

JACK AND THE MAGIC BAT



by-

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Jack and the magic cricket bat

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Chapter 1: INTRODUCING JACK

Jack is a 9-year-old boy living in Melbourne, Australia. Jack loves playing sports and was good at Hockey. However, he wanted to explore a new sport. He decided to try his hands in cricket. Next day he went to school and he asked his school Cricket coach if he could join the practice. His coach was happy to take him in and asked him to warm up and practice with rest of the kids. Day after day he started practicing rigorously. Looking at his enthusiasm towards the game, the school even provided him with a cricket kit and was now part of the school cricket team. In his first interschool cricket match, the team played well and also won the match. Jack won the man of the match title, as he played phenomenally. His coach and team mates appreciated him and were happy to have in the team.

After a tiring day of cricket, he ate his dinner and went straight to bed. He was happy that he had made up his mind to play cricket.

CHAPTER - 2: THE NEW BAT

The next morning at breakfast Jack's parents discussed about his interest in cricket and also told him they were proud of him. They wanted to surprise him by getting him a new cricket bat and asked him to get ready after breakfast, as they had to step out for household shopping. Jack was not excited about the idea of stepping out however, he did not want to dishearten his parents and joined them. When they reached the sports store Jack's dad asked the shopkeeper- "where are the cricket bats?" He told them to take the stair case to the 2nd floor. Then when they reached 2nd floor Jack had to choose wisely because there were so many cricket bats. Jack thought for a while and chose the first one to his right. Jack got the bat soon after his father paid for the bat, Jack was happier than ever.

CHAPTER - 3: THE FIRST PRACTISE

The next day Jack's dad told him that he has gotten him admitted to a cricket coaching academy and it starts this afternoon. Half an hour later they were at his new coaching. He met his new coach Mr. Matthew who was happy to coach him and also showed him around the academy. Jack was thrilled and was eager to practice at the nets. Mr. Matthew saw Jack's excitement and asked him to go ahead. Mr. Matthew watched each and every shot he played and was impressed. The next day Jack was asked to play with the team for a practice match. Jack came in after one down. To his surprise every ball that came his way scored runs for him. Jack continuously hit sixes and fours. He even hit the highest distance six in his academy. He felt like his new bat had magical power. Next day, Mr. Matthew asked Jack to meet him after practice.

Jack went to meet his coach, who told him about a very important match and that he needed him in the team. Jack was more than willing to be part of the team and play for the academy.

Chapter – 4: THE MYSTERY

The match was a day away and Jack needed to practice his batting and fielding. So, after breakfast Jack asked his dad to drop him to his coaching to practice for the match. After an hour Jack's dad dropped him to his coaching, wished him good luck and left. Mr. Matthew told Jack to bat first. Jack realized that he did not have his bat as he was heading to gearing up. He quickly informed Mr. Matthew that his bat was missing. Mr. Matthew asked him to take the spare bat in the dressing room. Jack was disappointed and was unhappy about using a spare bat. During practice for the next day's match, Mr. Matthew realized that Jack had lost the zeal to play and was not focused. He had trouble practicing his shots.

Jack reached home and kept looking for the lost bat. Jack's mom sees that Jack is panicking and relentlessly searching for something. She too starts looking for the bat when she gets to know about it. They look everywhere but the bat was nowhere to be found. She then consoles him and tells him to not worry about the bat, instead to focus on the game and play well.

CHAPTER – 5: THE MATCH

It was match day- Jack was very nervous and tensed. His team had won the toss and chose to bowl. After, bowling and fielding well, however, the competing team to set a good score to chase. Openers from Jack's team started playing well for the first few overs and one of the highest run-scorer lost his wicket. It was Jack's turn now, the captain of the team and his coach told Jack to bat but Jack said no. His coach was furious and told 'Jack, this is team sport and you cannot let down your team when it needs you. Stop thinking about the bat you lost, what matters now is how well you play. You should try to give your best, no matter what the result is. It is not about which bat you use at the end of the day, it's your capability to understand the situation and see what works best for the team. By this time drinks break was Jack nodded and went to play, after 4 dot balls Jack was under pressure. One of the commentators said "12 runs needed of 2 balls". Jack gained his confidence and took a strong stance to hit the next 2 balls. He made sure to hit them off the stadium and win the match. Jack was awarded the man of the match title. As the team was rejoicing, Mr. Matthew came by to congratulate Jack and told him how happy he was about Jack regaining his confidence in the game. Jack, thanked Mr. Matthew for

his prep talk and told him that he will always bear that in mind.

As Jack was heading home with his family, his mum quickly pulls out the bat which she had found when they were heading to the stadium to watch the match. Jack was happy to get it back, however, he had also learnt the best lesson of his life, that the magic was within him and nothing can replace that.



Born on 29 May,2011 in Mangalore, Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka. He was raised in Bengaluru. His first novella- “Jack and the Magic Bat” was written as a nine-year-old as a school assignment. He likes to read Harry Potter books which gave him an insight to the magical world. Hence the novella idea germinated. At a very young of 5, he started his cricket coaching as he was very fond of the game. He hopes to continue with his desire to be professional cricketer in the future. Some of his hobbies are reading books, listening to music and drawing.

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Jack and the magical bat is a story of a small boy called Jack who tries a new sport called cricket. When he gets his new he is stuck with wonder when he hits a six. Then his coach Mr. Matthew calls him for a match. But, the bat magical bat goes missing. Read on what happens that day.