

HATS

This is a story about an Eastern Star family and when I mention **Father** or **Mother** or **Freddie** or **Mary**, these two individuals will put on the proper hat, so watch to make sure they don't make a mistake with the wrong hat.

Once upon a time in the Bitterroot Valley, there lived a typical Montana family consisting of **Father**, who was a retired forester and now a gentleman farmer, **Mother**, who was a good farmer's wife, **Freddie**, their son and **Mary**, their daughter.

One fine day as **Father** donned his irrigation boots and as **Mother** was packing **Freddie's** and **Mary's** lunches for school, **Freddie** called from upstairs, "**Father**," he shouted. "**Mother!**" he shouted even louder, "Don't forget you are coming to my baseball game tonight."

"Oh darn, is that tonight?" said **Father**. "**Mother**, is he right?"

"Oh no!" said **Mother**. "I am going to Chapter tonight."

"Oh," said **Mary**, who had come into the kitchen, "I have a game tonight, too."

"Are you sure, **Freddie**?" asked **Father**. "**Mother** told me it was tomorrow."

"That's right, **Father**," said **Mother**.

"**Mary**," said **Freddie** coming down the stairs, "I told you last night."

"Sorry, **Freddie**," said **Mary**, "I forget these things if **Father** or **Mother** don't remind me."

"Did we promise to come, **Freddie**?" asked **Father**.

"Yes, and you promised to bring **Mother** and **Mary**, **Father**," replied **Freddie**.

"I did?" said **Father**.

"Oh, I remember now," cried **Mother**. "but I forgot it was Chapter night."

"What about MY game," cried **Mary**. "**Mother**, you always come to MY game, you too, **Father** and I don't care about **Freddie** and HIS game."

Freddie replied "I told all my friends that my **Father**, my **Mother** and you too, **Mary**, would be there to cheer us on in our very last game!! Well **Father**, you and **Mother** and **Mary** have to make up your minds soon!"

"**Freddie**," **Father** said sternly, "**Mother**, **Mary** and I will decide for ourselves what to do without any advice from you!"

"I will, **Father**?" said **Mother**.

"Oh, **Father**, do I have to too?" wailed **Mary**.

"Yes!" said **Father** emphatically.

"Oh look," said **Mother** who was standing in the kitchen window. "Look, **Father**, **Freddie** and **Mary**!"

Father, **Freddie** and **Mary** all rushed over to look out the window with **Mother**.

"Look, **Father**. Look, **Freddie** and you, too, **Mary**" said **Mother**.

"Oh my," said **Father**. "It is snowing so hard they will cancel the game for sure."

"Oh," said **Mother** and **Mary**, "that's Montana in June for you."

"Don't worry, **Freddie**," said **Father**, "we will all come to your next game"

Occupations and names can be changed to "roast the innocent!!"