

Gregory Fuller

Tom's Adventures in Catland and Other Stories

ENGLISH READERS

A1
A2

NIVEAU 1

Gregory Fuller

Tom's Adventures in Catland and Other Stories



Before Reading

1. Look at the cover and imagine what happens.
2. Look and match the words with the pictures.



a mouse

a dog

a cat

3. Now think about the relationship between these characters.

I think ...

1

Tom and the Ghost



Pre-reading:

1. What do you know about ghosts? Make a list.
2. What do you think: are there ghosts or not?

Start like this:

I think there are/aren't ghosts because...

Everything is quiet at Thomas Tallis School in Greenwich. Everything? Yes! But not everybody. It is night and Tom Tiny, the school mouse¹, is looking for² food. Thomas Tallis is a great place for food. The pupils³ leave chocolate and fruit and crisps⁴ and sandwiches in the cafeteria and in the classrooms.

5

1. mouse un souris | **2. (he) is looking for** il cherche | **3. the pupils** les élèves | **4. crisps** des chips

But tonight Tom looks and looks. He can't find anything.

Where is the good food? Tom thinks. Hm. It isn't here.

He looks in the cafeteria. It is clean.

What can he do?

5 Oh! Tom thinks. It was that idiot, Mr Newman, **the caretaker**¹!

Everything is so clean.

"This is really bad!" Tom shouts.

Suddenly he hears **a funny noise**². He wants to run away.

"What is bad, little man?" a voice says.

10 "Help! A voice!" Tom shouts. "Where are you?"

"Oh," says the voice. "Sorry. Here I am!"

A big white man is standing there.

"Ah!" Tom shouts. "**I can see through you**³! Oh no, a **ghost**⁴! Help!"

15 **The Sad Ghost** PISTE 2

Tom is **scared**⁵ and starts **to run away**⁶.

"Wait!" The white ghost is behind him.

Tom stops. He turns and looks at the ghost.

"Are you ... are you a nice ghost?" asks Tom.

20 "Oh, yes, my friend, I am," the ghost answers.

"Hm," says Tom, "I was a bit scared there. But only a bit. Uh ... are you sure you are a nice ghost?"

The ghost smiles.

1. **the caretaker** le gardien | 2. **a funny noise** un drôle de bruit |
3. **I can see through you** je peux voir à travers toi | 4. **a ghost** un fantôme | 5. **scared** effrayé | 6. **to run away** s'enfuir

“Of course I am a nice ghost, Mr Mouse. And now **guess**¹ who I am. This is my home.”

“Uh ... are you the ghost of a **headteacher**²?”

The ghost laughs.

“Look at me, Mr Mouse. Look.”

5

Tom looks at him. His clothes are very old.

“Mr Ghost, I don't know. Who are you?”

The ghost says, “I am **Thomas Tallis**³.”

“Oh – Thomas Tallis? I know you! The great composer and organist, from, uh, 1550? You are famous, Mr Tallis! This school has got your name.”

10

Suddenly the ghost looks sad. He sits down. Then he says: “But you don't know my music, do you?”

Tom sits down next to the ghost.

“No, Mr Tallis, I don't know your music. Sorry.”

15

“Of course you don't. That's my problem. No-one plays my music now. I must walk through Thomas Tallis School – *my* school – every night **until**⁴ ...”

“Until ...?” Tom asks.

“... until they play my music here at Thomas Tallis. Then I can rest.”

20

Tom wants to help the sad ghost.

“Aha. Your music. They must play it here. Mr Tallis, let me think about that. Can we meet here in the cafeteria tomorrow night?”

“Of course, my friend, of course. I've got lots and lots and lots of time. Goodbye.”

25

1. **guess** devine | 2. **a headteacher** le proviseur | 3. **Thomas Tallis** compositeur anglais (1505-1585) | 4. **until** jusque

“Goodbye, Mr Tallis.”

Tom goes back to his home. He is **tired**¹ but he can't sleep. He does not go to bed. He sits on his sofa and thinks and thinks. Then, in the morning, **suddenly**² Tom has got an idea. He is happy.

5 Wow! Now the ghost can be happy, too, Tom thinks.

Lots of Cheese



It is quiet, very quiet again the next night. Tom is waiting for the ghost of Thomas Tallis in the cafeteria. Tom is a bit scared, but he is excited, too.

10 “Mr Ghost? Mr Tallis?” Tom asks.

Suddenly the white ghost is there.

“Oh, hello, Mr Tallis,” Tom says and smiles.

“Hello, Mr Mouse, Mr – ?”

“**Tiny**³, I'm Tom Tiny.”

15 **The ghost laughs**⁴: “Mr Tiny, very nice.”

“I can help you, Mr Tallis. I've got an idea. But can you help me?”

“And what is your problem, Mr Tiny?”

“**I'm hungry**⁵, Mr Tallis, very hungry. Mr Newman, the school caretaker, cleans everything every day, and I can't find the cheese

20 **anywhere**⁶!”

The ghost laughs. Then he says, “I can help you, Mr Tiny. And what is your plan for me?”

Tom tells his idea to the ghost. The ghost laughs again. He really likes Tom.

1. **tired** fatigué | 2. **suddenly** tout à coup | 3. **tiny** minuscule |

4. **the ghost laughs** le fantôme rit | 5. **I'm hungry** j'ai faim |

6. **anywhere** nulle part

ACTIVITIES

STORY 1 Tom and the Ghost → p. 28

STORY 2 Goodbye, Elephant! → p. 35

STORY 3 Tom's Adventures in Catland → p. 40

STORY 1: Tom and the Ghost

1. Match the words with the pictures.



1



2



3



4



5

a ghost

crisps

a sandwich

fruit

chocolate

2. Circle the right words to complete these sentences.

1. The characters are and

the ghost

the caretaker

the mouse

2. The characters are in

a supermarket

a school

3. The first time they talk it's.....

night

morning

3. The mouse's identity card. Fill in the grid.

The mouse			
FIRST NAME			
LAST NAME			
HOME			
INTERESTS	CATS		FOOD

4. Listen to tracks 1-2 and draw where the mouse is looking for food.

in a classroom

in the cafeteria



5. The ghost's identity card. Fill in the grid.

The ghost	
FIRST NAME	
LAST NAME	
AGE	
HOME	
JOB	

6. Listen and circle the adjectives that describe the mouse.

white

angry

big

nice

sad

old

hungry

invisible

scared

7. Listen and circle the adjectives that describe the ghost.

white

angry

big

nice

sad

old

hungry

invisible

scared

8. What is the ghost's problem? Tick ☒ the right answer.

☐

He is very very hungry but he can't find any food.

☐

He is very sad because nobody plays his music.