

## 05.08-The empress of reality television

### The **empress** of reality television China's **transgender** Oprah

As an army **colonel** who became a woman, she **exemplifies** a society in **flux**

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#### Vocab

1. **empress** n. a woman who is the ruler of an empire 女皇  
e.g. the Empress of Egypt 埃及女皇
2. **transgender** adj. 跨性别的; 变性的 **Transgender** people, such as transsexuals, do not have a straightforward gender identity.  
e.g. ...a three-year-project designed to overcome prejudice towards gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. 为期三年旨在克服对男女同性恋者、双性恋者和跨性别者所持偏见的项目
3. **colonel** n. (陆军、空军或海军陆战队的)上校 A **colonel** is a senior officer in an army, air force, or the marines.  
e.g. This particular place was run by an ex-Army **colonel**. 这个地方以前由一位前陆军上校经管。
4. **exemplify** v. to be a typical example of sth 是...的典型 (或典范、榜样)  
e.g. Her early work is exemplified in her book, 'A Study of Children's Minds'. 她的《儿童思维研究》一书是她早期的代表作。
5. **flux** n. continuous movement and change 不断的变动; 不停的变化  
e.g. Our society is in a state of **flux**. 我们的社会在不断演变。

CHINA'S favourite **chat-show** host has had an extraordinary career. Jin Xing was the country's most successful dancer before becoming a colonel in an army entertainment **troupe**. He won fame in America, where the New York Times called him "a Chinese genius". He trained dancers in Brussels and Rome, before returning to China for a sex-change operation. As a woman, she resumed her career as a **ballerina**, **set up** the country's first private ballet company, ran a bar in Beijing and married a German businessman.

#### Vocab

1. **chat-show** n. (电视或电台上的)谈话节目, 访谈节目, 脱口秀 A **chat show** is a television or radio show in which people talk in a friendly, informal way about different topics.
2. **troupe** n. (巡回演出的)演出团, 歌舞团, 戏班子 A **troupe** is a group of actors, singers, or dancers who work together and often travel around together, performing in different places.  
e.g. ...troupes of travelling actors. 巡回演出演员组成的剧团
3. **ballerina** n. 芭蕾舞女演员 A **ballerina** is a woman ballet dancer.
4. **set up** PHRASAL VERB 短语动词 创建; 建立; 安排; 组建 If you **set** something **up**, you create or arrange it.  
e.g. The two sides agreed to **set up** a commission to investigate claims... 双方同意组建一个委员会来调查那些索赔要求。

#### Sentence

He trained dancers in Brussels and Rome, before returning to China for a sex-change operation. 不同的表达方式，按照中文写法一般是修饰成分的放在前面，句子主干会放到后面，而英语的写法便是主干在前，修饰在后。当然还跟要侧重的信息有关，如果侧重回国前，则也会把before的修饰放在前面。

In a **conservative** society where even **homosexuality** is frowned upon, **let alone sex-reassignment**, her life would seem to place Ms Jin well outside the **stodgy** mainstream of Chinese broadcasting (she is pictured at her home in Shanghai). Yet Ms Jin, who is 49, is the country's most popular television judge. She began with a local version of "So You Think You Can Dance" and hit the jackpot with "The Jin Xing Show", a variety and chat programme with an audience of around 100m. She has appeared with her husband on the Chinese version of "The Amazing Race", in which couples race each other around the world. Her latest venture, "Chinese Dating", is in its first season.

### Vocab

1. **conservative** adj. **opposed to great or sudden social change; showing that you prefer traditional styles and values** 保守的；守旧的

e.g. Her style of dress was never conservative. 她的服装式样一点儿也不保守。

2. **homosexuality** n. 同性恋

3. **let alone** n. 更不必说；听任；不打扰

4. **sex-reassignment** 性别重置

e.g. **Sex-reassignment surgery**: 性别重置手术

5. **stodgy** adj. **古板的;令人厌烦的;枯燥乏味的** If you describe someone or something as **stodgy**, you dislike them or are bored by them because they are very old-fashioned or serious.

e.g. **They're not cultured or interesting, they are boring stodgy old things.** 他们没修养，很乏味，是一群无聊古板的老家伙。

6. **hit the jackpot** PHRASE 短语 **取得巨大成功；赢了一大笔钱；交好运** If you **hit the jackpot**, you have a great success, for example by winning a lot of money or having a piece of good luck.

### Sentence

She began with a local version of "So You Think You Can Dance" and hit the jackpot with "The Jin Xing Show", a variety and chat programme with an audience of around 100m.

主干：She **began with** a local version of "So You Think You Can Dance" and **hit the jackpot** with "The Jin Xing Show" 有两个并列谓语

a variety and chat programme with an audience of around 100m. 作 "The Jin Xing Show" 的解释

Ms Jin's story reflects remarkable changes in Chinese society since her childhood. She joined the army at the age of nine and endured a training **regime** that, as she puts it, would **count as** child **abuse** in the West. During her surgery, an oxygen shortage damaged her left leg so badly that doctors thought she would be lucky to walk again. **Gruelling** retraining enabled her to resume dancing within a year.

### Vocab

1. **regime** n. **a method or system of organizing or managing sth** 组织方法；管理体制

e.g. Our tax regime is one of the most favourable in Europe. 我们的税收管理体制是欧洲最受欢迎的税收体制之一。

2. **count as** 视为；算是；看成

3. **abuse** n. **unfair, cruel or violent treatment of sb** 虐待

e.g. child abuse 虐待儿童

4. **gruelling** adj. very difficult and tiring, needing great effort for a long time 使人筋疲力尽的；折磨人的

e.g. a **gruelling journey/ schedule** 使人筋疲力尽的旅程；累人的计划

Those struggles with **adversity** have helped Ms Jin win favour among older Chinese, a more **conservative cohort** that is also, surprisingly, her biggest fan base. Many of them, too, have suffered enormous **hardship**—during the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s and 1970s, and the famine that followed the **Great Leap Forward** of the late 1950s, in which tens of millions died. Even those born after 1980—roughly half the population—know well what their elders endured.

### Vocab

1. **adversity** n. a difficult or unpleasant situation 困境；逆境

e.g. courage **in the face of adversity** 面对逆境的勇气

2. **conservative** adj. opposed to great or sudden social change; showing that you prefer traditional styles and values 保守的；守旧的

e.g. the conservative views of his parents 他父母的保守观念

3. **cohort** n. 朋友；支持者；助手 A person's **cohorts** are their friends, supporters, or associates.

e.g. Drake and his **cohorts** were not pleased with my appointment. 德雷克那一帮人对我的任命很不满。

4. **hardship** n. a situation that is difficult and unpleasant because you do not have enough money, food, clothes, etc. 艰难；困苦；拮据

e.g. **economic/ financial, etc. hardship** 经济、财政等困难

5. **Great Leap Forward** n. 大跃进（中国1958—1960年在毛泽东领导下的一次不成功的尝试，试图通过将人口重组成大型农村合作社和采用劳动密集型生产方式来加快工业化进程和改善农业生产）

### Identity crises

The tension between Ms Jin's **persona** as a **patriotic** Chinese, and the one she displays as a **globetrotter** with a foreign husband (in January she joined the global **elite** at the World Economic Forum in Davos), is one that is widely understood among her **compatriots**. They have become the world's great travellers. Over 100m got visas for holidays abroad last year, more than the citizens of any other country. Ms Jin describes herself as having been “a little Chinese boy **thirsting** for the West”. She writes of dreaming about Coca-Cola and freedom in Paris, or **surreptitiously** reading **porn** magazines and cruising gay bars in Greenwich Village. In her **memoir**, “Shanghai Tango”, she says that in the gay communities of New York, she feels herself to be “a traveller in a foreign land twice over”—as a woman in a man's body and as a Chinese person abroad (who happens to be, she might have added, **ethnic** Korean).

### Vocab

1. **persona** n. the aspects of a person's character that they show to other people, especially when their real character is different 伪装；假象；表象人格

e.g. His public persona is quite different from the family man described in the book. 他的公开形象与书中描写的恋家男人相去甚远。

2. **patriotic** adj. having or expressing a great love of your country 爱国的

e.g. a patriotic man who served his country well 为国尽忠的爱国者

3. globetrotter n. a person who travels widely **非正式** 周游世界者；环球旅行者

4. elite n. a group of people in a society, etc. who are powerful and have a lot of influence, because they are rich, intelligent, etc. 上层集团；(统称)掌权人物，社会精英

e.g. a member of the **ruling/ intellectual elite** 上层统治集团的成员；知识界的精英

5. compatriot n. =**countryman** a person who was born in, or is a citizen of, the same country as sb else 同胞；同国人

e.g. He played against one of his compatriots in the semi-final. 他在半决赛中与他的一位同胞选手对垒。

6. thirst =**crave** **PHR V** 'thirst for sth (literary) to feel a strong desire for sth 渴望；渴求

e.g. She thirsted for power. 她渴望拥有权力。

7. surreptitiously adv. 偷偷地；秘密地；不正当地

8. porn n. 同 **pornography** 总称) 色情 (或淫秽) 作品 **Pornography** refers to books, magazines, and films that are designed to cause sexual excitement by showing naked people or referring to sexual acts.

e.g. A nationwide campaign against **pornography** began in the summer. 一场全国性打击淫秽作品的行动在夏季打响了。

9. memoir n. 传记;传略 A **memoir** is a book or article that you write about someone who you have known well.

e.g. He has just published a **memoir** in honour of his captain. 他刚刚出了一本传记来纪念他的队长。

10. ethnic connected with or belonging to a nation, race or people that shares a cultural tradition 民族的；种族的

e.g. **ethnic groups/ communities** 族群；种族社区

In **Belgium** she feels **haunted** by the Chinese words she sees on signs in the streets; their calls, she writes, "get louder and louder". She looks at a Ming vase at a market in Brussels and feels "ashamed" of Chinese who live abroad and have "only **contempt**" for their **ancestral** heritage.

### Vocab

1. Belgium n. 比利时 (西欧国家, 首都布鲁塞尔Brussels)

2. haunt v. 鬼魂等) 常出没于 A ghost or spirit that **haunts** a place or a person regularly appears in the place, or is seen by the person and frightens them.

e.g. His ghost is said to **haunt** some of the rooms, banging a toy drum. 据说他的鬼魂经常敲着玩具鼓出没在其中的一些房间里。

3. contempt n. ~ (for sb/ sth) the feeling that sb/ sth is without value and deserves no respect at all 蔑视；轻蔑；鄙视

e.g. Politicians seem to be generally **held in contempt** by ordinary people. 一般百姓似乎普遍看不起从政者。

4. ancestral adj. 祖先的；祖传的 You use **ancestral** to refer to a person's family in former times, especially when the family is important and has property or land which they have had for a long time.

China has several cultural figures who are better known in the West than at home. Ms Jin could have been another. But she chose to return home for her sex-change surgery, at some personal risk since the **procedure** was almost unknown there. "I

was born in China,” she says. “It is in China I must be reborn as a woman.”

### Vocab

1. **procedure** n. 程序; 步骤; 手续 A **procedure** is a way of doing something, especially the usual or correct way.

e.g. The White House said there would be no change in **procedure**. 白宫说程序上不会发生变化。

2. **reborn** n. 重生; 复兴; 新生 If you say that someone or something **has been reborn**, you mean that they have become active again after a period of being inactive.

e.g. Russia was being **reborn** as a great power. 俄罗斯经过重生成为强国。

### Sentence

“It is in China I must be reborn as a woman.”

强调句, 强调必须 in China

Xi Jinping, China’s president, presents himself as a staunch defender of “traditional” Chinese culture, and warns of the danger of Western “infiltration”. His preferences were clear in a recent official **directive**, which calls for the protection of China’s “cultural security”. But like most of her compatriots, Ms Jin is happy to take what she wants from both China and the West.

### Vocab

1. **staunch** adj. strong and loyal in your opinions and attitude 忠实的; 坚定的

e.g. a staunch Catholic 笃信天主教的教徒

2. **defender** n. 捍卫者; 保护者; 维护者 If someone is a **defender of** a particular thing or person that has been criticized, they argue or act in support of that thing or person.

e.g. ...the most ardent **defenders** of conventional family values. 传统家庭价值观最热烈的捍卫者

3. **infiltration** n. 渗透

4. **directive** n. an official instruction 指示; 命令

e.g. The EU has issued a new set of directives on pollution. 欧盟发布了一系列关于污染的新指令。

### Sentence

Xi Jinping, China’s president, presents himself as a staunch defender of “traditional” Chinese culture, and warns of the danger of Western “infiltration”.

主干: Xi Jinping **presents** himself as a staunch defender of “traditional” Chinese culture

China’s president 解释 xijinping

On the face of it, she **embodies** everything that is **untraditional**. Her **rejection** of being a man flies in the face of **Confucian** culture. The television manner for which she is famous—a **blunt, cut-the-crap sassiness**—is the opposite of **stereotypical feminine deference**. Yet her life as a woman has not been a simple **rebellion** against convention. By adopting three children and marrying (**albeit** a foreigner), she created around herself what she calls “a real Chinese family”. The values she **espouses** are old-fashioned even in China. In her new dating game, the contestants may not choose a match without their families’ permission; indeed, it is the families who interview the **contestants’** prospective partners—resulting in **rampant sexism**, with women being asked about children and men about money. This has been too much for some viewers; online **commentators** have **slammed** the format as **chauvinist** and “retro”. But Ms Jin’s popularity suggests many young people believe that tradition

should not be **discarded**.

### Vocab

1. **embody** v. to express or represent an idea or a quality 具体表现，体现，代表（思想或品质）

e.g. the principles **embodied in** the Declaration of Human Rights 体现在《人权宣言》中的原则

2. **untraditional** adj. not existing in or as part of a tradition; not customary or long-established • 非传统的；非惯例的

3. **rejection** n.

1. n. 拒绝;退回;剔除
2. 摒弃,厌弃,废弃
3. 剔除物,废弃物;呕出物
4. <医>排斥

4. **Confucian** adj. based on or believing the teachings of the Chinese **philosopher** Confucius 儒家的；儒学的；孔子学说的

5. **blunt** adj. (of a person or remark 人或说话) very direct; saying exactly what you think without trying to be polite 嘴直的；直言的

e.g. To be blunt, your work is appalling. 坦率地说，你的活干得糟透了。

6. **cut-the-crap** 废话少说；别废话

7. **sassiness** n. 无礼

8. **stereotypical** adj. 典型的;带有成见的;已成定型的 A **stereotypical** idea of a type of person or thing is a fixed general idea that a lot of people have about it, that may be false in many cases.

e.g. Dara challenges our **stereotypical** ideas about gender and femininity. 达拉对我们老一套的性别和女性特质观念提出了异议。

9. **feminine** adj. having the qualities or appearance considered to be typical of women; connected with women (指气质或外貌) 女性特有的，女性的，妇女的

e.g. That dress makes you look very feminine. 那件衣服你穿起来很有丽人风韵。

10. **deference** n. behaviour that shows that you respect sb/ sth 尊重；遵从；听从

e.g. The women wore veils **in deference to** the customs of the country. 这些妇女戴着面纱是遵从这个国家的习俗。

11. **rebellion** n. an attempt by some of the people in a country to change their government, using violence 谋反；叛乱；反

e.g. The north of the country rose in rebellion against the government. 这个国家的北方地区发生了反对政府的叛乱。

12. **albeit** conj. although 尽管；虽然

e.g. He finally agreed, albeit reluctantly, to help us. 尽管勉强，他最后还是同意帮助我们。

13. **espouse** v. to give your support to a belief, policy etc. 支持，拥护，赞成（信仰、政策等）

e.g. They espoused the notion of equal opportunity for all in education. 他们赞同在教育方面人人机会均等的观念。

14. **contestant** n. a person who takes part in a contest 比赛者；竞争者

e.g. Please welcome our next contestant. 请欢迎我们的下一位参赛选手。

15. **rampant** adj. existing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled 泛滥的；猖獗的

e.g. Unemployment is now rampant in most of Europe. 在欧洲的大部份地区，失业问题难以控制。

16. **sexism** n. the unfair treatment of people, especially women, because of their sex; the attitude that causes this (尤指对女性的) 性别歧视，性别偏见

e.g. legislation designed to combat sexism in the work place 旨在抵制工作场所的性别歧视的法规

17. **commentator** n. 评论员 A **commentator** is someone who often writes or broadcasts about a particular subject.

e.g. ...a political **commentator**...政治评论员

18. **slam** v. 严厉批评;猛烈抨击 To **slam** someone or something means to criticize them very severely.

19. **chauvinist** n. 沙文主义者 a person displaying excessive or prejudiced support or loyalty for their own cause, group, or sex • 本事业第一主义者; 本群体第一主义者; 本性别第一主义者

20. **discard** v. ~ **sb/ sth (as sth)** to get rid of sth that you no longer want or need 丢弃; 抛弃

e.g. He had discarded his jacket because of the heat. 因天气炎热他脱掉了夹克。

In her memoir, Ms Jin talks about two historical figures whom she calls role models. One is Sai Jinhua, a **prostitute** who became the **mistress** of the **imperial** envoy to Germany and used her knowledge of the language to save the Qing emperor from German troops sent to crush the Boxer Uprising in 1900. (**Jealous** officials **jailed** her for her pains.) Ms Jin notes approvingly how Sai “**rebelled**” against what had appeared to be her **destiny** as a **pauper**.

### Vocab

1. **prostitute** n. a person who has sex for money 卖淫者; 娼妓; 妓女; 男妓

2. **mistress** n. a man's (usually a married man's) **mistress** is a woman that he is having a regular sexual relationship with and who is not his wife 情妇

3. **imperial** adj. connected with an empire 帝国的; 皇帝的

e.g. the imperial family/ palace/ army 皇室家族; 皇宫; 皇家陆军

4. **jealous** adj. feeling angry or unhappy because sb you like or love is showing interest in sb else 吃醋的; 妒忌的

e.g. a **jealous wife/ husband** 好吃醋的妻子/丈夫

5. **jail** v. ~ **sb (for sth)** to put sb in prison 监禁

e.g. He was **jailed for life** for murder. 他因谋杀罪被终身监禁。

6. **rebel** v. ~ (**against sb/ sth**) to fight against or refuse to obey an authority, for example a government, a system, your parents, etc. 造反; 反抗; 背叛

e.g. Most teenagers find something to rebel against. 大多数青少年都有反抗意识。

7. **destiny** n. what happens to sb or what will happen to them in the future, especially things that they cannot change or avoid 命运; 天命; 天数

e.g. the destinies of nations 国家的命运

8. **pauper** n. a very poor person 穷人; 贫民; 乞丐

e.g. He did die a **pauper** and is buried in an unmarked grave. 他死的时候一文不名，葬在一处无名墓穴中。

The other model, more surprisingly, is Jiang Qing (Madame Mao), one of the **Cultural Revolution's** most **reviled** figures, who cheered on the Red Guards as they **tortured** and killed her enemies. Ms Jin calls her “full of charm and intelligence” and

the creator of “major masterpieces” during that period (Jiang Qing oversaw the production of operas about the Communist Party’s early days). It is a sign of how much China is changing that its cast of **heroines** encompasses not only the **heroic harlots** and **villainous** empresses of the past, but also a **transsexual** conservative talk-show host.

### Vocab

1. **Cultural Revolution** n. 文化大革命 (1966–1976年中国的一场政治动乱，旨在回归毛泽东的革命思想；动乱的主体为红卫兵，导致对知识分子大肆攻击、党内大规模肃清活动和对毛泽东的个人崇拜，并导致了严重的发展混乱；1976年结束)

2. **revile** v. 憎恨;辱骂;谩骂;痛斥 If someone or something **is reviled**, people hate them intensely or show their hatred of them.

e.g. He was just as feared and **reviled** as his tyrannical parents...他和他专横残暴的父母一样为人惧怕和憎恨。

3. **tortured** adj. **suffering severely; involving a lot of suffering and difficulty** 遭受重创的；饱受煎熬的

e.g. a tortured mind 苦难的心

4. **heroine** n. a girl or woman who is admired by many for doing sth brave or good 女英雄；女豪杰

e.g. the heroines of the revolution 那场革命中的各位女英雄

5. **heroic** adj. **showing extreme courage and admired by many people** 英勇的；英雄的

e.g. Rescuers made **heroic efforts** to save the crew.救援人员不畏艰险努力营救全体船员。

6. **harlot** n. 娼妓;淫妇 If someone describes a woman as a **harlot**, they disapprove of her because she is a prostitute, or because she looks or behaves like a prostitute.

7. **villainous** n. (*formal*) **very evil; very unpleasant** 邪恶的；可憎的

e.g. ...her **villainous** father.她那个恶棍父亲

8. **transsexual** n. 易性癖者;变性人 A **transsexual** is a person who has decided that they want to live as a person of the opposite sex, and so has changed their name and appearance in order to do this. Transsexuals sometimes have an operation to change their sex.

The empress of reality television

电视真人秀女王

China’s transgender Oprah:

中国的变性奥普拉

As an army colonel who became a woman, she exemplifies a society in flux

曾经的文工团上校变性成女人；她诠释了社会演变

CHINA’S favourite chat-show host has had an extraordinary career. Jin Xing was the country’s most successful dancer before becoming a colonel in an army entertainment troupe. He won fame in America, where the New York Times called him “a Chinese genius”. He trained dancers in Brussels and Rome, before returning to China for a sex-change operation. As a woman, she resumed her career as a ballerina, set up the country’s first private ballet company, ran a bar in Beijing and married a German businessman.

中国最火脱口秀的主持人金星曾有一段非同寻常的职业生涯。在成为文工团的营级军官之前，金星曾是中国最成功的舞者。他在美国大获美誉，《纽约时报》称他为“中国天才”。他

曾在布鲁塞尔和罗马培训舞蹈演员，之后回国做变性手术。变成女人后，她以芭蕾舞演员身份重新开始自己的职业生涯，创立了中国第一家私人芭蕾舞团，在北京经营了一家酒吧，并嫁给了一个德国商人。

In a conservative society where even homosexuality is frowned upon, let alone sex-reassignment, her life would seem to place Ms Jin well outside the stodgy mainstream of Chinese broadcasting (she is pictured at her home in Shanghai). Yet Ms Jin, who is 49, is the country's most popular television judge. She began with a local version of "So You Think You Can Dance" and hit the jackpot with "The Jin Xing Show", a variety and chat programme with an audience of around 100m. She has appeared with her husband on the Chinese version of "The Amazing Race", in which couples race each other around the world. Her latest venture, "Chinese Dating", is in its first season.

在这保守社会里，人们听到同性恋都会皱眉，就更别提变性人了。她的生平事迹似乎会使她远离保守的中国主流媒体（照片摄于她在上海的家中），但49岁的金星却是中国最受欢迎的电视评委。她因中国版的《舞林争霸》为人所知（注：原版是美国的舞蹈真人秀So You Think You Can Dance），而后在《金星秀》一举成名。《金星秀》是一档内容丰富多彩的访谈类节目，观众约1亿。她携丈夫一同参加中国版《极速前进》，这是多对选手进行的环球竞赛类节目。她最近又开始了一次“商业冒险”，主持了《中国式相亲》第一季。

Ms Jin's story reflects remarkable changes in Chinese society since her childhood. She joined the army at the age of nine and endured a training regime that, as she puts it, would count as child abuse in the West. During her surgery, an oxygen shortage damaged her left leg so badly that doctors thought she would be lucky to walk again. Gruelling retraining enabled her to resume dancing within a year.

金星的故事反映了，中国社会自她孩童时代以来发生了巨大变化。按她的话说，她9岁参军后所经受的训练，在西方就是虐童。变性手术期间，由于缺氧，她的左腿受到了严重损伤，医生都觉得她能再次行走都已是幸运。通过严格的恢复训练，她一年之内就重新开始跳舞。

Those struggles with adversity have helped Ms Jin win favour among older Chinese, a more conservative cohort that is also, surprisingly, her biggest fan base. Many of them, too, have suffered enormous hardship—during the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s and 1970s, and the famine that followed the Great Leap Forward of the late 1950s, in which tens of millions died. Even those born after 1980—roughly half the population—know well what their elders endured.

得益于这些排除万难的经历，金星在相对保守的老年人人气颇高，而且他们还是她最大的支持群体，实在令人惊奇。这些老年人大多同样经历过艰难困苦——上世纪六七十年代的文化大革命，以及五十年代末大跃进后造成上千万人死亡的饥荒。即便是约占中国一半人口的80后也很清楚老一辈人经历过什么。

### Identity crises

#### 身份危机

The tension between Ms Jin's persona as a patriotic Chinese, and the one she displays as a globetrotter with a foreign husband (in January she joined the global elite at the World Economic Forum in Davos), is one that is widely understood among her compatriots. They have become the world's great travellers. Over 100m got visas for holidays abroad last year, more than the citizens of any other country. Ms Jin describes herself as having been

“a little Chinese boy thirsting for the West”. She writes of dreaming about Coca-Cola and freedom in Paris, or surreptitiously reading porn magazines and cruising gay bars in Greenwich Village. In her memoir, “Shanghai Tango”, she says that in the gay communities of New York, she feels herself to be “a traveller in a foreign land twice over”—as a woman in a man’s body and as a Chinese person abroad (who happens to be, she might have added, ethnic Korean).

表面上，金星即是爱国的中国人，也是与外国丈夫一起环游世界的“世界浪人”（一月她出席了全球精英聚集的达沃斯世界经济论坛），但这双重身份也为广大中国同胞所理解。中国人已经成为了世界旅行者。去年，超过1亿中国人获得国外旅行签证，比任何国家的公民都多。金星形容自己是“向往西方世界的中国小男孩”。她写道自己喜欢可口可乐，喜欢巴黎的自由，喜欢偷偷看色情杂志，喜欢逗留于格林威治村的同性恋酒吧。她在自传《海上探戈》里写道，身处纽约的同性恋社区中，她觉得自己是“两次身处异地的旅行者”——既是有着男人身的女人，又是身在国外的中国人（也许还会补充道，她还是朝鲜族人）。

In Belgium she feels haunted by the Chinese words she sees on signs in the streets; their calls, she writes, “get louder and louder”. She looks at a Ming vase at a market in Brussels and feels “ashamed” of Chinese who live abroad and have “only contempt” for their ancestral heritage.

在比利时时，她觉得街上的中文标牌如影随形；她写道，中文的呼唤声“越来越响”。她在布鲁塞尔的市场上看到一个明代的花瓶，便想到生活在国外的中国人“轻视”他们的文化传承，为此感到“羞耻”。

China has several cultural figures who are better known in the West than at home. Ms Jin could have been another. But she chose to return home for her sex-change surgery, at some personal risk since the procedure was almost unknown there. “I was born in China,” she says. “It is in China I must be reborn as a woman.”

不少中国的文化名人在西方世界比国内要出名得多，金星原本也可能位列其中。但她选择了回国做变性手术。这冒着一定风险，因为当时国内的变性手术几乎是空白。“我出生在中国”，她说，“所以必须在中国重生为女人”。

Xi Jinping, China’s president, presents himself as a staunch defender of “traditional” Chinese culture, and warns of the danger of Western “infiltration”. His preferences were clear in a recent official directive, which calls for the protection of China’s “cultural security”. But like most of her compatriots, Ms Jin is happy to take what she wants from both China and the West.

中国主席习近平也表明自己是中国“传统”文化的坚定守护者，并警告人们小心西方文化的“渗透”。他这一意向在最近一次官方指示中很明显，即号召保护中国“文化安全”。但金星和她的大多数同胞一样，乐意接受任何自己喜欢的文化，无论来自中国还是西方。

On the face of it, she embodies everything that is untraditional. Her rejection of being a man flies in the face of Confucian culture. The television manner for which she is famous—a blunt, cut-the-crap sassiness—is the opposite of stereotypical feminine deference. Yet her life as a woman has not been a simple rebellion against convention. By adopting three children and marrying (albeit a foreigner), she created around herself what she calls “a real Chinese family”. The values she espouses are old-fashioned even in China. In her new dating game, the contestants may not choose a match without their families’ permission; indeed, it is the families who interview the contestants’ prospective partners

—resulting in rampant sexism, with women being asked about children and men about money. This has been too much for some viewers; online commentators have slammed the format as chauvinist and “retro”. But Ms Jin’s popularity suggests many young people believe that tradition should not be discarded.

表面上，她体现了一切非传统的东西。她选择不做男性，可谓狠狠地“打”了儒家文化一耳光。。她在电视上以直言不讳、不说废话甚至无礼而成名，与中国传统的女性形象有天渊之别。但作为女人而言，她在生活中却纯粹是对传统的反抗。她收养了三个孩子并结婚（尽管是和外国人），她为自己创造了口中的“真正的中国家庭”。她拥护着即便在国内都十分保守的家庭观。在她新的相亲节目中，竞争者若不能获得家庭准许，可能无法选择另一半；的确，在节目中，是参选者的家长在为其选择未来的伴侣——这体现了赤裸裸的性别歧视，女人总被问生儿育女，男人总被问工资财产。这对一些观众来说难以接受；网上有评论批评这样的标准化观念是大男人主义和“思想倒退”。但金星仍人气火爆，表明了很多年轻人相信不应该抛弃传统。

In her memoir, Ms Jin talks about two historical figures whom she calls role models. One is Sai Jinhua, a prostitute who became the mistress of the imperial envoy to Germany and used her knowledge of the language to save the Qing emperor from German troops sent to crush the Boxer Uprising in 1900. (Jealous officials jailed her for her pains.) Ms Jin notes approvingly how Sai “rebelled” against what had appeared to be her destiny as a pauper.

在金星的自传中，她视两位历史人物为其榜样。赛金花便是其一。她是一名妓女，后成为德国外交官的情妇，并凭着自己会说外语，从1900年被派来消灭义和团运动的德国军队手中挽救了清朝皇帝。（心怀妒忌的军官为了让她受罪，囚禁了她。）金星认同赛金花“反抗”自己贫穷命运的精神。

The other model, more surprisingly, is Jiang Qing (Madame Mao), one of the Cultural Revolution’s most reviled figures, who cheered on the Red Guards as they tortured and killed her enemies. Ms Jin calls her “full of charm and intelligence” and the creator of “major masterpieces” during that period (Jiang Qing oversaw the production of operas about the Communist Party’s early days). It is a sign of how much China is changing that its cast of heroines encompasses not only the heroic harlots and villainous empresses of the past, but also a transsexual conservative talk-show host.

令人更加惊奇的是，金星的另一榜样是江青（毛泽东夫人），乃文化大革命最饱受诟病的人物之一。她鼓动红卫兵折磨、杀害她的敌人。但金星称在那个年代，江青“充满魅力和才智”，创作了很多“杰作”（江青监督制作了讲述中共早期故事的样板戏）。中国式女英雄不仅包括过去英勇的妓女和恶毒的女皇，同样包括了变性的保守脱口秀主持人，这体现了中国巨大的变化。