



CARTER HIGH
CHRONICLES

Too Late



Chapter 1

Matt was at his locker. Troy was at his locker too. Troy was Matt's best friend. And Troy's locker was next to Matt's locker.

"Do you have a date for Friday night?" Troy asked.

"No. But I am going to ask Sue," Matt said.

Matt had been dating Sue for about six weeks.

Troy said, "You had better ask her soon. I already have a date. So maybe we can all do something together."

“I see Sue at her locker. I will go ask her now,” Matt said.

Sue’s locker was across the hall from their lockers.

Troy said, “Don’t do it now. Do it later. You need to get to class. Or you will be late.”

“I have time,” Matt said.

Matt got his history book out of his locker.

Troy hurried off to class.

Matt went over to Sue. He said, “Want to go out Friday night?”

Sue said, “Sure. What time will you be over?”

“Is 7:30 OK?” Matt asked.

“Sure. Where do you want to go?” Sue asked.

The warning bell rang.

Sue said, “Tell me later. I have to go to class.”

Matt said, "OK. I will call you after baseball practice. And we can talk about what we want to do."

Matt was on the baseball team. He was one of the pitchers.

Sue's class was near their lockers. So Sue hurried into her classroom.

Matt's class was on the other side of the school. There was no way he would get to class on time.

Matt started to his class. The late bell rang. But he didn't worry about it. He wasn't in a hurry to get to class.

Matt didn't like history. And he was already late. So a few more minutes would not matter. And it was only his first time to be late.

The door to his class was closed. He opened the door and went in. Class had already started. Miss Brent always started class on time.

All of the other students looked at him. Matt went to his desk and sat down.

Miss Brent stopped what she was doing. She said, "You know the class rules, Matt. Be on time. Or plan to stay after school for 30 minutes."

How could he not know the class rules? Miss Brent had them on the inside of the door. Be late more than one time. And you had to stay after school for 30 minutes. And work on history.

Matt said, "It is only my first time. I don't have to stay the first time."

Miss Brent said, "Don't be late again. We don't have time to waste in this class. And we don't have time to hear how many times you have been late. And for me to tell you what we are doing."

What was the big deal? Matt could ask Ed what they were doing. Ed sat in front of him. Ed made the best grades.

And Ed always knew everything.

It was not a big deal to be late to class. But Miss Brent had to make it one. She couldn't just let him walk in late. She had to stop the class to say something to him.

Why did he have to have Miss Brent? Some days he had been late to his first semester class. But that teacher did not start class on time. So she didn't care that he was a few minutes late.



Chapter 2

Matt was glad when class was over. It had seemed like the class would never end.

He hurried out of the room. He had PE next. And he didn't want to be late.

Coach Karr was the teacher. He was also the baseball coach. Troy was in the class too.

Matt hurried to the gym and went in. He got there before most of the class had come.

He saw Troy. He went over to Troy.

Troy said, "I was wrong."

"About what?" Matt asked.

Troy said, "I thought I had a date for Friday night. But I don't. My date has to go out of town with her parents."

"Too bad. Ask someone else," Matt said.

"I might. But I don't think I will. I have to write a paper for my English class. So I will stay home. And work on it," Troy said.

Matt was glad he didn't have Troy's English teacher.

"Are you going to work on your paper all weekend?" Matt asked.

Troy said, "No. Just Friday night. I still have a date for Saturday night. Did you ask Sue for a date?"

"Yeah," Matt said.

"What did she say?" Troy asked.

Matt said, "She said yes. I have to call her later about where we are going. The warning bell rang. So she had to get to class."

“You must have been late to class,”
Troy said.

“I was,” Matt said.

“I told you that you would be,” Troy
said.

“I know. But I wanted to talk to Sue,”
Matt said.

“How late were you?” Troy asked.

Matt said, “Only a few minutes. But
Miss Brent made a big deal out of it.”

Troy said, “She starts class on time.
That’s why she made a big deal because
you were late.”

“She should wait a few minutes before
she starts. To give us time to get there,”
Matt said.

“Why? Are a lot of kids late to her
class?” Troy asked.

Matt said, “No. I was the first one to
be late.”

Troy said, “You better not be late



again. Or you will have to stay after school. And then you will be late to baseball practice.”

Coach Karr blew his whistle. So the boys had to stop talking.