

## Wisplurkers

### Episode 025. Matt disappears

“Matthew,” his mother called up the stairs.  
“Matthew your tea is ready”. There was no answer, but as she was busily spooning the baked beans from pan to toast on the plates, she said, “Kylie go and get your brother.”

At the top of the stairs Kylie began to shout.  
“Matthew. Mum says you’ve to come down for your tea”. She stood at the open door of Matt’s room. She didn’t often go any further. She thought boys’ rooms were always going to be untidy and smelly.

From the doorway she could see him on the bed. Or at least, she thought she could see her brother stretched along the length of his bed. She could see his trainers and his jeans, and above them, his football shirt with the team’s emblem on the front.

Uneasiness made her step inside Matt’s room, and without wrinkling her nose. Something wasn’t right. Even in the half light, Kylie could see the clothes were shapeless and flat. The pillow was dented, where his head should have been, and the ends of his shirt sleeves should have had his hands poking out. It was as if Matt had taken off all his clothes and placed them on his bed, in the same position as if they were still being worn. Except they were empty. It was a weird sight.

Kylie went across to his wardrobe and flung open the door. If he was playing some stupid game!

“Matthew. If you are in there —.” But it was only his clothes hanging on the rail. She searched his room looking under the bed, behind the curtain and even in the drawers of his dresser. But Matt wasn’t in his bedroom. Nor was he in Kylie’s lilac neat and tidy, and frilly room. He wasn’t in their mother’s room and he wasn’t in the bathroom. If this was a joke, then Kylie was not amused.

“Where ever you are, you are not funny, Matthew,” she said to the empty rooms. She said as much in growing alarm, as in anger, “If you don’t come out right now, I’m going to tell Mum.”

“Kylie, Matthew your teas will be cold.” Her mother made her jump when she shouted up the stairs.

Slowly Kylie went down. Matt wasn’t anywhere in their house, and for some reason Kylie felt very — very scared.

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Wisplurkers. By Maggie C.

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