

Tekst 3

The following text is the beginning of the novel Dark Spectre by Michael Dibdin

One

Jamie shot Ronnie Ho four times. Once in the head, twice in the chest, and once in the gut, where he'd heard it hurt real bad. Two shots went wide.

'Jamie!' yelled his mom from the porch. She'd been talking to Marsha Dawson for about an hour, and had gone outside, still talking, to pick up the mail.

'What?' he yelled back.

His mother appeared in the doorway, portable in one hand, her blue bathrobe billowing around her, sorting through the mail.

'What'd I tell you about using that thing in here?'

'But Mom ...'

'Junk, junk, bill, junk. How come no one ever sends me a real letter?'

Jamie sulkily unpopped the suction caps of the darts from the mirror. Two misses wasn't bad, and if it'd really been Ronnie Ho he'd have got in closer before he squeezed the trigger.

'I bet Wayne gave you that darn thing, just to bug me.'

'I bought it with my allowance.'

'Get him to pay a dime in child support, no way. But any crap guaranteed to drive me crazy, no problem.'

'I'm *bored*, Mom!'

His mother sashayed through to the kitchen, pushing buttons on the phone.

'Do your homework.'

'I've done it.'

'Yeah, right!'

'I have *too*!'

He knew she knew he was lying, but if she called him on it he'd ask her to help him out, and she didn't know diddly about math. They'd changed it all since she was at school. Plus he was getting OK grades, she'd back off.

'Did you get new batteries for my Game Boy?' he said, following her down the hall into the kitchen.

'Hi, Kelly!' his mom said in the chirpy voice she used for leaving a message. 'Friday's our girls' night out? I was wondering if I could catch a ride with you. Call me, OK?'

'Mom? Did you get those new ...'

'I forgot.'

'Oh, *Mom*!'

'Why don't you go downstairs and play with Kevin and Ronnie?'

'They won't let me. They keep saying I'm too little.'

‘Well, they’ll just have to ...’

The phone rang. His mother drifted around the corner, through the dining area and back into the living room.

‘Hello? Oh hi, honey. You are? Is it OK with her mom and dad? Uh huh. Sure, as long as they don’t mind. What time’ll you be home? OK. See you.’

‘Who was that?’ demanded Jamie.

‘Megan. She’s spending the day with Nicole.’

‘Not fair!’

Just then the Accident started up in the next room. Dawn sighed loudly and went to stick a pacifier in its face. Jamie threw himself down on the sofa, feeling sulkier than ever. Megan was fourteen and got to go to sleep-overs and goof off for the whole day with her friends, but what was *he* supposed to do? Once he and Kevin had taken care of themselves, tearing around the basement, staging fights, gradually stepping up the noise level until Mom had to come and tell them to shut up. But since Ronnie Ho came along, his brother had no time for him. Ronnie Ho was five-and-half months older than Kevin and smart and his parents were Chinese and took their shoes off at the door and ate wonton soup the whole time and neat stuff like that. Kevin thought he was the best thing since microwaveable popcorn. As for Jamie, he was just a kid. No one was interested in him.

His mom reappeared, the baby in one arm, its bottle and the portable in the other.

‘What am *I* supposed to do?’ Jamie exploded.

His mom heaved another sigh. She set the Accident down on the sofa, where it started to howl again, and jabbed at the phone. She’d got Kevin and Megan their own private line, so they could firm up their social lives without bothering her.

‘Kevin? Listen, I’ve got to take care of the baby and I want you and Ronnie to do something with Jamie. He’s driving me nuts with that dart-gun his dad bought him.’

Tekst 3 The following text...

- 4p 3 Geef van elk van de volgende beweringen aan of deze wel of niet in overeenstemming is met de inhoud van het fragment uit *Dark Spectre*.
- 1 Jamie haalt goede cijfers voor wiskunde, maar heeft zijn huiswerk nog niet gedaan.
 - 2 Jamie heeft een hekel aan Ronnie Ho omdat die vaker spelletjes wint dan hij.
 - 3 Jamie is vaak nogal agressief en daarom wil Ronnie Ho liever niet dat hij meespeelt met hem en Kevin.
 - 4 Jamies moeder gaat sinds de scheiding nooit meer met haar vriendinnen uit.
 - 5 Jamies moeder is vrijwel doorlopend aan het telefoneren.
 - 6 Jamies moeder wil dat Kevin en Ronnie Ho buiten gaan spelen, omdat ze binnen te veel lawaai maken.
 - 7 Jamies ouders zijn het eens over de opvoeding van hun kinderen.
 - 8 Jamie verveelt zich onder andere, doordat Kevin niet meer met hem wil spelen en hij geen batterijen voor zijn Game Boy heeft.
- Noteer het nummer van elke bewering, gevolgd door "wel" of "niet".

- In de loop van het fragment uit het boek *Dark Spectre* komen we enkele personen tegen met wie Jamie te maken heeft.
- 3p 4 Wat zijn de namen van de volgende personen?
- 1 moeder/mom
 - 2 vader/dad
 - 3 vriend van broer
 - 4 vriendin van moeder
 - 5 vriendin van zus
- Noteer elk nummer, gevolgd door de in de tekst genoemde naam van de persoon.