



# One Year

Mali and her mum, Hom, love flowers. Their garden in Thailand is full of them. After Hom marries an Australian man, Mali and Mum move to Brisbane.

What will life be like in Brisbane? Will Mali make new friends? Will her favourite flowers grow? And will she like her stepdad?

Life feels complicated.

40 pages, 2400 words, 19 black and white illustrations

### Thai words used in this book

- tuk-tuk – a taxi with three wheels and no doors
- khanom buang – small crispy pancakes filled with sweet or salty fillings
- phuang malai – circle of flowers



## CHAPTER 1 Life in Thailand

Mali lived in a town called Surin. Surin is the capital of Surin Province in Thailand. Mali and her mum lived in a wooden house with a garden full of flowers. Warm wind blew through the open windows. The air smelled of flowers and so did the house.

Outside on the street, cars, scooters and tuk-tuks zoomed past. All the drivers beeped their horns. They beeped at each other and they



## CHAPTER 7 On the Train

After two months Mali started to feel at home in Brisbane. She knew a little English and every day she learned more. The teachers were kind and she made new friends. Paul was a good man and her mum was happy.

Every morning before breakfast, Mali watered the garden. It was the end of Spring so the jasmine was flowering. The scent reminded Mali

and Hom of the Songkran Festival Day in Surin. The rose bush grew new leaves but it did not flower.

Every day Mali caught the train to school with her friend, Nick. They travelled home by train too. They watched the same people get on and off the train. Some people stared at their phones but others smiled and greeted them.

One day the train was full and a friendly man sat next to Nick and Mali. Nick had his soccer ball on his lap.

The man smiled and began chatting.



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