

The Burglar who came by Daylight

An original film script for children

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EXT.DAY. A SMALL PUBLIC PARK

Two young boys are playing cricket. One is bowling and other is batting. We hear the boys shouting. "Give me a Googly" "No, a Yorker" "Fore" "Huzzat".The two boys are having fun and enjoying their game. The camera wanders around the two boys with medium and close-up camera shots of this two person cricket game. One boy bowls. The boy batting tries to hit the ball and misses.

BOY ONE

Leg before wicket. You're out.

BOY TWO

I'm not. You're not looking properly.

BOY ONE

It's LBW. Leg before wicket. Out. My turn to bat.

BOY TWO

You're bowling wrong. It's a no-ball.

BOY ONE

Stupid. You know nothing about cricket. You are out, out, out. Leg before wicket.

BOY TWO (angry)

There.

He pulls the wickets from the ground, picks them up with the ball and bat and starts walking away.

BOY ONE

Where you going?

BOY TWO

Home. It's my cricket set. I got it for my birthday.

BOY ONE

Rotten loser. You know what you will be when you grow up - a crook - a thief - a dirty smelly burglar - a street thief. You're bad. Evil.

BOY TWO

When you grow up, I hope you you can't run and have a bad arm so you can't bowl.

We hear a large town clock chiming from a distance.

BOY ONE

Gosh. Mum will be wondering where we are.

BOY TWO

She'll be angry with us. OK. Race you home. Last one home is.... out for a duck.

They both laugh and begin to run home with the camera following them until they arrive home and breathless. We see their house. The door is open. They slow down at the front of the house and become quiet as they enter. We hear a woman's voice. She is talking with someone. During this scene the camera cuts back and forth from the boys to the mother.

MOTHER

You have to be careful you know. they are everywhere. Delhi is not what it used to be. My good friend Ashwina was at home. A burglar got into the house. So brazen- so disgusting. Her father was asleep in the bedroom and the burglar woke the old man up to ask for money. Her father is not what he used to be. He kept saying to the burglar-you are always asking for money. He thought it was his youngest son. The old father was angry and screamed-Prem, get out of this house. It scared the burglar. He ran off and forgot to take the bag he kept his stolen items in. When Shobhna came home from work she saw her father. He thought she was Prem and screamed at her.

INT.DAY.INSIDE A BEDROOM

The two boys enter and are changing the clothes they have been playing cricket in.

BOY ONE

Fancy Mum talking about burglars.

BOY TWO

If she saw one she would be scared.

One of the boys gets his head stuck in the T-shirt he is trying to pull over his head. He is laughing and asks his brother to help him.

BOY TWO

This is like a mask. It's stuck.

BOY ONE

You look like a burglar. I can't see you.

Both boys are giggling and having fun.

BOY TWO

I am a burglar. I saw one in a film. He made me laugh.

Eventually the boy gets his T-shirt off and starts putting on a clean one. He deliberately puts it on so half his face is covered. He makes a lunge at his brother who jumps aside and laughs.

BOY TWO

I'll jump through the window and you'll be in bed. I'll steal all your money.

There is a moment of uncertainty and the other brother nods.

BOY ONE

OK. But on one condition. When we're finished here. I become the burglar to scare Ma. That'll be fun.

BOY TWO

Agreed. But when we play cricket again, I bat first. Okay.

The other brother nods and they get ready to play the game of burglars. Various items in the bedroom become props for the "mock" play. The "old man" picks up a stick and hobbles to bed. The "burglar" gets himself prepared.

BOY ONE

I'll be fast asleep and snoring.

BOY TWO

OK - I'm the burglar coming in the window.

BOY ONE

I'll shout when I see you.

BOY TWO

No. You'll spoil it. I want to wake you up. You've got to act old and stupid.

BOY ONE

So how will I know when you're here?

BOY TWO

I'll shake you.

The boy goes outside the window and the other boy gets into bed and pretends to be asleep. The boy playing the burglar comes into the bedroom then creeps up to the bed and shakes the other boy. Nothing happens, so he gives another shake. Nothing happens. He gives him a big shake and boy wakes up with a jerk.

BOY ONE

Oh, my arm. My arm.

BOY TWO

No tricks now. Put your hands above your head.

The boy in bed draws one arm out from beneath the bedclothes and holds it up

BOY TWO

I said no tricks. Put up both hands. You could have a gun hidden there.

The boy in bed moans again.

BOY TWO

I said both hands. Can't you even count to number two. Where did you go to school, eh?

BOY ONE

My arm is sore, old chap. It was caused by a groggily.

BOY TWO

What a groggily. Never heard of it. Don't try to trick me, I'm a dangerous burglar. I will steal anything. Ask my Mum. She caught me in the biscuit tin yesterday.

BOY ONE

Lucky you. Look at this arm. Googly damage.

He takes the other arm from beneath the bed covers and holds it in the air

BOY TWO

Can't see any marks.

BOY ONE

But, it's there. Caused by groggily ball. My pain is inside. All the blood has been hurt. It's spread out inside of me. I need a doctor.

BOY TWO

I was a doctor, before I became a burglar. But I don't have time to help you. I want to steal things. What have you got here that's valuable?

He looks around and mutters to himself

BOY TWO

No gold. No silver and not even a big diamond. You must be poor. I can't leave here without stealing something important.

There is another groan from the bed

BOY TWO

Quiet. I'm looking for something valuable.

BOY ONE (groaning)

It's the groggily again. I think I might die.

BOY TWO

Let me have another look.

He looks carefully at the arm

BOY TWO

Hold your hand out. Turn it into a claw shape. Um... now when did this happen?

BOY ONE

This morning.

BOY TWO

I see. And where were you at the time?

BOY ONE

I was playing cricket at the park.

BOY TWO

Now - let me see. Were you holding anything in your hand at the time when the accident occurred.

BOY ONE

Yes. a cricket ball.

BOY TWO

A cricket ball. Most serious.

BOY ONE
Oh, dear. Oh, dear.

BOY TWO
I want you hold this ball in your hand. Show me what you were doing.

The boy grips the ball

BOY ONE
I was bowling and I gave him a ballerina-ko-ghaayal- kar-sakne-waali-gaind.

BOY TWO
Gave him a what? Speak English I'm a doctor. I don't just speak Hindi

BOY ONE
Sorry, doctor. I bowled him a beamer.

BOY TWO
A beamer. What that? It's not a medical term.

BOY ONE
No Sir. It means a ball that does not bounce. In Hindi we call it ballerina-ko- ghaayal- kar-sakne-waali-gaind.

BOY TWO
Yes, I recall. You nearly hit me with the ball. However, let me see your hand. Groggily... you call it? You feel dizzy

He touches his forehead and take the pulse of the patient

BOY ONE
I bowled the ball.

BOY TWO
I will tell you what you have. Simple. You have doosra. Some doctors call teesra. Doosra means the wrong way.

BOY TWO (CONT'D)
I was at the cricket match when the word was first used by the Pakistani wicket keeper Moin Khan. Your hand spun the ball the wrong way. Get your medical names correct. Groggily is wrong.

BOY TWO (CONT'D)
We Indian English call it
"Googly". You are suffering from
what you Indian people call
doosra. I can cure doosra.

BOY ONE
I have no money.

BOY TWO
No money. But I see a statue of
Laksmi on your shelf here. Laksmi
makes people rich.

BOY ONE
Not yet. She is always busy.
India is full of poor people and
I must wait my turn until Laksmi
arrives.

BOY TWO
When do you expect her to arrive?

BOY ONE
She is always busy.

BOY TWO
I see. Then how will you pay me
to fix your hand?

BOY ONE
I have no money.

BOY TWO
We have a big problem. You will
die of this illness.

BOY ONE
I don't want to die of a Googly
hand.

BOY ONE
Then - we must play another game
of cricket, so you forget your
illness.

He goes to look into the lounge where his mother is still
talking. The camera follows him. He returns

BOY TWO
Ma's not looking. Be quiet. Let's
sneak out

They pick up the cricket gear, sneak out of the room and run
towards the grassy park. CUT TO: EXT.DAY.THE PARK. The park.

They see a scruffy poor looking boy looking at them. The two boys ignore him and set up the cricket wicket

BOY ONE

You see that boy. He looks suspicious. I'll tell him to go away.

He goes towards the boy who does not move

BOY ONE

Go away. We are playing cricket and we don't want you to watch. Besides, you know nothing about cricket. You are too poor to know anything.

BOY THREE

I've seen real people playing cricket.

BOY ONE

What do you mean, real people?

BOY THREE

I've seen cricket on television.

BOY ONE

Everyone sees cricket on television.

BOY THREE

But I was in the cricket ground too.

BOY ONE

So how did you get in with no money.

BOY THREE

I climbed the fence.

BOY ONE

A burglar? You are a burglar.

The scruffy boy nods and the other boy looks at him for a second and then calls over his brother. They talk together in whispers, so the new boy cannot hear what is being said. They approach him.

BOY ONE

You are lucky boy. We need a burglar who can play cricket.

BOY THREE

I can do anything. I am a burglar. I play cricket. Yes Sir. We are a burglar and cricket family.

BOY ONE

So you know what a Googly is?

BOY THREE

Yes, sir. Is the way you throw ball at the person who is your enemy, Sir.

BOY TWO

What do you mean?

BOY THREE

One person has one stick to stop ball hitting three sticks behind him with three small babies on top of three sticks.

BOY ONE

You mean bails.

BOY

Is same thing, Sir. Like small babies. Ball must hit babies and put them onto ground. Then they become dead.

BOY ONE

OK - you may play with us. Your job is to catch the ball when it is hit. You give it back to me each time.

The three boys set up the cricket and began to play. We see a girl approaching. She stops to watch the cricket. One of the boys approaches her.

BOY TWO

Go home. This is game for big men.

The girl, Delia, does nothing.

BOY TWO

You are bad girl. I told you go, go home.

DELIA

I like cricket.

BOY TWO

You know nothing about cricket. Go home.

DELIA

My father plays cricket.

BOY ONE

What does he know about cricket?

DELIA

He can bowl. My father teach me cricket. I am bowler too. Doosra and Googly.

BOY TWO

Is most unusual. First you are girl who know doosra and Googly. Second you have father who play cricket. Now you say, you play cricket too. Most unusual.

BOY ONE

This girl know about cricket. We men all know Googly. Yes.

BOY TWO

I think we will all play game of cricket. You, burglar boy, will go behind wicket and catch ball. My friend will bowl. Girl, you Will catch the ball. I will bat.

They all go to different positions to play cricket. The game begins. There is bowling and batting and nothing much happens then the batter is bowled out. The girl shouts.

DELIA

Huzzat. Well bowled, Sir.

BOY ONE

Where you learn that English cricket words?

Playing continues and then suddenly one of the boys slips and hurts his ankle. He limps for a moment and the others crowd around him. As he sits we see a man approaching.

FATHER

Delia. Delia.

DELIA

My father. He come.

A middle aged man dressed in casual clothes walks towards where the children are playing cricket. He sees the boy on the ground holding his ankle

FATHER

Here, son. Let me have look at your foot. I'm a doctor.

He examines the foot

FATHER

It's bruised. Nothing serious.

FATHER (CONT'D)

But you need to rest the foot for a while. Now...I came for my daughter, Delia. But I think you could all come with me. The cricket is over because of your sore foot. Come to my house. I have a cool drink there for everyone. I'll get my car. Delia will show you where I'm parked. Take your time.

He leaves the park to get his car. Delia and the boys walk slowly to the edge of the park.

BOY ONE

We must get our cricket gear.

He turns and look back and sees the new boy walking away with the cricket gear. He is already a long way away.

BOY TWO

Oh. We've lost it. That burglar boy has taken it. Rotten thief.

BOY ONE

Thief. We can't catch him now. He's too far away

DELIA

Come to our house. We'll phone the police about the thief.

They all continue towards the car.

EXT.DAY. HOUSE OF DOCTOR

The car arrives and Delia's father opens the doors. The children get into the car.

CUT TO:

INT.DAY.A LARGE ROOM IN HOUSE OF DOCTOR

The children enter and look round. They see a wall and a table covered with cricket trophies, posters and photographs. Delia's father is in most of the photographs holding a cricket bat.

BOY ONE

Oh.He is a big man cricket player. Look, ahhhh...look.

DELIA

He played for India. He was number one cricket player when I was just a baby.

The doctor enters with food and drink and sees the boys looking at this trophies.

FATHER

Yes. I like cricket.

He puts down the food and picks up a cricket ball from the table.

FATHER

This one is special. I caught a special person out with this ball. Guess who?

BOY ONE

The Australian captain.

FATHER

Try again?

BOY TWO

The English Captain.

FATHER

No. Much better than that. Imran Khan was batting. I was fielding and he hit the ball towards me. I caught it.

DELIA

And India won the match too. We beat Pakistan.

The boys watch with admiration and are speechless. A door bell rings.

FATHER

Who can that be? I am not expecting anyone. Delia, check the door, please?

Delia goes out of the room and her father carefully replaces the ball. He picks up another one.

FATHER

This bowled out the New Zealand captain. He didn't like it. He only scored one run. I got him with a Googly.

BOY TWO

A Googly.

Delia enters with the poor boy who is holding the cricket gear. Everyone looks surprised.

BOY THREE

I bring back cricket gear for you. You leave it on ground and bad people will steal it away.

BOY TWO

But you told us you were a burglar and I thought you had taken it.

BOY THREE

No, Sir. I am good burglar and honest burglar. I bring back cricket gear. I am not thief. My mother and father say I must be honest.

Delia's father smiles and goes to the boy and takes the cricket gear from him and puts it on the floor

FATHER

I am so happy to meet an honest burglar. You must have food and drink with us... and you are a cricketer too, aren't you?

BOY THREE

Yes, Sir. I want to be.

FATHER

I was telling the other boys about the balls and trophies I have.

BOY THREE

You have so many crickets things, sir. Bats, balls. Is like shop.

BOY ONE

He has cricket ball that killed Pakistan Imran Khan on cricket field.

The boy pretends that he is Imran Khan and makes a swing with an imaginary bat.

BOY ONE

You see, Pakistan Imran Khan now dead on cricket field. Wickets all gone. Taken by Indian man. Imran leave cricket field. He go to small room and cry all day.

BOY TWO

This great man here also bowl out New Zealand cricket captain. He also go to small room and cry. India is best.

BOY THREE

Jai Hind. Jai Hind

Everybody laughs and smiles.

FATHER

I think we should have a cricket match. There are enough of us here to bat, bowl and field. Who will bat first?

BOY ONE

I think you should bat first sir.
You are famous and this is your
house.

The father smiles and looks around the small group of
admiring faces.

FATHER

But, what if I score a century.
We will be here a long time.
Someone else should go first.

DELIA

Father. You go first and one of
us will bowl.

FATHER

Ok. Come everyone.

They all go outside onto the lawn. It is big

FATHER

Before I bat I will show everyone
how I do a Googly. This is the
ball that took out the New
Zealand captain.

He picks up the ball and shows the children how to hold it.

FATHER

Watch how I turn my hands. The
ball will spin and when it hits
the ground it turns. It tricks
the batsman and over goes the
wicket. Out!!!!!!

He goes to the wicket and gets ready for the first ball.
There is some uncertainty who will bowl first. Delia picks up
the cricket ball and looks around

DELIA

I think the honest burglar should
bowl the first ball. Then we will
all take turns until we get you
out.

The boy is nervous. The two other boys and Delia watch with
interest. The bowler holds the ball and then turns away from
the batsman as he prepare to bowl. He kisses the ball, turns
to face the batsman and bowls. There is a silence and then a
long pause. The camera sees that Delia's father has been
bowled out.

FATHER

Well done. I am out. That was a
Googly.

The two boys and Delia murmur "Googly" and look at each other in amazement. The bowler is as surprised as anyone else and can say nothing.

FATHER

It is someone else's turn now. Congratulations. I was once the Captain of the Indian team and you got me out first ball.

BOY TWO

Googly is very dangerous. Is big embarrassment. You bring us to your house, fix foot and give us good food. We are sorry Sir.

FATHER

You must be proud. This is a cause for celebration. Before we go on we will have some ice cream. Delia will you get it?

Delia leaves the cricket ground and the boys and the doctor continue talking.

BOY TWO

Today is strange, Sir.

FATHER

Tell me how.

BOY TWO

My brother and I were playing cricket this morning by ourselves. Then we go home.

BOY ONE

We pretend we have injury and one boy is in bed. Other pretend to be bad man burglar. This burglar come and he is going to steal everything. But he is good burglar, like boy here who Googly you.

BOY TWO

Then we play another cricket game. Meet boy who is good burglar.

BOY ONE

We hurt foot and you... a real doctor help us with injured foot. You also real cricket man. Teach us real Googly and burglar boy then kill you on cricket field. Is strange.

FATHER

I am a doctor and a cricket
player. But, you did not kill me.
I am still here and talking. But,
you bowled me out. Indeed, the
Googly ball is powerful. Like a
God. Jai Hind, Jai Hind.

Delia enters with ice cream as everyone is laughing.

THE END