

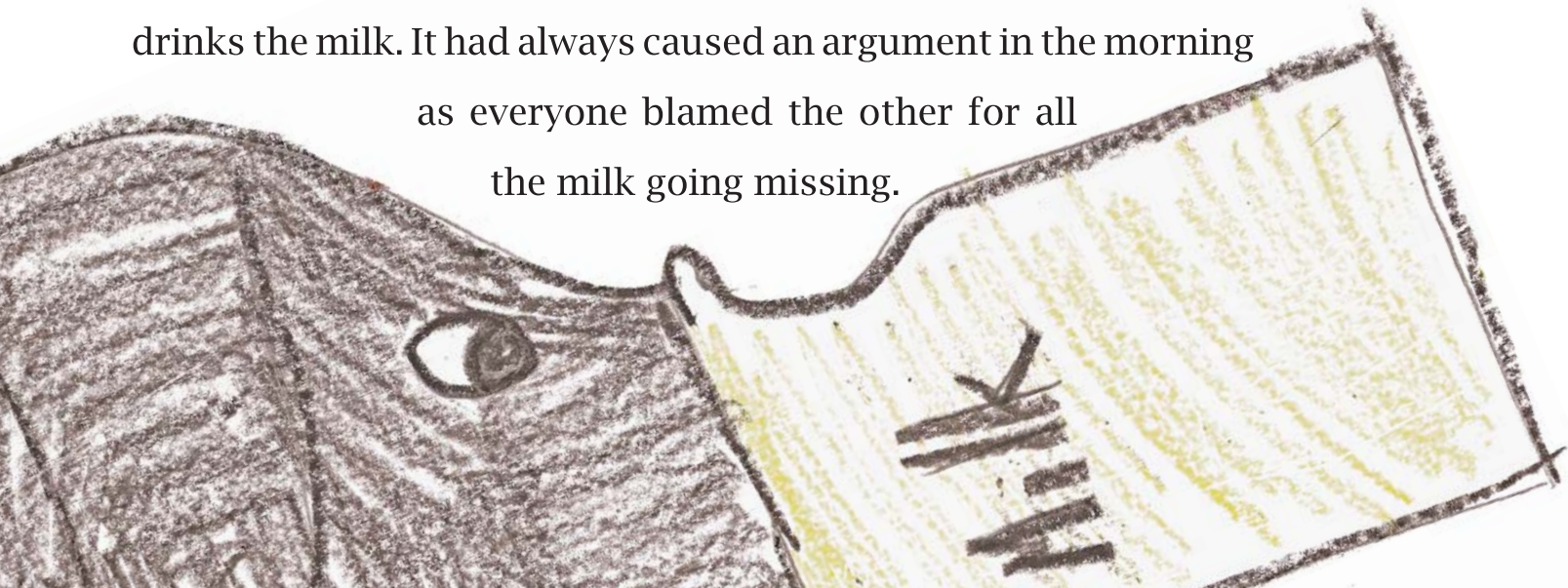


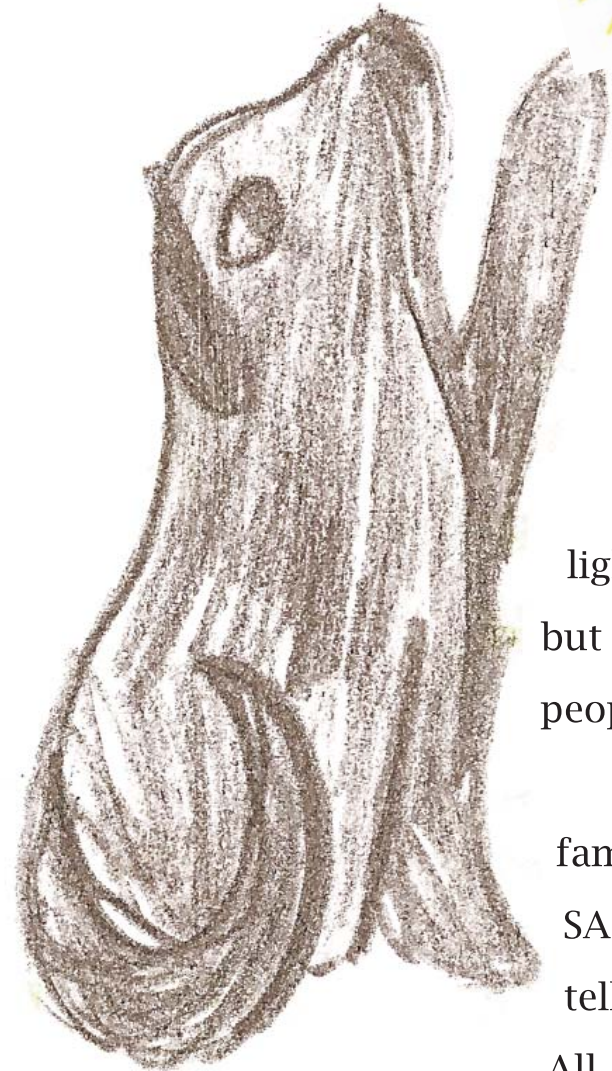
# Alfie and the Magic Milk

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Alfie was just an ordinary black dog. Except to Alfie's owners, of course, who thought Alfie was special. Alfie lived with Mr. and Mrs. Forblob and their two children Max and Georgie at number 10 Barn Lane, somewhere in the English Countryside. Alfie was clever, because he had learned how to do tricks, like open doors, stand on two legs and howl along to Eastenders. Now, Alfie quite likes drinking milk, but he isn't allowed because it makes him poorly, so when everyone is asleep he creeps down stairs, opens the fridge and drinks the milk. It had always caused an argument in the morning

as everyone blamed the other for all  
the milk going missing.





But, one night in a field not so far away, a cow was struck by lightning and shook up all the milk inside it. It gave the cow a shock I can tell you!

The next day as normal the farmer milked the cow, bottled the milk and delivered it to all the local people including the Forblob family in Barn Lane.

At this time it was unknown that the lightening turned the milk into a magical drink, but the magic only worked on animals and not people.

That night, Alfie waited as usual until all the family were asleep and crept downstairs practising SAS tactics he had seen earlier that evening on the telly. He opened the fridge and drank the milk. All of a sudden Alfie's tummy started to grumble and he felt very strange indeed. He stood on his hind

legs and howled, but the howls turned into cries. His paws turned into hands and feet; he had turned into a boy.

Alfie was shocked and upset, and since this had never happened before he didn't know what to do, so he decided for the best to go and see Phoenix the wise old dog at the end of the Lane.

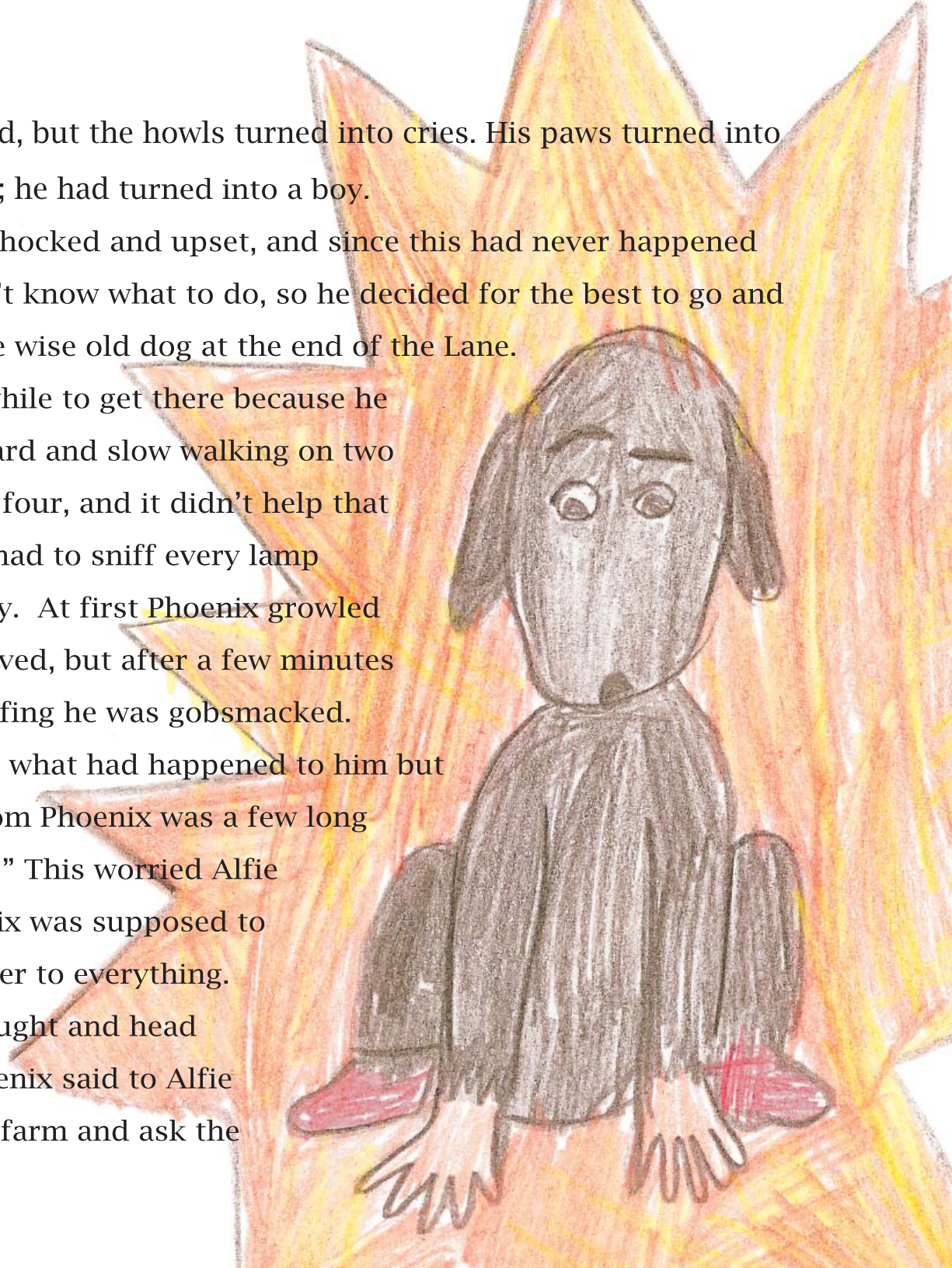
It took him a while to get there because he found it awkward and slow walking on two legs instead of four, and it didn't help that he still felt he had to sniff every lamp

post on the way. At first Phoenix growled when Alfie arrived, but after a few minutes of bottom sniffing he was gobsmacked.

Alfie explained what had happened to him but all he heard from Phoenix was a few long

"HMMMMMM's." This worried Alfie because Phoenix was supposed to know the answer to everything.

After deep thought and head scratching Phoenix said to Alfie "Lets go to the farm and ask the



animals there if they know what it could be, after all that's where the milk came from." And off they went, Phoenix on all fours and Alfie on all twos still falling over and both of them sniffing lamp posts along the way.

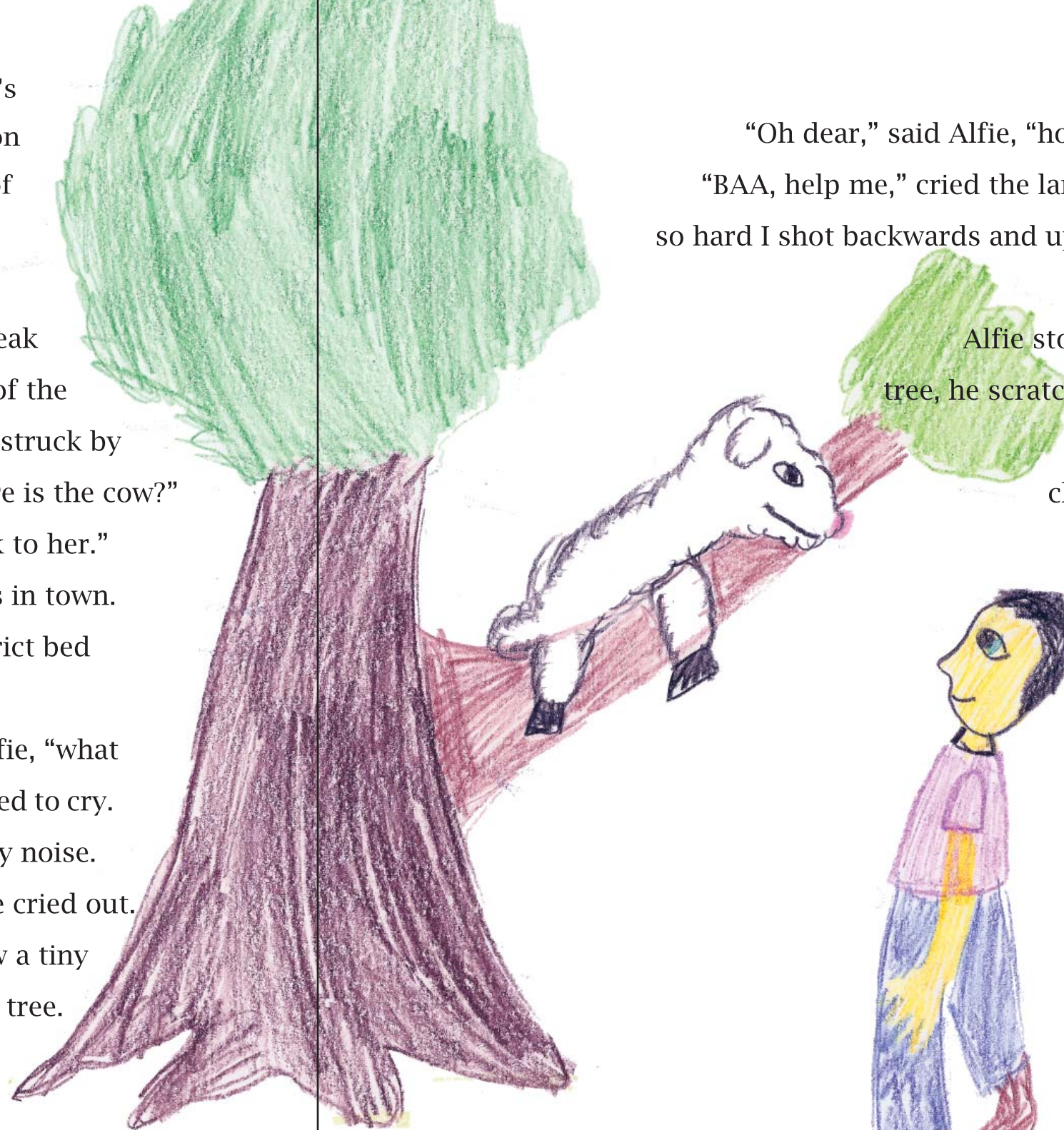
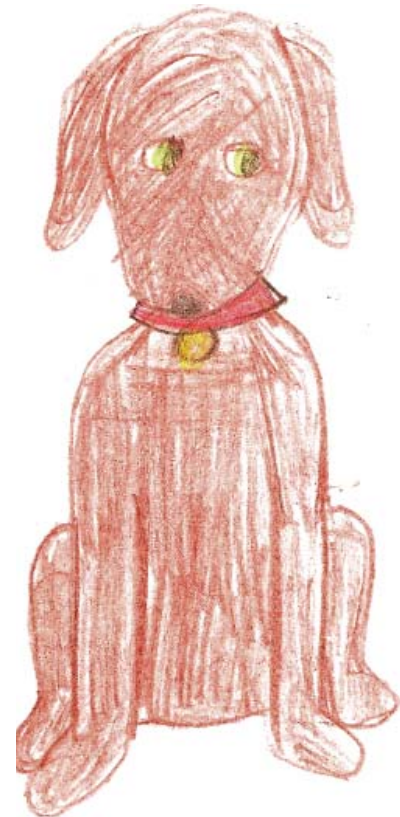
Finally they got to the farm. They spoke to the chickens, the goats, the horses, and they even tried to speak to the cat who just hissed and spat at them. Finally, one of the geese waddled over and told them about the cow getting struck by lightning and could this have caused the problem? "Where is the cow?"

asked Alfie excitedly, "I need to talk to her."

"The farmer took her to the vet's in town. She won't be back till next week. Strict bed rest," said the goose, "sorry."

"Not as sorry as I am," wailed Alfie, "what am I to do!" Alfie sat down and started to cry. Between sobs he could hear a funny noise.

"BAA, BAA, BAA," the noise cried out. Alfie looked around and he saw a tiny lamb stuck high up in a tree.



"Oh dear," said Alfie, "how did you get up there?"  
"BAA, help me," cried the lamb. "I'm stuck, I sneezed so hard I shot backwards and up this tree and I can't get down."

Alfie stood up and walked to the tree, he scratched his head and started to climb. Alfie had never climbed a tree before, and


he had never rescued anyone before, so he was very careful. All

the farm animals turned out to watch.

Finally he reached the lamb, tucked him under

his arm and climbed down again. The tiny

lamb and his mum were



very grateful. The other animals admired Alfie for his bravery.

“You can stay with us in the barn until Daisy the cow comes back,” said one of the horses. “You can’t go home looking like that. Your owners won’t know who you are.” The horse was right, thought Alfie. He settled down for the rest of the night with the horses in the warm barn. “I’ll be back tomorrow with news,” said Phoenix. “Don’t worry Alf, we will get you back to normal, even if we plug the cow into a socket and shock her again,” he laughed. In the morning, Alfie’s owners looked and looked for him and put up missing posters. They even stopped Alfie in the street and asked if he had seen him. “Don’t worry,” he said. “I’m sure he will be back soon. I bet he’s off on a grand adventure.”

But Alfie’s adventures had only just started...

