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Saori and the Storm sample  
NOT FOR SALE

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Saori and the Storm  
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I Talk You Talk Press contact: [info@italkyoutalk.com](mailto:info@italkyoutalk.com)

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## Chapter One

Saori is studying English in New Zealand. The language school is in Hamilton. She has been in Hamilton for two weeks. Her homestay parents are Keith and Greta. They are friendly and kind. Saori likes them very much, and she loves learning English.

One morning, Saori is eating breakfast in the kitchen, when Greta comes into the room. She says, "Another student is coming to stay with us. She is from the USA. Her name is Ella."

Saori is surprised. "Is she learning English? Will she go to my language school?"

Greta laughs. "No. She is a music student. There is a famous cello player who lives in Hamilton. He is old now, but he sometimes teaches students. It is the long vacation in the USA, and Ella is coming to study with him for a few weeks. He knows students stay with us. He asked, 'Can Ella stay with you?' We said, 'Yes'. She will arrive tomorrow."

"I understand," says Saori. She looks at her smartphone. "Oh! I am late! I have to go now, or I will miss my bus!" She stands up and puts her plate and cup in the dishwasher. She takes her bag and her jacket and hurries out.

"Have a good day! See you tonight," says Greta.

Saori runs to the bus stop. She sees people waiting there. *I'm lucky. The bus is late today, she thinks.*

At the language school, Saori looks at the notice board. *Today, my first class is with Josh Haines.* She goes to the classroom and finds a seat. She is a little late, so the only seat is near the back of the room.

Usually, she listens carefully to everything the teacher says. She tries hard to understand and to speak well. But today Saori is thinking about Ella. *I can practice my English with her. How old is she? I hope she will like me. Maybe we can go out shopping or to the movies on Saturdays and Sundays.*

"Saori, can you tell us the answer to question six?" asks Mr Haines.

Saori is surprised. *I will think about Ella later.*

When Saori goes back to her homestay house, she goes to her bedroom to study until dinner time. She can hear Greta in the next room.

She doesn't want to study, so she goes to talk to Greta. Greta is cleaning the room.

"Hi Saori. Did you have a good day?"

"Yes, thank you. It was very interesting. Can I help you? Will Ella sleep in this room?"

"Yes. This will be Ella's room. But I am worried. Maybe she will want to play her cello. Maybe it will be difficult for you to study. I will ask her to practice music in living room."

“I am sure it will be OK,” says Saori. “I am looking forward to meeting her. What time will she come tomorrow?”

“Her plane will arrive in Auckland at eleven o’clock. When she called, she said, ‘I will take a bus from Auckland Airport to Hamilton’, but she will have a bag, and she will have her cello. So Keith will drive to the airport to meet her. Tomorrow is Saturday. You have no school. Would you like to go with Keith?”

“Yes, please! It will be fun.”

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