

Magic Tree House Book 20

Dangers at Dinner Time (Unabridged)

Magic tree house No. 20

Dingoes at Dinnertime by Mary Pope Osborne

We hope you will enjoy this unabridged production of Magic Tree House No.20.

Dingoes at Dinnertime by Mary Pope Osborne

Read by the author

Dingoes at Dinnertime

## Chapter 1

The last gift

Anne sat on the footsteps she stared down the street at fogged (quick?) quite woods.

"Hi! Jack!" she said, "do you hear it?"

Jack sat next to her, he was reading a book. "Hear what?" he said.

"Teddy's calling us." said Anne.

"Are you kidding?" said Jack. But he looked down the street and

listened too.

A faint bark came from distance. "Woof, Woof..."

A big smile was across Jack's face.

"You heard it." Anne said

"Yeap." said Jack. "You are right. It's time to go." He stood up and grasped his backpack.

"We'll be back soon." Anne shouted to the green door.

"Don't be late for dinner." their dad called.

"We will." said Jack.

He and Anne run down the street and into the fogged quick wood.

Soon they came to the tallest oak.

There was the Magic Tree House. A little black nose stamped up on the window.

"Hi, Silly! " Anne called.

"We're coming. Woof" came the happy bark.

Anne grasped the rope ladder and started climbing. Jack followed her up to the tree house. A small dog sat in the circle of the afternoon sunshine. His tail wagged.

"Hi, Teddy!" said Jack.

Jack and Anne hold Teddy and the dog licked both of them.

"Morgen's not still here." said Anne.

"Yeap." said Jack. He knew the news by heart now.

This little dog was undoubtable in need their help. To free him must be given four special things. A gift from ship lost in sea. A gift from the prairie blow. A gift from the forest far away A gift from a Kangaroo

Be wise, be brave, be careful.

Morgan.

Beside nod with gifts from their first three trips.

One, a pocket watch from the Titanic. Two, a eagle's feather from the prairie skies. Three, a lowest flower from the forest of the India.

"We just need to get the gift from the Kangaroo. " said Anne, "and Teddy will be free from the Spell."

"We must be going up to Austrilia." said Jack, "That's for kangaroo's live."

"Cool." said Anne.

Teddy winded and squashed the bookend in the corner.

Jack picked it up. "Well, I'll tell you." he said, he showed the cover to Anne. The title was "An adventure to Austrilia. "

"Great!" said Anne. She looked at Teddy. "Ready to meet a

kangaroo?"

Woof, Woof!

Jack opened the book. He found pages with small pictures of different animals and big pictures of the forest. Jack pointed at the forest.

"I wish I could go there." he said.

The wind started to blow and the tree house started to expand. It's expanded vaster and vaster.

Then everything was still. Absolutely still.

## Chapter 2 Sleepy head

Jack opened his eyes, glaring sunlight flooded into the tree house.

"I need hats." said Anne. She and Jack were both wearing hats.

"I think we'll be protected from the sun." said Jack. He and Anne looked out of the window, Teddy looked up too. The tree house has landed in the scrubby forest filled with Jupiter plant and dry brown

trees.

"Ma'am, this place need rain." said Jack.

He sat back on his heels and looked at pictures where he had lended Austrian book. He read:" Austrilian forests go through times of drought. A drought is a long period of time without any rain. The same forest can be flooded by heavy rains at other times of the year. " Jack pulled it up as no books and read:"drought equals no rain."

"Hi, Jack," said Anne, "does it smells like to cook out?"

Jack sniffed his ears. "It didn't smell like to cook out." Jack looked out of the window. The whisper of smkke flooded from trees and distance.

"Maybe people were camping over there." Jack said.

"Let's go and see." said Anne.

Jack put his notebook and Australian book into his backpack.

"Put Teddy in there too." said Anne.

Jack stuffed the little dog into the pack and followed Anne down the Ladder. When they stepped down to the ground, The Hot wind nearly blew their hats off.

"The campers must be over there." said Anne. She pointed the

smoking on the blue sky.

They started to walk across the sunray to clear it.

They passed the bushes and scrawny trees. Lizards run over the dry cracked ground.

Woof! Woof!

Teddy barked from Jack's back.

"Wow!" said Jack, a pair of huge funny-looking birds walked out from behind the bush.

They were taller than Jack, they had wide bodies and long skinny legs and long skinny necks.

"Who are you?" Anne asked the strange pair.

Jack opened his pack and took out the Australian book. He found pictures of the birds.

"They are Emues." He said.

He read aloud:"The emu is the large bird that doesn't fly. He can run as fast as thirty mile per hour. "

"Wow! That's fast." said Anne.

Woof, Teddy jumped out from Jack's backpack, barking to the strange birds. The Emues gave the little dog a hot look, then they turned and walked proudly away.

Jack wrote in his notebook: "Emus, pride birds, don't fly."

"Look! a live Teddy bear!" said Anne.

Jack looked up. Anne run to a tree which's edge's clearing. The live teddy bear was nestling on the folk of the tree.

"Ah, it's so cute." whispered Anne. The creature was fat and asleep, it had large round ears, a black nose and a furry body. Its feet had long curved claws.

"It's Koala bear." said Jack.

"Hi, sleepy head." Anne said to the Koala. She petted his soft fur. He opened his big eyes and looked like comic actor.

Jack found Koala picture in the Austrilian book. He read:" The koala is actually not bear at all. It's a marsupial, like Kangaroo. The Marsupial mother carries her baby in the stomach pouch."

"That's need. " said Anne.

Jack kept reading: "Koalaes mostly live on the gum trees. So cutting down gum trees to clear land has hurted them. Wildfires are also a threat. Koalas are slow moving and can't give in from a smoking flames."

Jack pulled out his notebook and wrote: "Wildfires are theat to koalaes. "

"It's wrong sleepy yet." Anne asked the koala. "Don't you fell well?"

"Don't worry." said Jack, "listen to this. " He read more from the book. "Koalas are like kangaroos active at night and asleep during the day. When the sun's hot. The name 'Koala' means 'no drink', because koalas rarely drink water. They get moisture from the leaves they eat. "

Jack licked his lips, his mouth felt dry.

"Speaking of water." He said, "I'm thirsty."

"Me too." said Anne.

Teddy was padding as if he was thirsty also.

"Let's find those campers," said Jack signing, "maybe they can give us some water. "

Jack put Teddy back to his pack. He tapped the book under his arm and Teddy's looking something up. They began walking again. Suddenly, there was a loud hoarse guttural.

"Yaex!" said Anne.

"What was that?" said Jack.



## Chapter 3: Big Food

The loud cry rang again through the dry air. Teddy barked. Jack and Anne turned around and glaring. It's hard to tell where the sound was coming from. The terrible guttural came again.

"There!" said Anne. She pointed at the bird in the gum tree. The bird had brown feathers and large head with a long beak. It stared down at Jack and then it led out another guttural.

"Weird." said Jack. He found the bird in his book and read:"The Kookaburra is the best known bird of the Austrilia. There is even a popular song about it. The Kookaburra is also called 'the laughing donkey.' This is because the strange sound they make reminds people as a (brim?) donkey."

"I know that song. " said Anne, she began singing:" Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree. Merry merry king of the bush is he. "

Jack wrote it in his notebook:" The Kookaburra, a big Kook."

Anne stopped singing. "Hey, " she said, "there is a other weird day."

"Where?" said Jack. Anne poited to a big blue lop hanging up in the sallow dusty hole.

"Is it a live?"said Jack. They kept closer to the big lop.

"It looks like a bralling." said Anne. The lop was an animal lying on

its back. it passed across over its chest. It had huge feet, large ears and a face like dears and very long tail. It also had a very fat stomoch. Just then a small head peered out of the stomoch.

"Wow!" said Jack,

"Oh, whaow! It's a kangaroo with a baby in her pouch!" said Anne.

"Great!" said Jack, "Remember we had to get a gift from kangaroo."

Their voices woke the kangaroo, The animal jumped up from a sallow bed. She glared at Jack and Anne, her baby peaked out of her pouch. The mother-kangaroo gave an angry stamp.

"Oh, we're sorry." Anne said, "we didn't mean to wake you up." The kangaroo looked at Anne curisely, then she took a giant hop trotter, copying in the kangaroo any hope big animal. The kangaroo hopped again. Anne hopped.

The kangaroo and Anne began to hop around each other. They looked as if they were dancing. Jack couldn't believe how graceful the kangaroo was. She seemed flyed in the air and landed softly like a butterfly. He looked up at the kangaroo in his book and read: "The kangaroo is the most famous of the marsupials. The famales carry their baby known as joey in their pouch. Scientists call the kangaroo a macropod, which means 'big foot'. and big feet help kangaroo hop further than any other animals in the world. With their running leap a large kangaroo can jump over a school bus. Forget

the hopping contest, Anne!" Jack called. "She can outhop you by an mile." he put it up in the notebook and wrote:"Kangaroo, big foot, can jump over a school bus." The kangaroo began to stamp her feet again.

"What's wrong?" said Anne. The kangaroo froze.

"Wow~"Teddy growled from Jack's backpack, some nearby bushes moved. A moment later, three dogs crept silently into the clearly. They were sand colored and mean-looking. Teddy growled once more. But the dogs crept toward the kangaroo. Suddenly, the mother kangaroo sprang into the air away from the dogs. The dogs chased after her.

"Stop!" cried Anne,"Stop, leave her alone."

As the kangaroo jumped she turned immediately and landed facing a different direction. she then zipzagged over rocks and bushes.

Howling the wild dogs chased after the kangaroo and her baby.

## Chapter 4: Joey

"Oh, no!" cried Anne. "We have to save her." She took off after the dogs.

"Woof! Woof! Woof! " Teddy barked over Jack's shoulder. Jack run after Anne with book under his arm. He run over the dry cracked ground passing rubby bushes and sky-tailed gum trees. Jack (?) Anne run ahead of them. He saw her stopped suddenly. She turned and dropped to her knees.

"What happened?" he shouted.

"Come look!" she said.

Jack reached Anne beside in the grass was the baby kangaroo. He was trembling.

"Don't be scared." Anne warmly say. Then she looked at Jack.

"Where is his mum? why did she drop him?"

"I don't know." said Jack. He put his pack on the ground and opened the Austrilian book. Teddy jumpned out of the Pack. The little dog tried to lap the little kangaroo,

"Don't scare him, Teddy!" Anne said. Teddy sat back and watched politely.

Jack openned the Australian book ant found the picture of a baby

kangaroo. He read:" The biggest enemy of kangaroos is the dingo, the wild dog of Australia. When the mother kangaroo chased by dingos she may throw her joey out of her pouch. Without the extra weight in the pouch, she can leap faster and further. She didn't leave the dingos away from her baby if she gives off the dingos, she will return to the joey. "

"Oh! Jack~!" Anne said sadly. "I hope his mother will escape from the dingos."

"Me too." said Jack.

"Hi, Joey," said Anne. she gently petted the baby kangaroo

"He's so soft, Jack."

Jack knocked down and touched his brown fur, "It was soft, the softest fur I've ever felt." The shy little kangaroo stared at Jack with big brown eyes and trembled.

"Don't be scared, Joey." Anne said. "Your mum's going to come back for you."

Joey jumped away from Jack and Anne, he hopped towards the Jack's pack which were sitting on the ground. The baby kangaroo took a giant leap and hid fastly into the pack. His whole body went inside, but his big feet stretched out. And then he turned himself over and peaked out to Jack and Anne. They both laughed.

"He thinks your pack is a pouch."said Anne.

"I know, put it on backward. He will feel like when his mum carries him."

Jack put the Australian book on the ground, then Anne helped him put the pack on his chest and strapped on his back.

The joey was heavy, "Here, "Anny said, "he looks just like her mother-kangaroo. "

"Oh,brother, " said Jack. but he petted baby's soft fur, "Don't worry," he said to the Joey, "You can stay here untill your mummy gets back. "

"Here you are, joey! Would you like some grass to eat?" asked Anne.

Anne scrapped behind for the grass and gave it to the kangaroo, He munched the grass keeping his big eyes on Anne.

"I hope his mother come back for him soon." she said worriedly.

"Yeah," said Jack, He looked around the dry forest. There was no sign of his mother kangaroo, but Jack saw something else.

"Look, " he said to Anne,

The whispered smoke to the sky had turned to a big bright cloud. Jack noticed that the smell of the burnning woods was much stronger.

"What are those campers doing?" said Anne, "Are they making a

bonefire for what."

A feeling of dread came over to Jack, "What if," he said, "what if in the distance a tree suddenly burns into the flames. We're looking at a wildfire. "he said.

## Chapter 5: Wildfire

"Wildfire?" said Anne.

"The water's drying and waiting for a starting to burn." said Jack.

"We have to get out of here."

"We can't leave joey." said Anne.

"We will take him with us." said Jack.

"What if his mommy come back find that he wasn't here?" said Anne.

"We don't have a choice." said Jack.

Just as the kookaburra flew through the sky crackling, the emues ran by at the top speed. The air was getting smokier and smokier.

The fire was spreading quickly.

"Come on!" said Jack.

"We have to get back to the tree house before burns down."

"Which way is the tree house?" said Anne.

"I'm not sure." said Jack,

Smoke had reached the tree tops, Jack's eyes stumbled.

"Forget it." he said. "let's just get away from the smoke. Come on. "

Jack and Teddy turned to go. The baby kangaroo hided his head inside of Jack's pack.

"I have a job," said Anne,"I have to get something."

"What?" cried Jack.

But Anne had dashed off at other direction.

"Come back." Jack shouted,"Anne!"

Braches cracked and fell form the trees, smoke billowed everywhere.

Woof! Woof!

"Anne!" Jack cried. Jack choked on the smoke, he coughed and ran.

The air was getting hotter, he had no choice he had to run.

Woof! Woof! Teddy barked from somewhere ahead.



"Hurry! Anne!" Jack called helplessly.

Anne took out after the Teddy, he trumbled brightly through the brush. All he could do was to follow the sound where Teddy's barking. His pack was felt heavier and heavier. He hold it up with his arms and kept going.

Suddenly, Jack heard Anne's calling him. Jack stopped.

"Here! Here! Here! We're here."he shouted, "Come on, follow us."

Anne appeared from the heat of the smoke, she was coughing. Tear streamed from her eyes. She was carrying the koala.

"Come on," Jack cried, "Follow Teddy!"

Woof! Woof!

Jack and Anne carried joey and koala. They followed Teddy's barking to the smoky fire-fueled forest.

Finally, they came to a giant rock,

Woof! Woof!

Teddy was standing on the ledge. Behind him was the mouth of the cave.

Through the smoke, Jack can barely see the little dog.

Teddy barked again, and vanished inside the cave.

"Follow him!" said Anne.

## Chapter 6: Hands in hands

Jack and Anne climbed on the rock legend stepped into the cave.

The air inside the cave was cooler than the air outside.

"I can't see anything." said Jack.

He petted on the head of the baby kangaroo,

"Me neither." said Anne.

Woof! Woof!

"Against we have to follow the Teddy's bark." said Anne.

"Let's hold hands!" She held out her free hand to Jack. Jack took it and put his other hand out to touch the wall. The joey moved in his pack. Jack and Anne walked into the darkness.

Woof! Teddy's barking leading them on.

Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof!

Suddenly Jack felt something against his leg. he stopped and guessed. "What's it?" said Anne.

Woof! It was Teddy! He still was in the wagon and held Jack's flag.

"What is it, boy?" Jack asked him.

Teddy let out a howl. As he howled, an amazing thing happened. A

wide line began to glow in the air. The glowing line grew looked like a giant snake been glowing handprints appeared as a glow snake. Jack felt Anne squeezed his hand.

"I think it's painting on the wall." she said.

"But what is it?" whispered Jack.

"I don't know," said Anne. She let go of Jack and put her hand inside one piece of the handprints. Jack did the same. Despite the glowing painting, the rock felt smooth and cool and it almost seemed brave. The ghost like a whistling sound came through the darkness. But a loud boom

"What's that?" Jack quickly took his hand off the wall. The boom came again.

"The sound likes thunder." said Anne.

Woof! Woof!

"Teddy's leaving." said Anne. She grasped Jack's hand and they returned back the way they coming followed Teddy's barking again.

Woof! They followed the little dog and suddenly met a flash of light.

"Lighting!" said Anne. "Lighting and thunder, while we've found the cave, yeah!" Anne pulled Jack to the mouth of the cave and out was into a pouring rain.

## Chapter 7: Rain, rain'n rain

Rain fell on Jack's head and then on joey's head. Rain fell on Anne's head and on Teddy's head and on koala's head. Anne opened her mouth and drank the rainwater. Jack did the same. The water cheesed better than any water they had ever drunk. When Jack looked back at the woods, once missed steam was running from the child's ground and burnning bushes. The heavy rain must had been putting off the wildfire.

"You'll be safe now." Anne said to the koala,"I will put you back on the nice gum tree. Then you can finish your nap. "

"I see there is a tree that's not burned. " said Jack.

They walked over to the unburned gum tree. Anne placed the koala on the fork of two branches.

"Go back to sleep now." she said softly. "pretend the fire was all of a the dream."

"Good night." said Jack.

The koala seemed to smile at them then he closed his eyes and went to sleep as he had never been disturbed at all.

Jack sighed and looked around.

"Ma'am," he said, "we're lucky and storm came."

Anne smiled. it wasn't just as looked." she said, " it was magic."

"Magic?" said Jack,

"Yeah, the glowing hands in the snake " said Anne. "Somehow they brought the storm."

"That dosen't make sense." said Jack.

Joey squirmed in his pack and suddenly Jack remembered something.

"Hi, we have to get the joey back to place where his mom left him. " he said.

"Or she won't be able to find him."

"Where was that place?" said Anne.

"I don't know." said Jack.

They looked around at the rainy grey forest. Everything looked the same.

"Teddy can find the spot." said Anne.

Without even a bark the little dog took off across the wet muddy ground. Once again Jack and Anne followed him. Jack's back was beginning to hurt from carring joey.

Woof! Woof!

Jack and Anne with Teddy. He was still reading the Austraila Book.

It was wet but not burnt.

"Hurry! We found it!" said Anne.

"That's right." said Jack.

"I left the book on the spot where we found the joey."

"Once again, Teddy helped us out." said Anne. She petted little dog's head.

"Thanks! Teddy!" Jack said. He picked up the Australian Book. The cover was wet but pages looked OK. The little kangaroo picked out off his pack. Jack took the book under his arm.

"Don't worry! Joey" Anne said, "Wait still right here until your mommy come back for you."

"If she's already come." Jack thought worriedly.

Jack and Anne were still in the rain and Teddy and joey waited. They waited and waited. The rain turned to a drizzle, and the drizzle turned to a lights rainfall. Still they waited.

Jack went sadder and sadder. Maybe the mother kangaroo had come and left. or Maybe she's been caught by the dingoes. Or maybe she had been killed by the wildfire. Jack was afraid to look at Anne, afraid to say anything.

"I know what you're thinking." She said finally.

Jack petted joey's head and said:" Let's wait a little longer."he said," if she doesn't come back soon, we will take him home with us."

Woof! Teddy barked softly.

"Listen!" said Anne.

Jack listened. The sound was very faint at first. But it grew a louder. It was a squishy sound. . It was a squishy sound. It was the sound of Big feet flapping through mud.

## Chapter 8: The Rainbow Serpent

The mother kangaroo bounced out off the trees. She lended ten feet away from Jack, Anne, Teddy and joey. They all were still for a moment. As they were all holding their breath. Then joey tried to jumped back to Jack's backpack.

"Hold on!" said Jack. He put his pack on the ground. The little kangaroo leaped out, he leaped again, then again. and dived tight

fast into his mother's pouch. Joey turned himself over inside the pouch and peeked out Jack and Anne.

"Yeah!" said Jack and Anne together. They were laughing and ciring with a releaf.

"He looks happy to be home." said Anne.

"His mother looks happy too." said Jack.

The mother kangaroo was grazing down with her joey. She petted his head with her small paws, then she looked at Jack and Anne with her soft eyes

"She seems to say thank you to us." Anne said.

"You're welcome." Jack said.

"It was no problem." Anne told the kangaroo,"you have a great joey."

The kangaroo gave a little nod then she bent over and used her front paws picked up a small piece of bark from the wildgrass. The kangaroo held the piece of bark out to Jack and Anne.

Jack took it from her.

"Oh, Ma'am!" he whispered."It's a gift from a kangaroo."

The kangaroo then sprang into the air. She bounced greatly away through the child forset.



"Thanks!" called Jack.

"Bye!" called Anne.

"Good luck!"

Woof! Woof! Teddy barked.

The rain stopped as Jack studied the piece of bark. There was a tiny painting on it. It was just like the snake painting on the cave.

" I wonder what the snake means." said Jack.

Jack opened the wet cover of Australia book and he carefully turned the damp pages. He found that the picture of the snake painting.

"Listen!" said Jack. He read:" The first people of the Australia are called aborigines they had lived here for forty thousand years. Their missed(?) take their time they called dream time. In dream time there is rainbow serpent who sends life giving rain. Aborigine artists painted rainbow serpent on cave walls or on pieces of bark. In special ceremonies they sometimes worship rainbow serpent by painting their handsprings on the magic snakes.

"See," said Anne. "That explains everything."

"Explains what?" said Jack.

"We put our hands on the painting of the rainbow serpent." she said.

"It was like a special ceremony so the rainbow serpent send the rain to put out of the fire."

Woof! Teddy barked.

Jack frowned."But it's not the real creature." he said. "It's in dream time, not real time. "

Anne smiled. "And how did you explain that?" she said. She pointed in the sky.

The rain clouds were gone, the sun had come back out. A rainbow curved across the blue Australian sky.

"Oh, ma'am" whispered Jack. "the air was warm again." He shivered.

"Teddy, let's go to the painting!" said Anne. "We should thank him."

"How did you know about the rainbow serpent in the cave?" Jack asked.

"I told you" said Anne."Yes, it does a magic."

They looked down on the little dog. Teddy nodded his head and seemed to smile.

"Hey, we have all four gifts now." said Anne.

"Oh, yeah!" said Jack.

"Let's go home and let Teddy's spell's broken." said Anne.

Woof! Woof!

Jack put up the painting and put the Australian book in his pack. Then they all had gone through the wet muddy forest in the direction of the tree house.

"I hope the tree house didn't get burned." he said.

They went passed the clearing and passed the gum trees and bushes The tree house was waiting for them.

"It's still here." said Anne. She grasped the rope ladders and started up. Jack put Teddy in his pack and followed.

Inside the tree house Teddy wiggled out of the pack. He pawed the pencilling wenny book.

Woof! Woof!

"Ok! OK!" said Jack. He pointed at the creature in the flock of the quick woods. "I wish I could go there."

"Over the rainbow." said Anne.

And wind started to blow. The tree house started to expand. It expanded faster and faster. Then everything was still. Absolutely still.

## Chapter 9: what boy? (wild boy)

"Welcome back." came a soft lovely voice.

Jack opened his eyes, it was Morgan. They hadn't see Morgan for a long time.

"Morgan!" cried Anne.

She throwed her arm around in her insurance(?). Jack jumped up and held Morgan too.

"It's good to see you both." said Morgan.

Woof! Woof!

"And it's good to see you too!" Morgan said smiling at the little dog.

"Look!" said Anne. She reached Jack's pack and pulled out a piece of painted bark.

"A gift from a kangaroo."

"We have all four gifts now." said Jack.

"Good work." said Morgan.

She picked up her first gift. It was a pocket watch from the Titanic.

"Once upon a time, there's a boy who wasted time," Morgan said,

"This watch teaches him that time is very precious. It must be used wisely."

Morgan picked up her second gift. The eagle's feather from the little code of Indians. "Sometimes the boy was afraid to stand up from himself." She said. "The eagle's feather teaches him that small creature can be one of the bravest."

Morgan picked up the lowest flower from the forest India. "Sometimes the boy did not respect the nature. " she said, "This flower teaches him that nature holds many wonders."

Morgan picked up the piece of bark with the painting of the rainbow serpent. "Sometimes the boy did not want to study other times and places" she said, "this painting teaches him there is a mystral magic and wisdom in the traditions of the ancient peoples."

"What boy? " Jack asked.

"Who are you talking about?" asked Anne.

Morgan didn't answer right away. She placed her hands on Jack's and Anne's shoulders. "Thank you." She said."for helping this boy learn these lessons. Thank you for breaking the spell."

"What boy?" Jack asked again.

Woof! Woof! Wu~~ow~fff.

Jack and Anne looked over to Teddy. Then something magical happened. In the flatter of time, in the spit of the wirlwind, Teddy was changed. He was no longer a dog, he was a boy.

## Chapter 10: Dream Time

The boy was on the ground on his hands and knees.

"Meet my young helper from Camelot." said Morgan. The boy glanced up. He had a friendly focal face and twinkly dark eyes. His hair was the same color as Teddy's. fur had been. He looked a bit of older than Jack, about ten years old.

"Am I back?" He asked.

"You are back." said Morgan.

The boy leaped up in the haunter. "Thank you!" he cried."And I hope you asked next time before trying to spell with my spellbook." said Morgan.

The boy growned blushly. "I promise." and then he looked at Jack and Anne. "I nearly changed myself into a dog." he said.

"And I've left but I have an exciting adventure as a dog. " he said.

"You're great dog." said Anne. "We like to us, Teddy. What's your real name?"

"If you like it, you can call me Teddy." the boy said."or call me Ted."

"OK! Ted." said Anne.

Jack just nodded, he was still in shock. Teddy's trip to Morgan my library " said Morgan. "He has a real gift for magic."

"Cool!" said Anne.

"You helped us a lot, Ted." said Jack. "finally finding his voice."

"Oh, not, with most of you. You do help me." said Ted."you helped the spell and I found a new story to take home."

"You did?" said Anne.

Ted nodded.

"The story of Titanic. The story of wild buffalo woman. The story of wounded tiger. And the story of the rainbow serpent." he said. "I'll write them down as soon as I get home so people can read them in the library."

"And home I very must go now. I'm afraid." said Morgan.

"Oh, no." said Anne sadly. "That's too bad."

"Yeah." said Jack. He was sad too.

"I konw we will meet again someday." said Ted.

"I hope so." said Jack.

"Me too." said Anne. "Bye." she started down the letter.

Jack hold on his pack, with heavy hard he followed.

When they got to the ground, they looked up, Morgan and Ted over the window. They both seemed glow and lad afternoon light. "The magic tree house will return for you soon." said Morgan."I promise."

She waved and they waved back.

"Good bye! Jack and Anne." she said.

Woof! said Ted.

And flatter of time in the spend of wirlwind the magic tree house was gone.

For a long moment Jack and Anne stared at the empty tree.

"Ready for dinner?" Anne asked softly.

Jack nodded. He felt days work silently quickwoods. when they came to Australia a flock of fly birds through the pink sky.

Anne broke their silence and headed for their house.

"That's a great adventure with Teddy. I mean Ted didn't away" she said.

"Yeah," said Jack," it was like he served from the wood like..."

"Like words in dream time." said Anne.

"Yeah!" said Jack. He smiled, "That was exactly what it like."

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We hope you will enjoy this unabridged prodution of Magic Tree House No.20.

Dingoes at Dinnertime by Mary Pope Osborne

Read by the author

This progam produced and directed by Louise Muglo. Excutive producer: Kalendy Motire