

NUMBER 7 • BONUS STORY

La primera llave de Michi

Manuel, Diego and Elvira tell the story of Michi's first arrival, bringing the memory to life in the present.

ANSWER KEY

LISTENING & UNDERSTANDING

L1) WHO SAYS IT?: 1b, 2a, 3a

L2) MICHI'S FIRST DAY: 1a, 2a, 3b

L3) A HOME AND A KEY: 1b, 2c

Translation

A Saturday morning in June. The market square is full. You and Lucía stop at the fish stall. Uwe unrolls a very long paper bill.

- Good morning! Number seven! Here again.
- Good morning, Manuel. Fish for Michi, please.
- For Michi? His bill gets longer and longer.
- ▲ Have you known him for a long time?
- Yes. Since he was little. I will tell you about his first day here.

○ That small? Like my hand?

■ Yes. One morning he arrives at the market. It is cold.

■ He is wet and hungry. I give him fish.

▲ And then?

■ Then his bill starts.

○ And his ear? Why is it different?

■ Because of a dog at the market. It bites his ear.

■ That is why he does not like dogs.

Karim from the corner shop comes over with a box of apples.

● Good morning. Michi's story? I know it too.

● We all give him something. Fish, milk. But nobody knows who he belongs to.

○ Does he stay at the market?

● No. He looks for a home.

● A real home. With a door and bed.

● He goes with me. From one house to another.

● He looks at the doors. But does not stay.

○ Until number seven!

- Exactly. He sits at the door. And waits.

That afternoon, in the courtyard of number 7. Elvira sits on her bench, and you tell her what you have heard.

- Of course I know the story. I am there.
- It is raining. I open the door. There is a little grey cat.
- I tell him: You are not my cat!
- And what does he do?
- He comes in. As if nothing were happening. Like the boss.
- ▲ Where does he sleep?
- In flat three. It is empty.
- ▲ Flat three? My flat!
- Yes. It is his home before becoming yours.
- Who names him?
- Me. Michi. It suits him.
- The next morning he takes a key from my pocket. The first one.
- What key?
- Flat three's, of course.
- ▲ Like mine?

- ☐ Exactly. To him it is his key. That is why he looks for it on your first night here.

Michi walks across the courtyard and jumps onto the bench, between you and Elvira, a big old key under his paw.

- ☐ He is not naughty. He just likes keys.
- ☐ Ten more years here? You need ten new keys!
- ☒ All right. I am going to buy lots.
- ☐ Tea? There are more stories.
- ☒ Yes, thank you. And you, Michi? Do you prefer fish?

Michi says nothing. He is already at Elvira's door.