3rd Croatian story: Brave and clever boy - Kristijan Višak

This is a story of a brave boy who stopped a train and saved a bus full of his peers. The boy’s name is Kristijan Višak and at that time, in 2013, he was 15 years old.

The school bus in which there were about twenty pupils got stuck on the railway crossing. The driver who was driving children home from school took a shortcut, although it had been strictly forbidden. While the bus was crossing the railway tracks which connect the towns of Križevci and Bjelovar, its rear wheels got stuck and the driver couldn’t move the bus. Children in the bus panicked. Kristijan remained calm and collected. He asked the driver to open the door, stepped out of the bus and ran in the direction of Bjelovar in order to stop the approaching train.

In fact, his mother was on that train returning home from work as usual. Kristijan knew that a tragedy might have happened because that part of the tracks was full of turns and insufficiently visible. Luckily, he managed to warn the train driver who stopped the train on time.

Kristijan was awarded ‘Pride of Croatia’, an award for courage and humanity. He was praised for stopping a train and saving a bus full of school children.