

SILLY BILLY



 BOOKSHELF

A Traditional Tale Retold by Anne Hanzl

Illustrated by John Veeken

Silly Billy was often *very* silly, but he did
always *try* to do the right thing . . .

Crosshall County Infant School
Eaton Ford

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Illustrated by John Veeken**

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First published in 1986 by:  martin educational

This edition first published in 1988 by:

Stanley Thornes (Publishers) Ltd
Old Station Drive
Leckhampton
CHELTENHAM
GL53 ODN
England

ISBN 0 85950 801 3
Series ISBN 0 85950 812 9

Printed and bound in Hong Kong
by Dai Nippon (HK) Ltd



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Once upon a time there was a young man who was very, very lazy. He was too lazy to do any work, so his mother became very cross with him.

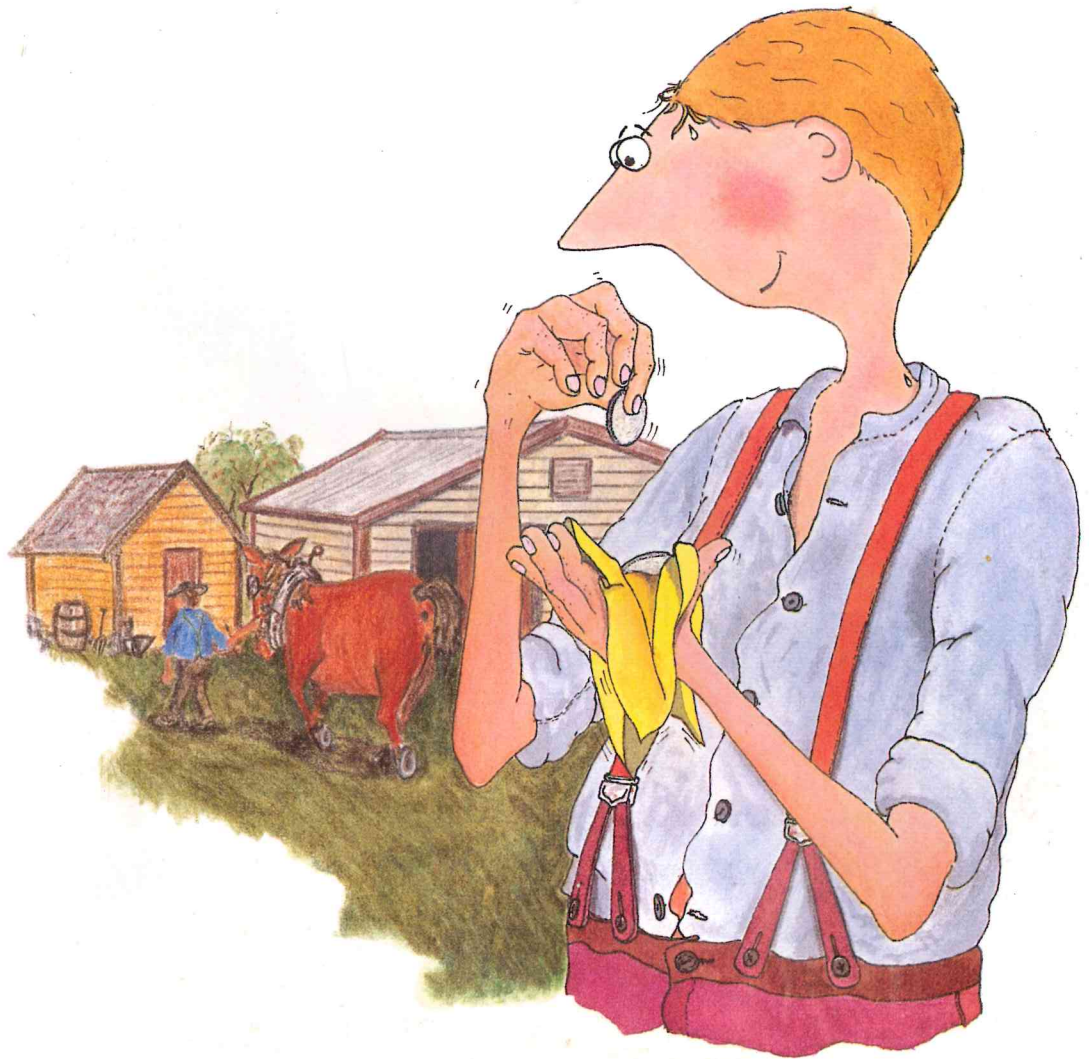


“Billy, you must find a job!” she said
to him one day.
So Billy went to work for a farmer.



At the end of the first day, the farmer
paid Billy with some coins.

Billy put them in his handkerchief
very carefully.



On the way home Billy had to blow
his nose, and the coins fell out and rolled
away.

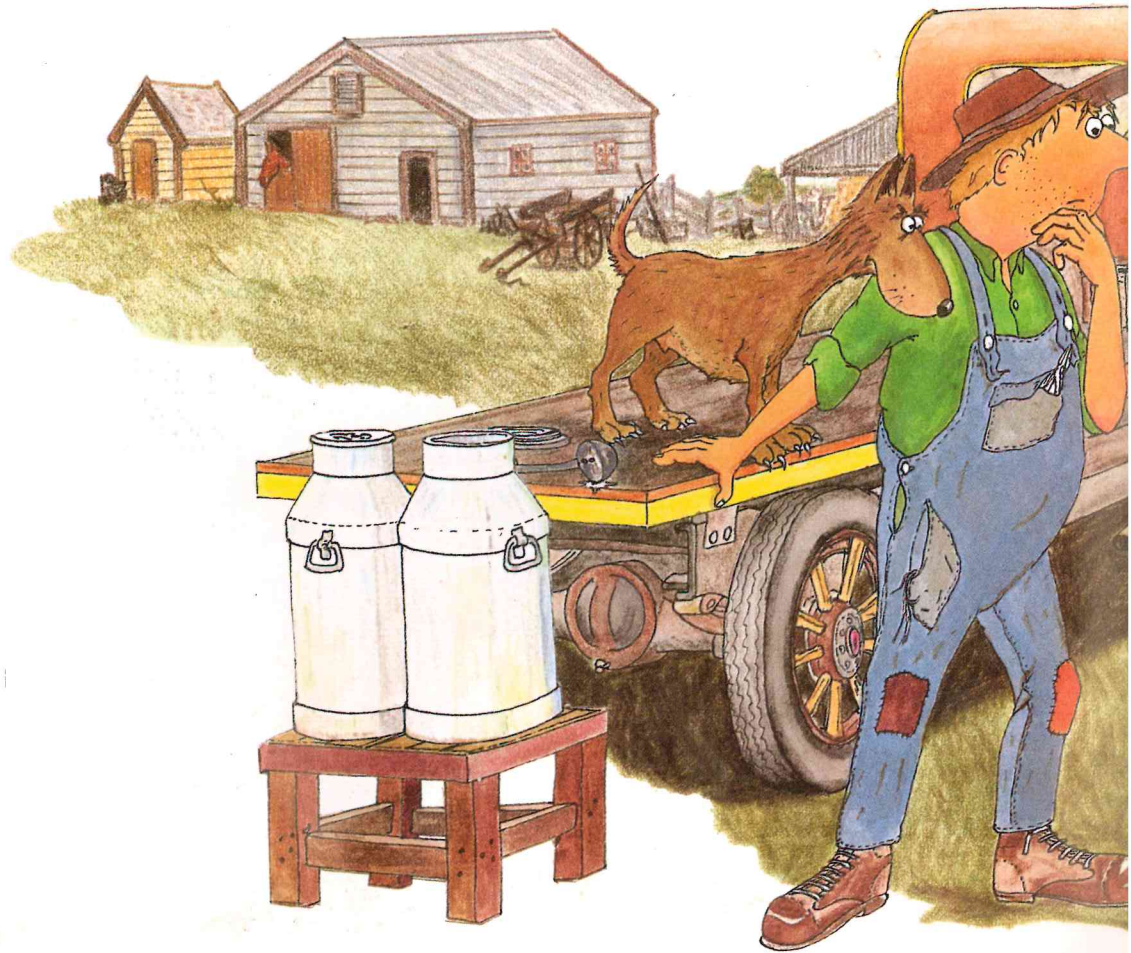


“Oh! You are a silly Billy!” said his mother. “Why didn’t you put them in your pocket?”



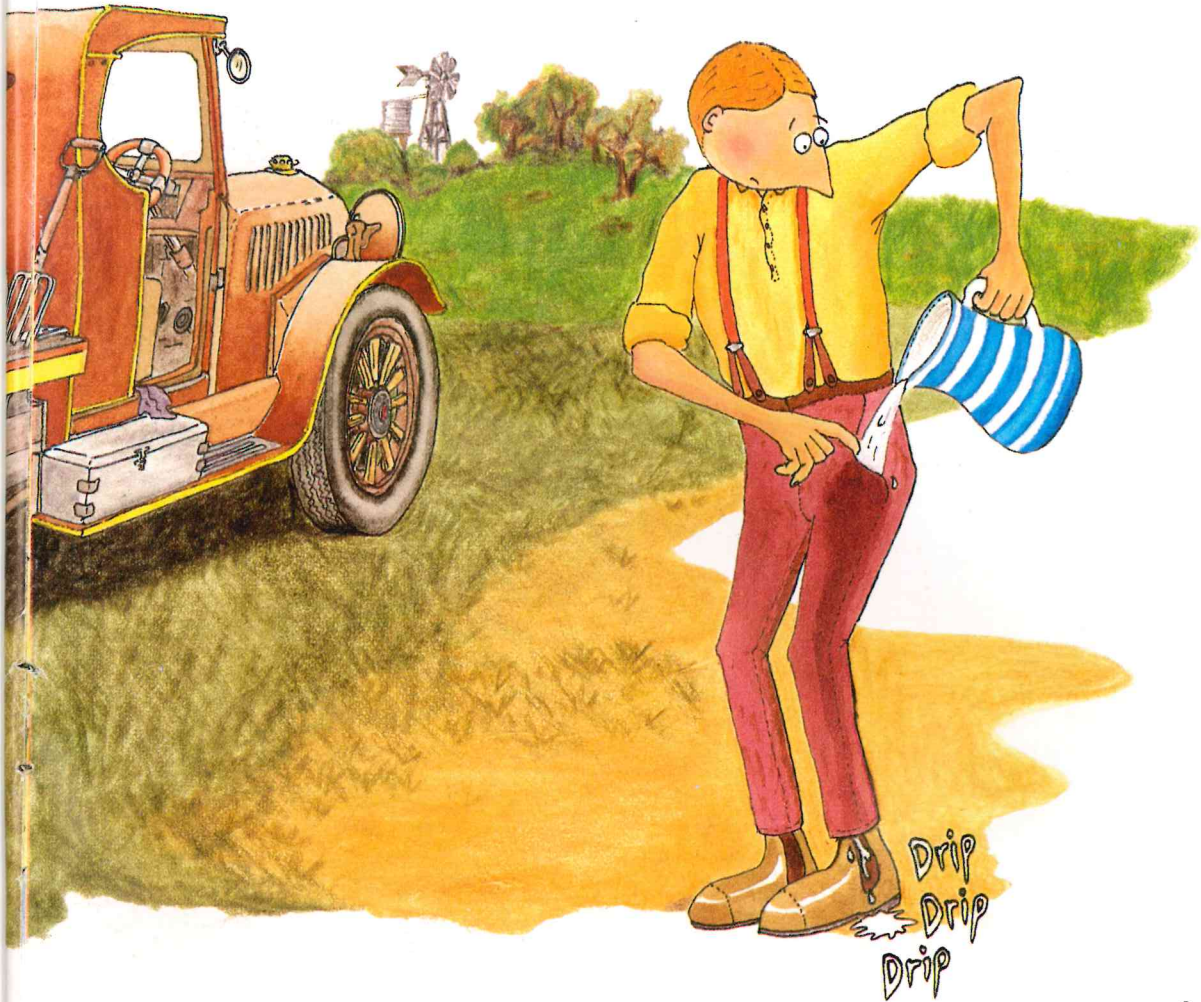
At the end of the next day, the farmer gave Billy a jug of milk.

“I must put this in my pocket,” said Billy to himself.



But no sooner had Billy poured the milk into his pocket than it began to run all the way down his trouser leg.

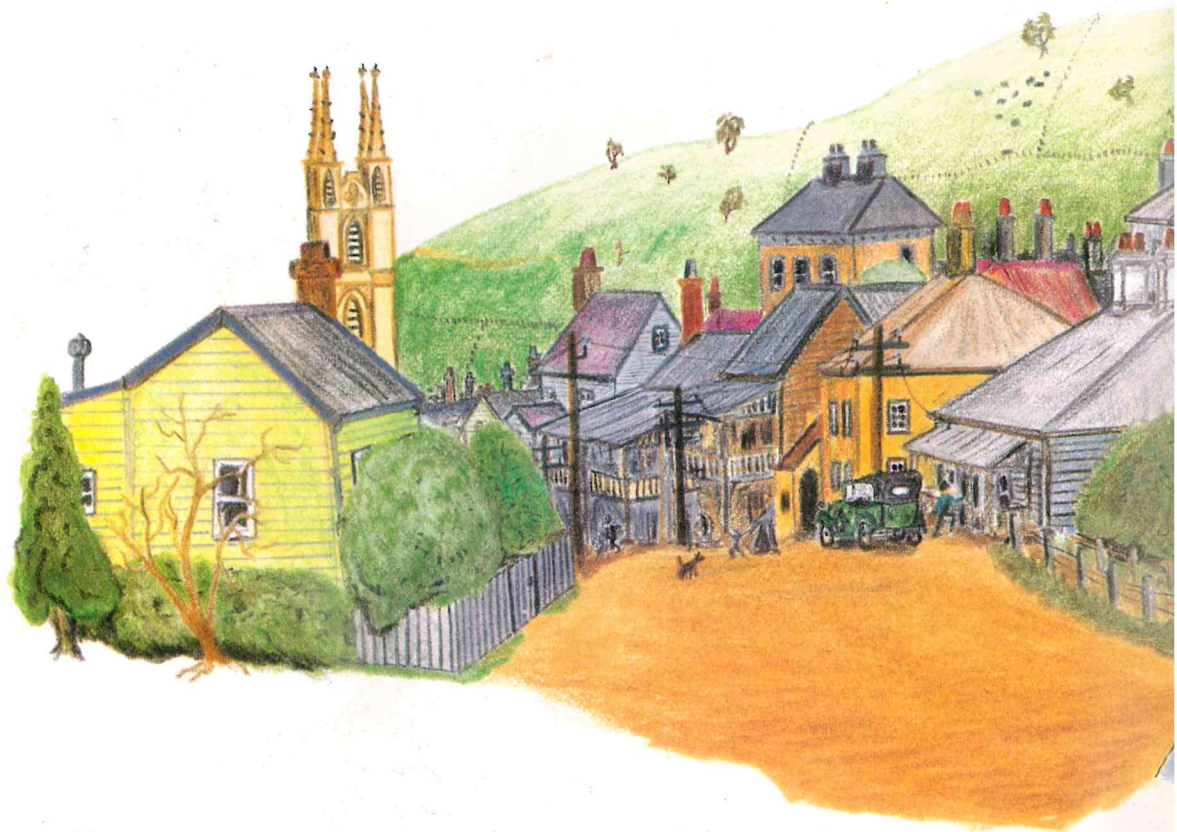
“Oh! You are a silly Billy!” said his mother. “Why didn’t you carry it on your head?”



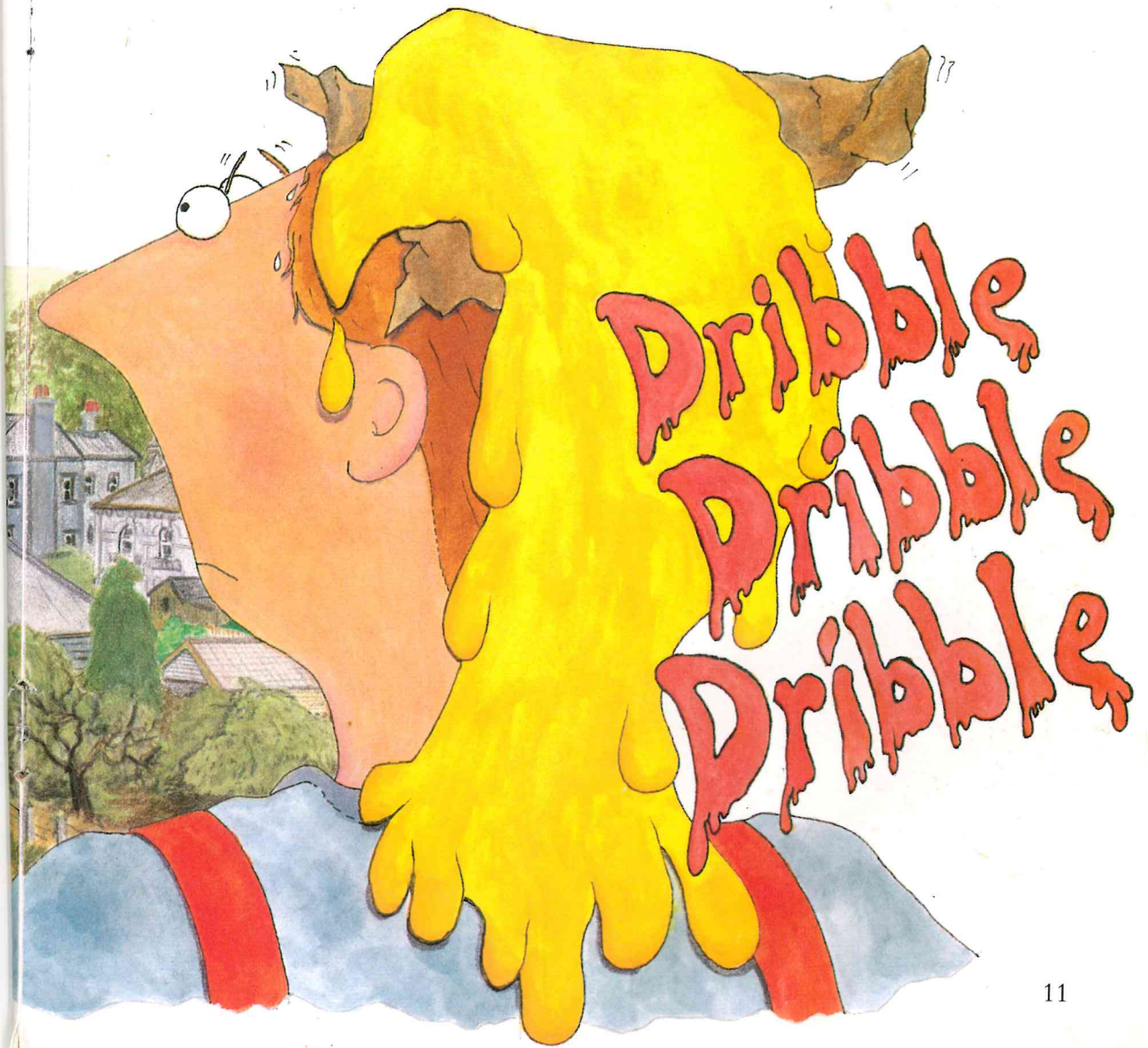
The next day the farmer paid Billy with some butter.

“I must put this on my head,” said Billy to himself.

The sun was hot and soon the butter began to melt all the way down Billy’s neck.

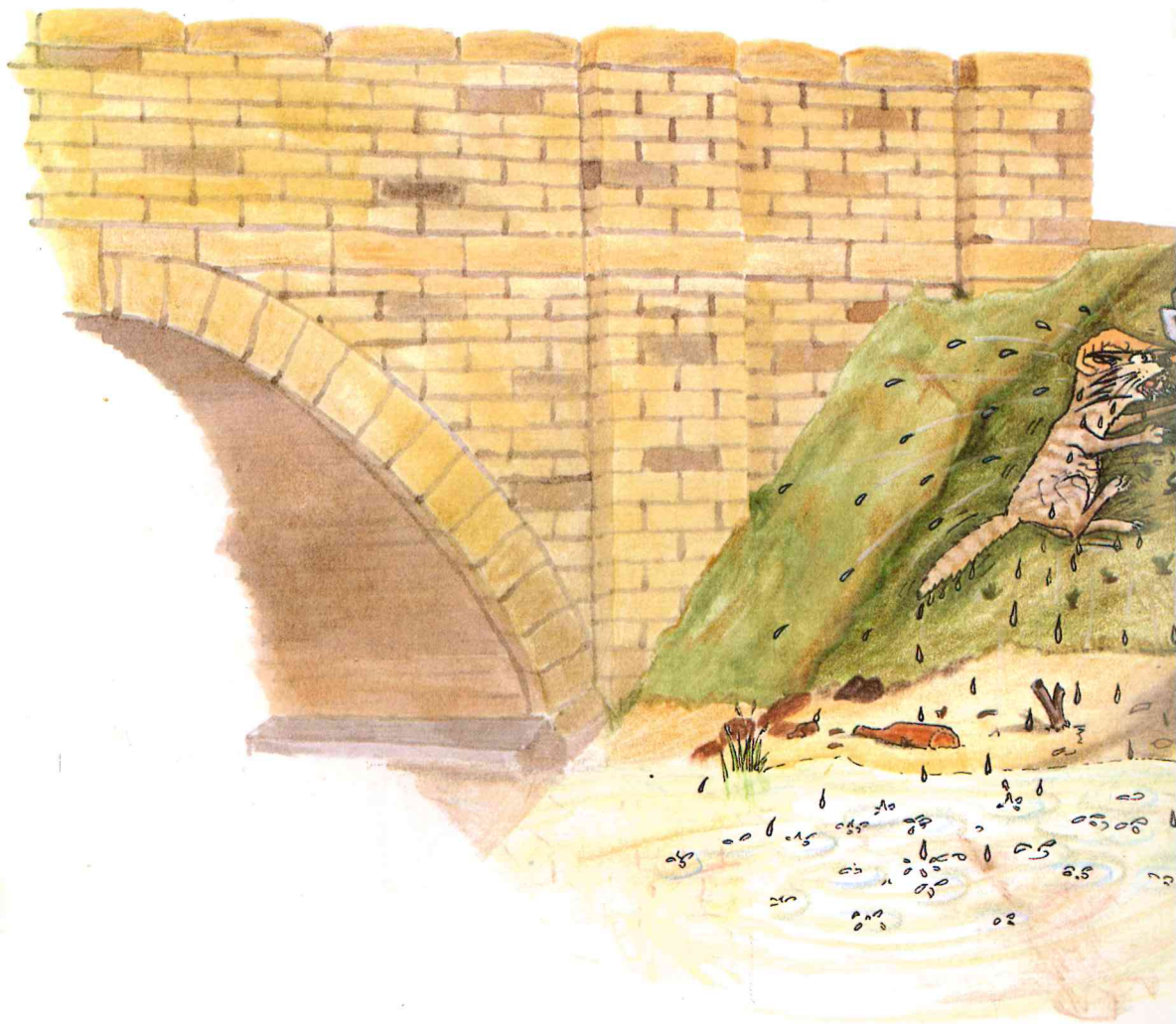


“Oh! You are a silly Billy!” said his mother. “Why didn’t you cool it in water, and carry it in your hands?”



The next day the farmer gave Billy a cat.

“I must cool it in water, and carry it in my hands,” said Billy to himself.



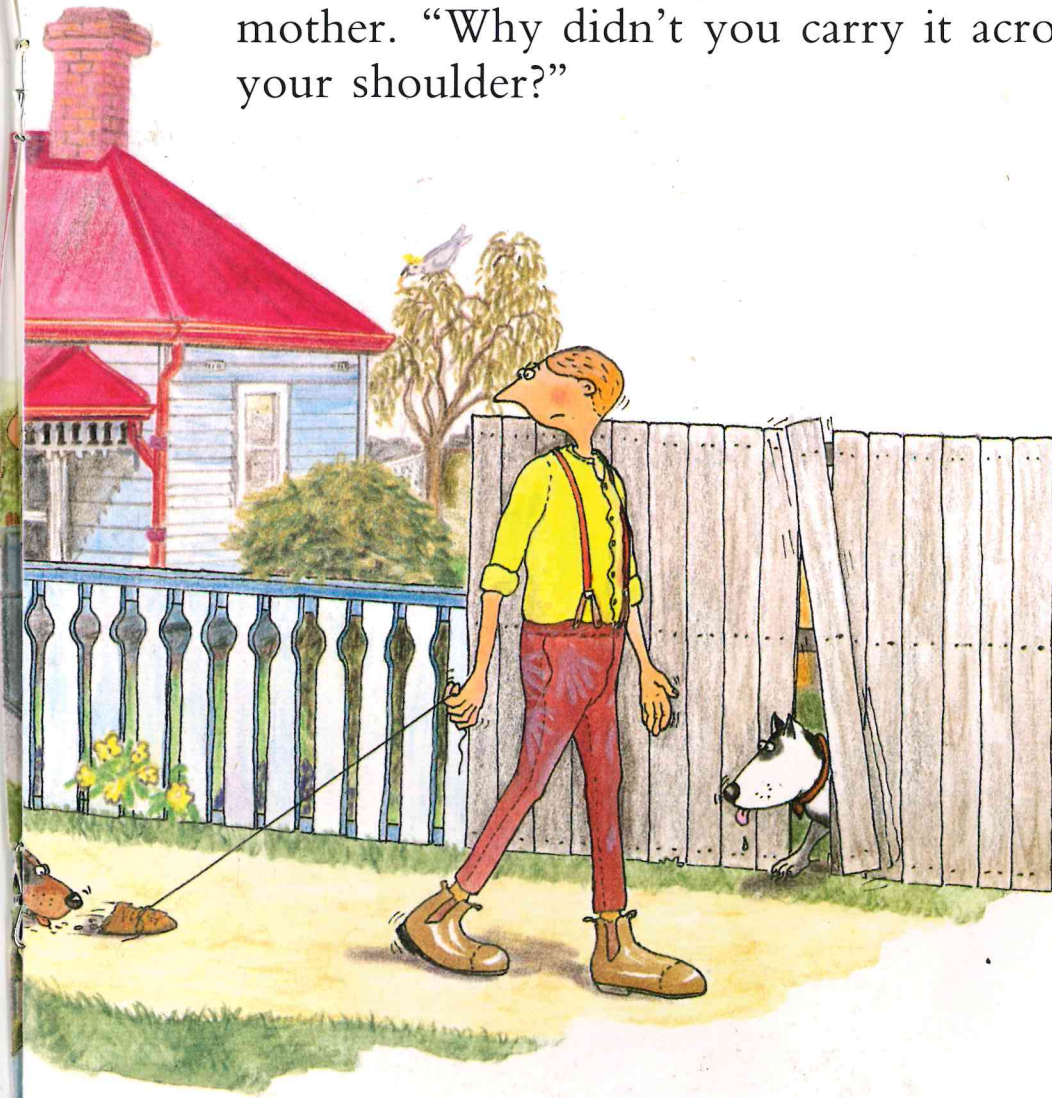
Billy dunked the cat in the river, and tried to carry it home. The cat seemed very cross.

“Oh! You are a silly Billy!” said his mother. “Why didn’t you tie a string to its neck and lead it home?”



All the neighbourhood dogs chased the loaf of bread as it dragged behind Billy. Soon every crumb was gone.

“Oh! You are a silly Billy!” said his mother. “Why didn’t you carry it across your shoulder?”

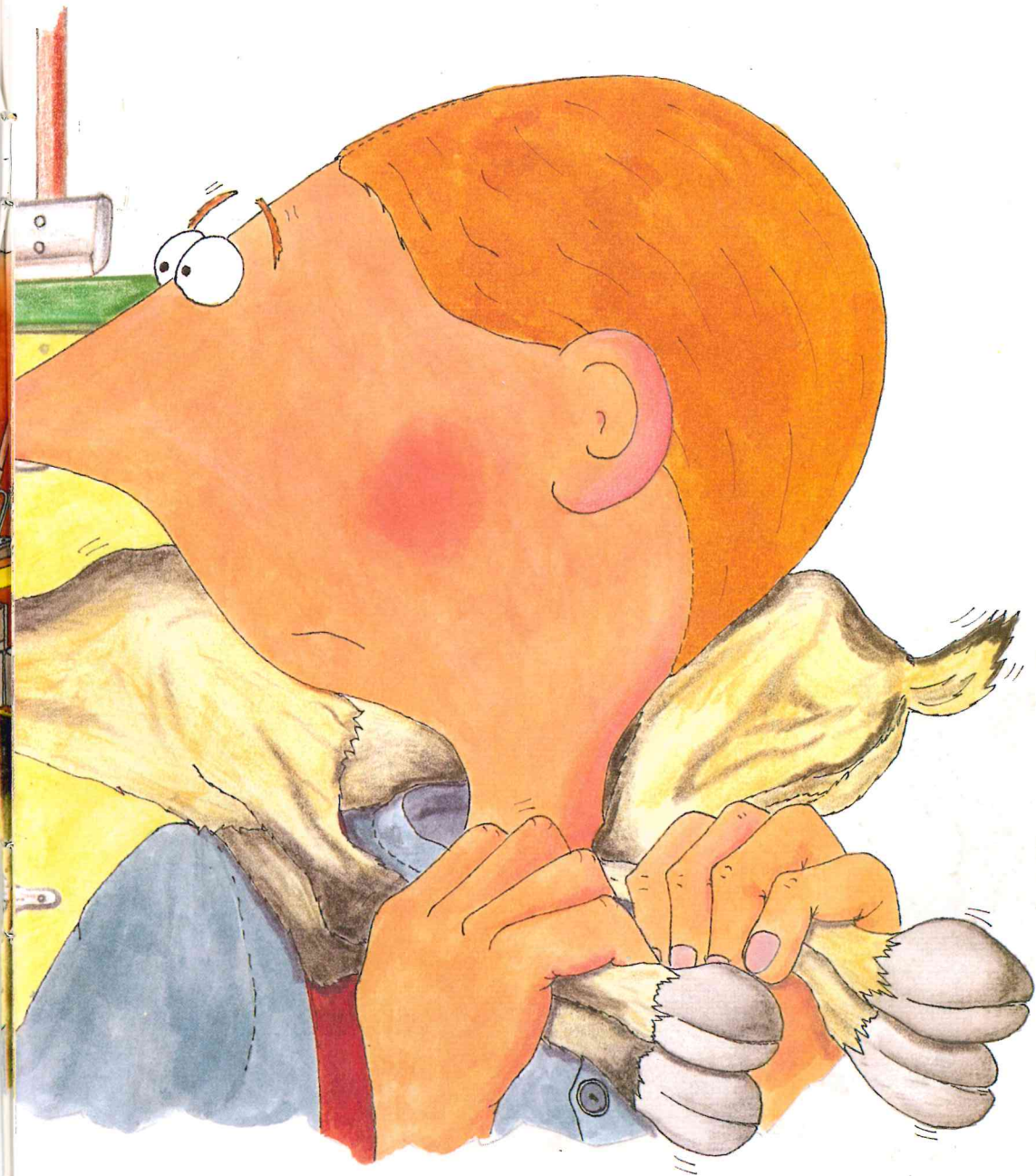


The next day Billy went to work for the butcher, who paid him with a skinny goat.

“I must carry this across my shoulder,” said Billy to himself.



What a noise the goat made as Billy tried to carry it across his neck!

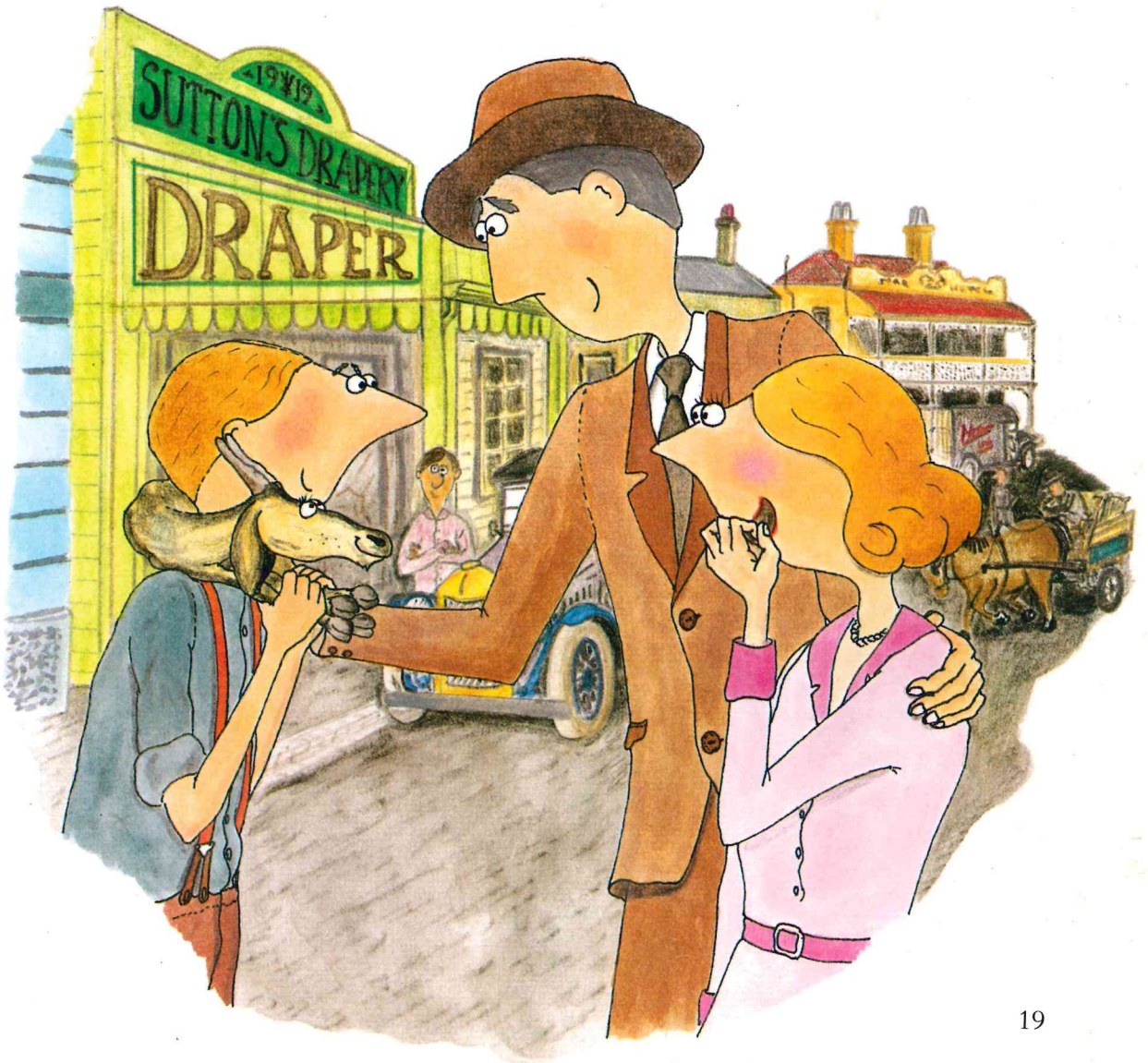


As Billy staggered through the town,
many people heard the goat bleating.

A lovely young girl saw Billy and the
goat, and began to laugh and laugh and
laugh.



The girl's father was delighted when he saw her laughing. She had been sad all her life and had never laughed before. The father was so happy that he said Billy could marry his daughter.



The father gave his daughter and Billy a big house to live in, and bags of money.





And they all lived happily ever after.





Titles in Stage 2:

A Bedtime Story Mem Fox
A Giant's Cake and other poems Anne Hanzl,
Yevonne Pollock, Diane Snowball
And Billy Went Out to Play Bronwen Scarffe
Everyone Knows about Cars Yevonne Pollock
Floating and Sinking Honey Andersen
Hospitals Robyn Green
How to Cook Scones Bronwen Scarffe
I Can Do It Barbara Comber
I Love Cats Marjorie-Mary Hurst
It Didn't Frighten Me Janet L Goss & Jerome C Harste
One Hot Summer Night Greg Mitchell
Silly Billy Anne Hanzl
The Greedy Goat Faye Bolton
The Old Man's Mitten Yevonne Pollock
When the King Rides By Margaret Mahy
Where Does the Wind Go? Marcia Vaughan
Whose Toes and Nose Are Those? Marcia Vaughan

(*The Greedy Goat*, *The Old Man's Mitten* and *When the King Rides By* are available in small and large formats.)

Other resources in Stage 2 include a Teacher's Resource Book and Audio Bookshelf.



Anne Hanzl is a teacher and a librarian and lectures in Children's Literature to student teachers. Anne is president of the Children's Book Council of Australia (Victorian Branch) and has four children and hundreds of books. She loves reading and sharing books with children.



About the illustrator:

John Veeken was born in Holland and grew up in the country. He trained as a nurse but now works full-time as an illustrator. This is his first book.



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