

ACCIDENT – Draft: Story Ideas

“Goodbye Miss Ng!” the class chorused joyfully after the dismissal bell rang shrilly through the school. Tom and Jack are best friends. They lined up quickly to follow their teacher to the gate. They were very excited as they had planned to go to the new playground opposite the school to play. They could hardly wait!

A short while out of the school, Tom and Jack reached the junction. Tom motioned for Jack to use the overhead bridge to get to the opposite side of the road.

He whined, “There is no way I am going to climb those steps!”

Without much hesitation, Jack turned to face the busy main road. Tom knew he was going to do something foolish and jumped from the step to stop him.

“It is very stupid to cross the road here! You will get yourself killed, Jack! Jack!” Tom yelled anxiously.

Jack ignored Tom, sticking out his tongue as he stepped onto the busy road. To Tom’s horror, he spotted a car speeding at top speed towards his best friend. Soon, a loud screech rang through the busy junction and Tom watched in horror, as Jack lay motionless on the black tar road. All traffic came to a halt as more screeches were heard from the braking vehicles behind the scene.

Shocked, Tom stood frozen to the ground. It was only after a few minutes that he ran forward to Jack and started wailing like a baby. He was at a loss of what to do and held on to Jack’s bag. His mind was in a whirl. Some drivers had gotten out of their vehicles. Some of them were on their handphones, calling for the ambulance. Among them was the driver of the speeding car. He looked shaken too as Jack had appeared from nowhere in front of his car. The impact had left Jack unconscious and seriously injured as blood oozed from a gaping wound from his head.

Instead of waiting for the ambulance, the worried driver decided to take things into his own hands. He lifted Jack’s limp body into his car. Tom went in the car with them, still hugging the school bag. The car swerved around a few bends and they arrived at the nearest hospital. The medical staff at the hospital took over and Tom waited with the driver outside. The driver got Tom’s number and called his mother who was waiting impatiently for him at home.

In less than half an hour, Tom’s mother appeared at the hospital with Jack’s parents. Both of them had bloodshot eyes. As they rushed towards Tom and the driver, the doctor came out of the operating theatre. He pulled off his mask and asked for Jack’s parents. He let out a deep sigh and announced that Jack would recover but the journey to recovery would take more than a year. On hearing the news, Jack’s mother broke out in loud sobs. His father heaved a huge sigh of relief, knowing that Jack would be alive.

On the journey back home in a taxi, Tom sat close to his mother and told her what happened. It was a hard lesson to learn and he never wanted to relive the experience again. Glad that Jack would be fine, he swore to stay by Jack’s side to help his best friend recover. His mother ruffled his hair, comforted by her son’s thoughtfulness.

Jack recovered eventually but he now has a slight dent in his skull where the gaping wound used to be. Tom stayed true to his promise and shared news in school with Jack everyday during his absence from school. With Tom's encouragement and his parents' love and care, Jack was fit enough to return to school in less than six months. Today, the two friends always use the overhead bridge to get across the road and have pledged to share with others, the dangers of jaywalking, through their harrowing experience that fateful day.