

## Transcript for Story On Podcast: Shock of the Cyborg - Setting (Time)

### Chapter 1: Opening

Hello friends and welcome to Story On! I'm Laura, your host and I am so glad that you were able to join us here today!

Ok so let's get started with the setting of a story. The setting of a story tells us when and where a story unfolds.

Today, we're going to focus on when.

There are lots of ways that time can help us understand more about a story. So, we could learn about the season, like summer, a particular day of the week (maybe the story happens on a Friday for example) or special date, like a character's birthday.

The story could be set in the past, maybe at the time of the dinosaurs, or at the present (which means around now) or even the future. The story could take place over a short period time (like if the whole story happened in an hour or two), it could also happen over a few days, or even over a few years.

Throughout the story, the author uses details and time words or phrases to help us to know when the story is happening and how much time is passing.

While you listen to my story today, pay special attention to time. After the story, I will ask you some questions about time in my story to see what you can remember!

Now, time for the story!

[fading chimes]

## Chapter 2: Story

This is Shock of the Cyborg.

“A little higher on this side. Bend it over here like so and ah ha! Perfect!” yelled Jayden, pleased, as he sat back and admired his large tinfoil sculpture.

It was early evening, just before dinner, on a beautiful cool evening near the end of summer. There was a breeze in the air and the mosquitos were finally starting to disappear as the fall drew near.

Jayden and his twin brother, Sebastian, were creating sculptures out of tinfoil in the courtyard at their grandma's.

They loved spending time with their grandma. She was a very kind and understanding person.

Not only did she shower the twins with endless love and attention, but she also showered them with dessert. Ok, not literally. We're not talking cloudy with a chance of meatballs style dessert shower... unfortunately ('cause that sounds incredible!).

But she did really always let them have a sweet after every meal. And it was always the good kind of sweet too, none of that healthy sweet nonsense. So, yeah, delicious times at grandmas.

“I think it's starting to rain!” called Sebastian from behind his tinfoil sculpture. He looked up at the sky and stretched his hand out to catch a giant raindrop.

Jayden looked up. He saw the dark hazy clouds but he wasn't ready to go in yet. “Oh it's just a little rain! Feels kinda nice,” he murmured as he focused back on his sculpture.

Just then there was a loud boom of thunder. [thunder boom] Both boys jumped in surprise.

“Yikes!” breathed Sebastian, holding his chest. “My heart almost leapt out and ran away!”

A flash of lightning filled the sky.

“Ah! Now there’s lightning! Let’s get inside before we get fried! Plus, it’s 7:00. Almost dinner time!” Sebastian turned and started heading straight for the house.

“Oh come on! It was just one little flash!” protested Jayden. “It’s not like we’re gonna get hit by it! Do you know how rare it is to actually be struck by lightning!? And just look how awesome our sculptures are! A bit more work and they’ll officially be epic! Let’s stay out just a bit longer! Till grandma calls us in. What’s the worst that could happen!? Come on, Sebby.”

Jayden was usually pretty good at convincing Sebastian to change his mind.

Sebastian paused, unsure. Jayden bent back down to continue building.

Another loud, deafening boom. [thunder boom] The storm sounded like it was suuuuper close!

Both boys looked up at the sky. A huge chain of lightning shot down. It looked like it was coming right for them!

Jayden was holding the box of tinfoil and pulling out another sheet. “It’s totally fine, Seb! It’s always farther than it looks,” he reassured his brother.

Sebastian wasn't convinced. There was another loud boom [thunder boom] and seconds later, another chain of lightning lit up the sky. He ducked and covered his head instinctively. He closed his eyes. "It's farther than it looks, it's farther than it looks," Sebastian repeated, trying to calm his nerves.

Suddenly, he felt a strange tingling in his left arm. He opened his eyes, worried, holding his breath. Did he just get struck by lightning!? Sebastian looked quickly at his arm. It was fine.

"Phew...but wait...If my arm is fine, does that mean...Jayden!" Sebastian began running quickly toward his brother, panicked.

He let out a loud, "Ahhhhh!"

Just a few feet in front of him stood Jayden, holding a piece of tinfoil in his left hand while a bolt of lightning zigzagged from the sky right down into the tinfoil.

Jayden stood, still as a statue. He seemed to glow from the power of the lightning bolt. That explains the tingling sensation Sebastian had felt in his left arm.

Have you ever heard that twins can feel each other's pain?

"Jayden!!! Are you ok!? Jayden!! Can you hear me!?" Sebastian hollered, anxiously.

Suddenly, as quickly as it had appeared, the bolt vanished and the calm sky returned. Jayden collapsed to the ground with a thud.

Sebastian dove to his knees and shook his brother desperately. "Jayden! Jayden! You were struck by lightning! Are you ok? Jayden, can you hear me!!!???"

Jayden's whole body began to tremble, starting at his chest. The vibration rolled down his arms and legs. Soon his whole body was quivering.

Then, a familiar noise. A chuckle. [laughter] He was laughing. A fit of laughter. An absolute laugh fest. "Ahhhhahahaha I can't believe that just happened! The lightning struck me! I was so sure it wouldn't! And then the storm was all like 'Let's teach this kid a lesson!' And then it did! It really really did!" Jayden sat up. "Dude, I just got struck by lightning! That actually happened! Ahhahahah"

Sebastian breathed a huge sigh of relief. "So you're ok then!? That was so crazy! I felt it in my arm too! Twin telepathy style!"

"Aww you felt my pain!" laughed Jayden. He seemed to find the whole situation quite humorous. "Yeah, I feel totally fine! I can't believe I've been struck by lightning! And I didn't even get hurt! I feel so strong! I mean, I definitely felt it. Like you know when you get a shock from a slide sometimes? It was like that, only just in my left arm and like a bajillion times stronger." He wiggled his fingers around and bent his arm at the elbow. "It does feel a little weird, but just kind of numb. Kinda like pins and needles. Only I guess this would be more like bolts and shocks..."

Sebastian pulled Jayden up. "Ha, yeah I guess so. Definitely up there with the craziest things I've ever seen. I mean, almost as wild as the time you laughed so hard chocolate milk came out your nose..."

The boys giggled as they headed for the house, a bit stunned from the electrifying turn of events.

"Did you guys hear that boom!?" asked their grandma as they stepped inside. The boys exchanged secret looks. No need to worry grandma.

“Yeah, sounded real close,” Sebastian said, shooting an I-told-you-so look at his brother.

(Grandma): “Wash up for dinner, now! Food’s almost ready”.

“Yes, grandma,” they replied in unison.

The boys went to the kitchen sink together. Sebastian turned on the faucet.

Jayden looked out the window absentmindedly as he slowly placed his hands under the running water. [Bzzzt] Yikes! He pulled his hands back quickly from the shock.

He and Sebastian looked at each other, baffled. Sebastian had just finished washing his hands and he hadn’t gotten shocked.

Jayden slowly stuck his right hand back under the water. No shock.

He gulped and cautiously put his left hand under the running water. [Bzzt] Another shock! The boys looked at each other, what in the world!?

“That’s where the lightning hit you!” Sebastian whispered.

Jayden nodded. “The arm I was holding the foil with...” he added.

“Boys! Those hands must be mighty clean by now! Come eat before the soup gets cold! And I’ve got chocolate cake for dessert!” Grandma called from the table.

Sitting down, Jayden cautiously picked up his spoon.

The water had shocked his arm. Soup was basically water with clumps of food floating around in it. What would happen when he ate it? Would he get a shock in his mouth? What about when he dipped the spoon in the broth?!

He decided to use his right hand just in case, even though he was a lefty.

He carefully picked up the spoon. Sebastian was watching closely, looking concerned.

“My goodness. You boys are awfully quiet!” Observed grandma. “Cat got your tongue!?”

Sebastian smiled, “Oh just hungry, grandma. This soup looks delicious, by the way!” He picked up his spoon and took a bite. He glanced back at Jayden.

Jayden was looking at his spoon. He awkwardly picked it up with his right hand.

Jayden winced as he dipped the metal spoon in the soup. No shock. He relaxed a bit.

The spoon shook slightly as he carefully raised it to his mouth. He hesitated before cautiously taking a sip. [Slurp] Nothing. No shock. Jayden glanced quickly at Sebastian and shook his head.

Sebastian mouthed “Phew.” The boys relaxed and ate their soup. It was quite delicious. Grandma sure could cook!

After dinner, the boys settled in on the couch to play Minecraft, their favorite video game. They were so focused on exploring their world that the “shocking” situation from earlier was temporarily forgotten. Get it, shocking? [drum roll]

Anyway, after a while, grandma came in the room. "It's 8:00 boys. Time to get ready for bed."

Jayden stretched his arms. His left arm felt stiff. And kind of...cold? He gave it a little shake. He wiggled his fingers. They felt weird too. Then he shrugged. I mean, he was struck by actual lightning in his arm. It made sense that it wouldn't feel totally normal.

After carefully brushing his teeth and washing up with his other arm, he laid down in his bed in grandma's spare room that he was sharing with Sebastian. It wasn't long before he was sound asleep.

Next thing he knew, there was a distant sound of the clock chiming from down the hallway. [clock chime] The room was dark except for a dim light that shone in through the blind from the streetlight below.

It was midnight.

Jayden sat up with a start. He couldn't feel his left arm at all. He frantically waved it around in the dark. Still nothing. He had no feeling in his arm. He couldn't feel anything past his shoulder.

Jayden desperately touched his numb arm with his other hand. It felt hard and smooth. Cold to the touch. It didn't even feel like his arm!

Jayden let out a quiet shriek and jumped out of bed. He barreled down the hallway and into the bathroom.

Closing the door, he stood, anxiously, in front of the mirror. It was pitch black in there. "Count of three, and I'll turn on the light. One...two...three!" [click]

The sudden bright light stabbed the darkness. It was hard on his eyes. It took him a minute to adjust. His eyes refocused on a shiny, hard silver object, hanging from his shoulder.

“My arm....it’s metal!” Jayden’s heart raced. He could not believe his eyes. He wiggled his fingers. They were also metal.

In a panic, Jayden raced back to the spare room. He smacked on the lights and ran straight over to Sebastian, who shielded his eyes and sat up, confused. “Jayden! Are you ok? What time is it!?”

Sebastian’s jaw dropped. “Your arm....it’s...metal! Wait, did you ,like, wrap it in tinfoil or something? No, that doesn’t look like tinfoil....your arm looks...robotic!?”

(Jayden): “Sebastian!!! This is my arm now!! My arm is metal! I can’t feel anything past my shoulder! I’m like turning into R2D2 or something!? I don’t know! What do I do!??? Am I going to turn full robot!? Will I ever get my beautiful old human arm back!?”

Sebastian shot up out of bed. “Holy baloney! This is insane. So the lightning bolt turned you into a robot!? Or at least your arm into a robot. DUDE! Are you a cyborg!?! That’s actually like mega cool! Is my twin a cyborg!?”

Jayden rolled his eyes. “Cool!? Easy for you to say when you’re not the one turning into a robot over here!! And yeah, I guess I am technically a cyborg, because I’m part human and part [gulp] robot???”

Jayden threw himself down on his bed and buried his head in his pillow. “I miss my left arm and hand so much. They were so soft and squishy and warm. Oh I really took them for granted, you know....”

Sebastian suddenly perked up and knelt down next to Jayden's bed. "Hey, I have an idea! We need to understand more about what's going on with you, right? So, let's do some experiments to see what your new arm can do!! That should give us a better idea of what we're dealing with here! Plus, maybe it will help us figure out what to tell grandma when she sees you in the morning. 'Cause there's no way we're hiding that hunk of metal from her for long...."

Jayden nodded, "Ok, yeah, I guess you're right. I mean, I'm trying not to freak out. I'm trying to remain calm and not let my mind get away from me but...will I be like this forever? Will I get shocked every time I touch water?! And what happens when I need a bath or shower!? Will I need batteries now?! How will everyone react to me when they see my arm!? Will they be scared of me? Will they laugh at me!? I'm trying not to think about all this stuff, but...."

Sebastian was nodding, sympathetically, "Hey, hey. Let's just focus on figuring out what we can! I bet that will make you feel better. Besides, you must have some cool new powers now! Maybe you'll, like, turn into a superhero! Or you'll at least be super good at some stuff that regular people can't do so well! That'd be pretty cool, right!? Just give me some time to think through a few experiments. It's gonna be ok. We can handle this! As for how everyone will react to you, I'm sure it will take some getting used to for them but how many people can say they have a friend who's a cyborg!? I bet the kids at school will LOVE it! I can see it now, 'Hey what'd you do for summer break, Jayden?' 'Oh, ya know, turned into a CYBORG!!!',"

Jayden cracked a smile and nodded as he laid back down in his bed, touching his robotic arm warily. "Yeah, you're probably right... I hadn't thought of it that way...."

Fifteen minutes later, Sebastian had a plan. He'd decided on three short experiments and had crept around the house gathering supplies.

The more he thought about it, the better he felt about the situation. He was downright excited about Jayden's new arm.

Once Sebastian had everything all set up, he excitedly scampered over to his brother, "Hey Jay, ready to start figuring out what we're dealing with here?"

Jayden nodded, "I guess so..."

Sebastian cleared his throat. "Ok, first thing. Let's see if you can reach your arm out to touch something. We'll start with it real close, and then we'll set the target farther and farther to see if you can stretch that guy."

Jayden nodded. Seemed reasonable. Sebastian put a fork next to Jayden's foot. Jayden successfully reached out and touched it. The boys smiled at one another. "That was pretty easy!" Jayden said, feeling encouraged.

Sebastian moved the fork to the dresser, halfway across the room. Jayden concentrated as he raised his arm. His fingers wiggled.

"Come on! Come on! Stretch that arm!" cheered Sebastian.

All of a sudden, Jayden's wrist extended [stretching] and his arm got longer and longer until he reached the fork. He picked it up and his arm shrank as he brought the fork over to himself.

"No waayyy!" Sebastian shouted.

Jayden jumped up excitedly and did a happy dance. "That wasn't even hard! I was barely even trying!" he said eagerly.

Maybe this cyborg thing could be cool, after all!

For the next test, Jayden successfully used his new fingers to pick up objects that were various sizes, shapes and textures. He was even able to get a grip on slippery materials like glass, but it was a bit tricky.

“Just some practice, that’s all it’ll take,” reminded Sebastian.

All things considered, this was going way better than either had imagined.

“Ok, final test!” exclaimed Sebastian. He’d left the best part for last. “Time to crush some crud!!”

Jayden frowned when he saw the bottles and cans Sebastian was arranging.

“Are you serious!? I’m just getting used to it! I don’t want to break my new arm!” Jayden protested.

“Dude, your arm is metal! Let’s see if you have superhuman robot strength now! Just give it a try! Come on! Come oonnnn!”

Jayden gulped. No harm in trying, he decided.

Sure enough, he was able to easily crush the bottles and cans without much effort. And you know what? It felt really satisfying, too.

“SO COOL!!!” Jayden cheered as he crushed the final can. He definitely wanted to explore that skill more another time.

Patting his brother on the shoulder, Sebastian smiled. “So, what do you think? Do you feel better about being a cyborg now!? Look at all the cool things you can do! And I bet there’s even more to discover! ”

Jayden smiled. "I mean, I'm still feeling a bit weird about it, but I can see some benefits now. Like not having to get up to reach something across the room anymore! And I do feel kind of like a superhero with my new ability to crush metal. The experiments did help. Thanks! And actually, now that I'm feeling a bit calmer, I'm pretty sleepy. I guess becoming a cyborg is pretty exhausting....Should we try to get a couple hours of sleep before it's time to get up for the day?"

"Sounds good to me!" agreed Sebastian. Tomorrow would most likely be a pretty exciting day, after all.

Next thing they knew, there was a quiet knock on their door. [knocking]

(Grandma): "Boys! Time to wake up! It's 9:00! You don't want to sleep the day away!"

The boys sat up quickly. "We gotta tell her" Sebastian whispered.

Jayden gulped. He nodded as he looked at his robotic arm and wiggled his metal fingers. "No hiding this."

It appeared that the lightning strike only affected his arm. The rest of his body was still human and hadn't changed since he'd woken in the middle of the night.

Jayden breathed a sigh of relief. Sebastian opened the door, "Grandma, there's something we gotta tell you. It's about Jayden. Something happened to his arm..."

To tell you guys the truth, grandma didn't take the news so well at first. She was pretty confused about how it happened and what it would mean for Jayden.

And the robot arm kind of creeped her out. And, understandably so.

But, with a little time, she came to terms with Jayden's new arm.

Soon, Jayden being a cyborg just became normal.

Sure, there were times when it was inconvenient, like when it rained, or when he needed to take a bath or shower.

And he did occasionally crush or break things by accident.

But there were also lots of benefits.

Sure enough, all the kids at school were fascinated by his robotic arm.

Everyone knew his name and wanted to know all about his life as a cyborg.

As he got older, Jayden went on to become a famous baseball player! He set a world record for the fastest pitch in history. And still, to this day, no one has beat that record.

Plus, he could easily pick stuff up without having to get up off his butt. Can you imagine how convenient that would be!?

So, Jayden, Sebastian and their grandma all lived happily ever after and they were able to make the best of an unusual situation.

The End

### **Chapter 3: Discussion**

I hope you liked my story about Jayden turning into a cyborg. [power on sound]

Have YOU ever thought about what it would be like to be part robot!?

How would you feel if your arm suddenly transformed, like Jayden's? Would you be able to get used to it?!

Ok, Let's get to that little quiz

**Question One: In what season did the story take place?**

The answer is...late summer. Do you remember how I mentioned that at the beginning of the story and described the cool evening as fall drew near?

**Question Two: What time of day did the story begin?**

The answer is...evening, just before dinner. As the boys are discussing whether to go inside because of the storm, Sebastian said that it is 7:00 and that grandma will be calling them for dinner at any moment.

**Question Three: How much time passed in the story?**

The answer is...less than 24 hours. The story started in the evening, and resolved or finished the next morning.

**Question Four: How did I show that time had passed?**

The answer is...I mentioned the time at a few different occasions (like for example when I said it was midnight), and I used phrases like an hour later to give you an idea of how much time was passing throughout the story.

That's our show for today. We hope you'll all come back and listen again soon.

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