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Opening extract from

Elmer and the Hippos

Written by

David McKee

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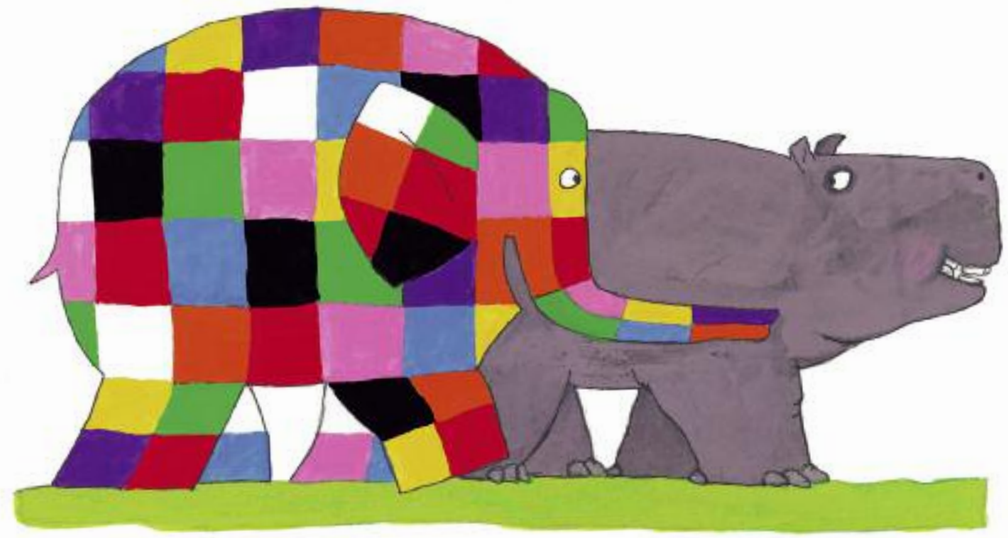
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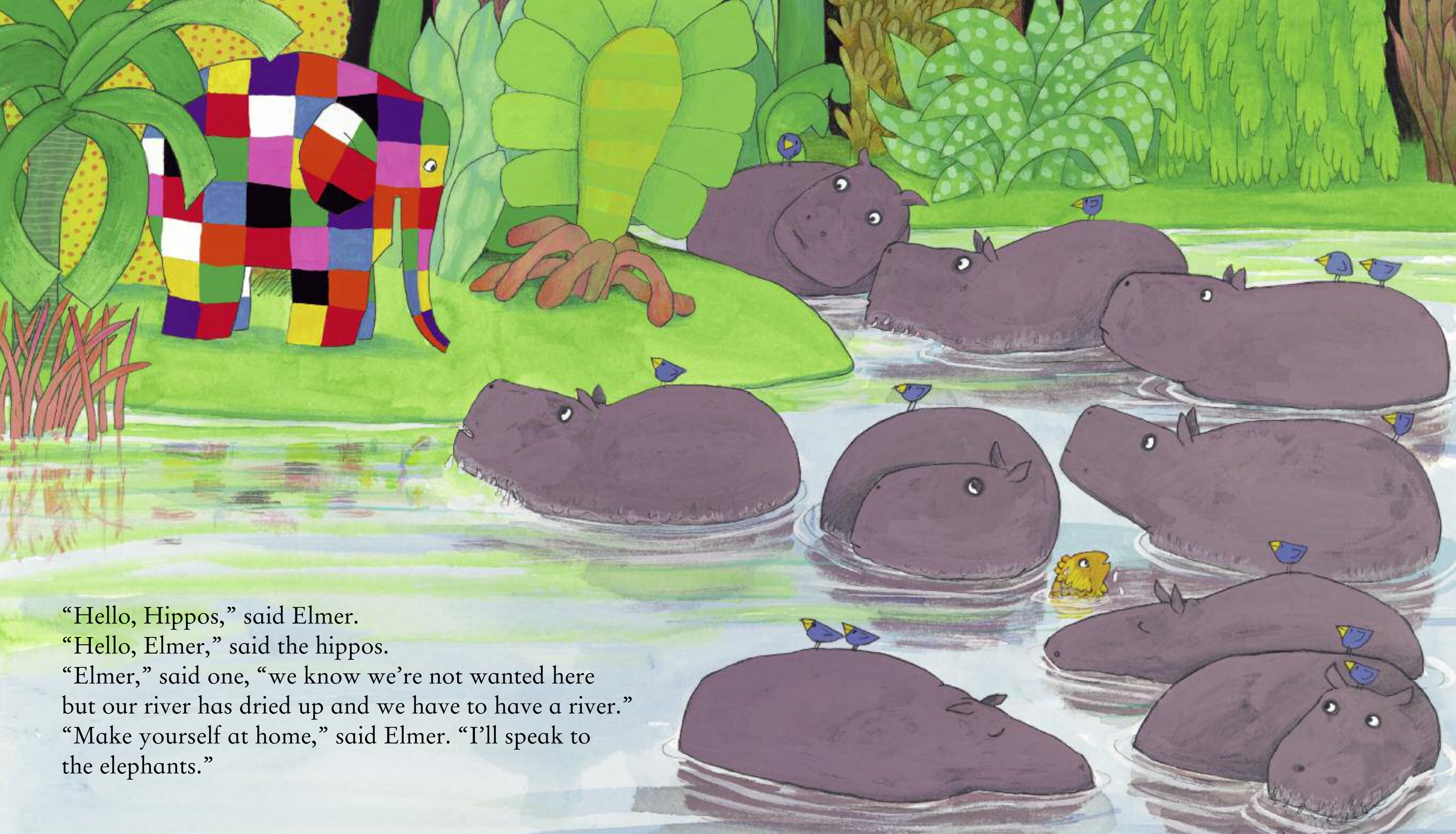
ELMER
and the HIPPOS



David McKee

Andersen Press

Elmer, the patchwork elephant, was having a friendly chat with Lion and Tiger when three angry elephants came by.
“Elmer,” said one, “the hippos have come to live here.”
“Tell them to go, Elmer,” said the second. “There isn’t room for them and us.”
“What if they don’t want to go?” asked Elmer.
“Tell them we’ll make them,” said the third elephant.
“Hmmm,” said Elmer. “Let me talk to them.”



"Hello, Hippos," said Elmer.
"Hello, Elmer," said the hippos.
"Elmer," said one, "we know we're not wanted here
but our river has dried up and we have to have a river."
"Make yourself at home," said Elmer. "I'll speak to
the elephants."

Elmer told the elephants the hippos' problem.
"Imagine if our river dried up," he said.
The elephants agreed to let the hippos stay, but
grumbled because the river would be crowded.
"I'll take a look at their river," said Elmer.