

Pop leads Josh inside. 'Here you are, my boy,' he says. 'I bought you a present.'

'Vikings: Pirates of the North,' reads Josh as he tears off the wrapping. 'Wow! Thanks, Pop.'

Pop often talks about exciting stuff like Vikings, and Spitfires, and Redcoats, though not usually when Nan's around.





‘I’ve decided to become a Viking, Pop,’ Josh declares in the morning.



‘They’re the bravest, fiercest warriors the world has ever seen, afraid of nothing and no-one — just like me!’



‘From now on I’m to be known only as K-nut, Prince of the Vikings.’



‘Kan-ute,’ laughs Pop, ‘not K-nut.’



‘Now I’m a Viking, Nan, I need to follow the Norse gods, too — Odin and Thor and the rest.’

‘Oh, your grandfather and his nonsense!’ grumbles Nan. ‘Why don’t you take your wheelie board thing to the park instead.’