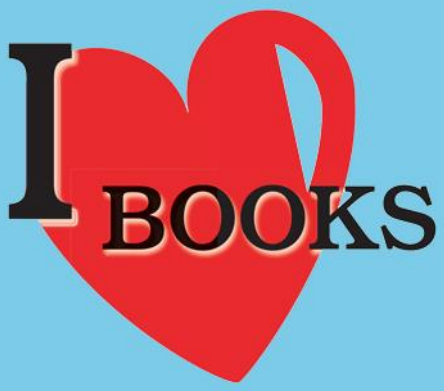


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Opening extract from

Nuddy Ned's Christmas

Written by

Kes Gray

Illustrated by

Garry Parsons

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To Von Ryan's Express ~KG
For Codie & Kyle ~GP



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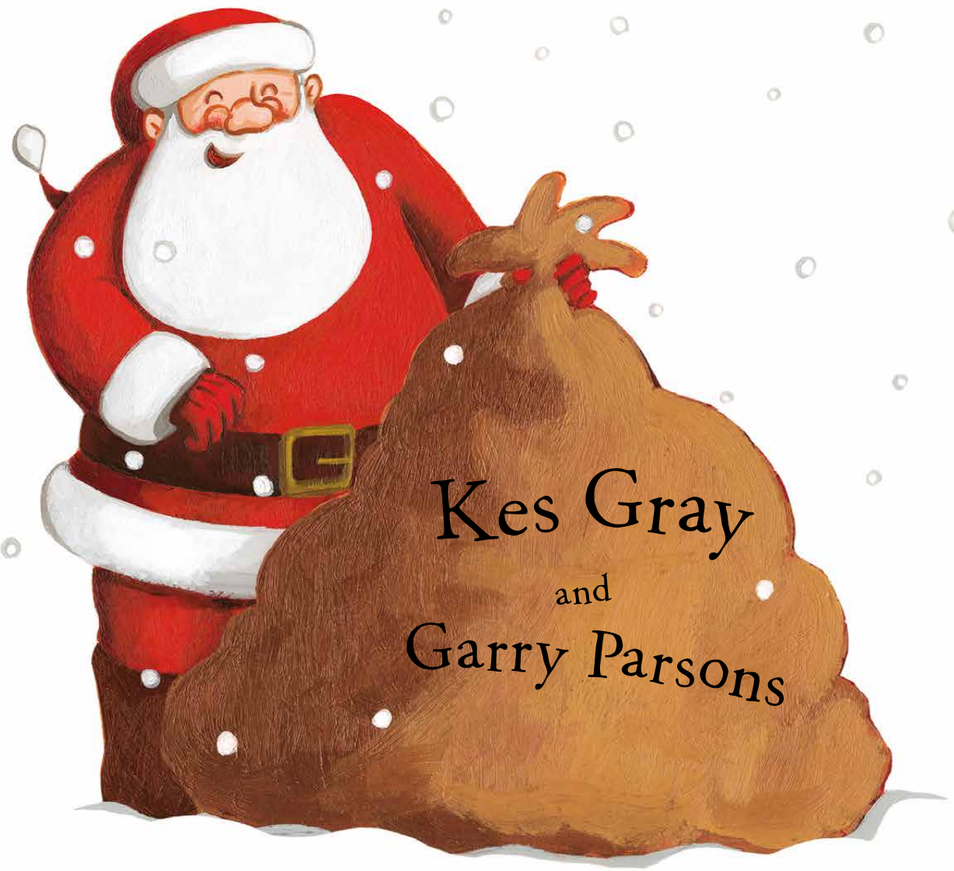
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Nuddy Ned's Christmas



Kes Gray
and
Garry Parsons

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Fairy lights a-twinkling,
Stockings neatly hung.
Turkey stuffed and parsnips peeled –
The Christmas prep was done.

Stretched out on the sofa,
Munching hot mince pies,
Ned's mum and dad sighed happily,
Then closed their weary eyes.

Full of wild excitement –
Supposed to be asleep –
Nuddy Ned sat up in bed
And gave up counting sheep.

Tearing off his jim-jams
He hurtled down the stairs,
Catching both his mum and dad
Completely unawares.

His mum's face froze with horror.
His dad's eyes opened wide.
But before they could say, 'Mistletoe',
Ned had run outside!

"Nuddy Ned, Nuddy Ned,
Where do you think you're going?
It's Christmas Eve! It's minus three!
And can't you see it's snowing?!"