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Opening extract from The Parent Swap Shop

Written by **Francesca Simon**

Published by Orion Children's Books

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THE PARENT SWAP SHOP

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Orion Children's Books



Ava had terrible parents.

They nagged. "Have you done your spelling?"



They fussed. "How did your shoes get so dirty?" They ordered her about.



"Clean your room! Don't interrupt!



Use your fork. No more telly! Do your homework! Go to bed!" Ava's parents always said they were telling her what to do for her own good. Ava didn't believe them. They just love being bossy, she thought.

She scooped up noodles with her fingers and stuffed them in her mouth.



"Ava! How many times do I have to tell you? Use your knife and fork!" snapped Mum.

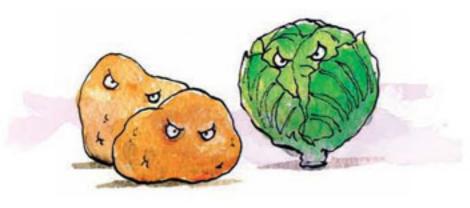
"And chew with your mouth shut!" snapped Dad.



I am sick and tired of being bossed around.



Parents who let her eat sweets all day. Parents who never made her go to bed, or eat vegetables, or do anything she didn't want to do.



I bet I have the worst parents in the world, she thought, after Dad moaned at her about her untidy room and Mum told her off for breaking her CD player, even though it was an accident.



One day Ava was walking slowly home from school. She'd got all ten words wrong in her spelling test. Mum and Dad would not be pleased.



Who cares about spelling, anyway? she thought, scuffing her new shoes along the pavement. Why shouldn't she spell words the way she wanted to?

A multi-coloured card lying on the ground caught her eye. She picked it up and read:

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