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Opening extract from
The Princess and the Peas

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For Bob and Carole, with love ~ CH
For Lucy and Harry and the 'Pea-sticks' ~ SW

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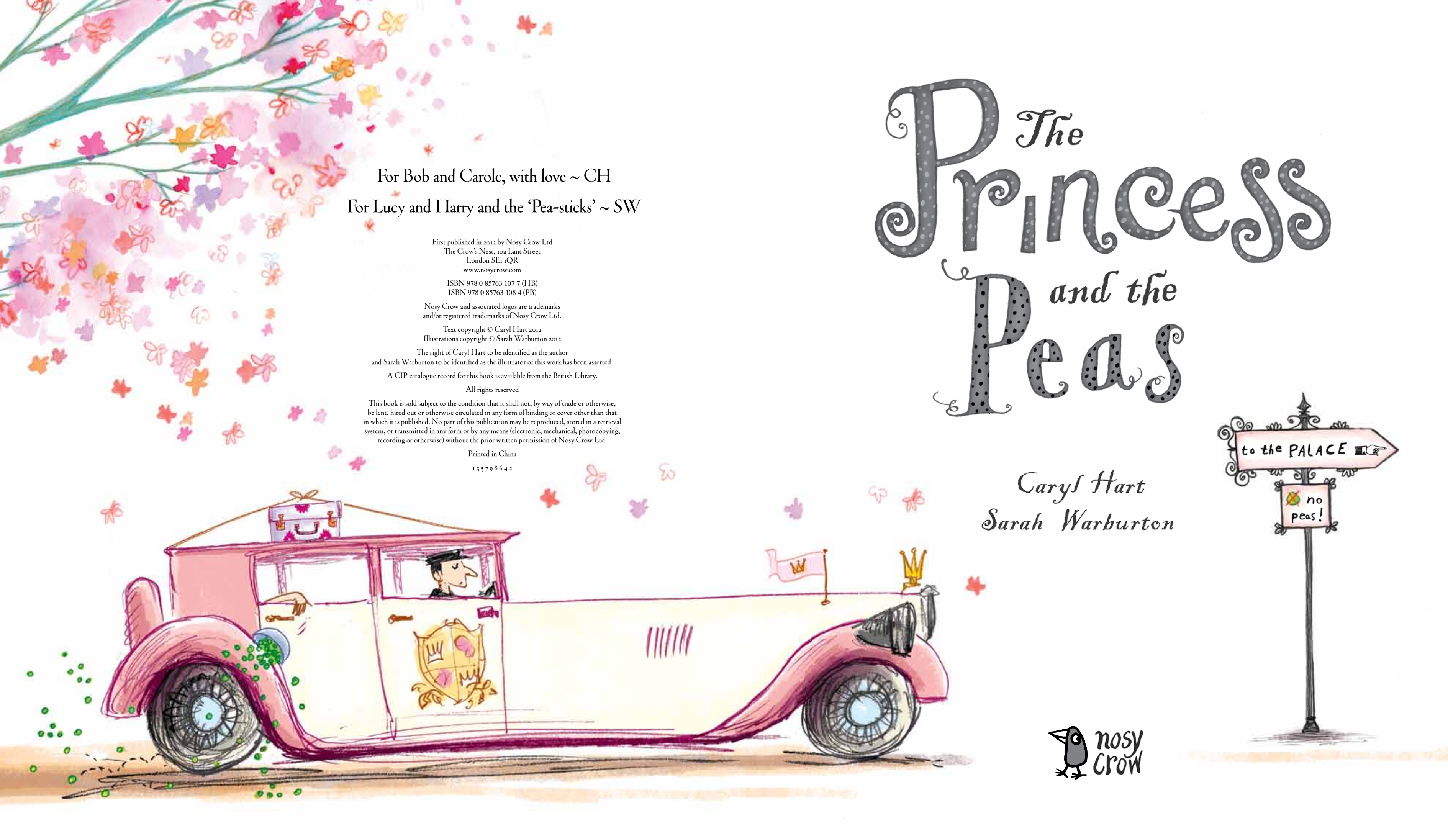
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The Princess and the Peas

Caryl Hart
Sarah Warburton





Lily-Rose May was a sweet little girlie,
Her eyes were bright blue and her hair was so curly.
She lived with her dad in a beautiful wood,
She was kind and polite and was usually good.

She did all her homework and cleaned out her rabbits,
She did not pick her nose or have other bad habits.
She kept her room neat and was eager to please,

UNTIL . . .

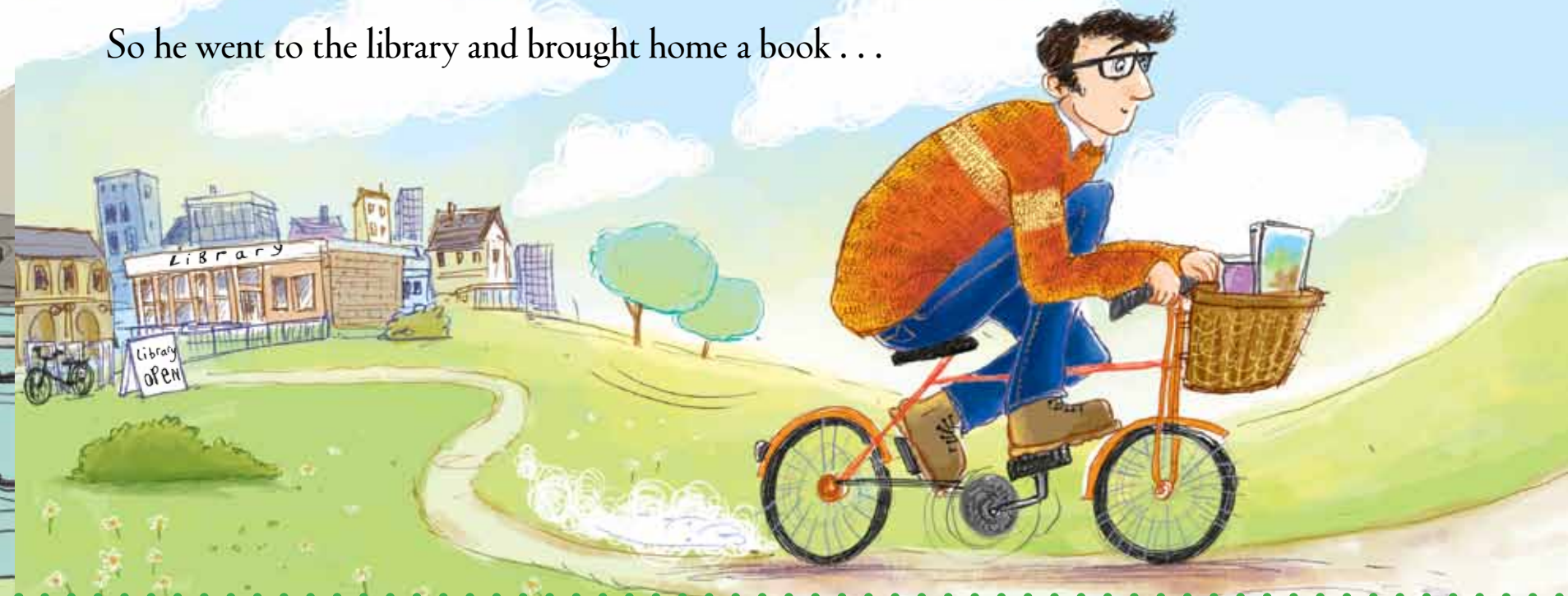
... one day, her daddy tried feeding her peas.

When Lily-Rose May found the peas on her plate,
She worked herself into a terrible state.
“But, darling,” said Dad, “can’t you manage a few?
They’re ever so tiny and SO good for you.”



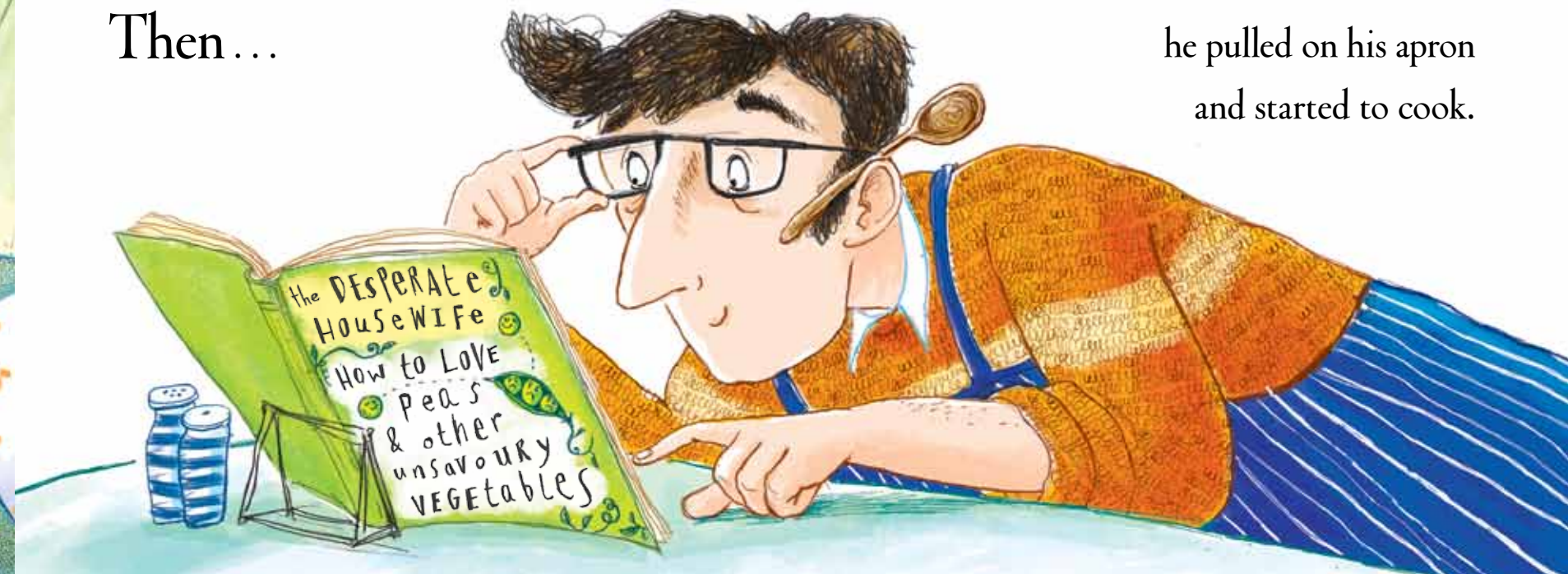
Lily ran out – her dinner uneaten –
But Dad was determined
he wouldn’t be beaten.

So he went to the library and brought home a book...



Then...

he pulled on his apron
and started to cook.



He whizzled up peas
into smoothies and shakes . . .



He baked them in biscuits
and put them in cakes . . .



He laid the food out
in a beautiful feast,
Feeling sure Lily-Rose
would eat ONE pea, at least.



But Lily-Rose May said
it made her feel poorly . . .



Her hands were all sweaty.
Her skin felt so crawly.



“My tummy is churning.
Oh, turn the page quick!
I’m going to be terribly,
horribly sick!”

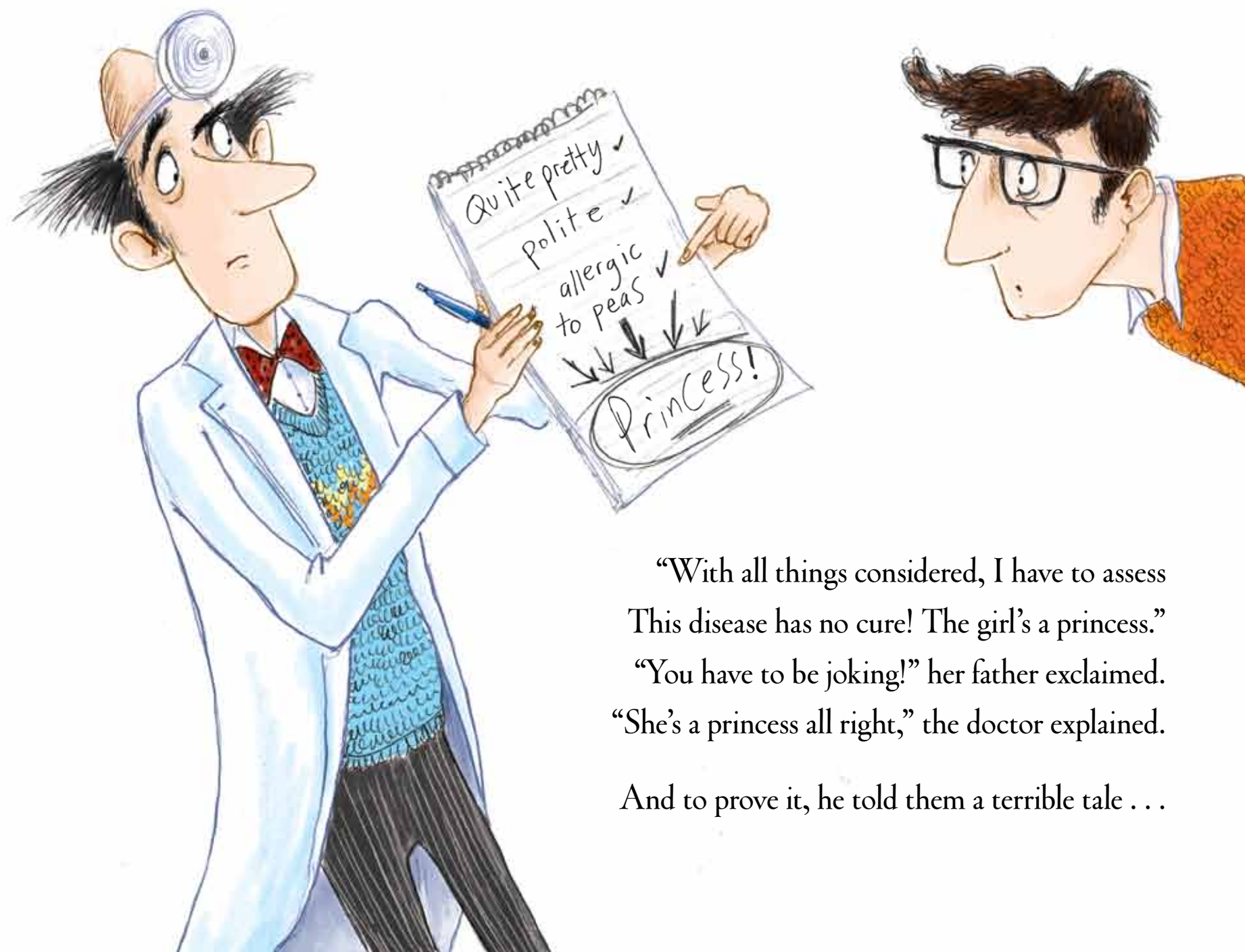
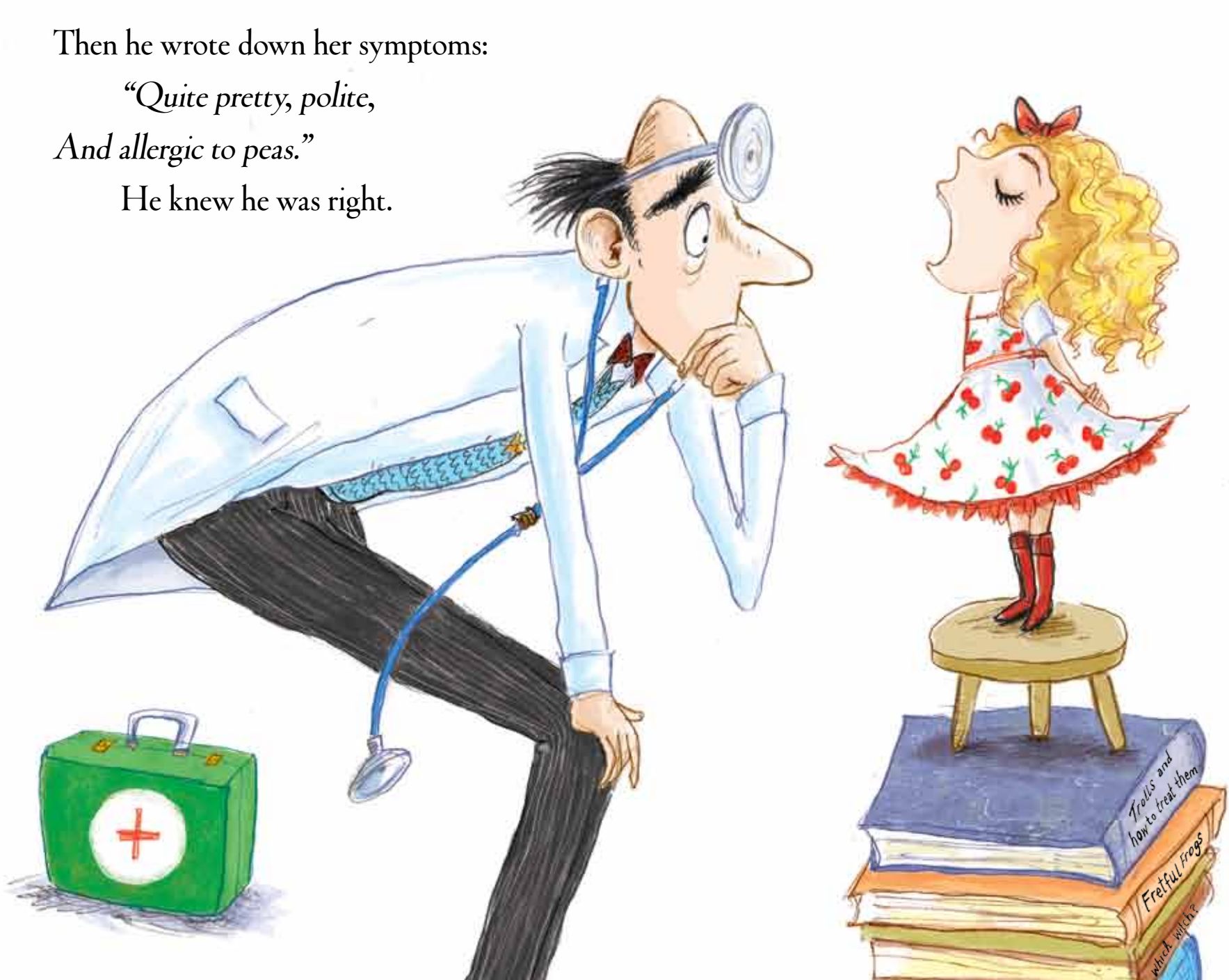
Next morning,
the doctor jumped out of his car . . .

Shouting, “Lily-Rose May, open wide and say ‘Ahh!’ ”

Then he wrote down her symptoms:

“Quite pretty, polite,
And allergic to peas.”

He knew he was right.



“With all things considered, I have to assess
This disease has no cure! The girl’s a princess.”

“You have to be joking!” her father exclaimed.
“She’s a princess all right,” the doctor explained.

And to prove it, he told them a terrible tale . . .