JANETTA OTTER-BARRY BOOKS



Poems and Drawings by ROGER McGOUGH



Contents

My Pet Stoat

A weasel is easily pleased

No Peas for the Wicked

Class Warfare

Meerkat lullaby

Wasps

Snail's Pace

Thicker the batter

Pizza Consultant

Jack Pratt

Roll

Burp

Burp 2

Washed up

Lucky

Peepshow

All in Time to the Music

Morning has Broken

Borrowed Time

Poor Old Dead Horses

Shooting Stars

Magnet

Poetry Pie

Every Little Breeze

Colin

Death of Nelson

Meet the Cats

Strangeways

Christmas Tide

Multi-stories

Rhyming in Court

So You Want to be a Letter?

Crocodile Farm

Keep your eyes Peeled

Figment Tree

Trying to Write

Dear Sir or Madam

Poem about That

Book Borrower

Beguiling

Cobblers

Dada Xmas Catalogue

Almost a Riddle

Riddle

Outlaw's In-laws

Hill o' Beans

Grandma and the Angels

Everything Touches

On and On

My Pet Stoat

My favourite pet is a baby stoat With bright blue eyes and a tortoiseshell coat

Warm and cuddly he curls up on my lap Or in front of the fire while taking a nap

On the back of a chair he'll balance and spring Then play for hours with a ball of string

When I stroke his back it's as soft as silk And he goes 'Miaow' when its time for his milk

Excuse me, that's not a stoat

No?

No, that's a cat.

It's not a cat. I've got a cat. I keep it in a little cage hanging from the mantelpiece.

A cat in a cage? What does it look like?

It's got wires going this way and that way...

No. I mean the cat.

Just like any other cat, I suppose. It's got a little beak,

Covered in feathers and goes, 'Tweet Tweet.'

Tweet Tweet?

Tweet Tweet.

That's not a cat.

No?

No, That's a canary.

It's not a canary. I've got a canary. I keep it in the kennel in the backyard.

A canary in a kennel? What does it look like?

It's a wooden box with a roof...

No, I mean the canary.

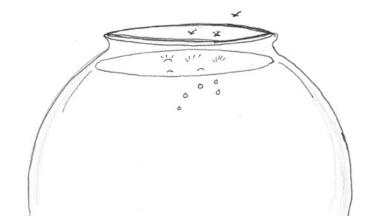
Just like any other canary. It's huge, grey, with huge floppy ears, two tusks and a big long trunk.

That's not a canary.

No? What is it, then?

It's ... er ... why, everybody knows,

It's ... er ... you know ... it's ... a ... GOLDFISH!



No Peas for the Wicked

No peas for the wicked No carrots for the damned No parsnips for the naughty

O Lord we pray

No beansprouts for the bad tempered
No noodles for the moody
No onions for the whingers

No way, no way

No garlic for the greedy

No beetroot for the bullies

No mange-tout for the muggers

Lock them away

No broccoli for the smelly No cabbage for the cheeky No corn for the fare-dodgers Make 'em all pay

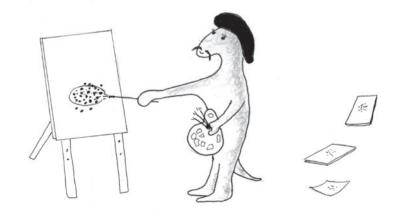
No creamy mash or aubergines
No fries, no baked or refried beans
No vegetables of any kind
O Lord we pray

A Weasel is Easily Pleased

A weasel is easily pleased just give him biscuits and crumbly cheese tickle his whiskers and if there's a breeze invite him sailing and if he agrees it's anchors aweigh on the open seas.

A weasel is easily pleased and when the snow begins to freeze take him skiing on the Pyrenees down the slopes in and out of the trees 'Look out everybody a weasel on skis! A weasel is easily pleased just give him an easel and soon he'll be seized with a passion for painting still-lives of peas.

Carrots, parsnips veggies like these the occasional onion but mainly, peas.



10