Lovereading.co.uk

The Adventures of Captain Underpants

Nick Arnold

Published by Scholastic

Extract

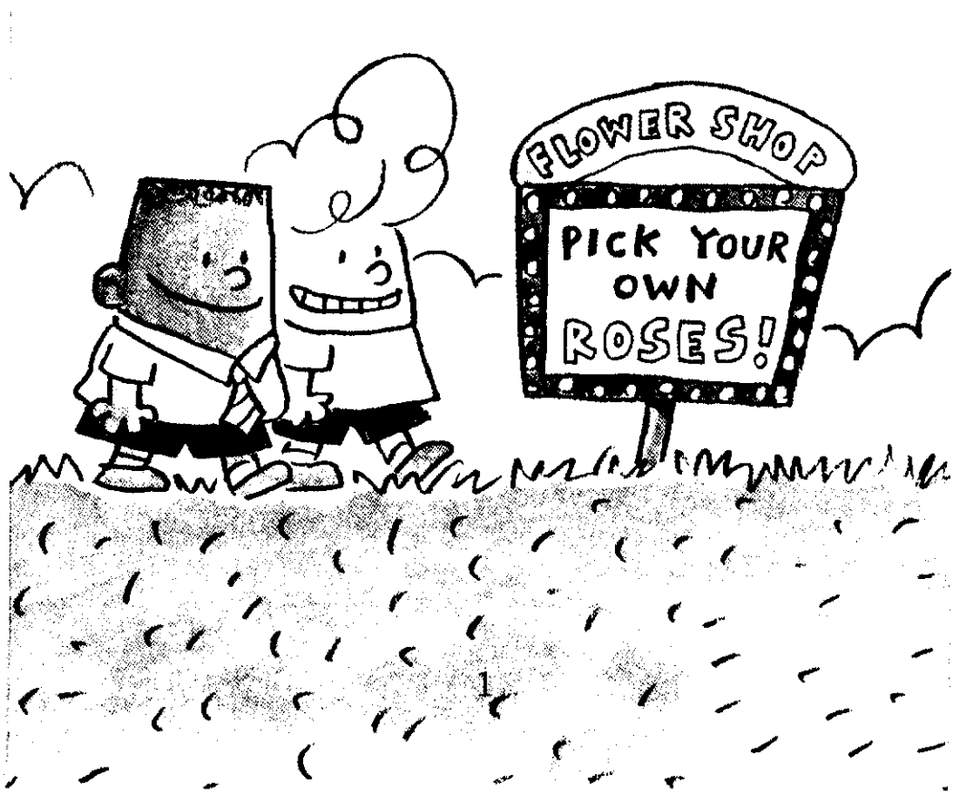
All text is copyright of the author

This opening extract is exclusive to Love**reading**.
Please print off and read at your leisure.

CHAPTER 1

GEORGE AND HAROLD

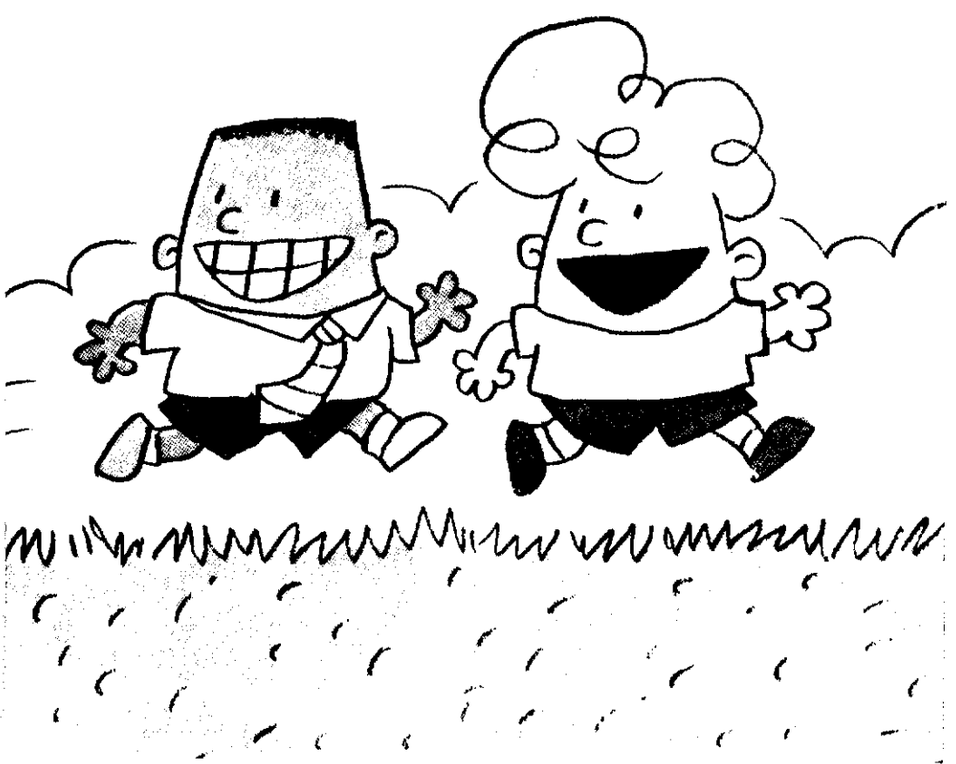
Meet George Beard and Harold Hutchins. George is the kid on the left with the tie and the flat-top. Harold is the one on the right with the T-shirt and the bad haircut. Remember that now.



George and Harold were best friends. They had a lot in common. They lived right next door to each other and they were both in the same fourth-grade class at Jerome Horwitz Elementary School.

George and Harold were usually responsible kids. Whenever anything bad happened, George and Harold were usually responsible.

But don't get the wrong idea about these two. George and Harold were actually very nice boys. No matter what everybody else thought, they were good, sweet, and lovable. . . . Well, OK, maybe they weren't so sweet and lovable, but they were good nonetheless.



It's just that George and Harold each had a "silly streak" a *kilometre* long. Usually that silly streak was hard to control. Sometimes it got them into trouble. And once it got them into big, *BIG* trouble.

But before I can tell you that story, I have to tell you *this* story.

CHAPTER 2

TREE HOUSE COMIX, INC.

After a hard day of cracking jokes, pulling pranks, and causing mayhem at school, George and Harold liked to rush to the old tree house in George's backyard. Inside the tree house were two big old fluffy chairs, a table, a cupboard crammed with junk food, and a padlocked crate filled with pencils, pens, and stacks and stacks of paper.

Now, Harold loved to draw, and George loved to make up stories. And together, the two boys spent hours and hours writing and drawing their very own comic books.

Over the years, they had created hundreds of their own comics, starring dozens of their own superheroes. First there was "Dog Man," then came "Timmy the Talking Toilet," and who could forget "The Amazing Cow Lady"?

But the all-time greatest superhero they ever made up *had* to be "The Amazing Captain Underpants."

George came up with the idea.

"Most superheroes *look* like they're flying around in their underwear," he said. "Well, this guy actually *is* flying around in his underwear!"

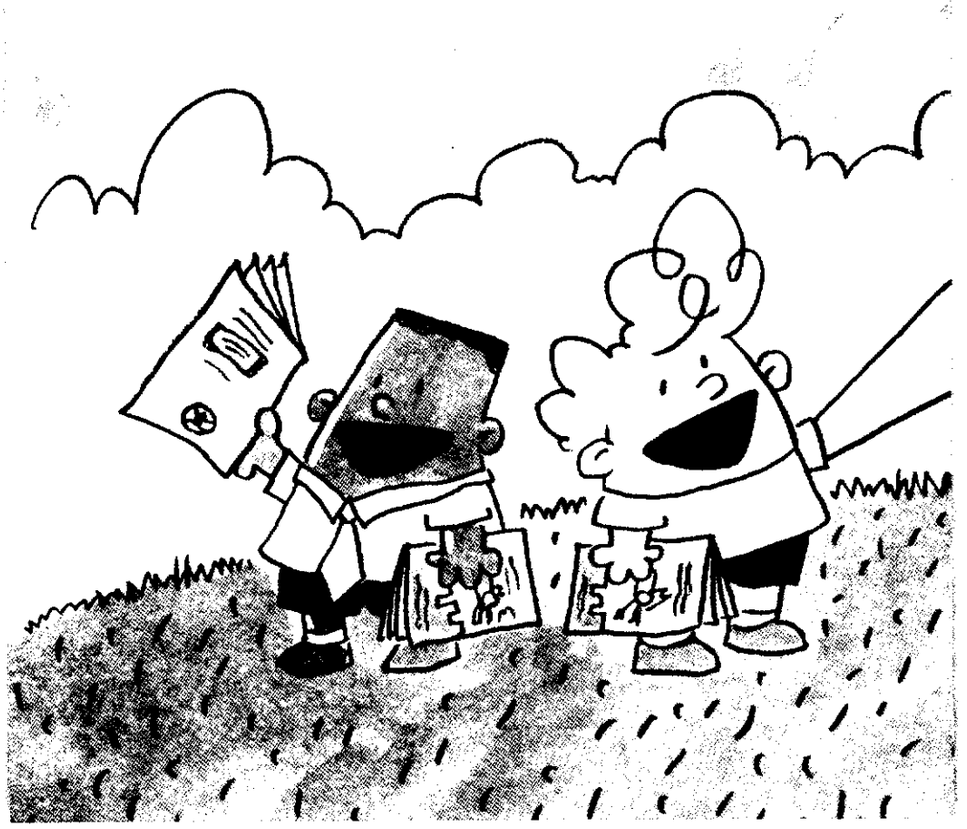
The two boys laughed and laughed.

"Yeah," said Harold, "he could fight with *Wedgie Power*!"

George and Harold spent entire afternoons writing and drawing the comic adventures of Captain Underpants. He was their coolest superhero ever!

Luckily for the boys, the secretary at Jerome Horwitz Elementary School was much too busy to keep an eye on the photocopier. So whenever they got a chance, Harold and George would sneak into the office and run off several hundred copies of their latest Captain Underpants adventure.

After school, they sold their homemade comics on the playground for 50¢ each.



CHAPTER 3
THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS
Written By George Beard
Cartoons By Harold Hutchins

THE REALLY COOL Adventures OF
CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS
WRitten by George Beard. Drawed by Harold Hutchins
It WAS A time of darKness And DiSpare For PLanet earth. Bad guys had taken over the Streets, and all of the superherose in the world were too old to Fight evil.
Hey
Ha Ha
Then along came a new improved extra-strength super hero.
TRa-La-Laaaa!
Look up in the sky. it's A Bird.
it's A PLane
it's A egg-saLad Sandwich.
No Way! I'm captain UNDERPANTS

Captain Underpants was faster than a speeding waistband...
ZOOM
More Powerful than Boxer Shorts...
And able to leap tall buildings without getting a wedgie.
TRA-LA LAAAA!
Night and day, Captain Underpants watched over the city, fighting for truth, justice, and all that is pre-shrunk and cottony.
Meanwhile, at a nearby elementery school...
TURN the page

It was "Stinky Taco Surprise" Day at the cafateria.
Yuck!
Everybody hated it so much, they ALL threw it away.
TRASH
TRASH
Soon, the cafateria food came to life.
I am the INEDIBLE HUNK
the monster ran around the school, eating everything in sight...
MUNCH