

How It Is Nowadays



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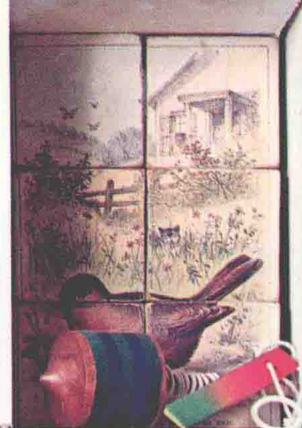
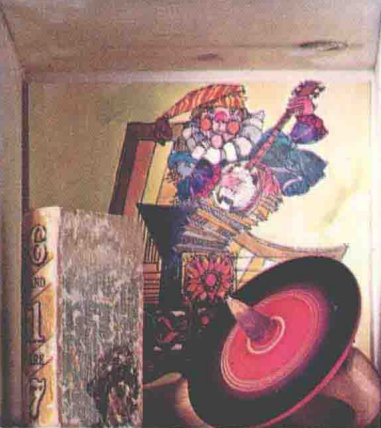
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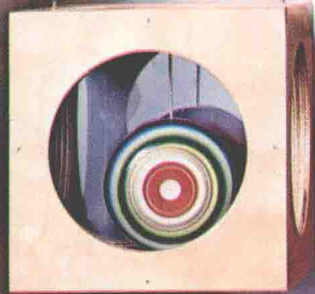
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FOR FUN

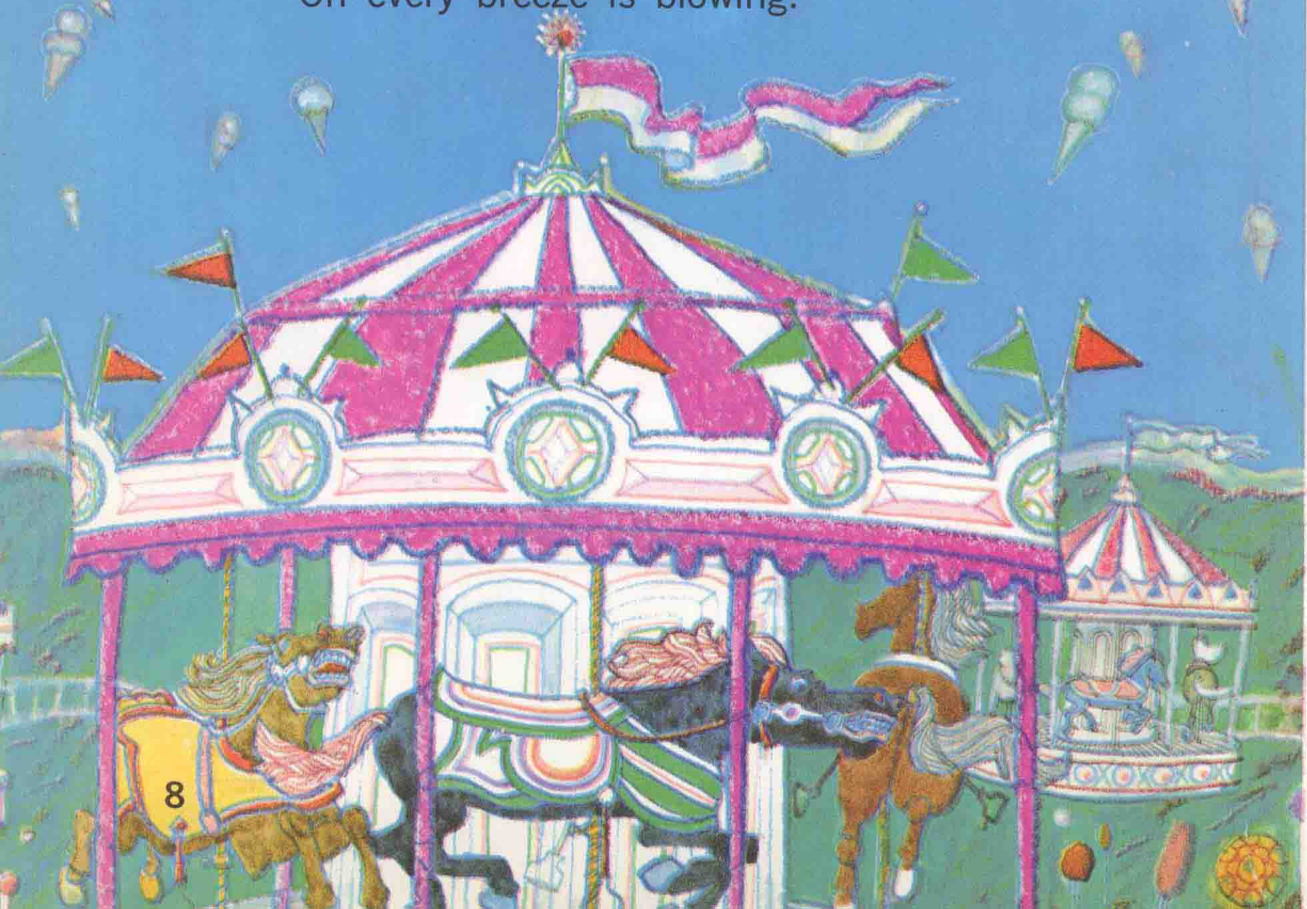




COTTON CANDY COUNTRY

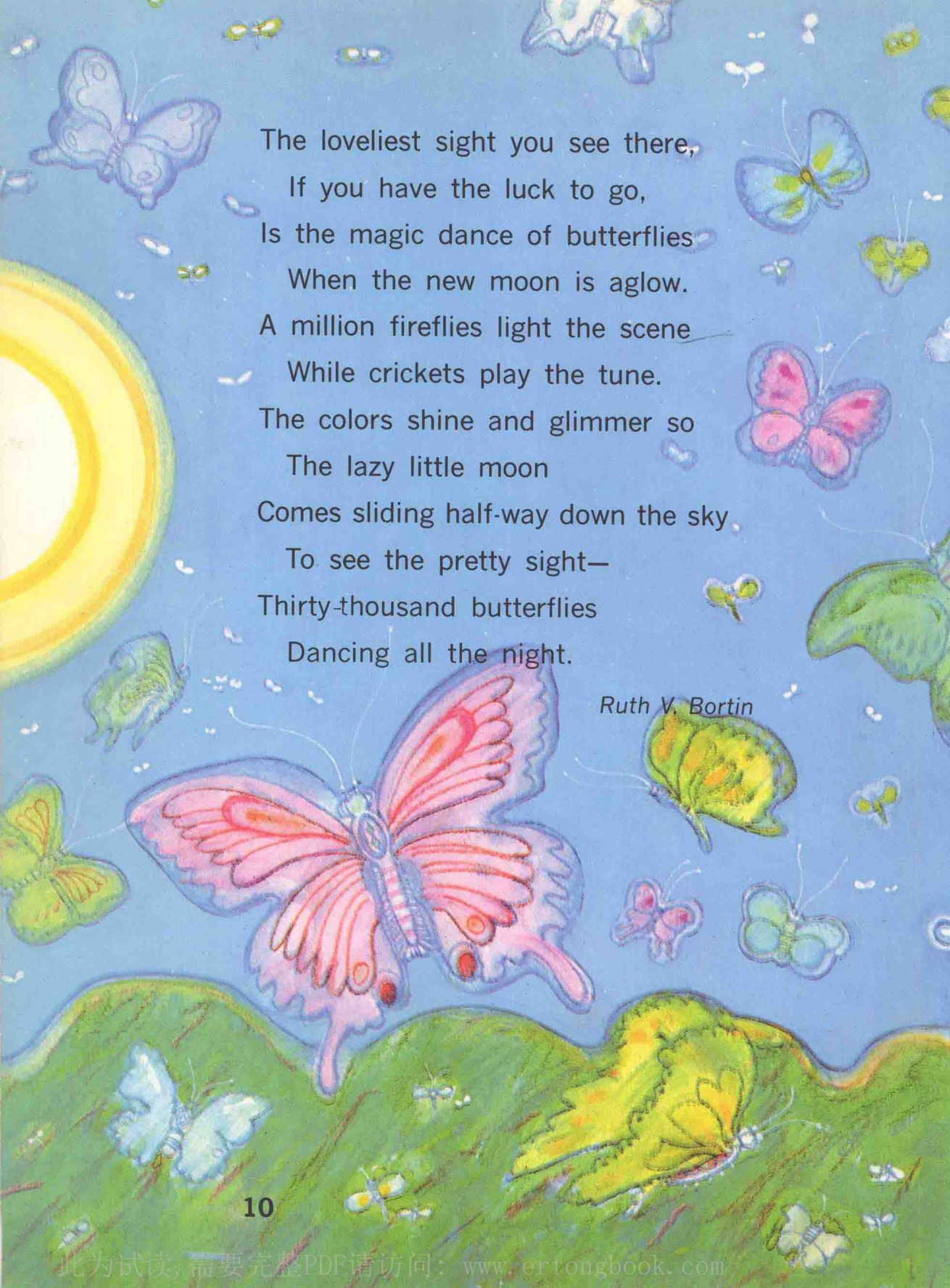


In Cotton Candy Country,
Which isn't far away—
Your work's all done before you start,
There's only time for play.
Stars are twinkling ice-cream cones
And lollipops are growing,
And music from the carousels
On every breeze is blowing.



There are trains that cross the country
That are tidy as can be.
They never leave their tracks sprawled out
For everyone to see.
They take you where you want to go,
But always, you will find,
Spread out their rails in front of them
And roll them up behind.
There are golden palominos
And pinto horses too,
Who, if you ask politely,
Will gladly carry you
Like thistledown upon a breeze,
Swift as a falling star,
Just because they like you—
But it's rude to ride too far.

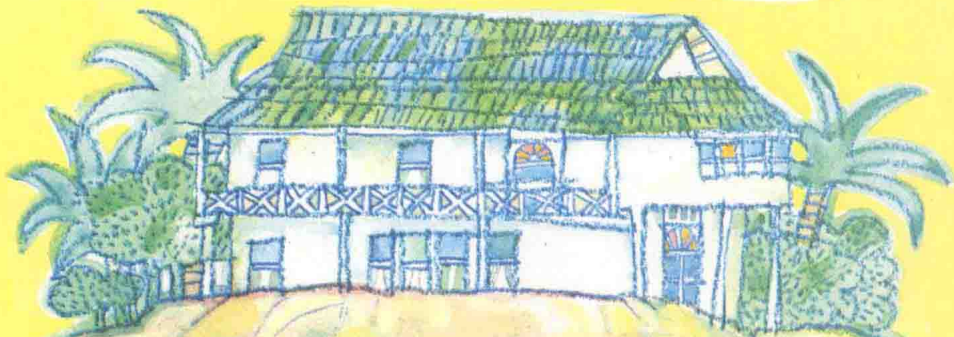




The loveliest sight you see there,
If you have the luck to go,
Is the magic dance of butterflies
When the new moon is aglow.
A million fireflies light the scene
While crickets play the tune.
The colors shine and glimmer so
The lazy little moon
Comes sliding half-way down the sky,
To see the pretty sight—
Thirty-thousand butterflies
Dancing all the night.

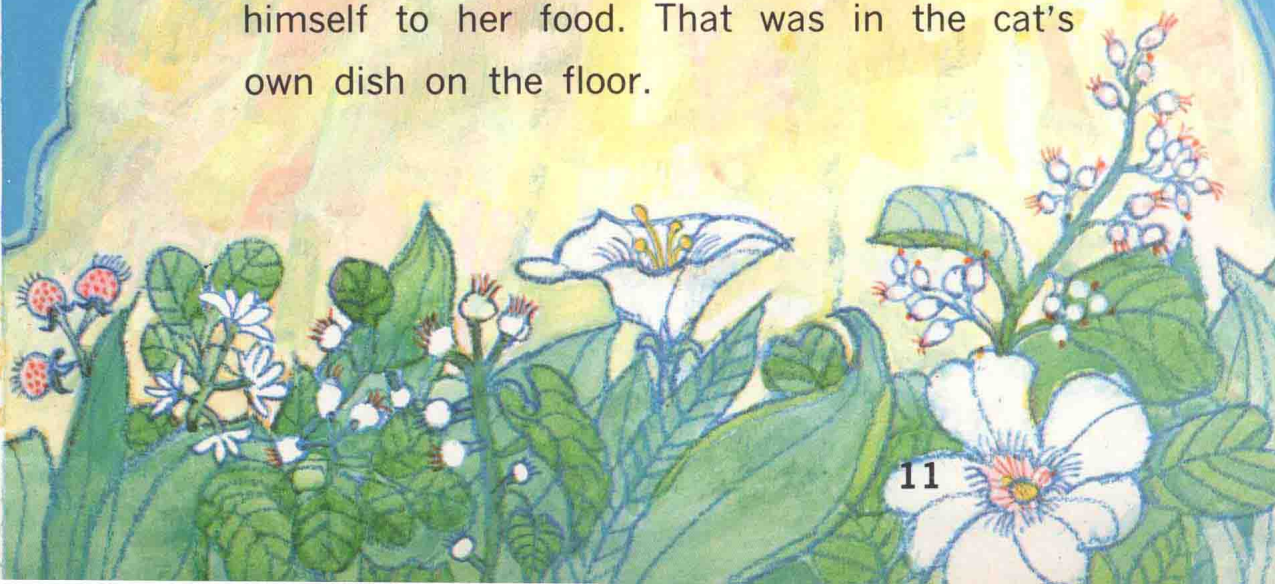
Ruth V. Bortin

Kukui and the Golden Cat



Kukui was a mynah bird, and Pineapple was a golden cat. They lived in a house high on a hill on the island of Maui with the woman who owned them. The mynah bird and the golden cat did not trust each other.

Kukui lived in a cage. He was safe from Pineapple's claws but he could not help himself to her food. That was in the cat's own dish on the floor.





Kukui was a bird of many tricks and he was a real mimic. Pineapple was safe from the bird's long sharp beak, but she was never free from the noise of his talk.

"Yeh-heh, yeh-heh, yeh-heh," he shouted when Pineapple was having a catnap and their mistress was not there.

Sometimes Kukui made his voice mimic the voice of their mistress. This always gave Pineapple a mixed-up feeling.



“Here pussy, nice pussy, come and get your food, Pineapple,” Kukui would call in his mistress’ sweet voice. He kept calling all day long.

Because she was so sure of that voice, Pineapple would come running to her food dish, but often she found nothing there.

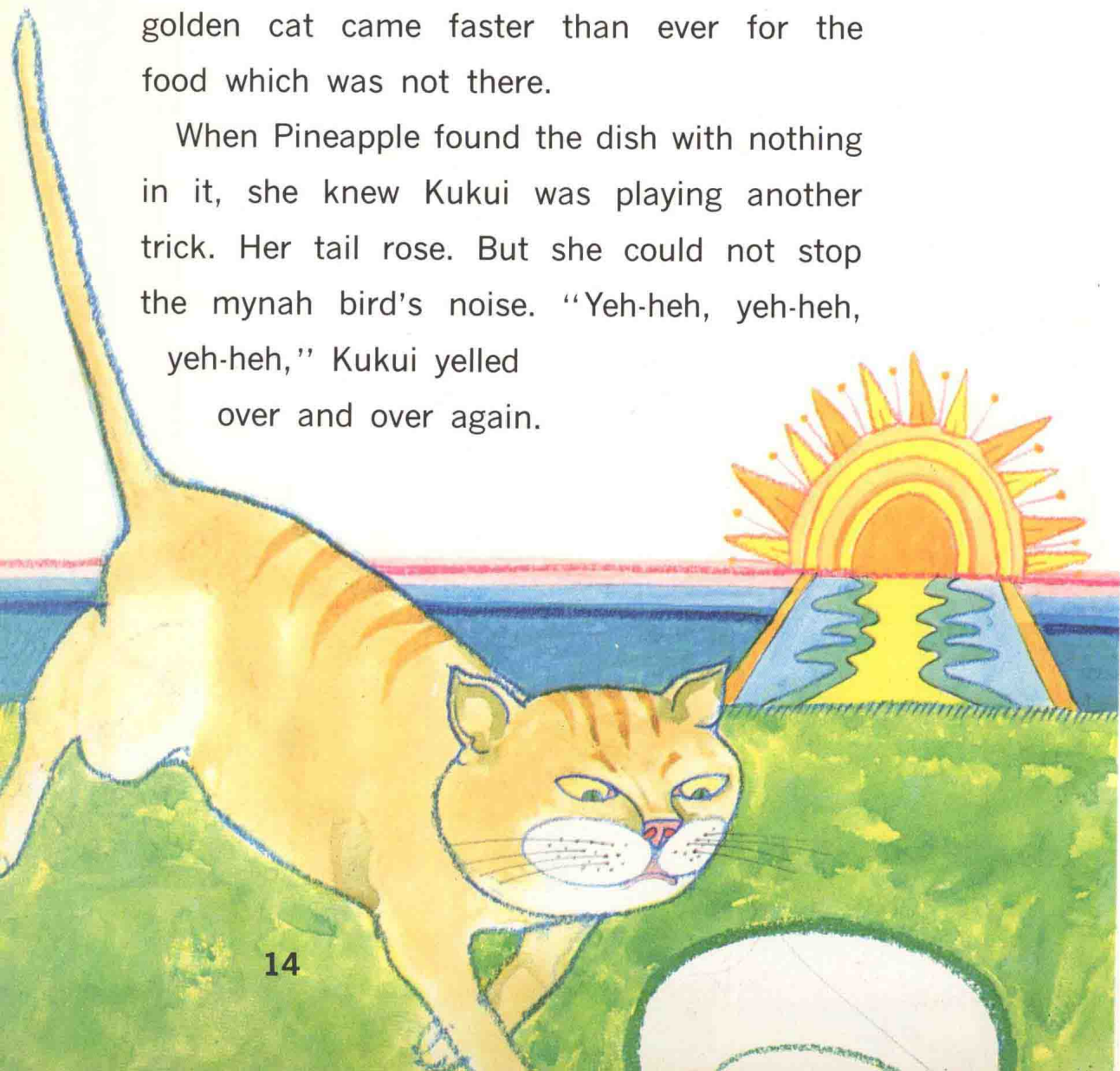
If Pineapple came too close to Kukui’s cage, the bird had another way to trick the cat. “Help, HELP!” he would mimic in his mistress’ voice. Whenever he yelled long enough, Mistress was sure to come running.



One afternoon, as soon as the sun dipped into the sea, Kukui knew that it was almost time for Pineapple's supper. So he called softly, "Here pussy, nice pussy, come and get your food, Pineapple."

At the sound of her mistress' voice, the golden cat came faster than ever for the food which was not there.

When Pineapple found the dish with nothing in it, she knew Kukui was playing another trick. Her tail rose. But she could not stop the mynah bird's noise. "Yeh-heh, yeh-heh, yeh-heh," Kukui yelled over and over again.





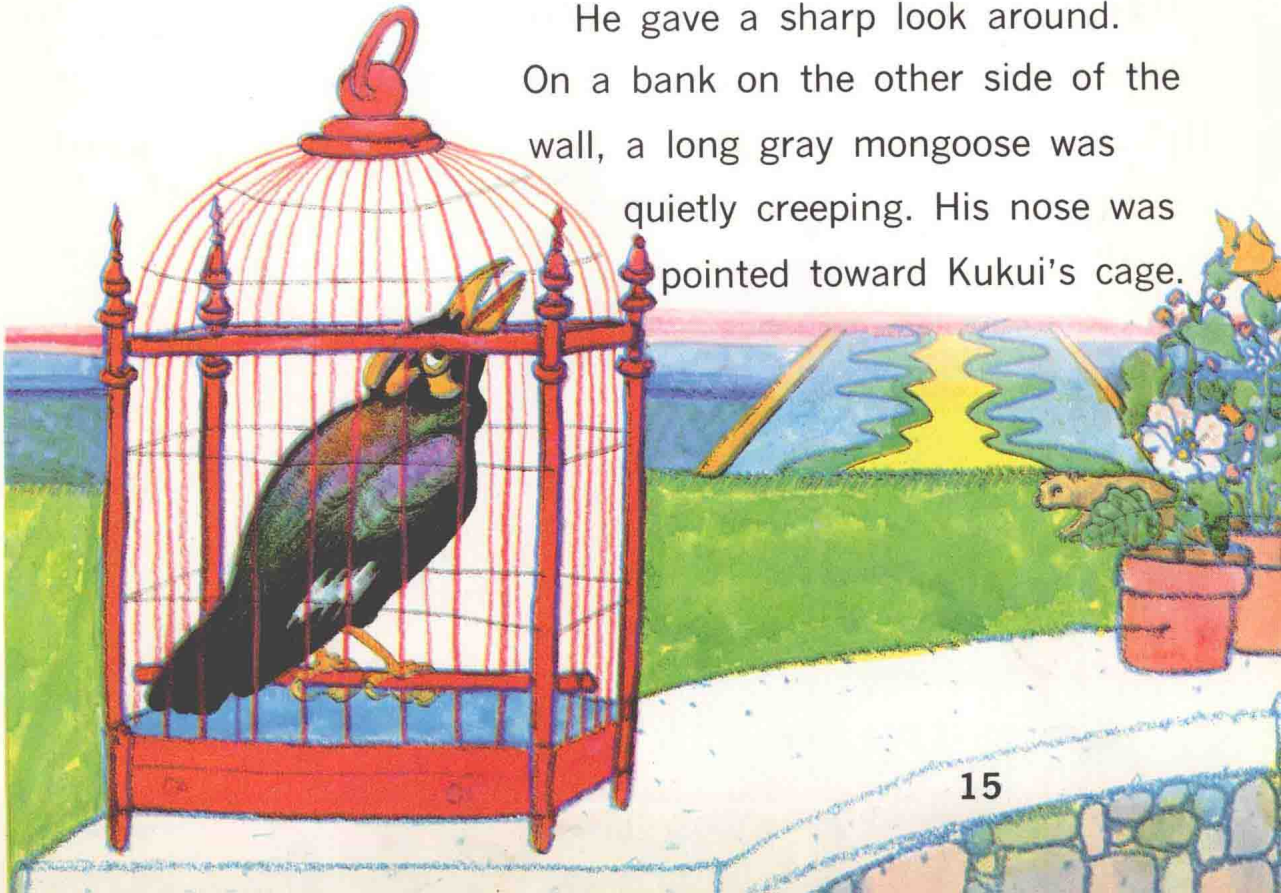
Another fine afternoon when the rains were over, and the sun had begun to shine, Mistress set Kukui's cage on the wide garden wall behind the house.

For a long time Kukui preened himself and pointed his beak toward the sky.

"Hele pēlā, hele pēlā!" he yelled. That means, "Go away, go away!"

The sun moved toward the sea. Shadows were on the hills. A quiet came over the mountain. Kukui's loud noise stopped.

He gave a sharp look around. On a bank on the other side of the wall, a long gray mongoose was quietly creeping. His nose was pointed toward Kukui's cage.



Suddenly, like a shadow, the mongoose was on the wall behind the cage. Then he was moving around it. Closer and closer he moved, trying to get at the mynah bird.

Kukui yelled every call he knew. He was so upset that he called, "Here pussy, nice pussy, come and get your food!"

"Yeh-heh, yeh-heh, yeh-heh," coaxed Kukui. "Hele mai, hele mai." That means, "Come here, come here."

Suddenly Pineapple came running. She leaped to the wall behind the mongoose and moved toward the animal's tail.

