

到處尋找生薑 (Dàochù Xuézhǎo Shēng Jiāng) (The Hunt for Fresh Ginger)

CLASSROOM

Class is coming to a close and students are gathering their books to leave.

SUNLAOSHI:

下課！康平，來。星期六晚上五點，有一個中國留學生會來我們的大學。你們要不要幫忙歡迎她？(Xiàkè! Kāngpíng, lái. Xīngqīliù wǎnshàng wǔ diǎn, yǒu yīgè zhōngguó liúxuésheng huì lái wǒmen de dàxué. Nǐmen yào bù yào bāng máng huānyíng tā. (Class is over! Kangping, come here. Saturday night at five o'clock, a Chinese exchange student is coming to our school. Do you guys want or not want to help welcome her?))

Xīngqīliù wǎnshàng wǔ diǎn, yǒu yīgè zhōngguó liúxuésheng huì lái wǒmen de dàxué. Nǐmen yào bù yào bāng máng huānyíng tā. (Class is over! Kangping, come here. Saturday night at five o'clock, a Chinese exchange student is coming to our school. Do you guys want or not want to help welcome her?)

KANGPING:

好，我們可以給他做中國晚飯吧。(Yào, wǒmen kěnéng gěi zuò tā Zhōngguó wǎnfàn ba.) (Sure, we could make her a Chinese dinner.)

SUNLAOSHI:

太好了！謝謝！請她來中文之家！(Tài hǎo le! Xièxiè! Qǐng tā lái Zhōngwén zhī jiā!) (Very good! Ask her to come to the Chinese house!)

KANGPING:

沒事！(Méishì!) (It's nothing!)

EXIT

CHINESE HOUSE

KABIR and CAROLEA sit at the dining room table doing homework. PHILLIP sits by them doing homework.

KANGPING:

孫老師說這個週末，有一個中國留學生來參觀。(Sūn lǎoshī shuō zhège zhōumò, yǒu yīgè zhōngguó liú xuéshēng lái cān guān.) (Sun Laoshi said that this weekend a Chinese exchange student is coming to look around.)

RUOYU:

真的嗎？我們得接待她。(Zhēnde ma? Wǒmen děi jiēdài tā.) (Really? We should

welcome her.)

KANGPING:

我跟孫老師說我們會做晚飯請留學生吃。(Wǒ gēn Sūn
lǎoshī shuō wǒmen huì zuò wǎnfàn
qǐng liú xuéshēng chī.) (I told Sun
Laoshi we can make dinner and ask
the exchange student to eat.)

RUOYU:

好。ANDREW可以幫我們做。(Hǎo. ANDREW kěyǐ
bāng wǒmen zuò.) (Good. Andrew may
help us cook.)

KANGPING:

我什麼中國菜都不知道。(Wǒ shénme Zhōngguó cài
dōu bù zhīdào.) (I don't know any
Chinese cuisine.)

PHILLIP :

你們該做麻婆豆腐。這個菜不太難做，也很好吃。(Nǐmen gāi
zuò má pó dòu fǔ. Zhège cài bù tài
nán zuò , yě hěn hào chī.) (You
should make Mapo Tofu. This dish
is not too difficult to make, and
also is very delicious.)

CAROLEA and KABIR look at each other and nod in agreement.
CAROLEA pulls out her phone and dials ANDREW.

ANDREW:

喂？(Wèi?) (Hello?)

RUOYU:

ANDREW在嗎？(ANDREW zài ma?) (Is
Andrew there?)

ANDREW:

我就是。(Wǒ jiùshì.) (It is me.)

RUOYU:

好。我是RUOYU。明天晚上，KANGPING和我要做晚飯給一個留學生
吃。你要幫我們嗎？(Hǎo. Wǒ shì RUOYU.
Míngtiān wǎnshang , KANGPING hé wǒ
yào zuò wǎnfàn gěi yīgè liú
xuéshēng chī. Nǐ yào bāng wǒmen
ma?) (Good. I am Ruoyu. Tomorrow
evening, Kangping and I want to
make dinner for a exchange student
to eat. Do you want to help us?)

ANDREW:

好啊！我很喜歡做飯。你們現在忙嗎？(Hǎo a! Wǒ hěn
xǐhuan zuòfàn. Nǐmen xiànzài máng

ma?) (Yes! I really like cooking.
Are you busy now?)

RUOYU:
不忙。(Bùmáng.) (No.)

ANDREW:
我們一起去買菜。(Wǒmen yīqǐ qù mǎi cài.)
(We'll go buy groceries together.)

RUOYU:
好! 我們現在去你家找你! (Hǎo! Wǒmen xiànzài qù
nǐde jiā zhǎo nǐ!) (Good! We'll
come to you house now!)

EXIT

SHOPPING

At Safeway/The Met, shopping, no dialogue, quick shots,
music.

CHINESE HOUSE 2

It is the next day. The clock reads 2:45. CAROLEA, KABIR,
and ANDREW enter the kitchen. They start taking the
groceries out.

ANDREW:
現在我們做飯嗎? (Xiànzài wǒmen zuòfàn mǎ?)
(Do we cook the food now?)

KANGPING:
對。我來切蔬菜。(Duì. Wǒ lái qiē shūcài.)
(Yes. I will cut the vegetables.)

RUOYU:
等一下! 生薑在哪兒? (Děngyīxià! Shēngjiāng
zài nǎr?) (Wait a moment! Where is
the ginger?)

KANGPING:
我不知道。音強，你知道嗎? (Wǒ bù zhīdào. Yīn
qiáng, nǐ zhīdào ma?) (I don't
know. Andrew, do you know?)

ANDREW:
生薑? 我們沒有吧。(Shēngjiāng? Wǒmen méiyǒu
bǎ.) (Ginger? We don't have it.)

RUOYU:
為什麼我們沒有? 你不是在Safeway買了嗎? (Wéi shénme
wǒmen méiyǒu? Nǐ búshì zài Safeway
mǎi le ma?) (Why don't we have it?
You didn't buy it at Safeway?)

ANDREW:

你問康平吧。(Nǐ wèn kāngpíng ba.) (You asked Kangping to do it.)

KANGPING:

不是我的錯。若羽有配料單。(Búshì wǒ de cuò. Ruò yǔ yǒu pèiliào dān.) (It is not my fault. Ruoyu has the grocery list.)

RUOYU:

我告訴他買蔬菜。(Wǒ gàosu tā mǎi shūcài.) (I told him to buy vegetables.)

ANDREW:

生薑不是蔬菜！(Shēngjiāng búshì shūcài!) (Ginger is not a vegetable!)

KANGPING:

沒問題。留學生晚上五點才來。(Méiwèntí. Liúxuéshēng wǎnshàng wǔ diǎn cái lái.) (Don't worry. The exchange student comes at five this evening.)

RUOYU:

我們可能在校內找到吧。(Wǒmen kěnéng zài xiàonèi zhǎodào ba.) (We can search for it on campus.)

ANDREW:

走吧。(Zǒu ba.) (Let's go.)

EXIT

S.U.B.

ANDREW runs to the Asian station.

ANDREW:

麻煩你給我一點兒生薑，好嗎？(Máfan nǐ gěi wǒ yīdiǎnr shēngjiāng, hǎo ma?) (Please may I ask, may I bother you to give me a little ginger?)

The cafeteria lady stares blankly (or improv?).

ANDREW:

你有沒有生薑？(Nǐ yǒu méiyǒu shēngjiāng?) (Do you have ginger or not?)

Shakes head no (or improv?).

EXIT

CLASSROOM 2

CAROLEA rushes in. YANGLAOSHI is on the computer.

RUOYU:

楊老師，我有問題。今天晚上，我們要做傳統的中國晚飯給一個中國留學生，可是我們忘了買生薑。你知道哪兒有生薑嗎？(Yanglǎoshī, wǒ yǒu wèntí。jīntiān wǎnshang, wǒmen yào zuò chuántǒng de Zhōngguó wǎnfàn gěi yīgè zhōngguó liúxuéshēng, kěshì wǒmen wàng le mǎi shēngjiāng。nǐ zhīdào nǎr yǒu shēngjiāng ma?) (Yang Laoshi, I have a question. This evening, we want to cook a traditional Chinese dinner for a Chinese exchange student, but we forgot to get ginger. Do you know where to find ginger?)

YANGLAOSHI:

不知道。可是，你認識生薑的漢字？讓我說明。生薑的漢字—(Bù zhīdào。Kěshì, nǐ rènshi shēngjiāng de Hànzì? Ràng wǒ shuōmíng. Shēngjiāng de Hànzì—) (I don't know. However, do you know the character for ginger? Let me explain. The character for ginger-)

RUOYU:

對不起老師，我沒有空。下次吧！(Duìbuqǐ lǎoshī, wǒ méiyǒu kōng. Xiàcì ba!) (Sorry laoshi, I don't have time. Next time!)

CAROLEA runs out.

EXIT

S.U.B. 2

ANDREW walks up to the Italian station.

ANDREW:

請問，意大利菜用不用生薑？我要生薑。(Qǐngwèn, Yìdàlì cài yòng bú yòng shēngjiāng? Wǒ yào shēngjiāng.) (Please may I ask, does Italian food use or not use ginger? I need ginger.)

S.U.B worker stares blankly (or improv).

OUTSIDE 3

All three run into one another outside the S.U.B. They are out of breath.

RUOYU:

你找到了嗎？(Nǐ zhǎo dào le ma?) (Did you find it?)

KANGPING:

沒找到。你呢？(Méi zhǎo dào. Nǐ ne?) (No, did you?)

ANDREW:

等一下。我們找什麼？我忘了。(Děngyīxià. Wǒmen zhǎo shénme? Wǒ wàng le.) (Wait a moment. We're looking for something? I forgot.)

CAROLEA and KABIR roll their eyes at him.

KANGPING:

現在幾點？(Xiànzài jǐdiǎn?) (What time is it now?)

RUOYU:

三點四十二分。(Sān diǎn sìshí èrfēn.) (3:42 p.m)

KANGPING:

我們快點。(Wǒmen kuàidiǎn.) (We should hurry up.)

RUOYU:

音強做什麼？(Yīn qiáng zuò shénme?) (What is Andrew doing?)

They look over. ANDREW pulling at a tree.

ANDREW:

這是生薑嗎？(Zhè shì shēngjiāng ma?) (Is this ginger?)

CAROLEA and KABIR shake their heads.

RUOYU:

你繼續找。我回家先開始做飯。(Nǐ jìxù zhǎo. Wǒ huíjiā xiān kāishǐ zuòfàn.) (You continue looking. I'll return home early to begin cooking.)

KANGPING:

好。我找到了我給你打電話。(Hǎo. Wǒ zhǎo dào liǎo wǒ gěi nǐ dǎ diànhuà .) (Good. If we find it I'll give you a call.)

RUOYU:

我等你電話。(Wǒ děng nǐ diànhuà.) (I'll wait for your call.)

EXIT

OUTSIDE 2

ANDREW sees a woman walking with groceries. He runs up to her.

ANDREW:

你好！我叫“ANDREW”！請你讓我看你的購物袋？(Nǐhǎo！
Wǒ jiào “ANDREW”！Qǐng nǐ ràng wǒ
kànkàn nǐ de gòuwùdài?) (Hello! I
am called Andrew! Please let me
look in your bag?)

ANDREW tugs at the bag, looks inside, there is no ginger.

ANDREW:

你沒有生薑。(Nǐ méiyǒu shēngjiāng.) (You
don't have ginger.)

The woman runs away.

EXIT

CELLAR

KABIR digs around in the freezer and fridge. Walks up to counter.

KANGPING:

你做不做生薑披薩？(Nǐ zuò bú zuò pīsà gēn
shēngjiāng?) (Do you make pizza
with ginger or not?)

LEV:

不做！為什麼你要生薑？(Búzuò! Wéi shénme nǐ
yào shēngjiāng?) (No! Why do you
want ginger?)

KANGPING:

沒事。(Méishì. Nǐ yīnggāi mǎi。)
(Never mind. I should buy.)

EXIT

F.L.A.C. HOUSE

ANDREW digs through the refrigerator and trash. Stands up straight.

ANDREW:

這個不是我的家。可是他們可能有生薑。(Zhège búshì wǒ

de jiā. Kěshì tāmen kěnéng yǒu
shēngjiāng.) (This is not my house.
But they may have ginger.)

EXIT

CHINESE HOUSE 3

CAROLEA stands at the counter, mixing ingredients. PHILLIP
enters.

PHILLIP :
怎麼樣？(Zěnmeyàng?) (How's it going?)

RUOYU:
我很擔心。我們沒有生薑。留學生馬上要來這裡吃飯了。(Wǒ hěn
dānxīn. Wǒmen méiyǒu shēngjiāng.
Liúxuéshēng mǎshàng yào lái zhèlǐ chīfàn le.) (I am very stressed. We
don't have ginger. The exchange
student wants to come here now and
eat.)

PHILLIP :
生薑？我有生薑。在這個櫃子裏？(Shēngjiāng? Wǒ yǒu
shēngjiāng. Zài zhège guìzi lǐ?)
(Ginger? I have ginger. Inside this
cabinet?)

CAROLEA opens the cabinet and finds the ginger. She is
upset.

RUOYU:
為什麼你不早說呢？你不是我的好朋友！你知道我多心擔心？！我得做真正的中
國飯。她從北京市來的！(Wèishénme nǐ bù zǎo
shuō ne? Nǐ búshì wǒ de hǎopéngyou!
Nǐ zhīdào wǒ duōxīn dānxīn?! Wǒ děi
zuò zhēnzhèng de Zhōngguó fǎn
shēng. Tā cóng Běijīng shì lái de!)
(Why didn't you tell me earlier?
You are not my best friend! You
know I'm very worried! I must make
real Chinese food. She is from
Beijing!)

PHILLIP walks away.

RUOYU:
站住！回來！我要跟你談話！(Zhànzhù! huí lái! Wǒ
yào gēn nǐ tánhuà!) (Stay here!
Come back! I want to talk with
you!)

EXIT

CHINESE HOUSE 4

Phone rings, CAROLEA answers.

RUOYU:

喂？不要擔心，我找到生薑了。回家幫我擺桌子吧。(Wèi? Bùyào
dānxīn, wǒ zhǎodào shēngjiāng le.
Huíjiā bāng wǒ bǎi zhuōzi ba.)
(Hello? Don't worry, I found
ginger. Come home and help me set
the table.)

KABIR enters. The two begin preparing at the table. CAROLEA gets the dish from the kitchen. ANDREW runs in and knocks into her , saying ,

ANDREW:

我餓了！(Wǒ è le!)(I'm hungry!)

The dish goes flying. The three of them stare silently at the mess. The door opens and Jaimie walks in with luggage. She looks startled. ANDREW drops to his knees.

ANDREW:

對不起！(Duìbùqǐ!)(I'm sorry!)

CAROLEA, ANDREW, and KABIR stand silently, horrified. screen cuts to black.