

Helping your children choose books they will love



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

Opening extract from  
**My Dog Daisy**

Written by  
**Jean Ure**

Illustrated by  
**Charlie Alder**

Published by  
**Barrington Stoke Ltd**

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

Please print off and read at your leisure.



# My Dog Daisy

Jean Ure

With illustrations by  
Charlie Alder

First published in 2015 in Great Britain by  
Barrington Stoke Ltd  
18 Walker Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7LP

[www.barringtonstoke.co.uk](http://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk)

Text © 2015 Jean Ure  
Illustrations © 2015 Charlie Alder

The moral right of Jean Ure and Charlie Alder to be  
identified as the author and illustrator of this work has  
been asserted in accordance with the Copyright, Designs  
and Patents Act, 1988

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be  
reproduced in whole or in any part in any form without the  
written permission of the publisher

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available  
from the British Library upon request

ISBN: 978-1-78112-496-3

Printed in China by Leo

# Contents

1	Goldfish	1
2	More than Anything	7
3	Fred	15
4	Friends Again	23
5	Secret	29
6	Sleep Tight	38
7	12 o'Clock Sharp	45
8	Tomorrow	51
9	Daisy, Daisy!	57
10	A Big Surprise	63





## Chapter 1

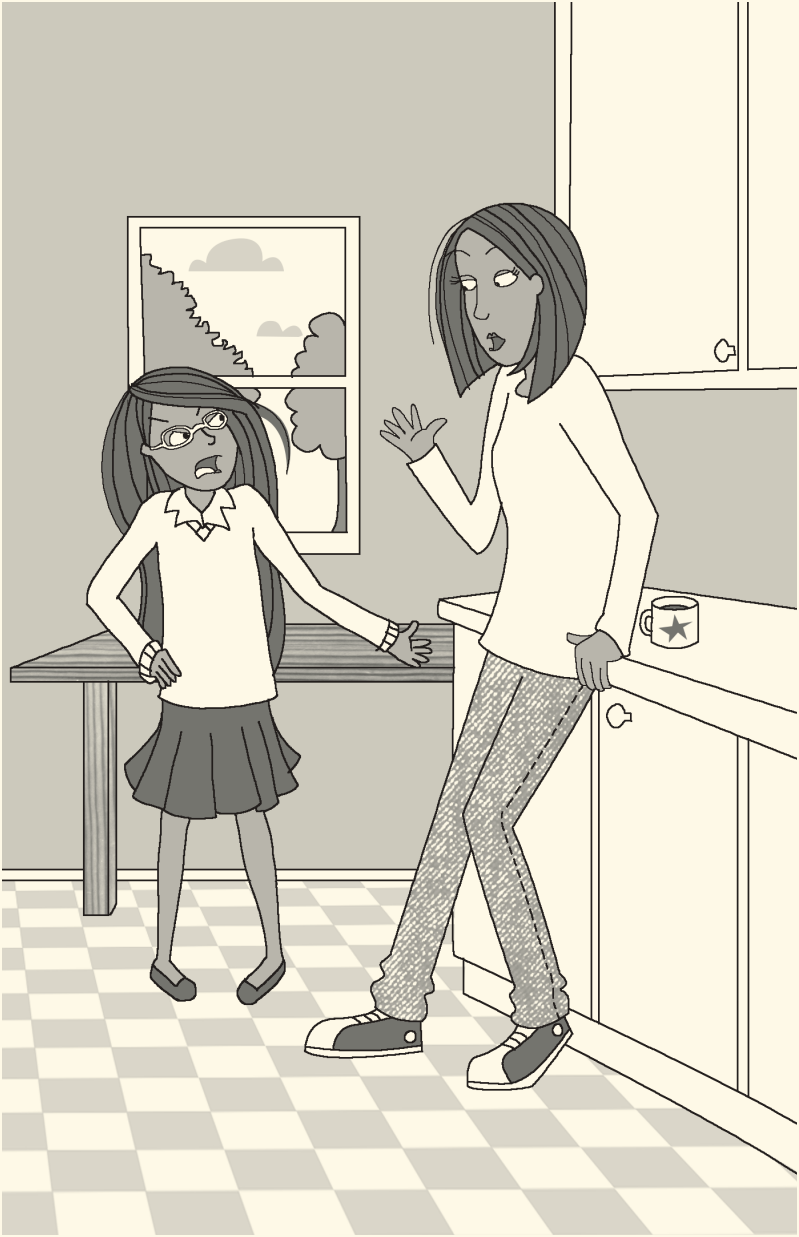
# Goldfish

*“I don’t want a goldfish!”* I cried.

I didn’t want a goldfish. I wanted a dog! Mum knew I wanted a dog. How many times had I begged her?

Mum sighed. “Oh, Lily,” she said. “We’ve been over this so many times.”

“But you promised!” I shouted it at her. “You said, when I was 12 I could have one.”



“I promised we’d think about it,” Mum said.

She’d promised I could have one! Angry tears began to roll down my cheeks. Maybe it’s a bit babyish to cry when you’re 12 years old, but I had wanted a dog for *such* a long time.

“Gran would have let me,” I said.

“Yes. Well.” Mum pinched her lips together. “We don’t live with your grandmother any more,” she said. “I’m sorry, Lily, I know how much you want a dog, but it isn’t possible. Not in a small flat with no garden.”

‘Huh,’ I thought. If Mum hadn’t fallen out with Gran we wouldn’t *be* living in a small flat with no garden. It so wasn’t fair!

“To be honest,” Mum said, “I’m not even sure we’d be allowed to have a dog here. I think it’s against the rules.”

“What rules?” I said.



Mum looked at me rather hard. She doesn't like it when I speak to her in what she calls "that tone of voice". She says it's rude.

"I don't know why we came here in the first place," I grumbled.

"Lily, you know why we came here," said Mum. "This is what we could afford. Don't be cross with me! I'm doing the best I can. There are all sorts of other pets you could have. How about a hamster? Hamsters are fun."

I didn't want a hamster! I wanted a dog. I wanted one *so much*. I'd wanted one as long as I could remember. Ever since the lady next door to Gran had got a tiny puppy. It was so cute! I used to go and play with it. If only we could have stayed with Gran. It was bad enough that Mum had moved us out – now she wouldn't even let Gran come and visit. She wouldn't even let *me* visit *Gran*. All because they'd had a row.

I snatched up my school bag and banged my way across the kitchen.

“I’m going to school,” I said.

“Lily, please don’t be like that,” Mum said.

For just a moment I hesitated. Maybe I was being unfair. It was true that Gran hadn’t always treated Mum very well. And Mum *did* do her best. She was out working all day, looking after other people’s gardens for them. Digging and weeding and planting stuff. I knew she would have loved to have a garden of her own.

If we had a garden of our own, I could have my dog.

It was Mum who was being unfair, not me.

“I’m going to meet Keri,” I said.

Mum followed me up the hall.

“Don’t I even get a goodbye kiss?” she begged.

I gave her a quick, cross peck on the cheek and rushed out. I slammed the door, really hard, behind me.