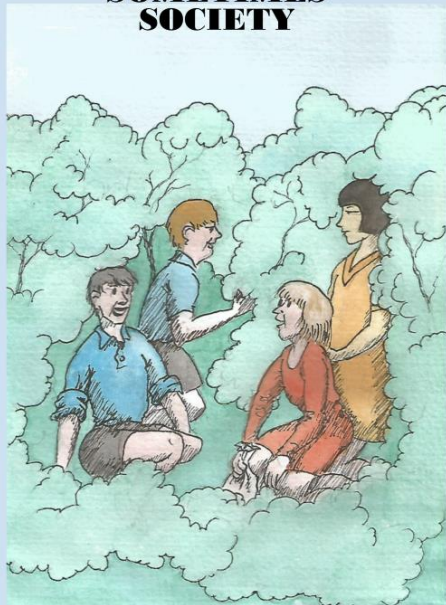


THE SOMETIMES SOCIETY



BEATRICE HOLLOWAY

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CHAPTER ONE

The day began as usual

Rhys was staying overnight at his grandparent's house. When he arrived granddad said, 'It's only for tonight, son. You'll be home tomorrow.'

Rhys lifted his head and granddad shook his as he saw his grandson's red and tearful face. 'Promise?'

'I promise. Anyway, you're in my bed, I've got to sleep in the box room so your gran can give you a cuddle or get you a drink if you wake up in the night. That means I don't get any cuddles. I like me own bed best. Now go to sleep, there's a good chap.'

'This has been the worst day of my life,' Rhys said. His body was curled as if he had a bad pain and he buried his head in the pillow. He didn't want granddad to hear him sobbing again. But granddad had heard and sighed not knowing how best to help his grandson.

Rhys slowly stretched his legs down the bed as the blanket was tucked in around him. He was surprised when granddad bent over and kissed him on the forehead. Somehow it felt comforting and as a fresh sob threatened, he struggled to hold it back. He wanted to forget today, he