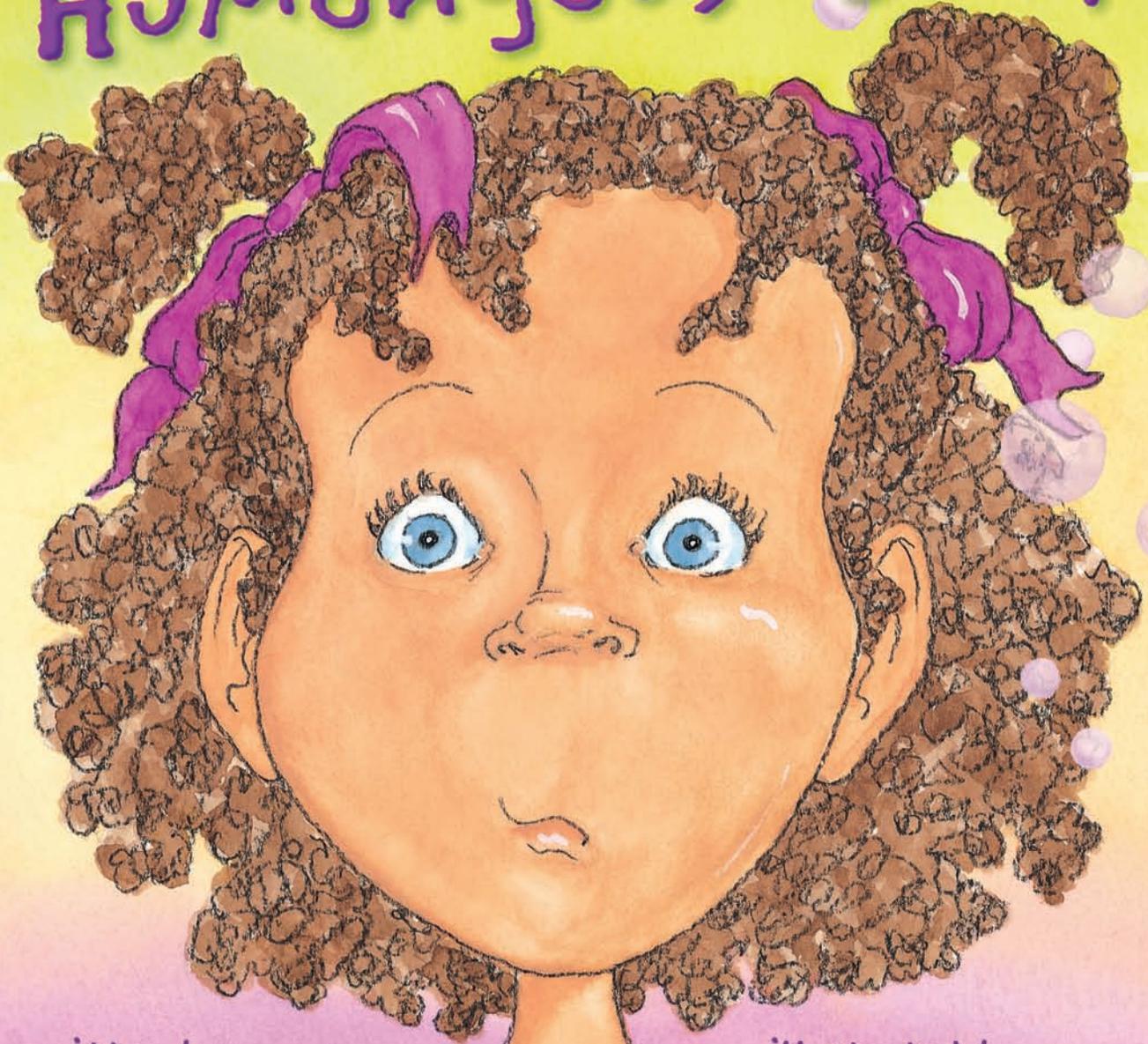


Penelope and the Humongous Burp



written by
Sheri Radford

illustrated by
Christine Tripp



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Lobster Press™ 

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Text © 2004 Sheri Radford
Illustrations © 2004 Christine Tripp

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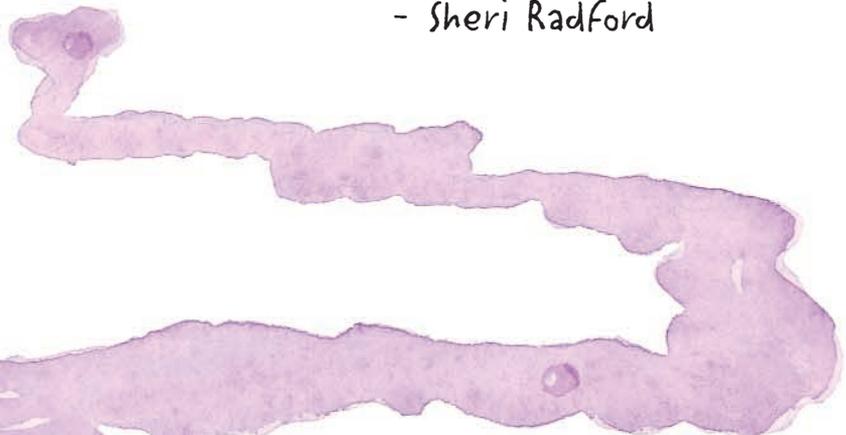
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To Megan and Jaret and all their
humongous burps.

- Sheri Radford



For my brand new grandson
Reece, who understands the
importance of a really good burp!

- Christine Tripp





Penelope drank and drank and drank
her huge glass of soda pop until it was all gone.

"Glubble gulp gulp."

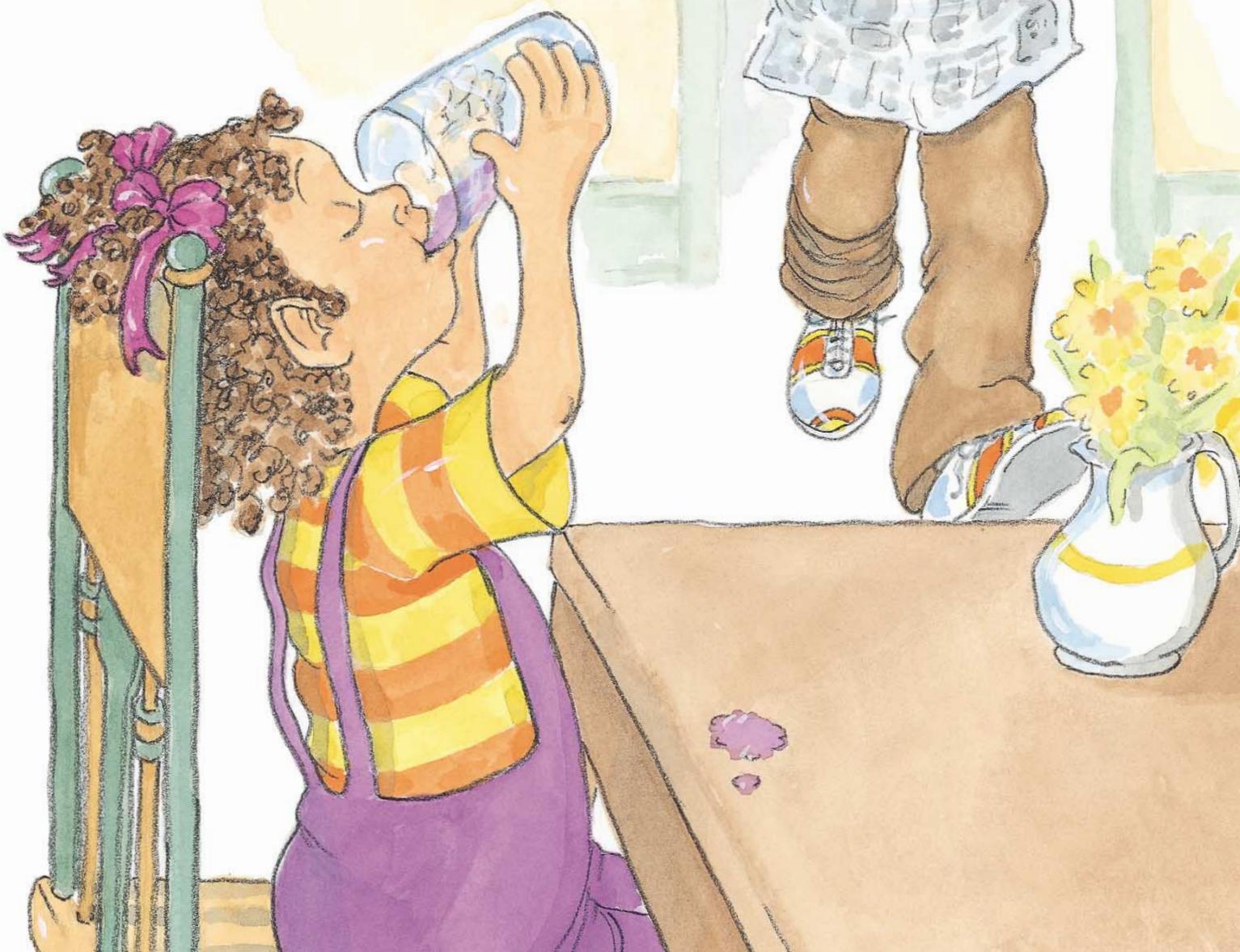




“Slow down,”
said Penelope’s mother.

“But I’m thirsty,”
Penelope answered as she
poured herself some more
soda. She drank and drank
and drank until it was
all gone.

“Glubble gulp gulp.”





“If she’s thirsty, she should drink,” said Penelope’s father.

“She’ll make herself sick,” said Penelope’s mother as Penelope poured herself a third glass of soda and drank and drank and drank until it was all gone, too.

“Glubble gulp gulp.”



“This is good stuff,” Penelope said, licking her lips.
“I’m not thirsty anymore.”

Suddenly, Penelope heard a strange noise.

“Glurble glooble.”

“What on earth is that noise?” Penelope’s mother asked.

“Glurble glooble.”

“And where is it coming from?” Penelope’s father asked.

Penelope leaned way over and listened.
The noise seemed to be coming from HER STOMACH.

“It’s the soda!” Penelope cried.

“Glurble glooble.”

“It’s sloshing around in my stomach and making me
feel weird!”







“Plug your nose,”
said Penelope’s father.



“Take deep breaths,”
said Penelope’s mother.



“Glurble glooble.”

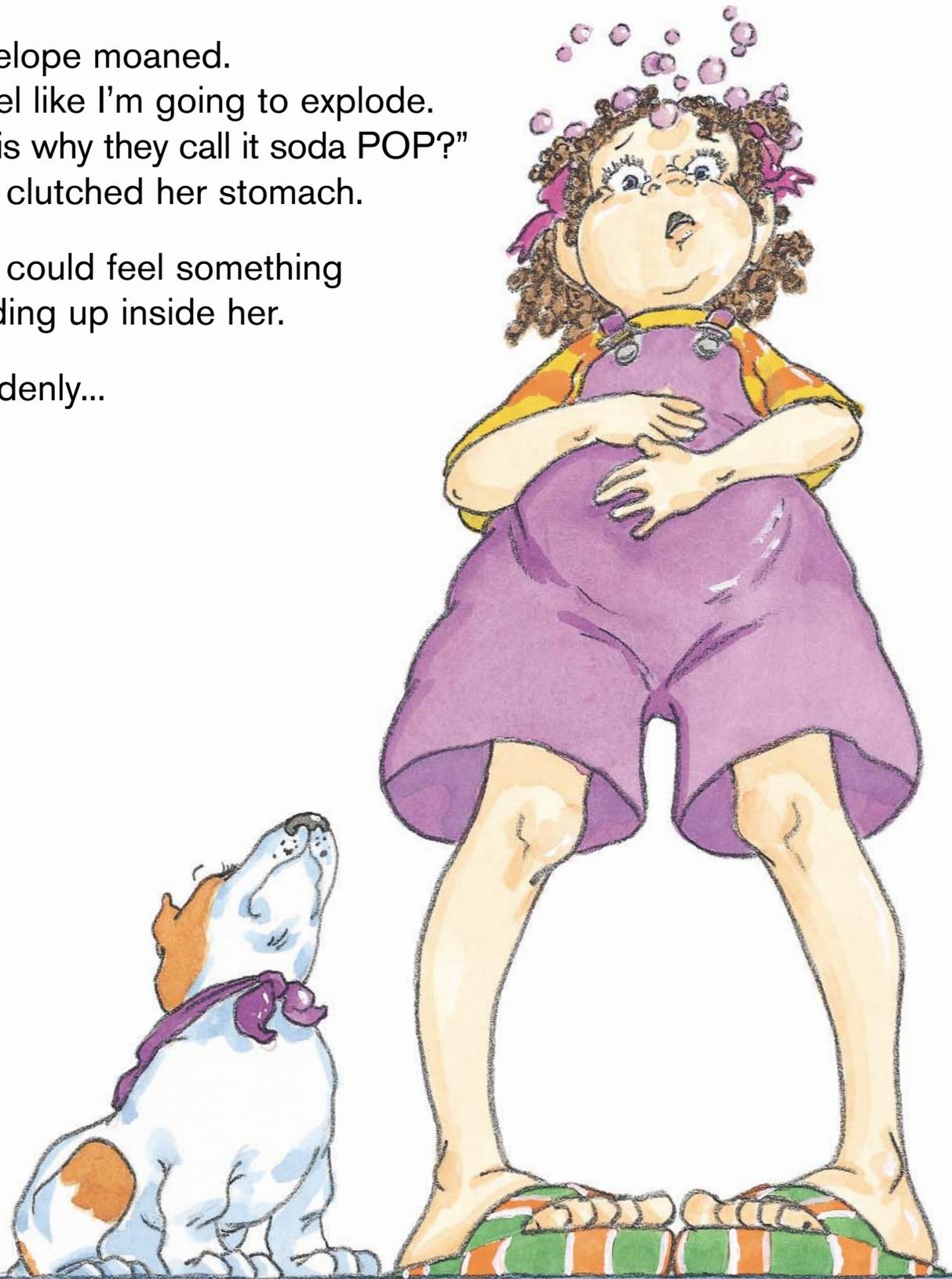
Penelope moaned.

“I feel like I’m going to explode.
Is this why they call it soda POP?”

She clutched her stomach.

She could feel something
building up inside her.

Suddenly...







“Bbuurrpp.”

The walls and floor shook with the force of Penelope’s big burp. Bits of plaster fell from the ceiling, and one bit landed right in Penelope’s mother’s cup of coffee.

Two doctors burst through the kitchen door. “We heard an awful noise and thought that there must be a big emergency going on,” they said as they started checking everyone’s reflexes with little wooden mallets.



“That was just my daughter and her big burp,”
Penelope’s mother said. “We’re quite all right now.”

The two doctors stopped to
stare at Penelope.

“Well, Penelope, what do you
have to say for yourself?”
Penelope’s father asked.

“Glurble glooble.”



“Oh no,”
said Penelope’s mother.



“Glurble
glooble.”

“Oh no,”
said Penelope’s father.



“Glurble
glooble.”

"Oh no," said the two doctors.

"Glurble glooble."





“Bbbuuuuurrrrrpppp.”

All the windows in the house shattered from the force of Penelope's enormous burp, and one wall collapsed.

Four fire fighters carrying fire hoses came running into the kitchen.

“We heard an awful, dreadful noise and thought that there must be an enormous emergency going on,” they yelled as they soaked the entire room with their hoses.



“That was just my daughter and her enormous burp,”
Penelope’s mother shouted over the noise of the water.

“We’re quite all right now.”



The four fire fighters stopped to stare at Penelope.
“Well, Penelope, what do you have to say for yourself?”
Penelope’s father asked.





“Glurble glooble.”

“Not again,”
said Penelope’s mother.

“Glurble glooble.”

“Not again,”
said Penelope’s father.

“Glurble glooble.”

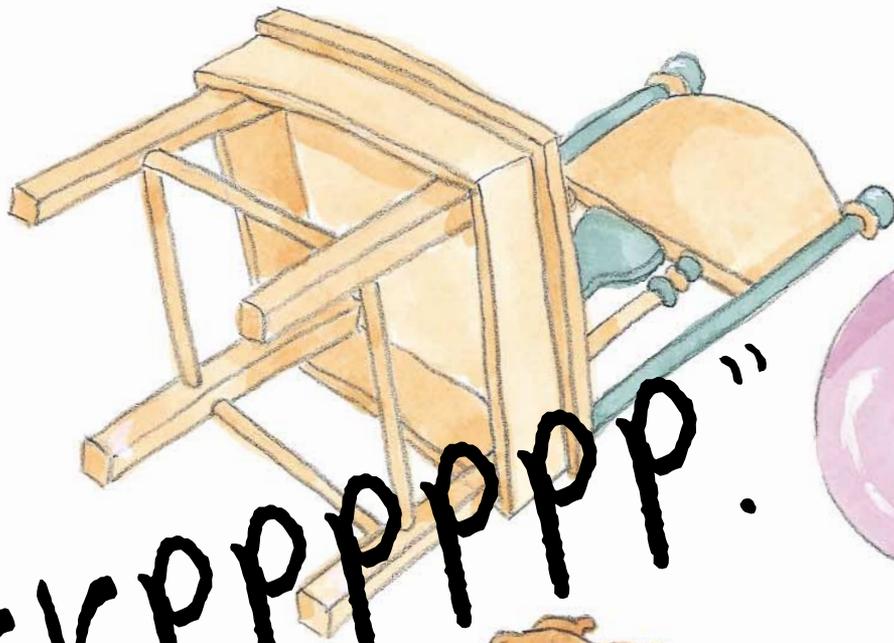
“Not again,”
said the two doctors
and four fire fighters.





"BbbbbbbUUUUU"

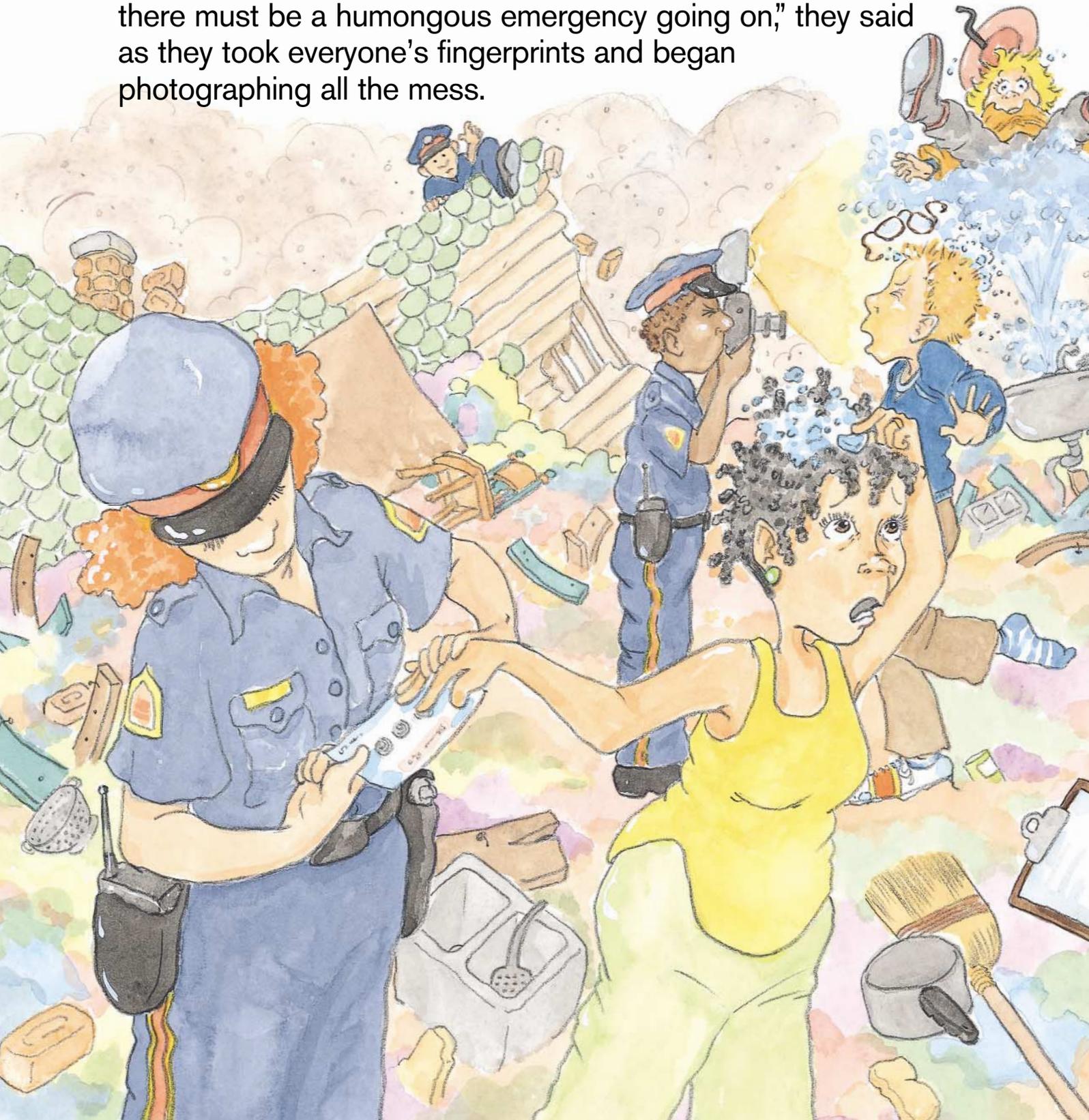
uurrrrrrrppppppp."



The entire house collapsed from the force of Penelope's humongous burp.

Six police officers climbed over the rubble.

"We heard an awful, dreadful, frightful noise and thought that there must be a humongous emergency going on," they said as they took everyone's fingerprints and began photographing all the mess.



“That was just my daughter, and her humongous burp,”
Penelope’s mother said as she picked a piece of
plaster out of her hair. “We’re quite all right now.”





“Well, Penelope, what do you have to say for yourself?”
Penelope’s father asked.

Penelope’s mother stared at Penelope, waiting for her to answer.

Penelope’s father stared at Penelope, waiting for her to answer.

The two doctors, four fire fighters and six police officers
stared at Penelope, waiting for her to answer.



“Excuse me.”



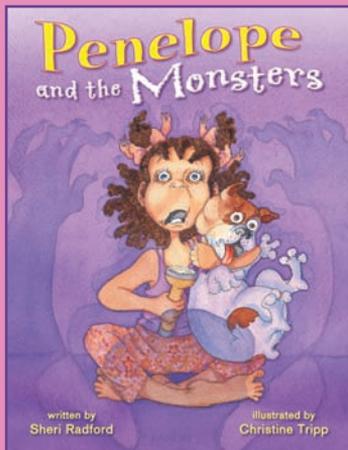


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“A good blend of visual drama and comic detail...the book displays a racially diverse cast of characters coping with Penelope’s gastric disasters.” – *Quill & Quire*

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