

觀音菩薩救我出苦海 ——介紹李親朗居士

Guan Yin Bodhisattva Saved Me from Misery — Introducing Lily Lee

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1994年，經由朋友的介紹，李親朗第一次來到華嚴精舍，為剛往生的父親做七。雖然認識了上人的道場，當時的她，多半只有精舍舉辦大法會的時候才來，而且上午法會結束後就離開。直到2000年6月，有一天在自家後院被小蟲子叮了一下手臂，幾天後眼睛便逐漸出現問題。

剛開始醫生診斷是眼睛發炎，沒想到越來越嚴重，最後眼前一片模糊，整個世界彷彿淹沒在雨雪之中。找不出確切病因、四處求醫問藥毫無結果的情況下，李居士回到華嚴精舍向法師求救。法師認為與眼睛有關的疾病，大多與吃海鮮有關。

一向愛吃魚的她，經法師指示要替魚類做三皈依、放生、立超度牌位，並告誡她一定要吃長素，護持道場。除此之外，她每天誦持〈大悲咒〉及稱念觀音菩薩聖號。點眼藥水時，同時稱唸《普門品》裡的「無垢清淨光，慧日破諸闇，能伏災風火，普明照世間」這四句偈頌。

In 1994, Upasika Lily Lee was introduced and made her very first visit to Avatamsaka Vihara in Maryland, USA, with her friend. The purpose of that visit was to arrange a prayer session for her recently deceased father on each weekly anniversary for the 49 days. Although Ms. Lee knew of the Venerable Master Hua's branch temple in Maryland, she rarely frequented the temple, except on special Dharma sessions; but even during the sessions, she would never stay for a full day. But things changed in June 2000, when ticks from Ms. Lee's backyard bit her arm and her eyesight began to deteriorate.

In an early diagnosis, the eye doctor said that her eyes were simply infected; however, her condition continued to decline, until one day, everything she saw before her became blurry, like a world covered in a veil. After numerous failed attempts to identify the nature of the illness from different doctors and treatments, Upasika Lee came back to Avatamsaka Vihara in her last hope for cure from the monastic. The Dharma Master noted that the symptoms of eye diseases are probably the results of eating seafood.

Ms. Lily admitted that she did love to eat fish. She then strictly followed the Dharma Master's guidance to give some fish the Three Refuges before liberating them, and to erect plaques to cross over all the fish that she had consumed. The Dharma Master also urged her to become a vegetarian and to be a committed volunteer at the monastery. In addition to these instructions, Ms. Lily also started reciting the *Great Compassion Mantra* and Guanshiyin Bodhisattva's name every day. While applying eye drops, Lily would also recite the following four verses from *The Universal Door Chapter*:

*Unfiled pure light,
The sun of wisdom that breaks through the darkness
Is able to quell calamities of wind and fire
As it shines on all worlds.*

之後回到診所複診，醫生說眼睛裡有兩塊很大的漂浮物，也許幾個月、也許幾年，甚至終身都不能恢復。聽完之後，她氣憤地回答醫生決不放棄。當天晚飯後，同修攙扶她出門散步，邊走邊持誦觀音菩薩聖號，晚上就做了一個奇怪的夢。夢中的她正在吃一盤大顆的白色養殖珍珠，連續吃了兩顆，第三顆只咬了一半，心想怎麼這麼硬，就放下不吃了。

第二天醒來後，猛然聯想到養殖珍珠是從牡蠣來的，而生病的前兩週她確實在一家海鮮餐館吃了兩顆牡蠣。觀世音菩薩夢中示現眼疾的原因，於是她趕緊為牡蠣設牌位超度、放生、誠心懺悔，並發願餘生長素，而且堅持以〈大悲咒〉為日課。視力果然一天天地恢復了。

同年八月，聽聞萬佛聖城傳授三皈五戒，由於視力已逐漸恢復，於是在法師的鼓勵下，首次參訪聖城並受了五戒，親身感受聖城的殊勝。回家後的某一天，又做了一個奇怪的夢，夢中踩在溼軟的泥沼地上，越走越深，眼看就要完全陷進泥沼裡了。驚慌失措之際，突然好多位的白衣觀音從四面八方趕來，用力把她從泥沼中拉起。

誠如《大悲懺》裡所講：

「深信因果。生重慚愧。生大怖畏。發露懺悔。……念十方佛。有大福慧。能救拔我。及諸眾生。從二死海。至三德岸。」

感嘆人生無常，李親朗慶幸此生能來到上人的正法道場，亂世中一個殊勝莊嚴的修行之地，深覺應該珍惜這個學佛的機會，認真修行，才不會辜負上人對我們的期許。❀

Later, Upasika Lily went to the clinic and had her doctor re-examine the condition of her eyes. Unfortunately, she was told that there were two floating objects in her eyes, which might linger for months, years, or for the rest of her life. Without hesitation, Lily dismissed her doctor's diagnosis and was determined to find the cure herself. That very evening after dinner, Lily took a walk outside with her husband's help and recited Guanshiyin Bodhisattva's name sincerely without stop. When she got home and fell asleep, Lily had a bizarre dream of her eating a plate of huge cultured ivory pearls. In that dream, she had eaten two of the pearls and just finished half of the third one. Lily suddenly stopped eating and put down the other half on her plate, thinking that this one is too hard to eat.

The next morning when she woke up, Lily realized that the cultured pearls are formed in oysters, and remembered that she did eat two oysters in a seafood restaurant two weeks before she got sick. With the manifestation of the cause of her eye disease by Guanshiyin Bodhisattva in her dream, Lily immediately erected plaques to cross over the oysters and she also liberated more fish. She then vowed to be a vegetarian for the rest of her life, and included the *Great Compassion Mantra* in her daily recitation homework. Amazingly, Lily's eyesight gradually began to recover.

In August of 2000, Ms. Lily heard that the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas had scheduled to hold a ceremony to transmit the Three Refuges and Five Precepts. With encouragement from Dharma Masters, and with her slowly recovering eyesight, Lily visited CTTB for the first time and experienced CTTB's magnificent environment. It was during that visit that Ms. Lily took the Five Precepts. After she went back home, Lily had another bizarre dream. In that dream, she was walking in a muddy swamp and was sinking with each step, until she was almost completely submerged in the swamp. Just as she started to panic, numerous Guanshiyin Bodhisattvas in white robes came to her help and strenuously pulled her out of the swamp.

Just as stated in the *Great Compassion Repentance*:

"I have come to believe deeply in cause and effect. I give birth to deep shame, great fear and repent.....I recollect the Buddhas of the ten directions, who have great blessings and wisdom which can rescue me and pull me, along with all other living beings, out of the sea of the two deaths, and can bring me straight to the shore of the three virtues."

Contemplating the uncertainty of life, Upasika Lily is grateful to have found the Venerable Master's monasteries—the DRBA temples allow everyone to study the proper Dharma and to cultivate in this restless world. Only with vigor and diligent efforts to study the Buddha's teaching can we live up to the expectations of Venerable Master Hua. ❀

修道人無論對內對外對人，不論長幼尊卑，都常存慈悲喜捨的心，自然能生感應。

——宣公上人法語

A cultivator should always have a heart of kindness, compassion, joy, and renunciation whether internally or externally, and treat people equally whether they are young, old, honorable or humble. There will naturally be a response.

— By Venerable Master Hsuan Hua