

AND THE Ghost Snatchers

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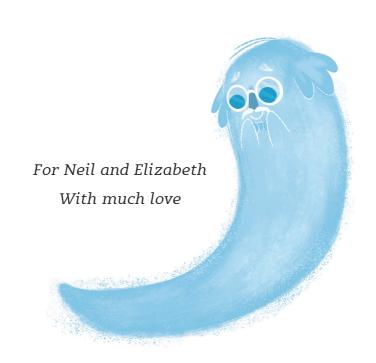
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This book is in a super readable format for young readers beginning their independent reading journey.



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## Chapter 1 Grandma Gertie Comes to Stay

Grandma Gertie was the oddest person Anna and her brother Kasper had ever seen.

It wasn't just her huge square glasses, or her hat with a real live parrot on it. (The parrot was winking at them as Grandma sat next to them on the back seat of the car.)

No, it was the odd way that Grandma Gertie's eyes gleamed. It was as if she had a secret that no one in the whole world knew except her. And the oddest thing of all was the way she kept patting her handbag. Pat! Pat! As if her handbag were a pet poodle.

"So how was your flight, Mum?" Dad asked Grandma from the front of the car.

"Fine as ripe peaches!" Grandma
Gertie grinned. "I had four cups of tea
and six buns!"

Kasper nudged Anna in the ribs.

Anna nudged him back. She shifted along on the back seat of the car to put a bit more space between her and her strange grandma.

Then, without warning - PLOEUFF!
BLOOP! BLOOOP!

"What on earth was that?" Dad said. He pulled over to the side of the road and stopped the car. They all got out.

"Rats! A flat tyre!" Dad groaned.

"And we're only ten minutes from home!"

Dad inspected the tyre as Grandma Gertie peered over to look too.



"Don't worry, son," Grandma Gertie said to Dad. "It's only flat at the bottom." Dad gave Grandma Gertie a look, but she didn't seem to notice.

"Dad, can I help you fix the tyre?" Kasper asked.

Anna wanted to help too, but Grandma Gertie grabbed her arm and started to pull her along the High Street. Anna grabbed Kasper's hand – no way did Anna want to be alone with her very odd grandma. And off they all went together.

"Don't mind me!" Dad called after them. "I'll manage!"

Grandma Gertie looked up and down the street as she raced along.

