

"Heroic" firefighter rescues newborn baby from home's smoke-filled attic*

The three-week-old boy is now recovering in hospital after suffering smoke inhalation and is expected to survive

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Rescue: Firefighters saved the three-week-old baby from the burning house (Photo: Getty)

A firefighter has been hailed* a hero after he saved a newborn baby from certain death by rescuing him from a burning home.

Lieutenant Adam Vilagos, of FDNY, arrived at the two-storey* house to find Sunjay Headley Jr's parents shouting: "There's a baby in the attic."

Braving the blaze*, Lt Vilagos located the narrow stairway leading up to the attic, which was already filling with thick*, black smoke.

The veteran of 18 years said he could hear the three-week-old baby boy's whimpers* - as if the child was struggling* to breathe.

He had to use his flashlight to see the infant, who was in his crib*, he said.

Lieutenant Vilagos carried the boy downstairs and through the burning property before handing him over to paramedics outside.

Little Sunjay was rushed to New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Fire Department officials said he was expected to survive.

The blaze broke out at the house in 106th Street, near 35th Street, in Corona,

Queens, at around 9.30pm last night. Firefighters arrived within four minutes.

Sunjay's grandma, Lisa Brown, 56, said he was recovering from smoke inhalation.

She said: "He's doing good. They're going to keep him overnight for observation."

Recalling the chaotic event she said: "We kept asking, 'Where's the baby?'"

She added: "They did a heroic job. They came through*. Thank God for them."

The blaze under control by 10.30 p.m, officials said.

The cause of the fire is still being investigated.

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(an) attic : un grenier

(to) hail someone : acclamer

(a) two-storey : à deux étages

blaze : incendie, embrasement

thick : épais

whimpers : pleurs, gémissements

(to) struggle : lutter

(a) crib : lit d'enfant

(to) come through : survivre

- 1. Identify the nature and the source of the document.**
- 2. Pick out all the details about the circumstances of the event (type of accident, location, identity of the victim, time of the accident).**
- 3. Give details about the identity of the hero. Why is this person considered a hero?**
- 4. What were the consequences of the event on the victim (positive and negative)**
- 5. Can you name other heroic acts by rescuers (firefighters, policemen, first responders, emergency services, ...).**