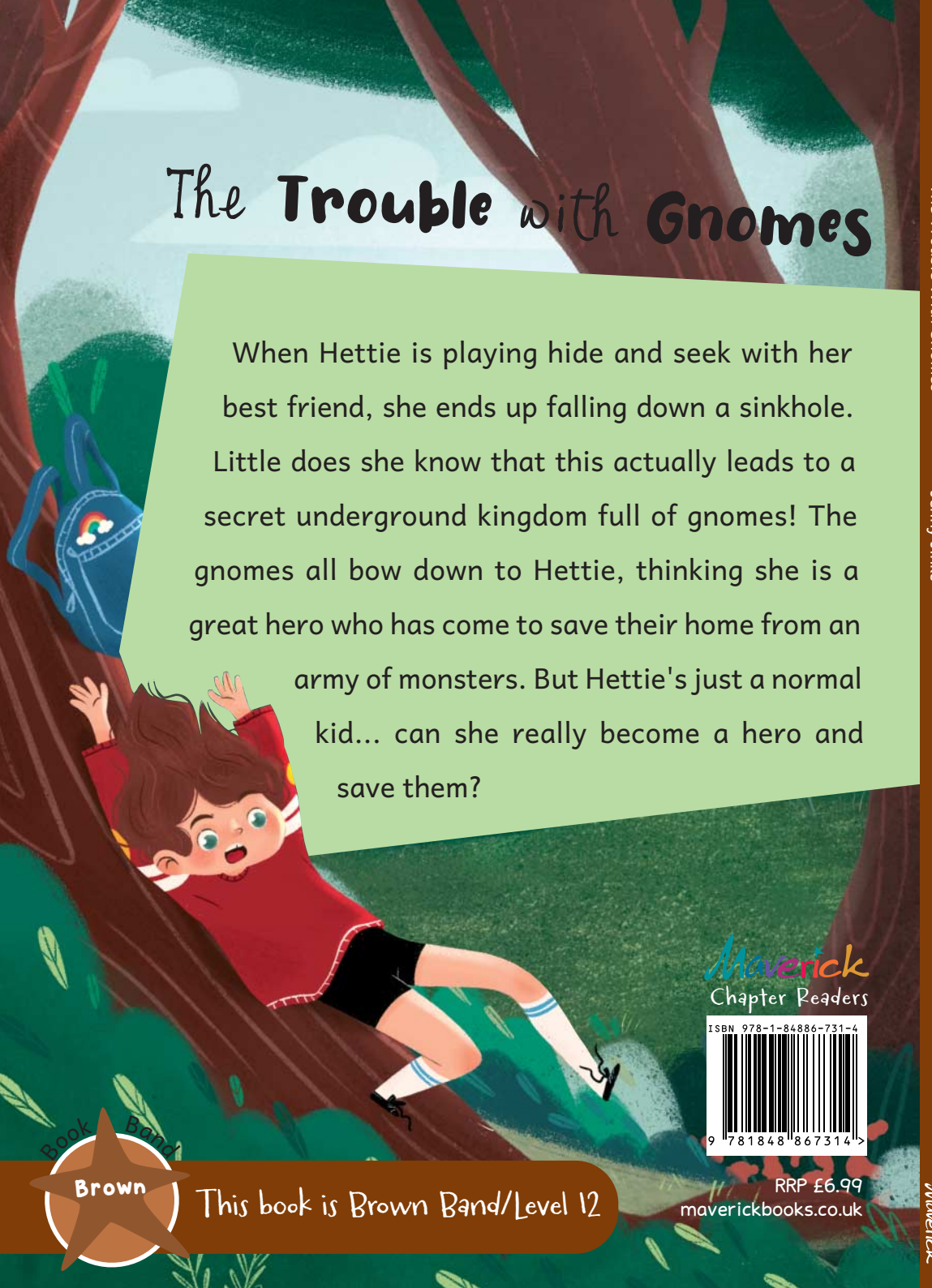


The Trouble with Gnomes

When Hettie is playing hide and seek with her best friend, she ends up falling down a sinkhole. Little does she know that this actually leads to a secret underground kingdom full of gnomes! The gnomes all bow down to Hettie, thinking she is a great hero who has come to save their home from an army of monsters. But Hettie's just a normal kid... can she really become a hero and save them?

Book Band: Brown

This book is Brown Band/Level 12

Maverick Chapter Readers

ISBN 978-1-84886-731-4

RRP £6.99

maverickbooks.co.uk

The Trouble With Gnomes

Jenny Jinks

Maverick



The Trouble with Gnomes

Written by Jenny Jinks

Illustrated by Carolina Coroa

Maverick Chapter Readers

'The Trouble with Gnomes'
An original concept by Jenny Jinks
© Jenny Jinks

Illustrated by Carolina Coroa

Published by MAVERICK ARTS PUBLISHING LTD
Studio 11, City Business Centre, 6 Brighton Road,
Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5BB
© Maverick Arts Publishing Limited November 2020
+44 (0)1403 256941

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available at the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-84886-731-4

Maverick publishing
www.maverickbooks.co.uk

Brown

This book is rated as: Brown Band (Guided Reading)

For Review Only

The Trouble with Gnomes

Written by
Jenny Jinks

Illustrated by
Carolina Coroa





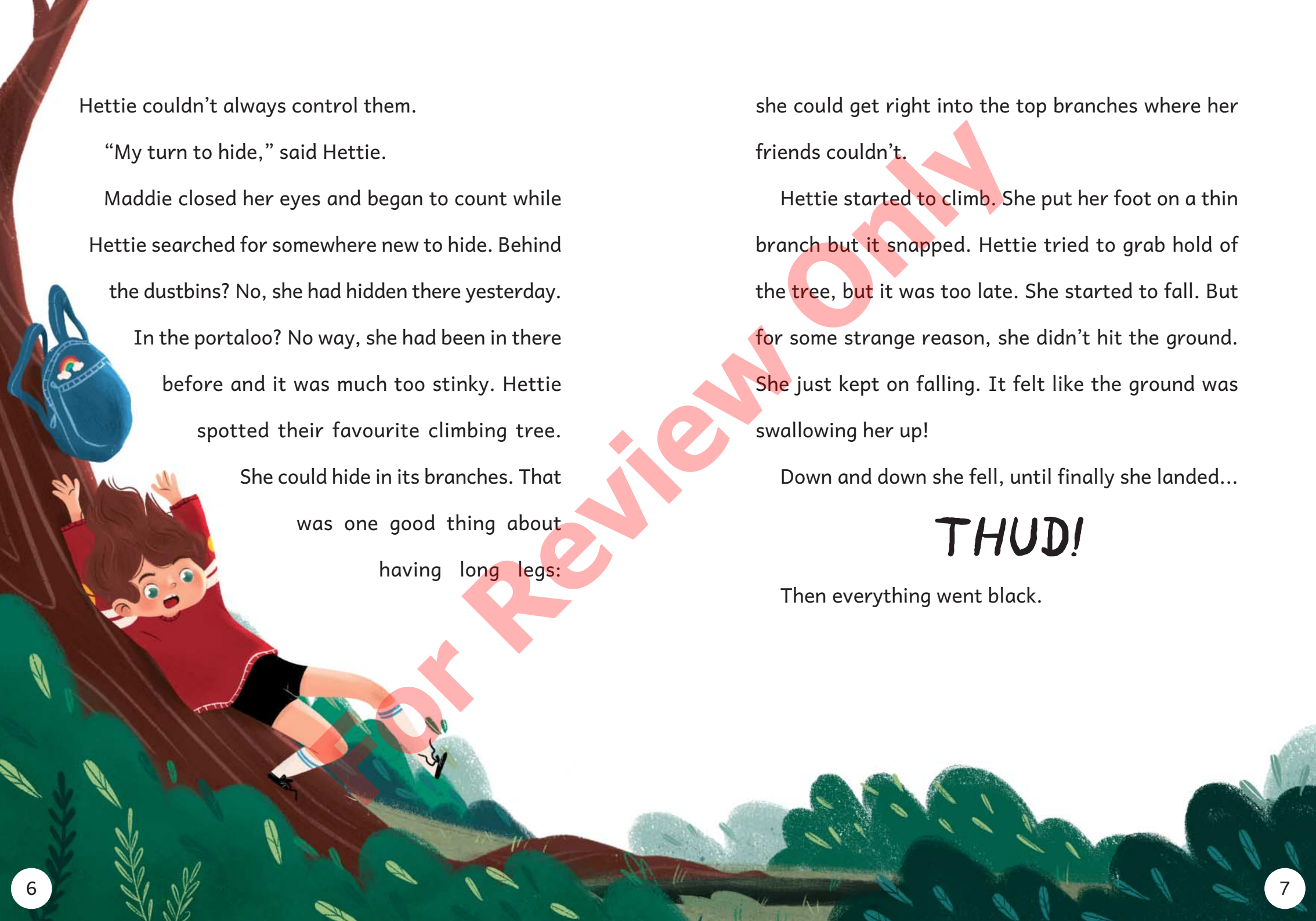
Chapter 1

"Found you!" Hettie cried to her best friend Maddie, as she jumped around a bush. But Hettie's long legs got in a tangle, and she landed in a bundle on top of Maddie, who had been trying her best to hide.

"Hettie, get off me!" Maddie mumbled from under the heap.

"Sorry," Hettie said, trying to untangle herself so they could get up. Hettie was always landing in a heap. The trouble was her legs were just a little bit too long, like two long strands of spaghetti, and

For Review Only



Hettie couldn't always control them.

"My turn to hide," said Hettie.

Maddie closed her eyes and began to count while Hettie searched for somewhere new to hide. Behind the dustbins? No, she had hidden there yesterday. In the portaloo? No way, she had been in there before and it was much too stinky. Hettie spotted their favourite climbing tree. She could hide in its branches. That was one good thing about having long legs: she could get right into the top branches where her friends couldn't.

Hettie started to climb. She put her foot on a thin branch but it snapped. Hettie tried to grab hold of the tree, but it was too late. She started to fall. But for some strange reason, she didn't hit the ground. She just kept on falling. It felt like the ground was swallowing her up!

Down and down she fell, until finally she landed...

THUD!

Then everything went black.

For Review Only



Chapter 2

Hettie opened her eyes. What had happened? Where was she?

She was lying on her back somewhere dark and gloomy. There was light far above her—the sky. She must have fallen down a hole. Maybe it was a sink hole. She had learnt about those at school. Sometimes the earth suddenly opened up, making a huge hole in the ground, and swallowing anything in its way. This was so cool! Except for the fact that she was covered in dirt, and had a really bad pain in her head where she had hit it in the fall.



Hettie tried to stand up, but when she moved she felt dizzy so she lay back down again. Hettie looked around. There were little tunnels all around her, leading in all directions. *That's odd*, Hettie thought. Maybe something lived down there. A rabbit perhaps. Or a badger.

Then Hettie heard a sound. It rumbled right through the ground, getting louder and nearer.

Was it an earthquake? Was the ground about to swallow Hettie up again? Or collapse in on top of her?

For Review Only