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opening extract from

Rita in the Deep Blue Sea

written by

Hilda Offen

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For Sean and Niamh

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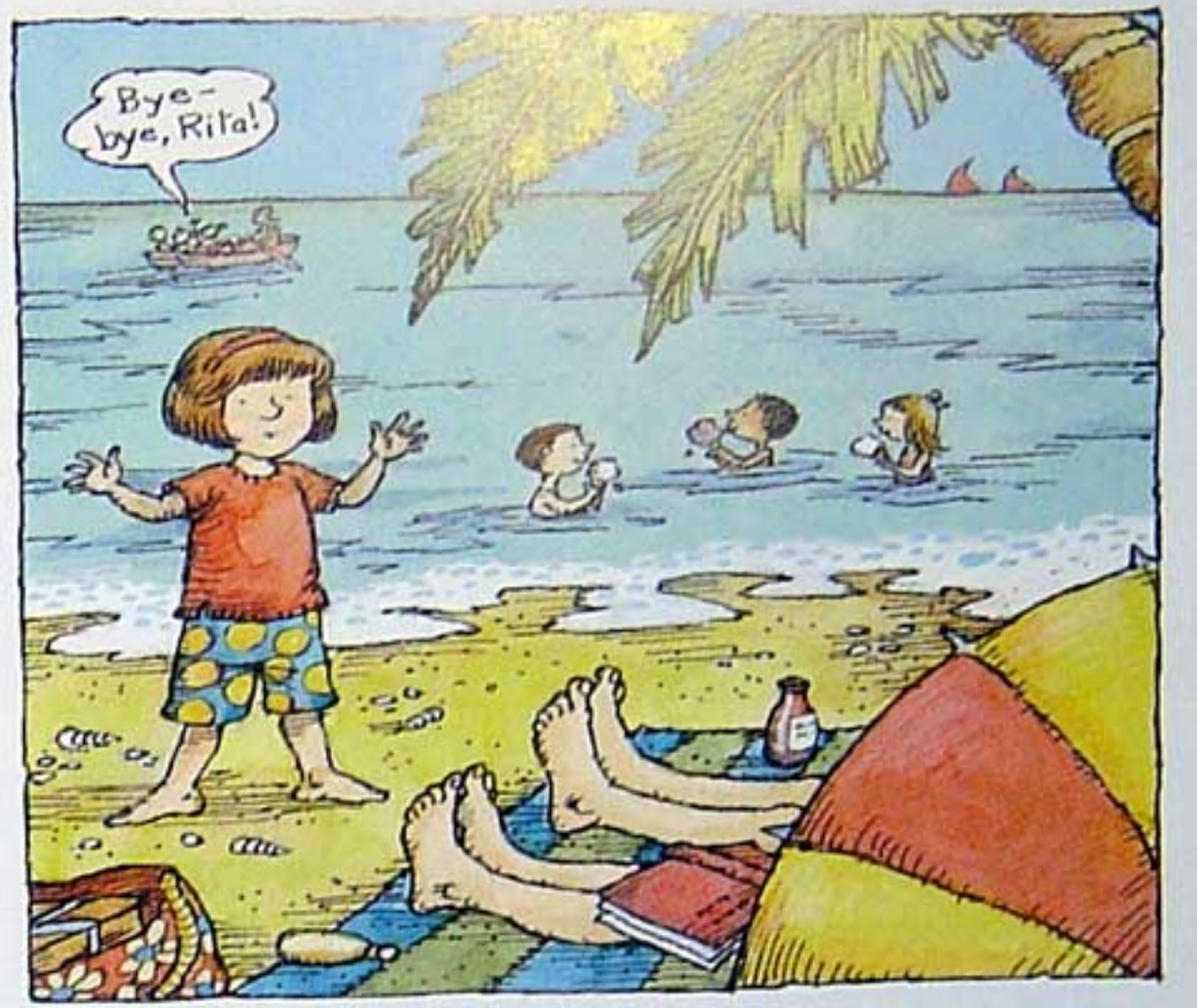
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"It's nice to be somewhere hot for a change," said Mrs Potter.
"Where's Grandad? And Eddie and Julie and Jim?" asked Rita.
"Oh - they've gone for a boat ride," said Mrs Potter.
"I wanted to go!" cried Rita.
"You're too young," said Mrs Potter. "You stay here and do some paddling."

Rita watched the boat disappear over the horizon. Suddenly all the children in the sea started to cry. A big octopus had sneaked up and stolen their ice-creams.
"It's a good job I brought my Rescuer outfit," thought Rita.

She grabbed her beach-bag and ran behind the wind-break. In the blink of an eye she'd turned into Rita the Rescuer.
"Here I come!" she called and she dived into the water.