

Dependable

Introduction

Holy cow, crime fighters, not all is well in the secret lair of FATMAN.

- 1 *(As the scene opens, FATMAN is giving BOBIN a quiz while*
 2 *BOBIN is busy doing jumping jacks.)*
 3 FATMAN: So, Bobin, when you take the Fatmobile to
 4 Starbucks, what kind of latte do I like?
 5 BOBIN: Caramel mocha cream with a touch of hazelnuts
 6 and chocolate sprinkles.
 7 FATMAN: Correct! And when you stop by the news stand,
 8 what newspapers do you get?
 9 BOBIN: *USA Today*, *New York Times*, and *Frotham Planet*.
 10 FATMAN: Absolutely! And when picking up breakfast?
 11 BOBIN: IHOP's Rooty Tooty Fresh 'N Fruity.
 12 FATMAN: Good job! And what's the most important
 13 characteristic of a superhero sidekick?
 14 BOBIN: Dependability?
 15 FATMAN: Fantastic! Good job. You can stop now. *(BOBIN*
 16 *stops. He's out of breath.)*
 17 BOBIN: Holy cow, Fatman, I thought dependability was
 18 more about knowing what your partner's going to do at
 19 any given moment of a high-stress situation. Like that
 20 time we were fighting the Jester and you passed him off
 21 to me so you could go rescue Ricki Rale. I knew exactly
 22 what you were doing and when you were going to do it.
 23 So, when you spun him around to face me, I was ready
 24 and I really let him have it. *Wham! Ker-pow!*
 25 FATMAN: That's true. That kind of dependability is the

- 1 foundation of all crime fighting.
 2 BOBIN: So, why aren't we practicing *those* kinds of skills
 3 instead of this other drivell?
 4 FATMAN: Well, to be quite frank, Bobin, we've pretty well
 5 cleaned up Frotham City. All the bad guys are locked
 6 up. And as far as your crime fighting skills — I mean,
 7 timing? Speed? Coordination? Phft! You've got it all. Kid,
 8 you're the most dependable sidekick I've ever had.
 9 BOBIN: Whoa, wait a minute. What do you mean "ever
 10 had"? Does that mean you've *had* other sidekicks? Is
 11 that what you're saying? So, what happened to those
 12 other guys?
 13 FATMAN: *(Fumbling)* What? Uh — no, not at all! Just you,
 14 Junior Crime Fighter! Just you! *(FATMAN hurriedly exits.*
 15 *A suspicious BOBIN watches him go.)*
 16 BOBIN: Hmmmm? Maybe, from here on out, I *ought not be*
 17 so dependable!