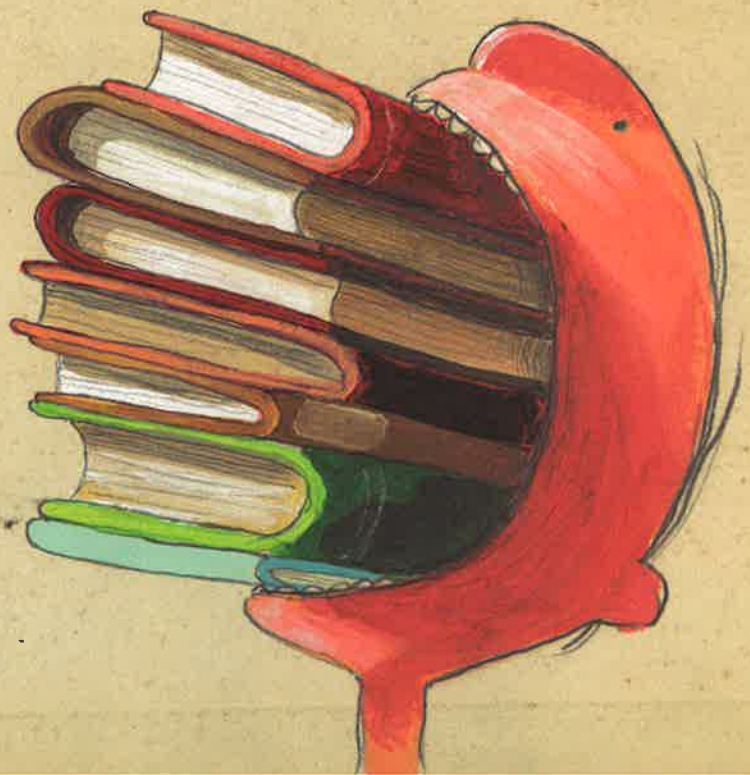
THE INCREDIBLE BOOK eating BOY

by Oliver Jeffers



PHILOMEL BOOKS

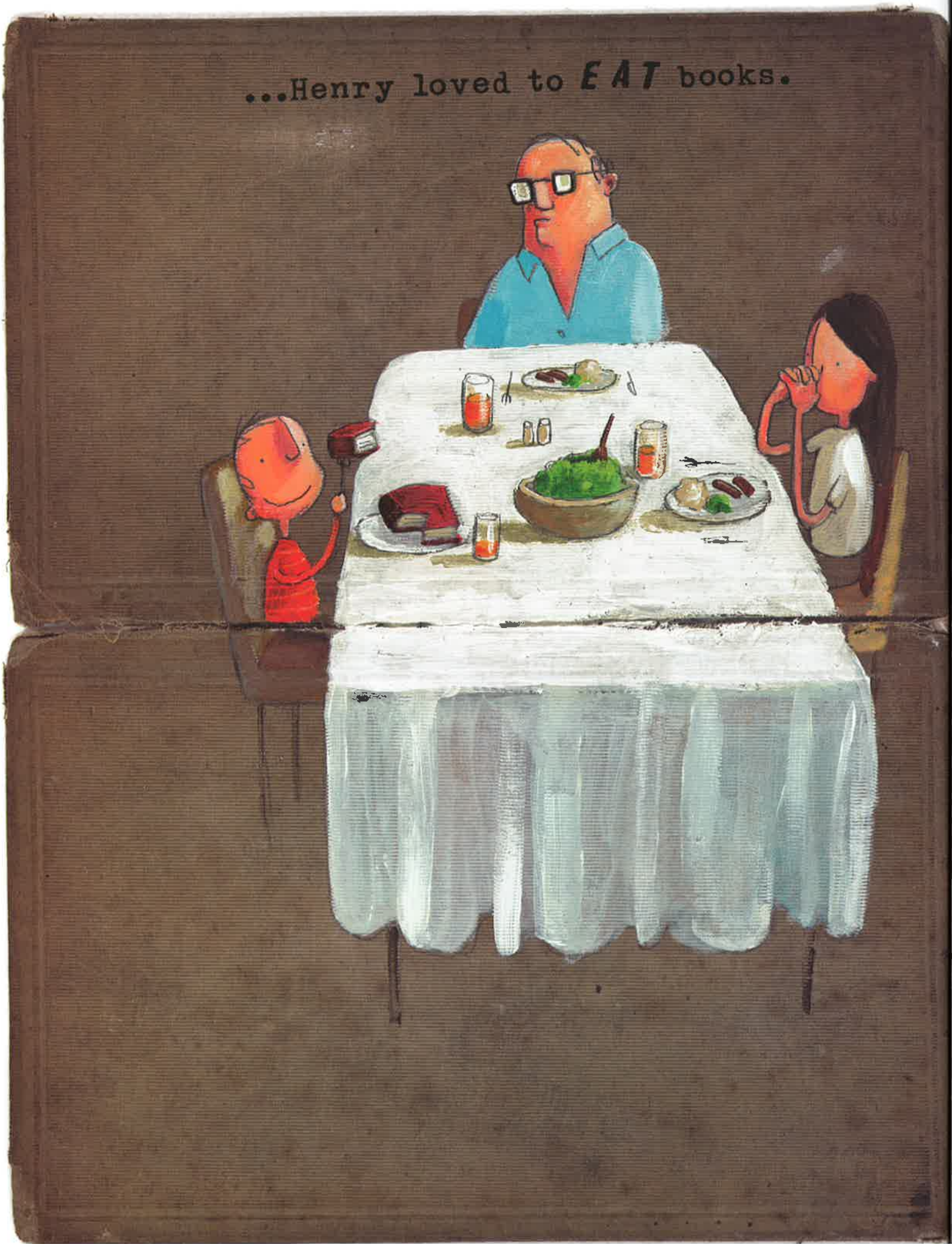
Charge of Income Tax. Schedule B. 56 & 60 Vict. c. 28.

HENRY loved BOOKS.

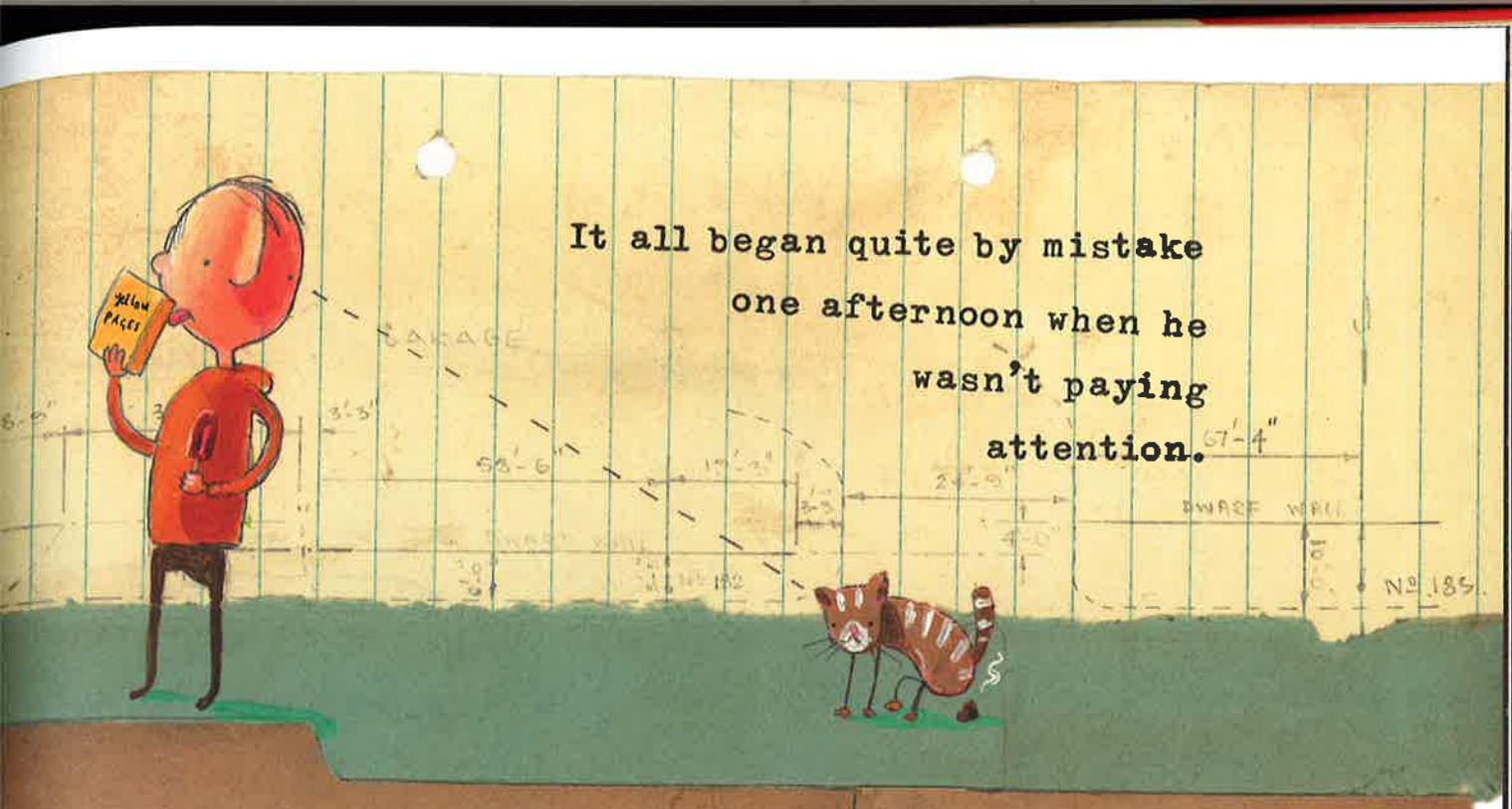
But not like you and I love books, no.

Not quite...

...Henry loved to **EAT** books.



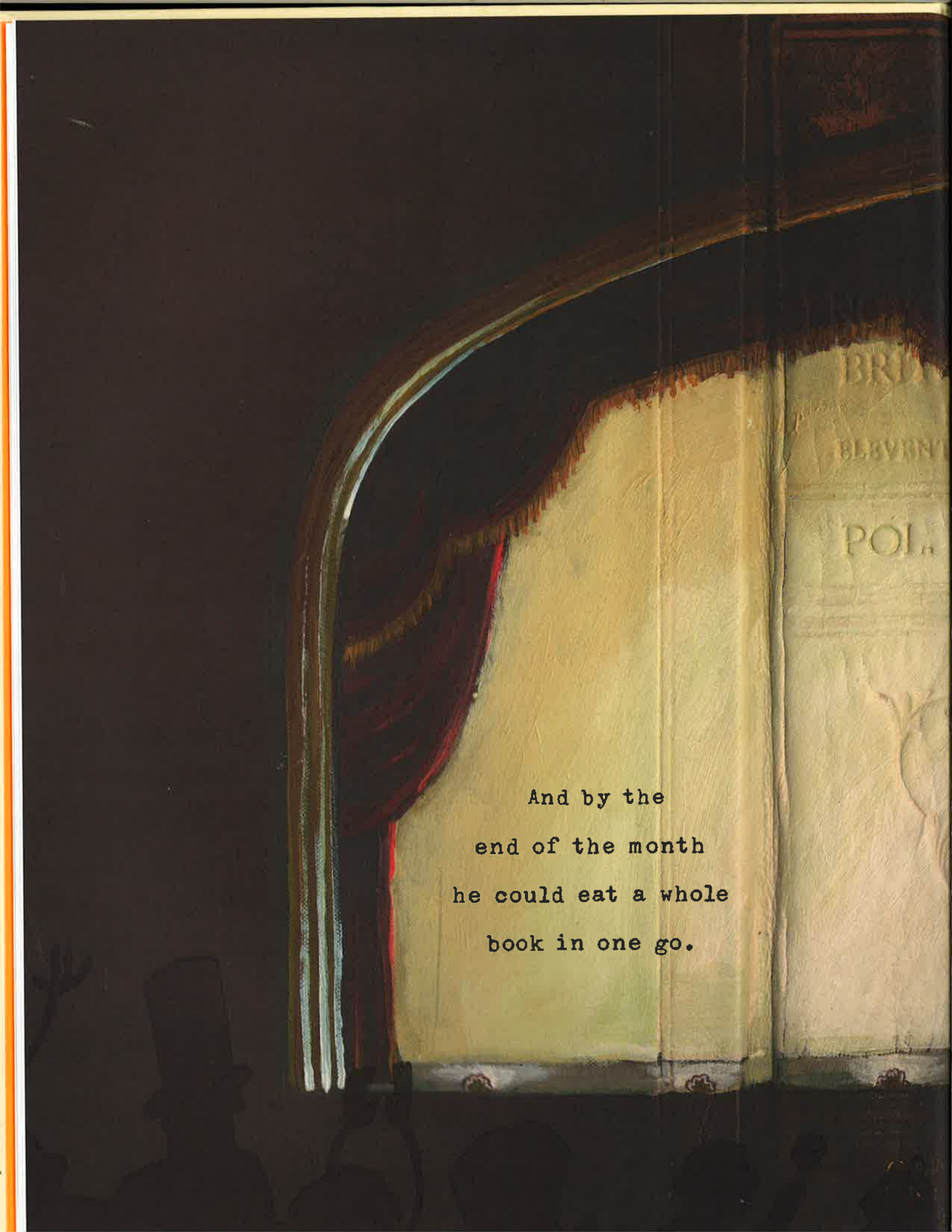
It all began quite by mistake
one afternoon when he
wasn't paying
attention.

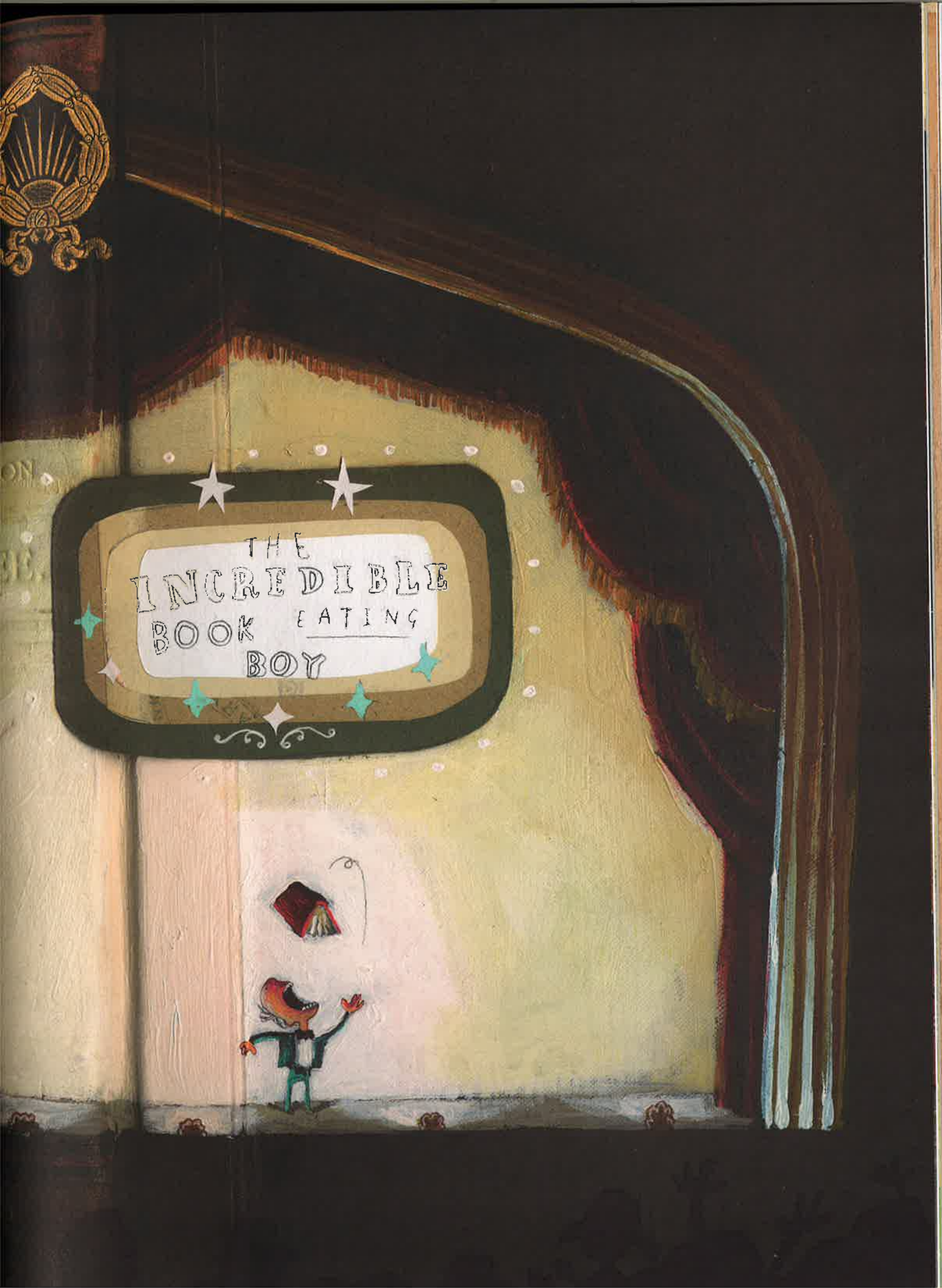


He wasn't sure at first,
and tried eating a single word,
just to test.

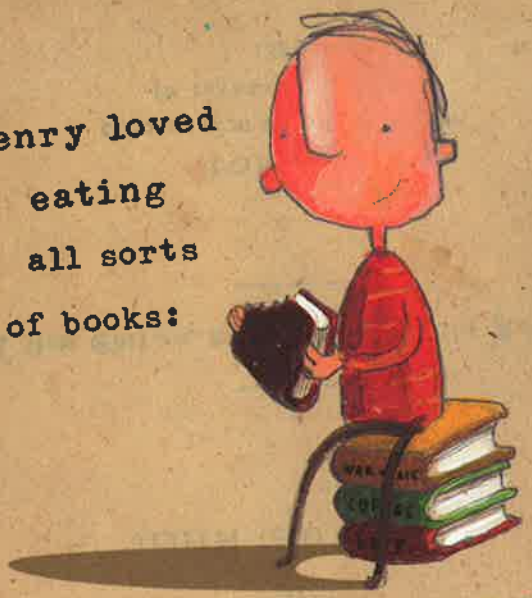
Next, he tried
a whole sentence
and then the
whole page.

Yes, Henry definitely
liked them.
By Wednesday,
he had eaten
a WHOLE book.


And by the
end of the month
he could eat a whole
book in one go.


THE
INCREDIBLE
BOOK EATING
BOY

Henry loved eating all sorts of books:



Storybooks,

dictionaries,

Atlases,

joke books,

books of facts,

even math books.

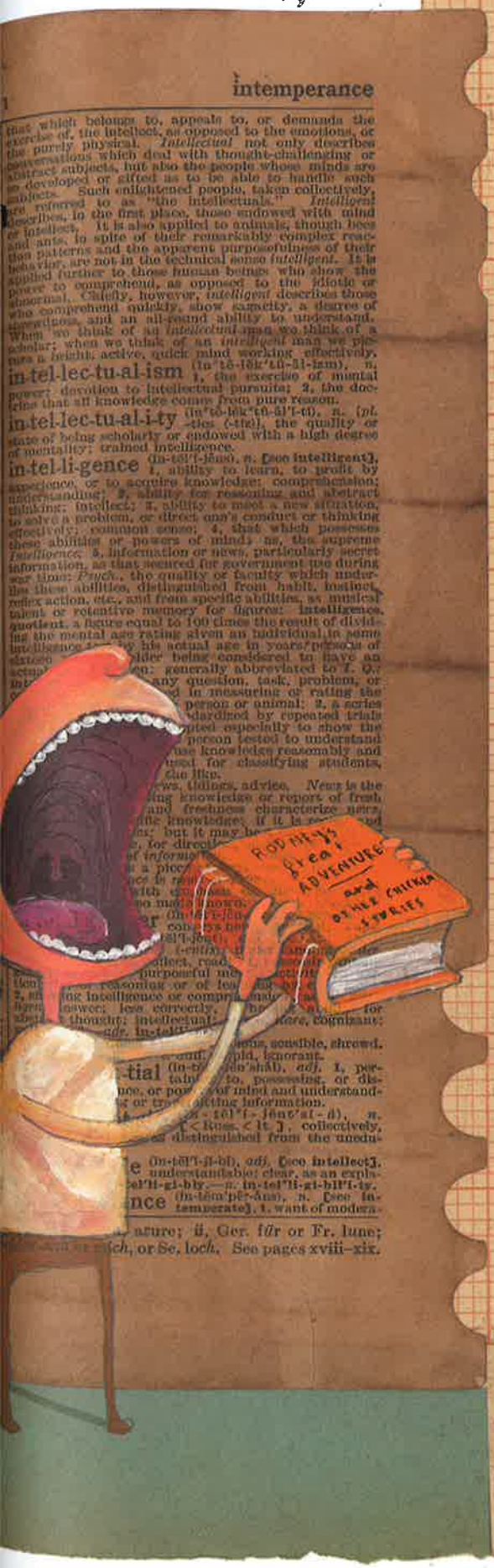
But red ones were his favorite.

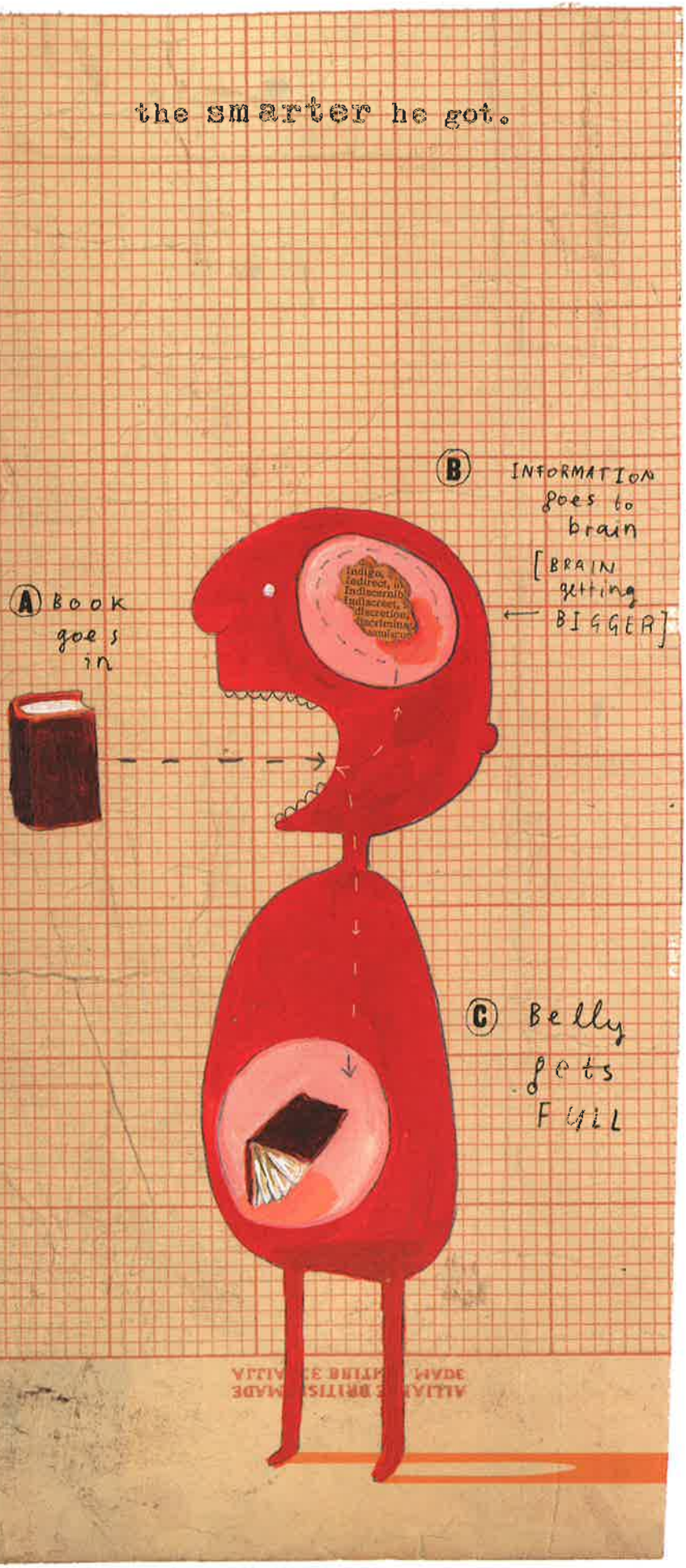

REF. SECTION
And he
was going
through
them at
a fierce
RATE.

But here is the best bit:

The more he ate,

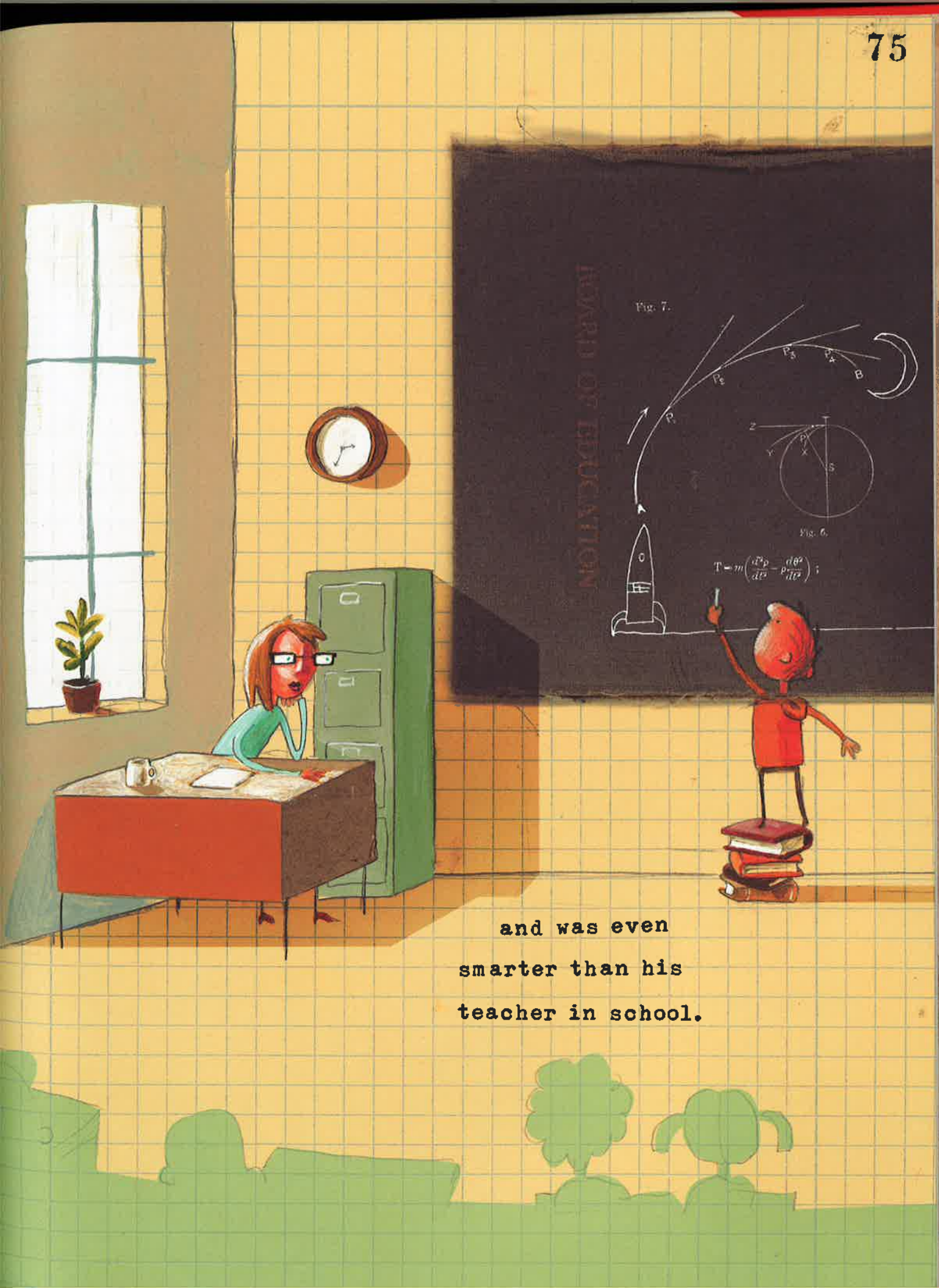
the smarter he got.



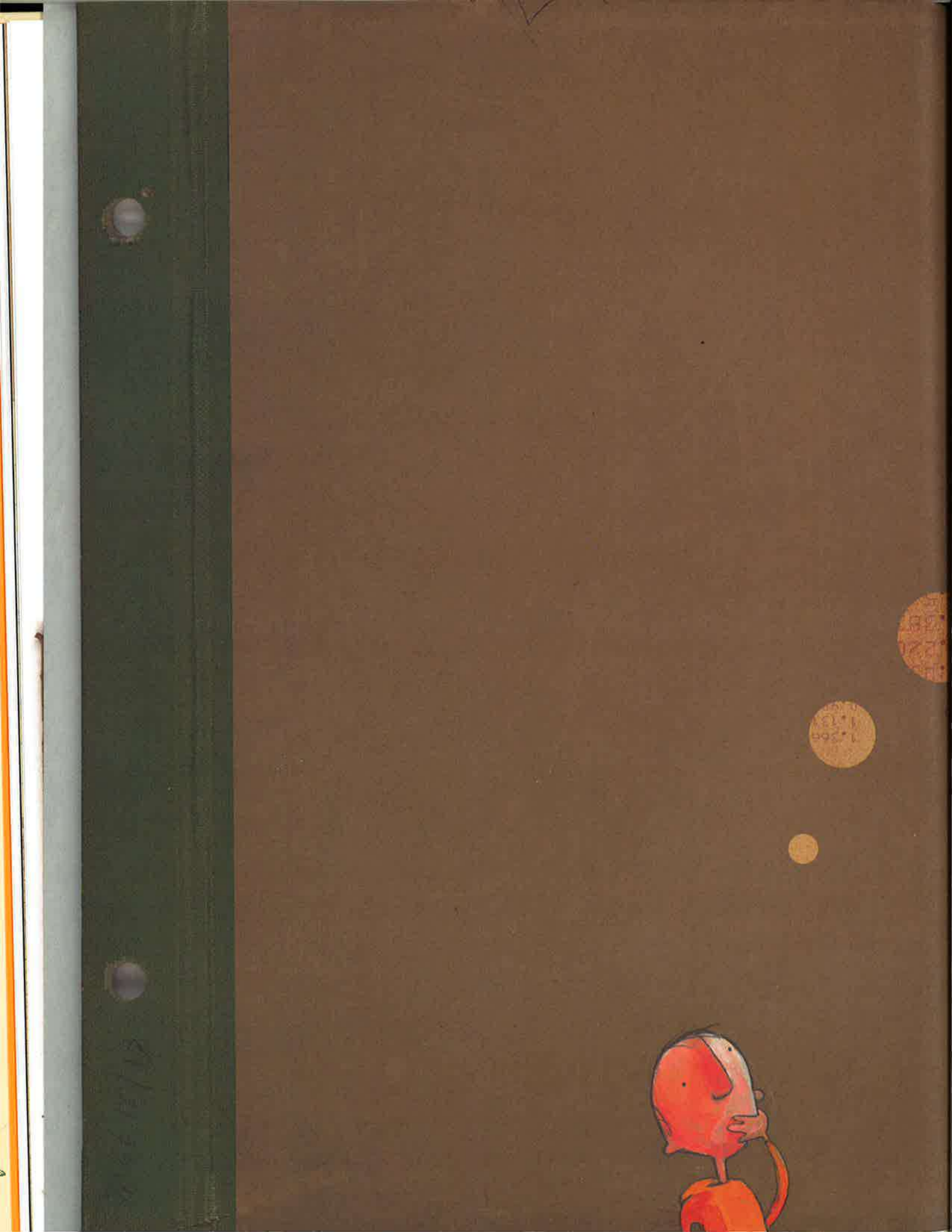


He ate a book
about goldfish
and then he knew
what to feed Ginger.

Before long he could do
his father's crossword
in the newspaper,



and was even
smarter than his
teacher in school.



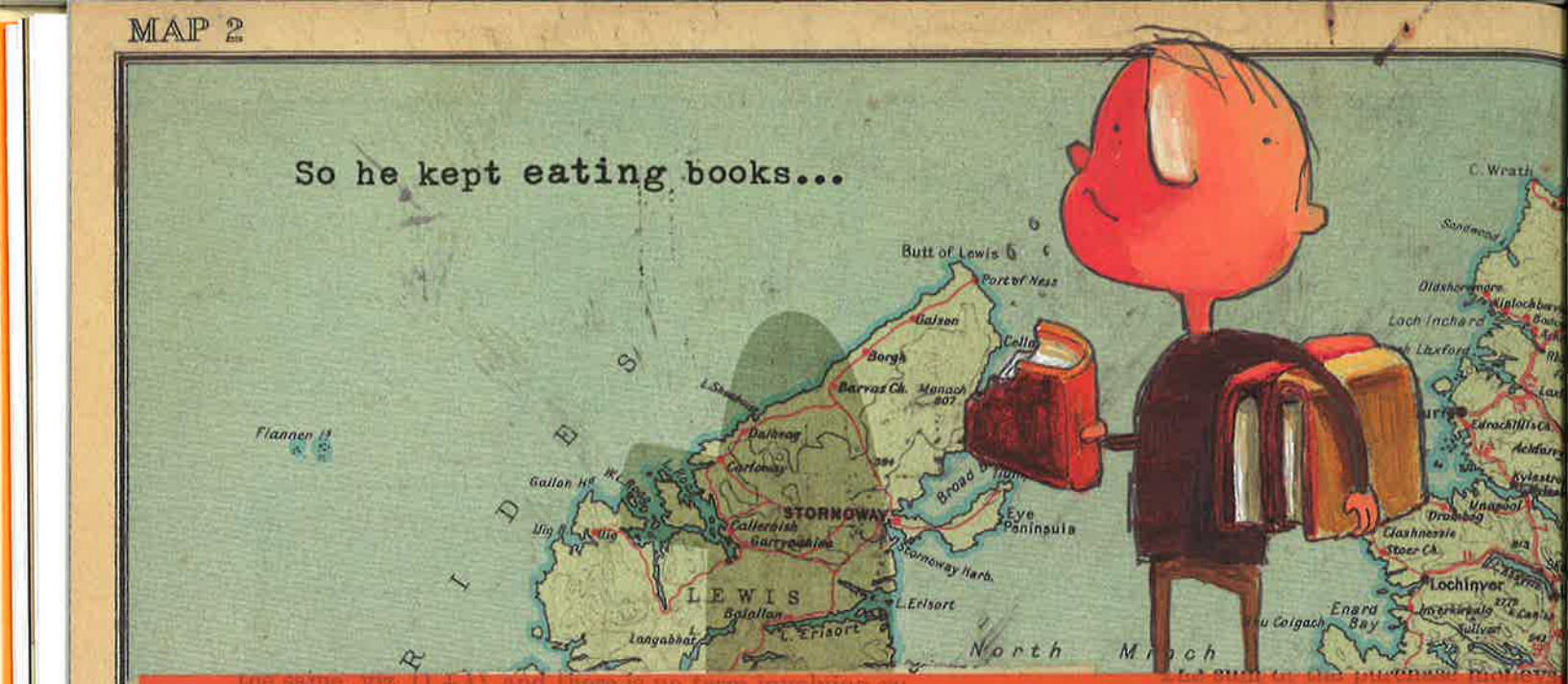
Henry loved being smart.

He thought that if he kept going,

he might even become

the **smartest** person on Earth.

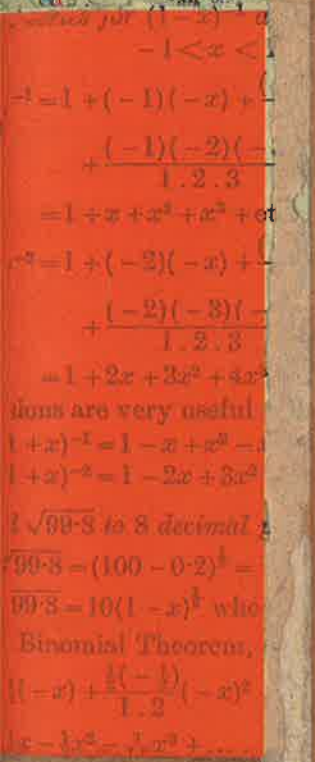
So he kept eating books...



And he kept getting smarter...

...and smarter

...and smarter.



He went from eating books whole
to eating them three or four at a time.
Books about anything.
Henry wasn't fussy,
and he wanted to know it all.

But then things started going not quite so well.

In fact, they started going

very,

very

wrong.

Henry was eating too many books,

and too quickly at that.

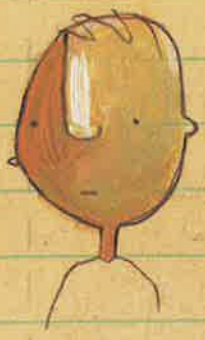
bite

chew

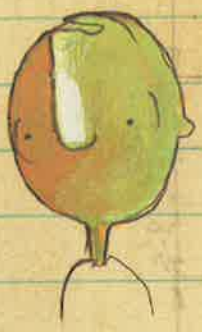
Chew

CHEW

gulp



green



greener

greenest

BOKE*

He was beginning to feel a little ill.

★ An IRISH word for ejecting the contents of your stomach

But here is the worst bit.

6 + 2 = 3

Everything he was learning

was getting mixed up.

2 + 6 = elephant

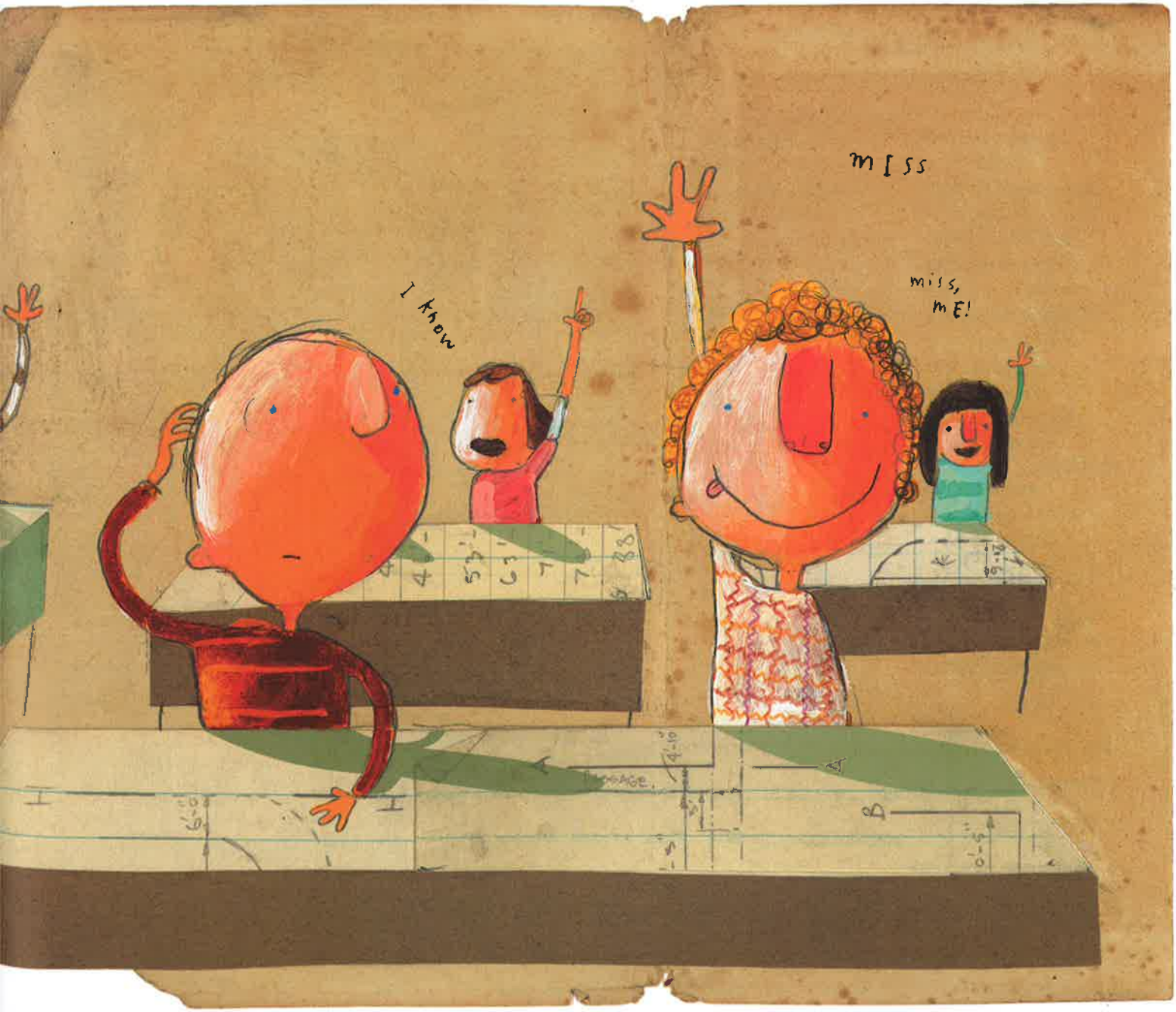
e didn't have time
to digest it properly.

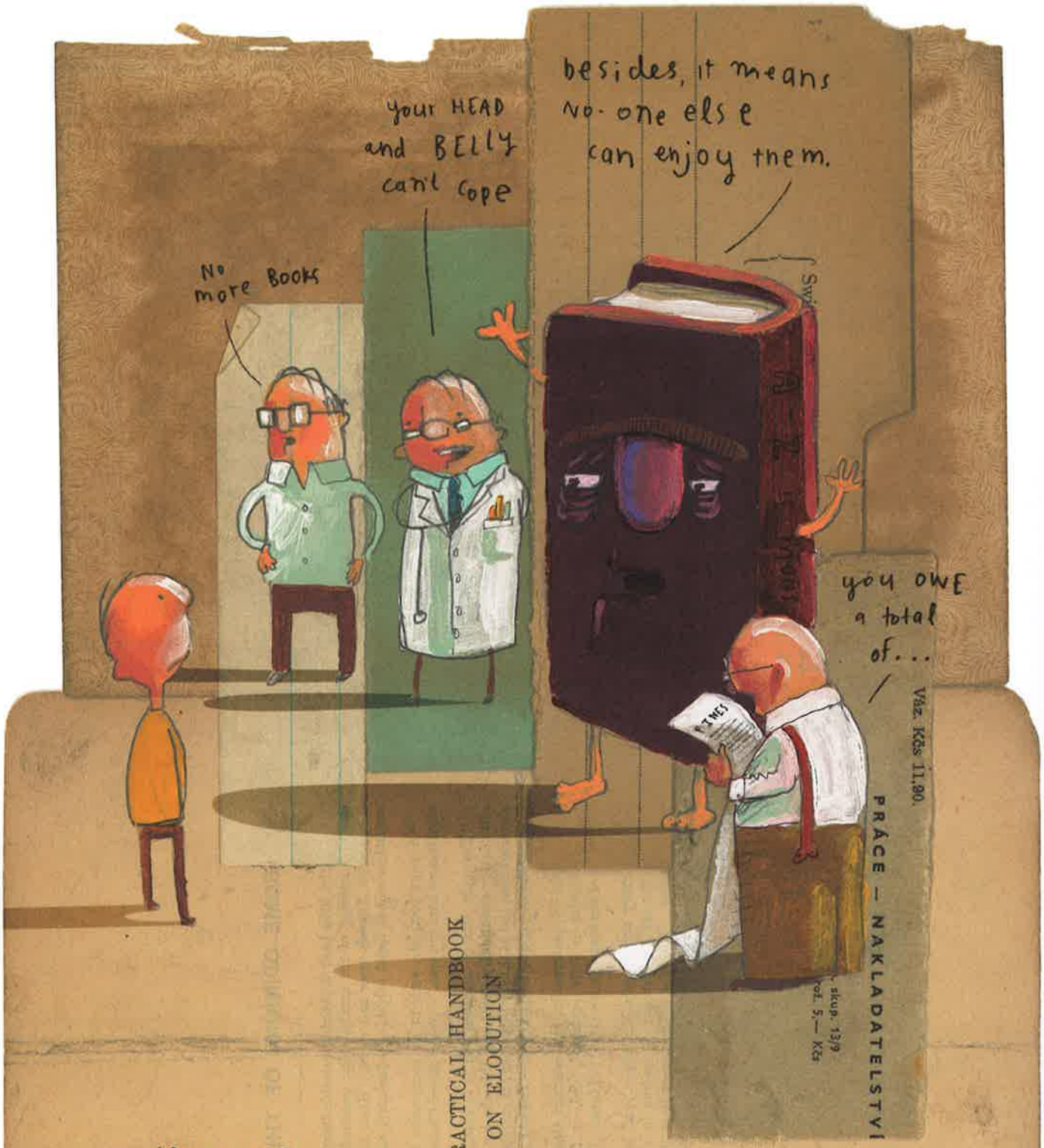
It became quite embarrassing
for him to speak.

50 exemplaires numérotés sur papier de


PICK ME
I know
MISS
I know
I know

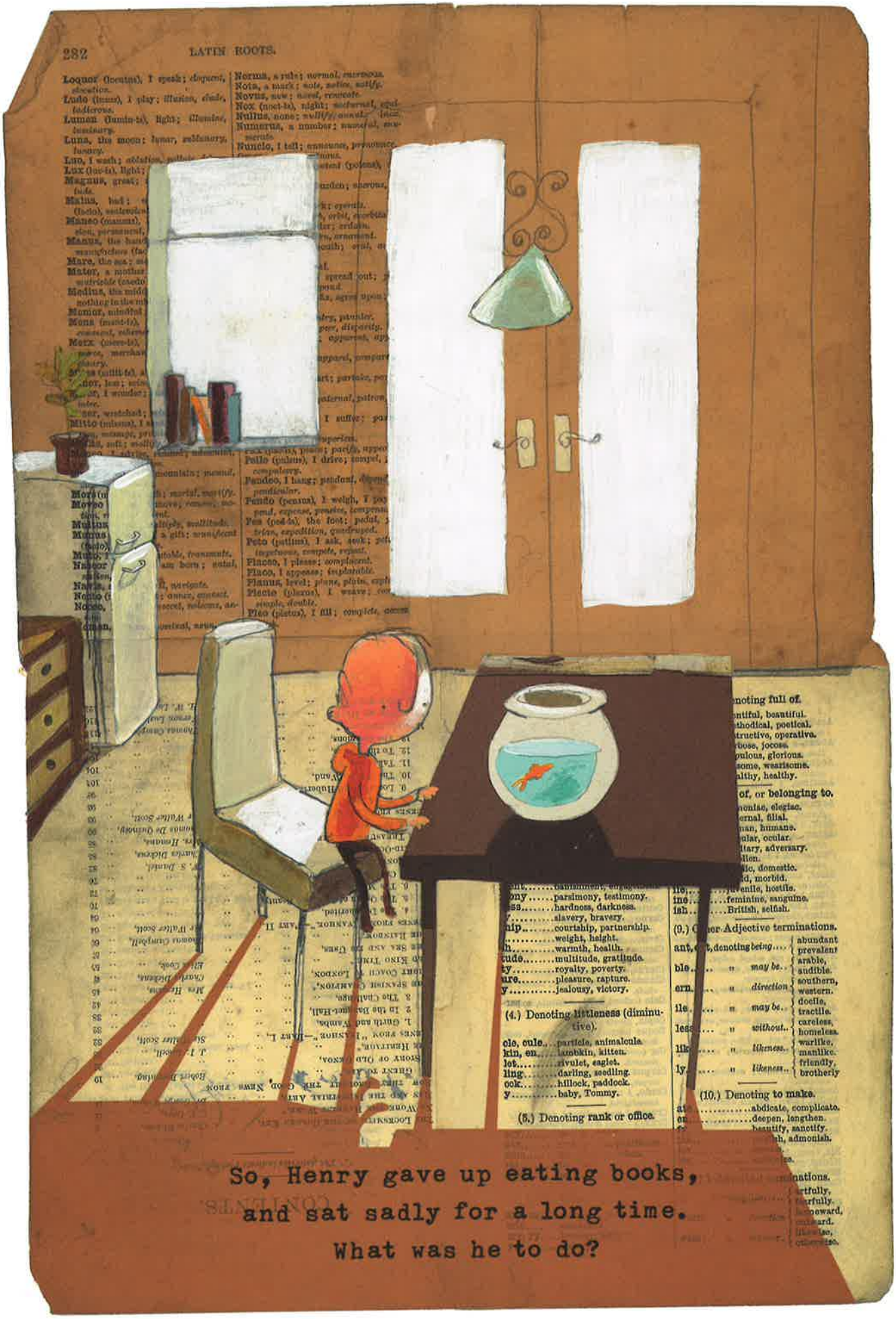
Suddenly Henry didn't
feel very smart at all.





A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK ON ELOCUTION

More than one person told him he should stop eating books.


282 LATIN ROOTS.
So, Henry gave up eating books,
and sat sadly for a long time.
What was he to do?

Then, after a while, and almost by accident,
Henry picked up a half-eaten book from the floor.
But instead of putting it in his mouth...

And it was ***SO*** good.

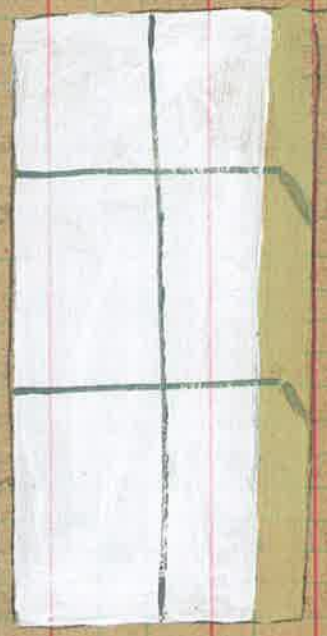
Henry discovered that he loved to read.

And he thought that if he read enough

he might still become

the smartest person on Earth.

It would just take a bit longer.



Now Henry reads
all the time...

although every now and then