

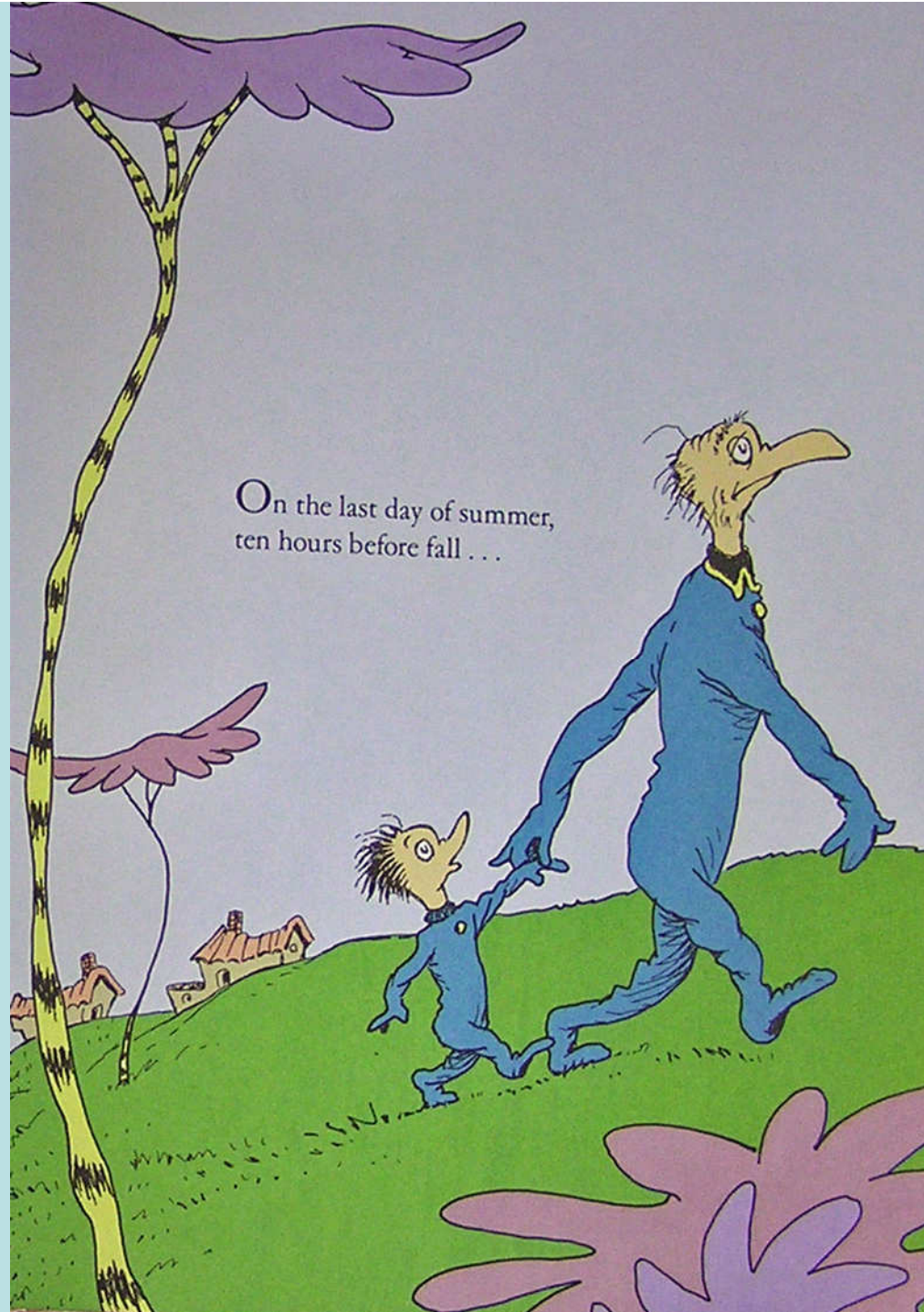
# The Butter Battle Book

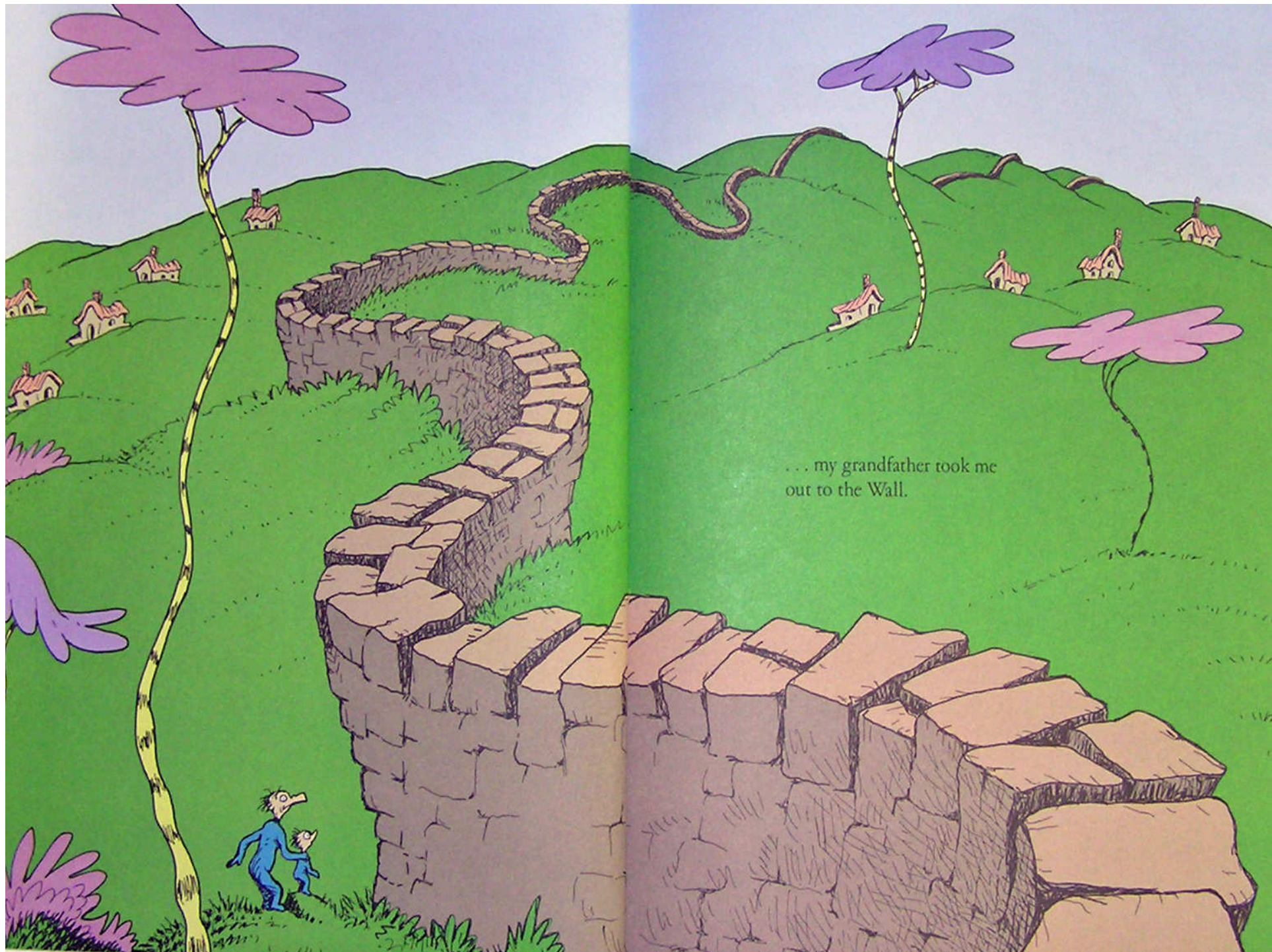
By  
Dr. Seuss



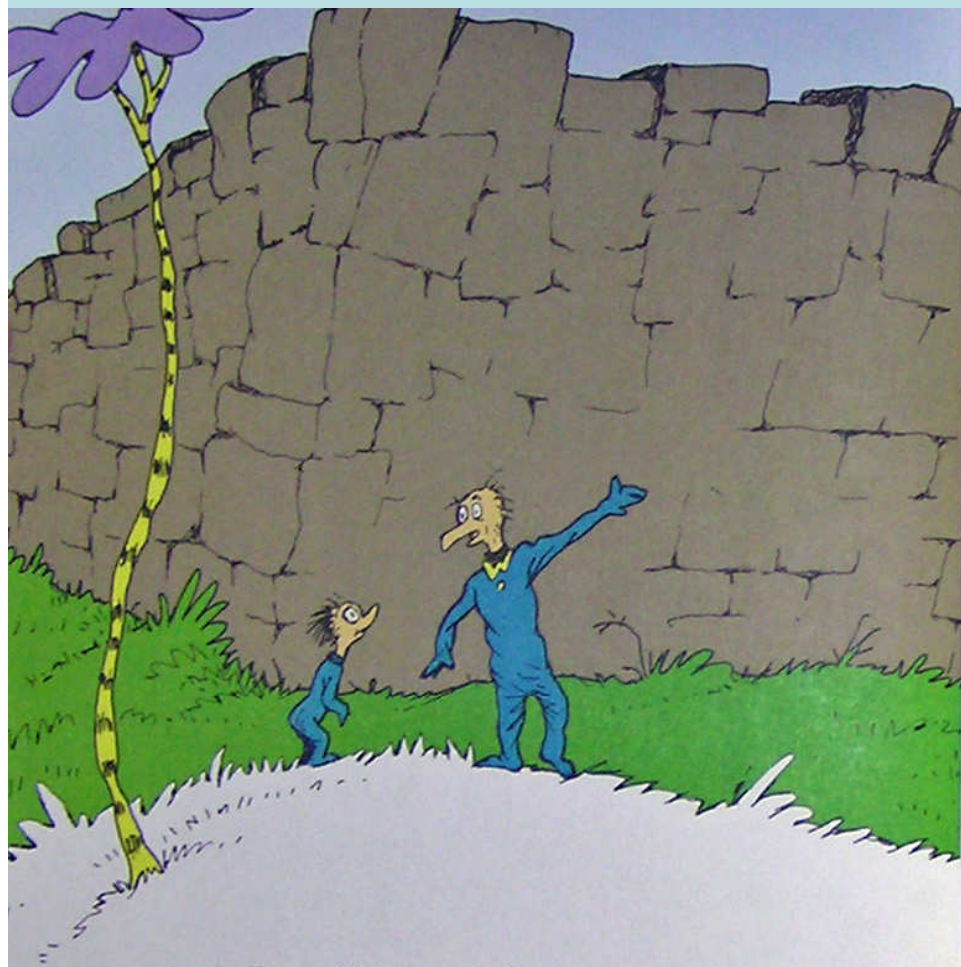
RANDOM HOUSE  NEW YORK

On the last day of summer,  
ten hours before fall . . .



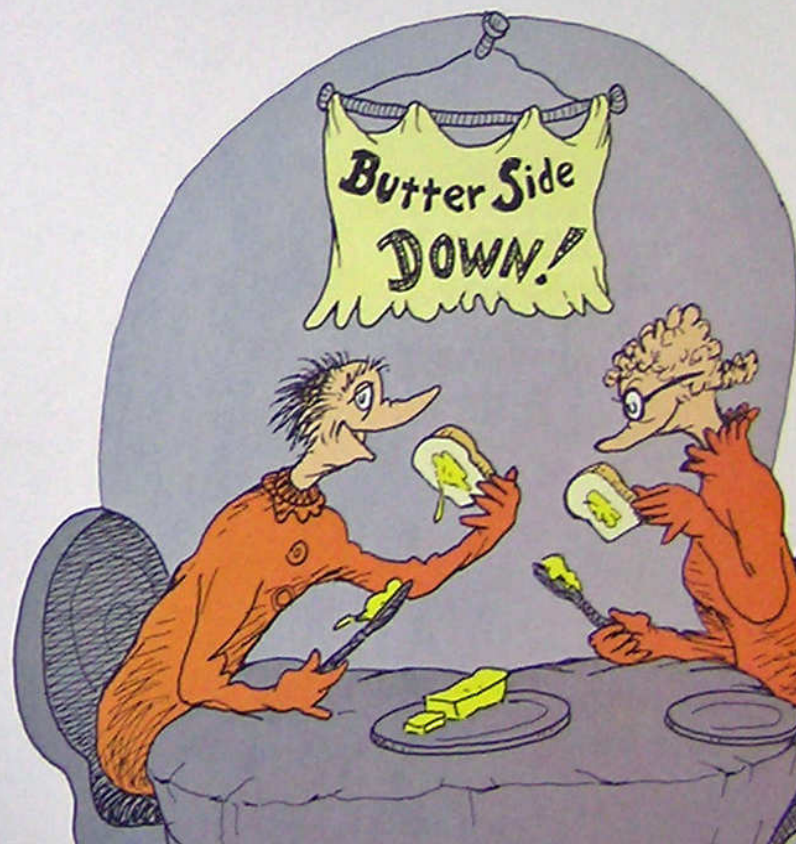


... my grandfather took me  
out to the Wall.

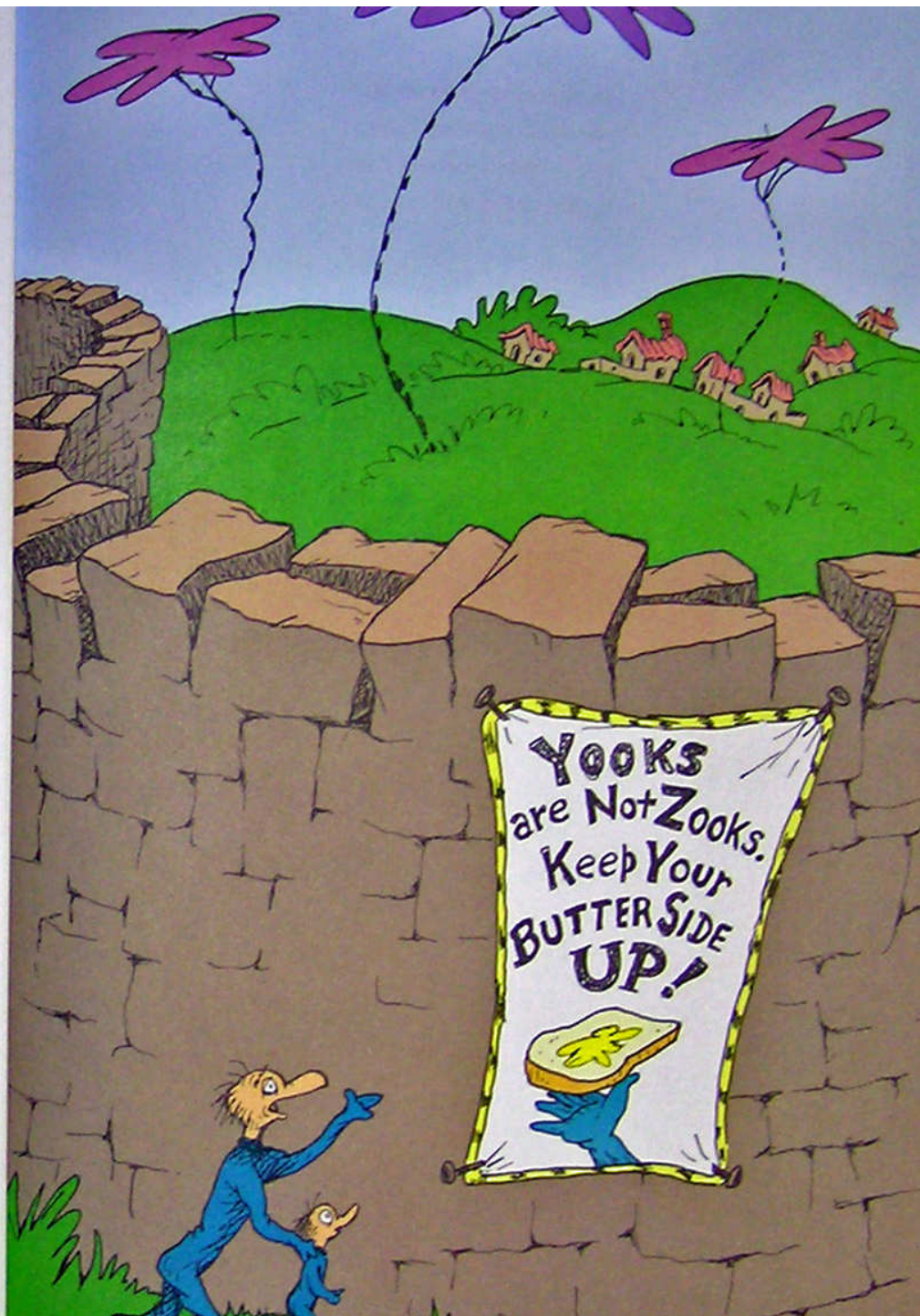


For a while he stood silent.  
Then finally he said,  
with a very sad shake  
of his very old head,  
"As you know, on this side of the Wall  
we are Yooks.  
On the far other side of this Wall  
live the Zooks."

Then my grandfather said,  
"It's high time that you knew  
of the terribly horrible thing that Zooks do.  
In every Zook house and in every Zook town  
*every Zook eats his bread  
with the butter side down!*"



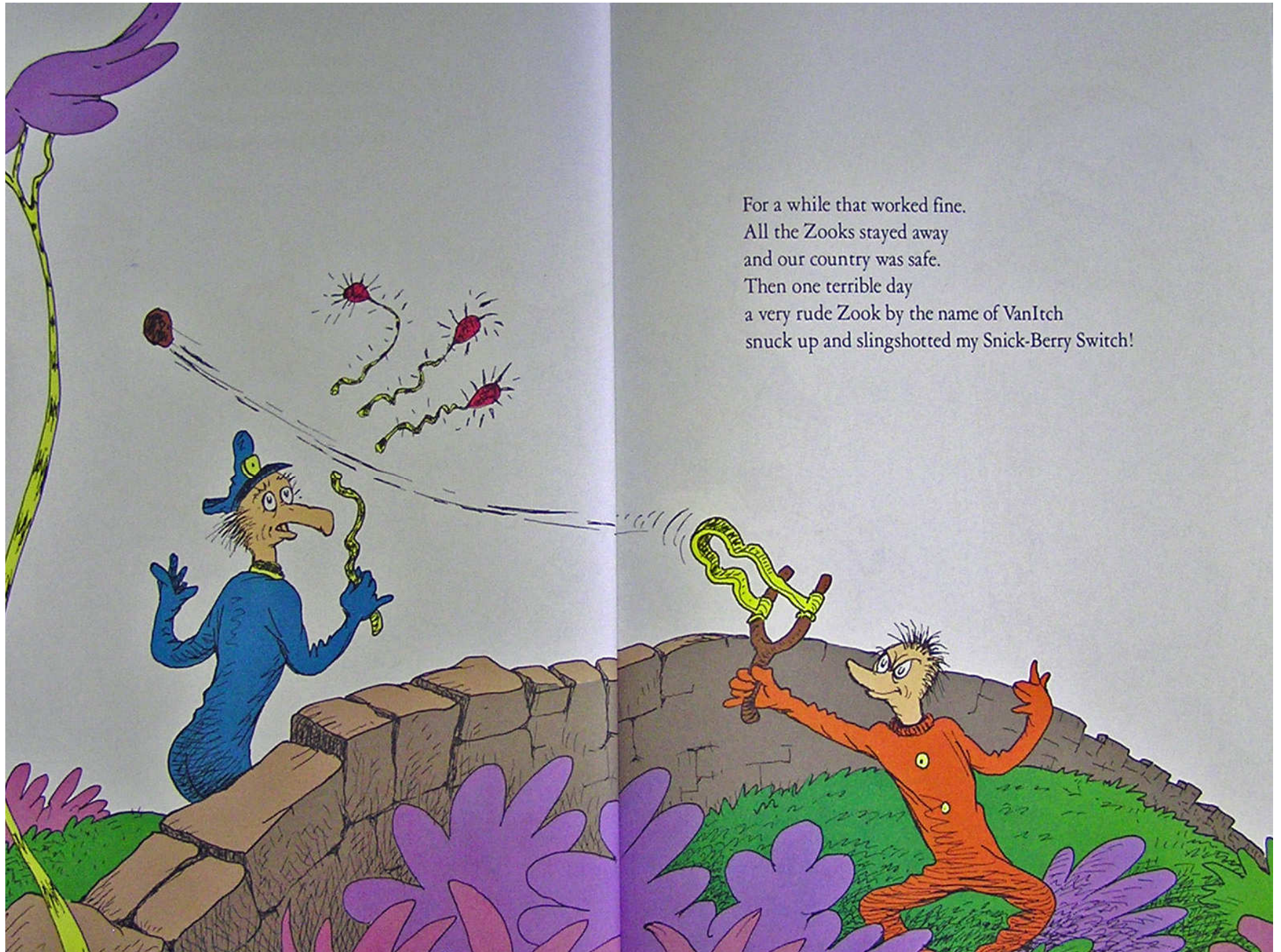
"But we Yooks, as you know,  
when we breakfast or sup,  
spread our bread," Grandpa said,  
"with the butter side *up*.  
That's the right, honest way!"  
Grandpa gritted his teeth.  
"So you can't trust a Zook who spreads bread underneath!  
Every Zook must be watched!  
He has kinks in his soul!  
That's why, as a youth, I made watching my goal,  
watching Zooks for the Zook-Watching Border Patrol!"



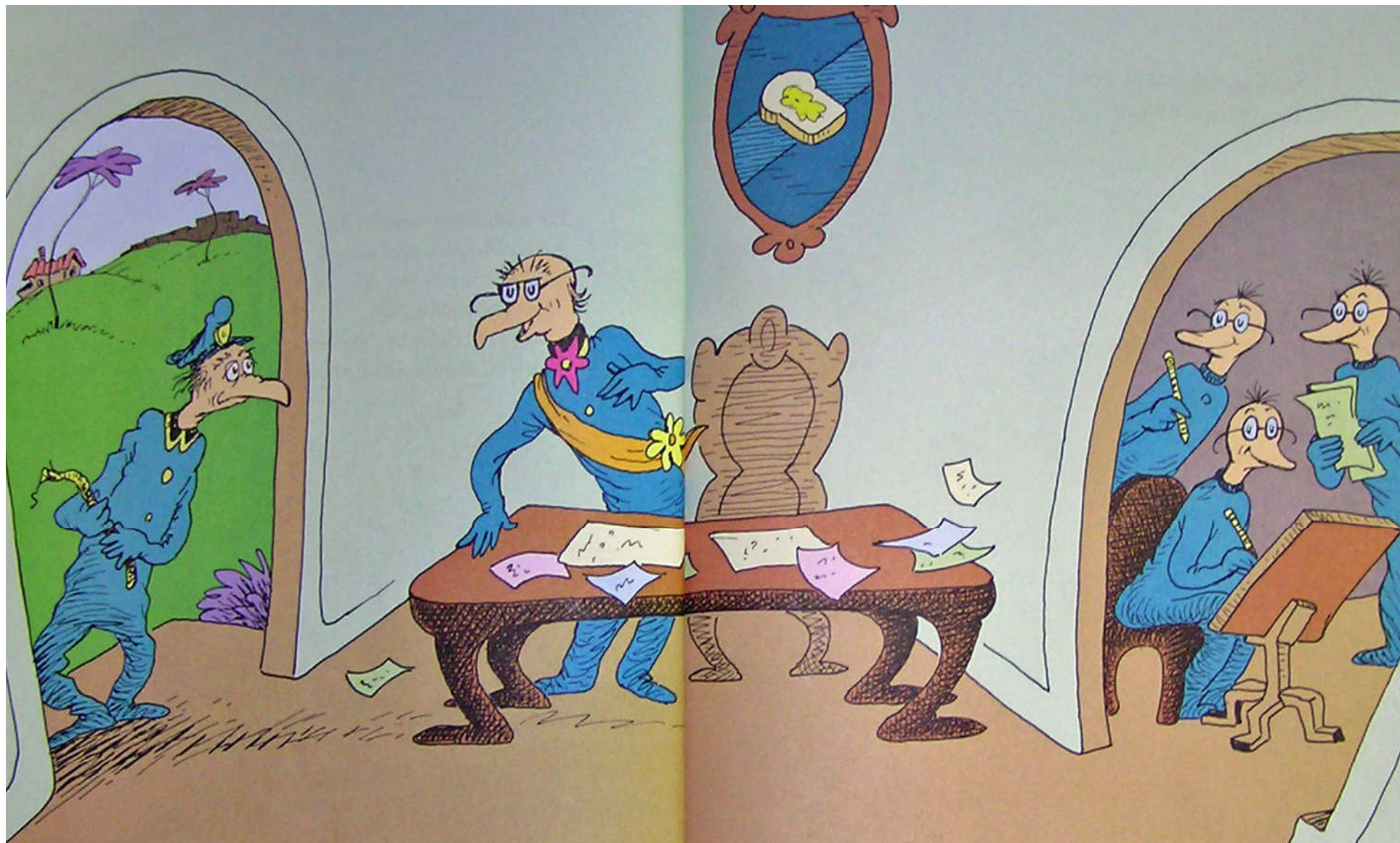
In those days, of course,  
the Wall wasn't so high  
and I could look any Zook  
square in the eye.

If he dared to come close  
I could give him a twitch  
with my tough-tufted  
prickly Snick-Berry Switch.





For a while that worked fine.  
All the Zooks stayed away  
and our country was safe.  
Then one terrible day  
a very rude Zook by the name of VanItch  
snuck up and slingshotted my Snick-Berry Switch!

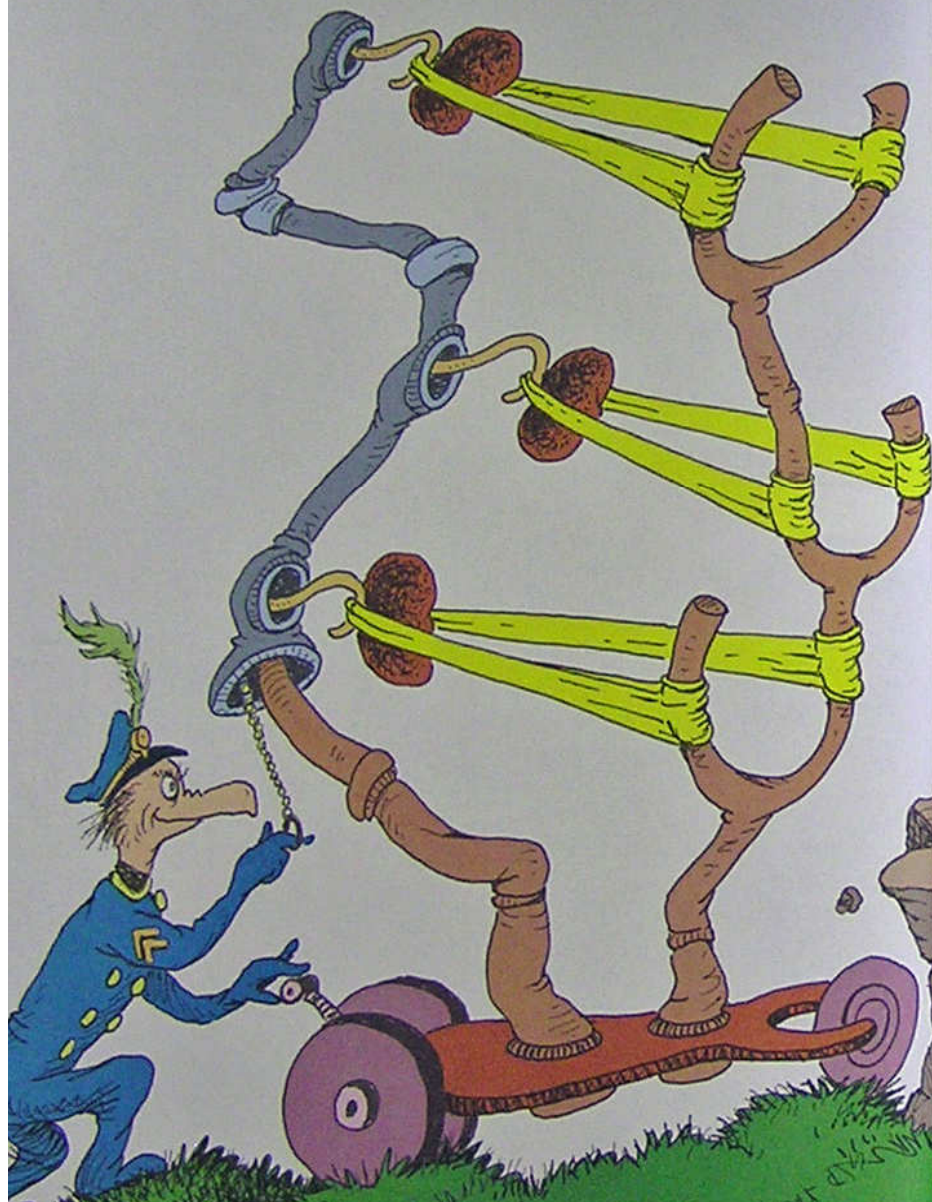


With my broken-off switch, with my head hung in shame,  
to the Chief Yookeroo in great sorrow I came.  
But our Leader just smiled. He said, "You're not to blame.  
And those Zooks will be sorry they started this game.

"We'll dress you right up in a fancier suit!  
We'll give you a fancier slingshot to shoot!"  
And he ordered the Boys in the Back Room to figger  
how to build me some sort of a triple-sling jigger.

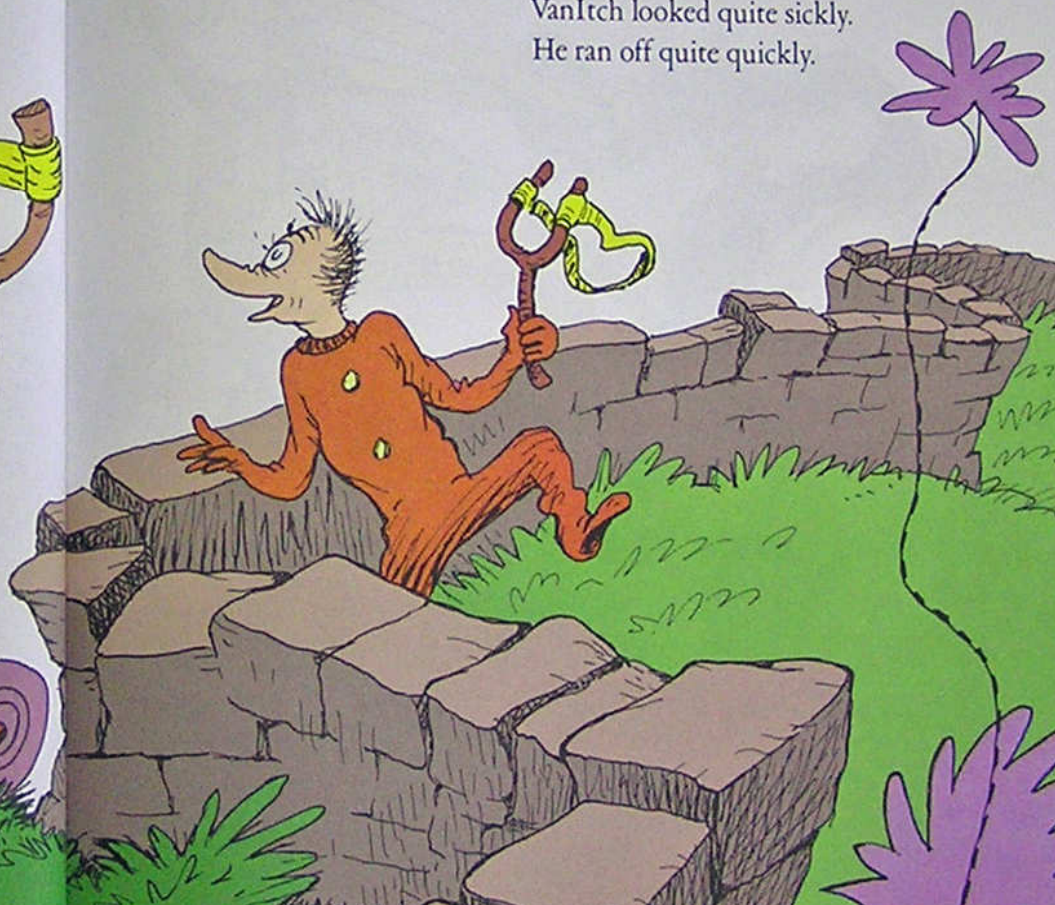


With my Triple-Sling Jigger  
I sure felt much bigger.



I marched to the Wall with great vim and great vigor,  
right up to VanItch with my hand on the trigger.  
"I'll have no more nonsense," I said with a frown,  
"from Zooks who eat bread with the butter side down!"

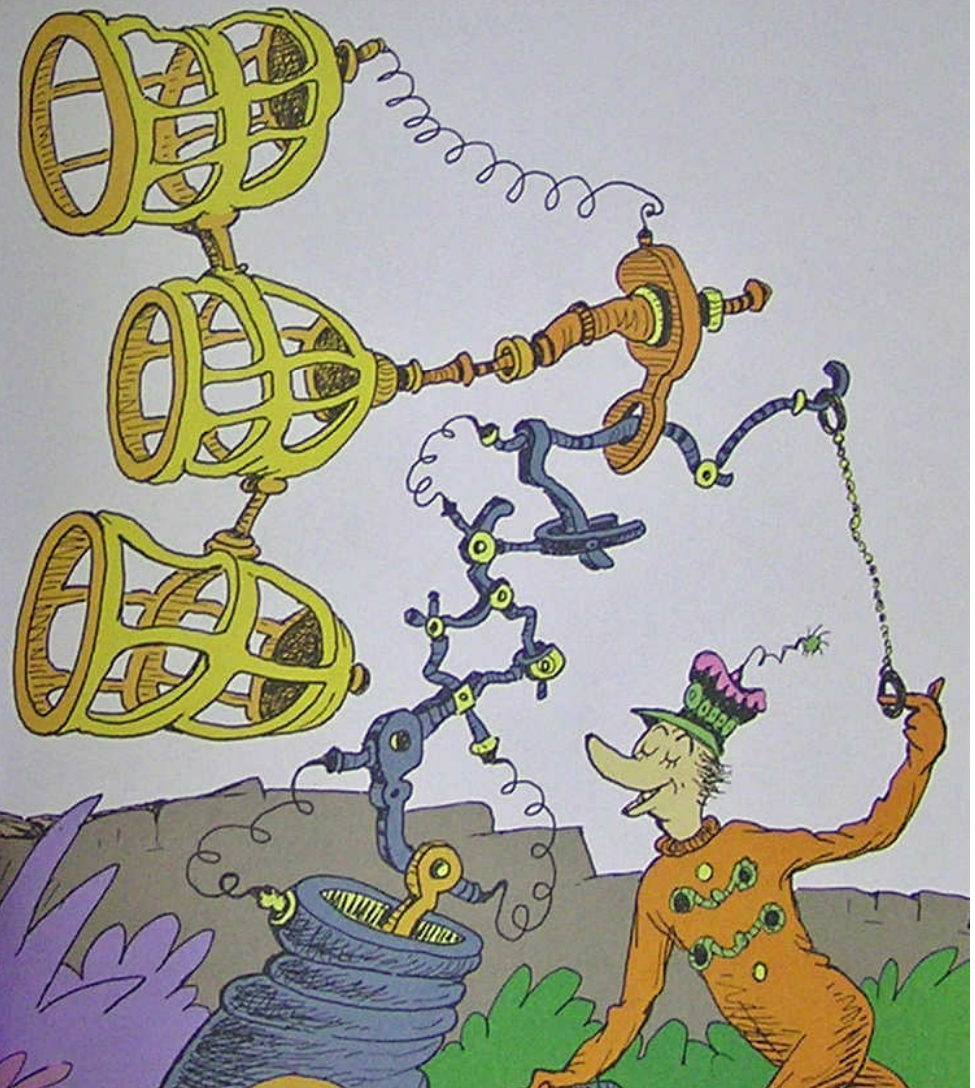
VanItch looked quite sickly.  
He ran off quite quickly.



I'm unhappy to say  
he came back the next day  
in a spiffy new suit with a big new machine,  
and he snarled as he said, looking frightfully mean,  
"You may fling those hard rocks with your Triple-Sling Jigger.  
But I, also, now have *my* hand on a trigger!"



"My wonderful weapon, the Jigger-Rock Snatchem,  
will fling 'em right back just as quick as we catch 'em.  
We'll have no more nonsense.  
We'll take no more gupp  
from you Yooks who eat bread with the butter side up!"



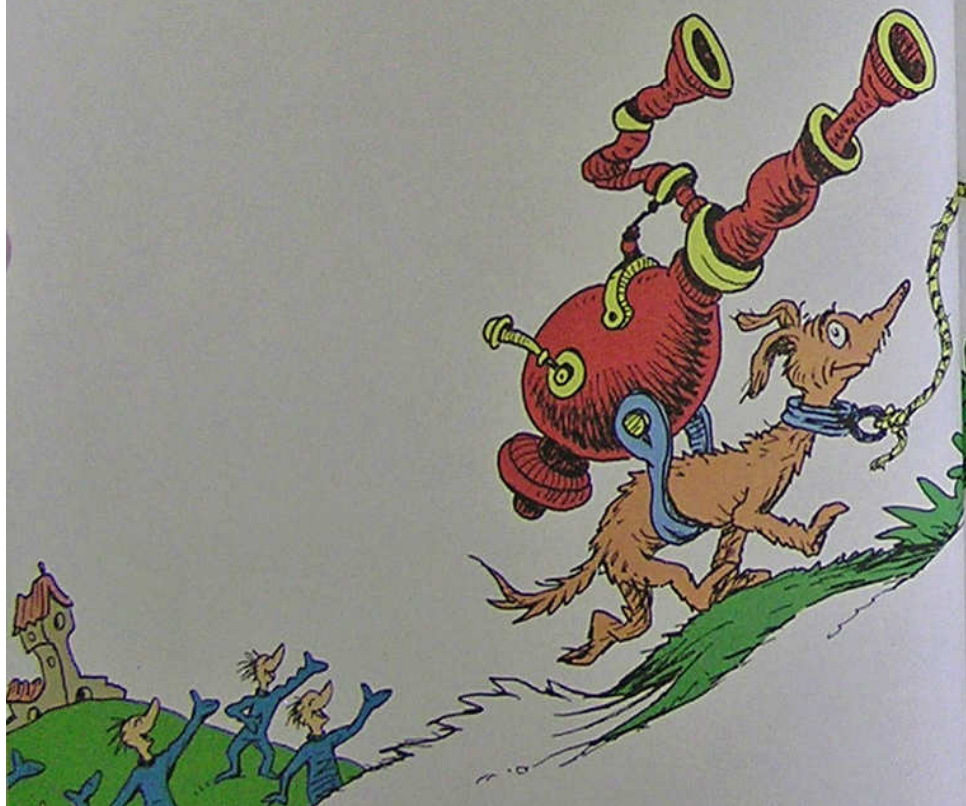
"I have failed, sir," I sobbed as I made my report  
to the Chief Yookeroo in the headquarters fort.  
He just laughed. "You've done nothing at all of the sort.

Our slingshots have failed.  
That was old-fashioned stuff.  
Slingshots, dear boy,  
are not modern enough.

"All we need is some newfangled kind of a gun.  
My Boys in the Back Room have already begun  
to think up a walloping whizz-zinger one!  
My Bright Boys are thinking.  
They're on the right track.  
They'll think one up quick  
and we'll send you right back!"

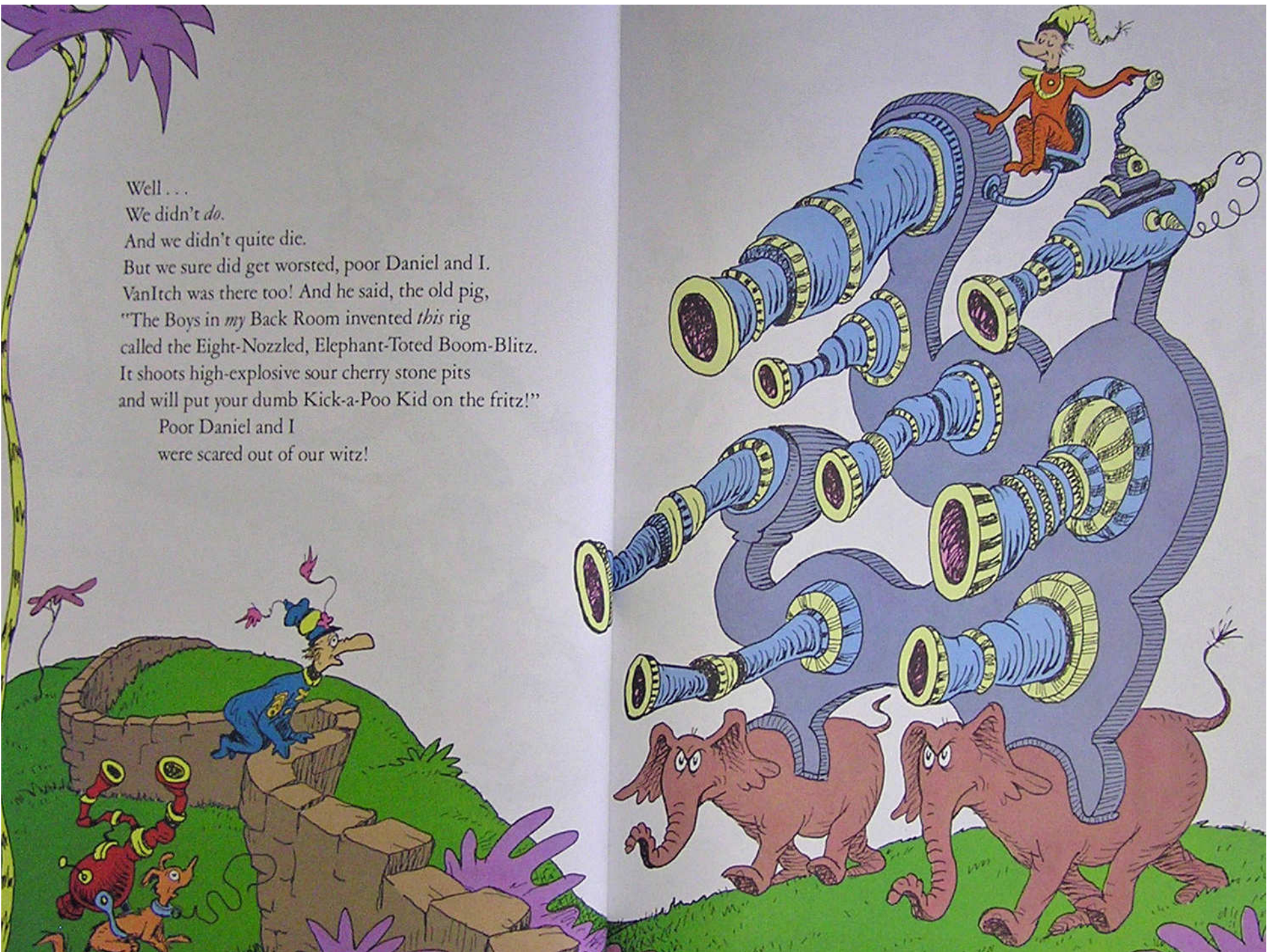


They thought up a great one!  
They certainly did.  
They thought up a gun called the Kick-a-Poo Kid  
which they loaded with powerful Poo-a-Doo Powder  
and ants' eggs and bees' legs  
and dried-fried clam chowder.  
And they carefully trained a real smart dog named Daniel  
to serve as our country's first gun-toting spaniel.



Then Daniel, the Kick-a-Poo Spaniel, and I  
marched back toward the Wall  
with our heads held up high  
while everyone cheered and their cheers filled the sky:  
*"Fight! Fight for the Butter Side Up!  
Do or die!"*

Well . . .  
We didn't *do*.  
And we didn't quite die.  
But we sure did get worsted, poor Daniel and I.  
VanItch was there too! And he said, the old pig,  
"The Boys in *my* Back Room invented *this* rig  
called the Eight-Nozzled, Elephant-Toted Boom-Blitz.  
It shoots high-explosive sour cherry stone pits  
and will put your dumb Kick-a-Poo Kid on the fritz!"  
Poor Daniel and I  
were scared out of our witz!



Once more, by VanItch I was bested and beat.  
Once again I limped home from the Wall in defeat.  
I dragged and I sagged  
and my spirits were low,  
as low as I thought that they ever could go,  
when I heard a *Boom-Bab!*  
And a *Diddle-dee-Dill!*  
And our Butter-Up Band  
marched up over the hill!



The Chief Yookeroo had sent them to meet me  
along with the Right-Side-Up Song Girls to greet me.  
They sang:

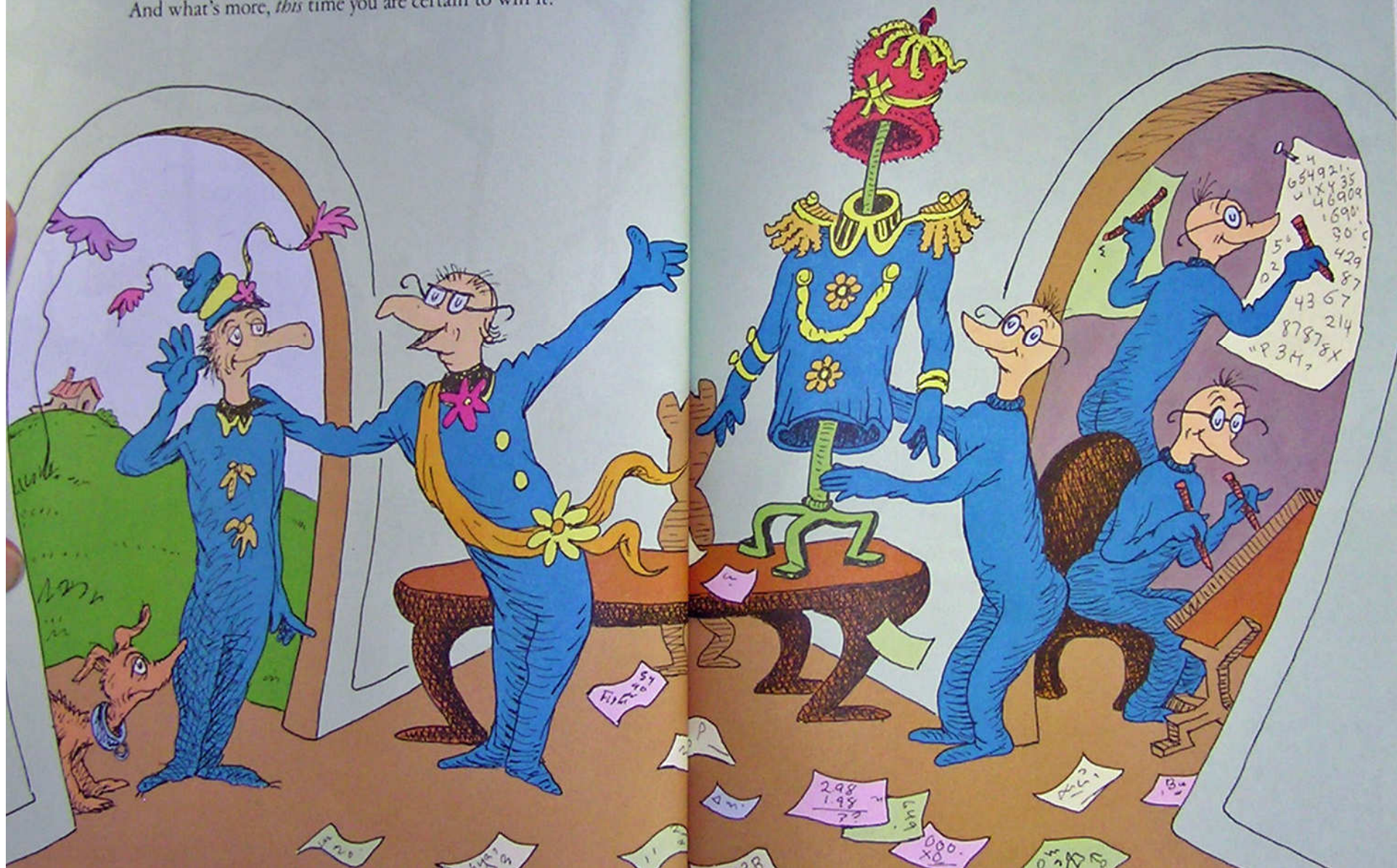
*"Oh, be faithful!  
Believe in thy butter!"*

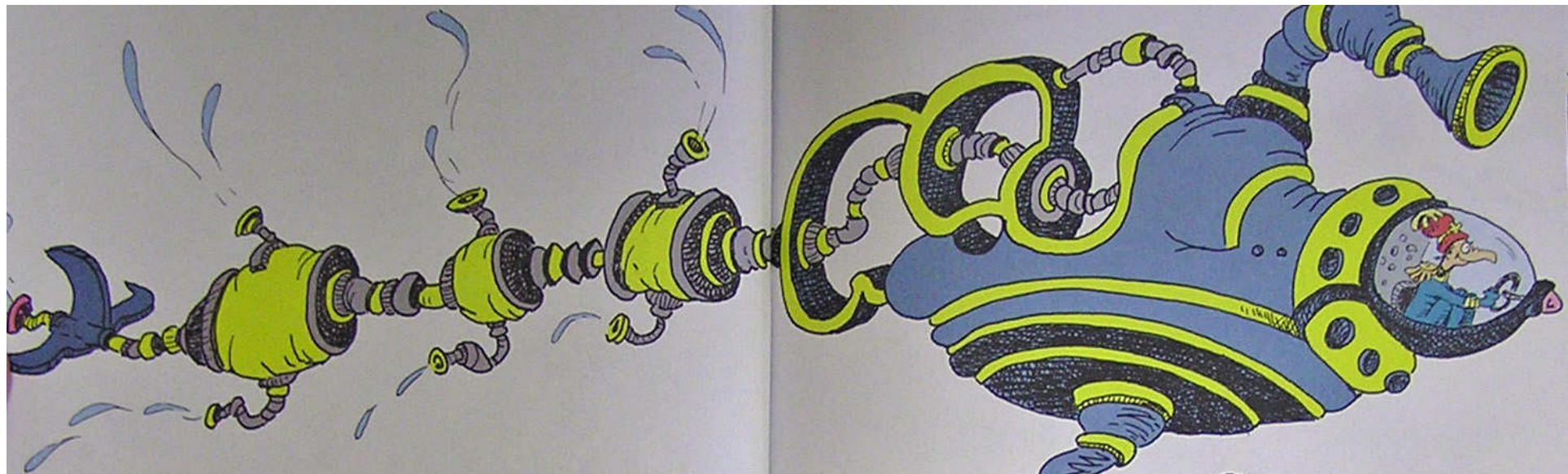
And they lifted my spirits right out of the gutter!

"My boy," smiled the Chief Yookeroo, "we've just voted and made you a general! You've been promoted. Your pretty new uniform's ready. Get in it! The Big War is coming. You're going to begin it! And what's more, *this* time you are certain to win it.



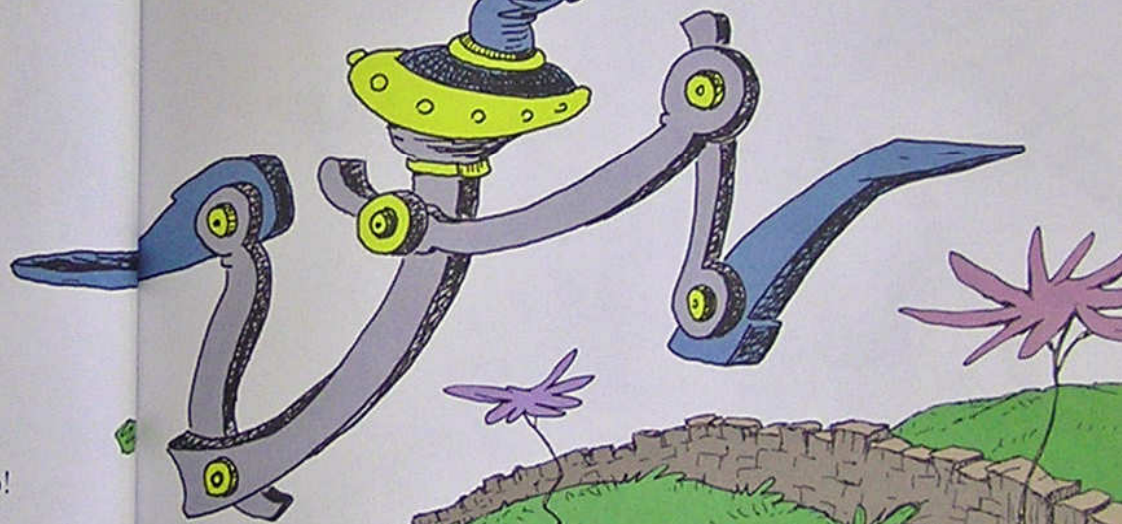
"My Boys in the Back Room have finally found how. Just wait till you see what they've puttered up now! In their great new machine you'll fly over that Wall and clobber those Butter-Down Zooks one and all!"





Those Boys in the Back Room sure knew how to putter!  
They made me a thing called the Utterly Sputter  
and I jumped aboard with my heart all aflutter  
and steered toward the land  
of the Upside-Down Butter.

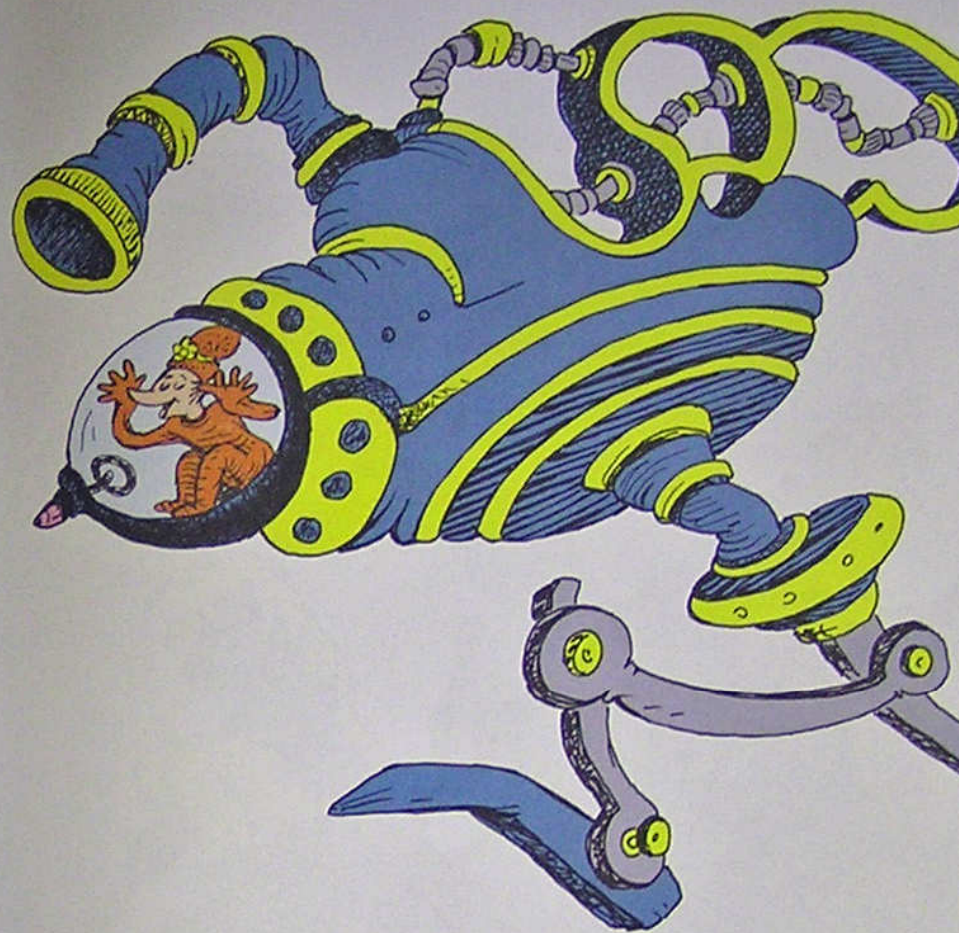
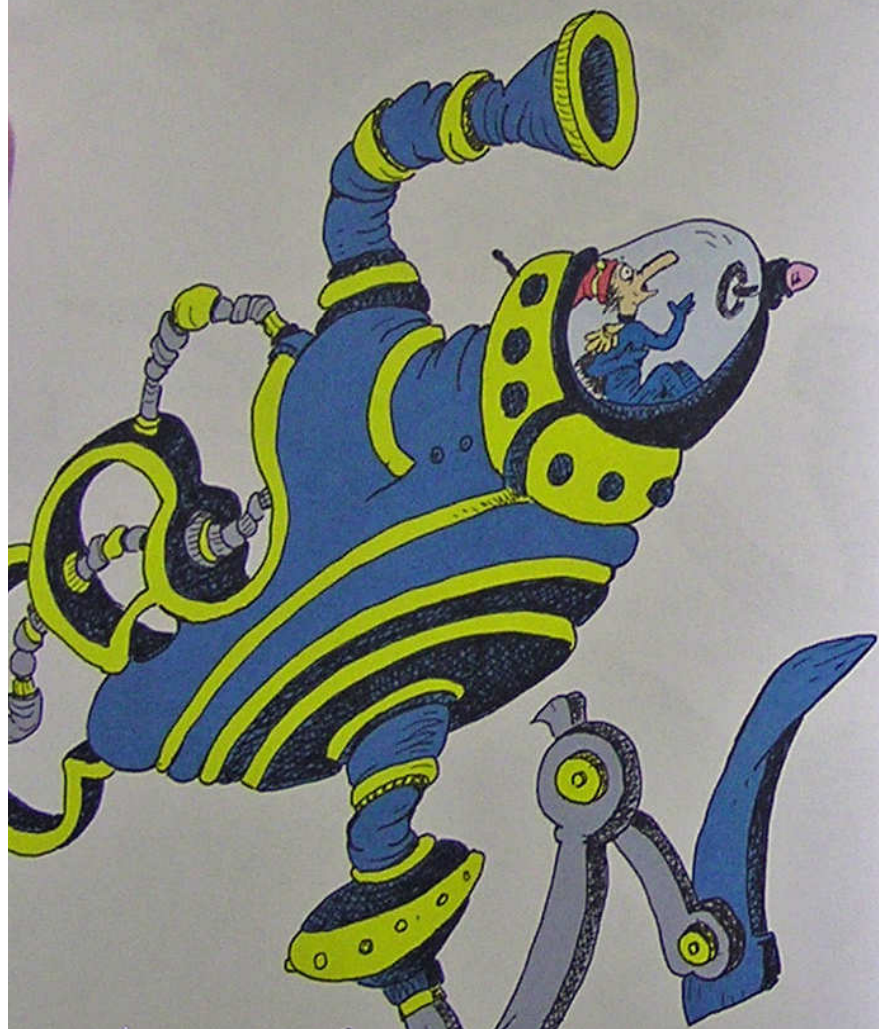
This machine was *so* modern, *so* frightfully new,  
no one knew quite exactly just *what* it would do!



But it had several faucets that sprinkled Blue Goo  
which, somehow, would sprinkle the Zooks as I flew  
and gum up that upside-down butter they chew.



I was racing pell-mell  
when I heard a voice yell,  
"If you sprinkle us Zooks,  
you'll get sprinkled as well!"

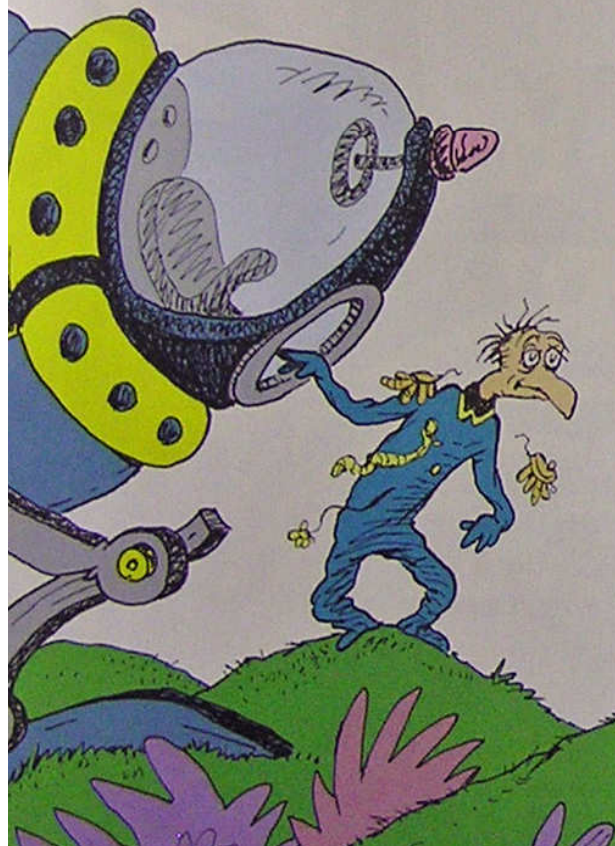


VanItch had a Sputter exactly like mine!  
And he yelled, "My Blue-Gooer is working just fine!  
And I'm here to say that if Yooks can goo Zooks,  
you'd better forget it. 'Cause Zooks can goo Yooks!"



I flew right back home  
and, as you may have guessed,  
I was downright despondent,  
disturbed,  
and depressed.

And I saw, just as soon as I stepped back on land,  
so were all of the girls of the Butter-Up Band.



The Chief Drum Majorette, Miz Yookie-Ann Sue,  
said, "That was a pretty sour flight that you flew.  
And the Chief Yookeroo has been looking for you!"



I raced to his office. The place was a sight.  
"Have no fears," said the Chief. "Everything is all right.  
My Bright Back Room Boys have been brighter than bright.  
They've thought up a gadget that's Newer than New.  
It is filled with mysterious Moo-Lacka-Moo  
and can blow all those Zooks clear to Sala-ma-goo.  
THEY'VE INVENTED

THE BITSY  
BIG-BOY BOOMEROO!

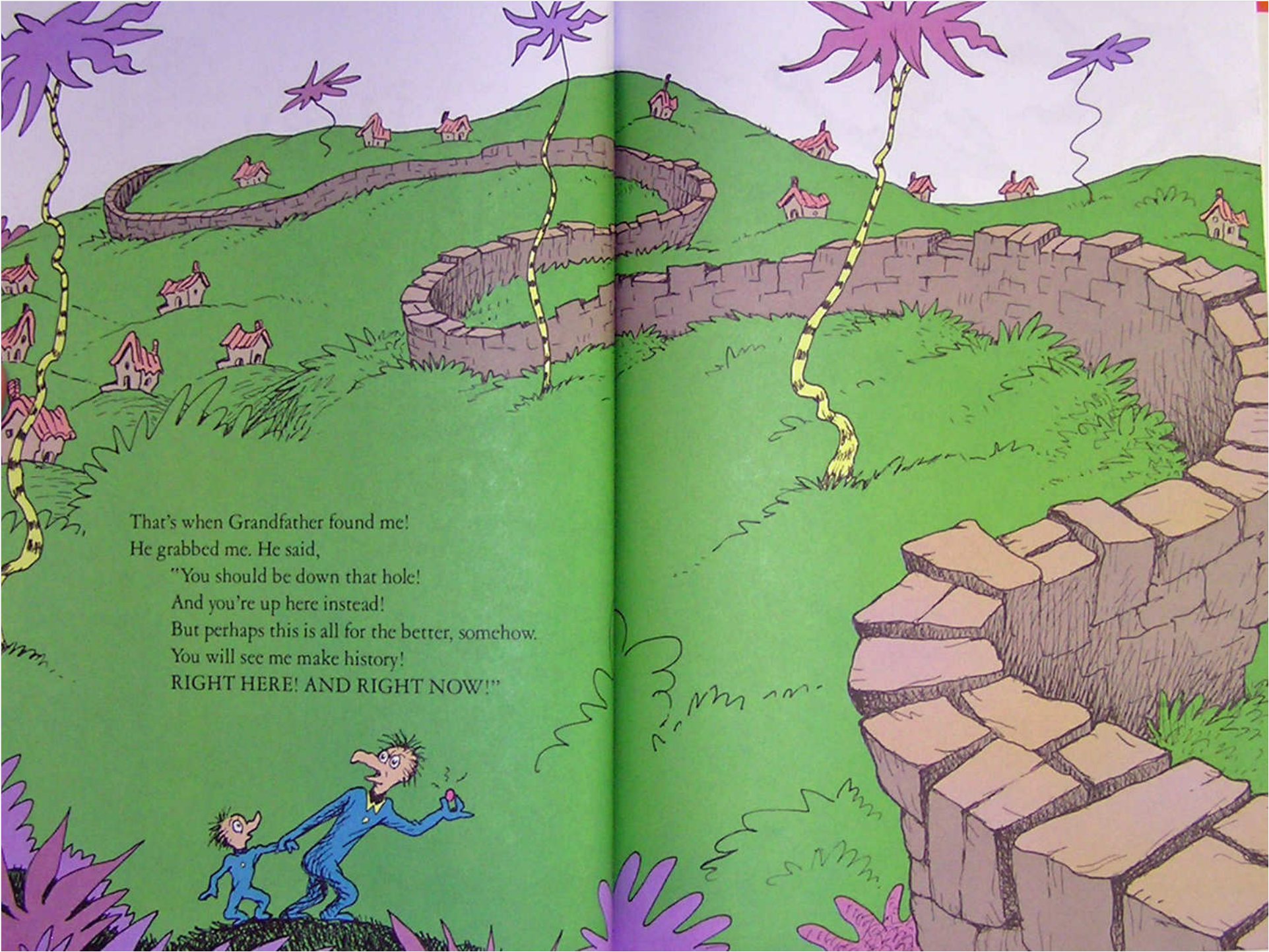
"You just run to the wall like a nice little man.  
Drop this bomb on the Zooks just as fast as you can.  
I have ordered all Yooks to stay safe underground  
while the Bitsy Big-Boy Boomeroo is around."



As I raced for that Wall, with the bomb in my hand,  
I noticed that every last Yook in our land  
was obeying our Chief Yookeroo's grim command.



They were all bravely marching,  
with banners aflutter,  
down a hole! For their country!  
And Right-Side-Up Butter!



That's when Grandfather found me!  
He grabbed me. He said,  
"You should be down that hole!  
And you're up here instead!  
But perhaps this is all for the better, somehow.  
You will see me make history!  
**RIGHT HERE! AND RIGHT NOW!!**"



Grandpa leapt up that Wall with a lopulous leap  
and he cleared his hoarse throat  
with a bopulous beep.  
He screamed, "Here's the end of that terrible town  
full of Zooks who eat bread with the butter side down!"

And at that very instant we heard a klupp-klupp  
of feet on the Wall and old VanItch klupped up!  
*The Boys in HIS Back Room had made him one too!*  
*In his fist was another Big-Boy Boomeroo!*  
"I'll blow you," he yelled, "into pork and wee beans!  
I'll butter-side-up you to small smithereens!"



"Grandpa!" I shouted. "Be careful! Oh, gee!  
Who's going to drop it?  
Will you...? Or will he...?"  
"Be patient," said Grandpa. "We'll see.  
We will see..."