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Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Storytime session at ByWay Books benefits Dummerston
2 library

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 ByWay Books & More, partnering with the Dummerston
6 Community Center and Library and Lydia's Friends of the Library,
7 will host a storytime event with Rachel Wang Yung-Hsin,
8 translator of *Little Monk Writes Rain* by Hsu-Kung Liu, Saturday,
9 July 11, at 11 a.m.

10 All are invited to enjoy in a simple, resonant story about
11 how to find — and share — a sense of calm amid the storms of
12 life.

13 *Little Monk Writes Rain* is “an evocative tale of
14 mindfulness, self-expression, and compassion,” wrote organizers
15 in a news release. In the story, Old Monk invites Little Monk to
16 practice calligraphy. “Let’s write the character for rain!” he says.
17 And with each brushstroke, Little Monk’s restless, anxious heart
18 grows quiet.

19 For the next 20 years, as Little Monk becomes Big Monk,
20 he sits down with his brush every day, meditating on and writing
21 the character for “rain,” until one day someone comes to the
22 temple asking for help: The city has no water. All grown up now,
23 Big Monk packs his things and hopes to do his part. But will a
24 pile of calligraphy sheets make any difference?

25 On July 11, Wang will read the story and guide attendees
26 through how to write the word rain in calligraphy form. She will
27 also share parts of the story in Mandarin.

28 At the end of the book, the author Hsu-Kung Liu answers
29 the question, Why does the main character only know one word?
30 He replies, “Little Monk actually has a learning disability and
31 cannot learn to write more. ‘Normal people’ might think he is
32 useless to society, just because he can’t read or write except one
33 word. But in a time of crisis, the only word he has written
34 becomes the real rain falling down.”

35 This story is an excellent choice for educators and
36 parents looking for ways to calm the spirited child and engage in
37 practices which encourage patience. A percentage of the
38 proceeds will be donated to support Lydia’s Friends of the Library.

39 Wang Yung-Hsin is a writer, translator, and interpreter
40 with extensive experience in intercultural communication and
41 international education. She earned a master’s in writing for
42 children from Simmons University and won the Lee & Low and
43 Friends Scholarship in 2017. *Little Monk Writes Rain* is her first
44 children’s picture book translation published in English. She

45 reviews young readers' books for *Kirkus Reviews*, and currently
46 resides in Massachusetts.

47 ByWay Books & More is at 399 Canal St., with free
48 parking available behind the store. For more information, call
49 802-490-8014, email contact@bywaybooks.co, or visit
50 bywaybooks.co.

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