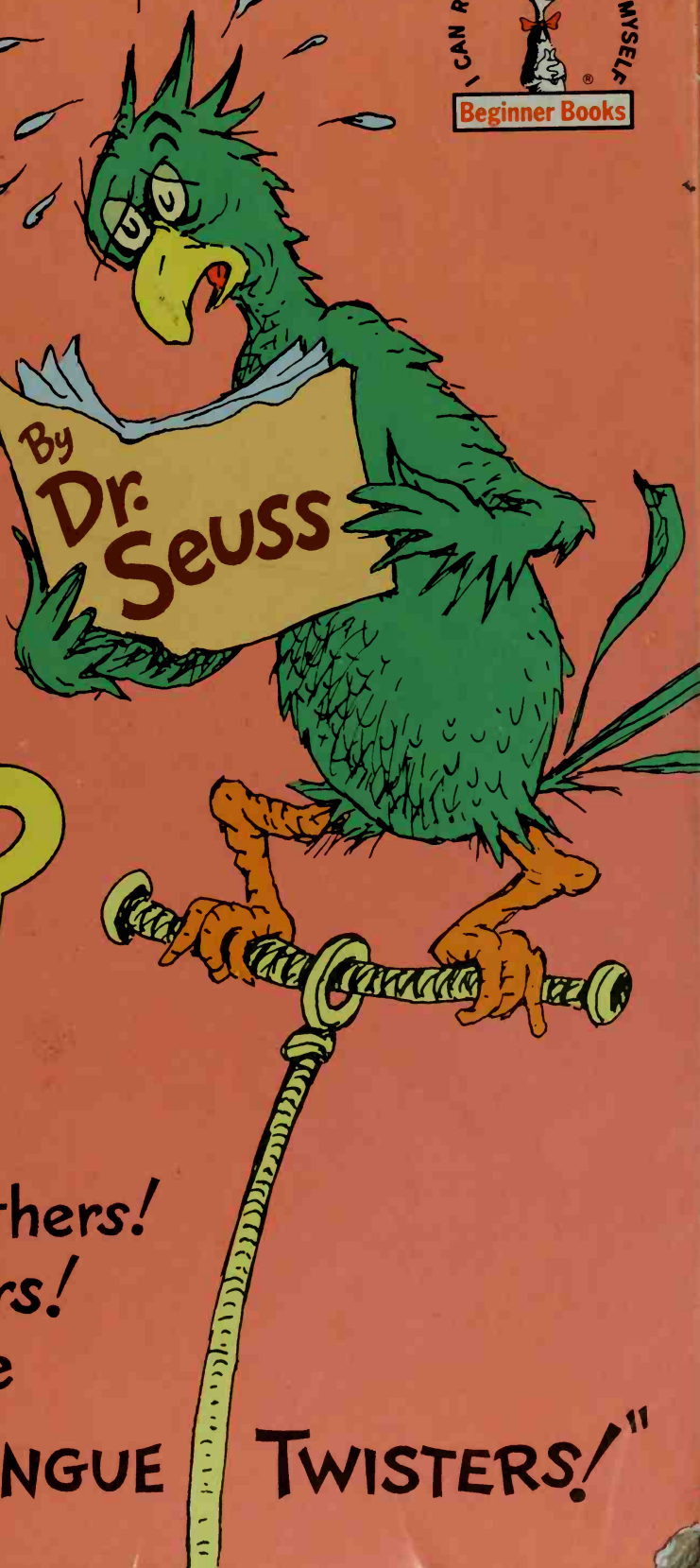


Oh
say
can
you
say?

By
Dr.
Seuss

"Oh my brothers!
Oh my sisters!
These are
TERRIBLE TONGUE TWISTERS!"



Oh Say Can You Say? is a collection of word entanglements designed to twist the tongues of both the young and the not-so-young. This is a book of hilarity and fun.

Parents who read the troublesome tongue twisters out loud (and laugh at their mistakes) will gain satisfaction from stimulating their children to push their reading skills a little further. Young readers will delight in knowing that Dr. Seuss has set them up—challenged them to experiment, to laugh at their own goofs and try again!

Oh Say Can You Say? is a vocabulary-building experience. It is only by encountering new words that a child increases his or her vocabulary. In this book Dr. Seuss has placed a treasure trove of word sounds within every child's reach—tongue-tickling vignettes of sense and nonsense that he dares his young readers to say aloud. And in doing so, they will profit from their attempts.

—Charles F. Reasoner,
Professor of Children's Literature,
New York University

For a list of some other Beginner Books, see the back endpaper.



Matthew Dan Kipper
Easter 1980

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*For
Lee Groo,
the Enunciator*



Oh
say
can
you
say?!

By
Dr. Seuss

BEGINNER BOOKS
A Division of Random House, Inc.

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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0



Said a book-reading parrot named Hooey,
“The words in this book are all phooey.
When you say them, your lips
will make slips and back flips
and your tongue may end up in Saint Looley!”



Do you like fresh fish?

It's just fine at Finney's Diner.

Finney also has some fresher fish
that's fresher and much finer.

But his best fish is his freshest fish
and Finney says with pride,

"The finest fish at Finney's
is my freshest fish, French-fried!"

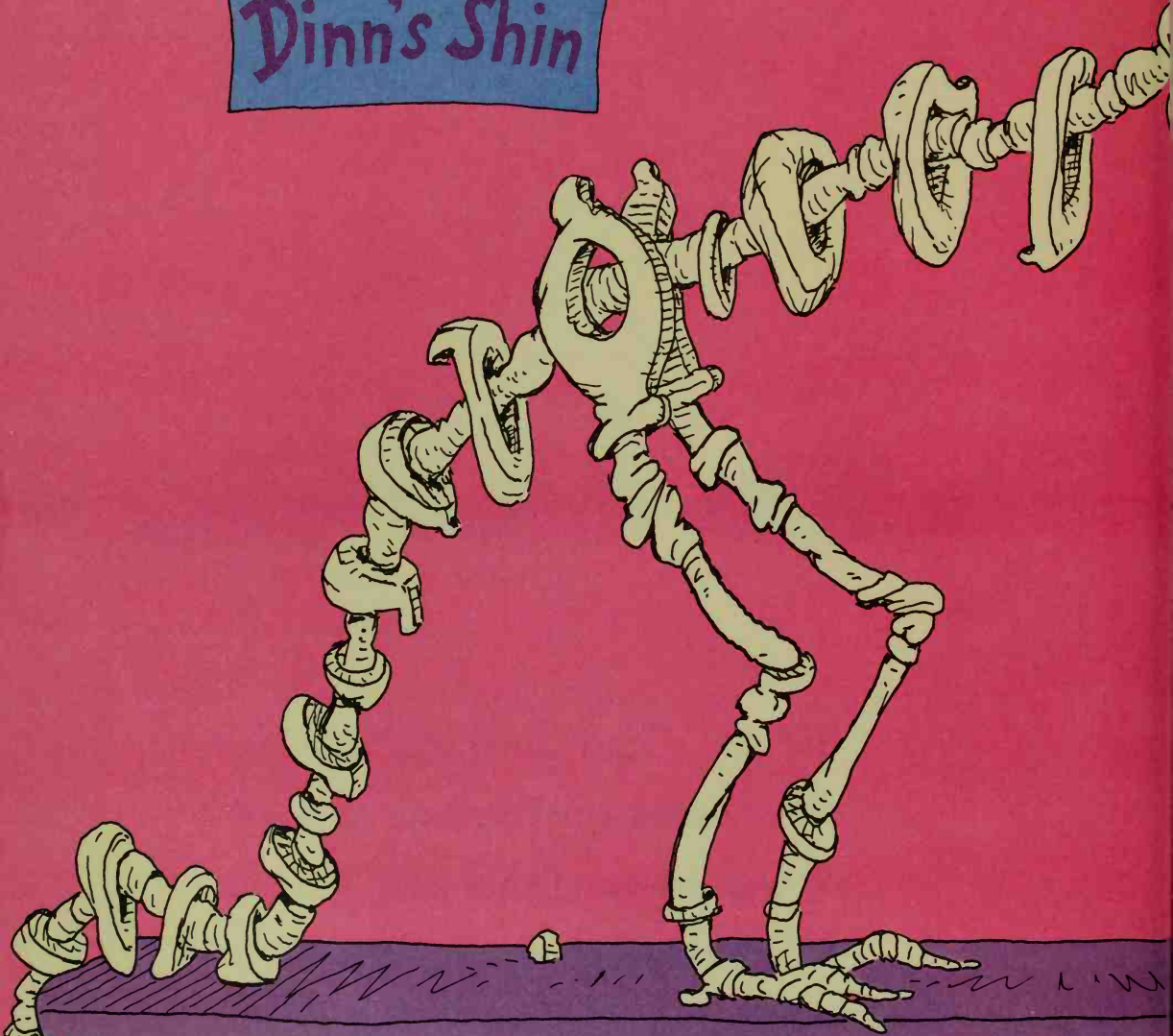
SO . . .

don't order the fresh
or the fresher fish.

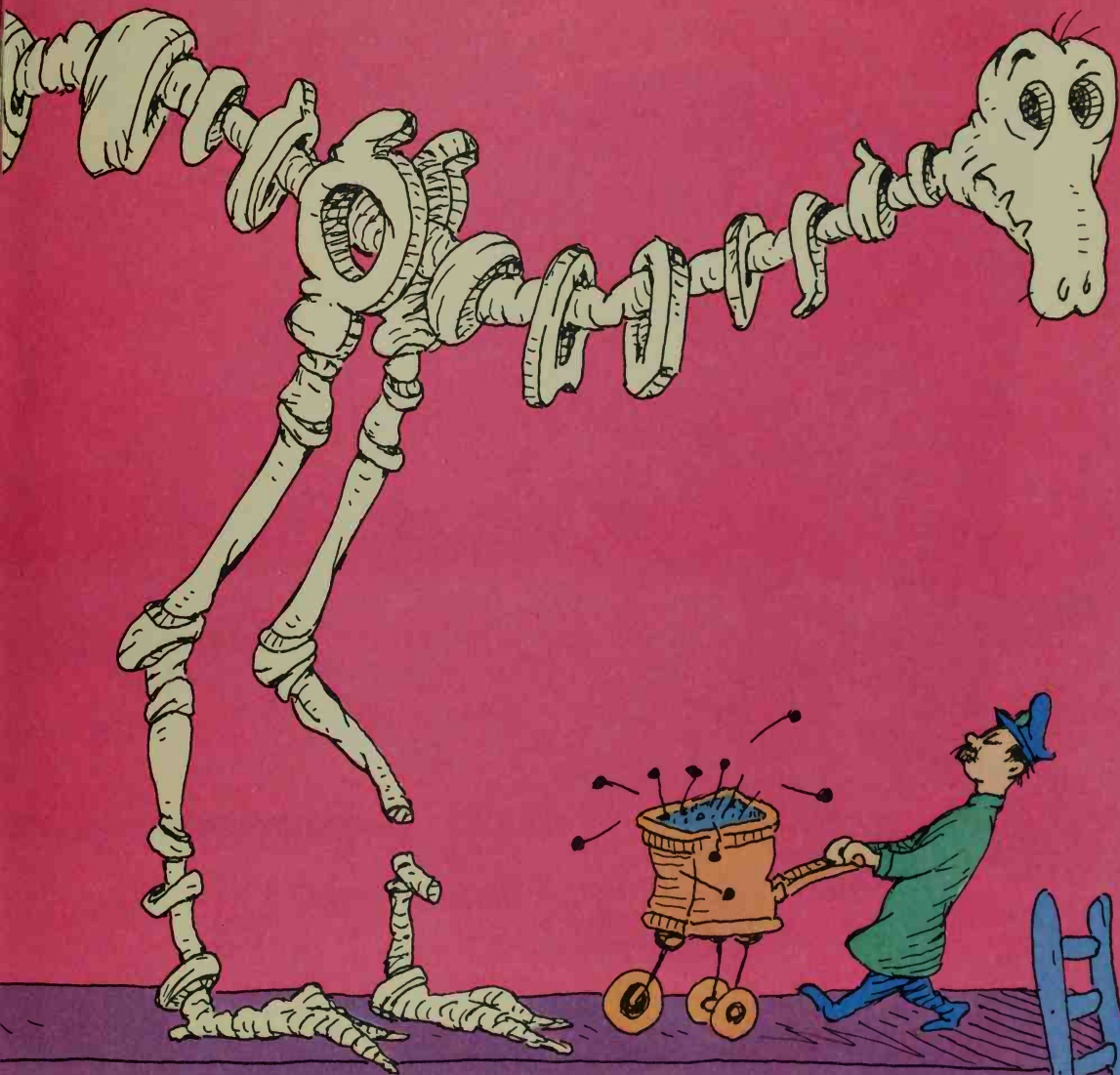
At Finney's, if you're wise,
you'll say,

“Fetch me the finest
French-fried freshest
fish that Finney fries!”

Dinn's Shin



We have a dinosaur named Dinn.
Dinn's thin. Dinn doesn't have much skin.
And the bones fall out
of his left front shin.



Then we have to call in Pinner Blinn,
who comes with his handy shin-pin bin
and with a thin Blinn shinbone pin,
Blinn pins Dinn's shinbones right back in.

Bed Spreader



Bed Spreaders spread spreads on beds.
Bread Spreaders spread butters on breads.
And that Bed Spreader better
watch out how he's spreading . . .

Bread Spreader



or that Bread Spreader's
sure going to butter his bedding.

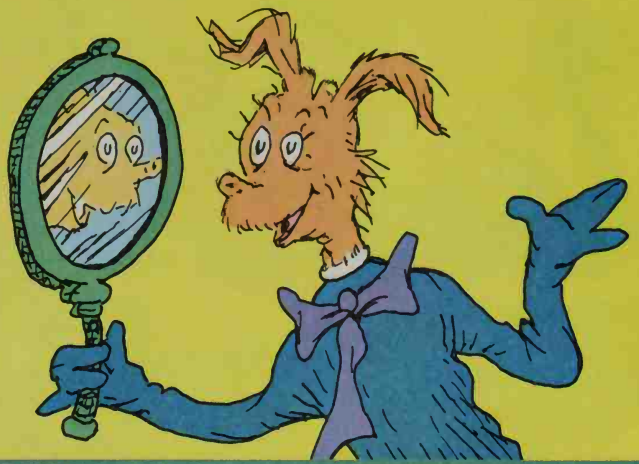
Ape Cakes Grape Cakes



As he gobbled the cakes on his plate,
the greedy ape said as he ate,
“The greener green grapes are,
the keener keen apes are
to gobble green grape cakes.
They’re GREAT!”



Are you having trouble
in saying this stuff?
It's really quite easy for me.
I just look in my mirror
and see what I say,
and then I just say what I see.



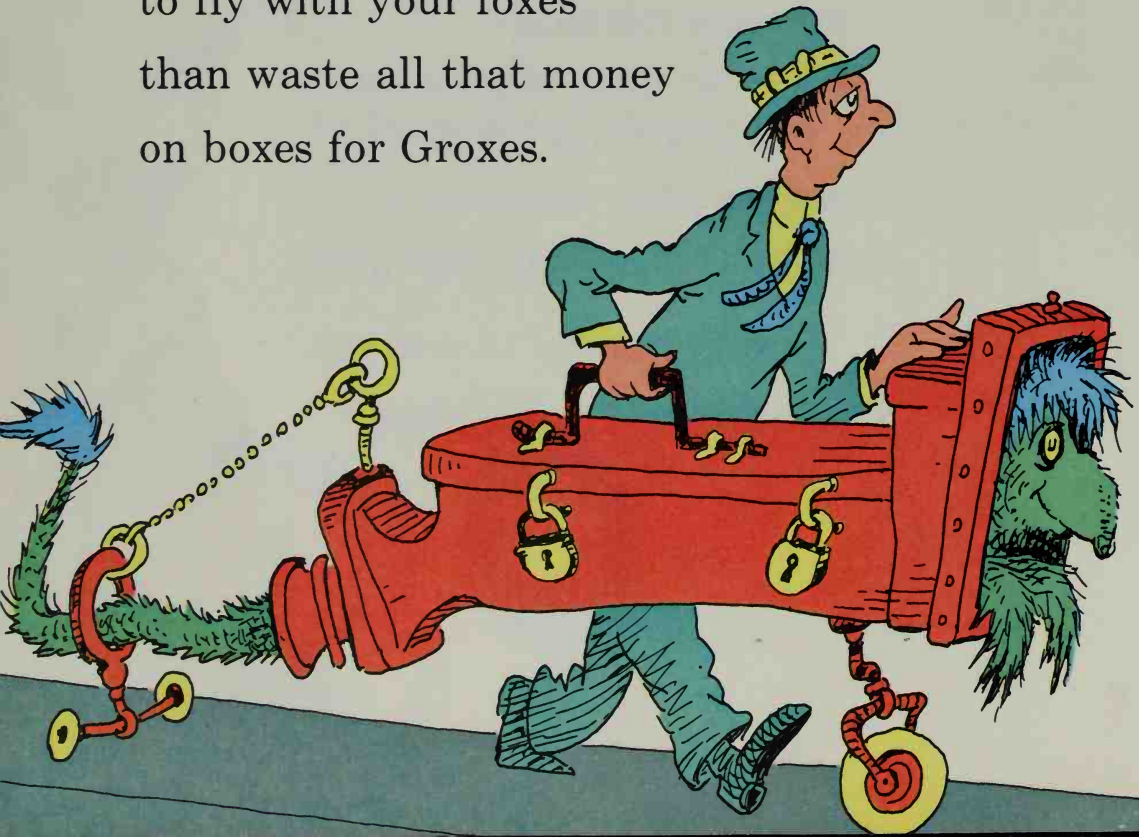
Now let's talk about MONEY!

You should leave your Grox home
when you travel by air.

If you take him along,
they charge double the fare.

And your Grox must be packed
and locked up in a Grox Box,
which costs much, much more
than a little old fox box.

So it's heaps a lot cheaper
to fly with your foxes
than waste all that money
on boxes for Groxes.



And, what do you think costs more? . . .

A Simple Thimble
or
a Single Shingle?

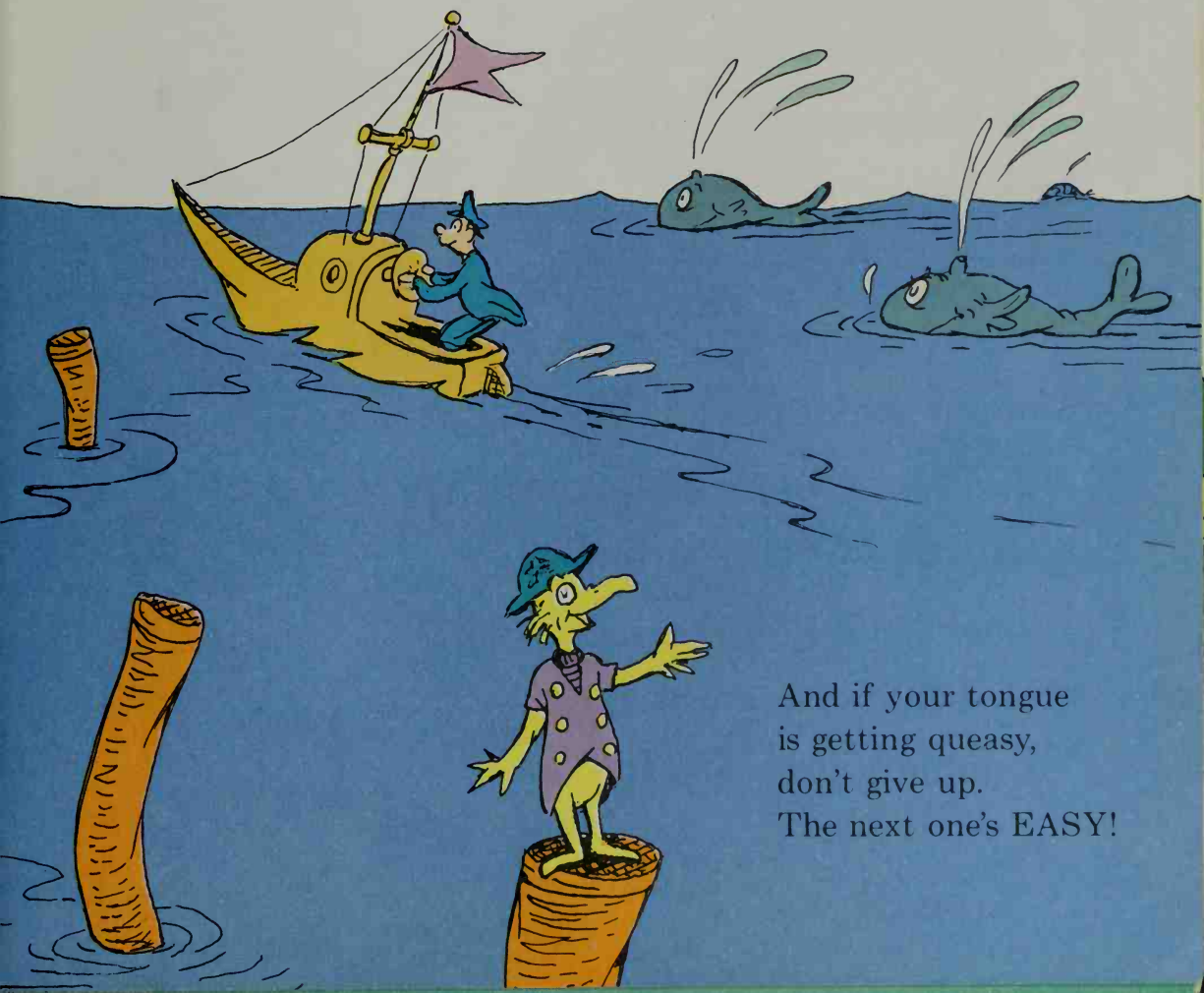


A simple thimble could cost less
than a single shingle would, I guess.
So I think that the single shingle should
cost more than the simple thimble would.

EAT at SKIPPER ZIPP'S



If you like to eat potato chips
and chew pork chops on clipper ships,
I suggest that you chew
a few chips and a chop
at Skipper Zipp's Clipper Ship Chip Chop Shop.



And if your tongue
is getting queasy,
don't give up.
The next one's EASY!

There are so many things
that you really should know.
And that's why I'm bothering
telling you so.

You should know the first names
of the Fuddnuddler Brothers
who like to pile each on the heads of the others.

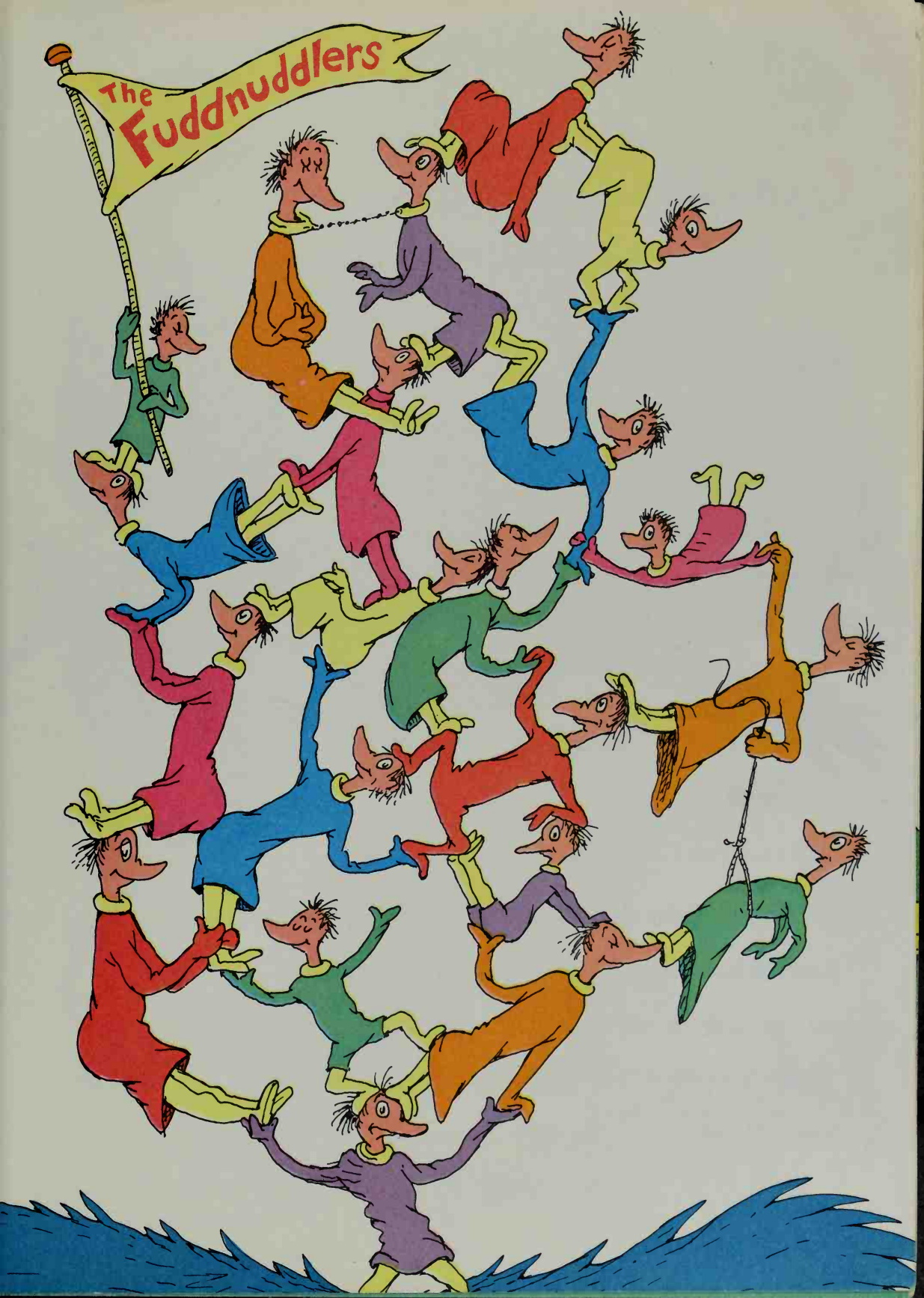
If you start at the top,
there are Bipper and Bud
and Skipper and Jipper
and Jeffrey and Jud,
Horatio, Horace and Hendrix and Hud,
and then come Dinwoodie and Dinty and Dud,
also Fitzsimmon and Frederick and Fud,
and Slinkey and Stinkey and Stuart and Stud.

And, down at the bottom
is poor little Lud.

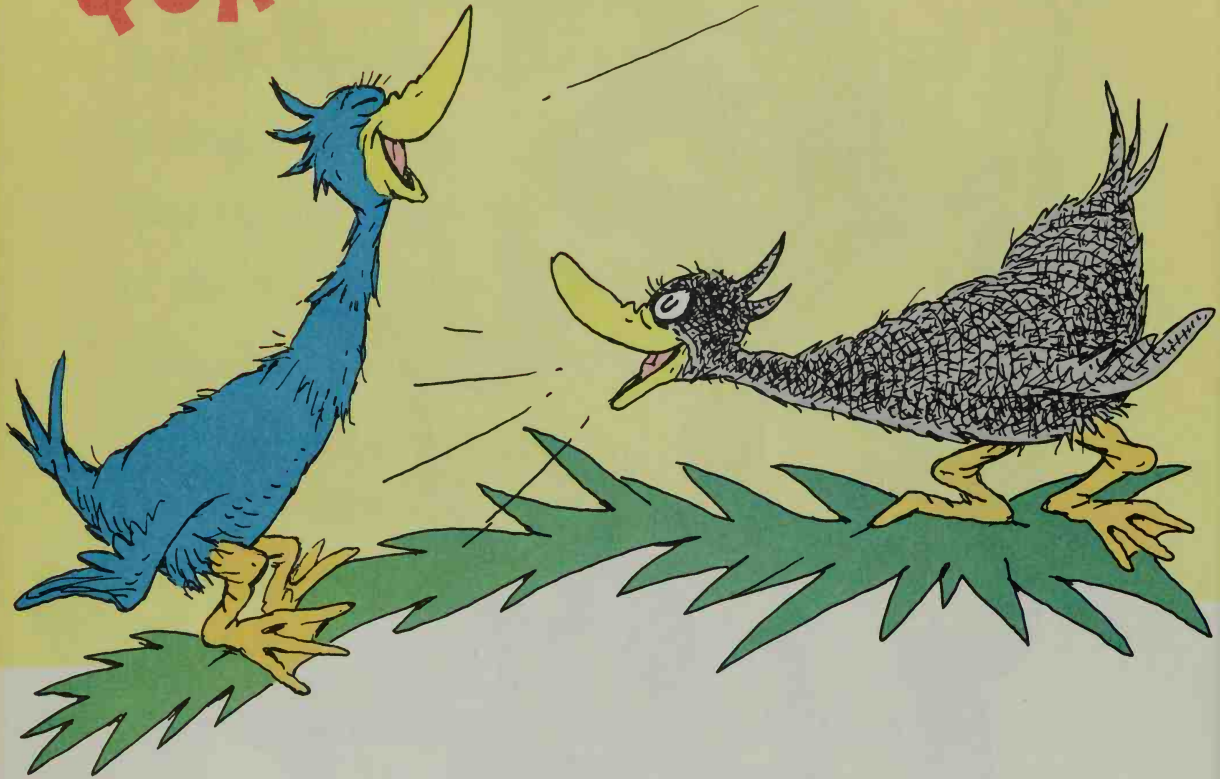
But if Lud ever sneezes,
his name will be MUD.



The Fuddnuddlers



QUACK
QUACK!



We have two ducks. One blue. One black.
And when our blue duck goes “Quack-quack”
our black duck quickly quack-quacks back.
The quacks Blue quacks make her quite a quacker
but Black is a quicker quacker-backer.

AND . . . speaking of quacks
reminds me of cracks
and stacks and sacks
and shacks and Schnacks.
SO . . . oh say can you say,
“I have cracks in my shack,
I have smoke in my stack,
and I think there’s a Schnack
in the sack on my back!”

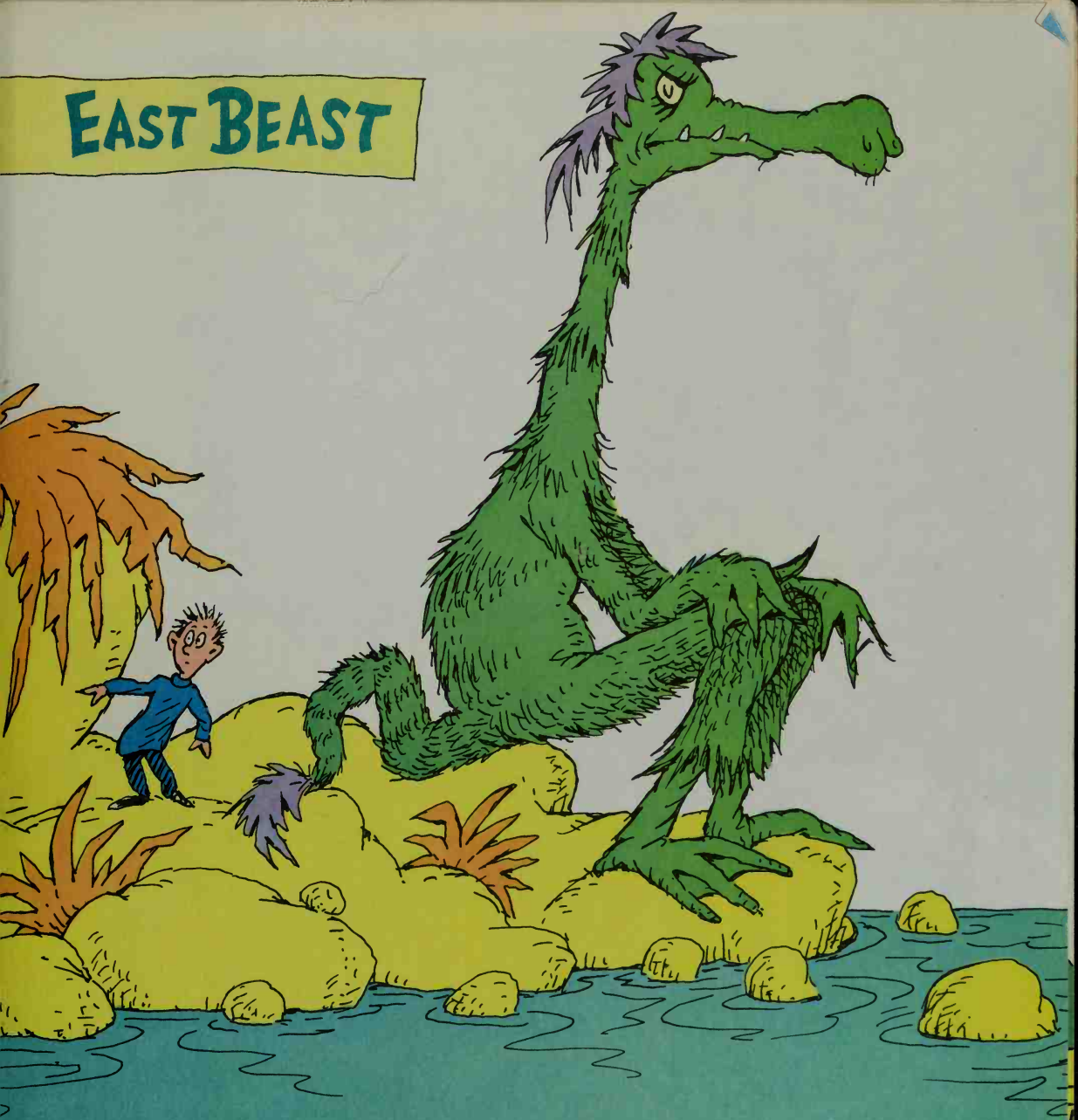


WEST BEAST



Upon an island hard to reach,
the East Beast sits upon his beach.
Upon the west beach sits the West Beast.
Each beach beast thinks he's the best beast.

EAST BEAST



Which beast is best? . . . Well, I thought at first that the East was best and the West was worst. Then I looked again from the west to the east and I liked the beast on the east beach least.

Pete Pats Pigs



Pete Briggs pats pigs.

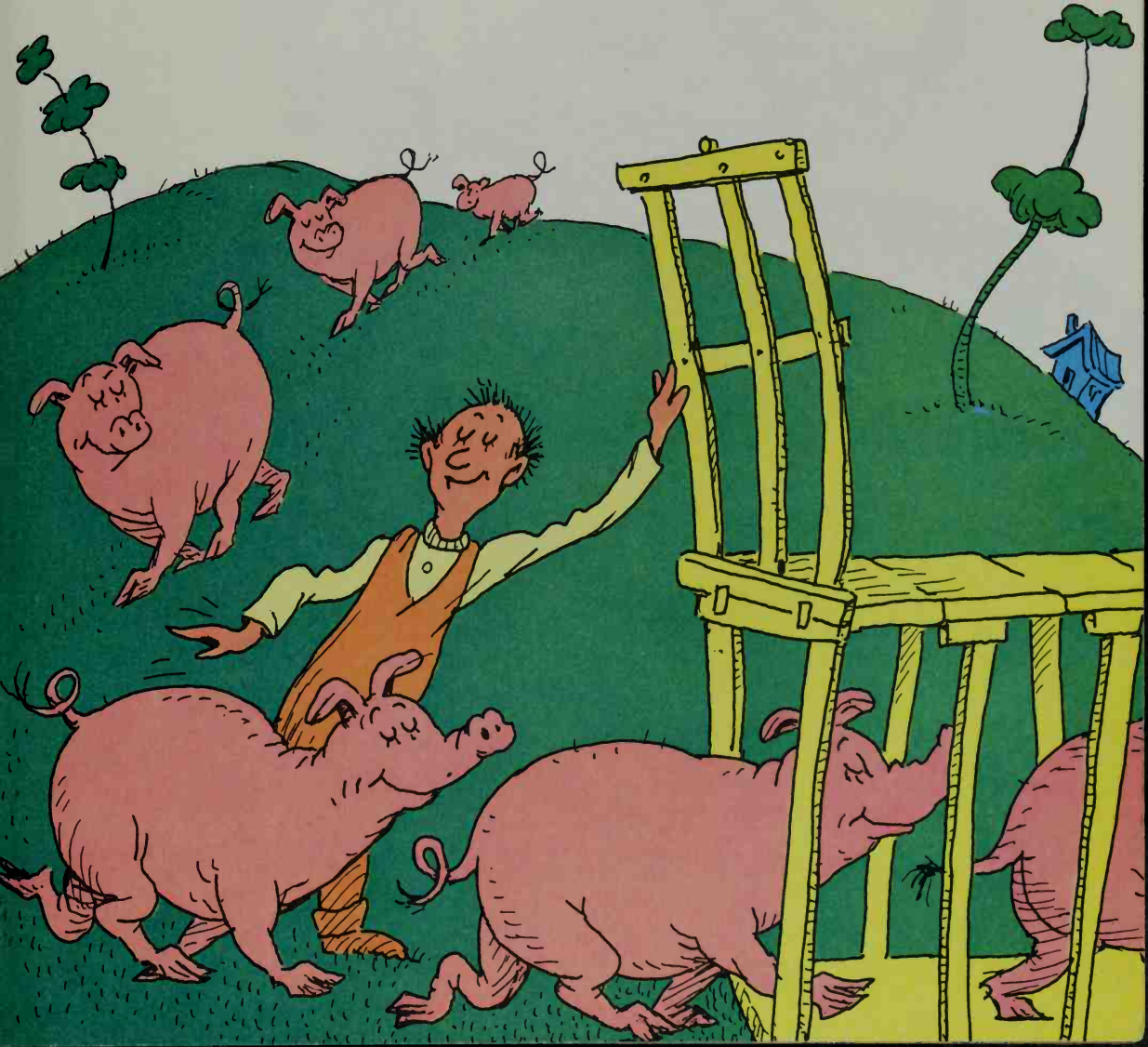
Briggs pats pink pigs.

Briggs pats big pigs.

(Don't ask me why. It doesn't matter.)

Pete Briggs is a pink pig, big pig patter.

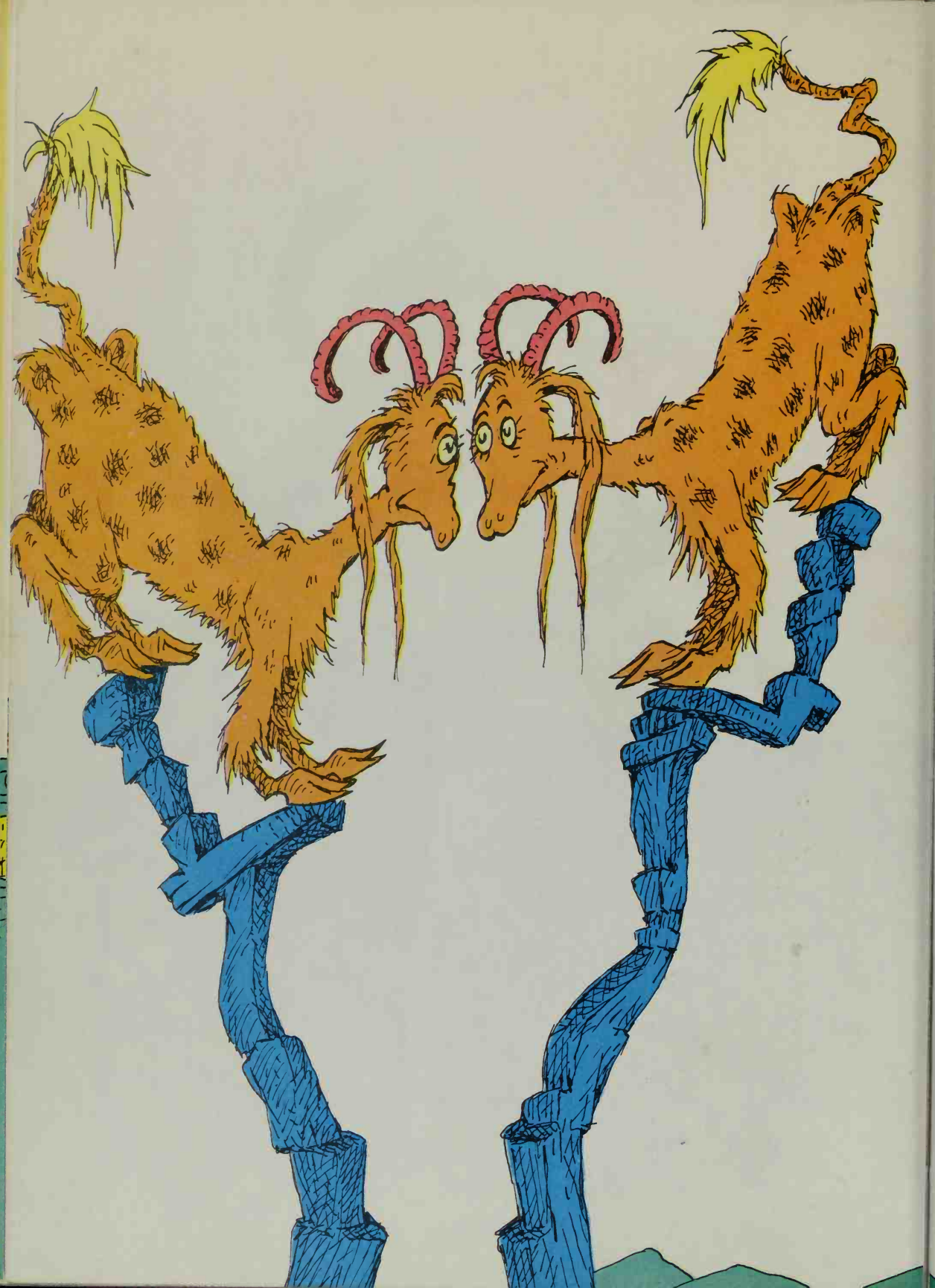
Pete Briggs pats his big pink pigs all day.
(Don't ask me why. I cannot say.)
Then Pete puts his patted pigs away
in his Pete Briggs' Pink Pigs Big Pigs Pigpen.





Fritz needs Fred and Fred needs Fritz.
Fritz feeds Fred and Fred feeds Fritz.
Fred feeds Fritz with ritzy Fred food.
Fritz feeds Fred with ritzy Fritz food.
And Fritz, when fed, has often said,
"I'm a Fred-fed Fritz.
Fred's a Fritz-fed Fred."





How to tell a Klotz from a Glotz

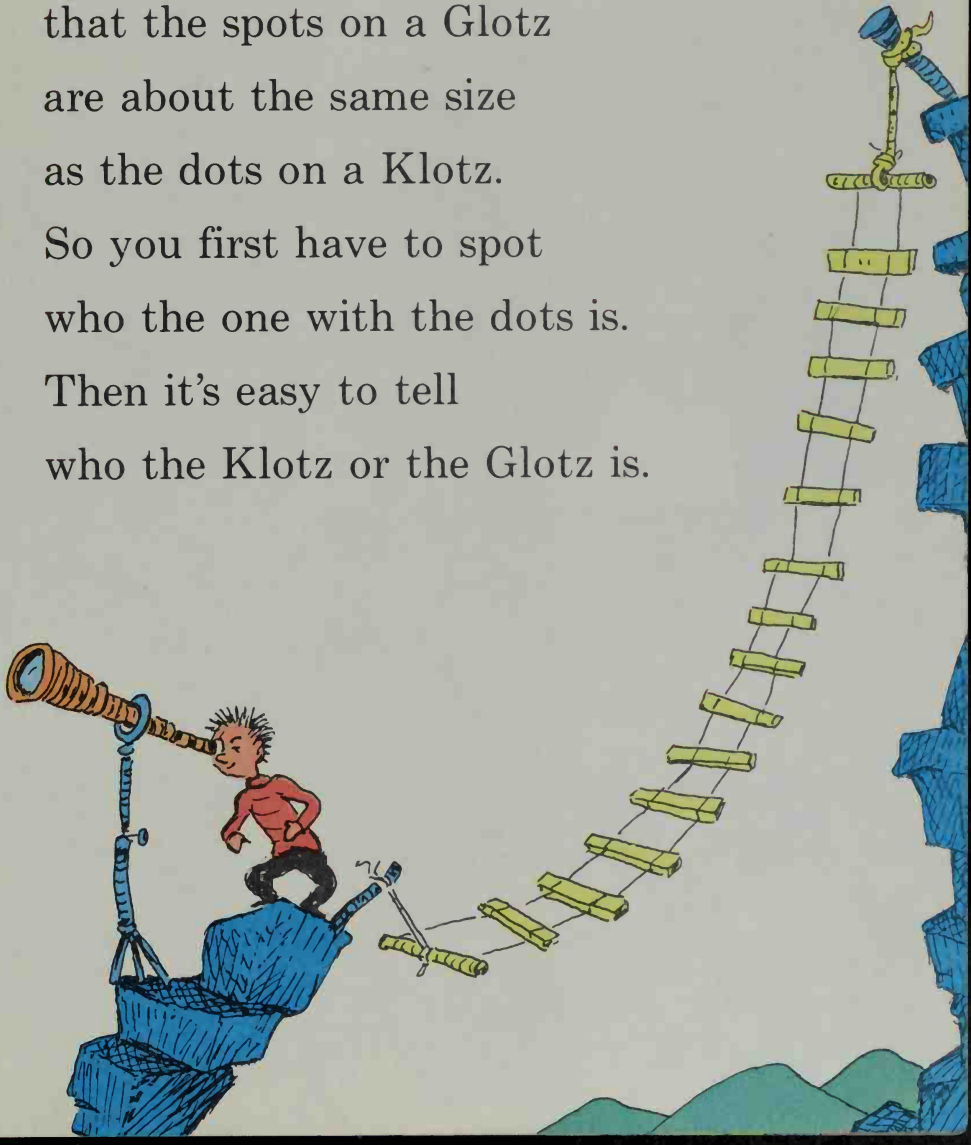
Well, the Glotz, you will notice,
has lots of black spots.

The Klotz is quite different
with lots of black dots.

But the big problem is
that the spots on a Glotz
are about the same size
as the dots on a Klotz.

So you first have to spot
who the one with the dots is.

Then it's easy to tell
who the Klotz or the Glotz is.



What would you rather be when you Grow Up?



A cop in a cop's cap?
Or a cupcake cook
in a cupcake cook's cap?
Or a fat flapjack flapper
in a flat flapped-jack cap?

OR . . .

if you think

you don't like cops' caps,

flapjack flappers'

or cupcake cooks' caps,

maybe you're one

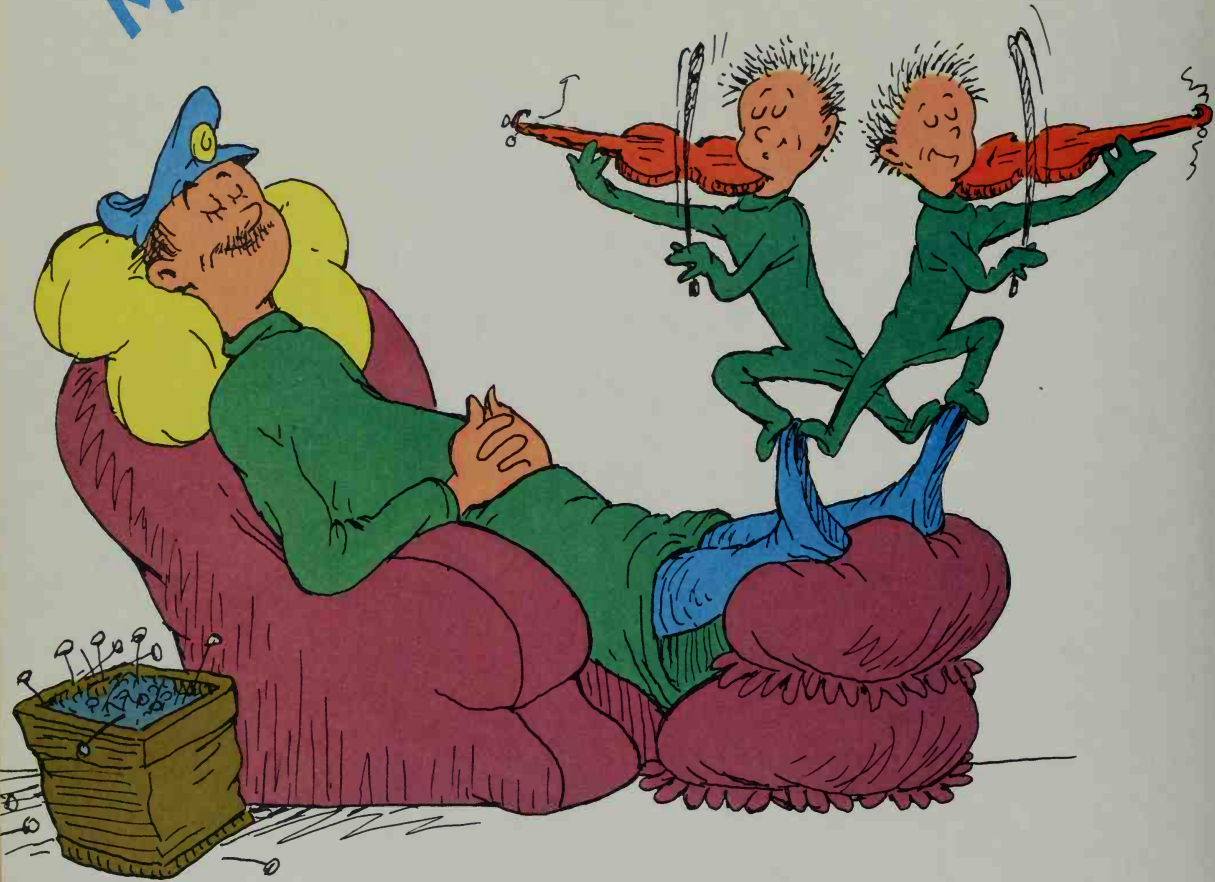
of those choosy chaps

who likes kooky captains' caps

perhaps.



More about Blinn



Well, when Blinn comes home tired
from his work pinning shins,
the happiest hour of old Blinn's day begins.
Mr. Blinn is the father of musical twins
who, tucking twin instruments under twin chins,
lull their daddy to sleep with twin Blinn violins.

AND . . . oh say can you say,
“Far away in Berlin
a musical urchin named Gretchen von Schwinn
has a blue-footed, true-footed,
trick-fingered, slick-fingered,
six-fingered, six-stringed tin Schwinn mandolin.”



Rope Soap Hoop Soap



If you hope
to wash soup off a rope,
simply scrub it with **SKROPE!**

Skrope is so strong that no rope is too long!

But if you should wish to wash
soup off a hoop, I suggest that it's best
to let your whole silly souped-up hoop soak
in Soapy Cooper's Super Soup-Off-Hoops Soak Suds.





Merry
Christmas
MUSH

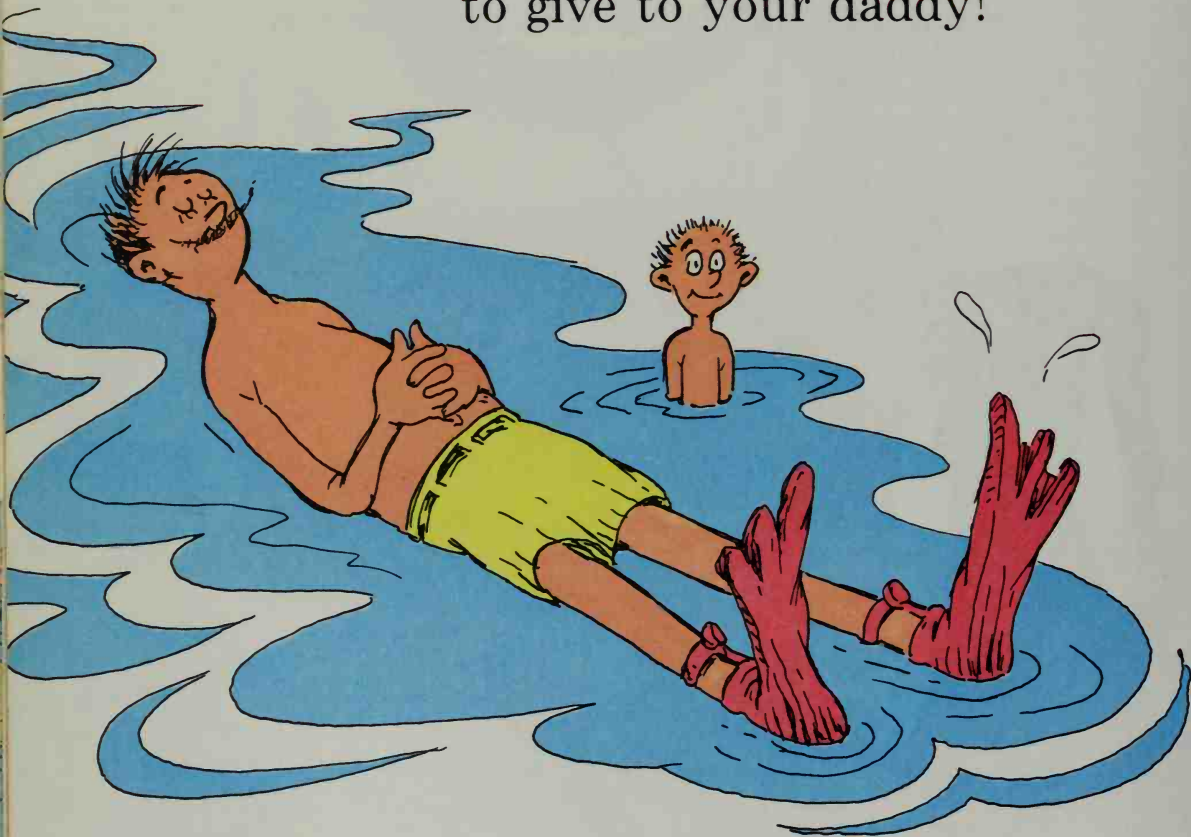


One year we had a Christmas brunch
with Merry Christmas Mush to munch.
But I don't think you'd care for such.
We didn't like to munch mush much.



And, speaking of Christmas...

Here are
some Great Gifts
to give to your daddy!



If your daddy's name is Jim
and if Jim swims and if Jim's slim,
the perfect Christmas gift for him
is a set of Slim Jim Swim Fins.

But if your daddy's name is Dwight
and he likes to look at birds at night,
the gift for Dwight that might be right
is a Bright Dwight Bird-Flight
Night-Sight Light.

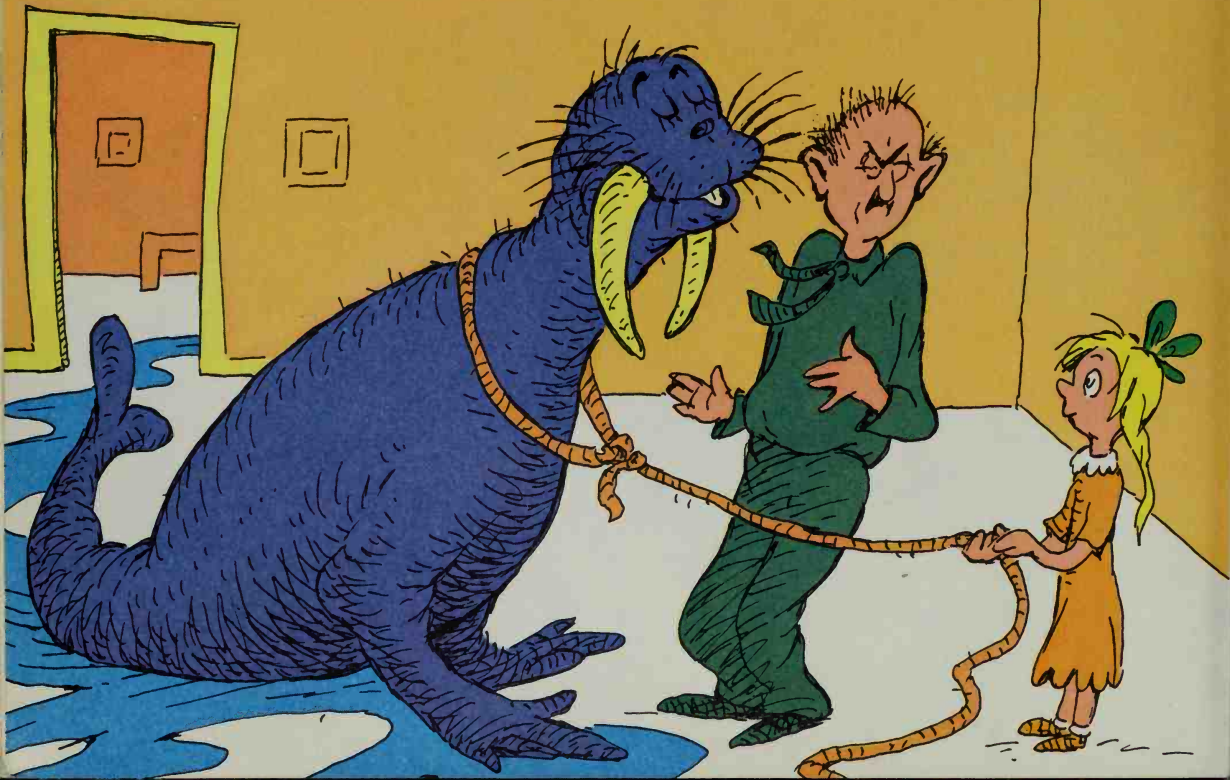


But NEVER Give Your Daddy a Walrus

A walrus with whiskers
is not a good pet.

And a walrus which whispers
is worse even yet.

When a walrus lispers whispers
through tough rough wet whiskers,
your poor daddy's ear
will get blispers and bliskers.

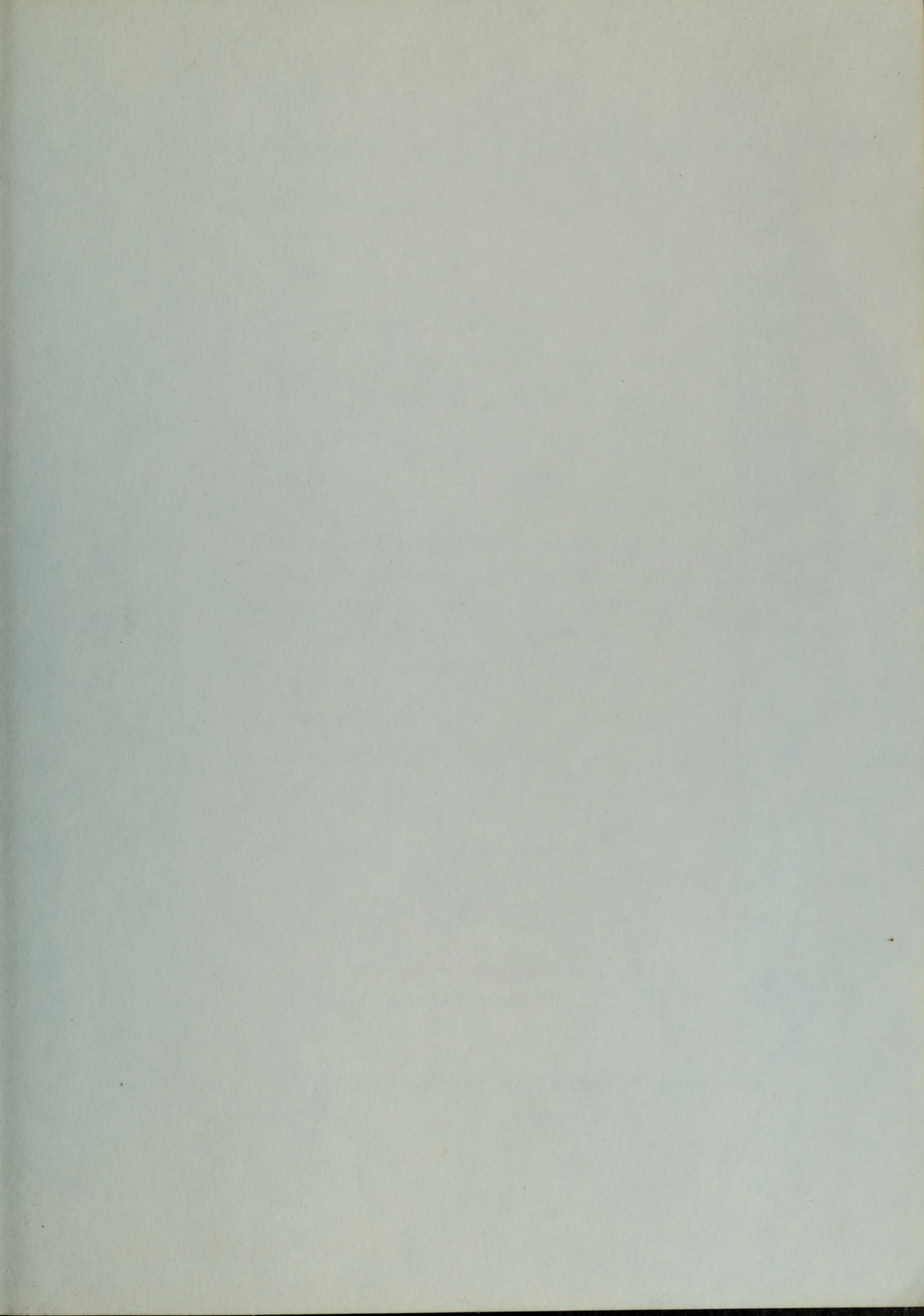


And that's almost enough
of such stuff for one day.
One more and you're finished.
Oh say can you say? . . .



“The storm starts
when the drops start dropping.
When the drops stop dropping
then the storm starts stopping.”





P.S.

And, just in case you missed it,
do not miss it any longer.

Dr. Seuss's FOX IN SOCKS*
makes twisted tongues much stronger.

**"Let the beginner read and recite with
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will be a riotous workout."*

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—the Chicago Tribune



This book comes from
the home of
THE CAT IN THE HAT

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Green Eggs and Ham
Hop On Pop
Dr. Seuss's ABC
Fox in Socks
My Book About Me
I Can Draw It Myself
Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!
The Cat's Quizzer
I Can Read with My Eyes Shut!
Oh Say Can You Say?

Bright & Early Books by Dr. Seuss

The Foot Book
Mr. Brown Can Moo! Can You?
Marvin K. Mooney, Will You Please
Go Now!
The Shape of Me and Other Stuff
There's a Wocket in My Pocket!
Great Day for Up!



The Beginner Book Story

“Ten years ago, Dr. Seuss took 220 words, rhymed them, and turned out THE CAT IN THE HAT, a little volume of absurdity that worked like a karate chop on the weary little world of Dick, Jane and Spot.”

—*Ellen Goodman, THE DETROIT FREE PRESS, Nov. 1966*

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