

Kick the Can

(Story word: forget)

“Let’s get off our phones and do something,” Ann said.

“Ok, but what is there to do?” Frank said.

“When we were kids we had so much fun playing kick the can,” Ann continued.

“Now we are teens. Teens don’t play kick the can, but you are right, that was so much fun.”

“Maybe we can get the other teens on the street to play it again for old time’s sake,” Ann said.

“They will say it’s too childish,” Frank said.

“What if we said the game would not begin until ten at night?” Ann asked.

“Some might say yes,” Frank admitted.

“Let’s see,” said Ann.

JoJo, Dan, Will, Ann, Frank, Joe, and Pat met at ten. There was a chill in the air. Dan had to go back home to get a jacket. In Ann’s hand was the lid from a trash can.

Each teen had a flashlight or phone to see with.

Dan said, “I forget how to play.”

JoJo said, “I don’t know if I ever played.”

Pat said, “That’s right. We played all the time when we were kids, but you had not moved here yet.”

Frank said, “Ann can explain the rules.”

Ann said, “Ok, we need something to be our jail and something to be our base.”

Dan said, "See that tree, there? That can be the jail."

Frank said, "Yes, yes, and this lid is the base."

Ann said, "Shush, you told me to explain! Yes, when you are 'it,' you need to stand here and close your eyes and wait for us to hide. Then, you chase us and tag us out, and we wait by the tree in jail. The one who gets to the can and kicks it without being tagged wins. Then she or he is 'it,' and the game begins again."

Dan said, "Is that all there was to the game? It seems kind of lame."

Ann said, "Come on, we are all here, off our phones. Let's play at least one time. You can be 'it.'"

Dan smiled. "Fine."

The teens had fun. Ann had the most fun. But all the running made her huff and puff.