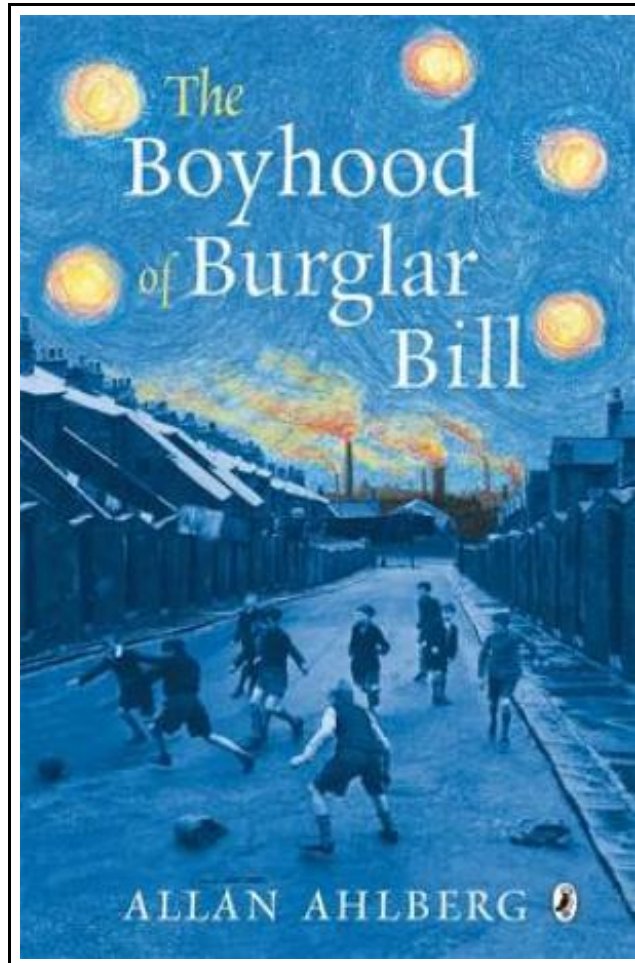


The Boyhood of Burglar Bill



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Reviews

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THE BOYHOOD OF BURGLAR BILL

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Paperback. Book Condition: New. Not Signed; Allan Ahlberg's *The Boyhood of Burglar Bill* is a nostalgic, autobiographical story about football, schooldays and growing-up in the '50s. Allan Ahlberg is the internationally bestselling author of children's classics that include *Peepo!* and *Each Peach, Pear Plum*, illustrated by Janet Ahlberg. Archie was a wonder dog in all our eyes. Nearly a year ago he had got run over. They found his foot in the street but the rest of him ran off. Mr Purnell mourned for a while; Mrs Purnell offered to beat the motorcyclist up or at least wreck his bike. Then, lo and behold, a fortnight later back came Archie. Coronation year, 1953. The boys from the bottom pitch - a great soup of boys - play football. When the 'Coronation Cup' is proposed, they put their heads together, pool their pocket money and get a team up. There's no chance they'll win of course. They're just the odds and sods in Mr Cork's opinion. Besides, he'd go berserk if they did; menace them with his one good arm and pulverise their desks with his cricket stump. They'd be better off losing. *The Boyhood of Burglar Bill* is the second in a sequence of stories in which Allan Ahlberg explores his own childhood. *My Brother's Ghost*, shortlisted for the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, was the first. Allan Ahlberg has published books for children of all ages from the picture books *Peepo!*, *Each Peach, Pear, Plum*, *The Jolly Postman* and the *Funnybones* series - illustrated by Janet Ahlberg - to his books for older readers including *Woof!* and his books of verse: *Please Mrs. Butler* and *Heard it in the Playground*. book.

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