St George & the Dragon

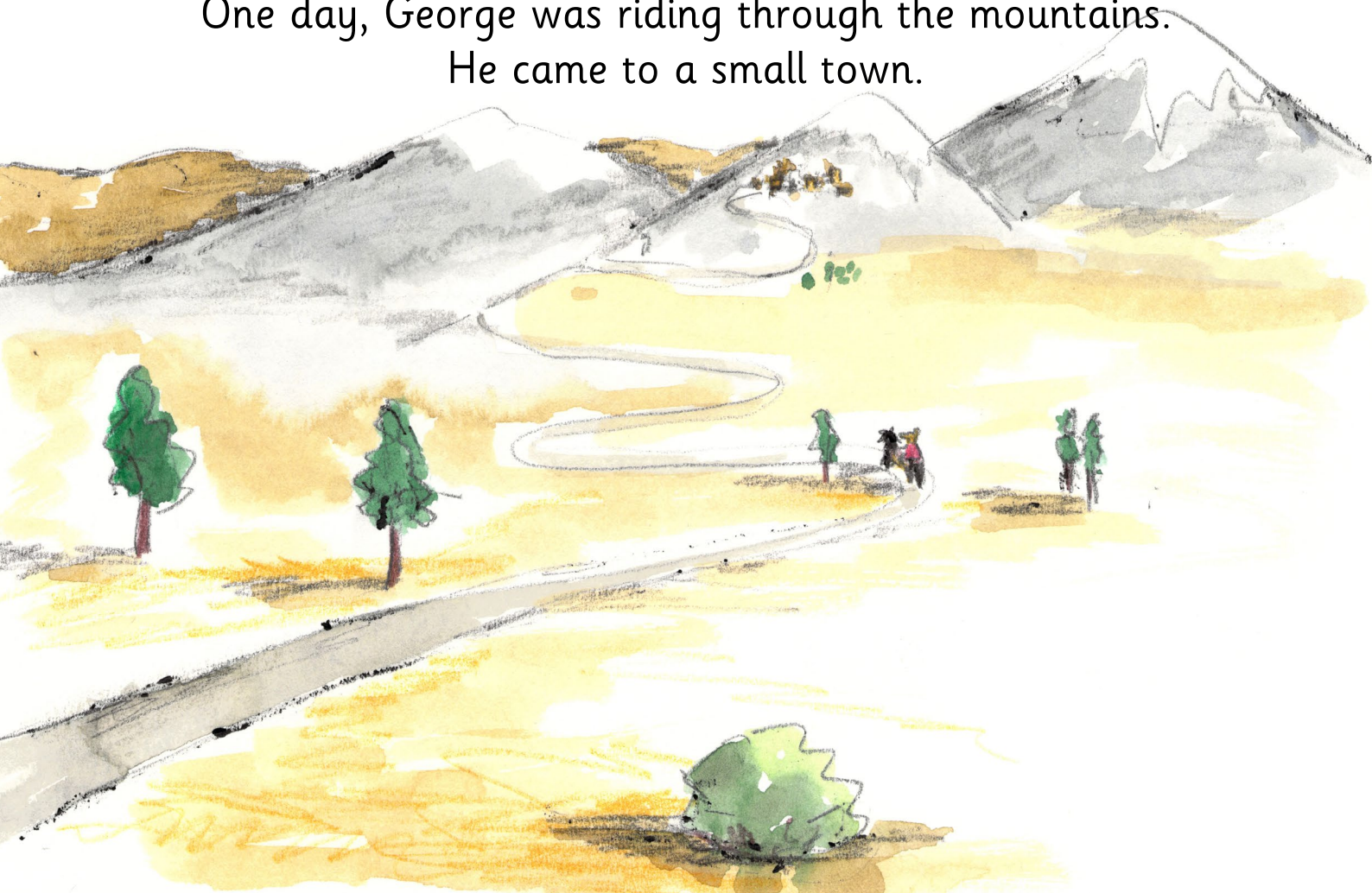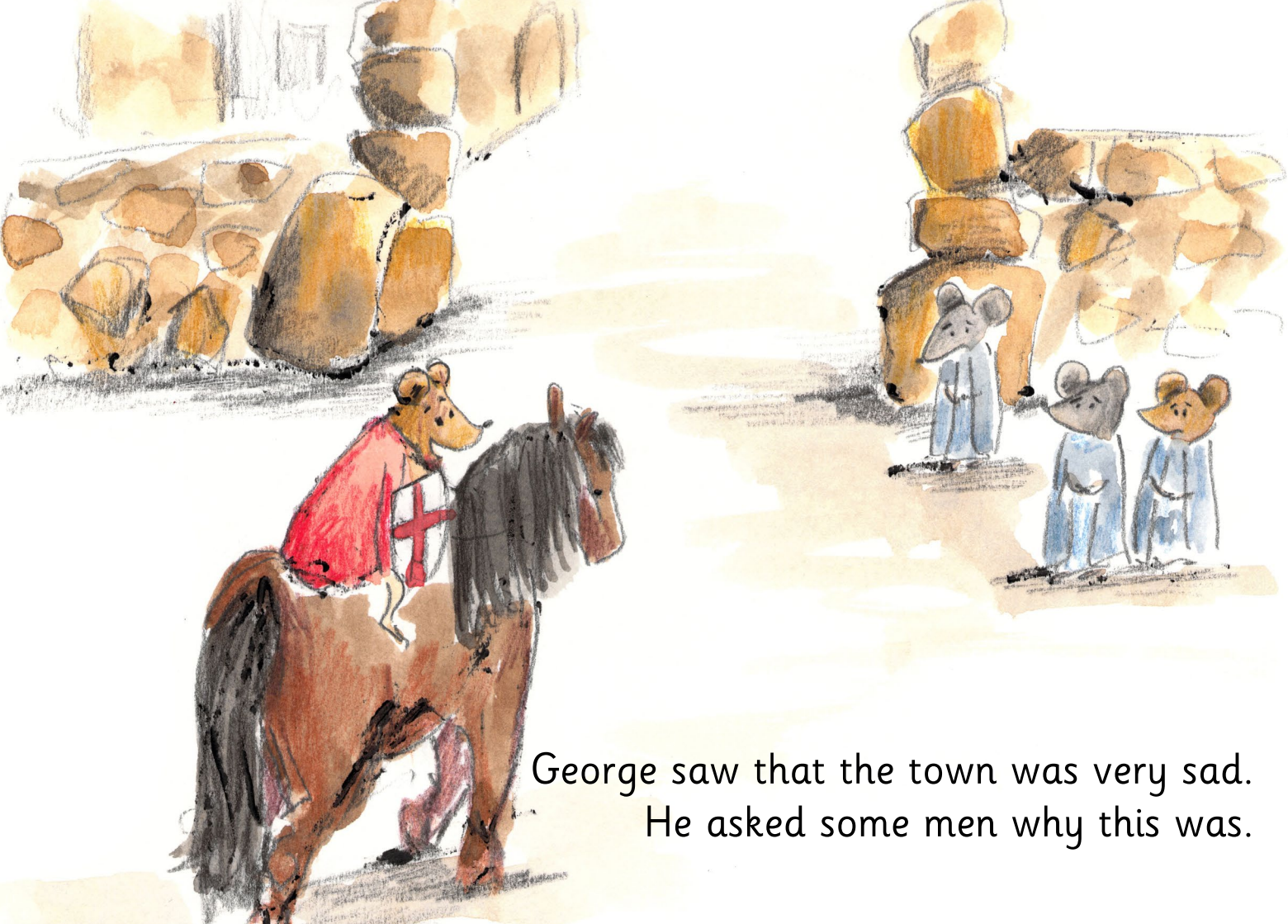Retold by Ruth Merttens
Illustrated by Anne Holm Petersen

Once upon a time there was a knight.
His name was George.

George was part of the Roman army. Then he left to go and fight evil in the world.

One day, George was riding through the mountains.
He came to a small town.

George saw that the town was very sad.
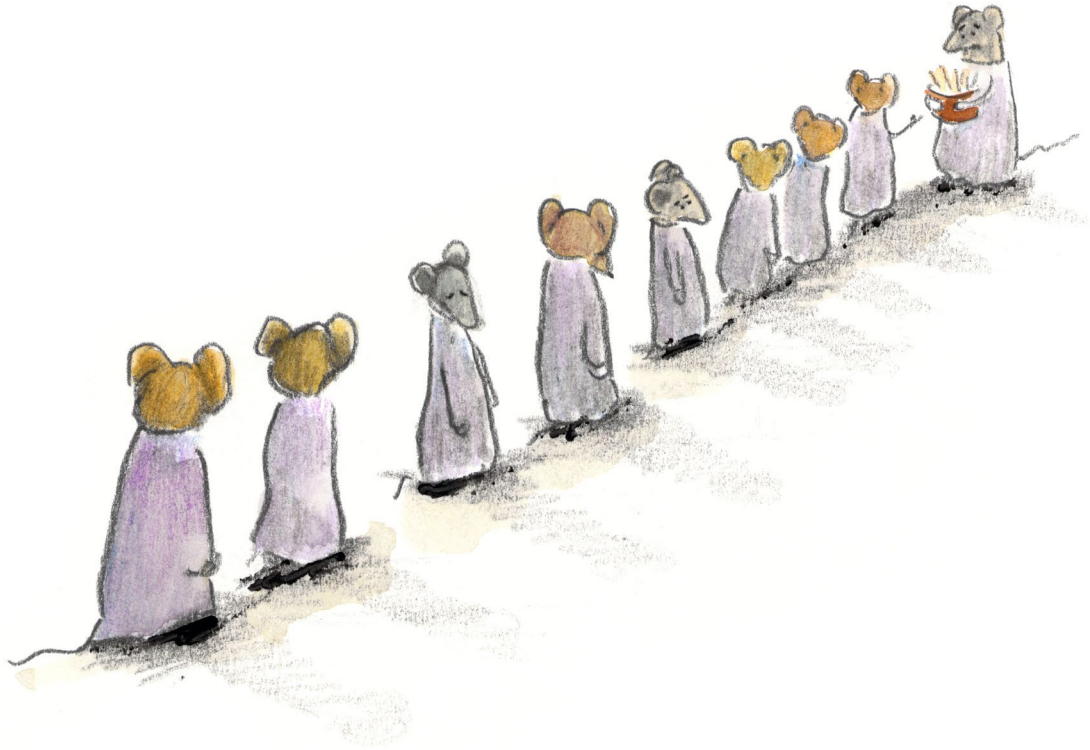He asked some men why this was.

They told George about the TERRIFYING dragon who was holding the town to ransom.

They said, "The dragon breathes its poisonous breath. Men, women and children then get sick and die."

"So there is only one way that we can stop the dragon coming into the town and BREATHING the sickness over us," they told him.

"Every month, all our girls take a straw from a pot. The one with the shortest straw is chosen."

"She is taken up the mountain and tied to a rock outside the cave of the dragon."

George was very shocked. "That is TERRIBLE!" he said sadly.

They told George that this month was the worst ever.
"The young maiden who is to be fed to the dragon is our healer."

"She is amazing," a child told George. "She makes potions from herbs, and she often heals really sick children."

George knew he had to help. "I will go up the mountain to the dragon's cave," he said, "and I will kill the dragon."

But the town folk tried to stop him.
"No!" they cried, "No! Many of our sons have tried.
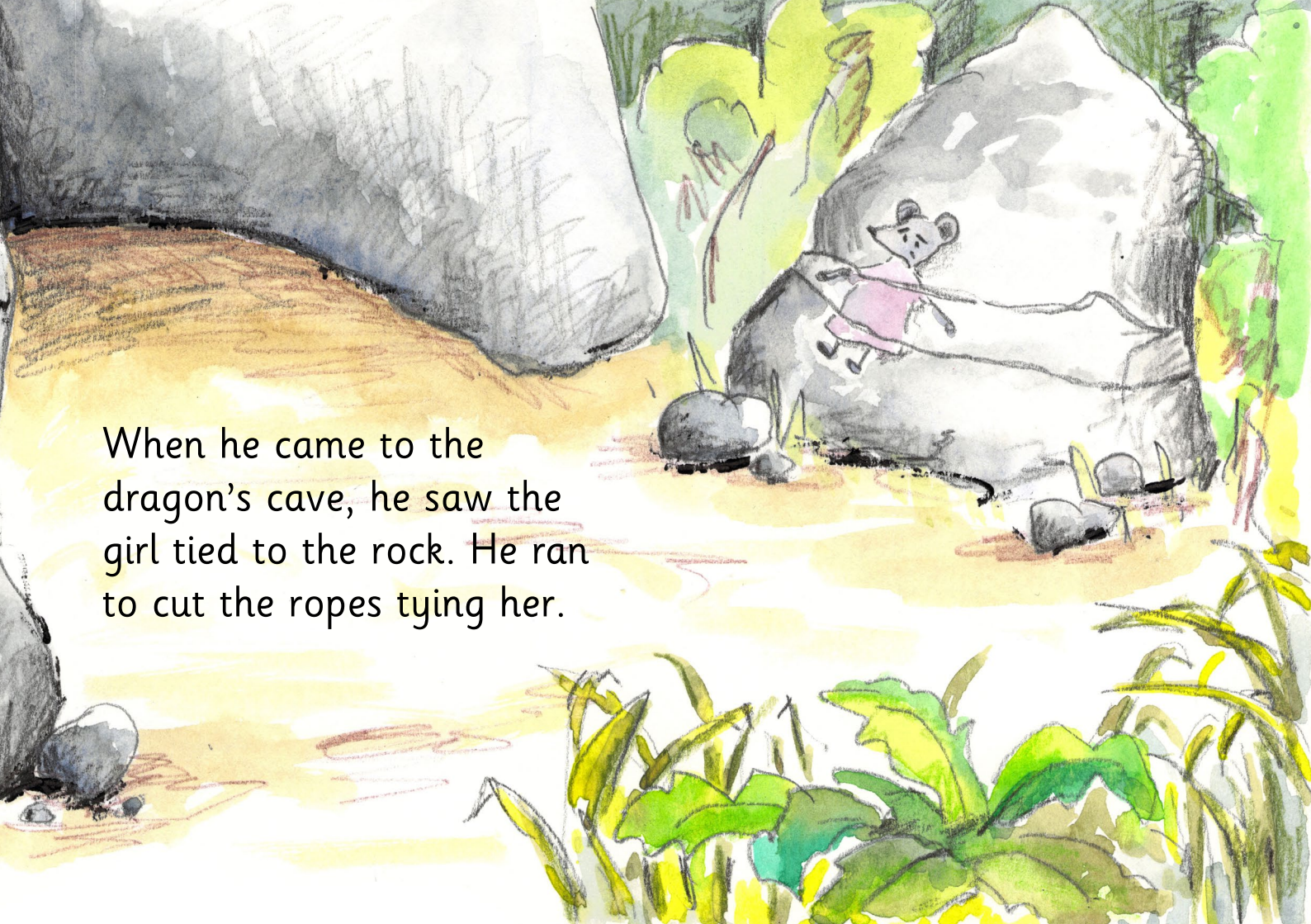The dragon kills anyone who tries to fight him."

But George was determined. "I will go," he said to the townsfolk, "and I will save your town from this terrible dragon."

They tried to stop him, but George set off up the mountain. Soon it was too steep to take his faithful horse, so he tied her to a tree.

When he came to the
dragon's cave, he saw the
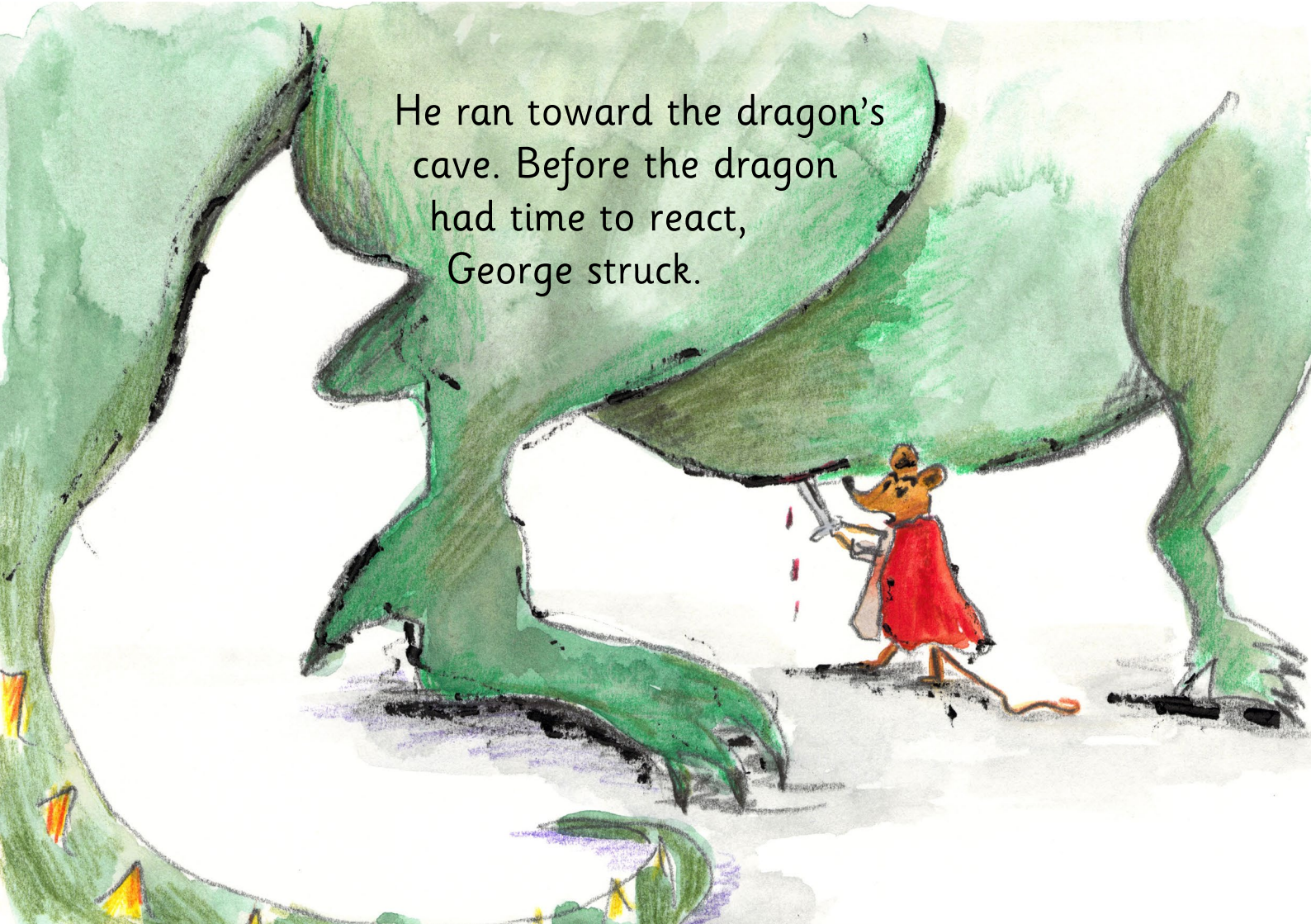girl tied to the rock. He ran
to cut the ropes tying her.

"Go back!" she cried, "The dragon will kill you! Go back to town."

But George drew his sword and held it firm in both hands.
He knew that he had to be very quick.

He ran toward the dragon's
cave. Before the dragon
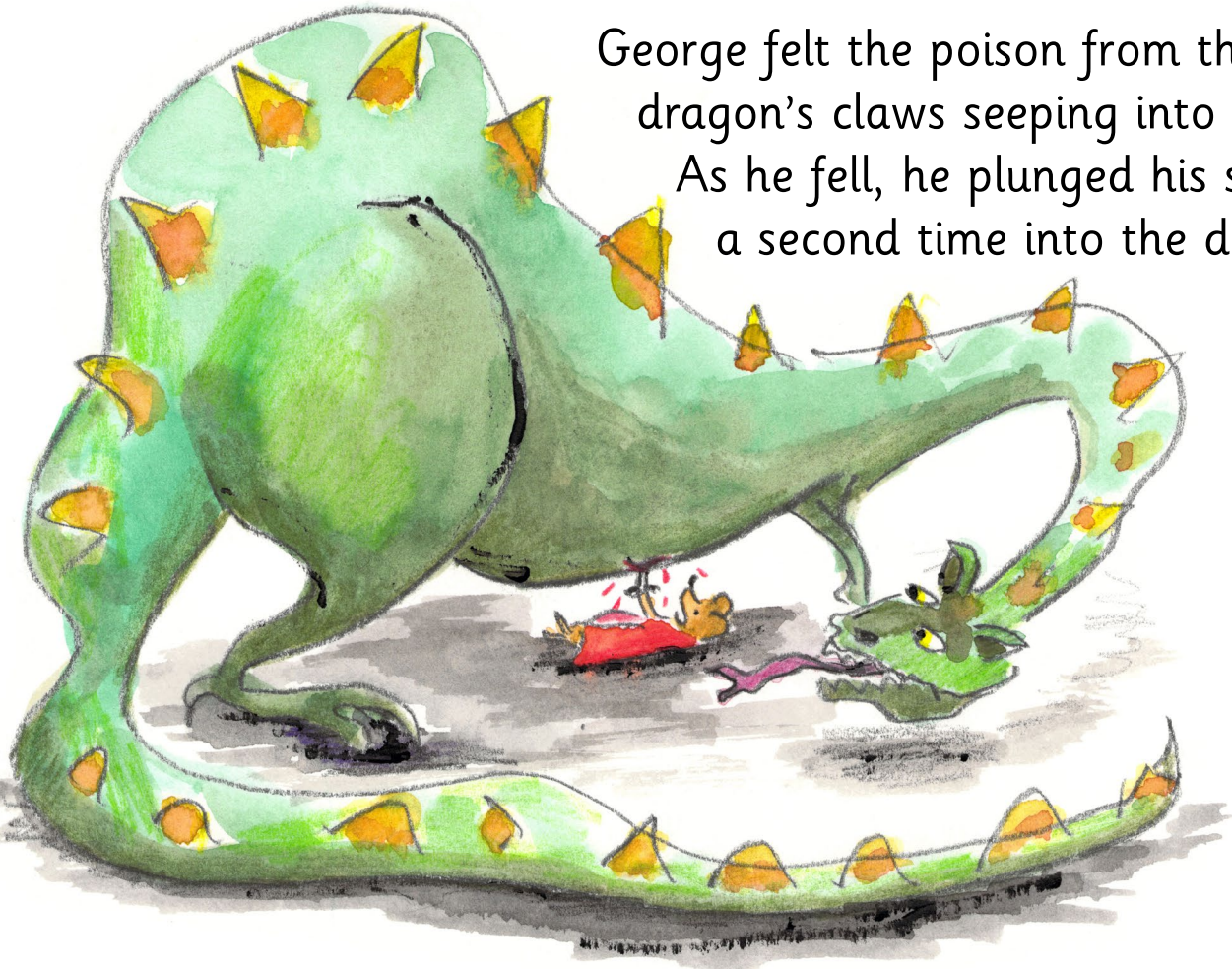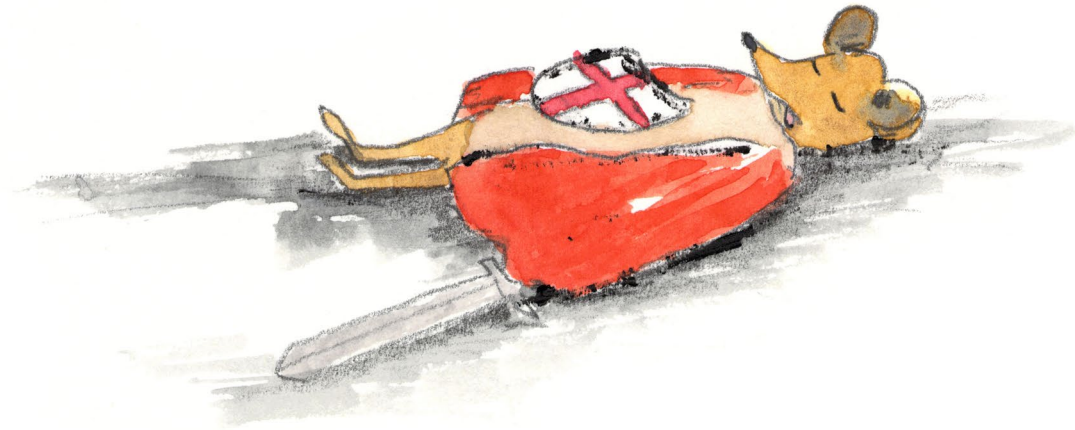had time to react,
George struck.

He plunged his sword deep into the dragon's side. But the dragon turned its terrible head toward him.

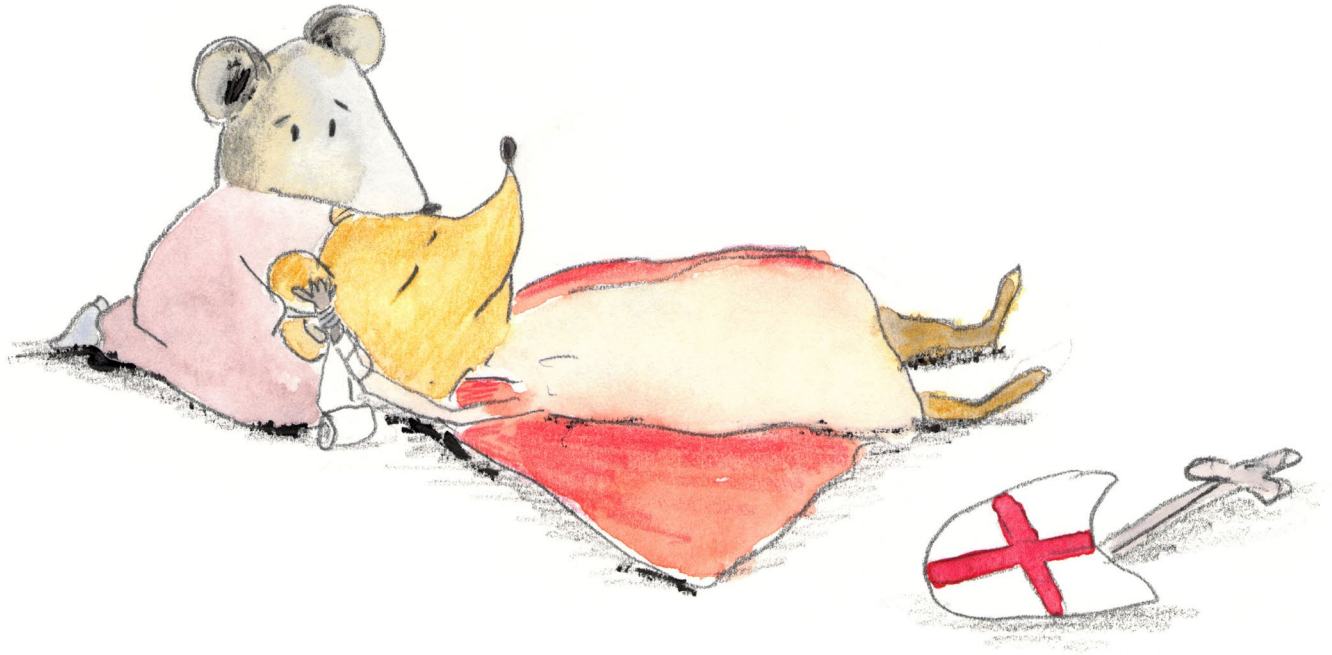George knew its breath was poisonous. He ran past its head.
But the dragon scratched him with his great claws.

George felt the poison from the dragon's claws seeping into him. As he fell, he plunged his sword a second time into the dragon.

Then the poison overcame him and
he fell as if he were dead.

When George woke up, the girl was bending over him. She was bandaging his leg with strips torn from her dress.

George looked up and saw the dragon lying dead. "Yes," whispered the girl, "you have saved us. No more children need to be sacrificed."

"Get my horse," he told her. "Then we can ride back to town."

George's leg was healed by the maiden. Everyone in the town was so happy to be free from the terrible dragon.

George married the healer and they lived
happily in the quiet little town.

PGCs	PGCs
/c/ as <u>c</u>, /t/ as <u>t</u>, /a/ as <u>a</u>	/cw/ as <u>qu</u>/, /cs/ as <u>x</u>, /y/ as <u>y</u>
/d/ as <u>d</u>, /g/ as g, /o/ as <u>o</u>	/oa/ as <u>ow</u>, <u>o</u>, <u>oa</u>, <u>oe</u>, <u>o-e</u>
/m/ as <u>m</u>, /n/ as <u>n</u>	/ooh/ as <u>oo</u>, <u>ew</u>, <u>o</u>
/i/ as <u>i</u>, /s/ as <u>s</u> and <u>ss</u>	/z/ as <u>z</u>, zz and <u>s</u>, /g/ as <u>gu</u> and <u>gh</u>
/u/ as <u>u</u>, /r/ as <u>r</u>	/er/ as <u>er</u>, <u>ur</u>, <u>ir</u>, <u>ear</u>, <u>or</u>
/h/ as <u>h</u>, /l/ as <u>l</u> and <u>ll</u>	/s/ as <u>c</u>, <u>se</u> and <u>ce</u>
/e/ as <u>e</u>, /b/ as <u>b</u>	/j/ as g, <u>ge</u> and <u>dge</u>
/f/ as <u>f</u> and <u>ff</u>, /sh/ as <u>sh</u>	/l/ as <u>le</u> + <u>tt</u>, gg, <u>bb</u>
/p/ as <u>p</u>, /c/ as <u>k</u> and <u>ck</u>	/ue/ as <u>ew</u>, <u>u-e</u> and <u>u</u>
/ee/ as y, /p/ as <u>pp</u> (+ <u>mm</u>, <u>dd</u>, <u>rr</u>, <u>nn</u>)	/ch/ as <u>tch</u>, /oy/ as <u>oi</u>, <u>oy</u>
/ee/ as <u>ee</u>, <u>ea</u>, <u>e</u>	/ooh/ as <u>ue</u> , <u>u-e</u>, <u>ui</u> /c/ as <u>ch</u>, (/ooh/ as <u>ou</u>)
/w/ as <u>w</u> and <u>wh</u>*, /ch/ as <u>ch</u>	/air/ as <u>ear</u>, <u>air</u>, <u>are</u>, (<u>ere</u>, <u>eir</u>)
/th/ as <u>th</u>, /ng/ as ng	/u/ as <u>o</u>, <u>ou</u>, (<u>o-e</u>) /f/ as <u>ph</u> and <u>gh</u>
/tthh/ as <u>th</u>, /v/ as <u>v</u>, <u>ve</u>	/e/ as <u>ea</u>, (a), /o/ as <u>a</u>
/oo/ as <u>oo</u>, <u>u</u> and <u>oul</u>	/ay/ as <u>a</u>, <u>eigh</u>, <u>ea</u>, <u>ey</u>
/j/ as <u>j</u>, /ar/ as <u>ar</u> and <u>a</u>*	/ee/ as <u>ie</u>, <u>ey</u>; /or/ as <u>ar</u>
/ou/ as <u>ou</u>, <u>ow</u> and <u>ough</u>	/or/ as <u>oor</u>, <u>oar</u> and <u>au</u>
/or/ as <u>or</u>, <u>ore</u>, <u>aw</u> and <u>a</u>	/or/ as <u>ough</u>, <u>our</u>, <u>augh</u>
/ay/ as <u>ay</u>, <u>a-e</u>, <u>ai</u>	/or/ as <u>al</u>; /t/ as <u>ed</u>
/ie/ as <u>y</u>, <u>ie</u>, <u>i-e</u>, <u>i</u> and <u>igh</u>	/d/ as <u>ed</u>; /ng/ as <u>n</u>
	/sh/ as <u>ti</u>, <u>si</u>, <u>ci</u>, ch /zh/ as <u>si</u>, <u>as</u> and s

Code-Breakers