

BY THE CREATORS OF  
THE GRUFFALO

# ZOG

AND THE  
FLYING DOCTORS



JULIA DONALDSON \* AXEL SCHEFFLER

# ZOG and the FLYING DOCTORS



By Julia Donaldson & illustrated by Axel Scheffler

Meet the Flying Doctors – a dragon, knight and girl.  
Their names are Gadabout the Great,  
and Zog, and Princess Pearl.





Pearl gives people medicine  
and pills and vaccinations,



And Gadabout is expert  
at performing operations.

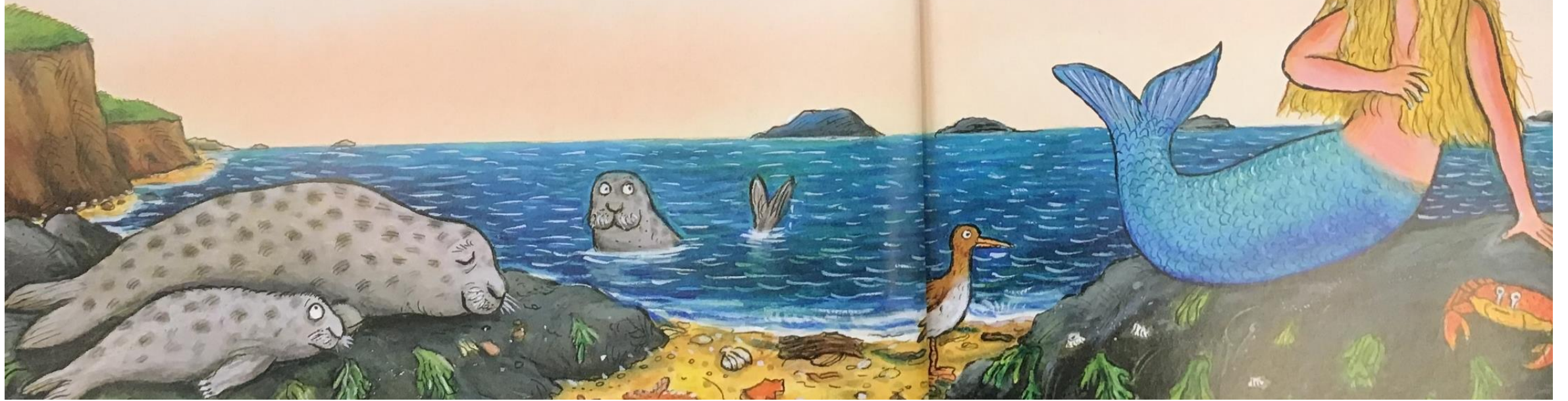


Zog is good at flying,  
though not quite so good at landing,  
But Gadabout and Princess Pearl  
are always understanding.





Flying high one morning  
they heard a mermaid wail.  
“I’m sunburnt and it hurts!” she cried,  
and swished her scaly tail.



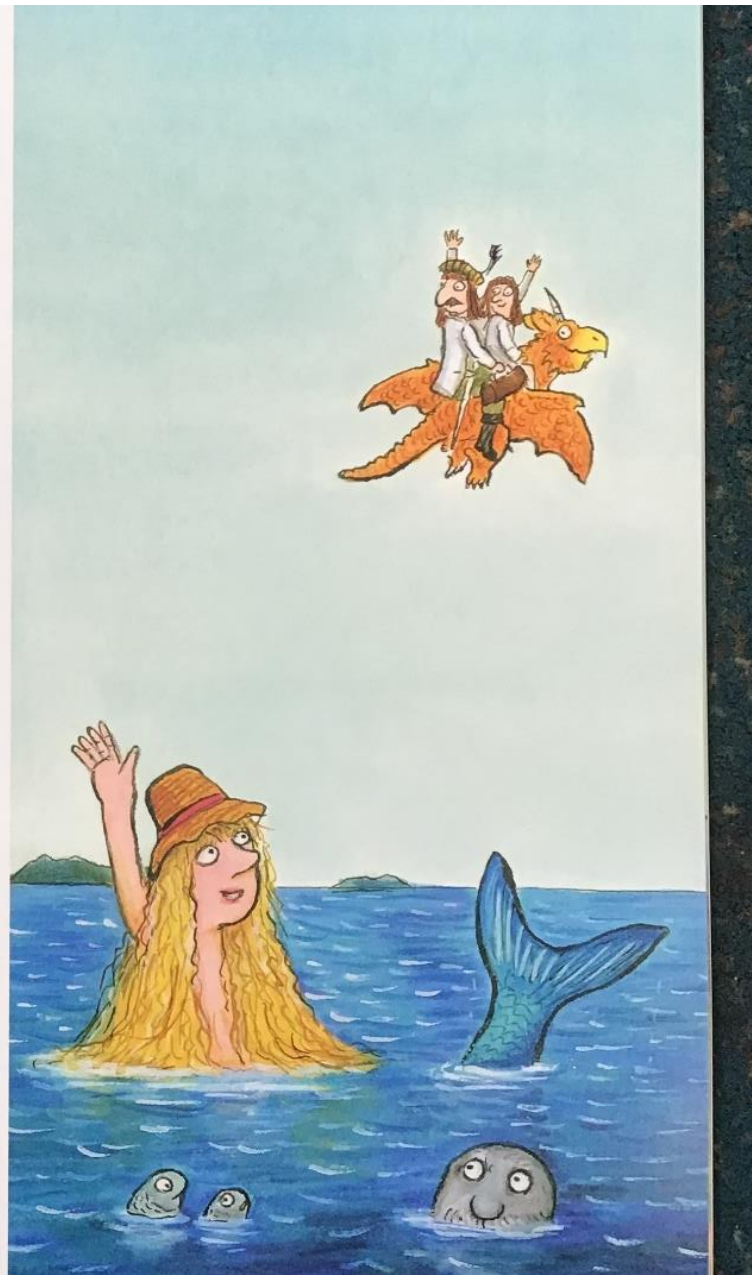
Bang-crash-thump they landed.  
The mermaid's skin was red.



Pearl rubbed in some special cream.  
“And wear this hat,” she said.



“Thank you!” said the mermaid,  
and she waved a fond goodbye  
As the team of flying doctors  
sped away into the sky.



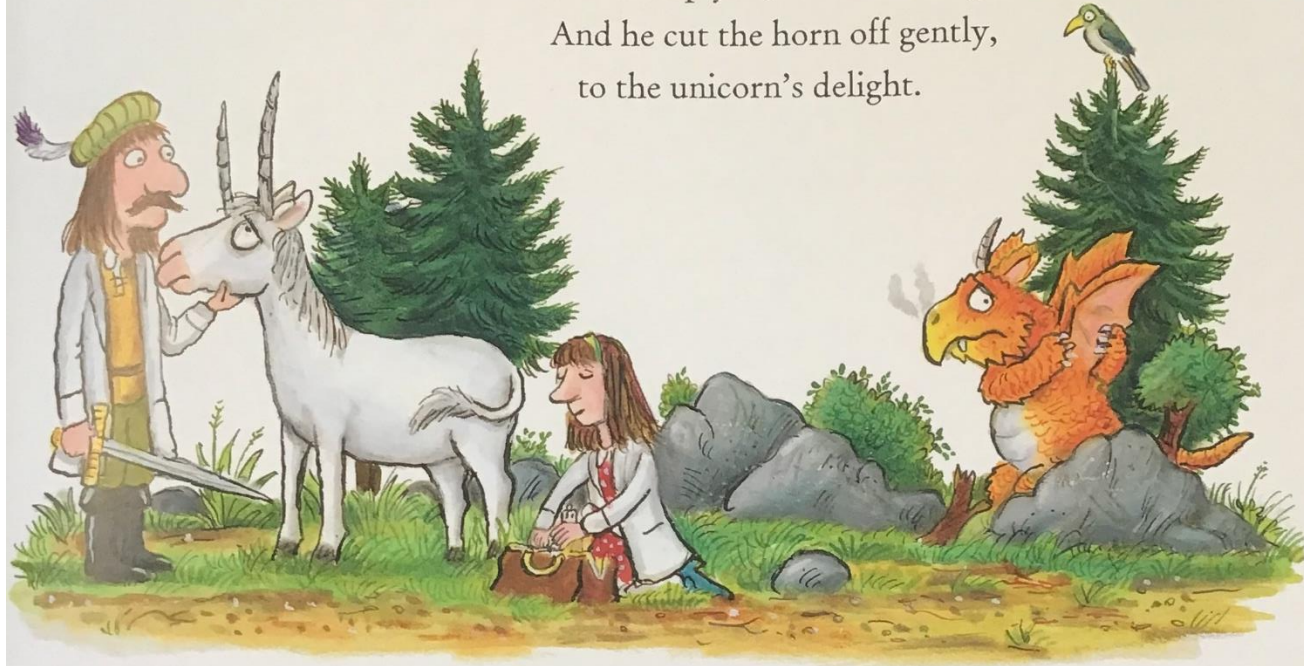


As the sun rose higher  
they saw a unicorn.  
He pawed the ground and whinnied,  
“I’ve grown an extra horn!”





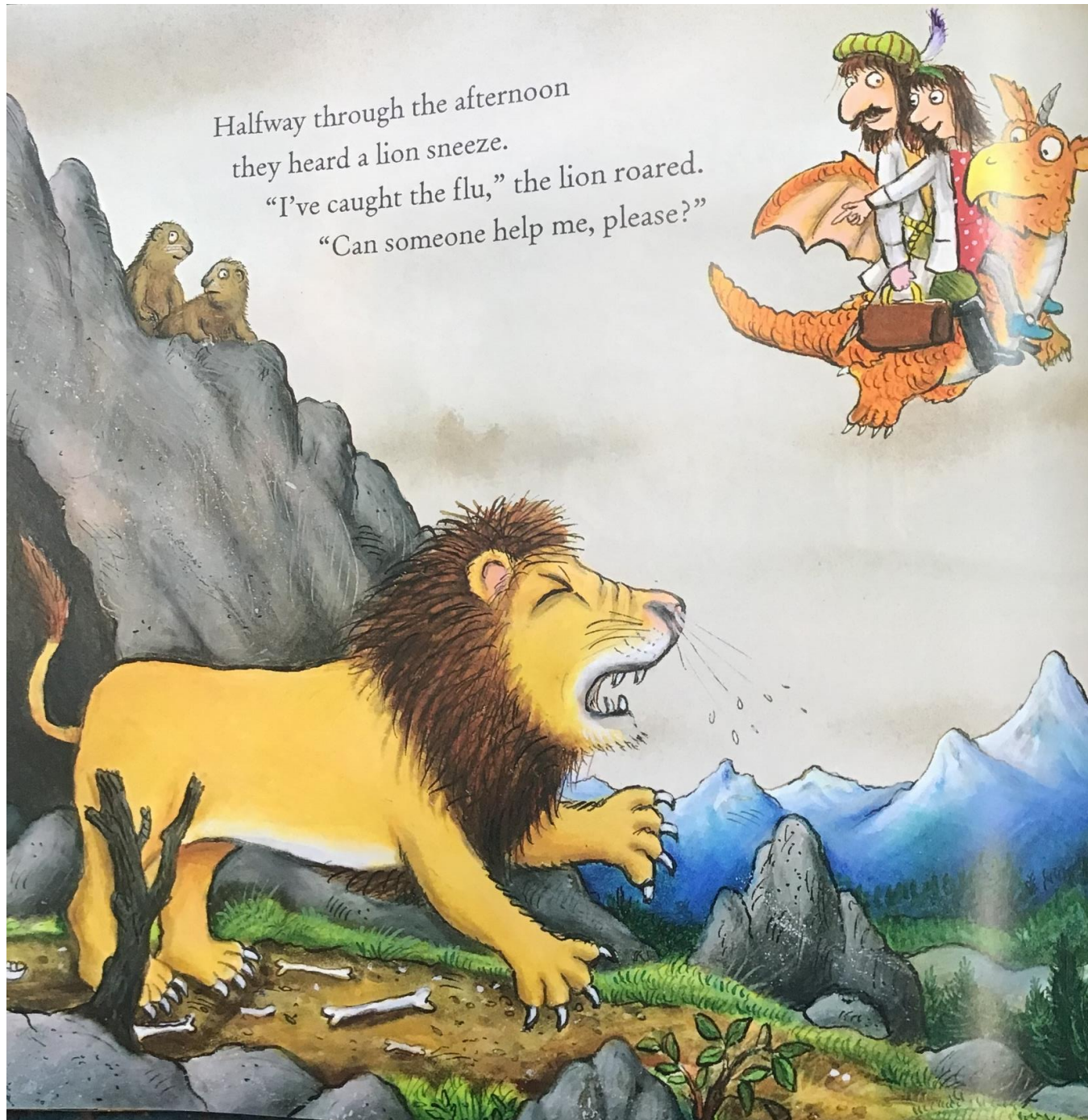
Bang-crash-thump they landed.  
“I’ll help you,” said the knight  
And he cut the horn off gently,  
to the unicorn’s delight.



“Thank you,” said the unicorn,  
“for taking so much care,”  
And the team of flying doctors  
sped away into the air.



Halfway through the afternoon  
they heard a lion sneeze.  
"I've caught the flu," the lion roared.  
"Can someone help me, please?"

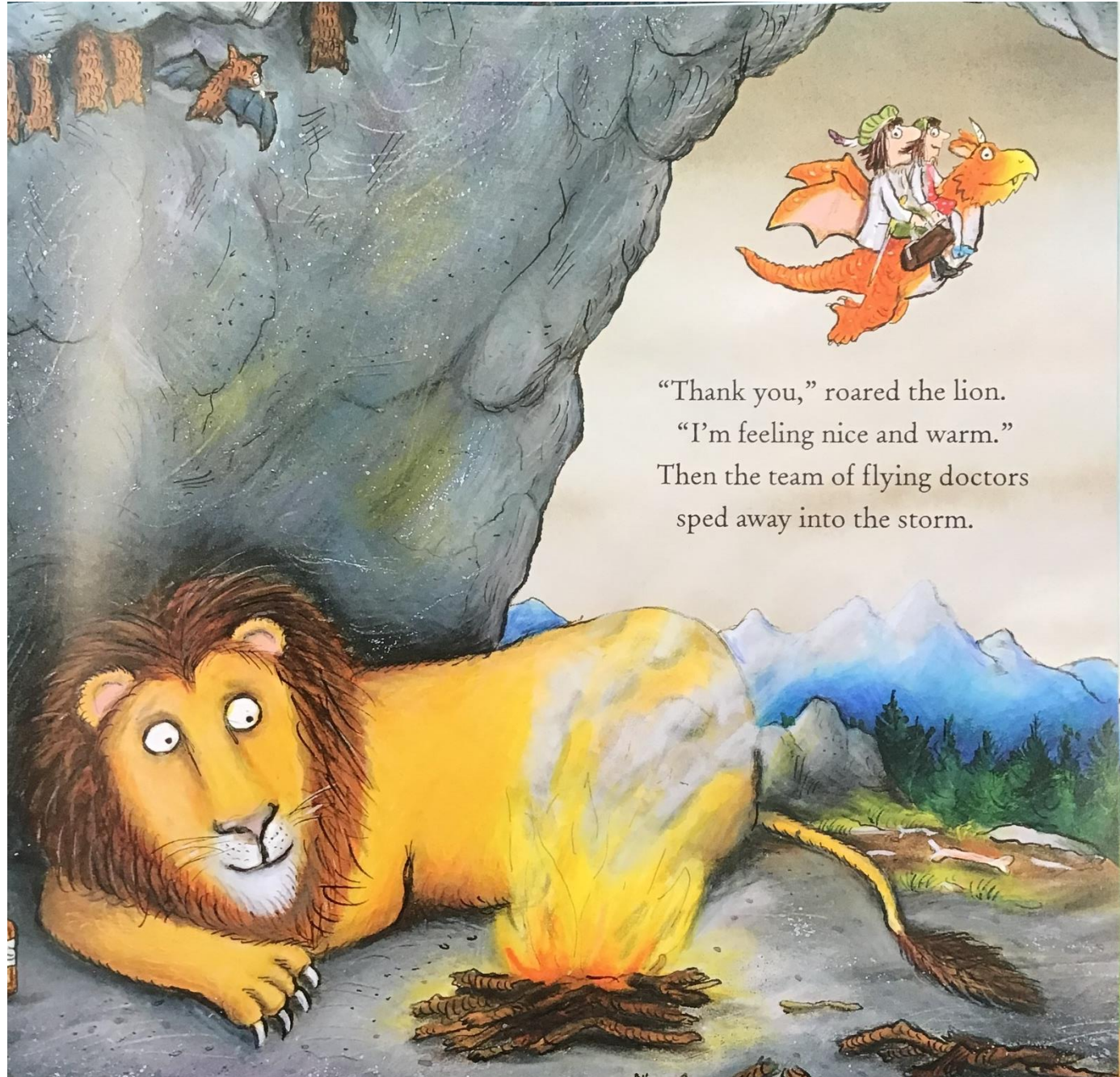




Bang-crash-thump they landed, and Pearl said, "Take this pill.  
And do keep warm! That's terribly important when you're ill."

But the lion's cave was chilly,  
so Zog said, "Fetch some wood."  
Then he breathed out lots of flames  
until the fire burned bright and good.



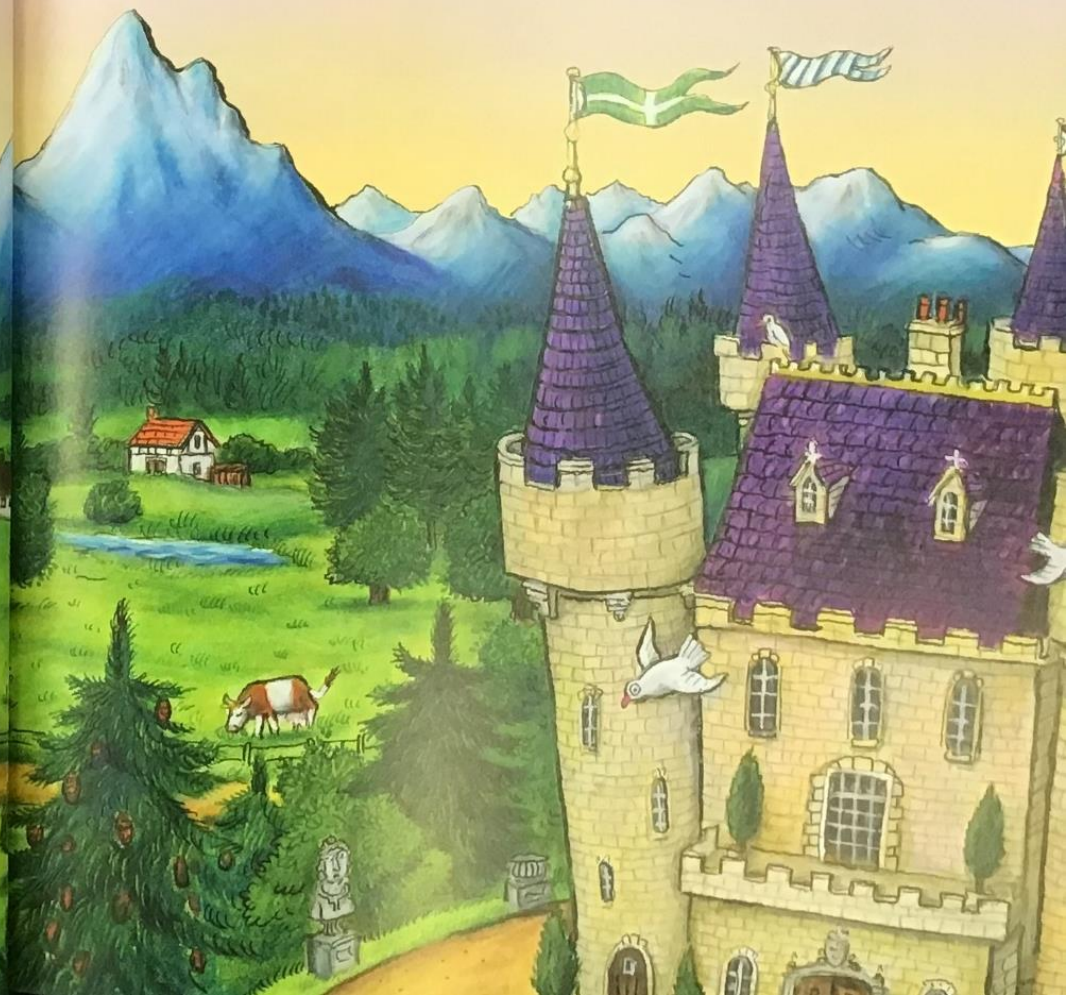


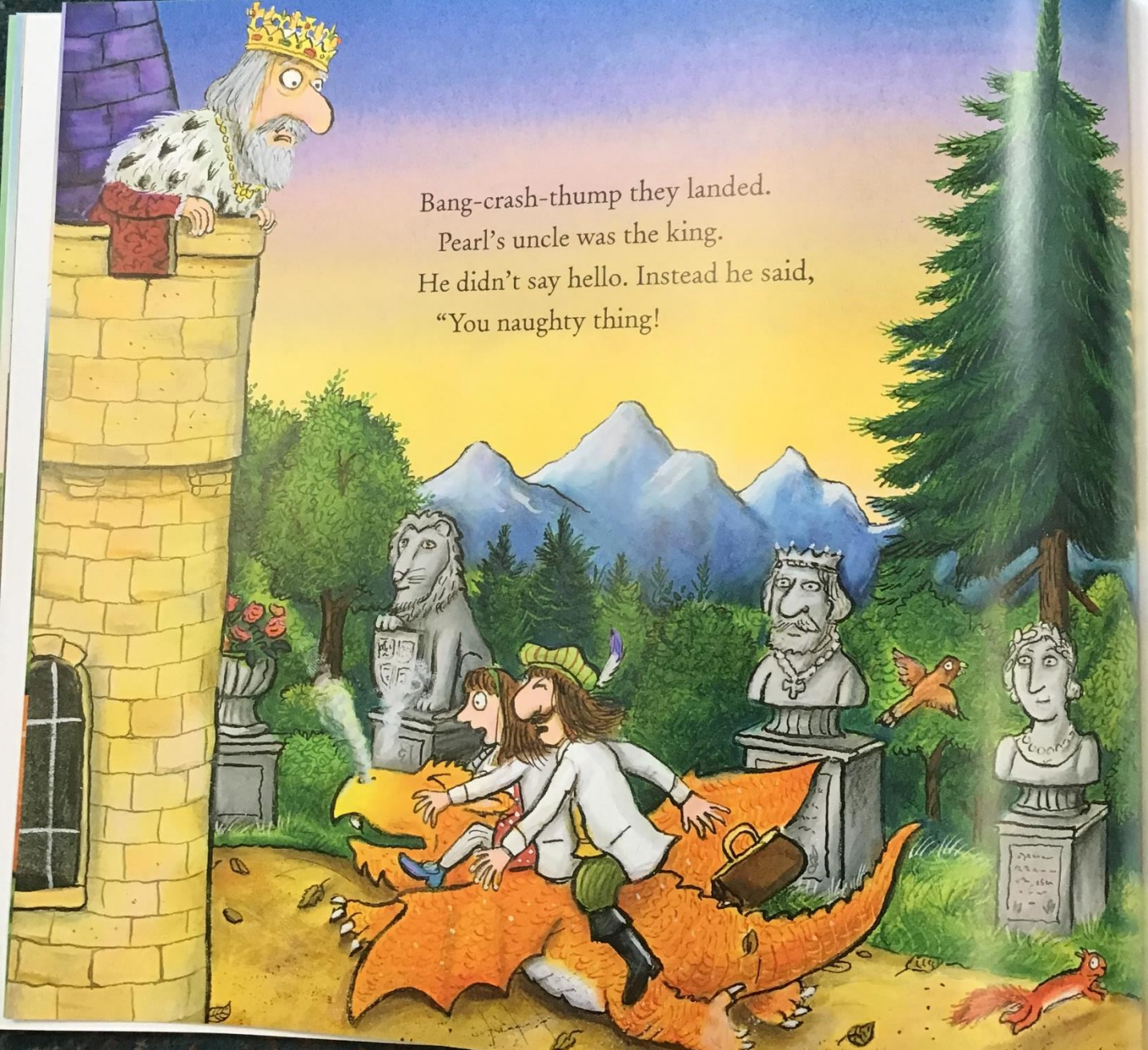
“Thank you,” roared the lion.

“I’m feeling nice and warm.”

Then the team of flying doctors  
sped away into the storm.

As evening fell, they saw a great big palace down below.  
"My uncle's house!" said Princess Pearl. "Let's go and say hello."



A colorful illustration from a children's book. On the left, a king with a long white beard, a gold crown, and a red robe leans over a stone battlement of a castle tower. In the center, two people are riding a large orange dragon. The person in front is a woman with brown hair and a green hat, and the person behind is a man with a beard and a white tunic. The dragon is breathing a small plume of white smoke. The background features a garden with several stone busts on pedestals: a lion, a king, and a woman. There are green trees, a tall evergreen on the right, and snow-capped mountains in the distance under a blue and yellow sky. A small red squirrel is on the ground in the bottom right corner.

Bang-crash-thump they landed.  
Pearl's uncle was the king.  
He didn't say hello. Instead he said,  
"You naughty thing!"

“Where *have* you been?” he thundered.

“You look an awful mess.

What’s happened to your crown?

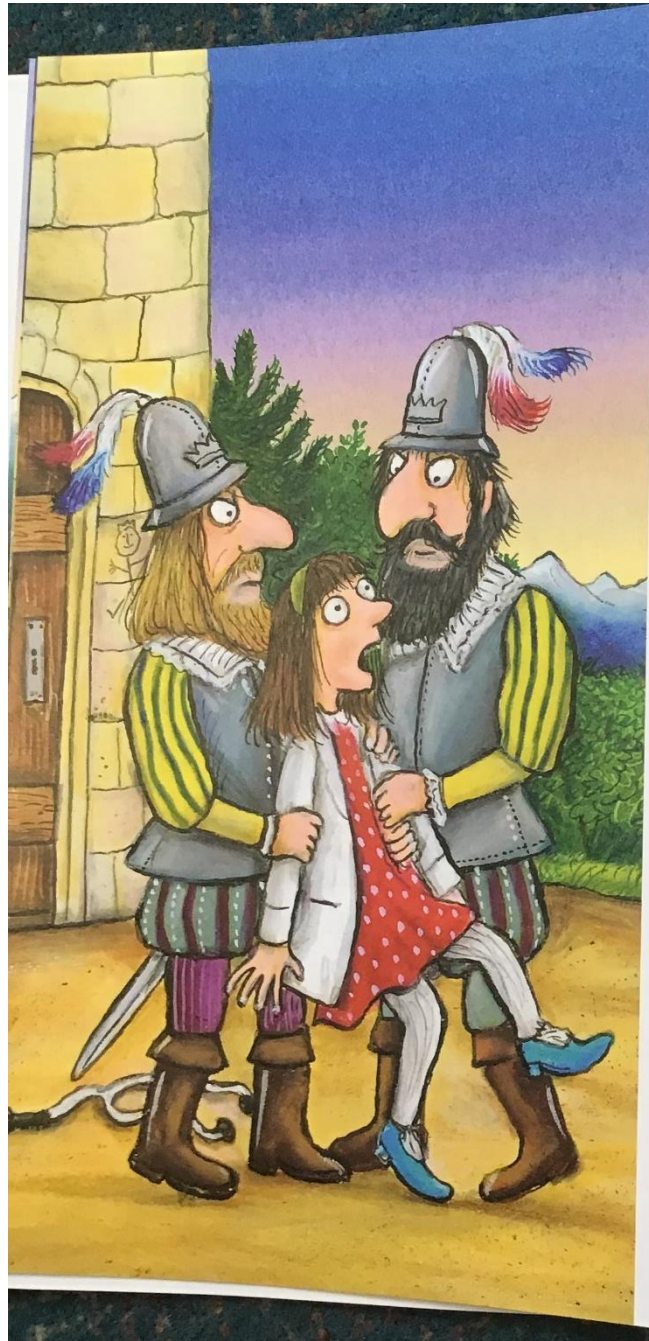
And where’s your pretty, frilly dress?”



“But, Uncle, can’t you see that I’m a *doctor* now?” said Pearl.

The king replied, “Princesses can’t be doctors, silly girl!”





He told his men to seize her  
and to lock her up inside.  
Princess Pearl was furious.  
She stamped and stormed and cried.



Weeks went by, and Princess Pearl  
spent many weary hours  
Sewing pretty cushions  
and arranging pretty flowers.

The others tried to rescue her  
with all their might and main,  
But they simply couldn't manage –  
all their efforts were in vain.

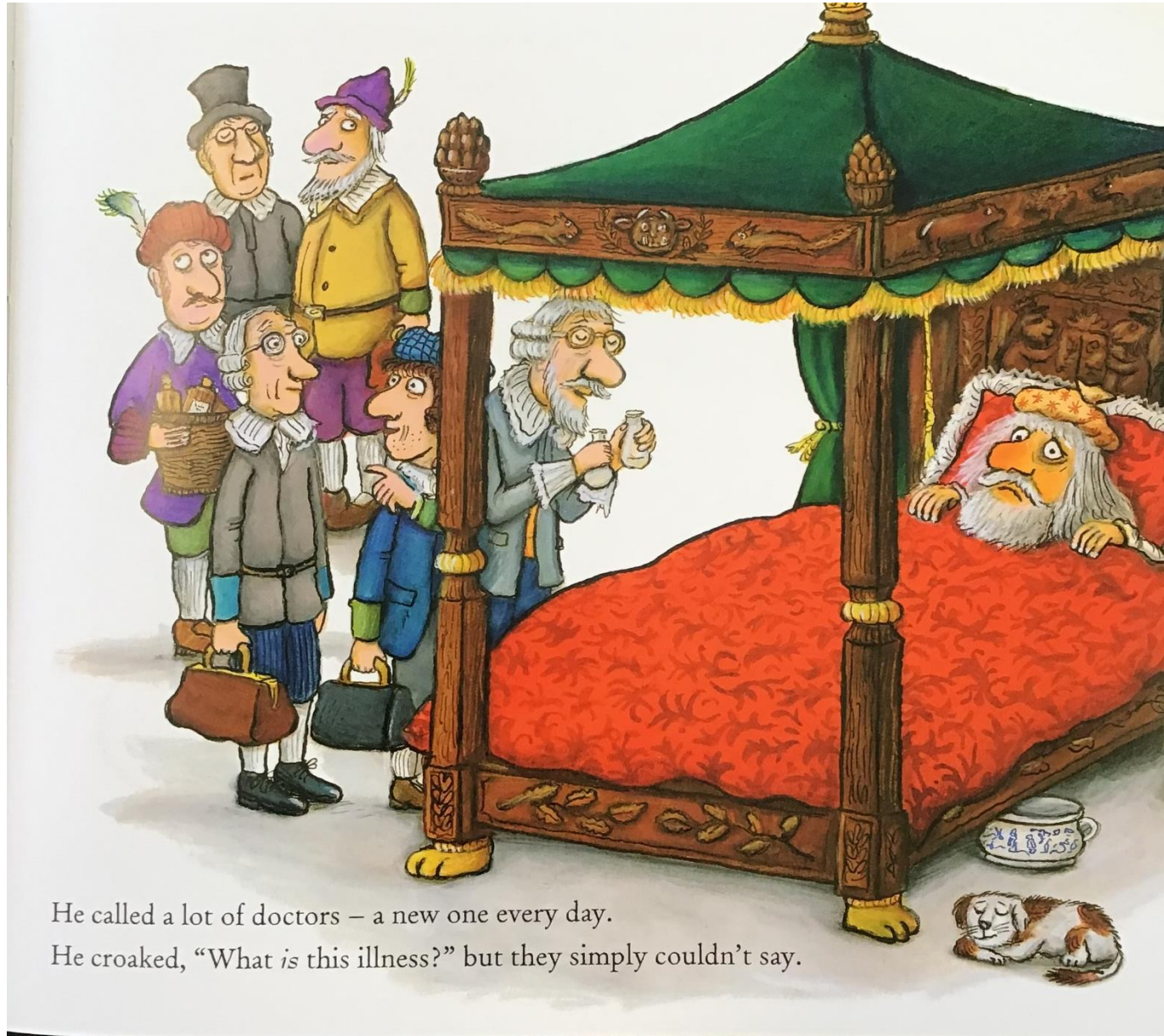




Each night they flew to visit her  
and perched upon her sill,  
And one dark night she told them  
that the king had fallen ill.

The king grew worse: his head was sore,  
his arms and legs felt weak,  
His skin had turned bright orange  
and he found it hard to speak.





He called a lot of doctors – a new one every day.  
He croaked, “What *is* this illness?” but they simply couldn’t say.

They didn't know the answer, but Pearl was pretty sure.  
"It looks like orange fever," and she read about the cure:

"Grated horn of unicorn, a mighty lion's sneeze,  
Some mermaid's scales, a little slime,  
and half a pound of cheese."



She told the others what to get. "And do be very quick!  
My uncle could be dying – he looks extremely sick."

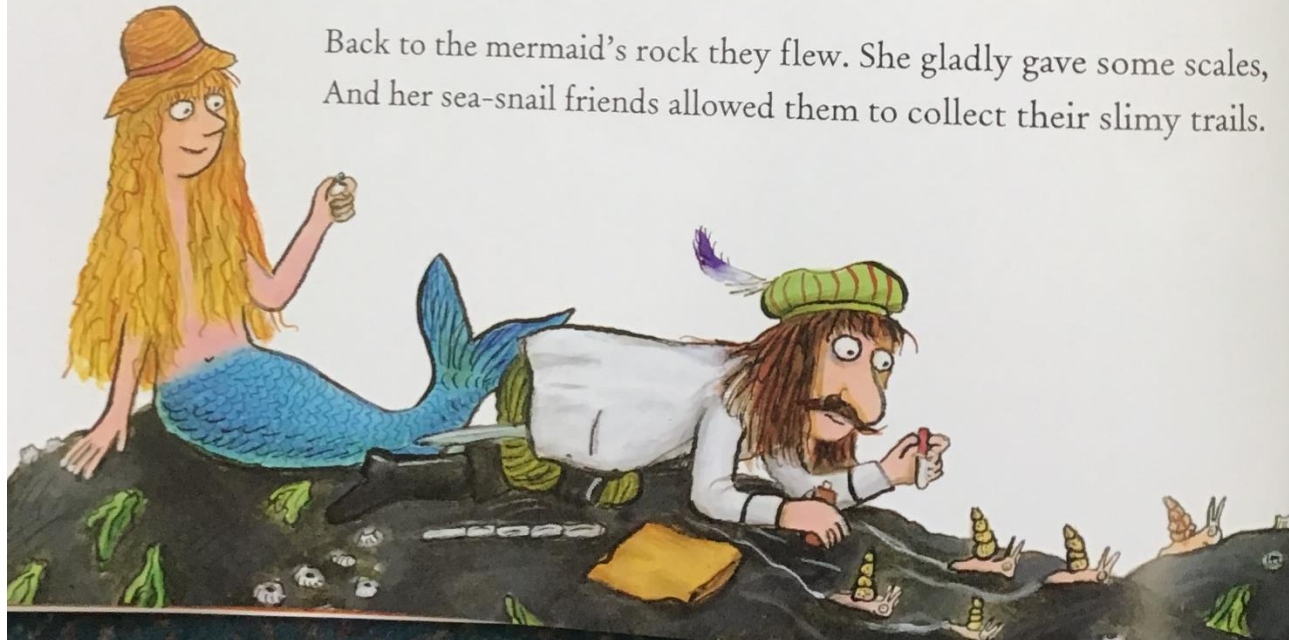
Away flew Zog and Gadabout.  
They reached the lion's den.  
Bang-crash-thump they landed.  
He sneezed for them, and then . . .



They flew back to the forest,  
where the grateful unicorn  
Was very pleased to give them  
his unwanted sawn-off horn.



Back to the mermaid's rock they flew. She gladly gave some scales,  
And her sea-snail friends allowed them to collect their slimy trails.





Zog said, "I'm exhausted!"  
but he flew and flew, until . . .

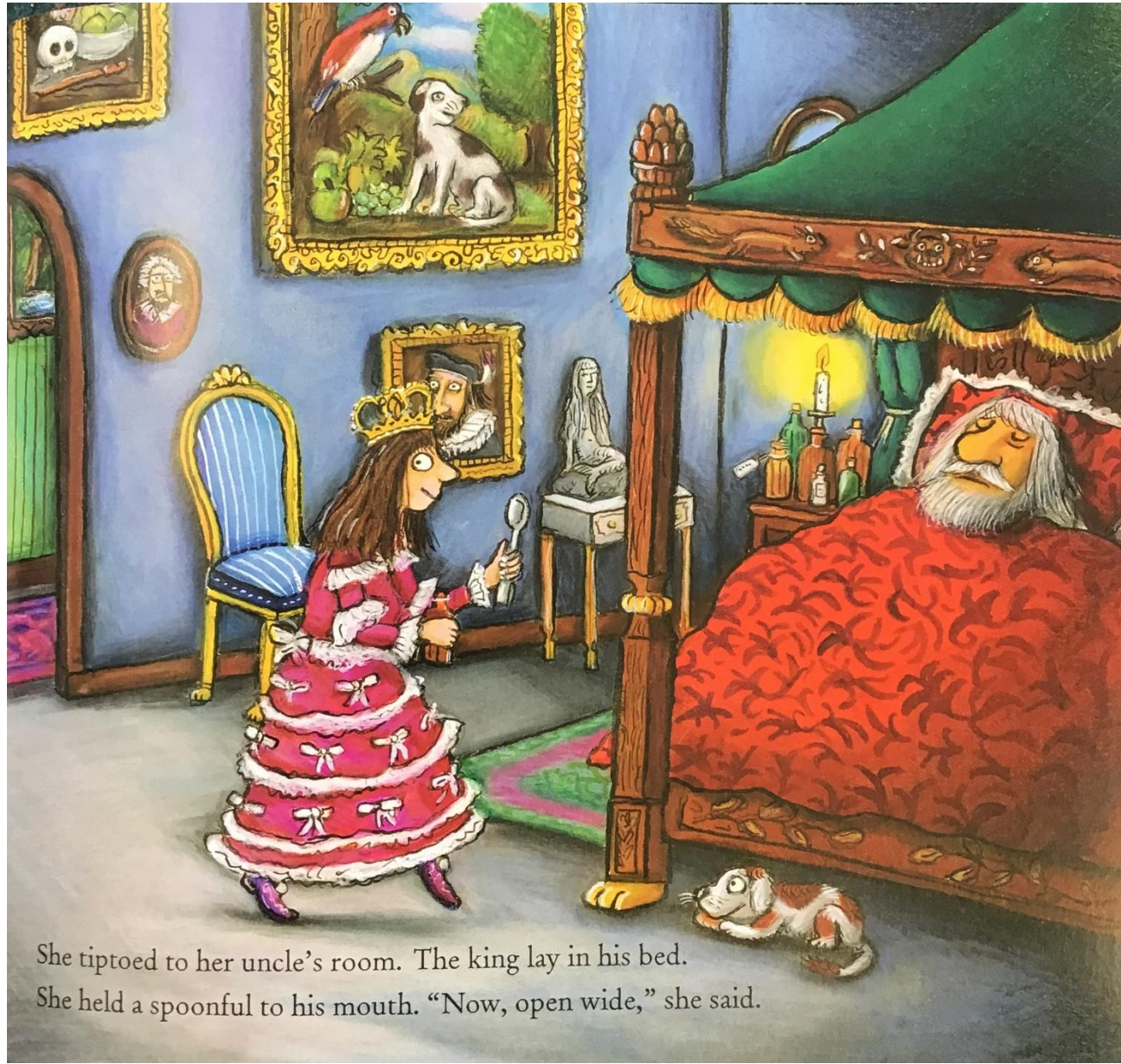




Bang-crash-thump he landed  
on the bedroom windowsill.



Princess Pearl said thank you  
for the scales, the slime, the sneeze,  
And the horn (which then she grated up  
with half a pound of cheese.)



She tiptoed to her uncle's room. The king lay in his bed.  
She held a spoonful to his mouth. "Now, open wide," she said.



After just one spoonful  
her uncle felt much stronger,  
And after spoonful two  
he wasn't orange any longer.



After spoonful three, the king  
was dancing with delight.  
“Princesses *can* be doctors –  
you were absolutely right!  
I'm sorry that I locked you up.  
Of course you must go free,  
But do come back to visit me –  
and bring your friends to tea.”





“Hooray!” cried Pearl, and out she ran to join the other two.



Then off into the sunset sped the flying doctor crew.

