The College Collection

Luca

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I used to be known as Luca Morelli, which is my name, but just lately people know me as Luca Buncton, which is also my name.

I know what you are thinking.

Which would you rather be known as? Luca Buncton or Luca Morelli. Which name sounds better?

Well, it's like this.

My dad is Carlo Morelli. The Carlo Morelli.

You know, the film director, Carlo Morelli. Now you're beginning to understand.

It was great when I was little. Everyone's mum wanted to invite me around to their kid's parties. I was really happy. I had a lovely time.

I was made to feel very welcome, but looking back I suspect that some of my popularity might have had something to do with my name and the hope that my dad might be collecting me.

People used to say, "Oh, I expect that you'll want to go into the film business, like your dad." In those days I didn't.

I actually wanted to be a train driver. Then I wanted to be a deep-sea diver. Then I wasn't even thinking about what I'd be in the future. I was just content with the present.

Then, when I was in my teens, I decided that I really did want to go into the film business after all.

There seemed to be two ways of going about getting there. I could rely on my father's name and his ability to pull strings, or I could go it alone.

I was hoping to be successful either way, but only one way would be on my own merit.

Going it alone would mean that I would have to drop the famous name and become anonymous, just like everyone else.

That way, if I made it and became a success, it would be because of me alone.

It would be because of me, me alone, not hitching a lift on my father's name.

That was it. That's what I decided to do.

What really decided me was a truly terrible thing that happened at a pizza place.

It was a spur of the moment thing. I had met this girl and we had got talking, and suddenly it was lunchtime. So I suggested that we find something to eat and it turned out that this pizza place was nearest.

All was going well. We were just chatting and chatting, waiting in the queue to be seated. Then as we moved off to claim our table, it happened.

Yesterday's underpants fell out of the leg of my jeans!

Please don't say that this has happened to you too because I know it hasn't. It just doesn't happen. To anybody. Ever.

But it happened to me!

The thing is, she only knew my first name. Luca. I could have been Luca Anybody.

Anyway, we just laughed and I felt silly. I bundled up my pants and stuck them in my pocket and hoped that she would forget about it.

Had she known that I was Carlo Morelli's son, she definitely wouldn't have forgotten it. She would have told everybody. She might even have called up a newspaper and sold the story!

That's when I became Luca Buncton. Buncton is my mother's maiden name; the name she had before she married Dad. For college I would enrol as Luca Buncton.



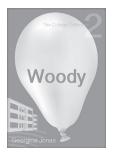
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Luca has a secret which means he needs to change his name. Will he come clean?



