

THE FIRST BALLOON—THE PICTURE BOOK

Now, let's give your animal a problem. Something's gone wrong.

--Someone hasn't come home to dinner on time.

--Someone is fooling around after school and it's getting dark.

--Someone's sick.

--Someone won't eat his supper.

--Someone hates liver and onions.

--Someone's dog ate his homework.

--Someone's cat hid her kittens.

--Someone can't find a shoe and the bus is waiting at the door.

--Someone has an enemy at school who's waiting around the corner to beat him up.

--Someone's afraid of the dark and doesn't want to go to sleep.

See? All around you are ideas of things to write about. Just look at your own life and the things that go wrong every day.

Have you ever been late to school and you had to go to the office for a slip and everybody watched you as you opened the door to your class and handed the teacher the slip and went to your seat?

Have you ever forgotten to bring something important somewhere when you promised you would?

Have you ever dropped the fly ball in the last inning so the other team won the game? How did you feel when everyone went, "Oh!"

Has someone said something about you that you didn't like?

Have you ever thrown up out in public where everybody could see you? Or you've fallen or gotten your fingers caught in a car door or your belt broke and

you couldn't keep your pants up or your slip?

These are things that your animal can do because these things are interesting. What you have to remember is that everybody loves a story where somebody has a problem he can't solve or where he does something or doesn't do something that gets him in a lot of trouble. He tries to solve it, but can't. Use the lines on the rest on this column to tell about a time when you got into a lot of trouble.

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