Dad cooks, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Měi Líng's mom goes away for three days, and her dad can cook only one dish. What will they eat?

你会做饭吗？我有一个爸爸做饭的故事！
Nǐ huì zuò fàn ma? Wǒ yǒu yí ge bàba zuò fàn de gùshi!
Can you cook? I have a story about my dad cooking!

在我家，妈妈每天做饭。她做的饭很好吃。
Zài wǒ jiā, māma měi tiān zuò fàn. Tā zuò de fàn hěn hǎochī.
In my family, my mom cooks every day. Her food is very good.

我爸爸不会做饭。他会做一个菜：面条。
Wǒ bàba bú huì zuò fàn. Tā huì zuò yí ge cài: miàntiáo.
My dad can't cook. He can make one dish: noodles.

我十岁的时候，妈妈要去上海三天。
Wǒ shí suì de shíhou, māma yào qù Shànghǎi sān tiān.
When I was ten, my mom had to go to Shànghǎi for three days.

妈妈说：“没事，爸爸给你做饭。”你猜，我们吃了什么？
Māma shuō: “Méi shì, bàba gěi nǐ zuò fàn.” Nǐ cāi, wǒmen chīle shénme?
My mom said: “Don't worry. Dad will cook for you.” What do you think we ate?

第一天，爸爸说：“今天我们吃面条！”我喜欢面条。我很高兴。
Dì yī tiān, bàba shuō: “Jīntiān wǒmen chī miàntiáo!” Wǒ xǐhuan miàntiáo. Wǒ hěn gāoxìng.
Day one. Dad said: “Today we eat noodles!” I like noodles. I was happy.

第二天，我问：“爸爸，今天吃什么？”
Dì èr tiān, wǒ wèn: “Bàba, jīntiān chī shénme?”
Day two. I asked: “Dad, what do we eat today?”

他说：“今天……面条！”
Tā shuō: “Jīntiān…… miàntiáo!”
He said: “Today... noodles!”

早上吃面条，晚上也吃面条。
Zǎoshang chī miàntiáo, wǎnshang yě chī miàntiáo.
Noodles in the morning, and noodles in the evening.

我说：“爸爸，我不想吃面条。”
Wǒ shuō: “Bàba, wǒ bù xiǎng chī miàntiáo.”
I said: “Dad, I don't want noodles.”

他说：“今天的面条不是昨天的面条。昨天的面条很大，今天的面条很小。”
Tā shuō: “Jīntiān de miàntiáo bú shì zuótiān de miàntiáo. Zuótiān de miàntiáo hěn dà, jīntiān de miàntiáo hěn xiǎo.”
He said: “Today's noodles are not yesterday's noodles. Yesterday's noodles were big. Today's noodles are small.”

第三天，我看着爸爸。爸爸看着我。
Dì sān tiān, wǒ kànzhe bàba. Bàba kànzhe wǒ.
Day three. I looked at Dad. Dad looked at me.

他说：“好吧。今天不吃面条。”
Tā shuō: “Hǎo ba. Jīntiān bù chī miàntiáo.”
He said: “Okay. Today, no noodles.”

我太高兴了！第三天我们吃了什么？你猜！
Wǒ tài gāoxìng le! Dì sān tiān wǒmen chīle shénme? Nǐ cāi!
I was so happy! What did we eat on day three? Guess!

爸爸说：“今天我们去饭店！”
Bàba shuō: “Jīntiān wǒmen qù fàndiàn!”
Dad said: “Today we go to a restaurant!”

那是一个很大的饭店，有很多好吃的：鱼、鸡肉、米饭。
Nà shì yí ge hěn dà de fàndiàn, yǒu hěn duō hǎochī de: yú, jīròu, mǐfàn.
It was a big restaurant, with many good things: fish, chicken, rice.

我说：“我要鱼和米饭。”
Wǒ shuō: “Wǒ yào yú hé mǐfàn.”
I said: “I want fish and rice.”

服务员问我爸爸：“您呢？”
Fúwùyuán wèn wǒ bàba: “Nín ne?”
The waiter asked my dad: “And you?”

我爸爸看菜单看了很久。
Wǒ bàba kàn càidān kànle hěn jiǔ.
My dad looked at the menu for a long time.

他说：“我要面条。”
Tā shuō: “Wǒ yào miàntiáo.”
He said: “I'll have noodles.”

Words in the story

做饭
zuò fàn
to cook

好吃
hǎochī
tasty, good to eat

菜
cài
a dish

面条
miàntiáo
noodles

你猜
nǐ cāi
guess!

第一天
dì yī tiān
day one, the first day

早上
zǎoshang
morning

晚上
wǎnshang
evening

饭店
fàndiàn
restaurant

鸡肉
jīròu
chicken (the meat)

服务员
fúwùyuán
waiter

菜单
càidān
menu

很久
hěn jiǔ
a long time

我要……
wǒ yào……
I'll have... (when you order)

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/dad-cooks