

CHAPTER 1

The Strange Doctor

It's 1820 and Dr. John Dolittle lives in a little English town called Puddleby. All the people in the town know him. When they see him, they say, "There's Dr. Dolittle. He's very clever, but he's a strange man."

It's true. Dr. Dolittle *is* very strange. He wears colorful clothes. He never wears shoes and he usually only eats fruit. Cats and dogs follow him in the street. All animals love Dr. Dolittle and he loves them too.



Dr. Dolittle's house is far from the center of town. It's very small, but it has a large garden. Dr. Dolittle likes being in the garden with his friend Chee-Chee, a fat monkey. The doctor's office is in the garden, too.

There are animals in every room of the doctor's house. You can see cats and dogs in his bedroom, rabbits in the living room, mice in the piano and a hedgehog* on the sofa.



Dr. Dolittle's sister, Sarah, doesn't like animals.

"Get rid of* them," she says to her brother. "The animals make your house dirty and it's not tidy."

This is true, but Dr. Dolittle never listens to his sister. He gets more pets.

hedgehog
كقود / قنقذ

get rid of
هقفر من - / قنقذ من