



Chapter Seven — by Russ and Kay Hively

Larry had just hit the scrap metal jackpot. The shed was full of metal objects. There were old car parts, copper coils, broken bicycles and countless other objects that would be perfect for the scrap heap the Boy Scouts were making.

Larry called for Uncle Chuck and the other boys to come to the shed. Those boys who were Scouts took what they could carry and headed to the church where the scrap was being piled. All the boys knew the metal would be used for the war effort, so everyone wanted to help. Each boy took what he could carry and hauled it to the scrap pile.

It was getting late so Larry told Mr. Williams that he would let the Scoutmaster know about what was left so they could get it later. It would be a big job, and the entire troop would have to help take it to the scrap pile at the church.

Mr. Williams said he would keep the shed open during the next Scout meeting and the boys could get the rest of the metal then.

Uncle Chuck picked up a dented car hood while Larry filled a broken bicycle basket full of smaller items. They thanked Mr. Williams, then Larry and his uncle took their scrap to the church. Before he left the ball field, Larry double checked to make sure he still had the baseball Uncle Chuck had given him. It was a little scuffed up, but it was still in good shape.

As they passed Larry's house, Mrs. Green was sitting on the front porch. She told them to hurry because supper was on the table. Uncle Chuck and Larry were hungry, so they got rid of their loot as fast as they could.

When they got back to the house, Larry's mother made them wash up for supper. As

soon as everyone sat down to eat, Larry exploded with chatter. He told his mother all about what had happened that day. Mrs. Green didn't really understand what a double play was, but she was happy about it anyway.

All through supper and that evening the three of them talked about the scrap metal and about the baseball that Larry gave up for the game.

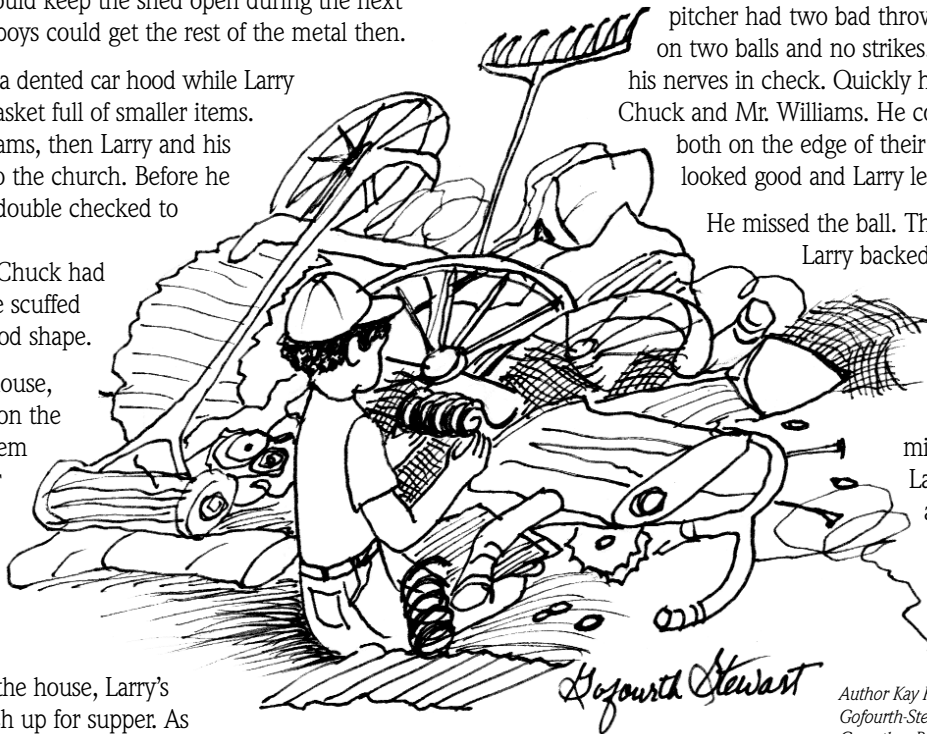
At bedtime, Larry's mother tucked in her son and told him how proud she was of him for letting the boys use his big league ball. She said it was very unselfish.

The following day, the boys met at the ball field for another game. It was a close contest and Larry's team was behind by one run. The batter in front of Larry got a good hit and made it to second base. There was one out and Larry was up to bat.

Larry tried to calm his nerves as he stepped up to home plate. The pitcher had two bad throws so Larry was sitting on two balls and no strikes. He could hardly keep his nerves in check. Quickly he looked over at Uncle Chuck and Mr. Williams. He could see they were both on the edge of their seats. The next pitch looked good and Larry let go with a solid swing.

He missed the ball. That was strike one.

Larry backed away and collected himself. He then stepped up to the plate and the pitcher delivered another pitch right down the middle of the strike zone. Larry swung the bat as hard as he could.



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Learning Extensions — Things to Think About and Do

- Uncle Chuck and Larry got rid of their loot. What is loot? Using a thesaurus list some other word that could be used instead of loot.
- Mrs. Green made Larry wash up before they ate. Why do people wash before they eat? Where does the dirty water go once it leaves the sink?

Next Week: Chapter Eight — The best gift of all

Show Me Standards Met: G2:2; G4:7; CA:1; H/PE:2