

# Chapter 1



Franco read the newspaper. He read it every day. One day he read something exciting.

LEARN TO SCUBA DIVE

Classes Start Next Week

Joe Savage taught the class.

Joe was a former Navy Seal. He had been diving for 25 years. The class was at the Heights YMCA. All students had to be at least 16. The

class cost \$300. They would learn about scuba in a classroom. They would learn to dive in a pool. Then they would dive in the ocean.

Franco always wanted to dive. His dad was a scuba diver. He always wanted to go with his father.

After dinner, Franco helped his mom with the dishes. He told her about the ad in the paper.

“I’ve always wanted to dive,” he said.

“Is this why you’re doing the dishes?” she joked.

“You got me!” Franco laughed.

His mom laughed too.

“Well, your seventeenth birthday is coming up,” she said. “How about we get you the classes as a gift?”

“Really?” Franco asked. “That’s the best gift ever!”

“Promise me you won’t drown!” said Ana.

“You got it, Mom,” Franco said. He gave his mom a hug. “Thanks. You really are a cool mom.”

The class started on Saturday. Franco was excited!

Joe Savage walked into the classroom. He was tall and lean. Franco thought he looked like a scuba diver.

Joe didn’t waste any time. He started talking right away.

“Hello! Welcome to Scuba 101! This class will teach you a lot. I’ll teach you all about the ocean. You’ll

learn the dangers of diving. I'll show you all of the gear. And I'll show you how to use it. By the end, you will all be diving on your own! Now, everyone pick a partner," said Joe.

Franco looked around the room. He looked for a partner. The guy next to him smiled.

"Hi, I'm Ben Lopez. Do you want to be partners?" he asked.

"Sure, I'm Franco Silva. I can't wait to dive!" Franco said.

Joe pointed to the wall. There was a chart. It showed facts about diving. Franco didn't know there would be so much to learn.

"Scuba divers always dive in twos. It's called buddy diving. Divers