

NUMBER  
ONE

by JOY COWLEY

*pictures by* JILL McDONALD

*Ready  
to Read*

Published 2015 by the Ministry of Education,  
PO Box 1666, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.  
[www.education.govt.nz](http://www.education.govt.nz)

First published 1982 by School Publications Branch,  
Department of Education, Wellington, New Zealand.

Text copyright © Joy Cowley 1982  
Illustrations copyright © Crown 1982

All rights reserved.  
Enquiries should be made to the publisher.

Publishing services: Lift Education E Tū

ISBN 978 0 478 16174 8 (print)  
ISBN 978 1 77663 498 9 (online)

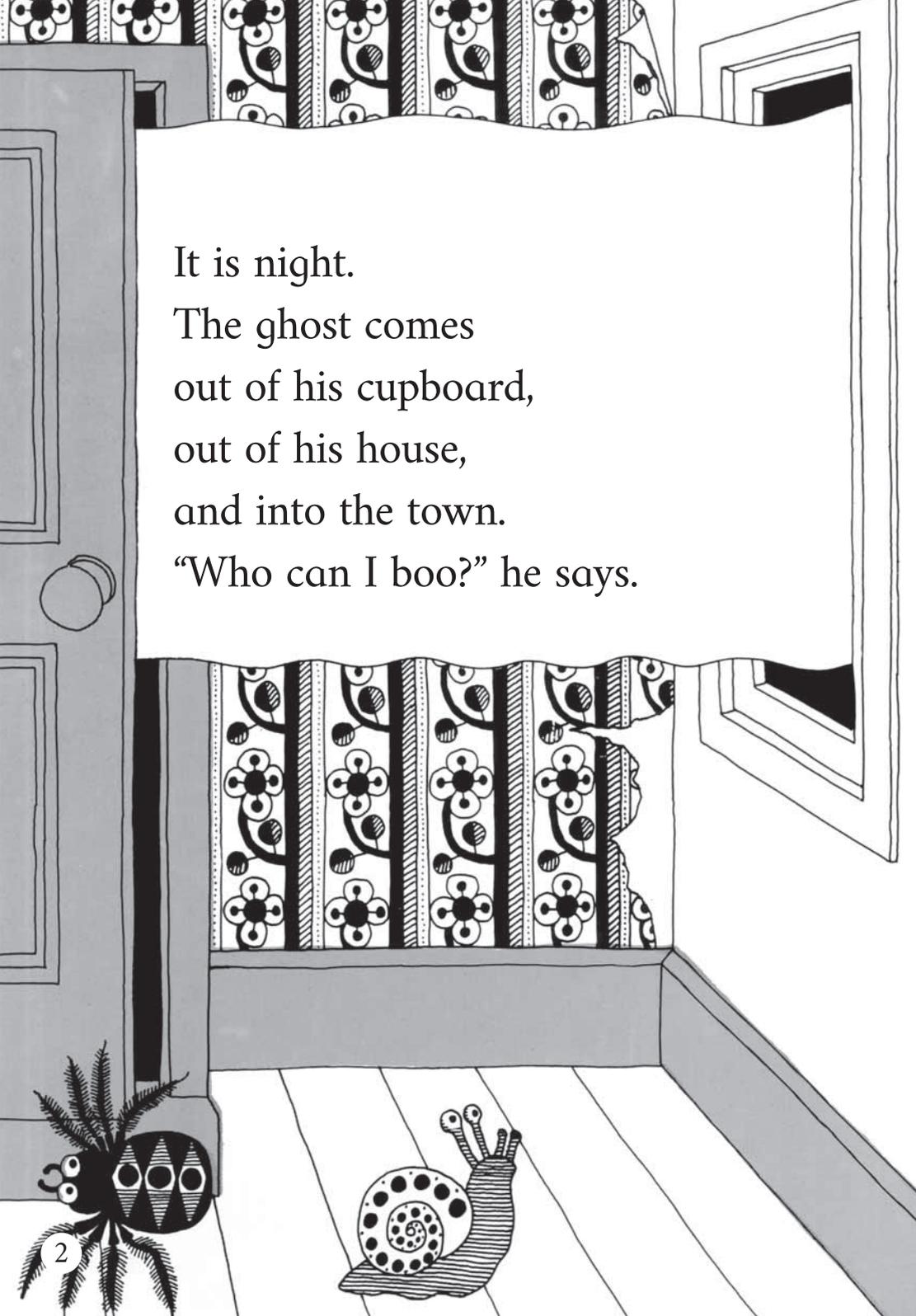
Replacement copies may be ordered from Ministry of Education Customer Services,  
online at [www.thechair.co.nz](http://www.thechair.co.nz)  
by email: [orders@thechair.minedu.govt.nz](mailto:orders@thechair.minedu.govt.nz)  
or freephone 0800 660 662  
Please quote item number 16174.

The teacher support material (TSM) and audio for Ready to Read texts  
can be found online at [www.readytoread.tki.org.nz](http://www.readytoread.tki.org.nz)



*by*  
**Joy Cowley**  
*pictures by*  
**Jill McDonald**

It is night.  
The ghost comes  
out of his cupboard,  
out of his house,  
and into the town.  
“Who can I boo?” he says.



Look!

Here comes a man in a taxi.

“He’ll do,” says the ghost.

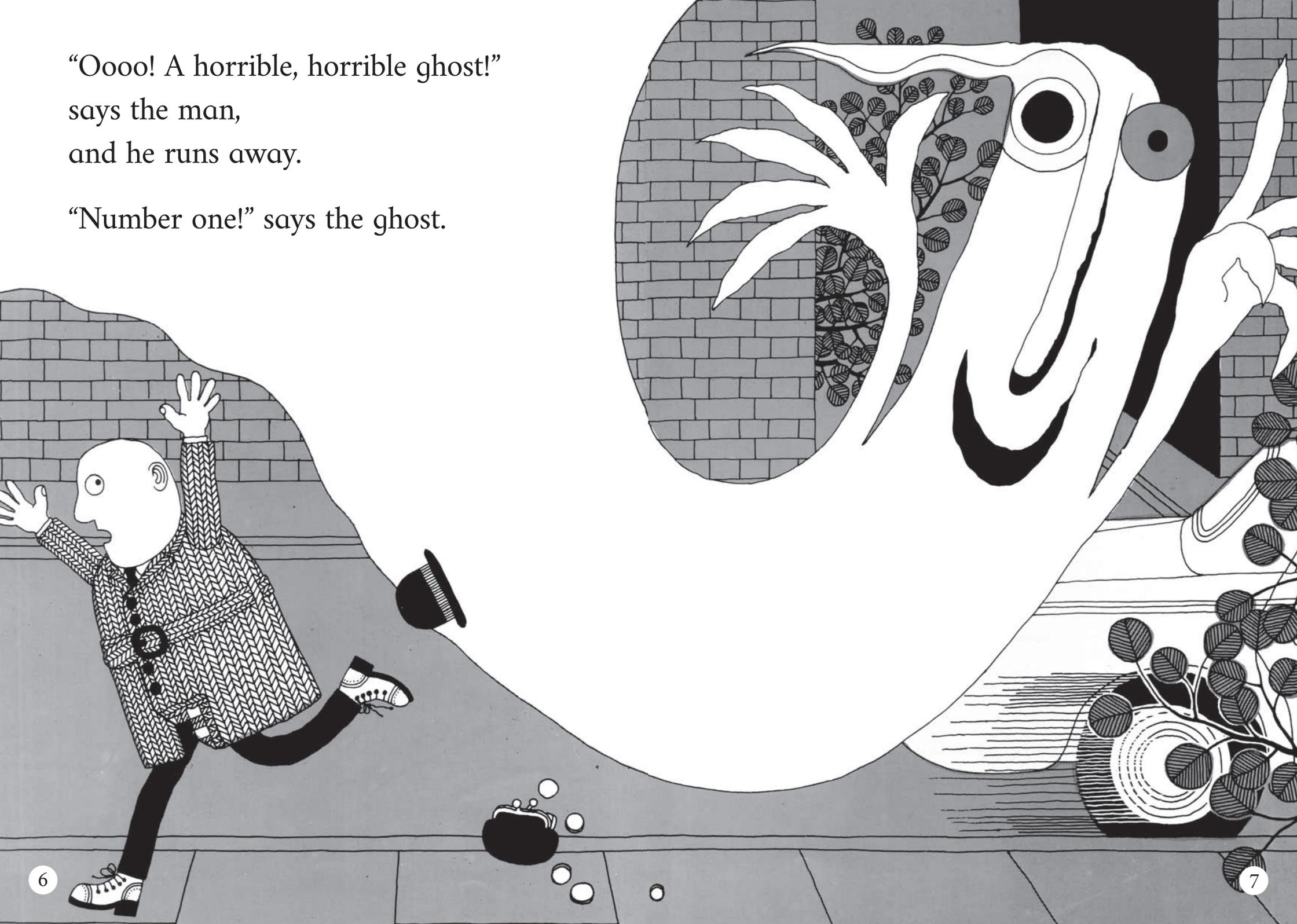
The taxi stops,  
and the man jumps out.

“Boo!” says the ghost.



“Oooo! A horrible, horrible ghost!”  
says the man,  
and he runs away.

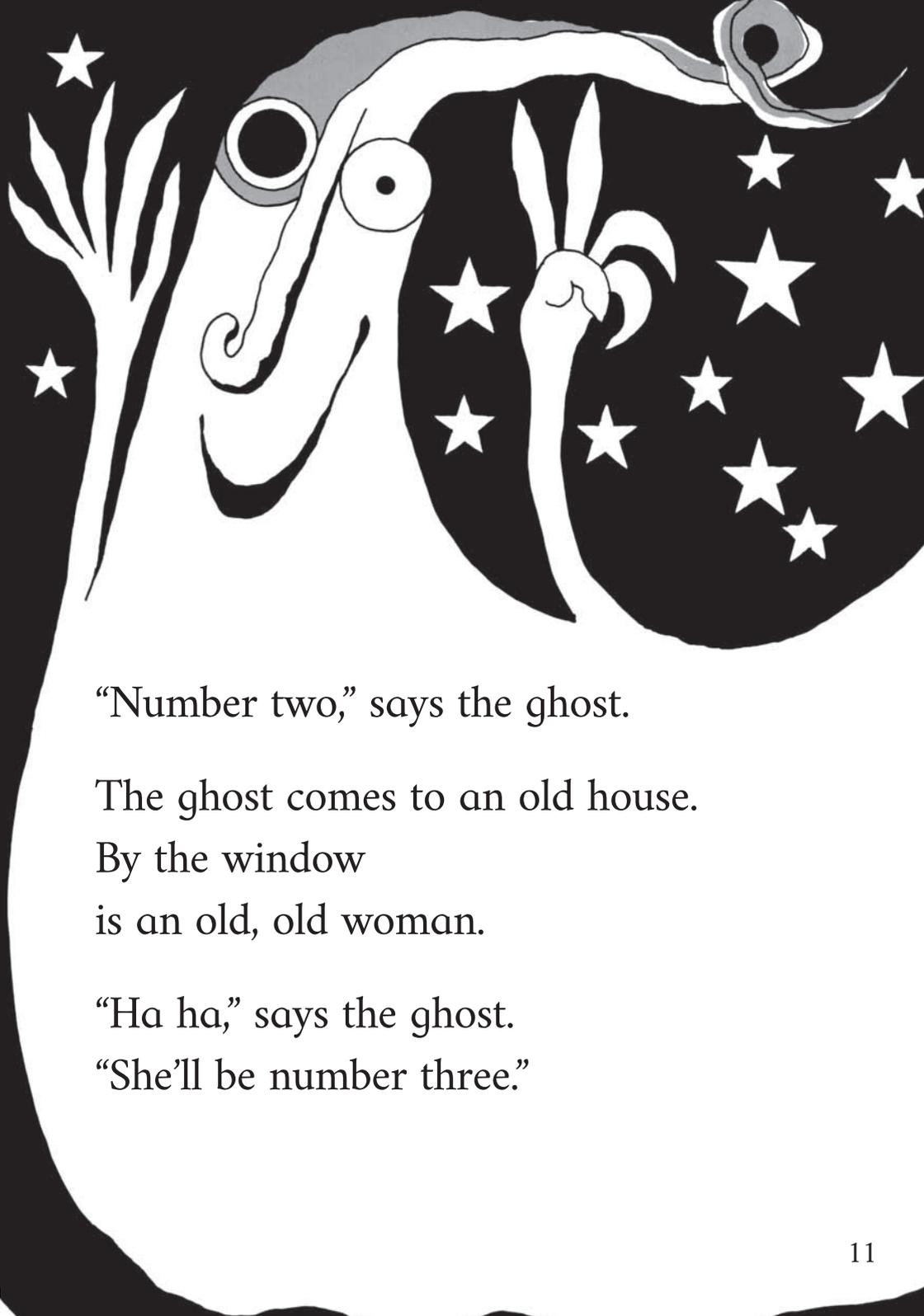
“Number one!” says the ghost.



Here comes the milkman.  
The ghost jumps out.  
“Boo!” he says.

The milkman stops with a crash  
and a splash.  
“Oooo!” he says.  
“It’s a terrible, terrible ghost!”  
and he runs away.





“Number two,” says the ghost.

The ghost comes to an old house.  
By the window  
is an old, old woman.

“Ha ha,” says the ghost.  
“She’ll be number three.”

“Boo!” says the ghost.

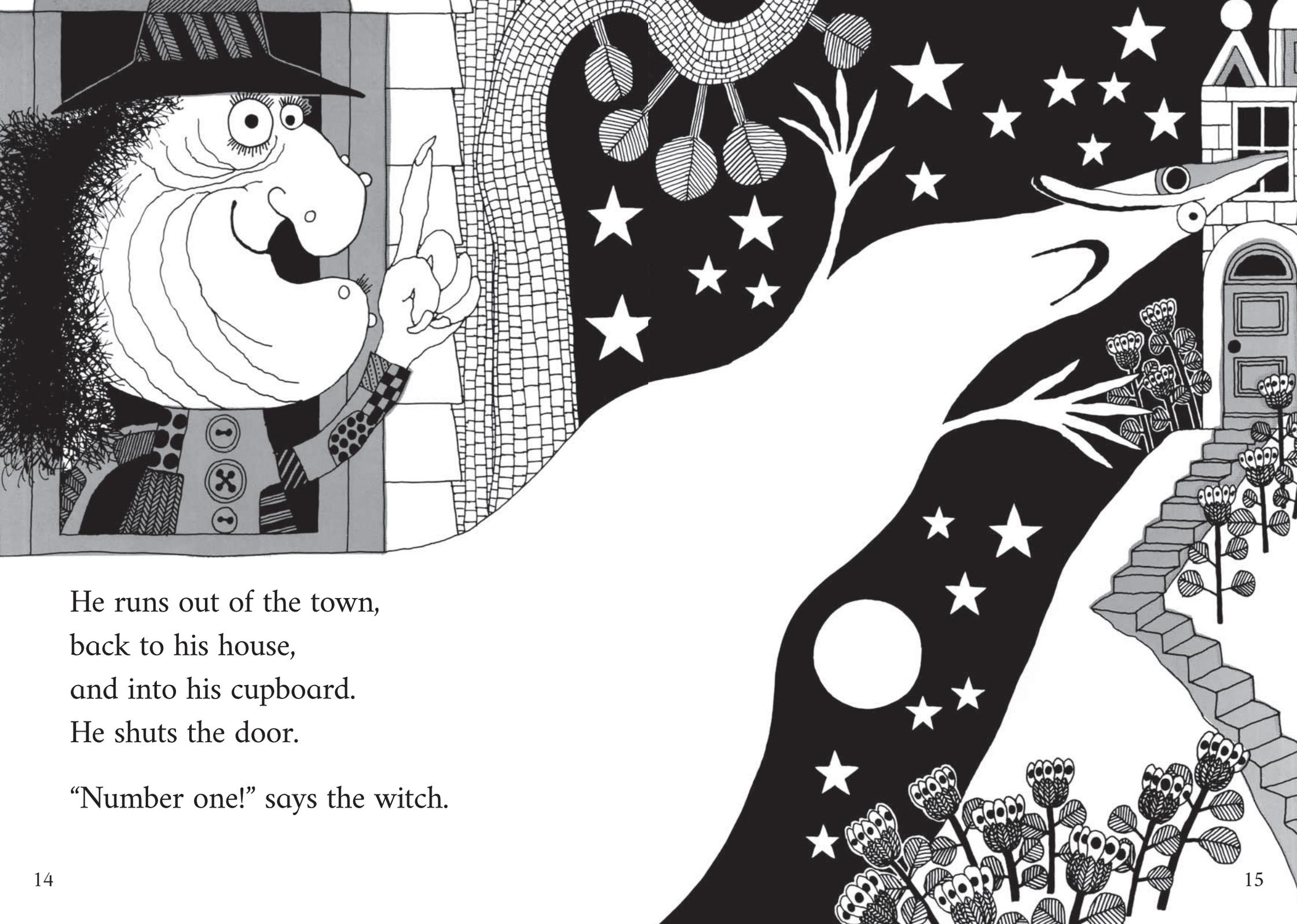
“Hullo, ghost,” says the old woman.



“Help!” says the ghost.

“A witch!

A horrible, terrible witch!”



He runs out of the town,  
back to his house,  
and into his cupboard.  
He shuts the door.

“Number one!” says the witch.

This book is for students to read and enjoy after they have become very familiar with the big book during many shared reading sessions.

Scan the QR code or use the short URL on the back cover to go directly to an audio recording of this book.



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**  
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

New Zealand Government



Number One

[bit.ly/2T30CoU](http://bit.ly/2T30CoU)

ISBN 978-0-478-16174-8



9 780478 161748