

*John, The Terrible King*

*Written and illustrated by Mary Catherine White*

*John was the youngest of all his brothers. John's father was the king of England and favored him. But since he was the youngest of his siblings, he could not have any lands. So his nickname was, "Lackland."*



*Once, Henry II sent John to rule in Ireland. It was not a good idea. John laughed at the skirts of the Irish, pulled their long beards, and made fun of them. So, he had to be brought back to England.*



*One day, all three of John's older brothers plotted against their father. John joined his father's enemies. John's two eldest brothers died while plotting against their father. John's father died afterwards. So Richard, who was the next heir, became king.*



*John was extremely jealous of Richard because he always wanted to be king. His mother made sure that he never got into trouble. But rumors say that in his tantrums John would chew the royal carpet.*





*When Richard died, he did not have a son. So John, whose wish finally came true, became king. But John was a mean king who was very selfish and did not like his people.*



*John made many enemies. A lot of barons said that John killed his nephew, so they rebelled against him. They helped the king of France make war against John. Even the pope supported the war against John led by the French. In fear, John gave the crown to the pope.*



*The people of England were very angry at John and fought against him multiple times. At last, John agreed to sign a paper saying that he would be a good king. It was called, "The Magna Carta". In signing it, he promised to set up a good government. Unfortunately, it did not do much because John always got back into trouble.*



*One night, when John returned to camp from fighting against the barons, he got sick because he ate too much and died. The people of England were glad that John died and there was great rejoicing in England.*



