

Opening extract from
That Pesky Rat

Written by
Lauren Child

Published by
Orchard Books

All text is copyright of the author

Please print off and read at your leisure.

This is me.

I'm the one with the **pointy**
nose and **b e a d y** eyes.

The **cutesy** one
in the middle.

I live in

dustbin

number **3**,

Grubby

Alley.



Every now and again I come back to find
someone has emptied **all** my belongings
into a **big** van and driven off with them.

It's very **upsetting.**

I'm a brown rat, a street rat.
But people call me **that pesky rat**.
I don't know why.
They say I **smell**,
but that's not my fault, it's the dirt.

Sometimes when I am tucked into
my **crisp** packet,
I look up at all the **COsy** windows
and wonder what it would be like
to live with creature comforts.
To **belong** to somebody.
To be an actual **pet**.

Most of all I would like

to have a name, instead of just

that pesky rat.

