

Mr Hoppy loves Mrs Silver, but Mrs Silver does not know this. She only loves her tortoise, Alfie. Mr Hoppy is very sad. But then, he has a clever idea! What does Mr Hoppy do? And why is he buying 100 tortoises?

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ROALD DAHL

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	CEFR level	Story word count	Headwords
1	A1	1,000–2,000	550
2	A1+	3,000–4,000	700
3	A2	5,000–7,000	1,000
4	A2+	8,000–10,000	1,200

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ESIO TROT



Illustrated by Quentin Blake

ROALD DAHL

ROALD DAHL

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ESIO TROT

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LEVEL

1

This book has been simplified for English Language Learners
by Alberta White
Series Editor: Madeleine Burgess

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ABOUT ROALD DAHL AND QUENTIN BLAKE



Roald Dahl was a children's writer, and many of his stories are very famous across the world. Do you know any Roald Dahl books?



Quentin Blake drew pictures for Roald Dahl's stories. Do you like the pictures in this book? Which is your favourite picture?

About this story

In this book, Alfie the tortoise lives in Mrs Silver's home. Not many people **have** tortoises in their homes because it is **not easy**. You have to give them the right food, and **they** need lots of sun.

Some tortoises have to **sleep** in a warm place every winter for **eight to sixteen** weeks. Tortoises move very **slowly**, and they can live for 100 years!

MEET ...



Mr Hoppy

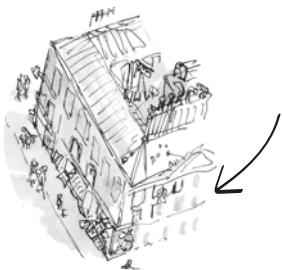


Mrs Silver



Alfie

Chapter 1
NEW WORDS



a flat (n.)



grow (grew) (v.)



a balcony (n.)



a tortoise (n.)

Chapter 1
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Answer the questions.

- 1** Look at the picture on page 15.
Where does Mrs Silver live?
Where does Mr Hoppy live?
- 2** Look at the picture on page 16.
Is Mrs Silver happy or sad? Why?
- 3** Look at the picture on page 17.
Is Mr Hoppy happy or sad? Why?

Now let's read Chapter 1!

CHAPTER 1

Alfie



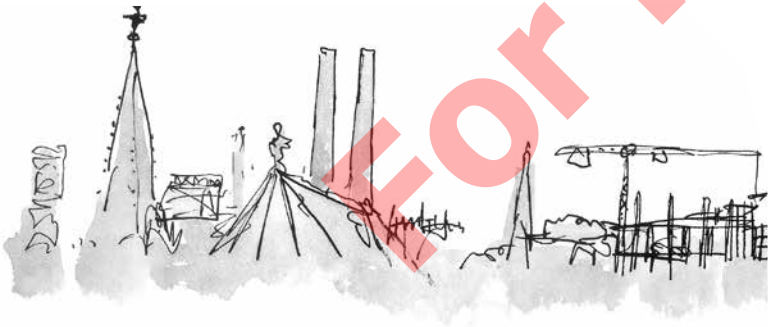
Mr Hoppy lived in a small **flat**, and he did not often talk to people. He did not work. And he did not have any friends or family. Sometimes he was sad, but he loved two things.

The first thing was flowers. He **grew** them on his **balcony**, and in the summer they were beautiful.

The second thing was Mrs Silver. Mr Hoppy lived in the flat above Mrs Silver's flat. She had a big balcony, and Mr Hoppy could see it from his balcony. Every morning, they spoke nicely together on their balconies.

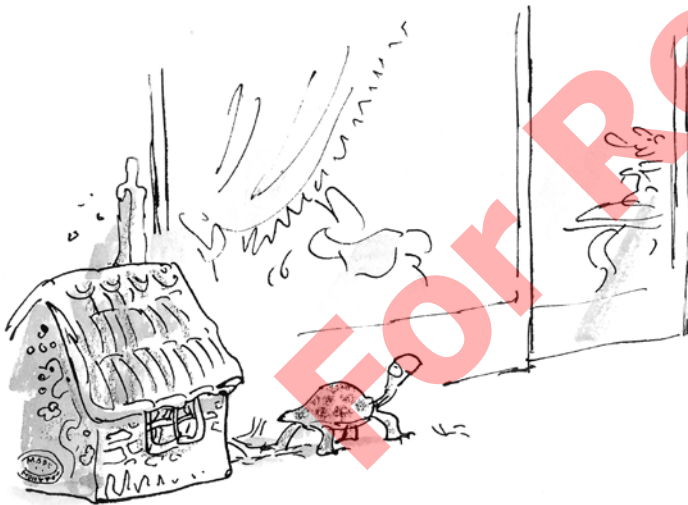
Mr Hoppy loved Mrs Silver very much, but Mrs Silver did not know this. Every day, Mr Hoppy nearly said, "Would you like some tea, Mrs Silver?"

He tried and tried, but he could never say it.





Mrs Silver had a small **tortoise**, and its name was Alfie. Alfie lived on Mrs Silver's balcony. He had a little house there, and he went in it every night.

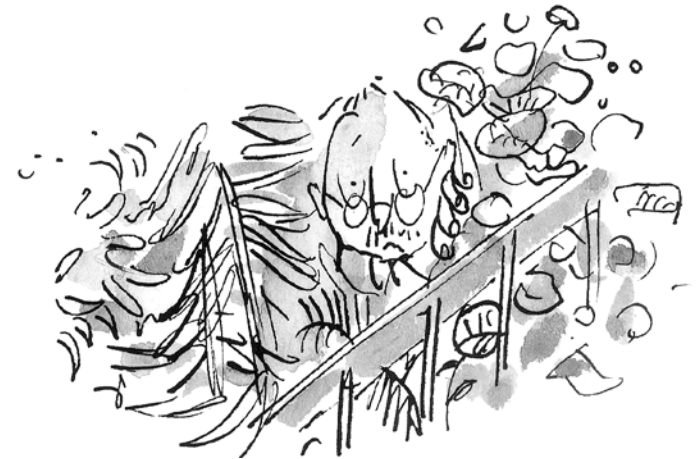


Alfie stayed in his house all winter, too. Many tortoises do this. They do not like the cold months, and they sleep and sleep. They do not need any food or water in winter.

Every spring, in the warm sun, Alfie came out again. Mrs Silver always smiled happily.

"Hello, my Alfie! You're here again!" she said. "I love you! You're my favourite thing in the world."

Mr Hoppy always watched this sadly. Mrs Silver did not think about him because she only loved that tortoise.

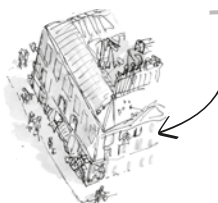


Chapter 1

WHAT CAN YOU REMEMBER?

Match the pictures to the words.

1



grow (grew)

2



a flat

3



a tortoise

4



a balcony

Read the sentences and write the correct words.

flat

loves

balcony

grows

tortoise

1 Mr Hoppy loves Mrs Silver.

2 Mr Hoppy lives in a flat.

3 Mr Hoppy grows flowers.

4 Alfie is a tortoise.

5 Alfie lives on Mrs Silver's balcony.