

## MAGGIE'S DIARY George Tony Jenny Nathalie Rick

(The kitchen in George's old-fashioned cottage. A large central stove.)

- GEORGE: You can't have breakfast here.
- JENNY: It's all right, George. We're staying at the hotel.
- GEORGE: This not good enough for you, then ?
- JENNY: There isn't room, for four of us.
- NATALIE: But it's great to be here, grandad. I just love these old beams.
- GEORGE: Don't suppose I can stay here, on my own.
- JENNY: I don't see why not.
- RICK: You never did too much cooking, did you, grandad?
- NATALIE: Listen to the expert.
- GEORGE: Where is he, then?
- JENNY: Tony? He's just going through Maggie's things.
- GEORGE: Mummy's boy. Always was.
- NATALIE: He was very fond of her. It's only natural.
- GEORGE: Always took her side, he did.
- JENNY: Why do you talk about sides?
- RICK: Cos it's a war, that's why.
- NATALIE: You know something? You're really thick.
- RICK: Still, I bet Suzy took your side. Right, grandad?
- JENNY: Rick, that's enough of that.
- GEORGE: Who? Who d'you say?
- JENNY: It's all right, George, don't worry.
- NATALIE: He didn't say anything.
- GEORGE: Suzy. He said Suzy. She never writes. Might as well be dead for all I know. Tony doesn't talk to me, Suzy's left home, and now Maggie's gone.
- JENNY: I know, George. It's very hard. But you'll get through it.
- GEORGE: Oh yes? And how do you know that?
- NATHALIE: We'll help, grandad. Honest. That's why we're here.
- GEORGE: How can you help?
- NATHALIE: Well, you know...I mean, we'll be here for you...
- JENNY: If there is anything we can do, George. Really.
- GEORGE: You're going to cook my breakfasts, are you?
- RICK: On this stove? I don't think so. Besides, you don't want us here.
- GEORGE: Breakfast every day, like she did. Is that it?
- JENNY: No. You know we can't do that...
- GEORGE: (getting up) I'm off. I'm going to bed.
- JENNY: Fine. You probably need some sleep.
- NATHALIE: Night, grandad.  
(George shuffles off)
- RICK: So if you get to be really old nobody nags you about manners.
- JENNY: He can't help it. He's having a rough time.
- RICK: No, he's always been rude. And selfish.
- NATHALIE: Hark at you. It takes one to know one.
- RICK: He's a lonely bloke who likes to stuff his face. Am I wrong?
- NATHALIE: What are you going to be like when you're seventy?
- RICK: I don't know. But I'll have central heating and a telly, that's for sure.
- JENNY: It's not their fault. They've been here forty years.
- RICK: Sounds like a long sentence.
- NATHALIE: I think it's lovely. I mean, you don't see stoves like this now.