

Grandma's House

A Full English translation is available.

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Author: Yi-Shan Weng **Illustrator:** Yi-Shan Weng **Publisher:** Hsin Yi Publications

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BFT2.0 Translator: Kathy Cheng

Grandma's house is overflowing with treasures—hand-sewn clothes, vintage toys, retro cassette tapes. Every item holds a memory. For her granddaughter, visiting feels like stepping into a magical time capsule, perfect for adventures and treasure hunts. But when Grandma must move, the family faces a mountain of beloved belongings. How can they help her sort through it all—and gently practice the art of letting go? With empathy and care, they help Grandma choose what to keep, sell, and share.

In this tender and funny book, every object tells a story. Through the bittersweet process of decluttering, a child learns about the beauty of preserving the past while making room for the future.



Author **Yi-Shan Weng**

A freelance illustrator, Yi-Shan Weng has received Honorable Mention and the Jury's Recommendation Award from the Hsin-Yi Children's Literature Award. Her debut picture book, *A Busy Lunar New Year's Eve*, has consistently topped children's bestseller charts and sold tens of thousands of copies to date. She enjoys creating lively illustrations with hand-drawn textures. At night, she's often accompanied by a sleeping cat as she draws.

Grandma's House: A Home of Memories and Love

by Chuang Shih-Ying

Opening the pages of *Grandma's House*, readers are welcomed into a warm, nostalgic world filled with everyday objects and scenes from Taiwan's past fifty years. The author's humorous storytelling tells a deeper narrative about memory, love, and family.

Grandma's House is both a time capsule and a playground for her curious granddaughter. Each carefully drawn object reflects real-life detail and carries the weight of its own story. Despite the richly filled scenes, the use of soft, muted colors keeps the visuals calm and engaging, adding a playful "search-and-find" experience.

Told from a child's perspective, this book captures the fun and wonder of a traditional grandma's home. It gently challenges the stereotype of hoarding, instead highlighting the older generation's care for cherished belongings. It reveals how preservation can be an act of love, rooted in a profound connection to the past.

In a touching final scene, Grandma prepares to move, carrying a small

suitcase—her personal "time machine" filled with memories and treasures. With imaginative flair, the author places both Grandma and her granddaughter inside the suitcase, symbolizing a shared journey through past and future.

This beautifully crafted story is perfect for parent-child reading, sparking conversations about family, history, and the connection between generations.

This afterword has been edited for the purposes of this booklet.

Chuang Shih-Ying has been a longtime volunteer for the Littlebig Library and served as a lecturer for reading programs such as the Commonwealth Education Foundation's "Reading for Hope." She has been a juror for the Hsin-Yi Children's Literature Award, Openbook Children's Book of the Year, and TIBE Children's Award. A lifelong lover of stories, she now promotes picture books and parent-child reading through writing, reviewing, and translation.

Letting Go with Love and Understanding: A Note from the Author

by Yi-Shan Weng

My grandmother was a frugal woman who valued everything she owned. If something could be fixed, she'd never throw it away. "We might need it someday," she'd always say. Over the years, her habit of keeping things slowly filled up her home.

Years after moving out of my grandma's house, I realized I had developed similar hoarding habits. When I started decluttering, my living space suddenly became lighter and more spacious. But when I returned to Grandma's home, everything was still there. Her cluttered space caused frustration and tension among family members.

In trying to understand her attachment, I realized most of the items held memories beyond their practical use. Watching her joyfully share the

stories behind them gave me a new perspective, and inspired me to create *Grandma's House*. To me, her home was a wonderland, and I admired her ability to give worn objects new life with her hands.

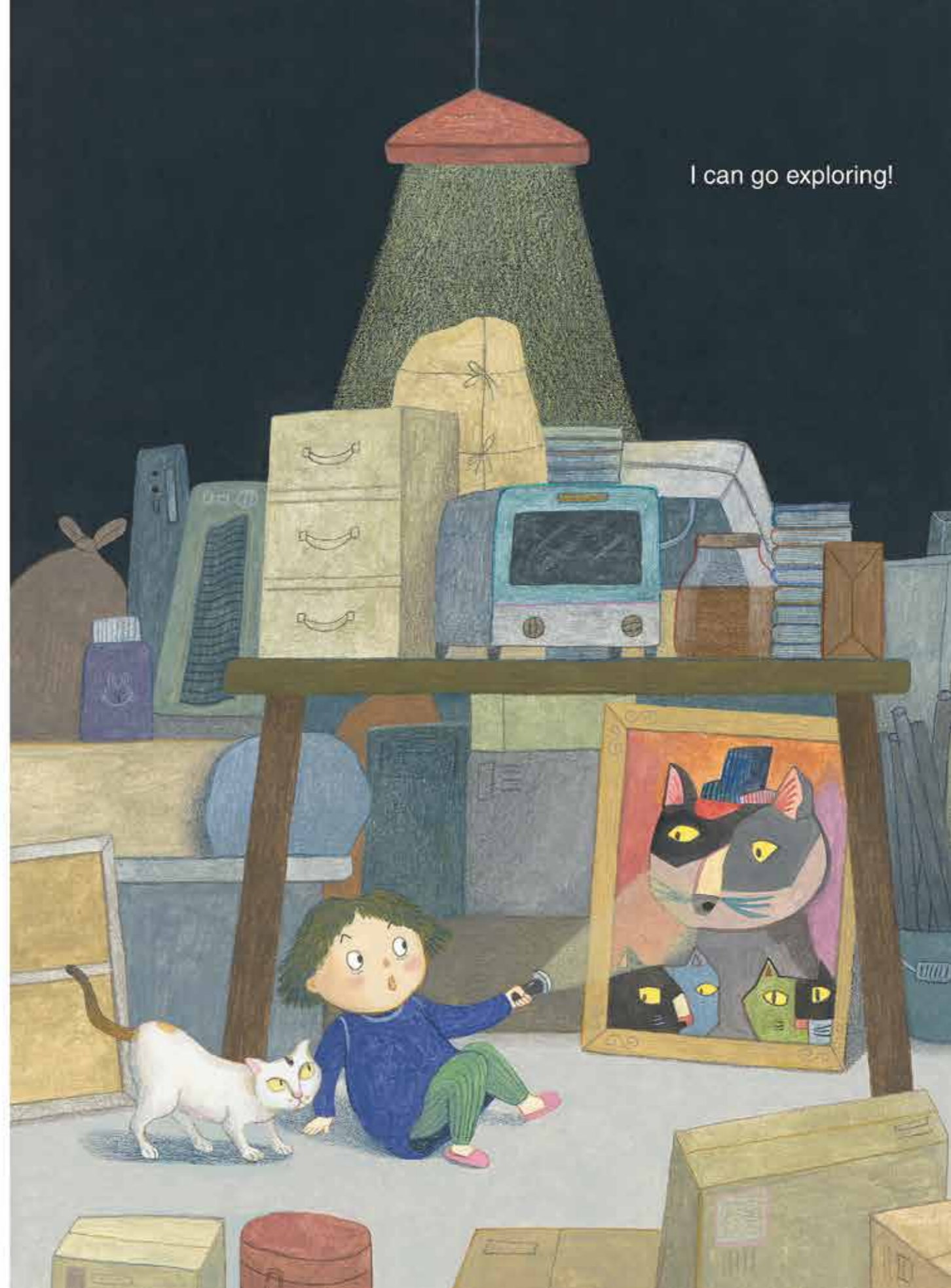
In my book, the whole family helps Grandma move. Through sorting, selling, and sharing, they support her in letting go—a process that reflects love, patience, and gradual understanding. Balancing what to keep and what to let go is hard, especially for those with hoarding habits. I hope *Grandma's House* offers a gentle way to explore this topic—inviting reflection, discussion, and connection between generations, while teaching children about both cherishing and releasing.

This afterword has been edited for the purposes of this booklet.

At Grandma's house, I can climb a mountain!



I can go exploring!



The fridge is always full of food.

And there are so many cats.

I wish I could keep them all!

