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International Horizons

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Once there was a very great sorcerer. He knew everything there was to know about magic.





He could point his fingers at a red flower, and the flower would turn blue!





and make a bird disappear!

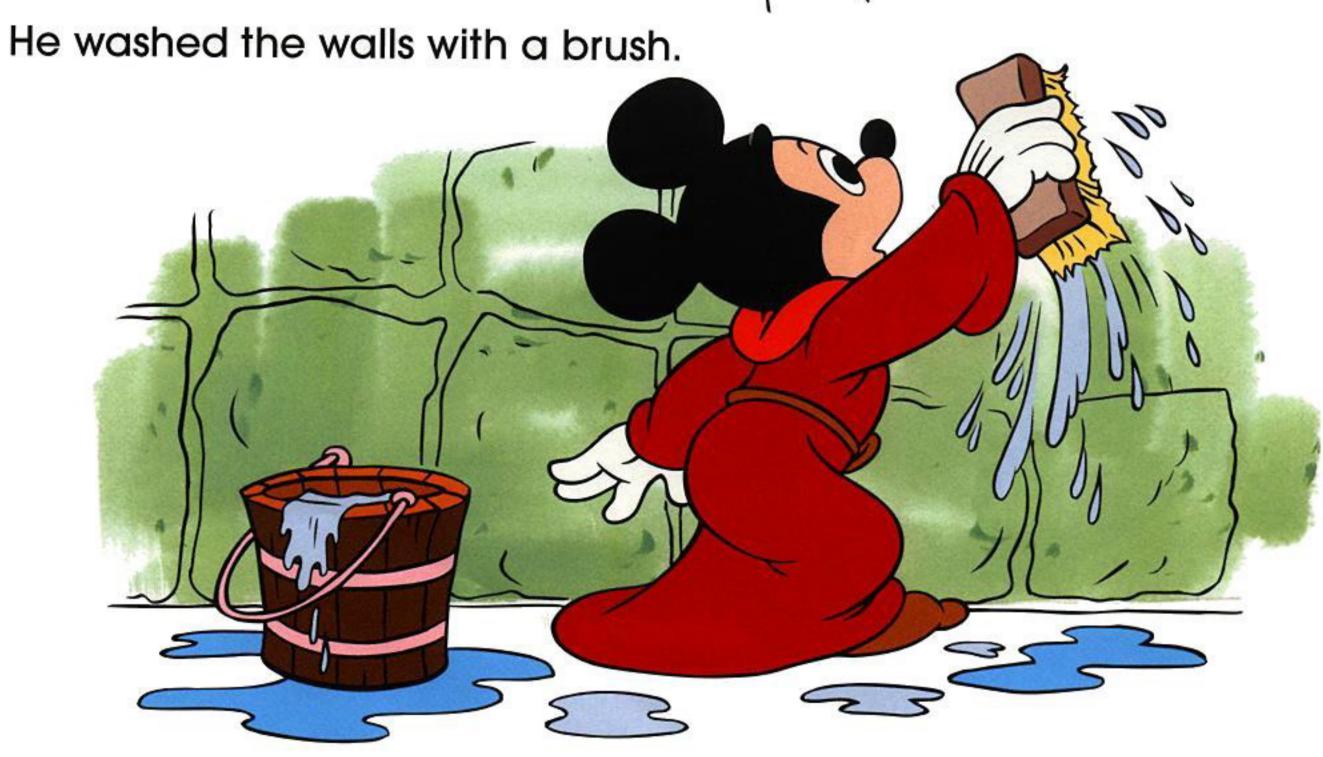


Then he could make the bird appear again by saying some more magic words.

The Sorcerer had a helper named Mickey. Mickey did all the work.

He swept the floor with a broom.





He chopped the wood with an ax.



He carried the Sorcerer's magic books from one room to another.



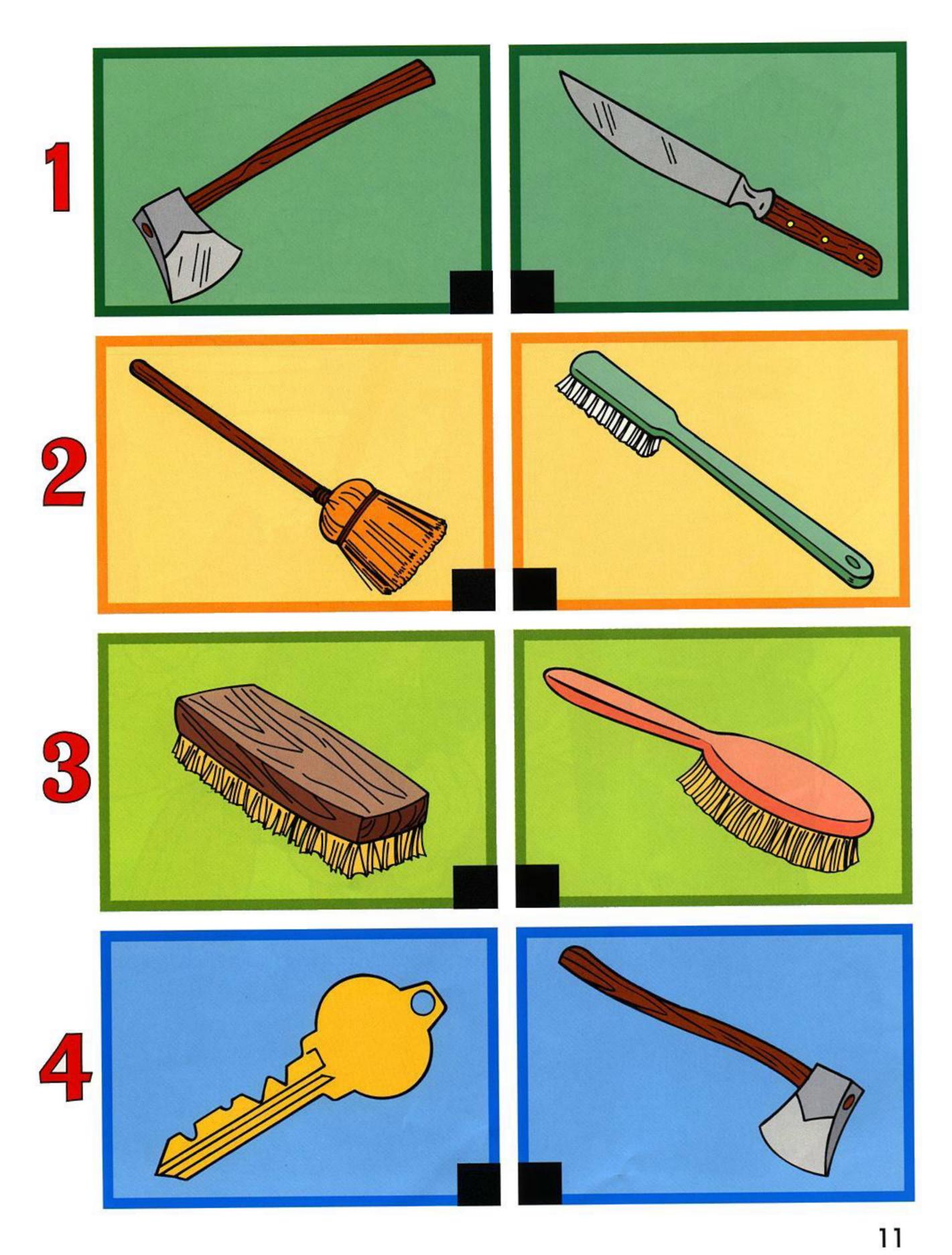
He carried buckets up the stairs to the well and filled them with water.

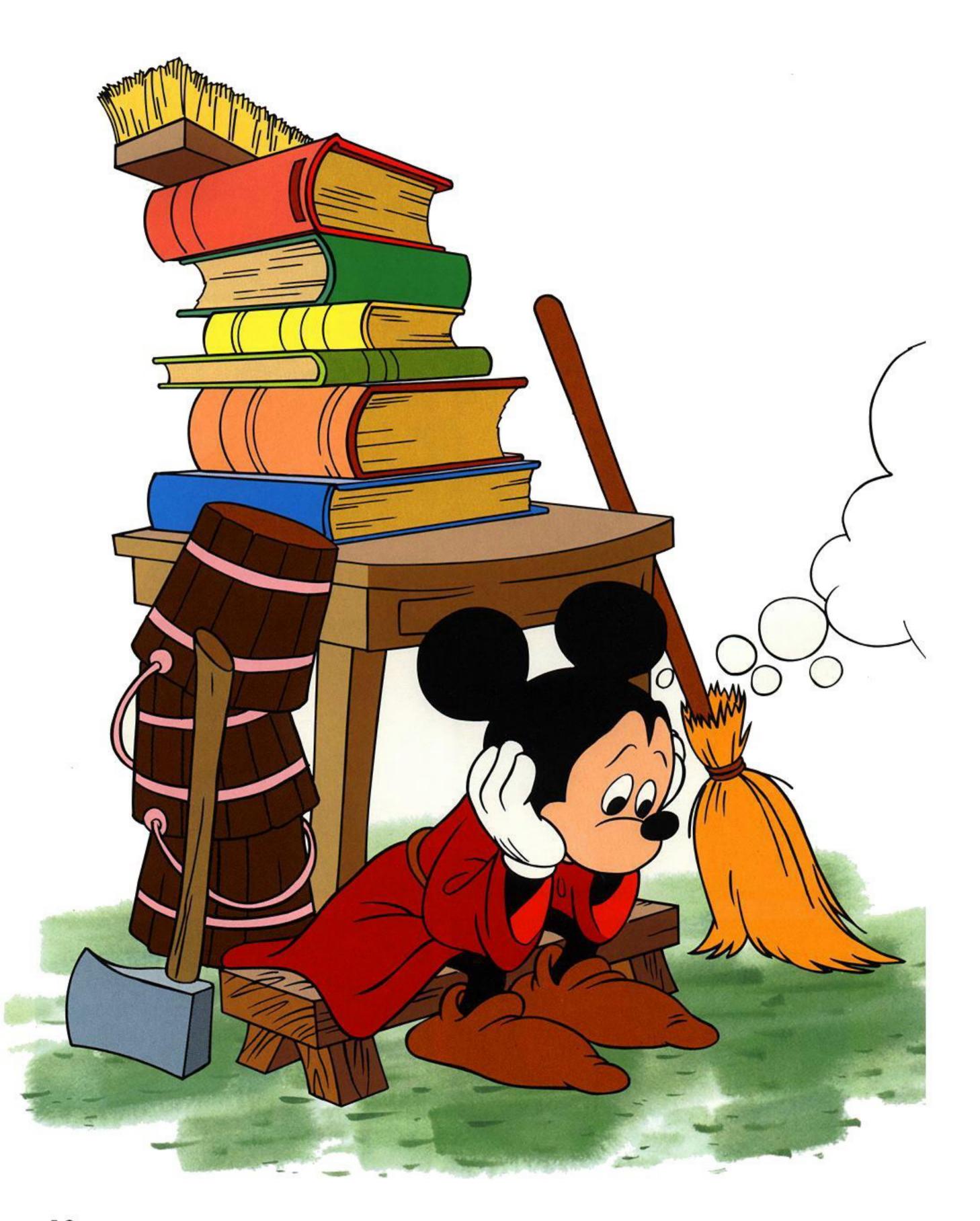






At the end of each day, Mickey was very tired. "All I ever do is work!" he said to himself. "I wish I didn't have so much work. I wish I had time to play!"

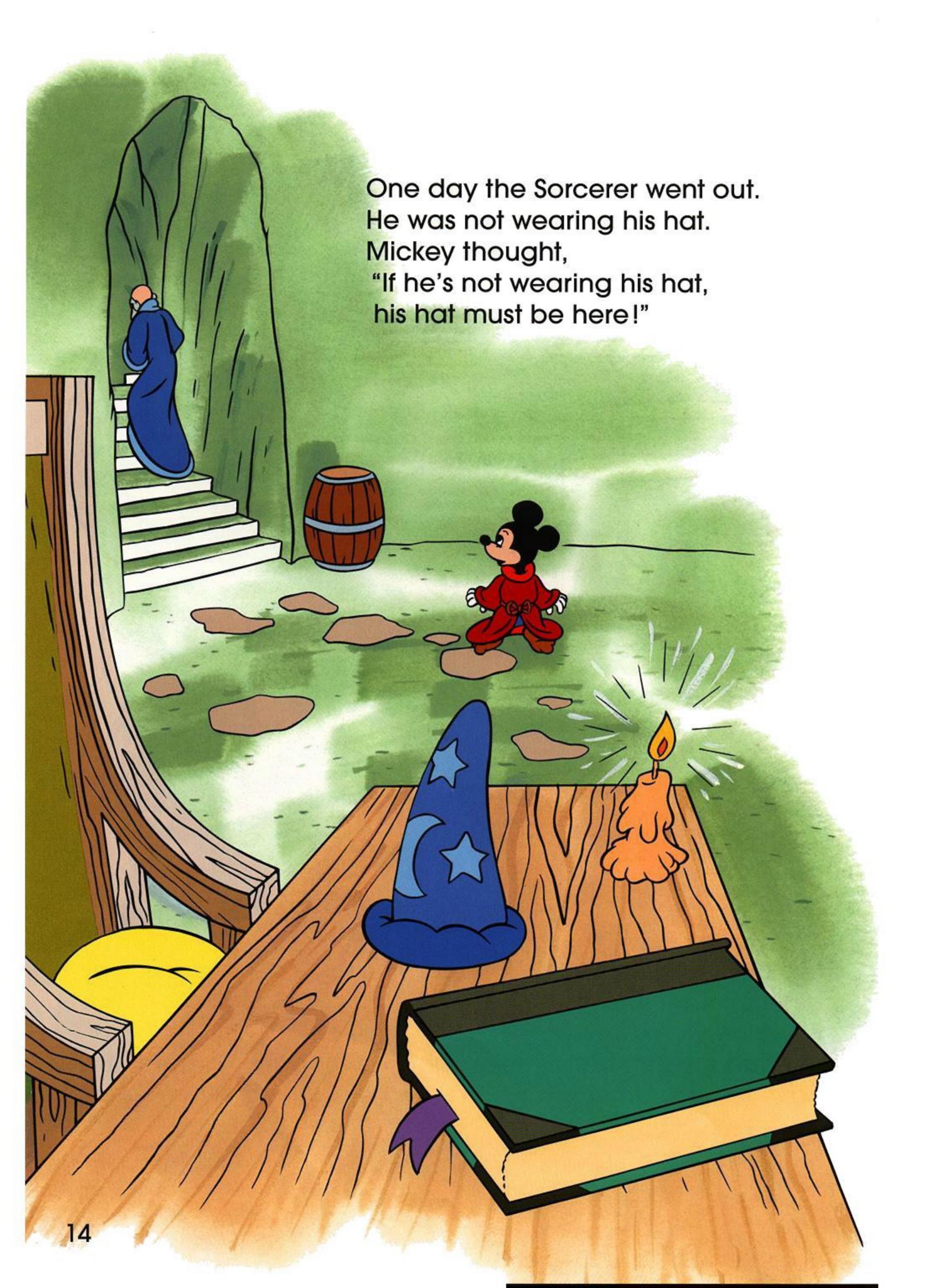


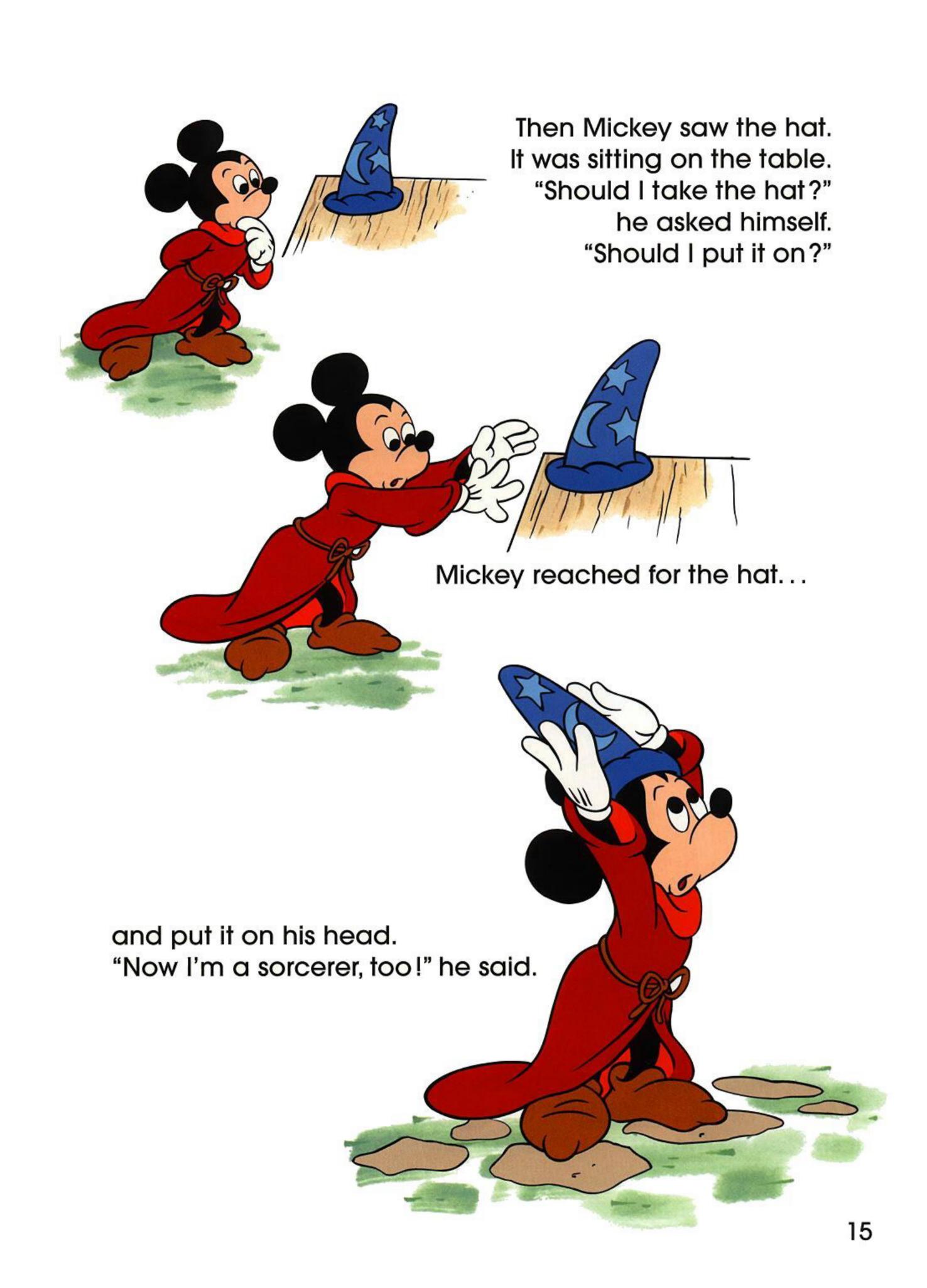




Mickey knew about the Sorcerer's magic hat. He knew that the Sorcerer could do many wonderful things when he wore the hat.

"If I had the Sorcerer's magic hat," he thought, "I wouldn't have to work anymore. I would do everything with magic!"



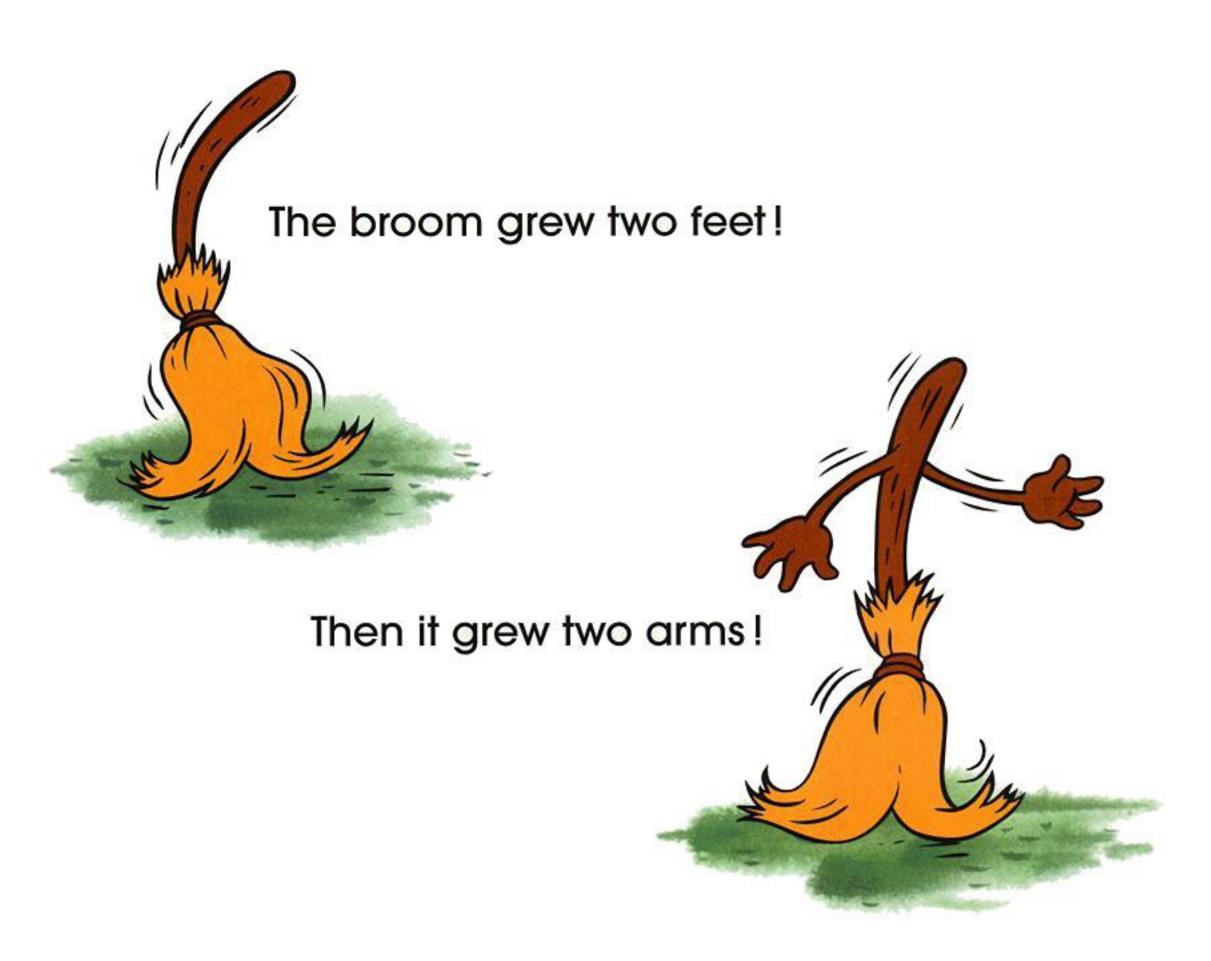




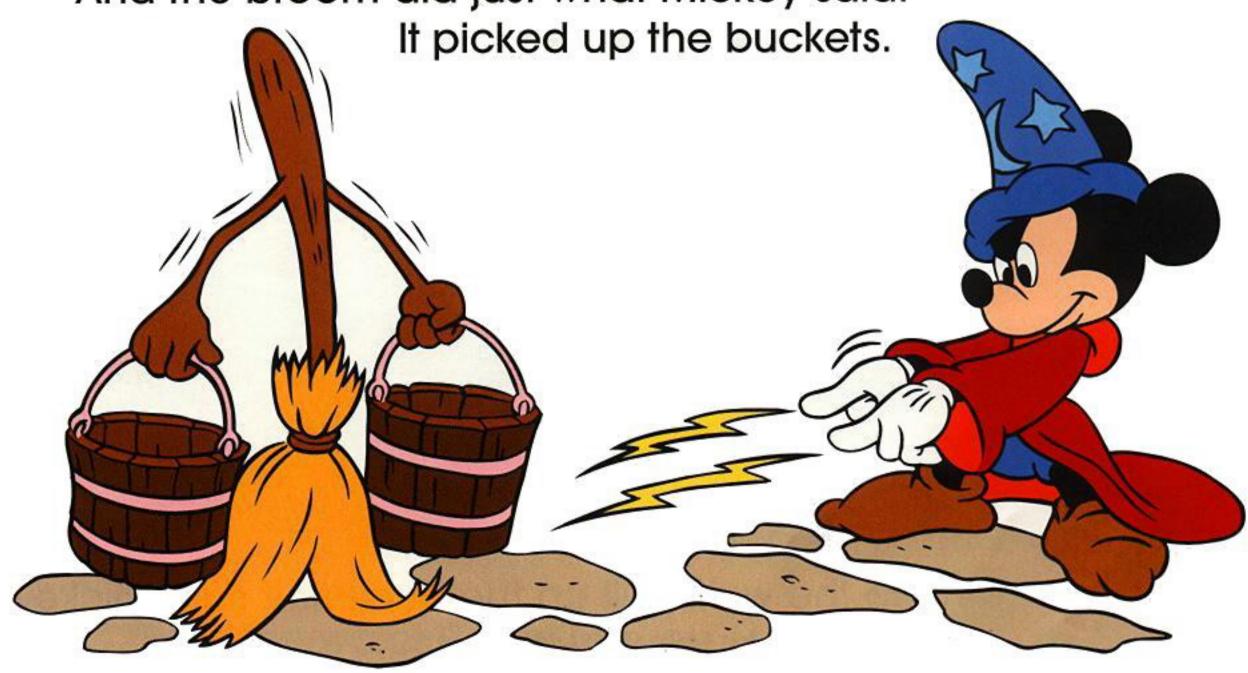
He pointed his fingers at the broom.

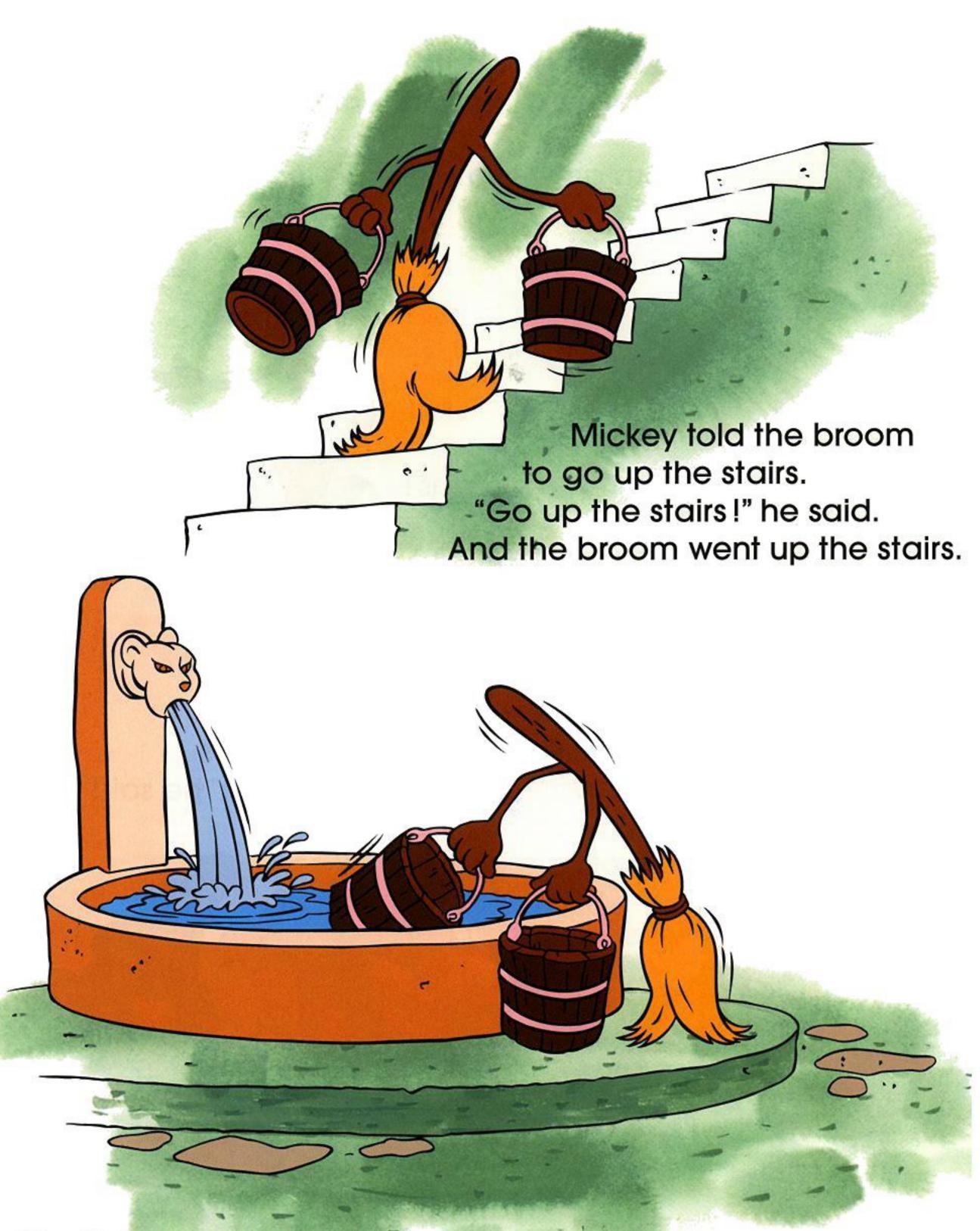
"Move!" he said. And the broom did just what Mickey said.

It started to move!



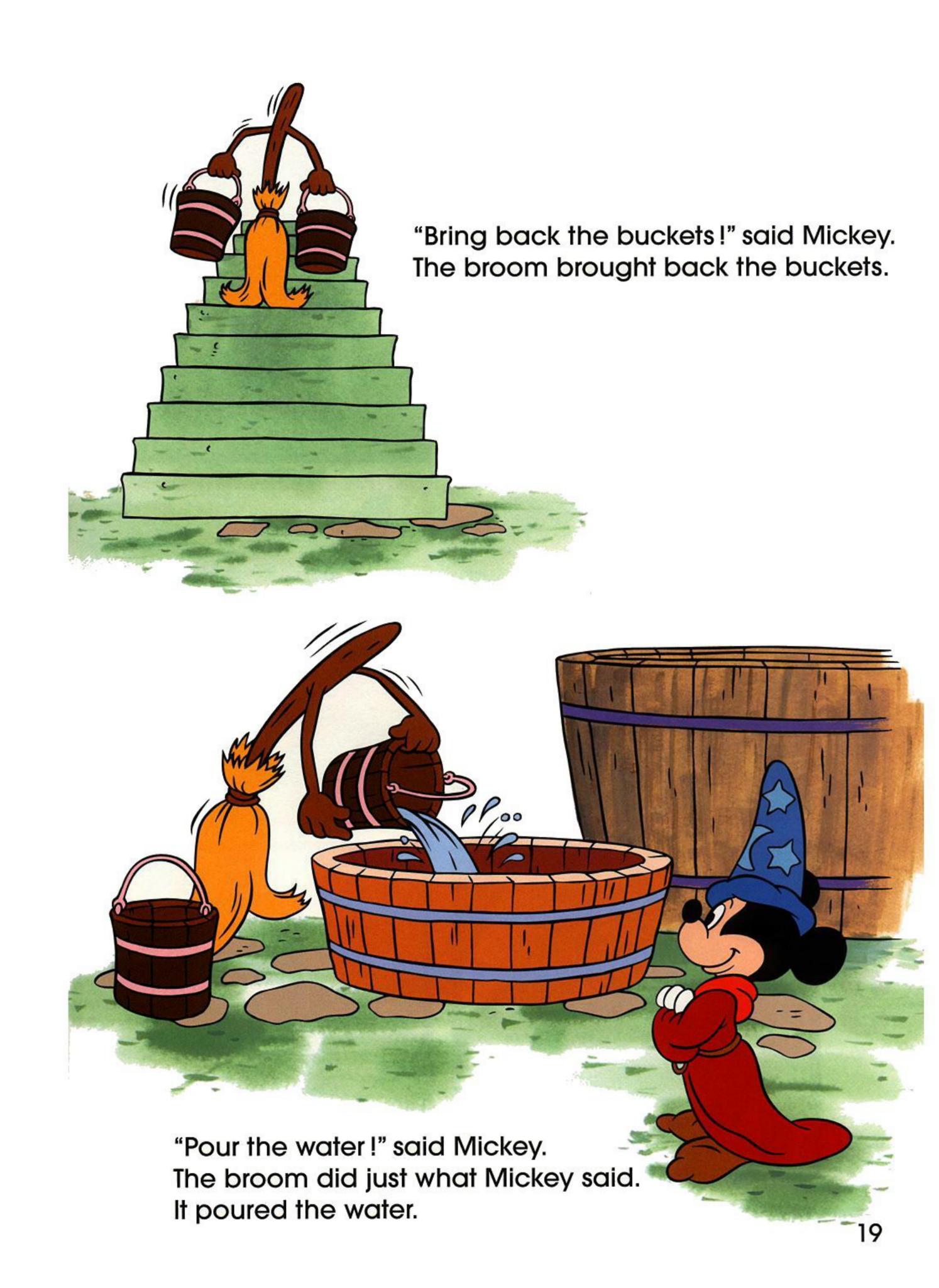
Mickey told the broom to pick up the buckets that were on the floor. "Pick up the buckets!" he said. And the broom did just what Mickey said.

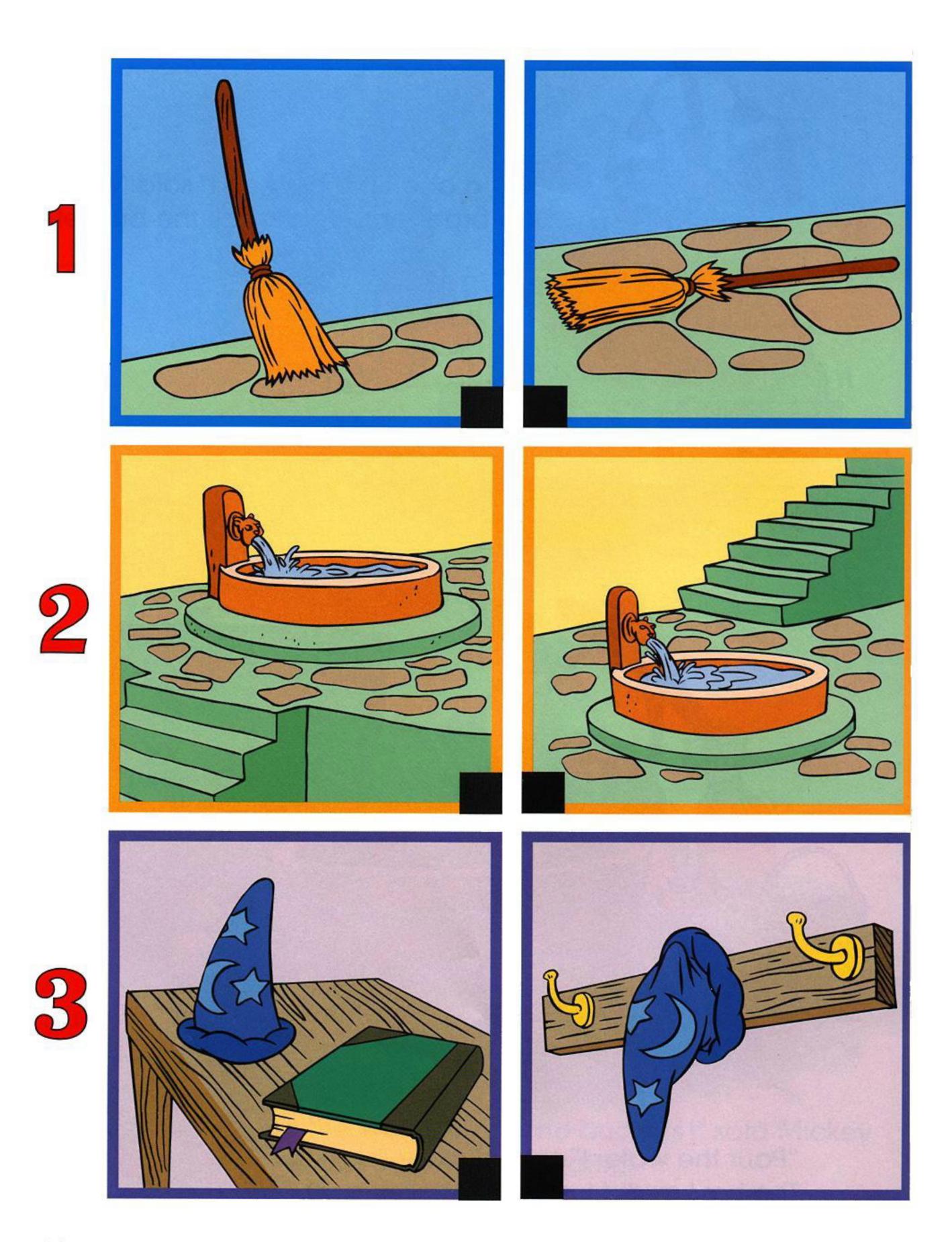


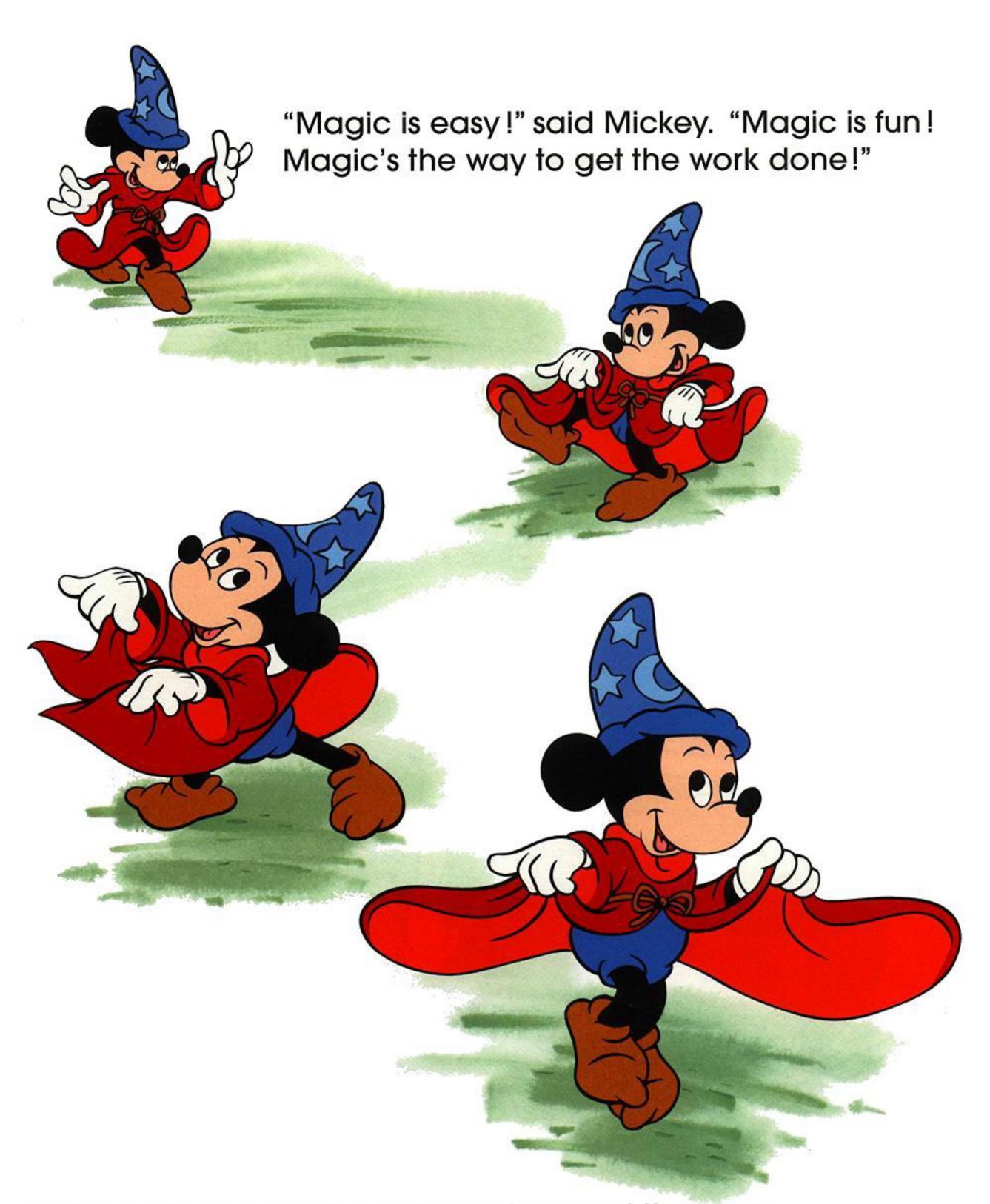


"Go to the well!" said Mickey.

The broom went to the well. "Fill up the buckets!" said Mickey. The broom filled up the buckets with water.

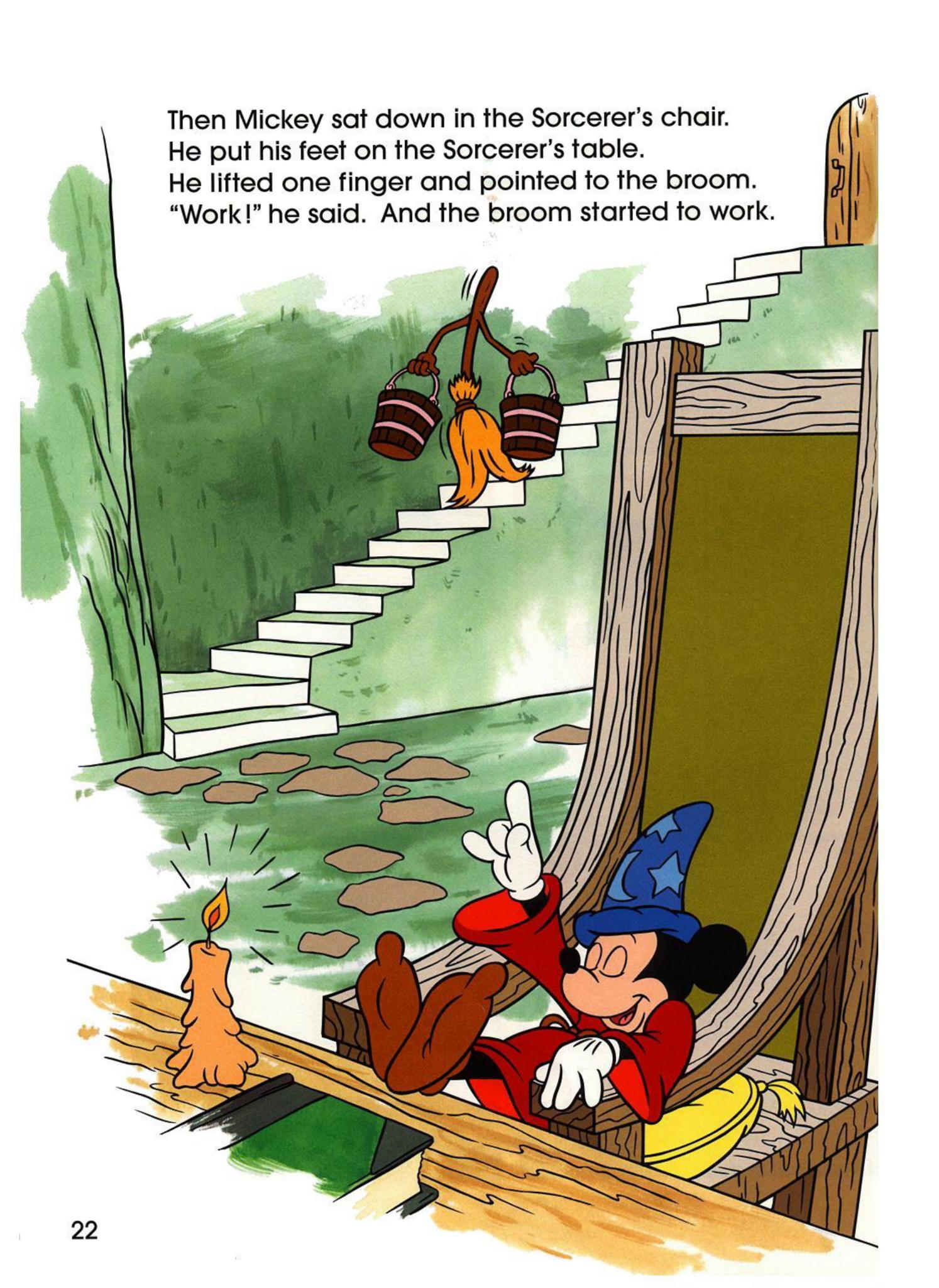






Mickey was so happy he danced around the room.

"From now on," he said, "I can dance and sing and play all day!
I won't have to work at all!"













Mickey stood up and looked around.

There was water everywhere, and the water was very deep.

"Oh, no!" said Mickey.

Then Mickey saw the broom. The broom was still working. "Stop!" cried Mickey. "Stop working!"

But the broom wouldn't stop. It just kept on and on—bringing water from the well and pouring it on the floor.







Mickey pointed his finger at the broom. "Stop!" he shouted. But the broom did not stop. It kept on working.





Mickey stood in front of the broom and held out his arms. "Stop, I say!" he shouted. But the broom just pushed him down and kept on working.



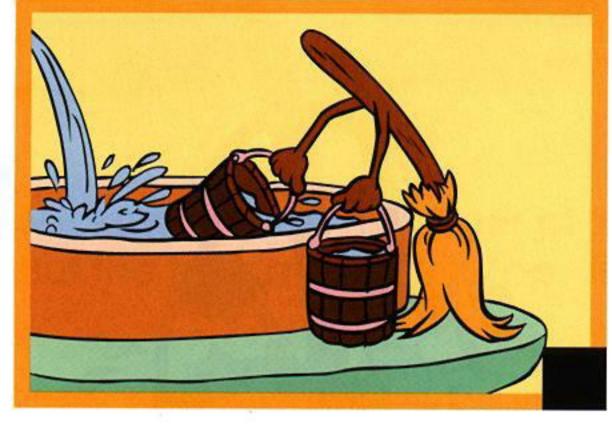
Mickey tried to take away one of the broom's buckets. But the broom held on tight.

















Just as Mickey was wondering what to do, he saw his ax. "The ax!" he said to himself. "If I can chop wood with the ax,

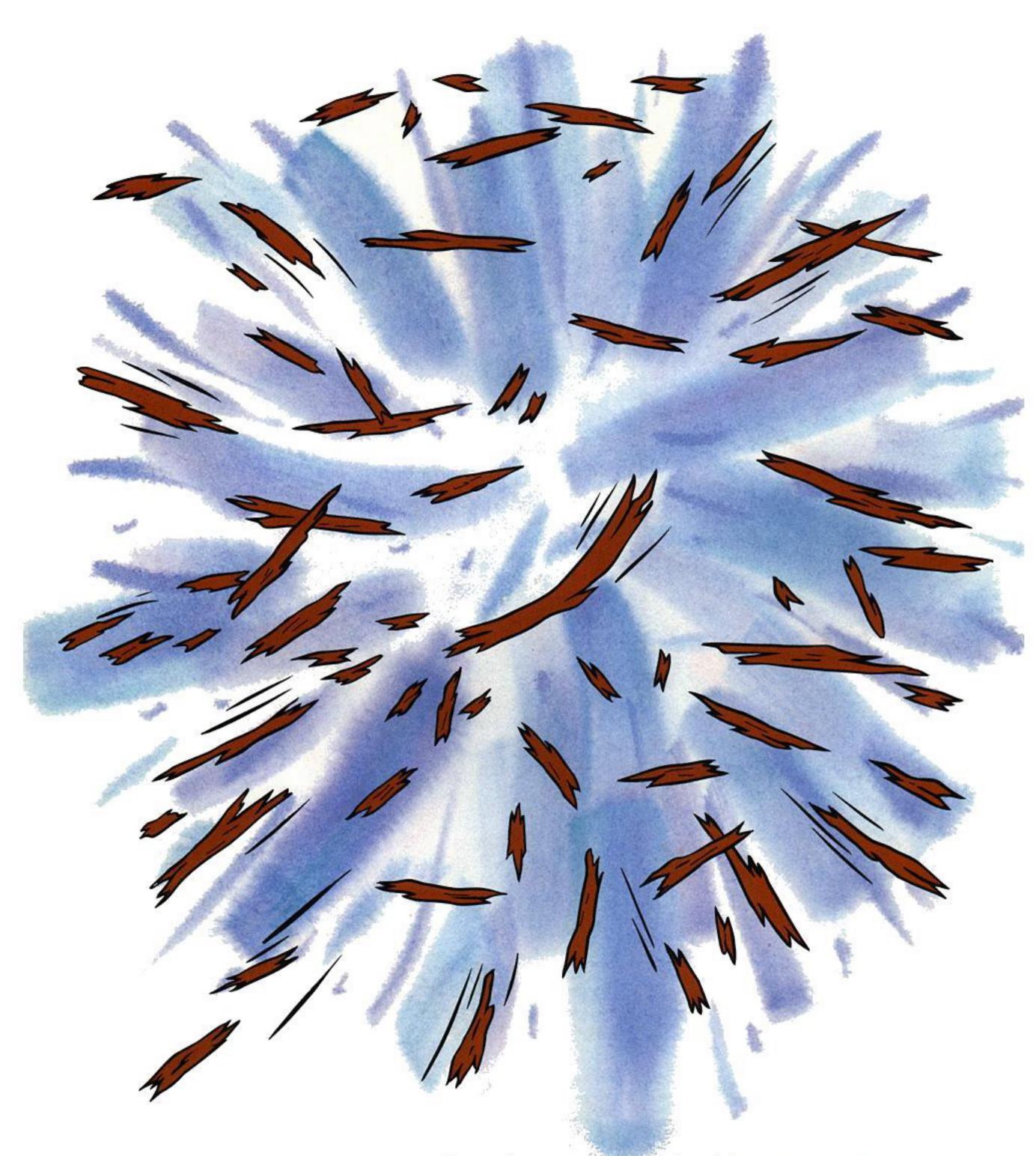


33

He chopped and he chopped as fast as he could. He chopped up the broom into small bits of wood. "There!" he said. "That's done! Now I have to clean up all this water."



But then, something strange happened.

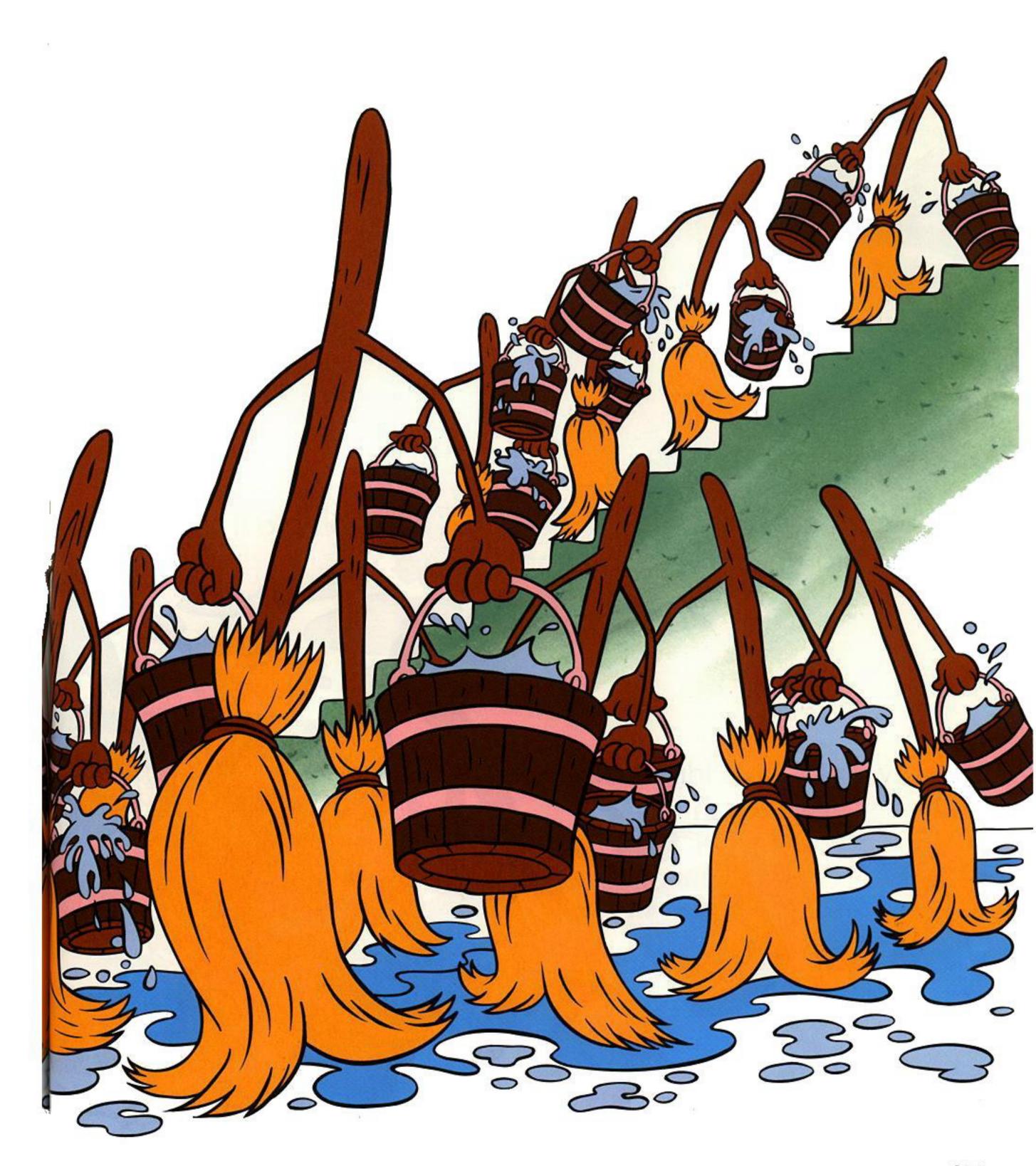


All of the tiny bits of wood started to move—faster and faster and faster!

And each of the pieces of wood turned into a broom until there were hundreds of brooms in the room. And each broom had arms and feet and was carrying two buckets.



And each broom was filling up the buckets with water and pouring the water on the floor.





Mickey stood in front of the door and tried to hold it closed.

But the brooms pushed the door open...



All of the brooms kept on filling their buckets with water and pouring the water onto the floor.



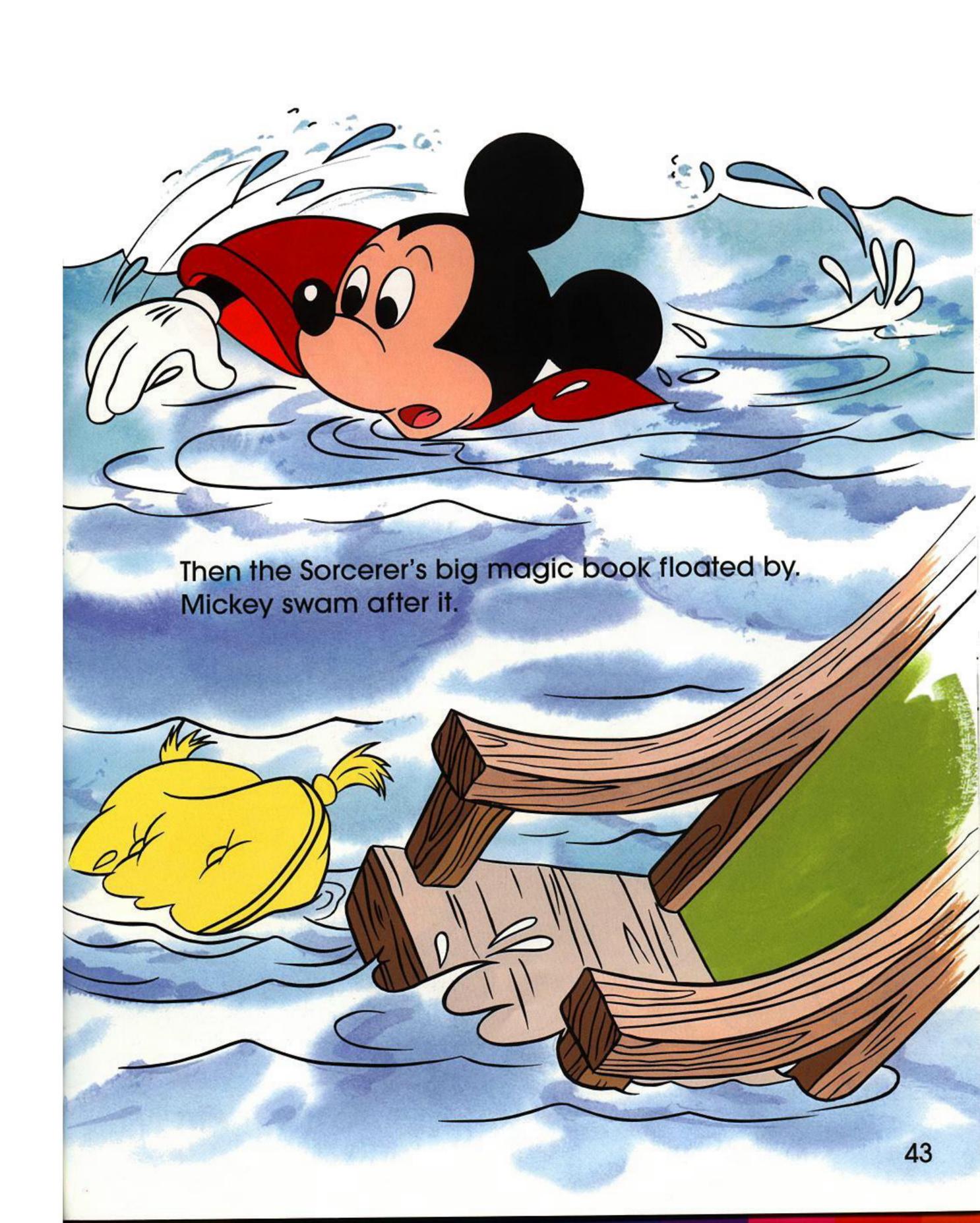


"Stop, I say!" shouted Mickey. "I am a sorcerer. You must do as I say!"



The Sorcerer's chair floated by.
Mickey's ax floated by.
And so did a pillow and a bottle.



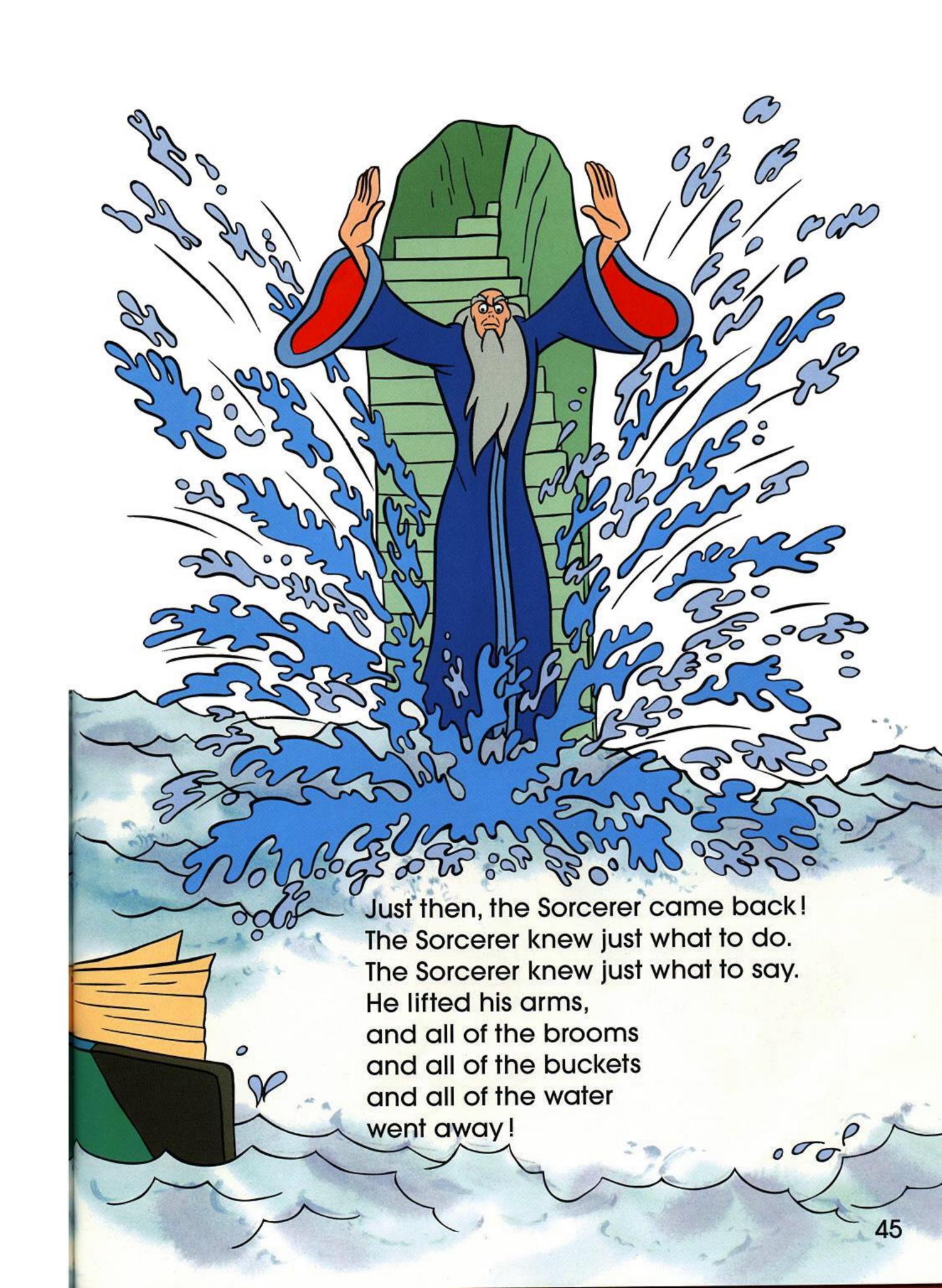


Mickey opened the book and started to look through it. He looked at page after page.

But he couldn't find how to stop the brooms.

Poor Mickey! There was nothing he could do!





Only one broom and two buckets were left— Mickey's old broom and Mickey's buckets. It was just an ordinary broom—without arms and without feet. It was standing by the wall—just where Mickey had left it.





















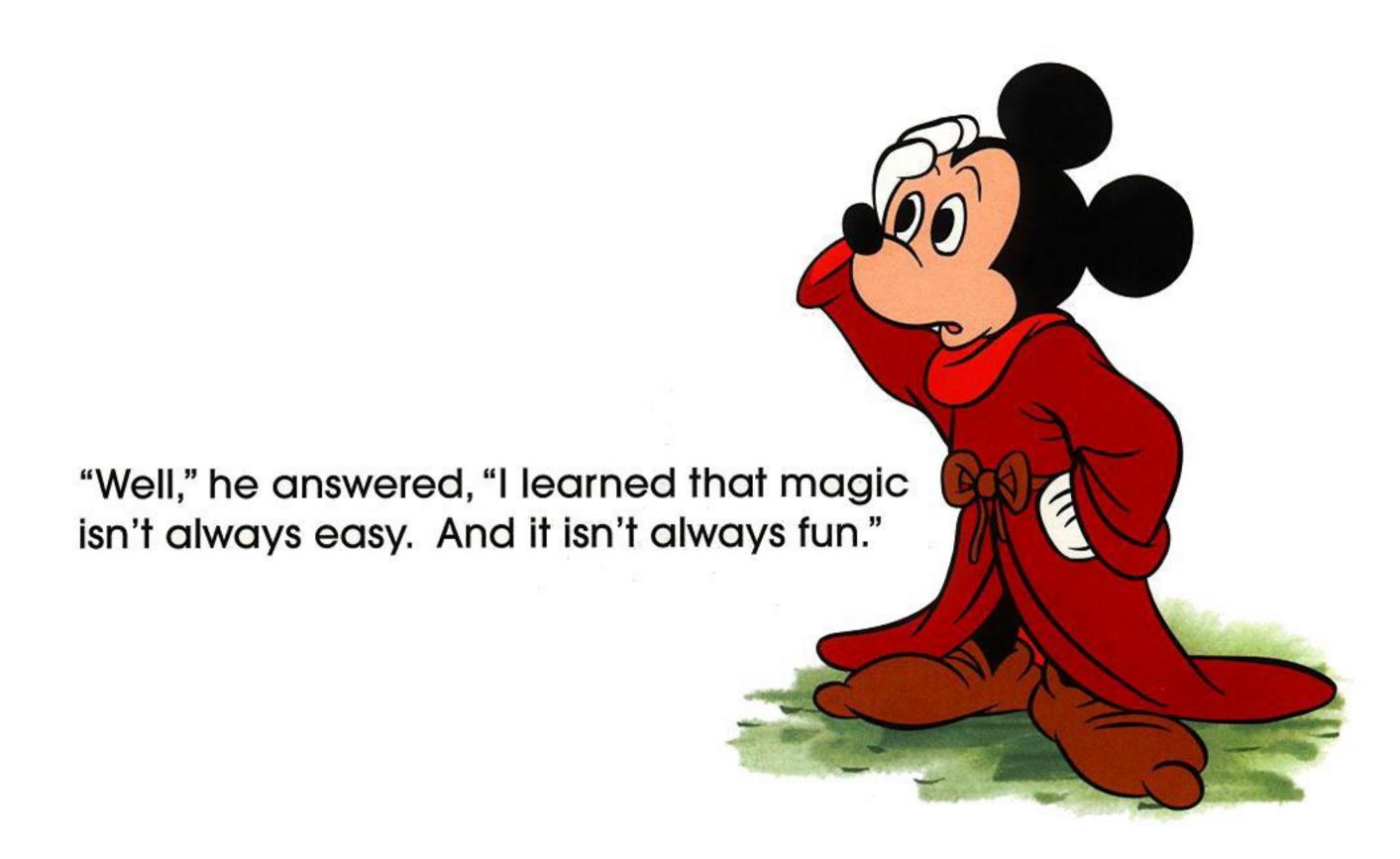


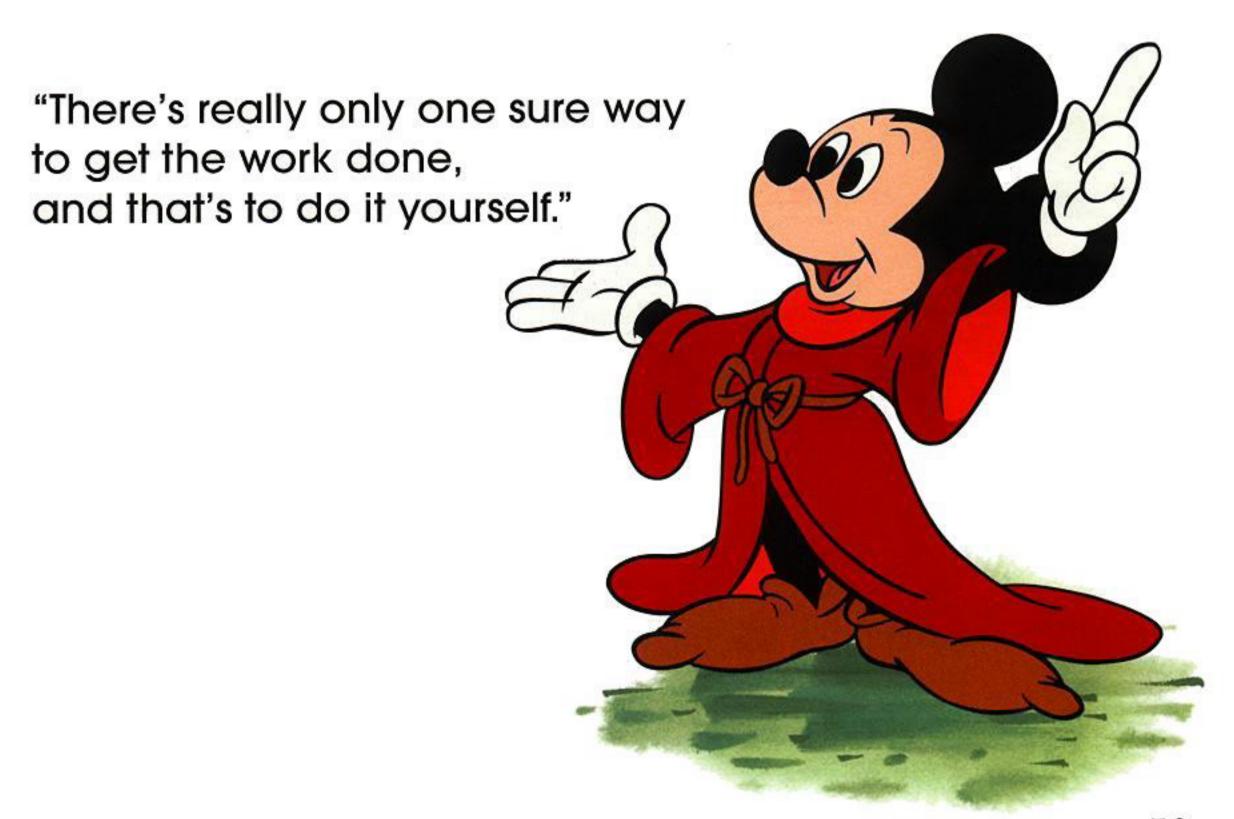


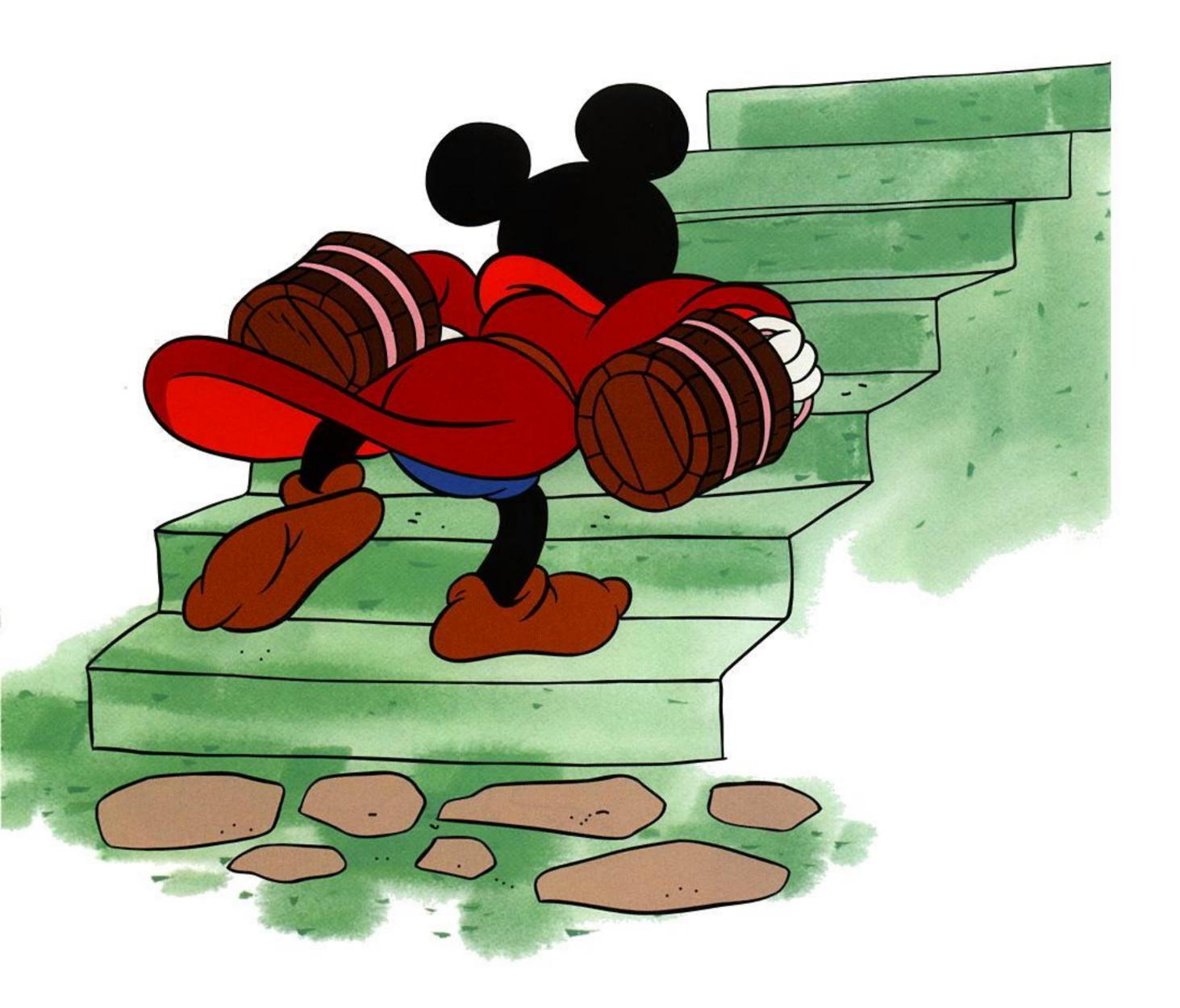


Mickey gave the hat back to the Sorcerer.
The Sorcerer was frowning. He was very angry at Mickey.
"I'm sorry," said Mickey. "It was only a little magic trick."









And with that, Mickey went back to work.

