# BOOKS FROM TAIWAN COMICS



#### **BOOKS FROM TAIWAN COMICS**

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Books from Taiwan - Comics (From Left to Right)

## MINISTRY OF CULTURE, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) TRANSLATION GRANT PROGRAM

**B**ooks from Taiwan supports the translation of Taiwanese literature into foreign languages with the Translation Grant Program, administered by The Ministry of Culture of Taiwan. The grant is to encourage the publication of translations of Taiwan's literature, including fiction, non-fiction, picture books and comics, and help Taiwan's publishing industry to explore non-Chinese international markets.

- Applicant Eligibility: Foreign publishers (legal persons) legally registered in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respective countries, or foreign natural persons engaged in translation.
- · Conditions:
  - 1. Works translated shall be original works (including fiction, non-fiction, picture books and comics) by Taiwanese writers (R.O.C. nationality) in traditional Chinese characters.
  - Priority is given to works to be translated and published for the first time in a non-Chinese language market.
  - 3. Applicants are not limited to submitting only one project for funding in each application year; however, the same applicant can only receive funding for up to three projects in any given round of applications.
  - 4. Projects receiving funding shall have already obtained authorization for translation, and be published within two years starting from the year after application year (published before the end of October).
- Funding Items and Amount
  - 1. The subsidy includes a licensing fee for the rights holder of original work, a translation fee and a production fee.
  - 2. The maximum funding available for any given project is NT\$ 500,000 (including income tax and remittance charges).
- Application Period: From September 1 to September 30 every year.
- Announcement of successful applications: Before December 15 every year.
- Application Method: Please apply via the online application system (http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/grant\_en.php) after reading through the Translation Grant Application Guidelines (available online).

For full details of the Translation Grant Program, please visit http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/grant\_en.php
Or contact: books@moc.gov.tw

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# BOOKS FROM TAIWAN COMICS (From Right to Left)

## RITES OF RETURNING

## 神之鄉



- · Publisher: Gaea
- · Date: 10/2015
- · Rights contact: Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- · Pages: 212

In a piece of good luck, college student Chen Nuan-Nuan ends up paired with her crush, the indifferent but handsome Hsia Chih-Hsun, on a summer research project for her sociology professor. The two are tasked to research religious practices among indigenous cultures – but whose? The usually quiet Hsia suggests they research the indigenous community in Daxi.

At their arrival, Nuan-Nuan discovers that this isn't just a research trip for Hsia – it's a return home, a trip he hasn't made in seven years. The two of them conduct research during the build-up to the summer's Temple Fair, the community's most important festival, as Hsia tries uncomfortably to untangle the knot of his family's past.

Journey into the heart of humanity's most essential, most dangerous institution – family – as Zuo Hsuan's beautifully crafted characters attempt to build relationships and identities that will stand the tests of life.

### Zuo Hsuan 左萱



Design student Zuo Hsuan has already become well-known as a cover illustrator for works of light fiction. *Rites of Returning* is her first published manga, preceded only by her self-published illustrated title, *White as Paper*, released in 2013.











## THE TAMING OF THE WARRIOR 馴漢記



- · Publisher: Tong Li
- · Date: 12/2014
- · Rights contact: Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- · Pages: 176

#### \* Based on the romance novel of the same name by Dian Xin

Fighting is not statecraft; domination is not governance; brute strength is not intelligence. In the history of patriarchy, men who accustomed themselves to the former frequently believed they could therefore master the latter, with destructive results. Yet the men of You Gui-Xiu's *The Taming of the Warrior* will be forced to learn otherwise, as the women they so little respected teach them how a city should be ruled.

Their campaigns over, General Chu Kuang and his army, the Blackflags, are left with nowhere to go. A letter arrives from Fang Si, the steward of the wealthy City of Beauties. He is dying, and he worries about the fate of his polity and his sister, Fang Wuyi. His greatest wish is to see Chu Kuang and Fang Wuyi married. Chu Kuang hesitates at first, but his army needs to eat, and eventually he marches to the City of Beauties.

A domineering, arrogant Chu Kuang does not immediately realize that he has entered a world organized and run by educated women. They will not put up with his demeanor; and his wife, the brilliant Fang Wuyi, sets in motion a series of stratagems to bring this unenlightened man sharply to his senses.



#### You Gui-Xiu 游幸秀

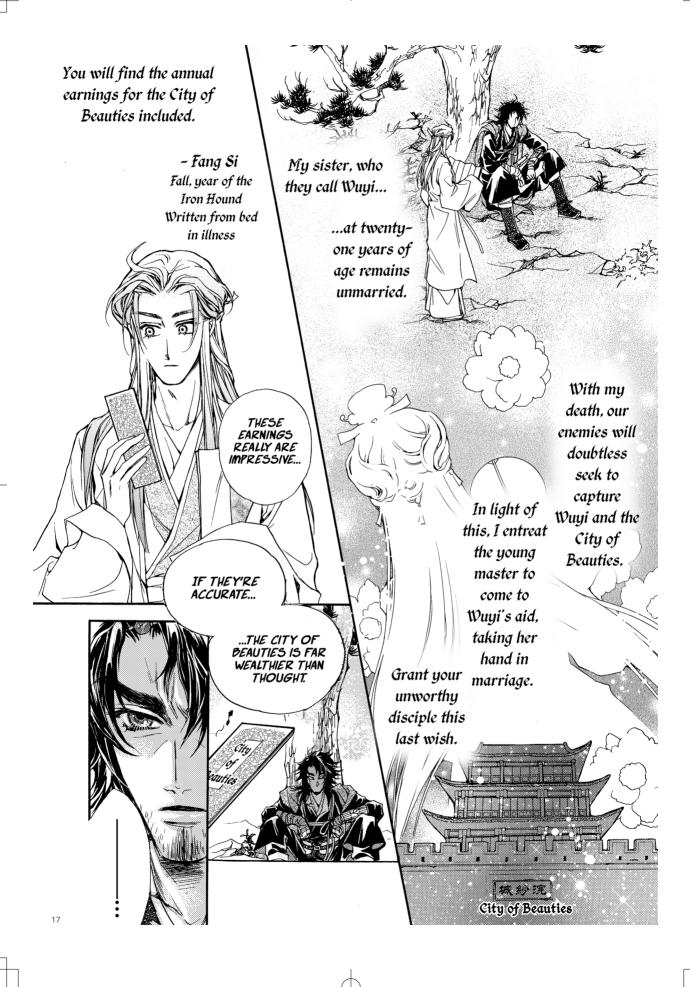
Now widely known throughout the manga community, You Gui-Xiu began penning prize-winning manga before she was eighteen years old. Patient care and unsurpassed attention to detail result in stunning books, of which she has published fewer than twenty in almost twenty years in the business. Her penchant for romantic stories and medieval settings earned the admiration of Dian Xin, one of Taiwan's best-known romance novelists, who collaborated on the storyline for *The Taming of the Warrior*.











## SCROLLS OF A NORTHERN CITY II 北城百畫帖 II



- · Publisher: Gaea
- · Date: 11/2013
- Rights contact:
  Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan)
  booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- · Pages: 196

Read the best-selling sequel to AKRU's award-winning manga collection *Scrolls of a Northern City*, bringing you even more page-turning tales of magic and human intrigue from the Café Bai-Hua-Tang. Conflicts of love, responsibility, and greed erupt in and around this imaginary center of intellectual life in 1930's Taipei as people fight for what makes them happy, often against the will of parents, bosses, and enemies. All the while, the inscrutable cafe owner looks on, only stepping in when his magic is most needed.

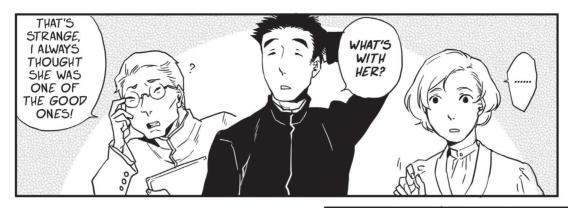
Following on the heels of *Scrolls of a Northern City*, which won international manga awards in Taiwan and Japan, this sequel sold over ten thousand copies in three weeks after it appeared. Dive into this latest installment of AKRU's wildly popular series, and experience firsthand the author's signature blend of subtle fantasy and genuine romance.

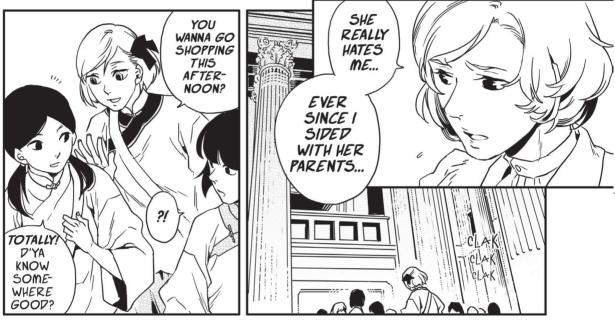


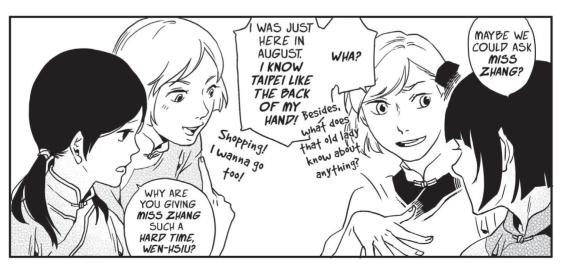
#### **AKRU**

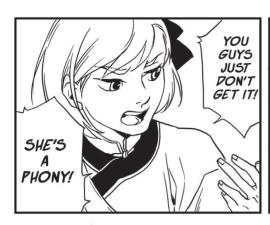
A major young player on the Taiwanese and international manga scene, AKRU's art has found the spotlight at several of the world's most famous comic and manga outlet. After her 2007 debut story, *The Underwater Moon*, earned her recognition as an artist, her work made its way onto larger and larger stages. In recent years, she has been featured in the Angoulême Comics Exhibition, the Frankfurt Book Fair, and the National New Art Museum in Tokyo. In 2015, her work was serialized in JUMP+, the online platform of the most iconic Japanese manga magazine.



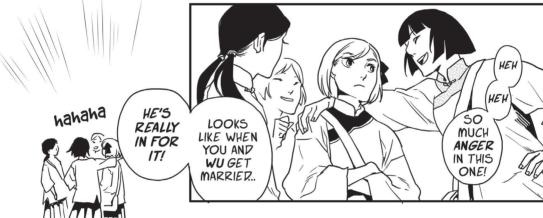










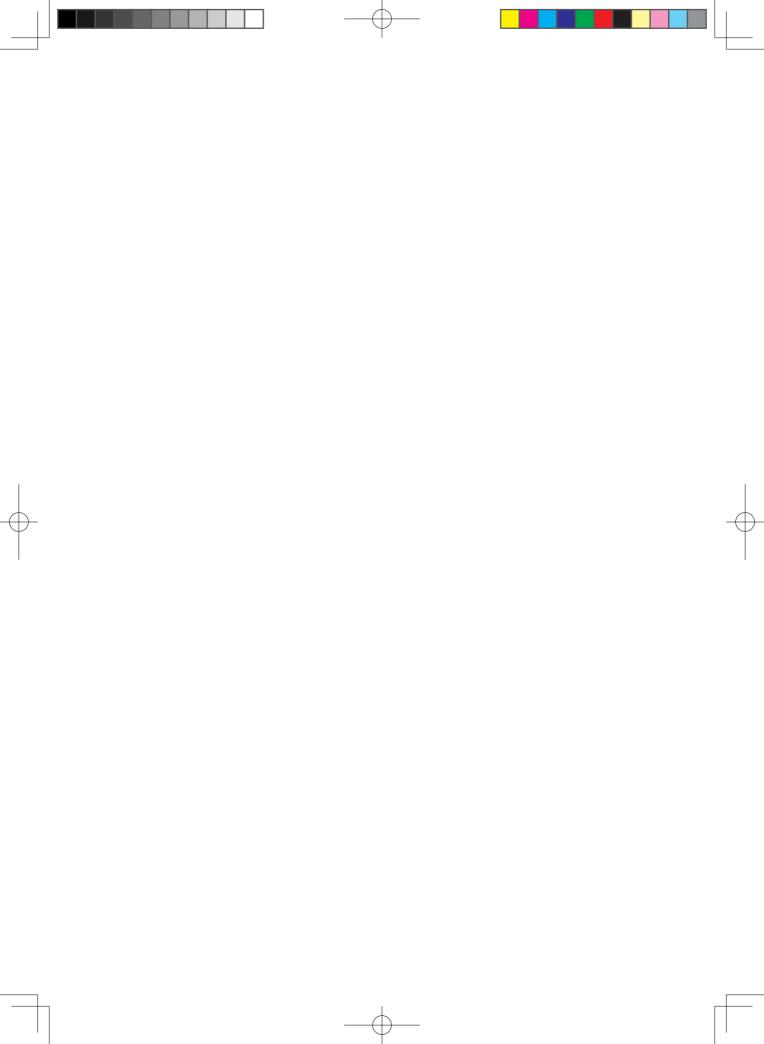






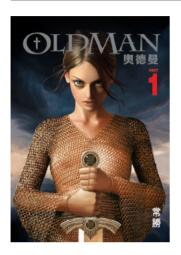






## **OLDMAN**

## 奧德曼



- · Publisher: Tong Li
- · Date: 8/2013
- · Rights contact:

Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

- · Pages: 176
- · Rights sold: French (Kotoji)

#### \* Bronze Award of the 2013 International MANGA Award

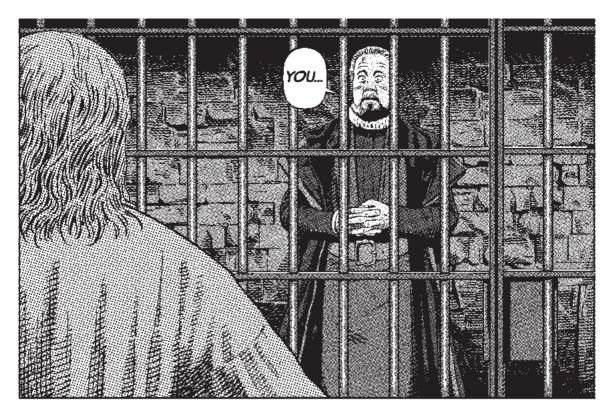
A beautiful queen rules her country with an iron fist. Unmarried and without an heir, she adopts orphans as a way to prove that even commoners can reign as kings. Yet, as the years progress, she shows no sign of aging. Only one man knows the dark secret to her eternal youth: Oldman, a bearded magician the queen has locked in her darkest dungeon. One night, Oldman steps through the bars of his prison and disappears before the queen's very eyes. Enraged, she sends her army after him in a desperate campaign to keep her secret hidden.

The beautiful artwork and elegant story-making of Chang-Sheng's *Oldman* propelled it into national fame; now, this iconic comic is ready for the global audience it deserves.



### CHANG-SHENG 常勝

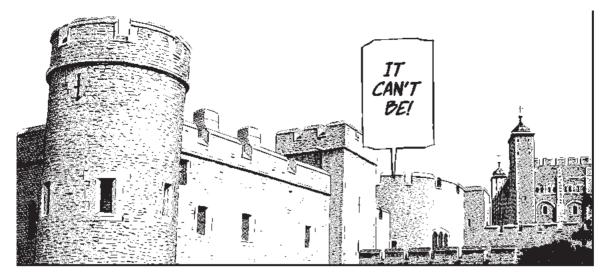
Chang-Sheng worked in advertising for 15 years. He started his own studio when he was in his thirties and since 2004 he has released work on a regular basis. Having read comics from a young age, Chang-Sheng has always preferred science fiction stories best. He admits to having been deeply influenced by the work of Yukinobu Hoshino, and his training in drawing and oil painting while studying at the Fu-Hsin Trade and Arts School are likewise reflected in his exquisitely detailed and extremely realistic video game-like style. Chang-Sheng has represented Taiwan at the Angoulême International Comics Festival three times.







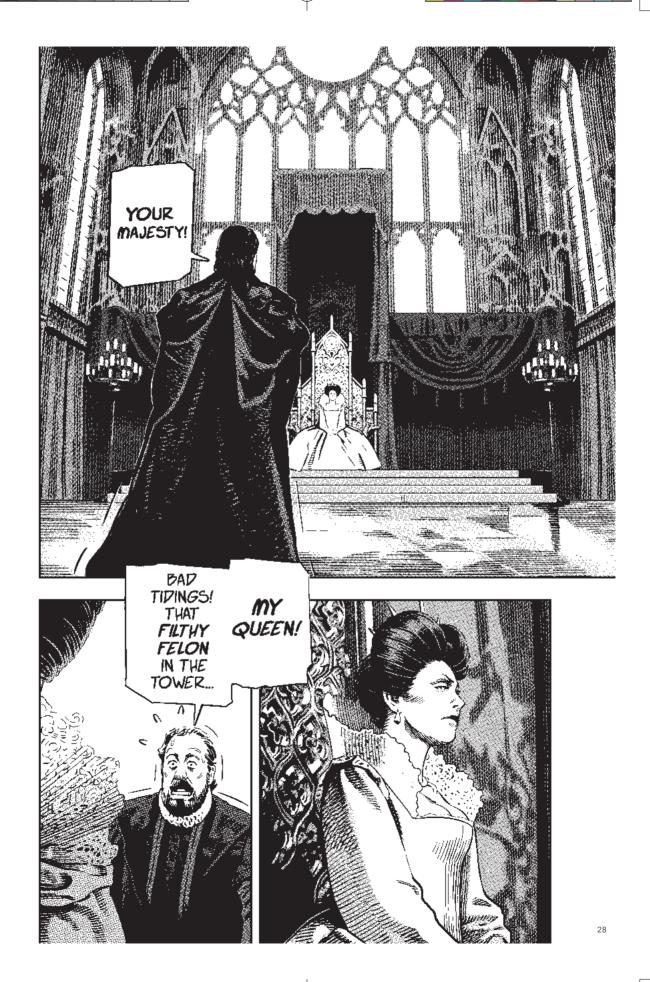






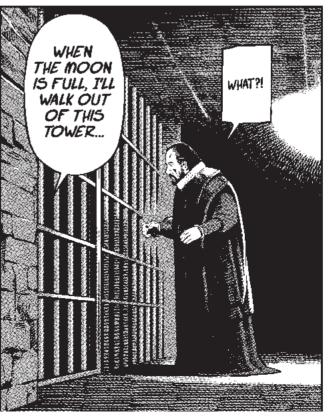




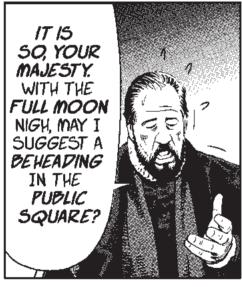


























## BIG CITY, LITTLE THINGS 大城小事



- · Publisher: China Times
- · Date: 8/2015
- · Rights contact: Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- · Pages: 208

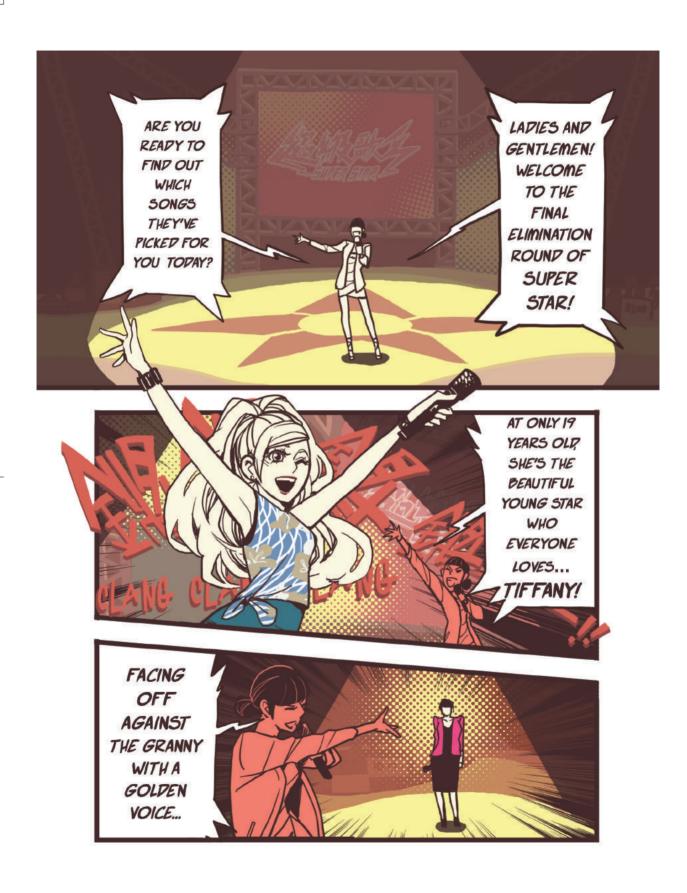
A young man who spends so much energy looking for his exgirlfriend that he forgets his current one; an ex-con willing to do anything for his young daughter; an aging housewife who dreams of recovering her dashed career as a pop singer. These ordinary people and their beautifully ordinary stories come alive beneath young comic artist HOM's inquisitive, compassionate pen, drawing the reader into a world both fresh and familiar. HOM's brilliant use of contrast and narrative pacing brings emotional depth to the characters and their stories, allowing them to represent the fullness of human experience.

The comic *Big City, Little Things* came together much in the same way its stories do – piece by piece, and through the power of people.



### HOM 鴻

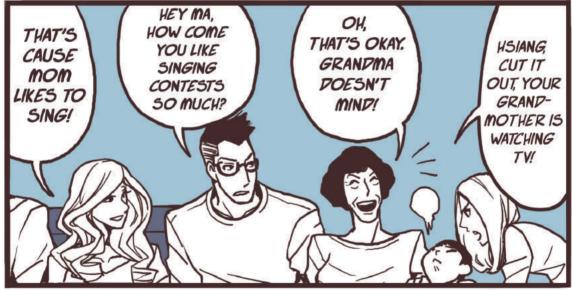
Truly a homegrown master, HOM began her successful comic career as a hobby while she was working in media and game design. Her science fiction comic *The Searcher* won the Golden Comic Award for Best Up-and-Coming Artist in 2011. Meanwhile, HOM has been posting comics about real life and real people on her Facebook page, gradually amassing a fan base. Those comics eventually became *Big City, Little Things*, which is already well into its third volume. The series has come to define her style and artistic acumen. She's currently working with a video production company on a new story, titled *The Actor*.



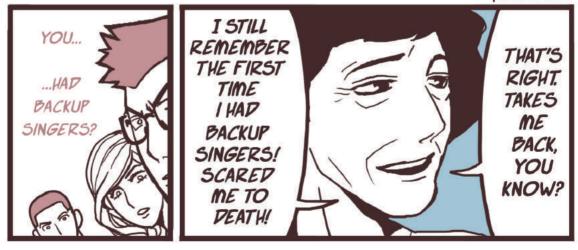


**HOW GRANDMA BECAME A STAR** 



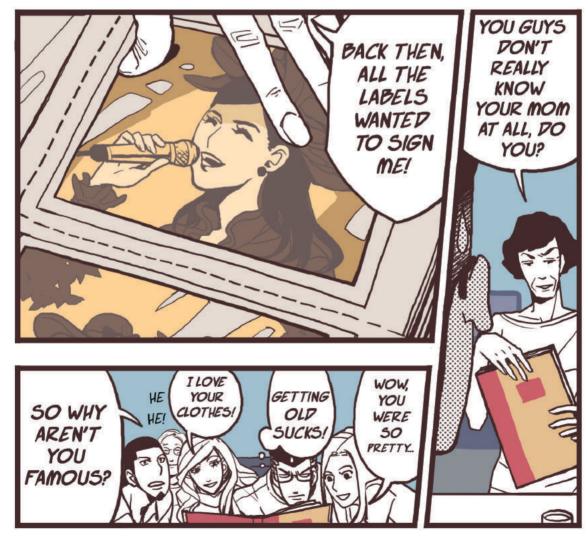


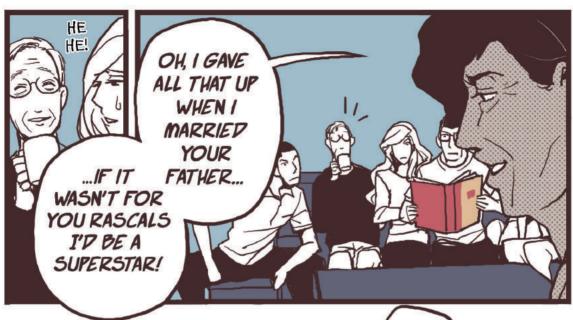
PAUGHTER IN LAW







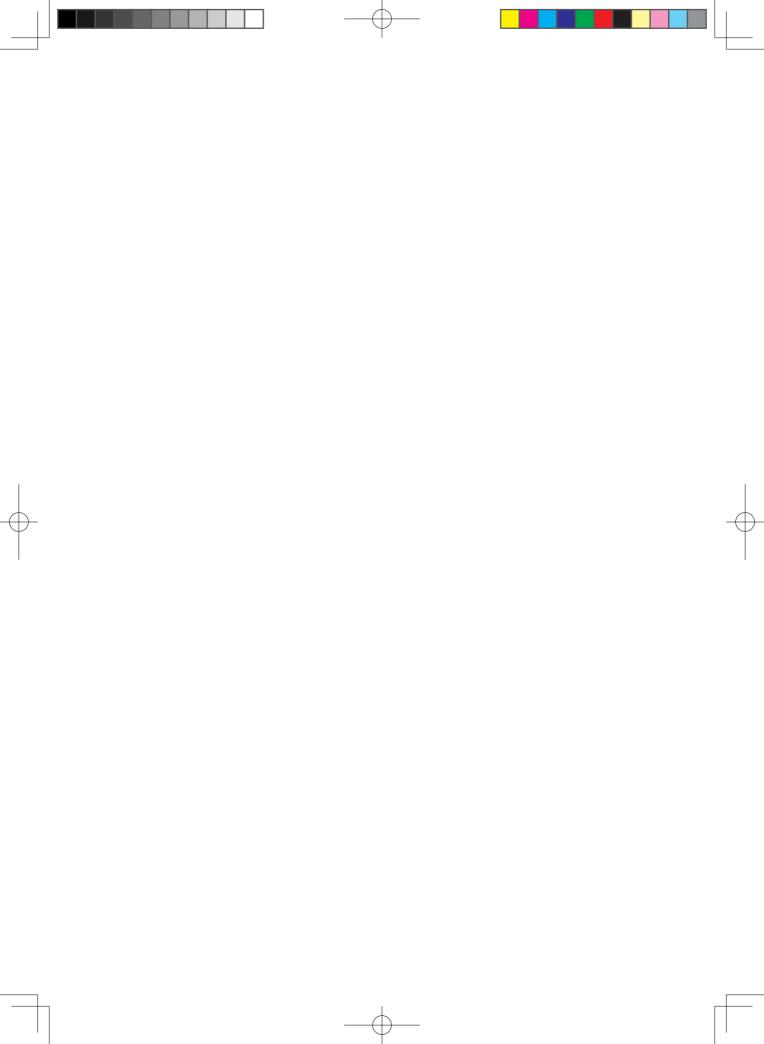












### SON OF THE SEA

# 海之子



- · Publisher: China Times
- · Date: 1/2016
- Rights contact:

Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

· Pages: 208

- \* 2012 First Prize of Manga Kingdom Tottori International Comic Art Contest
- \* Nominee of the 2016 Golden Comic Award for Best New Artist

As a young boy, manga artist Isamu Kurosawa came from the ocean, a gift for what his father had lost. Decades earlier, when his father, Taiwanese fisherman Hsieh Lang-Hsiung, also known as Rou, was no more than a boy himself, he was out fishing with his father, grandfather, and elder brother when their boat got caught in a terrible storm. The male members of his family – father, brother, and grandfather – were swept overboard by waves and gale-force winds. When Rou's brother fell overboard, a terrified Rou fired the harpoon in his direction, hoping to catch at least one member of his family. Instead, the harpoon pierced his brother's body. Returning home, he watched his mother crumple under the weight of the disaster.

One day, a grown Rou finds a young boy set adrift in a boat, a cloth painted with the name "Kurosawa" tied around his ankle. Rou names him Isamu. Although Isamu Kurosawa's name and ambiguous heritage made his childhood difficult, the care and support of his parents gave him the strength to travel to Japan to fulfill his dream of becoming a manga artist. In the memories of his troubled past he searches for the strength to face reality, and to tell his father's story.

This beautiful masterpiece of ink on paper brings to our eyes new possibilities for the manga genre, both as narrative and as visual art. Chen Jian's characters do not "look" like traditional manga characters so often do – their faces and bodies reflect their emotions and environments, not the tropes of cartoon hyperbole. This narrative art speaks in a register that most of us have never heard before.



#### Chen Jian 陳繭

Chen Jian's first full-length manga, *Son of the Sea*, won the Manga Kingdom Tottori International Comic Art Contest in 2012 in a complete sweep of the judges' table. In 2015, he expanded *Son of the Sea* into a full-length book and published it in Taiwan. He currently lives in Japan, where he continues to create comic art.

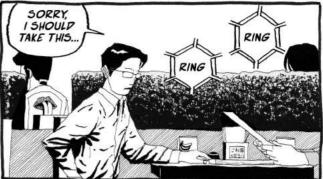














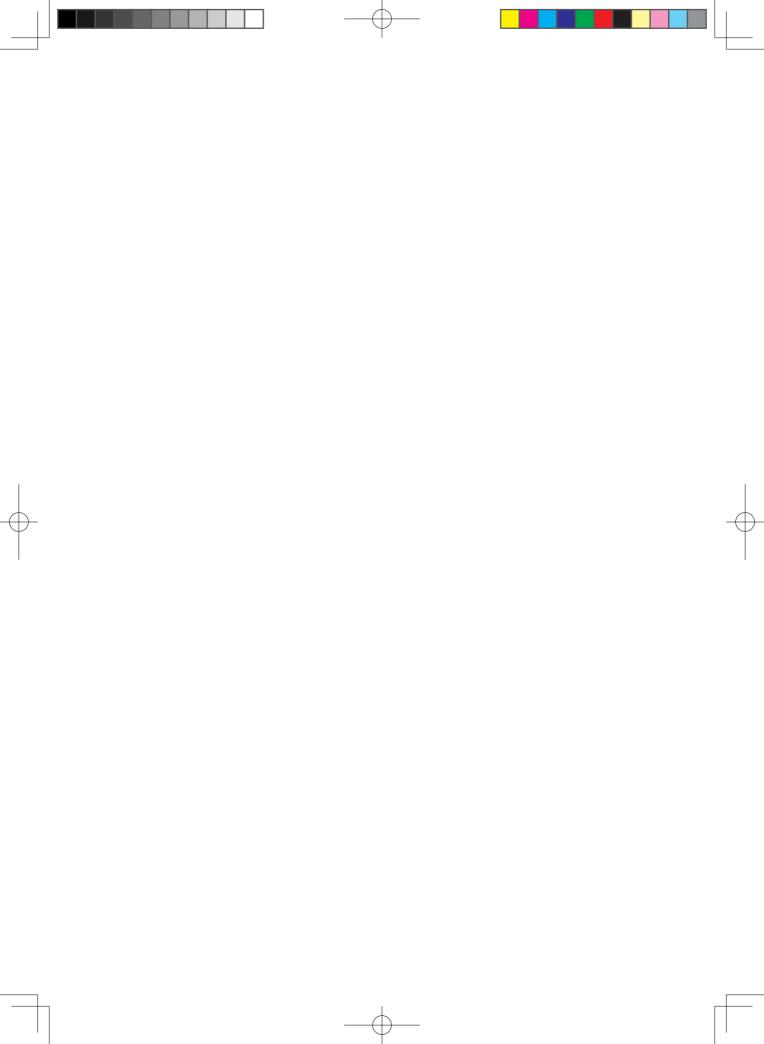






I'M REALLY SORRY...





# BOOKS FROM TAIWAN COMICS (From Left to Right)

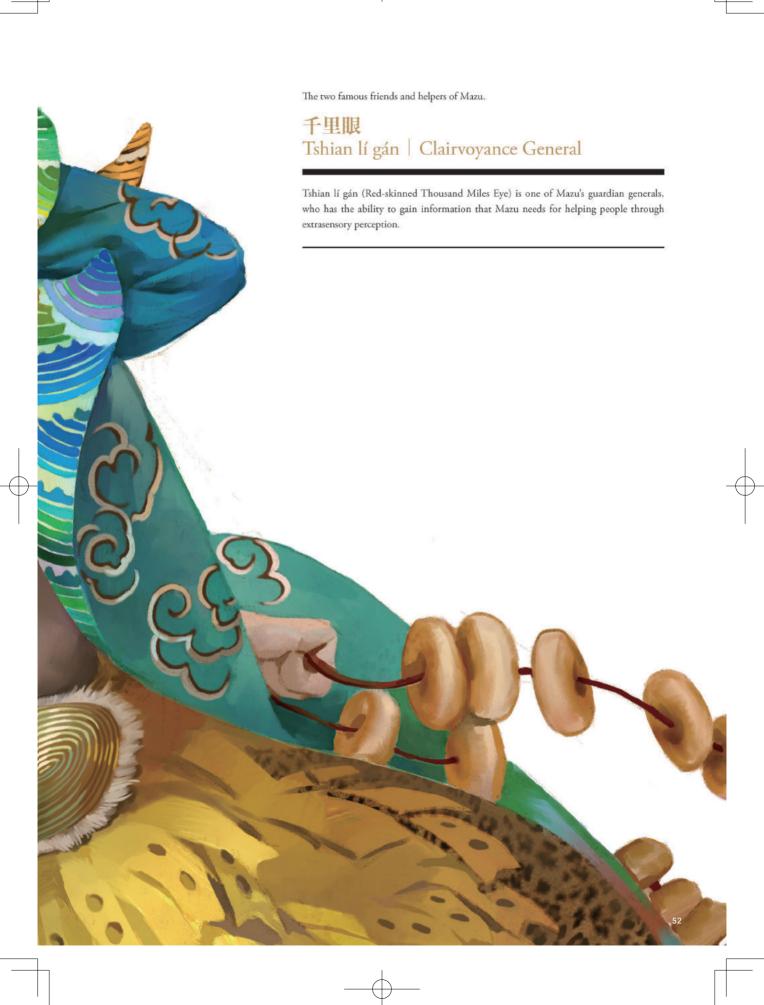
Please turn to the back to enjoy the four comics which are read from left to right.













# OH, MY GODDESS!

# 最強天后



- · Publisher: Dala
- · Date: 2/2016
- · Rights contact: Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- · Pages: 86

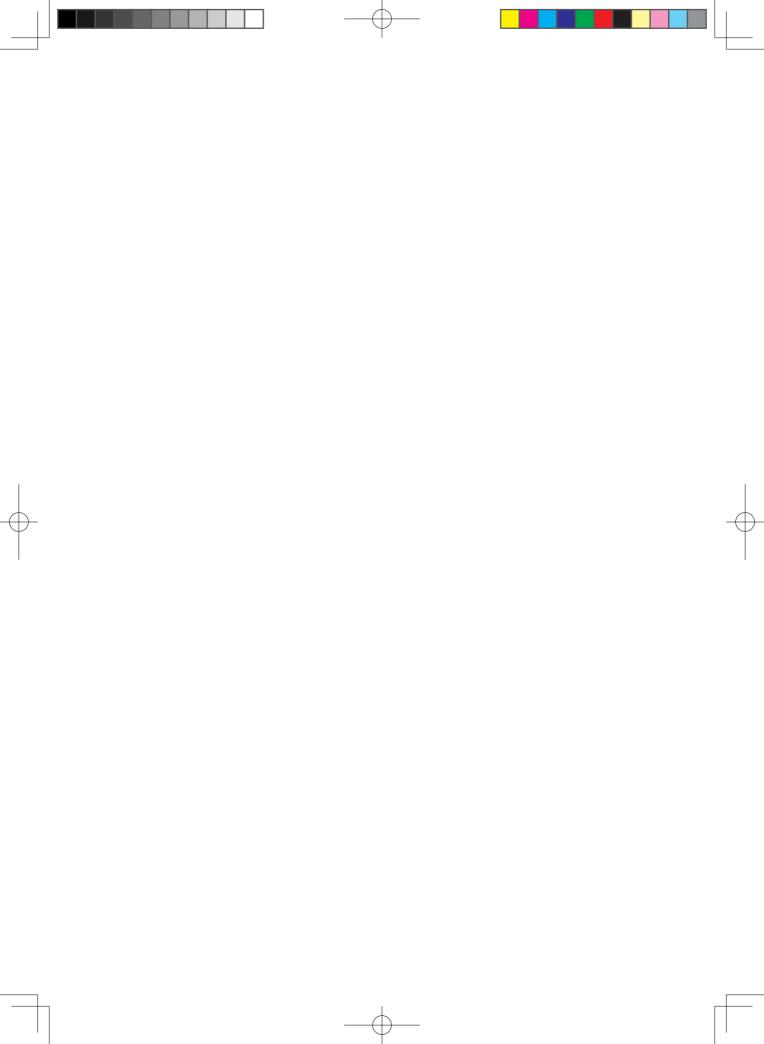
Meet Mazu, Mother of the Sea and patron saint of Chinese fishermen. For centuries, the people of the island nation of Taiwan have exalted and prayed to her, exhorting her to ensure a good catch and give protection from storms. Mazu's birthday, on the twenty-third day of the third month in the lunar calendar, is one of the most popular festivals of the year, with fairs, parades, and parties that fill the streets with noise and color for days – Taiwan's very own "March Madness"!

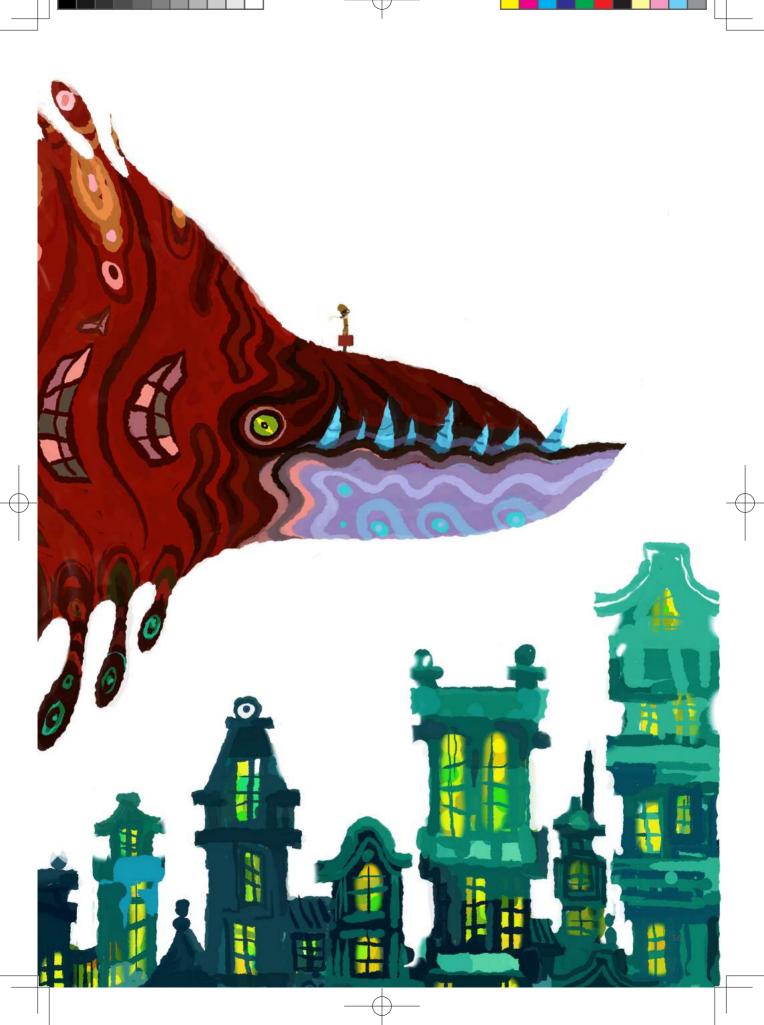
Oh, My Goddess! brings Mazu and her festival to life with full-color depictions of the human and divine worlds during her birthday celebrations. Chiyou's grand scenes, painted in deep, delicious color, recreate the festival in all its opulence and activity. Romanticized illustrations of Mazu and her divine pantheon might be especially attractive to younger readers, who can engage their imaginations as they learn more about this traditional Taiwanese festival.



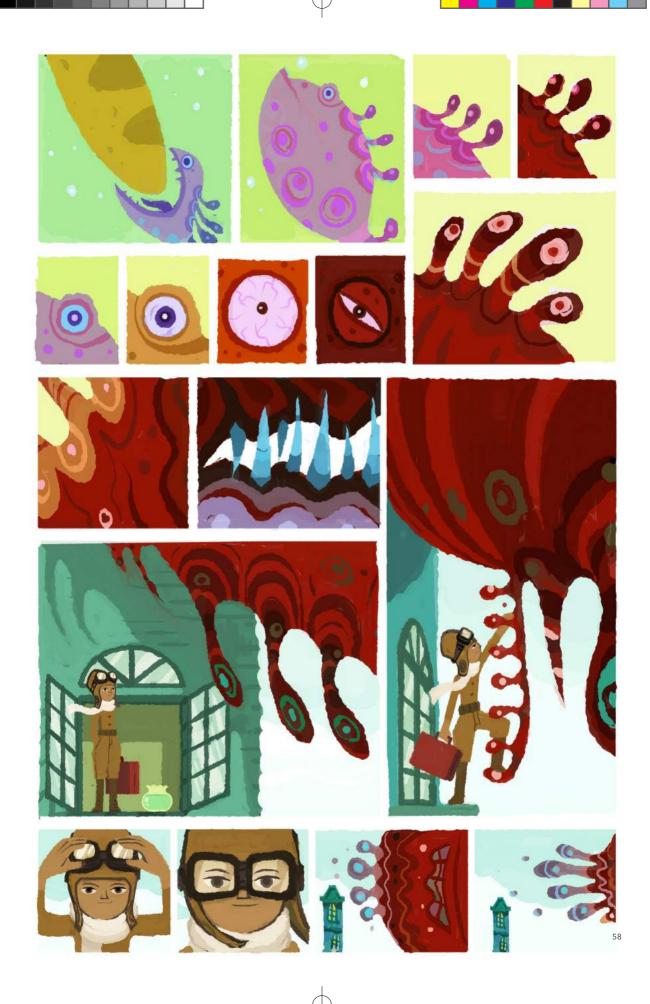
#### Chiyou 蚩尤

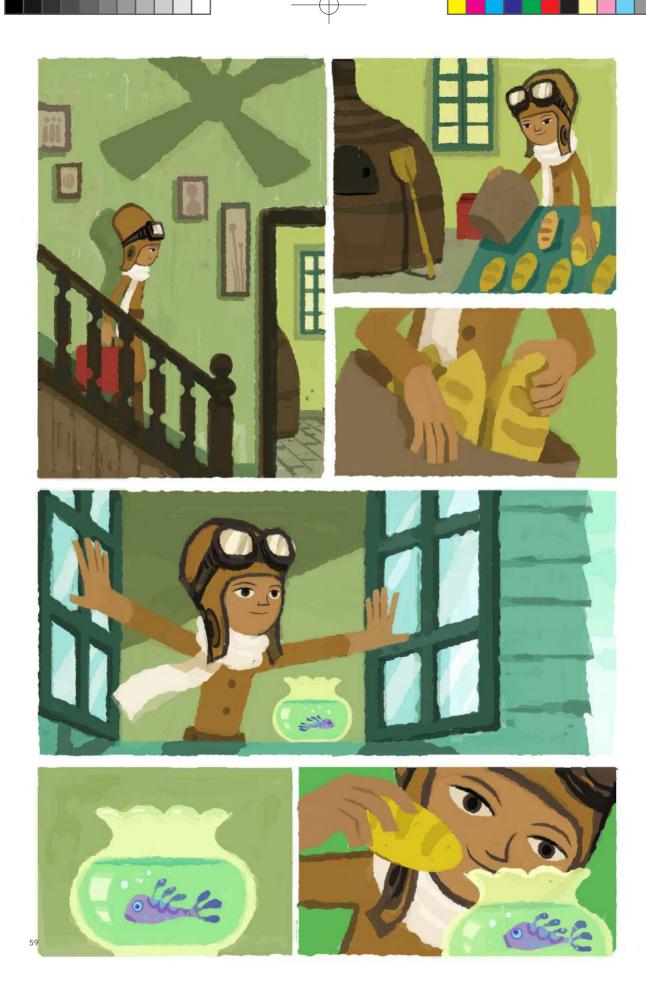
Originally a video game designer, Chiyou moved into comic illustration out of a strong desire to tell stories. A true devotee of the art of illustration, Chiyou applies his incredible proficiency in several artistic media to create brilliant visual tapestries that confer a sense of action and scale on par with cinema. He also champions the aesthetic of the human form; his breakthrough series, *Uniformly Good: Taiwan Girls' School Uniforms* has already continued through its third season, outstripping the rest of the field in terms of sales and international rights sold.

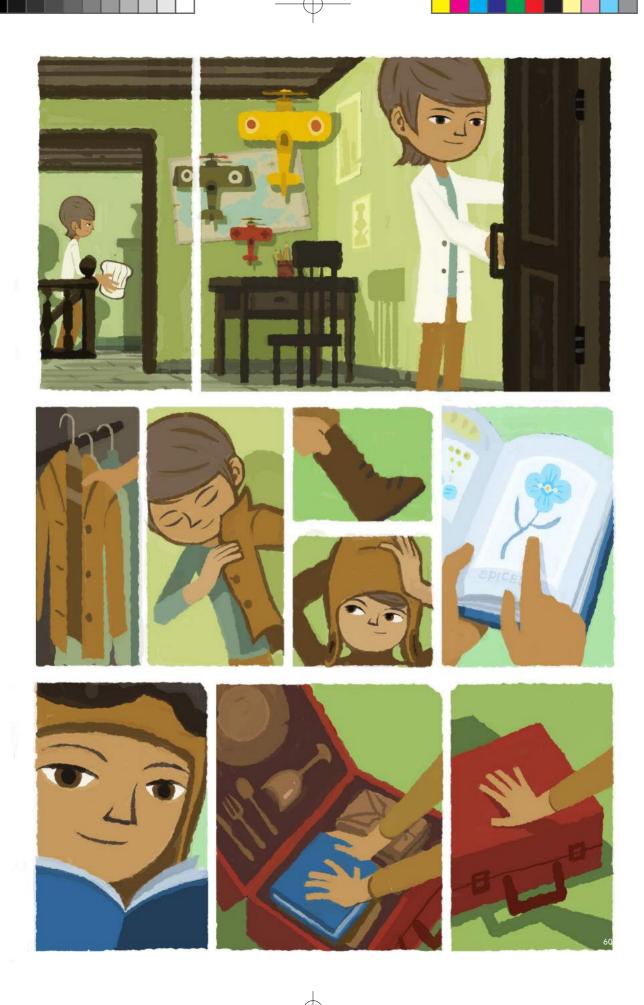


























# THE BAKER'S JOURNEY

# 麵包師之旅



· Rights contact: Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

#### \* 2016 Golden Comic Award for Best New Artist

It can be put no other way: *The Baker's Journey* is imagination, painted. This beautiful story has no words, and it needs none. Artist Chen Wen-Sheng allowed the simple seeds of a childhood daydream, formed as he waited for the bread truck to pass his house, to germinate into a luscious, living work of color and creativity.

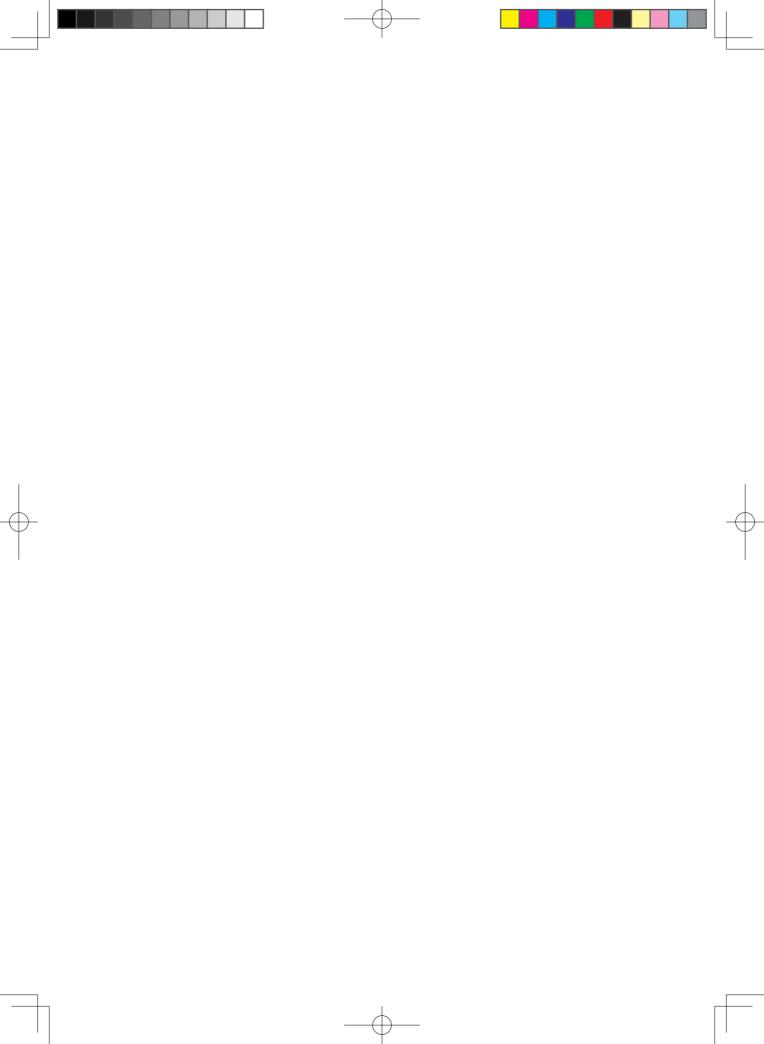
The story is very simple: Long ago, there lived a hard-working baker, who raised a small fish as a pet. Every time the fish ate the baker's bread, however, it transformed into a massive, flying Leviathan, that took the baker on strange journeys across the world.

This story, which began as a short-listed entry at the Swiss Festival International de Bande Dessinee and was expanded afterward, is truly one of those books you buy "to look at the pictures." You look and look; your eyes get wide as you soak it all in. For works of art like this one, seeing is reading.

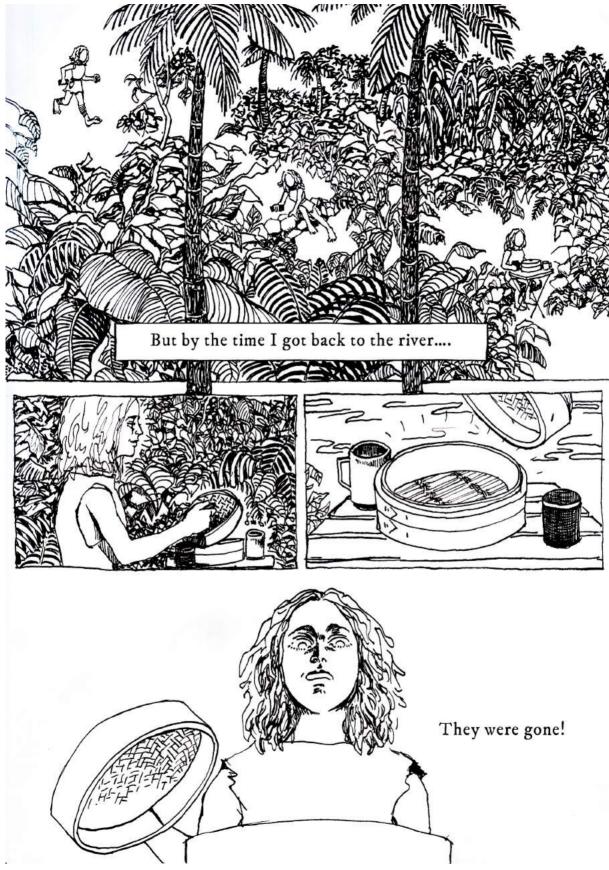


#### Chen Wen-Sheng 陳穩升

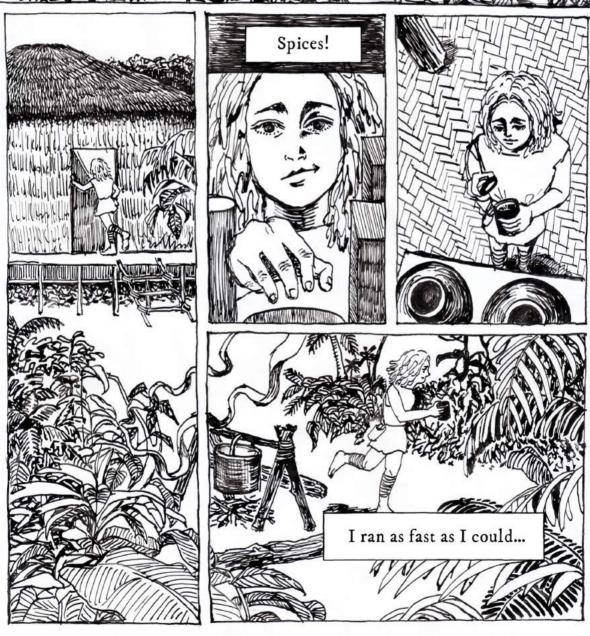
Chen Wen-Sheng has worked full-time as an animator for over ten years. After turning thirty, he began using his spare time to design graphic novels of his own. Deeply inspired by *Star Wars* and other science fiction tales of distance and scope, he creates work that intentionally stretches the boundaries of the imagination. His graphic story *Light Station*, about an imaginary trip taken on a railway, was a runner-up for the Neiwan Railway of Dreams Animation and Comic Art Contest.

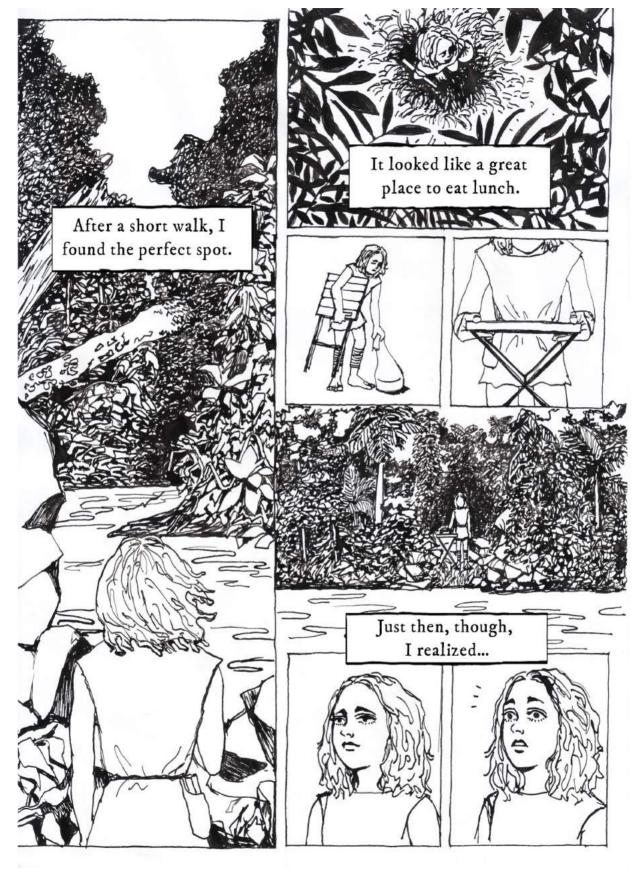


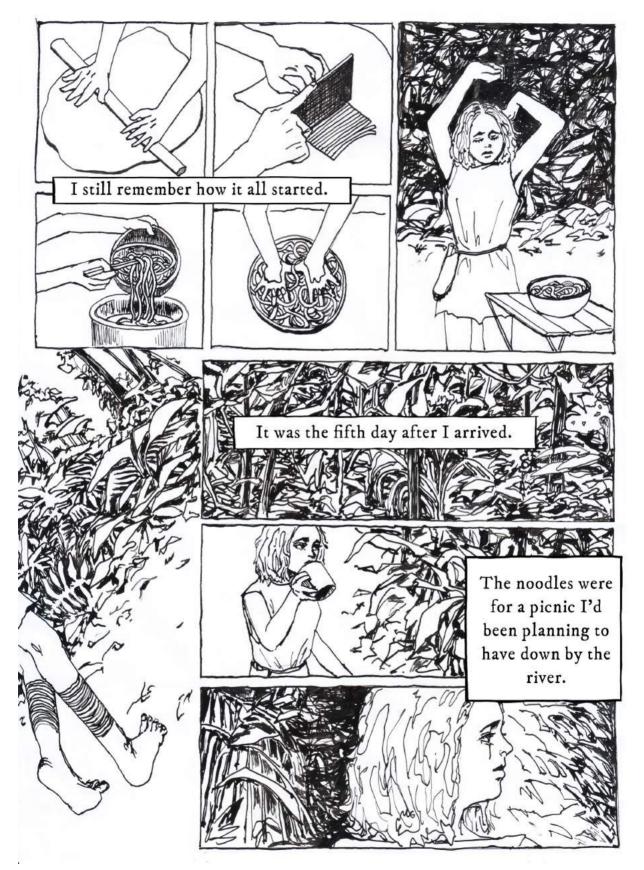








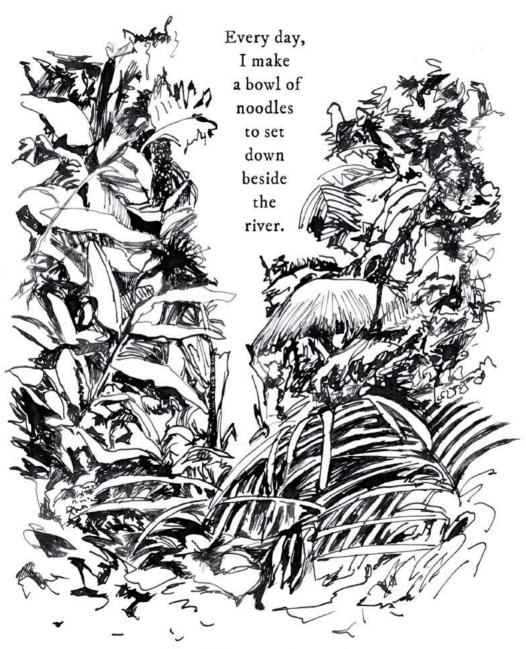




# REMOTE ISLAND

ер. 01

By Adoor Yeh



They'll be gone by evening.

# REMOTE ISLAND

# 孤島



· Rights contact: Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

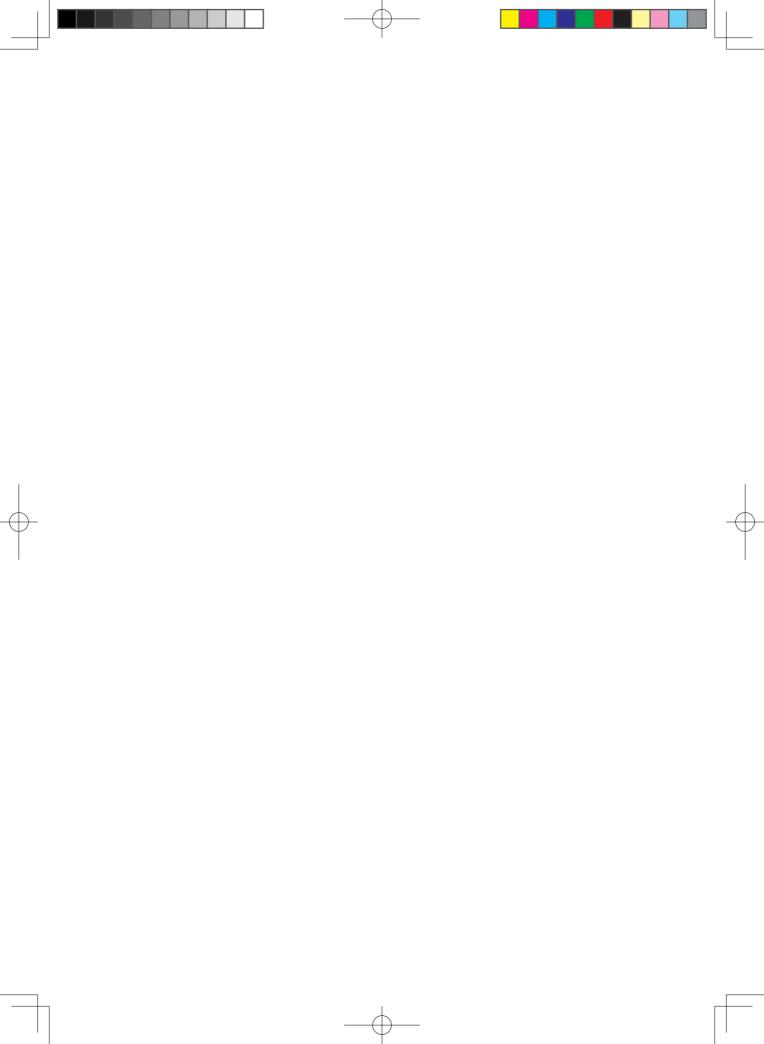
An anthropologist pretends to be a missionary so he can travel to a remote tropical island and study its native inhabitants. He only speaks a little of their language, and it becomes clear to him early on that there is much more going on around him – in the village, in the forest – than meets his outsider's eye. He runs into a young woman, a foreigner with whom he can communicate, yet she too seems mysterious. She tells him there are thieves on the island, thieves he cannot see...

Adoor Yeh's sketched, multi-chrome style lends an air of rough-cut vivacity to *Remote Island*'s visual narrative. Adoor manipulates the known and the unknown together to create a captivating sense of suspense. The story provides a reading experience of gradual yet tense revelation.



#### Adoor Yeh 阿多

Adoor Yeh is a career freelance artist born and based in Taipei. Her graphic art has appeared in *Wallpaper, Wonderland, The Sunday Times,* and *Clash* magazine. Her deliberately rough illustration style makes her work instantly recognizable in the field of contemporary comic.

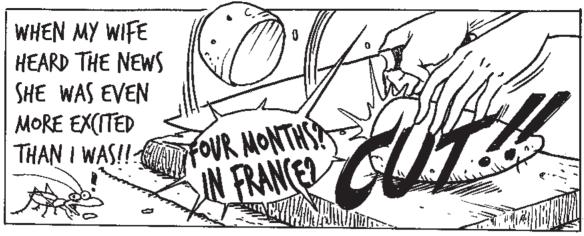


















# BONJOUR ANGOULÊME!

# 安古蘭遊記



- · Publisher: Dala
- · Date: 7/2016
- · Rights contact: Grace Chang (Books from Taiwan) booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- · Pages: 176

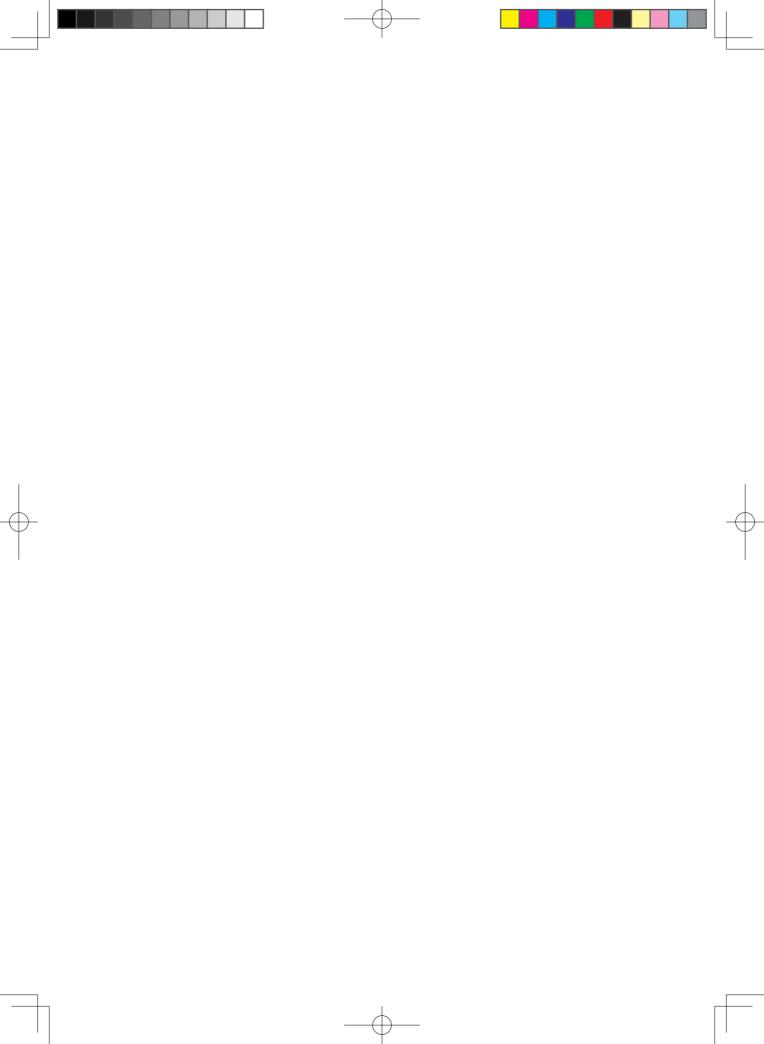
Poor Au Yao-Hsing! When he applied for Maison des Auteurs. the renowned artist residency in Angoulême, France, it was only on a whim. He never expected they'd actually invite him! You're over sixty years old, his wife complains, and you've never been to Europe! They don't speak English over there, his friends warn, let alone Chinese; and how are you going to live, with everything so expensive? But Au Yao-Hsing squared his shoulders and went anyway, and when he came back, he drew the story of his trip, of four months in a wonderful country in the company of the best artists in the world.

Pictures are as universal a language as love, and Au Yao-Hsing's wonderfully emotive illustrations convey with perfect clarity the intense, exciting, and often frightening experience of coming together with one's peers in a foreign place. Au Yao-Hsing reminds us that age is not inaction or inability, but deeper illustration on life's blank page.



#### Au Yao-Hsing 敖幼祥

Taiwanese comic luminary Au Yao-Hsing learned to draw as a way of escaping the stresses of a troubled childhood. At seventeen, he found work as a staff illustrator at a cartoon studio, where he solidified his technique. He began publishing cartoons in newspapers in 1980, and in 1983, he created *The Wulongyuan*, the cartoon that would make his name. Before *The Wulongyuan*, Taiwanese comic was losing ground as editors spurned the genre. Now, worldwide sales of *The Wulongyuan* have passed 43 million copies, inspired countless young artists, and resurrected the comic industry in Taiwan. One cannot adequately describe Au Yao-Hsing's popularity, nor the good that he has brought to his people and to the world.



# BOOKS FROM TAIWAN COMICS (From Left to Right)