GORDON

THE MEANEST GOOSE ON EARTH

STARTS A BAND



Alex Latimer

Oxford University Press
Evaluation Copy

GORDON

THE MEANEST GOOSE ON EARTH

STARTS A BAND



For Lily and Isla.
And for all the geese who are doing
their best to be good.

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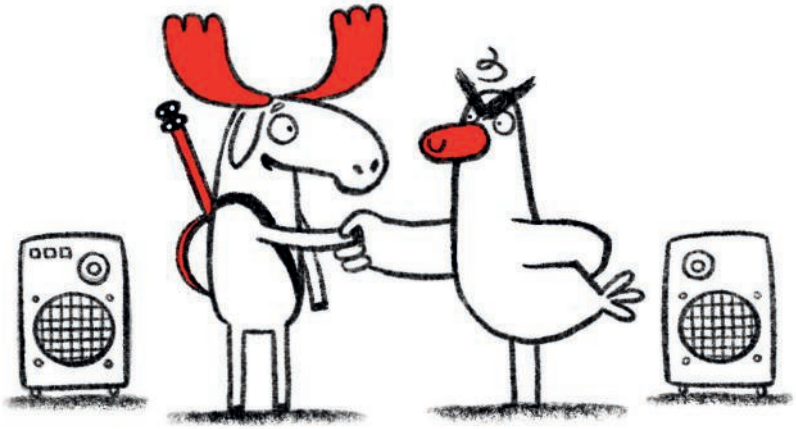
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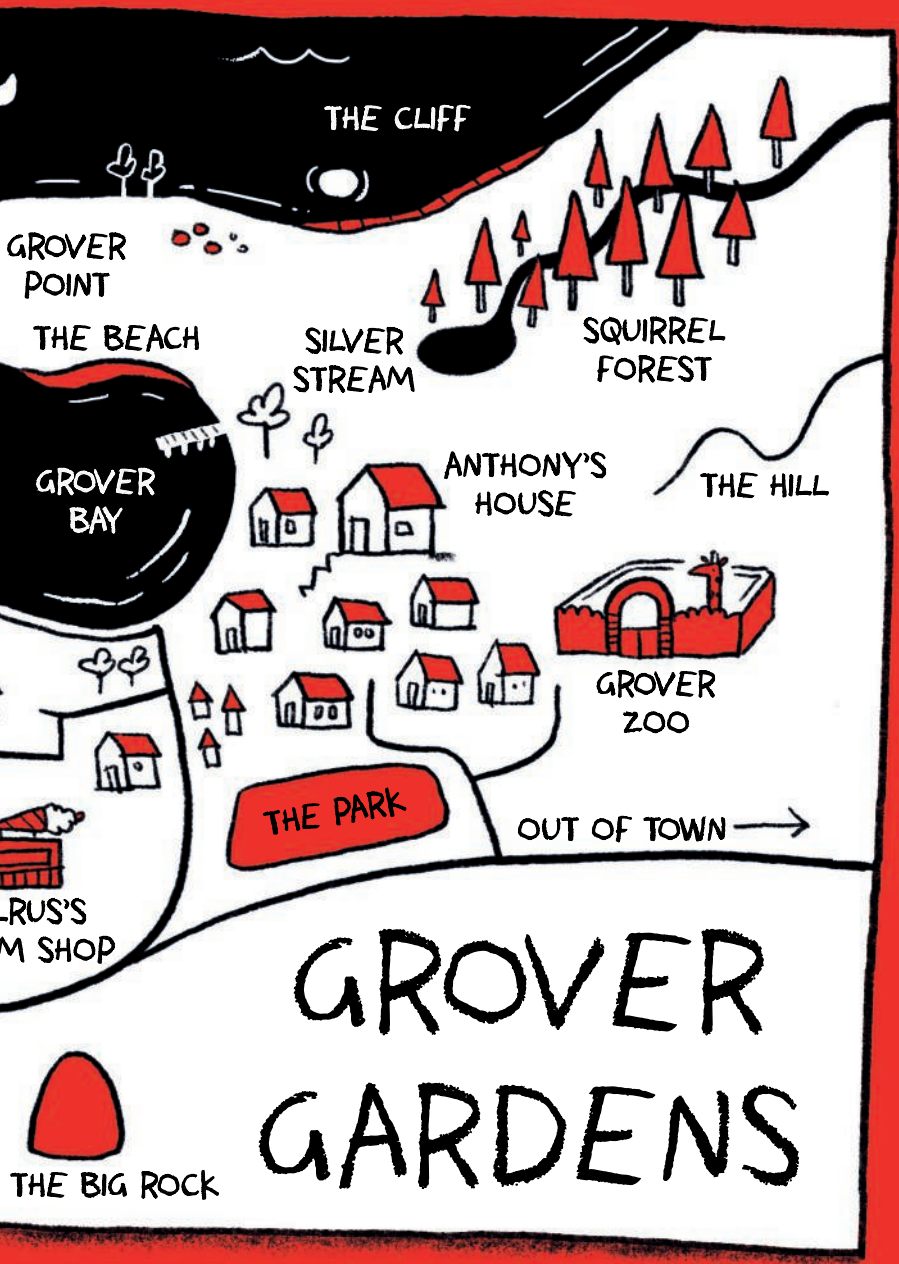
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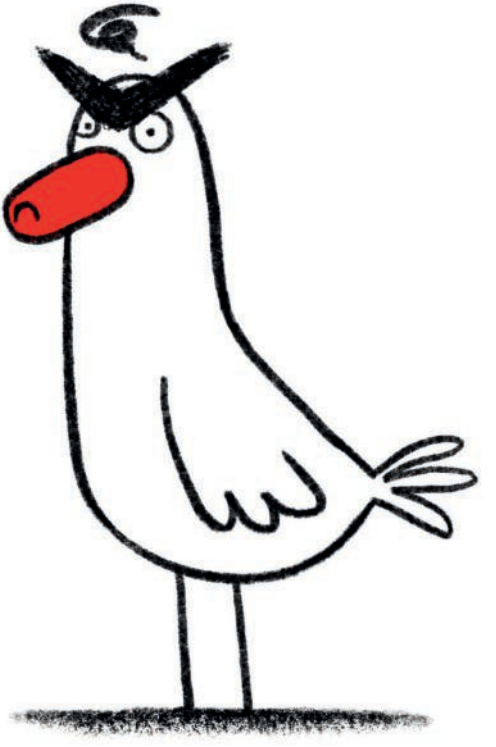
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E
S
SEAL ISLAND
THE OLD BAKERY
THE PROMENADE
MR HAMMERHEAD'S HARDWARE STORE
GOOSE LAKE
GORDON'S HOUSE
MAIN ROAD


THE CLIFF
GROVER POINT
THE BEACH
SILVER STREAM
SQUIRREL FOREST
GROVER BAY
ANTHONY'S HOUSE
THE HILL
GROVER ZOO
THE PARK
OUT OF TOWN
LRUS'S
M SHOP
GROVER GARDENS
THE BIG ROCK

This is GORDON.
Gordon is a goose.
But Gordon is not just any goose.
NO!

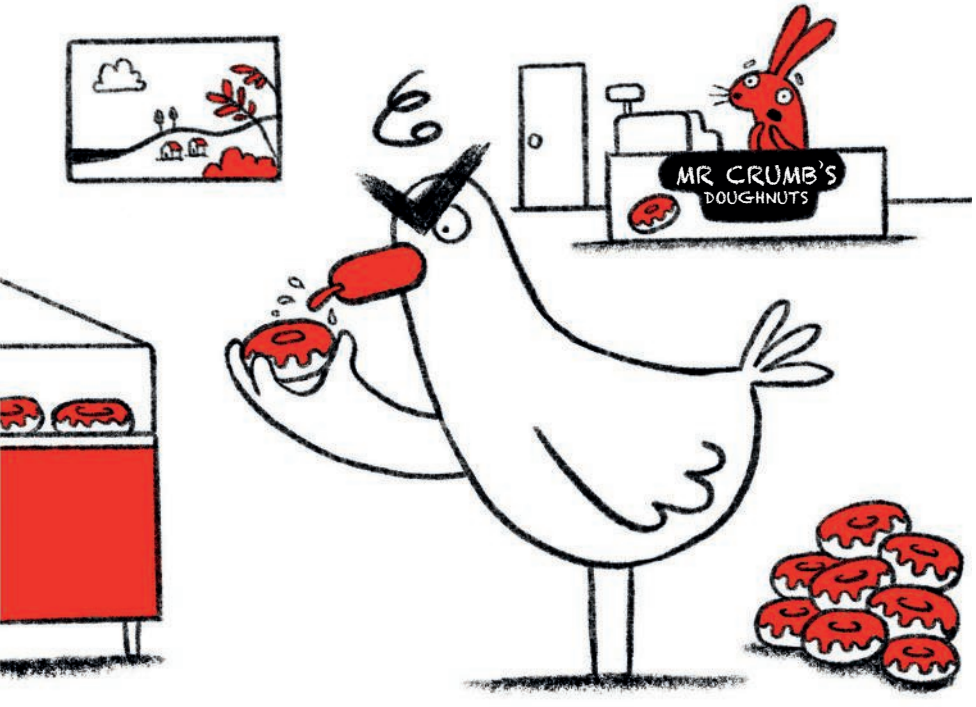


GORDON was once
THE MEANEST GOOSE
ON EARTH.



Maybe you've heard about some of the mean things he did? Maybe you've wondered whether any of it was true.

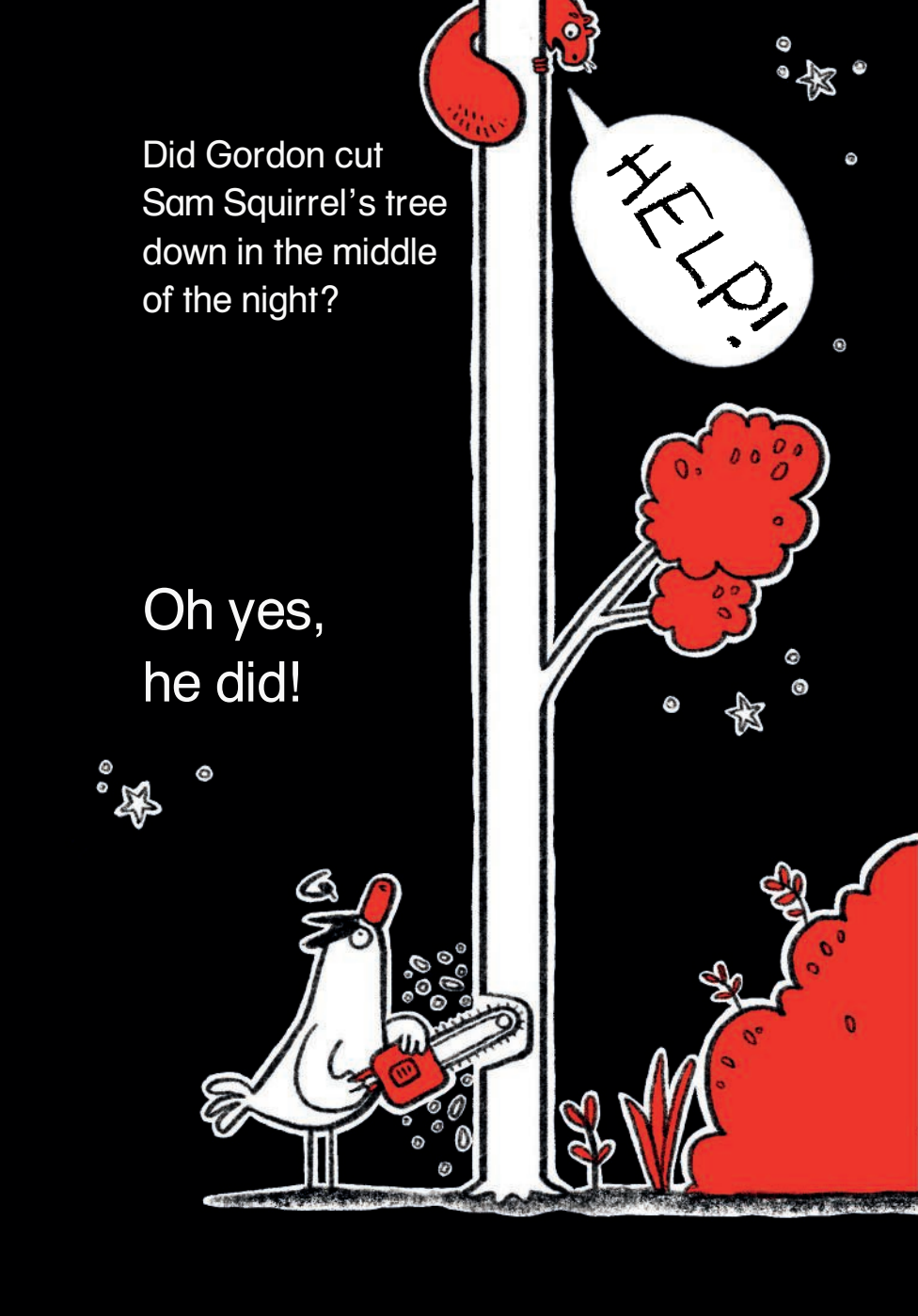
Did Gordon lick all the doughnuts
in Mr Crumb's doughnut shop?



You bet he did!
EVERY SINGLE ONE!

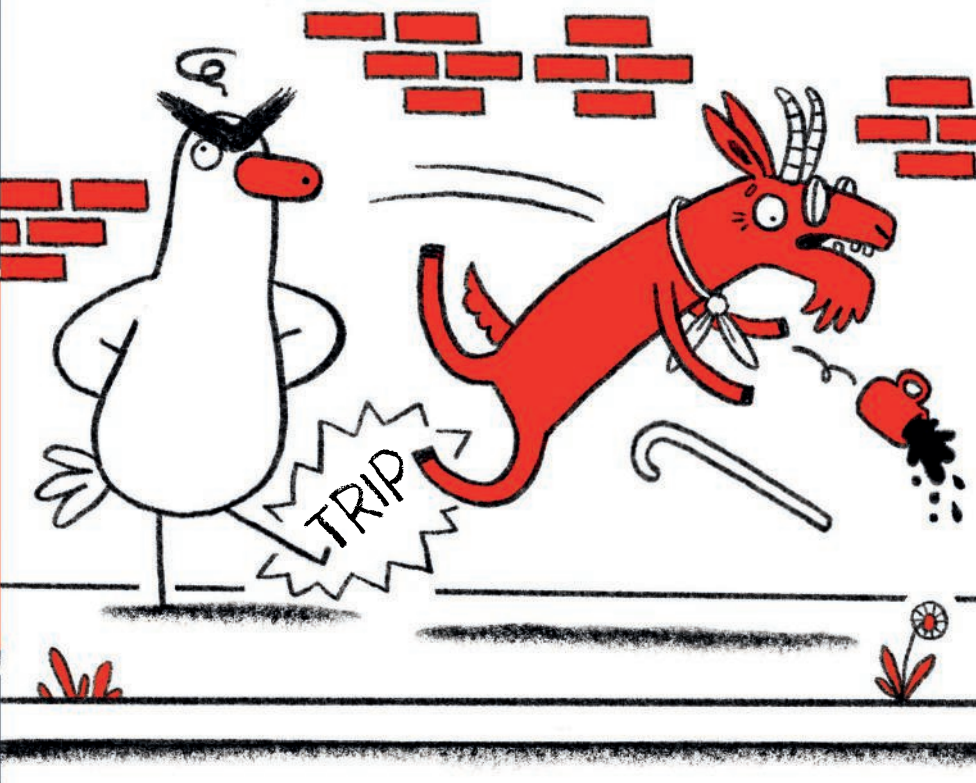
Did Gordon cut Sam Squirrel's tree down in the middle of the night?

Oh yes, he did!



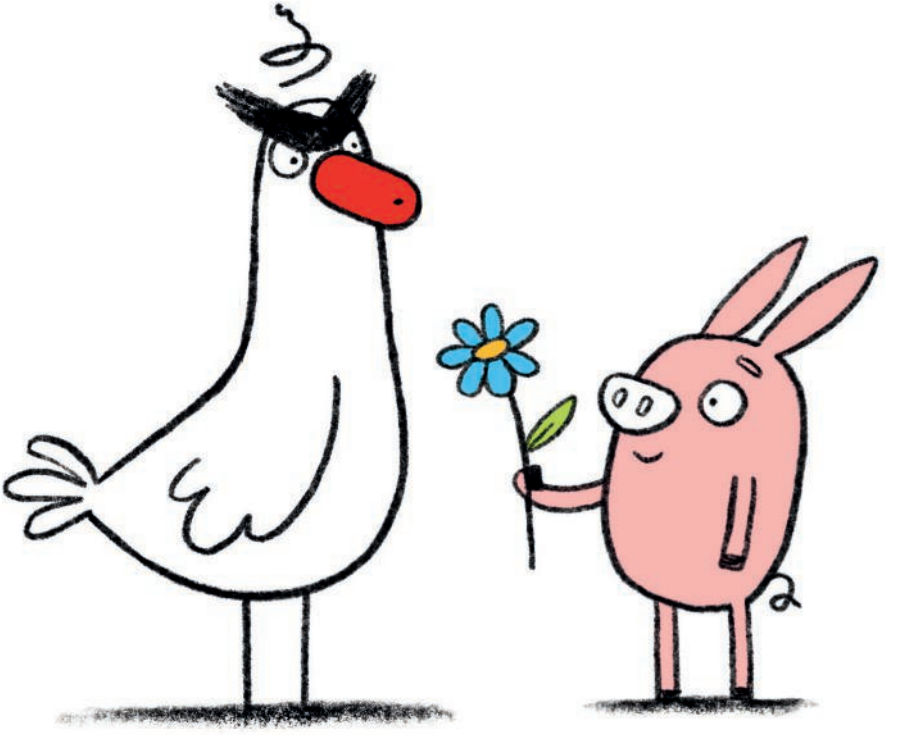
Did Gordon wait outside the Home for Retired Goats every Tuesday and trip Old Man Jenkins as he was going for his weekly walk?

Yup!
Every week.



But then Gordon met
Anthony the Piglet.

Anthony is kind.
Anthony is brave.
Anthony is a kind, brave piglet.



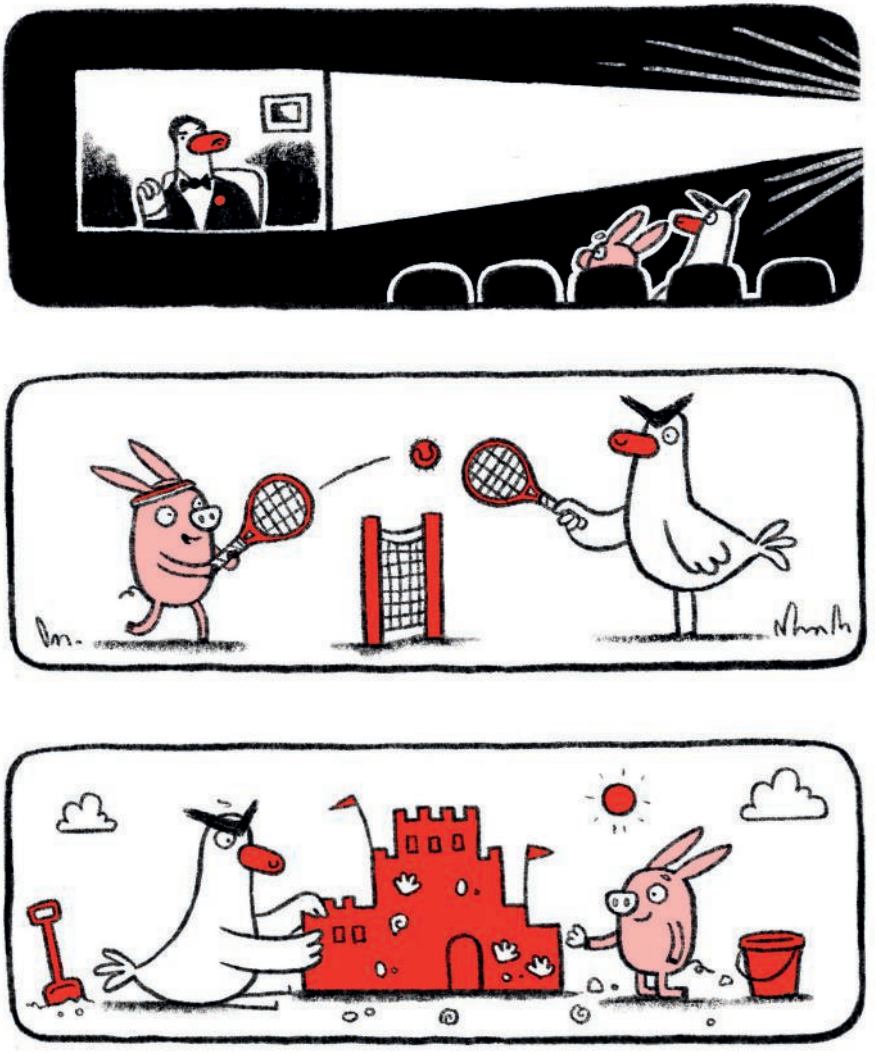
Anthony showed Gordon what kindness is. Anthony showed Gordon that it is braver to be kind than it is to be mean.



He also showed him this weird bird, but that has very little to do with this story.

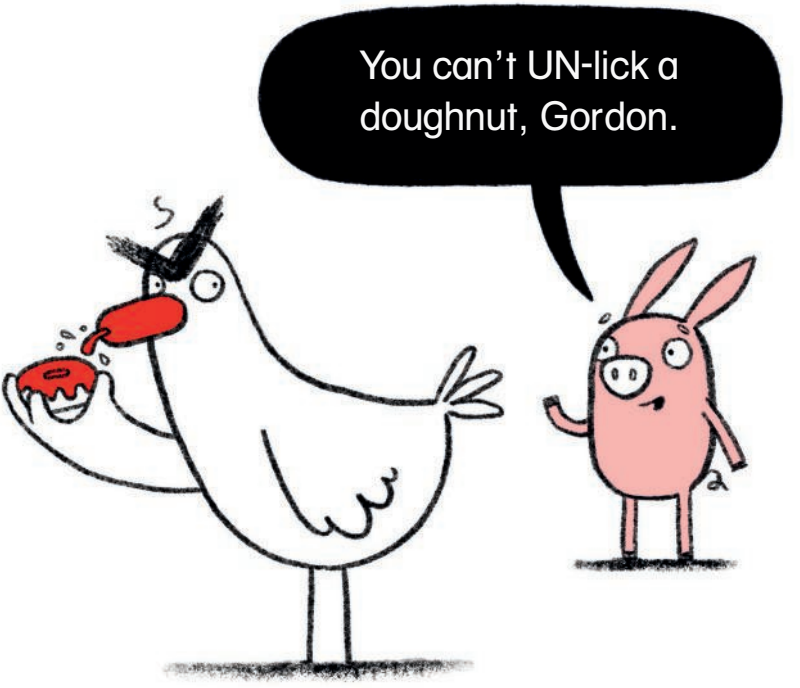


From that day on, Gordon and Anthony have been best friends.



And with Anthony's help . . .

Gordon tries his best to make up for the mean things he's done.

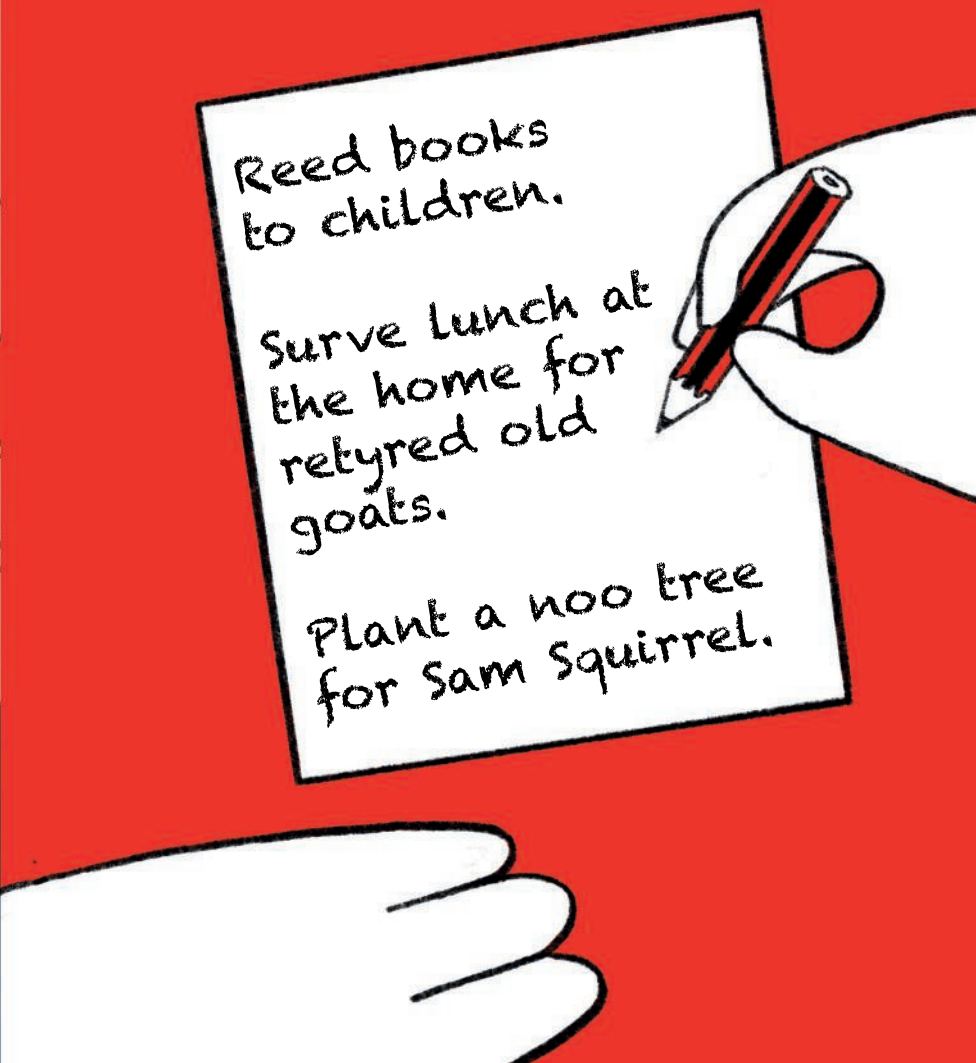


But it doesn't always go to plan.

It is a beautiful day in Grover Gardens, the sun is shining, the trees sway in a gentle breeze, and that weird bird is singing. Gordon opens his eyes and smiles. It is time to begin a new day as a good goose.



Every morning Gordon wakes up and makes a list of all the good things he wants to do.



First on his list today is reading books to children. Old Gordon would have shouted at them until they cried and ran away—but new Gordon has even brought sock puppets!



Then Gordon serves lunch at the Home for Retired Goats.



After that, Gordon plants a new tree for Sam Squirrel.





moans Gordon, before he remembers that good geese shouldn't moan, so he tries to smile instead.

Then he puts on his PJs, brushes his bill, and climbs into bed. But . . .

