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Andrew's Journey to a New Life in America

Modified Version

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Chapter 5

Andrew and Linda sat in the coffee shop near the school. Andrew said, "Linda, thank you for your help with this identity theft. Do you come my apartment tonight for special thank you dinner?"

Linda smiled at him. "Yes!" she said.

Andrew cooked all afternoon. At 7:00 Linda arrived. They went into the kitchen. They ate and talked. Linda told Andrew that she loved being an artist. After dinner, Andrew put some music on and they danced. When Linda left, Andrew kissed her.

The next day, Andrew was very happy. But then he went to work. Jimmy was angry. He told him to go in the kitchen and help. Andrew went quietly. The cook was mad at Jimmy. "*He expects me to do too much extra work!*" he said.

Soon, the cook ran out of soy sauce. He told Andrew to go into Jimmy's office to get some. In the office, Andrew saw a file with his name on it. No one was around, so he opened the file. There was no credit report. Jimmy told him he put the credit report in Andrew's personnel file. He lied to Andrew. Suddenly, he heard Jimmy yelling at Charley. He hurried back into the kitchen. When Jimmy came in, Andrew was chopping vegetables.

"You're too slow. Work faster!" Jimmy went into his office and slammed the door.

With Linda's help, Andrew got his credit problems solved. He was happy about that, but Jimmy's lie bothered him. One day he was walking in the park with Linda. They held hands and looked at the people riding bikes, jogging, and pushing strollers. Linda made him so happy, but she didn't speak his language or understand his culture. He liked her a lot, but he didn't know if he loved her. He decided to tell her about Jimmy.

Linda listened to him and then she said, "Andrew, go and ask him why he lied to you."

"I think about it," he said.

Linda stopped walking. "This is serious. Jimmy is exploiting you." Linda was frowning. She was angry. Andrew was embarrassed.

"Don't worry. I talk to Jimmy," he said. He said it to make her feel better. He didn't really think he would find a way to talk to Jimmy.

Linda took her hand out of his. "Okay. Listen, I have a class this afternoon. We'd better go now."