

## **Trials of Unrest Story**

In a town not so far away there's a young boy named Owen. As you can see, Owen is an unhappy kid right now. Did he get grounded? Did he lose his video game privileges? No, he lost his favorite pillow. Wait a minute? A pillow? You got to be kidding me when I was his age. I had a full-time--. Oh, sorry, folks. This isn't about me; this is about little Owen. You see, he's had that pillow since he was three years old. It was the last thing his father gave to him. Owen can't sleep without his pillow; thus, his adventure begins.

**Owen:** Mom, I can't find my pillow!

**Mom:** Did you check under your bed?

**Owen:** Yes, and the laundry and everywhere else.

**Mom:** Well, I haven't seen it.

**Owen:** You know I can't sleep without that pillow.

**Mom:** I could buy you the same one.

**Owen:** Thanks, but no thanks.

**Mom:** I know how special it is.

**Owen:** I'm going to look for it!

**Mom:** Don't be gone all day/night.

Owen leaves the house. He pulls out a map with the houses/names of Irene the old lady, Kareem the chef, the road that Mayor Gonzalez frequently drives on, and finally Mallory, the crazy cat lady. Owen decides to go to Irene's house first. He arrives and knocks on the door.

**Owen:** I wonder what's taking her so long. I know she's old but--

The door opens.

Irene: Young boy, what do you want? I was in the middle of knitting and watching my favorite TV show.

**Owen:** What show is that?

**Irene:** Never mind that, state your business here so I can get back to what I was doing.

**Owen:** Well, um, I lost my pillow, and I was wondering if you've seen it.

**Irene:** Now why would I have anything to do with your pillow? You're wasting my time. Get out of here!

She goes to close the door.

**Owen:** Wait!

**Irene:** Yes?

**Owen:** Maybe I can, um do some chores, and then you can help me?

**Irene:** Hmmm, well you know, I too am missing something.

**Owen:** Is it a pillow?

**Irene:** No, it's my shoe. If you help me find my shoe, I MIGHT help you with your precious pillow.

**Owen:** Deal! Where was the last place you saw it?

**Irene:** Well, this is a little embarrassing but at the park.

**Owen:** Embarrassing how? Lots of people lose stuff at the park.

**Irene:** You ask a lot of questions little boy.

**Owen:** It's the only way to learn.

**Irene:** Hrmph. I had to walk home with one shoe on okay.

**Owen:** Okay, I'll take a look.

Owen arrives at the park. He sees a picnic table, a playground, and floor shuffleboard.

If he goes to the picnic table, all he finds is food on the table and birds eating them.

**Owen:** I wish people would throw stuff away if they don't want it.

If he goes to the playground, he sees a bunch of kids playing.

**Owen:** Gee, that looks fun but I have to find that shoe, and for sure, I'll get my pillow back. Playtime can wait!

When he eventually goes to the shuffleboard, he finds three shoes: a black one, a pink one, and a blue one.

If Owen returns with the pink or blue shoe, Irene tells him it's the wrong shoe. The black shoe is the right choice.

Owen returns with the black shoe.

**Owen:** Here you go, one shoe like you asked for.

**Irene:** I didn't think you'd come through.

**Owen:** Now, about my pillow.

**Irene:** Look, kid-

**Owen:** My name is Owen.

**Irene:** Alright, Owen. I don't know where your pillow is, but I know somebody who might be able to help you.

**Owen:** Who? Who? Who is it?

**Irene:** You sound like an owl. Go check with Kareem.

**Owen:** The chef?

**Irene:** Yes, now leave me alone, you've made me miss my show.

She closes the door.

**Owen:** Not even a thank you, and she didn't allow me to thank her. I hope Kareem is nicer than her.

Owen arrives at Kareem's restaurant.

**Kareem:** Sorry Owen, just closed everything down. Tell you what, come back tomorrow and I'll make you whatever you want on the house.

**Owen:** Thanks, but I didn't come here to eat.

**Kareem:** What are you talking about? Everybody comes here to eat.

**Owen:** This is much bigger than food.

**Kareem:** Okay, you have my attention. What could be bigger than food?

**Owen:** My pillow!

**Kareem:** --

**Owen:** Don't look at me like that. When you were little didn't you have something that meant the world to you?

**Kareem:** As a matter of fact, I do. My wooden spoon. Most kids wanted action figures. I wanted to cook from the day I could walk. My parents got me all the toy cooking supplies I could handle.

**Owen:** So, you do understand.

**Kareem:** More than you know. I'm missing my wooden spoon. You see, I had it the other day at work. I always bring it home with me but between leaving here and going home, I must have lost it.

**Owen:** Did you go anywhere else?

**Kareem:** As a matter of fact, I did. I went to a bookstore to—

**Owen:** Let me guess, buy cooking books.

**Kareem:** That's right Owen. Tell you what, I just know my spoon is there, but I have to head home and help my daughter with her homework.

**Owen:** So, you want me to go find the wooden spoon for you.

**Kareem:** If you do, I'll give you some vital information about your pillow.

**Owen:** Say no more, I'm on my way.

Owen arrives at the bookstore. He instantly goes to the cook book section but he doesn't find the wooden spoon. He then checks the magazine section and still no wooden spoon. He soon checks all the aisles but nothing. With his head down, he starts to leave. He looks over at the help desk and sees the spoon. He grabs the spoon and goes to Kareem's house.

**Kareem:** I can't believe you found it. I thought I lost it forever. Where was it? Cooking section huh.

Owen shakes his head no.

**Kareem:** Magazines?

Owen shakes his head no again.

**Kareem:** Well, where was it?

**Owen:** I searched the entire store and found nothing. As I was leaving, I happened to see it at the help desk.

**Kareem:** I'm glad somebody was decent enough to turn it in and not keep it for themselves. I owe you, Owen.

**Owen:** All I want is my pillow, sir.

**Kareem:** Sir? I'm not that old.

**Owen:** Sorry.

**Kareem:** No, no, it's okay. Now, you didn't hear it from me, but you need to talk to Mallory.

**Owen:** The crazy cat lady?

**Kareem:** That's why you didn't hear it from me!

**Owen:** Anything for my pillow.

On his way to see Mallory, he spots Mayor Gonzalez sitting in his car.

**Owen:** What's the matter, Mayor. You look upset.

**Mayor Gonzalez:** Oh, hi there um—

**Owen:** Owen

**Mayor Gonzalez:** Ah yes, Owen. Your dad was a great man. But I don't think you can help.

**Owen:** Well, you never know.

**Mayor Gonzalez:** I'm going to be late for my meeting. I can't seem to find my key to get past this darn gate.

**Owen:** How come the gate isn't voice activated? Or a PIN?

**Mayor Gonzalez:** Been playing video games, again, haven't you?

**Owen:** Maybe.

**Mayor Gonzalez:** I can't believe I'm asking a kid for help, but I'm desperate. If you can find my keys, I'll give you anything you want.

**Owen:** Anything?

**Mayor Gonzalez:** Well, within reason, don't go crazy.

**Owen:** I knew there was a catch.

**Mayor Gonzalez:** What was that?

**Owen:** I said having you as mayor was a catch.

**Mayor Gonzalez:** Well, thank you, Owen.

**Owen:** I'll find your keys.

Owen looks around the car but doesn't find anything. He looks in the car but doesn't find anything. The mayor tries to jump over the gate but fails.

**Owen:** Hey, um, did you try your pockets?

**Mayor Gonzalez:** Did I try my pockets? Now what kind of mayor would I be if I didn't do the most basic thing first and check—

His keys appear in his hand.

**Mayor Gonzalez:** Well, I'll be. I guess I was so stressed out and in a hurry, I didn't check there. Thank you, Owen.

The mayor goes to leave but stops.

**Mayor Gonzalez:** About your pay.

**Owen:** Money can't buy what I want. Good luck Mayor Gonzalez.

As Owen is walking away.

**Owen:** I'll be glad when he's gone!

Back at home.

**Mom:** I sure hope Owen is okay.

Owen finally arrives at Mallory's House. He's instantly surrounded by ten cats. Mallory appears.

**Mallory:** It seems we have a visitor. How are you, O'Riely?

**Owen:** --

**Mallory:** Didn't your mother teach you to speak when spoken to?

**Owen:** My name is Owen, you know that.

**Mallory:** That's what I said, O'Riely. And people say I'm crazy. So, what brings you here today?

**Owen:** I'm trying to find my pillow. It's my favorite pillow, and I can't sleep without it.

**Mallory:** Oh, O'Riely, I'm so sorry. My good ole dog Sebastian loves his pillow as well. The only thing he loves more is his dog food.

**Owen:** Dog? Don't you mean one of your cats?

**Mallory:** Cats? Eww, no, I'm a dog lover.

**Owen:** But--, Never mind.

**Mallory:** I'm all out of dog food, and my poor Sebastian has run away. Can you please try to find him before the dog catcher gets a hold of him?

**Owen:** Ummmmm.

**Mallory:** I'll tell you where your pillow is.

**Owen:** Why can't you--

**Mallory:** Do we have a deal, O'Riely?

**Owen:** Sure. Where was the last place you saw... Sebastian?

**Mallory:** I'm not sure. I don't remember.

**Owen:** Sigh.

Owen heads to the pet store. He has to make a decision. Really get dog food. Or get cat food. Or get both. The correct answer is both.

If he gets the cat food.

**Owen:** Here it is, the cat food.

**Mallory:** O'Riely? What are you doing here?

**Owen:** My name is, forget it. Yeah, it's me O'Riely.

**Mallory:** I didn't ask you for any cat food. I have plenty. Are you trying to make my cats sick?

**Owen:** What are you talking about? I was just here 10 minutes ago.

**Mallory:** I would most certainly remember if somebody was here 10 minutes ago. I know kids have a wild imagination but this is too much.

**Owen:** Fine, I'll take the cat food back.

**Mallory:** You brought cat food, oh bless your heart.

**Owen:** But you just told me—Here you go.

Returns back to the store.

If you get the dog food:

**Owen:** Here you go, just as you asked. Dog food.

**Mallory:** I didn't ask for dog food. I hate dogs.

**Owen:** You said you needed dog food for Sebastian.

**Mallory:** No, I didn't. And who would name their dog Sebastian or any pet for that matter?



**Mallory:** You need to lay off the fun and games and open your ears a little more mister.

Returns to the store.

Owen brings back a bag of cat and dog food.

**Mallory:** Oh wow, you went above and beyond what I asked for. I'm impressed.

**Owen:** I haven't had a chance to find Sebastian yet. I'm sorry.

**Mallory:** He's been here the entire time.

**Owen:** You told me he was missing.

**Mallory:** He was. He was in the basement and couldn't get out. I'm not crazy, you know.

**Owen:** Who would ever think that?

**Mallory:** You're alright, O'Riely. But I have some bad news.

**Owen:** You don't know where my pillow is?

**Mallory:** Oh no, I know. See, the reason Sebastian hid in the basement is that he tore the pillow up.

**Owen:** He what?

**Mallory:** I already told him bad kitty.

**Owen:** You mean dog.

**Mallory:** That's what I said, bad kitty.

Owen heads home, tears in his eyes. He gets home.

**Owen:** Mom, mom, it's gone, my pillow is gone.

**Mom:** Yes, I know it's gone but—

**Owen:** But nothing, it's gone, and I'll never be able to sleep again.

**Mom:** I have a surprise for you. Mallory called shortly after you left. It wasn't your favorite pillow. It was her cat or dog, whatever.

**Owen:** It still doesn't bring my pillow back.

She hands him a bag. He opens it up, and it's his pillow. It now has a picture of him and his dad on it.

Irene, Kareem, Mayor Gonzalez, and even Mallory appears.

**Everybody:** Happy Birthday, Owen!

Owen hugs his pillow.

**Owen:** I thought I lost you forever. What I found is this town looks out for its own, and doing work is tiring. I'm going to bed.

Owen lays down and is fast asleep.