

ARRESTS A TONIC TO VICTIM

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Jian-Qing Zhu, still in pain from a near-fatal botched abortion, said she found a measure of relief in yesterday's roundup of phony doctors including the one who allegedly left her to die. Also nabbed was the licensed doctor who Zhu claims performed the needless abortion on her, police said. "The only thing that has kept me going has been waiting for this day to come," the 34-year-old Long Island mother of one told the Daily News. "Justice has been served. That is the great thing about living in America."

Zhu, who runs a Queens import company with her husband, Larry Xia, saw her life turn to a living hell last fall after she went to the Chinese Women's Clinic in Chinatown for an abortion. Her horror was featured in June in a Daily News series exposing medical charlatans and impostors who prey on the city's Chinese immigrant community. The News' series spurred a two-month probe that led to yesterday's arrests. Among those arrested was Lisa Lu aka Dr. Ting Deng. Lu, who allegedly passed herself off as a physician, failed to diagnose Zhu's ectopic pregnancy during a routine check, Zhu said. Dr. Eugene Schwalben then performed a suction abortion on a womb that contained no fetus, Zhu said. Following three weeks of agony, Zhu returned only to hemorrhage on the examining table when Schwalben pressed on her abdomen. Zhu said she was dragged out of the clinic by Lu and a secretary, and was dumped in a hallway, bleeding and unconscious. At New York Downtown Hospital, Zhu underwent lifesaving surgery to remove a ruptured fallopian tube. She suffered a collapsed lung and needed a blood transfusion. Schwalben, 78, was arrested yesterday, charged with hiring Lu, knowing she didn't have a license. Zhu said her physical and psychological scars have been slow to heal. "It has been 10 months since I was left to die in a hallway," Zhu said through a Chinese interpreter. "I still spend all day in the house. I am still in pain. I still have fainting spells. It has been a constant nightmare."

But Zhu said she found comfort in the arrests. "This will save a lot of lives of women and also give many children a future. Most important, this will send a strong message to other criminals not to do this."

Original document found online at: <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/arrests-tonic-victim-article-1.738685>