

Chapter 1

Callum gave me a dried up puffer fish. Its eyes had been picked out by a sea gull. I gave him a crab with seven legs. It was alive when I found it, but it died when I kept it in a tin.

We had to carry our presents up the lighthouse. Then we dropped them from the top. They fell down, down, down and crashed on the rocks far below. That was the end of our fight. That's the way we always end our fights.

But Callum still wasn't happy. 'I did see a man,' he muttered. 'He came up out of the sea and went back in.'

‘Here we go again,’ I sighed. ‘You don’t want to end the fight at all, do you? OK, just show me this man. Where is he? And how did he get here? Did he drop out of a plane? Did he jump off a ship? We have not seen a ship for three days. He must have been in the water for a long time.’

‘I don’t know. I did see him. That’s all.’

‘Did he just swim here? It’s a very long way to swim.’

‘Stop it.’

I didn’t really want to fight again, so I said, ‘I’ll beat you to the bottom of the lighthouse. Then I will be the oldest.’

Callum beat me. He was sitting in the sun when I got to the bottom. He can always beat me.