

# How silly!



## Set 7 Story 5

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## Vocabulary check

Discuss the meaning (as used in the story) after the children have read each word.

	definition:	sentence/phrase:
cellar	room under the house	"Go down to the cellar and fetch me some flour."
beam	strong wood	He saw a big cooking pot hanging from the beam above his head.
crouched	bent down	He crouched down.
inn	a hotel	She came to a town, and stopped at an inn for the night.
stockings	long socks	She found that Rose had tied her stockings to some coat pegs.

Punctuation to note in this story:

1. Capital letters to start sentences and full stops to end sentences
2. Capital letters for names
3. Exclamation marks to show anger, shock and surprise
4. 'Wait and see' dots...
5. Speech marks

How silly!

Bossy Barbara was visiting Hopeless Howard.

She was helping Howard's mother make cauliflower cheese.

"Go down to the cellar and fetch me some flour, Howard," Barbara shouted.

As Howard was about to bring the flour up to the kitchen, he saw a big cooking pot hanging from a beam above his head.



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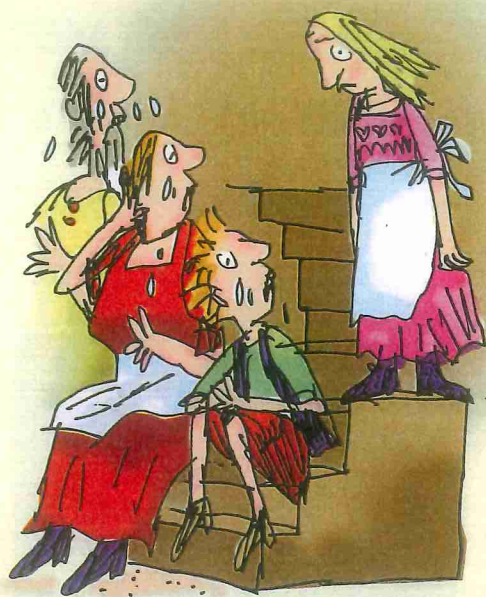
He crouched down and began to howl:  
"What if I marry Barbara,  
and we have a son,  
and our son grows up,  
and I send him down here for flour ...  
and that cooking pot falls down and  
knocks him out?"

Howard's mother and father came down to look for him.

When he told them what was wrong, they began to howl, too.

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The noise was so loud that Barbara came down.

When they told her what was wrong, she said: "How silly you all sound! I can't marry the silliest man in the land!

I'm going to see if I can find three sillies who are even sillier than you! Then I will come back and marry Howard!"

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Off Barbara went.

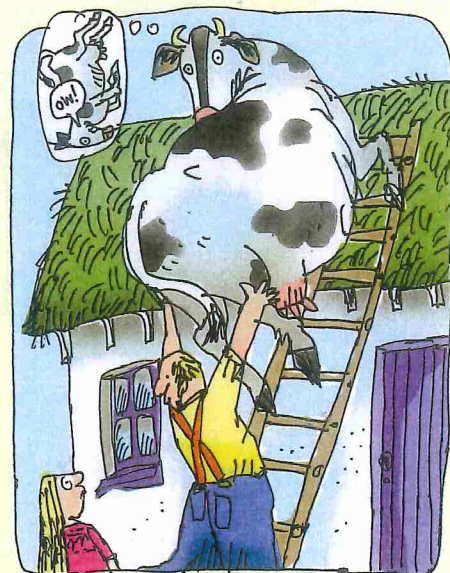
First, she came to a farmhouse with grass growing on the roof.

A man was pushing a cow up a ladder!

Barbara bowed politely, and asked him why.

"The best grass is on my roof," he frowned, "so I've got to get the cow up there to eat it."

That was the first silly.



Barbara went on her way.

She came to a town, and stopped  
at an inn for the night.

She shared a room with a girl called Rose.

In the morning, Barbara took off her nightgown,  
had a shower and dried herself with a towel.

When she came out of the bathroom,  
she found that Rose had tied her stockings  
to some coat pegs and was trying to jump into them!

That was the second silly.



As Barbara left the town,

the clouds parted and the sun came out.

She saw a crowd of people gathered round a pond.

A boy was dipping a net into the water.

"The sun has fallen into the pond!" he shouted.

"I must get it out - or it will drown!"

"There's no doubt about it," smiled Barbara,  
counting on her fingers, "now I have found  
my three sillies!"





So she went back to Howard,  
and they were married,  
and they did have a son.



One day, when the son was  
grown up, Howard did send him down  
to the cellar to fetch some flour.  
And the cooking pot did fall down ...  
but it missed him!