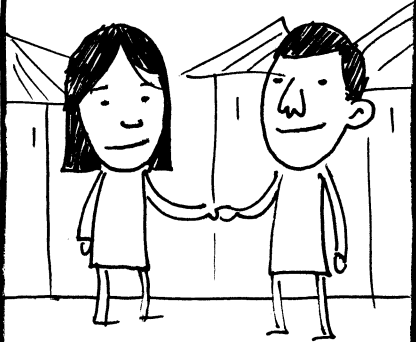
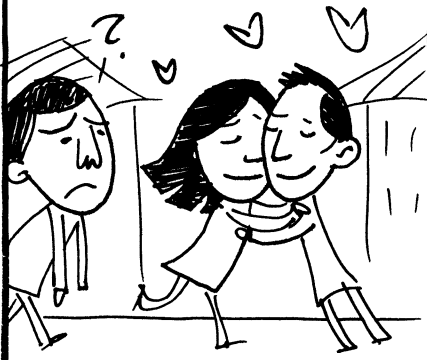


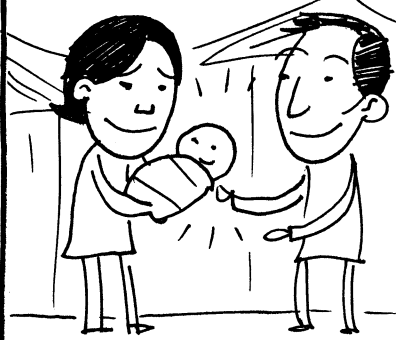
LY LAN'S MOTHER WAS ENGAGED TO MARRY A VILLAGE BOY AT SIXTEEN.



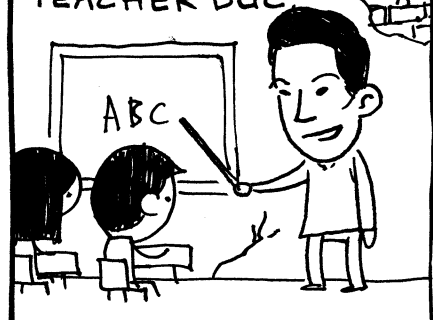
BUT SHE MARRIED A FOREIGNER INSTEAD, DESPITE THE OBJECTIONS OF HER FAMILY & THE VILLAGE.



LY LAN WAS BORN IN 1957 IN HER MOTHER'S VILLAGE OF BINH NHAM,



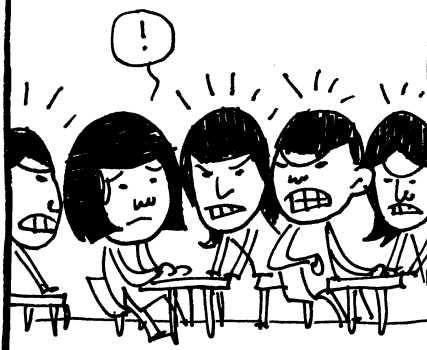
HER EARLY CHILDHOOD WAS SPENT THERE, GREATLY INFLUENCED BY THE VILLAGE TEACHER DUC.



AFTER THE DEATH OF HER MOTHER, THE FAMILY MOVED TO CHO LON, THE CHINA-TOWN OF SAIGON.



LAN ATTENDED A CHINESE PRIVATE SCHOOL AT FIRST...



BUT SHE WAS A 'BLACK SHEEP' AMONGST THE MIDDLE CLASS CHINESE YUPPIES.



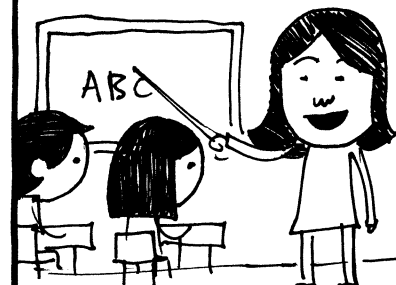
AFTER A YEAR & A HALF HER FATHER SENT HER TO VIET-NAMESE PUBLIC SCHOOL.



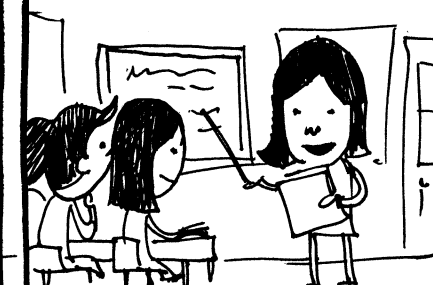
IN 1980 SHE EARNED HER BACHELOR'S IN ENGLISH FROM THE TEACHER'S COLLEGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HO CHI MINH CITY.



LY LAN FOLLOWED THE EXAMPLE OF TEACHER DUC AND TAUGHT IN THE SMALL VILLAGE OF CAN GIUOC.



SHE CONTINUED TEACHING IN HO CHI MINH CITY AT HIGH SCHOOLS AND VAN LANG UNIVERSITY.



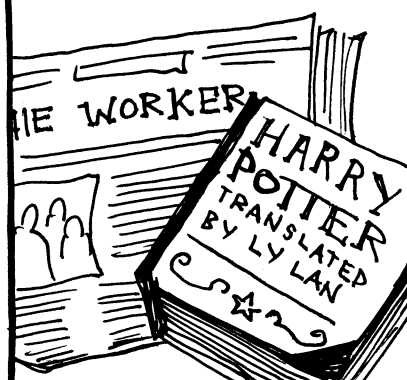
ALL THE WHILE WRITING & PUBLISHING SHORT STORIES & ARTICLES.



LY LAN'S FIRST COLLECTION OF STORIES, SINGING GRASS, SAW PRINT IN 1983.



IN 1997 SHE STOPPED TEACHING TO FOCUS ON HER WRITING CAREER.



SHE RECENTLY RECEIVED HER MASTER'S DEGREE & SERVES AS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT THE CENTER FOR EAST ASIAN STUDIES AT WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY AS WELL AS WORKING ON A NEW NOVEL.

end.