

earlyreads

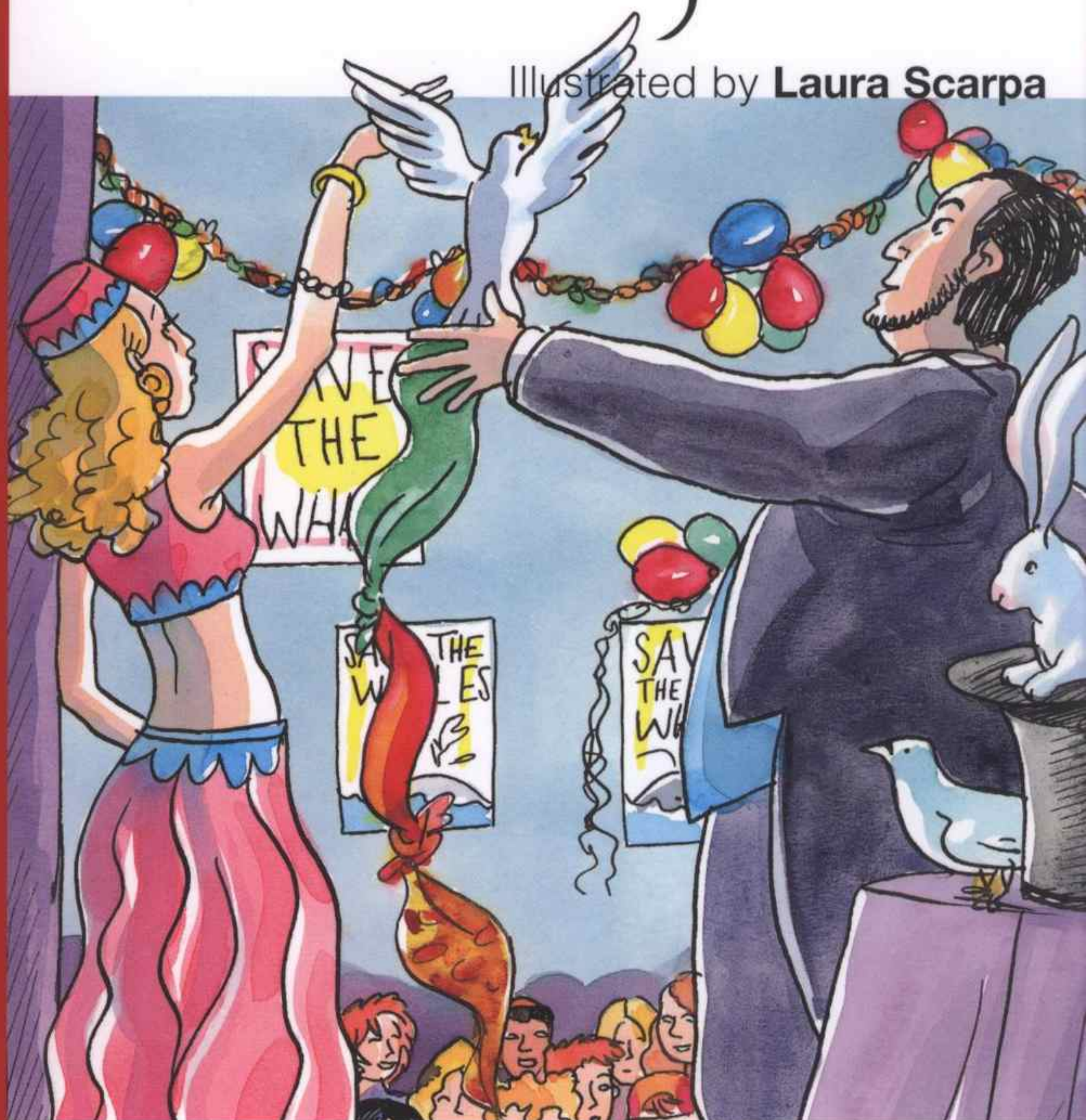
Level

5

Nella Burnett-Stuart Liz Taylor

Zed the Magician

Illustrated by Laura Scarpa



AUDIO CD



Martin's father is reading the newspaper.

ANOTHER BIG ROBBERY!

THAT'S FOUR IN THIS AREA!

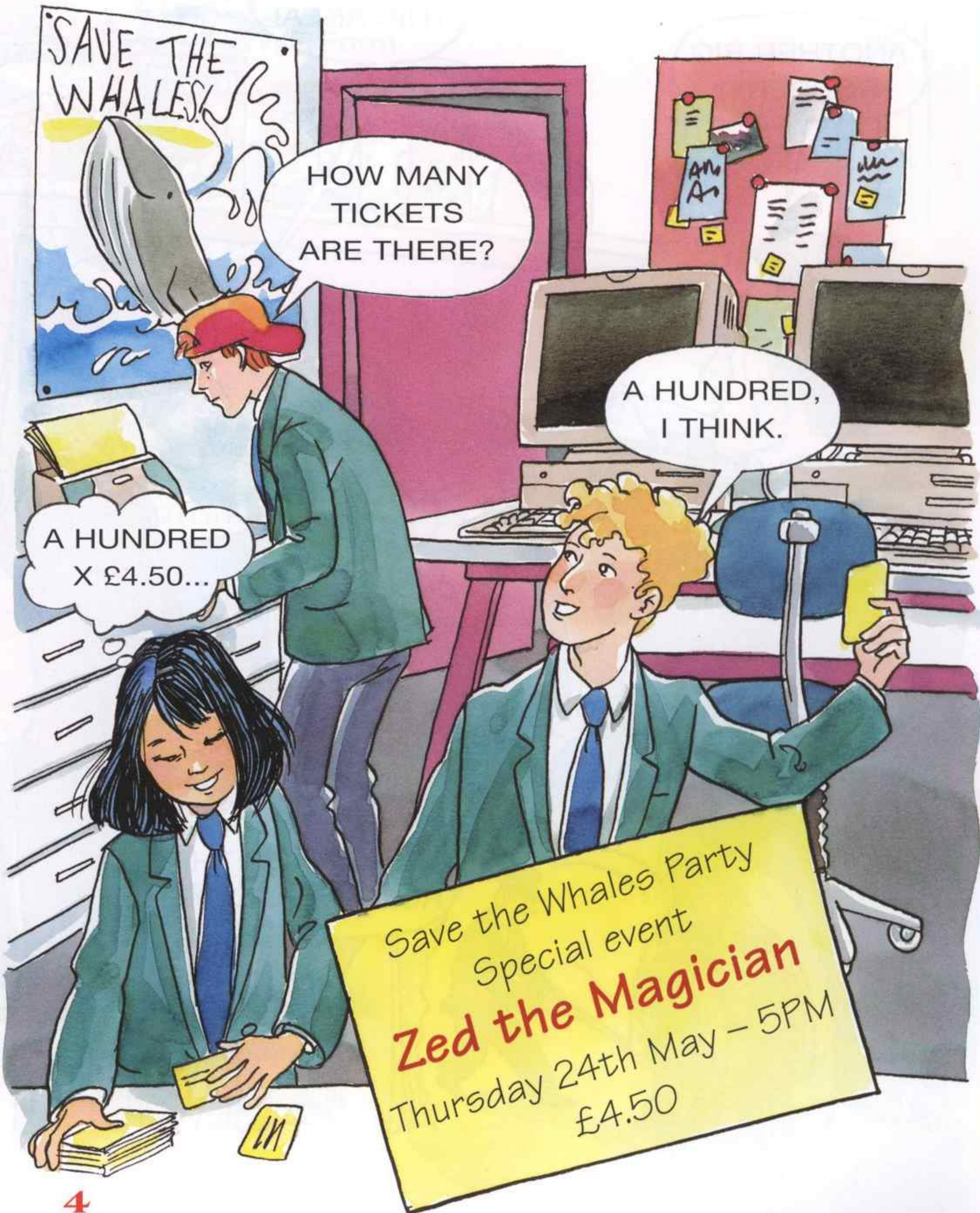
I HOPE THEY CATCH THE ROBBERS SOON.



Martin is a member of the WWF.

He loves animals.

He and his friends are organising a school party – a special party! A party with a magic show.



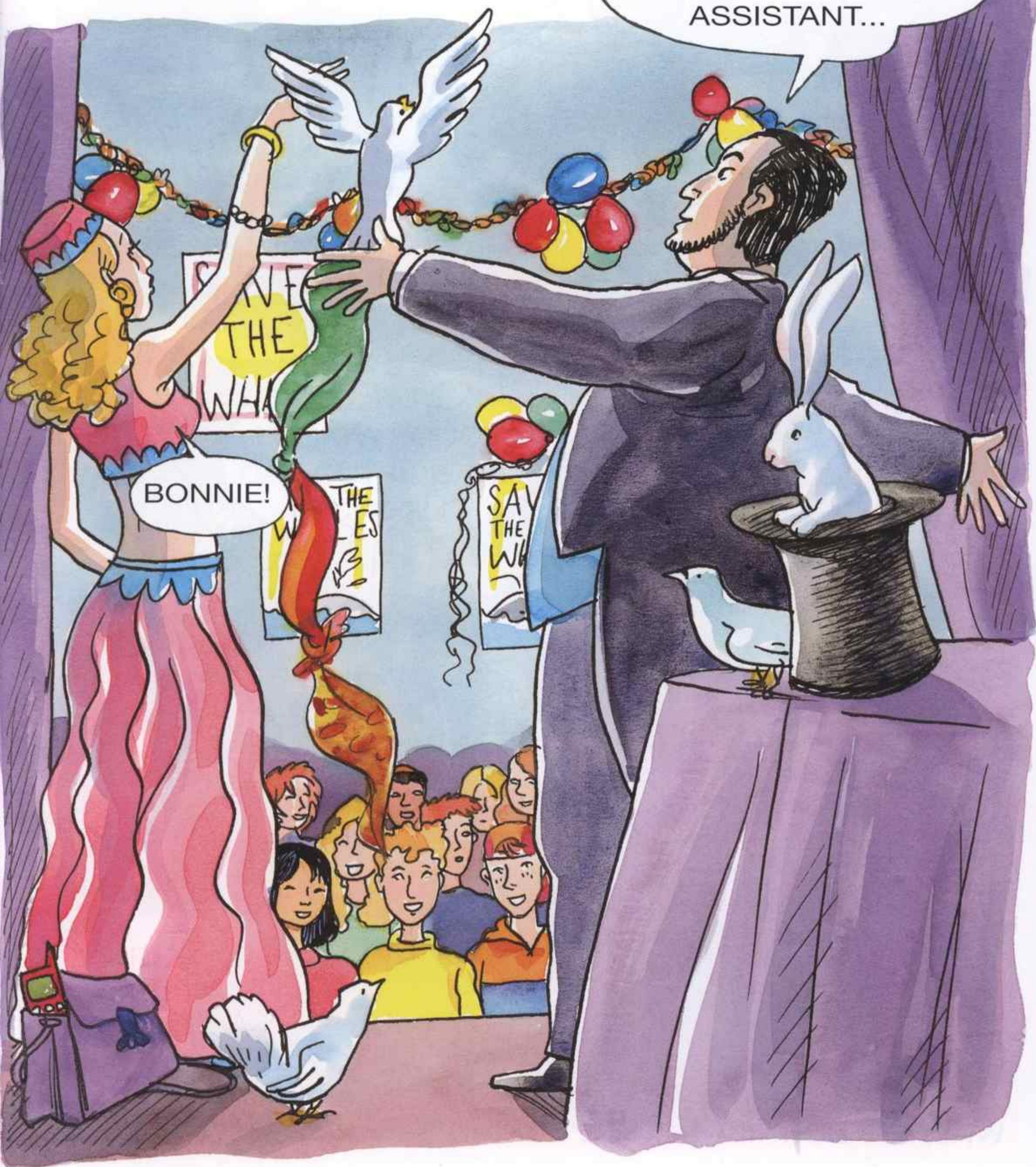
It's 5 o'clock.

Zed the Magician is on stage.

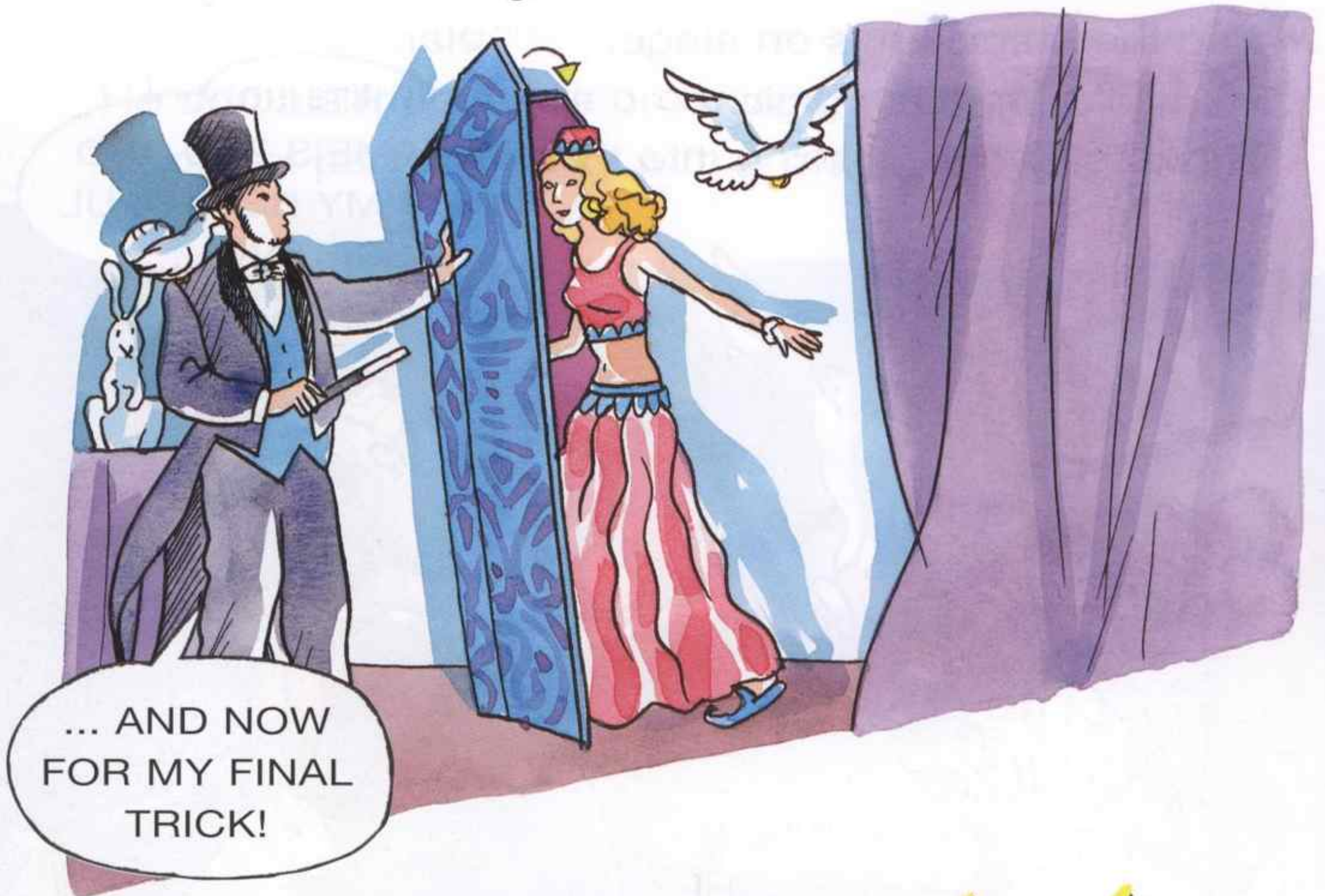
He is starting his magic show.

HELLO,
MY NAME'S ZED AND
THIS IS MY BEAUTIFUL
ASSISTANT...

BONNIE!

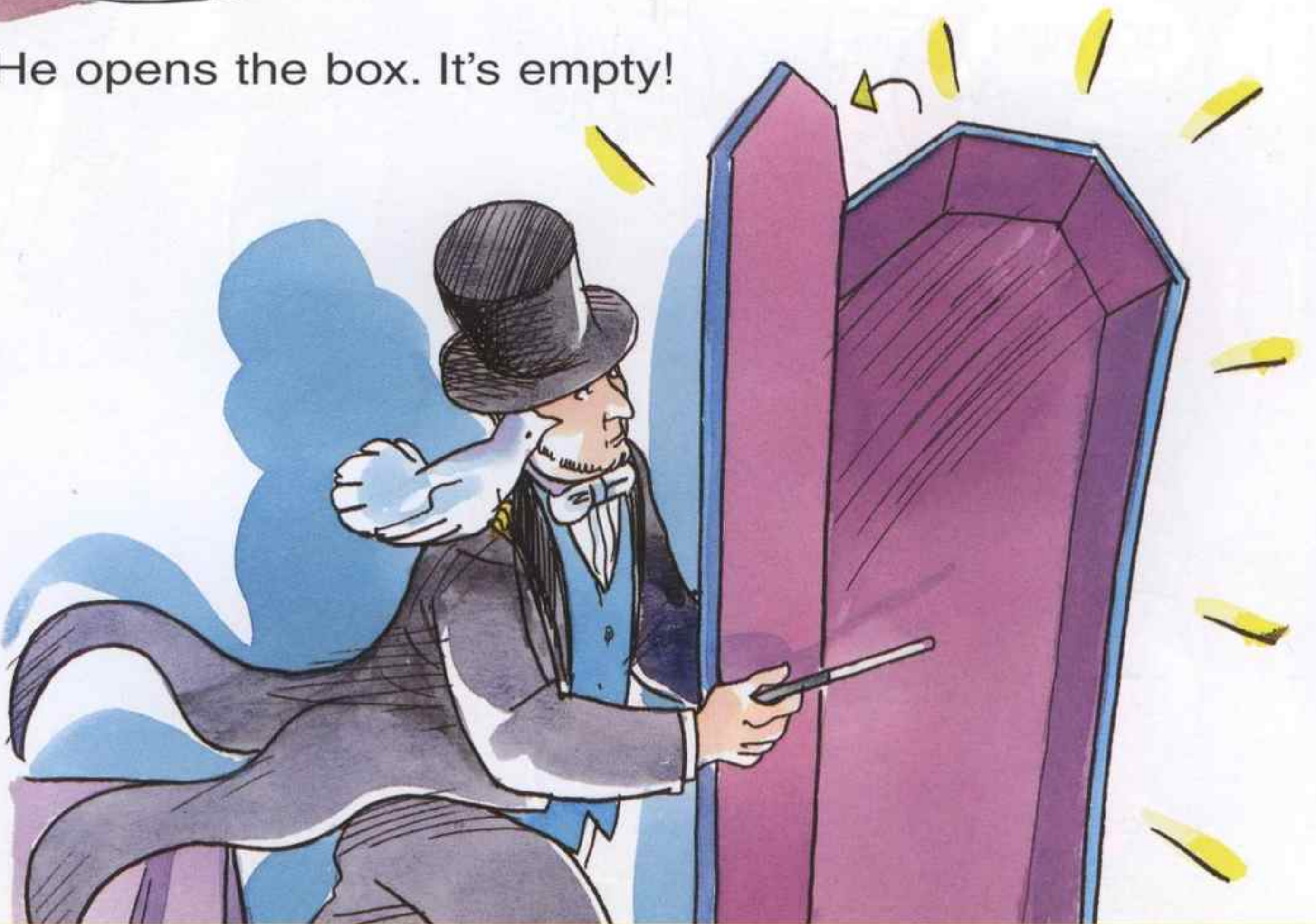


Zed waves his magic wand. ABRACADABRA...



... AND NOW
FOR MY FINAL
TRICK!

He opens the box. It's empty!




WHERE'S BONNIE? BONNIE ISN'T IN THE BOX! WOW ... MAGIC!

It's 8.40 am.

Martin and Tony are walking to school.

Suddenly, they see a police car outside the school.

A policewoman is going into the school.



WHAT A GREAT PARTY YESTERDAY...
£450 FOR THE WHALES!

YES, BUT...
LOOK! A POLICE CAR OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL!

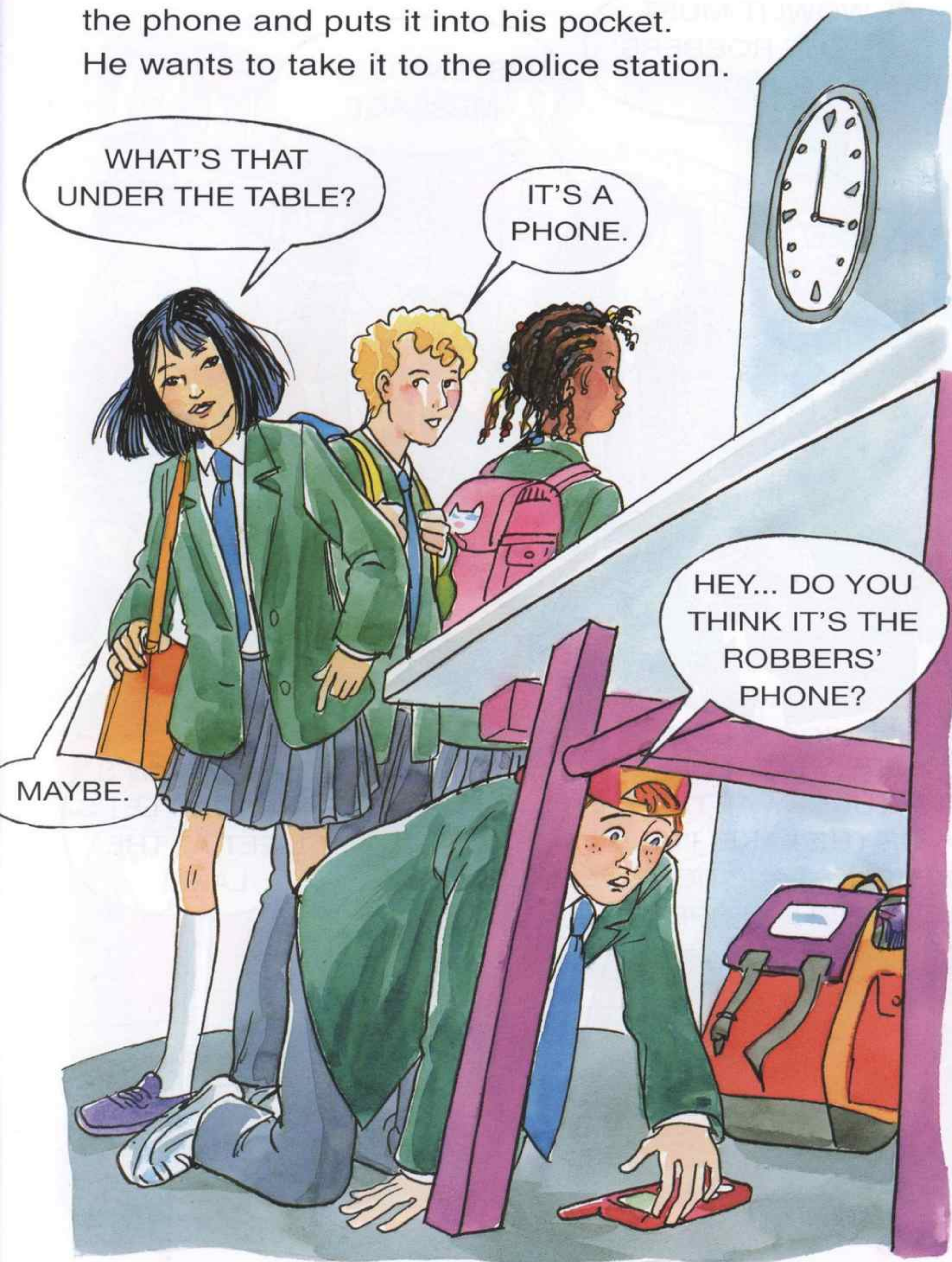
HURRY UP!
LET'S GO AND SEE...

The headteacher is explaining the problem.
He isn't very happy.

'There was a robbery in the school yesterday.
All the money for the *Whales in Danger* is gone!
... and the computers are gone!'



It's 4 o'clock. It's time to go home!
Martin and Tony are ready.
They are standing near the door.
Martin sees a small red phone in the corner. He takes
the phone and puts it into his pocket.
He wants to take it to the police station.



WHAT'S THAT
UNDER THE TABLE?

IT'S A
PHONE.

HEY... DO YOU
THINK IT'S THE
ROBBERS'
PHONE?

MAYBE.

The children are waiting for the bus. They are looking at the phone. Tony presses a button. They listen to a message.



It's Saturday. Martin, Tony and Annie meet at the lake. It's a cold and windy day. All the boats on the lake are empty. Except one...



The man is waiting next to the statue of Queen Victoria.

He is angry. He puts an envelope at the bottom of the statue.

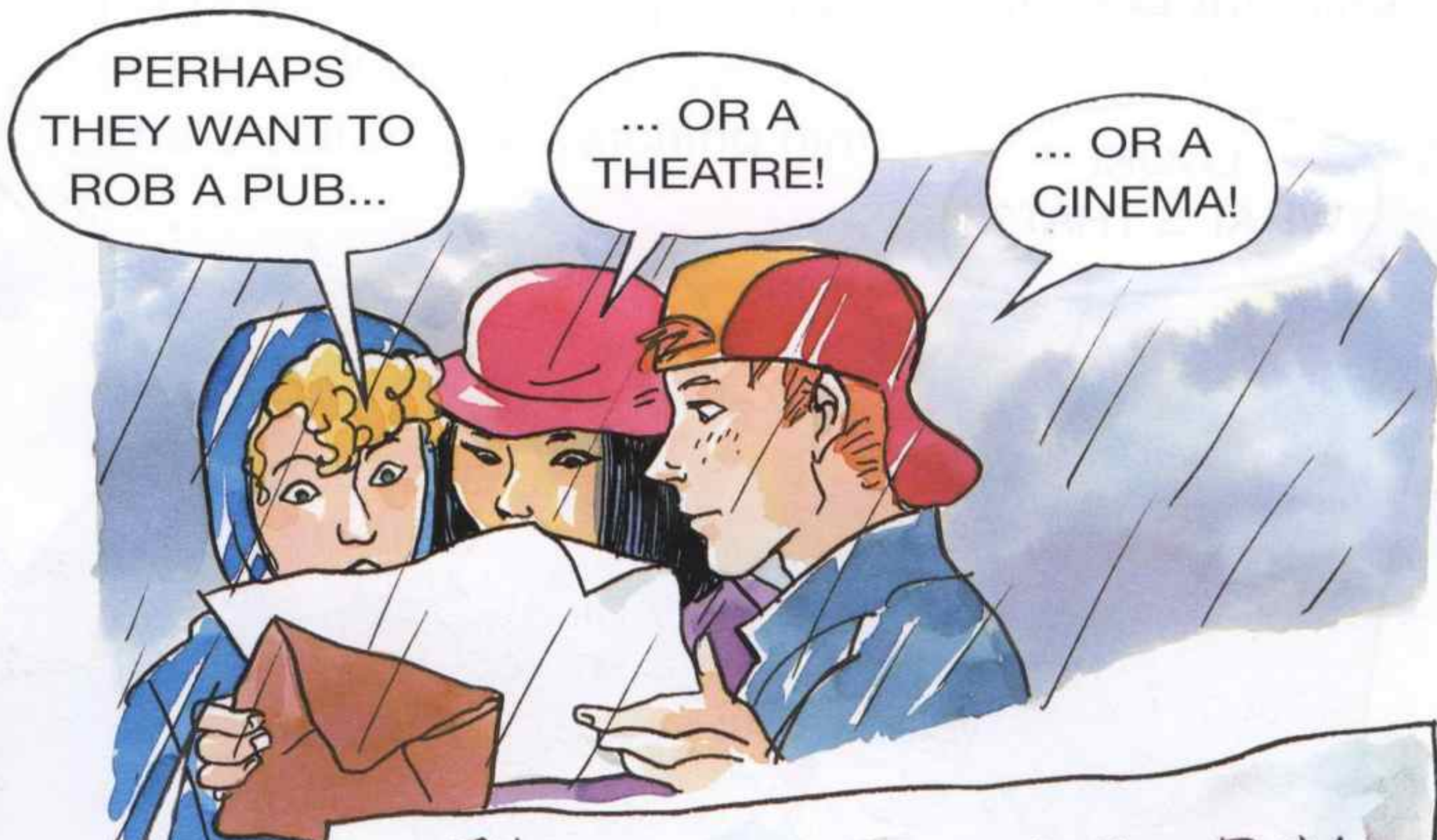
The children are watching him.



The children get into a boat.
They row to the statue.
Annie quickly takes the envelope.



Inside the envelope there is a message.
The children read the message.



PERHAPS
THEY WANT TO
ROB A PUB...

... OR A
THEATRE!

... OR A
CINEMA!

COME ON!
LET'S GO!
LEAVE THE
ENVELOPE!

THE MONEY IS IN THE BOX.
THE FIRE EXIT IS ALWAYS
OPEN.
LOOK FOR A BLUE CAR.

They leave the envelope at
the bottom of the statue.

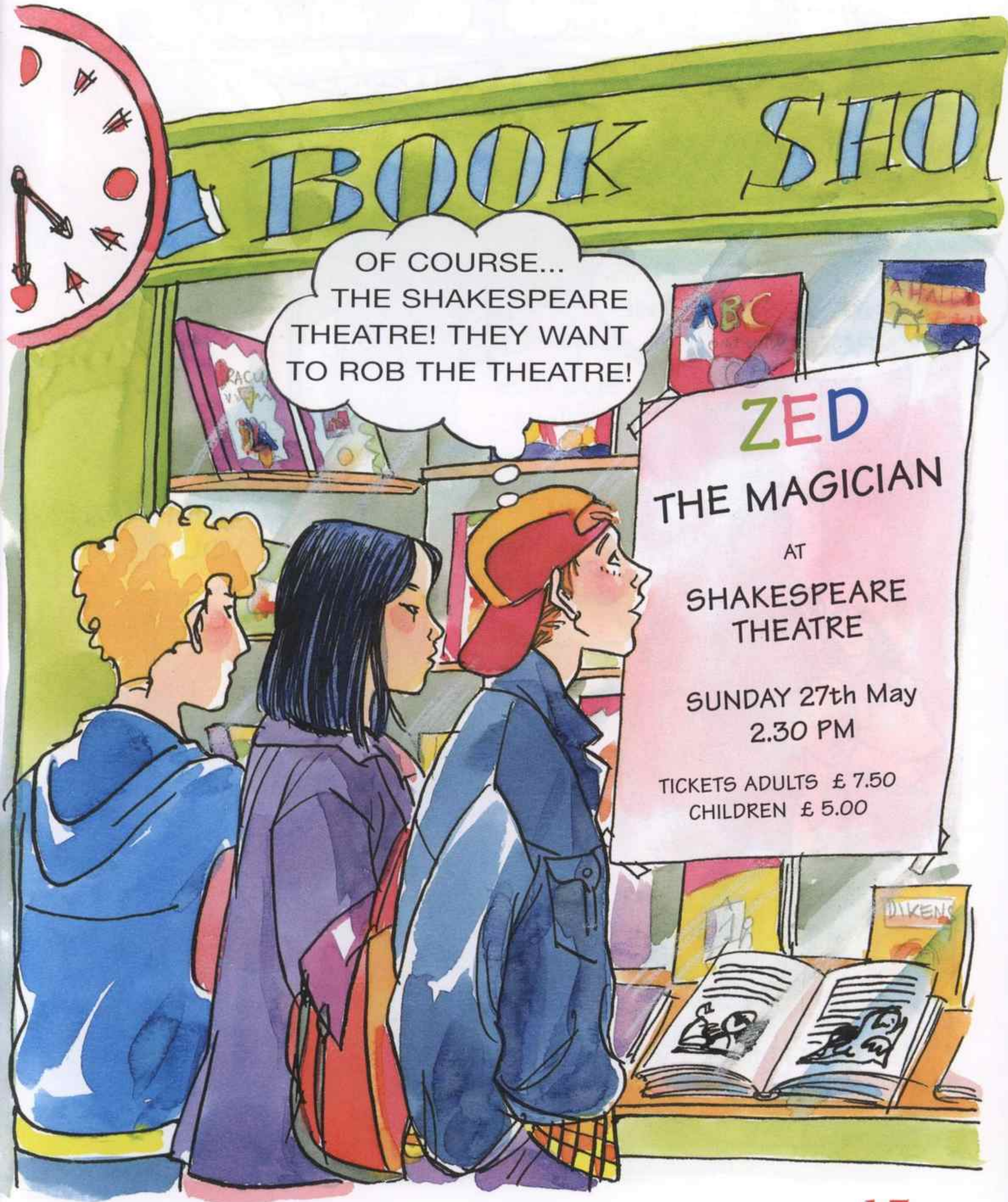


It's 4.30 pm on Saturday.

The children are outside a bookshop.

They love books.

They see a poster in the shop window.



Martin, Annie and Tony want to catch the robbers.
They meet in front of the theatre on Sunday afternoon.
It's 2.00 pm.



YOU BOYS HIDE
OUTSIDE NEAR THE FIRE
EXIT AND WAIT FOR THE
ROBBERS.

BUT IT'S
RAINING...

WHERE ARE
YOU GOING?

I'M GOING
INSIDE!

Annie is inside the theatre.
She sees Zed and Bonnie.
They are talking. Annie stops and listens.

WHERE'S
MY PHONE?
I CAN'T FIND IT...

I DON'T KNOW!
THIS ONE'S MINE.

COME ON...
LET'S GO!
WE'RE LATE!



Annie is sitting in the theatre.

The spotlight  is on Zed.

Bonnie is stepping into a long box.

NOW Annie understands!

AND NOW FOR MY
FINAL TRICK...

AH...BONNIE
DISAPPEARS...MAYBE
SHE TAKES THE
MONEY! I MUST TELL
TONY AND MARTIN!

Martin and Tony are hungry, bored and wet.
They are behind the rubbish container.
Suddenly they see Annie.
She is at the fire exit.



Annie is looking out of the window.
She sees a blue car.
The man in the car has red hair!
It's the man from the lake!

She locks  the fire exit door.



Zed is waving his magic wand. ABRACADABRA!
He opens the box. It's empty! But ... where's
Bonnie?



LOOK! IT'S
EMPTY!

WHERE'S BONNIE?
WOW!

Bonnie runs to the fire exit.

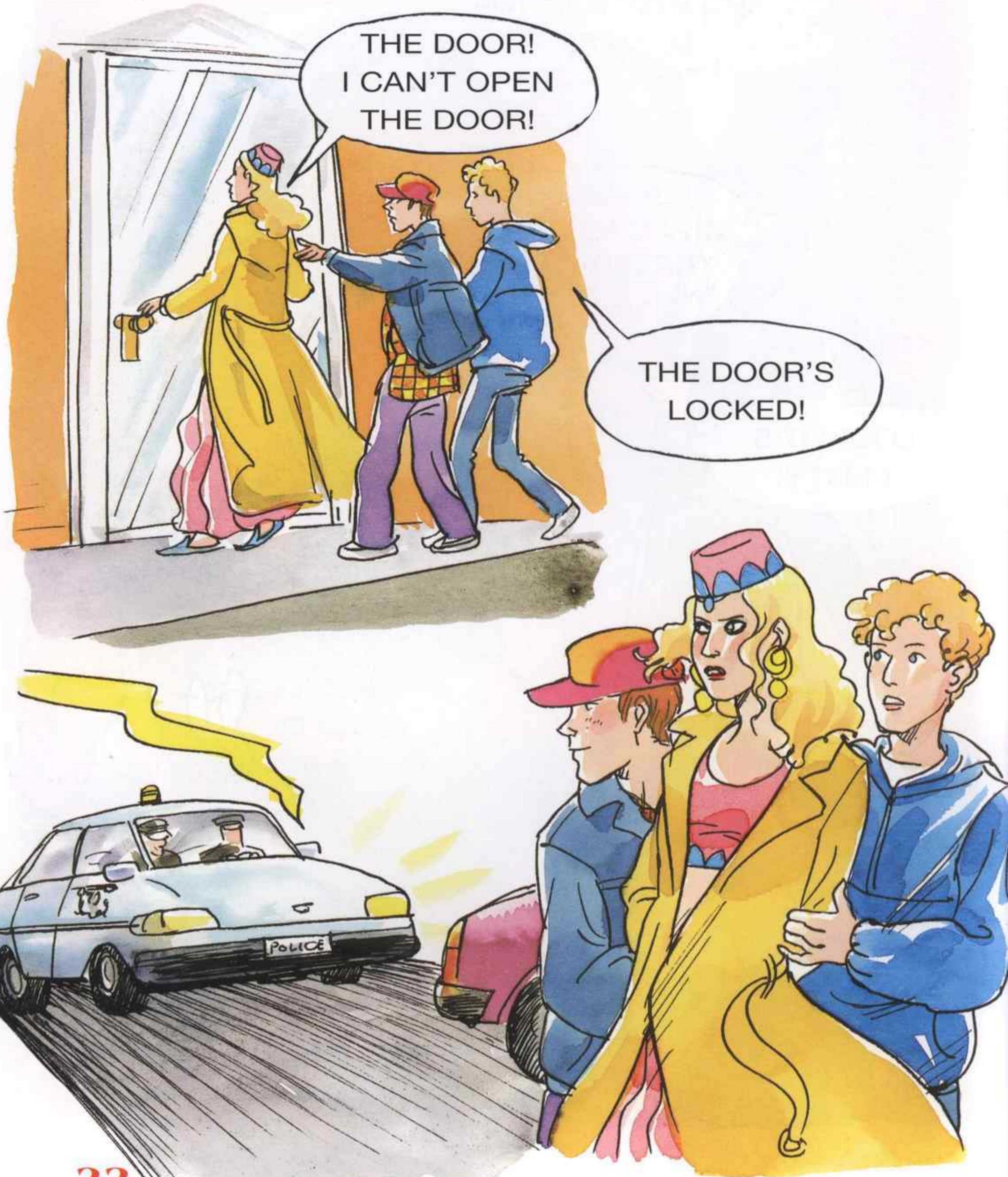
She is pushing the door.

She can't open the door... it's locked.

Martin and Tony hold her.

Then the police arrive.

They arrest Bonnie, Zed and the man with the red hair.



On Monday morning the children are sitting in their classroom. The teacher is talking about the robbery.



£250 FOR MARTIN,
TONY AND ANNIE!
AND £450 FOR THE
WHALES.

LET'S GIVE
IT ALL TO SAVE
THE WHALES.

WOW...
£250 + £450...

WHAT A LOT
OF MONEY!

Martin is lying on his bed.
He is thinking about the whales.
Wow! All that money just for them!

