

Retold by Lynne Benton • Illustrated by Kevin McAleenan



THE THREE WISHES

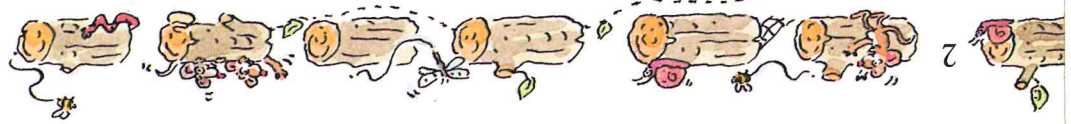


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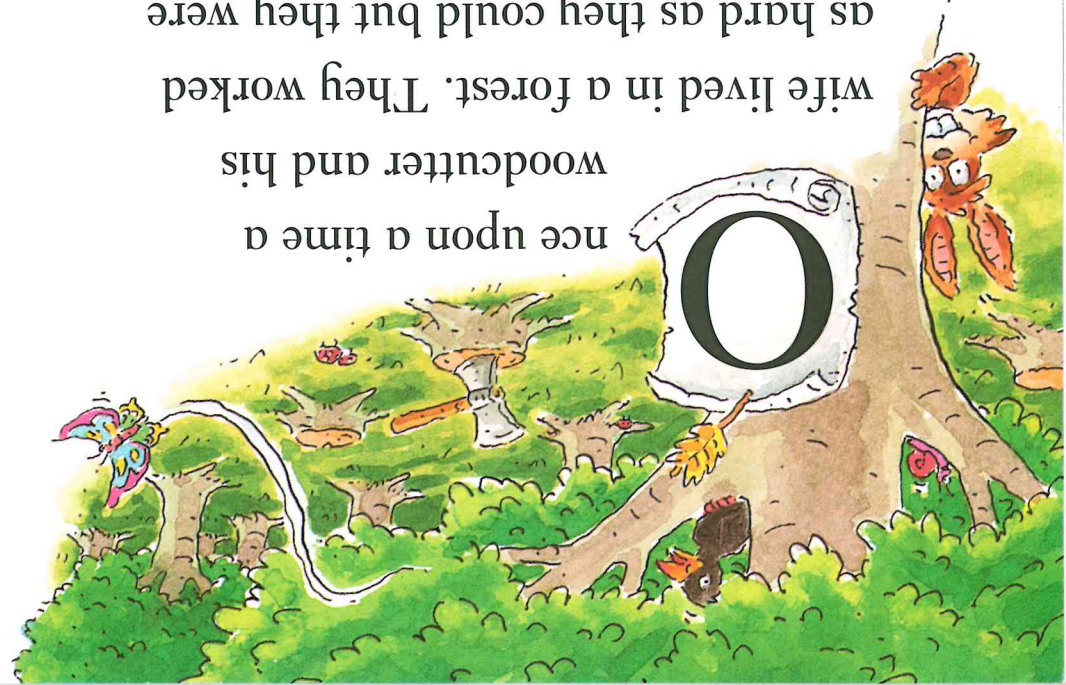
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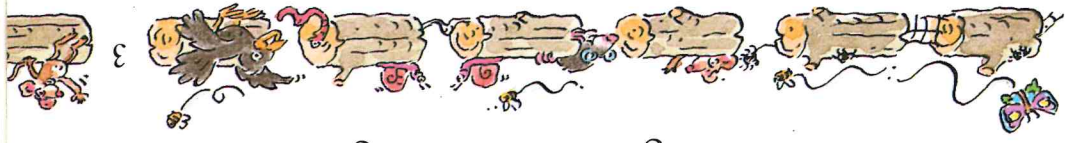


THE THREE WISHES



nce upon a time a
woodcutter and his
wife lived in a forest. They worked
as hard as they could but they were
very poor.



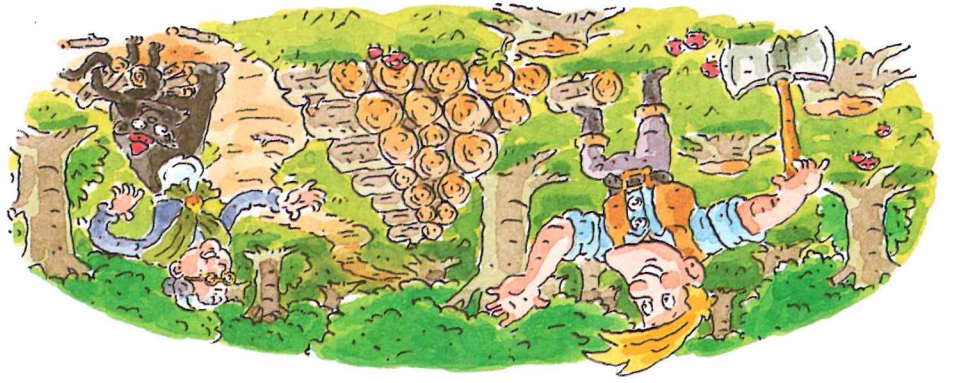


'Let me carry the sack for you,'
'This is very heavy,' he said to her.
a big sack.

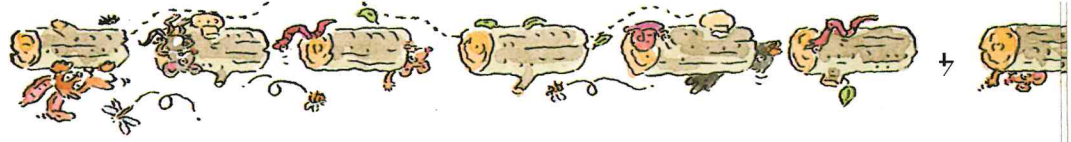
The woodcutter put the wood in

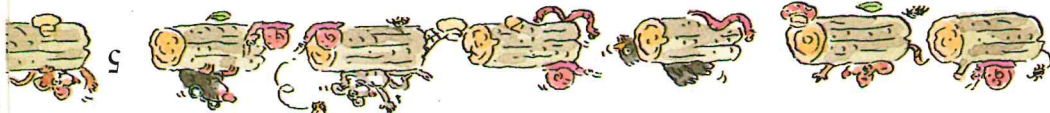


One day, as the woodcutter was working,
an old woman came up to him.
She wanted to buy a lot of wood.



'You are very kind,' said the old woman.
So the woodcutter carried the sack of
wood to the old woman's cottage.





When they got to her cottage the old woman said, 'Thank you for carrying my wood. Now I will do something for you. I will give you and your wife three wishes. But don't forget to think before you wish.'



The woodcutter thanked the old woman.

Then he smiled and said to himself,
'She is just an old woman. How can

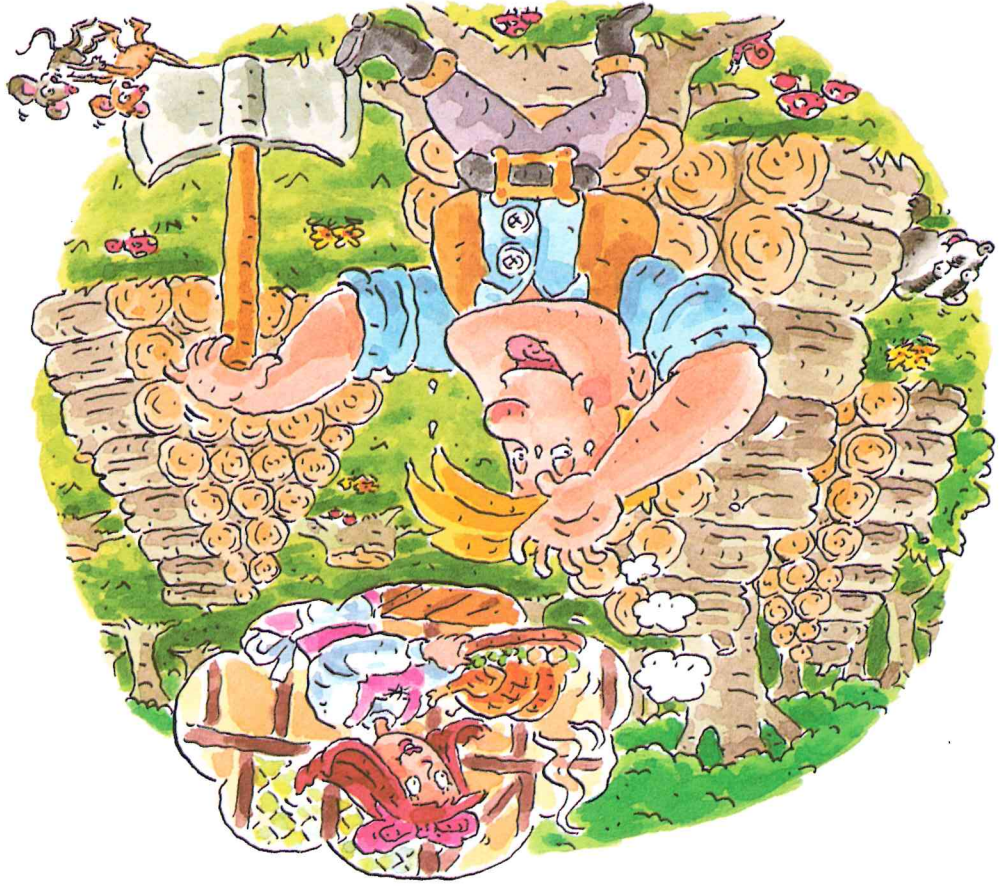
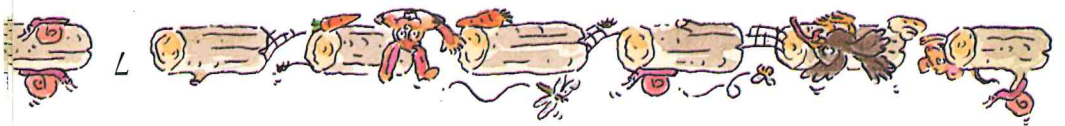
she give us three wishes?'

Then he went back to work

and forgot all

about her.





By the end of the day the woodcutter
was tired and very hungry.
'I hope my wife has made something
nice for tea,' he said to himself.

But when he got home the only thing

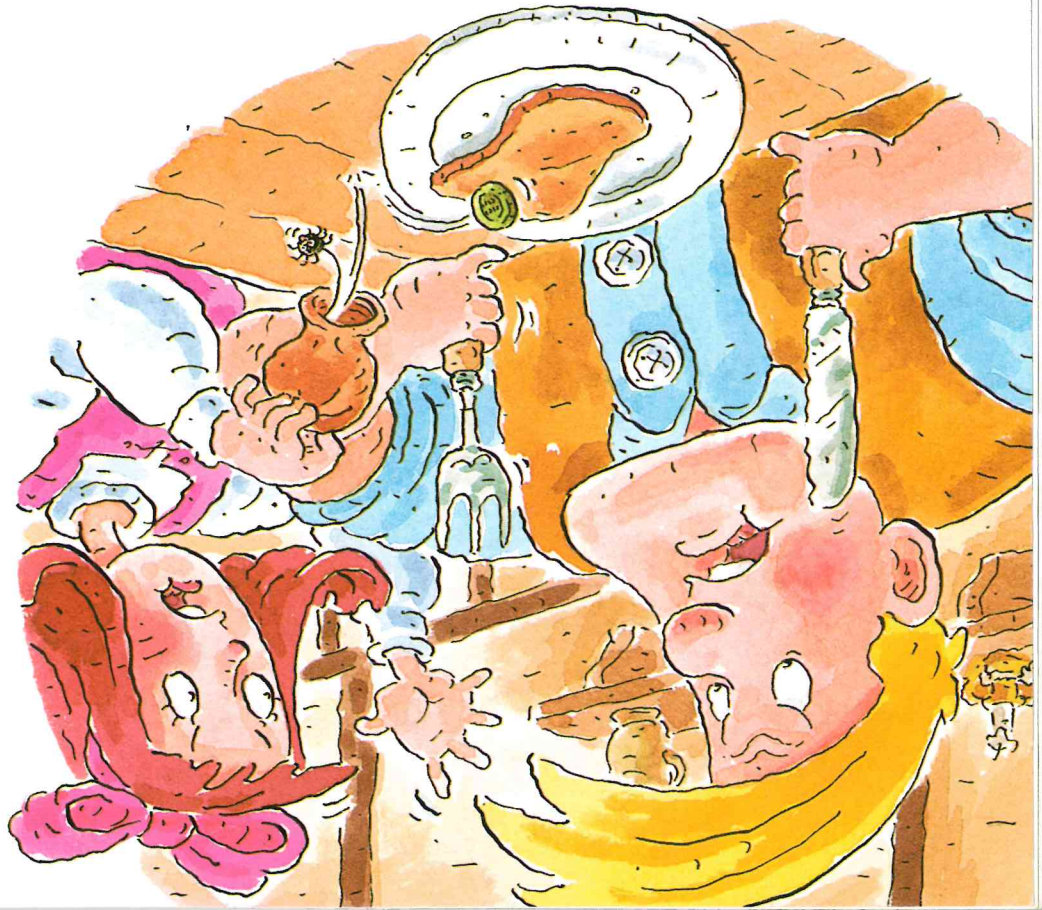
to eat was some bread.

The woodcutter was cross.

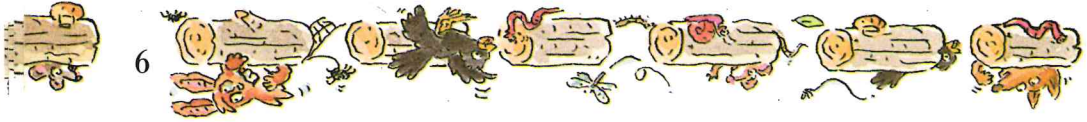
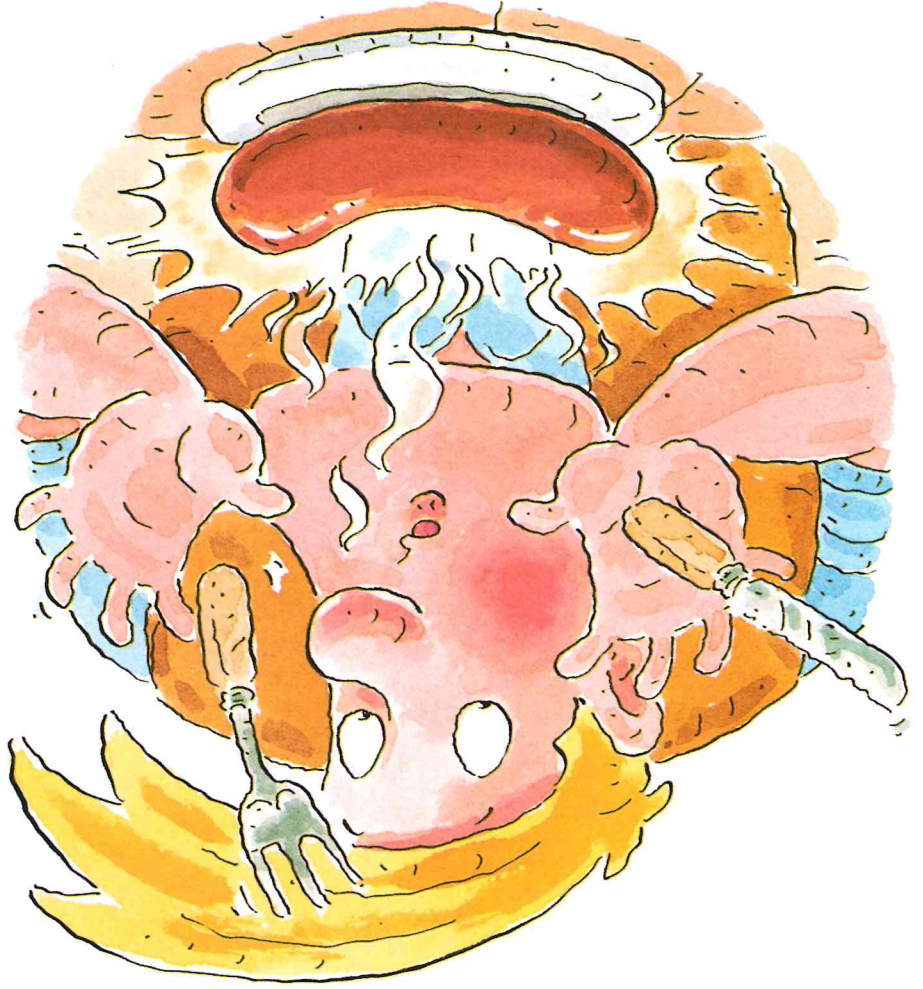
'I have worked hard all day and
I'm very hungry,' he said.

His wife said, 'We are too poor

to buy anything nice for tea.'

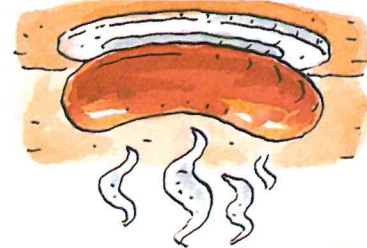


'I know we are poor,' said the woodcutter. 'But I am very hungry. I wish I had a sausage to eat; Suddenly a big fat sausage lay on the table. It looked very good.



'Where did that sausage come from?'
asked the woodcutter's wife.
'I think I know,' said the woodcutter.
'An old woman gave me three wishes
and I forgot all about them!'



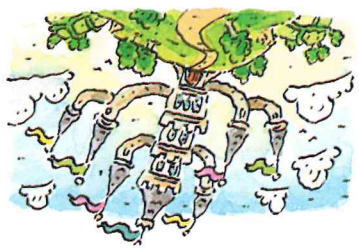


But you wished
for a sausage!

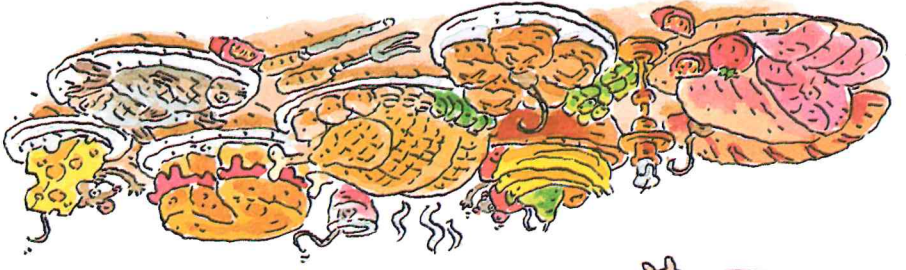
... or lots
of money.

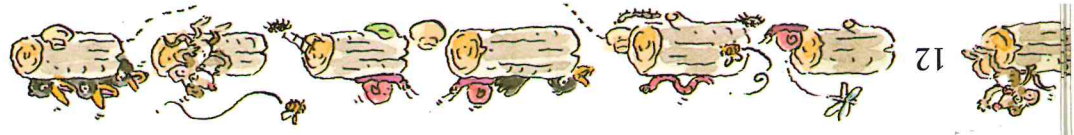


... or a nice house
to live in ...

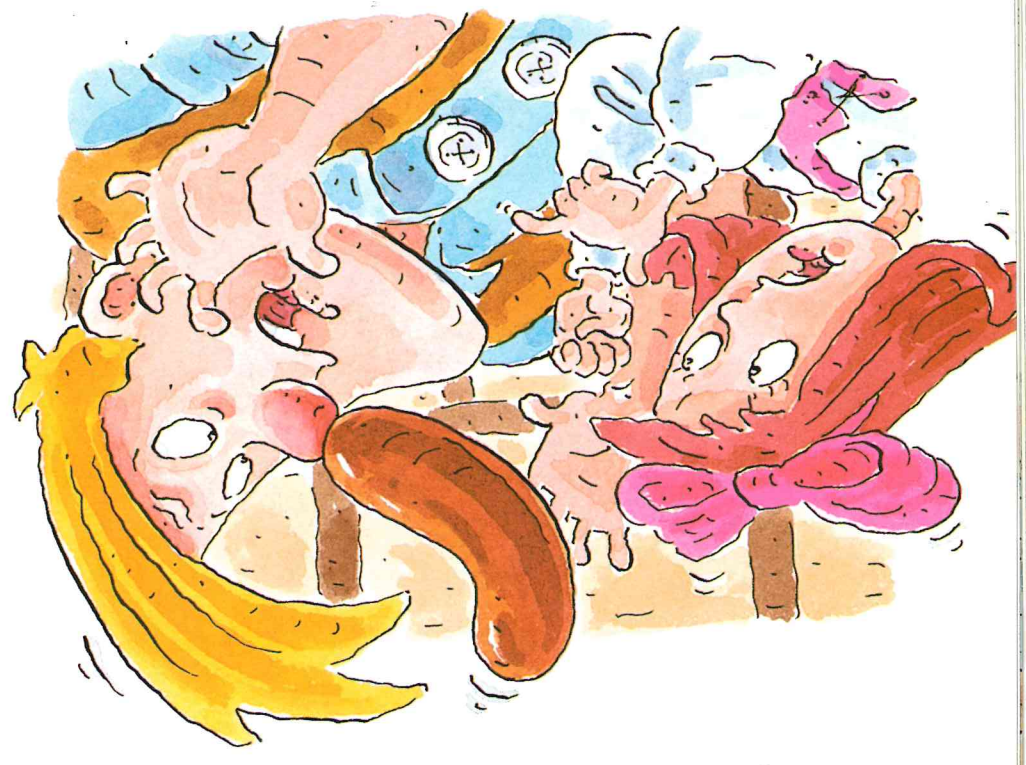


'You silly man!' shouted
his wife. 'You could
have wished for lots of
food to eat ...



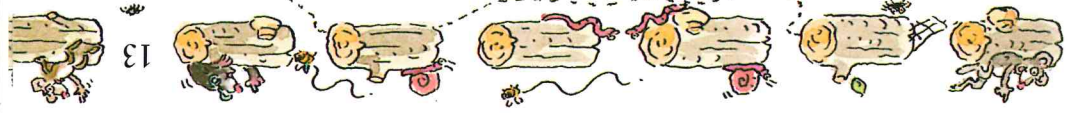
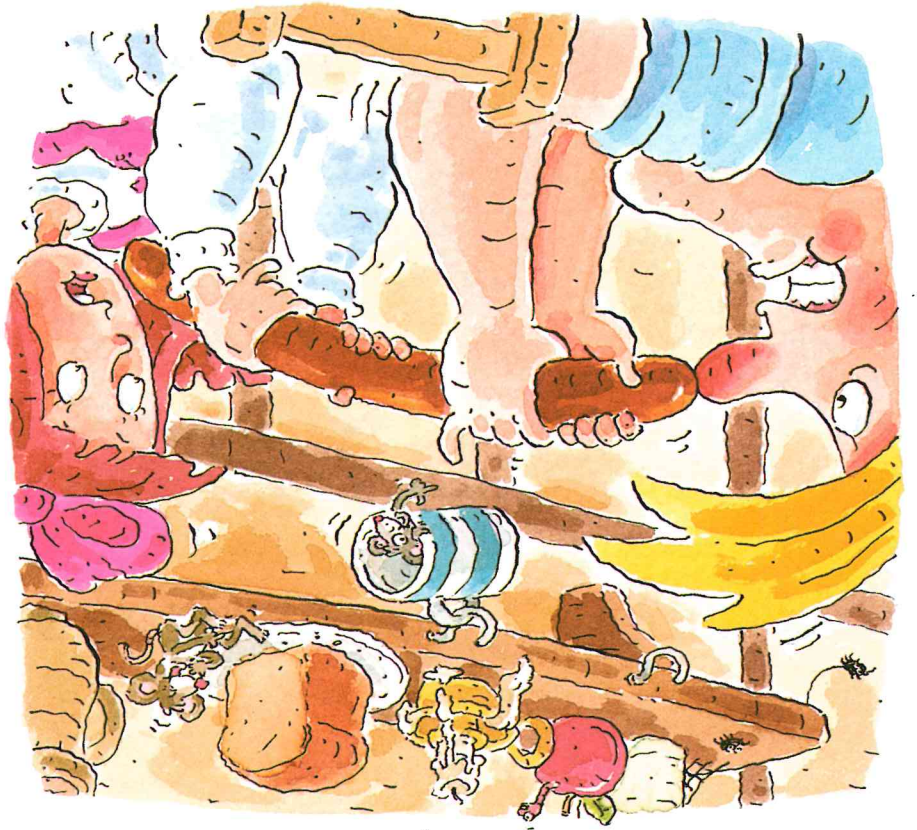


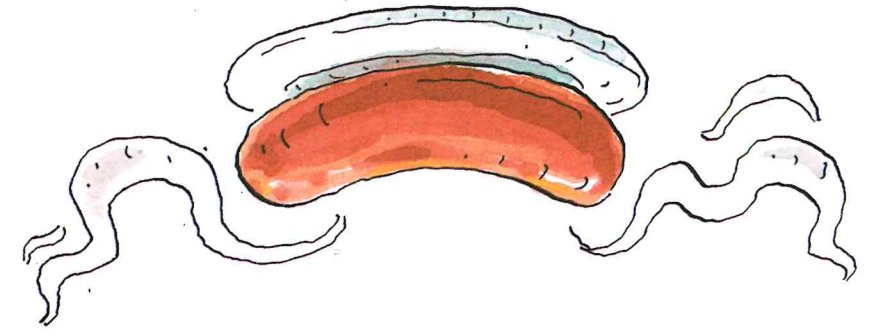
Suddenly the big fat sausage jumped off the table and on to the end of the woodcutter's nose.



'Now our first wish has gone,' said his wife. 'Oooh! I am so cross. I wish that sausage was on the end of your nose!'

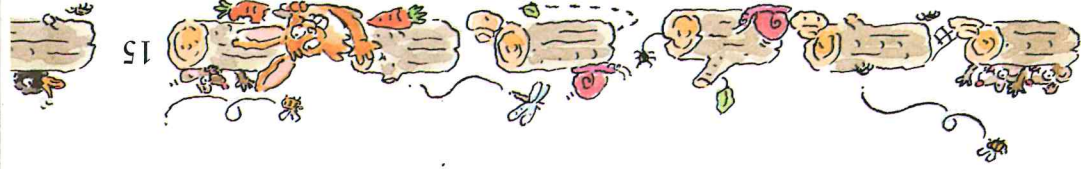
'Now look!' said the woodcutter.
'Because of you we have lost another
wish. Help me to pull the sausage
off my nose.'
So they pulled and pulled but the
sausage would not come off.



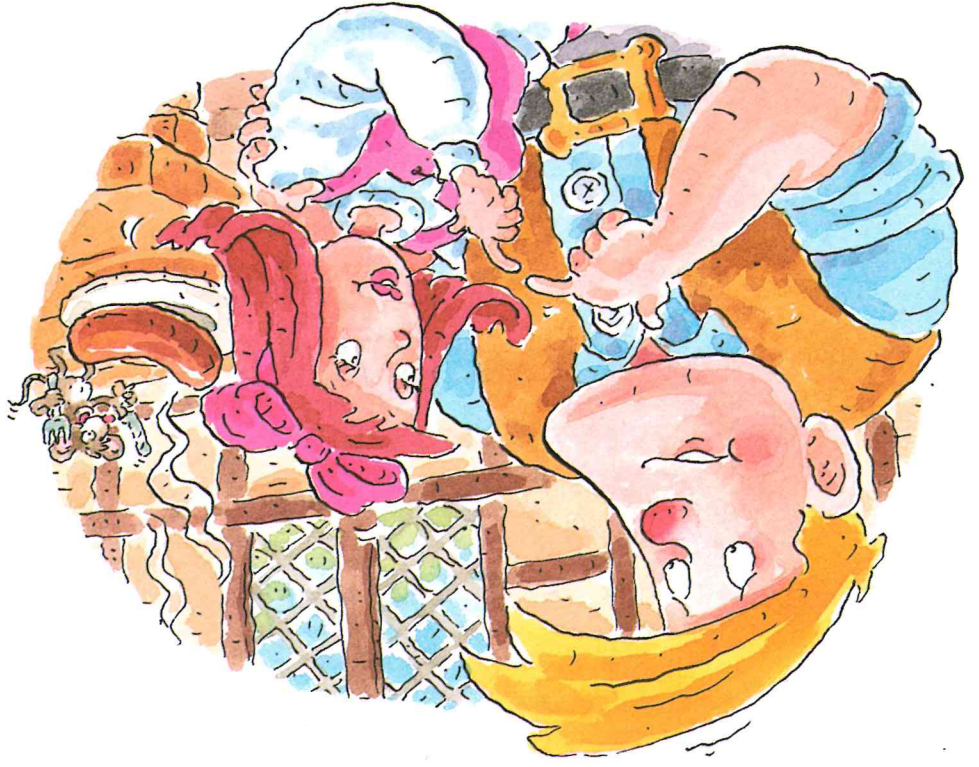


'You silly woman,' said the woodcutter.
'We must wish the sausage off or
it will be there for ever.'
So the woodcutter said, 'I wish the
sausage would come off my nose now!
Suddenly the big fat sausage fell off
his nose and back on to the table.'



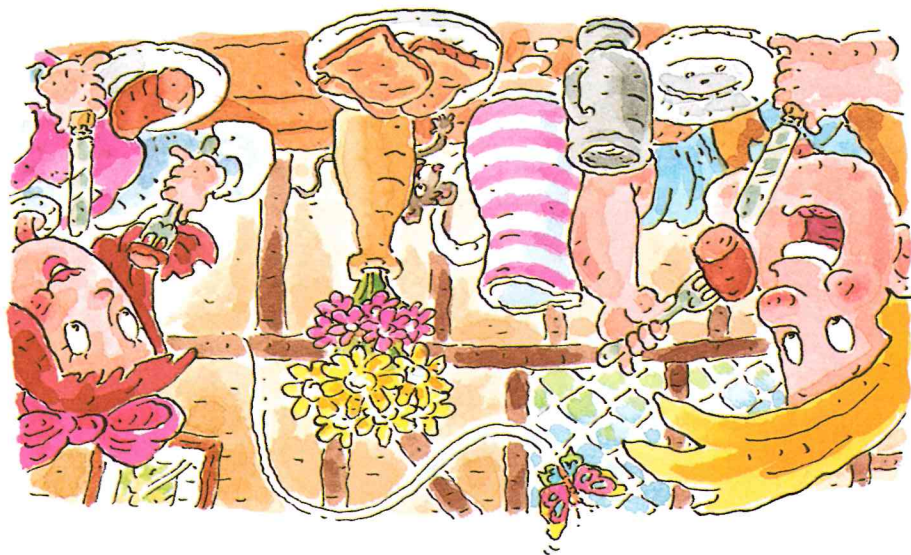


'That was our last wish,' said
the woodcutter sadly.
'I'm sorry I got cross,' he said to
his wife.
'And I'm sorry I shouted,' said his wife.
'We have been very silly,' they said.





'We still have the sausage to eat,'
 said the woodcutter.
 So they cut the sausage in two and
 ate it with the bread.
 'That was the best sausage I have ever
 had,' said the woodcutter. 'But if we
 ever have three wishes again, we will
 think before we wish.'



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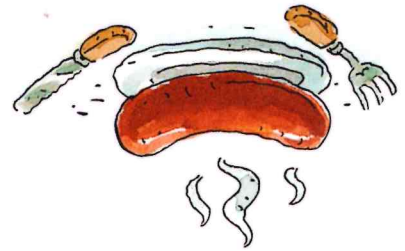
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