



Cara's Letters







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Contents

Chapter 1	Christmas Day	4
Chapter 2	To the City	8
Chapter 3	Grandma's Place	10
Chapter 4	A New School	13
Chapter 5	A Visit and a New Job	19
Chapter 6	Back Home	23
Chapter 7	For Sale	25
Chapter 8	A New Beginning	28



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Chapter 1

Christmas Day



28 December

Dear Megan — my most trusted friend, I hope your holiday is going a lot better than mine. You won't believe what's happened here. I've become a statistic.

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Are you ready to hear about THE WORST CHRISTMAS DAY IN HISTORY?

Well, Dad and Mum had a HUGE fight right in the middle of Christmas dinner — and Mum walked out. We didn't even get to eat Christmas pudding! Then Dad hid himself in the bedroom, and James and I were left alone to think about peace and goodwill at Christmas.

Mum stormed back in two hours later and there was more shouting — and Dad left. We haven't seen him since. He has phoned twice, but can't think what to say to us. I don't think Dad is coming back. I wish Christmas Day had never happened.

So now I'm a child from a broken marriage — a statistic. I don't know what to do or how to feel. I miss Dad, and Mum is really unhappy. I don't want anyone to know about Mum and Dad breaking up — except you, of course. You're the only person I can talk to about this. Gran phones twice a day, but she's upset too. I don't want to dump all my troubles on her.

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I wish you were here instead of at the beach. You always know how to help. Remember when our old tool shed collapsed onto my cottage garden? You came around with boxes of seedlings and you thought of extending the cottage garden where the shed had been. You were great. I think it'll take more than a few plants to cheer me up this time, but I know if anyone can make me feel better, it's you.



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Bring me back a big shell that you can hear the sea in, if you can — and some seaweed. I heard on the radio that it's great for compost, and my garden needs a boost. It looks sadly neglected at the moment.

Lots of love,

Cara the sad statistic

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Chapter 2

To the City

29 December

Dear Megan,

Just when I thought things couldn't get any worse... Mum's decided to move back to the city. And WE HAVE TO GO WITH HER!

I can't believe it! I don't want to go and neither does James. I don't want to leave Castleton. I don't want to leave my friends or my school or my dad. I'll miss everyone so much. I'll miss you heaps. You've been my best friend since we started school! I don't want to go to some other stupid school where I won't know anybody.

HURRY UP AND COME HOME, MEGAN!

Love,

Cara the very sad