



The Betty Letters

My Dear Grandchild,

I note that China has become a little more harsh toward homosexuals, these days, and that male prostitution is being considered in a similar vein to female prostitution. I was surprised on both counts, to be honest with you, but things in this world never stand still, do they? What amazed me, however, was that there is a requirement in the Motherland for male prostitutes! I have seen movies about American male prostitutes, called gigolos in some quarters, but I had no idea that they had been exported to China. In these days of the Internet, I suppose, as the saying goes, the world has shrunk, considerably. In Hongkong, during the days when the British ran the place, there were quite a number of male judges, who were raving homosexuals, and did little to hide their innate propensity, you know. Even today, there are quite a number of barristers, practising at The Hongkong Bar, who are known to be buggerers of the best type (or should that read, of the 'worst' type?). My friend, Dorothy, told me that homosexuals make very good friends for females because, among other things, male homosexuals are not interested in females as recipients of their sperm, preferring the nether orifices of males, and, that being the case, they pose no threat to females and have no designs on us (one does not have to watch one's back, so to speak). The trouble with male prostitutes, Grandpa says, is that they tend to be very promiscuous and do not practise safe sex. Also, he says that they are more sexed than ordinary people. I did not know what was meant by the term, 'ordinary', so I, innocently, asked him to explain. Grandpa told me that 'ordinary' is that which the Government of China determines, from time to time; morally correct; in keeping with the social order of things; according to the tenets of The Chinese Communist Party and The National People's Congress. That definition makes good sense, actually, when you think of it, carefully, because The Chinese Communist Party and the National People's Congress do not permit its members to be homosexuals. Grandpa is a member, you know, and I can vouch for the fact that he is not, and never has been, a homosexual. In Germany, during the time that Adolf Hitler (1934 – 1945) was absolute dictator, homosexuality was a crime, punishable by death. That was a little harsh, in my opinion, and, it seems so, also, in the opinion of the Chinese Judiciary. The jurisprudential determinations of today in the Motherland are that homosexuality is punishable by about eight years in prison. While 'inside', I suppose felons receive medical treatment for their terrible afflictions. I would imagine that there are medicines, which suppress the urge for one male to try to insert his erect appendage into the dirtiest orifice of another male. I have been told that the Chinese Courts of Law, today, are more willing to treat homosexual prostitution as a criminal offence. In the past, such offences were treated more as acts that were contrary to civil ordinances, such as disobedience, etc. This goes along with the basic belief in the Motherland that deterrent sentencing is the best: It scares the knickers off of those who would consider acting contrary to the law. Mr Li Ping, today, is languishing in a prison in the Motherland because it was proved that he operated a House of Ill Repute in Nanjing. Quite right, too, his lawyer is said to have uttered in a stentorian voice when he heard the ruling of the Court. According to the transcript of the Court – I read it in Grandpa's study – Mr Li Ping was the leader of a group of male prostitutes and placed advertisements for other male prostitutes to join his well-positioned Nanjing seraglio. When paying customers frequented his House of Prostitution, he got two hundred yuan, up front. Mr Li Ping is far too young to have learned his art from the Japanese, unless, of course, the Japanese curse is like Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome: It is just waiting to be stirred up again. When I read

this Court account, I immediately recalled that old movie: 'The World of Suzie Wong'. Mr Li Ping was very rich, the Court determined, so that a fine of sixty thousand yuan would have had little effect on reshaping him so that he could return to the bosom of society ... so they threw the book at him, sentencing him to eight years in prison with parole not to be considered. Hopefully, when Mr Li Ping leaves prison, he will reserve his lust for females, only, and not indulge in abominations, as the Bible puts it.

This is, really, a very dirty subject, isn't it?

I must go to take a shower.

The Chief Lady of Hongkong

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