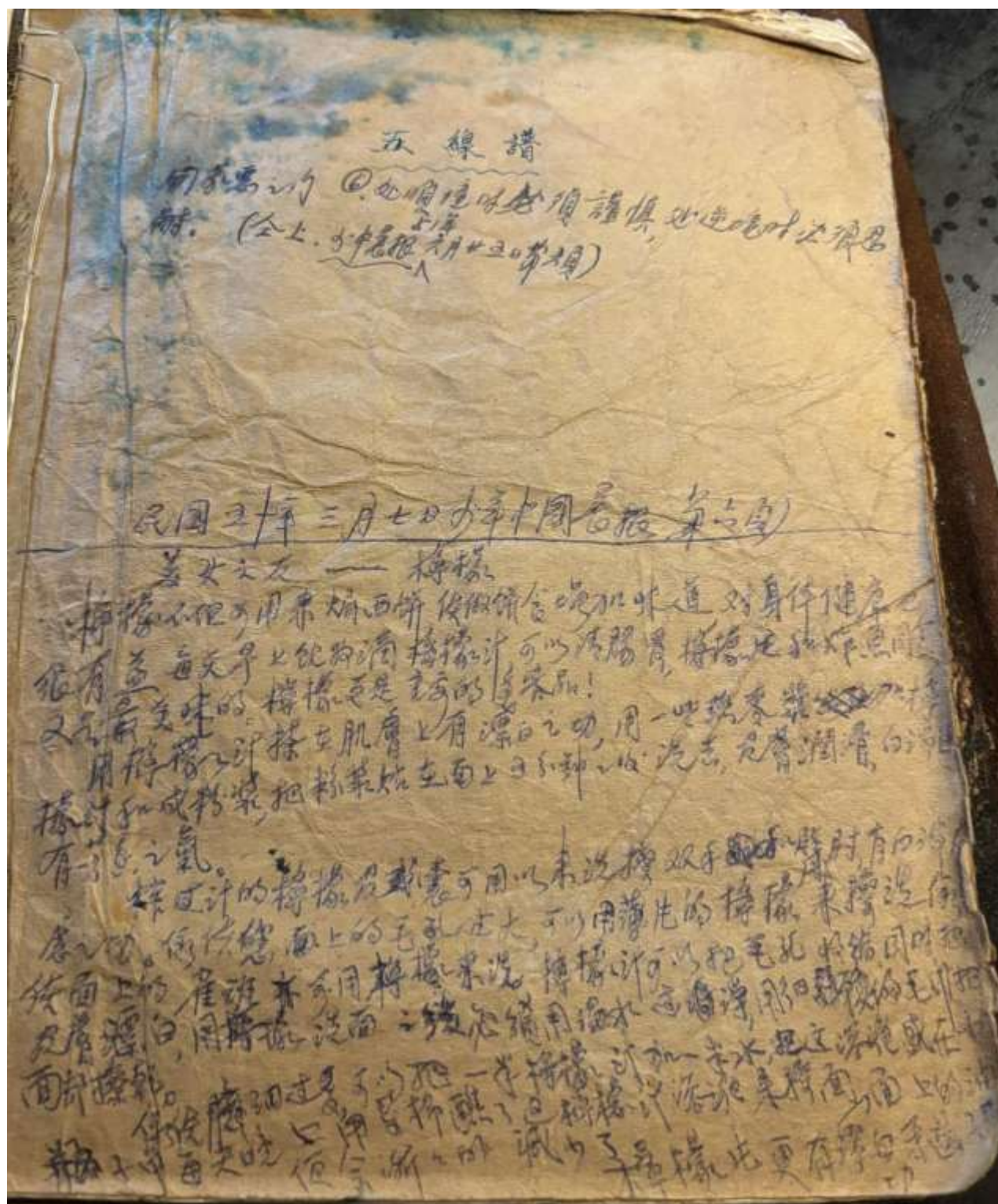




Seventh Chinese page at the end of Mr. Lee's (Krapivkin) manuscript / songbook. The pages were sent to me by Lunden Pizarro (Julie's grandson) at the behest of Julie (Pizarro) Krapivkin, who wanted me to find out what the pages were all about.

ChatGPT:

The title reads 《文缘谱》

(“Record of Literary Affinities”),

and the text appears to be a reflective essay or diary-style writing, discussing friendship, writing, and moral cultivation — written in an older, somewhat literary Chinese style.

Here’s the translation:

1. Record of Literary Affinities

2. Notes for reference — to be collected as “Selected Writings on Literary Friendship.” (Above entry dated 1930, early spring.)

3. March 7, 1930 — Written at the Chinese Cultural Association, Second Branch

4. On Friendship through Writing — by Mei Rong

5. Among people, the way of cultivating oneself lies not only in moral conduct and learning but also in emotional harmony.

6. The friendship between writers is often formed through shared ideas and feelings — a meeting of minds through the written word.

7. True literary friendship does not rely on flattery or social ties, but on sincerity and mutual respect.

8. When two people read and write together, they naturally come to understand each other’s thoughts.

9. In this way, through letters, poems, and discussions, friendship deepens and becomes enduring.

10. When a person’s writing reveals their heart, and another person responds in kind, a true connection of spirit is formed.

11. Such a bond can outlast time and distance — it becomes a lasting meeting of hearts.

12. Ancient scholars often exchanged poems to express their thoughts and feelings; this was not mere pastime but a practice of moral cultivation.

13. By sharing words, they refined their minds and strengthened their virtue — the written word became a bridge of the heart.

14. I once had a friend, modest and thoughtful, who always sought truth through learning.

15. We often discussed books, history, and art; sometimes we disagreed, but never with anger.

16. When we met, we would share tea and conversation; when apart, we wrote letters of encouragement.

17. That friendship lasted many years and left a deep impression on my heart.

18. In this world, the truest friendships are those based on mutual respect and shared pursuit of goodness.

19. Wealth and status fade away, but the friendship of the spirit endures.

20. Thus, to form true friendship, one must first be sincere and self disciplined, not seeking advantage or fame.

21. Only then can words become bridges of understanding, and writing become a bond of virtue.

22. Recorded in the spring of 1930 — transcribed later at the Shanxi Frontline Office.

+++++ English Version

Record of Literary Affinities

(Written in the spring of 1930; transcribed later at the Shanxi Frontline Office)

Among the ways a person cultivates oneself, moral conduct and learning are essential, yet emotional harmony is no less important. True

friendship — especially that born through writing — arises from shared thought and sincerity of heart.

The bond between writers is not formed by flattery or social convenience but by the meeting of minds and the echo of shared ideals. When two people read and write together, they come to understand each other more deeply; their words become mirrors reflecting the same light. Through the exchange of letters, poems, and reflections, friendship grows naturally — refined by time, strengthened by respect.

When one's writing reveals the heart and another responds with equal openness, the result is a communion of spirit that transcends time and distance. Such friendships are rare and enduring; they are not founded on material gain or advantage, but on mutual trust and the pursuit of truth.

The scholars of old often expressed their feelings through poetry, not for mere amusement but as a way of nurturing virtue. In their written exchanges, they polished their hearts as much as their words — using literature as a bridge to understanding, and friendship as a path to self-cultivation.

I once had a friend of this kind — humble in manner, steadfast in learning, always sincere in thought. We often discussed books, history, and art; sometimes we disagreed, yet never with bitterness. When we met, we shared tea and conversation; when apart, we exchanged letters filled with reflection and encouragement. Over time, this friendship became deeply rooted, leaving a quiet warmth that remains even now.

In this world, the truest friendship is built upon respect and a shared desire for goodness. Wealth and power fade quickly, but the friendship of the spirit endures — its fragrance growing stronger with the years.

To form such a bond, one must be sincere, humble, and free of selfish ambition. Only then can words become bridges between hearts, and writing become the medium through which virtue and understanding flow.