

Lucy to the Rescue

One fine morning during the school holidays
Andrew was out for a bike ride.

In a basket on the front of his
bike was his dog, Lucy.

Andrew turned down the farm lane.
Lucy didn't like the lane -
it bumped and woke her up.
She barked disapprovingly.





"Sorry Lucy," apologised Andrew. "Oh look, what's this?"

'This' was the railway.

Andrew held the bike steady while Lucy jumped down.

She gave a pleased "wuff", and began to sniff at the hedge.

"Come on Lucy," said Andrew.

"I'm going to see where this goes."

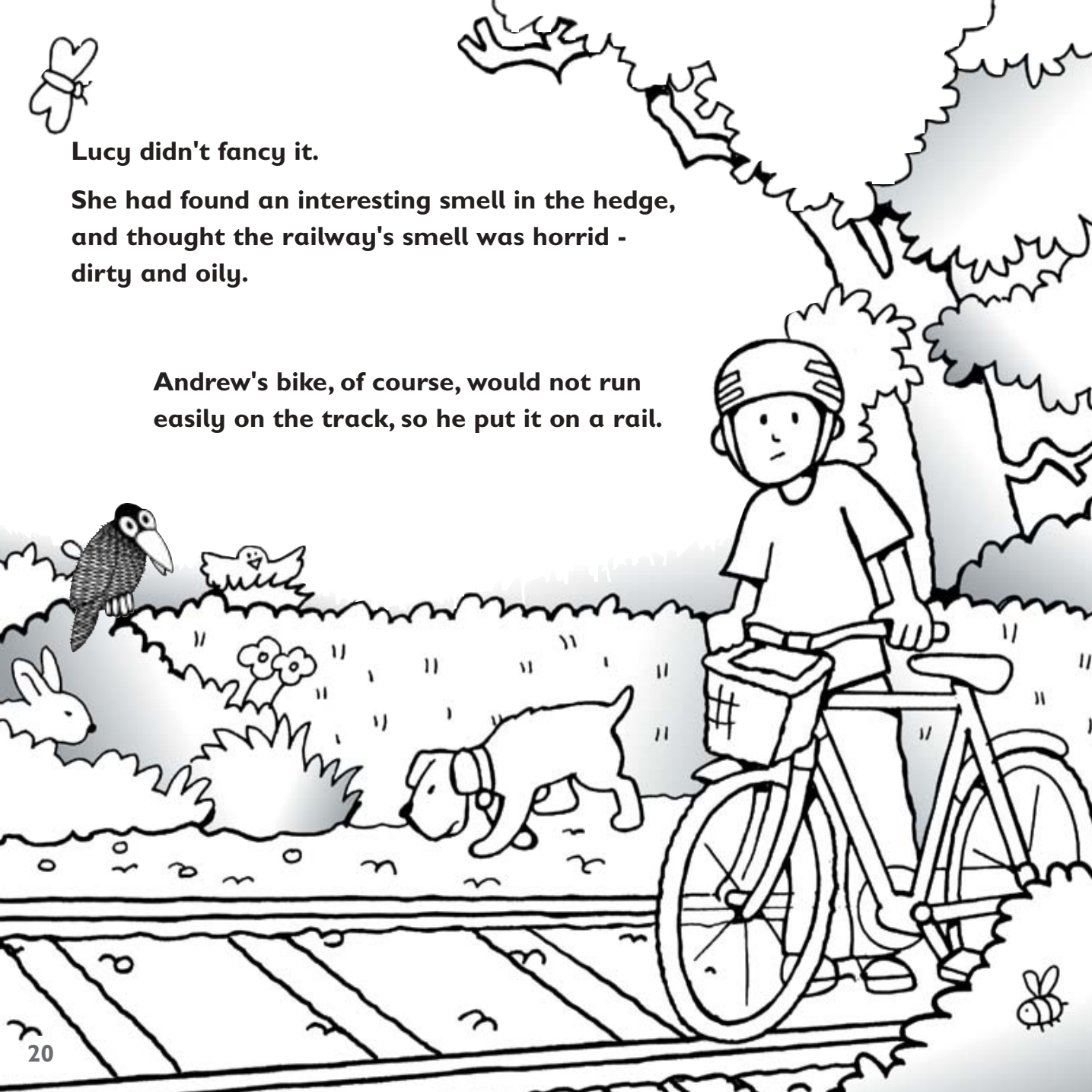




Lucy didn't fancy it.

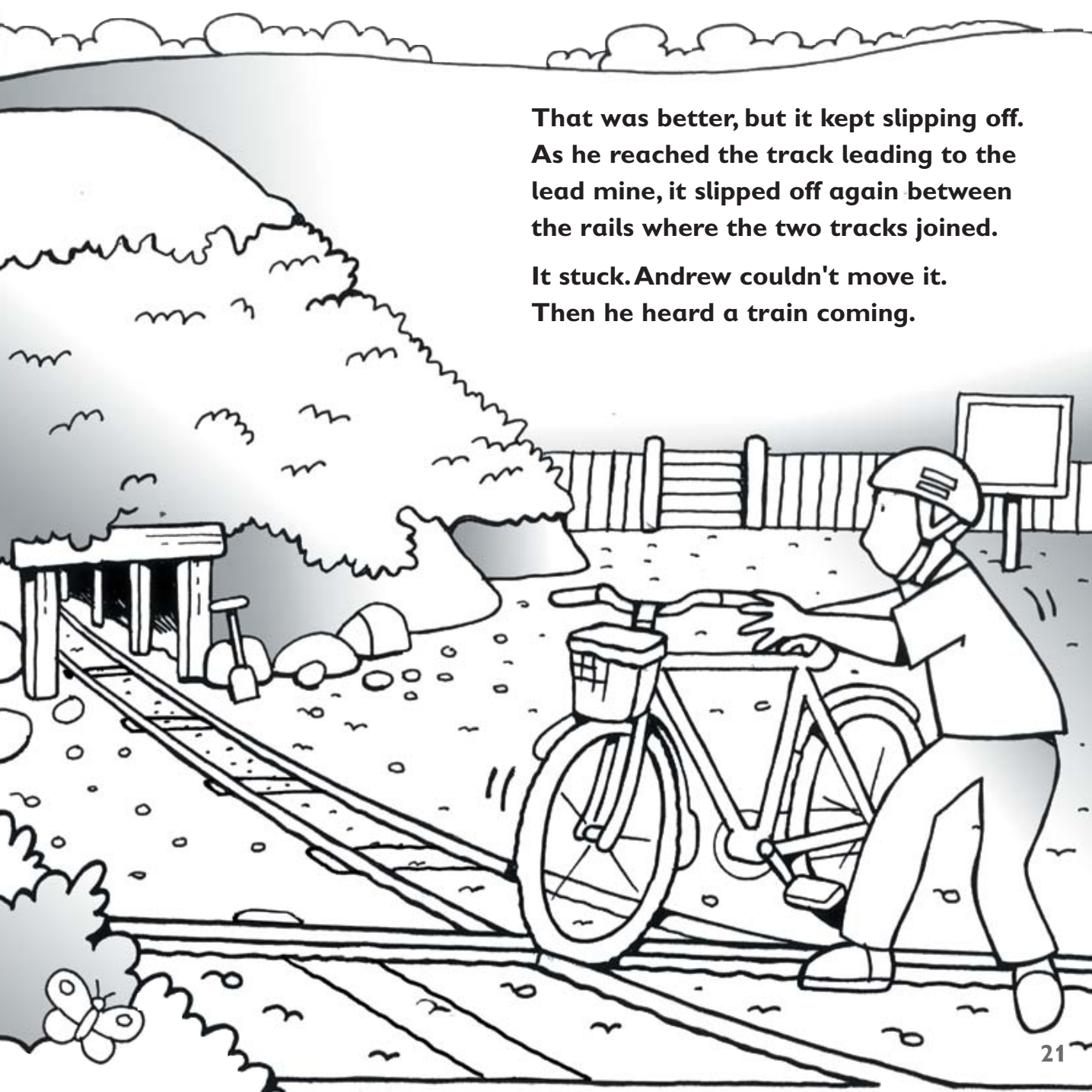
**She had found an interesting smell in the hedge,
and thought the railway's smell was horrid -
dirty and oily.**

**Andrew's bike, of course, would not run
easily on the track, so he put it on a rail.**



That was better, but it kept slipping off. As he reached the track leading to the lead mine, it slipped off again between the rails where the two tracks joined.

It stuck. Andrew couldn't move it. Then he heard a train coming.



"HELP!" "HELP!" he shouted.

Lucy was some distance behind him, but she pricked up her ears as she heard the alarm in her master's voice.



HELP!

She heard the train too.

Sensing that something was wrong, she ran towards the tunnel, barking as she went.

Inside the tunnel
Thomas was feeling
very happy.

His train was on time,
and he was looking forward
to a rest at the lead mine.

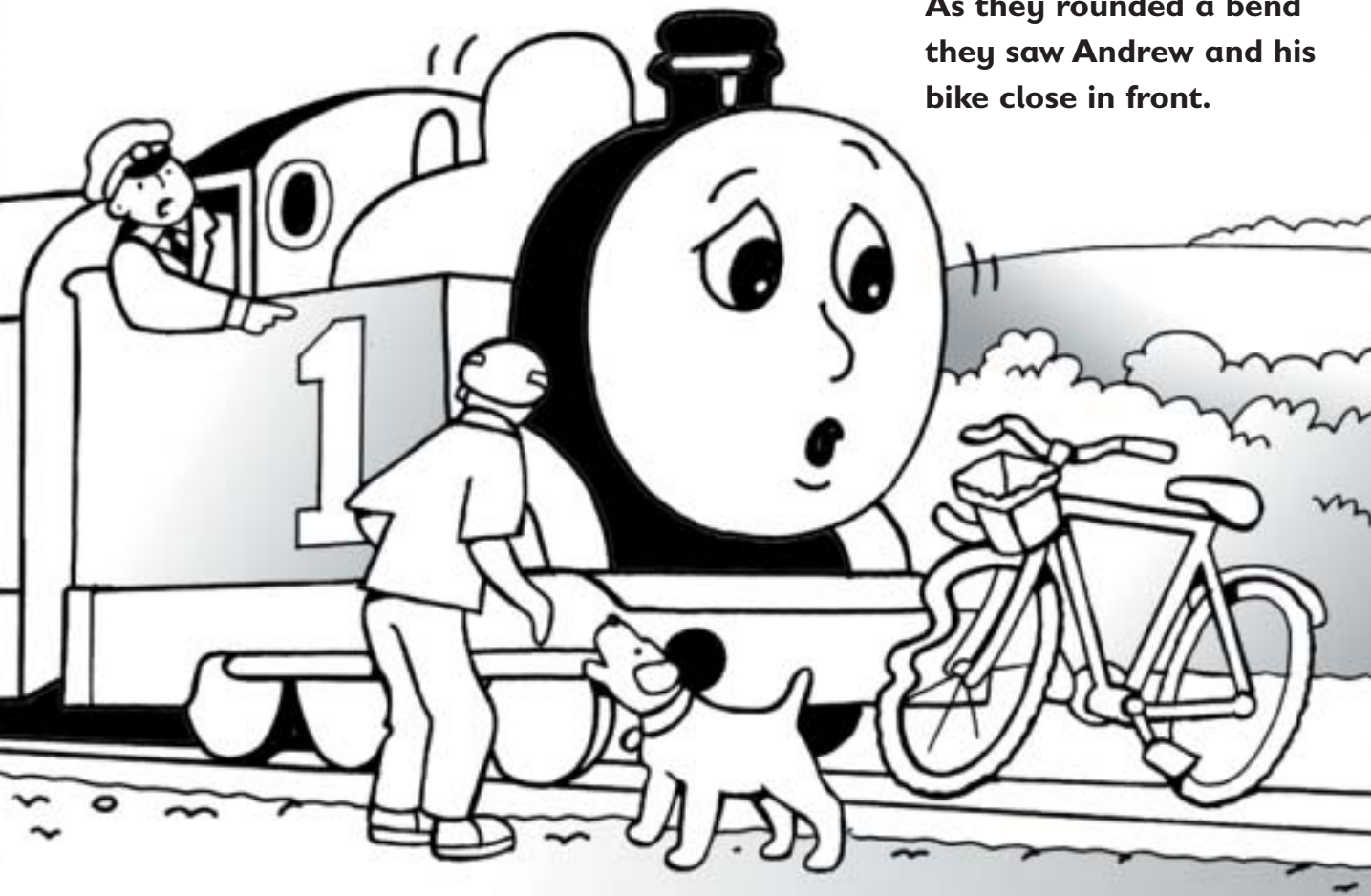


Suddenly a small dog appeared, barking loudly.

Thomas' driver put on the brakes. "Let's not hurt the dog," he said.

But Lucy ran in front of them, still barking, and Thomas slowed down further.

As they rounded a bend they saw Andrew and his bike close in front.



Thomas stopped as quickly as he could, but he couldn't avoid bending the bike a little. Thomas was very upset.

The Guard freed the bike and heaved it into Clarabel.
He took Andrew and Lucy back to the Junction and went to
Policeman Len's office.



"Right young man,"
said the policeman.
"Never go on
railway lines -
if you had got your
foot stuck it may
have been you who
was hurt rather
than your bike."



"If it hadn't been for Lucy, there could have been a very nasty accident,"
said Policeman Len.