Day One Green Cards at Last

Part 1: Silent read

→ Can a piece of paper change people's lives? Read silently.

"My parents could be taken away." Alex Carillo says he grew up with this fear. He is an American teenager living in Arizona. Green cards allow immigrants to stay in the U.S. forever. Some people don't have to wait too long for their green cards. Alex's parents had to wait an unusually long time.

One day Alex was home with his parents. His parents' green cards finally arrived in the mail. His parents were so happy. They laughed and cried with joy and disbelief. They hugged and danced in the kitchen. Alex took a video of his parents and posted it online, along with a message. He especially wanted people who are critical of noncitizens to pay attention.

Alex needed people to know that it can be hard to get green cards. It took his parents 25 years and thousands of dollars. Alex felt blessed that his parents' dreams finally came true. He posted the video because he wanted to help other immigrants. He wanted them to feel less uneasy. He hoped they would decide to "not give up." People liked and shared Alex's video. In fact, in about three days it got more than 7 million views!

Alex grew up feeling unsettled. He worried that at any moment he could lose his parents. With their green cards, Alex's parents finally had rights. His parents would be protected under local, state, and federal laws.

Source: "Video of Couple Receiving Green Cards After 25-Year Wait Goes Viral," *Newsweek*, August 10, 2019.

// one minute



Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

"My parents could be taken away." Alex Carillo says he grew up with this fear. He is an American teenager living in Arizona. Green cards allow immigrants to stay in the U.S. forever. Some people don't have to wait too long for their green cards. Alex's parents had to wait an unusually long time. 54

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What did green cards allow Alex's parents to do?

Why was Alex worried before his parents got green cards?

Passage 4

Day One Green Cards at Last

Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

→ Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.

 \rightarrow Pause at each / mark for a phrase.

 \rightarrow Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

"My parents could be taken away." // Alex Carillo says / he grew up with this fear. // He is an American teenager / living in Arizona. // Green cards / allow immigrants to stay in the U.S. forever. // Some people don't have to wait too long / for their green cards. // Alex's parents / had to wait an unusually long time. //

One day / Alex was home with his parents. // His parents' green cards / finally arrived in the mail. // His parents were so happy. // They laughed and cried / with joy and disbelief. // They hugged and danced / in the kitchen. // Alex took a video of his parents / and posted it online, / along with a message. / He especially wanted / people who are critical of noncitizens / to pay attention. //

Alex needed people to know / that it can be hard to get green cards. // It took his parents 25 years / and thousands of dollars. // Alex felt blessed / that his parents' dreams finally came true. //

He posted the video / because he wanted to help other immigrants. // He wanted them to feel less uneasy. // He hoped they would decide to "not give up." // People liked and shared Alex's video. // In fact, / in about three days / it got more than 7 million views! //

Alex grew up feeling unsettled. // He worried that at any moment / he could lose his parents. // With their green cards, / Alex's parents finally had rights. // His parents would be protected / under local, / state, / and federal laws. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.