



The Unadoptables

Author:
Hana Tooke

Illustrator:
Ayesha L Rubio

Publisher: Penguin UK
ISBN: 9780241453612

Synopsis

In all the years that Elinora Gassbeek has been matron of the Little Tulip Orphanage, not once have the Rules for Baby Abandonment been broken. Until the autumn of 1886, when five babies are left in outrageous circumstances- one in a tin toolbox, one in a coal bucket, one in a picnic hamper, one in a wheat sack, and finally, one in a coffin-shaped basket.

Those babies were Lotta, Egg, Fenna, Sem and Milou; who were swiftly and firmly deemed 'the unadoptables'. Twelve years on the children still have each other - until the fateful night a most sinister gentleman appears and threatens to tear them apart. The gang decide to make a daring escape, fleeing the frozen canals of Amsterdam for an adventure packed with puppets and pirate ships, clock-makers and cruel villains - and with only a scrap of a clue to guide them to their mysterious new home . . .

Author Bio

Hana is the author of *The Unadoptables*, an historical adventure set in 19th century Amsterdam. If Matron Gassbeek were to introduce Hana as one of her orphans, she would most probably do it like so:

"Hana, age 30-ish, likes cats and catnaps, eats far too many stropwafels, handwriting is acceptable, cooking-skills are atrocious, but she can wiggle her nose like a bunny. Hana comes with odd socks and a blanket covered in cat-fluff."

Hana was born in Alkmaar, Netherlands, in 1985 and moved to England in the late 1990s.

She now lives in Bath with a big human, a little human, and an even littler cat.

Hana is constantly inspired by and in awe of the curious, determined, and imaginative children and young people she works with.

She hopes to grow up to be just like them one day.

<https://www.hanatooke.com/>



A Teaching Guide has been produced by TeachWire, and cannot be reproduced by a third party. See the link below to the Teach Wire website and the guide for *The Unadoptables*. It is FREE to sign up

teachwire

<https://www.teachwire.net/teaching-resources/the-unadoptables-by-hana-tooke-ks2-book-topic>

