

What Is a Tragedy?

A *tragedy* is a very, very, very sad and terrible event. I may first learn about a tragedy when I watch television. This is because tragedies almost always happen someplace else.



Tragedies have *survivors*. Survivors are people who are alive after a tragedy. They have lost something very important to them, like their home.

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Or a survivor may know or love someone who has died in the tragedy. A tragedy is a very sad time, especially for the survivors.



After a tragedy, the police and rescue people arrive. They help the survivors.



Sometimes, many people bring flowers or teddy bears that mean, “We feel very sad, too.” They all leave them in a special place near where the tragedy happened. Sharing sad feelings helps survivors, and other people, too.



After a tragedy, there are many hard questions. People study and work together to find the answers, and new ways to keep people safe.



I may have questions too. Parents, teachers, or counselors can help. If there are really hard questions, we can work on the answers together.