speak English a little bit. So I spend one hour helping him with his homework and reading books together 20 minutes every day.

He is friendly and he is a good student. He is good at math. He should learn pronunciation and reading.

He is taller than other boys his age, and he is a little heavy. His doctor told him, "You must lose weight," so he exercises three times a week and eats less food than before. Now he lost some weight.

He likes America, because American teachers are very nice. He doesn't like Chinese teachers because they are fierce. Sometimes some teachers beat students.

My son likes to watch TV and play games online. It's bad for his eyes and learning. Sometimes I tell him to stop, but he doesn't stop. It makes me very angry.

This is my son. Sometimes he makes me happy, sometimes makes me angry.

Esther Li

My Sister

My sister's name is Catherine. She's 52 years old. She was born in Guangzhou, China. Guangzhou is a big city. In 1986, she got married to her husband. The next year, they passed the TOEFL test and came to the United States and became international students.

My sister is a doctor. She worked at Houston Hospital until to 2008, then she moved to New York and started a clinic. She has one son and one daughter. Her son's name is Isaac; he studies at a university in New York. Her daughter's name is Deborah; she goes to high school.

My sister is average height and weight, she's thin and she's very busy with pregnant patients. She has long black hair.

My sister is very friendly and polite. She's a very good mother and wife. She's responsible and honest. She is very careful about her health. Although she's busy, before she goes to work, she usually exercises. She likes to cook, but she doesn't cook. She's so busy. Therefore, she hires a housekeeper to help her do everything in her house.

My sister is healthy. She eats a lot of healthy food and vegetables and exercises every day. She goes to the club in her community. Since I came to New York from Arizona, I visit her very often. On Christmas Day and Chinese New Year's day, we go to a restaurant together for dinner.

Jun Liang (Kelly)

My Son

My son's name is Andrew. He is three years old. He was born in Shanghai, China. He lived in Shanghai for more than two years. He came to New York in March 2015. He lives in Brooklyn now.

Andrew is average height and weight. He has short hair. Sometimes he's very noisy and very naughty, sometimes he's very lovely. He likes to play with train building blocks. He likes singing, too. He doesn't like reading, because he doesn't understand English. But he likes to look at the pictures.

Andrew looks like me and my husband. He is very friendly and lively. He has three cousins. The older cousin's name is Andy. The two other cousins' names are Alan and Devin. They live in New York. He likes them because they play with him.

I was sick last Thursday. My son took care of me. He passed a tissue and gave me some water. I feel he grew up. I am happy. I love him. He's the best gift for me. I hope he grows up healthy and happy.

Xiu Ying (Lisa) Lin

My Mom

My mother's name is Li Ru Xin. She was born in Taishan, China. My mom and my dad came to the U.S. in 1994. My dad passed away in 2006.

My mom is short and heavy. She has very short hair, and she still has black hair (she doesn't dye it). My hair is not like my mom's. I have a lot of white hair. But my nose is like my mom's. We have ugly noses.

My mom likes to watch TV, but she can't read the newspaper because she has poor vision. She likes to cook. When I go to her home, she keeps calling me to eat. She is very hard-working and she doesn't waste money.

Every morning she goes to the park to exercise. But she fell down and fractured her lower backbone. The doctor told her to have surgery, but she says no because she doesn't believe in surgery. She just stretches her joints, and now she can walk slowly.

My mom is not fun. In my memory, she did not laugh or smile. I've never seen her teeth. She has many wrinkles on her face. She worries too much, always feels sad, always thinks bad things. I always remind her, "Think good things, you'll feel good." But it's very difficult to change her thinking.

She tells me when she was 12 years old, she was a very happy girl. She had a sister and a brother and two parents who loved her so much. In her hometown, her parents had a good business. Her family was rich.

But in the Second World War, the Japanese army entered their town. Her parents and her sister all died. There was only her and her brother. She was 12 years old and her brother was 14 years old. No food, no job, no money. Someone sold my mother to a family in another town to work for them in their home.

She lost a lot of hair and she became thin. Every day she worked a lot: cooking, washing clothes, cleaning the house. At night she cried and cried and cried in her bed. She missed her brother. She wanted to go back to her hometown and bring her brother to her new town. But she was too young and didn't know how to go back. Later, she heard her brother had starved to death.

Forty years ago, one day we were at home and we heard one man in the street speaking loudly. I saw my mom run out the door and she followed the man to look at his face. I asked my mom, "Do you know him?" My mom said, "I don't know him. I heard his voice, and it is like my brother's." Oh, she still misses her brother.

When she was 65 years old, one day I saw her crying. I asked, "Mom, why are you crying?" She said she missed her mom.

Now my mom is 86 years old. She doesn't cry anymore. She is trying to relax. She is trying to open her mouth to smile.