

LONG LIVE THE KING'S JACKET

BINE PENZ





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Sam was looking forward to playing in the yard. But now he's mad. "I don't want this old jacket," he shouts, tossing it away over the bushes. "Whoa," comes a response from the neighbor's yard.





"It's ancient," grumbles Sam. "Our cousin wore it even before my sister had it." Lotti is puzzled. The jacket doesn't look old at all. Is it even older than Lotti? "Ah, now I understand why you don't want it," says Lotti after a while. "It really does lack character for an old jacket." Sam furrows his brow. Does she even understand him? Delighted with herself, Lotti calls out, "I've got an idea!"



Lotti adjusts her crown and proclaims that Queen Lotti urgently requires a trainer for her circus pig. If Sam would be so kind as to teach the royal pig a couple of tricks, her Majesty would be extremely grateful, and Sam's problem would be solved.

Sam has to laugh. Without waiting, he ties on his apron and slips into the role of the royal pig trainer. Sam is obviously having fun and so is the pig, not to mention Lotti.



After a while, Lotti proudly announces:

"See? The jacket looks really old now!"

"True," chuckles Sam, but then he becomes serious again. "That still doesn't solve my problem. I don't want an old jacket that looks old. I want a new jacket that looks new!" Now Lotti furrows her brow.

"Look," explains Sam, pointing to the breast pocket.
"Even the zipper puller is missing."

"How did that happen?" asks Lotti. Sam shrugs his shoulders. "No idea. It's been like that for a long time." "Hmm," replies Lotti, pondering the situation again. Sam grins. He enjoys playing with Lotti. What's going through her head this time? It's not long before she proclaims once more. "I've got an idea!"



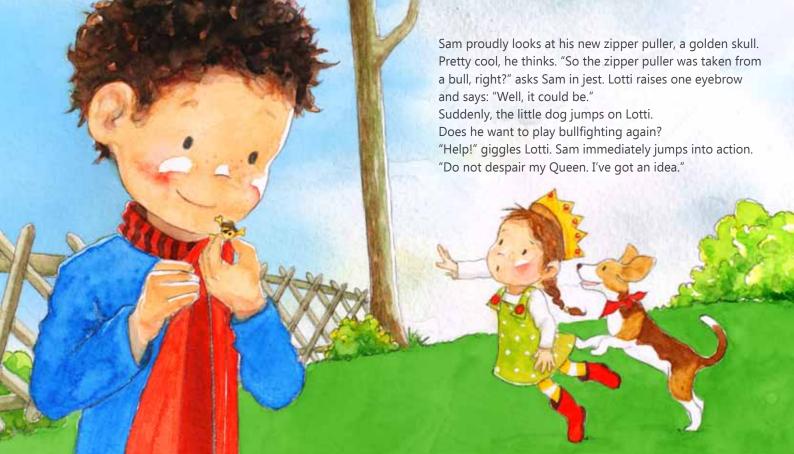
Lotti adjusts her crown and calls out: "Attention brave matadors! Behold the powerful bull! Anyone who can tame this wild animal will be entitled to the Queen's golden amulet!"

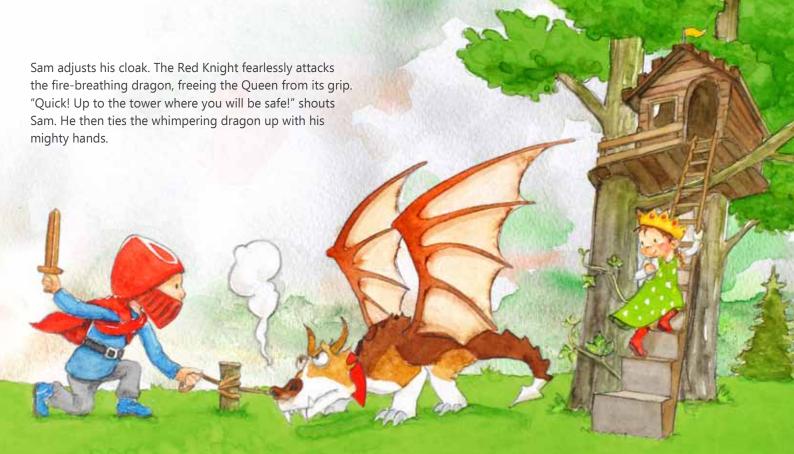
Sam swings the red cape around. The bull appears to wait, but then swiftly runs toward the matador. "What an incredible fight," reports Lotti like a commentator.

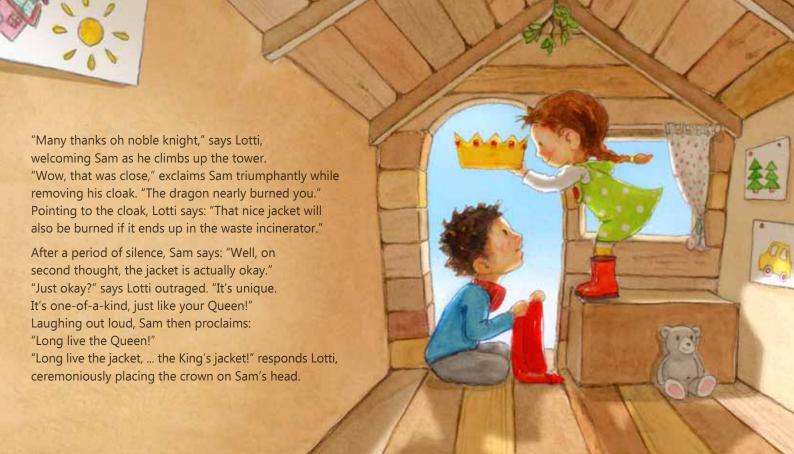
Sam flops to the ground. "Our hero barely escaped the bull's horn." Sam rolls over. "But what is that? The horn is stuck on a zipper!" Sam manages to free himself and gets back on his feet again. "Olé! Three cheers to the matador!" shouts Lotti. Sam wipes off his face.

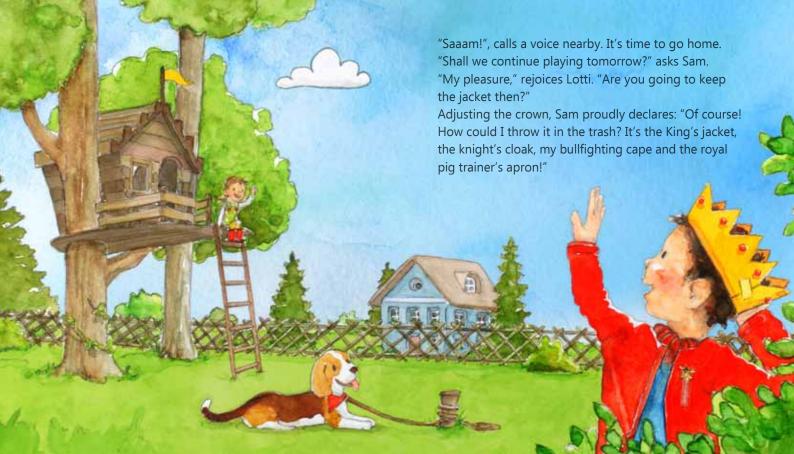
Lotti ceremoniously removes a pendant from her bracelet and fastens it to the zipper.













One day, Sam will outgrow his

jacket, but he already has a plan.

Whenever it becomes too small,

he will give it to Lotti.



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