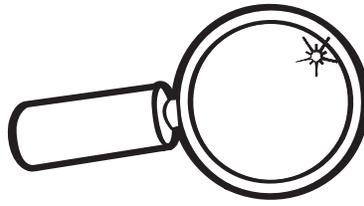


THE CASE OF THE MISSING VIDEO GAME



Characters:

Blair the Brain

Stacy

Corey

Narrator

- Narrator:** Our story begins on a normal Tuesday. Blair the Brain, kid detective, is walking home from school with Corey and Stacy.
- Corey:** I can't wait to show you my new video game, Blair!
- Blair:** That sounds great! We can grab some snacks, too.
- Stacy:** This will sure be a fun afternoon.
- Narrator:** But when the three of them got to Corey's house, the game was not there. It was missing!
- Corey:** Oh, no! What could have happened to it?
- Blair:** Look! There's a note in its place. Maybe it's a clue.
- Corey:** The note says, "Hello, you three little fools. It's me again, Olivia Opposite. I have not taken Corey's new video game and hidden it."
- Blair:** Olivia Opposite is my enemy. She's always trying to prove that she's smarter than me.

- Stacy:** What in the world does the note mean? She has not taken Corey's game? Then what happened to it?
- Blair:** Well, Olivia always says the opposite of what she really means. So if she says she has not taken the game and hidden it, she really means that she has. Does the note say anything else?
- Corey:** It says, "I will not be giving you any more clues. Don't bother looking in Corey's kitchen."
- Stacy:** What a strange thing to write! I wonder what she means by that.
- Blair:** Since she uses opposites, when Olivia says she won't give us any more clues, she really means that she will.
- Corey:** So, I bet we should look in my kitchen!
- Narrator:** So, the three friends ran to Corey's kitchen. When they got there, they found another note stuck to the wall.
- Stacy:** Here's another note. It says, "Look under the bridge."
- Blair:** She must mean the little footbridge down the street.
- Narrator:** The three friends ran down the block. When they got to the bridge, Stacy and Corey started looking under it for another clue.
- Blair:** Olivia said to look under the bridge. But since she says the opposite of what she means, I'm going to look on top of the bridge.
- Narrator:** Sure enough, there was a small box on top of the bridge. When Blair opened it, there was another note inside.

- Stacy:** The note says, "Very bad! To find the next clue, go two blocks north."
- Blair:** So that means that we should walk two blocks south to find the next clue.
- Corey:** That Olivia sure thinks she's pretty tricky!
- Narrator:** When the kids got to the next spot, there were words written on the sidewalk.
- Stacy:** What's that say? "Look down." I'm already looking down!
- Blair:** Remember, Olivia is always trying to trick us. It says to look down, so we should probably look up instead.
- Narrator:** When the kids looked up, they saw another box hanging from a tree branch. They took it down, opened it up, and found another note inside.
- Corey:** This one says, "You're not getting close. But there is another clue for you in front of the shortest building in town."
- Blair:** Shortest building, eh? Well, she must really mean the tallest building.
- Stacy:** The tallest building in town is the Nelson Tower. Let's go!
- Narrator:** The three kids rode their bikes downtown. They stopped in front of the Nelson Tower.
- Corey:** Well, I don't see anything here. I thought there was supposed to be a clue in front of the building.

- Blair:** Olivia's trying to fool us. When she said the clue was in front of the shortest building, she really meant behind the tallest building. Let's go behind the tower!
- Stacy:** Here's another note! This one says, "Bad job. For another clue, head to the place where people take their cars to get dirty."
- Corey:** That's a hard clue. What could Olivia mean by that?
- Blair:** I think she means that we should go to a place where people get their cars as clean as they can. Clean is the opposite of dirty.
- Stacy:** That would be the car wash! Let's go!
- Narrator:** The kids rode their bikes to the car wash. Outside was a sign that Olivia had written. It said, "You're bad at this. Turn left and go three blocks. Your game is not there."
- Blair:** All right. Olivia said to turn left, so we should do the opposite. That means we should turn right, then walk three blocks. The sign says your game will not be there, which means that it really will be there!
- Narrator:** The three kids walked the three blocks. Sure enough, Corey's new video game was right there, under a tree.
- Corey:** Look! There's one more note stuck to it. It says, "Bad job! You have not beaten me this time. I sure won't be playing any more tricks on you!"
- Blair:** That means that Olivia will be playing more tricks on us.
- Stacy:** But as long as we can figure out her tricky clues, she won't be able to fool us for long!