



## Keeping Up Appearances Again

*Preparing SIDNEY for his big fight with Jake after school, his mates talk to him about tactics, but Sidney wants to be left alone to gather his thoughts.*

SIDNEY: *(To mates)* I'll be alright. Don't fuss. I know what I need to do, One strike at the head and it's goodnight Jake. But I've got to get my punch in first before he does.

Okay, on your way guys. Here he comes. *(Shaking hands with each of his friends)*...Thanks for coming. I'll bring you his tooth as a sign of my victory. See ya.

*(His friends exit. Prepares to look mean as Jake approaches)*

You've come on your own then Jake...

Have you brought the fake blood'?

...Excellent *(Takes out packet from pocket)* I've got these stick on bruises from the joke shop. Do you mind having the blood? Only I promised Dave that I'd give you a bloody nose...

Thanks. I've got to keep up appearances with my posse, you know. Otherwise I'll never be able to hold my head up at school again. *(Sits down and relaxes)*

It's tiring being popular, isn't it?

How do you cope with it?

I know it's not easy. They keep pushing us for a fight. Let's hope this is the last one. I want to start hanging around nicer people for a change. And if it doesn't work we'll have to find other schools in the area. *(Pause)*

We might have to consider witness protection, but let's hope it doesn't come to that. *(Checks watch)* Right, you apply the fake blood while I cover myself with bruises *(Gets the stuff out of bag. Hands blood to Jake. Gets pocket mirror and starts to apply fake blood on to his face)*

I'll have to place them just right for maximum effect. *(Turns to*

*Jake) Ready'...*

Good Luck. I'll see you tomorrow

*(Exiting. Taking a piece of enamel out of pocket)...What's this?  
Shark's tooth. Got Biology next.*

*(Makes hasty exit)*

*By Antony Wieland*