

Where do 11 years go?

From our first photo to today, 11 years have added gray hairs to my head and inches to Zhen's frame. And they have filled both of us with infinite love, laughter and happiness.

Thank you to the Adoption Centre of British Columbia for helping us connect through the China International Adoption program, because I know for certain, we were meant to be a family.

Dorothee & Zhen



Like many adoption families, the story of the first moment my son and I met is part of our family lore, retold over and over again, as a way to share how very wanted and important he is and how he completed our family so perfectly.

Because Zhen was just one week shy of turning 4 years old, he was verbal and active and greeted me with a loud 'Mama' and an enthusiastic hug. My heart burst and many tears of utter happiness and gratitude were spilled.

Moments after our first meeting, we were rushed to take official photographs that would be used to process our paperwork. I can still see the tears my eyes. That was 2009.

Today, my little boy is taller than me, a rangy teenager and I am the one that pulls him into a bear hug. There are still no better moments than when I hold my boy close. And my heart still bursts a little each time, filled with happiness and gratitude.

The Adoption Centre of BC made it possible for me to follow the red thread that connects Zhen and I and binds us together as a family.

