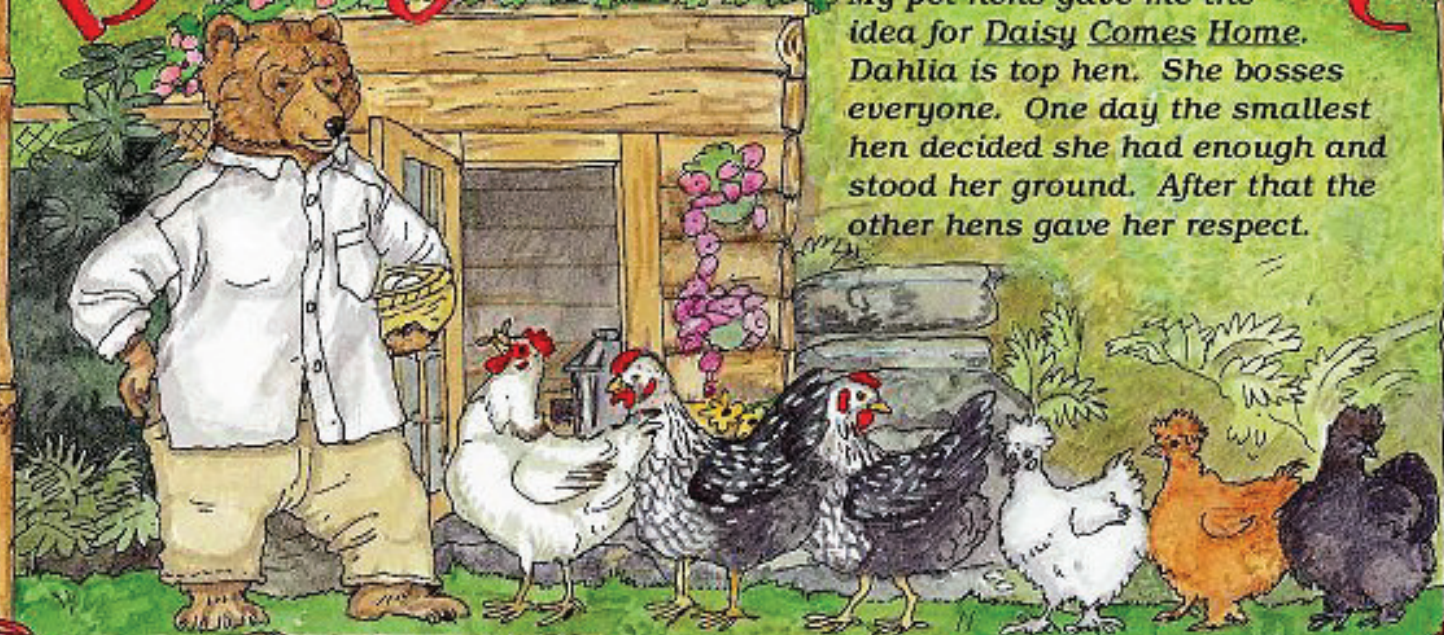


ALL ABOUT

Daisy Comes Home

Hi!

My pet hens gave me the idea for *Daisy Comes Home*. Dahlia is top hen. She bosses everyone. One day the smallest hen decided she had enough and stood her ground. After that the other hens gave her respect.



DAHLIA

BLUEBELL

PANSY

ROSE

LILY

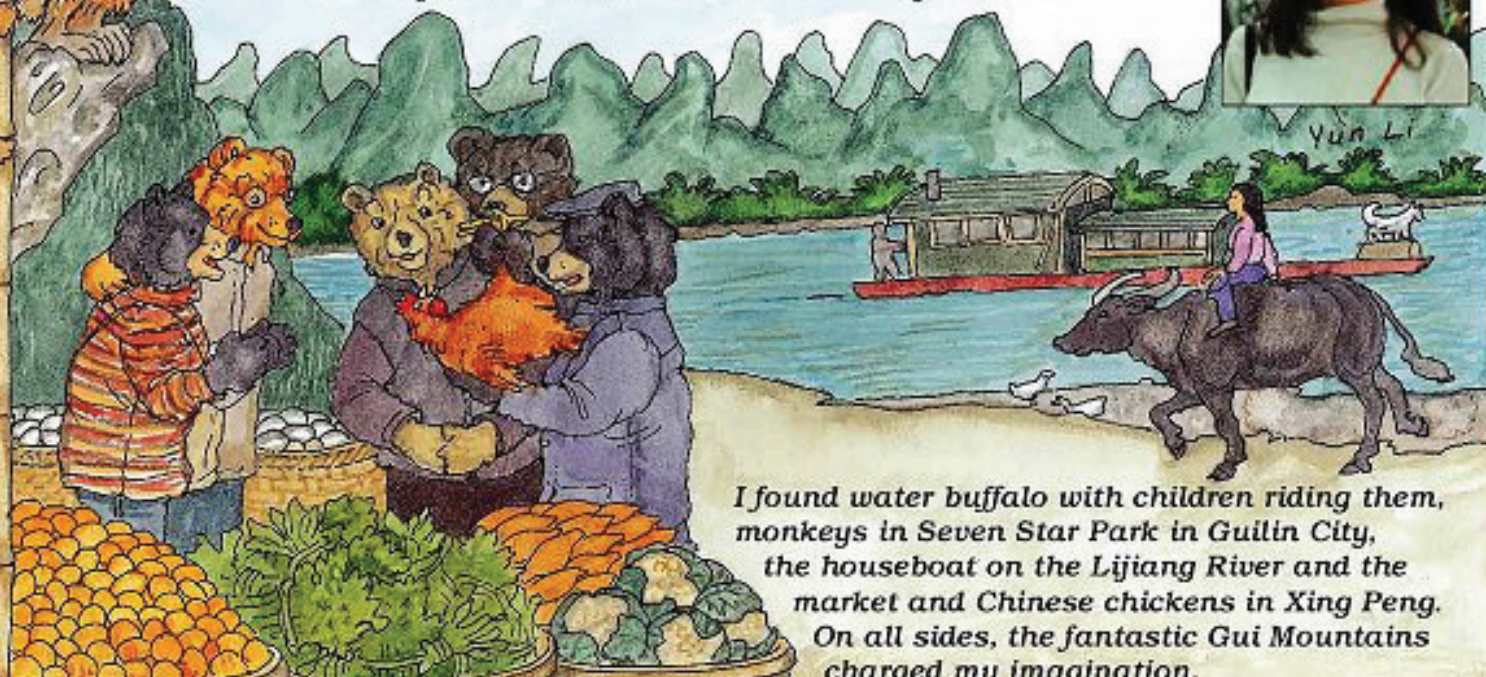
IRIS

I knew my story could be set anywhere. Chickens live all over the world. I chose China!

The other worldly Gui Mountains in Guilin became the setting for my story. My daughter-in-law went with me to help. It was a little like going on a treasure hunt, because I needed to see the animals and places I had written into the story.



Yun Li



I found water buffalo with children riding them, monkeys in Seven Star Park in Guilin City, the houseboat on the Lijiang River and the market and Chinese chickens in Xing Peng. On all sides, the fantastic Gui Mountains charged my imagination.

ZODIAC BIRTH YEARS

THE YEAR OF THE RAT

1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008

THE YEAR OF THE OX

1913, 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009

YEAR OF THE TIGER

1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010

YEAR OF THE RABBIT

1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011

THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON

1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012

THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE

1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013

YEAR OF THE HORSE

1918, 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014

THE YEAR OF THE GOAT

1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015

YEAR OF THE MONKEY

1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016

THE YEAR OF THE ROOSTER

1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017

YEAR OF THE DOG

1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018

THE YEAR OF THE BOAR

1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019

MAGICAL MOUNTAINS

The beautiful mountains with fantastic shapes are called karsks. They are formed when limestone land is uplifted, and then eroded for thousands of years. Inside the mountains, there are often caves and underground lakes and rivers. Water that flows through limestone is crystal clear, like the Lijiang River pictured in *Daisy Comes Home*. The City of Guilin is surrounded by mountains with unusual names, like The Camel, The Elephant and Nine Horse Painted Cliff. In my book, I made up mountains with animal shapes. Can you find fifteen animals in the mountains in *Daisy Comes Home*?

RSE



DEPENDENT
LEADER
MISTIC
ANCIAL

GOAT



IMAGINATIVE
CHARMING
STRONG
KIND

MONKEY



MISCHIEVOUS
GOOD MEMORY
PERFORMER
CLEVER

ROOSTER



GIVES ADVICE
TAKES CHARGE
NOTICEABLE
LUCKY

DOG



SERVES OTHERS
TRUTH SEEKER
RESPECTED
FAITHFUL

THOUGHTFUL
DILIGENT
POLITE
BRAVE

BOAR



FINDS A
EMOTI
SENSI
CARE



RJ



MY STONE SEAL

In *Daisy Comes Home*, I signed each painting with my name, "Jan" by stamping a stone seal, or "chop" in red ink and pressing it into the paper. Many Chinese paintings are signed this way. I like the top part because it looks like chicken feet.



CHINESE ANIMAL YEARS

Chinese folklore says that all the animals were invited to visit Buddha, a wise, revered teacher. When only twelve animals arrived, they were honored by having a year named after each one.

My birth year is in the year of the ox, but I wish I were in the year of the rabbit. Have fun matching up your family with the animal that goes with the year they were born.

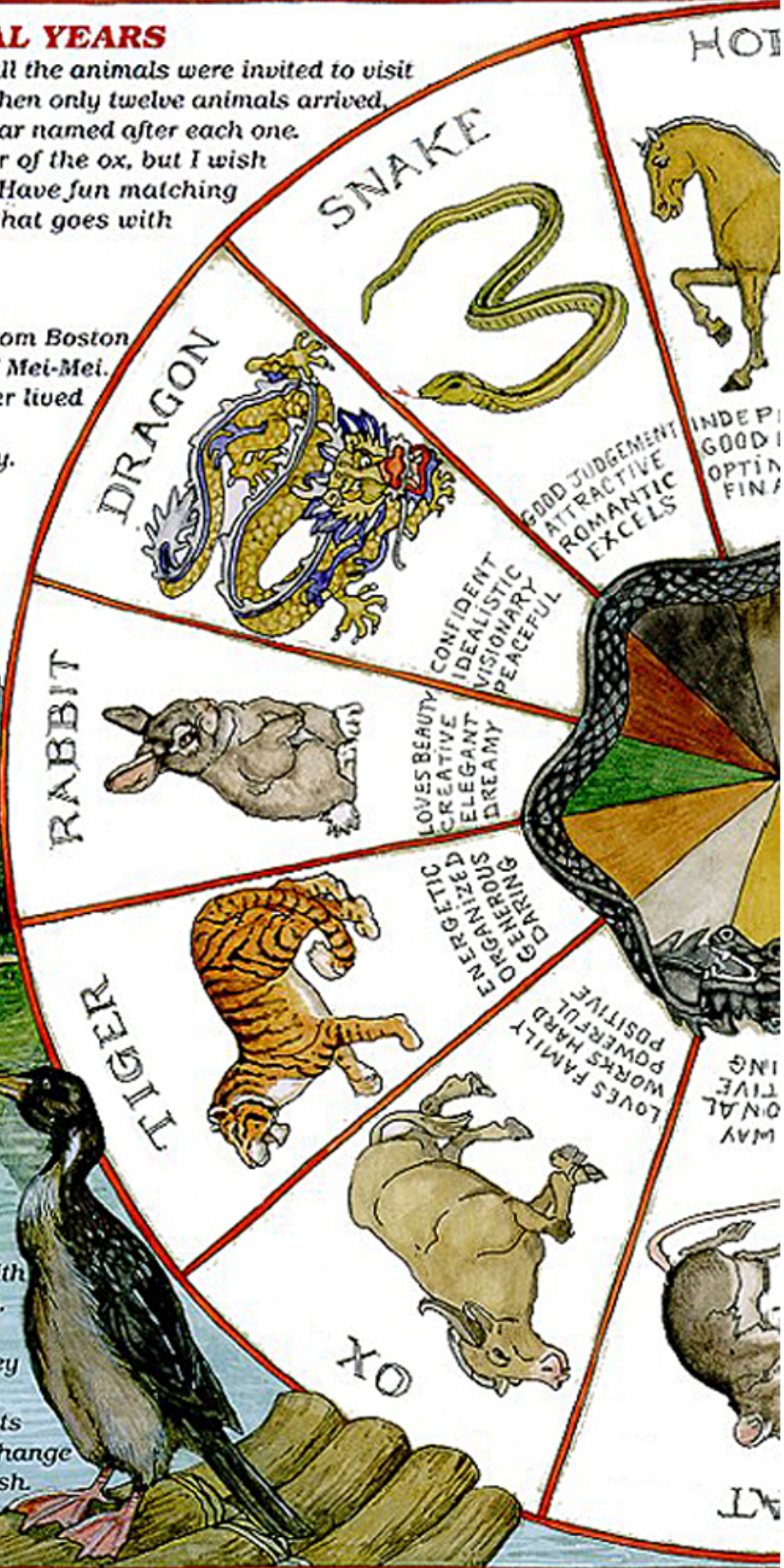
WHO IS MEI-MEI?

Stephanie Hsu, a young pianist from Boston inspired the pictures I painted of Mei-Mei. Even though Stephanie has never lived on a farm, she knew just how to communicate with my hen Pansy. She lived in Hong Kong, China when she was little.



FISHING BIRDS

On the Lijiang River, fishermen glide on thin bamboo rafts, fishing with the help of their trained cormorants. The cormorants swim under water and catch a fish in their beaks. They can't swallow the fish because of a band on their necks. The cormorants give the fish to the fishermen in exchange for a tidbit, perhaps the tail of the fish.



HOT

INDEP
GOOD
OPTIM
FINA

MAY
ONLINE
FIVE
ANGRY

ACT