

## When the Aliens Came to Dinner

*by Clare Bevan*

When the aliens came to dinner  
Their manners were a delight,  
Well...  
It's true that they nibbled the napkins,  
It's true that they had a small fight,  
It's true that they waggled their eyeballs,  
It's true that they bent all the spoons,  
It's true that they wore our best lampshades,  
And swung round the room like baboons,  
It's true that they ate with their feelers  
Instead of their forks and their knives,  
It's true that they flicked their spaghetti  
At some rather smart men plus their wives,  
It's true that they jumped in the jelly,  
It's true that they stole a whole pie,  
But...  
They thanked us all EVER SO nicely  
When the time came to wave us Good Bye.

## Words Behaving Badly

*by Sue Cowling*

Words

Develop nasty habits —  
Getting out of order,  
Going off at tangents,  
Breaking rules,  
Attention seeking.  
Give them fifty lines.  
They take delight  
In ambushing the reader,  
Going round in gangs  
With their unsuitable friends  
Imagining they're poems!

Words —

I'd keep an eye on them  
If I were you.

## ATIONS

*by Shel Silverstein*

If we meet and I say, “Hi,”

That’s a salutation.

If you ask me how I feel,

That’s consideration.

If we stop and talk awhile,

That’s communication.

If we argue, scream and fight,

That’s an altercation.

If later we apologize,

That’s reconciliation.

If we help each other home,

That’s cooperation.

And all these ations added up

Make civilization.

And if I say this is a wonderful poem,

Is that exaggeration?