

Unterrichtsmaterialien in digitaler und in gedruckter Form

Auszug aus:

Big Brother Barney, Niveau: A 1 - mit Audio!

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Hueber Lektüren

Englisch

Big Brother Barney

LEKTÜRE MIT AUDIOS ONLINE

Pauline O'Carolan Illustrated by Szilvia Szakall

Hueber Verlag

Chapter 1 Meeting the Robinsons

My name is Toby Mann. My family is either dead or gone. Today my caseworker Frank is driving me to a new home. I'm going to live with strangers because some social workers said I couldn't live by myself. Jim and Jess Robinson are going to be my foster parents.

'Are you okay, Toby?' Frank asks. He looks over at me and smiles. 'The Robinsons are nice people. They're really happy that you're going to live with them. Our social work team have chosen a special family for you.' Caseworkers are always very *nice*.

I don't reply. The Robinsons are happy? I'm not. Why do these people want me? They don't know me. I've been moved from place to place around Wollongong since Granny Mann died. Some foster parents only take children for a short time while the social workers find a family that wants a child for a long time. No one wants a sixteen-year-old boy.

Frank says, 'We're nearly there.'

I stop staring at my feet and look out of the car window. It's summer and the sun's shining. The houses we drive past are big, with tall fences or walls and gardens full of trees. My home with Granny Mann was in a small flat in Port Kembla, near the harbour. There weren't many gardens and trees back there.

Frank parks the car in front of a white wooden fence. Behind the fence is a large house. It's white too, with a big red front door. There are red, white and pink roses on either side of the path that leads from the gate up to the front door.

'Come on,' says Frank. He opens his door. 'Do you need help with your bags?'

I don't want to get out and I don't want to meet the Robinsons, who own this big white house in Mount Keira. I

want things to go back to the way they were when my big brother Barney and I lived with our Grandad and Granny Mann. Before Barney ran away and Grandad died. Before Granny Mann died last year and left me alone. Just before she died Granny said, 'Please try to find Barney. He'll be your only family soon.' She'd tried to get Barney to come home but he didn't. It made her sad.

Frank is out of the car now. He opens my door. 'Out you get, please, Toby.'

I climb out, dragging my two bags with me. I have a few clothes and my schoolbooks from last year at Port Kembla High. It's hot outside. Frank leads the way through the gate to the front door. It opens and a man and a woman appear. They are both smiling at us. These are my foster parents.

Jim Robinson is taller than Frank, who's short and fat. Jim has short brown hair and blue eyes behind his glasses. Jess Robinson is shorter than her husband, with brown hair too, and big brown eyes. Jim is wearing grey shorts and a blue T-shirt; Jess is in a blue dress with white dots.

Jim shakes Frank's hand then reaches his hand out to me. I have to shake it. It's warm and dry.

'Hi, Toby,' he says. 'We're really pleased that the social workers chose us to be your foster parents.'

Jess walks forward and puts her arms round me. 'Hello, Toby. I hope you'll be very happy with us.'

I stand still and say nothing. She lets me go. Her eyes are sad. I don't want to be unkind, so I say, 'Hi. Nice to meet you.' It isn't really. I stare at the roses. I don't want anyone to see the tears in my eyes.

'Come in,' Jim says.

We go inside. This is where I'm going to live. We're in a large living room. Jess points to the staircase at one end of the room. 'The bedrooms are upstairs. We'll show you your room later. Leave your bags here for now. Are you hungry? Let's go into

Chapters 3, 4 and 5

Before you read

- A. Look at the picture on page 15 and circle the correct answers.
- What do you think the boy behind Toby wants?
 a. to make friends with Toby b. to make Toby feel bad
 c. to study hard
- How do you think Toby feels?
 a. excited b. happy c. unhappy
- *B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.* alarm bully crewcut repair shop
- 1. Dad can't drive the car today. It's in the _____.
- 2. Joe was tired of having long hair, so he got a _____!
- 3. I try to stay away from that boy. I think he's a _____
- 4. If someone tries to come into our house while we're away, the ______ will sound.
- C. Listen to Track 4 and answer these questions.
- Who drives Toby to school on his first day?
 a. Jim b. Jess
- What does Leon make fun of when he sees Toby?
 a. the car Toby arrived in b. Toby's hair
- 3. Who wanted Toby to cut his hair? a. Jim b. Jess

After you read

COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

- Who does Toby see in his first class at the new school?
 a. Zed b. Jess c. Leon
- After a week, what does Toby tell Frank about school?
 a. He's very happy.
 b. He's bored.
 c. He's very unhappy.
- 3. Who talks to Toby about bullying? a. Miss Cooper b. Mr Tran c. Frank
- 4. Who has Toby been hiding the bruises on his arms from? a. Jess and Jim b. Leon c. Mr Tran

Glossary

adj. adjective; n. noun; v. verb

adopt /ə'dɒpt/ v. adult /'ædʌlt/ n. alarm /ə'lɑːm/ n. alone /ə'ləʊn/ adj. bang /bæŋ/ v. be lucky /,biː 'lʌki/ v.

believe /bɪ'liːv/ v. bored /bɔ:d/ adj. bruise /bruːz/ n. bully /'buli/ v. n. cabin /'kæbɪn/ n. caseworker /'keɪs,wɜːkə/ n.

cloth /kloθ/ n. crewcut /'kru:,kʌt/ n. dishwasher /'dɪʃ,wɒʃə/ n. drag /dræg/ v. driveway /'draɪv,weɪ/ n. fence /fens/ n. flat /flæt/ n. foster care /'fɒstə ,keə/ n. foster parents /'fɒstə 'peərənts/ n. garage /'gærɑɪʒ/ n. glove /glʌv/ n. grin /grɪn/ v. harbour /'hɑːbə/ n. hide /haɪd/ v. adoptieren Erwachsene, -r hier: Alarmanlage allein hämmern Glück haben, ein Glückspilz sein jmdm./etw. glauben gelangweilt blauer Fleck, Bluterguss schikanieren Fiesling Hütte hier: Sozialarbeiter, der sich um die Vermittlung eines Pflegekinds kümmert Tuch, Lappen Bürstenhaarschnitt Spülmaschine ziehen, schleppen Auffahrt (Garten-)Zaun Wohnung hier: Pflegefamilie Pflegeeltern Bande, Gang Garage Handschuh grinsen Hafen (sich) verstecken



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