

You Are My Everything

By Yvonne Chen

People always say that one can't take wonderful things for granted, and I think Shanghai is among those that I love so much. Every time when I spell it, a sense of pride and warmth rises in my heart. Today, I want to share my gratitude for Shanghai with you.

I have lived here since I was born, and Shanghai to me is not only my hometown but also my EVERYTHING.

I love her being inclusive, embracing so many cultures into people's life. In the past, she provided shelters for thousands of Jewish people to avoid the cruelty of Holocaust. Today, more and more foreigners take here as their second home, celebrating their holidays, and merging western culture with Chinese traditional custom.

I love her beauty that you will find right out of your door, in the corner, shining. There are so many stories behind each Long Tang (lane), and memories, of course, for those who are elderly. Moreover, it is quite pleasurable to have a walk along Huangpu River, and taking short breaks in a quiet house beside the path, appreciating the peacefulness expressed from the gentleness of water.

I love her because she makes my dream come true. Years ago, the closest Disney Park is in Hong Kong. When I first knew that Shanghai would build a grander one, I jumped jubilantly, for the magical world I would once take hours to go, would be just a few metro stations away! I also wanted to see my idol, Shawn Mendes, in one of his concerts. And it became true. His show was fantastic and it's all because I was fortunate enough to live in Shanghai. Like him, many other celebrities are willing to come here and bring their first show in mainland China.

Lastly, and most importantly, I love her people. Without them, the economy of Shanghai would not enhance so rapidly. Without them, Shanghai would not become the "pearl" of the oriental world. Without them, Shanghai would not entertain the miraculous exchanging of culture and ideas. Let's give a round of applause to them, to this city, and to us, for we all made contributions to make her better.

I LOVE Shanghai!!

Yvonne Chen,

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