

Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In

Hi All

While we're all still having to adjust and **stay safe** at this worrying time, we thought we'd bring you another issue of **Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In**. Lots of us are missing our family, friends and especially going out to our favourite places like the Library ☺ We decided that we'd put together this little newsletter with lots of bits and bobs in such as recipes, book recommendations, and we've even included a quiz to help ease the boredom.

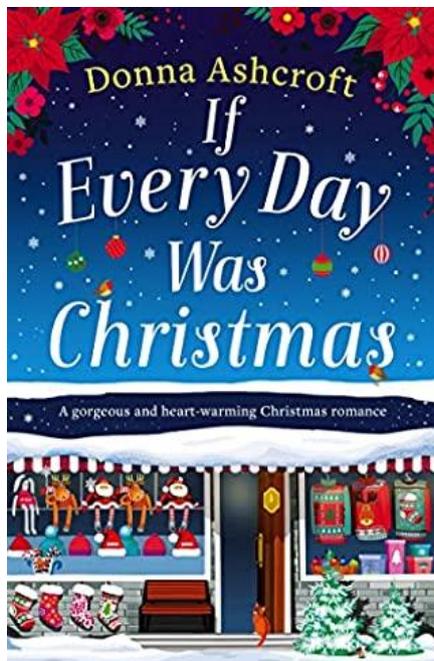
So, a little bit of homework for you while you're unable to go out and about. I was wondering if you'd share with us 'What You're Reading in Lockdown', or your favourite book/author that you'd like to recommend to others.

I've asked friends, family and colleagues to share with us what they're reading and it's quite a mix!

What are people reading?

If Every Day Was Christmas

By Donna Ashcroft



Will it be a Magical Christmas in Lockton this year?

Meg Scott runs a year-round Christmas shop in the little Scottish village and is a fan of all things sparkly and festive. When her warring family shows up on her doorstep, Meg is determined not to let them ruin her favourite time of the year.

Meanwhile, Christmas-hating Tom Riley-Clark has been called to the Highlands to help his old friend at The Apple Cross Inn. He's ready to work hard and has no time for mince pies, tinsel and the thought of every day being Christmas is his worst nightmare.

So everyone is surprised when Christmas-loving Meg and grinch Tom start to get cosy under the mistletoe.

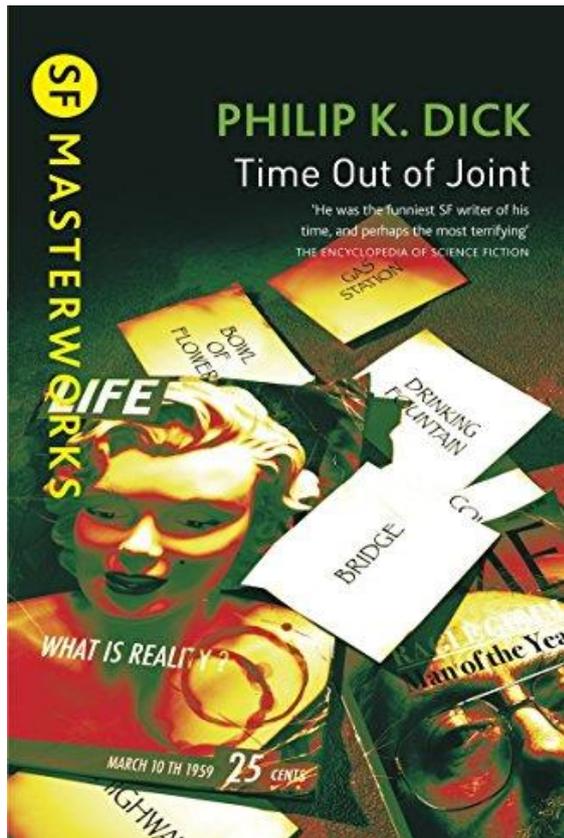
But Tom has a big secret about his past, and in a small town like Lockton it's hard to keep anything hidden for long. Will everything fall apart when Meg discovers who he really is? The pair are about to learn the hard way that some promises are impossible to keep...

TIME OUT OF JOINT

BY Philip K. Dick

Philip Dick's writings explore disturbed experiences of reality and may be familiar to readers from the films "**Blade Runner**", "**Minority Report**" and "**Total Recall**".

Unfortunately, film could not convey the protagonist's unease, in the above, as he slowly discovers his life in a small American town, in 1959, is a sham.



Despite being a professional quiz enterer, who has an uncanny knack of winning his local newspaper's daily prize competition every day, he only gradually begins to realise, with the help of his family, that things are odd and decides to see if he can break out of the façade of the town.

His initial attempt to escape is foiled by a conspiracy of planted 'locals' but eventually he succeeds. What lies beyond the town's hinterland?

Dick's Sci-Fi was somewhat out of kilter with the times and the ending is a little unconvincing but was apparently tagged on to give the book a more general appeal.

But, true to Dick, the "hero", as he discovers that it isn't actually 1959, finds the truth comes at a crushing personal cost.

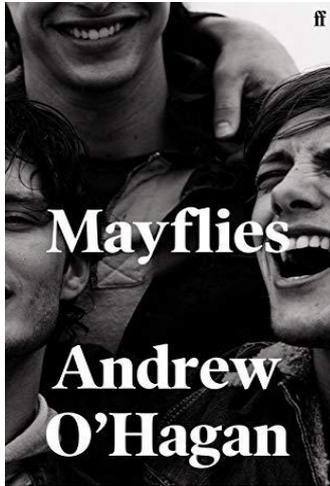
Like "**Tv's The Prisoner**", the theme of escape from an artificially conceived reality is a common one in film and fiction, but Dick's view point is unique and the "will he, won't he?" escape from the traps and decoys of the mysterious outsiders, provides genuine tension. The book will appeal to those that like a good conspiracy mystery and the ultimate one of course –is there something beyond our reality?

Review by Rob Duffy

Knowsley Resident

Mayflies

By Andrew O'Hagan



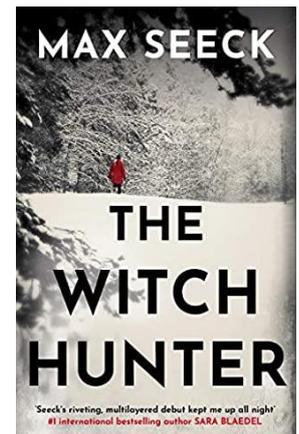
Everyone has a Tully Dawson: the friend who defines your life.

In the summer of 1986, in a small Scottish town, James and Tully ignite a brilliant friendship based on music, films and the rebel spirit. With school over and the locked world of their fathers before them, they rush towards the climax of their youth: a magical weekend in Manchester, the epicentre of everything that inspires them in working-class Britain. There, against the greatest soundtrack ever recorded, a vow is made: to go at life differently. Thirty years on, half a life away, the phone rings. Tully has news.

The Witch Hunter

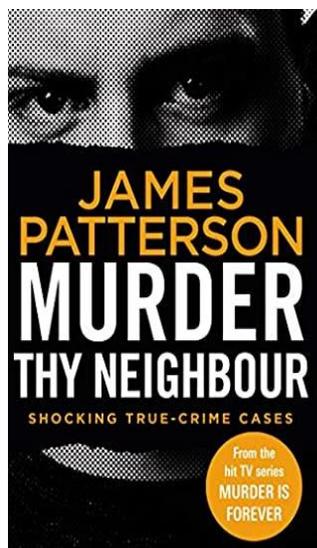
By Max Seeck

Detective Jessica Niemi is called to investigate a murder case which is completely out of the ordinary. The wife of a famous writer, Roger Koponen, appears to have been killed in a bizarre ritual. As more ritual murders occur in the coming days, it becomes obvious that Jessica is after a serial killer. But the murders are not random - they follow a pattern taken from Roger's bestselling trilogy. Has a devoted fan lost their mind, or is this case more personal?



Murder Thy Neighbour

By James Patterson



These two true-crime thrillers follow a neighbour's quarrel that turns violent and cyber-bullying that explodes into a double murder

Ann Hoover is a nice woman but she hates her neighbour. Ten months ago, Roy Kirk moved in next door and now his house is in a great state of disrepair and Kirk himself has turned sullen and hostile. When Ann sues him, Kirk will retaliate in a gruesome, horrific manner.

Jenelle Potter has always been better with connecting with people through social media. With overprotective parents, she hasn't had very many options to meet people, until she meets Billy. But her feelings for Billy are unreciprocated, causing Jenelle to start a virtual war, until that war enters the real world.

Do you know anyone who would benefit from our Home Delivery Library Service?

Do you know anyone who doesn't want, or is unable, to venture out at the moment?
They may struggle to carry books, or find it difficult to get to their local library?

Just pass on our number and ask them to give us a call on 0151 443 3738

We will deliver 5 books per month to their door.

We're here to help 😊



History Quiz:

- 1) What did the Romans call Scotland?
- 2) Who was made Lord Mayor of London In 1397, 1398, 1406 And 1419?
- 3) Who was Henry VIII's last wife?
- 4) Who was the youngest British Prime Minister?
- 5) In which year was Joan of Arc burned at the stake?
- 6) Which nationality was the polar explorer Roald Amundsen?
- 7) Who was the first female Prime Minister of Australia?
- 8) Which English explorer was executed in 1618, fifteen year after being found guilty of conspiracy against King James I of England and VI of Scotland?
- 9) Which English city was once known as Duroliponte?
- 10) The first successful vaccine was introduced by Edward Jenner in 1796. Which disease did it guard against?

I'll add the answers next month, good luck!

The answers to last week's teaser are as follows:

1. President Roosevelt
2. Sagittarius (until December 21) and Capricorn (December 22 onwards)
3. 10th
4. June
5. May to December
6. The Four Seasons
7. Anastasia
8. The Boston Tea Party
9. Saint Nicholas
10. Rosa Parks

Recipe:

I'd like to share some easy to follow and lovely to eat recipes from family, friends, colleagues and some that I've come across.

This one has been tried and tested by Lee from our Digital Team.

Minestrone Soup



Ingredients

2 tbsp oil (olive, sunflower or vegetable)
1 onion, finely chopped
1–2 sticks celery, trimmed and thinly sliced (optional)
400g/14oz tin chopped tomatoes
3 vegetable oxo cube
1 tsp dried oregano
roughly three mugs of assorted vegetables (could include raw or cooked vegetables, such as carrots, celery, courgette, leek, peas or cabbage, peeled and cut into small chunks)
400g/14oz tin borlotti or cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
1 mug cooked pasta or rice
Parmesan, or other cheese, grated
salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method:

- Pour the oil into a large non-stick saucepan or flameproof casserole.
- Add the onion and celery, if using, and fry gently for 5 minutes, or until softened and lightly browned, stirring often.
- Add the chopped tomatoes and refill the tomatoes tin 2 or 3 with cold water and pour into the pan.
- Add the vegetable stock cubes. Add the dried oregano. Add any hard, raw vegetable pieces, such as carrot, parsnip, squash or potato and bring to a simmer. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- When the harder vegetables have softened, add the raw green vegetables, such as small broccoli florets, shredded kale or cabbage, green beans and courgette.
- Simmer for 3 minutes more, stirring occasionally.
- Add any cooked vegetables or beans you are adding with the cooked pasta or rice.
- Simmer until the pasta is cooked stirring occasionally.
- Season with salt and lots of freshly ground black pepper.
- Ladle into deep bowls and serve topped with grated cheese.



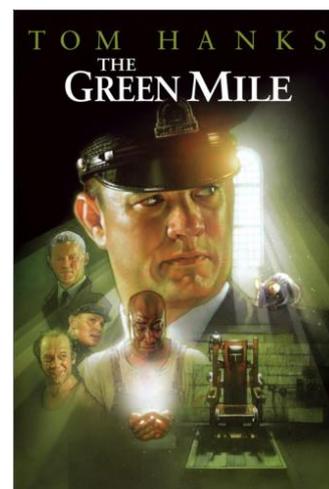
Films of the Week:

Monday: Armageddon **10pm Channel 5**

When an asteroid threatens to collide with Earth, NASA honcho Dan Truman determines the only way to stop it is to drill into its surface and detonate a nuclear bomb. This leads him to renowned driller Harry Stamper who agrees to helm the dangerous space mission provided he can bring along his own hotshot crew.

Tuesday: The Green Mile **10.30pm Channel 5**

Paul Edgecomb walked the mile with a variety of cons. He had never encountered someone like John Coffey a massive black man convicted of brutally killing a pair of young sisters. Coffey had the size and strength to kill anyone, but not the demeanor. Beyond his simple, naive nature and a deathly fear of the dark, Coffey seemed to possess a prodigious, supernatural gift. Paul began to question whether Coffey was truly guilty of murdering the two girls.



Wednesday: Hot Fuzz **10pm ITV4**

Hotshot police officer Nicholas Angel smells foul play when the residents of a sleepy Somerset village start to die in terrible 'accidents'. Something's afoot, but can he and daft local plod Danny Butterman find out what?

Thursday: Brooklyn **8pm BBC4**

Young Irish immigrant Eilis Lacey navigates her way through 1950s Brooklyn. Lured by the promise of America, Eilis departs Ireland and the comfort of her mother's home for the shores of New York City. The initial shackles of homesickness quickly diminish as a fresh romance sweeps Eilis into the intoxicating charm of love. But soon, her past disrupts her new vivacity, and Eilis must choose between two countries and the lives that exist within.



Friday: Hell or High Water **9pm Film4**

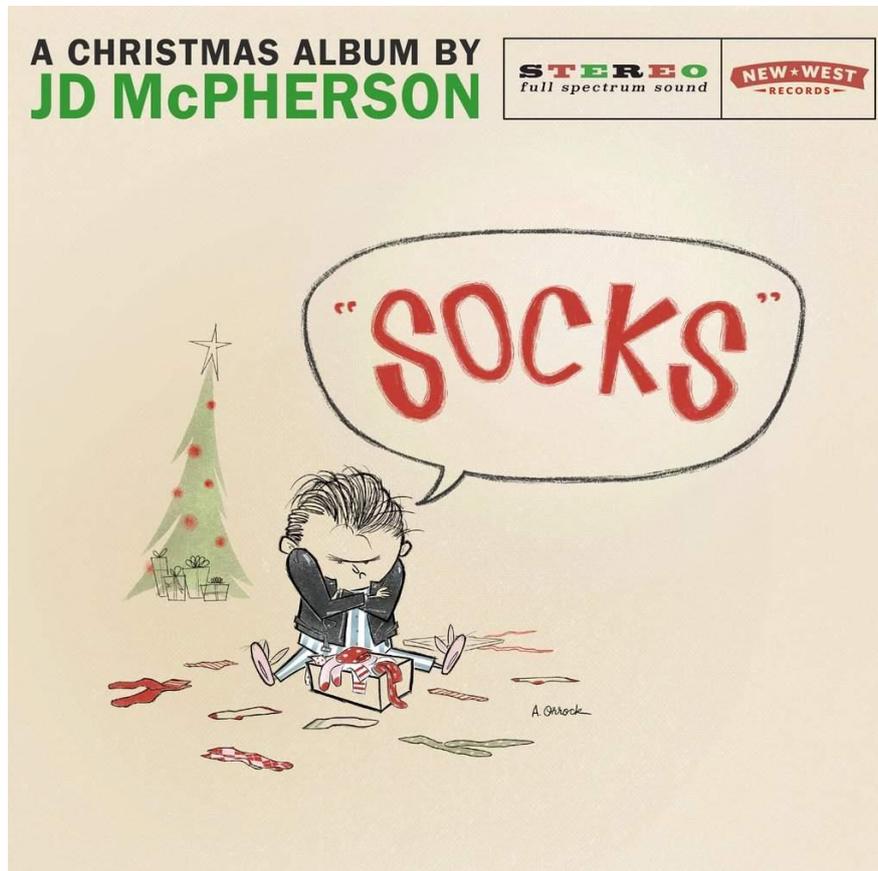
Toby is a divorced father who's trying to make a better life for his son. His brother Tanner is an ex-convict with a short temper and a loose trigger finger. Together, they plan a series of heists against the bank that's about to foreclose on their family ranch. Standing in their way is Marcus, a Texas Ranger who's only weeks away from retirement.

If you'd like to share your thoughts on any of the films, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk

Album of the Week:

Socks by JD McPherson recommended by Joe

If you're looking for an alternative to the usual Christmas playlists, this Christmas album by retro rock revivalist JD McPherson is the perfect choice. It features eleven original tracks, and is sure to inject some life into your Christmas morning.



Here is JD McPherson performing 'Hey Skinny Santa':

[JD McPherson - "Hey Skinny Santa!" - KXT Live Sessions - YouTube](#)

If you'd like to share your thoughts on this album, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk

Podcast of the Week:

Grounded with Louis Theroux Series 2

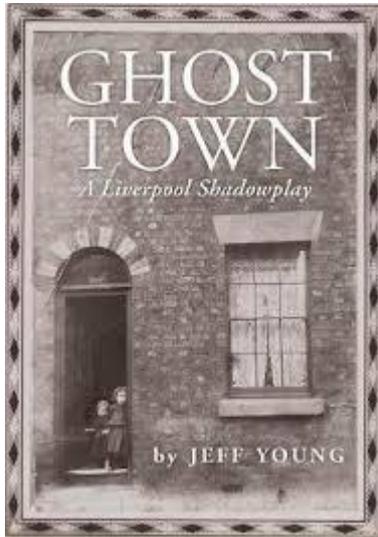
Stuck at home, Louis is using the lockdown to track down some high-profile people he's been longing to talk to - from all walks of life and on both sides of the Atlantic. Back for series 2, his guests include Sia, Michela Coel, Frank Boyle and FKA Twigs.



Here is the link to 'Grounded with Louis Theroux'

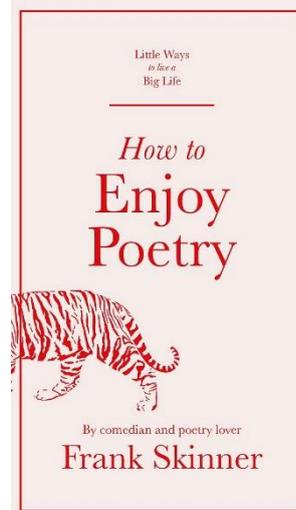
[Grounded with Louis Theroux: Grounded with Louis Theroux - Series 2](#)
[Preview on Apple Podcasts](#)

New Non-Fiction at Huyton Library



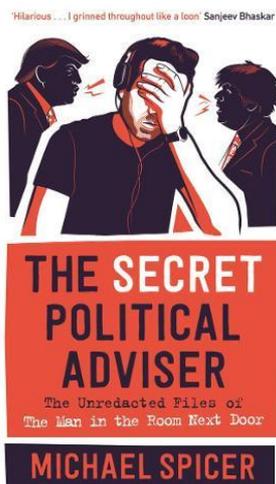
Ghost Town by Jeff Young

Recently shortlisted for the Costa book awards, Jeff Young takes us on a journey through the haunted places of memory and loss. If Liverpool feeds any part of your memory, you must read this book.



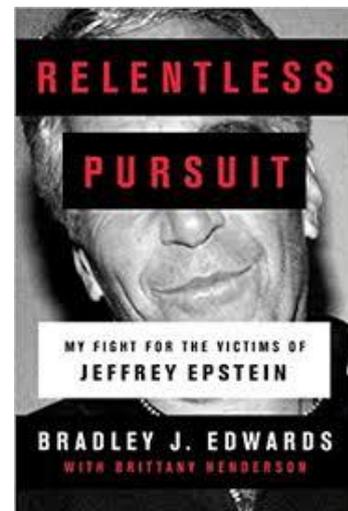
How To Enjoy Poetry by Frank Skinner

Frank Skinner wants you to read more poetry. His infectious passion for language will win you over and provide you with the tools to tackle any poem.



The Secret Political Adviser

Michael Spicer kept the country entertained with his seriously funny 'room next door' videos during lockdown. Learn more about the man in the room!



Relentless Pursuit by Bradley J Edwards

Author Bradley J Edwards has made pursuing Jeffrey Epstein his personal life's mission. Here he explores the dark tale that has shocked the world.

Something for the Kids:

QUIZ

1. What kind of food is penne?
2. How many days are there in February during a leap year?
3. What band was Harry Styles in before his solo career?
4. How many players are there on a Rugby team?
5. What kind of animal is a Greyhound?
6. How many sides does an Octagon have?
7. What is Super Mario's brother called?
8. How many books are there in the Harry Potter series?
9. What kind of creature is Shrek?
10. In the Toy Story films, what is the name of the boy who the toys belong to?

QUIZ ANSWERS

How well did you do with last week's quiz? You can check to see how many you got correct, may be all ten! The answers are below for you to check

1. Humpty Dumpty
2. The White Rabbit
3. A Butterfly
4. Christopher Robin
5. Aladdin
6. Helga Pataki
7. A Cracker
8. Boxing Day
9. A Christmas Tree
10. Rudolph, Vixen, Donna, Dancer, Prancer, Cupid, Dasher, Comet, Blitzen

We'll have another Quiz for you next week.

CRAFT TIME

This is a Christmas craft that I have seen on the internet and I wanted to share with you.

CLOTHES PEG SNOWMAN



What you'll need

- Wooden clothes pegs
- Wool - various colours
- Glue
- Mini pop poms
- White paint
- Paint brush
- Black marker
- Scissors

To Make

- ❖ Paint the clothes pegs white, to stop the paint sticking the peg together you will need to open the pegs a few times whilst they are drying



- ❖ When the paint is dry, you can make the scarf, to do this you will need to cut a small piece of wool and wrap it around the peg. Tie the ends into a knot. Add a small amount of glue to secure



- ❖ With the marker, draw the eyes, mouth and buttons onto the snowman



- ❖ Add a drop of glue between the eyes and mouth and stick on the pom pom

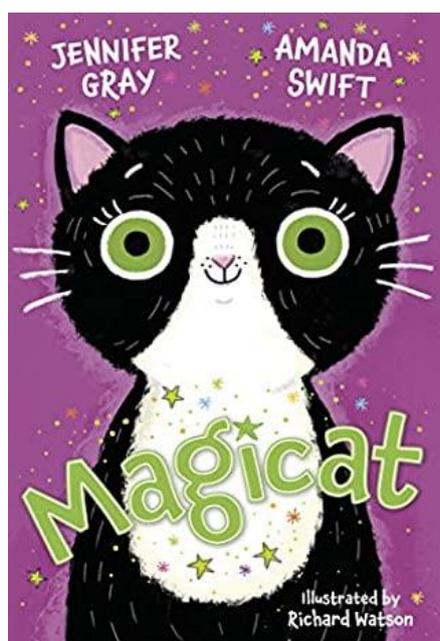


- ❖ When the glue is dry, your snowman is complete
- ❖ You could use your snowman and a piece of wool to hang your Christmas cards

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Magicat

By Jennifer Gray & Amanda Swift



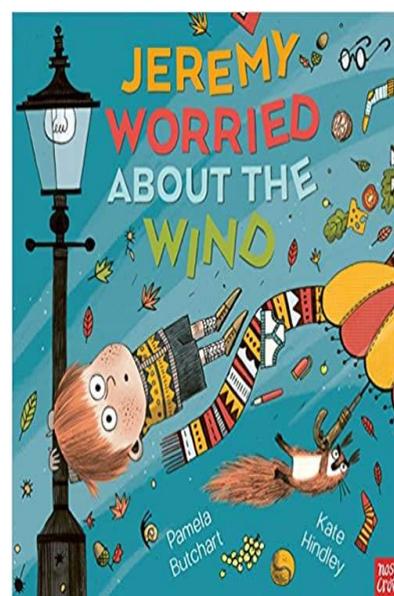
It's Halloween night and the streets are full of witches, ghouls and tricks - but the biggest surprise of all falls from the sky into Ali's treat bucket. It's a cat ... It's Magicat! Knocked off his witch's broom by a rogue firework, Magicat is stuck far from his home in Magic Land - and now he has to wait, disguised as a normal cat, for Wenna Witch to come and get him! Luckily Jessie and Ali are here to help him out ... but while they wait, what could be the harm in letting Magicat do just a little bit of magic? Friendships and felines make for a magical mix in this adorable adventure.

Jeremy Worried about the Wind

By Pamela Butchart

A quirky, touching fully illustrated picture book that will open up important conversations about worries and anxiety from Blue Peter prize winning author, Pamela Butchart.

Jeremy is a worrier. He worries about odd socks, spotty bananas, evil squirrels, burnt toast, dinosaurs and most of all . . . the wind! His friend Maggie isn't worried about anything - after all, what's the worst that could happen? But when Maggie decides to go outside and play in the wind, Jeremy must act fast to keep her out of danger, and he is soon to discover that a bit of courage leads to the most exciting adventures.





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