

# How to Hide an Octopus and Other Sea Creatures

by Ruth Heller

If you take a careful look,  
you'll see how creatures in this book  
are CAMOUFLAGED and out of view –  
although they're right in front of you.

As quick as a wink, it turns to pink  
or green or blue or any hue,  
and, if you think that's not enough,  
its skin can turn from smooth to rough.  
This creature is an OCTOPUS and very often hides  
by changing to the color...over which it glides.

Its relative, the CUTTLEFISH,  
could do the same if he should wish.  
The stripes that he is sporting  
show that he's been courting,  
but he can make them fade away...  
slowly or without delay.

The SARGASSUM FISH, grotesque at best,  
looks just like...its seaweed nest.

The giant red SEA DRAGON is the most bizarre  
of all the creatures seen so far,  
with ribbons of skin that grow from its chin  
and from its belly and back.  
They spread from its head and trail from its tail,  
and it's easy to see why its enemies fail  
to find where it feeds...among the red weeds.

The SHRIMPFISH hides and lives and dines  
head down among the urchins' spines.

Heads up, the PIPEFISH like to play  
and with the grasses drift and sway.

The BUTTERFLY FISH has been designed  
to make it very hard...to find.

The DECORATOR CRAB is drab  
and will not rest until it's dressed,  
so it proceeds to don some weeds  
and barnacles and sponge, you see,  
and even an...anemone.