



Jump, Stick, Jump



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Traditional tale adapted by Gill Munton

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Tom and Anna had six hens.
Every day, the six hens gave six eggs.
Tom took the eggs to the market.



One day, the hens were sick.

Anna said, 'We have no eggs.
We have no money to buy food.
What can we do?'

Tom said, 'I must go and look for work.'



Tom went to the town.

On the way, he met an old man.

The old man was tired and hungry.

Tom gave the old man some bread and water.

He helped the old man to walk home.



The old man said, 'You helped me – so I will help you. Take this cloth. Say the words "Shake, cloth, shake!" and you will have all the food you want.'

Tom said, 'Thank you.'



Moo-oo!

Tom went on his way.
At night-time, he was still
a long way from the town.
Then he saw a farm.



Tom knocked on the door.
The farmer opened it.

Tom said, 'Can I stay here tonight?'

The farmer looked at Tom's bag.

'Come in,' he said.

Tom went to his room.

'I will say the words,' he said.

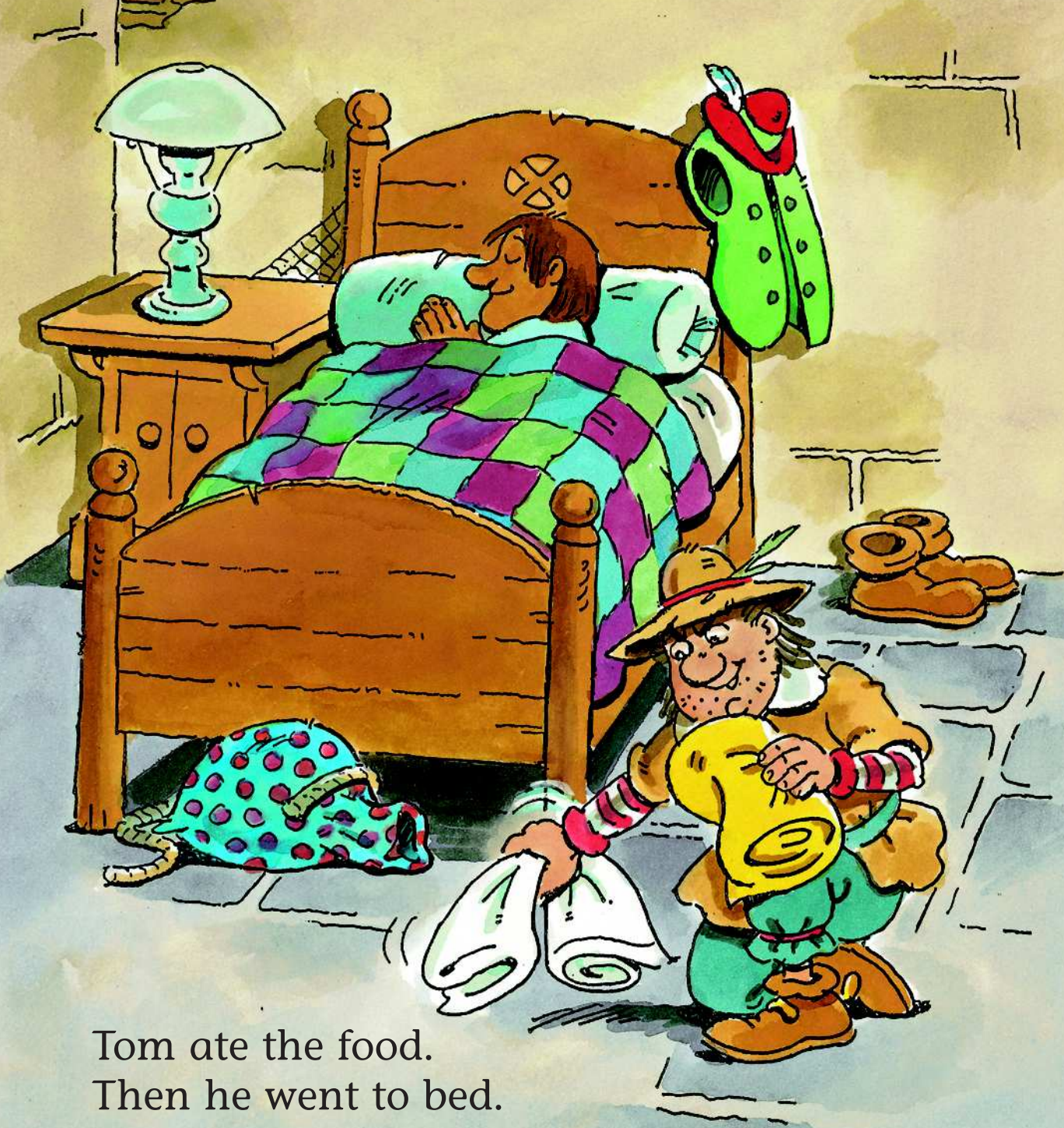
Shake, cloth, shake!





Tom said, 'The old man was right.
Now I have all the food I want!'

But the farmer saw everything.



Tom ate the food.
Then he went to bed.

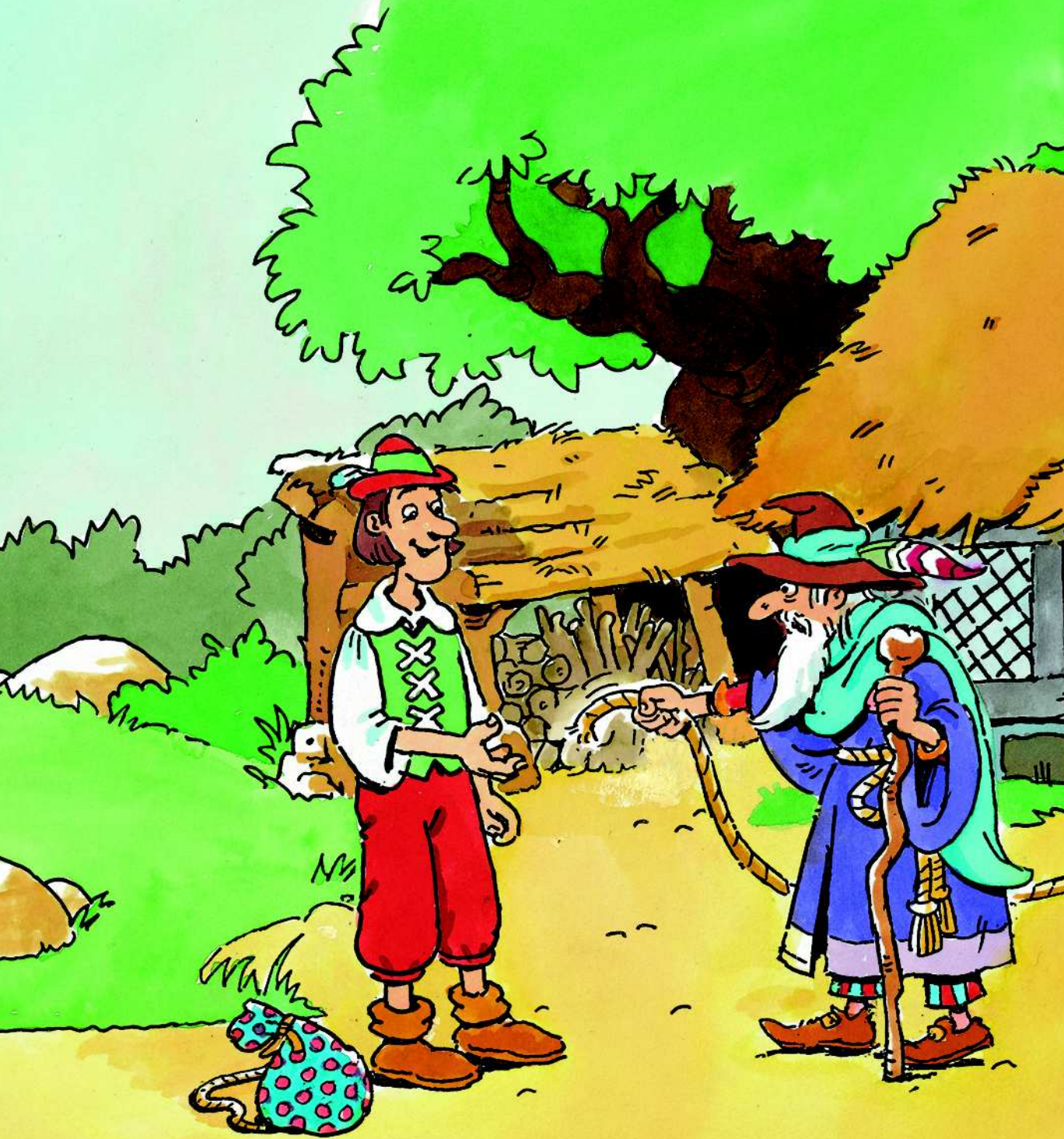
When Tom was asleep,
the farmer came quietly into the room.
He took Tom's cloth.
He put another cloth in the bag.



The next day, Tom looked at the cloth.

He said, 'My cloth was white,
but this cloth is yellow!

This is not my cloth!'



Tom went to see the old man again.

Tom said, 'A bad farmer stole the cloth from me.'



The old man said, 'Take this donkey. Say the words "Flap, donkey, flap!" The donkey will flap its ears, and you will have all the gold coins you want. But be careful this time.'

Tom said, 'Thank you.'