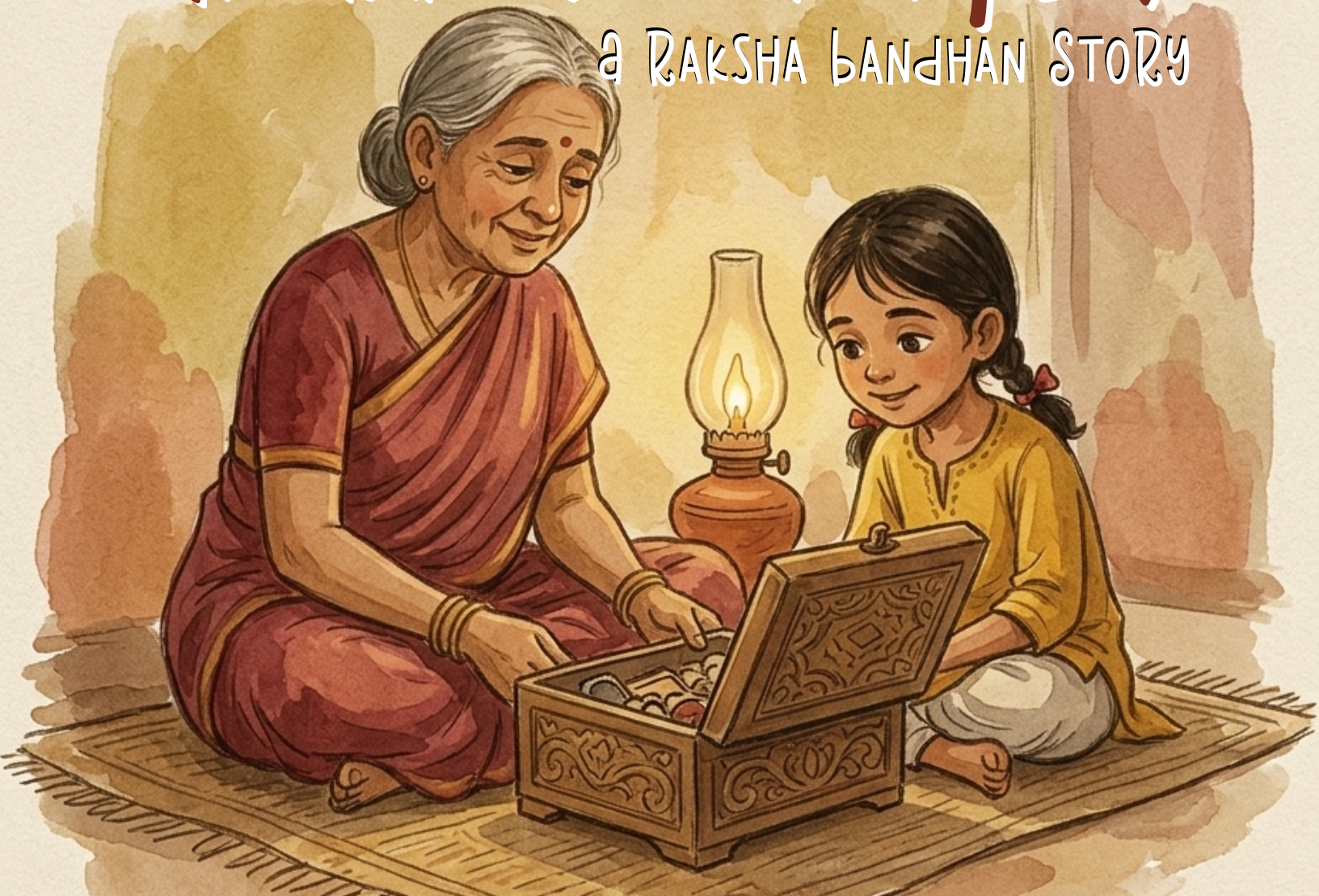


CELEBRATION TALES

BY ENGLISH SHORT STORIES

Grandma's Memory Box

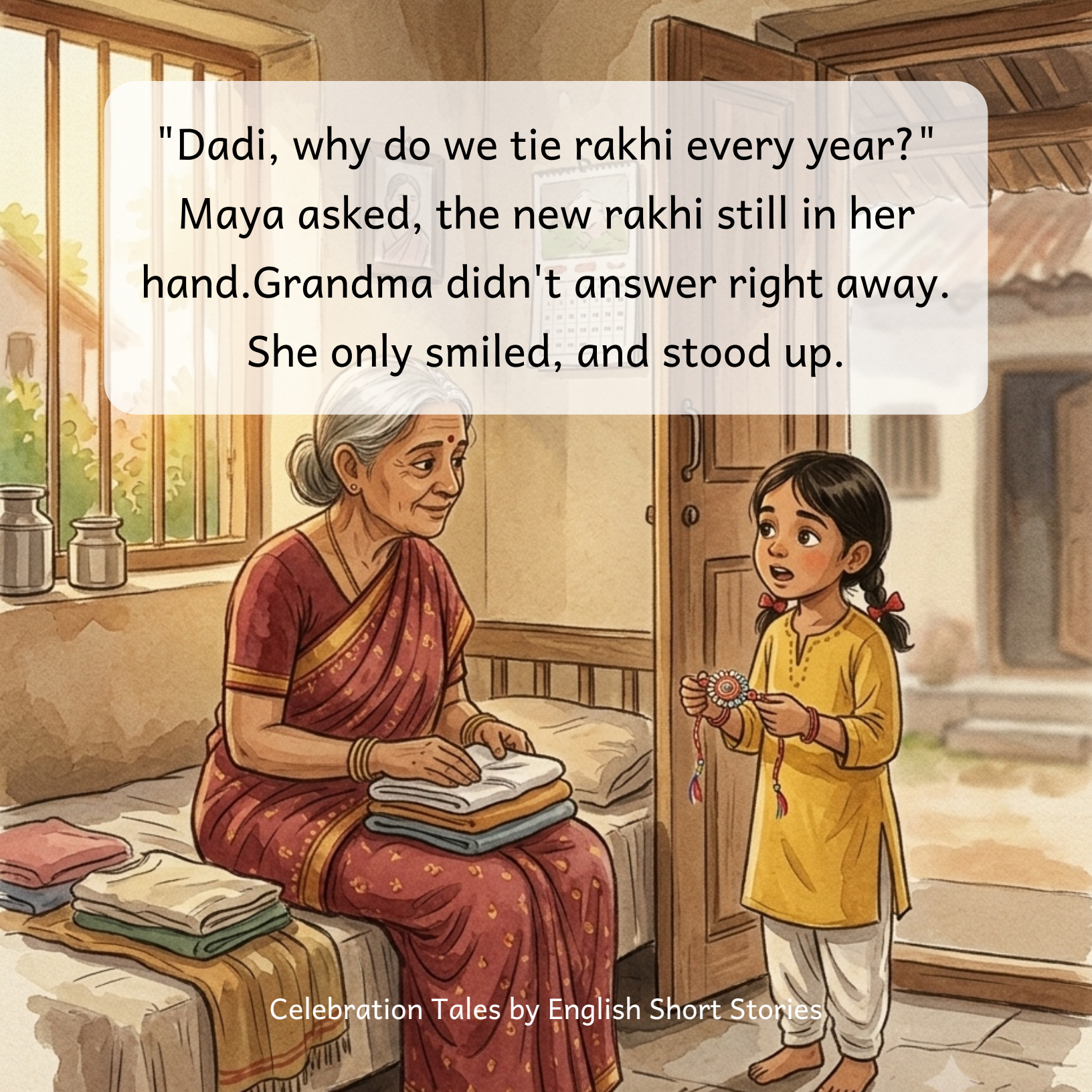
A RAKSHA BANDHAN STORY

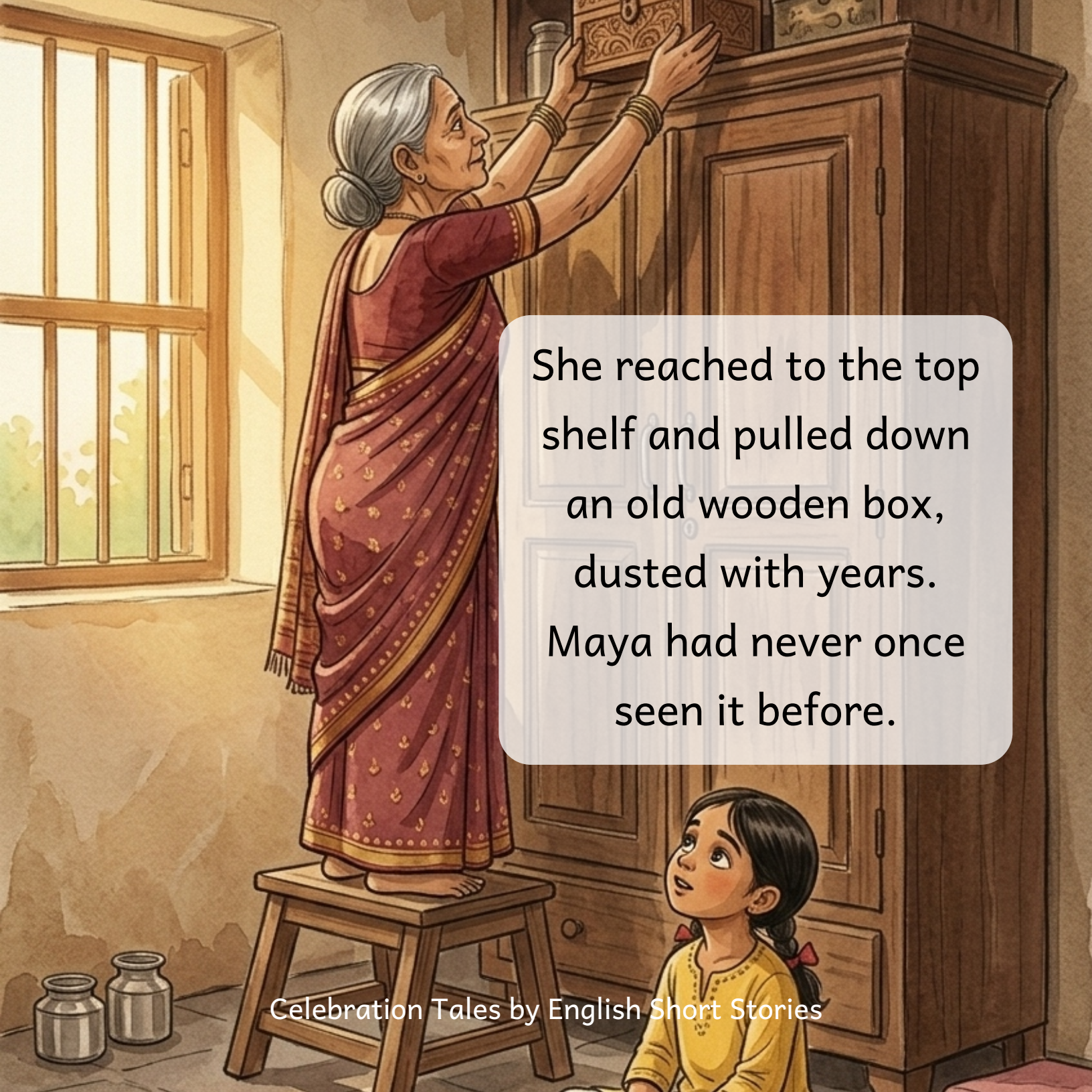


"Dadi, why do we tie rakhi every year?"

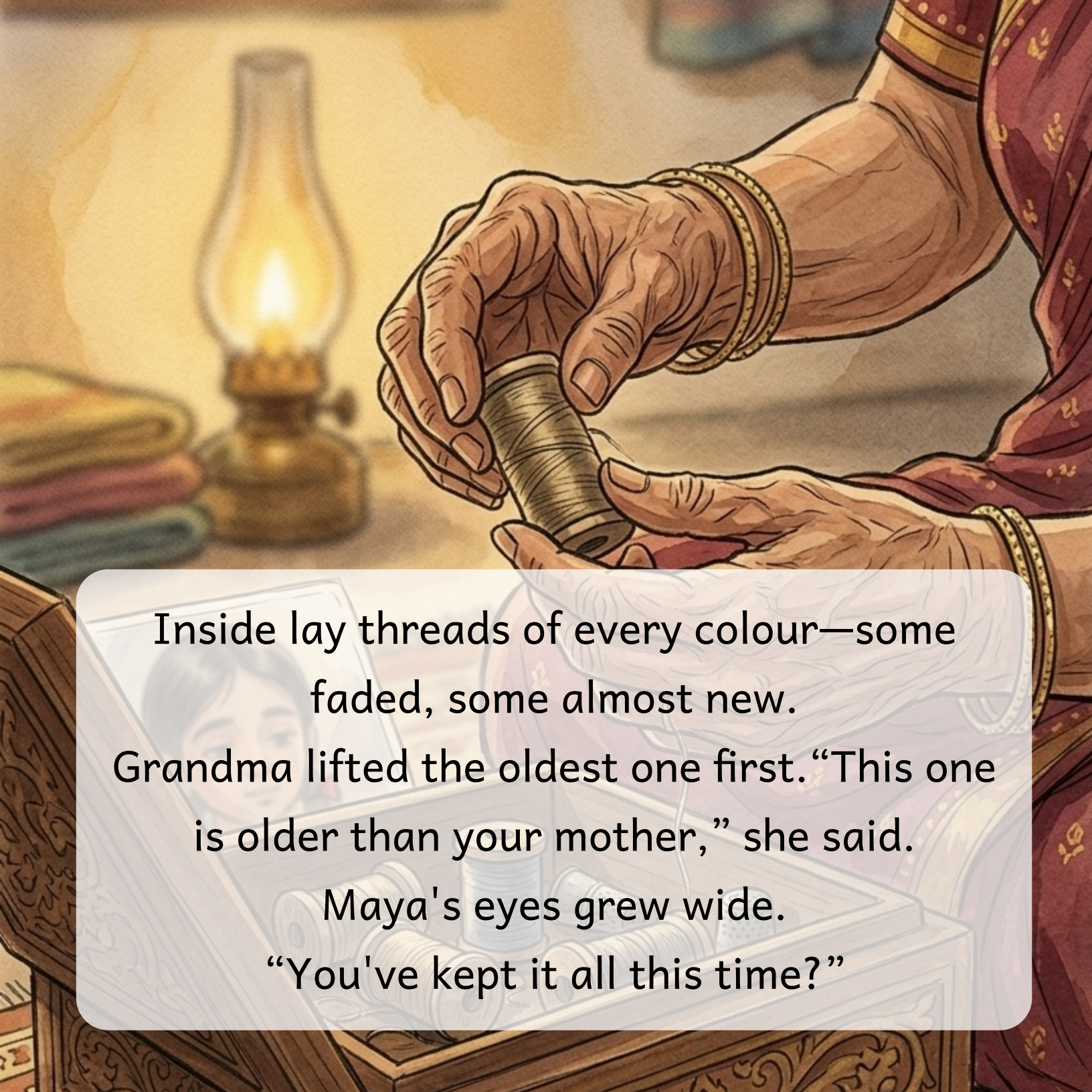
Maya asked, the new rakhi still in her hand. Grandma didn't answer right away.

She only smiled, and stood up.





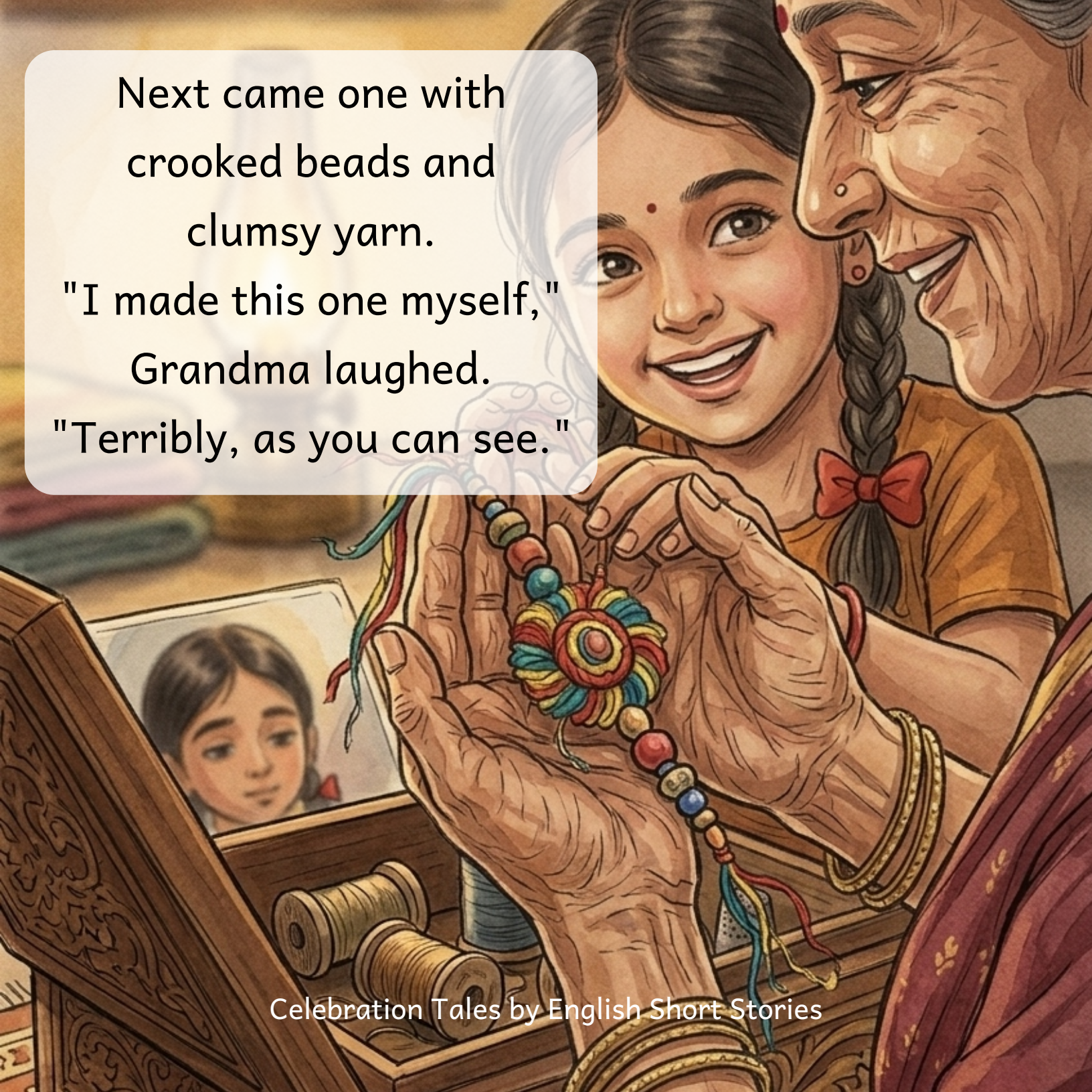
She reached to the top shelf and pulled down an old wooden box, dusted with years. Maya had never once seen it before.



Inside lay threads of every colour—some faded, some almost new. Grandma lifted the oldest one first. “This one is older than your mother,” she said. Maya's eyes grew wide. “You've kept it all this time?”

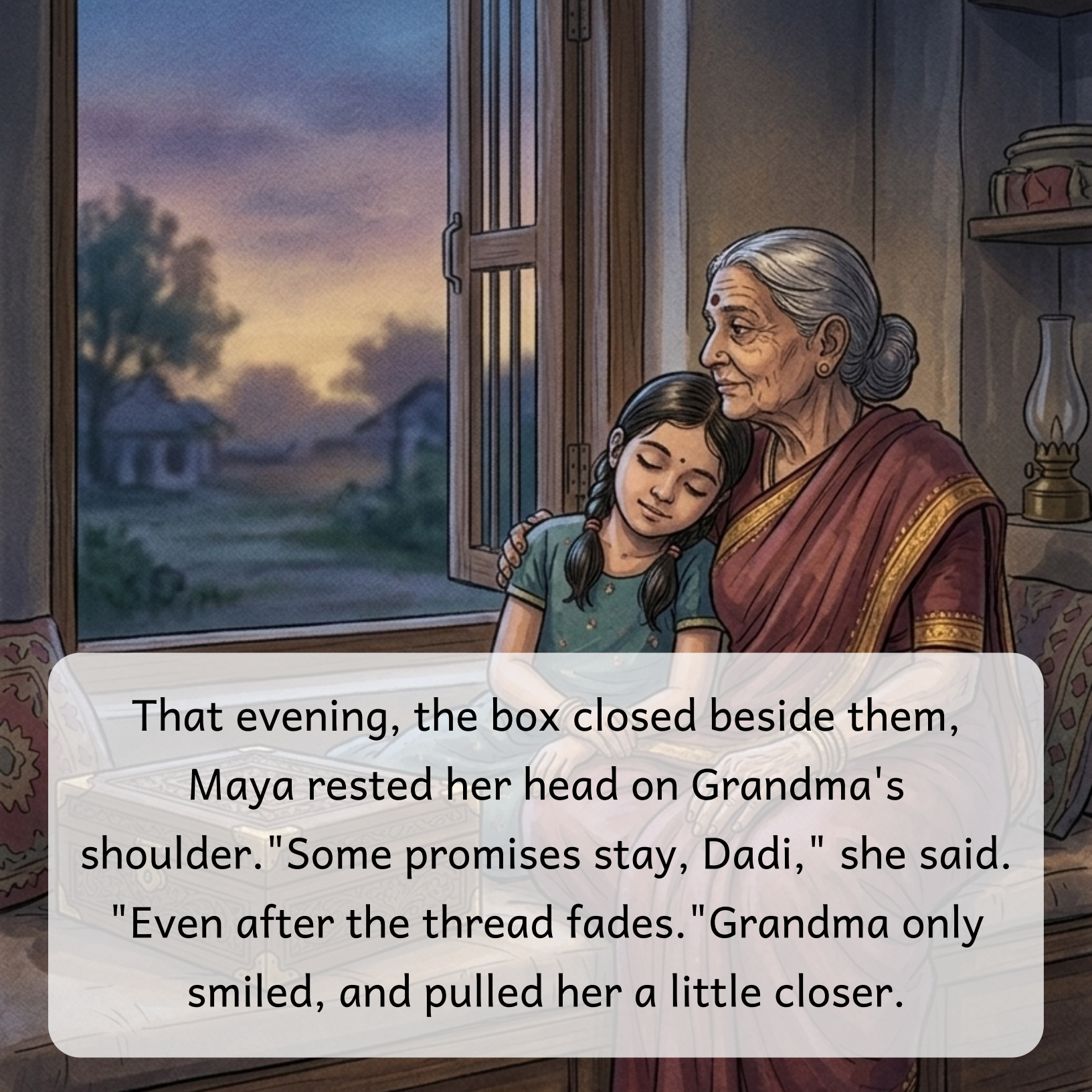
Next came one with
crooked beads and
clumsy yarn.

"I made this one myself,"
Grandma laughed.
"Terribly, as you can see."





Then a thread, still creased from an old envelope, a faint stamp in the corner."This one came all the way by post. Six weeks late — but it came."



That evening, the box closed beside them, Maya rested her head on Grandma's shoulder. "Some promises stay, Dadi," she said. "Even after the thread fades." Grandma only smiled, and pulled her a little closer.

The Lesson Inside

A rakhi survives exactly as long as somebody chooses to keep it. Grandma's box wasn't a collection of threads—it was proof that a small promise, tied once a year, can outlast its own colour, its own shape, even the years between the tying.

Celebration Window

What is Raksha Bandhan?

Raksha Bandhan celebrates love, care, and protection between siblings and family.

When is Raksha Bandhan celebrated?

On the full moon of the Hindu month of Shravan.

Why is Raksha Bandhan celebrated?

To renew a promise of love and protection every year.

The Thread of the Promise

The traditional verse recited while tying a rakhi:

येन बद्धो बली राजा दानवेन्द्रो महाबलः।

तेन त्वामभिवध्नामि रक्षे मा चल मा चल॥

Yena baddho balee raja daanavendro mahaabalah,
tena tvaam-abhibadhnaami rakshe maa chala maa chala.

Meaning

With the same thread that once bound the mighty King Bali,
I now tie this thread on you — stay strong, sacred thread, do not waver.

Words Worth Keeping

- Thread - A thin strand - and here, also a symbol of the bond between two people.
 - Faded - Lost its colour slowly over time.
 - Postmark - The stamped mark on an envelope showing where and when it was sent.
 - Promise - A commitment made—and meant to be kept.
-

Quick Glossary

- Rakhi - The sacred thread tied during Raksha Bandhan.
 - Dadi - A Hindi word for a paternal grandmother.
 - Purnima - The full moon day of the Hindu lunar calendar.
-

Family Moment

- Start Your Own Memory Box
- Find a small box, tin, or envelope of your own.
- Each celebration, add one thread, ribbon, ticket, or little note.
- Write a single line to go with it — where you were, who you were with.
- Every year, open it together and read one memory out loud.

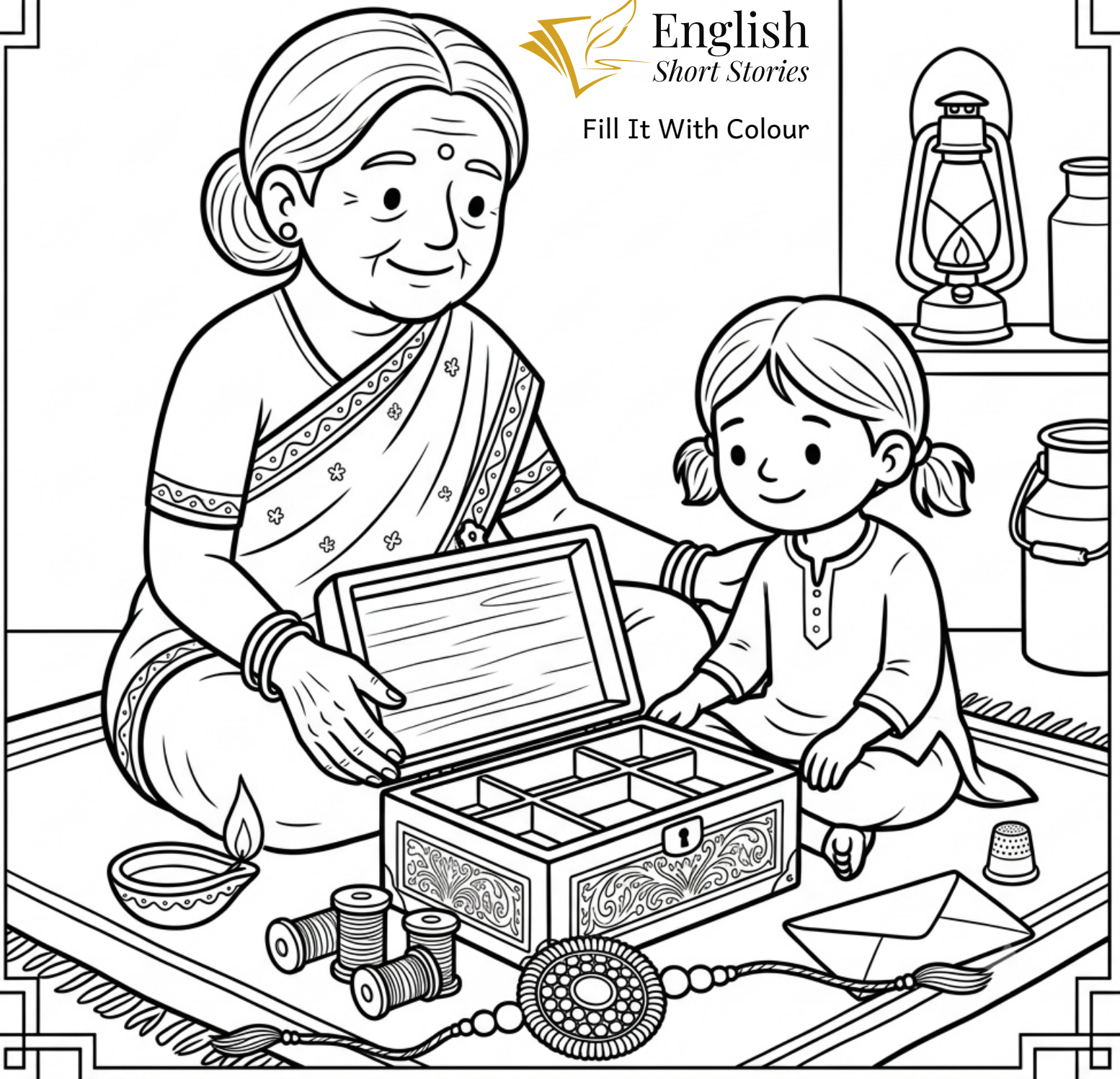
In a few years, you won't remember what you bought each other.

You'll remember what you kept.



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CELEBRATION TALES

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