



Following Fake Man by Barbara Ware Holmes

Twelve year old Homer Winthrop would really like to know something, anything about his father who died when he was little. His mother won't talk about him, but through an unexpected vacation trip to Maine, along with his mother and their housekeeper Madeline, he enters a world of mystery and adventure.

Homer is a quiet kid who meets up with the likes of Roger. There is nothing quiet about Roger and he and Homer team up to unmask the secret of the "Fake Man". Who is this man that seems to kick into spy mode whenever followed? Homer finds the courage to take some serious risks through this new fearless friend, and may just get the answers he has been looking for.

Discussion Questions

- Which of the main characters did you like the best? Why?
- Which of the main characters did you like the least? Why?
- How were Homer and Roger different?
- Did Rogers' picture story help you understand Homer?
- Have you ever "kicked" at anyone with your voice? Pg. 42
- Should grownups keep some things from children?

Activity

Write and draw your own graphic novel (short picture book) about your best friend.

About the author:

Barbara Ware Holmes was born in Roanoke, Virginia, went to college here in Connecticut and was a school librarian. She has written many other books that you might enjoy. Barbara began writing stories when she was young and would share them with her family. After twenty-two years her first book was published.

Annie Reuter / March 2003

Porter
Westport