

# IT'S JUST A GAME

**Characters:** Allen  
Marie  
Mark  
Amy

**Scene:** a street in town, 7 p.m. Allen, Marie, Mark and Amy have just come out of a movie. As they walk along the street in front of a group of stores, they talk about what they have just seen.

MARIE: I really liked that movie.

AMY: Me too. I'm glad we decided to go to that one.

MARK: Yeah, it was good. But you have to admit those guys were pretty stupid. With just the least bit of brains, they would never have gotten caught.

MARIE: That's easy for you to say.

MARK: If those fellows had planned things carefully, they could easily have gotten away with the money. They'd probably be living it up in Mexico today!

ALLEN: Or Switzerland, with a fat bank account.

MARIE: Listen to both of you. I'll bet the movie producers missed their big chance by not having you write the script.

MARK: Right you are!

AMY: So you guys are going to plan the perfect crime some day, I guess?

ALLEN: Why not? We wouldn't mess up like those two in the movie. It would be a snap!



AMY: Yes. And you'd get caught. Who do you think you'd fool?

MARIE: I think this whole talk is foolish. Those two deserved to be caught. It would be an awful world if we all did anything we wanted to.

MARK: (jokingly) Well, now, listen to Miss Goody-Goody.

ALLEN: Lay off, Mark. Marie's O.K.

MARK: Oh sure! She's never done anything wrong in her life?

MARIE: I didn't say that. Sure, I've done things I've been sorry for. But never anything like you're talking about!

ALLEN: She just has her own high set of standards. But she's O.K.

MARIE: Could we change the subject, please?

(As they are talking, they approach Wilson's Department Store.)

MARK: I feel that just about everybody will do *anything* if the price is right.

AMY: That's *your* opinion, Mark.

ALLEN: (walking toward the door of Wilson's Department Store) As long as we're here at Wilson's, I want to look around awhile. Come on, Mark.

(They all enter the store.)

MARK: They have a sale on men's clothes today. Let's see what they've got. (He turns to the girls.) Well meet you here at the door in about ten minutes.

(The girls walk toward the jewelry counter. The boys walk toward another part of the store.)

AMY: Oh, Marie, look at this ring. (slipping it on her finger) It's wild.

MARIE: I'll say. What about these?

(She puts three bracelets on her arm.)

AMY: Hey, they look great, too.

(They continue to try on pieces of jewelry and comment on them. The boys come up behind them.)

ALLEN: Hi, ladies. Your heroes have returned. May we lead you from this building so no strangers will bother you?

MARIE: Oh, yes, Sir Knight Allen, we shall be pleased to go with you.

(They all laugh as they leave the store and walk a short distance away.)

MARK: Quick! (He pulls Marie and Amy into an alley.) Your heroes have struck again, just like in the movie.

AMY: What are you talking about?

MARK: The perfect crime! (He reaches under his jacket and pulls out a pair of fur-lined gloves.) The perfect crime! And the prize—courtesy of Wilson's Department Store—free.

MARIE: Mark! You didn't!

ALLEN: He sure did. And lo and behold! (He reaches under his jacket and brings out another pair of gloves.) A pair for me too!

AMY: You two took those gloves from the store? Without paying for them?

MARK: Well, it was sort of self-service. It was easy.

ALLEN: Anyhow, that store makes enough money on us. They overcharge on everything.

AMY: Well, you're right about that anyway.

MARIE: But you've been shoplifting. That's wrong!

MARKE: Oh, it's not so bad. We only took a couple of lousy pairs of gloves.

ALLEN: They only cost about ten bucks a pair. That's not stealing—something as little as that.

MARIE: It is stealing. You didn't pay for them.

ALLEN: Hey, Marie, calm down. You're making a big deal out of nothing. I didn't realize you'd feel so strongly about it. It really was kind of fun.

MARKE: It's almost like a game. You gotta outsmart them:

ALLEN: Yeah, it's just like a game. And we won!

AMY: (*beginning to become a little interested*) I just don't see how you did it. You could have been caught.

MARKE: It was easy. Two of us go in. One of us gets the salesperson to one side of the counter. Then the other one gets what we want on the other side. You just have to keep your eyes open and be smarter than the salespeople.

AMY: It just doesn't seem possible. You did it so quickly.

ALLEN: You, too, can commit the "perfect crime"—in one easy lesson. Come on, we'll show both of you. Let's go back.

MARIE: You're kidding!

AMY: Aw, Marie. Don't make it sound like committing a murder. It isn't that terrible.

ALLEN: It's only small stuff we take. We've only done it once before and it was just as easy.

AMY: It would be nice to have those bracelets, wouldn't it, Marie?

MARIE: Amy! You don't mean that!

MARK: Sure she does. Don't worry. You won't get caught.

MARIE: No!

MARK: Let's cut this fooling around. We're wasting time with her. This could be a lot of fun. (*to Marie*) Go home and don't bother us if you're too scared.

ALLEN: Come on, Marie. Don't be such a baby. I want to go out with you a lot but I can't say I like the way you're acting now.

AMY: Yeah, Marie, just this one time. Let's just try it. We won't do it again. Just this once.

ALLEN: Let's go in, Marie. I'm tired of fooling around out here. Amy is willing. Don't hold out now.

MARK: Are you coming or not?

AMY: Come on, Marie.

ALLEN: We're waiting. What's it going to be?

MARIE: \_\_\_\_\_