

"I know how you feel," Lisa said," but-do you want Ann to have a college education for Ann, or-" she paused, "or for you?"

It was hard for Ralph to give ground. "There's such a thing as justice..."
But what, he thought, is justice?

"May be--"-Ralph said, "maybe we should talk about this some more." 30

Exercise 1 Vocabulary Preparation

Answer the following questions correctly.

1. Mrs. Susan is a quiet old lady. She is _____.
 1. not bright
 2. gentle
 3. noiseless
 4. excited
2. Don't stare at people because it is impolite. When you stare at people you _____.
 1. look fixedly
 2. move your eyes up and down
 3. close your eyes
 4. can't see them clearly
3. Her father isn't going to get off her back unless she got 'A' in all subjects.
This sentence means that her father will _____.
 1. ride on her back
 2. give her private tuition
 3. not leave her alone
 4. bring her back home
4. No one can match him in archery.
'Match' in this sentence means _____.
 1. be put in competition with
 2. find material for
 3. be in accordance with
 4. be equal to
5. He pleaded with his son to be less trouble to his mother.
'Plead' in this sentence means _____.
 1. present the case
 2. address a court
 3. ask earnestly
 4. offer as an excuse

6. She has never thought of going to college.

“Thought of” means _____.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. considered | 2. imagined |
| 3. examined | 4. recalled |

7. On what grounds do you suspect him?

‘Grounds’ in this sentence means _____.

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. positions | 2. reasons |
| 3. gardens | 4. foundations |

Exercise 2 Comprehension Questions

a. Write (T) for the correct answer or (F) for the incorrect one in the space provided.

- ___1. Ann is an intelligent student.
- ___2. Ann and Lynn are friends.
- ___3. Lynn got very good grades at school.
4. Ann has little chance of going to college.
- ___5. Lynn’s father had a chance to go to college.

b. Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Ralph’s intention is that Ann-
- | |
|---|
| 1. should have enough rest |
| 2. must be admitted to college |
| 3. can do what she wants in the evening |
| 4. should not study too hard |
2. Ralph believed that if Ann was not lazy she _____
- | |
|--|
| 1. could get good grades |
| 2. would have no chance to go to college |
| 3. could have an evening break |

4. All are correct
3. Ralph's father refused to send him to college because _____.
1. he wanted to be fair to all his children
 2. Ralph had to work because they were poor
 3. he didn't think that education was necessary
 4. he also didn't go to college when he was young
4. Ralph thought that the way his father treated him was _____.
1. good
 2. fair
 3. unfair
 4. bad
5. Ralph wanted Ann to have a college education because he wanted _____
1. to fulfil his needs
 2. Ann to get more education
 3. Ann to satisfy her need
 4. A kind of justice for his children

Passage 6

AFATHERSPEAKSUPABOUTTEEN-AGERSANDSEX

Ever since the days of my youth, I have been deeply disturbed by the con-fusion and hypocrisy in the attitudes of adults toward what used to be called courting. I know that the word for courting nowadays is "dating," but somehow that is a word I loathe. It sounds coy and does not reflect its true meaning.

5

As the father of three daughters and a son, and as a man with a fairly good memory of his high-school and college days, I know that nothing is more important to teen-agers than the attempt to love and be loved. I wish we were able to give our children a clearer code to follow and standards of morality that they could accept.

10

I think that for a long time our courtship custom-or call them dating practices, if you will-have been totally absurd. They impose impossible burdens upon the young and often result in extreme unhappiness for both parents and children.

Look at the ridiculous facts: In spite of their sophistication, in spite of 15
pride in their up-to-date ideas, most parents devoutly hope their daughter will
remain chaste until she is married. On the other hand, most parents do not
feel hypocritical when they take a much more tolerant attitude toward their
son. Parents tell teen-agers of both sexes that despite the miracles of modern
medicine, sex is fraught with dangers-the dangers of promiscuity, venereal 20
disease, pregnancy. Every religion emphasizes the importance of sexual
purity, especially for the young. And psychiatrists, like priests, point out that
promiscuity is harmful to the mind and body.

There is a good deal of debate nowadays on whether a sexual revolu- 25
tion is in progress. In my high-school and college days people didn't talk
about a sexual revolution, but there certainly was an awful lot of sex, and I
doubt whether the invention of the Pill and better treatment for venereal
disease have done much to calm things down.

What's really going on a% the present time? Several psychiatrists who 30
deal with teen-agers have told me that today many young people have
considerable sexual experience before they get out of high school. In my
travels around the country, talking to college students about writing. I have
found that some of them regard virginity as a symptom of neurosis for anyone
over 21.

We fond fathers still hope that our daughter will be outgoing, 35
uninhibited, warm, unafraid, and completely chaste until she married a kind
man with a good job. What we want is a safe sanitized swinger. And there

are some men who pound this fact home with frightening intensity-men who regard sex not as an act of love but as a kind of conquest and degradation.

Thus we have young women, tacking the strength to be chaste in the midst of so many new freedoms, who feel miserably guilty, frightened, and degraded. We also have great numbers of girls who have remained chaste but can't help wondering-in view of the conduct of so many of their contemporaries-whether they aren't priggish, overinhibited, and undersexed. A young college woman today is pretty much damned if she does and damned if she doesn't. To me there is real tragedy in the fact that many of our young people feel that their first fumbblings at love are dirty and that countless "good" girls wonder whether there's something wrong with them. Added to all the other strains of growing up, there is now this extra guilt and worry-made worse because most youngsters feel they can't talk about their sex problems to their parents without eliciting enraged moral lectures.

Almost every father I know really wants to tell his daughter to remain chaste if she can; but that if she can't, her mother and father will love her anyway.

The trouble is, this is a very hard thing to say to a young girl without sounding as if one were half-encouraging her to be as wild as she likes. As a result most parents, after imparting the simplest information about the biological facts of life, relapse into an embarrassed silence.

How can parents communicate with their children? In my opinion, the only way one can ever deal successfully with young' people is to tell them the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth-and to tell it as simply as possible.

One of the inescapable main truths about courtship or dating is the plain fact emphasized here-that living in an age of indecision, chaos, and

swift change confuses most adults just about as much as it does the **young**. It 65
is important for youngsters to realize that the confusion they feel is not entirely
of their own making, that they are not stupid or immoral because they share
the bewilderment of our time.

To me, the solution to the problem of how to advise teen-agers about
sex is to present youth as a time for search, for self-understanding, and for 70
love-not as a game with rigid rules and penalties.

The plain truth is that most of us-shyly at first and then with greater
confidence-allow ourselves to reach out for love as best we can. Most of us
make a good many mistakes before we are able to love fully and responsibly.
Most of us get turned down more than once. And sometimes, despite our 75
good intentions, our changes of heart and mind tend to hurt other people.

Reasonably healthy and ethical men and women keep these mistakes
within tolerable bounds and learn from them instead of repeating them. Most
mature people are not ashamed to admit that, for us imperfect human beings,
perfect virtue is a goal to be pursued, not possessed. 80

It may sound immoral to say that in love, as in most other things,
people learn by trial and error. But this is the truth, and it does not have to be
a distasteful truth. 'The entire process of finding love can be full of enough
zest and joy to make the occasional heartaches worthwhile.'

¹ Reprinted from "A Father Speaks Up About Teen-agers and Sex" by Sloan Wilson, in the
November, 1967 issue of Family Circle Magazine. Copyright The Family Circle, Inc., 1967. Mr.
Wilson is the author whose novel **The Man** in the Gray Flannel Suit added a new phrase to our
language.

Exercise 1 Vocabulary Preparation

Answer the following questions correctly.

1. As a ___ he showed no promise of becoming a great pianist.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. young | 2. youth |
| 3. yourself | 4. youthful |

2. Joe has a bad memory for dates. This sentence means that _____.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Joe cannot remember dates | 2. Joe forgets dates easily |
| 3. Joe does not like to know dates | 4. 1 and 2 are correct |

3. You look ridiculous in those tight jeans. This means that you look. _____

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. good | 2. ugly |
| 3. funny | 4. lovely |

4. She was seasick, and loathed the smell of greasy food.

“Loathed” in this sentence means _____.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. loved very much | 2. preferred most |
| 3. agreed with | 4. disliked greatly |

5. Most parents devoutly hope their daughter will remain chaste until she is married.

“Devoutly” in this sentence means _____.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. sincerely | 2. separately |
| 3. happily | 4. hardly |

6. Nowadays we cannot hope to see young women to remain chaste until they are married.

“Chaste” in this sentence means _____.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| 1. untame | 2. virgin |
| 3. unreasonable | 4. clear |

7. After a long the bill was passed by the House of Commons and sent to the House of Lords.

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. debating | 2. debatable |
| 3. debater | 4. debate |
8. A psychiatrist is a person who _____
1. looks for the correct answer
 2. is expert in treatment of mental illness
 3. takes good care of all children
 4. you can depend on him everything
9. Young people sometimes complain of not being able to with their parents.
- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. communicate | 2. communicant |
| 3. communicative | 4. communication |
10. He tried to join the army but was turned down because of poor health, and he was very _____
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. noisy | 2. lucky |
| 3. upset | 4. busy |

Exercise 2 Comprehension Questions

a. Write (T) for the correct **answer** or (F) for the incorrect one in the space provided.

- ___1. The author notes a need for improved communication within the family.
- ___2. He approves of free love.
- ___3. He sees a need for improve mental health for young adults.
- ___4. Parents are not always rational.
- ___5. Too many ominous warnings about sex are given to the young
- ___6. We seek the same standards for bur son and our daughter.
- ___7. Young people today are less moral than their parents.
- ___8. Youth is a time to search for self and understanding self.

- ___9. There is a need for a clearer code of standards of morality which young people could accept.
- ___10. Our courtship customs are outmoded.

b. Choose the best answer for each question.

1. The author does not like the word "courting" because he thought that the word
1. is unimpressive to him
 2. does not convey its real meaning
 3. means the same as dating
 4. seems like going to the court
2. As a father, the author is worried about his children _____.
1. free love
 2. academic freedom
 3. morality
 4. working experience
3. Courtship customs _____.
1. are acceptable for the author
 2. make the children be happy
 3. annoy the parents very much
 4. make both parents and children be uneasy
4. The author thinks that high-school sex is very _____.
1. dangerous
 2. pleasant
 3. impressive
 4. modern
5. From reading the passage, we know every religion teaches the young about _____.
1. the God
 2. sexual purity
 3. love and sex
 4. freedom of love
6. Psychiatrists mention that if children _____ it will be harmful to the mind and body.
1. do not pay attention to homework

2. are very realistic about having sex
 3. do not listen to the priests and the doctors
 4. do not have careful choice about sex
7. At present, many teen-agers consider virginity as _____ for those over 21.
1. abnormal
 2. wise
 3. a sin
 4. a good deed
8. But anyhow lots of women _____
- 1 still believe in chastity
 2. are forbidden not to marry young
 3. confuse whether to remain chaste
 4. sacrifice themselves to the God
9. According to the author, parents must speak _____ to their children about sex.
1. indirectly
 2. frankly
 3. loudly
 4. secretly
10. The author concludes that we learn in love _____.
1. from our own experience
 2. by trial and error
 3. from the fact of life
 4. All are correct

Passage 7
The Cobbler

His greatest satisfaction was pride in a job well done

condense from LE FIGARO

Ariel Marinie

He's an old cobbler with a shop in the Marais, a historic area in Paris. When I took him my shoes, he at first told me: "I haven't time. Take them to the other fellow on the main street; he'll fix them for you right away."

But I'd had my eye on his shop for a long time. Just looking at his bench loaded with tools and scraps of leather, I knew he was a skilled craftsman. "No" 5
I replied, "the other fellow is bound to botch them up."

'The other fellow' was one of those shopkeepers who fix heels and make keys "while-U-wait"—without knowing much about mending shoes or making keys. They work carelessly, and when they have finished sewing back a sandal strap you might as well just throw away the pair. 10

My man saw I wouldn't give in, and he smiled. He wiped his hands on his blue apron, looked at my shoes, had me write my name on one sole with a piece of chalk and said, "Come back in a week."

I was about to leave when he took a superb pair of soft, supple leather boots off a shelf. 15

"See what I can do?" he said with pride. "Only three of us in Paris can do this kind of work."

When I got back out into the street, the world seemed brand-new to me. He was something out of a medieval legend, this old craftsman with his way of speaking familiarly, his weird, dusty felt hat, his funny accent from who-knows- 20
where and, above all, his pride in his craft.

These are times when nothing counts but the bottom line, when you can do things any old way as long as it "pays," when, in short, people look on work as a path to ever increasing consumption rather than a way to realize their own intrinsic abilities. In such a period it is a rare comfort to find a cobbler who 25
derives his greatest satisfaction from pride in a job well done.

Good work is a title of nobility: whatever his trade, a conscientious, honest workman who tries to do his duty with no further ambition than to main-

tain his self-respect has as much dignity as a famous artist. There is no hereditary aristocracy. Decent people are the only true aristocrats.

30

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Exercise 1 Use the correct idiom in each sentence.

have his eye on

be about to

be bound to

botch up

give in

1. Suksom _____ leave her office when the telephone rang.
2. Charlie was a skillful repair man and he fixed our household electric appliances. He never -them_____.
3. Although Sodsai did not agree with her boss 's plan, she finally-.
4. Our national football team- with when they scored two goals in a row.
5. The boy -the toy department for a long time. He immediately went to the shelf loaded with robot toys.

Exercise 2 Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Where was the setting of the story?
 1. In Marseille
 2. In France
 3. In a gift shop
 4. At a craft exhibition
2. The conversation was between._____
 1. the writer and his readers
 2. a shoemaker and his customer
 3. an apprentice and a skilled craftsman
 4. a shopkeeper and a famous artist
3. 'My man' (line 1 1) refers to_____
 1. the author's driver
 2. the aristocrat

3. the cobbler
4. the writer's servant
4. The writer finally had his shoes mended at _____.
1. a 'while-U-wait' store
2. a shoemaker's on the main street
3. a young cobbler's shop
4. an old craftsman's store
5. When would the writer get his shoes back?
1. When he visited the Marais next time.
2. The next week.
3. When he returned with a receipt.
4. Sooner or later.
6. The statement that best expresses the author's attitude about his experience is _____
1. to find a dignified craftsman is a rare comfort
2. famous artists are usually weird, old and proud
3. people today have eyes for good work only
4. to realize one's own intrinsic ability is time consuming
7. From whose point of view do we learn about the story?
1. The old cobbler's
2. A passer-by's
3. The writer's
4. A policeman's
8. The author was shown _____.
1. a job well done
2. three pairs of nice boots
3. a photo of three skillful shoemakers
4. a piece of genuine leather
9. One can tell that the author _____.
1. wanted his shoes fixed fast
2. admired the old cobbler
3. was proud of his aristocracy
4. did not like brand-new things

10. The writer considered the old man noble because _____.

1. he was an heir of a French aristocrat
2. he inherited a title of nobility
3. he was something out of a medieval legend
4. he maintained his self-respect from his good work

Passage 8

To capture the beauty of Nature

Suda Kanjanawanawan

Talks to master artist Fua Haribhitak,

Who has 'dedicated his whole life to art and religion.

He is 80 years old and his health is failing, but this does not prevent Fua Haribhitak from vigorously pursuing research on the two disciplines he has dedicated his whole life to-Buddhism and art.

Says the great artist: "My life is art. I do it because I love it and I am its humble devotee. Neither honours nor material rewards do I expect from a work which I do with the utmost sincerity, trying to capture the essence of the beauty of Nature [Dhamma]."

Being in the first group of students of Corrado Feceri, better known as Prof Silpa Bhirasri, Fua certainly got his inspiration from his teacher who once pointed out that, "Art and religion are synonymous, Religion is the fundamental educational power that moulds the mentality and customs of a people. While art is the expression of its inward feeling."

Thus, to continue Prof Silpa' idea. Fua's task is to zealously propagate art as if it were a religion, in his case Buddhism.

For almost the last sixty years, the elderly artist has relentlessly tried to 15
rescue the paintings in various places throughout the kingdom.

The master has demonstrated his masterful artistic skills in restoring the
ruined mural paintings in Thailand's historically and culturally significant
temples in the ancient cities of Ayutthaya, Sukhothai, Petchburi and in many
other provinces in northern Thailand. He diligently and skillfully works on 20
repairing, preserving and duplicating the originals. His most prominent works
include the repairing of the mural paintings in the great PAGODA inside
Mahathat Temple of Ayutthaya and in the Buddha Kosacham Pavilion at
Buddhai Sawan Monastery.

Equally important is his important and invaluable research on the 25
precious Lanna art which was deemed a highly artistic work and an important
source of Thai art history studies from 1964-1967. Fua recorded the patterns
and designs of dozens of religious buildings in the North, several of which are
now in ruins.

Indeed, Fua can be regarded as the man who provides the link for the 30
beauty of the past to be appreciated by the present generation.

Fua believed that the art of works conservation is no less significant than
any other artistic endeavour. He feels that if nobody helps to preserve the
ruined mural paintings and objets d'art, the generations to follow will not get the
opportunity to appreciate an important source of national pride. 35

The artist insists he still has a lot of things to do for both society and the
coming generations.

Weakened by kidney problems, Fua, however, still continues to work
and do research on both life and the arts.

"I remember well Prof. Silpa's saying." He said to me, "we are born to 40
work. If we don't work, our thoughts will travel aimlessly and confusingly."

“All of my life, I have determined to work as hard as I can, until I can no longer do it,” he emphasizes.

At present, he is still working on a painting sketch of an image of the Lord Buddha and two Hindu gods on which he has already spent nearly two years. This incomplete work will be used as an outline for the construction of the Buddha depiction and will be later placed in a viham inside a temple compound which Fua declines to reveal, reasoning that the work is not perfect. 45

Recognizing the state of his health though, Fua is determined that he has to complete the work as soon as possible, as he says, “before I lose all of my energy.” 50

Among the cream of Thai national artists now, painter Fua was one of the outstanding students of the first batch taught by Prof Silpa. Other prominent students at that time were Piman Mulpramuk and Sithidet Saenghiran, both sculptors. 55

All of them were practitioners of the realistic style initially. During that period, Fua received a score of awards from the National Exhibition of Arts organized by the Fine Arts Department. Later the artist was influenced by impressionism, which he learned in Europe when he got a grant to study at the Academia de Bella Arts di Roma in Rome, Italy in 1954. Fua also experimented with Cubism. He was among the leading artists who brought the idea of Cubism to Thailand. 60

In 1983, Fua won the Philippines’ Magsaysay award for social service and two years later he was in the first group of local artists who were honoured as National Artists. At present, Fua is a teacher of traditional art at Chang Silp College in Bangkok. 65

Despite his many accomplishments, Fua still believes in the simple life, with no ambition in this material world, --a significant influence of Buddhism.

Though he could profit a lot from his artistic capability and reputation as a master, Fua has never taken advantage of this. Most of his works, if not sold at 70 low prices, are in public monasteries.

Staying in a small house in Soi Soon Karnkhaa Worachak near Sra Ket Temple in Bangkok, Fua lives a contented life with wife Somthawin, 70. A small multipurpose room is where the artist spends most of his time doing this work.

To honour this National Artist, the National Culture Commission Office 75 and Sathien Koset-Nakha Pratheep Foundation are holding an exhibition of his works at the National Gallery. The exhibition, to celebrate the 80th birthday of Fua, is also to mark the long years of his dedication to Thai art conservation.

The public is welcome to view the exhibition daily until May 24.

Exercise 1 Answer the statements TRUE (T) or FALSE (F)

- ___1. Fua won the Philippines' Magsaysay award for social service in 1993.
- ___2. Fua spends most of his time doing his work.
- ___3. Fua was a student of Prof Silpa Bhirasri.
4. Fua was honoured as a National Artist in 1985.
- ___5. Fua was not interested in Lanna art.
- ___6. The artist dedicated his life to Thai art conservation.
- ___7. His most prominent works include the construction of the great pagoda.
- ___8. Fua was determined to retire at 80.
- ___9. Fua preferred to sell his work at a low price.
- ___10. The artist was weakened by heart problems.

Exercise 2 Complete each sentence using one of the following terms:

cream, sketch, batch, conservation, prominent

1. Water _____ should be a priority of our government.
2. Puay was an outstanding student of Father Helair and he was among the _____ of his generation.
3. The new _____ of trainees will visit the RU. printing house tomorrow.
4. They will notice the sign left on the floor easily since it is very _____
5. A _____ of the hit and run driver was sent around the country.

Exercise 3 Choose the best answer for each questions.

1. Fua Haribhitak is _____ .
 1. a great painter
 2. a researcher
 3. a teacher of traditional art
 4. All are correct
2. Prof Silpa Bhirasri said _____ .
 1. "Art is my life"
 2. "Art and religion are synonymous"
 3. "To capture the essence of the beauty of Nature is the artist's work".
 4. "I am the humble devotee of art"
3. Which statement is not true?
 1. Fua was not interested in material rewards
 2. Fua followed his teacher's philosophy in working.
 3. Fua spent forty years trying to rescue the paintings in various places.
 4. Fua wanted the beauty of the past to be appreciated by the present generation.
4. "All of them" (line 56) refers to- - -
 1. both sculptors
 2. Prof Silpa's outstanding students

3. Thai national artists now
 4. Piman Mulpramuk and Sitthidet Saenghiran
5. Fua believes that_____
 1. the art of works conservation is significant and meaningful
 2. he still has a lot to do for both society and the coming generations
 3. the ruined mural printings and objets d'art are an important source of national pride
 4. All are correct
6. In 1954, while studying in Rome, Italy, Fua was influenced by_____
 1. the great sculptures of the Roman Empire period
 2. his colleagues who experimented in Cubism
 3. the practitioners of the realistic style.
 4. impressionism at the Academia de **Bella** Arts di Roma
7. The artists far-sightedness and devotion to art are clearly seen from _____
 1. his recording of the patterns and designs of dozens of religious buildings in the North
 2. his experiment with Cubism and bringing the idea of Cubism to Thailand
 3. his receiving a score of awards from the National Exhibition of Thailand
 4. None is correct
8. Fua loves to _____

1. profit from his artistic ability	2. talk about his accomplishments
3. lead a simple life	4. be called a master
9. People can enjoy most of Fua's works _____

1. at Chang Silp College	2. in public monasteries
3. at his small studio	4. in some millionaires' collection
10. Which of the following is a significant influence of Buddhism on Fua?
 1. To become rich and famous

2. To be ambitious and materialistic
3. To take advantage of the poor
4. To live a contented life

Passage 9

The umbrella

by Suphasiri Supunpaysaj

The day my grandfather went into hospital I saw a patient who had died being wheeled into what Thais literally call the 'Heart-stopped Building' That was the first time I had heard of such a place, and I remember thinking what an awful name it was. It looked to me, at first, like an ordinary place; but after I learned what it was, the building suddenly became a much darker grey-almost shadowy, the way buildings and houses look just before a thunderstorm. The two large windows on either side became eyes, and the entrance below formed a wide-open mouth. I told myself not to look in that direction from then on.

The body being wheeled was covered from head to toe with a bright coloured Chinese silk sheet. Thais use these silk sheets the way people in cold countries use blankets, only the silk keeps them cool as well as protecting them from mosquitoes in the tropical climate. The woman walking alongside the wheel-bed had her umbrella open. She held it over the body, I found it amusing that an adult would actually try to shield a dead person, instead of herself, from the blazing sunlight. Even a nine-year-old like me knew that dead people cannot feel anything. What a dumb thing to do, I thought.

I was glad grandfather was going home in just a few days; I heard the doctor say so myself. Grandfather had always been a happy, healthy, robust kind of person. He was also, in every sense, a successful man: well-educated, rich, important, respected and loved. As a Buddhist he had fulfilled his six important duties: he had served his religion well; he had been a good son, a good husband and father. And surely, most definitely, he was a good-a great-grandfather.

There were four of us grandchildren living under his roof; several of his unmarried children were there: a few relatives: five generations of servants. Elderly servants who had been there since his father's day were well taken care-of, and young ones were sent to school at his expense.

Grandmother once told me that adults call people like him 'Bo Tree', I knew what she meant. Most every temple I had ever gone to had huge Bo trees. They looked like gigantic umbrellas with their long branches radiating in every direction like the bamboo ribs that hold up paper umbrellas, only the masses of intense green leaves were much thicker than the paper. If you stand right underneath a Bo tree, you are sheltered from the sun as well as the rain.

That's why birds loved to live in Bo trees. There seemed to be thousands, because it was more than I could count. They are the Bo's little fruit and built their nests; knowing their young would be safe from fierce sunlight and piercing rain.

Ten days later, grandfather died. Grandmother covered him with his Chinese silk sheet. I secretly wished she would not cover his face.

As we walked by his side to the 'Heart-stopped Building' where he would have to stay before they removed him to a temple for religious rites, I opened the umbrella to shield him from the sunlight. It was April, our