

Zusammenfassung:

The Chinese student, Yin, was invited to a party. He would love to get to know the other guests, but unfortunately, he does not know how to make contact with them. Luckily, one of his classmates comes over to talk to him and Yin notices, that there is a difference between Germany and his home country, when it comes to contact between strangers.

- Narrator: Yin was invited to a party by one of his classmates. He, however, does not recognize anyone and on account of that, he leans on the wall alone and observes the other guests.
- Yin (thinking): Everyone is standing in little groups. I would love to get to know someone, but I can't just go over there, right? Hm... That girl over there keeps making eye contact with me. Is she in love with me or something? And now she's even coming over here!
- Christiana: Hello, you're Yin, right? How are you?
- Yin (thinking): Why is she asking me that? And why does she want to shake my hand? I don't even know her! Hm, I'm actually not doing so well, but instead I'll say...
- Yin: Good! But excuse me, do we know each other? What's your name?
- Narrator: In Germany it is customary, to introduce yourself.
- Christiana: I'm Christiana. We were in the same seminar today.
- Yin: Oh, excuse me, I did not recognize you.
- Christiana: What?!?
- Narrator: Because of the loud music, Christiana can barely understand Yin. She steps toward him; Yin takes a step back- During such conversations the distance between two people is much less in Germany than it is in China.
- Yin: Sorry, I didn't recognize you.
- Christiana: Oh! So, how do you like the party?
- Yin (thinking): Well, actually I don't really like the party at all, most of all the music...
- Narrator: In Asia you would not disclose negative opinions. In Germany it is not a problem to directly express your opinion, just as long as you do not insult somebody else.
- Yin: Well, the party is not bad... How do you like it?
- Christiana: The music here is not at all my taste.

- Yin: It is not really my taste either.
- Christiana: Really? Later I'm going to another Club with a few friends. At that Club they play Funk and Soul from the 70's. Do you want to come?
- Yin (thinking): Ewww! That is even worse! But I should not say that, in that way.
- Yin: I would love to come, but unfortunately I have to prepare for my language course tomorrow... Maybe next time?
- Christiana: Oh come on! It will be fun!
- Yin (thinking): Actually, I really do not feel like going, but this girl is really nice.
- Yin: Alright, I'll come.
- Christiana: Great! Come on, I'm going to introduce you to some of my friends. Hey everyone, this is Yin. He's we're in the same seminar.
- Narrator: That is how Yin found friends in the end. Initially it was a little bit strange for him to try and talk to strangers. But soon he noticed, that in Germany to get to know someone worked a bit differently: The direct eye contact, the physical distance and that you freely express your opinion, but most of all, that you just go up to someone. If you do everything right, is not important: You just have to try.

Autoren:

Christiana Adekunlé, Yinshen Tang, Lukas Sonnenberger

Translation:

Christiana Adekunlé