ONE EXTRAORDINARY CAT. NINE EXTRAORDINARY LIVES.

THE NINE LIVES OF

PHILIP ARDAGH

Illustrated by Rob Biddulph

LIMITED EDITION SAMPLER NOT FOR QUOTATION OR RESALE

First published in Great Britain in 2020 by Simon & Schuster UK Ltd A CBS COMPANY

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13579108642

Simon & Schuster UK Ltd 1st Floor, 222 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8HB

www.simonandschuster.co.uk

Simon & Schuster Australia, Sydney Simon & Schuster India, New Delhi

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

PB ISBN 978-1-4711-8401-3 eBook ISBN 978-1-4711-8402-4

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Furry Purry Beancat found a patch of sunlight, followed her tail around in a circle three times, then settled herself down in a furry ball of purry cat. She yawned, lowered her head to the ground and pulled her beautiful fluffy tail in front of her little pink nose.

Where will I wake up next? she wondered, slowly closing her big green eyes and drifting off to sleep . . .





eyes to find that she was sitting on top of a pirate captain's hat. She peered down to discover that the pirate captain's hat was on top of a pirate captain's HEAD.

That makes sense, she thought, but what a strange place to—



Just then, a large cannonball went whistling past her beautiful ears.

Weeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee

'PREPARE TO REPEL ALL BOARDERS!' shouted the pirate captain, whatever that meant. His deep voice boomed up through the hat and through Beancat's furry, purry body.

The captain reached up, scooped up Furry Purry Beancat and put her on the ship's deck behind a barrel marked

SHIP'S BISCUITS.

You'll be safe here, Beancat,' he said.

Safer, thought Beancat, but probably not as safe as if I were curled up in a cat basket in the corner of a creamery! I wonder where I am now?