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Opening extract from

Skulduggery

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This book has dyslexia friendly features



For my lovely granddaughter Lyla.
Hopefully it won't be long before you find out
what fun books can be.

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CHAPTER 1

A New Sea-Pup

I stood at the gate of my new school and checked my uniform over with pride.

A jaunty red spotted handkerchief was tied round my head. My mole-skin sea boots, buckled belt and golden earring were spick and span. My blue and white striped shirt had not a single blood-stain on it.



A sign creaked above my head. It said –

SQUIRE TRELAWNEY'S
SCHOOL FOR YOUNG SEA DOGS
Head Teacher – Mistress Baker

'Twas my first day at pirate school and my heart swelled with pride as I swung my sea-chest upon my back and pushed open the great wooden gates.

But pride turned to dismay at what I saw before me.

There were no planks for walk-the-plank classes! No yard-arms where we could hang our foes!

There was only a common playground like any other playground, full of small groups of young students in white shirts, red ties and grey flannel trousers. Horror upon horrors, some of them were skipping with ropes!



And then I beheld it – the flag which makes every pirate heart swell with pride.

