

need the extra space for two people. Joey began making faces into the mirrors while I organized all of the pants on a wall hanger. After he sat on the floor, I removed his cowboy boots that he had insisted on wearing shopping that day. I grabbed the first pair of corduroys to try on and went to unbutton jeans. Giggles filled the entire room.

"Why are you laughing?"

"Um, Janey I didn't wear any underpants today," Joey said with his little hand covering his mouth full of giggles. I knew this would not go over well with our mom. I had to find a pair of 'undies' somewhere in order to complete our task.

"Okay, we had better find you some so that we can try on these new pants."

"No, I don't want to wear underpants. They slow me down," he said.

"Where were you planning on running today?"

"I dunno, I run a lot, Janey. I am a little kid, remember?"

"Here is the deal, you have to try the pants on with underwear, but then you can take them back off, okay?" Joey looked satisfied with my plan. I made my way out of the dressing room to find the boys underwear. I found a rack of size small Super Man undies and figured they would do the job. I knew that I had better pick a pack of underwear that was on sale, because our mom would have to buy them once we were done with my plan.

Once inside the dressing room, I ripped open the package and attempted to make Joey put on a pair. He insisted on only putting on the red pair with Super Man on the front (at least I had chosen a

suitable package). He cooperated and we found three pairs of pants that fit. Joey insisted on ripping the undies back off before putting back on his own pants. He threw them in my lap as I gathered up our items and went running out of the dressing room and back into the aisles.

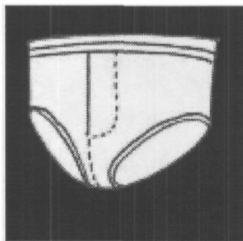
Once outside the dressing room we saw Mom. Joey and I had taken longer than I thought trying on his pants.

"Where have the two of you been?"

Joey looked at me with eyes that pleaded for me not to tell. I couldn't bear to share our secret. Joey trusted me to keep it.

"We just had a hard time finding pants to fit," I lied. Joey looked thrilled with my response, grinned at me, and then took off running full force toward my sisters in the girls department. Mom looked at me and smiled as she took the open pack of underwear and Joey's new pants from my hands.

"Is it just me, or is Joey running a little faster today?" she asked.



Superman