

DIANA from THE HOT NAKED TRUTH by Joshua James

DIANA

Would you like to know the technical term for my background? I am what's known as an ABC. It's an acronym for American Born Chinese. An ABC. My parents came over almost forty years ago. Started a restaurant in Chicago, I'm from Chicago too. I have three sisters and one brother. I'm the youngest. My parents worked hard, harder than anyone I've seen, made enough money for us. All their children. They worked sixteen, seventeen hour days sometimes. They worked themselves old. Old before their time. You've never seen anyone work like my parents did. We all went to great schools. We didn't have scholarships but we went anyway. I hated it but I graduated top of my class. They did their best for me, I did my best for them. We all did, and we will all spoil them in their retirement. I took this job in Davenport so I could be near them. I'm telling you this so you know. My parents love the freedom this country has to offer, but in anything and everything else they are Chinese. And in anything and everything else, they only want Chinese. So do I. They won't have anything but Chinese in their family. At some point I will start one of my own, and give my parents Chinese grandchildren, like my sisters have. When I have enough money to leave the shitty business I'm in, that is what I must do for them. My Chinese name is Yeuh-Yee. My chosen American name is Dorothy. I will be twenty-seven next month. I will be married by the time I'm thirty to a successful ABC man. But until then . . .