

Noah Saliba

and the *Orient Express*

Featuring

Noah Saliba

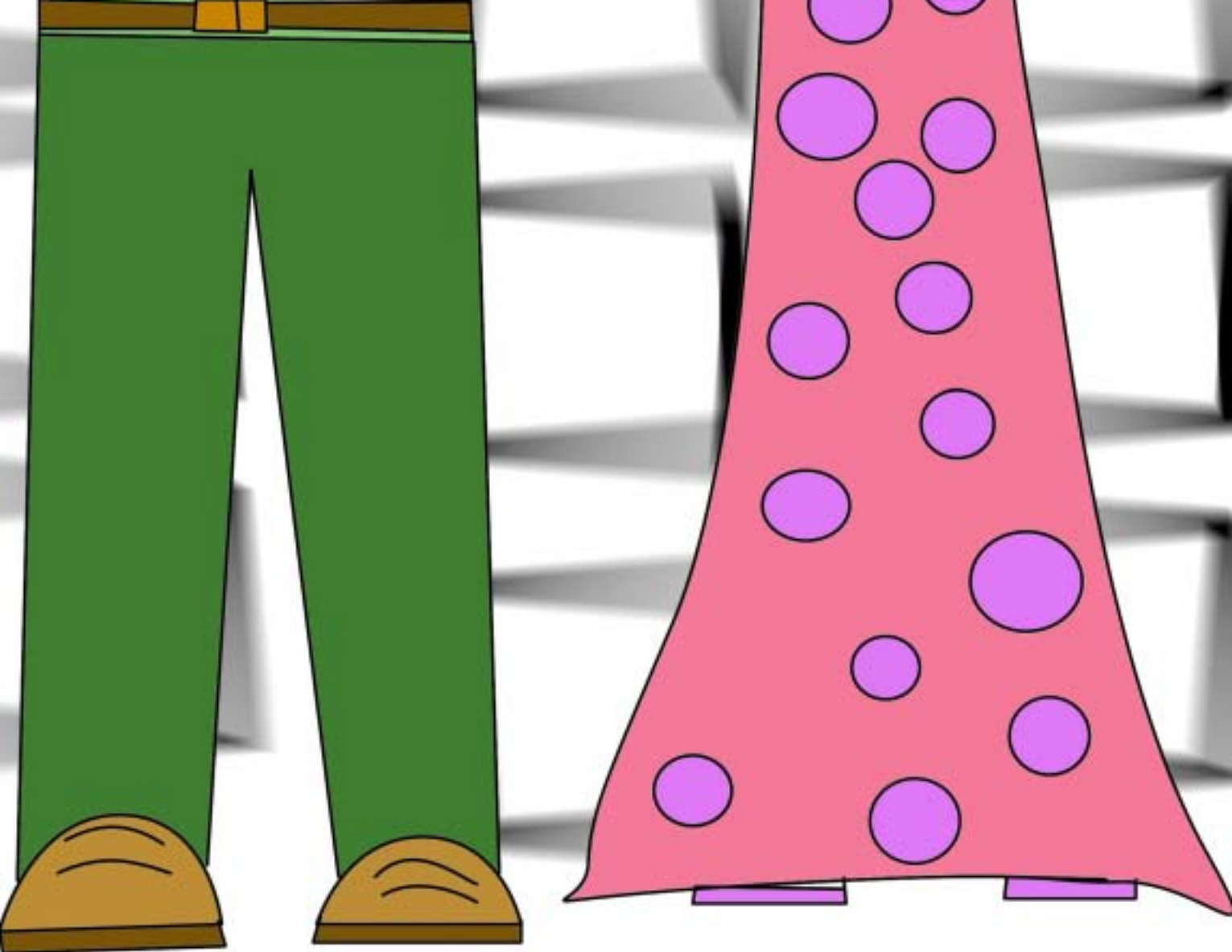


with an appearance
by Miss Nadine Saliba

By Lee LaMarche
simpleillustration.com



**This is Noah. Tomorrow is his birthday.
He's going to be six!**



These are Noah's parents. They've got him a great gift. But it's a surprise. You need to wait until your birthday Noah!



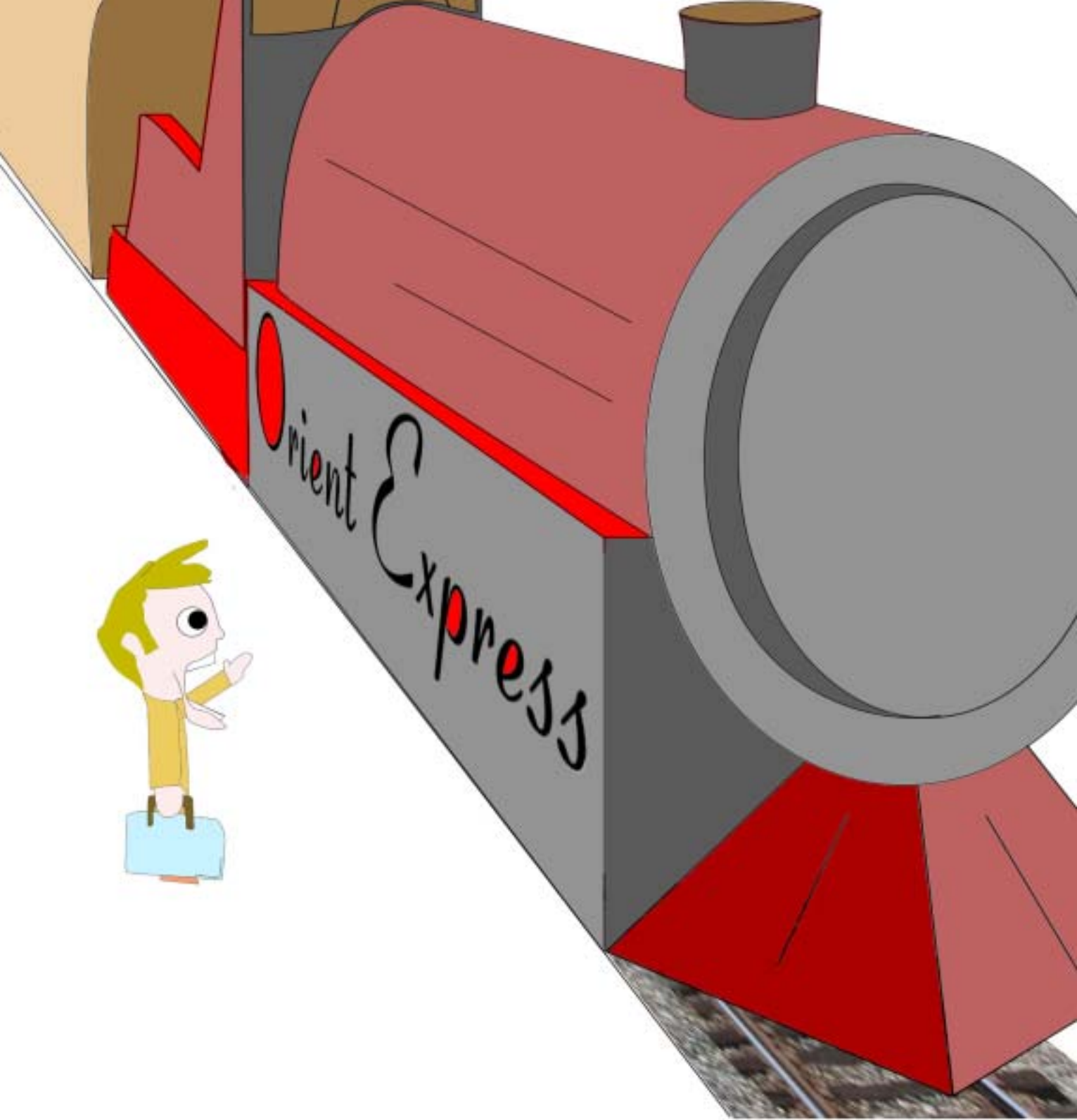
Finally! What a great party. The cake was fantastically tasty. And after all the presents were opened, mom and dad gave Noah his surprise gift.



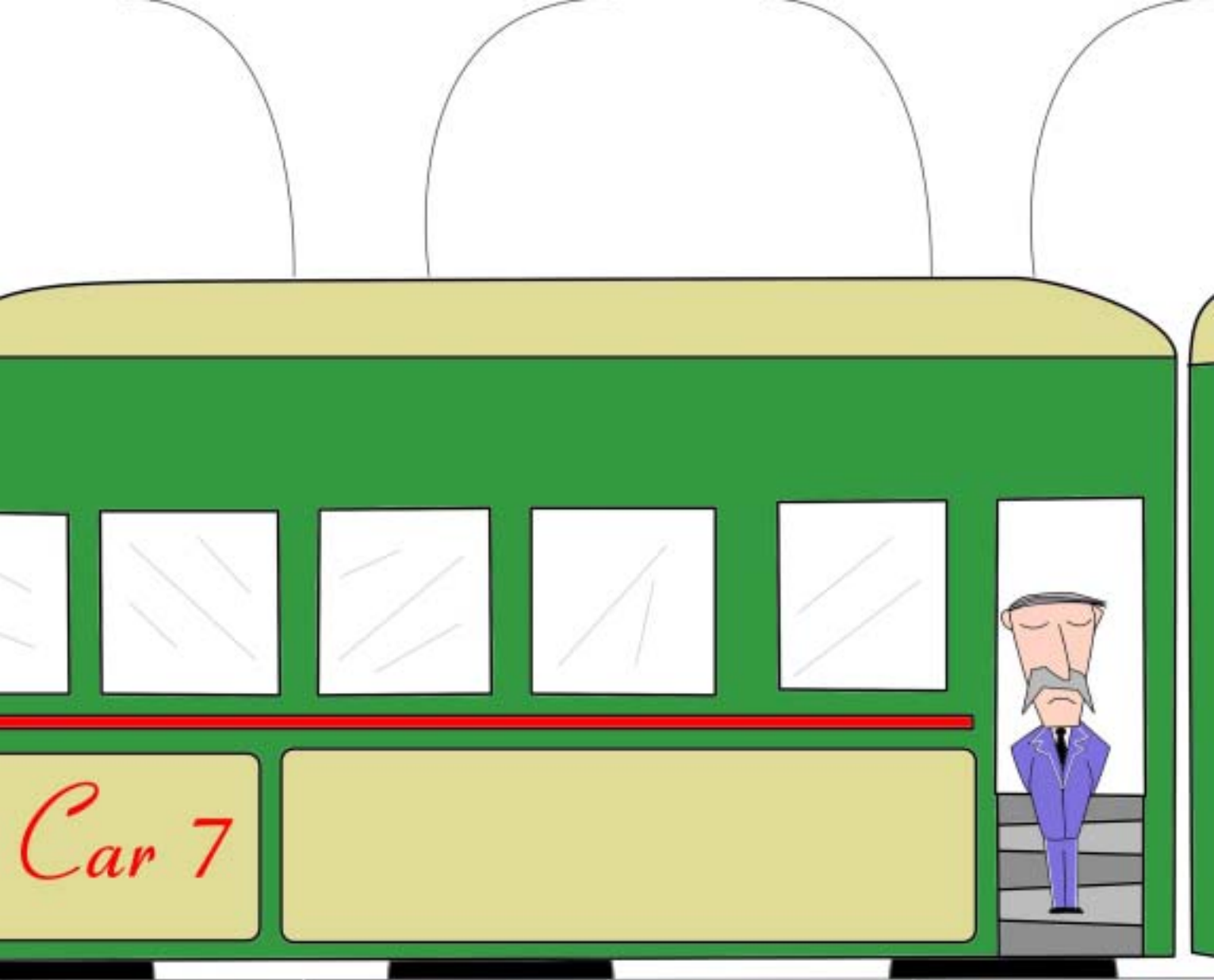
**WOW! Four tickets for the Orient Express!
Noah stared at the tickets, not believing
his eyes. The real Orient Express!**



Since most plane rides are boring, we're not going to talk about that. Instead, we can fast forward to the real start of their journey. Victoria Station in London.



When Noah saw the train he could hardly believe his eyes. It was so old! And so big! He couldn't peel his eyes from the locomotive.

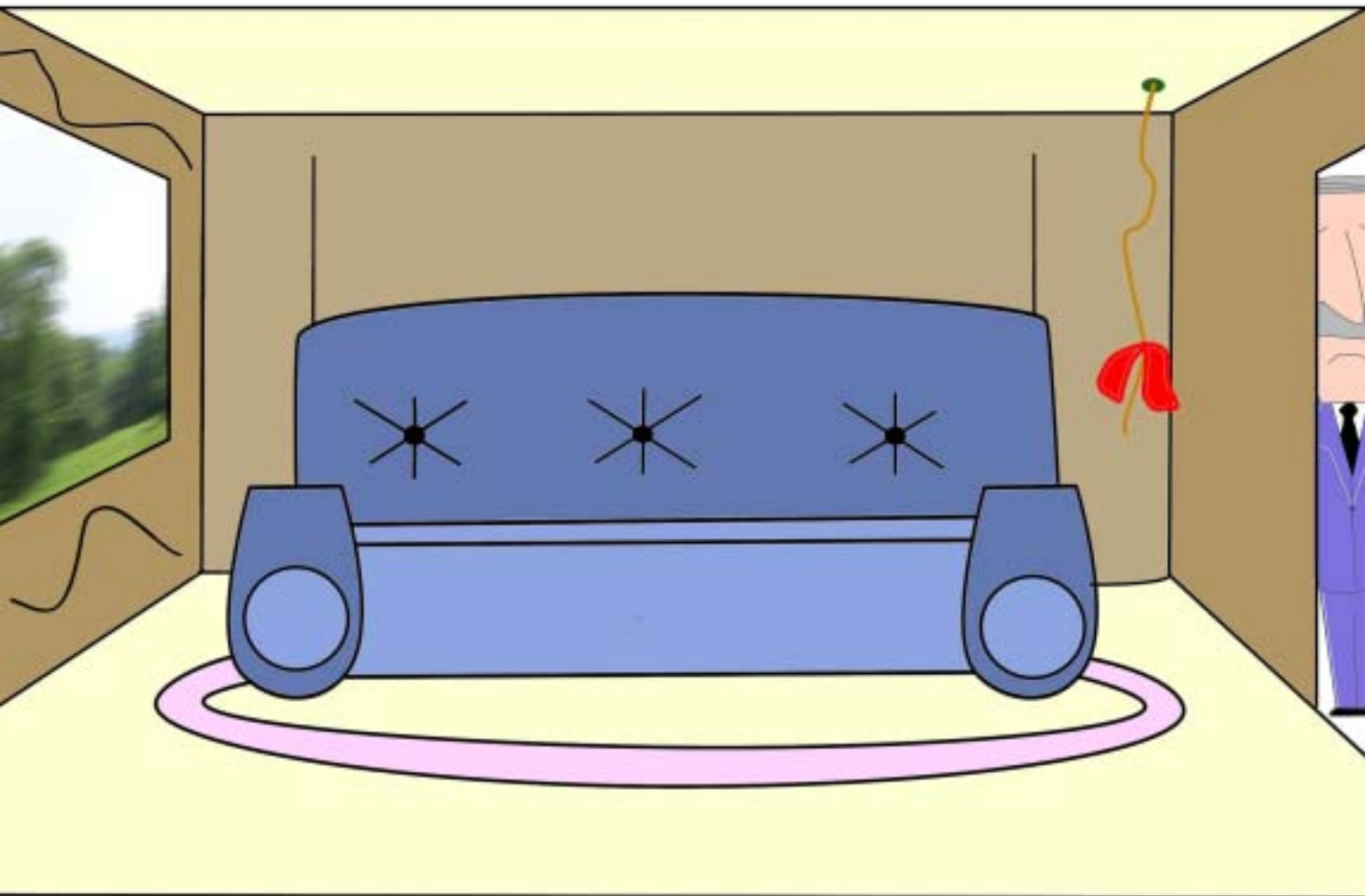


Noah's ticket said that he was going to be staying in the number 7 sleeper. Just as he Found car number 7, he saw a man dressed in a blue suit standing in the doorway.



He was Jacques, their steward. He spoke in a french accent as he took the family luggage aboard the train. "If you need anything," he said, "just ring the bell and I will be there in seconds." with his accent it sounded like 'een secownds'.

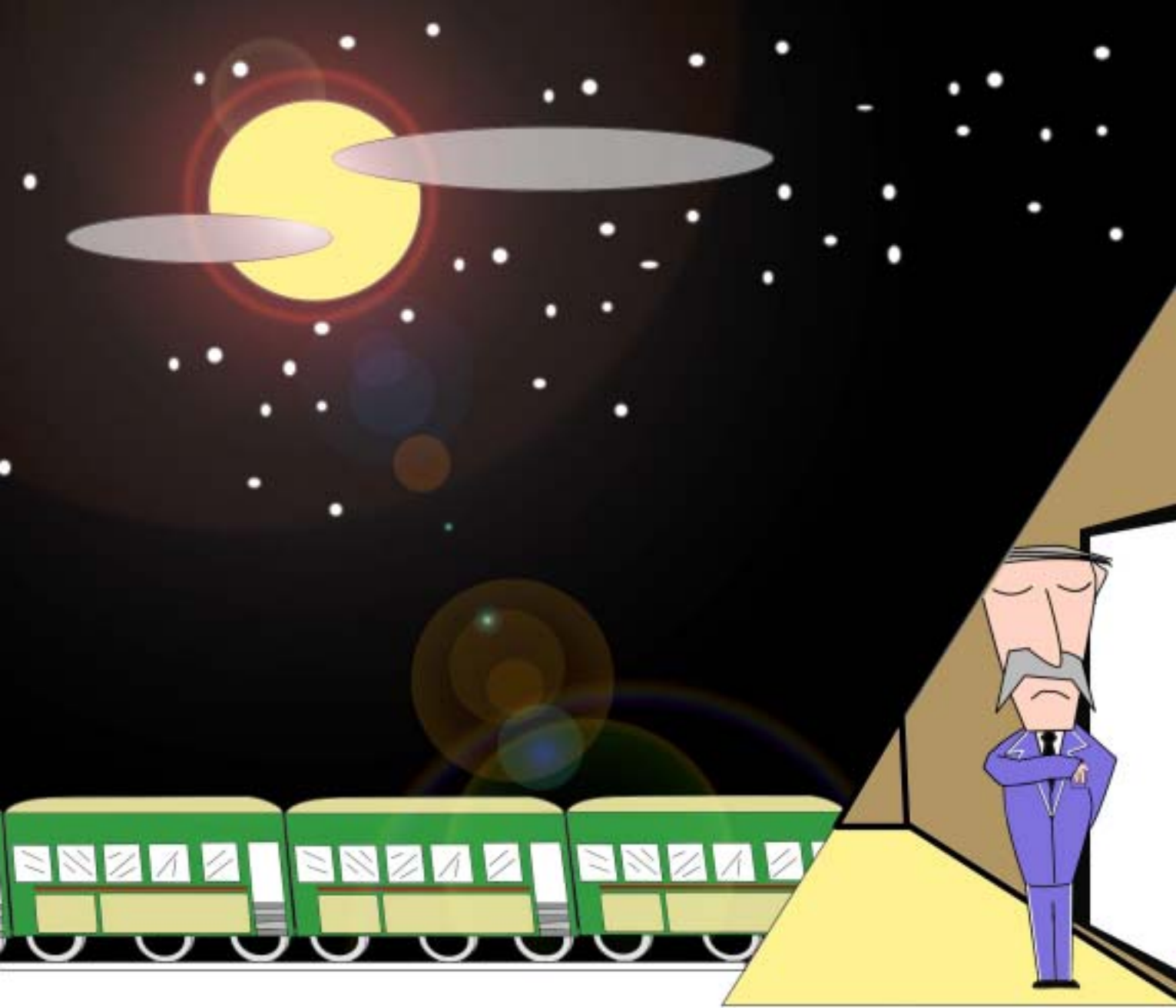
The berth: A cut-away view



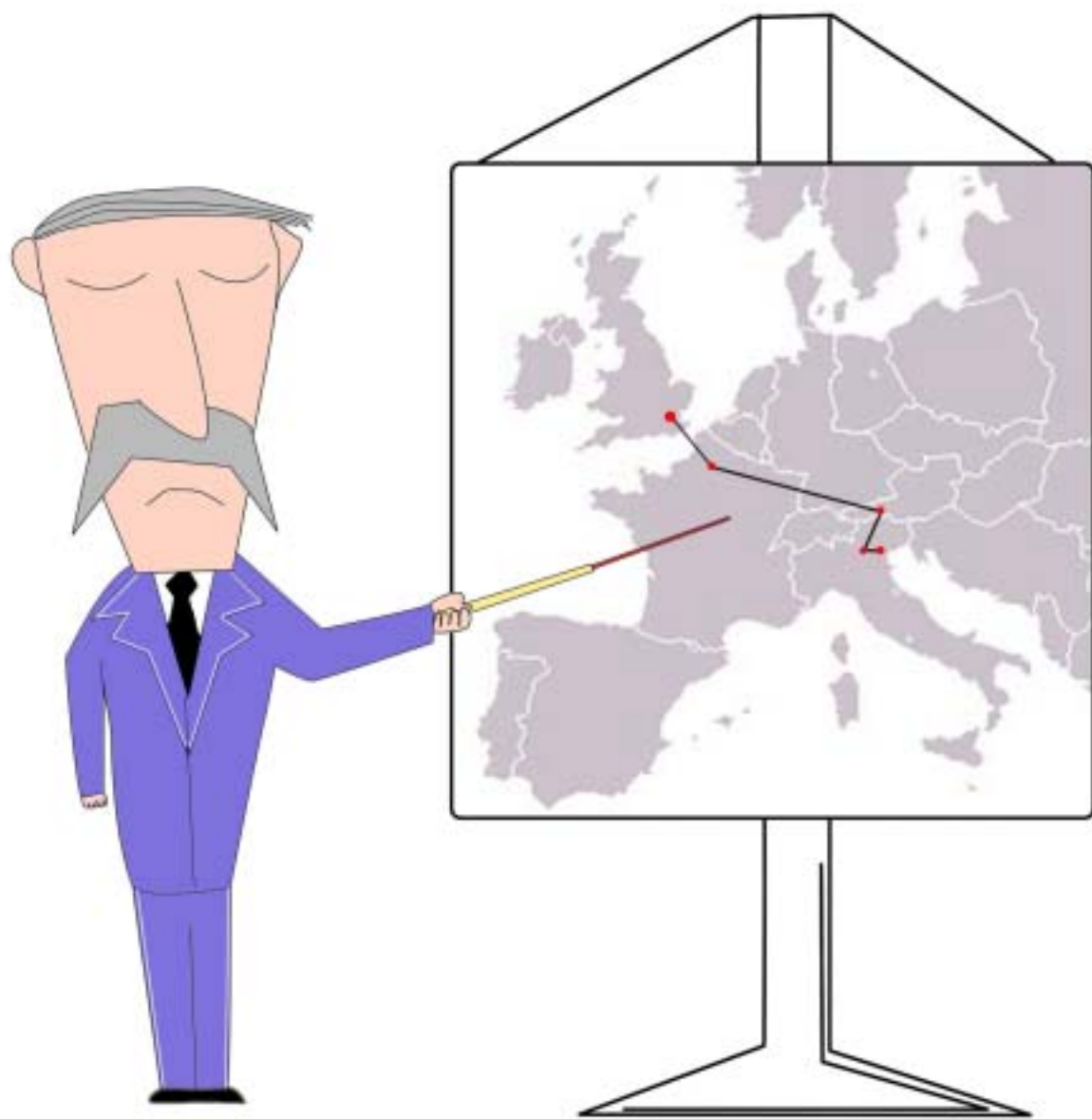
Noah and Nadine were going to share a room. “Berth,” Said Jacques, “On a train it is called a berth.” The two followed him in to a small room with a couch. “Where are the beds?” Asked Nadine. Jacques wouldn’t tell.



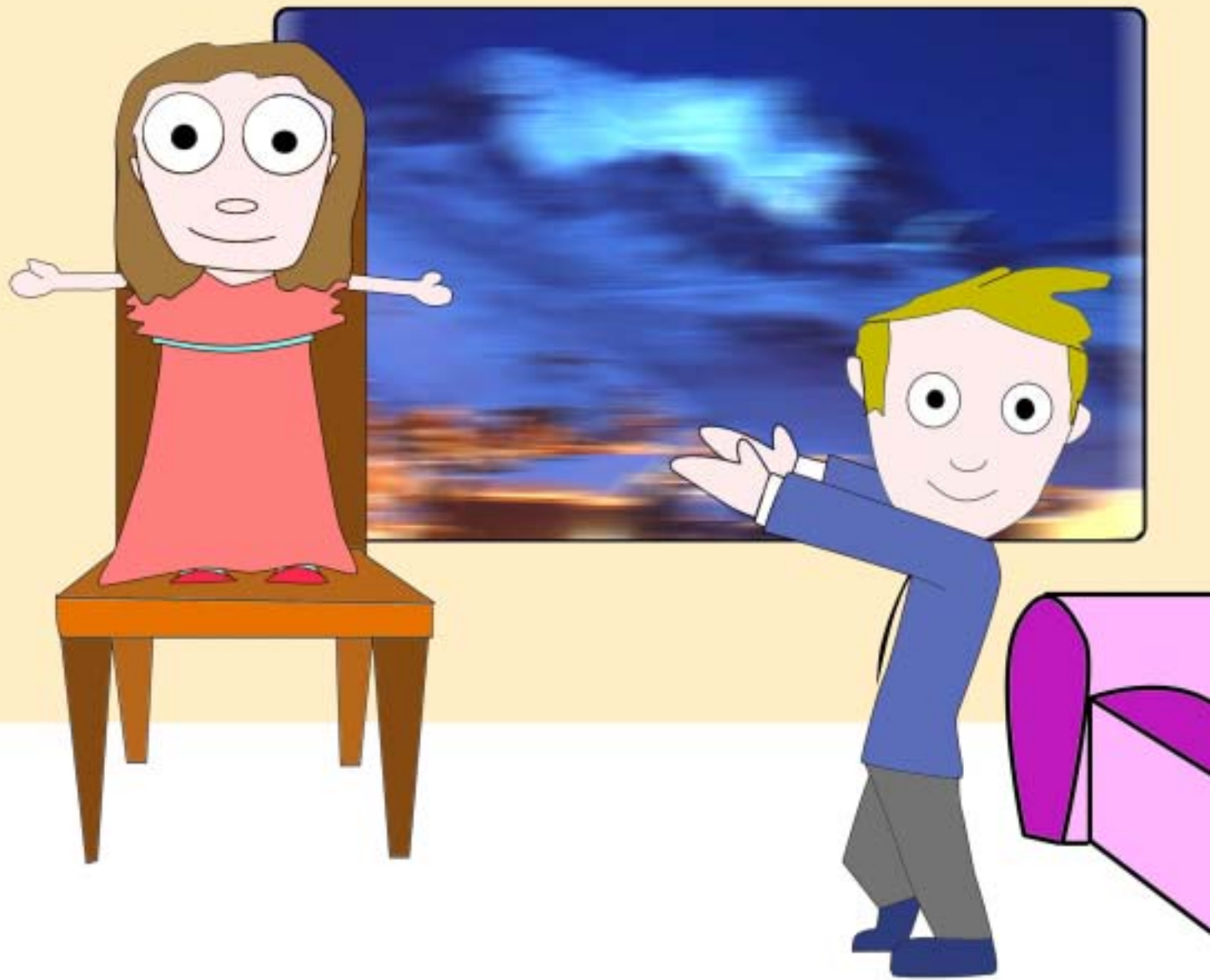
After Jacques left, Noah sat on the couch and Nadine watched out the window as the train began to pick up speed. They could hear the thumping of the engine, the gentle sway of the car, and the excitement of the trip.



As the train whistled on under a bright moon, Noah decided to call Jacques. “Where are we going?” He asked. In response, Jacques reached into his coat pocket.



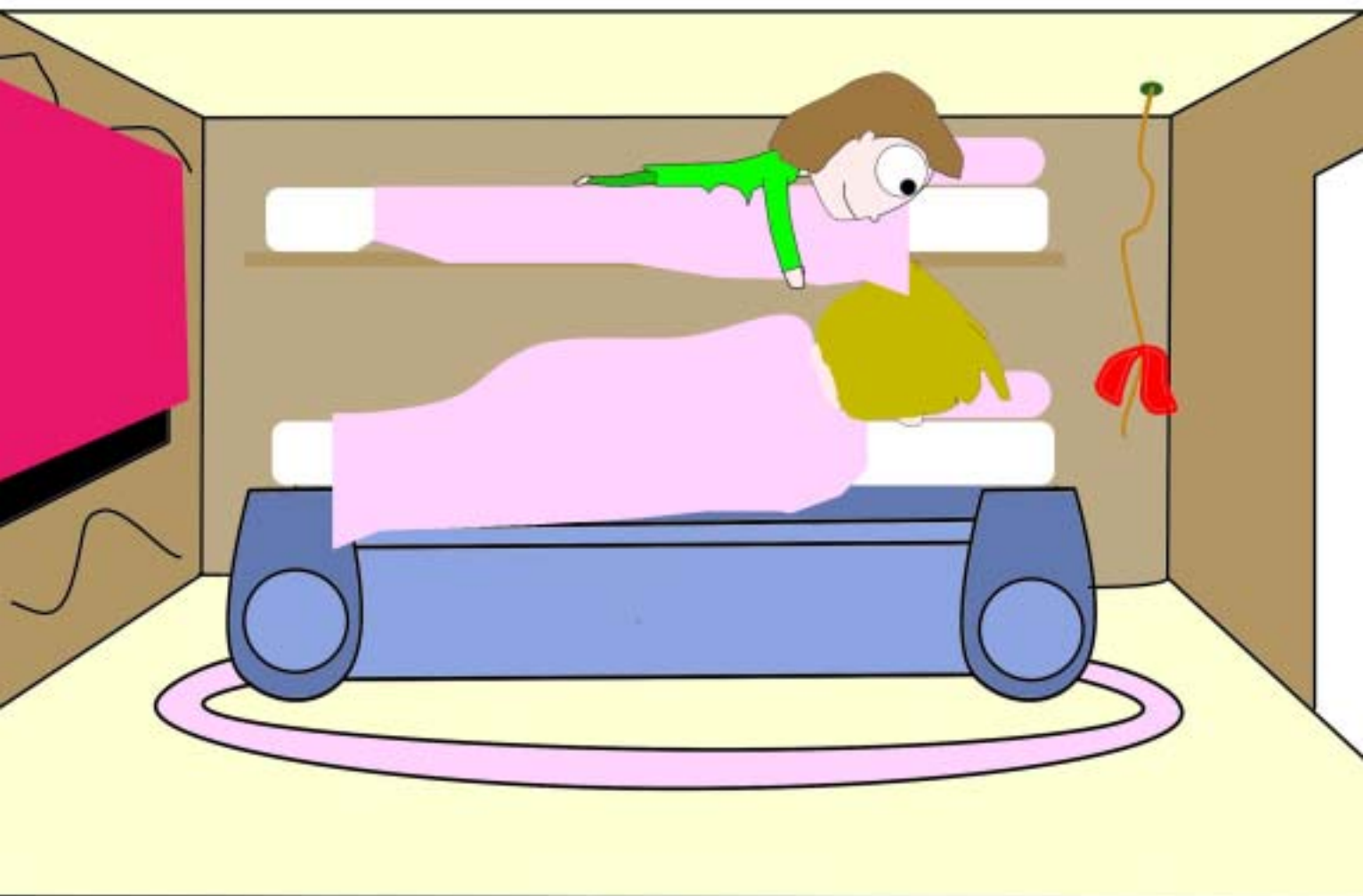
Jacques told them that they would be passing through four famous cities on their journey. “Paris, Innsbruck, Verona and Venice.” He said. Nadine raised her hand. “What happens then?” She asked. “Then everyone gets off and the train will turn around.”



Then it was time for dinner. Their mom and dad told them that they had to dress in their nice clothes. Nadine put on her dress and Noah put on his blue shirt with a black tie. They both looked great!



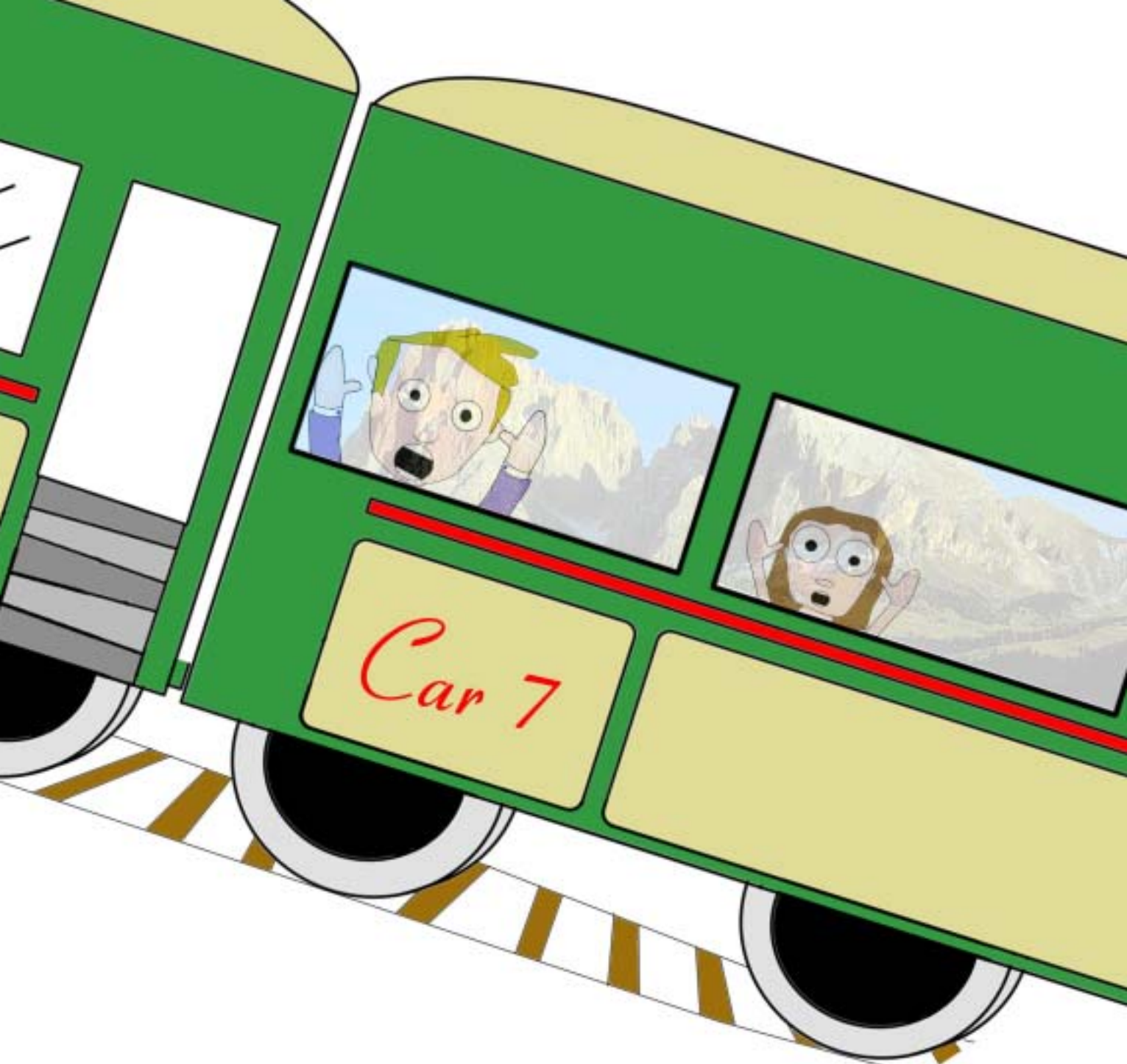
At dinner, Noah sat down and watched all the other passengers. But soon he was trying to figure out why he needed three spoons, two knives and three forks. He had to watch his mom and dad to see which ones to use when. It was a tasty but confusing meal.



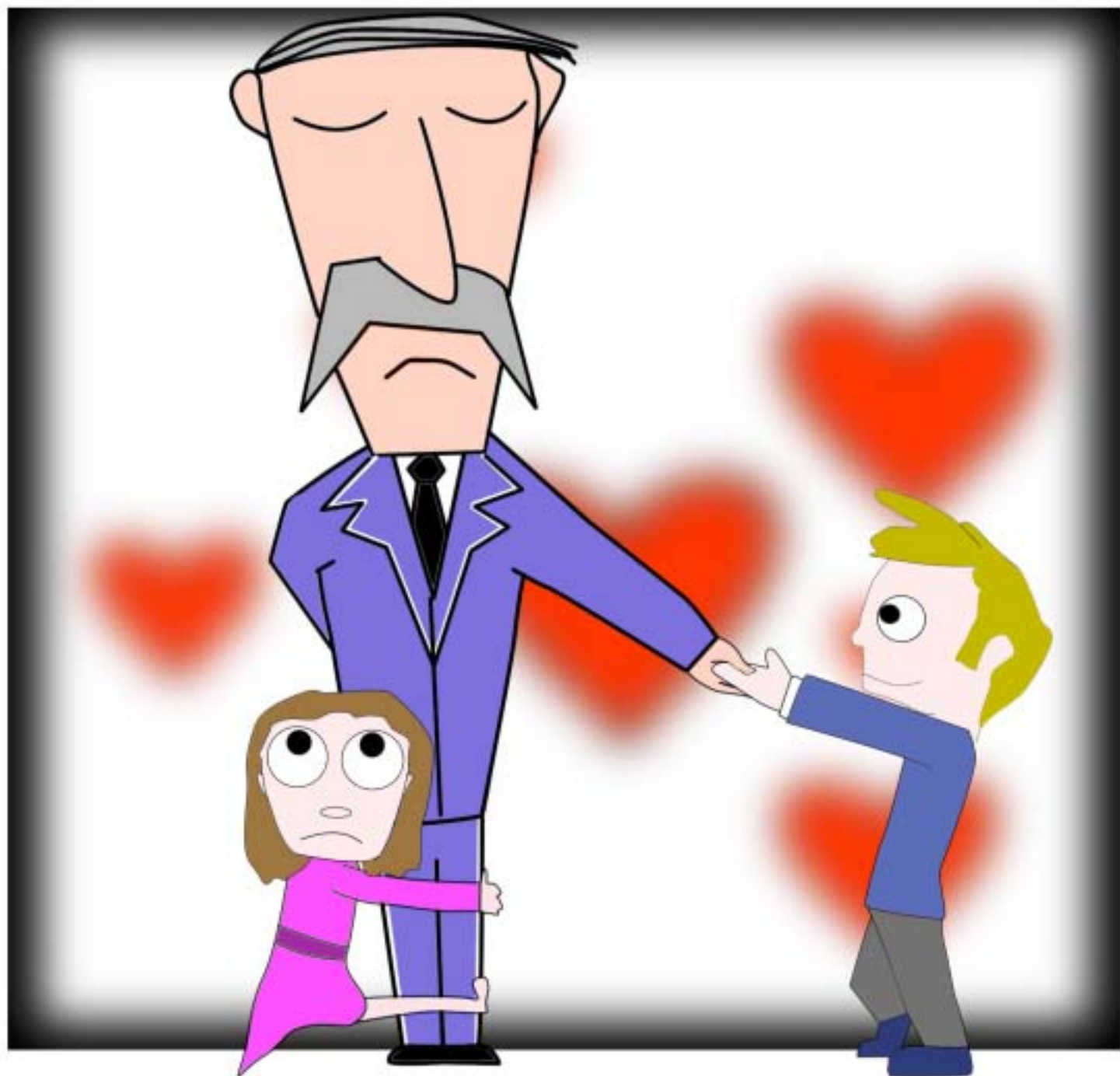
“So what about our beds?” Noah asked out loud as they headed back to their berth. “They came out of the wall?!” Noah couldn’t believe it. But after that confusing meal, he fell right to sleep. Nadine tried, but couldn’t wake him up. Eventually, she fell asleep too.



In the morning they awoke to see the amazing Swiss Alps through their window. Jacques knocked on the door and then entered. "Little Madam, monsieur, I have brought you breakfast to eat while you look at the fantastic mountain views."



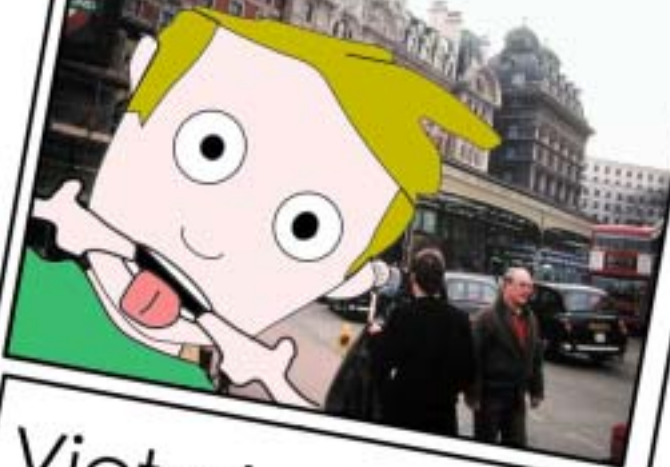
During the next few hours, they traveled past the Italian Dolomites and drank tea as the train slipped through the famed Brenner Pass. Noah told Nadine he had never seen such huge mountains before.



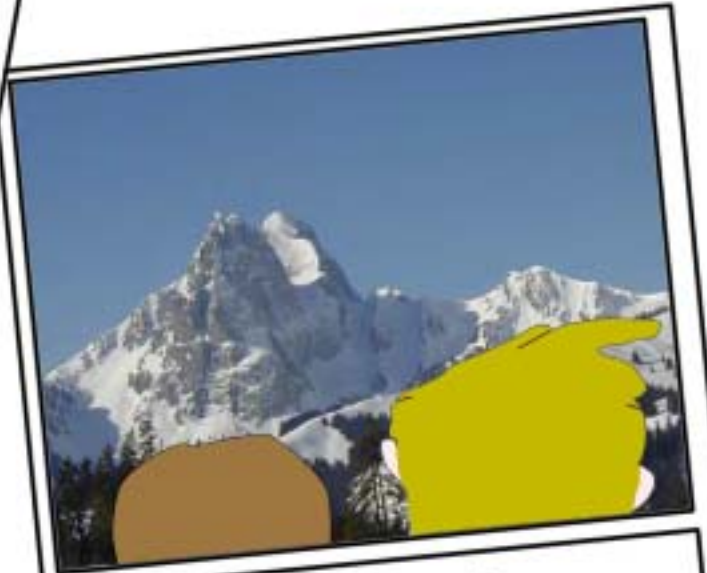
As it became later in the day Jacques entered their berth one last time. “It has been so nice to have you on my wonderful train, but soon we will be arriving in Venice. I will see you one last time at Santa Lucia Station. Noah reached out and shook his hand. Nadine hugged his leg.



When the train finally came to a stop, their parents came and hurried them off the train with all their bags. Jacques waved goodbye to them as they walked out of the station and out on to the grand canal of Venice. The sun was setting and it all looked so beautiful.



Victoria Station



At the Alps



The Dolomites



Venice!

What a fantastic trip!

THE END