Grandma and the TV, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Every afternoon Hán Tāo's grandma falls asleep in front of the TV. Today the show is very slow, and he wants to watch something else.

你奶奶喜欢看电视吗？我奶奶很喜欢！我有一个电视的故事！
Nǐ nǎinai xǐhuan kàn diànshì ma? Wǒ nǎinai hěn xǐhuan! Wǒ yǒu yí ge diànshì de gùshi!
Does your grandma like watching TV? Mine loves it! I have a TV story!

我奶奶和我住在一起。每天吃了午饭，她就坐在大椅子上看电视。
Wǒ nǎinai hé wǒ zhù zài yìqǐ. Měi tiān chīle wǔfàn, tā jiù zuò zài dà yǐzi shang kàn diànshì.
My grandma lives with me. Every day after lunch she sits in her big chair and watches TV.

有一天，电视里在放川剧。很慢，很慢。
Yǒu yì tiān, diànshì li zài fàng Chuānjù. Hěn màn, hěn màn.
One day there was a Sichuan opera on TV. Very slow.

我看了看奶奶。她的眼睛闭着。她睡着了。
Wǒ kànle kàn nǎinai. Tā de yǎnjing bìzhe. Tā shuìzháo le.
I looked at Grandma. Her eyes were closed. She was asleep.

我想看电影，就换了一个台。你猜，奶奶说什么？
Wǒ xiǎng kàn diànyǐng, jiù huànle yí ge tái. Nǐ cāi, nǎinai shuō shénme?
I wanted to watch a movie. So I changed the channel. What did Grandma say? Guess!

奶奶睁开了一只眼睛。她说：“我在看呢！”
Nǎinai zhēngkāile yì zhī yǎnjing. Tā shuō: “Wǒ zài kàn ne!”
Grandma opened one eye. She said: “I'm watching that!”

我说：“对不起，奶奶！”我把川剧换回来了。
Wǒ shuō: “Duìbuqǐ, nǎinai!” Wǒ bǎ Chuānjù huàn huílai le.
I said: “Sorry, Grandma!” I put the Sichuan opera back.

她闭上了眼睛。两分钟以后，她又睡着了，还打呼噜。
Tā bìshàngle yǎnjing. Liǎng fēnzhōng yǐhòu, tā yòu shuìzháo le, hái dǎ hūlu.
She closed her eyes. Two minutes later she was sleeping again. She was snoring.

我等了十分钟，又慢慢换了台。
Wǒ děngle shí fēnzhōng, yòu mànmàn huànle tái.
I waited ten minutes. Then I changed the channel again, very slowly.

她睁开了一只眼睛：“我在看呢！”我又把川剧换回来了。
Tā zhēngkāile yì zhī yǎnjing: “Wǒ zài kàn ne!” Wǒ yòu bǎ Chuānjù huàn huílai le.
One eye opened: “I'm watching that!” I put the Sichuan opera back.

我问：“奶奶，电视里的人在做什么？”
Wǒ wèn: “Nǎinai, diànshì li de rén zài zuò shénme?”
I asked: “Grandma, what are the people on TV doing?”

她说：“唱戏。”她说对了。然后她又睡了。
Tā shuō: “Chàng xì.” Tā shuō duì le. Ránhòu tā yòu shuì le.
She said: “Singing opera.” She was right. Then she slept again.

我等了二十分钟，又换了一次台。
Wǒ děngle èrshí fēnzhōng, yòu huànle yí cì tái.
I waited twenty minutes. Then I changed the channel one more time.

“我在看呢！”可是这一次，她的眼睛没睁开！
“Wǒ zài kàn ne!” Kěshì zhè yí cì, tā de yǎnjing méi zhēngkāi!
“I'm watching that!” But this time her eyes did not open!

她睡着了吗？我想知道。你猜，我做了什么？
Tā shuìzháo le ma? Wǒ xiǎng zhīdào. Nǐ cāi, wǒ zuòle shénme?
Was she sleeping or not? I wanted to know. What did I do? Guess!

我把电视关了。
Wǒ bǎ diànshì guān le.
I turned the TV off.

电视里没有声音了。家里很安静。
Diànshì li méiyǒu shēngyīn le. Jiā li hěn ānjìng.
There was no sound from the TV. The house was very quiet.

奶奶没动。她的眼睛闭着。
Nǎinai méi dòng. Tā de yǎnjing bìzhe.
Grandma did not move. Her eyes were closed.

我等了一分钟。我想：现在我知道了。她睡着了。
Wǒ děngle yì fēnzhōng. Wǒ xiǎng: xiànzài wǒ zhīdào le. Tā shuìzháo le.
I waited one minute. I thought: now I know. She is sleeping.

这时候，奶奶又说：“我在看呢！”
Zhè shíhou, nǎinai yòu shuō: “Wǒ zài kàn ne!”
Then she said: “I'm watching that!”

Words in the story

电视 diànshì *TV*	午饭 wǔfàn *lunch*	川剧 Chuānjù *Sichuan opera (a slow, sung show from Chéngdū's region)*
慢 màn *slow*	闭着 bìzhe *closed (eyes)*	睡着了 shuìzháo le *fell asleep*
换台 huàn tái *to change the channel*	你猜 nǐ cāi *guess!*	睁开 zhēngkāi *to open (your eyes)*
我在看呢！ wǒ zài kàn ne! *I'm watching it! (呢 makes it a bit stubborn)*	打呼噜 dǎ hūlu *to snore*	唱戏 chàng xì *to sing opera*
关 guān *to turn off, to close*	声音 shēngyīn *sound*	安静 ānjìng *quiet*

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/grandma-and-the-tv