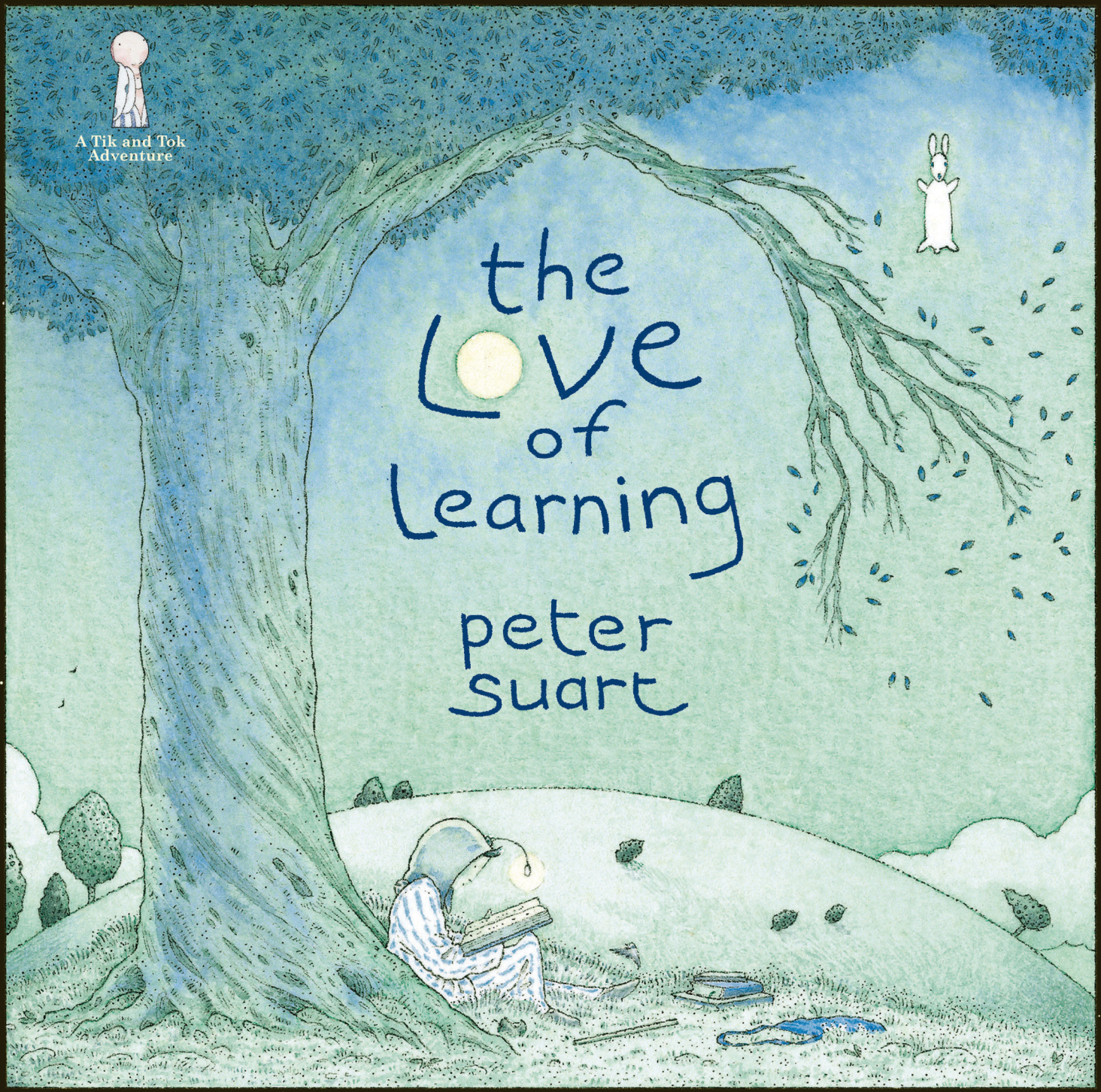

A Tik and Tok Adventure
the Love of Learning
peter suart

a mid-morning snooze, was Tok.

'Tok!' chirped Tik happily. 'So there you are. Fancy you being here.'

'Mmmm... what?' yawned Tok sleepily. 'Oh, yes. Being here. Quite a coincidence.'

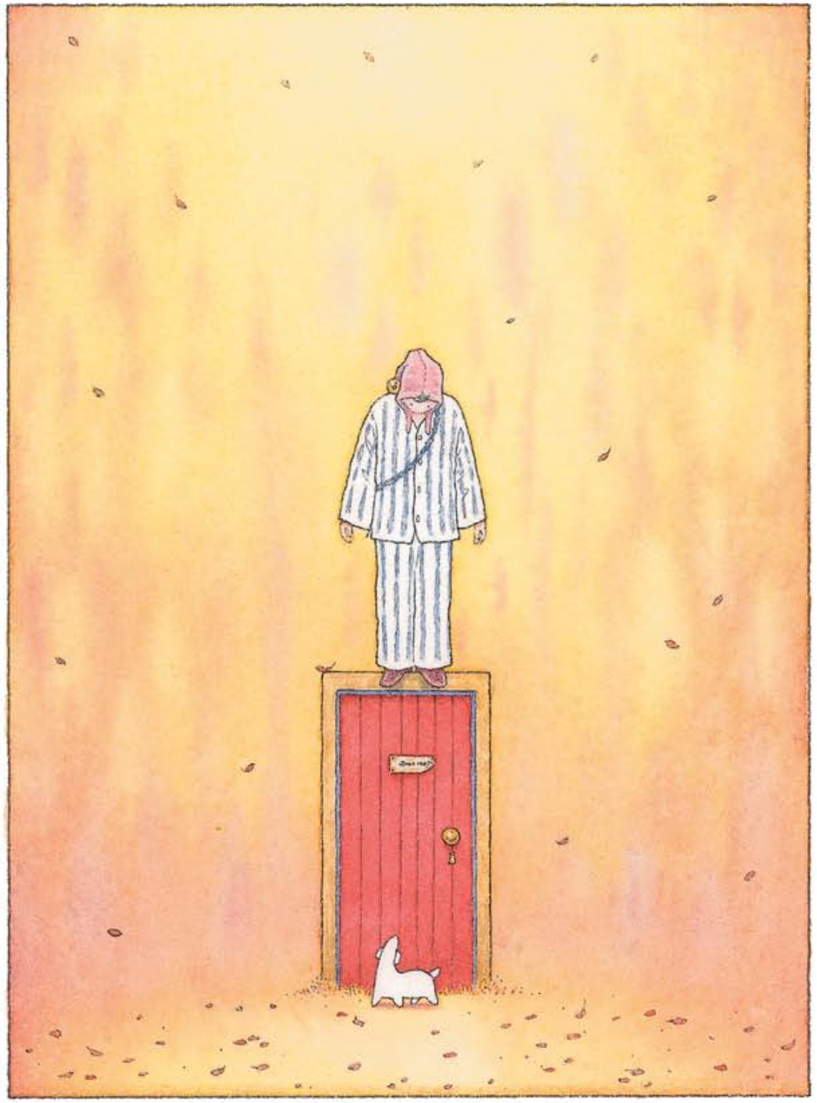
'What about this door?' asked Tik. 'Odd, don't you think?'

'More than odd, I'd say,' said Tok. 'There's a note.'

Tik looked at the little piece of paper nailed to the door:

'Well, that seems clear enough,' said Tik.

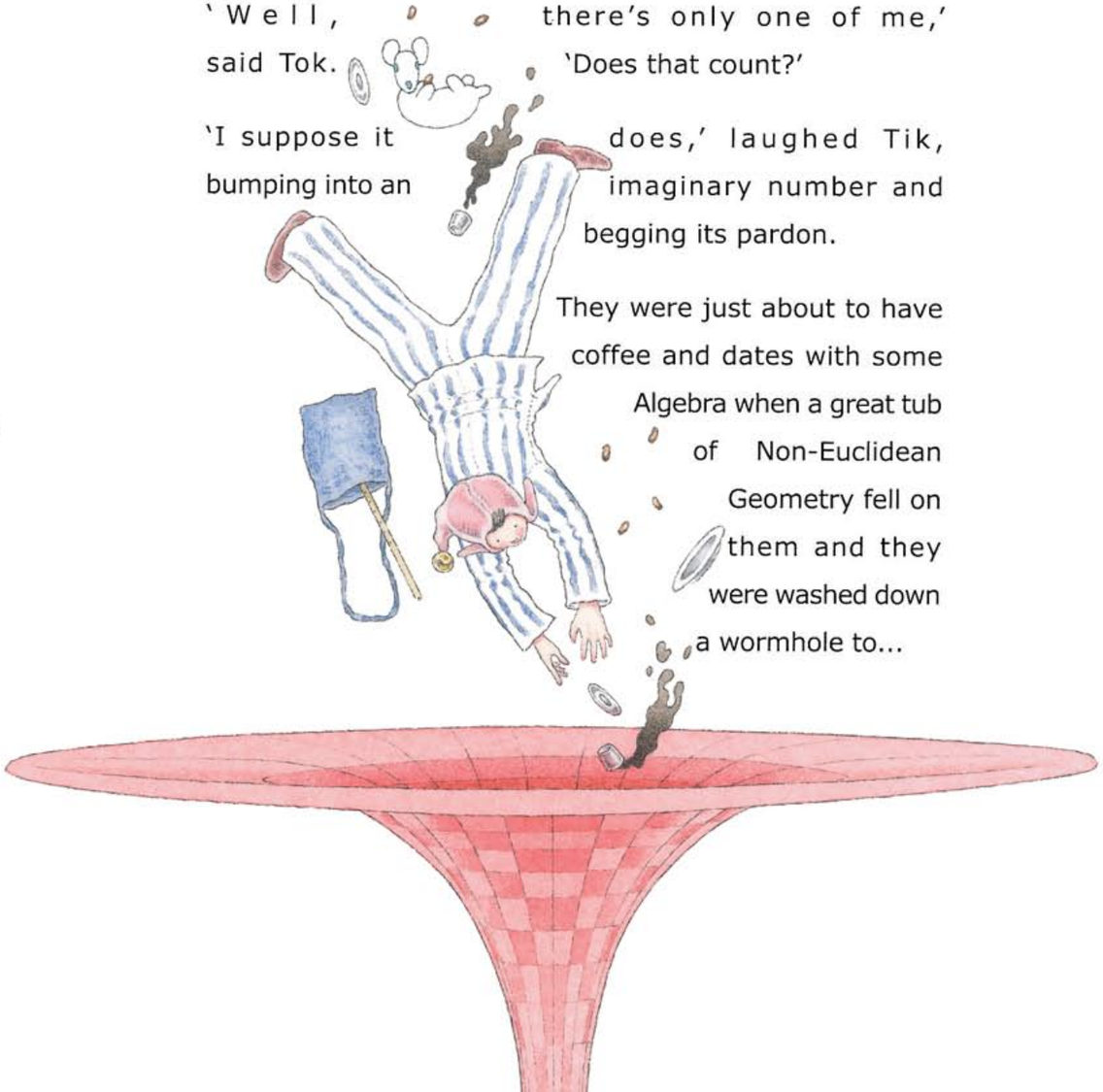
And in they went.



'Well, there's only one of me,' said Tok. 'Does that count?'

'I suppose it does,' laughed Tik, bumping into an imaginary number and begging its pardon.

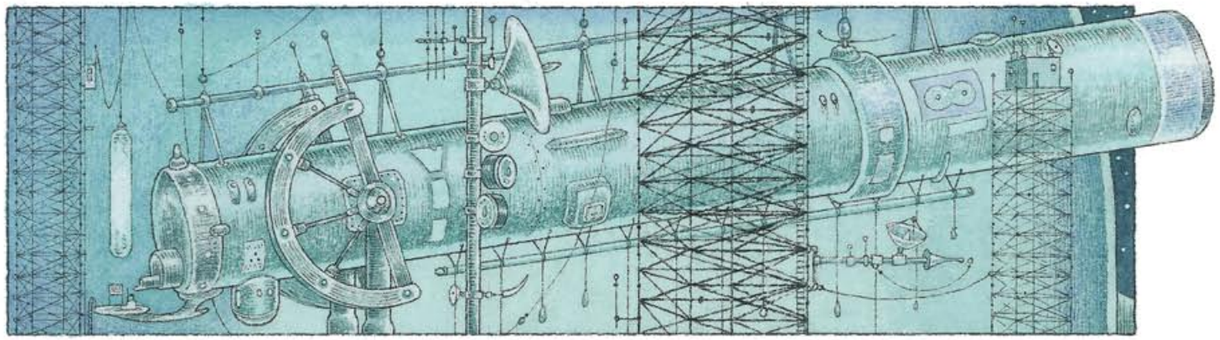
They were just about to have coffee and dates with some Algebra when a great tub of Non-Euclidean Geometry fell on them and they were washed down a wormhole to...



The Room of the Future

They found themselves in a huge hall with a gigantic tube pointing out through the roof. And at the bottom of the tube was a little chair and a notice which read:

You are made, in part, of carbon. Carbon is only made in the heart of stars. If you would like to see where you come from please take a seat and look through the eyepiece. You may come across planets, comets, asteroids, the Crab Nebula and Sydney the Spider, who managed to crawl inside the telescope.

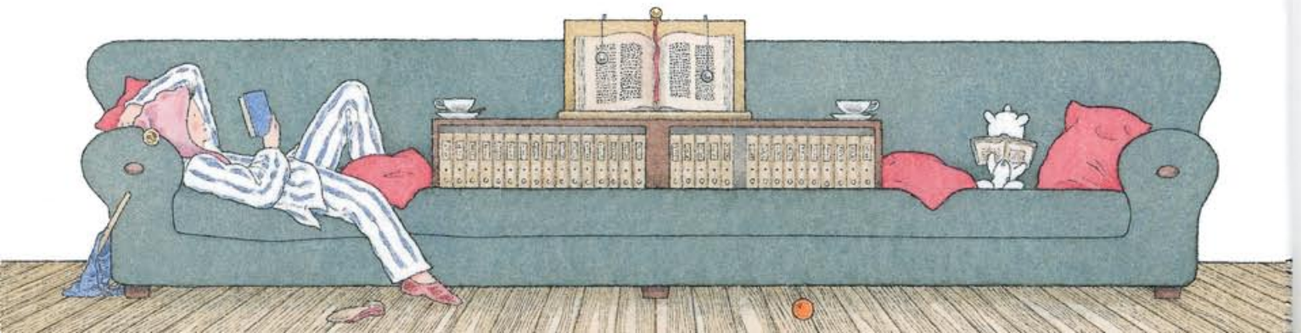


The Room of Books

All around them were shelves of books. Rows and rows of beautiful books. Here and there an armchair nestled under a lamp, a cup of tea steaming on a table with a pair of cinnamon biscuits. The floorboards were bare and warm and no sound could be heard from outside.

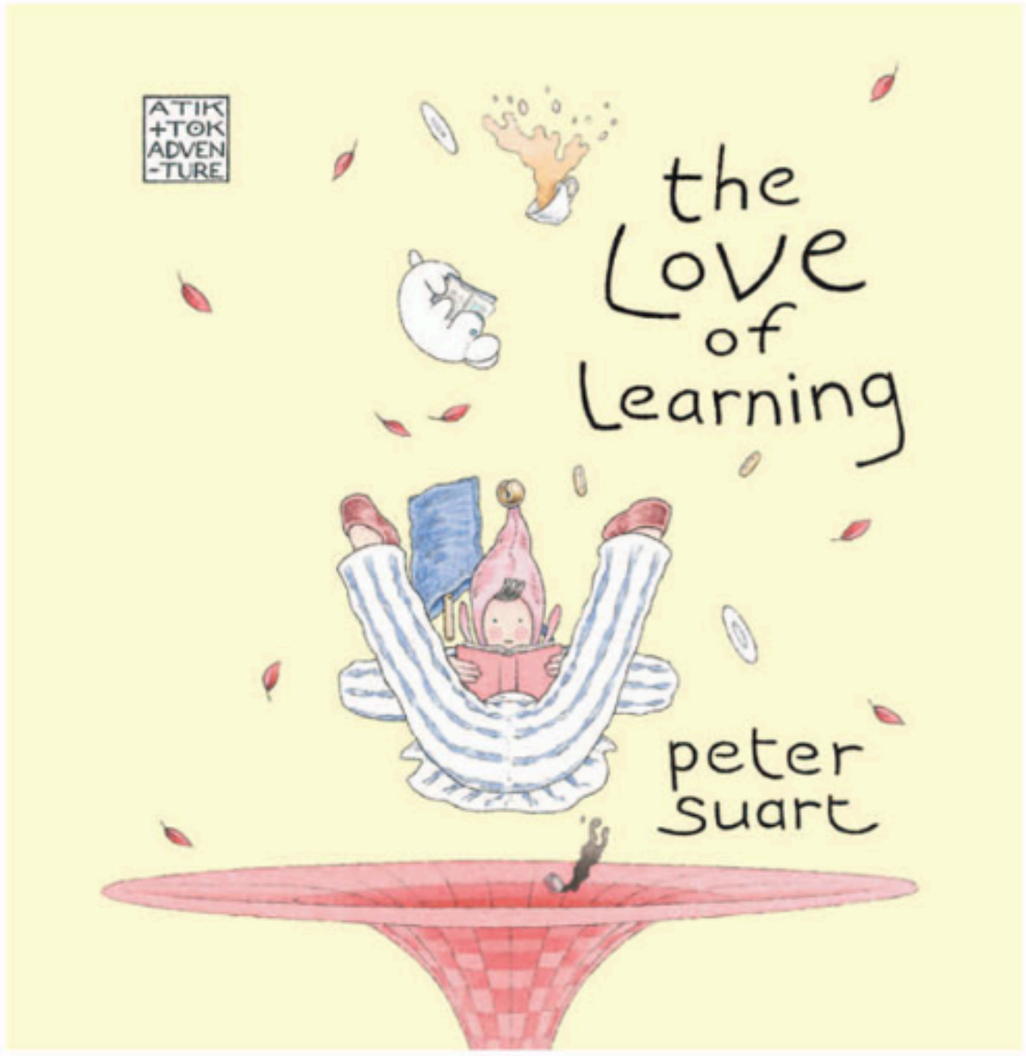
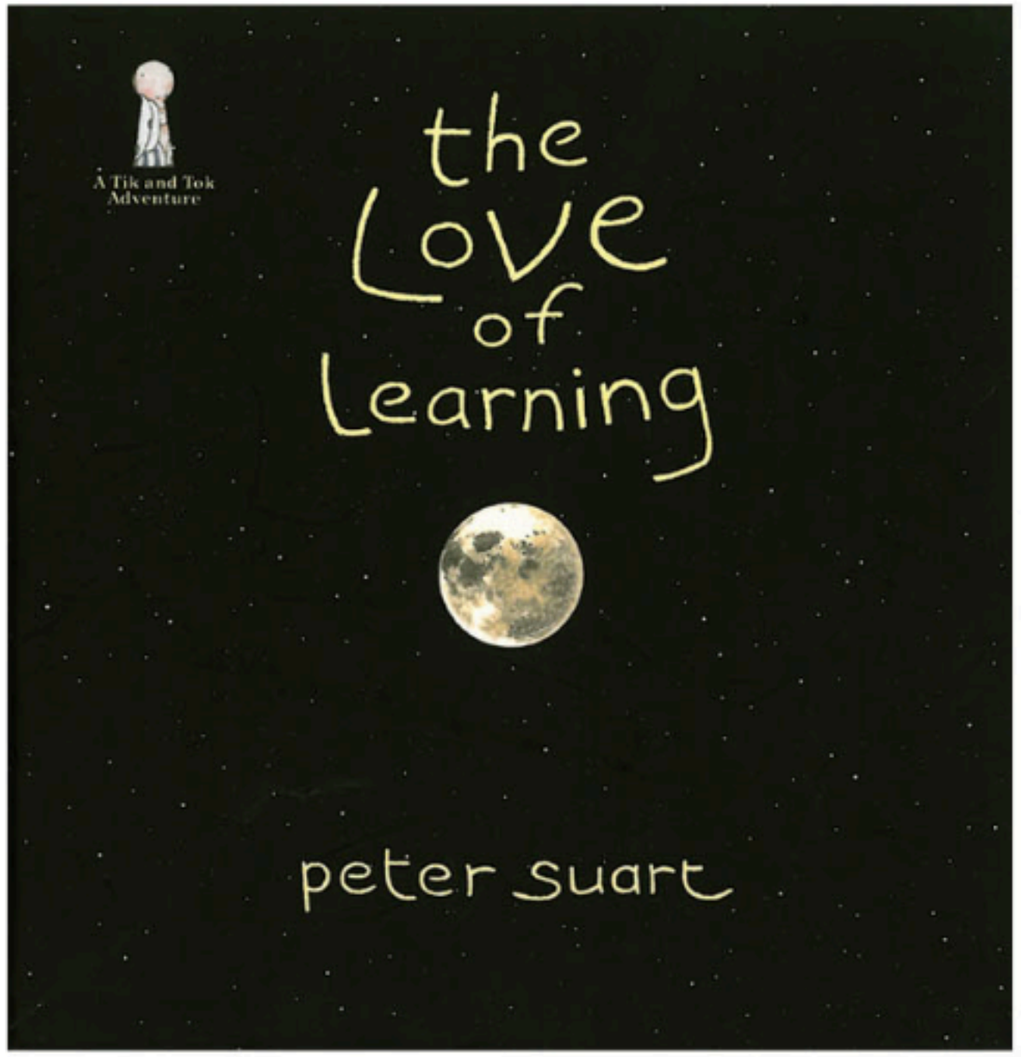
'Ahhh,' sighed Tik happily, wandering slowly from shelf to shelf, admiring the lovely bindings. 'Here's one called *The Usefulness of Storms*. We know all about that, don't we Tok?'

'Ermm...' said Tok absently, his snout buried in a handsome volume entitled *Ghastlygorm*, 'yes, I suppose er... I suppose we do...'



'And here's *The Habbit*,' Tik continued, 'and *Aloysius in Sunderland*, *The Mouse at Blue Corner* and *Blooming Valley in November*... there's no end of wonderful stories with the most beautiful pictures. There won't be any sleep tonight!'

'There's one in particular that caught my eye,' replied Tok. 'Up there. The square one.'

'This one?' asked Tik. '*The Love of Learning*?'

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