

The Famous Five

Adapted By

myf

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owned by Heather Woodbridge

## Cast of Characters

MC: Master of Ceremonies

JULIAN: the eldest

DICK: Julian's brother

ANNE: their younger sister

GEORGINA (GEORGE): their cousin, the same age as Anne

TIMMY: George's dog

GLENN: Glenn Miller

*MC SETS THE SCENE*

MC

You all must have heard of the Famous Five created by Enid Blyton, but I'll just refresh your memories. They are:

Julian - the eldest; Dick - his brother; Anne - their younger sister; Georgina - their cousin who is the same age as Anne and likes to be called George; Oh! and Timmy - George's loyal, loving and faithful dog.

Let me now unveil a spine chilling tale of mystery and suspenders entitled:

"THE SECRET CAVERN AT THE END OF THE SECRET PASSAGE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SECRET DOOR"

It is Summer 1950, just five years after the end of the Second World War.

The Famous Five arrived for a holiday yesterday at the infamous Château Fromage (well known for it's cheese) in Northern France, the home of the Count de la Camembert.

With them are Mother, Daddy, Uncle Quentin and Aunt Fanny (all the boys like Fanny).

While there, strange and highly suspicious things seemed to happen, one after the other. Timmy, too, had his fair share of excitement, sniffing around other peoples passages.

It is early morning. Julian, Dick and Anne are in the kitchen waiting for George who has popped to the shops.

JULIAN

(looking out of the window)

It's a lovely day, hurrah!! I don't know why, but it always seems frightfully important that it should be sunny on the first day of a holiday, don't you think so Anne?

ANNE

Yes I do, but do let's be quiet. We're making an awful din and it's frightfully early. The others won't be up for simply ages yet.

DICK

We'll be as quiet as mice in the house.

*ENTER GEORGE PUSHING A BICYCLE WITH TIMMY IN THE BASKET ON THE FRONT*

DICK

Ah! George, are you going to join us?

GEORGE

Why? Are - you - coming - a - part?

DICK

Oh, gracious! George what a jolly wheeze. No, I thought you might like to have breakfast with us.

ANNE

That's a simply splendid idea. What have we got?

DICK

Well! We can have eggs, bacon, tomatoes and lashings of ginger beer, and it looks like George has bought a sausage from the village.

(Holds up a sausage)

GEORGE (TO ANNE)

I like Dick.

ANNE (TO GEORGE)

So do I!

DICK

That's rather a lot of sausage you've bought there George.

GEORGE

Yes I know, but you try saying stop in French.

DICK

Stop in French.

JULIAN

(stands with his hands on the back of his hips)

Now then you chaps, I want all of you to listen to me.

DICK

All of me is listening to you.

JULIAN

We've only got fifteen minutes to have a really exciting adventure before breakfast, what shall we do?

I want you all to think just as hard as you possibly can.

*FIVE STANDING WITH EYES TIGHT SHUT, THINKING*

DICK

Well, there is this Château, I mean - it looks as if it has kept all kinds of strange secrets down the centuries. I guess it could tell plenty of tales!

ANNE

I know!

GEORGE

What Anne?

ANNE

You know where the builders have been working in the old part of the Château?

GEORGE

Yes Anne.

ANNE

Well! I was in the potting shed with Eclair, the gardener - and he was telling me they have discovered a sealed secret doorway there and that they are going to open it up after the hols.

ALL FIVE

Oh **gosh!**

JULIAN

Yes that's it! If we prise open the door we shall probably find some stone steps going down to a passage which leads to a smuggler's cove and some treasure.

DICK

But we're sixty miles from the sea.

ANNE

Oh Dick, where's your sense of adventure?

DICK

Not in the potting shed with yours Anne.

JULIAN

Oh stop it you two. When I want your opinion I'll give it to you.

Well I think we ought to try it anyway. Just think everybody, some people go through the whole of their lives without having an adventure, and here we are with an adventure every time we meet!

Scene 3

3

Row row row your boat, gently down the stream,  
merrily merrily merrily merrily, life is but a dream.

It's a beautiful day, there's no better way to spend  
an afternoon. Wait until night, it's a beautiful  
sight, underneath the moon.

Row row row your boat, gently down the stream,  
merrily merrily merrily merrily, life is but a dream.

It's a beautiful view, the skies are all blue, the  
sun is here to stay. A whispering breeze up in the  
trees, blows your cares away.

Row row row your boat, gently down the stream,  
merrily merrily merrily merrily, life is but a dream.

Drifting along, singing a song, isn't life a dream.  
Belts off, trousers down, isn't life a scream.

Scene 4

4

AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE SECRET PASSAGE

*JULIAN PRISES OPEN THE DOOR*

JULIAN

You were right Anne. There is a secret passage here  
and I'm jolly well going to find out where it leads  
to.

DICK

I'm coming with you Julian.

ANNE

So am I.

JULIAN

Alright then. George - you wait here in case we need  
someone to go for help. We don't want to get into a  
horrid fix.

GEORGE

Not likely. I'm in on this adventure too and I'm  
going with you.

JULIAN

Oh alright then. But everybody stay close. It might  
be jolly dangerous.

*STAGE HAND - PLACARD "THIS IS A TUNNEL"*

*WALKING ALONG HUGGING THE TUNNEL WALL*

GEORGE

I say! There's a terrific draught down here and I'm frightened.

JULIAN

It must be the wind

DICK

I can't smell anything.

ANNE

It's also jolly dark. I think I've just trodden in something.

DICK

Yes, I think Timmy did it. But wait a moment. It's a good job I just happened to have in my pocket a torch, an apple, a penknife, a forty foot length of rope, a short wave radio, and a complete set of the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

GEORGE

I wondered what that bulge in your trousers was.

*DICK GOES TO THE FRONT AND TURNS ON TORCH*

ANNE

Ah! That's better

*GEORGE PAUSES AND PUTS OUT HER HAND TO STOP THE OTHERS*

GEORGE

What's that Dick?

JULIAN

It's mine. Gosh, you've got warm hands George.

GEORGE

No! Please stop it! I mean what's that in the tunnel... a head?

DICK

No! No! You're supposed to say "What's that in the tunnel, ahead?"

JULIAN

I think you're right George, there is something there.

*ENTER A CAVERN. STAGE HAND - PLACARD "THIS IS A CAVERN"*

ANNE

Crikey! It's a cavern.

JULIAN

Yes I know. The man with the placard just told me.

ANNE

It's a bit spooky isn't it.

(looks into chests and boxes)

There must be all sorts of treasure and secrets down here.

DICK

(picks up life belt from the MARY  
CELESTE)

How on earth did this get here?

GEORGE

(picks up two smallish gold balls)

What do you think these are?

ANNE

They didn't belong to that gorgeous Beckham chap did they?

DICK

I say! This is a real Aladdin's cave down here.

JULIAN

Well strike me down with a rice pudding. I've got it!  
This must be where all the secrets of the Bermuda  
Shorts Triangle are held.

DICK

Well hurrah! And hussar! This has got to be our  
greatest adventure yet.

GEORGE

(picking up a trombone)

I say! Look at this everybody!

ANNE

(picking up a string of pearls)

Oh look! This is pretty - it's a string of pearls.  
(hangs them round her neck)

DICK

Quiet everybody. I can hear somebody in a dungeon  
over here.

JULIAN

Is he bound?

DICK

How would I know if he's been to the toilet or not?  
(opens door facing audience)  
Who the devil are you?

GLENN

My name is Glenn Miller

EVERYBODY

Oh gosh!

JULIAN

I think I had better call the Police. That Count has got a lot of explaining to do.

DICK

Yes, but not too much though. We could possibly continue this in our next adventure!

EVERYBODY

Oh **gosh!**

THE END