

# A New Life for Sunny

Story by Cameron Macintosh  
Illustrations by Valentina Jaskina



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## Chapter 1

### The Lonely Horse

Evan was feeding a baby goat from a bottle when Mum came to the shed door.

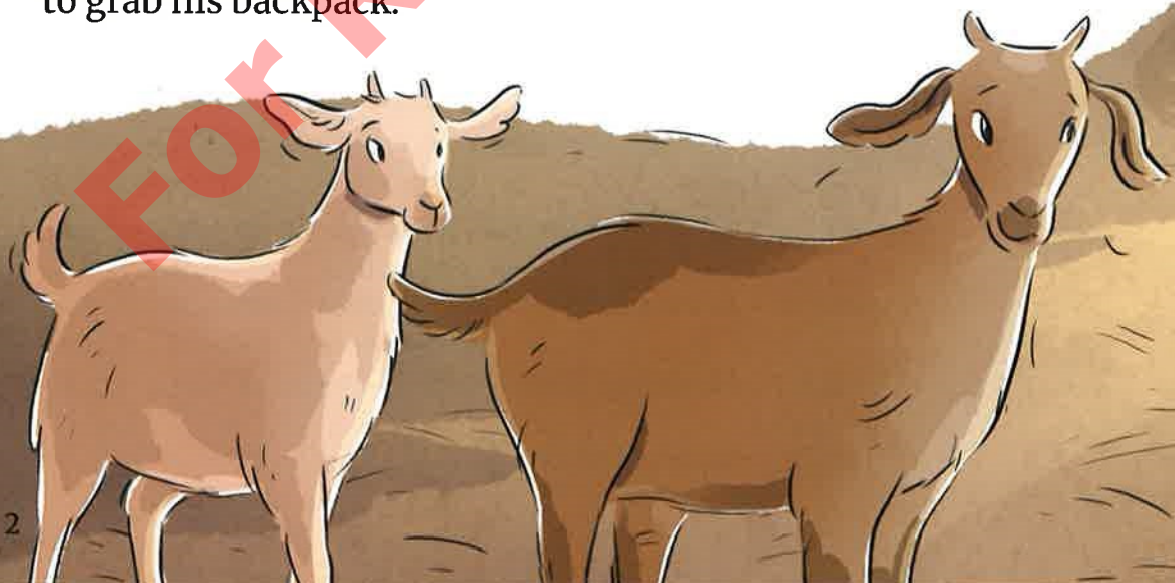
“Look at the time, Evan!” Mum said. “You’re going to miss the school bus.”

Evan looked down at his watch. “Oops!” he said.

“You’re right, Mum. The bus will be here in ten minutes!”

“Off you go,” said Mum. “I’ll finish feeding the animals.”

Evan loved looking after the unwanted animals that his family took into their care, especially the goats. With a sigh, he handed the bottle to Mum and hurried back to the house to grab his backpack.

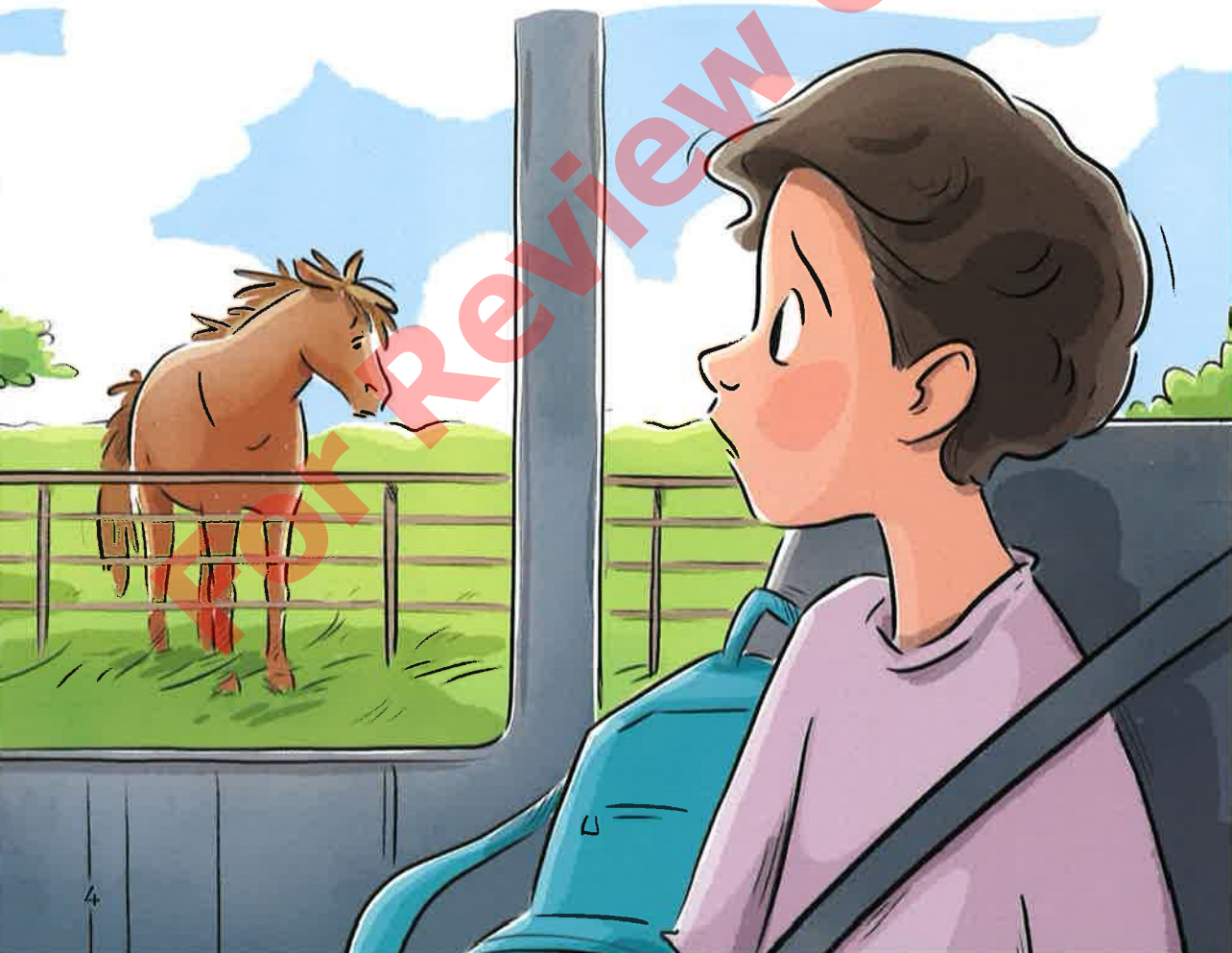






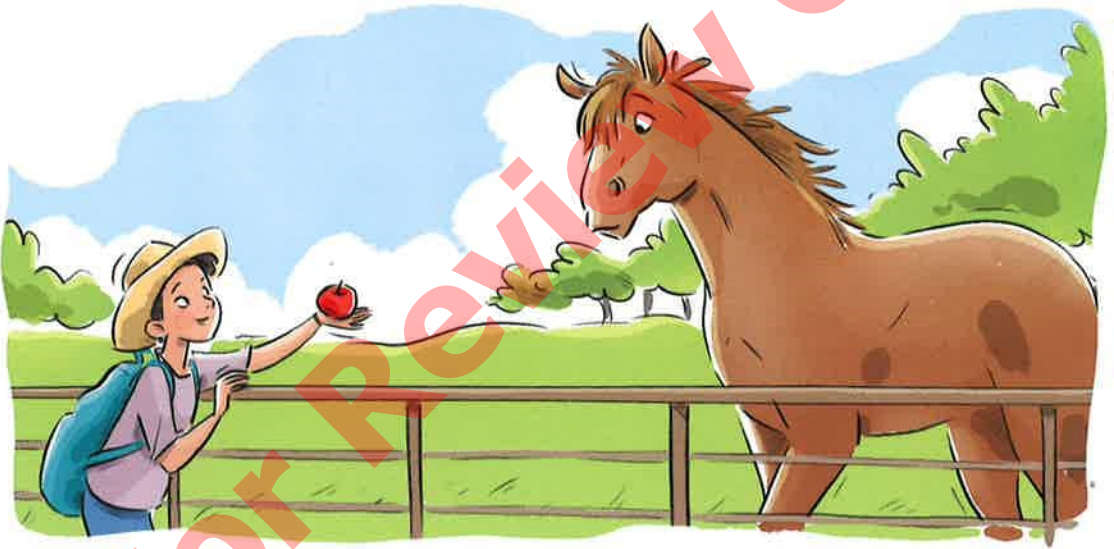
Evan reached the bus stop just in time. He sat at the front of the bus and looked out the window at his family's farm. The trees in their orchard were full of big, red apples.

As the bus moved on, Evan saw a horse in a large paddock. He'd never noticed any animals in this paddock before. The horse looked sad and alone, and its mane was matted.



All day at school, Evan kept thinking about the sad-looking horse.

On his way home, he got off the bus at the stop before his usual one. He walked to the paddock and reached across the fence, holding an apple he'd saved from his lunch. Very slowly, the horse approached and took the apple from Evan's hand.



When Evan arrived home, he told his parents about the horse. "I don't think anyone is looking after it," he said.

"We'll try to find out about it," said Dad. "We'll make sure it's being cared for."

## Chapter 2

### Apples at the Fence

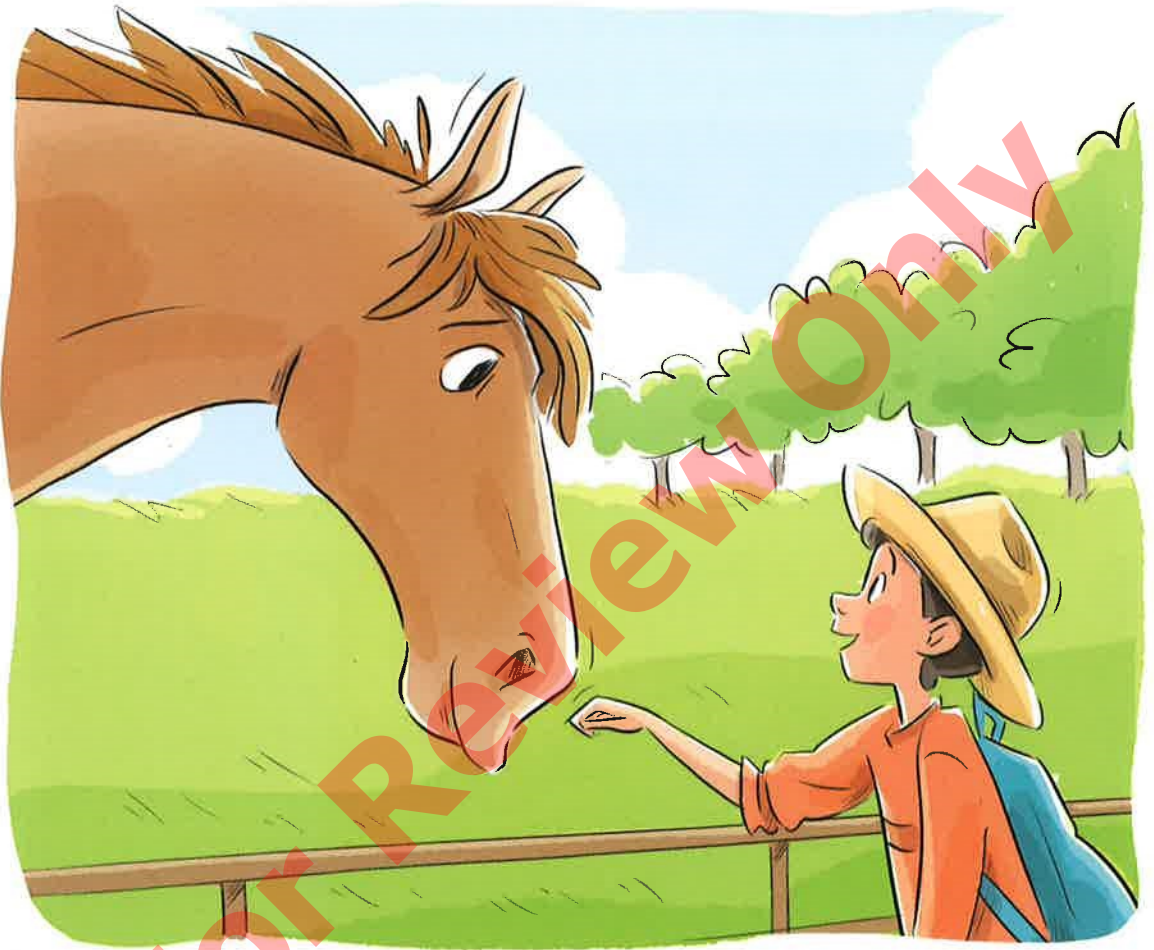
The next morning, Evan told some of his classmates about the horse. He asked if anybody knew who it belonged to.

“I know a little bit about it,” said Hannah.

Hannah lived on a farm opposite the horse’s paddock.

“It used to be a racehorse,” she said, “but it hurt its leg and couldn’t race any more. Its owner lives in the city and can’t visit it very often.”





Evan went to see the horse again after school, and gave it another apple. This time, the horse came to him more confidently, and let Evan touch its nose.