

zhōu mò bà ba gē xià gōng zuò dài wǒ men huí xiāng
周末，爸爸搁下工作，带我们回乡

kàn wài pó bà ba de chē zǐ shǐ rù cūn zǐ hái méi dào wài
看外婆。爸爸的车子驶入村子，还没到外
pó jiā què tū rán tíng zài yí dòng liǎng céng lóu shì de lǎo fáng zi
婆家，却突然停在一栋两层楼式的老房子
qián
前。



xià le chē wǒ zuǒ gù yòu pàn kàn jiàn mén qián shàng fāng
下了车，我左顾右盼，看见门前上方
de yí kuài zhāo pái shàng miàn xiě zhe chéng yè liǎng gè zì mén
的一块招牌，上面写着成业两个字，门

biān hái yǒu yí tái páo yē sī de lǎo jiù jī qì yuán lái zhè shì yí jiā jiù shì zá huò diàn mā
边还有一台刨椰丝的老旧机器。原来这是一家旧式杂货店。妈
mā yì biān wǎng lǐ zǒu yì biān jiào chén dà shēn
妈一边往里走，一边叫：“陈大婶！”

guò le jǐ miǎo yí míng tóu fà bān bái mǎn liǎn zhòu wén de lǎo nǎi nai xiān qǐ mén liǎn
过了几秒，一名头发斑白、满脸皱纹的老奶奶掀起门帘，
cóng hòu fāng yīng shēng zǒu le chū lái liǎng rén xiāng wàng tā níng wàng mā mā liáng jiǔ bú yì huì
从后方应声走了出来。两人相望，她凝望妈妈良久，不一会
er lǎo nǎi nai lù chū jīng xǐ de biǎo qíng gāo xìng de jiào chū mā mā de rǔ míng mā mā wǎn
儿，老奶奶露出惊喜的表情，高兴地叫出妈妈的乳名。妈妈挽
zhe lǎo nǎi nai xián huà jiā cháng lìng yí xiàng de wǒ zé xiàng liú lǎo lao guàng dà guān yuán bān
着老奶奶闲话家常。另一厢的我，则像刘姥姥逛大观园般，
duì diàn lǐ de yí qiè chōng mǎn hào qí
对店里的一切充满好奇。

A heart-warming shop.

On one weekend, my father **put aside his work** and took us back to the hometown to see grandma. Dad's car drove into the village, but before reaching grandma's house, it suddenly stopped in front of a two-storey old house.

After getting out of the car, I **looked left and right**, and saw a sign above the door with the word "Cheng Ye" written on it, and there was an old machine for **grating coconut** beside the entrance. Apparently, this is an **old-style grocery shop**. Mom walked in and called, "Aunt Chen!"

After a few seconds, an old woman with grey hair and **wrinkled face** raised the curtain and came out from behind. The two looked at each other, and she **stared** at my mother for a long time. After a while, the old granny showed a surprised expression and happily called out my mother's **childhood name**. Mother chatted with the old granny while holding her arm. On the other side, I am full of **curiosity** about everything in this stop, just like Grandma Liu visiting the grand garden.

diàn pù de qí zhōng yí chù fàng le jǐ pái fāng xíng tiě tǒng lǐ tóu zhuāng le shū dǎ bǐng
 店铺的其中一处，放了几排方形铁桶，里头装了梳打饼、
 ěr duǒ bǐng děng bǐng gān qí zhōng yí gè tǒng lǐ zhuāng mǎn le fēi jī xíng zhuàng de hóng sè bǐng gān
 耳朵饼等饼干。其中一个桶里装满了飞机形状 的红色饼干，
 ràng wǒ zhù zú xǔ jiǔ lǎo nǎi nai jiàn le wēi xiào zhe shuō zhè shì nǐ mā ma de zuì ài
 让我驻足许久。老奶奶见了，微笑着说：“这是你妈妈的最爱，
 wǒ ná yì xiē gěi nǐ men cháng cháng ba wǒ bǎ xiǎo bǐng gān wǎng zuǐ lǐ sòng wèi dào dài diǎn
 我拿一些给你们尝尝吧。”我把小饼干往嘴里送，味道带点
 ér xīn là què bié yǒu yì fān zī wèi ér mā ma yì lián chī le jǐ gè gēn lǎo nǎi nai shuō
 儿辛辣，却别有一番滋味儿。妈妈一连吃了几个，跟老奶奶说：
 “啊，这味道一点儿也没变啊！”

zhè shí lǎo nǎi nai de nǚ ér hé nǚ xù zǒu guò lái hé wǒ men liáo qǐ zá huò diàn de yī
 这时，老奶奶的女儿和女婿走过来，和我们聊起杂货店的一
 duàn lì shǐ yuán lái zài jǐ shí nián qián zhè ge cūn zi céng jīng lì hǎo jǐ cì shuǐ huàn zá huò
 段历史。原来在几十年前，这个村子曾 经历好几次水患，杂货
 diàn yě zāo chí yú zhī yāng mǒu nián yǔ jì lián xù xià le hǎo jǐ tiān háo yǔ dǎo zhì hé
 店也遭池鱼之殃。某年雨季，连续下了好几天豪雨，导致河
 chuáng de shuǐ wèi shàng zhǎng dāng shí de lǎo nǎi nai shēn huái liù jiǎ kàn jiàn hé shuǐ yǐ jīng liú rù
 床的水位上涨。当时的老奶奶身怀六甲，看见河水已经流入
 diàn pù bù jīn cāng huáng shī cuò zài zhè jǐn yào guān tóu yì xiē zá huò diàn de shú kè tū rán
 店铺，不禁仓皇失措。在这紧要关头，一些杂货店的熟客突然
 chū xiàn zài diàn mén qián dà jiā fēn gōng hé zuò bǎ huò pǐn bān dào gāo chù de yí mù shēn shēn de
 出现在店门前。大家分工合作把货品搬到高处的一幕，深深地
 lǎo yìn zài tā xīn dǐ dāng wǒ men wéi zhè duàn wǎng shì dòng róng wǒ wàng jiàn lǎo nǎi nai de yǎn lí
 烙印在她心底。当我们为这段往事动容，我望见老奶奶的眼里
 xù mǎn lèi shuǐ xīng xǔ jiē fāng de nuǎn xīn jǔ dòng lìng tā gǎn dòng zhì jīn ba
 蓄满泪水。兴许街坊的暖心举动，令她感动至今吧！

On one side of the shop, there are several rows of square metal containers, filled with biscuits such as soda crackers and ear cookies. One of the containers was filled with red biscuits in the shape of an airplane, it made me **stop and stared** for a long time. The old granny saw me and said with a smile: "This is your mother's favourite, let me give you some to **try**." I put the biscuits in my mouth, the taste is a little **spicy**, but it has a unique taste. Mom ate a few in a row, and said to the granny: "Ah, the taste hasn't changed at all!"

At this time, the granny's daughter and son-in-law came over and chatted with us about the piece of history of the grocery shop. It turned out that decades ago, the village experienced several **floods**, and the grocery shop was **affected**. During the rainy season of a certain year, it rained continuously for several days, causing the water level of the river to rise. At that time, the granny was **pregnant**, and she couldn't help but **panicked** when she saw that the river had flowed into the shop. At this critical juncture, some **regular customers** of the grocery shop suddenly appeared in front of the shop. They worked together to move the goods to a higher place, this scene **was deeply imprinted in her heart**. We were moved by this story, and I saw the old granny's eyes **filled with tears**. Perhaps the neighbour's **heart-warming actions** deeply moved her, even to this day!

bú yì huì er diàn lǐ lái le jǐ gè yìn dù tóng bào lǎo nǎi nai yú shì shàng qián zhāo hū
不一会儿，店里来了几个印度同胞，老奶奶于是上前招呼。

tā yì kāi kǒu jìng shì liú lì de dàn mǐ ěr yǔ lǎo nǎi nai de nǚ ér shuō lǎo nǎi nai ài
她一开口，竟是流利的淡米尔语！老奶奶的女儿说，老奶奶爱
hé kè ren liáo tiān zhè xiē nián hé kè ren xiāng chǔ xià lái bù zhī bù jué jiù xué le xǔ duō bù
和客人聊天，这些年和客人相处下来，不知不觉就学了许多不
tóng de yǔ yán
同的语言。

lǎo nǎi nai máng wán hòu mā ma biàn bǎ gòu mǎi tóng nián zī wèi de qián dì gěi lǎo nǎi nai
老奶奶忙完后，妈妈便把购买童年滋味的钱递给老奶奶。

tā niù bú guò mā ma zhǐ hǎo shōu xià suí hòu lǎo nǎi nai tái shǒu wǎng xià yì lā yí gè
她拗不过妈妈，只好收下。随后，老奶奶抬手往下一拉，一个
dōng xī cóng tiān ér jiàng ràng wǒ jīng qí wàn fēn yuán lái tā yòng shéng zǐ bǎ xiǎo tǒng diào qǐ lái
东西从天而降，让我惊奇万分。原来，她用绳子把小桶吊起来，
fāng biàn shōu qián hé zhǎo qián
方便收钱和找钱。

lí kāi zá huò diàn hòu mā ma gào sù wǒ lǎo nǎi nai hěn suí hé bù jū xiǎo jié
离开杂货店后，妈妈告诉我，老奶奶很随和、不拘小节，

cháng cháng hé dào diàn lǐ de jiē fāng liáo tiān huà jiā cháng ràng zhè xiǎo xiǎo de zá huò diàn chōng mǎn
常常和到店里的街坊聊天、话家常，让这小小的杂货店充满
nóng nóng rén qíng wèi jǐn guǎn jìn nián lái shēng yì yuè lái yuè nán jīng yíng tā què yī jiù shǒu hù chāo
浓浓人情味。尽管近年来生意越来越难经营，她却依旧守护超
guò sì shí nián de lǎo diàn zài lín lǐ chuán dì nuǎn xīn de qíng yì
过四十年的老店，在邻里传递暖心的情谊。

wǒ tīng hòu wàng zhe péi bàn mā ma chéng zhǎng de xiǎo diàn pù jiàn jiàn yuǎn qù nèi xīn bǎi gǎn
我听后，望着陪伴妈妈成长的小店铺渐渐远去，内心百感

jiāo jí
交集。

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More resources at https://multilingual-malaysian.github.io/SRJKC_resources/

After a while, a few Indian customers came to the shop, and the old granny stepped forward to **greet** them. When she opened her mouth, she was **fluent** in Tamil! The granny's daughter said that she loves to chat with customers, and after getting along with them for so many years, she has learned many different languages without realizing it.

After the old granny finished her work, my mother handed her the money, it was the 'money to buy the taste of childhood' (ie. Money for the biscuits). She couldn't stop my mother, so she accepted the money. Then, the granny raised her hand and pulled, something **fell from above** and it **surprised** me. It turned out that she hung a little pail with a rope, for easier **collection and changing of money**.

After leaving the grocery shop, my mother told me that the old lady was very easy-going and **informal**. She often chatted with the neighbours who came to the shop and talked about ordinary things, which made this small grocery shop a very warm place. Although the business has become more and more challenging in recent years, she still guards the old shop of more than 40 years and spreads heart-warming friendship in the neighbourhood.

After I heard it, I watched the small shop that my mother's grew up with. As it slowly fades from my view, **my heart is full of mixed feelings**.