



Oktoberfest

10月節 (慕尼黑啤酒節)

“Grandpa Mike, Why are your thumbs in your armpits? And why are you flapping your elbows up and down?”

“You caught me, Granny Beck. I was trying to remember how to do the chicken dance.”

“Why do you want to remember the chicken dance?”

“Oktoberfest will soon be here. I want to be ready to dance with you.”

“But it is only September.”

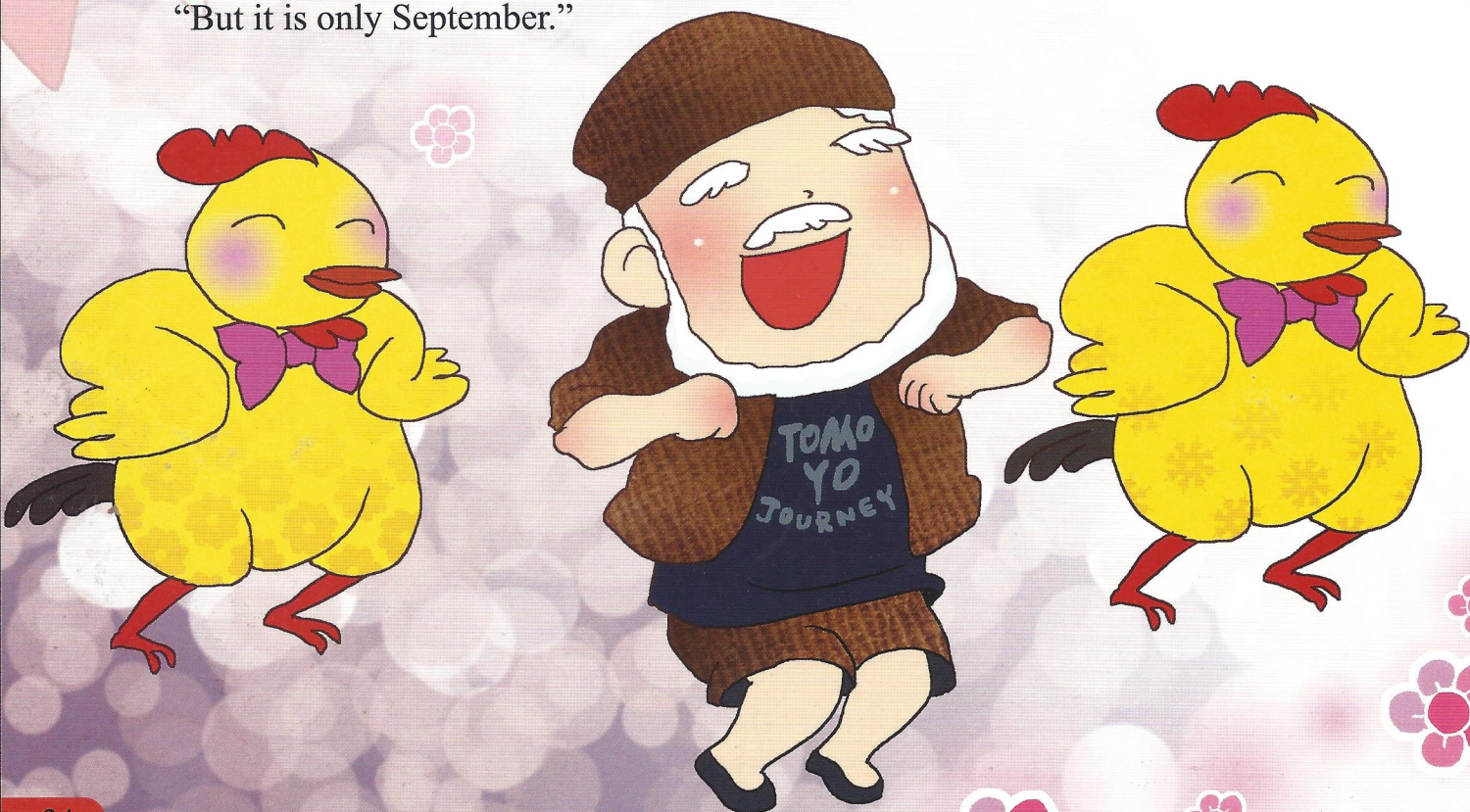
「麥克爺爺，你為什麼要把大拇指頂在腋下？又為什麼一直上下擺動你的手肘？」

「被你抓到了，貝克奶奶。我在回憶要怎麼跳雞舞。」

「你為什麼要回憶怎麼跳雞舞？」

「10月節快到了。我想先做好準備，到時跟妳一起跳舞。」

「但現在才9月。」





“Oktoberfest starts in September in Germany and usually ends on the first Sunday in October. I don’t know yet when our town will celebrate the holiday.”

“How do people celebrate Oktoberfest?” asked Granny Beck.

“People like to party,” answered Grandpa. “Oktoberfest started as a wedding party for a German Bavarian prince. That was over 200 years ago. The people held a parade, drank beer, danced and raced horses at the Prince’s party. Today, millions of people still celebrate Oktoberfest around the whole world. People do a lot of fun things. They sing and play German music. They eat German food. They even dance German dances.”

「德國的10月節從9月就開始了，通常一直要慶祝到10月的第1個星期天。我還不知道我們鎮上什麼時候會慶祝這個節日。」

貝克奶奶問：「大家怎麼慶祝10月節？」

「大家會狂歡，」爺爺說。「10月節起初是德國巴伐利亞地區皇儲王子的結婚派對。那已經是2百多年前的事了。大家在王子的派對上遊行、喝啤酒、跳舞以及賽馬。到了今天，全球各地的人還是會慶祝10月節，另外又叫做德國啤酒節。大家會做很多有趣的事。他們會演唱及彈奏德國的音樂，吃德國的食物，甚至會跳德國的舞蹈。」





“Like the chicken dance?” asked Granny Beck.

“I think that was an American invention,” said Grandpa. “Germans do the polka and slap dances.”

“Slap dances?”

“They are fun to watch,” said Grandpa. “The men wear leather shorts called lederhosen. They play games and do dances with lots of kicking and slapping. Yodel eh ee hoo!”

“What was that? Grandpa?”

“That was a yodel, a special way of singing. Sometimes the men sing and yodel as well as dance. They even hold yodeling contests.”

“How do we celebrate Oktoberfest?”

“Parties in our town always serve German foods, like sauerkraut, sour cabbage, and bratwurst, a special German sausage. One city in Ohio served over 80,000 bratwursts last year. The same city had 48,000 people dancing the chicken dance all at one time.

貝克奶奶問：「例如雞舞？」

「我想那應該是美國人發明的，」爺爺說。「德國人會跳波卡舞及拍打舞。」

「拍打舞？」

「看人家跳這種舞很有趣，」爺爺說。「男人會穿上花飾短皮褲。他們會玩遊戲，然後舞步中有許多踢腿及拍打的動作。呦滴咧伊喔！」

「爺爺，你在叫什麼啊？」

「那是一種真假嗓音轉換的特殊唱法。有時候，男人除了跳舞，還會唱歌及像這樣真假音轉換高唱。他們甚至有這種真假音轉換的歌唱比賽。」

「那我們怎麼慶祝10月節？」

「我們鎮上的派對都會供應德國食物，例如德國酸菜及德國香腸。俄亥俄州有某座城市，去年供應了超過8萬份德國香腸。同一座城市還一度有4萬8千人同時在跳雞舞。」



A city in Oklahoma holds barrel races. People cut the tops and bottoms off barrels. They step inside, hold up the barrels and run. Some places have parades and carnivals with rides and booths.”

“One of my favorite parts of the holiday is the music,” said Granny. “I love to listen to the bands and watch the people do the polka. It is such fun when children, parents and old people all go to parks and parties to have fun together. The air fills with their laughter, music and noise.”

“Speaking of noise, do you want to hear me yodel again?” asked Grandpa Mike.

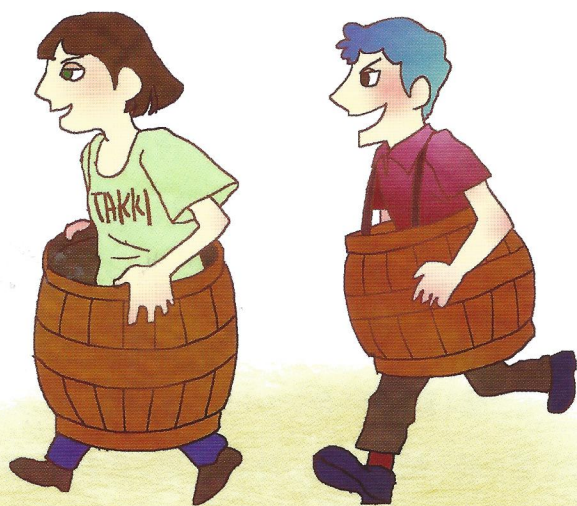
“I don’t think so,” laughed Granny. “I’d rather join you in the chicken dance.”

奧克拉荷馬州的某座城市則舉辦了木桶比賽。大家把木桶的頂部與底部割掉，站進去後，抓著木桶賽跑。有些地方會舉辦遊行，有遊樂設施和攤販的嘉年華會。」

「我最喜歡這個節日的音樂，」奶奶說。「我最喜歡聽樂團表演，看大家跳波卡舞。小孩子、家長及老人都去公園參加派對，一同玩樂，真的很好玩。空氣中充滿了笑聲、音樂與噪音。」

麥克爺爺問：「說到噪音，妳想再聽我表演真假音轉換嗎？」

「我想不用了，」奶奶大笑。「我情願跟你一起跳雞舞。」



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