

THE BIG-ENOUGH HOUSE

By Helen St. John

A father and a mother and their baby Bridget lived in a tiny house behind tall houses in the middle of a busy town.

They were very happy there, and Bridget did not take up too much room.

Then Sophie came.

"When Bridget talks, we must move to a bigger house", said Mother and Father; "There is not enough room."

One day, Bridget called out, "Bibby wants more", - and they moved.

The new house stood in a row of houses like itself, in a long street in the busy town. It had a small front garden and on each side of the path grew fat pink daises.

Father and Mother, and Bridget and Sophie were very happy there.

Then Christopher came.

"When Sophie walks, we must move to a bigger house", said Mother and Father; "there is not enough room."

One day, Sophie walked across the kitchen floor, - and the family moved.

The new house was on the edge of the busy town. It had a front garden and a back garden with room to hang out the washing, and a cherry tree too! Father and Mother, Bridget, Sophie and Christopher were very happy there.

Then Jasper came.

"When Christopher crawls, we must move to a bigger house", said Mother and Father; "there is not enough room."

One day, Christopher crawled along the passage, - and the family moved.

The new house was in the green countryside, near the cows and the sheep. A twisty-turny path wound through the bushes in the garden till it came to a wee wooden house up in a tree.

Father and Mother, Bridget, Sophie, Christopher and Jasper were very happy there.

Then, - a SURPRISE! Simon and Selina came together, and people called them THE TWINS.

"When Jasper cuts his first tooth, we must move to a bigger house", said Mother and Father; "there is not enough room."

One day, Jasper's cheek grew red as an apple, and soon a pearl of a little white tooth appeared, - and the family moved.

The new house stood on a hill-side. In the wood behind it the pigeons coo-ed and the squirrels played; a bubbling little stream tumbled down through the garden.

Father and Mother, Bridget, Sophie, Christopher, Jasper and Simon and Selina were very happy there.

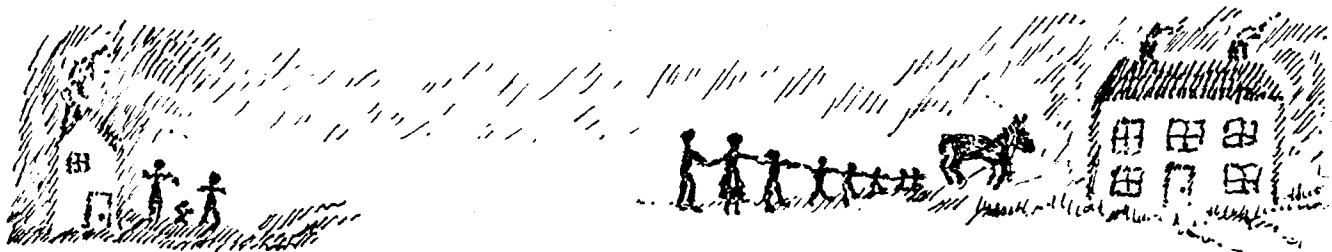
"When the twins are a little older, we must move to a bigger house", said Mother and Father; "there is certainly not enough room."

One day, when Simon and Selina had smiled, coo-ed, sat up by themselves, cut a tooth or two and begun to crawl, - the family moved.

The new house was far, far away from the busy town. It stood by itself on the wide open moorland. Every year the purple heather came, and the ponies roamed around.

"Now", said the mother and the father, "all the children have come and we are going to stay here." So, the whole family, Bridget, Sophie, Christopher, Jasper, and Simon and Selina, and Father and Mother lived very, very happily in the Big-Enough House, - for a long, long, long time.

HELEN ST. JOHN



FLICK AND FLACK The Story of Two Little Flames

Once upon a time two little Flames called Flick and Flack lived in a Fireplace, with Father Flame and Mother Flame.

Flick was dressed in yellow and Flack was dressed in orange, and they loved to be together.

They were a clever little pair for they could both grow tall and thin as a golden thread, and the next minute round and pretty as an autumn leaf.

Flick and Flack chased each other in and out of the Coals, jumping over their black backs and calling to each other, "Catch me if you can!"

They played 'Hide and Seek' in the brightly lit Caves, creeping through the orange arches. And then, tired out, they would sit in golden turretted Castles, like a king and queen.

One day, Flack said to Flick, "Let's go up the chimney". "Yes", said Flick, "but no further than Father and Mother go."

Leaping off the highest Coal, they flew into the big black hole.

"I wonder how far it is to the top?", called out Flick. "Let's go and see", said Flack.

Now, at this moment Wind was passing over the roof and when he heard voices he looked down the chimney. "Hey, there, my little fellows, hold on to my long arm and you will soon see the Big World." Flick and Flack were glad to hear a friendly voice and held on tight to Wind. With a pull and a puff he hauled

them up and out onto the edge of the chimney-pot. Before they could thank Wind, he was gone!

Flick looked up at the big blue sky and Flack looked down on the red roofs and the green fields. "Isn't this fun." said Flack. "Yes", said Flick, and, holding hands, the two began to dance merrily round the chimney-pot.

Now, over the road in a window was a little old lady, and when she looked up and saw the two Flames she shouted, "HELP! FIRE!".

Flick and Flack were so excited that they danced faster and faster. Suddenly, below, there was a great clanging of bells and round the corner of the road dashed the Fire Engine, full of men in shiny helmets. The two little Flames went on dancing when - SWOOSH!! something hit the chimney-pot and - SPLOSH!!, the chimney-pot shook! "Oh!" said Flick. "What's that?", said Flack, and they both cried together, "Quick!, down the chimney! jump!" A cold wet splash of water caught the edges of their dresses which went "SIZZLE - SIZZLE!"

Those two little Flames fell down, down the chimney into the warm Fireplace. Oh, it was good to be back amongst the friendly Coals and the Brightly-lit Caves and the golden Castles.

And there was Mother Flame holding out her arms to them both. "Well," said Father Flame, "you have had an adventure." "Yes", said a little yellow Flame; "Yes", said a little orange Flame. And Flick and Flack blinked sleepily, but they will soon be off again, chasing each other!

HELEN ST. JOHN

GOD'S CHILDREN

*I'm shining!
Laughed the sunshine,
And beamed upon the earth*

*I'm blowing!
Called the west wind
And rushed for all his worth.*

*I'm falling!
Sighed the snow flake
And floated to the ground.*

*I'm coming!
Cried the rain drop
And pitter-pattered down.*



CREATION

*When the sun shines on high
Warming Earth far below
Bringing growth to the plants
And a warmth to men's hearts,
Then thanks from me flow
To the Father of All.*

*When the tallest of trees
And the smallest of flowers
Grow beside one another
As a child by his mother,
Then praise from me pours
To the Father of All.*

When the beasts in the field,
And the fish in the sea,
And the birds in the air
For a Purpose are there,
Then awe in me springs
Before the Father of all.

When the moon sheds her light
O'er the Earth in repose,
And the stars shine away
Till the dawning of day
Then a love in me grows
For the Father of All.

SPRING

I thought the earth was bare, quite bare,
But see! just here, and here, and here,
There's something green a-showing
And something gold a-glowing,
It is an ACONITE!



I thought the earth was bare, quite bare,
But see! just here, and here, and here,
There's something green a-showing
And something white a-blowing,
It is a SNOWDROP!

I thought the earth was bare, quite bare,
But see! just here, and here, and here,
There's something green a-showing
And something purple growing,
It is a CROCUS!



SPRING BLOSSOM

See the blossoms pink and white
Above our heads all in the light
Let us dance around the tree
Ring - a - ring - ree-ree-ree!

Comes a cloud of busy bees
A-flying in the blossom trees,
Sipping here and sipping there,
Humming in the happy air

CHORUS

Let us dance around the tree
Ring - a - ring - ree-ree-ree.

Now a gentle little breeze
Shakes the blossom and the leaves,
See the petals start to fall
Fluttering down upon us all!

CHORUS (Let us dance etc)

We will hold hands out so!
Till they fill with blossom snow,
Let us dance around the tree,
Ring - a - ring - a ree-ree-ree!



SPRING

We like to walk on the green hills,
And watch the lambs at play,
One foot up and down again
T'other foot up and down again
Till we all run down, hurray.

SUMMER

We like to walk on the sea-shore
Right up to the edge of the sea,
One foot in and out again,
T'other foot in and out again,
Till here comes a great big wave!

AUTUMN

We like to walk in the crisp leaves
A-swish - a - swish - a - swish,
One foot in and out again,
T'other foot in and out again
Till here comes a great big wind!

WINTER

We like to walk in the deep snow
Right up and over the fields,
One foot in and out again,
T'other foot in and out again,
Till here comes a big snow ball!

ROW ME OVER THE WATER

PRINCESS:

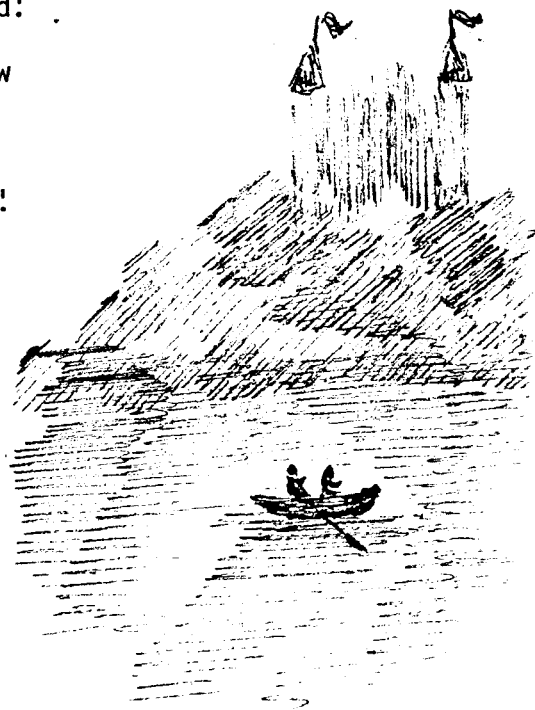
*Oh! row me over the water!
Row me over, do
For I am a King's daughter
And want to go with you.*

PRINCE:

*I'll row you over the water,
Yes, indeed, I will
For I am a King's brother
And want to go with you.*

*So they rowed away together
Over the lake so still,
Till they came to the Prince's Castle
Set high upon a hill.*

*The flags flew high above it,
The bells rang out like laughter,
The Prince and the Princess married,
Lived happy ever after!*



CONTRACTION AND EXPANSION (with actions)

Contraction

Heavy the pack
Upon my back,
Bowed my head
And slow my tread.

Expansion

I loose the pack
From off my back!
I lift my head
And light is my tread!

THE PAINTER

(making gesture of painting)

I'm a busy, busy man,
Can you guess just what I am?
Up and down, up and down
I'm a Painter in the Town.

I'm a busy, busy man
My name is Donald, David, Dan,
Up and down, up and down,
Doing the painting jobs in town.

I'm a busy, busy man,
Lots of red paint in my can!
Up and down, up and down,
Painting all the doors in town.

I'm a busy, busy man,
Lots of blue paint in my can,
Up and down, up and down,
Painting all the gates in town.

I'm a busy, busy man,
Lots of green paint in my can,
Up and down, up and down,
Painting fences in the town.

(and so on, ad lib!)

Final verse

I'm a tired but happy man,
No more paint is in my can,
One foot up, and one foot down,
Leads me homeward through the town.



THE ROYAL FAMILY

Here comes the King
His sword in his hand,
Strongly he strides
Across his land.

Here comes the Queen
In her silken gown
Lightly she steps
Upon the ground.

Here's the Princess
Who holds a gold ball
Running to catch it
In case it should fall.

Here comes the Prince
A - stepping along
He holds a bow
With arrow so long.

(children go round imitating the different
steppings e.g. King striding, etc.)

TWO BY TWO

(Children go hand in hand round the room)

Two by two we all go round,
Each of us another has found

CHORUS Stepping along, along-long-long
This is the way we sing our song.

On we go by the way so wide,
Michael and Mary are side by side

CHORUS Stepping along, etc.

(another pair's names are called out and so on.)

HELEN ST. JOHN