

# Escape To Trinidad



**H**arlequin the horse lived in a cowshed with Manicou and Monkey on Farmer Jacob's farm. It overlooked a long, long beach in Venezuela. Their good friends were Julian and Juanita. Their home was higher up the hill above the farm

*One day, while the friends were all playing on the beach,  
Juanita found a skinny puppy.*

It was covered in cold, wet sand. The little dog looked odd, but she decided to take him home. She wrapped him in a towel.

Harlequin first whinnied in Spanish, "¿Qué es eso?" then said in English "Whaaat's that?"

*Unwrapping the towel Juanita replied, "A three-headed dog!"*

"Where did it come from?" asked Harlequin.

"He is cute." Julian said.

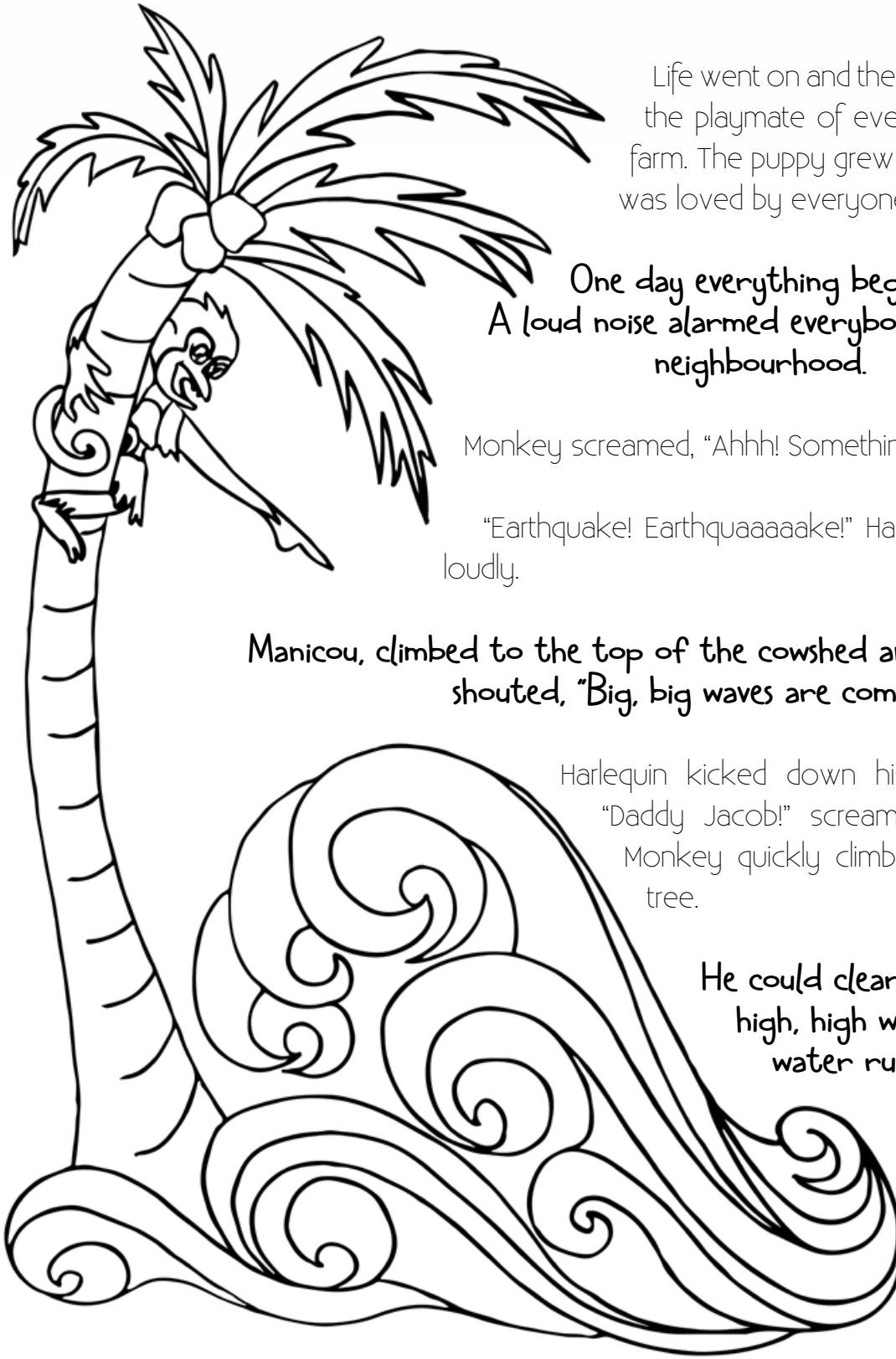
"Throw him in the water," Monkey advised in a squeaky voice.

"No, Monkey! We'll keep him.," said Juanita.

"Let us name him," said Manicou while sliding down a tree. They called the heads Rico, Rex, and Maco.

On the way home they showed Farmer Jacob the puppy. "He is a different one," he boomed. They all stared at him. Farmer Jacob's big, oval head was egg-shaped. His large eyes were like the two windscreens on the shiny old red van that he used for taking things to the market. He too looked very unusual.

"Let's give him some milk," he offered. Farmer Jacob also gave the children bags of pineapples, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, and a lot of sweet, sweet, corn.



Life went on and the puppy became the playmate of everybody on the farm. The puppy grew into a dog that was loved by everyone in the area.

One day everything began to shake. A loud noise alarmed everybody in the neighbourhood.

Monkey screamed, "Ahhh! Something's happening!"

"Earthquake! Earthquaaaaake!" Harlequin neighed loudly.

Manicou, climbed to the top of the cowshed and suddenly shouted, "Big, big waves are coming!"

Harlequin kicked down his stable door. "Daddy Jacob!" screamed the horse. Monkey quickly climbed the highest tree.

He could clearly see a high, high, high wall of green water rushing to the seashore.

Pointing at the beach he screamed, “OH! Ohhhhhh! Ah!” He bawled, “Get Out! Get Out! De ocean coming ...de sea coming!”

Giant waves roared inland. They were as tall as coconut trees. Farmer Jacob shouted, “Run! Run! Run!” Everybody made a mad scramble up the mountainside.

The cows cried, “Mooooooo!” “Baaaaa! Baaa!” said the goats and sheep. Pigs rushed snorting and squealing up the hill. Pigeons flew from their cages.

*Cocks crowed and hens squawked as they too tried to fly.*

There was a lot of noise as the crashing waves struck down coconut trees. From Julian and Juanita’s house they all looked at the flooded farm. Farmer Jacob sat quietly. Sweat ran down his bright, red face. He rubbed his eyes. All of them were quiet, frightened and sad.

When the sea rolled back, Monkey, Manicou, Harlequin, Farmer Jacob, Julian, Juanita and the three-headed dog all went to the beach.

Harlequin said quietly, “We neeeded to get out of Veeeneeeezueeela. I don’t feel safe anymore.”

*The friends answered like a chorus, “We must all escape to Trinidad.”*

Farmer Jacob said, “I’ll be here when you return.” Suddenly, Rico, Rex, and Maco, transformed into a boat.

When they jumped on the boat Julian began to cry. He realized he was leaving his country that he loved very much. He was going to a place called Cedros in Trinidad, which he had only once heard someone talk about.

THE END

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