

Essay Prompt - Finish Dahl's Narrative: "The Great Mouse Plot"



In Dahl's memoir, *Boy: Tales of Childhood*, he tells the story of the time he pulled a prank on the local candy store owner, Mrs. Pratchett. Dahl goes into great detail about how he manages to pull off the ultimate prank with the help of his friends, only to discover that Mrs. Pratchett is gone and the store is a mess after she found the dead rat! Thwaites, one of Dahl's friends, immediately accuses Dahl of giving Mrs. Pratchett a heart attack, and Dahl starts to wonder if he is in fact a murderer.

And that's where this part of the story ends! Your job is to pick up where Dahl left off. Finish off the narrative about Mrs. Pratchett and the dead rat by writing your own version of the ending of the story.

Your story should begin with the final part of Dahl's story:

For a moment or two my own heart stopped beating. Thwaites pointed a finger at me and said darkly, 'I'm afraid you've killed her.'

'Me?' I cried. 'Why just me?'

'It was your idea,' he said. 'And what's more, you put the mouse in.'

All of a sudden, I was a murderer.

At exactly that point, we heard the school bell ringing in the distance and we had to gallop the rest of the way so as not to be late for prayers.

Make sure that your narrative includes:

- Similar showing details that Dahl uses in his writing.
- Dialogue
- The same characters with consistent characteristics
- Consistent setting
- A solution to the problem
- An ending to the story that wraps everything up