

## Chapter 1 - Fire

Paul hadn't really wanted to join  
Howie's gang.

His best mate Nat had told him to steer  
well clear.

"Howie's trouble," Nat warned him.  
"It's not worth it."

But Howie had been on at Paul for  
weeks.

*Howie who ruled the playground with  
his bunch of cronies.*

***Howie with his razor-sharp  
stares.***

*Howie the loud mouth, whose  
favourite line was 'Who's scared now?'*



On their way home from school one  
day, Paul told Nat.

"I'm joining up," he said as they walked  
down the high street. "I've got three tasks  
to do if I want to make it into the gang."