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Opening extract from
A Walk in London

Written by
Salvatore Rubbino

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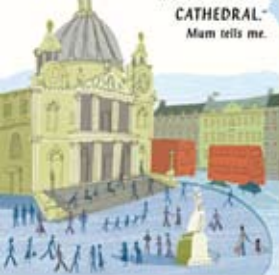
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There has been a cathedral on this site for over 1,400 years.

We go past the dragon – and find a huge stone church. "This is **ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL**," Mum tells me.



"There's a whispering gallery inside." We climb up lots of steps into the dome.



There are 277 steps up to the Whispering Gallery.

The Cathedral dome probably weighs about 84,000 tons.

Here in Paul's Cathedral have been built by the ground. The one was designed by Christopher Wren after the Great Fire of London in 1666.



In St Paul's "Whispering Gallery," a whisper against the wall on one side of the dome can be heard 20 metres away on the other.

Mum makes us stand in different places, then, "Hello!" she whispers and I jump! It sounds as if she's right beside me.

Most people call the clocktower of the Palace of Westminster 'Big Ben', but in fact 'Big Ben' is the name of the bell inside the clock.

The clock has been ticking since 1833. It keeps very good time.

Hello! This is *me*, and here's my mum! We've just got off the bus in Westminster, in the heart of central London.

A tall clock's striking. "That's **Big Ben**," Mum tells me.

"Eleven o'clock. Good, we'll be in time."

"In time for what?" I want to know.



London is the capital city of the United Kingdom. It has around 7.3 million citizens.

Double-decker buses have been riding the streets of London since the 1920s.