



Chris Riddell's 'Illustrations in search of a story' #10

'Does this suit of armour make me look fat?' He asked.

I didn't know what to say. He had his sword drawn, and his eyes were doing that crazy popping thing they usually do when he gets a bit stressed out.

Clearly I'd waited too long to answer. His cheeks got as red as the curtains and I swear his left eye bulged even bigger, ready to pop (every bit about him looked ready to pop, clearly the suit of armour was far too small for him, but I couldn't very well say 'Oh yessir! You look absolutely ridiculous'. He'd decapitate me in one swift swoop of the sword that was trembling in his hand - and one of the qualities I prided myself in was that my head was still firmly attached to my body...)

'Think!' I told myself, 'while you still can!' I quickly added, hoping that would spur me on. 'No siree, not-at-all, not-even-a-bit' is what I should have said. Instead, what I did - I still can't quite believe it myself - is that I...