Helping your children choose books they will love

I reading

Lovereading4kids.co.uk is a book website created for parents and children to make choosing books easy and fun

Opening extract from

Magic Farm: A Whole New World

Written by

Ashley Birch

Published by

Egmont Books Ltd

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.

Lovereading4kids.co.uk

Magic Farm

A Whole New World



Ashley Birch

EGMONT

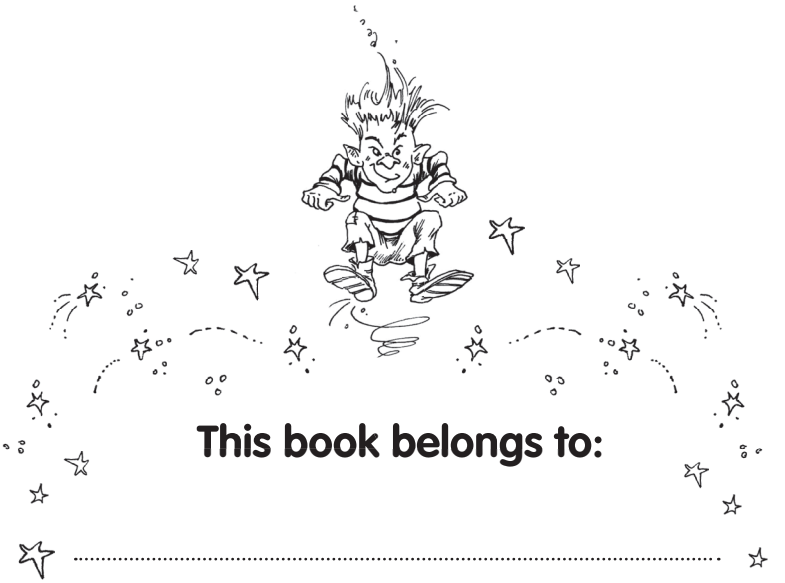
www.egmont.co.uk

Books in the Magic Farm series

A Whole New World

A Big Surprise!





This book belongs to:

.....

With special thanks to Valerie Wilding
For Stanley and Molly

EGMONT
We bring stories to life

Magic Farm: A Whole New World
First published in Great Britain 2011
by Egmont UK Limited
239 Kensington High Street
London W8 6SA

Text copyright © Working Partners 2011
Illustrations copyright © Samantha Chaffey 2011
All rights reserved.

The moral rights of the author and illustrator have been asserted

ISBN 978 1 4052 5134 1

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

www.egmont.co.uk

A CIP catalogue record for this title is available from the British Library

Printed and bound in Great Britain by CPI



Mixed Sources
Product group from well-managed forests and other controlled sources
www.fsc.org Cert no. TT-COC-002332
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council

Egmont is passionate about helping to preserve the world's remaining ancient forests.We only use paper from legal and sustainable forest sources, so we know where every single tree comes from that goes into every paper that makes up every book.

This book is made from paper certified by the Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC),an organisation dedicated to promoting responsible management of forest resources.For more information on the FSC, please visit **www.fsc.org**. To learn more about Egmont's sustainable paper policy, please visit **www.egmont.co.uk/ethical**.

CONTENTS

Mystery in the Mist	1
Chasing Chickens	17
The Hayseeds	35
We Can Help!	63
Little Rotters!	80
Where's Golden Valley?	100



Mystery in the Mist

Olly tried not to giggle as his sister, Hannah, clambered down the steps of the chicken coop. She had fluffy feathers stuck all over her chin, and straw in her hair!

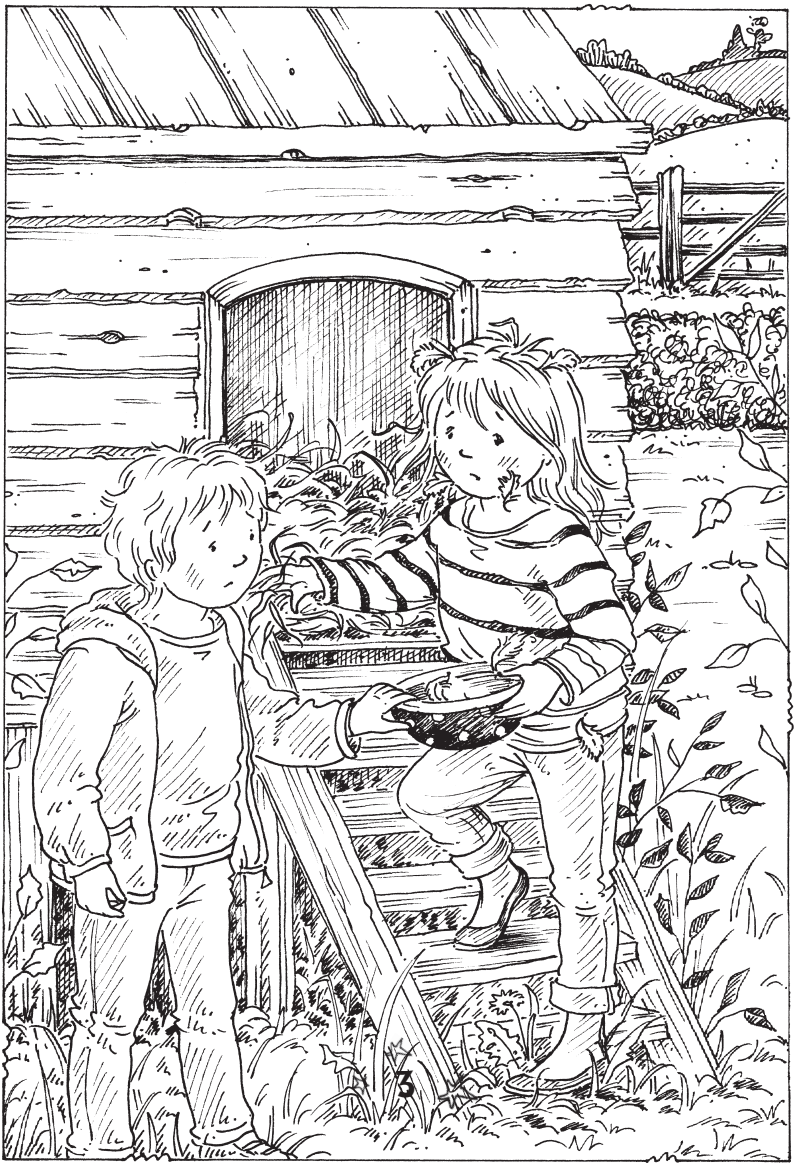
‘No eggs again?’ Olly asked.

‘Not one,’ Hannah replied.

‘Egg-straordinary!’ said Olly.

‘Ha ha.’ Hannah blew the feathers off her chin. ‘Olly, why won’t our hens lay us any eggs? We must be doing something wrong. But what?’

‘I don’t know,’ he said. ‘But we need to find out soon!’



They walked across the yard to the farmhouse. Hannah hung the empty egg bowl on its hook by the door. ‘I’ve mucked out Ebony’s stable and she’s out grazing. I’ll find her a nice juicy carrot. Have you finished your chores?’

Olly showed her his filthy hands. ‘I’ve watered the vegetable patch, and

there's not a weed in sight.' He looked around. 'Doesn't it all look great?'

The Thompson family had only lived at Golden Valley Farm for a few weeks. It had been overgrown and run down when they moved in, but Hannah, Olly and their mum and dad had worked hard. It was beginning to look like a real farm. Spring had

begun, so crops and vegetables were showing their first green leaves, there was a horse in the stable, and the sheep were due to arrive soon. The only problem was the chickens. They refused to lay eggs.

'What are you looking at?' Hannah asked Olly.

Olly was gazing at the hill behind

the farm. ‘The trees there are huge. I bet I could find some great leaves for my collection.’

Hannah rolled her eyes. ‘Haven’t you got enough already? Oh, come on, then. We’ll get a great view across Golden Valley from up there.’

A few minutes later they made it to the top of the hill, both puffed out.

‘Aidan!’ Olly shouted, breaking into a big grin.

Their neighbour Aidan was sitting on a tree branch, nibbling the last bits of an apple core. ‘Hi!’ he said. ‘You two looked as if you were struggling to make it all the way up here.’

‘*Hannah* was struggling,’ said Olly.



‘I was just waiting for her.’

His sister poked him. ‘I’m faster than you any day!’

‘I’m faster than both of you,’ said

Aidan, swinging his long legs back and forth.

Olly looked down the grassy slope on the opposite side of the hill from Golden Valley Farm. Mist swirled below, hiding the bottom of the hill. About halfway down stood a large scarecrow, one arm outstretched.

'See that?' Olly said. 'Let's race.

Last one to get there's a –'

He yelped as Aidan's apple core bounced off his head. Then Aidan jumped from the tree branch and landed beside him.

'Go!' shrieked Hannah.

They streaked away. Aidan was soon in the lead, running so fast his legs were almost a blur. Hannah was

next, but Olly was catching up. He wasn't going to let Hannah beat him! He grabbed at her sleeve, trying to pull her back, but instead he toppled forwards.

'Whoooooooaah!' he yelled as he tumbled down, down, down, pulling Hannah with him. They rolled over and over, laughing.

Aidan's voice floated up the hill. 'I wiiiiin!' Olly and Hannah sat up, and watched him run.

'Uh oh . . . He's going too fast to stop,' said Hannah.

'Heeelp!' wailed Aidan. He grabbed the scarecrow's outstretched arm and whirled round. The scarecrow span round, too.





The sound of Aidan's voice faded away. Everything went quiet. Olly clutched at Hannah's arm. 'Where's Aidan gone?'

Hannah gulped. 'He's . . . vanished.'