



Enid Blyton Stories

The Goblin's Toyshop

Once Upon a Time

'THERE'S A new toyshop at the end of the village!' cried the pixie children one day. 'Come and see!'



So they all went, and pressed their turned-up noses against the toyshop window. 'Oooh,' they said in delight. 'What beautiful dolls! And look at that smart wooden soldier — and oh, that bear with twinkling eyes!'



'There aren't any trains,' said little Pop-Off mournfully. He did so like trains.

'And no bricks,' said Jinks, who liked building little houses.

'But see the sailor dolls and the baby dolls and the dressed-up toy cats and dogs!' said Fenny. 'Oh, I wish my moneybox was full.'



‘The goblin who had just opened the new toyshop came to the door. He had bright green eyes and such pointed ears that they looked as sharp as arrows.

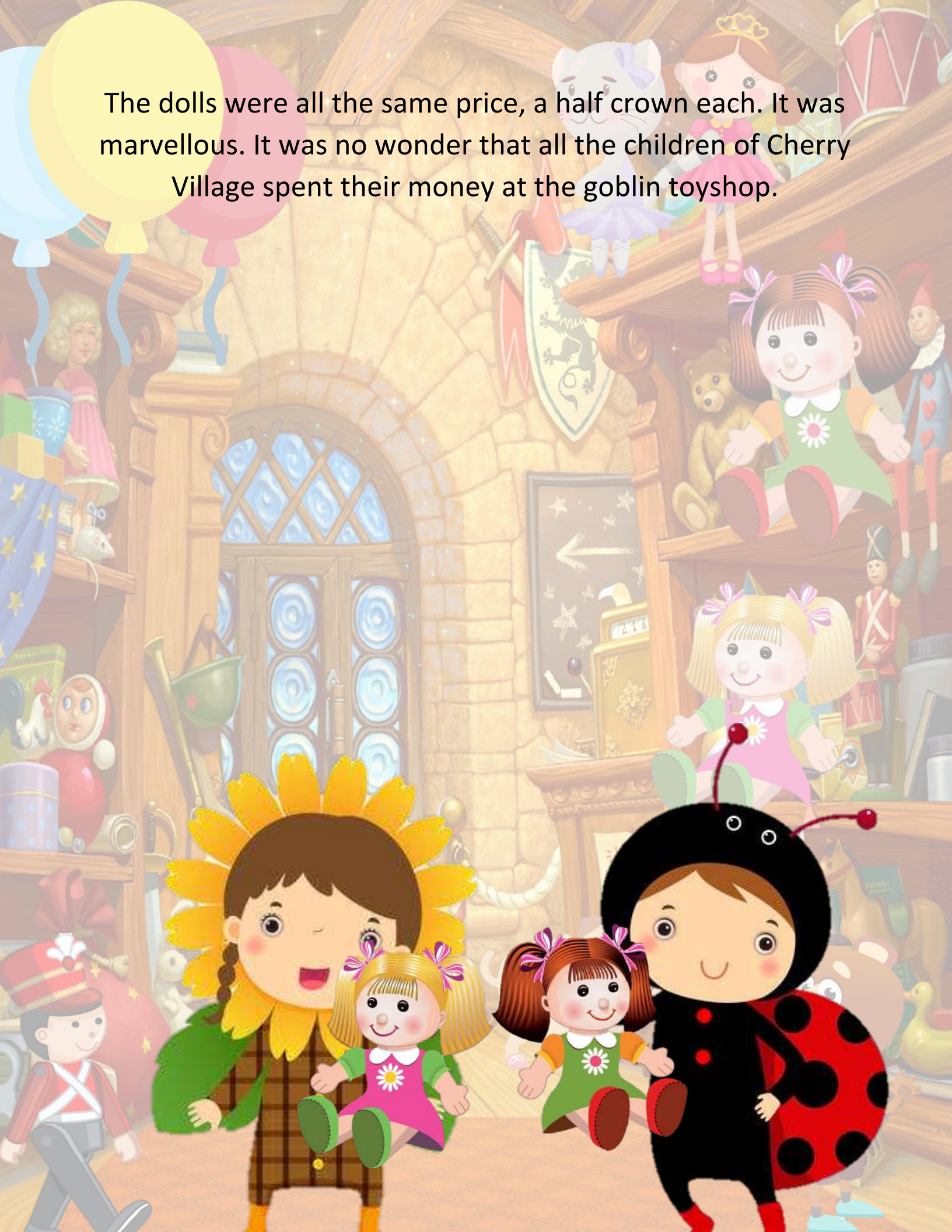
He gave the children a grin that stretched from ear to ear. Well, children, I hope I shall see you on your birthdays and at Christmas time, and every Saturday too. You'll find my toys are far cheaper to buy than anyone else's!



He was quite right. The pixie children could get a toy soldier for sixpence, and a big teddy bear with a growl in his middle for a shilling.



The dolls were all the same price, a half crown each. It was marvellous. It was no wonder that all the children of Cherry Village spent their money at the goblin toyshop.



They bought dolls and soldiers and bears and dogs and cats.
But they couldn't buy trains or bricks or ships or tops
because the goblin didn't sell them.



I'm not interested in those,' he said, with his grin.

'I only sell the toys I really like.



And then, after he had sold a few dozen dolls and soldiers and bears, something peculiar happened. First Jinks's toy soldiers disappeared.

Then Fenny's two new dolls went. Then Pop-Off's blue teddy bear vanished. Binkie's toy dog wasn't on the windowsill one morning, where he had left it the night before, and Gobbo's sailor doll had gone from the toy cupboard. How strange! Nobody could find out what had happened. They hunted all over the place, but the toys were not found again.



'Some thief must have passed through our village in the night, and stolen all the children's new toys,' said the pixies mournfully. The next night somebody's ragdoll disappeared, and three dolls. And then a toy dog vanished and a baby doll too. How very peculiar! The pixies went to the goblin about it.



'Can you tell us what is happening? they said, puzzled. 'Our children's toys are all going one by one. 'Strange,' said the goblin, shaking his head. 'Very, very strange. I have no idea where the toys have gone - but as the children are so sad about it, please come to my shop with them and they shall have any toy they please at half price!



'How kind you are!' said the pixies, pleased, and they bought a great many new toys from the green-eyed goblin.



But before long those toys disappeared at night too, and nobody knew what was happening.



Then one night, little Fenny, who had three new dolls,
decided that one of them had a bad cold and must be
undressed and go to bed. So she took off all her clothes and
her shoes and stockings, put a little nightie on her and
popped her into bed.



That night two of her dolls disappeared - but not the one she had put to bed with a cold! Her brother heard Fenny crying and came to see what the matter was. He looked puzzled when he heard that one of the dolls hadn't disappeared. Now why should the thief steal two, but leave the one in the cot?



'Fenny,' he whispered, 'I am going to watch for the thief! I shall hide in the wood and watch the lane that runs through the village. Whoever creeps down there at night will be the thief! I am sure he will have an armful of toys!

'No - don't watch, Tippy,' said Fenny, frightened. 'You know everyone thinks it's a very powerful wizard, who comes at night and makes himself invisible so that no one sees him. And that's how he takes our toys -. putting his invisible hand into our windows. 'There's something strange about this,' said Tippy. 'I'm going to watch!'



So that night he hid in the wood and kept an eye on the lane that ran through the sleeping village. Nobody came. And then, just as Tippy was going to creep home, he heard a tiny sound.

Tippitty-tap, tippitty-tap - and down the lane came a very tiny figure indeed. What could it be? A little wizard? A small magician? Then he stared in astonishment. It was no wizard but just a toy soldier, walking quickly down the lane in his little clicking shoes - tippitty-tap!



And then came a doll, and after that a soft-walking toy cat, dressed in a skirt and shawl. She had shoes on her feet, but she made no sound. Then came a curly-haired doll and two more toy soldiers! Tippy could hardly believe his eyes. He called out in a whisper, 'Hi, soldier! Hi, sailor doll! What are you doing?'

But they took no notice at all. Not one of them even looked round, but went quietly on their way. They were toys that could walk, but they didn't seem to be alive.



Tippy got up quietly and followed a teddy bear down the lane. The bear walked steadily on, his shoes making a little shuffling noise because he didn't lift up his feet properly



And, to Tippy's great surprise, he walked in at the open gate of the goblin toyshop, went up the little path and in at the door. It must be open then!



[illegible]

He caught sight of a box with something printed on the lid. Tippy bent over it, trying to make out what was written there. 'Walking spells for shoes,' he read in astonishment, and then he suddenly guessed the secret of the disappearing toys!



That wicked goblin! He sold toys that wore shoes - he didn't sell trains or bricks or ships because they didn't wear shoes and couldn't walk. But soldiers and teddies and dolls could all wear shoes! So he pops a walking spell into their shoes, knowing that

at a certain time the spell will work – and all the toys will walk back to him, so that he can sell them once again! thought Tippy. Oh, he's bad. He's a fraud! But how clever he is!

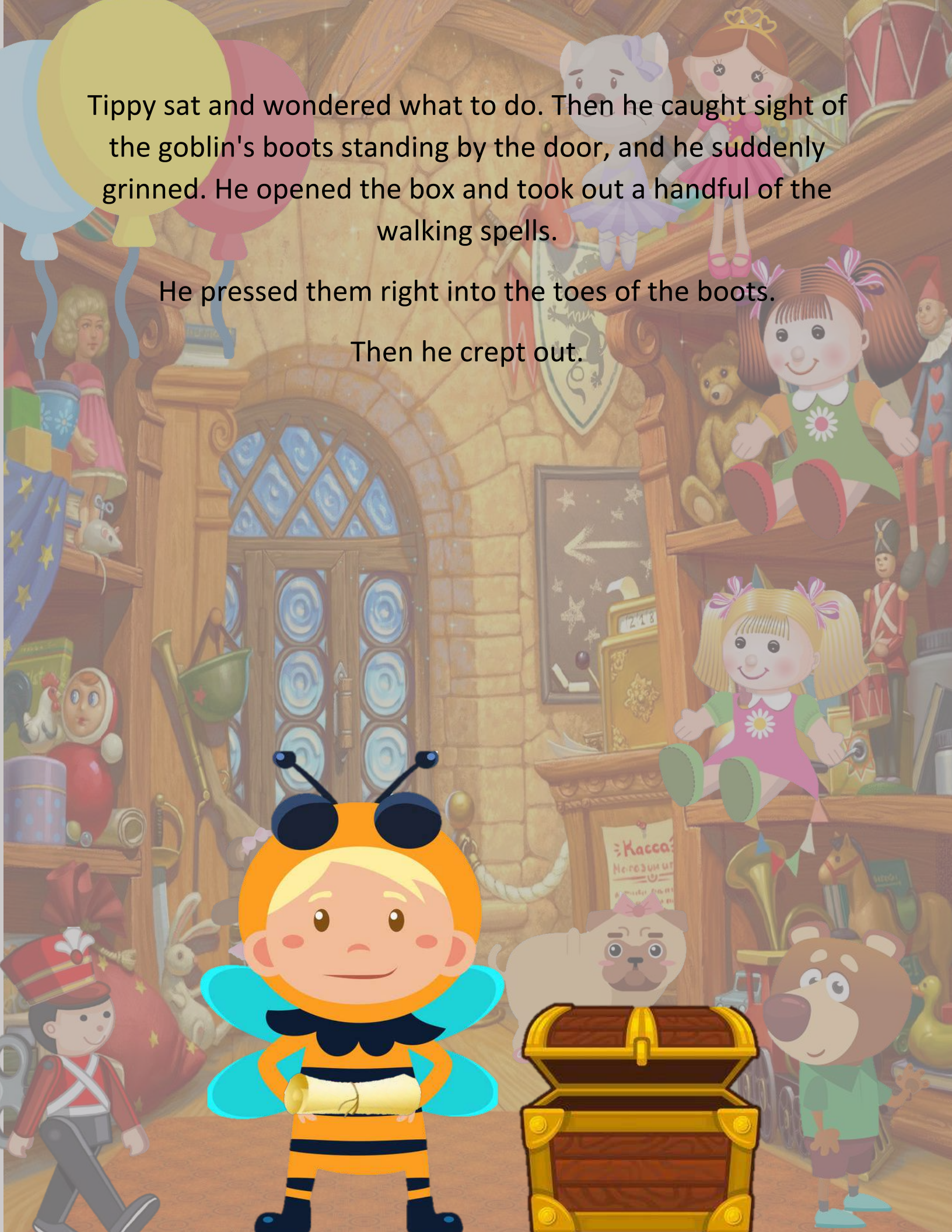


A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a toy shop. The shop is filled with various toys on shelves, including dolls, teddy bears, a clown, and a soldier. In the foreground, a boy dressed as a bee with a yellow and black striped body, blue wings, and antennae stands next to an open wooden treasure chest. A small white dog with a pink bow is sitting on the chest, and a brown bear is standing next to it. The background features a large arched doorway and a wall with a clock and a sign that says 'Kacca' and 'Hapozumut'. The overall scene is bright and cheerful.

Tippy sat and wondered what to do. Then he caught sight of the goblin's boots standing by the door, and he suddenly grinned. He opened the box and took out a handful of the walking spells.

He pressed them right into the toes of the boots.

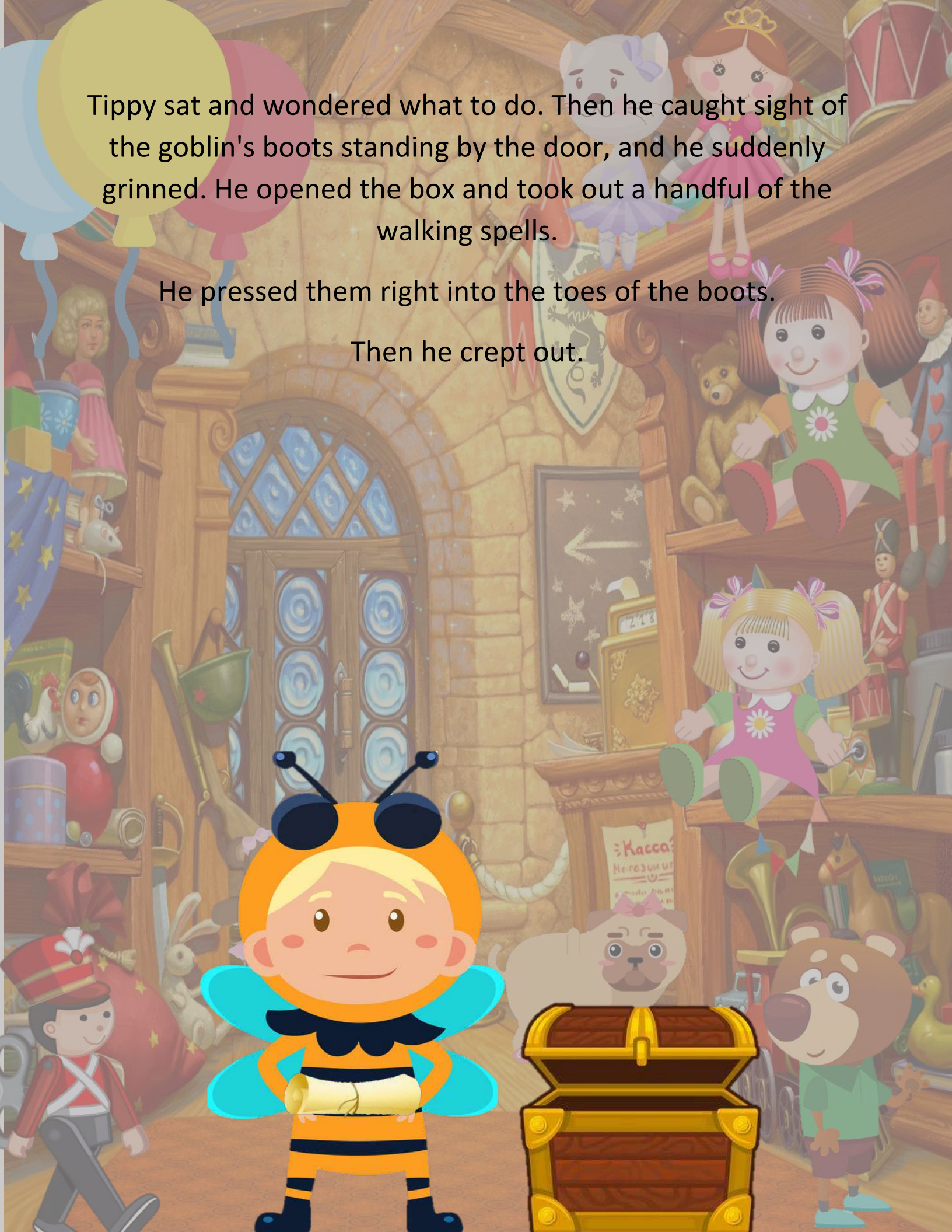
Then he crept out.



Tippy sat and wondered what to do. Then he caught sight of the goblin's boots standing by the door, and he suddenly grinned. He opened the box and took out a handful of the walking spells.

He pressed them right into the toes of the boots.

Then he crept out.



Tippy sat and wondered what to do. Then he caught sight of the goblin's boots standing by the door, and he suddenly grinned. He opened the box and took out a handful of the walking spells.

He pressed them right into the toes of the boots.

Then he crept out.

The next day everyone in the village knew about the goblin's mean trick. They crowded to his shop angrily, and he met them with his usual grin. 'What nonsense!' he said, when they had shouted to tell him what they knew. 'I know nothing about walking spells, nothing at all. I have never even heard of them. There are no such things. Tippy dreamt it all.'



'Pack up your things, you wicked goblin, and go!'
shouted the pixies.

'Certainly not,' said the green-eyed fellow. 'I shall stay
here as long as I like. Nothing can make me leave, and
I warn you - be careful in case I put a bad spell on you
all. 'But, as he spoke, his feet began to twist about and
wriggle to and fro. The goblin gazed down at them in
surprise. What was happening?



Tippy gave a chuckle. He knew. The handful of walking spells was beginning to work! And very soon the goblin found his feet walking him out of his cottage and down the path to his front gate.

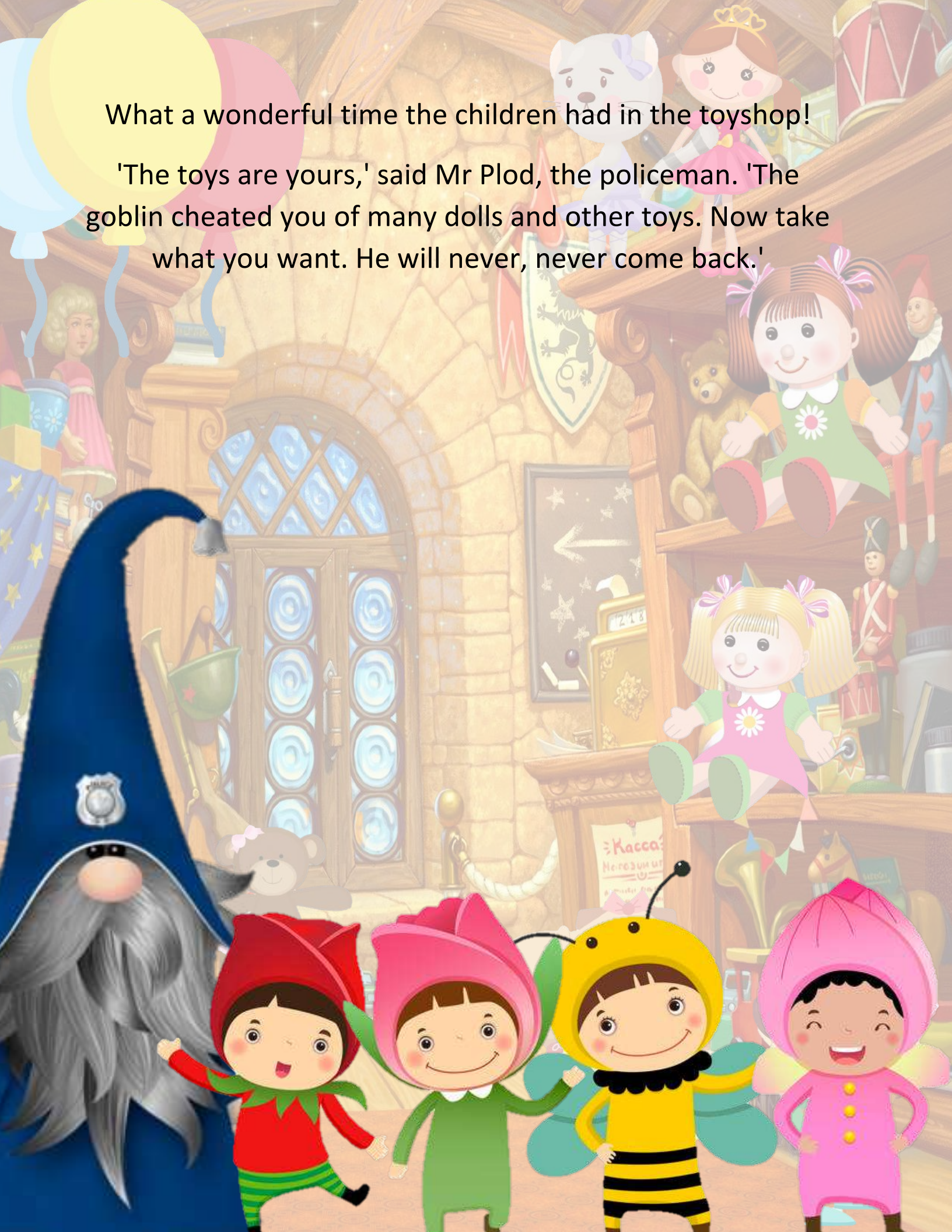
'Stop, feet, stop!' he yelled. 'What's the matter with you? 'The same thing that was the matter with the feet of all the toys you sold!' cried Tippy in delight. 'Walking spells in your boots - but I forgot, you've never heard of such things, have you?'



The pixies ran beside the furious, bewildered goblin till he
came to the end of the village. Then they said, 'Goodbye!
You've so many spells in your boots that you won't stop
walking till you get to the Land of Goodness Knows
Where! We shan't see you again, goblin!'

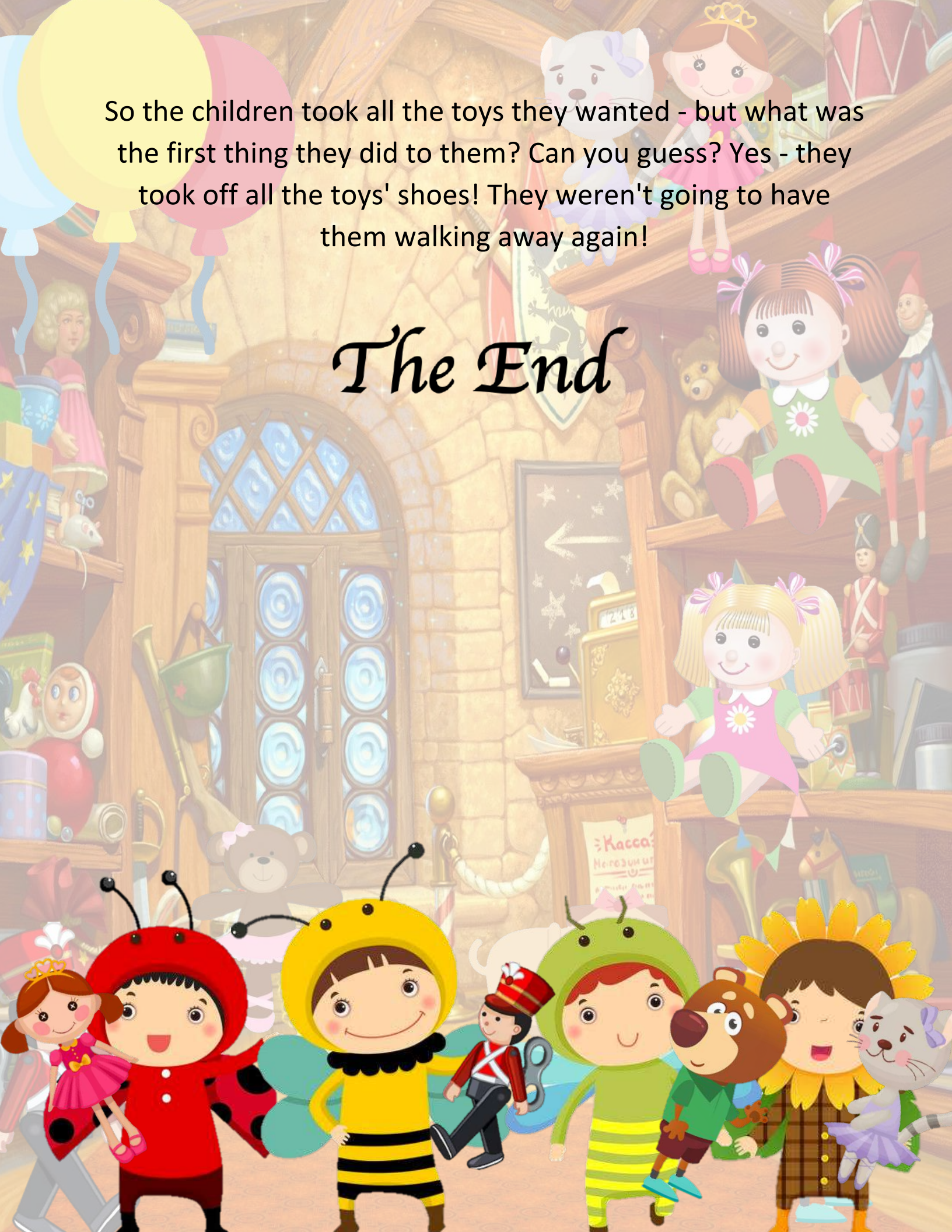
They didn't, of course, because he had to walk for years.





What a wonderful time the children had in the toyshop!

'The toys are yours,' said Mr Plod, the policeman. 'The goblin cheated you of many dolls and other toys. Now take what you want. He will never, never come back.'



So the children took all the toys they wanted - but what was the first thing they did to them? Can you guess? Yes - they took off all the toys' shoes! They weren't going to have them walking away again!

The End



THINK
DIGITAL ACADEMY