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For Kate, Eddie, Charlie, and George

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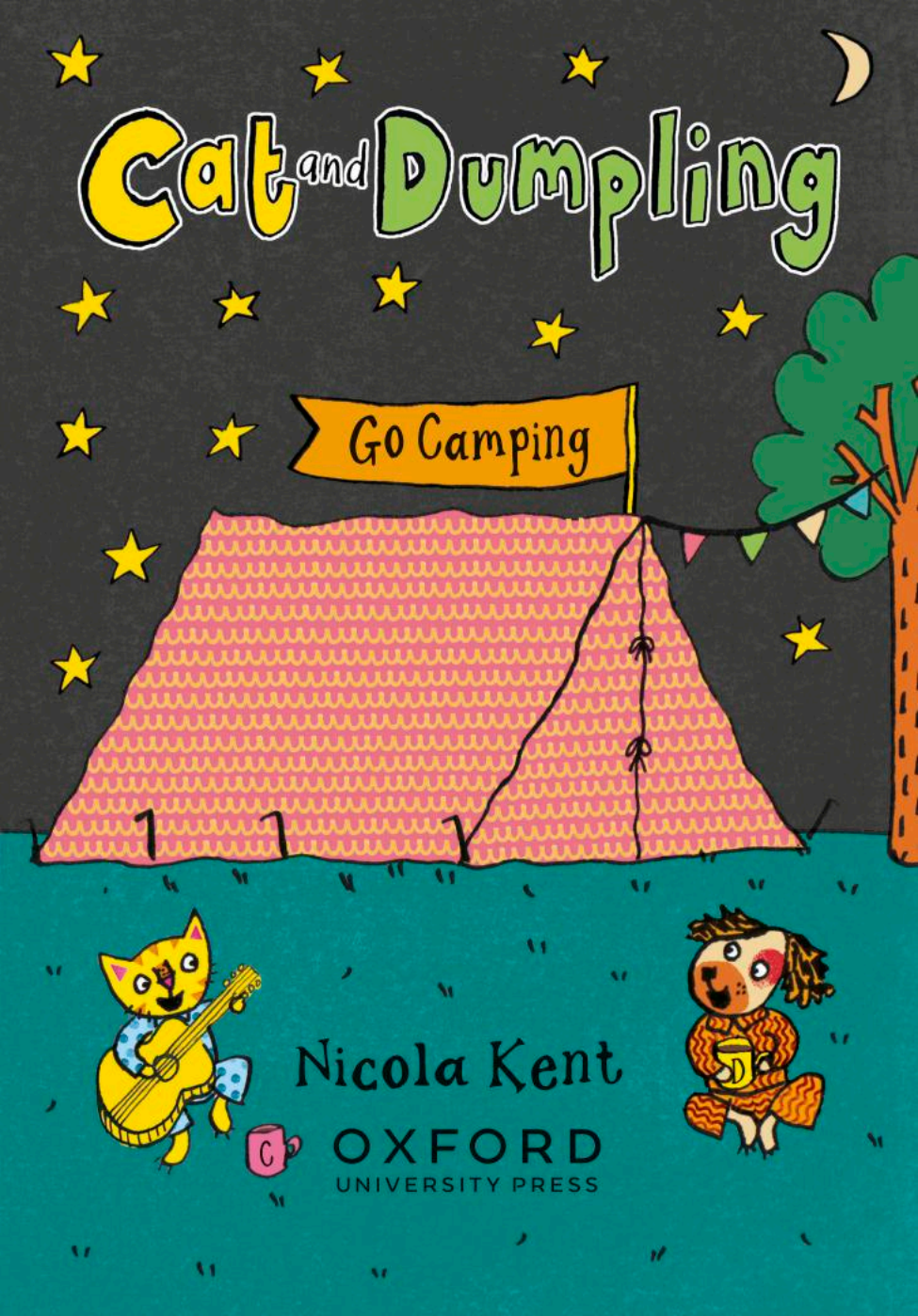
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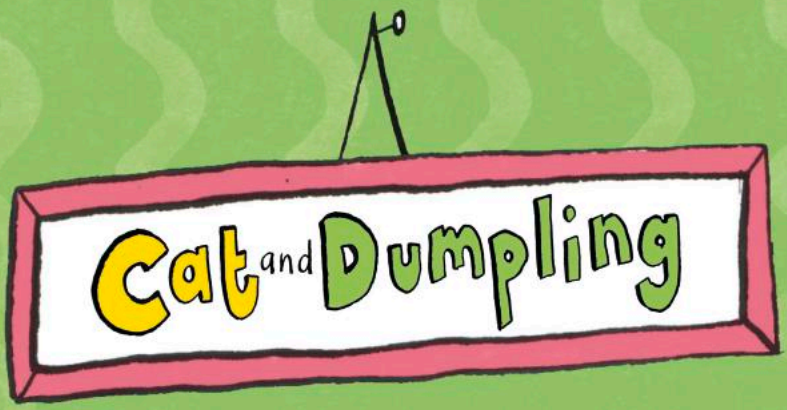
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Cat and Dumpling



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Meet Cat and Dumpling. Cat is a cat. Dumpling is a dog. Cat likes knitting; Dumpling likes gardening. Cat likes cunning plans; Dumpling likes a quiet life. They are very different, like porcupines and pancakes!

And this is the story of how they tried very hard to go camping . . .



Chapter One

A Special Delivery

It was a hot summer's day, and Cat and Dumpling were having their breakfast in the garden. The sun was streaming down, they had their sunglasses on, and their trousers were rolled up.

"What a lovely day," said Cat, licking a bit of raspberry off her nose.

"Perfect for gardening," said Dumpling, scrunching his feet in the cool grass and noticing it needed a trim.

Just then, they heard the mail slot on the front door clatter. It was always exciting to hear the sound of an envelope crashing onto the doormat. Cat sprang up and rushed to see what had arrived.

Dumpling fetched his lawn mower from



the shed, plugged it in, and began to mow. **Vroom!**

"Mmm!" said Dumpling.

He loved the smell of freshly cut grass.

Cat rushed back outside with a colorful brochure in her hand.

"Mmm!" said Cat.

She loved the smell of freshly printed ink.

"Look, Dumpling! A travel brochure! We should go on vacation!"

