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Opening extract from
A Spot of Bother

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For Cicely – J.E.
For Ellie and Douglas – V.C.

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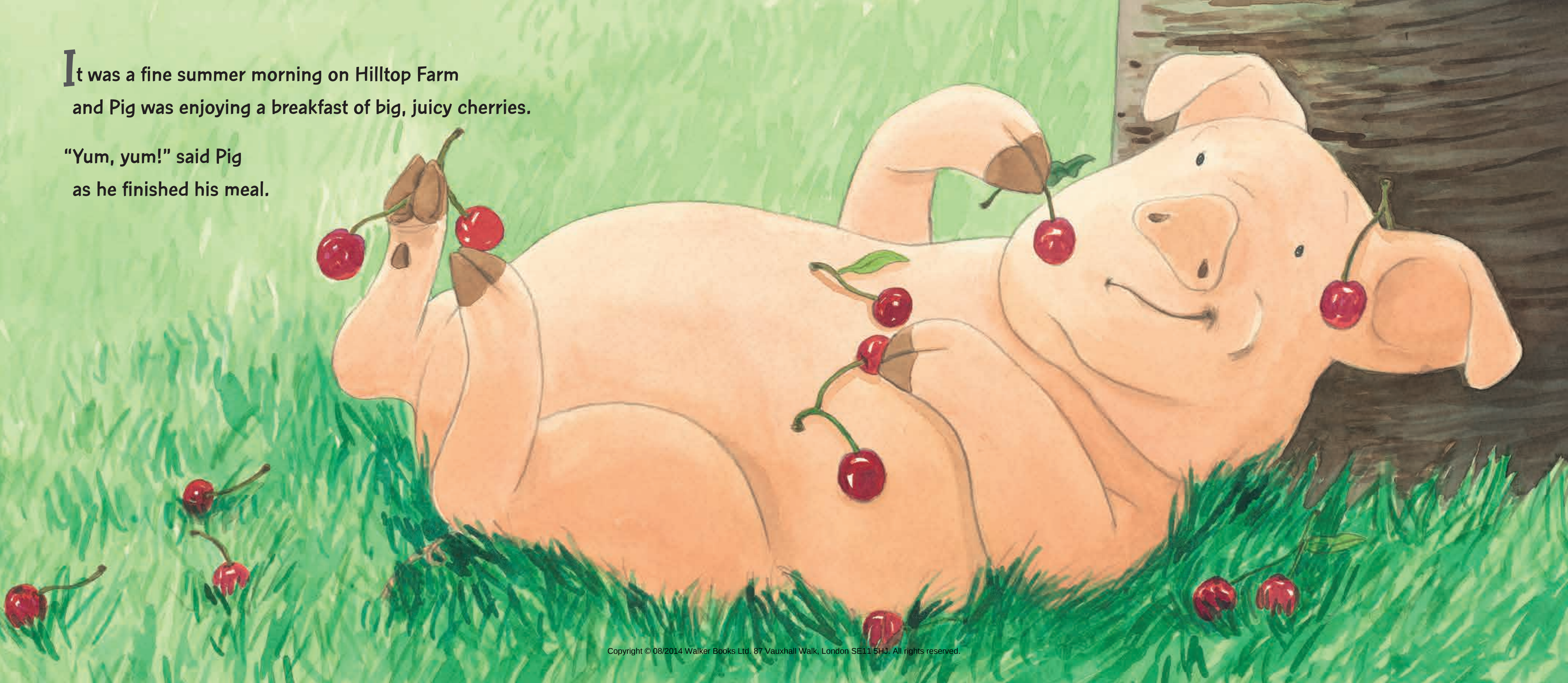
A Spot of Bother

Jonathan Emmett
Vanessa Cabban


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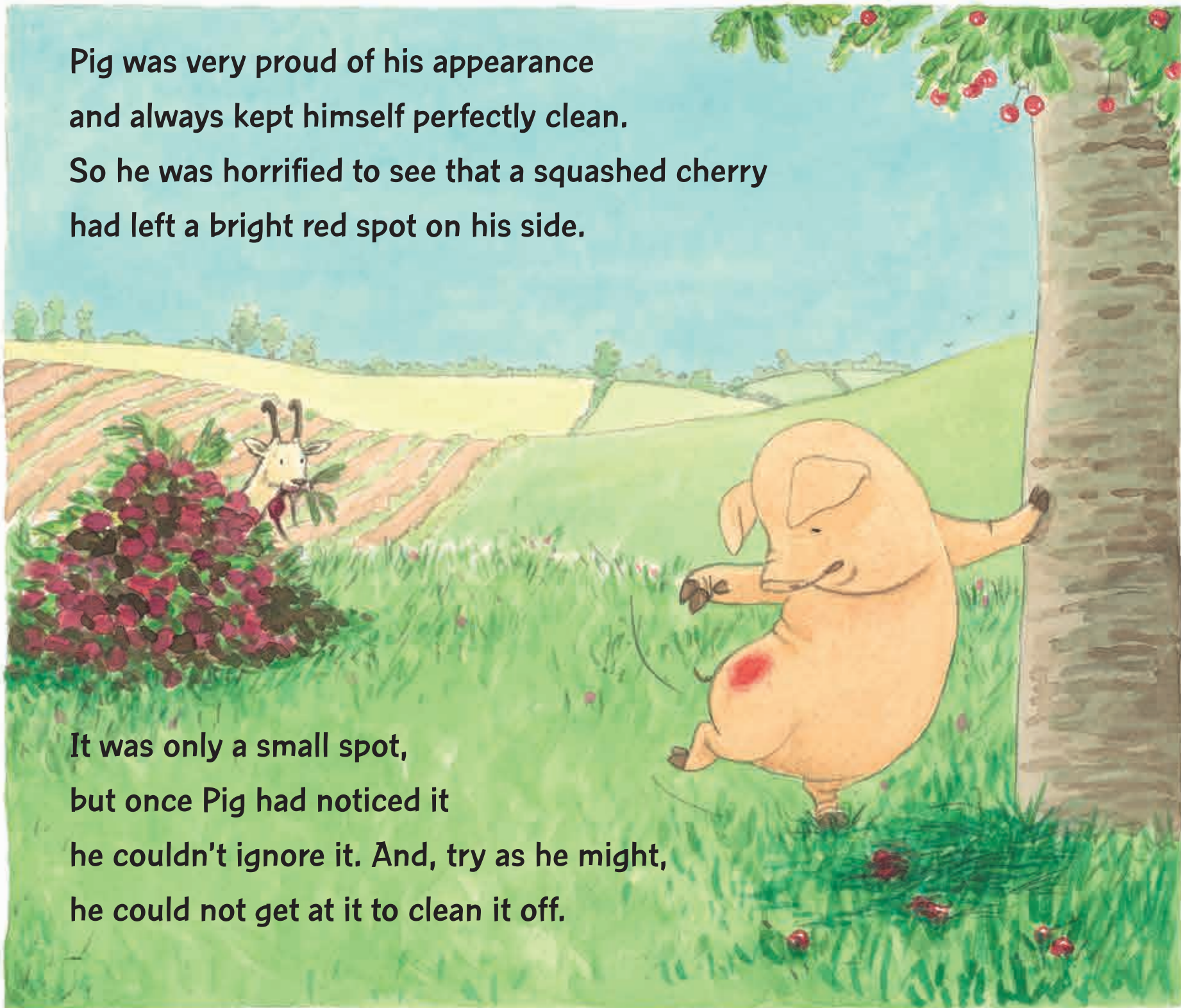
It was a fine summer morning on Hilltop Farm
and Pig was enjoying a breakfast of big, juicy cherries.

“Yum, yum!” said Pig
as he finished his meal.



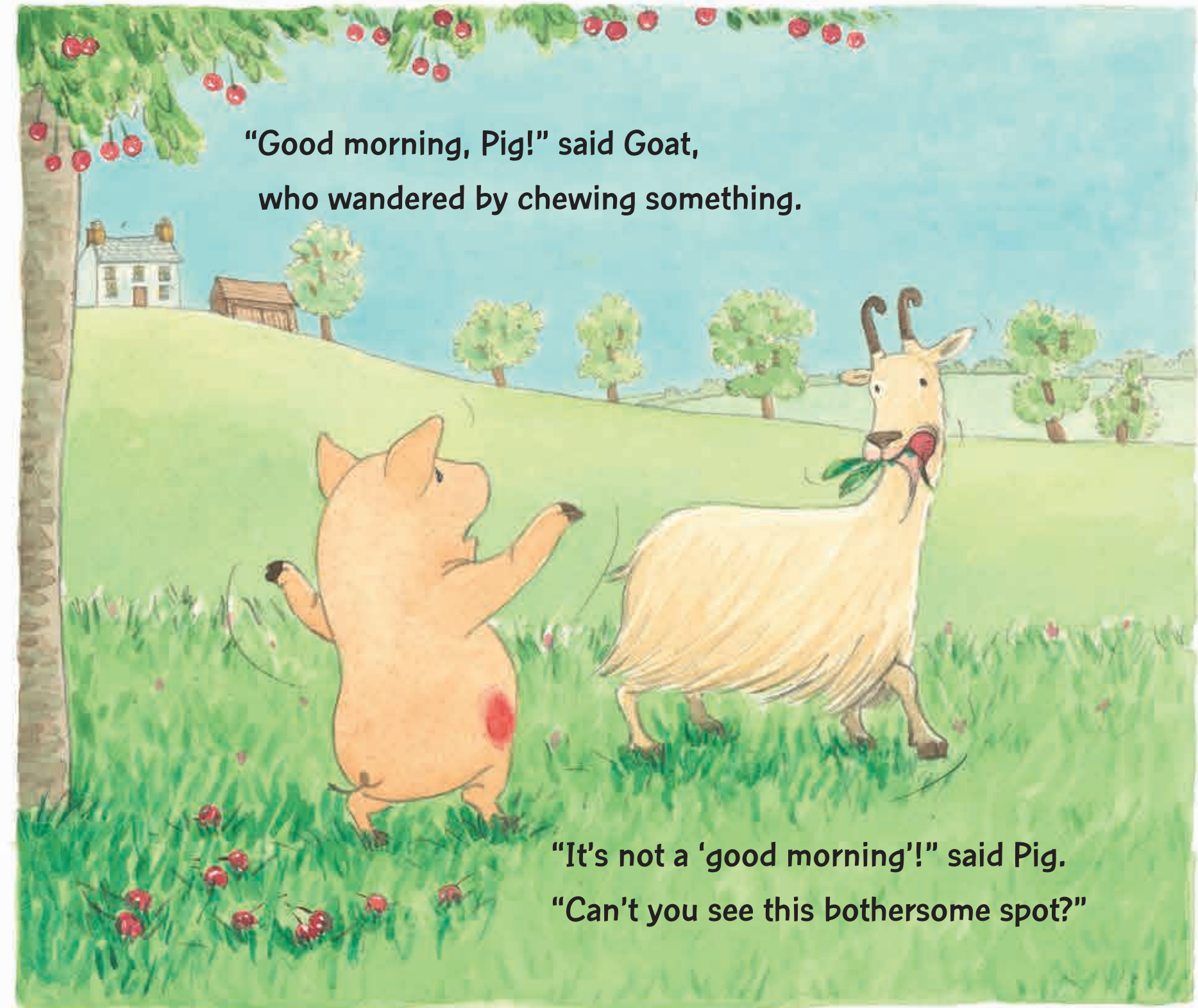
Pig was very proud of his appearance
and always kept himself perfectly clean.
So he was horrified to see that a squashed cherry
had left a bright red spot on his side.

It was only a small spot,
but once Pig had noticed it
he couldn't ignore it. And, try as he might,
he could not get at it to clean it off.



"Good morning, Pig!" said Goat,
who wandered by chewing something.

"It's not a 'good morning'!" said Pig.
"Can't you see this bothersome spot?"



"It's a MONSTROUS
MISFORTUNE!" said Pig.

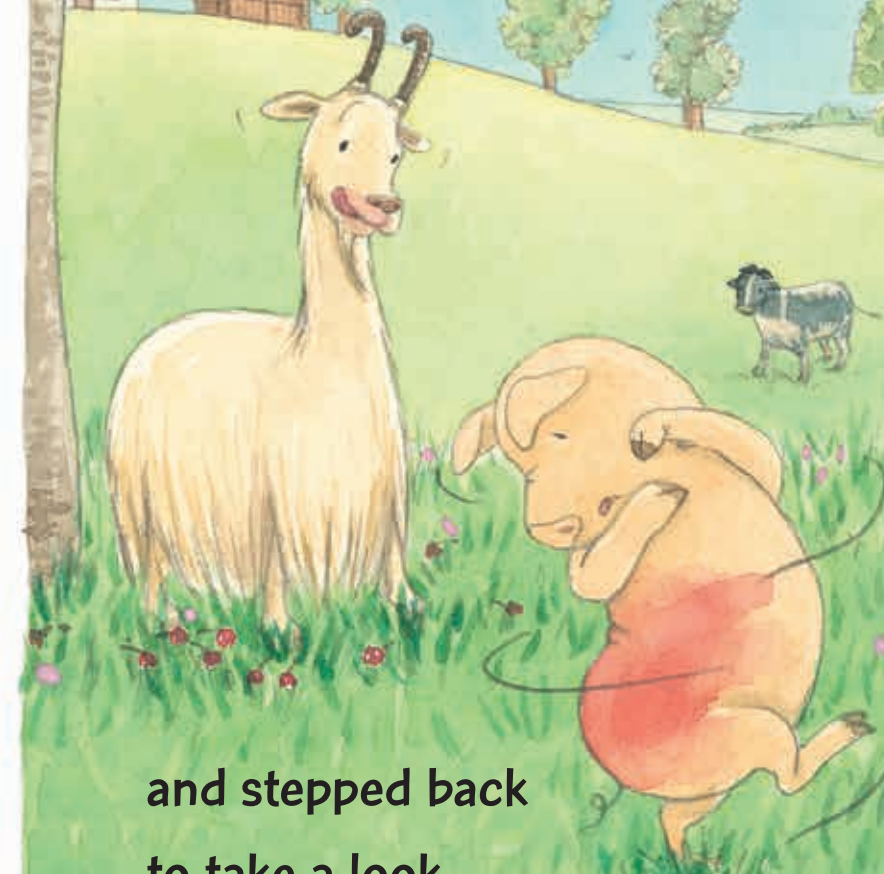


"Don't worry," said Goat,
"I'll soon clean it off!"



And he began licking
at the spot.

Goat finished
licking ...



and stepped back
to take a look.

"Sorry, Pig!"
said Goat guiltily.



"It must have been
the beetroot I was eating."

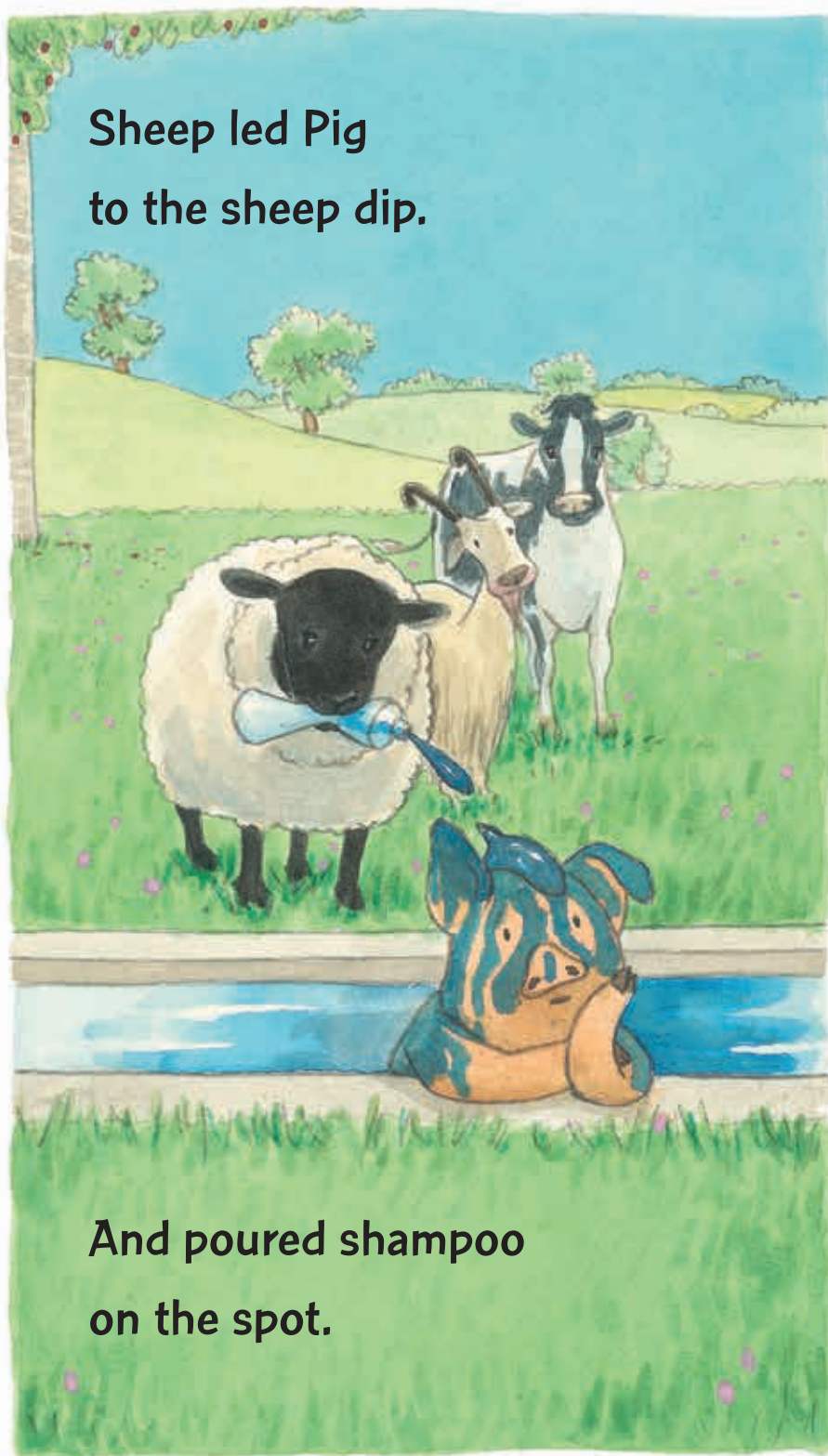


"It's a DREADFUL DISASTER!"
wailed Pig.



"Don't worry," said Sheep,
"I'll soon clean it off!"

Sheep led Pig
to the sheep dip.



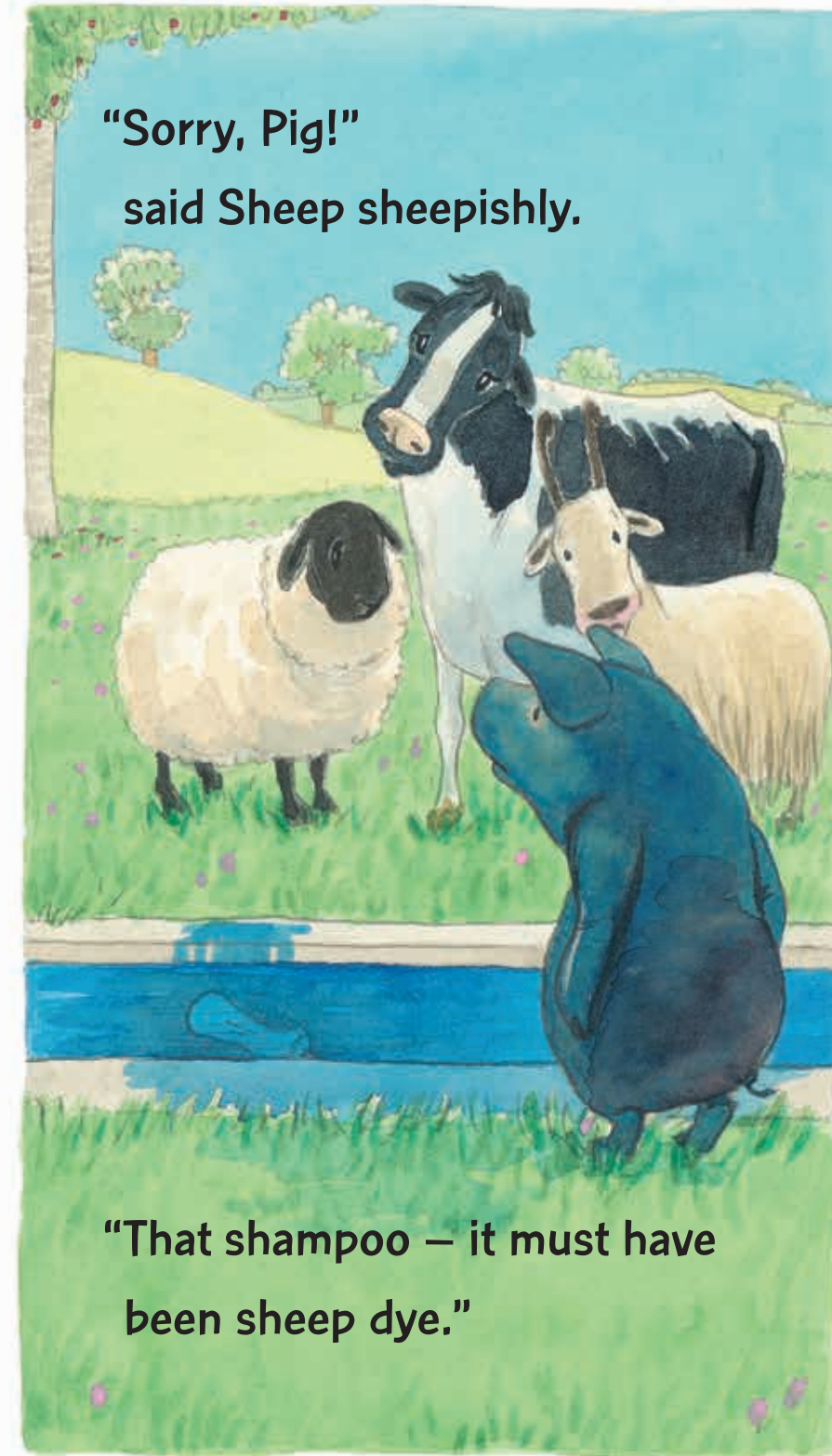
And poured shampoo
on the spot.

Sheep finished
shampooing ...



and Pig climbed
out to take a look.

"Sorry, Pig!"
said Sheep sheepishly.



"That shampoo – it must have
been sheep dye."