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## Opening extract from Alice in Wonderland Down the Rabbit Hole

# Based on the classic tale by **Lewis Carroll**

Retold by Joe Rhatigan & Charles Nurnberg Illustrated by **Eric Puybaret** 

## Published by Macmillan Children's Books

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#### For Axel, Ariane, and their children. - E. P.

To Barbara, the love of my life, for all we are together. And to my three little princesses, Alexis, Casey and Mackenzie, who bring me joy and happiness every day in so many ways they cannot imagine. - C. N.

You were my boss, mentor and publisher. Now you are my collaborator and friend. Thank you, Charlie, for believing in this project and believing in me. - J. R.

### Illustrator's Note

I'm under the impression that we all have a personal story with Alice. She seems so familiar. My own personal connection to Alice is the way she's always surprised by what happens to her; she always marvels, just like me. In fact, I think we all live in Wonderland and simply don't realize it. We just have to let ourselves be surprised by the wonders of our world. - E. P.

#### About Lewis Carroll

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson (1832–1898), better known by his pen name, Lewis Carroll, was born in Daresbury, Cheshire. The third of eleven children, Dodgson proved himself an entertainer at a young age, performing plays and giving readings for his many siblings. He was also known for his intellect, and went on to win many academic prizes in school, especially for mathematics. A master of word play, logic puzzles, and later, photography, Dodgson is best known for his two books following the incredible adventures of a young girl named Alice. Begun as a way to entertain three little girls on a boating trip in 1862, today Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865) and Through the Looking-Glass (1872) are among the most quoted works of literature, with unforgettable characters permanently entrenched in our culture.



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## The White Rabbit,

Dodo, Mouse and all the animals surrounded the house, throwing pebbles at GIANT Alice.

Every stone turned into a small, magical cake when it hit her.

"I bet I know what will happen if I eat one," Alice said to herself.

Sure enough, after swallowing a cake, she was soon small enough to race out the door and escape.





Tiny Alice needed something special to eat to get back to her regular girl size. And then she needed to find her way home.

She saw a giant mushroom with a Blue Caterpillar sitting right on top.

"Eat the mushroom," he said. "One side of it will make you smaller and the other **bigger**." One bite and **Alice**'s chin

almost hit her feet.

A bite from the other side and her neck grew so LONG her head was soon lost in the clouds.

A few more bites and she finally got to the right size. Phew!



# **"HOW PUZZLING**

all these changes are," Alice said to herself. "But now that I'm my right size, I wonder how I can get back to the riverbank and to my cat and my home?"

All Alice could do was walk on, knowing only that whatever happened next, it certainly was bound to be **not ordinary at all.**