

The book *The Invisible Red String* is about that the protagonist, Ju-Lin, was born into a traditional Chinese farm family. At that time, there was a drought. In order to maintain the family's income, Ju-Lin's parents had to sell Ju-Lin, the eldest daughter of the family, to save the whole family. Then, a well-known local match-maker, heard about this thing and decided to help Ju-Lin, take her by her side and teach her to read and write, making her become a knowledgeable woman. The match-maker believes that the red line that exists between everyone is destined to meet each other one day.

In those days, people thought that women should just bind their feet, serve men and families, and not need to have knowledge. One day, a rich and powerful local woman came to visit the match-maker, hoping that she could help find a suitable woman for her son. but she couldn't understand why her son wanted his wife to be educated and not bound feet. Women hoped that the match-maker could persuade her son to give up those conditions and find a woman who was recognized by society at the time. After the match-maker understood, he ordered Ju-Lin to go back with the woman to persuade his son.

When Ju-Lin arrives and meets the woman's son, he finds that Ju-Lin is actually the lover in his mind. In the end, the woman looked at them and understood why the match-maker asked Ju-Lin to go home with her, because the match-maker had seen the red string between the two from the beginning.

The reason I chose this book is not only tells the story of the encounter between the male and female protagonists because of the red line, but also mentions the issue of inequality between men and women. As written in the last paragraph of the article, “where one less mouth to feed sometimes determined the survival of the rest of the family. Daughters were considered more dispensable, because they would eventually leave the family anyway, whereas sons were expected to remain in the family in order to carry on the name and guard the honor of the family's ancestors.” (on page 13, *The Invisible Red String* )

From our point of view now, it is impossible to change the social ethos of the era in which men were superior to women at that time. Women cannot go to school and must be good wives and mothers in order to be considered successful women. Unfortunately, women at that time were powerless to change anything.

The book begins the story with the red thread of a marriage proposal. However, I think the traditional Chinese cultural practices mentioned in the text, such as foot binding and gender injustice, are exactly what the author wants to express. As modern women, we have human rights that were extremely difficult to obtain in the past. Although this is a right that women deserve, we should also cherish it, because it is the result of the struggles of our predecessors. Everyone talks about equality between men and women; it's not real equality. In the workplace or in other countries, even in our previous generation, people still think that women should be subordinate to men, so I think women born in Taiwan are lucky to be able to do anything, and of course they can also be president. Hopefully everything in the world that treats others unfairly will one day develop into equality for all.