



Les Souvenirs en trop
Pei-Hsiu Chen

陳沛瑋

Remnants of Love

A Full English translation is available.

愛過的廢物

Author: Pei-Hsiu Chen **Illustrator:** Pei-Hsiu Chen **Publisher:** Faces Publishing

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BFT2.0 Translator: Evian Pan

Renowned artist Pei-Hsiu Chen peels back the layers of city life to reveal the subtle shifts in our intimate relationships, attachments to old possessions, and everyday encounters. An intimate archive of the modern soul, *Remnants of Love* bridges the gap between the visible world and our deepest, unspoken feelings.

With a masterly touch and distinct gaze, Chen transforms the passage of time in urban settings into a visual narrative of repair and reflection. In a world defined by change, this book serves as a distinct anchor. A work of startling honesty, this book invites every reader to see their own life reflected in its pages. In a life of impermanence, the smallest memories still hold immense weight.



Author **Pei-Hsiu Chen**

Pei-Hsiu Chen served as an archaeological illustrator at Academia Sinica, Taiwan's premier research institute, before transitioning to a full-time freelance career. Her work has appeared across magazines, newspapers, and picture books. A decorated artist, she has been shortlisted twice for the Prize for Young Talent at the Angoulême International Comics Festival and twice for the 3x3 International Illustration Awards. Her graphic novel, *For the Time Being*, is also available in French.

Tracing Time in Ordinary Life: A Consummate Artist on Relationships, Memory, and Everyday Intimacy

by Ali Ginger
translated by Evian Pan

Remnants of Love's quiet maturity lends each seemingly ordinary story a subtle depth and resonance. Whether it is the tangled relationships of urban life, the emotional attachment to old possessions, or the fleeting moments that slowly fade with time, Chen records these inner shifts with a distinct point of view and true honesty. Through her drawings, we glimpse both the visible world and the unseen layers shaped by time and feeling. Each page seems to remind us that even in a life filled with impermanence and change, the smallest memories, feelings, and moments still hold immense meaning. When I read her work, I can't help but smile and think, "I've felt the same way."

In the city, every interaction

between people carries both anticipation and distance. Changes in tangible objects trace the passage of time and mirror emotional conflict and repair; once-treasured things may fade in importance, yet at times still carry the weight of memory. In these seemingly insignificant details of daily life, there are endless layers of meaning waiting to be uncovered. To me, Chen's work offers a deeply personal reflection on everyday life, emotional connection, and reality itself. It is not only a feast for the eyes but also a quiet resonance of the soul. As a fellow artist, I have full respect for her work.

In *Remnants of Love*, perhaps the chapters "A Nice Day" and "Outsider" left the deepest impression on me. The

former captures fleeting yet beautiful moments of weather, objects, memory, and emotion. With a light touch and quiet depth, it reflects on how we locate ourselves within these passing scenes—like sunlight revealing the tender interplay of shadow and radiance, tinged with gentle melancholy.

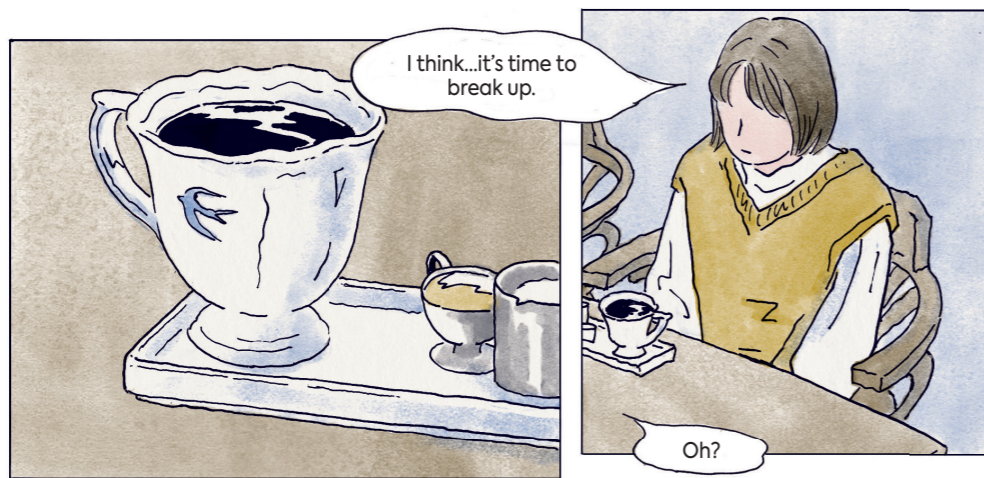
"Outsider," in contrast, opens with news of global conflict and humanitarian crisis, headlines that quietly weigh on the heart. As the story shifts to casual conversation and grocery errands, it exposes a quiet contradiction of modern life: even amid turmoil, we find solace in the ordinary, using small routines to soothe the weight of a restless world. This subdued current of feeling runs through our days, a faint but defining trace of our times.

The remaining stories, whether through close attention to everyday detail or quiet insight into emotion, reveal the characters' genuine inner struggles. Chen captures the subtleties of daily life with honesty, prompting us to reflect on how we seek balance and comfort in a shifting world. Her work reminds me to return to my surroundings, to act with

empathy and restraint, observing from the right distance, where understanding and release become possible. These struggles are familiar to many: a quiet dissatisfaction with the present that creates a subtle disconnection from others. Yet that very distance, like the chill of cold seasons, can also lead us inward, guiding us toward a steadier sense of self.

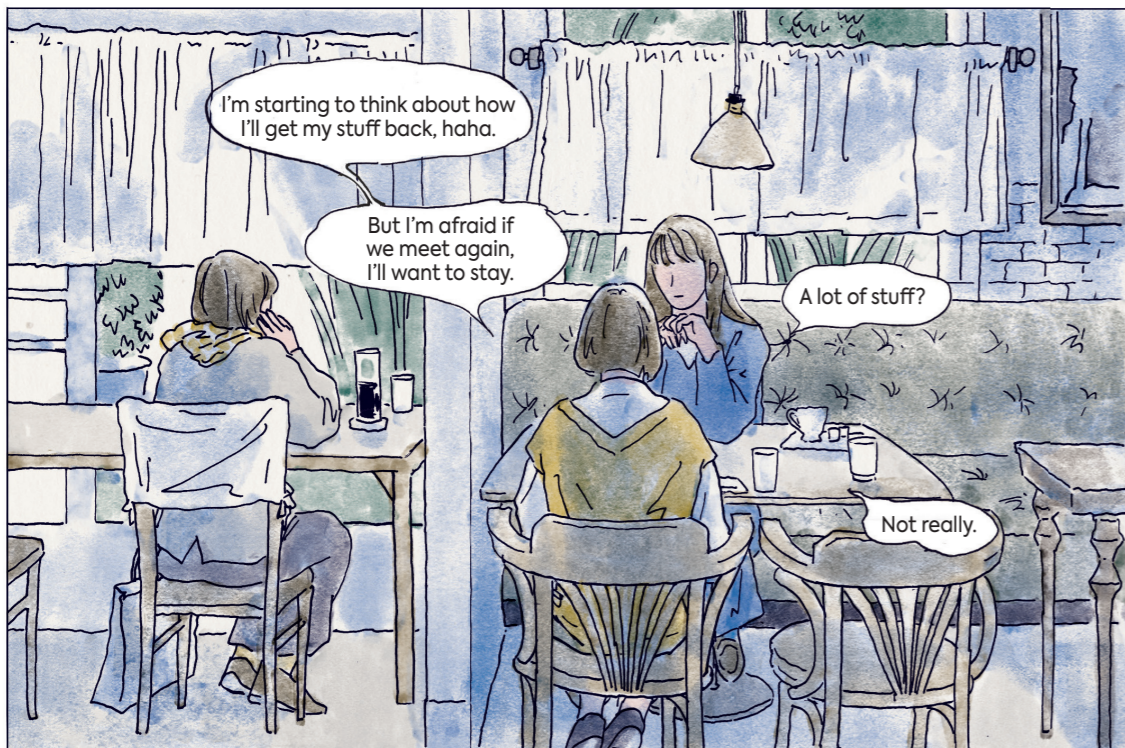
Whether you are drawn to the intricacies of human relationships or the deeper exploration of emotional state, *Remnants of Love* offers a tender, contemplative journey of the heart. With her delicate precision and sensitivity, Chen captures both the sweetness and the sorrow of everyday life, finding a quiet warmth within the everyday moments we all share.

Ali Ginger is a freelance illustrator who, as a child, loved drawing more than practicing the piano. She is an Arsenal F.C. football fan and lives just five minutes from the Pacific coast. Her work has received international acclaim, including awards from the U.S. 3x3 International Illustration Show and selection for the Bologna Children's Book Fair.



I think...it's time to break up.

Oh?



I'm starting to think about how I'll get my stuff back, haha.

But I'm afraid if we meet again, I'll want to stay.

A lot of stuff?

Not really.



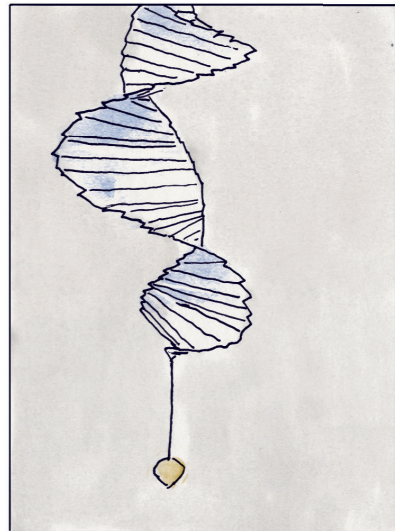
Can he mail the stuff to you?

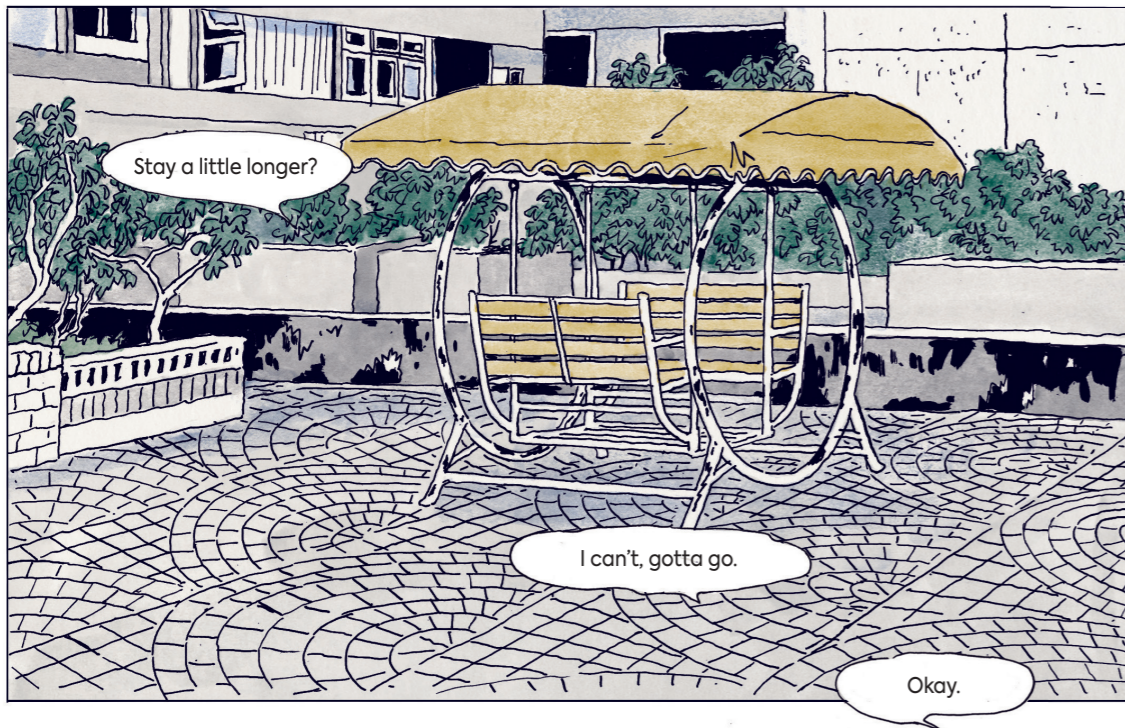
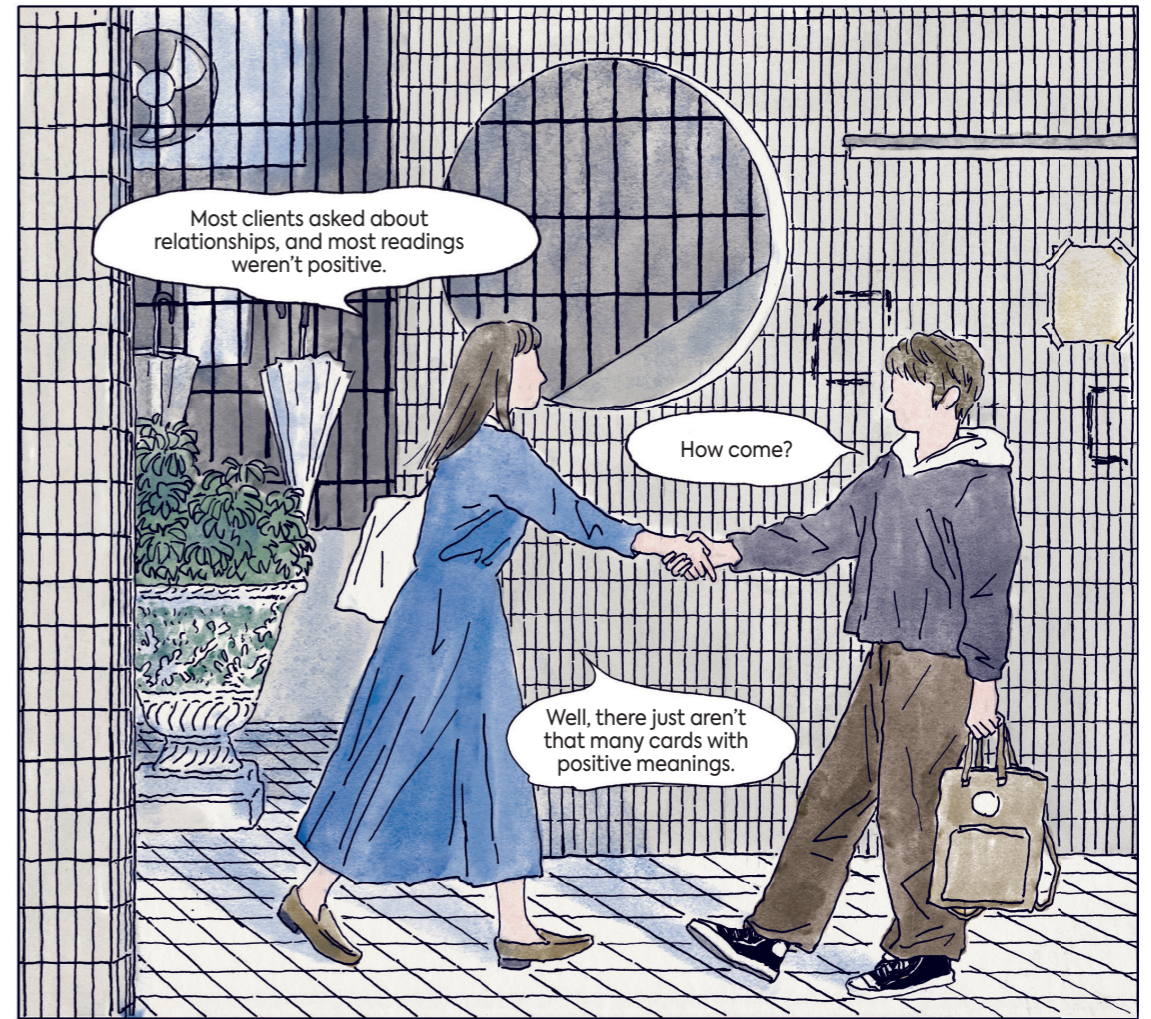
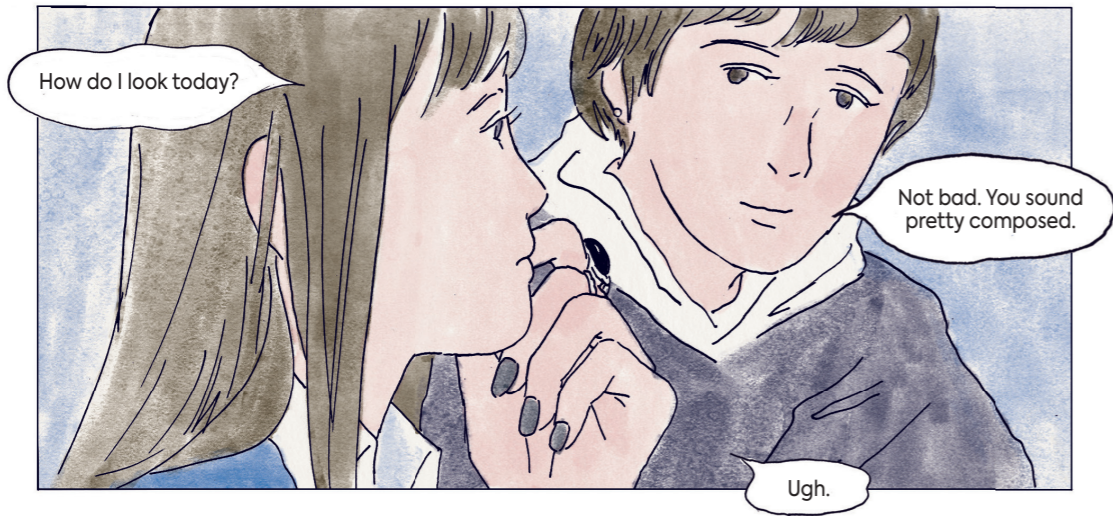
I can ask him to leave it with building management.



Thank you.

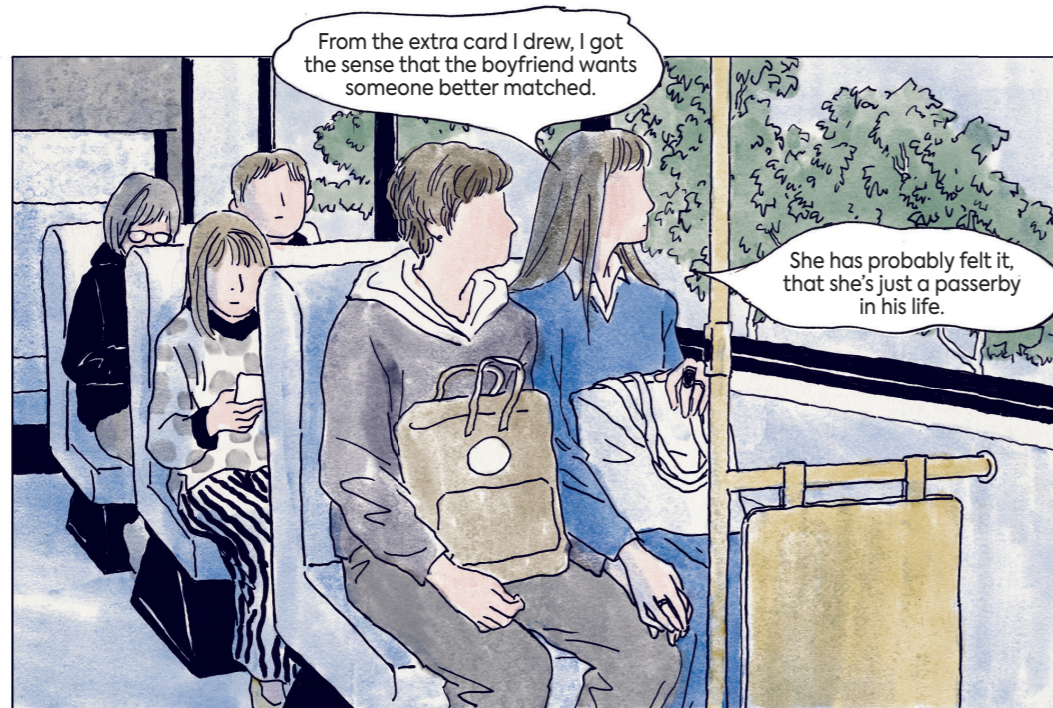
Sure.







Some don't hear what they want, so they keep asking. But that makes the process meaningless.

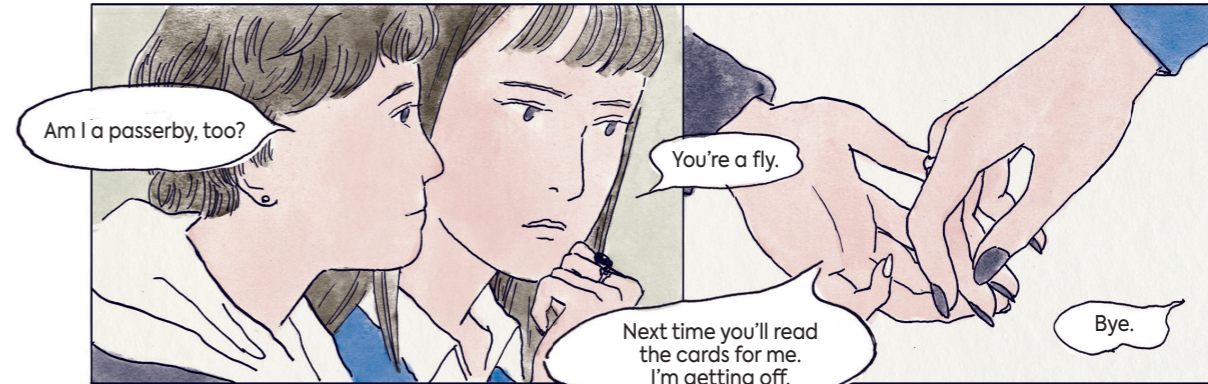


From the extra card I drew, I got the sense that the boyfriend wants someone better matched.

She has probably felt it, that she's just a passerby in his life.



Cruel, but that's how it is. Adults, weighing what fits.



Am I a passerby, too?

You're a fly.

Next time you'll read the cards for me. I'm getting off.

Bye.

