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Akiko and Amy Part 1 sample
NOT FOR SALE

AKIKO AND AMY PART 1

Level 3 - A2/B1 Intermediate (1) Graded Reader from I Talk You Talk Press

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Akiko and Amy Part 1
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I Talk You Talk Press contact: info@italkyoutalk.com

Website: <http://www.italkyoutalk.com>

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1. Akiko and Amy

Akiko was bored. All her work was finished. The apartment was clean. The laundry and ironing were done. It was too early to cook food for her husband. He would not come home until about 9:00pm. It was 3:00pm now. After her marriage, Akiko had come to live in this small city. She didn't have any friends here and she was lonely.

She looked out the window. The American woman was parking her car. The Americans had moved into the apartment across the hall two weeks ago. The man went to work every morning, but the woman stayed home. Akiko loved speaking English. She was very interested in the new people. She wanted to talk to the woman but she was too shy.

Akiko watched the tall, light brown-haired woman take three supermarket bags and a big box out of the car. The woman dropped one of the bags. The bag broke. Potatoes and oranges rolled on the concrete.

Akiko ran to the door of her apartment. She took her eco bag from the hook and hurried down the stairs. Outside, the woman was kneeling on the ground. She was picking up the oranges and potatoes.

"Can I help you?" asked Akiko.

The woman smiled. "Thank you!"

Akiko knelt down. Together they put all the fruit and vegetables into Akiko's bag.

"I will carry the bags for you," said Akiko.

"Would you?" said the woman. "You are very kind."

"No problem," answered Akiko.

The tall woman carried the big box and Akiko carried the bags. They climbed the stairs. When they got to the door of the Americans' apartment, the woman said,

"I'm Amy. Will you come in? I want to give your bag back."

"OK. My name is Akiko."

The Americans' apartment was the same as Akiko's but it looked different. There were books everywhere. Akiko thought it looked like an office.

Amy put the big box on the floor and they took the shopping bags and Akiko's eco bag into the kitchen.

"Do you have time for coffee?" asked Amy.

"Yes. That would be nice," answered Akiko.

"Please sit down," said Amy.

Akiko sat on a chair next to the table. She had never seen so many books in an apartment. There were two computers and a lot of paper as well.

Amy gave Akiko a big mug of coffee. She put a plate with muffins on it on the table.

“Please try one,” said Amy. She sat down on the other side of the table.

Akiko took a muffin and ate a little. It was delicious.

“Are you a student?” Akiko asked Amy.

“No. I am writing a book.”

“A book!” Akiko was interested. “A textbook for English?”

“No, No. I am writing a textbook. But it is history textbook. It’s for American university students. It’s about Boston.”

“Bos – ton,” said Akiko slowly. “That’s in the United States?”

“Yes. Boston is my home town. When I finish the book, I will hunt for a job. Maybe a job teaching English. But these days I stay home every day. I find it very quiet and sometimes I’m bored.”

“I want you to teach me English,” Akiko said quickly.

Amy didn’t say anything. She looked at Akiko.

“I don’t want to be your teacher,” she said.

Akiko felt bad. She wanted to cry.

“I will pay you,” she said quietly.

Amy touched Akiko’s hand.

“I’m sorry,” she said. “I hope to have some private English students but not you.”

-----END OF SAMPLE-----