

Mistaken Identity

Ring! Ring! Ring! The alarming recess bell rings and all the kids rush outside to play. I run as fast as I can under the hot, red, blazing sun out to the oval, expecting to be the first one there. But I see someone already standing in the middle of the green grassy oval. I've never seen this kid before, and he turns out to be quite fast. I ask him where he is from and he says he is from America along with his twin brother and his parents. He asks me if I want to race him, and I accept the challenge positive I will win. I hope I am right. "First to do 3 laps around the oval wins", he says.

We start and race around the emerald coloured oval. Just before he crosses the finish line, I zoom past him and win. A whole heap of kids whoop and cheer. We shake hands and he says "Give me one week to train, and we'll have a race at the local park."

"Sure!" I say, "by the way, what's your name?"

"Riley", he says, "what's yours?"

"Jaden", I reply.

One week later, the race commences at our local park. It's 4:00PM after school on Friday. The sun shines brightly and reflects off the slide and onto my face. It hurts my eyes but I have to get my head in the game! The referee shoots his gun (not real obviously) and we begin. I've got a head start, a pretty good one too! Half way through the race, I start to get tired and my legs start to feel sore. I look behind me and Riley is still there, *PHEW!* Then I look in front of me, and he's somehow ahead of me! *How is this possible?* My mind starts to race. The end nears, and I look behind me again. As I cross the finish line, I cheer excitedly, but the crowd start throwing Riley up and down. They all start to chant and cheer, but instead of chanting Riley, they chant his twin brother's name, George. Just as the referee is about to put the medal around his neck, I shout, "Stop!"

The referee turns to me and questions "What is it?"

"I was supposed to race Riley", I say, "not George!"

Both the crowd and the referee seem confused. I too was quite perplexed! *What was going on?*

Just then, Riley comes racing in, and they start arguing like two squirrels fighting over an acorn!

"I'm supposed to be the one who collects the medal", says Riley.

"But I crossed the finish line!" Protests George.

"And I was the one who said I was going to race", argues Riley.

This goes on for about 5 minutes or so, and I am getting tired of it. I stop them in their tracks before they can argue any further, and I say "What's going on?"

"I knew I couldn't beat you", says Riley, admittedly. "So I got my brother to help, and every now and then, we kept swapping in and out for drink breaks", he confesses. Then, the referee says, "Then I declare Jaden the winner!". The referee turns to the twins and says, "As for you two, you shouldn't lie just to win a race".

"OK, we won't do it ever again", they both vow.

"Hey, wanna race one more time?" I ask them both.

"Sure", Riley replies. "And no more cheating this time!" says George. And we race, and race, and race, until the hot sun sets and it's dinner time.