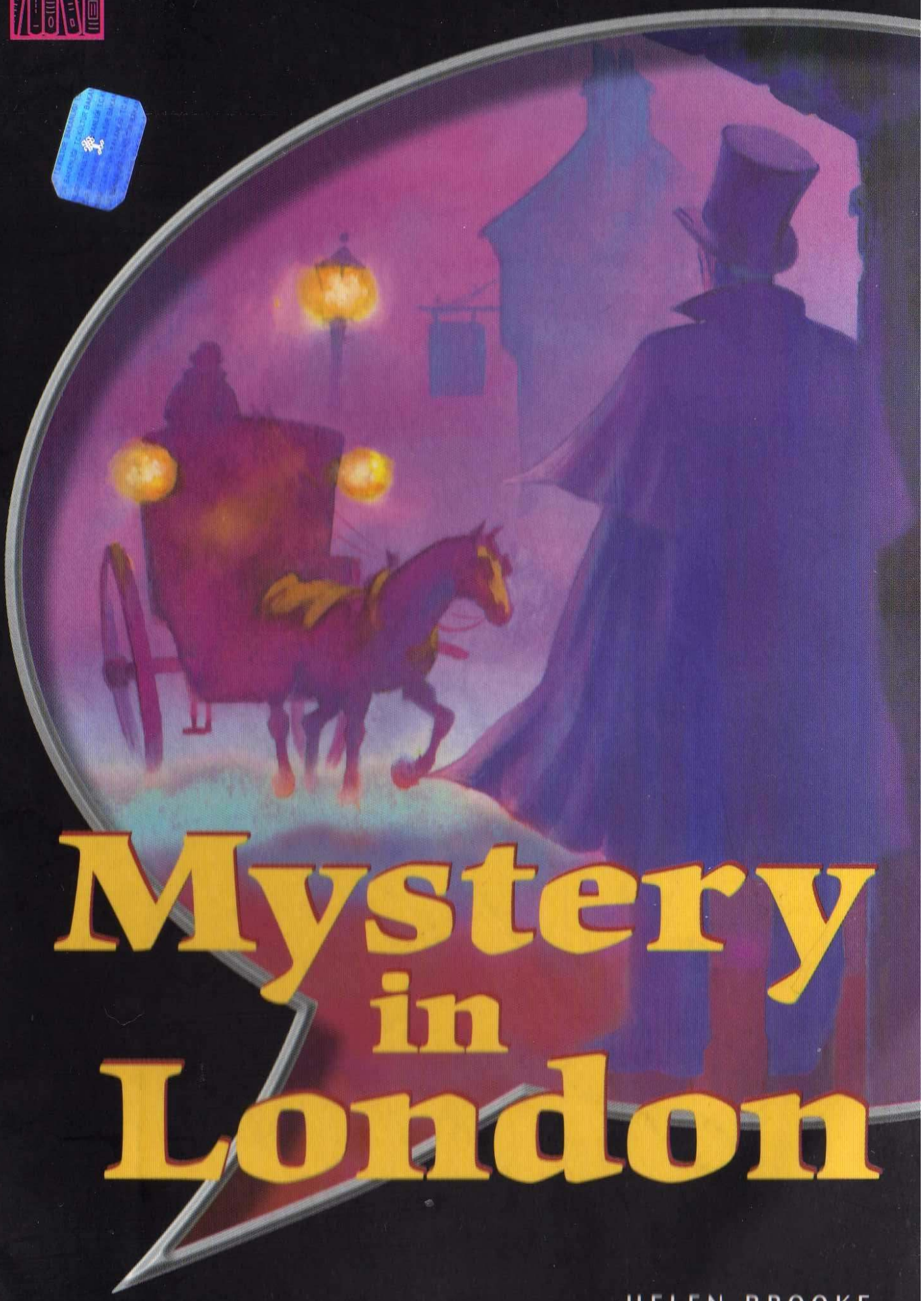
OXFORD BOOKWORMS STARTERS



Mystery in London

HELEN BROOKE

Mystery in London

Helen Brooke

Illustrated by
Ron Tiner

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Mystery in London

1 It is the year 1898, and you are Mycroft Pound, the famous detective. You are sitting in your house in London, one cold November evening. There is a knock at the door. It is Inspector Freewell of the London police.

'Can you come to Whitechapel, Mr Pound? We need your help. There's a woman in the street. She isn't dead, but there's blood everywhere. We think it's the Whitechapel Killer again.'

■ *You put on your coat. Go to* **18.**



2 You are in Annie's house. A woman comes in.

'Who are you? What are you doing here?' she asks.

You tell her about Annie.

'That's terrible,' she says.

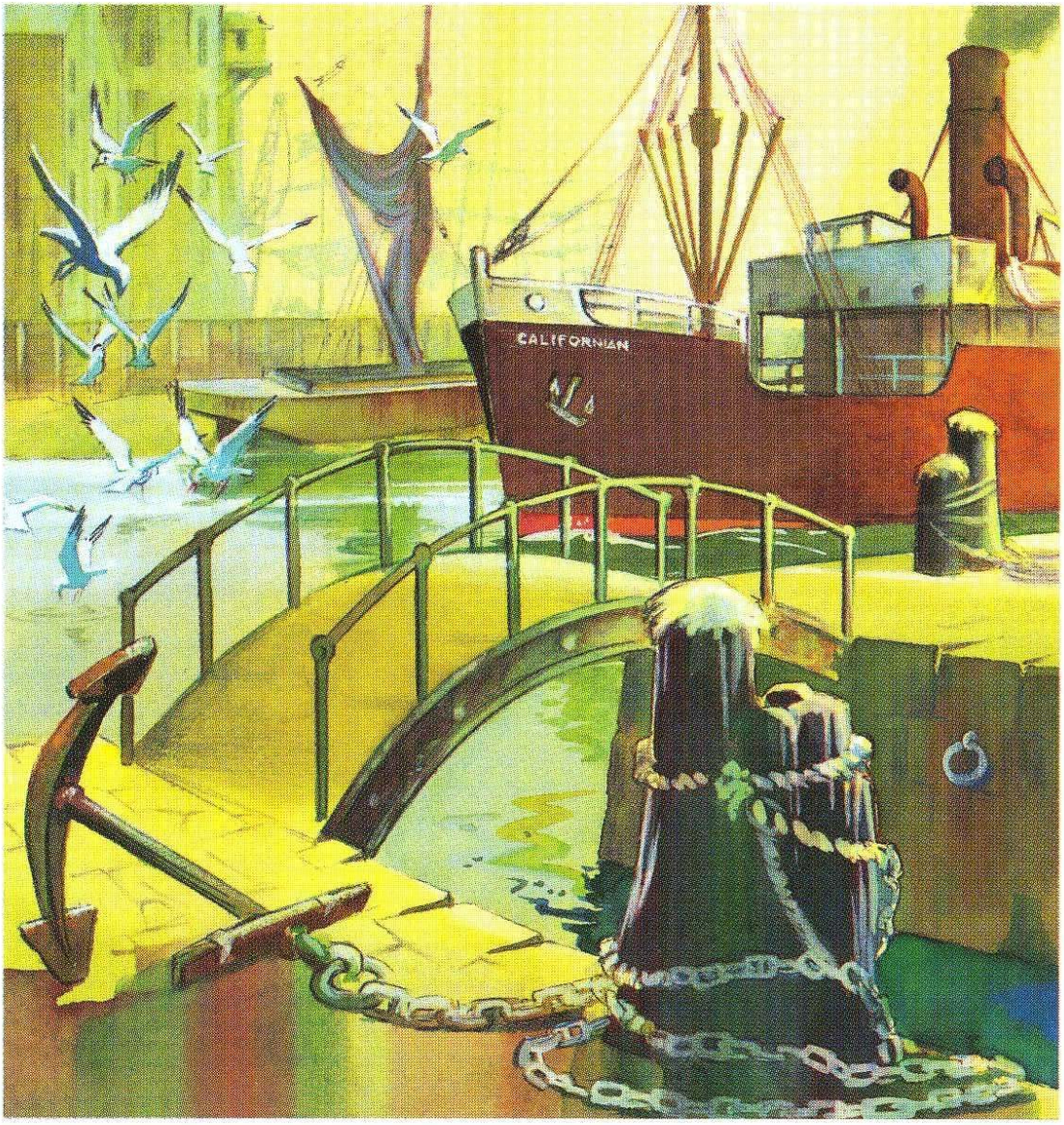
'Do you know any of her friends?' you ask.

The woman thinks. 'Her best friend is a woman called Rosy. She lives in Limehouse Street. But she has a boyfriend. That's him, there, in that picture. I don't like him.'

■ *You go back to the Rose and Crown to talk to the other people. Go to* ***10****.*

■ *You go to Limehouse Street to look for Rosy. Go to* ***35****.*





3 You want to get on to the *Californian* and talk to Jack.

■ *You jump in the water and swim after the ship. Go to* ***8****.*

■ *You cannot swim. You think about how you can get on to the ship. Go to* ***13****.*

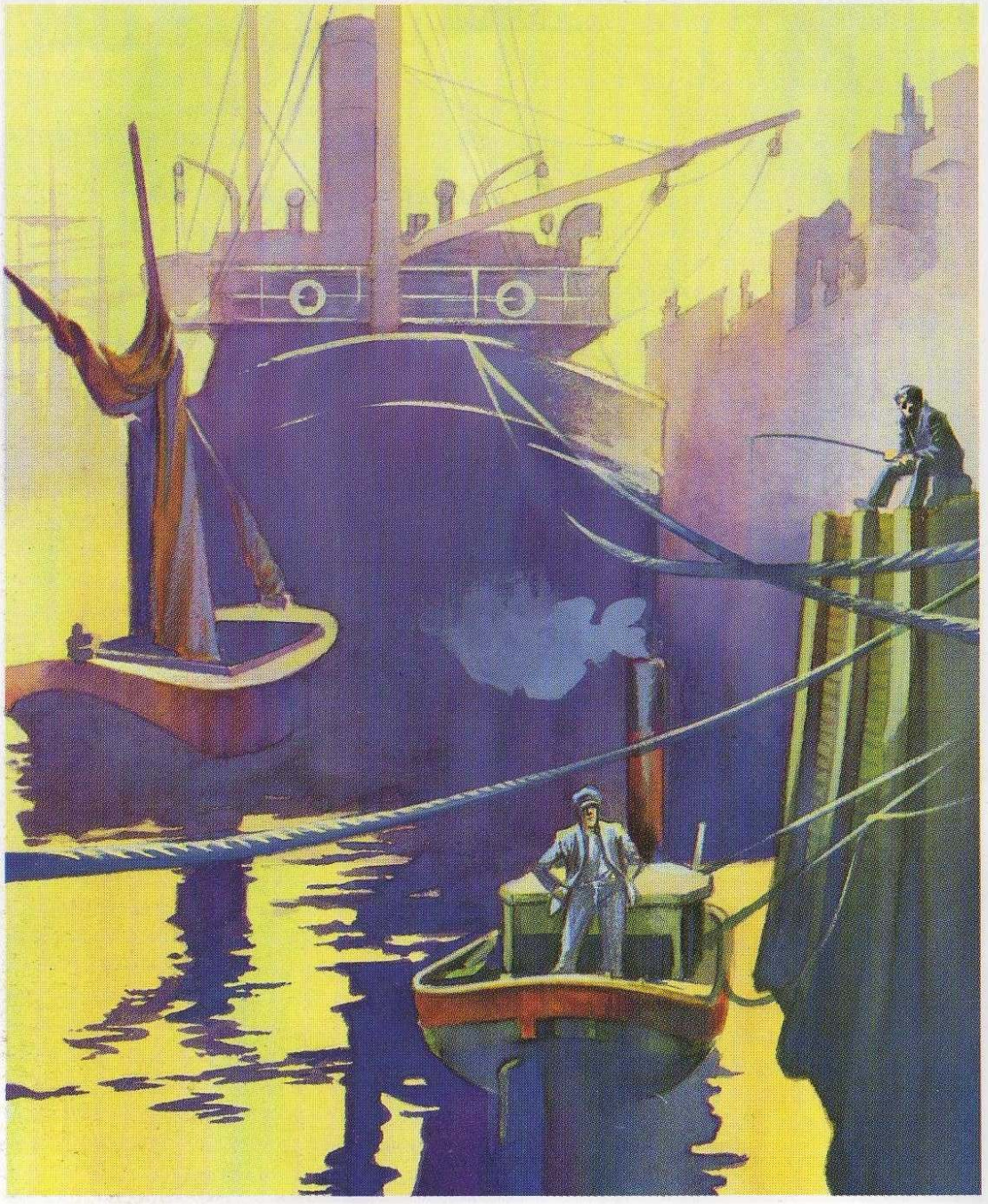
4 'Do you know the name of the woman in the street?' you ask the old man.

He cannot hear you and he does not answer.

■ *Go to* ***10****.*

5 You go across the bridge, but you cannot see the *Californian*. There is a sailor in one of the small boats, and there is an old man fishing.

- *You ask the sailor for help. Go to* **24.**
- *You ask the old man for help. Go to* **34.**



6 You talk to the young man. He comes into the street and looks at the woman.

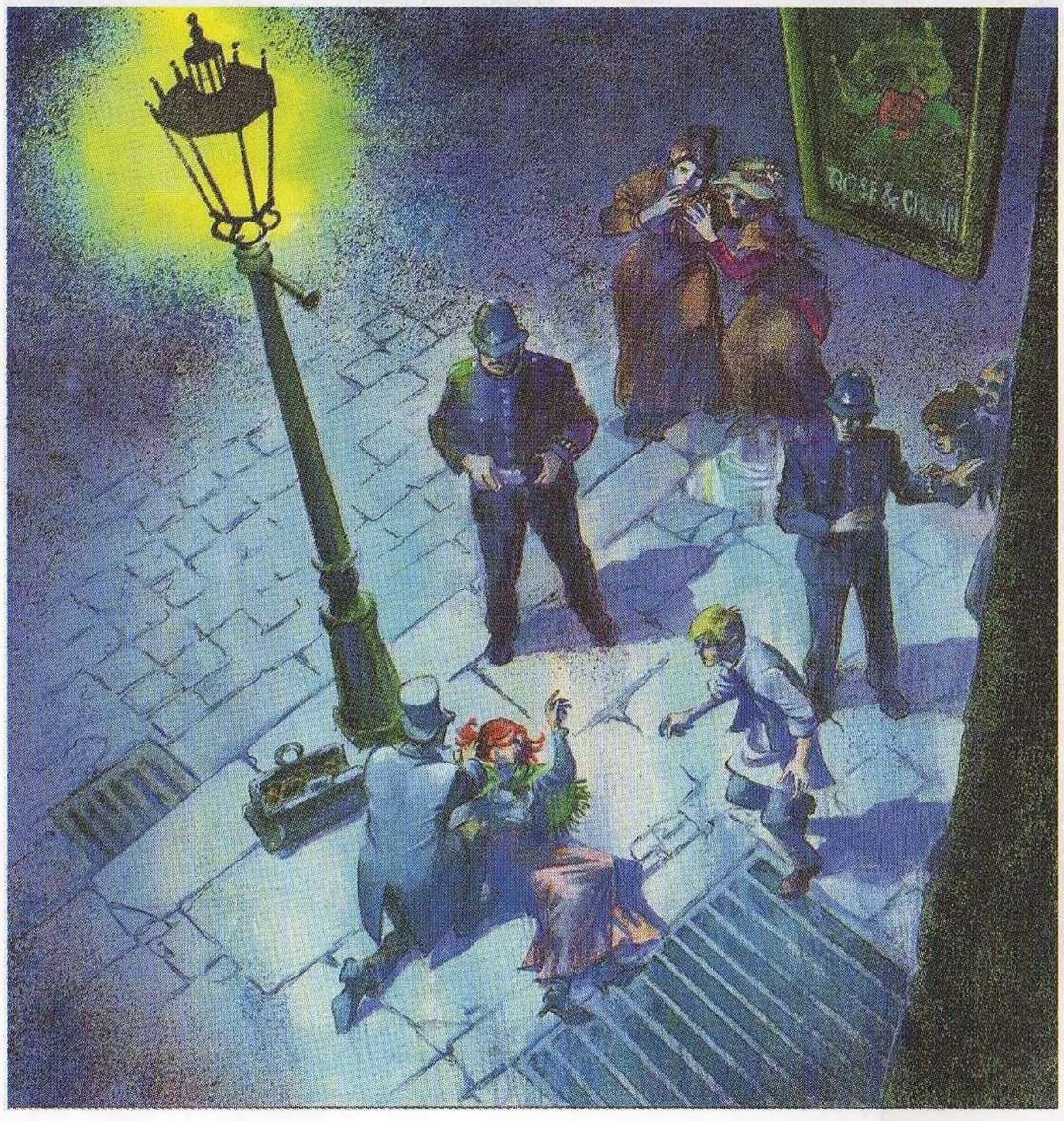
'Her name's Annie, I think,' he says.

'Do you know where she lives?'

'Yes. She lives in Cable Street, I think.'

■ *You go back into the Rose and Crown and talk to the other people. Go to* **10.**

■ *You go to Cable Street. Go to* **30.**



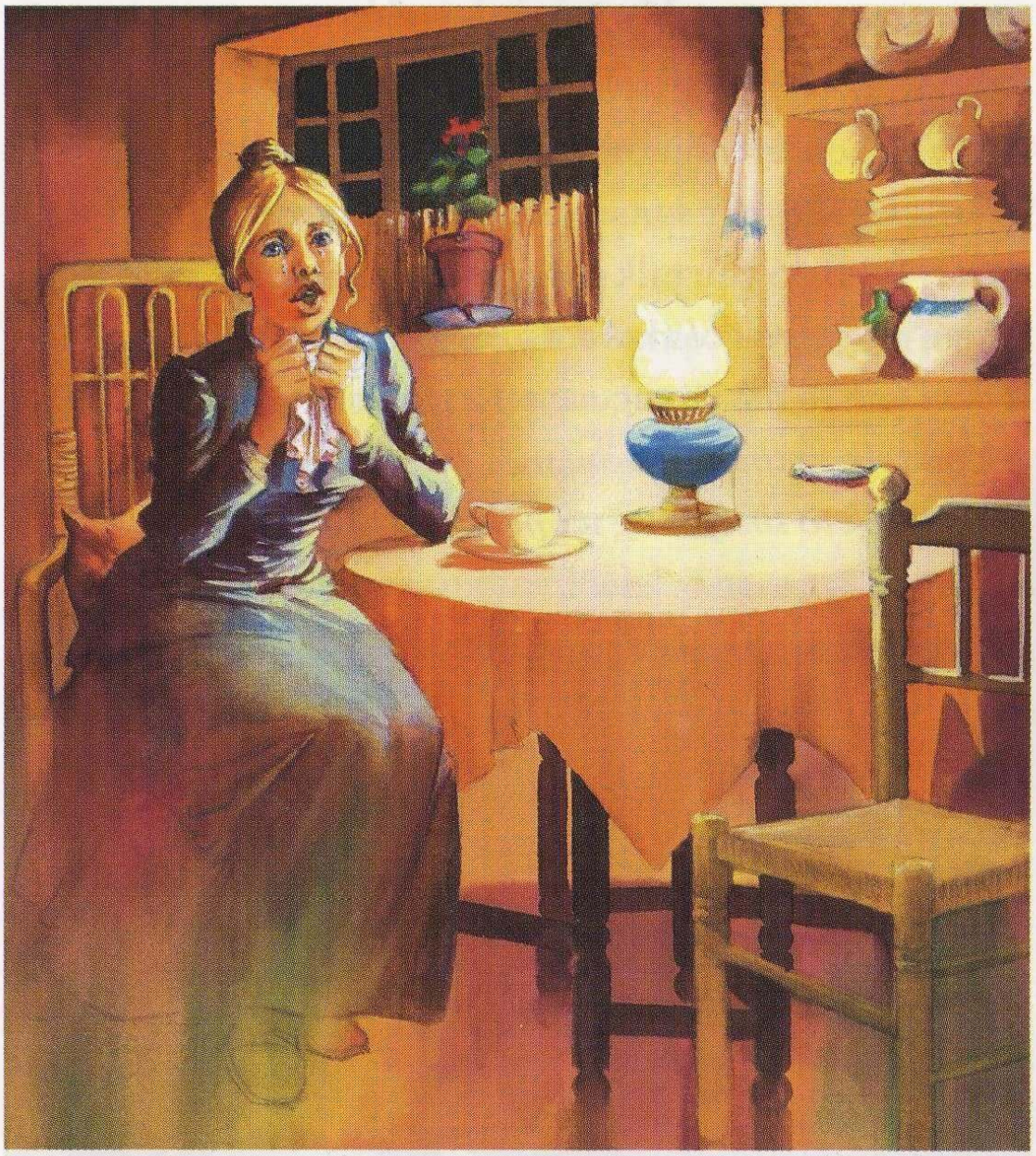
7 The captain of the *Californian* calls the three Jacks. Which Jack do you want to speak to?

- *The Jack on the left. Go to* **17.**
- *The Jack in the middle. Go to* **23.**
- *The Jack on the right. Go to* **31.**



8 You jump into the water and swim after the ship. But the ship is going very fast. After five minutes, the *Californian* is out of the London docks and going to India. And you are now very cold.

- *Go to* **22.**



9 You tell Rosy about Annie.

'I'm Annie's best friend,' she says. She is crying. 'But she has a boyfriend.'

'Who's he?' you ask.

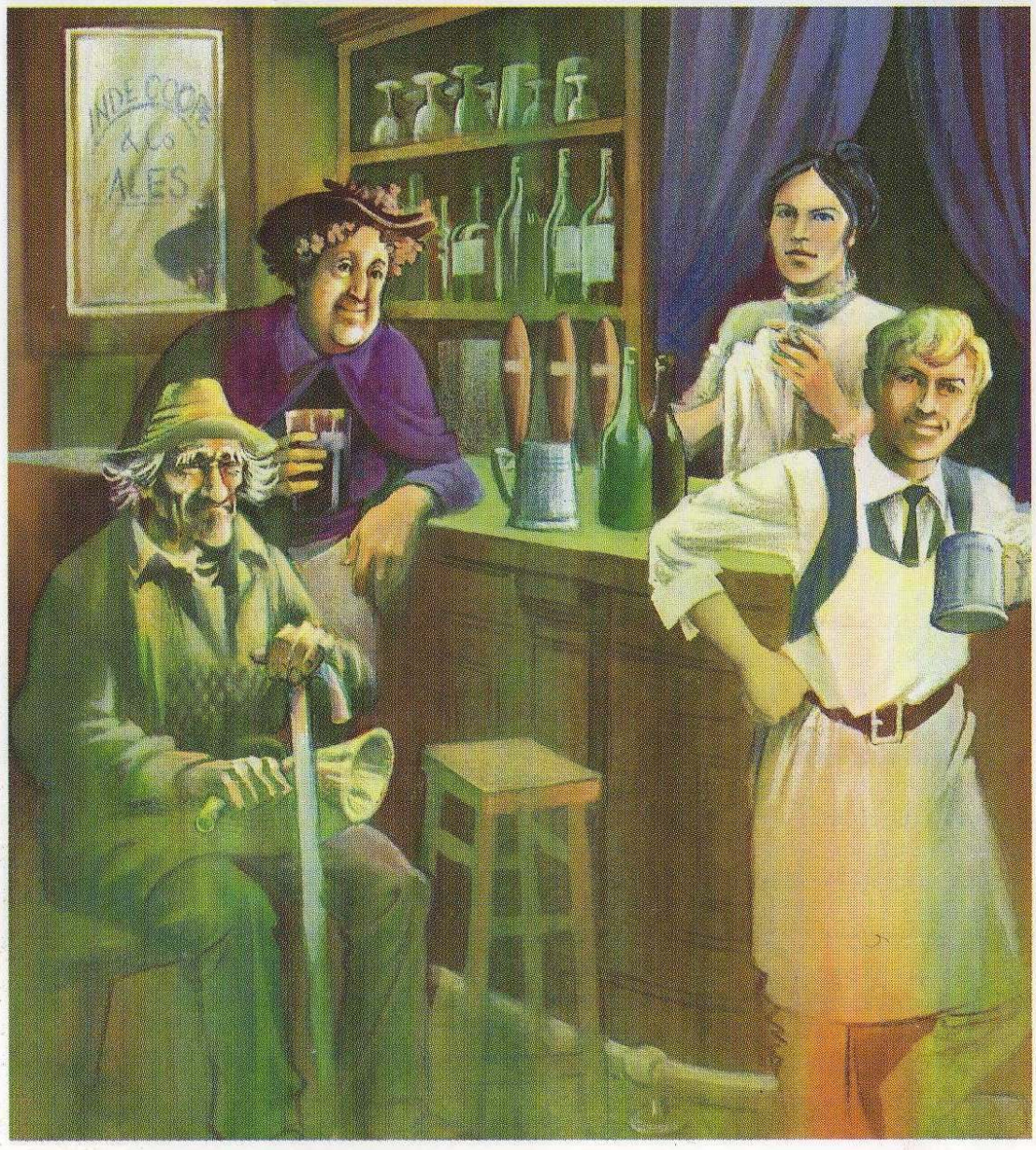
'A sailor. His name's Jack. He's often at her house in Cable Street. His ship's in the London docks now, I think.'

■ *You want to find Jack, so you go to the docks. Go to* **14**.

■ *You want to find out more about Annie so you go to her house in Cable Street. Go to* **19**.

10 There are four people in the Rose and Crown. You want to ask some questions about the woman in the street. Who do you talk to first?

- *You talk to the old man. Go to* **4**.
- *You talk to the young man. Go to* **6**.
- *You talk to the old woman. Go to* **15**.
- *You talk to the young woman. Go to* **28**.



11 The sailor looks at you.

'Jack?' he says. 'There are hundreds of sailors called Jack. There's a Jack on every ship.'

You must find the name of Jack's ship. You go to Annie's room to look for more information.

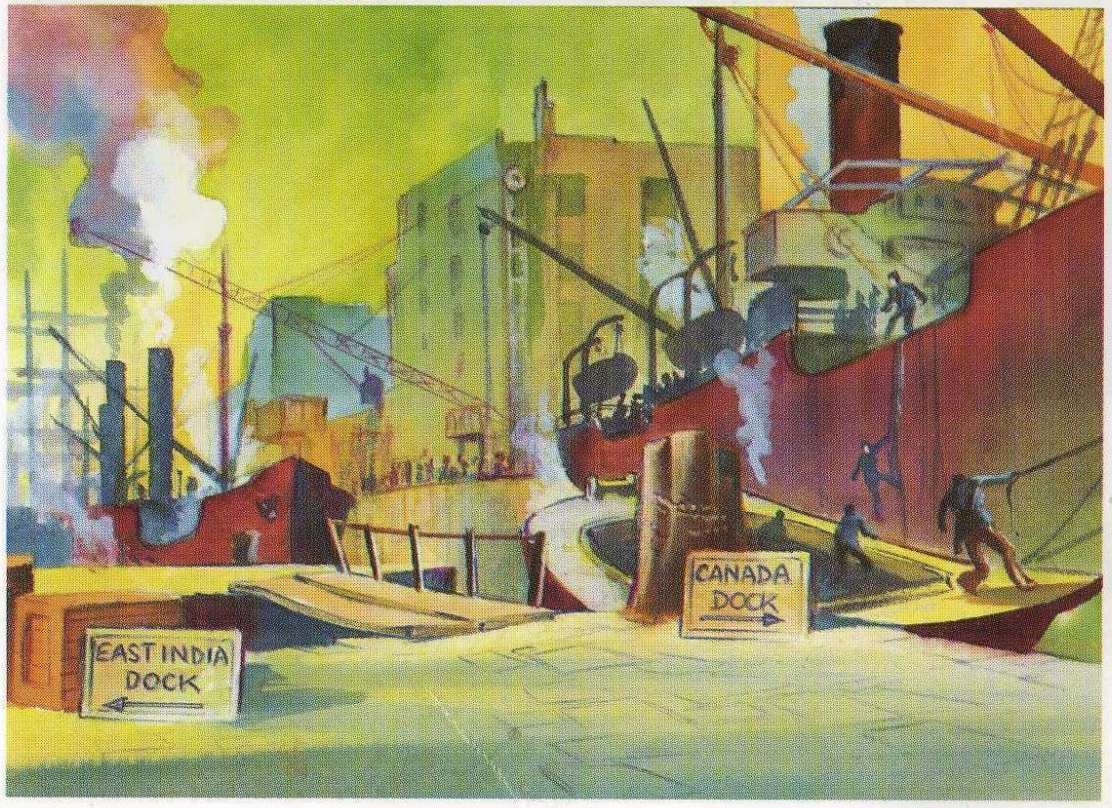
■ *Go to* ***19****.*

12 You are in the London docks. There are hundreds of ships. You want to find the *Californian* and you want to catch Jack.

■ *You go across the bridge*. Go to **5**.

■ *You go to the right. Go to* **20**.

■ *You go to the left. Go to* **29**.



13 There is a bridge across the water. You go on the bridge and jump onto the *Californian*. You go to the captain.

'There's a man on your ship I must talk to,' you say. 'His name is Jack.'

'Why do you want to talk to him?' he asks.

'He's the Whitechapel Killer, I think.'

'There are three Jacks on my ship,' says the captain.

'Can I see them all?' you ask.

■ *Go to 7.*

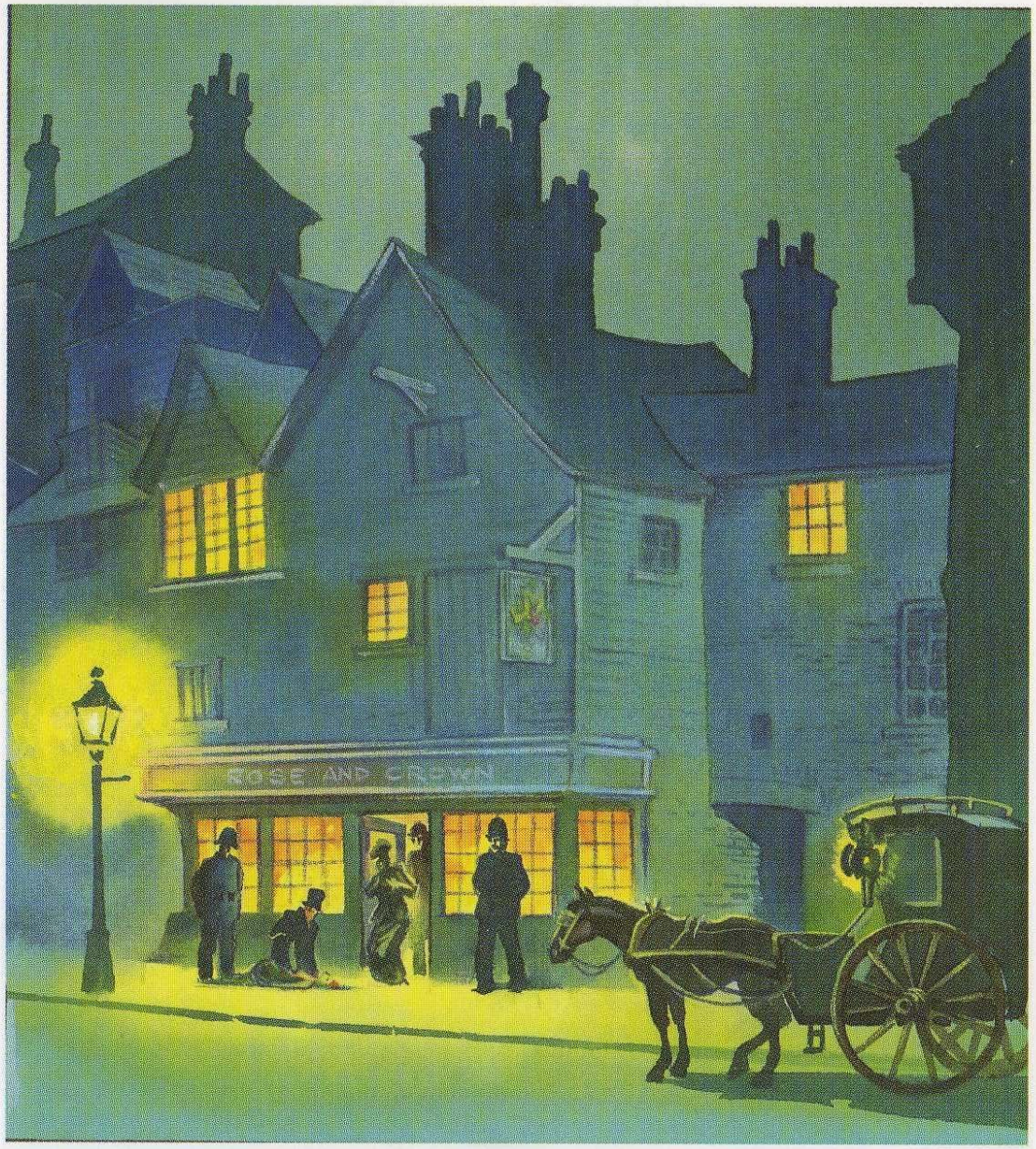




14 You go to the London docks to look for Jack, Annie's friend. There are hundreds of ships, and thousands of sailors. You talk to a sailor.

'Do you know a sailor called Jack?' you ask.

■ *Go to* ***11****.*



15 You talk to the old woman. She comes into the street and looks at the woman.

'Her name's Annie,' she says.

'Do you know where she lives?' you ask.

'Yes. She lives in Cable Street. I don't know what number,' she answers.

■ *You go back to the Rose and Crown and talk to the other people. Go to* **10.**

■ *You go to Cable Street. Go to* **30.**



16 You knock at the white door. A young woman opens the door.

'Are you Rosy?' you ask.

'Yes.'

'Are you a friend of Annie?'

'Yes,' she says.

'I've got bad news for you,' you say. 'I'm afraid she's very ill.'

'No.' Rosy starts to cry.

Go to **9**.

17 You talk to the Jack on the left. He is not the Whitechapel Killer.

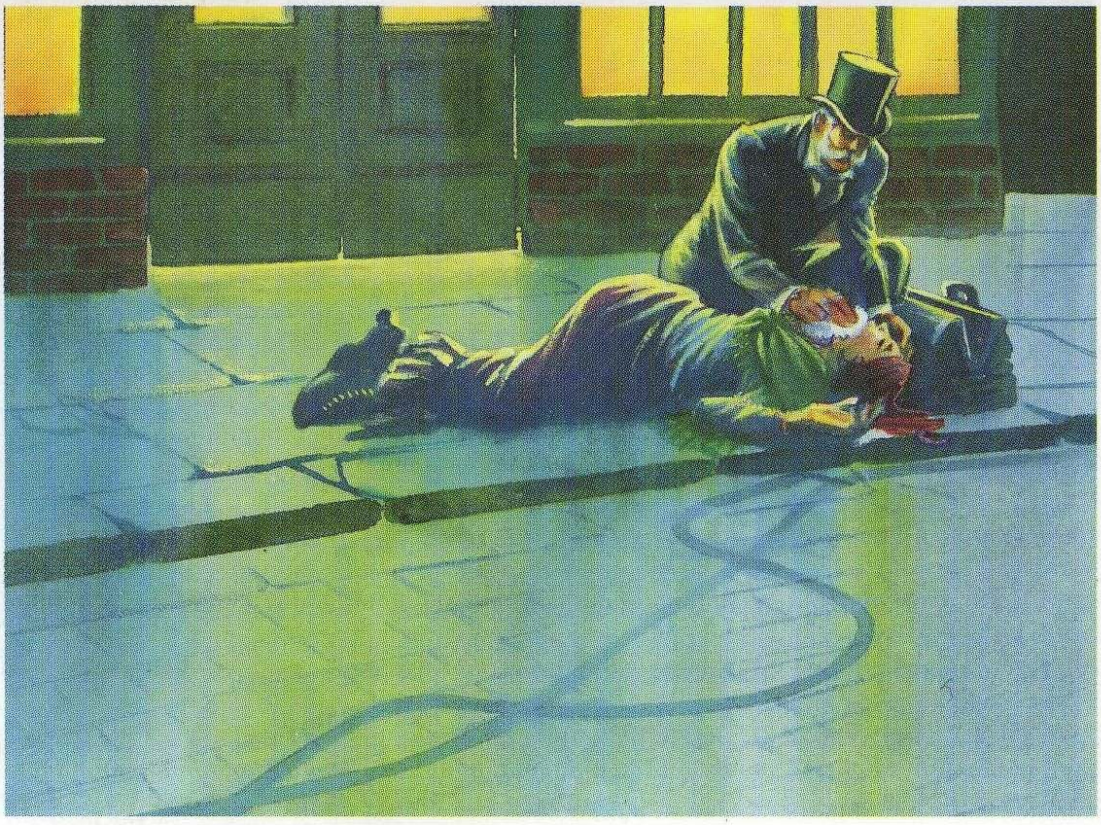
■ *Go to* 7.

18 The Whitechapel Killer attacks people with a long knife. Six women are dead because of him.

You arrive in Whitechapel and the police are waiting for you there. The woman is lying in the street, near the Rose and Crown. She is very ill, so she cannot talk to you. You see some bicycle tracks on the road.

■ *You follow the bicycle tracks. Go to* **25**.

■ *You go into the Rose and Crown. You want to talk to the people there. Go to* **10**.





19 You look in Annie's house and find a letter.

The Californian, Saturday

Annie,

Tomorrow my ship is going to India. Please meet me at the Rose and Crown tonight. I have something very important for you.

Jack

So the name of Jack's ship is the *Californian*. Is Jack the man you want? Is Jack the Whitechapel Killer? You go to the London docks to look for Jack on the *Californian*.

■ *Go to* **12**.

20 There are a lot of ships, but you cannot see the *Californian* here.

■ *Go back to* **12.**

21 You knock on the blue door. An old man opens it. 'I'm looking for Rosy,' you say.

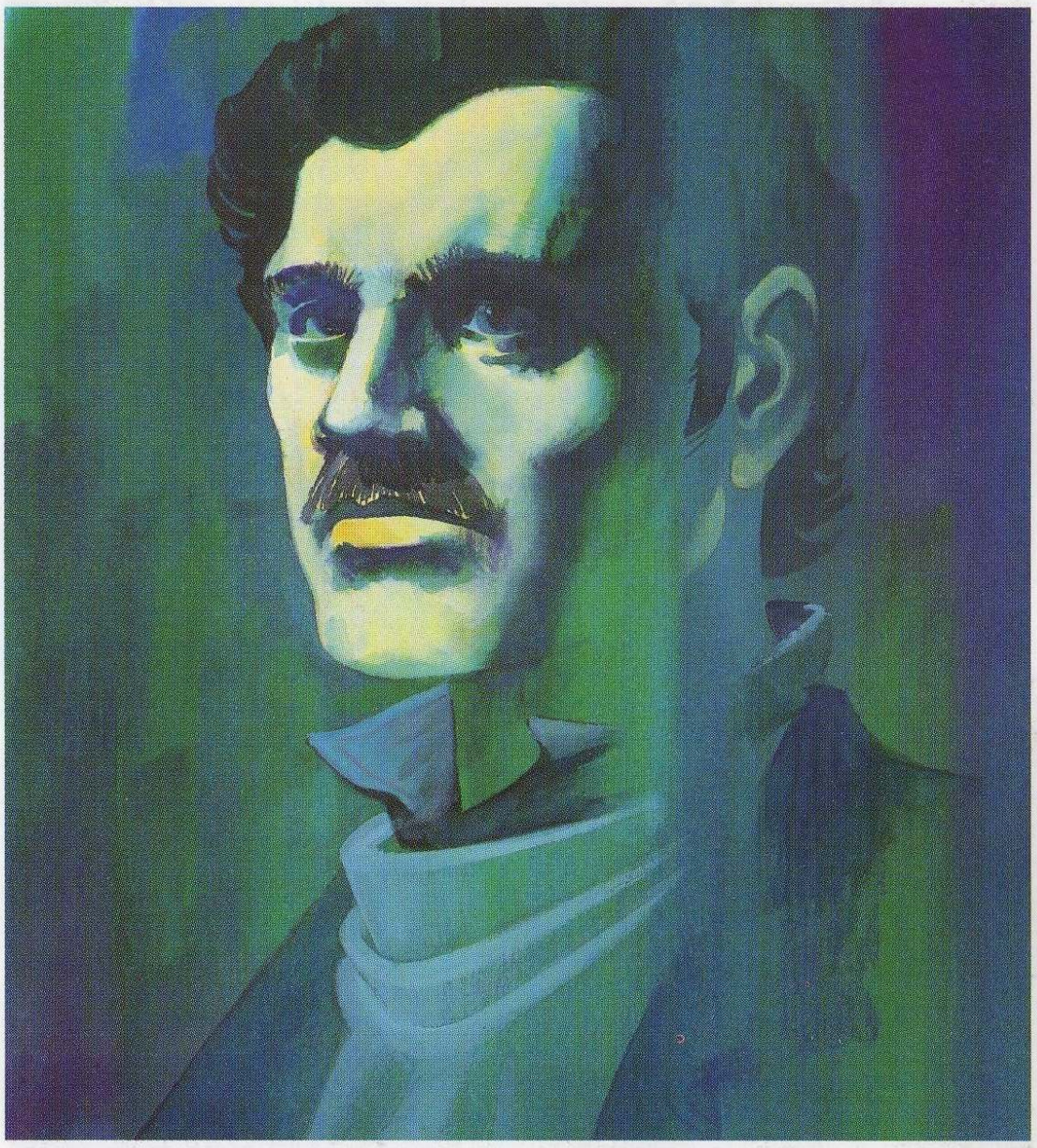
'She doesn't live here,' he says. 'She lives in the white house, I think.'

■ *Go to* **16.**



22 The Whitechapel Killer is free. Can you be a better detective next time? Try again.

■ *Go back to* **1.**



23 You talk to the Jack in the middle. He is not the Whitechapel Killer.

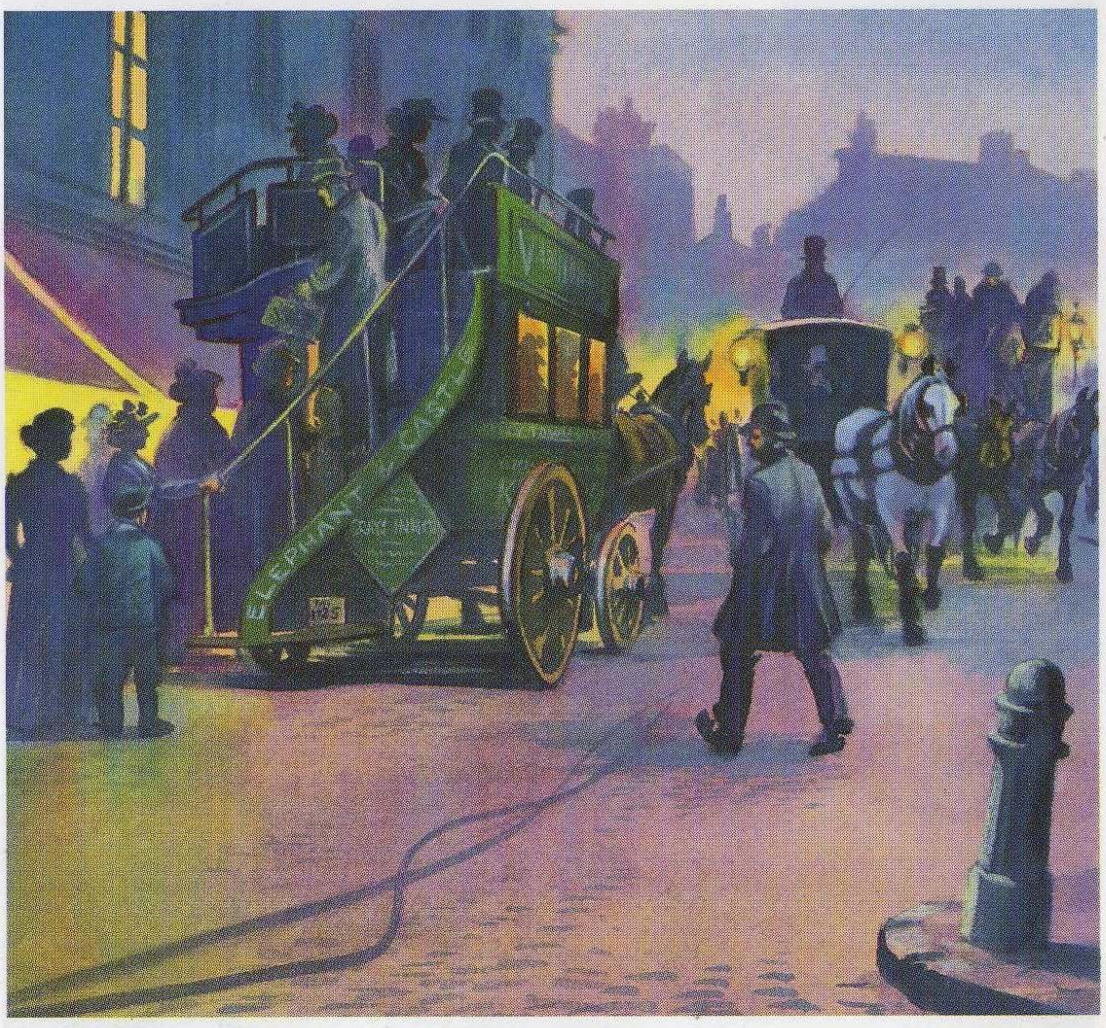
■ *Go to* **7.**

24 You talk to the sailor.

'Do you know a ship called the *Californian*?' you ask him.

The sailor looks at you. 'I am from Russia,' he says. 'I do not speak English.'

■ *Go to* 5.



25 You follow the bicycle tracks to a bigger road, so you cannot see the tracks any more.

■ *Go to* 18.

26 You knock on the red door. There is no-one at home.

■ *Go to 35.*

27 There is a knife in his pocket. And there is blood on it. This Jack is the Whitechapel Killer.

■ *Go to 33.*



28 'Do you know the name of the woman in the street?' you ask the young woman in the Rose and Crown. She comes out into the street and looks at her. 'I don't know her name but she has a friend called Rosy. Ask her!'

'Where does Rosy live?' you ask.

'She lives in Limehouse Street.'

■ *You go back to the Rose and Crown and talk to the other people. Go to* **10.**

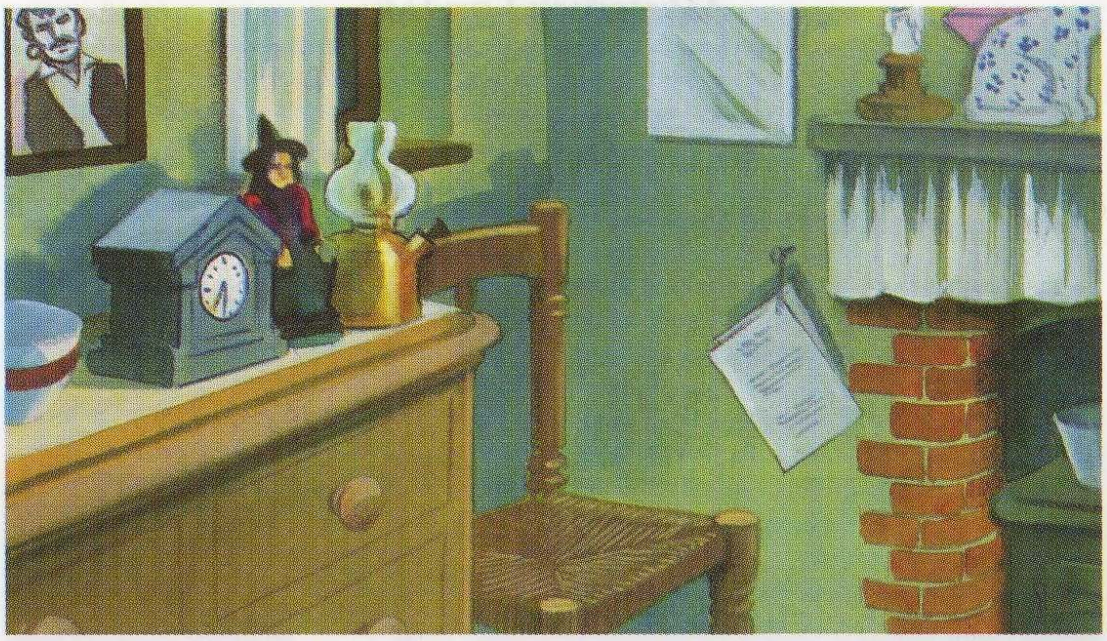
■ *You go to Limehouse Street to find Rosy. Go to* **35.**



29 You go to the East India Dock. You can see the *Californian*, but it is sailing out of the dock.

■ *You can see Jack so you try to get on the ship. Go to* **3.**

■ *You cannot see Jack on the ship. You can go to the hospital and talk to Annie, and you can write to the Indian police about Jack. Go to* **22.**



30 You go to Cable Street, and talk to the people there. After a few minutes you find Annie's house. You look at everything very carefully.

■ *Go to* 2.

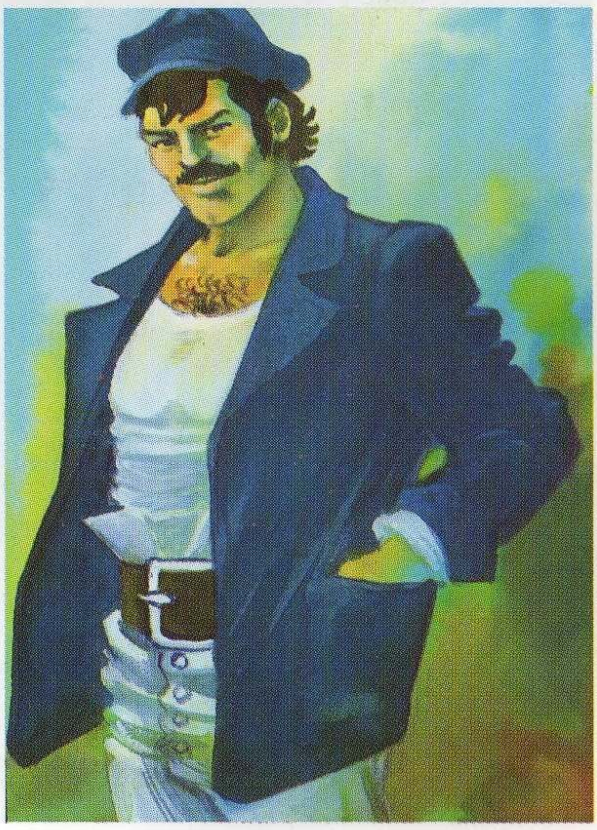
31 You talk to the Jack on the right.

'Do you know a woman called Annie?' you ask.

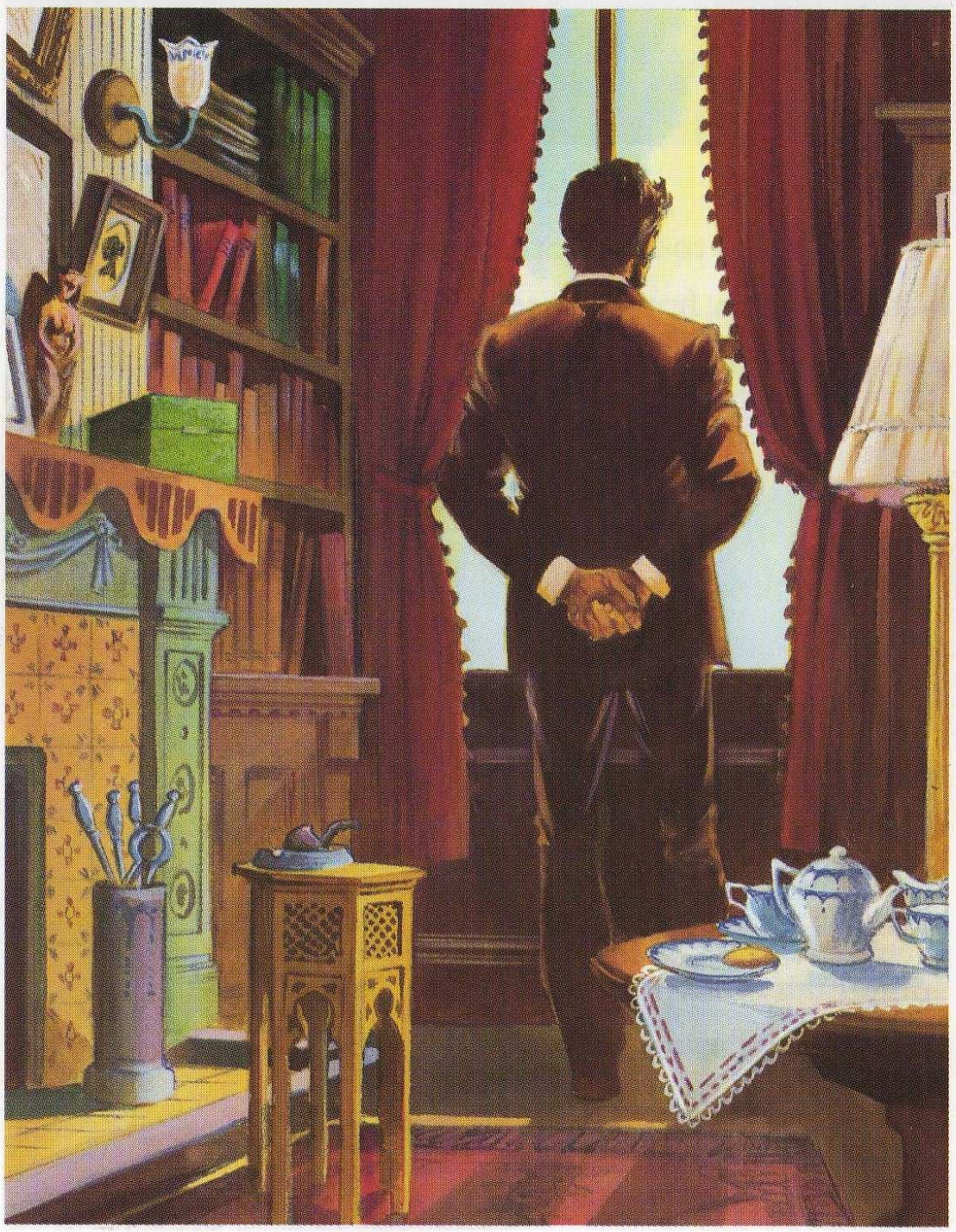
'No,' he says.

But this Jack has an ear-ring. And there is something in his pocket. Is it a knife? Perhaps this Jack is the Whitechapel Killer.

■ *Go to* 27.



32 Another good day's work for Mycroft Pound, the great detective, finishes. You go back to your house. No criminal is safe in London when Mycroft, the great detective, is at work.



33 The captain helps you, and you arrest the Whitechapel Killer. You take him off the ship and give him to the police.

■ *Go to* **32**.

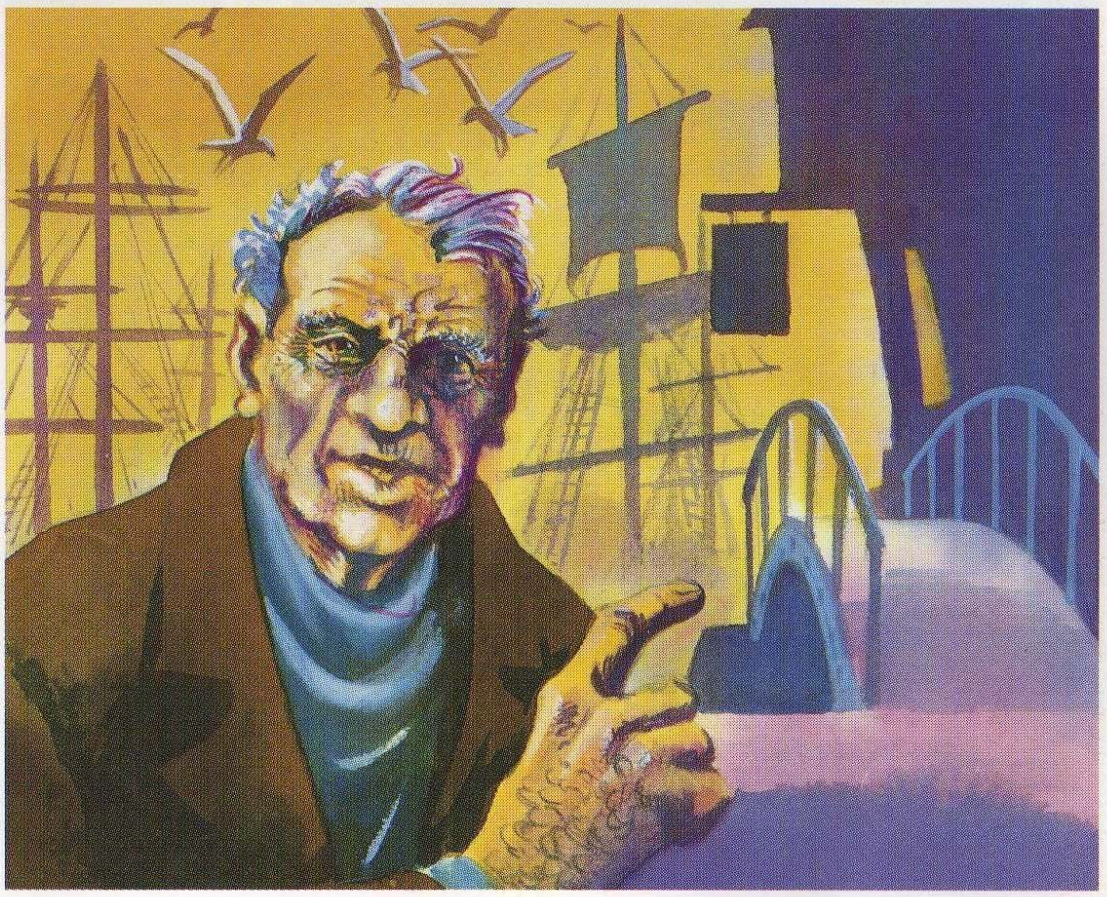
34 You talk to the old man.

'Do you know a ship called the *Californian*?' you ask him.

'Yes,' he says. 'It's going to India today, so it's in the East India Dock.'

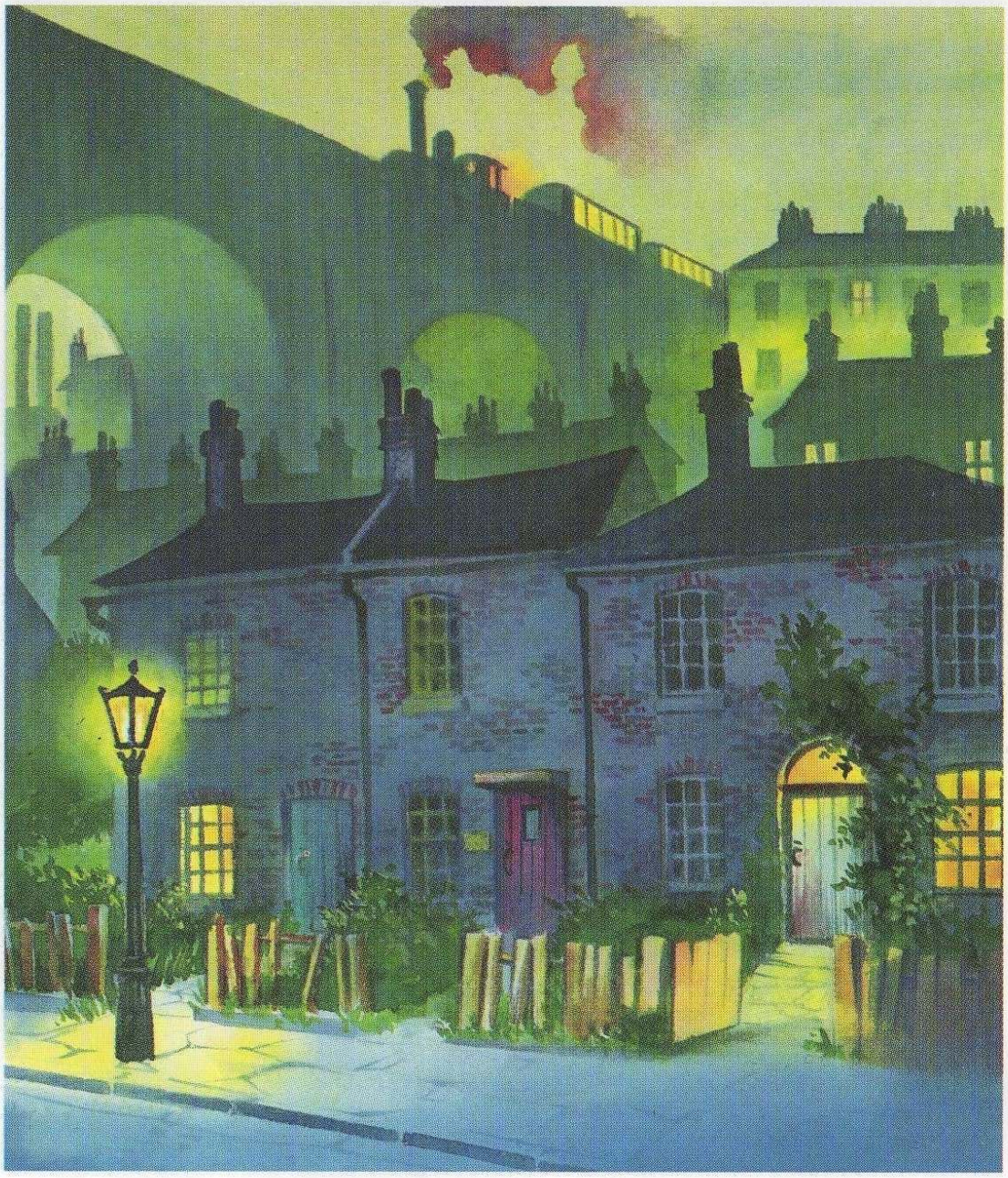
You must find the East India Dock.

■ *Go to* **12**.



35 You go to Limehouse Street. You are looking for Rosy, Annie's friend. Which house do you want to try first?

- *The house with the white door. Go to* **16.**
- *The house with the blue door. Go to* **21.**
- *The house with the red door. Go to* **26.**



ACTIVITIES

Before Reading

1 Look at the front and back cover of the book and choose the correct ending for these sentences.

1 The story happens . . .
- a ☐ about twenty years ago.
- b ☐ about fifty years ago.
- c ☐ about a hundred years ago.

2 Mycroft Pound is . . .
- a ☐ a doctor.
- b ☐ a teacher.
- c ☐ a detective.

2 Guess what happens. For each sentence choose one answer.

	YES	NO
1 Somebody kills a rich man.	☐	☐
2 The police put Mycroft Pound in prison.	☐	☐
3 The police put the Whitechapel Killer in prison.	☐	☐
4 Mycroft Pound catches the Whitechapel Killer.	☐	☐

ACTIVITIES

While Reading

1 Read the first two parts of the story (1 and 18). Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

	T	F
1 The story is in the summer.	☐	☐
2 At the beginning of the story, Mycroft Pound is at home.	☐	☐
3 The police come to Mycroft Pound's home.	☐	☐
4 A woman is dead in the street.	☐	☐
5 The woman is in the Rose and Crown.	☐	☐
6 The Whitechapel Killer uses a knife.	☐	☐
7 There is a bicycle near the woman.	☐	☐
8 There are bicycle tracks near the woman.	☐	☐

2 What next? Where next? Complete the following sentences.

1 The bicycle tracks go . . .
- a ☐ nowhere.
- b ☐ to the killer's house.
- c ☐ to the woman's house.

2 In the Rose and Crown Mycroft finds . . .
- a ☐ nobody.
- b ☐ a lot of people.
- c ☐ a few people.

3 In the Rose and Crown people are . . .

a ☐ singing.

b ☐ drinking beer.

c ☐ reading.

4 The woman . . .

a ☐ dies.

b ☐ does not die.

5 The Whitechapel Killer is . . .

a ☐ a dog.

b ☐ a woman.

c ☐ a man.

6 The woman cannot talk . . .

a ☐ because she is dying.

b ☐ because she is ill.

c ☐ because she is afraid.

ACTIVITIES

After Reading

1 Answer these questions.

Who

1 . . . asks Mycroft for help at the beginning of the story?
2 . . . talks to the people in the Rose and Crown?
3 . . . lives in Cable Street?
4 . . . lives in a house with a white door?
5 . . . is going to India on a ship?
6 . . . jumps onto the *Californian*?

2 Who says this? Who do they say it to?

1 'I'm Annie's best friend.' ..... says this to ..... .
2 'There's a man on your ship I must talk to.' ..... says this to ..... .
3 'Can you come to Whitechapel?' ..... says this to ..... .

3 Complete this summary of the story. Use these words:

boyfriend detective jumps London name police sailor ship street talks tell woman

Mycroft Pound is a famous ..... , who lives in ..... .
One day the ..... ask him to help them; a ..... is lying

in the ..... in Whitechapel in front of the Rose and Crown. Mycroft goes to Whitechapel and ..... to the people in the Rose and Crown. They ..... Mycroft that the woman's ..... is Annie. Annie lives in Cable Street, so Mycroft goes to her house. A woman tells him that Annie has a .....; his name is Jack and he is a ..... . Mycroft goes to the London Docks to find Jack. Jack's ..... , the Californian, is leaving, but Mycroft ..... on to the ship. He finds Jack, and gives him to the police.

4 **There are three Jacks on the *Californian*. Write a description of Jack, the Whitechapel Killer.**

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Glossary

attack try to hurt someone
blood red liquid inside the body
criminal a person who breaks the law
detective a person who tries to find criminals
ear-ring a metal circle people wear in their ears
famous a famous person is someone who many people know
free not in prison
great very clever or important
jump move quickly into or onto something
killer a person who kills other people
knife something you use to cut things
knock hit a door to tell people that you are outside
letter you send a letter to someone by post
news information in a newspaper, on the radio or television
safe not in danger
sailor a person who works on ships
ship something people use to travel across the sea
swim move your body through water using your arms and legs
terrible very bad
track the mark something leaves on the road



Mystery in London

Six women are dead because of the Whitechapel Killer. Now another woman lies in a London street and there is blood everywhere. She is very ill. You are the famous detective Mycroft Pound; can you catch the killer before he escapes?

Cover illustration by Ron Tiner

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MYSTERY IN LONDON

Helen Brooke

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