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Opening extract from
**Melric the Magician Who Lost His
Magic**

Written by
David McKee

Published by
Andersen Press Ltd

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For Duncan and Ross



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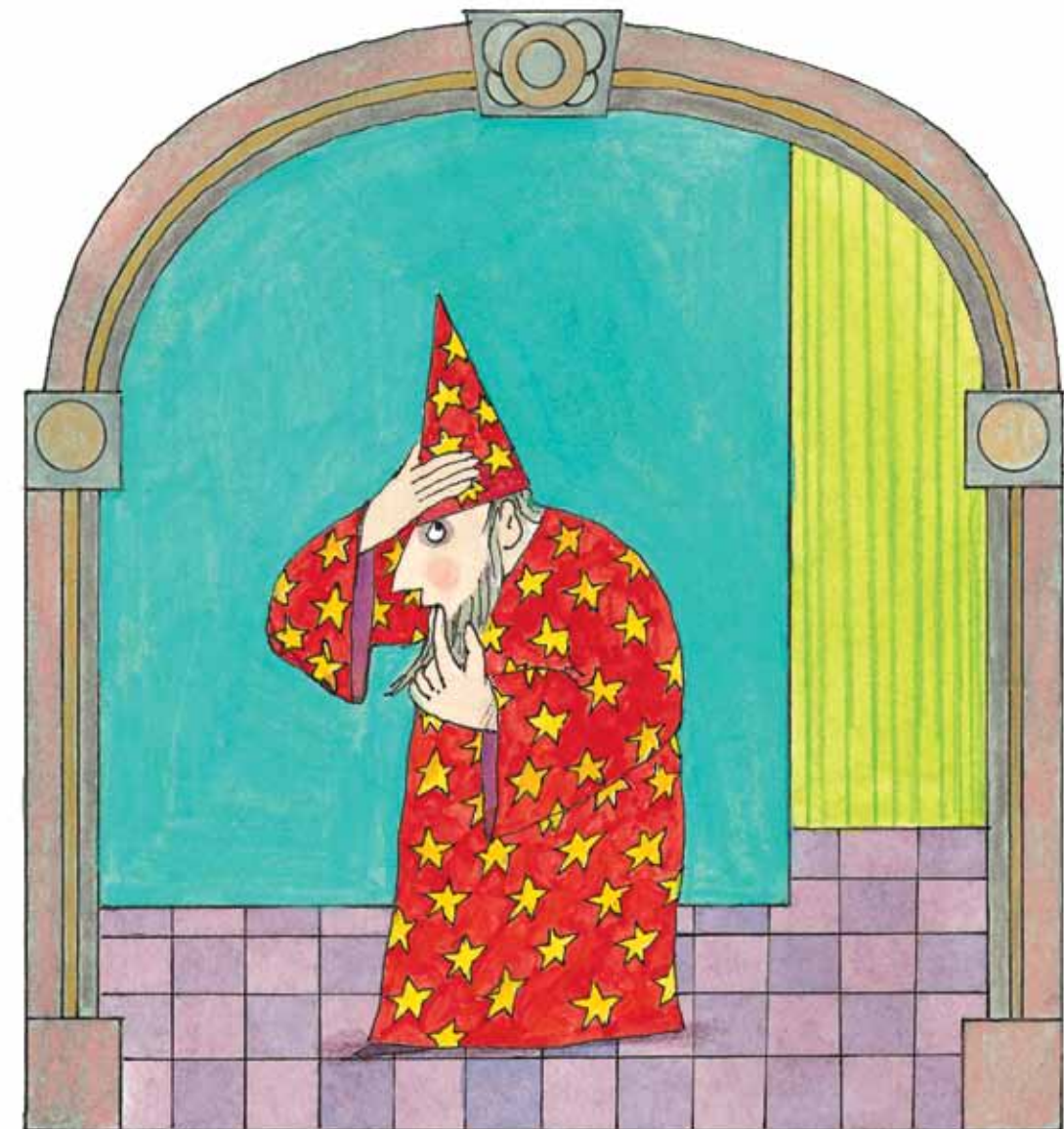
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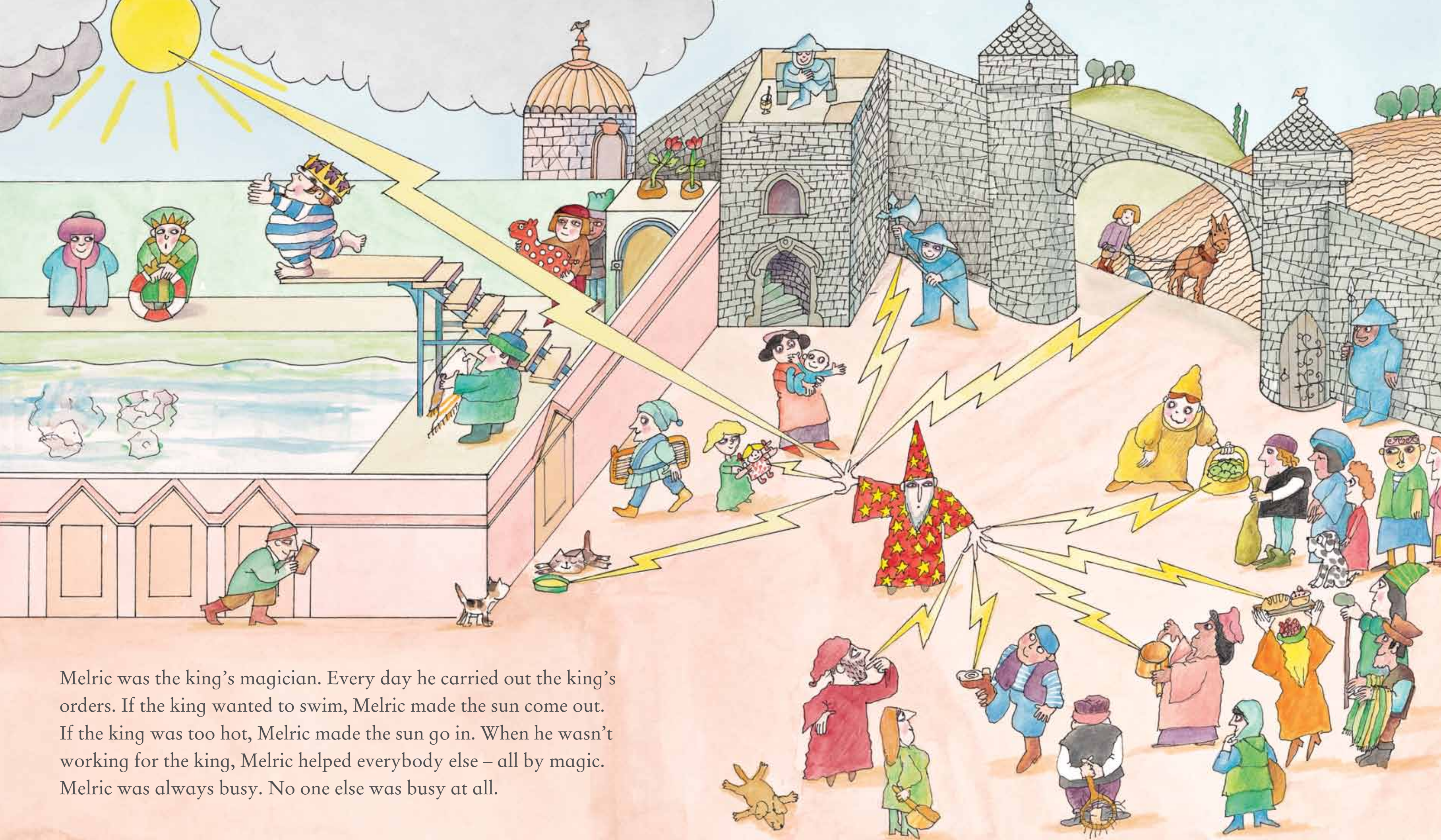
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THE MAGICIAN WHO LOST HIS MAGIC



David McKee

ANDERSEN PRESS



Melric was the king's magician. Every day he carried out the king's orders. If the king wanted to swim, Melric made the sun come out. If the king was too hot, Melric made the sun go in. When he wasn't working for the king, Melric helped everybody else – all by magic. Melric was always busy. No one else was busy at all.



One morning Melric woke up late. He muttered the spell that should have washed and dressed him and made his bed, but nothing happened. He said the spell again, louder. Nothing happened. He shouted the spell. Still nothing happened. In a great hurry – because the king didn't like to be kept waiting – Melric dressed himself, making a terrible mess of it. He took one look at the bed and left it, unmade.