

One Jandal

Tim Upperton



I heard a joke the other day –
A boy walks up the street with one jandal on,
and his friend says, “Hey, you lose a jandal?”
“Nah,” the boy says, “I found one.”

Well, it was funny at the time,
but it also got me thinking
about the jandals we find sometimes.
Always just one!
And it looks good, but it’s not much use
without the other jandal.
One’s never any good, really, on its own.
You need two, and if we’re talking about
more than jandals, and I think you know by now
we are, even two’s often not enough.

Just yesterday, my uncle’s car
got stuck in the soft sand, tide coming in,
and it took him, my auntie, my cousins, and me,
and a guy who wandered over – all of us,
to push it out. My auntie fell on her face
when the car got moving, and she laughed,
and we all laughed, and my uncle,
he shook the guy’s hand and said, “Thanks, bro,”
and the guy said, “Don’t mention it,”
and off he went down the beach.

We all get a car stuck in the sand
sooner or later, don’t we?
And what I’m saying is,
you can drive a car on your own just fine,
but when it gets stuck, it’s good to know
you’ve got people around you can call on,
people who’ll help you push.



Illustrations by Elsie Andrewes

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by Tim Upperton

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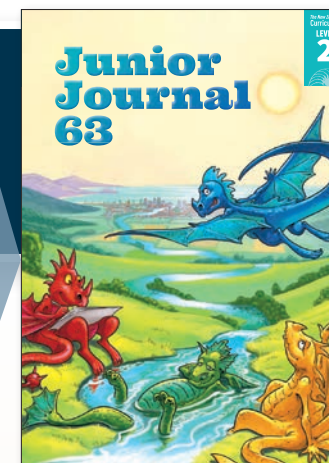
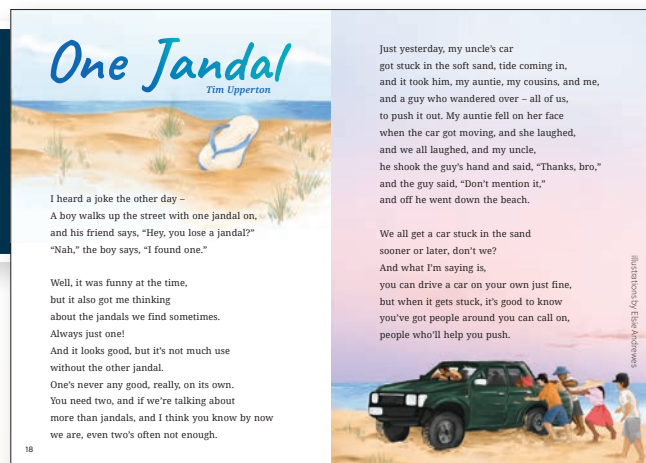
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