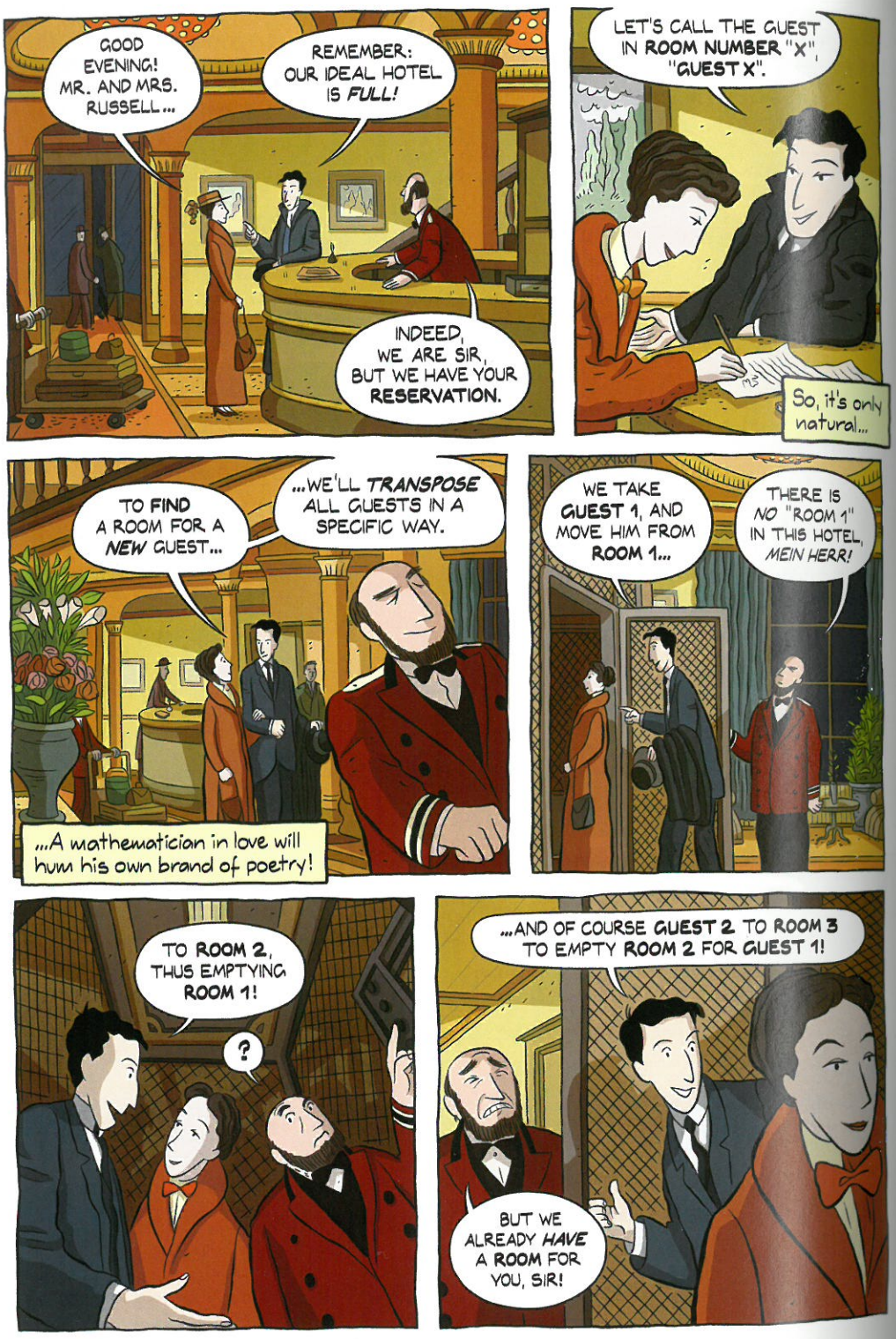
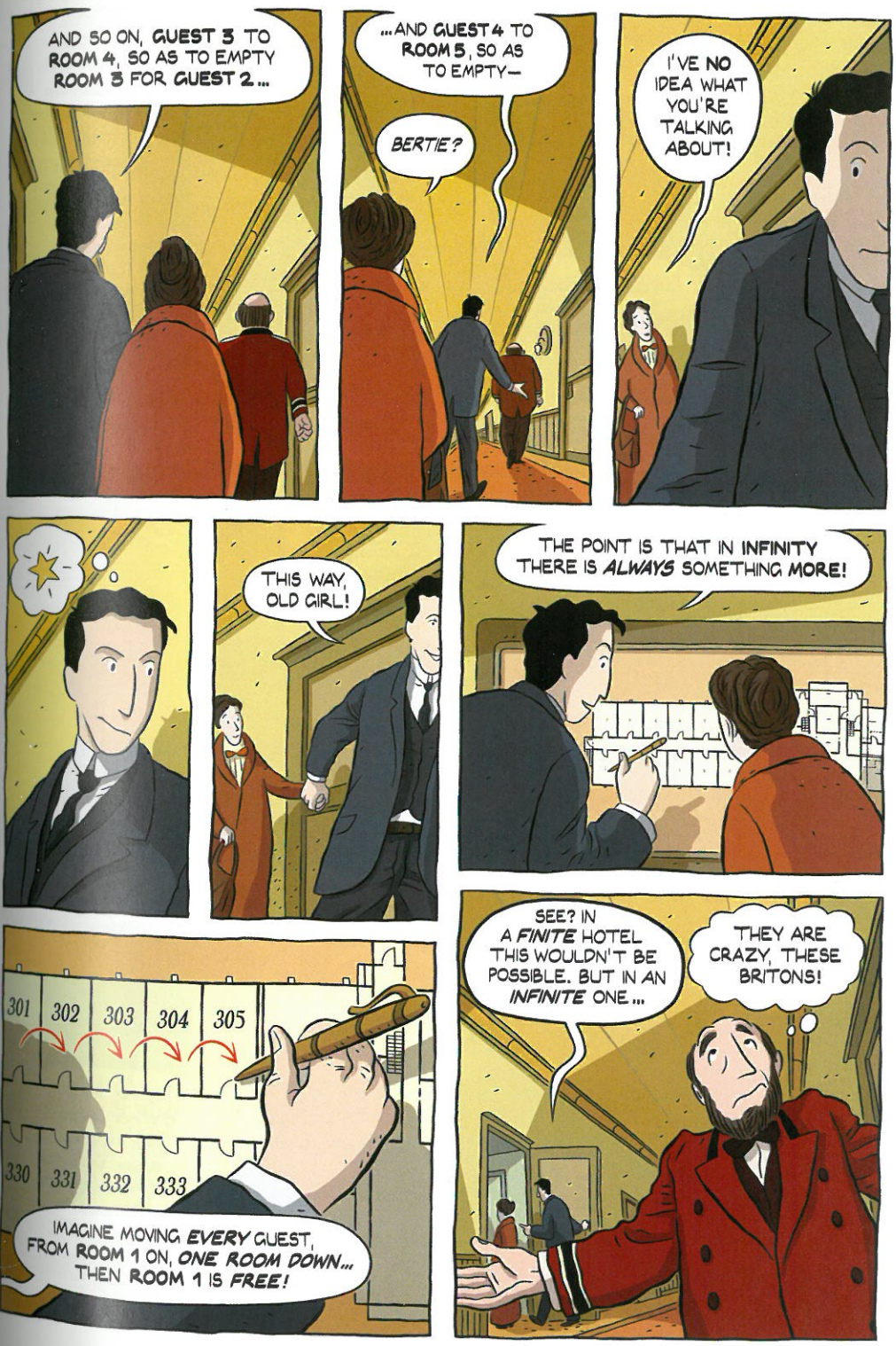
TOMORROW I'M MEETING A TRUE MYTHICAL HERO! CALL HIM "THE MAN WHO ATE OF THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE INFINITE!"
SOUNDS MOST BLASPHEMOUS!
WELL, IT IS, IN A WAY...
THE GREAT GAUSS HAD WARNED MATHEMATICIANS: "DON'T DEAL DIRECTLY WITH INFINITY..."
"...NEVER LOOK AT IT FACE TO FACE!"
BUT GEORG CANTOR DISOBEYED! AND SO HE DISCOVERED THE AMAZING FACT THAT THERE ARE DEGREES OF INFINITY! AND HE EVEN FOUND WAYS TO COUNT THEM...
YOU CANNOT COUNT THE INFINITE!
Nächste Station, Halle!
Zahlen bitte!
LOOK... RAIN.
BEFORE CANTOR, WE SAW INFINITY...
...THROUGH A GLASS.
HALL
DARKLY.

I SAY... THINK OF A HOTEL WHICH HAS A FINITE NUMBER OF ROOMS.
IS THERE ANOTHER KIND?
QUESTION: WHAT HAPPENS IF IT'S FULL AND A NEW GUEST ARRIVES? NO ROOM-SHARING, MIND YOU!
THE GUEST WILL BE SHOWN THE DOOR!
BUT CONSIDER NOW AN INFINITE HOTEL: EVEN IF IT IS FULL...
...A ROOM CAN BE FOUND!
HEY!
YOUR HOTEL "HIMMELGARTEN", MEINE HERRSCHAFTEN.
THANK GOD IT'S FINITE!
When poets are in love they recite verses to their beloved...


GOOD EVENING! MR. AND MRS. RUSSELL...
REMEMBER: OUR IDEAL HOTEL IS *FULL!*
INDEED, WE ARE SIR, BUT WE HAVE YOUR **RESERVATION.**
LET'S CALL THE GUEST IN **ROOM NUMBER "X"**, **"GUEST X"**.
So, it's only natural...
TO **FIND** A ROOM FOR A *NEW* GUEST...
...WE'LL *TRANSPOSE* ALL GUESTS IN A SPECIFIC WAY.
...A mathematician in love will hum his own brand of poetry!
WE TAKE **GUEST 1**, AND MOVE HIM FROM **ROOM 1**...
THERE IS *NO* "ROOM 1" IN THIS HOTEL, *MEIN HERR!*
TO **ROOM 2**, THUS EMPTYING **ROOM 1**!
?
...AND OF COURSE **GUEST 2** TO **ROOM 3** TO EMPTY **ROOM 2** FOR **GUEST 1**!
BUT WE ALREADY *HAVE* A **ROOM** FOR YOU, SIR!


AND SO ON, GUEST 3 TO ROOM 4, SO AS TO EMPTY ROOM 3 FOR GUEST 2...
...AND GUEST 4 TO ROOM 5, SO AS TO EMPTY—
BERTIE?
I'VE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
THIS WAY, OLD GIRL!
THE POINT IS THAT IN INFINITY THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING MORE!
301 302 303 304 305
330 331 332 333
IMAGINE MOVING EVERY GUEST, FROM ROOM 1 ON, ONE ROOM DOWN... THEN ROOM 1 IS FREE!
SEE? IN A FINITE HOTEL THIS WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE. BUT IN AN INFINITE ONE...
THEY ARE CRAZY, THESE BRITONS!