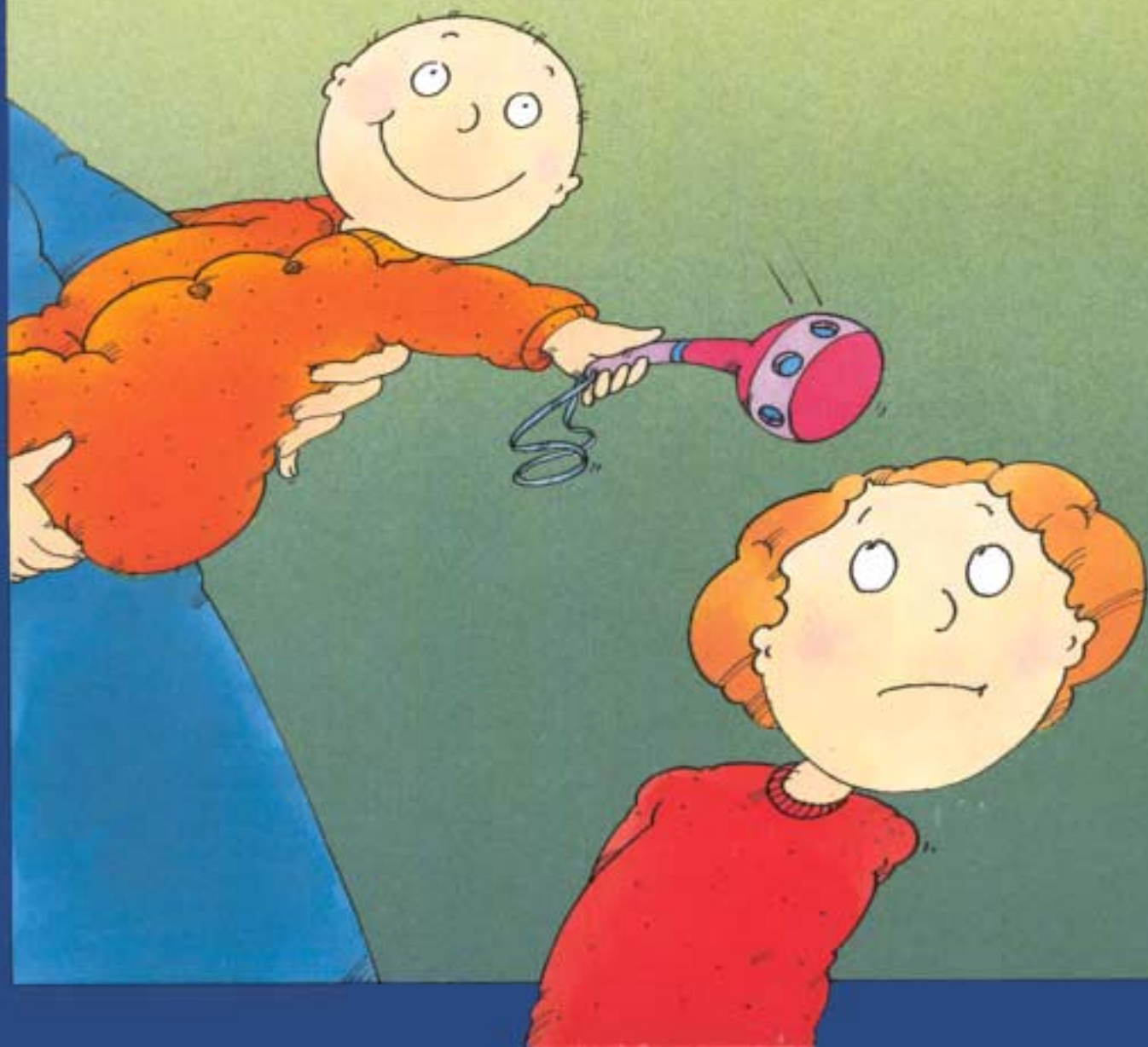


# ...along came Eric

GUS CLARKE



# ...along came Eric

Electronic book published by [ipicturebooks.com](http://ipicturebooks.com)

24 W. 25th St.

New York, NY 10011

For more ebooks, visit us at:

<http://www.ipicturebooks.com>

All rights reserved.

Copyright © 1991 by Gus Clarke

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted  
in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical,  
including photocopying, recording, or by any  
information storage and retrieval system, without  
permission in writing from the publisher.

e-ISBN 1-59019-429-2

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

ISBN 0 86264 856 4

*For my mother*

# *...along came Eric*

GUS CLARKE





Everybody liked Nigel.





Nigel's family all liked Nigel



and, of course, all of Nigel's friends liked Nigel.





Father Christmas liked Nigel very much.

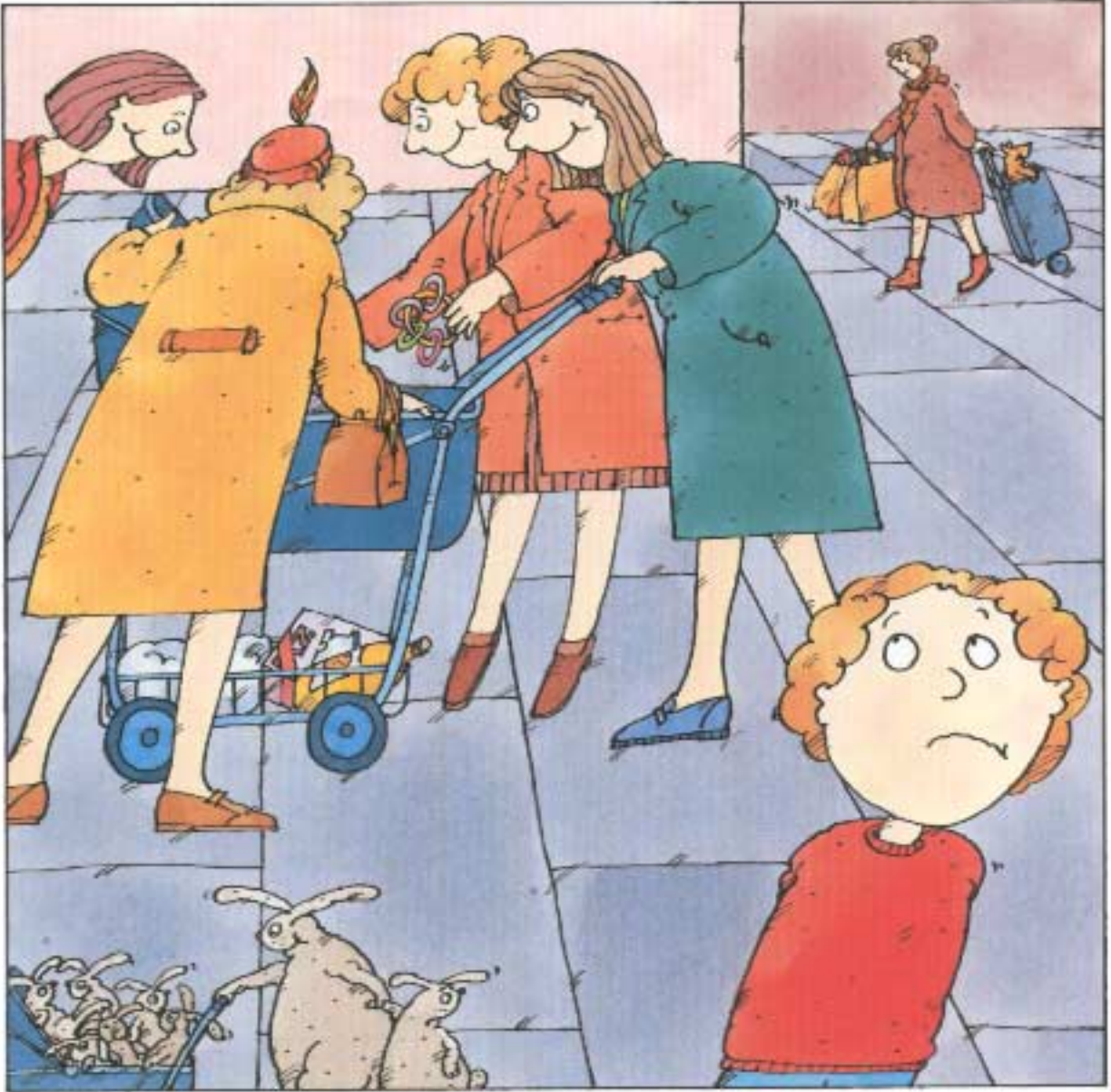




And, most of all, *Nigel* liked Nigel. (At least Nigel liked *being* Nigel, and that's just about the same thing.)

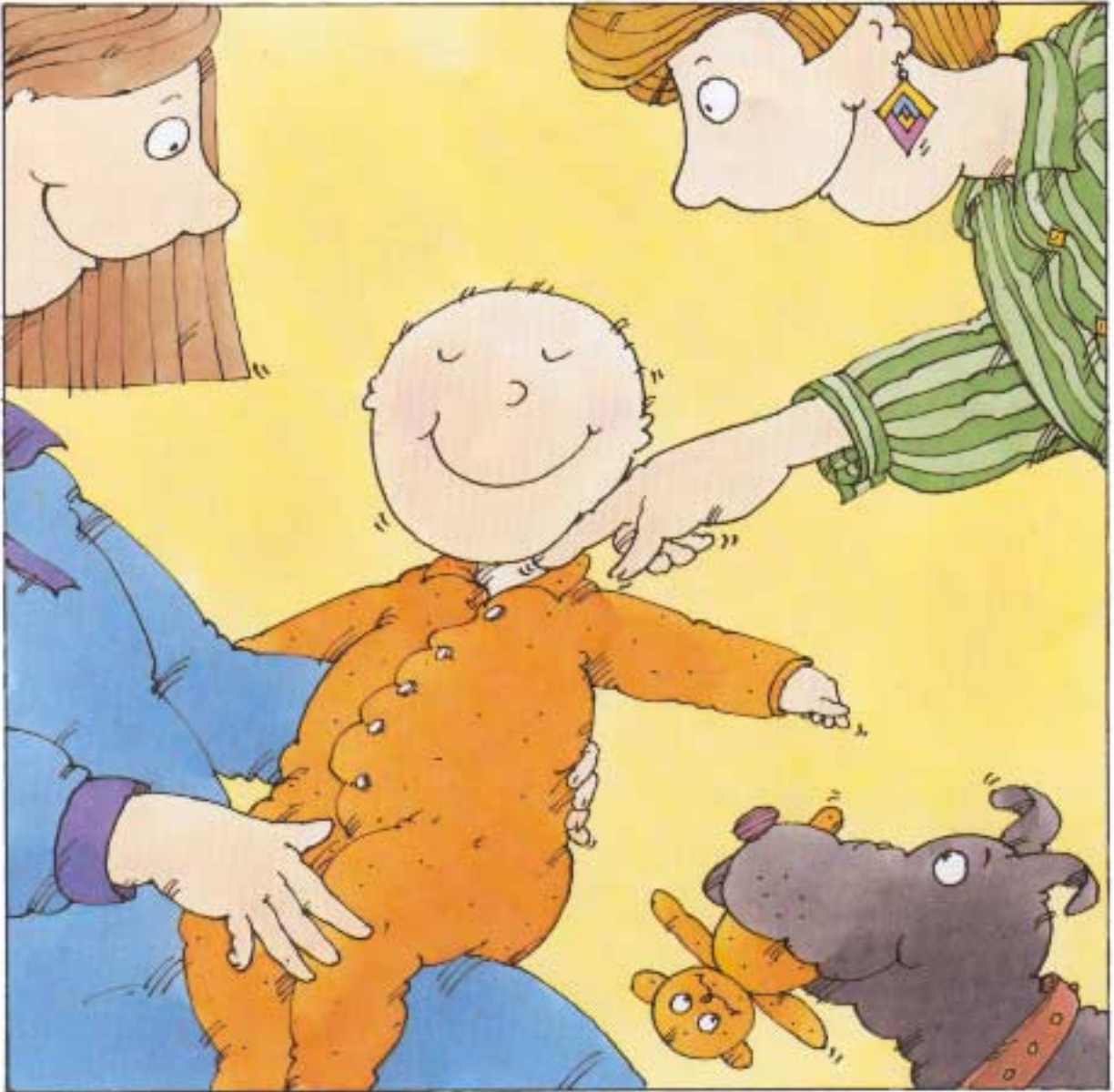


Then, along came Eric.



And it seemed to Nigel that suddenly nobody liked *Nigel* much anymore.



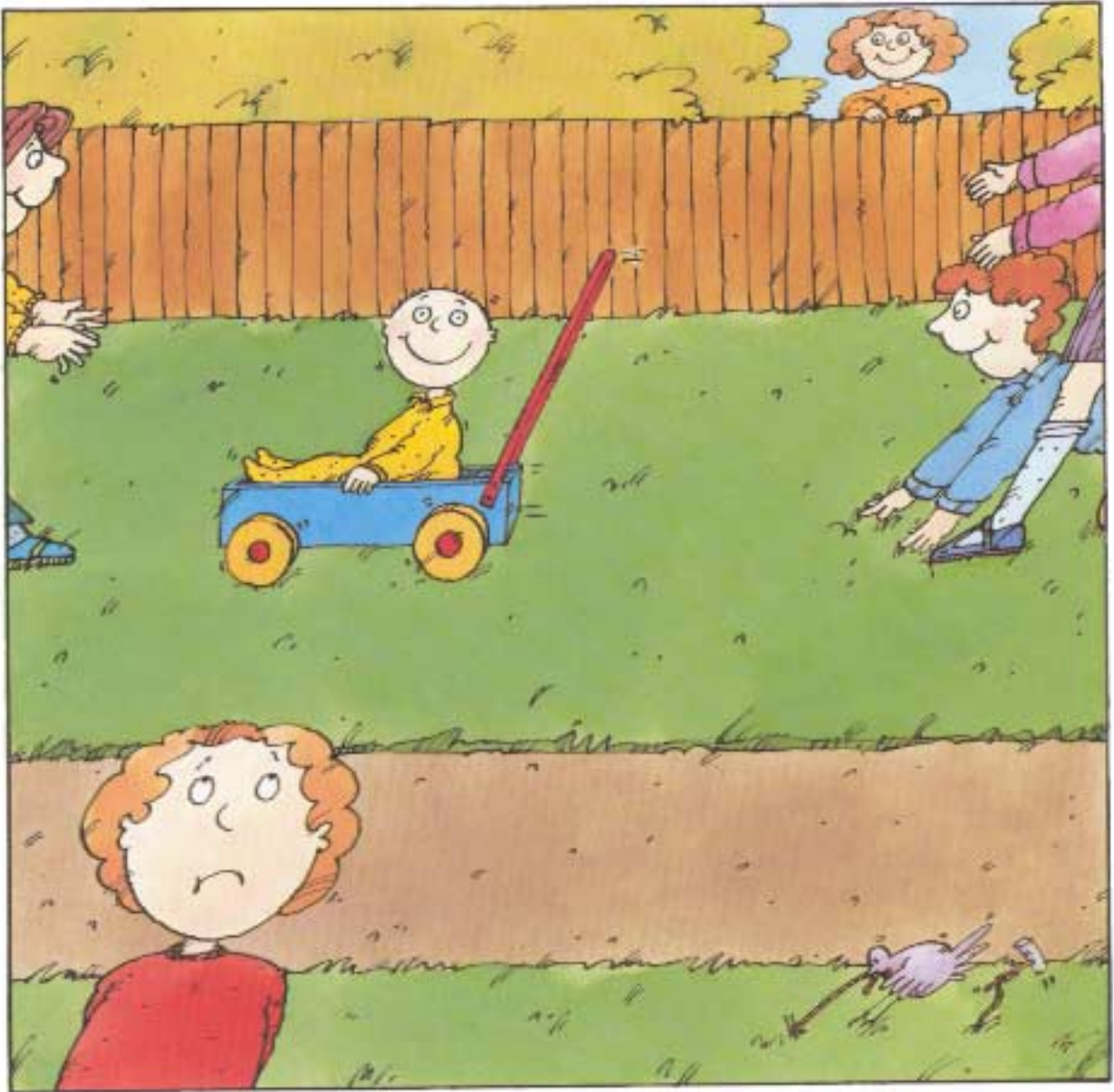


But everybody liked Eric a lot.





Nigel's family all liked Eric,



and all of Nigel's friends liked Eric.



Father Christmas seemed to like Eric very much indeed.



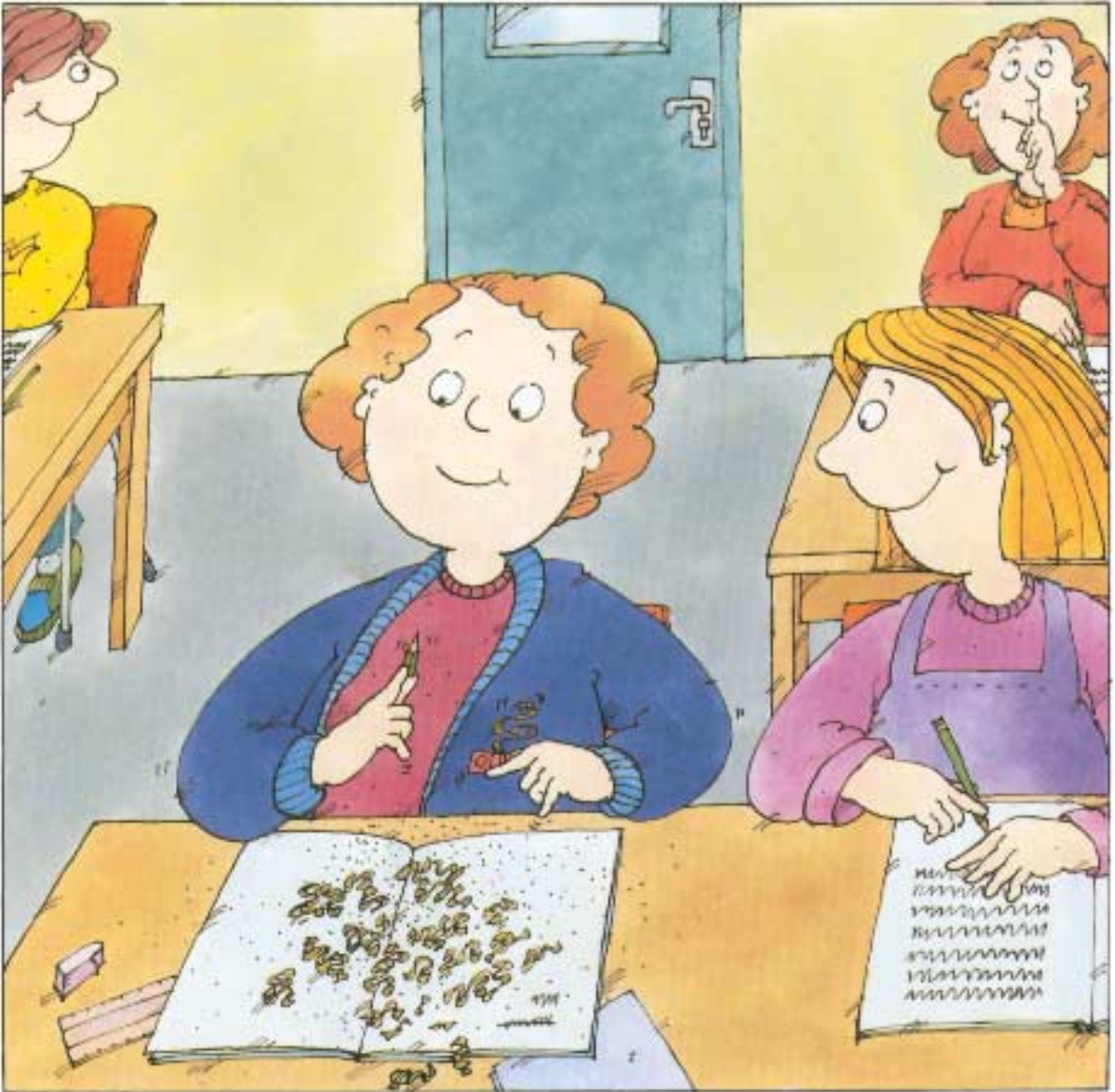


But sometimes Nigel wasn't sure that *Nigel* liked Eric...





...at all.



Years passed. Nigel grew up.



And so did Eric.





Nigel was surprised to find that nowadays everybody liked Eric *and* Nigel.





Nigel's family all liked Eric and Nigel (most of the time).



Nigel's friends still liked Eric, but Nigel didn't mind. Eric had friends of his own now and they all seemed to like Nigel as well.



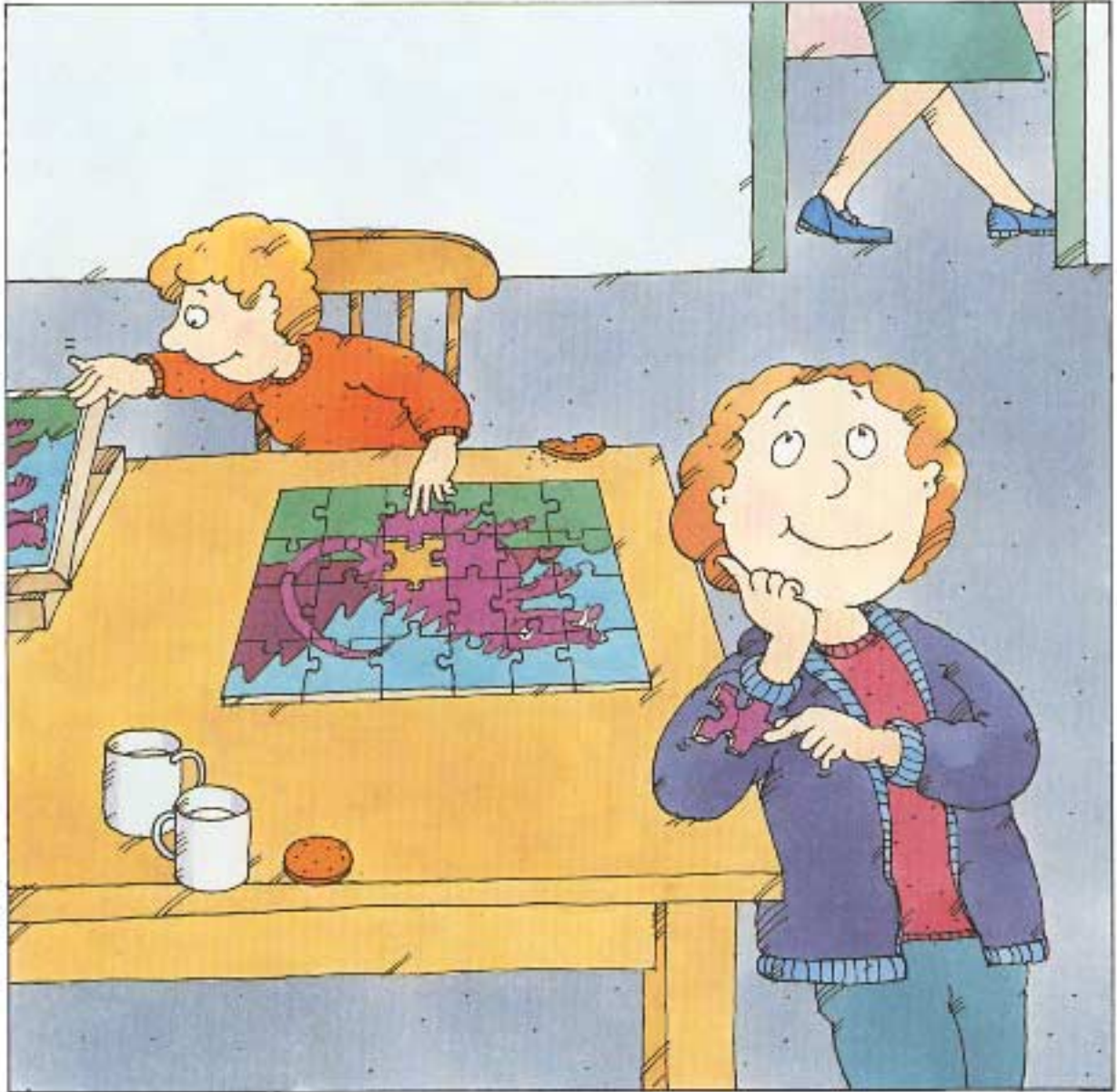


Father Christmas? Well, he's a busy man, but he still found time to visit them...both.



And, best of all, Nigel liked Eric and Eric liked Nigel.  
Very much.





"Life's not so bad," thought Nigel. (Eric had never thought it was.) But then...



...along came Alice.