



# *So Far From the Bamboo Grove*

by Yoko Kawashima Watkins

## Power Vocabulary List

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### ABSOLUTE\*

*Pronunciation* ab-suh-loot

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* complete or total

*Word Used in Context*

After the huge party, the house was an **absolute** mess from top to bottom.

Ken had an **absolute** dislike for broccoli and never ate it.

She had an **absolute** love for her family and would do anything for them.

### ACADEMIC

*Pronunciation* ak-uh-dem-ik

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* to do with study and learning

*Word Used in Context*

Robert enjoyed **academic** activities more than sports-related ones.

Her **academic** record was impressive because she had studied hard and maintained high grades.

His teacher reminded him that his **academic** work was much more important than his social life.

### AMAZEMENT\*

*Pronunciation* uh-maze-muhnt

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* the quality or state of being filled with wonder or surprise

*Word Used in Context*

Hallie could not hide her **amazement** when she looked out over the huge Grand Canyon.

The children watched the magician in **amazement** as he pulled several doves out of his sleeve.

She could not hide her **amazement** that she had actually gotten a perfect score on the test, since it had been one of the hardest tests she had ever taken.

### ANGUISH

*Pronunciation* ang-gwish

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* a strong feeling of misery or distress

*Word Used in Context*

She was filled with **anguish** after hearing the news about the earthquake.

The mother felt momentary **anguish** when she couldn't find her child at the grocery store, but was relieved to find him hiding behind the cart.

She was filled with **anguish** when she realized that she would not be able to go on the class trip that she had been looking forward to for so long.

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### BELOVED\*

*Pronunciation* bi-luhv-id

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* greatly loved or dear to someone's heart

*Word Used in Context*

Andrea had many **beloved** memories of her time in Colorado with her grandmother. When it was time for her to go to college, Luanne could hardly bear to part with her **beloved** dog of ten years.

David's mother kept his **beloved** teddy bear from childhood so she would always remember how special it had been to him.

### CANTEEN

*Pronunciation* kan-teen

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* a small portable metal container for holding water or other liquids

*Word Used in Context*

She filled her **canteen** with lake water and returned to douse the fire.

He made sure his **canteen** was full before he left because he always got very thirsty while hiking.

Ben's father gave him the old and worn **canteen** that he had used while hiking the Appalachian Trail.

### CASH\*

*Pronunciation* kash

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* money in the form of bills and coins

*Word Used in Context*

She didn't have enough **cash** to pay for her lunch so she had to use a credit card.

Rather than carrying **cash** with her all the time, Anna preferred to write checks.

She had only a little **cash** in her wallet, four one-dollar bills.

### COMMOTION

*Pronunciation* kuh-moh-shuhn

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* a lot of noisy, excited activity

*Word Used in Context*

There was a **commotion** outside the hotel as the movie star came out to sign autographs.

Betsy could not hear the conversation because of all the **commotion** of the parade.

The **commotion** on the street arose when a fight broke out and everyone joined in.

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### CONSUME

*Pronunciation* kuhn-soom

*Part of Speech* verb

*Definition 1* to eat or drink something

*Word Used in Context*

Cows eat tremendous quantities of grain and **consume** large amounts of water.

Looking over the buffet, Leon wanted to **consume** every item on the table because he was so hungry.

He was too smart to allow his greed to **consume** him.

### COURAGEOUS\*

*Pronunciation* kur-ray-jhuhs

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* having or characterized by mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty

*Word Used in Context*

It takes a **courageous** person to stand up for what is right.

The **courageous** firefighters rushed into the fire to save those who were trapped.

Because she was not **courageous**, Anne was afraid to climb the tree with the other kids.

### DECENT\*

*Pronunciation* dee-suhnt

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* good or satisfactory

*Word Used in Context*

Ed had a **decent** job, but he knew that someday he would get a better one and make more money.

Sarah was a good and **decent** person who tried to be nice to everyone.

She made a **decent** vegetable garden out of the little patch of land.

### ENDURE\*

*Pronunciation* en-dur

*Part of Speech* verb

*Definition 1* to undergo, as a hardship, especially without giving in

*Word Used in Context*

Molly could not **endure** another minute of the awful movie, so she left.

Ralph was sure he could **endure** the distance of running five miles.

A strong person can **endure** almost any hardship.

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### FEEBLE\*

*Pronunciation* fee-buhl

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* very weak

*Word Used in Context*

The tiny puppy was sick and **feeble**, but the vet said that he would probably grow to be a strong adult dog.

Anna was **feeble** after being sick because she hadn't eaten much and hadn't gotten any exercise.

A newborn horse's legs are **feeble** at first, but get stronger as it learns to stand and walk.

### GENTLY\*

*Pronunciation* jent-lee

*Part of Speech* adverb

*Definition 1* treatment of something or someone that is free from harshness, sternness, or violence

*Word Used in Context*

Eva **gently** stroked the small kitten so she would not scare it.

Her mother told her the bad news **gently**, so as not to alarm her.

Lloyd picked up the priceless vase **gently**, careful not to drop it.

### GUARDIAN

*Pronunciation* gar-dee-uhn

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* someone who guards or protects something

*Word Used in Context*

While her parents were out of the country, Lisa's grandmother was her **guardian**.

Emma was the **guardian** of the family's prized pie recipe.

Aaron was the **guardian** of the kittens until their owner came back from vacation.

### POWERFUL\*

*Pronunciation* pou-ur-fuhl

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* having great prestige, strength, or authority

*Word Used in Context*

The **powerful** hurricane knocked over many trees and caused serious damage.

The king was a **powerful** man who had a great deal of influence in the country.

President of the United States is a **powerful** position to hold because he makes so many important decisions.

### RAZOR

*Pronunciation* ray-zur

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* an instrument with a sharp blade used to shave hair from the skin

*Word Used in Context*

Alan's father taught him the proper way to use a **razor** when he was finally old enough to shave.

The mother told her child not to play with the **razor** because it was sharp and could cut him.

When Malcolm's **razor** became too dull, he went to the drug store to buy a new one.

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## Power Vocabulary List



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### RECOVERY

*Pronunciation* ri-kuhv-ur-ee

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* the act of regaining a normal position or condition

*Word Used in Context*

She made a quick **recovery** from her illness after being treated by one of the best doctors in the city.

Usually, the older a person is, the longer time of **recovery** they require after illness.

She had to work with a physical therapist to make a complete **recovery** from the fall that broke her leg.

### TUITION

*Pronunciation* too-ish-uhn

*Part of Speech* noun

*Definition 1* money paid to a private school or college in order for a student to receive instruction there

*Word Used in Context*

Peter had to apply for financial aid because he could not afford his college **tuition**.

The **tuition** at the private school did not include the cost of books.

Avery had to work all summer to save enough money for the next year's **tuition** at the university.

### VIGOROUS

*Pronunciation* vig-ur-uhss

*Part of Speech* adjective

*Definition 1* energetic, lively, or forceful

*Word Used in Context*

Eileen made a **vigorous** effort to clean up her room before her company arrived.

Julie enjoyed the **vigorous** exercise of running two miles a day.

After getting the proper care, the little plant grew to be healthy and **vigorous**.

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## Power Vocabulary Activity



W H N A I D R A U G O I S T  
H E A M A Z E M E N T P H R  
I N C P I P A L C O F S V S  
G B A O G F R A O N A O I A  
E E T W G E E I M C R C G B  
N L U E E E C D M R L A O S  
T O I R N B O E O A C N R O  
L V T F D L V C T Z O T O L  
Y E I U U E E E I O N E U U  
S D O L R S R N O R S E S T  
C H N O E O Y T N L U N M E  
C O U R A G E O U S M R I S  
A N G U I S H H I D E A J M  
G N A C A D E M I C G U N H

**Directions:** For each vocabulary word below, circle it in the letter grid above—up and down, across, backwards or diagonally. Going across each row starting at the top left, place each unused letter on a blank until you reveal the hidden message.

ABSOLUTE	CANTEEN	DECENT	POWERFUL
ACADEMIC	CASH	ENDURE	RAZOR
AMAZEMENT	COMMOTION	FEEBLE	RECOVERY
ANGUISH	CONSUME	GENTLY	TUITION
BELOVED	COURAGEOUS	GUARDIAN	VIGOROUS

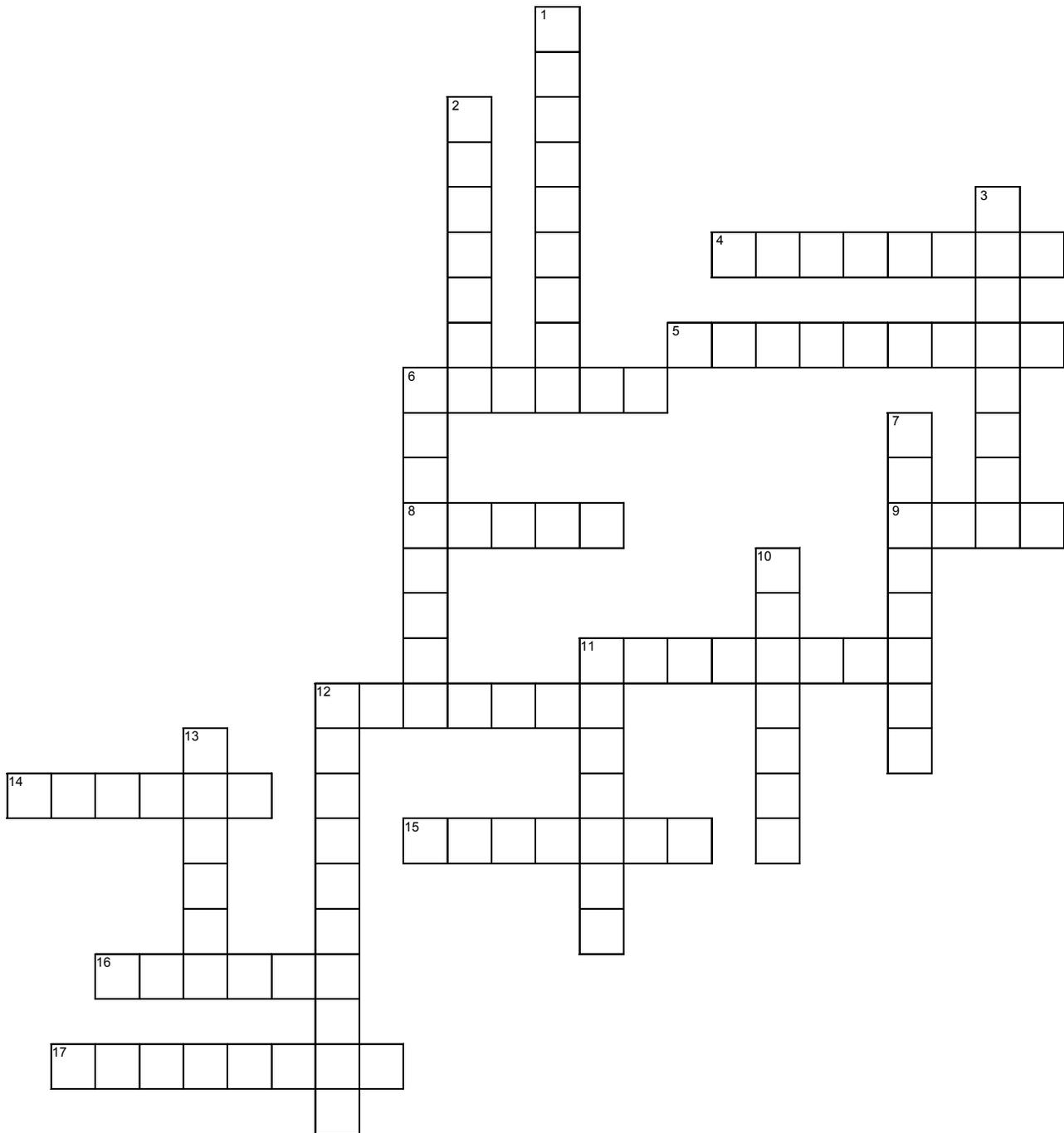
**Hidden Message:**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

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ABSOLUTE	CANTEEN	DECENT	POWERFUL
ACADEMIC	CASH	ENDURE	RAZOR
AMAZEMENT	COMMOTION	FEEBLE	RECOVERY
ANGUISH	CONSUME	GENTLY	TUITION
BELOVED	COURAGEOUS	GUARDIAN	VIGOROUS

### Across

- to do with study and learning
- a lot of noisy, excited activity
- treatment of something or someone that is free from harshness, sternness, or violence
- an instrument with a sharp blade used to shave hair from the skin
- money in the form of bills and coins
- complete or total
- a small portable metal container for holding water or other liquids
- good or satisfactory
- money paid to a private school or college in order for a student to receive instruction there
- very weak
- having great prestige, strength, or authority

### Down

- the quality or state of being filled with wonder or surprise
- to eat or drink something
- energetic, lively, or forceful
- someone who guards or protects something
- the act of regaining a normal position or condition
- greatly loved or dear to someone's heart
- a strong feeling of misery or distress
- having or characterized by mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty
- to undergo, as a hardship, especially without giving in

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## Power Vocabulary Activity



**Directions:** For each vocabulary word in the left column, locate its definition in the right column. Write the number of the correct definition in the blank before the word.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| ___ absolute   | 1. money in the form of bills and coins  |
| ___ academic   | 2. money paid to a private school or college in order for a student to receive instruction there                         |
| ___ amazement  | 3. having great prestige, strength, or authority   |
| ___ anguish    | 4. to undergo, as a hardship, especially without giving in   |
| ___ beloved    | 5. greatly loved or dear to someone's heart  |
| ___ canteen    | 6. very weak   |
| ___ cash       | 7. the quality or state of being filled with wonder or surprise  |
| ___ commotion  | 8. an instrument with a sharp blade used to shave hair from the skin   |
| ___ consume    | 9. someone who guards or protects something  |
| ___ courageous | 10. treatment of something or someone that is free from harshness, sternness, or violence                                |
| ___ decent     | 11. to do with study and learning  |
| ___ endure     | 12. a lot of noisy, excited activity   |
| ___ feeble     | 13. a strong feeling of misery or distress   |
| ___ gently     | 14. complete or total  |
| ___ guardian   | 15. to eat or drink something  |
| ___ powerful   | 16. having or characterized by mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty |
| ___ razor      | 17. a small portable metal container for holding water or other liquids  |
| ___ recovery   | 18. energetic, lively, or forceful   |
| ___ tuition    | 19. good or satisfactory   |
| ___ vigorous   | 20. the act of regaining a normal position or condition  |

# So Far From the Bamboo Grove

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## Power Vocabulary Assessment



**Directions:** Now that you have completed *So Far From the Bamboo Grove*, it's time to see if you can use the Power Vocabulary Words you learned while reading this book. Look at each of the sentences below and fill in the Power Vocabulary Word that would best complete the sentence.

ABSOLUTE	CANTEEN	DECENT	POWERFUL
ACADEMIC	CASH	ENDURE	RAZOR
AMAZEMENT	COMMOTION	FEEBLE	RECOVERY
ANGUISH	CONSUME	GENTLY	TUITION
BELOVED	COURAGEOUS	GUARDIAN	VIGOROUS

1. Joyce did not like the \_\_\_\_\_ of the party, so she decided to sit outside where it was quiet.
2. Her father was the most \_\_\_\_\_ person she knew because he was a decorated war hero.
3. The old furniture was well-kept and clean, so it seemed \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The passengers of the car were surprisingly \_\_\_\_\_ enough to push it out of the ditch.
5. Watching her mother suffer in the hospital was difficult for Emily to \_\_\_\_\_, but she visited her every day nonetheless.
6. A snake can \_\_\_\_\_ an entire large rat all at once.
7. His \_\_\_\_\_ from the accident took several months, but afterward, he was able to live normally.
8. The campers all shared one \_\_\_\_\_ and drank only a little so that everyone would have enough.
9. Winning the game was an \_\_\_\_\_ triumph for the team because they had lost every other game that season.
10. The flea market vendor would only accept \_\_\_\_\_ as a payment for his goods.
11. Rose enjoyed her \_\_\_\_\_ pursuits in biology and chemistry because she was determined to become a doctor.
12. Sally missed her \_\_\_\_\_ cat for years after it had died.
13. Everyone cried in \_\_\_\_\_ as the man dove off the cliff into the water.
14. A \_\_\_\_\_ works best when used with shaving cream.
15. His \_\_\_\_\_ and sadness over the tragedy was no match for his determination to repair the damage.

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## Power Vocabulary Assessment



16. She \_\_\_\_\_ turned the pages in the old book because the paper had become so brittle.
17. As a baby, he was strong and \_\_\_\_\_, learning to walk at a very young age.
18. Children need a loving and nurturing \_\_\_\_\_ to raise them.
19. The school agreed to let her pay her \_\_\_\_\_ in small monthly payments.
20. The little plant hadn't been watered in days and looked very \_\_\_\_\_.