



Grandma and Her Ghosts: Summer Time of Dou-Dou

魔法阿媽：豆豆的夏天

Author: Shau-Di Wang **Illustrator:** Miss Charlie **Publisher:** Dyna Books

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BFT2.0 Translator: Anne Lee

The first picture book inspired by Shau-di Wang's classic animated film *Grandma and Her Ghosts* introduces a brand-new story. Written in a simple, childlike style, the story comes to life by Miss Charlie's exquisite and lively illustrations. Together, they capture the joy and charm of Dou Dou and Grandma's summer adventures.

During the hot summer vacation, little Dou Dou returns to his grandma's house, excited to take part in the annual grand celebration. Each day at Grandma's is filled with activities: playing with Kuro and Shiro, picking vegetables, doing housework, going shopping, visiting the lantern festival, releasing water lanterns, and participating in Pu Tu, a traditional festival ritual. At night, Dou Dou falls asleep holding her grandma's ear.

Shau-di Wang's playful text, paired with Miss Charlie's beautiful illustrations, fills Dou Dou and his grandma's summer with warmth and joy. Along with their daily interactions, the book paints vivid scenes of traditional Taiwanese life, inviting readers to experience the summer atmosphere and the warm bond between grandmother and grandson.



Shau-Di Wang

Shau-Di Wang is a charismatic director known for his passionate humor and emphasis on social communication through television. Over the past forty years, he has continuously created imaginative and vibrant films, television shows, documentaries, and stage plays. In 1998, he directed *Grandma and Her Ghosts*, a classic Taiwanese animated film, which won the Taipei Film Festival's Best Film of the Year and the Chicago International Children's Film Festival Award of Excellence. He is set to release the sequel animated film *Grandma and Her Ghosts 2: Magic Little Bean Sprout* in 2024.



Miss Charlie

Miss Charlie, originally from Tainan, graduated from the Department of Fine Arts at National Kaohsiung Normal University and holds a master's degree in Animation from Tainan University of the Arts. She currently works as a freelance illustrator and animation director. She was shortlisted for the film festival with the solo game *Me and Me*. *Grandma and Her Ghosts: Summer Time of Dou-Dou* was selected for the Taiwan Pavilion at the 2023 Bologna Children's Book Fair, and won the Jury Special Award at the 2004 Taipei Film Festival for her personal animation *Rainy Noon*.

“A Profound Nostalgia for a Generation You’ll Never Really Know”: The Story Behind a Classic Film Adapted into a Children’s Book

By Shau-di Wang

Translated by Michelle Kuo

People of my generation, like Li-ming Huang, the screenwriter of *Grandma and Her Ghosts*, often grew up in families that were quite poor. This was during a time when Taiwan, much like the character of the grandma in the movie, was struggling with limited resources.

Despite these hardships, there was still a prevailing belief in having large families. Most families had four or five children, and with three meals a day, 365 days a year, even in cramped living conditions, they managed to have one or two large beds. But where could you fit four or five desks? Having even a single bathroom

with a shower for six or seven people was sometimes considered a luxury.

They wore hand-me-down uniforms with their older siblings’ names still stitched on them, received homegrown vegetables and fruits from neighborly aunts and uncles, listened to ghost stories by candlelight during power outages, and drifted to sleep under mosquito nets gently swayed by the hands of adults. These memories fostered a deep sense of being nurtured with reverence and peaceful coexistence.

I recall Li-ming sharing that, as a child, when she returned to Tainan during the

summers, she would see her grandmother sitting peacefully in a rattan chair during the afternoons. Dressed in a simple cotton vest typically worn by men, her

Her grandma was truly remarkable. Everything about her carried a distinct warmth. As soon as you made contact, you were transported to that magical boundary, where you encountered a profound nostalgia for a generation you’ll never really know.

grandmother would slowly comb her hair under the warm sunlight, adjusting her chair as the sun shifted. Li-ming said her grandmother didn’t wash her hair, only combed it. This image of her grandmother combing her hair beneath the sun

became a defining moment in her life’s vision.

Her grandma was truly remarkable. Everything about her—the outdated treasures she kept, the way she looked at you, her deliberate pace, and the hands she extended toward you—carried a distinct warmth. As soon as you made contact, you were transported to that magical boundary, where you encountered a profound nostalgia for a generation you’ll never really know. Miss Charlie’s illustrations evoke that magical warmth for me.

This excerpt from the book’s afterword has been condensed for this booklet.



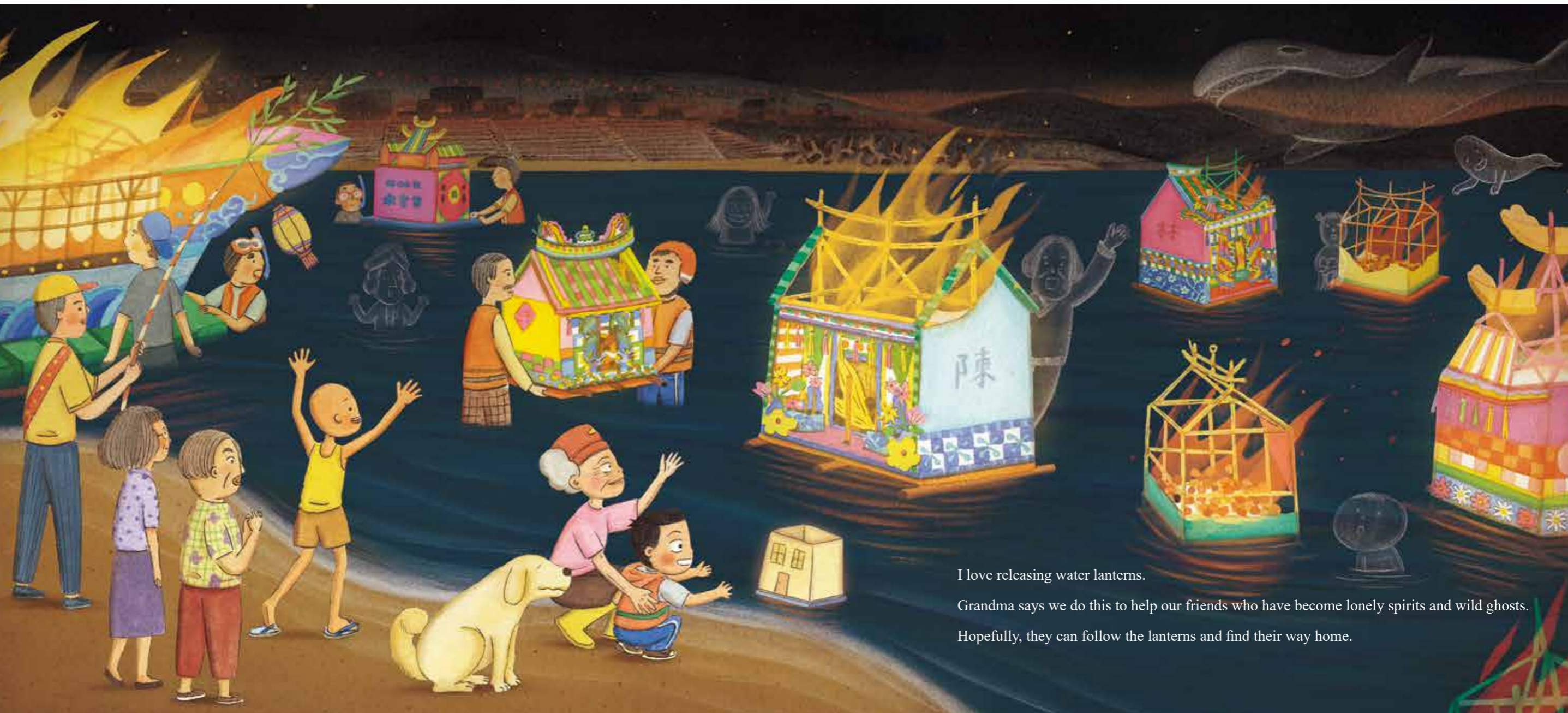
耶 一

Yeah!



This morning, after I wake up,
Grandma tells me we'll worship at the temple tonight.
"It's Ghost Festival!"

哇!
WOW!



I love releasing water lanterns.

Grandma says we do this to help our friends who have become lonely spirits and wild ghosts.

Hopefully, they can follow the lanterns and find their way home.