

## **My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell**

### **Writer's Effect**

Paragraph 2 demonstrates Achilles' wild love for strawberries. The adjectival phrase, 'tiny boot-button' combined with the adverb 'pleading' leads readers to imagine a cute, helpless toddler on the verge of tears. This shows how he can't hold himself back and is resilient when it comes to getting strawberries. Furthermore, the verb 'grab' implies taking forcefully. This reinforces the idea that once the strawberries are in his grasp, the helpless toddler can become quite possessive. Moreover, the verb 'stumble off' indicates the tortoise's valiant efforts. The image drawn is a bit funny, emphasising the childlike stubbornness and pettiness Achilles holds for strawberries.

Paragraph 4 illustrates Achilles' curious exploration of the family members relaxing on the rug. The verb 'surge' suggests vivacity and urgency with such force that can only be paralleled to a peculiar disturbance in familiar territory. This notion is further strengthened by the phrase 'bemused good humor' which implies that Achilles doesn't see them as a threat but a toy to be played with. He thereby tasks himself with the child-like challenge to climb them. This is proven by the adverb 'grimly' which implies Achilles' resilience and surprising lack of fear of the family members. Additionally, the alliteration 'garden grimly' phonetically mimics the tortoise's ceaseless efforts in finding its toys.