Lovereading4kids.co.uk

Helping you choose books for children

0-5 5-7 7-9 9-12 12+

opening extract from

First Friend

written by

Christopher Mattingley

published by

Catnip Books

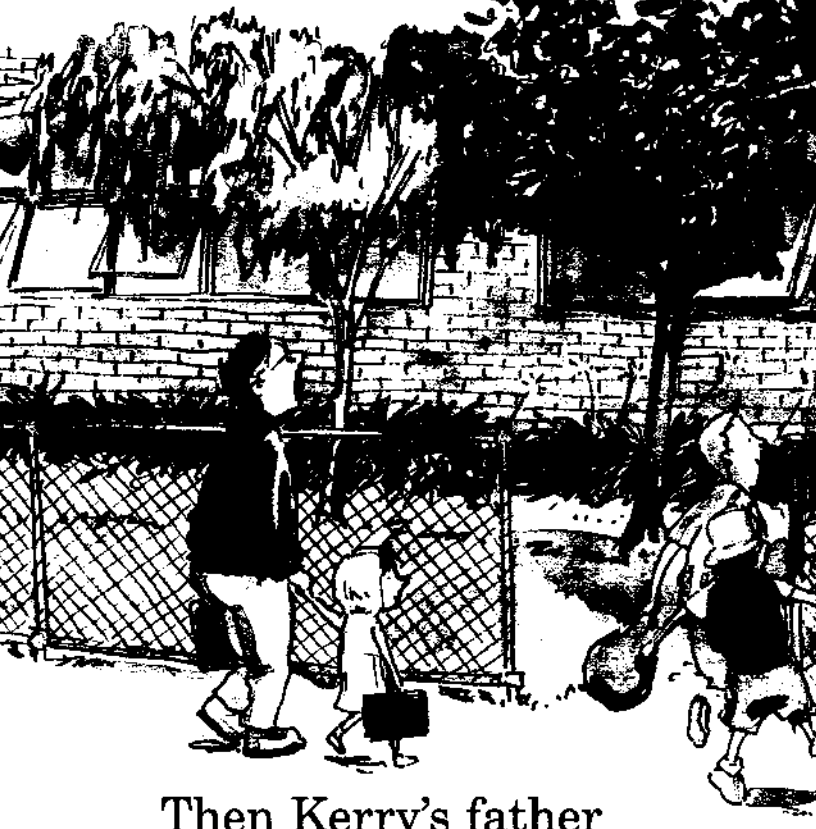
All text is copyright of the author and illustrator

please print off and read at your leisure.



1
New School

Kerry had been to school for two terms. She had made many friends. She liked her teacher. And she had learned to read.



Then Kerry's father changed his job.

Kerry's family moved to another town, and Kerry had to go to a different school.



It was a much bigger school. It was three storeys high. There were many flights of stairs and long passages with dozens of doors.



In Kerry's first school there were twenty children in her year. In the new school there were one hundred about Kerry's age. There were four first

classes called by the points of the compass: North, South, East, West. Kerry was in South.

Kerry's new teacher said, 'I am Miss Bell.' She was



short. Her hair was grey. Kerry's other teacher had been tall with golden hair almost to her waist.

Miss Bell said, 'This is



Kerry, everyone.'

The other children smiled at her, but their faces were strange to her.

Kerry had always shared





a table with friends. But now she had one all to herself. At her old school the tables had been arranged in groups. Here they were arranged in two



horseshoes, one inside the other.

First of all they sang songs. Miss Bell played the music. There was a vase of cheerful daffodils on the

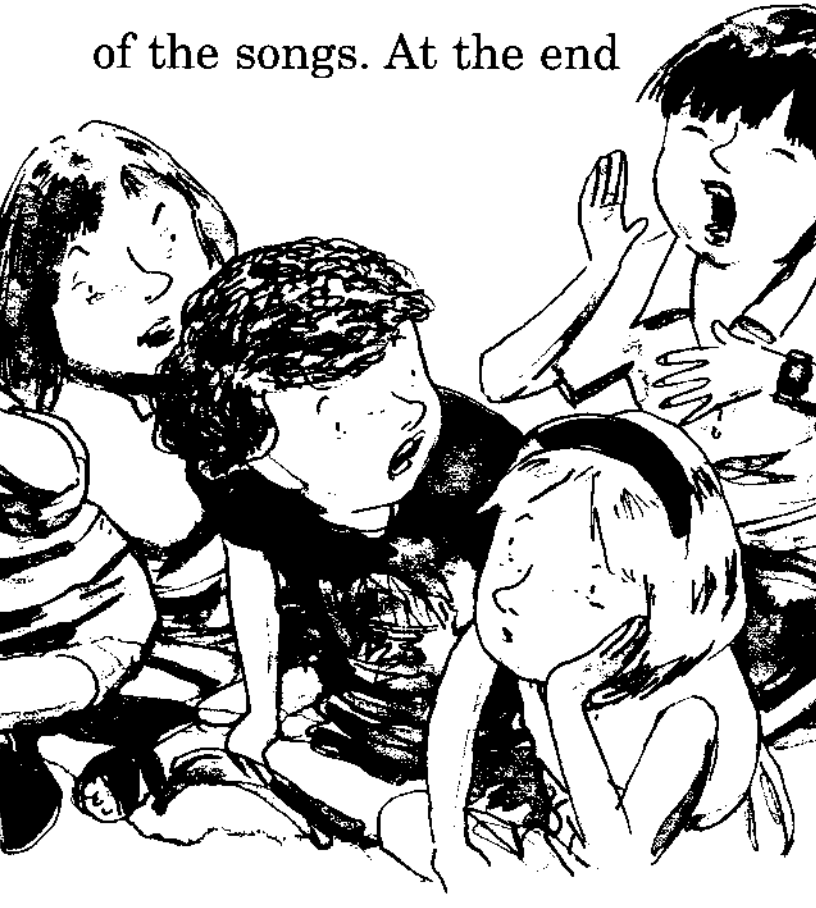
shelf by the keyboard.

In Kerry's first school there had been a bowl on the cassette cupboard, and



the class had planted daffodil bulbs in it. Kerry wondered if they were flowering yet.

Kerry did not know any of the songs. At the end



Miss Bell said, 'Teach us one of your songs, Kerry.'

But Kerry shook her head.

'Tomorrow perhaps,'

