Once upon a time a poor widow lived in a tiny cottage with her young son, Jack. Jack's mother **told** him they had not always been poor, but that when Jack's father died, everything had been stolen from them.

Jack and his mother were so poor that the only thing they had to eat or drink was milk from their cow. One day the cow stopped giving milk, leaving Jack and his mother with nothing at all to fill their bellies.
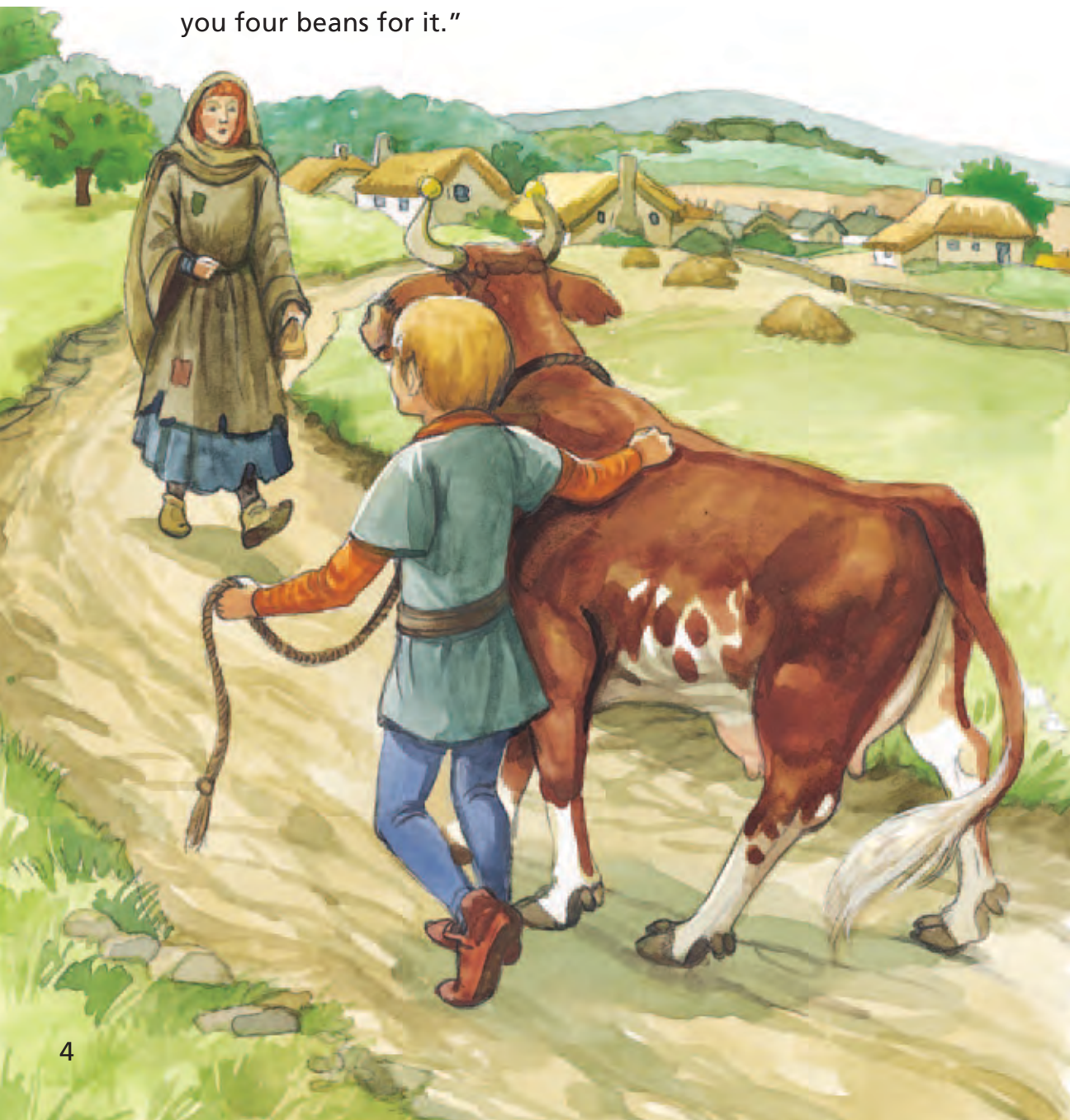
Mother gave Jack the cow.

She **told** Jack to take it to town.

She told Jack to sell it.

Jack did as he was told.

Jack set off to town and had not traveled far when a **woman** approached and said, "Good morning, Jack."

"Good morning," he replied, surprised that she knew his name.

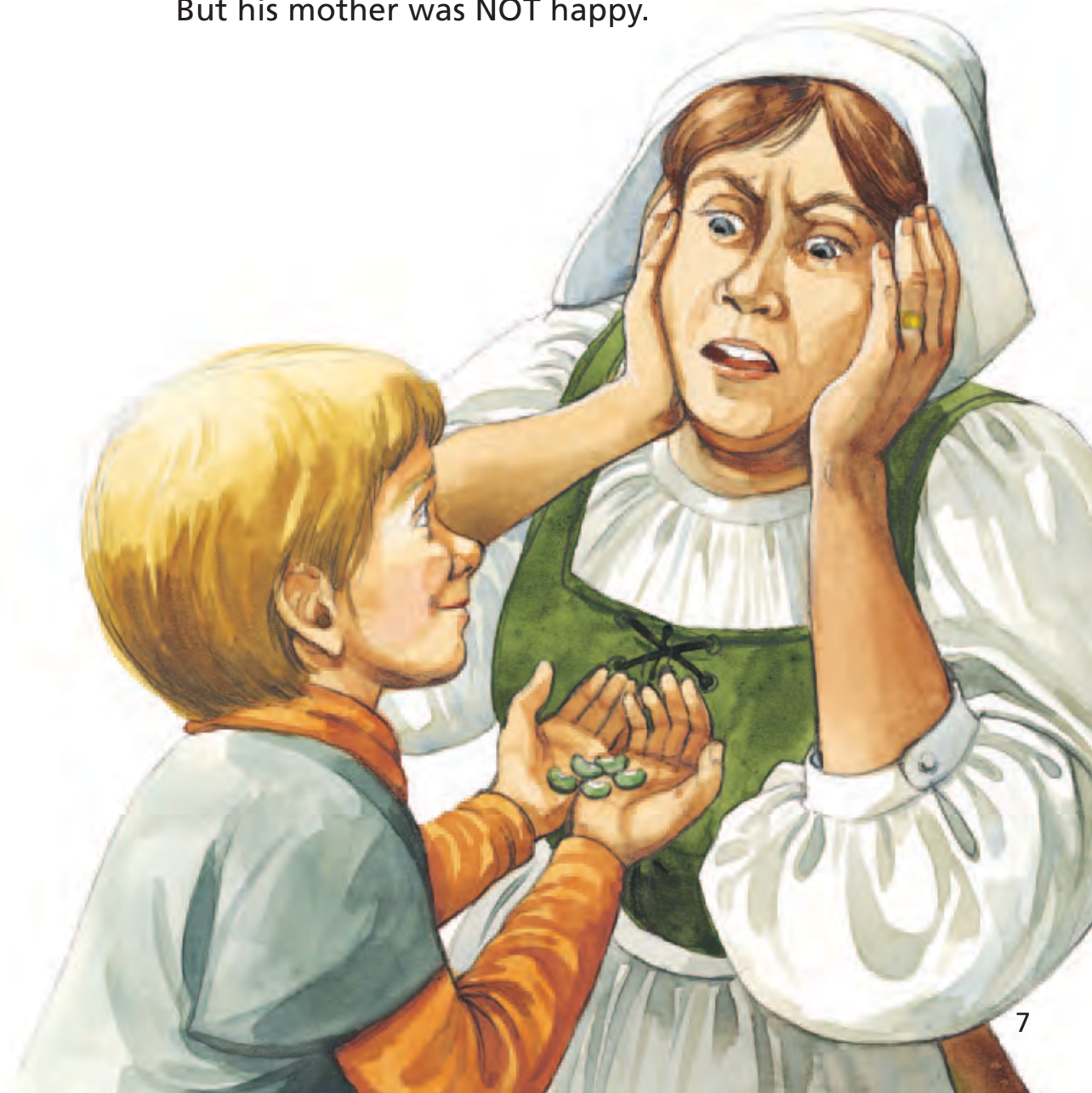"That's a fine looking cow," said the **woman**. "I will trade you four beans for it."

Jack looked up at his big cow.

He looked down at the small beans.

He said to the **woman**,

"No, thank you."

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The woman smiled and tried again. "I really do want that cow. So I am willing to give you *five* beans for it." Then the woman whispered in his ear. "These are no ordinary beans, Jack. They are magic. They hold the answer to all your **dreams**."

Jack had many **dreams**.
He wanted to see his mother happy.
So he gave the woman his cow.
Then he took the beans to his mother.

But his mother was NOT happy.

Jack told his mother the beans were magic, but she did not believe in magic anymore. She threw the beans out the window and sent Jack to bed with an empty stomach.

The next morning she was surprised to find a great tall **beanstalk** had grown outside the window. But Jack was not surprised at all.

Jack kissed his mother good-bye. Then he went up the **beanstalk** to find his dreams.

When Jack got to the top, he saw a very big house.