



Chinese Lunar New Year 中國

農曆新年

“Hurray,” said Grandpa Mike. “We finally get to celebrate Chinese New Year.”

“What are you talking about?” asked Granny Beck.

“We have been in Taiwan before the Lunar New Year and after it. But, we have never been there during the holiday.”

“We are not going to Asia this month,” said Granny.

“I know!” laughed Grandpa.

「太棒了！」麥克爺爺說。「我們終於可以慶祝中國農曆新年了。」

「你在說什麼啊？」貝克奶奶問。

「我們去過農曆年前後的臺灣，可是從來沒在過年的時候去過。」

「我們這個月又沒有要去亞洲。」奶奶說。

「我知道啊！」爺爺大笑。





“We are going to Indiana right here in the USA. I have been invited to tell stories at a New Year’s celebration. Over 400 families will be there for dinner and an evening of fun.”

“I know that Chinese New Year is celebrated in New York and San Francisco. They both have large Chinese populations. But, why Indiana?”

Grandpa answered, “Indianapolis, Indiana has a large number of Taiwanese and Chinese citizens who work in American businesses. The holiday is important to them. Many people live far from their families in Asia. They get together here to celebrate the New Year with their friends.”

“Will there be a meal?” asked Grandma. “I love Chinese food.”

“Oh, Grandma… The food will be wonderful. There will be pork, fish, duck and chicken. Families will bring sweets to share. There will be a lot of sticky rice, soup and vegetables to eat.”

「我們要去美國這裡的印第安那州。他們邀請我去講故事慶過年。超過4百戶家庭會在那裡共進晚餐、共享歡樂。」

「我知道紐約跟舊金山都會慶祝農曆新年，因為這兩地有龐大的華人人口。可是怎麼會是印第安那州？」

爺爺回答：「有很多臺灣與中國人在印第安那波利市的美國企業裡工作，尤其是印第安那州的主要城市。過年對他們來說很重要，多數人都離亞洲的家人很遠。他們會在這裡齊聚一堂，跟朋友過年。」

「那裡會供餐嗎？」奶奶問。「我最愛吃中華料理了。」

「奶奶啊！絕對會有超好吃的食物，有豬肉、魚肉、鴨肉和雞肉，家家戶戶還會準備甜點給大家吃，當然還會有很多糯米、湯和青菜可以吃。」



“I am looking forward to all the special sauces that will be served. It’s hard to find good Chinese food in our own city.”

“I remember seeing beautiful red and gold decorations around the Lunar New Year. I also remember how children liked red envelopes. Why do they like red so much?”

“There is a story about a monster that used to come during the New Year. Then people learned that the monster feared the color red. So, red is thought to be a lucky color. Parents and grandparents give their children money in red envelopes. They also give them gifts. Sometimes bosses give their employees red envelopes with money in them. They also treat their employees to dinner.”

“I think the greatest gift is being able to get together with friends and family,” said Granny.

“Part of the celebration includes wishing peace and happiness to everyone,” said Grandpa.



「我很期待到時候會有各種特別醬料。在我們這座城市裡很難找到好吃的中華料理。」

「我記得過農曆年的時候會有紅色、金色的漂亮裝飾品。我還記得小孩子也都很喜歡紅包。他們為什麼這麼喜歡紅色啊？」

「傳說中，農曆年會出現一隻怪獸。後來人們發現怪獸很怕紅色，所以覺得紅色是幸運吉祥的顏色。父母和祖父母會用紅包裝錢給孩子，也會送孩子禮物。有時候老闆也會用紅包包錢給員工，還會請員工吃飯。」

「我覺得最好的禮物就是朋友家人聚在一起。」奶奶說。

「過年慶祝時，也會互相祝福大家平安快樂！」爺爺說。



“This is the Year of the Dragon. I wonder if there will be dragon dancers at the celebration. Some cities let Dragon Dancers parade in the streets carrying a dragon mask and long colorful body. This is supposed to chase away evil spirits and bring good luck. I will tell a story at the celebration about how Dragons helped bring rain for the farmers.”

“Does everyone celebrate the holiday in the same way?”

“No,” answered Grandpa. “Some places have outdoor markets, street food stalls, parades, Chinese opera performances, and performers, including storytellers like me. If there are not many Chinese people in a city, families might travel to a bigger city to celebrate.”

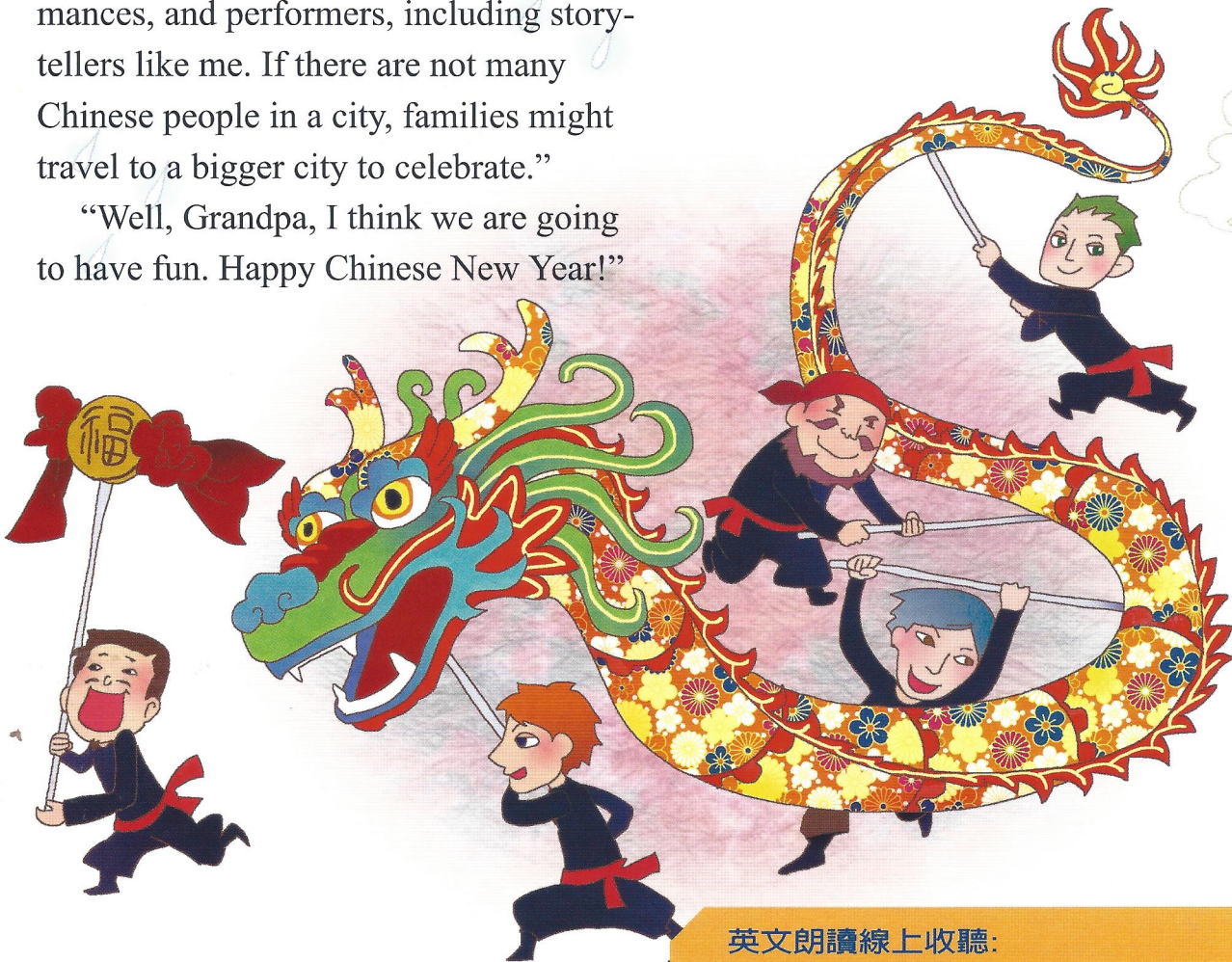
“Well, Grandpa, I think we are going to have fun. Happy Chinese New Year!”

「今年是龍年，不知道現場會不會有舞龍舞獅？有些城市會讓舞龍舞獅當街遊行，撐著龍頭以及色彩繽紛的長條身體，這是為了驅逐惡靈招來好運。我會在過年當天講龍替農民帶來雨水的故事。」

「大家慶祝農曆新年的方式都一樣嗎？」

「不一樣，」爺爺說，「有些地方會有市集、攤販、戲曲和其他表演，包括像我這樣的說書者。要是身處的城市沒有很多華人家庭，全家人就會去大一點的城市慶祝。」

「麥克爺爺，我覺得我們應該會玩得很愉快。新年快樂！」



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