#### THE TEMPLE TREASURE

Level 4 - B1/B2 Intermediate (2) Graded Reader from I Talk You Talk Press

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The Vase
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1. Hong Kong, 1910

From: Dr John McKinley
To: Dr Angus McFadgeon

15<sup>th</sup> April 1910 Victoria Peak, Hong Kong

Dear Dr McFadgeon,

My old friend, Dr Burgess, came to visit me in Hong Kong in March. I told him I wanted to retire. I feel too old to continue working. My sister in Australia is ill, and I want to go to her.

I asked him if he knew a young doctor who would like to take over my clinic. He told me about you. He said you finished medical school recently and that you have been working as his assistant. He said you are an excellent doctor, and that you need a good position.

It is normal to sell a medical clinic, but I understand that you have very little money. I have a lot of money from my family. So if you want to come here, I will give everything to you.

Please answer this letter quickly. I want to leave Hong Kong as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

John McKinley MD

From: Dr John McKinley
To: Dr Angus McFadgeon

30<sup>th</sup> September 1910 Victoria Peak, Hong Kong

Dear Dr McFadgeon,

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Your letter says that you will leave England on 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

I am sorry, my sister is very ill, so I plan to leave before your arrival. Everything is ready for you. You will have my house, my car and all the equipment in the clinic. I have trained a very good assistant – his name is Woo He is an educated Chinese man. He helps me prepare medicines and he can also drive the car. He speaks very good English. I think he will be very useful. I have asked him to stay to help you. I am sure you will enjoy Hong Kong. The English community has many activities. As the doctor for the English people, you will be welcome to join their clubs. You can play polo, tennis and cricket. The English in Hong Kong are very fine people. The social life is better than it is in England. You will be invited to many parties. It is a good life for a young single man.

My very best wishes for your future,

John McKinley.

One Sunday morning, in November, Angus McFadgeon was eating breakfast. He had been in Hong Kong for two months.

I have a good house and many patients, he thought. Woo is a wonderful assistant. I am very lucky, but I'm bored. The people who come to me think they are sick. They have headaches. They say they can't sleep. They want to complain about the weather, the food, their husbands and their servants. I can help them, but I want to be a real doctor. I want to save lives.

Every day I get invitations to parties, cricket games, picnics and polo. I don't enjoy these events. I don't know how to talk at a party. So many mothers want me to marry their daughters. I don't want to marry anyone.

The maid came into the dining room. She picked up the teapot and the plates.

I was invited to go to a cricket match today, but I won't go.

"Sin Wing, is Woo in the house?"

Sin Wing didn't speak English, but she heard the name 'Woo'. She bowed and went out of the dining room. A few minutes later, Woo came in.

"Dr McFadgeon," he said. "You wanted to see me?"

"Do you have a plan for today?" Angus asked.

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Woo smiled. "I work for you. Your plans are my plans. Do you want me to do something?"

"I want to go for a drive in the car. I want to see the real Hong Kong."

"The real Hong Kong?" Woo was puzzled.

"The English people who live in this neighbourhood are boring. There are many other people who live here. People I don't know. Will you take me on a tour?"

Woo drove the car into the Tai Ping Sha area of Hong Kong. Angus was very interested. There was so much life and energy.

The streets were narrow. There were many people on the streets. The houses were very small. *These people are so poor!* thought Angus.

Suddenly, Woo stopped the car.

Angus looked out of the car window. Someone was lying on the road. A woman was screaming and crying.

"What happened?" he asked.

"There has been an accident," said Woo.

Angus jumped out of the car. "Maybe I can help."

----END OF SAMPLE----