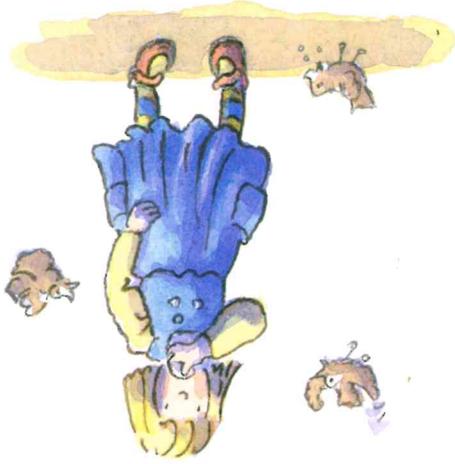


The next day, they came to a clearing..and there was a house, a strange and wonderful house! It had gingerbread walls, barley-sugar windows, and a roof made of cakes and cookies.



Gretel broke off some gingerbread
and popped it in her mouth.



Hansel snapped off some icing
and bit into it.



“I’m sorry,” said Hansel, “but we’re very hungry.”



The door opened, and an old woman with ruby-red eyes came out. She said, “Who is nibbling at my house?”

They did not know that the old woman was a WITCH, who caught children and ate them!



When they had eaten, she took them into a room with two little beds, and soon Hansel and Gretel were fast asleep.



In the morning, the witch crept in, bent down and looked at the children very closely, because she could not see clearly.
“Too thin to eat!” she said.

She shook Gretel and shouted,
“Get up, lazy-bones! Light the
fire! Wash the dishes! And be
quick about it!”

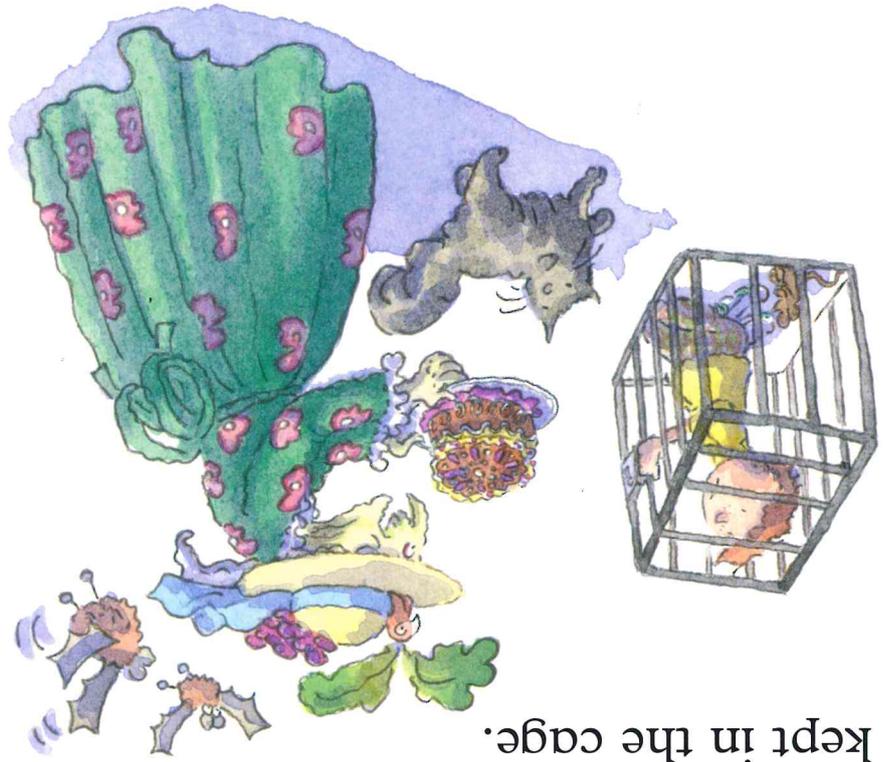


and she put him in a cage.



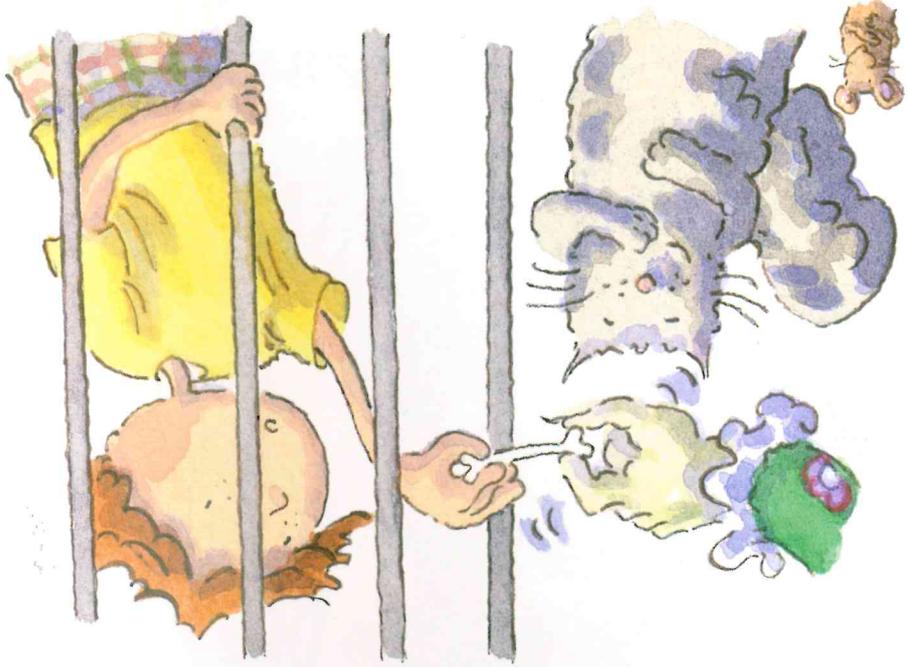
She shook Hansel and woke
him...

The witch gave him lots of food
to make him fat, and every day
she said, "Show me your finger so
I can feel how fat you are."



From that time on, Gretel had
to work hard. But Hansel was
kept in the cage.

When the witch felt the bone,
she always said, "Still too thin!"



Now, Hansel had found a small
chicken bone in the cage and...
guess *what he did*. He pushed out
the bone instead of his finger!

Gretel said, "How can I get in?"
see if it is hot enough."

the witch said, "Climb inside and
When the oven was very hot,



But one day the witch said to
Gretel, "Light the fire and heat
the oven. Today I am going to
roast your brother and eat him!"

Gretel slammed the door shut,
and that was the end of the
wicked witch.



“Put in your head like this,”
Then Gretel gave her a hard
push, and the witch went head
over heels into the oven.

Then they opened the witch's treasure chest and filled their pockets with gold, silver and jewels.



was free!

She unlocked it, and Hansel



Gretel ran to the cage.



“Let’s go home,” said Hansel.
They walked...and walked,
until at last they came to a path
they knew. They saw their own
little house, and they ran!

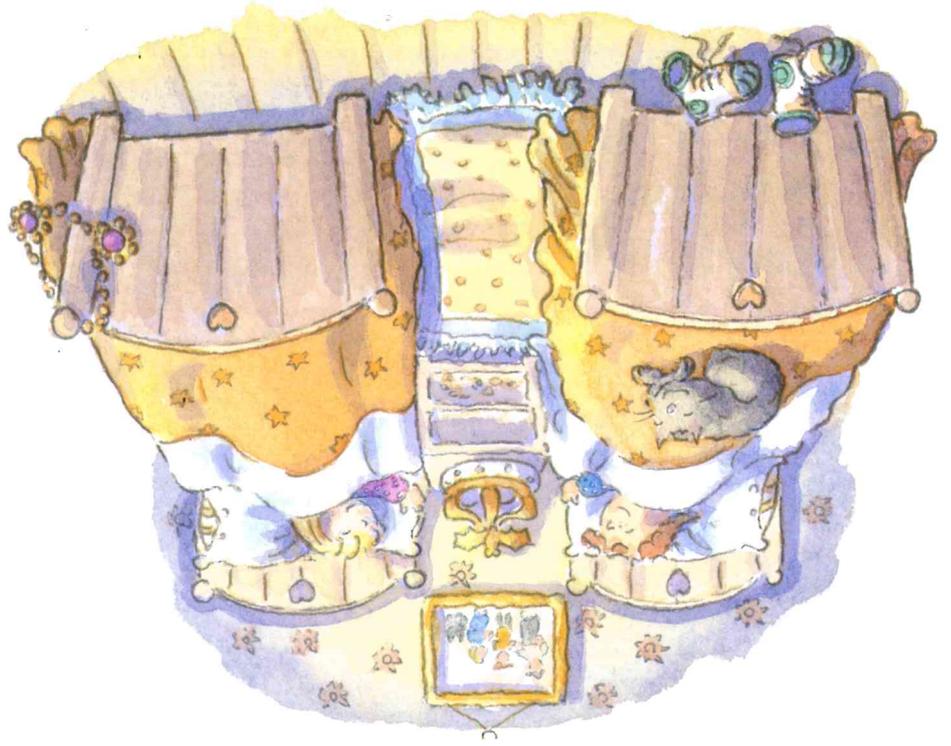
Their father was very happy to see them. He had looked for them in the forest every day. This had made their stepmother angry and one day she had packed her clothes and left.



Because of the witch's treasure,
they had plenty of money and
could buy lots of food.



From that time on Hansel,
Gretel and their father lived
happily in the little house beside
the big forest.



So Hansel and Gretel never
again went to bed feeling hungry!

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A house made of gingerbread - what a lovely

Hansel and Gretel

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