

The Boy, the mole,
the fox and the Horse



Charlie Mackesy

Lively and in strict time
Munter und straff. (♩ = 120)

2.

The image shows a four-system musical score for piano. Each system consists of a treble and bass staff. The music is written in a lively, rhythmic style. The first system is marked with a '2.' and a 'f' dynamic. The second system has a 'p' dynamic. The third system has a 'p' dynamic. The fourth system has a 'p' dynamic. The score is decorated with numerous illustrations of horses and riders in various poses, some appearing to be part of the musical notation. The illustrations are in a simple, sketchy style.





The Boy,
the mole,
the fox
and the Horse.

The Boy,
the mole,
the fox
and the Horse.

This book is dedicated
to my lovely kind mum,
and my wonderful dog
Dill.

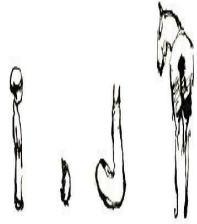


THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

Charlie Mackay



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num.
dog



THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

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Hello



You started at the beginning, which is impressive. I usually start in the middle, and never read introductions. It's surprising that I've made a book because I'm not good at reading them. The truth is I need pictures, they are like islands, places to get to in a sea of words.



This book is for everyone, whether you are eighty or eight - I feel like I'm both sometimes. I'd like it to be one you can dip into anywhere, anytime. Start in the middle, if you like. Scribble on it, crease the corners and leave it well thumbed.

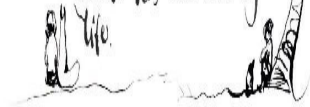


The drawings are mainly of a boy, a mole, a fox and a horse. I'll tell you a little bit about them - although I'm sure you'll see things here that I don't, so I'll be quick.

The boy is lonely when the mole first surfaces. They spend time together gazing into the wild. I think the wild is a bit like life - frightening sometimes but beautiful.

In their wanderings they meet the fox. He's never going to be easy meaning a fox if you're a mole.

The boy is full of questions, the mole is greedy for cake, the fox is mainly silent and wary because his den hurt by life.



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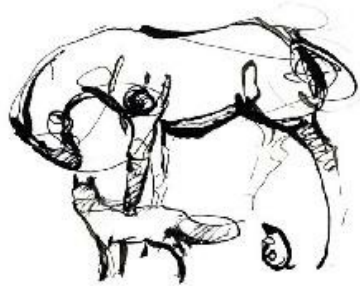
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The boy is full of questions,
the mole is greedy for cake, the
fox is mainly silent and wary
because his bear hurt by
life.



The horse is the biggest thing
they have ever encountered, and also
the gentlest.

They are all different, like us,
and each has their own weaknesses.
I can see myself in all four of
them, perhaps you can too.



Their adventures happen in
Springtime where one moment
snow is falling and the sun
shines the next, which is also
a little bit like life - it can turn
on a sixpence.

I hope this book encourages you,
perhaps, to live courageously with
more kindness for yourself and
for others. And to ask for help when
you need it - which is always
a brave thing to do.

When I was making the books I
often wondered, who on earth am
I to be doing this? But as the
horse says:



"The truth is everyone is bringing it."

So I say spread your wings and
follow your dreams - this book
is one of mine. I hope you enjoy
it and much love to you.

Thank you, Charlie X

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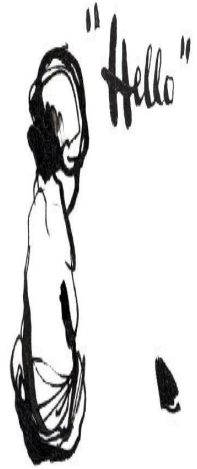


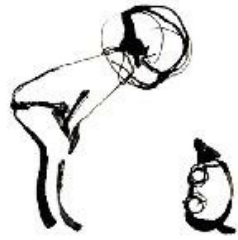
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"I'm so small," said
the mole.



"Yes," said
the boy,
"but you
make a huge
difference."

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