



Opening extract
from

Fungus the Bogeyman

Written by

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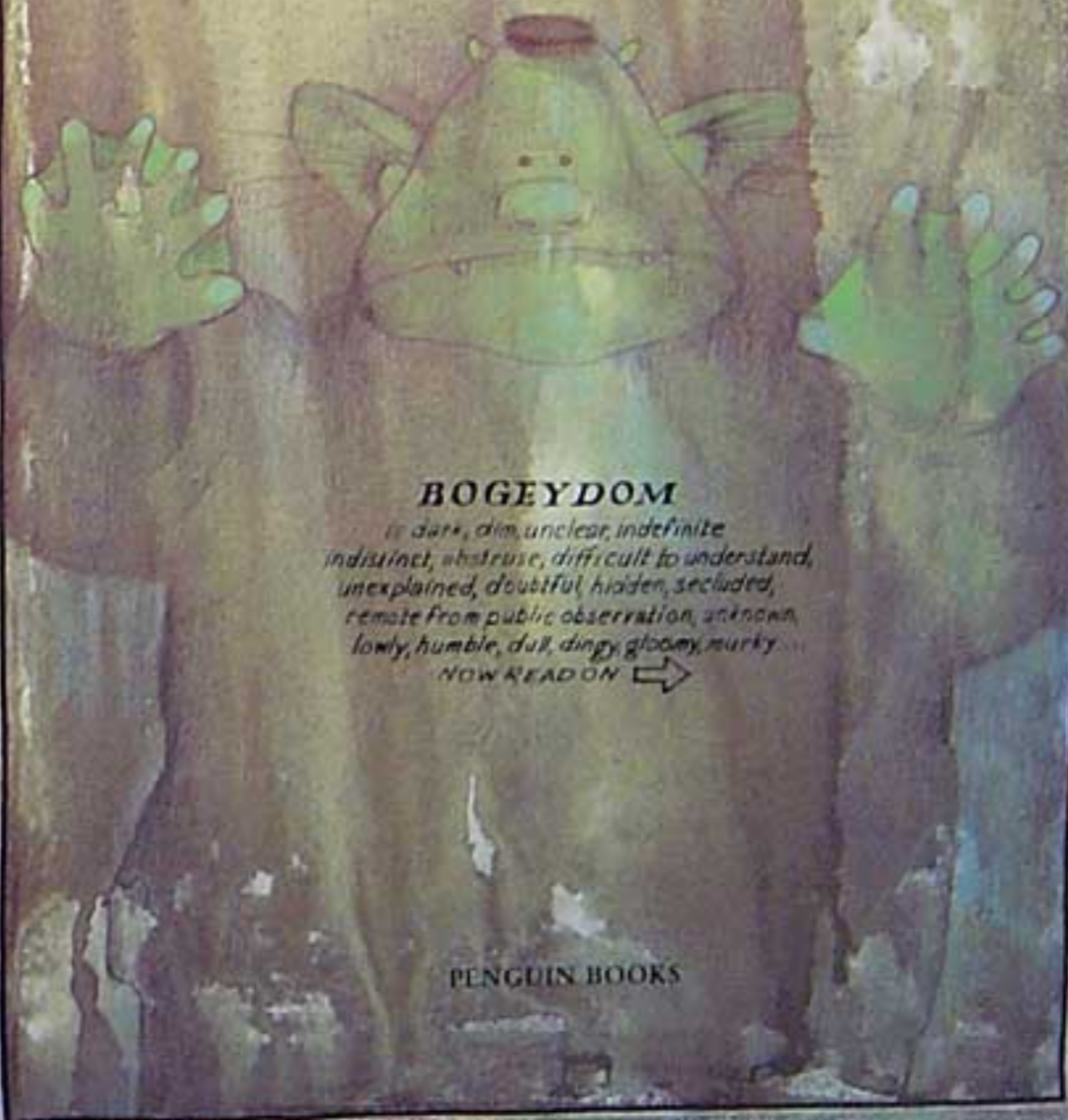
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RAYMOND BRIGGS

Fungus the Bogeyman



BOGEYDOM

*is dark, dim, unclear, indefinite,
indistinct, obscure, difficult to understand,
unexplained, doubtful, hidden, secluded,
remote from public observation, unknown,
lowly, humble, dull, dingy, gloomy, murky.*

NOW READ ON →

PENGUIN BOOKS

The Bogey, Subtletest Beast of all the Field
MILTON

BOGEYDOM
Eternal Mists their dropping, Curse distill
And drizzly vapours all the ditches fill
The swampy Land's a bog, the Fields are less
And too much moisture is the grand disease
Here every eye with brachyph rheum o'flows
And a fresh drop still hangs at every nose
DIAPEX

Putrefaction is the End
Of all that Nature doth Entend
HERRICK

Slugs and Matter Custard
Snail and Bogey Pie,
Dead Dog's Giblets
Green Cat's Eye,
Spread it on Bread,
Spread it on thick
Wash it all down
With a Cup of Cold Snek.

CHILDREN'S RHYME
ORAL TRADITION

Fungus the Bogeyman

The Sun sinks below the hills, The birds are hushed

NIGHT is coming.

BUT ... far, far below ... in **THE TUNNELS**

in the wet dripping tunnels of Bogeydom,

(a land where the light is as Darkness)

The Bogeymen are stirring in their beds.

The roofs of the houses are wet,

the walls are slimy and dank.

A damp chill hangs in the air.

Now as the last light fades from **THE TUNNELS**,

it's the hush down of a new Bogey day.

Time to get up, Fungus
my deary -
it's nearly dark

COOON! what a night that was!
This bed has almost
dried up!

I know, deary,
it needs more
slime.

MUMMM
ZZZZZ

A deary Bogey for deary, deary

what a horrible day!
Feels quite warm!

I hate this time of year
it's so light.

Ah!
Nice wet
dressing-gown
and socks!

I'll change the sheets
today, deary.
The dirt has almost
worn off these.

I know, love,
the sheets
are all gone

BOGEYBODS
Slugs and bedbugs are encouraged in Bogeydom. These creatures produce the silvery slime which Bogeymen find so delicious against their skins. A well looked-after Bogeyman will certainly anything up to two hundred slugs and bedbugs. Inevitably, some of these will be crushed when the Bogey turns over, but these losses are soon made good as there are always eggs in the corners of the bed. The slug or snail corpse is never removed but if large pieces of shed irritate the Bogey's sensitive skin, they will be carefully picked out and eaten. The soft jelly remaining is thought by Bogeymen to add to the richness and lusciousness of the bed.

HEAR
ME
I
AM
THE
LAST
OF
THE
OLD
BOGEY
MEN
THE
NEW
BOGEY
MEN
ARE
THE
BEST
BOGEY
MEN
THE
FUTURE
BOGEY
MEN
ARE
THE
BEST
BOGEY
MEN

FUNGUS GOES TO THE BARATHRUM *



Ah! Nice cold Filthy water!
Good head of scum on it
this morning.

* BARATHRUM: fit, clean, slugs of Muck



Good coating of slimy Muck will keep
out the dryness Up Top.....



BOGEY TRIBES ARE HIGHLY SURPRISED
THIS IS HOW THE DUST AND TO
ENHANCE THE GROWTH OF MUCK



Whence and what art thou
excretable shape? *



Ah me!
The Silent Touches
of Time!

* BOGEY TRIBES FREQUENTLY TRAVE IN QUOTATIONS—
USUALLY MISQUOTATIONS



Bogeymen do not need to shave their faces.
No knives grow on Boegeymen's chins, but they do
shave their heads. They are very proud of their tiny
horns, and these would be hidden if the hair grew
long. So Boegeymen shave their haffets, then polish
their skulls with smelly grease.
On the other hand, Boegey ladies are not proud
of their horns. These are looked upon as an undesirable
masculine characteristic. Unfortunately, the hair
on Boegey ladies' heads is thin and greasy. So one
of the great struggles of Boegey lady life is to cultivate
a sufficed head of hair to conceal their horns.
* haffets: the sides of the head

FUNGUS RETURNS TO THE BEDROOM AND
REMOVES HIS VEST FROM THE WATERROBE *

In Boegey houses, there are two or three
cold water taps in every room



* WATERROBE: A tank where Boegey
clothes are stored overnight.



Ah! Filthy!

Boegeymen are extremely
quiet in their movements and in
their voices. They never shout and
they speak in gentle voices bravely
above a whisper.
Not just this, it is because a bit of
their sexual aggression is distributed
all over.
At home, they are gentle, shy,
and very polite to one
another. So...
BE QUIET WHILE YOU
READ THIS BOOK.



Boegeymen have a split in
their heads at the
back. This is for
their vest
which sticks
through the
grubby vest
like a bit of
rubbery
crawled.



FUNGUS INSPECTS HIS TROUSERS
WHICH HAVE BEEN
MARINADING OVERNIGHT

Mmm! These
really stink!

All Boegeymen
cultivate split in
the back of
the neck



Boegeymen wear wet underwear next to their skin. Then comes
a layer of very deep woody clothes. On top of this they wear
BOEGY leather jackets and trousers, and blacker Boegey boots.
The waterproof layer is not intended to keep the rain out,
but rather to keep the Boegeymen's own natural secretions in.
The Boegeymen has a horror of drying out and of losing his Smell.
Particularly, he has a horror of getting dry feet. (The feet
are the smallest part of the Boegeymen.)
Their Boegeyboots are watertight and are filled with a
mixture of dirty water and grime * or gleet * after
being put on.
* grime: a fluid of a thick viscous * gleet: a persistent or morbid
consistence discharge

