

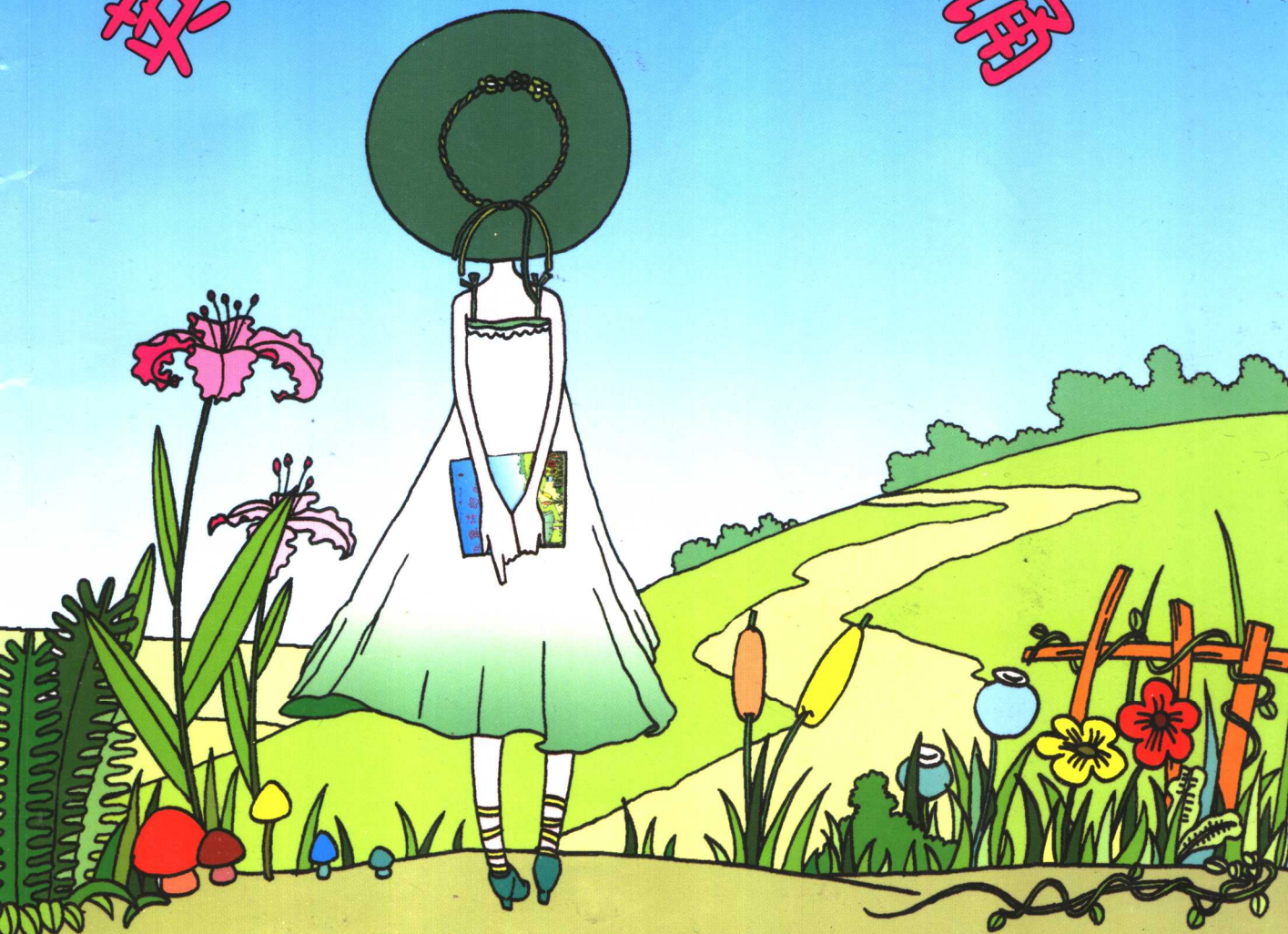
The Mulberry Collection

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英语童诗朗朗诵

Patricia Irvine



ISBN 7-309-08086-9
定价: 12.00元
ISBN 7-309-08086-9
定价: 12.00元



Sichuan University Press
四川大学出版社

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责任编辑:张 晶
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绘 图:刘 俊
责任印制:杨丽贤

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语童诗朗朗诵 = The Mulberry Collection / (英)
欧文 (Irvine, P.) 著. — 成都: 四川大学出版社,
2005. 10

ISBN 7 - 5614 - 3264 - X

I. 英... II. 欧... III. ①英语 - 语言读物②儿童
文学 - 诗歌 - 作品集 - 英国 - 现代 IV. ①I319.4②I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2005) 第 117719 号

书名 英语童诗朗朗诵

作 者	Patricia Irvine
出 版	四川大学出版社
地 址	成都市一环路南一段 24 号 (610065)
发 行	四川大学出版社
印 刷	四川大学印刷厂
成品尺寸	210 mm × 190 mm
印 张	2.75
字 数	76 千字
版 次	2005 年 10 月第 1 版
印 次	2005 年 10 月第 1 次印刷
印 数	0 001 - 3 000 册
定 价	22.00 元(含光盘 1 张)

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Patricia Irvine

Especially For You!

Dear Boys and Girls,

My name is Patricia Irvine. I am from England, which is part of the United Kingdom, in Europe. My family and I live in a beautiful white house, in the Surrey countryside, not far from London, the capital city of England.

Geography, was my favourite subject at school and I loved to read about people from other lands, and their different cultures, and to see pictures of where and how they lived and worked. I found this fascinating.

For me it is a dream come true to find that I now have the opportunity to visit countries such as China. I am very pleased to have been asked to help and encourage you in your study of the English language. And in particular, to read to you a little of the English poetry that I write.

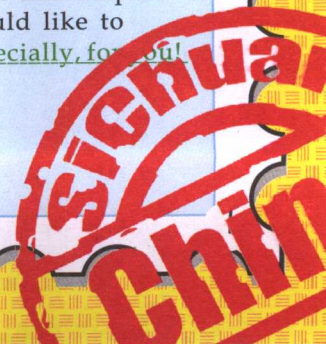
For I have three sons and understand that learning is so much easier if it is fun! So I now invite you to come on a magical journey through my childhood dreams and memories. Remember we adults were once children too!

As a child, I lived in the English countryside with my parents, my brother Steven and my sister Carol. We led a simple, happy life and it was like living inside a beautiful pink bubble. We were protected and loved but NEVER spoilt!

At one time, I too needed a candle lit at bedtime. I would play at making pots and sandcastles with my friends. Also, I can clearly remember caring for my pet goldfish and having to take my turn at feeding father's chicken! I was a little nervous on my first day at school but my friends all helped me.

The sights, sounds and colours of the countryside were my playground and helped to shape my life. Just like you I had childhood dreams. Perhaps you would like to share my dreams and memories, which are written in these poems: — especially for you!
I hope you enjoy them.

With love
Patricia Irvine
April, 2005

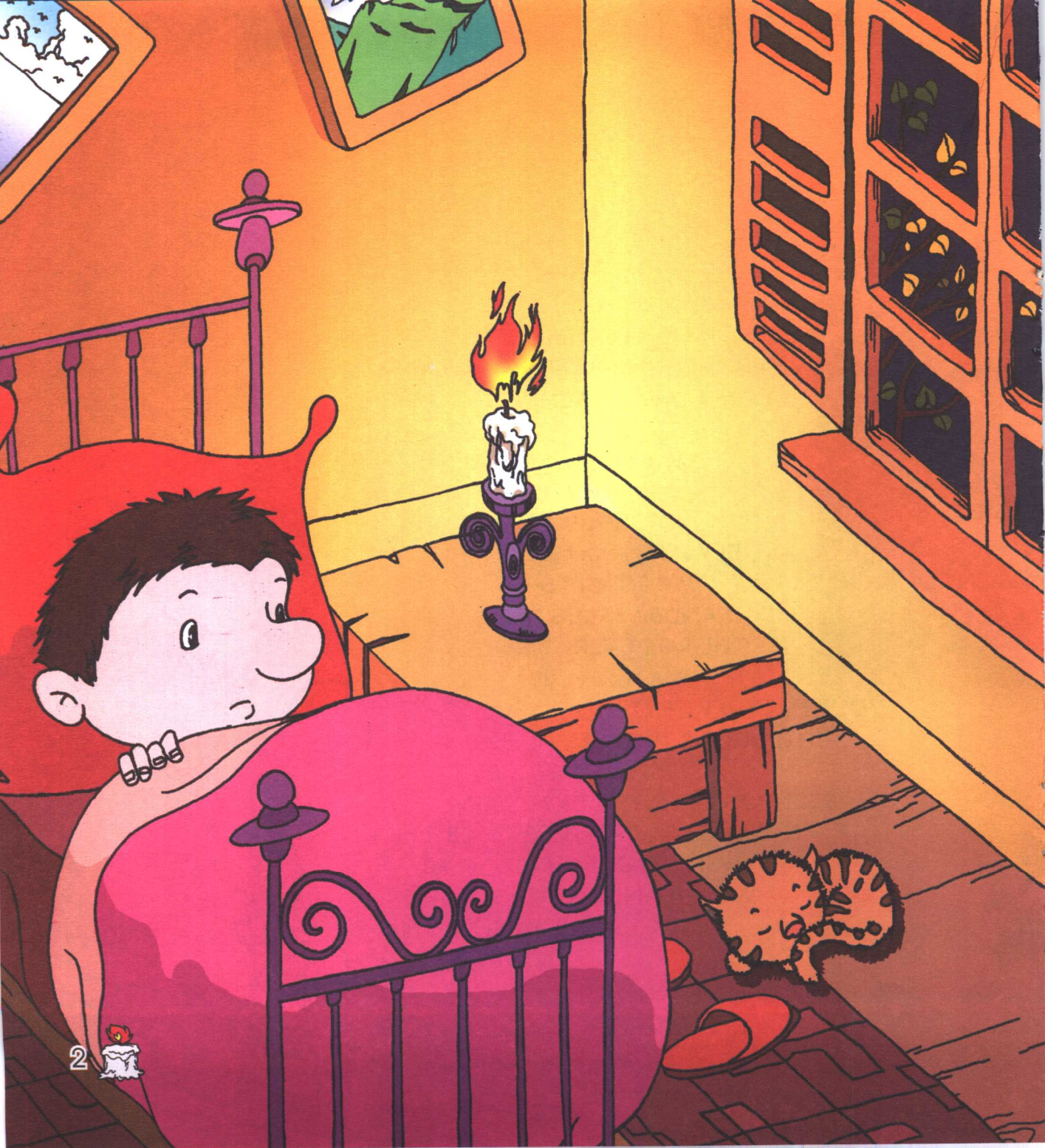




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CANDLELIGHT

Candle, Candle burning bright
You are my friend throughout the night

In bed I'm warm from top to toe¹
From there I see your gentle glow

I know, that night quite soon will end
Till then I'm safe with you my friend

When, at night, strange sounds I hear²
I look at you and feel no fear

Candle, Candle burning bright
You are my friend ... throughout the night

1. from top to toe: 从头到脚。

2. When, at night, strange sounds I hear: When I hear strange sounds at night ... 当我在夜里听到奇怪的声音……

EARTH

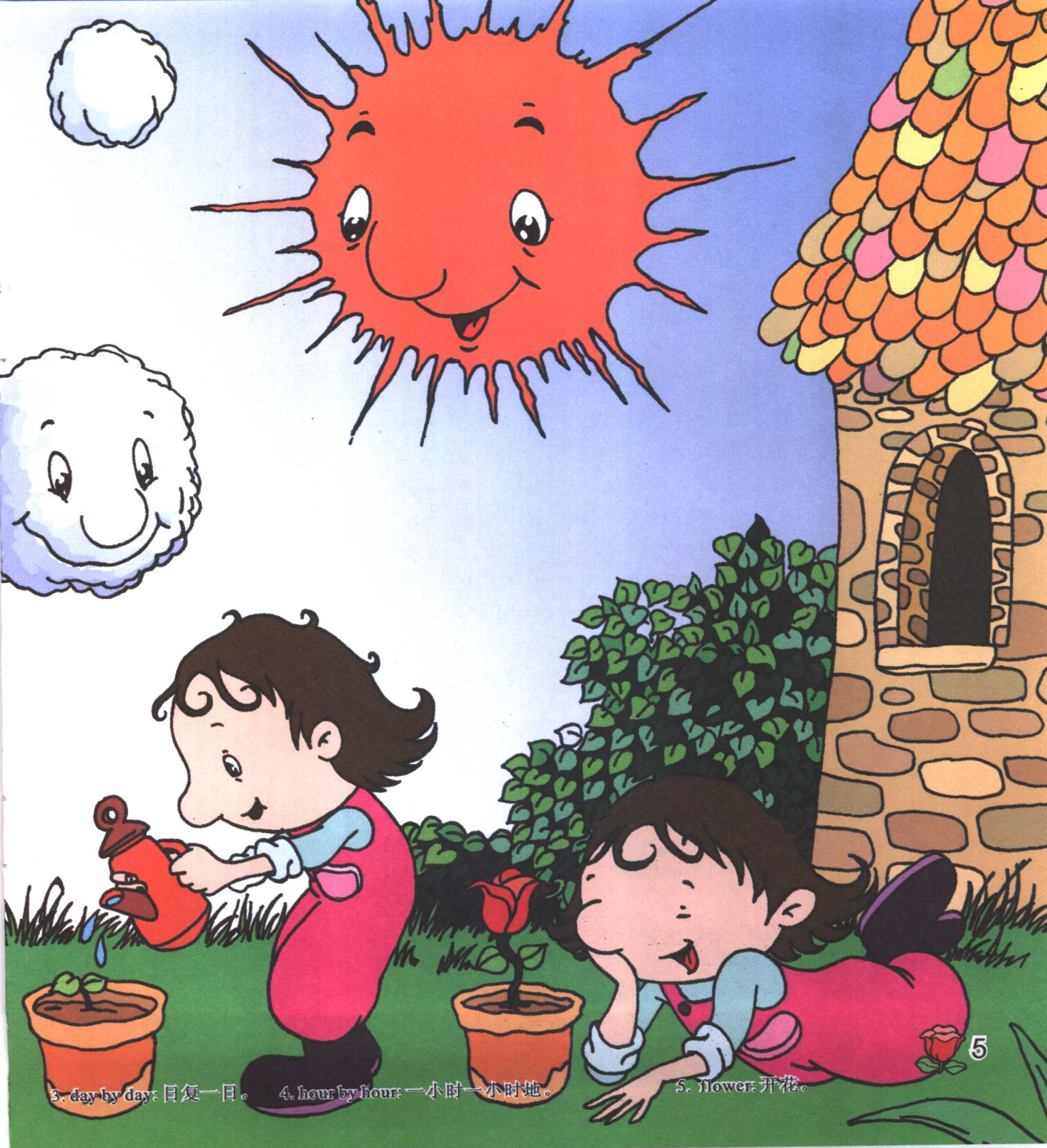
As a child, I would often play with soil
Carefully, for my clothes I dared not spoill¹
Soft mud-clay pots I then would make
And place them in the sun to bake
With crumbling earth I'd fill the pots
Planting in each, small seeds, like dots
From a watering can, each day I'd pour
Just the right amount, no less, no more
I watched keenly for the leaves to show
So anxious was I,² to see them grow
Then, day by day³ and hour by hour⁴
I'd wait and watch to see them flower⁵
On "Flowering Day", I'd feel such joy inside
I thought my heart — would burst with pride!



4
1. 当我还是小孩子，玩泥巴时我总是很小心，生怕把我的衣服弄脏。



2. So anxious was I: I was so anxious. 我是那样地急切。



3. day by day: 日复一日。

4. hour by hour: 一小时一小时地。

5. flower: 开花。

FATHER'S CHICKEN

My Father keeps some Chicken¹
I have to feed them every day
I often am a little cross²
When my friends run off to play!
It doesn't seem quite fair to me³
That I work, whilst³ off they run
But I have to do it anyway
And cannot leave until it's done!
The Chicken often try to peck
And they have such beady eyes
The noise they make is very loud
(I think, Chicken, belong in pies!)
However in the morning
My task I may complete
And love to collect the golden eggs
Which, for breakfast, I then eat!

1. Chicken: 鸡; 鸡肉。此处指鸡。

2. cross: 恼怒。

3. whilst off they run: while they run off. 当他们跑出去的时候。

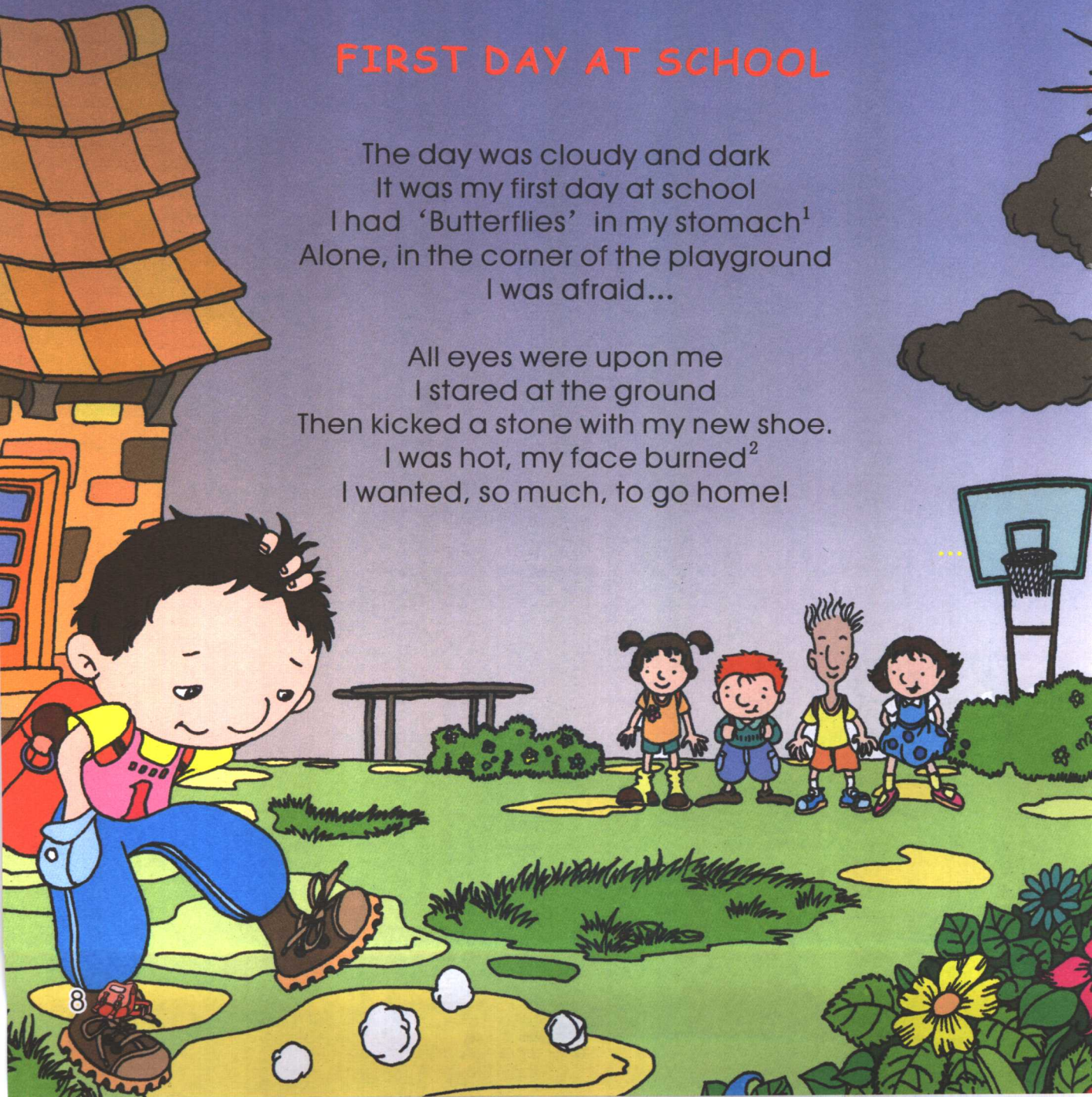


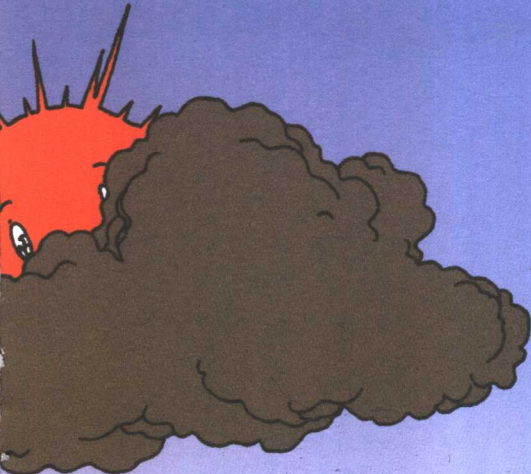


FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL

The day was cloudy and dark
It was my first day at school
I had 'Butterflies' in my stomach¹
Alone, in the corner of the playground
I was afraid...

All eyes were upon me
I stared at the ground
Then kicked a stone with my new shoe.
I was hot, my face burned²
I wanted, so much, to go home!





Then ... I looked up
A girl in a Red dress stood before me
She said, "My name's Soong Jing"
Her smiling eyes danced into mine³
We linked hands

*Then, the 'Butterflies' flew away⁴
And the sun came out from behind the dark cloud*

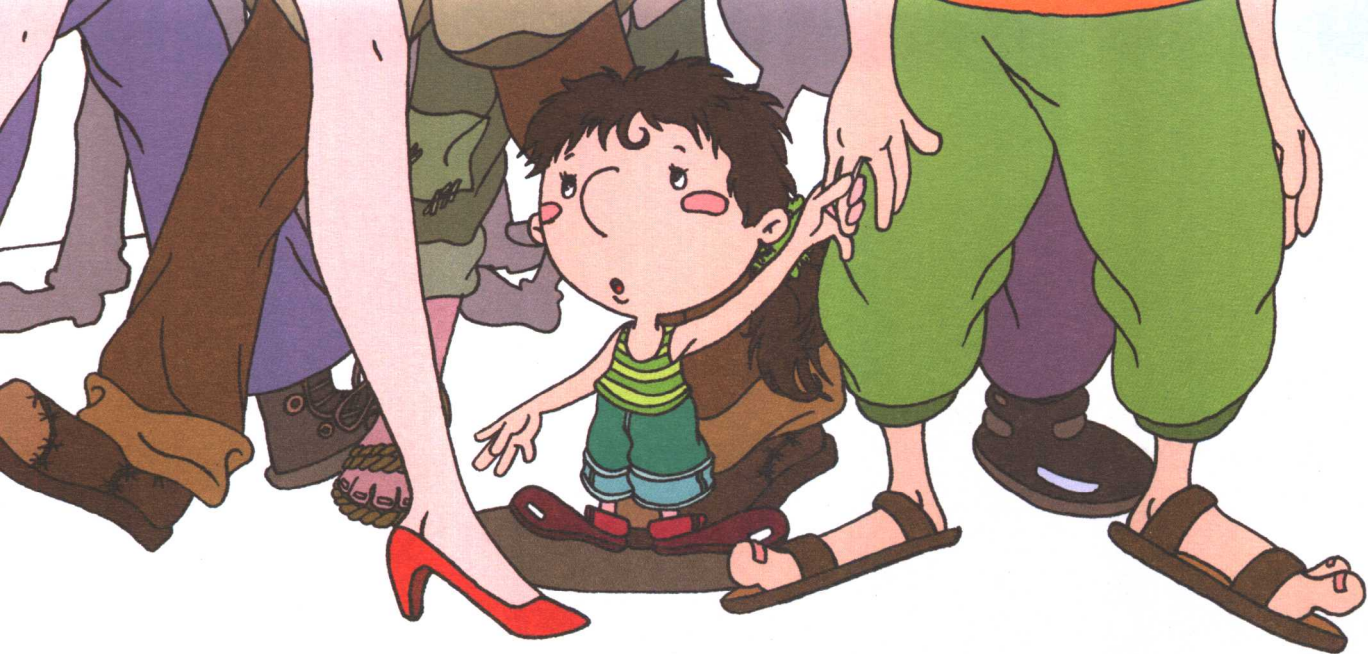
1. I had 'Butterflies' in my stomach: 直译为“我的心里有蝴蝶在扑腾”，即我非常紧张、不安。

2. my face burned: 我的脸在发烧。

3. Her smiling eyes danced into mine: 她微笑的眼波在我的眼中闪烁着。

4. the 'Butterflies' flew away: 暗喻。直译为“我心里的蝴蝶飞走了”，即我不再紧张和不安。





KNEES!

Knees!

Walking, all I ever see are other people's knees!

Round ones

Pointed ones

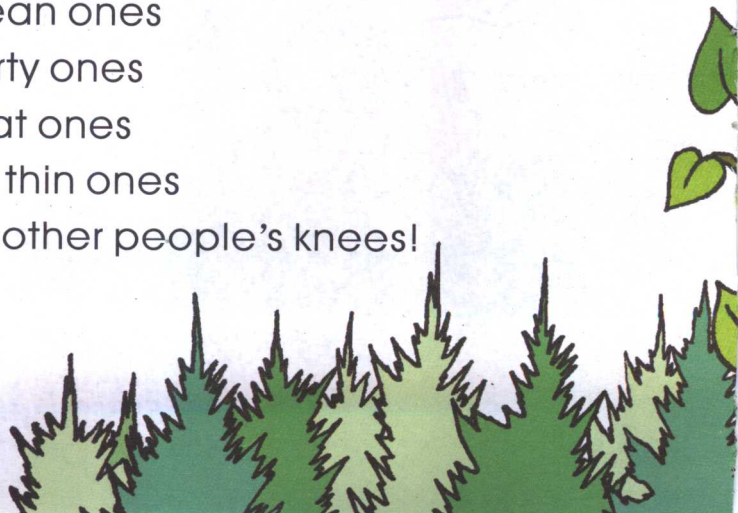
Clean ones

Dirty ones

Fat ones

And thin ones

All I ever see are other people's knees!



UNTIL...

That magic moment
When my Father lifts me high
And like a bird

I soar¹ through the air, into the deep blue sky

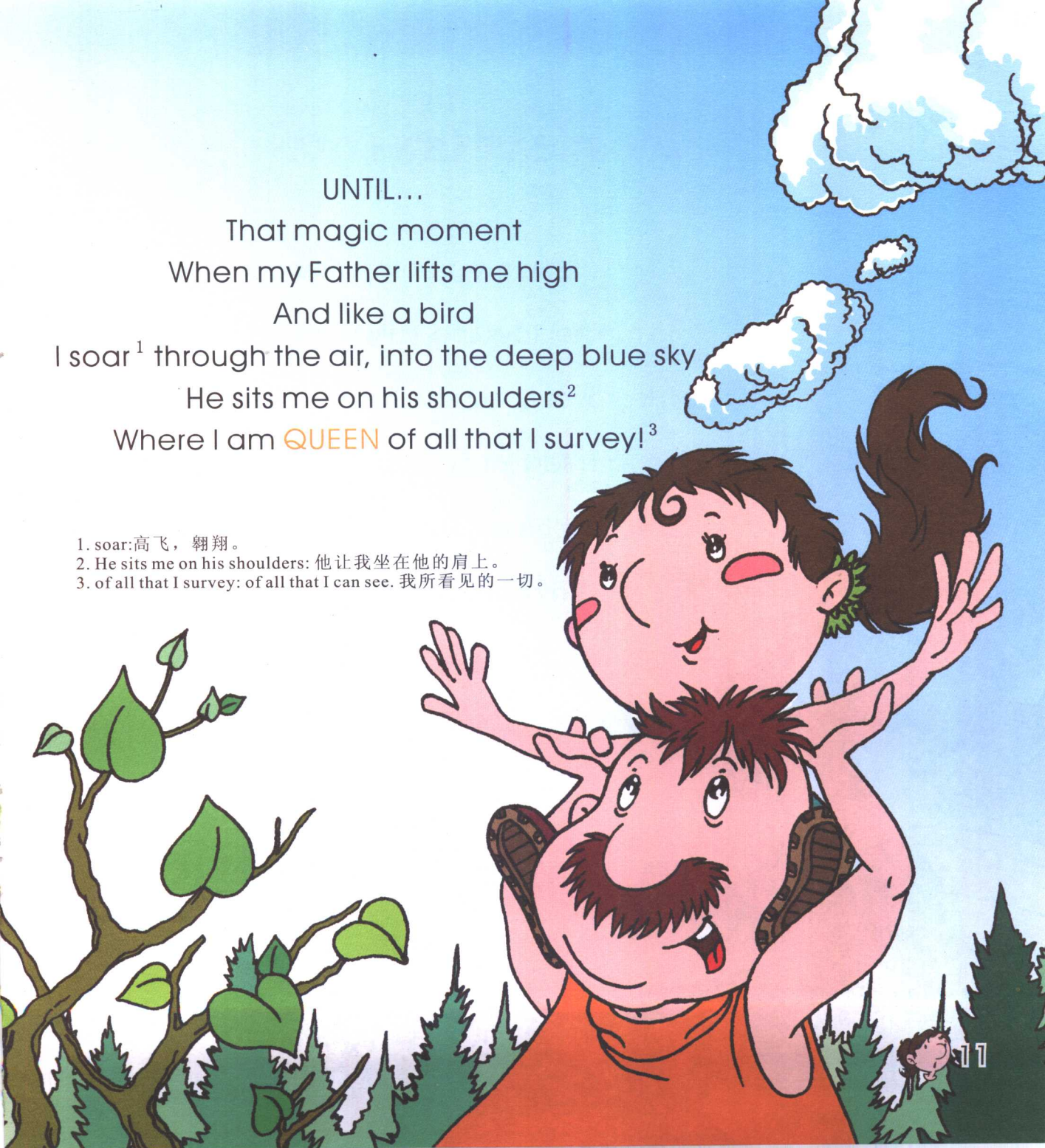
He sits me on his shoulders²

Where I am QUEEN of all that I survey!³

1. soar: 高飞, 翱翔。

2. He sits me on his shoulders: 他让我坐在他的肩上。

3. of all that I survey: of all that I can see. 我所看见的一切。



MY GREATEST FRIEND

My sister is my greatest friend
To me her toys she'll always lend ¹
Her favourite doll is Betsy-Jane ²
If I am sad, or perhaps in pain
Her doll she puts upon my knee
From tiny cups we sip our tea

