

# Fortunately the Milk

By Neil Gaiman

Illustrated by Chris Riddell

Mum is away and Dad is left in charge. Finding no milk in the fridge, Dad pops out quickly to the corner shop to get some. Except he's not quick at all, he's gone a really, really long time.

When dad finally returns, the children ask him where he has been and to his children's surprise dad tells an almost unbelievable story of meeting globby green aliens, intergalactic police, pirates, vampires and, most important of all, a time travelling stegosaurus. Fortunately, dad manages to keep hold of the milk in order to bring it home safely for the children's breakfast.

This book is a wonderful read and especially enjoyable to read aloud and share with others. The combination of Gaiman's inventive weaving of tales and Riddell's absorbing and comedic illustrations is a captivating delight. I love how the characters in Dad's story somehow manage to appear in the background of the illustrations of the family's house; it's all a bit suspicious really!

I read this book aloud to my 10 year old son but I would recommend it for ages 6+. We both enjoyed the ridiculous silliness and had a giggle together every time the repeated phrase, 'fortunately, the milk...' cropped up.

If you're after, a quick, energetic, humorous adventure and a story which you can enjoy together, I thoroughly recommend giving 'Fortunately, the Milk' a read.

Mrs Coleman

