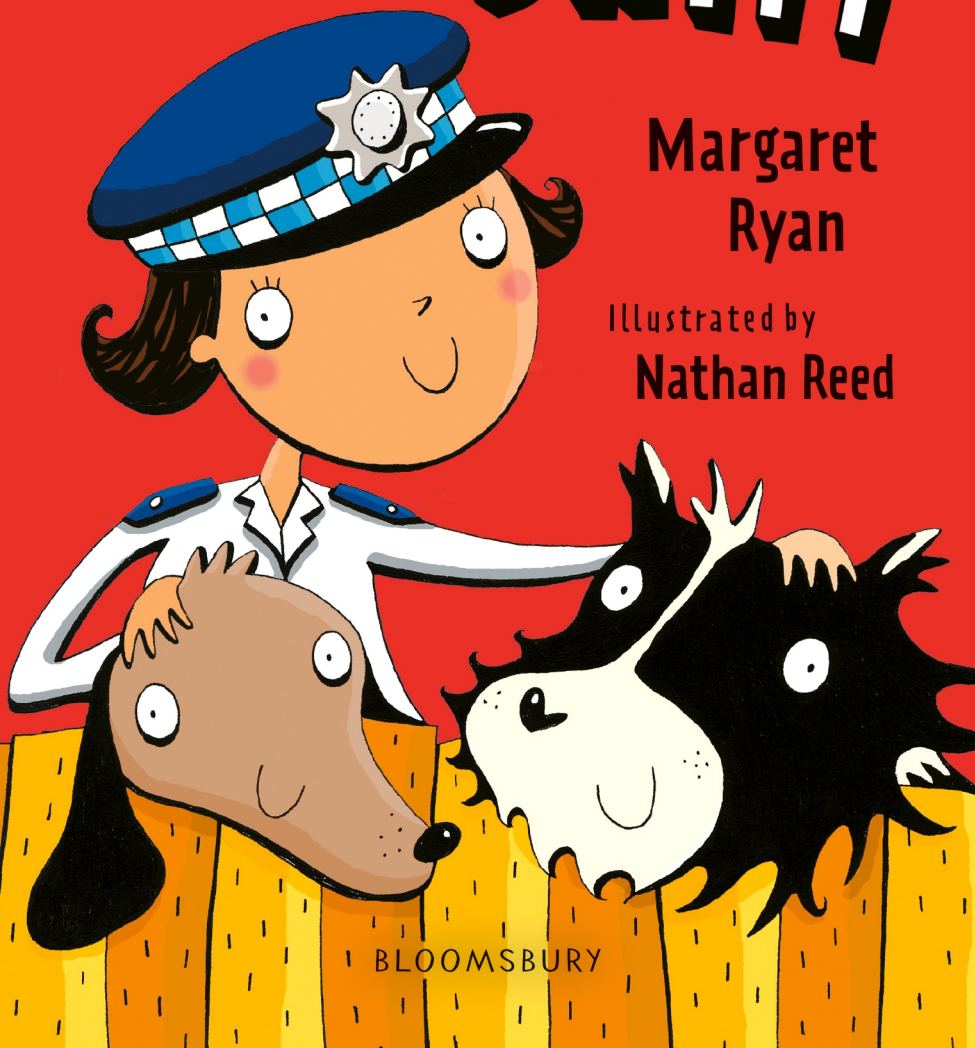
Scratch and Sniff

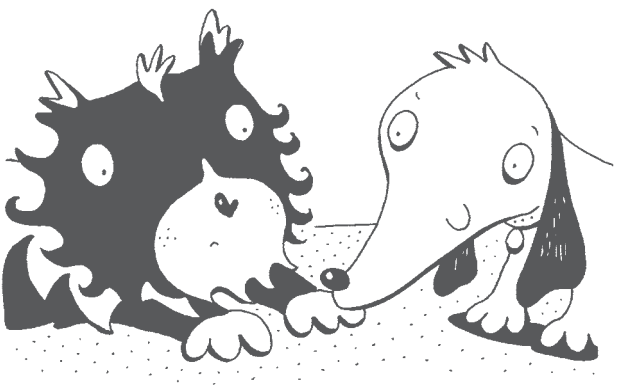
Margaret Ryan

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Scratch and Sniff



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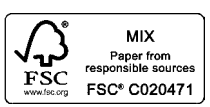
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For Tabitha with love

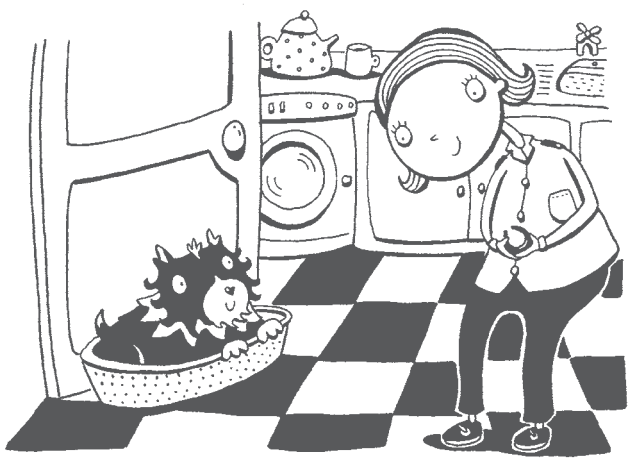
Chapter One

Scratch and Sniff were curled up in the kitchen of Corner Cottage, trying to have a lie-in. But it wasn't easy. Police Constable Penny Penrose was late for work again.

"Has anyone seen my bicycle clips?" she asked.

Scratch scratched, then wandered over to the kitchen door and barked.

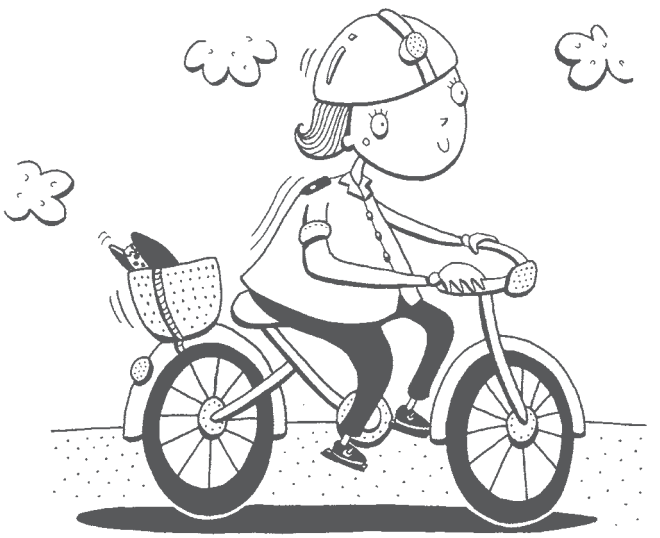
"Well done, Scratch," said Penny. She removed the bicycle clips from the door handle and put them on. Then she looked around again.



"Has anyone seen my bicycle helmet?"

Sniff sniffed, then waddled underneath the kitchen table and barked.

"Well done, Sniff," said Penny. She picked up the helmet and put it on. "Now, you two eat up your breakfast and I'll see you later." Then she hurried outside, jumped on her old bike, and pedalled off to the police station.

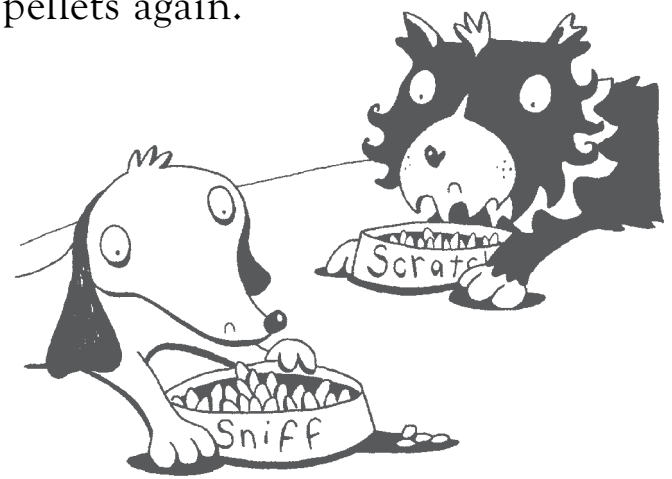


Scratch yawned and scratched. Sniff yawned and sniffed.

"Shall we stroll over and check out the food bowls, Sniff?" said Scratch.

"Good idea, Scratch," said Sniff. But it wasn't.

"Yuk!" said Scratch. "Dried food pellets again."



"What does Penny think we are?" asked Sniff. "Budgies?"

Scratch shook her shaggy, collie head. Sniff rippled his sleek, dachshund body.

It was time for some proper food, they agreed, and headed out through the dog flap to Mrs Pudding's cake shop.

Mrs Pudding was piling up trays with some home baking when they arrived.



"Good morning," she smiled. "Your usual, is it?"

Scratch and Sniff barked and wagged their tails, and then the two of them settled down outside the shop to enjoy their custard buns. They had just got to the squidgy bit in the middle when...

NEE–NAW! NEE–NAW!



Lights flashed, tyres screeched and Sergeant Snide roared past in his police car.

"Looks like Snidey's on a case," said Scratch.

"That he'll probably bungle again," said Sniff. "Let's go and see Penny."

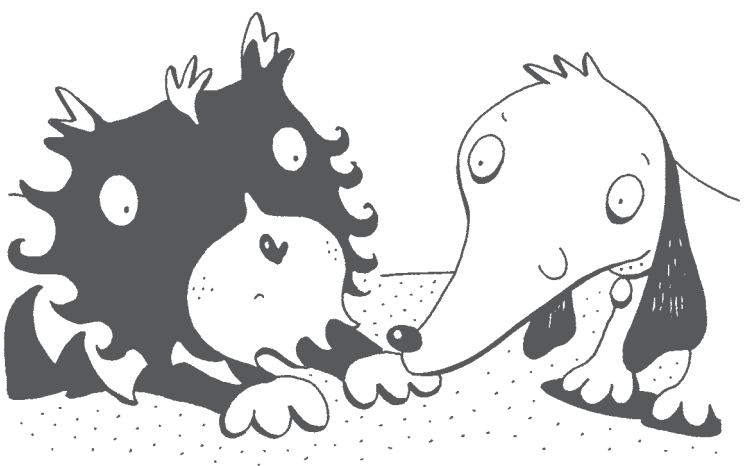
The dogs bounded along the road to the police station.

Penny was standing outside, surrounded by traffic cones.



"I thought you two might turn up," she said. "Inspector Hector's just told me there's been a robbery at Doogood's furniture store. As usual, Sergeant Snide's gone off to investigate by himself. He's left me here to count traffic cones. It's not fair!"

Scratch and Sniff looked at each other. Perhaps they could help Penny solve the crime.



"Looks like a case for the doggy Secret Service," said Scratch.

"Let's take the short cut to Doogood's furniture store and do some investigating ourselves," said Sniff.