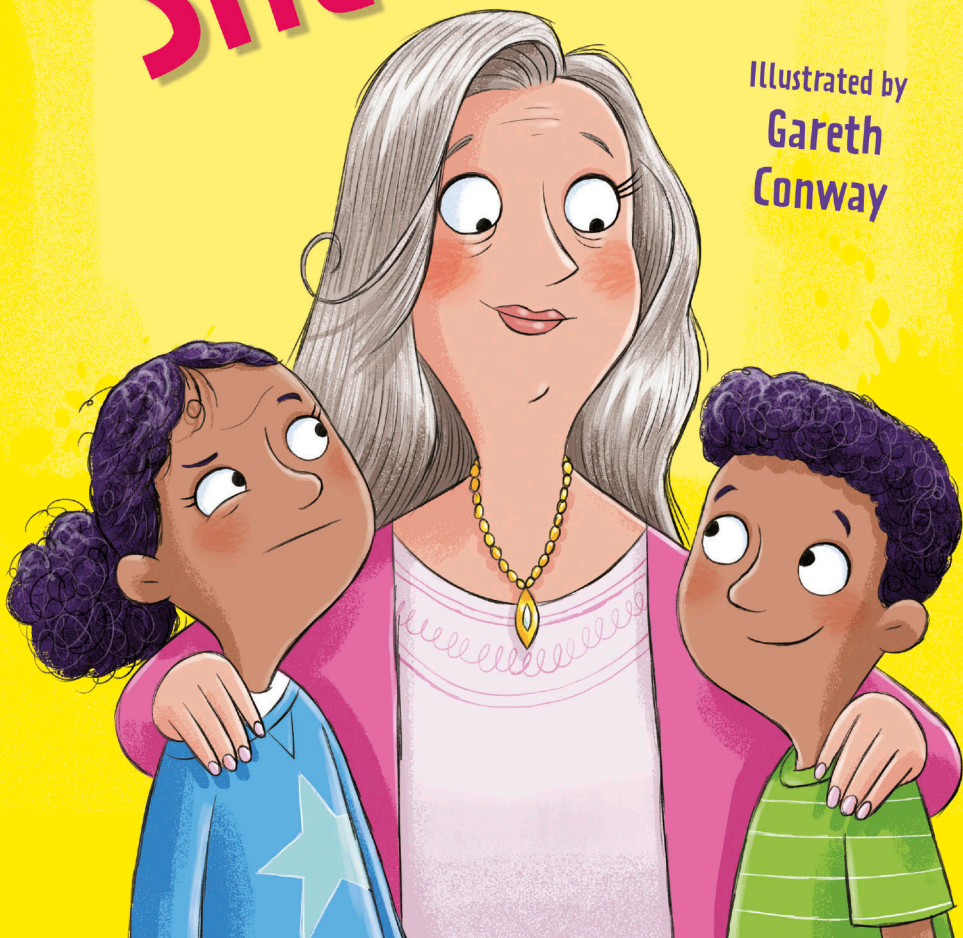


Anne Fine

# He Says ... She Says ...

Illustrated by  
Gareth  
Conway





**He Says ...**

**She Says ...**



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*For Martha, with love*





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## CHAPTER 1

### Dad's Mum – Our Gran

Dad always says his mum was very strict. He says he had to make his bed as soon as he got up every morning. He had to clean his shoes till they shone before he went off to school. When he got home, his mum made him do all his homework and only let him have half an hour a day on computer games. He says his mum – our gran – told him that more time than that in front of a screen will mess

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up your eyes and rot your brains, all at the same time.

Dad says our gran made him eat boring old green vegetables with every single meal, and he was only allowed to have things like fizzy lemonade or puddings or ice cream on a Sunday. He says Gran told him too much sugar would make holes in his teeth.

Dad says his mum was so strict that every night after supper he had to help tidy the kitchen. Everything had to be spick and span before they went to bed. They never came down to a messy kitchen.

Dad says that if he ever moaned to Gran that he was bored, she'd say, "I'll find you something to do. You can wash the dishes. Or clean the bathroom. Or mop the kitchen

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floor. Or you can walk down to the shops for me to buy some potatoes.”

“The house was full of rules,” Dad told me and Harry. “And your gran was always busy. Even if she was in the garden, she would be watering her tomatoes, or hanging out the washing, or weeding the patio.”



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Gran sounded so strict that Harry and I were really glad we didn't see her much. She lived so far away. But then just last month she sold her house in the far-away town where Dad grew up and moved to a new one near us.