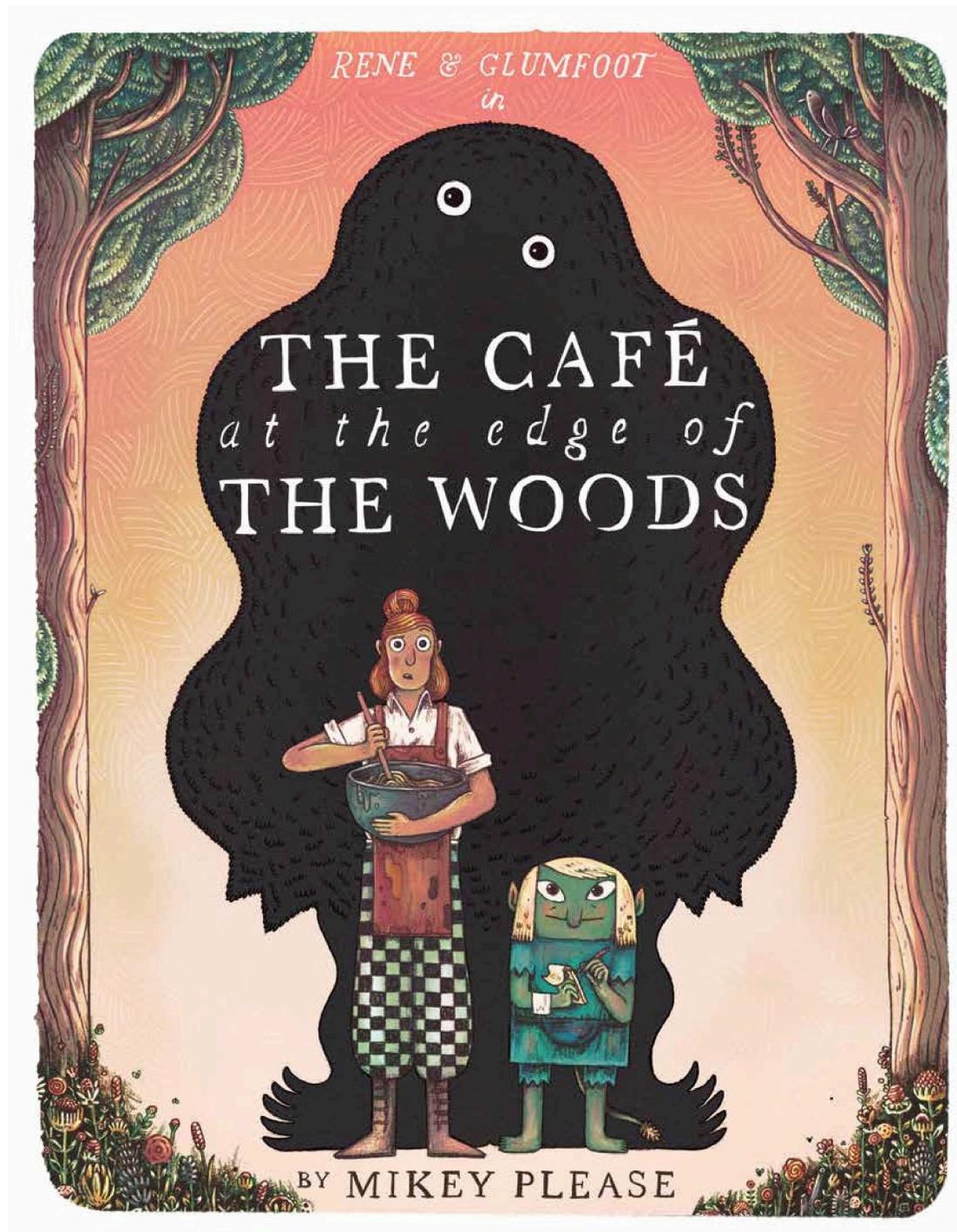


The Carnegie



The Carnegie Longlist 2026 Shadowing Resources

The Café at the Edge of the Woods

Carnegie Medal for Illustration

Illustrator: Mikey Please

Age range: 4+

Description:

An original style and superb worldbuilding combine to tell the story of Rene, a window cleaner, and Glumfoot an ogre. Illustrations are intricate and there's an impressive cast of creatures, many of whom will be familiar to readers. Detailed illustrations and shifting perspectives mean this is a book where readers find new details every time they look. Full of imagination and intrigue, there's a wonderful sense of movement throughout which carries the reader.

Themes:

- Food
- Fantasy
- Humour
- Monsters
- Meals
- Creativity

Shadowing Ideas:

1. Glumfoot redesign's Rene's menu to make it more appealing to ogres and monsters. Can you take a menu (perhaps your school lunch menu, or a takeaway menu, or your favourite meal) and redesign it so that it would appeal to the ogre and his other mythical creature friends.
2. Watch the animated trailer for the book: <https://youtu.be/a1RJJwgn3ig>. Imagine you had saved up every bean to build your dream – what would you build, and where? Write or draw (or even animate!) your dream for all to see. You never know, it might just come true!
3. Have a good look at the last double page spread in the book, when Rene's café is filled with all sorts of creatures. Choose a table and write about its occupants. Who are they? What are their names? What are they eating? Where do they live? Illustrate your story, copying Mikey Please's distinctive style.