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extracts from  
**Mortimer's Picnic**

Written & Illustrated by  
**Nick Ward**

Published by  
**Two Hoots an imprint of Pan  
Macmillan**

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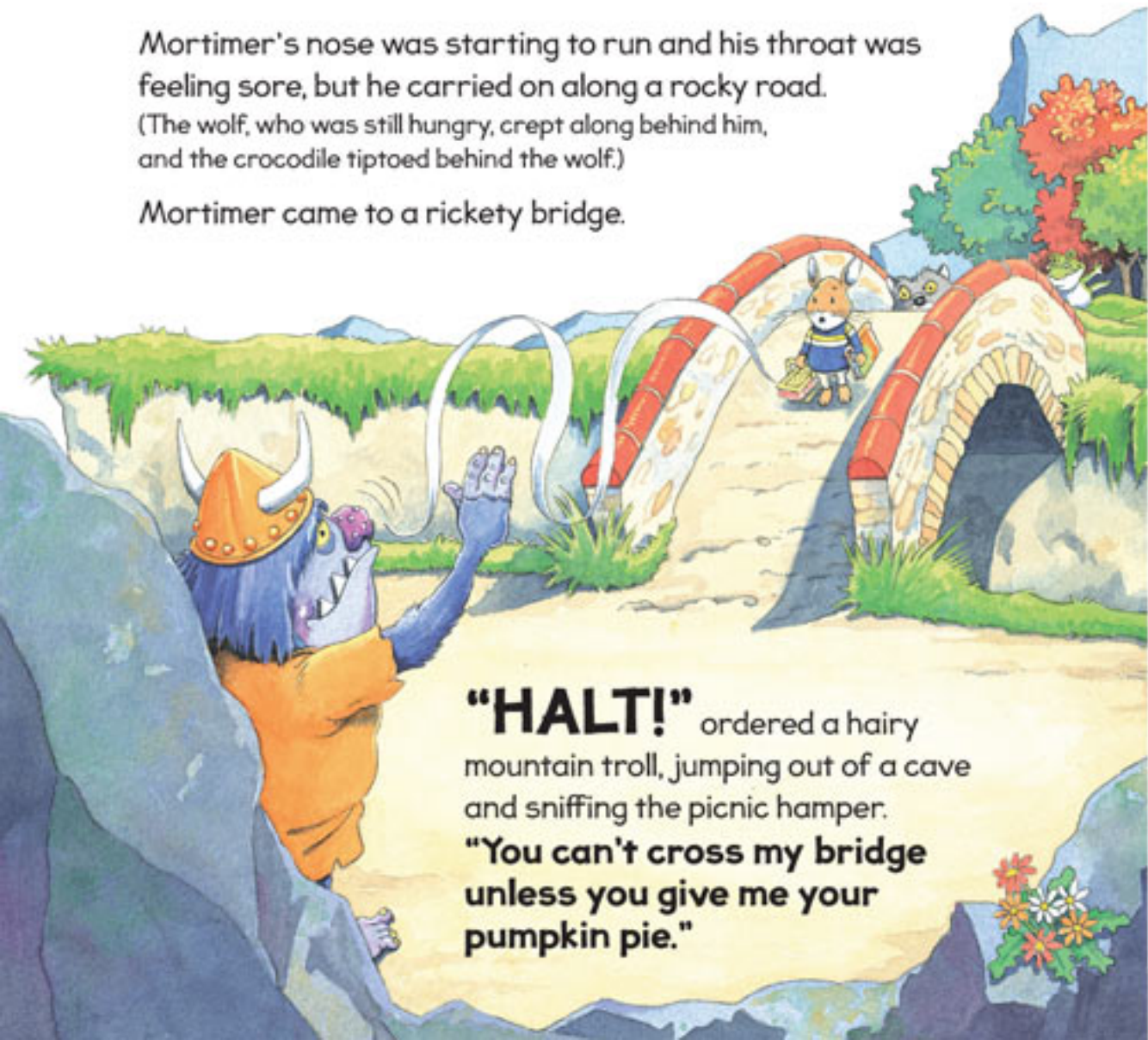
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Mortimer's nose was starting to run and his throat was feeling sore, but he carried on along a rocky road.

(The wolf, who was still hungry, crept along behind him, and the crocodile tiptoed behind the wolf.)

Mortimer came to a rickety bridge.



**"HALT!"** ordered a hairy mountain troll, jumping out of a cave and sniffing the picnic hamper. "You can't cross my bridge unless you give me your pumpkin pie."

**"No!"** said Mortimer.

"It's for ...

**Sniff!**

my best friend."



But the mountain troll snatched the hamper and gobbled down the pumpkin pie.

**Yum, yum, yum!**



**"I'm still hungry,"** growled the troll,  
looking into the empty basket,

**"And I eat little rabbits too!"** He roared  
and he snarled and he chased Mortimer across the bridge.

**"Come back!"**  
**I saw him before you!"**  
howled the wolf.

And they all chased after Mortimer.

**"We eat little rabbits!"**  
they roared.



**"I saw him first!"** snapped the crocodile.