

“It Can Wait”

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-hey (read 11:57)

whats up? (sent 11:58)

-nm, wanna hit the movies l8r? (read 12:00)

maybe. what time? (sent 12:02)

-uhm, im free whenever! wht works for you? (received 12:03)

-hello? (received 12:43)

Pain.

When you regain consciousness, pain is the only thing you can feel. It shoots up and down your body. The sound of distant sirens fill the air.

Dread.

Looking up was a mistake, the contrast of a sedan’s black hood smushed up against your brand new red coupe makes the pain in your body disappear, only to be replaced by the insufferable, numbing feel, of dread. The thought, ‘What did I do?’ floats around your brain.

Regret.

All of these overwhelming emotions course through your body, and you yearn to get out of your car, but find yourself stuck. Several people surround your busted driver’s side door yelling at you to “stay still”, reminding you “help is on the way”. No one is surrounding the other car.

Guilt.

A few months have passed by, your life has been consumed by this one instance. Someone else's life was taken by this one instance, physically and emotionally.

The way life moves now, so fast, makes it all feel like a fever dream. Being the person you once were just does not seem possible. How can it be? You have taken a life, your heart aches for their loved ones, and the worst part is, it did not even have to happen.

Taking the extra precautions to avoid car crashes from distracted driving is not something a majority of people think to do, that is, until it affects them directly.

There is no right way to drive distractedly, no matter how quick you might think you can glance, no matter how fast you think you can type, hit skip, quicker than you can snap your fingers, your life can be altered forever.

Although a pledge is not something that can ever physically prevent you from changing a song, sending a text, looking at a picture, and so on, the reminder of potentially putting yourself, or someone else in the position to be a victim of a car crash, should be enough. Knowing the effects of a car crash never only affect you, should be enough.

Do not become a number on a statistics chart, make room for change. Hey! Maybe even save a life. Take the pledge.