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Opening extract from  
**The First Hippo on the Moon**

Written by  
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Illustrated by  
**Tony Ross**

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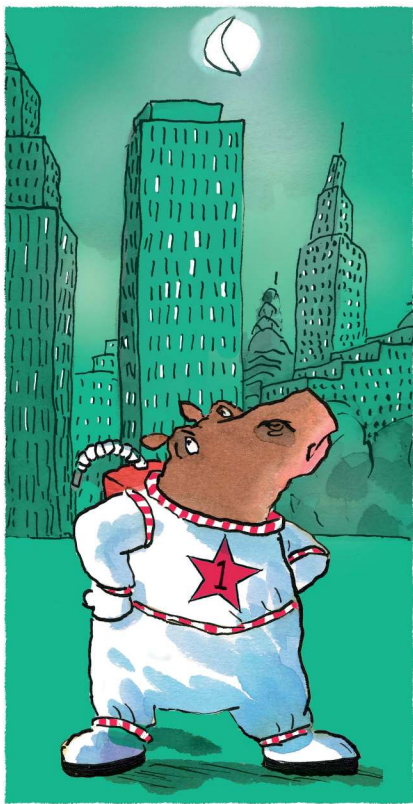
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This is the tale of two hippos. Two hippos with one dream.



To be the very **First Hippo** on the Moon.

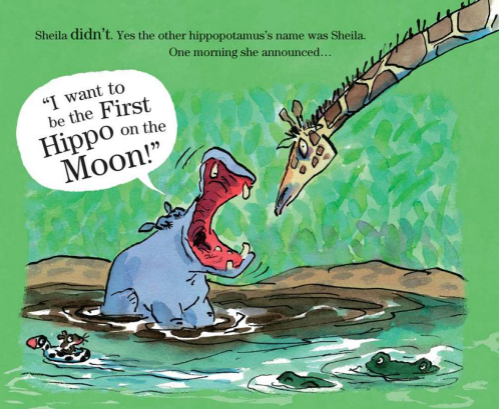


One enormously rich hippo – Hercules Waldorf-Franklin III – paid for a gigantic Hippo Space Centre to be built to blast him there.



Sheila didn't. Yes the other hippopotamus's name was Sheila.  
One morning she announced...

"I want to  
be the **First  
Hippo** on the  
**Moon!**"



"But, Sheila..." said her giraffe friend. "You don't have a space rocket."

"Then we'll **make** one, Keith," Sheila replied.

Yes the giraffe's name was Keith.

"Us hippos like to **Dream Big!**" \*

\* \* \* \* \*

Sheila's friends got to work

building her a  
**rocket.**



"Quick  
as you  
can!"

"Well you  
could help  
me,  
dear!"

Tina the elephant brought back the

**biggest tree  
trunk**

she could  
find.



\\

Joyce the gorilla  
fetched the  
longest  
vine.



And Derek the ostrich was given  
the task of gathering the pongiest  
mountain of rhinoceros  
dung.



After many days and nights the  
animals finally unveiled  
their **space rocket...**