

Chapter

3

SPIES ALL AROUND

THE next morning, Mr Jenkins came hammering on the door of Wells Farm. "There's an emergency!" he yelled.

The cows had escaped through the gap in the fence. They were all along the lane. It wasn't easy getting them back into the field.

"It looks as if this was cut," Mr Jenkins said, as he twisted the fence wire together.

Polly thought she knew who had cut it – Grainger.



At Westbourne Hall, Mary was hard at work. First, she washed the breakfast dishes. Then Miss Millington made her scrub the kitchen table. While she was doing that, the doorbell rang. Mary peered round the corner to see who it was.

Mr Jenkins had called to make sure Mary was all right. But Miss Millington told him she was out.

"She could be away for hours," she lied.

"Then perhaps I'll see her at the Civil Defence lecture tonight," said Mr Jenkins.

"Perhaps," said Miss Millington.



At Wells Farm, Norman, Dennis and Polly were talking about Grainger.

"But why would Grainger cut the fence?" asked Dennis.

"It's part of his plan to get us off the farm," said Polly.

From then on, Dennis and Norman would do anything to help Amy. Even feed the pigs!

The smell in the pigsty was awful. So Dennis and Norman put on their gas masks. But then they couldn't see properly. The pigs knocked them over and escaped across the farmyard. It wasn't a very good start. And things got worse.

Everything that Norman and Dennis did to try and help went wrong. It was just one disaster after another.

Amy looked at Norman and Dennis. She had never seen such a mess. They were filthy, and Dennis's gas mask was ruined.

"I just hope the Germans don't try and gas us at tonight's lecture," she said.



There were lots of people at the Village Hall to hear Mr Jenkins' talk. Even Mary was there – trapped between Grainger and Millington. Norman, Polly and Dennis were bored. Then Mr Jenkins mentioned spies.

"Spies are all around us," he told the audience. "This is what they look like."

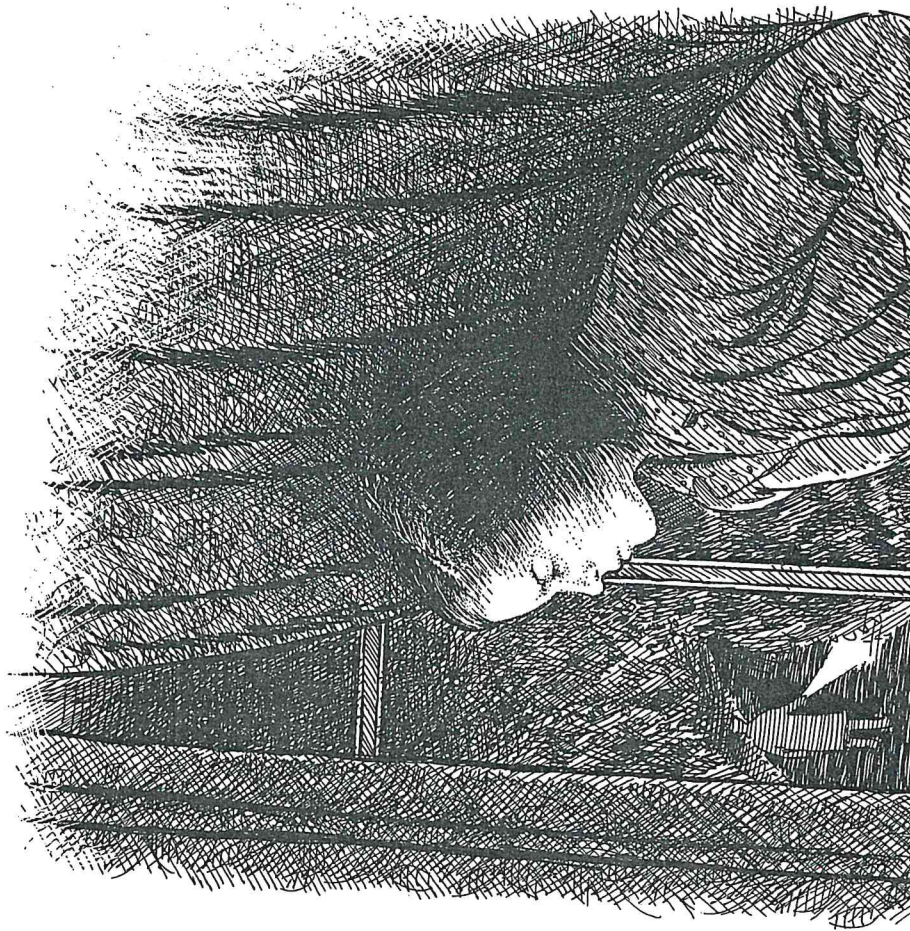
He showed them some spy posters. Polly, Norman and Dennis studied them carefully. If there were any spies about, they were going to find them.

Dennis and Norman had supper and went to bed. Dennis was looking through the window, hoping to spot spies parachuting down from planes. But Norman was thinking. Suddenly, everything clicked into place in his mind.

"Dennis! I just thought who the spy is," he said. "It's Grainger!"

Over at Westbourne Hall, Mary had been sent to bed without any supper. She had hidden some chocolate and a pound note under her pillow. But when she looked, the chocolate had melted and made a mess. Nothing was going right for her.

Downstairs, Grainger was going out into the night. He didn't want anybody to see him. He thought everything was OK. But it wasn't, because upstairs in her bedroom, Mary was watching him go.



Chapter

4

TROUBLE FOR MARY

MARY poured tea while Millington finished off the last of the marmalade. Mary was hungry and tired. Grainger saw her yawn.

"Late going to sleep last night?" he asked.

"No, sir." Mary didn't want him to know that she'd seen him going out after dark.



Norman had decided that Grainger must be a spy. But Dennis wasn't so sure.

"He doesn't look like any of those pictures on the posters," he pointed out. "And what about Millington?"

"She's not pretty enough to be a spy," said Norman. The woman on the spy poster had been very pretty.



Amy had gone shopping. But, because of the war, there were lots of things the shop didn't have – things like cigarettes, and eggs, and marmalade.

"They say it's all stolen and ends up on the black market." Amy told another shopper, Mrs Calver.

The next moment, Grainger walked into the shop. The assistant showed him straight through to the back room.

"I bet he won't have any trouble getting marmalade," Mrs Calver said to Amy. "He's got plenty of money."

Mary was in trouble. Miss Millington had found the melted chocolate stain and the money under her pillow.

"Where did this pound note come from?" Millington snapped.

"My mother gave it to me," said Mary.

"You're a liar. You stole it from my purse," Millington said. "Admit it!"

"If you don't believe me, you can write to my parents!" Mary said angrily.

But Millington didn't want anything to do with Mary's parents. Instead, she put the pound note in a vase on the mantelpiece.

"Should be well hidden there," she said.

Norman, Dennis and Polly had finished their jobs and were playing hide-and-seek. It was Dennis's turn to seek. He crept into the old cowshed. It was dark and silent. Dennis was scared. He had to get out fast. Then the door burst open. A stranger stood there. Dennis ran head-first into him. The stranger grabbed him and wouldn't let go.

Norman and Polly rushed to the rescue. They attacked the stranger and knocked him to the ground. But a soldier, Private Wilson, shouted at them to stop.



Just then, Amy arrived. "What's going on here?" she yelled.

"This is Luigi. He's an Italian prisoner of war," said Private Wilson. "He's come to help on the farm."

Polly and Norman wanted to see Mary. They thought she could help them keep watch on Grainger. So they went over to Westbourne Hall. They didn't see Mary but they did find an old greenhouse. It would make a good hideout. A safe place to keep watch.

Mary was in more trouble. Millington caught her reaching for the vase. The vase crashed to the floor and broke. The pound note had gone. Millington was furious. She sent Mary to her bedroom for the rest of the day.

Mary decided to write to her parents to tell them how unhappy she was. She gave the letter to Millington to post.

On the stairs, Millington read the letter. Then she put it on the fire.

