

A Siblings Tale



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My brother came home after a head injury, many years ago. He cried a lot, my friends asked me "why?" I said, "I don't know."



He seemed frustrated, got angry - and then he'd cry.
My friends would see him feeling sad and ask me why.



That made me sad; I just wanted my friends to stop asking me and go.
I wanted everyone to stop asking me, because I didn't know!



I helped him with descriptions of objects when their names he couldn't retrieve, he made up stories (when he couldn't remember) which were hard to believe.



His dress sense was never stylish or great,
and he was often the centre of many a debate.



But when he started wearing his hat flipped back,
and his socks tucked into his pants, the bullies
on the bus called out very loud scornful chants.



Then they looked at me and said "Oh! That's your brother!"
With the deepest embarrassment, I ran home calling "Mother!"



When I got home, I cried, shouted and my voice turned to a scream; "Why do you dress like that? You are so cruel. Do you know what I mean?"



"My friends and other children called you silly, even a retard. You have no idea how bad I feel, it's so embarrassing: it's so hard!"



"It's time you dressed with some sort of pride,
so I don't have to run home and hide."



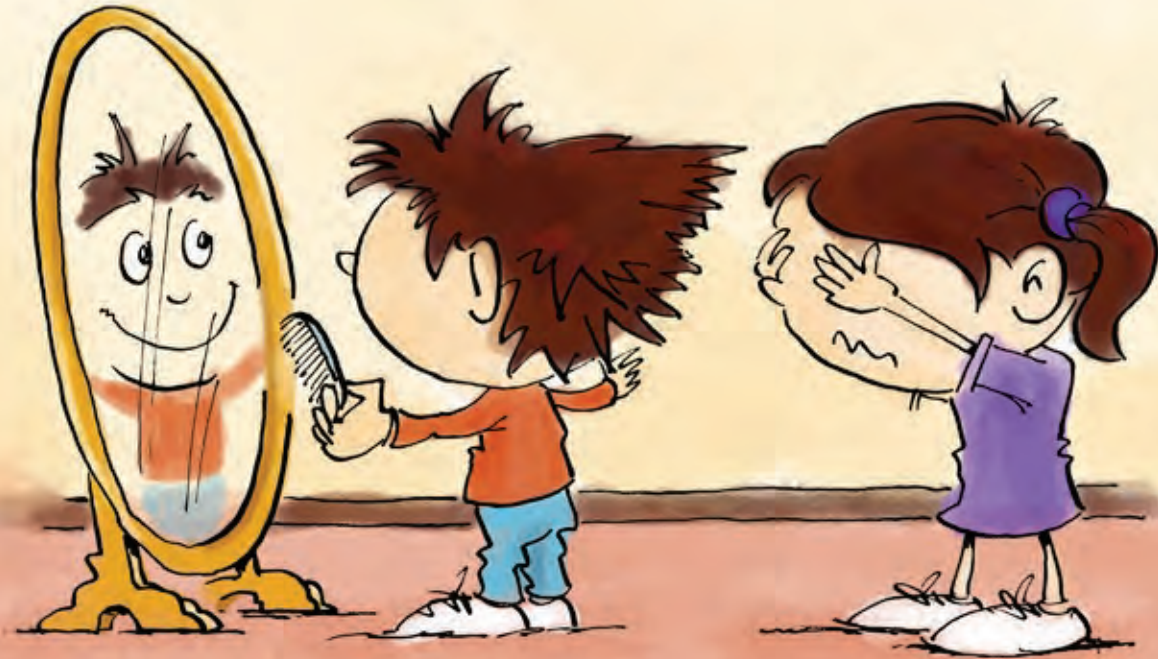
"Pull your socks down and flip over your hat."
Then I gave his head a gentle pat.



"You look better now, actually quite cool,
remember to dress like this when you go to school."



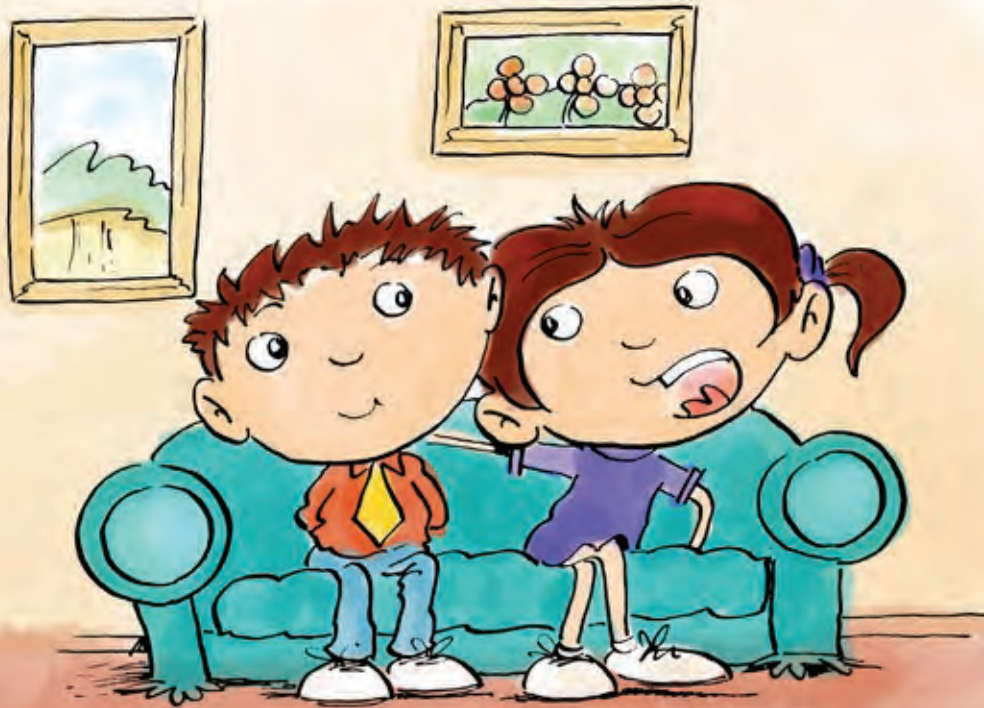
"I will be the new fashion police,
to get past me you'll have to look nice."



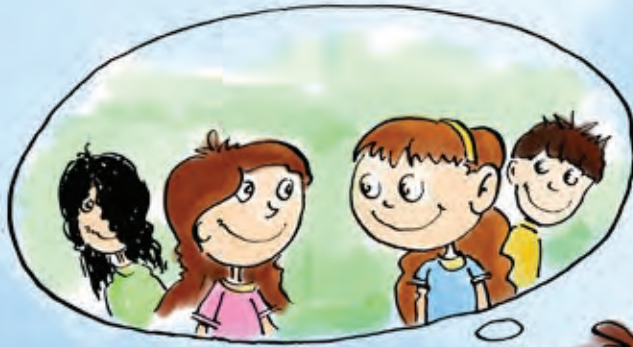
So I gave him some special lessons on how to dress.
We talked about combing his hair and not leaving home in a mess.



We talked about what to wear - and what NOT to wear!
And how to walk with style and flair.



"The way you dress, the way you act,
really bothers me sometimes - this is a fact!"



"I get upset for you, when I hear what people think,
it makes my face go red, purple - then hot and pink."



"You are my brother and I love you the way you are, whether you're with me, or if I notice you from afar."



"I see what you do when the fashion police have gone, up go the socks and you flip back your hat - all my hard work undone!"



"Still you have a huge smile on your face,
as big and bright as a full moon in space."



"So whatever you wear, whatever you do,
I'll always be your sister who really loves you."