

## **(No.5) I'll never ever forget**

Once upon a time, there was a man in America called James. He was a beggar and was very poor. His jeans, shoes and clothes were all old, ugly and dirty. In fact, everyone described him in one word: 'shabby'. That's why he got the nickname 'Shabby James'. Even though James looked bad, he was a very kind man. I'm going to tell you a story about me and this man - my hero Shabby James.

About ten years ago I got the opportunity to travel from Hong Kong to Los Angeles in America. I had a great time while I was there, but on the last day I made a huge mistake, something I've never done in my entire life! I lost my passenger ticket. Obviously, I didn't have enough money to pay for a new ticket and I felt so lost at that moment. I didn't know what I should do next and I didn't even know if I would be able to go back to Hong Kong, or if I had to stay in America forever. I was miserable and hopeless. Suddenly Shabby James appeared. He asked me, "Why do you look so depressed?" I told him about my problem and that I did not know what to do. He smiled at me and said, "Don't worry, I will help you." He reached into his old, ugly bag and took out enough money for me to pay for another ticket. What he did was a great shock to me. I asked him where he got the money and he told me that he had saved up for about two years in order to let him rent an apartment. I was touched and started crying, my tears falling like rain from the sky. James patted me on the head and said, "You can take the money from me, and then you can give it back to me one day." I promised him I would give his money back to him, and he gave me an address.

Ten years later, I am a Chief Executive Officer of a company, and I was able to give the money back to James. We also became a friends. Shabby James taught me a very important lesson. It is a bigger blessing to be able to give than to receive. I will never, ever forget what that old man did and I am so happy that this man came into my life and taught me this valuable life lesson.