

**TITLE: Goth Girl and the ghost of a mouse**

**AUTHOR: Chris Riddell**

**INTEREST AGE: 9-12 Years**

**BOOKBAND: Dark Red**

**OUR REVIEW:** Witty and stylish yarn with an endearing heroine and plenty of oddball characters. Full of subtle humour, a fun read for adults and children alike

Look at the drawings of the strange characters:

- Mrs Beat'em
- Robert Von Hellsung
- Metaphorical Smith
- Lucy Borgia
- The Polar Explorer
- Charles Cabbage

These cartoons are not purely to show what they look like.

What else can you tell about each person?

Do you think that any of the characters are based upon real people?

Some of Riddell's characters are 'borrowed' from famous books. Can you work out who?

Read about The Polar Explorer (P25-29). He is also known as the Monster of Mecklenberg.

Does he remind you of a famous fictional monster?

There are several references to fashion in Goth Girl. Find out what clothes were in fashion in 1799.

Why do you think that the colours black, white, silver and purple are used throughout the book?

Find out about the origins of the term 'gothic'.

How do people who call themselves Goths dress now?

Talk about any visual aspect of the book that interests you. How do these 'extras' contribute to the overall impact of the book?

Write a review of Goth Girl and the ghost of a mouse.

Explain whether you enjoyed the book or not and why.

Comment on the humour in both the writing and illustrations.

Suggest who you might recommend this book for and why.

Choose a scene that could be used as a starting point for drama work, for example, the dinner the night before the indoor hunt.

Act out your chosen scene.

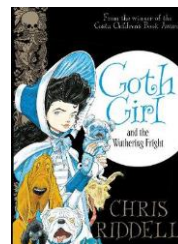
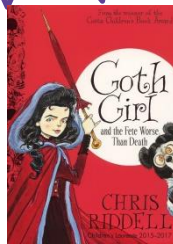
Produce some drawing in the style of Chris Riddell. Use a pencil or black pen to draw a cartoon character.

Design two Goth outfits – one for a man, one for a woman. You can only use the colours black, white, silver and purple.

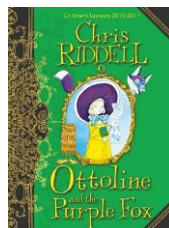
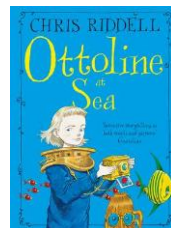
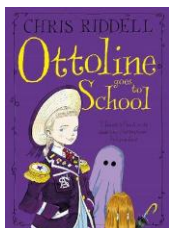
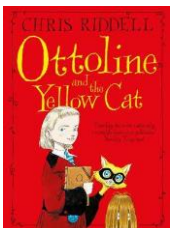
**In the book, Lord Goth is described as 'mad, bad and dangerous to gnomes.'**

**Can you find out who, in reality, was described as 'mad, bad and dangerous to know.?'**

**Other Goth Girl books are...**



**You might also enjoy...**



**Peters**