



The Beginner Book Story

In 1957, Theodor Geisel, known to the world as Dr. Seuss, wrote a book called *The Cat in the Hat*.

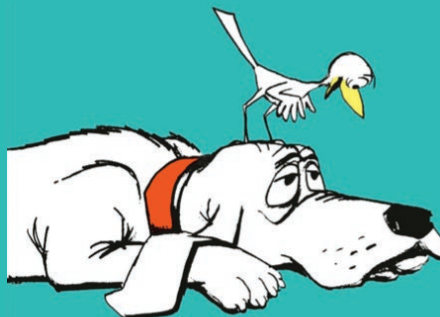
It was fun to read aloud, easy to read alone, and impossible to put down.

From this magically right beginning came the concept of Beginner Books, exacting blends of words and pictures that encourage children to read—all by themselves. Hailed by elementary educators and remedial reading specialists, these enormously popular books are now used in schools and libraries throughout the English-speaking world.

Beginner Books®

The right reading readiness
every child needs.™

Are You My Mother?



by P. D. Eastman



Random House
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Are You
My
Mother?





Are You My Mother?



Written and Illustrated by
P. D. EASTMAN

BEGINNER BOOKS

A Division of Random House

A mother bird sat on
her egg.

To My Mother

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and celebrates the right to read.



The egg jumped.



“Oh oh!” said the mother bird. “My baby will be here! He will want to eat.”





"I must get something
for my baby bird to
eat!" she said. "I will be
back!"

So away she went.



The egg jumped. It
jumped, and jumped, and
jumped!



Out came the baby
bird!



“Where is my mother?”
he said.



He looked for her.



He looked up. He did
not see her.



He looked down. He did
not see her.

So away he went.



“I will go and look for
her,” he said.



Down, down, down! It
was a long way down.



Down, out of the tree
he went.



The baby bird could
not fly.



He could not fly, but
he could walk. "Now I
will go and find my
mother," he said.



He did not know what
his mother looked like. He
went right by her. He did
not see her.



The kitten just looked
and looked. It did not
say a thing.

He came to a kitten.
“Are you my mother?”
he said to the kitten.



Then he came to a
hen.

“Are you my mother?”
he said to the hen.



The kitten was not his
mother, so he went on.

“No,” said the hen.



The kitten was not
his mother.

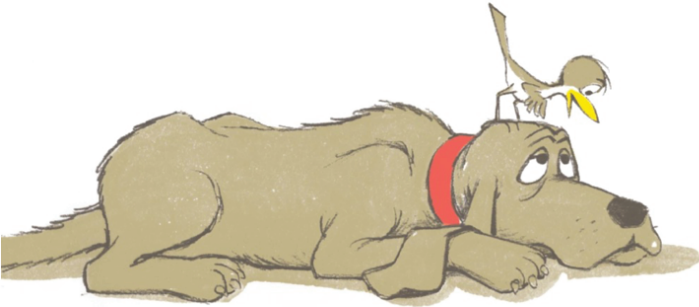
"I have to find my
mother!" he said. "But
where? Where is she?
Where could she be?"

The hen was not
his mother.



So the baby bird went on.

Then he came to a
dog.
“Are you my mother?”
he said to the dog.



“I am not your mother.
I am a dog,” said the dog.

The kitten was not
his mother.

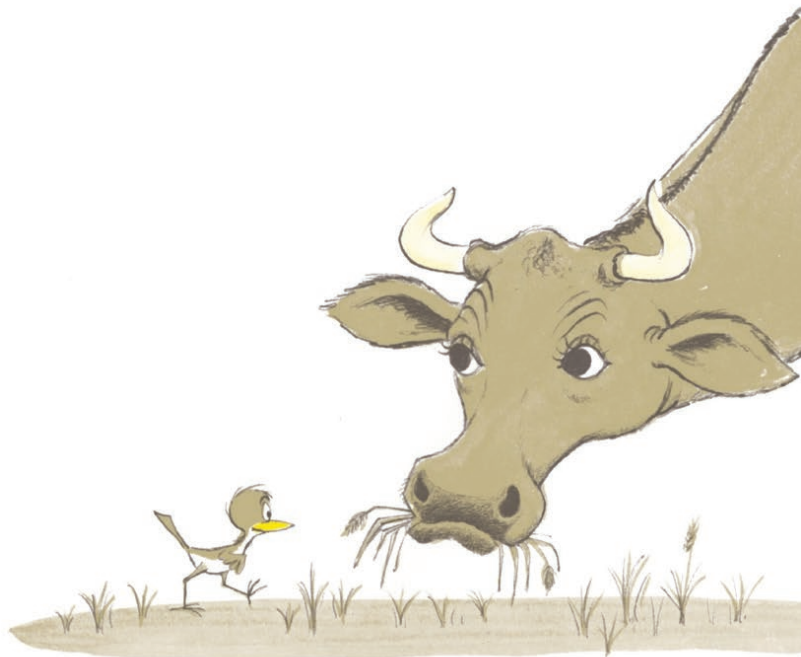


So the baby bird went
on. Now he came to a
cow.



The hen was not
his mother.

The dog was not
his mother.



“Are you my mother?”
he said to the cow.



“How could I be your
mother?” said the cow. “I
am a cow.”

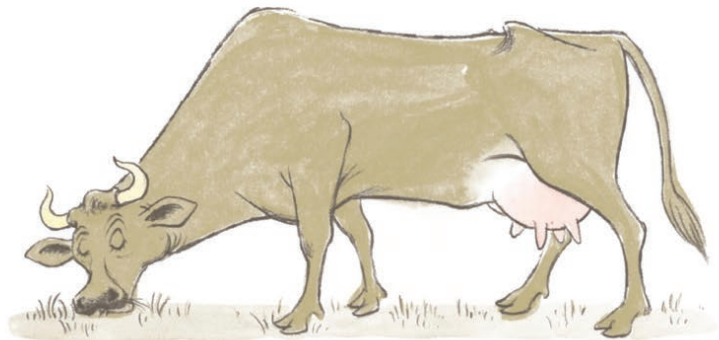




The kitten and the hen
were not his mother.



The dog and the cow
were not his mother.

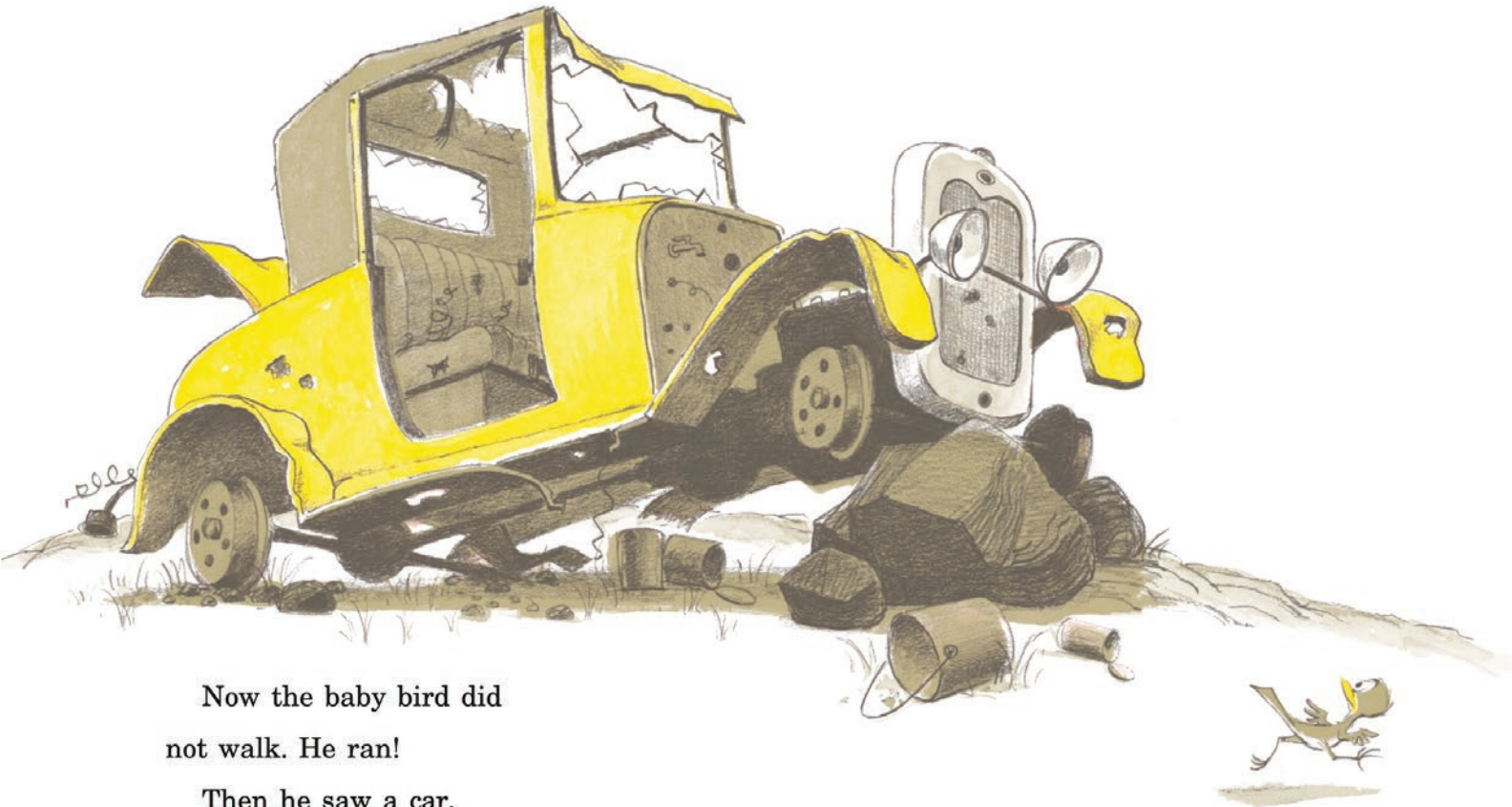


Did he have a mother?





“I did have a mother,”
said the baby bird. “I
know I did. I have to
find her. I will. I WILL!”



Now the baby bird did
not walk. He ran!

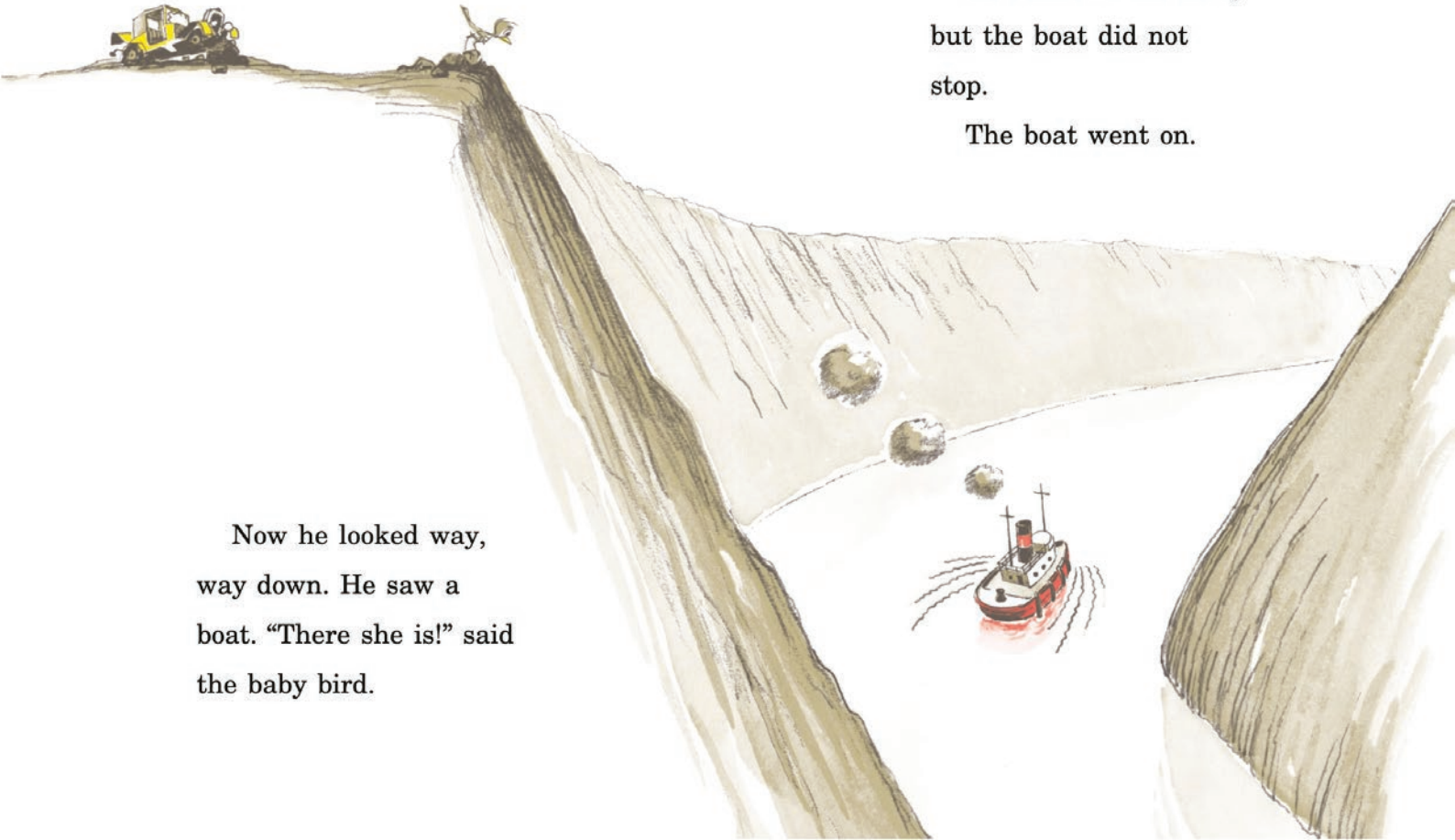
Then he saw a car.
Could that old thing be
his mother? No, it could not.

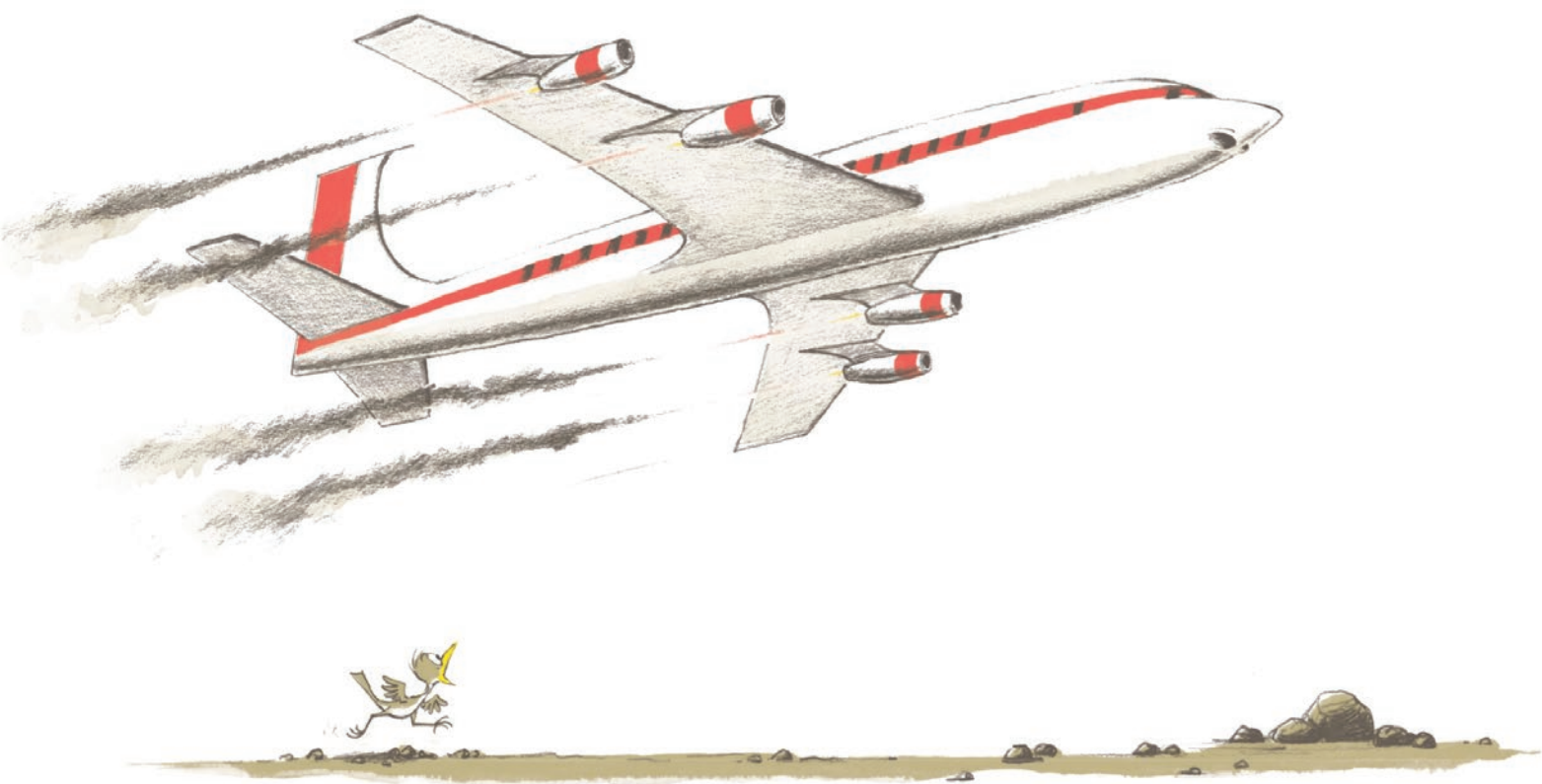
The baby bird did not
stop. He ran on and on.

He called to the boat,
but the boat did not
stop.

The boat went on.

Now he looked way,
way down. He saw a
boat. "There she is!" said
the baby bird.





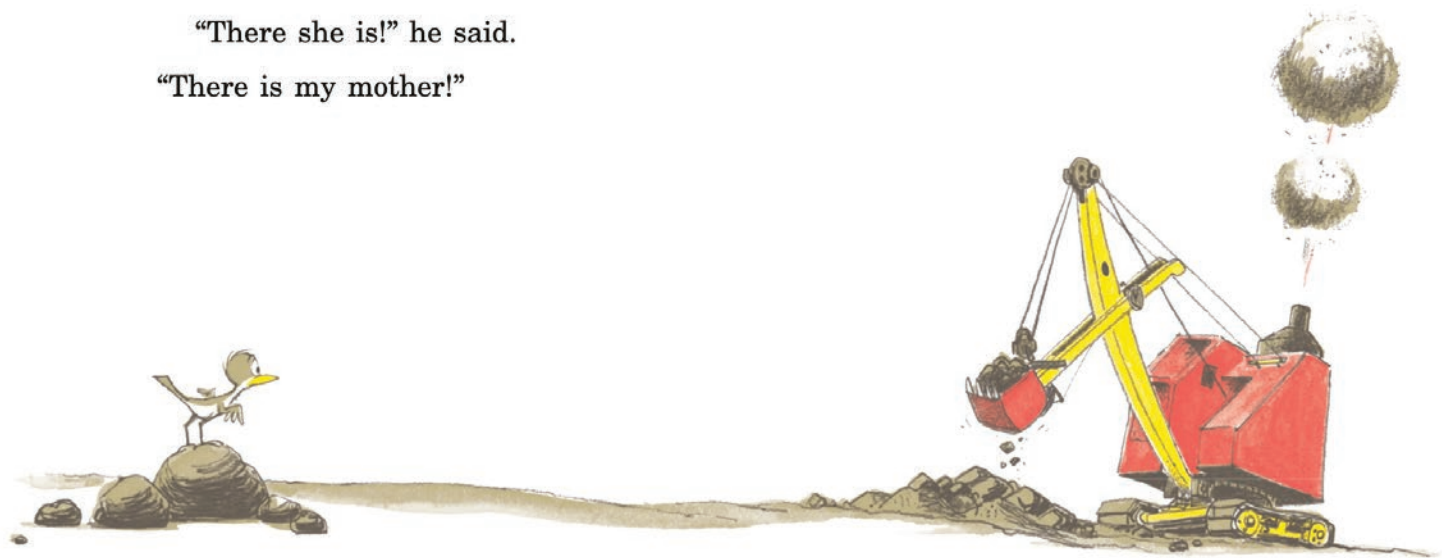
He looked way, way
up. He saw a big plane.

"Here I am, Mother,"
he called out.

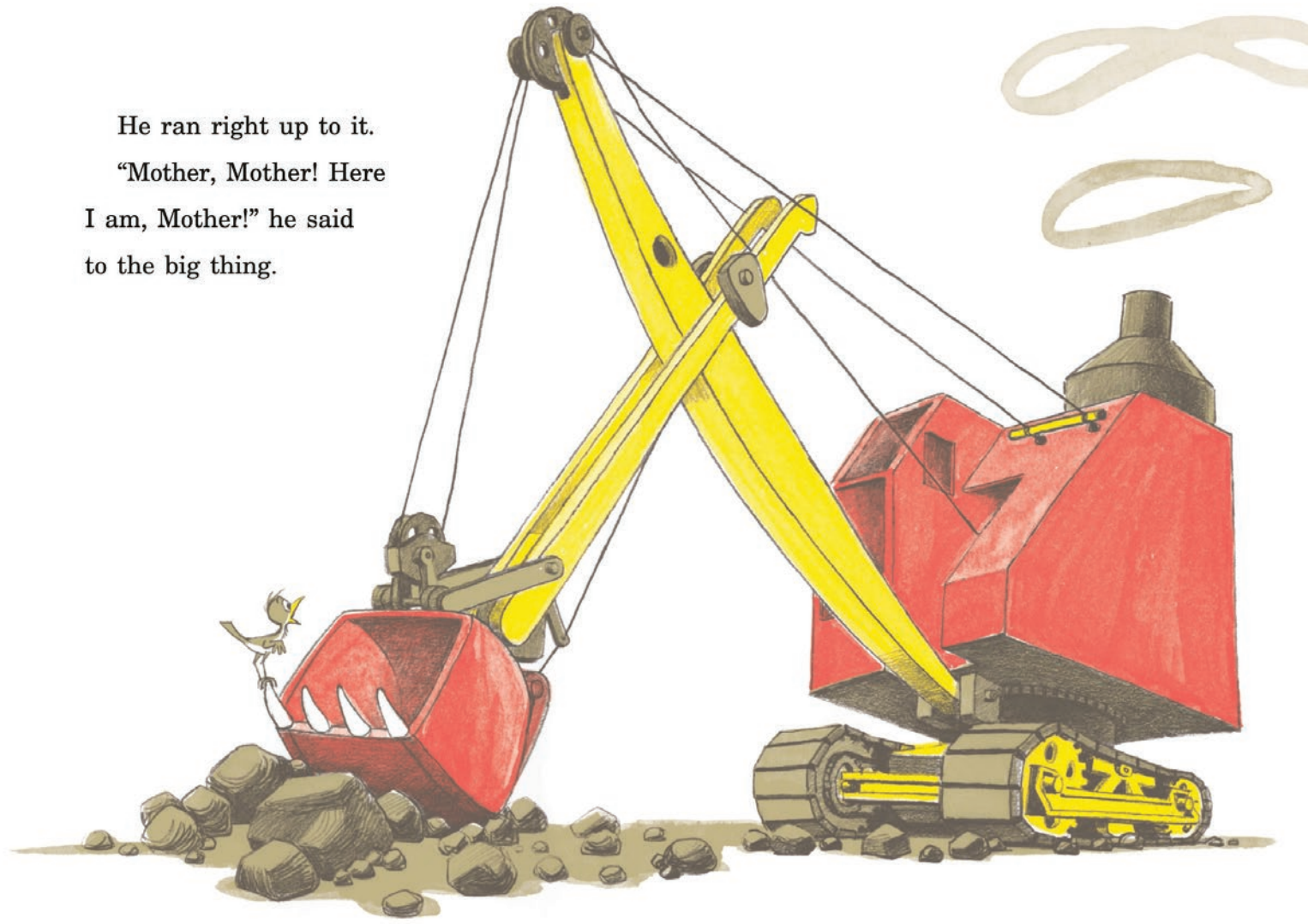
But the plane did not
stop. The plane went on.

Just then, the baby bird
saw a big thing. This
must be his mother!

“There she is!” he said.
“There is my mother!”

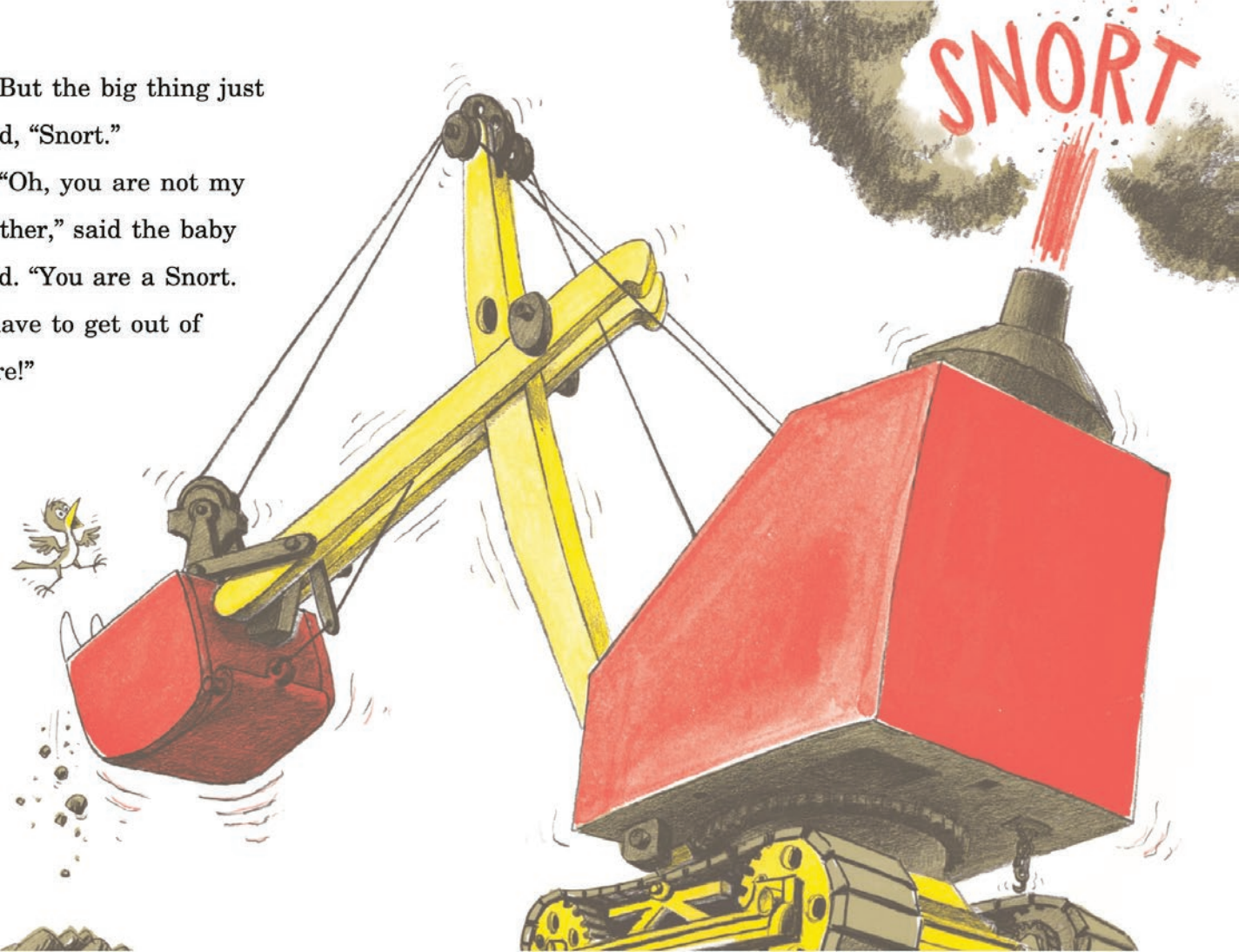


He ran right up to it.
“Mother, Mother! Here
I am, Mother!” he said
to the big thing.

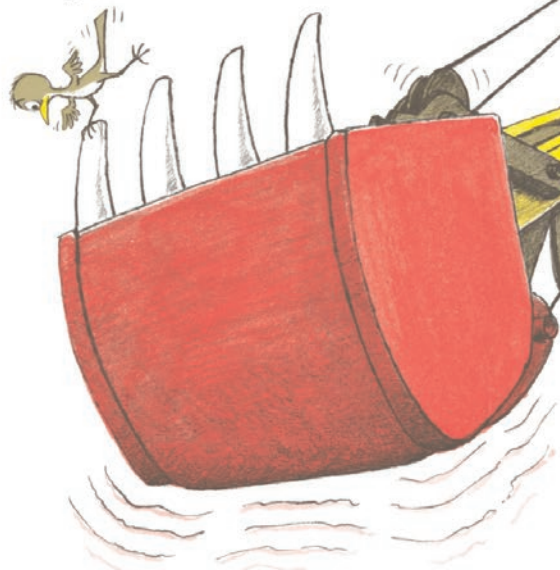


But the big thing just
said, "Snort."

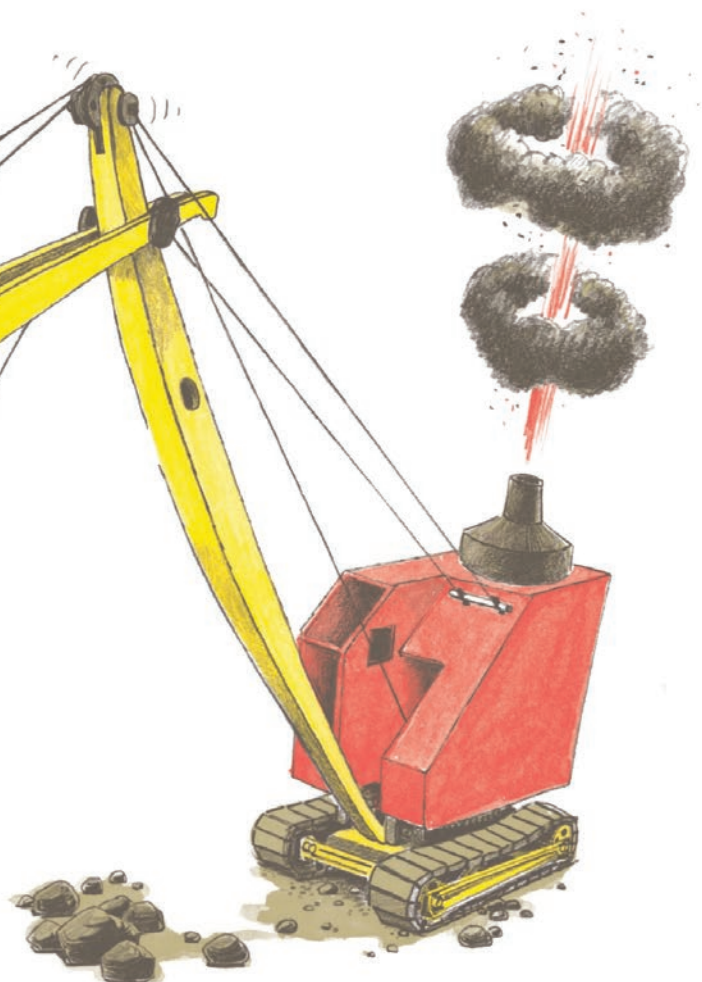
"Oh, you are not my
mother," said the baby
bird. "You are a Snort.
I have to get out of
here!"

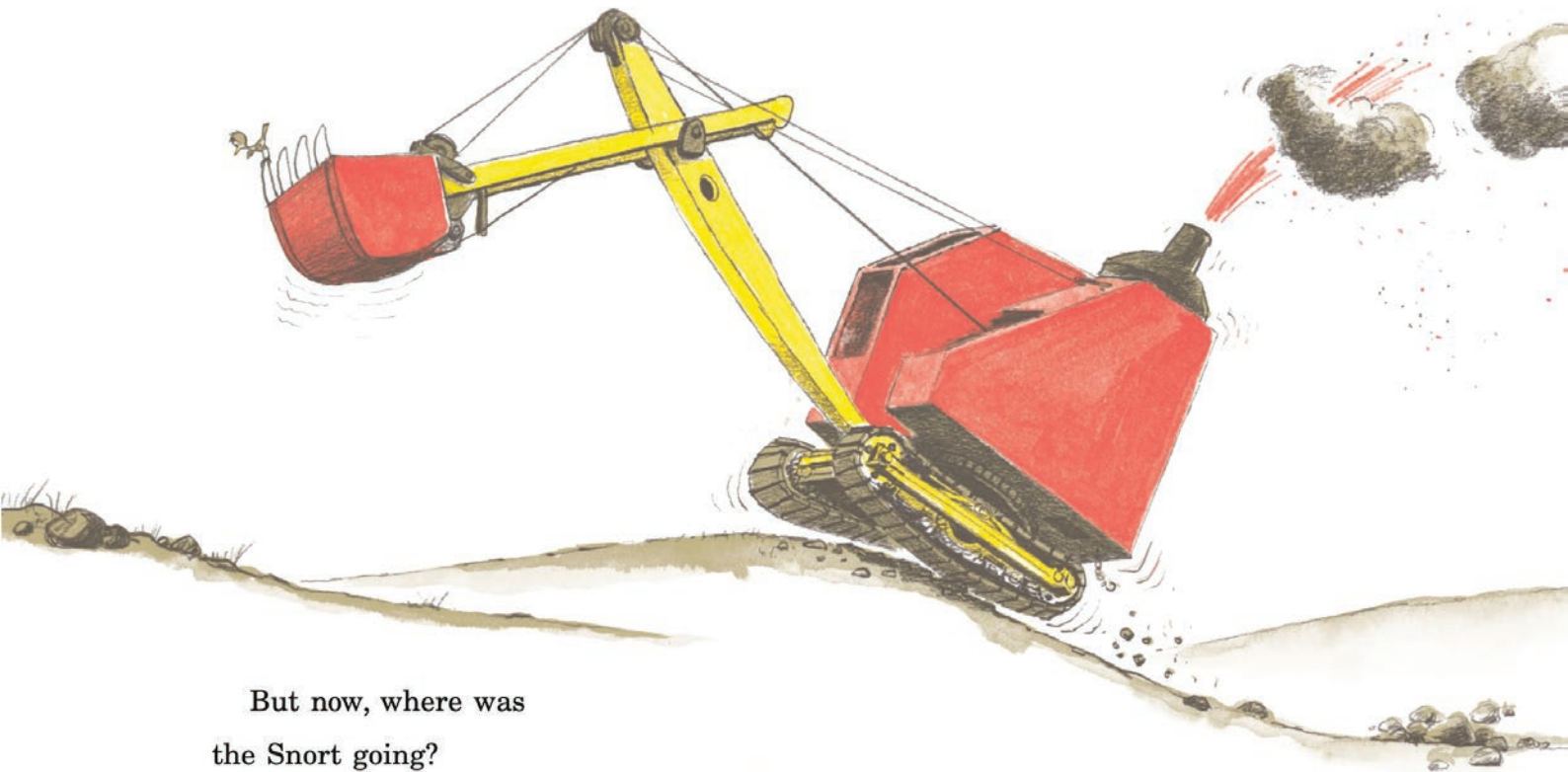


But the baby bird could
not get away. The Snort
went up.



It went way, way up.
And up, up, up went
the baby bird.



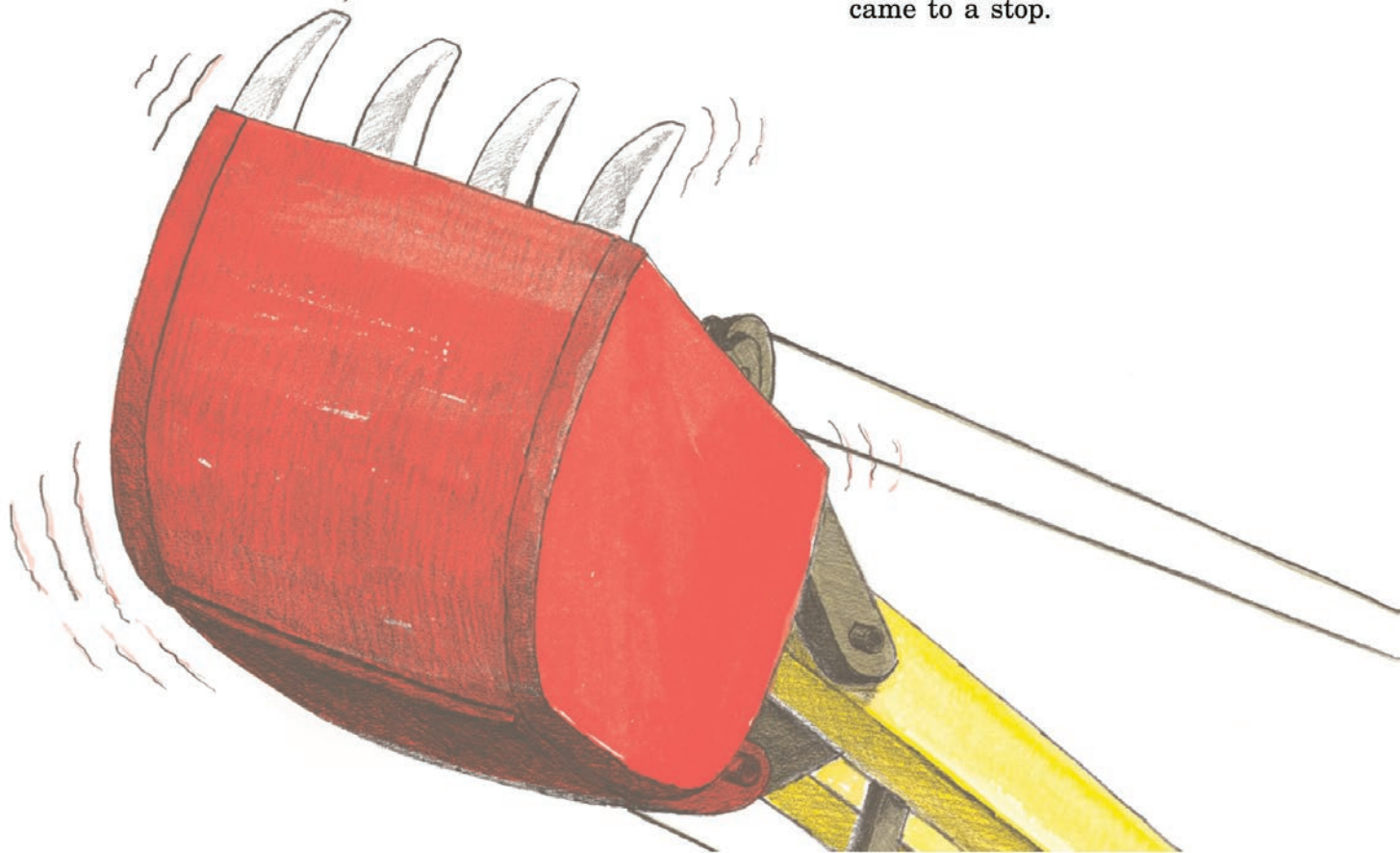


But now, where was
the Snort going?

“Oh, oh, oh! What is
this Snort going to do to
me? Get me out of here!”

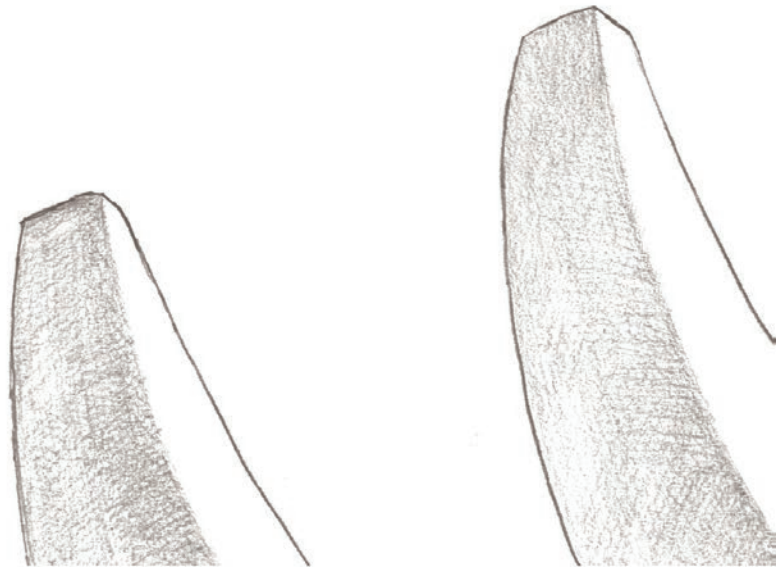


Just then, the Snort
came to a stop.



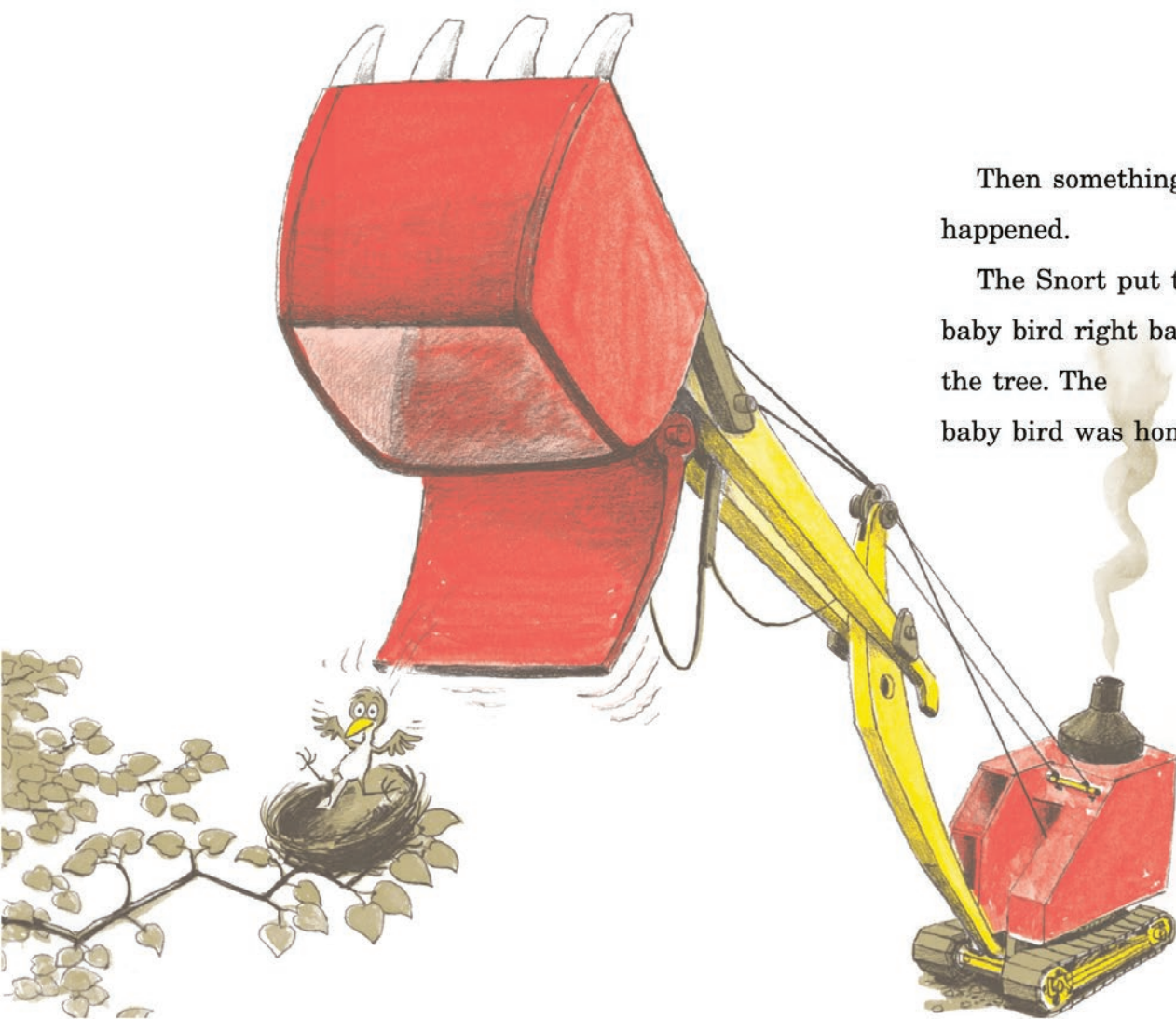


“Where am I?” said the
baby bird. “I want to go
home! I want my
mother!”



Then something
happened.

The Snort put that
baby bird right back in
the tree. The
baby bird was home!



Just then the mother
bird came back to the
tree. "Do you know who
I am?" she said to her
baby.



"Yes, I know who you are," said the baby bird.

"You are not a kitten.

"You are not a hen.

"You are not a dog.

"You are not a cow.

"You are not a boat,
or a plane, or a Snort!"

"You are a bird, and
you are my mother."



