

3 Alice in Wonderland

5 Chapter 1

9 Down the Rabbit-Hole

23 Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the
38 bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the
52 book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it,
65 “and what is the use of a book,” thought Alice “without pictures or
66 conversations?”

81 So she was considering in her own mind (as well as she could, for the
94 hot day made her feel very sleepy and stupid), whether the pleasure of
108 making a daisy-chain would be worth the trouble of getting up and picking
122 the daisies, when suddenly a White Rabbit with pink eyes ran close by her.

135 There was nothing so *very* remarkable in that; nor did Alice think it
152 so *very* much out of the way to hear the Rabbit say to itself, “Oh dear! Oh
167 dear! I shall be late!” (when she thought it over afterwards, it occurred to her
183 that she ought to have wondered at this, but at the time it all seemed quite
196 natural); but when the Rabbit actually *took a watch out of its waistcoat-*
212 *pocket*, and looked at it, and then hurried on, Alice started to her feet, for it
227 flashed across her mind that she had never before seen a rabbit with either a
242 waistcoat-pocket, or a watch to take out of it, and burning with curiosity, she

258 ran across the field after it, and fortunately was just in time to see it pop
266 down a large rabbit-hole under the hedge.

277 In another moment down went Alice after it, never once considering
287 how in the world she was to get out again.

301 The rabbit-hole went straight on like a tunnel for some way, and then
314 dipped suddenly down, so suddenly that Alice had not a moment to think
326 about stopping herself before she found herself falling down a very deep
327 well.

341 Either the well was very deep, or she fell very slowly, for she had
357 plenty of time as she went down to look about her and to wonder what was
372 going to happen next. First, she tried to look down and make out what she
388 was coming to, but it was too dark to see anything; then she looked at the
402 sides of the well, and noticed that they were filled with cupboards and book-
416 shelves; here and there she saw maps and pictures hung upon pegs. She took
431 down a jar from one of the shelves as she passed; it was labelled “ORANGE
443 MARMALADE”, but to her great disappointment it was empty: she did not
457 like to drop the jar for fear of killing somebody underneath, so managed to
469 put it into one of the cupboards as she fell past it.

483 “Well!” thought Alice to herself, “after such a fall as this, I shall think
496 nothing of tumbling down stairs! How brave they’ll all think me at home!

512 Why, I wouldn't say anything about it, even if I fell off the top of the
518 house!" (Which was very likely true.)

531 Down, down, down. Would the fall *never* come to an end? "I wonder
543 how many miles I've fallen by this time?" she said aloud. "I must be getting
557 somewhere near the centre of the earth. Let me see: that would be four
569 thousand miles down, I think—" (for, you see, Alice had learnt several
584 things of this sort in her lessons in the schoolroom, and though this was not
598 a *very* good opportunity for showing off her knowledge, as there was no one
614 to listen to her, still it was good practice to say it over) "—yes, that's about
627 the right distance—but then I wonder what Latitude or Longitude I've got
640 to?" (Alice had no idea what Latitude was, or Longitude either, but thought
647 they were nice grand words to say.)

660 Presently she began again. "I wonder if I shall fall right *through* the
675 earth! How funny it'll seem to come out among the people that walk with
686 their heads downward! The Antipathies, I think—" (she was rather glad
702 there *was* no one listening, this time, as it didn't sound at all the right word)
718 "—but I shall have to ask them what the name of the country is, you know.
731 Please, Ma'am, is this New Zealand or Australia?" (and she tried to curtsy
744 as she spoke—fancy *curtseying* as you're falling through the air! Do you
758 think you could manage it?) "And what an ignorant little girl she'll think me

773 for asking! No, it'll never do to ask: perhaps I shall see it written up
774 somewhere."

786 Down, down, down. There was nothing else to do, so Alice soon
799 began talking again. "Dinah'll miss me very much to-night, I should think!"
814 (Dinah was the cat.) "I hope they'll remember her saucer of milk at tea-time.
830 Dinah my dear! I wish you were down here with me! There are no mice in
846 the air, I'm afraid, but you might catch a bat, and that's very like a mouse,
861 you know. But do cats eat bats, I wonder?" And here Alice began to get
876 rather sleepy, and went on saying to herself, in a dreamy sort of way, "Do
891 cats eat bats? Do cats eat bats?" and sometimes, "Do bats eat cats?" for, you
904 see, as she couldn't answer either question, it didn't much matter which way
921 she put it. She felt that she was dozing off, and had just begun to dream that
936 she was walking hand in hand with Dinah, and saying to her very earnestly,
950 "Now, Dinah, tell me the truth: did you ever eat a bat?" when suddenly,
965 thump! thump! down she came upon a heap of sticks and dry leaves, and the
968 fall was over.

984 Alice was not a bit hurt, and she jumped up on to her feet in a
998 moment: she looked up, but it was all dark overhead; before her was another
1011 long passage, and the White Rabbit was still in sight, hurrying down it.
1027 There was not a moment to be lost: away went Alice like the wind, and was

1044 just in time to hear it say, as it turned a corner, “Oh my ears and whiskers,
1058 how late it’s getting!” She was close behind it when she turned the corner,
1074 but the Rabbit was no longer to be seen: she found herself in a long, low
1088 hall, which was lit up by a row of lamps hanging from the roof.

1101 There were doors all round the hall, but they were all locked; and
1116 when Alice had been all the way down one side and up the other, trying
1129 every door, she walked sadly down the middle, wondering how she was ever
1133 to get out again.