

by Moritz Petz • illustrated by Amélie Jackowski

# The Bad Mood!

UNCORRECTED PROOF  
**READER'S  
ADVANCE COPY**  
NOT FOR SALE

North  
South



**Moritz Petz**, alias Udo Weigelt, was born in Hamburg, Germany. Upon completion of his studies, he traveled through Italy, Denmark, and Sweden, working a variety of jobs before returning to study history and German. Today Udo Weigelt lives as a freelance author on Lake Constance.

**Amélie Jackowski** was born in Toulon, France. She studied at the School of Applied Arts in Strasbourg and at the University of Aix-en-Provence. The illustrator now lives and works in Marseille. She has two children to whom she likes to tell stories she invented.

Moritz Petz | Amélie Jackowski

# The Bad Mood!

Copyright © 2004 by NordSüd Verlag AG, CH-8050 Zürich, Switzerland.

First published in Switzerland under the title *Der Dachs hat heute schlechte Laune!*

English translation copyright © 2004 by NorthSouth Books, Inc., New York 10016.

Translated by J. Allison James.

All rights reserved.

First published in the United States, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand in 2004 by NorthSouth Books, Inc., an imprint of NordSüd Verlag AG, CH-8050 Zürich, Switzerland. This edition published in 2021.

Distributed in the United States by NorthSouth Books, Inc., New York 10016.

Printed in Latvia, by Livonia Print, Riga

ISBN: 978-0-7358-4464-3

3 5 7 9 • 10 8 6 4 2

[www.northsouth.com](http://www.northsouth.com)



North  
South



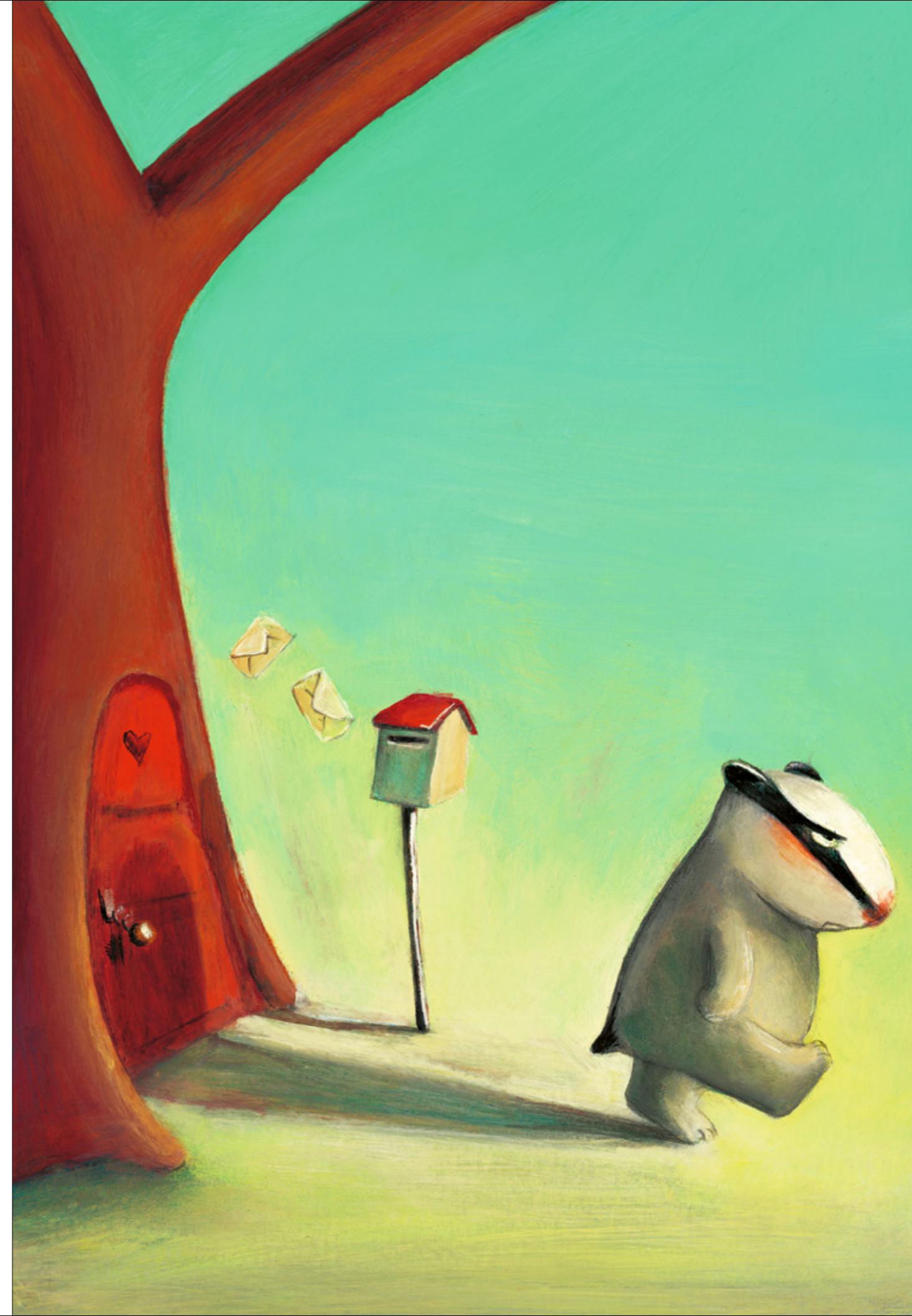


"Humph!" Badger said to himself when he woke up.  
"I'm in a bad mood today! This might be dangerous.  
Maybe I'd better stay at home."





At breakfast, Badger reconsidered. What was the point of being in a bad mood if nobody noticed? *Everybody ought to know how miserable I feel*, he thought. So Badger headed out, slamming the door behind him.





Badger was going along his usual route when he met Raccoon.  
“Good morning, Badger,” Raccoon said cheerfully.  
“Good morning? What’s so good about it?” Badger replied,  
and stomped off.  
Raccoon was so shocked he didn’t say good-bye.

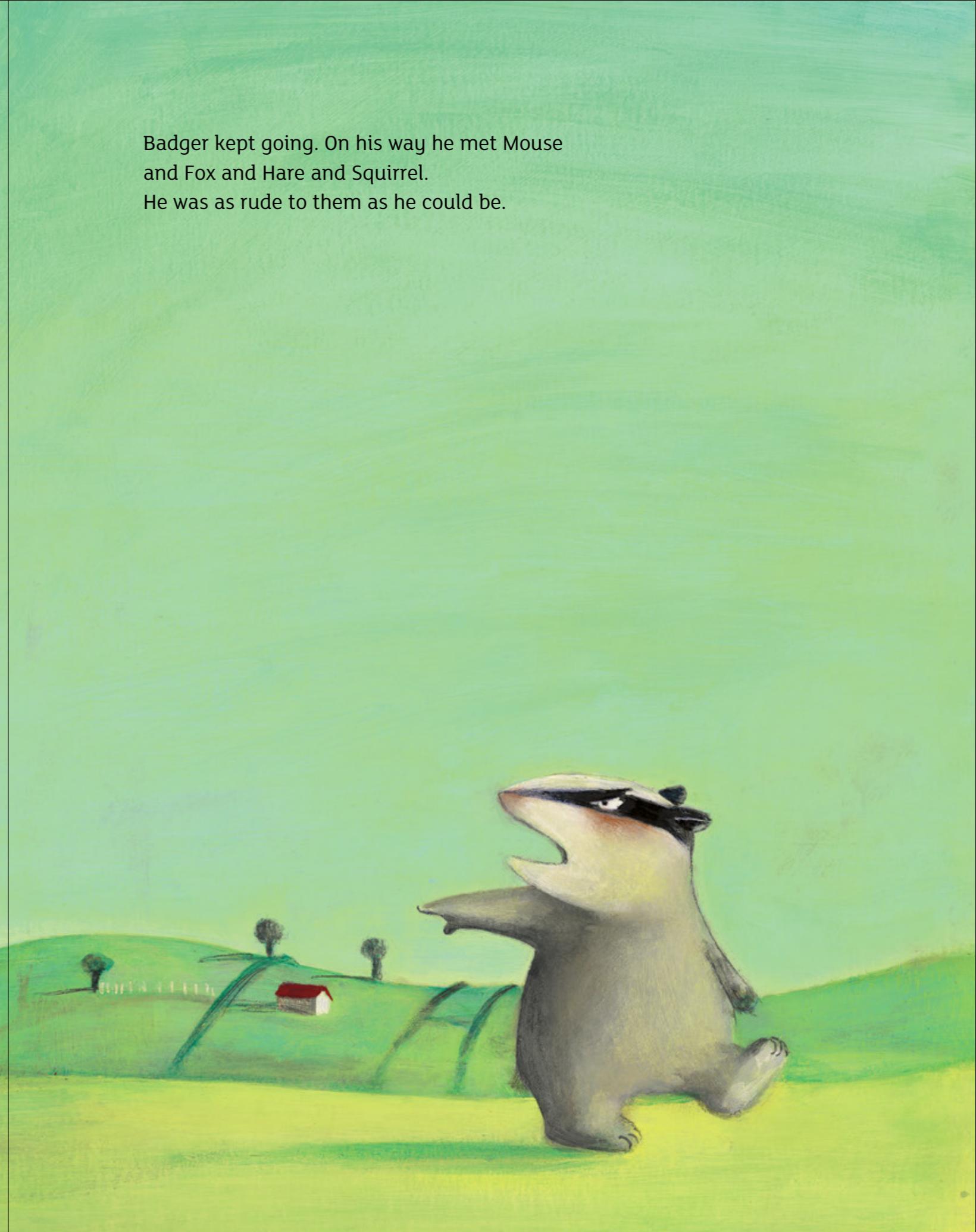




Deer was doing his washing. "Hello there, Badger. Sleep well?"  
"None of your business," Badger said.  
"Well, excuse me for asking!" said Deer.  
*Good, thought Badger. Now Deer and Raccoon know  
I'm in a bad mood.*



Badger kept going. On his way he met Mouse  
and Fox and Hare and Squirrel.  
He was as rude to them as he could be.





When he was finished with his morning walk, Badger came back home and started to work in his garden. As he was digging and weeding, the strangest thing happened. His bad mood just slipped right off him as if it had been a shirt that was too hot to wear. Badger became so happy that he started to whistle a sweet song.





Badger didn't stop working until late that afternoon. He was deeply satisfied with himself. He went out to the clearing to play with the other animals. But the woods were still and silent. Not an animal appeared.



*Strange, thought Badger. Where are they all?*  
He went to Raccoon's house to ask.  
Raccoon was not in a good mood. "Leave me alone!" he grumbled.  
Badger was shocked. No one had ever been so rude to him before.



It wasn't any better with the other animals.  
Fox told him to get lost.  
Squirrel hurled a nut at his head.  
Mouse and Hare shouted and hissed at Badger,  
which made him quite dizzy.





Badger was miserable. When Crow came to visit, he told her about how mean all the animals had been to him.

"There must be a reason," said Crow.

Badger thought about it. "Well," he said finally. "I was in a bad mood this morning, and I guess I took it out on my friends. I was very rude to them." Badger felt just awful. "Oh, dear! What can I do?"

Crow and Badger thought about the problem together.

Suddenly Badger jumped up. "I have an idea!" he said. "Will you help me?"

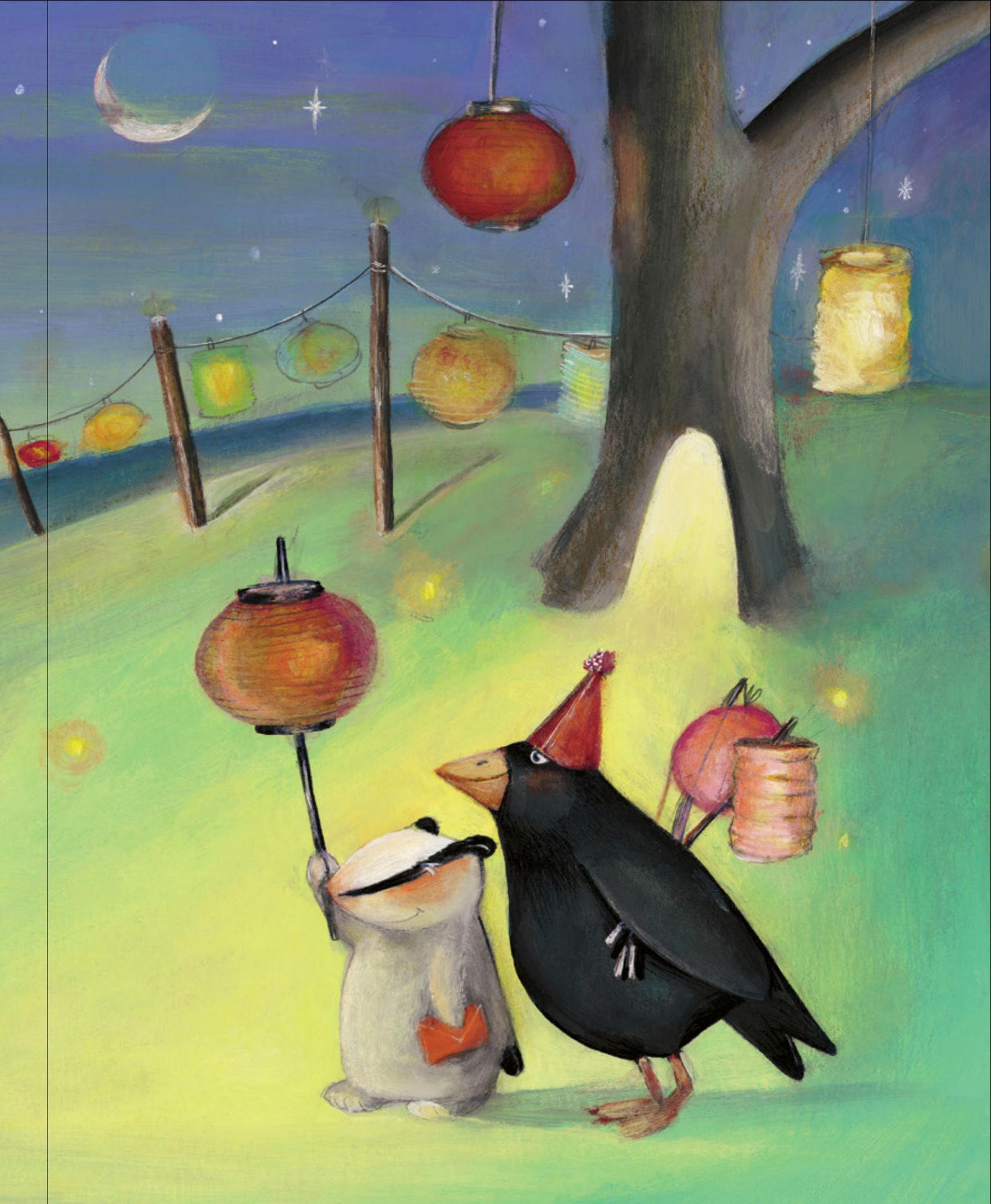
"Indeed I will," said Crow.



"Party tonight!" cawed Crow as she fluttered through the forest.  
"Everyone who is in a bad mood is invited! Come to the clearing at  
moonrise for a bad-mood party!"  
And since Badger had passed his bad mood on to the other animals,  
they all showed up at the party. When they saw Badger standing in  
the clearing, they glared angrily at him.



Badger took a deep breath. "I want to apologize," he said.  
"This morning, I was in an awful mood, and I took it out on all of you.  
You are my friends, and it was a terrible thing for me to do. I am so  
sorry. Will you please forgive me?"  
At last the animals smiled.  
Together they sang songs and danced until dawn.





Sometimes a bad mood can be contagious!

Badger is in a terribly bad mood. He greets all his friends with grumpy, rude remarks until they are in bad moods too. By the time Badger feels better, he realizes that everyone is upset with him. What now? With the help of Crow, Badger comes up with an idea to turn things around. A comical cautionary tale for anyone who has ever gotten up on the wrong side of the bed.

This beloved classic has been translated into more than ten languages.

US \$17.95 • CAN \$23.95  
ISBN 978-0-7358-4464-3  
  
NOT FOR SALE  
[www.northsouth.com](http://www.northsouth.com)

