

## **Liu Xia (f)**

**Adoption Status:** Not Adopted

**Country:** China

**Occupation:** Poet, artist, and founding member of the Independent Chinese PEN Center, a worldwide association for writers. Xia is also the wife of China's most prominent human rights advocate, Dr. Liu Xiaobo.



**Detained Since:** October 10, 2010

**Charges:** N/A

**Sentence:** Currently under house arrest.

**Additional:** Shortly after his imprisonment, Xia's husband Dr. Liu Xiaobo was awarded the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize on October 8<sup>th</sup>. After visiting her husband on October 10<sup>th</sup>, Xia returned home only to realize that the government had placed her under house arrest without any formal, legal charge. She updated Twitter to inform her followers that she was being held against her will and pleaded for their help shortly after which her phone and internet lines were cut Xia has no access to the outside world, and only on rare occasions is she allowed to leave her home. After two years of isolation, two AP journalists managed to get past the security guards to speak with her on December 6, 2012. Then finally at the end of 2012, several of her friends also were able to push through the security guards to get in contact with Liu Xia. She is currently suffering from coronary heart disease and severe depression

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