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Andrew's Journey to a New Life in America

Modified Version

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Chapter 7

Andrew and Wei were up early drinking tea.

Andrew sighed. *"I got an email from Linda. She wants me to tell Jimmy I think he's a liar. I got another email from YaoLin. She wants me to go back to Hong Kong."*

"They are both right," said Wei.

Andrew was surprised. *"Do you really think so?"*

"Yes," said Wei. *"Jimmy is hurting Chinese people with his work practices. And he may be an identity broker. You have to stop him."*

"What about YaoLin?" asked Andrew.

Wei answered, *"You know I like Linda. But I think you should marry a Chinese girl. It's too hard to marry outside your culture. You and Linda will never really understand each other."*

Andrew didn't know if he agreed with Wei. But he was grateful for his advice.

Charley came into the kitchen. *"Good morning,"* he said. *"I think Jimmy's going to make me a waiter today."*

Now Andrew felt even worse than he did before. If he got Jimmy in trouble, Charley would lose everything.

When they got to the restaurant, Charley went into Jimmy's office. Soon, Andrew and the cook heard Jimmy shouting that Charlie was stealing money. Charley was shouting that he wasn't. Then Jimmy screamed, "*Get out of my restaurant! You're fired!*"

Charley ran by Andrew and out of the kitchen.

Jimmy came out of his office. "*Charley quit,*" he told Andrew. He didn't even look angry. "*I have a new guy, Sam, starting today. You show him what to do.*"

Andrew waited until Jimmy closed his door. Then he ran after Charley. "*Charley!*" Andrew called. "*Wait!*"

Charley turned around. He looked both angry and scared. He and Andrew walked together toward the apartment. "*Two years ago, Jimmy told me he would sponsor me for my residence card,*" said Charley. "*Now I won't ever get it.*"

"*I think Jimmy needed a way to get rid of you before your contract was up,*" said Andrew. "*He accused you of stealing so that you wouldn't make any trouble about being fired. From the beginning, everything he told you, and me, was a big lie.*"

They reached the apartment. Clouds swept in front of the sun. The day turned gray. Andrew shivered.

"*When Wei gets home, tell him what happened. Tonight, we'll decide what to do. We aren't going to let him get away with anymore of this.*"