

Recipe Ruckus

Shel writes often about food in his poetry, such as in “Recipe for a Hippopotamus Sandwich” from *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. Use the “ingredients” in the box below to compose a poem that explains the recipe for your own unique kitchen creation!

Bread

Egg

Ketchup

Ham

Apple

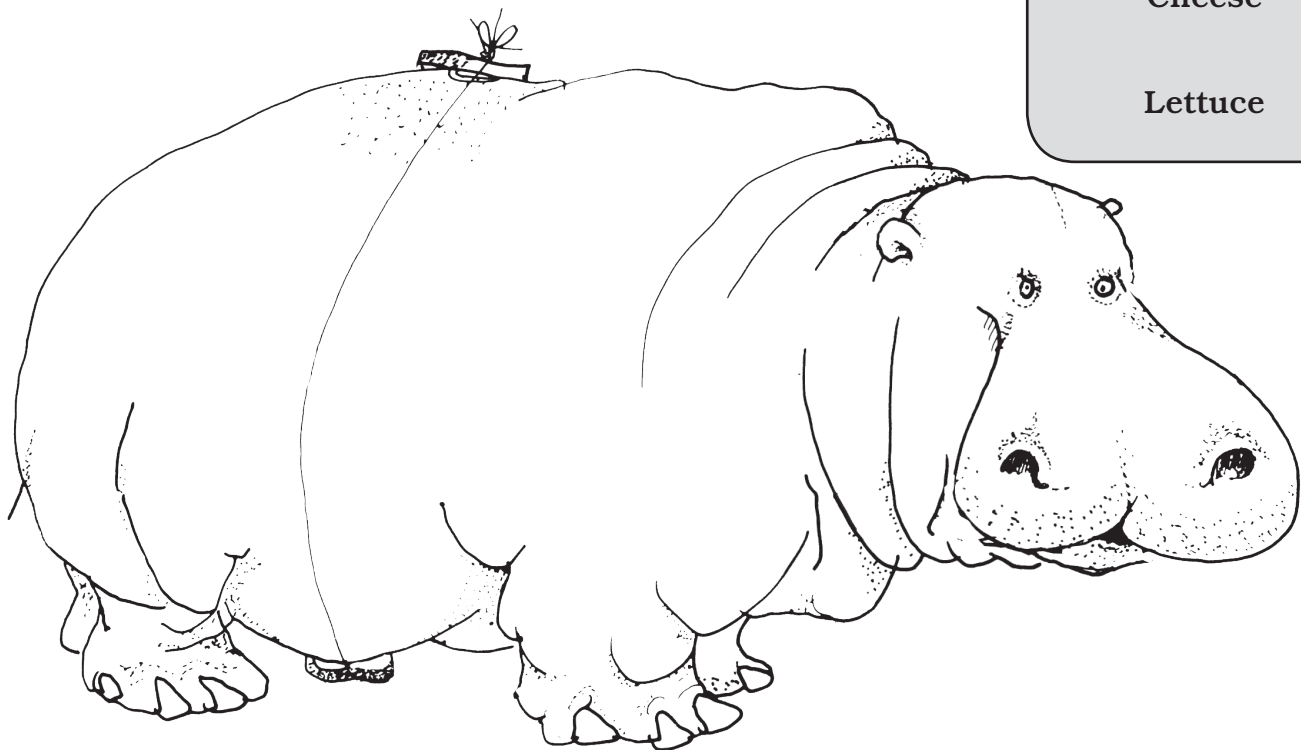
Salt

Rice

Carrot

Cheese

Lettuce



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Wacky Wordplay

Shel's poems are full of humor, and now it's your turn to practice his signature style! Write your own version of "Fear" from *A Light in the Attic* by filling in the blanks in the poem below with a noun or verb. Be creative—the sillier the better! Don't forget to share and read your poem aloud when you're finished.

[your name]

Was scared of _____,
[noun]

So he never would _____
[verb]

Or get into a _____
[noun]

Or take a _____
[noun]

Or cross a _____.
[noun]

He just sat day and night

With his door locked tight

And the windows nailed down,

_____ with fear
[verb]

That a _____ might appear,
[noun]

And _____ so many tears
[verb]

That they filled up the _____
[noun]

And he _____.
[verb]



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Eggciting Eggsperiment

In “Eggs Rated” from *Falling Up*, Shel writes about a man eating delicious eggs at a restaurant, but he uses the word “egg” as a play on many other words that only *sound* similar. Practice your vocabulary by guessing the words Shel would have used if he hadn’t substituted the word “eggs” in them and write your answers in the lines below. Which version is more fun to read?

EGGS RATED

These eggs

Are _____.
[eggscellent]

I’m not _____.
[eggsaggerating]

You can tell by my _____.
[eggspression]

They’re _____—
[eggsceptional]

_____ fluffy,
[Eggstra]

_____ tasty,
[Eggstremely]

Cooked _____ right
[eggsactly]

By an _____.
[eggspert]

With lots of _____.
[eggsperience]

Now I’ll _____ the bill
[eggsamine]

Ooh—much more _____.
[eggspensive]

Than I _____.
[eggspected]

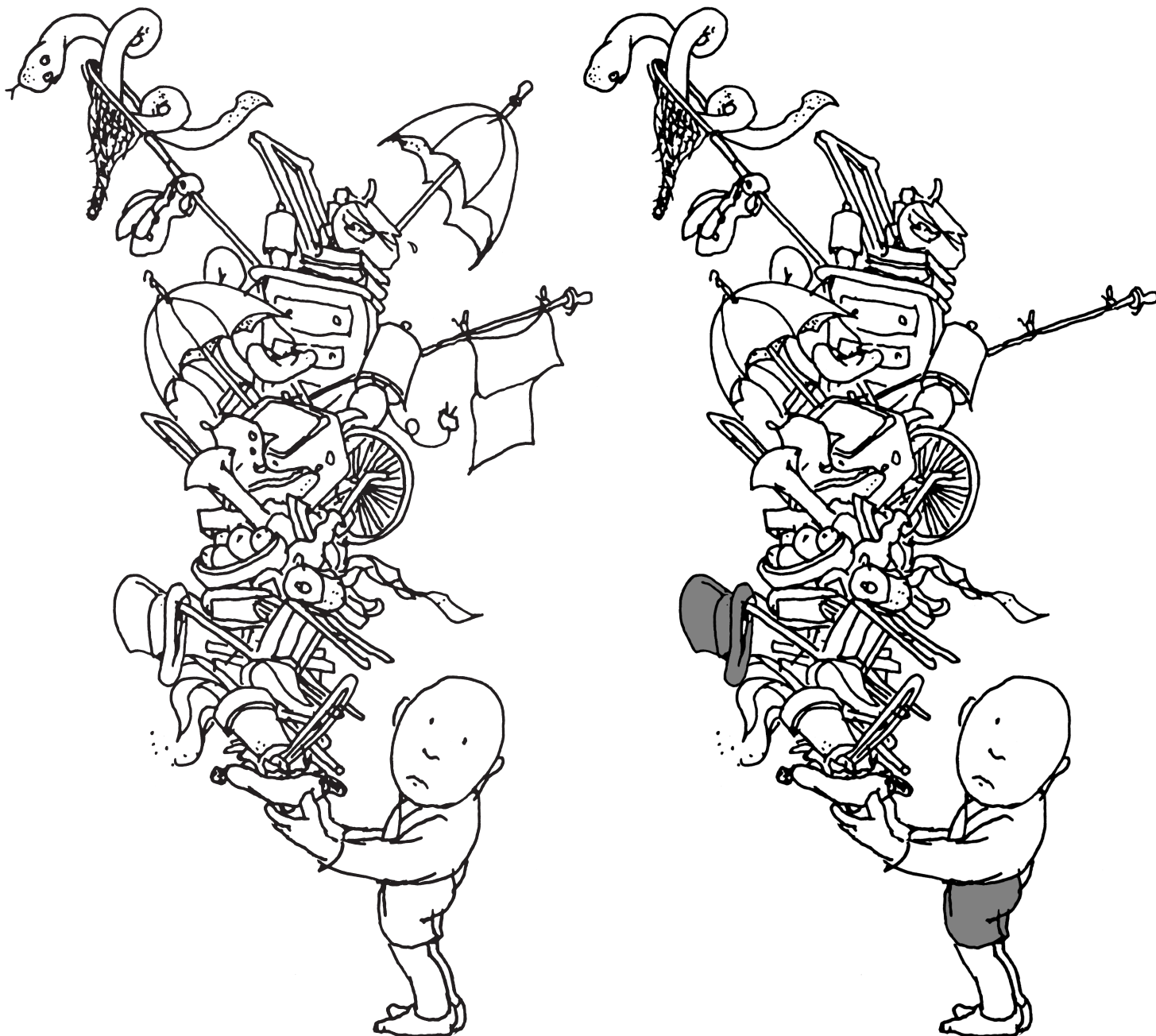
I gotta get out of here.

Where’s the _____?
[eggxit]



I Spy . . . Every Thing On It

In the poem "Every Thing On It" from *Every Thing On It*, the narrator asks for a hot dog with *all* the fixings, which include a wristwatch, a goldfish, and a flag. Can you spot the TEN differences between these two drawings? Circle your answers below. Which image is the real one that appears in the book?



What would come on *your* hot dog with everything on it?

Answer Key: 1) One of the snake's eyes is missing; 2) Snake's tongue is missing; 3) Umbrella is missing; 4) A stripe is missing in the other umbrella; 5) Flag is missing; 6) Lamp plug is missing; 7) Only one button on the boot; 8) One of the boy's eyes is missing; 9) Boy's shorts are gray; 10) Hat is gray.

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Spoonerism Scramble

Runny Babbit speaks a topsy-turvy language of his own called spoonerisms, a deliberate play on words in which corresponding letters are switched between two words in a phrase, often with a funny outcome. Imagine if you spoke entirely in spoonerisms—what would you sound like? Translate the everyday actions below into spoonerisms and then read them out loud for a hilariously good time.
(Hint: You don't need to translate words such as "a," "to," and "the.")

Read a book Bead a rook

Drink water _____

Take a shower _____

Wash the dishes _____

Play soccer _____

Talk to friends _____

Cook dinner _____

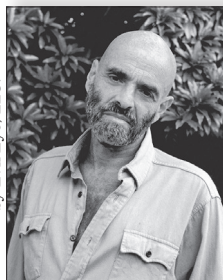
Listen to music _____

Eat a sandwich _____

Write a poem _____



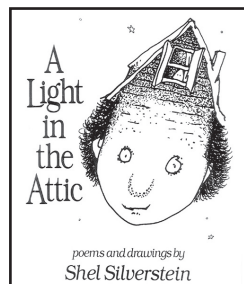
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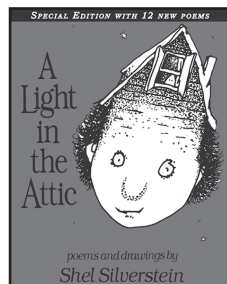
ABOUT SHEL SILVERSTEIN

Shel Silverstein is the author-artist of many beloved books of prose and poetry. He was a cartoonist, playwright, poet, performer, recording artist, and Grammy-winning, Oscar-nominated songwriter. Learn more about Shel at shelsilverstein.com.

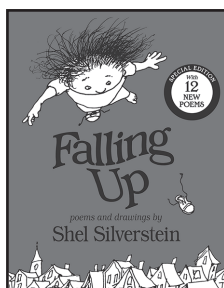
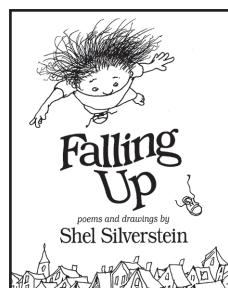
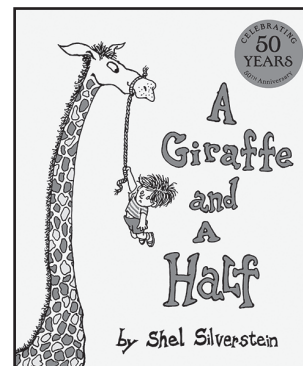
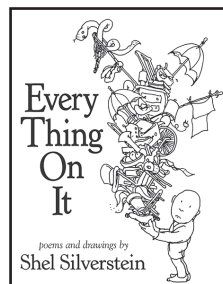
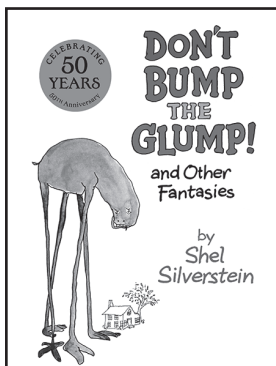
Read all of the Shel Silverstein classics!



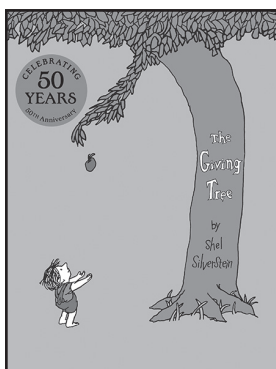
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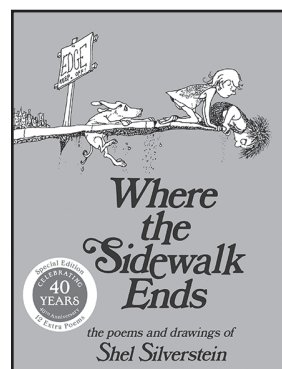
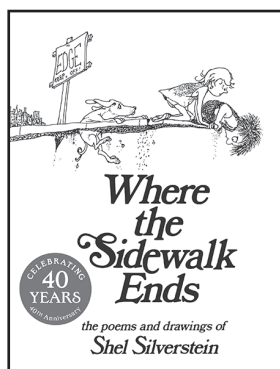
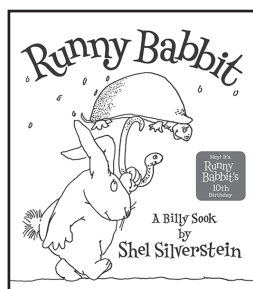
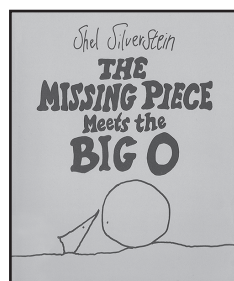
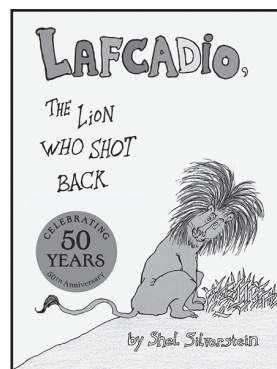
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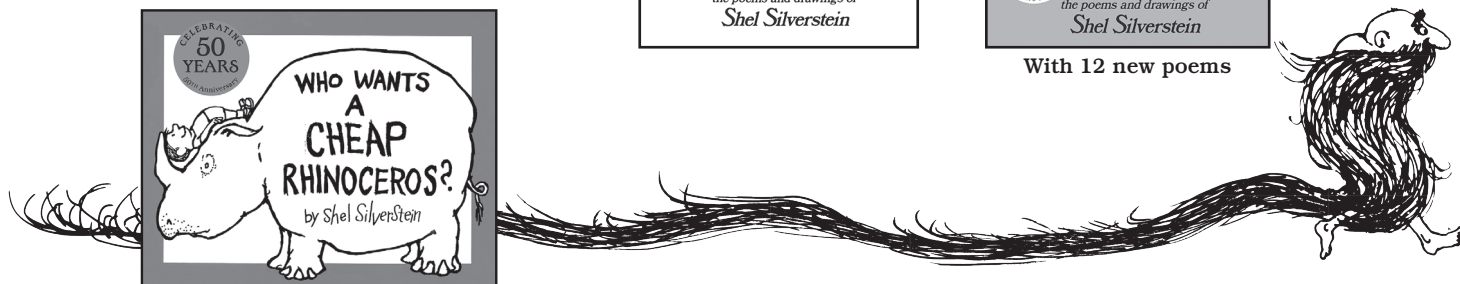
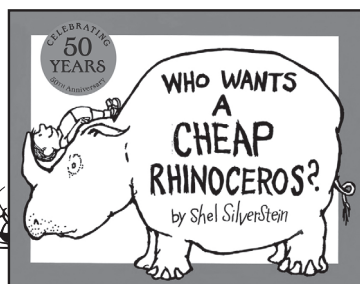
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Also available with CD
and as an ebook



With 12 new poems



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