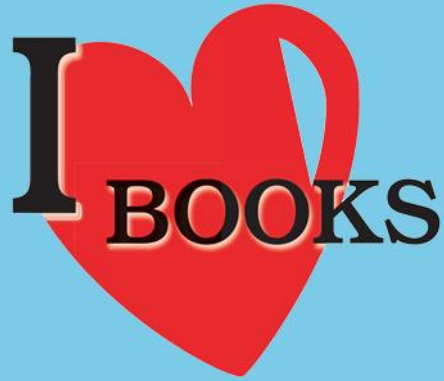




LoveReading4kids.co.uk
is a book website
created for parents and
children to make
choosing books easy
and fun

Opening extract from
Gunpoint

Written by
Jim Eldridge

Illustrated by
Dan Chernett

Published by
Barrington Stoke Ltd

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.



First published in 2016 in Great Britain by
Barrington Stoke Ltd
18 Walker Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7LP

www.barringtonstoke.co.uk

Text © 2016 Jim Eldridge
Illustrations © 2016 Dan Chernett

The moral right of Jim Eldridge and Dan Chernett to be
identified as the author and illustrator of this work has been
asserted in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and
Patents Act, 1988

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be
reproduced in whole or in any part in any form without the
written permission of the publisher

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available
from the British Library upon request

ISBN: 978-1-78112-515-1

Printed in China by Leo

Contents

1	999	1
2	Alarm	6
3	Accident	13
4	Locked	20
5	Spanner	28
6	Shoot	34
7	All Over	41





Chapter 1

999

Alex was cramped in the roof space of the Town Hall with her plans and her tool bag. She had just set out the water pipes when she heard the shout from below.

“Put your hands up! Stay still! If anyone moves, we shoot!”

Alex shifted the pipes to one side, went to the roof hatch and looked down.

She could see the scaffolding she and her dad had put up so they could get into the roof space to upgrade the water pipes. The room below had a very high ceiling like all the rooms in the Town Hall. It was a very old building.

Two men stood next to the scaffolding. Their faces were covered with black masks and they had lined up everyone in the room against a wall. Ten people stood with their hands up. One of them was Alex's dad! The two men were pointing guns at him and the others.



Alex moved back from the hatch into the darkness of the roof space. Her heart pounded as she took out her mobile and rang 999.

“I’m at the Town Hall in Albert Street,” she whispered. “There are armed men here. They’ve taken ten people hostage. One of them’s my dad ...”

Voices from below interrupted her and she looked down again. One of the gunmen was on his phone too.

“We’re in the Town Hall and we’re armed,” he said. “We’ve got ten hostages. You’ve got an hour to release Ken Bull from prison. Do

it now. If you don't, we start shooting. Never mind my name – you can call me Mr Blue.”