

# The Whipping Boy

## By Sid Fleischman

**Jemmy:** poor rat-catcher taken from the streets to be the Prince's whipping boy

**Prince Horace:** troublesome Prince known as Prince Brat

**Master Peckwit:** royal tutor

**Hold-Your-Nose Billy:** kidnaps the Prince and Jemmy; large man who eats garlic

**Cutwater:** kidnapper; skinny

**Betsy:** girl of 14-15, owns Petunia

**Petunia:** dancing bear

**Captain Harry Nips:** Hot-Potato man

**Smudge:** street friend of Jemmy

**Johnny Tosher:** rat-catcher; knew Jemmy's father

1. What trick did Prince Horace play on all the lords at the King's great feast?
  - a. Tied their shoelaces together.
  - b. Put too much pepper in their soup.
  - c. **Tied their wigs to their chairs**
2. Why did the Prince think Jemmy was the worst whipping boy he had ever had?
  - a. **Jemmy wouldn't cry when he was whipped.**
  - b. Jemmy was better at jousting than the Prince.
  - c. Jemmy could read and write and the Prince couldn't.
3. How did Billy and Cutwater discover that they had captured the Prince?
  - a. The Prince told them who he was.
  - b. They had seen the soldiers searching for the Prince.
  - c. **The King's crest was on the horse's saddle**
4. What did the Prince bring in his basket when he ran away?
  - a. Wine and roast duck.
  - b. Books and water.
  - c. **Meat pies, fruit tarts and his crown**
5. Why did the Prince refuse to write a note to his father?
  - a. He didn't want the kidnappers to get any money.
  - b. He didn't want to go back home yet.
  - c. **He didn't know how to read and write.**
6. Why did the kidnappers think Jemmy was really the Prince?
  - a. Jemmy was better dressed than the Prince.
  - b. **Jemmy could read and write.**
  - c. Jemmy looked more like the King.
7. What ransom did Jemmy ask for in the note to the King?
  - a. Bag of gold coins.
  - b. **A wagonload of gold and jewelry.**
  - c. The King's crown and gold seal.
8. How did the kidnappers verify what Jemmy wrote in the note to the King?
  - a. They had an old hermit read it to them.
  - b. They read it themselves.

- c. They had Jemmy read it backwards.**
9. Why is Billy called Hold-Your-Nose Billy?
- He never takes a bath.
  - He eats a lot of garlic.**
  - He has a pet skunk.
10. How do the kidnappers decide to send the note to the King?
- Billy will take it.
  - The whipping boy will take it.
  - The horse will take it.**
11. What part of the ransom do the kidnappers offer to share with the Prince?
- A bag of gold coins.
  - A bucket of gold and jewels.**
  - A handful of gold coins.
12. What distracted Cutwater as he chased Jemmy in the forest?
- The King's soldiers chased him.
  - He stepped in a hornet's nest.
  - A bear.**
13. How did Jemmy plan on finding his way back to the city?
- Use the sun to determine which was west.
  - Follow the river.**
  - Search for someone to ask.
14. What did the Prince and Jemmy collect along the river?
- Bird eggs to eat for lunch.
  - Scrap wood.**
  - Worms for fishing.
15. What did Jemmy find that he could use to hold rats?
- An old sack.
  - A birdcage.**
  - A basket.
16. How did Jemmy help the Hot-Potato Man?
- He helped him get his cart out of the mud.**
  - He helped him dig potatoes in the field.
  - He brought him customers at the fair.
17. How did the kidnappers recapture Jemmy and the Prince?
- They found them at the fair.
  - They searched the potato cart.**
  - Smudge told them they were hiding in the sewers.
18. Why did the kidnappers whip the Prince?
- They were angry at the boys for running away.
  - They were angry at being tricked into asking for a cart of gold.**
  - They were angry at the boys for eating all the food.
19. Who stopped Billy while he was whipping the Prince?
- The Hot-Potato Man.
  - Petunia & Betsy**
  - The king's soldiers.
20. Why did Jemmy ride in the front of the cart on the way to the fair?

- a. Petunia took up too much room in the back of the cart.
  - b. The Prince refused to let him ride inside.
  - c. **He was watching for road hazards.**
21. What errand did Captain Nips ask Jemmy and the Prince to do?
- a. Gather firewood.
  - b. **Fill the kettle with water.**
  - c. Purchase salt and pepper from the market.
22. Why did Betsy call the Prince brave?
- a. He wasn't afraid of Petunia.
  - b. **He didn't cry when he was whipped.**
  - c. He wasn't afraid to go into the sewer.
23. What did Captain Nips give the boys money to buy?
- a. Salt and Pepper.
  - b. Bread.
  - c. **Milk.**
24. What terrible offense did Smudge commit?
- a. Remained standing in the Prince's presence.
  - b. **Shook the Prince's hand.**
  - c. Called the Prince "Prince Brat".
25. When did the Prince first learn people called him "Prince Brat"?
- a. The kidnappers mentioned it.
  - b. Captain Nips told him.
  - c. **The lady with the cow talked about Prince Brat.**
26. Where did Jemmy and the Prince hide when the kidnappers found them in the city?
- a. In the potato cart.
  - b. In hayloft of the milk lady's barn.
  - c. **In the sewers.**
27. Why does Jemmy avoid the sewer branch that leads to the brewery?
- a. The soldiers are often at the brewery.
  - b. **The rats are enormous because they eat the grain from the brewery.**
  - c. His father died near the brewery.
28. Why did the kidnappers run down the tunnel to the brewery?
- a. They were hoping to find some beer.
  - b. **They thought the boys were there because of the noise made by the Prince throwing the bird cage.**
  - c. Johnny Tosher told them the boys had gone that way.
29. Who got the reward for turning in Jemmy?
- a. Johnny Tosher
  - b. **Captain Nips and Petunia**
  - c. Billy and Cutwater
30. What happened to the kidnappers at the end of the book?
- a. They were placed in the castle dungeons.
  - b. They were executed.
  - c. **They stowed away on a convict ship.**