

“Parts of a Story” Readers Theatre Script

Developed by Dr. Rosalind M. Flynn with Ms. Bell’s Class
General Smallwood Middle School Charles County, Maryland

1	...so the wanna-be robbers [sound effect] put on their rubber gloves and tiptoed down the dark alley.	15	Right!
All	And then? [gesture]	1	What could we add to make this story even better?
2	They grabbed the expired credit card from the pizza man’s purse and slid it between the doorway!	All	Ummmmmm...
All	And then what? [gesture]	2	Well, it could use more characters.
3	The squeaky door [sound effect] mysteriously opened [sound effect].	All	Like...?
4	They looked inside and saw....	3	Like a scary man with a hook! [sound effect] [gesture]
All	What? Saw what? [gesture]	4	A police officer.
5	The action begins on the next page.	All	A man sleeping on the couch [sound effect].
All	We have to read it? [sound effect]	5	A small barking dog. [sound effect]
5	Uh-huh. Don’t you want to?	6	Wait a minute! What’s this story’s title?
6	It’s sounding like a story with a good plot..	All	Title?
7	How can you tell?	7	Yeah, title--an identifying name given to a book.
8	There’s action.	8	Like <u>The Three Little Pigs</u> ?
All	Action! [gesture]	9	Uh, yeah, that’s a title.
10	Robbers steal from a pizza man!	10	But <u>this</u> story’s title—looks like you’ll have to get the book to find out.
11	And you know there’s comedy.	All	[sound effect—grumbling]
All	Comedy?	11	Wait a minute everyone! Why are you complaining?
12	You know—things that make you laugh.	12	Yeah, we already know this book has the elements of a good story—
13	Wanna-be robbers,	All	Plot, setting, action, comedy, characters, cliffhangers, and a title.
14	Expired credit cards,	13	So what are we waiting for?
15	and a pizza man’s purse.	15	Let’s find out the title.
All	Right—comedy! [sound effect] [gesture]	16	Let’s see what’s behind the squeaky door.
16	There’s also a scary setting.	17	Let’s see if the robbers get caught by the barking dog.
All	[sound effect] A dark alley!	18	Let’s find out if the dog ate the pizza.
17	And there’s a cliffhanger.	All	Let’s go read the book!
All	What’s a cliffhanger? [gesture]	14	I’m going.
18	A suspenseful situation at the end of a chapter.	1	Me, too!
All	Ohhhhh.	2	Wait for me!
14	It’s when someone is dying to know what happens next. You know, like a...		
All	To Be Continued! [gesture]		