

# Clarice Bean – Utterly Me

Lauren Child

- 1 I have to  
    hop  
    downstairs
- 4 because I have only one slipper. Our dog, Cement, buried the other one in the garden and we can't find it.
- 6 It will probably be discovered in a hundred years from now by archaeological diggers who will say it is fascinating and give it to a museum.
- 8 When I get downstairs, the whole kitchen is full of bad mood. Marcie won't talk to Mum and Kurt won't talk to Marcie. Grandad isn't talking to anyone because he hasn't plugged himself into his hearing aid. Minal is talking to me but I wish he wouldn't. Minal is a niggling gnat and I have to have him sleeping in my room. Sometimes when I want to keep him out, I pile lots of gubbins against the door.
- 13 He is five.
- 14 Who would want to share a room with their five-year-old brother? I don't even need a five-year-old brother. I already have one who is a teenager called Kurt and that is enough brothers for anyone.
- 17 Minal is going, "What time did the spider go to the dentist?"
- 18 I don't bother to listen to the answer because it won't be funny.
- 19 I am trying to read the back of the cereal packet because there is a good offer on rubber pencil-tops.
- 23 Minal is going "Spider Clock! D'ya get it? D'ya get it? Spider clock!"
- 26 I say "No".

