



## It Can Happen To You

A subtle vibration on my phone and the quick transaction that followed, unfolded into a profound journey of learning for me.

It was a seemingly innocent but apologetic message from a dear friend, asking for a small amount of money. This was the one friend that I have such a relationship with, so nothing seemed untoward. Considering his newborn baby and other justifications I came up with in my mind, I decided to not make the situation any more awkward. I was happy to help.

Only later did I discover that my friend had fallen victim to sim card fraud. His number had been hijacked overnight with the fraudsters spending the night studying his messaging patterns. I've heard of this stuff happening to others and have always had it in my mind how I would avoid the con. I was sure they would never get me, but now, they just had.

I took my loss and more importantly, lessons learnt.

**Lesson 1:** It can happen to you – losing money, your job, divorce, etc. No one is exempt from being humbled by life. Therefore, think carefully about error and risk. Protection and mitigation are crucial.

**Lesson 2:** While risk and error are unavoidable, it is necessary to avoid catastrophic mistakes that will wipe you out. Seek help if you don't have the expertise or are unsure.

**Lesson 3:** We all have our delusions. Also, we are better at spotting other people's flaws rather than our own. We must know our limitations and learn from others. It is handy to be thorough and to ask for help.

At Seed we are available to help you with your investment journey. Our goal is to ensure you reach your financial goals, managing risks and helping clients avoid catastrophic money mistakes.



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For any questions or assistance please feel welcome to reach out to our Investment team on [investmentteam@seedinvestments.co.za](mailto:investmentteam@seedinvestments.co.za)

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