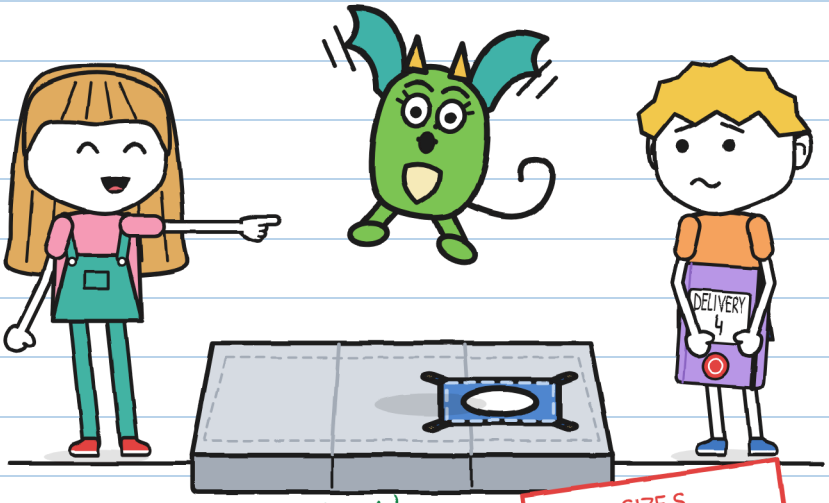
IMPOSSIBLE DELIVERIES · 4

Not Here, Crumb!

Lui Eriksson



(Gus's notebook)

SIZE S
Starter level · 7+

IMPOSSIBLE DELIVERIES · 4
Not Here, Crumb!

Text and illustrations: Lui Eriksson

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US English version: LinguAula

First edition: 2026

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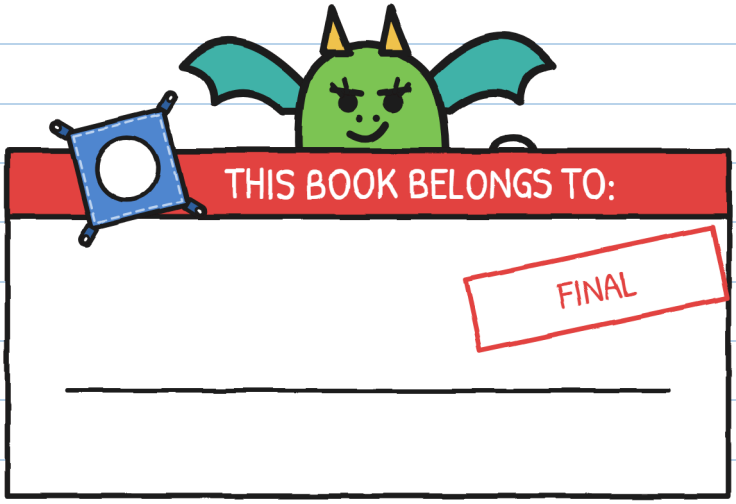
Free to photocopy, for class and for home.

Fourth book in the series. Earlier: "This Package Bites," "Do Not Open Before Thunder" and "Return to Sender, Please."

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No dragon got hurt in this book. A helmet did, a little. —J.



I read it first. Then we'll see. —J.

If you find it, return it. Not here: to its owner.

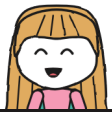


This stamp marks what only happens in the story. Real dragons don't exist. Packages don't fly back. To play in a real yard, see page 76. —J.

WHO'S WHO



Gus. Saturday courier. This notebook is his. He wants Crumb to come to him.



Julie. Writes in green and signs J. Always has a better idea. Even when nobody asks.



Tony. Delivers for LIGHTNING, in ten minutes or it's free. Since this week, he knows how to wait too.



Mara. Owner of Impossible Deliveries. Wears a witch's hat. Knows more than she says.



Vera. Looks after the dragons at the Dragon House. Sets the conditions.



Crumb. A dragon hatchling. She can take off now. Coming down is the hard part.



Package No. 4. Flat and wide. The label says: OPEN ON THE FLOOR.



R. Sends the packages nobody can deliver. Nobody says R.'s name.

DELIVERY NOTEBOOK 4
by Gus

FINAL.



Notebook 3 ended with a little bell. This one is lilac and has the shop's stamp.

This time I used it first. Julie waited with her marker uncapped.
"Ready?" asked Julie.
"Ready."

"Final" means I read it first. Then we'll see. —J.

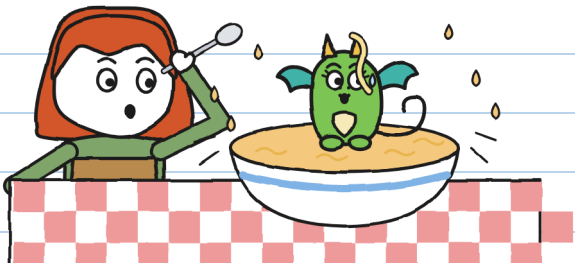
CHAPTER 1

Four Corners

In Mara's shop there's a shelf of undelivered packages. There were twenty. Julie and I have delivered three: a dragon egg, some seeds that ran, and a little bell. Seventeen are left.

The egg was Crumb. Crumb can take off now. But she doesn't know where to come down. Yesterday she came down in Vera's soup.

VERA'S SOUP (yesterday)



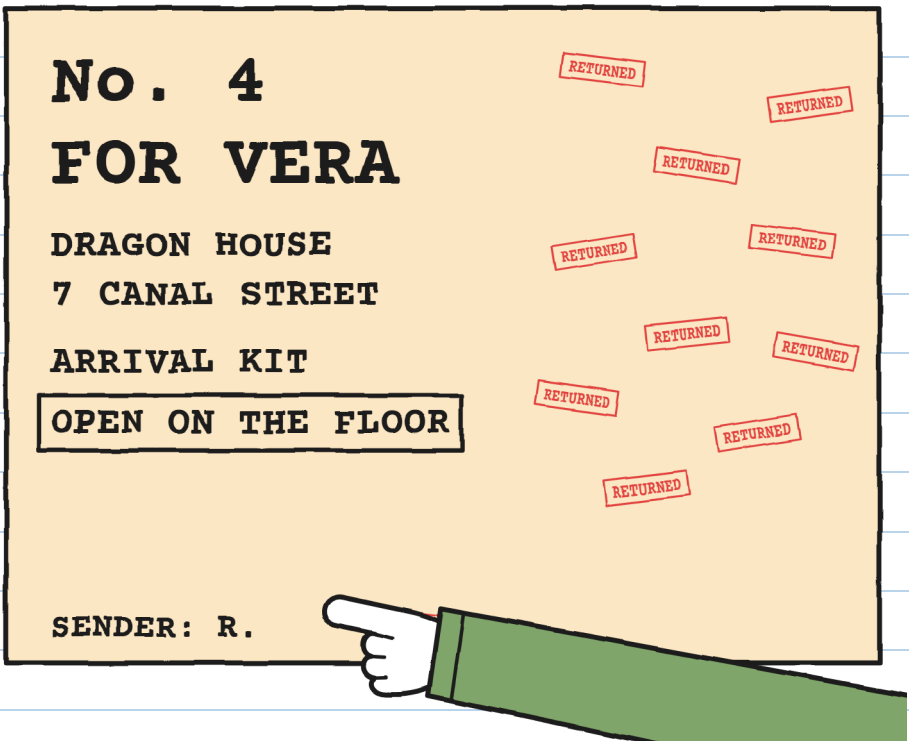
Noodle soup. With dragon. —J.

Vera came to ask for help and Tony offered. But first he had a delivery. He came back in nine and a half minutes. He left his bike at the door and sat on his crate.
"I already know how to wait," he said. "But I didn't need to start today."

Then Mara took a package down from the top shelf. She put it on the counter.
"Vera. This is yours."



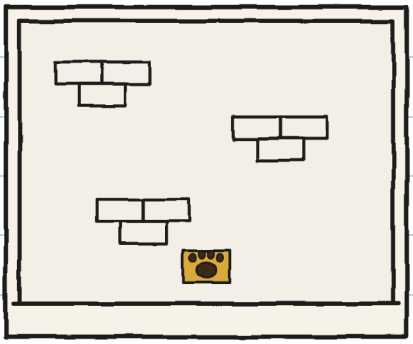
The label on No. 4 says a lot more than Tonykins's did. This one even comes with instructions.



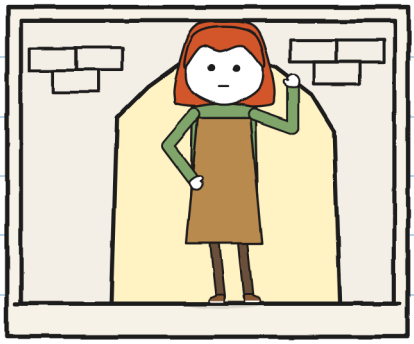
Vera read the label with her finger. She stopped at the R. that said who sends the package.

"Eleven stamps? Eleven times?" asked Julie.
"Nine times, at 7 Canal Street, there was only a wall," said Mara.
"And why didn't we take it with the egg?" asked Julie.
"I took it later, twice," said Mara. "The wall opened."
"And both times I said 'not yet'," said Vera.
"Crumb couldn't fly. I didn't need it."
"And today?" asked Mara.
"Yesterday Crumb came down in my soup."

MARA'S ELEVEN ATTEMPTS



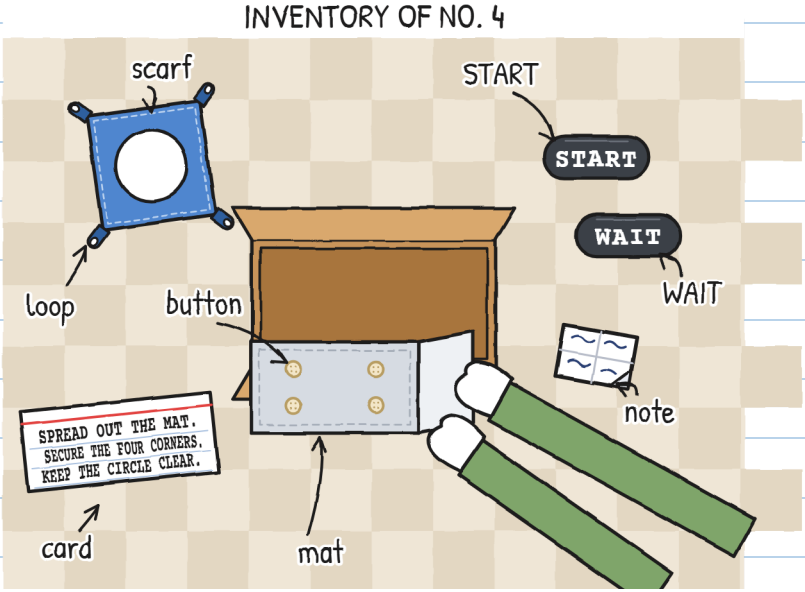
the wall: 9 times



Vera: "not yet," 2 times

"Opening or trying isn't receiving," said Mara. "If Vera doesn't sign the label in ink that doesn't come off, the package goes back at dawn."
"I know," said Vera. "I just want to try it."

The label said OPEN ON THE FLOOR, so Vera knelt on the floor and opened the package. Tony crouched beside her and counted the pieces out loud. Until then, I'd only heard him count minutes.



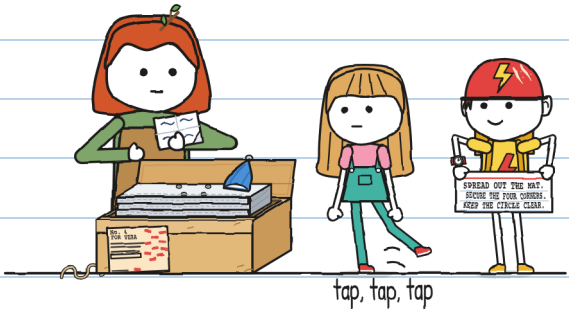
"Five things," said Tony. "And a note."

The card had three lines, typed:

1. SPREAD OUT THE MAT.
2. SECURE THE FOUR CORNERS.
3. KEEP THE CIRCLE CLEAR.

The note was shorter. Vera opened it and read it. She folded it into four again. She didn't read it aloud.

"For the yard," she said. And she put the note in the box.

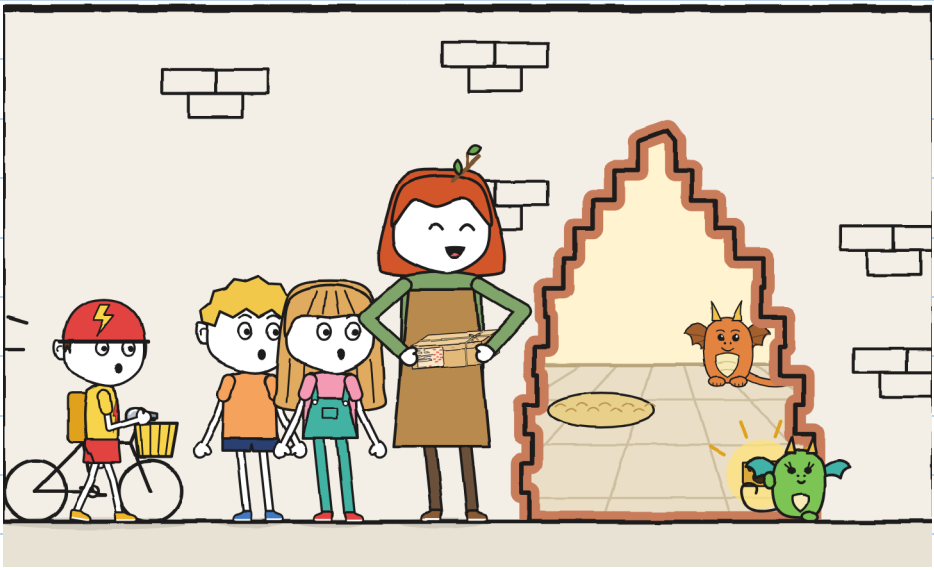


I saw Julie's questions lining up. And her foot.

Questions I didn't ask: six. I'm improving. —J.

Mara set her usual conditions. The kit goes with Vera. It comes back in its box. The label stays on.

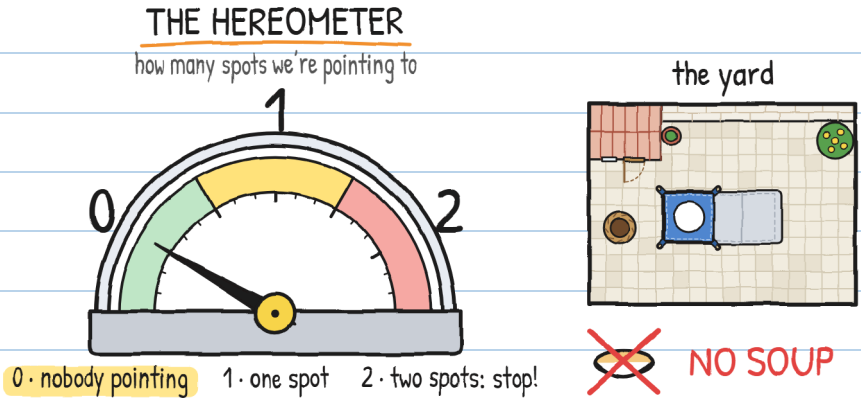
We all went to 7 Canal Street. In front of the wall, Crumb climbed down from Vera's arms. She put her paw on the metal plate.
The wall opened.



Tony took a step back with his bike. Once he saw the wall open, but at night. By day you see everything, and it's more impressive.

In the yard, Vera put the box on the ground. She lined us up.
"My conditions. One: we practice only with me watching. Two: there's only one arrival spot. Three: if I say 'enough', it's enough."

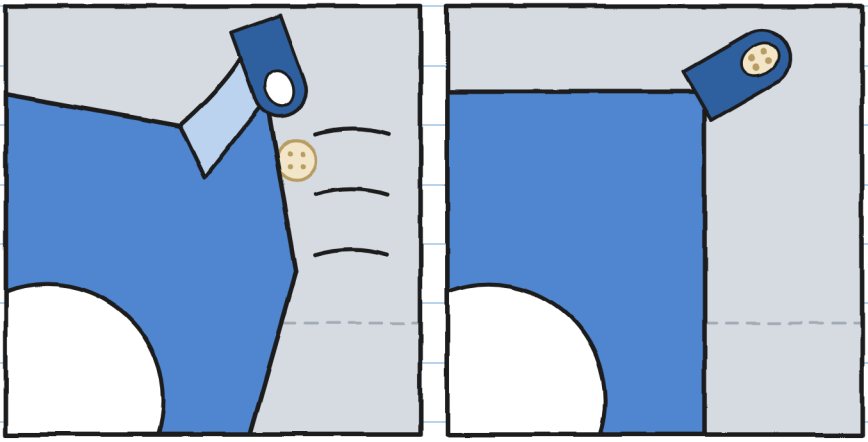
I wrote it down. Underneath I drew a gadget: the hereometer. On the plan of the yard I wrote NO SOUP. Just in case.



A machine for counting up to two.
Very nice. —J.

We spread the mat out in the middle of the yard. Julie put the scarf on top. She fastened two loops.
"Done."
"Look at the edge," said Vera.

A little air lifted the loose corner of the scarf, like an ear. Julie fastened the other two. She said nothing.

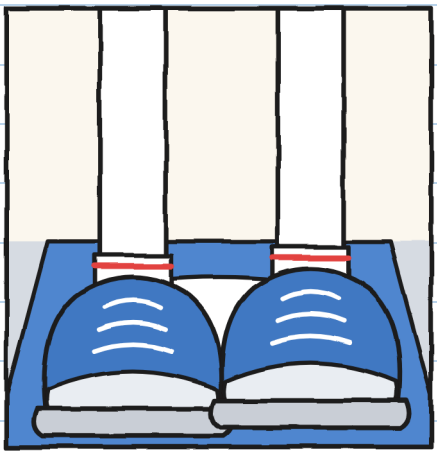


I was going to do it. The wind got there first. —J.

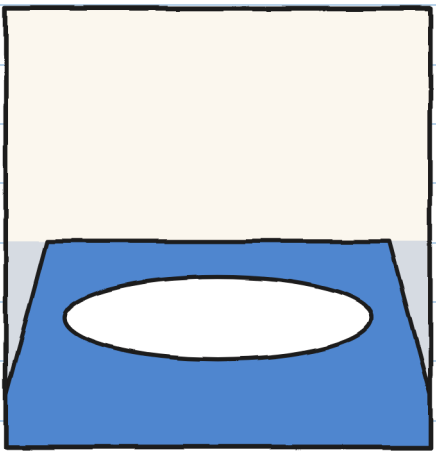
Then I wanted to help. I stood in the circle.
"Crumb, here. Here!"

Crumb came walking over, very pleased. She sat on my sneaker.
"You're showing her your sneakers," said Vera.

I stepped out of the circle. Crumb looked at the empty circle. She sniffed it. She went in and sat down in the middle.



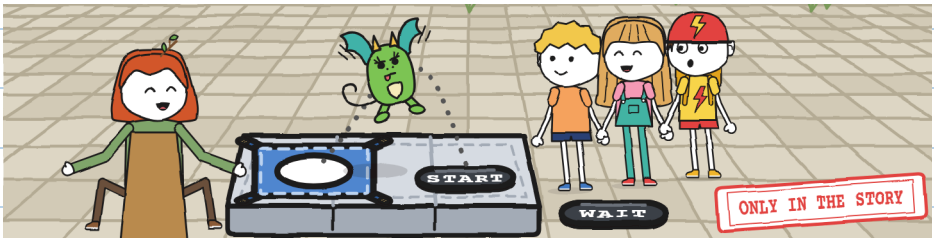
1. What Crumb saw



2. What she saw next

Vera put Crumb on the START mark, at one end of the mat. It was one meter twenty from the center of the circle. She put us behind the WAIT mark. "One small jump. One."

Crumb beat her wings and rose a handspan. Two seconds later she came down, all four paws inside the circle.
"Enough. For today, enough."



I wrote down: "She came to me." Julie unfastened the scarf and lifted it. Crumb turned her head and followed it with her eyes.

You were behind the mark. She went to the circle. —J.

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JULIE CHECKS THE LOOPS TWICE.

SIZE XS · A1
Julie checked the loops twice. She wanted to check them again. "That's quite enough," said Vera.

SIZE S · A2
Julie checked the four loops. She checked them again. She was going to do it a third time when Vera said: "That's quite enough."

SIZE M · B1
Julie checked the four loops. Then she checked them again. She was starting a third round when Vera said: "That's quite enough."

SIZE L · B2
Julie checked the four loops. Then she checked them again. She was about to start on a third time when Vera said: "That's quite enough."

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One size each. Same circle. —J.

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