



QUEEN BEE

a collection of short stories

by
Marie Rippel
and
Renée LaTulippe

 ALL ABOUT *Reading*

Level 2 Vol. 2
Third Edition

All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced by any means, including duplicating, photocopying, electronic, mechanical, recording, the World Wide Web, e-mail, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

Copyright © 2015 by All About® Learning Press, Inc.
Previous editions copyright © 2010-2014
Printed in the United States of America

Third Edition
v. 3.0.0

All About® Learning Press, Inc.
615 Commerce Loop
Eagle River, WI 54521
www.AllAboutReading.com

ISBN 978-1-935197-61-4

Stories:

Marie Rippel: "Ruben and the Secret Gift" - "Mrs. Marvel's Garden"
"Storm in the North" - "In My Backpack"
"Pumpkin and the Kitten" - "Life on *The Blue Whale*"
"Wild Rice Harvest" - "Rawhide"

Renée LaTulippe: "Dragon in the Wagon" - "Under the Carpet"
"Oh, Brother!" - "Cricket's Picnic" - "Queen Bee"

Illustrations:

Donna Goeddaeus: "Ruben and the Secret Gift" - "Mrs. Marvel's Garden"
"Storm in the North" - "Dragon in the Wagon"
"In My Backpack" - "Pumpkin and the Kitten"
"Oh, Brother!" - "Cricket's Picnic"
"Wild Rice Harvest" - "Rawhide"

Dave LaTulippe: "Under the Carpet" - "Life on *The Blue Whale*"
"Queen Bee"

Contributors: Samantha Johnson, Jon Stenschke, Rebecca Webber

Cover Design: Dave LaTulippe

Page Layout: Dave LaTulippe, Andy Panske

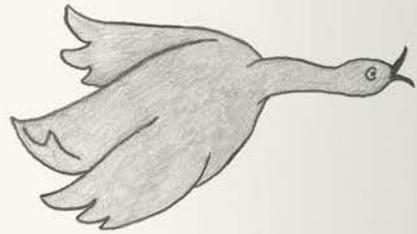
*To the reader –
may you be inspired
to embark on
your own adventures*

Queen Bee: a collection of short stories is part of the
All About® Reading program.

For more books in this series, go to www.AllAboutReading.com.

Contents

1. Ruben and the Secret Gift.....	9
2. Mrs. Marvel's Garden.....	31
3. Storm in the North.....	53
4. Dragon in the Wagon.....	71
5. Under the Carpet.....	93
6. In My Backpack.....	106
7. Pumpkin and the Kitten.....	109
8. Oh, Brother!.....	127
9. Cricket's Picnic.....	151
10. Life on <i>The Blue Whale</i>	167
11. Wild Rice Harvest.....	185
12. Rawhide.....	199
13. Queen Bee.....	217



Oh, Brother!



This is Brother. He lives on a farm with Grandmother.



Do you see Brother's big grin? When he grins like that, it's a clue that he is up to his tricks. But he will never admit it! If you ask him what he's up to, he will yell, "Nothing!"

Uh-oh, here comes Grandmother.



I plan to bake a cake for lunch, but I must go to the barn for eggs. If you wish to come with me, put on your gloves. I will meet you at the front gate.

Yes! Let's go to the barn!

Brother has a big grin on his face. He runs to get his gloves. When Brother gets to the front gate, Grandmother stares.



You see? I told you that big grin was a clue. Let's see what other tricks Brother will do.



Brother runs here and there. What will he put in his bucket? He grabs leftover pancakes, fish, milk, and one bag of nuts.

Uh-oh. There's that big grin.
Brother, what are you up to?



You can bet that with Brother,
“nothing” is “something.”



And what is under that cover? It's cheese! The pigs do a jig.

But here comes Grandmother. She stops and stares.



Brother's tricks have made the pigs glad, but not Grandmother.

Brother, I don't mind that you fed the pigs on my nice plates. But the pigs upset the plates and there is a mess in the pigpen. You must shovel up this slop!

Yes, Grandmother.



Did Brother do the job well? Not if you ask Grandmother.

Brother, you got slop on the geese! I like my geese to be white. Rinse the geese—and no tricks this time!

Yes,
Grandmother.

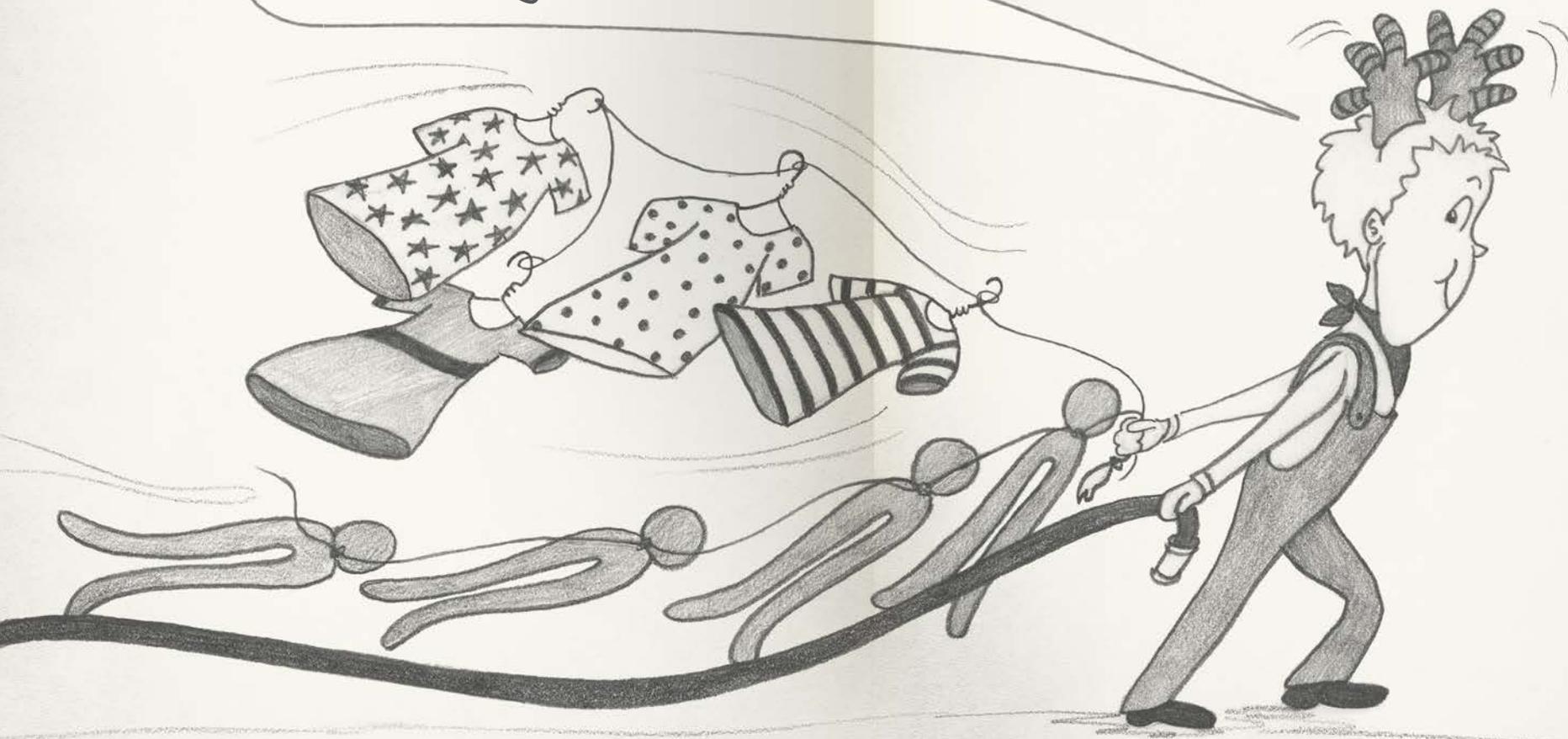


Brother gets the hose. Uh-oh. What's that on Brother's face? Yes, it's a big grin. What do you think he'll do? Let's ask.

Brother, what are you up to?

Do you trust Brother? Will
Grandmother?

Nothing!



Here she comes. She stops and stares.



What's the matter?
You told me to rinse
the geese!

Oh,
Brother!

Is Grandmother mad? Or is that a
smile on her face? It's hard to tell.

Brother, these tricks have to
stop! Take the geese off the line.
Then come in for lunch.
No tricks!

Yes,
Grandmother.



This time Brother gets his chores done. And then it's time for lunch and cake! But where is Grandmother? Brother yells for her.





Hold on. Is that a big grin on Grandmother's face? Grandmother, what are you up to?



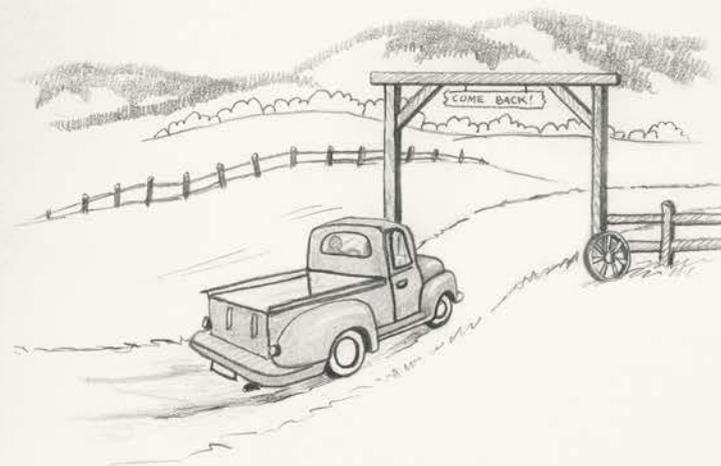
Brother stares.



Rawhide



My name is Rawhide. I'm a ranch dog. I'm the boss of this place. I protect the kids and keep things in order.



Mr. and Mrs. August drove off in the truck. They left me in charge of the kids. There is a ranch hand, but he's not much help.

While the kids have pancakes, I go for a short stroll.

I spot a large rat by the sawmill. I chase it over a pile of sawdust. He won't be back while I'm on the job.

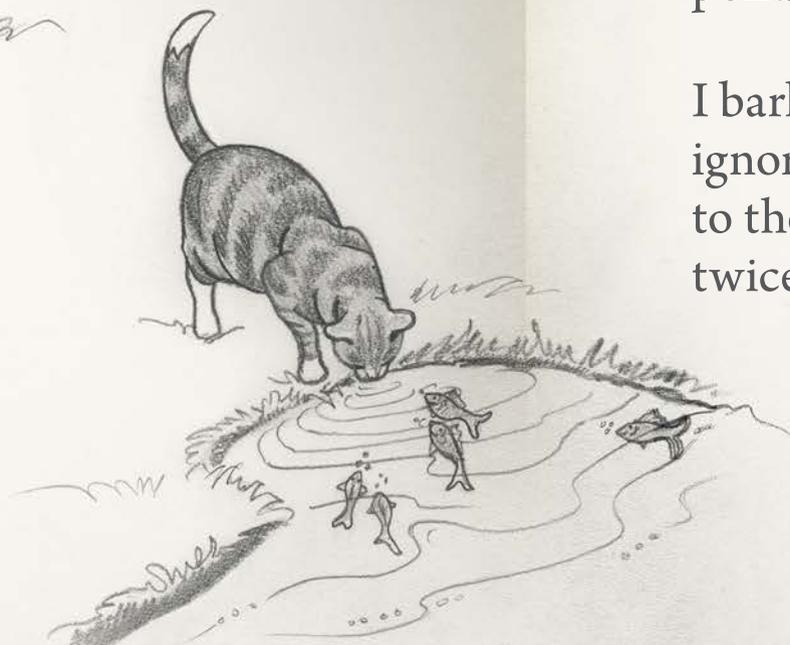


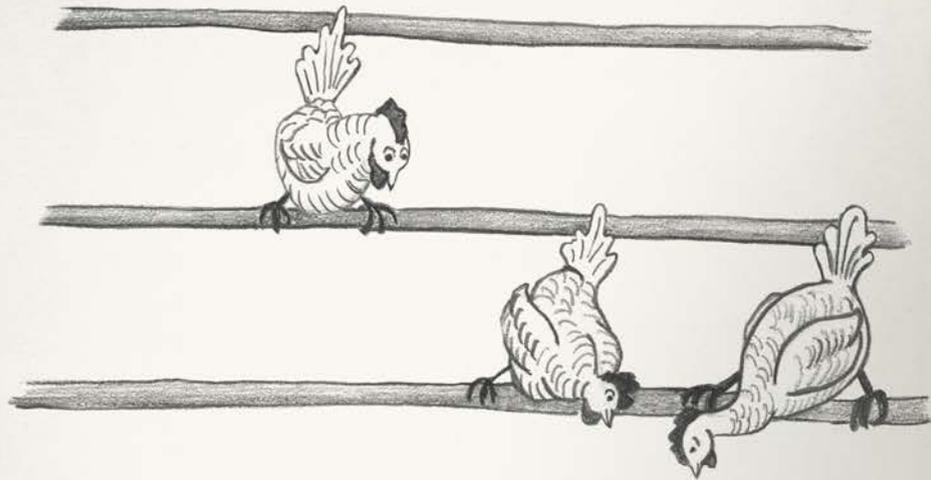


I dust off my paws and go on with my tasks.

Did the cat just drink from the fish pond? That will not do!

I bark at the cat to scold her. She ignores me, so I make her go back to the barn. That won't happen twice!





The ranch hand enters the chicken pen. I crawl over to spy on him. Did he just nab an egg? I'll put a stop to that!



I creep over the straw and jump at him. He drops his basket and flees.

The kids are on the lawn in bare feet. I see a huge green snake coiled up by the seesaw.

I pause ... then I jump onto the wild snake and haul it off. I have saved the kids!



Just then, the truck chugs up the lane. Mr. and Mrs. August step out—but who is with them?

They call her Aunt Sue, and she has a blue shawl. Her arms are filled with boxes and bags. This upsets me!



The kids seem to like her. I don't understand why! I have never seen her before!

The kids take the boxes from her. Stop! I have not checked the boxes yet to see if they are safe! I must tell the kids to stop.



Aunt Sue sets a box in front of me and opens it. It smells like bacon. I love bacon!

Perhaps she isn't as bad as she seems. In fact, I love Aunt Sue!



We all go inside to wash up for supper. I sprawl on my bed while Mrs. August makes the sauce.

I am tired. Yawn!

I must rest up so I can start over in the morning.

