



## LIVING OVERSEAS

Eddie was a simple man with not-so-simple circumstances. He lived his life with simple means, loved his family with all his heart, and did what he could to make them happy. This driving force was the reason for him to relent when his wife and eldest daughter begged with him to sacrifice all that he had to make a home overseas. “There will be greater prosperity and future for us elsewhere!” He still remembered his daughter cooing as she held his arm

and looked at her mother for her assistance to persuade Eddie. It was the role of a husband and a father to do all he can to make his family happy, and Eddie would do it with a smile, even if it meant giving his life for that cause.

That love he harboured for them gave them the dream of their tomorrow, as he inked in his application for visas overseas and got the go-ahead to pack up and begin their plans two weeks later. Initially, the new environment was alien to him. There was nobody Eddie could call friend, and he, like his family, could only lean on one another for a sense of belonging. Yet, Eddie wanted to give his family some friends in this foreign land, and worked hard to establish himself in the face of these strangers, whom opened up to him and accepted his friendship. Those were such trying and testing times for Eddie, having to pit his expertise to the new circumstances that he encountered.

The first goal that Eddie set out to accomplish in the new land was to build a home for his family. It would be a place that the family could find unity whenever they came home, and a place he could settle his mind and escape the worries of the world just for those few hours of rest. When he was given the option to purchase a home, he chose a splendid looking house spread on a vast piece of land. He believed that the property would go up in value and he could use the equity gained from its purchase. This was a risk that paid off for him. With a fervent mindset, he also struggled to put his children into the university, and smiled so brightly when his two older daughters got up on the podium with their degree certification clasped close to their chests.

Things started to get complicated with his two other sons. They were called up for national service, and should they fail to complete, they would lose their standing as citizens. Pressed by such a turn of events, Eddie once again relented and returned back to his homeland to build yet another home so that his two sons may have a place to return to at the end of their grueling training. It soon occurred to Eddie the huge burden that laid squarely upon his shoulders that the developments in his life had caused him. It was as though he had two sets of families living in two regions, and he was the sole provider for them. Even as he understood his predicament, his wife and himself were of the same mind that their foreign property would be the wealth and stability for their family in the future to come. However, the current reality was that their family structure was divided. It was truly difficult for poor Eddie, who wanted to please his family.

Eddie turned to me and asked me again, almost with tears in his eyes. “Help me make a proper decision. Tell me which home to choose.” Even though I empathized with him, the reality was this: his 4<sup>th</sup> House was Gemini, which symbolized twins and the parallel of completely different circumstances. Whatever he does, or wherever he went, he would have to face up to the truth of two environments confronting him. “Life for you, my friend, will be a constant divide. By embracing your circumstances instead of avoiding them, you will then be able to achieve harmony and peace.”

It was painful to see a grown man crumble, and I knew my response was not one he sought. Then again, there was no clear response to Eddie’s dilemma. It was a situation whereby he really needed to tough out, and will get better once he did. As he left my office with his shoulders slouched, I myself felt useless in not being able to give him greater clarity on what he could do to ease his burden. Yet, I knew somehow, he would make it through this time, because he was a man who lived for his family, and would not give up so easily because of negative forces.

My belief paid off when I saw Eddie five years later. He was beaming with joy and had cast off his aura of gloom. “You know, Roy... After meeting with you that time, I believed Astrology to be pure B.S. But I guess time allowed me to really ponder what you said. Three years of pure torment, to be precise.

You were right, for denying one home is to be lying to myself. I decided to brave that storm and worked on each problem as it appeared before me, instead of bunching up all the issues together. Now, my sons are studying in the University after completing their national service, and they still have a place to call home, because I never gave it up.

And because I never gave up, both my properties went up in value, and I feel doubly blessed. So thank you, for your true words. Somehow, they did make me believe in a better future, even if it took awhile for it to actually happen.”

[roy@royalastrologers.com](mailto:roy@royalastrologers.com) – Singapore: 9754 3540 Perth W. Australia: 0423 948 111