



# The Fourth of July

## 七月四日

### (美國獨立紀念日)

“What is that popping sound?” asked Granny Beck.

“I’m making popcorn to take to the Fourth of July fireworks tonight,” said Grandpa Mike.

“Well, hurry, or you will miss the neighborhood parade.”

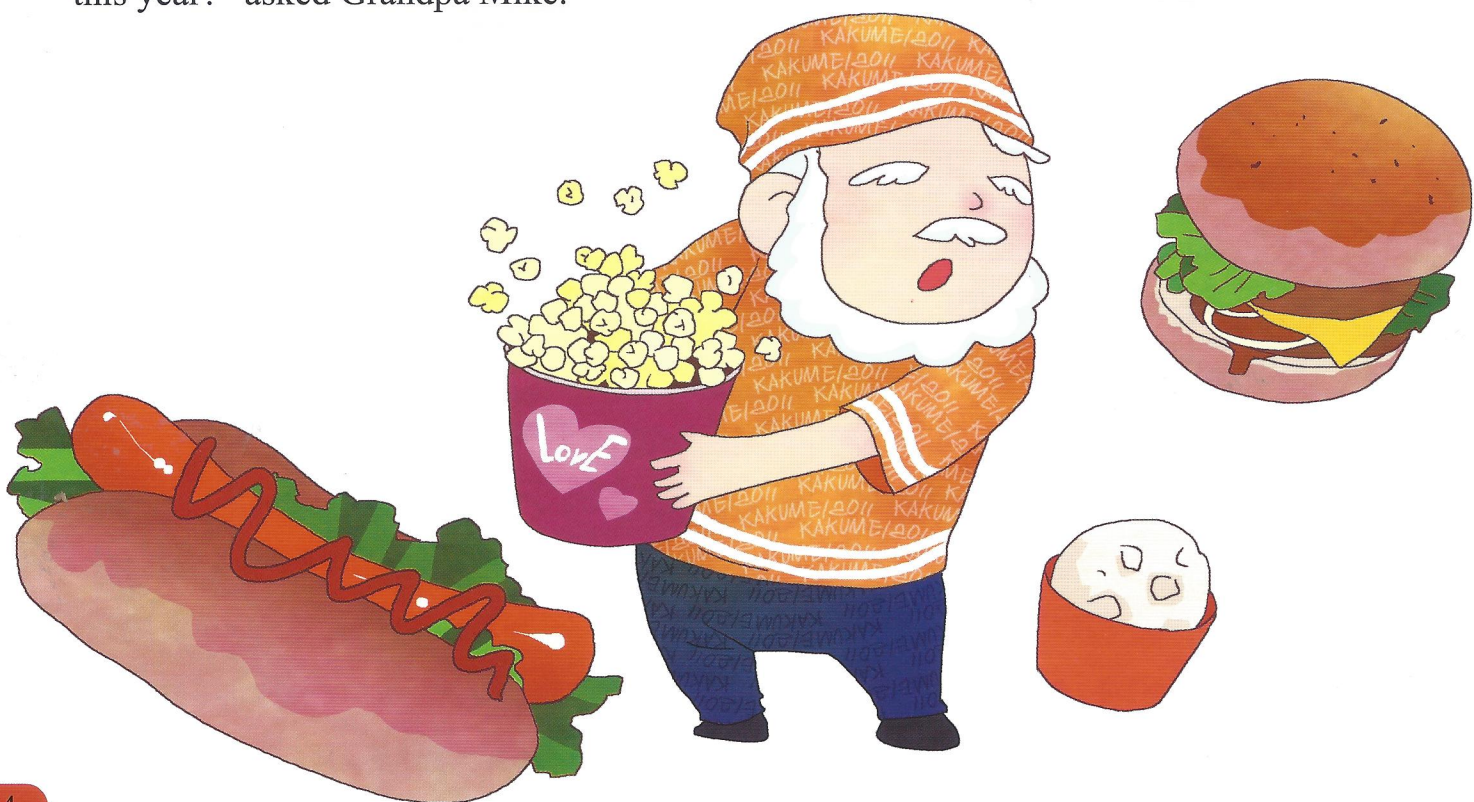
“Are our grandchildren in the parade this year?” asked Grandpa Mike.

「那個啵啵啵的是什麼聲音啊？」貝克奶奶問。

「我在爆米花，晚上要帶去看7月4日的煙火，」麥克爺爺說。

「那你要動作快啊，不然會錯過社區遊行。」

「我們孫子有參加今年的遊行嗎？」麥克爺爺問。





“Yes! Just like our sons were years ago. They decorated their bicycles in red, white and blue. The adults will watch while the children parade around the block. Everyone will wave small flags and clap for the children as they ride by. When the parade is finished, our sons and their families are coming over for a picnic.”

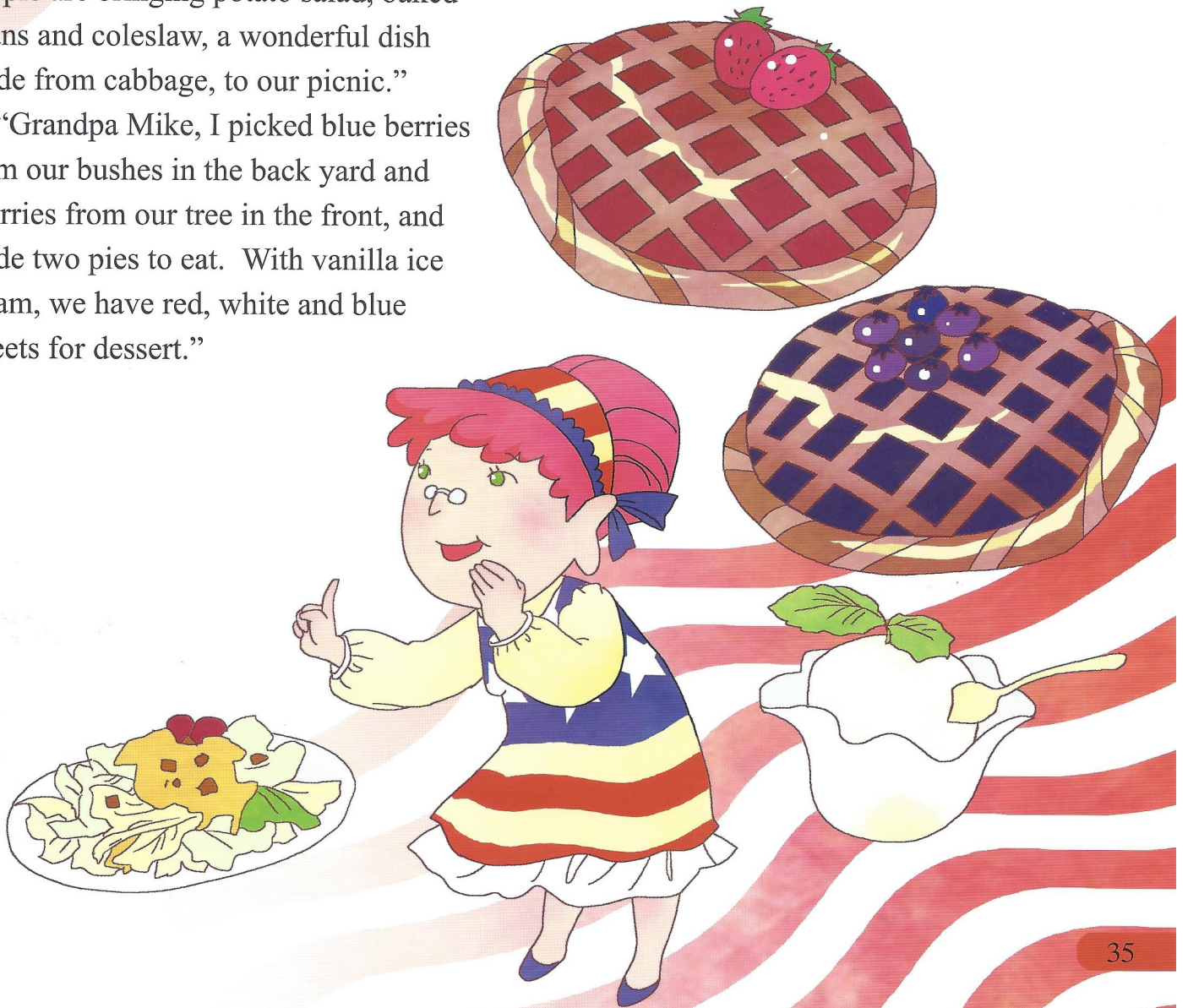
“Oh, yeah,” said Grandpa. He licked his lips. “I made my special barbecue sauce for the chicken. I’m also going to grill hamburgers and hot dogs. Other people are bringing potato salad, baked beans and coleslaw, a wonderful dish made from cabbage, to our picnic.”


“Grandpa Mike, I picked blue berries from our bushes in the back yard and cherries from our tree in the front, and made two pies to eat. With vanilla ice cream, we have red, white and blue sweets for dessert.”

「有啊！就跟我們兒子以前一樣。他們用紅色、白色和藍色裝飾腳踏車。大人們就看著小孩子騎腳踏車經過。遊行結束後，我們兒子會帶家人過來野餐。」

「對喔，」爺爺舔了舔嘴唇。「我做了特製烤肉醬要烤雞肉。還打算碳烤漢堡和熱狗。其他人會準備馬鈴薯沙拉、茄汁焗豆和美味的涼拌高麗菜沙拉來加入我們的野餐。」

「麥克爺爺，我從後院灌叢裡和前面樹上各摘了藍莓和櫻桃，做了2個派來吃。再加上香草冰淇淋，我們就有紅色、白色和藍色的點心了。」





“Granny, I think the Fourth of July is one of my favorite American holidays. Did you know that some people call this holiday Independence Day? Our country has been celebrating its independence since 1776.”

“Grandpa Mike, I know that. I also know that 142 nations celebrate their own independence days. Different countries celebrate in their own special way and on their own special day.”

“I will put the popcorn into paper bags. You get the blankets, flashlights and bottles of water ready. Okay?”

“I will,” said Granny Beck.

“We can pull the children in wagons to the park when it starts to get dark. The fireworks will start after sundown.

「奶奶，7月4日是我最喜歡的美國節日了。妳知道有些人也把這一天叫做獨立紀念日嗎？我們國家從1776年就開始慶祝獨立了。」

「麥克爺爺，我知道啊。我還知道全世界有142個國家會慶祝他們自己的獨立紀念日。不同國家有自己特別的慶祝方式和特別的慶祝日子。」

「我來把爆米花裝進紙袋裡。你去準備毯子、手電筒和水瓶，好嗎？」

「好，」貝克奶奶說。

「天開始黑的時候，我們可以用四輪車把孩子們拉去公園。天黑之後煙火就會開始燃放。」



It is so much fun to see everyone spread their blankets and sit under the stars watching the fireworks. Little children cover their ears. Some cry because of the noise. Adults laugh and cheer with every burst of color in the air. I love the way people bring their radios. The bursts of fireworks are timed with the music played by local radio stations. It's called a sky concert.

When the fireworks are over, the young children usually fall asleep on the way home. That's when we light sparklers and play with the older children until their bedtime. What a wonderful day we're going to have with our friends and family.”

看到大家把毯子都鋪好，坐在星空下觀賞煙火，真是有趣的畫面。年紀小的孩子們會摀住耳朵，有些會因為噪音而哭。大人們則隨著天空中迸發的色彩而大笑歡呼。我喜歡大家都把他們的收音機帶來。煙火會配合當地電臺播放的音樂綻放，那叫天空演唱會。

煙火結束後，年紀小的孩子通常在回家的路上就睡著了。這時候我們就會點燃仙女棒，陪著年紀大一點的孩子們玩到他們上床的時間。我們跟家人朋友將會度過非常美好的一天。」

英文朗讀線上收聽:

<http://www.c-talk.com/flash.htm>

