

WAR MEMORIES by ANTONY WIELAND

Jake shows a friend his Grandpa's war possessions up in his attic. Set in the 1950's.

JAKE.

(Climbing into the attic speaking in voiced whispers)

It's up here. Mind where you put your feet when you climb up. You could easily go through the ceiling. *(Waits for friend to appear)*

Sshh, keep your voice down. I'll just slide the lid over the hole.

(Does so)

Phew! Made it. *(Normal speaking voice)*

Now, before we go any further you're to tell Billy Baxter that my project is a lot better than his. He may have a Grandpa who was a Captain in the First War but mine was given awards for bravery and died in action at the battle of the Somme ...

I know my Grandpa isn't mentioned very much in the Role of Honour at our school but nobody likes to talk about the war very much, do they ... But I've got proof, right here that he was a hero. *(Checks torch)*

I've got the torch. Now follow me and stick to the beams ...

(Making his way through the attic)

It's over here ... If Mum knew I was up here she'd be furious. She doesn't talk about Grandpa much. Neither do any of my relations, which is odd ... They even don't believe he was given medals. But I've got the proof. *(Reaching the chest)*

Hurry up slow coach! ... *(Friend appears)*

It's all here and needs to be handled with great care. *(Reaches for documents)*

This is very valuable stuff. *(Carefully lifts off lid placing it beside him. Then takes out an assortment of medals)*

What do you think of these then? First World War medals given for distinguished service in the heat of battle. *(Handing them over to his friend)...*

What do you mean they're not real. I made them in metal work and they are as real as any other medal awarded for bravery. They must have forgotten to make one for my Grandpa, so I've made one for him instead. It's the same thing. You see, he was shot by his own Captain for running away from the enemy. They called him a coward, but to me he was a true hero... *(Looks round. Notices his friend has gone. Calls)*

Terry!... Don't go... *(Looks at medals and photograph)*

(Quietly to himself) Grandpa, I think he'll tell Billy.