

Invitation to the party



The teacher took Charlie's mum to one side. "I had Tomek in tears this morning because Charlie didn't invite him to his party."

Charlie's mum looked worried. "Charlie," she said when they got home. "Why didn't Tomek come to the party?"

Charlie shrugged. "How do I know?" he replied. "He probably had something else to do."

His mum looked at him hard. "Charlie, did you give him the invitation?"

Charlie was cross. "Can't I have my own friends to my own party?" he said. "Tomek's not my friend. All he does is read."

The next afternoon Charlie was the last out of school, dragging his bag along the ground. He was unusually quiet on the way home.

"What's up, Charlie?" asked Mum, as she gave him a drink. Charlie shrugged his shoulders without replying at first.



After a bit he said sadly: "They didn't include me in the game. Everyone else was playing but they said they had already started, and I was too late."

Charlie's mum continued unpacking the shopping. "Now you see what Tomek must have felt like," she said. "Of course you can choose the friends you invite to play, but when it's an occasion which includes lots of people it hurts to be left out."

