



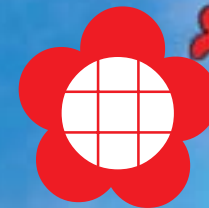
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The Flying Train

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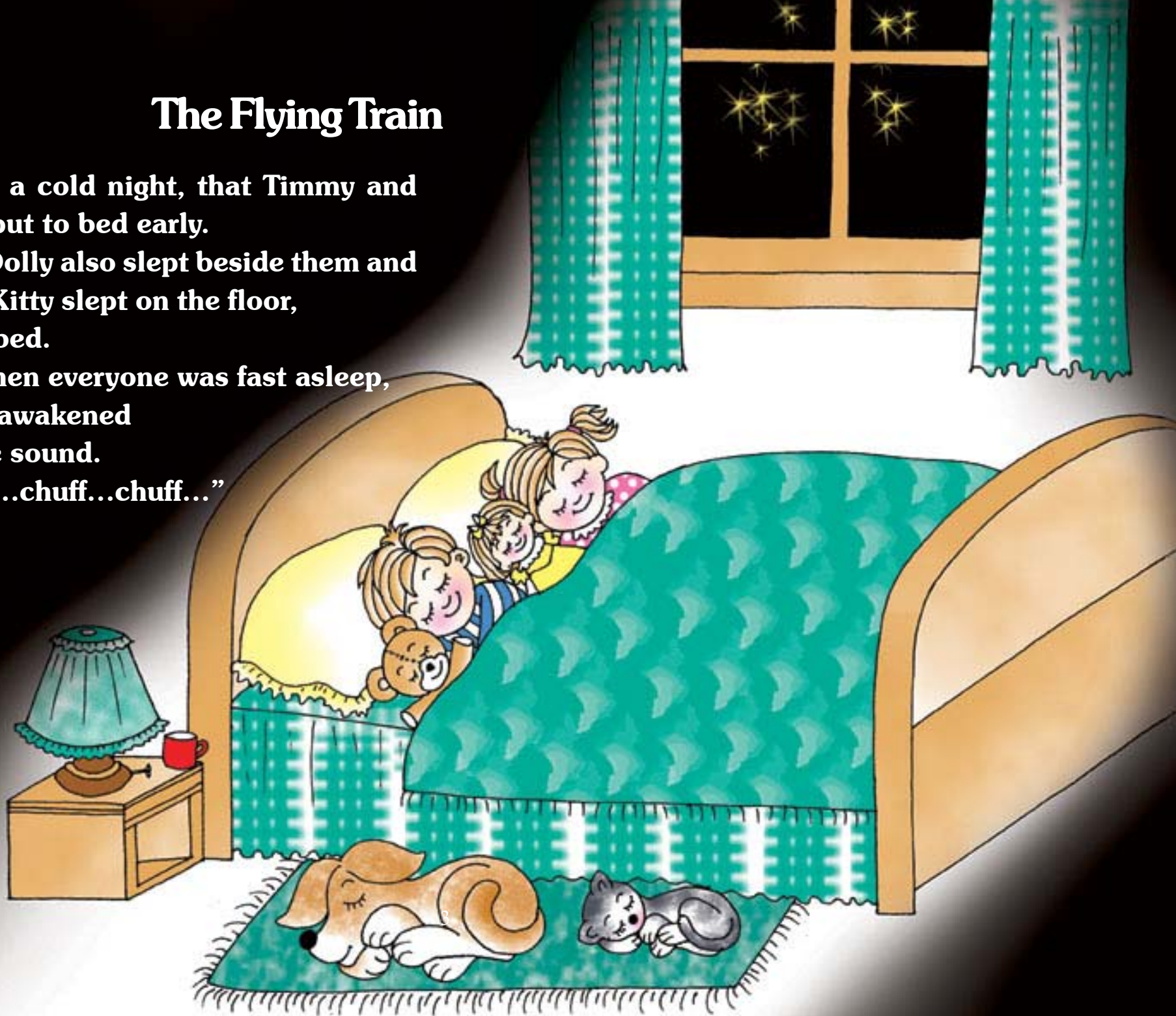
The Flying Train

It was such a cold night, that Timmy and Nelly were put to bed early.

Teddy and Dolly also slept beside them and Puppy and Kitty slept on the floor, next to the bed.

Later on, when everyone was fast asleep, Timmy was awakened by a strange sound.

“Whooooof...chuff...chuff...”



“What’s that noise?”

**Timmy murmured,
still half asleep.**

**“It’s coming closer!”
he cried.**

**Nelly and the others woke up
at the sound of Timmy’s
voice.**

**They all looked up toward the
sound and saw an amazing
sight.**

“It’s a flying train!!!!”

**Timmy and Nelly shouted
at once.**

**“Come on everyone!”
the train shouted.**

**“I will take you for a ride
in the sky. All aboooooard!”**



**“What?” everyone cried.
“A ride in the sky? How wonderful!
Let’s get in...let’s get in.”
So, Timmy, Nelly, Puppy, Kitty,
Teddy and Dolly jumped
into the train.
“Here we go...”
“Whoooooooooff...whoooooooooff...
chuff...chuff...”**



The train went flying through the air, chuffing, whoofing, hooting and puffing smoke, all along the way. It flew away from the window. They went so high above the birds, and the birds watched the train fly by, in wonder. They dipped their wings and waved at them. Everybody waved at the birds. Timmy, Nelly and their friends were so happy. Over the clouds, under the clouds, and through the clouds, the train went. It flew, flew and flew. Everybody aboard, yelled and laughed with joy.



“Oh, it’s so cold, up in the sky,” Dolly said, as she began to shiver. Still, the train flew up and up. It went through the misty clouds, farther and farther away. And suddenly, “Look, look, look over there!” Teddy shouted.

“Oh, what is that?” said Timmy.

“That must be fairyland!” said Puppy.

“Oh! Look, look, look over there,” Dolly shouted.

“There are mountains of ice-cream, rivers of honey, beautiful gardens, juicy fruits...and such lovely fairies.”

Timmy, Nelly and the others couldn’t quite believe their eyes.

They couldn’t wait to get there.

But, the train was in a big hurry.

It didn’t want to stop.

So, on they went, right past the wonderful place, waving to the fairies.

The fairies waved back as they flew on.

“Whoooff...chuff...chuff...”

The flying train kept going.

It went farther and farther, into the sky.



“There! There! Look over there,” Timmy said.

“The stars are glittering all over the sky.”

“Yes,” said the stars.

**“That is what we do. We glitter like the sun. We are all suns,
as you must know.”**

“Oh, yes indeed. you are so beautiful,” Timmy said.

**Timmy and the others waved at the stars,
as they flew on.**



“Let’s go to see the moon,” said Teddy.

“Oh, there it is!” cried Dolly.

“It’s so beautiful!”

“The moon is very big, isn’t it?” said Kitty.

“It’s so strange! When we saw the moon from the ground, it was quite small. But look, how big it is, up here!”

Dolly yelled, excitedly.

“And see, how far we are from earth and how close we are to the moon. That’s why we see it, so big.” said Tommy.

The moon was reflecting the sunlight. Timmy, Nelly and their friends waved goodbye to the moon, and on they flew, in their flying train.



“Oh, be careful! Be careful!” Nelly shouted.

“Here comes a big rain cloud!!”

But the flying train would not listen.

It was not afraid of anything at all.

“There, there...don’t be scared.”

**As the engine turned
to calm its passengers...**

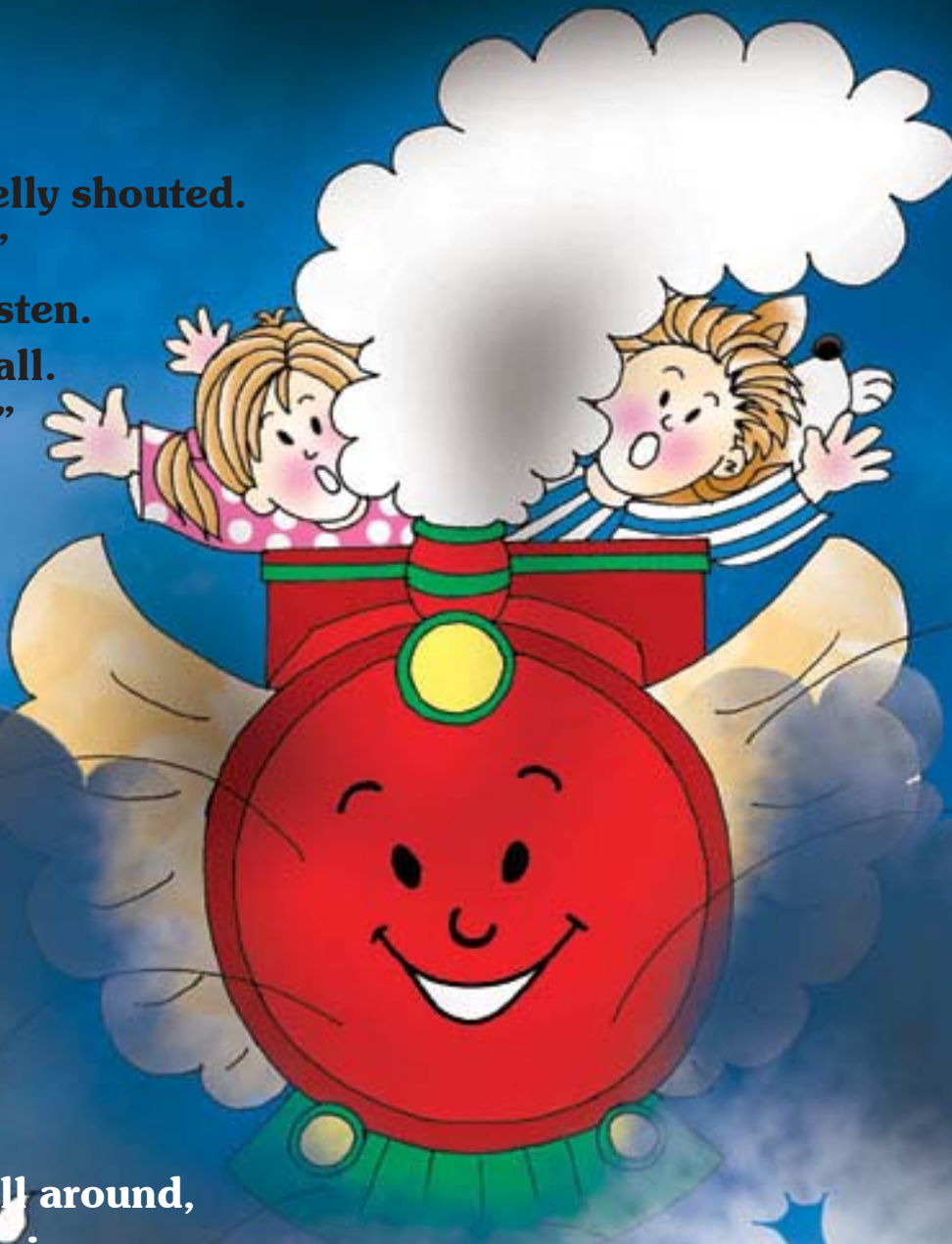
“Crr....aaaa.....shhhhh.....!”

“Sr.....sssssss...!”

**The train crashed,
right into the rain cloud.**

**Big, water droplets splattered all around,
leaving the friends wet and dripping.**

And a heavy downpour gushed from the smashed cloud.



“Oh, no!” Nelly yelled. All of them were soaked to the skin. But the train would not stop flying. It zig-zagged all over the sky. Round and round the sky, it went.

“Aaaah-choooo!” Nelly began sneezing.

Soon, everyone was sneezing.

“Aaaah-choooo! Aaaah-choooooooooooooooooooooo!”

“Oh, if mummy could see us, we would be scolded,”

said Nelly, looking around, as if Mother was watching.

The flying train flew faster and faster.

What a hurry, it seemed to be in!

The wind became stronger, as the train went faster, still.

Soon, the earth was far below.

So far, that it was nothing but a small marble.



“Oh, what is that?” Kitty shouted pointing at a big reddish globe.

“That is a planet!” said Nelly.

“Look, it’s going around the sun!” Puppy was amazed.

“Yes, yes...my teacher said the planets move around the sun, just like our earth planet.” said Nelly.

“Look, look, there are some strange people on that planet,” Teddy said, pointing at the tiny creatures they could just make out, on the planet.

“Oh, I know. It’s the planet Mars,” Timmy explained.

“We learned about it in school.

Those are the Little Grey People.

And look at their flying saucers.”

Everyone looked at the planet, curious to see, people from another world.

“Yes, we are the Little People of Mars.

You are most welcome to visit our planet,” said the Little People, waving at the train.



Timmy, Nelly and the others would have loved to meet them. But, the train was in such a hurry. It couldn't wait. It hurried past the planet Mars and went farther and farther out into space. "How big the sky is!" the passengers cried. "Unbelievable!"

"There's no end!"

"Look, look! The sun is rising. Let's go, let's go...let's see the sun!" Puppy shouted.

"Oh, look, how big the sun is! It's very hot! The sun is glowing like a ball of fire," Teddy whispered, rather fearfully.

"No, no! We surely should not go any closer," Dolly said.

"It's burning hot. We can't even look at him.

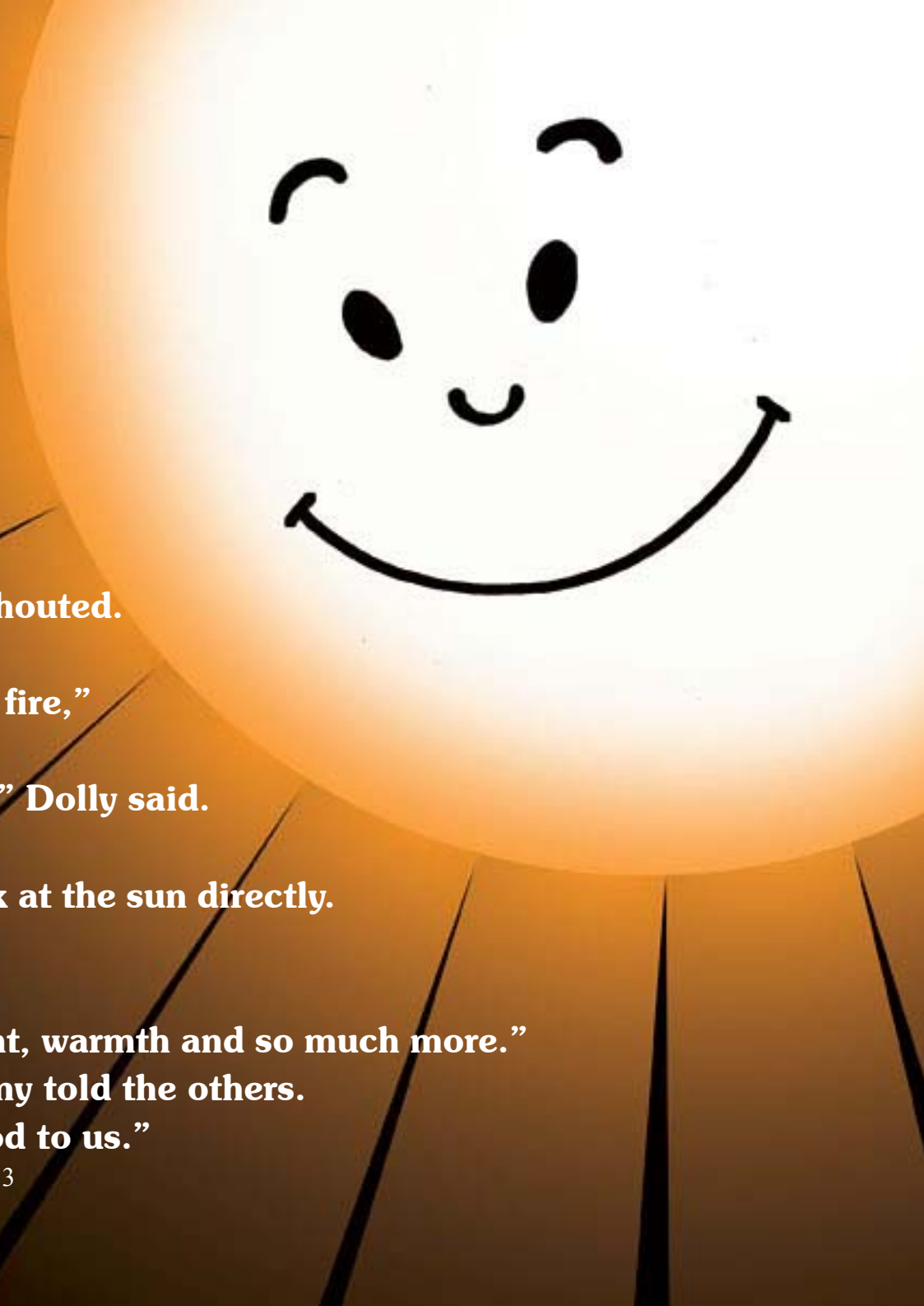
Mummy always says that it's not good to look at the sun directly. He looks very wicked."

"No, no...I'm not wicked," said the sun.

"I love you all. I'm the one who gives you light, warmth and so much more."

"Yes, of course. The sun gives us a lot," Timmy told the others.

"We can't live without the sun. He is very good to us."



Seeing the sun, he suddenly remembered something.
“Oh! It’s almost dawn!!! We have to get ready for school!”
“Yes, yes, yes, we’re going to be late for school,”
Nelly cried.
“Stop! Stop! Please...”
Timmy and Nelly both shouted,
at the train engine.
The train went on flying,
as if he didn’t hear them.
It was going round and round,
farther and farther
all over the sky,
laughing away.
He was in such a hurry!



“What should we do? We are going to be late for school,” said Nelly, nervously.

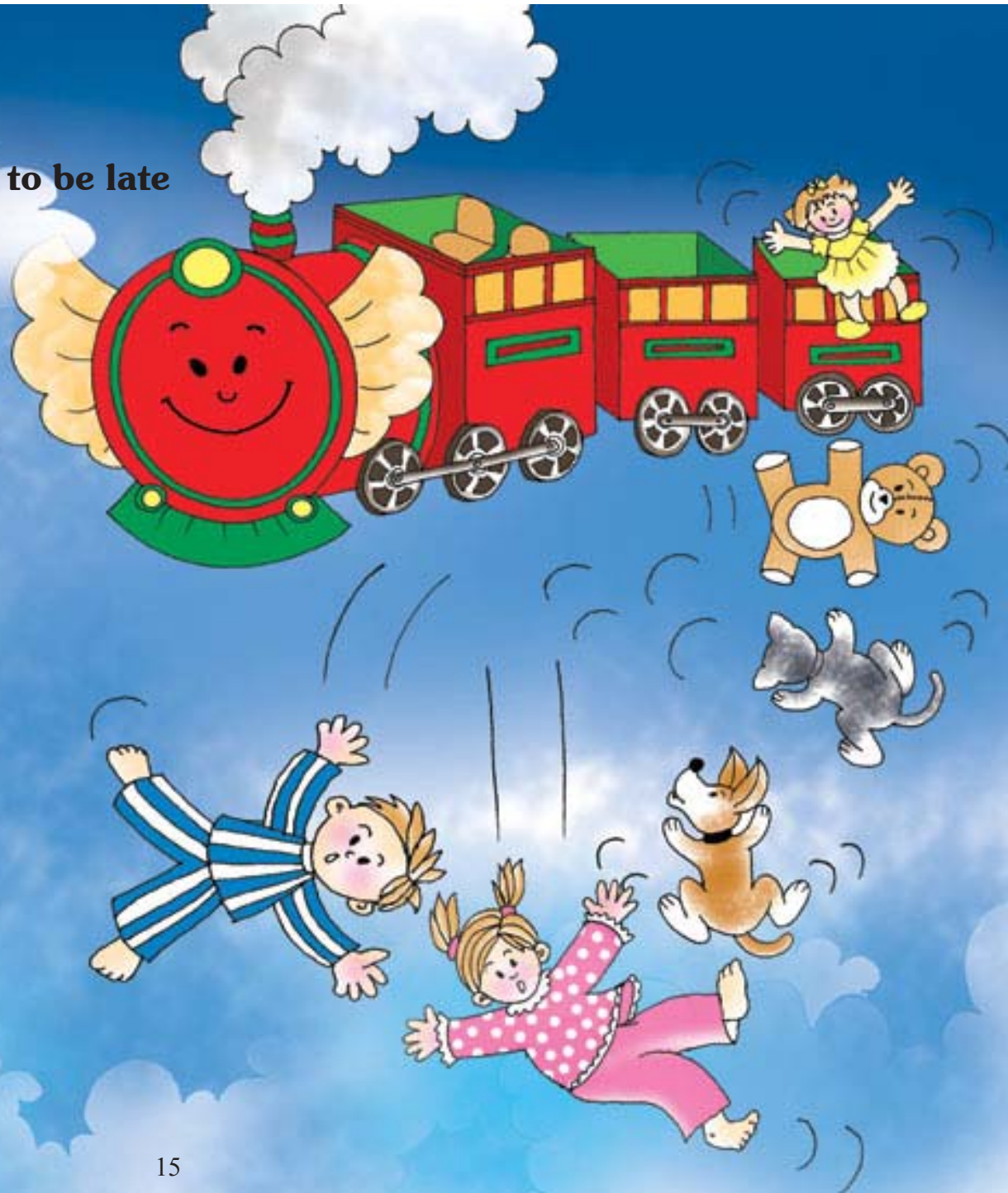
**“Let’s jump! Let’s jump!
Let’s jump off the train,”
Nelly exclaimed.**

**“Yes, yes, let’s jump off the train!”
said Puppy, too.**

**“Then close your eyes.
One-two-three...,” Timmy counted.
Everybody jumped out of the train.**

“...Thu...dddddddddd !”

**“Oh, Mummyyyyyyyyy...my leg...
oh, my arm...ouch...ugh...
ooooouuuuch!”
Everybody was screaming.**





Just then, Timmy heard his mother's voice, as if in a dream.

"Why, why, why are you making all these noises in the middle of the night?" "Have you had a dream?" mother asked, as she rushed into the room.

"Oh....!" Timmy woke up rubbing his knees and elbows as if hurt, still shouting.

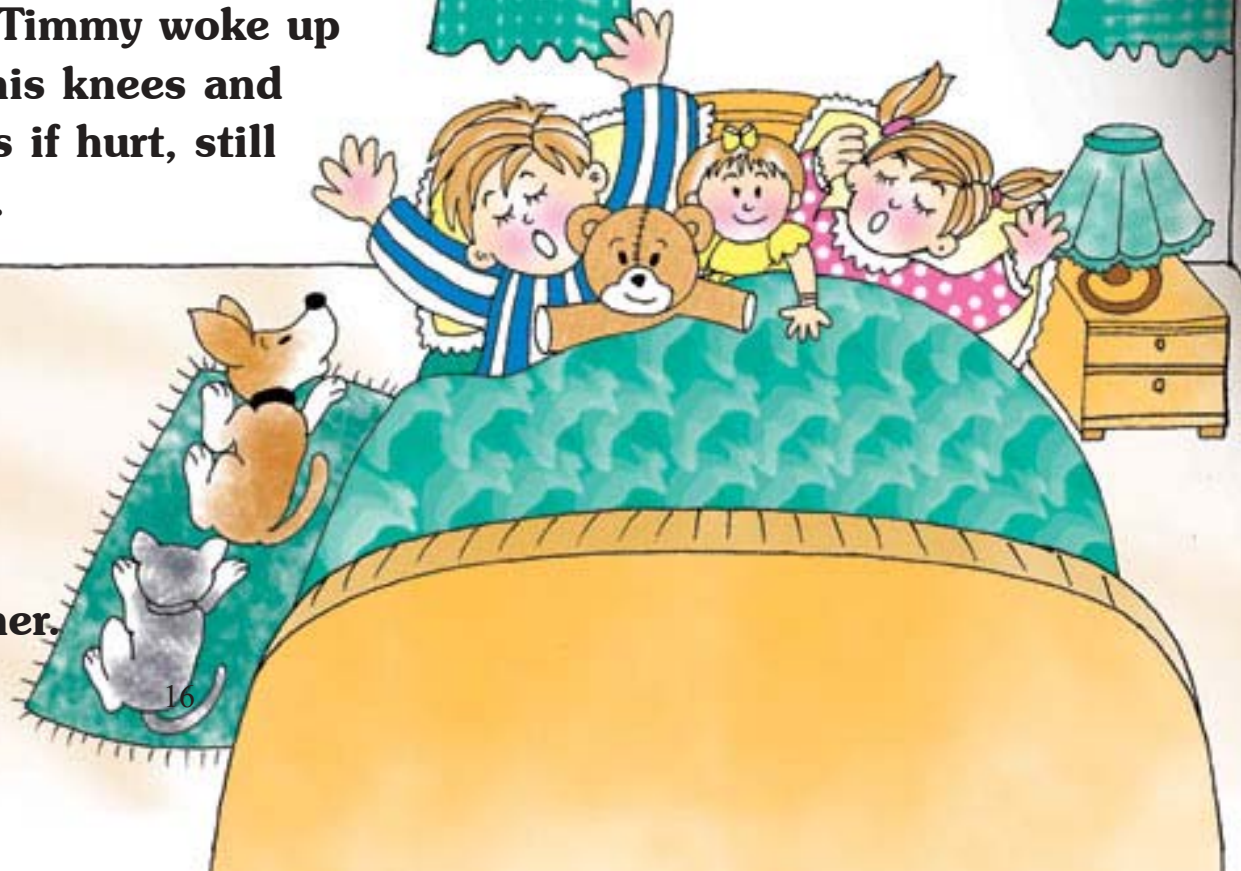
Everybody else also woke up.

"Was it a dream?"

Timmy murmured looking around.

"Oh, Timmy!!"

Everybody roared in laughter together.





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