

Helping you choose books for children



0-5



5-7



7-9



9-12



12+

Opening extract from

The Oxford Book of Children's Poetry

Written by

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Christopher Stuart-Clark**

Published by

Oxford University Press

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Please print off and read at your leisure.

I'm Just Going Out

I'm just going out for a moment.

Why?

To make a cup of tea.

Why?

Because I'm thirsty.

Why?

Because it's hot.

Why?

Because the sun's shining.

Why?

Because it's summer.

Why?

Because that's when it is.

Why?

Why don't you stop saying why?

Why?

Tea-time why.

High-time-you-stopped-saying-why-time.

What?

MICHAEL ROSEN



Rabbiting On

Where did you go?

Oh . . . nowhere much.

What did you see?

Oh . . . rabbits and such.

Rabbits? What else?

Oh . . . a rabbit hutch.

What sort of rabbits?

What sort? Oh . . . small.

What sort of hutch?

Just a hutch, that's all.

But what did it look like?

Like a rabbit hutch.

Well, what was in it?

Small rabbits and such.

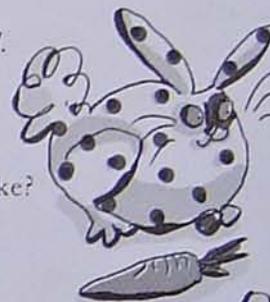
I worried about you

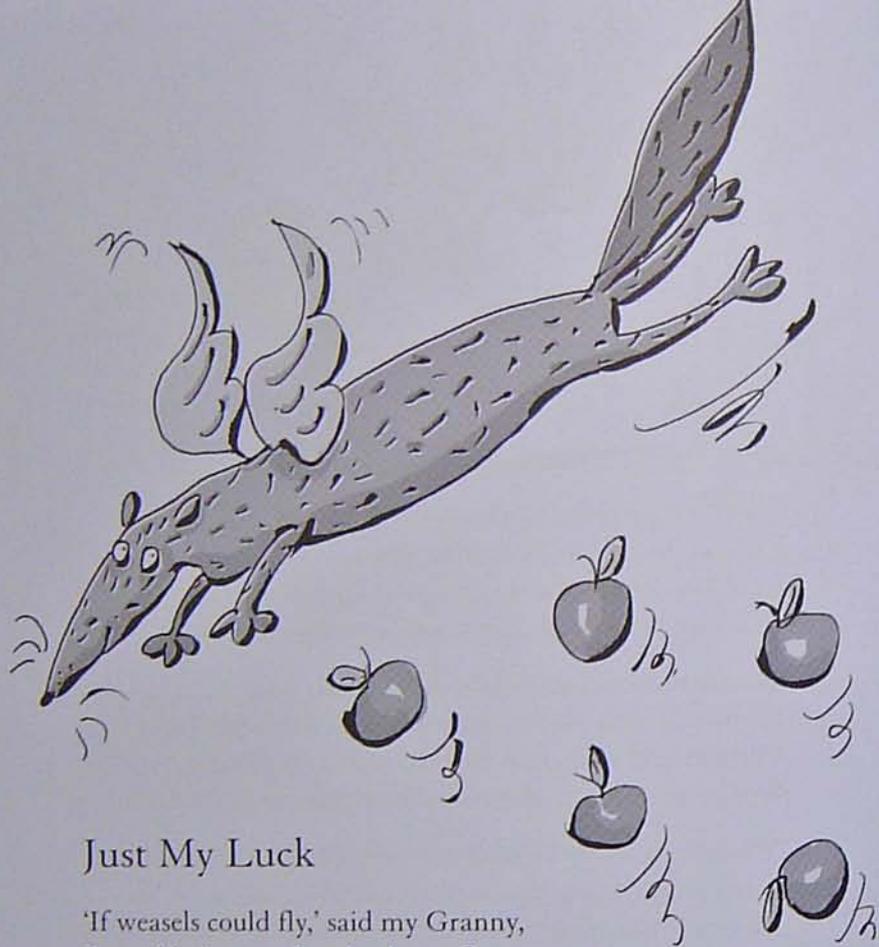
While you were gone.

Why don't you stop

Rabbiting on?

KIT WRIGHT





Just My Luck

'If weasels could fly,' said my Granny,
'I would give you four buckets of sweets,
Three mousetraps, two spoons and a tom-tom,
And lots more magnificent treats.'

'Then give me them now, quick!' I shouted
As a furry thing whizzed past my throat,
But she shook her head answering 'Sorry,
I said weasels, dear, that was a stoat.'

RICHARD EDWARDS

'Granny Smith: Best Before Feb 21' (Notice seen in Sainsbury's)

I can't remember
when I was best before
but I do now wonder
what Granny Smith
will suddenly do
on February twenty-two:
dance naked down
Sainsbury's aisles,
trolley-slalom
staid shoppers
shouting out
ancient hymns?
I'm glad she's not
my own granny.
Mine was always, always
best before bedtime.

JOHN CORBEN

