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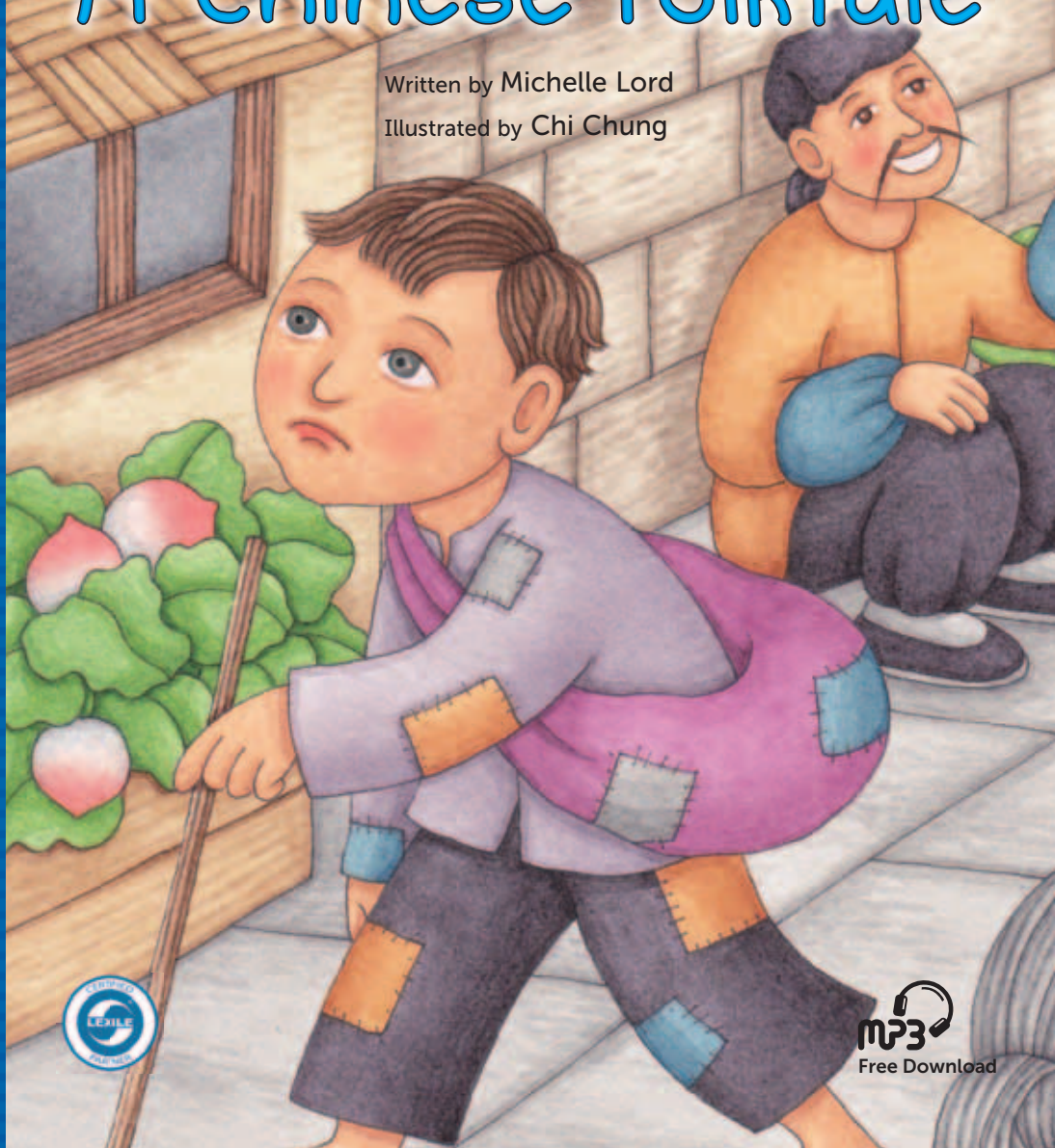
Intermediate

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Lo-Sun's Lesson: A Chinese Folktale

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The Blind Boy

Long ago, in a small village in China, there lived a **blind** boy. His name was Lo-Sun. Each day he begged for day-old soup or rice in the town square. His parents had **abandoned** him because he could not go to school or work in the fields.

Lo-Sun tapped his way along the familiar streets with a long stick. He spent his nights alone, sleeping under the berry bushes.







One very cold night a strange dog sat down next to Lo-Sun. Lo-Sun was grateful for its warmth. He touched the dog's wet nose and scratched her soft ears. He touched her long tail, too.

"Your name shall be Mei-Mei. It means little sister," said Lo-Sun. He shared all he had, a dry bone and a thin **blanket**, with his new friend.



The Dream

For weeks Lo-Sun taught Mei-Mei many tricks: to sit, stay, and speak. He taught her to jump when he **whistled**. The big dog slept next to him every night, keeping him company. She guided the blind boy away from things that could harm him. Lo-Sun pulled thorns from Mei-Mei's **paws** and fur.

One dark night the two lay down under a tall tree. Lo-Sun soon fell asleep and dreamed.

"Lo-Sun, can you see me?" asked a strange voice.

"Of course not. I am blind," said Lo-Sun. "Can you help me?"



