



MOM CHUNG

AND HER
509 "FAIR-HAIRED FOSTER SONS"

DR. MARGARET CHUNG WAS "MOM" TO HER 509 "FAIR-HAIRED FOSTER SONS". AND WHEN THEY FLEW INTO BATTLE, THEY CARRIED THE GOOD LUCK CHARM THAT WAS THEIR MEMBERSHIP CARD IN HER "FAMILY"

IN 1898, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA...



OUR DAUGHTER, MARGARET, WILL SOON BE OLD ENOUGH TO HELP YOU IN YOUR HOUSEWORK, MOTHER.

PERHAPS SO, FATHER. BUT MARGARET IS UNLIKE OTHER CHILDREN. SHE SPEAKS OF GOING TO COLLEGE!

MARGARET CHUNG WENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, AND THEN THROUGH MEDICAL SCHOOL IN 1916...



WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO PRACTICE, MARGARET?

I'M GOING TO INTERNE AT A CHICAGO HOSPITAL AND THEN LOOK FOR A PLACE TO PRACTICE.

SHORTLY AFTER HER INTERNESHIP WAS OVER, DR. CHUNG VISITED SAN FRANCISCO'S GREAT CHINATOWN FOR THE FIRST TIME.



AND SO DR. CHUNG STARTED HER CAREER IN MEDICINE—PREPARED TO SERVE HER OWN PEOPLE.

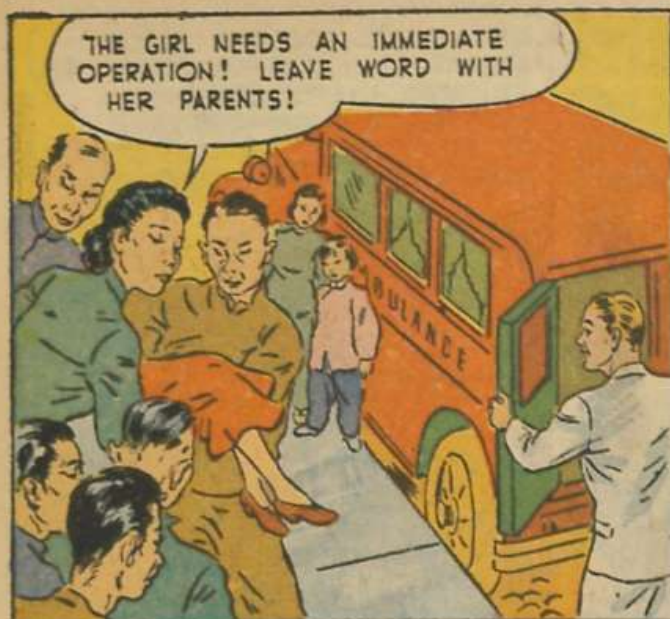


SEVERAL MONTHS LATER...

OUTSIDE OF THE MILK MAN, YOU'RE THE FIRST HUMAN BEING TO SET FOOT IN THIS HOUSE IN MONTHS!

YOU MUST REMEMBER, MARGARET, THAT THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN GOING TO THEIR HERB DOCTORS FOR CENTURIES. IT'S A HARD HABIT TO BREAK.





THE GIRL NEEDS AN IMMEDIATE OPERATION! LEAVE WORD WITH HER PARENTS!



DR. CHUNG OPERATED ON THE SICK GIRL— SUCCESSFULLY!



THAT NIGHT...

THANK HEAVENS I WAS ABLE TO SAVE THAT POOR GIRL... WELL, I SUPPOSE I WON'T HAVE ANOTHER PATIENT FOR ANOTHER THREE MONTHS!



BUT THE NEXT MORNING...

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

I AM THE FATHER OF THE GIRL WHOSE LIFE YOU SAVED, DR. CHUNG. AND THESE ARE ALL MY FRIENDS. THEY WISH TO PLACE THEMSELVES IN THE HANDS OF A FINE DOCTOR WITH THE GREAT GIFT OF SAVING LIVES!

DR. CHUNG'S PRACTICE GREW UNTIL SHE WAS ABLE TO FULFIL A LIFE-LONG DREAM.



I'VE WALKED ALL MY LIFE—AND ALL MY LIFE I'VE WISHED FOR A CAR LIKE THAT! I'LL TAKE IT!



AND THE BOYS WAITED... AND WASHED THEIR OWN CLOTHING... MENDED THEIR OWN SOCKS... TOOK THEIR BRUISES TO "MOM" CHUNG.



"MOM", SINCE YOU'RE FEEDING US, MENDING US, LISTENING TO OUR TROUBLES, WE'VE ALL DECIDED TO ADOPT YOU AS OUR FOSTER MOTHER!

AFTER THIS, WE'RE GOING TO BE KNOWN AS THE "FAIR-HAIRED FOSTER SONS OF MOM CHUNG"!



AND "MOM" CHUNG'S FAMILY GREW AND GREW UNTIL...

THERE ARE SO MANY OF YOU NOW, I'LL HAVE TO CALL YOU BY NUMBERS. HERE'S A GOOD LUCK CHARM TO WEAR ALWAYS, NO. 178.

WHY, IT'S A JADE FIGURE—A BUDDHA!



MONTHS PASSED, AND THE ORIGINAL SEVEN SONS BROUGHT IN FRIENDS, UNTIL...

TWO MORE SONS FOR YOU, "MOM". O.K.?

THE ONLY MEMBERSHIP RULE IS THAT MY SONS MUST BE HARD-FLYING AVIATORS AND GENTLEMEN. WELCOME, BOYS!



RED, YOU'RE GOING TO JOIN THE FLYING TIGERS, AND YOU, STEVE, THE EAGLE SQUADRON. WEAR THESE FOR LUCK, AND MAKE ME PROUD OF MY SONS!

I'LL GET SEVEN AXIS PLANES FOR MYSELF AND SEVEN FOR YOU, "MOM".

THAT'S A DEAL, "MOM"! WE'RE ALL GOING TO GET SEVEN FOR OURSELVES AND SEVEN FOR YOU!



MANY OF "MOM'S" BOYS GOT THEIR WISH AND JOINED THE CHINESE AIR FORCE. AFTER PEARL HARBOR, HER HIGH-FLYING SONS WENT TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD. OVER BURMA ROAD...

THAT JADE BUDDHA YOU'RE WEARING—THAT MAKES YOU---

A FOSTER SON OF MOM CHUNG—NO. 303—SHAKE, BROTHER!



