

Chapter 1

It was the day after Meg's birthday. Mum and Dad were cleaning the kitchen. Meg sat down to eat her breakfast.

'Did you enjoy your party, Meg?' asked Mum.

'It was the best party ever!' said Meg. 'All my friends had a fantastic time, and they gave me heaps of amazing presents.'

'You got plenty of new books,' said Dad. 'I'm sure they'll keep you busy for a while.'

'Yes!' said Meg. 'I've got more books than Nick now.'





Meg's brother, Nick, was walking into the kitchen right then. He took the last slice of Meg's birthday cake and slid it onto a plate.

'Can I borrow some of your new books?' asked Nick.

'Yes, of course,' said Meg. 'But you *can't* eat that cake. I want it.'

'There are lots of other cakes in the fridge,' said Nick. 'This carrot cake is my absolute favourite.'

'*Nobody* can have cake right now,' said Mum. 'We don't eat cake for breakfast.'