

PENNY.

the Engineering Tail of the Fourth Little Pig



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and Shelli R. Johannes

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Once upon a time, there was a fourth little pig named Penny.



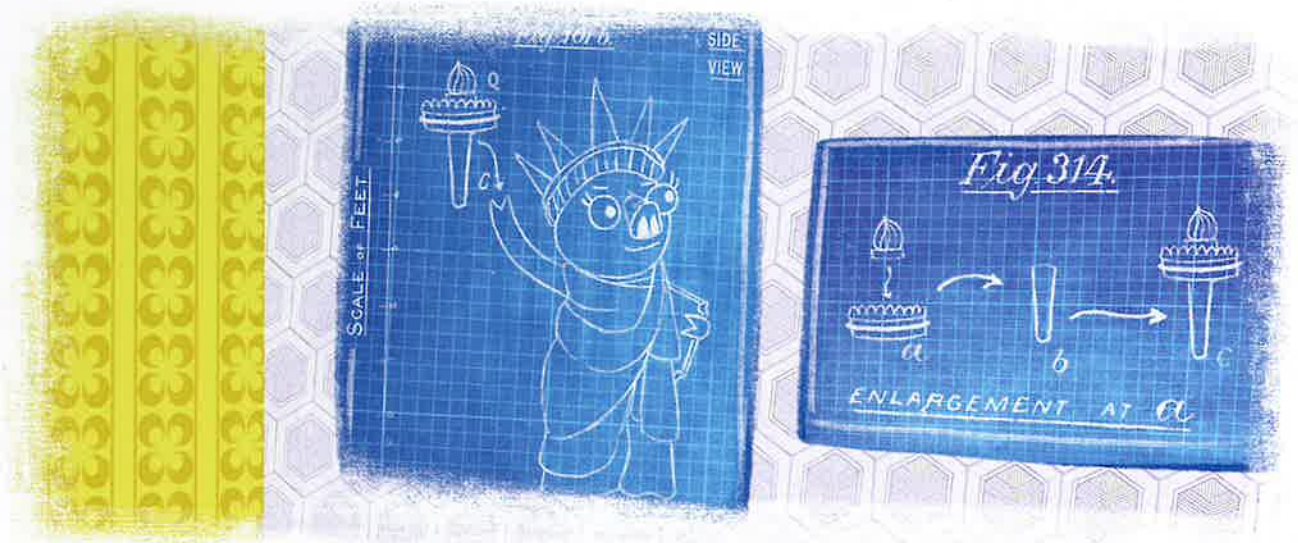


Ever since she was a piglet in Hog's Heaven, Penny dreamed of being an engineer.

While her three brothers were building their homes, Penny moved to New Pork City.

In engineering school, she constructed sets for *Swine Lake*.





After graduation, she designed blueprints for the city's Statue of Pigerty.

And in her free time, she sketched plans to build the biggest pigtail roller coaster Boar County had ever seen.





One day, Penny got a call from her brothers.

"The big bad wolf was here!" Puck squealed.

"He huffed, and he puffed, and he blew our houses down," Pip oinked.



"My brick house is still standing," Pierre grunted. "But we need an engineer to evaluate the damage."

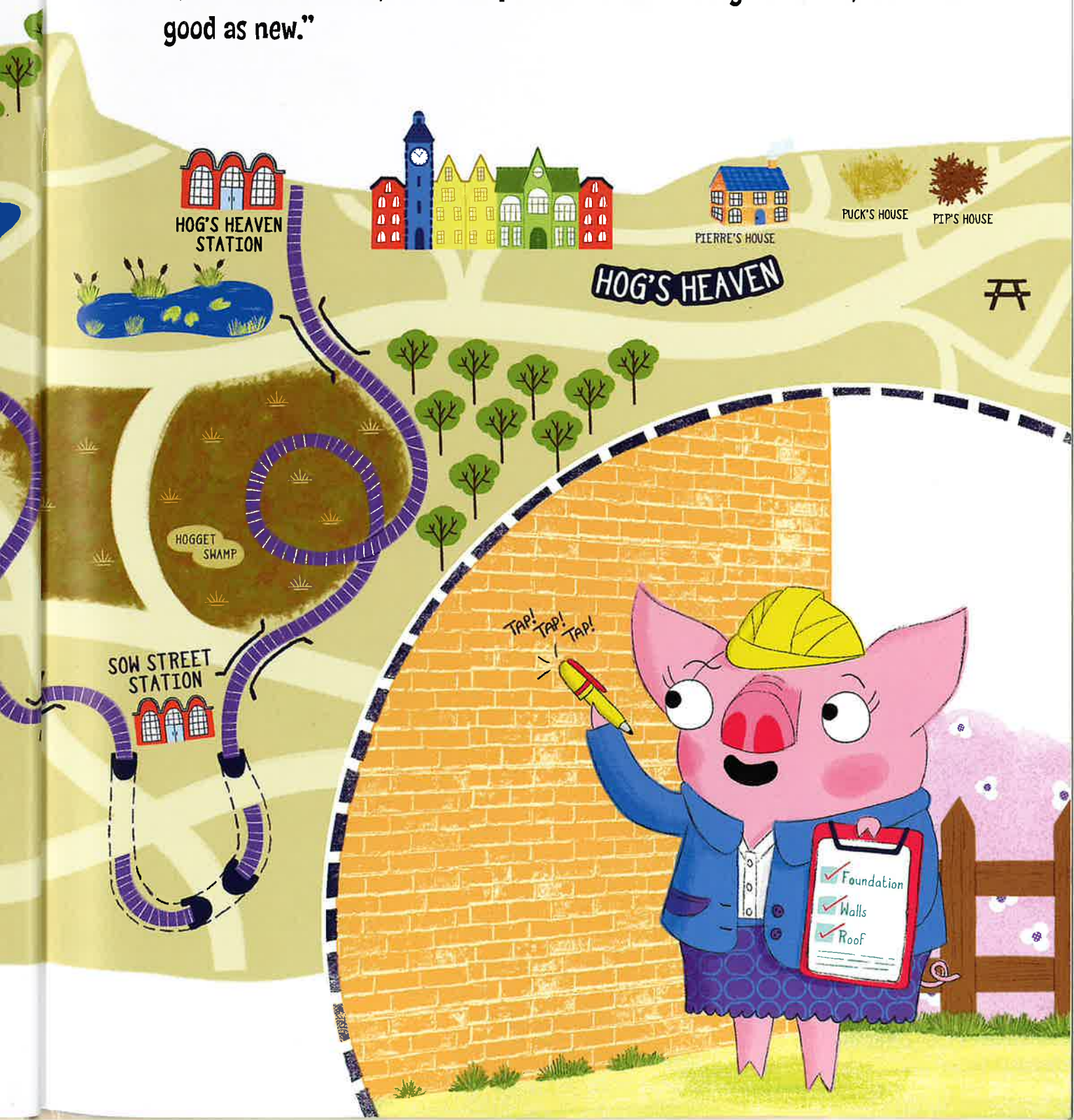
"I can do it!" Penny volunteered.

Penny headed straight for the Swine Line. When she arrived in Hog's Heaven, the neighborhood was a total pigsty!



Penny got right to work. She checked the foundation, she double-checked the walls, and she triple-checked the roof.

"Your house is solid," she told Pierre. "With a little grunt work, it'll be as good as new."



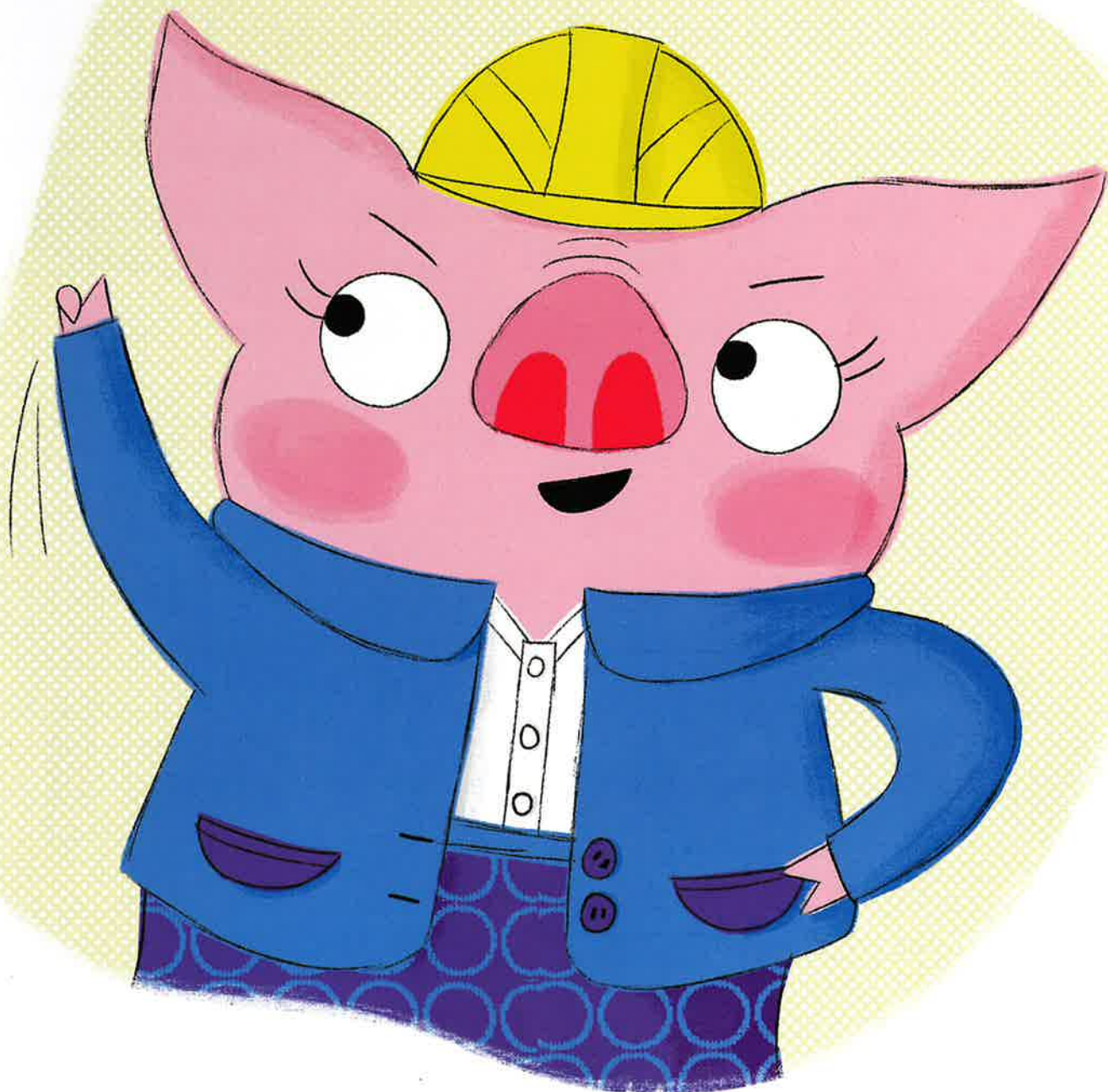


Just then, Pierre got a text. "It's Little Red. She says Wolfgang is on the prowl. He's coming back tonight!"

"He's one doggone bully," Pip oinked.

"No use swine-ing," Puck squealed. "We gotta stop this hogwash!"

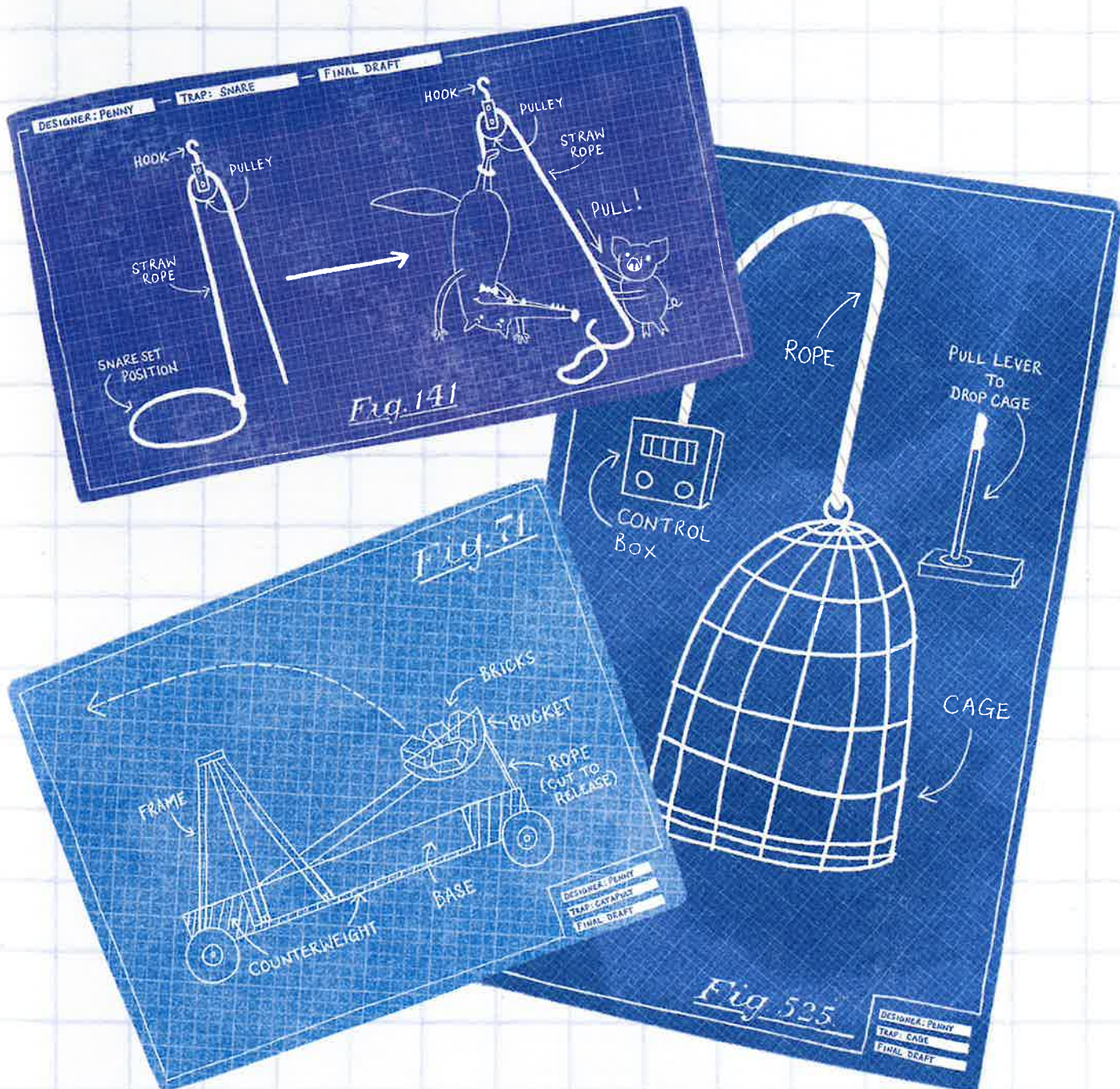
Penny agreed. "Let's build wolf traps around the house to keep him out."



First, Penny brainstormed ideas. She measured, and she sketched.



Then, she drew up blueprints for each trap.



As soon as the plans were perfected, the four little pigs started building.

Penny was the head hog. She supervised as . . .

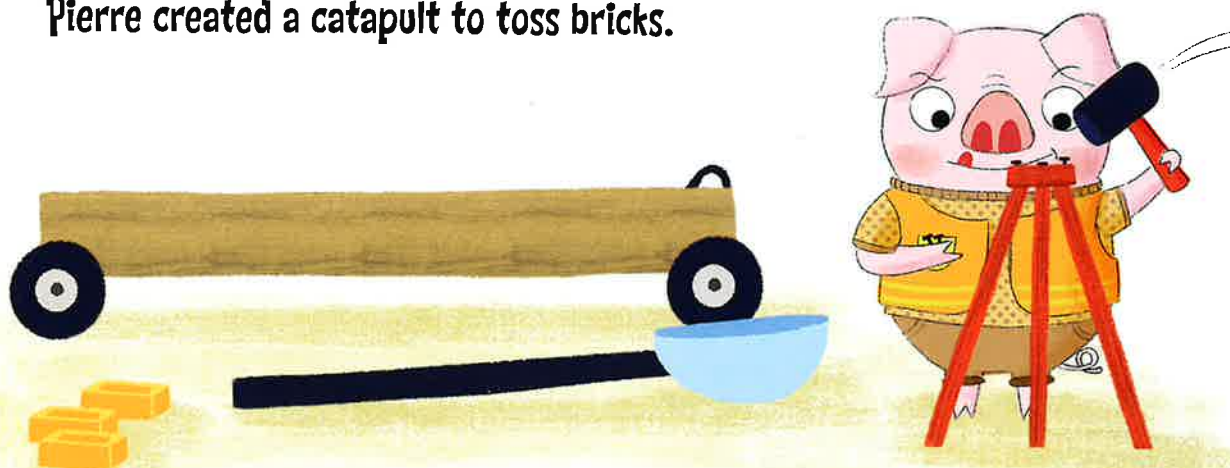
Puck wove a snare out of straw.

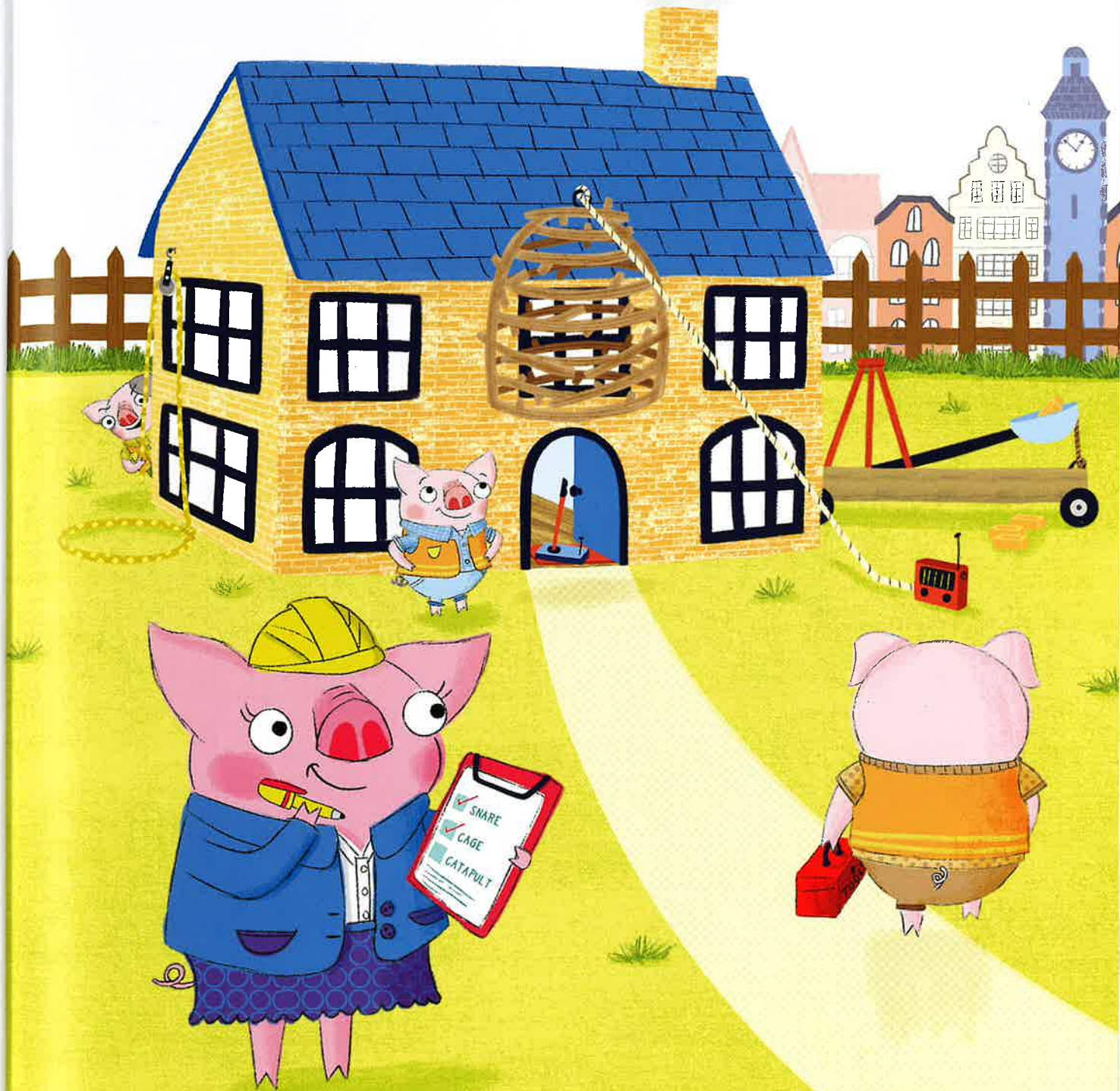


Pip built a cage made of sticks.



Pierre created a catapult to toss bricks.





Then, the pigs prepared for battle.

That night, Wolfgang stomped down the street. "Little pigs, little pigs . . .
I'm back again."



"You might as well leave, 'cause you'll never get in!" Penny hollered.

Wolfgang flexed his muscles. "I'm big, and I'm tough, and this time, I'll win."



"Not by the hair on our pinky pig skin!" the four little pigs chanted.

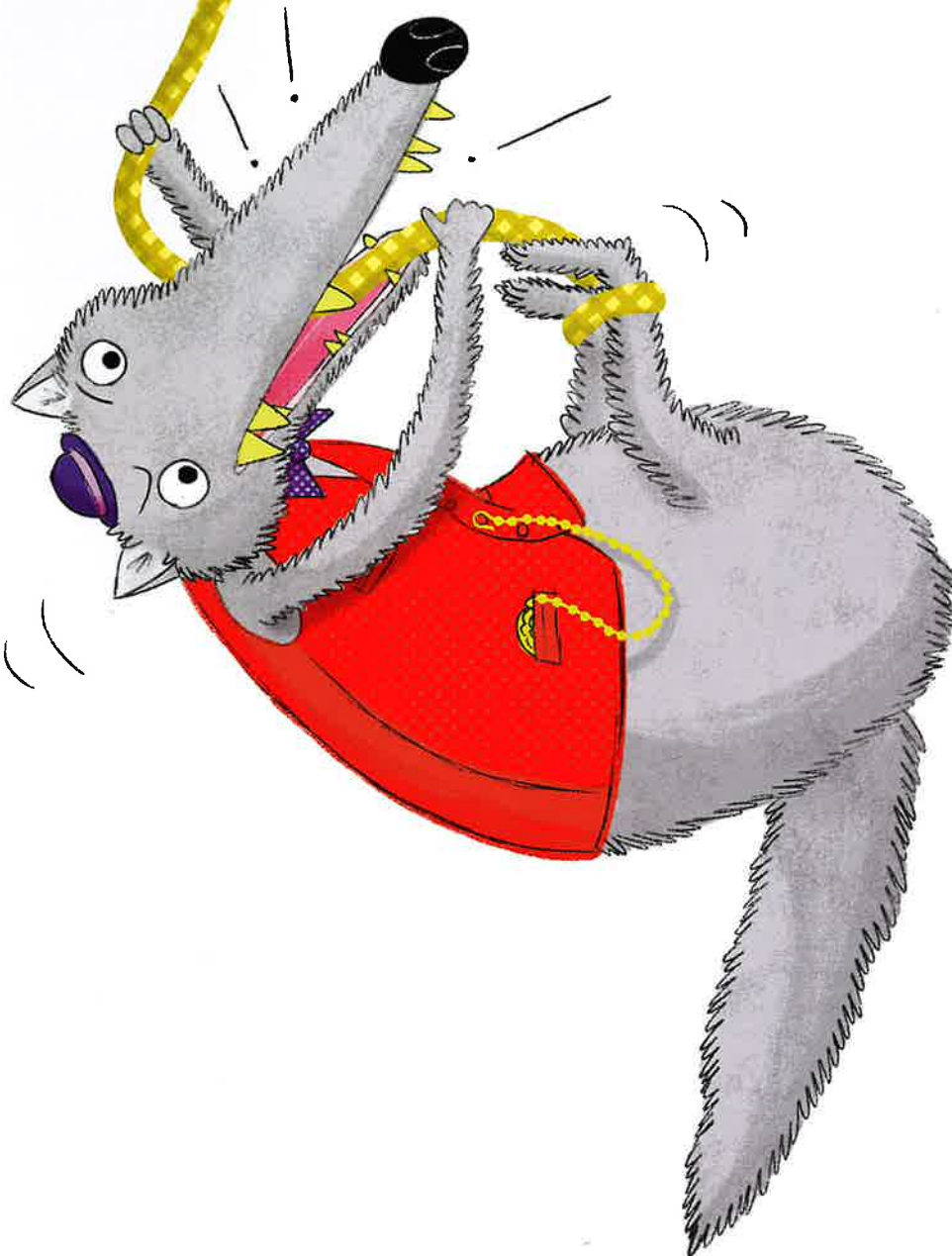
Wolfgang tried to sneak in the window, but Puck pulled the rope and tightened the snare.

TWANG!



Wolfgang growled and chomped
through the rope.

Puck squealed and ran off.



Wolfgang tried to kick down the door, but Pip pulled the lever and dropped the cage.

BANG!





Wolfgang howled and broke through the sticks.

Pip oinked and hid.

Wolfgang tried to climb on the roof, but before he reached the top, Pierre released the catapult.



The brick flew through the air and landed on Wolfgang's foot.



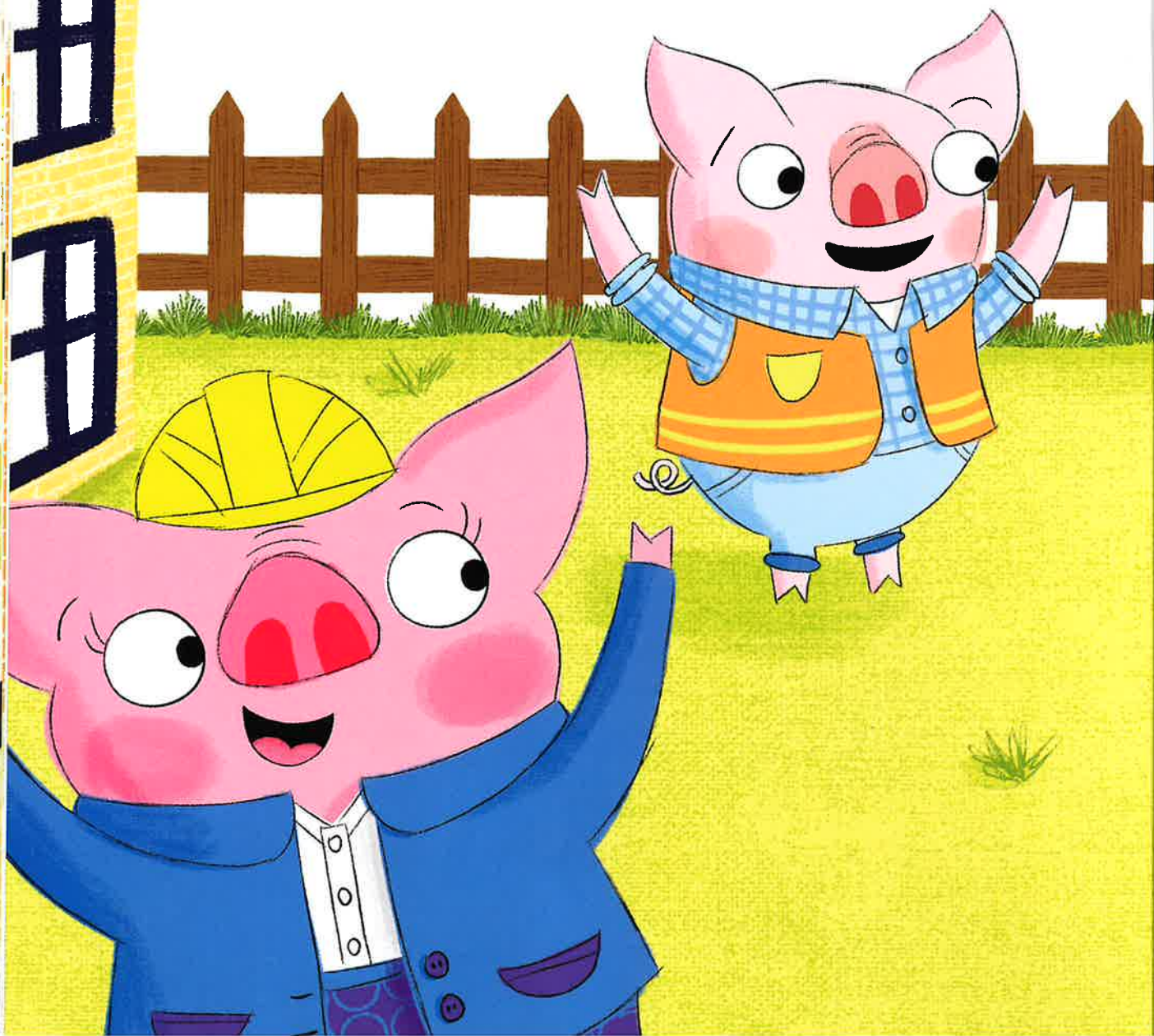
"Owwwwww!" Wolfgang howled. "You're too pigheaded for me!"

He ran off with his tail between his legs.



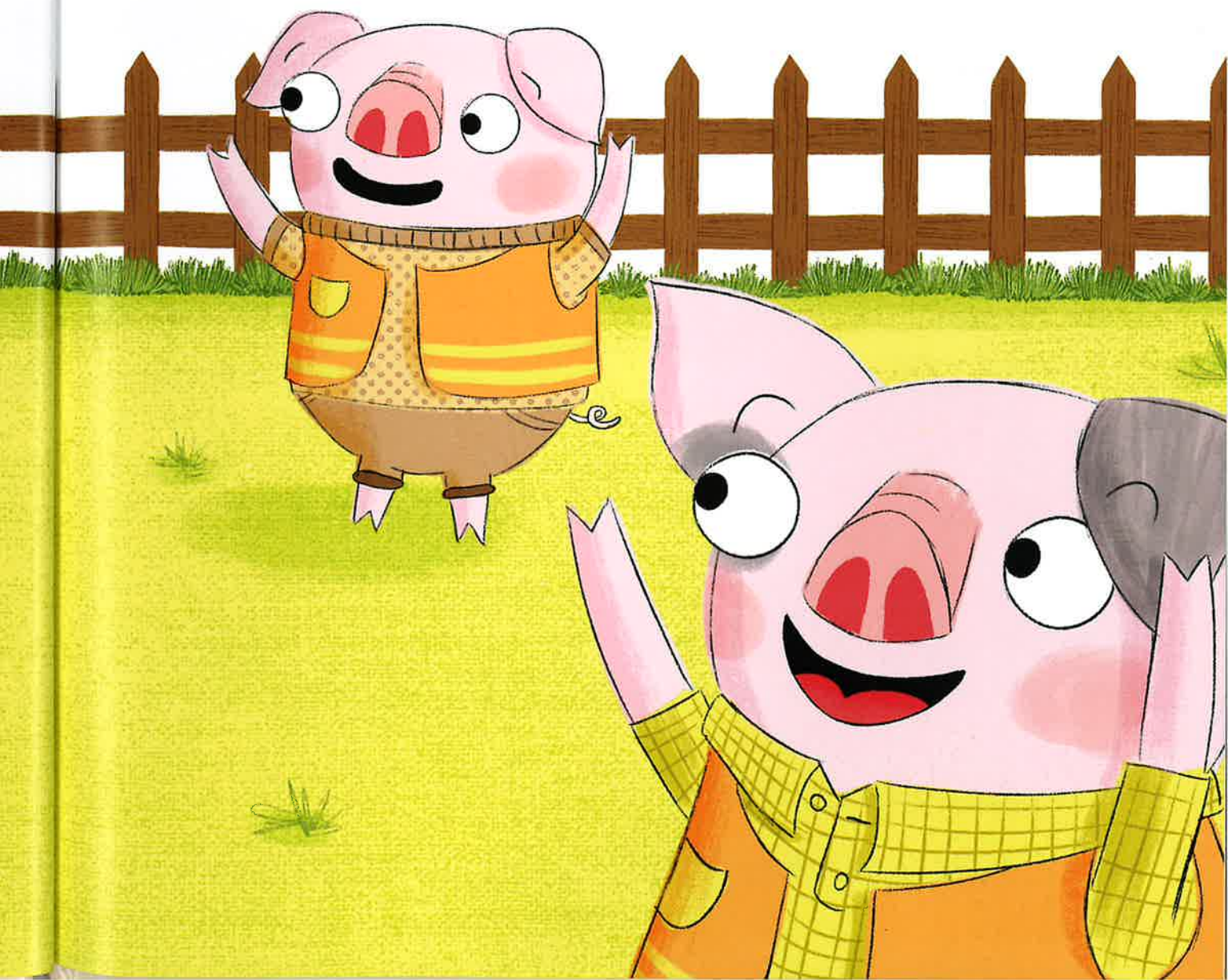
"That's what he gets for hounding us," Puck said.

"We sure gave him a ruff time," Pip said.



"Now that he's in the doghouse, we can finally rebuild,"
Pierre said.

"Let's build one big house for all of you," Penny suggested.
"He'll never blow that down."





Penny drew up the blueprints.



Pierre laid the foundation with bricks.



Pip built the house with sticks.



Puck covered the roof with straw.



And together, they decorated the interior with piggy things.



Penny moved back to town and created a sty-lish house of her own.

She finally built the biggest pigtail roller coaster Boar County had ever seen.

The four little pigs all lived in Hog's Heaven . . . happily ever after.

And obviously, Penny was the head hog.



Glossary

blueprint (BLOO-print)—plans or drawings used as a guide for building something (like a brick house!)

brainstorm (BRAYN-storm)—a creative activity to think of solutions for a problem or challenge

catapult (KAT-uh-puhlt)—a large weapon, similar to a slingshot, used for firing objects over walls

construct (kuhn-STRUHKT)—to build or make something, such as a road, bridge, building, or the biggest roller coaster Boar County has ever seen!

design (di-ZYN)—to make a plan for how to build something (like a brand-new wolf-proof home!)

engineer (en-juh-NEER)—someone who uses science and math to plan, design, or build

evaluate (ih-VAL-yoo-ate)—to judge the condition of something

foundation (foun-DAY-shuhn)—a solid structure on which a building is built

lever (LEV-ur)—a tool for raising or using an object

measure (MEZH-ur)—to find out the size, length, or amount of something

plans (PLANS)—drawings or diagrams showing the parts or outline of something

sketch (SKECH)—a quick, rough drawing of something

snare (SNAIR)—a trap for catching birds or animals



About the Authors



Kimberly Derting is an award-winning author of young adult novels and the co-author of the popular *Loves Science* picture book series. As a child, Kimberly dreamed up magical worlds and spent hours drawing intricate “worm cities” because her art skills were so bad, she couldn’t draw anything with arms or legs. In college, she studied biology, but her real experiments are done at home, where she wrangles three kids, one husband, two dogs, a cat, and a rabbit named Thumper. In her free time, Kimberly volunteers for a local animal shelter with her daughter. You can visit her website at www.kimberlyderting.com.



Shelli R. Johannes writes children’s books and teen novels. She is the author of *Shine Like a Unicorn* and the *Theo Thesaurus* series, as well as the co-author of the *Loves Science* picture book series. She can often be found on highways and country roads, saving strays and other jaywalking critters, or volunteering with animal conservation groups. Shelli loves science, puns, cheese, and unicorns. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia, with her own pack of unicorns: a British husband, two wild kids, one sassy bird, and two crazy-haired goldendoodles who hate vegetables. You can visit Shelli online at srjohannes.com.

About the Illustrator



Hannah Marks is an award-winning illustrator based in Hertfordshire, United Kingdom. She has worked in children’s publishing for years and has created artwork for several books, including *The Panda Problem* and *David Bowie’s Let’s Dance*. Hannah is married with three children. You can see more of her work at www.hannahmarks.uk.



Penny isn't just the fourth little pig—she's an engineer.

**So when big bad Wolfgang destroys her brothers' homes, Penny comes to the rescue!
When Wolfgang returns, Penny must use all of her engineering know-how
to save her family from his huffing and puffing.**

**From the author team behind *Cece Loves Science* comes a clever reimagining
of the *Three Little Pigs* . . . if they'd had an engineer on their side.**

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