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English 9

15 May 2013

 Tears of a Tiger, by Sharon M. Draper, was a really good book with a somewhat depressing mood. It tells you how to deal with emotional problems such as guilt and anger. Andy Jackson accidently killed his best friend Rob while driving drunk with him in the passenger seat. After the accident he deals with the guilt throughout the rest of the book.

 After accident Andy goes to see a psychologist because his grades have been dropping, and he has been acting out at school. Andy talks to the psychologist and reveals that he blames himself for Rob’s death and that he can’t get over it. The psychologist helps Andy write a letter to Rob’s parents asking for their forgiveness, and it seems that he is making progress as his grades are getting better and so is his attitude.

 Even though Andy’s other friends have managed to put the accident behind them Andy still cannot get over it. He has become obsessed over Rob’s death and cannot stop blaming himself no matter what he does. In the end he mainly has suicidal thoughts and eventually he lets it get the better of himself and commits suicide.

 Throughout the book Andy had to deal with the remorse he felt through Rob’s death. It could have been through joking around, writing letters, or crying but none of it seemed to help him ease his pain. So after all he went through he just felt he would be happier if he weren’t alive anymore and decided to end it all in one stupid move.

Sharon M. Draper is an educator and a professional writer. She has received the National Teacher of the Year award and also speaks at different conferences speaking to literary and educational groups on the national and international level. She has also won the Coretta Scott King Award for her book “Forged by Fire.”