

Tender Heart High School, Sector 33-B, Chandigarh

Class: VI

Subject: English Literature

Good morning students,

Let us understand the poem, written by *Hillaire Belloc* which conveys a message or a lesson for all readers. The poem describes a tragic incident that occurs as a result of giving a dangerous balloon to George with an obvious moral: don't give dangerous toys to little children.

George who Played with a dangerous Toy

The poem begins with the description a young boy, *George*, being rewarded for good behaviour with a gigantic balloon by his grandmother. The balloon, which is filled with (probably) hydrogen, floats into a candle flame resulting in explosion which is so powerful that the windows break, the lights go out, and the house collapses.

This disaster causes the deaths of a number of household members and employees, but *George* emerges almost completely unscathed. The poem ends with a moral, that boys should not be given dangerous toys.

The lights go out in the room and all of the window's break. Due to the darkness in the room, and the smoke that fills it, no one can see anything. All that can be heard are "dreadful shrieks" and "yells."

The explosion seems to have weakened the walls and foundation of the house and so the masonry collapses. This results in more shrieking and "broken bones." George survived but received a nasty lump on the head.

The house is now collapsing around its inhabitants and eventually falls into "Savile Row," the street on which the house was located.