SEE CHANGE EDUCATION STUDENT WRITING SERIES

HEROES OF THE SCHOOL

Best Works: Summer 2021

QUENTIN LEUNG

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I was woken up by the delectable aroma of my ham-and-egg sandwich. It must be mum cooking breakfast in the kitchen. Hearing the rumbling sound from my stomach, I got out of bed and ran downstairs to enjoy my breakfast. I stepped into the spacious kitchen, as I greeted my mum. "Good morning!" My mum told me to hurry up and finish my breakfast, so that I wouldn't be late for school. I devoured my sandwich, grabbed my school bag, and ran through the long corridor, hoping that I was not going to be late. I opened the door, stepped out of the house, and quickly dashed off.

On the way to school, I tried to walk between the crowded streets. People were all trying to walk their way through. Just as I was about to cross the street, I saw my friend, Marcus, right in front of me, on his way to school as well. I have known Marcus since we were very young, and have been very close friends. I ran towards him, greeting each other. "Hi Marcus!" I said.

"Oh, hi! Should we walk together to school?" he replied. I nodded in agreement and we both continued to walk and chat with each other.

After walking what seemed like a million miles, the infinite road not only caused us to almost fall apart, it also enervated us. The good side was that we could chat endlessly. Our school, Evergreen Primary School, was rebuilt a few years ago. It was all equipped with new technology and gadgets. Instead of just a blackboard, we had an immense flat screen in all of our classrooms, with rows and rows of illuminated buttons on the side. There were also interactive projectors and high-definition screens. We had around 25 students in each class, and a few teachers. Everything seemed peaceful and quiet. What could possibly go wrong?

I was woken up by the penetrating sound of my alarm clock which pierced through my ear. I dragged myself out of bed, and headed downstairs. As I was walking down the staircase, I accidentally tripped over, causing me to fall down with a thud. "Ouch!" I said to myself. I carefully stood back up, and continued to walk downstairs. Once I arrived at the living room, I saw my breakfast, prepared by my mum. It was another ham-and-egg sandwich. Such an indifferent way to start the day. Anyway, at least it was still my favourite.

Just as I was about to take a bite of my sandwich, out of the corner of my eye, I spotted a bug crawling up to my plate. I screamed in horror, as insects were never my friends, causing me to not even take a bite of my sandwich. I grabbed my school bag, walked through the long corridor, and stepped out of my house. Unexpectedly, it started raining. Raindrops started to hit my face. I whined with misery. I stepped back into the house, taking an umbrella with me.

On my way to school, I started to walk faster so that I could arrive at school on time. Although I had my umbrella, I still got hit by the rain. "This umbrella is useless..." I muttered. I continued to rush my way to school. I knew my school was near me, but I couldn't locate where I was. It must've been the rain, causing me to get disorientated. I decided to catch a cab to school, so that I might just make it in time. I sat in the cab and caught a glimpse of my watch. I should have arrived at school at 8:00, but the time was now 9:13! I was late for school.

I arrived at school, a few hours late. Oh no, I was definitely going to get in trouble. I walked up the stairs, opening the classroom door. My teacher was standing right there, glaring at me, and yelled in a gruff voice, "WHY ARE YOU LATE!" Smoke was coming out of her ears, which meant that she was angry. "STAY AFTER SCHOOL TO CLEAN THE CLASSROOM!" she hollered. I trudged to my seat and sat down. Marcus looked at me with pity.

At the end of the day, I stayed back to clean the classroom. Not only did Marcus stay behind with me, but he was also willing to help me with the classroom chores. "Come on, let's do it together!" He cheered me up. Instantaneously, the flat screen was buzzing. We both turned around, trying to figure out what was happening. Suddenly, a mysterious shadow grabbed Marcus and I into the flat screen, as if it was like a portal.

"ARGHHHHH!" A shrill shriek pierced through the air. We landed on the other side of the world, where we have never ever had been. Suddenly, the portal pulled us back in, throwing us back into the classroom. Marcus banged his head on the cabinets, and I banged mine on the table. We both felt puzzled, our mouths agape.

Marcus stood up, ashen faced, feeling confused as he looked for me. Somehow, he wasn't able to find me, so he asked where I was. I heard his voice so I stood up, to alert him that I was there. I thought, "Come on, I'm right here, why couldn't he see me? I was right beside him! Am I invisible? If I was, I wish I could return to normal."

"Oh there you are! For some reason I couldn't see you just now. It was almost like you were invisible," Marcus said. Anyway, now that the classroom was completely immaculate, we decided to go out and play tag.

I was not able to catch Marcus. He was definitely faster than usual, even faster than the speed of light. I was worn out from being hot on my heels. Marcus ran back to me and said, "You seem to be able to turn invisible and I am now unreasonably fast after we went through the flat screen portal! Do you think you and I got some new superpowers?" I turned invisible and asked if he could see me. He replied no. To me, I thought these powers were exceedingly fascinating. Now, I could choose to become invisible anytime.

The first thing I did was to test out my superpowers at home. I turned invisible, and crept to the living room, opened the cupboard and took every flavoured packet of chips I long desired, craved for, and yearned for....

It was 10 minutes until recess. "What do you want to do during recess?" Marcus asked me. "What about playing tag again! We could demonstrate our superpowers to our friends..."

Everyone was staring at the clock, as if staring at it would make it go faster. Within a few minutes, the bell rang. Everyone dashed out the classroom door, roaming around, shouting and screaming. Marcus and I played tag with the whole class as usual. Now that Marcus could run lightning fast, it would be unfair for him to tag us all. Feeling exasperated, I would quickly turn invisible whenever he was near me, just so I could be safe...

Unexpectedly, the ground rumbled like thunder, as it split into two. Crack! Everyone stared at the cracked ground, wondering what was happening. They gasped, panicked, screamed, and started to run away.

A massive wasp rose to the ground from beneath and started buzzing its deafening sound, causing us all to muffle our ears and sprint away for our lives. Only a few kids were still there. Some children started throwing their pencils at the wasp, yet, the wasp rapidly knocked them away.

I gazed at the wasp and shrieked in horror, "ARGH!!!!!!!!!!" Everyone was staring at me now. Nobody detested bugs as much as I did, I guessed. Marcus lazily peered over to me, and told me to calm down. I turned invisible, hoping that the wasp wouldn't be able to spot me. Marcus asked where I was so I turned back normal. Then, we both decided that we should go and save the school.

The wasp was vast, about the size of a door. It had razor wings, thorny claws, and venomous fangs, gliding around in the air. The children behind us were freaking out and hollering. I looked at my classmates' terrified faces, and heard their screaming voices. I knew I had to do something.

The first step was easy. I sneaked near the wasp, and turned invisible and back to normal for at least 10 times. This annoyed the wasp. Obviously, the wasp felt pestered, and started to chase us. "ARGH!!!!!!" we both exclaimed. It pursued us all the way until we were in an underground tunnel. Marcus pulled me over, and ran with his speed. Now I was lightning fast too! Cool!

The bad news was that the wasp was still able to find us. It had sharp eyesight. I figured out that when I touched Marcus and turned invisible, he would be invisible as well. Now we were deadly fast and no one could see us. We made a good team.

Marcus and I ran so fast that the wasp couldn't catch up. We ran throughout all the tunnels and loops, causing the wasp to be dizzy. After a short while, the wasp fainted with a thud. "Yes!", I thought. We finally defeated the terrifying, horrible, and dreadful wasp. We climbed back up and pulled the wasp up to the surface.

"WE DID IT!!!!!!!!!!!" I shouted to the school. Then someone asked who said that. Then I finally remembered. Marcus and I were still invisible, and still able to walk fast. I turned back to normal and so did Marcus. Now I was confident that the school knew about our powers.

About 50 years ago, Zak studied at Evergreen Primary School. He was as normal as any other kids, only that he was hopeless at math, and wore thick glasses. He also lived in a big mansion. He didn't have too many friends. No one has ever thought that he would become the most notorious villain ever lived.

Everyone bullied him at school, and did not want to be friends with him. At his mansion, he would shut himself in the bedroom and cry all day. No one lived with him in his big house. It was empty and faded. When he yelled, he could almost hear the echoes. The loneliness was unbearable. "One day...", he muttered to himself, "I'll get revenge on the school for making me so lonely and miserable..."

During math class, where everyone in the class had to form a team to solve quizzes, Zak walked around the classroom to find a teammate. Unfortunately, everyone turned their back to him. He bit his lip, and let out an enraged sigh. He walked back to his seat, and sat down in dismay. Tears were coming out from his eyes. However, no one even seemed to care. He felt disappointed with himself. After all this time, he didn't even make one friend. This kept happening until he left the school.

Feeling resentful, Zak went back to his empty mansion and hollered out, "I want to control people's minds..." Suddenly a strong beam of light flashed through the entire mansion. He looked out of his shattered window, and saw a group of students walking past, as their conversation flew to his head. Could it be ventriloquism?

Zak realized he could hear them talk. Someone must be listening to him. His wish finally came true and he could read someone's mind.

Zak decided to use his superpowers to get revenge on the school. No one would ever bully him again. He could use his superpowers to figure out what people were thinking.

Zak's plan was to control everybody's mind and make them his slaves. He and his slaves would attack and abolish the whole school, and get revenge. "Once I control the school, they will all obey me. I can make the students go against each other. Then, no one will have friends anymore!" he shouted in delight.

Take out your math textbooks," my teacher ordered us with a stern voice. "It's time for math class now." I groaned and reached for my books in my school bag. It was another day of mundane math class. Marcus cheered me up by saying that math wasn't that bad. I was glad that Marcus was my friend.

It was recess now, and everyone rushed out the classroom door. I was trying to get some fresh air after such a dull math lesson. What a relief that it was finally over. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw a dark shadow, standing at the edge of the school yard. With another glance, I realised that he was probably not a student because his uniform was outdated and different from ours. The person stared at me, as I sprinted away quickly in fear.

I was lucky enough to be able to dodge the bizarre person. Unfortunately, that was not the case for Marcus. The person had stared at Marcus for just a second, and now Marcus's eyes turned red. "You okay, Marcus? Your eyes have turned very red. Are you sick or something?" I asked him. But he didn't reply and looked stagnant.

I realised that the strange person was actually controlling Marcus's mind. He stared at Marcus, and muttered something, then Marcus was under this peculiar person's control! I tried to wake Marcus up, hoping that he would come back to me. I shouted at him that I wanted him to come back, and not be in the person's control. The hypnotised Marcus used his powers to attack the whole school, and became a slave of that strange person. He used his speed and pushed people down. People were falling down, so I didn't see what was happening. I heard people yelling, "What was going on?" Then, Marcus dashed to me and ran around me, which made me extremely dizzy. "Ouch!" I shouted in pain, as I fell to the ground with a thud.

It was hard trying to save the school but not hurting Marcus. First, to protect myself, I turned invisible so that the strange person wouldn't be able to see me and hence control me. Then, I tried to push the unknown person down, and trip him over, so the eye contact would be gone. "Hey! Who did that?" he exclaimed with anger. Still, nothing happened. Marcus was still under his control.

I ran over to Marcus, turned back normal and said, "Hey Marcus, you okay? Come on, come back to me!" He didn't answer, but pushed me away. I told him to come back and snap out of it. Within a few minutes, he suddenly came back to me, and was not controlled by the person anymore. I heaved a sigh of relief. It seemed that even after the eye contact was broken, it still took some time for the person under control to come back to normal.

"What....what just happened?" Marcus stuttered. I replied by telling him that he was controlled by a mysterious person. He sounded a bit perplexed, but still kind of understood. When he had fully recovered, we went to fight the person who was still unknown.

We turned back to the person, and suddenly, he vanished! He was nowhere to be found now. "Never mind. At least Marcus is back," I muttered.

PEOPLE FIGHTING ON THE BUS!

By Christopher Lee

Friday morning, on bus 52A, heading to Kennedy Town, passengers were seen attacking each other for no reason. A person was thrown out of the window. The police were able to locate him, and put him in an ambulance. Unfortunately he went missing on the way to the hospital. For the passengers on the bus, some of them were hurt, and 1 person died because of severe wounds caused by stabbing. 24 victims were sent to the Queen Mary Hospital in Pok Fu Lam.

One witness said, "At 7:43, we spotted a young boy smashing his water bottle on an adult on the head. Obviously, the adult got agitated, and started wrestling with the boy. There was another incident where girls were pulling each other's hair. As a result, they shrieked in agony. Very soon, the whole bus was out of control, where everyone was against one another."



"On the bus, there was a chef, holding a kitchen knife." According to another witness, the chef's eyes turned red, and he started stabbing his colleague, a waiter. No one was able to help the waiter. The witness said that it was the most bizarre event he had ever seen. The driver even said that he would never ever drive a bus again. "I have been driving a bus for 40 years, and nothing more tragic than this had happened before."

The incident is still being investigated by the police. If you were on the bus that day, please inform us by calling: 9874-4561. I handed the newspaper to Marcus, as we read it in disbelief. "What a relief we were there to stop the person and throw him out of the window. Otherwise even more people would die", I said as I took my sandwich out, taking a bite.

"Yeah, and luckily we had separated the people and ripped the chair out to block the stairs, " munching on a packet of chips. He must be starving.

"Remember when we saw the little boy punching the adult? I think he was his dad, or something."

"Anyway, now that the person is missing, I am actually quite eager to hunt him down. Don't you feel the same?"

"Yep! I just want to get him back for controlling everyone, and also causing such trouble!" I said. We headed back to the classroom, as it was time to go back to class.

BREAKING: PLANE DISAPPEARED WITH 400 PEOPLE MISSING!

"Look! This plane disappeared into thin air! Could it be the same person who attacked us on the bus? It says here that they're fighting!" I gasped. I was at Marcus's house for a playdate today.

"Yeah, like the time on the bus. It might be him controlling them again. However, his power is to control people's minds. How could he make a plane disappear?" he replied. "I don't think it disappeared. I think the person who attacked us last time just hid it somewhere. What do you think?"

"Yeah! I think we should read a bit more of these newspapers. We might find some clues, or even where he hid it!", as we both started to read these newspapers one by one.

This time, Marcus found some interesting news. "Look what it says!", as he handed me the newspaper. "It said that there were no fish caught near the airport! Could the person hide the plane in the ocean? Let's go check it out!"

We opened the window, hoping not to disturb his parents. Luckily, Marcus lived on the first floor, so we were able to jump down. We sneaked out of the house, and we touched each other and used our superpowers, so that we were now fast and invisible.

Once we arrived at the airport, we realised that the water was freezing. I told Marcus, "I can only hold my breath for about 2-3 minutes, so we better swim down there fast. We can use your superpowers to get down there." The water was freezing down there, especially when it got deeper. I was shivering already, but I knew I had to go to find the plane. People's lives depended on us.

I was stunned when I saw the people on the plane. The person was controlling everyone in the plane. Everyone's eyes were red. They were sitting still, not moving at all. They all looked like some lifeless puppets. I knew it was the same person. We must stop him. He was standing right in front of the aisle. His eyes were full of hatred, and jealousy. "So it really was him!" I thought. If we weren't invisible, we would already be controlled. Glad we were both invisible.

We silently crept towards the person, and pushed him over. As Marcus held him onto the ground, I went to get a rope to tie him up. I searched everywhere on the plane, as I panted profusely. It seemed nowhere to be found. At last, I found it, somewhere at the back of the chairs. I ran back and just made it in time.

Marcus was barely able to dodge the control of the person. I tied the person up with the rope to the windows, forcing him to stay put. "Hey stop it! I don't care who you are, or whatever you are doing, just stop it!" he shouted. I turned back to normal so both of us were now visible to him. He tried to control us, but we dodged it. "By the way, what's your name?" Marcus asked.

"Zak," the person replied. "Let me go!" Marcus and I decided that we should make a deal with Zak. So, our plan was that if we let Zak go, he could use his powers to control the plane so that we could go back up without all the tiresome swimming. I agreed with him totally. It would be a problem to get back up.

"Okay, Zak, we will untie you. Only if you agree to use your superpower and control the plane to go back up", I said. Marcus handed me a pair of scissors, which he had just taken from a passenger. "Fine" Zak whined, rolling his eyes. I cut the rope with all my might and then Zak controlled the plane back up. When we finally arrived back on the land, all our clothes were soaking wet.

Now that Zak was no longer causing mayhem, the world had been more peaceful and undisturbed. "Wait a minute. I knew I had seen Zak before! He was the person standing in the flat screen portal! It was Zak who pulled us in there in the first place!"

We decided that we should send Zak back through the portal to the other side of the world. We walked back to the school, and Zak told us something that we could have never known.

"Do you know how you guys got your superpowers? It was because of the flat screen, right? I don't know if you know this, but it was me who pulled you into the flat screen and gave you superpowers. I gave you superpowers because I wanted to be friends with someone. That's why you had your superpowers."

All of us went inside our classroom and Marcus and I said goodbye to Zak. The flat screen began whirring and buzzing, and a portal appeared. Zak walked through the portal as he waved goodbye to us.

We walked back to Marcus's house, and opened the door. We saw both of our parents standing right there, staring and glaring at us.

"WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN????" "WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING????" "WHY HAVE YOU LEFT THE HOUSE WITHOUT TELLING US????" "WHY ARE YOU SOAKING WET????"

"Sorry, sorry, sorry, sorry, sorry, sorry!" Marcus and I apologised profusely. We walked back to bed as we didn't have any sleep last night and were both incredibly tired. "So how are you going to use your superpowers in future?" Marcus asked me.

"I'm not sure. Maybe I could use it to save even more people!" I replied. We slowly dozed off to sleep, until the next day...

- End -











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ABOUT WRITING WORKSHOP



Quentin Leung (Age 9)

2021 Summer Writing Workshop Participant

The Writing Workshop is a program designed to help students become more creative and powerful writers. Our experienced tutors use a step-by-step approach to help students reach their full potential. They work together every step of the way, including brainstorming, drafting, and editing. Students learn how to communicate, structure their ideas and thoughts, and be exposed to a wider set of rich vocabulary, writing styles, and grammatical rules.

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