

BILLY BUNTER BECOMES A BOLD BAD BANDIT . . .



BILLY BUNTER

THE
FATTEST
SCHOOLBOY
ON EARTH



1. Billy Bunter lay back in his big chair idly turning the pages of the "Courtfield Gazette." He had just scoffed so many cream puffs and jam tarts that even he felt he had had enough. He felt comfortable and sleepy. A headline in the paper caught his weary eye. It told of a fur robbery. A hold-up in which the crooks had stolen a thousand pounds' worth of furs from a motor-lorry. Billy yawned loudly and then dozed off.



2. Soon the fattest schoolboy on earth was fast asleep, and he dreamed of hold-ups—but not of fur robberies. Billy Bunter never dreamed of anything but food. He dreamed he was a bold bad bandit and was holding up Smuthers—the local grocer. He got away with a grand haul of eats. Billy sighed happily in his sleep. This was the sort of dream Bunter liked, and satisfied snores shook his study.



3. But Billy had a rude awakening. Just as he was creeping into a corner of the wood-shed to gorge himself on all the stolen grub—SWOOSH!—a jet of ice-cold water struck him between the eyes. For a moment Billy had the notion he was drowning. He never had liked water—especially cold water. Besides—Bunter hadn't had time to taste that lovely dream-feast, before a junior let him have the contents of a water-pistol.



4. Alonzo Todd, the owner of the water-pistol, chortled with glee as he dashed off. Everybody at Greyfriars liked to pull a jape on fatty. It was fun because Billy Bunter was no sportsman and always got so annoyed. Besides, Billy was famous for playing tricks himself—dirty ones. In fact, even as Todd dashed away a scheme was in Bunter's fat head. It wasn't often the fat boy thought fast, but this time he had done so . . . and the plan he had got was to make his dream actually come true!



5. Todd's joke was to have stranger effects than he suspected. In his hurry he left his water-pistol behind him, and the sight of it gave Billy Bunter his idea. After all, why shouldn't he be a bandit and bag a load of grub? He'd do it! So he pocketed the pistol and set about making himself a mask. But some Greyfriars juniors saw him doing this.



6. Billy's next move was to pinch a key of the side gate of the school so that he could nip out and in again without being spotted. But though he got the key all right, he didn't manage to hoodwink the juniors, who found him raiding the pocket of Loder's blazer. It was quite clear to them that the fat junior was up to something. They decided to watch him!



7. After getting the key Billy crept up early to bed. He wanted to hide the fact that he was not going to undress, but to his horror the juniors found him out. Billy couldn't understand it at all. He was most annoyed. He little realised that the boys had rumbled his plan and were watching his every move. However, much to Bunter's relief, the others went to bed— or seemed to.



9. So away dashed the juniors, and taking a short cut to the village, they quickly arrived at the shop of Smithers the grocer. Smithers was just finishing for the night. Quickly the boys told him the plot Billy Bunter was trying to pull and their plan for teaching Bunter a lesson. However, everything depended on Smithers. Would the grocer fall in with their plans and help them to play a jape on the world's fattest schoolboy?



11. "He, he, he!" chuckled Billy happily, as he pounded off, carrying a well-filled sack which he had pinched from off Smithers' truck. "That was easy. Now I'll stand myself a grand feed all for me. I wonder what I've got?" Billy didn't know he was being watched from the windows of the school, and that the boys knew quite well what he'd got. It wasn't what he thought he'd got.



8. As soon as it began to get dark Billy Bunter crept out of bed and made his escape from the school, using the side door, but as he pounded along the road outside the school several pairs of bright eyes were watching him from the top of the wall. "Come on, you chaps," whispered Wharton. "It is time we got busy." By this time they had a good idea what Bunter was up to.



10. Smithers thought it a great joke. Of course he would have known the bandit was Bunter, anyway, but now he had things ready for the fat duffer of Greyfriars. "Hand over that grub!" cried Billy, trying to sound fierce from behind his mask. "I'm a desperate man." Smithers seemed very frightened and did as he was bid. Bunter didn't even stop to wonder why things were so easy.



12. Poor old Billy Bunter. He ought to have known better than to think that a schoolboy can act the bandit and get away with it. When at last he puffed his way into the dormitory and tipped out his sack he had a dreadful shock. All he had collected was a sore back and the contents of Smithers' dustbin! You can't eat kettles and old boots—not even if you're Bunter!—and that was what the sack was filled with!