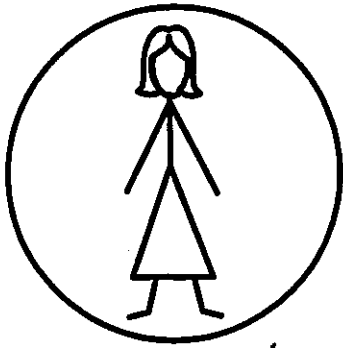


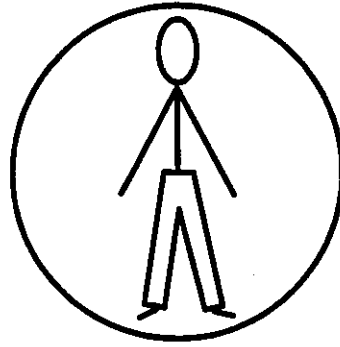
Dragonwings

Chapter	Title/ Repeated Story Line	Page
1	Land of the Demons Father lives in the land of the Golden Mountain	1
2	The Company Moon Shadow learns about the land of the Golden Mountain	6
3	The Dragon Man Windrider tells Moon Shadow a story ,	11
4	Tests Father had many skills	16
5	Windrider's Claws Father and Moon Shadow have hard times	21
6	The Demoness Windrider and Moon Shadow have a new home	26
7	Education Moon Shadow is a student and a teacher	31
8	Earth, Wind and Water Moon Shadow learns from many people	36
9	The Dragon Wakes An earthquake hits San Francisco	40
10	Aroused Life changes for everyone in San Francisco	44
11	Exile Father and Moon Shadow follow their dream	49
12	Dragonwings Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends	54

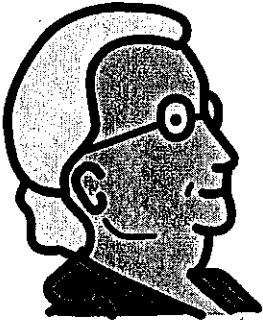
Vocabulary Chapter 1



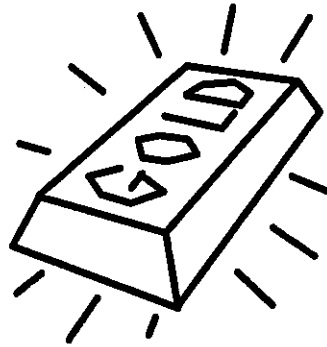
Mother



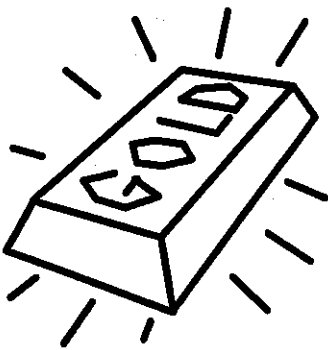
Father



Grandmother



gold



Golden



Mountain

Chapter 1 - Land of the Demons - February - March, 1903

Ever since I can remember, I wanted to know about the Land of the



Golden Mountain. My mother would never tell me about it. Before I was



born, my father left our home to go there. He worked for the white

demons. There was a lot of money to be made in the demon land. It

was very dangerous.



Father lives in the land of the Golden Mountain.



Mother said that she was too busy to answer my questions. She and my



grandmother were in charge of working our small farm. When I talked of



the **Golden Mountain**, Mother would find something wrong on the farm. She



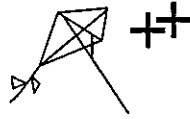
did not want to talk about the **Golden Mountain**.



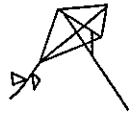
Father lives in the land of the Golden Mountain.



Mother made sure that I knew one important thing about my father. He



made the most marvelous kites. As soon as I was big enough to



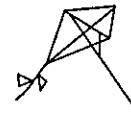
hold the string, Mother took me out and taught me how to fly a kite.



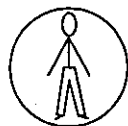
Father had made a special kite when he knew my mother was



pregnant. Mother said I could only fly it when I was older and wiser-that



is, when I turned eight. I wanted to fly my father's kite.



Father lives in the land of the Golden Mountain.

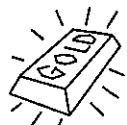


When I turned eight, I felt I was old enough to get answers. Grandmother

felt sorry for me. She decided to tell me. She said, the reason we call



America the Land of the Golden Mountain was because there's a big



mountain there full of gold. Men wait until the sun warms the mountain



and then scoop the gold into buckets. The white demons roam the



mountain and beat up any other men that try to get the gold. Father

is in a dangerous place.



Father lives in the land of the Golden Mountain.



I did not know that I would find out first hand about the mountain. One day,



our cousin ,Hand Clap, returned from the mountain. He brought a letter



from Father. He said that he thought it was 'time for me to be with him.



Mother did not want me to go. Finally, she agreed. When I first saw my



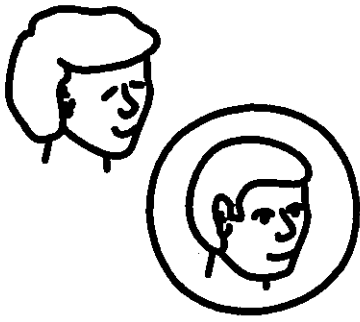
father, I ran into his arms. Father smiled and said, "Hello, boy. I've

waited a long time to do this. Too long."

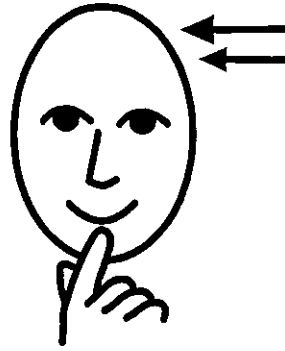


Father lives in the land of the Golden Mountain.

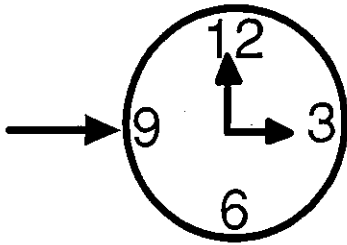
Chapter 2 Vocabulary



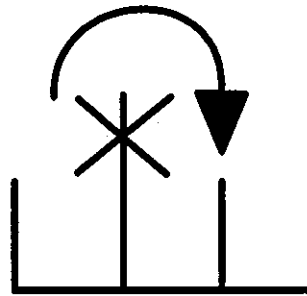
Uncle



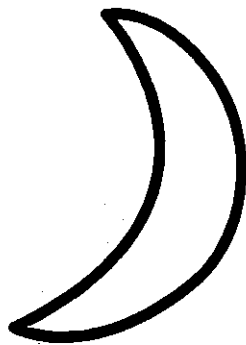
learns



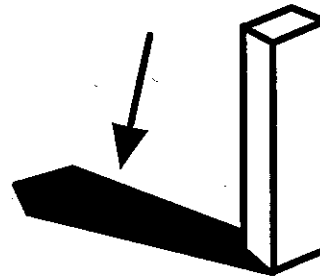
Then



Next



Moon



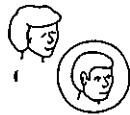
Shadow

Chapter 2

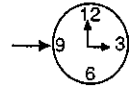
The Company (April 1903)



"So this is your boy," Uncle Bright Star said. "Yes, Uncle." Father



pushed me forward. Uncle stared at me and I stared back at him.

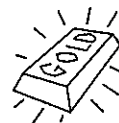
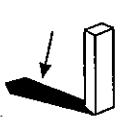


Uncle said, "Don't you know it's impolite to stare, boy?" Then I

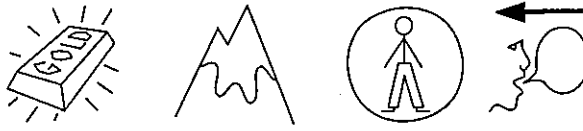


said, "Why are you doing it, sir?" My uncle said that I have

character. Everyone laughed. I had been accepted.



Moon Shadow learns about the land of the Golden Mountain.



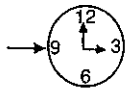
I asked, "Which one's the Golden Mountain?" Father said, "There is no



Golden Mountain, but there are a lot of demons. Maybe we'll come across

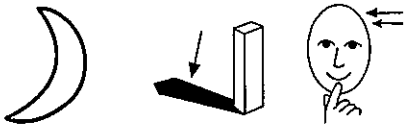


it yet." Father whispered to me, "Stick close to me, Moon Shadow, and



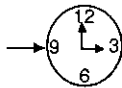
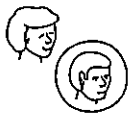
don't be afraid." Then, we set off to Chinatown. That is where the Tang

(Chinese) people gather to live in America.



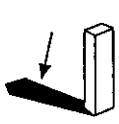
Moon Shadow learns about the land of the Golden Mountain.

There were no women on the streets, only men. We stepped into a small, neat, three-story building painted bright red and green. We went upstairs. This was used as a kitchen and resting room. The third floor was our sleeping quarters. The dinner that night was the best I ever had.

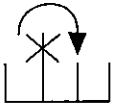


First, Uncle toasted me. Then, he toasted the Company that we worked

for.



Moon Shadow learns about the land of the Golden Mountain.

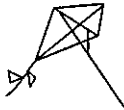


Next, they brought out a new set of clothes and hat for me to wear.



Father said, "They've given you something for your body, but I am giving

you something for your soul." He went upstairs and came back with the

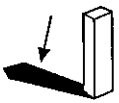


most marvelous kite I had seen. It was painted in bright colors and

was shaped like a butterfly.



Moon



Shadow



learns about

the land

of the

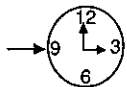


Golden



Mountain.

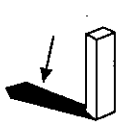
At that moment, the door bell rang. It was Black Dog. He told us that the white demons were drunk and ready to beat up the Tang people.



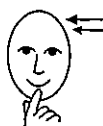
Then, we heard windows shattering and yelling from the demons. We waited silently for them to go away. Once we knew they had gone, we began boarding up the windows. Black Dog laughed, "Welcome to the land of the demons, boy."



Moon



Shadow



learns

about

the

land

of

the



Golden

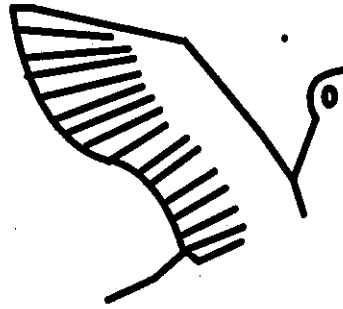


Mountain.

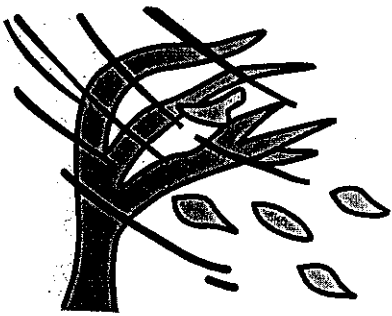
Chapter 3 Vocabulary



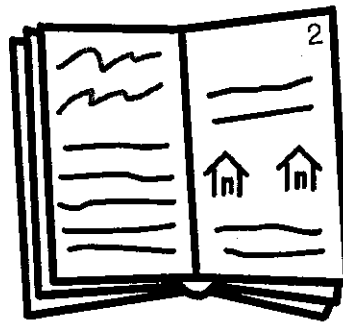
Dragon



Wings



Windrider



story

Chapter 3

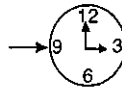


The Dragon Man

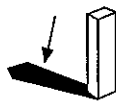
(April 1903)



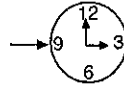
As Father led me to my room, I wondered about his name, Windrider. I



asked, "Why do they call you Windrider?" Then, he told me a story.



Windrider tells Moon Shadow a story.



Father said, "one night, I went to sleep. Then, I woke up on a beach. I



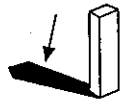
saw the Dragon King lying on the beach. The Dragon King told me that I



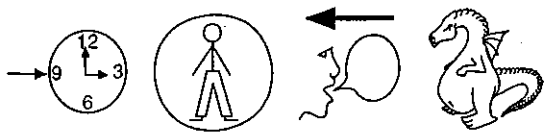
used to be a dragon! When I was a dragon, I was the greatest doctor



of all dragons. He said that I was a show off about flying."



Windrider tells Moon Shadow a story.



Then, Father said, "Dragon King was hurt. He asked me to heal him.

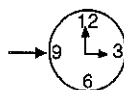
Without thinking, my hands knew what to do. He asked, "How can I ever



reward you?" I asked him to make me a dragon again. He could not do

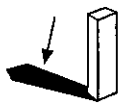


that. So, he made some shiny wings. His soldiers pasted the wings to

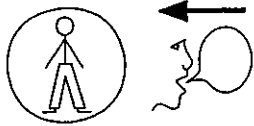


my back. I felt them tug at my back. Then, I spread my wings and

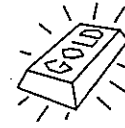
saw how beautiful they were!"



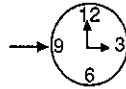
Windrider tells Moon Shadow a story.



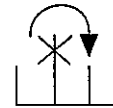
Father said, "It would take all night to describe the dragon kingdom. I



still remember the Dragon King's throne. It was made of gold. You could



see anything in it. Then, the Dragon King asked me what I wanted to

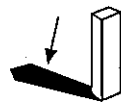


see. I told him that I wanted to see my wife. Next, I could see your

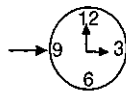


mother singing a lullaby to you. Finally, it was time for me to return to

my living world."



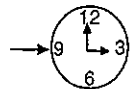
Windrider tells Moon Shadow a story.



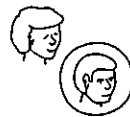
Father sat quietly. Then he said, "the others say it was a dream. The



only proof I have is a sore back and ribs." I said, "I believe you were



there Father. Something as beautiful as that has to be true." Then, there



was a knock at my bedroom door. It was Uncle. He gave me a little

toy that he made. It was a carving of a Monkey. I held it close as I

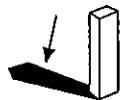
fell to sleep.



Windrider tells



Moon

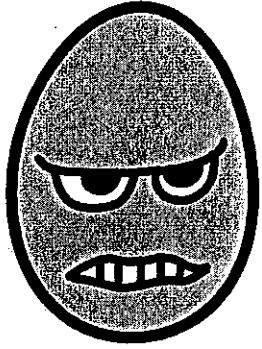


Shadow a

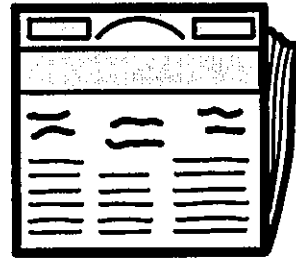


story.

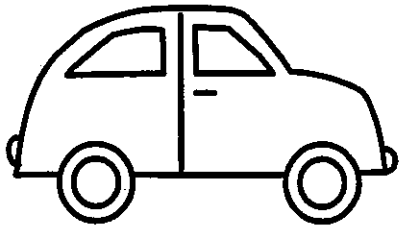
Chapter 4 Vocabulary



demon



newspaper



car



skills

Chapter 4 - Tests

(April 1903-February 1904)

During the next year, I learned that the Company was more than a group

of men. We were brothers banded together. I was treated like a man, not



a boy. Father could speak the language of the white demons best.



(Some of the Chinese people called white men demons. This is a name

for mean people). He was often sent into town to pick up dirty laundry.

Then, he would deliver the clean laundry.



Father had many skills.



One day, we met a demon. This demon was big and cheerful. He was



driving a horseless carriage (a car) that had broken down. A



long time ago, people called ' cars horseless carriages. He asked



father, "Do you know anything about a horseless carriage?" Father had

never fixed a horseless carriage in his life. Then, he looked into the

engine. He fixed it!



Father had many skills.



The demon was very happy with Father's work. He offered us money, but



Father would not accept it. Instead, he reached into his pocket and gave



Father a business card. It said, "Oliver Alger, Real Estate Agent.

Properties sold and managed. 1200 Polk St."



Father had many skills.



I asked Father how he knew what to do. He said that he just let his



hands do the work. I asked, "Do you think that was the Dragon King?"



Do you think it was a test?" Father stared at me. He said, "You talk

too much."



Father had many skills.

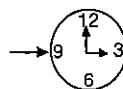


When we got home, Father showed me a newspaper. The name of the



newspaper was the New York Herald. It said that two demon men had

flown. Two men, the Wright brothers, flew an airplane. Some of the others



told father to build a flying machine, too. Then, he would be able to

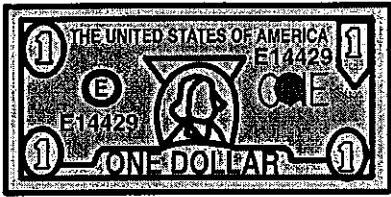


fly Mother to be with us in the Land of the Golden Mountain.



Father had many skills.

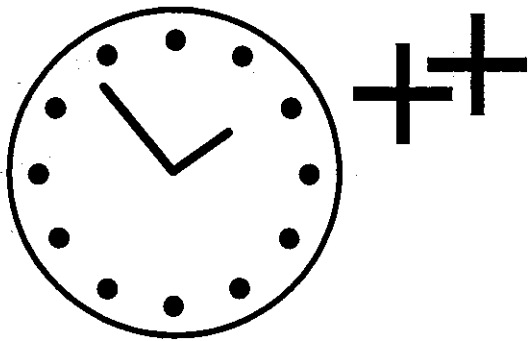
Chapter 5 Vocabulary



dollar



drugs



times



pray

Chapter 5



Windrider's Claws (February 1904 - May, 1905)



Black Dog got into trouble with the white demons. He owed them money

for drugs. Then, he was shot. He was taken back to

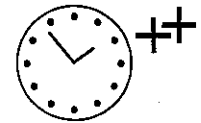
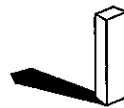
the Company and put to bed. The men were discussing how they would



pay the money back. They also said that demons tried to



trap the Tang by selling drugs to them. Black Dog promised to stop



taking drugs.

Father and Moon Shadow have hard times.

It was not long until Black Dog was back to his old tricks of stealing



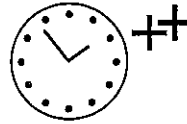
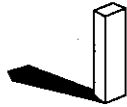
money and buying drugs. One day he took me



to town to pick up dirty laundry. I was carrying the money bag. He hit



me over the head, stole the money bag, and ran away.



Father and Moon Shadow have hard times.

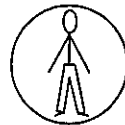


Father went out looking for Black Dog. He was being protected by the

brotherhood of The Sleepers. When he found him, he



beat him up. Another brother pulled a gun on me. Then, my father



accidentally killed him. The others told father that he

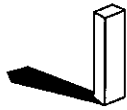
should leave town until everything settled down.



Father and

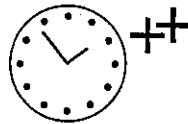


Moon

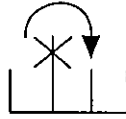


Shadow

have hard



times.



Father and I left the Company the next day. Father told them that



he was going to work for a demon, Mister Alger. He



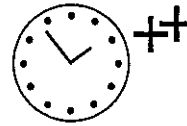
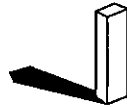
said that we would stay with demons who rent houses to people for



money. They all thought we were crazy for wanting to live



among the demons.



Father and Moon Shadow have hard times.

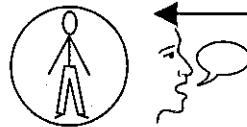


At the farewell party, everyone brought gifts. Uncle gave us a porcelain

cup with soil and incense in it. Incense is a special stick that is burned



when people pray. The soil was from his last trip to China. He told



us to burn the incense for protection. Father said, "We'll give it a



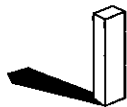
special place." It will help us pray for safety.



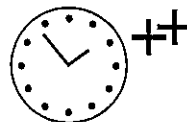
Father and



Moon



Shadow have hard

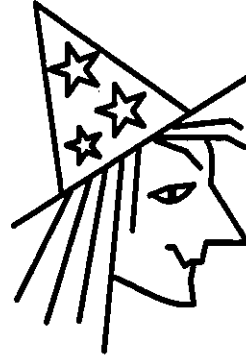


times.

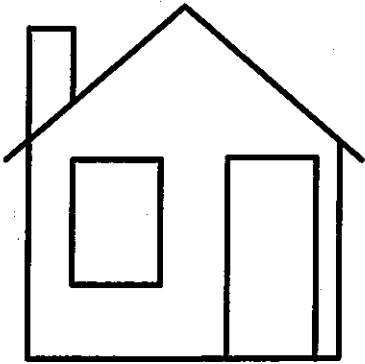
Chapter 6 Vocabulary



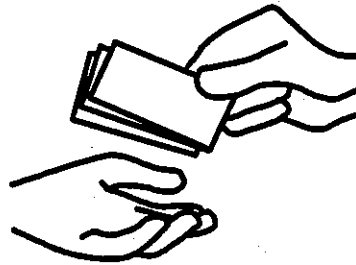
landlady



demoness



house



rent

Chapter 6



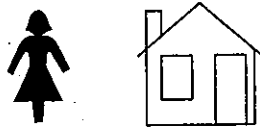
The Demoness (May 1905)



Our new place was for poor demons. Father said that we could make

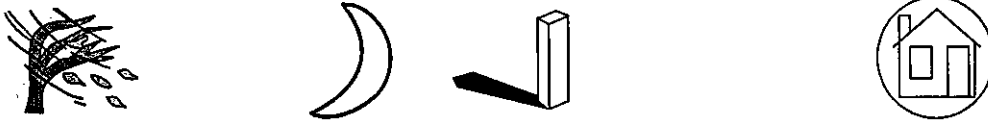


lots of money. We could fix machines for the demons. We would live in

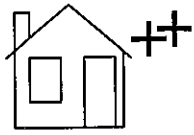


the stable behind our landlady's house. A stable is a place for animals.

We would sleep on mats and blankets.



Windrider and Moon shadow have a new home.



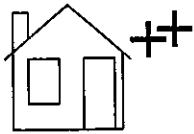
All of the houses looked like square boxes. They were all the same,



except for one. There was one large Victorian home that was made of



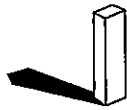
eight sides. This was the 'landlady's house. A landlady is a person who



owns houses and rents them to other people. Father said, "It's time



for us to meet our landlady."



Windrider and Moon shadow have a new home.



This was the first demoness that I have ever seen up-close. A demoness

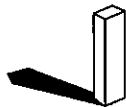


is a lady mean. Her name was Miss Whitlaw. She was tiny and

polite. She smiled at us. She had a friendly twinkle in her eye. She

invited us in. Miss Whitlaw gave me milk and gingerbread cookies. They

were the best I had ever tasted.



Windrider and Moon shadow have a new home.

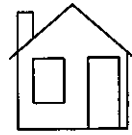
Miss Whitlaw had a niece named Robin. Robin invited me to look through

her picture viewer. A picture viewer is like a small camera that you look

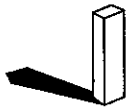
into. It is used for looking at pictures. 'I couldn't believe my eyes. She



said, "It's Niagara Falls. You see, the picture viewer lets us travel all



around the world without even leaving the house."



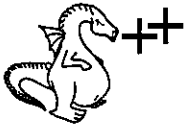
Windrider and Moon shadow have a new home.

Next, Robin showed me their stained-glass window. A stained glass window

is a window made of colored glass. It was tall and rectangular. It was



covered with a great dragon breathing yellow and red flames. Robin said

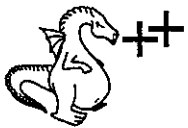


that dragons were very wicked animals that eat people and destroy

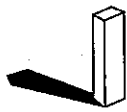


towns. I looked at Father. I was confused. Father looked at me and shook

his head. I felt sad that Miss Whitlaw and Robin did not know that real

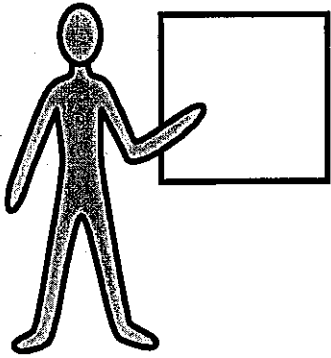


dragons of the sea were wise and kind.



Windrider and Moon shadow have a new home.

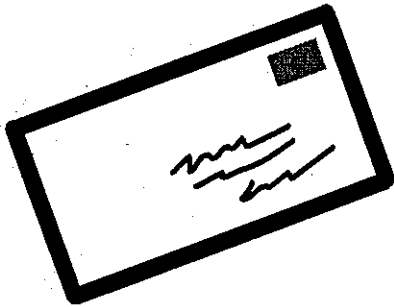
Chapter 7 Vocabulary



teacher



student



letter



airplane

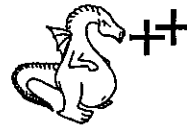
Chapter 7 - Education

(May-June, 1905)



Each day, while Father was at work, he allowed me to have

30 minutes of free time. I could use this time to nap, play, or read. I

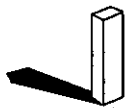


decided to teach Miss Whitlaw and Robin about dragons. They decided

to teach me how to read and write in English.



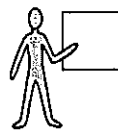
Moon



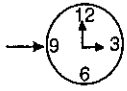
Shadow



is a student



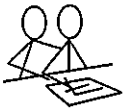
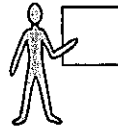
and a teacher.



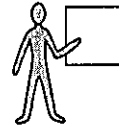
Then I told Miss Whitlaw about my father's dream of building an



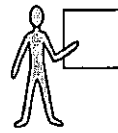
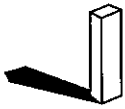
airplane. I asked her to help me write a letter to the Wright Brothers.



Miss Whitlaw was my writing teacher. I was her student. I wanted to help



my father learn about airplanes. I was his teacher!



Moon Shadow is a student and a teacher.



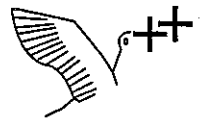
This is my letter:

To the honorable Wrights:

This is to inform you that I am a boy of eleven. I have



greatly admired your feats of daring. My father wants to fly too. Can you



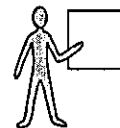
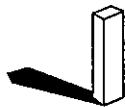
help him? We need to know how to shape the propellers and wings.



Father says that no one else in the world knows as much as you do



about airplanes.



Thank you.

Moon Shadow is a student and a teacher.



Two weeks later, I got a letter from the Wrights' bicycle shop. This is



their letter:

Dear Mr. Lee,

My brother and I are always happy to meet another flying enthusiast. Our

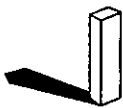
brotherhood is too small to lose any one of us. Enclosed you will find

some tables and diagrams that should prove of some service to you. If

we can be of any further assistance to you, please let us know.



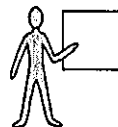
Moon



Shadow



is a student



and a teacher.



I waited anxiously for Father to come home. When he arrived I read the



letter to him. He was very angry that I told Miss Whitlaw about his



dream of flying. He crumbled the letter and threw it in the corner.



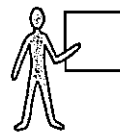
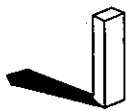
The next morning, Father picked up the letter and smoothed it out. He



was looking at the tables and diagrams. He said, "Can you help me

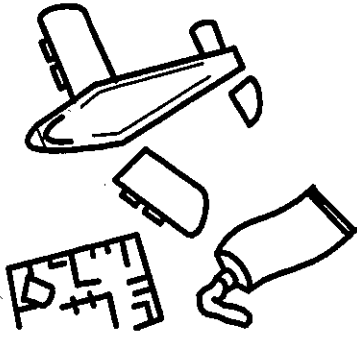


write another letter to them?" I said, "I can try."



Moon Shadow is a student and a teacher.

Chapter 8 Vocabulary



model



invite

Chapter 8 -Earth, Wind, and Water

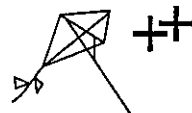
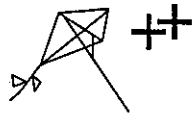
(June-September 1905)



We wrote many letters to the Wright brothers. They



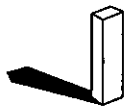
answered Father's questions right away. Their instructions helped Father



make larger glider kites. The large kites were small models of



the real airplane.

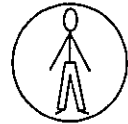
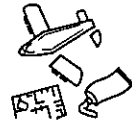


Moon Shadow learns from many people.

Su M T W Th F S



One Saturday morning, Father invited Miss Whitlaw and Robin for a picnic.



After the picnic, we took turns flying Father's newest model. Father's turn

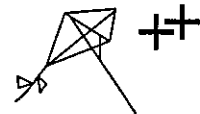


was last. I watched him closely. He pulled a letter from his pocket and

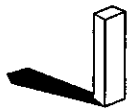


tied it to the end of the kite. Next, he pulled out his pocketknife and

cut the string. He wanted to see how far it would fly on its own. We



were all disappointed. Father promised to make us new kites.



Moon Shadow learns from many people.

Su M T W Th F S



The next Saturday, Father had to work. Robin invited me to fly her new



model. I was afraid. I could hear the demon boys playing in the streets.

Robin told me that the biggest boy, Jack, was scared of the sight of his own blood.

When we walked outside, Jack stopped playing. He began

mocking me by saying, "Ching Chong, Chinaman." To mock means to

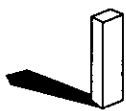


make fun of someone. I looked at him and said, "I no like that song. I



think it stupid." Then he said, "You think I'm stupid?" Then, Jack ran

toward me. He expected me to run away. Instead, I punched him in the nose.



Moon Shadow learns from many people.

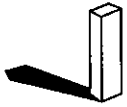
Jack sat on the sidewalk with blood running down his face. Suddenly I



realized that demon boys were like the Tang boys I knew at home.

You had to punch the biggest and toughest one to be accepted. From

that day on, we all became friends.

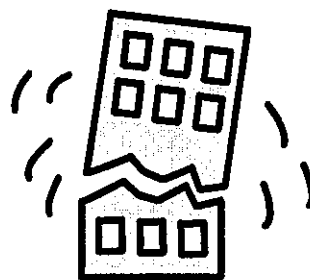


Moon Shadow learns from many people.

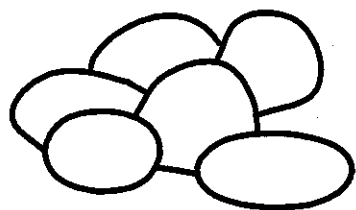
Chapter 9 Vocabulary



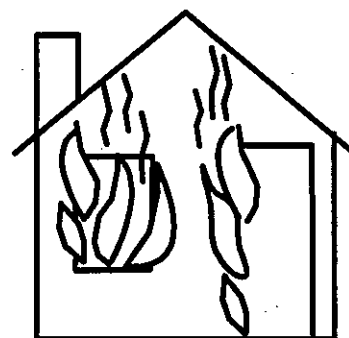
San Francisco



earthquake



rubble



fire



Chapter 9 - The Dragon Wakes (December 1905-April 1906)

By the time winter came, we were not rich, but we were doing well. We saved



our money. We hoped to open our own repair shop in San Francisco. I

began to have this terrible feeling that something would happen to our



home. I was right.

Early one morning, I got dressed and went outside to pump



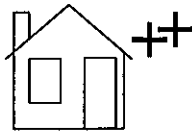
water. The morning was filled with soft, dreamy colors. Then the earthquake

hit. I did not believe it at first. It seemed as though the whole world had come

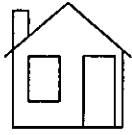
unglued. Buildings were falling down all around me.



An earthquake hits San Francisco.



All of the houses on Polk St. were wiped out. Miss Whitlaw's was



the only house left standing. Father and I ran inside to check on Miss



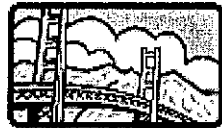
Whitlaw and Robin. They were safe. Miss Whitlaw said that we must



help to save those who had been crushed under the rubble. We knew we



couldn't do it alone. Miss Whitlaw said, "We'll get help from the others."



An earthquake hits San Francisco.

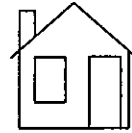


Little by little we began to clear the mounds of rubble. We saved as



many demons as possible. After several hours of work Father said, "I

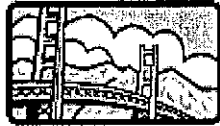
hear no calling' in the last hour. No one alive left 'here." Miss Whitlaw



agreed. We all went back to Miss Whitlaw's house for food and water.



The water pump was dry. A fire had begun south of Polk St.



An earthquake hits San Francisco.



About four hours later an army of demon soldiers came by to rescue us.



They told us about the fire. Then they told us to gather our



belongings. They would take us Golden Gate Park. Miss Whitlaw suggested

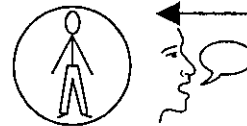


that we go to check on our people at the Company. We helped Miss

Whitlaw gather her things. She took the picture viewer and the



stained-glass dragon window. As Miss Whitlaw and Robin drove away, she

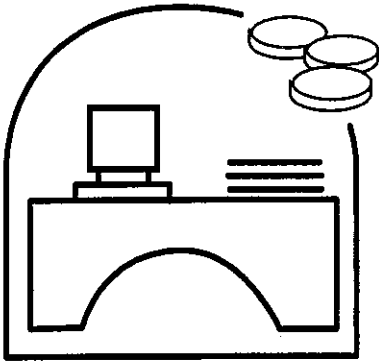


said, "We'll meet you in the park." Father said, "See you there."

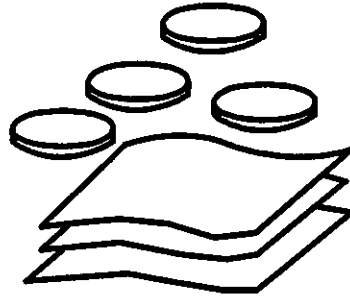


An earthquake hits San Francisco.

Chapter 10 Vocabulary



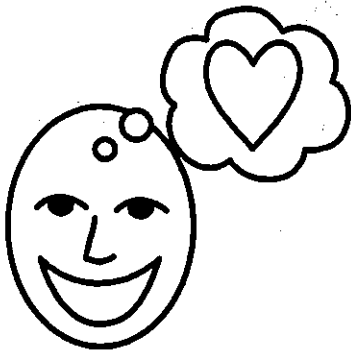
business



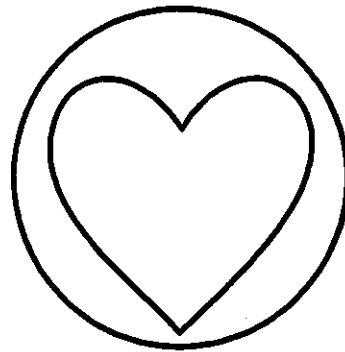
money



changes



dream



life

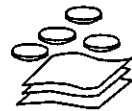
Chapter 10 - Aroused (April-May 1906)



Uncle brought the wagon to pick us up. On the way to the

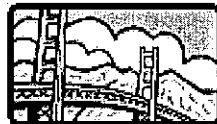


Park we passed many white' people. They looked shocked. They could not



believe that this happened to them. Yesterday, they wanted money. Now,

all they could think of was bread and water.



Life changes for everyone in San Francisco.

We found Miss Whitlaw and Robin at the park. She offered us dinner.



We told her that we brought our own food. The Tang people were placed

in separate tents from Americans.' When our tent became flooded with



water, Miss Whitlaw invited us to stay with her.



Life changes for everyone in San Francisco.



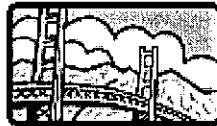
The next morning, a young officer entered the tent. He said, "Come along, you two. We're moving you out." Miss Whitlaw argued with the officer, but



he said that we must leave. The officers found all of the Tang people.

They marched us away from the camp. Soon, there were very few of us

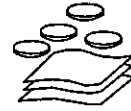
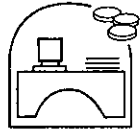
left. We were not sure where they were taking us.



Life changes for everyone in San Francisco.



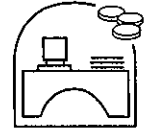
Uncle decided to take charge and asked for my help. He said that



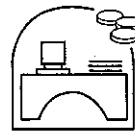
some American businesses could not make money without us. American



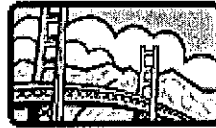
businesses paid us very little money. This left more money for them and



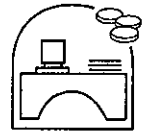
their business. Uncle said that we would tell the American businessmen



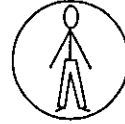
that we would leave. Most of the businessmen agreed that we should stay.



Life changes for everyone in San Francisco



We were went back to Chinatown to rebuild our company. The company's



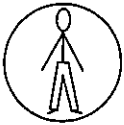
days were filled with joy and laughter. Father helped the company but still



had flying 'on his mind. He said that we should not give up on our



dream of flying. Uncle laughed and said that Father made no sense.

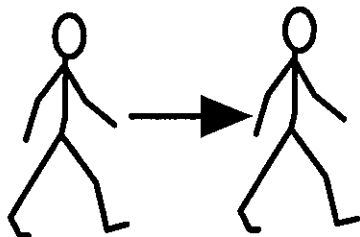


Then Father and I left the company to make our dream come true.

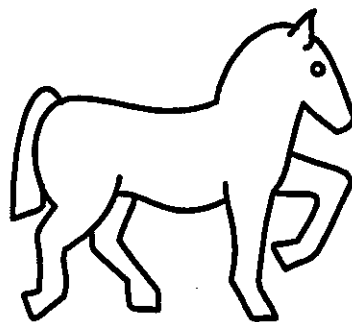


Life changes for everyone in San Francisco.

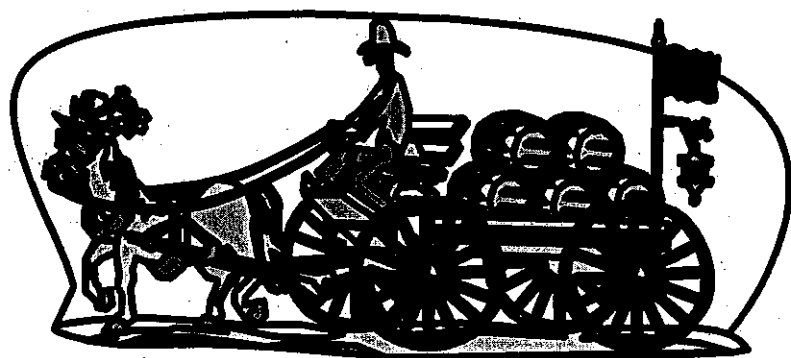
Chapter 11 Vocabulary



follow



horse



wagon

Chapter 11 - Exile - (May 1906 - September 1909)



Father and I moved to the foothills above Oakland. We



borrowed Miss Whitlaw's wagon to move. We lived in an old barn.

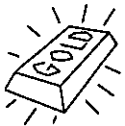


It was next to a beautiful mansion that was ruined in the earthquake. The

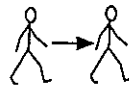
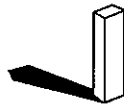
view from the hills was amazing. At night thousands of lights seemed to



glitter like gold. At last, I found my gold mountain. It was not made



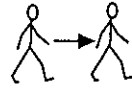
of gold nuggets. It was made of people like the Whitlows and the



Company. Father and Moon Shadow follow their dream.



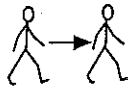
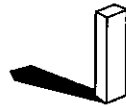
Then we received a letter from Mother and Grandmother. Mother said



how proud she was of Father for following his dream of flying. She said

that I should continue to support and love him. I know that she was

blushing with pride.



Father and Moon Shadow follow their dream.



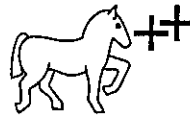
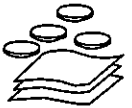
It took three years to build the flying machine. Father and I named it



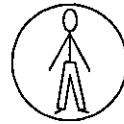
Dragonwings. By the end of summer, we were ready. We would take



Dragonwings to the top of the mountain to fly it. Father would use the



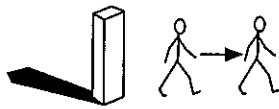
money we had saved to hire a team of horses to pull the



wagon to the top. I was proud of Father for wanting to be a



dragon again.



Father and Moon Shadow follow their dream.



The next day, Black Dog was at our house. He was looking through our



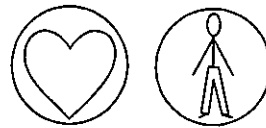
things. He came toward me with a knife. Then, Father walked in. Black



Dog had me on the floor with a knife at my throat. Father yelled, "Don't



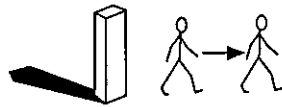
harm him." Black Dog said, "How important is that flying machine to



you?" More important than your son's life?" Father gave Black Dog his



money. His dream was not as important as his son.



Father and Moon Shadow follow their dream.



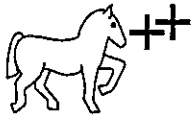
Then it was time to pay the rent. The landlord got mad at Father. He



gave us three days to get the money. We knew that would be



impossible. We knew that we could not take Dragonwings with us. We had

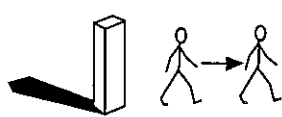


no money for horses to haul the wagon. "Maybe this is the



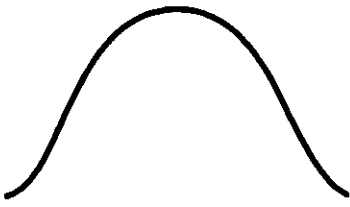
final test in life," I said. Father thought for a bit and laughed, "Yes,

maybe it is."

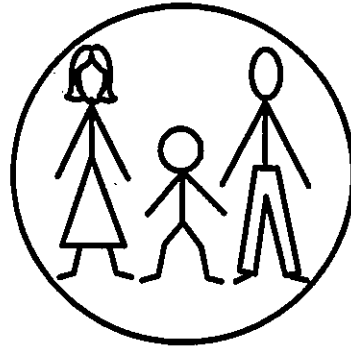


Father and Moon Shadow follow their dream.

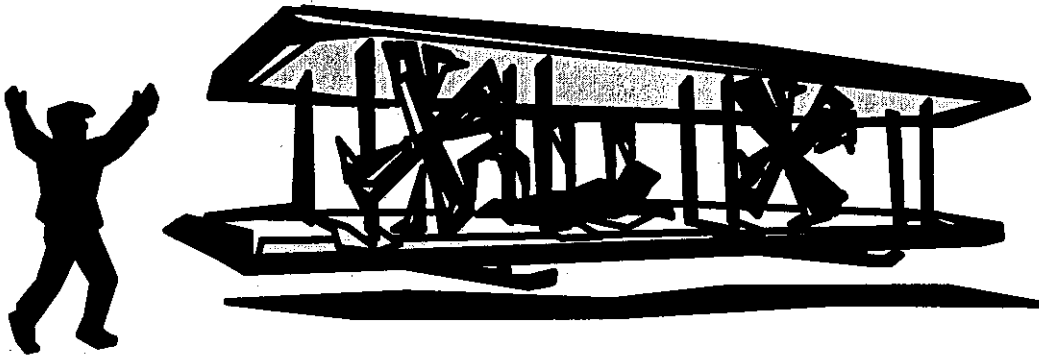
Chapter 12 Vocabulary



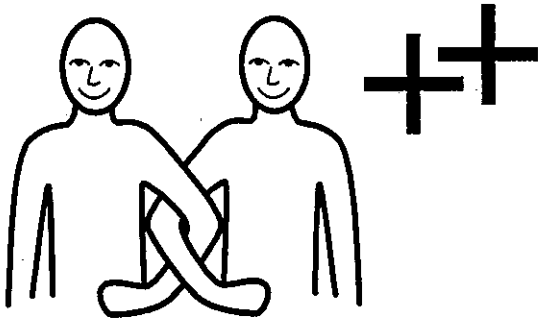
hill



family



flying machine



friends



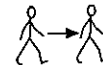
courage



Chapter 12 Dragonwings (September 1909- June-1910)



It was way past sunrise when I woke up. Father was rolled up in his blanket. Then a knock came at the barn door. Hand Clap stood there. It was as if he had appeared by magic. He called over his shoulder, "Hey, everybody, they're here." I heard the clink of a harness and the rattle



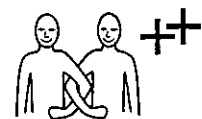
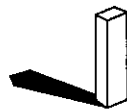
of an old wagon. The men from the Company were following close



behind. "We're here to help you get that flying machine to the top of that



hill" Uncle said.

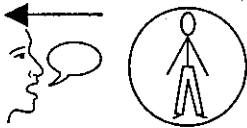


Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends.



We put Dragonwings onto the wagon. For the first time, Dragonwings

emerged into the world. "We'll go to the very top. That's where the wind



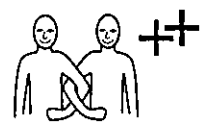
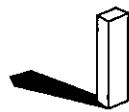
is best," said 'Father. When we were almost to the top of the mountain,



we saw two figures tromping up the hill. Miss Whitlaw and Robin's

faces lit up when they saw us. "Thank Goodness," she puffed. "I thought

we might be late."



Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends.



Robin and I took our places to help get Dragonwings off the ground.

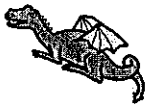


Father laid belly down on the flying machine. Dragonwings lurched



forward and took off. Everyone cheered. Father was actually flying. About

five minutes later the wind began to blow harder. I held my breath.

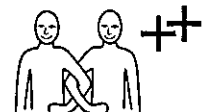
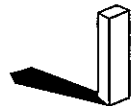


Dragonwings rose into the air. Then, it headed down the hillside toward the



bay. It crashed into the hillside. We rushed to check on Father. He was

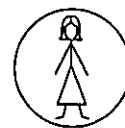
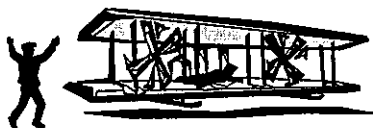
alive, but his leg and two ribs were broken. I felt sad.



Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends.



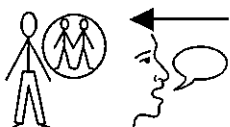
Father awoke the next day. He said, "I'm not going to build another



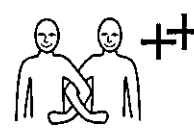
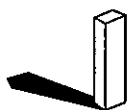
flying machine. When I was up there, I wanted you and your mother



with me. I know now that my family means more to me than flying."



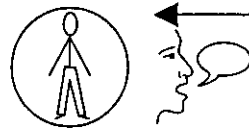
Uncle said, "Maybe that crash knocked some sense into you."



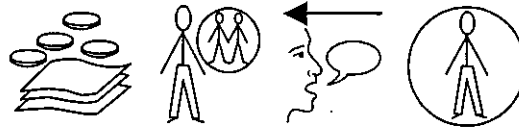
Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends.



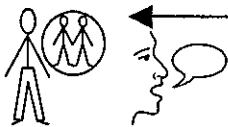
Hand Clap and Uncle reminded Father that he was still considered a



partner in the Company. Father said, "But I don't even have a dollar to



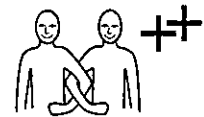
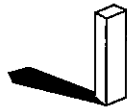
my name." "I'll lend you the money," Uncle said. Father agreed. Hand



Clap and Uncle said that they were getting too old to run the Company.



They said that Father and I would be the perfect team to take over.



Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends.



Father and I moved back into the Company's new building. It took months



for Father's bones to heal. During that time we never lost touch with the

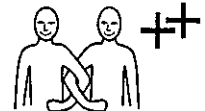
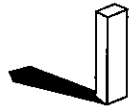
Whitlaws. I would either call or visit them every Sunday. In summer,



Father was able to give money to the demon officials. Then he sailed to



the Middle Kingdom to bring mother back.



Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends.

I knew that we would face many future problems. I was not afraid of



them. I knew that mother and father gave me courage. Father had the



courage to follow his dream. Mother had the courage to let us live in

America. We would be strong together.



Father and Moon Shadow are helped by family and friends.

