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Opening extract from

The Crocodile Under the Bed

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Once there was a little boy called Matty, and he was very sad. He was sad because he was sick. He was too sick to go to the party, and it was a very special party. It was a party for the Queen's birthday, and there was going to be birthday cake and a big slide.



Matty's mummy said, "Look who's here!
Grandpa has come to sit with you while we're out."
Matty said, "But I want to go to the party!"
Matty's mummy said, "We'll bring you back
some birthday cake."
Matty said, "But I want to go to the party!"
Matty's daddy said, "Look, here's a party blower
just like your sister's, so you can have a little
party all by yourself."







Matty said, "I don't want to have a little party all by myself.
And what if I need a drink while you're out?"
Matty's mummy said, "Grandpa will see to it."
Matty said, "Or what if I need to go to the loo?"
Matty's mummy said, "Grandpa will see to it."



Matty said, "Or what if there's a great big enormous green crocodile hiding under my bed?"



Matty's mummy said, "Grandpa will see to it," and shut the door. Matty shouted, "I want to go to the party!" But they had all gone.



It was very quiet after they'd gone.
Grandpa was quiet too.
Suddenly a voice said, "Want to go to a party?"
Matty said, "Who...?"



The crocodile said, "I'll fly you there."
Matty said, "But..."



The crocodile said, "Bring your party blower."
Matty said, "My blower...?"