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Opening extract from **Mad in the Back**

Written by
Michael Rosen

Illustrated by
Richard Watson

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For Emma, Elsie and Emile – M.R.

For my parents, and all the times my brother and I went mad in the back! – R.W.

PICTURE SQUIRRELS

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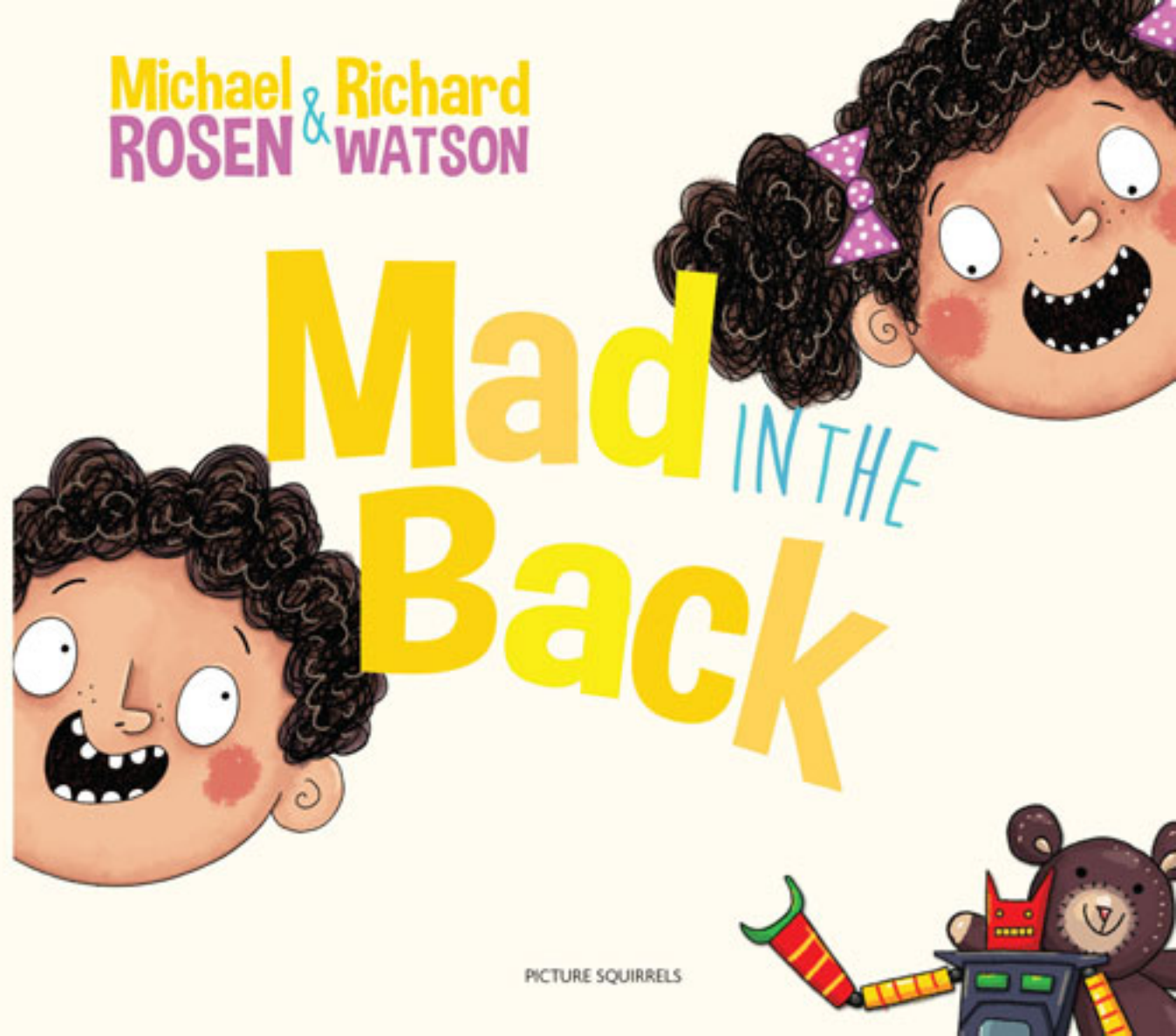
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Michael & Richard
ROSEN & WATSON



Mad IN THE Back

PICTURE SQUIRRELS

Mum says, "Right, you two, this is a very long car journey. I want you two to be good. I'm driving and I can't drive properly if you two are going mad in the back. Do you understand?"



So we say, "OK, Mum, OK. Don't worry."

And off we go.



And we start The Moaning.

"Can I have a drink?" "I want some crisps." "Can I open my window?"



"He's got my book."



"Get off me." "Ow, that's my ear!"



And Mum tries to be exciting. "Look out the window - there's a lamp-post."

