Not “auntie”, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Every morning a little boy in Měi Líng's building calls her āyí, auntie. She is twenty-five. What should he call her?

你喜欢小朋友吗？我有一个小男孩的故事！
Nǐ xǐhuan xiǎopéngyǒu ma? Wǒ yǒu yí ge xiǎo nánhái de gùshi!
Do you like kids? I have a story about a little boy!

我们楼里有一个小男孩，叫豆豆。他四岁。
Wǒmen lóu li yǒu yí ge xiǎo nánhái, jiào Dòudou. Tā sì suì.
There's a little boy in my building called Dòudou. He is four.

每天早上，我在楼下看见豆豆和他妈妈。
Měi tiān zǎoshang, wǒ zài lóuxià kànjiàn Dòudou hé tā māma.
Every morning I see Dòudou and his mom downstairs.

每天早上，他妈妈都说：“豆豆，叫阿姨！”
Měi tiān zǎoshang, tā māma dōu shuō: “Dòudou, jiào āyí!”
Every morning his mom says: “Dòudou, say hello to āyí (auntie)!”

阿姨？我不是阿姨！我才二十五岁！你说，他应该叫我什么？
Āyí? Wǒ bú shì āyí! Wǒ cái èrshíwǔ suì! Nǐ shuō, tā yīnggāi jiào wǒ shénme?
Āyí? I'm not an āyí! I'm only twenty-five! You tell me: what should he call me?

当然是“姐姐”！
Dāngrán shì “jiějie”!
Jiějie (big sister), of course!

有一天，我对豆豆说：“我不是阿姨，我是姐姐。”他看着我说：“好的，阿姨。”
Yǒu yì tiān, wǒ duì Dòudou shuō: “Wǒ bú shì āyí, wǒ shì jiějie.” Tā kànzhe wǒ shuō: “Hǎo de, āyí.”
One day I said to Dòudou: “I'm not āyí. I'm jiějie.” He looked at me and said: “Okay, āyí.”

第二天，我包里有糖。我说：“豆豆，叫我姐姐，我给你糖。”
Dì èr tiān, wǒ bāo li yǒu táng. Wǒ shuō: “Dòudou, jiào wǒ jiějie, wǒ gěi nǐ táng.”
The next day I had candy in my bag. I said: “Dòudou, call me jiějie and I'll give you candy.”

他看看糖，看看我，说：“姐姐好！”
Tā kànkan táng, kànkan wǒ, shuō: “Jiějie hǎo!”
He looked at the candy, looked at me, and said: “Hello, jiějie!”

我太高兴了！我给了他两块糖。
Wǒ tài gāoxìng le! Wǒ gěile tā liǎng kuài táng.
I was so happy! I gave him two pieces of candy.

现在每天早上，他都说“姐姐好”，我就给他糖。我每个星期都要买糖。
Xiànzài měi tiān zǎoshang, tā dōu shuō “jiějie hǎo”, wǒ jiù gěi tā táng. Wǒ měi ge xīngqī dōu yào mǎi táng.
Now every morning he says “Hello, jiějie,” and I give him candy. I have to buy candy every week.

可是豆豆很聪明。他想：叫“姐姐”，就有糖。你猜，他做了什么？
Kěshì Dòudou hěn cōngming. Tā xiǎng: jiào “jiějie”, jiù yǒu táng. Nǐ cāi, tā zuòle shénme?
But Dòudou is smart. He thought: say “jiějie,” get candy. Guess what he did?

他见人就叫“姐姐”。
Tā jiàn rén jiù jiào “jiějie”.
He called everyone he saw “jiějie.”

他叫老师“姐姐”。他叫商店的阿姨“姐姐”。
Tā jiào lǎoshī “jiějie”. Tā jiào shāngdiàn de āyí “jiějie”.
He called his teacher “jiějie.” He called the āyí at the store “jiějie.”

他也叫他妈妈“姐姐”。他妈妈也给了他糖。
Tā yě jiào tā māma “jiějie”. Tā māma yě gěile tā táng.
He called his mom “jiějie” too. And his mom gave him candy too.

昨天，我们在楼下看见了我的邻居张奶奶。她八十二岁。
Zuótiān, wǒmen zài lóuxià kànjiànle wǒ de línjū Zhāng nǎinai. Tā bāshí'èr suì.
Yesterday, downstairs, we saw my neighbor, Grandma Zhāng. She is eighty-two.

豆豆看着张奶奶，大声说：“姐姐好！”
Dòudou kànzhe Zhāng nǎinai, dàshēng shuō: “Jiějie hǎo!”
Dòudou looked at Grandma Zhāng and said, very loudly: “Hello, jiějie!”

张奶奶太高兴了！她回家拿了一大包糖下来。
Zhāng nǎinai tài gāoxìng le! Tā huí jiā nále yí dà bāo táng xiàlai.
Grandma Zhāng was so happy! She went home and came back down with a big bag of candy.

现在张奶奶每天都给豆豆糖，比我给的多。
Xiànzài Zhāng nǎinai měi tiān dōu gěi Dòudou táng, bǐ wǒ gěi de duō.
Now Grandma Zhāng gives Dòudou candy every day, more than I do.

今天早上，我看见豆豆。我没带糖。他说："阿姨好。"
Jīntiān zǎoshang, wǒ kànjiàn Dòudou. Wǒ méi dài táng. Tā shuō: "Āyí hǎo."
This morning I saw Dòudou. I had no candy with me. He said: "Hello, āyí."

Words in the story

阿姨
āyí
auntie: what a child calls a woman of their parents' age

姐姐
jiějie
big sister: what a child calls a young woman

小朋友
xiǎopéngyǒu
kids, a child

小男孩
xiǎo nánhái
a little boy

楼
lóu
a building (of flats)

楼下
lóuxià
downstairs

才
cái
only (and that's very little)

应该
yīnggāi
should

当然
dāngrán
of course

包
bāo
a bag

糖
táng
candy

两块糖
liǎng kuài táng
two pieces of candy

聪明
cōngming
smart

见人就叫
jiàn rén jiù jiào
calls everyone he sees

邻居
línjū
neighbor

奶奶
nǎinai
grandma; any old woman

大声
dàshēng
loudly

比我……多
bǐ wǒ…… duō
more than me

没带
méi dài
didn't have with me

你猜
nǐ cāi
guess!

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/not-auntie