



The Uninvited Guest: *An open letter to my father*

Father,

Do you remember last 2019? We were both shocked of the arrival the uninvited guest. We were both scared then...we were both terrified of his rage. But not only us. Everyone was. We all watched his arrival. He was on the news...every day that passed, every hour, in every tick of the clock. Everyone witnessed his onslaught...in every home, on every street, in every corner of almost every country. He destroyed many, he ruined almost everything that comes his way. Many were frightened. Tears and grief flowed. The echoes of every cry and of every scream seemed to be a bell cry giving warning throughout the community. The cries warn. The agonies yell caution. The pains remind...Yes, his arrival was a danger, a fear...a surge.

But despite all this, you did not waver. You did not care about every blow he could possibly inflict on us. Because you were ready, you were prepared to face a battle. You have equipped yourself

for your children...and for me. You are an exemplary father, I say. From the beginning, you showed that you were strong... From our gate, you made sure that he could not enter, that your children can learn peacefully and quietly, so that we can reach our dreams in life. You used your modern technology to deal with his threat. From reminding each of your children what to do, to sharing financial help with us who were affected by the surge of the uninvited guest that served as a stumbling block for reaching our dreams, your children's dreams. And you were not intimidated, but rather, you strengthened your presence as a father to your family. From our classrooms, to our homes, to everywhere we go... You have shown that you are ready to be a great father... so that everyone's safety can be assured.

The guest knocked on the door. But you didn't open the gate for him. You protected us. You embraced us with the warmth of your love and care so that no one of your children will suffer from the wrath of this unwanted guest. With your daily reminders, with your weekly announcements of proper ways of handling ourselves, you made us strong and far from being controlled by the evil.

You taught us lessons in life...you gave us realizations that life shouldn't be taken for granted. For life on earth is short, and that safety and health must be taken cared of. And you generously showed that to us. You served as a paragon of strength and resilience. You made a model of yourself, worth emulating, worth imitating. The presence of the uninvited guest made us resilient. Life isn't easy, you said. Life isn't perfect. Life will always throw us something that could challenge our strength and faith. And the presence of this unwanted guest is just but a cue to me, to us...that we should not take life easily...but seriously and with caution.

Father, you tapped my shoulder and whispered on my ear, "he was just an instrument that will measure our wit, and our grit". And I gained strength from your words. I gained wisdom from your actions. You said we could liken him to a storm. His presence, though brings tears and grief, is

just but part of the natural world. What matters most is how you stand up after the storm. Life under your care was not as bad as those on other places because you showed us that preparedness before the storm hits could help a lot. And because of this, all my fears were gone.

We stood tall with pride and happiness as we were not inflicted by the rage of the uninvited guest. And that is something I am proud to scream on top of the world. The world needs your wisdom. The world needs to know how you strategized to contain the unwanted guest out of your perimeter. Yes, I, together with all your children, will scream to the world with our heads held high: OUR FATHER, NCHU, CAN HELP... TAIWAN CAN HELP....

WORLD, LISTEN, WE CAN HELP!



“Every sunset brings the promise of a new dawn.”

**I took all the photos during the Pandemic. Photography became my past time and hobby since I came here in Taiwan.*