

The Wolf Strikes Again

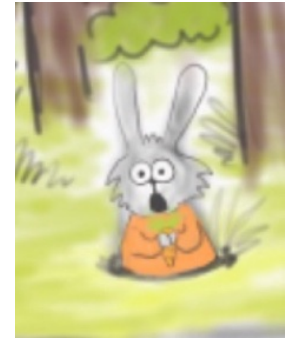
By Kate Ng

Illustrations by Phoebe Leenhouders

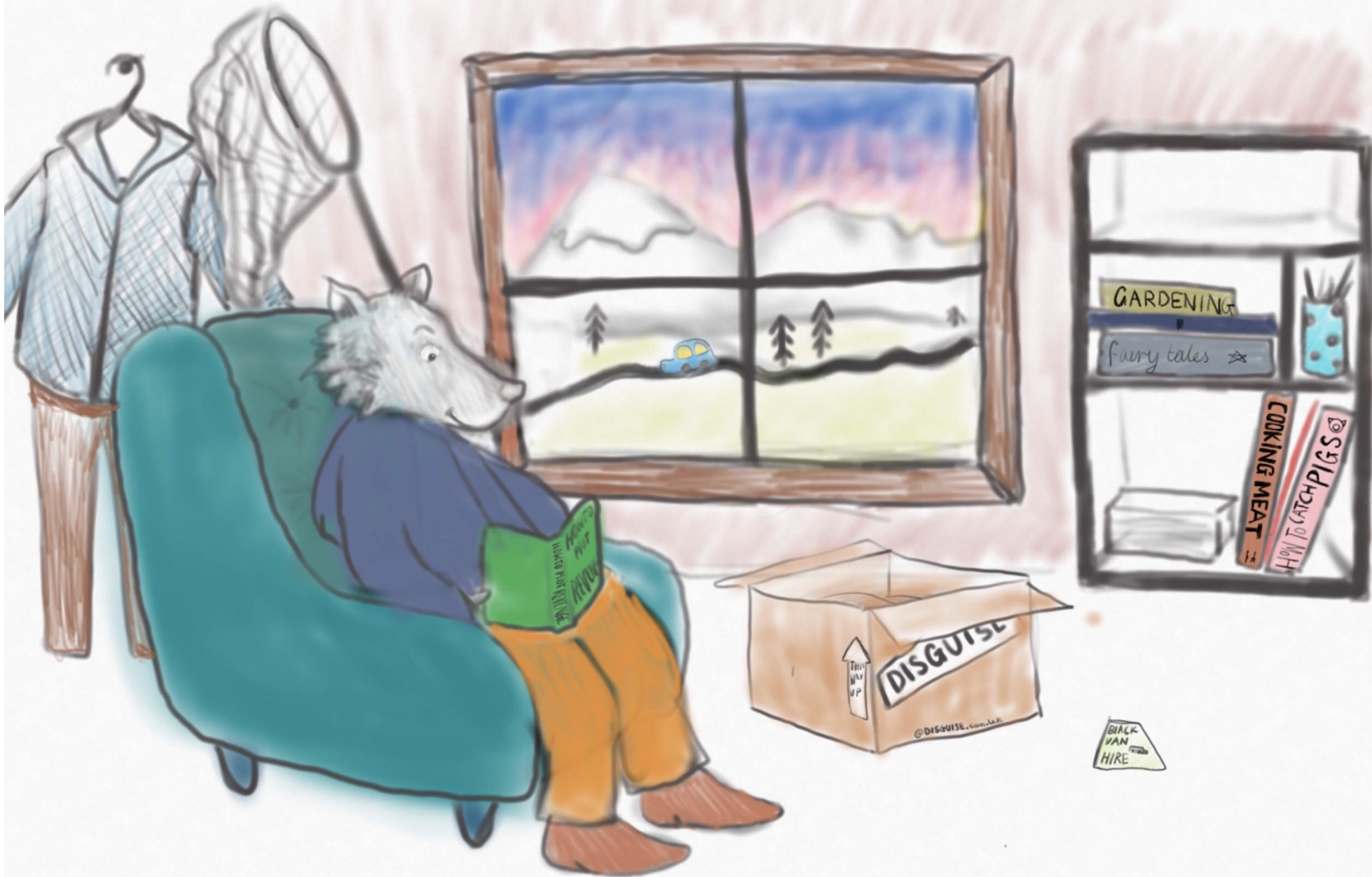


While this version is in draft, the e-book is being released with full colour illustrations and professional formatting (etc). I'd love to thank you with a complementary e-copy when it is released. If you want one, just add your details at the end of the prototype survey.

To my mother, who inspired every word I write.
Thank you for filling my childhood with rhythm and rhyme, endless stories,
creativity, love, and your quirky sense of humour.



Remember the wolf, how he blew with his might
He huffed and he puffed but the brick house held tight
A rumour has spread of the bad wolf's demise
I'm telling the truth, it's a whole pack of lies
Unharm'd, he escaped from the pig's house that day
Annoyed at the pigs and intent on foul play



So the very next week, when Pig Number One jogged down to the park while out on a run the bad wolf was ready, though quite in disguise. Wolf looked just the same but was acting out lies.



"Dear Pig," said the wolf, "it was oh so unkind to treat you so meanly, I hope you don't mind. I'd like to say sorry. How happy I'd be if all of you pigs would come join me for tea!"



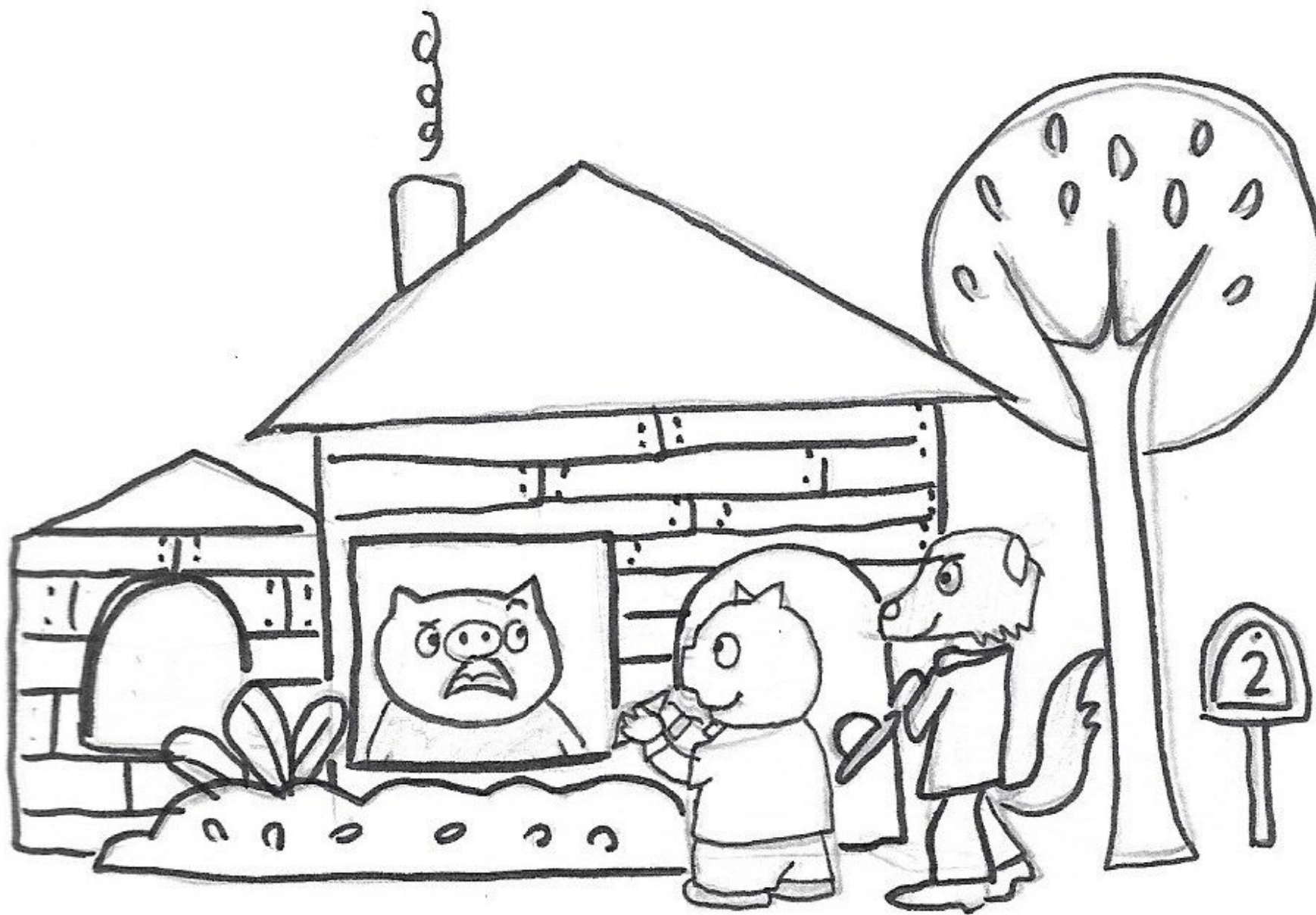
Uh oh! Should that wolf be trusted?

Now the first little pig, as we already know, was not very wise so he wanted to go. The wolf's invitation and conduct so warm. He trusted completely the bad wolf's reform



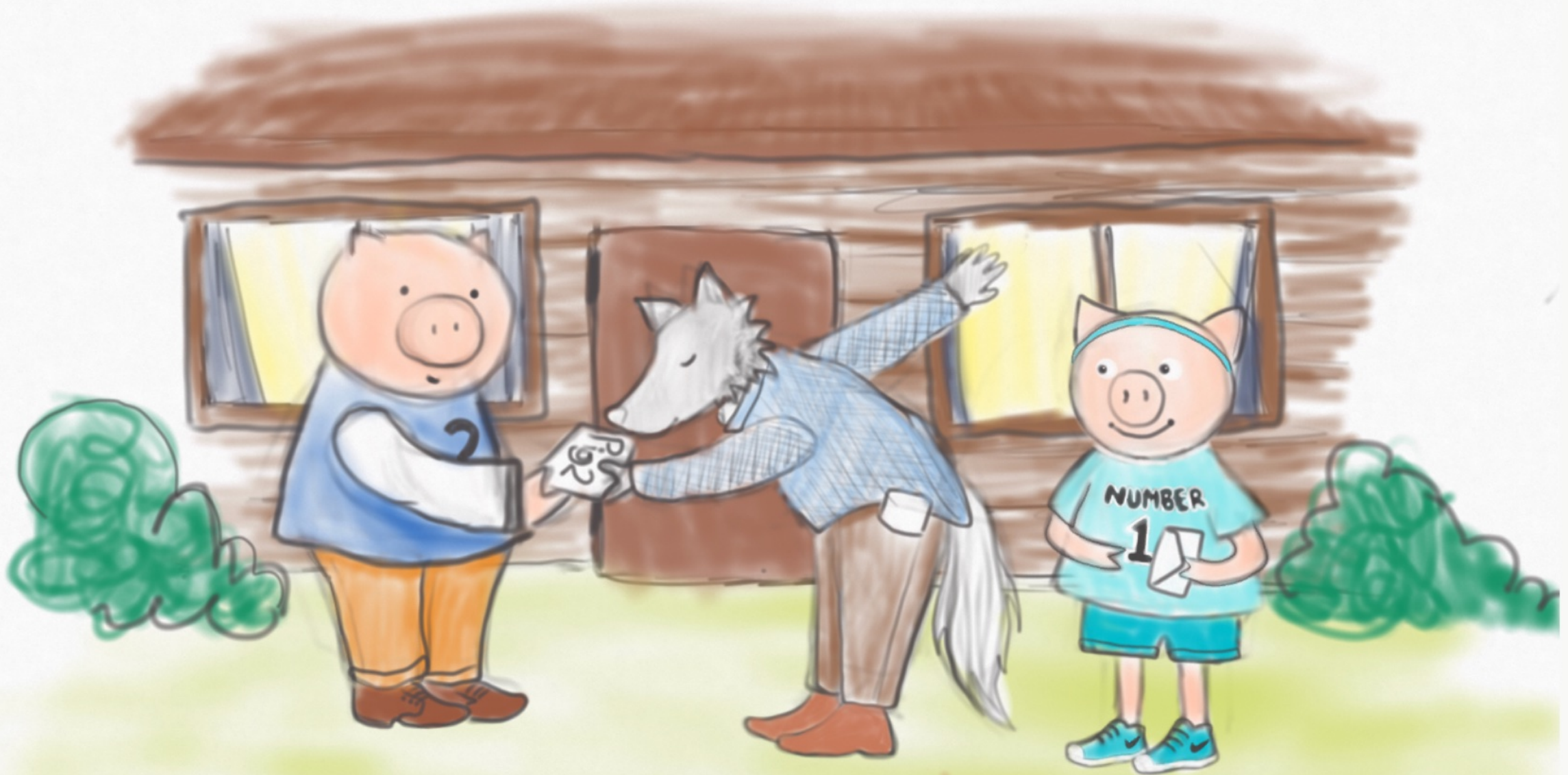
"Since you are sorry and since I was taught 'forgive and forget' then I guess that I ought."

Without hesitation Pig went to Pig Two
"Dear Pig, there's a kind invitation for you"



Aghast to see wolf there, Pig Two raced inside
"I'm here to make friends now", the naughty wolf lied.
But pig number two was suspecting a scam
"No way! I'd most probably end up as ham!"

"But piggy" said Pig One, his voice in dismay,
"forgive and forget is the very best way.
I'll vouch for the wolf. I'm convinced he's repented"
So trusting Pig One, Pig Two also relented.

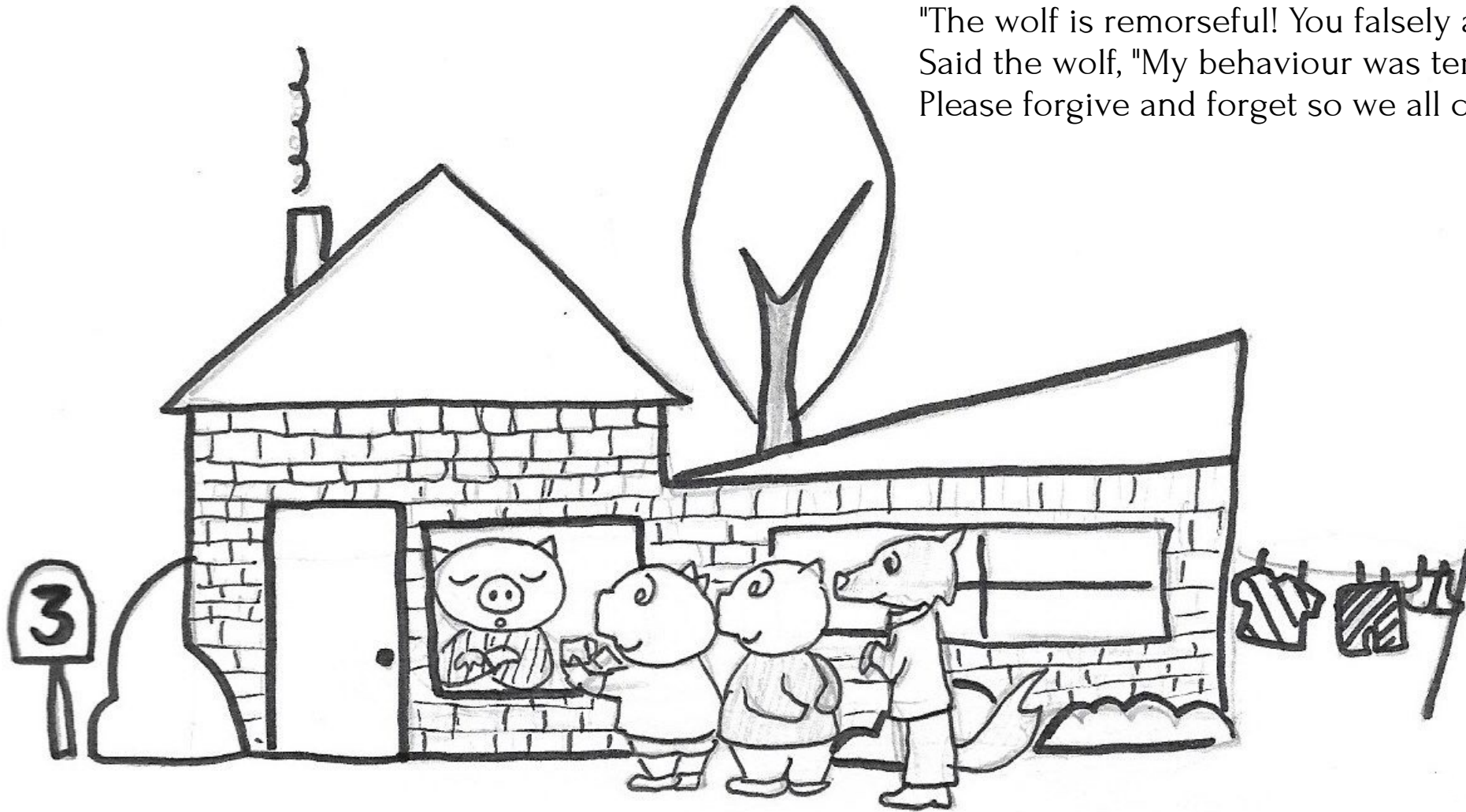


On seeing the pigs and the bad wolf approach,
Pig Three locked his doors, crying out a reproach
"You're nutters! You're crazy! Oh please start to run!
The wolf's dream of you is to eat you well done"



Uh Oh! Should that wolf be trusted?

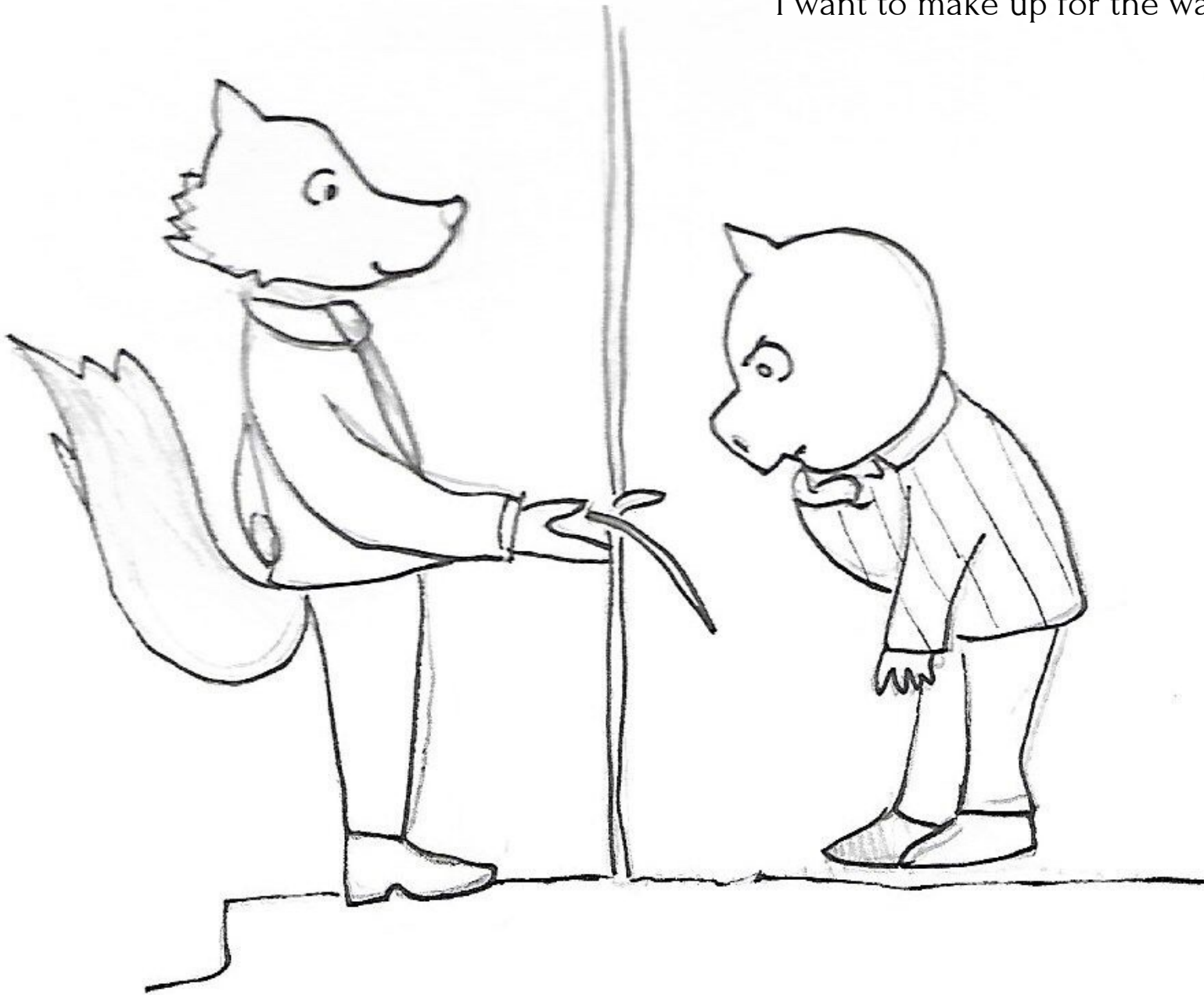
"No no!", smiled the pigs. "We have wonderful news!"
"The wolf is remorseful! You falsely accuse!"
Said the wolf, "My behaviour was terribly wrong.
Please forgive and forget so we all can move on"



"Never!", Pig Three shouted out with a scowl
"You huffed and you puffed, and I won't trust you now!"
"But look!", said the wolf, "I've a letter that says,
I went to get help and I've changed all my ways"

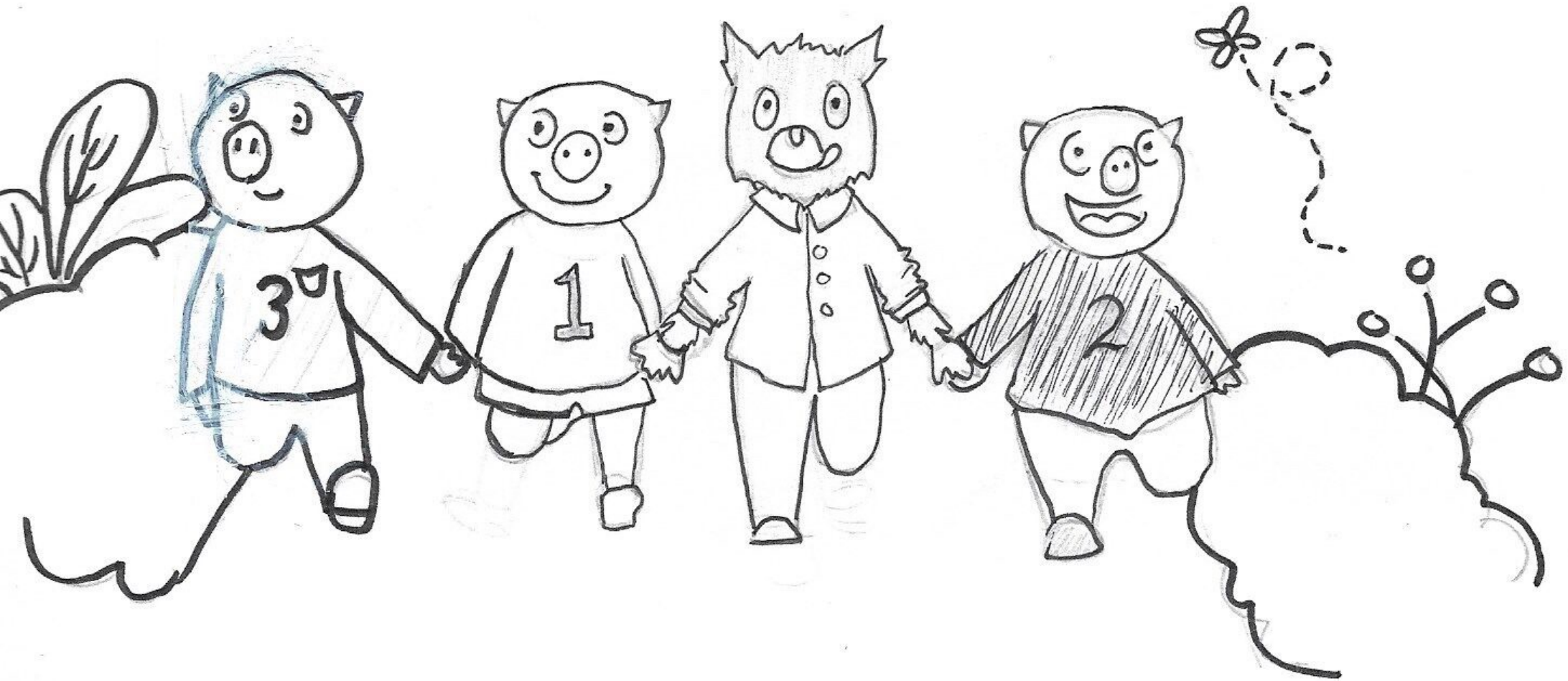


With that he presented a very fine letter
convincing Pig Three he had changed for the better.
"My actions were wrong", said the wolf, looking grave
"I want to make up for the way I've behaved."



Uh oh! Should that wolf be trusted?

With claps on their backs, and with hugs all around
they rejoiced in the very strange friendship they'd found.
And so they set off with bright smiles and big skips
with the wolf slyly smiling and licking his lips



Uh oh! Should that wolf be trusted?

Said the wolf, "I have planned to prepare for you all a most scrumptious feast, but the oven's too small."
"So I need a small stop to get extra supplies for a feast to remember. A lovely surprise."



Nearing the village, the pigs heard a shout
The townsfolk all hid. There was no one about.

The wolf searched around for some pals to invite
"These pigs are my friends now," he winked in delight
"You don't mind, dear piggies, if I invite others?"
"My friends can be trusted, they're almost like brothers"



Uh oh! Should that wolf be trusted?

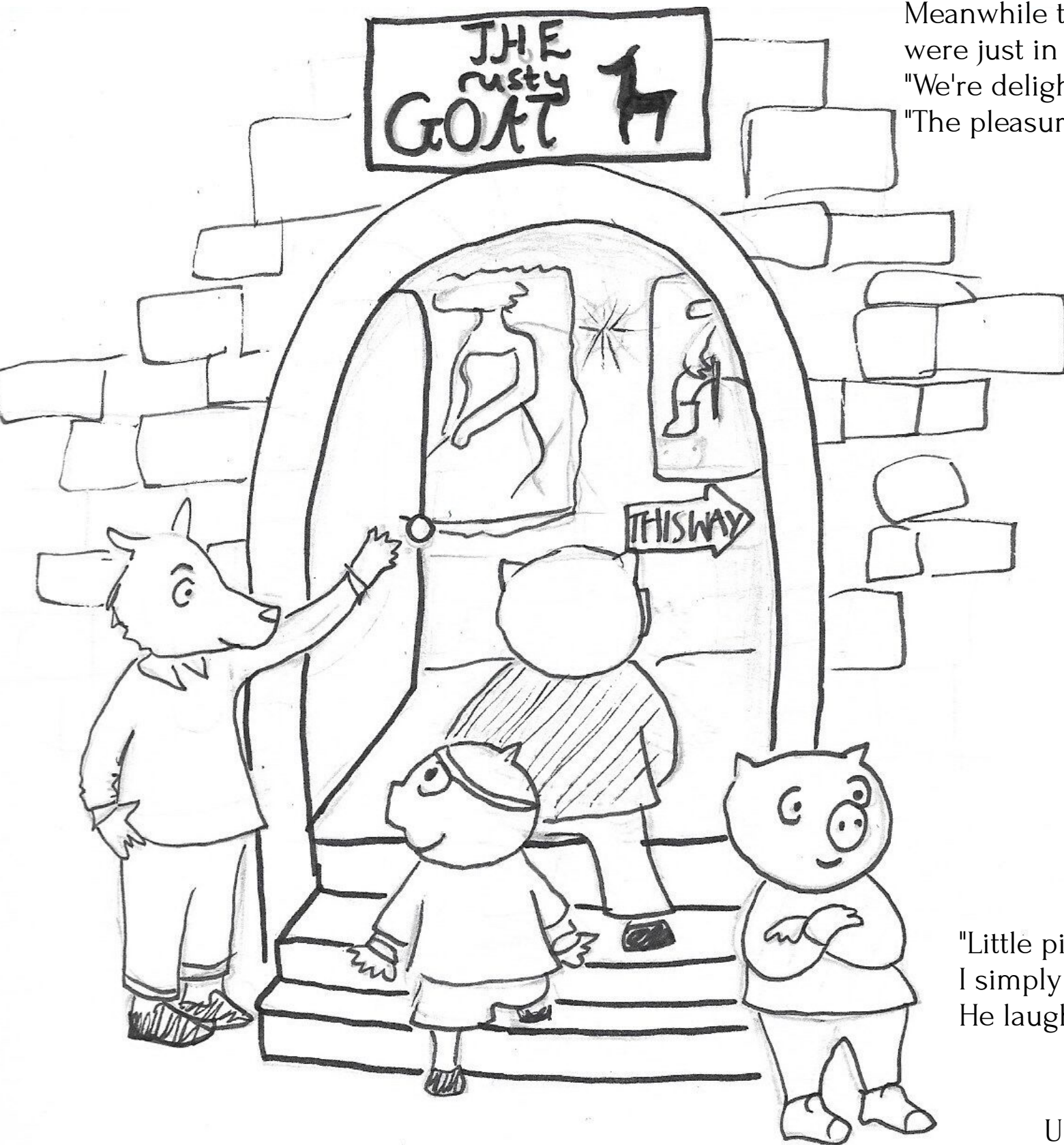
The wolf and his friends and the pigs One, Two, Three set out for the place where the banquet would be.



But somebody shopping for Granny's supplies saw the gang, and the plan for the Three Pigs' demise. "The wolf has returned and is up to no good! I need some help quickly!", cried Red Riding Hood

So racing to Granny's at maximum pace,
She told of the danger the piggies might face.
Incensed, Granny leapt from her bed in a flash.
Selecting some weapons from her secret stash,
phoning the police, she dashed through the door
jumped into her car and put pedal to floor.





Meanwhile the wolf and his friends and the pigs
were just in sight of the wicked wolf's digs
"We're delighted to be here!", the little pigs cheered.
"The pleasure's all mine", the wicked wolf jeered

"Little pigs, little pigs, the doors open - come in!"
I simply can't wait for the feast to begin."
He laughed and he laughed. "Oh I do like bacon!"

Uh oh! Should that wolf be trusted?

Then he summoned his friends to fetch ropes, and to bind the pigs in a tangle they couldn't unwind



The wolf's bad intentions were made clear at last, and the pigs, tied for tucker, were now all aghast. "We trusted you, wolf!", they all shrieked in dismay. "We believed that forgive and forget was the way."

"Fools!", laughed the wolf, "your blind trust wasn't wise!
"Use your clear thinking, and open your eyes!"
"You've been easily tricked, despite all warning signs"
"You fell into the plot of my crafty designs"
"Not one of my sly lies has made you think twice"
"Now you are our feast, and

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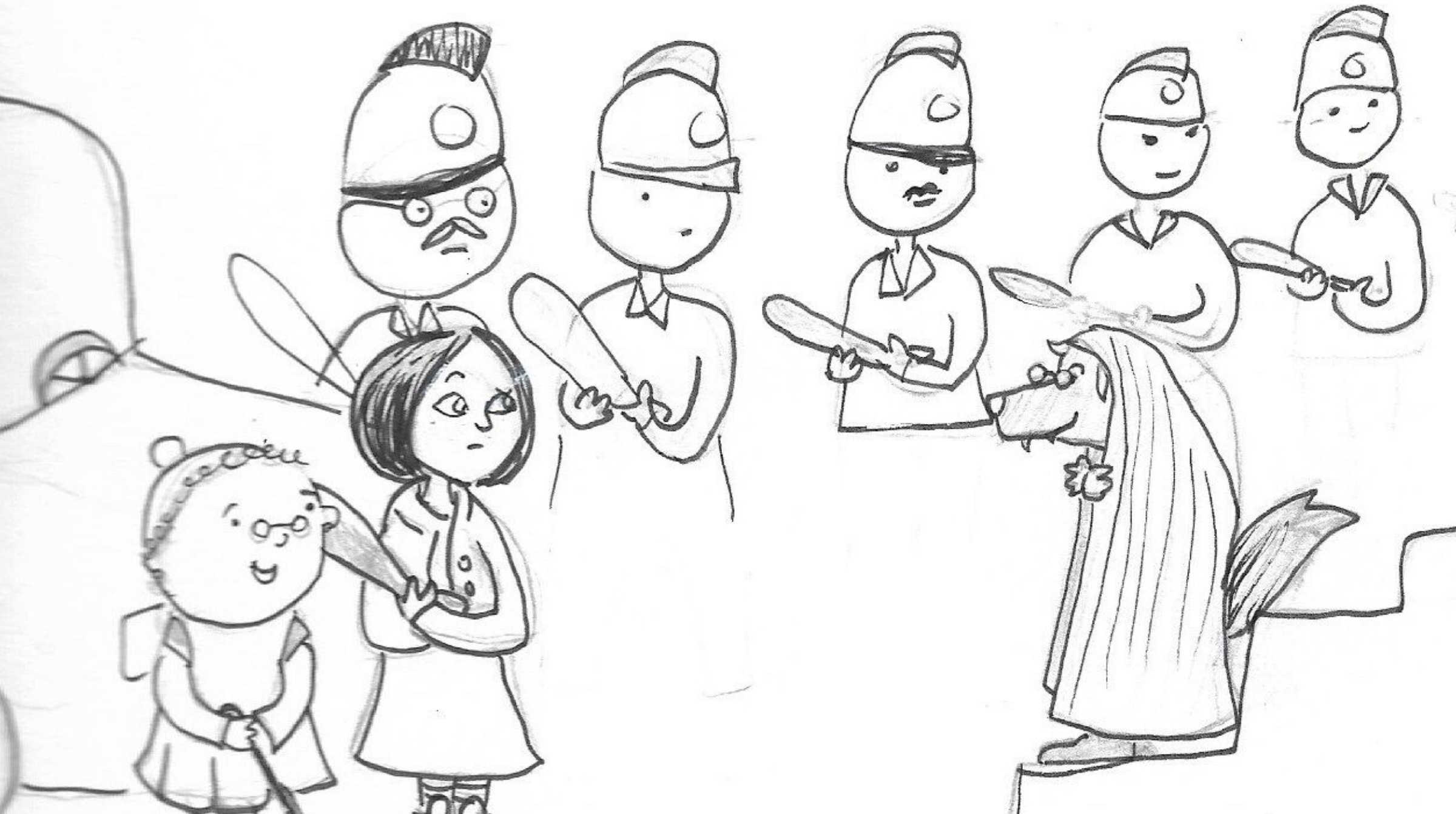
Just then Granny's car came screeching to view.
Sirens were blaring. The friends all withdrew.
The pigs stumbled away and the wolf, horrified
Looked frantically round for a place he could hide

**The illustrator is adding a picture of the wolves scattering and pigs escaping.
Maybe your child wants to draw one too?**

"The house is surrounded!", Red Riding Hood called
"The pigs have escaped and your plan has been foiled"
"Come out with your paws up!", excited Gran said.
But out came an elderly woman instead.



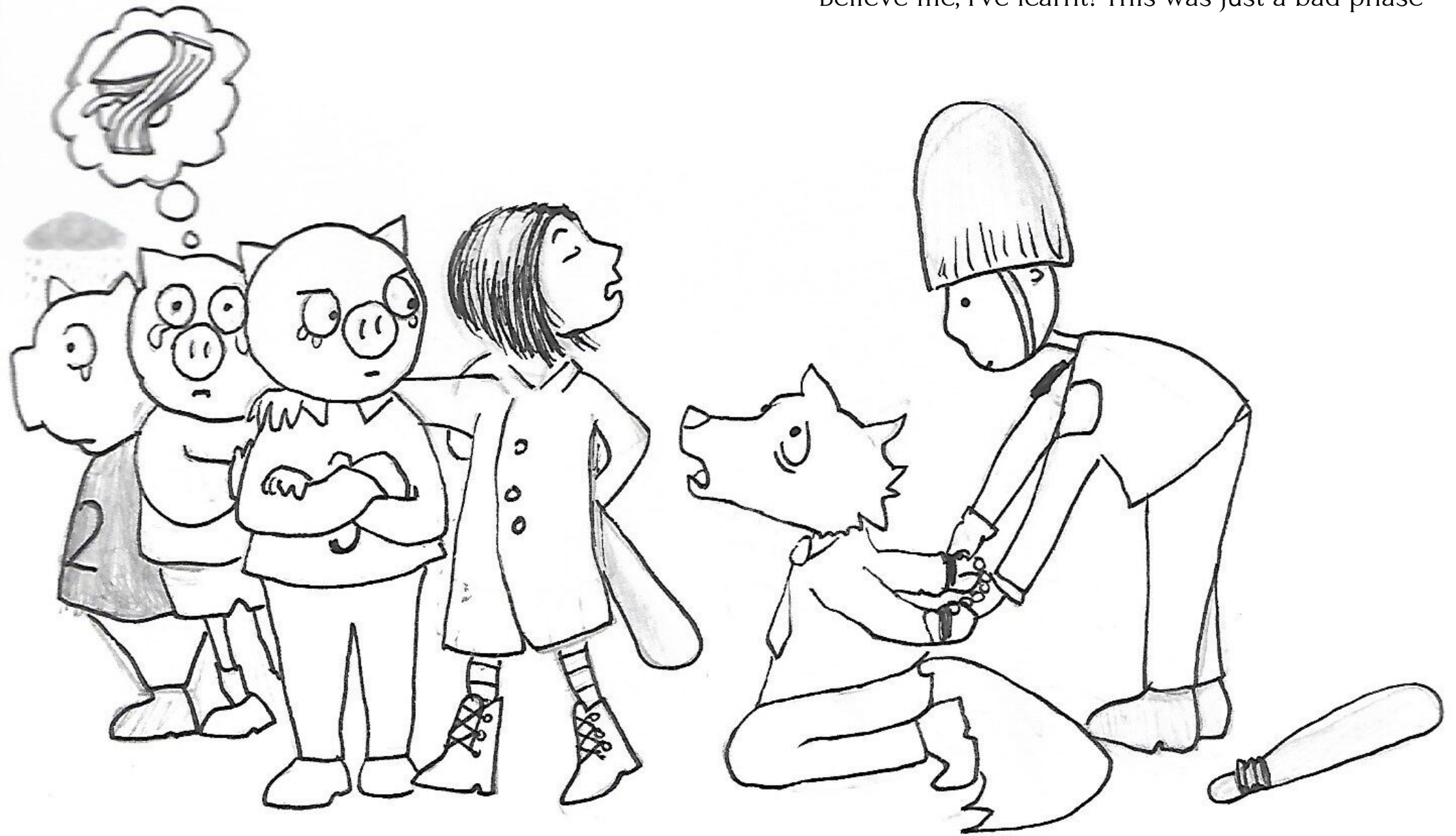
"I'm sorry, she said, "but there's no one in there."
"The wolf ran away and I do not know where"
"And now I've been freed, I'll proceed if I may"
"I'm so happy you came to my rescue today."



"Certainly!", Gran, with sympathy, said
But something felt wrong for our hero, Miss Red
She stared at the lady with shock and surprise
"What BIG ears you have lady! And BIG teeth and eyes!
"ARREST HIM!", she shouted, "that's THE WOLF IN DISGUISE!"

The illustrator is adding a close up of red examining the wolf and big wide-eyed shock and the wolf looking nervous. Maybe your child would like to draw one too?

"No!", cried the wolf, "I've changed my bad ways."
"Believe me, I've learnt! This was just a bad phase"



But should he be trusted? I'd hazard a guess
that the three little piggies would NEVER say 'yes'

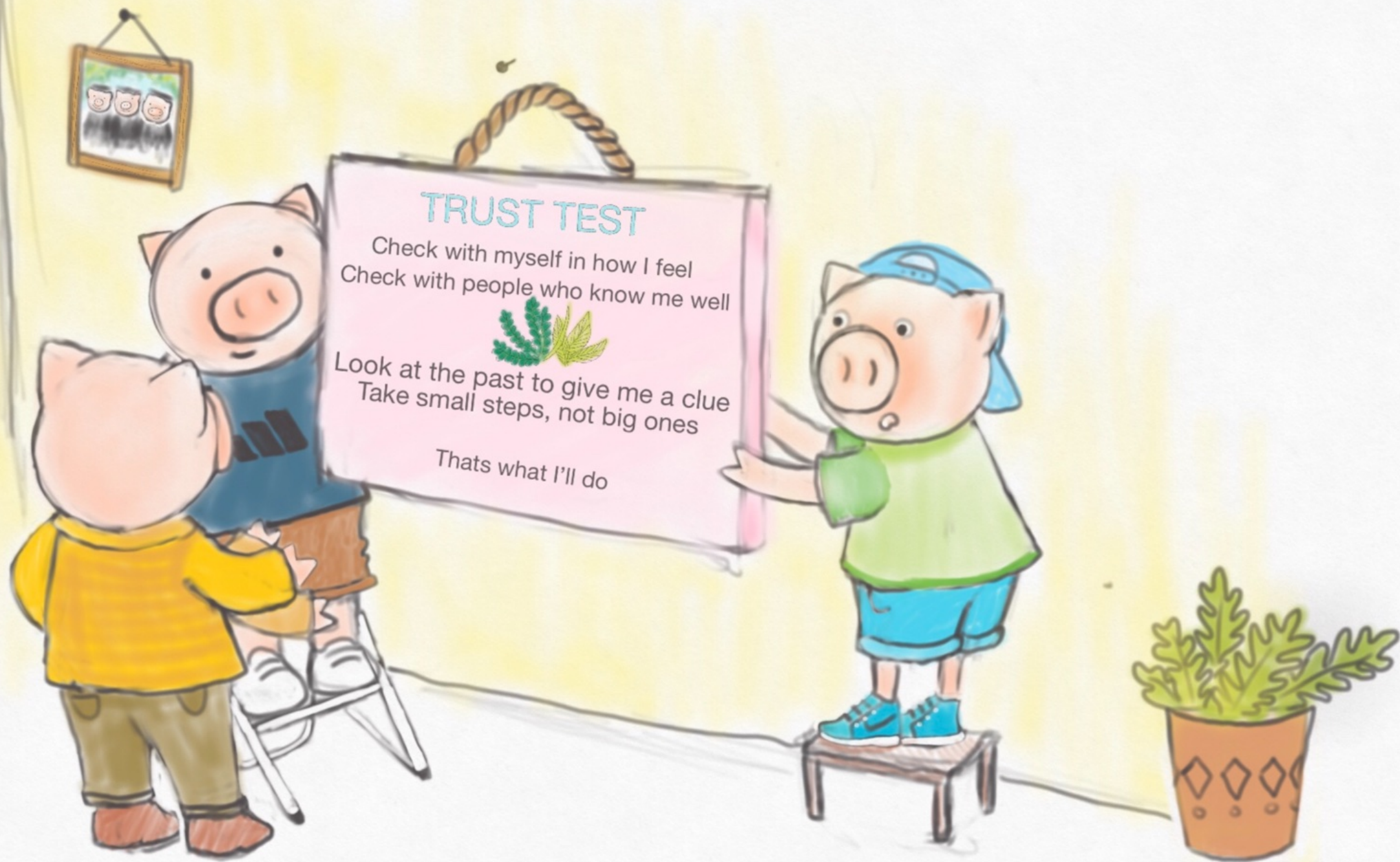
The happy conclusion, the wolf in the clink,
the three little pigs have now had a BIG think



"Forgive and forget" is not always the best
Instead they now use the "Think wisely" Trust Test
If you want to avoid a wolf in disguise
You can use the test too to open your eyes.

**The illustrator is adding a picture of the
pigs together writing the Think Wisely
Trust Test**





TRUST TEST

Check with myself in how I feel
Check with people who know me well



Look at the past to give me a clue
Take small steps, not big ones

Thats what I'll do

Want to know what happens next?

Check out headstartthinking.com for the continuing story “We didn’t ask to be eaten - The Pig’s Speak Out”. Headstartthinking.com has a host of extra resources to help facilitate conversations between you and your child, based around our Storybook Learning Series Topic: Trusting Wisely.

Discussion Questions



1. This story is about trust. What do you think trust is? What do we trust people or things with?
2. Uh oh! Each of the pigs changed their minds about the wolf. Why? What convinced them to trust him?
3. Pig 2 trusted the wolf because Pig 1 said the wolf was trustworthy. What does this teach you?
4. Have fun searching the illustrations for clues that the wolf was untrustworthy. What did our pig friends miss?
5. Hurray for Red Riding Hood! What was Red Riding Hood's immediate response when she realized the pigs were in danger? What can we learn from that?
6. The story keeps on asking 'should that wolf be trusted?'. How do we decide if someone can be trusted? What is the difference between 'blind trust' and 'wise trust'?
7. How does the wolf fare against the three tests for thinking wisely:
 - * Check with myself and how I feel (instincts)?
 - * Check with others who know me well?
 - * Look at the past to give me a clue?
8. Make up a different ending where the Pigs take small steps to test whether the wolf was trustworthy.

Teach your kids this..... Prompts for teaching your child to trust wisely

The list below summarises key messages that your child needs to know about the topic of Trusting Wisely. You may wish to discuss them all now, or save some next time you read the book together. For more tools to help teach these in a fun engaging way, check out headstartthinking.com

1. Make sure they understand what trust is:

- Trust is believing people, things or organisations will do, say and act the way that they say they will.
- Relationships are built on trust. It is like a foundation for a house.
- Trust changes depending on WHAT we trust for and also how trustworthy people are being.

2. Highlight who and what it is that they are personally trusting:

- We trust with time, ideas, belongings, secrets, safety
- We trust people, organization, things

3. Give them a healthy frame for choosing who to trust: We look for (The Pig's Wise Trust Test):

- Predictability – the person's history helps you predict their future
- Gut sense – how do they personally feel about trusting
- Other's opinion – what have other's said about this person
- What we are trusting for – small steps require less trust than large ones
- Context of trusting - talk about situations you would be more cautious in and those you would be more relaxed in.

4. Explain their power to choose (sovereignty):

- Trust is to be earned, not a right. No one can force you to trust them and don't feel bad if you don't. Giving trust is a gift. Take as much time as you want.
- You can explain to people what they need to do to make you trust them more. You have control!

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5. Highlight when they should ask for help:

- You want another opinion if someone is trustworthy
- If you don't trust someone or you feel like someone is not acting trustworthy towards you
- If other people you know are being hurt or are not safe.
- If you are struggling to trust people.

6. Help them understand how to deal with broken trust:

- Normalise it – it is not ok, but everyone has experiences of broken trust. Reinforce that it is NOT their fault – that person made the poor choice to betray their trust. We
- Reinforce that the past does not decide the future, especially if we learn from it. That was then and this is now.
- Explain that forgiveness can actually make us freer – it is not agreeing that what they did was ok, but it is choosing not to hold it as an anger ball inside of us against them.
- They decide whether and how we will trust that person again. They can tell the person what they need to do to win back our trust.

7. Make sure they know that people are deciding whether to trust them:

- We can choose to be the type of people that other's trust – honest, reliable, and kind.
- When we lose someone's trust, we can try and grow it again.

8. Help them to see the importance of trusting themselves:

- When we are friends with ourselves our lives are so much better.
- When we work on being a trustworthy person, we trust ourselves more.
- We can forgive ourselves when we break trust – the past does not decide the future if we learn from it and no-one is perfect.
- When we trust ourselves, others are more likely to trust us too.

Interested in giving your child a Headstart towards stronger thinking?

Headstart Thinking is a collaborative effort between educators, psychologists, and children's authors to support parents in guiding their children towards strong healthy thinking.

Rather than a piecemeal approach, Headstart Thinking is working towards a full spectrum of healthy thinking topics, using the Emotional Intelligences, Cognitive Distortions, and the Fundamentals of Mental and Emotional Health as a frame.

Resources are developed with the busy parent in mind, enabling parents the flexibility to engage with the material as their schedule allows, but giving them the confidence that they are working towards their child's strong thinking with as little as a goodnight story.

Other modules in the Headstart Thinking collection cover topics like:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| [?] Making healthy choices | – Enjoy Rapunzel's Mistake |
| [?] Learning from consequences | – Enjoy The Fix-it Solve-it Change-it |
| [?] Being yourself | – Enjoy The Mirror's Truth and You can be YOU |
| [?] Learning from others | – Enjoy The Emperor's Shame |
| [?] Living proactively | – Enjoy Cinderella's Grit |
| [?] Negative thinking | – Enjoy The Supervillain's Superpower |
| [?] Understanding emotions | – Enjoy This is the House that Jack Broke |

Join our Headstart Thinking community, and be updated as new Headstart Thinking resources become available.