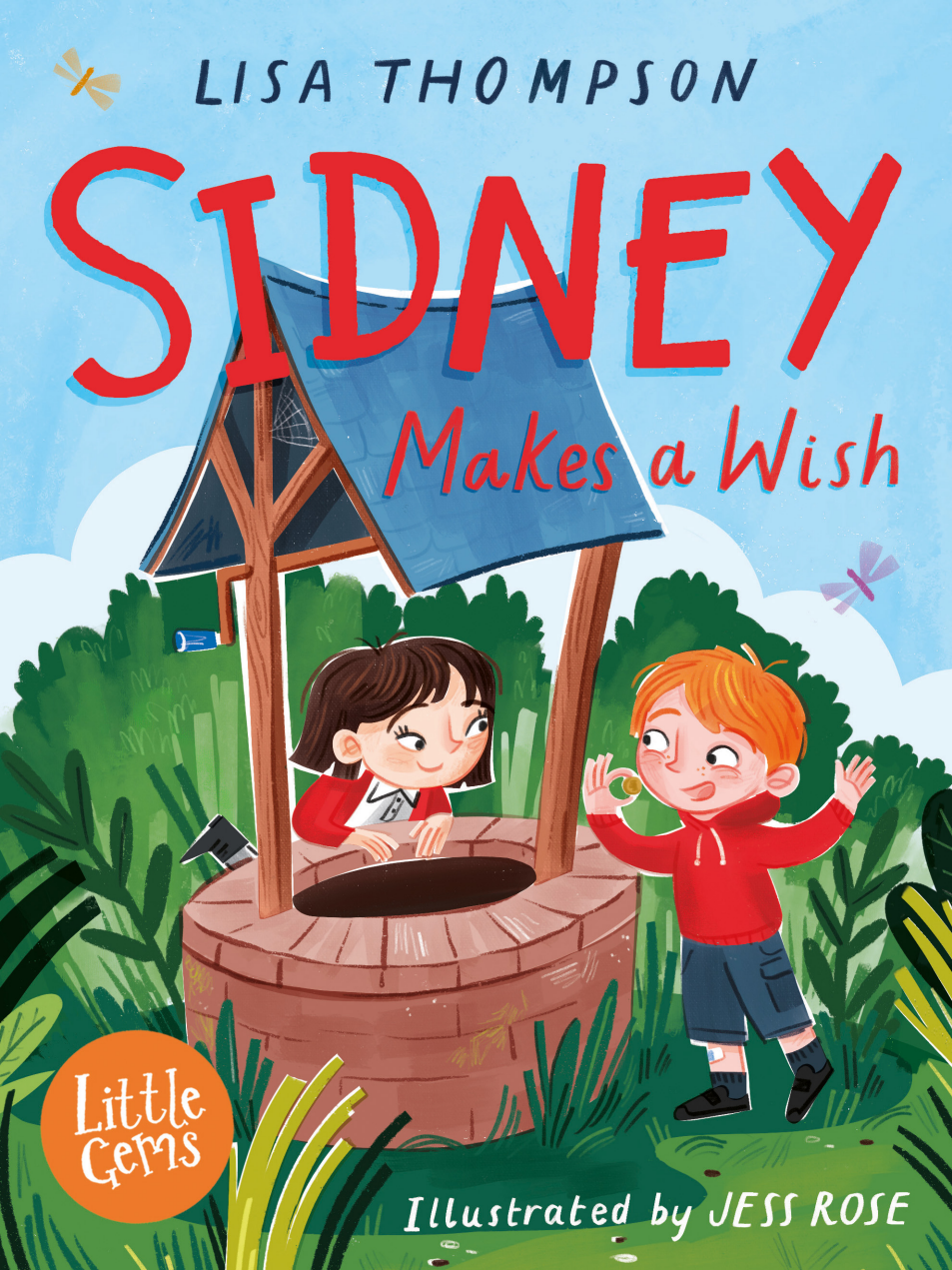
LISA THOMPSON

SIDNEY Makes a Wish



Little Gems

Illustrated by JESS ROSE



SIDNEY
Makes a Wish



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For Mum

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Chapter 1

The Wishing Well

One morning when Sidney was on his way to school with his mum, he spotted something hidden in some tall grass.

He went to have a look.

It was a little brick circle with a grey slate roof like a crooked hat.



“What’s this, Mum?” he said, patting his hand on the cold bricks.

“That’s the old wishing well!” said his mum. “I’d forgotten it was here. When I was little, I threw a penny into the well and made a wish.”

Sidney looked down into the dark well and saw the bright blue sky reflected in the rippling water. He sniffed. It smelled of damp things.

“Did your wish come true?” Sidney asked.

His mum smiled at him.

“Of course it did!” she said. “I’ve got you, haven’t I? And you are all of my best wishes come true.”

Sidney frowned. *That* wasn't a proper wish!

*



When they got to school, Sidney rushed over to Billy and Austin, who were playing near the PE shed.

Sidney used to be good friends with Billy, but now Billy seemed to want to spend all of his time with Austin.

“Hi, Billy!” said Sidney.

Billy didn’t see Sidney standing there.



“Do you want to come over tonight and have a go on my trampoline, Billy?” said Austin.

Billy nodded quickly.

“Yeah!” he said. And he punched the air.

Sidney waited to see if Austin would invite him as well, but just then the bell went for them to line up to go into the classroom.

They all rushed off, and Sidney squeezed in next to Billy. He tapped Billy's back, and Billy turned around.

"You can come to my house one day after school if you want to," said Sidney.

Billy gave a shrug. "Maybe," he said.

Sidney frowned as Billy turned around again. He didn't seem very keen at all.

*



On the way home from school, Sidney and his mum walked past the wishing well hidden behind the tall grass.

"Mum? Do you think the wishing well still works?" said Sidney.

His mum smiled. "I don't see why not," she said.

Sidney was glad about that. He remembered that he had four brown coins sitting on the table by his bed.

He was going to give the wishing well a try.

