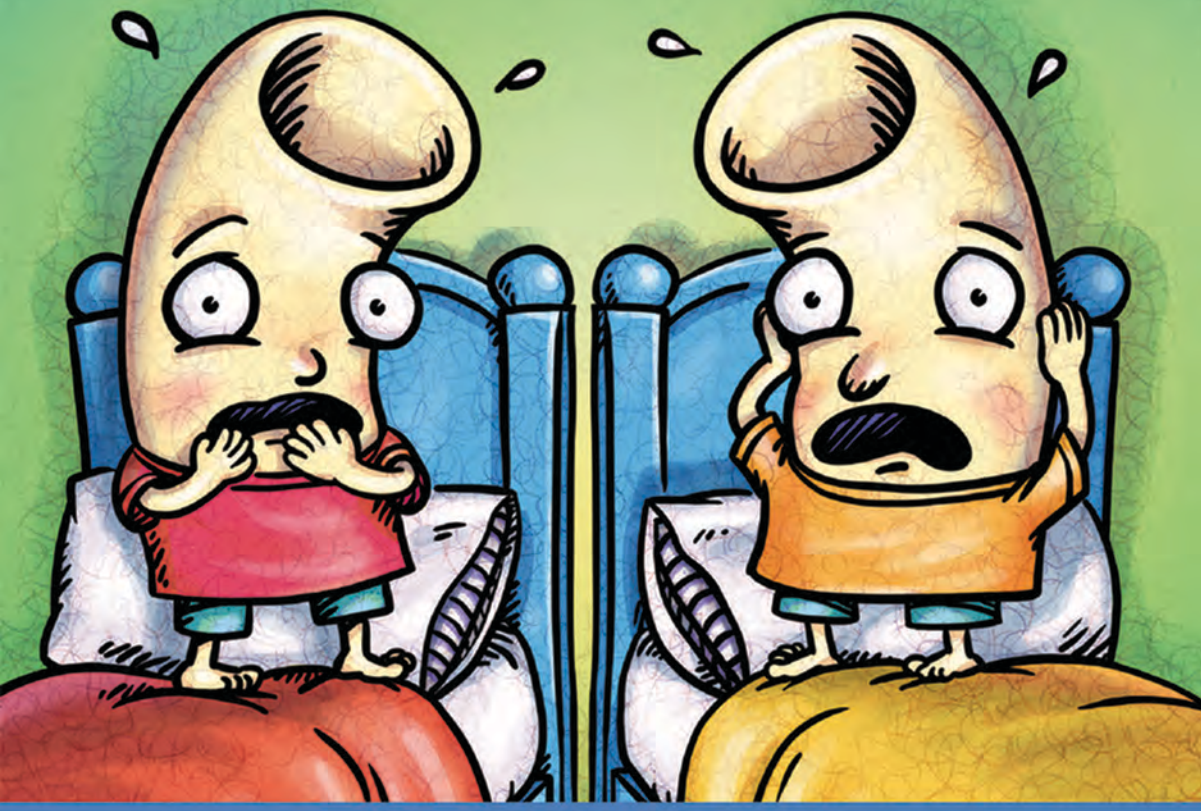
Noodlehead Nightmares

by Tedd Arnold
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss



illustrated by Tedd Arnold

NOODLEHEAD NIGHTMARES

By Tedd Arnold,
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss

Illustrated by Tedd Arnold

Holiday House / New York

STORY SOURCES for *Noodlehead Nightmares*

The motifs to which we refer in the information that follows are from *The Storyteller's Sourcebook: A Subject, Title, and Motif Index to Folklore Collections for Children* by Margaret Read MacDonald, 1st edition, (Detroit: Gale, 1982) and 2nd edition (Detroit: Gale, 2001). Several references are also made to *The Book of Noodles: Stories of Simpletons; or, Fools and Their Follies*, a scholarly work by W.A. Clouston (London: Eliot Stock Publishers, 1888).

What a Nightmare!

The theme of fools not being able to find their own legs is a common one in world folktales. The motif for this story is: *J2021 Numskulls cannot find their own legs*. W.A. Clouston describes Icelandic and Scottish variations on pp. 32-33 of *The Book of Noodles*. Variations of the story written for children can be found in: "The Men with Mixed-Up Feet," in *Noodlehead Stories: World Tales Kids Can Read and Tell* by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss (Atlanta: August House Publishers, 2000)/"The Mixed-Up Feet and the Silly Bridegroom," in *Zlateh the Goat and Other Stories* by Isaac Bashevis Singer (New York: Harper & Row, 1966)/"How the Twelve Clever Brothers Got Their Feet Mixed Up," in *The Twelve Clever Brothers and Other Fools: Folktales from Russia* by Mirra Ginsburg (NY: J.B. Lippincott, 1979).

The Best Dream

The theme of two characters arguing over food and a trickster settling the fight by dividing it for them, all the while really eating it, is told around the world. We found variations from both Africa and Japan where two cats fight over a piece of cheese and a monkey settles the argument. In a version from Hungary, two bears find a piece of cheese and are tricked by a fox. The motif is: *K452 Unjust umpire misappropriates disputed goods*. Interesting variations include:"Dividing the Cheese," in *Catlore: Tales from Around the World* retold by Marjorie Zaum (NY: Atheneum, 1985)/"Dog, Cat, and Monkey," in *The Oxfam Book of Children's Stories: South & North, East & West* edited by Michael Rosen (Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1992)/ "The Two Foolish Cats" in *The Sea of Gold: And Other Tales from Japan* adapted by Yoshiko Uchida (NY: Scribner's, 1965)/*Two Greedy Bears: Adapted from a Hungarian Folktale* by Mirra Ginsburg (NY: Macmillan, 1976).

Another common theme found in this story is settling an argument over food by agreeing that whoever has the best dream will get to eat the food *(motif: K444 Dream bread: the most wonderful dream)*. One character always eats it while everyone else is asleep. In a Navajo story, Coyote, Skunk and Porcupine find a piece of meat and finally agree that whoever has the most beautiful dream will get to eat it all by himself. That is exactly what Porcupine does while the others are napping. Variations can be found in: "The Beautiful Dream," in *Stories in My Pocket: Tales Kids Can Tell* by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss (Golden, CO: Fulcrum Publishing, 1996)/"Three Dreams," in *Noodles, Nitwits, and Numskulls* by Maria Leach (New York: Scholastic, 1961).

Bedtime for Noodleheads

The inspiration for this story came from two tiny noodle tales from ancient Greece described by W.A. Clouston in *The Book of Noodles*. In one story, a man dreams that he got a nail in his foot and decides that he should never sleep barefoot again (p. 6) (motif: *F1068.5 Fool dreams he hurt foot*). In the other, a fool uses a jar as a pillow after putting feathers inside because he thinks the feathers would make the jar soft (pp. 5-6). A similar story from Ireland, "The Fool's Feather Pillow," can be found in *Noodlehead Stories: World Tales Kids Can Read and Tell* by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss (Atlanta: August House Publishers, 2000).

For Bobbie and Keith—T. A.

In memory of Jeff, whose funny IQ was off the charts—M. H. and M. W.

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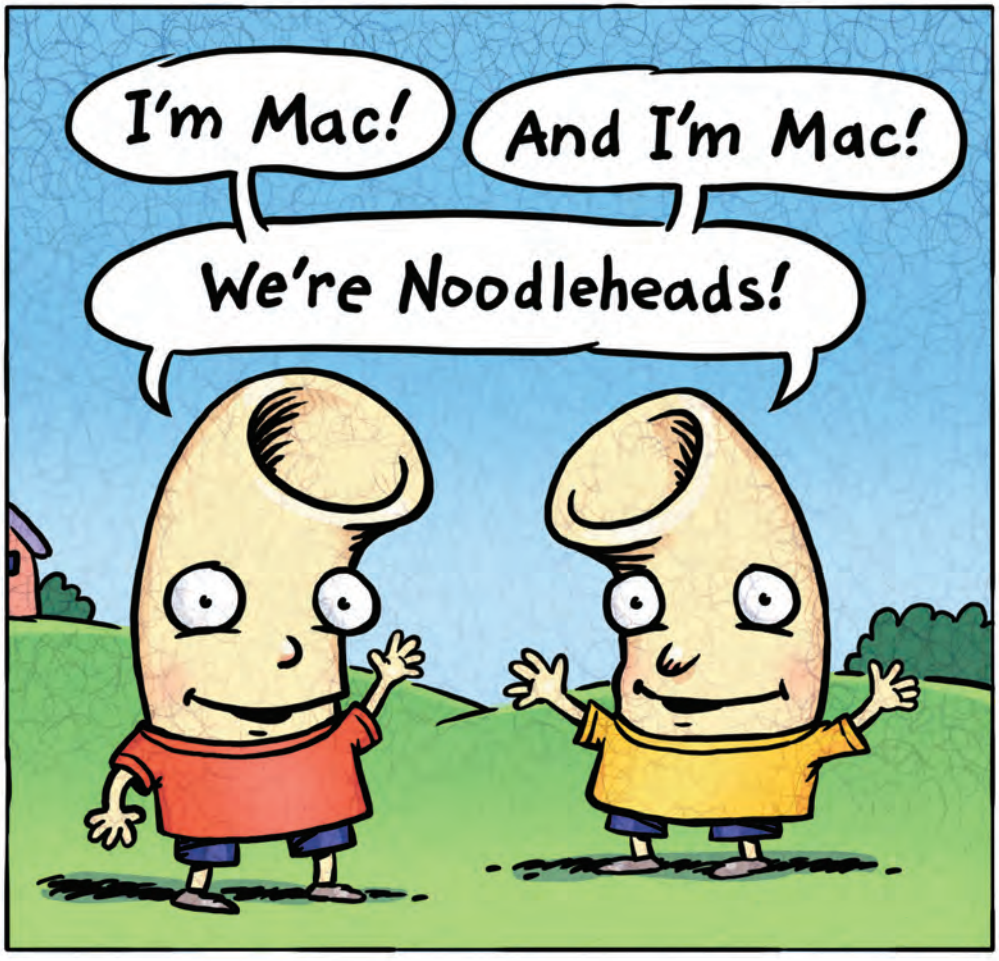
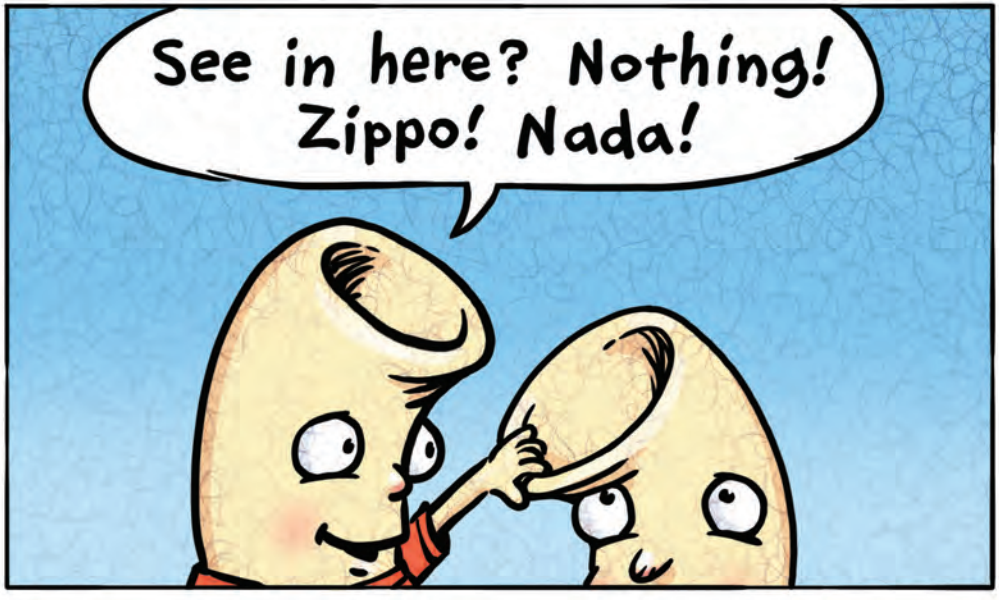
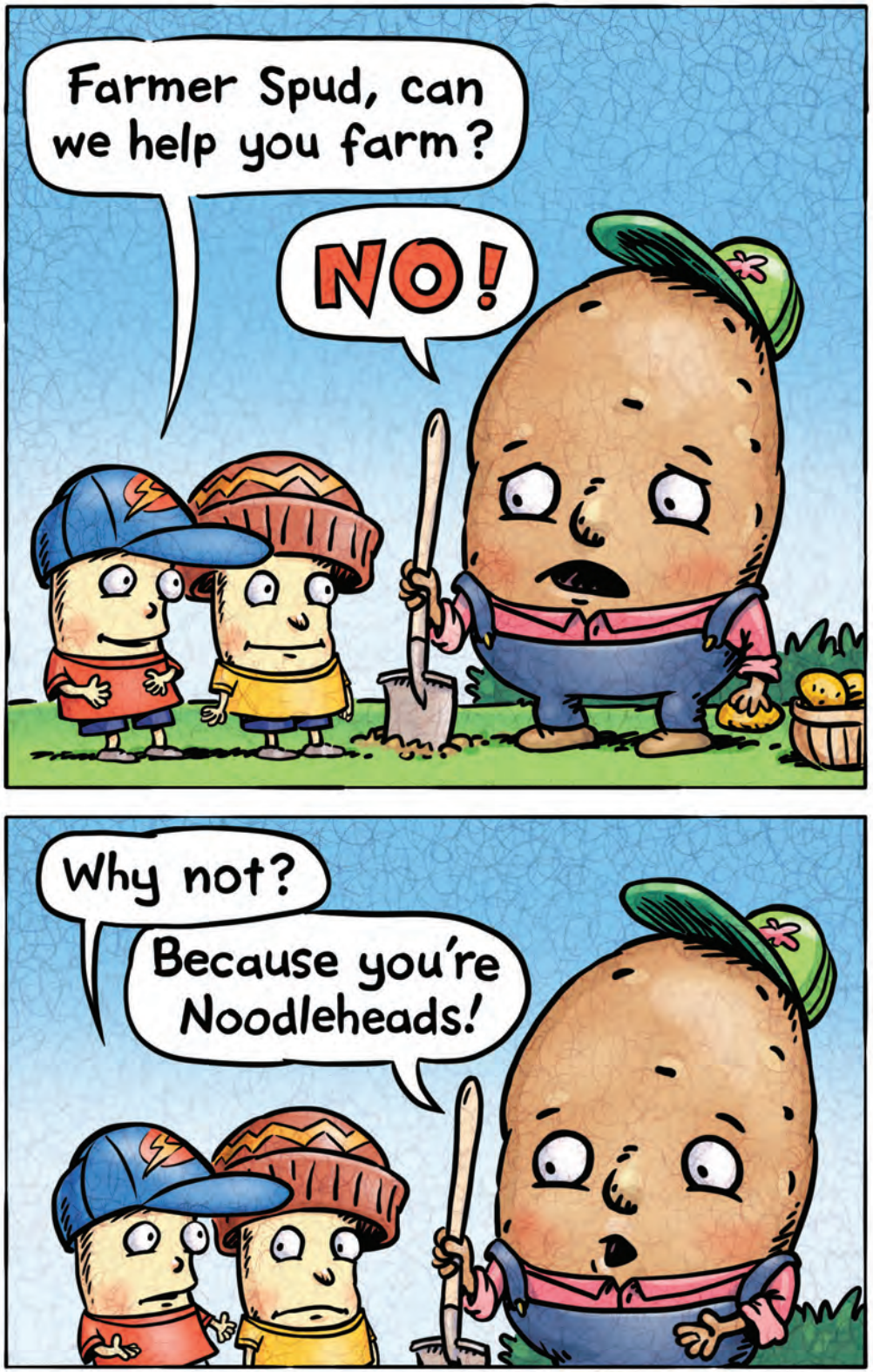
Printed and Bound in November 2015 at Kwong Fat Offset Printing Co., Ltd., DongGuan City, China.
The artwork was rendered digitally using Photoshop software.
www.holidayhouse.com
First Edition
1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

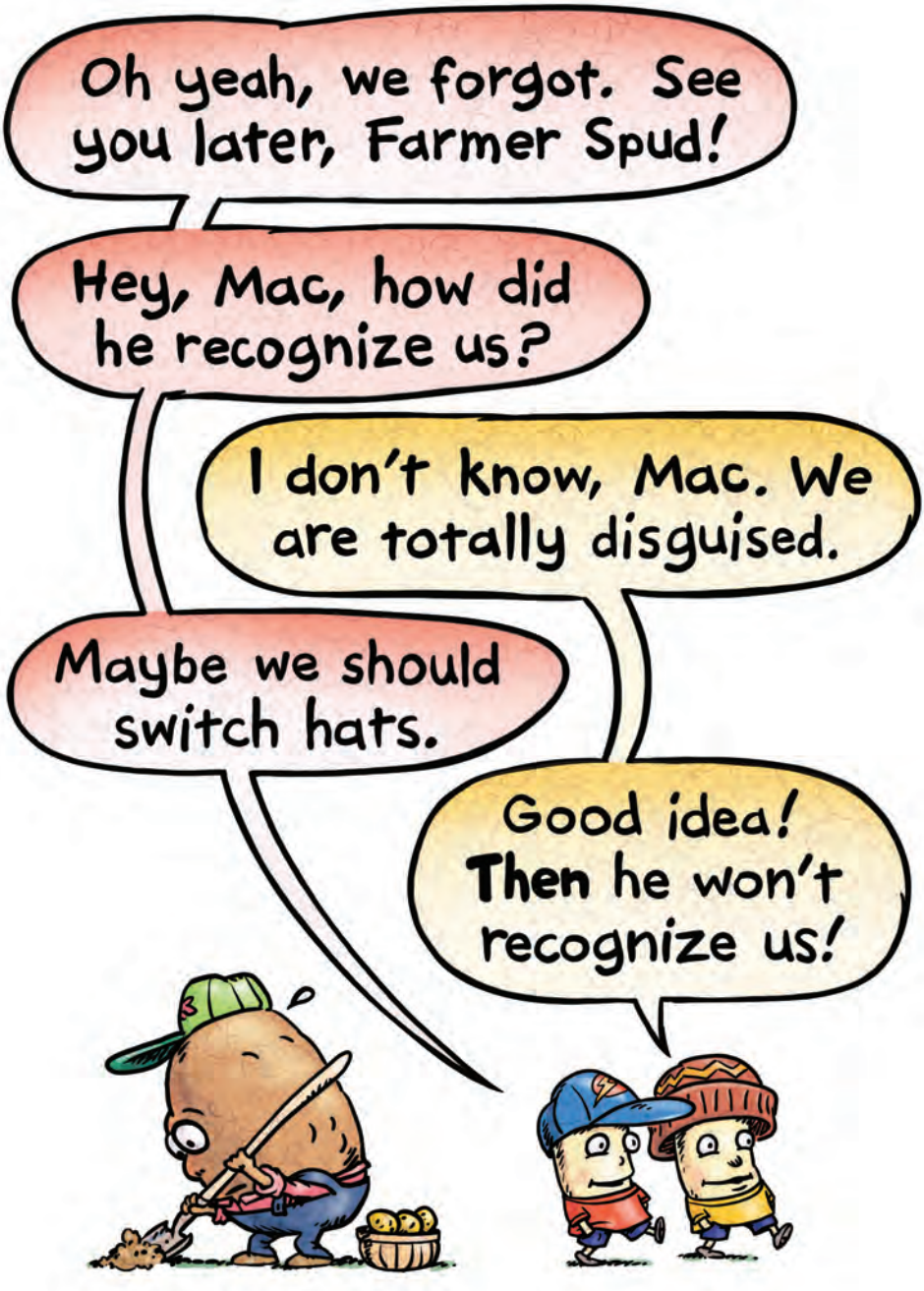
Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data TK


I'm Mac!
And I'm Mac!
We're Noodleheads!


See in here? Nothing!
Zippo! Nada!

You can tell we're Noodleheads by looking at us—because, well, we **are** noodles. But we're harder to spot if we wear hats.
Now we are totally disguised.
Hey, look! It's Farmer Spud.

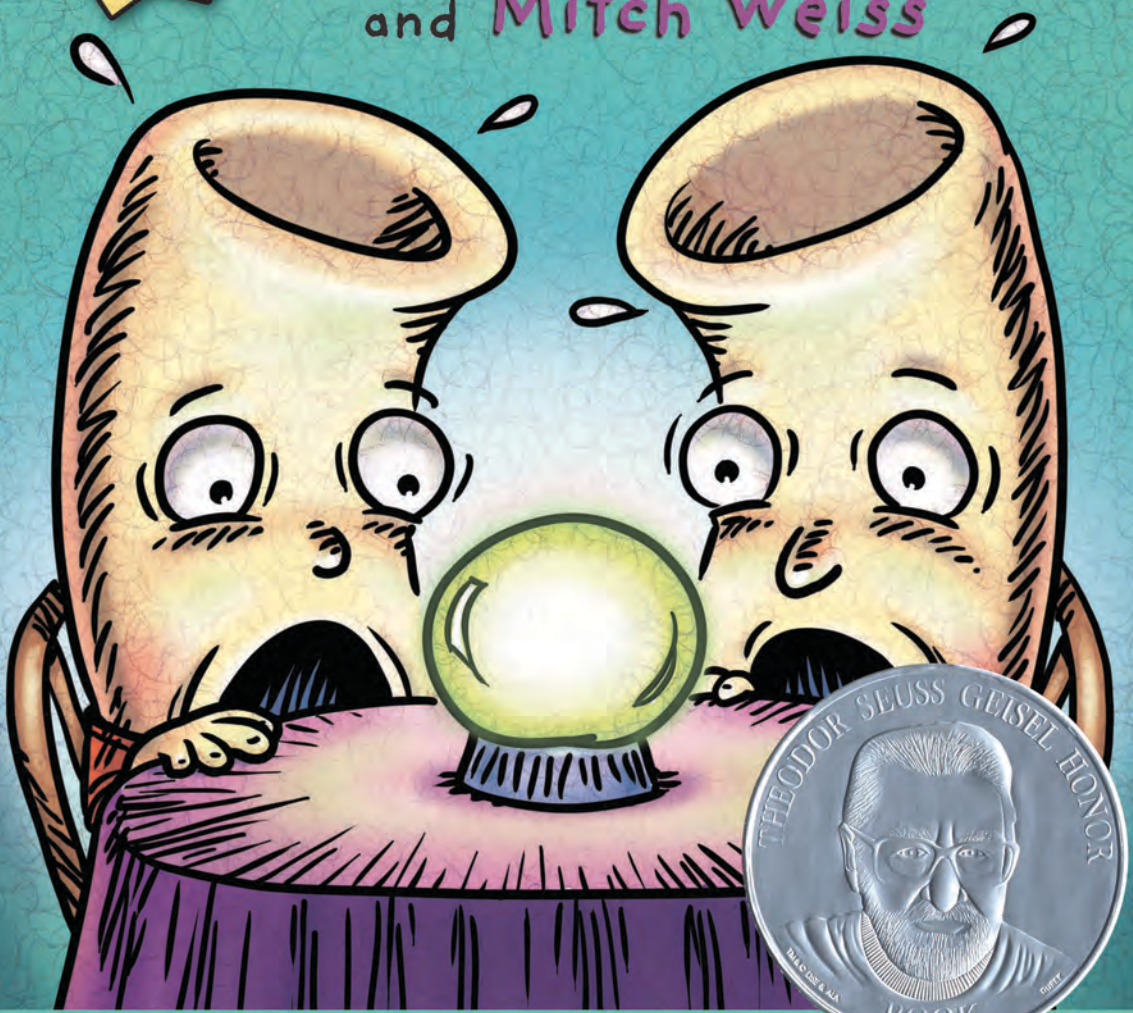

Farmer Spud, can we help you farm?
NO!
Why not?
Because you're Noodleheads!


Oh yeah, we forgot. See you later, Farmer Spud!
Hey, Mac, how did he recognize us?
I don't know, Mac. We are totally disguised.
Maybe we should switch hats.
Good idea! Then he won't recognize us!

Noodleheads See the Future

From the guy who does Fly Guy!

by Tedd Arnold
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss



illustrated by Tedd Arnold

Noodleheads See the Future

by Tedd Arnold
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss

illustrated by Tedd Arnold

Holiday House / New York

Specially for Grace,
who can often see the future!

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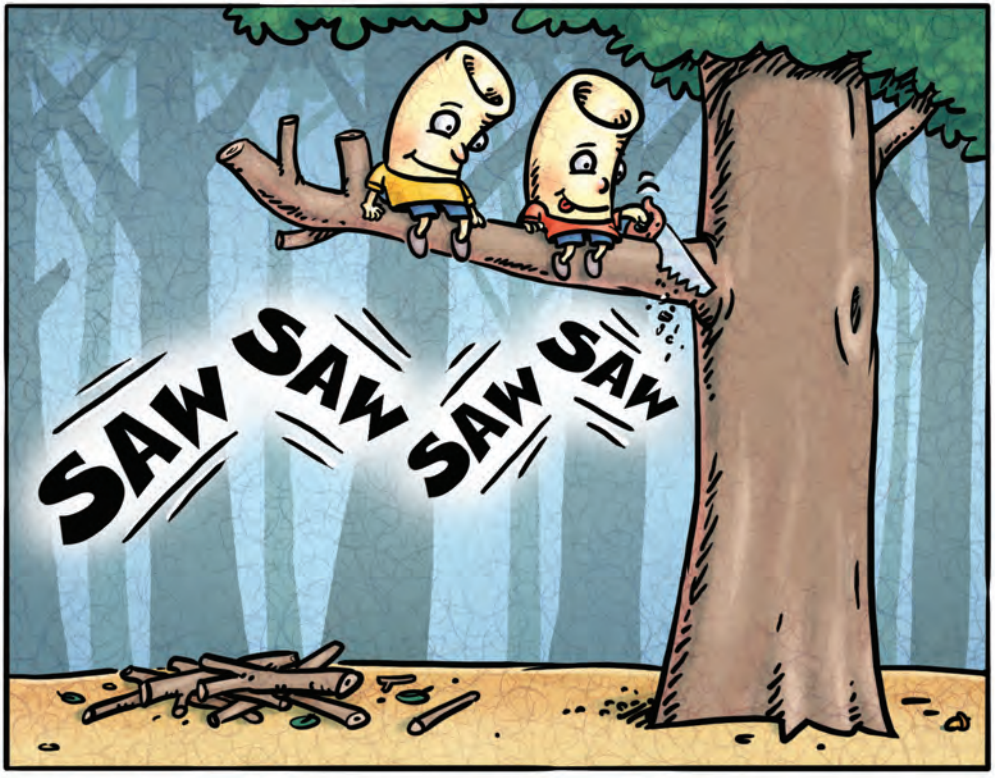
First Edition
1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

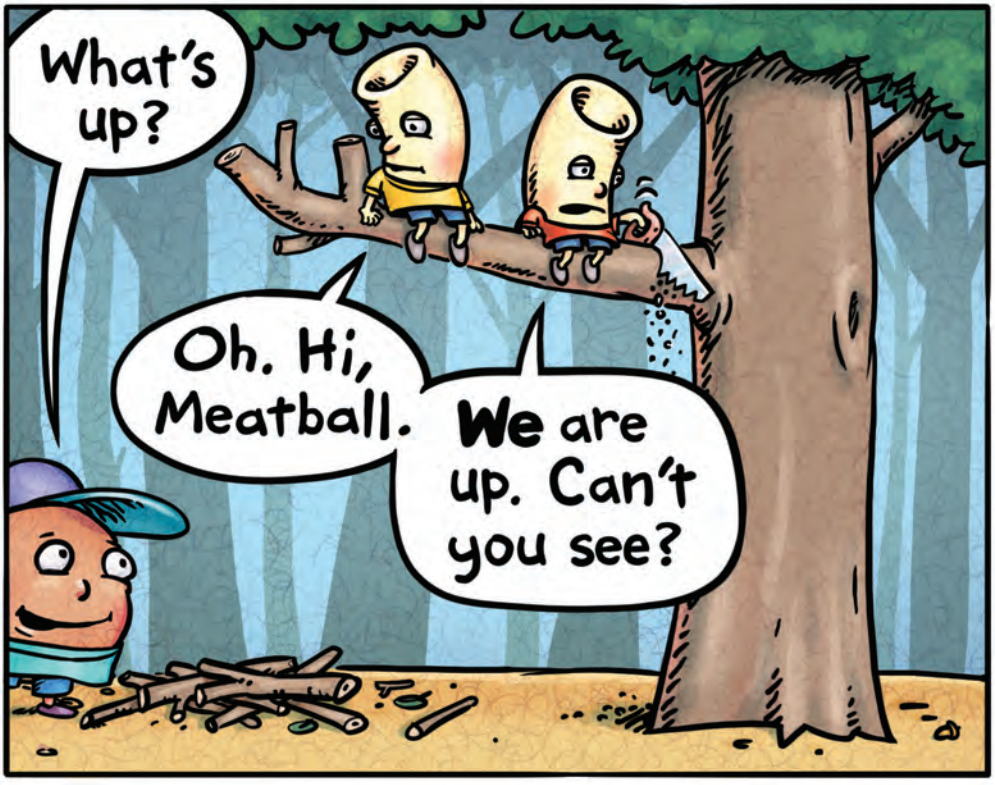
Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

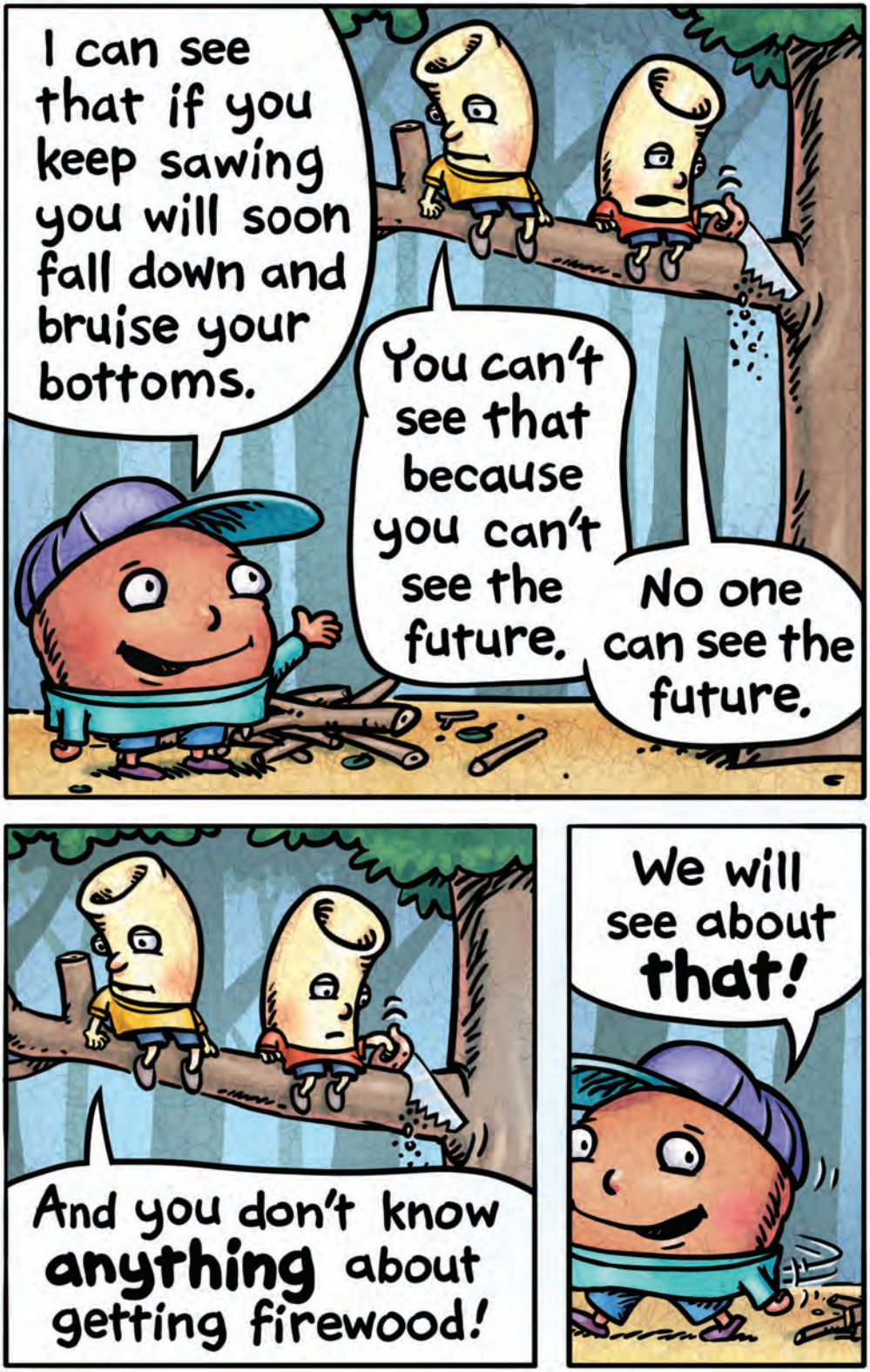
Names: Arnold, Tedd, author, illustrator. | Hamilton, Martha, author. |
Weiss, Mitch, 1951- author.
Title: Noodleheads see the future / by Tedd Arnold, Martha Hamilton and Mitch
Weiss ; illustrated by Tedd Arnold.
Description: First Edition. | New York : Holiday House, [2017] | Series:
Early chapter book | Summary: Inspired by folktales about fools from
around the world, brothers Mac and Mac Noodlehead exasperate Uncle Ziti,
are fooled by their friend Meatball, and make a garden for their mother.
Identifiers: LCCN 2016004460 | ISBN 9780823436736 (hardcover)
Subjects: | CYAC: Fools and jesters—Fiction. | Brothers—Fiction. | Humorous stories.
Classification: LCC PZ7.A7379 Nu 2017 | DDC [E]—dc23 LC record available at
https://lccn.loc.gov/2016004460

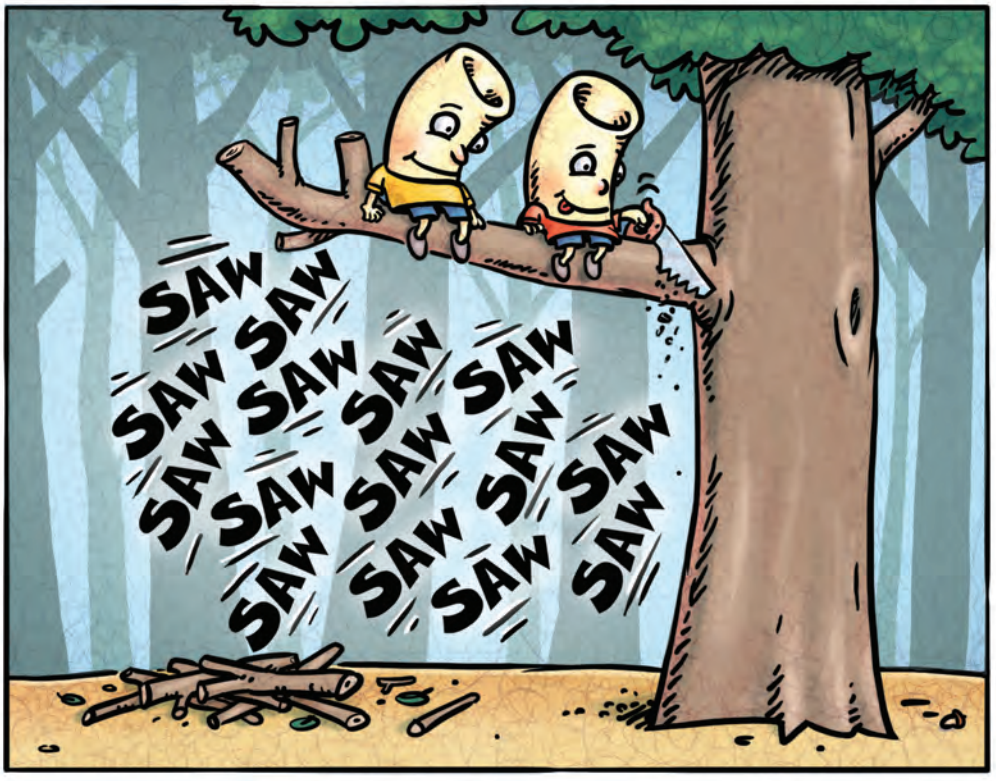
No firewood! We've been looking for hours!!!
Maybe we got it all last time.

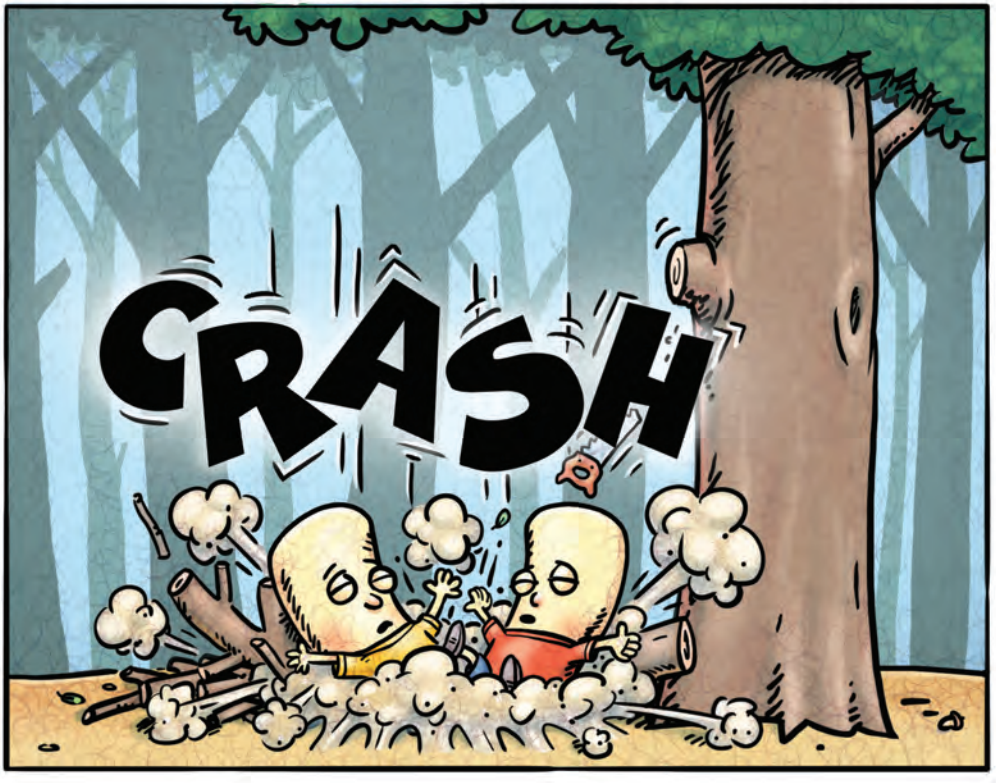
Wait! I see some firewood up there.

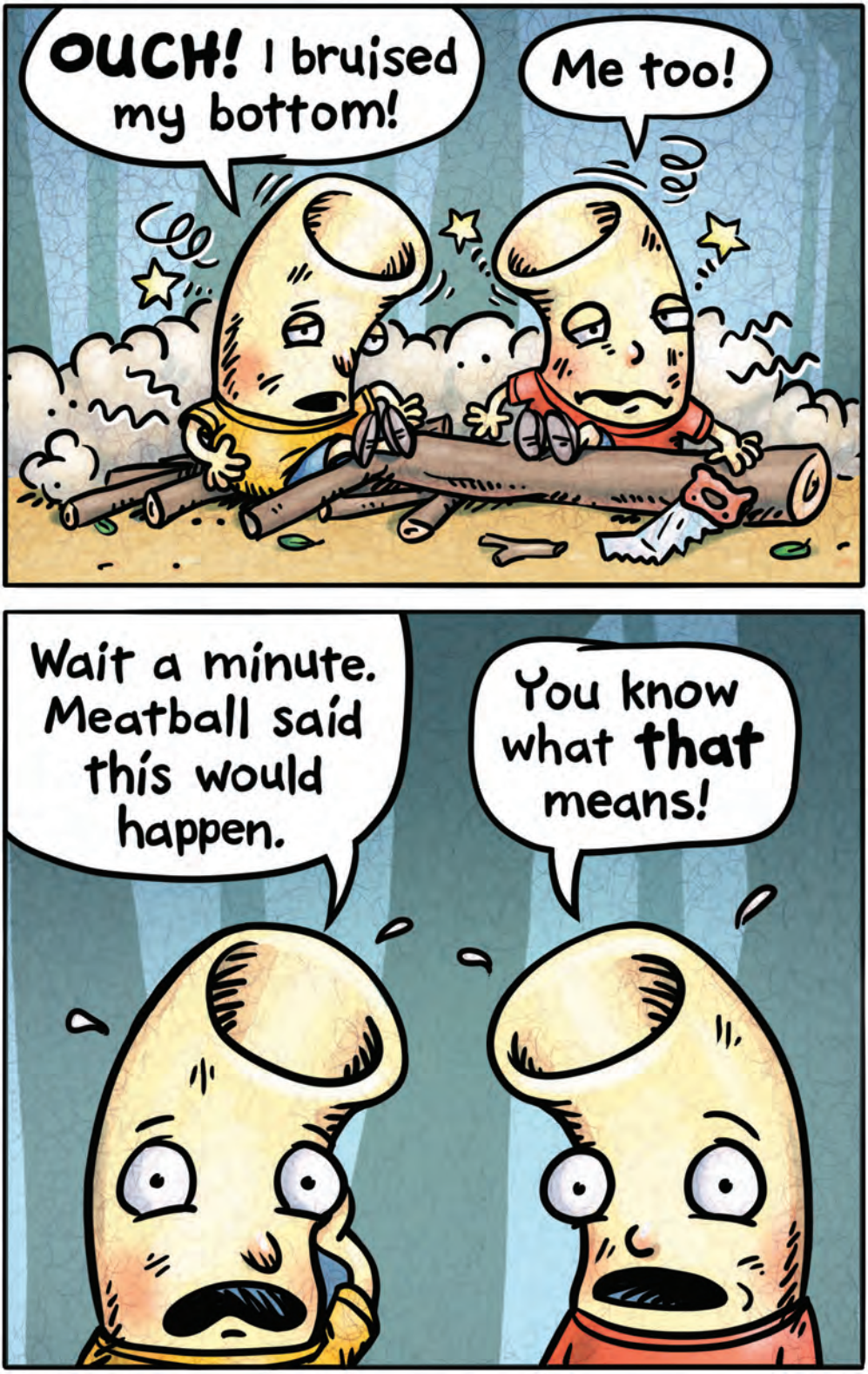

SAW SAW SAW SAW

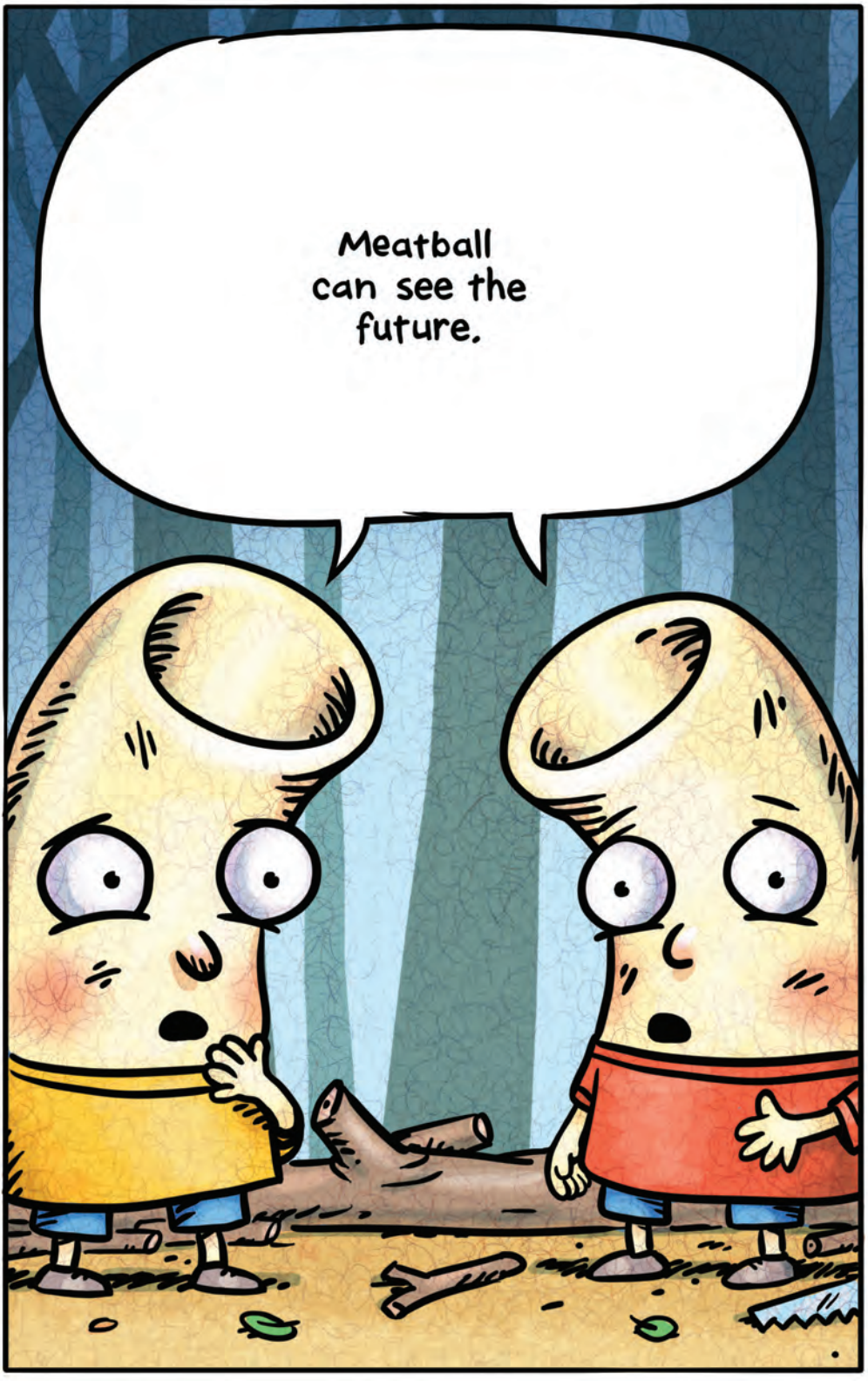

What's up?
Oh. Hi, Meatball.
We are up. Can't you see?


I can see that if you keep sawing you will soon fall down and bruise your bottoms.
You can't see that because you can't see the future.
No one can see the future.
And you don't know anything about getting firewood!
We will see about that!


SAW
SAW SAW
SAW SAW
SAW SAW
SAW SAW
SAW SAW
SAW SAW
SAW SAW
SAW SAW


CRASH


OUCH! I bruised my bottom!
Me too!
Wait a minute. Meatball said this would happen.
You know what **that** means!


Meatball
can see the
future.

NOODLEHEADS FIND SOMETHING FISHY

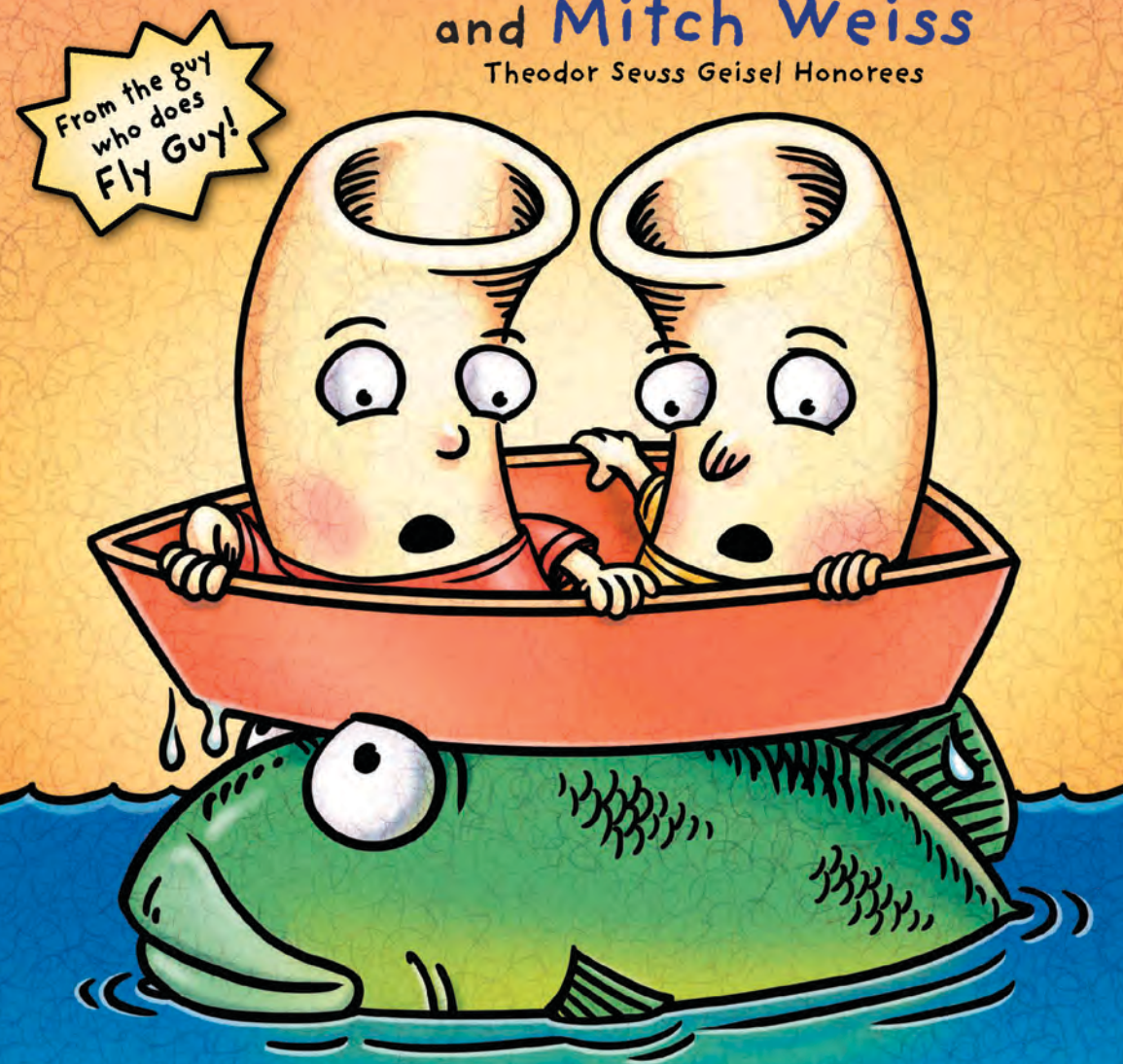
by Tedd Arnold

Martha Hamilton

and Mitch Weiss

Theodor Seuss Geisel Honorees

From the guy who does Fly Guy!



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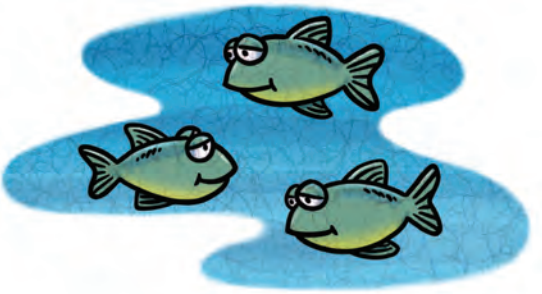
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss

illustrated by Tedd Arnold

Holiday House New York



In memory of Tackle Box Charlie
—T. A.

For Mollie and Alexandra, charter members of the Noodlehead Club
—M. H. and M. W.

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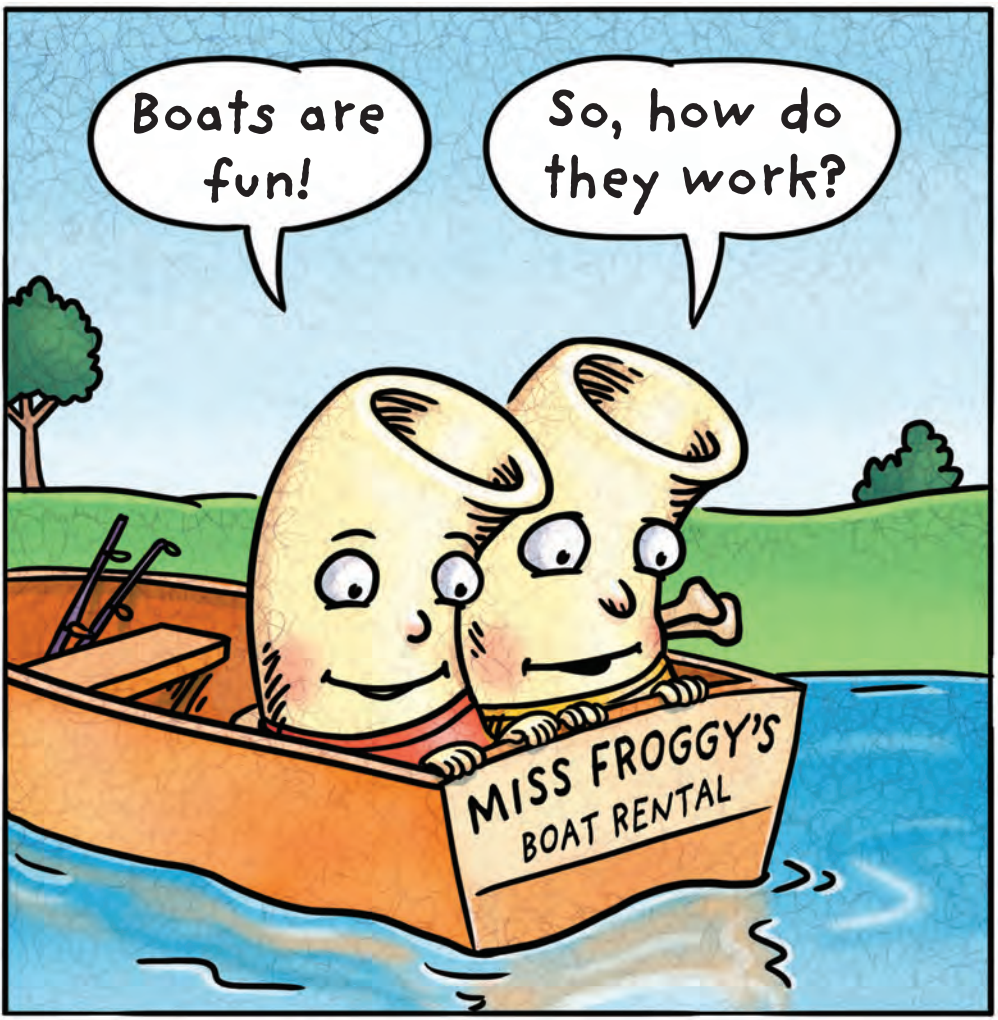
First Edition
1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

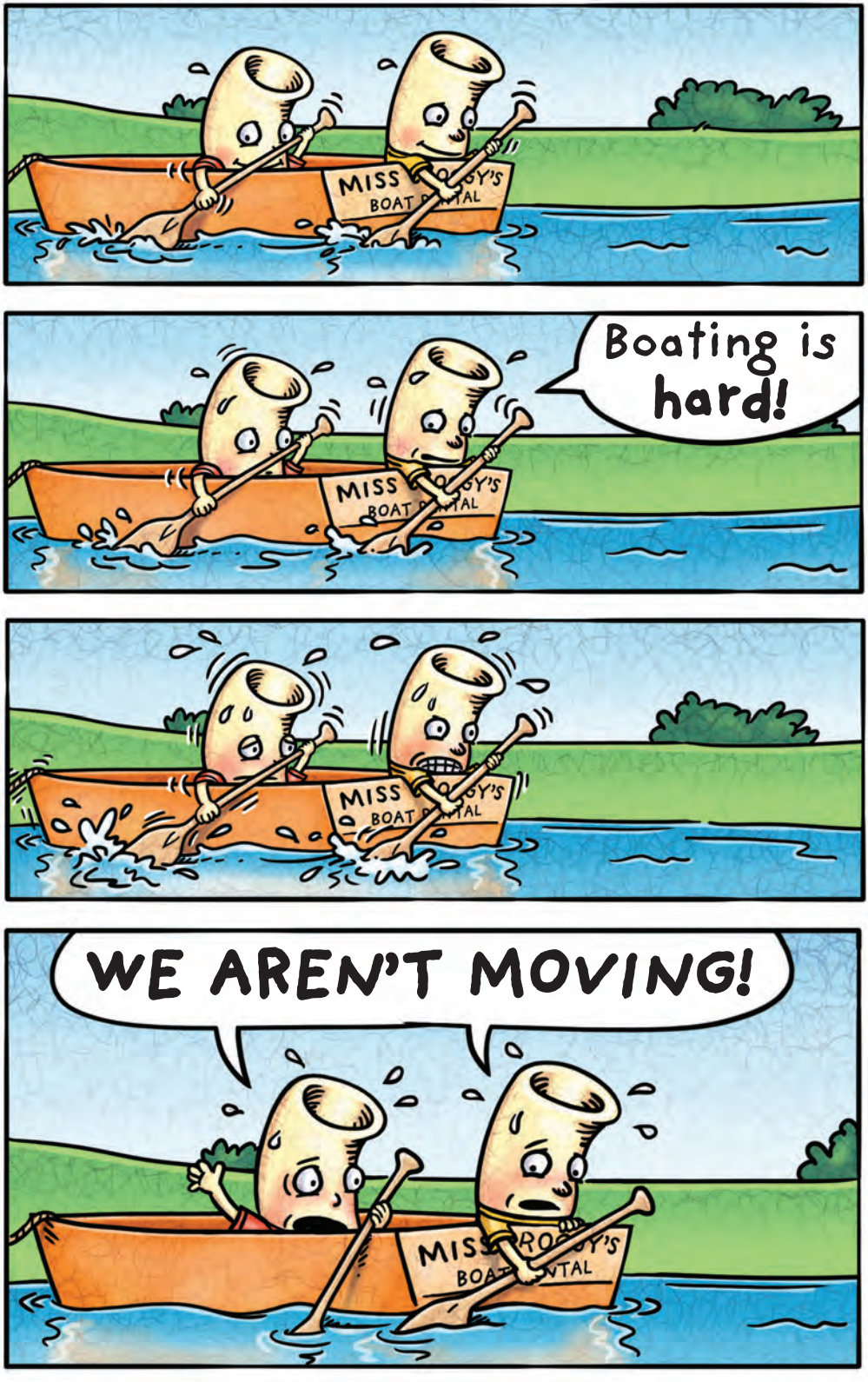
Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available.

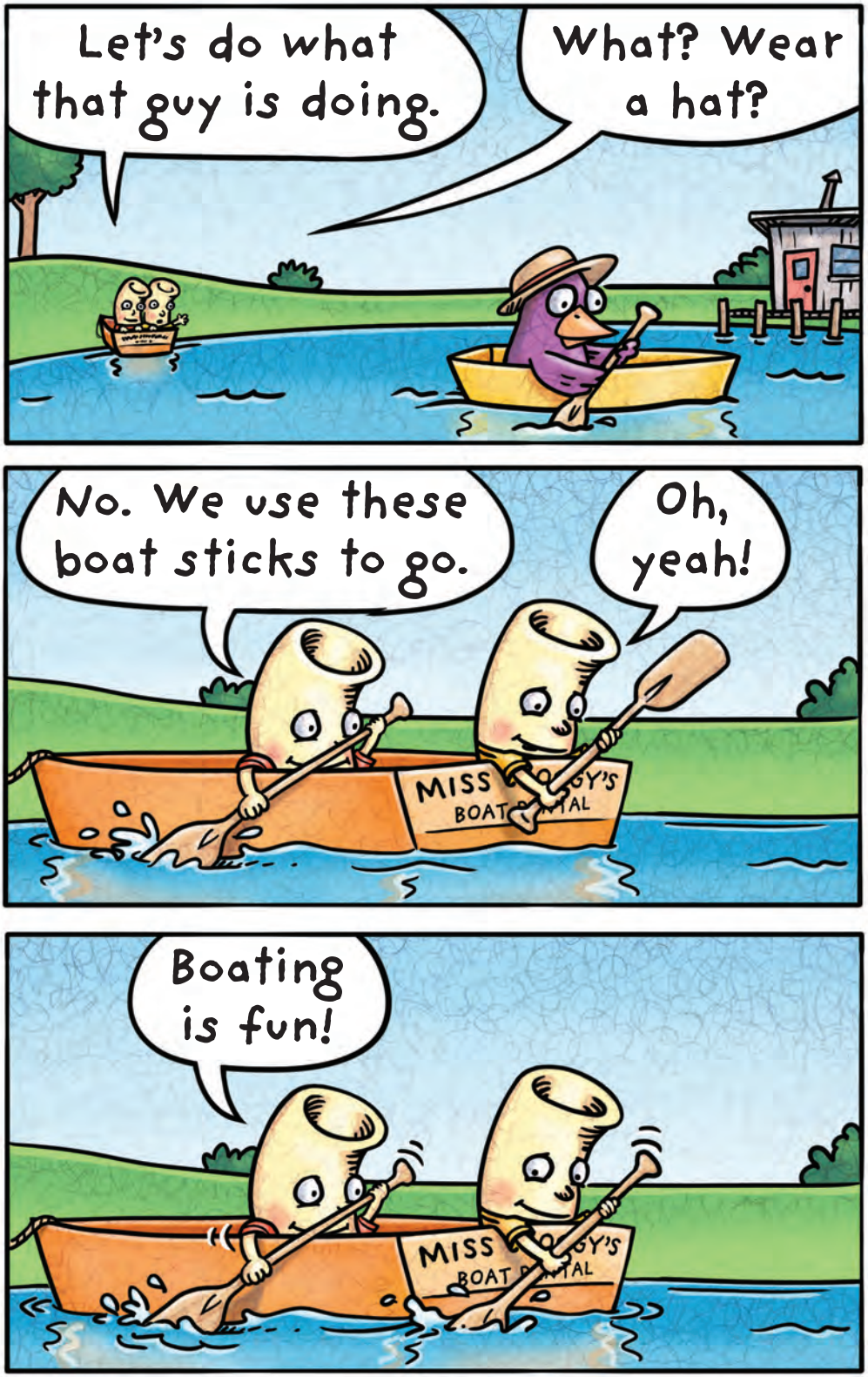
ISBN 978-0-8234-3937-9 (hardcover)

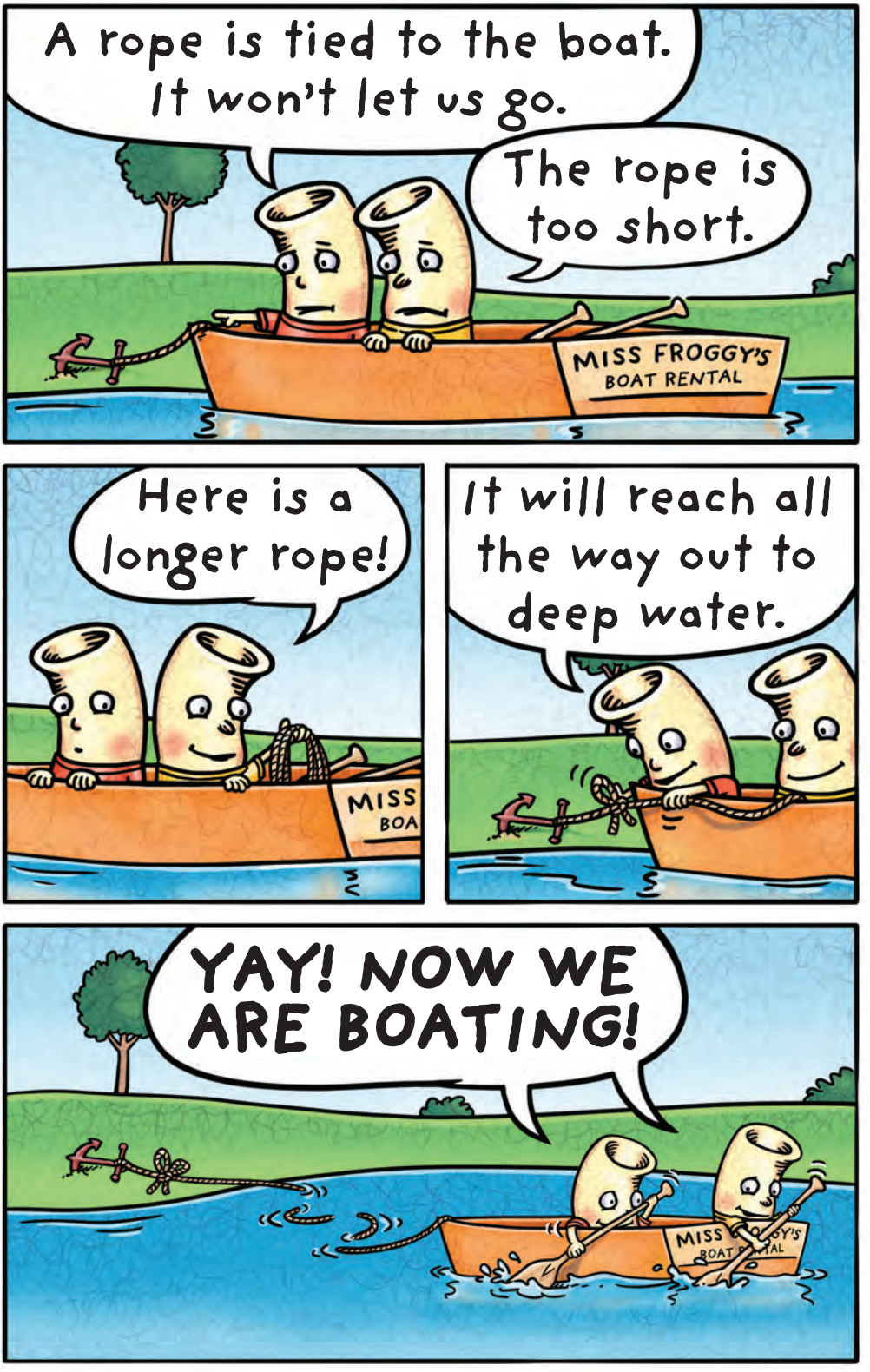
NOODLEHEADS FIND SOMETHING FISHY

CHAPTER 2
FINDING FISH




Boating is hard!
WE AREN'T MOVING!


Let's do what that guy is doing.
What? Wear a hat?
No. We use these boat sticks to go.
Oh, yeah!
Boating is fun!

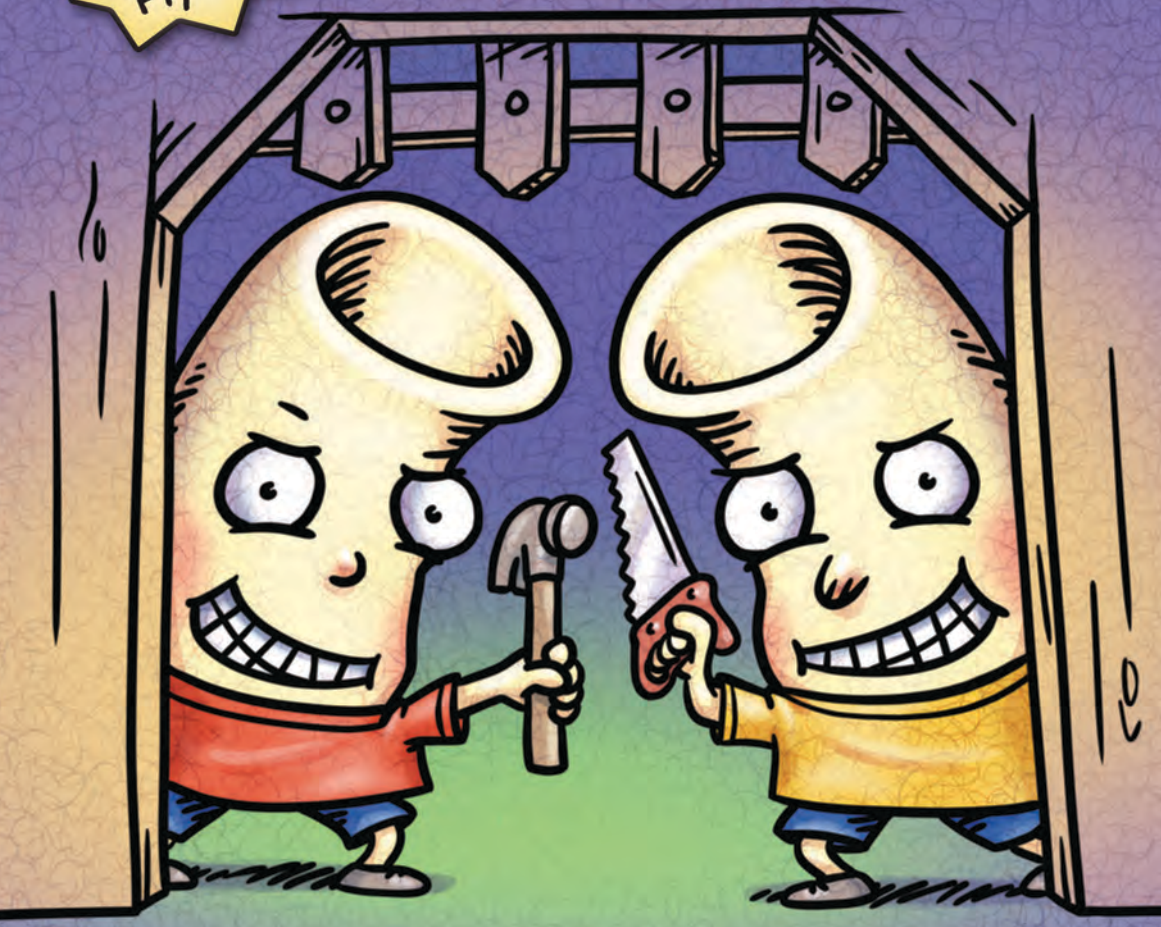

A rope is tied to the boat. It won't let us go.
The rope is too short.
MISS FROGGY'S BOAT RENTAL
Here is a longer rope!
MISS
BOA
It will reach all the way out to deep water.
YAY! NOW WE ARE BOATING!

Noodleheads Fortress of Doom

From the guy who does Fly Guy!

by Tedd Arnold
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss

Theodor Seuss Geisel Honorees



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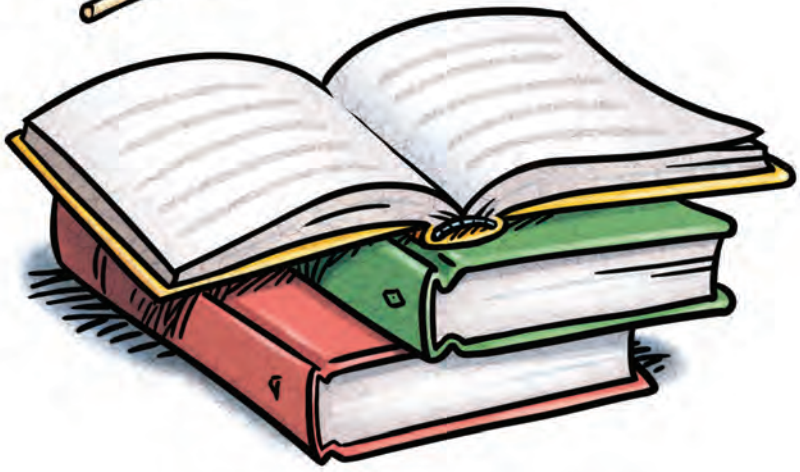
Noodleheads Fortress of Doom



by Tedd Arnold
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss

illustrated by Tedd Arnold

Holiday House New York

To the young reader who finished
our first few Noodlehead books
and asked if there were any more.
This one's for you, Calvin!
—Tedd, Martha, and Mitch

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Printed and bound in February 2019 at Toppan Leefung, DongGuan City, China.
The artwork was rendered digitally using Photoshop software.
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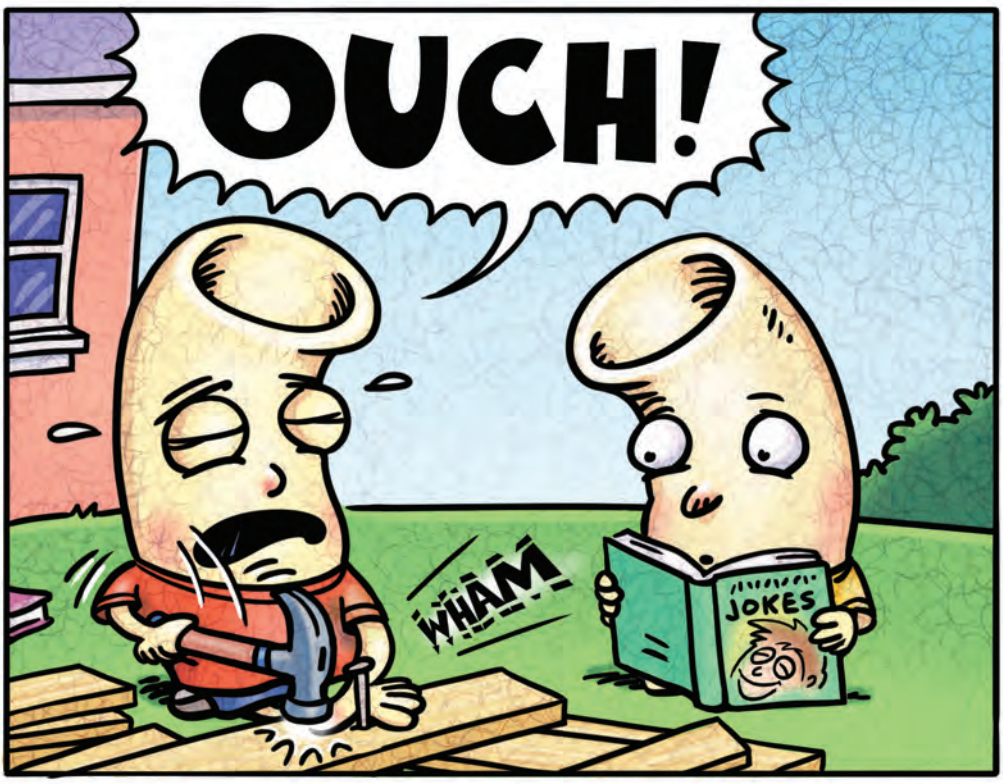
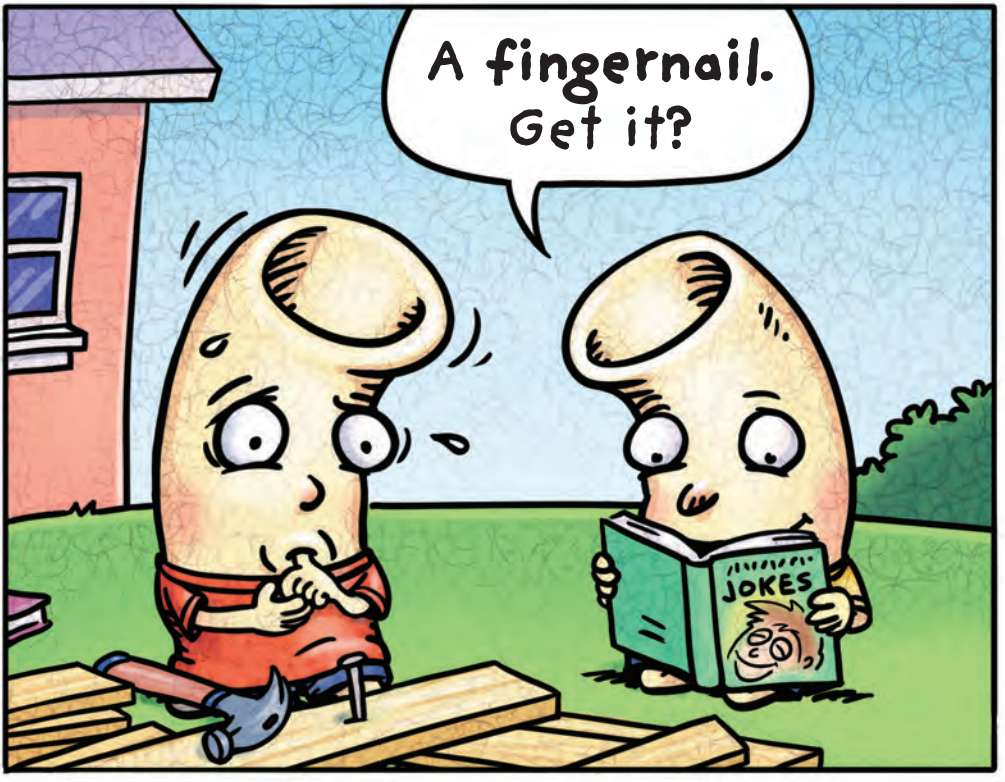
First Edition
1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

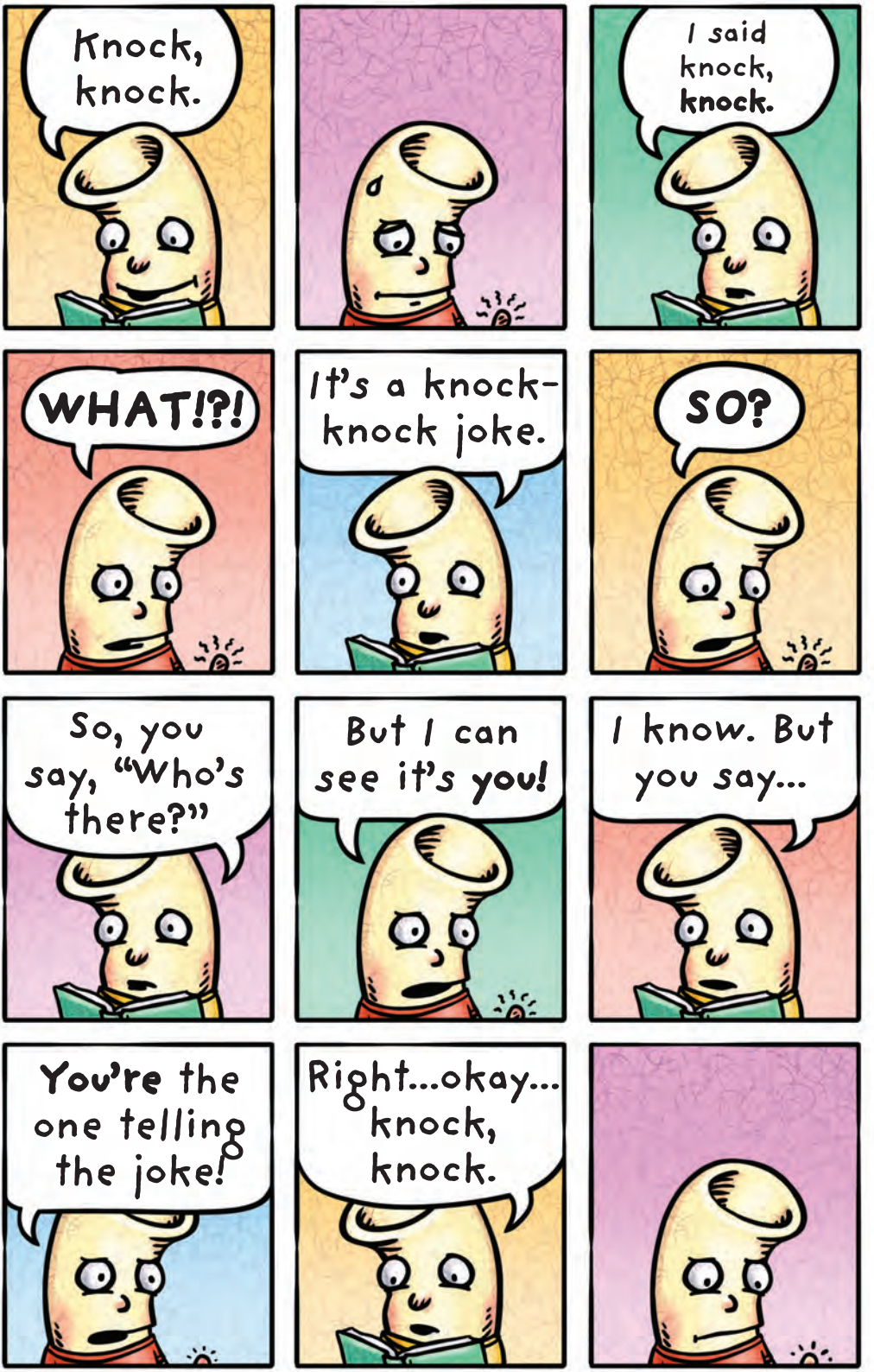
Names: Arnold, Tedd, author, illustrator. | Hamilton, Martha, author. |
Weiss, Mitch, 1951– author.
Title: Noodleheads Fortress of Doom / by Tedd Arnold, Martha Hamilton, and
Mitch Weiss ; illustrated by Tedd Arnold.
Other titles: Fortress of Doom
Description: First edition. | New York : Holiday House, [2019] | Series:
Noodleheads ; 4 | Summary: Using knowledge from a library book, brothers
Mac and Mac build a fortress but Meatball, armed with a book of his own,
wants to take it from them.
Identifiers: LCCN 2019006111 | ISBN 9780823440016 (hardback)
Subjects: | CYAC: Fools and jesters—Fiction. | Books and reading—Fiction. |
Building—Fiction. | Brothers—Fiction. | Humorous stories. | BISAC:
JUVENILE FICTION / Readers / Intermediate.
Classification: LCC PZ7.A7379 Nrm 2019 | DDC [E]—dc23
LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2019006111

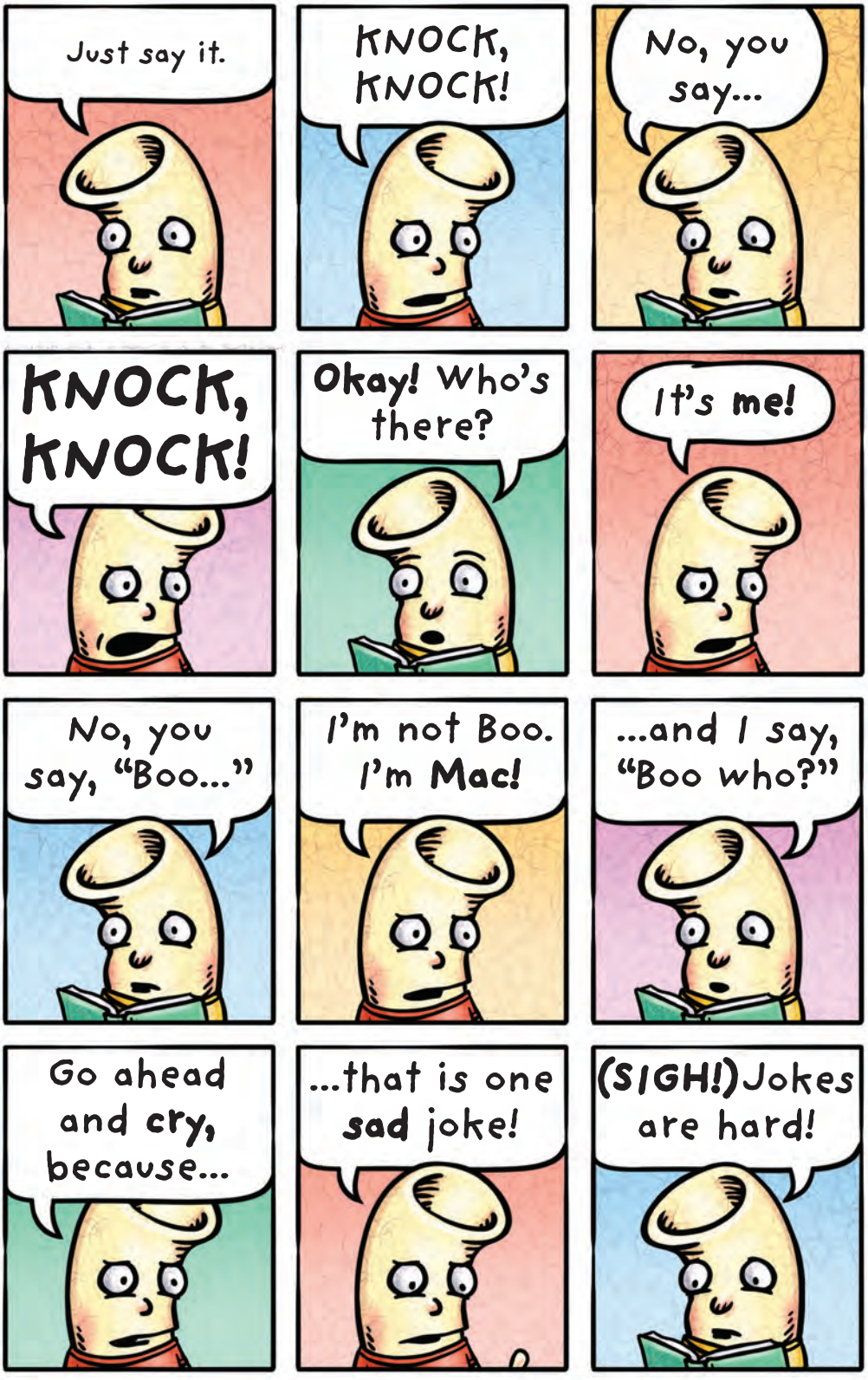
What kind of nail does a carpenter NOT want to hammer?
WHAM
WHAM
JOKES

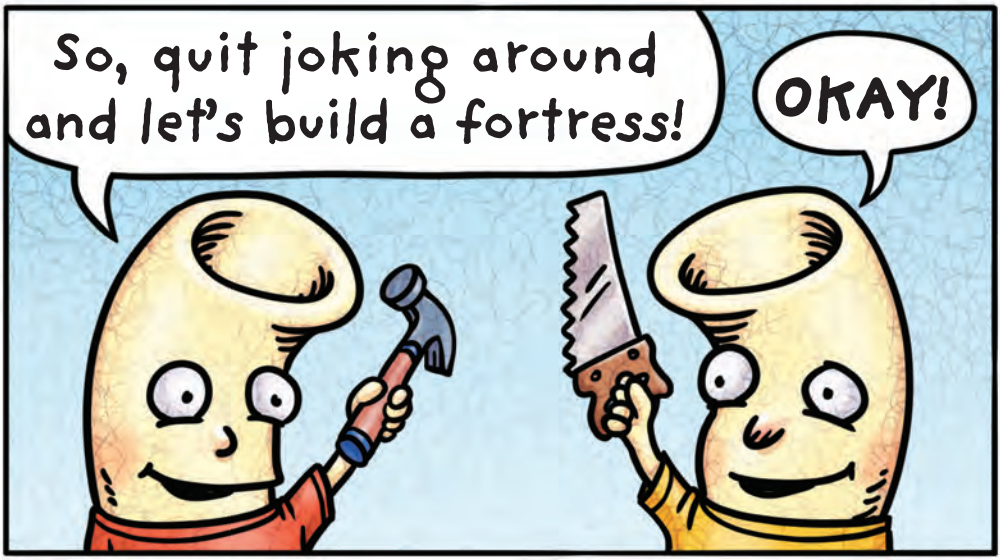

OUCH!
WHAM
JOKES

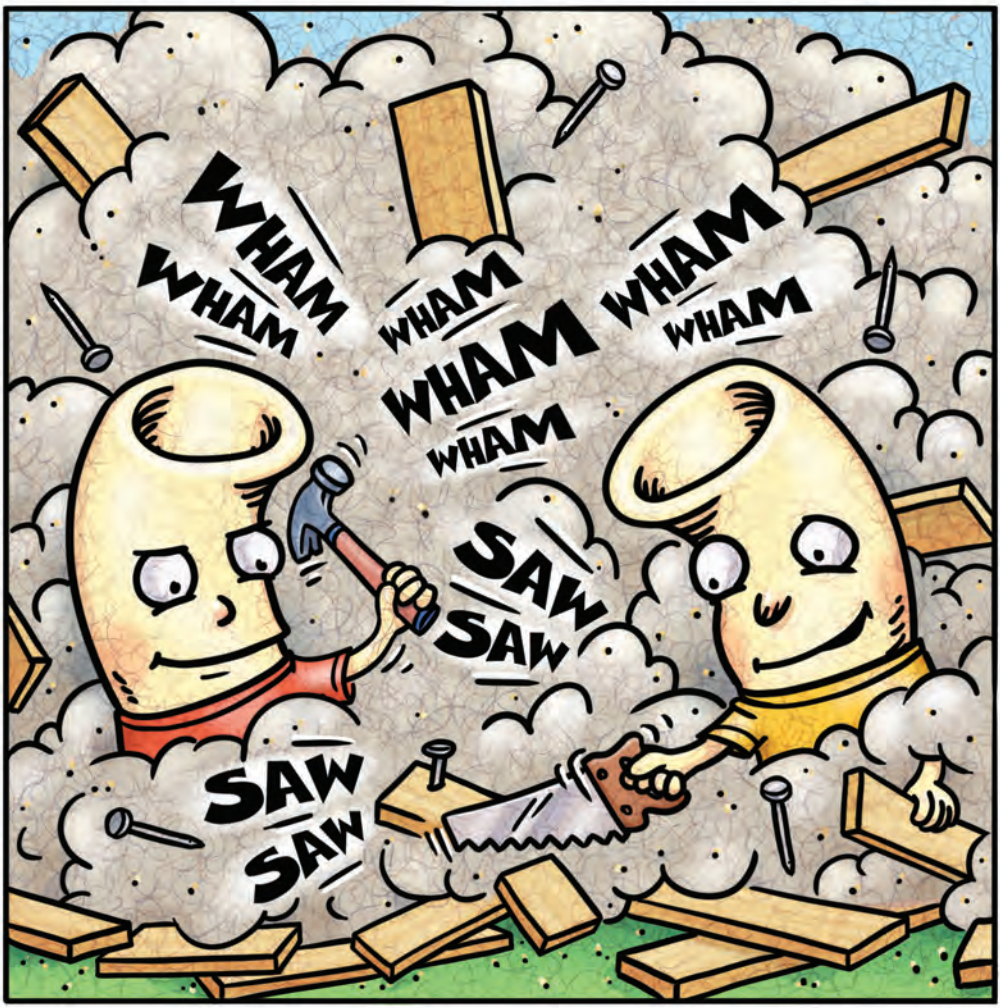

A fingernail.
Get it?
JOKES

YES, I GET IT!
Okay, one more.
JOKES


Knock, knock.
I said knock, **knock.**
WHAT!?!
It's a knock-knock joke.
SO?
So, you say, "Who's there?"
But I can see it's **you!**
I know. But you say...
You're the one telling the joke!
Right...okay... knock, knock.


Just say it.
KNOCK, KNOCK!
No, you say...
KNOCK, KNOCK!
Okay! Who's there?
It's me!
No, you say, "Boo..."
I'm not Boo. I'm Mac!
...and I say, "Boo who?"
Go ahead and cry, because...
...that is one sad joke!
(SIGH!) Jokes are hard!


So, quit joking around and let's build a fortress!
OKAY!

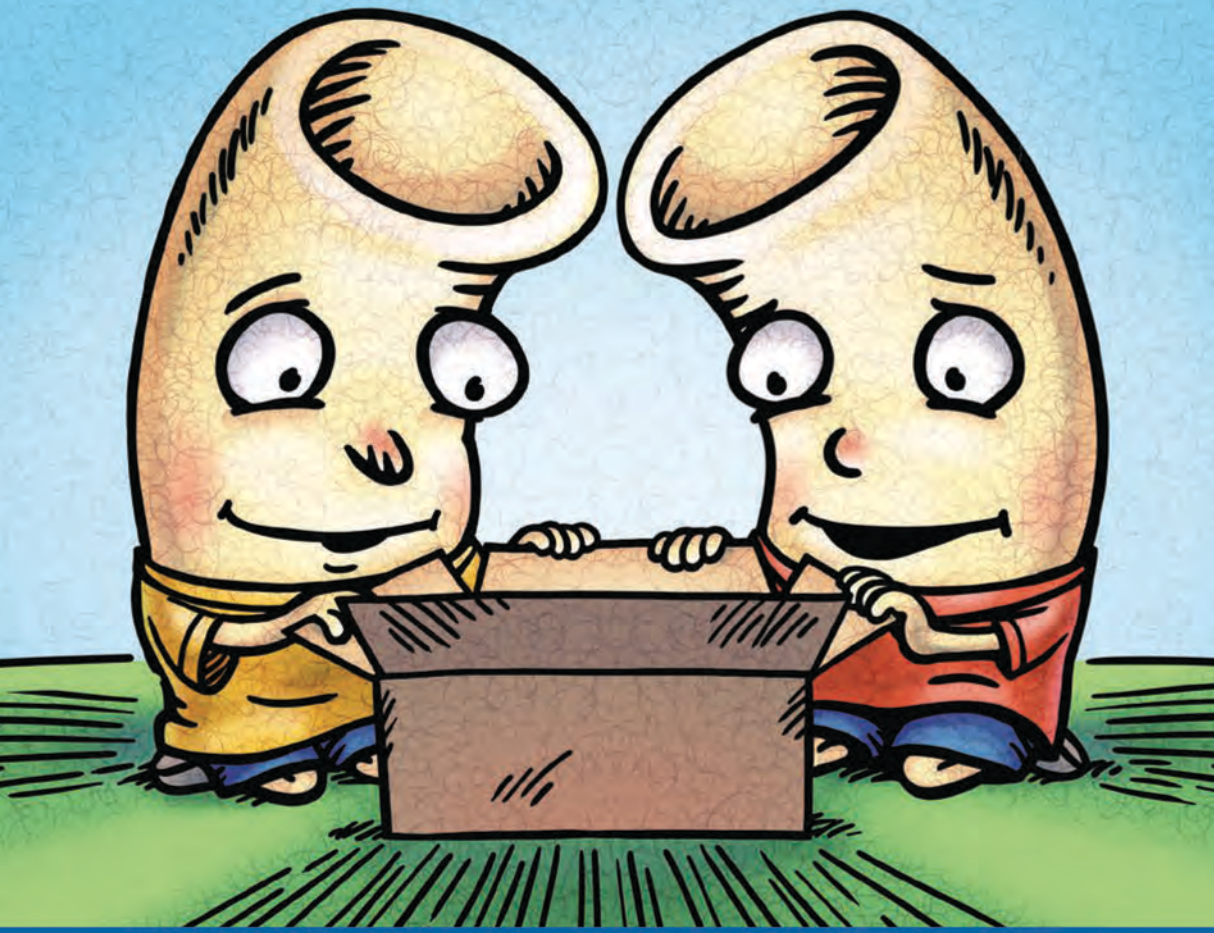

WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
SAW
SAW
SAW
SAW

Noodleheads Lucky Day

From the guy who does Fly Guy!

by Tedd Arnold
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss

Theodor Seuss Geisel Honorees



illustrated by Tedd Arnold

Noodleheads Lucky Day

by Tedd Arnold
Martha Hamilton
and Mitch Weiss

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HOLIDAY HOUSE NEW YORK

For Will and Robin and Fizzy and Nanners
—T.A.

For Patti, who makes everyone
feel lucky to know her
—M.H. and M.W.

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Arnold, Tedd, author, illustrator. | Hamilton, Martha, author.
Weiss, Mitch, 1951- author.
Title: Noodleheads lucky day / by Tedd Arnold, Martha Hamilton, and Mitch Weiss ; illustrated by Tedd Arnold.
Other titles: Lucky day
Description: First edition. | New York : Holiday House, [2020] | Series: [Noodleheads ; 5] | Audience: Ages 6-9. | Audience: Grades 2-3.
Summary: “Brothers Mac and Mac are SO lucky that everything goes well - even when their frenemy Meatball plays tricks on them”— Provided by publisher.
Identifiers: LCCN 2019055014 | ISBN 9780823440023 (hardback)
Subjects: LCSH: Graphic novels. | CYAC: Graphic novels. | Fools and jesters—Fiction. | Luck—Fiction. | Brothers—Fiction. | Humorous stories.
Classification: LCC PZ7.7.A757 Nos 2020 | DDC 741.5/973—dc23
LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2019055014

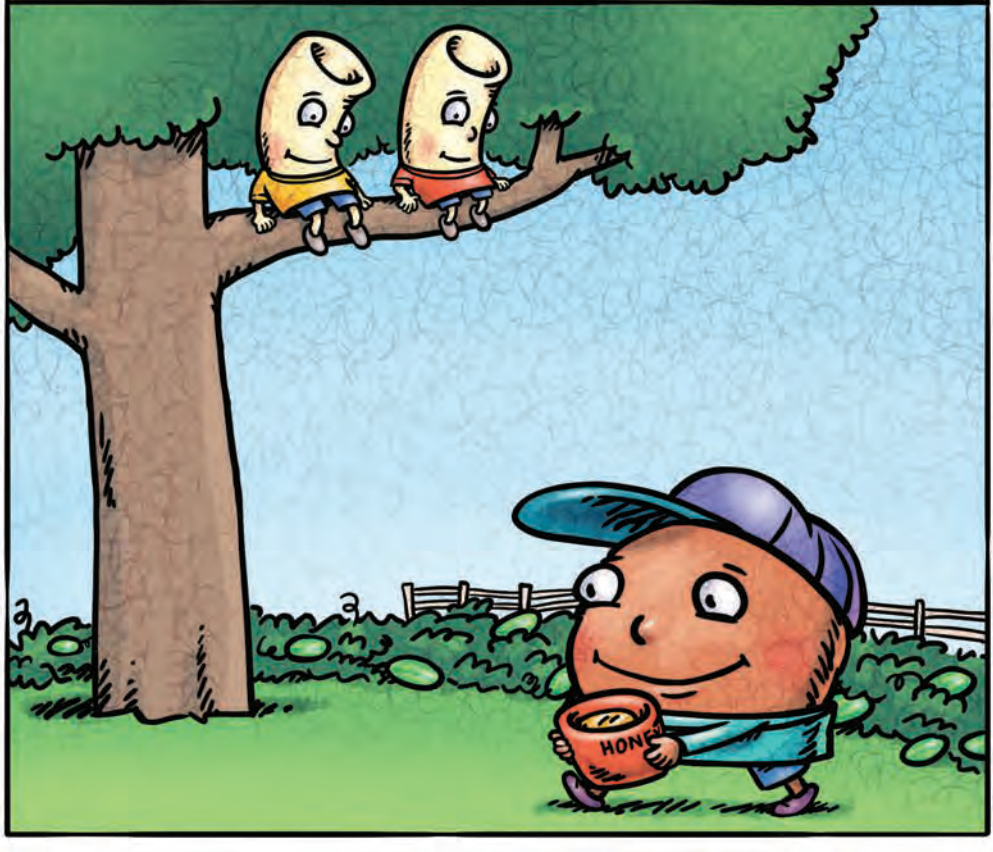
ISBN: 978-0-8234-4002-3 (hardcover)

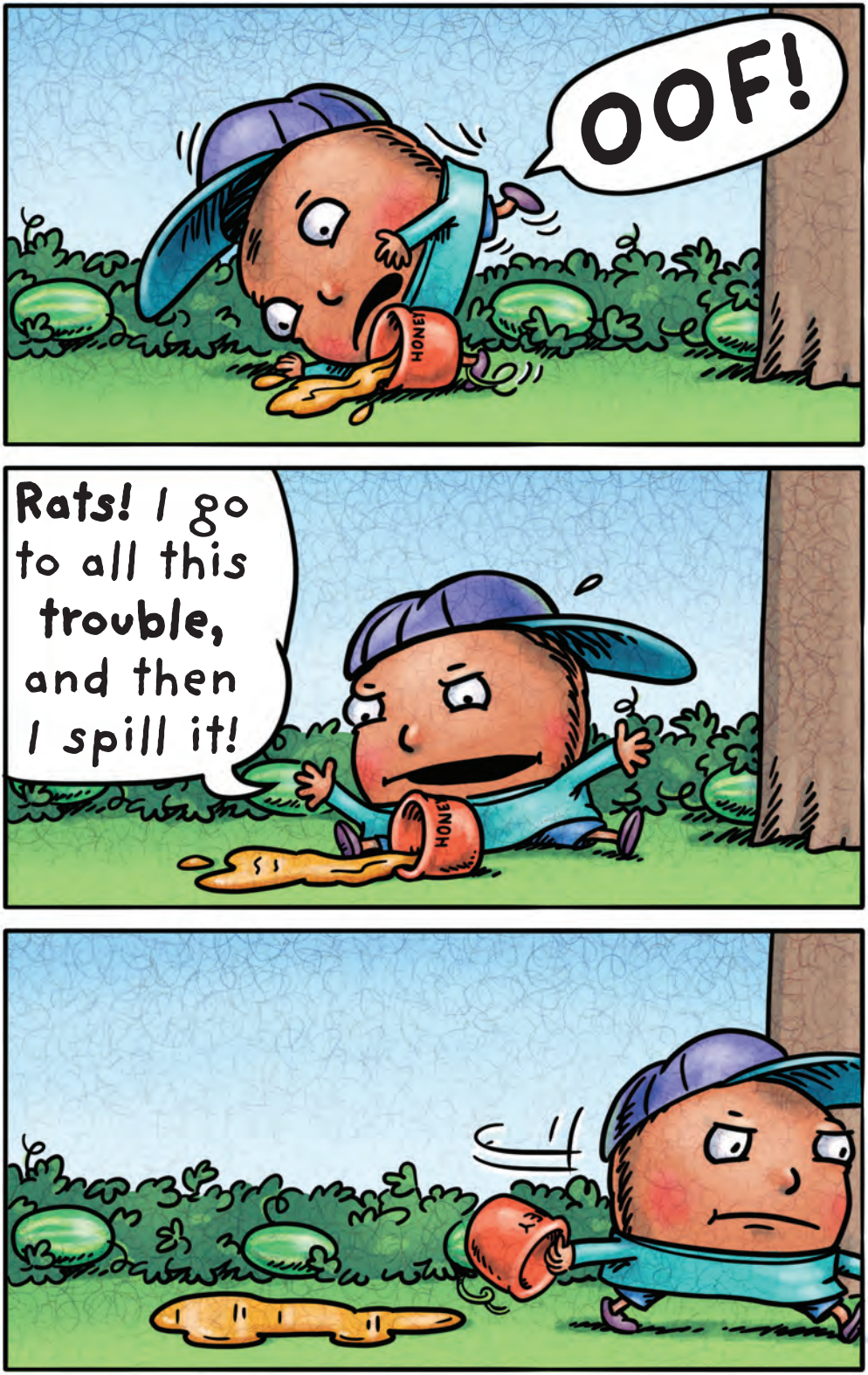
NOODLEHEADS LUCKY DAY

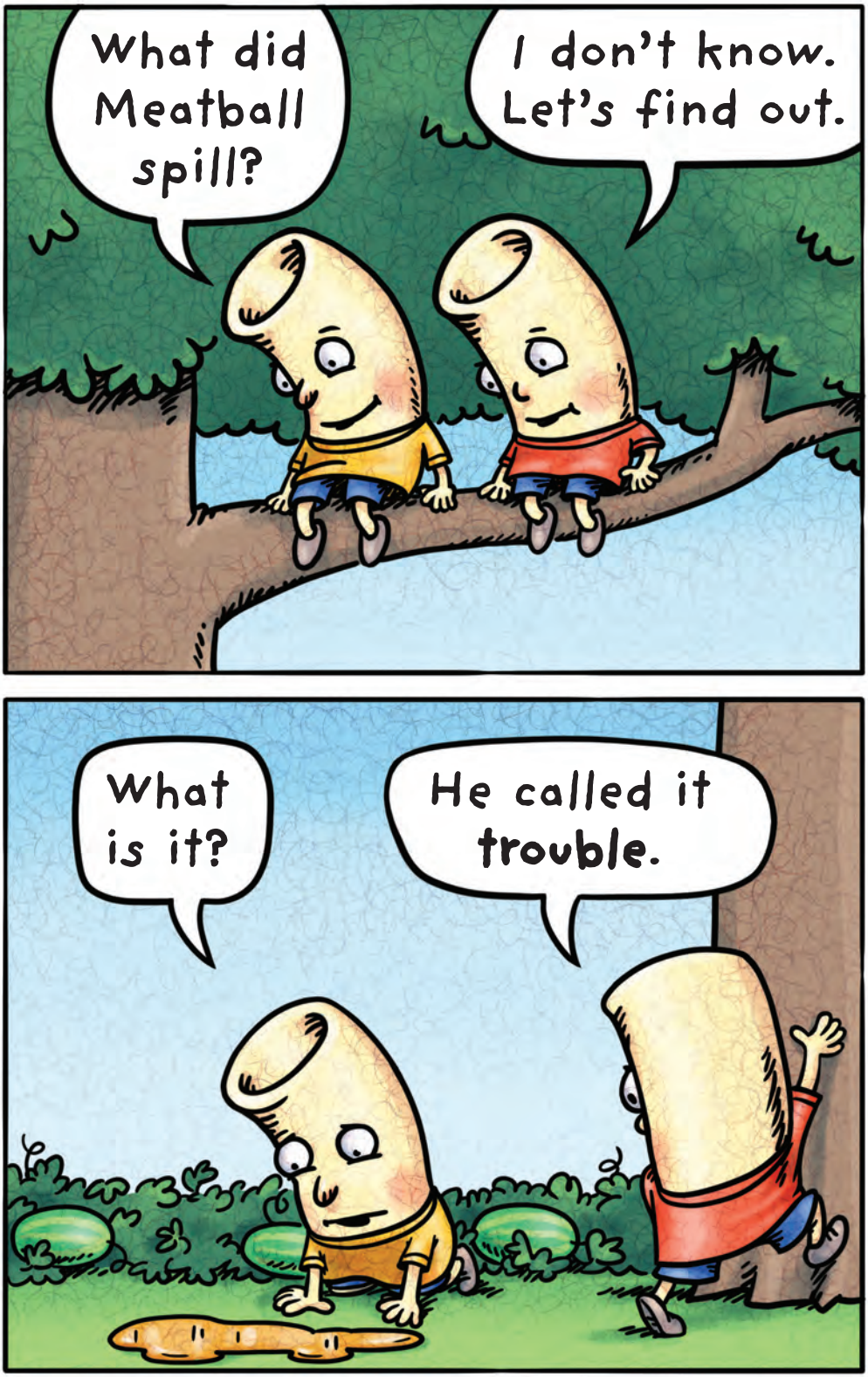
CHAPTER 1

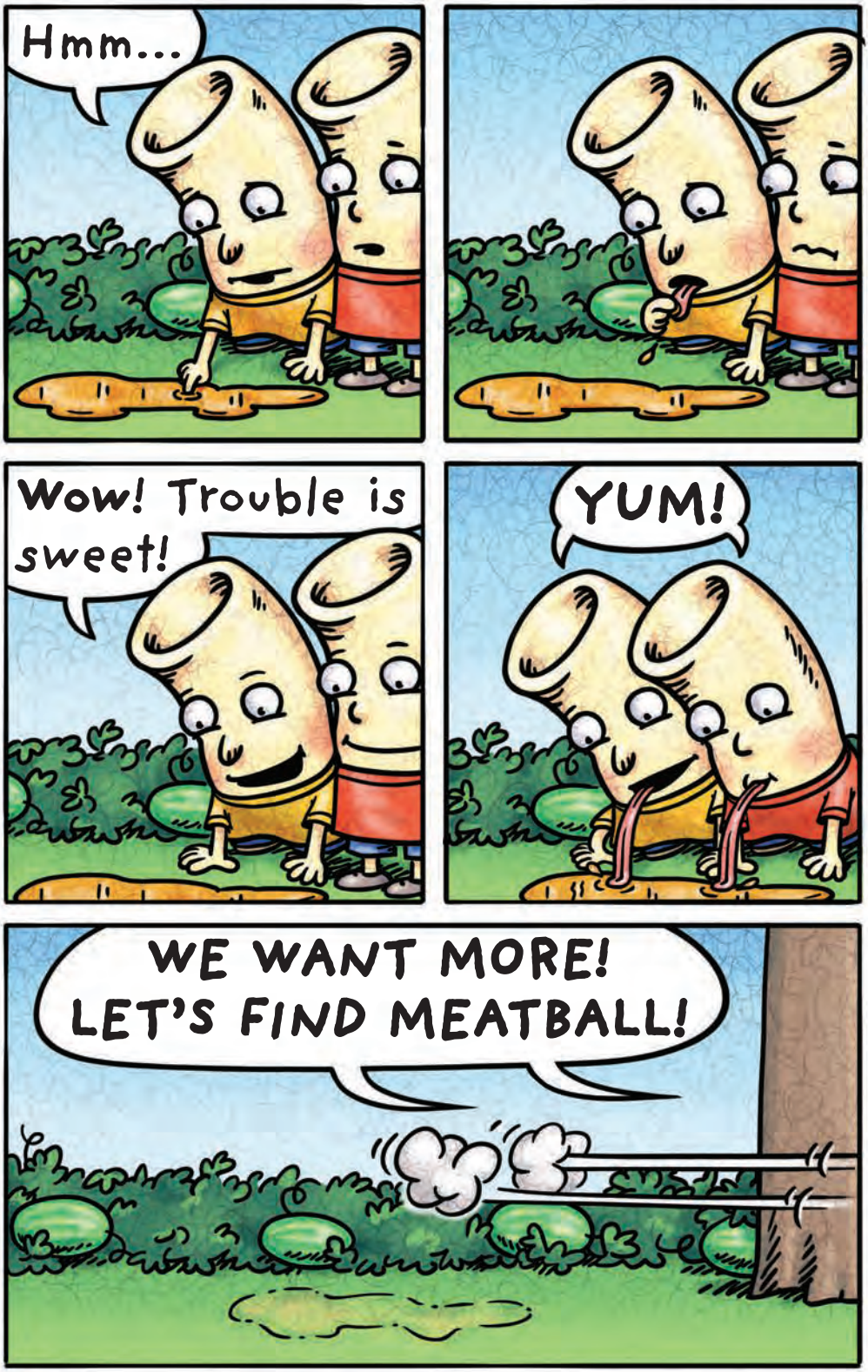
LOOKING FOR TROUBLE

While Mac and Mac enjoyed the view, Meatball passed by.




OOF!
HONEY
Rats! I go to all this trouble, and then I spill it!
HONEY


What did Meatball spill?
I don't know. Let's find out.
What is it?
He called it trouble.


Hmm...
Wow! Trouble is sweet!
YUM!
WE WANT MORE! LET'S FIND MEATBALL!