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Opening extract from  
**The Pirates Next Door**

Written & Illustrated by  
**Jonny Duddle**

Published by  
**Templar Publishing**

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# DULL-ON-SEA

Population: 2227

Average age: 67

Twinned with  
Ennui-sur-Mer



For Jane, who agreed to marry a pirate and didn't even change her mind when she found out I was an illustrator - JD.

handwritten tablets  
finest cutlery  
polish

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# The Pirates Next Door

Starring THE JOLLEY-ROGERS

by JONNY DUDDLE

  
templar publishing



Matilda lived in Dull-on-Sea, a gloomy seaside town – too busy in the summer...

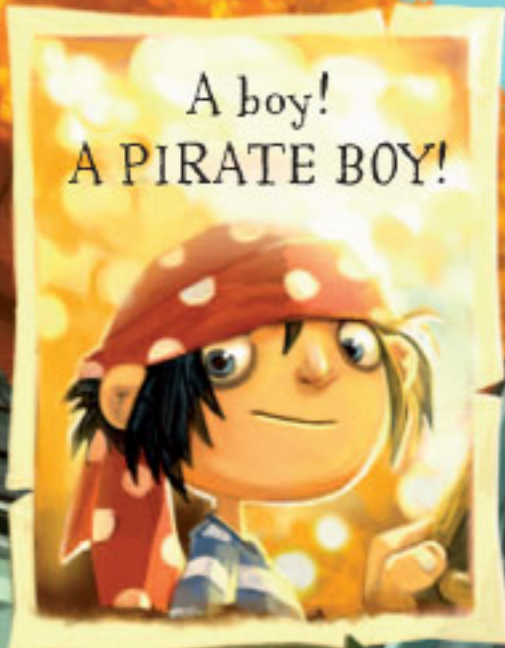
and in winter it shut down.



There weren't too many kids around –  
just Tilda on her street.  
The lawns were mowed,  
the cars were washed,  
the hedges trimmed and neat.

The house next door had been for sale  
since Tilda was a baby.  
She hoped a family would move in  
with a girl her age  
or maybe...





AHOY!!




He had patched-up jeans, an EYEPATCH and a WOODEN-LEGGED dog!

And a PIRATE SHIP with TREASURE CHESTS and barrels full of GROG!




"We're the  
JOLLEY-ROGERS!

We'll be anchoring next door.  
We've sailed the seven seas  
but now we've had  
to come ashore."



"I feel a little landsick,  
but Mum says it'll pass.  
That's my mother over  
there, digging up  
the grass."




"That's Dad over  
yonder - the captain  
of our crew.  
He likes to shout  
a lot..."


OO-ARR!

a lot...

... 'coz that's what  
pirates do."



"Grandpa won't set foot on shore.  
He's allergic to dry land.  
The last time that he left the ship  
the King chopped off his hand!"



"That urchin there's  
called Nugget. She's  
a rascal as you'll see.  
She ain't learnt to  
fire a cannon yet,  
but then she's  
only three."

Next morning, Tilda blurted:

Life's not  
**BORING**  
any more!



Isn't it  
**FANTASTIC**  
that those pirates  
moved next door?

But Mum  
and Dad  
were not  
impressed...



The neighbourhood will sneer.  
The way they dress – the way they speak!  
They won't fit in round here.  
Their lad is always playing with  
the most alarming toys...



We'd rather you  
were friends with  
**NORMAL** girls  
and boys.

