

THE BABYSITTER'S REVENGE – 1

Read the humorous narrative.

'Meg! Thanks so much for coming. I'll be home before midnight. Have fun kids!' Their mother skips out the front door, her car keys jingling in her hand.

Only moments before, Kate and Scott had been sitting on the carpet in front of the television, laughing and cheering as they raced their Formula 1 cars through the streets of Japan. When the doorbell rang, both cars had spun out of control and crashed.

Now the siblings are frozen in place and silent, staring up at the woman standing in their doorway. Kate and Scott gulp in unison as they think back to how delighted they had been a month ago when they slipped out of their bedrooms to discover Meg, their babysitter, asleep on the settee.

The children had thought it would be hilarious to 'borrow' Meg's lipstick from her handbag and put it on Ralph, their Rottweiler—returning it with dog hair and slobber on it. Scott had thought it ingenious to tip out Meg's perfume and fill it with water from the toilet while Kate was emptying out Meg's tub of hair wax, replacing it with the lard-like cleaning product kept under the laundry sink.

Suddenly, Meg speaks, making both children jump. 'Let's make a deal, kids. You do a favour for me and I won't tell your mother about the pranks you pulled when I was 'resting my eyes' the last time I babysat you.'

Kate and Scott begin nodding frantically and slight, wry grins appear on their faces as they realise that, once again, they are going to get away with their antics.

'You see ... during the day I work in web design.' As both children look confused, Meg explains further. 'Companies ask me to design web sites for them for the Internet. I'm creating one for a company called "Brats Costumes and Accessories" and I need some pictures of kids in these costumes for a web page.'

Meg takes a pink, sparkling fairy costume and a blue and red lycra wrestler's costume out of a paper bag. The children's grins broaden as they realise that the evening is going to be a lot more fun than they had first expected. That is until Meg hands Scott the

fairy costume and Kate the wrestling costume. Meg turns away—hiding her mischievous smile from the pair—and takes the digital camera from her bag.

The next day at school, Kate and Scott are sitting at their desks in their separate classrooms. The bell to start the day rings and, as they always do, their teachers walk over to the classroom computers and turn them on. Today though, the school's web page doesn't appear on the screen. Instead, pictures of Kate and Scott in their costumes are fading in and out to the sounds of some loud and rather embarrassing sound effects. The children's classmates notice immediately and run over to the computers. Their laughter begins as small chuckles and grows into hysterical fits. In both classrooms, Kate and Scott are trying desperately to disappear underneath their desks.

