

# Roald Dahl *Boy* Chapter 3

## Summary

# The Bicycle and the Sweet Shop

When Roald was seven, his mother decided he should leave kindergarten and go to a proper boy's school. He went to the Llandaff Cathedral School, next to the Llandaff cathedral near his home. He described it like 'flourishing'. He says he remembered very little at that the age of seven-nine and that he only had two memories. The first one was that he was walking home from school and saw an elder boy going full speed down the road. He said he wanted a bike like that and wear the same clothes as that boy. That was the only thing he wanted at that moment, he was fascinated. It was his only ambition, he said it would be fabulous.

He said his second memory was extremely bizarre. He walked back home with four friends. They always stopped at the sweet-shop and bought something when they had money. His favourite candy was the Liquorice Bootlaces. One of his friends, Thwaites, said that his father told him that they were made of rats' blood. He told him all the process for it and that he could get ratitis if he ate them again. All these was not real. But that didn't make them stop eating Liquorice Bootlaces. Roald tells that the Bootlaces were the best value in the shop. Also, there were other candies such as the Gobstopper. The Gobstopper were enormous, and they were fascinated about how they changed colour just by licking them. Roald said this sweet-shop was the center of their lives, that was what a church is to a bishop or a what a bar is to a drunk. But they had a terrible problem, the owner of it. It was a woman who caused horror, they hated her, and they had good reasons for doing so. Her name was Mrs Pratchett. It was a skinny old hag which never smiled or spoke. She only spoke to say things like, 'I'm watching you so keep yer thievin' fingers off them chocolates!'. Also, she wouldn't give yu a bag for the candies unless you spent a whole sixpence.

# Characters

- Roald
- The boy in the bike
- Thwaites
- Thwaites' father
- Roald's friends
- Mrs Pratchett

# Glossary:

Flourishing: growing vigorously; thriving; prosperous: *a flourishing little business.*

Flashed by: To pass very fast something or someone.

Whirring: to go, fly, revolve, or otherwise move quickly with a humming or buzzing sound: *An electric fan whirred softly in the corner.*

Jaunty: easy and sprightly in manner or bearing: *to walk with a jaunty step.*

Whizzing: to make a humming, buzzing, or hissing sound, as an object passing swiftly through the air.

Tremble: to shake involuntarily with quick, short movements.

Lingered: to remain or stay on in a place longer than is usual or expected.

Hag: a wizened old woman, or a kind of fairy or goddess having the appearance of such a woman.

Baffled: To be surprised.

Filth: Dirt.

Greasy: