A sad story

Fred, Tom and Sam were friends. They lived in a village in the north-east of America and worked on a farm, so they are farmers. The friends worked much and helped one another.

One day Fred said, “Guys, let’s go to New York! It’s a very big city and we can have a good time there.” The three friends liked this idea; they packed their things and went to the train station. Soon they were in New York.

The friends liked the city very much. The houses were big; there were a lot of cars and people in the streets. Fred, Tom and Sam found a good hotel and took a room there. Their room was on the forty-fifth floor. It was beautiful, comfortable and cozy.

Every day the friends got up at seven o’clock, had breakfast and went out to see the city. They visited different places of interest. In the evening they usually went to the cinema or to the theatre.

One evening the friends went to the circus. The show was very interesting but it was rather long, so Fred, Tom and Sam came to their hotel very late.

“I’m sorry’”, the man on duty at the hotel said, “but our lifts are not working now. If you don’t want to walk up to your room, you can sleep in the hall.”

“Ni, no,” Sam said, “no, thank you. We don’t want to sleep in the hall. We are young and strong, so we can walk up to your room.”

Then he turned to his friends and said, “It is not easy to walk up to the forty-fifth floor, but I think I know how to make it easier. I can tell you funny jokes, Fred can sing songs and Tom can tell us interesting stories.”

The friends liked the idea and they began to walk up to their room. Sam told them funny jokes, Fred, sang songs, and Tom told them different interesting stories.

At last they came to the thirty-seventh floor. The friends were very tired. “Well,” said Sam, “now it’s your turn, Tom. Tell us a long and interesting story with a sad ending.”

“I know one story,” said Tom. “It isn’t long, it isn’t interesting, but it’s sad enough. Listen to it: the key to our room is in the hall downstairs.”