我家过过三个儿童节

我念过三个学校的儿童节，一个在中国，两个在国外。同学老问我国外的儿童节什么样，我掰着手指给他们讲。

最先说的是日本。我们在东京住过一年，那年五月，隔壁佐藤家院里的竿子一天比一天高，竿顶挂一条大鱼，鼓着嘴往前游，风一吹，鱼肚子一鼓一鼓。佐藤告诉我，黑色的那条是他爸爸，红色的是他妈妈，最小的是他。他说鲤鱼会跳过龙门，他爸爸希望他像鲤鱼一样有勇气。那天他们家客厅里还摆了一套武士盔甲，佐藤戴上头盔照镜子，笑得停不下来。日本的男孩节在五月五日，女孩节在三月三日，家里摆一层层的人偶，佐藤的妹妹宝贝那些人偶宝贝得不行，谁碰跟谁急。

后来我们搬到瑞典。十月初，学校忽然热闹起来，那天是男孩日，男孩子都戴纸做的王冠，老师给每人发一小袋糖果，连食堂都加了布丁。女生呢，安安稳稳上课——她们的主角日子在十二月十九日，女孩日。那天全校最大的活动是六年级的姐姐们戴蜡烛王冠唱歌，白袍子，绿叶子编的彩带，从早唱到晚。我同桌是女孩，她跟我说，十二月十九日早上她在家也要戴王冠给爸妈端面包。她说这话时一脸骄傲，好像那是全世界最体面的差事。

三王节我没赶上，是我们班西班牙转学生卡洛斯讲的。他说一月五日夜里，三位国王骑骆驼上街，随从往人群里扔糖，他小时候挤在人群里，帽子都接满了。他还说乖孩子鞋里会有礼物，不乖的传说里只有一包炭。我问他你今年乖不乖，他想了想说，糖照拿，礼物照收，炭没见过。

讲完同学问：哪个儿童节最好？我想了半天，说都一样。鲤鱼旗会游、王冠会歪、糖果会吃完，可每个国家的孩子在那一天都仰着头笑，这一点一模一样。

We Celebrated Three Children's Days

I have attended Children's Day at three schools - one in China, two abroad. Classmates always ask what Children's Day is like in other countries, and I count on my fingers and tell them.

First, Japan. We lived in Tokyo for a year, and that May the pole in our neighbor Sato's yard grew taller day by day, with a big fish at the top, mouth open, swimming forward; when the wind blew, its belly billowed. Sato told me the black carp was his father, the red one his mother, and the smallest one him. He said carp leap over the Dragon Gate, and his father hopes he will be as courageous as a carp. That day their living room also displayed a full set of samurai armor; Sato put on the helmet and posed before the mirror, laughing nonstop. Japan's Boys' Day is May 5th; Girls' Day is March 3rd, when families set up tiered doll stands. Sato's little sister treasured those dolls fiercely - whoever touched one had a fight on their hands.

Later we moved to Sweden. In early October our school suddenly buzzed - it was Boy's Day. The boys all wore paper crowns, each teacher handed out a small bag of

candy, and even the cafeteria added pudding. The girls sat calmly in class - their big day comes on December 19th, Girl's Day. The school's biggest event that day is the sixth-grade girls singing in candle crowns: white gowns, garlands of green leaves, singing from morning till night. My deskmate is a girl, and she told me that at home on the morning of December 19th she too wears a crown and serves bread to her parents. She said it with a proud face, as if it were the most honorable job in the world.

I never got to see Three Kings' Day; our Spanish transfer student Carlos told me about it. He said on the night of January 5th three kings ride camels down the street and their attendants throw candy into the crowd; when he was little he used to squeeze into the crowd until his hat was full. He also said well-behaved children find gifts in their shoes, while in the legend the naughty ones get a bag of coal. I asked him whether he behaves this year. He thought for a moment and said: candy still accepted, gifts still collected, coal never seen.

When I finished, a classmate asked: which Children's Day is the best? I thought a long time and said, they are all the same. Carp streamers swim, crowns tilt, candy gets eaten up - but on that day every child in every country looks up and smiles, and that part is exactly alike.