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Neighbours sample  
NOT FOR SALE

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Neighbours

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## 1. Apples

Eva lives alone at the top of a small hill. She has lived there for twenty years. There is one other house at the top of the hill. In the other house, there is a family – a mother, father, and their adult son. They have lived in the house for fifteen years. Their son is twenty-five years old. When they moved into the house, their son was ten years old. Eva thought he was a strange boy. He didn't go to school. He didn't leave the house. When Eva saw him in the front garden, she always said, "Hello!" But the boy didn't say anything. He didn't look at Eva.

Now, he is an adult, but he doesn't work. He has a motorbike. Eva sometimes sees him in the garden. He plays with his motorbike. He goes out on his motorbike a few times a week. As usual, when Eva sees him, she always says, "Hello!" But the man never says hello to Eva. At night, sometimes, Eva hears him shouting loudly. He is shouting at his parents. She also hears him throwing things in the house. Sometimes Eva is frightened.

*Should I call the police?* she thinks.

His parents are nice. They talk to Eva. His mother always says, 'I'm sorry about my son. He is noisy at night. Sometimes he gets angry with me and my husband.' Eva says, 'You should call the police.' But his mother says, 'No. That will not help us. If we call the police, he will get angrier'.

It is winter. It is snowing heavily. Eva doesn't like the snow. She doesn't like driving up and down the hill. It is icy and slippery. One morning, she looks out of the window.

*The hill will be icy when I come home from work, she thinks. It will be dark and cold. I hope the snow stops soon.*

Eva goes to work. She works in a bank. It is a busy day. At lunchtime, she looks out of the window. It is still snowing heavily. She finishes work at 5:30pm. It takes an hour to drive home because the roads are bad. She gets to the bottom of the hill. The hill is covered with snow. Under the snow, there is ice.

*I hope my car can get up the hill,* she thinks. She starts to drive slowly up the hill. Then, she has trouble. Her car stops halfway up the hill.

*Oh no!* she thinks. *My car won't move! What can I do?*

She tries to drive up the hill, but it is no good. Her car won't move. Then, she sees someone walk down the hill.

*Who is that?* she thinks.

The person comes closer.

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*It is the young man from next door!* she thinks. She sees his face. He looks angry.  
She locks the car doors.

-----END OF SAMPLE-----

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