

# The flying carpet

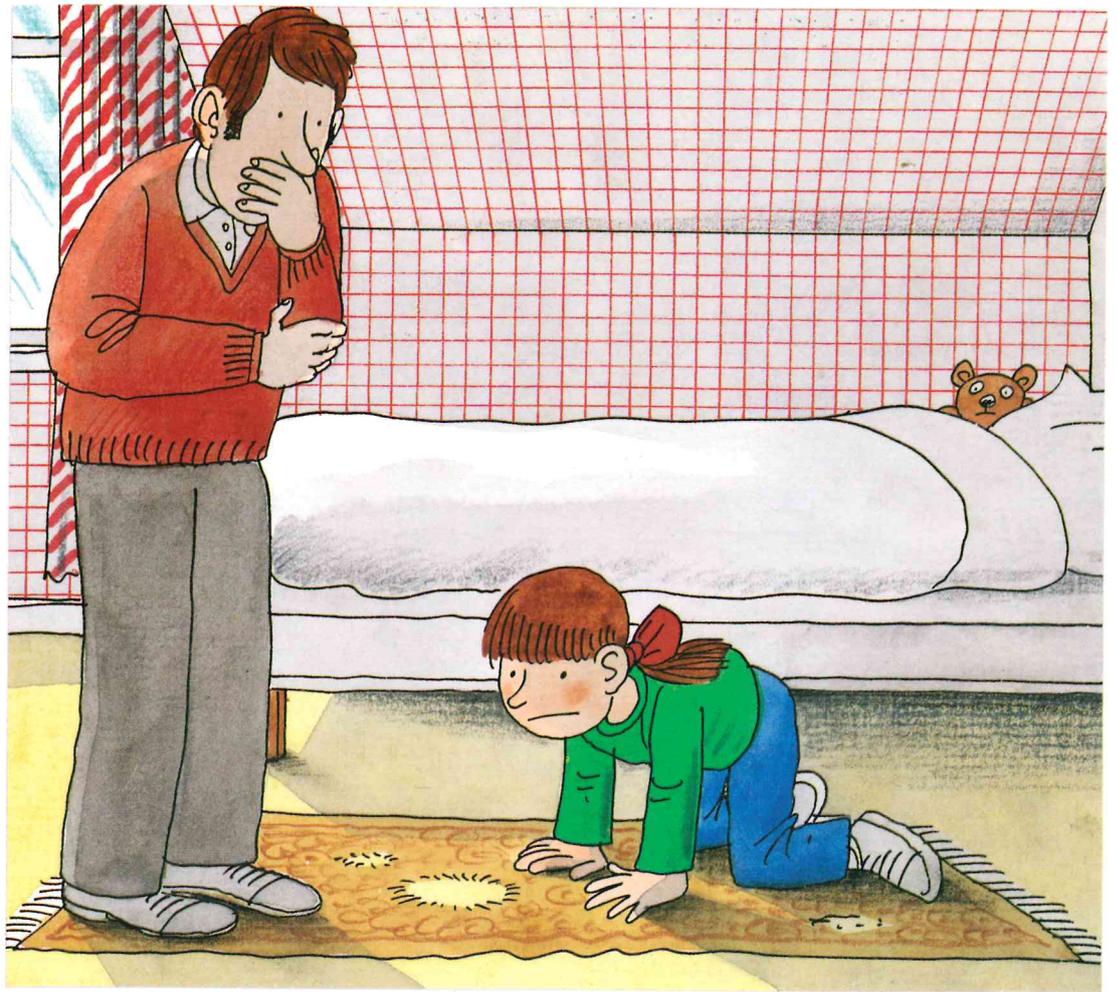
Roderick Hunt



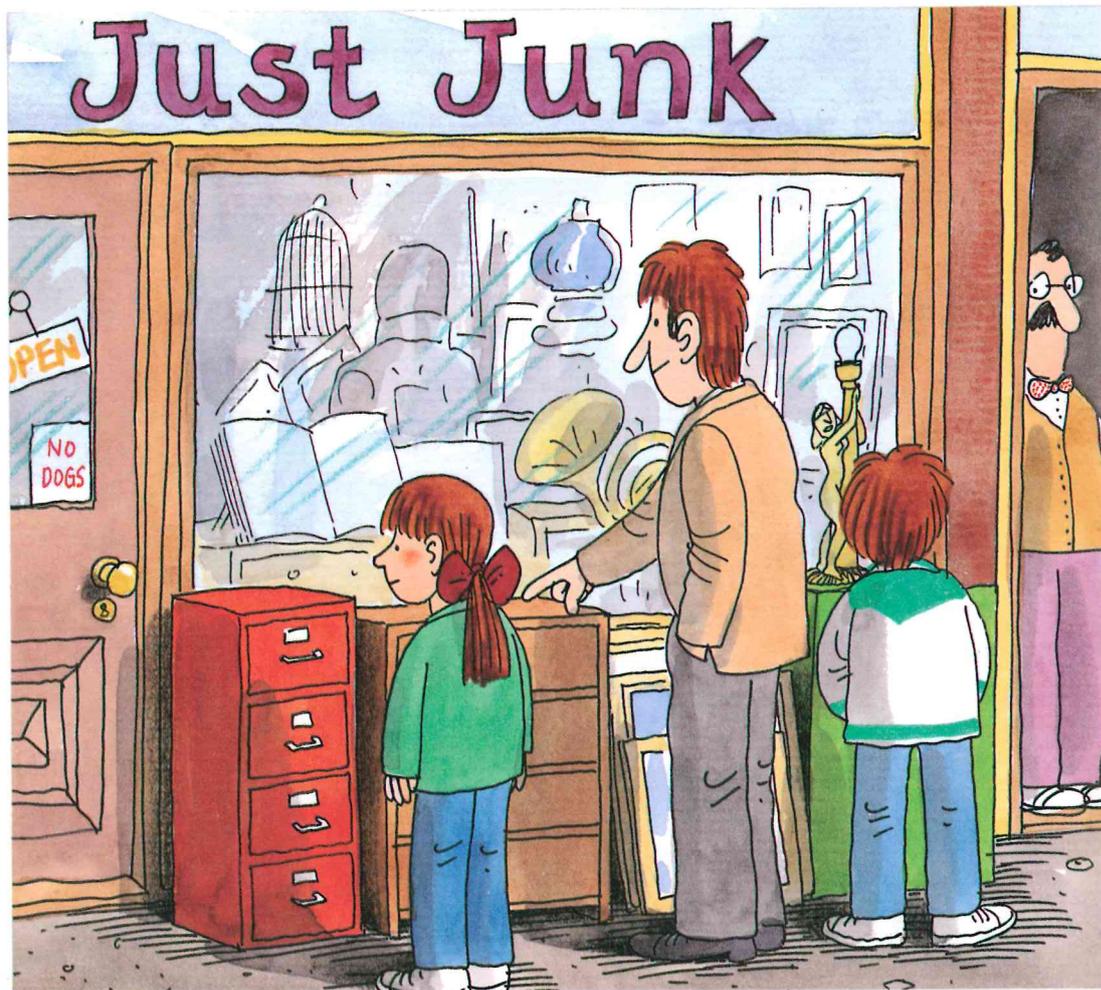
Magpies

Oxford





Biff's carpet was torn.  
It had a big hole in it.  
Biff showed Dad but he said,  
'We can't afford a new one.  
Sorry, Biff.'



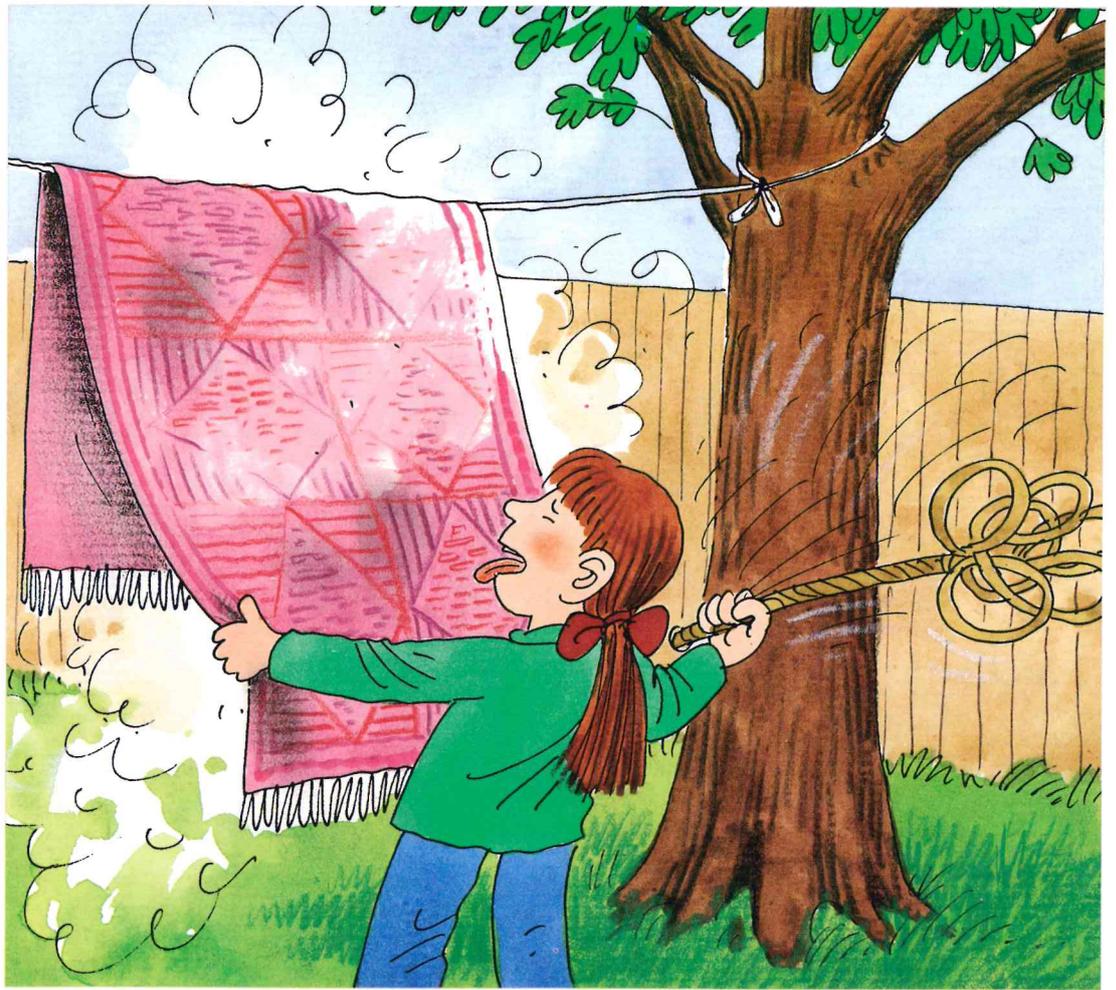
Biff and Chip were shopping with Dad.  
Dad wanted to buy a book-case for  
Kipper's room.  
They saw one outside the junk shop.  
'I'll get this for Kipper,' said Dad.



Biff found an old carpet in the  
back of the shop.  
'This would do for my room,'  
she said.  
She asked Dad if she could have it.



Dad looked at the old carpet.  
'You don't want that thing,' he said.  
'It's old and dirty.'  
'But I like it,' said Biff. 'Please may I have it?'  
So Dad said, 'Yes, as long as it doesn't  
cost too much.'



**Biff beat the carpet.**

**It was full of dust and dirt.**

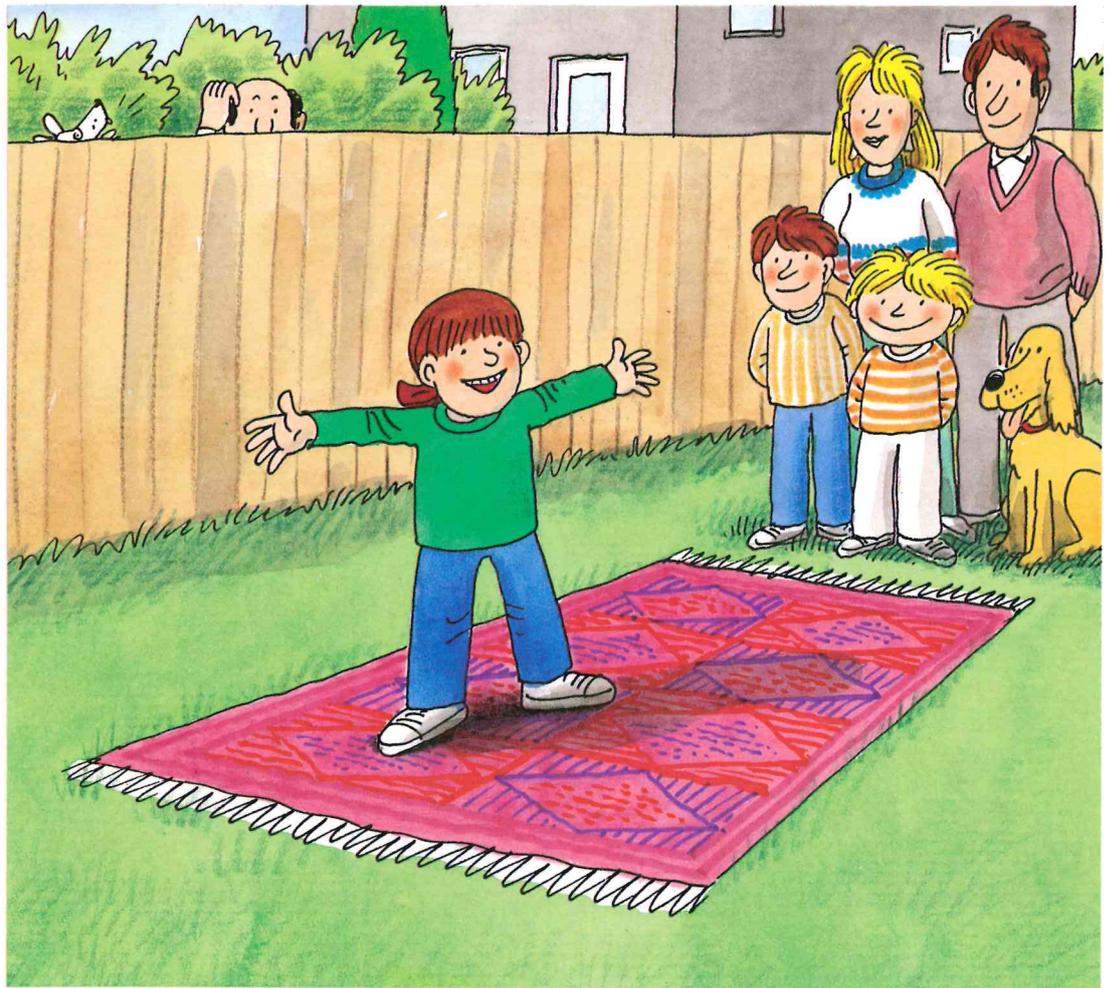
**'I didn't think a carpet could be so dusty,'  
she said. 'I wonder who had it last.  
Someone who didn't wipe their feet!'**



Biff and Mum gave the carpet a shampoo.

'I don't think it has ever had a shampoo before,' said Biff.

'It looks better already.'



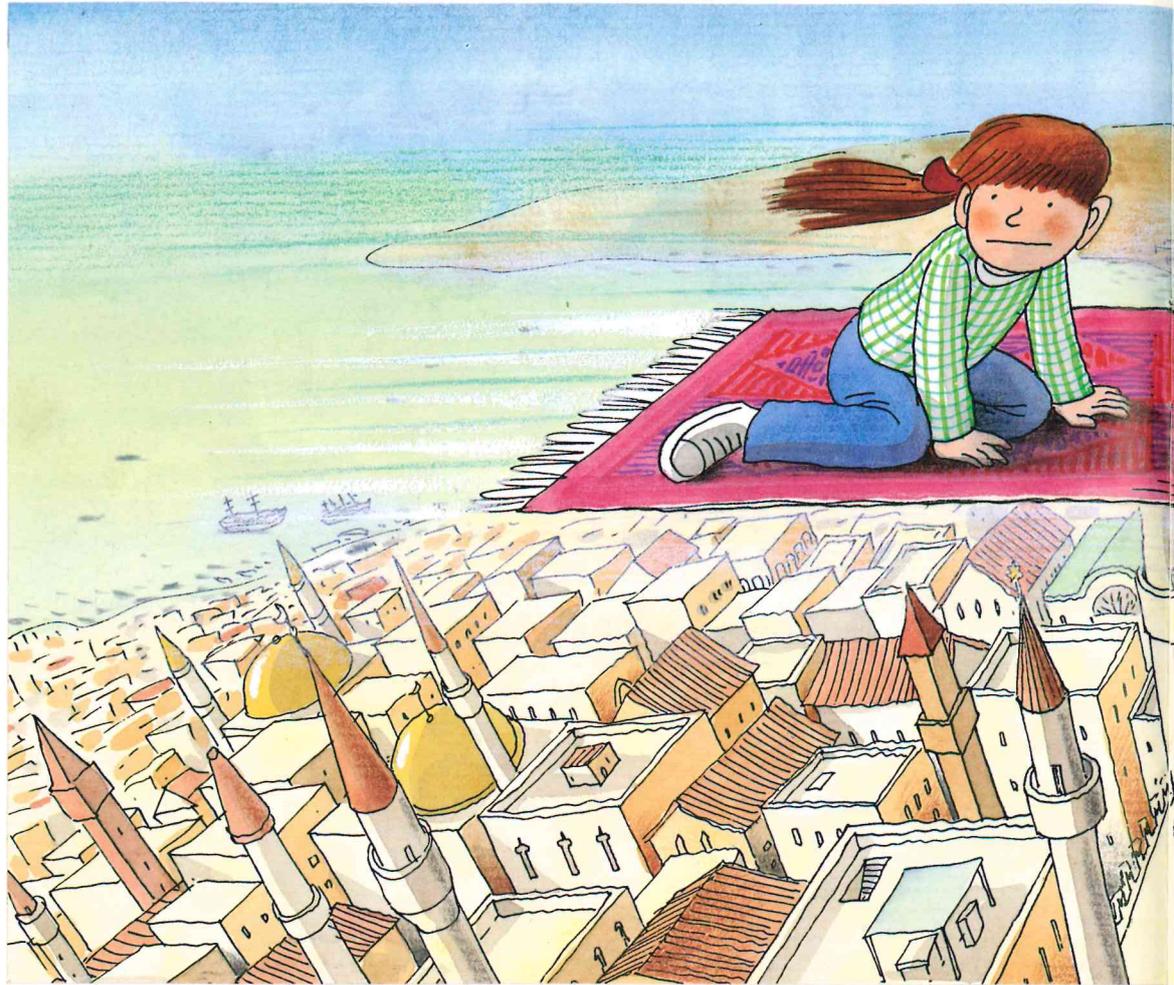
The carpet looked beautiful.  
'It is a nice carpet,' said Biff,  
'I told you so!  
It looks quite old, so maybe  
it's worth a lot of money.'



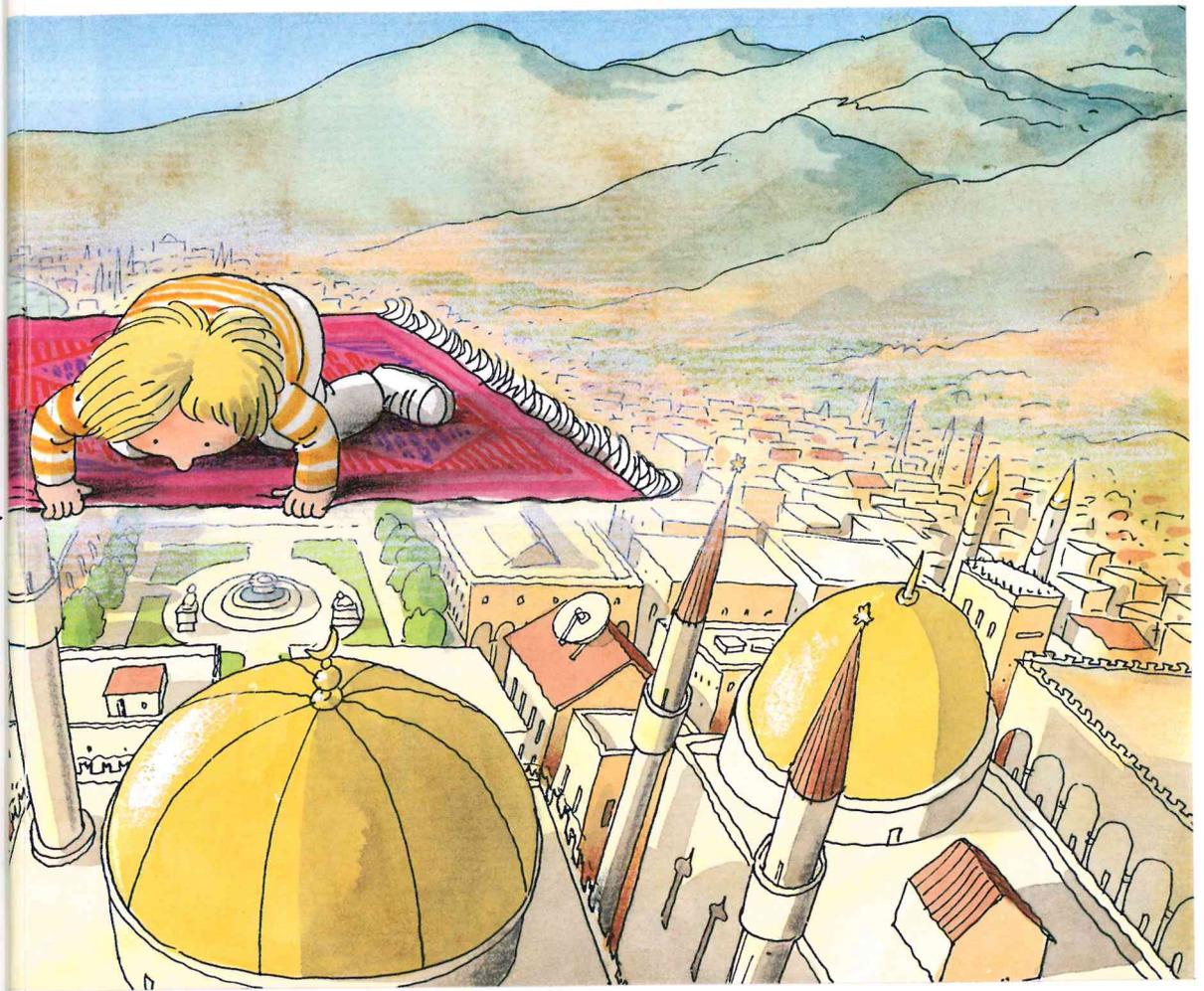
Biff was in her bedroom reading a book.  
Kipper came in and they sat on Biff's new  
carpet.  
Kipper was learning to read and  
he wanted to read to Biff.



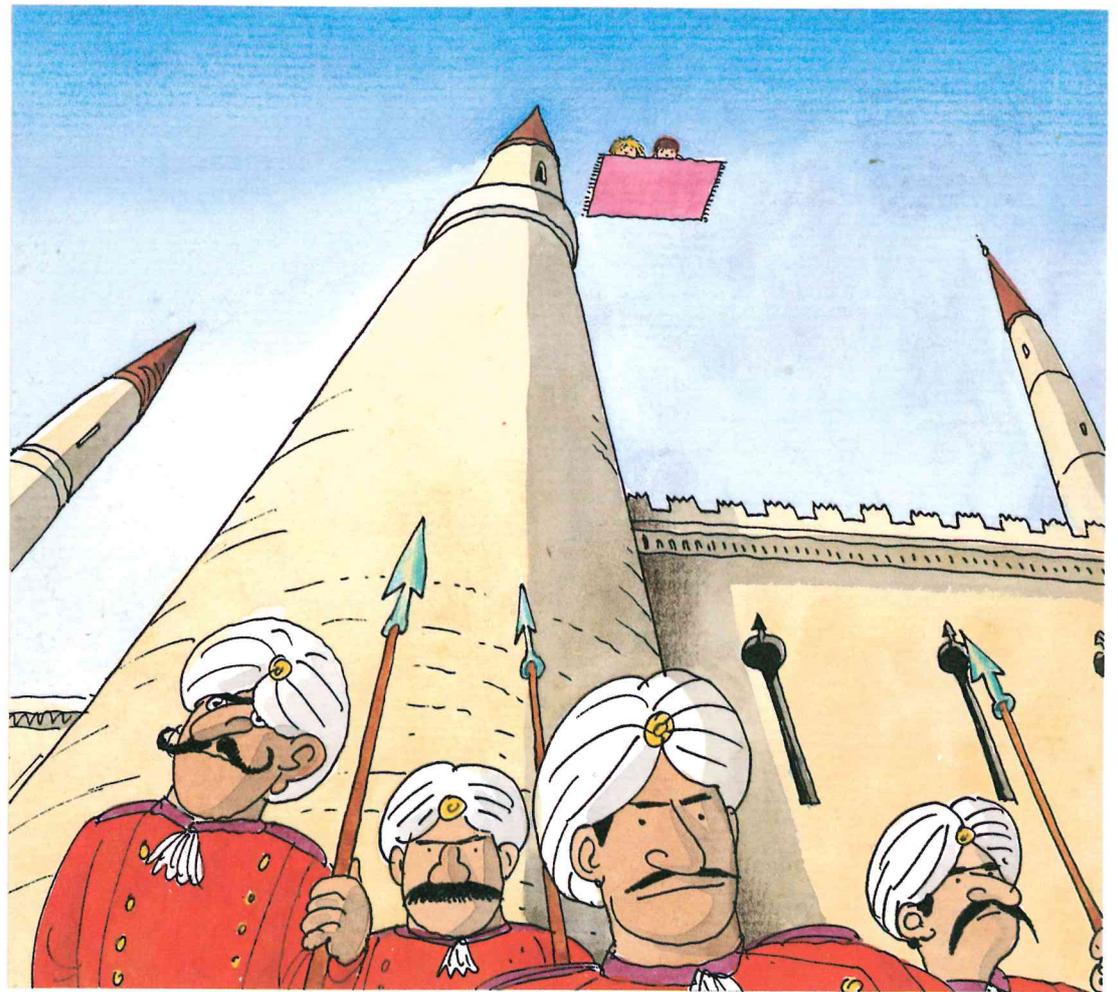
Suddenly, the magic key began to glow.  
Another adventure had begun.  
This time Biff and Kipper were on  
a flying carpet.  
'This is a new kind of adventure,' said Biff.  
'The carpet is coming with us.'



The carpet went very fast.  
'Oh help,' said Kipper. 'I hope  
we don't fall off.'  
The carpet flew on and on.  
It flew over deserts and mountains.  
'I wonder where we're going?' said Biff.



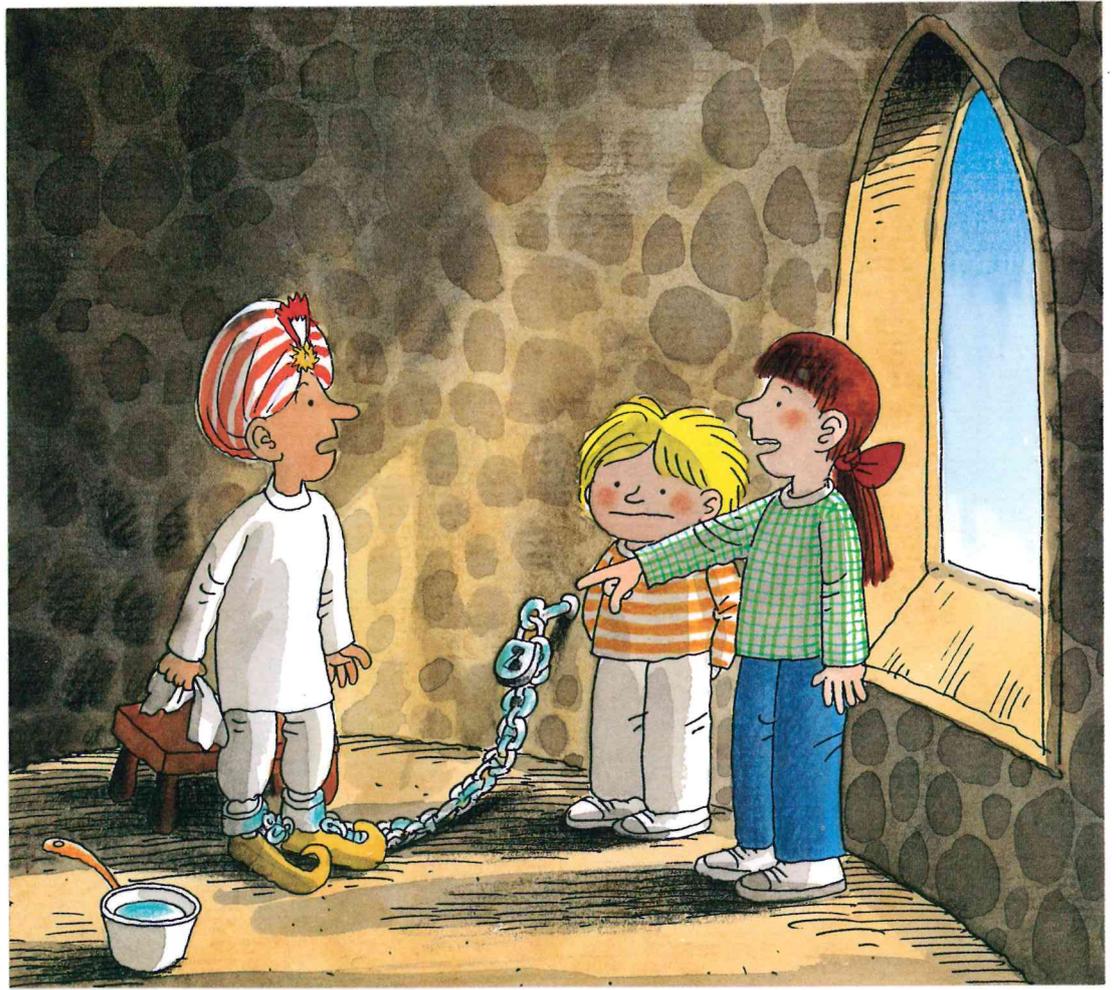
At last, the carpet slowed down.  
Biff and Kipper looked over the side.  
The carpet was flying over a town.  
'I've never seen a town like  
this one,' said Biff.  
'I wonder if we're going to land.'



But the carpet didn't land.  
Instead it went slower and slower.  
Then it stopped by a window at  
the top of a tower.  
'I wonder why we've stopped here,' said Kipper.



Biff and Kipper looked through the window.  
They saw a little boy.  
He was crying and he looked very unhappy.  
'He must be a prisoner,' said Biff.

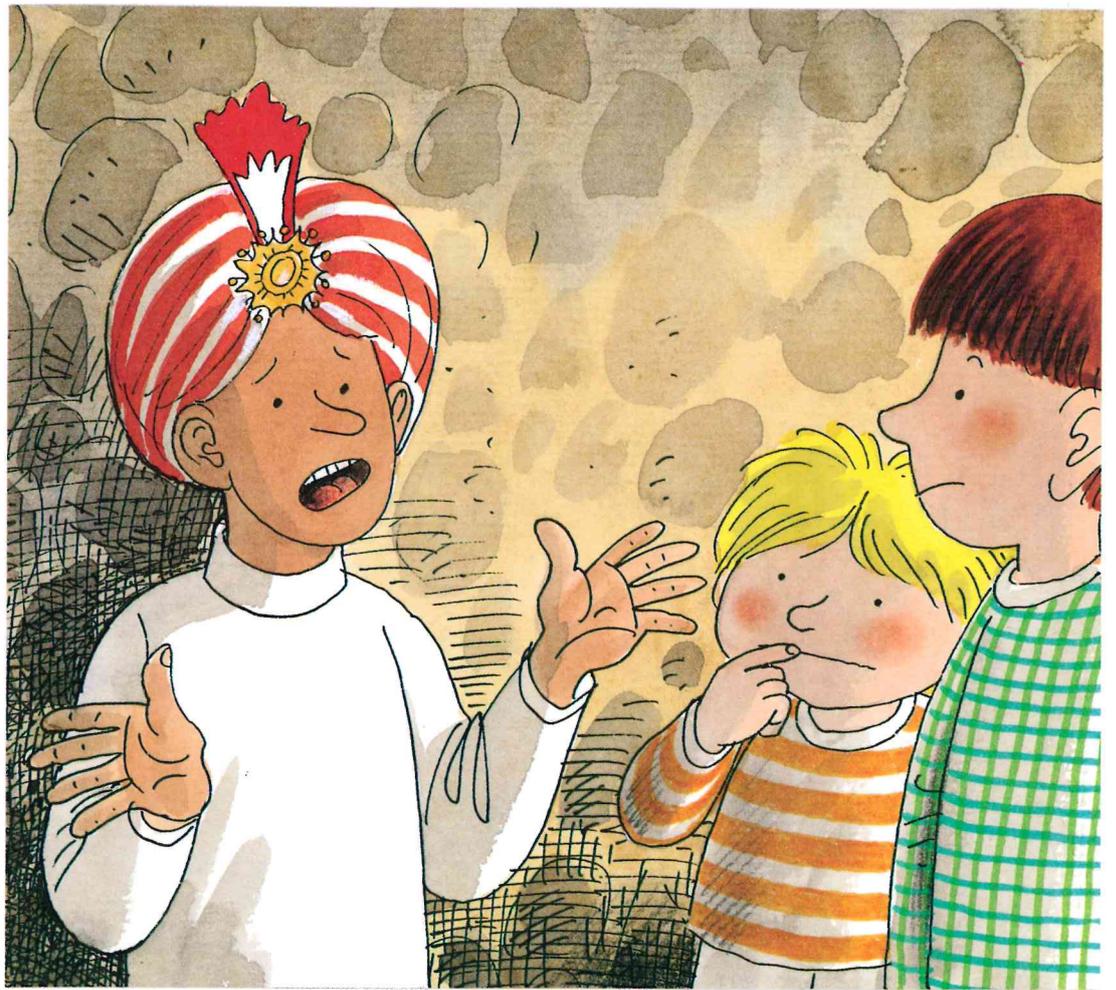


Biff and Kipper climbed into the  
little room.

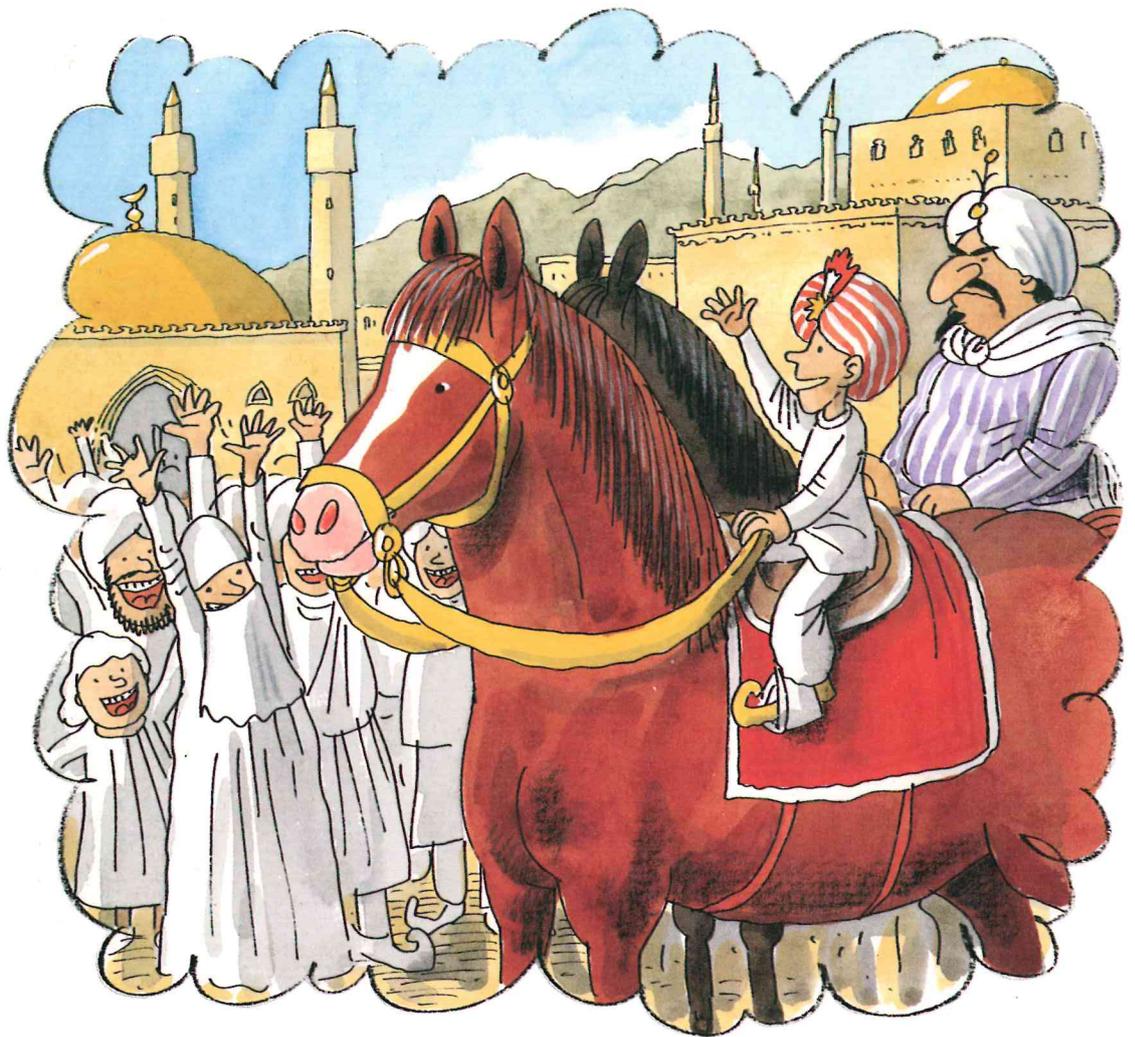
When the boy saw them, he jumped up  
in surprise.

‘Why are you locked up in this tower?’ asked Biff.

‘What have you done?’



'I am the real king of this land,' said the boy sadly, 'but my wicked uncle locked me in this tower.'



When I was king everyone  
was happy.  
I promised to rule the country  
wisely and well.  
But my uncle was jealous.  
He wanted to be the king, instead.



One day my uncle and his soldiers attacked  
the palace.

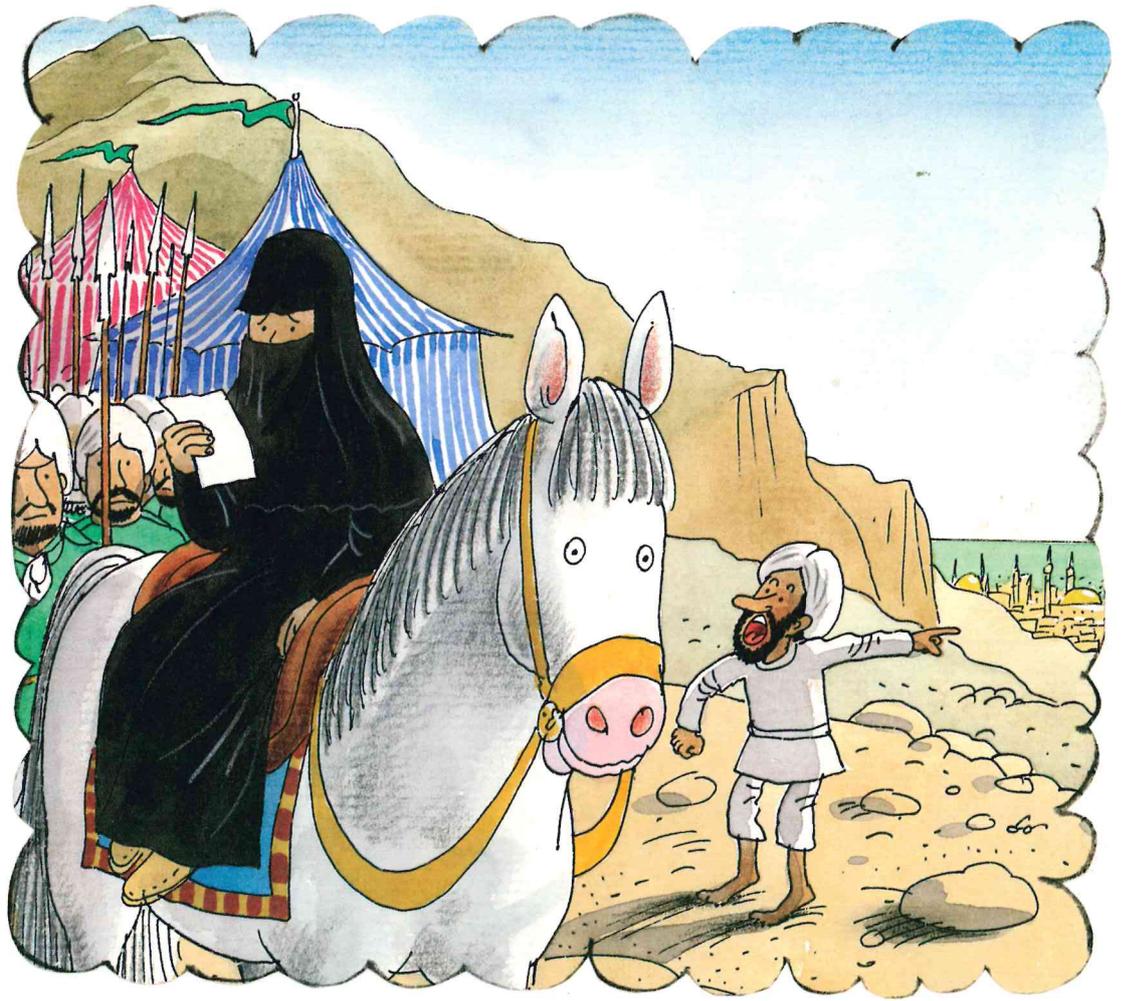
They captured me and put me in prison.

My mother escaped.

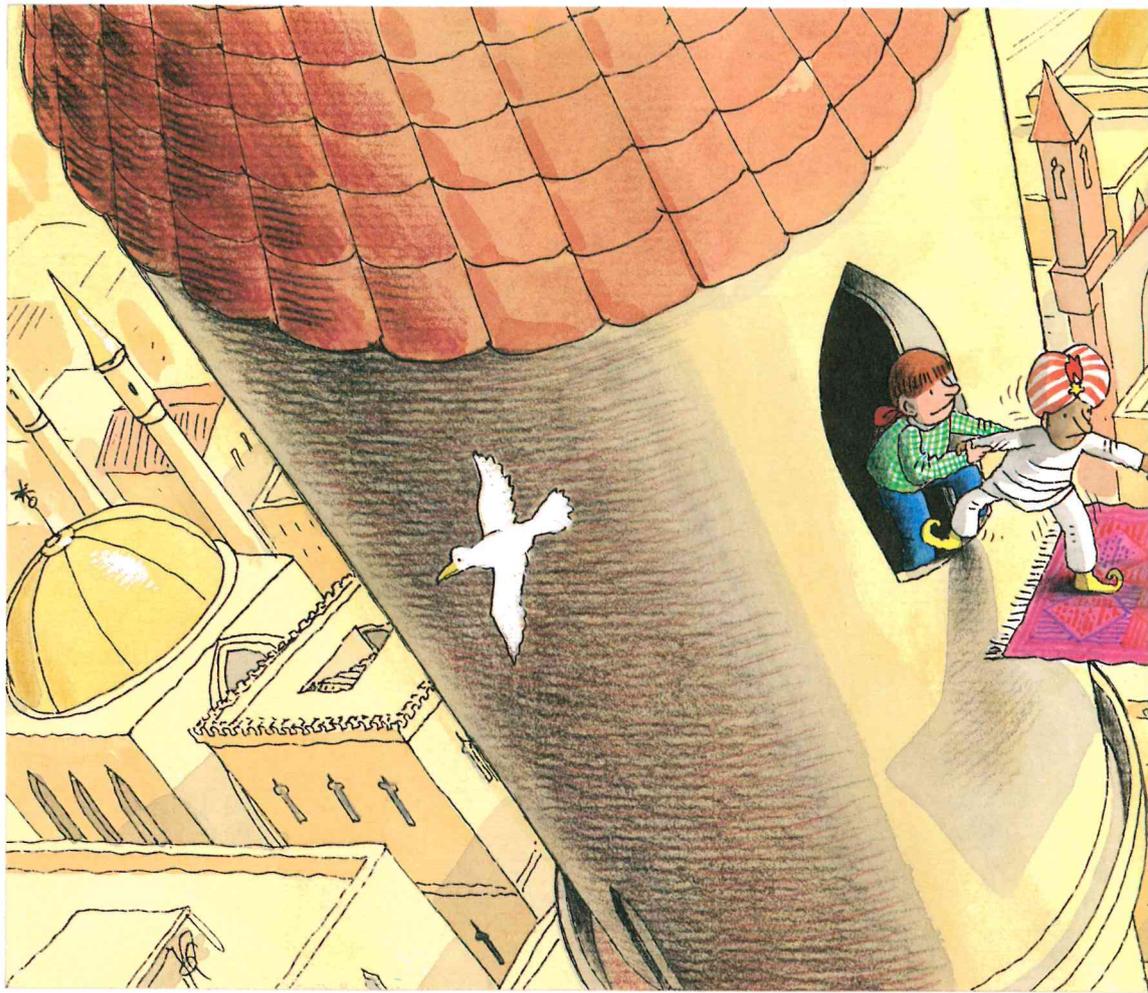
She ran away to the mountains and  
took her army with her.



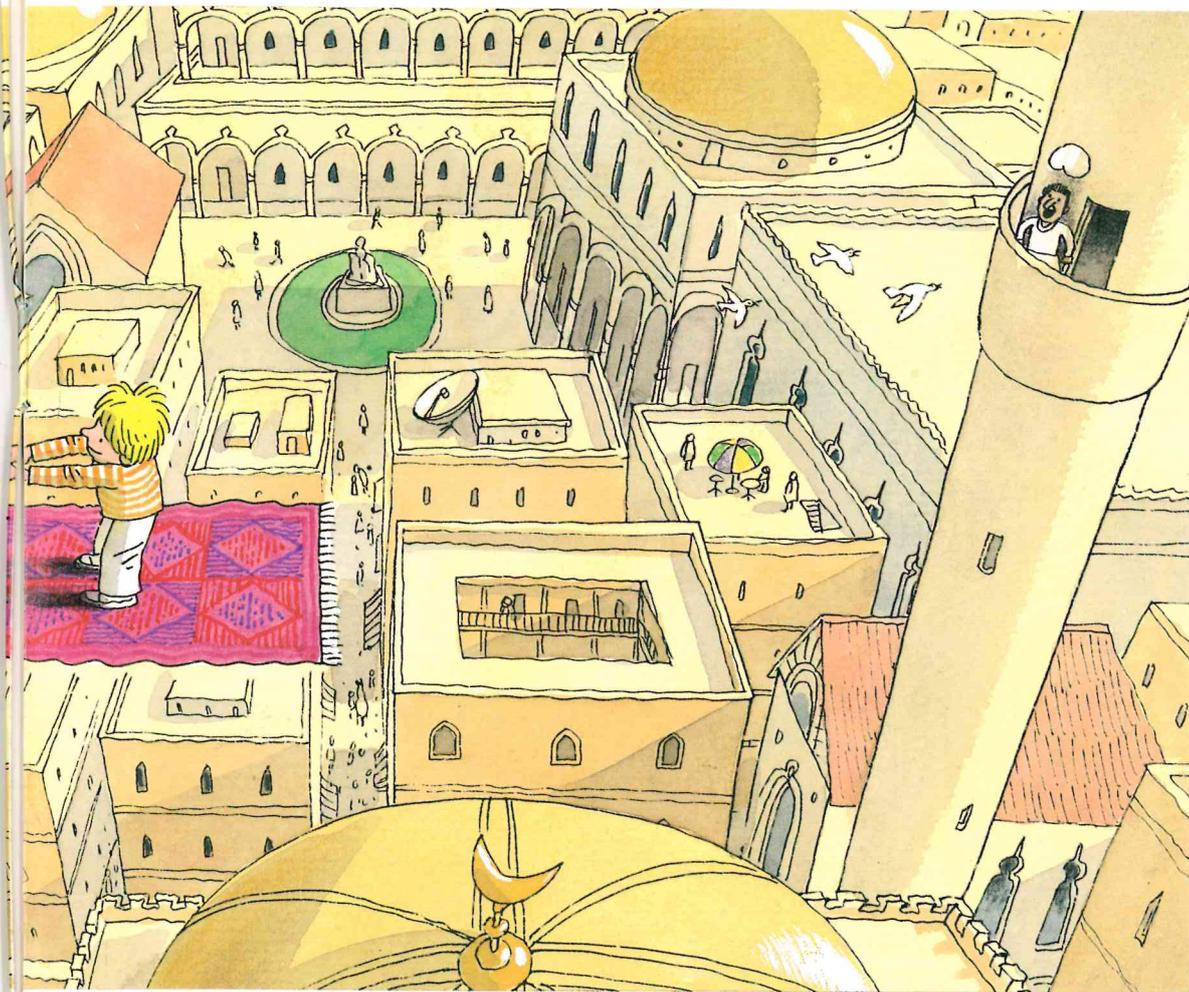
My uncle is a bad man.  
He is cruel and greedy.  
He makes the people pay him money even if  
they are poor.  
If they can't pay, he puts them in prison.  
Nobody is happy.



Every day the people ask my mother and her army to attack the city. She will not give the order to attack because she is afraid my uncle will harm me. I am a hostage in this palace.'



**'Then we must set you free,' said Biff.  
'The carpet will take us to your mother.'  
Biff and Kipper helped the boy to  
climb out of the window.  
Then they all sat on the carpet.**

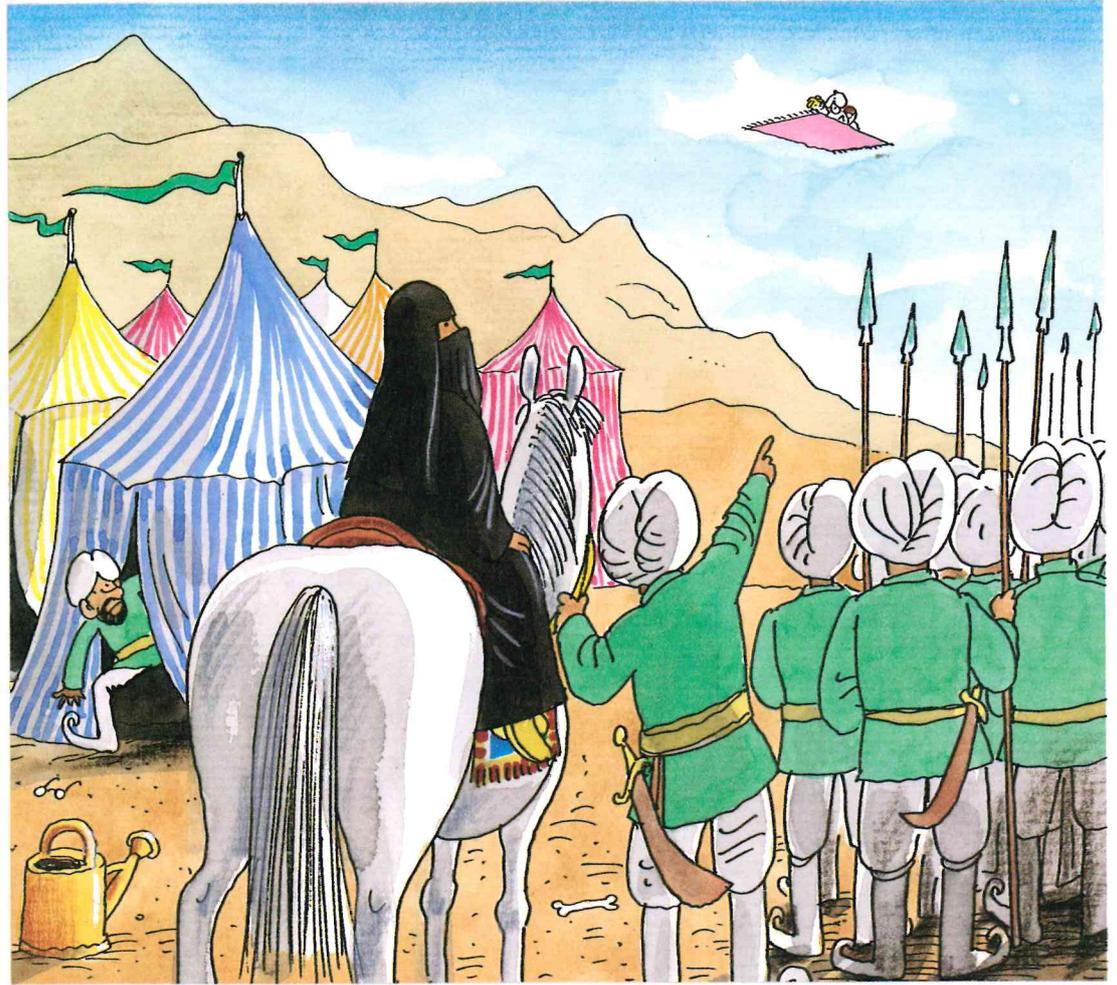


‘How do we make it fly?’ asked Kipper.

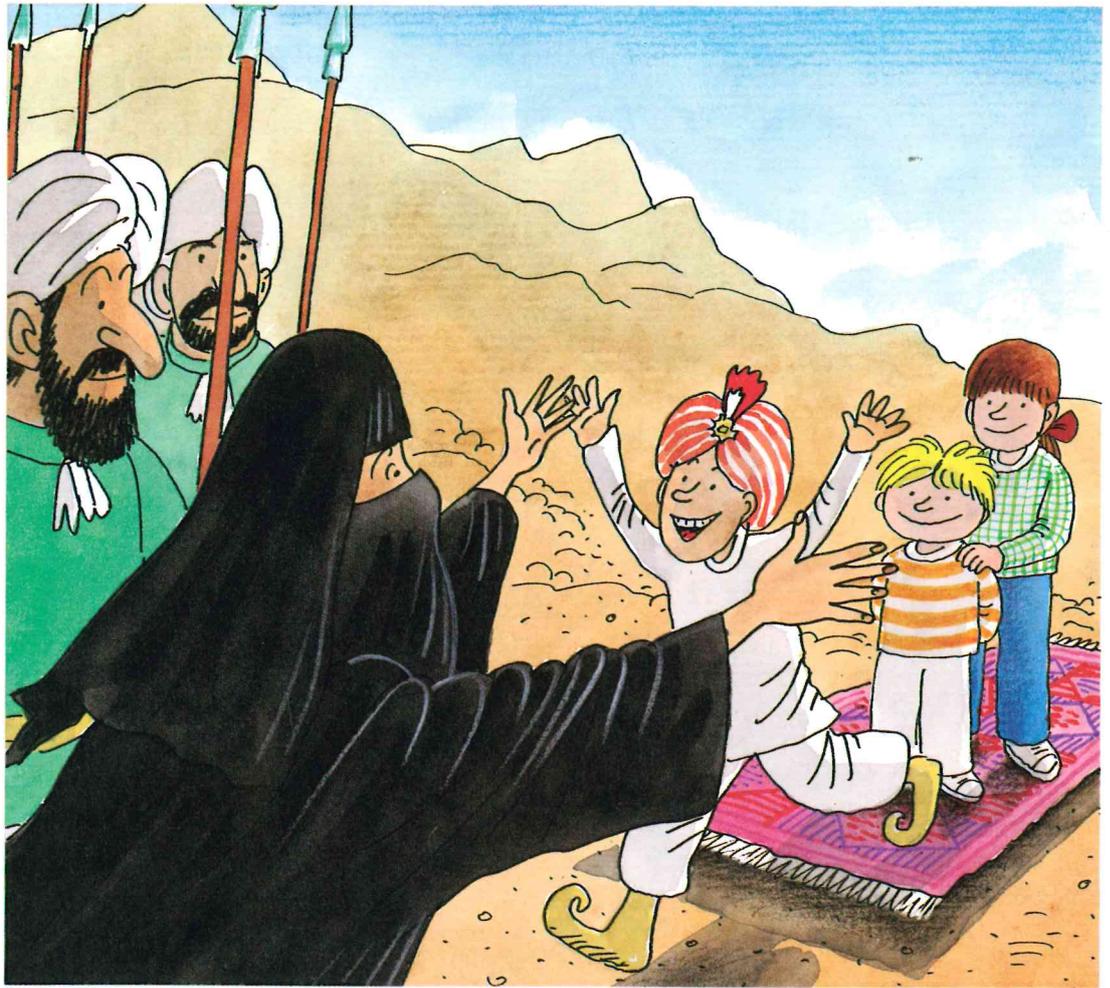
‘How will it know where to take us?’

‘Make a wish,’ said Biff. ‘Then it’ll go where we want it to.’

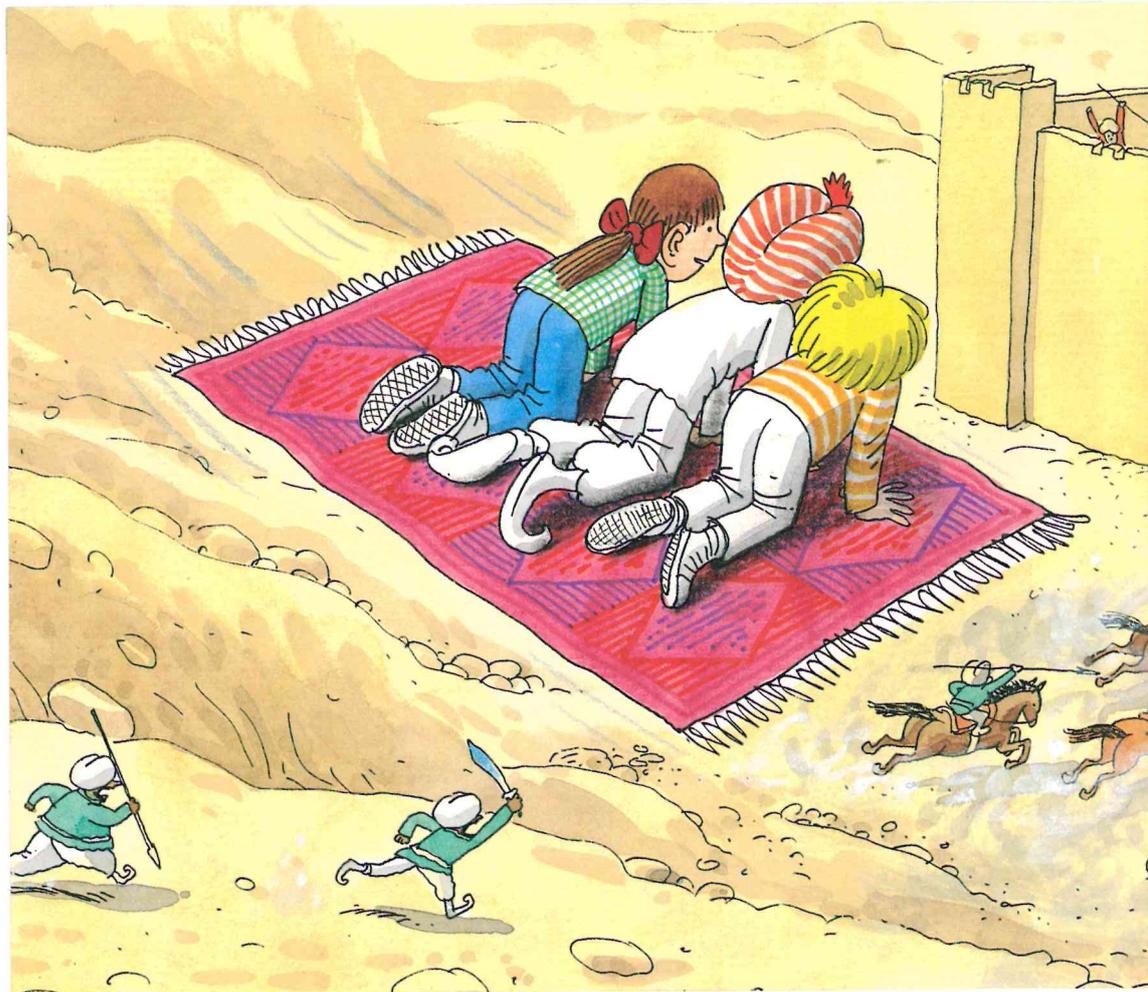
They made a wish, and the carpet zoomed off.



The carpet sped towards the mountains.  
At last it began to slow down.  
'I hope it knows how to land,' said Kipper.  
'It looks a long way down.'



The carpet landed safely.  
When the boy's mother saw him, she  
couldn't believe her eyes.  
She looked at the carpet and she  
looked at Biff and Kipper.  
'My son is safe!' she said, 'thank you.'



The boy's mother called all her soldiers.  
She told them her son was free.  
'Now he is safe, we can attack  
the city,' she said.  
'My son will be king again.'

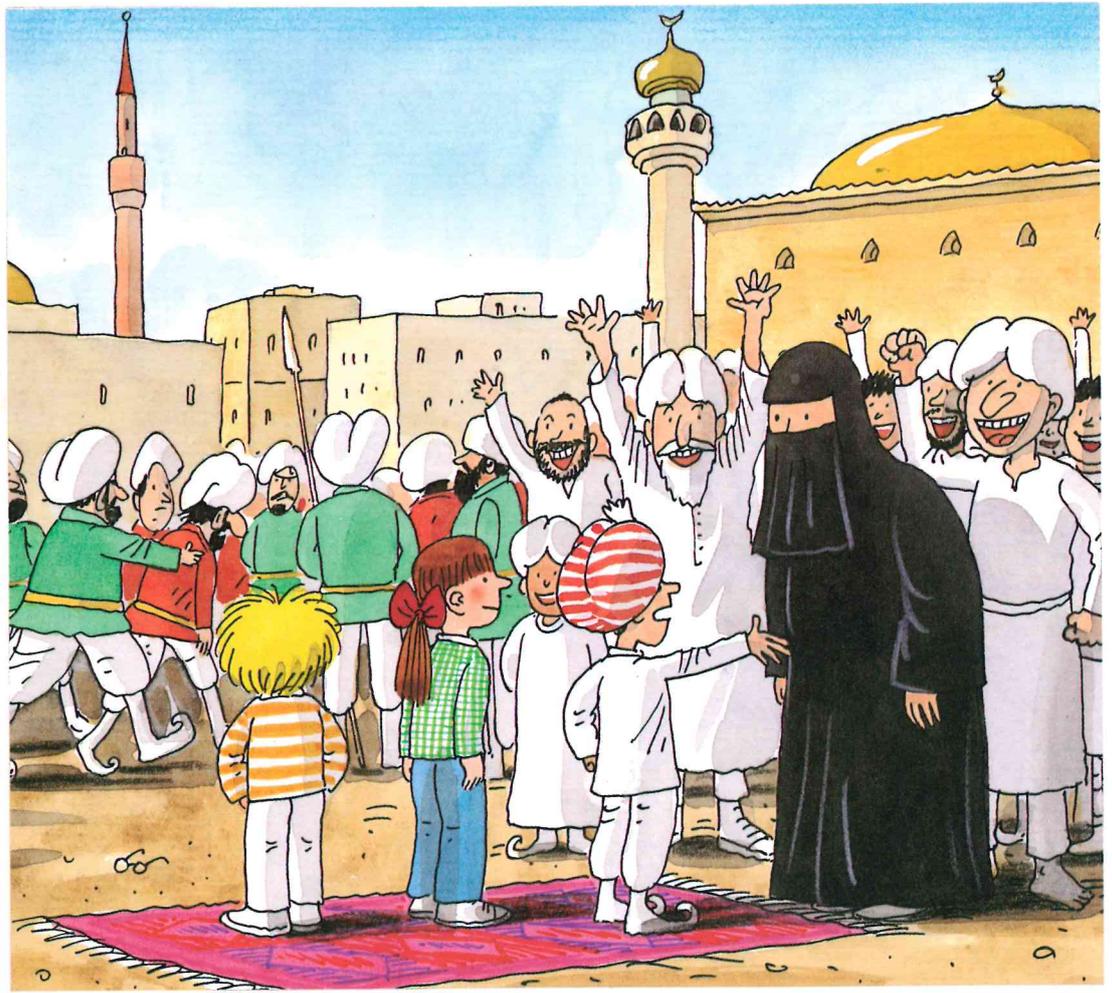


**'Hooray!' shouted the soldiers.**

**They came down from the mountains and  
marched to the city.**

**There was a big battle.**

**Biff, Kipper, and the boy watched the battle from  
a safe place.**

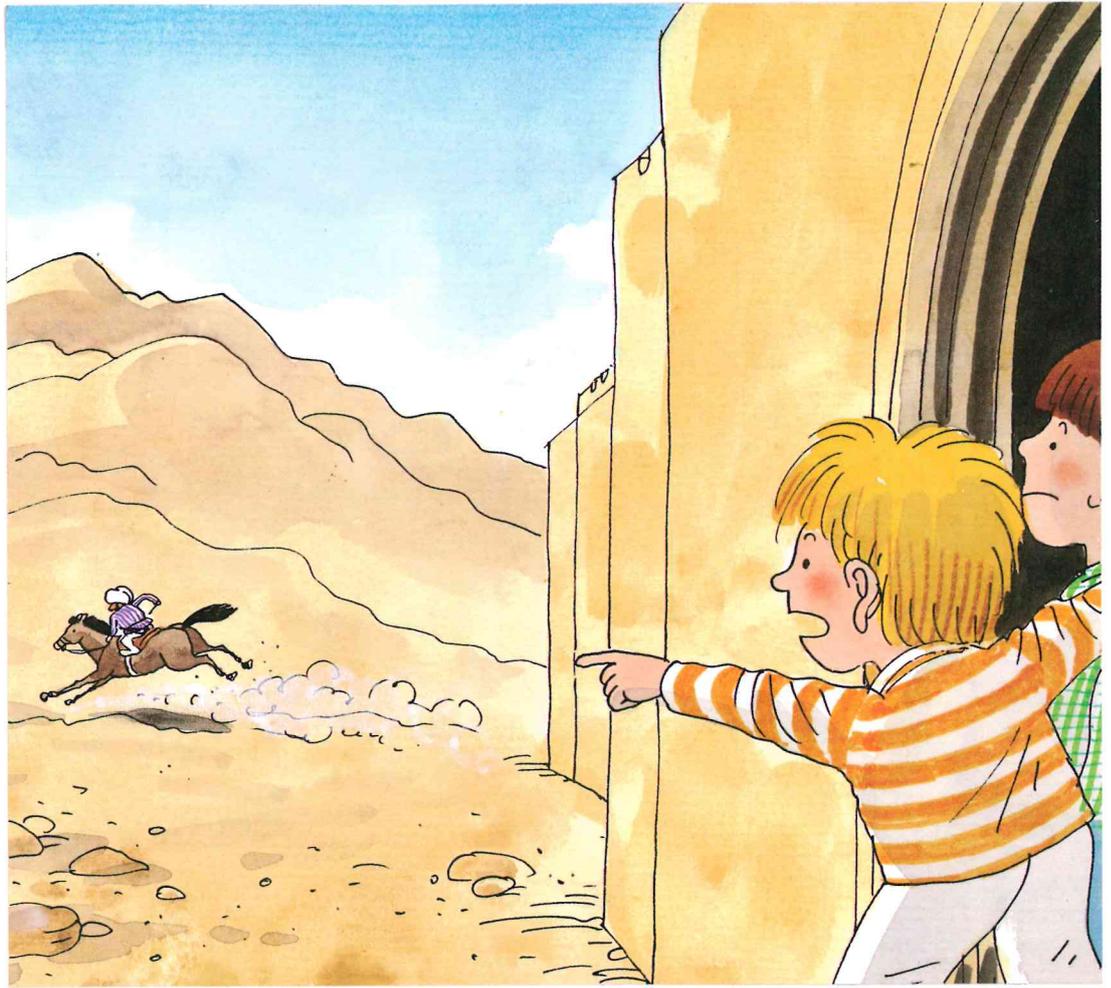


When the battle was over everyone was pleased that the boy was king again.

But the boy was not pleased.

‘Where is my uncle?’ he asked.

‘He must be punished for what he did.’



Biff and Kipper saw someone running away.

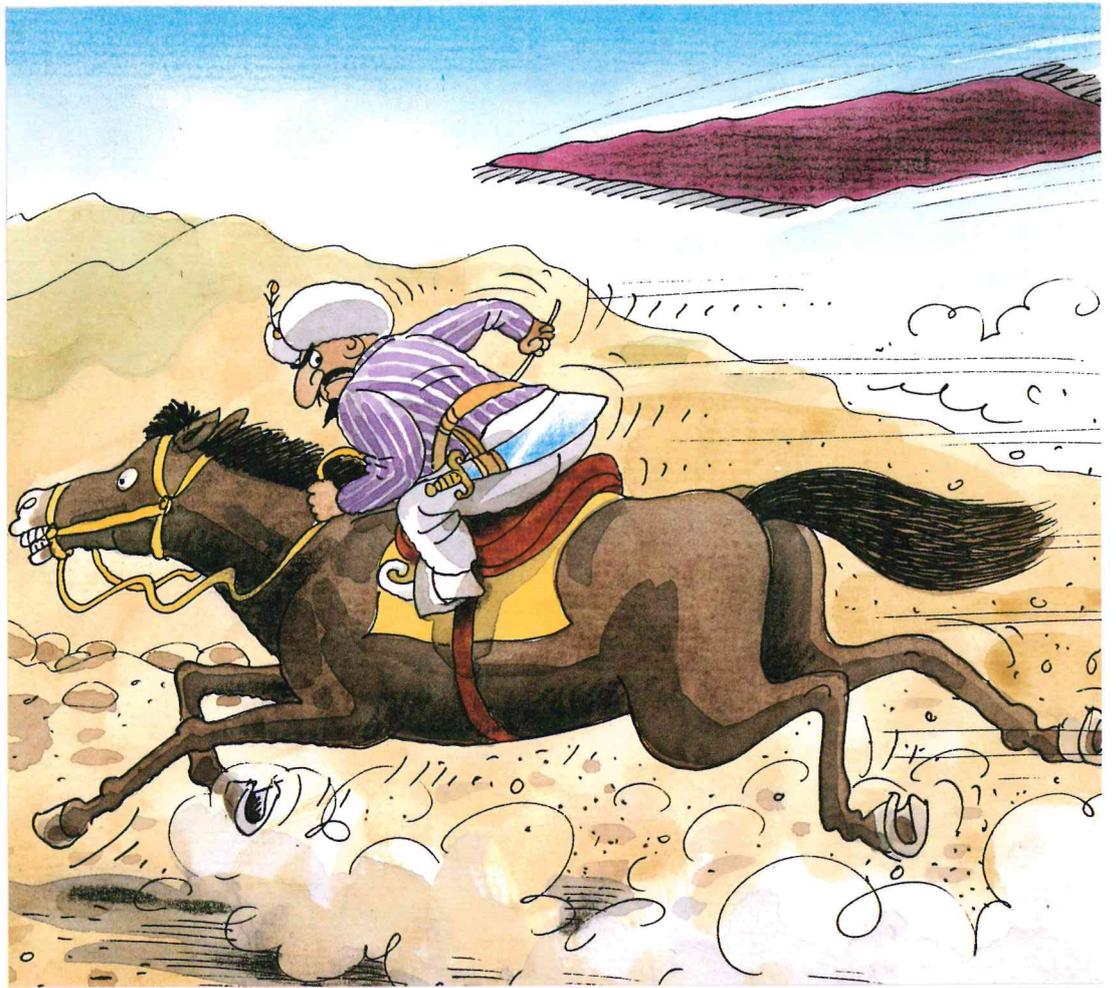
It was the wicked uncle.

'Oh no!' said Kipper, 'he's getting away.

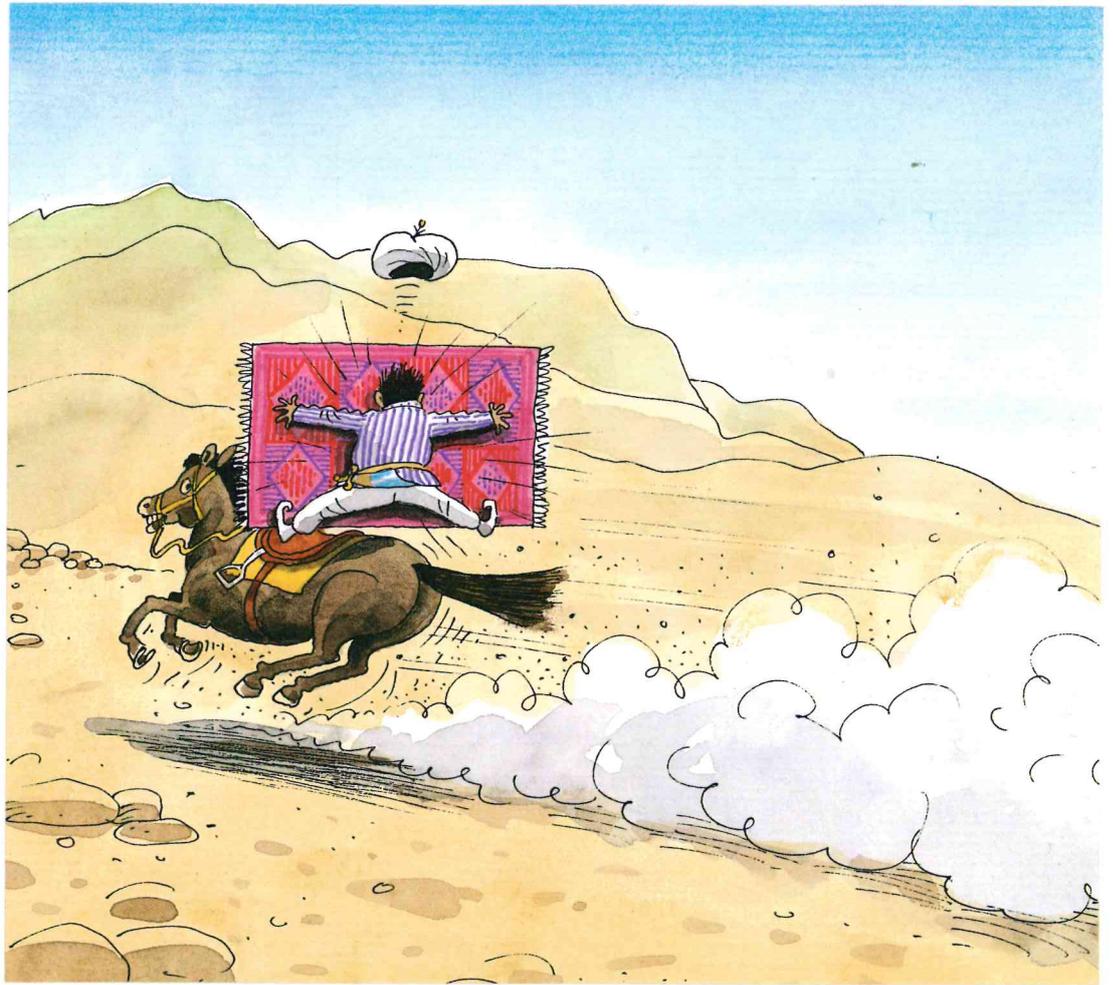
How can we stop him?'

Biff had the magic carpet with her.

'I wonder if...?' she thought.



**Biff made a wish and the magic carpet  
flew after the wicked uncle.  
The wicked uncle rode as fast as he could  
but the carpet was faster.  
'Stop him!' called Biff.**

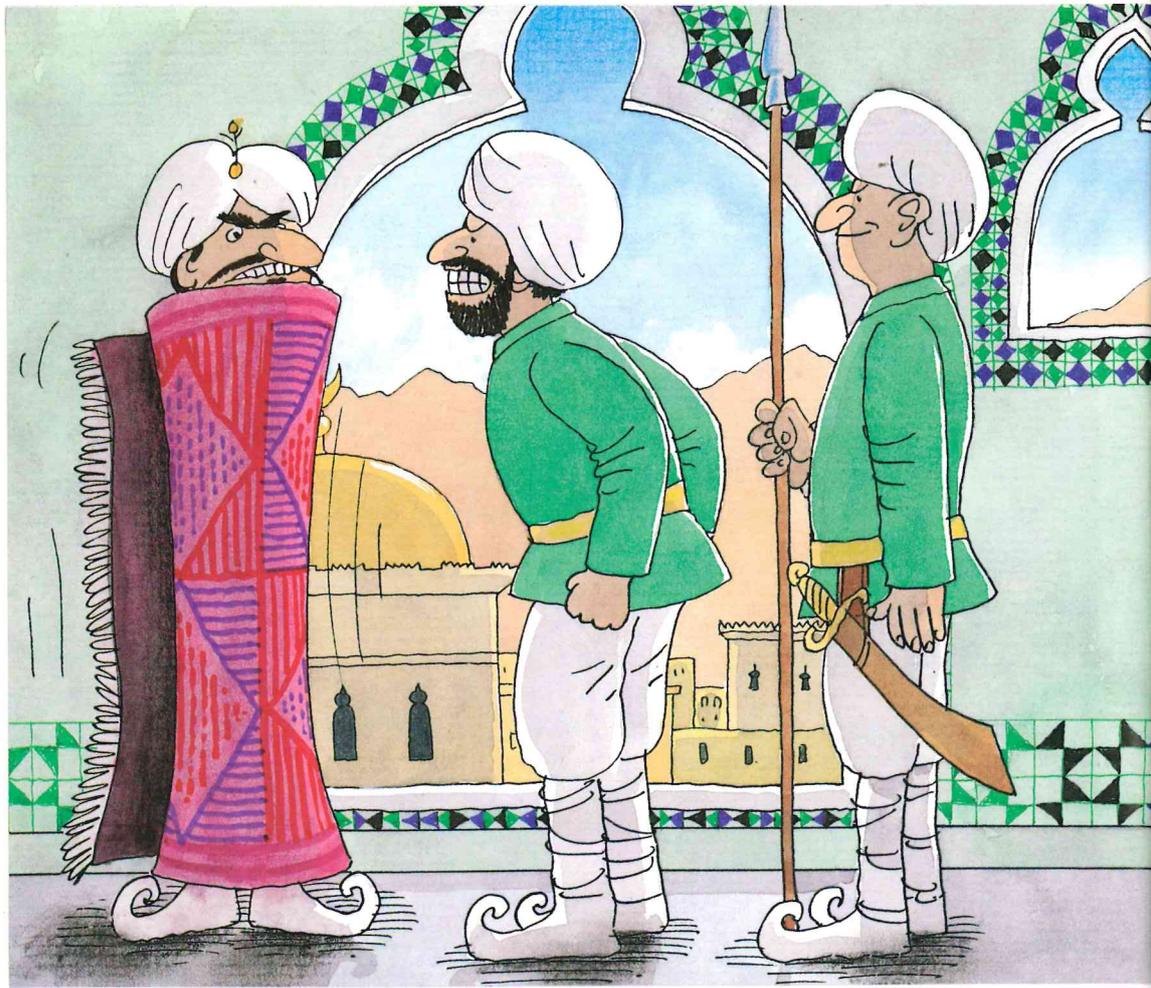


The carpet pulled the wicked uncle from his horse.

It wrapped itself around him and then it rolled him back to the city.

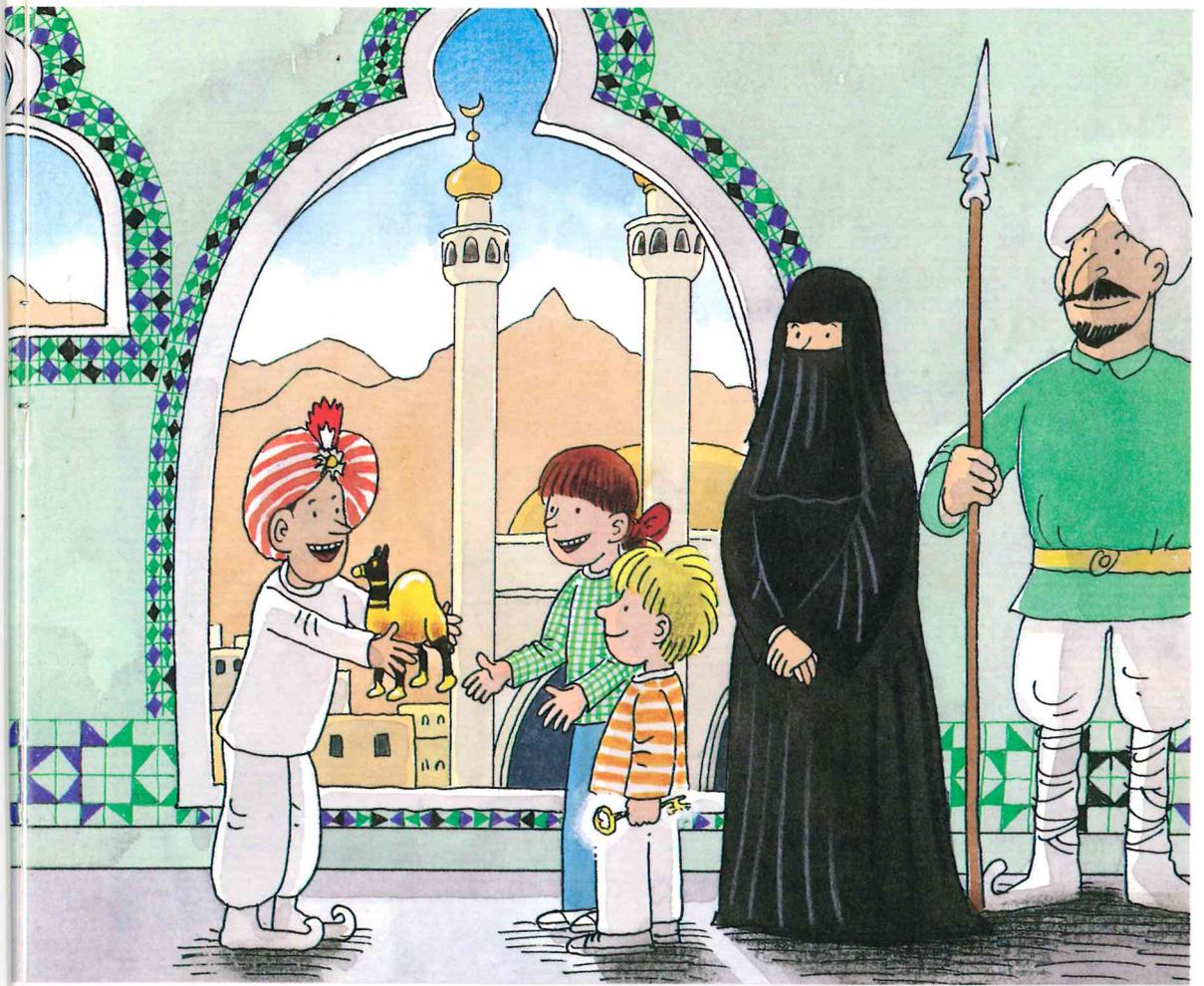
'Help! Help!' called the wicked uncle.

'Get this carpet off me!'

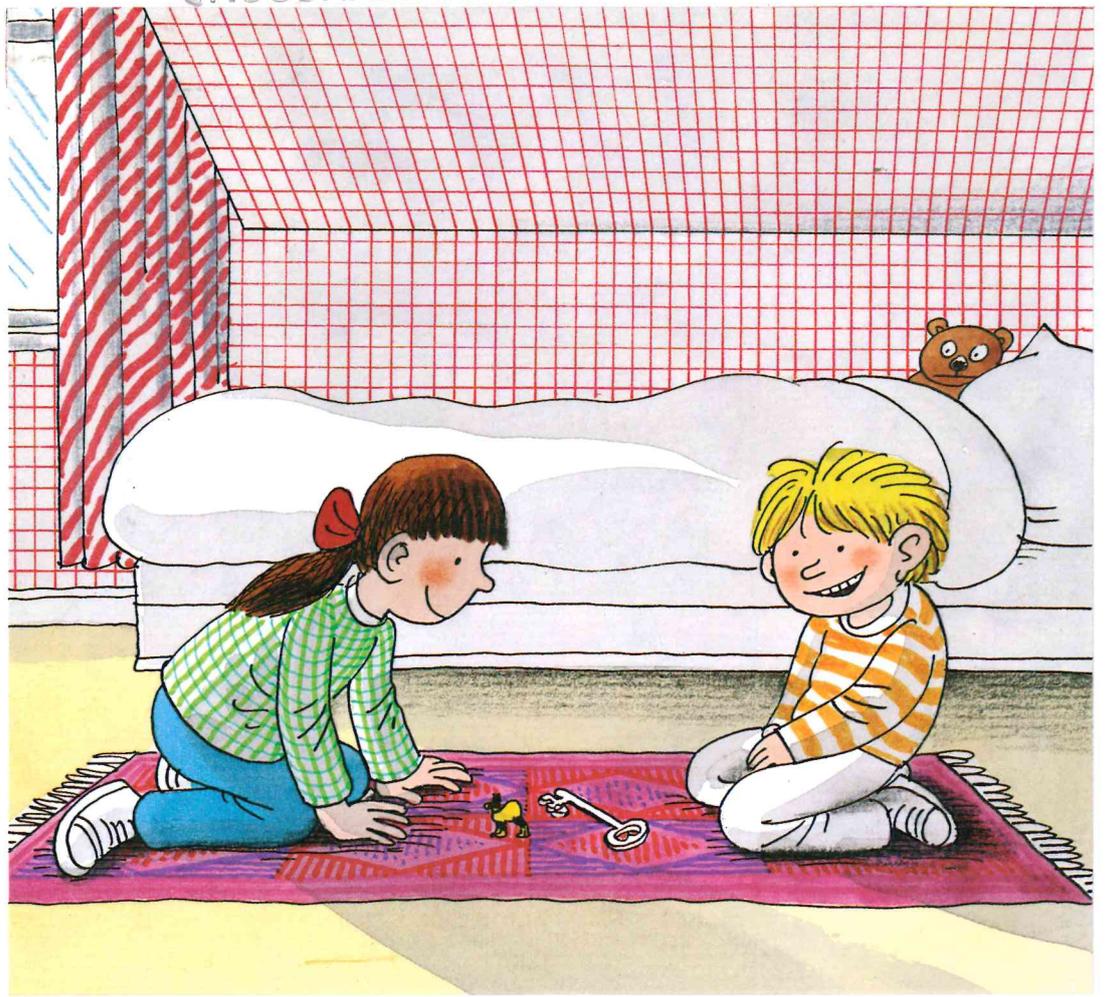


Biff and Kipper took the wicked uncle to  
the boy.

‘Thank you,’ he said. ‘It’s my uncle’s turn  
to go to prison. Now I can be a good king and  
look after my people again.’



The boy gave Biff and Kipper a present.  
It was a beautiful toy camel.  
'Thank you,' they said.  
Suddenly the magic key began to glow.  
'It's time for us to go,' said Biff, 'but  
we'll take our carpet if you don't mind.'



The magic key took Biff and Kipper home.  
'What an adventure!' said Kipper. 'Do you think if I wish very hard, the carpet will take me to school each day?'  
'You'll be lucky!' said Biff.

# The flying carpet

Story by  
**Roderick Hunt**

Pictures by  
**Alex Brychta**

**Magpies Stage 8**  
Recommended order of reading:

The kidnappers  
Viking adventure  
The rainbow machine  
The flying carpet  
A day in London  
Victorian adventure

Oxford  
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Tree  
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Magpies



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