

Do Not Remove Mattress Tags

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Binky accidentally removes a mattress tag and starts thinking the FBI is after him.

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1 - Chapter 1

Do not remove mattress tags

Arthur is © Marc Brown

Binky was in his room and he noticed a weird whit tag hanging off the mattress as he cleared the blankets off it for new blankets, the tag was bothering him, so he decided to remove it.

When he removed the tag; he read what it said and it said, `DO NOT REMOVE UNDER PENALTY OF LAW.'

"Oh no!" Binky yelled, "Now I will get a criminal record!"

"Binky..." Mrs. Barnes called from downstairs.

"Oh no they know I ripped the mattress tag off!" Binky said.

"Time for school," Mrs. Barnes replied.

Binky pocketed the tag and went to school. As he was walking there he was trembling with fear, he was thinking that he would be busted for what he did. He ran into Buster at school, "Get out of the way!"

Buster ran off as Binky went into the school to class.

Buster sat down next to him, "What's with you?"

"I did something totally bad," Binky admitted.

"You didn't beat up George did you?" Buster asked curiously.

"No," Binky replied and he had shown Buster the mattress tag.

Buster shrieked, "You are going to jail!"

"Quiet!" Binky yelled.

"Well it's been nice knowing you," Buster said sadly.

"I am not going to let this control me!" Binky yelled.

"Don't you remember what happened, I heard of one guy who did that who was your age, the FBI was contacted and now he is serving a life sentence," Buster said.

Binky sighed, "You lie!"

"No, I am telling the truth, the mattress tags have electronic signals in them, and when they are separated from the mattresses they send an alert to the FBI and it will only be a matter of time when they catch up to you, everyone will probably give you a nickname like 'Mattress Ripper Binky Barnes', and you will have a wanted poster in the post office, your parents will be humiliated to see you because of your crimes, I am watching you so if you rip off the mattress tag from my bed then its in the slammer with you," Buster warned.

Binky was annoyed, "The FBI is not after me, if you say anything I will pound you!"

"But..." Buster said, "You tore the tag off a mattress you let the team down."

"What team?"

"You let Francine down, just look how down she is," Buster said.

Binky just ignored Buster, but the FBI theory was stuck in his mind for the rest of the day.

That night Binky had a dream, he was being chased by some feds for what he did. They chased him into a dam.

"But I didn't do anything," Binky protested as he was nearly at the edge.

"I don't care," The aardvark man FBI agent said as he pointed his gun at him, "You did something illegal, which was rip a mattress tag off, now you must face justice, it is scum like you who make me sick!"

Binky turned around and there was a huge drop into the water, he decided to take a chance with fate and jump, "Ahhh!" he screamed as he was falling into the water.

Binky woke up terrified, "Buster is right I am going to get busted."

He did not sleep all night and it showed in class the next day as Binky was sleeping in class drooling on the desk.

Buster woke him up.

"Hey!" Binky yelled.

"You fell asleep again," Buster said.

"Your crazy antics are making me loose it, the FBI is after me for what I did," Binky said nervously.

"They are after you," Buster exclaimed, "Just confess to the proper authorities and no one will get hurt, perhaps your mom won't be so humiliated when you confess," Buster said.

Binky had just about enough of Buster that he wanted to throw his desk at him.

Mr. Ratburn had an announcement to make, "Class don't forget our field trip to the police station on Wednesday, we will be learning about crime and punishment."

Binky pretty much passed out because of the announcement.

TBC

2 - Chapter 2

Authors note: What is with me and tying Busters ears together in a knot?

Binky was horrified as he always liked field trips to the police station.

“Yep, you are going to serve some hard time for what you did,” Buster joked.

“Buster if I am going down you are coming with me,” Binky warned.

“But if I am part of this, then I am going to get in trouble by my mom,” Buster said nervously.

“I know the FBI is after me and will silence anyone who I am affiliated with especially you, so if you tell my mom I am going to tie your ears in a knot!” Binky threatened as he clenched a fist.

“Ok, ok, I won't tell anyone, but leave the ears alone,” Buster said.

Little did Buster know Binky tied his ears in a knot as he had it with Buster.

“Ahh! I have gone deaf!” Buster shrieked.

Binky sat down with a satisfied look on his face while Buster was slightly annoyed.

“You are going to tell my mom what I did,” Binky exclaimed, “I will keep them tied up until the end of the day, then if you tell anyone I am going to uhh...” Binky looked around, “Drop a rubber spider down Muffy's dress.”

“Can you speak up?” Buster said.

Binky couldn't stand to see Buster like this so he untied his ears.

“I guess I will tell Mr. Ratburn,” Buster said.

“You aren't going anywhere!” Binky yelled as he pulled out the rubber spider and dropped it down Muffy's dress.

Muffy screamed loudly.

Mr. Ratburn was slightly annoyed, “Binky, Buster, Muffy, can you three stop being disruptive?”

“But he was disobeying me,” Binky said

"He tied my ears into a knot," Buster complained

"And Binky dropped a spider down my dress!" Muffy yelled.

"If you three say another word you will all be serving a lunch time detention," Mr. Ratburn warned.

As the class progressed the three students were not too impressed with each other. When recess came Buster had a plan to tell someone what happened.

"Where do you think you are going?" Binky asked rudely, "You are staying here,"

Buster started running as Binky was catching up to him

"Ahh!" Buster shrieked as Binky jumped onto his back and they both fell

"You are not telling anyone anything!" Binky yelled, as he was pinching a nerve, "Say uncle!"

"Uncle!" Buster said in pain.

"Those two are insane," Arthur said looking on.

"Yea first they like each other now one of them is beating up the other," The Brain replied.

Sue Ellen and Fern dragged Arthur and the Brain away.

"Why are you taking us way from watching them?"

"Buster and possibly Binky have both gone insane," Sue Ellen replied.

"One of these days, we should send them to the mental hospital they will get the care that they need," Fern explained.

"Should we separate the two?" Arthur asked curiously.

"Just leave them, they are obviously stressed out because of the onslaught of too much homework," The Brain said, "Just look how Buster is taking his beating, and how Binky is threatening him about something pointless."

Buster stormed up to them, "Binky-,"

However Binky tackled him, before he could say anything, "You are **not** going to say anything about what I did!"

"Why?" Buster asked.

Arthur and company walked away from this pointless argument.

"If you say something, I will be sure that you are involved in the crime," Binky warned

"But I don't want to go to jail!" Buster whined, "I saw jail in a movie once and they do bad things to you."

"We are not going to jail, stick with me and we will be going to different places," Binky reassured, "And if you tell, I am going to leave you behind and you will have to find your own way home."

"Binky where will we go from here?" Buster asked curiously.

"We will make our break after the police station field trip, we will hopefully get enough money we will take an airplane to Canada and start a new life," Binky explained, "I will be known as Binkel Von Binkenstein."

"And I will be known as Busta Braxton," Buster replied but he was unsure about this plan but if anything, he didn't want Binky to use him as his punching bag or leave him behind for that matter.

TBC

3 - Chapter 3

Muffy wasn't too happy because of what happened earlier since Binky does have a bad habit of scaring Muffy with fake insects.

"Binky is so rude and immature as is Buster; I got in trouble because of them!" Muffy whined, "And Buster is an idiot for instigating it."

"What are you going to do?" Francine asked, "Hide under the bed?"

"No I am going to get him in trouble for something he didn't do," Muffy replied, "Same with that wuss Buster Baxter who is another troublemaker."

"Buster has been acting weird," George replied, "Binky and Buster are constantly arguing about something and he doesn't trust Buster with something which is practically true even though he is one of my best friends."

"Perhaps I could get some revenge," Muffy said.

"We will think of something," Prunella said overhearing the conversation.

After school Binky went to meet Buster at his place, he noticed something totally alarming, an old milk crate filled with old photo albums, it said on the side, "USE BY OTHER THAN REGISTERED OWNER IS PROHIBITED."

"What does prohibited mean?" Binky asked curiously.

"I don't know lets look it up," Buster replied.

They checked the dictionary and was shocked to see that it was another meaning for illegal.

"Buster!" Binky yelled, "You are going to get arrested!"

"Ahh! That's what it means?" Buster shrieked, "They probably have microchips in the milk crate and are probably tracking us as we speak, we need to make a break for it!"

"Two days we will leave and find our way to the airport and hopefully get one way tickets to Canada," Binky said.

"Really?" Buster asked curiously.

"Yea," Binky replied as Buster hugged him and he buried his face into his shoulder and was crying as he was so happy, "Let it out," a few seconds later he was tired of hearing Buster cry, "Ok, that's enough."

"We are going to get caught," Buster said, "You pulled a mattress tag off and I have a milk crate here, we are both going to jail!"

"You look after me and I will look after you," Binky said but was worried, "What about the police station, Mr. Ratburn probably knows we both broke the law."

"We will sneak out," Buster said. "We will go down Main Street then find our way to the airport."

Arthur, Sue Ellen, Fern and the Brain were watching from the outside.

"They need to be sent to the mental hospital," Fern said, "They both are acting skittish, and they could hardly sit still all day."

Muffy, George, Prunella and Francine walked by.

"No, they need giant robotic bugs going after them," Muffy replied as she looked at the Brain.

"No, I am not building them," The Brain said.

"But, Binky put a rubber spider down my back and I got in trouble," Muffy complained.

"Well we are sending Binky and Buster to a care facility for the help they need," Sue Ellen replied, "They need the help that they deserve,"

"No they just need a simple thing called rubber spiders," Prunella replied, "As well as other rubber insects and arachnids. Besides Buster is afraid of almost everything."

They look in and see Buster crying in Binky's shoulder again, Arthur sighed, "See Buster is a very troubled person, and Binky is allowing him to cry on his shoulder."

"So Buster does cry quite a bit," Sue Ellen joked, "Remember when I threatened to karate kick him from the top of the tree house?"

"And was crying while begging to you not to do it," The Brain said laughing.

"Perhaps we will see what happens tomorrow when Buster is alone, he will probably spill his guts and tell us what's wrong with Binky or vice versa," Muffy said.

"And I thought you wanted revenge on those two," Francine joked, "You wanted to see that they would be scared senseless,"

"Yea but if Arthur and company decide to institutionalize those two then I will never get back for what

they did," Muffy complained.

"Hey sometimes Buster and Binky are a lot of trouble, don't place the blame on us for what we believe is right, Buster assumes a lot of stuff, and Binky acts dumb sometimes, that is why they just need professional help," The Brain said.

"You will probably suggest electroshock therapy," Muffy replied negatively.

The Brain was thinking, "That probably wouldn't be such a bad idea."

TBC

4 - Chapter 4

Buster was at home, he put in his spare knapsack many items for his supposed trip, "Granola bars, chocolate, small servings of drink mixes, bottles of water, band aids."

Binky was doing the same thing as well, "Dried fruit, candy, potato chips," He went into the washroom, "Band-aids, something called turbo lax whatever that is, I will make Buster look at all the supplies anyways." And he continued putting items in his spare knapsack including the laxative.

The next day at school Buster and Binky met up.

"Did you pack everything in a spare knapsack as I requested?" Binky asked curiously.

"Yea, I put the stuff in, how about you?" Buster replied.

"Yea you are looking after everything, I will bring a thermos for hot drinks if it gets chilly I suggest you do the same." Binky said.

"Yea, we have packets of cocoa mix we could bring, but nothing to warm it up," Buster replied.

"No, heat some water and place it in the thermos doofus or you will be freezing," Binky sighed.

Muffy and company looked on, "Those two are plotting something against me!"

Francine sighed, "No, they are just talking..."

"About me," Muffy complained, "I am going to..."

"Stay here," George replied.

Muffy wasn't too happy, "I am going to get my revenge by doing something but what? I am going to challenge him..."

"To a duel?" Prunella joked.

Fantasy scene

Binky and Muffy were about to duel when he slapped her across the face with a leather glove, Muffy got back and slapped him across the face when a armor plated glove that medieval soldiers used. Binky just spat out some of his teeth and collapsed.

End Fantasy Scene

"That is the dumbest idea I ever heard." Muffy said.

Meanwhile Arthur and company looked on.

"Those two idiots, if I were Mr. Ratburn I would put them both in a remedial class," Fern admitted.

"Or better yet kindergarten," Sue Ellen joked, "Where they can both sleep and play all day."

"We need to separate the two before they get into big trouble," Arthur said laughing, "Binky needs to stop beating up Buster then turning around and letting him cry on his shoulder."

"And Buster needs to stop assuming stuff and not be a troublemaker all the time," The Brain added.

"Well for some reason I sense that they are going to get in so much trouble at the police station," Sue Ellen said.

Fantasy Scene

Buster and Binky lock all his classmates including Mr. Ratburn in the holding cell and flushes the keys, "That will teach you all to underestimate me."

And they both walk off.

End Fantasy Scene.

The next day was the fabled day of the field trip, Binky and Buster were the last two to get on the bus to the police station and Buster was the one taking care of the thermoses.

"Ahh Binky, I know you are a regular guy, and I want you to stay that way." He added some of the turbo lax to Binky's hot cocoa.

"I can't believe they snubbed us all," Arthur said in disbelief.

"I am going to see what they are up to," Muffy replied as she stormed up to them, "I want answers!"

"I don't have any," Buster replied nervously.

"Muffy get lost," Binky said rudely as she walked away.

"Ok we will be the last ones walking in, then we make a break for it since we have our items.

They both managed to get to the end of the line and filed into the police station, Binky and Buster ran off before Mr. Ratburn could see them.

"Good, now to the airport." Binky said as they walked down the street.

"Should we have a victory drink?" Buster asked curiously.

"I see no harm in celebrating early," Binky replied as he drank it all.

Buster was laughing on the inside as Binky drank the tainted beverage.

"That was good, but I need to get to a washroom like right now!" Binky said as he ran down the street to the Sugar Bowl, "Don't wander off or I will pound you."

Binky ran into the washroom and quickly sat down on the toilet, there he let it all out.

Buster on the other hand was laughing as he walked into the Sugar Bowl.

"I saw that your friend ran into the washroom," Mr. Manino said, "I hope he knows that the toilet doesn't work."

TBC

5 - Chapter 5

Buster and Mr. Manino were waiting for Binky to come out, but they were both hearing rude noises from the bathroom.

“Can you go in and check on him?” Manino asked.

Buster was snickering hearing the rude noises and he opened the door, “Binky, are you in there?”

“Yea,” Binky replied.

“Mr. Manino wants to tell you that the toilet doesn't work,”

Binky was nervous, “What do you mean?”

Buster tuned around, “Why? Doesn't the toilet work?”

“It doesn't flush,” Manino replied.

Buster looked into the washroom, “Binky, the toilet doesn't flush.”

Now Binky was really scared as he was making some rude noises, he then finally composed himself washed his hands and left the washroom.

“Did you make it?” Buster asked curiously.

“The hot chocolate didn't agree with me,” Binky replied.

Buster smiled, “Let's just get going.”

Binky and Buster left.

Meanwhile Mr. Ratburn was taking attendance but was missing Buster and Binky of course.

“Those two are going to be in serious trouble,” Ratburn grumbled.

“Mr. Ratburn we haven't seen your two missing students everywhere,”

“They were both nervous in visiting here,” Fern replied, “I could see it in their eyes, Buster and Binky acting foolish.”

"They are going to hope that they are going to be sent to an all boy's school before facing me," Mr. Ratburn replied, "But just keep looking."

A few more police officers started looking for Buster and Binky.

A few located them

"Buster! You alerted the authorities!" Binky yelled.

"You did, Mr. Manino probably called the cops on you because you used a broken toilet," Buster argued.

"Let's run," Binky replied.

Binky and Buster ran for a few blocks but unluckily they both ran into another police officer.

"You need to get back to the field trip," The officer said.

"No you are going to arrest both of us because I accidentally removed a mattress tag and my friend here has a milk crate at home," Binky replied.

The officer chuckled a little bit, "Get into the police car,"

Buster and Binky were scared as they were both going downtown they were cuffed as the police officer had a good joke to play on the two.

The officer told the police chief what happened, he told them to play along.

Back at the police station they went into the communications room.

"This is the COMM room or communications room, the police officers like putting their banana stickers on equipment here for some reason," He then heard the police car show up.

Buster and Binky were both hand cuffed and put them both in a holding cell.

"I am very disappointed in you both," Mr. Ratburn replied, "You both broke the law and are going to be serving time the police chief has contacted the FBI for what you both did."

"I knew I could see the day when you both would be in jail for something heinous," Muffy said, "Especially you Binky."

"And you Buster," Sue Ellen added.

"But we didn't know taking a mattress tag and using a milk crate are both illegal," Binky said as he was nearly crying.

"Yea, I thought that it was good to store old photo albums," Buster said as he was crying.

"Those laws aren't even enforced," The police chief said.

"They aren't?" Binky asked.

"No, and we didn't contact the FBI either," The police chief said.

They let Binky and Buster out of the jail cell.

"And I didn't know using a broken toilet was against the law," Buster added as he was crying, "It was only a joke because I slipped some laxative in Binky's hot chocolate."

"What is laxative?" Binky asked.

"It assists in letting a person go to the washroom," Mr. Ratburn replied, "I think what you both been through is punishment enough.

Binky was embarrassed, "So are we free to go?"

"Yea," The police officer replied.

Buster and Binky were both relieved that this ended well despite the fact they didn't know that the milk crate and mattress tag laws weren't enforced.

The End.