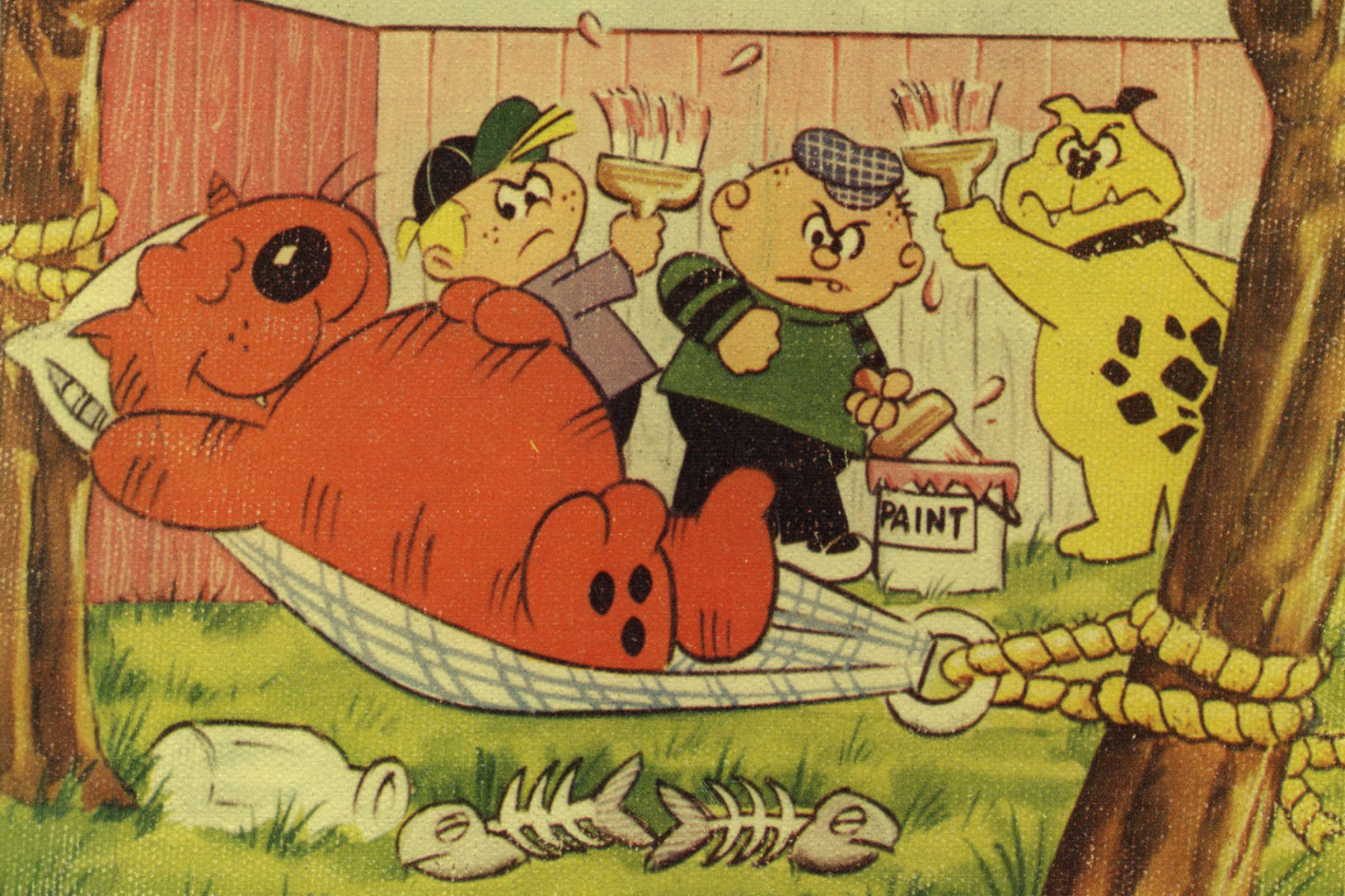


A BIG LOOKER STORYBOOK

# HEATHCLIFF

THE TRICKIEST CAT IN TOWN

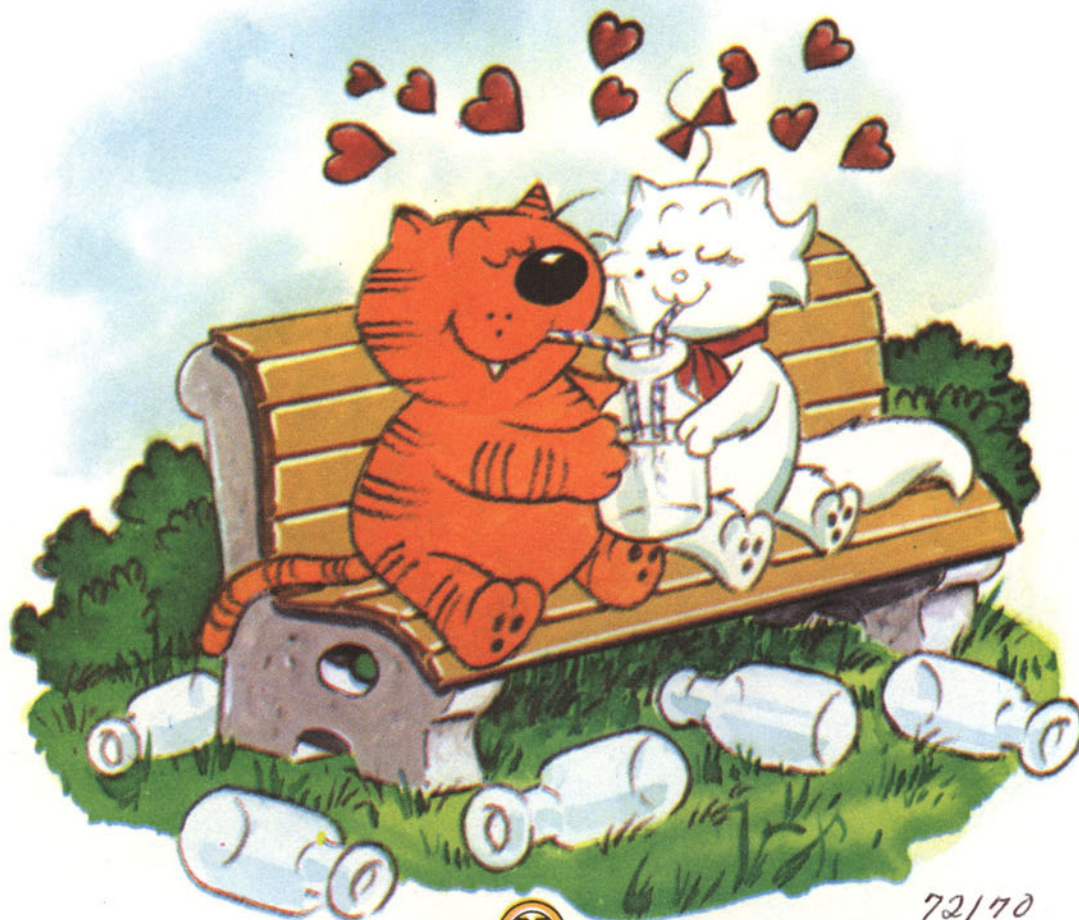




# HEATHCLIFF®

## The Trickiest Cat in Town

by Shirley Jay and John Costanza



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In the spring, Heathcliff feels so romantic! He can't resist singing a good LOUD serenade to Sonja. And Sonja can't resist listening to it. She's in heaven!





But what's that other music? It's terrible! It's Iggy Nutmeg playing his own song. What a powerful song he's playing. It's so strong, it knocks Heathcliff right off his feet!





But you can't keep a good cat down!  
Heathcliff takes one good swing of his  
good old lasso, and Iggy's trombone is

on it's way  
home — to  
the garbage  
can! If Iggy  
wants it back,  
he'll have to  
pick through  
some gloppy  
stuff.





Now, Heathcliff can begin his incredible song again. Sonja hears it and thinks she's in heaven. Spike and Muggsy decide they've got to put a stop to it — and they take some drastic measures.

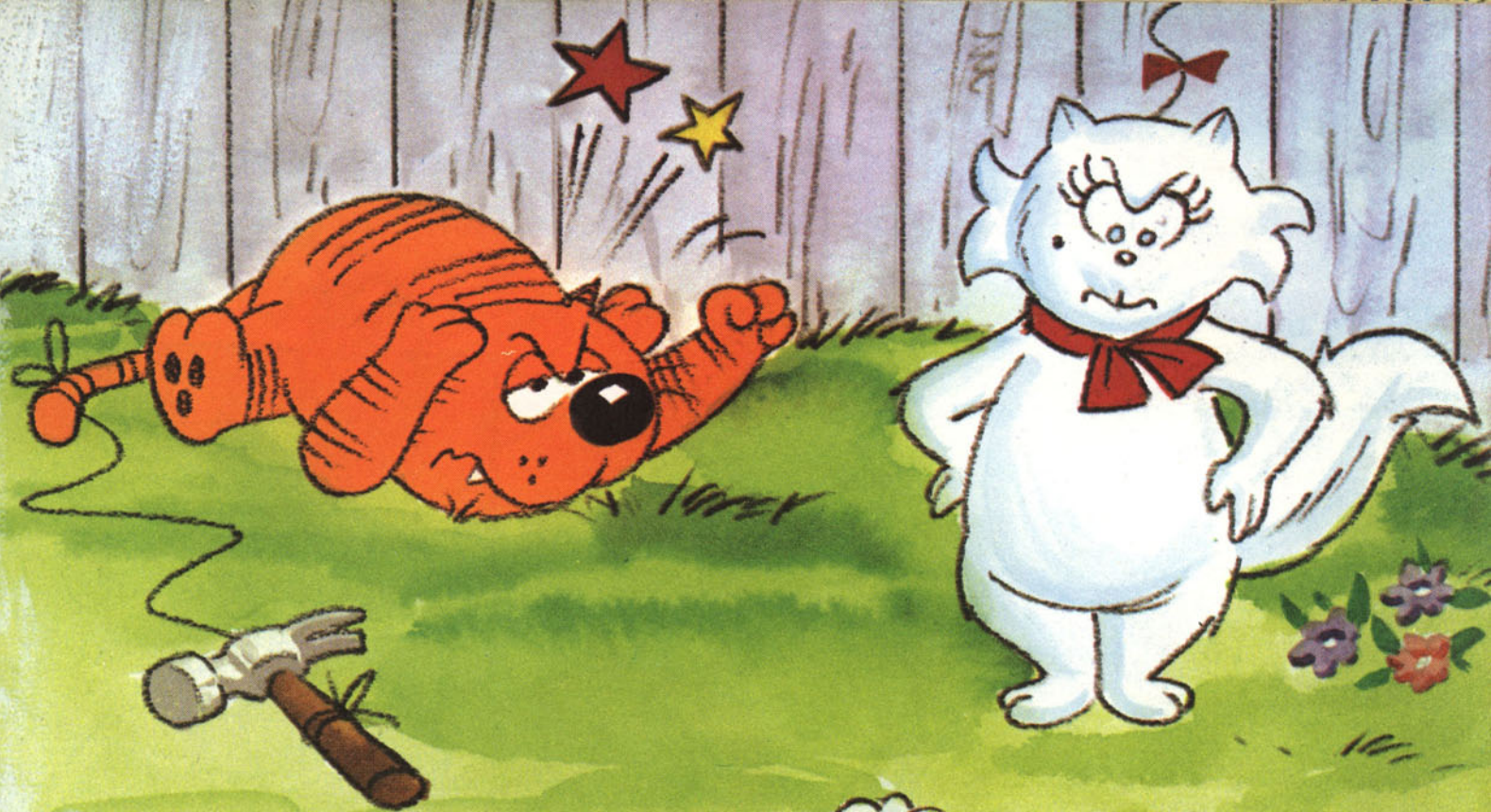




Heathcliff is really getting carried away. He rocks  
and rolls and twitches his ears and stamps his paws  
and swings his tail —  
and POPS himself right  
on the head!







OUCH! OUCH! Nobody told Heathcliff that singing could be so painful. But it's just a matter of time before he gets even with Spike and Muggsy. Nobody can keep a good cat down!





After all that singing, a little milk would surely quench a cat's thirst! And Heathcliff knows just how to get it — with the help of his music.

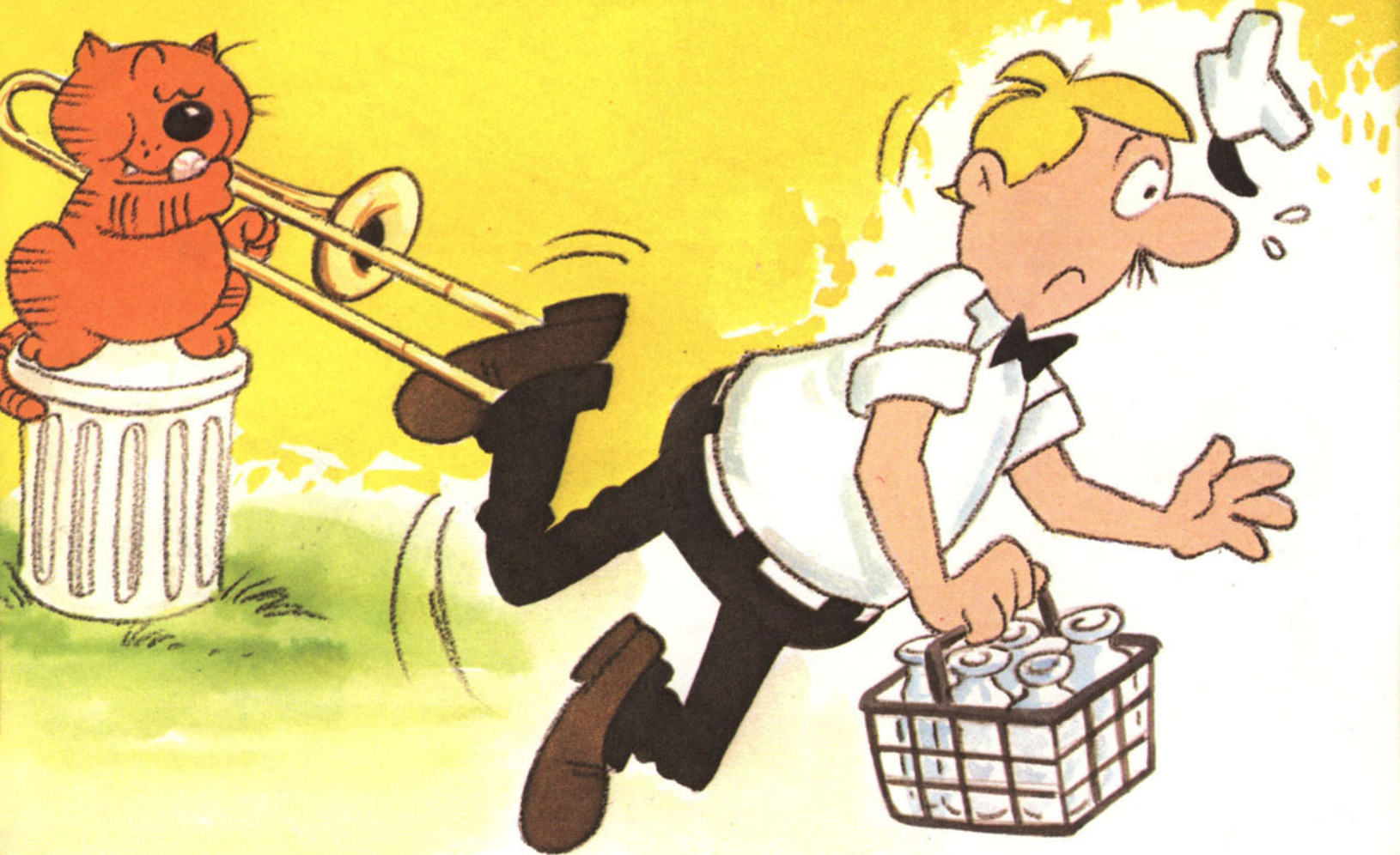






“Your playing is terrible!”  
groans the milkman. “But at  
least it keeps you so busy, you  
can’t get me into trouble.  
Finally, my precious bottles of  
milk are safe!”

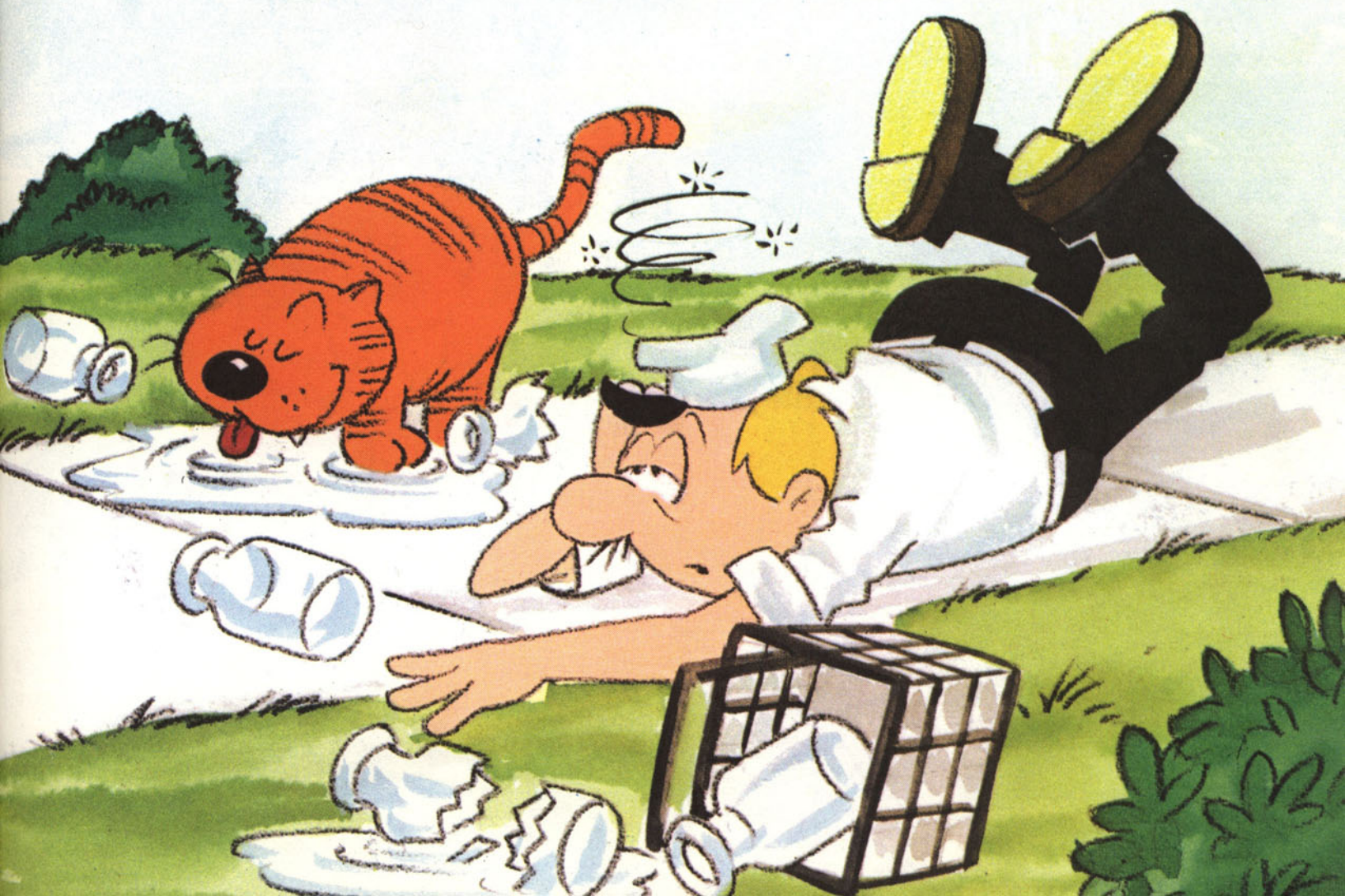




Here's a catchy tune the milkman will fall for! And down he falls with all his bottles. "I should have known he'd get me **SOME** way!" groans the milkman.

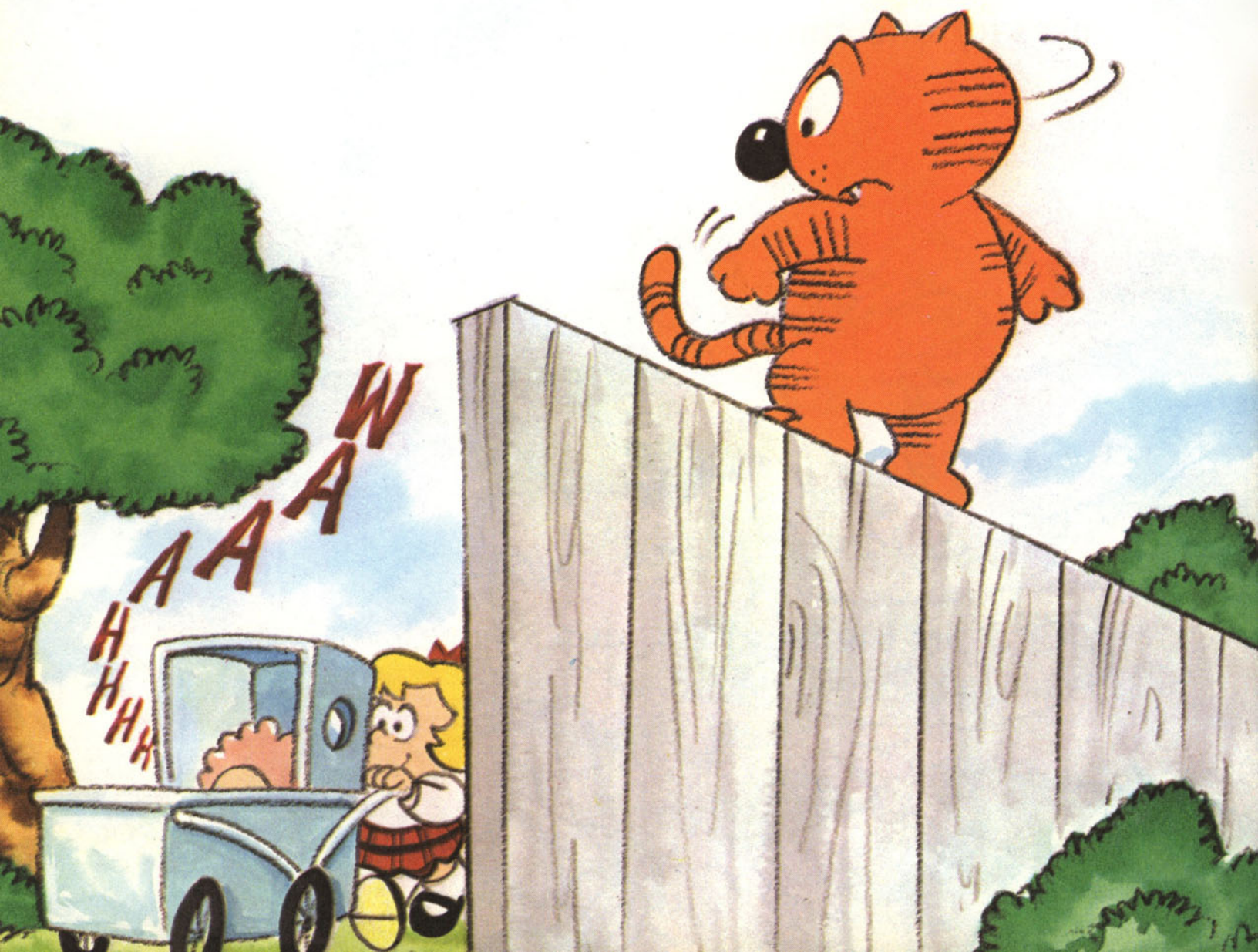


*Slurp! Slurp!* That's the song Heathcliff sings everytime he sips his favorite drink. And to think that music made it all possible. Music has so many uses for one cunning cat!



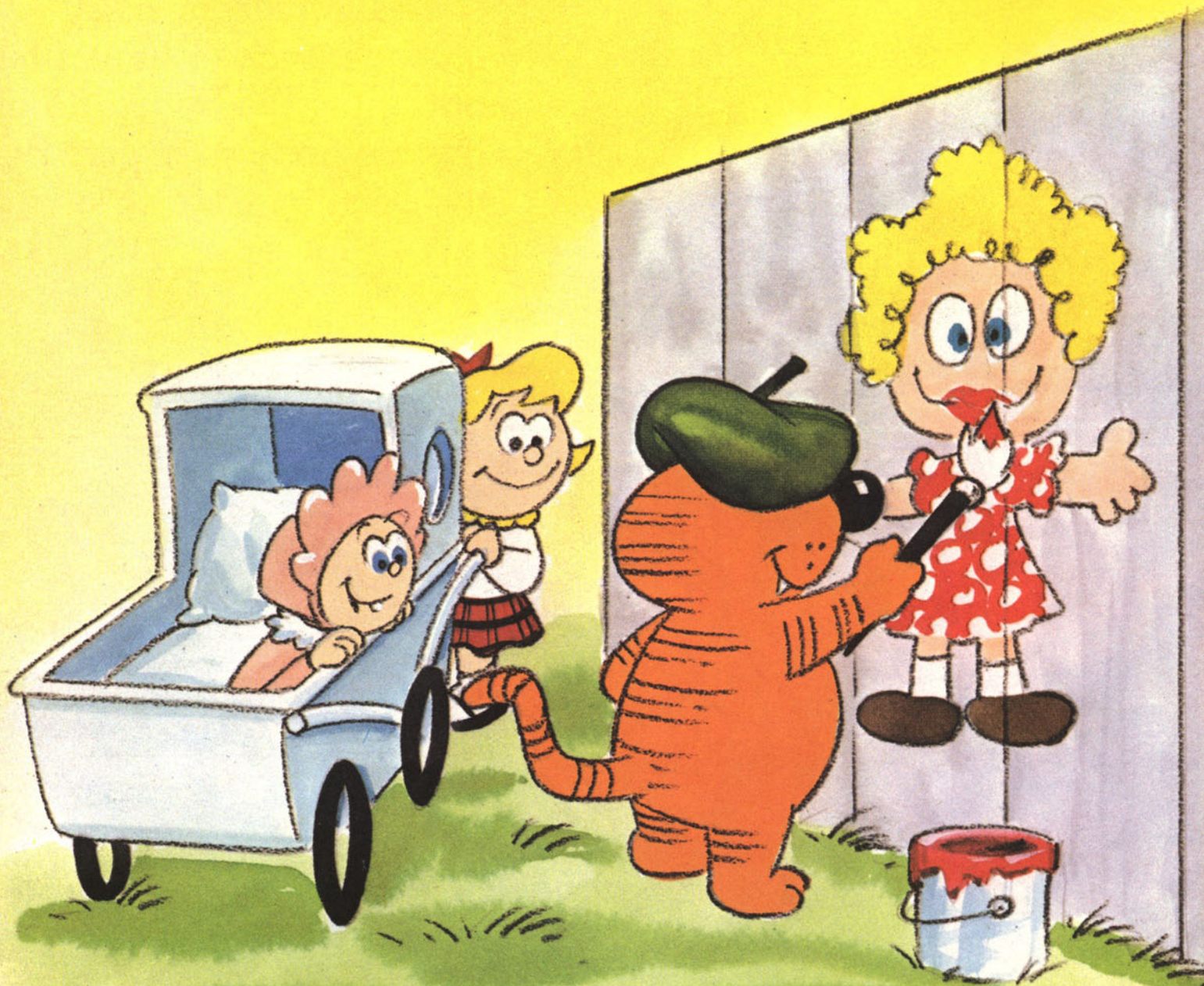


Now, Heathcliff can sing his love-song again. But what's that terrible caterwauling? Waaa! Waaa! It's Marcy with a baby. Heathcliff can't hear his own wonderful shrieks at all. Something must be done!





Heathcliff is talented in so many ways! He's an artist of the paintbrush as well as a great singer! The baby thinks the picture is funny and stops crying and starts laughing. "Coo-coo!" she laughs.





Now, Heathcliff tries his serenade again. But here comes a gugling, noisy garbage truck to drown him out. How will he get rid of this big noisy monster? By throwing garbage at it!



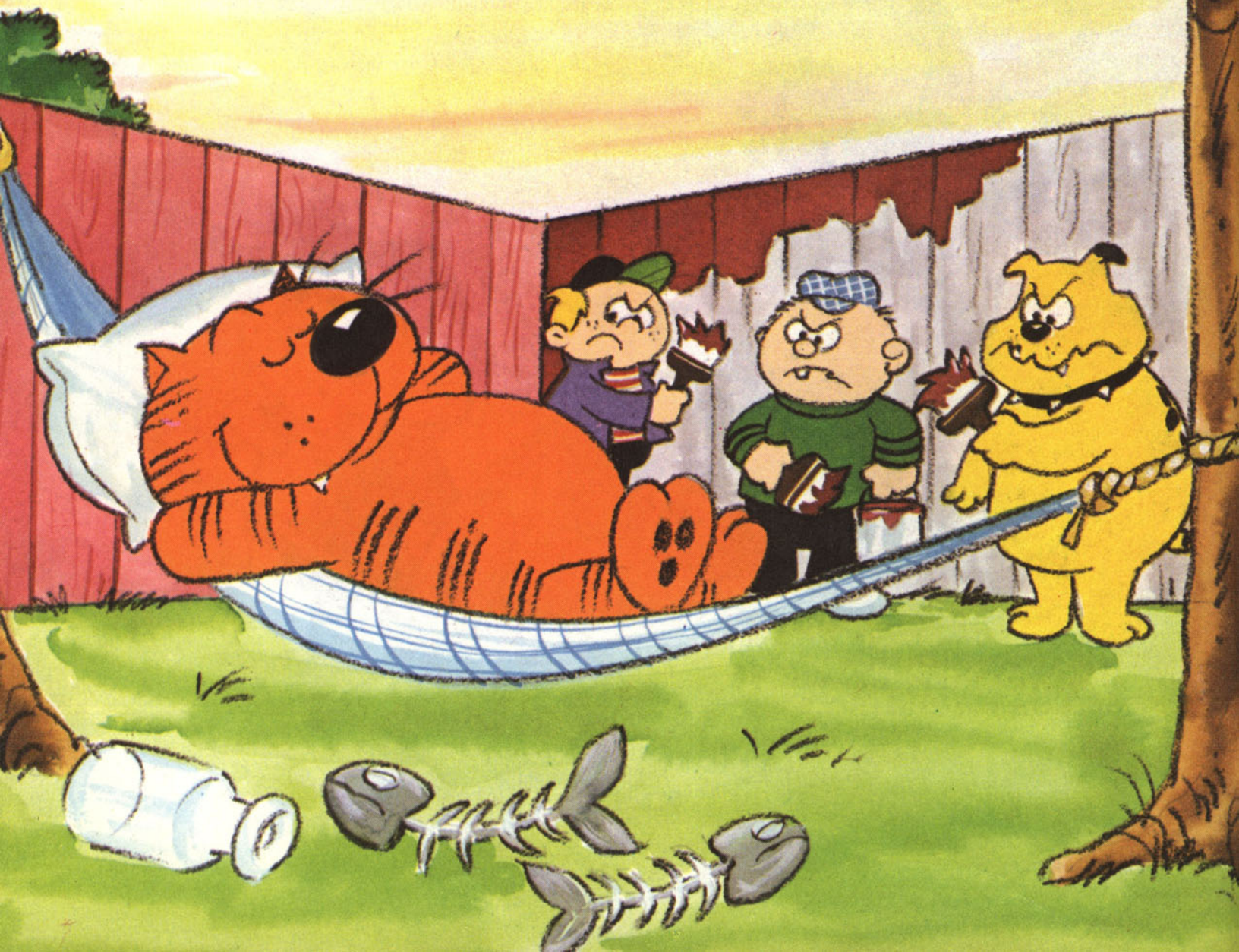




“Shame on you boys for messing up my fence!” scolds Grandma Nutmeg. “You’re going to have to paint it ’till it sparkles like new.”

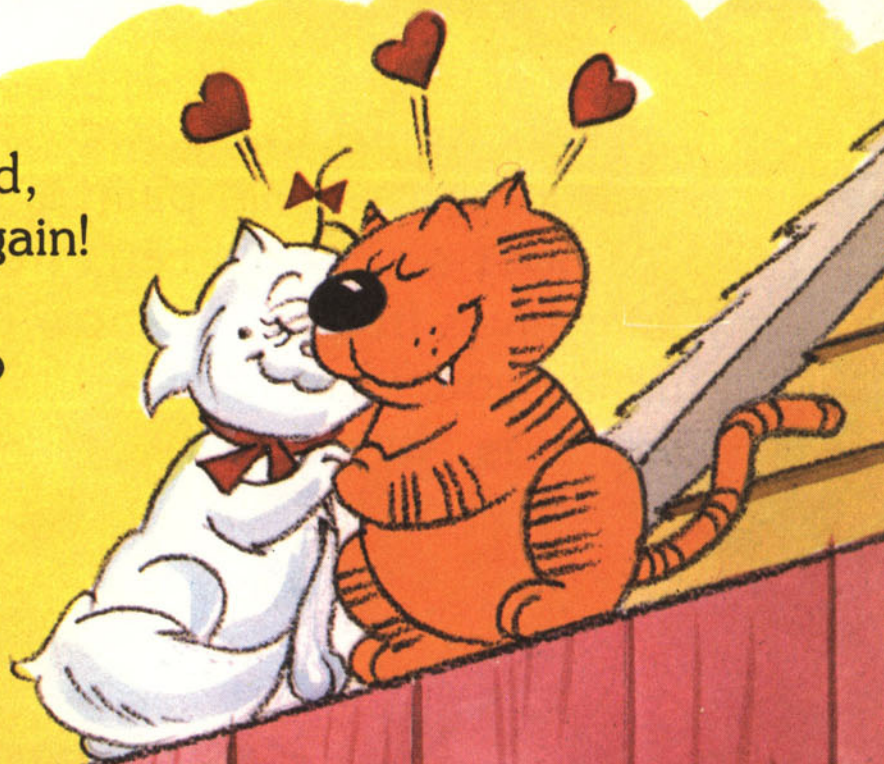


Ah, revenge is sweet in the springtime! Or anytime at all for lucky Heathcliff. He'll just take it easy until the fence is ready for his next serenade.





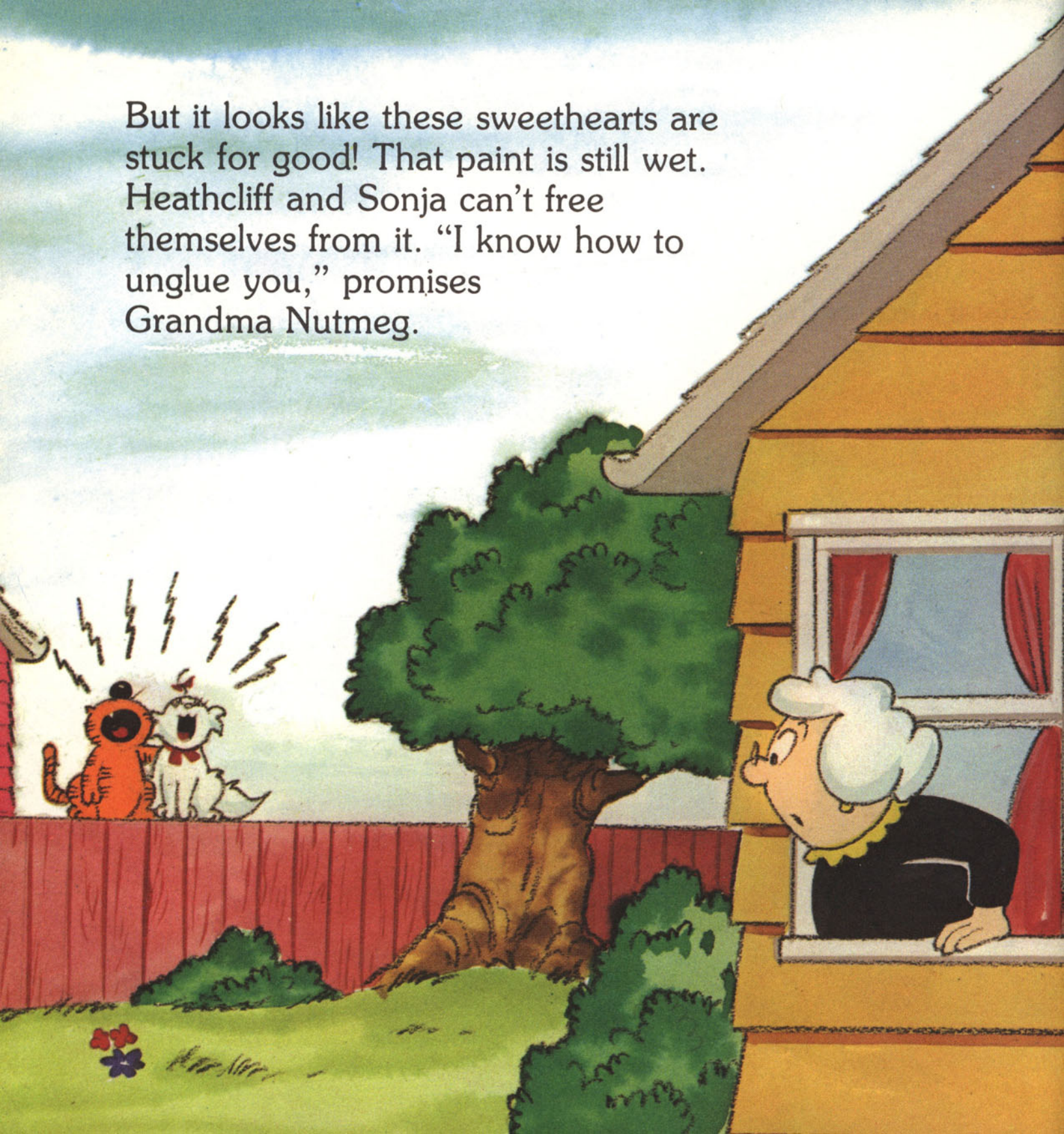
Now that they're finished,  
let's try that serenade again!  
On a spring day,  
sweethearts really like to  
stick together.



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But it looks like these sweethearts are stuck for good! That paint is still wet. Heathcliff and Sonja can't free themselves from it. "I know how to unglue you," promises Grandma Nutmeg.





“Try a little catnip!” offers Grandma Nutmeg. It’s a cat’s best friend when he’s in a tight spot. One taste works just like chili pepper — and unsticks those sweethearts in a snap!





It even helps them do two perfect swan dives! Isn't it refreshing to have a swim and a bath at the very same time?







Heathcliff has just thought of a new way to get some fish for lunch. The cunning cat is hatching a clever plot — a plot with a cuckoo-clock!



FISH  
MARK



*"Cuckoo! Cuckoo!"* It's time to close up shop. Heathcliff's trick with the clock is causing the fish-store man to go cuckoo, too. He puts on his hat and coat, thinking that it's closing time.



It's been a great day for fishing! Heathcliff has enough fish for a whole family of Nutmegs. "He tricked me again!" moans the fish-store man. He doesn't even try to chase them. They're too fast.





There's nothing as tasty as charcoal-broiled bluefish.  
It's a shame Sonja can't stay for supper, but her  
family thinks she's seeing too much of Heathcliff.  
How ridiculous!





Uh-oh! Those trouble-makers are back again. Don't they know that Heathcliff has eyes in the back of his head? Don't they know that Heathcliff wants all the fish for himself?

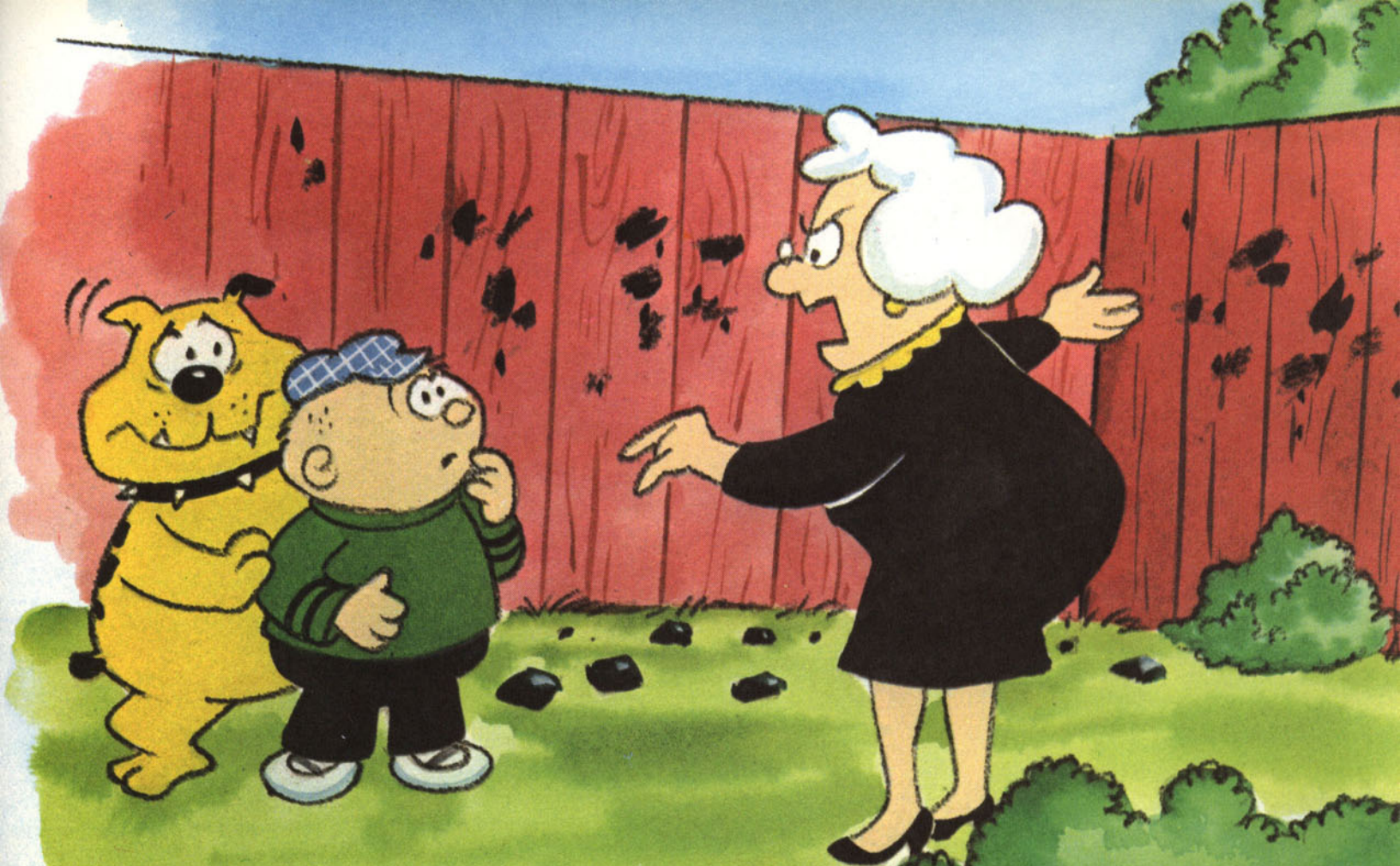




BOING! BOING! Heathcliff hits one bull's eye after another. Nobody is going to fish-nap his fish!







“You rascals ruined my fence — AGAIN!” moans Grandma Nutmeg. “So I guess you will have to paint it again — and before it gets dark!” Heathcliff just yawns and stretches, deciding to take a little nap before supper.



Heathcliff is really a great chef! It's a shame that Spike and Muggsy can't stay for supper. But they have to work late tonight.



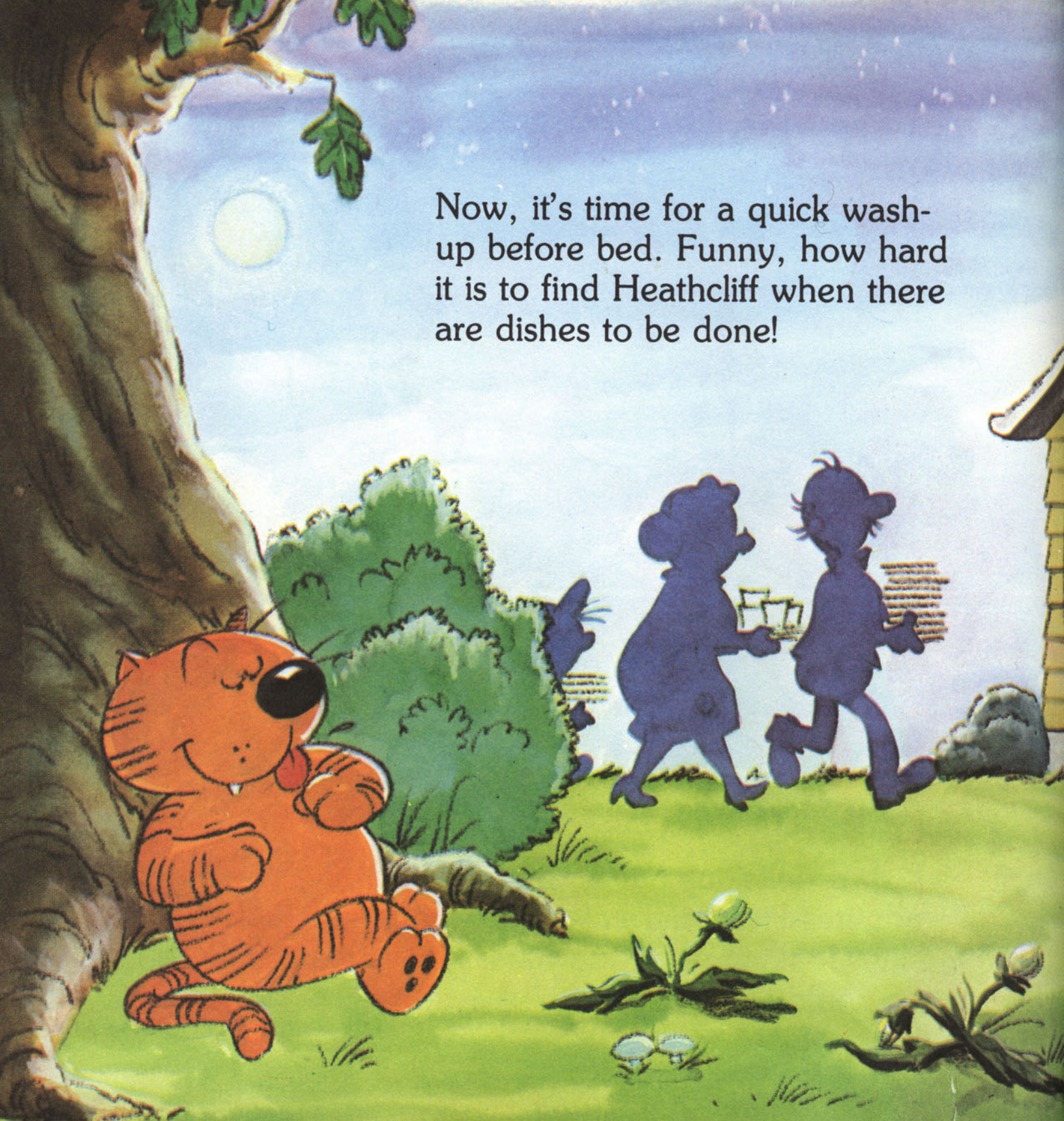




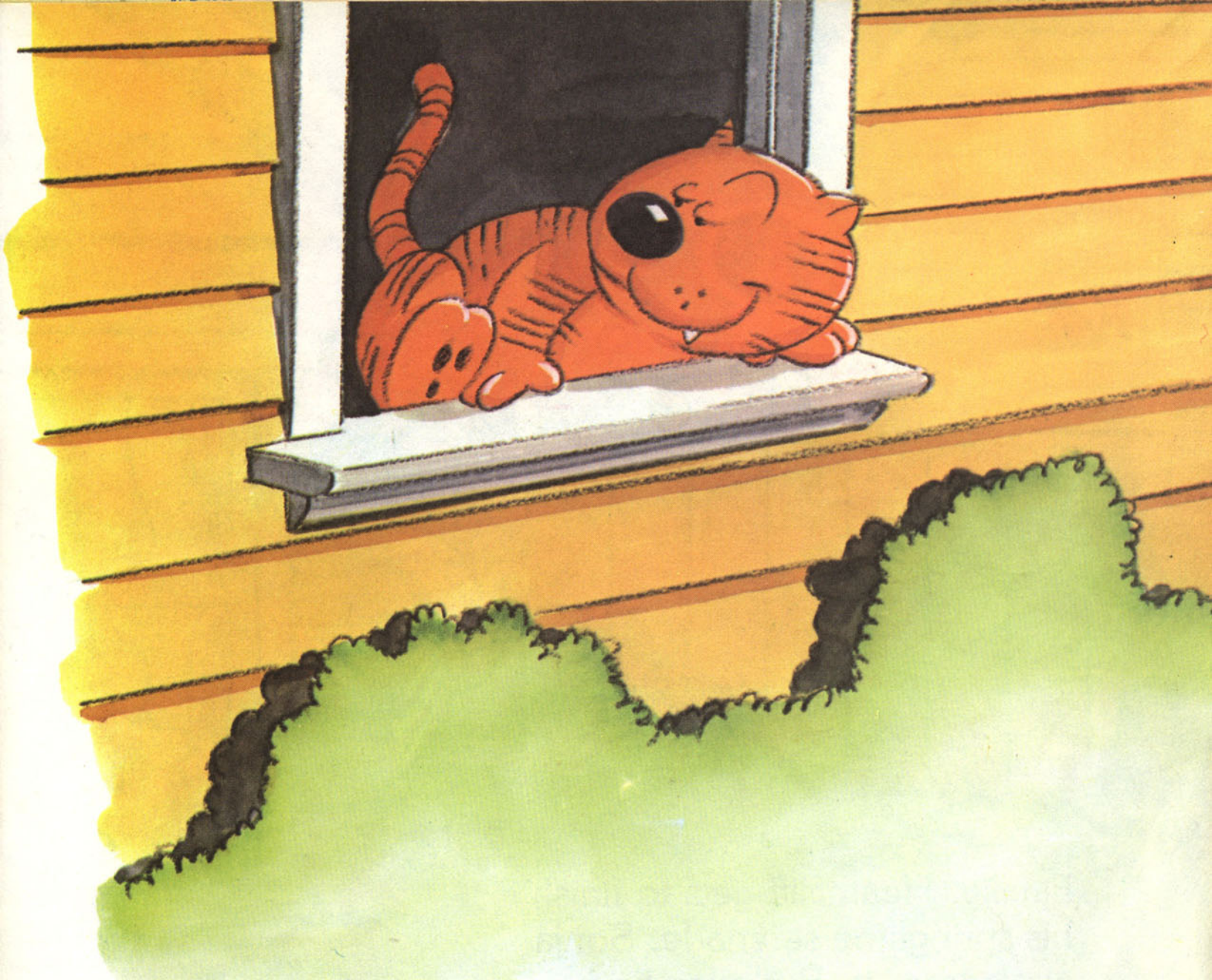
Fish is delicious out under the stars! Everyone admires Heathcliff's clever cookery. Heathcliff just sighs looking up at the stars. If they were only fish, he could eat them too!



Now, it's time for a quick wash-up before bed. Funny, how hard it is to find Heathcliff when there are dishes to be done!

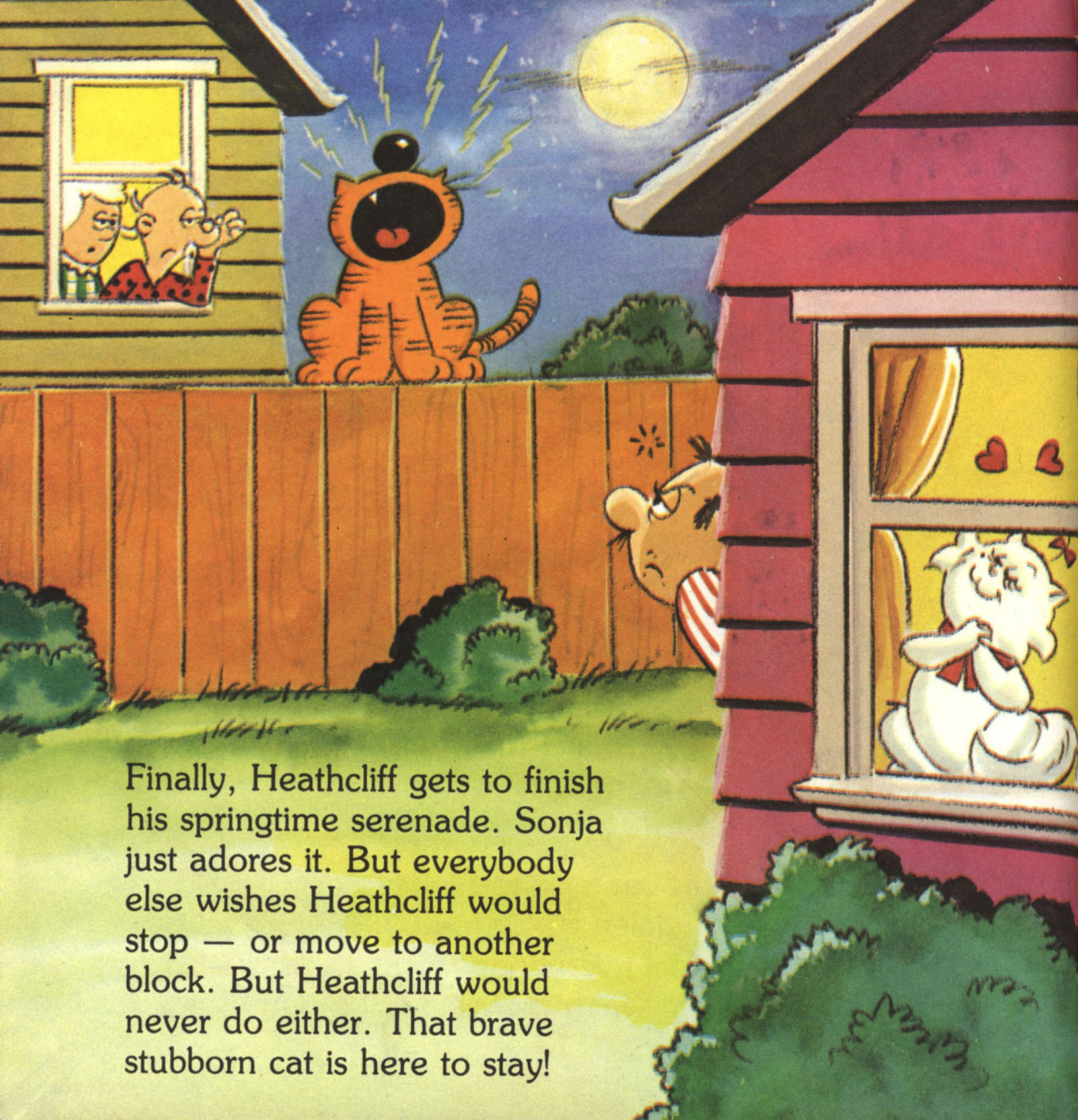






And now it's time for a good-night's sleep. Everybody is snuggled safely in bed, snoring away softly. Well, *almost* everybody. Who expects Heathcliff to sleep when there's a full moon?





Finally, Heathcliff gets to finish his springtime serenade. Sonja just adores it. But everybody else wishes Heathcliff would stop — or move to another block. But Heathcliff would never do either. That brave stubborn cat is here to stay!



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