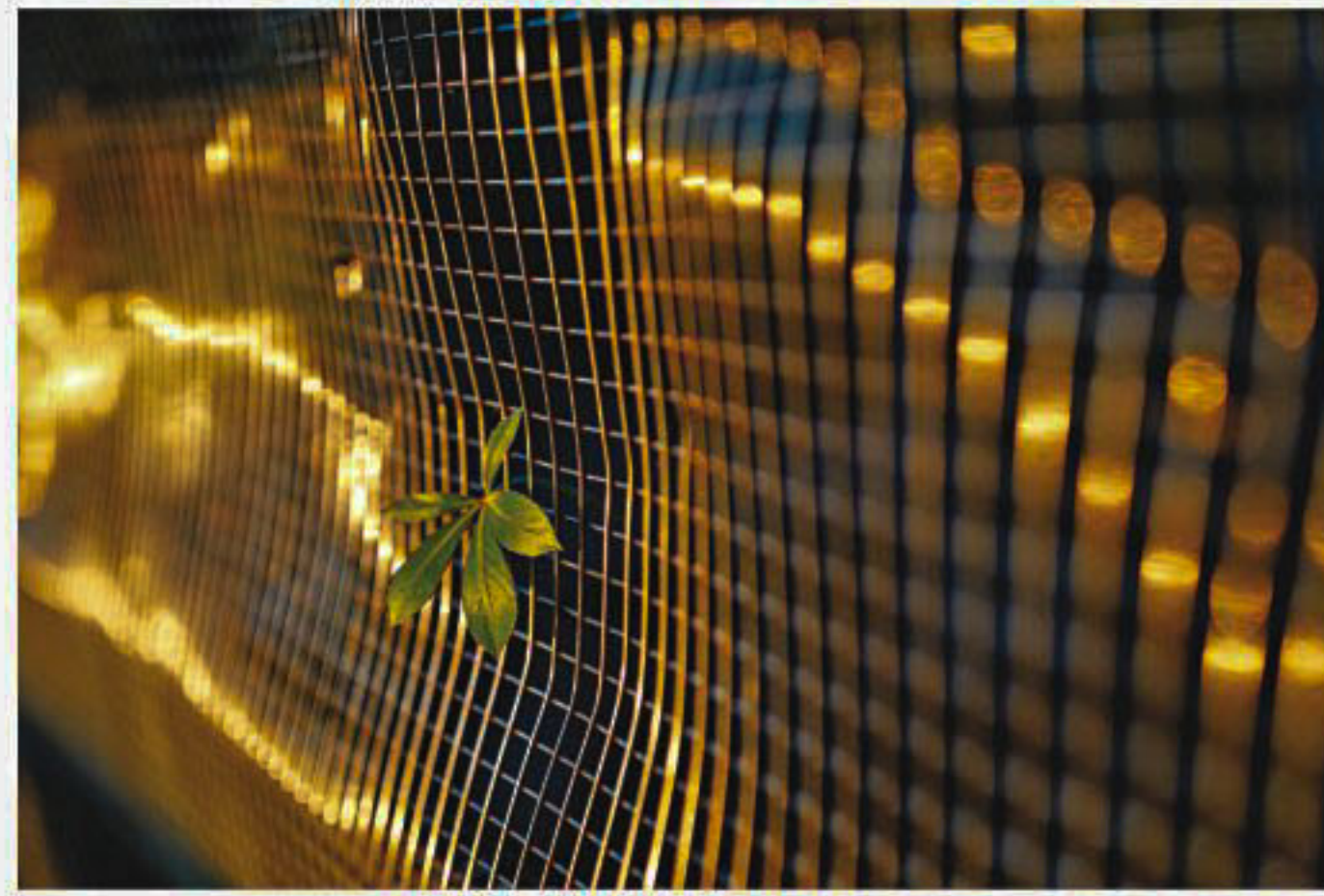


SHUTTERSTORIES



# THE LITTLE THINGS

PHOTOS : AFTAB UZZAMAN  
TEXT: NAZIBA BASHER

Often we stumble, and we look around for what can pick us back up. We look for family, for friends, we look for rewards, awards and achievements. We look for money, for luck, for love, often forgetting that the little things in life can give us the most amount of pleasure. A traffic free road, play of light and shadow, a funny shaped leaf, a bird drinking some water, puppies playing on the roadside, a child's laughter- things like these can bring peace, a kind of peace that nothing else can bring somehow reminding us that everything will be okay. Let us forget the material world, let us rid ourselves of expectations and focus on the little things, the little things that can turn our world around for at least even a second.



INTERNATIONAL

# CHINA'S ONLINE FICTION WRITERS TASTE FAME AND FORTUNE

New technology has accelerated books' migration to digital arena. In 2015, about 64 percent of adults read digitally, up 5.9 percent compared with 2014, while 58.4 percent read paper books, only 0.4 percent increase, an annual survey conducted by Chinese Academy of Press and Publication shows.

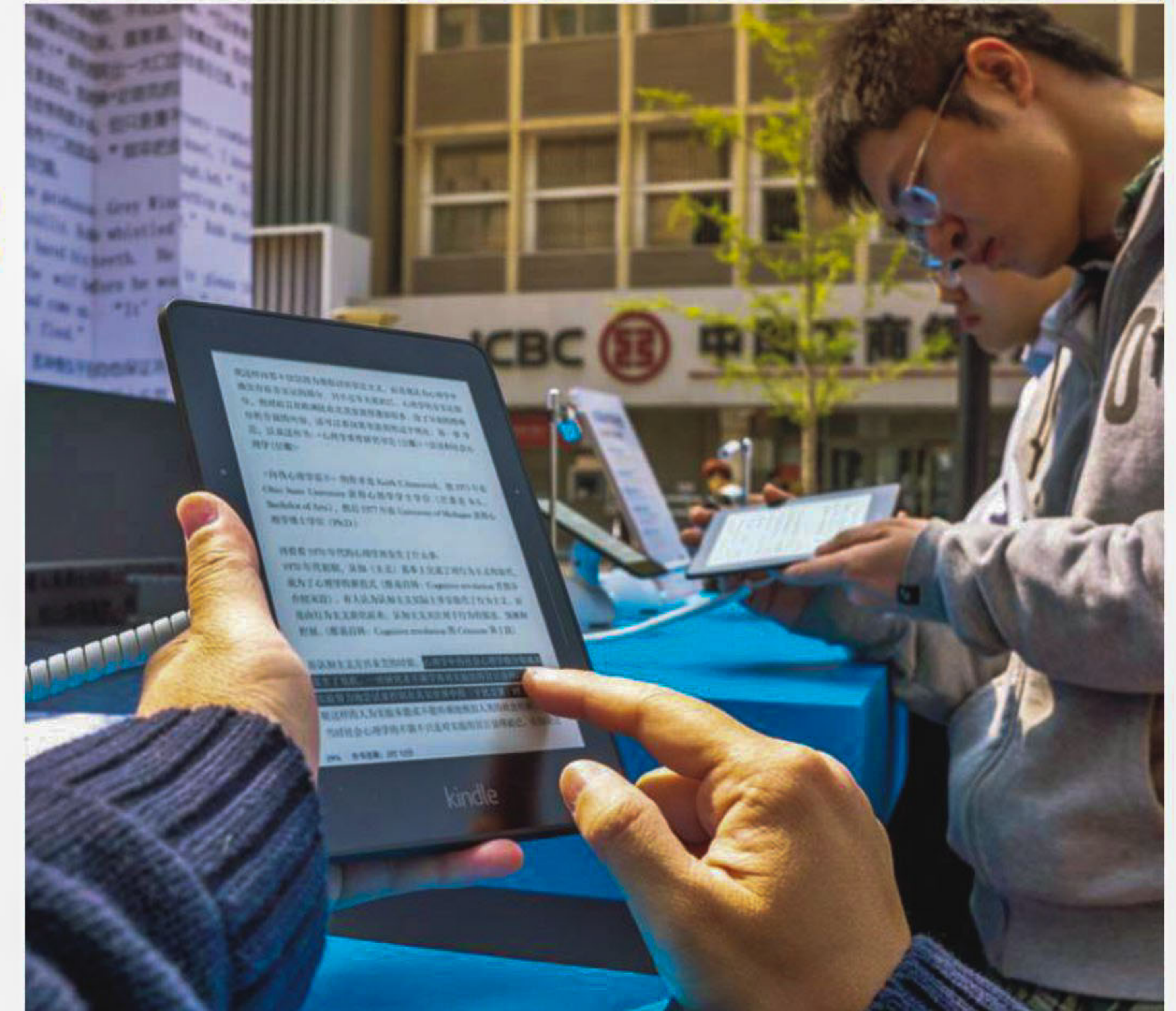
It has been eight years since Tang Xintian, a post-'80s woman in Beijing, started working as a freelance writer. Tang majored in economics and began working as analyst in Shanghai after graduation. However, it was her passion for writing that made her quit her job and started to write novels online.

In 2009, Tang started by posting her stories on Hongxiu Tianxiang website, China's largest community of fiction lovers online. Luckily, her first novel was well accepted and ranked in the top three on the website. Later, it even got published.

Tang was greatly inspired by this success, and has been working as an online writer since then. In 2011, she became more popular across the country when the TV series Naked Wedding, based on her novel, became a hit.

Despite her popularity, Tang continues to post her works online, because she has found internet "a very good place to let people know your work, especially publishers and readers."

"Not many people who are fond of writing actually end up getting their work published, whether as books, or in magazines or newspapers. But the digital platform offers a way for writing enthusiasts to share their work," said You Ting, the vice-president of iReader, China's leading brand for digital reading, at a cultural event in Beijing on Dec 30, 2016.



PHOTOS: ANN



"To share their writing with online readers on iReader would-be authors just need to register with one of the literature websites," You added.

The iReader was created eight years ago and has 600 million users, 20 million of whom use it every day, according to a report published at the 2016 World Internet Conference by Zhang Lingyun, founder of iReader.

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— ANN

## ABOUT TOWN



**COMEDY SHOW**  
January 28, 7 - 9 pm  
Red Shift Coffee Lounge, Bays Galleria, Gulshan Avenue  
Performed by: Naveed Mahbub, Shammi Huda and Max Mystel  
For more information, visit:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/965080233622180/>



**SMARTPHONE & TAB EXPO 2017**  
January 26-28, 10 am - 8 pm  
Bangabandhu International Conference Center, Agargaon, Dhaka  
Hosted By: Smartphone & Tab Expo  
For queries, visit:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/705086903005421/>



**BANGLADESH SUMMIT**  
FEATURING GOOGLE FOR EDUCATION  
January 27-28, 9 am - 5 pm  
Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Building, DU  
Hosted by- jobsbd.com  
For query, visit:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/119013091930441/>