

THE FIRST YEAR - *Matt Goodfellow*

I'm a fist bump of a book, I'll never let ya down,
I'm fully mobile - you can take me anywhere
cos you don't need a signal to read me,
and I'll never have a flat battery.

I'm your friend forever
in your hand
 in your head
 in your heart

So join in my story, be mates with Nate, Caleb, PS, Muna,
they wanna meet ya, hang out with ya,
share their laughs and their cries with ya,
cos we all have them

and the words you say
are the same as the ones on my pages.

We're all on a journey, even me,
yeah, it's true - I used to be a tree!

And no one knows where we're all goin'
or why.

But look up UP into the swing of the sky

and you'll follow them swifts flyin' higher and higher,

never stoppin'

 just enjoyin'

 spreadin' their wings

 bein' free

We all have our Turners to deal with,
our darkness to carry, our Beasts to tame,
family fearings, failings, fallings...
You just gotta take it fifteen minutes at a time
and breathe breathe breathe

I'm so proud of the story my author told,
the story I hold inside my cover,
the story I wouldn't swap for another —
unless you write it, innit?

Cos that story would be
mint.