

Miranda turns to Chinese medicine

“MY feet are numb,” said Miranda.

“What do you mean ‘numb?’” asked her friend Valerie. The two were drinking coffee in Midtown, at the Palo Alto Cafe.

“I can’t feel any sensation in them,” said Miranda.

“None at all?” asked Valerie

“Well, some,” said Miranda. “I can feel some. But it’s vastly reduced.”

“Dear friend,” said Valerie, “You need to go and see a doctor. “It could be diabetes. From your crazy drug and alcohol youth. It’s best to get it checked out.”

Then Valerie paused and reflected. “Wait,” she said. “I have a better idea. Why don’t you go to Carl’s Chinese foot reflexologist? She can work miracles. When Carl had that big growth on his neck, the size of a softball, and the cancer docs said, ‘It’s benign, but we should remove it;’ Carl went to see this Chinese reflexologist and she worked on his feet, and the softball went away within a month. The docs were amazed. They had no explana-

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tion. I’ll give you her phone number.”

So Miranda called Daisy the Chinese foot reflexologist, and made an appointment.

“I can fix that,” Daisy said, after hearing a description of Miranda’s symptoms. “But it will take some time. You are in kindergarten, and you need to get through to high school. It will take some time.”

With some reluctance, Miranda paid \$1,000 for 10 foot-reflexology treatments, and began seeing Daisy. Miranda figured she was at point in her life where, if she wanted to make a \$1,000 mistake, she was entitled.

Waiting for her appointments in Daisy’s hallway, Miranda talked to other patients who had experienced miracle cures from foot reflexology.

She examined the colorful reflex-



MIRANDA

ology chart of the two human feet. According to this chart, different areas at the bottom of her feet corresponded to different organs of her body.

“Your liver is injured,” said Daisy.

“How do you know that?” asked Miranda.

“Because I can feel it,” said Daisy. “There is a lump here.”

Daisy directed Miranda’s hand to the area at the bottom of the right foot, about half way down, that corresponded to the liver on the reflexology chart. And yes, Miranda could feel that that area on the bottom of her foot was distended.

“Well, I’m taking all this on faith,” said Miranda. “For the time being.”

“I can help you,” said Daisy. “You will see.”

Miranda visited daily to get her reflexology treatments. Daisy put Miranda on a strict vegan diet; and told her to avoid any foods with industrial chemicals. Within a month Miranda lost 20 pounds, and the numbness in her feet diminished by 50%.

She was impressed. “So tell me about your life,” Miranda asked Daisy. “You were born in China, right?”

“Yes,” said Daisy. And she told Miranda about her life in China, and about her escape to Palo Alto. It was fascinating.

More tomorrow.