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Opening extract from  
**The Snake Who Came To Stay**

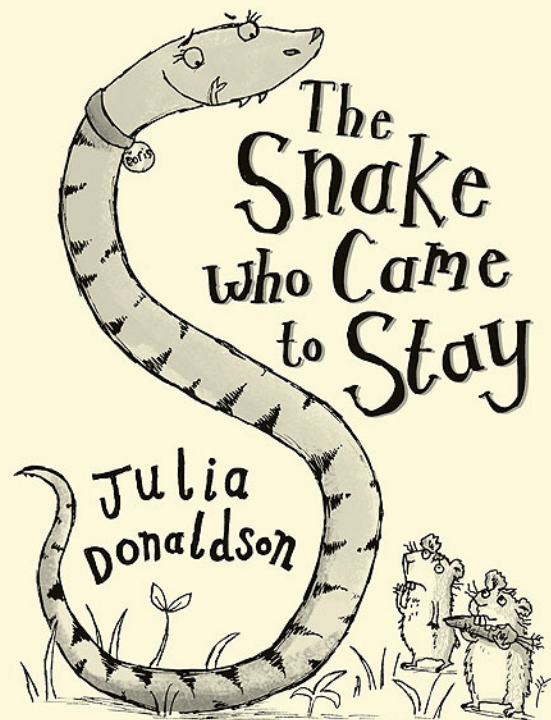
Written by  
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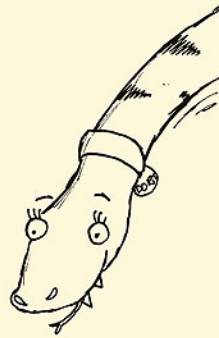
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This book has dyslexia-friendly features

*To everyone at  
Miltonbank Primary School*

Chapter 1  
Holidays  
for Pets



“A snake?” said Mum. “A snake?  
No, you’re not looking after a snake.”

“Oh, please, Mum,” said Polly. “It’s  
only for the holidays.”

Polly knew what Mum was like.  
Sometimes “No” could turn into “I’ll  
think about it”.

“Doris is a very nice snake,” said  
Polly. “I’ve met her. She’s not  
poisonous. Oh, don’t be mean, Mum!”



“Mean!” said Mum. “What a cheek!  
I’ve said yes to two guinea pigs, a bird  
and a whole lot of goldfish! I just don’t  
fancy a snake in the house.”

“But where else can Doris go?”  
asked Polly. “She can’t go on holiday  
with Jack. And we’re not going away.  
Oh, go on, Mum!”

“Well ...” said Mum, “I’ll think about  
it. But I want you to take that notice  
down from the front gate.”

The notice on the gate said –



Polly smiled as she took the notice down. She knew Mum. "I'll think about it" almost always meant "Yes".