

## BACK TO SCHOOL

by Jamie Jones

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Hook	The school bell rings as I step into the building. The shrill sound startles me into a full stop. It's been only two weeks since the accident, but it feels like I've
1 <sup>st</sup> Person	been away for two months. I stay planted by the school door, looking around, unsure
POV	of what to do. It's just another school day, I tell myself, and try to ignore the fluttering in my stomach. I tuck in my big belly and push out my chest, you know,
Situation	to try to look cool. I wonder what my classmates will say when they see the huge scar on my forehead.
Characters	Of course, Nicole is the first to notice me. I wince when I glimpse her staring moon eyes and the silly grin on her face.
Dialogue	"Anthony!" she exclaims, pointing at my scar. "Are you okay?" "I'm fine," I mutter.
	Nicole is like really weird. But the worst thing is that I think she likes me, you know. I try to ignore her, but she doesn't go away. She keeps staring at my scar as if she's waiting for something to pop out of it. I feel like I've got a flock of birds trapped in my stomach. Why am I so nervous? I've been feeling like this ever since the accident.
Flashback (Background Information)	I wish I could forget the stupid accident. My friends were skateboarding, and I wanted to join the fun, in spite of my weight. I thought I'd look so cool on that skateboard, you know, with my baggy cargo pants and Airwalk tennis shoes and my Billabong t-shirt and my tomahawk haircut. I didn't feel fat or different. I felt like
Feelings	I belonged with my cool skateboarder friends.
Another Character	Sometimes I think my friends let me hang out with them just 'cause they find my super size funny. All except Brian. Brian has been my best friend since forever, and he's the coolest guy in the school. But he laughed just like everyone else when I started showing off my mad skateboarding skills. That is, until I cracked open my big head against the brick wall at Seven-Eleven.

Action  
and  
Description

I was trying to make a turn, but the skateboard slipped from under me, and I hurtled right smack onto the edge of the store's front wall. Then I fell back on the sidewalk and lay there, stunned. I thought I had fallen in a puddle of water because my face felt wet, so I wiped my face with my hands, but then my hands got all covered with blood. I'd never seen so much blood ever, not even on T.V. I started to scream, and my friends started to scream also, and it was all a big bloody mess. Then things got messier 'cause I tried to get up, but instead I started to throw up, and then I don't remember anything else except my mother saying, "You should have known better than to get on that skateboard, Anthony."

Problem

Now I need to get to class, and I'm just standing here like a fool because I'm scared of what my friends will say about me. They probably think I'm a complete idiot. And Nicole is not helping with the situation. She's yelling, "Hey guys, Anthony's back! And look, he's got a great big scar on his pumpkin head!"

Climax

The birds in my stomach start to go crazy, but then something wonderful happens. My friends all rush to greet me. They're smiling and saying things like, "Wassup, Anthony?" and, "Glad you're back, man!"

Dialogue

Then Brian says, "Dude, you were awesome on that skateboard, but you sure freaked me out when you hit that wall!"

The panicked birds calm down.

"You freaked out?" I say with a smile as big as my face. "I thought I was gonna die! I lay there yelling, Mommy, Mommy, where's my mommy?"

Resolution

Then all my friends start laughing, and they're asking questions, and even the teachers join in. I gaze at Nicole who's still staring at me with her moon eyes and that silly grin on her face, and I grin back.

