

THE WOVEN WHISPER



Chia-Chen Chang

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Story
&
Illustration

Chia-Chen Chang

2025

The snow is still deep, the wind still cold.

Winter feels like a heavy door
that hasn't opened yet.





Nuppu misses the summer days spent happily with her grandpa and grandma.

There were green hills, blueberry treats in the forest, and sunny laughter that filled the whole afternoon.

But the outside world is still frozen now.

Nuppu couldn't travel all the way to the big white mountain to visit them.

Nuppu stands in the snow, hiding her feeling in her woolly coat, wishing she could tell her grandpa and grandma,

"I'm doing well. How are you?"





But this kind of waiting and wishing isn't something only Nuppu feels.

In the long, cold northern winters, waiting and wishing is something many forest animals do.

There is an old legend in the forest:

If you weave a net from treetop to treetop, the passing wind can carry your words across the forest to someone waiting.

Everyone said Nuppu's wool was as soft as a cloud, perfect for weaving a net like this.

But Nuppu is too short to reach the treetops and let the wind pass through the net just right.

"I understand your problem! I can fly, but I don't have your soft, long wool to weave a net," says Tytti, the little bird on the branch.

They sit quietly together, with the wind
gently passing by.

"If only I had your wool, I
could hang it on the highest
branch,"
says Tytti.



"If only I had your wings, I could
carry my yarn up to the sky," sighs
Nuppu.

They look at each other, and
suddenly their eyes light up.

"Yes!
Why not do it together?"



The wind passes
gently between
them, as if to say this
is a wonderful idea.

And so, they begin!



Tytti carries Nuppu's yarn in his beak, flying and weaving through the treetops, while Nuppu carefully lets the yarn flow smoothly into the sky.

Together, they wove colorful woolen nets, and the wind blew softly through them, carrying Nuppu's words all the way to her grandpa and grandma.



A few days later, the wind returns.

The whisper passes through the nets, through the forest, and softly brushes Nuppu's ears.

Whooooosh, whooooosh...

"Dear Nuppu, we miss you too. Everything is well here. Spring is on its way. We can't wait for you to visit us."

Tytti flutters with excitement. Nuppu's eyes sparkle, and her body feels warm and light, as if spring has already arrived.



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This picture booklet is included in the woolbox DIY kit, inviting children and parents to enjoy weaving together with the specially designed loom.

Thanks

VillalInno project: Tatiana Kravtsov, Minna Kovero, Elina Luiro

The woolbox and this picture booklet were created with the support of the VillalInno (Wool Innovation), a project at the University of Lapland co-funded by the European Union. The author's work bridges traditional handicrafts and contemporary design, emphasizing sustainability — a key principle that lies at the heart of the VillalInno project as well.

Lammastila Kairan Tapuli

Located in Ranua, Lapland, the sheep farm reflects a harmonious way of life shared by people and animals. Visiting the place deeply inspired the author, especially the bond with the sheep and the care devoted to creating yarn and handicrafts. This connection shaped the story behind this picture booklet.

VillalInno



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LAPIN LIITTO

