

# Every Time I Climb a Tree

*and Other Poems*



**PM**

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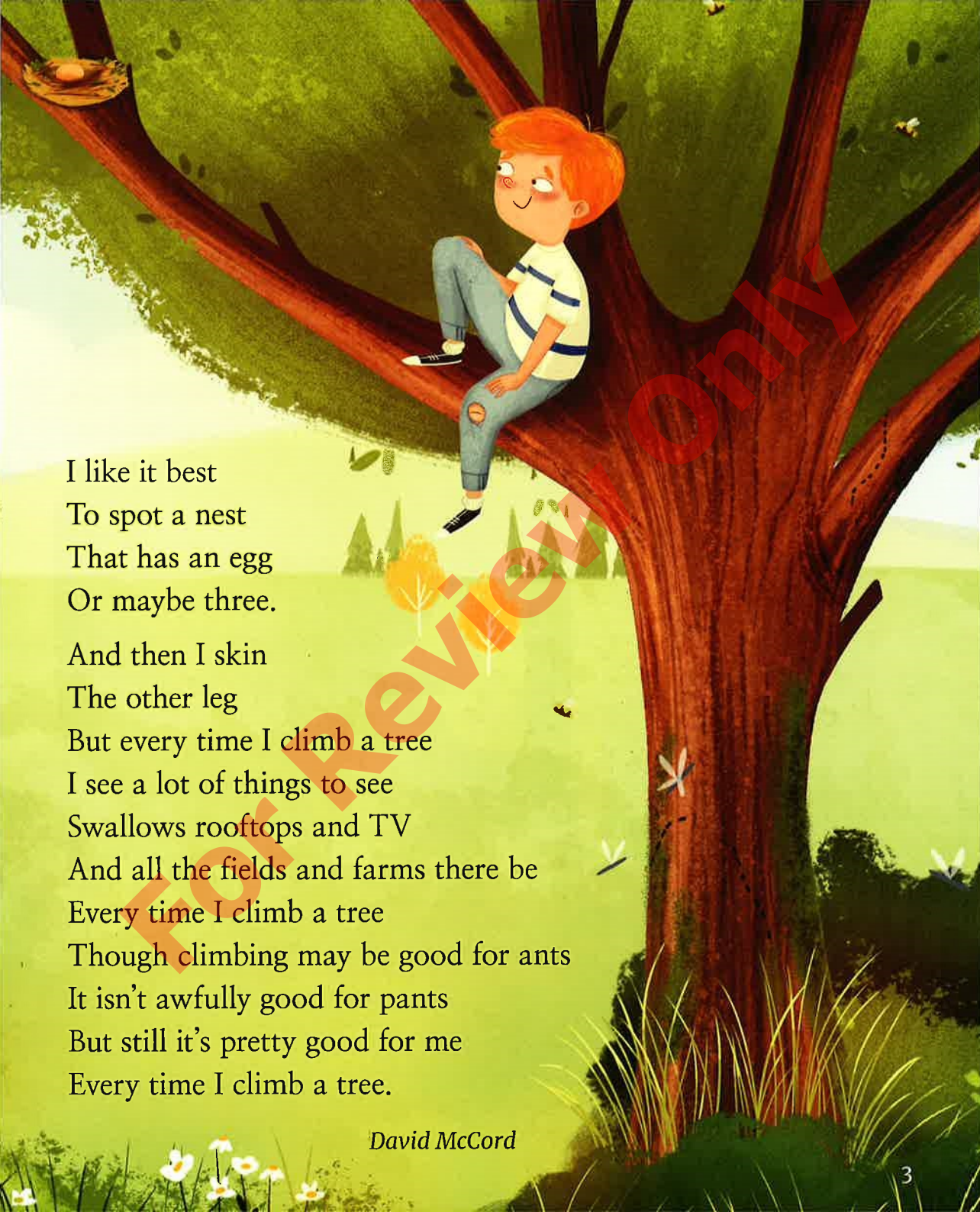
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# Every Time I Climb a Tree

Every time I climb a tree  
Every time I climb a tree  
Every time I climb a tree  
I scrape a leg  
Or skin a knee  
And every time I climb a tree  
I find some ants  
Or dodge a bee  
And get the ants  
All over me.

And every time I climb a tree  
Where have you been?  
They say to me  
But don't they know that I am free  
Every time I climb a tree?



I like it best  
To spot a nest  
That has an egg  
Or maybe three.  
And then I skin  
The other leg  
But every time I climb a tree  
I see a lot of things to see  
Swallows rooftops and TV  
And all the fields and farms there be  
Every time I climb a tree  
Though climbing may be good for ants  
It isn't awfully good for pants  
But still it's pretty good for me  
Every time I climb a tree.

David McCord

## Ode to My Shoes

*my shoes  
rest  
all night  
under my bed  
tired  
they stretch  
and loosen  
their laces  
wide open  
they fall asleep  
and dream  
of walking  
they revisit  
the places  
they went to  
during the day  
and wake up  
cheerful  
relaxed  
so soft*



Francisco X. Alarcón

# Cats

Cats sleep, anywhere,  
Any table, any chair  
Top of piano, window-ledge,  
In the middle, on the edge,  
Open drawer, empty shoe,  
Anybody's lap will do,  
Fitted in a cardboard box,  
In the cupboard, with your frocks.  
Anywhere! They don't care—  
Cats sleep anywhere.

*Eleanor Farjeon*



# Porcupines

Hugging you takes some practice.  
So I'll start out with a cactus.

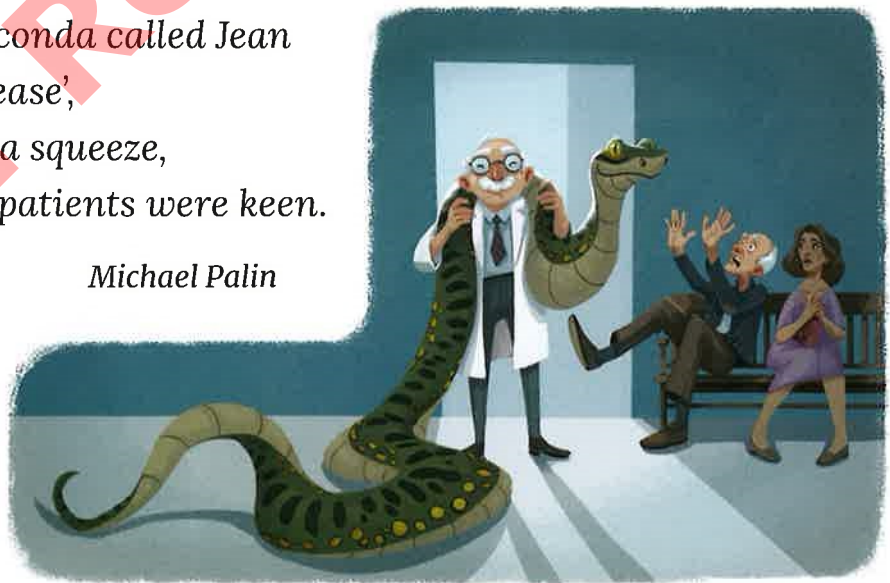
*Marilyn Singer*



# *A Doctor from Near Aberdeen*

A doctor from near Aberdeen  
Had a pet anaconda called Jean  
If you said, 'Please',  
She'd give you a squeeze,  
But few of the patients were keen.

*Michael Palin*



# Who Has Seen the Wind?

Who has seen the wind?  
Neither I nor you:  
But when the leaves hang trembling,  
The wind is passing through.

Who has seen the wind?  
Neither you nor I:  
But when the trees bow down their heads,  
The wind is passing by.

*Christina Rossetti*

