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Opening extract from

Dragonsitter Takes Off

Written by

John Lacey

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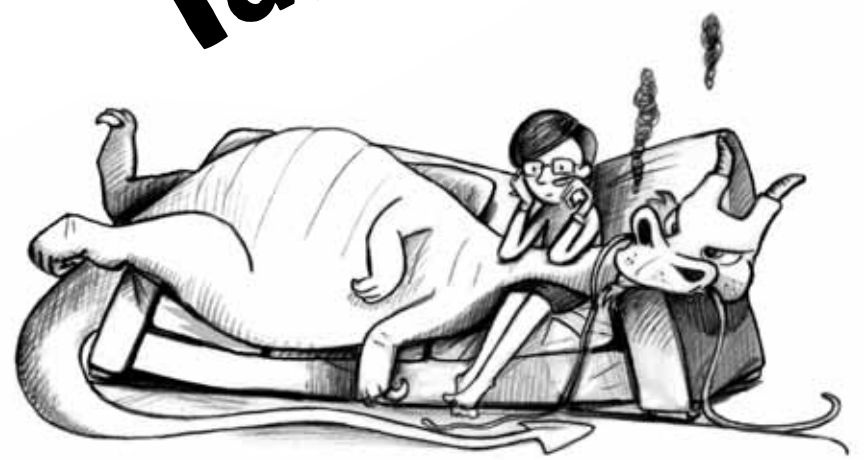
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The Dragonsitter Takes Off



Josh Lacey

Illustrated by Garry Parsons

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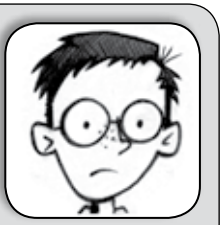


From: Edward Smith-Pickle

To: Morton Pickle

Date: Monday 17 October

Subject: Bad news



Dear Uncle Morton,

I know you don't want to be disturbed, but I have to tell you some very bad news.

Ziggy has disappeared.

Mum says he was asleep on the carpet when she went to bed, but this morning he was nowhere to be seen.

I'm really sorry, Uncle Morton. We've only been looking after him for one night, and he's run away already.

He must hate being here.

Actually he did seem depressed when you dropped him off. I bought him a box of Maltesers as a present, but he didn't eat a single one.

I've been reading your notes. There's lots of useful information about meal times and clipping his claws, but nothing about what to do if he disappears.

Should we be searching for him, Uncle Morton? If so, where?

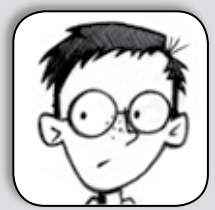
Eddie

From: Edward Smith-Pickle

To: Morton Pickle

Date: Monday 17 October

Subject: Still missing



Dear Uncle Morton,

We're back from school and Ziggy still isn't here.

While we were walking home, Emily said she saw him having beans on toast in the café.

I was already running to fetch him when she yelled, "Just joking!"

I don't know why she thinks she's funny, because she's really not.

Mum rang Mr McDougall. He said he would row to your island first thing tomorrow morning and look for Ziggy. He can't go now because there's a storm.

I'll let you know as soon as we hear from him.

Eddie