

Introduction:

- What time was it ?
- Where was Wallace ? Where was Gromit ?
- Was Gromit tired ?
- What was there outside ?
- In the lorry there was : a, a and
- What is Wallace and Gromit's job ?

Episode 1: The uninvited guest

What time is it now ? How do you know ?

What day is it ? Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Wallace has his breakfast in a) pyjamas b) real clothes

What has he got for breakfast ?

What is the problem ?

In your opinion who is really intelligent ? a) Wallace b) Gromit

What things are eaten ? / / / /



Episode 2: love at first sight

Where are they ?

What is the other dog's name ?

Is he nice with Gromit ?

What is the girl's name ?

Who was an inventor ? Who is an inventor ?

What is West Wallaby Street ? How is their home ? a) in a mess b) tidy



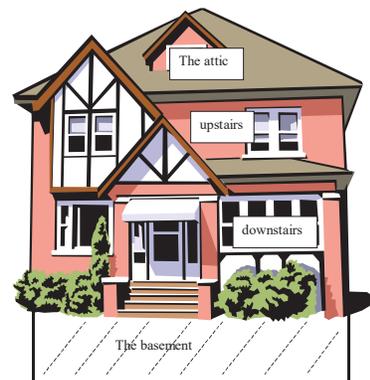
Episode 3: the knit-o-matic

Where is the machine ? Circle the right place: ➔

Who is in the machine ?

Who is hidden ?

What is the problem ?



How is the sheep ?

What name does Wallace call the sheep ?

Preston takes: a) the machine b) the machine's plans c) the sheep

Who has got the pullover ?

Say where they are:

Preston is
Wendolene is
Shaun is
Wallace is
Gromit is

in the shop
on the clock
behind the shop
in the shop
in the house

Who is the photographer ?

Who is in the lorry ?

What is the problem with Gromit ?



Episode 4: crime and punishment

Who is the killer dog ?

How is Wendolene ? Where is Gromit ?

What is his present ? What is there on it ?

Who are the sheep restlers ?

Who is really bad ? a) Preston b) Wendolene

Episode 5: no escape

Who helps ? Where is Preston's dog food machine ?

Episode 6: Gromit to the rescue

Who is in the machine ?

Who is Preston ?

What is the problem with him ?

Who is a hero ?

How is Preston in the end ?

What is the problem with Wendolene ?

What is the problem with Shaun ?



THE END

Name: _____

6 SENTENCE STORY

Write and retell the story using only 6 sentences.

• 1

• 2

• 3

• 4

• 5

• 6

Wallace & Gromit in A CLOSE SHAVE™

Introduction:

What time was it ? 2 in the morning

Where was Wallace ? Where was Gromit ? At home, number 62

Was Gromit tired ? Yes, he was.

What was there outside ? A lorry

In the lorry there was : a driver....., a passenger and sheep.....

What is Wallace and Gromit's job ? Window cleaners

Episode 1 - The uninvited guest

What time is it now ? 8:30 am How do you know ? What the alarm clock says.....

What day is it ? Sunday Monday **Tuesday** Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Wallace has his breakfast in **a) pyjamas** b) real clothes

What has he got for breakfast ? porridge.....

What is the problem ? the machine doesn't work

In your opinion who is really intelligent ? **a) Wallace** b) Gromit

What things are eaten ? ... leaf..... / porridge.. / cheese..... / plant..... / newspaper.. / furniture.....



Episode 2: love at first sight

Where are they ? Outside the shop.....

What is the other dog's name ? ... Preston.....

Is he nice with Gromit ? No.

What is the girl's name ? Wendolene

Who was an inventor ? Wendolene's father..... Who is an inventor ? Wallace

What is West Wallaby Street ? ... Their home.... How is their home ? **a) in a mess** b) tidy



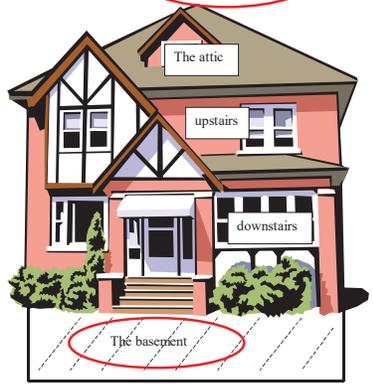
Episode 3: the knit-o-matic

Where is the machine ? Circle the right place: ➔

Who is in the machine ? ... the sheep.....

Who is hidden ? Preston the guard dog

What is the problem ? .. the machine is shaving the sheep



How is the sheep ? in the machine

What name does Wallace call the sheep ? Sean

Preston takes: a) the machine **b) the machine's plans** c) the sheep

Who has got the pullover ? Sean the sheep

Say where they are:

Preston is	in the shop
Wendolene is	on the clock
Shaun is	behind the shop
Wallace is	in the shop
Gromit is	in the house

Who is the photographer ? Preston

Who is in the lorry ? Gromit

What is the problem with Gromit ? He is trapped in the lorry.



Episode 4 crime and punishment

Who is the killer dog ? Preston

How is Wendolene ? ..She is sad..... Where is Gromit ? .. He is in jail.

What is his present ? What is there on it ? .. A jigsaw puzzle. Sheep.

Who are the sheep rustlers ? Gwendolene and Preston

Who is really bad ? **a) Preston** b) Wendolene

Episode 5: no escape

Who helps ? Sean the sheep Where is Preston's dog food machine ? in the basement

Episode 6: Gromit to the rescue

Who is in the machine ? Preston

Who is Preston ? a cyborgdog, a robot

What is the problem with him ? he's a machine

Who is a hero ? sean the sheep

How is Preston in the end ? crushed in the machine

What is the problem with Wendolene ? She doesn't like cheese.

What is the problem with Shaun ? He likes cheese.



THE END

Chapter 1

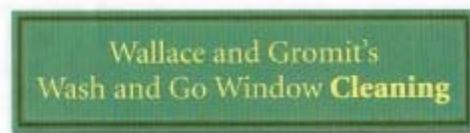
A Visitor In The Night

It was two o'clock in the morning, the sky was dark, and everything was quiet in West Wallaby Street. At number 62, Wallace was asleep in bed. There was a plate of **cheese** on the cupboard next to his bed. Cheese was Wallace's favorite food. Suddenly the room shook, and the cheese knife fell off the plate to the floor, but Wallace didn't wake up. His dog, Gromit, was in the next room, but he wasn't asleep. He was sitting up in bed, and he was **knitting**.

His room started shaking too, and he heard a noise in the street. What was making the noise? Why was the house shaking? Gromit wasn't interested. He just went on knitting. A big green **lorry** was driving past in front of the house, and it stopped at a red traffic light. The lorry was full of sheep, and when it stopped, a small sheep escaped from the back of the lorry. It jumped into the street, and ran away.



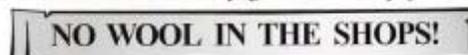
The passenger who was sitting next to the lorry driver wanted to get out and catch the small sheep, but the driver stopped him. So, the passenger stayed in his seat, but he looked out of the window and watched the sheep carefully. It was hurrying down the garden of number 62 West Wallaby Street. The passenger looked carefully at the house and read the **sign** on the wall.



Then, the traffic lights changed to green, and the big lorry drove away.

Upstairs at number 62, Gromit finished his last ball of **wool** and went to sleep. The small sheep pushed through a small door at the back of the house, but Gromit didn't hear anything.

Later that morning, Gromit was sitting in the kitchen. He was enjoying a quiet cup of tea and reading the newspaper. The **headline** on the front page of the newspaper said:



Suddenly there was a noise from a **machine** in the corner of the kitchen. It was Wallace's special *Getting-Up-In-the-Morning* machine and the *Breakfast* light was going on and off. Upstairs Wallace was still in bed. He called lazily downstairs to Gromit, 'It's **porridge** for breakfast today, Gromit. It's Tuesday.'

Gromit pulled the **lever** of the *Getting-Up-In-the-Morning* machine. The head of Wallace's bed went up, and Wallace moved quickly down to the bottom of his bed, went through a door in the floor of the bedroom, and fell into the room below it. On the way, he fell into his trousers, and then onto a chair at the kitchen table. The machine quickly put a white shirt on Wallace, and he was ready for breakfast. He picked up a spoon from the table in front of him, and Gromit hit a red **button** on the *Porridge Machine*. A plate jumped out of the table in front of Wallace, and a gun started to shoot porridge into it.

But this Tuesday morning something went wrong. The gun began shooting porridge at Wallace and not into the plate. At first Wallace held his plate up to catch the porridge, and then, when the plate was full, he put his hands in front of his face to stop the porridge, but again and again the gun shot porridge at him.

'Ow! Owf' said Wallace. 'Turn it off, Gromit!' he cried. Gromit walked to the *Porridge Machine* and hit another button to turn it off. 'Ooof,' said Wallace. He now had porridge all over his face, in his eyes, in his ears, and all over his shirt, and there was porridge all over the wall behind him, too.

Gromit looked at the black **wire** that went from the wall into the *Porridge Machine*. It was nearly in two pieces, and Gromit could see smaller red, yellow, and blue wires inside it. 'Something's eaten this,' he thought when he saw the wires.

'Do we have mice in the house?' Wallace asked, while he cleaned the porridge off his face. Gromit looked behind him. Was there something there? Something strange was happening. He decided to look around the house to see what it was.

Think that I'll make my porridge myself,' said Wallace, and he walked over to look in the food cupboard. Gromit stopped in the **hall** next to a **plant**. There was a big hole in one of its leaves. 'Something's eaten that, too,' he thought.



Wallace went to the kitchen cupboard, and took out the box of porridge. But there was a big hole in the bottom of it, and the dry porridge fell out onto the floor. Wallace looked at the bottom of the box, 'Something's eaten a hole in this, too,' he thought, and then he looked at the cheese. 'Were you hungry in the night, Gromit?' called Wallace. 'Because someone's eaten my cheese.'

Gromit stood by the kitchen door and looked at Wallace. What was happening? Just then, the small sheep from the lorry walked behind Gromit. Gromit didn't see the sheep, but when he went back through the hall, he saw that there were no leaves on the plant. There were no leaves – and there was no plant!

Wallace went into the front room, picked up his newspaper, and sat down in his comfortable chair. I don't know. Something very strange is happening,' he said. When he opened the newspaper, he found a big hole in the middle of it. 'Something's eaten this, too,' he said.

Just then, the phone rang and Wallace picked it up. He didn't see the small sheep at his feet, and he said happily into the phone, 'Hello? Wallace and Gromit's Wash and Go Window Cleaning. Can we help you?'

Wallace heard a woman's voice at the other end of the phone; 'Hello. This is the wool shop in the High Street. My Windows need a good clean. Can you come soon?' 'We'll come at once,' said Wallace, and he put the phone down.

'Time to go!' thought Gromit, and he pulled a lever in the wall which started the *Getting-Ready-to-Leave* machine. Wallace's chair moved up through a hole in the bedroom floor, then it moved back and dropped Wallace through a hole in a picture on the wall. Wallace's feet dropped into his black work shoes, then the machine turned, and he fell head first into his white **helmet**. After that, the machine put Wallace's window cleaning things into his hands, and dropped him into his blue work clothes. Then it put Wallace onto his **motorbike**, and pushed the motorbike up through the garage floor. Gromit came through a door from the kitchen, got into the **side-car**, and put on his helmet.

Then the machine turned the motorbike round, put a **ladder** on the side of the side-car, and opened the garage doors. After that, the machine started the motorbike, and Wallace and Gromit drove out of the garage, down the garden and into the street.

Chapter 2

At The Wool Shop

Wallace and Gromit arrived on their motorbike in front of the wool shop in the High Street. Gromit took the ladder off the side-car, and put one end of it into a **drain** in the street. He held on to the other end of the ladder and went up into the **air** with it. The top of the ladder flew up up and landed against the wall, next to the sign.



Gromit was now standing at the top of the ladder, and he was looking in through a window to a room on the first floor. Inside the room he could see a very big **guard dog**. The dog looked out of the window at Gromit, angrily. 'Time to start work,' thought Gromit.

He **tyed** one end of an **elastic rope** to the sign and put the other end round his middle. Then he jumped off the ladder and **hung** with his head down and his feet in the air. As he moved up and down on the elastic rope he started cleaning the shop window.

While Gromit was cleaning the window, Wallace looked into the shop. Inside, there were lots of balls of wool in different colors. And there was also a woman, with short brown hair and big dark eyes. It was Wendolene, and the wool shop belonged to her. Wallace couldn't stop looking at Wendolene. She was knitting when he first saw her, but when she looked up and saw Wallace looking at her through the shop window, she put down her knitting. Then she smiled, and **waved** at Wallace. 'You need some wool, don't you, Gromit?' said Wallace, and he walked into the shop.

Now the unfriendly guard dog was sitting on a chair in the corner of the shop, and he was reading a newspaper. The headline on the front page said:

MORE SHEEP THIEVES

'Thank you for coming so quickly,' Wendolene said to Wallace. Wallace looked around the shop and saw a sign on the wall next to some balls of wool, which said;

Only two balls of wool for each person

Without thinking, Wallace took a red ball from the bottom of the **pile** and the other balls fell onto the floor. 'Oh dear,' he said, and he went down on his hands on the floor to **pick up** the wool. 'Oh, don't worry. I can do that!' said Wendolene.

A ball of wool **rolled** across the floor and stopped at the guard dog's feet. Wallace carne over to pick it up. The dog looked at Wallace over the top of his newspaper. 'This is Preston,' said the woman. 'He's my dog.' 'Good dog!' said Wallace, and put his hand on Preston's head. Preston didn't look very happy.

'I'm very sorry. I can pick everything up,' said Wallace worriedly. 'I won't be a minute.' And he started to pick up the wool again. Now Wendolene was down on the floor and was picking up balls of wool, too. There was a red ball of wool in the middle of the floor. Wendolene's hand went to pick it up, and Wallace's hand went to pick it up, too. By mistake,

Wallace put his hand on her hand. 'Oh,' he said.

'Oh,' said Wendolene.

They looked at each other for some time.

'Er . . . What did you want?' Wendolene asked Wallace in the end.

'I, er, well . . .,' began Wallace. He felt very stupid and he didn't know what to say.

Preston put down his newspaper and walked out of the shop. Gromit was still hanging on the elastic rope but he wasn't moving up and down any more. Preston went over and pulled Gromit's helmet off. Gromit started **bouncing** up and down again on his elastic ropes. He couldn't do anything to stop himself.

Back in the wool shop, Wallace and Wendolene were talking.

'My name's Wendolene,' said the woman, 'Wendolene Ramsbottom.'
'Oh, that's nice!' said Wallace. 'I'm Wallace, the window cleaner. Is this your shop?'
'Yes. It was my father's shop, but he left it to me when he died.'



Wendolene looked at a picture on the wall. There was a nice old man in it. He had wild white hair and was wearing a white coat. In the picture with him was Preston, the dog. 'He left me Preston, too. Preston is my guard dog,' explained Wendolene. 'But he didn't leave me much money. He spent it all **inventing** things.'
'Really? I'm an inventor myself,' said Wallace.
'Oh!' said Wendolene.

Wallace looked down and saw Preston's newspaper on the chair. He read the headline on the front of it. 'The police still haven't caught those sheep thieves, I see,' he said. 'But you've got a lot of wool in your shop.'

Wendolene didn't reply. She looked away quickly. 'Your dog's waiting,' she said.

It was true. Gromit was waiting outside for Wallace. His elastic rope wasn't moving up and down now, and he was hanging with his feet in the air and his head down. 'Right, I'll get him,' said Wallace, and he gave Wendolene all the balls of wool in his hands.

Wendolene stood with her arms round the balls of wool, and looked at the nice clean shop windows. 'Oh, they're very clean. You've done a great job.'
'Windows are our business,' said Wallace. Then he turned round to leave the shop, and walked into the nice clean glass door.

Chapter 3

Wallace's Knitting Machine

Preston the guard dog arrived at West Wallaby Street.

He went round to the back of Wallace and Gromit's house. There was a piece of sheep's wool hanging by their back door, and he smelled it carefully.



Just then, Preston heard Wallace's motorbike in the street. Wallace and Gromit were coming home after their window cleaning visit to the wool shop. Preston didn't want them to see him, so he quickly looked for a place to hide. He saw a door, opened it, and went through it down into the **cellar** under the house. There he hid under a drain **cover** in the cellar floor.

Soon after that Wallace and Gromit went into the house. 'Let's have a nice cup of tea,' said Wallace. But he stopped suddenly at the door of the front room and he looked around. It was terrible! Everything was untidy, and there were big holes everywhere - in the chairs, in the carpets, even in the pictures on the wall.

'Oh no! What's all this?' said Wallace. 'Is it thieves?' Gromit heard a noise from the kitchen and he went to see what it was. When he opened the kitchen door, he saw a small sheep. It was the sheep from the lorry. It was standing in the middle of the kitchen with Gromit's **bone** in its mouth. Everything in the kitchen was untidy; there was food from the cupboard all over the floor, and there was food all over the sheep, too. 'I've never seen anything like it, Gromit!' said Wallace, walking down the hall, then he came into the kitchen.

'Look at that!' he said, surprised to see a sheep in his kitchen. Gromit was looking angrily at the sheep, but Wallace went on in a friendly way. 'Look, the poor little thing's really hungry. Come here, **lad**. Don't be afraid.'

Wallace looked at the sheep's dirty white wool coat. Then he picked up the sheep and said, 'We must give you a wash.'

At once Wallace took the sheep out of the kitchen and down some stairs into the cellar. Gromit went after them. There was a big machine in the middle of the cellar. It had a sign on it which said: **Wallace's Knitting Machine**.

There was a big bath next to the machine and Wallace carefully put the sheep into it. 'Now, there's nothing to worry about,' he said. 'You're going to have a quick wash. Gromit's had a wash in this bath, haven't you, Gromit?' Gromit moved his head up and down unhappily. 'And it was terrible,' he thought.

Gromit pushed some buttons and turned a **dial** on the machine to *Wash*. 'Right, let's start then,' said Wallace, and the machine started washing the sheep.

Wallace and Gromit did not know that all this time Preston was hiding in a drain under the cellar floor. From under the drain cover Preston was watching and listening to everything that was happening in the cellar. Suddenly a red light on Wallace's machine started going on and off. 'Oh no, there's something wrong with it!', thought Gromit. The machine dial suddenly moved from *Wash* to **Light Shave**. 'Oh, dear!' said Wallace.

Now the machine **sucked** the sheep from the bath into a **dryer** above their heads. The dryer **blew** warm air onto the sheep, and then it blew the sheep down into the *Knitting Machine*. 'Oh! Do something, Gromit!' cried Wallace, but Gromit couldn't do anything. 'Oh no, we can't stop it now,' said Wallace.

Lots of arms were moving in and out of the *Knitting Machine*, and on the end of each arm there were **clippers**. The clippers were going in and out of the machine very quickly. They were busy cutting the wool from the sheep's back! At the same time, wool was coming out from the other side of the machine. The wool was different colors: red, blue and green. 'Turn it off, Gromit. Oh dear,' cried Wallace. The *Knitting Machine* started knitting the new wool into a little **pullover**. When the pullover was ready, the machine put it onto Wallace's head. Wallace moved his head around, but he couldn't see a thing. 'It's great, Gromit!' he said. 'But it's too small for me.'

Just then, Wallace and Gromit heard a little noise from inside the machine. 'Baa,' cried the sheep. 'Ah, good. He's alive!' thought Gromit.

Wallace pulled the pullover off his head and just then, a door in the side of the machine opened, and the sheep came out. 'Baa!' he cried again. 'He looks OK to me!' said Wallace. But the sheep didn't have his warm wool coat now, and he was very cold. Wallace picked him up. 'He needs a name. Let's call him Shaun,' he said to Gromit. 'Come on Shaun.'

Wallace carried Shaun upstairs into the kitchen, and Gromit followed them. At the top of the stairs, Gromit stopped and listened. Was that a noise? Is there someone in the cellar?' he thought for a minute. 'No, there's nothing,' he decided in the end, and he closed the cellar door and followed Wallace to the kitchen.

But there was someone in the cellar - Preston! When he was sure that he was alone, he pushed up the drain cover and climbed out of his hiding place. He went over to the table, and looked at Wallace's plans for making the *Knitting Machine*. 'Very interesting,' he thought. Then he picked up the plans and took them away with him.

Chapter 4

Gromit Investigates

Gromit was sitting down and reading the newspaper with interest. The headline on the front page said:

POLICE LOOKING FOR SHEEP KILLER

Shaun was next to Gromit. He was wearing the pullover from the *Knitting Machine* and eating some of the newspaper.

Then he walked over and took a piece of cheese from Wallace's plate. Wallace was mending the porridge gun. 'Gromit, you know that we're cleaning the town dock tomorrow,' said Wallace. 'I think we can use the *Porridge Machine* for that job.' The next day Wallace and Gromit went to clean the town clock in the High Street. Shaun went with them. Gromit climbed up the ladder to the clock face. In the street below, Wallace put some **soap** in the porridge gun and shot it at the clock face, but some of the soap hit Gromit in the face. 'Sorry Gromit. That was too soapy,' called Wallace.

Gromit cleaned the soap from his face and Wallace shot some soap at the clock face again. This time the gun worked well. 'I'll see you in a minute, Gromit,' said Wallace. 'I'm not going to be long.'

Wallace walked over to the wool shop and went in. Shaun followed him, but the sheep didn't go into the wool shop. **Instead**, he walked through a large open **gate** into the back **yard** behind the shop. Gromit was watching Wallace and Shaun from the top of the ladder. Suddenly he saw Preston.

Wendolene's guard dog was standing at an upstairs window. He was looking out of the window at something. 'What's Preston looking at? I'll finish cleaning and then I'll go and **investigate**,' thought Gromit.

In the wool shop, Wallace was talking to Wendolene. 'I just thought I'd come and see you . . . he said to her. Wendolene looked at him with her big dark eyes. 'Tell me about the window cleaning,' she said. 'Well, it's only for a short time, you understand,' said Wallace.

'Oh really?' said Wendolene.
'Yes, I invent things most of the time,' said Wallace.
'But . . . 'Oh, what kind of things do you invent?' asked Wendolene.
'Well, different things . . .' began Wallace.
'It's so sad that Daddy never met you,' said Wendolene.
'Poor Daddy'

Gromit finished cleaning the clock face and climbed down the ladder. Then he walked over to the wool shop and started to clean the shop window. Suddenly he heard Shaun's voice. Shaun was looking out of a hole in the wall above him. 'Baa!' said Shaun, and then he pulled his head in again. 'What's Shaun doing up there?' thought Gromit.

He climbed up the ladder and put his head through the hole in the wall. It was dark inside, and Gromit couldn't see very well. He tried to touch Shaun and then someone suddenly took a photograph of the two of them together. 'Strange,' thought Gromit, and he pulled his head out of the hole in the wall. I must go and investigate. I must see what's happening in that room above the shop.'

Gromit climbed down the ladder, and walked through the shop. Wallace was still busy talking to Wendolene, and neither of them saw him. 'Of all the women that I've ever met . . .,' Wallace was saying. 'And there haven't been many women in my life, you understand . . .' Gromit walked past them and went upstairs. He opened the door to the room above the shop and went in. The room was empty. He picked up an empty dog food **tin** from the floor. '*Preston's Dog Food*,' it said on the front. Then he saw a strange picture of a **butcher** on the wall. He had a big meat cutter in his hand, but he didn't have a face; there was just a hole in the wall instead.

Suddenly Gromit heard a noise from the back yard. 'Baa! Baa!' It was Shaun! Gromit looked out of the back window and saw a big green lorry in the back yard. He could see Shaun, too. His little head was looking through a hole in the side of the lorry. Gromit ran downstairs and hurried past Wallace and Wendolene in the shop.

Wallace was still speaking to Wendolene, 'So you see. I'm trying to say . . . in a way . . .'

Neither of them saw Gromit. He ran out into the backyard and he went to the lorry. Very quietly Gromit pulled the lever on the back of the lorry, and opened the back door. Lots of sheep ran out of the back of the lorry. They ran across the back yard, and into the shop.

Wallace was still speaking to Wendolene, 'Of the women that I've met, you . . . er . . .' He took Wendolene's hand in his hand, and just then, all the sheep ran through the shop like a crowd of people hurrying through a train station.

Wallace couldn't hold on to Wendolene's hand for long because the sheep carried him away on their woolly backs and out into the street. 'Shall we meet again? The same time next week?' Wallace called to Wendolene. He was holding onto the ladder now, but the white river of sheep soon carried him far away down the street.

Gromit was still looking for Shaun. He didn't know that Preston was sitting in the driver's seat of the lorry and was watching everything, and waiting. Gromit found Shaun in the back of the lorry with ropes round him to stop him escaping.

Gromit **untied** him, and at once Shaun started to climb out of the lorry. Just then, Preston pulled a lever and closed the back of the lorry. At the last minute Shaun jumped out, just before the door closed. But it was too late for Gromit to escape. He was still in the back of the lorry when Preston quickly drove it away with a big bad smile on his face.

Chapter 5

Gromit's In Trouble

Wallace was at home in the front room, and he was reading the newspaper. The headline on the front page said:



Under the headline there was a big photograph of Gromit. In the photograph, Gromit was holding a big meat cutter over Shaun's neck! It was the photograph from the room above the wool shop.

'Gromit's in trouble now. They caught him killing sheep!' said Wallace. 'Killing sheep's a crime. They'll send him to prison for this, I'm sure.' But Wallace wasn't alone at number 62 West Wallaby Street. His house was full of the sheep from the lorry. Just then, two of them took the newspaper that Wallace was reading in their mouths, pulled it into pieces, and ate it. 'Hey! Stop that!' cried Wallace.

Suddenly there was a ring at the front door. 'Move!' said Wallace, and he pushed past all the sheep in the front room. He pushed past more sheep in the hall and opened the front door. Wendolene was standing there.

'I'm so sorry,' she said.

'Er, sorry for what?' asked Wallace.

'I can't say,' answered Wendolene. 'Listen, please stay away from me. Stay away from my shop, and from its stupid, stupid Windows.'

'I . . . Well, I . . .,' said Wallace.

'Forget me. I'm no good for you,' said Wendolene. She took out a **handkerchief** from her coat, put it to her face and started to cry. 'I'm very sorry about Gromit,' she said, and she turned her back to Wallace and cried into her handkerchief. Wallace stood in the hall full of sheep and watched Wendolene walk away slowly down the street. Why was she sorry? He didn't understand.

The next morning, a sheep **bit** a rope that went to the lever of the *Getting-Up-In-The-Morning* machine, and it went wrong. Wallace fell down very quickly through the bedroom floor and into the room below. 'Ow!' cried Wallace.

The next minute, two big sheep fell through the same hole and landed on the breakfast table in front of him. Instead

of his shirt and his pullover, the machine dropped a third sheep on top of him. 'Hmm,' said Wallace.

Just then, another sheep put the morning paper on a chair next to Wallace. Wallace picked up the paper and read it at once. The headline said:

DOG EXPLAINS ALL TO POLICE

'Oh, Gromit!' said Wallace.

That afternoon, Wallace read the afternoon paper.

"GROMIT BIT ME," SAYS MAN

One of the sheep was standing behind Wallace, and it was reading the paper, too. 'Oh Gromit!' said Wallace for the second time that day. That evening, Wallace read the evening paper.

GROMIT GOES TO PRISON FOR LIFE

All the sheep in the living room were standing behind Wallace now, and they were all reading the paper, too. 'Oh Gromit,' cried Wallace sadly for the third time. All the sheep that were standing around him cried sadly, too. Wallace looked up at the photo on the sitting room wall. All the sheep around him looked up at it, too. The photo showed Wallace smiling, with Gromit at his side. Wallace felt very sad. What was his good old friend Gromit doing now?

Gromit was lying on his prison bed. He was reading a book about prison life by the famous Russian writer dog, Fido Dogstoevsky. Someone pushed a bowl of dog food through a hole in the door. Gromit looked at the food, but he wasn't hungry. Then the hole in the door opened again and someone pushed a **parcel** into Gromit's prison room.

Gromit quickly got up from his bed and went to pick up the parcel. He untied the parcel and found a **puzzle** inside it. It was a picture puzzle in a box with 5,000 pieces. The picture on the front of the box showed lots of white sheep with blue faces. 'Oh no!' thought Gromit. 'Not sheep!' And he put his head in his hands and cried.

Later that night, when the moon was up in the sky, Gromit finished the puzzle. When he put the last piece into place, he looked down at the finished puzzle on the table in front of him, and he had a surprise. There was the picture of the blue and white sheep, but there were some red words on the puzzle, too. They said:

Friday night. 3 p.m. Be Ready. A Friend.

Gromit looked at the **calendar** on the prison wall. It was Friday today. He picked up the red clock by his bed and looked at it. It was eight o'clock. Then Gromit looked up at his window and there was Shaun with a **metal**-cutter. Shaun wanted to help Gromit escape. He quickly cut through the metal **bars** and helped Gromit to get out through the window.

Outside the prison Shaun was standing on top of ten other sheep. Each sheep had its feet on the **shoulders** of the sheep below it. At the bottom of all the sheep stood Wallace. Wallace was holding up all the sheep on his shoulders to make a ladder for Gromit to escape down. Suddenly Wallace stood on a piece of soap on the ground. He **slipped** and fell on his back.

At once all the sheep, and Gromit, fell down on top of him. 'Aargh! Oooh,' cried Wallace.

Chapter 6

The Real Sheep Thieves

It was the middle of the night and very dark. Wallace and Gromit were now far away from the prison. They were sitting on the ground by a wall in the country. They were next to a gate, and on the other side of the gate there was a field. The sheep were in the field, and they were eating the **grass** there happily. 'You must leave the country now, you know,' said Wallace. 'You're running away from the police,' he went on. 'They'll come to look for you.'

Suddenly a big lorry drove off the road. It drove past Wallace and Gromit, crashed through the gate, and stopped in the field. Wallace looked over the wall. Two people were getting out of the lorry. It was Wendolene and her guard dog, Preston!

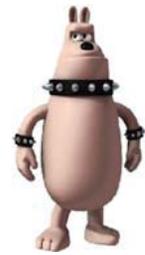
'Wendol—' cried Wallace when he saw her, but Gromit pulled him back behind the wall, and stopped him from calling her name.

Wendolene was wearing a dark coat, and she was carrying a big stick. Preston was wearing a small black hat. He opened the back of the lorry and Wendolene blew loudly on a **whistle**. She held the stick out in front of her and the sheep started to walk across the field one behind the other. They were walking straight into the lorry.

'So Preston and Wendolene are the sheep thieves!' thought Gromit.

Gromit pushed Wallace into another field. There was an old **scarecrow** there, and Wallace and Gromit quickly put on its clothes. Then they looked over the wall into the field with the lorry. Wendolene and Preston couldn't see or hear them, but Wallace and Gromit could see and hear everything. They were watching and listening very carefully.

Nearly all the sheep were in the lorry now. Just then, Preston saw Shaun in a corner of the field. He went over to the small sheep. Shaun couldn't stop shaking; he didn't want to go into the lorry. Preston started **growling** at Shaun.



'Stop it! Stop it, Preston!' cried Wendolene. She hit Preston with her stick, and knocked his hat off. 'We can't go on like this. We must stop stealing sheep,' Wendolene went on. 'It wasn't so bad when we took only the wool. I need wool for my shop. But this is **evil**.'

But Preston didn't listen to Wendolene. He took her stick and broke it into two pieces.

'Oh no! What are you doing, Preston?' she cried. 'Daddy didn't make you for this.' Preston pushed her into the back of the lorry with the sheep. 'Your job is to make things **safe** for me!' cried Wendolene, but Preston pushed Shaun into her arms, and closed the back of the lorry.

'Help. Let me out! You're not going to make me into dog food,' cried Wendolene. Preston climbed into the driver's seat, and started the lorry. 'Dog food!' cried Wallace. 'So that's what Preston is doing with the sheep. He is killing them for dog food! I must do something.'

Preston was already driving the lorry out of the field and down the dark road. Wallace and Gromit took off their scarecrow clothes as quickly as possible. Wallace started the motorbike and Gromit jumped into the side-car, and they drove away quickly after the lorry. 'Don't worry, Wendolene,' Wallace shouted. 'We're on our way!'

They drove along the dark road and went past a dark old garage, but they couldn't see the big lorry in front of them any more. Where were Preston, Wendolene, Shaun, and the other sheep now? 'We've lost them!' said Wallace.

Suddenly the lorry turned on its lights again and drove out of the old garage and back onto the road. Now the lorry was behind Wallace and Gromit's motorbike. Wallace looked back - the lorry was getting nearer and nearer. Preston was driving faster and faster. The front of the lorry began to hit the back of the motorbike again and again.

'Oooh! I can't go any faster!' cried Wallace.

Gromit suddenly had an **idea**. He took the ladder from the side of the motorbike and put one end in front of Wallace. Then he climbed up to the top of the ladder and caught some telephone wires in his hands. The motorbike went up in the air, flew round in a circle, and landed back on the road behind the big lorry. They were safe again. Gromit climbed down the ladder, and got back into the side-car. Just then, the side-car broke away from the motorbike. 'Oh, no!' cried Wallace.

Gromit couldn't stop the sidecar! The motorbike followed the road and went to the right, but the side-car went straight on. It went off the road and hit a sign. The sign broke away in Gromit's hands, and he read it as he went along in the side-car. The side-car started to fall. Soon it was falling faster and faster.



'I'm going to crash!' thought Gromit. Quickly he pushed some buttons at the front of the sidecar. Wings came out of the sides, and a **propeller** came out of the front. The side-car changed into a plane and flew up into the sky.

Gromit was out of danger! But what was happening to the motorbike and the lorry on the road? Wallace was driving fast behind the lorry now. He was very near the back of it. Wendolene looked out worriedly and saw him.

'Wallace, help me!' called Wendolene from the lorry.
'Don't worry Wendolene!' cried Wallace. 'I'm coming to **rescue** you.'

The ladder was still on the motorbike in front of Wallace, and he climbed up to the top of it. With heavy Wallace now at the top, the ladder fell onto the back of the lorry.

Wallace wasn't driving the motorbike, but he could hold onto the lorry. And he was trying to open the back door. At last, he pulled a lever at the back of the lorry, and the back door fell open.

With the door now open, Wallace found himself suddenly face down. He was dangerously near the road. He was holding onto the back door of the lorry, and his feet were on the ladder. He was making a bridge from the back of the lorry to the motorbike. Shaun the sheep looked out of the back of the lorry and walked quickly down the open door to Wallace.

What was he doing? Did he want to pull Wallace into the lorry? Or did he have a different plan in his head?
'Be careful, Shaun!' called Wendolene.

Chapter 7

To The Rescue

Wallace was still holding onto the back door of the lorry with his arms, and at the same time he was holding onto the ladder with his feet. Shaun the sheep was walking **towards** him. Then Shaun walked over his back and along the ladder onto the motorbike. At once, all the other sheep in the lorry started to follow Shaun. 'Wait a minute! One by one!' cried Wallace.

One by one, all the sheep walked down the back door of the lorry, over Wallace's back, and along the ladder onto the motorbike. With all the heavy sheep now on the motorbike, Wallace stopped holding on to the lorry, and the ladder went up into the air again with Wallace at the top of it.

'Stand on each other's shoulders down there!' cried Wallace, and the sheep stood on each other's shoulders below him. All the sheep in the middle held onto the ladder, and the sheep at the bottom drove the motorbike.

Gromit was lying in the side-car plane above them. He had the porridge gun in his plane and he put some porridge into it. Then he flew past the motorbike and waved to Wallace.

