

Intro

我現在在高雄，接著要往東部去看看，這幾日的機車環島旅程讓我看見了過去從未見過的人事物。譬如說，苗栗的鯉魚潭村，正當我享受美好田園風光的時候，一轉頭就看到了偌大的水泥工廠；譬如說，日月潭旁邊無限綿延的檳榔山坡；譬如說，在二林遇到了周牧師和農友們，吹著中科四期工地的晚風，一起吃了頓免費的蚵仔麵晚餐；譬如說，麥寮那片燈火爛漫又殘酷的夜景；譬如說，高雄左營那一大片將要被拆除的眷村群。

（我原本是怕黑的，但是經過二林那一夜跟農民阿伯們聊天，了解了很多關於土地的事情，後來騎車走西濱趕去麥寮的路上沒路燈，一片漆黑，房子都矮矮的、整個平面很遼闊，看不見農田也看不見工廠，那一刻我覺得黑暗溫柔地包圍著我，我不怕黑了，並且更加親近土地一些。）

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I'm now in Kaohsiung and planning to explore the east coast of Taiwan afterwards. Spending a couple days taking a round trip by scooter has brought me lots of fresh things I haven't yet to seen, like the Village of Carp Lake in Miaoli where I saw an enormous concrete batching plant just as I turned my head away from the beautiful rural scenery that I enjoyed watching; the rolling hills planted with betel nut trees next to the Sun Moon Lake; Reverend Chou and farmers I met in Erlin where we had a free dinner with Taiwanese Oyster Noodles together, being accompanied by the evening breeze blowing from the science-based industrial park nearby; the night views showing a blaze of splendid but cruel lights in Mailiao; and finally, the military dependents' villages covering a large area in Zuoying, Kaohsiung that are going to be demolished.

(I used to be afraid of the dark until I had a late-

night conversation with some elder farmers during my stay in Erlin, which allowed me to know much more about the issues related to land that had occurred. Later on, I rushed to Mailiao through the West Coastal Express Highway by scooter where no street lamps were installed along the way, so that everything was left in pitch-darkness. Views from both sides of the road were open and expansive as a result of the low-roof houses, and neither farms nor factories were clear enough to be seen. Somehow, at that very moment, I felt being tenderly embraced by the darkness. My fear for the darkness has gone and I actually became more emotionally attached to this land.)



































