

Chris RIDDELL



Ottoline and the Yellow Cat



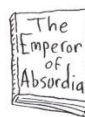
Monksdown Primary School
Liverpool 09

Chris Riddell ↓

1. Lives by the seaside in Brighton with his wife and three children.





2. Writes and illustrates books like these by himself and books like these with Paul Stewart. ↓



3. Draws a cartoon every Sunday for the Observer newspaper.

4. Has two of these in a box where he keeps his treasures and one each of these on his son Jack's bookshelf. →



5. His favourite sweets are wine gums. → They are the reason he became an  illustrator (if you'd like to know more visit 

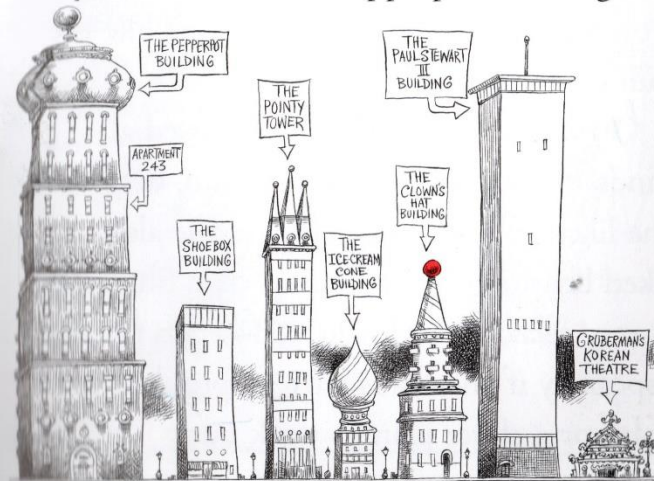
www.panmacmillan.com/chrisriddell)

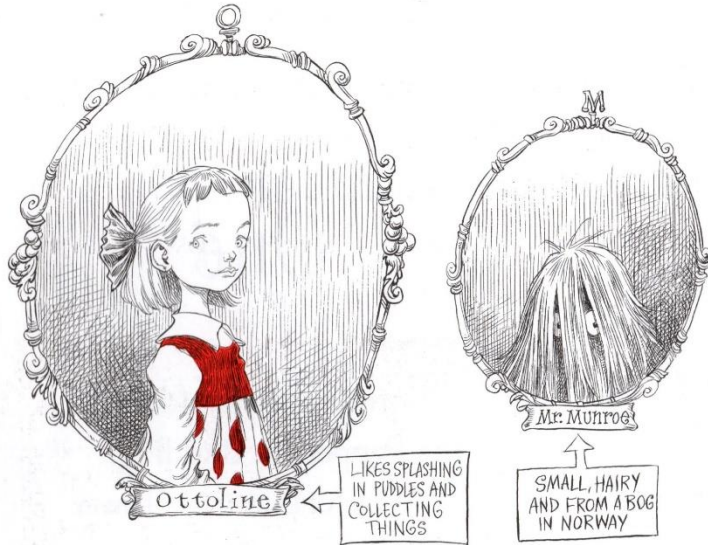
For my daughter, Katy



Chapter One

Ottoline lived on the twenty-fourth floor of the Pepperpot Building. It was called the P. W. HUFFLEDINCK Tower but it looked just like a pepper pot so everyone called it the Pepperpot Building.

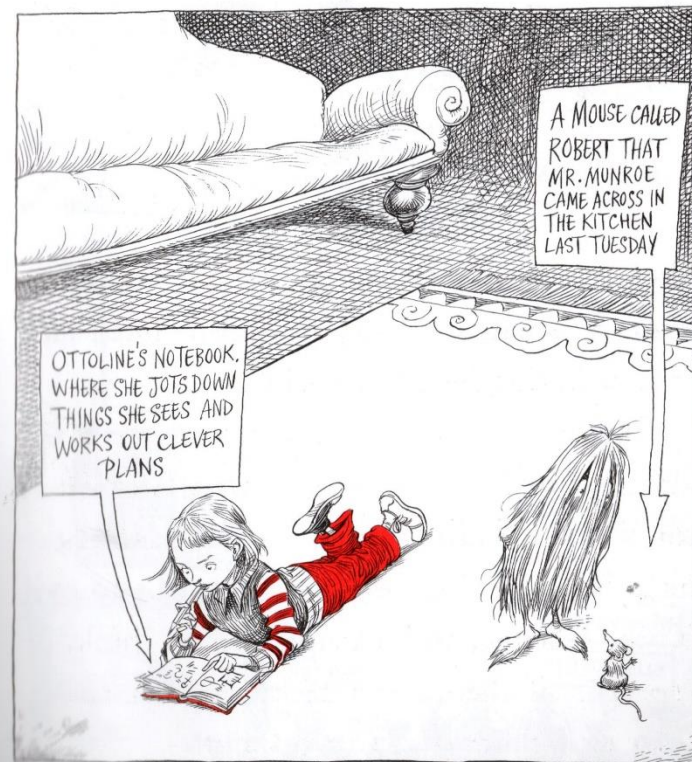




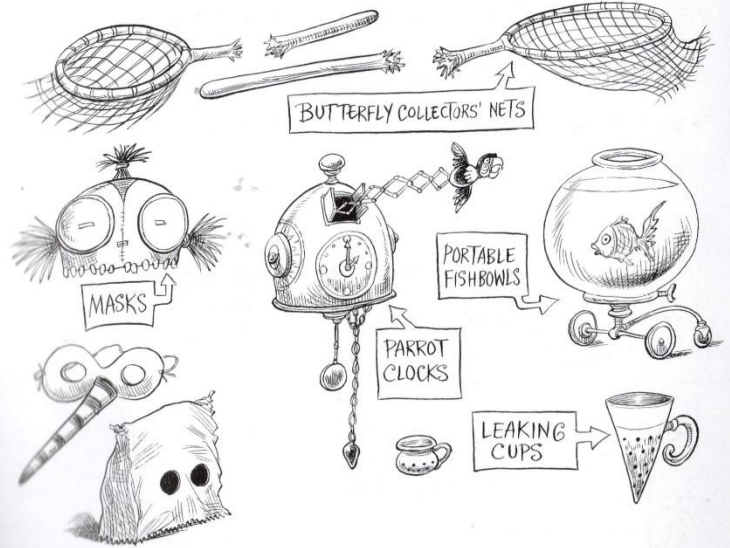
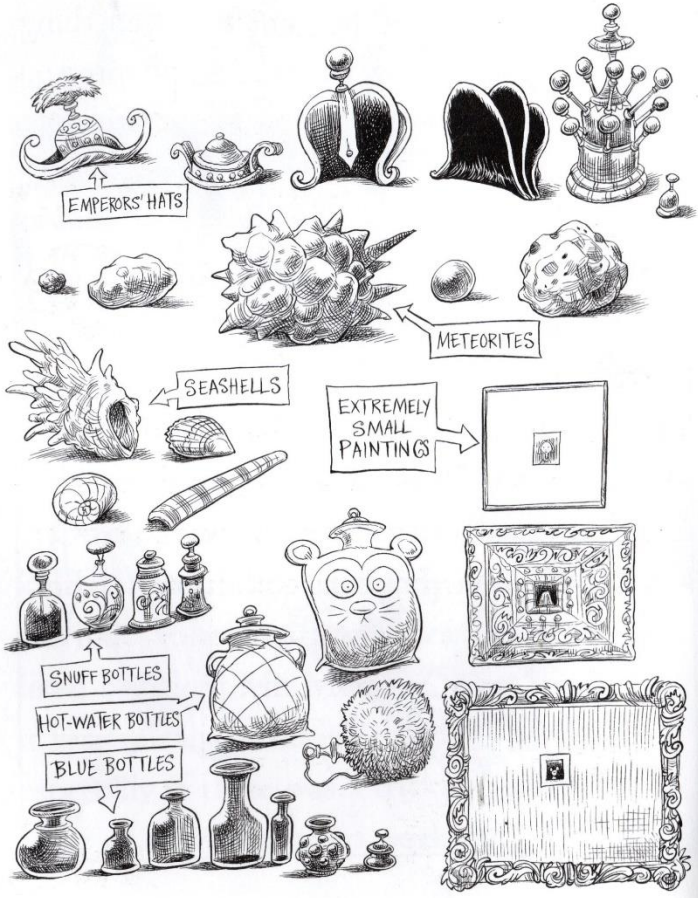
She lived in Apartment 243 with Mr. Munroe, who was small and hairy and didn't like the rain or having his hair brushed.

Ottoline, on the other hand, loved all kinds of weather, particularly rain, because she liked splashing in puddles. She also liked brushing Mr. Munroe's hair. She found it very relaxing, and it helped her to think, especially if there was a tricky problem to solve or a clever plan to work out.

Ottoline liked solving tricky problems and working out clever plans even more than she liked splashing in puddles. She kept her eyes and ears open in case she came across anything unusual or interesting. So did Mr. Munroe.

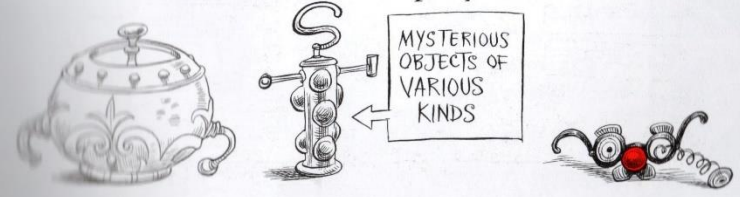


Ottoline's parents travelled the world collecting interesting things. Apartment 243 was full of the things that they collected.

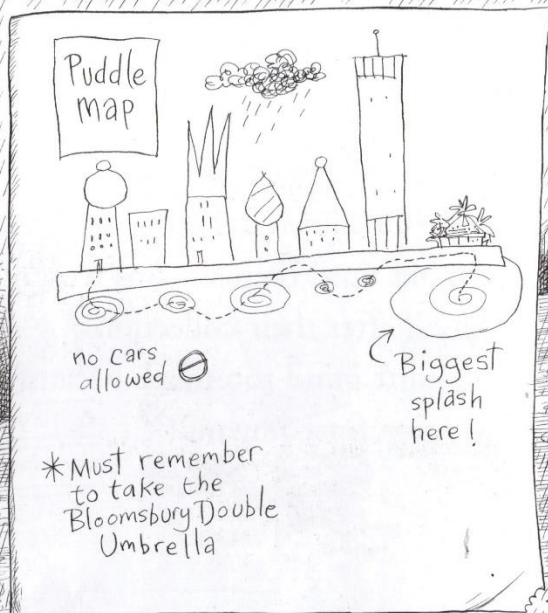


Her parents had promised that one day, when she was older, Ottoline could join them on their travels, but until then she was to stay at home and look after their collections.

Ottoline didn't mind too much because she had Mr. Munroe for company.

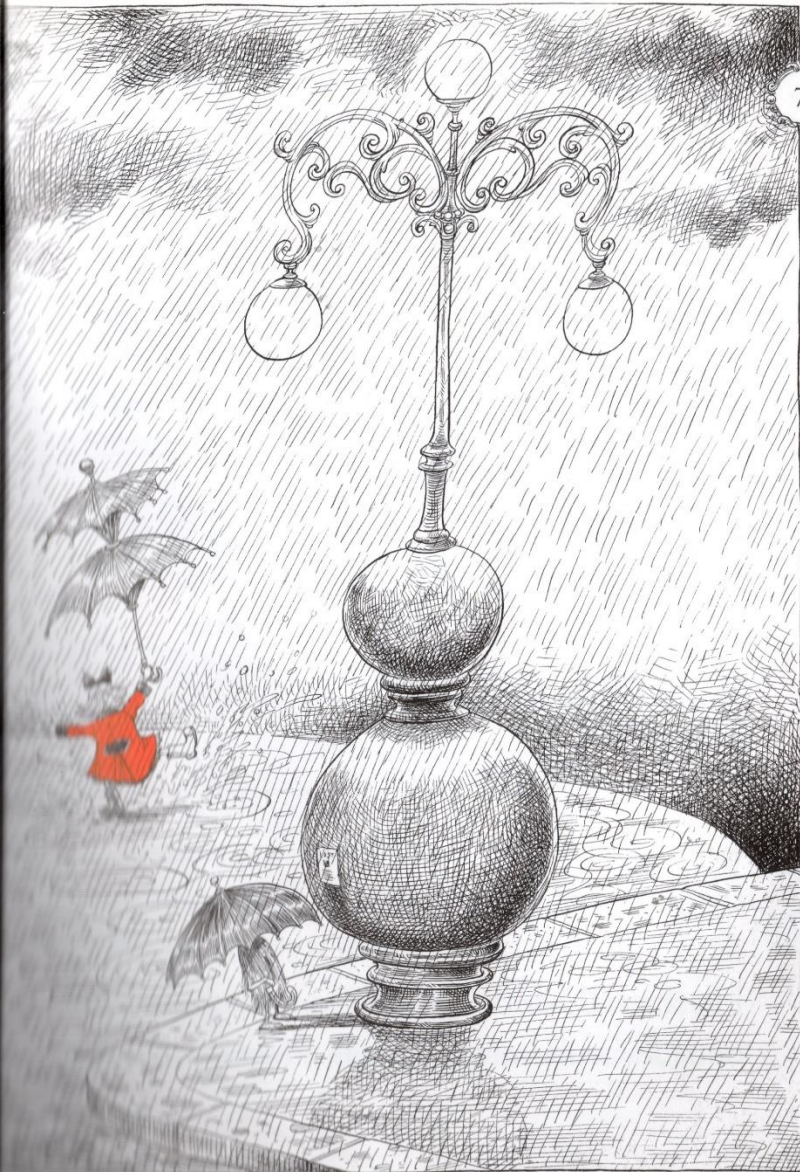


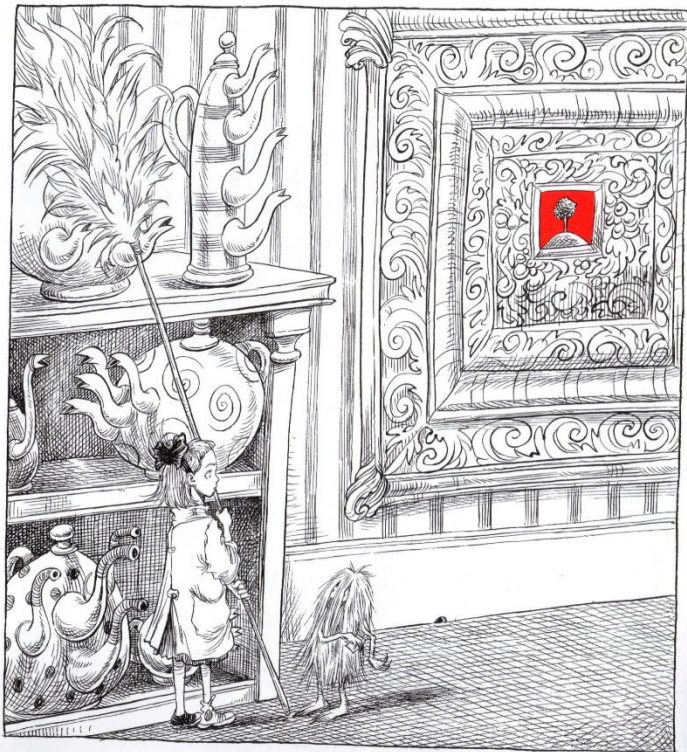
One day, while out for an afternoon stroll, Mr. Munroe noticed a poster stuck to a lamp post outside Gruberman's Korean Theatre. He carefully peeled it off and folded it up, as, being small and hairy, Mr. Munroe didn't have any pockets. He took it home with him.



A PAGE FROM OTTOLINE'S NOTEBOOK

SLIGHTLY CHEWED BY ROBERT

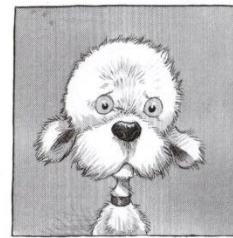




Later that afternoon, Ottoline was dusting the four-spouted teapot collection when she felt a tap on her shoulder. It was Mr. Munroe. He showed her the poster from the lamp post outside Gruberman's Korean Theatre.

THE POSTER FROM THE LAMPPOST

lost

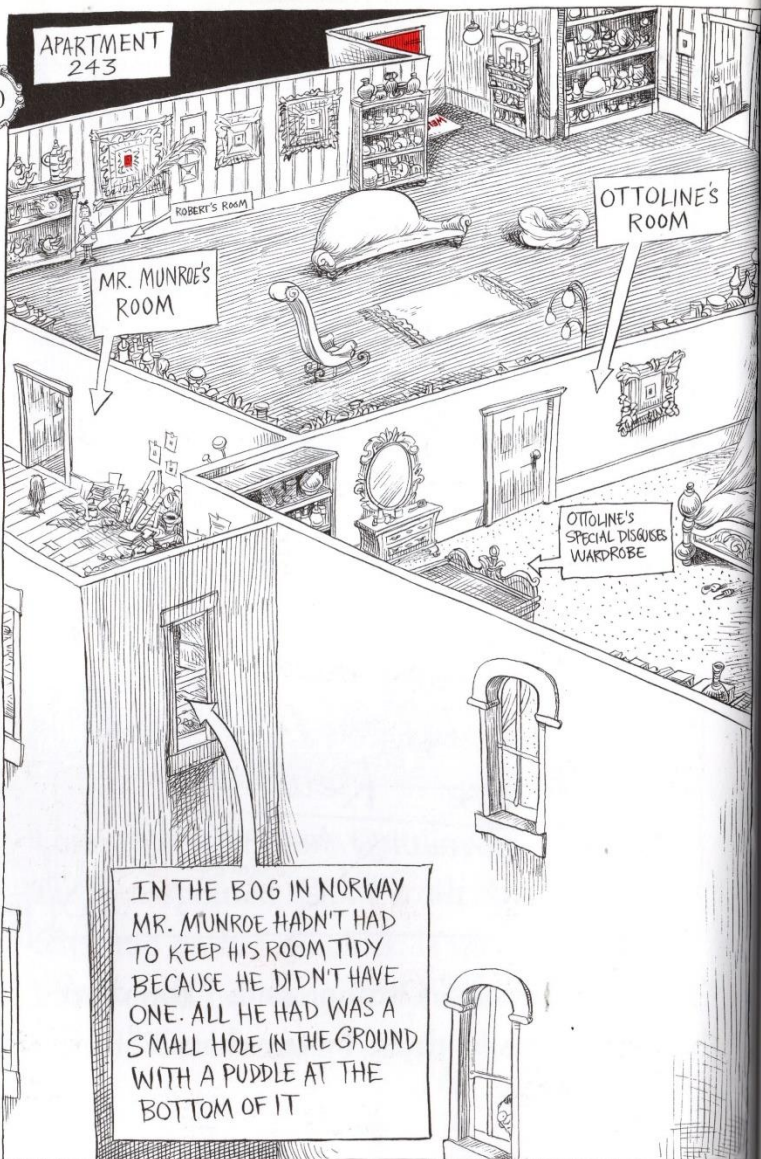


A Penangese lapdog
 answers to the name
 Rupert Pom-Pom Fluffy-Tail
 Much missed by his loving owner
 Large Reward

CONTACT: Mrs. Loretta Lloyd, Apartment 11112,
 The Clown's Hat Building, 3rd St., B.C.

ARMPIT HAIR

"How interesting," Ottoline said. "You don't have any more of these, by any chance?"



Mr. Munroe went to his room. It was very untidy.

When he came back, Ottoline was reorganizing her Odd Shoe collection.

Ottoline had two collections that were all her own. One was her Odd Shoe collection, of which she was very proud. Whenever Ottoline bought a pair of shoes, she would wear one and put the other in her collection.





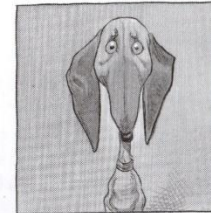
Mr. Munroe showed Ottoline the posters he'd collected from lamp posts all over town.

Ottoline looked at them for a long time. "I don't suppose . . ." she said, "you'd let me brush your hair?"

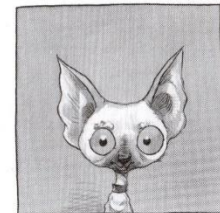
While she brushed Mr. Munroe's hair, Ottoline looked more closely at the posters.



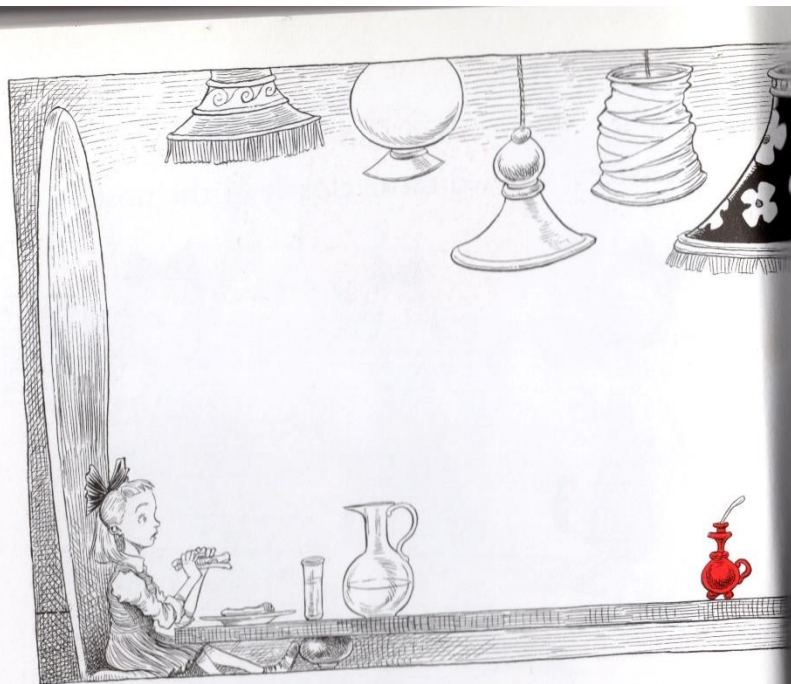
↑
WILSON
HAPPY-EARS
M MURTAGH



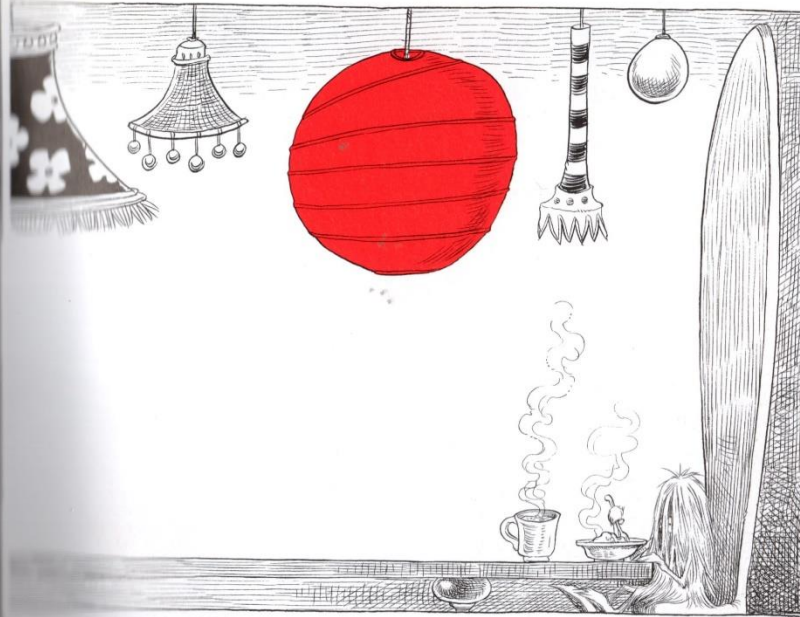
↑
COUNTOLTO
VIX-HILBURG



↑
FIFI FIESTA
FUNNY-FACE
III



That evening Ottoline and Mr. Munroe sat down to dinner. Ottoline had grilled cheese and cinnamon toast freshly delivered to the table by



the Home-Cooked Meal Company. Mr. Munroe had a bowl of porridge and a mug of hot chocolate, which was the only meal he ever ate..

Marion's
Bathroom
Supplies

Smith &
Smith
PILLOW-PLUMPING &
CURTAIN-DRAWING
TECHNICIANS

The
Smiling
Dragon
CLOTHES FOLDING
C^o

THE
1,000-STRONG
LIGHT BULB CHANGING
C^o

Happy
Nest
BED MAKERS

THE
HOME-COOKED
MEAL C^o

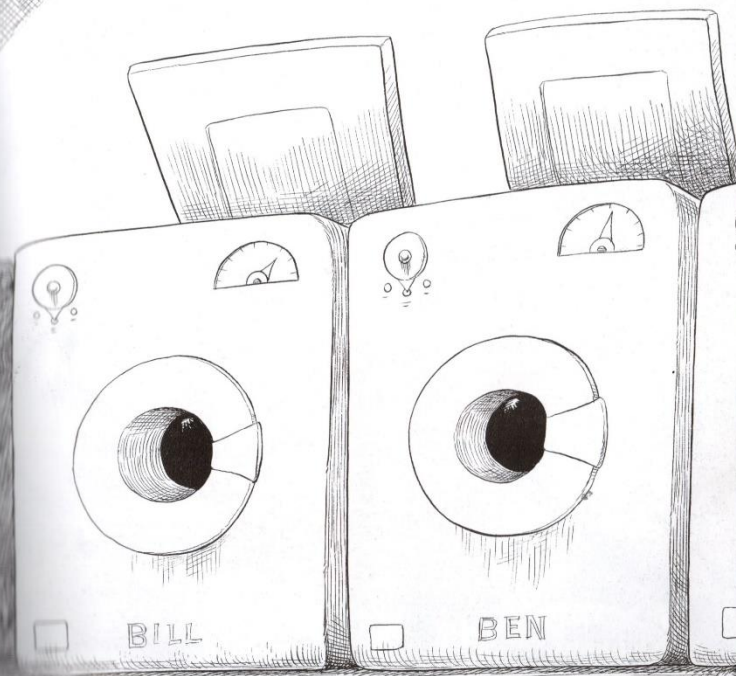
MB
MEBEAN'S CLEANING
SERVICE

Mr.
Munroe

OTTOLINE'S
PARENTS WERE
AWAY A LOT,
TRAVELLING, BUT
THEY MADE SURE
OTTOLINE
WAS WELL
LOOKED AFTER
BY LOTS AND
LOTS OF PEOPLE.
THESE ARE
THEIR BUSINESS
CARDS

After dinner, Ottoline went down to the laundry room in the basement of the Pepperpot Building.

Ottoline liked to do her own laundry for two reasons. Firstly, she liked the washing machines . . .



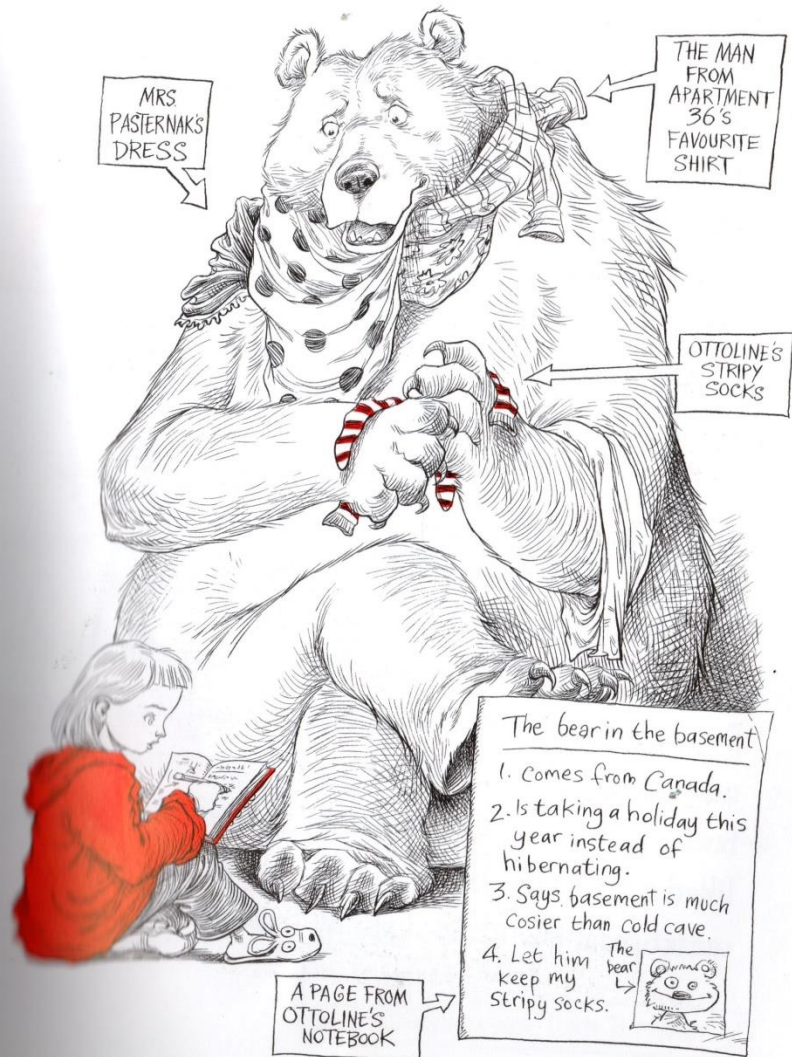
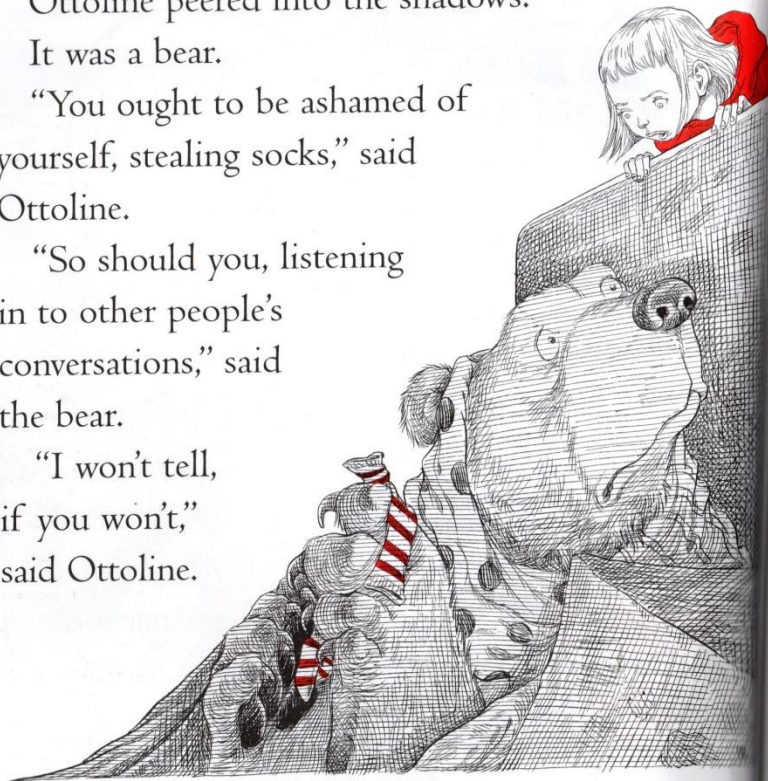
That evening, Ottoline was doing her laundry and listening to the pipes as usual when a large, hairy arm appeared from behind one of the washing machines and grabbed a pair of Ottoline's stripy socks.

Ottoline peered into the shadows. It was a bear.

"You ought to be ashamed of yourself, stealing socks," said Ottoline.

"So should you, listening in to other people's conversations," said the bear.

"I won't tell, if you won't," said Ottoline.



MRS PASTERNAK'S DRESS

THE MAN FROM APARTMENT 36'S FAVOURITE SHIRT

OTTOLINE'S STRIPY SOCKS

A PAGE FROM OTTOLINE'S NOTEBOOK

The bear in the basement

1. Comes from Canada.
2. Is taking a holiday this year instead of hibernating.
3. Says basement is much cosier than cold cave.
4. Let him ^{The bear} keep my stripy socks.



And secondly, she liked standing on tiptoe and listening to the pipes in the basement ceiling. Ottoline could hear lots of interesting conversations that went on in other apartments. She didn't tell Mr. Munroe as she knew he wouldn't approve.

... HUGE NUMBERS OF APPLES BUT NOT A SINGLE PEAR, NOT EVEN ON SUNDAYS ...

NORMALLY CECIL IS SUCH A GOOD BOY BUT LAST TUESDAY ...

... THEN MRS. PASTERNAK'S MONKEY REFUSED TO WEAR HIS SILK PYJAMAS ...



... NOW I ONLY EVER TAKE SHOWERS, NEVER BATHS ...

... HONESTLY, THAT'S THE THIRD DRESS THAT HAS GONE MISSING IN THE LAUNDRY ...

... WELL, IF MARGOT HAS A LAPDOG THEN I WANT ONE TOO ...

MUM!
HAVE YOU SEEN MY SOCKS?
MUM! MUM! ...

Although it wasn't polite, Ottoline found eavesdropping often helped her to solve tricky problems and think of clever plans.

It was Ottoline who found Mrs. Pasternak's missing monkey with a trail of honey-coated peanuts. And when the man from Apartment 36 got his toe stuck in a tap, it was Ottoline who called the fire brigade.