

The Balaclava Story by George Layton



There was once a boy called George, **who** more than anything wanted a balaclava. **If only** he had one, **then** he could join the 'Balaclava Boys'. **But** his mum refused to buy him one.

Whenever he was with his friends, they wouldn't play with him. "You're not a Balaclava Boy!" they taunted. "If you haven't got one, you can't join in." He felt he was losing all his friends.

Later, George came out of class to wash his hands and found a balaclava on the floor, it was Norbert's. **Without thinking**, he picked it up and tried to fit it in his pocket. It was too big, so he stuffed it down the sleeve of his coat. **At that moment**, he realised that what he had done was wrong!

As soon as George arrived home from school he couldn't wait to get rid of the balaclava. He checked the sleeve of his coat, **but** it wasn't there **and** thought that maybe he had lost it whilst running home.

When George's mum got home from work, she had bought him a present, a balaclava! **However**, he couldn't wear it because everyone would think it was Norbert's.

The next day, feeling worried, he saw Norbert was wearing his balaclava! George asked if he had a new one. Norbert replied, "No, I never lost it. Some fool had shoved it down the sleeve of my raincoat!"

Feeling relieved, George realised what had happened and vowed never to steal again. [Story retold from the original with Year 3/4 story making language.]