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## Opening extract from **Wendy Quill Tries to Grow a Pet**

Written by **Wendy Meddour** 

Illustrated by Mina May

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Printed in Great Britain Paper used in the production of this book is a natural, recyclable product made from wood grown in sustainable forests. The manufacturing process conforms to the environmental regulations of the country of origin.

If any of the characters in this book (especially my big brother and sister: Invor and Dawn), bear any resemblance to themselves in year life, please remember that you are completely fictional and this is just a totally surprising coincidence.

DEDICATION

Sarret Wendy Meddour

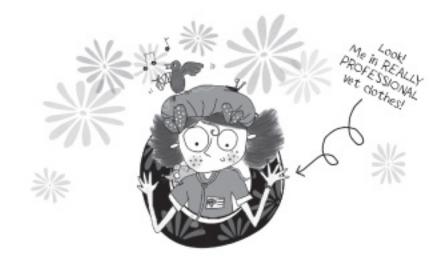
Fd We to dedicate my drawings to my wonderful cousins, Anale and Eva. And to my best friend, Claude.

DISCLAIMER

Signed Mina May

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The above-signed would also like to say a HUGE thank you to desmine Richards and Care Whitston Upflant editors), karen Stewart Upflaant desgner), and Penny Holmyde Upflant agent)-who loved Windy Quil as much as they did and hered them bring her to life





When I grow up, I'm going to be a vet. That's why I need a lot of practice. But Mum doesn't like things that poo in the house, and Dad only likes birds that he can't actually find. Which means I'll NEVER be allowed another pet. Not even one. Tiny. Small. Pet. 'What's up. Whee asked Dad (even though my name is actually WENDY QUILL). 'You haven't ts come 3

COV)

20



This is my 'She wants another pet,' said Woody, family: Mum, Dad, Tawny (sister), Woody Chrother) and me

144 A.WY

#### EXPERIMENT 1

Num wiggling her 'No More Pets' finger

'But you've already got a rabbit and cat,' said Dad. 'What more could you possibly want?'

'A dog, please,' I answered, politely.

'We are: NOT, 'having a dog,' said Mum. 'It'll poo in the house and tribble on the floor.'

### A COMPLETELY TRUE, SLIGHTLY SAD, HISTORICAL FACT:

I used to have a hamster called Twitch—but he died of surprise when our cat jumped on top of his cage. Dogs are much safer pets because they actually quite like surprises.

#### WENDY QUIL TRIES TO GROW A PET

'But Florence Hubert's dog only

'Exactly,' huffed Mum. Even though it wasn't exactly at all!

'You don't even like dogs,' yawned Tawny (who is actually already a TEENAGER).

'That was last year,' I said. 'I totally dogs now. And I need to try and get a bit of vet practice.'

'Whatever,' said Tawny, flicking through her brand-new horsey magazine.

(Tawny wants to be a showjumper when she grows up and helps 'muck out' at Romelly Pucker's stables. But I'm not

Whoops! Dogs sometimes dribble on books too

6



#### EXPERIMENT 1

allowed to go there even though I want to be a vet because teenagers actually need their own space.) Anyway, no one was taking a pinch of notice of me, so I had to think of something really fast. Suddenly,

VERY IMPORTANT

lots of wobbly bottoms

getting fat. It gave me an

idea like a FLASH:

"DID YOU KNOW,"

Tawny loves 'mucking out' even though she doesn't normally like poo

# DOGS STOP YOU GETTING OH BEASTIN!

0

'Oh beastily?' laughed Dad.

'She means "obesity",' said

Woody (reading my mind again).

'What I actually mean is,'

I explained: 'dogs stop

My big brother can read my mind because he's always learning magic tricks

#### EXPERIMENT 1

you getting FAT. It's a well-known SCIENTIFIC FACT.'

'But we're not fat,' said Woody, looking at his very stick-y legs.

'How on earth do dogs stop you getting fat?' asked Mum. 'Barricade themselves against the fridge?'

'No,' I said (because that was a silly idea and I don't exactly know what 'barricade' means). 'Dogs stop you getting

Wood

and not

like this

fat because they make you go for walks-

# EVERY SINGLE DAY.'