Chimney sweeps worked around 9 hour days seven days a week. They would work 60 hour weeks for not much money at all. They would be working non-stop for long periods of time in very poor working conditions. There was an academy of master sweeps that didn’t require there boys and girls to work weekends but instead go to school and read the bible.

After work Bill will arrive home and have a small, unhealthy dinner provided for them by their masters. The food they were given by their masters was not enough so they begged at work as well. After dinner they would stay up and talk to the other chimney sweeps and went to bed soon after. On special occasions the chimney sweeps were allowed to have a bath to clean all the soot off.

This did not happen much and resulted in bad hygiene. They would sleep in their sack of soot, which often caused sickness but that’s all they had. They slept as much as they could for their little bodies were tired after a long day work but only to be woken up at six in the morning to do it all again.

Bill wants to get into the academy of chimney sweeps so he can learn education and learn how to read and write. He feels that he is a dangerous job but does it anyway because he needs the moneys to live and also the master apprentice give him the food he need to survive. He knows it’s not great but it’s all he has got and it is better than being an orphan on the street so he continues his job as a chimney sweep.