



★ THE LARGE FAMILY ★

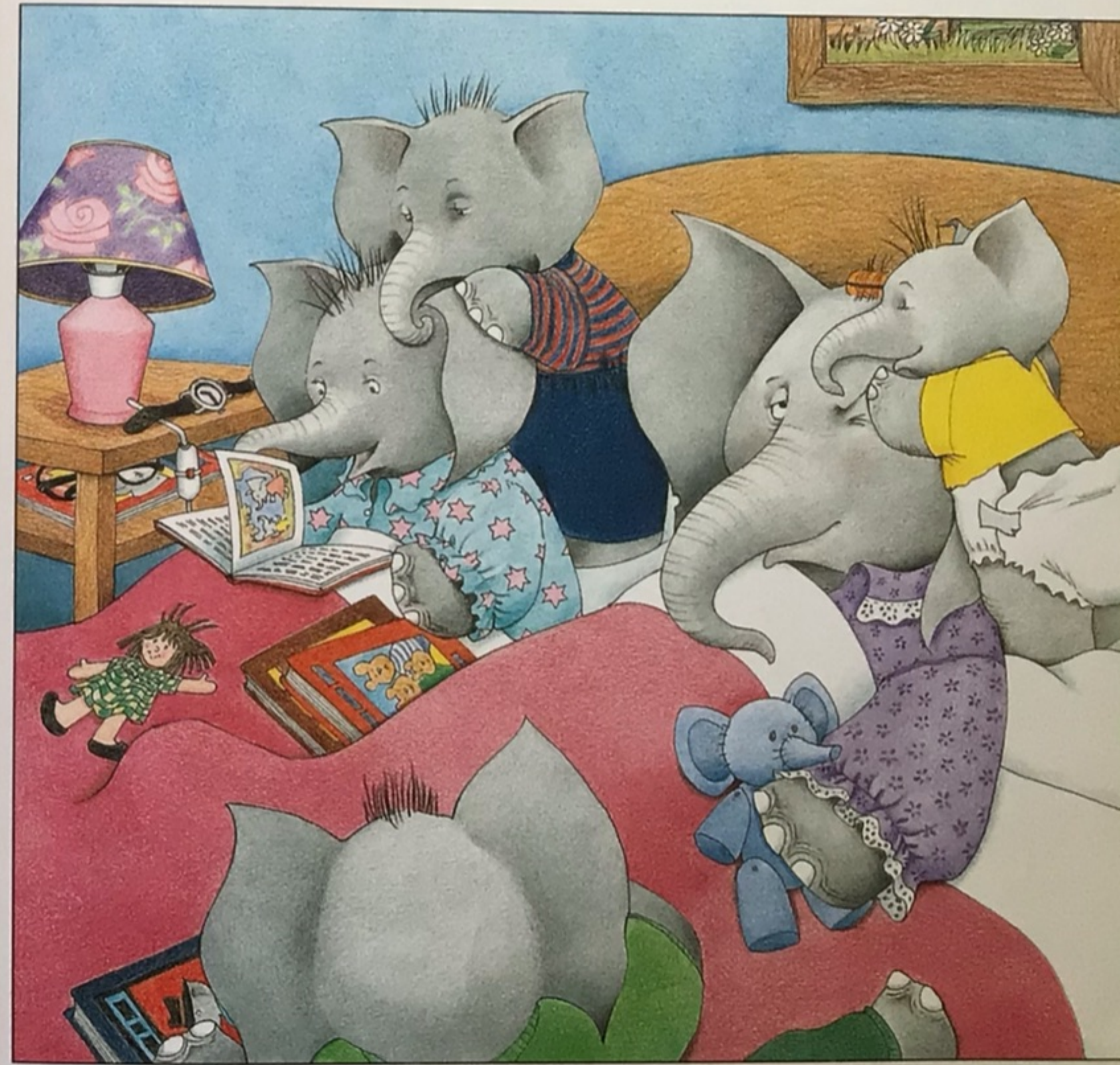
All In One Piece



JILL MURPHY



Mr Large was getting ready for work.
“Don’t forget the office dinner-dance
tonight, dear,” he said.
“Of course I won’t,” said Mrs Large.
“I’ve been thinking about it all year.”





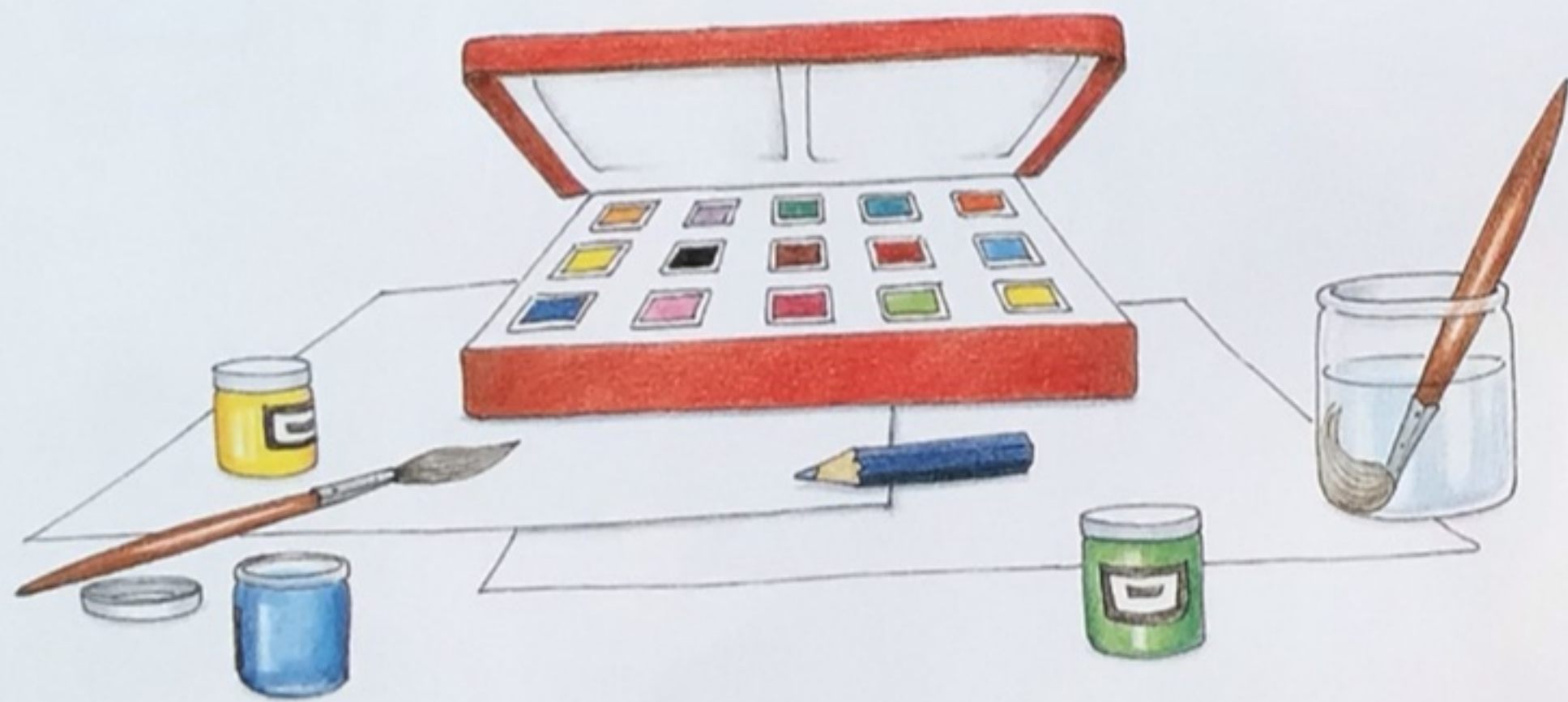
“Are children allowed at the dinner-dance?”
asked Lester.

“No,” said Mrs Large. “It’ll be too late
for little ones.”

“What about the baby?” asked Luke.

“Granny is coming to take care of everyone,”
said Mrs Large, “so there’s no need to worry.”



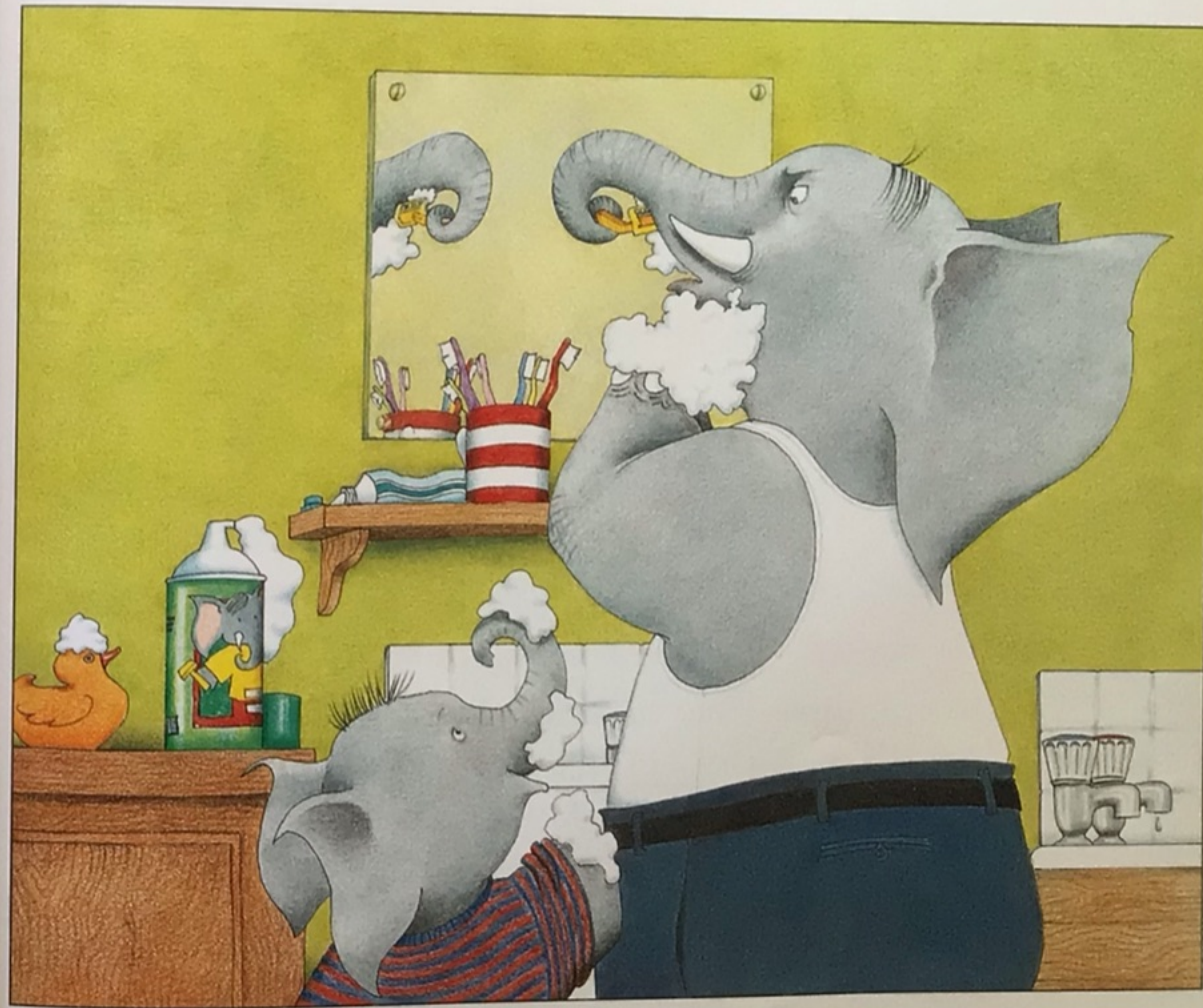


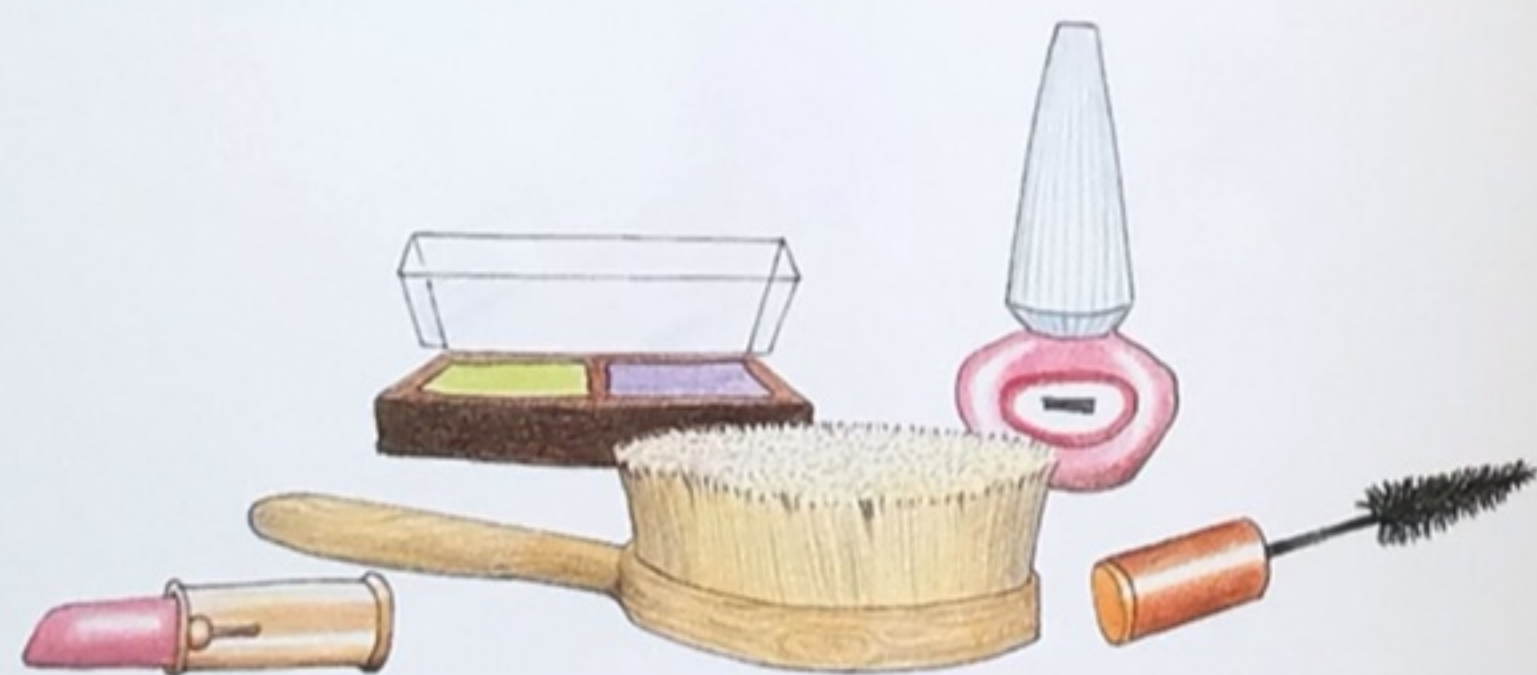
Granny arrived at tea time. The children were already bathed and in their nightclothes. Granny gave them some painting to do while she tidied up and Mr and Mrs Large went upstairs to get ready.





Luke sneaked into the bathroom while Mr Large was shaving.
“Will I have to shave when I grow up?” he asked, patting foam onto his trunk.
“Go away,” said Mr Large. “I don’t want you ruining my best trousers!”





The baby crept into the bedroom where Mrs Large was putting on her make-up. Mrs Large didn't notice until it was too late.

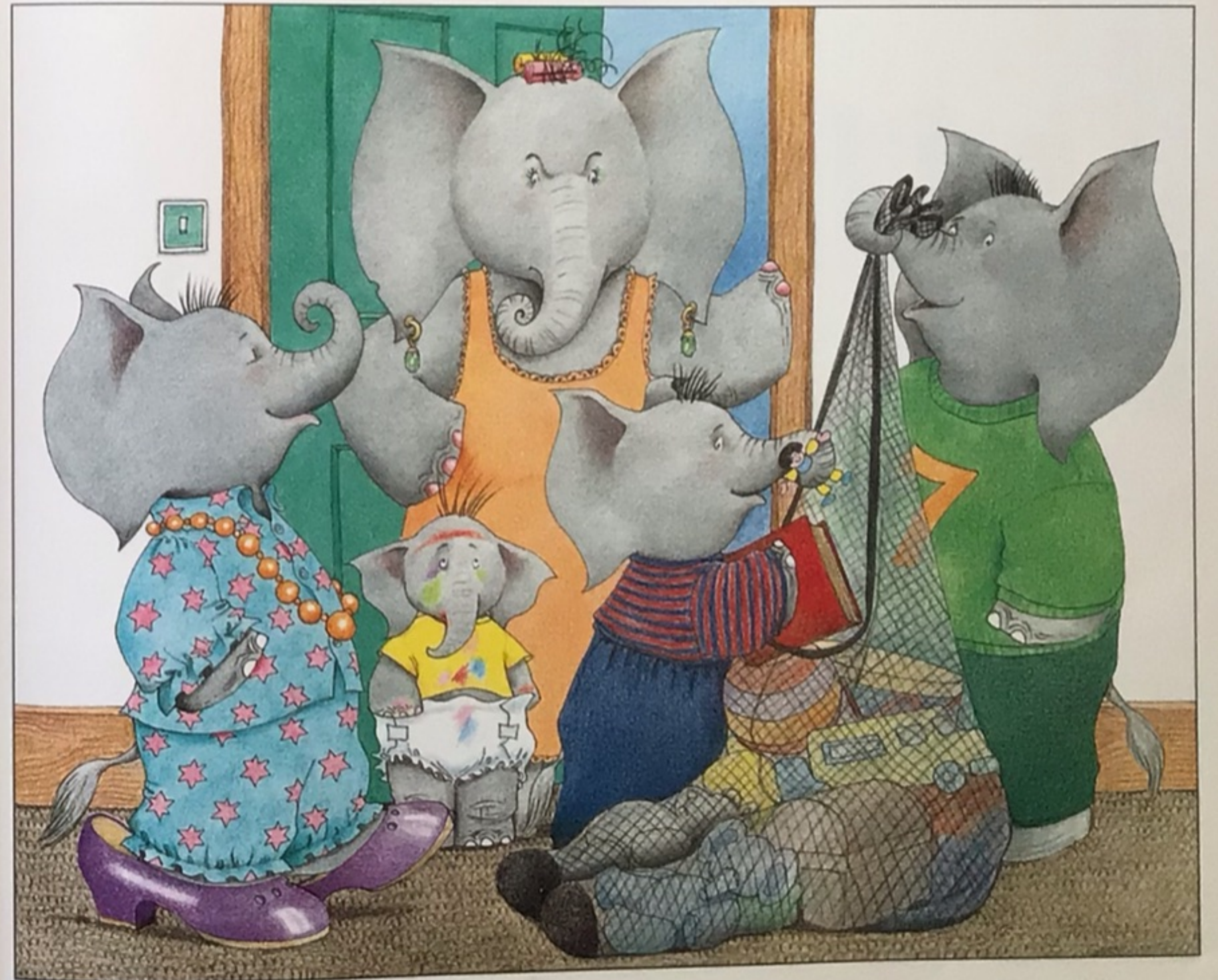




“Look!” said the baby. “Pretty!”

“Don’t move,” said Mrs Large. “Don’t touch *anything!*”

Outside on the landing, things were even worse. Laura was clopping about in her mother’s best shoes and beads and Lester and Luke were seeing how many toys they could cram into her new tights.





“Downstairs at *once!*” bellowed Mrs Large.
“Can’t I have just one night in the whole year
to myself? One night when I am not covered in
jam and poster-paint? One night when I can put
on my new dress and walk through the front
door all in one piece?”





The children went downstairs to Granny.
Mr Large followed soon after, very smart
in his best suit. At last, Mrs Large
appeared in the doorway.
“How do I look?” she asked.





“Pretty, Mummy!” gasped the children.
“What a smasher!” said Mr Large.
“You look like a film star, dear,”
said Granny.
“Hands off!” said Mrs Large to the
paint-smearred children.





Mr and Mrs Large got ready to leave.
“Goodbye everyone,” they said. “Be good now.”
The baby began to cry.
“Just go,” said Granny, picking her up.
“She’ll stop as soon as you’ve left. Have a lovely time.”





“We’ve escaped,” said Mr Large with a smile, closing the front door behind them.
“All in one piece,” said Mrs Large, “and not a smear of paint between us.”
“Actually,” said Mr Large gallantly, “you’d look wonderful to me, even if you were *covered* in paint.”





Which was perfectly true ...
and just as well really!

THE
BESTSELLING
**LARGE
FAMILY**
FOUR MILLION
COPIES SOLD

Mr and Mrs Large
are going to the office
dinner-dance – but
will their children let
them get there all in
one piece?

“If you are not
familiar with these
stories, you really
have not lived ...
you just couldn't
get better.”
THE GUARDIAN

Highly
Commended for the
Kate Greenaway
Medal
★★★★

“Family life is
beautifully observed
with a humour that
appeals to both adult
and child, a perfect
book to have.”
DAILY TELEGRAPH

“Jill Murphy deserves
a constellation of gold
stars for consistently
writing picture books
that please children and
enrapture parents.”
THE OBSERVER



★ Enjoy these other books in the Large Family series:



www.walker.co.uk

ISBN 978-1-84428-534-1

9 781844 285341

90400 >

£6.99 UK ONLY