



*Lewis Carroll (about 1863)*

## About the Author

Pen Name: Lewis Carroll

Real Name: Charles Lutwidge Dodgson

Born: 27 January 1832

First book: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865)

Other Book: *Through the Looking-Glass* (1871)

Hobby: Photography

Dies: 14 January 1898

# The Characters



From left to right, back row: **the Queen, the King.**

From left to right, middle row: **the March Hare, the Hatter, Alice, the Caterpillar.**

From left to right, front row: **the Cheshire Cat, the White Rabbit.**

BEFORE YOU READ

1 VOCABULARY

Here are some words from the beginning of the story. Use them to complete the sentences under the pictures. There is an example at the beginning (0).

pictures    doors  
key    bottle    watch  
cake    mouse



0 A rabbit with a watch.....



1 Alice with a .....



2 A box with a .....



3 A cat with a .....



4 A book with .....

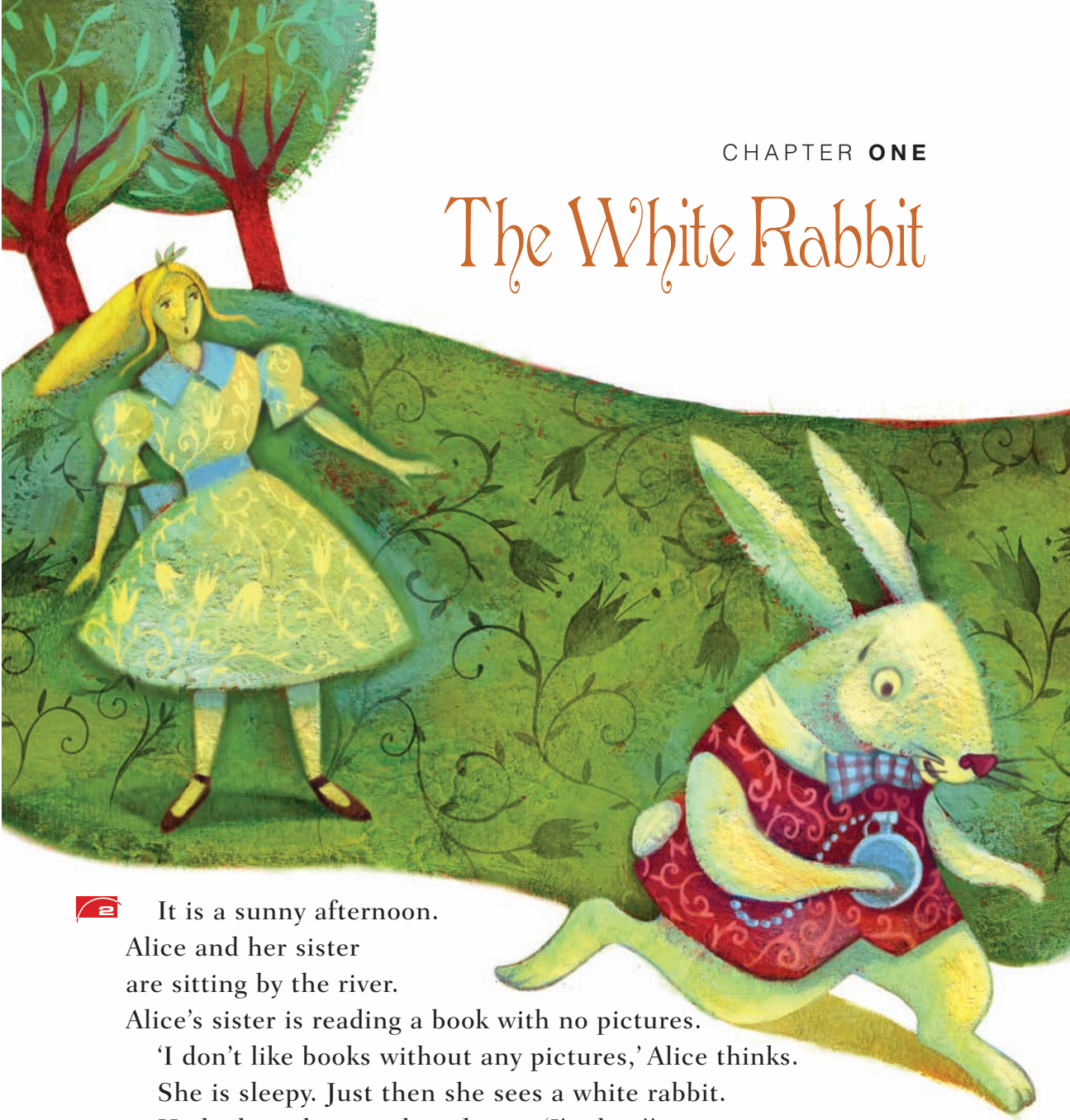


5 A hall with .....



6 A table with a .....

# The White Rabbit



It is a sunny afternoon.

Alice and her sister  
are sitting by the river.

Alice's sister is reading a book with no pictures.

'I don't like books without any pictures,' Alice thinks.

She is sleepy. Just then she sees a white rabbit.

He looks at his watch and says, 'I'm late!'

'How strange!' Alice thinks. 'A rabbit with a watch!' She follows the rabbit across the grass and into a big hole. She falls slowly down the hole. Then she stops falling and stands up. She looks around.

Alice sees the rabbit again and follows him. He is running around a hall with a lot of doors. Then she sees a glass table with a small key on it. She takes the key and tries to open the doors,



but she can't. Then she sees a very small door and opens it. There is a beautiful garden.

'I want to go into that garden,' thinks Alice, 'but I'm too big.'

She puts the key on the glass table and sees a bottle on it. It says 'DRINK ME' on the bottle. She takes the bottle and drinks it all.

'Oh, how strange!' she says. 'Now I'm very small and I can go into the garden.' But the door is closed and the key is on the table. She is too small now and she can't get the key! She is very sad and starts to cry.

Alice sees a small glass box under the table. Inside the box there is a cake with the words 'EAT ME' on it.

'I'm going to eat it,' says Alice. 'Perhaps I can grow and take the key from the table.'

She eats the cake but nothing happens. Then suddenly she becomes big.

'Now I can get the key,' she thinks.

She takes the key and goes to the door to the garden. But she is too big and can't go in! She sits down and starts to cry again. Her tears <sup>1</sup> make a big pool. <sup>2</sup>

Suddenly she sees the White Rabbit again. He is wearing a lovely jacket and he has got white gloves in one hand and flowers in the other.

'Oh, the Duchess is going to be angry because I'm late,' says the White Rabbit.

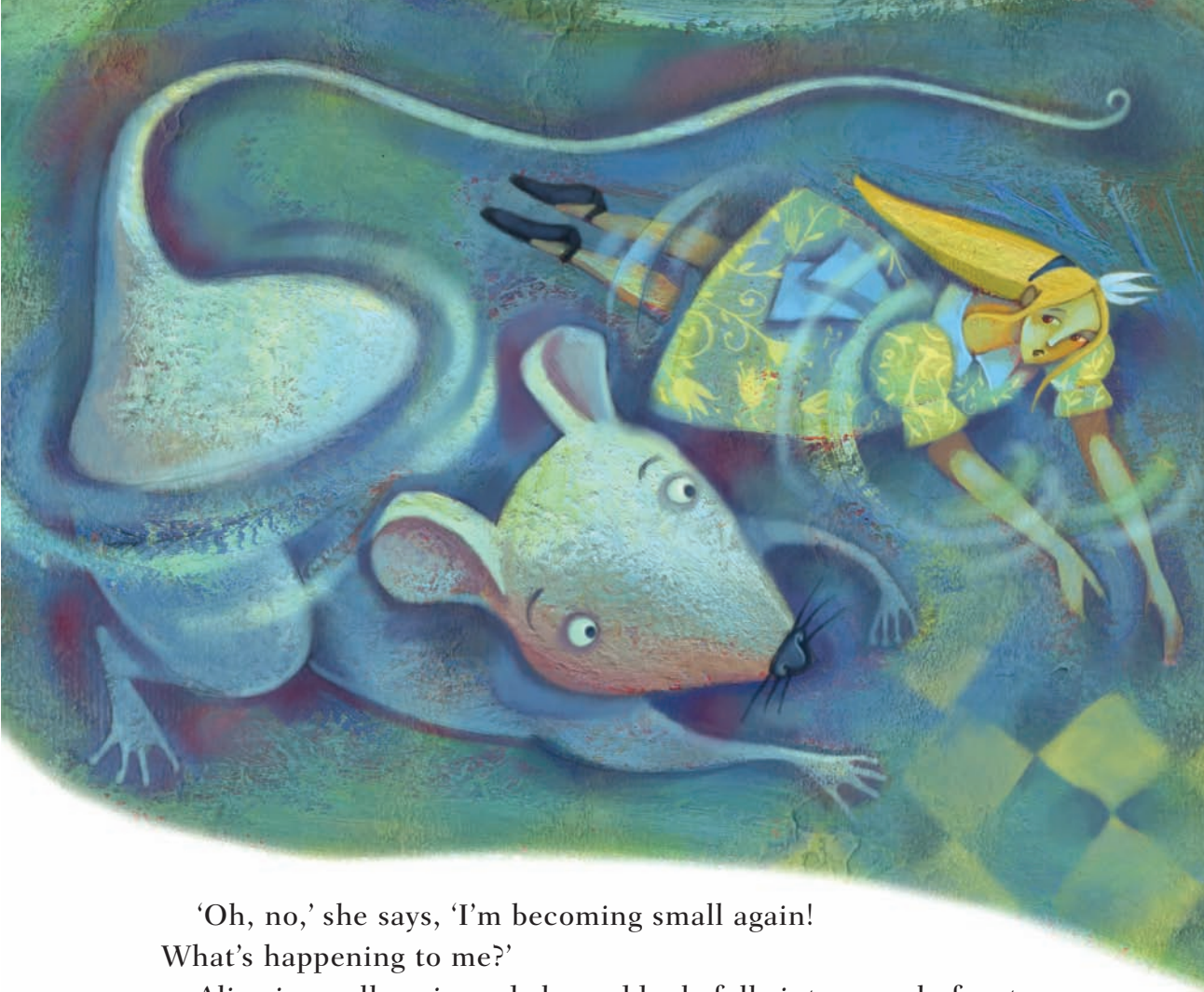
'Excuse me, sir...', says Alice.

The White Rabbit is afraid and runs away. His white gloves fall to the floor. Alice looks at her hand and she is suddenly wearing one of the White Rabbit's gloves.

1. **tears** : these fall from your eyes when you cry.

2. **pool** : an area of water.





‘Oh, no,’ she says, ‘I’m becoming small again!  
What’s happening to me?’

Alice is small again and she suddenly falls into a pool of water.

‘I’m in the sea,’ she thinks. But it is not the sea, it is the pool of Alice’s tears. She sees a mouse swimming near her.

‘Hello, Mouse!’ says Alice. ‘I’m tired. I want to get out of this pool.’

The Mouse does not answer. ‘Perhaps it doesn’t understand English,’ Alice thinks. ‘Maybe it understands French.’

‘Où est ma chatte?’<sup>1</sup> asks Alice. This is the first sentence in her French book.

The Mouse is angry and says in English, ‘I don’t like cats! My family doesn’t like cats! I’m a mouse!’ He swims away and Alice follows him.

1. ‘Où est ma chatte?’ : (French) Where is my cat?

## UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

### 1 COMPREHENSION CHECK

Choose the best ending to complete these sentences about Chapter One. Tick (✓) A or B. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- |   |                                      |   |                                     |                              |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 0 | When Alice sees the rabbit           | A | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | she follows him.             |
|   |                                      | B | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she looks at her watch.      |
| 1 | When she takes the key               | A | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she opens a lot of doors.    |
|   |                                      | B | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she opens a very small door. |
| 2 | When she drinks from the bottle      | A | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she becomes very small.      |
|   |                                      | B | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she becomes very big.        |
| 3 | When she eats the cake               | A | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she can go in the garden.    |
|   |                                      | B | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she can get the key.         |
| 4 | When she sees the White Rabbit again | A | <input type="checkbox"/>            | he is wearing white gloves.  |
|   |                                      | B | <input type="checkbox"/>            | he is wearing a jacket.      |
| 5 | When she meets the Mouse in the pool | A | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she speaks to it in French.  |
|   |                                      | B | <input type="checkbox"/>            | she swims away.              |

### 2 'IT SAYS "DRINK ME" ON THE BOTTLE.'

Write the correct phrase under each picture.

Drink me.      Eat me.      Be quiet.      Open me.  
Follow me.      Read me.



1



2



3



4



5



6

### 3 ADJECTIVES

A Match the adjectives on the left with their opposites on the right.

- 1 ☐ happy
- 2 ☐ big
- 3 ☐ fast
- 4 ☐ rich
- 5 ☐ beautiful
- 6 ☐ old

- A slow
- B ugly
- C sad
- D small
- E new
- F poor

B Now look at the pictures below and use the words to complete the text. There is an example at the beginning (0).



Tom has got a lot of money. He's very (0) *rich*..... . He lives in a (1) ..... , (2) ..... house and he has got a (3) ..... , (4) ..... car. But he hasn't got any friends. He's very (5) ..... .

Jerry hasn't got much money. He's very (6) ..... . His car is (7) ..... and (8) ..... . His house is (9) ..... and (10) ..... . But he's got a lot of friends. He's very (11) ..... .



### 4 CONVERSATION

Complete the conversation. What does the White Rabbit say to Alice? Write the correct letter next to the number. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- A You must drink from the bottle.
- B I haven't got my gloves.
- C Yes?
- D Then I'm sorry. I can't help you.

- E To see the Duchess.
- F Because I'm late. I'm very late.
- G You mustn't cry.
- H No, I can't. I must go.

**Alice:** Excuse me, sir...

**White Rabbit:** (0) .....C.....

**Alice:** Can you tell me where I am?

**White Rabbit:** (1) .....

**Alice:** Where are you going?

**White Rabbit:** (2) .....

**Alice:** Why are you running?

**White Rabbit:** (3) .....

**Alice:** Please, wait! How can I get into the garden?

**White Rabbit:** (4) .....

**Alice:** But the bottle is empty now.

**White Rabbit:** (5) .....

