

Just came in
From the County of Keck
That a very small bug
By the name of Van Vleck
Is yawning so wide
You can look down his neck.

This may not seem

Very important, I know.

But it is. So I'm bothering

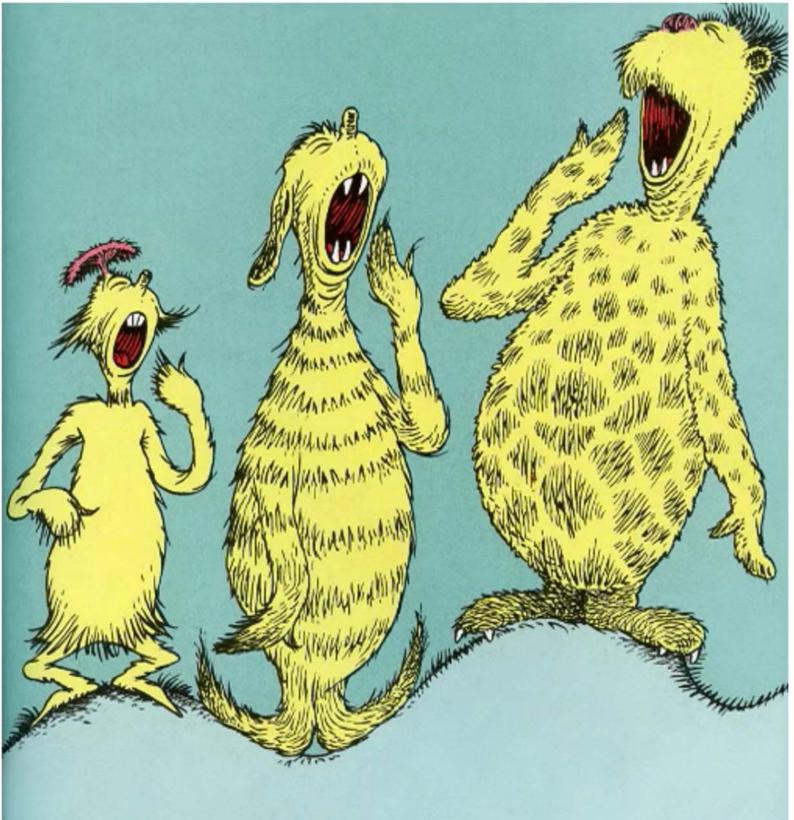
Telling you so.

A yawn is quite catching, you see. Like a cough.

It just takes one yawn to start other yawns off.

NOW the news has come in that some friends of Van Vleck's Are yawning so wide you can look down their necks.





At this moment, right now, Under seven more noses, Great yawns are in blossom. They're blooming like roses.





The yawn of that one little bug is still spreading!
According to latest reports, it is heading
Across the wide fields, through the sleepy night air,
Across the whole country toward every-which-where.
And people are gradually starting to say,
"I feel rather drowsy. I've had quite a day."

Creatures are starting to think about rest.

Two Biffer-Baum Birds are now building their nest.

They do it each night. And quite often I wonder

How they do this big job without making a blunder.

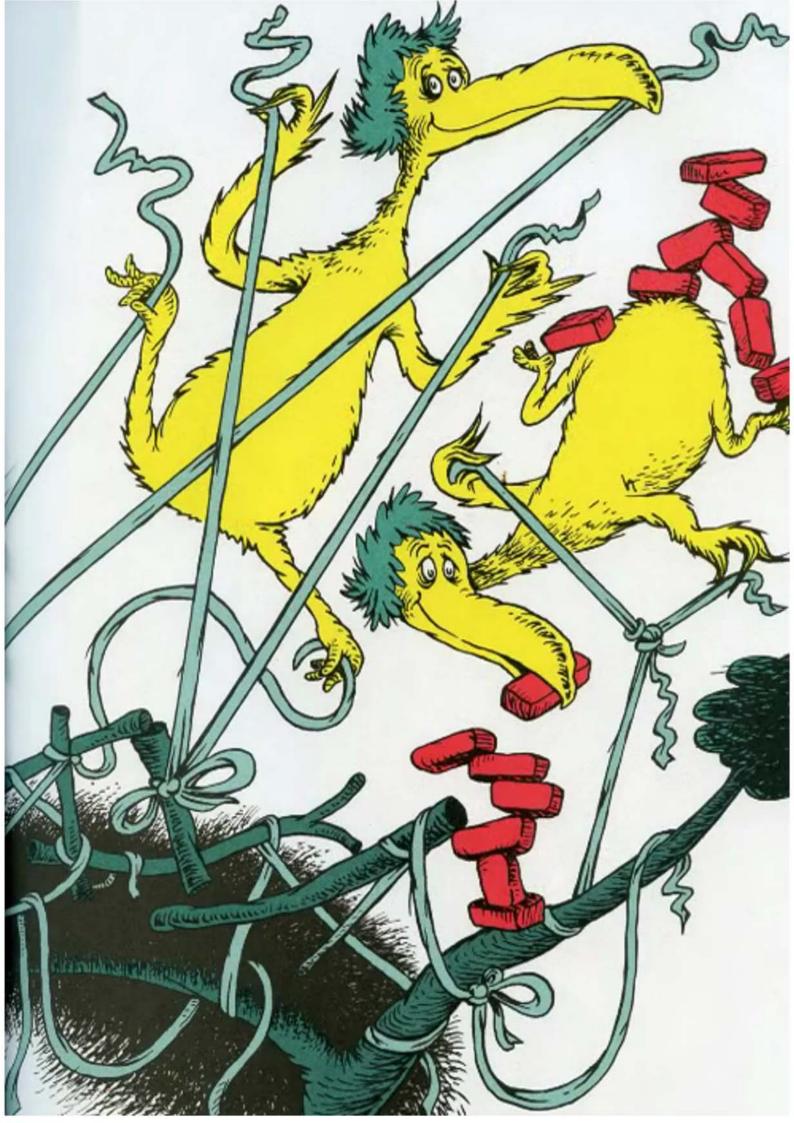
But that is their problem.

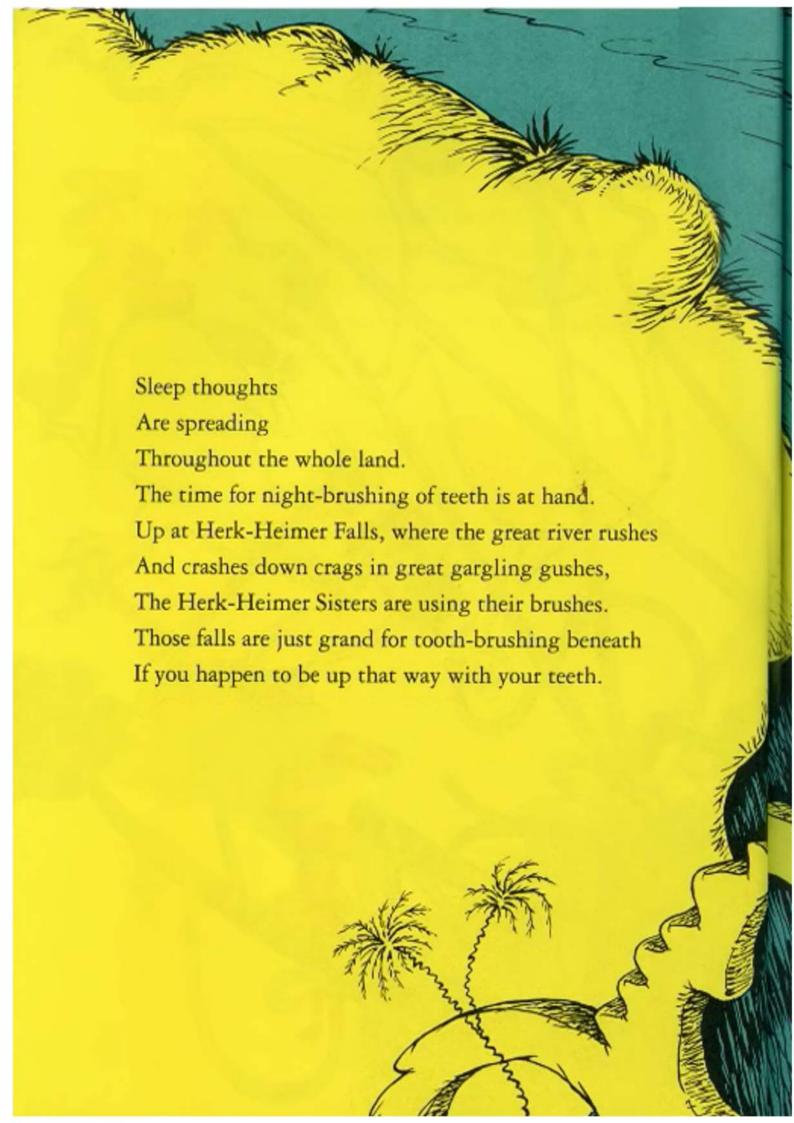
Not yours. And not mine.

The point is: They're going to bed.

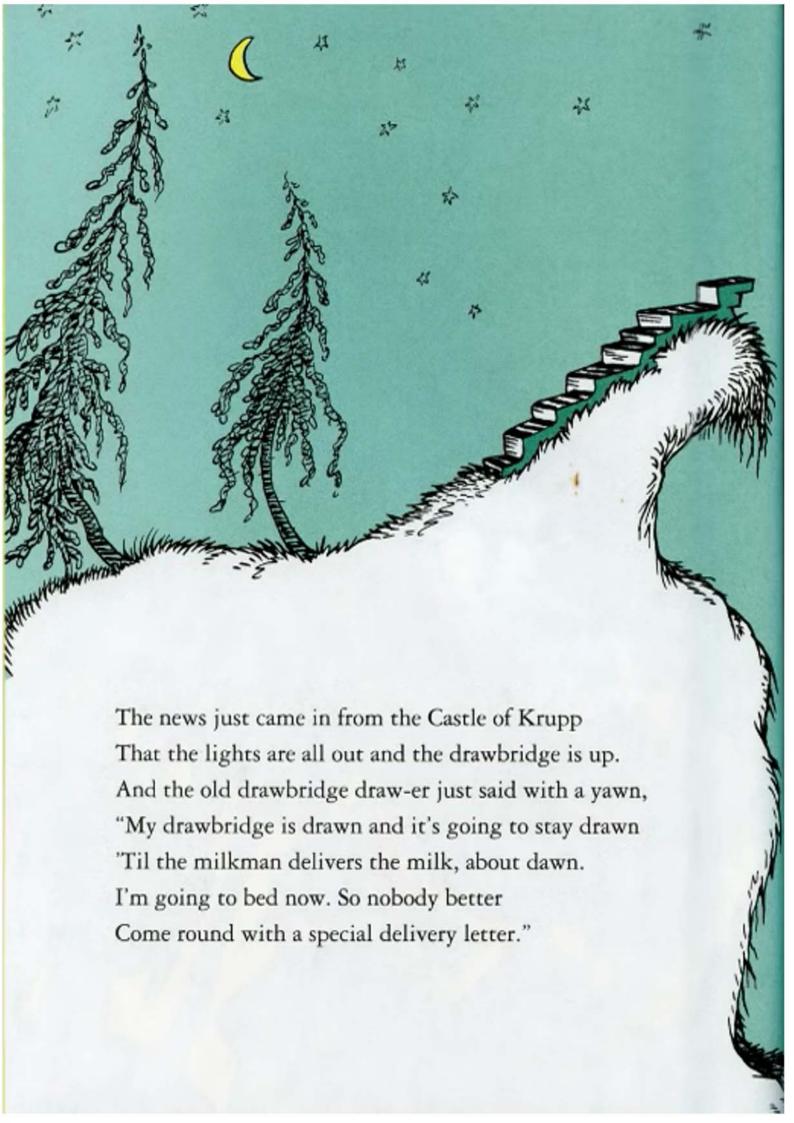
And that's fine.

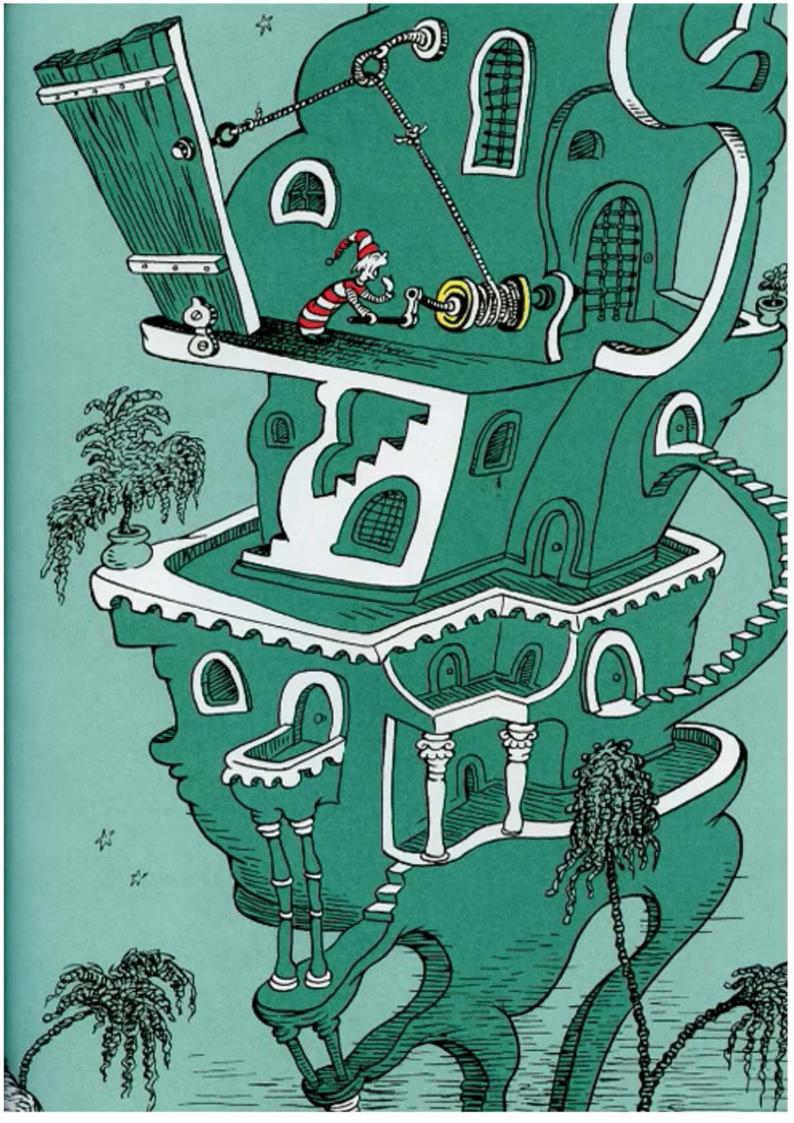


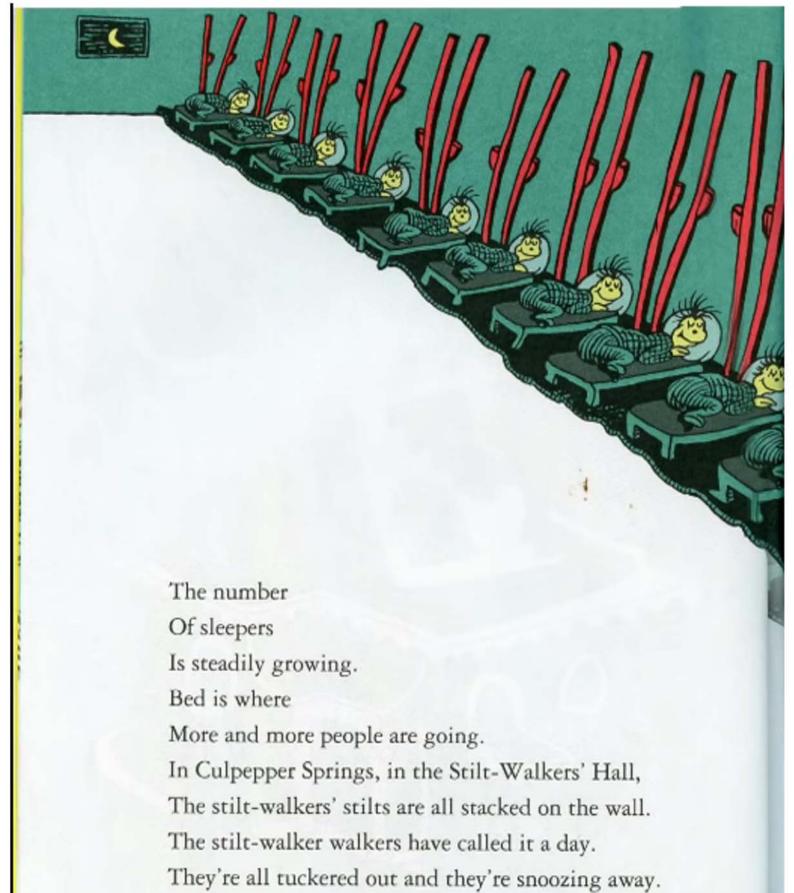






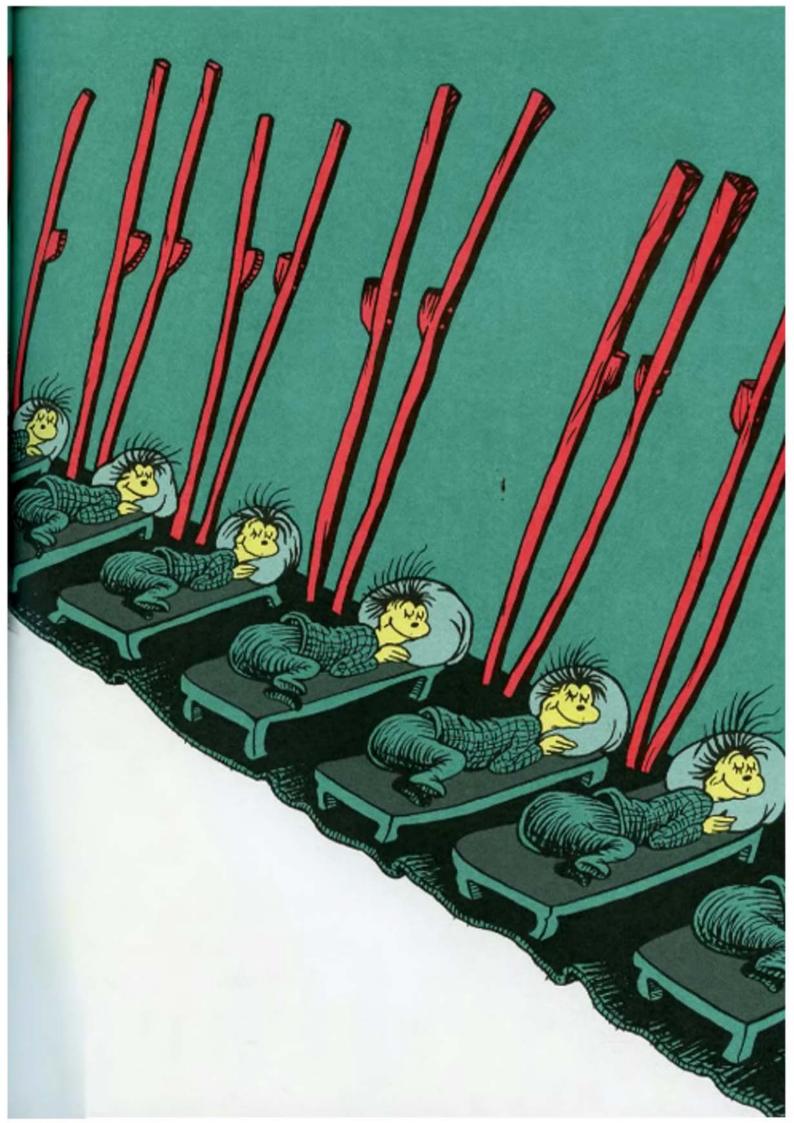


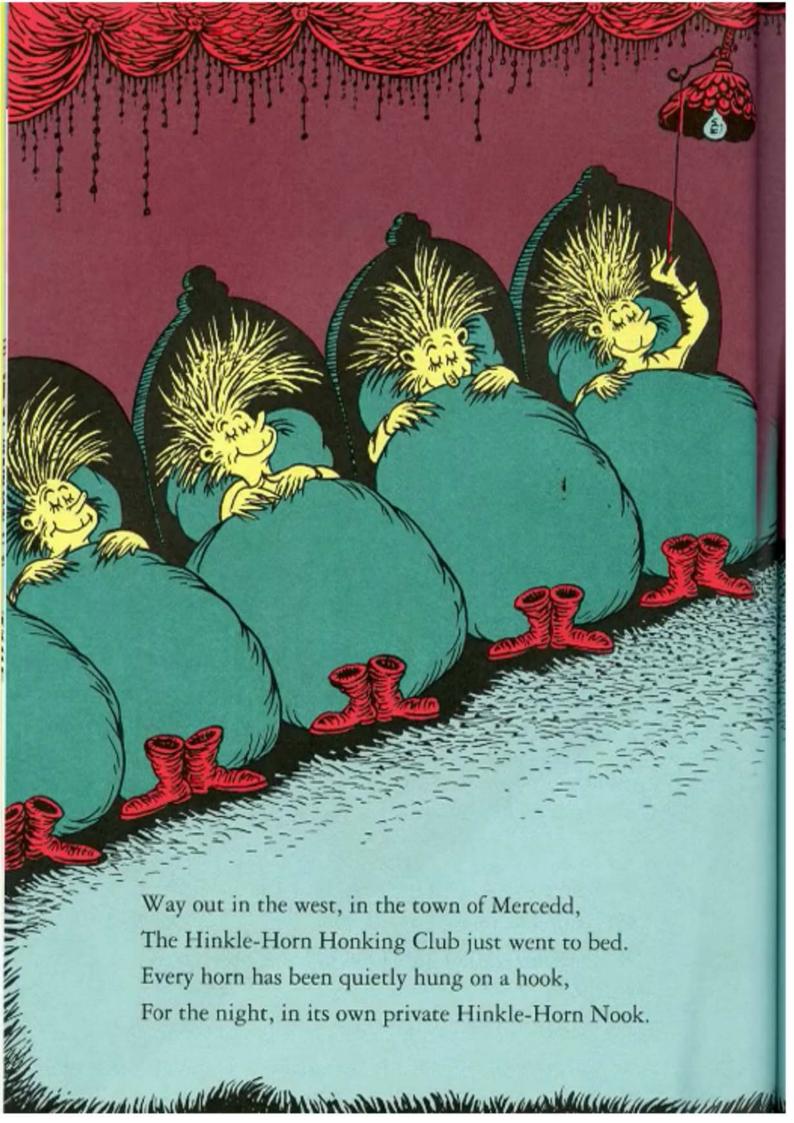


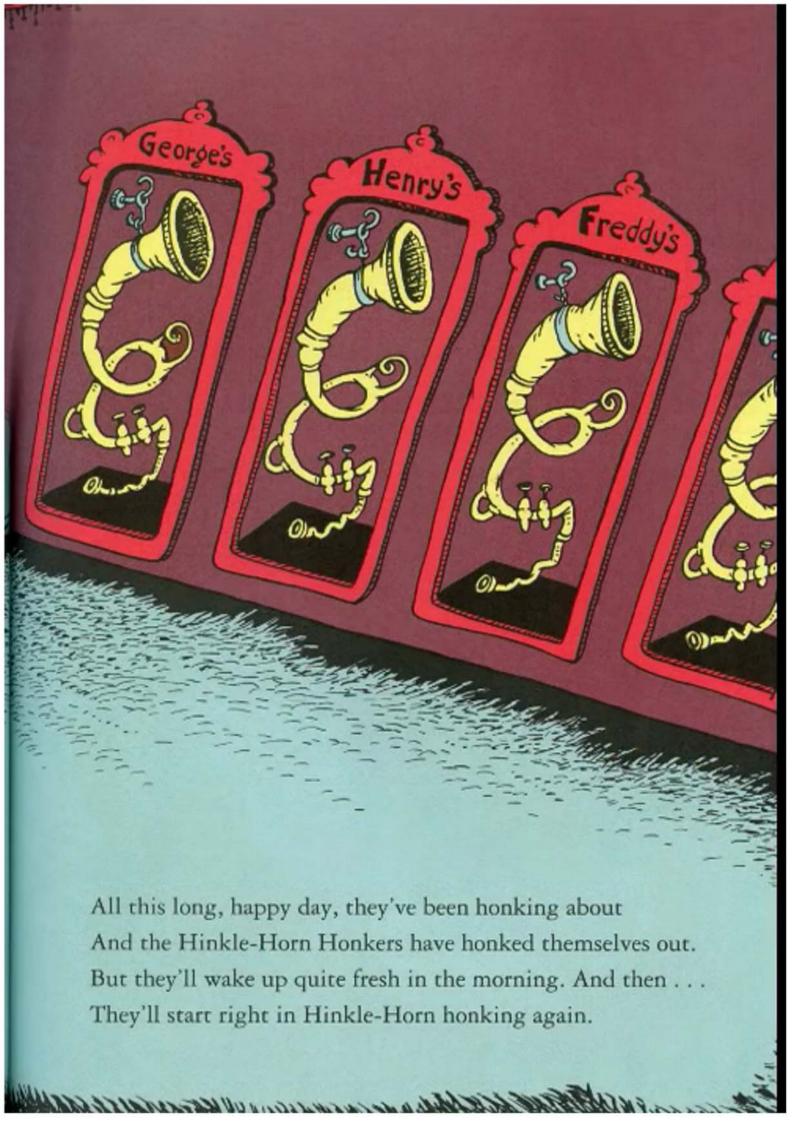


This is very big news. It's important to know.

And that's why I'm bothering telling you so.



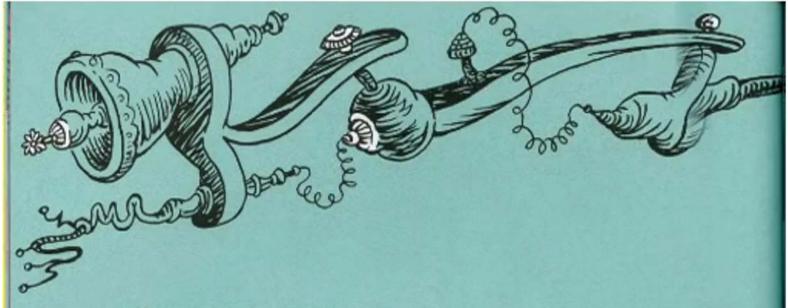






Everywhere, creatures
Are falling asleep.
The Collapsible Frink
Just collapsed in a heap.
And, by adding the Frink
To the others before,
I am able to give you
The Who's-Asleep-Score:
Right now, forty thousand
Four hundred and four
Creatures are happily,
Deeply in slumber.
I think you'll agree
That's a whopping fine number.





Counting up sleepers . . ?

Just how do we do it . . ?

Really quite simple. There's nothing much to it.

We find out how many, we learn the amount

By an Audio-Telly-o-Tally-o Count.

On a mountain, halfway between Reno and Rome,

We have a machine in a plexiglass dome

Which listens and looks into everyone's home.

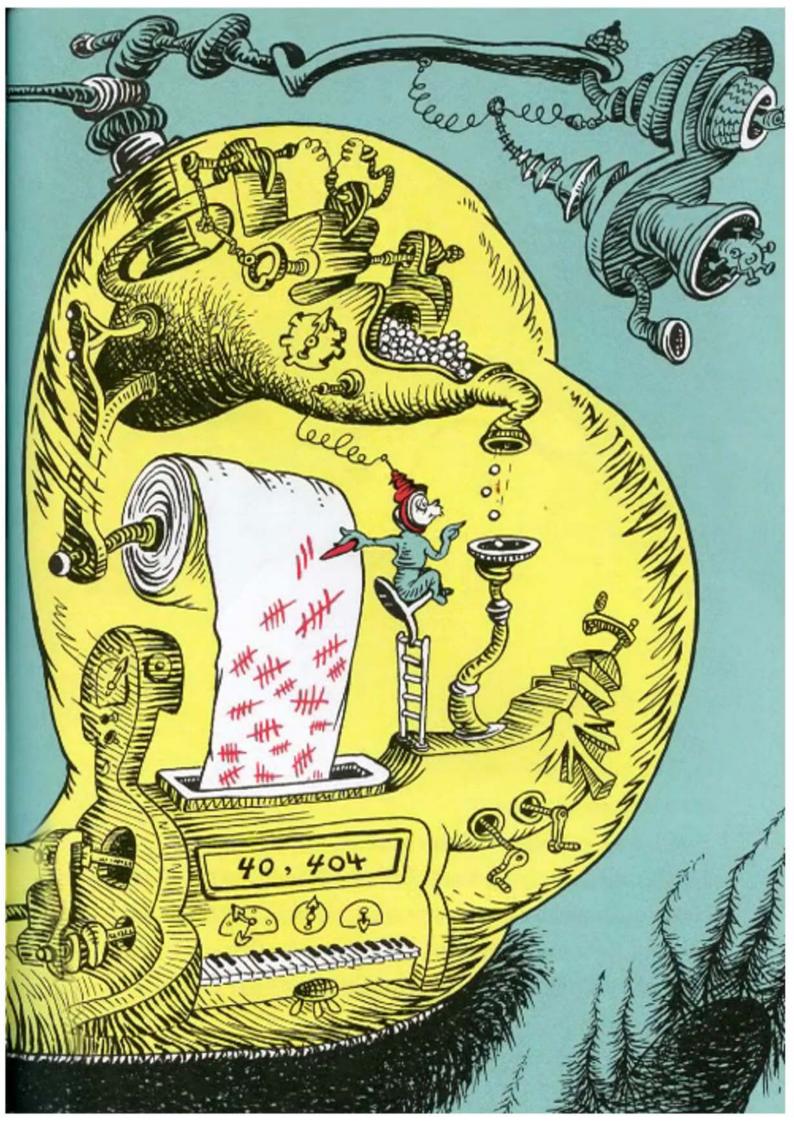
And whenever it sees a new sleeper go flop,

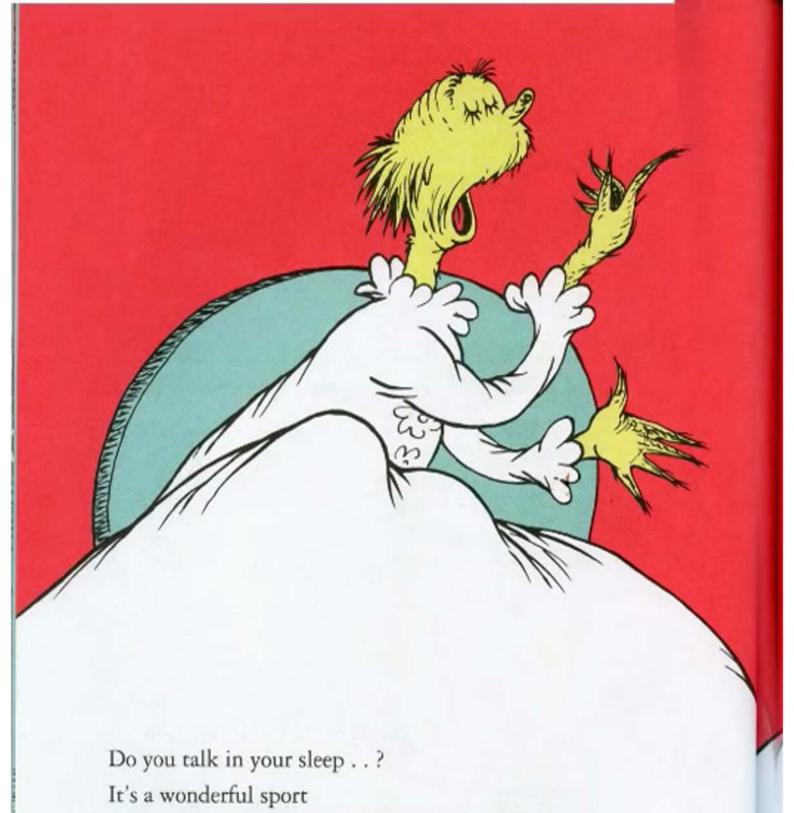
It jiggles and lets a new Biggel-Ball drop.

Our chap counts these balls as they plup in a cup.

And that's how we know who is down and who's up.

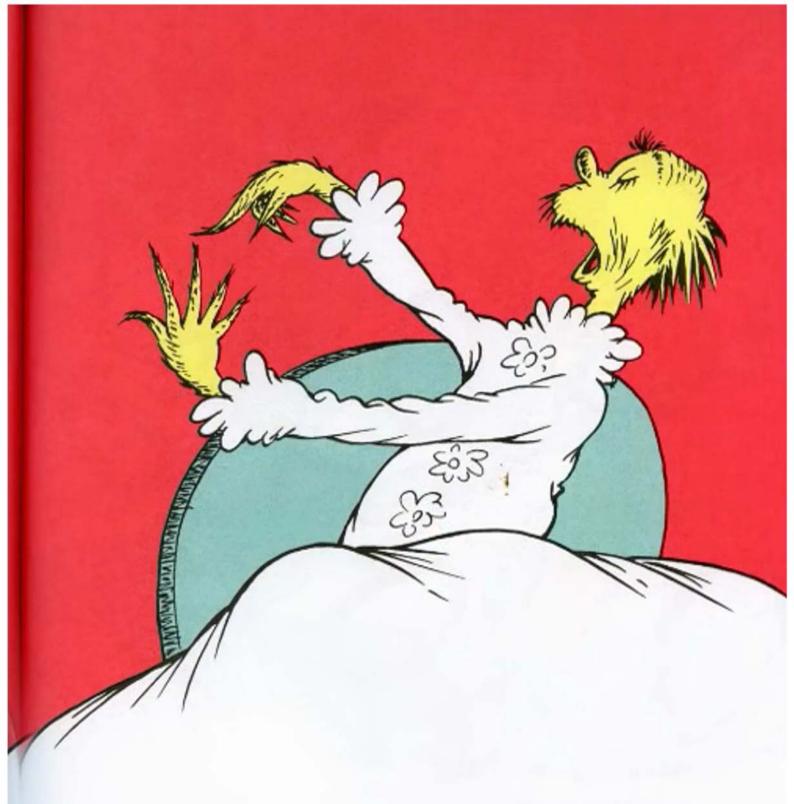






And I have some news of this sport to report.

The World-Champion Sleep-Talkers, Jo and Mo Redd-Zoff, Have just gone to sleep and they're talking their heads off. For fifty-five years, now, each chattering brother Has babbled and gabbled all night to the other.



They've talked about laws and they've talked about gauze. They've talked about paws and they've talked about flaws. They've talked quite a lot about old Santa Claus. And the reason I'm telling you this is because You should take up this sport. It's just fine for the jaws.



Do you walk in your sleep . . ?

I just had a report

Of some interesting news of this popular sport.

Near Finnigan Fen, there's a sleepwalking group

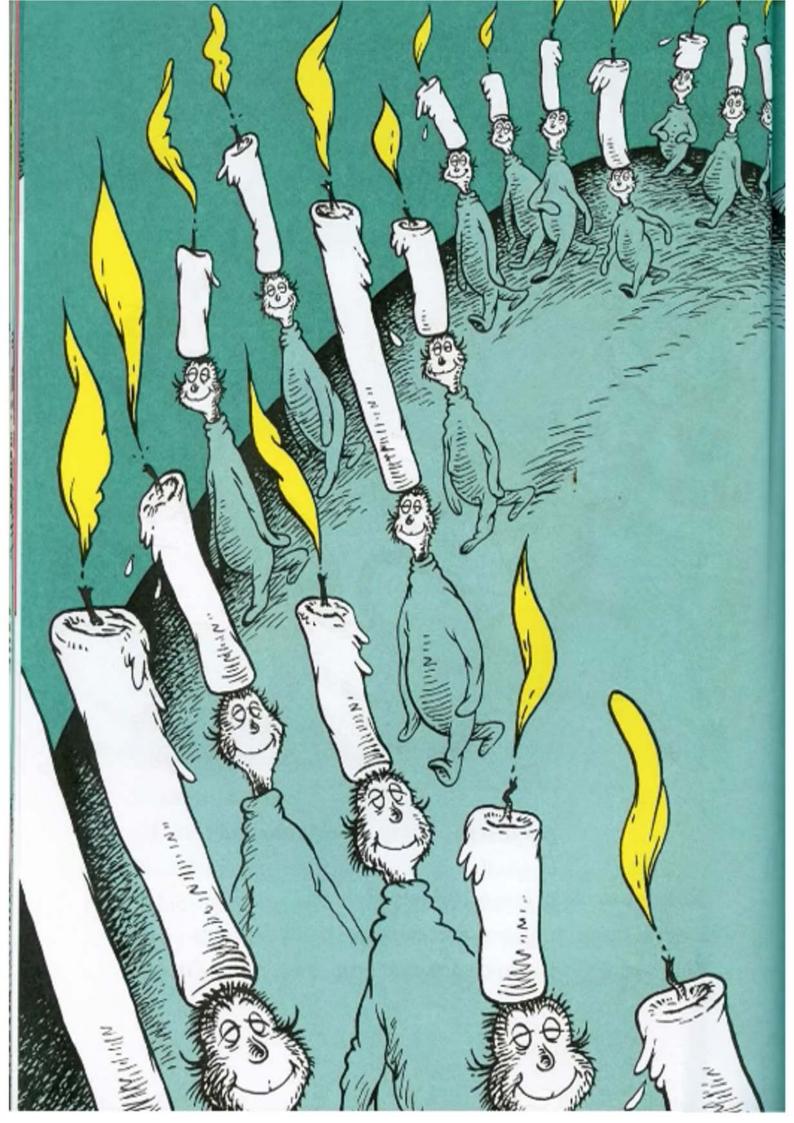
Which not only walks, but it walks a-la-hoop!

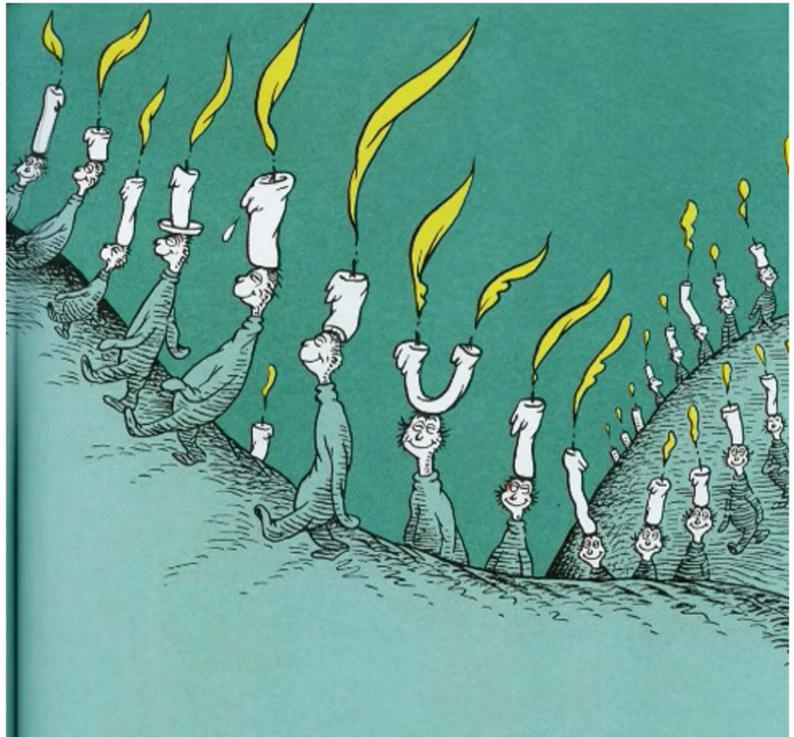
Every night they go miles. Why, they walk to such length

They have to keep eating to keep up their strength.

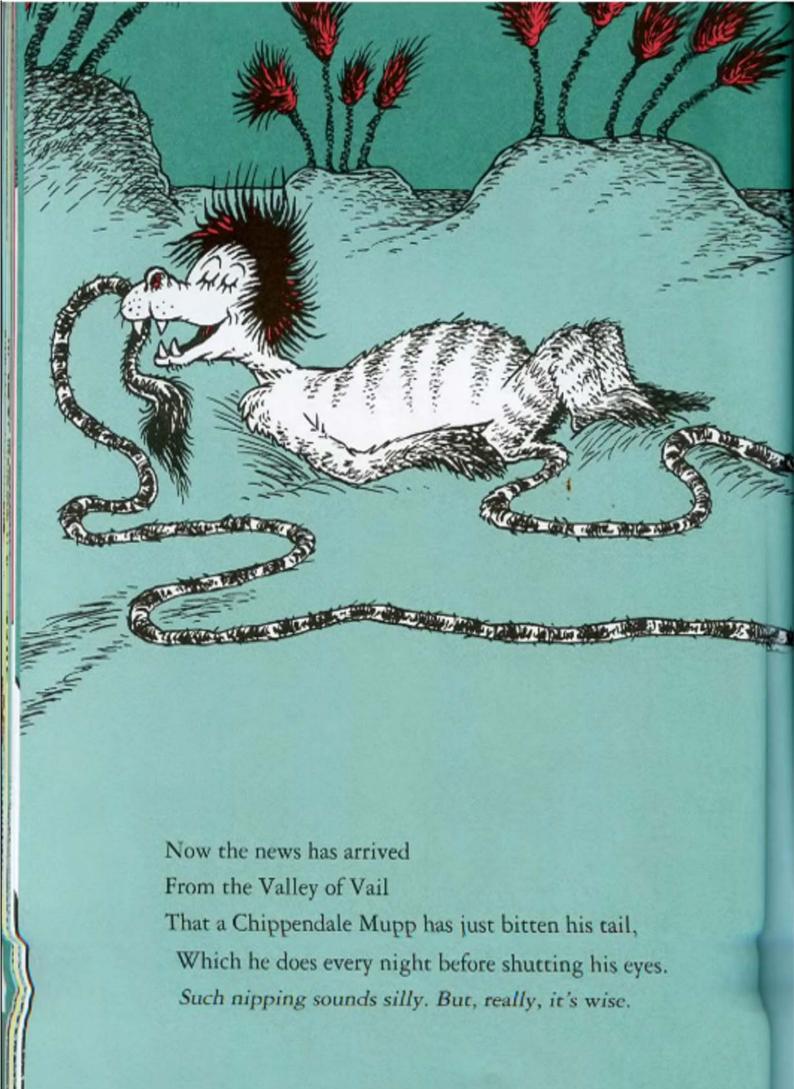


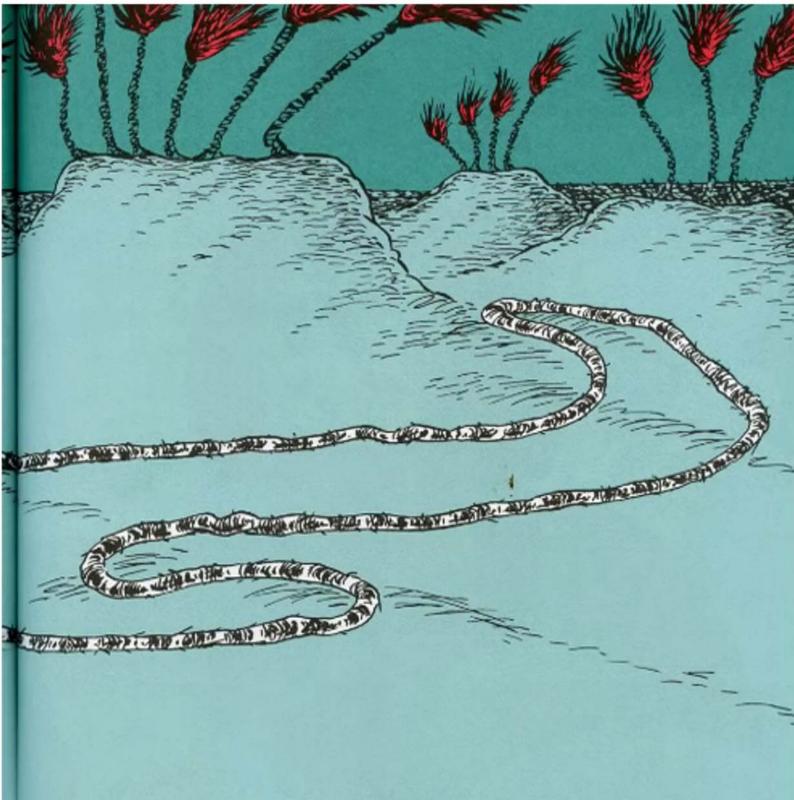
So, every so often, one puts down his hoop,
Stops hooping and does some quick snooping for soup.
That's why they are known as the Hoop-Soup-Snoop Group.





Sleepwalking, too, are the Curious Crandalls
Who sleepwalk on hills with assorted-sized candles.
The Crandalls walk nightly in slumbering peace
In spite of slight burns from the hot dripping grease.
The Crandalls wear candles because they walk far
And, if they wake up,
Want to see where they are.





He has no alarm clock. So this is the way

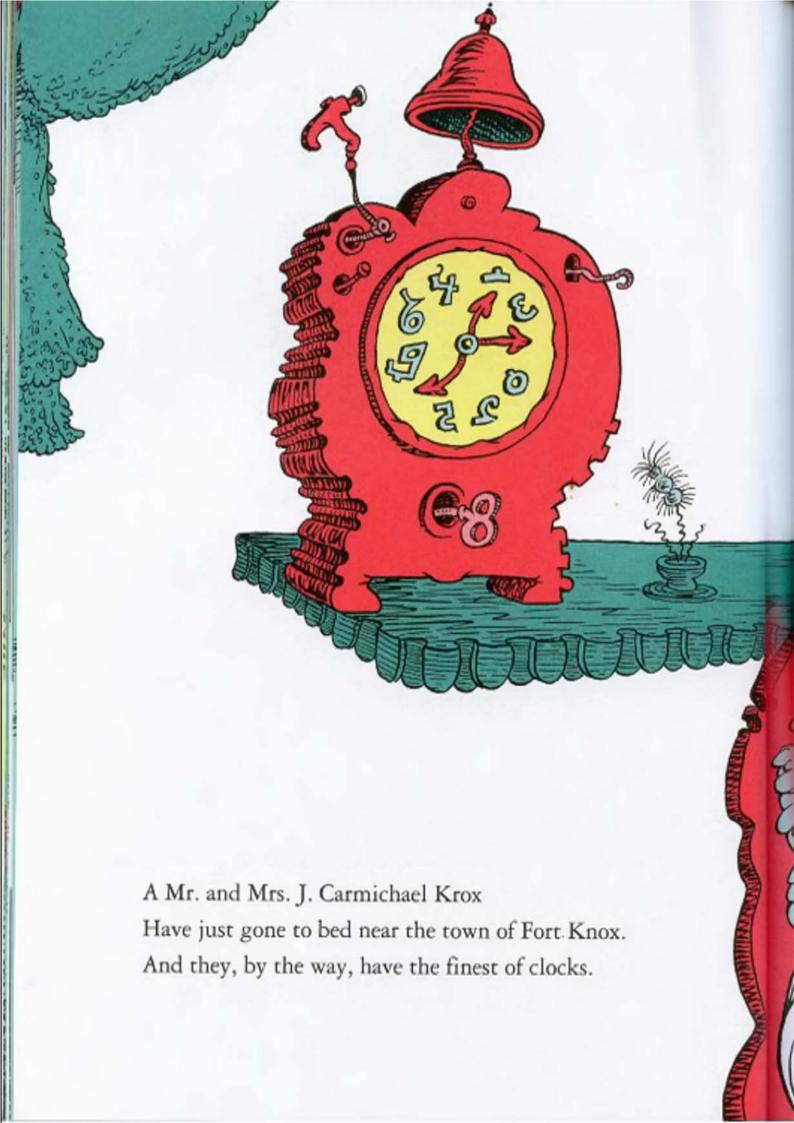
He makes sure that he'll wake at the right time of day.

His tail is so long, he won't feel any pain

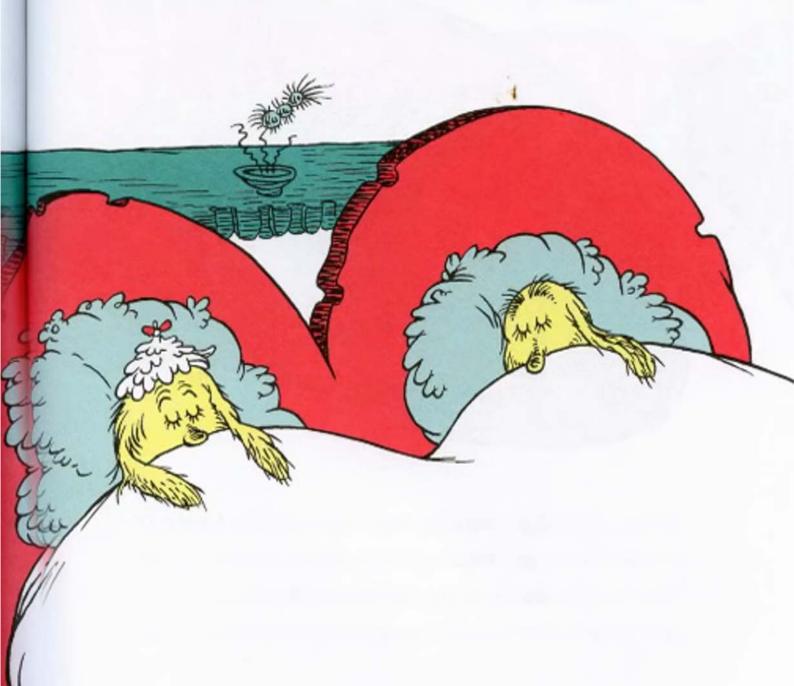
'Til the nip makes the trip and gets up to his brain.

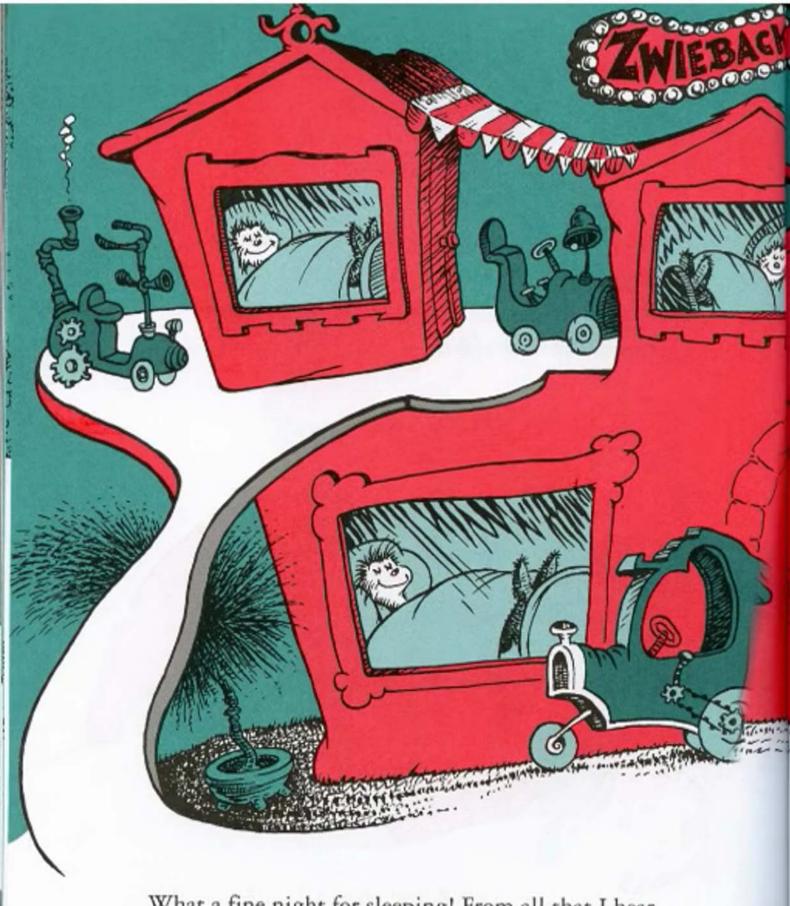
In exactly eight hours, the Chippendale Mupp

Will, at last, feel the bite and yell "Ouch!" and wake up.



I'm not at all sure that I quite quite understand
Just how the thing works, with that one extra hand.
But I do know this clock does one very slick trick.
It doesn't tick tock. How it goes, is tock tick.
So, with ticks in its tocker, and tocks in its ticker
It saves lots of time and the sleepers sleep quicker.

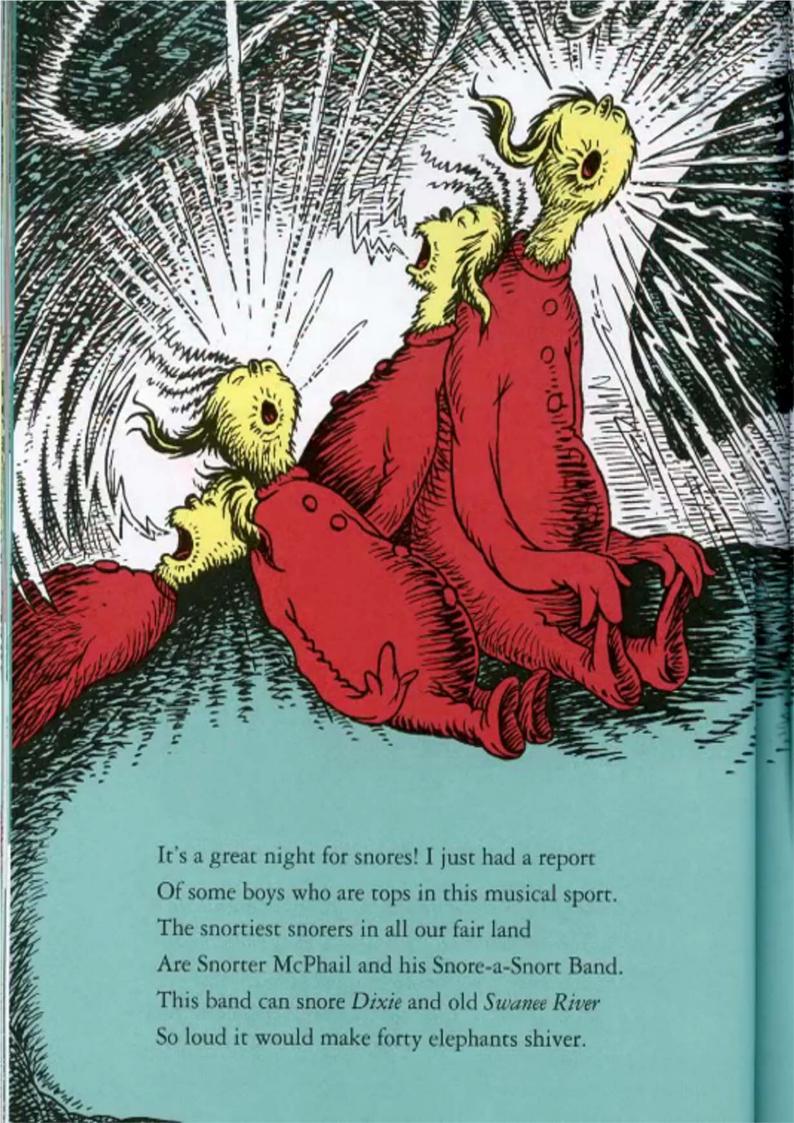


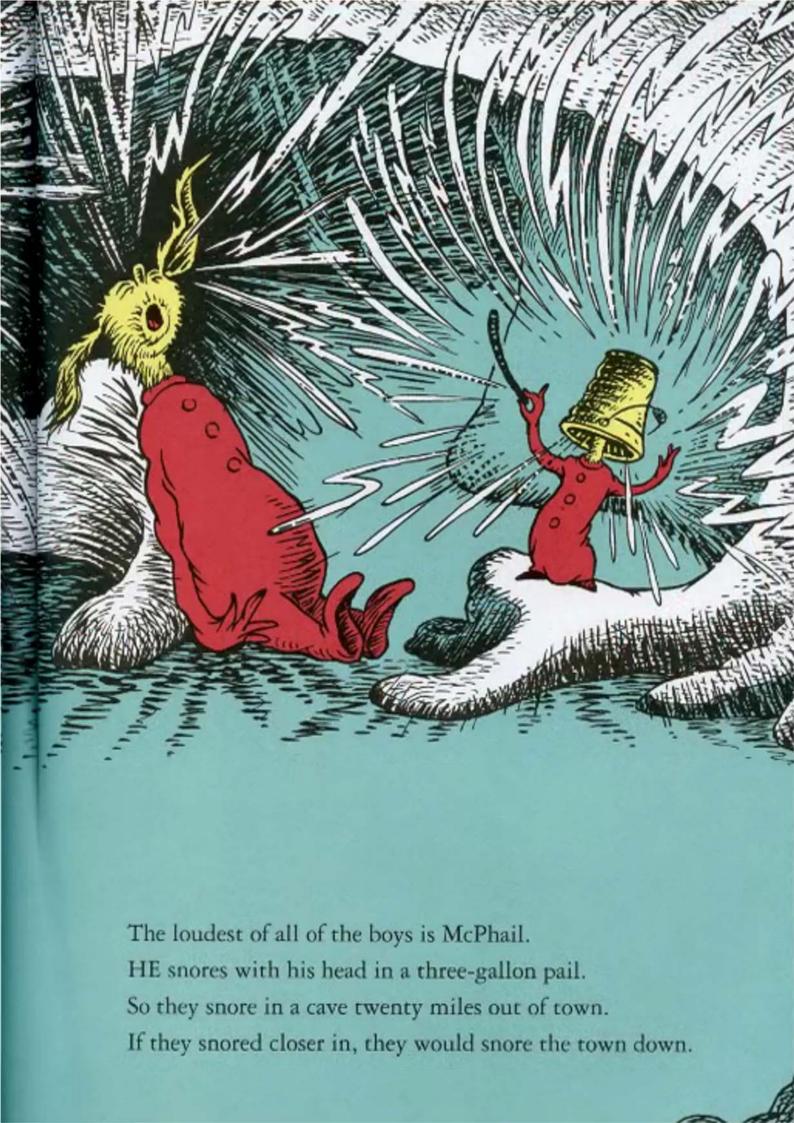


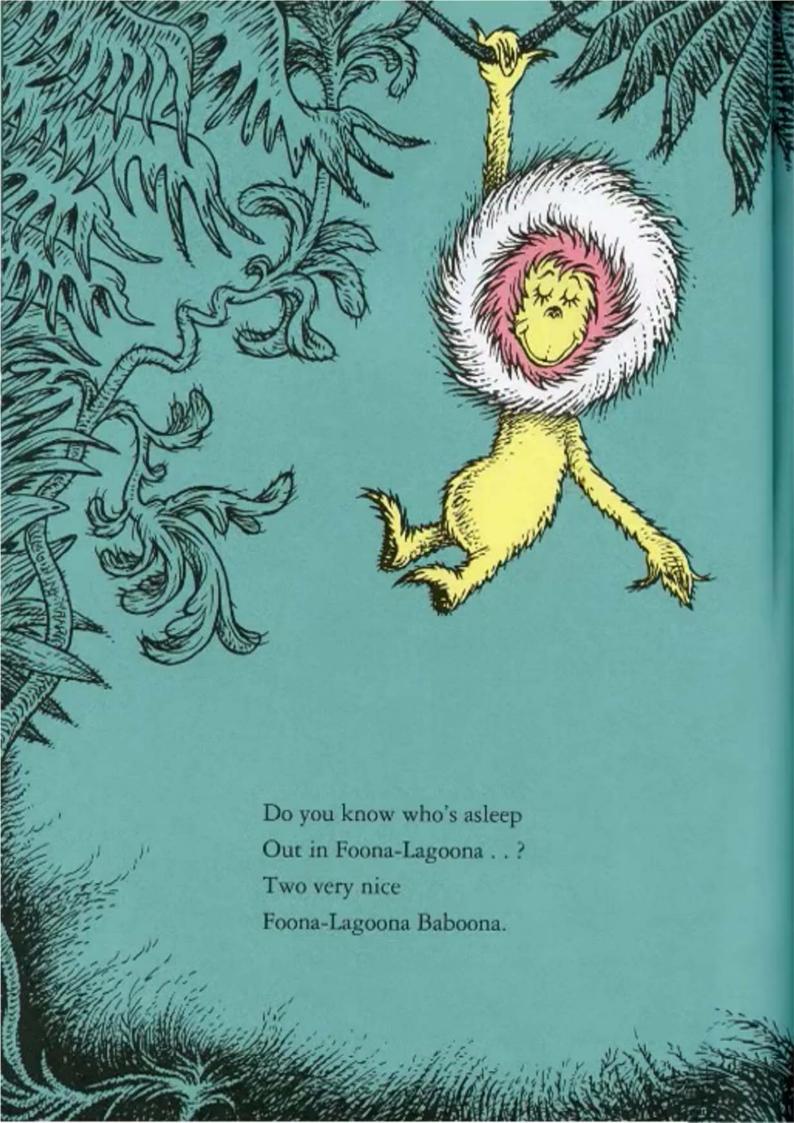
What a fine night for sleeping! From all that I hear, It's the best night for sleeping in many a year. They're even asleep in the Zwieback Motel! And people don't usually sleep there too well.

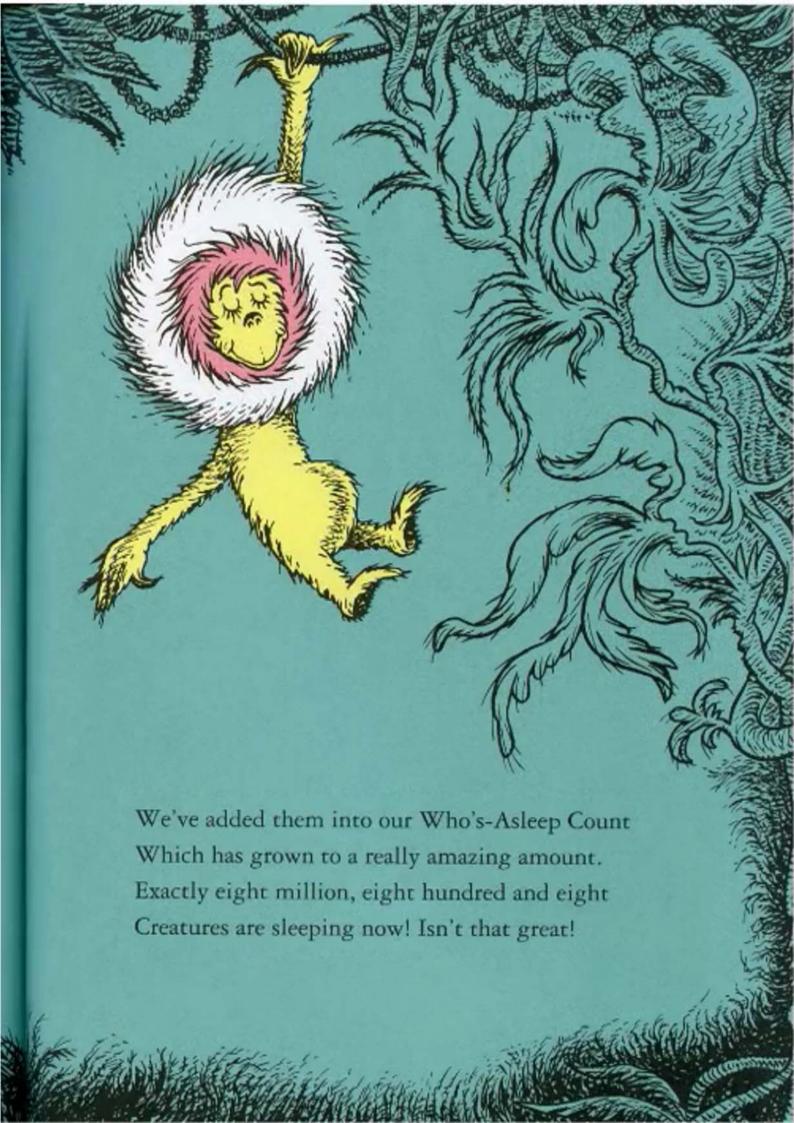


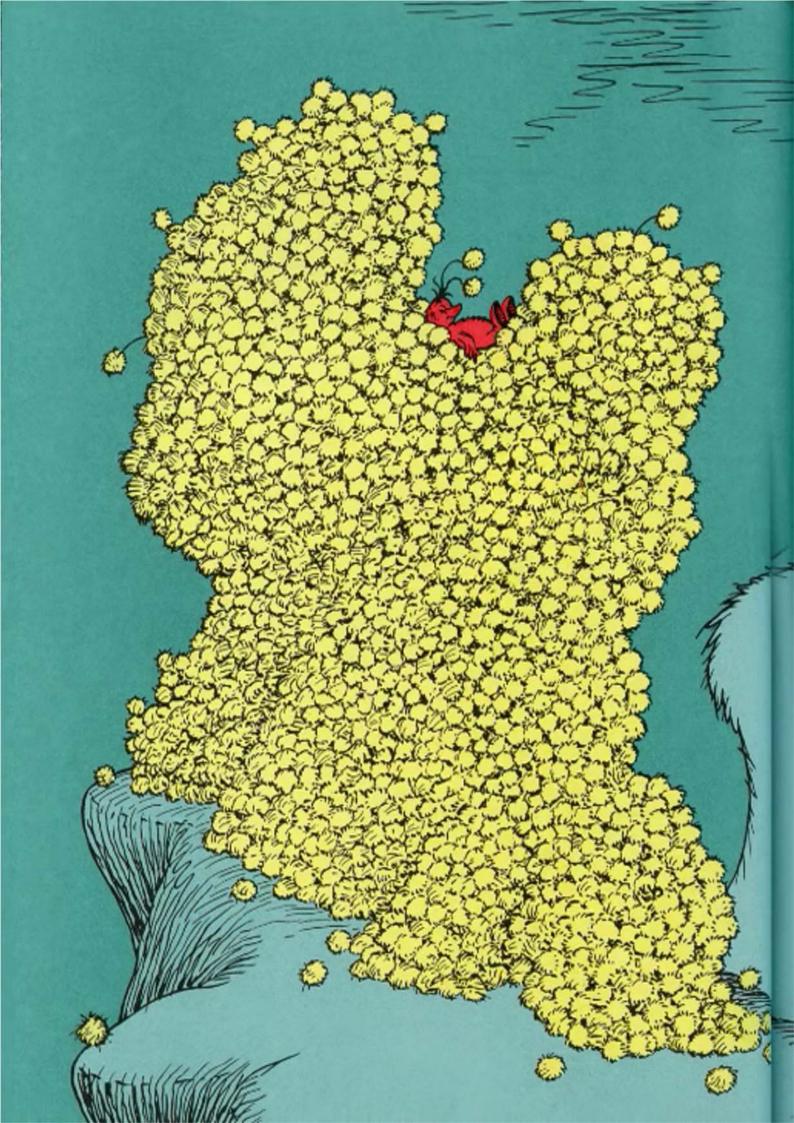
The beds are like rocks and, as everyone knows,
The sheets are too short. They won't cover your toes.
SO, if people are actually sleeping in THERE...
It's a great night for sleeping! It must be the air.

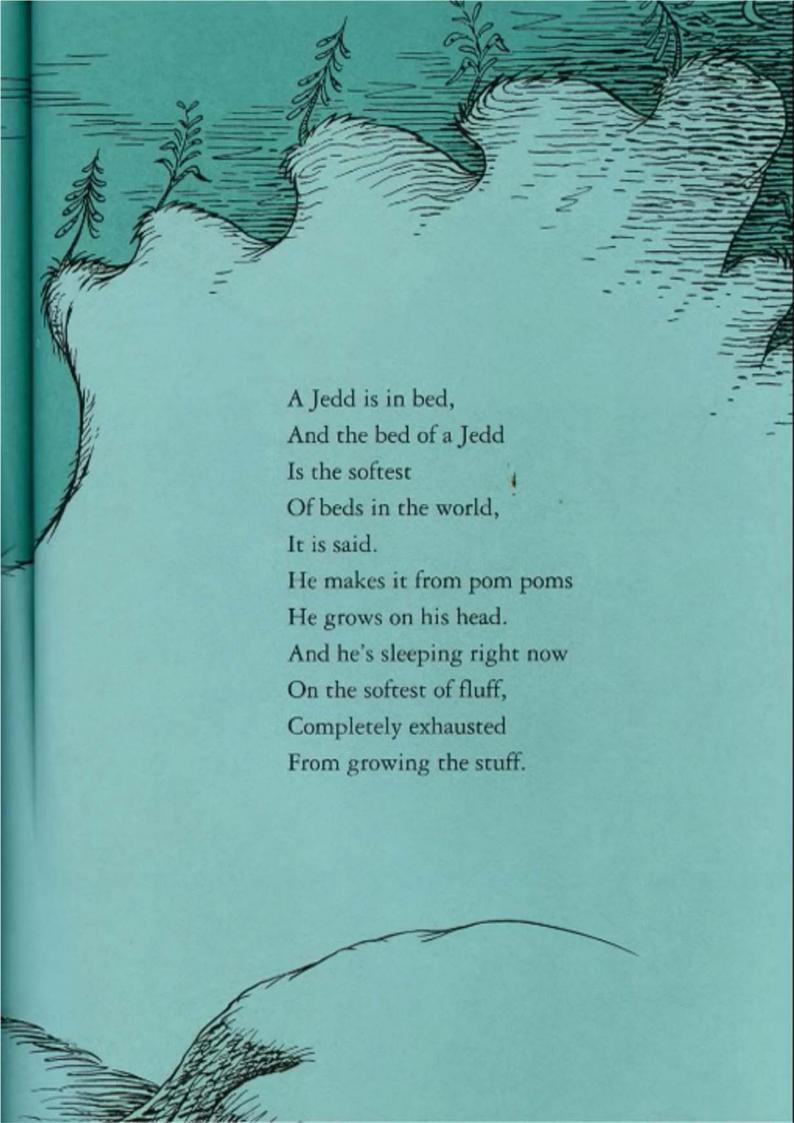


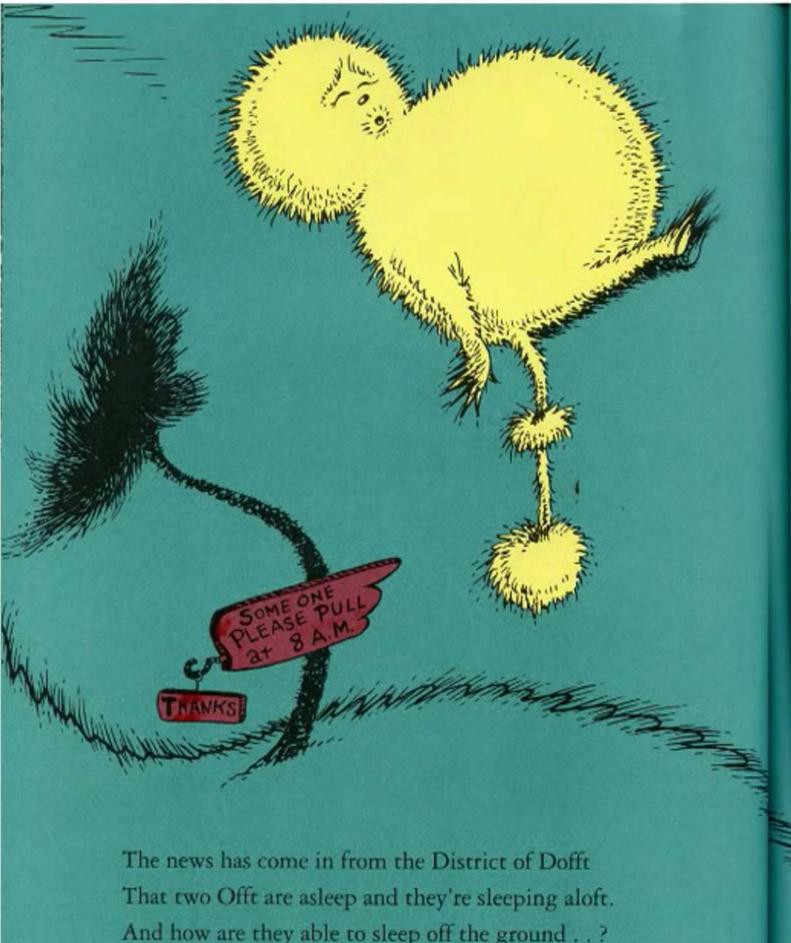




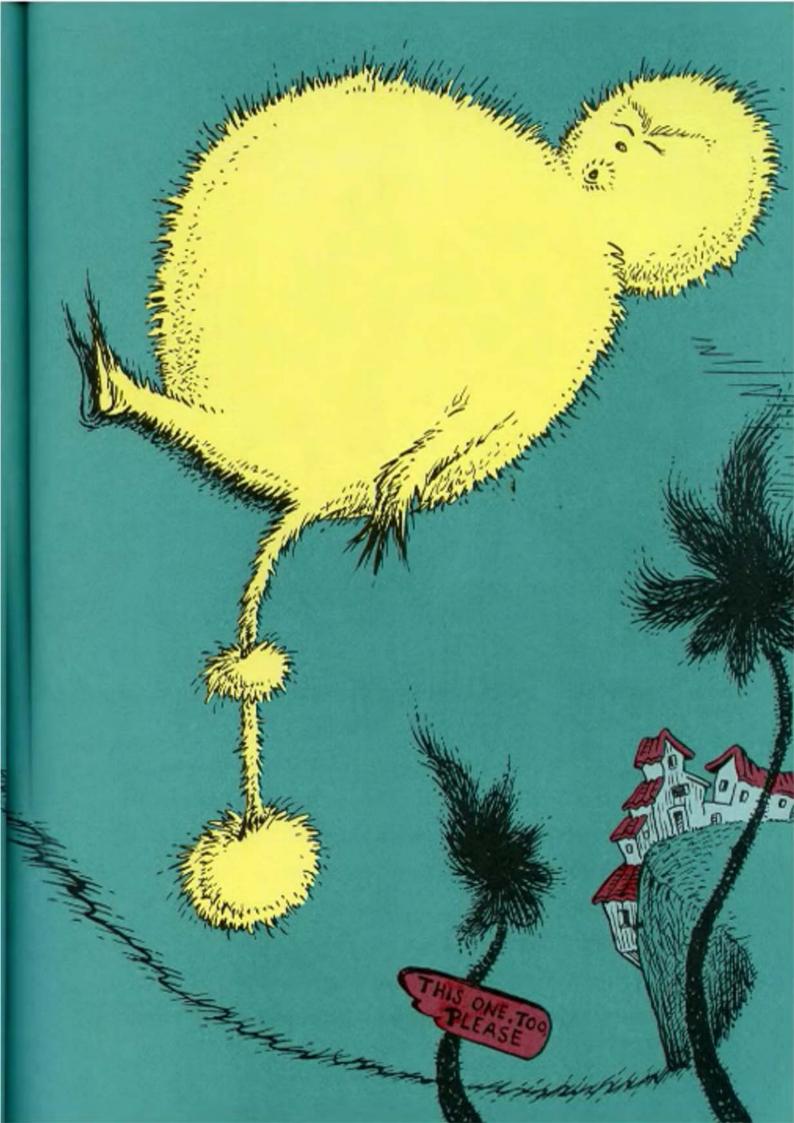


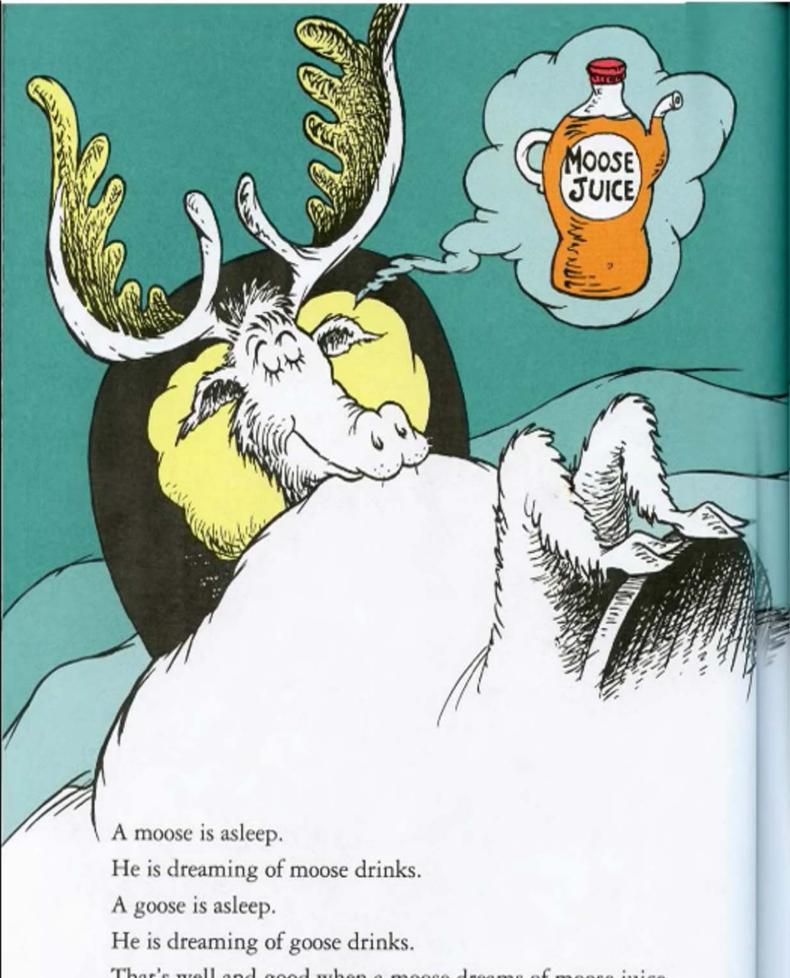






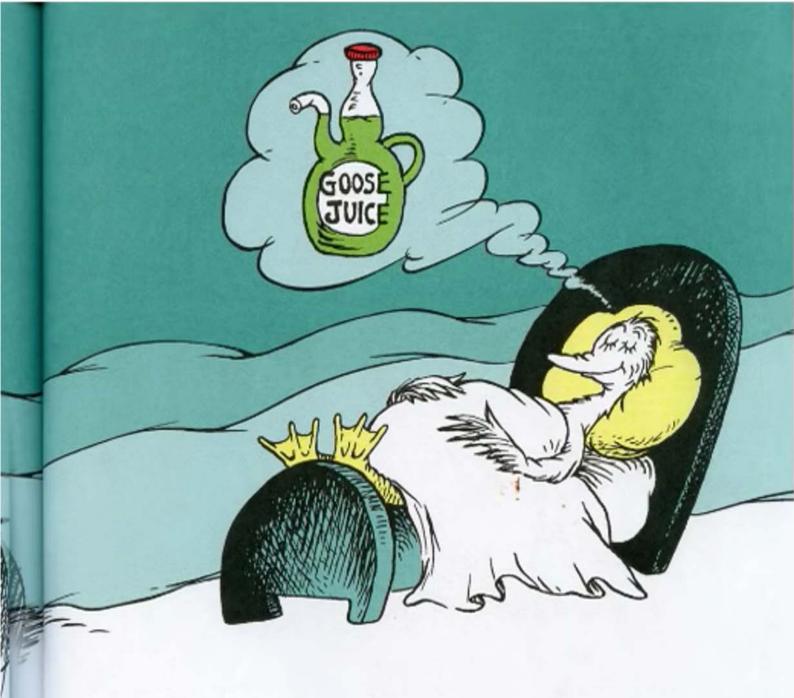
And how are they able to sleep off the ground . . ? I'll tell you. I weighed one last week and I found That an Offt is SO light he weighs minus one pound!





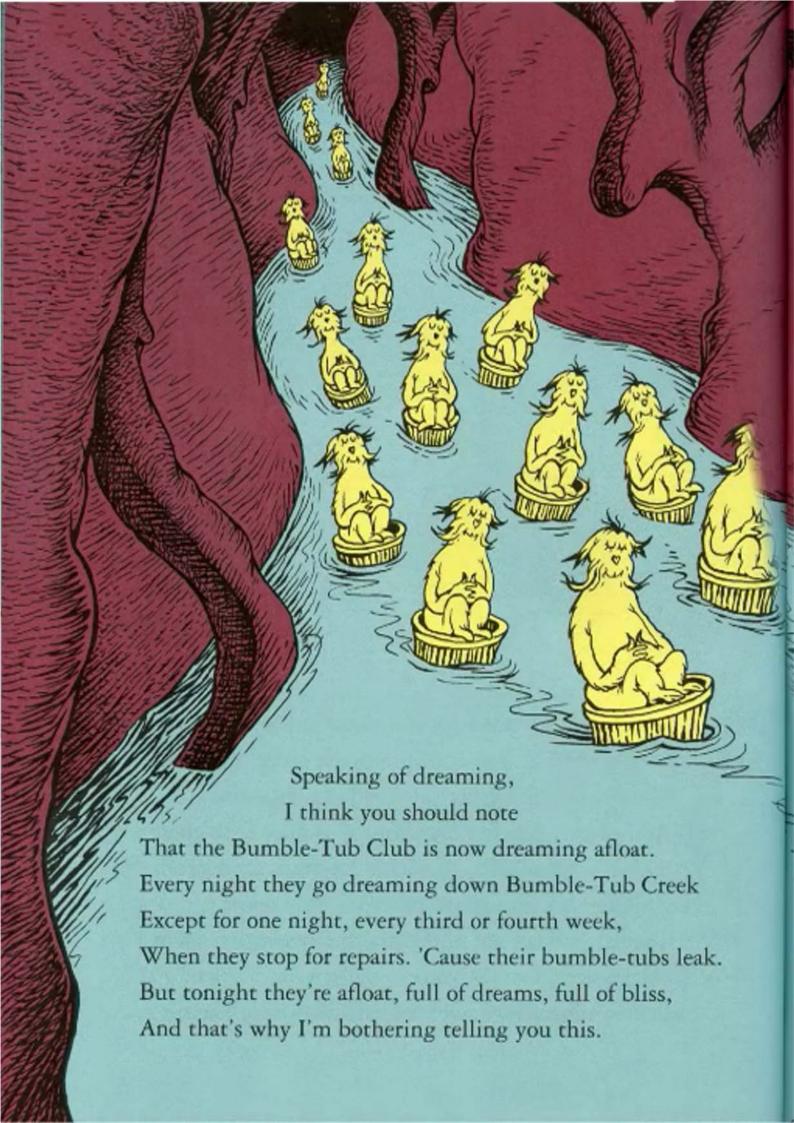
That's well and good when a moose dreams of moose juice.

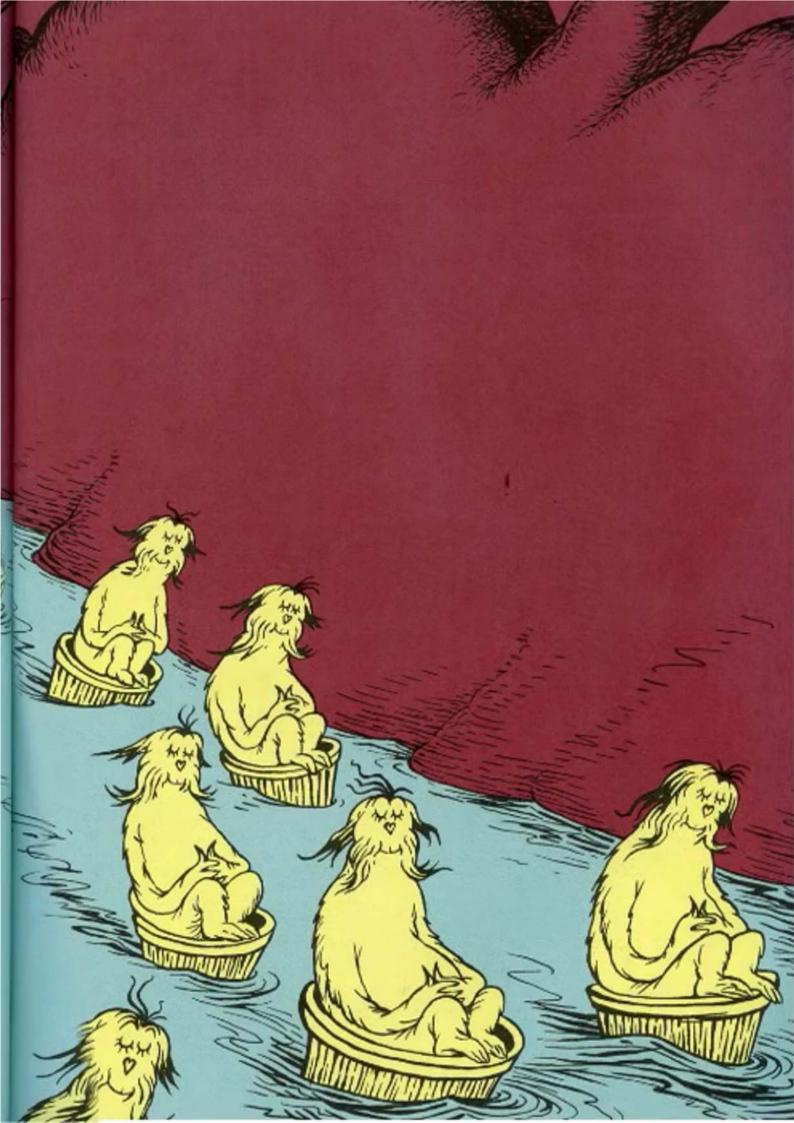
And nothing goes wrong when a goose dreams of goose juice.

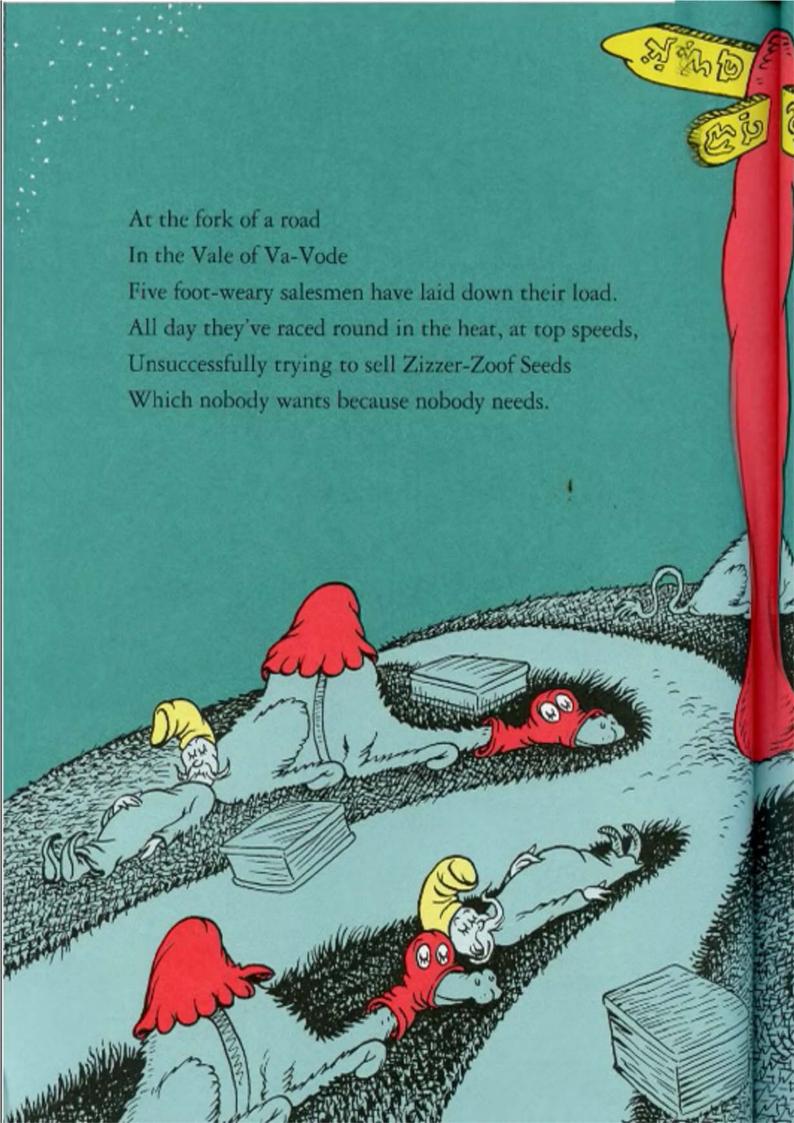


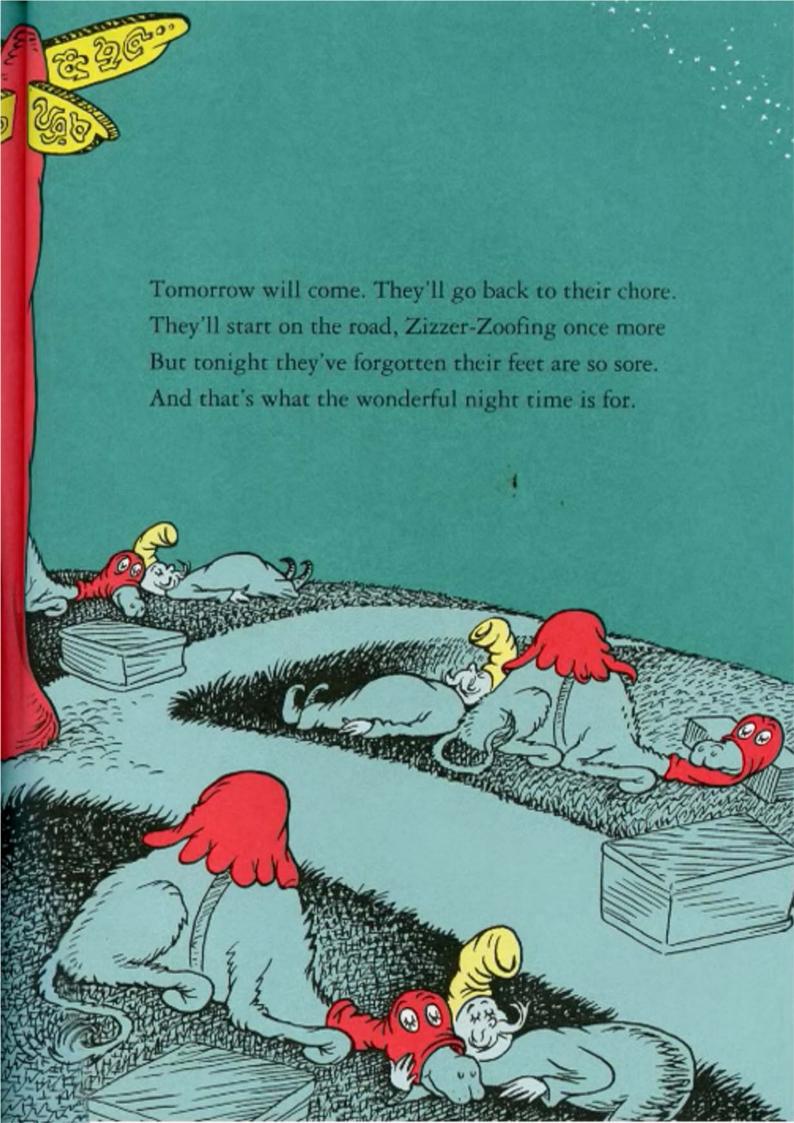
But it isn't too good when a moose and a goose
Start dreaming they're drinking the other one's juice.
Moose juice, not goose juice, is juice for a moose
And goose juice, not moose juice, is juice for a goose.
So, when goose gets a mouthful of juices of moose's
And moose gets a mouthful of juices of goose's,
They always fall out of their beds screaming screams.
SO . . .

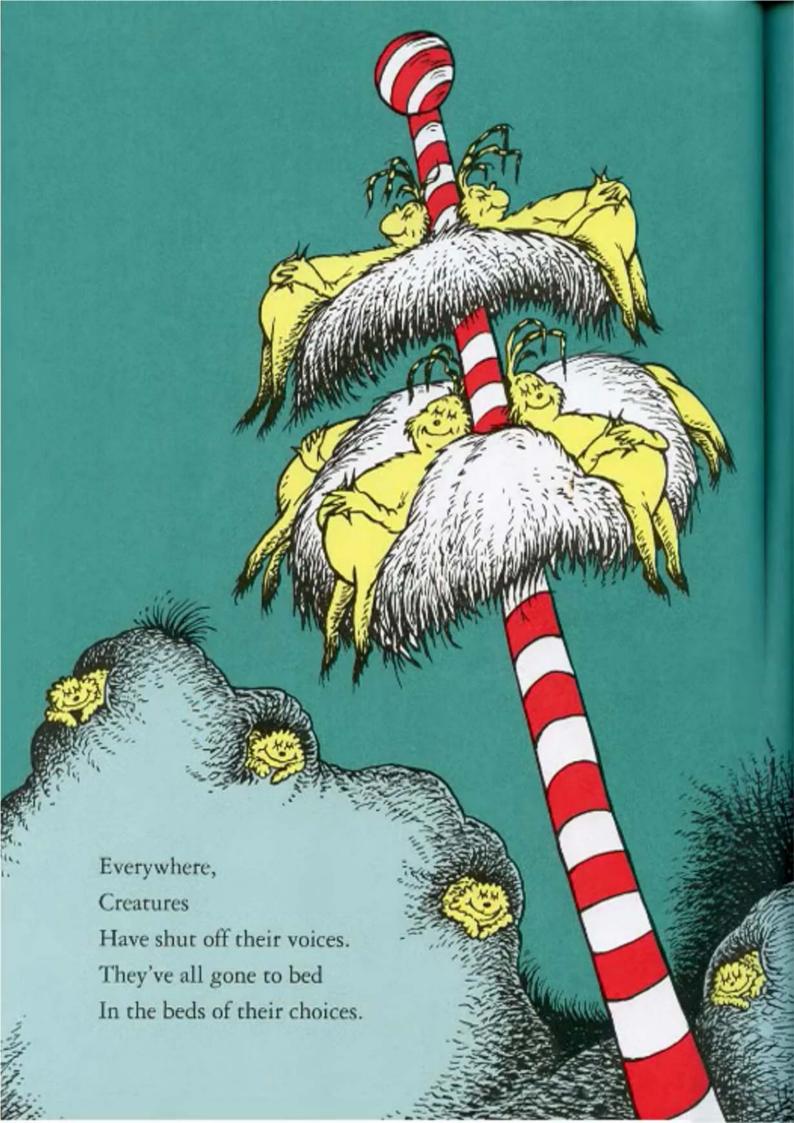
I'm warning you, now! Never drink in your dreams.











They're sleeping in bushes. They're sleeping in crannies. Some on their stomachs, and some on their fannies. They're peacefully sleeping in comfortable holes. Some, even, on soft-tufted barber shop poles. The number of sleepers is now past the millions! The number of sleepers is now in the billions!

