

A man ran into the police station. He was very excited and nervous. A policeman came up to him and asked very calmly, "Sir, do you have a problem?"

The man said, "Yes, Officer, please help me!"

"Of course," replied the policeman. "That is our mission, helping citizens."

The kind policeman gave the disturbed man a chair and some water. "Now, please tell me why you are so upset."

"I can't find my friend, Mickey," he said.

"O.K.," replied the policeman. "Try to calm down and give me the facts. I will ask you a few questions."

The policeman got a pencil and held it close to his notebook. The man made himself more comfortable in his chair.

"First, when did you see Mickey last?"

The man thought for a few seconds then answered, "Well, I saw him last night in the library."

The policeman jotted down that information then asked another question, "What was he wearing?"

"Oh, that is easy to answer," said the man, "Mickey always wears short pants with suspenders."

"Very good," said the policeman, "We are making some progress here. Can you tell me if he was carrying anything?"

"Yes," replied the man, "He was carrying some cheese, and drinking some coffee."

Just as the policeman was about to ask another question, the man saw Mickey walking by the window of the police station. "There he is, now!" He knocked on the window and motioned for Mickey to come inside.

"I was so worried about you, Mickey. Where did you go? You have been missing for twenty-four hours!"

Mickey held his head down and replied, "Well, I had to spend the night cleaning the library. It was my punishment for eating cheese and drinking coffee in the reading room."

The policeman asked, "What have you learned from this experience?"

Mickey answered, "I learned not to eat and drink in the library—when the guards are watching."