Opening extract from

Flat Stanley

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The Big Bulletin Board

Breakfast was ready.

'I will go and wake the boys,' Mrs Lambchop said to her husband, George Lambchop. Just then their younger son, Arthur, called from the bedroom he shared with his brother Stanley.

'Hey! Come and look! Hey!'

Mr and Mrs Lambchop were both very much in favour of politeness and careful

speech. 'Hay is for horses, Arthur, not people,' Mr Lambchop said as they entered the bedroom. 'Try to remember that.'

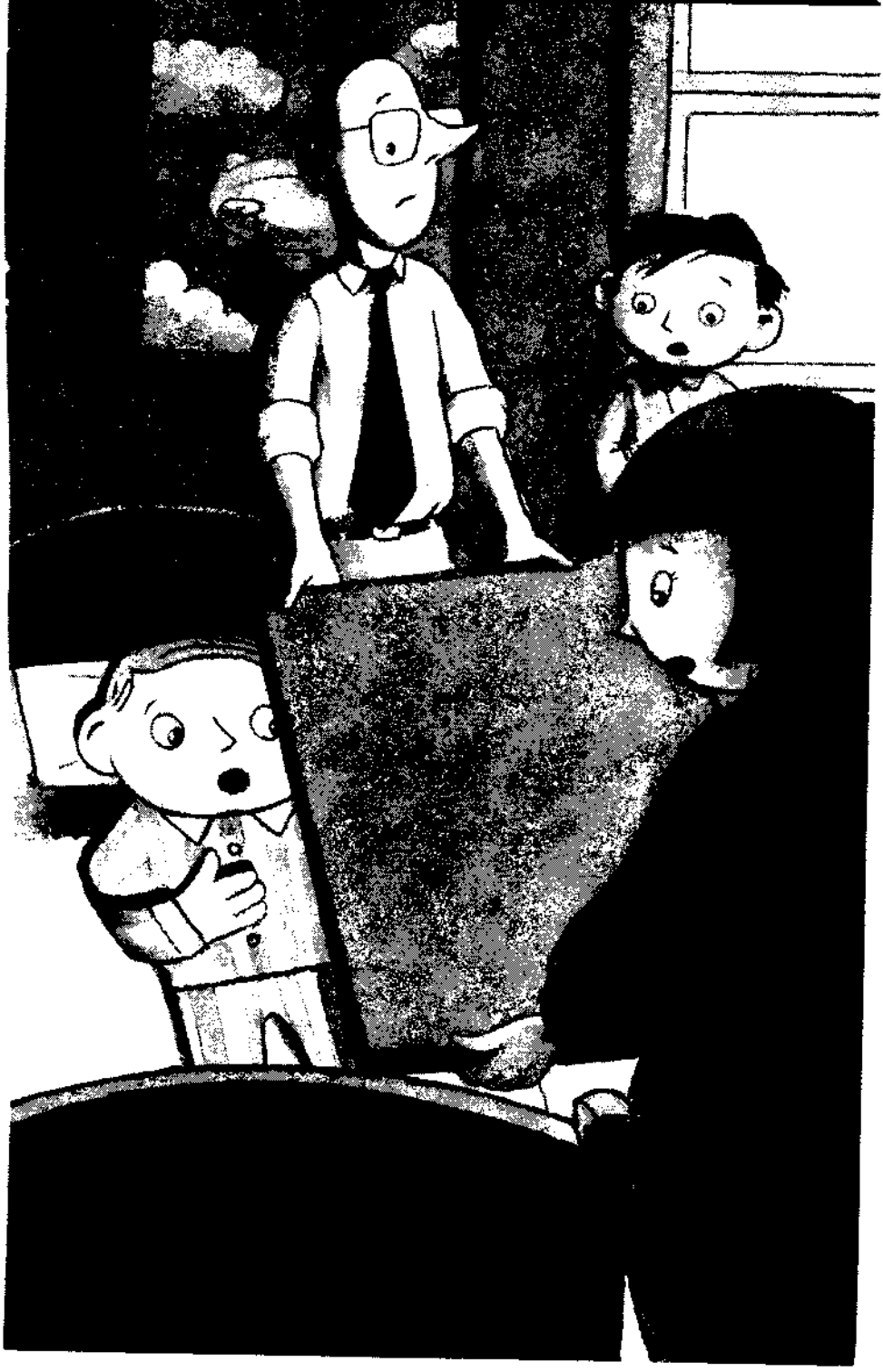
'Excuse me,' Arthur said. 'But look!'

He pointed to Stanley's bed. Across it lay the enormous bulletin board that Mr Lambchop had given the boys a Christmas ago, so that they could pin up pictures and messages and maps. It had fallen, during the night, on top of Stanley.

But Stanley was not hurt. In fact he would still have been sleeping if he had not been woken by his brother's shout.

'What's going on here?' he called out cheerfully from beneath the enormous board.

Mr and Mrs Lambchop hurried to lift it from the bed.



'Heavens!' said Mrs Lambchop.

'Gosh!' said Arthur. 'Stanley's flat!'

'As a pancake,' said Mr Lambchop. 'Darndest thing I've ever seen.'

'Let's all have breakfast,' Mrs Lambchop said. 'Then Stanley and I will go and see Doctor Dan and hear what he has to say.'

The examination was almost over.

'How do you feel?' Doctor Dan asked. 'Does it hurt very much?'

'I felt sort of tickly for a while after I got up,' Stanley Lambchop said, 'but I feel fine now.'

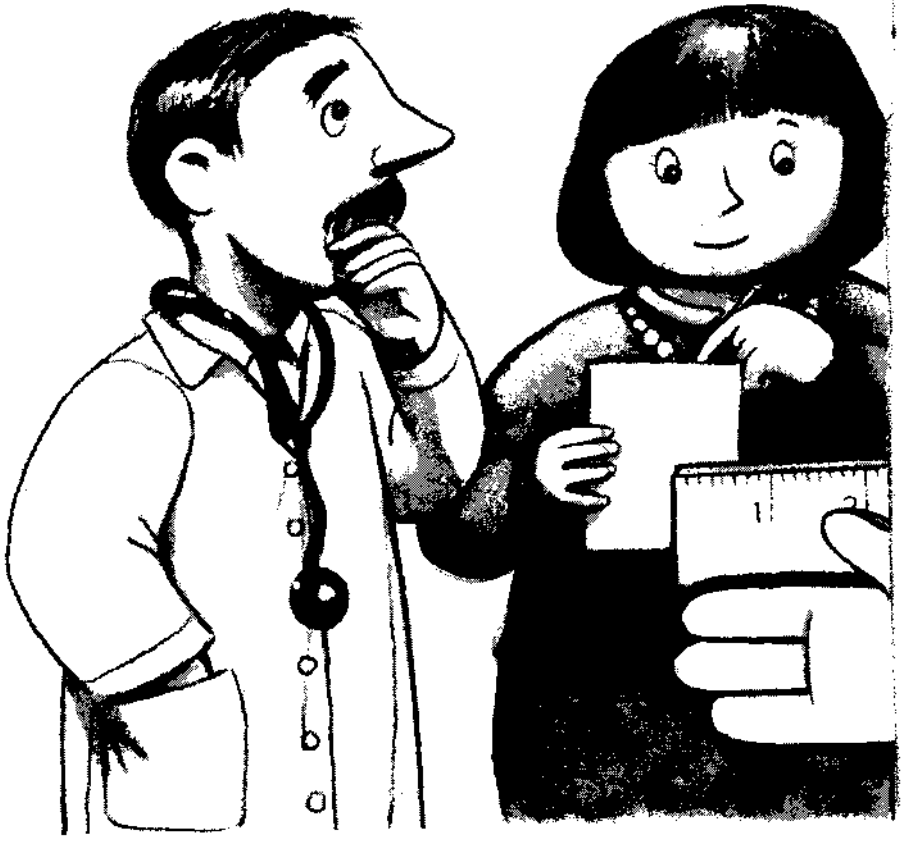
'Well, that's mostly how it is with these cases,' said Doctor Dan.

'We'll just have to keep an eye on this young fellow,' he said when he had finished



the examination. 'Sometimes we doctors, despite all our years of training and experience, can only marvel at how little we really know.'

Mrs Lambchop said she thought that Stanley's clothes would have to be altered by



the tailor now, so Doctor Dan told his nurse to take Stanley's measurements.

Mrs Lambchop wrote them down.

Stanley was four feet tall, about a foot wide, and half an inch thick.

