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Opening extract from
**Thomas the Tank
Engine 65th Anniversary
Edition**

Written by
W. Awdry

Published by
Egmont Books Ltd

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EGMONT

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First published in Great Britain 1946
This edition first published 2002
by Egmont Books Limited
239 Kensington High Street, London W8 6SA

Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends

A BRISTOL ALLCROFT COMPANY PRODUCTION

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev W Awdry

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3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4
ISBN 1 4052 0332 3

DEAR CHRISTOPHER,

Here is your friend Thomas, the Tank Engine.
He wanted to come out of his station-yard
and see the world. These stories tell you how
he did it.

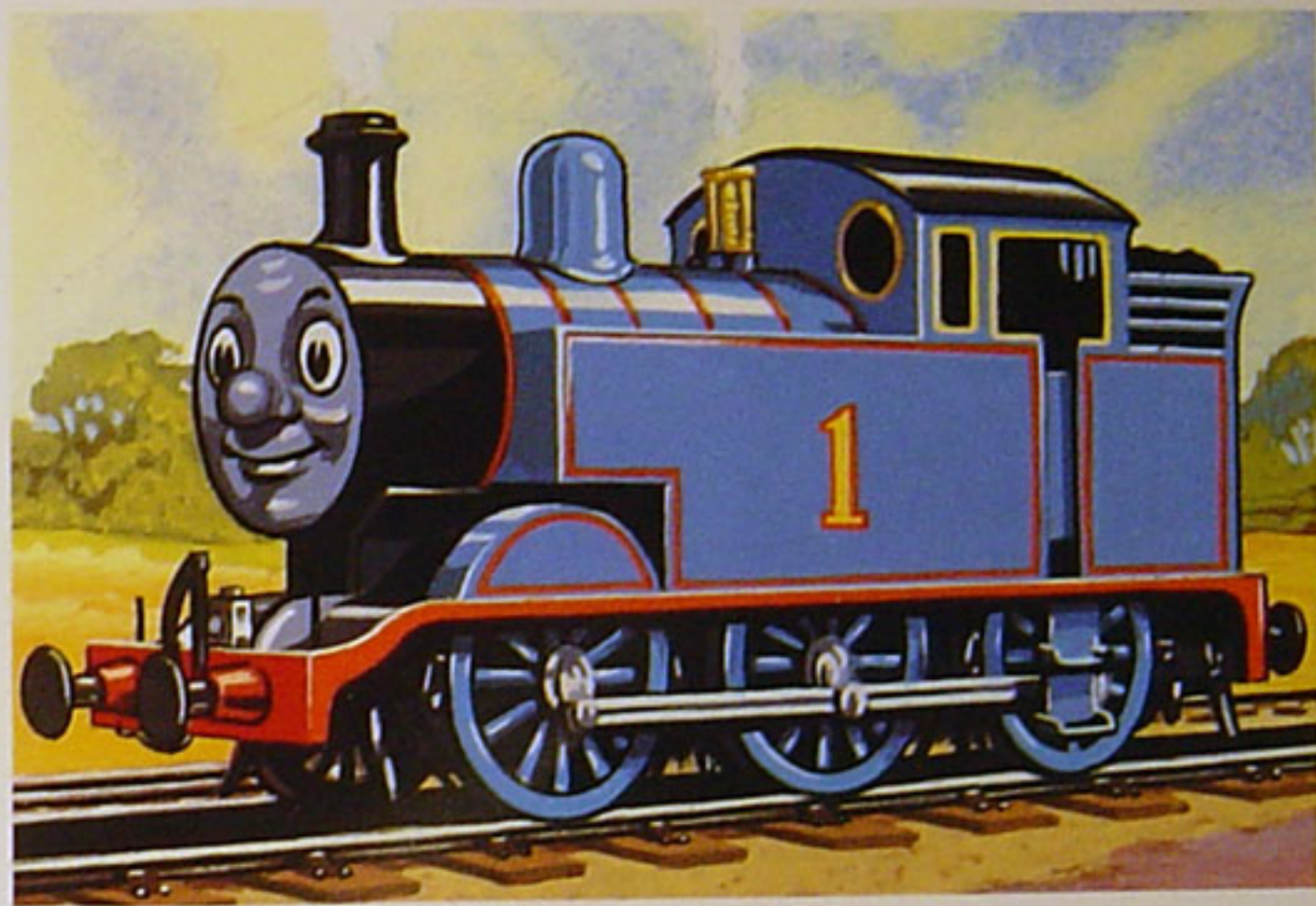
I hope you will like them because you
helped me to make them.

YOUR LOVING DADDY

Thomas and Gordon

THOMAS was a tank engine who lived at a Big Station. He had six small wheels, a short stumpy funnel, a short stumpy boiler, and a short stumpy dome.

He was a fussy little engine, always pulling coaches about. He pulled them to the station ready for the big engines to take out on long journeys; and when trains came in, and the people had got out, he would pull the empty coaches away, so that the big engines could go and rest.



He was a cheeky little engine, too. He thought no engine worked as hard as he did. So he used to play tricks on them. He liked best of all to come quietly beside a big engine dozing on a siding and make him jump.

“Peep, peep, peep, pip, peep! Wake up, lazibones!” he would whistle, “why don’t you work hard like me?”

Then he would laugh rudely and run away to find some more coaches.

