

## The Dream

by Lois Walker

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ALL: Last <u>night</u> we woke up <u>screaming</u>

In the middle of the night.

Oh <u>yes</u>, we had been <u>dreaming</u>.

Our <u>heads</u> were filled with <u>fright!</u>

(SOLO FEMALE SCREAMS LOUDLY)

ALL FEMALE VOICES: It was a <u>bad</u> dream, a <u>sad</u> dream

I was trapped at school - that's clear,

As <u>all</u> my teacher's <u>shout</u>ed:

(LOUD SOLO VOICE MIMICING A TEACHER):

SOLO VOICE: ONLY ENGLISH SPOKEN HERE!

ALL CHORUS: <u>English!</u> English!

We're sick of English grammar.

We'd <u>rath</u>er stub a <u>toe</u>

Or hit our <u>fing</u>ers with a <u>ham</u>mer.

English! English!

It <u>fills</u> our hearts with <u>ter</u>ror.

We'd <u>rath</u>er catch the <u>flu</u>

Than make a<u>noth</u>er English <u>err</u>or.

ALL MALE VOICES: Last <u>night</u> I woke up <u>groan</u>ing

In the middle of the night.

All the <u>groaning</u> and the <u>moaning</u>

Didn't make me feel quite right.

ALL FEMALE VOICES: It was a <u>rough</u> dream, a <u>tough</u> dream,

<u>Dread</u>ful and se<u>vere</u>,

As <u>teach</u>ers all sur<u>round</u>ed me

ALL: AND QUOTED SHAKESPEARE!

ALL CHORUS: <u>Eng</u>lish! <u>Eng</u>lish!

We're sick of English grammar.

We'd <u>rath</u>er stub a <u>toe</u>

Or hit our <u>fing</u>ers with a <u>ham</u>mer.

English! English!

It fills our hearts with terror.

We'd <u>rath</u>er catch the <u>flu</u>

Than make another English error.

ALL FEMALE VOICES: Last night I woke up crying

In the <u>mid</u>dle of the <u>night</u>.

And <u>soon</u> I started <u>sigh</u>ing -

Things just weren't going right.

ALL MALE VOICES: It was a <u>grim</u> dream, a <u>gloomy</u> dream

Filled with fearful looks.

For <u>in</u>side every <u>class</u>room I saw

ALL: ONLY ENGLISH BOOKS!

ALL CHORUS: <u>Eng</u>lish! <u>Eng</u>lish!

We're <u>sick</u> of English <u>gram</u>mar.

We'd rather stub a toe

Or hit our fingers with a hammer.

English! English!

It fills our hearts with terror.

We'd rather catch the flu

Than make a<u>noth</u>er English <u>err</u>or.

ALL MALE VOICES: Last <u>night</u> I woke with <u>shivers</u>

In the <u>mid</u>dle of the <u>night</u>.

I <u>shiv</u>ered and I <u>quiv</u>ered.

I was quite a wretched sight.

It was a <u>dreadful</u> dream, a <u>painful</u> dream

I felt abused, confused.

For in that dream our TV

Only showed the English news!

ALL CHORUS: <u>Eng</u>lish! <u>Eng</u>lish!

We're sick of English grammar.

We'd rather stub a toe

Or hit our fingers with a hammer.

English! English!

It <u>fills</u> our hearts with <u>ter</u>ror.

We'd rather catch the flu

Than make a<u>noth</u>er English <u>err</u>or.

ALL MALE VOICES: Last <u>night</u> I woke up <u>mad</u>

In the middle of the night.

And  $\underline{I}$  would like to  $\underline{add}$ ,

I <u>felt</u> the urge to <u>fight</u>.

ALL FEMALE VOICES: It was a dim dream, a dark dream,

My teachers looked like gnomes

Who <u>hissed</u> and growled, then <u>read</u> aloud

ALL: THE TALES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES!

ALL CHORUS: English! English!

We're sick of English grammar.

We'd <u>rath</u>er stub a <u>toe</u>

Or hit our <u>fing</u>ers with a <u>ham</u>mer.

English! English!

It <u>fills</u> our hearts with <u>ter</u>ror.

We'd rather catch the flu

Than make another English error.

ALL MALE VOICE: This morning I felt better,

As  $\underline{I}$  went off to school.

ALL FEMALE VOICE: I wore my favorite sweater

And thought I looked quite cool.

ALL MALE VOICES: I had a plan, a plan you see,

To <u>stop</u> this English <u>teaching</u>.

I vowed no one could trick me

(INTERPRET FREELY):

Into... any... more......

ALL: ENGLISH SPEAKING.

Yeahhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!!!

ALL FEMALE VOICES: So, English! English!

We won't be speaking you.

If our teacher's try to make us,

We know just what to do.

ALL MALE VOICES: <u>Eng</u>lish! <u>Eng</u>lish!

It's English we'll condemn!

And what about our teachers?

(DEFIANTLY WITH HANDS ON HIPS):

ALL: WELL, I <u>GUESS</u> WE'LL SHOW <u>THEM!</u>

(LONG PAUSE AS READERS/SPEAKERS LOOK AT EACH OTHER. THEY LOOK CONFUSED).

LOUD SOLO VOICE: Hey, wait a minute. I think we've been

tricked! We just performed this whole poem in

ENGLISH!!!!!!

(READERS FINALLY REALIZE THEY HAVE BEEN

TRICKED INTO SPEAKING ENGLISH ONCE

AGAIN BY RECITING THIS CHORAL SPEAKING

PIECE!

ALL READERS FACE AUDIENCE, HIT THEIR HEADS WITH THEIR HANDS IN UNISON, AND

SHOUT):

ALL: Oh, **no**!!!!!!!

(SHRUG SHOULDERS UP AND EXTEND HANDS OUT ON BOTH SIDES OF SHOULDERS - IN UNISON ON THE WORD "NO" above).

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