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Opening extract from

Melric the Magician Who Lost His Magic

Written by

David McKee

Published by

Andersen Press Ltd

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For Duncan and Ross

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This edition with new illustrations first published in 2012 by Andersen Press Ltd.
First published in Great Britain in 1970 as 'The Magician who Lost his Magic'
by Andersen Press Ltd., 20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2SA.
Published in Australia by Random House Australia Pty.,
Level 3, 100 Pacific Highway, North Sydney, NSW 2060.
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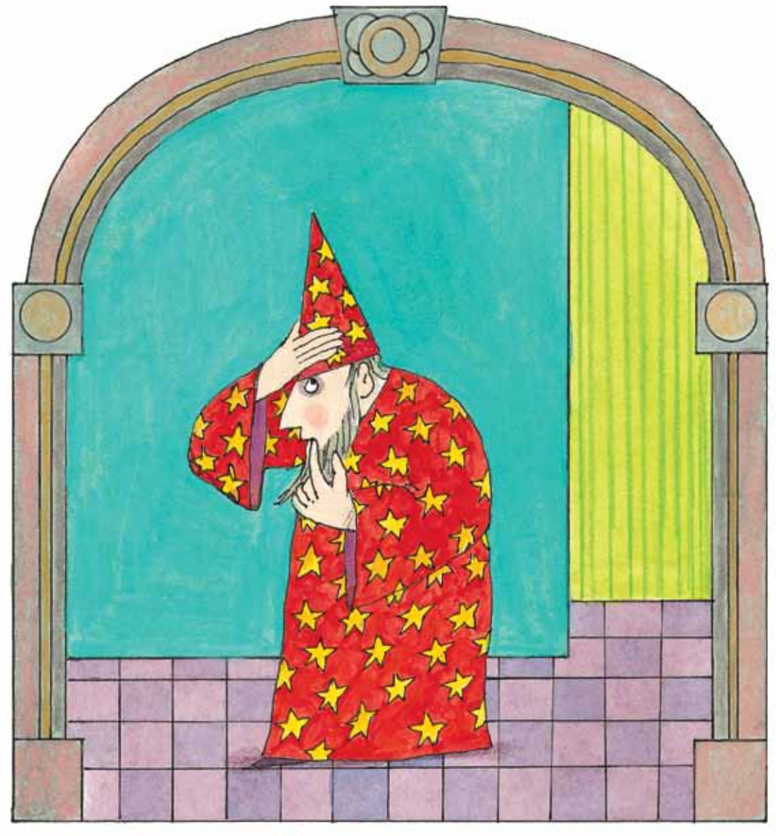
Colour separated in Switzerland by Photolitho AG, Zürich.
Printed and bound in Singapore by Tien Wah Press.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data available.
ISBN 978 1 84939 439 0
This book has been printed on acid-free paper

Melric

THE MAGICIAN WHO LOST HIS MAGIC



David McKee

ANDERSEN PRESS

Melric was the king's magician. Every day he carried out the king's orders. If the king wanted to swim, Melric made the sun come out. If the king was too hot, Melric made the sun go in. When he wasn't working for the king, Melric helped everybody else – all by magic. Melric was always busy. No one else was busy at all.

One morning Melric woke up late. He muttered the spell that should have washed and dressed him and made his bed, but nothing happened. He said the spell again, louder. Nothing happened. He shouted the spell. Still nothing happened. In a great hurry – because the king didn't like to be kept waiting – Melric dressed himself, making a terrible mess of it. He took one look at the bed and left it, unmade.