

earlyreads

Level

4

Gaia Ierace

# Dracula and his Family



Illustrated by Claudio Decataldo

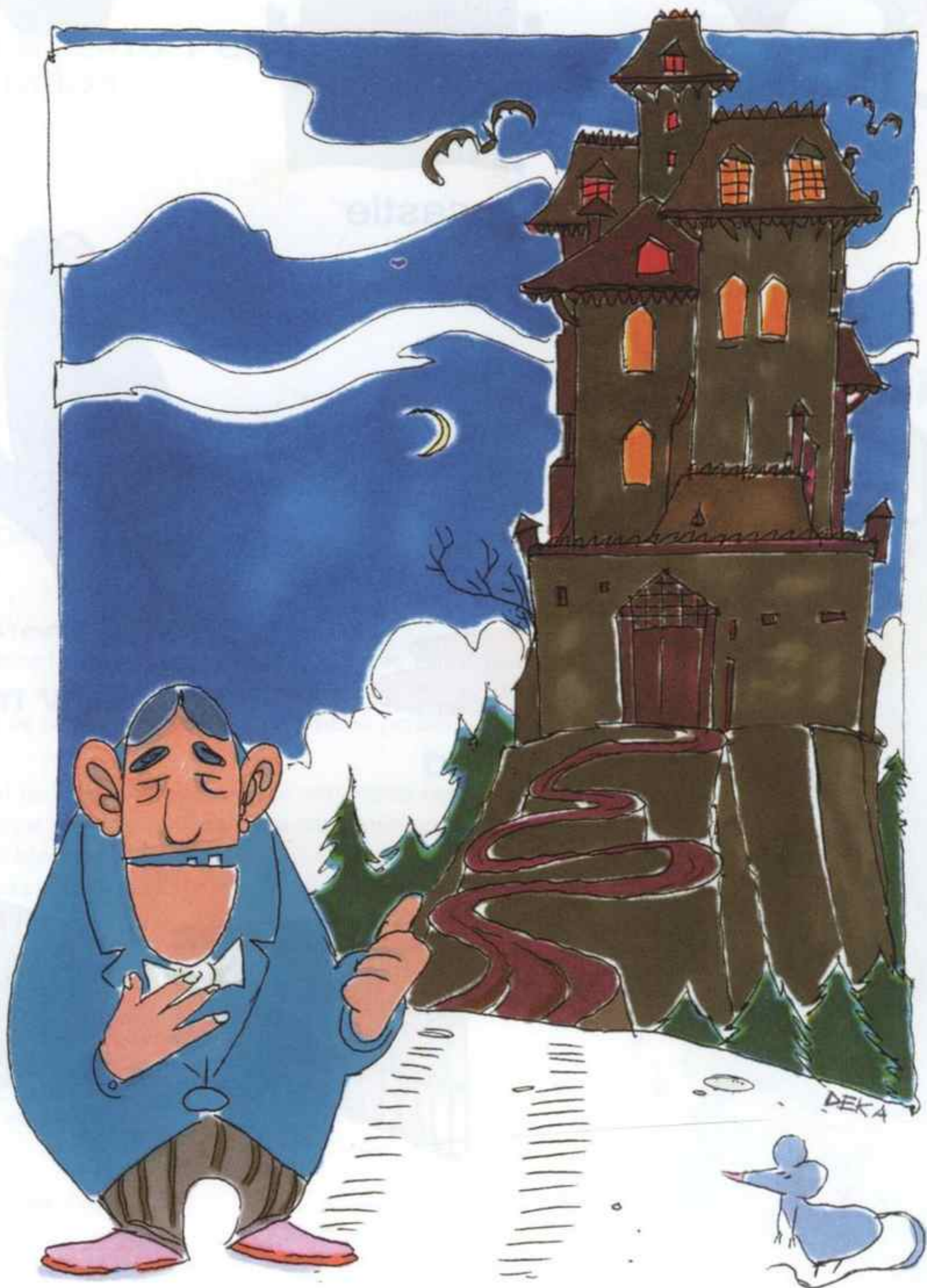
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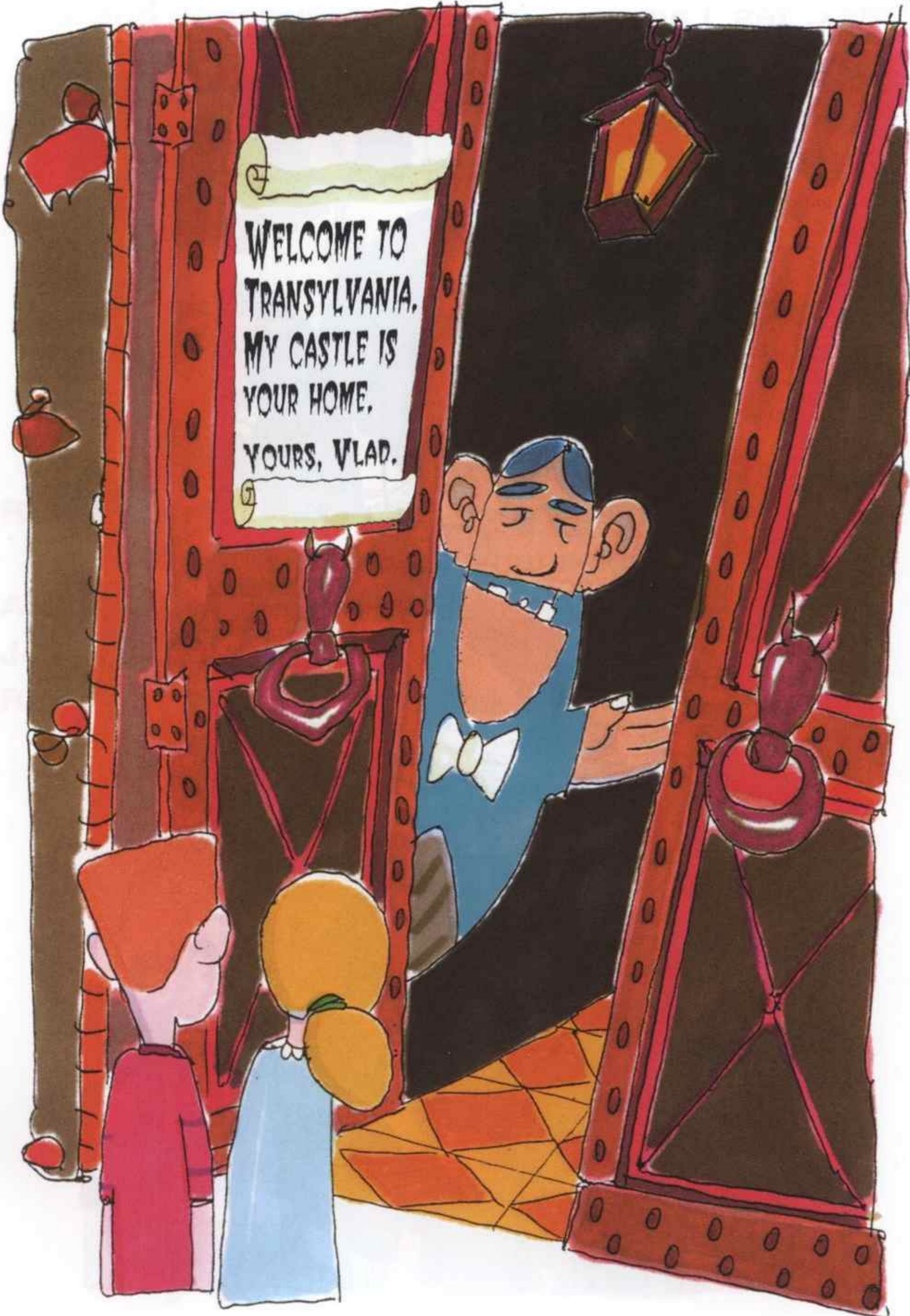
## CHAPTER 1

# Count Dracula's castle

**Roman:** Hello! My name's Roman Blenski. I'm Count Dracula's butler. And this is Count Dracula's castle.



**Roman:** Come in!



**Roman:** Follow me up the stairs and down again.

Are you there, Alex?

**Alex:** Yes, I am.

**Roman:** And you, Joanna?

**Joanna:** Yes, I am.

**Roman:** Good.



**Roman:** Sshhhh! Count Dracula is sleeping. Can you see him?

**Alex and Joanna:** Yes, we can.



**Roman:** He's in his coffin. Vampires don't have beds. They have coffins. What colour is it?

**Alex:** It's black...

**Joanna:** ...and white.

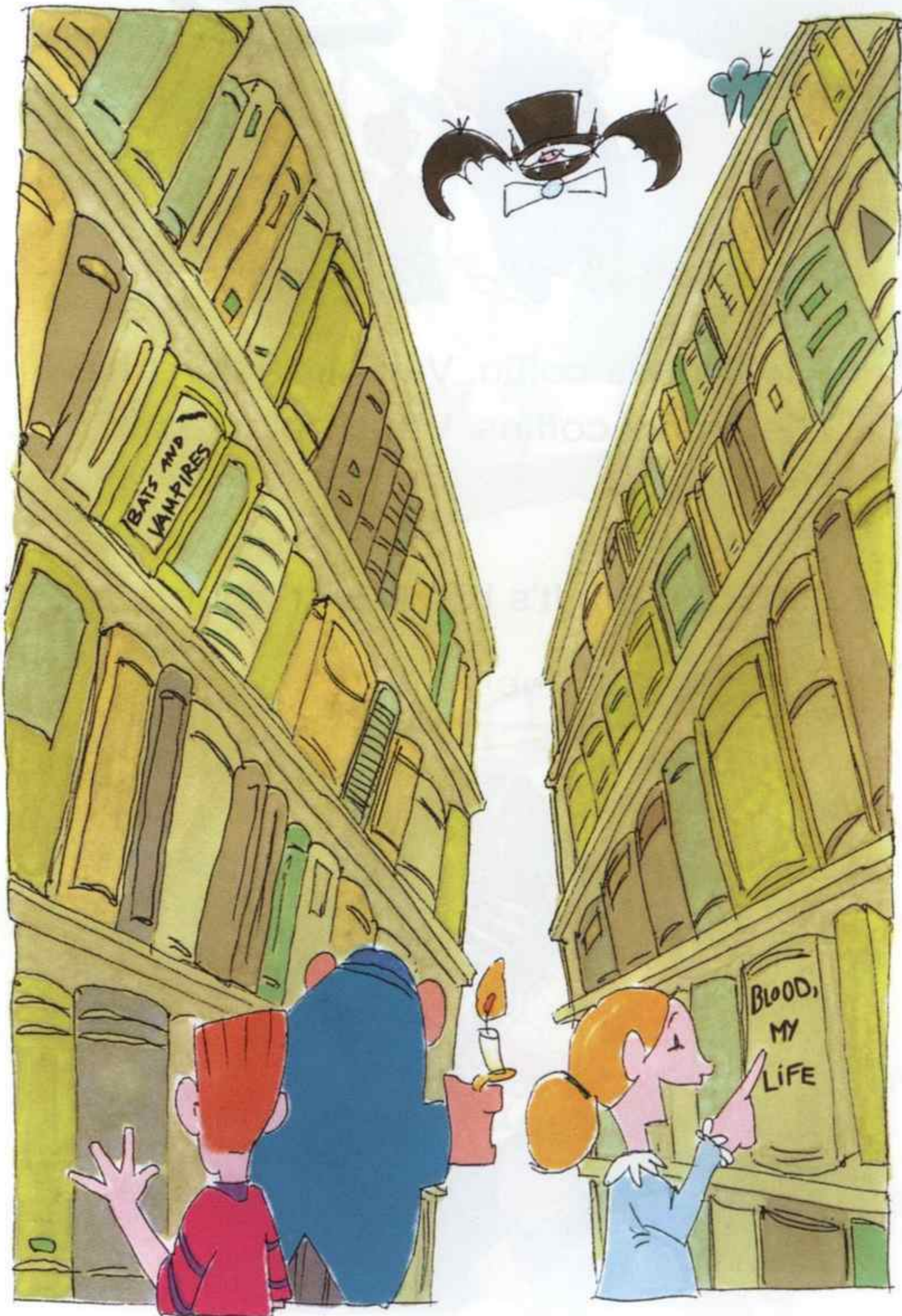
**Roman:** That's right. It's black and white.



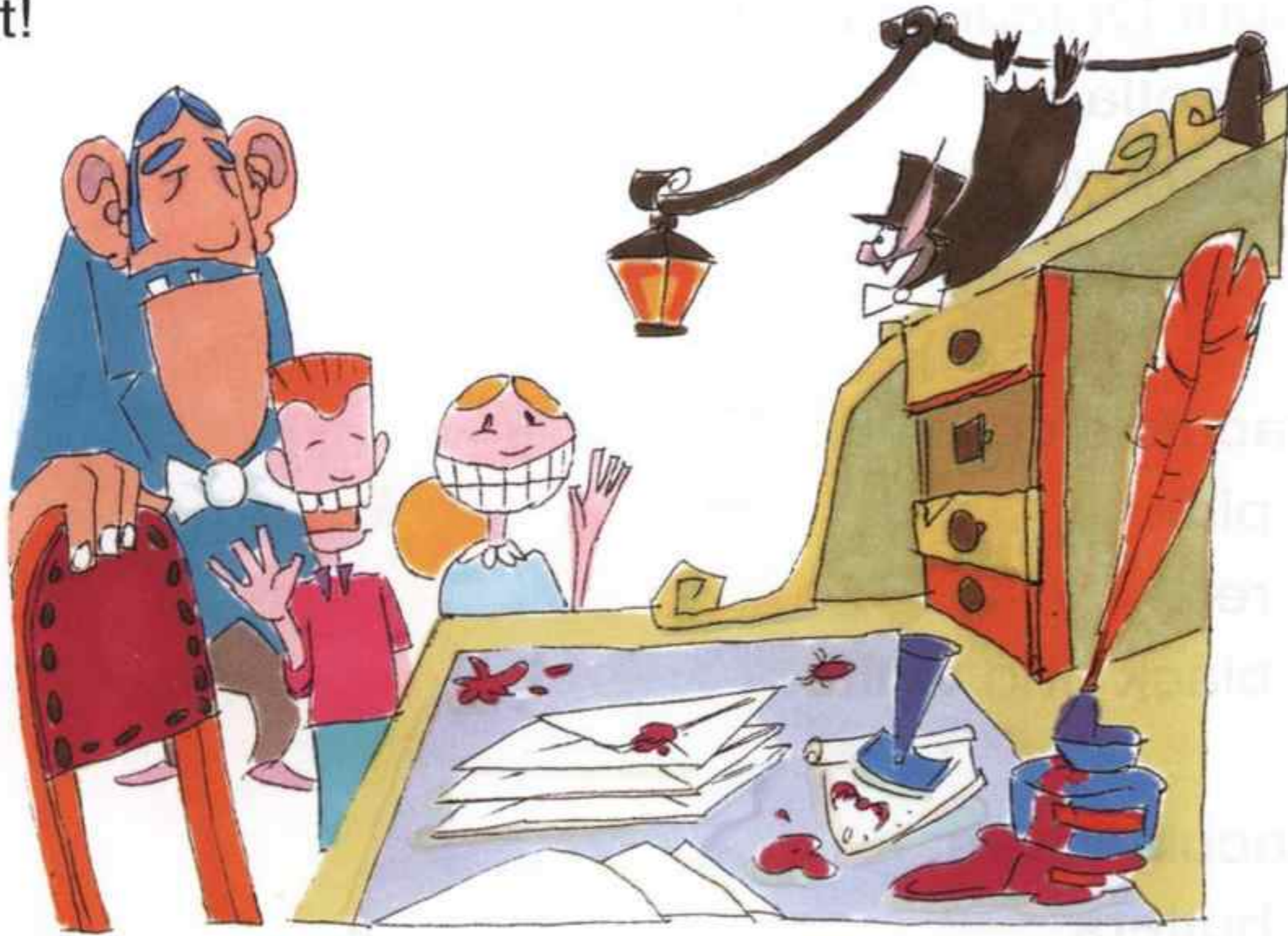
**Roman:** Here is Count Dracula's library. The Count loves books. Can you see them?

**Alex:** Yes, strange books!

**Joanna:** They're very strange! *Bats and Vampires;*  
*Blood, My Life.*



**Roman:** This is Count Dracula's desk. The Count writes letters to his friends in Scotland, Ireland, Russia and Bavaria. This is our pet, Pat. Pat the bat!



**Joanna and Alex:** Hi, Pat!

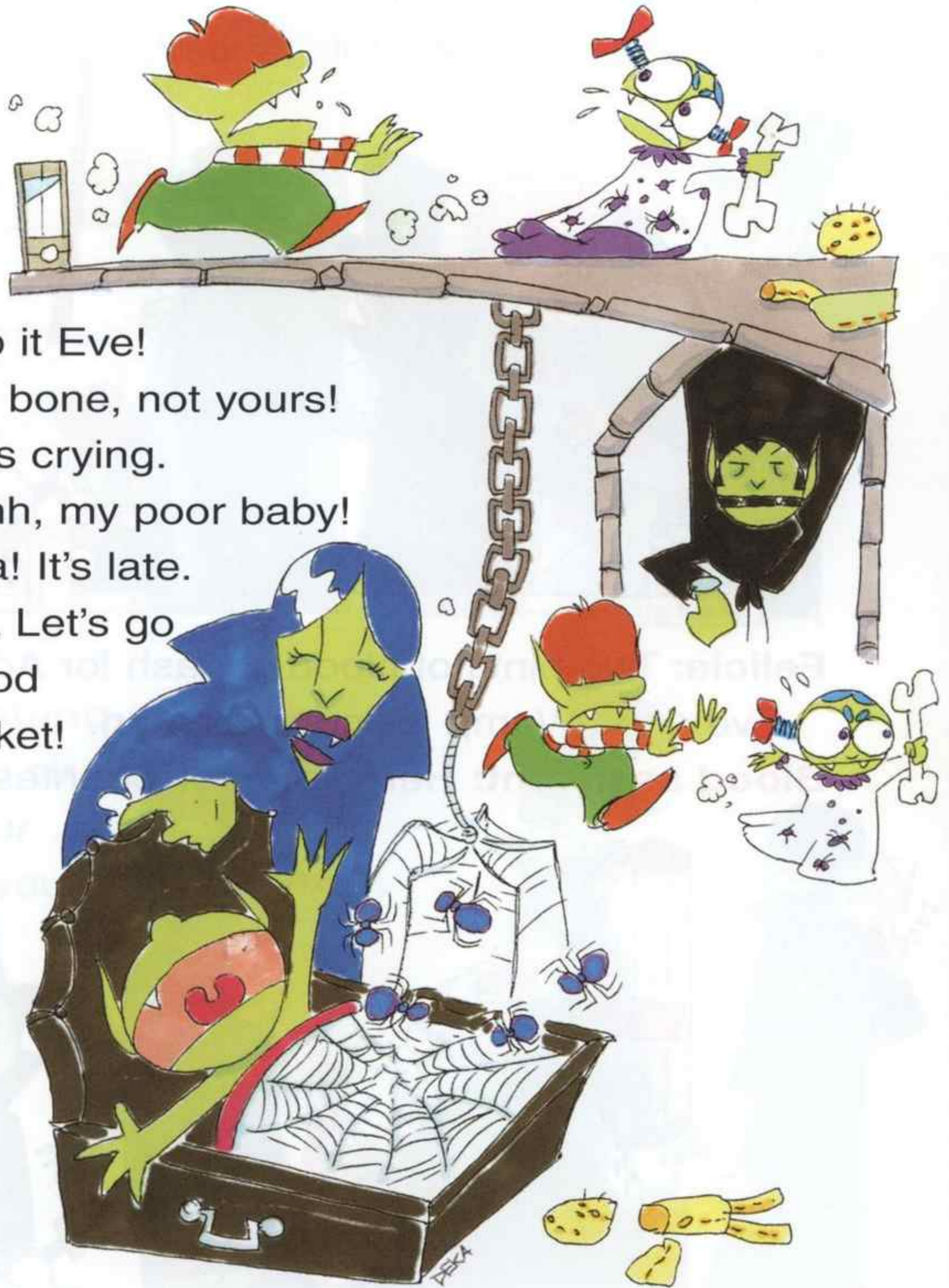
**Roman:** I must go now.

**Alex and Joanna:** Thank you very much, Mr Blenski.

**Roman:** You're welcome!



# Home sweet home



**Adam:** Stop it Eve!

**Eve:** It's my bone, not yours!

**Vlad:** Brian's crying.

**Felicia:** Shhh, my poor baby!

**Vlad:** Felicia! It's late.

**Felicia:** OK. Let's go  
to the blood  
supermarket!



**Blood assistant:** Good morning, Count and Countess. Can I help you?

**Vlad:** A pint of blood, please.

**Blood assistant:** Just one pint?

**Felicia:** Two pints, please.

Little Brian is very thin.

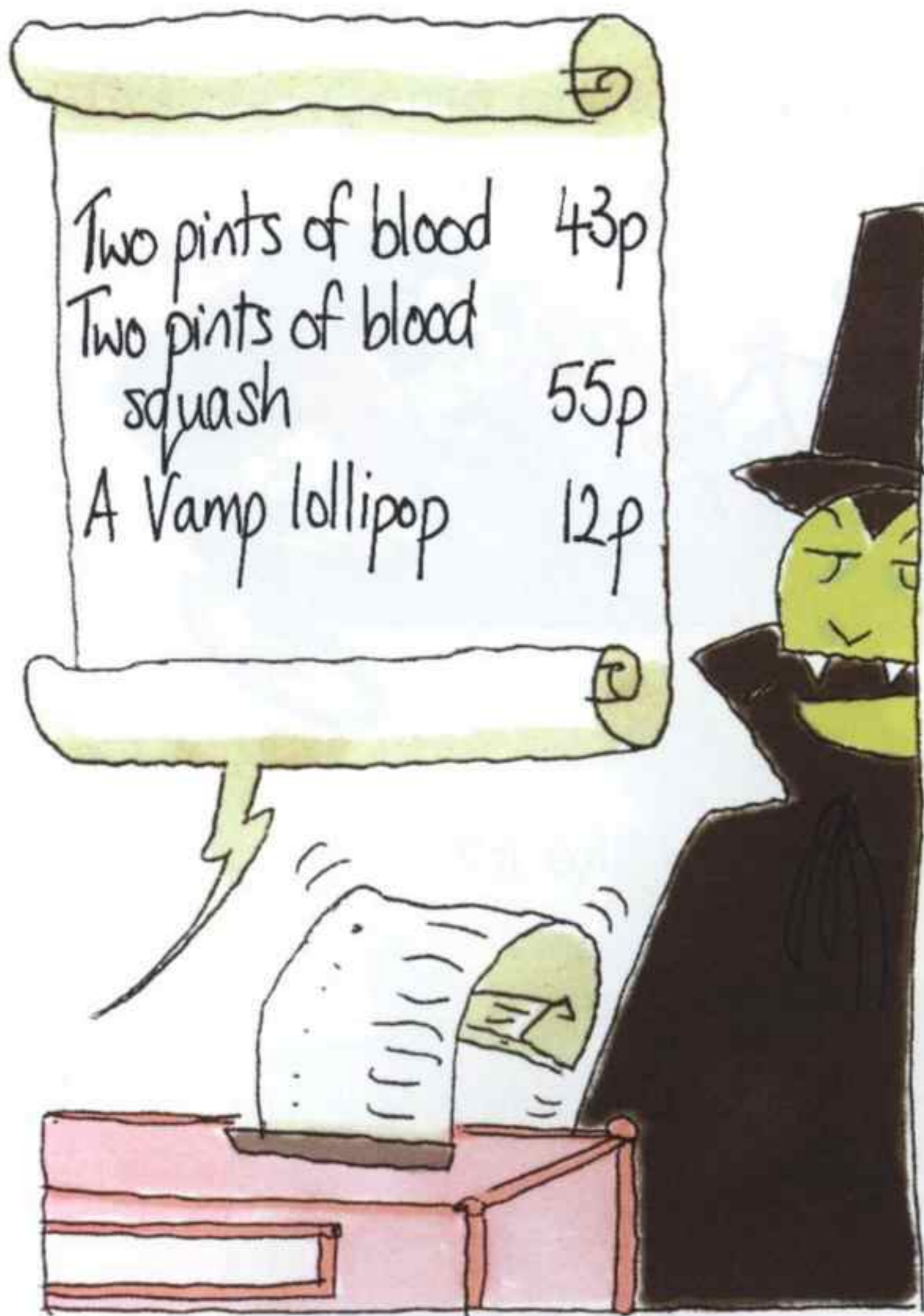
**Blood assistant:** Anything else?



**Felicia:** Two pints of blood squash for Adam and Eve and a Vamp lollipop for Brian.

**Blood assistant:** Here you are, Countess.





**Vlad:** How much is that?

**Blood assistant:** It's 1 pound 10 pence, sir.

**Vlad:** Here's my Blood card.



**Blood assistant:**

Thank you sir.  
Here's your card and your receipt.

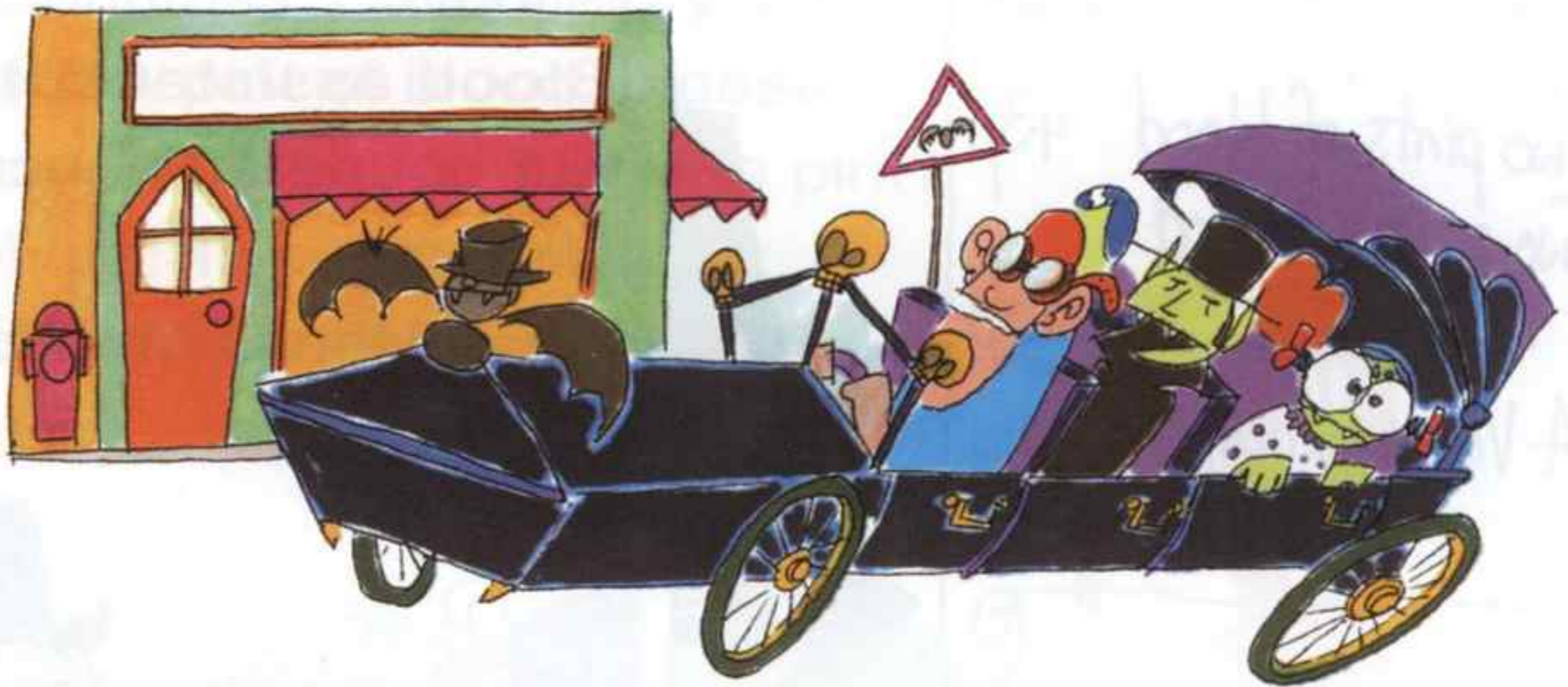
**Vlad:** Thank you.  
Goodbye.

**Felicia:**  
Goodbye.



**Vlad:** OK, Roman. Let's go to the zoo!

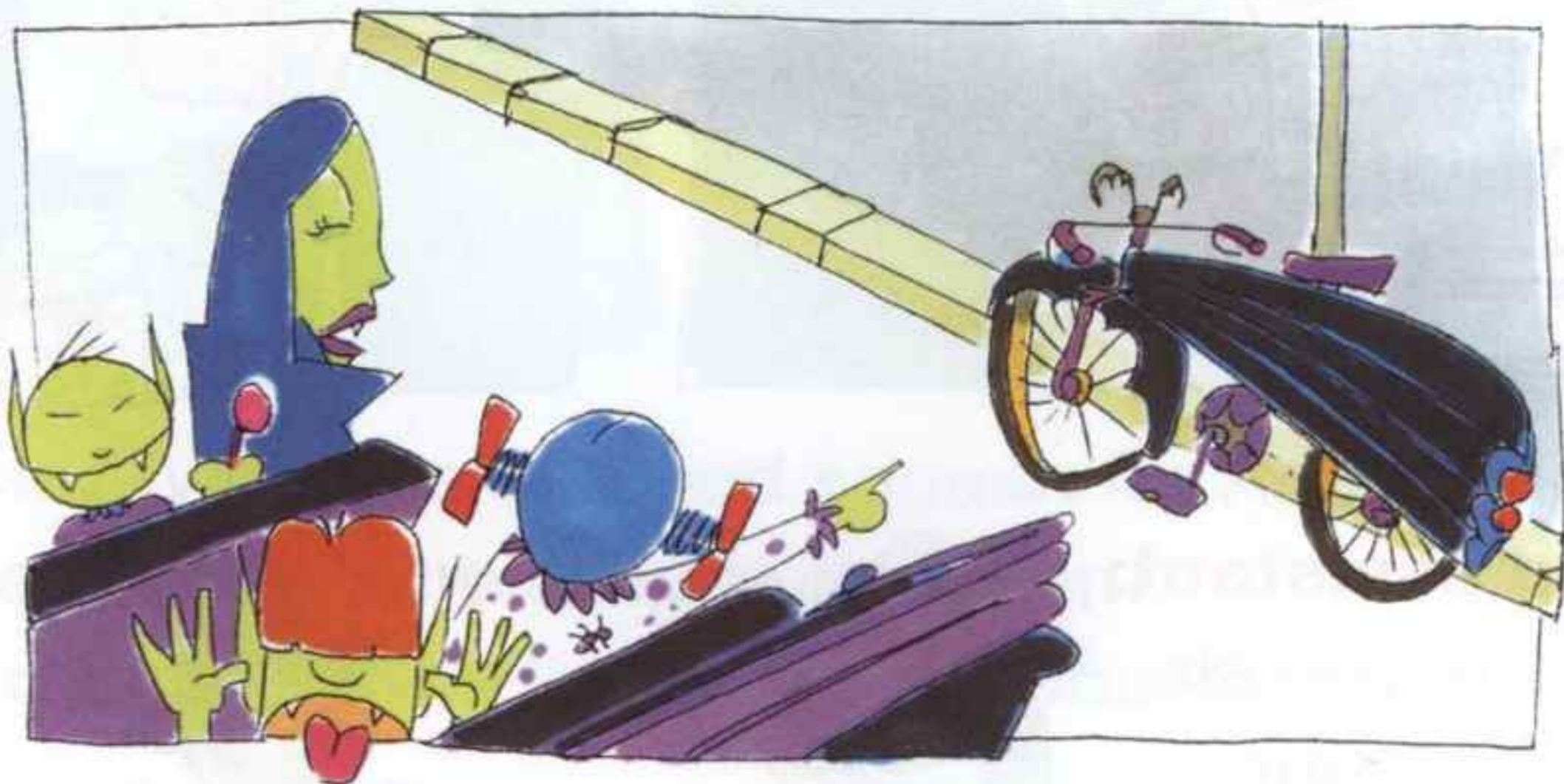
**Roman:** Yes, sir.



**Eve:** What's that, mum?

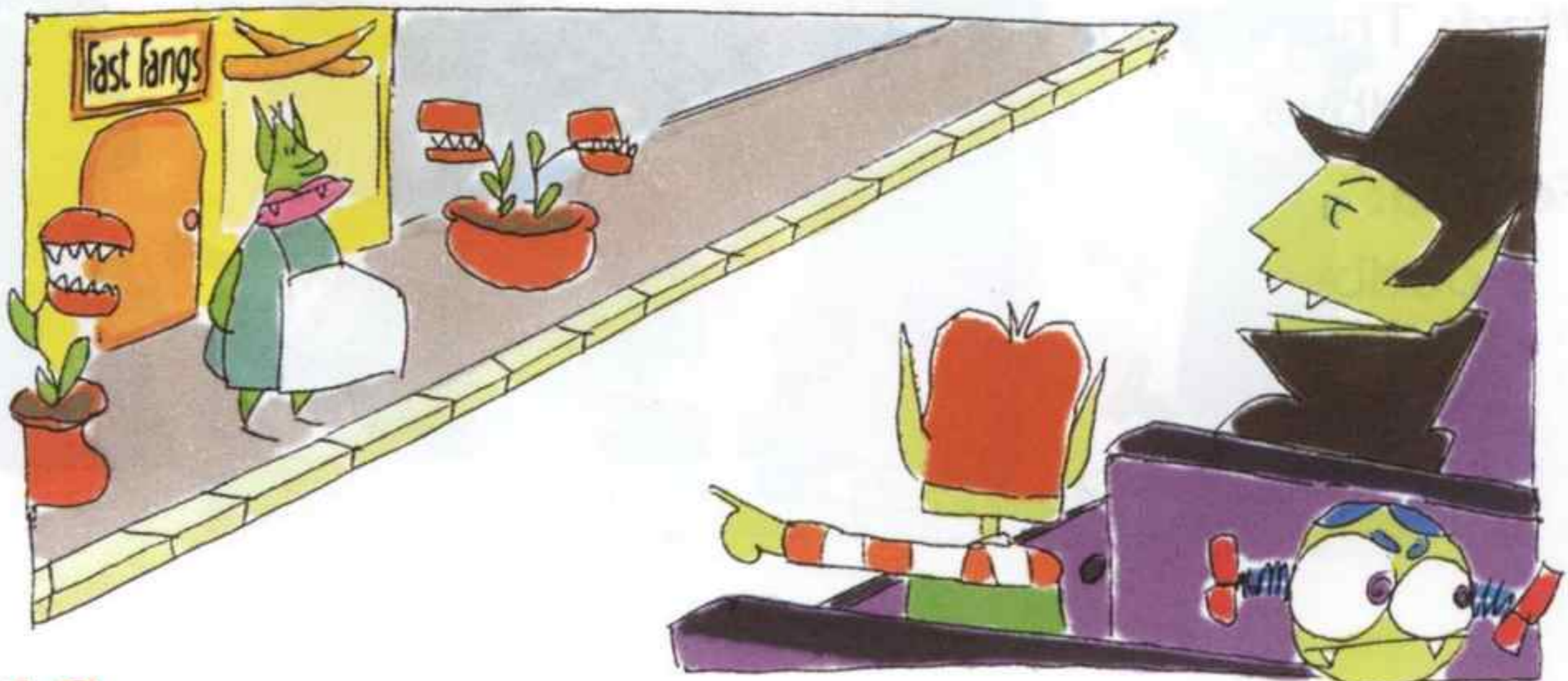
**Felicia:** It's a Vamp bike. Do you like it?

**Eve:** Yes, I do. It's very nice.



**Adam:** What's that, dad?

**Vlad:** It's Fast Fangs restaurant.



**Roman:** Here we are, sir.

**Felicia:** Come on, kids. Let's go!

**Adam:** Let's play with  
the bats!

**Eve:** Yes, let's go!

**Felicia:** What are you  
reading, dear?

**Vlad:** The *Vampire Times*.



**Felicia:** Come on, Brian! Good boy!



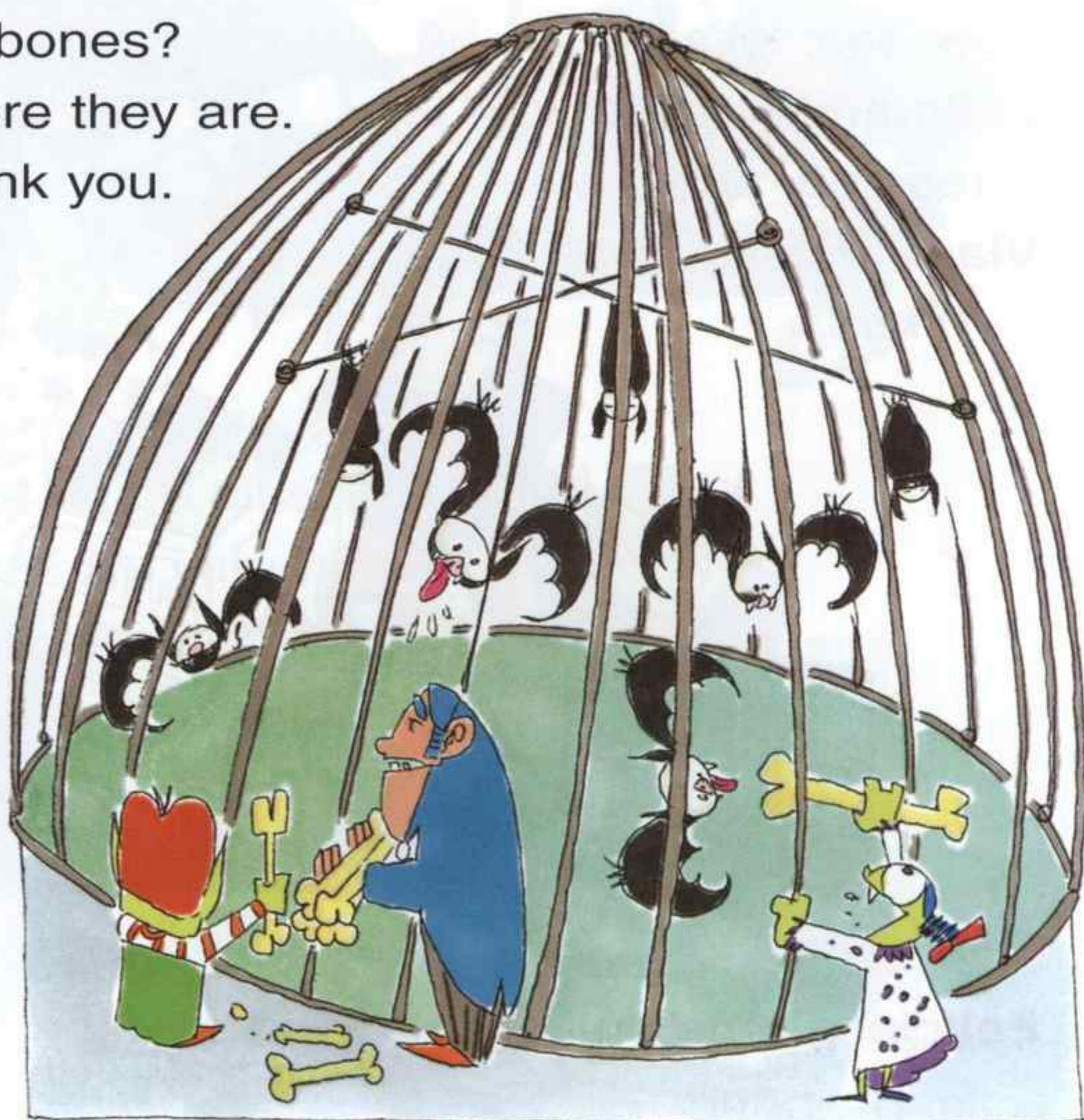
**Adam:** Come here, bat! Here's a delicious big bone for you.

**Eve:** My bone is bigger! Come here!

**Adam:** Roman, where are my other bones?

**Roman:** Here they are.

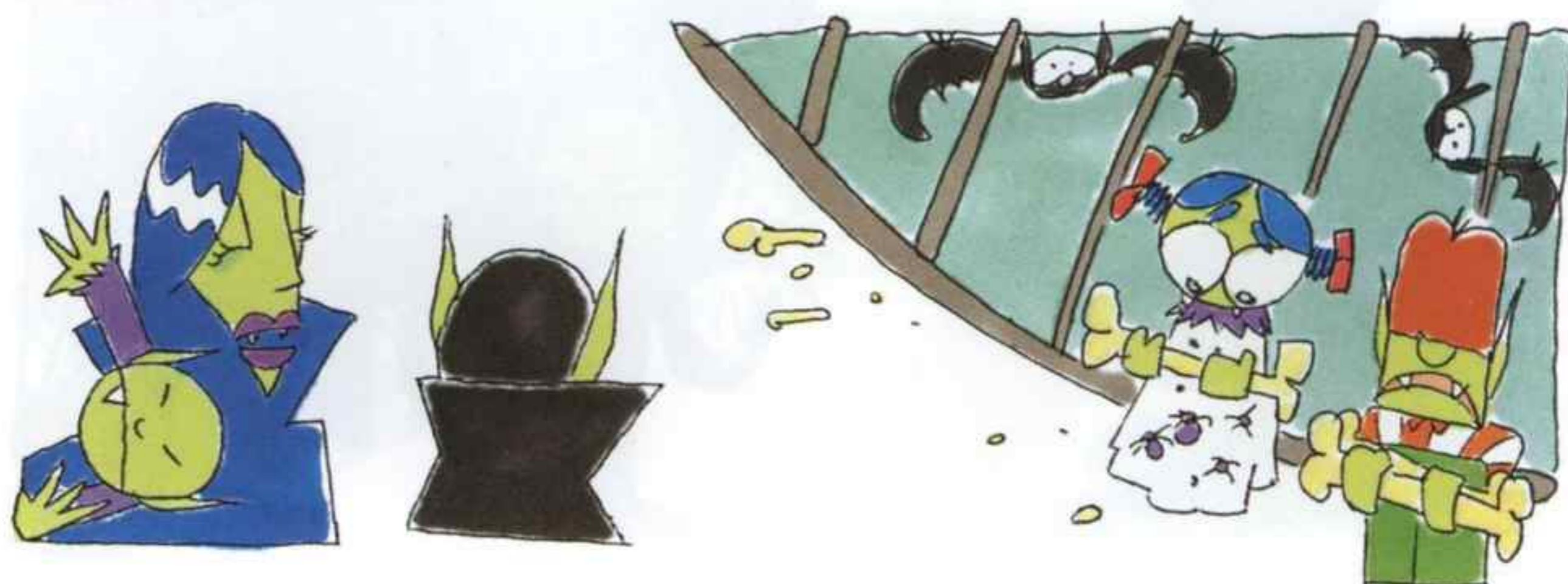
**Adam:** Thank you.



**Felicia:** It's time to go, kids.

**Eve and Adam:** Oh no, dad!

**Vlad:** Come on!



## CHAPTER 3

# Dinner at Vlad's castle

**Vlad:** Are you ready, dear?

**Felicia:** Yes, just a moment. Where are my gloves?

**Vlad:** On the table.

**Felicia:** Thank you.



**Vlad:** Where's my hat?

**Felicia:** It's in the yellow box.

**Vlad:** Great! Let's go downstairs!



**Vlad:** Good evening, Mr and Mrs Dark. Welcome to my castle!

**Mr Dark:** Good evening, Count and Countess. This is my son Jack and this is my daughter Blackie.

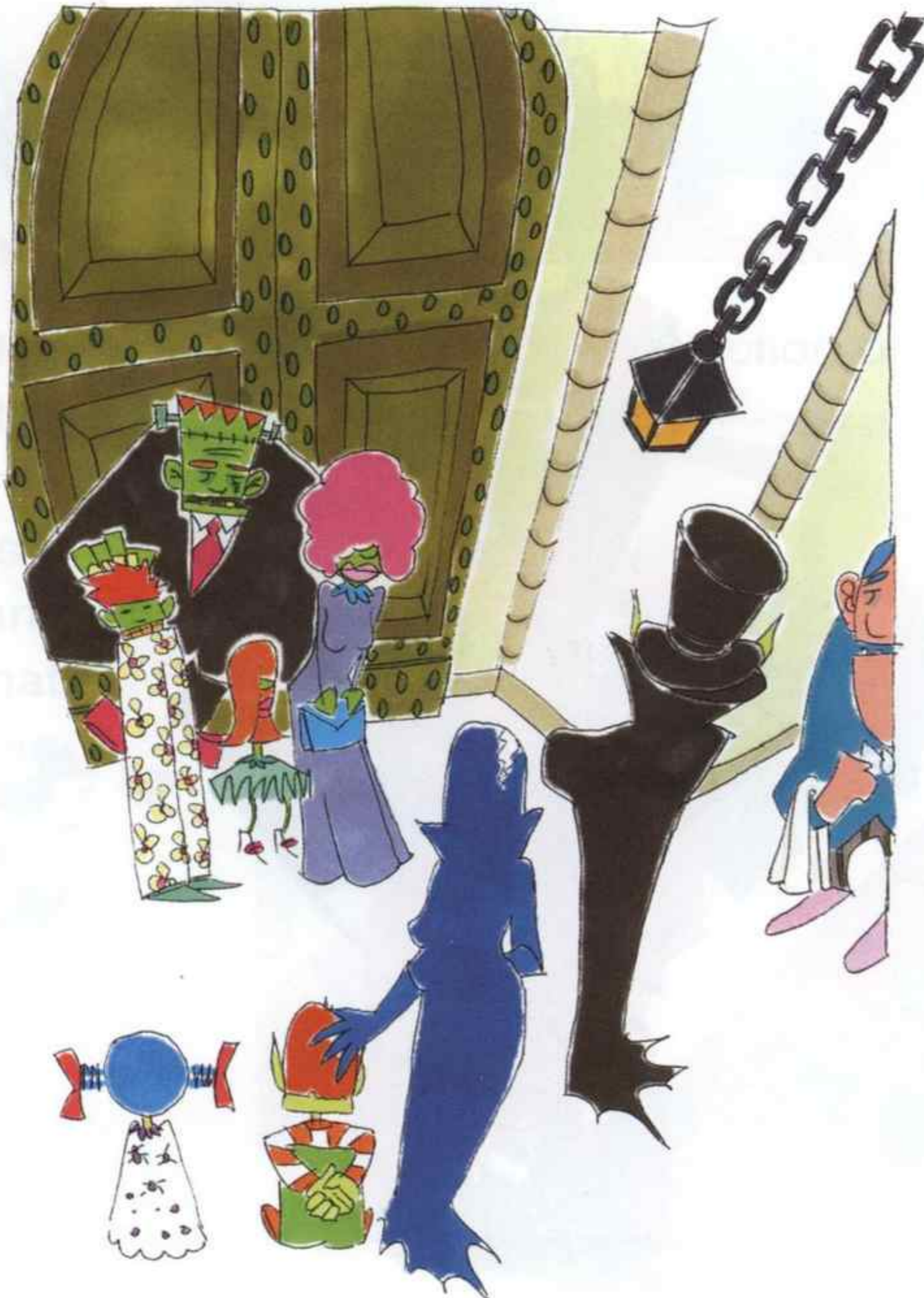
**Jack and Blackie:** Hello!

**Felicia:** This is Adam and this is Eve.

**Adam and Eve:** Good evening!

**Roman:** Dinner is ready, sir.

**Vlad:** Thank you, Roman.



**Eve:** Can I have some more blood, dad?

**Vlad:** Of course, dear.

**Mrs Dark:** The soup is lovely!

**Felicia:** Thank you. It's Roman's special dish.

**Mr Dark:** Salt and pepper?

**Jack:** Yes, please.

**Blackie:** What's that, Mrs Dracula?

**Felicia:** This is a Vampburger and chips and that's black ice cream. Delicious!





**Roman:** Coffee, sir?

**Mr Dark:** Yes, please.

**Roman:** Sugar?

**Mrs Dark:** One, please.

**Vlad:** What about you, Felicia?

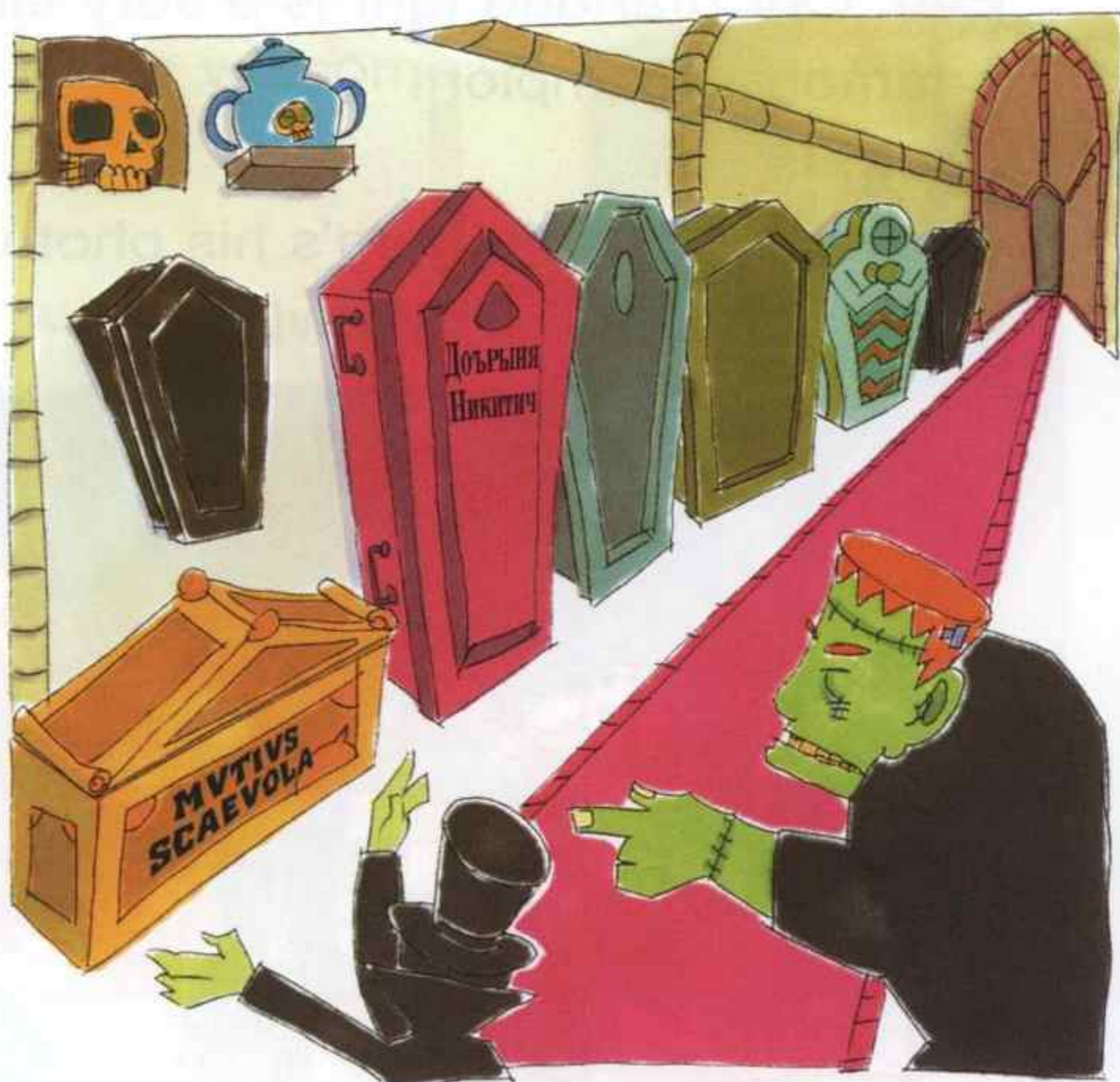
**Felicia:** Two, please.



**Mr Dark:** You've got a wonderful collection of coffins, Count!

**Vlad:** Thank you!

This is a Roman coffin and that's Russian.



**Adam:** This is my fang.

**Blackie:** No, it isn't!

**Eve:** It's *my* fang!

**Adam:** No, it's our grandad's fang!



**Eve:** Our grandad Igor is a very strong man. He's a famous champion.

**Jack:** Is he?

**Adam:** Yes. Look, here's his photo.

**Jack and Blackie:** Wow!



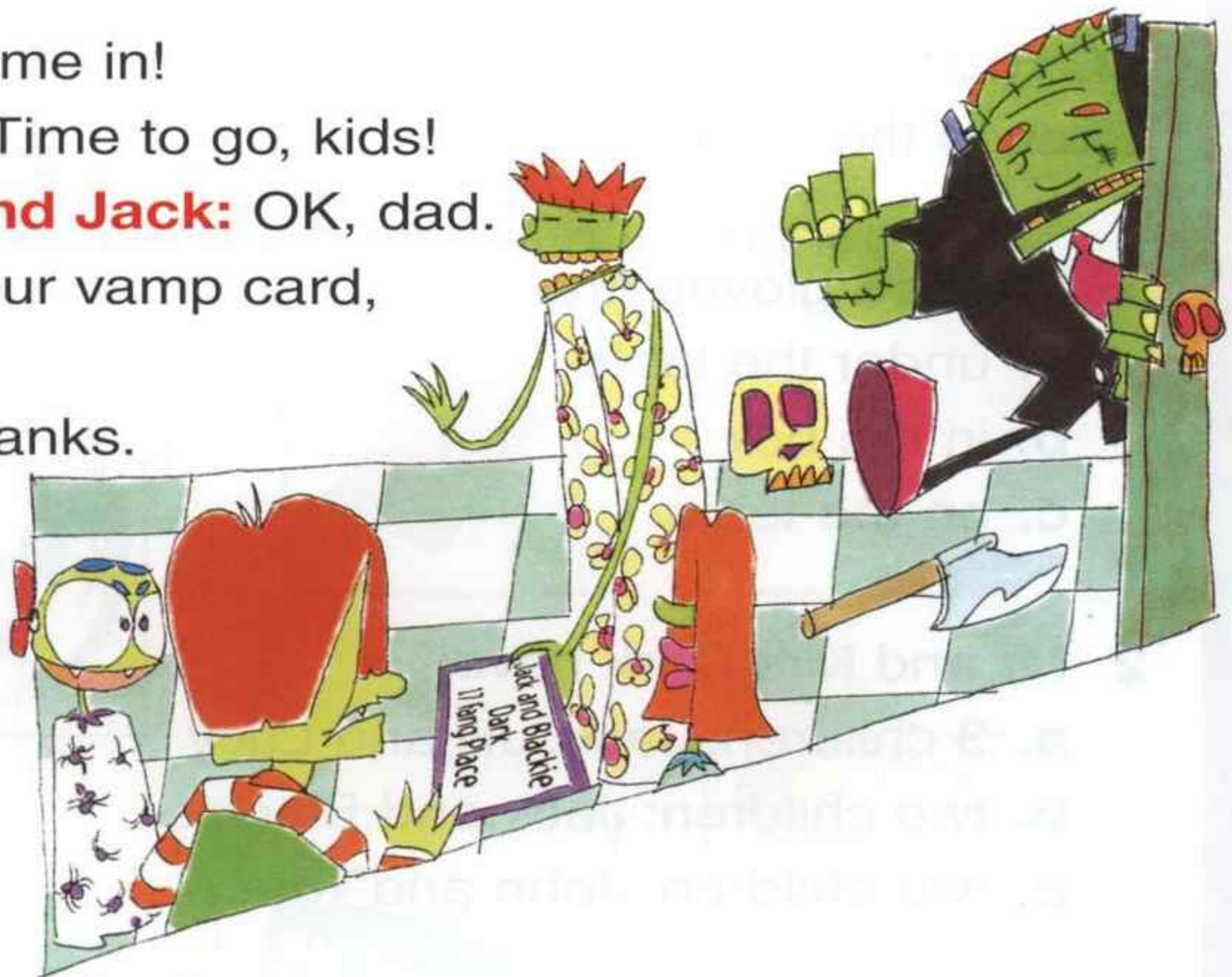
**Adam:** Come in!

**Mr Dark:** Time to go, kids!

**Blackie and Jack:** OK, dad.

This is our vamp card,  
Adam.

**Adam:** Thanks.



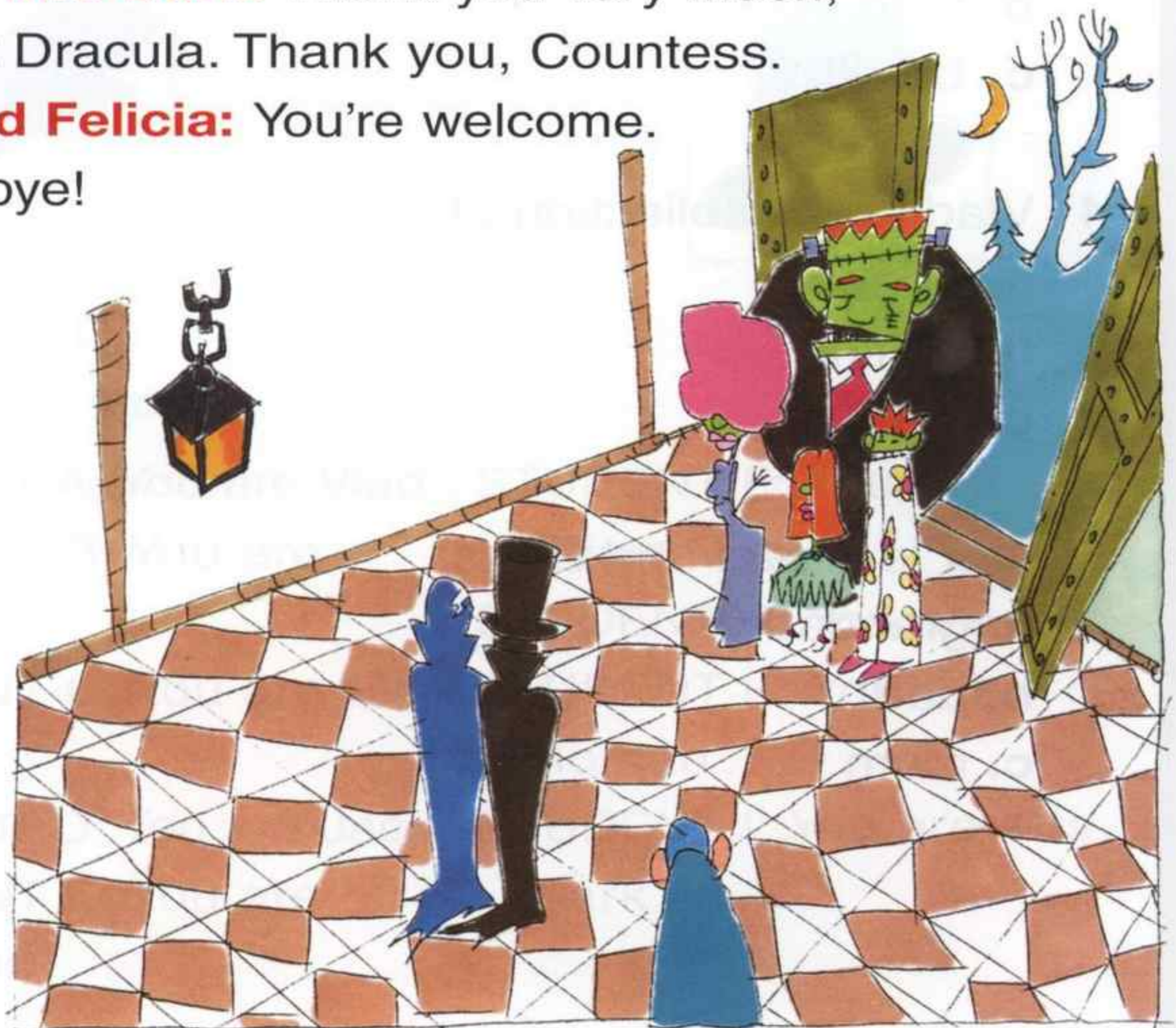
**Blackie and Jack:** Bye!

**Adam and Eve:** Bye-bye!

**Mr and Mrs Dark:** Thank you very much,  
Count Dracula. Thank you, Countess.

**Vlad and Felicia:** You're welcome.

Goodbye!



CHAPTER 4

# The family goes shopping

**Felicia:** Come on, kids!

**Eve:** Just a moment, mum. Where's my hat?

**Adam:** It's over there. On the chair.

**Eve:** Thanks, Adam.



**Roman:** The car's ready, sir.

**Vlad:** Thank you, Roman.



**Shop assistant:** Can I help you, madam?

**Felicia:** My son likes that jumper.

**Shop assistant:** The yellow one with blue stripes, madam?

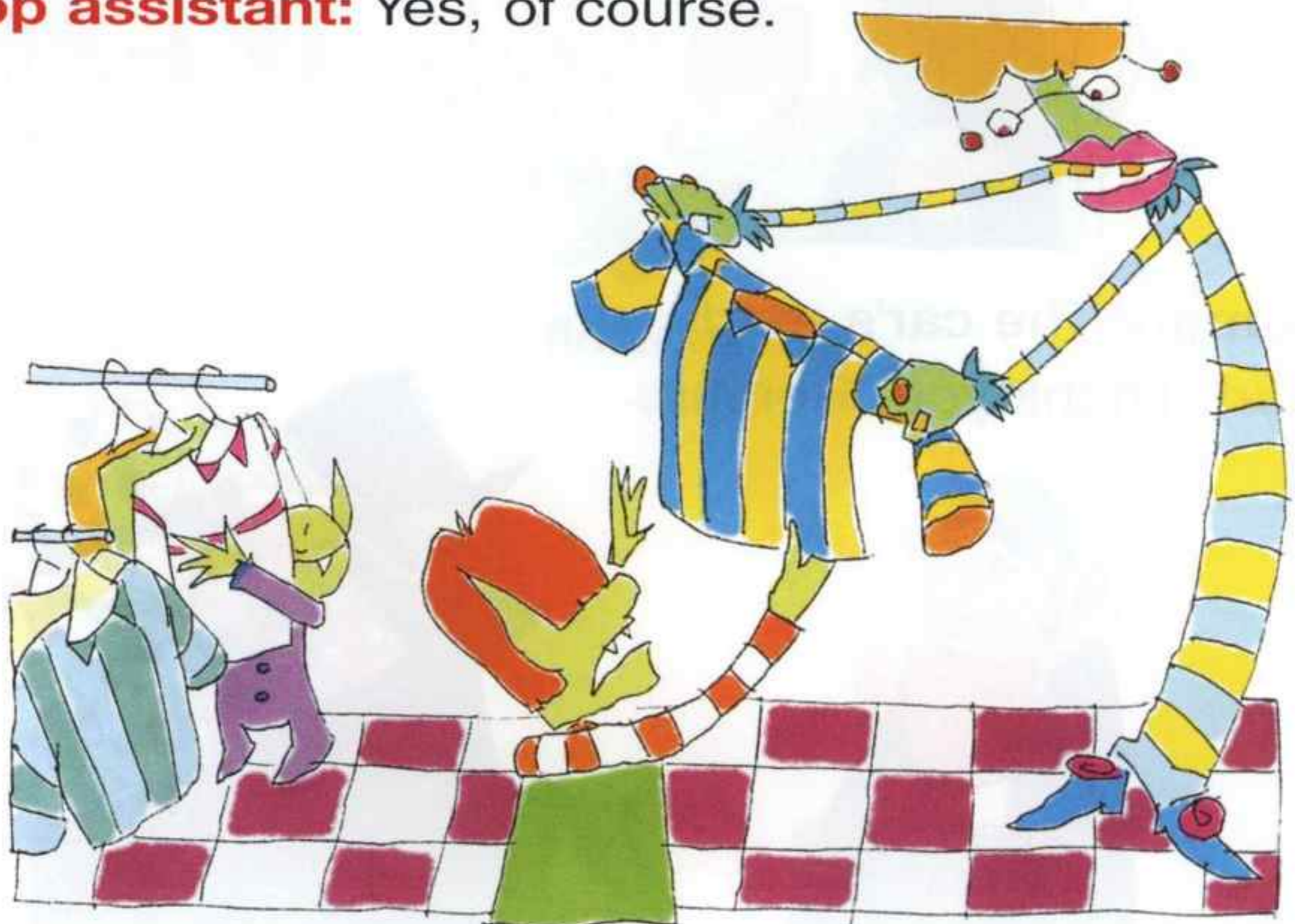
**Adam:** Yes!



**Shop assistant:** Here you are!

**Adam:** Thank you. Can I try it on, please?

**Shop assistant:** Yes, of course.



**Felicia:** Do you like it, Vlad?

**Vlad:** It's too big! What size is it?

**Shop assistant:** It's a large.



**Felicia:** Can we have a small?

**Shop assistant:** Of course, madam. Here you are.

**Adam:** But ... this is orange with white stripes! I like yellow.



**Shop assistant:** What about this jumper? It's yellow with blue stars.

**Adam:** Great!



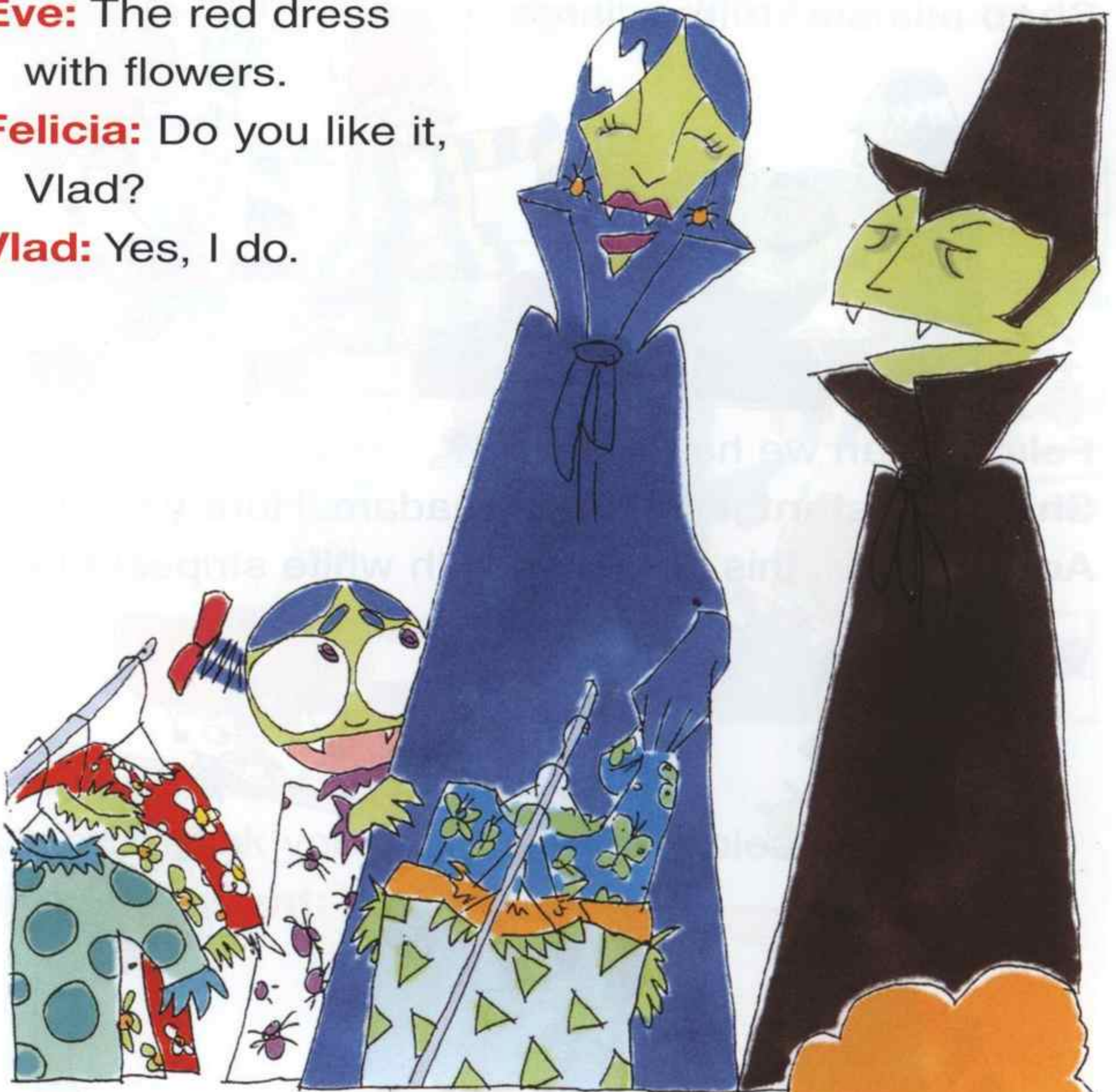
**Eve:** Can I have a dress, mum?

**Felicia:** Which dress do you like?

**Eve:** The red dress  
with flowers.

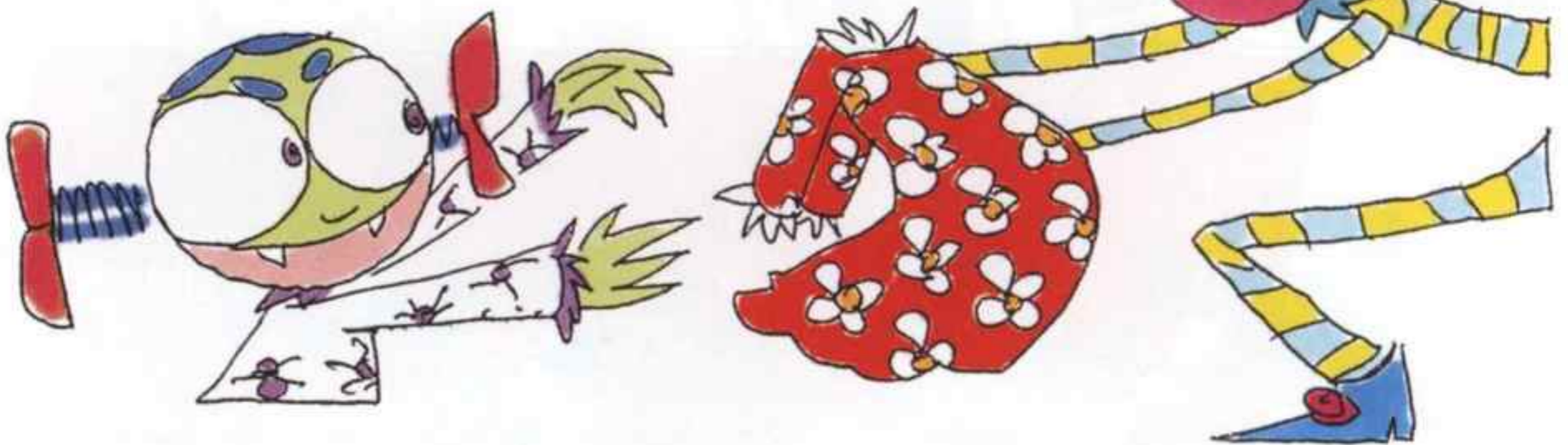
**Felicia:** Do you like it,  
Vlad?

**Vlad:** Yes, I do.



**Eve:** Can I try it on, please?

**Shop assistant:** Yes. Here you are!



**Eve:** I like it!

**Vlad:** Yes, it's very nice.

**Felicia:** Look! Do you like these shoes, Eve?

**Eve:** Yes, I do.



**Vlad:** They're perfect for the dress.

**Eve:** Can I have them,  
dad, please?

**Vlad:** OK, dear.

**Eve:** Thanks, dad,  
thanks!





**Vlad:** Do you like your ice cream, Eve?

**Eve:** Yes, it's lovely.

**Adam:** What flavour is it?

**Eve:** It's chocolate. And yours?

**Adam:** It's strawberry and vanilla.

**Vlad:** How's your coffee, Felicia?

**Felicia:** It's very hot.

Can I have some milk, please?

**Vlad:** Yes.

Here you are!



# Vlad and Felicia go out

**Felicia:** ...and the monster opens its mouth and has a wonderful dinner.

**Vlad:** Blood soup?

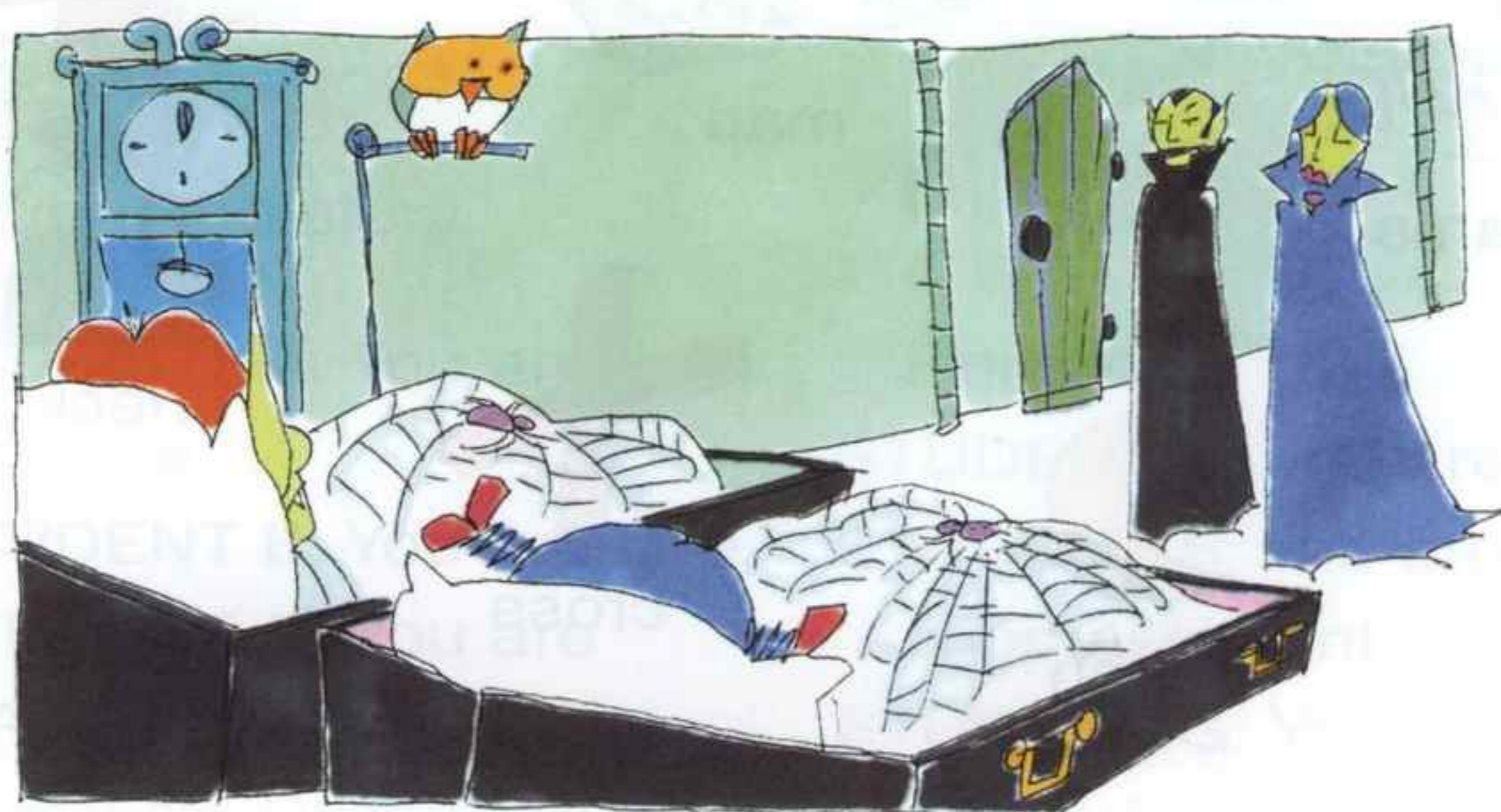
**Felicia:** Yes, dear.



**Vlad:** It's midnight. Goodnight, kids!

**Adam and Eve:** Goodnight, dad. Goodnight, mum.

**Felicia:** Goodnight. Sweet dreams!



**Vlad:** Are you ready, dear?

**Felicia:** Just a moment. Where's my map?



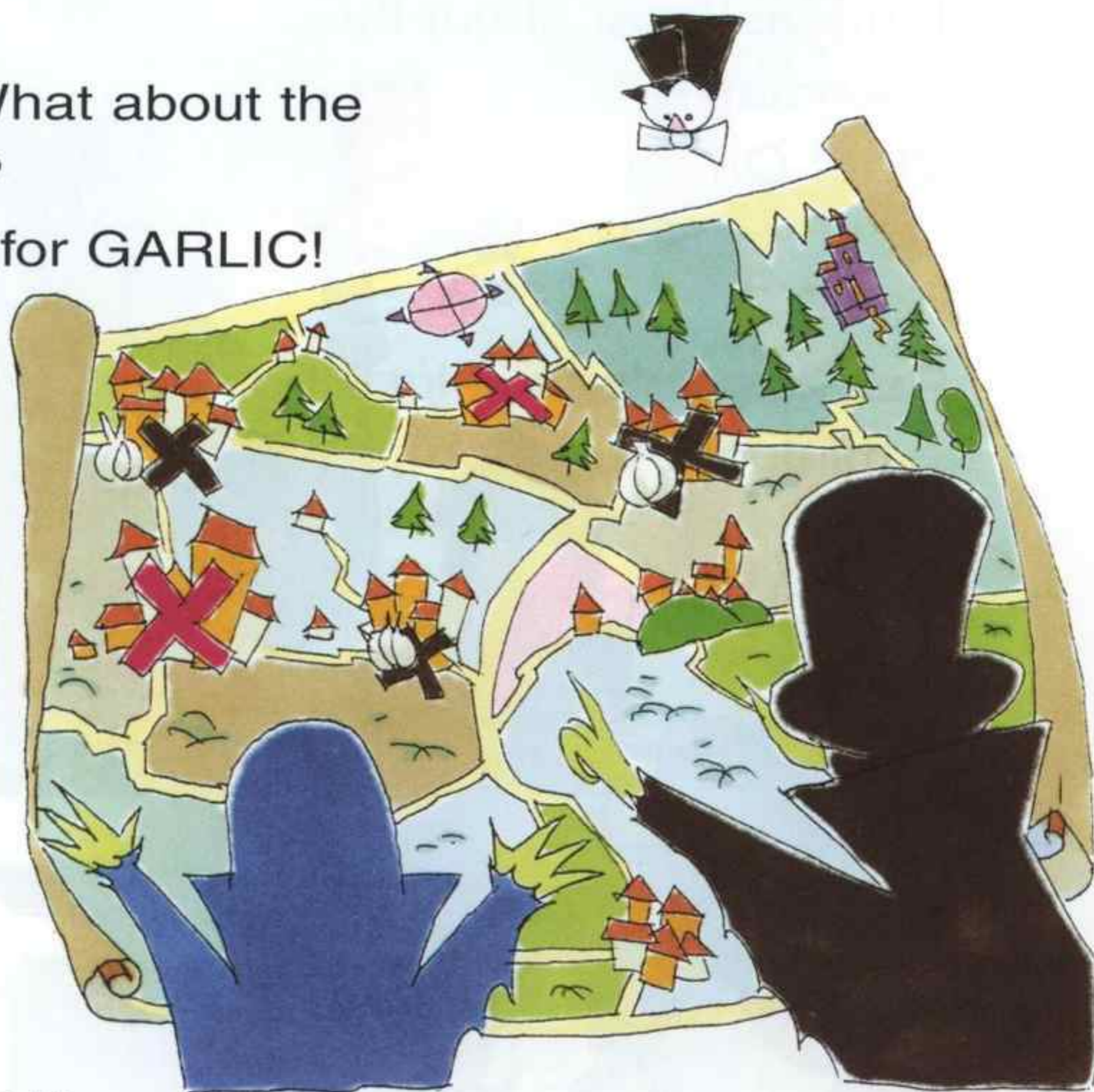
**Vlad:** Here it is.

**Felicia:** Thank you. Let's visit the homes with a red cross.

**Vlad:** Yes, OK. What about the black crosses?

**Felicia:** Black is for GARLIC!

These people like garlic very much.



**Vlad:** Garlic!!! NO!!!

**Felicia:** Calm down! Come on, Pat. Let's go!

**Pat:** Yeeesss.



**Felicia:** It's cold and dark. It's lovely!

**Pat:** It's a dark night! No moon, no stars!

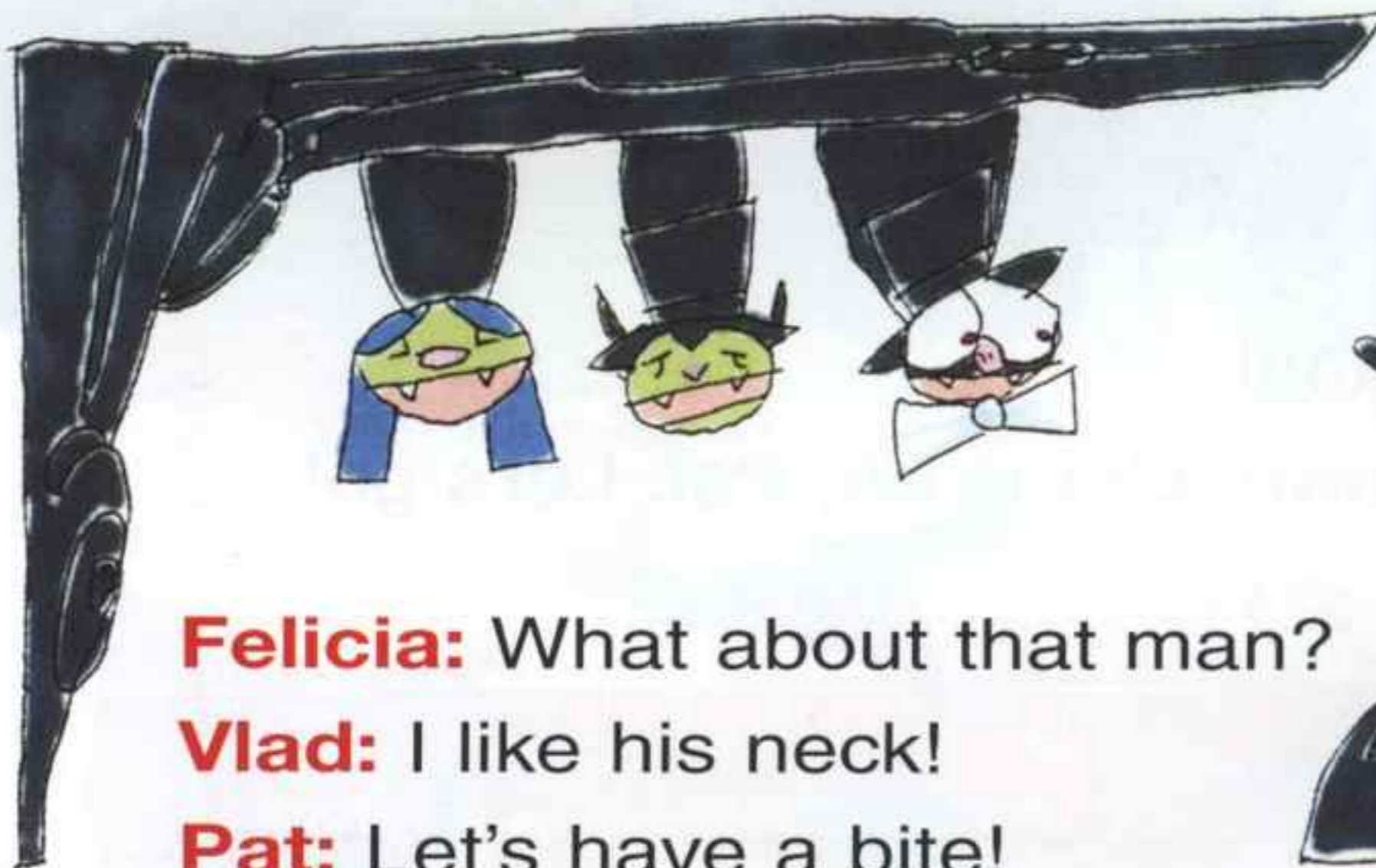
**Vlad:** Perfect!



**Felicia:** What about this woman?

**Vlad:** Oh no, she's too thin.

**Pat:** Yes, too thin!



**Felicia:** What about that man?

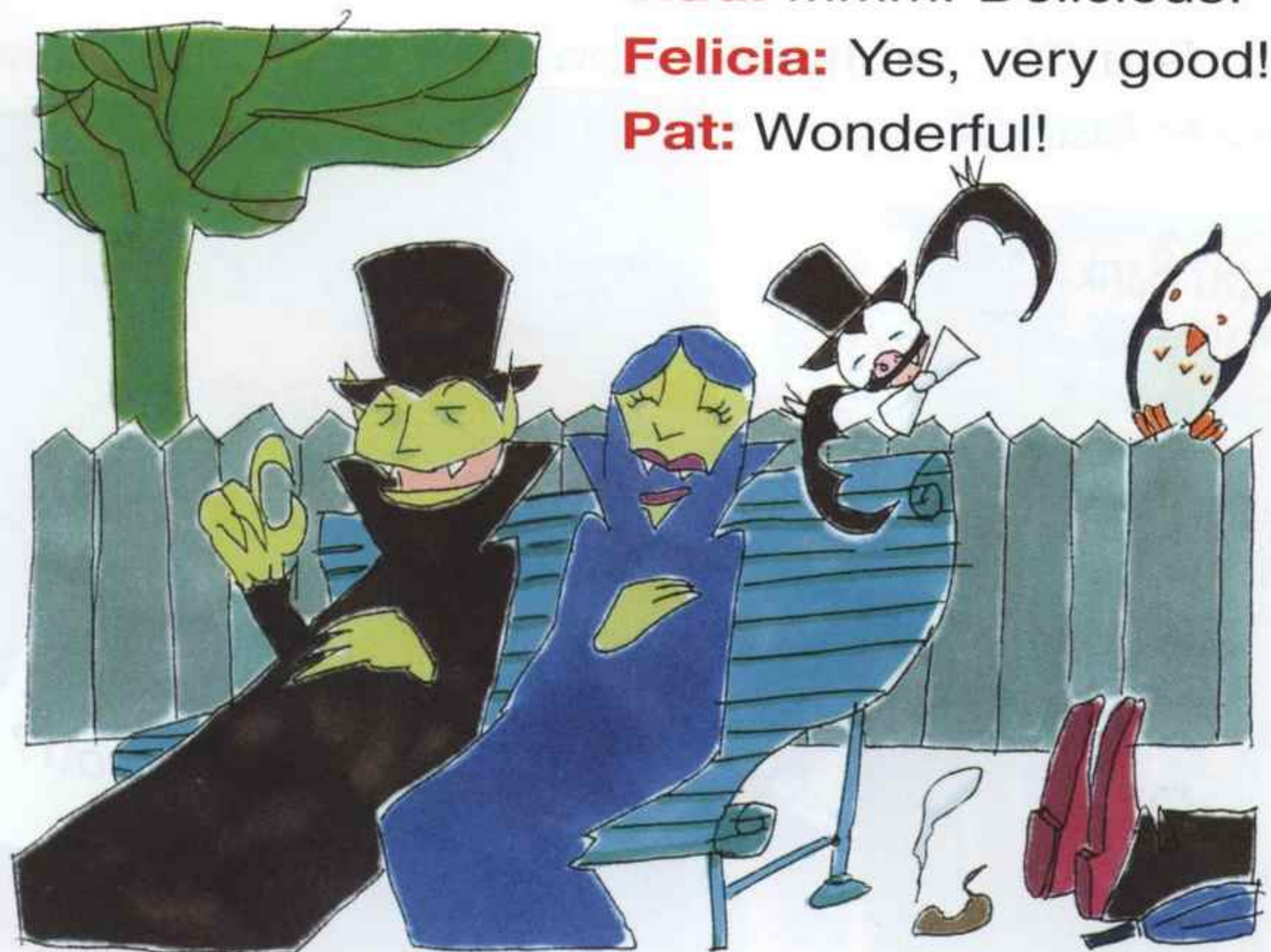
**Vlad:** I like his neck!

**Pat:** Let's have a bite!

**Vlad:** Mmm! Delicious!

**Felicia:** Yes, very good!

**Pat:** Wonderful!



**Felicia:** Let's go to the blood bank. I need a pint of blood for little Brian. Have you got your Blood card?

**Vlad:** Yes, here it is. There's a blood bank in Horror Street.



**Felicia:** What's your code, dear?

**Vlad:** 660XX.

**Felicia:** 660XX.



**Felicia:** A pint of blood, please.

**Blood Bank Machine:** Press the red button, please.

**Felicia:** Thank you.



**Pat:** I'm so tired!

**Vlad:** Can I have a glass of whisky, Roman?

**Roman:** Of course, sir! Here's some Transylvanian whisky.

**Vlad:** Thank you.



**Felicia:** Once upon a time there was a vampire named Vlad.

He lived in a big castle and he loved blood.

Blood for breakfast, blood for lunch, blood for supper...

Every day he got fatter and fatter!