For Noah & Fin

First published in Great Britain in 2021 by Andersen Press Ltd., 20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 2SA. Copyright © Graham Carter 2021. The right of Graham Carter to be identified as the author and illustrator of this work has been asserted by him in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act, 1988. All rights reserved. Printed and Bound in China. First edition. British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data available. ISBN 978-1-78344-892-0



THE STORY THIFF

Graham Carter



Olive was rather a shy girl. She rarely left the house, except to visit the library in Craggy Bay with her Dad and borrow books. Olive LOVED books.

SPLOOS#

They were returning home from their latest trip when one of her books fell overboard and sank down, down, down,

into the murky depths...



What is this beautiful thing, the creature wondered, and what are you supposed to do with it?



Eat it?



Wear it?



Sniffing more of the curious things, he followed them to find out.

. .



The trail led him to a glowing light, high above the town. Inside, he could see many more of the strange things. The little people treated each one like a precious treasure.

> It made him more curious than ever.



In her room it was Olive's favourite part of the day: story time with Dad. What would they become tonight? Fearless pirates? Famous detectives? Daring explorers?

Gav min

As her dad read, the creature watched. He was astonished to see how happy the strange thing made Olive.

He just HAD to have it. So, quick as a flash...





TRAT

