

端午香里的童年记忆

每年的端午节，家乡总是充满了浓浓的节日气息。街道两旁，家家户户门口都挂上了艾草和菖蒲，空气中弥漫着粽叶的清香。端午节的来历，我从小就听爷爷讲：这是为了纪念伟大的诗人屈原，他投江自尽之后，人们为了不让鱼虾伤害他的身体，用粽子投入江中。随着时间的流逝，这个习俗慢慢演变成了我们现在热热闹闹庆祝端午的方式。

我最喜欢的环节是包粽子。每年节日前夕，妈妈就会准备好糯米、红枣、豆沙、粽叶和绳子。我们全家围坐在大圆桌旁，先把粽叶洗净晾干，然后用糯米和馅料包成一个个小巧的三角形。刚开始，我总是包不好，米粒掉得到处都是，但在妈妈和爷爷的指导下，我慢慢掌握了窍门，能包出结实又漂亮的粽子。包粽子的过程中，我们边聊家常，边听着窗外孩子们的嬉闹声，屋里屋外都是节日的欢快气息。

除了包粽子，赛龙舟是端午节另一大亮点。每年的龙舟赛吸引了全镇的人。比赛当天，我和爸爸早早地来到河边，看着一条条龙舟在水面上飞驰，船上的划手们用力划桨，水花四溅，岸边的观众也在呐喊助威。那一刻，我感受到了家乡人团结拼搏的精神，也感受到了一种浓浓的节日热烈感。看到船队靠近终点，每个人脸上都洋溢着兴奋和骄傲的笑容，仿佛节日的快乐也被水花一同溅到每个人的心里。

挂艾草和菖蒲是家乡另一项独特的风俗。门口挂上这些植物，不仅是为了装饰，更有驱邪保平安的寓意。每次看到门口那一束束翠绿的艾草，我都会想起小时候爷爷对我说的：“端午节，家家户户挂艾草，是希望家人健康平安。”这种风俗把节日的文化寓意深深地刻在了我们的生活里。

家乡的端午节不仅仅是热闹的节日活动，更是一种文化的延续和情感的纽带。包粽子让我体会到家的温暖，赛龙舟让我感受到团结的力量，挂艾草让我懂得了传统文化的深意。这些风俗像一条无形的线，把我们这一代又一代人紧紧联系在一起，让每个端午节都成为记忆中最温暖的篇章。

Childhood Memories in the Fragrance of Dragon Boat Festival

Every year during the Dragon Boat Festival, my hometown is filled with a strong festive atmosphere. On both sides of the street, every household hangs mugwort and calamus at their doors, and the air is scented with the aroma of rice leaves. I have been hearing from my grandfather since I was a child about the origin of the festival: it commemorates the great poet Qu Yuan. After he drowned himself in the river, people threw rice dumplings into the water to prevent fish and shrimp from harming his body. Over time, this custom gradually evolved into the lively celebration of the Dragon Boat Festival as we know it today.

My favorite part is making zongzi. On the eve of the festival, my mother prepares

glutinous rice, red dates, sweet bean paste, bamboo leaves, and string. Our whole family sits around the big round table, first washing and drying the leaves, then wrapping the rice and fillings into small, neat triangles. At first, I could never wrap them well, and grains of rice would scatter everywhere. But under my mother's and grandfather's guidance, I gradually learned the technique and could make sturdy, beautiful zongzi. While wrapping, we chat about everyday life, and the laughter of children outside fills the air. The whole house is full of the joyous festival spirit.

Besides making zongzi, the dragon boat races are another highlight. Every year, the races attract the entire town. On race day, my father and I arrive early at the riverbank to watch the dragon boats glide across the water. The rowers paddle with all their might, splashing water everywhere, while spectators cheer loudly from the shore. In that moment, I feel the spirit of unity and hard work in my hometown, and the festive excitement seems to splash into everyone's heart along with the water. Seeing the boats approach the finish line, everyone's face beams with excitement and pride, making the festival even more memorable.

Hanging mugwort and calamus is another unique local custom. Placing these plants at the door is not just for decoration but also to ward off evil and bring peace. Every time I see bundles of green mugwort at the door, I remember what my grandfather said: "During the Dragon Boat Festival, every household hangs mugwort to wish for family health and safety." This tradition embeds cultural meaning deeply into our daily life.

The Dragon Boat Festival in my hometown is not just a lively celebration, but a continuation of culture and an emotional bond. Making zongzi brings warmth of home, watching dragon boat races shows the power of unity, and hanging mugwort teaches the depth of traditional culture. These customs form an invisible thread linking generations together, making every Dragon Boat Festival a warm and cherished memory.