

MATTIE AND THE STUDEBAKER GOLDEN HAWK



BY [CHILDBOOK.AI](https://childbook.ai)

Mattie grinned as he stood beside his brand new car. It was a 1956 Studebaker Golden Hawk, dark green and gleaming in the sunshine. His friend Tony walked over and whistled. "Wow, Mattie! That's the coolest car I've ever seen!" Mattie patted the hood proudly. "Want to go for a ride to Atlantic City?" Tony's eyes lit up. "You bet I do!" The two friends hopped in, and Mattie started the engine. It purred like a happy cat.



The Garden State Parkway stretched ahead like a ribbon. It was only two lanes back then, much quieter than today. Mattie drove carefully while Tony looked out the window. They passed farms and small towns. "This is great!" Tony said. The wind blew through the open windows. Atlantic City was still far away, but they didn't mind. The drive was part of the fun. Soon they would reach the ocean and spend the day exploring.



Atlantic City was bustling with people enjoying the sunny day. Mattie and Tony walked along the boardwalk, eating ice cream and playing games. They watched the waves crash on the shore. "This was a great idea," Tony said, licking his chocolate cone. After a few hours of fun, the sun started to set. "We should head home," Mattie suggested. They walked back to where the shiny green Studebaker waited. Time to drive back up the parkway.



As they drove north, Mattie glanced at Tony. "Hey, want to drive my new car?" Tony's jaw dropped. "Really? You'd let me?" Mattie nodded with a smile. "Sure! You're my best friend. Besides, I want to see what this Golden Hawk can really do!" Tony could hardly believe it. He'd never driven such a fancy car before. They pulled over safely, and Tony slid into the driver's seat. His hands gripped the steering wheel. This was going to be exciting!



Tony pressed the gas pedal gently at first. The car glided smoothly down the road. "This feels amazing!" he said. Mattie laughed. "Go faster! See what it can do!" Tony pressed harder. The speedometer climbed to fifty, then sixty. The car responded beautifully. Soon they were going seventy, then eighty. The wind whooshed past them. Tony couldn't stop grinning. The Studebaker Golden Hawk was living up to its name. It flew like a bird down the empty parkway.



"How fast can it go?" Tony shouted over the wind. Mattie checked the speedometer. "We're at ninety miles per hour!" Tony's heart raced with excitement. He pushed the pedal more. One hundred miles per hour! The trees became blurs. Then one hundred ten, one hundred twenty. "This is incredible!" The Golden Hawk soared down the road. Finally, the needle touched one hundred thirty. Both friends were amazed. They'd never gone this fast before. It felt like flying without leaving the ground!



Tony glanced in the rearview mirror and noticed headlights behind them. "Mattie, someone's back there." The car was getting closer, trying to catch up. Tony's eyes widened. "What should I do?" Mattie looked back. "Just keep going!" Tony pressed the pedal down. The Golden Hawk responded, pulling away from the car behind them. But suddenly, something didn't sound right. A strange noise came from under the hood. Tony and Mattie looked at each other with worry. What was that sound?



Steam started rising from the hood. "Oh no!" Mattie said. The engine was getting too hot. The freeze plug had blown out from all that speed. Tony carefully slowed down and pulled onto the shoulder of the road. The beautiful Golden Hawk sputtered and stopped. "Is it broken?" Tony asked sadly. Mattie popped the hood and steam poured out. The car behind them pulled up too. A man in uniform stepped out. It was a police officer!



Tony's stomach dropped. "We're in trouble now," he whispered. The police officer walked over with a big smile. "Wow! What is this thing?" he asked, pointing at the car. Tony and Mattie looked at each other, confused. The officer wasn't angry at all! "It's a 1956 Studebaker Golden Hawk," Mattie explained. The officer's eyes sparkled. "I've never seen anything so fast! She just flew past everything!" He walked around the car admiringly. "This is the most amazing car ever!"



The officer couldn't stop looking at the Golden Hawk. "How fast were you going?" he asked excitedly. Tony nervously said, "Pretty fast." The officer laughed. "I'll say! I couldn't even catch you!" He ran his hand along the sleek green hood. "I've got to get me one of these!" Mattie smiled with relief. "You really like it?" The officer nodded enthusiastically. "Like it? I love it! This is the car of the future!" He helped them call for a tow truck.



The tow truck arrived and carefully lifted the Golden Hawk. The driver knew a good repair shop nearby. "Don't worry, boys," he said kindly. "We'll have her fixed up in no time." The police officer followed them to the shop. "I want to see where you got this beauty," he said. At the shop, the mechanic looked at the engine. "The freeze plug needs replacing. That happens when engines get too hot." He smiled. "Give me a few hours." Everyone waited patiently.



The mechanic finished the repairs. "Good as new!" he announced. The Golden Hawk's engine purred perfectly again. Tony and Mattie thanked him and paid for the work. The police officer shook their hands. "Drive safely now, and thanks for showing me this incredible car!" He waved goodbye. Mattie drove home carefully this time, and Tony rode beside him. They looked at each other and laughed. What an adventure! The Golden Hawk had made everyone happy, even a police officer. It was a day they'd never forget.



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