Noah's Shark



Alan Durant and Holly Surplice

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Chapter One

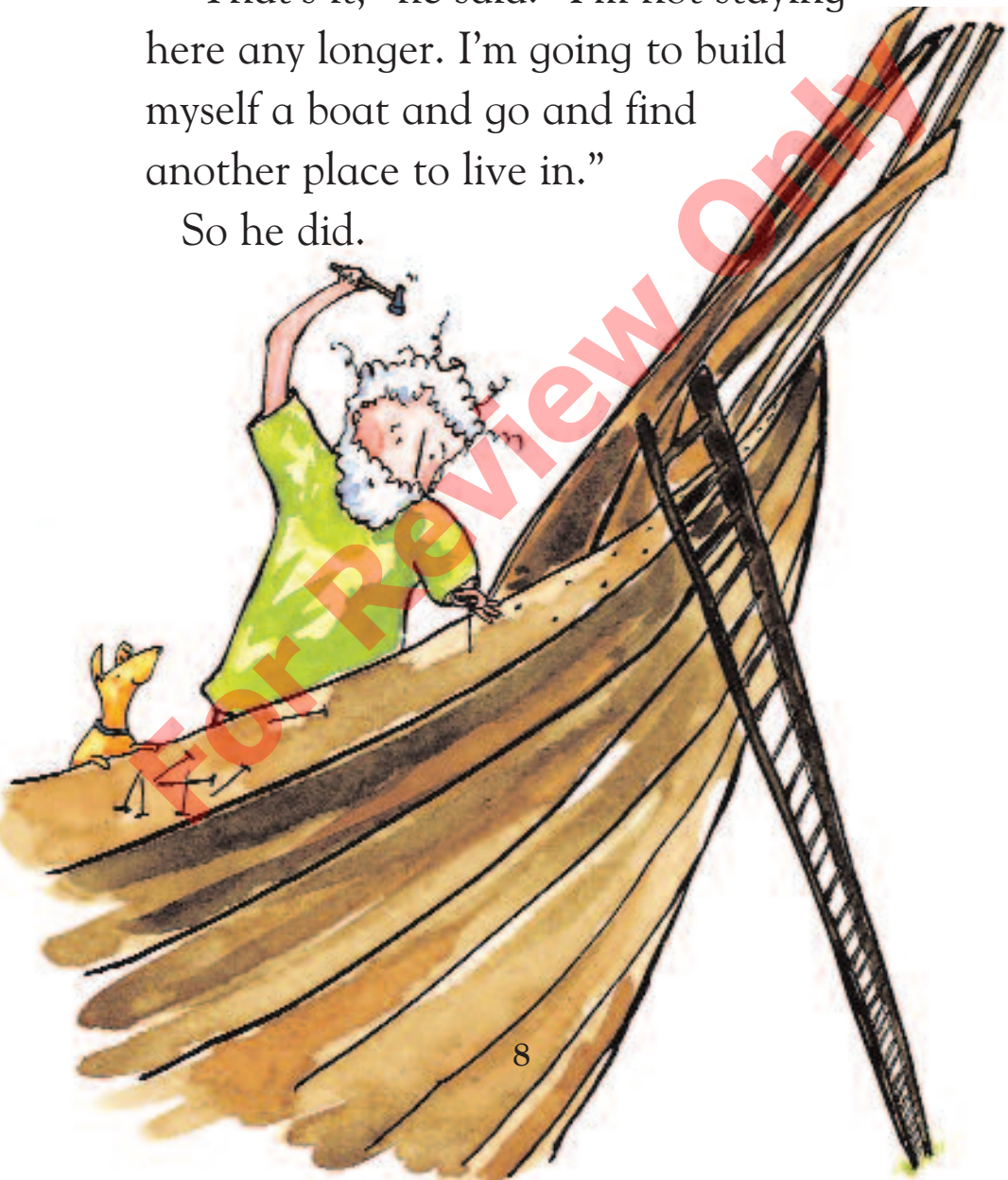
Once, way back, there was this guy called Noah and he was fed up. He was fed up with the people who lived in his world, because they were making a right mess of things. They were dumping filth in the rivers, ripping up all the forests and killing off animals like there was no tomorrow.

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One day, this guy Noah had had enough. He was at the end of his tether.

"That's it," he said. "I'm not staying here any longer. I'm going to build myself a boat and go and find another place to live in."

So he did.



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He started building his boat that very day. There was plenty of wood, too, with all the trees that had been cut down.

Noah built and he built. Night and day, he built, burning the candle at both ends. He was determined to finish that boat as soon as possible. His family helped him, but no one else. Well, everyone else thought he was nuts, crazy, cuckoo!

"What are you doing, Noah?" they asked.

"I'm building a boat," said Noah.

"A boat?" they scoffed. "What do you want a boat for?"

"So I can go over the sea," said Noah.

"Go over the sea!" they laughed. "What d'you think you are? A fish?"

"Hey, hear this, guys!" they cried.

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"Noah thinks he's a fish!"

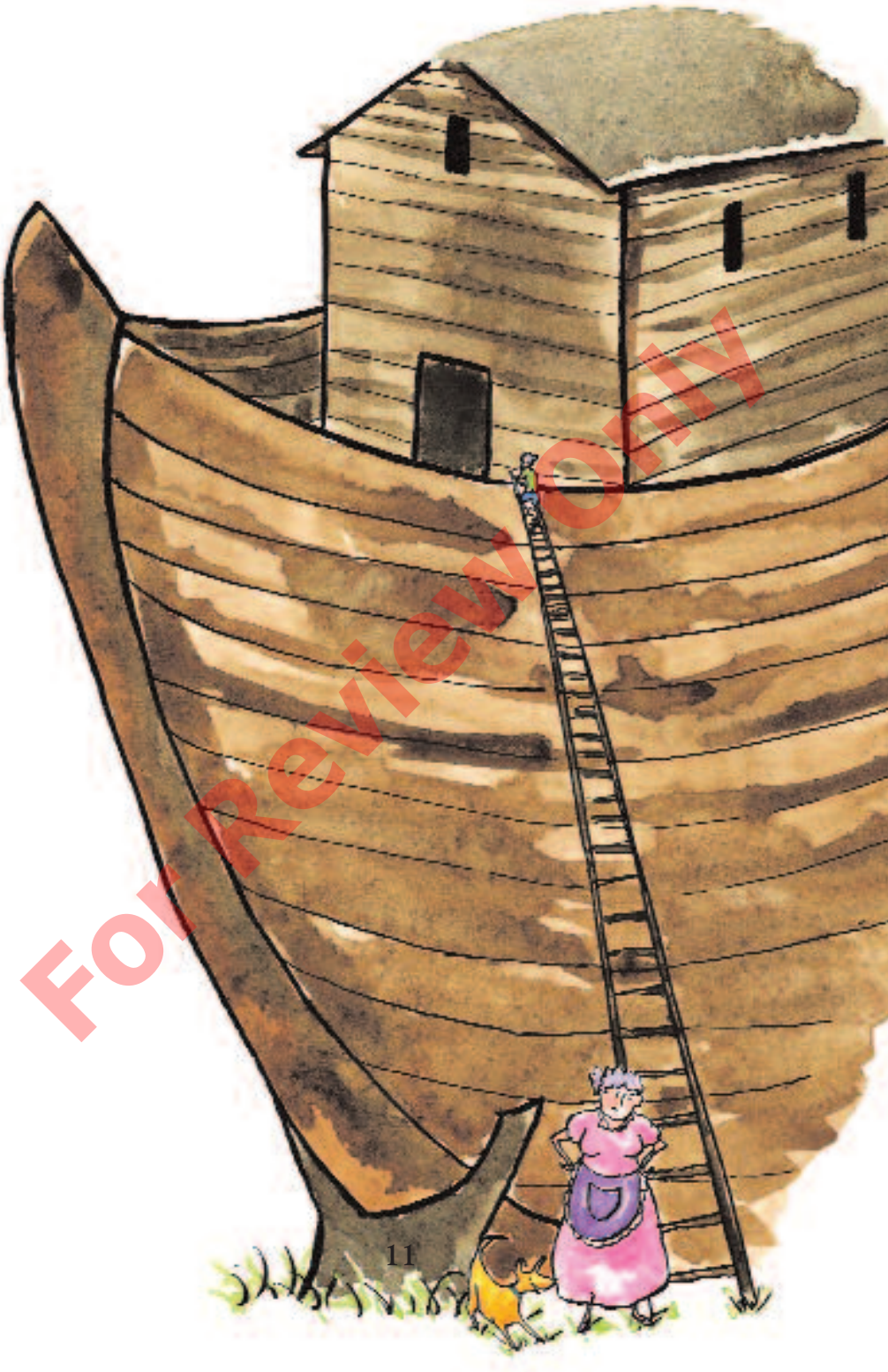
Well, everyone thought this was a really cool joke. Every time they passed Noah's place they made fishy faces and swishy noises and made out like they could smell something kind of funny.

"Is that fish, I smell?" they'd say. Then they'd roar with laughter.

But old Noah, he just ignored them and got on with his building.



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Chapter Two

The days passed into weeks, the weeks into months until, finally, Noah's boat was finished. It was huge, bigger than a house, bigger than a school. Now, why did he need a boat that big, you might wonder? Did he have an enormous family? Well, no, he didn't.

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The reason he made his boat so big was that he wanted to invite some of his animal friends to sail with him. So, when he'd packed his boat with food and drink and clothes and all the things he'd need on his long voyage, he put up a notice:

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