

1	BEFORE MY EYES BY AIDAN BLUMENTHAL	1
2	SUSPENSION	2

KAIDAN

Silence. Then crashing. The room was practically silent. Practically. But then in an instant it was filled with noise. My stomach wrenched as my mind began to race. Filled with questions. "What's going on?", "Who did that?", "What's going to happen next?" I look up. I see the door start to creek open.

3	THE MORNING BEFORE	3
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Kaidan's mom goes to wake him up

MOM

Wake up, Wake up, Wake up, Wake up  
Wake up, its almost 8 O'clock.

KAIDAN

Stretches in bed

Good morning Mom! How'd you sleep?

MOM

I slept fine.

KAIDAN

Well that's good.

MOM

Hey Kaidan, what do you want for  
breakfast?

KAIDAN

Hmm, what are my options?

MOM

Pancakes or Cereal.

KAIDAN

That's a tough one but I think i'm

going to have to pick your pancakes.

MOM

Alrighty then, I'm gonna go get started on those. Get ready to go and I'll meet you downstairs in 15. Love you! Make sure to wear something nice for your first day of school!

KAIDAN

Love you more! Now, what should I wear for my first day? I'll wear my favorite black Puma shirt! Oh and I'll wear my Levi's to match the shirt. Man I'm gonna look so fly this year.

15 Minutes Later

MOM

Well, look at you. So handsome! You excited for your first day of school honey?

KAIDAN

(Sadly) Yeah.

MOM

What's wrong, hon?

KAIDAN

I'm not sure. Just a bit nervous I guess.

MOM

Well, middle school is a big deal. I remember being nervous my first day.

KAIDAN

You do?

MOM

Of course. I walked in to school with my hair looking like a hot mess, or as we called it a mullet, my fishnet stockings, and my leather jacket. I remember that I didn't talk to anyone until lunchtime. I pulled out my Lost Boys lunch box and sat down when this kid sat down next to me and pulled out the same lunchbox. And you wanna know who that was?

KAIDAN

Who?

MOM

Your father.

KAIDAN

WHAT! That is not really how you met dad was it?

MOM

Yeah. We didn't have any of these apps or whatever when we met.

KAIDAN

I wish dad could have been here for my first day.

MOM

Yeah, I know but he had to do some stupid training for work. Three days. It's dumb.

KAIDAN

Yeah I know.

MOM

Oh shoot, I see the bus coming down the street.

KAIDAN

Oh no, I have to go!

MOM

You have your bag?

KAIDAN

Yep.

MOM

Folders, Notebooks, Pencils, everything?

KAIDAN

Yes Mom! Now I've got to go. Love you! Bye!

MOM

Bye honey, love you!

MOM  
I hope he has a nice day.

4 ON THE BUS

4

Kaidan thinking to himself

KAIDAN  
I wonder if i'll have a lot of  
homework this year. Huh, what if we  
have weekend homework!

Someone sits next to Kaidan

KAIDAN  
Who are you?

STUDENT  
I'm Samuel, who are you?

KAIDAN  
Hi Samuel, I'm Kaidan. That's a cool  
name.

SAMUEL  
Well, my full name is Samuel L. Chang,  
but everyone calls me Sam.

KAIDAN  
Hi there. What school did you go to  
before?

SAM  
I went to Northwest Elementary. What  
about you?

KAIDAN  
I went to the Parker.

SAM  
I went there once. They had a giant  
cafeteria.

KAIDAN  
I know all the other schools were  
super jealous of us.

SAM  
Yeah, we kind of were.

KAIDAN  
So, what's your first class?

SAM  
I have Math first.

KAIDAN  
Wait, so do I.

SAM  
Really, with who?

KAIDAN  
Mr. Fields.

SAM  
Me too!

KAIDAN  
Really?

SAM  
Yeah!

KAIDAN  
That's awesome! We should sit together.

SAM  
Totally.

5 AT SCHOOL

5

INTERCOM VOICE  
Welcome back to Red Wing Middle School students! Returning students please head to the cafeteria, and new students please report to your first class.

SAM  
You ready for class Kaidan?

KAIDAN  
I sure am!

1 and a half hours later

KAIDAN  
That was pretty easy.

SAM  
Yeah, but it was pretty boring.

KAIDAN  
I mean it's math class, what more  
could you ask for?

SAM  
That's true.

KAIDAN  
Yeah. What class do you have next?

SAM  
I have gym. What do you have?

KAIDAN  
Ugh lucky. I have English.

SAM  
What about after that?

KAIDAN  
After that I have Spanish, then Art,  
then C lunch, and finally History.  
What are yours?

SAM  
Well, I have Gym next, then Health,  
English, then smack dab in the middle  
I have B lunch, then I have orchestra  
last.

KAIDAN  
You play an instrument?

SAM  
Yep, I play the Viola.

KAIDAN  
Wait but you're not carrying around an  
instrument box or whatever.

SAM  
Well the box it came in sorta became  
my cats bed, and my carrying case is  
in the music room.

Bell Rings

KAIDAN

Oh shoot! We're going to be late to class!

SAM

Bye Kaidan, see you on the bus!

5 hours later

INTERCOM VOICE

Well, have a great day students, and we'll see you tomorrow!

SAM

Hey Kaidan!

KAIDAN

Hey Sam! How was the rest of your day?

SAM

It was really cool. In Gym we got to climb the rope, then in Health the teacher just kind of introduced herself. Come to think of it, that's what all of my classes were like today.

KAIDAN

Actually, mine was similar to yours too. It was very mundane compared to how I thought it would actually go.

SAM

How'd you think it would go?

KAIDAN

I'm not really sure, I just kind of pictured like bullies taking your lunch money and people getting shoved into lockers. That sort of thing.

SAM

Well newsflash, it's not 1982 anymore.

KAIDAN

I know I know. But it did go better than I thought it would.

KAIDAN

Oh hey, looks like this is my stop. I'll see you tomorrow, Sam. Bye!

SAM  
Bye Kaidan!

6 AT HOME

6

MOM  
Hey Kaidan! How was your first day?

KAIDAN  
It was pretty good. The teachers just kind of gave us some papers for our parents to sign. Speaking of which:

Kaidan hands his mom papers to sign

MOM  
Aren't YOU supposed to be the one with all the homework?

KAIDAN  
Hey, the next 179 days i'll have more than enough homework to make up for this.

MOM  
I guess that's fair.

Kaidan's mom takes the paper work from him

KAIDAN  
Hey, i'm going to go play some video games for a few. Is that fine?

MOM  
Yeah but first do your chores.

KAIDAN  
Okay you got it.

2 hours later

KAIDAN  
Hey Mom, what's for dinner?

MOM  
Your favorite, Spicy Pork!

KAIDAN  
Really?



MOM

Yep.

KAIDAN

I'm super excited.

MOM

Me too.

KAIDAN

Hey Mom, do you want to watch the news for a few?

MOM

Sorry, not right now. I have to start dinner.

KAIDAN

Alrighty.

MOM

Let me know if there's anything interesting though.

KAIDAN

(Gives a thumbs up)

ANTHONY BRABUSHE

Good Evening folks, I'm Anthony Brabushe with Channel 13 news at 5. We have breaking news to report. We have just received word that two fugitives have escaped from the Billerica Penitentiary. We go live with the Billerica Police Sergeant now.

POLICE SARGENT

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen. We have had two inmates who have escaped from our prison today. We are putting a temporary curfew in place for 7:00pm until these fugitives have been caught. We ask that you stay in your homes, lock your doors and windows, and try to stay safe. The suspects are described as being 5'8, 195 pounds, long curly hair, and having a large tattoo of a heart on their face. The other suspect is 6'3, 260 pounds, completely bald, and is known for wearing a fedora. If you see anyone

resembling one of these two suspects  
please do not hesitate to call 911  
immediately. Have a good night  
everyone and please stay safe.

KAIDAN

Oh my god.

KAIDAN

MOM!

MOM

What?

KAIDAN

We need to lock up the house NOW!

MOM

Calm down. Tell me what's going on.

KAIDAN

(takes a deep breath in) Two criminals  
escaped from the prison and there on  
the run!

MOM

What prison?

KAIDAN

The Billerica jail.

MOM

Oh okay, I'll go lock up the doors,  
you sit down and relax, alright?

KAIDAN

Alright.

5 minutes later

MOM

Everything is locked up now. Are you  
okay?

KAIDAN

I'm just a little scared that's all.

MOM

Hey, don't even worry about it. I bet  
the police will catch them soon.

KAIDAN

What if they try to break into the house?

MOM

I won't let that happen.

KAIDAN

Promise?

MOM

Promise. Do you want to call your dad?

KAIDAN

Yeah.

Kaidan calls his dad

DAD

Hello?

KAIDAN

Hey dad!

DAD

Hey Kaidan, how was your first day? I miss you so much I can't believe my work sent me on this training trip. It is absolutely ridiculous. I just want to be with my family.

KAIDAN

It was pretty good. I made a new friend today. His name is Sam. He's really nice. How's your trip going?

DAD

Terrible. A, I don't even want to be here and B, It's even more boring than school.

KAIDAN

(Chuckling) Oh yeah sure.

DAD

No really. It's awful. I want to be home already.

KAIDAN

No you don't.

DAD

What are you talking about?

KAIDAN

These two criminals escaped from the Billerica jail.

DAD

Really? That place is high security.

KAIDAN

Yeah. I'm kinda scared if i'm being honest. Mom said it's not an issue but she seemed a little spooked.

DAD

(sounding helpless) Do you want me to come back home? I'm sure I can find a way to get out of here.

KAIDAN

No no no no no. I don't want you to get in trouble. Mom will keep me safe.

DAD

Alrighty then. But promise me you'll stay safe.

KAIDAN

I promise dad.

DAD

Pinky promise.

KAIDAN

I pinky promise. Mom is telling me that dinner is ready so I'll call you later. I love you.

DAD

Love you too, son.

Kaidan hangs up the phone

KAIDAN

Dinner looks delicious.

MOM

Thank you. You excited for school tomorrow?

KAIDAN

Yeah, I can't wait. I'm especially excited to see my new friend tomorrow.

MOM

New friend? You never mentioned anything about a new friend.

KAIDAN

I didn't?

MOM

Nope.

KAIDAN

His name is Sam. He's really funny and super nice.

MOM

I'm glad to hear that you're already making new friends.

KAIDAN

Yeah, it's a nice start to the school year.

MOM

I bet.

Kaidan and his mom finish their dinner.

KAIDAN

Hey, want to watch some TV now?

MOM

Sure, but first you have to take a shower and pick out your clothes for tomorrow.

KAIDAN

Okay.

7      HALF AN HOUR LATER

7

MOM

What do you want to watch?

KAIDAN

The Office.

MOM

Of course, why do I even bother asking at this point.

KAIDAN

Beats me.

8 2 HOURS LATER

8

MOM

Alright, it's time for bed now.

KAIDAN

Already?

MOM

Yep. Go brush your teeth and get ready for bed.

KAIDAN

(Gives a thumbs up) Love you, mom.  
Good night.

MOM

Goodnight. Love you!

Kaidan goes to bed

KAIDAN

I can't wait for school tomorrow. What time is it? 10:34! I need to get to sleep now!

24 minutes later

KAIDAN

Ugh. I can't sleep. What is going on?

3 hours later

Kaidan wakes up to a loud knock

KAIDAN

What the heck was that? Whatever I'm just going to grab some water and go back to sleep.

Kaidan goes downstairs to grab a water

KAIDAN

Are you kidding me? There's no water

in the fridge. Looks like it's time  
for some tap then.

Kaidan grabs a cup of water and begins to walk back towards  
his bedroom when he hears a loud crash.

KAIDAN  
(Scared) Wh- What was that?

Kaidan drops his glass of water. Then he hears voices coming  
from outside his living room window.

KAIDAN  
WHAT IS GOING ON?

Kaidan sprints up the stairs. He's about to knock on his  
mom's door, but decides not to so he doesn't make any more  
noise. He then runs to his room and quietly closes the door.

KAIDAN  
(Quietly crying) What am I going to  
do? I know! I'll put some stuff to  
block the door.

Kaidan then starts to move some stuff in front of his door.

KAIDAN  
I have to hide. Where should I hide? I  
know. Under the bed.

Kaidan then tucks himself under his bed and tries to be as  
quiet as possible. He then hears footsteps from down the hall  
slowly approaching his door.

KAIDAN  
Am I going to die? Who could this be?

It then clicked in his head.

KAIDAN  
The people that escaped. It's them.  
It's really them. This is really  
happening. What am i going to do if  
they try to br-

Just as Kaidan is thinking this, he sees his doorknob start  
to rattle. Kaidan starts to cry but uses his hand to muffle  
himself.

VOICE 1  
In here. I hear something.

When Kaidan hears this, he tries his best to silence himself.

VOICE 2

There's definitely someone in there.

The door starts to creek open, but falls short because it's been blocked off.

VOICE 1

Kick it.

VOICE 2

Okay boss.

With a violent thud, the door thrashes open, sending things flying all over the bedroom.

VOICE 1

We know you're in here.

They start to look around when one of them motions to the bed and they both nod in agreement. One of them leans down coming face to face with Kaidan.

VOICE 1

Hey there bud.

Before Kaidan has a chance to scream, the other voice grabs his feet and yanks him from under the bed. Kaidan tries to scream but the other person grabs him and violently throws him onto his bed.

KAIDAN

What do you want?

VOICE 1

To play a little game.

KAIDAN

Get away.

Kaidan gets off his bed and runs for the door, but before he can make it one of the men grabs him and throws him to the floor.

VOICE 2

DON'T DO THAT AGAIN YOU MAGGOT.

The man then grabs what looks like a gun and smacks Kaidan in the head with it.



VOICE 1  
What'd you do that for?

VOICE 2  
To scare the little rat.

Kaidan sits up, and touches his face and realizes that he's covered in blood.

VOICE 1  
Now, can you tell us where your mommy keeps her jewelry? Then we can leave.

KAIDAN  
Screw. You.

VOICE 1  
Excuse me? I think you misspoke. I'll give you one more chance. TELL ME, where she keeps her jewelry?

KAIDAN  
No.

VOICE 2  
Should I do it?

VOICE 1  
No, let me.

Kaidan sees one of the men hand the other one the small black object.

VOICE 1  
You sure you don't want to tell me.

KAIDAN  
MOOOOOOOOOOOOM!

VOICE 1  
Crap.

All of a sudden, Kaidan looks up and sees the black object pointed at him, and then three white flashes of light appear in front of his eyes. Kaidan falls back. The men run out of the door. He reaches down and touches his chest. He's bleeding.

KAIDAN  
Oh my god. I'm dying. I need to get a phone.

Kaidan tries to sit up but can't move. He screams in pain.

KAIDAN

I can't do this. I'm gonna die.

Kaidan lays down, as he is accepting his fate. His life then flashes before his eyes.

KAIDAN

No, this is not the way I die.

He reaches over and grabs a dirty T-shirt. He tries to stand, but his legs give out. He grabs his desk and pulls himself up as much as he can, but slumps over.

KAIDAN

I have to wrap this T-shirt around myself to slow the bleeding.

Kaidan wraps the shirt around himself. He gets ready to pull.

KAIDAN

One, Two, Three.

He pulls the T-shirt as tight as he can and lets out an unearthly scream. Once the T-shirt is around him, he slowly starts to crawl over to his nightstand, where his phone is on the charger. Halfway there, he falls over and starts to cry.

KAIDAN

I can't do this.

He looks down and sees his once green shirt was now dark red. He pushes himself to keep going. Once he gets a couple of feet away he grabs the long cord and yanks it towards him. He tries to put his thumbprint on it, but the phone can't read his thumbprint from the blood on his hand. He clicks the button and puts his password in, then opens the phone app. He dials 9-1-1.

911 OPERATOR

Hello 911, what is your emergency?

KAIDAN

I've been shot.

911 OPERATOR

Alright sir, what is the location of your emergency?

KAIDAN  
93 Tufts Road.

911 OPERATOR  
Alright sir, the ambulance will be  
there in four minutes. Stay on the  
line with me.

Before Kaidan could acknowledge what she said, he collapsed  
from shock.

9 THE NEXT DAY

9

Kaidan opens his eyes.

NURSE  
Oh my god, he's awake.

Kaidan's mom burst into the room

MOM  
(Sobbing) My baby.

KAIDAN  
What's going on?

MOM  
Don't worry about it honey. How are  
you feeling?

KAIDAN  
I'm in a lot of pain.

MOM  
Can we get him some pain medicine?

NURSE  
Right away.

KAIDAN  
Mom, what happened?

MOM  
Don't worry. Try to get some rest  
okay? I'm going to go get you some  
food.

KAIDAN  
Okay Mom.

Kaidan's mom leaves the room. The news comes on.

ANTHONY BRABUSHE

Good evening folks, I'm Anthony Brabushe. We bring you continuing updates to the story. We've put together a timeline of the events that occurred. At approximately 1:00 A.M. the suspects broke into the victim's home. About 5 minutes later, they forced there way into the victims room.

KAIDAN

Wow, i'm famous.

ANTHONY BRABUSHE

There they attacked the victim, including pistol whipping and shooting him three times. The victim then reportedly ran out of the room after this happened, at which time the victim called the police. While this was happening the victim's mother, identified as Alexis Billings, attacked one of the victims with a knife she had in her possession. He was pronounced dead at the scene. The other suspect was greeted by armed officers when he ran out the door. We will continue to bring updates to you. Now in other news-

Kaidan's mom comes in and turns off the TV.

MOM

It's over honey. You're with me.

DAD

Me too.

KAIDAN

DAD! Give me a hug!

DAD

Whoa Whoa. Take it easy pal.

KAIDAN

Wait, what about your training trip?

DAD

Who cares? I'm where I want to be now. With my family.

THE END