

For Quincy – L.C.

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Astrid Lindgren

*Illustrated by
Lauren Child*

Pippi
Longstocking

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PIPPI LONGSTOCKING

to do, and whether anything interesting was going to happen that day or whether it was going to be one of those boring days when there was nothing to do—just then the gate of Villa Villekulla opened and a little girl walked out. She was the strangest little girl Tommy and Annika had ever seen. It was Pippi Longstocking, going for her morning stroll. This is what she looked like:

Her hair was the same colour as a carrot and was in two tight plaits that stuck straight out. Her nose looked exactly like a small potato and was smothered in freckles. Under her nose was an extraordinarily wide mouth full of healthy white teeth. Her dress was quite peculiar. Pippi had sewn it herself. It was supposed to be blue, but the blue material had run out, so Pippi had to put red patches here and there. On her long, thin legs she wore a pair of long stockings, one brown and the other black, and she was also wearing a pair of black shoes that were precisely twice as long as her feet. Pippi's dad had bought them for her in South America, big enough for her to grow into, and Pippi wouldn't wear anything else.







Tommy and Annika thought coffee had never tasted so good. They weren't usually allowed to drink coffee, only when they were visiting. And now they were visiting. Annika spilled some coffee on her knee. First, it was warm and wet and then it was cold and wet, but that didn't matter, Annika said.

When they had finished Pippi sent the cups flying onto the grass below.

'I want to see how strong they make porcelain these days,' she said. One cup and all three plates landed safely, remarkably enough. And the coffee pot only lost its spout.

All at once, Pippi thought she would climb higher up the tree.

'Well I never!' she suddenly shouted. *'The tree is hollow!'*



Pippi ran out onto the tightrope. Miss Elvira's tricks were nothing compared to Pippi's.

