The nine-kuài chair, a Chinese short story for HSK 1

Měi Líng finds a pretty chair on her phone for only nine kuài and buys it at once. What comes in the box?

你喜欢买东西吗？我有一个椅子的故事！
Nǐ xǐhuan mǎi dōngxi ma? Wǒ yǒu yí ge yǐzi de gùshi!
Do you like buying things? I have a chair story!

我的椅子坏了，我想买一把新的。可是商店的椅子很贵：三百块，四百块。
Wǒ de yǐzi huài le, wǒ xiǎng mǎi yì bǎ xīn de. Kěshì shāngdiàn de yǐzi hěn guì: sānbǎi kuài, sìbǎi kuài.
My chair broke, so I wanted a new one. But chairs in the stores are expensive: three hundred kuài, four hundred kuài.

有一天，我在手机上看到一把椅子，很漂亮。
Yǒu yì tiān, wǒ zài shǒujī shang kàndào yì bǎ yǐzi, hěn piàoliang.
One day I saw a chair on my phone. It was very pretty.

才九块钱！我马上就买了。
Cái jiǔ kuài qián! Wǒ mǎshàng jiù mǎi le.
Only nine kuài! I bought it right away.

三天以后，来了一个盒子。可是盒子很小很小。为什么？
Sān tiān yǐhòu, láile yí ge hézi. Kěshì hézi hěn xiǎo hěn xiǎo. Wèi shénme?
Three days later a box came. But the box was very, very small. Why?

我打开盒子。里面有一把椅子，很小很小，和一只猫一样大。
Wǒ dǎkāi hézi. Lǐmiàn yǒu yì bǎ yǐzi, hěn xiǎo hěn xiǎo, hé yì zhī māo yíyàng dà.
I opened the box. There was a chair in it, very, very small: as big as a cat.

是一把玩具椅子。
Shì yì bǎ wánjù yǐzi.
It was a toy chair.

我不能坐。我的手机能坐。我的手机很高兴！
Wǒ bù néng zuò. Wǒ de shǒujī néng zuò. Wǒ de shǒujī hěn gāoxìng!
I can't sit on it. My phone can sit on it. My phone was very happy!

我不高兴。九块钱不多，可是我想要一把真的椅子！
Wǒ bù gāoxìng. Jiǔ kuài qián bù duō, kěshì wǒ xiǎng yào yì bǎ zhēn de yǐzi!
I was not happy. Nine kuài is not much money, but I wanted a real chair!

楼下有一只猫。它每天来我家吃东西。
Lóuxià yǒu yì zhī māo. Tā měi tiān lái wǒ jiā chī dōngxi.
A cat lives downstairs. It comes to my home every day to eat.

那天下午，猫来了。它看到小椅子，看了很久。你猜，猫做了什么？
Nà tiān xiàwǔ, māo lái le. Tā kàndào xiǎo yǐzi, kànle hěn jiǔ. Nǐ cāi, māo zuòle shénme?
That afternoon the cat came. It saw the small chair and looked at it for a long time. Guess what the cat did?

猫坐在椅子上。不大不小，正好！
Māo zuò zài yǐzi shang. Bú dà bù xiǎo, zhènghǎo!
The cat sat on the chair. Not too big, not too small: just right!

我说：“那是我的椅子！”猫没动。
Wǒ shuō: “Nà shì wǒ de yǐzi!” Māo méi dòng.
I said: “That's my chair!” The cat did not move.

晚上，猫还在椅子上睡觉。
Wǎnshang, māo hái zài yǐzi shang shuìjiào.
In the evening the cat was still on the chair, sleeping.

第二天，猫又来了。它没先吃东西，先去坐椅子。
Dì èr tiān, māo yòu lái le. Tā méi xiān chī dōngxi, xiān qù zuò yǐzi.
The next day the cat came again. It did not eat first. It went to sit on the chair first.

现在，猫每天都来坐椅子。它觉得这是它的家。
Xiànzài, māo měi tiān dōu lái zuò yǐzi. Tā juéde zhè shì tā de jiā.
Now the cat comes every day and sits on the chair. It thinks this is its home.

我朋友问我：“你买新椅子了吗？”我说：“买了。可是现在是猫的椅子。”
Wǒ péngyou wèn wǒ: “Nǐ mǎi xīn yǐzi le ma?” Wǒ shuō: “Mǎi le. Kěshì xiànzài shì māo de yǐzi.”
My friend asked me: “Did you buy a new chair?” I said: “Yes. But it is the cat's chair now.”

我呢？我还没有椅子。我坐在床上。
Wǒ ne? Wǒ hái méiyǒu yǐzi. Wǒ zuò zài chuáng shang.
And me? I still have no chair. I sit on my bed.

昨天，我又在手机上买了一个东西。你猜，我买了什么？
Zuótiān, wǒ yòu zài shǒujī shang mǎile yí ge dōngxi. Nǐ cāi, wǒ mǎile shénme?
Yesterday I bought something on my phone again. Guess what I bought?

一张小桌子。给猫的。
Yì zhāng xiǎo zhuōzi. Gěi māo de.
A small table. For the cat.

Words in the story

买东西 mǎi dōngxi *to buy things, to shop*	椅子 yǐzi *a chair*	坏了 huài le *broken, it broke*
贵 guì *expensive*	块 kuài *kuài, the everyday word for a yuan*	手机 shǒujī *a phone*
才 cái *only (and that's very little)*	马上 mǎshàng *at once, right away*	盒子 hézi *a box*
很小很小 hěn xiǎo hěn xiǎo *very, very small*	和……一样大 hé…… yíyàng dà *as big as…*	玩具 wánjù *a toy*
真的 zhēn de *real*	猫 māo *a cat*	楼下 lóuxià *downstairs*
很久 hěn jiǔ *a long time*	正好 zhènghǎo *just right*	动 dòng *to move*
你猜 nǐ cāi *guess!*	床 chuáng *a bed*	桌子 zhuōzi *a table*

Hear this story from an AI chatbot: kotokin.com/learn/chinese/stories/the-nine-kuai-chair