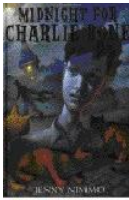


Passages

Reading Level 4



Title: Midnight for Charlie Bone

Author: Jenny Nimmo

Sample From The Book

"It's all nonsense," Maisie grumbled. "I don't know how you can just sit there, Amy, and let your crazy mother-in-law get away with it. Poor Charlie. He's just a boy. He's got nothing to do with those silly Yewbeams."

"He's got their blood," said Charlie's mother, quietly. "You can't get away from that."

Maisie couldn't. She closed her mouth in a tight little smile.

Charlie was very bewildered. In the morning he had been an ordinary boy. He hadn't been touched by a magic wand or banged his head. He hadn't had an electric shock or fallen off a bus, or, as far as he knew, eaten a poisoned apple. And yet, here he was, hearing voices from a piece of photographic paper.

To set his mother's mind at rest, Charlie said, "I don't think it was anything, really. I just imagined it."

Grandma Bone leaned even closer and breathed into his ear, "Listen tonight. Things work better after midnight."

"He'll be asleep by them, I'll have you know," said Maisie, who had ears as sharp as a rabbit's. "It's all garbage."

"Hah!" retorted Grandma Bone. "Just you wait!" She walked away, leaving a scent of mothballs and mint drifting around the kitchen.



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