



Scattered Memory

Eddie Tsong



1971 State College, PA

When we were little, dad used to set up a tripod and take family portraits.



rs and
granden
cture I



2001 Roswell, NJ
My boyfriend, friends, and me



1977 Hoboken, NJ

The first time I met grandma we picked her up at the airport, went to see the Statue of Liberty, then stopped for hamburgers. Grandma ate hers with a fork and knife.



I tried to talk with her, but I only spoke English.



1975 Pittsburgh, PA
1962 New York, NY
My two older sisters and I are at the airport before or after dad flew somewhere. Whenever he left, we couldn't wait for him to return. He always brought back a surprise.



When dad first arrived in the United States, he had to translate his name into English. He choose a spelling he had never see before.



1975 Delta, CO
My boyfriend's family

His dad is twenty-three. His mom, twenty-one.



His dad looks like a Mexican version of himself.

Mom had seven sisters and what they ch... with her parents and grandma. I'm Taiwanese. Everytime I see the picture I...



1990 New York, NY

The day of my graduation,
I have an enormous smile. Mom and dad are frowning.
My boyfriend took the picture.
He's wearing a chartruse jacket.



2001 Portland, OR

I made a Miss America walk, wore a wig, and walked around town.
My boyfriend videotaped the walk.



1968 Tan-a, Taiwan

Before dad left Taiwan for the States,
He two brothers, three sisters, and parents
took this commemorative photo. Once he left,
he didn't return for over twenty years.
My parents moved back to Taiwan in 1990.



1940 Taipei, Taiwan

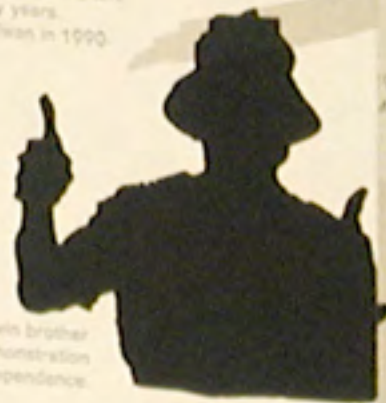
My two brothers
are at the
or after
Whenever
wait for
He always
a surprise

one brother. They are sitting there
who had bound feet.
Imagine her hobbling around on two stumps.



2003 Aubrey, TX

My boyfriend's dad cooked breakfast.
He wasn't pleased about my taking a picture.



2004 Taipei, Taiwan

Dad and his twin brother
are at a demonstration
for Taiwanese Independence.

I asked mom what they call
I'm not Chinese, I'm Taiwan.



The day of
I have an
My hair



1970 State College, PA

From the time I was born
all the time I was being
mom cut my hair short
with bangs. Just like all
the Taiwanese girls.
mom said, 'So cute'
As soon as I could,
I grew my hair out.



1972 Florida
across, and me



1974 Erie, CO

My boyfriend was named
after his grandfather
who came to the
United States from Russia
as a stowaway
on a cargo ship.

My friends asked me, Are you Chinese or American?
I said, I'm American. They said, Yo
Then I said,



1975 State College, PA
My 7th birthday party



1978



me brother. The
who had been
imagine her look



ented. She started chanting
that I'm not Chinese, I'm Taiwanese.

1988 Taichung, Taiwan

Sister saw grandma
playing a video game.
Grandma had quite
a social life in Taiwan,
though I only knew her
in spirit
and withdrew
in the United States.



2000 Seattle, WA

I listened to more and her sisters talking.
Mom and her sister spoke in Taiwanese.
The other sister spoke in Mandarin. During WW2
most only spoke Japanese. She couldn't talk with her mom
who only spoke Taiwanese.



1997 Boulder
Mom on a bike, and her grandmothers

Sister, after

u're Chinese.
d. I'm Taiwanese. They said, What's that?



1993 Guilin, China
Mom and dad on a tour

2003 Seattle, WA

I had dad interview me
as Miss America?
He asked, Why Miss America?
Why not Miss Taiwan?
I said, We watched the Miss America pageant every year.
He put on my wig and sash and frowned.



2001

My

and the thing

1973 Flori
sisters, and r

1971 Florida?

I said, We watched the Miss America pageant every year.
He put on my wig and sash and frowned.



1989 State College, PA



1978 Ohio, Ohio?



Mom said not to take another step
down in the pool. I did and almost drowned.
This was immediately after sister had done the same thing.

2002 Seattle, WA

Nobody was at my parent's but me.
I had up all the dolls dad brought back
from around the world and took a self-portrait.
My favorite doll is the one from Holland with wooden legs.

The last time my family was together
was when my older sister got married.
I don't have a picture of the family from that day.
Just this one of us sisters.



My boyfriend, his younger sister, and his grandparents.

CO

what. She start
and I'm not Chi

Sister, after t

u're Chinese,
I, I'm Taiwanese

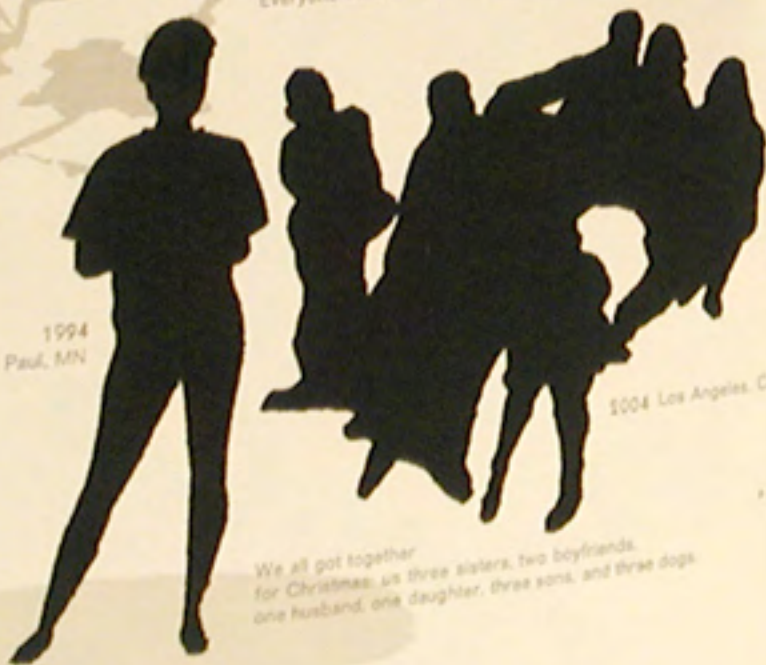
1977
Detroit, Rhode, LA
going away party



After friends helped me pack up and clean, we went to the bar.
Everyone went crazy. It felt like we were celebrating Mardi Gras.

CO

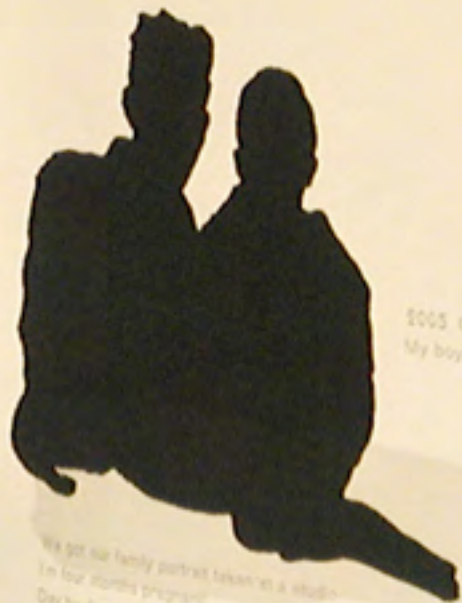
1994
St. Paul, MN



We all got together
for Christmas, us three sisters, two boyfriends,
one husband, one daughter, three sons, and three dogs.

the birth of her first son

2004 Los Angeles, CA



2005 Oakland, CA
My boyfriend, me, and the dog

We got our family portrait taken in a studio
I'm four months pregnant.
Day by day we watch us only grow like a strange and beautiful planet.

Scattered Memory was produced during an artist residency at the Women's Studio Workshop which is funded in part with public funds from The New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency. The book was silkscreen and letterpress printed on Rives Heavyweight.

Many thanks to Ann Kalmbach, Tana Kellner, Chris, Caressa, Kyla, and Katy at WSW for their assistance with the production of this book.

Copyright ©2005 Edie Tsong
Women's Studio Workshop, Rosendale, NY
ISBN: 1-1893125-50-5

This is book no. _____ of _____ copies.