

'Caring Chinese Families Rescue Impoverished Aussie Orphans'

(a fictitious docu-drama)

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The year 2020. The USA, Australia and Europe have plunged into economic meltdown. Prolonged severe drought and massive hurricanes have devastated both Australia's coastline and farmland. Worldwide fuel shortages have led to the unthinkable - war has broken out on Australian soil as countries desperately battle for control of Australia's uranium. As a result, thousands of impoverished Aussie families are forced to relinquish their children just to survive.

China now leads the world. One of China's leading actresses, Li Wei, launches a noble international campaign, "Save Aussie Orphans". It coincides with skyrocketing infertility rates in China. Thousands of people from China's wealthier classes have signed up to join tours to Australia to rescue Aussie orphans.

At Sydney International Airport: live TV coverage of the first group of Chinese adoptive parents, led by Li Wei herself.

Li Wei coos: "I'm sooo delighted to be able to give these absolutely adorable Aussie children loving homes and a better chance in life in China. Australia is such a quaint country - so exotic! But (sighs) it's just so poor. One *does* feel deeply sorry for them all. I wish that there was more that I could do for them. Oh well, I guess by assisting Chinese families to adopt these little Aussie cuties, I'm doing my teeny, weeny bit to save these dear souls!

But how *dare* the Department of Child Safety take so long and ask us so many questions! Meanwhile there are literally thousands of Aussie children languishing in orphanages, crying out for love, on the verge of death! Yet DOCS is standing in our way to rescue these little tykes and give them a better home in China where we can provide them with the best of care."

Journalist: "Why did you choose Australia, Ms Li?"

Li Wei's face darkens: "We had first considered the USA but with all the huge drug use and AIDS over there, you never know what you'll get.... And besides, many places insist that we be Christians. How ridiculously discriminatory! Like, how many families in China are Christian?? I mean, what's really essential is that we provide a loving, caring home - not our religion, right? So I decided to go for Australia since we'd heard it was a lot easier and quicker, fewer questions, etc; But we were so wrong!

And we adopted from a tiny town called... Wu something (laughs)...oh I really know so little about Australia, let alone its geography, it's such a BIG empty country compared to China! Ah, that's it, Wu Long Gong! How funny! It means 'Five Working Dragons' translated into Chinese.

The TV camera zooms in on Li Wei holding up her newly adopted Australian daughter, a blonde-haired baby swathed in bright red, Chinese-style clothes and a bright, gold-coloured hair ornament dangling from her few locks of hair.

Li Wei: “Look! Isn't our little Hsing Hsing (that's what we've named her - it means Lucky Lucky in Chinese) just so totally cute! We absolutely bonded immediately - and she never cries. I just knew at first sight that she was for us!

When I get back to Beijing my friends and family will organise a big welcome party for Hsing Hsing - complete with Chinese streamers, Chinese firecrackers and good ol' traditional Chinese delicacies! She'll be a Chinese local in no time!

But we'll make absolutely sure that little Hsing Hsing knows about her Aussie heritage. We've already hooked up with literally hundreds of other Chinese couples who are also adopting from Australia. We'll organise Aussie-style BBQs – many of the parents have already bought Aussie-style hats and cookbooks. I've even personally bought cute koalas and Aboriginal artefacts to decorate my home and plan on taking Hsing Hsing to Australia Day events in China. And we'll get together to teach the kiddies Australian songs like ‘Waltzing Matilda’ – this may take some time since many of the families hardly speak a word of English.

Li Wei starts gaily humming the tune to Hsing Hsing then turns a more earnest face back to the camera, “You know, some families are so keen to help Australia out of its plight that they've even pledged to send money back to the villages in Australia as a donation – you know, a genuine gesture from the heart to those less fortunate than us Chinese.”

The distant roar of the jet engines grows louder as the overhead speakers announce, “Final boarding call for Flight CA1017 bound for Beijing.”

Li Wei picks up her newly adopted baby's tiny hand and excitedly waves it at the camera as she turns towards the roaring airplane. “C'mon Hsing Hsing – now say ‘Zai jian! Zai jian!’” Li Wei winks at the camera. “That's ‘bye bye’ in Chinese!”

TV camera zooms in on Hsing Hsing who stares blankly back at the camera, her hair ornament dangling in the breeze.