

My grandma reads me books.

1.

Gye-ok Shim

This is my grandma's name.

She lives in the country by herself.

She loves to stay home quietly.

It would be good if she would go to a senior center and hang around with other grandmas.

But she says that she feels most comfortable at home.

2.

My grandma doesn't know how to read.

When my mom was little, she used to read Grandma books from school aloud and Grandma really enjoyed it.

3.

I was able to learn to read easily because my mom had read me a lot of books.

Will Grandma be able to naturally learn to read if I read her books every night?

4.

My grandma loves picture books.

She says she feels as if the dark world lights up when I read her a book aloud.

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5.

I call her to read her a book before going to bed.

I read a picture book to her every night.

6.

Then, she always gets excited at the same scene.

"Oh! such nasty fellows! Why couldn't they just get him out with their long wings?"

And then, she calms down and quietly listens again.

7.

"Grandma, are you sleepy?"

"No, I'm not. Please keep going."

She falls asleep, listening to the story from the picture book I read.

8.

"Grandma, are you sleepy?"

"....."

She didn't answer me I closed the book and went to sleep.

It has been over a year since I read books to her.

9.

Grandma has reached 80 years old this year.

10.

Today I attended Grandma's 80th birthday party.

Grandma doesn't like a singing or dancing party.

So my family and relatives, instead, decided to come together to a restaurant, and have a delicious meal.

My mom and dad gave many thanks to all the people who came to celebrate Grandma's birthday.

11.

During that Grandma was just sitting there, but a little later she quietly stood up and opened a book.

It was the picture book that I have read her every day for a year.

“Thank you very much for coming to celebrate my birthday with all your busy life.
If you don’t mind, I’d like to read you a book.”

12.

She read the book softly and slowly.
Grandma finished reading the whole picture book.
She didn’t even miss a word.

13.

14.

We all, including Grandma’s sister, Dad, Mom, and even me, were amazed to hear Grandma’s reading.
All the guests in the restaurant applauded.
Mom held Grandma tight in her arms.

15.

Now, Grandma is the grandma who reads me picture books.’
She reads me a picture book every night on the phone.
“My precious Min-jeong, are you sleepy?”
“No..... I’m not, Grandma.”

I fall into sleep, listening to the story from a picture book Grandma reads me.