

LEVELED BOOK • H

The Empty Pot

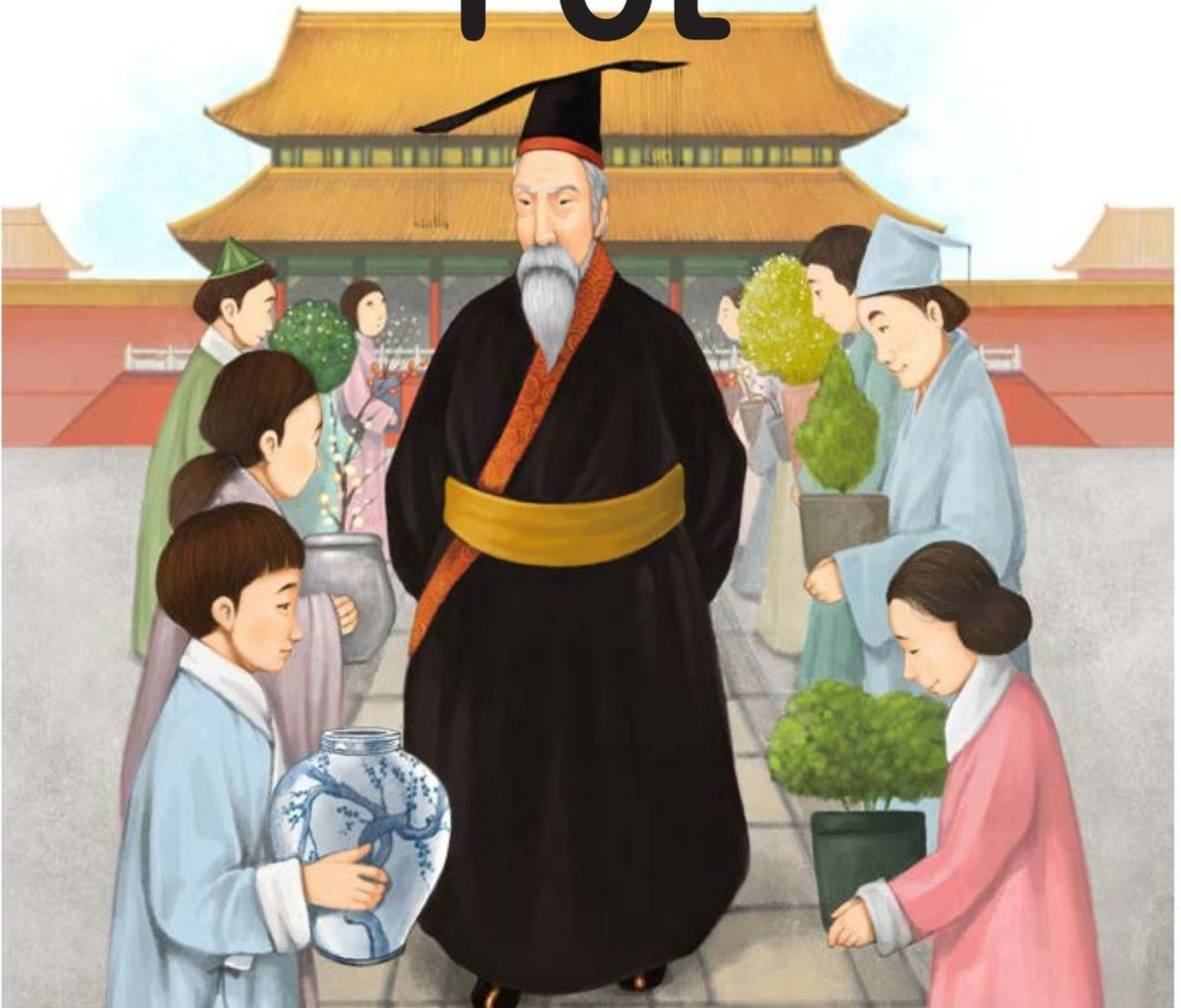


**Multi
level
H•K•N**

Retold by Betty Yee • Illustrated by Jinwoo Kim

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The Empty Pot



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Focus Question

What lesson does Chen learn?

Words to Know	
boiled	empty
China	honest
emperor	well

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Level H Leveled Book
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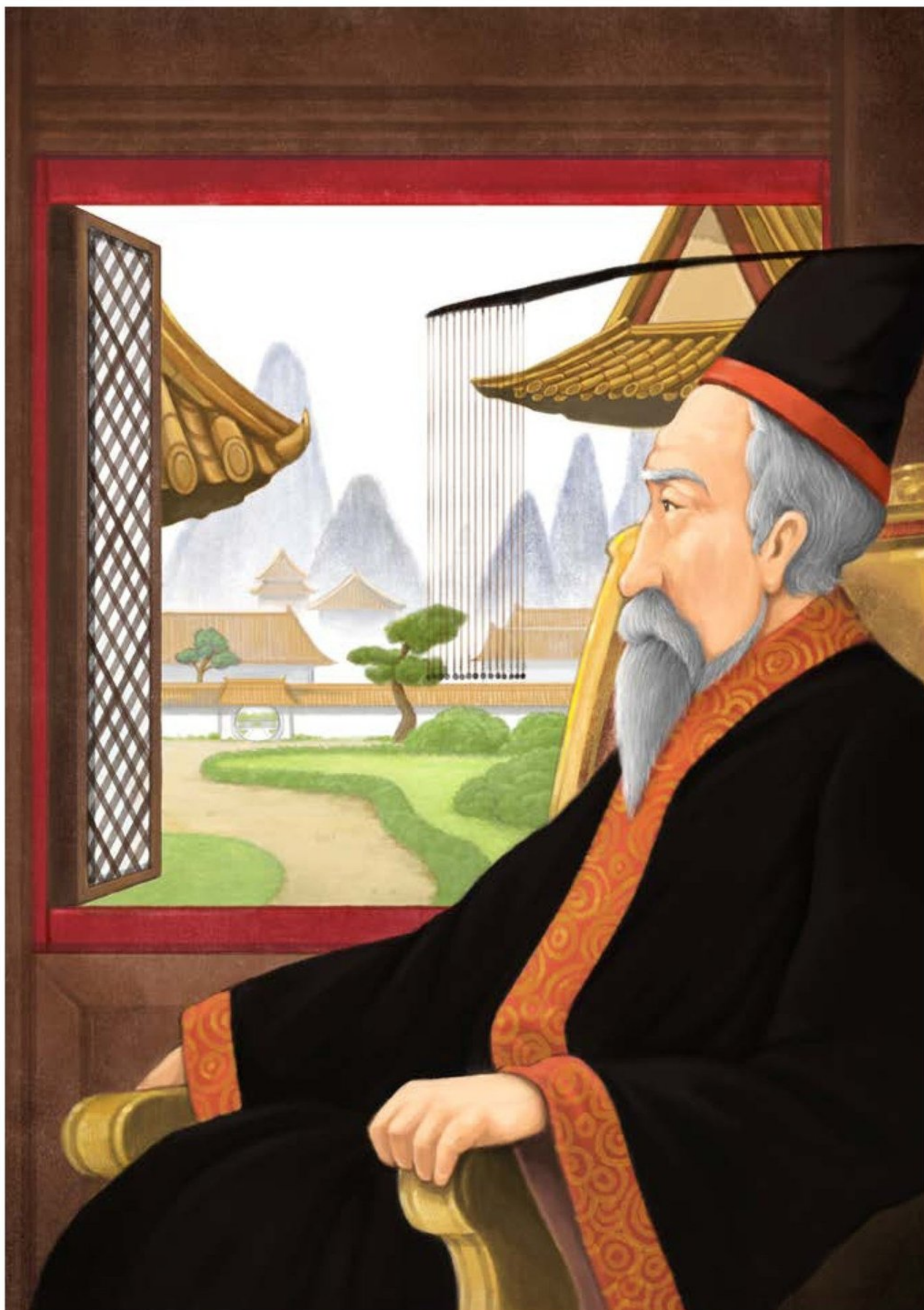
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Correlation	
LEVEL H	
Fountas & Pinnell	H
Reading Recovery	13–14
DRA	14



A long time ago, a boy named
Chen lived in **China** with his mother.



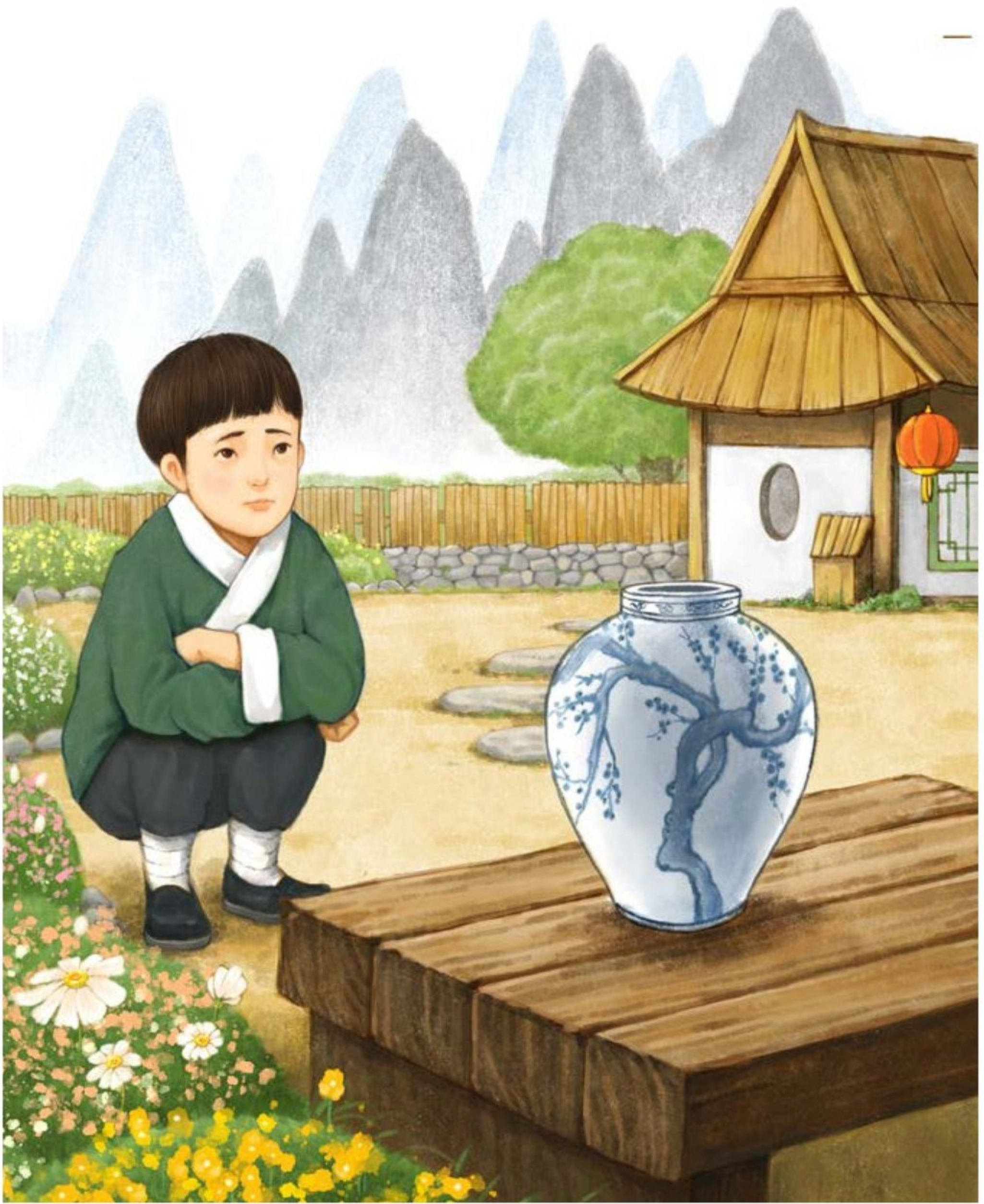
The **emperor** of China was an old man who did not have children.



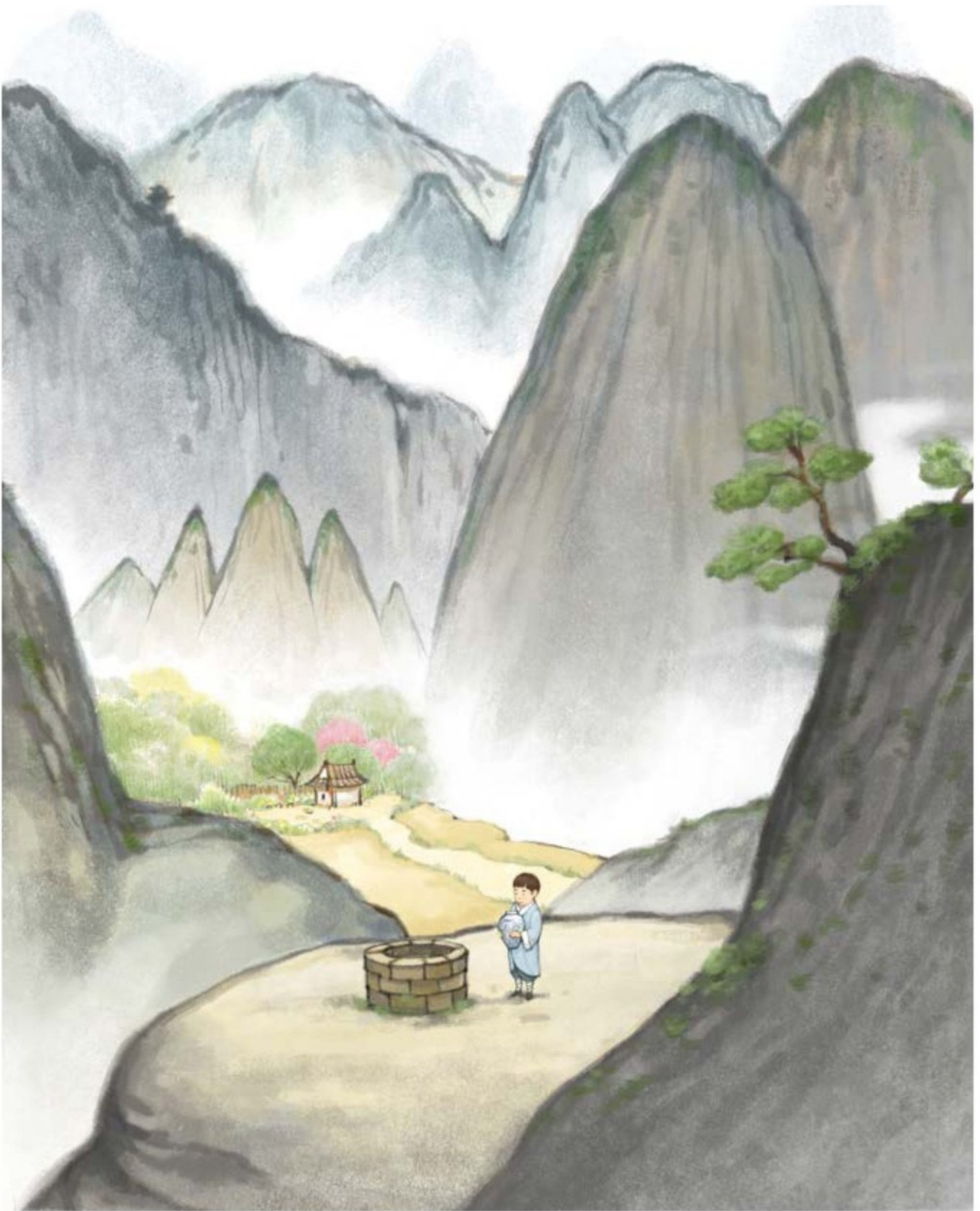
The emperor made a plan
to choose the next emperor.
He said to his people, “I will give
a flower seed to every child.
In a year, come back with
your pots.”



Chen planted his seed
in a small pot.
He gave it water.
Days went by.
The seed did not grow.



Chen moved the seed
to a bigger pot.
Weeks went by.
The seed did not grow.



Chen gave the seed fresh water
from a **well**.

Months went by.

The seed did not grow.



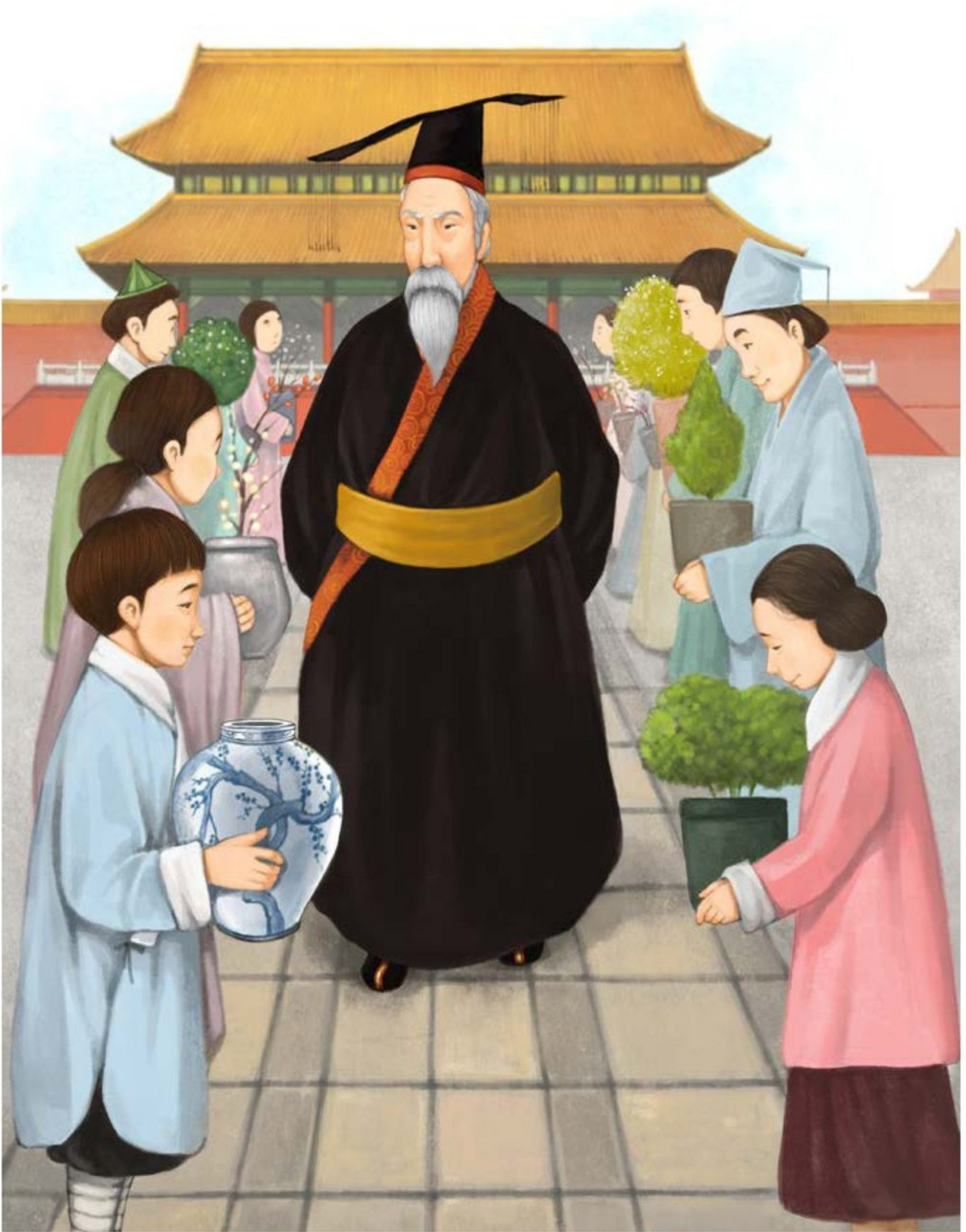
Chen let his pet cricket
sing to the pot.
A year went by.
The seed did not grow.



His mother saw Chen crying.
“You did your best,” she said.



Children came to the palace
with pots full of flowers.
Chen looked at his own **empty** pot.



The emperor looked at all the pots.
At last he came to Chen and his
empty pot.



Chen said, "I am sorry."

He said, "I tried my best, but
my seed would not grow."



Then, the emperor said, “You will be the next emperor!

I gave out **boiled** seeds that could never have grown.”

“But you were **honest**,” he added, pointing to Chen.

Chen became the emperor.



He cared for China just as he had
always cared for his own garden.

Glossary

boiled (*adj.*) heated a in a liquid that has become hot enough to bubble (p. 14)

China (*n.*) a large country in Asia (p. 3)

emperor (*n.*) a man who rules a group of countries (p. 4)

empty (*adj.*) not holding anything (p. 11)

honest (*adj.*) truthful (p. 14)

well (*n.*) a deep hole that is dug into the ground to get water, gas, or oil (p. 8)

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A Reading A-Z Level H Leveled Book

Word Count: 239



Connections

Writing

Pretend you are a child other than Chen from the story.

Write a journal entry telling what you gave to the emperor and why.

Social Studies

Draw a map of China.

Label the capital city and five important landmarks.

The logo for Reading A-Z, featuring the words "Reading A-Z" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Above the letter "i" in "Reading" is a small, stylized sun icon with rays.

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