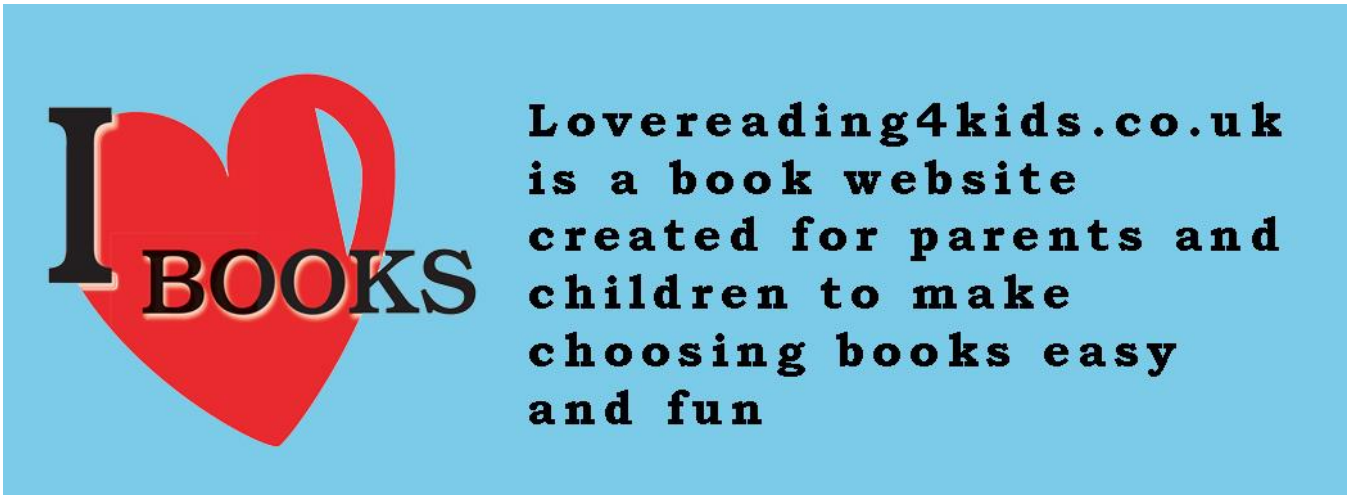


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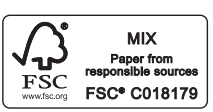
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Chapter One

Treasure in the Attic

‘Ladies and gentlemen! Say hello to Biscuit, the amazing, the incredible . . . wonder dog!’ In the middle of the living room, Lottie spread her arms out wide as if she was a performer on stage.

Biscuit, her beagle puppy, wagged his tail.

Lottie let her arms fall to her sides and sighed. 'Come on, Biscuit. Try it! Stand on two legs.'

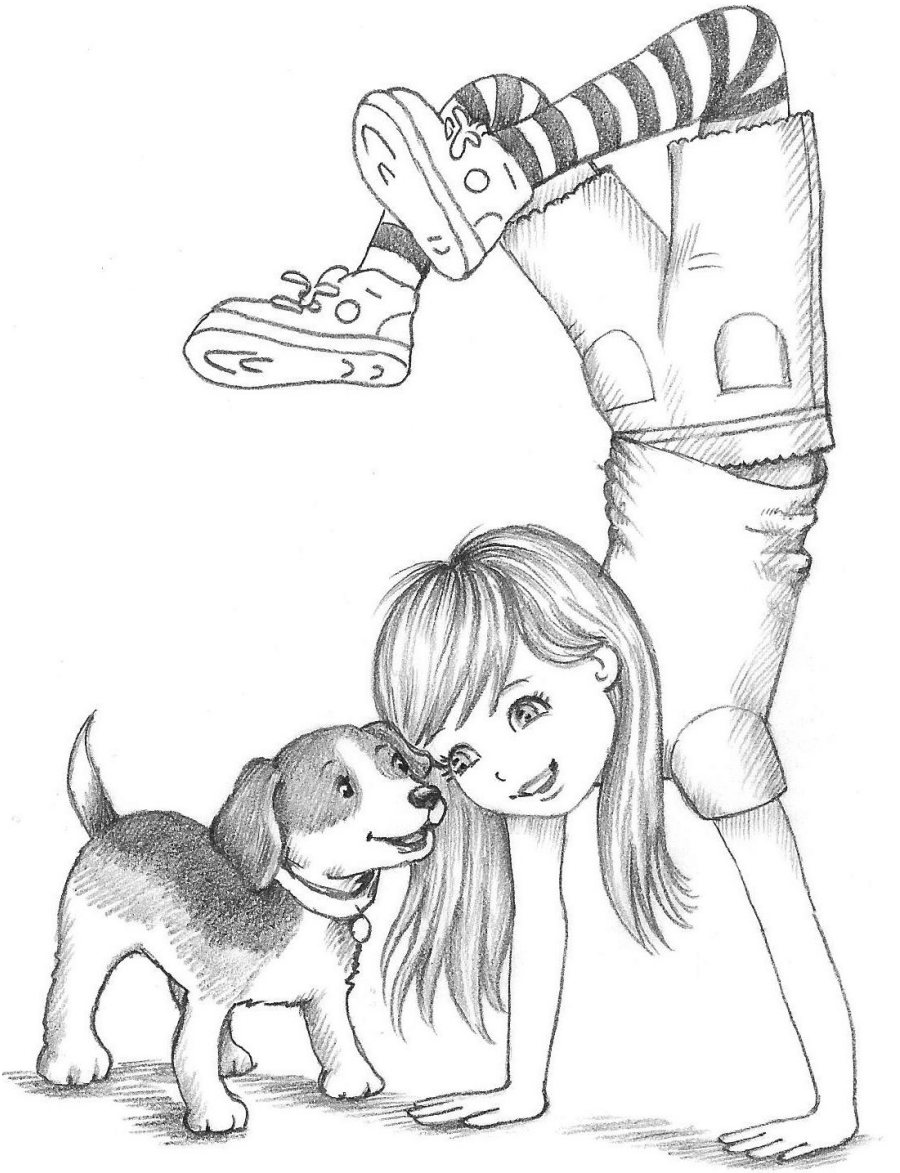
Biscuit sat down on the rug.

'I'll show you,' said Lottie. She rubbed her hands together, then flipped up into a handstand.

Biscuit trotted over and licked her nose.

Lottie fell in a heap, giggling. 'Silly Biscuit,' she said, giving him a hug.

'What was that crash?' Mum called from upstairs.



'Nothing, Mum!' said Lottie. 'I was just trying to train Biscuit to be a circus dog.'

'Well, why don't you both come and help me clear out the attic instead?' Mum replied.

Lottie looked out of the window. It was still raining. She had wanted to take Biscuit for a lovely, muddy morning walk, but clearing the attic could be fun, too. There might be treasure up there!

'Come on, Biscuit. Let's see if

you can be an amazing, incredible treasure-hunting dog!'

Lottie and Biscuit bounded up the stairs.

The attic had a sloping ceiling and a round window at one end. It also had lots of cobwebs, dust and boxes.

'I'm looking for something we can take to the charity jumble sale,' said Mum.

Biscuit barked beside the first pile of boxes, which contained a tree, tinsel and lots of fairy lights.