



Beyond Tenniel: Trailblazing Illustrators of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

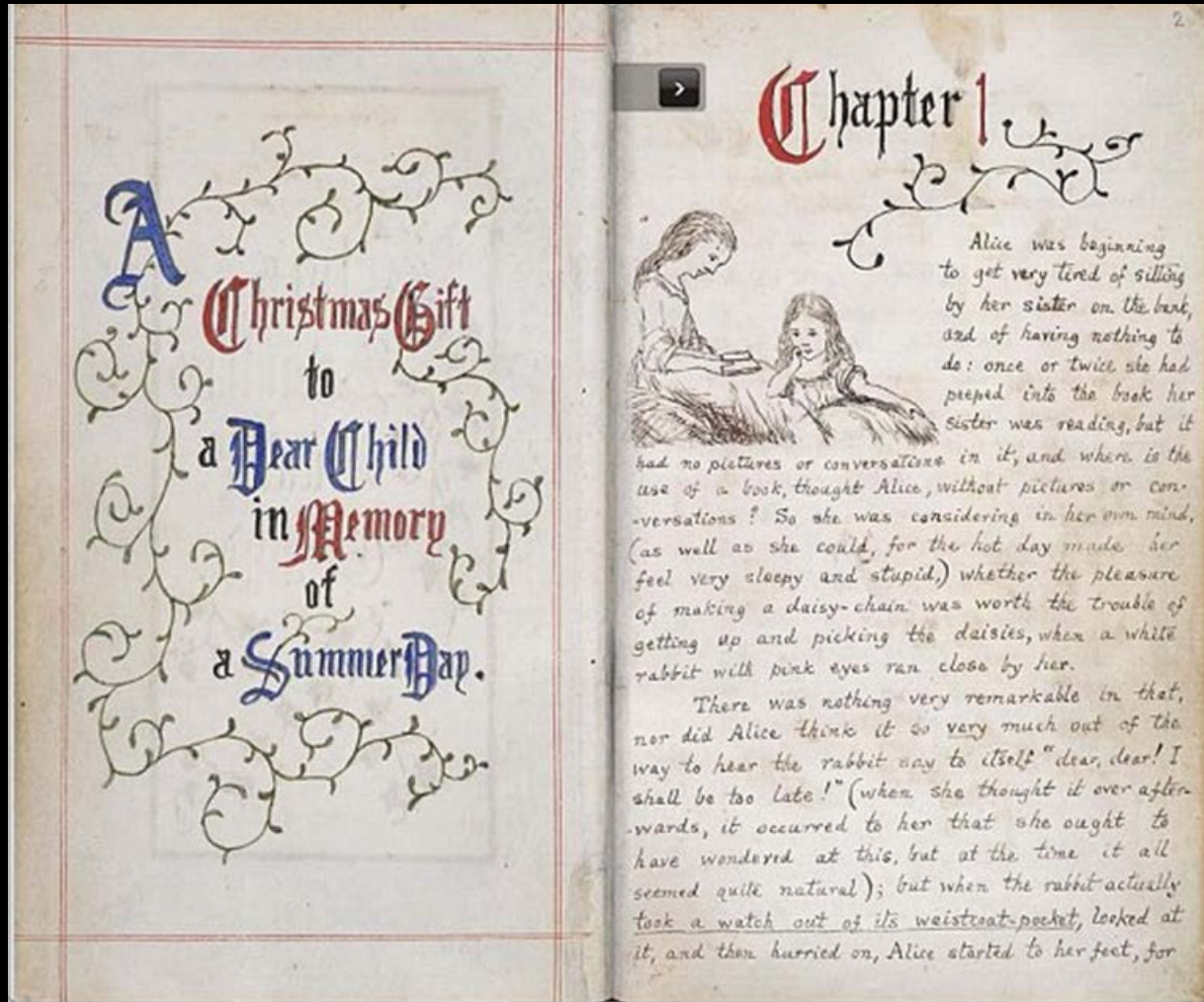


Arnold Hirshon

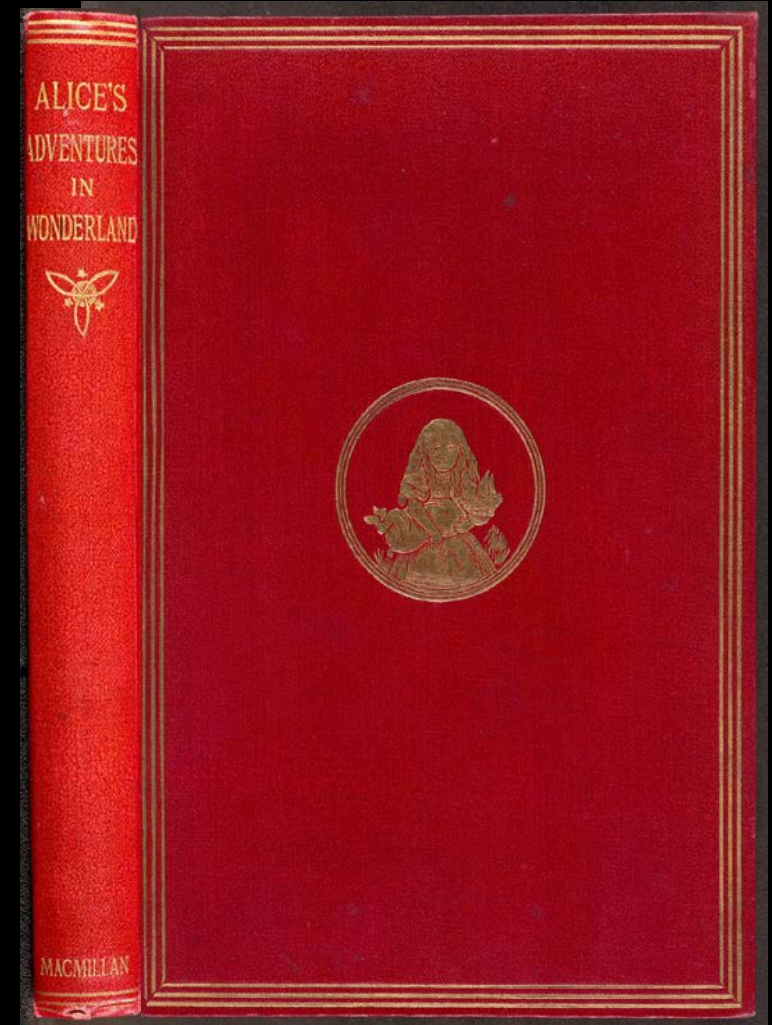
Vice Provost and University Librarian
Case Western Reserve University

155 years ago in 1865

a journey that began as this



became this



1,463

the number of unique illustrators of
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

or

Through the Looking-Glass

or

both

as the most illustrated works of fiction in history, the two *Alice books* make are a perfect opportunity to trace changes of illustration as a form of visual translation

*my specific research question**

a systematic and comprehensive exploration of every English-language edition beyond Tenniel of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* to uncover the first appearance or significant change in a:

- ♣ *setting or scene* ♦ *character*
- ♥ *sentence* ♠ *word or phrase*

“Begin at the beginning, and go on till you come to the end: then stop.”



Blanche McManus (1896)

* extracted from “Beyond Tenniel: The Evolution of Visual Representations of Wonderland by Illustrators of the English-Language Editions” in *Alice in a World of Wonderlands: the English-Language Editions* (Everttype, 2021)

the challenge:

*how many illustrations are there to review?
which contain something new or unique?*

- there are 12 chapters in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*
- Tenniel had 42 illustrations for *Wonderland*, but illustrators thereafter had more or fewer
- IF
every one of the 1,463 illustrators illustrated an edition of *Wonderland*
AND
each illustrator had 42 illustrations per edition
= 61,446 illustrations to examine and catalog the differences

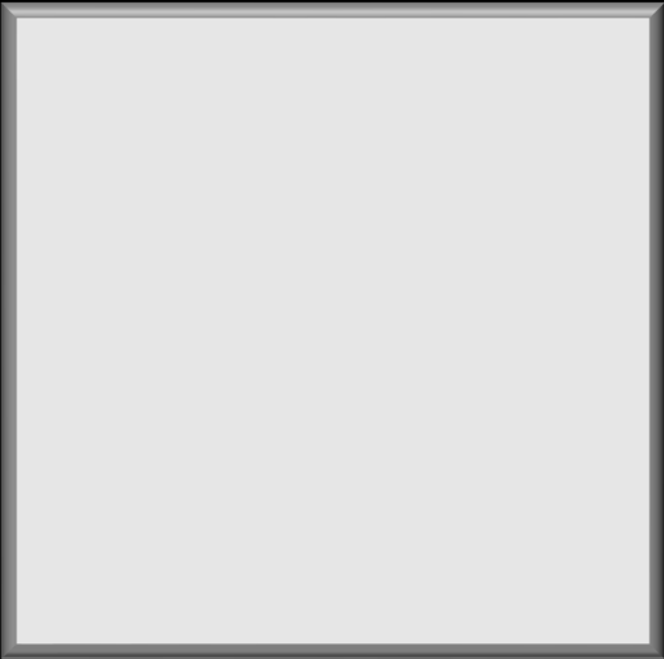
as each illustrator descends down Alice's rabbit hole, what do they each choose to translate visually?

“Begin at the beginning, and go on till you come to the end: then stop.”



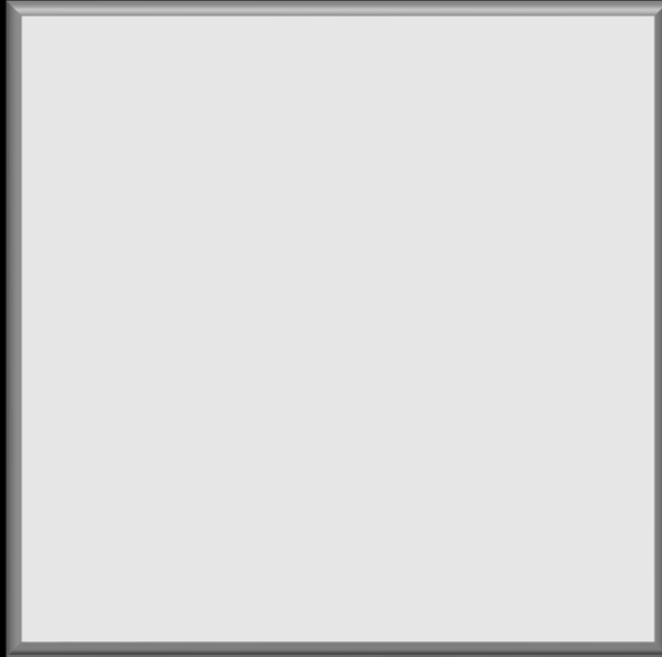
“White. A blank page or canvas ... So many possibilities.”

Stephen Sondheim, Sunday in the Park with George



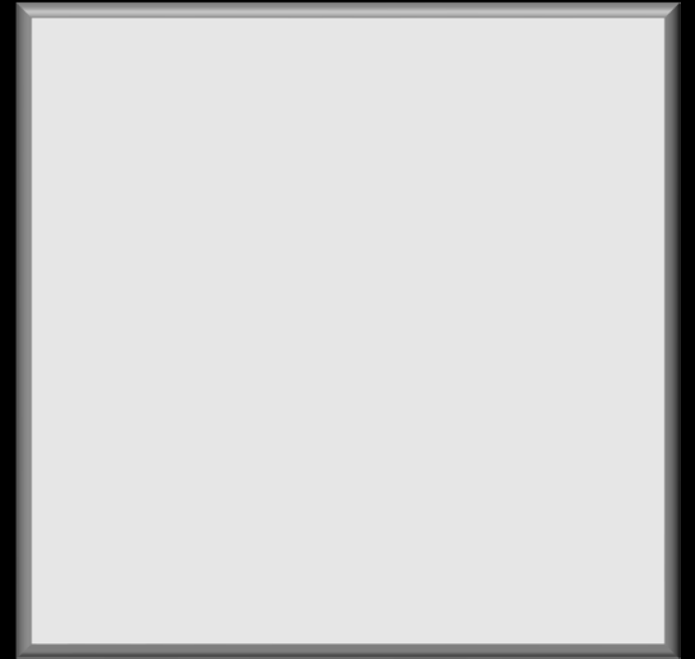
Lewis Carroll

*Alice down
the rabbit hole*



John Tenniel

*Alice down
the rabbit hole*



Lewis Carroll

The Mad Tea Party

first impressions: a case study

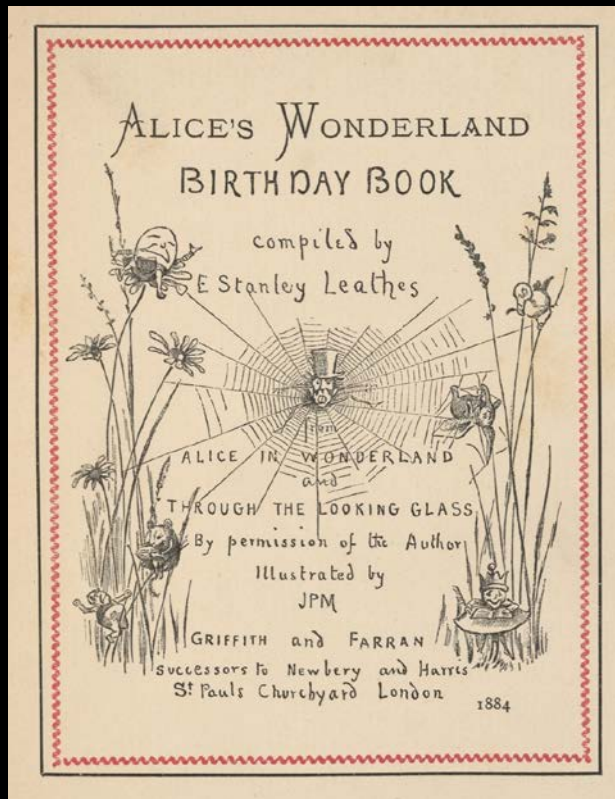
the Mad Tea Party

what did each illustrator add or change?



John Tenniel (1865)

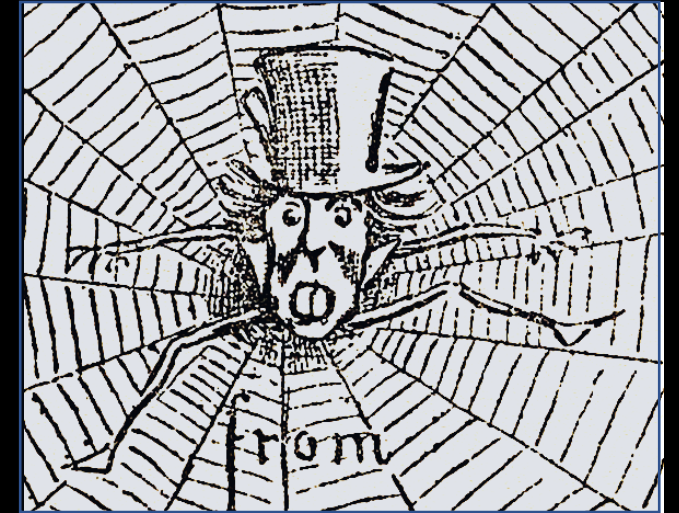
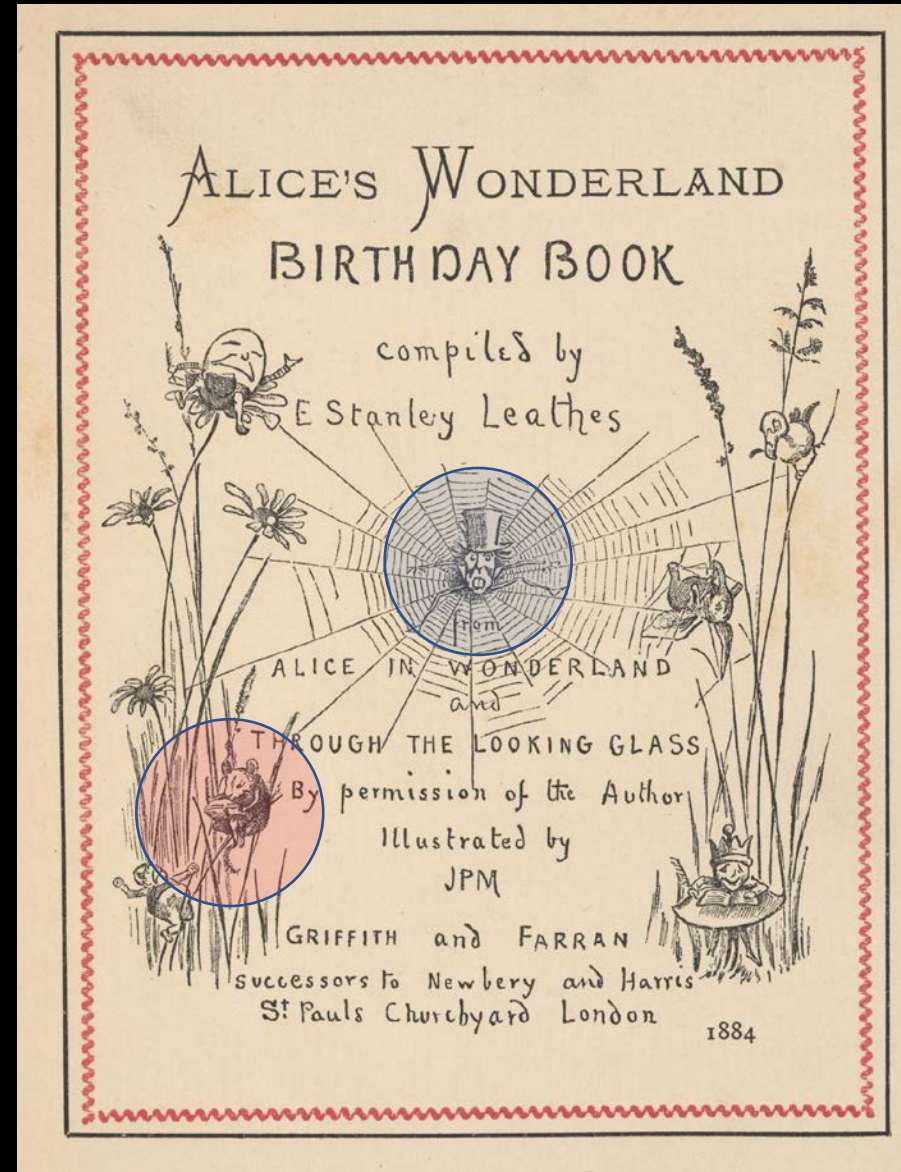
early illustrated English-language editions that do not include this scene



- Mary Sibree, *Alice and Other Fairy Plays for Children* by Kate Freiligrath-Kroeker
(London: W. Swan Sonnenschein and Allen, 1880; reissued London: George Bell and Sons, 1881)
- JPM, *Alice's Wonderland Birthday Book*
(London: Griffith & Farran, 1884)

JPM. *Alice's Wonderland Birthday Book*

(London:
Griffith & Farran,
1884)



L. J. (Lewis Jessie) Bridgman
and Charles Copeland (color frontispiece only)
(New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1893)



Blanche McManus

(New York: M. F. Mansfield;
later: A. Wessells, 1896/1899)



Peter Newell

(New York and London: Harper & Brothers,
1901)



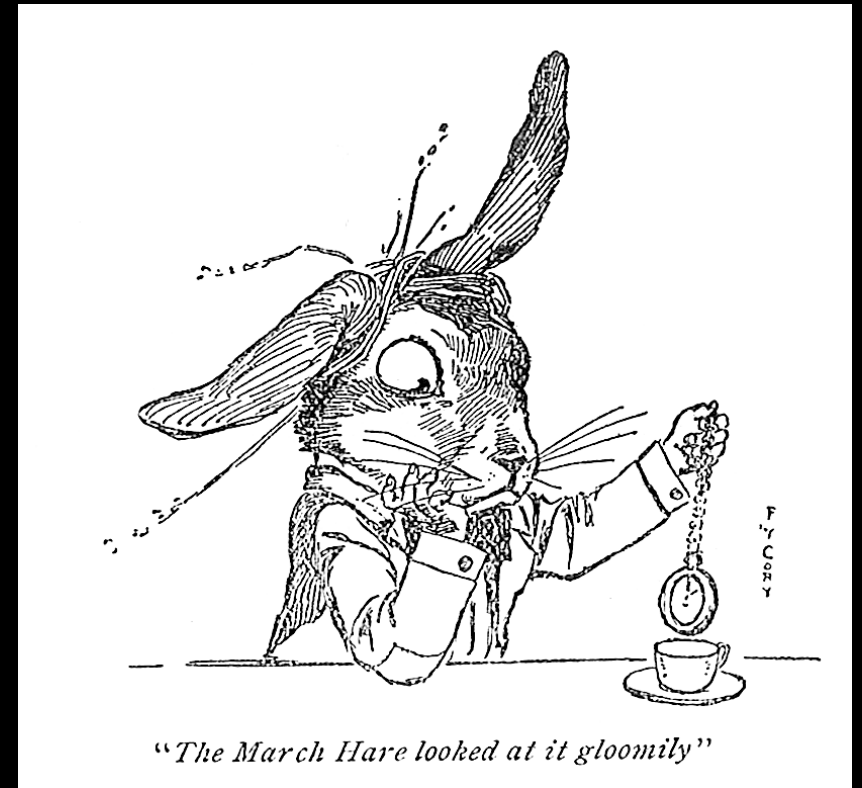
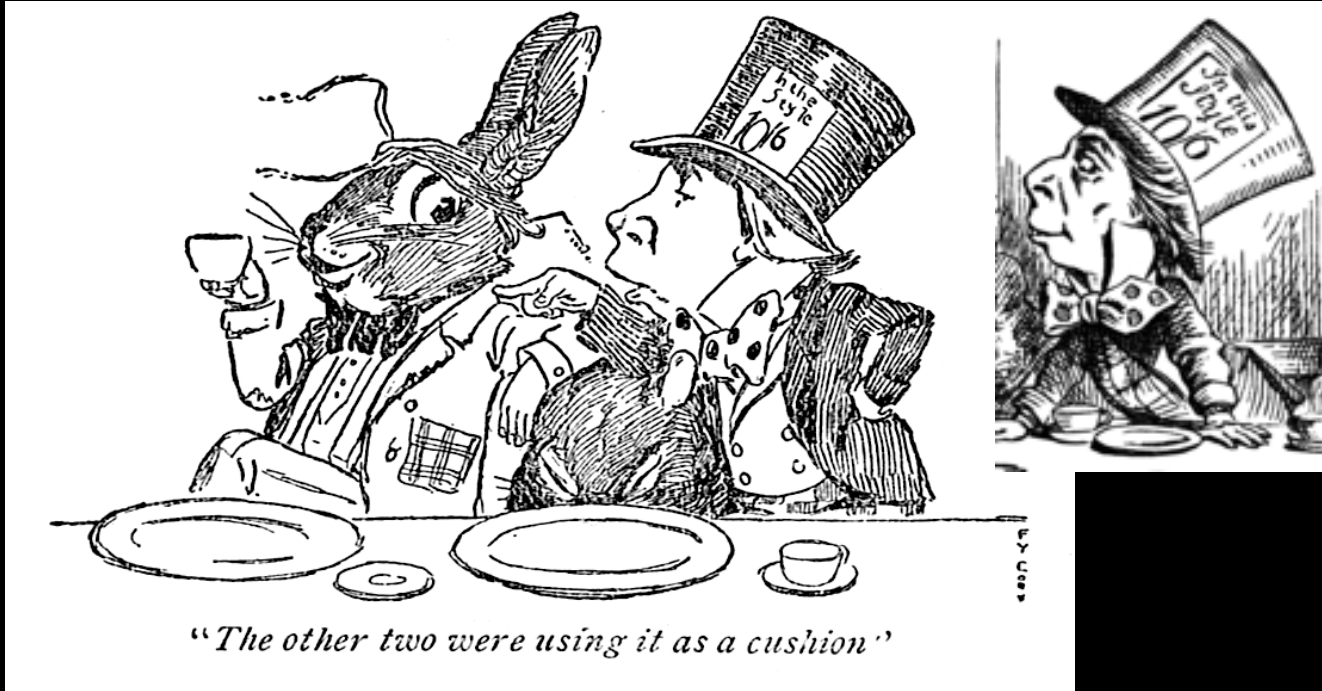
"He dipped it into his cup of tea and looked at it again"



"They lived at the bottom of a well"

F. Y. (Fanny) Cory

(Chicago: Rand, McNally, 1902)



Maria L. (Louise) Kirk
(New York: Frederick A. Stokes,
1904)



J. (John) Watson Davis
(New York: A. L. Burt, c. 1905?)



“I didn't know it was your table,” said Alice. Page 81.

—*Alice in Wonderland.*

Millicent Sowerby

(London: Chatto & Windus, 1907)





Thomas Maybank

(London: George Routledge and Sons Limited;
New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., [1907])





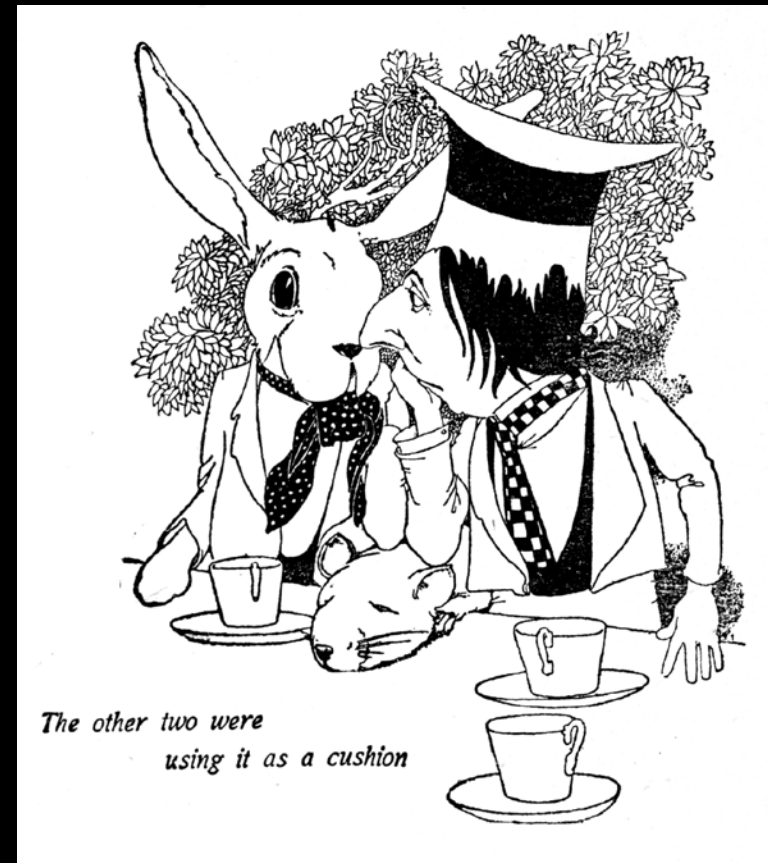
Arthur Rackham
(London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1907)

Charles Robinson

(London, New York, Toronto,
Melbourne: Cassell & Co., 1907)



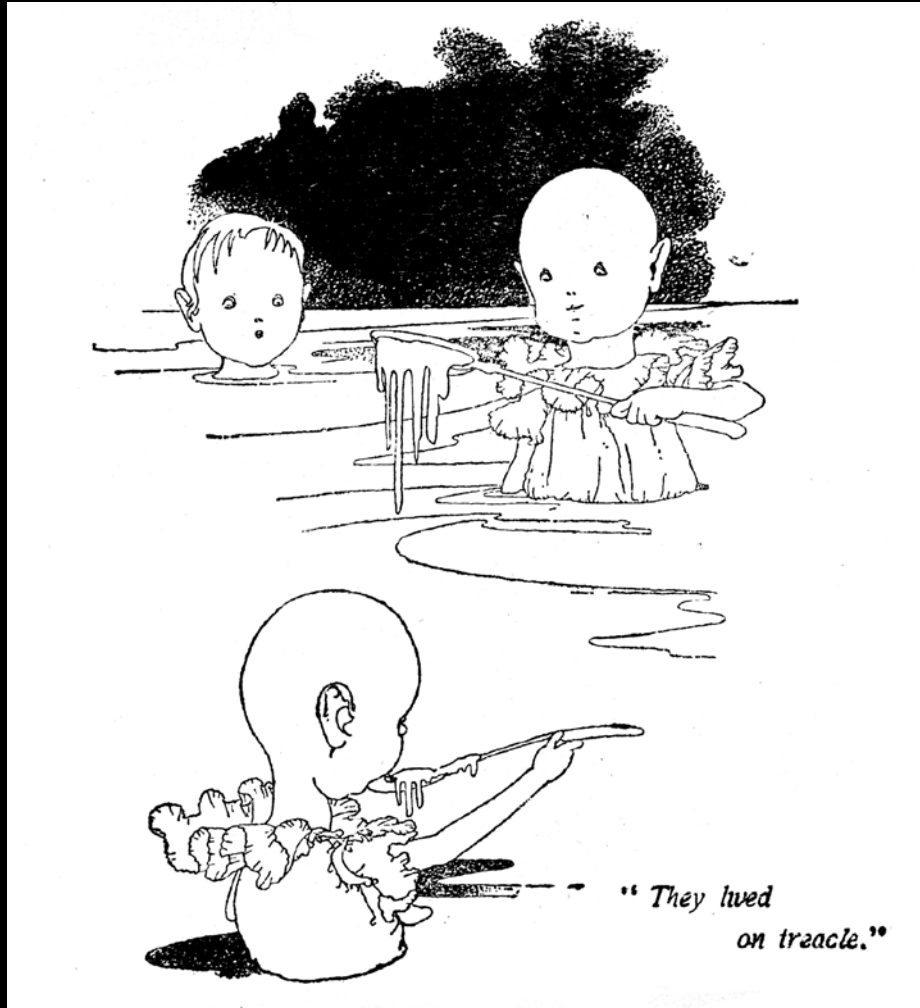
"What day of the month is it?" he said, turning to Alice.



*The other two were
using it as a cushion*

Charles Robinson

(London, New York, Toronto, Melbourne: Cassell & Co., 1907)





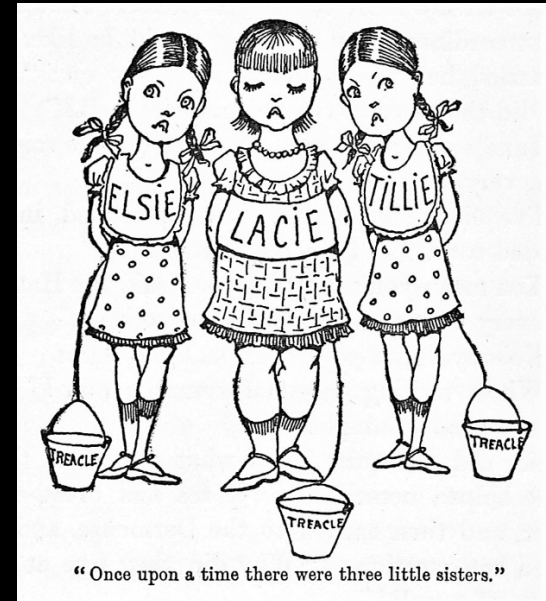
"I WANT A CLEAN CUP," INTERRUPTED THE HATTER; "LET'S ALL
MOVE ONE PLACE ON"

W. H. Walker

(London: John Lane,
The Bodley Head Ltd., 1907)



"Twinkle, twinkle, little bat!"

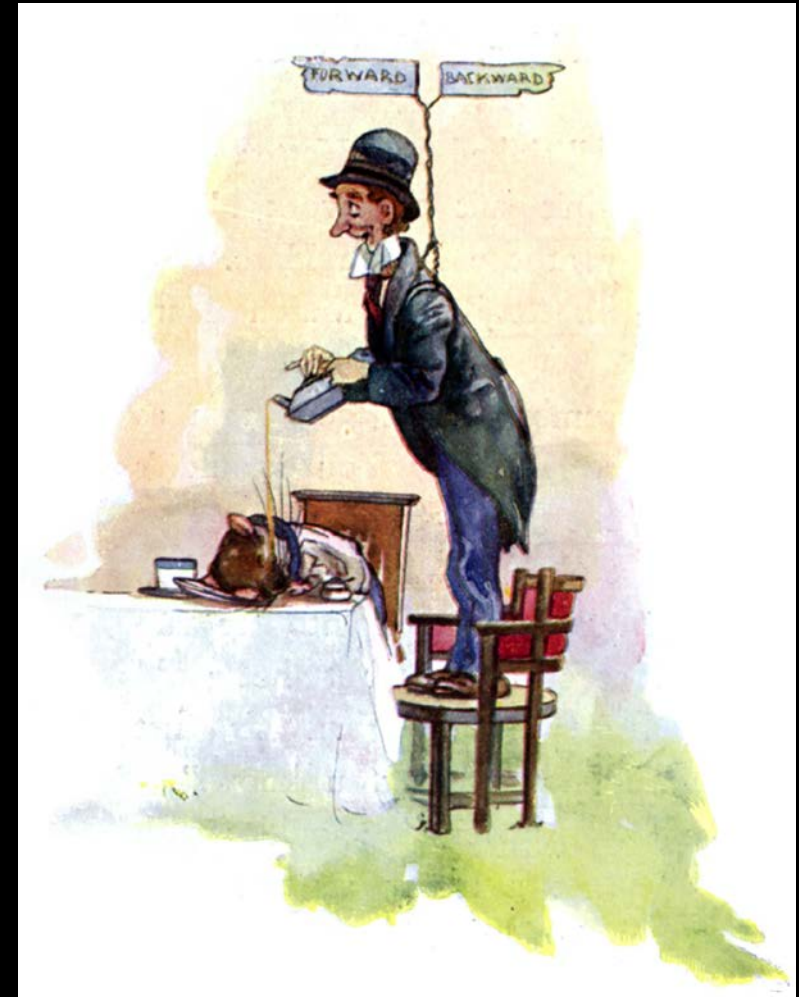


"Once upon a time there were three little sisters."

Brinsley Le Fanu
(London: W. T. Stead's Publishing
House, 1907; first reissued
London: Ernest Benn, Ltd.)

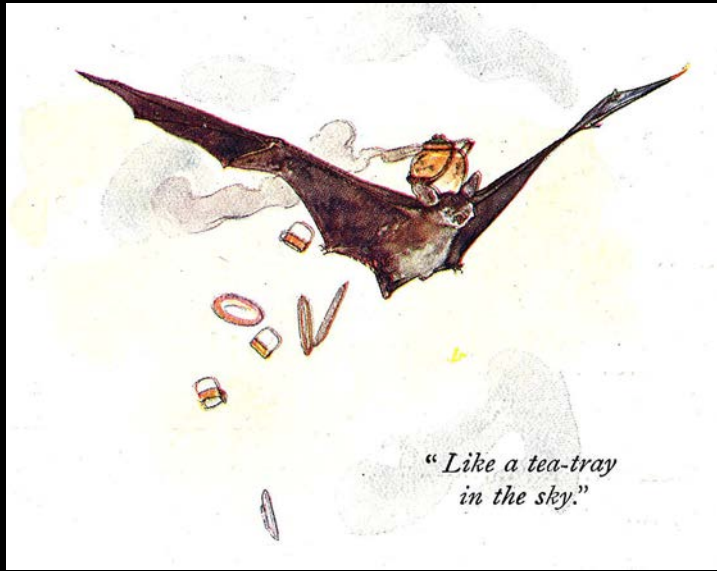


Harry
Rountree
(London,
Edinburgh, Dublin,
New York: Thomas
Nelson, 1908)



Harry Rountree

(London, Edinburgh, Dublin, New York: Thomas Nelson, 1908)



*"Like a tea-tray
in the sky."*



"Elsie, Lacie, and Tillie."



"They put the Dormouse into the teapot."

among many other early editions, I am skipping by...

Alice Ross (1907)

Bessie Pease Gutmann (1907)

Walter Hawes (1908)

Harry Furniss (1908)

R. E. [Robert Ernest] McEune (1908)

(Evelyn) Stuart Hardy (1908)

J. R. Sinclair (1909) →

Mabel Lucie Atwell (1910)

E. Hatton Stanton (1910)

George Soper (1911)

Hugo [Olof] von Hofsten

A. E. Jackson (1914)

Gordon Robinson (1916)

Milo Winter (1916)

Gwynedd M. Hudson (1922) ...



... and I will hit
upon just a few
more later
highlights

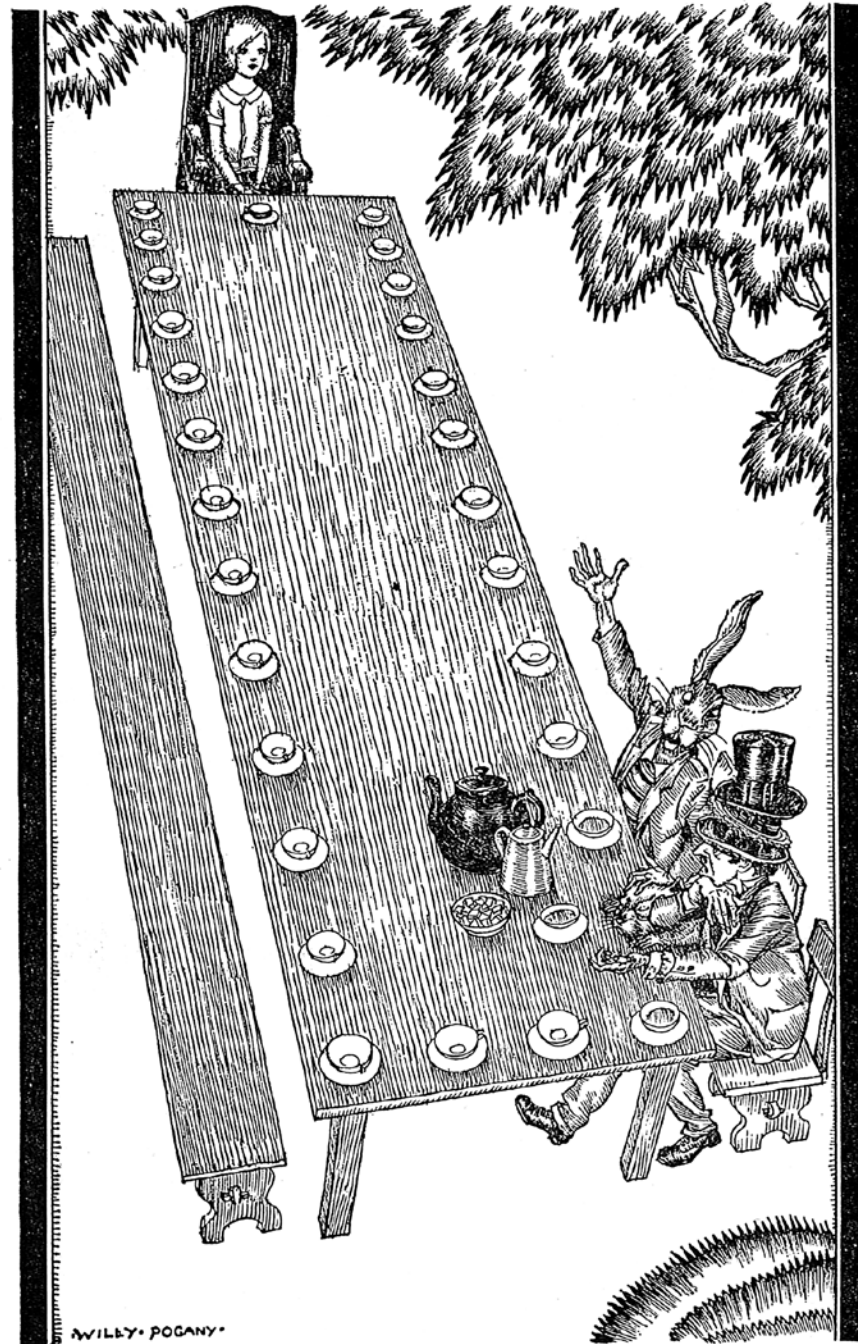
Christian Yandell

([Christchurch, New Zealand]: Whitcombe and Tombs, 1924)

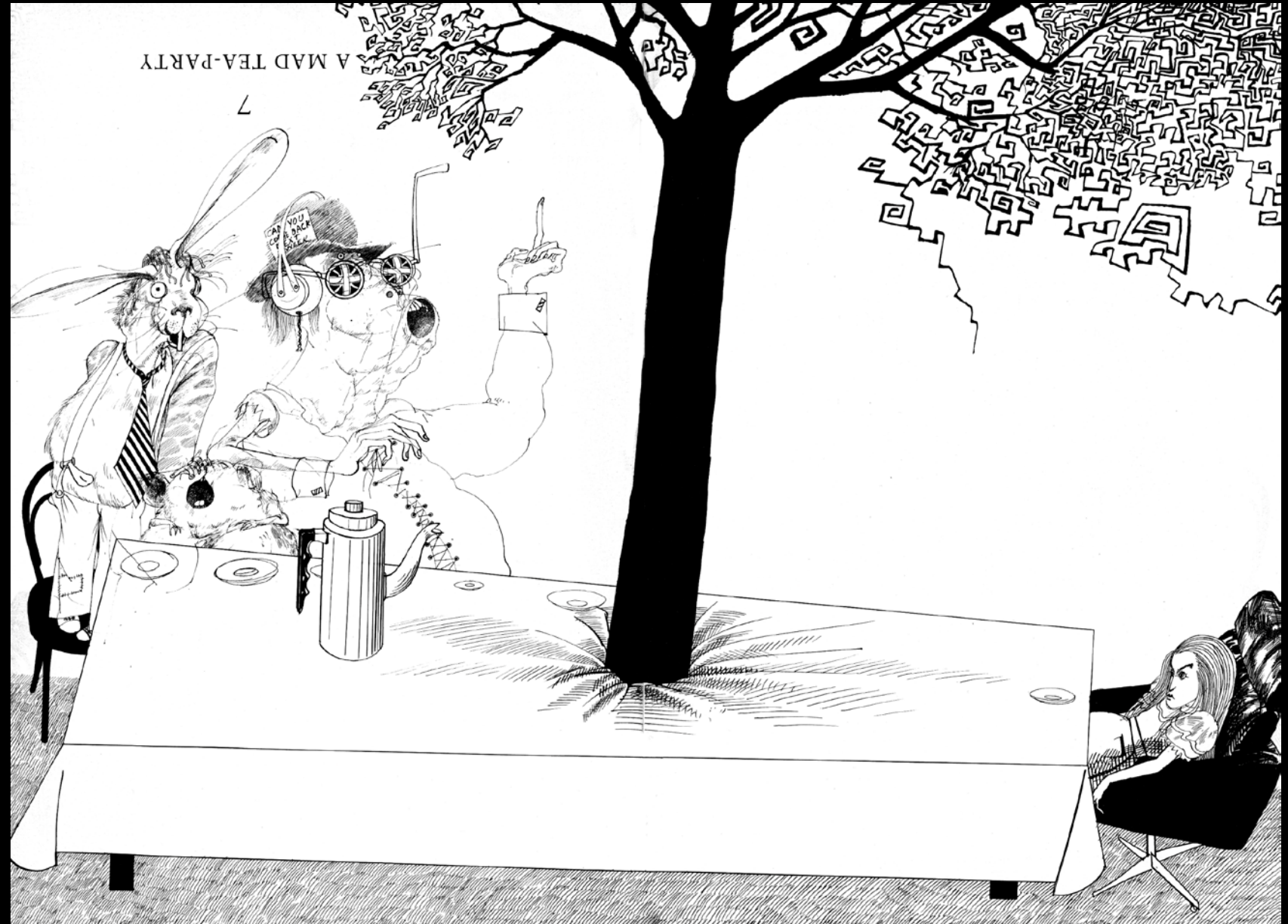


Willy Pogany

(New York: E. P. Dutton, 1929)



Ralph Steadman
(London: Dennis
Dobson; New York:
Crown Publishers,
1967)

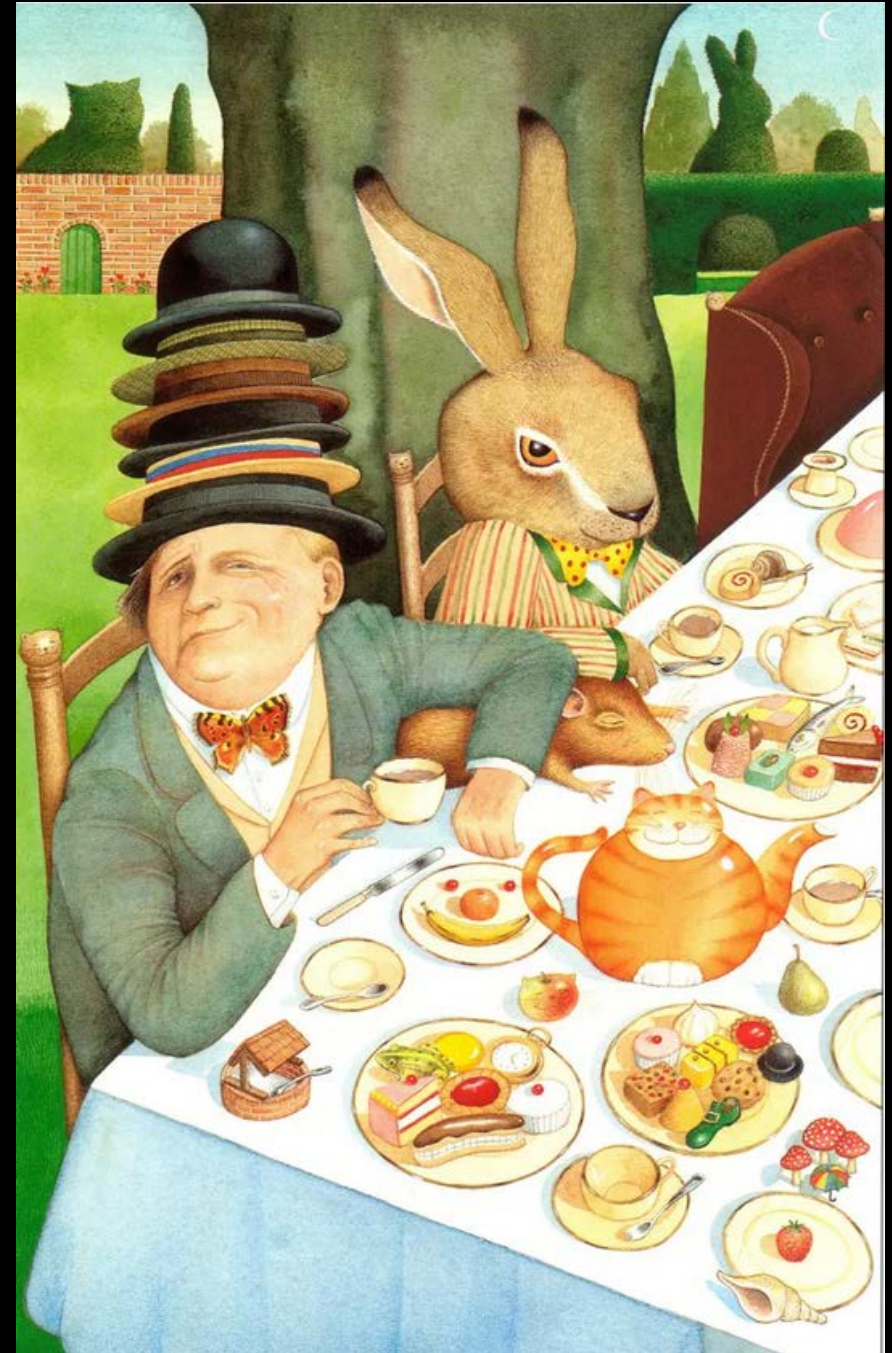


Charles Blackman
(Wellington, New Zealand;
and Frenchs Forest, Australia:
Reed, 1982)



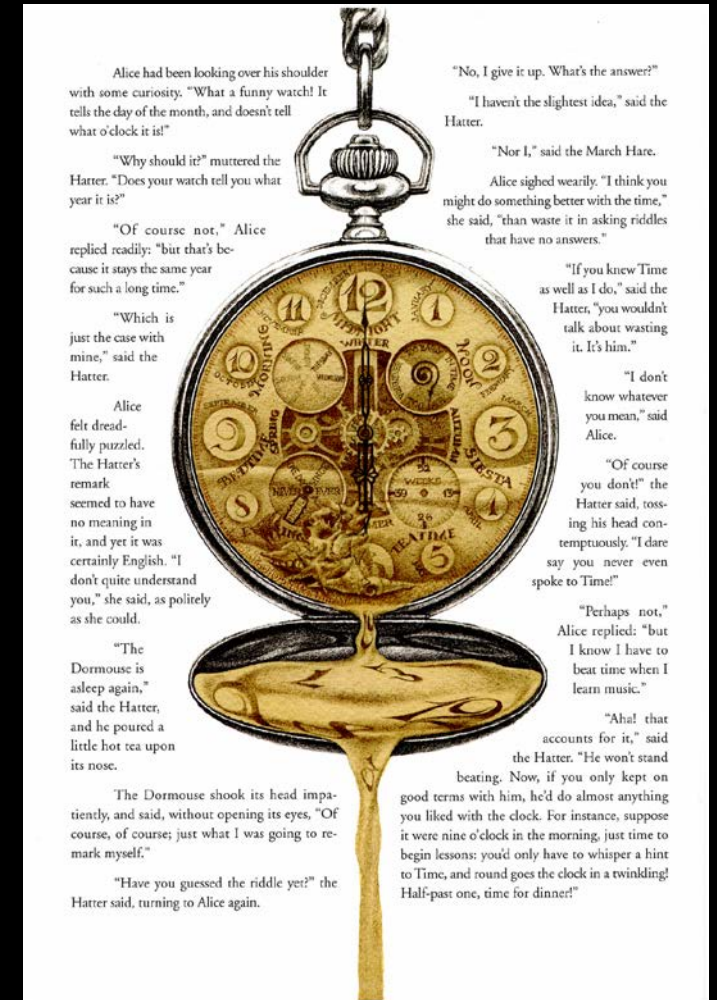


Anthony Browne
(New York: Alfred A.
Knopf, 1988; London:
MacRae, 1988)



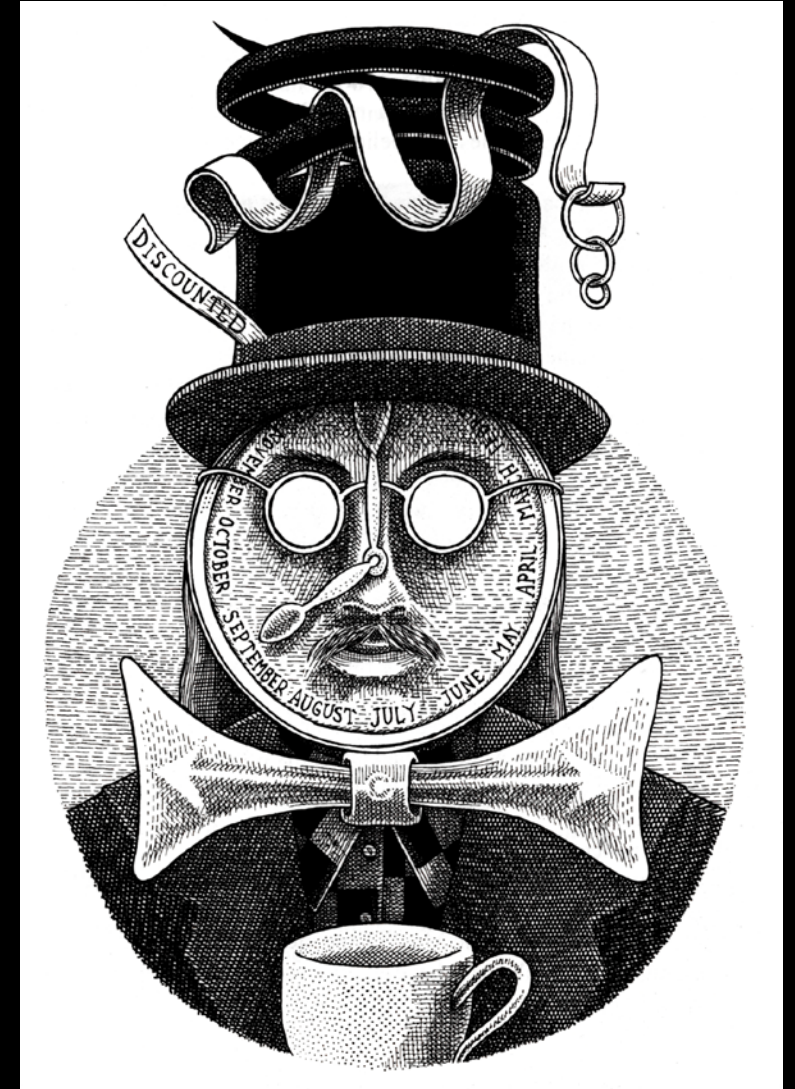
Oleg Lipchenko

(Toronto, ON: Tundra Books, 2009)



Gavin L. O'Keefe, The Alice Books

([Shreveport, LA]: Ramble House, 2011)



from the beginning,
many illustrators
accepted the
challenge

and so many creative
opportunities remain





fini

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Harry Rountree