

**Anthony Browne**

## Anthony Edward Tudor Browne

was born on

September 11<sup>th</sup> in 1946.

He grew up in a village called Hipperholme, in Yorkshire.

He loved art and would spend hours

drawing with his beloved father.

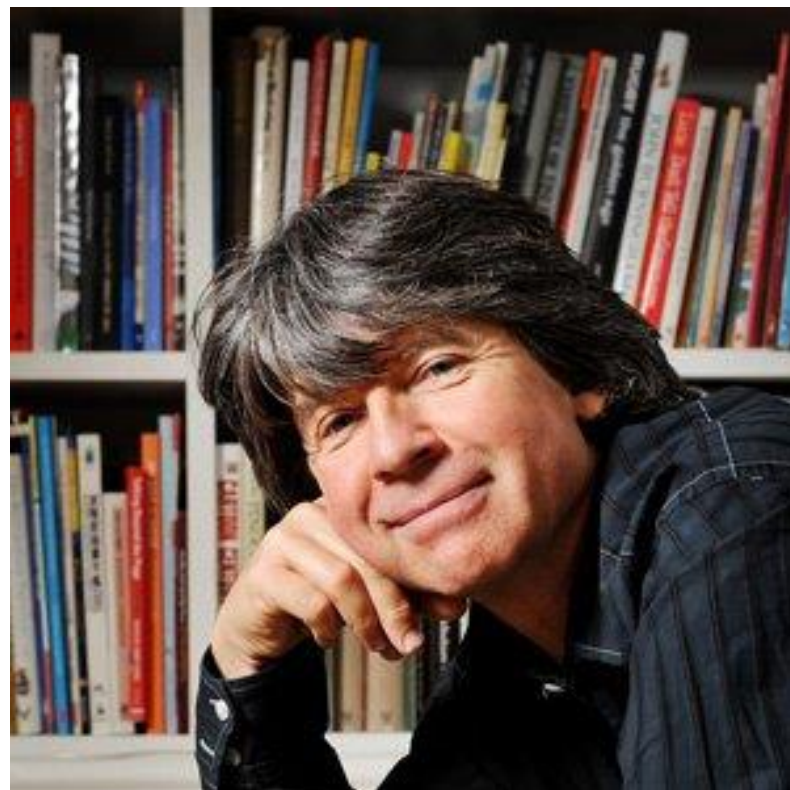
He says of his father,

"He was an unusual man -

outwardly strong and confident, but also shy and sensitive - a bit like the gorillas I love to illustrate now.

As well as drawing, he encouraged me to play a lot of sports, such as rugby and soccer and cricket.

I was small for my age and I used to go to a fairly tough school - if I hadn't been good at sports, I would probably have been bullied."



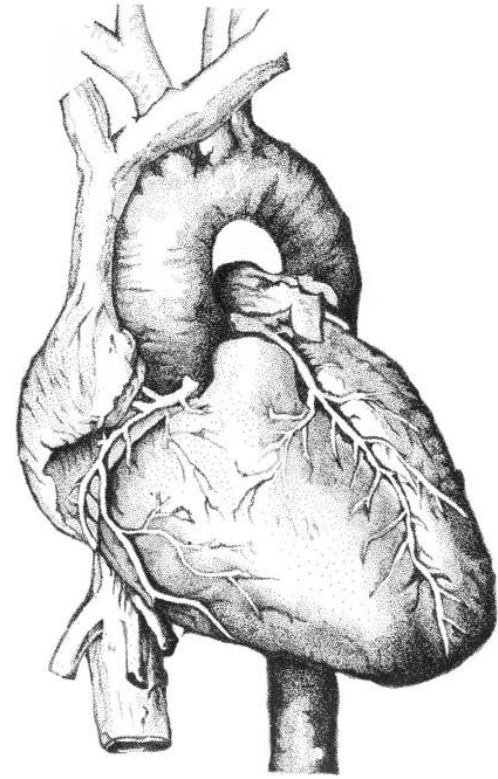
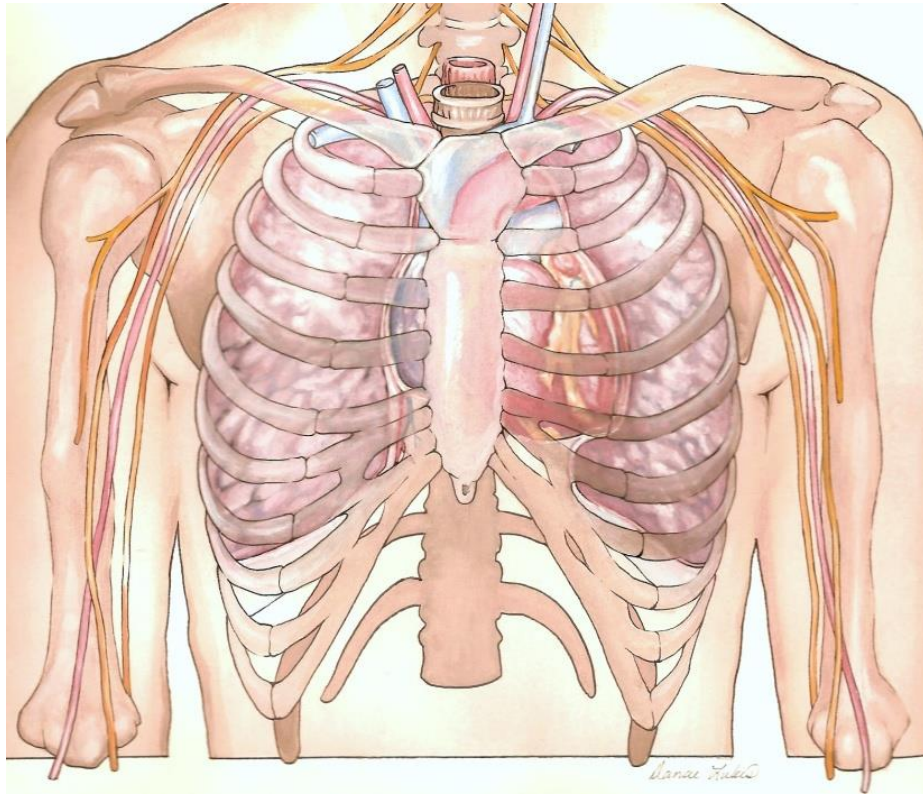
His parents, Jack and Doris May Browne, owned a pub in Yorkshire, and Browne and his older brother Michael grew up there. His career ambition was then to be a journalist, a cartoonist, or a boxer. He studied graphic design at Leeds College of Art, where he graduated in 1967.





Anthony is a British author and illustrator of children's books with 40 titles to his name!  
He creates watercolours that blend near-photographic realism with use of colour, pattern and background detail .





When he finished school Browne intended to become a painter, but being short of money he took a job as a medical illustrator, drawing the insides of bodies for Manchester Royal Infirmary.

He said when he would often eat his lunch in the mortuary surrounded by dead bodies!

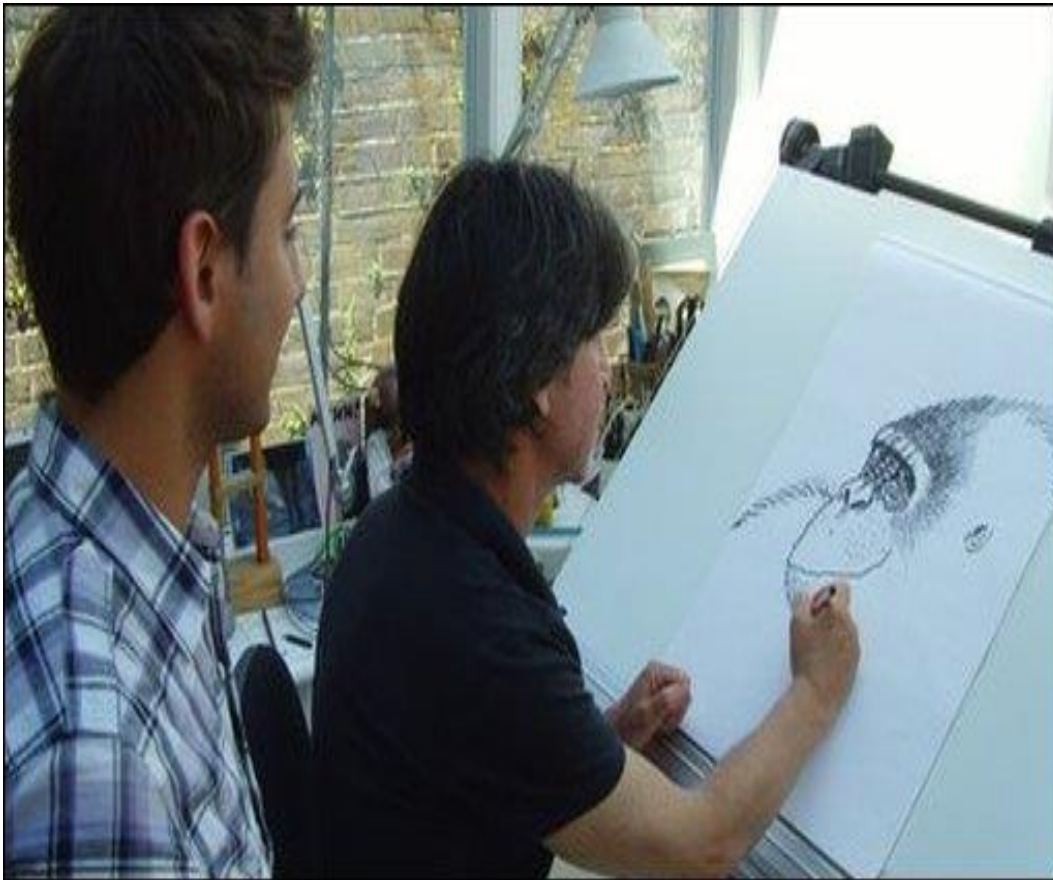


After three years he grew tired of the job's repetitiveness and moved on to design greetings cards for Gordon Fraser. He designed cards for fifteen years before he started writing and illustrating his own books.

Gorillas feature in many of Anthony's books. He says, 'I am fascinated by them and the contrast they represent - their huge strength and gentleness. They're thought of as being very fierce creatures and they're not.'

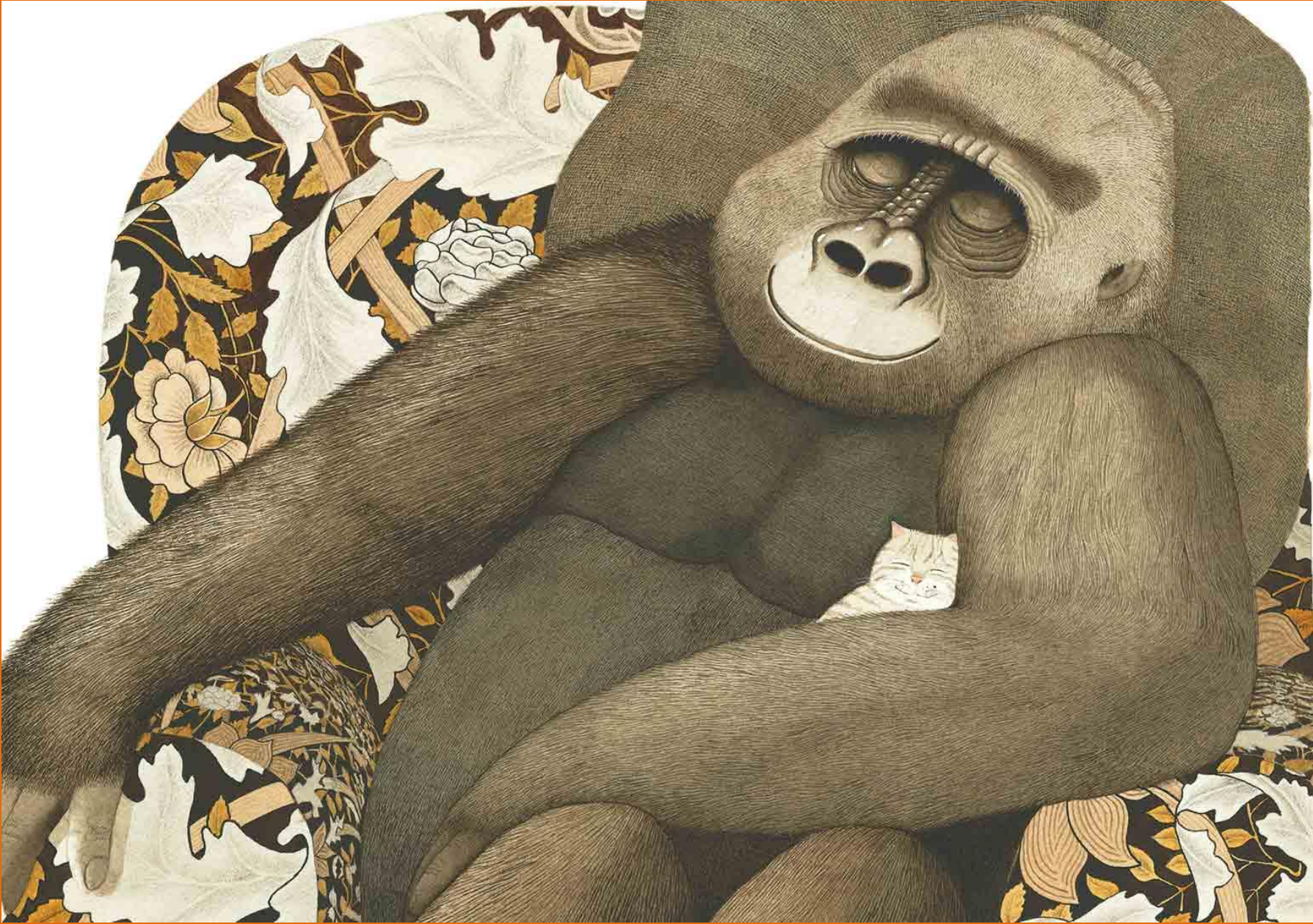


His breakthrough came with '*Gorilla*', published by Julia MacRae in 1983, based on one of his greeting cards. For it he won the Kate Greenaway Medal, recognising the year's best children's book illustration by a British subject.



He was once asked to present a children's programme, whilst sitting in a cage of gorillas, and despite being badly bitten on his leg by one of them he got on with it before being taken to hospital.





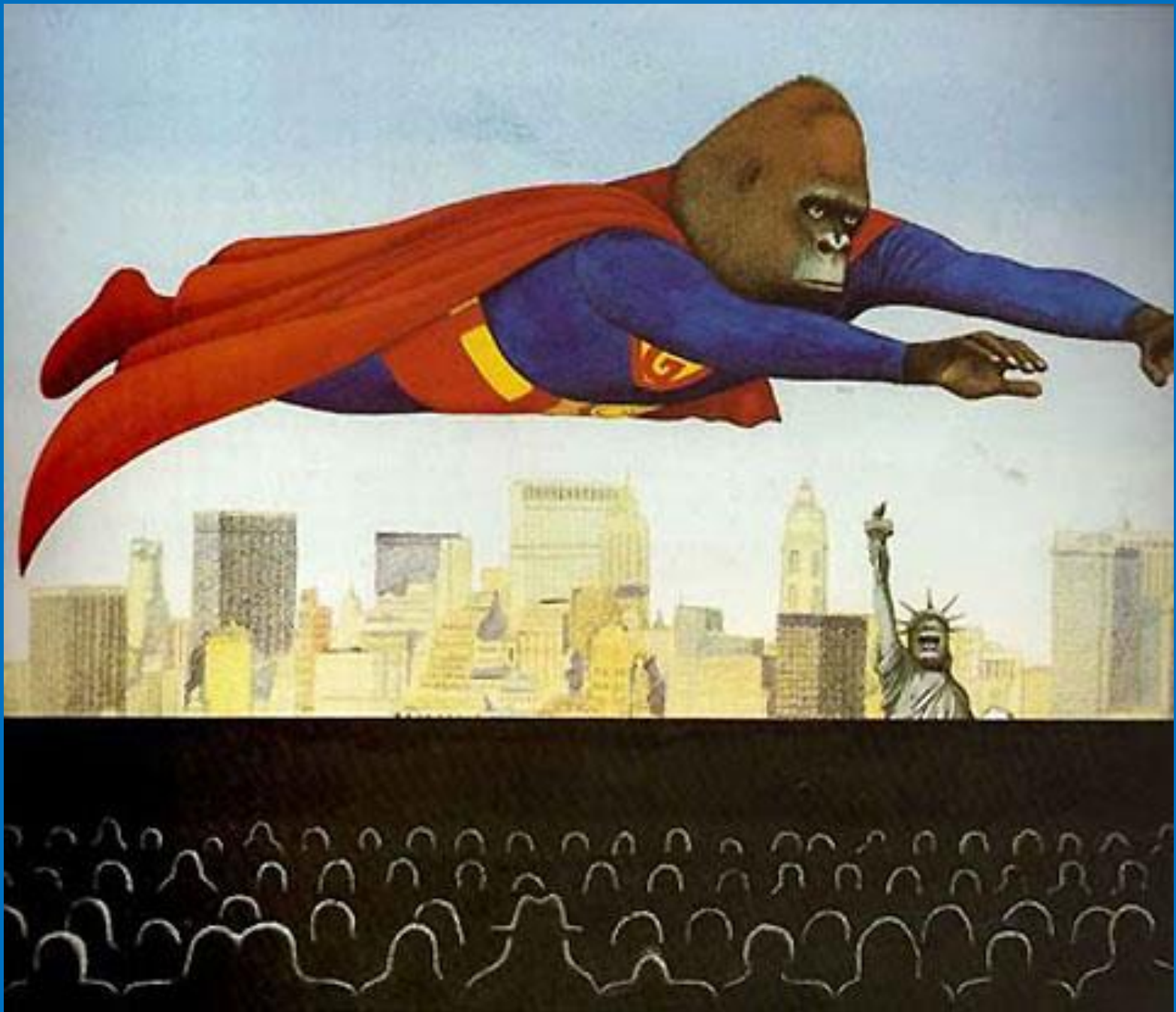


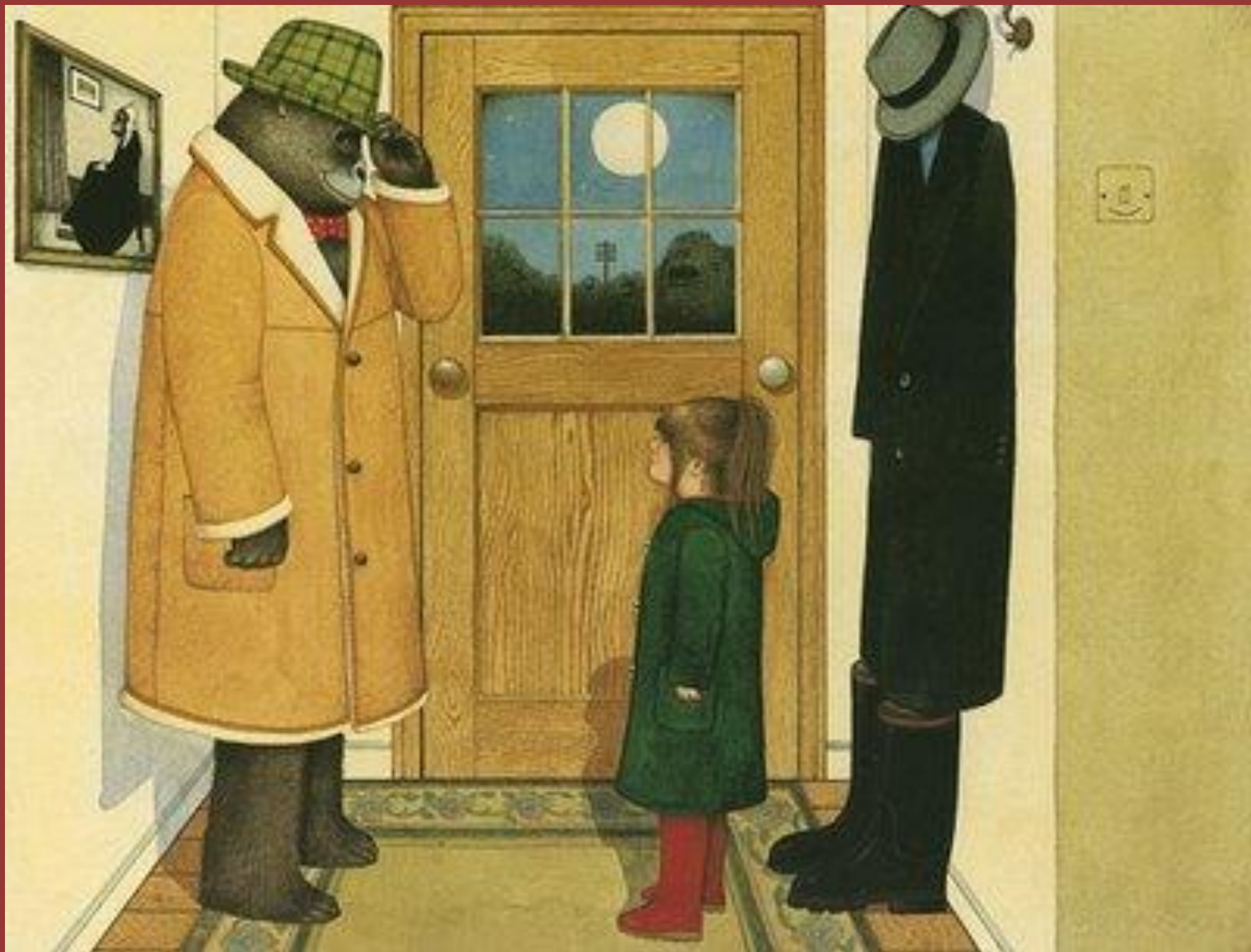




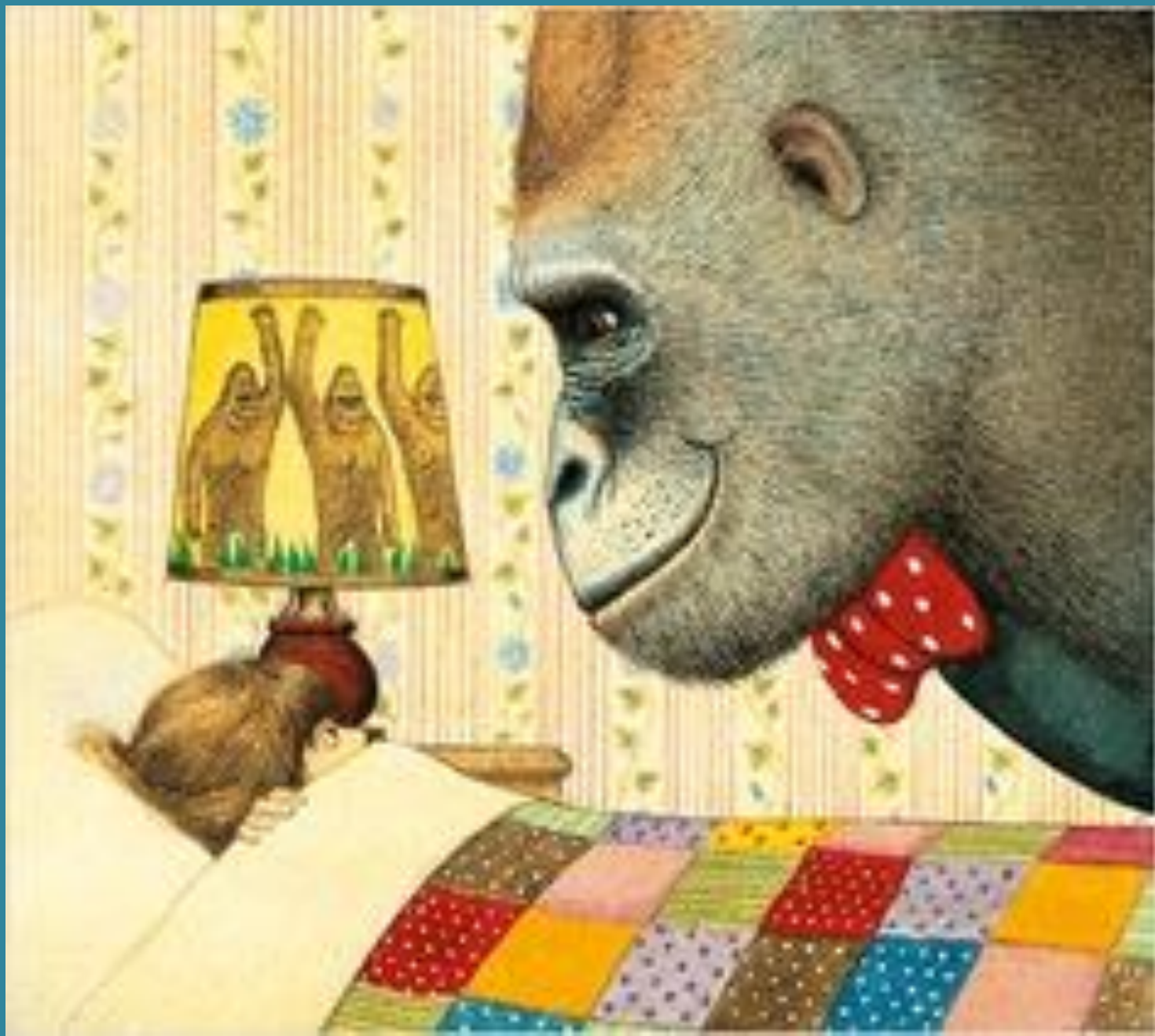




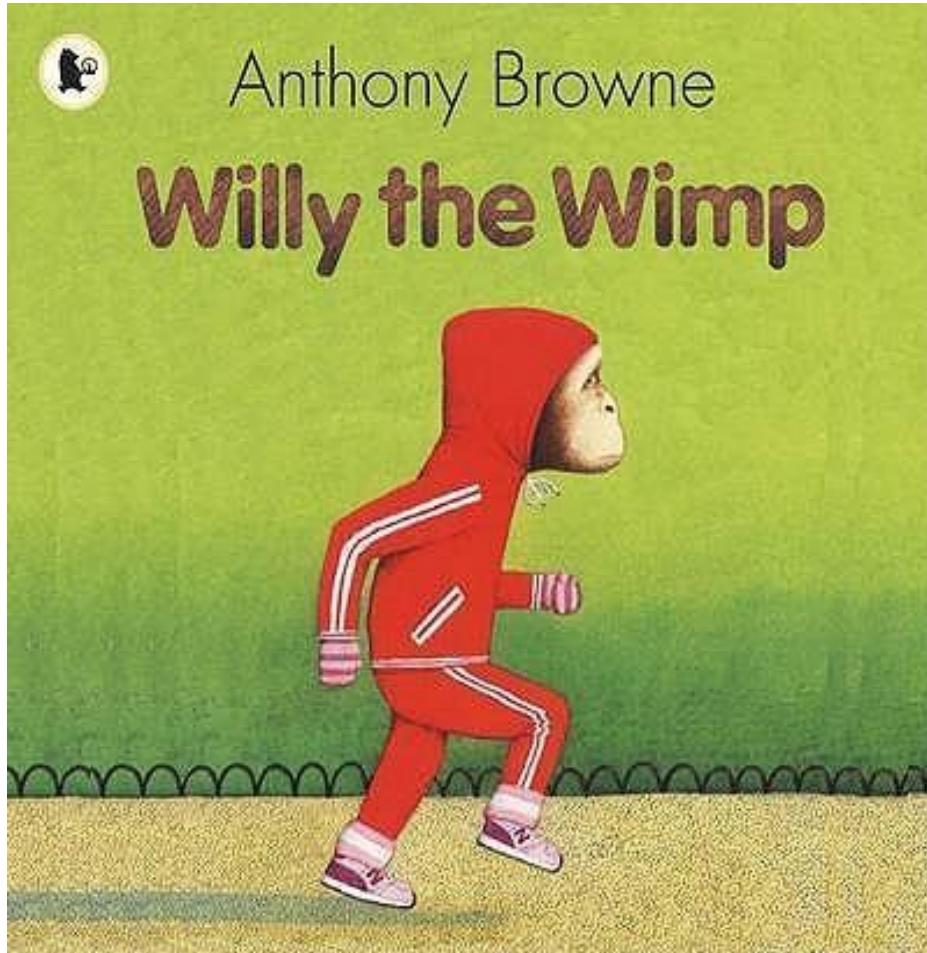






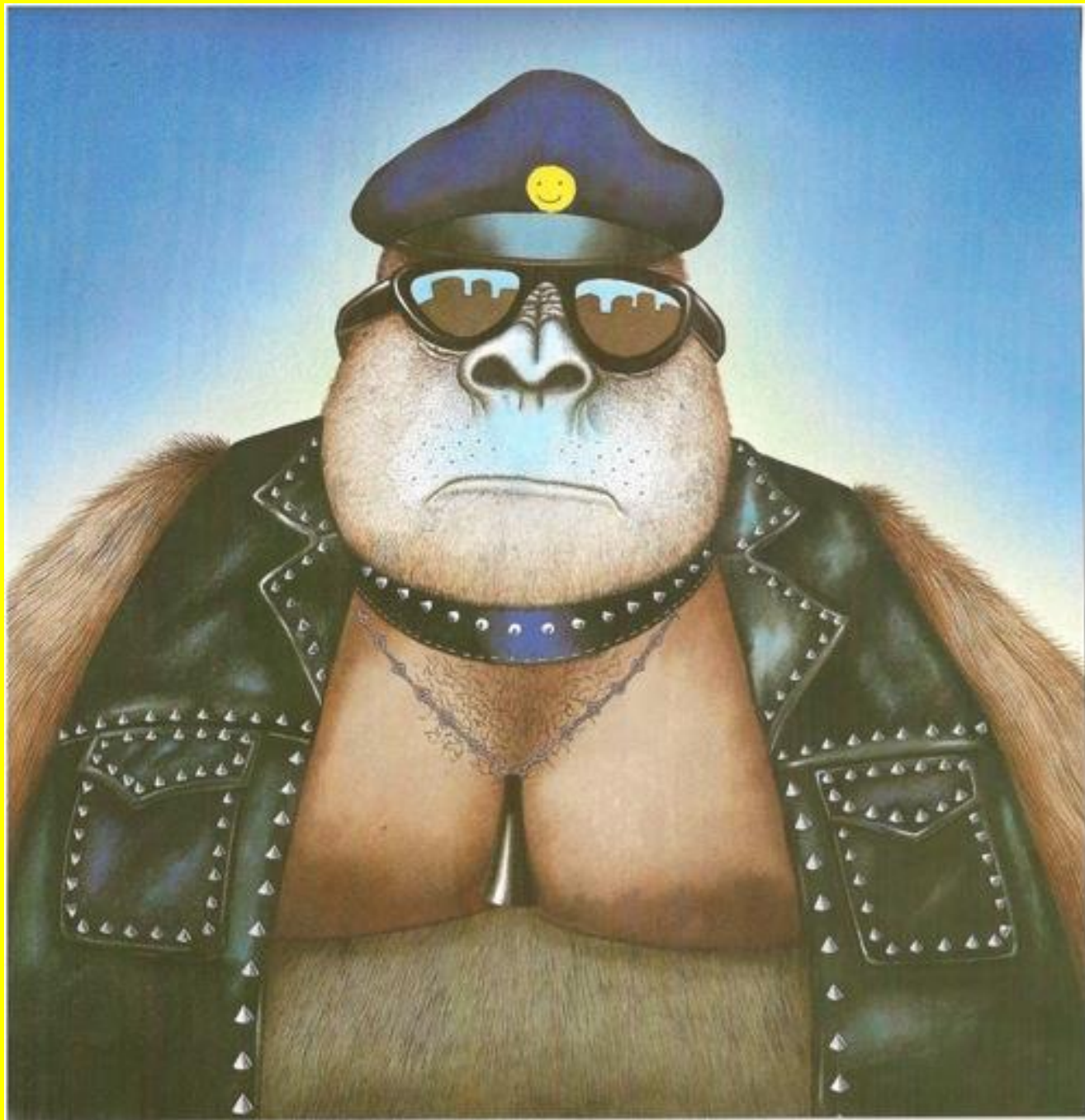


His character "Willy" is said to be based on himself and his own childhood. He wore short trousers until he was 15 and was small for his age.



Willy was lonely.







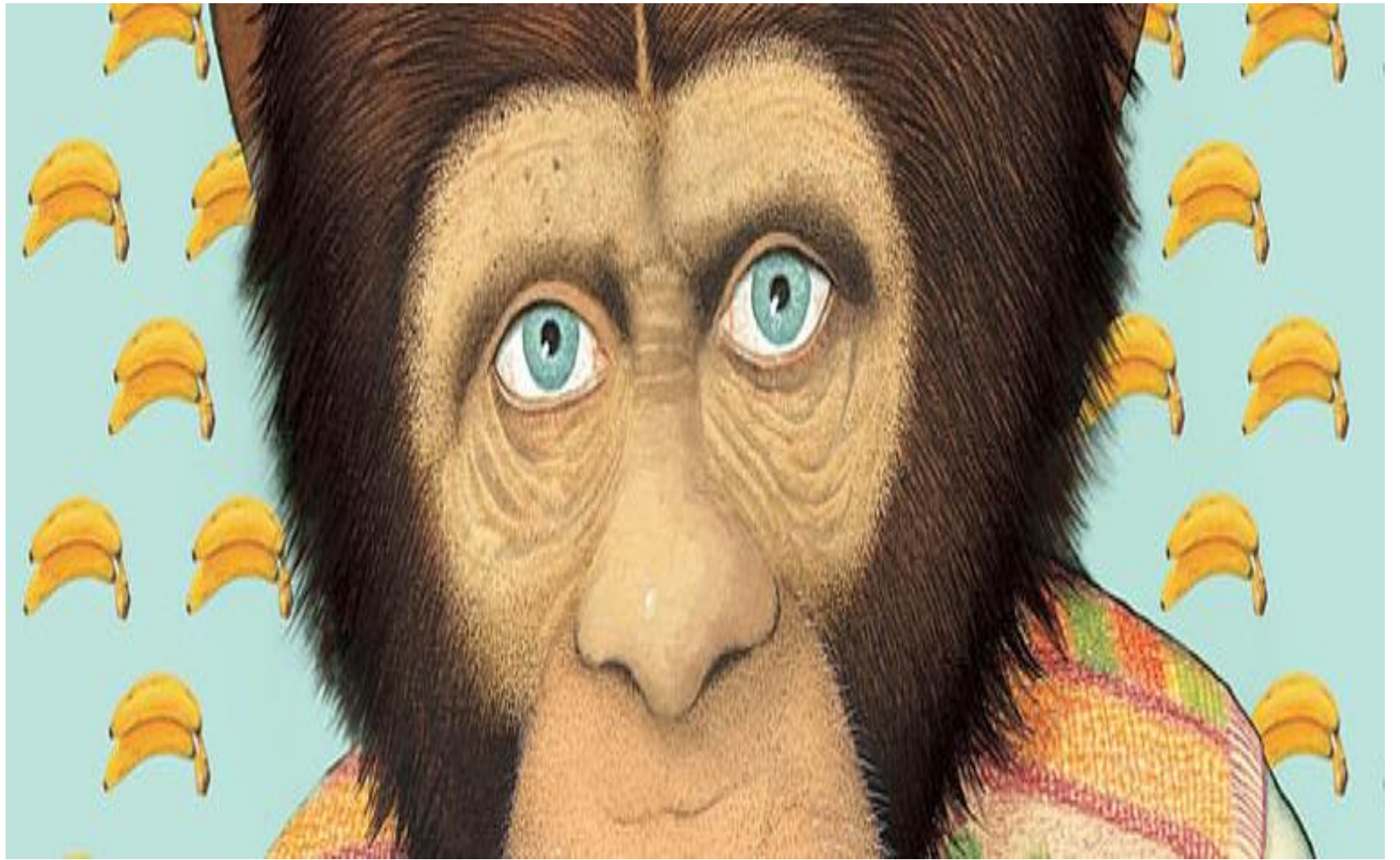
Willy took up weight lifting, and gradually over weeks and months Willy got bigger . . . and bigger . . .



and bigger . . .



AND BIGGER!



His book The tunnel was inspired by a frightening tunnel he and his brother used to go down when they were boys.





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# The Tunnel

Anthony Browne

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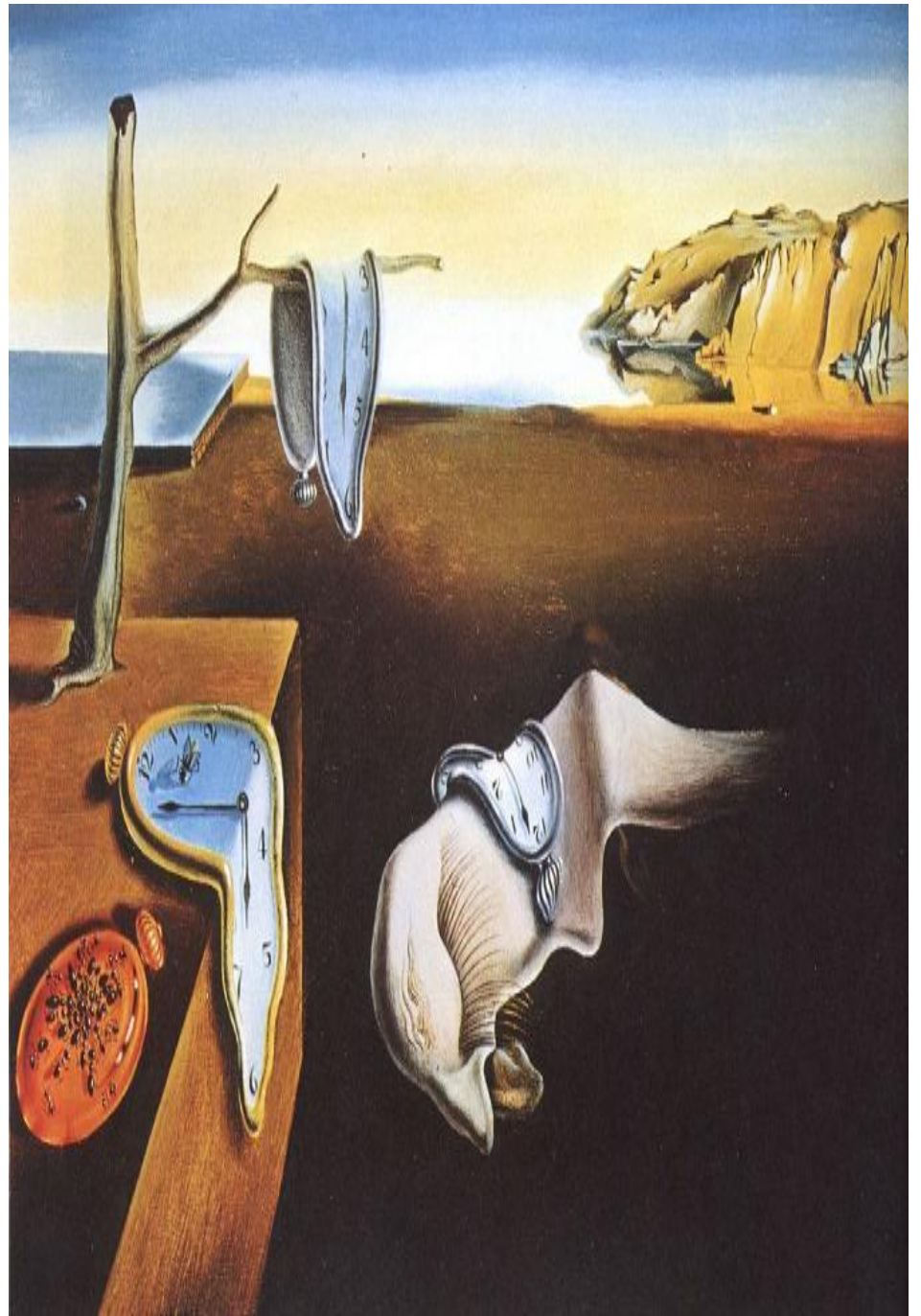
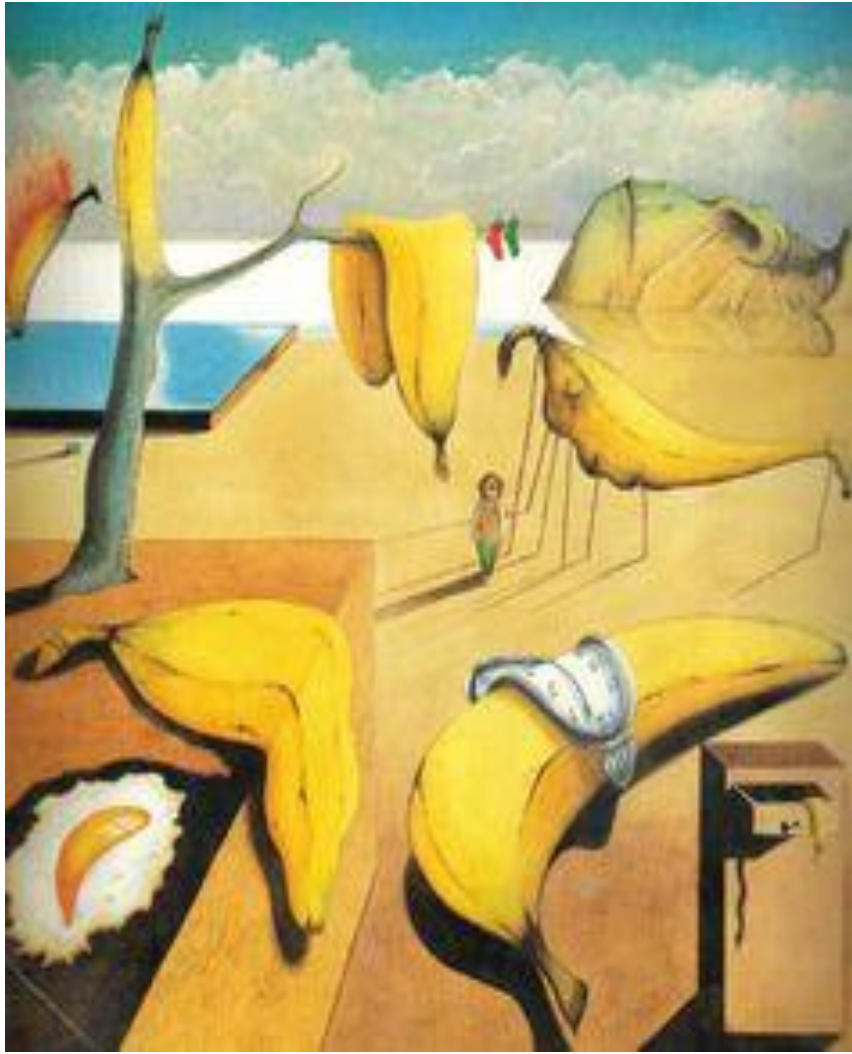
INTO THE  
FOREST

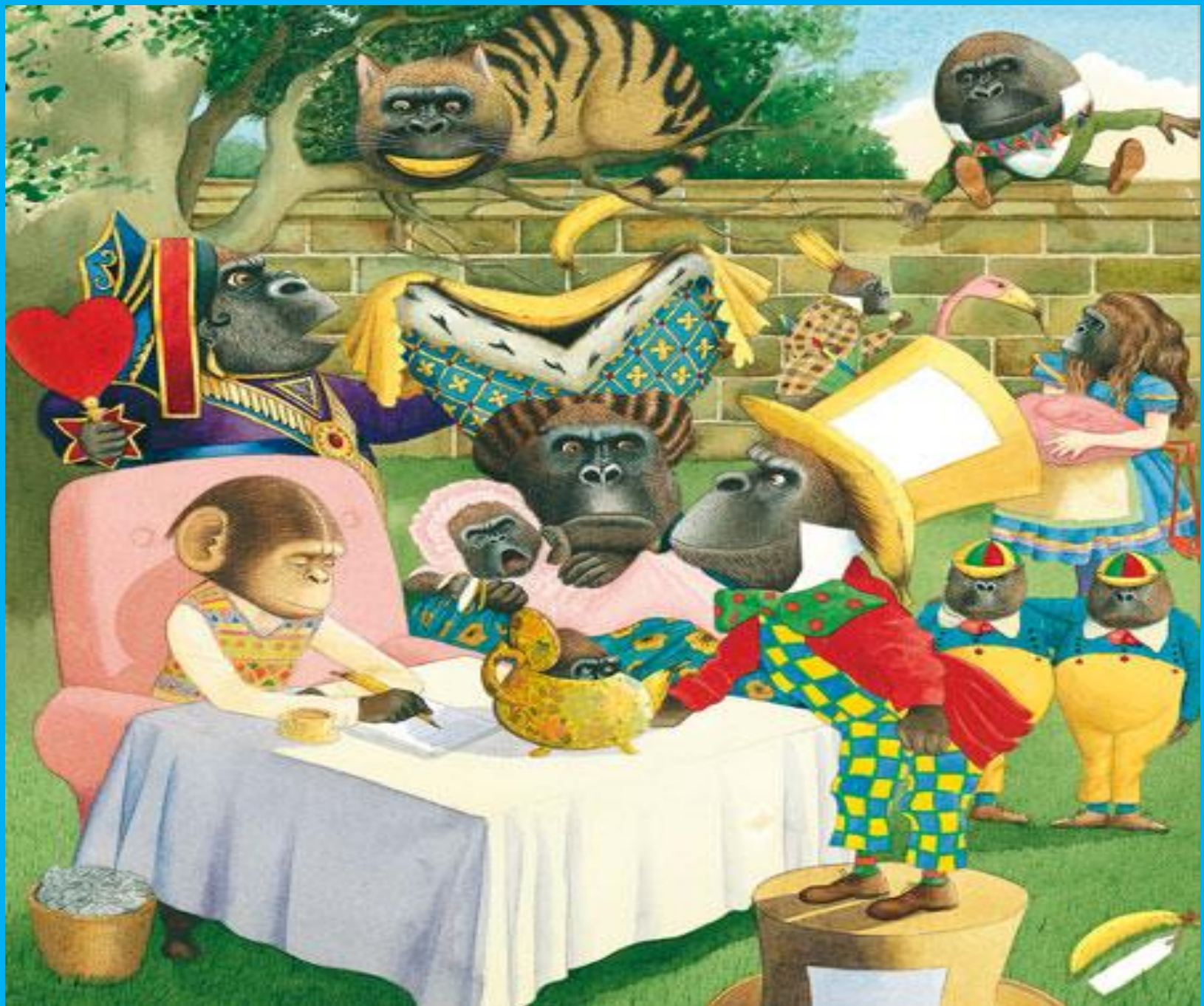


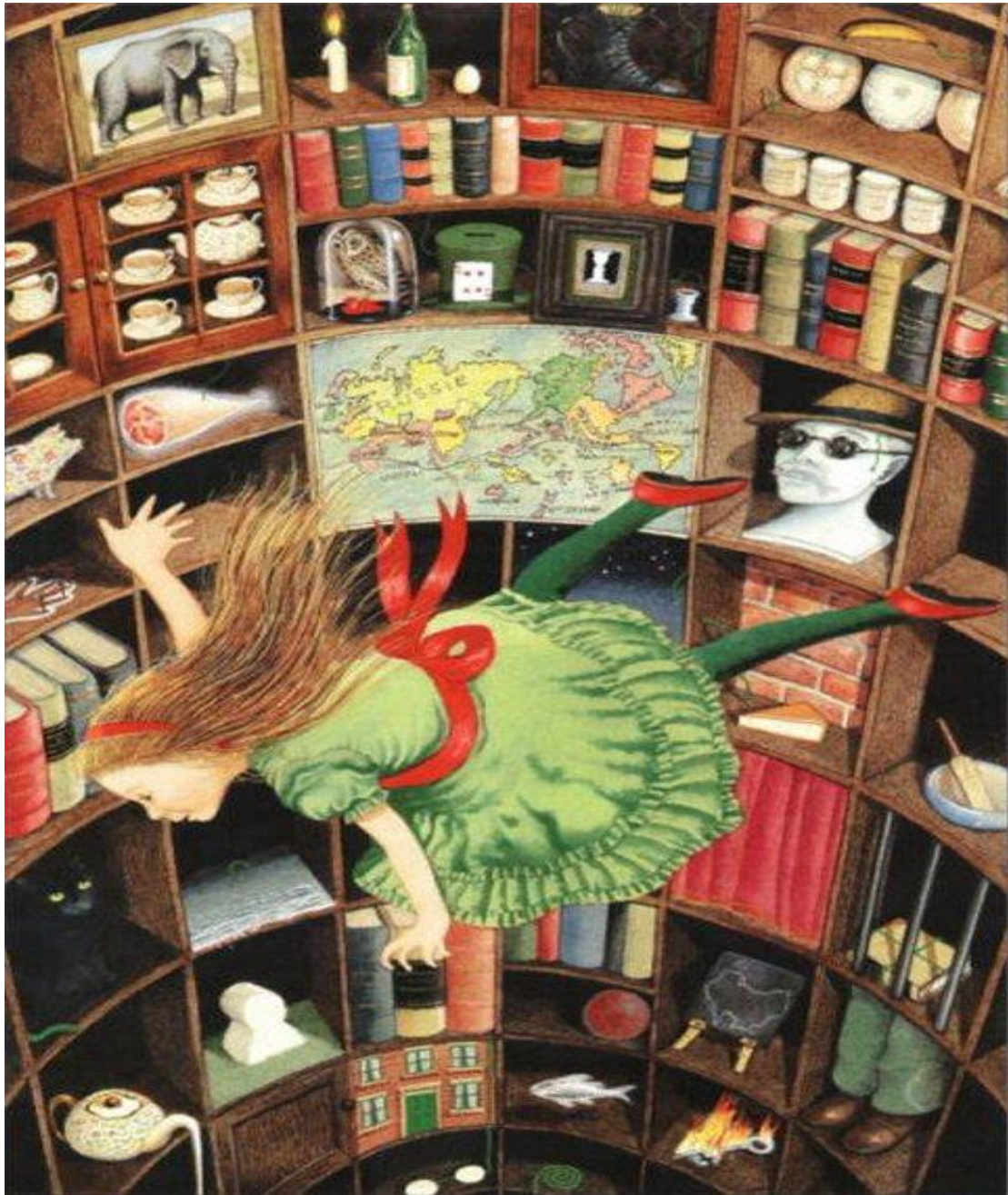


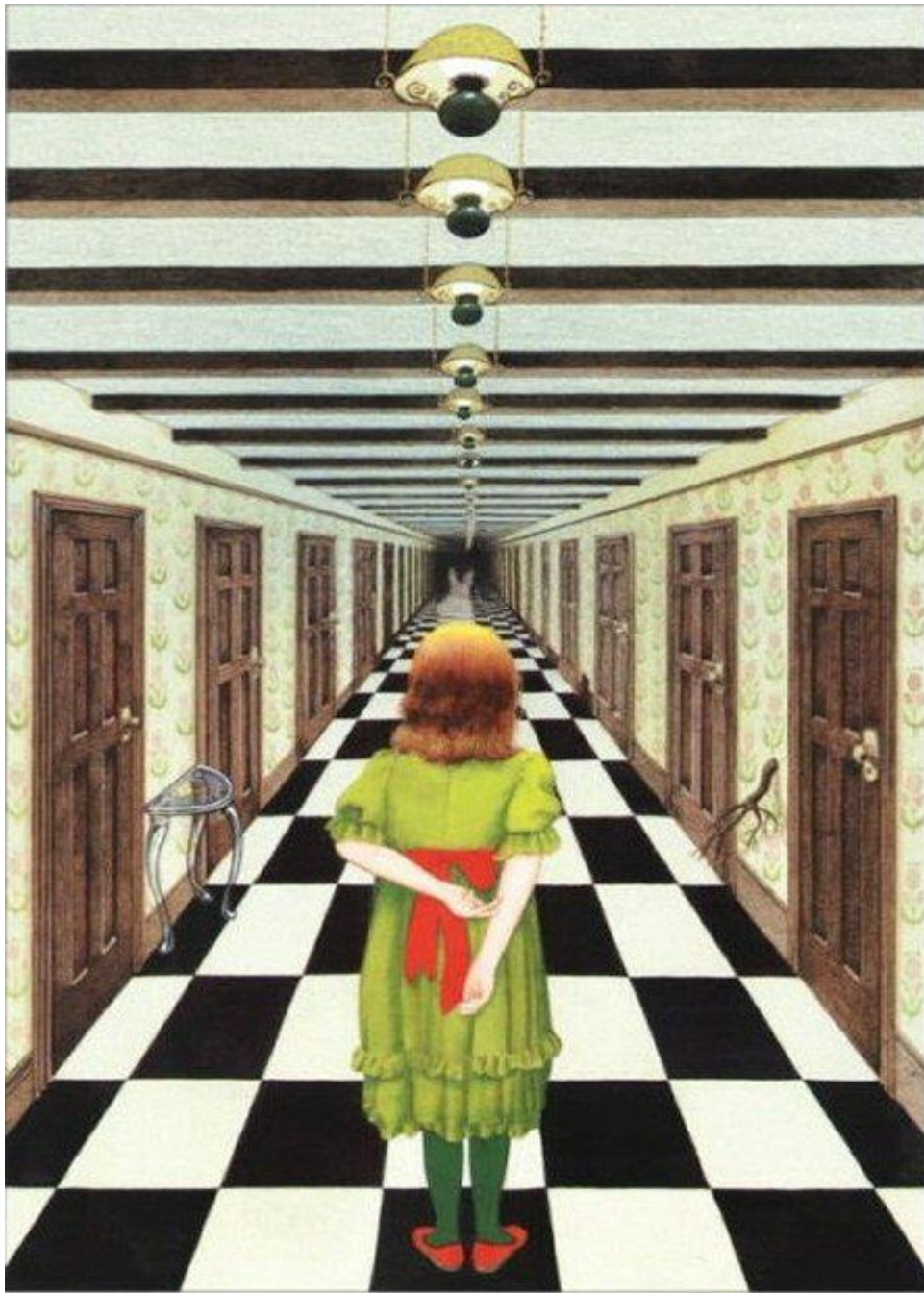


His illustrations  
reveal his love of  
the Surrealist  
painters and often  
depict strange  
dreamlike scenes -  
look out for the  
disguised bananas  
in his books!!















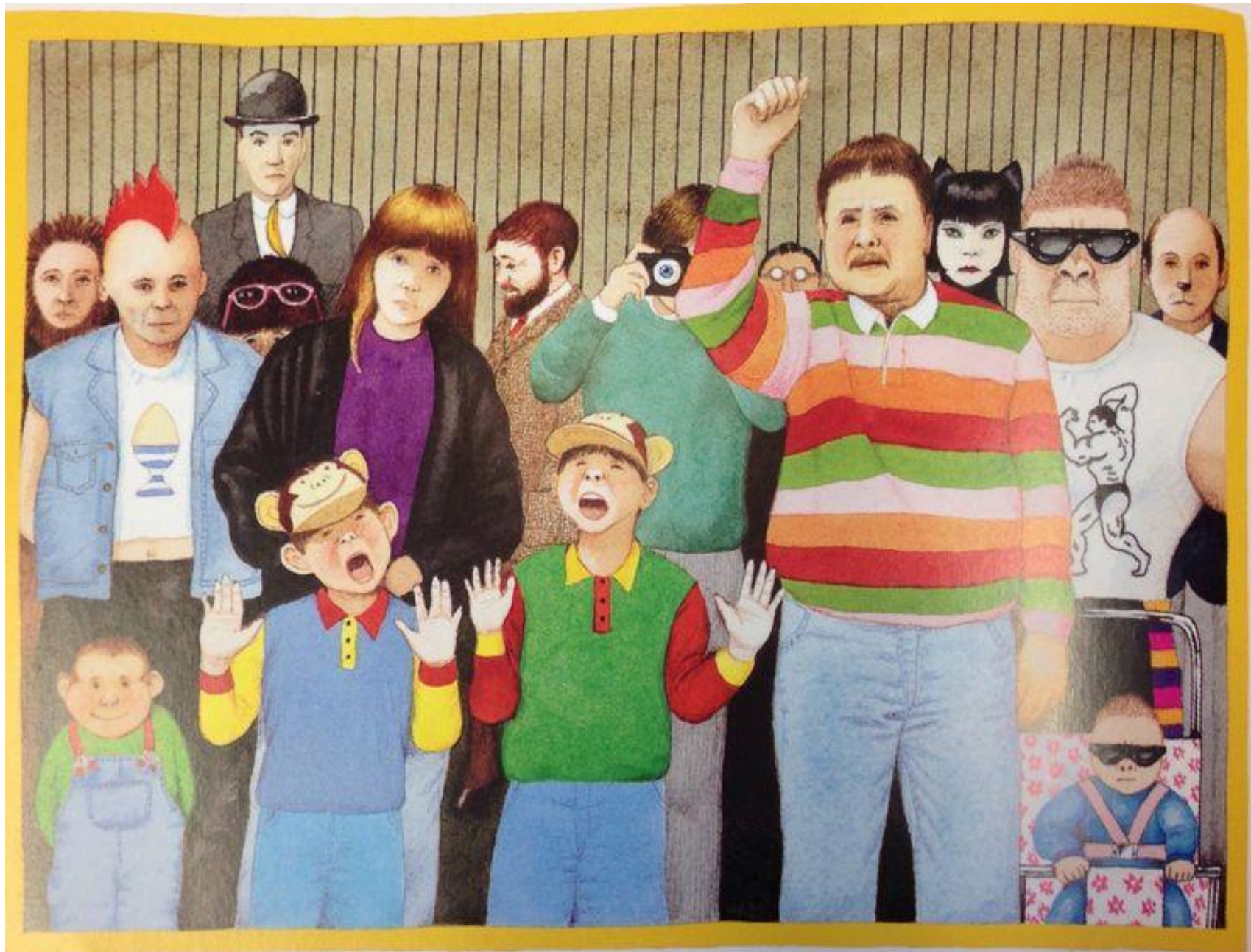
WINNER OF THE KATE GREENAWAY MEDAL

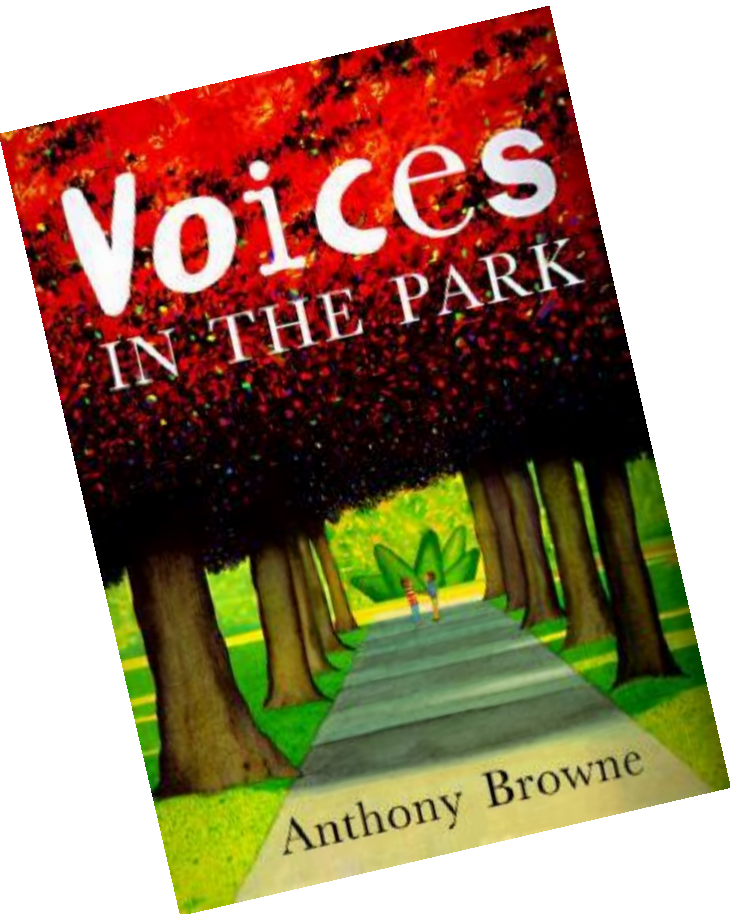
# ZOO



ANTHONY BROWNE







He currently lives in Canterbury.  
On 9 June 2009 he was appointed  
the sixth Children's Laureate(2009-  
2011).

He has written over 40 books won  
many prizes.

He says, "I hope to encourage more  
children to discover and love  
reading, but I want to focus  
particularly on the appreciation of  
picture books.... Picture books are  
for everybody **at any age**, not books  
to be left behind as we grow older.  
The best ones leave a tantalising gap  
between the pictures and the words,  
a gap that is filled by the reader's  
imagination, adding so much to the  
excitement of reading a book."





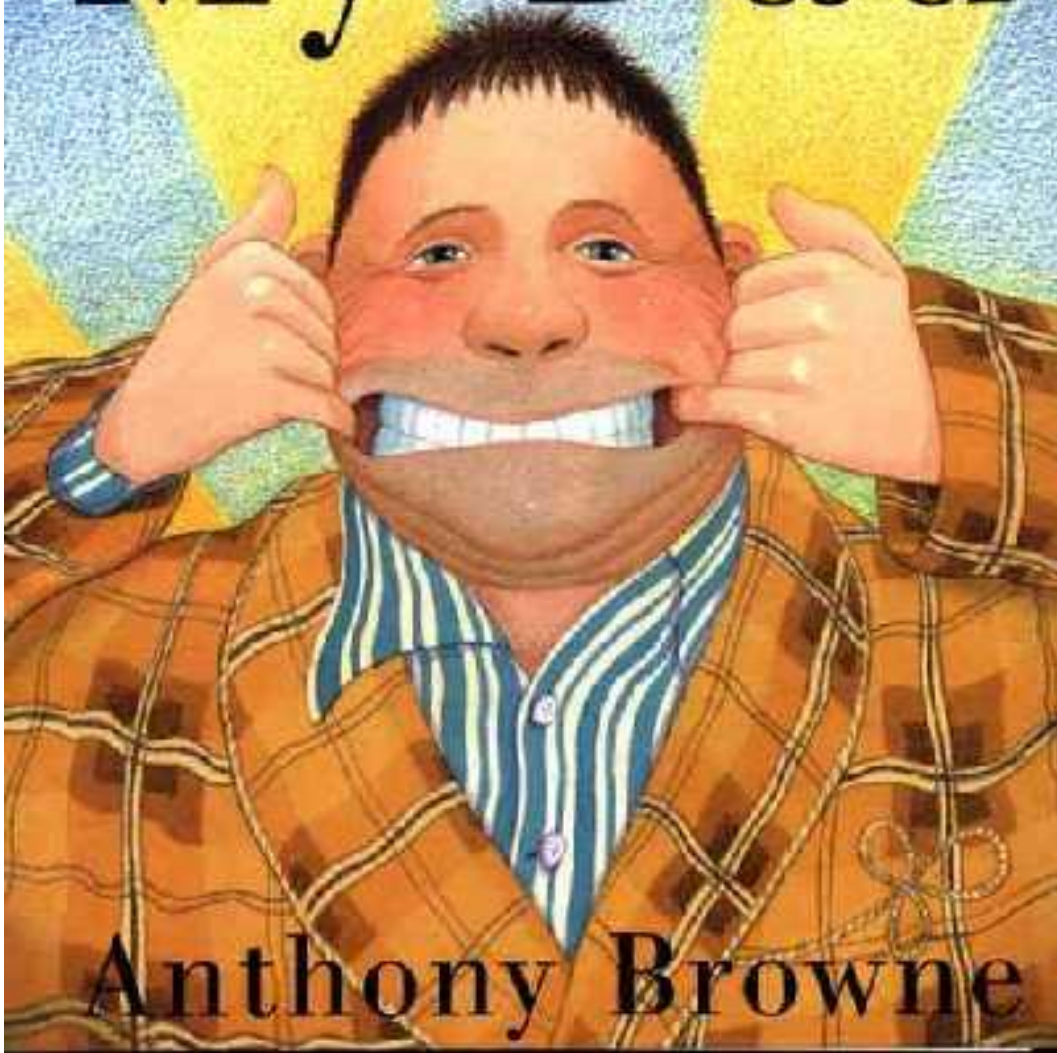
OUR MICHAEL

MUM

ME

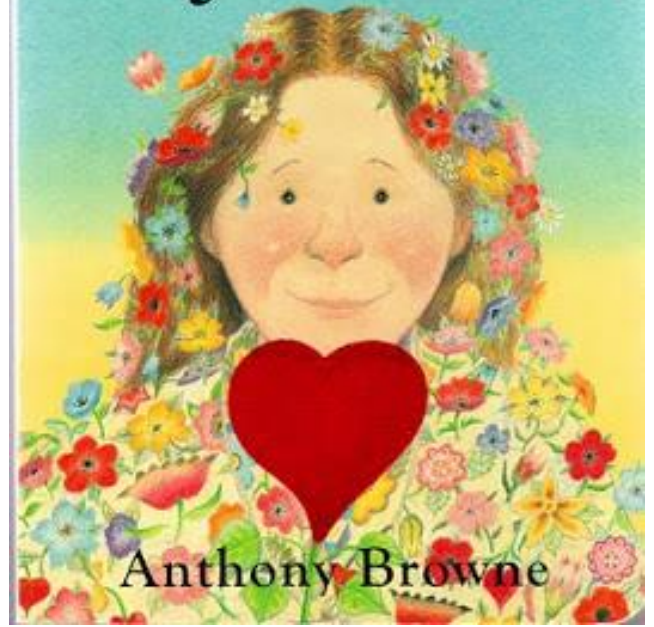
DAD

# My Dad



Anthony Browne

# My Mum



Anthony Browne

