

PALM BEACH COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

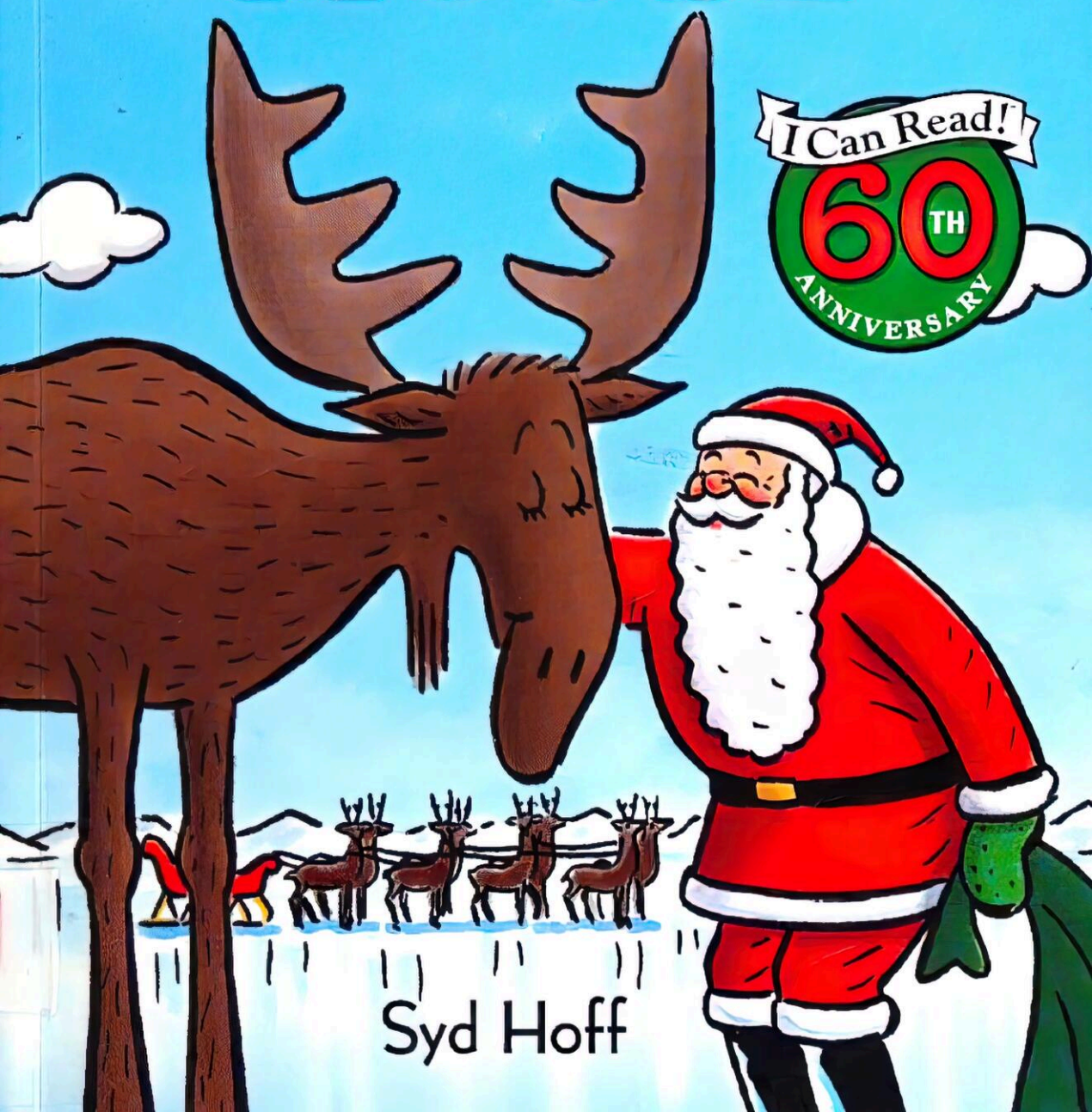
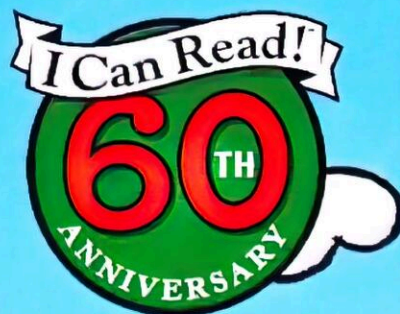


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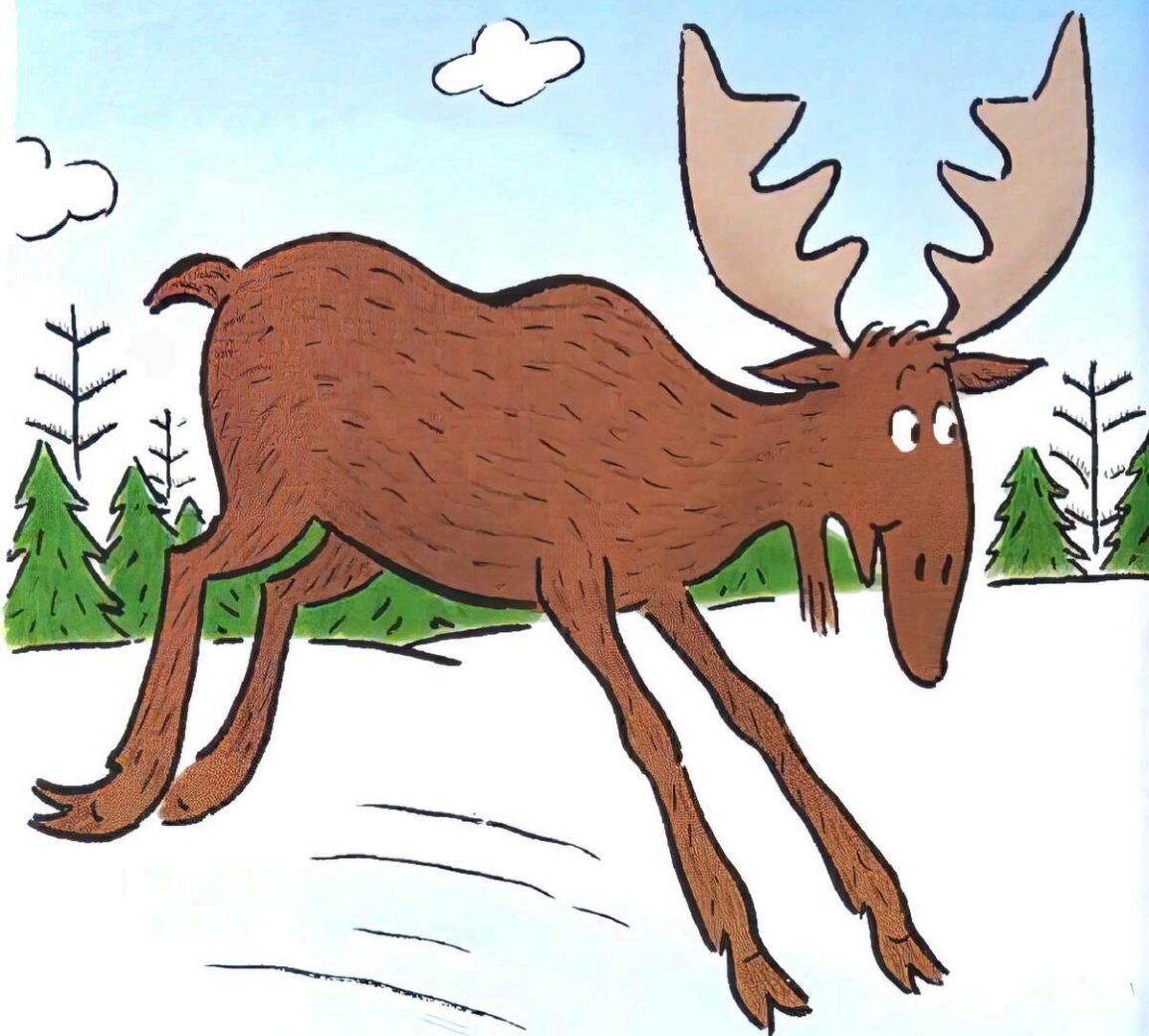
I Can Read!™

BEGINNING
1
READING

SANTA'S MOOSE



Syd Hoff

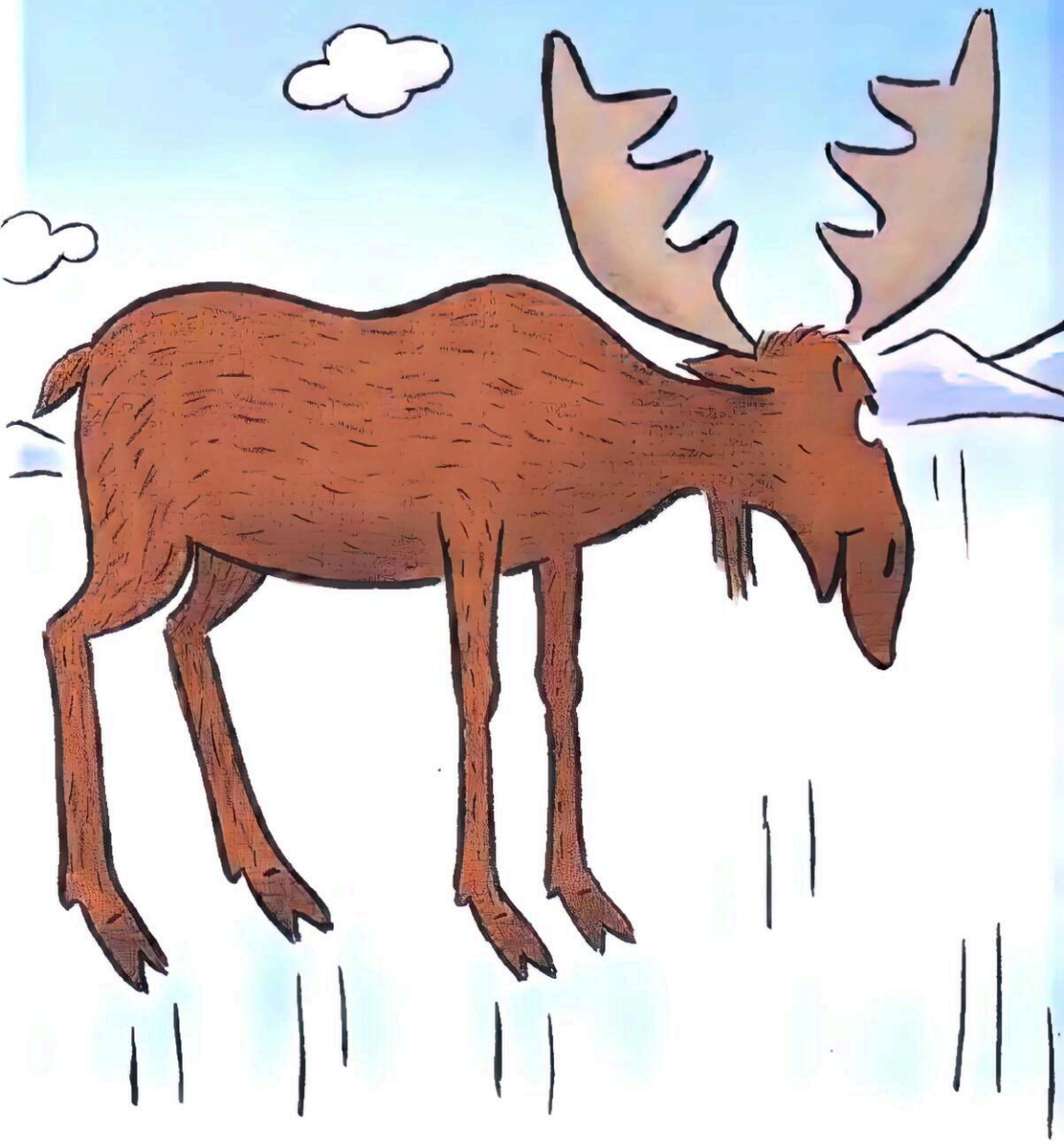


“We’re on our way
to help Santa Claus,”
said eight little reindeer.



“That sounds like fun,”
said Milton.

He ran after the reindeer.



“May I please help
pull your sleigh?” asked Milton.



“I have never used a moose before,
but I’m willing
if you are,” said Santa.
And across the sky they flew.



The eight little reindeer
liked Milton.

It was easy
to pull the heavy sleigh
with a big moose to help.

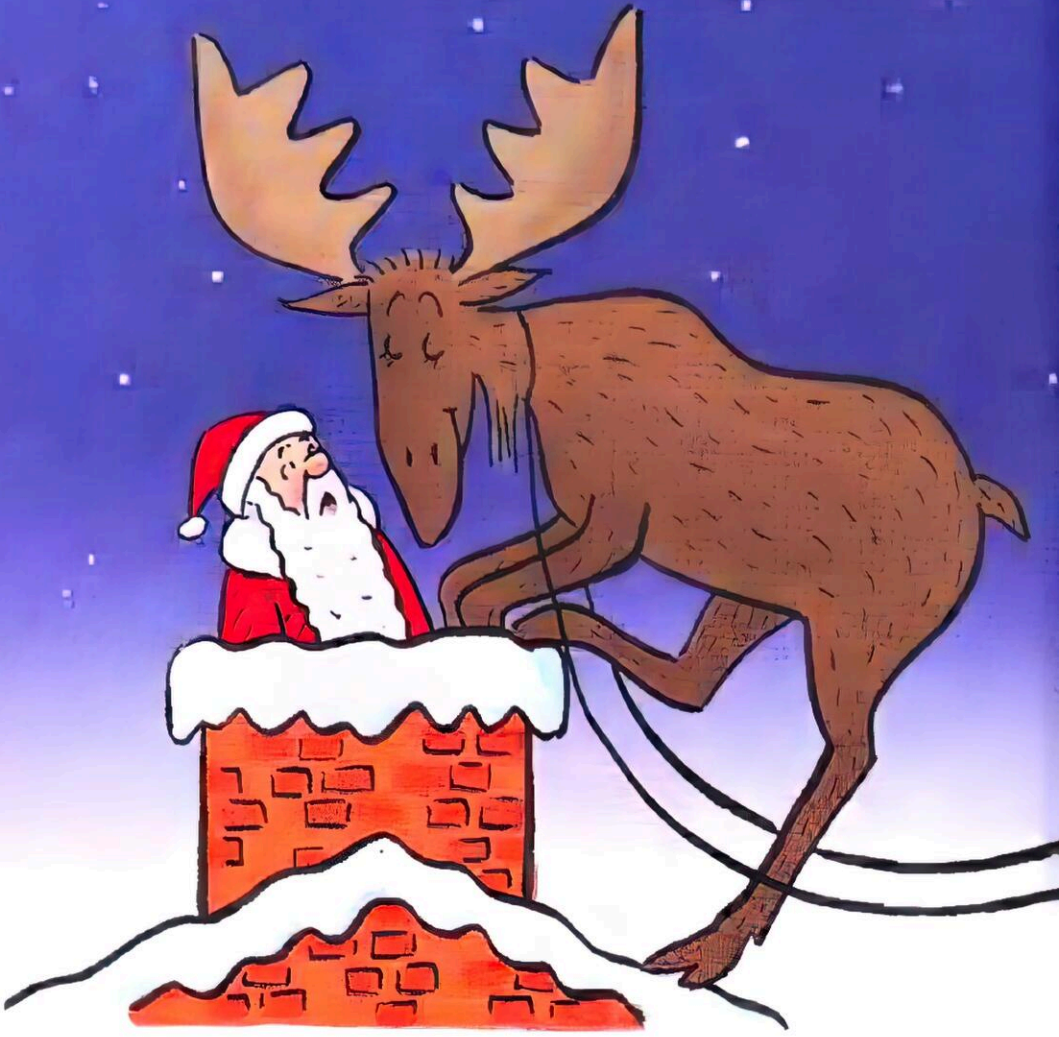


But Milton did not know
how to land on a roof.

KERPLUNK!

went Milton's big feet.

“Hush, you will wake everyone,”
said Santa.



Milton did not know
Santa went down chimneys alone.
He tried to go down too.
“You will get stuck,” said Santa.



Milton waited
with the reindeer.
But he wanted to see
Santa fill the stockings
and put presents
around the Christmas tree.



He leaned over the roof
to peek,
and down he fell.





“I guess I should go home.

I guess I will never be good
at this,” Milton said.

“Yes you will,” said the reindeer.



“None of us were good
in the beginning.”

“All it takes is practice,”
said Santa. “Please stay.”



So Milton flew
all over the world



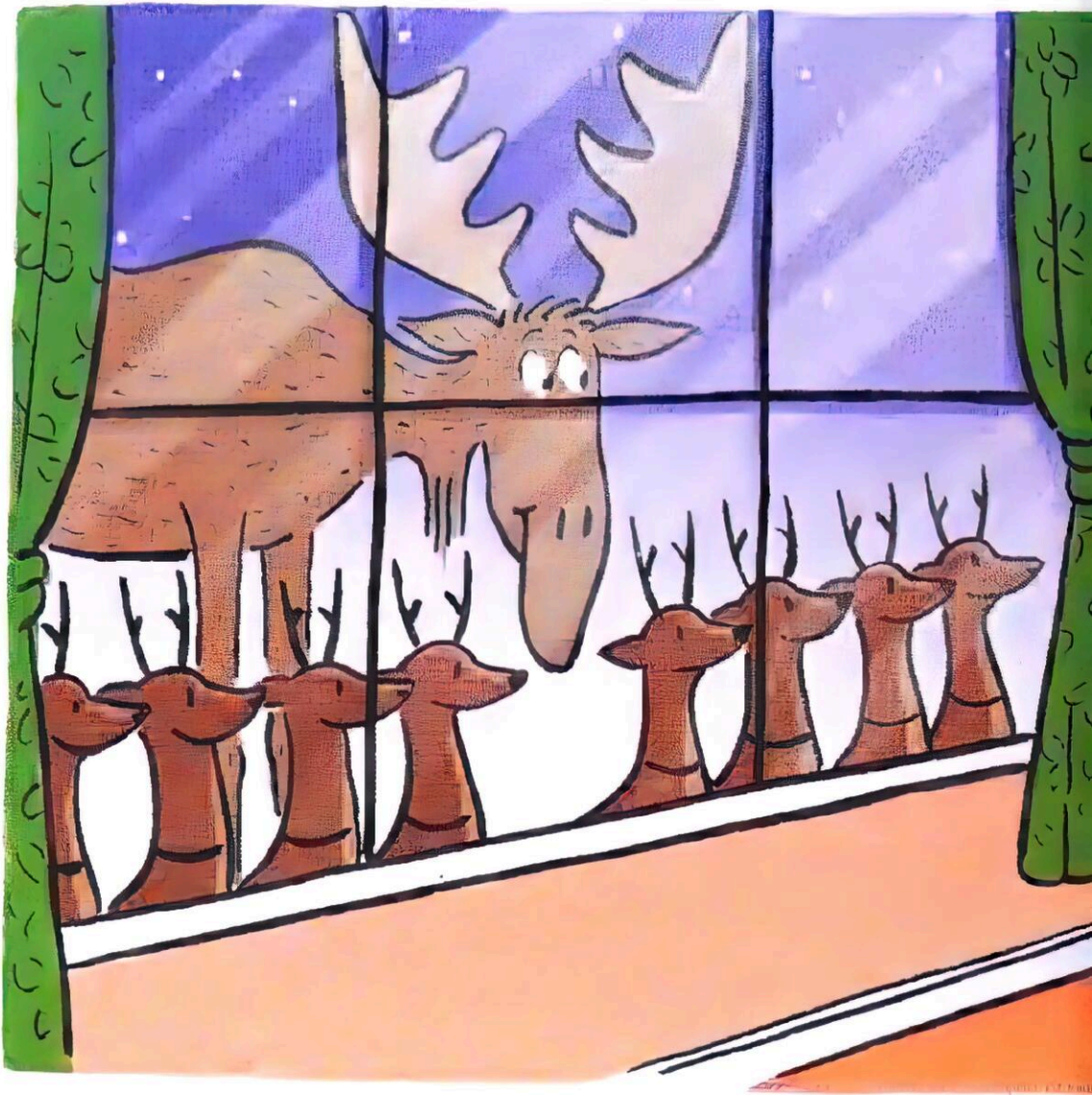
with Santa and
the eight little reindeer.



He learned to land on a roof.



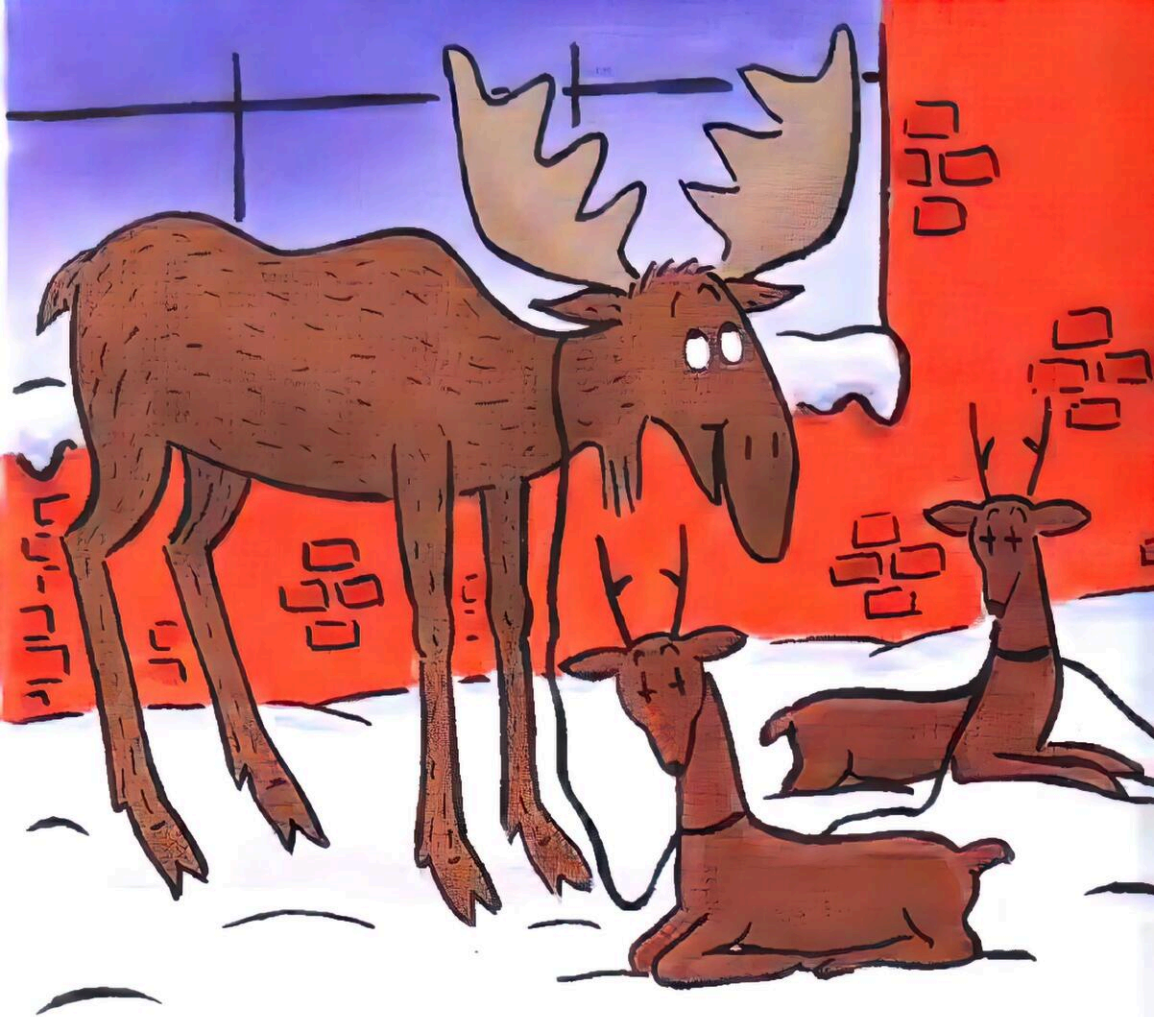
He learned to stand still
and wait for Santa,
even when it took him
a long time.



At one house,
Santa let Milton
and the reindeer
stay on the ground.



Milton watched Santa
put presents
under the Christmas tree
and candy in the stockings.



“Christmas is the best time
of the year!” said Milton.
But the little reindeer were tired.
“We cannot go another step,”
they said.



“The load is so heavy this year!
But if we stop
there will be no presents
for millions of children.”

“Do not stop!” cried Milton.

“I can pull the sleigh by myself.”

Milton flew ahead.

The eight little reindeer
glided after him.

All the toys were delivered.

“Thank you, Milton,”
the reindeer said.

“We could not have done it
without you,” said Santa.

“Will you help us next year?”

“Of course,” said Milton.



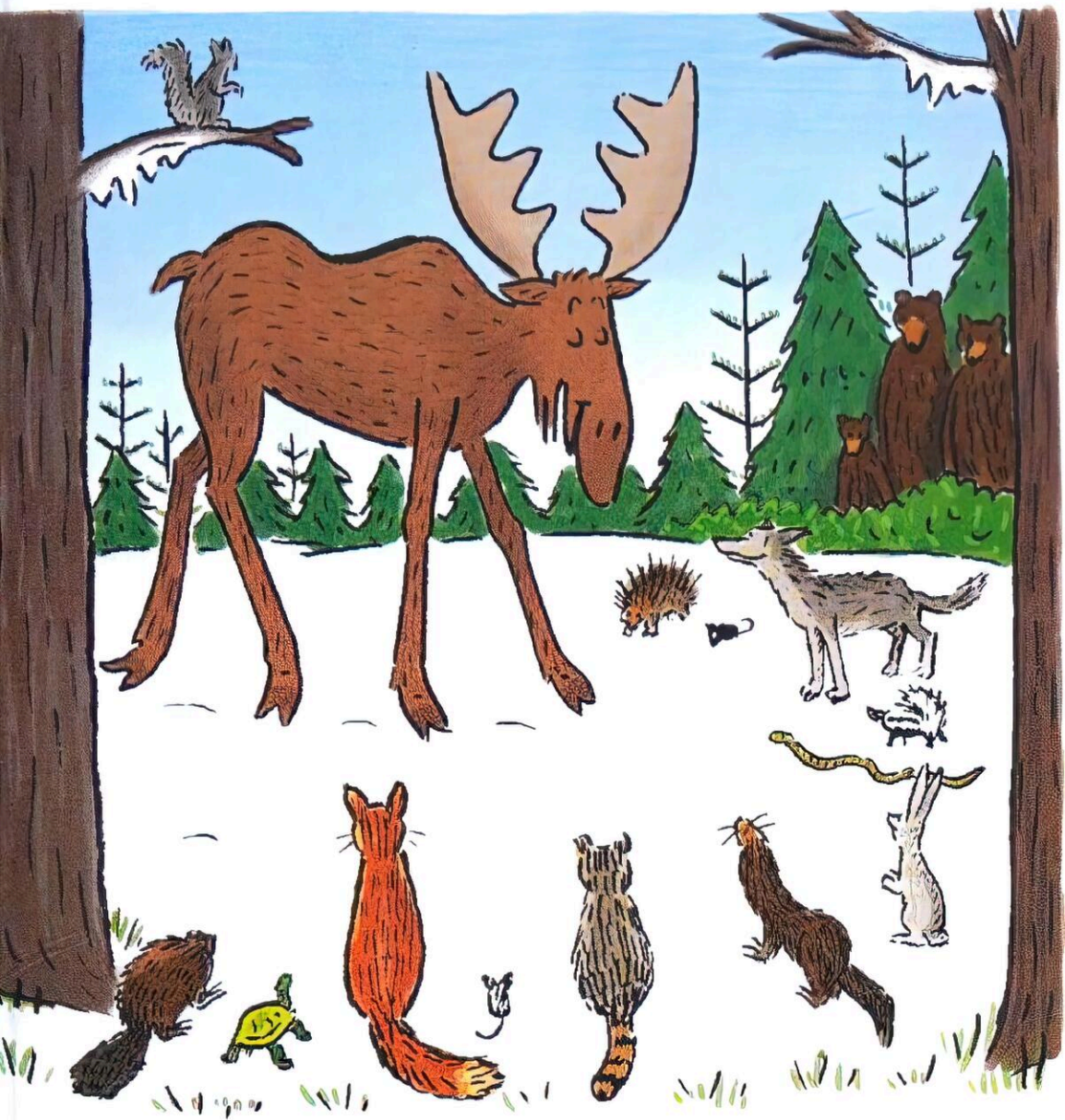


“Merry Christmas!” said Santa.

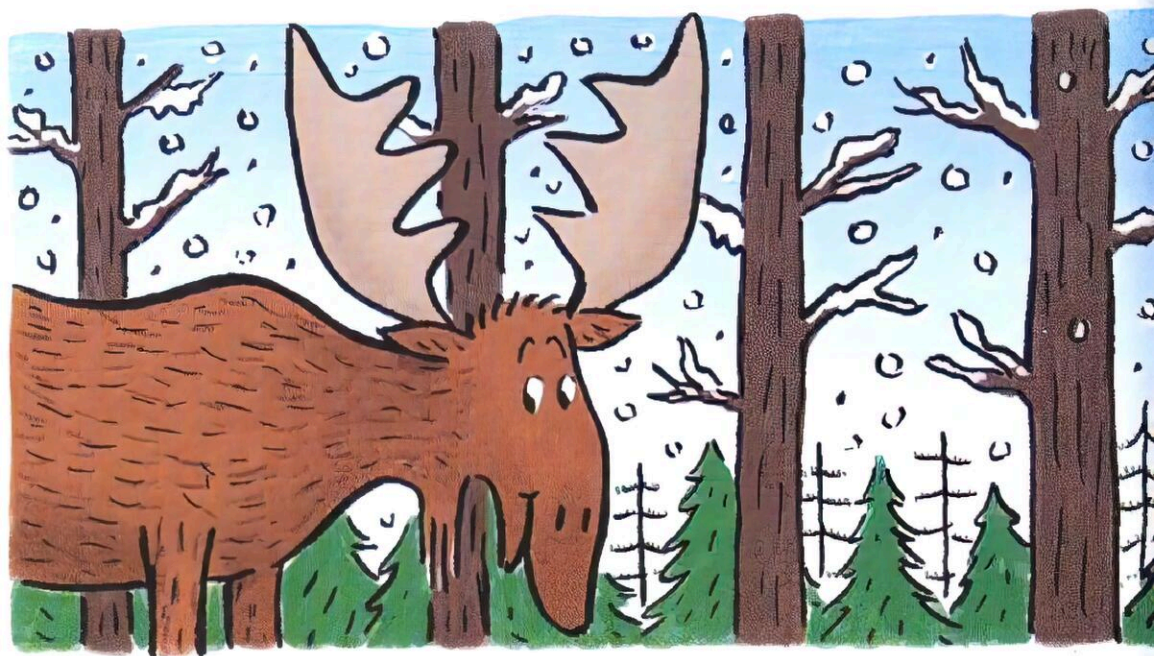
“Merry Christmas!” cried the reindeer.

Santa and the reindeer

flew back to the North Pole.



Milton went back to the forest.
“Merry Christmas, everyone!”
he said.



He thought of Santa.

He thought of
the eight little reindeer.

He thought of next year,
when he would help them again.

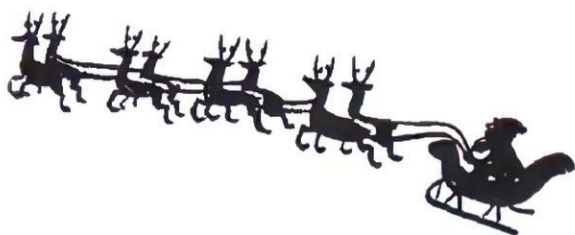
“Joy to the world,” he said,
“and peace on earth!”

I Can Read!™

BEGINNING

1

READING



SANTA'S MOOSE

by Syd Hoff

HARPER

An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers



It was winter in the forest.

“Soon Christmas will be here,”
said Milton the moose.



Birds landed
on Milton's antlers
to rest,
then flew south.



The animals put holly leaves
on their nests and caves.