

Blake Weston is a seventeen year-old teenager. He is getting his education online. He has always dreamed to join the United States Coast Guard Academy. He lives with his grandma. It has always been very difficult for him to reach his goal because of no family support. He has never attended formal school but he is studying online. It is fortunate that he has a good friend, Christopher.

One day he went to get the mail, and had a letter from the United States Coast Guard Academy. He couldn't believe his eyes. He never thought he would receive this letter.

The letter said:

Dear Blake,

We've heard that you would like to join the United States Coast Guard Academy. We invite you to come for an interview at 4pm on June 24th, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact us at 465-324-9078. Thank You

United States Coast Guard

Sincerely,

650 Route 100, Cantonment, FL32904

He went up to his room to find a way to sneak out of the house so that he could attend the interview. He knew that his grandma would NEVER let him interview. Therefore, he typed out the following plan:

Plan (a)

1. Tell grandmother that I am out to find a job
2. Head Out at 3:30pm
3. Catch the bus
4. Be there at 3:50pm

Plan (b)

1. Tell Grandmother that I am out to find a job
2. Call Christopher and tell him to meet me at the park
3. Leave at 3:25pm
4. Christopher drives me to the interview

On June 24th, around 3:20pm, he told his grandmother that he was out to find a job.

He went to catch the bus but he missed it. He quickly called Christopher, and they met at the park. Christopher dropped him off with 5 minutes to spare. He signed in and went into the interview.

The next day Blake received a call from the admission office of Academy. "Hello. Is this Blake?" A man asked. "Yes." Blake replied. "I'm sorry to inform you that you were not selected for admitting to the Academy." The official said. "Okay" Blake said sadly. "Guess I'm just not good enough for the coast guard." He thought.

The following day, he had a voice mail in his phone. It played

Hi Blake, this is Matthew Johnson from the U.S.C.G.A. We would like to meet you at our office on June 27th at 12pm. If you have any questions, please contact us at 465-324-9078. Thank You.

The next day, he told his grandma that he was going to look for a job. He caught a bus and headed to the Academy. At the office, he the official, John. "We know you were previously not selected for the Academy." John said. "Yes Sir" Blake replied. "I am

pleased to inform you that you now are accepted to the Coast Guard Academy.” John said. “Thank you so much! It’s been a long time since I’ve been this happy.” Blake said.

“The Academy curriculum will start on July 2nd at 9am. Here is the packet that we want you to review.”

One night Blake’s grandma found out about the packet and threatened to stop Blake from attending the Academy. Surprisingly, Blake stood up to his grandma who he was always afraid of. “GRANDMA, BEING A COAST GUARD IS MY DREAM. THIS IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REACH MY GOAL. I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND.” He screamed respectfully. “Okay, don’t ask me to help you for the school.” Gramma said. “Okay, I won’t.” Blake said.

Then the training day came; and he went to go to the Academy. “On July 5th, we will be going out to the lake, and we will practice on saving people,” the instructor said.

He spent a lot of time preparing for the training. Then the day for training in the lake came. At the lake, the instructor threw a baby mannequin into the lake. Each student practiced saving it. When his turn came, he was hesitating but he knew he had to do it.

He jumped into the lake and rescued the mannequin. After doing that a couple times, they headed back to the Academy.

On a beautiful Saturday, his friend, Christopher, asked if he wanted to go to the boating place he had heard about. Blake said ok. They drove to the boating place.

They got instructions, put on the life jackets, and headed to the boat. They were chatting a great time. Suddenly, they heard screaming and yelling, Blake thought he was just imagining. He turned around and saw a child drowning. Blake didn't know what to do but he knew he had to save the child. Blake remembered what he learned in his training. "If you see someone needing help, GO HELP THEM." So he did. He jumped out of the boat and swam over to that child. There was a big wave coming to him; and he knew exactly what to do. He grabbed the child and he ducked under the water till the wave was over. When it was over, with nearly any breath left over, Blake got back up. The kid's parents were very appreciative, and everybody was cheering. "Nice Job!" Christopher said. "Thank You!" Blake replied.

The next day, Blake headed to the Academy as scheduled for the school. His instructor asked Blake about a video. "Blake, do you recognize this video?" It was the video about Blake saving the child. The instructor commended Blake for his heroism and excellent rescue skill. When he graduated from the Academy, he left a sweet message addressing to the instructor:

"Thank You for the training you taught me. If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't be able to become a coast guard. I wouldn't have been able to save people and protect our coast line. I am going to miss the great instructor of you, the Academy and all the friends from my class. Thank you very much!"