

# A Cut above the Rest...

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3B Ng Wing

A new classmate, who is called Ben, comes to our class. Ben is tall and thin. He is as thin as bamboo. He is strange! He always rumbles and walks as slowly as a snail. He always sits in the classroom alone at lunchtime. He walks like a robot. He doesn't have any expressions on his face.

On a rainy day, I stayed in the classroom after school to do my difficult homework. Only Ben and I stayed in the classroom. It seemed that he did not have to think and he finished the assignment without any difficulties. Ben stayed in his seat like a piece of wood. I was still doing my homework until Ben called my name.

'Sue? Can you help me to cut the wool on my sweater?'

'Certainly!' I answered. Then I used a pair of sharp scissors to cut the wool. Suddenly, I cut his hand carelessly. I was scared to death. I looked out and wanted to find some adhesive plasters. Ben looked more terrified than me. Why was he so scared? I asked myself. When I looked at his hand, I am dumbfounded. I discovered some wires, electric circuits and computer chips. I felt speechless and horrified. I asked what had happened to him but he didn't want to answer me.

'I...it...it's nothing,' Ben stammered.

I didn't want to let him off the hook. I continued to ask him: 'Can you tell me why?' I really wanted to know the truth.

'Okay, I'll tell you.' A red flush started to crawl up his face.

Actually, Ben is a human but he isn't an ordinary boy. His mother had eaten lots of strange pills before Ben was born. Some chemicals functioned in her body. When Ben was born, his body structure was just like a robot. His parents felt depressed and anxious. They didn't

know what to do. When they tried to get Ben to eat some vegetables and meat, Ben never ate them. Ben lives on buttons.

I shrieked and couldn't believe what he had just said. Ben felt embarrassed and he gave me a little button.

'That's what I eat every day,' he said.

Suddenly, the clock rang, I woke up. What had happened to me? What about Ben? Was it only a dream? I asked my friend Cherry on the phone: 'Do you know who Ben is?' 'Who? Who is Ben?' said Cherry, chuckling.

Was it only a dream? I found a button in my hand.