

CHAPTER 2

TREE HOUSE COMIX, INC.



After a hard day of cracking jokes, pulling pranks, and causing mayhem at school, George and Harold liked to rush to the old tree house in George's backyard. Inside the tree house were two big old fluffy chairs, a table, a cupboard crammed with junk food, and a padlocked crate filled with pencils, pens, and stacks and stacks of paper.

Now, Harold loved to draw, and George loved to make up stories. And together, the two boys spent hours and hours writing and drawing their very own comic books.

Over the years, they had created hundreds of their own comics, starring dozens of their own superheroes. First there was *Dog Man*, then came *Timmy the Talking Toilet*, and who could forget *The Amazing Cow Lady*?

But the all-time greatest superhero they ever made up *had* to be “The Amazing Captain Underpants.”



George came up with the idea.

“Most superheroes *look* like they’re flying around in their underwear,” he said. “Well, this guy actually *is* flying around in his underwear!”

The two boys laughed and laughed.

“Yeah,” said Harold, “he could fight with *Wedgie Power!*”

George and Harold spent entire afternoons writing and drawing the comic adventures of Captain Underpants. He was their coolest superhero ever!



Luckily for the boys, the secretary at Jerome Horwitz Elementary School was much too busy to keep an eye on the copy machine. So whenever they got a chance, George and Harold would sneak into the office and run off several hundred copies of their latest Captain Underpants adventure.

After school, they sold their homemade comics on the playground for 50¢ each.

