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Everyday Heroes sample
NOT FOR SALE

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Everyday Heroes
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1. The pizza guy

Oliver works for a pizza company. He delivers pizzas. He rides a small motorbike. The motorbike has a big box on the back. Oliver puts the pizzas in the box, and takes them to customers' houses. He likes his job, but he doesn't like it when it rains.

Today, it is raining. Many people don't want to go out, so they order pizzas. Oliver is very busy. Now, he is at the pizza shop.

"Here are the pizzas for your next delivery," says Eddie. "Two for an apartment on West Street, and one for an apartment on Seaside Road."

"I'll go to West Street first," says Oliver. "It is not so far."

He takes the pizzas outside, and puts them in the box on the back of his bike. It is 7:30pm, and it is dark and cold. He puts his helmet on and rides out of the pizza shop car park.

Fifteen minutes later, he arrives at the apartment on West Street. He parks his bike in the car park and checks the address on the receipt.

Apartment number five three two, he thinks. I have never been to that apartment. They are new customers.

He takes two pizzas out of the box and takes the elevator up to the 5th floor. When the elevator stops, he gets out. The apartment building is old and dark. There are few lights. He finds apartment 532 and rings the doorbell. There is no answer. He rings it again. No one comes. He knocks on the door loudly. Again, no one comes.

Oliver is not happy. *Is this a joke?* he thinks.

Sometimes, people call the pizza company and order a pizza. They give the wrong address. They think it is funny. It is not funny for Oliver.

He knocks on the door again. "Your pizza is here!" he shouts. There is no answer.

I give up, thinks Oliver. I will take the pizzas back to the shop. It is a joke.

Just then, he smells something strange.

What's that? he thinks. *It smells like gas.*

He puts his face close to the door. The smell of gas is stronger. He opens the letterbox. He cannot see inside, but he can smell gas. It is a strong smell.

This is very dangerous! he thinks.

He shouts through the letterbox, "Hello! Can you hear me? Are you OK?"

There is no answer.

I have to go inside, thinks Oliver. Maybe the people need help.

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He puts the pizza boxes on the floor, and pushes the door. It is locked. He pushes harder. The door moves a little. Then, he runs and hits the door very hard. The lock breaks, and the door opens. The smell of gas is very strong. The lights are on in the apartment. He goes into the living room and sees a man and a woman and a young girl. They are lying on sofas in front of the fire. They look like they are sleeping. Oliver shouts, "Are you OK?", but the people don't move.

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