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opening extract from

A Squash and a Squeeze

written by

Julia Donaldson

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In memory of our first editor, Elke Lacey,
and for her son, Fred



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A Squash and a Squeeze



Story by
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Axel Scheffler

MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS



A little old lady lived all by herself
With a table and chairs and a jug on the shelf.

A wise old man heard her grumble and grouse,
“There’s not enough room in my house.
Wise old man, won’t you help me, please?
My house is a squash and a squeeze.”





"Take in your hen," said the wise old man.



"Take in my hen? What a curious plan."



Well, the hen laid an egg on the fireside rug,



And flapped round the room knocking over the jug.