

I walked past the skistore, my nose pressed against the shop window, wondering, will today be the day I get to buy the ski boots? I desperately search my pocket. I'd been saving up for years. I come up with 199.99. One more penny I think. Then a man walks by. He has a long gray beard and a blue hat on. He drops a penny and I call after him but he was already gone. Finders keepers! I walk into the store. There are the boots.

They're decorated yellow with blue stripes. I go to the register, and realize I have extra money because the boots were on sale, so I buy a pack of gum, and leave. I stuff the pack of gum in my pocket. I walk up to the ski lodge, get my boots on and head outside. As I'm heading up the chairlift I feel something.

Instantly the ski boots latch on to my feet. I wondered if this was normal, since I'm a beginner. Maybe this was a bad idea. Suddenly I was going up a chairlift with black diamonds as the only trail! I chewed on my nails. Without warning I got off the chairlift and went down a black diamond!

I flew down the trail fast and passed an elderly woman. I heard her muttering about how kids these days don't know how to control themselves. Then something makes the boots and I stop in our tracks. I see a man with a gray beard and a blue helmet chase after me. He said he saw me buy that pack of gum. "What's that got to do with anything?" I yelled back. He answered but I was already down the trail. Just then the thought hit me. I took out my gum, chewed it and spit it out in front of me. I was about to ski over the gum when the boots started moving as slow as molasses and then picked up speed and swerved to avoid it. I was going to have to do better than that. This time, more determined than ever, I took a bigger handful of gum, stuffed it in my mouth, spit it out in front of me, this time farther than before so that the boots couldn't see it. The boots started to cruise comfortably. I smiled sneakily. As we came closer to the gum the boots didn't notice anything. I came closer to the gum. I closed my eyes and...

Squish! The boots got stuck. But not only did the boots get stuck, ~~where is that old man when I need him?~~ I thought. Then my arms were seized from behind. I was pulled out of the gum. "You okay?" The voice asked. I looked up and saw the same man as earlier. He had saved me twice! "Thanks, I owe you!" I said. Just then someone came up from behind me and said "These boots're controlling me!"