

A.M. C2

# A Spot of Bother

A hilarious farmyard fiasco!

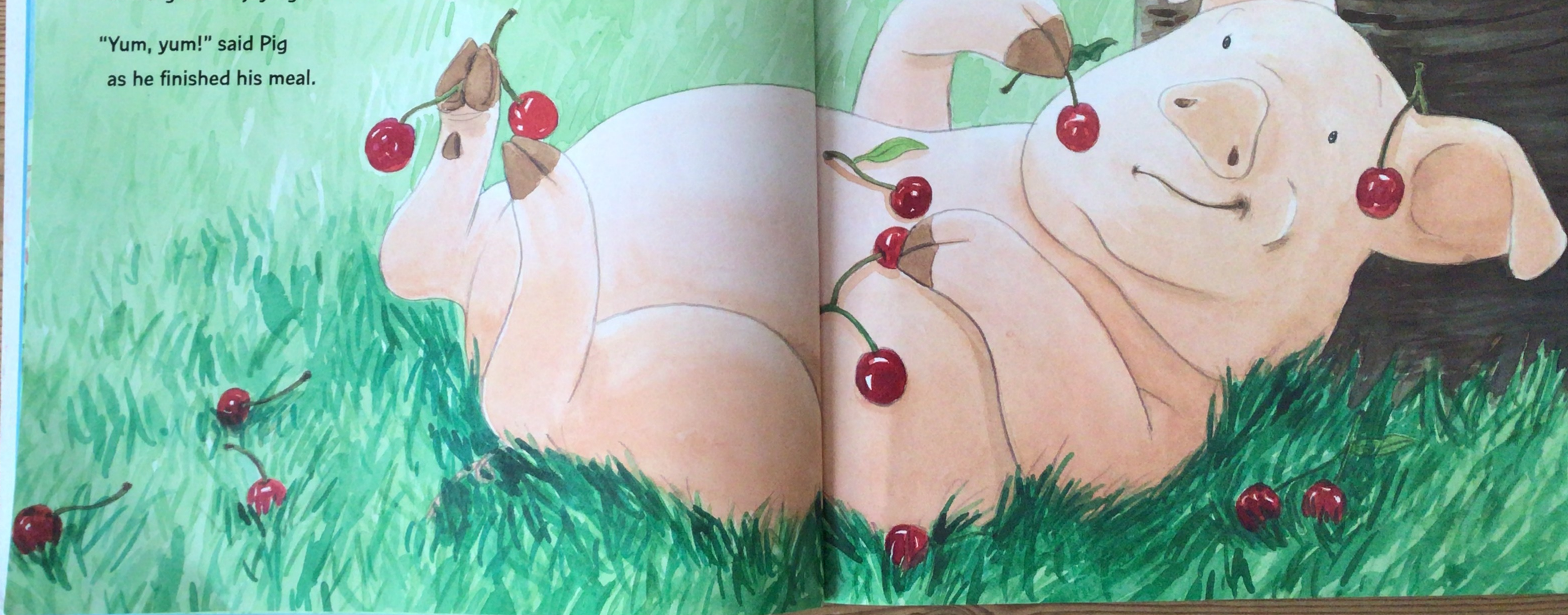
Jonathan Emmett

Vanessa Cabban



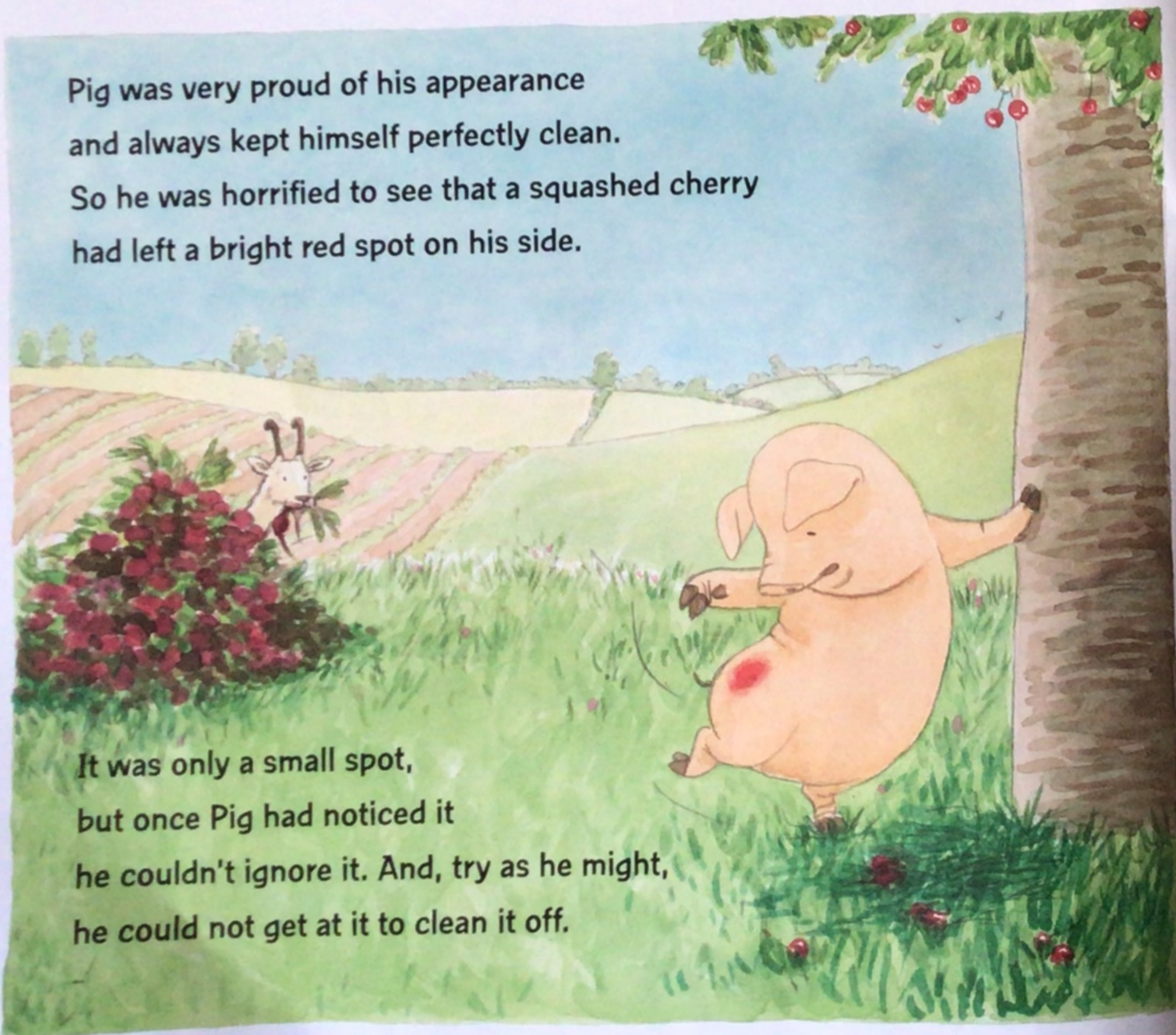
It was a fine summer morning on Hilltop Farm  
and Pig was enjoying a breakfast of big, juicy cherries.

"Yum, yum!" said Pig  
as he finished his meal.



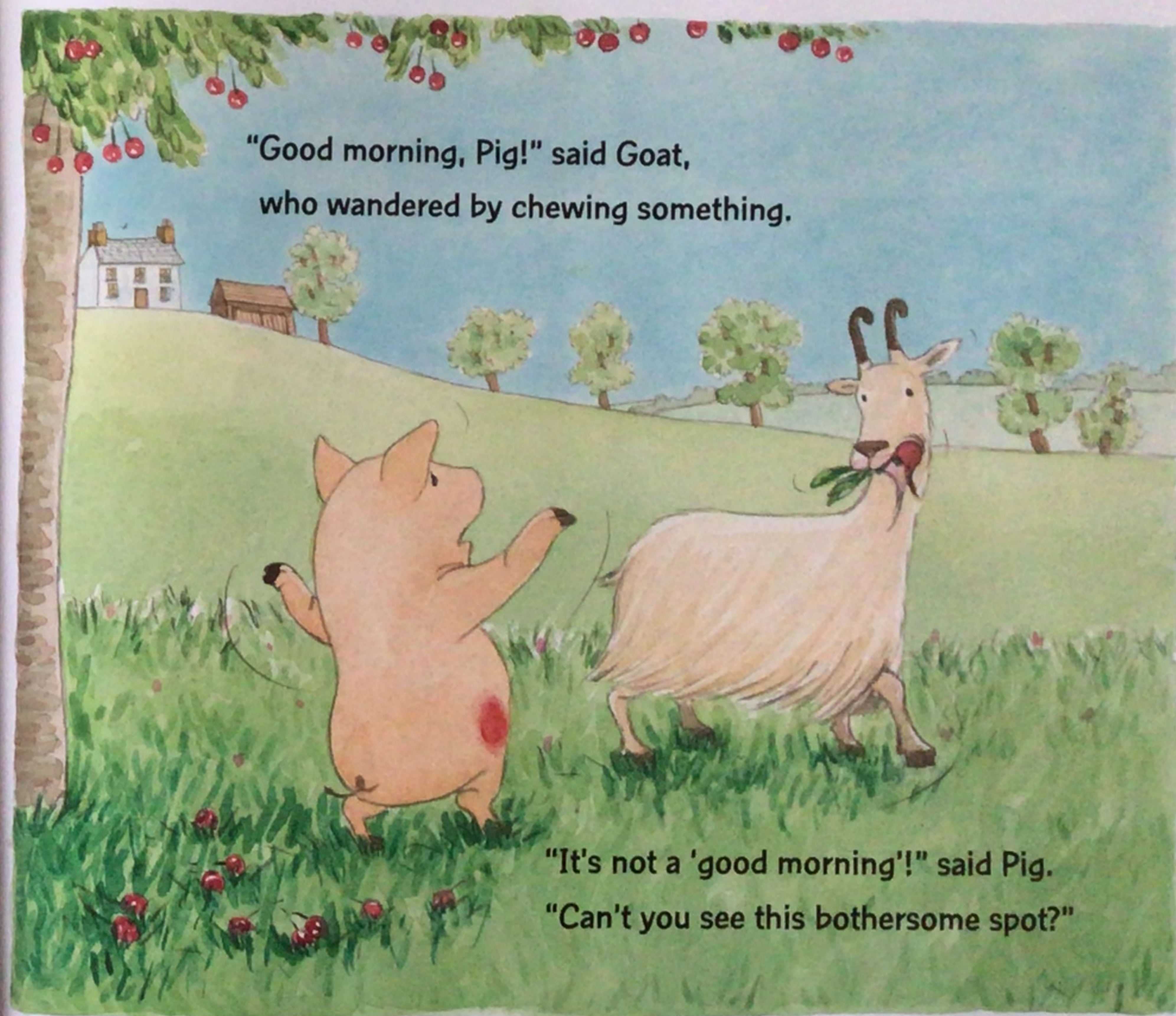


Pig was very proud of his appearance  
and always kept himself perfectly clean.  
So he was horrified to see that a squashed cherry  
had left a bright red spot on his side.



It was only a small spot,  
but once Pig had noticed it  
he couldn't ignore it. And, try as he might,  
he could not get at it to clean it off.

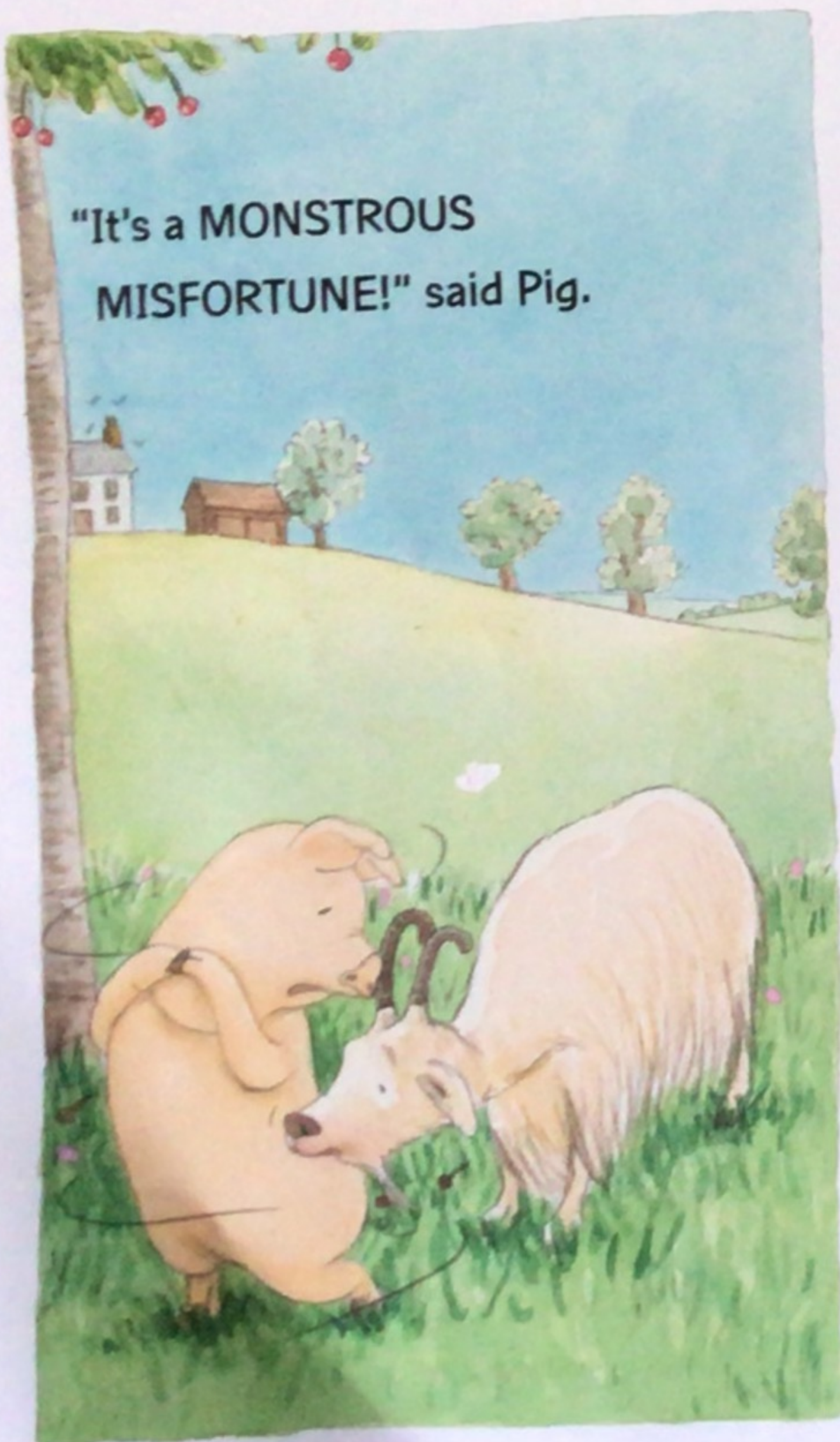
"Good morning, Pig!" said Goat,  
who wandered by chewing something.



"It's not a 'good morning'!" said Pig.  
"Can't you see this bothersome spot?"



"It's a MONSTROUS  
MISFORTUNE!" said Pig.



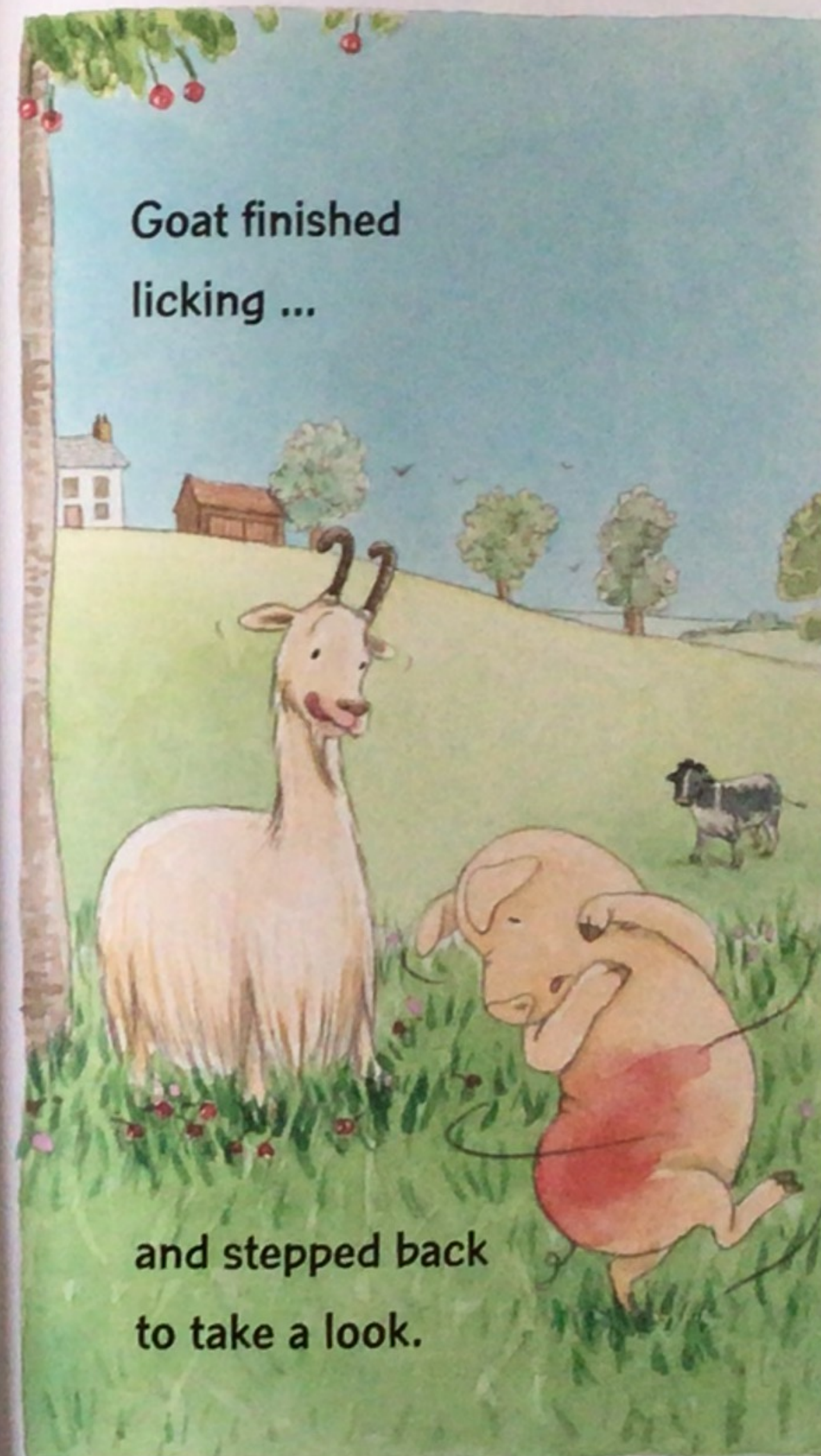
"Don't worry," said Goat,  
"I'll soon clean it off!"

And he began licking  
at the spot.



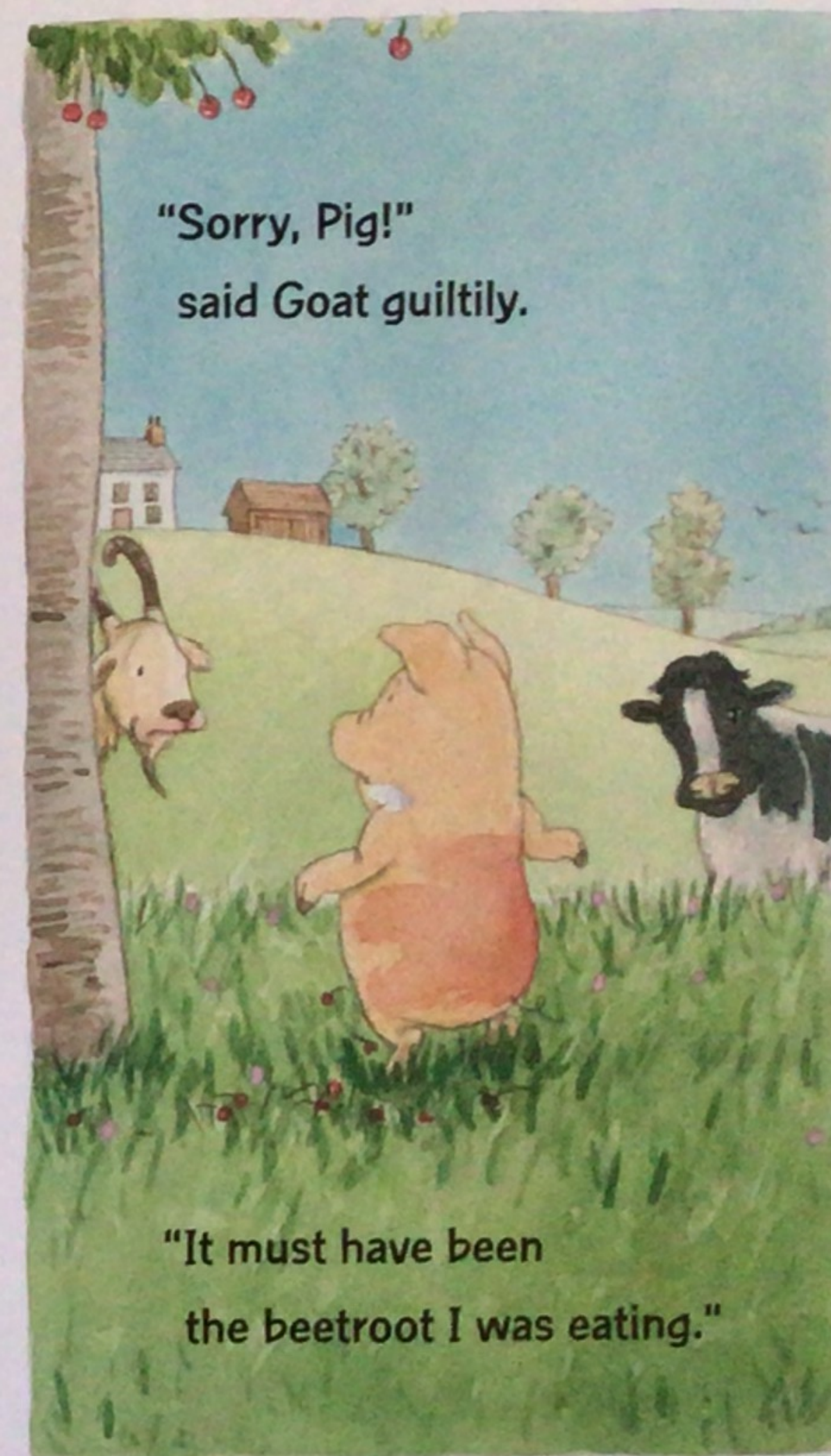
Goat finished  
licking ...

and stepped back  
to take a look.




"Sorry, Pig!"  
said Goat guiltily.

"It must have been  
the beetroot I was eating."







"It's a TERRIBLE TRAGEDY!"  
moaned Pig.

"Don't worry," said Cow,  
"I'll soon clean it off!"

Cow fetched a mop from  
the tractor shed.

And she rubbed it  
on the spot.

Cow finished  
rubbing ...

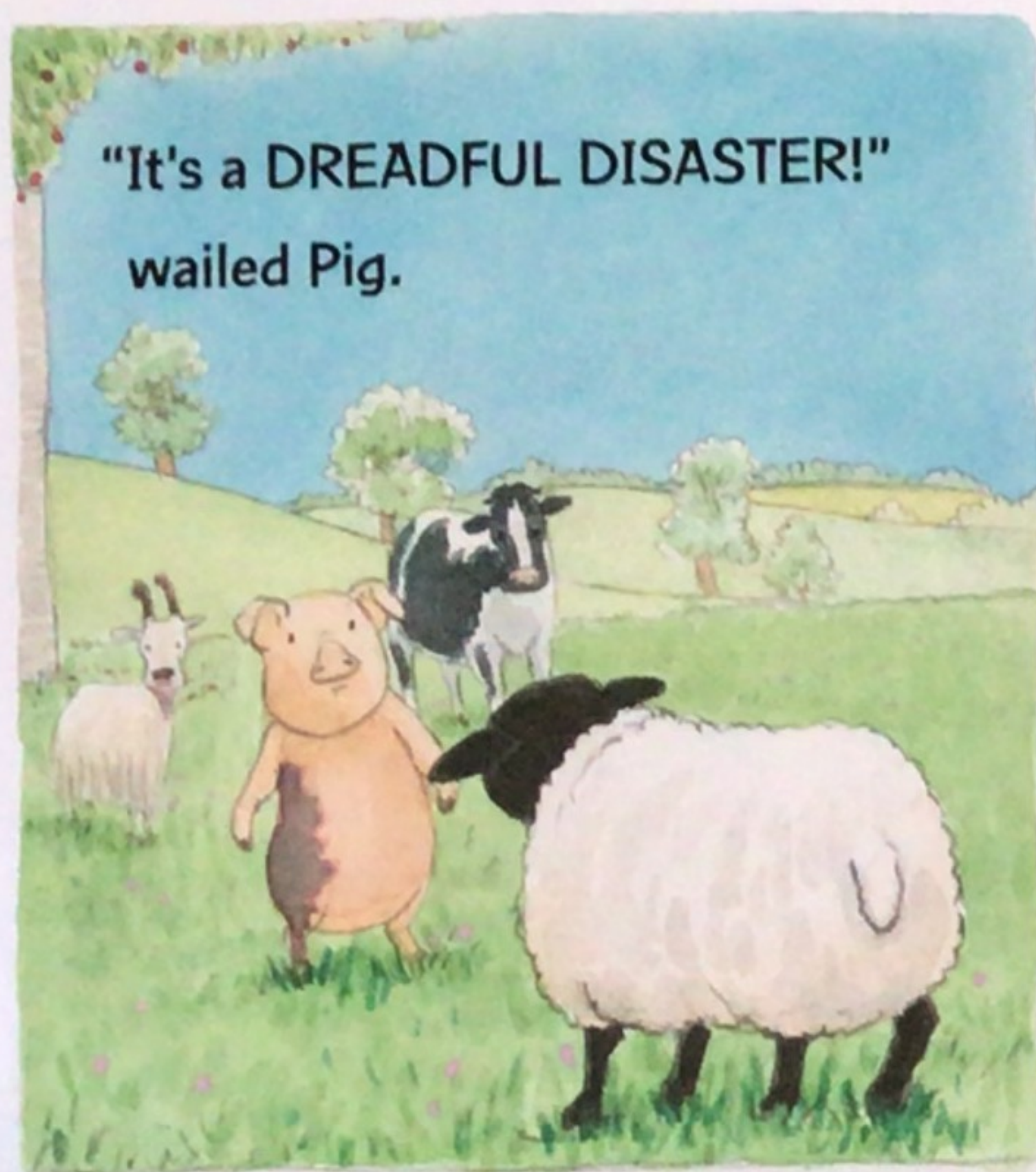
and stepped back  
to take a look.

"Sorry, Pig!"  
said Cow contritely.

"There must have been some  
tractor oil on that mop."

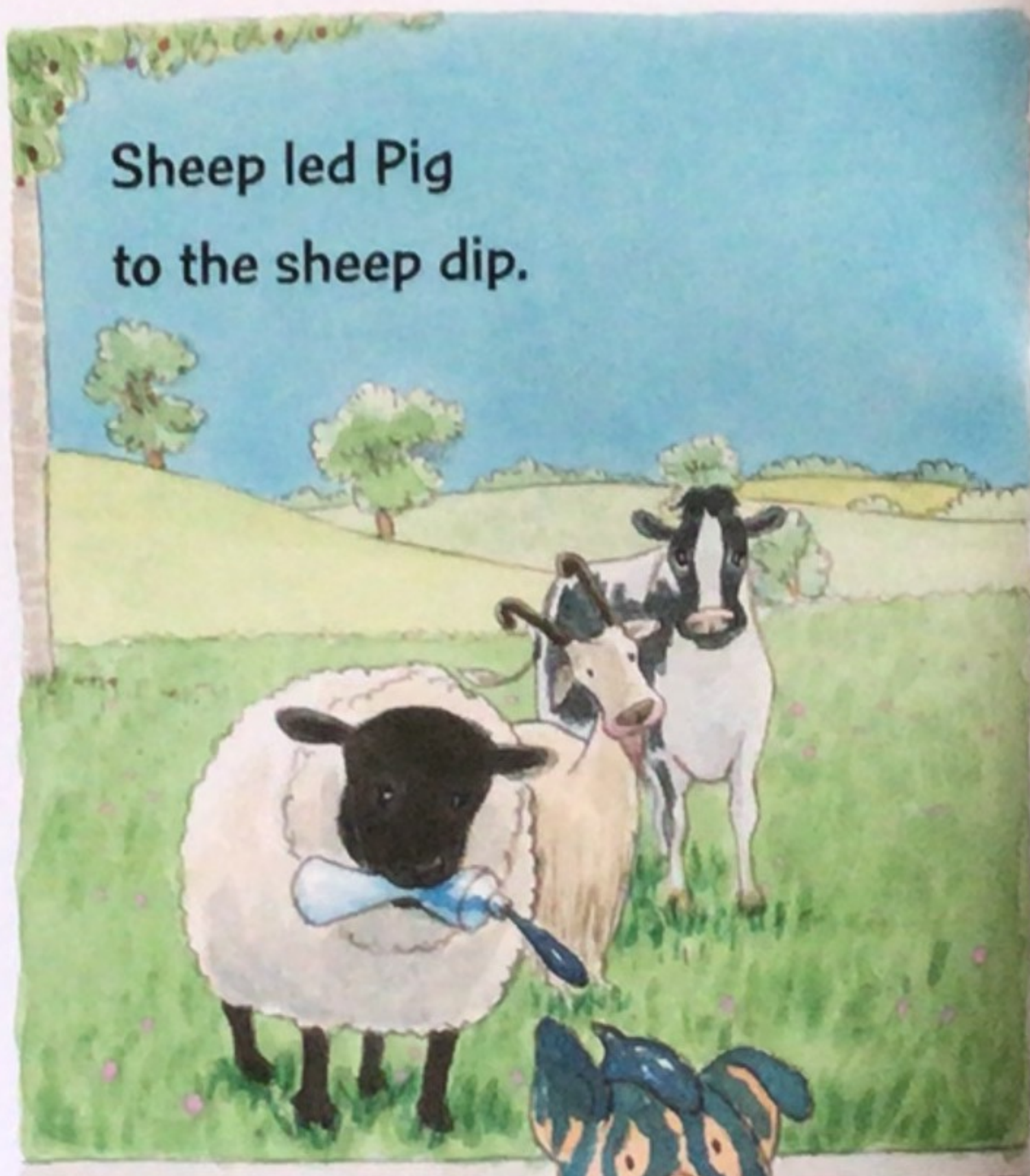


"It's a DREADFUL DISASTER!"  
wailed Pig.



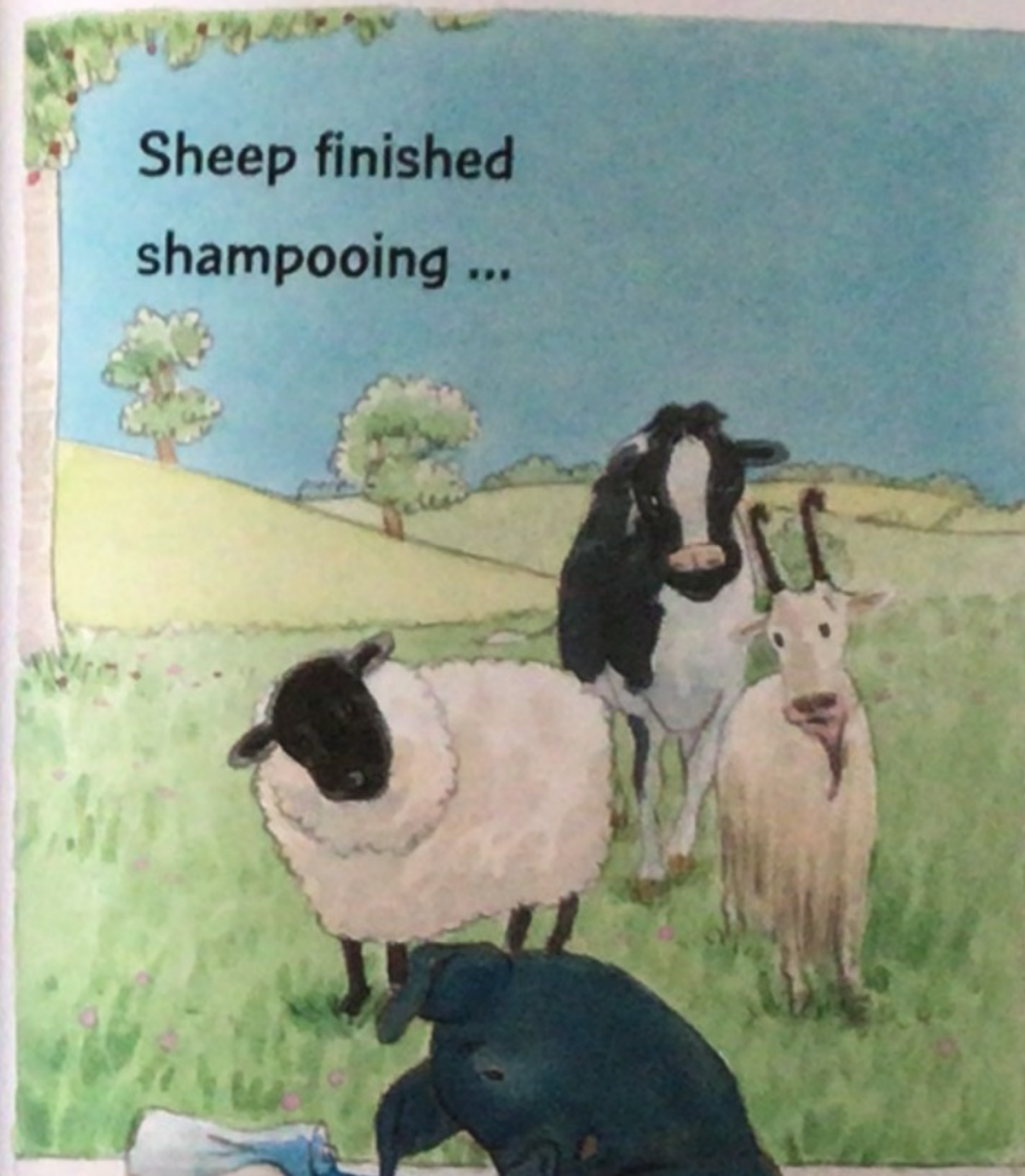
"Don't worry," said Sheep,  
"I'll soon clean it off!"

Sheep led Pig  
to the sheep dip.



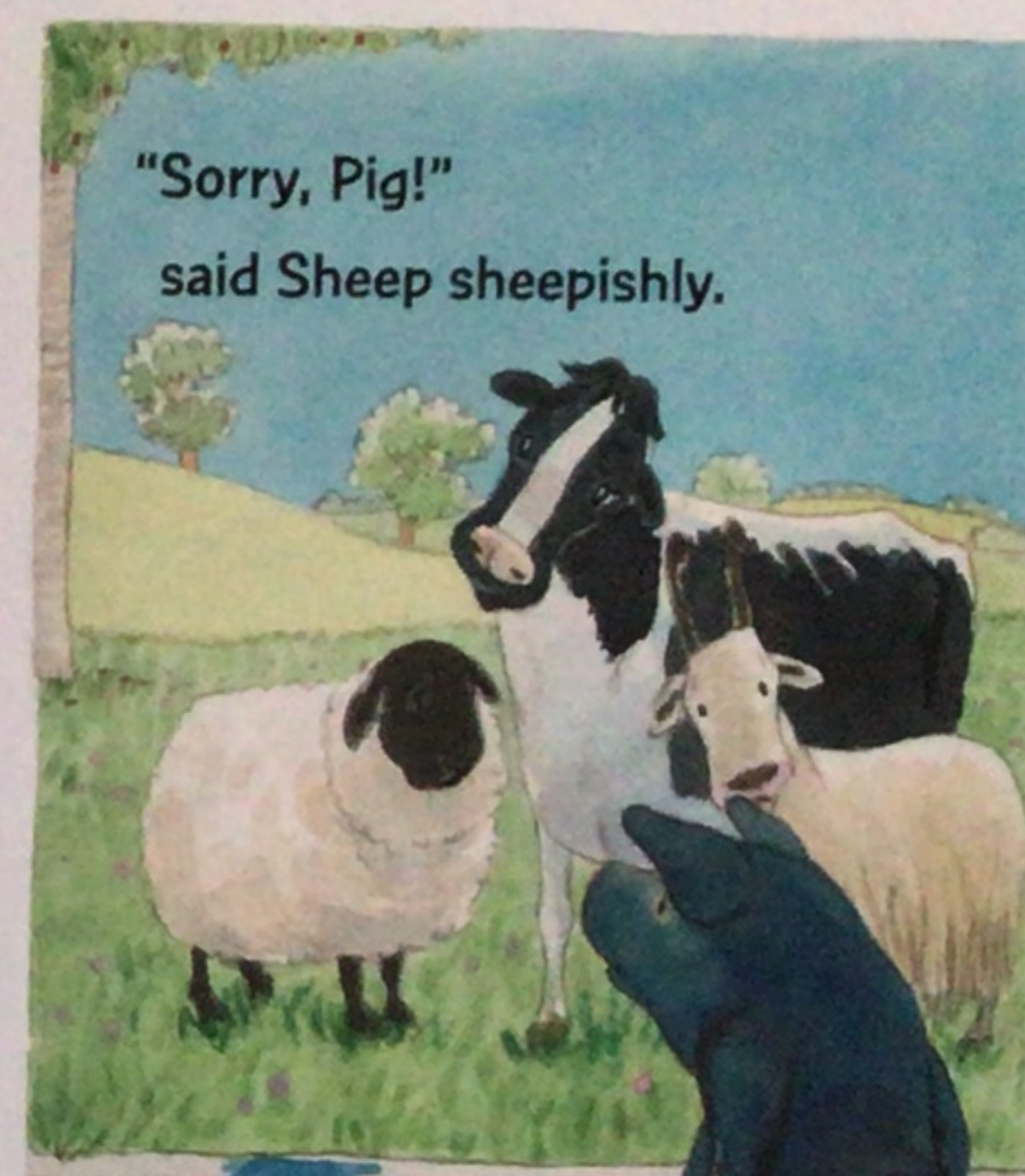
And poured shampoo  
on the spot.

Sheep finished  
shampooing ...



and Pig climbed  
out to take a look.

"Sorry, Pig!"  
said Sheep sheepishly.



"That shampoo – it must have  
been sheep dye."



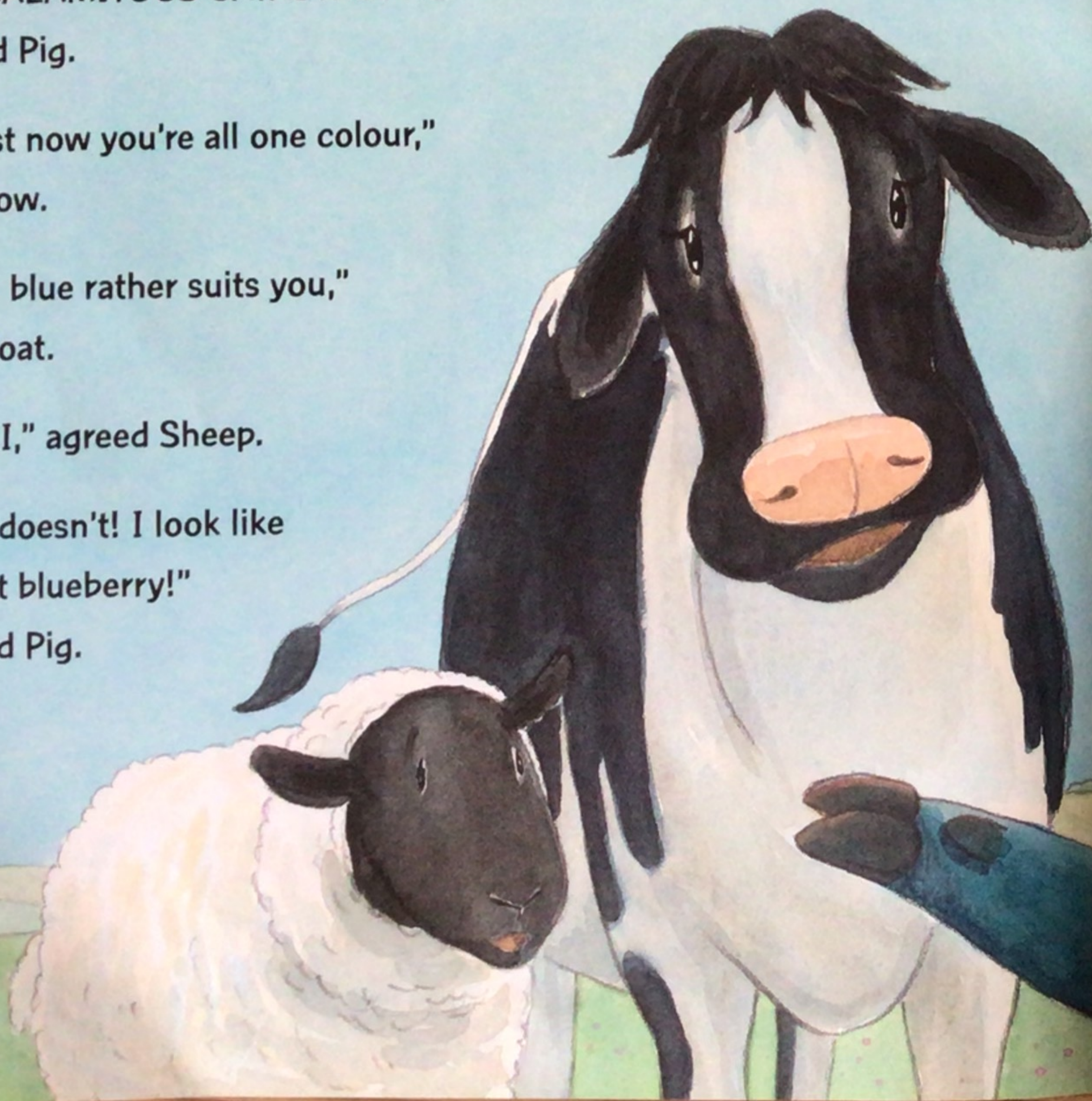
"It's a CALAMITOUS CATASTROPHE!"  
howled Pig.

"At least now you're all one colour,"  
said Cow.

"I think blue rather suits you,"  
said Goat.

"So do I," agreed Sheep.

"No, it doesn't! I look like  
a giant blueberry!"  
blurted Pig.



Pig couldn't bear for anyone  
to look at him, so he ran off  
and hid in the barn.







He didn't come out until it was dark and, even then, he crept around the edge of the farm so that no one would see him.



Unfortunately, it was SO dark that Pig couldn't see where he was going and before he knew it, he'd fallen into a big, muddy puddle.



By the time he'd crawled out again, he was covered from head to trotter in thick, sticky mud.



"Just when I thought it couldn't get any worse," groaned Pig, as he trudged back to his shelter and collapsed in a dejected heap.



When Cow, Goat and Sheep got up the next day,  
Pig was nowhere to be seen.  
They spent the whole morning looking for him,  
but the only clue they found was a big heap of mud  
next to his shelter.  
They were inspecting this curiously  
when it spoke to them.



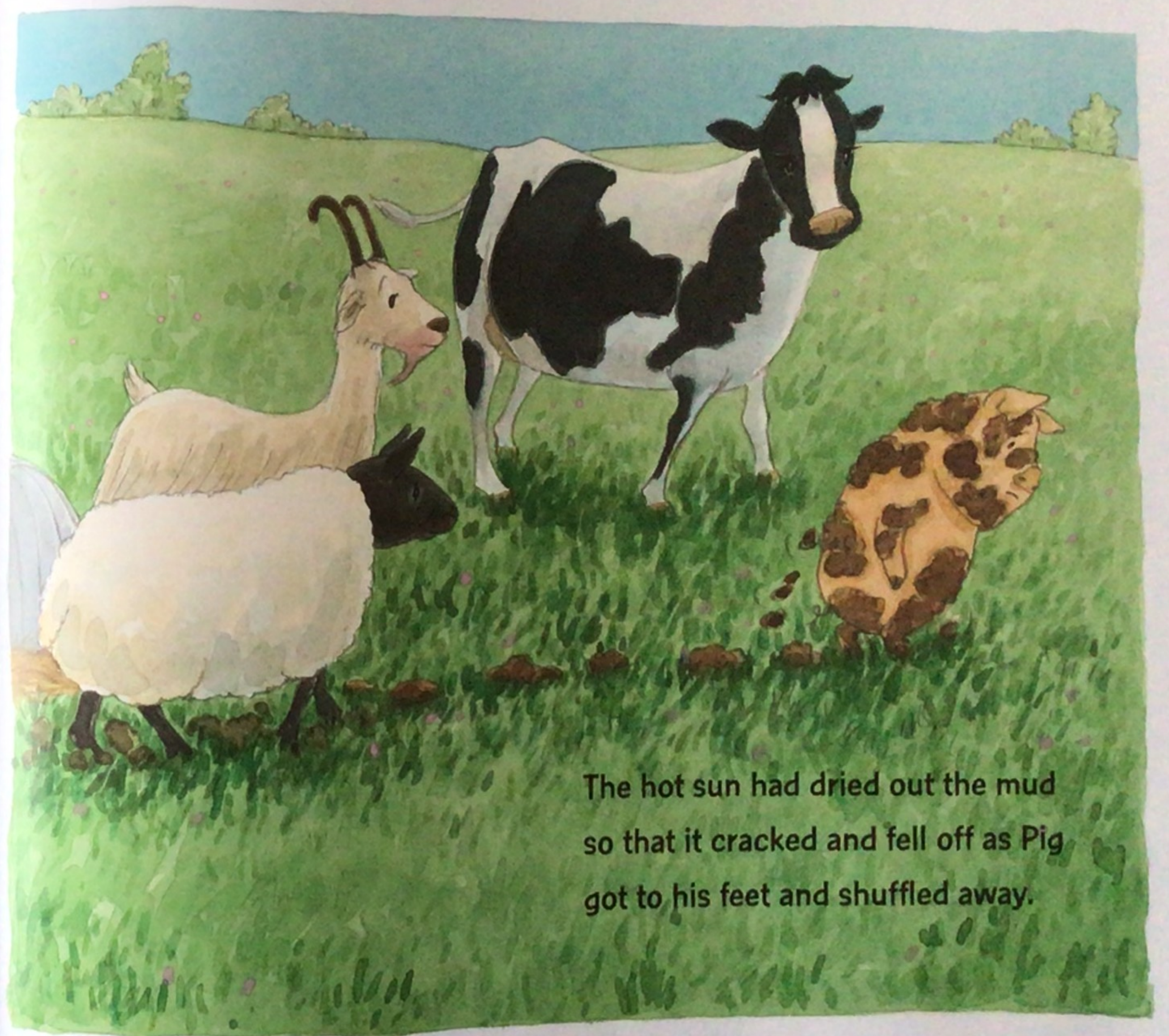
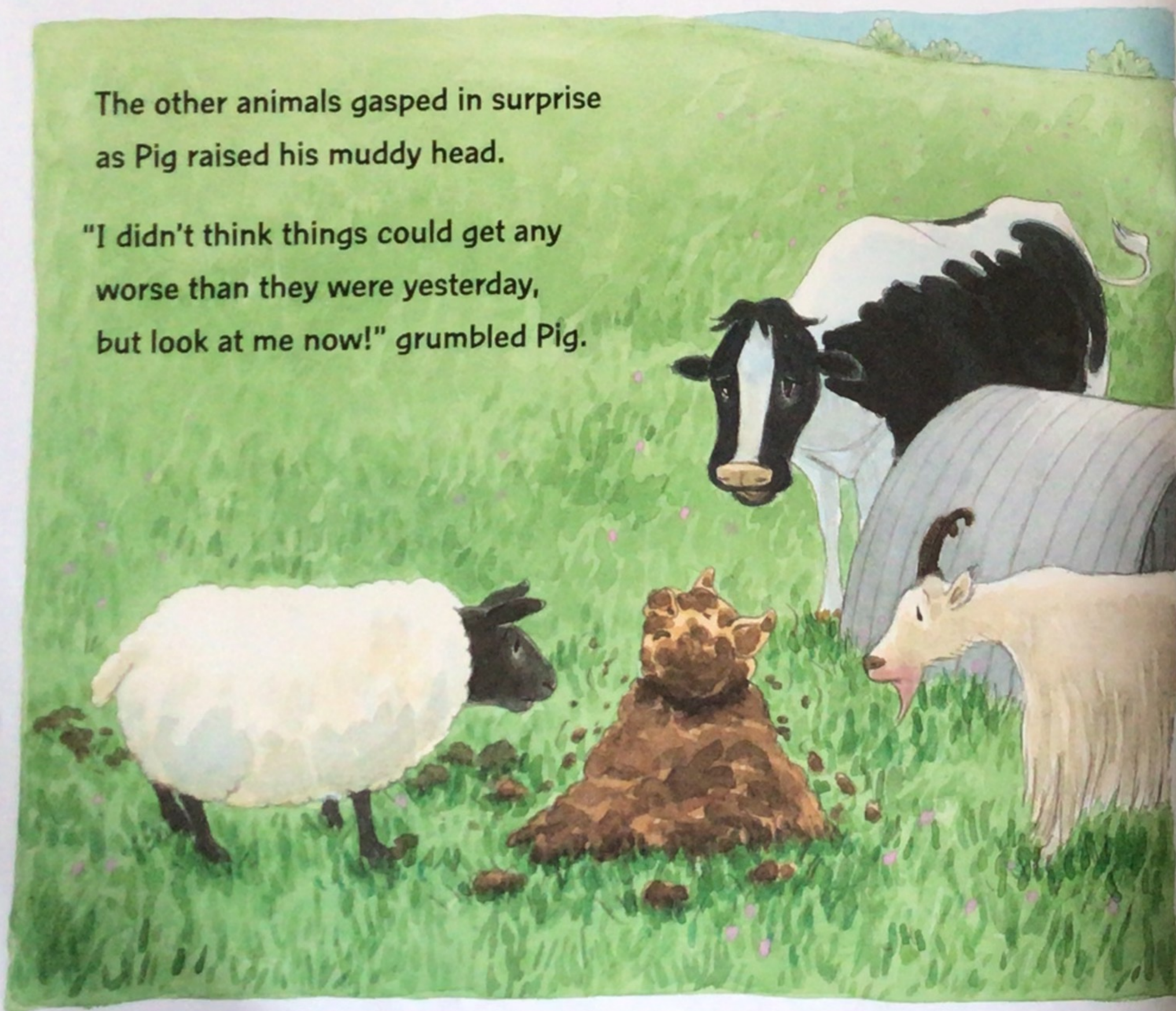
"Go away!"  
said the heap  
grumpily.





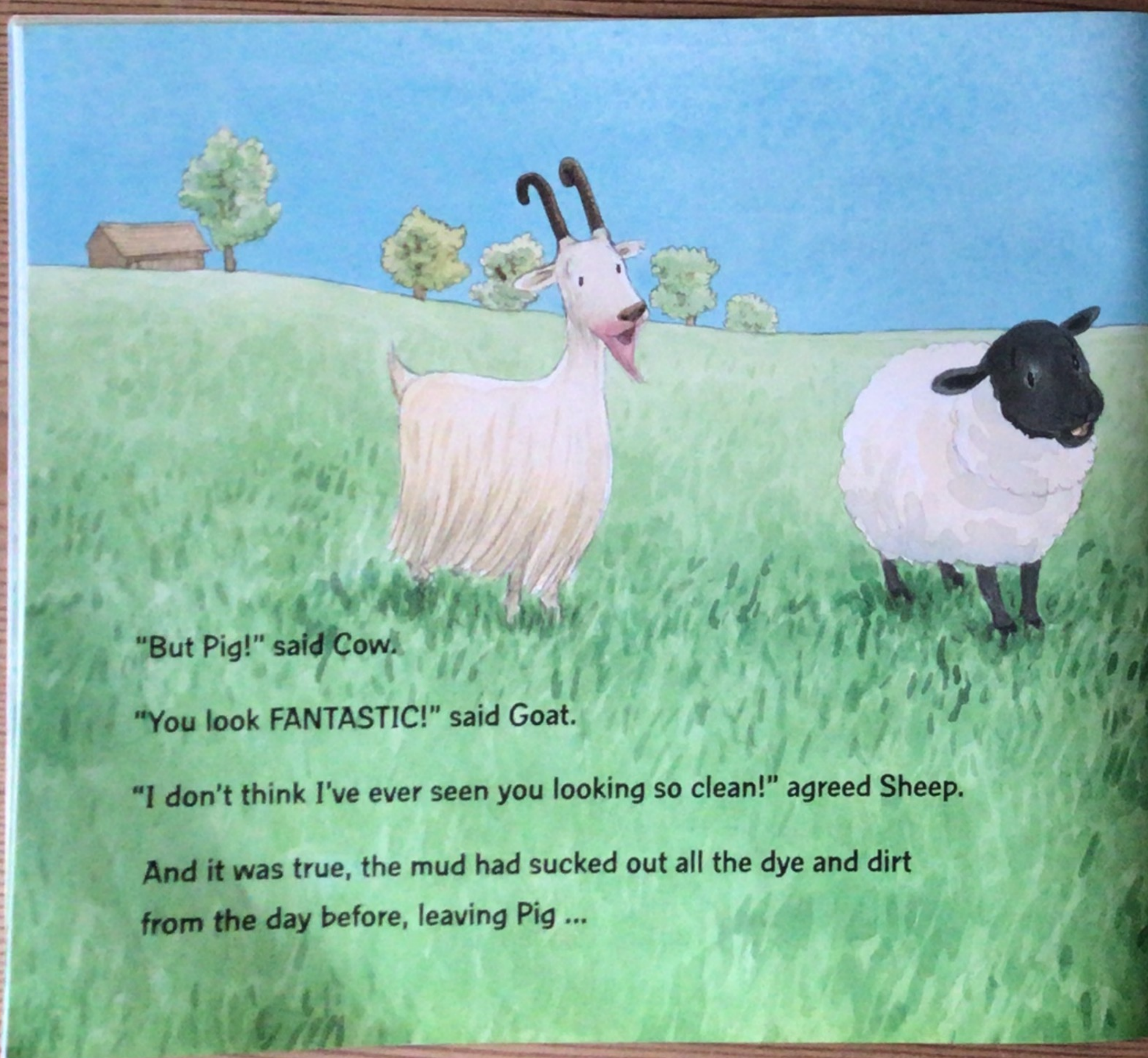
The other animals gasped in surprise  
as Pig raised his muddy head.

"I didn't think things could get any  
worse than they were yesterday,  
but look at me now!" grumbled Pig.



The hot sun had dried out the mud  
so that it cracked and fell off as Pig  
got to his feet and shuffled away.



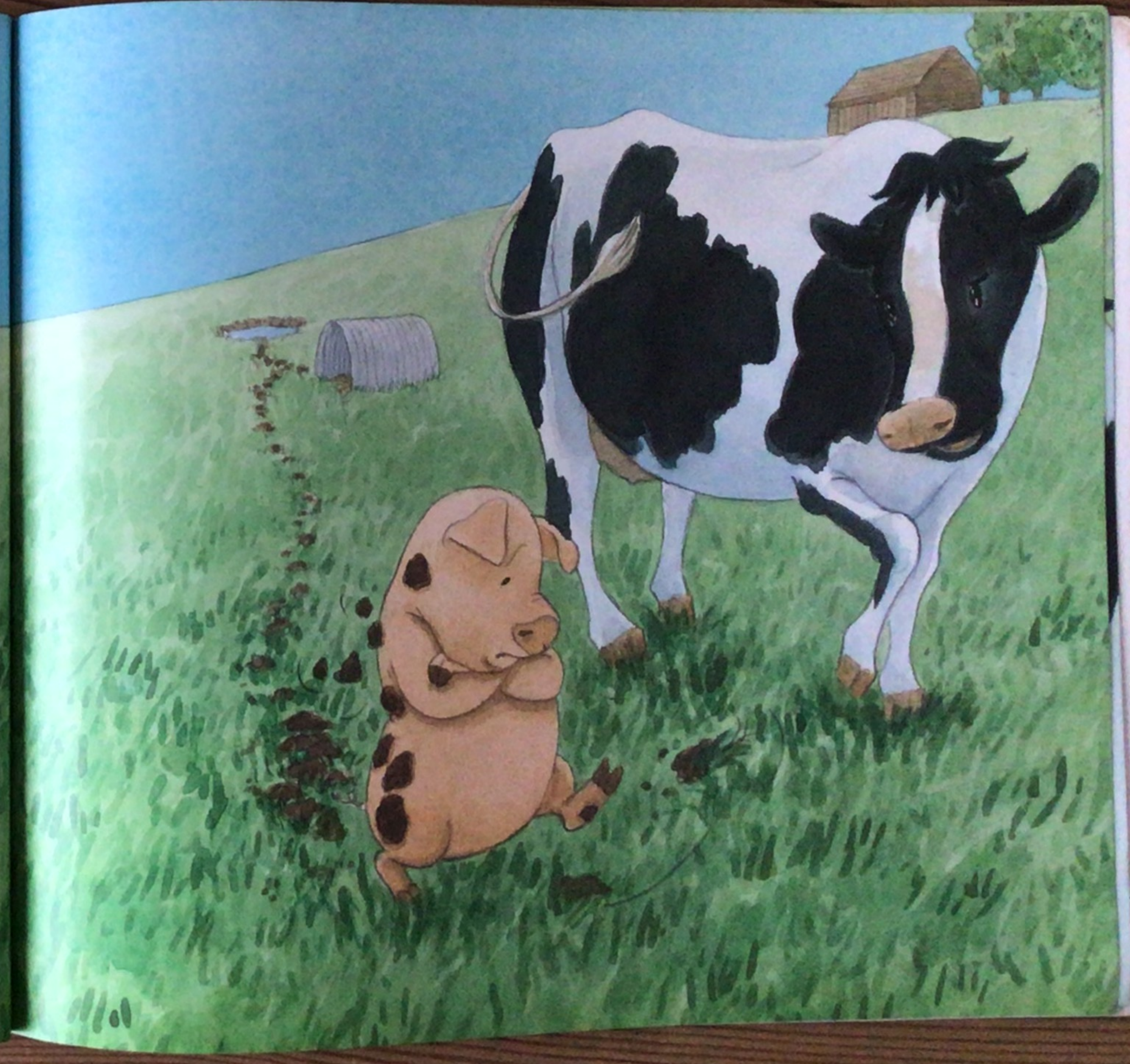


"But Pig!" said Cow.

"You look FANTASTIC!" said Goat.

"I don't think I've ever seen you looking so clean!" agreed Sheep.

And it was true, the mud had sucked out all the dye and dirt from the day before, leaving Pig ...



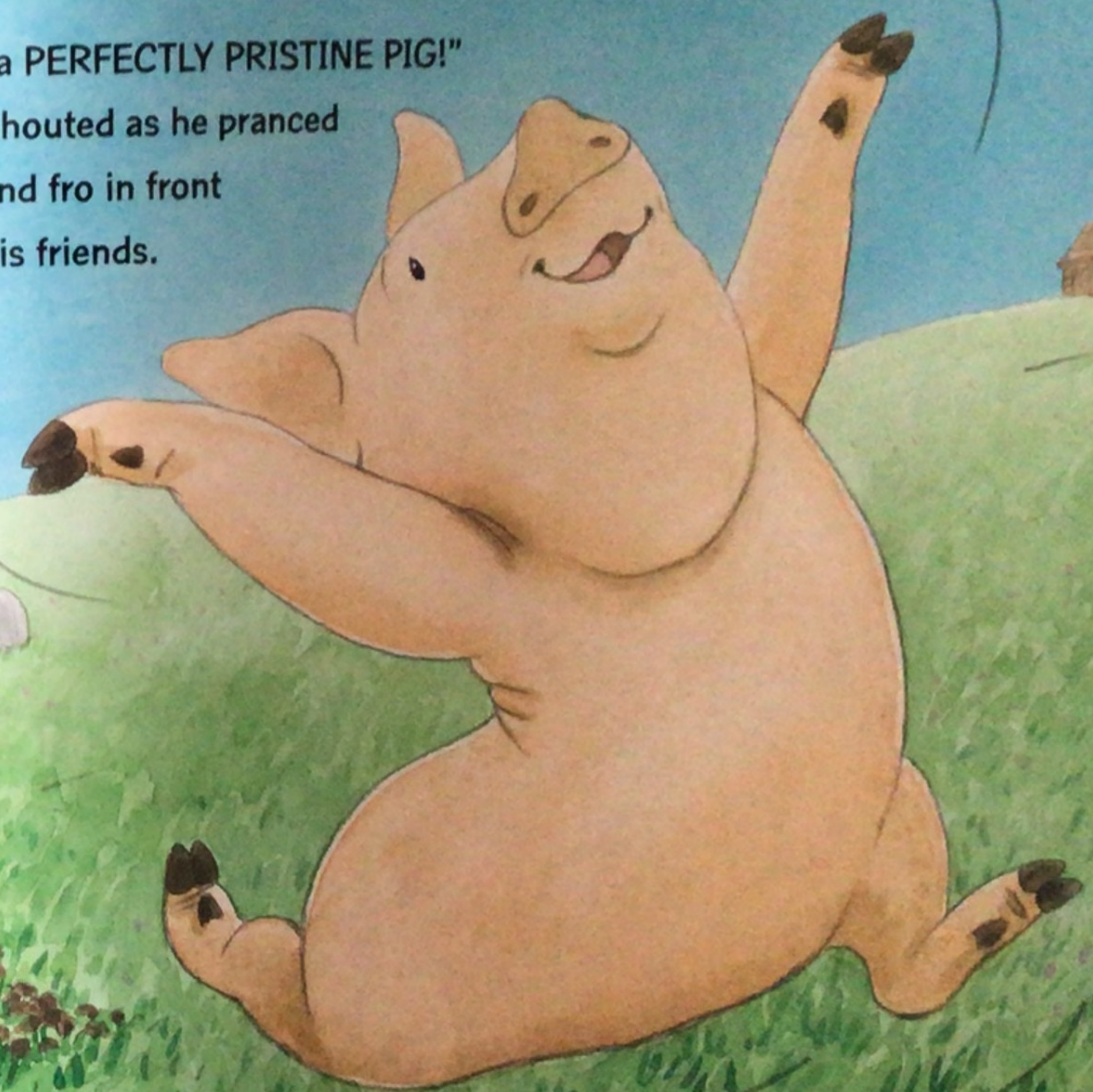


**COMPLETELY CLEAN!**

Pig could not believe it at first, but when he realized it was true, he danced with delight. "I'm spotless! I'm speckless! I'm pinker than pink!"



I'm a **PERFECTLY PRISTINE PIG!** he shouted as he pranced to and fro in front of his friends.





He'd just finished with a flourish  
when he felt something sticking to his bottom.  
"What is it?" he said, straining to look.

"It looks like a squashed cherry,"  
said Cow.

Goat swallowed the mouthful  
of beetroot he'd been chewing  
and licked his lips.

"Don't worry," he said,  
"I'll soon clean it off..."





FOR THE BEST CHILDREN'S BOOKS, LOOK FOR THE BEAR.



Pig is very proud of his pristine appearance, so he's horrified to discover a spot of squashed cherry on his side.

When his farmyard friends try to help, the spot of bother soon becomes a truly CALAMITOUS

**CATASTROPHE!**



Praise for the Sheffield Children's Book Award winner *THE PIG'S KNICKERS*:  
"A funny and knowing tale about being who you are." *The Bookseller*

www.walker.co.uk

ISBN 978-1-4063-6549-8

9 781406 365498

£6.99 UK ONLY