

# AN OPENED EYE

Evelyn O. Shih

I had a cataract removed from my right eye at the end of last year. It was a succesful surgery. Praise the Lord!

Wow! The world is so clean now, as if all the windows have been cleaned. Now, the whites are shining white and the blacks are more in depth. Before the surgery, every color seemed covered with dust. When I put on my new eyeglasses, I find that things in the distance are clearer too and I can even read newspapers without glasses.

I decided to celebrate my newly improved vision with my freinds. In the restaurant, I looked at my friends across the table. Why did every one of them have more black dots on their faces and their wrinkles were deeper than I remembered? When I came home, I looked into the mirror and sure enough, my own face was full of black sesame seeds. Oh! When your eyes open, not only the pretty things are prettier, but the ugly things have become uglier.

Let us concentrate on pretty things instead of focusing on ugly ones. For example:

Nature is beautiful. Sunrise and sunset, azure sky and blue sea, the rainbow after the rain ..... all of them are more colorful. Once I picked up a leaf and discovered its beauty. It was in an oval shape with a saw-like edge. I could see the lines on it and in the back, it had a soft velvet covering. It was only a small leaf, yet God made it so delicate and beautiful.

Truth is beautiful. With my inner eyes also open, I find that God's words are more interesting and meaningful. It is like a boundless mine where I dig every morning for treasure. Every bit of treasure is beautiful.

Love is beautiful. One smile, one greeting, one telephone call, one hand shake, one gift and numerous prayers said quietly for me are all preciuos. They might not be seen but you can feel the sweetness.

There are so many beautiful things to be appreciated that I have no time for the ugly ones. O Lord, remove the cataracts in my spiritual eyes too, so that I may look upon your holiness and glory. 