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#### **WOMEN'S KONKATSU TALES**

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

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#### Introduction

"Konkatsu" is a Japanese word.

It means "searching for a marriage partner".

We asked many of our female friends in Japan about their search for a marriage partner. The women told us some very interesting stories. We chose eight of these stories for this book.

Some Japanese words are used in this book. The Japanese words are:

- 1. o-miai an introductory meeting / a formal marriage interview
- 2. onigiri rice ball
- 3. ramen noodles
- 4. bento lunch box
- 5. tatami straw mats
- 6. san Mr/Ms

One

## A san (30) Hyogo Prefecture

A year ago, I joined an Internet dating site. The site is very popular in Japan. At first, I was nervous.

My friend said, "You should not join the dating site. Internet dating sites are very dangerous!"

However, the site has a very good system. Men cannot send me emails directly. First, they send emails to the site. Then, the site sends the emails to me. It is a very safe system.

I received many emails from men, but I didn't reply. The men were not my type. Some men were too old for me. Others lived in Tokyo. I wanted to stay in Hyogo. I didn't want to move to Tokyo, and I didn't want a long-distance relationship.

One day, I received an email from a man in Kobe, Hyogo. I checked his profile. He was thirty-five years old. He worked for an international company.

We exchanged emails for two months.

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Then, he asked, "Would you like to have dinner together?" I answered, "Yes, I would."

Before the date, I went to the beauty salon and I had a manicure. I also bought a new dress.

The date was at an Italian restaurant in Kobe. I was very nervous. I walked into the restaurant. The waiter took me to the table. The man was waiting for me.

We ordered a bottle of wine and some spaghetti and pizza. We talked for many hours. He asked me many questions. He was not shy. I had a very nice time.

The next day, he sent me an email.

---Thank you very much. I had a very nice time last night. Would you like to go out again next weekend? ---

I replied:

---Thank you very much. I had a very nice time, too. Yes, let's go out again next weekend. ---

So, the next weekend, we went to a restaurant, and then we went to *karaoke*. I had a very good time.

Every weekend, we had a date. Sometimes we went to Osaka, but usually we went to a restaurant or movies or concerts around Kobe. We both liked restaurants, movies and music.

After six months, he asked me, "Will you marry me?"

I was very surprised and very happy. Of course, I said, "Yes!"

Now, I am planning my wedding.

I think joining the Internet dating site was a very good idea. Many people say, "Internet dating sites are dangerous." But I was very lucky. I met a very nice man and I found a husband!

----END OF SAMPLE----

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