

Bálint Harcos

# Sophie Sneezes

illustrations by Cristina Quiles



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Págyó



Sophie was running up and down the room.  
Suddenly, she stopped and sneezed:  
“Ha-tchoo!”  
Her mom stuck her head in from the kitchen:  
“Sophie, I don’t see your socks! Put them back  
on now.”



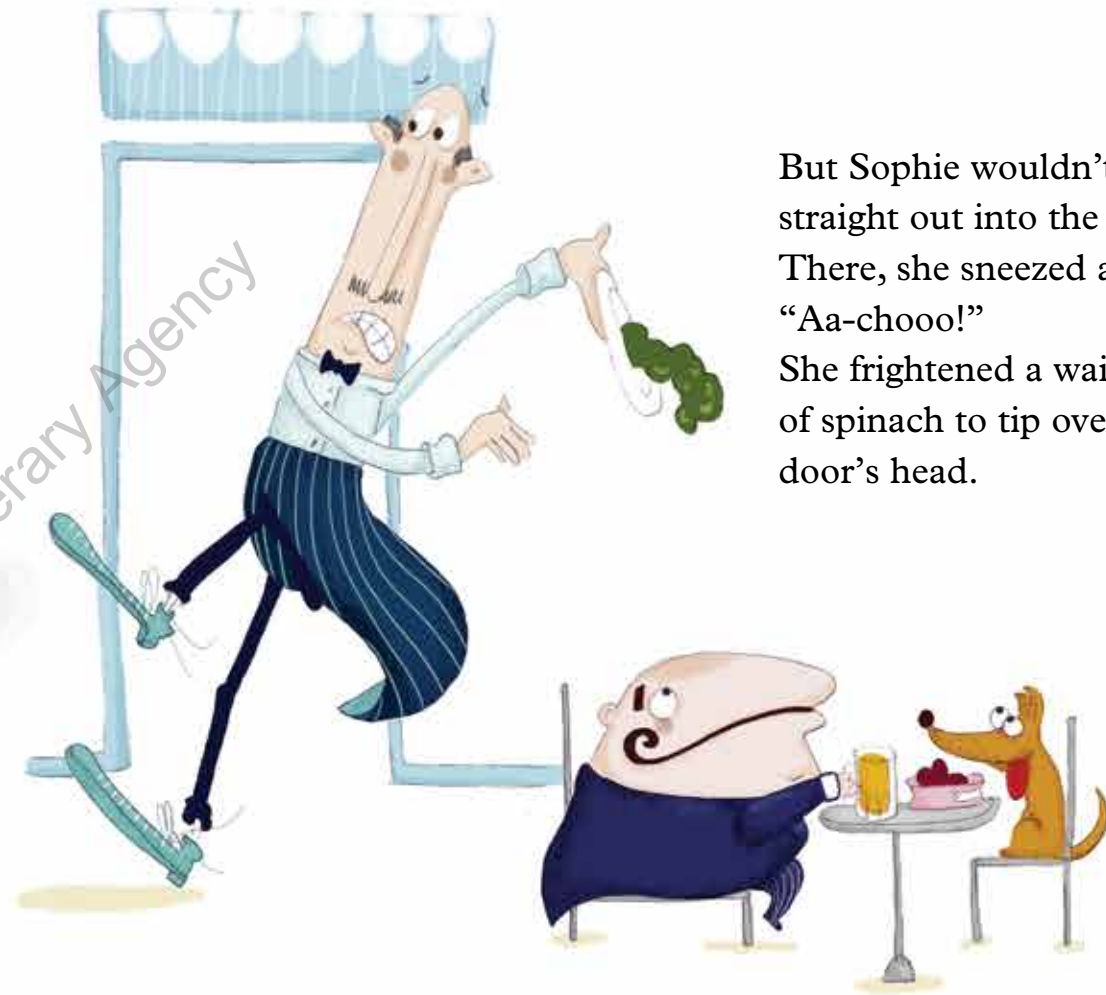
But instead of doing that, Sophie ran out onto the balcony corridor. There she sneezed again: “At-choo!” She gave the pigeons such a scare, they flew right off the roof.



Her mom came running after,  
“Sophie, stop! Where are you running to?”



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But Sophie wouldn't stop, and ran straight out into the street. There, she sneezed again: "Aa-chooo!" She frightened a waiter, causing a plate of spinach to tip over the man-next-door's head.



Now her mom and the man-next-door were both  
running in her tracks,  
“Sophie, you come back this instant!”







But Sophie ran all the way to the playground, where she let loose an even longer sneeze.  
“Haaa-tchooo!”  
And *kabam*, her sneeze popped every balloon in sight.



Now on her heels came running mom  
and the man-next-door and the  
balloon seller too.  
Mom was shouting,  
“Sophie, that’s enough!”  
And the man-next-door muttered,  
“Oh, there’ll be trouble.”



But Sophie kept right on running through the park, where she sneezed a really big one: “Aaaha-tchoo!” And that one sent all the leaves falling off the trees.





Now hot on Sophie's tracks came mom,  
the man-next-door, the balloon seller and  
the gardeners too.  
One of the gardeners shouted,  
"We have to save the trees!"





Sophie ran into the fairground, where her sneeze grew even bigger:

“Haaaa-tchooo!”

It sent the merry-go-round flying like a frisbee.





Running after her were now her mom,  
the man-next-door, the balloon seller and  
the gardeners, and the fairground cashier lady too.  
She was shouting,  
“Stop right there! Where’s your ticket?”



But Sophie ran right out of the town  
and sneezed a giant sneeze,  
“AAH-CHOO!”  
And all the buildings flew up  
into the air!



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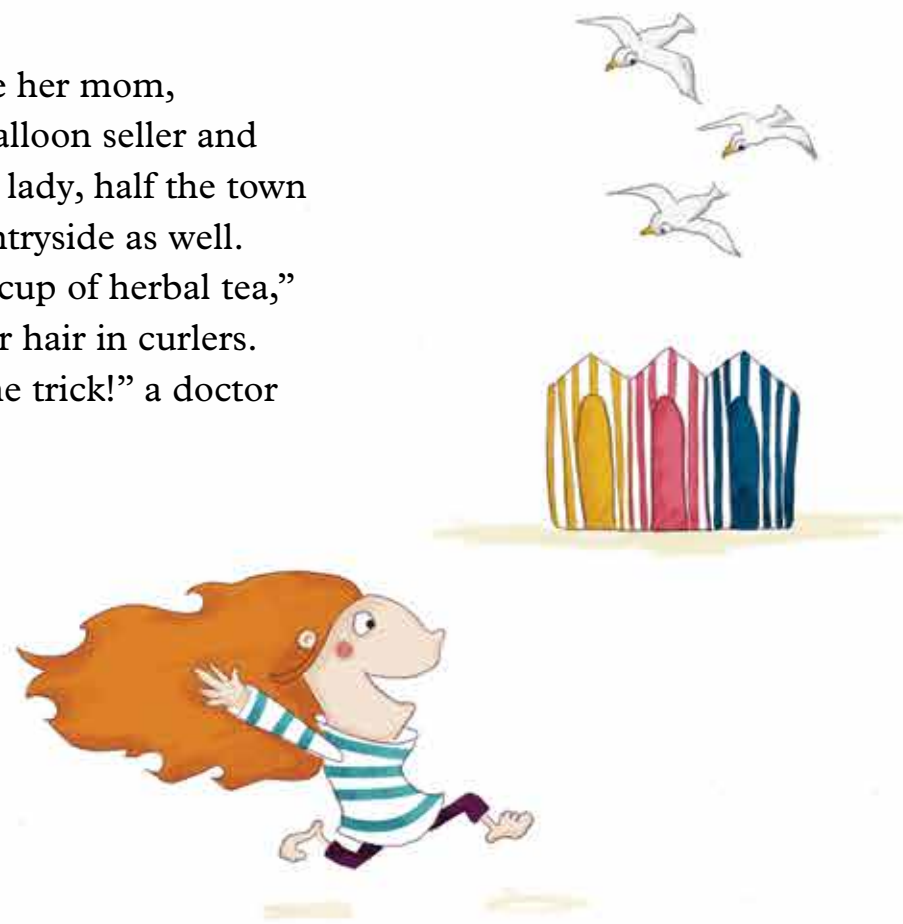


But Sophie ran on up to the big mountain,  
and sneezed harder than ever.  
“HAA-TCHOO!”  
And the mountain flipped onto its peak!





Running behind her came her mom,  
the man-next-door, the balloon seller and  
the gardeners, the cashier lady, half the town  
and now most of the countryside as well.  
“Let’s give Sophie a nice cup of herbal tea,”  
yelled an old lady with her hair in curlers.  
“Nose drops should do the trick!” a doctor  
shouted.

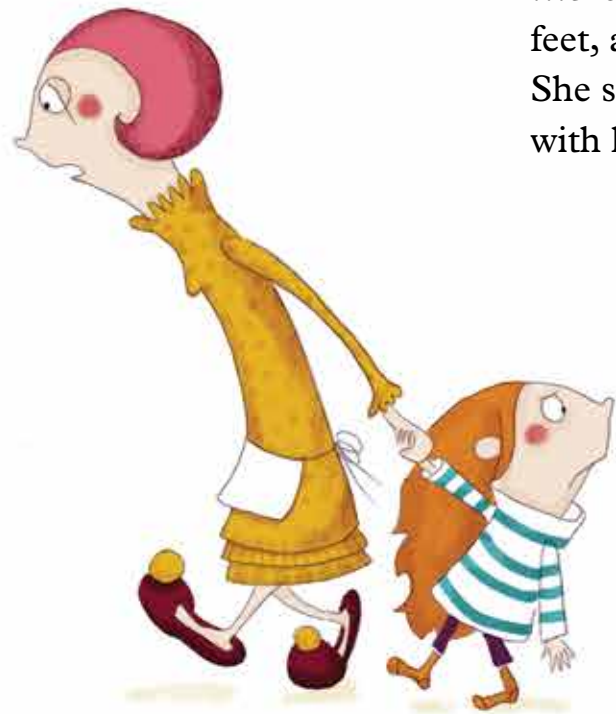


But Sophie kept running till she got  
to the ocean shore.  
And there she sneezed such a massive  
sneeze that it tipped out all of the ocean!









...then Mom pulled the socks over Sophie's feet, and so she sneezed no more. She sulked a little, but went home with her Mom.

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by Bálint Harcos  
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