About Your Book

When did you first start to write/illustrate stories?

I began to illustrate stories long before I wrote a whole one down, but since I often make stories that start with drawings then I think that the writing and illustrating really started together. My first picture book, about a walking Nose which makes a face in every picture, was written by someone else but inspired by a drawing that I did.

Where did your idea for this story come from?

I was sitting on the sofa, doodling. I drew a robber who seemed like he was riding something. On our sofa we have a cushion with a picture of a beetle on it. I drew a beetle underneath the robber and quickly realised that Tiny Robbers was a story idea. Tiny Coppers soon followed after, as is only natural.

Authors, what made you write this book?

It's a fair cop. A Tiny Robber made me do it.

Illustrators, what makes this book special for you?

Finding a way to show the different scales of characters and settings for what seems to be a simple idea was a very long and difficult task. I have lost count of how many things I have re-drawn but I'd say the whole thing has been completely re-worked at least twelve times. Each time I have solved a problem that I just couldn't find an answer for in weeks has been a special moment. It also feels like the first time I've been able to bring together each different technique I've used in the past into something like a coherent whole.

What have you enjoyed most about working on this book?

The fact that the characters still make me giggle, even after they have given me such a hard time some days is probably the most enjoyable thing. Also, though it's been quite painful, learning how to leave things out to make the picture work better has been very satisfying as it started to work.