



# Lost and Found

A Full English translation is available.

遺失啟事

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A notice about a lost cat can help a kitty find its way home. But what about lost sleep, lost patience, lost wits, or lost loves—can those be found, too? And if you try writing a lost notice yourself, how can you make sure it's really effective?

Inside an elevator, a group of neighbors gathers, sharing the things they've lost. One laments having lost his wits; another fears she's losing her edge at school. Yet another, an insomniac, has lost days of sleep. A little girl, Beanie, puts her kindness into action by writing lost notices one after another—helping neighbors far and wide recover what they've lost and rekindle their zest for life.

Brimming with playful wordplay and clever notices about “lost” things, this story gently comforts readers as they encounter both tangible and invisible losses—reminding them that even what's lost can be met with care, mutual need, and hope.



Author **Hsuan Chieh Cheng**

Having grown up listening to stories invented by her father, Hsuan Chieh Cheng developed a deep love for drawing from an early age. After graduation, she briefly considered a career in business or as an online illustrator but ultimately chose to dedicate herself fully to creating picture books. Her dream is to create works that both adults and children find engaging and enjoyable.

Cheng is a recipient of the Hsin Yi Children's Literature Award and has published several picture books, including *Who's the Best?*, *Dear Mr. Happy*, and *Lost and Found*.

# Little Notices, Big Hearts: How Whimsical Wordplay Sparks Empathy and Care

by Pei-Jung Lin

*Lost and Found* is a picture book characterized by a distinctive narrative approach. Humorous, warm, and engaging, it closely reflects contemporary life while also carrying profound messages for its readers. At first glance, it appears to be a lighthearted tale about a child's amusing misuse of "lost notices" and her limited understanding of what "loss" means. But more importantly, the story explores the everyday experiences, emotions, and challenges that people of all ages face in modern urban life.

As the story unfolds, readers see how a child's simple concern and lost-and-found sparks reflection. It explores the emotional distance between neighbors in modern apartment buildings while showing how children can reconnect adults through small acts of care. Visually, the book adopts a European cartoon and comic style, weaving together encounters with various neighbors in an apartment elevator. Each neighbor is different, and each carries their own struggles, forming

a microcosm of contemporary society. The book also uses the format of lost notices to show how we can express care for others while communicating key points lucidly and compassionately.

The story plays with a range of "lost" related expressions, such as "lost love," "lost hours of sleep," "losing one's wits," or "losing patience." These forms of wordplay inspire young readers to experiment with language and even invent new expressions of their own. As readers follow the delightful wordplay, imaginative language, and the writing of lost notices, they gently discover the subtle power of words.

*Pei-Jung Lin is currently an associate professor at Taipei University and serves as chair of the department of early childhood education. Her areas of expertise include early childhood language development and instruction, as well as early childhood education policy.*

# On Rediscovering Lost Passion in Life: A Note from the Author

by Hsuan Chieh Cheng

"Make sure to put your things away—don't lose them!"

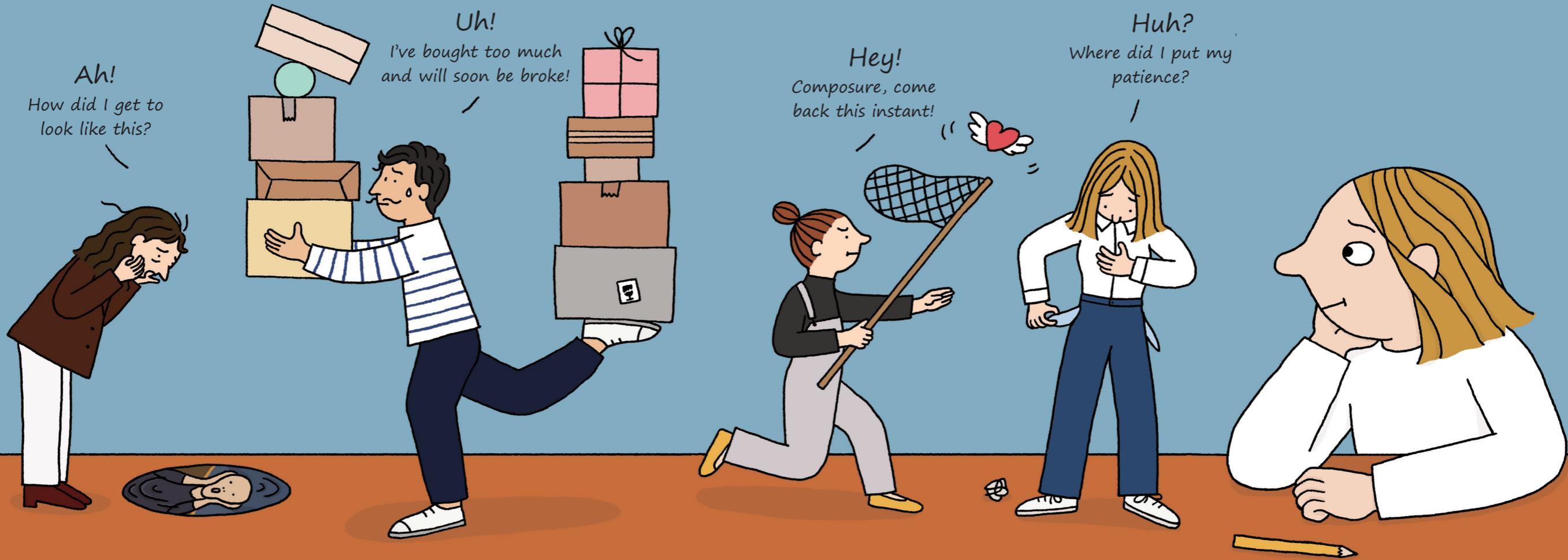
As children, adults often reminded us to tidy up, yet we still manage to misplace things. And, of course, such mistakes are usually followed by a long lecture. I remember wondering: *Do adults never lose things?*

Of course they do. Compared with the amusing tales of children losing their belongings, adults are no less guilty. What's more, the things they misplace are just as varied. Through this story, I hoped to share this little secret about adults.

As people grow up, they tend to stop being so careless, learning to care for their belongings. Still, there are moments of confusion, times when we lose something without even realizing it. That is because what can be lost is not limited to tangible objects, but also encompasses

the intangible—among them our passions, sense of calm, state of being, or particular loves.

Though our hero Beanie isn't sure whether lost-and-found notices can actually help people recover their belongings, she makes them anyway, driven by hope. This act represents not only kindness toward neighbors, but also a passion for life itself. Many people lose precious things along the way. Beyond simply introducing children to the concept of lost notices, this is what I hope to share with readers. Most importantly, I hope everyone can enjoy reading *Lost and Found* and feel joyful while doing so. May you all rediscover both the big and small things you have lost in life—and regain the passion that may have quietly slipped away.



“Oh, that’s it! Grown-ups just hate being embarrassed: when they lose something, they won’t speak out. Let me help them,” thought Beanie.



First thing in the morning, the neighbours came and rang the doorbell of Beanie's home. They didn't look very happy!



Year 1, group 2, pupil number 18

Everyone please look here

Beanie 😊

Mommy lost patience

Auntie An lost sleep

Loud lady's grandson

lost love

Sister Green lost her edge

Uncle Chang lost wits

Thank you!



Beanie had written every single thing they had lost on that piece of paper, and pasted it on all neighbours' doors.

“I am sorry! I only wanted to help everyone find what they lost, so I wrote a lost and found notice. I didn’t think this would make you unhappy,” said Beanie.

Everyone knew Beanie had meant well, and stopped being unhappy. They took this as an opportunity to teach Beanie how to write a lost-and-found notice.

