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Finders Keepers...sample
NOT FOR SALE

FINDERS KEEPERS...

Level 2 - A1/A2 Starter (2) Graded Reader from I Talk You Talk Press

Copyright

Finders Keepers...

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Introduction

"Finders keepers, losers weepers" is an English phrase.

It means "the person who finds something can keep it. The person who lost it cannot get the item back, so they are sad." (Weep = cry)

Do you agree with the phrase "Finders keepers, losers weepers"?

Chapter One

Jed Winters worked in a restaurant. He worked hard every day, but he didn't like his job. He started work at 11:00am and finished at 9:00pm. His salary was very low. He wanted to find a better job, but there were no other jobs in his town. He dreamed of a different life. He had no family. His father died before he was born. When he was born, his mother was very poor, and she couldn't keep Jed. He lived in a children's home until he was eighteen. Then, he started to work. He had no girlfriend. Every day, he went to work, and every night he went home, back to his small flat, and nothing changed.

Then, one day, something happened. Something that changed his life.

It was a cold and rainy day. Jed was on his way to work. He was waiting for the traffic lights to turn red on Sutton Road so he could cross over to the restaurant. He watched all the cars driving along the road.

I wish I had a car, he thought. He looked down at his feet. His shoes and socks were very wet. He hated walking in the rain. He noticed a small piece of paper next to his right foot. There were numbers on it.

He picked it up. The paper was very wet and dirty. He wiped it carefully with his sleeve and looked at it closely. It was a lottery ticket for the £500,000 lottery draw on Saturday.

He looked around, but he couldn't see anyone.

Someone has dropped a lottery ticket, he thought.

The traffic lights changed to red. He put the ticket in his pocket, crossed over the road and went into the restaurant.

The restaurant was very busy that day. Jed could not concentrate on his job. He couldn't stop thinking about the ticket.

The ticket is not mine. I shouldn't keep it. But whose is it? Who should I give it to? I didn't see anyone drop it. I was the only person at the traffic lights. If I keep the ticket, and if the ticket is a winner, I will be very rich, thought Jed. He started to dream.

I will have a big house and a big car. I will quit my job. I won't have to work for a long time. I will travel around the world...But no...I can't win! I never win anything! But this time...maybe...

That day, Jed made many mistakes with the customers' orders. His boss and the other waiters were angry with him.

"Jed! What's wrong with you today? Why are you making so many mistakes?" said Rob, another waiter. "What are you thinking about? Do you have a new girlfriend? Are you thinking about her?"

"No, I don't have a girlfriend. I'm sorry, Rob. Something happened this morning, and I can't stop thinking about it," said Jed.

"Something happened? Something bad?" asked Rob.

"I can't tell you," said Jed.

"Did you *do* something bad?" asked Rob.

"Yes, and no. I don't know," said Jed.

Jed went home that night and thought about it.

Did I do a bad thing? I found a lottery ticket on the ground. I picked it up. I put it in my pocket. That's not bad, thought Jed. *It isn't money. It's only a piece of paper with six numbers on it. And I probably won't win anything, so, it doesn't matter.*

Then, he remembered the famous English phrase "Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers."

Finders keepers, losers weepers...yes, that's right! I found it, so I keep it. The owner of the ticket lost it, so he or she weeps!

He put the ticket on his desk next to his computer and forgot about it.

Chapter Two

The lottery draw was on Saturday evening. Jed worked very hard that day. There were many customers in the restaurant and he was busy from morning until night. He left the restaurant at 9:00pm and stopped at a supermarket to buy something to eat. He opened his wallet. He had very little money, and it was two weeks until pay day.

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