

WHEN THE WORLD STOPPED



SUSAN DAVIES

Little Jess lived with her mummy, daddy,
big brother and cat Oliver, in a house,
in a town just like yours.



It was spring and the trees
were starting to bloom all
the way down her street.



Outside, the birds chirped
loudly in the trees . . .



big, fluffy clouds floated by . . .



and the warm sun came
up to greet each day.

Inside, however, Jess's life had
been turned upside down . . .



and she had lost all track of time.



She felt trapped and
didn't know what to do.

You see, the world had come to a stop,
and Jess didn't understand why.



Things had changed.



She didn't like that feeling — not at all.

"The world has caught a nasty bug," said Mummy.



"We must all stay at home to help it get better."

"The clever doctors and scientists are working very hard to help make it go away," she said.



Slowly, the days rolled into weeks.



Jess found that she had more time
to do all of the things she loved.

She had time to watch Oliver
pouncing after butterflies . . .



from beneath the cool
shade of the trees.

She had time to bake lots of tasty,
colourful cupcakes with her brother . . .



spending happy afternoons filled with
sticky hands and laughter.



But best of all, she had
time to just . . . **be!**





As Jess drifted off to sleep, she dreamt about
all the lovely things she would do . . .



all the lovely things she would see . . .

and all the lovely people she
would hug when this was over.







Jess marvelled at the colourful rainbow pictures stuck up at every window.



She noticed helpful neighbours delivering food to those in need.



And she watched people in their front gardens chatting to their neighbours.

Some evenings, the whole street exploded
into a chorus of clapping at every door!



THANK YOU

Mummy explained that this was our way of
saying a big thank you to all of the people
who are helping to make things better.



Jess thought to herself,
that even though people
were apart right now —
in some ways, they were
closer than they were before.

That made her feel happy and hopeful.



Jess hoped when all this was over...



that people would appreciate the simple moments they'd shared along the way.



And that maybe, just maybe, the world would become a happier place because of them!