

# The Rabbits

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Online PDF copy:

<https://st-marys.hackney.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-Rabbits-story-PDF.pdf>

Quotes/Visual Image	Technique	Effect
<p><b>Page 1</b> Colour</p> <p>Image of snake:</p>	<p>Earthy colour tones</p> <p>Symbolism</p>	<p>This is a reference to the Indigenous colour palette through the use of earthy hues</p> <p>The snake symbolises the story of creation also known as 'Dream Time' in Indigenous culture</p>
<p><b>Page 2 &amp; 3:</b> The black carriage</p>	<p>Colour and symbolism</p>	<p>The black carriage is symbolic of European ideologies infiltrating Australia (as a carriage is a colonial idea of civilisation. The employment of black starkly contrasts with the earthy colours in the foreground and outlines the 'clear' and overwhelming presence the British had</p>
<p><b>Page 4 &amp; 5:</b> Quote: "But our old people warned us: Be careful. They won't understand the right ways"</p> <p>Costuming</p>	<p>Strong tone and absolute language</p> <p>Symbolism of costuming</p>	<p>Outlines the warnings the Indigenous elders provided and the need to be wary of the commanding presence of the British settlers</p> <p>In this landscape, the rabbits appear to be wearing coats and monocles which again symbolises a British colonial perspective of civilisation and sophistication</p>
<p><b>Pages 6 &amp; 7:</b> Use of colour</p> <p>Symbolism</p> <p>Foreground</p>	<p>The use of dark, rich, bold colours</p>	<p>The use of the dark colours outlines the strong, forceful presence the British had on the land and how they are beginning to take control as they move into the foreground</p> <p>The symbolism of the boat is again a British idea of civilisation and links to the idea of the British 'conquering' Australia and its native people</p> <p>As above</p>
<p><b>Pages 8 &amp; 9:</b></p>		

Salient point	The symbolism of the salient point	The salient point outlines the 'built environment' and presence of apartments, which is reflective of how the British are 'setting up camp' in a distinctly European way
Background	The symbolism of the possums	The possums have been forced into the background (reflecting the reality that they were pushed out of their land as a result of colonisation) as they are living among the trees
<b>Page 10 &amp; 11:</b> Contrast of colour	The contrast between the bright, vivid colours, whilst the other side of the page is darker, more sombre colours	Illuminates the negative impacts of British civilisation and the way it tainted life for the Indigenous peoples
Positioning of the quote, "but some of the food made us sick"		The fact that "made us sick" is placed upside down, this reflects how the Indigenous people experienced a sense of confusion and disruption from the British colonialist's food sources
<b>Page 12 &amp; 13:</b> Quote of, "No mountain could stop them; no desert; no river"	Repetition, absolute language	This quote reiterates the overwhelming presence and wide cast that the British colonists had over the land
Repeating flag motif	Symbolism	By having the repeating flag motif, this outlines how the British colonists were establishing their presence, particularly as a flag symbolises identity and power
<b>Page 14 &amp; 15:</b> Colour	Symbolic of defeat	By having very 'tired' and bleak colours spread across the screen this outlines the 'tiredness' and overwhelming feeling the Indigenous people are feeling as a result of the British invasion
Quote of, "But there were too many rabbits"	Symbolism	The idea of "too many rabbits" not only communicates the great presence of Indigenous people, but also how their sense of power
<b>Page 16 &amp; 17:</b> Black colour		The use of black outlines the ominous and tragic outcome of the British overruling the Indigenous peoples
Quote of, "We lost the fights"	Negative connotations	The negative connotations of "we lost the fights" outlines the sense of defeat the Indigenous people felt
<b>Page 18 &amp; 19:</b> Quote of, "They chopped	Ellipsis	The ellipsis communicates a 'tragic' and tired tone as the

down our trees and scared away our friends..."		Indigenous peoples grapple with the experience of defeat
<b>Page 20 &amp; 21:</b> Quote of, "Rabbits, rabbits, rabbits. Millions and millions of rabbits. Everywhere we look rabbits"	Tautology and repetition	Reaffirms the drastic numbers of British people in Australia and how they have overpowered and overshadow the Indigenous people
<b>Page 22 &amp; 23:</b> Image on left hand side of page	Symbolic of prison	Looks as though it is a prison gate that trials high above the possums. This is symbolic and telling of how the Indigenous people felt trapped and under the thumb of the British colonial way of life and their rules for society
<b>Page 24 &amp; 25:</b> Quote of, "Where are the great Billabong? Alive with long-legged birds?"	Repetition	Communicates how the history of Australia has been erased and the old ways and traditions have since ceased as a result of colonisation
<b>Page 26:</b> "Who will save us from the Rabbits?"	Single rhetorical question	Makes the audience reflect upon the tragic actions of the Rabbits and the destruction they have caused