

Price: \$14.95

# Nancy and Sluggo Love Tennessee

A Story About Keeping Tennessee Beautiful



WORDS AND PICTURES BY  
**GUY GILCHRIST**



**Guy Gilchrist** at the age of 24, was hand-selected to create *Jim Henson's Muppets Comic Strip* that was printed worldwide in 660-plus newspapers daily from 1981 to 1986. Throughout the years, he has set his hand to such notable cartoons as *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Looney Tunes*, *Tom & Jerry*, *Fraggle Rock* and *The Pink Panther* and was instrumental in the creation of *The Muppet Babies*. He has authored over 60 books.

Gilchrist took over the iconic *Nancy* comic strip in 1995, and 2015 marks his twentieth year drawing *Nancy*. In 2013 he unveiled a one-of-a-kind exhibit, "Nancy Loves Nashville", at the Nashville International Airport that revealed the location of Three Rocks as a suburb just outside of Nashville.

Syndicated internationally in 80 countries and some 400 newspapers, *Nancy* has a viewership of 57 million readers around the world. And as fans of the comic strip know, *Nancy* resides in the fictional town of Three Rocks with her Aunt Fritzi and friend, *Sluggo*. This is Guy's first children's book featuring *NANCY* and her friends!

Gilchrist has been recognized and honored internationally for his creativity and authorship. He was awarded the National Cartoonist Society's highly coveted Reuben Award in 1997 and again in 1998 for Best Magazine and Book Illustrator, for *Night Lights and Pillow Fights - Book One* and *Book Two*. Also for *Night Lights and Pillow Fights*, he was awarded the Bank Street Award for Best Book of the Year - 1998. He is a three-time award winner of the Best Book of the Year from the International Reading Council of the United Nations, for the *Tiny Dinos* book series. The *Tiny Dinos* series was among the top bestselling books at Walden Books.

A strong supporter of charities and children, Gilchrist has been honored for his contributions by Vanderbilt Hospital, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Hartford Children's Medical Center, Shriners Hospitals, and The Angelus. An active supporter and voice for the military and veterans' causes, Gilchrist has been honored by the armed forces and veterans organizations for his support and work. Guy is also an award winning songwriter. He loves living in Nashville, Tennessee!

Additional information on Guy Gilchrist and his work may be obtained at [www.nancyandsluggo.com](http://www.nancyandsluggo.com).









# NANCY AND SLUGGO LOVE TENNESSEE

A Story About Keeping Tennessee Beautiful

BY

GUP GILCHRIST

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Beverage Association of Tennessee  
Tennessee Department of Transportation – Beautification Office  
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## THE AUTHOR WISHES TO THANK

Teresa Kimbro Culbreath for getting this amazing project all started...

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To the artists who assisted me in my studio with the finishing of the art for this book... Anna Marie Guthrie, Terry "Doc" Smith, Jay Pittman and John Lotshaw... my deepest thanks! You guys rock!

This book is dedicated with love and light to the children of Tennessee. You are our future, and our future looks bright!

# About Keep Tennessee Beautiful

Keep Tennessee Beautiful is not just our name, it is our mandate.

Every endeavor of Keep Tennessee Beautiful is a means to make our State more clean, green and safe through our three main initiatives:

Litter Prevention, Greening, and Recycling.

Everyone can help! Everyone can make a difference! Visit [www.KeepTnBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepTnBeautiful.org) for more information!

Keep Tennessee Beautiful is a state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc.

## Nancy and Sluggo Love Tennessee

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A Story About Keeping Tennessee Beautiful



Nancy lives in Tennessee,  
The most beautiful state in the land of the free!  
One night, she had the craziest dream...  
About talking animals, and a flying machine...  
And Martians, and trashcans, and recycling bins.  
And in her garage is where the dream all begins...



From Nancy's garage came some strange, funny sounds...  
Like Pop! And Bang! And Zap! And Zounds!  
And Tape! Tape! Tape!  
And Boom! And Blare!  
What could they possibly be doing in there?





Sluggo and Nancy and friend, Homer, too  
Were building a contraption! A thing-a-ma-boo!  
It was built out of boxes and jars and cans,  
And plastic and metal and pedals and fans!  
Powered by old computers and video games!  
The "Traveling T" was this thing-a-boo's name!

All of this stuff was just junk... just old trash to some...  
But to them, it was a dream-mobile, second to none!





Earlier in the day, Nancy was sorting paper and plastic...  
When she got an idea that was weird and fantastic!  
She called her best buddy, Sluggo, and genius friend, Homer,  
And she drew up some plans to show when they came over!



She said, "There's nowhere as pretty as Tennessee!  
It's the place I love! The place to be!  
But, it's so, so big! All the hills and dales,  
And rivers and lakes and the towns and the trails!  
Cities so pretty with buildings so tall...  
If only we had a way we could visit it all!"





So they built this contraption to fly them around!  
But they weren't even sure if it'd get off the ground!  
It was pretty funky, so they streamlined the "T"...  
Buffed it all out 'til it was smooth as could be!  
That pile of trash was now a sweet, silver flash!  
And it could run a million miles on one drop of gas!

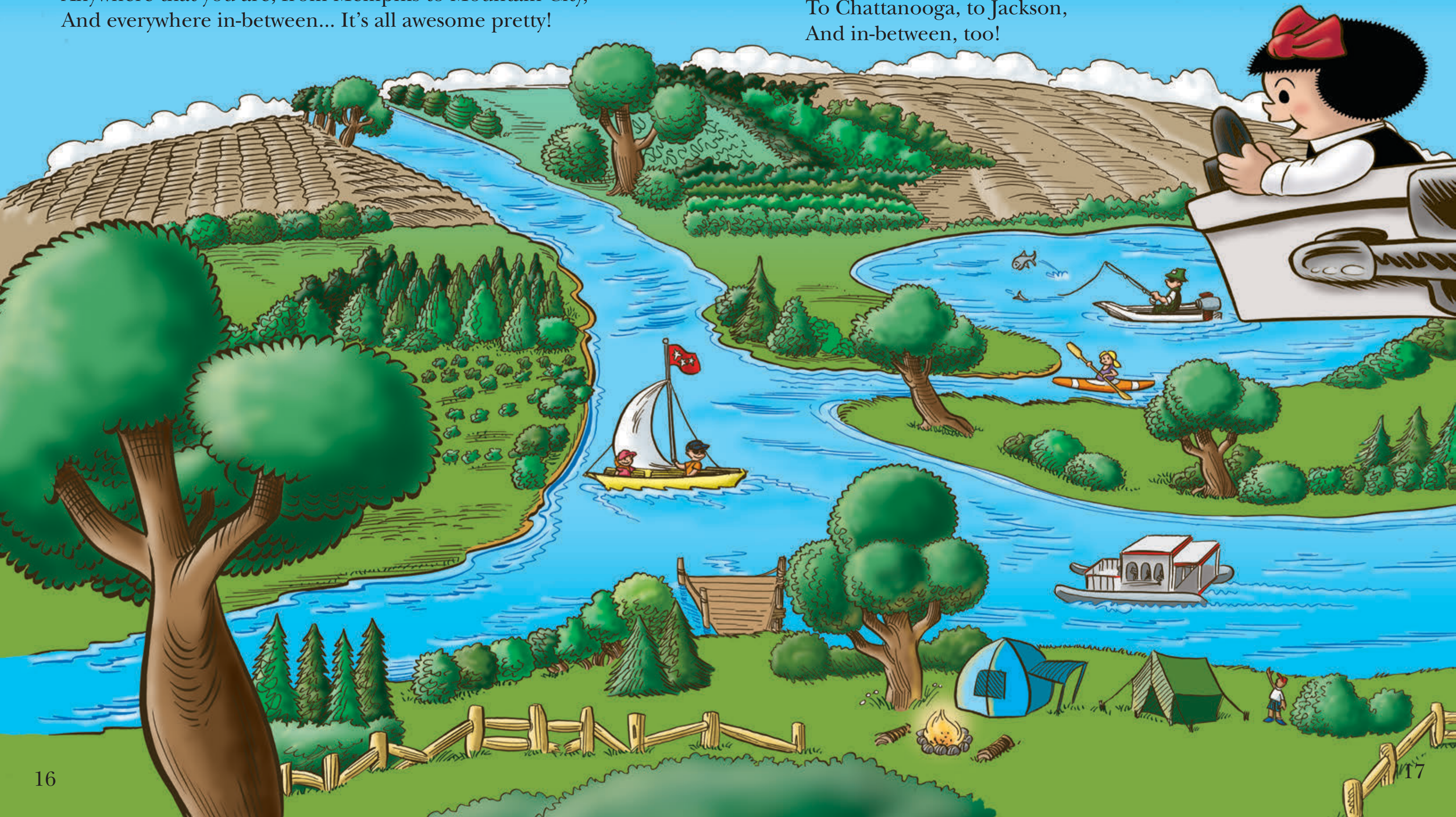
With Homer at the control board, and Nancy at the wheel,  
It sputtered and puttered and shuttered and squealed!  
Then, with one Sluggo push... it just started to fly!!  
And Sluggo jumped in, as they took to the sky!





From the sky, Tennessee's such a beautiful state!  
Wherever you live, it is always so great!  
Anywhere that you are, from Memphis to Mountain City,  
And everywhere in-between... It's all awesome pretty!

"Look!" Nancy said, "We can see everywhere!  
All 95 counties! They are all right down there!"  
From Nashville to the Smokies  
To Knoxville they flew!  
To Chattanooga, to Jackson,  
And in-between, too!





The "Traveling T" was an amazing machine!  
It could fly! It could race! It could float down a stream!  
The big river near you was the first place they touched down!  
Landed right in the water! Not onto the ground!



And the funny thing was, as they started to fish,  
The fish started talking, and it went just like this...  
"Kids! We need help!" the Channel Catfish said!  
The Box Turtle said, "I got bonked in the head!  
Look around us! At the trash in the mud!  
Our streams should be clean! Not all littered with crud!"



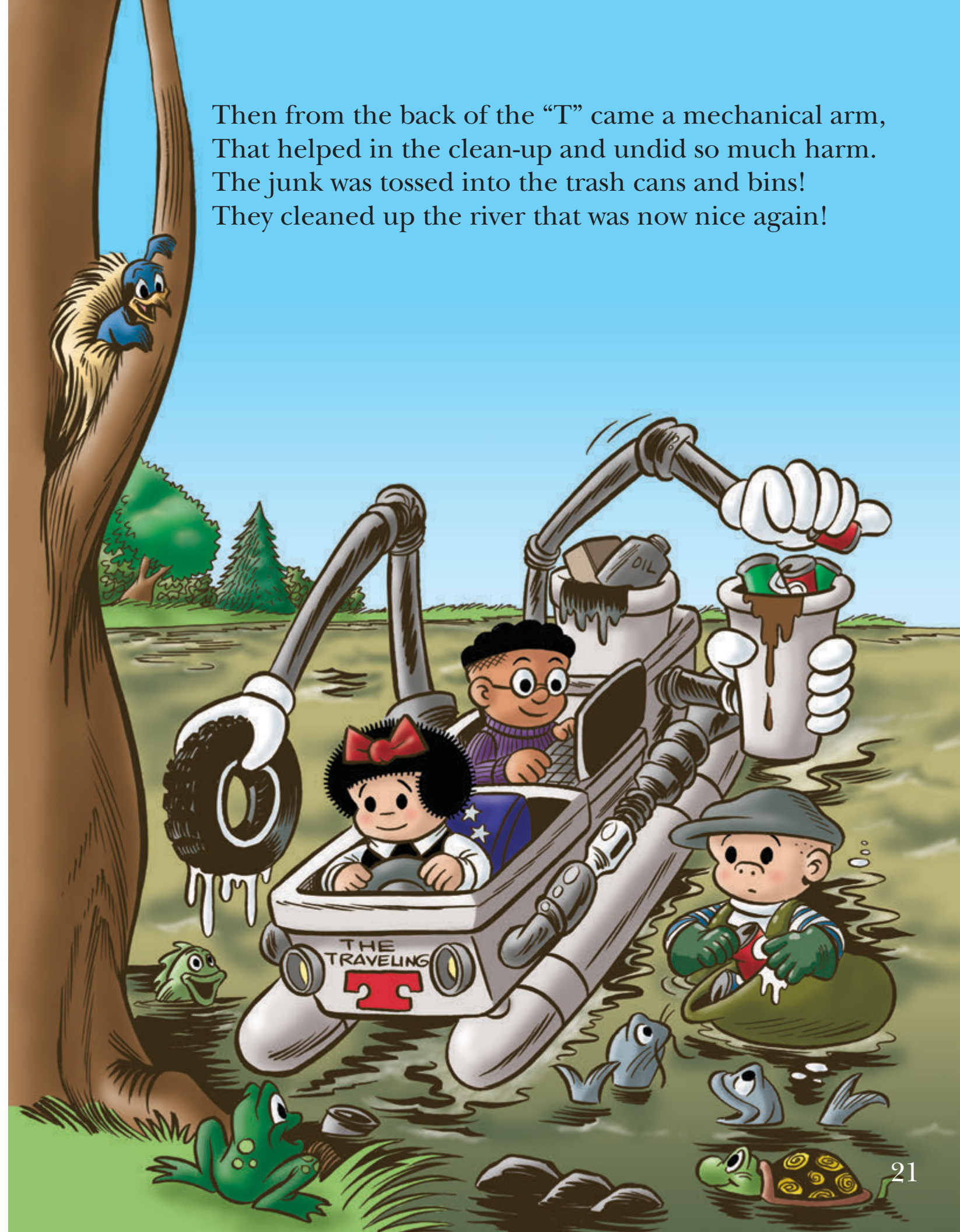




Then Sluggo saw him. A very sad duck.  
A very sad duck who was terribly stuck.  
Stuck was the word. His bill was a mess,  
From plastic rings someone just left there, I guess.  
But Sluggo was a hero, out there in the muck!  
With luckiness and kindness, he unstuck the duck!



Then from the back of the "T" came a mechanical arm,  
That helped in the clean-up and undid so much harm.  
The junk was tossed into the trash cans and bins!  
They cleaned up the river that was now nice again!







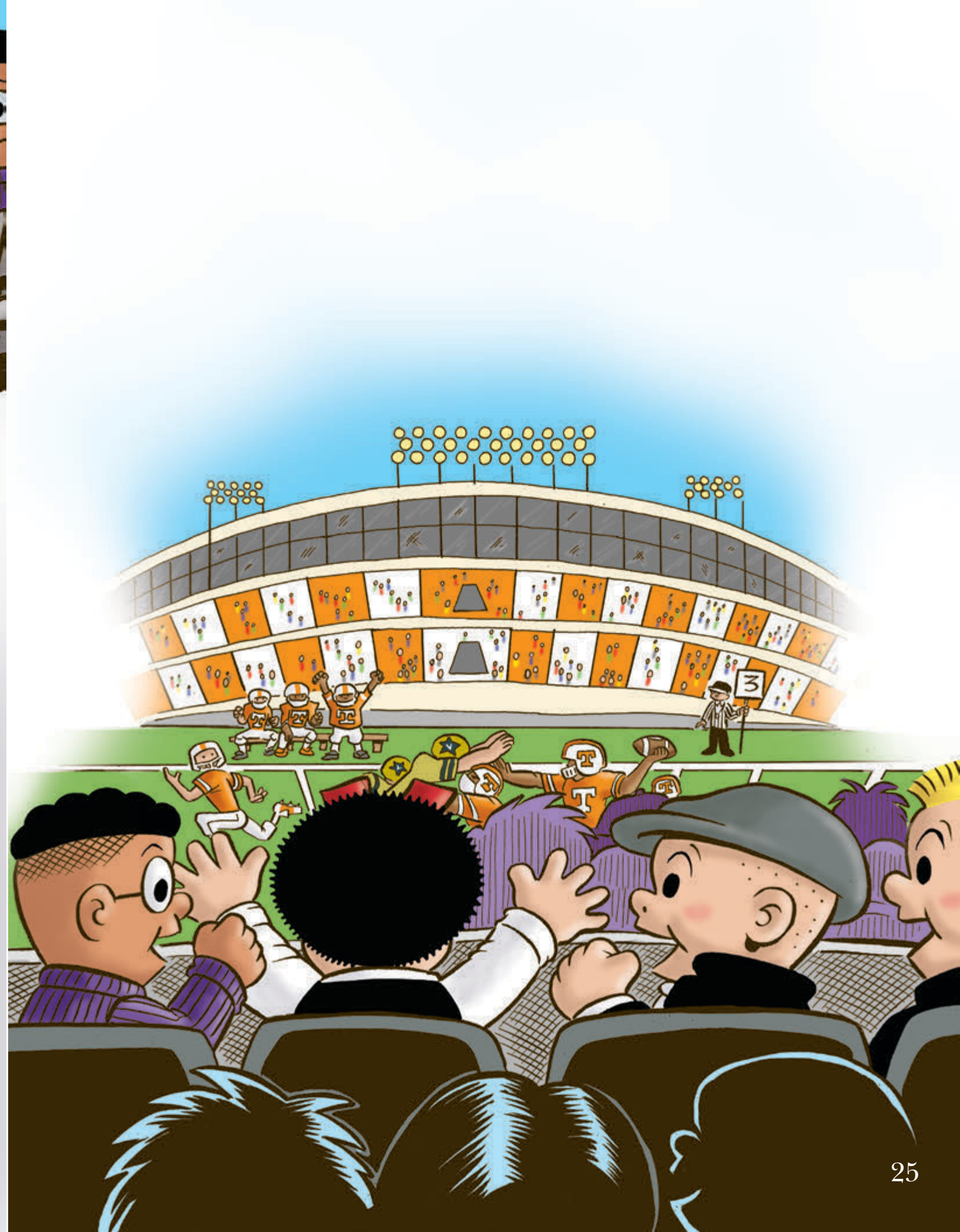
So the Catfish, the Duck, and the Box Turtle, too,  
Had a party on the shore with our Nancy and crew!  
The Bass played his bass and the Crickets played a tune,  
And they all rocked out by the light of the Moon!







The next day came with the gold of the dawn.  
They said their goodbyes, and then they flew along.  
Next stop for our friends was a stadium!  
They all went to the game, and had, oh, so much fun!  
The game was awesome! Our team won the game!  
But some fans trashed the place! What a terrible shame!







Garbage was everywhere! Nancy said, "Look at this junk!  
Why do litterbugs leave so much gunk?"  
So the kids got some bags and they started to clean.  
It was a very big job, if you know what I mean.  
But Nancy and Sluggo and Homer all knew  
That you always just try!!  
It's the right thing to do!

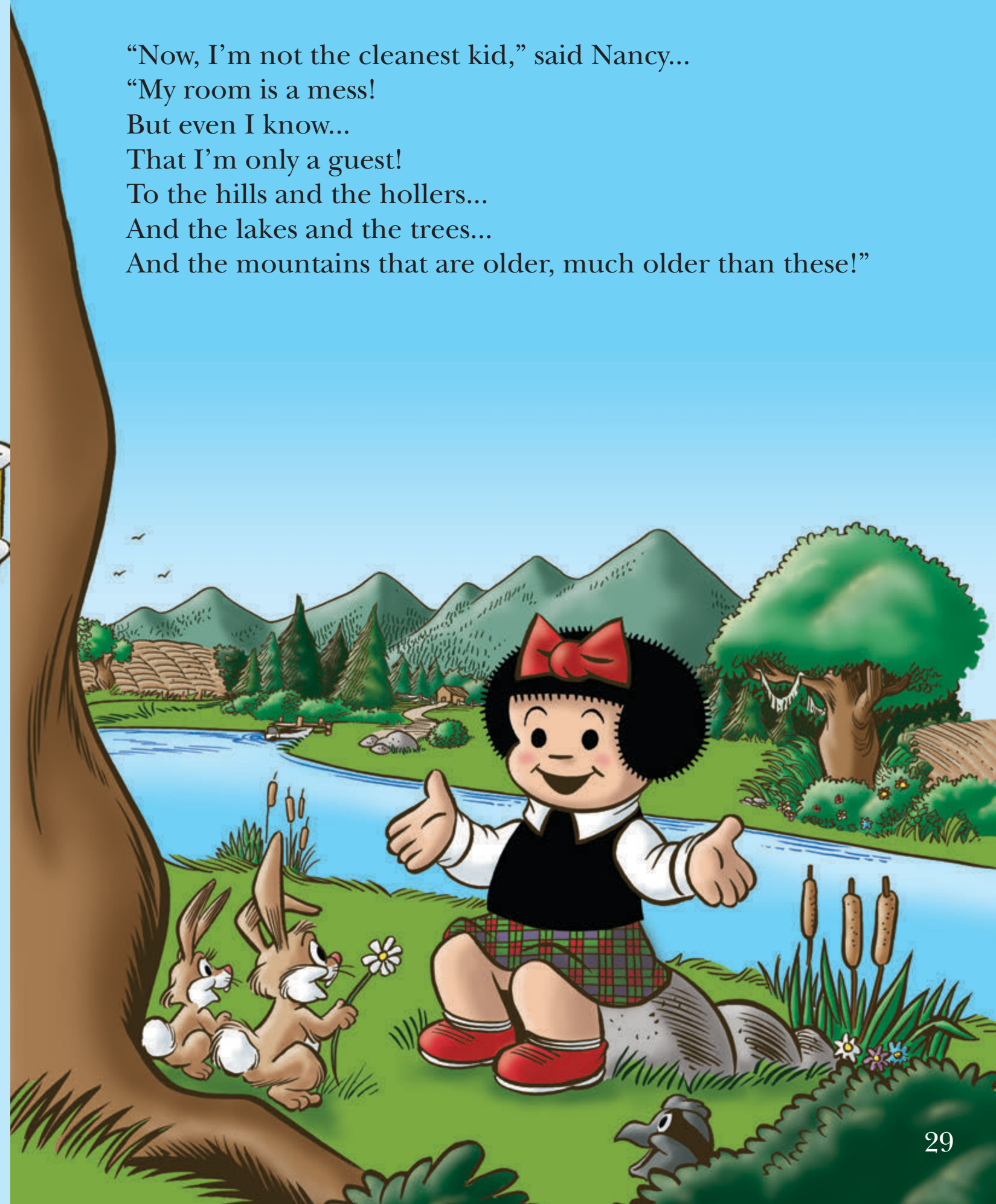




And wouldn't you know it?  
Some fans came on back.  
And so did the Coach and the star Quarterback!  
And soon, everyone... by working together...  
Made the field, and the parking lot look so much better!  
Litter is everywhere. We all know that it's wrong.  
Thrown around on the ground,  
Is never where trash belongs!



"Now, I'm not the cleanest kid," said Nancy...  
"My room is a mess!  
But even I know...  
That I'm only a guest!  
To the hills and the hollers...  
And the lakes and the trees...  
And the mountains that are older, much older than these!"





Sluggo said, "They come to hunt or hike or fish,  
But soon, there might be no more of this!"  
They looked down from their perch up in the skyway,  
And saw a littered campground and trash on the highway!

So they landed in the State Park, right beneath the trees,  
And cleaned 'round the Deer and the Birds and the Bees.  
A Mockingbird sang her sweetest song,  
As the kids' invention kept chugging along!





They picked up paper, plastic and cups  
Until their bins were all filled up!  
Then our friends took time to play  
With Bobtail the Quail, who lived down that way!  
And Donna the Deer, and Myrtle the Squirrel,  
And a Possum named George,  
and Owl named Merle!

“We make a lot of friends when we dare to do good!”  
Said Nancy to her friends out there in the wood.  
“If there was no more litter... how cool would that be?  
A brighter, more beautiful Tennessee!”

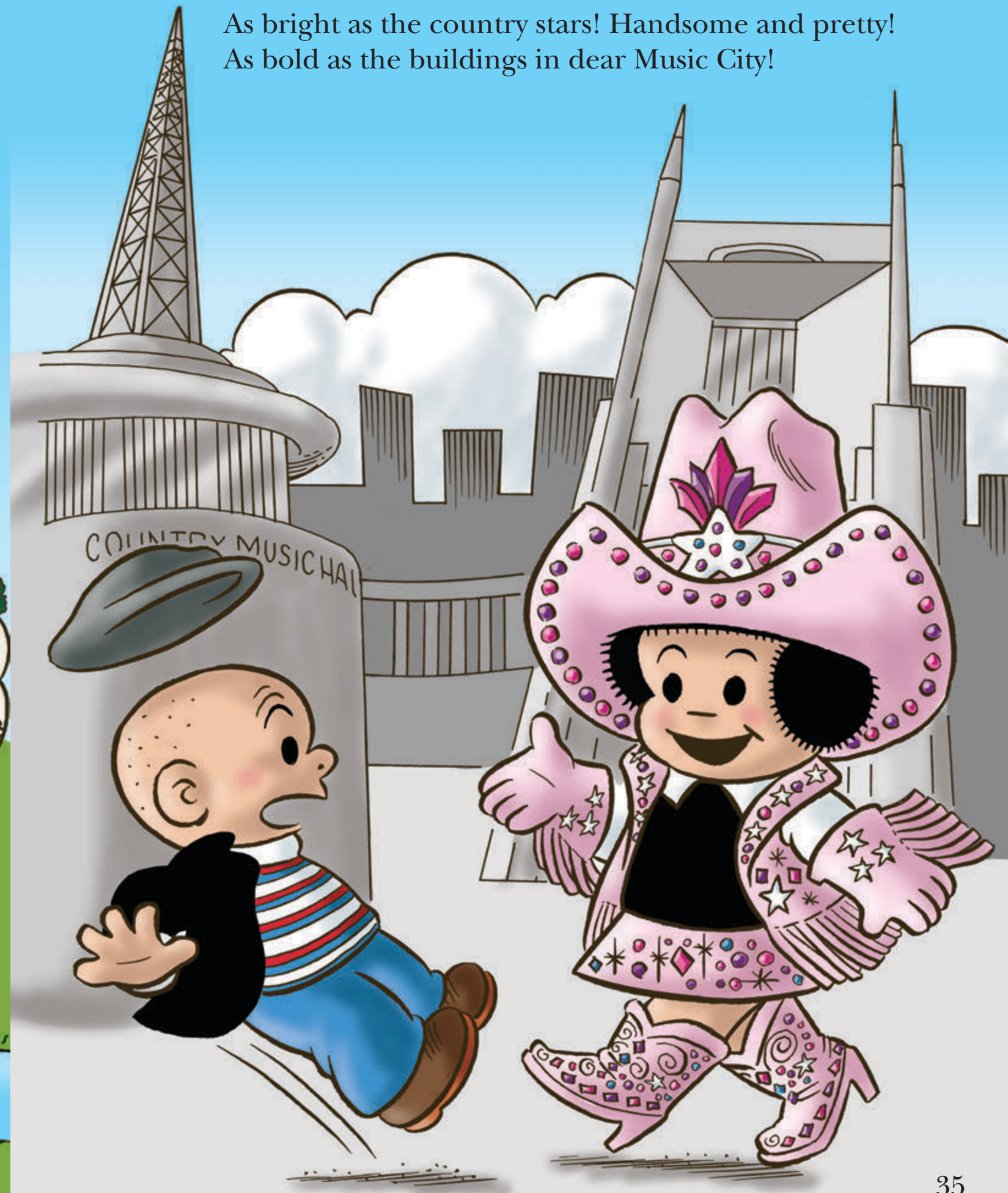




Some folks think that there's too much pollution,  
And so much wrong, there can be no solution!  
But we know better! We know that we  
One by one, and three by three  
Can change the world, by just doing rightly!  
We can show others how!  
We can shine,  
Oh, so brightly!



As bright as the country stars! Handsome and pretty!  
As bold as the buildings in dear Music City!





Out in the park, they were planting some trees!  
All of our cities could use more of these!  
Greenways and cleanways and more pretty places  
Light up some smiles on big city faces!  
From the city to the country, they flew once again  
To visit a Raccoon... who was a very cool friend!



“Our friend, the Raccoon is a very wise creature!”  
Said Nancy, “He’s quite an incredible teacher!”  
“I’ve lived here,” said the Raccoon, “with my child and my wife,  
Here in these woods, for all of my life!  
Oh, the beauty of Tennessee!  
Trash takes away from the beauty, you see.  
The beauty of the rivers, the forests, the hills...  
Not only that, but it makes us all ill!”





Landfills that smell and pollute and destroy  
 Is not what we want for our girls and our boys!  
 We want a cleaner, prettier place to live.  
 A future! What a gift we can give!"

The Raccoon, whose name was Mister Mask,  
 said to the kids, "We each have a task!  
 Because if we fail to recycle,  
     reuse and renew,  
 There will be mountains of trash!  
     Then, what will we do?"



Let it keep piling up straight to the Moon??  
 Or to Mars, so the Martians are smelling it soon?  
 Instead of more landfills, we can plant some more flowers  
 And trees and bushes in this great state of ours!"

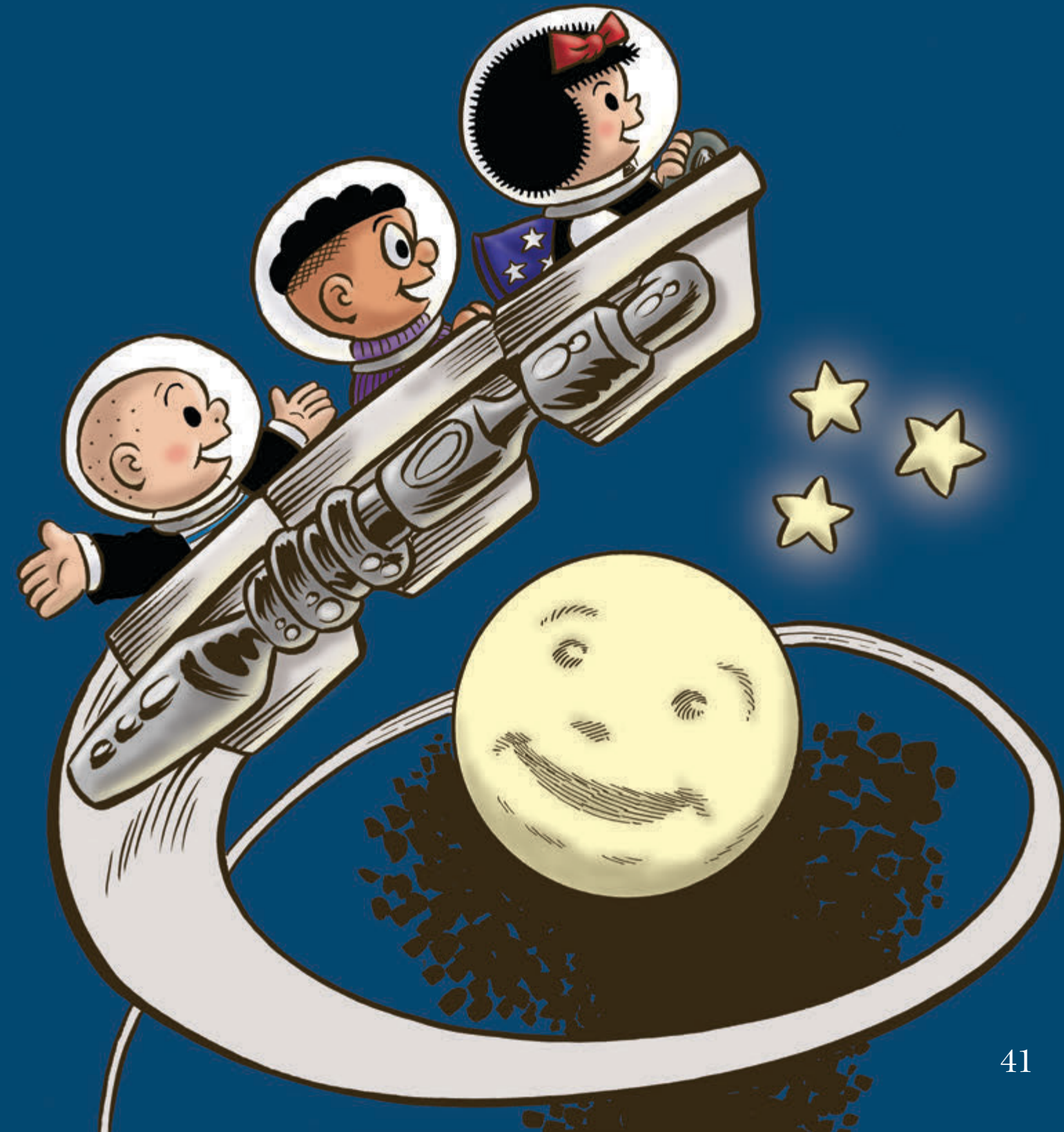




“I know we can do it!” said Nancy standing there,  
“Because me and my friends, we all really care!  
We can make a cleaner, more beautiful Tennessee  
And it all starts with you and me!”



Then they all jumped in the “T”... and away they all flew  
Once more in those Tennessee skies of blue!  
They passed three stars in the skies,  
and three times round the Moon  
‘Til each was back in their own bed pretty soon.







Homer, good night.

Sluggo, good night.



Nancy, we hope that you're sleeping tight...

Each of you dreaming your own special dream  
Of a recycled flying and floating machine  
And talking raccoons and dancing fishes...  
And the best of the best of all Tennessee wishes!







**THE END**









Nancy has been loved by millions of comic strip readers of all ages since Ernie Bushmiller first created her in 1933! Nancy and her friend Sluggo are two of the most popular comic characters of all time, read each day in newspapers in 80 countries around the world and through the internet by 57,000,000 readers.

In this fantastic story in rhyme, appropriate for all ages, Nancy, Sluggo, and their genius friend Homer build a flying, floating, wild vehicle out of recycled materials and take off for a fun-filled adventure all around the great state of Tennessee! Along the way, they help to clean up the water, air, and land while meeting some wonderful, funny, and wise new animal friends!

Children, parents, and Nancy fans of all ages will enjoy traveling along with Nancy and her friends as they discover all the beauty that surrounds them in Tennessee! Get set for fun, laughs, and plenty of adventure!



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