

“Malcolm, get ready!” shouts Betty. “Get into position! Yes that’s right.”

Today Malcolm is having flying lessons. He wants to be a really good flying dragon so he has to practice a lot. Betty is very good at flying so she gives him lots of tips. Morty would love to sit on Malcolm’s back and fly with him, but today Malcolm has to practice on his own. He still has some problems taking off and landing.

Betty shouts: “Get ready, set, go!”

Malcolm starts running and flapping his wings. He runs faster and faster until he reaches the edge of the rock and jumps off. But there is a problem! He falls head over heels and rolls down into the sea. Morty looks down from the rock and can see Malcolm in the cold waves of the sea.



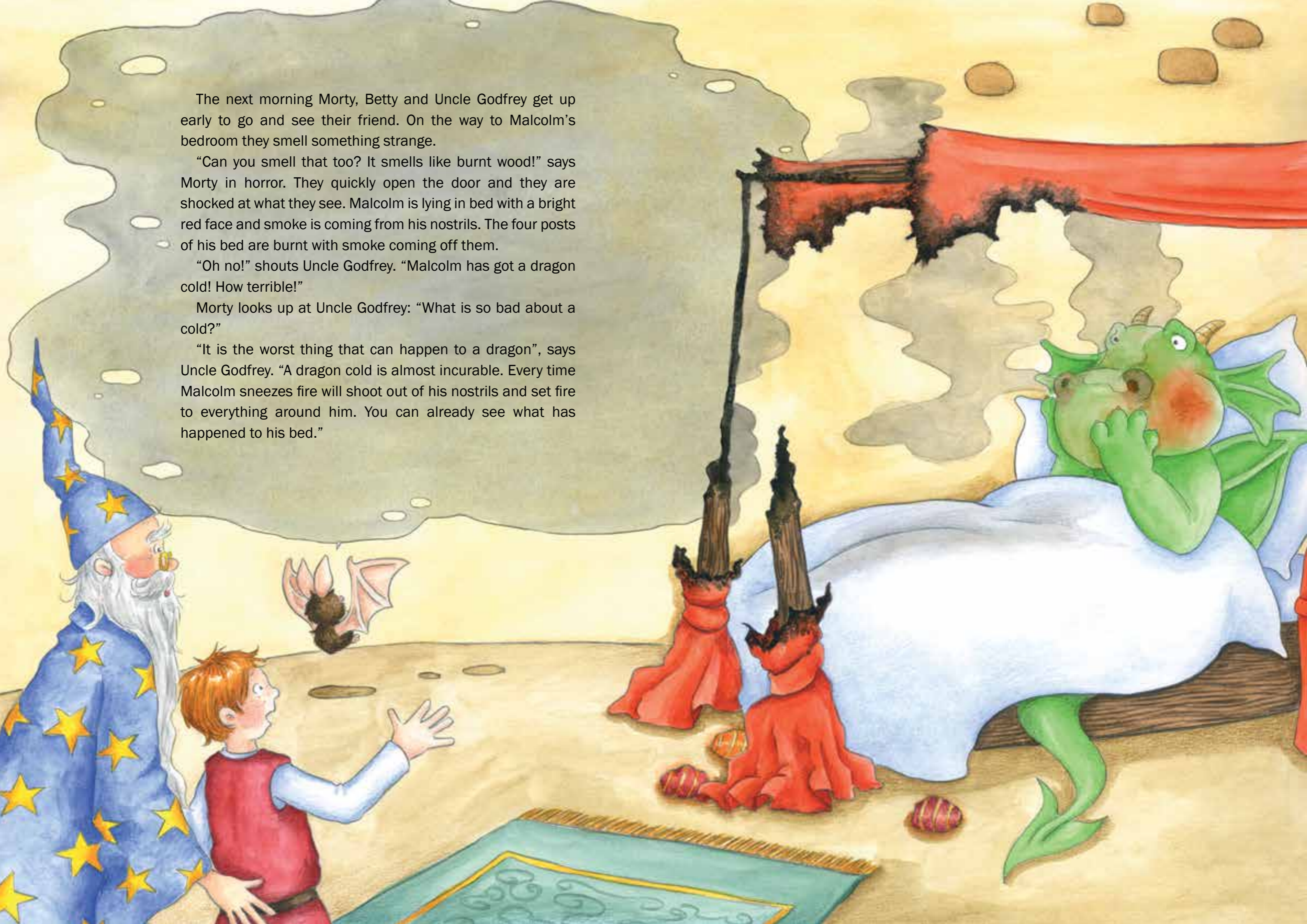
The next morning Morty, Betty and Uncle Godfrey get up early to go and see their friend. On the way to Malcolm's bedroom they smell something strange.

"Can you smell that too? It smells like burnt wood!" says Morty in horror. They quickly open the door and they are shocked at what they see. Malcolm is lying in bed with a bright red face and smoke is coming from his nostrils. The four posts of his bed are burnt with smoke coming off them.

"Oh no!" shouts Uncle Godfrey. "Malcolm has got a dragon cold! How terrible!"

Morty looks up at Uncle Godfrey: "What is so bad about a cold?"

"It is the worst thing that can happen to a dragon", says Uncle Godfrey. "A dragon cold is almost incurable. Every time Malcolm sneezes fire will shoot out of his nostrils and set fire to everything around him. You can already see what has happened to his bed."



Morty draws his wooden sword and shouts: “Leave my friend alone or I will cut off your pincers!” Suddenly Malcolm begins to snort again,

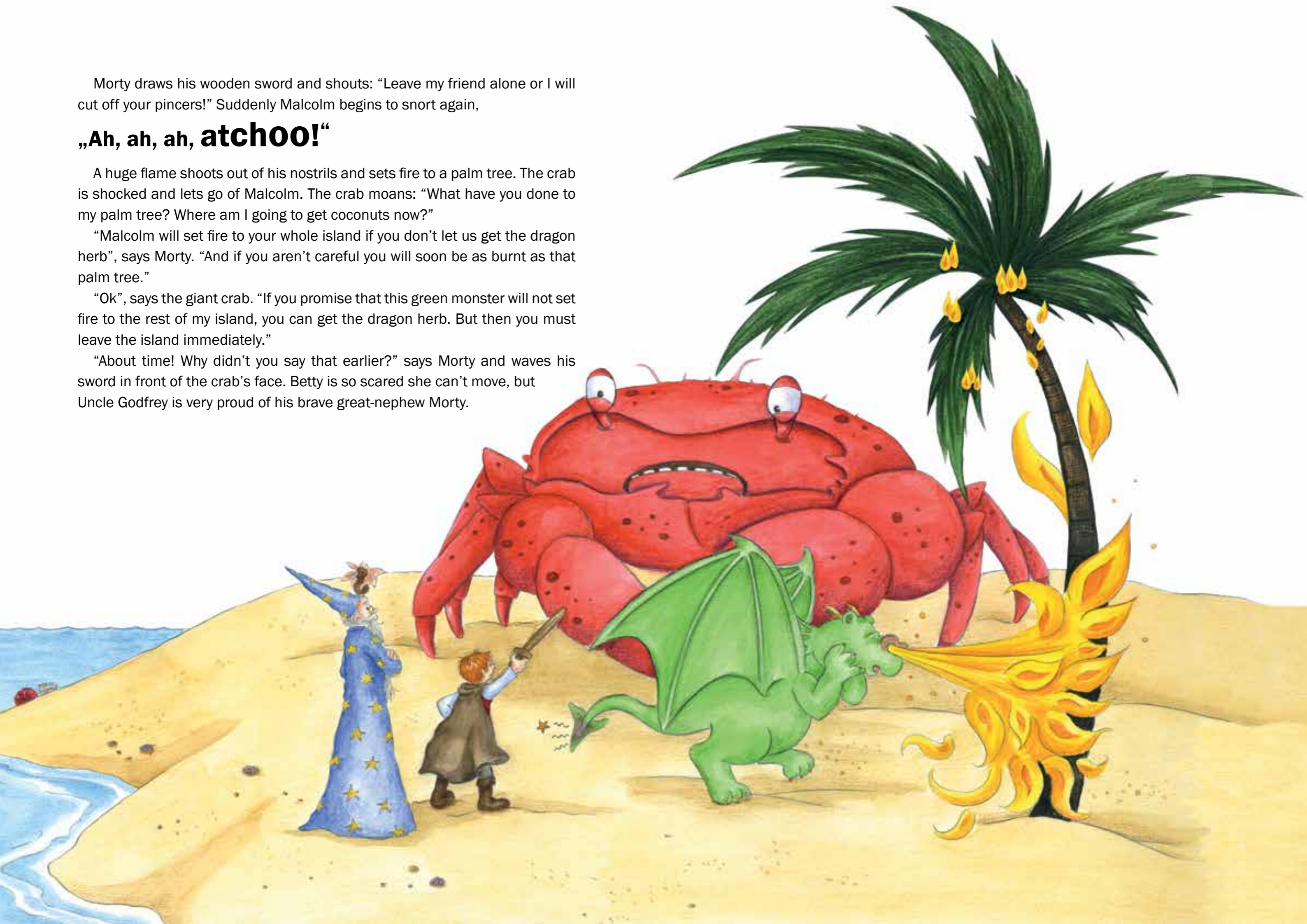
„Ah, ah, ah, atchoo!“

A huge flame shoots out of his nostrils and sets fire to a palm tree. The crab is shocked and lets go of Malcolm. The crab moans: “What have you done to my palm tree? Where am I going to get coconuts now?”

“Malcolm will set fire to your whole island if you don’t let us get the dragon herb”, says Morty. “And if you aren’t careful you will soon be as burnt as that palm tree.”

“Ok”, says the giant crab. “If you promise that this green monster will not set fire to the rest of my island, you can get the dragon herb. But then you must leave the island immediately.”

“About time! Why didn’t you say that earlier?” says Morty and waves his sword in front of the crab’s face. Betty is so scared she can’t move, but Uncle Godfrey is very proud of his brave great-nephew Morty.





Betty tries to pull out some leaves. But as hard as she tries she can't do it. Suddenly she feels a breeze on the back of her neck. She stands still from shock. What is it?



The bat slowly turns around and looks into the big eyes of a spider. On the back of the spider a red cross is shining in the darkness. Betty jumps back in shock.

“What are you doing here in the cave?” asks the spider in a curious but not unfriendly way.

“I’m looking for the dragon herb”, says Betty.

“Can you rescue me?” asks the spider hopefully. Betty is confused: “Sorry? What do you mean by ‘rescue’?”