



## **Mr McKenzie's Wonderful World by Tony Edens - Setting the Scene**

In this autobiographical piece, the author recalls being taken by his Auntie Eva to see her office on the platform of Oxford GWR railway station. He remembers gas lamps, piles of trunks on the platform and pigeons in baskets. But the best part of the day is saved until last, with a visit to Mr McKenzie's wonderful world.

### **Helpful Vocabulary and Phrases**

As I can remember, Auntie Eva lived with us  
Mother's sister  
Extrovert  
When I was about five  
Workplace  
Up-side platform  
Emerge when a train was due  
The station  
Wood, painted cream and light brown  
Very dull  
LMS station next to it looked far more elegant  
Exteriors can be misleading  
The GWR station  
Birmingham  
South to Didcot Junction, Reading and London  
A mere dead end  
Bustling with activity and interest  
Gas lamps  
Sunny day  
The lamps were lit  
Students' luggage  
Trunks  
Pigeons in baskets  
Wicker bars  
My hand clasped  
I caught sight of it  
Fearful rumbling  
The heat emanating  
Less fearsome  
Tended by its keepers almost as if it were a living creature  
Clamber down  
Unhitch the engine  
Ambled

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To be given a drink  
South Signal Box  
Operated all the levers  
With me pulling also  
At the end of the day  
Into the blue sky  
Longed to work  
Vantage point high above any danger

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