



RHYMES  
and DOODLES from



WIND-UP



TOY

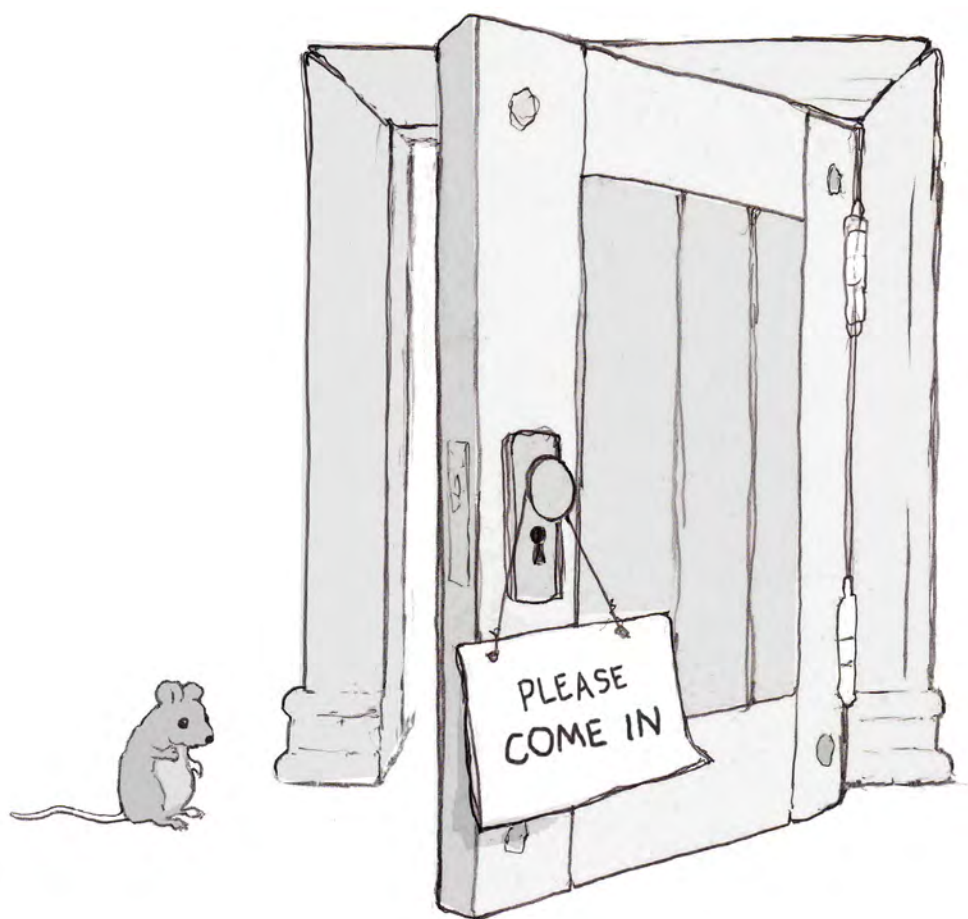


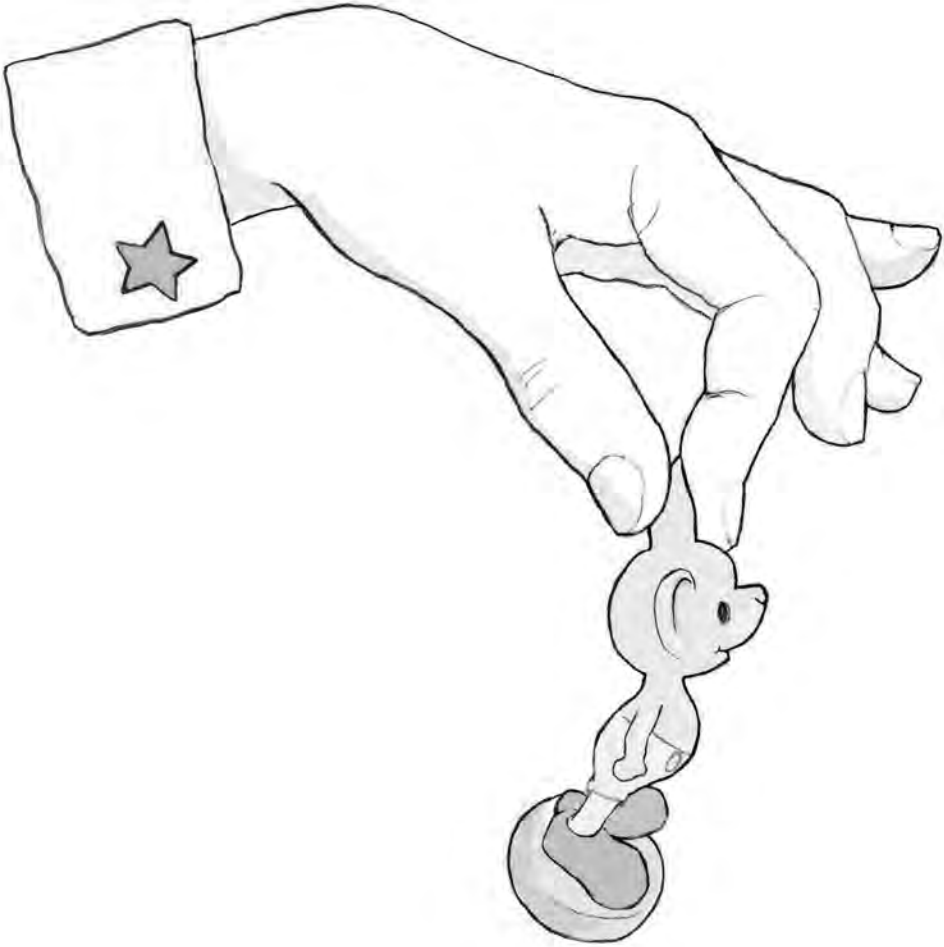
Martha Sears West



PREVIEW





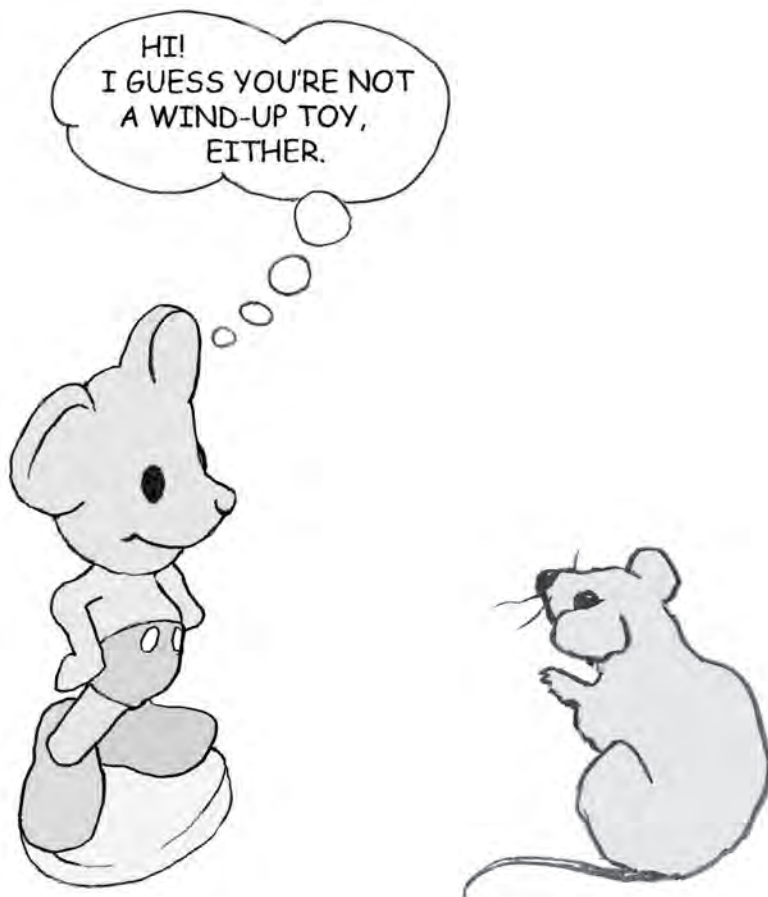


RHYMES  
and DOODLES from

A  
WIND-UP  
TOY



by  
Martha Sears West



CLEAN KIND WORLD  
Los Angeles

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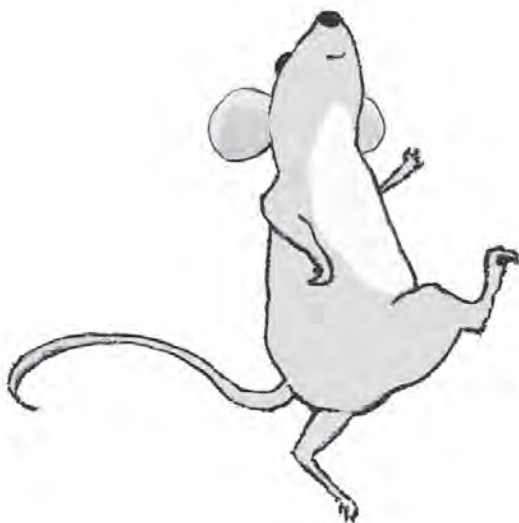
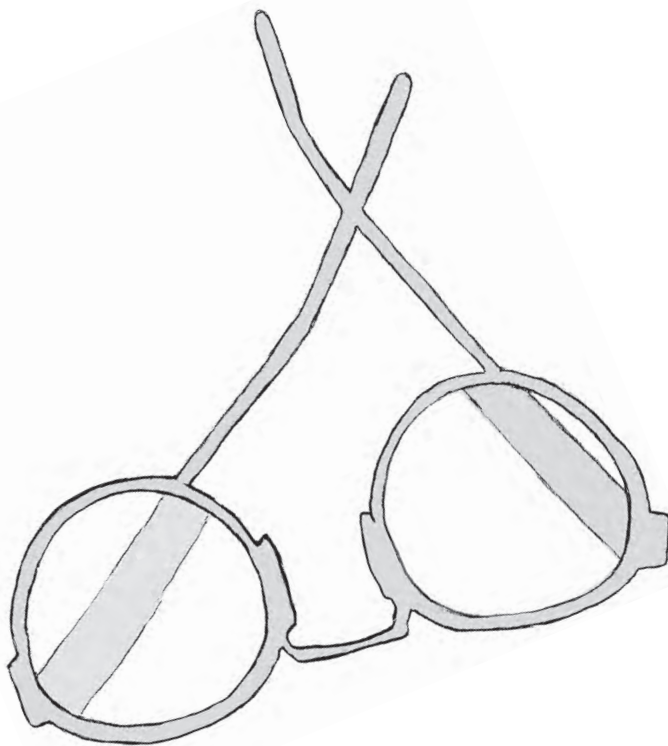
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*Jake, Dad and the Worm · Longer Than Forevermore · Rhymes and Doodles from a Wind-up Toy  
Hetty · Hetty Happens · Hetty or Not · Honeymoon Summer · Hetty on Hold*

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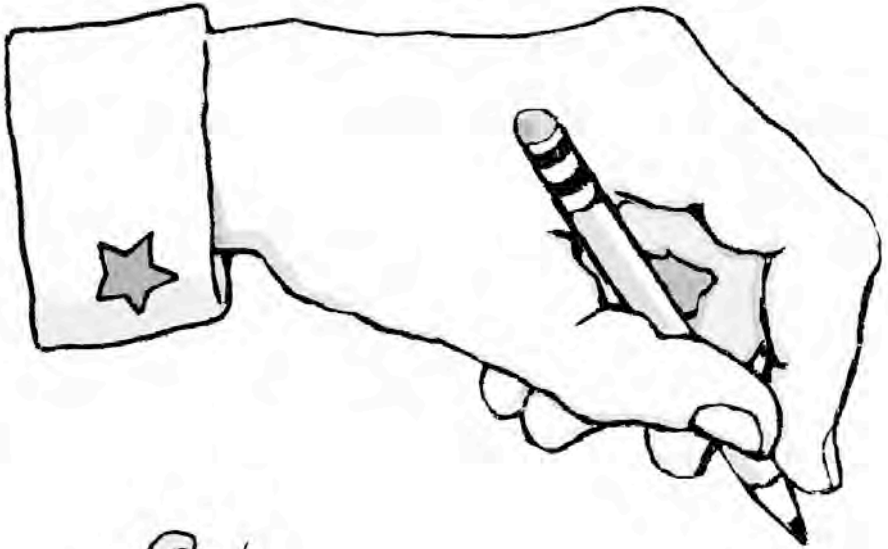
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Dear Reader,  
I appreciate parents,  
siblings, and dear friends  
and family who are  
happenmakers.  
My deepest thanks  
Allan, Page, Adam, and  
their choice spouses  
and families. Special  
gratitude goes to my  
husband, Steve, for fifty-  
two years of creating  
memories, and for his  
gift of encouragement.  
These words at play are  
intertwined with my love.  
I hope they give you  
pleasure.

*M.S.W.*



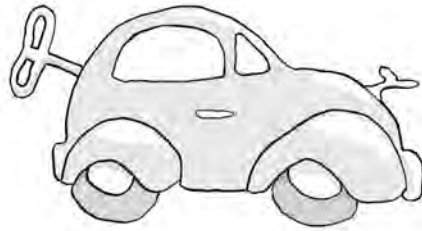


## POETIC SENSE

After reading poetry,  
I want to ask from whence  
The poet found so many words  
That make so little sense.

This seems a rare frustration  
That I suffer all alone:  
If I'm to understand a poem,  
I'll have to write my own.





## I AM NOT A WIND-UP TOY

I am not a wind-up toy;  
I do the things I choose.  
No one makes me squeak and spin  
In purple dancing shoes.  
No one winds a key that makes me  
Ride a little bike  
With pantaloons and parasol.  
No, I do what I like.

I think I got my pants on wrong,  
By dressing in a hurry.  
Oh, well, I'll wear them inside out.  
I'm not going to worry.  
But...flashing past a mirror...  
Could that image be my own?  
A jaunty tag pokes stiffly  
From the seam where it was sewn.

I seem to have a wind-up key  
Protruding from my seat!  
The mirror shows me as I am;  
The lesson is complete.  
Even when I think that I'm  
The one in charge of me,  
Conditions out of my control  
Are winding up my key.





## OSTRICH OF THE IMAGINATION

About the ostrich:

All these years, I've simply been misled;  
He doesn't dig a dirt hole  
To obfuscate his head.

The book that says he does,  
When he is hiding from a predator,  
Should've been checked over  
By the scientific editor.



## GOOSE ON THE LOOSE

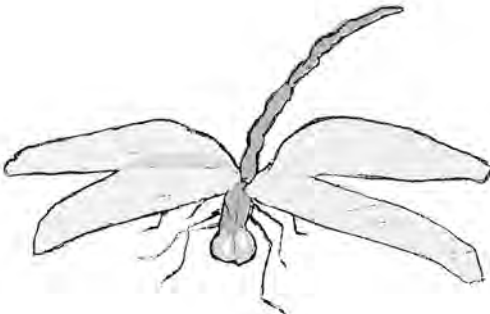
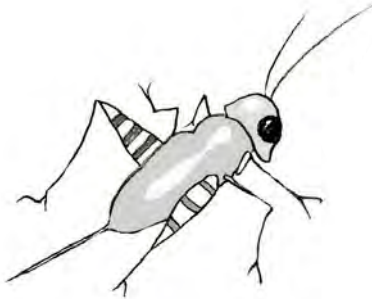
What could possibly be the excuse  
For a vicious, irascible goose  
With manners atrocious,  
And hissing ferocious,  
Biting me on the caboose?

# CRITTERS



Many living things we do admire.  
Some we swat.

We may be created equal.  
They are not.



## VETERINARY EMERGENCY

When Santa's disorganized elf  
Left a choc'late bar low on the shelf,  
    "They've gone," Maggie thought,  
    "So I'll never get caught,  
If I gulp it down all by myself!"

They got home to Maggie, and found  
She was too weak to utter a sound;  
    Lying curled in a ball,  
    Chocolate, tinfoil and all,  
As if ready to lay in the ground.

She was raced to the vet, in a cab,  
(With what evidence someone could grab).  
    "Oh, no need to bury her,"  
    The vet said, "your terrier  
Thinks she's a Chocolate Lab."



## PETS

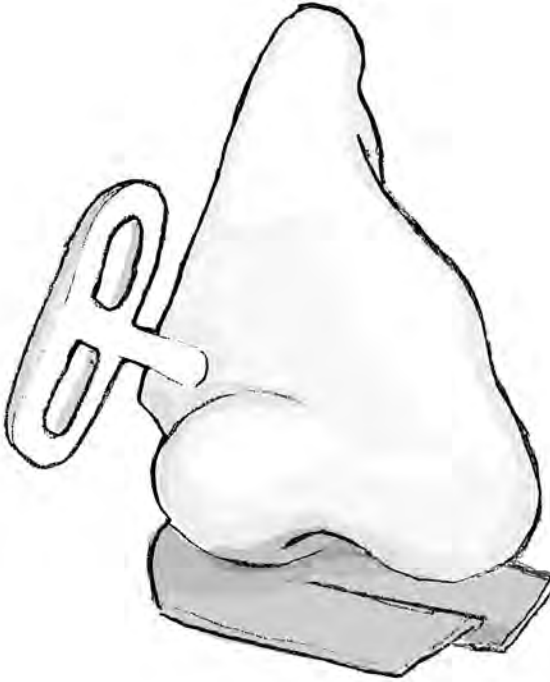
People tend to love their pets,  
And I am no exception.  
Some animals, however,  
Rule their owners by deception.

My neighbor thinks her pussycat  
Is such a little dear,  
And yet its teeth and claws have got me  
Paralyzed with fear.

I guess she doesn't understand  
That nothing could be stranger  
Than harboring a crazy pet  
That poses such a danger.

When she complained about my dog,  
I very nearly choked,  
For my dear Fang will bite your leg  
Only when provoked.





## MY MECHANICAL NOSE

Unfortunate, the person  
Who snuffles, snorts or blows,  
And has to mop with frequency  
A red and runny nose.

As for me, I've bought one  
With a guarantee behind it:  
Its decorative nostrils will not run,  
Unless I wind it.

## INCOMPATIBLE GUESTS

Cute little mousie, running through the housie,  
I think we'd better show you to the door!

You could end up in a trap  
With a quick and fatal snap,  
And you wouldn't be so cute, anymore.

To our lovely dinner guest, you're a horrid little pest,  
Darting like a furry shooting comet.

The lady's looking pale  
Since she saw your little tail;  
Oh, dear! I think she's going to...

hurry home,  
for she says she needs to  
dust her houseplants.







## THE VALENTINE

He's missing arms and legs like ours,  
And many other parts.  
But lest we feel superior,  
The earthworm has five hearts.

You'll get some pretty gifts with lace;  
The one from me has slime.  
So here's my squirmy gift:  
A five times better Valentine!

## MINIMALLY INVASIVE POSTERIOR LUMBAR DECOMPRESSION

A spineless sort of whimpering  
Was always on her lips.  
From whence had come this jolting pain,  
In ankles, legs and hips?  
When X-rays of a corkscrew  
Turned out to be her back,  
Without another clue she figured,  
"Something's out of whack!"

Though deaf to talk of operations,  
By her own admission,  
Good fortune smiled upon her,  
For she found a fine physician  
Who made a slice and did a splice,  
Inside her ailing back.  
In layman's terminology,  
He put it into whack.

Though nauseated briefly  
By what others thought was edible,  
Nonetheless, she could report  
Her doctor was incredible.  
Now she chortles gleefully,  
While sharing this impression  
Of her very own Posterior  
Lumbar Decompression.

We now return with gratitude,  
To speak of Doctor Hooley,  
Who fixed up that forementioned back  
Belonging to Yours Truly.



## PLEASANTRIES

Did my "Hello, how are you?" sound empty,  
Like an old and tired joke?  
If only you could hear my thoughts more clearly  
Than those simple words I spoke!

I like supposing that you understood me  
All the while:  
I meant to say, "My world is brightened  
By your very smile."

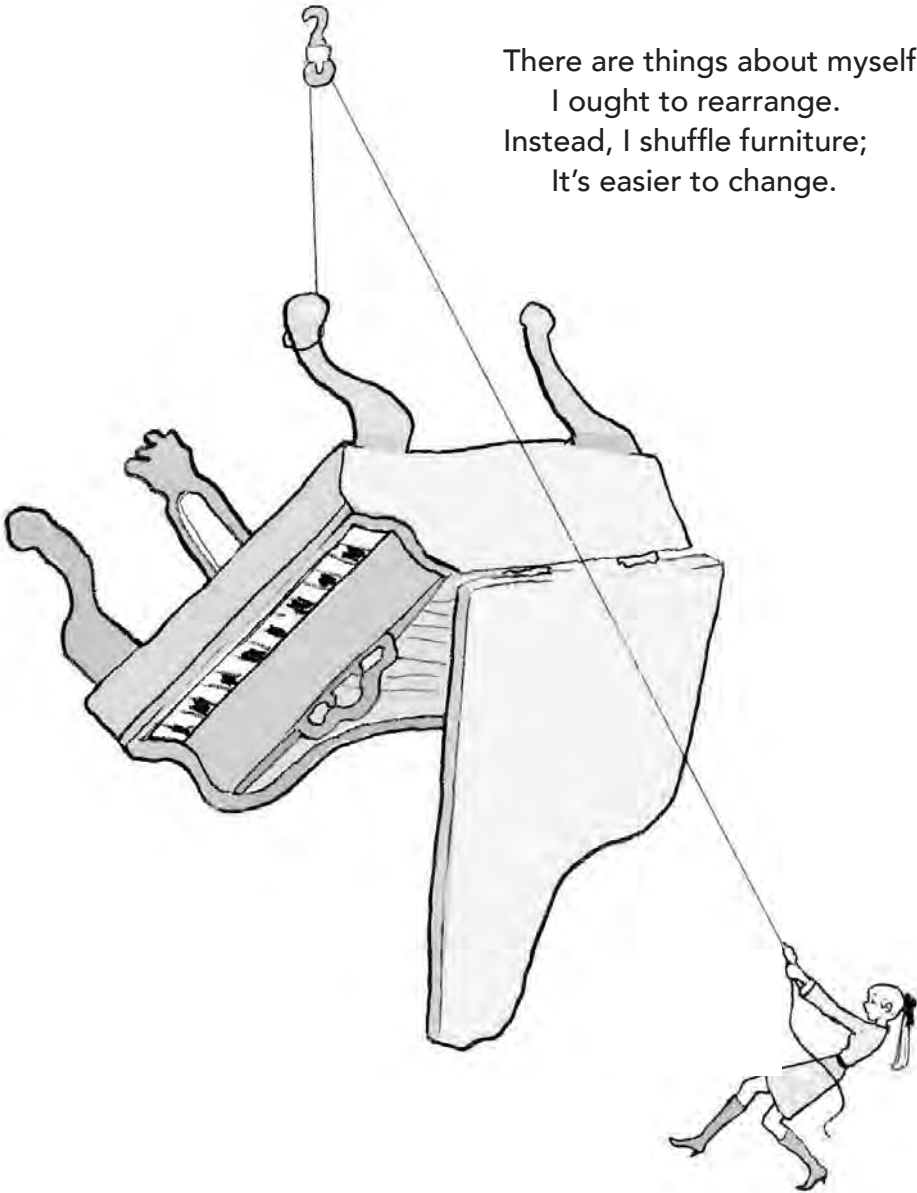


## SMILE

Be careful, as you speak Chinese,  
To use the proper tone;  
You might say, "I'm a frog, please,"  
Instead of "Where's the phone?"  
Or, "Eat a blue moustache today,"  
Instead of "Howdy-do."  
But smile, whatever words you say,  
And they'll smile back at you.

## CHANGE

There are things about myself  
I ought to rearrange.  
Instead, I shuffle furniture;  
It's easier to change.



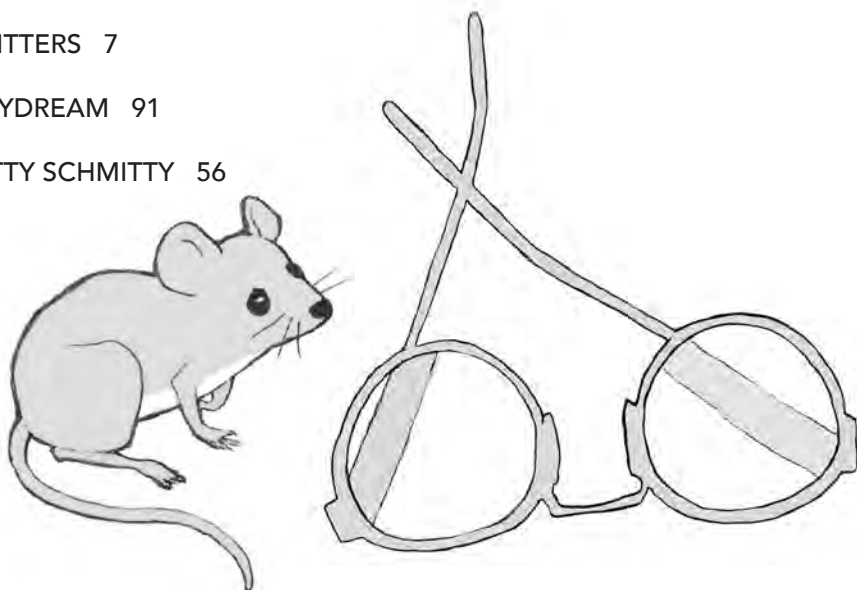
THE END

WE'RE GOING TO  
WIND UP  
THIS BOOK, NOW.

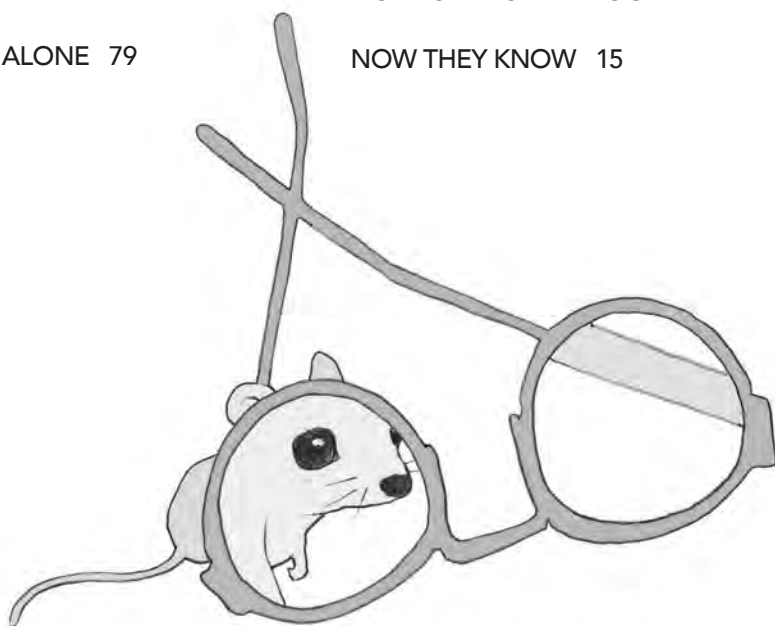


# INDEX

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| A GENTLEWOMAN 60          | DORIS AND THE CHORUS 56 |
| A SEWING LESSON 84        | FAIRY CHILD 55          |
| A TAD 50                  | FAREWELL 62             |
| A MESSAGE TO ANONYMOUS 69 | FASHION STATEMENT 90    |
| A WISE POINT 60           | FIDO FISH 70            |
| AN EAGLE 46               | FOREVERMORE 43          |
| AND SYRUP 66              | FRAFRIA 96              |
| AT THE GALLERY 83         | FROM DAD 71             |
| AT THE REUNION 105        | GETTING EVEN 96         |
| BETSY'S PEAR AMBROSIA 86  | GONE 25                 |
| BEWARE THE ATOMIZER! 13   | GOOSE ON THE LOOSE 6    |
| BUTTERED TOAST 65         | GRANDMOTHER 64          |
| BY CAR 53                 | HAPPENMAKER 103         |
| CHANGE 111                |                         |
| CRITTERS 7                |                         |
| DAYDREAM 91               |                         |
| DITTY SCHMITTY 56         |                         |

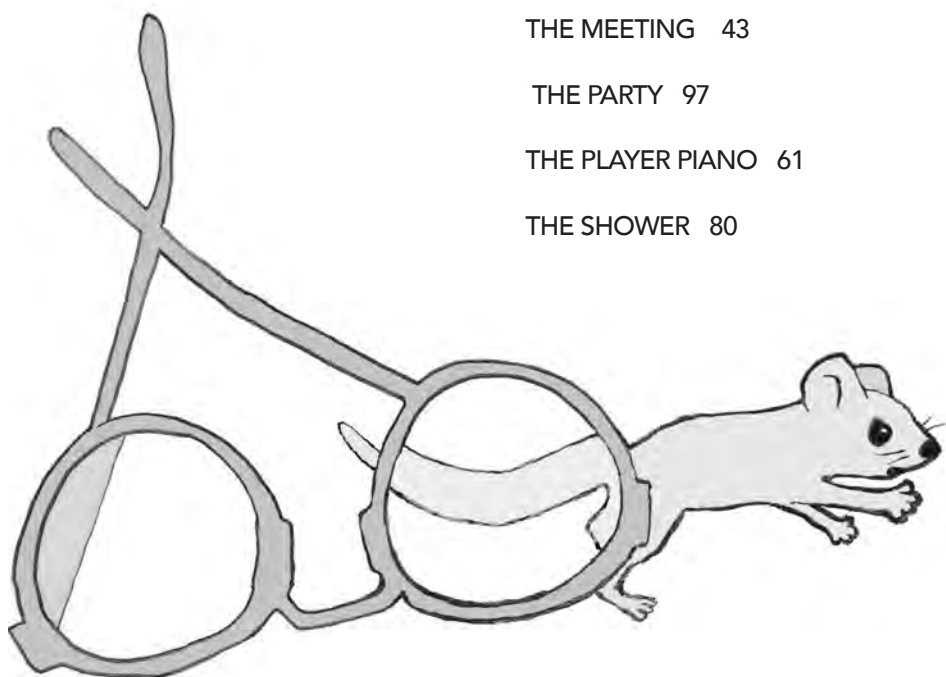


HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME 68	MEASLES START WITH ME 95
I AM NOT A WIND-UP TOY 2	MEASURE UP 100
I AM WOMAN; HEAR ME SNORE 19	MEMORIES 105
I CAN FLY 39	MINIMALLY INVASIVE POSTERIOR
IN THE MOONLIGHT 98	LUMBAR DECOMPRESSION 109
INCOMPATIBLE GUESTS 11	MONKEY BUSINESS 49
INTRODUCTORY PIANO LESSON 26	MY BLACK HOLE 73
JANE MARTHA JANE 88	MY FIELD TRIP REPORT 102
JOYFUL READER 101	MY MECHANICAL NOSE 10
LAURA LEE 27	NEW, EASY-OPEN CONTAINER 51
LITTLE TOMMY TOOTHPASTE 34	NEWBORN 89
LIVER PIE 81	NO BOSS 82
LOST EMAIL 28	NO THANK YOU 72
LOST IN TRANSLATION 16	NOT THAT BEDTIME STORY! 40
MAGIC 50	NOTE ON A CABIN DOOR 47
MAYBE AND ALONE 79	NOW THEY KNOW 15



ON FIRE 54  
ONCE UPON A HAPPY TIME 37  
OSTRICH OF THE IMAGINATION 6  
PETS 9  
PHOOEY 53  
PLEASANTRIES 110  
POETIC SENSE 3  
PORTABLE FUN 106  
PUPPY CARE 14  
RHYME TIME 21  
SMILE 110  
SNOWFALL 77

SON 42  
STEWED PRUNES 36  
SUMMER GUEST 93  
SUNRISE 32  
SUPPERTIME 74  
THE BEST CHRISTMAS 38  
THE CHANGE OF PLANS 58  
THE FATHER'S DAY GIFT 57  
THE FISHERMAN 22  
THE FLIGHT OF TIME 48  
THE JUMPING BEAN 52  
THE LATE SHOW 78  
THE LIST 107  
THE MEETING 43  
THE PARTY 97  
THE PLAYER PIANO 61  
THE SHOWER 80





THE TEA PARTY 93

THE TREE 101

THE VALENTINE 108

THE WOOD 44

THEY WAIT 104

THOUGHTS OF LOST LOVE 45

THOUGHTS WHILE BEING

TUCKED IN BED 92

TO A CLAM IN MY CHOWDER 77

TOMATO SURPRISE 85

UNCOMMITTED 99

VETERINARY EMERGENCY 8

VISITORS 30

WHAT NOT TO DO 29

WHAT YOU'LL NEED 67

WHO ATE MY CHAIR? 12

WHY WE EXERCISE 25

WISHING 100

YOUR CUP 20



