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Opening extract from
The Pirates Next Door

Written & Illustrated by
Jonny Duddle

Published by
Templar Publishing

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DULL-ON-SEA

Population: 222~~7~~

Average age: 67

Twinned with
Ennui-sur-Mer



For Jane, who agreed to
marry a pirate and didn't even
change her mind when she found out
I was an illustrator - JD.

handwritten
tablets

finest cutlery
polish

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The Pirates Next Door

Starring THE JOLLEY-ROGERS

by JONNY DUDDLE


templar publishing



Matilda lived in Dull-on-Sea, a gloomy seaside town – too busy in the summer...

and in winter it shut down.



There weren't too many kids around –
just Tilda on her street.
The lawns were mowed,
the cars were washed,
the hedges trimmed and neat.

The house next door had been for sale
since Tilda was a baby.
She hoped a family would move in
with a girl her age
or maybe...





AHOY!!

He had patched-up jeans, an EYEPATCH and a WOODEN-LEGGED dog!

And a PIRATE SHIP with TREASURE CHESTS and barrels full of GROG!



"We're the
JOLLEY-ROGERS!
We'll be anchoring next door.
We've sailed the seven seas
but now we've had
to come ashore."



"I feel a little landsick,
but Mum says it'll pass.
That's my mother over
there, digging up
the grass."



"That's Dad over
yonder – the captain
of our crew.
He likes to shout
OO-ARR!
a lot..."

... 'coz that's what
pirates do."



"Grandpa won't set foot on shore.
He's allergic to dry land.
The last time that he left the ship
the King chopped off his hand!"



"That urchin there's
called Nugget. She's
a rascal as you'll see.
She ain't learnt to
fire a cannon yet,
but then she's
only three."

Next morning, Tilda blurted:

Life's not
BORING
any more!



Isn't it
FANTASTIC
that those pirates
moved next door?

But Mum
and Dad
were not
impressed...



The neighbourhood will sneer.
The way they dress – the way they speak!
They won't fit in round here.
Their lad is always playing with
the most alarming toys...



We'd rather you
were friends with
NORMAL girls
and boys.

