

Good to be me

A scripted dialogue by Roger Sutcliffe

A. I got confused in school today.

B. Oh yeh? I get confused there all the time! Anyway, what's your problem?

A. Well, one minute I'm being told not to think of myself so much, and the next I'm being told I should think, "It's good to be me".

B. Mm. Well, I don't think you think of yourself more than usual – we've all got to look after ourselves, you know, as well as others.

A. You don't think I'm boastful at times, then?

B. Who's been saying that?

A. No one, actually.

B. Well, there you go, then – thinking you may be boastful and no good. That's why you should be saying, "It's good to be me." After all, you've got quite a lot to be proud of.

A. Like?

B. Okay, like, you always do the best drawings in class, but you don't laugh at people who can't draw for toffee.

A. Fair enough. But you're pretty good at other things, like skateboarding.

B. I didn't say I wasn't!

A. Ah, that's what I like about you – you're so relaxed and cool! Are you ever worried about anything?

B. Sure I am. I worry about drawing, for a start!

A. You don't show it very much.

B. Well, I just try to put it out of my mind. No point worrying too much. I generally hope for the best – and, you know what? – most of the time I'm pleasantly surprised. Things often don't turn out so badly.

A. I wish I was like that. Even when things are going well for me – like, if I'm having fun with my friends – I can feel worried that they'll stop being my friends. Or if I'm picked for a team, I get anxious in case I make a mistake. It's like I have mixed feelings all the time.

B. Look, it's natural to be worried or anxious at times. There's always some risk of things going wrong. But you wouldn't get anywhere if you didn't take some risks. You'd just be a nervous wreck.

A. You're right – I must try to be bold. 'He who dares, wins!' as they say.

B. That's not what I said.

A. Yes, you did – just then.

B. No, I didn't.

A. You did!

B. Now, now – don't get angry, especially when I'm trying to help.

A. Well, why shouldn't I get angry when you say you're trying to help, and then go and disagree with me. In fact, you even disagreed with yourself.

B. Stay cool! I didn't disagree with myself.

A. There you go again! One minute you say I should take some risks – be more bold and daring. The next minute you say you didn't say it.

B. I was just trying to be precise, like you are in your drawings. All I said was that I didn't say, 'He who dares, wins!' – You said it!

A. Oh, very clever! You were just winding me up, weren't you?

B. I suppose you could say that. But really my point was that not everyone who dares, wins. Not every risk is worth taking. You have to weigh things up and make good choices.

A. I agree with that.

B. Good. And I'm glad you cooled down. Feel better about yourself now, do you?