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PERCY & PAM

Children Size
for 4-6 years

The Mysterious Chicken Rice Recipe

**RUTH
WAN-LAU**

ILLUSTRATED BY
ELIZ ONG



PERCY & PAM

The Mysterious
Chicken Rice
Recipe

For Bim—my husband, my inspiration.

R. W.

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Illustrations by Eliz Ong

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PERCY & PAM

The Mysterious
Chicken Rice
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BY RUTH WAN-LAU

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Chapter 1

It was time for Percy to get a haircut. Or, to be precise, a 'fur-cut'.

Percy's fur had been growing slowly and steadily. But it had become so thick that Pam could hardly see Percy's eyes any more.

Percy's eyes were hidden somewhere beneath the fuzzy fur ball that was now covering his face.

“I don’t want scissors anywhere near my fur!” Percy declared.

He shuddered at the thought of sharp scissors going **zing! zing! zing!** all over his lovely coat.

“But you can hardly see!” Pam



replied. And she was right.

When Pam first met Percy in Ang Mo Kio, he already had poor eyesight. In fact, he almost mistook Pam for a penguin!

Percy had left the North Pole, finding it much too cold there, to travel the world. He loved Singapore’s sunshine and humid weather.

(You may be wondering, what kind of polar bear would love Singapore’s weather? Well, a very



strange polar bear like Percy would!)

After meeting Pam, Percy decided to call Singapore home. Pam had taken to Percy immediately. She had offered him a place to stay and he had been living with her and her family ever since.

Over the last few days, Pam had noticed that the young polar bear's fur was in desperate need of a trim.

Percy had become a large (and rather effective) feather duster walking around the house, brushing across the furniture, and wiping each piece clean as he went.

His long fur picked up other things too, like Pam's craft materials. When stuck to his face and body, her ribbons, beads and sequins made him quite a sight!

Just yesterday, Percy had walked straight into the fridge because the fur on his face had grown so long, it completely covered his eyes.

"Excuse me, so sorry!" he muttered, thinking the fridge was a person.

"Enough is enough!" Pam demanded.

She made an appointment with the hairdresser and took her best friend to get a fur-cut.

The hairdresser at Happy Hair 99 was very excited to be cutting a polar bear's fur. Two hours passed before the hairdresser reappeared from the back of the salon where

Percy sat. She asked Pam with a broad smile, "Are you ready to see your friend?"

Pam nodded, eager to see Percy's new hairdo.

"TA-DA!" the hairdresser said merrily, proud of her latest creation.



Pam burst out laughing when Percy walked out. He was a perfectly oval-shaped white marshmallow, covered in powdery icing sugar.

“Stop laughing!” Percy grumbled in a low voice, as he and Pam left the salon.

The hairdresser blew kisses at the departing duo. “Do come again! I loved styling your fur. My salon is Happy Hair 99 at Block 99 – such an easy name to remember!” she called out.

Pam waved goodbye to the hairdresser, and couldn’t stop



laughing at Percy, who was covering his eyes in embarrassment.

Percy could see clearly now, since his fur had just been cut, but he preferred not to look around him for the moment.

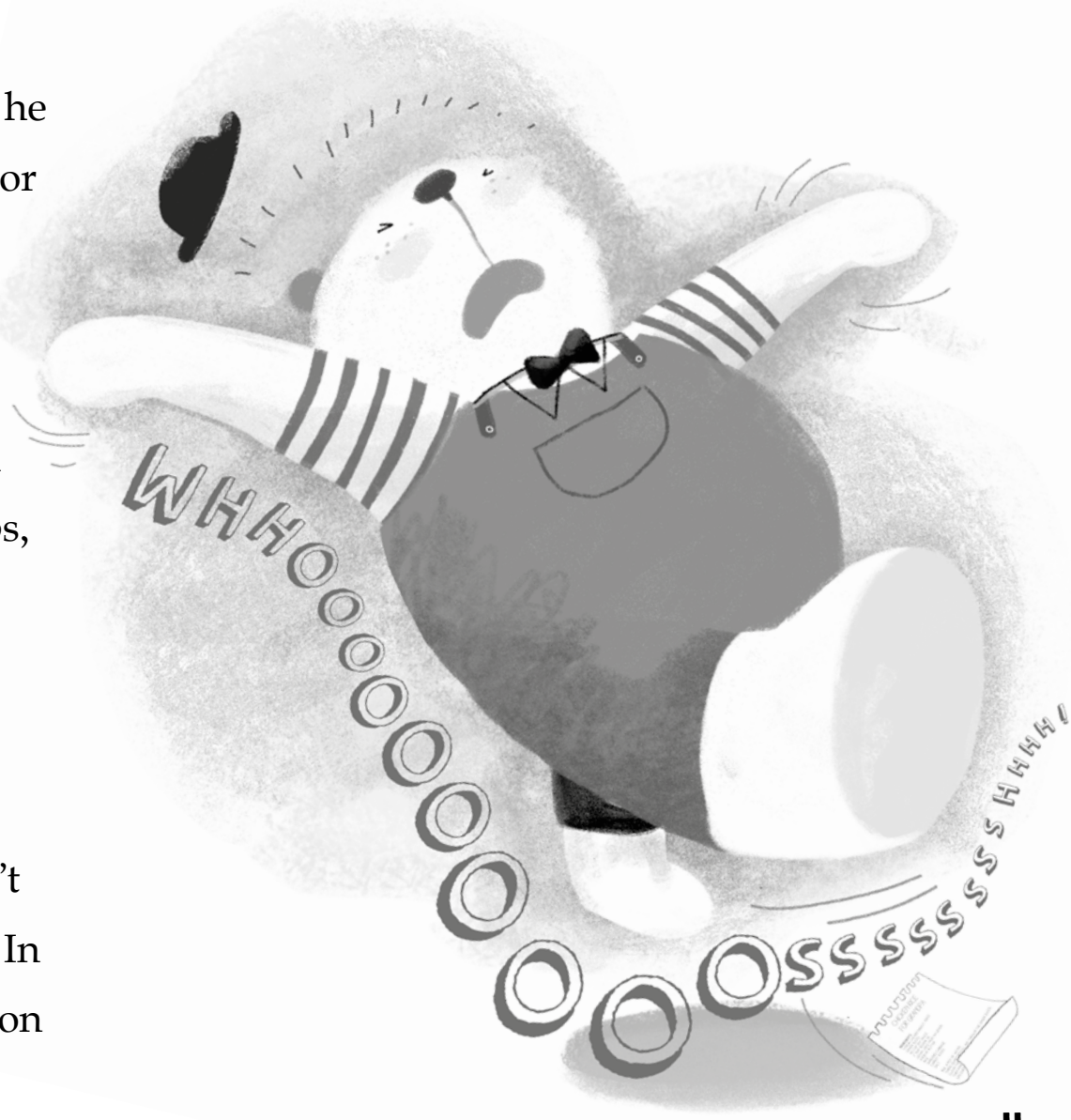
“Maybe if I close my eyes, no one will notice me,” he thought.

Percy continued to walk with his eyes closed. He took a few steps, when suddenly...

**WHHOOOOOOSSSSSS-
SSSSHhhh!**

“OWWWWWWWW!”

Percy’s foot slipped. He hadn’t been looking where he was going. In an instant, he found himself lying on



OUT NOW!



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It's Christmas and chocolate-guzzling Percy greedily sneaks himself a slice of Mr and Mrs Tan's Christmas log cake and is shocked to discover something hard and shiny baked inside. What mysteries lie behind the chocolate-buried treasure?



Ruth Wan-Lau



Ruth grew up in Toa Payoh, one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Singapore. She was fortunate to live 30 steps away from a huge library and practically grew up among its shelves. These days, Ruth writes because her three book-loving children keep feeding her story ideas. She still visits the library in Toa Payoh, and always gets a kick out of finding her own books there now. She is the best-selling author of the *Timmy & Tammy* series.

Eliz Ong

Eliz's favourite subject at school was Art. Even when she wasn't in Art class she would be doodling pictures of animals and plants all over her exercise books. She went on to study Fine Art at Nanyang Academy and now has a job where she gets paid to doodle all day long. Eliz lives with her husband and son at home in Singapore where she also likes to grow her own vegetables.



“Ruth has the recipe for adventure with a distinctly Singaporean flavour.”

Ken Spillman, author of the *Virtues* series

It's not every day in Singapore you find a polar bear getting a 'fur-cut'. But Percy's fur is an unruly mess.



When best friends Percy and Pam stumble upon a recipe for chicken rice that's been dropped outside the hair salon, they set out to find its owner. After all, any serious food-lover knows that a recipe for perfectly tender chicken and deliciously fragrant rice is too good to lose!

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