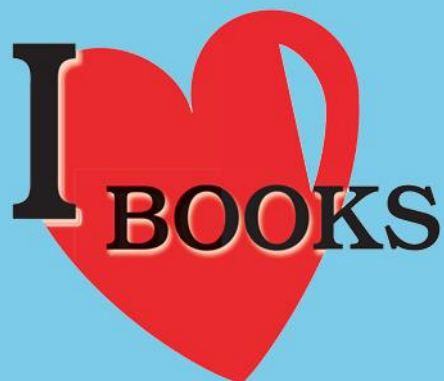




LoveReading4kids.co.uk
is a book website
created for parents and
children to make
choosing books easy
and fun

Opening extract from
**Broomstick Alert and Other
Stories**

Written by
Laura Owen

Illustrated by
Korky Paul

Published by
Oxford University Press

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.

OXFORD

UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.
It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship,
and education by publishing worldwide. Oxford is a registered trade mark of
Oxford University Press in the UK and in certain other countries

Text copyright © Oxford University Press 2008, 2009, 2013
Illustrations copyright © Korky Paul 2008, 2009, 2013, 2016, 2017
The moral rights of the author and illustrator have been asserted
The characters in this work are the original creation of Valerie Thomas
who retains copyright in the characters

Database right Oxford University Press (maker)

Winnie and Wilbur: Whizz-Bang Winnie first published as *Whizz-Bang Winnie* in 2008
Winnie and Wilbur: Mini Winnie first published as *Mini Winnie* in 2008
Winnie and Wilbur: Winnie Says Cheese first published as *Winnie Says Cheese* in 2009
Winnie and Wilbur: Broomstick Alert and Other Stories first published as
Absolutely Winnie! in 2013
This edition first published in 2017

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means,
without the prior permission in writing of Oxford University Press,
or as expressly permitted by law, or under terms agreed with the appropriate
reprographics rights organization. Enquiries concerning reproduction
outside the scope of the above should be sent to the Rights Department,
Oxford University Press, at the address above

You must not circulate this book in any other binding or cover
and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data: data available

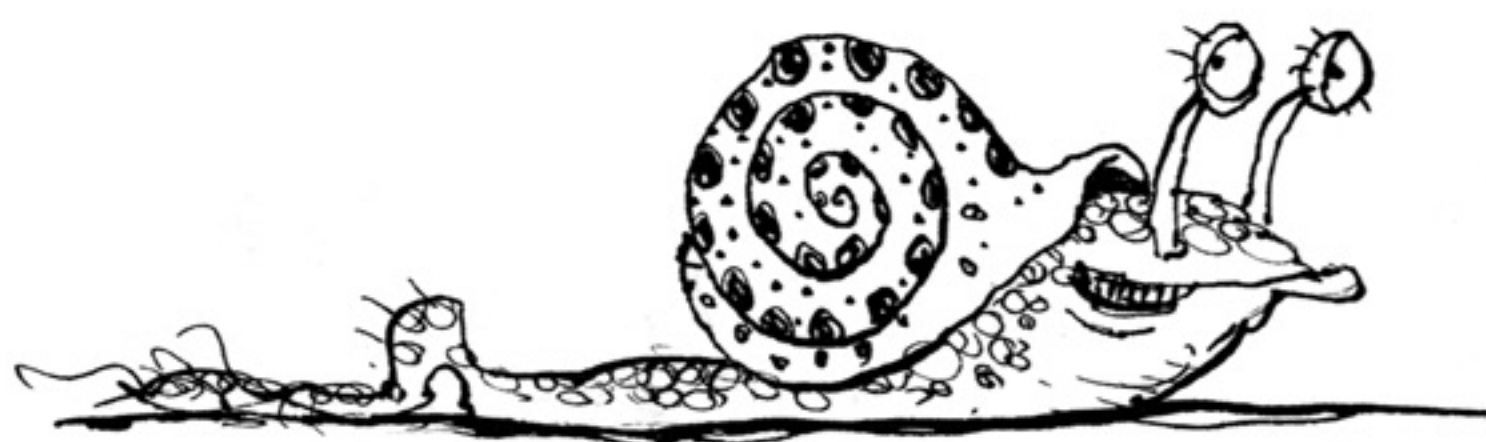
ISBN: 978-0-19-275847-7

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

Printed in Great Britain

Paper used in the production of this book is a natural,
recyclable product made from wood grown in sustainable forests.
The manufacturing process conforms to the environmental
regulations of the country of origin.

Broomstick ALERT



‘I’m bored!’ said Winnie. ‘I’m as bored as a snail is bored with the view inside its shell. I’m as bored as my toes are with the smell inside my socks. I’m as bored as . . .’

‘Mrrow!’ said Wilbur, and he put his paws over his ears.

‘Am I being boring, Wilbur?’ said Winnie.

‘Mrrow!’ said Wilbur crossly.

‘What do people do to stop being bored?’





Let's go down to the village and look in the library,' said Winnie.

The library was full of bookshelves, and full of people reading books.

‘Look at them!’ whispered Winnie. One person was laughing. Another looked frightened. ‘How do books do that to people?’ asked Winnie. She took a book from a shelf and looked at the black words on a white page that she couldn’t read.



Those marks didn't make her cry or laugh or feel anything. Winnie turned the book the other way up, but it didn't make any difference. Wilbur was lying on the carpet with a book open in front of him and he was cat-laughing.

'Mrow-ha-ha!'

'I want to know what's funny!' said Winnie. 'I'm blooming well going back to that school!'



Winnie was in luck.

‘Look at that, Wilbur! There’s a whole flock of witches going to school today! And girls with plaits and stripy stockings and bears with suitcases and wizards with zigzags on their foreheads and . . . oh . . . almost everything except little ordinaries. They’re as odd as a bag of ugly bug pick-n-mix. Come on, Wilbur, we’ll fit in with the others today!’





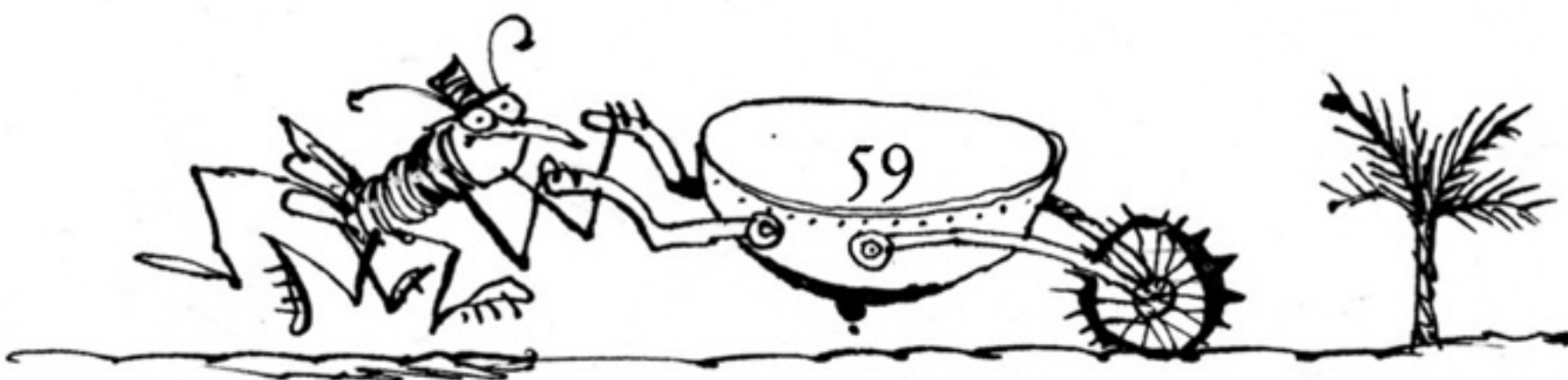
‘Who are you?’ asked one small witch
in stripy tights.

‘I’m Winnie the Witch,’ said Winnie.

‘So am I!’ said the small one.

‘Eh?’ Winnie stood still and puzzled.

‘How does that work, then?’



But Wilbur caught her cardigan in a
claw and hurried her into the classroom.

The teacher, in a red cloak with a hood,
was taking the register.

‘Captain Teachum?’

‘Here.’

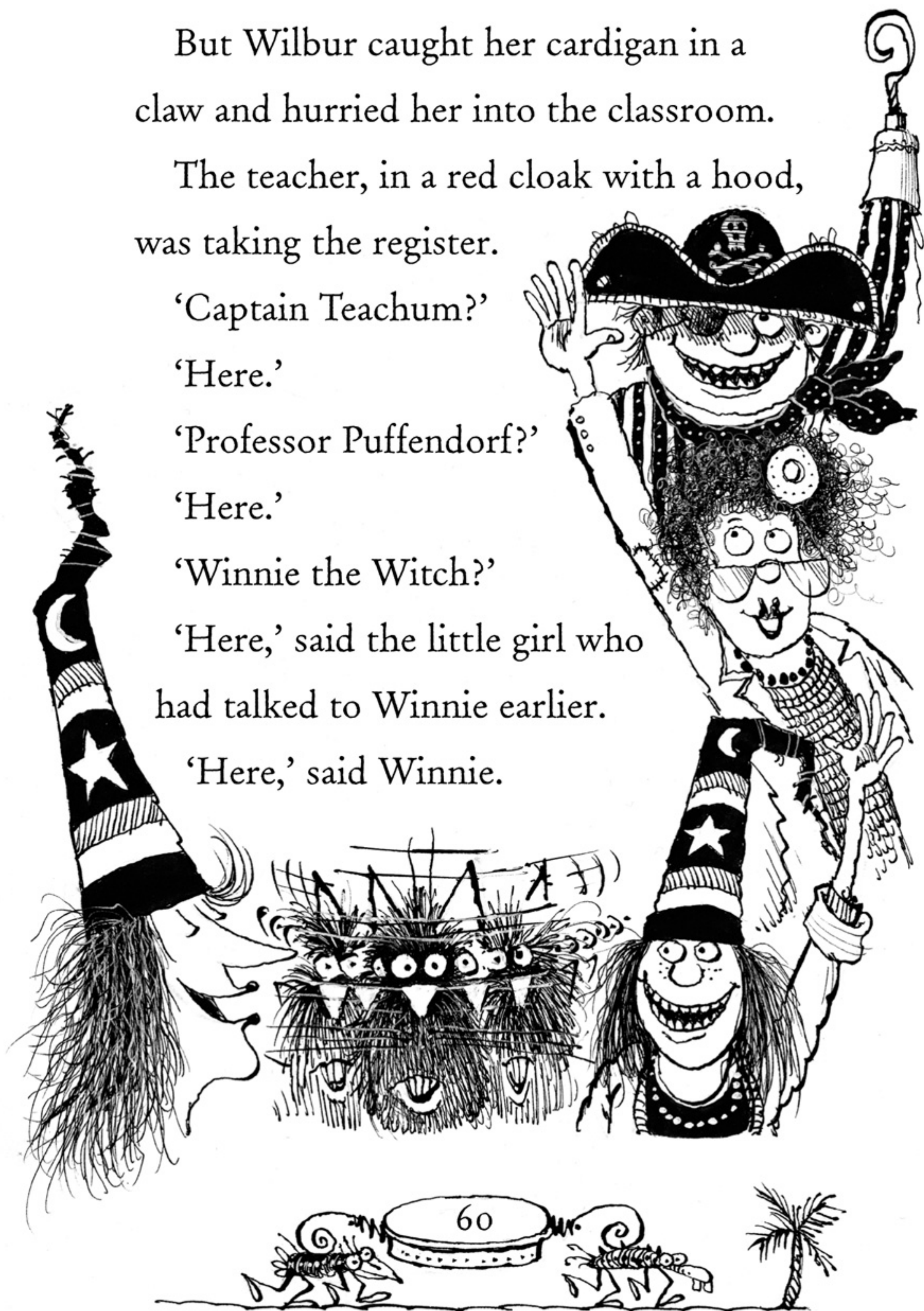
‘Professor Puffendorf?’

‘Here.’

‘Winnie the Witch?’

‘Here,’ said the little girl who
had talked to Winnie earlier.

‘Here,’ said Winnie.



‘Who are you?’ asked the teacher,
glaring at Winnie. ‘And what is that cat
doing in my classroom? We don’t allow
witches in school!’

‘But—!’ began Winnie, looking around
at lots of witches. But the teacher was
pointing at the door.

‘Out!’ said the teacher. So Winnie and
Wilbur went out of the classroom . . .

