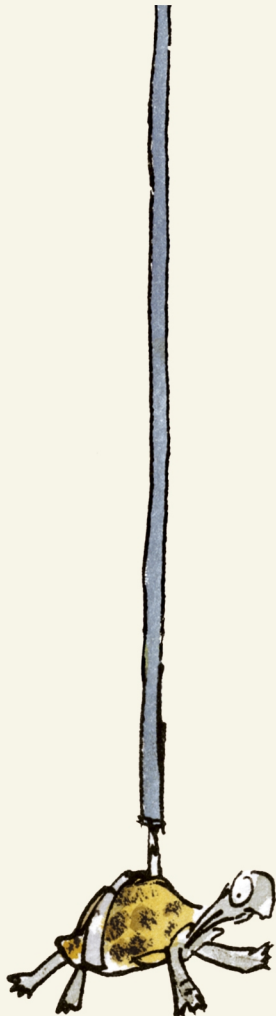




— THE ROALD DAHL CLASSIC COLLECTION —



ROALD DAHL

Esio Trot

Copyrighted Material

Illustrated by Quentin Blake

Esio Trot

Copyrighted Material

BOOKS IN THE ROALD DAHL CLASSIC COLLECTION

James and the Giant Peach
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
The Magic Finger
Fantastic Mr Fox
Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator
Danny the Champion of the World
The Enormous Crocodile
The Twits
George's Marvellous Medicine
The BFG
Revolting Rhymes
The Witches
Dirty Beasts
Boy: Tales of Childhood
The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me
Going Solo
Matilda
Rhyme Stew
Esio Trot
Billy and the Minpins

MORE BOOKS BY ROALD DAHL

The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar and Six More
The Great Automatic Grammatizator
Skin and Other Stories

Copyrighted Material

THE ROALD DAHL CLASSIC COLLECTION

ROALD DAHL

Esio Trot

Illustrated by Quentin Blake



PENGUIN

Copyrighted Material

PENGUIN BOOKS

UK | USA | Canada | Ireland | Australia
India | New Zealand | South Africa

Penguin Books is part of the Penguin Random House group of companies
whose addresses can be found at global.penguinrandomhouse.com

www.penguin.co.uk www.puffin.co.uk www.ladybird.co.uk



Penguin
Random House
UK

First published by Jonathan Cape 1990
Published by Puffin Books 1991
Reissued 2016, 2022
This edition published 2024

001

Text copyright © The Roald Dahl Story Company Ltd, 1990
Illustrations copyright © Quentin Blake, 1990
Text and archive image © The Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre, 2024

The moral right of the author and illustrator has been asserted

ROALD DAHL is a registered trademark of The Roald Dahl Story Company Ltd
www.roalddahl.com

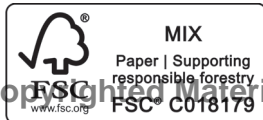
Printed in Great Britain by Clays Ltd, Elcograf S.p.A.

The authorized representative in the EEA is Penguin Random House Ireland,
Morrison Chambers, 32 Nassau Street, Dublin D02 YH68

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN: 978-0-241-67734-6

All correspondence to:
Penguin Books
Penguin Random House Children's
One Embassy Gardens, 8 Viaduct Gardens, London SW11 7BW

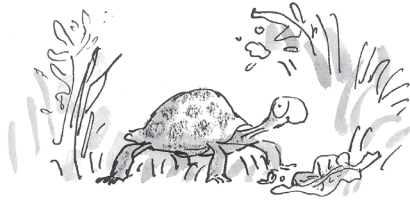


Copyrighted Material

To Clover and Luke

Copyrighted Material

Copyrighted Material



Author's Note

Some years ago, when my own children were small, we usually kept a tortoise or two in the garden. In those days, a pet tortoise was a common sight crawling about on the family lawn or in the back yard. You could buy them quite cheaply in any pet shop and they were probably the least troublesome of all childhood pets, and quite harmless.

Tortoises used to be brought into England by the thousand, packed in crates, and they came mostly from North Africa. But not many years ago a law was passed that made it illegal to bring any tortoises into the country. This was not done to protect us. The little tortoise was not a danger to anybody. It was done purely out of kindness to the tortoise itself. You see, the traders who brought them in used to cram hundreds of them tightly into the packing crates without food or water and in such horrible conditions that a great many of them always died on the sea journey over. So rather than allow this cruelty to go on, the Government stopped the whole business.

The things you are going to read about in this story all happened in the days when anyone could go out and buy a nice little tortoise from a pet shop.

Copyrighted Material