

死裡逃生記

An Escape from Death

比丘尼恒慎 2004年8月7日講於萬佛城觀音七圓滿日心得報告會

A TALK GIVEN BY BHIKSHUNI HENG SHEN ON AUGUST 7, 2004

IN THE BUDDHA HALL AT THE CITY OF TEN THOUSAND BUDDHAS

周果如 英譯 ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY

WINNIE TIU

我今天講一個感應的真事，記得上人曾說：「如果你曾受過觀世音菩薩的幫助，你不把它說出來，你是對不起觀世音菩薩。」因為這個原因，所以我代替我的姊姊來講這段事情。在1996年，我姊姊非常不順利，她發生了一連串不好的事情，幸好後來都化險為夷。這事發生在那一年的元旦，那一天，我的姊姊去台中收會錢，（在臺灣有一種互助會，來自臺灣的人大多會知道。）當地的朋友邀她吃晚飯，原本還要邀她吃宵夜，她說：「不行啊！太晚了！我媽媽在家裡。」她當晚就搭朋友的朋友的便車回家到員林。

在去之前，姊姊因為脊椎受傷，不能開長途的車，所以她就把自己的車停在員林停車場，坐火車去台中；那天夜裡，那位先生載她到停車場的地方，在她下車後，車子就開走了。當她正往停車場走去，忽然看到有兩個人，用很快的速度飛奔過來，手舉得高高的，好像拿的是一支手槍。對我姊姊大叫：「不要動！不要動！」她第一個反應想大概是搶劫，就趕快忙往旁邊跑，急亂之中把她的皮包往停車場裡面一丟。因為在那時候有點慌亂，那兩個人並沒有發現我姊姊的動作。我姊姊奔去按停車場的門鈴，想找警衛解危，不知怎麼樣，就是沒有人回應。就在這個時候，那兩個人已經衝過來，我姊姊才發覺這兩個



Today I want to share a response. I remember that the Venerable Master had said before: "If you have previously received help from Guanyin Bodhisattva and you don't speak out, then you will have failed Guanyin Bodhisattva." Because of this, I am now narrating an event on my sister's behalf.

During the year of 1996, things had not gone well for my sister. She had many misfortunes, one after another. However, in the end, all perils ended safely. In Taiwan, there is a kind of mutual support fund, which most Taiwanese are probably familiar with. On New Year's day that year, my sister went to Tai Zhong to collect the membership fees for the fund. When she went to collect the fees, her friends invited her for dinner. Afterwards, they also wanted to invite her for a nighttime snack. My sister said: "I can't go! It's too late already and my mom is at home." She declined and accepted a ride from a friend of a friend to take her home to Yuan Lin.

At the time, she had broken her back and could not drive her car for a long distance. So she had parked her car in a parking lot and taken a train to meet her friend. When she returned that night, the man dropped her near the parking lot and left. As she was walking towards the parking lot, she suddenly saw two people running towards her with their arms in the air waving something that looked like a gun. The two men shouted: "Don't move! Don't move!" Her first reaction was to think that they wanted to rob her, so she immediately ran as



人是蒙面的，完全看不到對方的臉。他們用衣服蒙住她的臉，硬是把她拖上車。

這並不是一個單純的搶劫案，而是一個綁架勒索案。其實總共有三個人，兩個人綁架我姊姊，一個人開車。他們把我姊姊拖上車以後，想找一個地方來審問她。我姊姊也不知繞到哪條路，因為她的眼睛被蒙住，完全看不到。後來到一個空曠的地方，他們就把我姊姊拖下來，開始審問。因為他們看見我姊姊搭的那輛車是BMW，就認為我姊姊是個有錢的人，或者那個開車的人跟我姊姊有什麼關係，就盤問：「載妳那個人是誰？跟妳是什麼關係？」我姊姊說：「我根本就不認識這個人，我跟他第一次見面，我是搭他的便車回來。」他們不相信我姊姊的話，就嚴刑拷問。其中一個質問，架著我姊姊的兩個人負責打人；他們打那裡呢？打太陽穴。他們可能手打痛了，就用槍柄敲我姊姊的頭；把她打昏迷了，他們就用電擊棒把她電醒。

他們拷問很久，都拷問不出結果來。後來就問說：「那妳跟誰住？」我姊姊說：「我跟我先生已經分居了，所以現在跟我媽媽住；我妹妹出家，我哥哥不在！」他們聽了非但不相信，還認為她是打妄語，就下狠手拼命地打我姊姊，說：「沒見過這麼嘴硬的女人，非要給妳一點教訓！」在這段時間，姊姊因為她太緊張了、太害怕了，想不起來要唸佛！其實在1993年，我曾帶我姊姊皈依過上人；可惜她對佛法的信心不深，平常也不是很用功，一旦遇到境界的時候，就用不上了。她這樣被打昏了又電醒來、被打昏了又電醒來，她的色身承受的慘害已經到了極限；到後來他們打她的時候，她只感覺到「碰」了一下，就失去知覺了。

打到後來，那幾個人也打累了，也問不出一個結果來。到這個時候，她深陷在非常恐懼、驚慄、絕望之中，沒有人可以幫助她，就是呼喊都沒人能聽到。我姊姊終於想到要唸佛，因為她的身心已經到了絕境，一點生存希望都沒有。當她在心裡唸了一段時間的阿彌陀佛以後，她的心慢慢地冷靜下來。她聽見這些人有意置她於死地，

fast as possible. As she was running, she threw her handbag in the parking lot. She did it so quickly that the two robbers did not notice. My sister then pushed the emergency call button in the parking lot. For some reason, there was no answer. As the men approached near her, she noticed that both wore masks and she could not see their faces. After the two caught up with her, they used clothing to cover her face and dragged her into a car.

It was not just a simple robbery. They had kidnapped her for ransom. There were actually three cohorts: two kidnapers and a driver. After they pushed her into the car, they tried to find a place to interrogate her. During that time, my sister had no idea where they were heading. She was blindfolded and could not see at all. Later, they stopped at an empty lot, dragged her out of the car, and started to interrogate her. Since they saw my sister in a BMW car, they thought she was probably rich or related to the driver of the car. They questioned her, "Who was the driver? What is your relationship with him?" My sister answered, "I basically don't know that person. I only met him today and hitched a ride back." Unfortunately, they did not believe her. They started beating her up.

As one started questioning my sister, the other two held onto her and started beating her up. They hit her on her temples. After a while, perhaps their hands started to hurt from beating her, so they used the gun handle to hit her head and knocked her out. Afterwards, they used an electric rod to revive her.

They repeated this torture for a long time yet still could not get anything out from her. Finally, they asked, "Whom do you live with?" My sister said, "I have separated from my husband and am now living with my mother. My younger sister has joined the monastic life, and my elder brother is not around!" They believed her even less. How could this be? They thought she was lying, and they beat her even more cruelly. They said, "We have never seen such a tight-lipped woman as you. We'll teach you a lesson!" During that time, my sister was too nervous and too frightened to think of reciting the Buddha's name. Back in 1993, I had accompanied her to take refuge with the Venerable Master. Although she had taken refuge, her faith in the Buddhist dharma was not very strong. Hence, she probably had not applied enough effort in spiritual cultivation. So when she found herself in those circumstances, she was not able to handle it. So it was. She was beaten till she fainted. When she regained, they beat her all over again. Her physical body reached a point where she could no longer take the torture, and each time they started to beat her, she immediately became unconscious as soon as she felt them touch her.

Finally, those men got tired of beating her. After such a long period of time, they still could not get anything out from her. During that

他們想殺了她。我姊姊想：「怎麼辦？我死在這裡，沒有人會知道我死在這裡。我求他們也沒有用！唯一能救我的就是求觀世音菩薩！」她想起以前我常常跟她講：「姊姊！您要常常唸觀世音菩薩，觀世音菩薩是有求必應，您一定要相信啊！我們的觀世音菩薩真的是非常慈悲，真的是千處祈求千處應，而且具有大威神力！」

當這三個人商量怎麼來處理我姊姊，那時候她反而沒聽到他們講什麼，因為她一直很專心的唸觀世音菩薩。她心想：「觀世音菩薩，如果我今天非橫死在這裡不可，請你務必帶我的靈魂到西方極樂世界去！我不要做一個孤魂野鬼，我要到西方極樂世界去！」所以她非常虔誠唸觀世音菩薩的聖號，那時候，她唸到完全聽不到歹徒在說什麼，她非常地專心，就這樣一直唸一直唸。

後來這三個人，其中有一個心比較軟下來，就說：「我看算了罷！我看真的問不出所以然。我看她真的不認識對方，也可能她家裡真的沒有錢。」另外兩個不甘心就放了我姊姊，因為搞了大半天，沒有搶到我姊什麼東西，只搶到一個玉鐲，那個玉鐲只值五百塊台幣；所以對他們來講，也是很倒楣，搶了那麼久，錢也沒有，項鍊、戒指…，什麼也沒有。因為在我出家那天，我姊姊將她的結婚戒指、所有的首飾，都供養上人；所以她身上沒有帶任何東西，只戴一個玉鐲子。「什麼都沒搶到，我們不如把她強暴好了！」那兩個人還想打我姊的壞主意，另外一個就說：「算了啦！算了啦！」硬是把那兩個人拉上車走了。

我姊姊聽到車子開走的聲音，那些兇神惡煞終於離開了，她如同劫後餘生，踉蹌地走到馬路上求救。她很快地找到一個計程車行，(原來歹徒並沒有把她載得很遠，只是到一個比較空曠的地方，我姊姊還以為是很偏遠。) 請求一個計程車司機載她到原來的停車場，她說：「如果我找到錢包，我會付你計程車費。」她去找皮包竟然未失，還在那兒，她請求那個司

time, she was filled with horror, fear, and despair. No one could help her. Even when she cried aloud no one could hear her. At that point, the mind and body of my sister had already reached their limit, and she had lost all hope of survival. It was then that she thought of reciting the Buddha's name. After she recited Amitabha Buddha's name for a while, her mind began to calm down. Those people clearly intended to kill her. My sister thought to herself, "What should I do? If I die here no one will know. Even if I begged them it would be of no use. I can only seek help from Guanyin Bodhisattva!" In the past, I had always reminded my sister, "Sister! You must constantly recite Guanshiyin Bodhisattva's name. Guanshiyin Bodhisattva always responds to those who seek help. You must believe this! Our Guanshiyin Bodhisattva is truly very compassionate. It is true that she gives a thousand responses to a thousand prayers. She has great, awesome spiritual power."

As the three robbers discussed what to do with her, my sister remained so single-minded in her recitation of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva's name that she did not pay attention to their talking. She thought: "Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, if I'm destined to die here today, please guide my soul to the Western Land of Ultimate Bliss! I don't want to become a lonely spirit or a ghost in the wilderness. I want to go to the Western Land of the Ultimate Bliss!" With that thought in mind, she very sincerely recited Guanyin Bodhisattva's holy name. She was concentrated as she kept on reciting and reciting.

After a while, the heart of one of the three robbers seemed to soften. He said, "I say forget it! Really, there isn't anything we can get out of her. I think she really didn't know the driver, and it's possible that her family isn't rich after all." However, the remaining two had no desire to let her go. In all that time, all they had robbed from my sister was an inexpensive jade bracelet worth only 500 Taiwanese dollars (less than US\$11). To them, it was an unlucky day. They had been robbers for so long; perhaps it was the first time that they had robbed someone who had neither money nor jewelry. No necklace, ring, nothing whatsoever. It was because on the day when I left the home-life, my sister had made an offering of her wedding ring and all her jewelry to the Venerable Master. That was the reason she had not worn any jewelry other than the jade bracelet. The two robbers, trying to take some advantage from her, said, "Since we weren't able to rob anything, let's rape her!" But the third one said, "Forget it! Forget it!" He then dragged the other two away in their car.

Hearing the car drive away, my sister was finally spared by those three rough characters. She had escaped an imminent disaster. Walking unsteadily to the main road to seek help, she quickly found a taxi stand. (Actually, the robbers had not driven her very far, just to an empty lot nearby. But my sister did not know that at the time; she thought it was far and remote.) She then pleaded a taxi driver to drive her back to the



機，她開自己車，司機開計程車跟在後面送她回去，她會付他所有的費用。那個司機非常慈悲，看到我姊姊狼狽傷慘的樣子，他同情地說：「唉呀！小姐妳遭遇這樣的事情，我不要妳的錢！」但是我姊姊說：「不可以！你還是要生活！」我姊姊還是給他一些錢。這是我姊姊恐怖之夜的經過。

雖然日子又恢復到平常，可是這一個傷害太深，只要天一暗下來，她一個人就會覺得很恐懼；直到她持大悲咒，心情才慢慢平靜下來。

現在，姊姊就比較精進一點，她每天誦一百零八遍的〈大悲咒〉，對佛法有很大的信心，因為觀世音菩薩給她很大的幫助，大大地超出她想要的。因為當時，她看逃不出這一劫，她不敢求生，只求觀世音菩薩：「如果我死了，請你帶我到西方極樂世界！」她並沒有求觀世音菩薩說：「請您讓我有個轉機！」

馬見鞭影而伏，我希望大家不要等到有苦難的時候，才抱佛腳，才想要離苦。在我們見到他人苦的時候，就是提醒我們不要忘了：這真是一個很苦的世間！我們每天誦觀世音菩薩聖號、持〈大悲咒〉，就會幫助我們有出離苦海的力量；我們學著滅去貪瞋癡，慈悲與智慧就會增長，漸漸地我們也會成佛的。阿彌陀佛！

parking lot and to help her find her handbag. She said to him, "If I find my handbag, I will pay the taxi fee." She found it just where she had thrown it. My sister then begged the driver to follow her car as she drove home. Afterwards, she again offered to pay the taxi driver for his service. But the taxi driver was very compassionate. Seeing her in such miserable shape, he told her, "Ah miss, you've been through such an ordeal; I can't take your money!" However, my sister still insisted: "No, you still have to make a living." Then she paid him some money. This is what happened to my sister that horrible evening.

Even though her life went back to normal, this incident had a serious effect on her. After a long time, she still had a sense of inexplicable terror. When evening came, she would feel panic-stricken. Later, she recited the Great Compassion Mantra and slowly her condition improved.

Afterwards, my sister became more diligent in her cultivation. She now recites the Great Compassion Mantra 108 times every day. Her faith in the Buddhadharmā grew deeper because the aid bestowed by Guanshiyin Bodhisattva far surpassed what she had asked for. At that time, my sister had thought she would not be able to escape her fate, so she did not pray to live. Instead, she beseeched Guanyin Bodhisattva: "If I die, please take me to the Western Land of the Ultimate Bliss!" She did not seek help from Guanyin Bodhisattva by saying, "Please let this situation change for the better."

A horse is subdued when it sees a whip. I hope all of you will not wait till you experience suffering before you pray to the Buddhas, before you realize you want to leave suffering. We have to acknowledge that this world is full of suffering! We should know how to find a way to handle it. This is most important. We recite Guanshiyin Bodhisattva's holy name every day. If we recite the Great Compassion Mantra, it will give us the power to leave the sea of suffering. As we learn to extinguish our greed, hatred and delusion, our kindness, compassion and wisdom will increase. In due time we will also become Buddhas. Amitabha!

