My daughter's boyfriend and the bean drink, a Chinese short story for HSK 3 to 4

Wáng Lěi takes his daughter's new boyfriend to try old Beijing's famous sour drink. Will the boyfriend make a face?

你喝过豆汁儿吗？我有一个豆汁儿的故事！
Nǐ hēguo dòuzhīr ma? Wǒ yǒu yí ge dòuzhīr de gùshi!
Have you ever tried douzhi? I've got a story about it!

我是北京人，最爱喝豆汁儿。它很酸，味道有点儿像旧袜子。
Wǒ shì Běijīng rén, zuì ài hē dòuzhīr. Tā hěn suān, wèidao yǒudiǎnr xiàng jiù wàzi.
I'm from Beijing, and I love douzhi more than anything. It's sour, and it smells a bit like old socks.

我太太不喝，我女儿也不喝，所以我总是一个人喝。
Wǒ tàitai bù hē, wǒ nǚ'ér yě bù hē, suǒyǐ wǒ zǒngshì yí ge rén hē.
My wife won't drink it and neither will my daughter, so I always drink it alone.

很多外地人喝一口就吐出来了。
Hěn duō wàidìrén hē yì kǒu jiù tǔ chūlai le.
Many people from outside Beijing spit it out after one sip.

所以对我来说，豆汁儿是一个考试：你能不能接受北京？
Suǒyǐ duì wǒ lái shuō, dòuzhīr shì yí ge kǎoshì: nǐ néng bu néng jiēshòu Běijīng?
So to me, douzhi is a test: can you take Beijing, or not?

去年，我女儿打电话说，她要带男朋友回家。
Qùnián, wǒ nǚ'ér dǎ diànhuà shuō, tā yào dài nánpéngyou huí jiā.
Last year, my daughter called to say she was bringing her boyfriend home.

他叫汤姆，是加拿大人。
Tā jiào Tāngmǔ, shì Jiānádà rén.
His name was Tom, and he was from Canada.

我想看看，他是一个什么样的年轻人。
Wǒ xiǎng kànkan, tā shì yí ge shénmeyàng de niánqīngrén.
I wanted to see what kind of young man he was.

我要考考他。
Wǒ yào kǎokao tā.
I decided to test him.

星期六早上，我带汤姆去我家街口的老豆汁儿店，要了两碗。
Xīngqīliù zǎoshang, wǒ dài Tāngmǔ qù wǒ jiā jiēkǒu de lǎo dòuzhīr diàn, yàole liǎng wǎn.
On Saturday morning, I took Tom to the old douzhi shop on the corner of my street and ordered two bowls.

我太太和女儿在外面等，因为味道太大了。
Wǒ tàitai hé nǚ'ér zài wàimiàn děng, yīnwèi wèidao tài dà le.
My wife and daughter waited outside, because the smell was so strong.

我坐在那儿，等着看汤姆的脸。
Wǒ zuò zài nàr, děngzhe kàn Tāngmǔ de liǎn.
I sat there, waiting to see Tom's face.

汤姆把他那碗都喝完了。
Tāngmǔ bǎ tā nà wǎn dōu hēwán le.
Tom finished his whole bowl.

他笑着说：“好喝！”然后又要了一碗。
Tā xiàozhe shuō: “Hǎohē!” Ránhòu yòu yàole yì wǎn.
He smiled and said, “Delicious!” Then he ordered another bowl.

老板从来没看过外国人要两碗，所以第二碗不要钱。
Lǎobǎn cónglái méi kànguo wàiguórén yào liǎng wǎn, suǒyǐ dì èr wǎn bú yào qián.
The owner had never seen a foreigner order two bowls, so the second bowl was free.

下个星期天，汤姆给我打电话：“叔叔，喝豆汁儿吗？”
Xià ge xīngqītiān, Tāngmǔ gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà: “Shūshu, hē dòuzhīr ma?”
The next Sunday, Tom called me: “Uncle, want some douzhi?”

从那以后，每个星期天我们都去，就我们两个人。
Cóng nà yǐhòu, měi ge xīngqītiān wǒmen dōu qù, jiù wǒmen liǎng ge rén.
Since then, we go every Sunday, just the two of us.

我太太和女儿在家。我终于有人一起喝豆汁儿了！
Wǒ tàitai hé nǚ'ér zài jiā. Wǒ zhōngyú yǒu rén yìqǐ hē dòuzhīr le!
My wife and daughter stay home. At last I have someone to drink douzhi with!

上个月，我女儿和汤姆分手了。
Shàng ge yuè, wǒ nǚ'ér hé Tāngmǔ fēnshǒu le.
Last month, my daughter and Tom broke up.

他还是每个星期天给我打电话。
Tā háishi měi ge xīngqītiān gěi wǒ dǎ diànhuà.
He still calls me every Sunday.

Words in the story

豆汁儿
dòuzhīr
douzhi, a sour bean drink of old Beijing

酸
suān
sour

味道
wèidao
taste, smell

外地人
wàidìrén
person from another place

考试
kǎoshì
test, exam

男朋友
nánpéngyou
boyfriend

年轻人
niánqīngrén
young person

碗
wǎn
bowl

老板
lǎobǎn
owner, boss

不要钱
bú yào qián
free, no charge

叔叔
shūshu
uncle (what a young person calls a friend's father)

吐出来
tǔ chūlai
to spit out

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/my-daughters-boyfriend-and-the-bean-drink