

WATCHING THE SEA

看海的地方

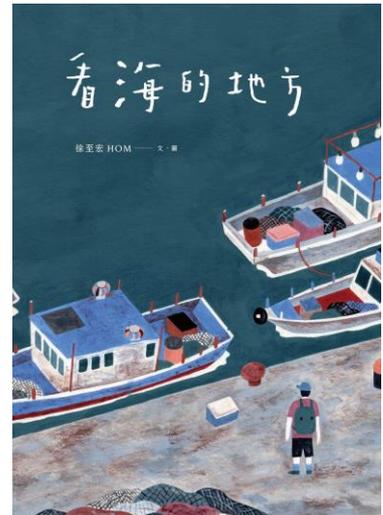
An artist who cannot focus on his painting, a man who fishes in the harbor every day, a girl enjoying a stroll... on a quiet summer's day, they all watch the same stretch of sea, and enjoy the everyday pleasures of the fishing harbor.

What is a day in the life of a fishing harbor like? An artist watches the swallows outside his window, hoping for heavy rain. An angler dozes at the waterside, until something pulls on his fishing rod. A girl on holiday enjoys a snack and the soft caress of the wind on her face. In the little fishing harbor, everyone has their own way of enjoying themselves, which includes watching the sea.

Watching the Sea was inspired by illustrator HOM's experience of staying in a fishing port in northern Taiwan. He takes three characters often seen by the water side – an artist, an angler, and a tourist – and through a combination of spreads and multiple frames he draws readers through the images, so they can experience the unhurried and interesting scenes at the harbor side too.

HOM 徐至宏

HOM is a freelance illustrator who has contributed work to magazines and books. He is especially adept at crafty portrayals of old urban and suburban Taiwanese living spaces. His works include *Before Sunset*, *The Diary Blues*, and others.



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Translated by Helen Wang

p.6

Artist

Sometimes I wish it would rain very hard,
then I could focus on my painting.
I wonder if the swallows know which way to go?

p.12

Angler

I like to sit in my rock and roll place, and listen to the singing sea.
It may be a rousing galloping song, or a quiet song from the heart.
It's not about catching fish.
It's about being by the sea.

p. 18

Girl

On holiday, I can truly be myself.
I close my eyes, and listen to the waves, and smell the tang of the sea.
The harbour is so interesting.
I like to take my time, walking and looking,
and watching the sea.

p.24

Broadcast

Good afternoon! And welcome to Ocean FM!
Have you been for a walk by the sea today?
Have you seen anything interesting?

We're here at the same time every day,
and we'd love to hear from you.