

A MILLION KISSES

一百萬個親親

Have you ever counted how many kisses you've had in your life? A mother's kiss is an intimate expression of her love for a child, and of her warmth and hope as the child grows up.

From the moment she hears her baby's heartbeat, a mother can't wait to give her child all the love in the world. Birth, crying, crawling, learning to walk – ordinary things that we take for granted are precious memories for mothers. A mother's kiss is an expression of love that cannot be conveyed in words, and her kisses create an environment of love in which her child can grow.

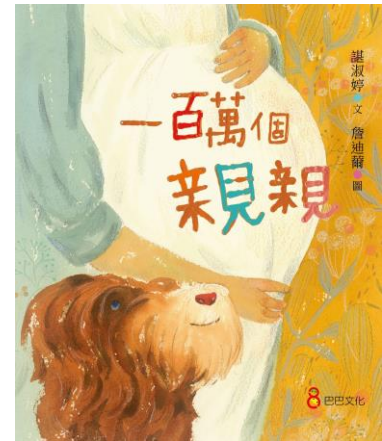
Author Chen Shu-Ting takes the mother's point of view, and in small, meaningful details of everyday life, tells of her own love and tenderness towards her newborn baby. Using warm colors and cleverly bringing in pets, illustrator Deer Jan makes the story appropriate for modern-day family life.

Text by Chen Shu-Ting 謹淑婷

Former newspaper reporter Chen Shu-Ting is now a freelance writer. She cares strongly about the rights of children and animals and the living environment of the future. Her publications include *The Road to a Warm and Productive Life: Mother and Child*, *Adults as Partners*, *Dancing the Slow Dance Together* and *Mums Swap Diaries: Same Parenting Challenges, Different Thinking*.

Illustrated by Deer Jan 詹迪爾

Deer Jan works in art education and illustration projects, drawing and painting by hand with colored pencils and watercolors. Known for her meticulous and restrained images and her soft colors, she is the creator of *Dear*, and *I Don't Want a Haircut!*



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Translated by Helen Wang

The first kiss is for the day I heard your heart beat.

The 2nd kiss is for when I saw your little hands and feet moving.

The 3rd kiss is for when you had hiccoughs inside me.

The 4th kiss is for when your tiny feet kicked inside.

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The 10th kiss is for when I finally got to meet you.

The 11th kiss is for when Dad cut the cord.

The 15th kiss is for when you cried at night.

The 20th kiss is for when you smiled after feeding.

The 51st kiss is for when you lifted your head for the first time and looked around.

The 75th kiss is for when you rolled over and over.

The 100th kiss is for your soft eyebrows, your little eyes, your sweet little ears, hands and feet, and your adorable little knees.

The 300th kiss is for when you learned to pull yourself up on the table.

The 900th kiss is for when we walked together holding hands.

The 1000th kiss is for when you kissed me before going to play.

The 1001st kiss is for when you came back after playing.

The 2000th kiss.

The 10,000th kiss.

The 1,000,000th kiss – hold me tight and kiss me like you kissed me the first time, with the same love as then