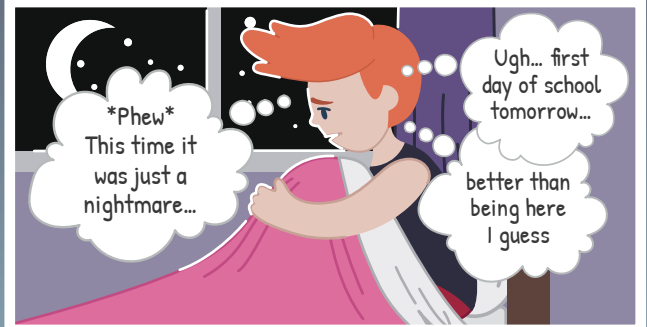


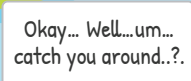
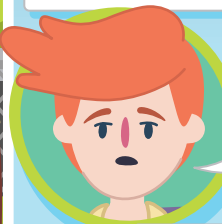
QUINN & MORGAN

When your friend is being abused...

QUINN'S BEDROOM, 11:43PM ON SUNDAY NIGHT



NEXT DAY AT SCHOOL...



AT LUNCHTIME



What's up with Quinn...?

I know, right?! Like a different person...?

I asked him to sit with us but he just kept walking.

Huh. so weird... I haven't seen Quinn at Debating at all.

Same for Creative Writing Group... We're both on that app 'EQuill' I told you about and Quinn's stories have been getting really dark and intense. I'm worried, tbh

I wonder what's going on...

LATER THAT NIGHT



QuillQuinn
Member since 2016
Lives in Australia
Super publisher since 2017

Story by QuillQuinn
Published 2 hours ago

In the Night





MORGAN

Just noticed your stories are really sad lately and you've been different at school... R U OK?

QUINN

idk... I guess...

MORGAN

Wanna talk about it?



QUINN

Nah, I'll deal with it.

MORGAN

I'm always here if you decide you wanna talk ❤️

QUINN

Thanks, Morgs...



A WEEK LATER...

I wonder how Quinn is... I can't shake the feeling something isn't right... What should I do...?



He hasn't posted any new stories. I haven't seen anything online from him all week... I think I'll message him.

MORGAN

Hey Q... I've missed you at school this week and no posts online 🙁 What's happening?

NO RESPONSE

A FEW DAYS LATER...

MORGAN

Just saying hey... Everything ok?

Morgan is typing...



QUINN

Thanks for checking in Morgs.

MORGAN

Hey, that's ok. I was just really worried about you.

QUINN

Got some stuff going on at home and things are not good... Couldn't face school this week.





MORGAN

Awwww... that sucks 😞 I'm with you about school... lol. You haven't missed much.

QUINN

Yeah...

MORGAN

For real though, whatever is going on... you're not alone... you can talk to me about anything. Talking to someone helps me when I am in a bad headspace, anyway...

QUINN

Thanks, that means more than you know... but even if I did, you wouldn't believe me

MORGAN

Try me...?

Quinn is typing...

Quinn is typing...

QUINN

I don't wanna be a burden or anything... sorry



MORGAN

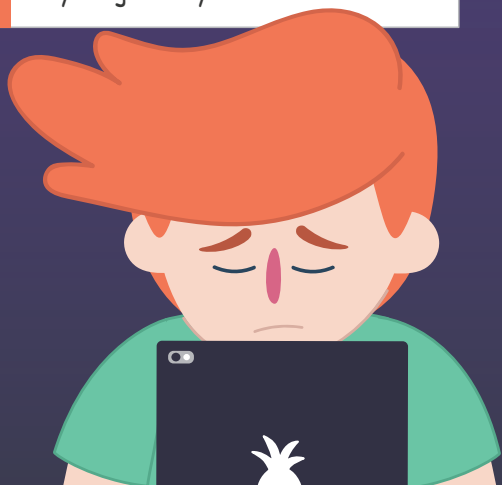
You're not a burden, Q. You'd be there for me if it was the other way around, right?

QUINN

Right... Well, like I said... there's been stuff happening at home... my mum has a new partner, Sam... He is such a douchebag and I wish he was DEAD!

MORGAN

😞 That sucks...



QUINN

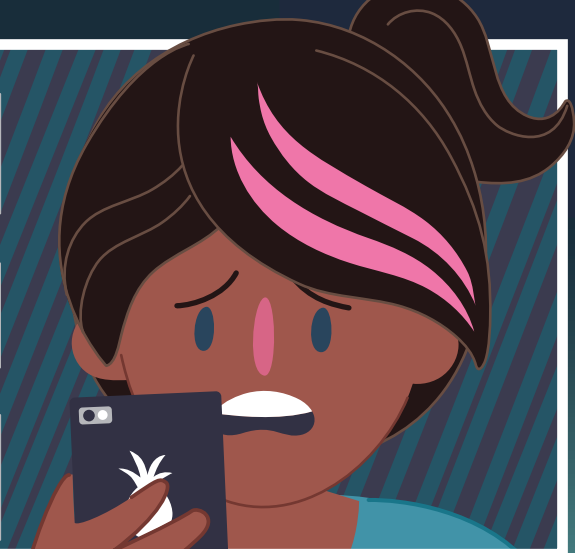
He has been doing some stuff to me when my mum isn't home that I don't like...

MORGAN

What?! OMG! That's terrible, Q!
Does your mum know...?

QUINN

What if she doesn't believe me...? I don't want to stress her out anymore than she is



MORGAN



MORGAN

It might be worth talking to her about it because it sounds like something your mum could help you with...

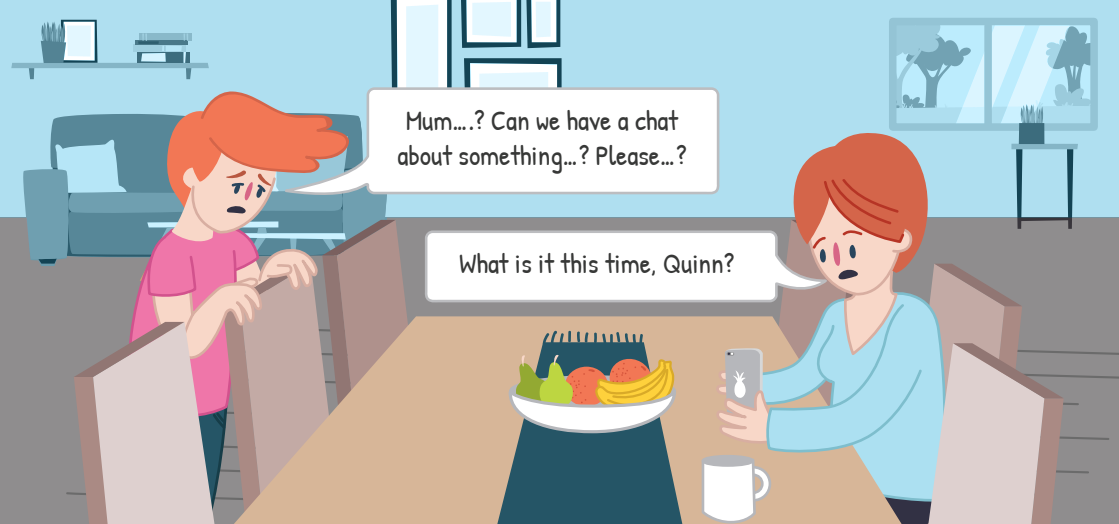
QUINN

Yeah, I guess so...

THE NEXT DAY

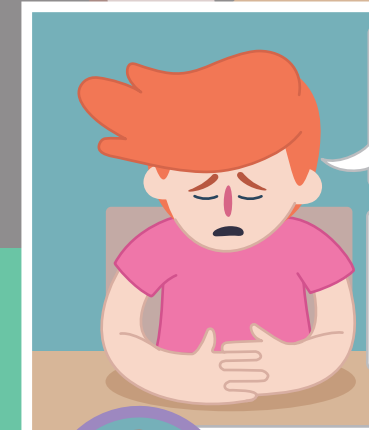
I can do this!
Deep breaths...






Mum....? Can we have a chat about something...? Please...?


What is it this time, Quinn?




It's really hard to talk about... I don't know what to do... but I can't handle it anymore...




You know what, Quinn? I don't have time for this right now. I'm sure you'll be fine.




You don't understand, Mum. It's Sam... I don't feel safe around him when you're not home.




Not safe...? What are you talking about? Is this a joke?



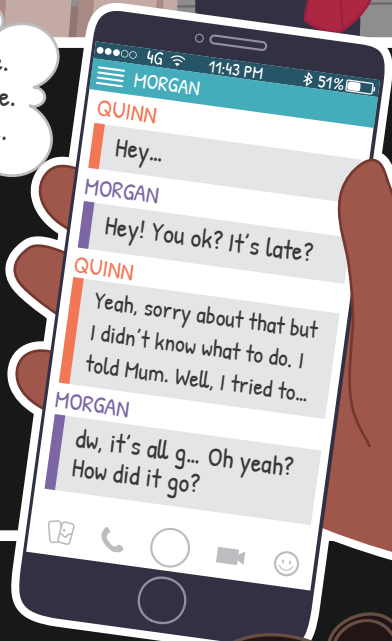
No, Mum... it's not. At first he was really nice to me but then things started to feel really weird and I felt like he was watching me all the time... I tried to let it go. But one night, when you were at work, he came into my room, got into my bed... Told me to be quiet and got me to do things... things I didn't wanna do... and told me no one would believe me if I said anything...



Wow, Quinn... stop being so dramatic...
Sounds like one of your stories.
Sam would never, ever do that so it's
probably just a big misunderstanding.
I'm gonna be late for work...



I knew she
wouldn't believe me.
What a waste of time.
I'm a waste of time.



QUINN

Just like I thought... waste of time. She called
me an attention-seeker and took his side.

MORGAN

OMG, I'm so sorry. R u ok?

QUINN

idk

MORGAN

Ok, well, maybe there is someone else you could
try talking to, then... someone that you trust?



QUINN

I trust YOU

MORGAN

Awww... I'm glad! ❤️ I'm always here if you need to talk but I really think you need to tell someone who knows about this stuff... I can be there with you?

QUINN

It's just so hard to say out loud. And I'm worried they won't believe me anyway



MORGAN

What about Kids Helpline? Might not be so confronting over the phone? I've talked to them when I was in a bad headspace and couldn't pull myself out. They really listened and really wanted to help me.

QUINN

idk... I'm scared.

MORGAN

Sounds like it's worth giving it a try? What's the worst thing that could happen..?

QUINN

Just stuff getting worse with Mum...

MORGAN

At least if you talk to Kids Helpline, they actually might be able to help tell someone who CAN make it stop, Quinn? Cos I can't 😞

QUINN

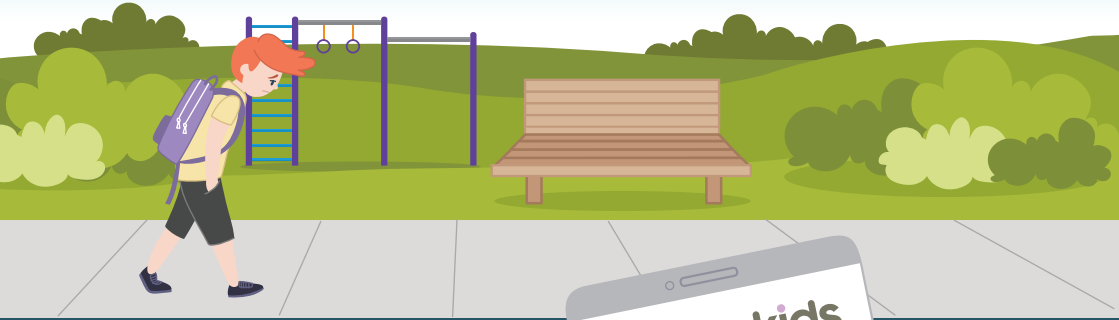
Yeah...

MORGAN

And maybe then your Mum will have to believe you!?!



A FEW DAYS LATER...





Hello,
Kids Helpline

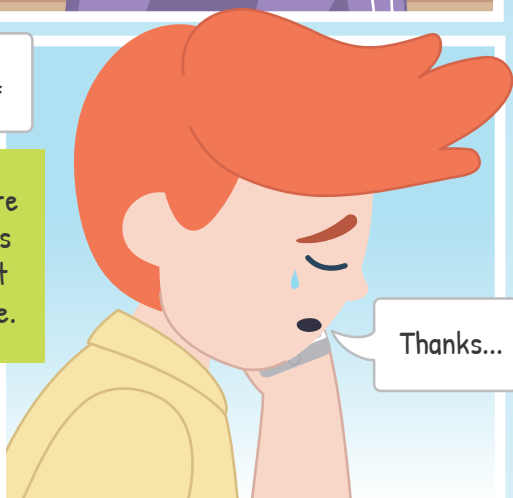
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Hello...?



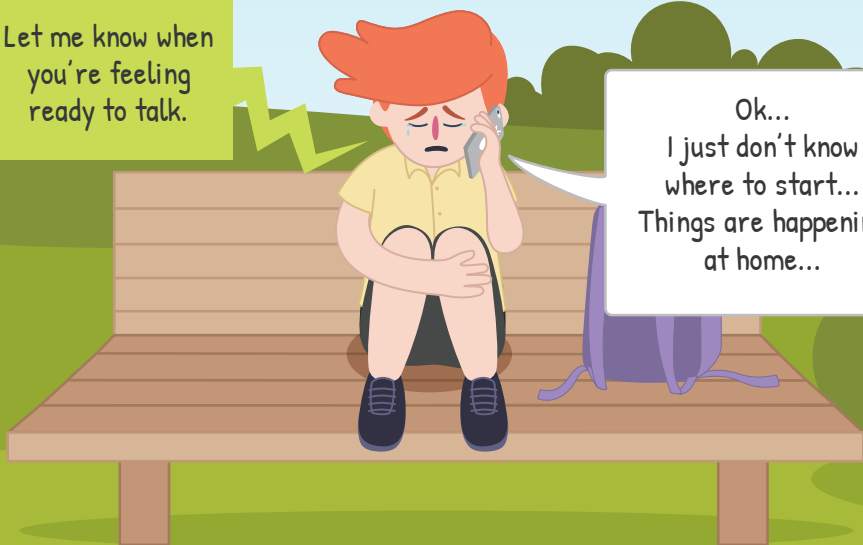
Voice shaking
Ummm... hi... **sob**

It's ok if you're
upset. There's
no rush... just
take your time.



Thanks...

Let me know when
you're feeling
ready to talk.



Ok...
I just don't know
where to start...
Things are happening
at home...

You've been really brave to share all of that Quinn!

I guess...

It's not ok for Sam to do that... and it is definitely not your fault! You have a right to feel safe at home... every young person does.

I just want mum to believe me... cos Sam needs to be out of our lives.

Your safety is the most important thing right now, ok? And there's an organisation called Child Protection that we can talk to for help... They support children and families when there is abuse at home...

I don't wanna get in trouble with mum though, or get taken away!

Lots of young people worry about that, Quinn, but Child Protection want to help support families to be safe and healthy so they can stay together. Sounds like Mum might just need help with that...

Yeah, I think she does too... I'm just nervous about what's gonna happen next...



That's totally understandable... There are lots of ways we can support you through this and if you're not sure about anything along the way, just ask! Is there a teacher you trust? Or another family member you could talk to? It'll be good if they can support you too.

A FEW MONTHS LATER



Hey Quinn,
how are things
with your Mum
and Sam?



Things have been slowly getting
better since Mum finally believed
me and kicked Sam out.

That's awesome
news! You won't
have to see him
again will you?

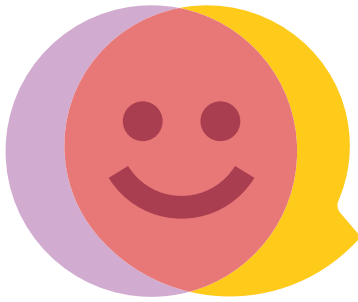
Nope. Mum said I
wouldn't have to.

Phew! How are things going with your Mum?

She told me how sorry she was after everything came out so we've been working on gaining trust back...

That's cool! And how are you feeling about everything now?

I'm getting there... I've been seeing a counsellor. Mum has too. It's been hard talking about everything but it seems to be helping so far.



kids
help
line

anytime.any reason.



QUEENSLAND
**CHILD
PROTECTION
WEEK**

Protecting **children** is

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BUSINESS

Created with funding from
Queensland Child Protection Week
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FREE CALL
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Talking helps!

**We're here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Check out our website for lots of tips too**

Kids Helpline is a service of yourtown for 5-25 year olds
In an emergency call 000