The cat bed, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Hán Tāo's cat sleeps in the middle of his bed, so he buys her a very good cat bed. Where will she sleep?

你喜欢睡觉吗？我的猫非常喜欢！我有一个猫床的故事。
Nǐ xǐhuan shuìjiào ma? Wǒ de māo fēicháng xǐhuan! Wǒ yǒu yí ge māo chuáng de gùshi.
Do you like sleeping? My cat loves it! I have a story about a cat bed.

我的猫叫橙子。每天晚上，橙子都在我的床上睡觉。
Wǒ de māo jiào Chéngzi. Měi tiān wǎnshang, Chéngzi dōu zài wǒ de chuáng shang shuìjiào.
My cat is called Chéngzi. Every night, Chéngzi sleeps on my bed.

它睡在中间，我只能睡在边上。
Tā shuì zài zhōngjiān, wǒ zhǐ néng shuì zài biān shang.
She sleeps in the middle. I can only sleep on the edge.

所以我去商店买了一个猫床。很好的猫床，两百块。
Suǒyǐ wǒ qù shāngdiàn mǎile yí ge māo chuáng. Hěn hǎo de māo chuáng, liǎng bǎi kuài.
So I went to a shop and bought a cat bed. A very good cat bed: two hundred kuài.

回到家，我说：“橙子，这是你的床！”那天晚上，它睡在哪儿？你猜！
Huídào jiā, wǒ shuō: “Chéngzi, zhè shì nǐ de chuáng!” Nà tiān wǎnshang, tā shuì zài nǎr? Nǐ cāi!
At home I said: “Chéngzi, this is your bed!” Where did she sleep that night? Guess!

不在猫床里。它睡在猫床的箱子里。
Bú zài māo chuáng li. Tā shuì zài māo chuáng de xiāngzi li.
Not in the cat bed. She slept in the cat bed's box.

猫床就在箱子旁边。它看都不看。
Māo chuáng jiù zài xiāngzi pángbiān. Tā kàn dōu bú kàn.
The cat bed was right next to the box. She didn't even look at it.

我想：可能猫床太小了。
Wǒ xiǎng: kěnéng māo chuáng tài xiǎo le.
I thought: maybe the cat bed is too small.

所以我又买了一个大的，四百块。大猫床的箱子也更大。
Suǒyǐ wǒ yòu mǎile yí ge dà de, sì bǎi kuài. Dà māo chuáng de xiāngzi yě gèng dà.
So I bought a big one too: four hundred kuài. The big cat bed came in a bigger box.

我说：“橙子，你看！大床！”
Wǒ shuō: “Chéngzi, nǐ kàn! Dà chuáng!”
I said: “Chéngzi, look! A big bed!”

橙子看了看大床，然后看了看大箱子。
Chéngzi kànle kàn dà chuáng, ránhòu kànle kàn dà xiāngzi.
Chéngzi looked at the big bed. Then she looked at the big box.

它睡在哪儿？你知道的。
Tā shuì zài nǎr? Nǐ zhīdào de.
Where did she sleep? You know.

在大箱子里。
Zài dà xiāngzi li.
In the big box.

现在我有两个猫床，六百块。橙子呢？在箱子里，很高兴。
Xiànzài wǒ yǒu liǎng ge māo chuáng, liù bǎi kuài. Chéngzi ne? Zài xiāngzi li, hěn gāoxìng.
So now I have two cat beds: six hundred kuài. And Chéngzi? In a box, very happy.

上个星期，我买了一个新电视。电视的箱子非常大。
Shàng ge xīngqī, wǒ mǎile yí ge xīn diànshì. Diànshì de xiāngzi fēicháng dà.
Last week I bought a new TV. The TV's box is very big.

橙子看见了这个箱子，太高兴了。
Chéngzi kànjiànle zhège xiāngzi, tài gāoxìng le.
Chéngzi saw that box, and she was so happy.

现在它每天晚上都睡在电视的箱子里。我睡在床的中间。
Xiànzài tā měi tiān wǎnshang dōu shuì zài diànshì de xiāngzi li. Wǒ shuì zài chuáng de zhōngjiān.
Now she sleeps in the TV box every night. I sleep in the middle of my bed.

那两个猫床呢？橙子一次也没睡过。
Nà liǎng ge māo chuáng ne? Chéngzi yí cì yě méi shuìguo.
And the two cat beds? Chéngzi has never slept in them. Not once.

现在我知道了。我不买猫床了。
Xiànzài wǒ zhīdào le. Wǒ bù mǎi māo chuáng le.
Now I know. I don't buy cat beds anymore.

我买箱子。
Wǒ mǎi xiāngzi.
I buy boxes.

Words in the story

猫 māo *cat*	床 chuáng *bed*	猫床 māo chuáng *cat bed*
中间 zhōngjiān *the middle*	边上 biān shang *the edge, the side*	块 kuài *kuài, the everyday word for yuán (money)*
箱子 xiāngzi *box*	旁边 pángbiān *next to*	看都不看 kàn dōu bú kàn *doesn't even look*
可能 kěnéng *maybe*	更大 gèng dà *bigger*	电视 diànshì *TV*
一次也没……过 yí cì yě méi…… guo *never, not once*		

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/the-cat-bed