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AKIKO AND AMY PART 2

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

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Introduction

This is Part 2 of Akiko and Amy's Story. The story starts in the graded reader Akiko and Amy Part 1.

1. Amy and Dick

Akiko had only met Dick, Amy's husband, once. But Akiko knew a lot about Dick. Amy told Akiko that Dick's hometown, Spurton, is very small. It's in Montana, in the United States. Dick's father is called Jacob. He owns a gas station. It's the only gas station in the town. Jacob is the postman too. He drives a small truck around town. He delivers newspapers, letters and parcels. Jacob also takes shopping and mail to people who live on farms outside the town.

The gas station does not have any staff. When Dick's father is working as the postman, there is no one to serve gasoline or fix cars. People have to wait until Dick's father comes back. Akiko thought that was very strange. "Don't people get angry?" she asked.

Amy laughed. "Maybe people get angry. But if they don't want to wait, they have to drive 50 miles to the next gas station."

"How far is 50 miles?" asked Akiko.

"About 80 kilometres," answered Amy.

Dick's mother died when he was eleven. He has no brothers or sisters. He left Spurton when he was twelve and he went to live in Butte with his aunt. He went to junior high school and high school in Butte and then he went to university in San Francisco. Dick has been back to Spurton for vacations, but he has not lived in his hometown since he was twelve.

Amy and Dick met at university. Amy's home city is Boston.

Akiko and Amy had a plan to go shopping on Tuesday. However, on Tuesday morning, Amy called Akiko. "I can't go shopping today," she said. "I am taking Dick to the airport. He is going home to Montana. His father had an accident."

"Oh, no!" said Akiko. "I hope he is OK."

"So do I," answered Amy. "Dick will call me or Skype me the day after tomorrow. Then I will know more."

"Please tell Dick I am very sorry," said Akiko. "I hope everything will be OK." "I will. Now I must go, or Dick will be late for his flight."

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On Thursday, Amy went to Akiko's apartment for coffee. Amy looked tired and worried.

"Is Jacob OK?" asked Akiko.

"His eyes were damaged. He can't see well."

"Will his eyes get better?" asked Akiko.

"Maybe yes. Maybe no. If he can't see well, he can't drive. He can't work in his gas station," explained Amy.

"What will he do?"

"He wants Dick to go home. He wants to give Dick the postman's job and the gas station."

"Oh!" cried Akiko. If Dick and Amy go back to the USA, I won't be able to meet Amy, she thought. I'll lose my friend. Then she thought, I am not a nice person. I am thinking only about myself. I should think about Jacob, Dick and Amy

"Will you be happy in that small town?" Akiko asked Amy.

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