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## Partners in Crime

by Sue Hitchcock

“Oh, Jack darling, I still feel a wee bit hungry.”

“I know darling, I'm sorry.”

“Couldn't I just go out for a little while. I know some places where there might be food.”

“You know you have to stay here and keep warm, sweetie. Just give me a minute to get my breath back and I'll go out again.”

Jack was very considerate, but Dawn fidgeted impatiently waiting for him to return.

“Here we are, darling. See how you like this!” His offering was the only meat he could find, a miserable woodlouse.

“Thank you, my love. Did you have anything yourself?”

“The same, just one.” he sighed. Even those people over the way don't put out the good stuff anymore, just bread”

“Do you remember when we first came here? There wasn't much competition then!

We were too optimistic having such a big brood and you wore yourself to the bone fetching food.”

“We still lost a couple to seagulls. We should have been more modest.”

“It would have been better if we had made them move further away. I love them to bits, but did they have to live in the same street?”

“And they've all got broods like us, you know Dawn.”

“Large broods, the way we did. It's a mistake. You know we could make it easier for them.”

“What do you mean, sweetie?”

“We could take some off their hands, or out of their nests, should I say?”

“Oh, I see,” said Jack, “well if we don't, the seagulls will.”

Jack took up his position on his watchpoint on the T.V. ariel and surveyed the area around. When two birds left their territory together, he dived in to carry out their plan.