

warm towards him.

The very next day, Benjamin was ready to go to school. It was a special day for him because it was his birthday. But no one would remember it and Benjamin didn't expect any wishes from his Aunt. When he was walking towards the school he heard someone calling his name. "Benjamin!" shouted his cousin brother Mike.

It was strange because Mike had never treated him in a friendly manner. But, Benjamin stopped and Mike ran to him with his friends.

"I know it's a special day for you," exclaimed Mike in a kind voice. Benjamin was happy. "At least Mike has remembered my birthday," he thought and he felt the warmth.

"Yes. You remember?" Benjamin asked innocently.

"Of course" how can I forget? It's your birthday." Mike remarked in his husky voice. All his friends wished and hugged Benjamin. Benjamin was really happy.

A boy with goggle glasses and a determined face, Rayan said, "Today we are going to celebrate your birthday!" "Really? Where? At school?" Benjamin demanded impatiently.

"Oh! No not at school. We chose that isolated mansion which is situated in the corner of the street, there won't be anyone to disturb us," Mike explained in a cunning tone. Benjamin was too innocent to see through his evil plan. "The isolated mansion?" inquired Benjamin with astonishment. "The mansion is not a suitable place to celebrate a party," he thought.

Mike saw that Benjamin was sinking in his

thoughts and he said pretentiously; "Ok if you don't like it, we'll forget that plan."

Benjamin didn't want to lose his new friends, so he responded. "No. I like the plan. We'll celebrate my birthday." Then they decided to meet after school near the mansion and they walked away. Benjamin was delighted. Finally, he was going to celebrate his birthday with his friends. He remembered the previous years and how he celebrated his birthday with his parents. He was inundated with new clothes, various gifts and a lot of friends.

After school, Benjamin had arrived home. He had a quick bath and got ready to go to the mansion. He looked for Mike, but he was not there. "He must have gone there already," he thought. After he dressed up, he sat on the bed. He had seen the mansion before. It was a dilapidated old mansion which stood alone in the corner of the street. The white walls were patched with grey lines and surrounded by creepers. "Why did they ask me to come to the mansion?" he questioned himself. However, he was eager to meet them and celebrate his birthday. He felt the warmth of friendship and was delighted. He walked up to the corner of the street and found the isolated mansion. Surprisingly, no one was there. He looked everywhere, but he couldn't find a single friend of his, not even his cousin brother Mike. He felt anxious, yet he waited. "They must have lied to me," he thought and felt depressed. But, after a few moments, he saw his friends arriving with some snacks and drinks. Benjamin was glad. "Sorry for being late Benjamin," Mike apologized.

"It's Ok Mike, even I came only a few minutes ago," replied Benjamin. Then together they went to the huge courtyard of