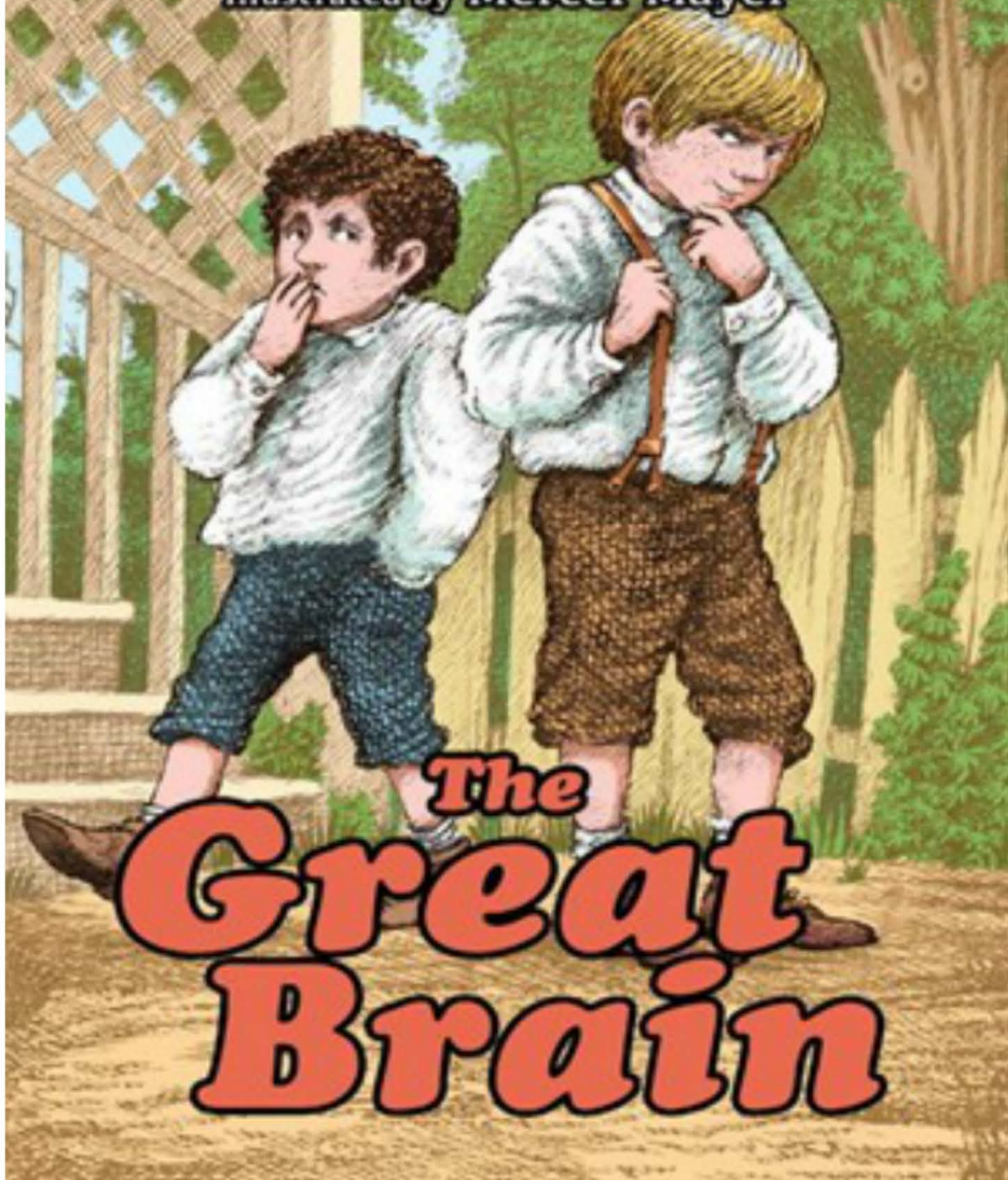


JOHN D. FITZGERALD



Illustrated by **Mercer Mayer**



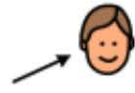
The
Great
Brain

Chapter 1



a

7



John

is

a

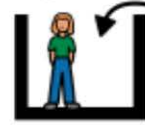
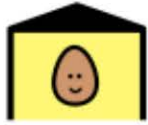
seven

year

old

boy .

He



Lives

in

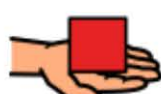
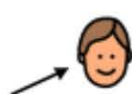
the

town

Adenville, Utah

in

the



year

1896.

He

has

an

older

brother named

Tom .



Tom

liked

to

play

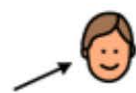
tricks

on

people

so

he



could

take

their

money. Because

he

was

crafty



and

smart

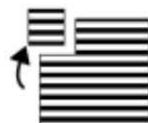
they

nicknamed Tom

the

Great

Brain .



Tom

and

John

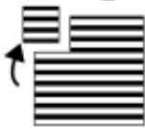
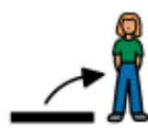
thought

of

a

scheme

to



make

money

off

of

a

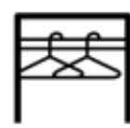
new

invention

their

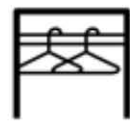


a



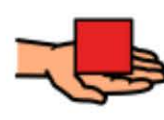
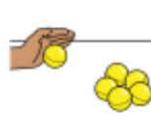
The new invention was called a water closet . (

A



a

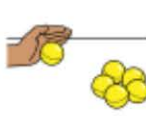
A water closet is another name for a



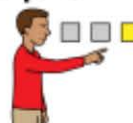
bathroom with running water .) Many people had never



a



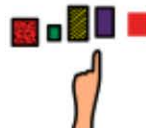
a



seen a bathroom with a toilet that flushed



&



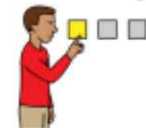
so John and Tom decided to make children



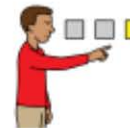
&



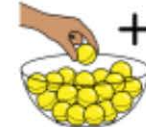
pay money to see it. Tom and John 's mother



&



thought this was dishonest and was sad that



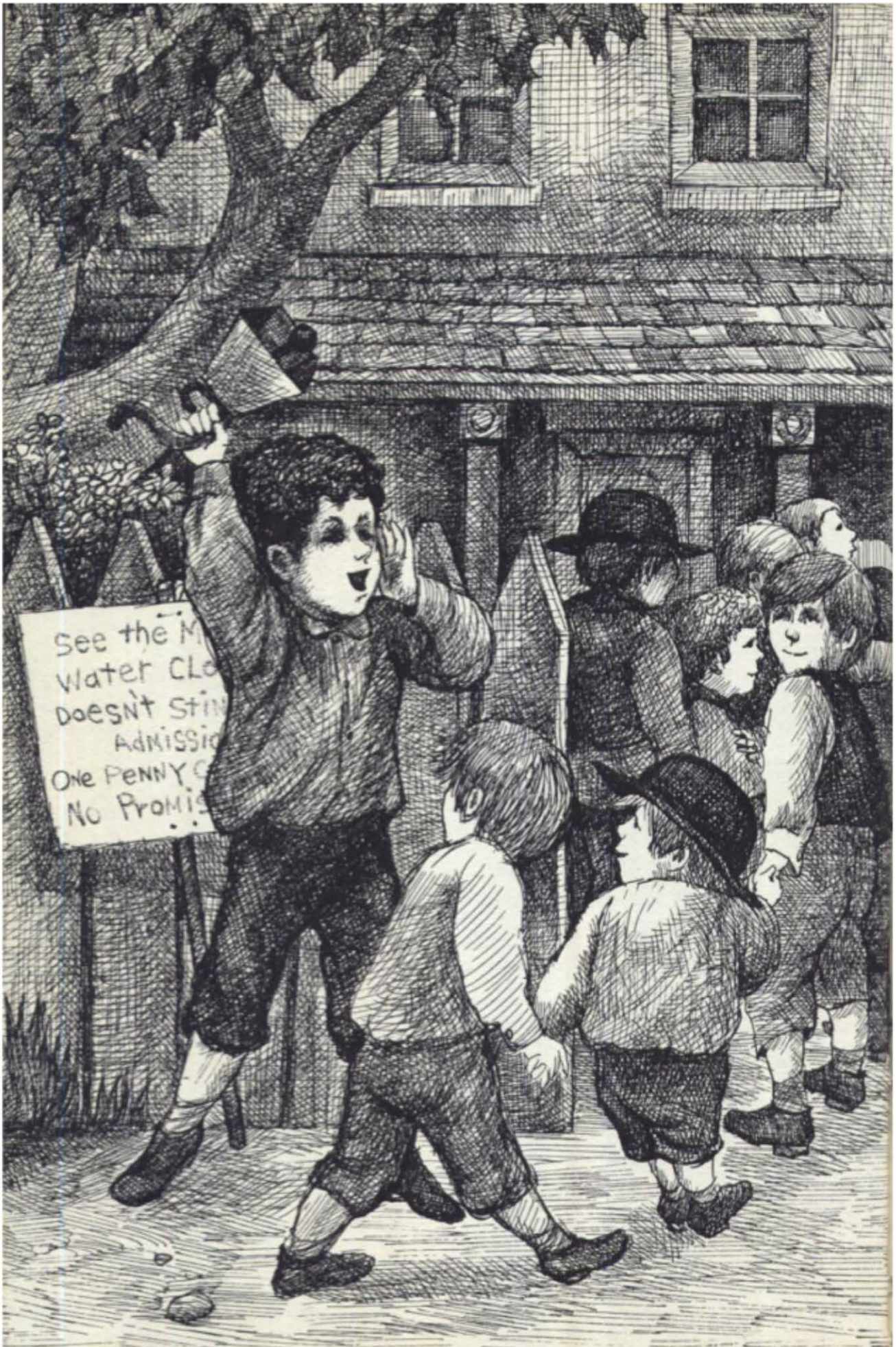
†



they took money. She told them to return



the money.

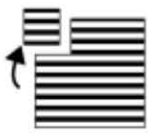


John and Tom charge money for the kids to see their new toilet.

Chapter 2: Revenge Can be Sour



All



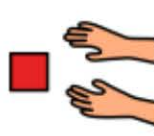
of



the



brothers



got



sick .



John



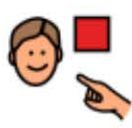
was



sick



on



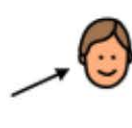
his

$\frac{1}{8}$

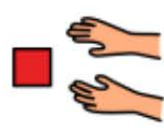
eighth birthday.



When



he



got



better



John



celebrated

h



his birthday.



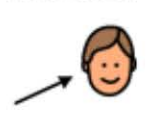
His



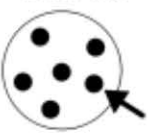
Uncle



gave



him



an



indian



belt



for



his



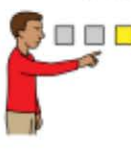
birthday.



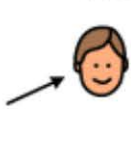
John



hated



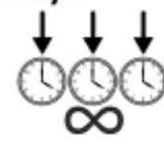
that



he



was



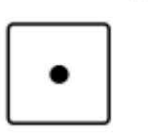
always



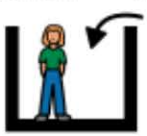
the



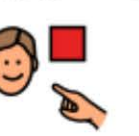
last



one



in



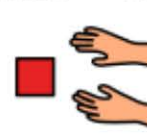
his



family



to



get



sick .



John



thought



of



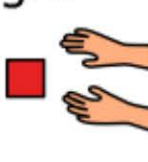
a



plan



to



get



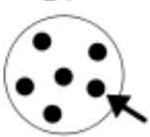
the



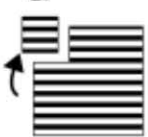
measles



before



any



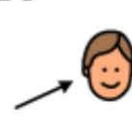
of



his










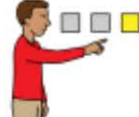


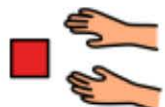



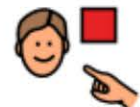







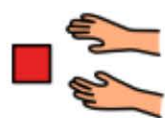




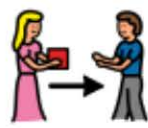
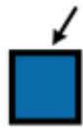

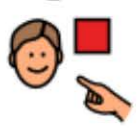






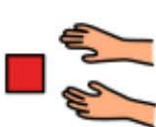

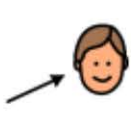





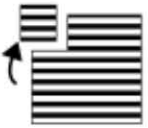
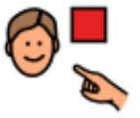

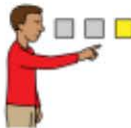










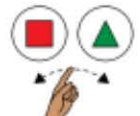

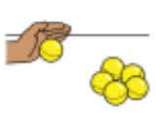
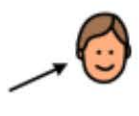
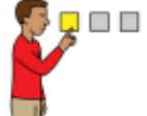



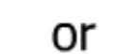




brothers.

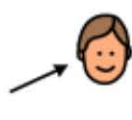


He



went

I	a	friend	who	was	sick	so	That
							
To	could	get	the	measles	before	his	brothers.
							
John	plan	was	a	success.	John	got	the
							
The	measles	first	then	gave	it	to	his
							
measles	John	was	the	first	to	get	well .
							
John	teased	and	made	fun	of	his	brothers
							
teased	were	still	sick .	His	brothers	did	not
							
that !	They	decided	because	John	was	mean	they
							
would	not	talk	or	play	with	him .	This
							



made

John

very

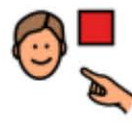
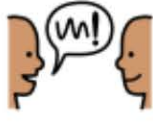
sad .

He

hated

not

being



able

to

talk

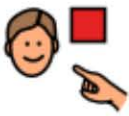
to

his

brothers

who

were



h



his

best

friends!

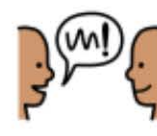
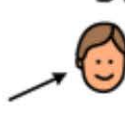
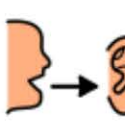
John

begged

his

brothers

for



forgiveness!

Tom

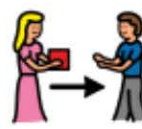
said

he

would

not

talk



to

John

unless

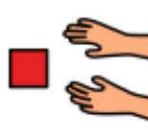
John

gave

Tom

his

indian



belt .

John

loved

the

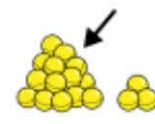
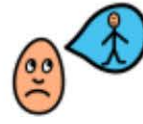
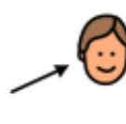
belt

he

got

as

a



a birthday present ,

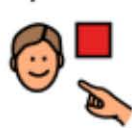
but

he

missed

Tom

more .



&



John

gave

Tom

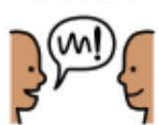
his

belt

and

Tom

started

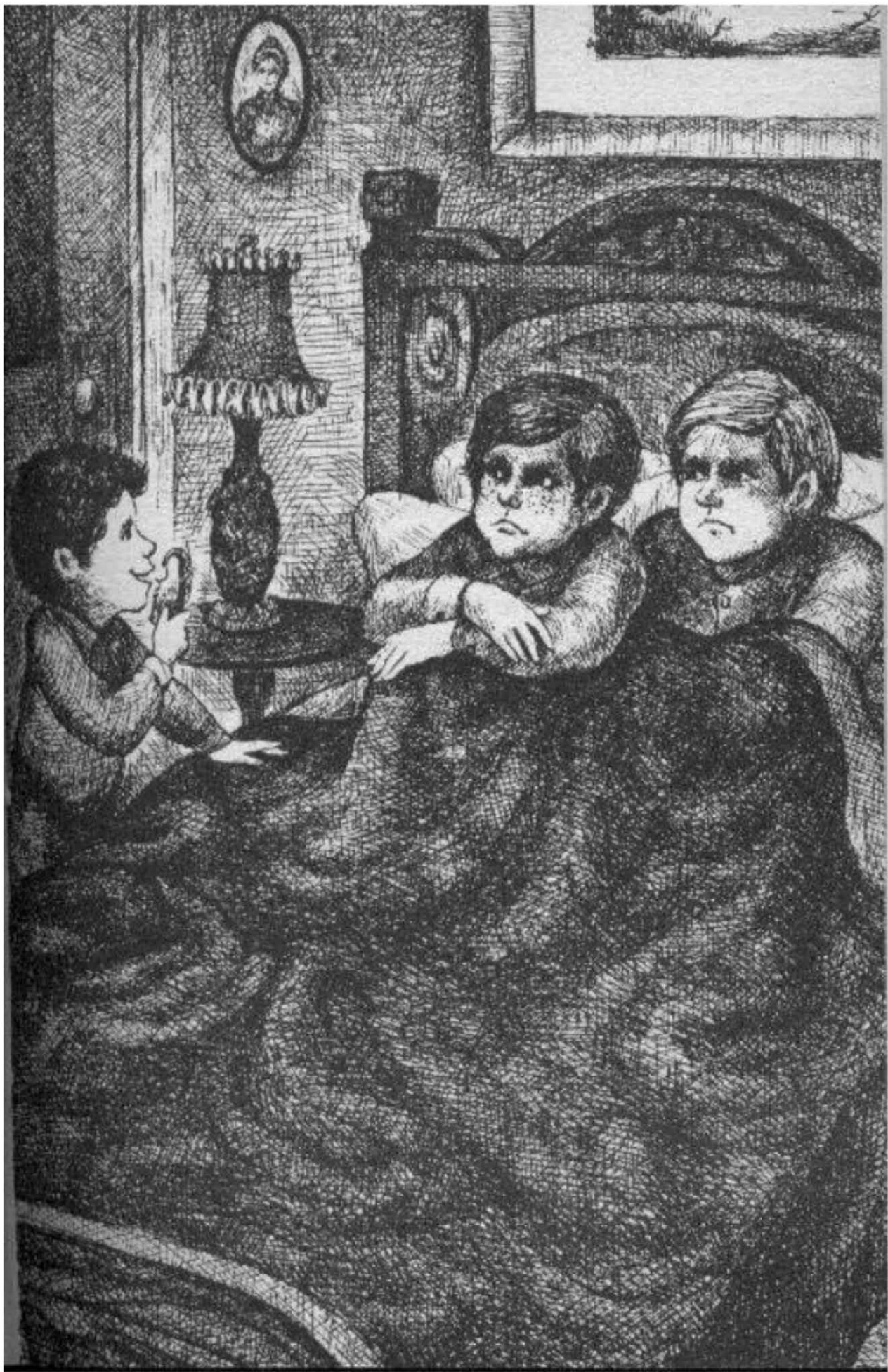


talking

to

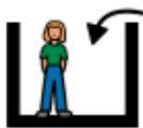
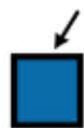
John

again .

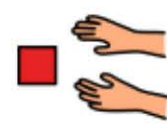
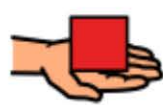


John teases his sick brothers.

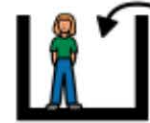
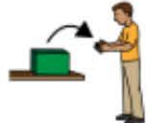
Chapter 3: The Great Brain Saves the Day



It is summer time in Utah . The boys



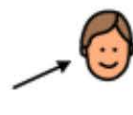
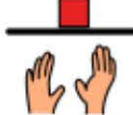
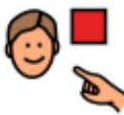
were ready to have some fun and get



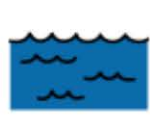
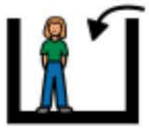
into trouble! For fun they went swimming in



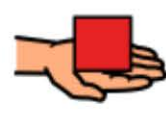
a creek . John did not know how to



swim ! His brothers wanted to teach him so



they threw John in the water . John was



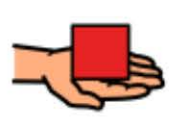
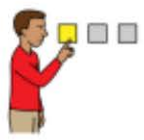
mad because this was scary ! He could have



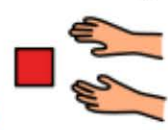
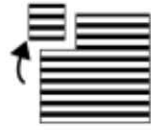
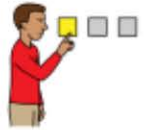
drowned! However, John did not drown . He was



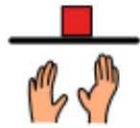
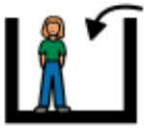
pushed to learn how to swim .



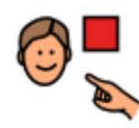
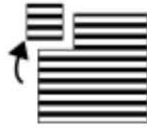
This is not the only adventure they had



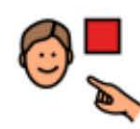
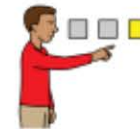
this summer! Two of their friends got lost



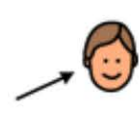
in a place called Skeleton Cave. Tom wanted



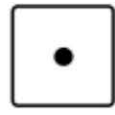
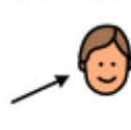
to think of a plan to save his



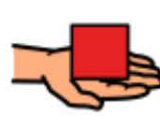
friends. Tom was worried that his friends would



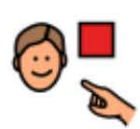
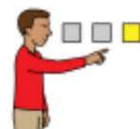
be lost forever not because he loved them,



but because he would lose money. No one



knew but Tom had made a deal to



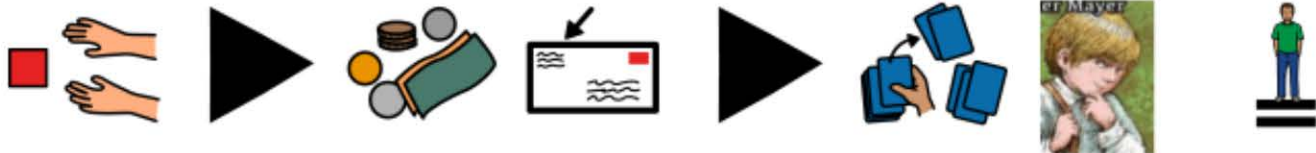
sell John's dog so that his dog



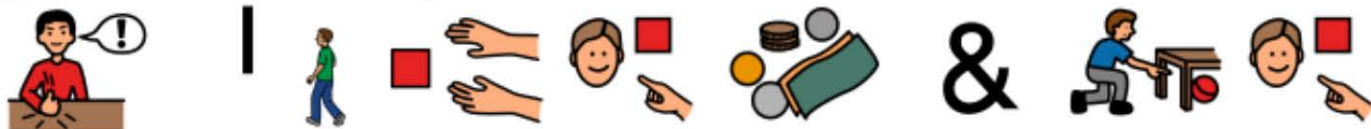
make puppies with their friend's dog . If Tom



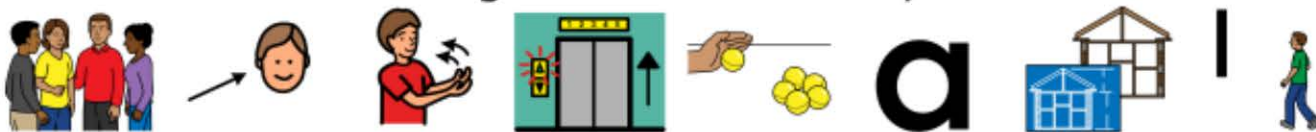
did not find his friends he would not



get the money from the deal . Tom was



determined to get his money and find his



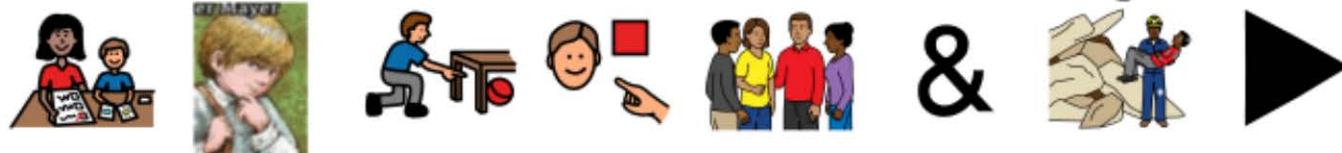
friends. He came up with a plan to



find his friends by letting his dog sniff



to find his friends and their dog . It



worked! Tom found his friends and saved the



day (and his money from the deal).



Tom and John's dog look for his friends that were lost in the cave.

Chapter 4: Abie Glassman Finds a Home

A



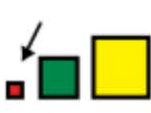
|



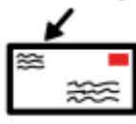
&



A new person came to John and Tom's



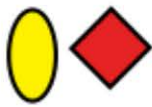
little town. The new person was named Abie



|



Glassman. Abie went from town to town selling



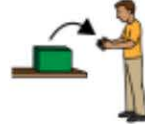
different things. Because Abie was new, John's dad



|



|



a

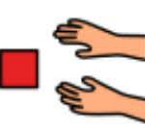
invited Abie to come to their house for a



&



special dinner. John and Tom were very excited because



|



they got to make ice cream for their guest.



&



Tom was sly and made money by charging



by selling left over ice cream to his poor



friends. When the ice cream was ready the



family had a wonderful dinner with Abie . Abie



and John 's dad talked about Abie 's future . Abie



was getting old and it was starting to



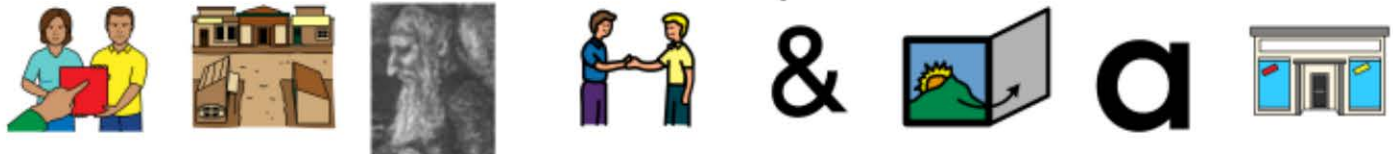
become difficult for him to travel . Abie did



not know what to do . John 's dad had



an idea ! Abie could open a store in



their town . Abie agreed and opened a store .



John, Tom, and Sweyn make ice cream for their dinner guest Abie.

Chapter 5: Greek Immigrant



Abie



was



not



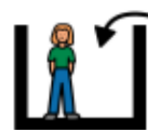
the only



new



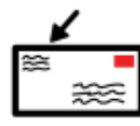
person



in



town .



The Kokovinis family

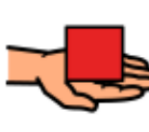
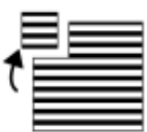
moved

to

Utah

from

the



country

of

Greece.

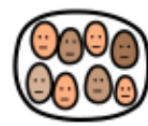
The

family

had

a

young



boy

named Vassillios

who

everyone called

Basil . The



other

boys

in

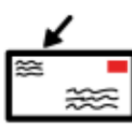
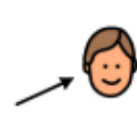
the

town

were

very

mean



to

Basil .

He

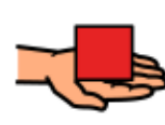
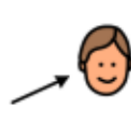
was

different

from

them

and



they

teased

him

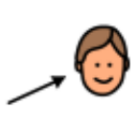
because

of

it .

Tom

had



an

idea !

He

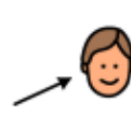
would

make

Basil

like

the



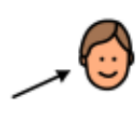
other

American boys .

He

would

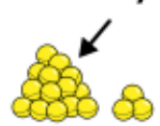
charge



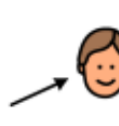
do this for free . He charged Basil 's dad



money for Tom to be nice and make Basil



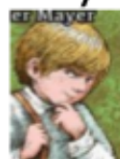
more like the other American boys . Tom changed



Basil 's clothes and made him look like the



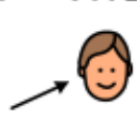
other boys , but other kids continued to bully



Basil . Tom decided to teach Basil how to



fight back . The next time someone went to



hit Basil he fought back and won . Basil 's

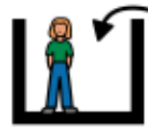


dad was happy and paid Tom a dollar .

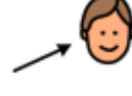


The boys bully Basil by tying him to a tree during a game.

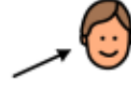
Chapter six: A Wreath for Abie



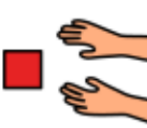
Abie Glassman continued to sell things in his



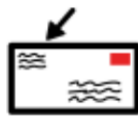
store. Suddenly, Abie got sick. He fainted three



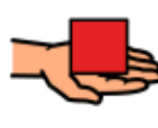
times. No one knew why he was sick.



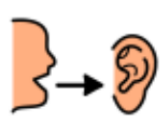
John's mother got the doctor. The doctor said



Abie was dying from malnutrition. Malnutrition happens



when a person does not have enough food



to eat. The doctor said it was too late



to heal Abie. Abie died soon after. John



felt sad and guilty about Abie's death.

John felt guilty because he thought he had killed
 Abie . He thought that because he went to another
 store and did not buy things from Abie , he
 kept Abie from having enough money to buy food .
 This was not the whole truth . John did not
 kill Abie . The town arranged a funeral for Abie
 . They did not know how to give a Jewish
 funeral as Abie was the only Jewish man . They
 tried their best and gave Abie a nice funeral .



The town says goodbye to Abie after his death.

Chapter 7: The New Teacher

The summer was over and it was time
to go back to school. John's older brother
went away for school, but John and Tom went
to school in town. There was a new
teacher this year! The new teacher's name was Mr.
Standish. John and Tom did not like Mr. Standish.
Mr. Standish punished kids who broke the rules by
hitting them with a paddle. That hurt! Tom wanted
to get Mr. Standish fired.

Tom thought of a plan to get his teacher

fired . He hid alcohol in Mr. Standish 's room . Alcohol

was not a good thing for a teacher to

have at school. The plan worked well and Mr.

Standish got in big trouble. John felt guilty and

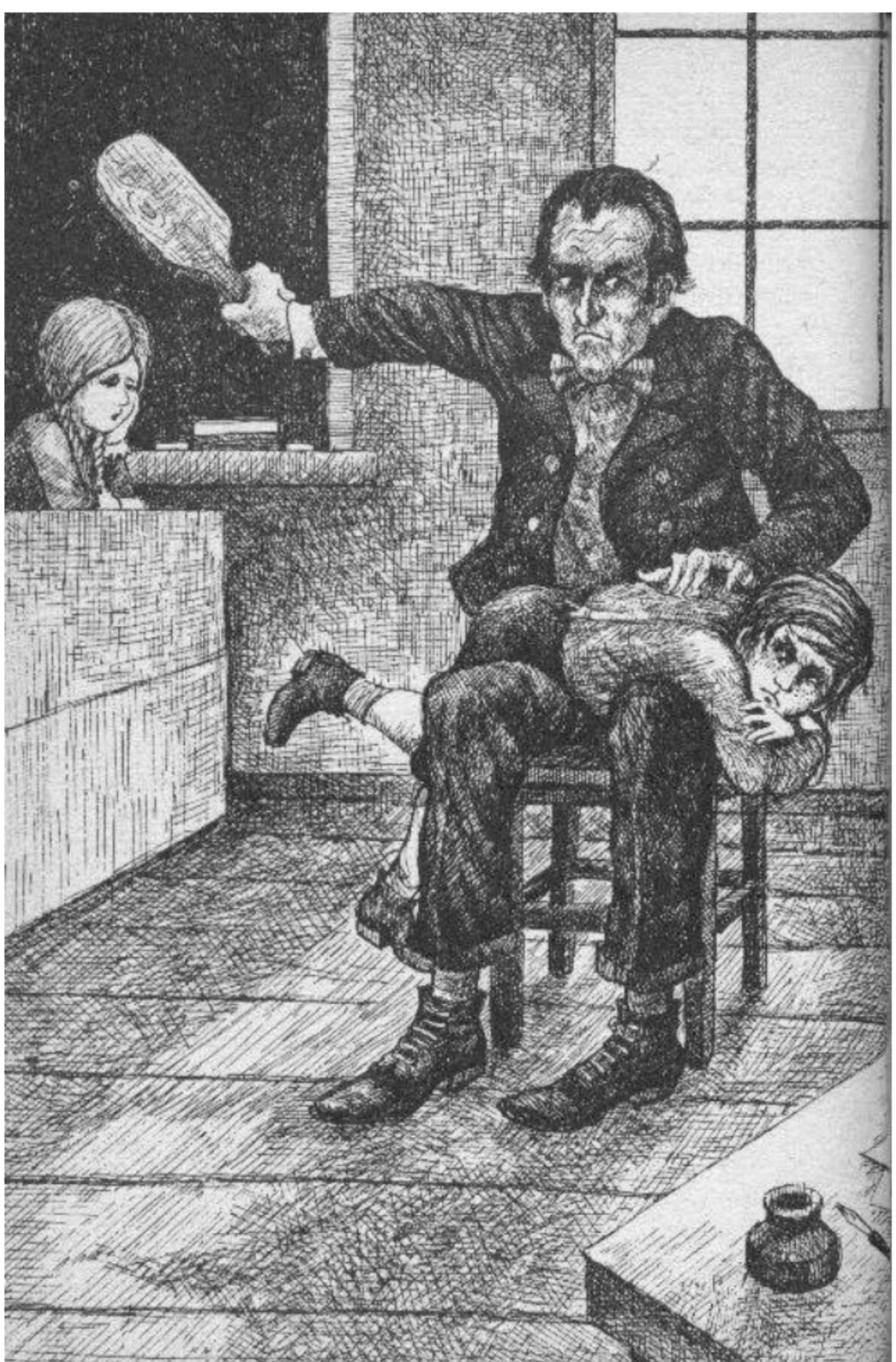
told his dad the truth . Tom confessed that he

tried to get Mr. Standish fired . This got Mr.

Standish out of trouble . He was so happy he

decided not to paddle kids that got in trouble .

Everyone was happy !

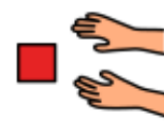


Tom gets paddled when he got in trouble at school.

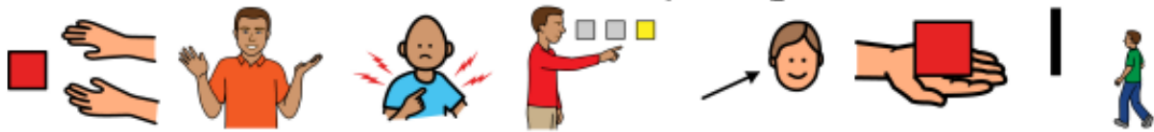
Chapter 8: The Great Brain's Reformation



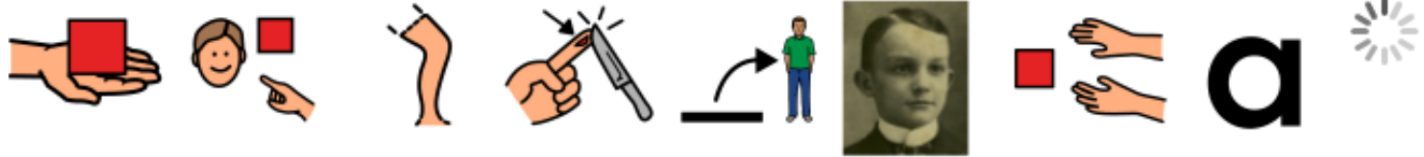
&



Tom and John's friend Andy got sick. This



sickness got so bad that he had to



have his leg cut off. Andy got a fake



leg to replace the that had to be



removed. This made Andy sad and he felt



useless. He could not do his chores or



play with the other boys like he used to



. Andy felt so useless that he wanted to



end his life. John helped Andy try to

end his life . John thought he was being

a good friend , but helping someone hurt

themselves is not what a good friend does .

Thankfully, Andy was not successful in ending

his life . Tom had an idea to help

Andy ! He would teach Andy how to do

his chores and play with his new leg .

However, this would cost Andy his precious erector

set . An erector set is an expensive toy



that

allowed

you

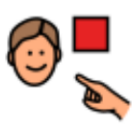
to

build

many

cool

things .



Andy

loved

his

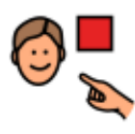
toy ,

but

agreed

to

the



&



deal .

Tom

kept

his

promise

and

helped

Andy .



a



could

After

a

lot

of

hard

work ,

Andy

could



&



play

and

do

his

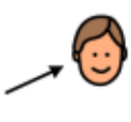
chores!

Andy

was

very

happy



! Now

he

did

not

feel

useless.

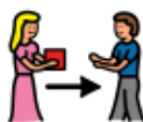
Andy

kept

his



&



promise

and

gave

Tom

his

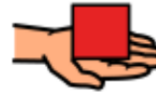
erector

set

.Surprisingly,



would



Tom

would

not

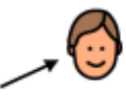
accept

it

. Tom

had

changed!



He

chose

not

to

be

selfish

any

more .



Here is a picture of what Andy's artificial leg may have looked like.



This erector set was similar to Andy's in the book.

Disclaimer

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Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities / RI College
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence RI 02908
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