

James and the Robber (Partially based on a Dream!)

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EXT. STREET - NIGHT

A line of fancy houses are on the left side of a completely quiet road and on the right is a forest area. JAMES walks towards his home as he notices a ROBBER hiding behind a tree. He wears a black mask, striped black and white clothes and carries a huge sack. JAMES is stunned as the ROBBER approaches his house.

JAMES

What the?...

The ROBBER uses a skeleton key to open JAMES' door. JAMES jogs up to him, grabs hold of his waist and lifts him up.

JAMES

What do you think you're doing??

JAMES walks to his neighbour's house and places the ROBBER down. The THIEF then uses his key to open that door, instead.

JAMES

There you go.

The ROBBER looks into the house and shrugs his shoulders. He then walks back to JAMES' house. The latter sighs.

JAMES

No you don't...

The ROBBER opens JAMES' door.

JAMES

Come back here!

JAMES picks the ROBBER up again and places him next to a house that's further away. The THIEF uses his key to open that door, instead. JAMES sighs with relief, again. The BURGLAR shrugs his shoulder and walks back to JAMES' house.

JAMES

For the last time, no! Wait, I have an idea...

JAMES takes off one of his shoes and removes the laces as the ROBBER opens the door and looks around the hall of the house. The FELON places the sack on the floor and rubs his chin. JAMES grabs the THIEF'S arms, pulls them behind his back and ties his hands together with his laces.

JAMES

NOW I've got you...

The BURGLAR tries to struggle free but can't. He shrugs his shoulders once more.

JAMES
Why aren't you saying anything?
You're really weird.

JAMES removes the mask to reveal the ROBBER is DAN.

JAMES
Dan! How could you?!

DAN pushes past JAMES and strolls out of the house without his sack.

JAMES
Dan!!

JAMES follows him towards the forest but the bounded DAN ignores his coworker.

JAMES
Don't ignore me, Dan! Where are you going??

DAN wriggles free from the shoe laces and climbs a tree.

JAMES
For the last time, why are you acting so strange??

JAMES gets ignored.

JAMES
Fine. But you know the sack you've left in my house? All the stuff in it? It's mine now!

JAMES jogs to his house and opens the sack in his hall. He stares into it in disbelief.

JAMES
(talking to himself)
My word. Timmy's TNT...

JAMES grabs a bomb, runs back to the tree but DAN is gone. He shouts in all directions.

JAMES
Dan!!! Dan!!! What were you doing with bombs in your bag?!

A MAN and A WOMAN run into the forest towards JAMES.

MAN

What's going on? Why has a burglar opened my door after you placed him on my doorstep? I saw that on CCTV, you know?

JAMES

Yes, about that. I know it looked bad, but I just wanted to see what happened.

WOMAN

What do you mean??

JAMES

Oh never mind.

MAN

Why are you carrying TNT?

JAMES

It was the thief's!

MAN

You're saying you placed a robber on my doorstep, he broke into my house and now I find you're carrying a bomb and I'm supposed to trust what you say?

JAMES

It's not what it looks like!

MAN

So what's really happening, then?

JAMES

He tried to bomb me! It's what I found in his sack!

WOMAN

It sounds to me like you teamed up with a burglar, fell out with him in the last minute and tried to blow him up in revenge.

MAN

My thoughts exactly.

JAMES

No!

MAN

We'll see what the police has to say about that.

JAMES

Right!

MAN

Hang on... Why are you wearing just
one shoe?

WOMAN

This guy is crazy...

JAMES

What??

A police siren is heard getting louder.

JAMES

Oh no.