Title: The Hole

Author: Jim Peterson From the app StoryPlanet English <u>www.storyplanet.uk</u>

NB: All **bold-faced words** can be clicked on in the app to get a definition and create individualized exercises.

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Chapter 1 of 5:

In the back of the school **auditorium**, Tami and Jonathan found it: The Hole. They started using it as a **hiding place** to **skip** classes. Tami and Jonathan called it The Hole, because you had to enter it through a hole in the wall that was **hidden** behind some old **furniture**. It **appeared as if** someone had **busted** a hole in the wall with a **sledgehammer** and pushed some **furniture** in front of it to hide the **damage**. Inside, there was what **seemed** to be an old **walled-off dressing room**, and the couches in there were really comfortable. **Eventually**, Tami and Jonathan **realized** that by **spending time** in The Hole, they **acquired** special powers – but those powers **came at a price**.

Chapter 2 of 5:

One day, after **hiding** in The Hole to **skip** biology, they were **forced** to come out for a math test. They both **aced** the test for the first time in **either** of their lives. Tami was able to **read** her classmates' **minds**, and **naturally** she followed the thoughts of the smartest students closely. Jonathan **had** it even **easier**. He had super **x-ray vision** and could look through all the other students' **desks** and bodies to see the smartest kid's papers – **magnified** as if he were holding the papers right in front of his face. Later at home, both Jonathan and Tami **realized** they were missing pieces of themselves. Jonathan had only half a foot, and Tami was missing her **tongue** and most of her **teeth**. Yet **despite** this, the friends could walk and talk as normal – and they felt like nothing was missing.

Chapter 3 of 5:

Was it only **in** their **heads**? Jonathan **swore** he could **wiggle** his missing **toes**, and Tami could **lick** her missing **teeth** with her missing **tongue**. **Despite** their **misgivings**, they didn't talk to anyone about what was happening. They **kept** meeting in The Hole, **gaining** new powers and losing more body parts. Or did they just lose the ability to see those parts? **Whatever the case**, when they finally **made** the **connection** between their powers, lost parts and The Hole, it was far too late: they



were **hooked**. They wanted more powers, **whatever the cost**. They felt like they were becoming **gods** and maybe they were. After all, they could see less and less of themselves in the **mirror** and they were each **approaching** total **omnipotence**.

Chapter 4 of 5:

Although other people could see Jonathan and Tami as if nothing had changed, they **eventually** became completely **invisible** to themselves – yet they could fly, **teleport**, make objects float and **read** other people's **minds**. They thought it was **worth it**. That is, until they became **invisible** to others, too. Tami and Jonathan **realized** their **invisibility** to others at about the same time, and they both **rushed** to The Hole – their secret **hiding place** – to talk about what to do next.

Chapter 5 of 5:

They entered together, only to find another girl and boy inside. "We have been waiting for you, Tami and Jonathan." **Taken aback**, Tami replied: "Who are you?" They **responded** as if from a single voice: "We have chosen you, because you have **gradually withdrawn** yourselves from your friends and family over several years. We just helped you over the **edge**." Jonathan **responded**: "What do you mean?" The **mysterious** two **continued**, "We have slowly **stolen** your **physical presence** within your **realm**, but don't worry: you can enjoy each other's company here in this 'hole' – for **eternity**." The two strange children left the room through the hole in the wall, the only entrance to The Hole, leaving Tami and Jonathan inside. Then the entrance **disappeared**.