



CARTER HIGH
MYSTERIES

WHERE IS
Mr. Zane?

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Chapter 1

Jack sat at the bus stop. He was talking to his friend, Logan.

Both boys had Mr. Zane for science. And they had a test today.

Jack asked, “Did you study for the science test?”

“Yeah. After I got home from rehearsal,” Logan said.

Logan was in the school play. And he had the best part.

“I studied a lot for the test. So I should do okay on it,” Logan said.

Drake slowly walked up to them. All three boys lived at Grayson Apartments.

And all three were good friends.

Logan asked, “What’s wrong with you, Drake? Why are you walking so slowly? Did you hurt yourself at football practice?”

Drake was on the football team. He was the starting quarterback. And he had Mr. Zane for science, too.

“No. I’m just tired,” Drake said.

“Why? Didn’t you sleep well, Drake?” Jack asked.

“I slept okay. But I stayed up too late. I had a lot of homework,” Drake said.

“You must have studied a lot for our science test. I did, too,” Logan said.

Jack had studied a lot for the test, too. But he didn’t stay up late to do it.

“I didn’t study for the science test, Jack,” Drake said.

That surprised Jack. “Why?” Jack asked.

“Yeah, Drake. Why? Did you forget we

have a test today?” Logan asked.

“No. But I didn’t have time to study for it. I had too much history homework. And I can’t get any more bad grades in that class. So I had to do all of that homework first,” Drake said.

“But what about your science test?” Jack asked.

“I hope I’ll do okay on the test. But I’m not sure I will. So I’m worried about taking the test,” Drake said.

Jack was glad he’d studied. Or he would be worried about taking the test, too.

Drake said, “I wanted to study for the test. But I was too tired when I finished my history homework. And I knew it wouldn’t help to study then.”

“Maybe you can study on the bus,” Jack said.

“I will. But I need to study more than

that,” Drake said.

Jack knew Mr. Zane always gave hard tests. So Drake needed to study a lot.

Drake asked, “Do you think the test will be hard?”

“Mr. Zane’s tests are always hard,” Logan said.

“That’s for sure,” Jack said.

Drake said, “Maybe Mr. Zane will be out today. And we won’t have the test. Then I can study tonight.”

“Mr. Zane would never be out on a test day,” Jack said.

“Yeah, Drake. You can forget about that,” Logan said.

“You never know. He might be out today. I can always hope that he will be,” Drake said.

“You can hope all you like, Drake. But Mr. Zane will be there. He would never be out on a test day. That’s for sure,” Jack said.



Chapter 2

Jack was in his first class. He was thinking about Drake. Jack was worried about him. He hoped Drake did okay the science test.

The bell rang. Jack was glad the class was over. He hurried out of the room. Jack went to look for Drake. Jack wanted to know how Drake thought he did on the test.

Jack looked for Drake. But he didn't see him. Some students came out of Mr. Zane's class. All of them were talking. Jack had never heard students talk that loudly in the hall before.

Jack thought they must be talking about the test. Jack hoped that didn't mean that the test was very hard.

Drake came out to the hall. He didn't seem upset. So Jack thought he must have done okay on his test. Jack hurried over to him.

"How was the test? Do you think you passed?" Jack asked.

"We didn't have the test," Drake said.

That surprised Jack very much. Mr. Zane had never called off a test before.

"Why?" Jack asked.

"Mr. Zane didn't come to class. Mr. Glenn was our teacher," Drake said.

Mr. Glenn was the principal.

"Mr. Glenn didn't know where the test was. So he couldn't give it to us. Now I can study tonight. And I won't fail the test," Drake said.

"I'm glad for you, Drake. But why

isn't Mr. Zane here?" Jack asked.

Logan hurried over to them before Drake could answer Jack.

"How was the test?" Logan asked.

"We didn't have the test," Drake said.

Logan seemed very surprised. "Why?" he asked.

"Mr. Zane didn't come to school this morning," Jack said.

"He didn't? Why? Is he sick?" Logan asked.

Drake said, "Mr. Zane called Mr. Glenn. He told Mr. Glenn he would be late to school. But he didn't tell Mr. Glenn he would be late to class."

"Why didn't Mr. Glenn know Mr. Zane would be that late?" Logan asked.

Drake said, "Yeah. Teachers have to be here before we do. And he said he would be here in time for his first class."

"I can't believe Mr. Zane isn't here.

I studied a lot for nothing last night,” Logan said.

“But it’s good you studied. You’ll still have to take the test tomorrow,” Jack said.

“Yeah. But that means I have to study again tonight,” Logan said.

Drake said, “It’s hard to believe Mr. Zane isn’t here. He gets upset when students are out on a test day. So it’s hard to believe he’s out on a test day.”

Jack said, “That’s true. Do you think something happened to him?”

“No. He must have had some trouble with his car. And it took longer to fix it than he thought it would. So that’s why he’s late,” Logan said.

“But he could have called back. And he could have told Mr. Glenn that he would be late to class,” Drake said.

“But maybe the car broke down on the way to school. And he couldn’t call

again,” Jack said.

“Mr. Zane could use his cell phone,” Drake said.

Logan said, “We’re talking about Mr. Zane, Drake. And you know he doesn’t like cell phones. He’s told us that more than one time.”

“That’s for sure,” Jack said.

“Oh, yeah. I forgot about that.” Drake said.

Mr. Glenn came to the door of Mr. Zane’s room. He said, “All students need to get to class. It’s almost time for the bell to ring.”

“We’d better get to class now,” Jack said.

Logan said, “I know I had better get to class. I have Mr. Zane next. So Mr. Glenn is my teacher now.”

“Maybe Mr. Zane will come soon. And you can take your test,” Jack said.

“I hope he will. I want to get this test over with. I don’t want to study for it again tonight,” Logan said.

Logan hurried into Mr. Zane’s room.

Jack said, “I’ll see you at lunch, Drake.”

Then Jack hurried to his next class. Jack wanted to take his science test. So he hoped that Mr. Zane got to school before his science class. But most of all, he hoped that Mr. Zane was all right.