



The Birthday Disaster



By Jesse Brown



Once there was a ten-year old boy named Anthony. He had moved with his parents to Toronto, Ontario one month ago. Anthony was really anxious for his birthday on Friday. His parents even told him that he could plan his own birthday party.





At school on Thursday, he sent out invitations to many of his new friends. The next day his father helped him decorate the whole house for his party. Time passed by very slowly and Anthony was very impatient.





Finally, it was 1:00 p.m. His friends arrived with a bunch of presents for Anthony. He just couldn't wait to open them all.





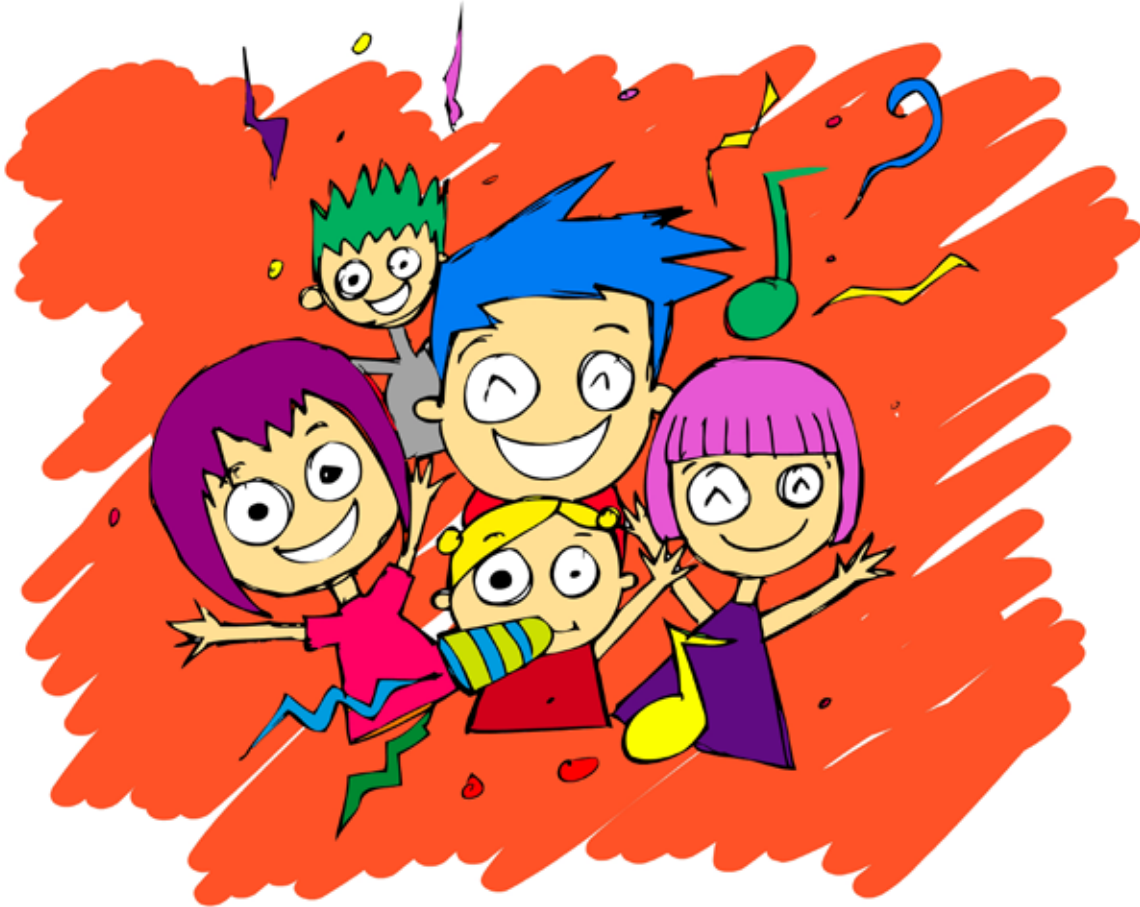
Everybody at the party was running around the house and enjoying his birthday. Later during the day, it was time for the cake and presents. Anthony's mom put a beautiful chocolate cake on the table, his favourite. Everybody sang happy birthday to him and Anthony blew out the 11 candles while his friends were all cheering.





Unwrapping his presents was the part he liked the most. He loved all of his presents including the racecar he got from his friend Sam.

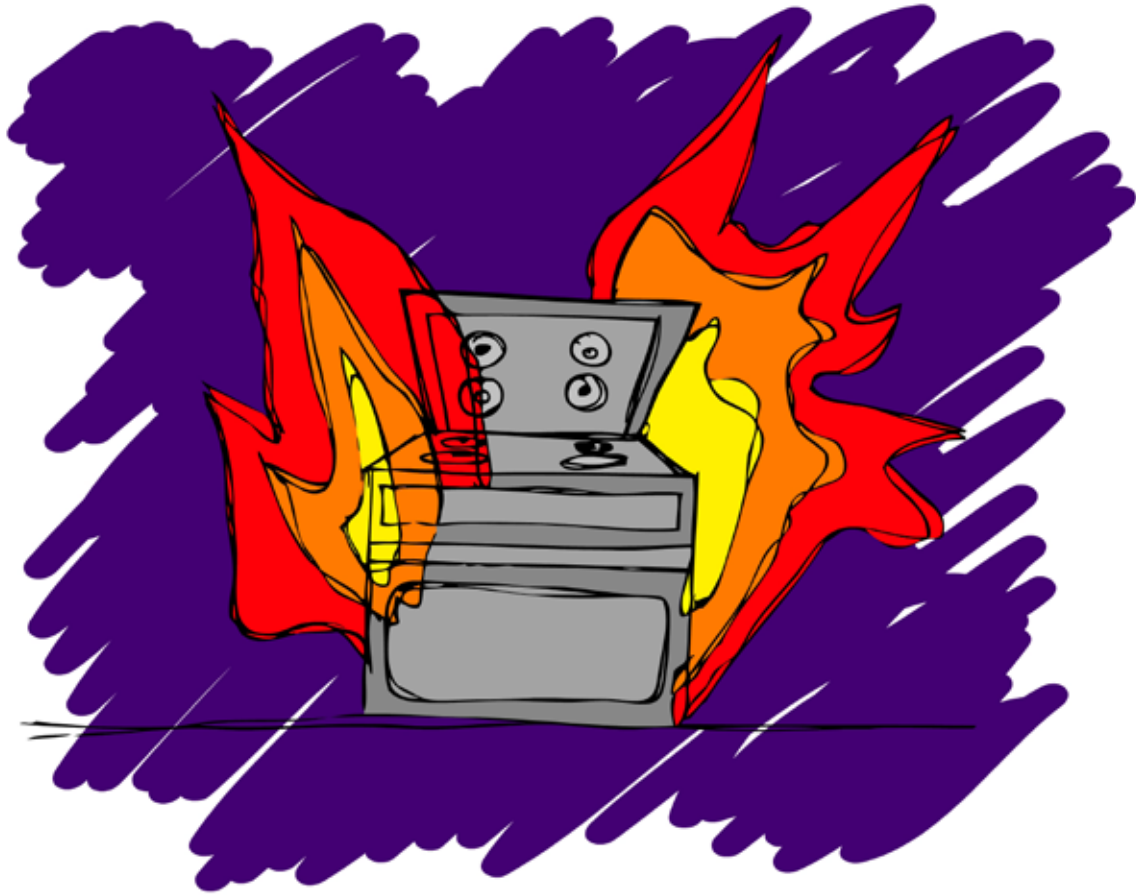




The children continued playing and having fun. “Anthony,” called his mom. “Dad and I are going to be upstairs for a few minutes. Be good.”

Because Anthony’s parents had gone upstairs, the kids became even louder and jumped everywhere.





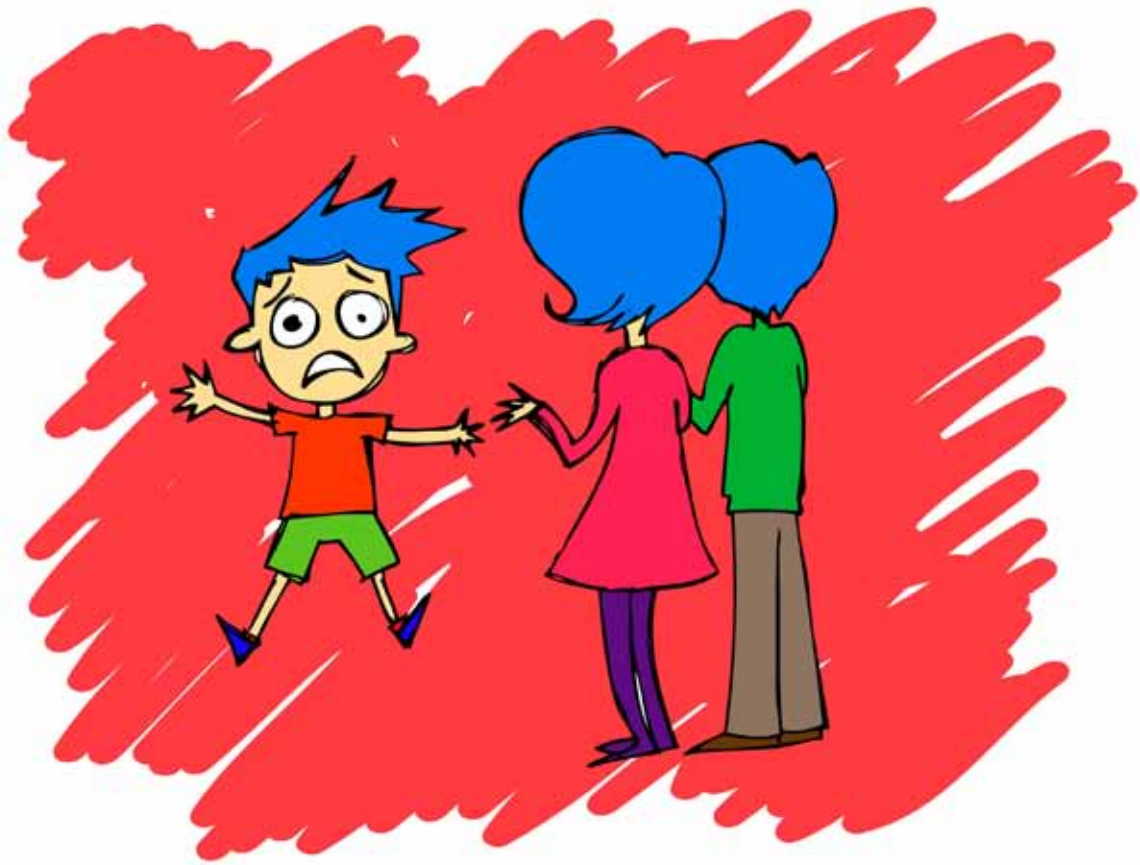
Suddenly, everybody stopped. "It smells like fire," said Anthony, a little confused. "The kitchen is on fire!" someone yelled. "Oh no! Mom must have forgotten to turn the stove off!" The kitchen continued burning. "Quick, quick everybody get out of the house!"





Luckily, all of Anthony's friends got out of the house safely. But still the house was continuing to burn. Because of all the smoke, the fire trucks, ambulances and police cars came quickly to the burning house.





Anthony's parents were shocked by the incident that had happened. "What happened?" yelled his mom and dad. "I think you forgot to turn off the stove, Mom. We didn't do a thing! I swear!" "Shoot! You're right! At least all of you are all right."





Of course everybody was terrified about the house on fire, however, nobody was hurt and Anthony learned a good lesson: not to play with fire, even though he knew it wasn't his fault.

They just considered his party a birthday disaster!

