


MABEL



and the
SOCK
PIRATES



By
Elwyn
Tate

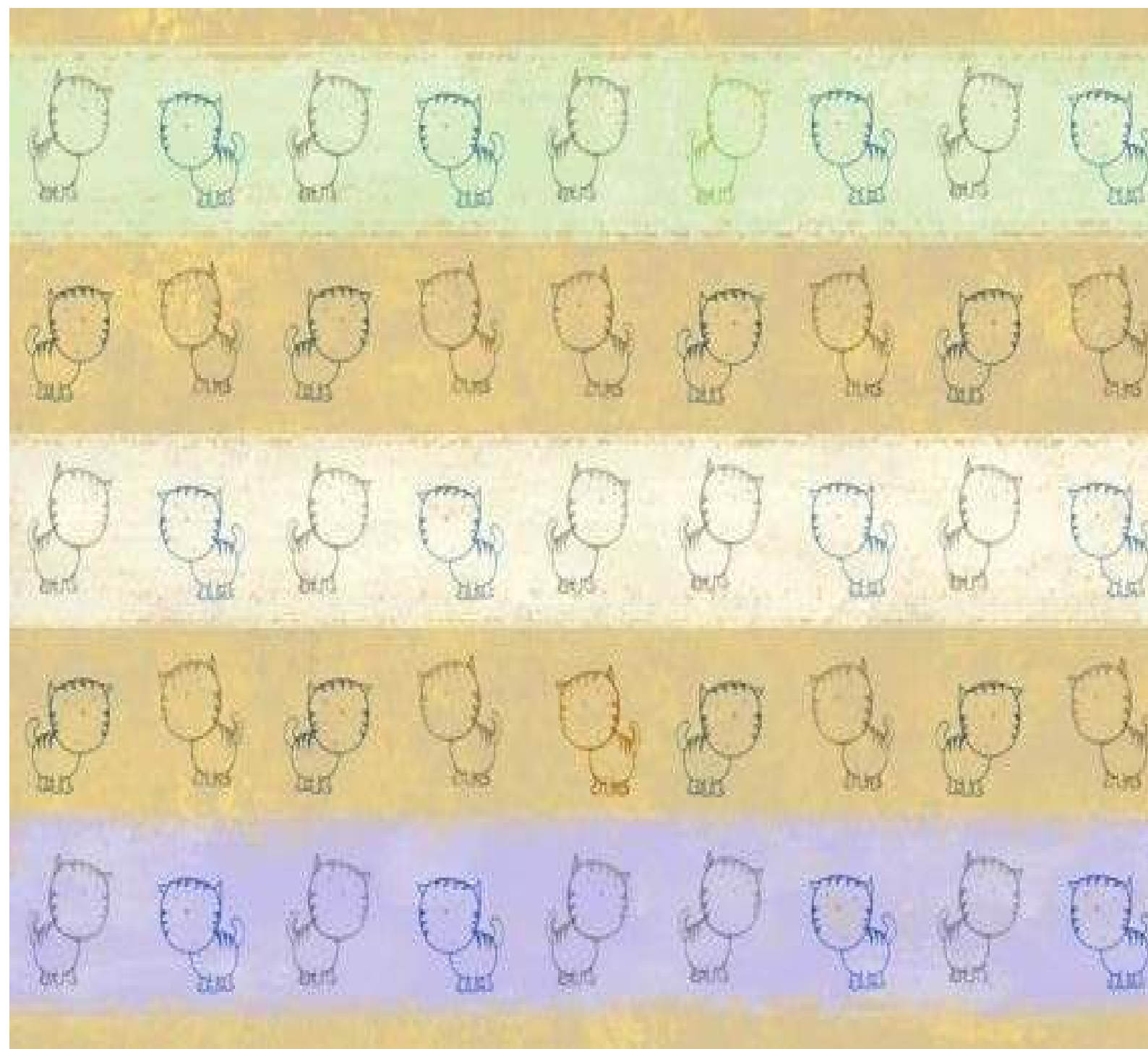
MABEL

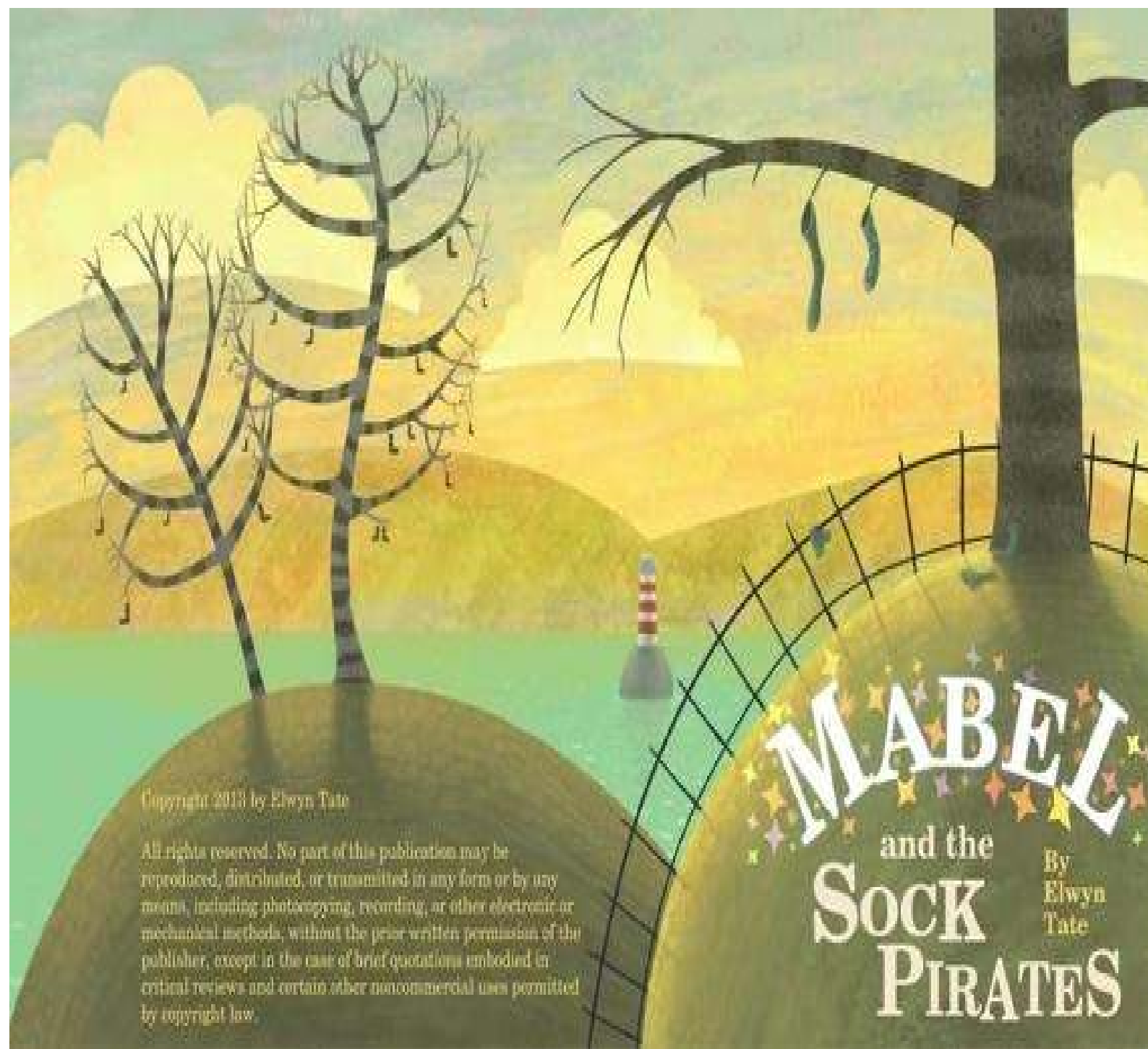


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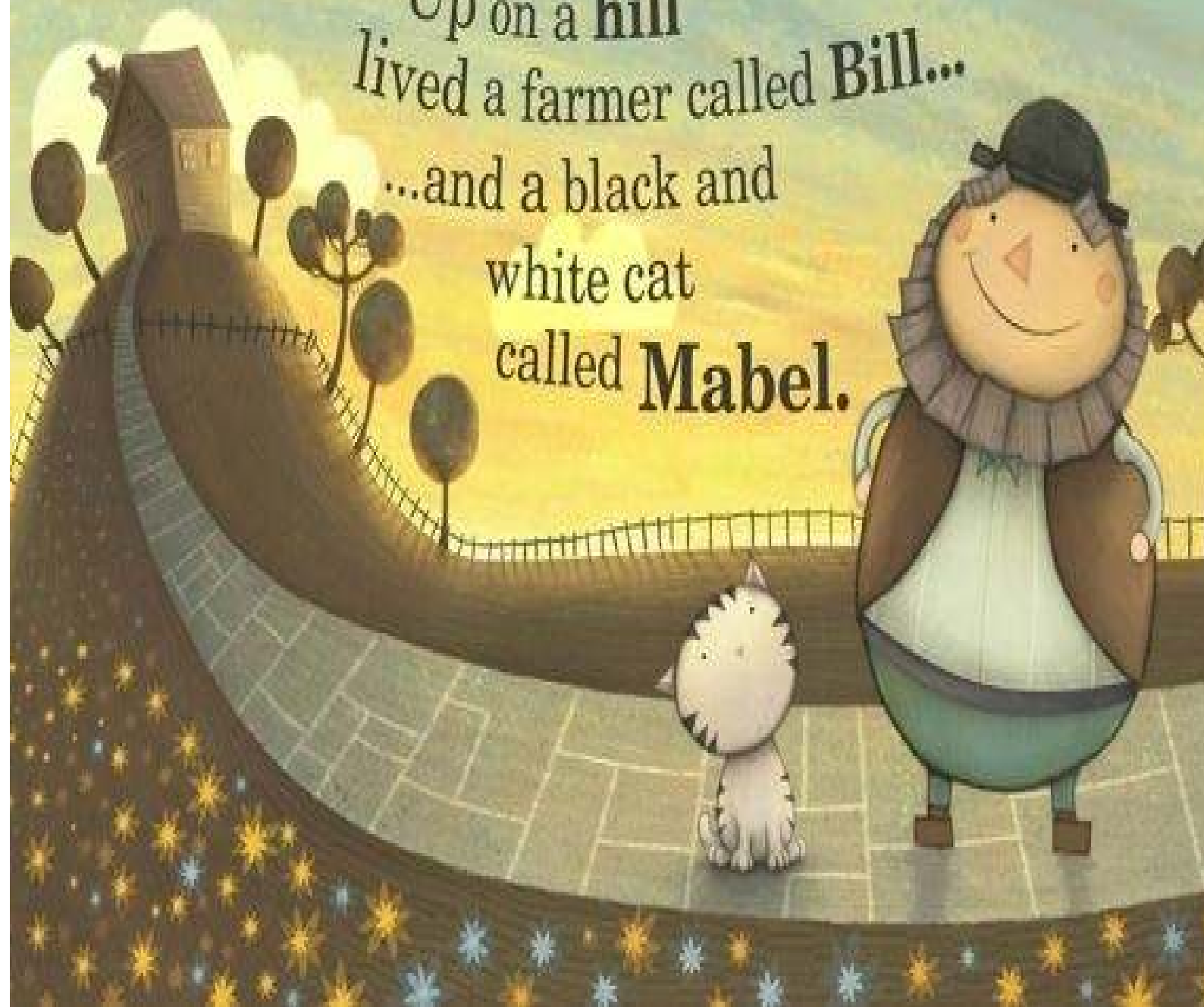
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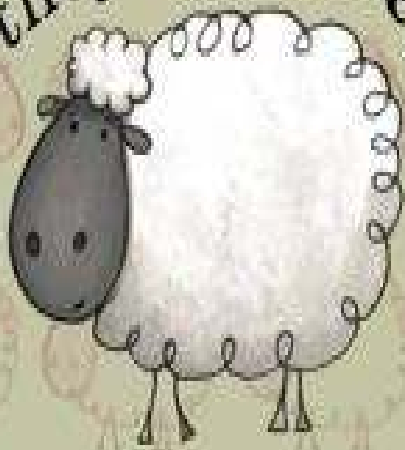
Up on a **hill**
lived a farmer called **Bill...**
...and a black and
white cat
called **Mabel.**



They had cows...

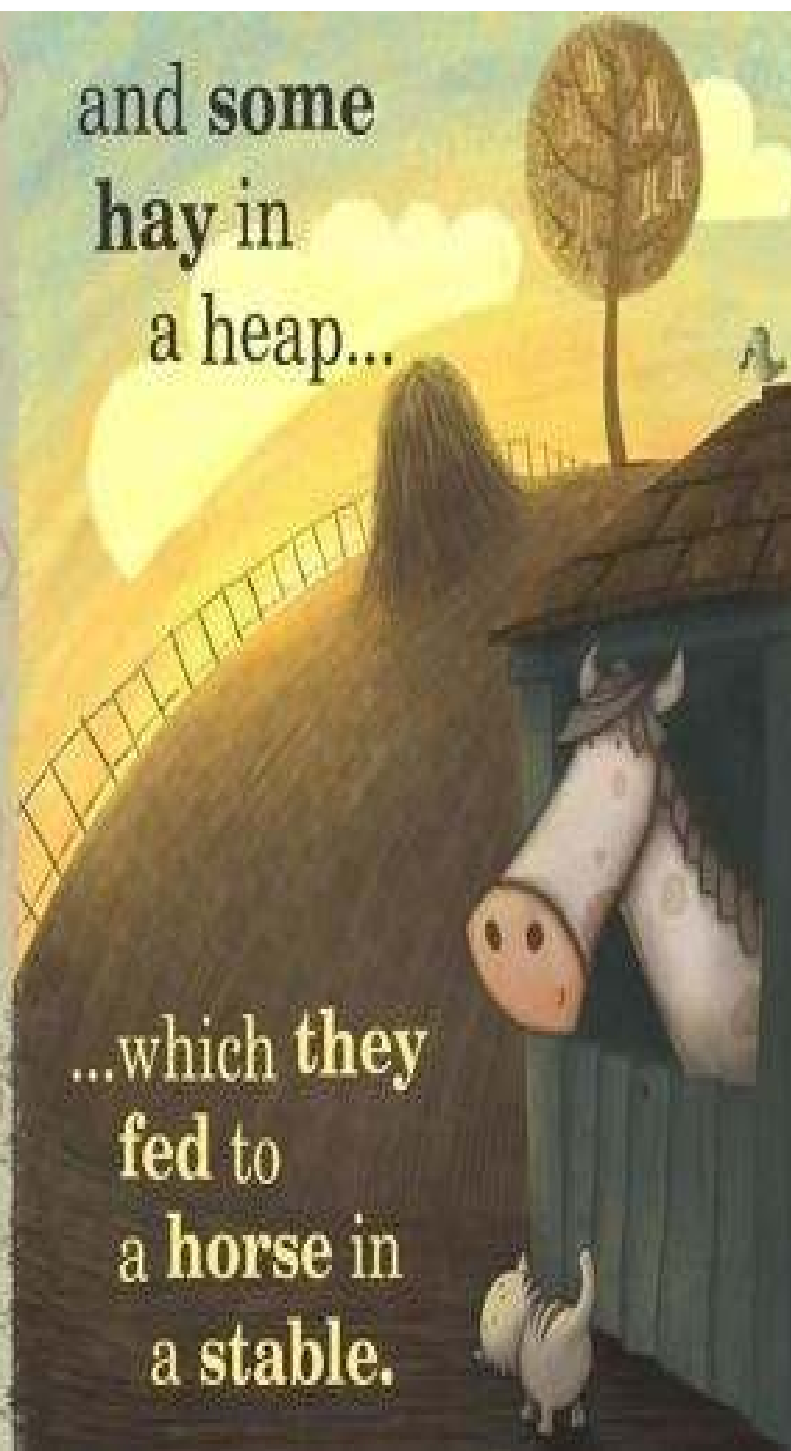


...they had sheep...



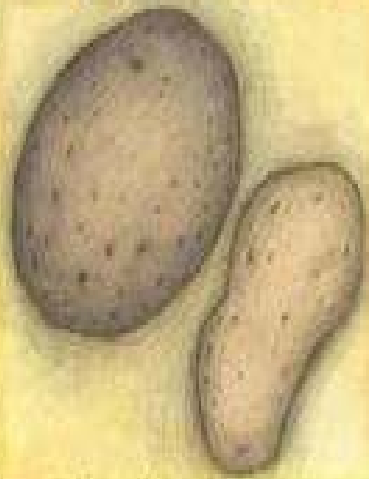
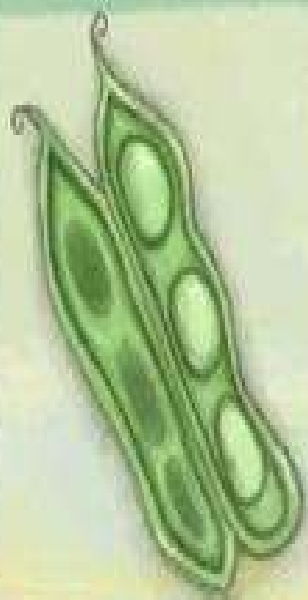
and some
hay in
a heap...

...which they
fed to
a horse in
a stable.

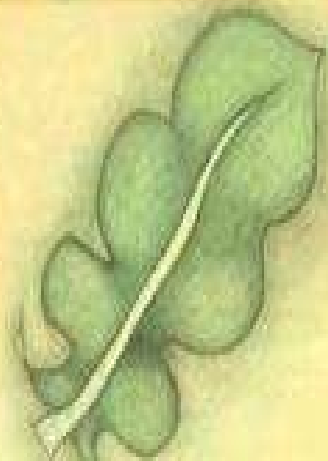




They had
apples... and beans,



potatoes... and greens,



..and onions
piled up
by the
box.





But what flourished
the most...



on their farm
by the coast...



were their magical trees...

which grew socks!

There were
red socks
and green
socks.



Long socks
and lean
socks.



There were socks
made of silver
and gold

They were
stripey...

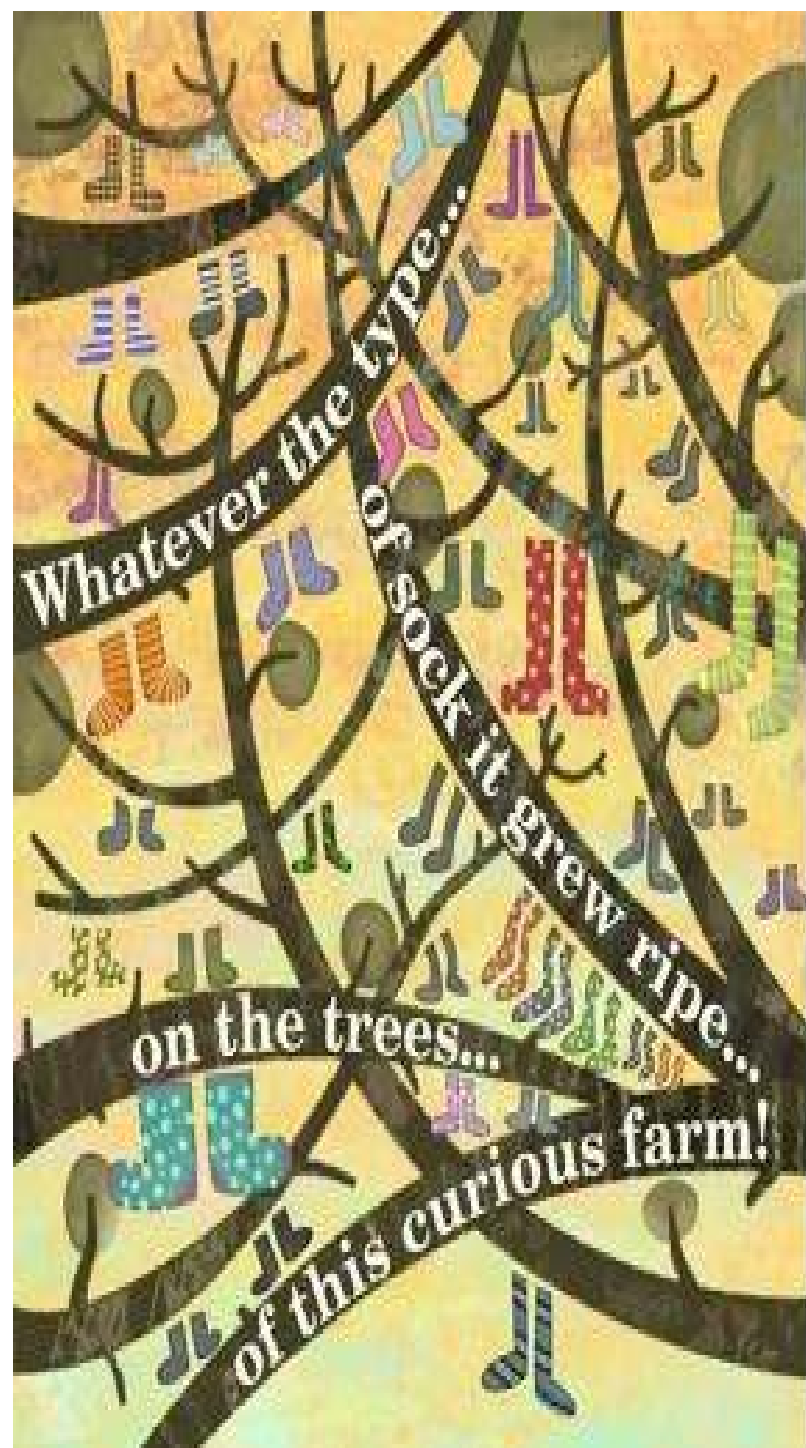
and spotty.

Chequered...

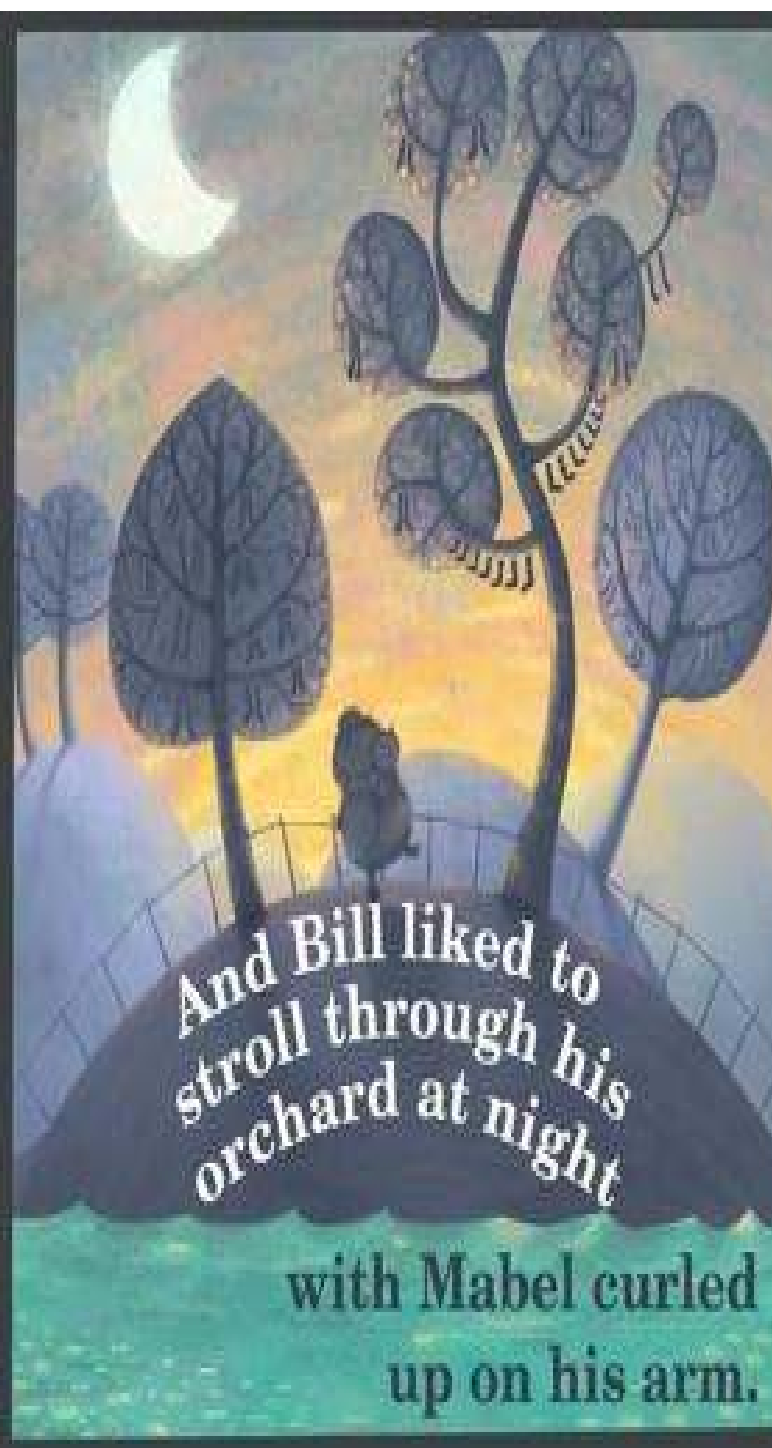
and
dotty.

While **some**
were just
smelly and **old**.





Whatever the type...
of sock it grew ripe...
on the trees...
of this curious farm!



And Bill liked to
stroll through his
orchard at night
with Mabel curled
up on his arm.



BUT!

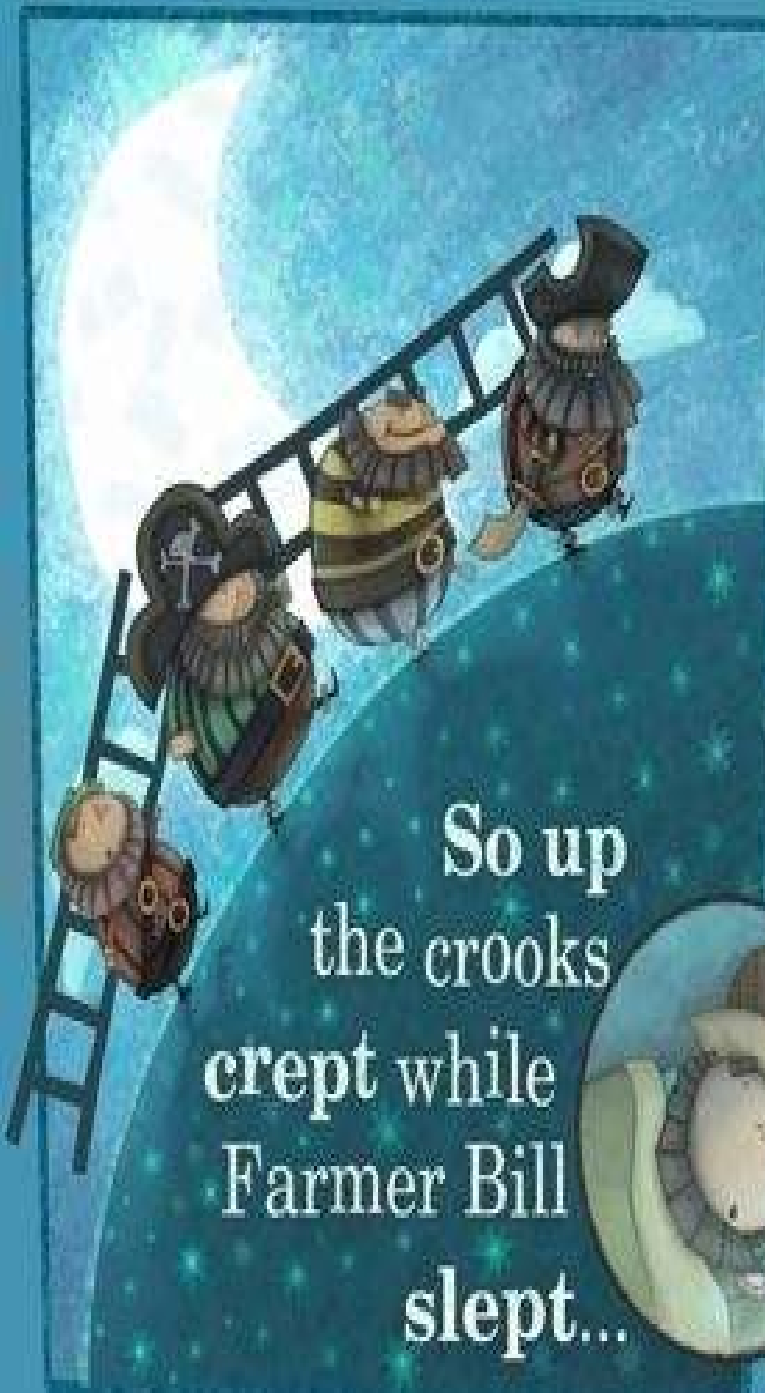
It was **late**
one July when
pirates sailed
by, and they
spied on the
magical **trees.**




“Yo Ho!”

said the chief
(that dastardly thief)

**“Let’s take
all the
socks that
we please.”**

An illustration of five crooks in brown, hooded tunics climbing a wooden ladder against a large, bright crescent moon in a dark blue night sky. The crooks are positioned at different heights on the ladder, with some looking towards the viewer. The scene is set on a dark, rounded hill.

So up
the crooks
crept while
Farmer Bill
slept...

An illustration of several crooks in a dark, leafy tree at night. One crook is climbing a ladder leaning against the tree trunk. Other crooks are perched on branches, some looking down. The background is a dark blue night sky with a few stars and a large, dark tree silhouette. The scene is set on a dark, rounded hill.

...and they
pilfered and
plundered
with glee.

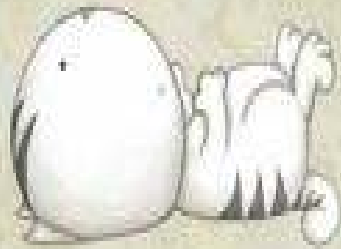


But watching
this theft, with
marvelous **deft**,
was **Mabel**...
high up in a **tree**.

“Oh what a scene...



...those pirates are mean,”



she said in a
terrible huff.

“They’re stealing
and looting,

they’re laughing
and hooting,

and I...

have had...

quite
enough!”

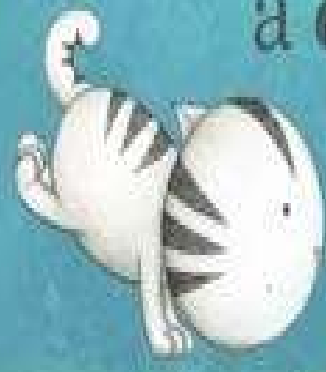




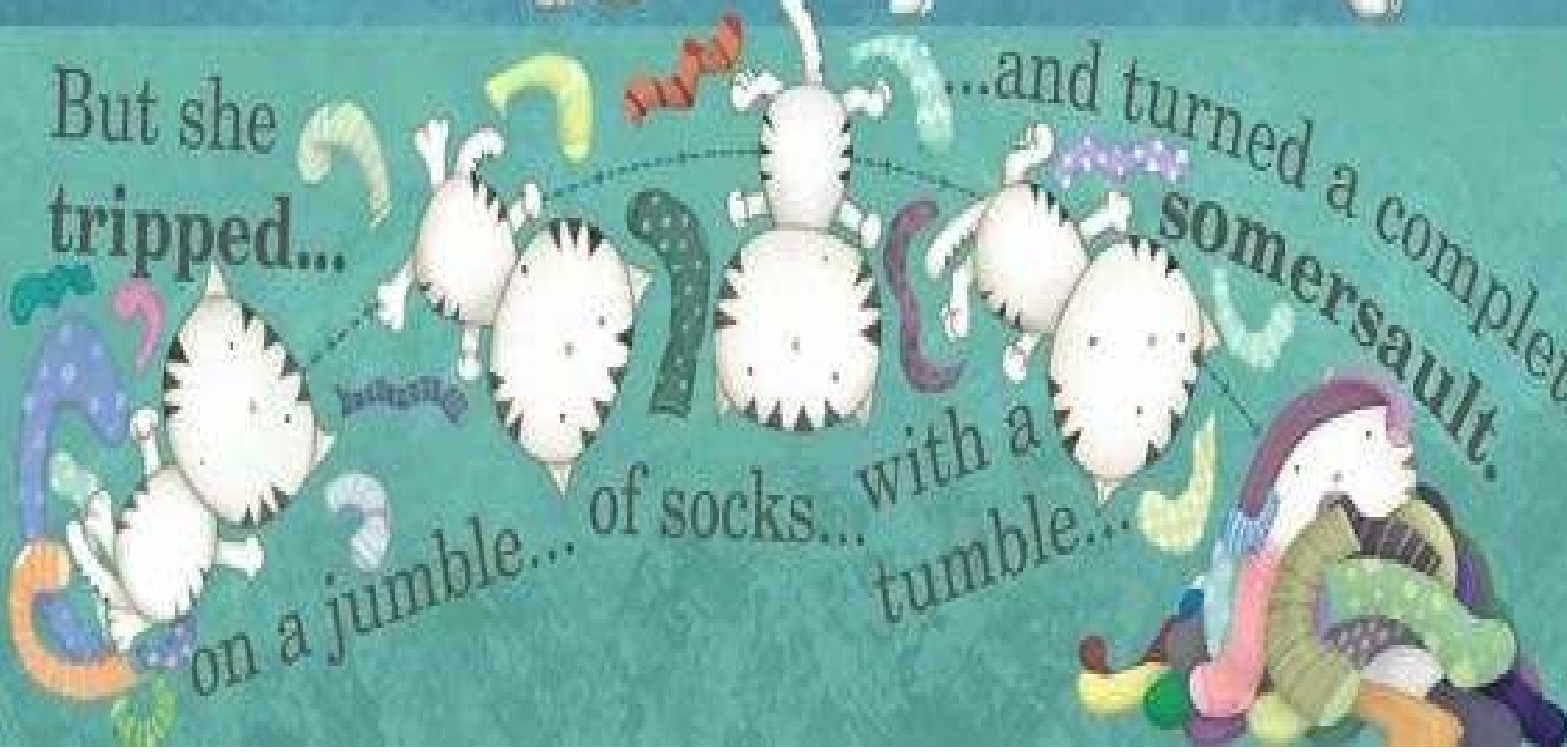
Quick as a **flash**,
with a **leap** and
a **dash**...

...she **ran** yelling,

“Stop pirates
...**HALT!**”



But she
tripped...

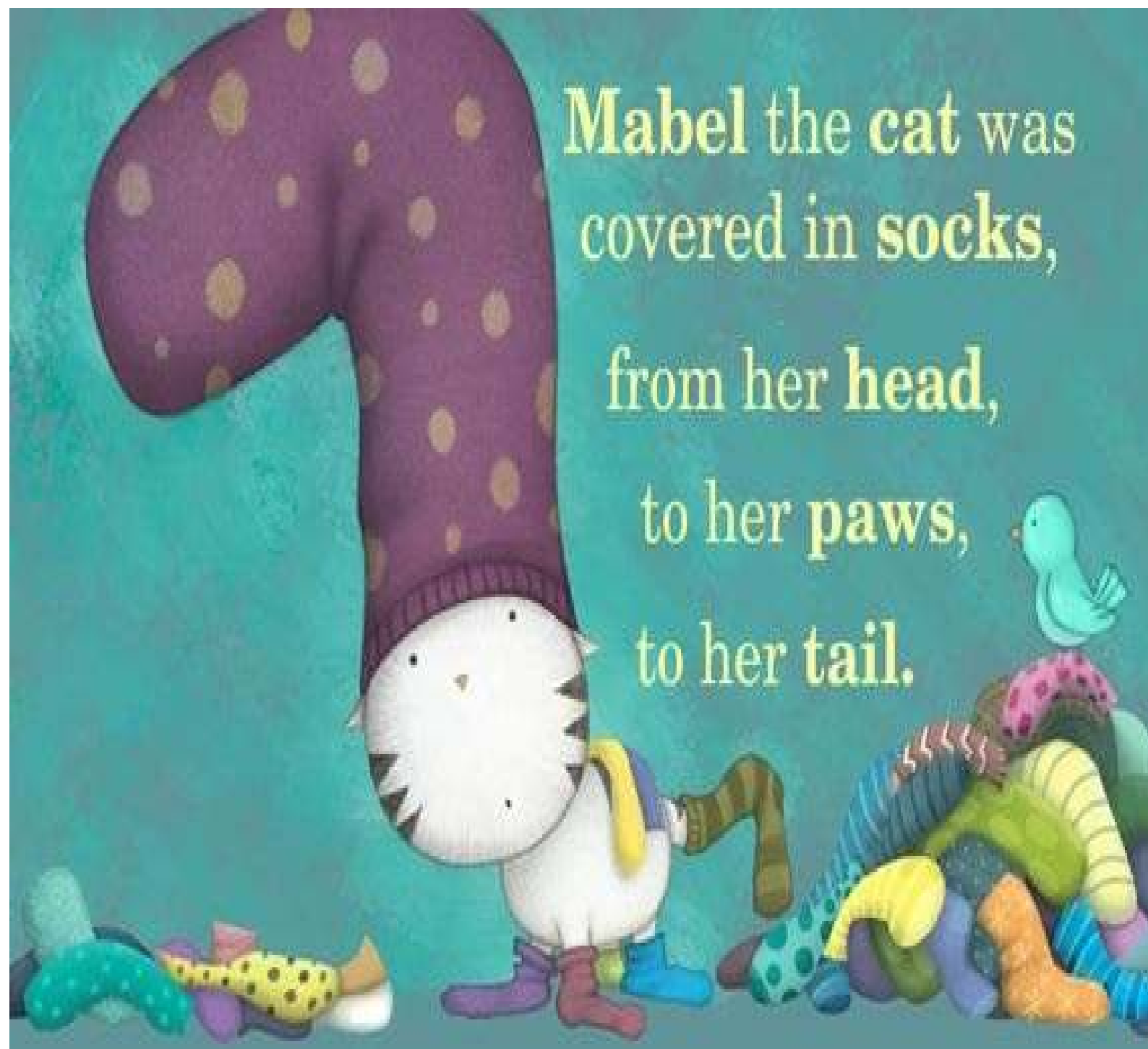


...and turned a complete
somersault.

on a jumble... of socks... with a
tumble...



Mabel the cat was
covered in socks,
from her head,
to her paws,
to her tail.



Still she ran and she flew
at the piratical crew,
and she gave an
enormous
BIG...





“Yo Ho
pirate boys,
What’s
making
that noise?”

said the **chief**
as he
scratched
on his **beard.**



“It has
big
flappy
toes.”



“A long
floppy
nose.”

“And it
walks in
a way
that’s
quite
weird.”



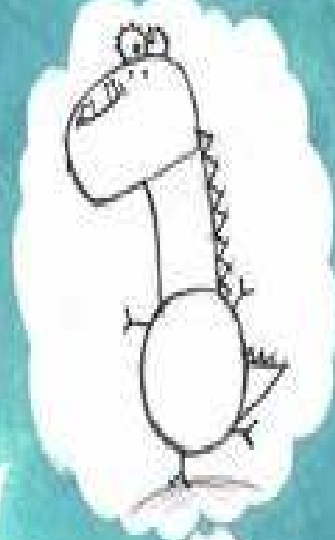
“It’s... A Sea Monster...
...HELP!”


howled the chief with a yelp.

“Let’s
scarper.”

“Let’s
Scram.”

“No! Let’s
HIDE.”





“I’m a monster
alright,
and
I’ll chase
you
all
night.

**Meow...
Meow!”**

Mabel cried.



“Run!”

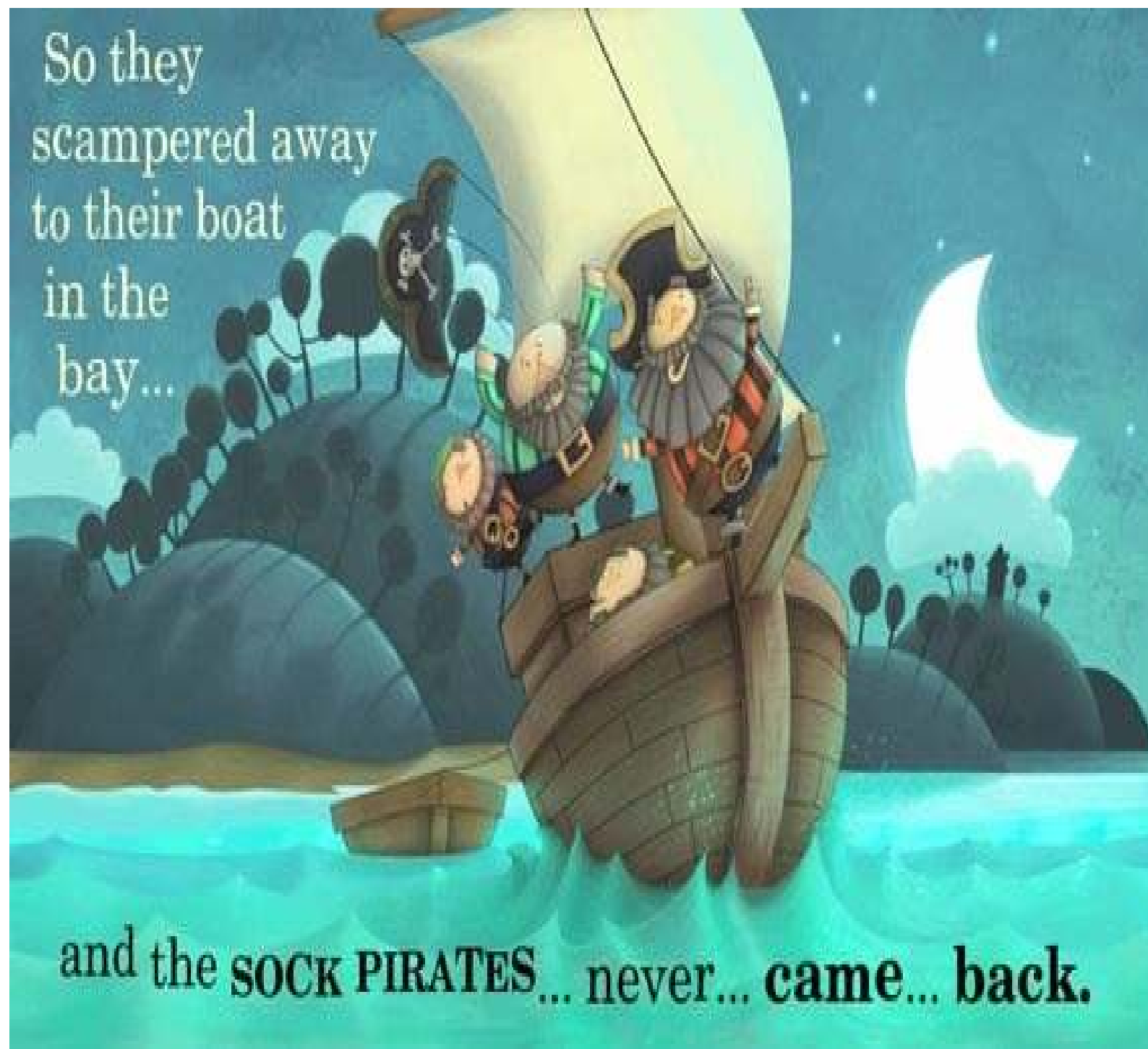
“Run!”

“This job is
no fun!”

yelled the
cowardly,
villainous
pack.

So they
scampered away
to their boat
in the
bay...

and the **SOCK PIRATES**... never... **came... back.**



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