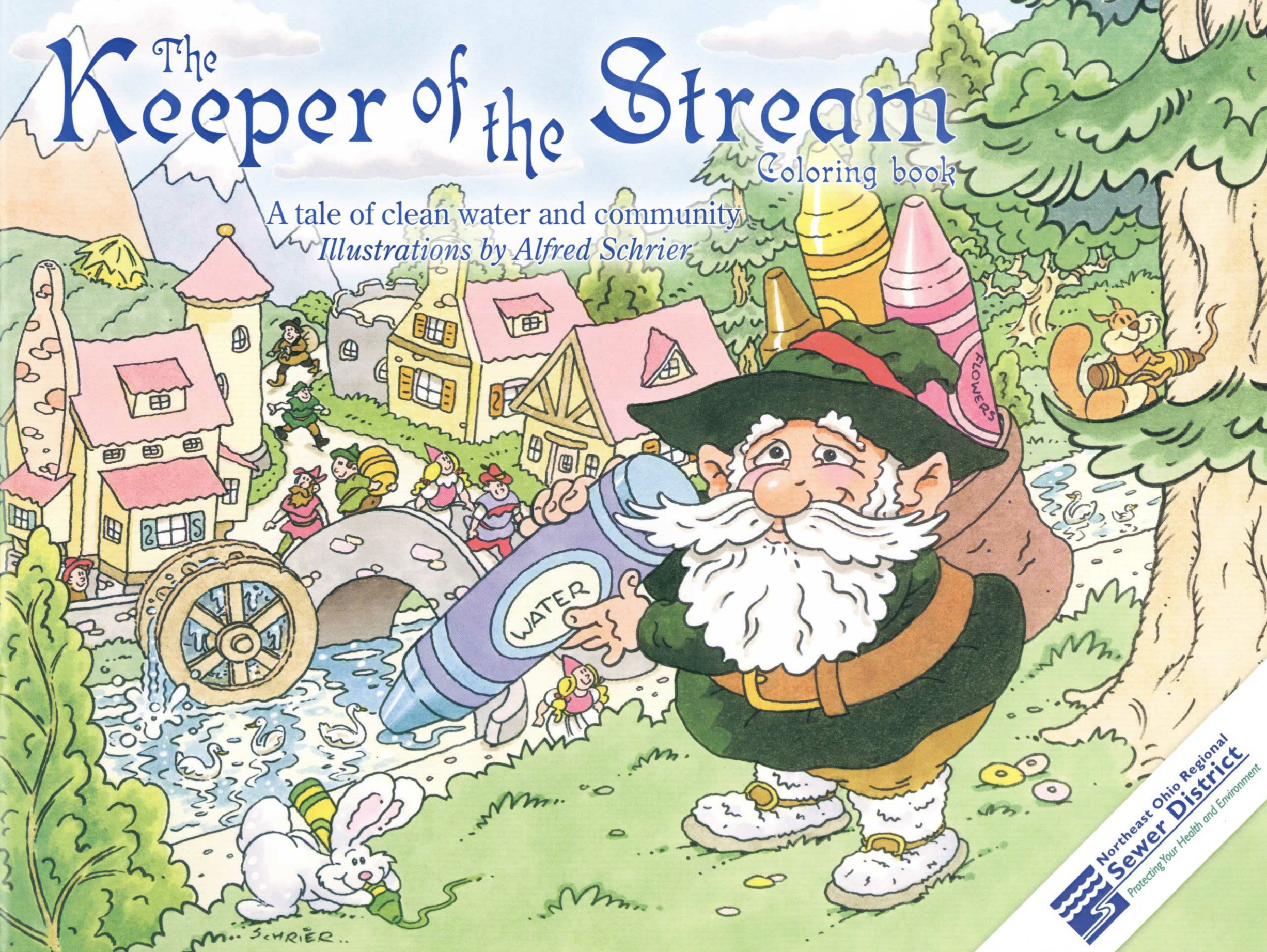


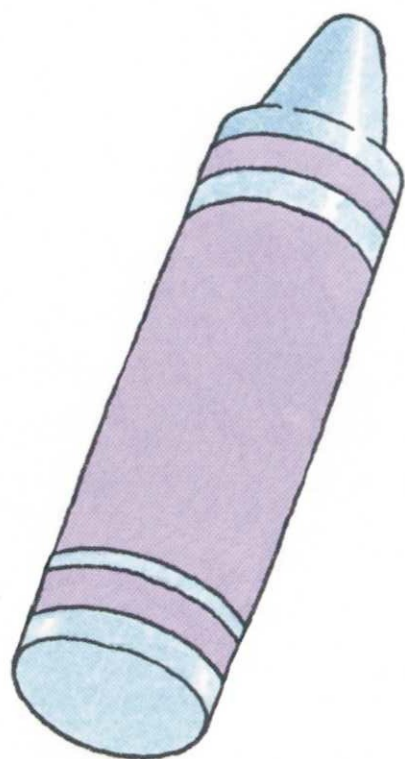
The Keeper of the Stream

Coloring book

A tale of clean water and community

Illustrations by Alfred Schrier





Do you know that all over this whole earth we use the same water over and over again? In fact, do you know that all of the streams, creeks, ponds and land around the Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie make up another giant network? This land and water is called a watershed.

The way we use our land can cause pollution problems in our water. The land and water belong to everyone in our community: people, animals and plants alike. Our water resources are where water treatment plants get the water you use at home. And they are also where wastewater treatment plants return clean water to the environment. Sometimes we forget how important it is to take care of our land and our water. But when we all play our part, we can keep our environment clean and healthy.



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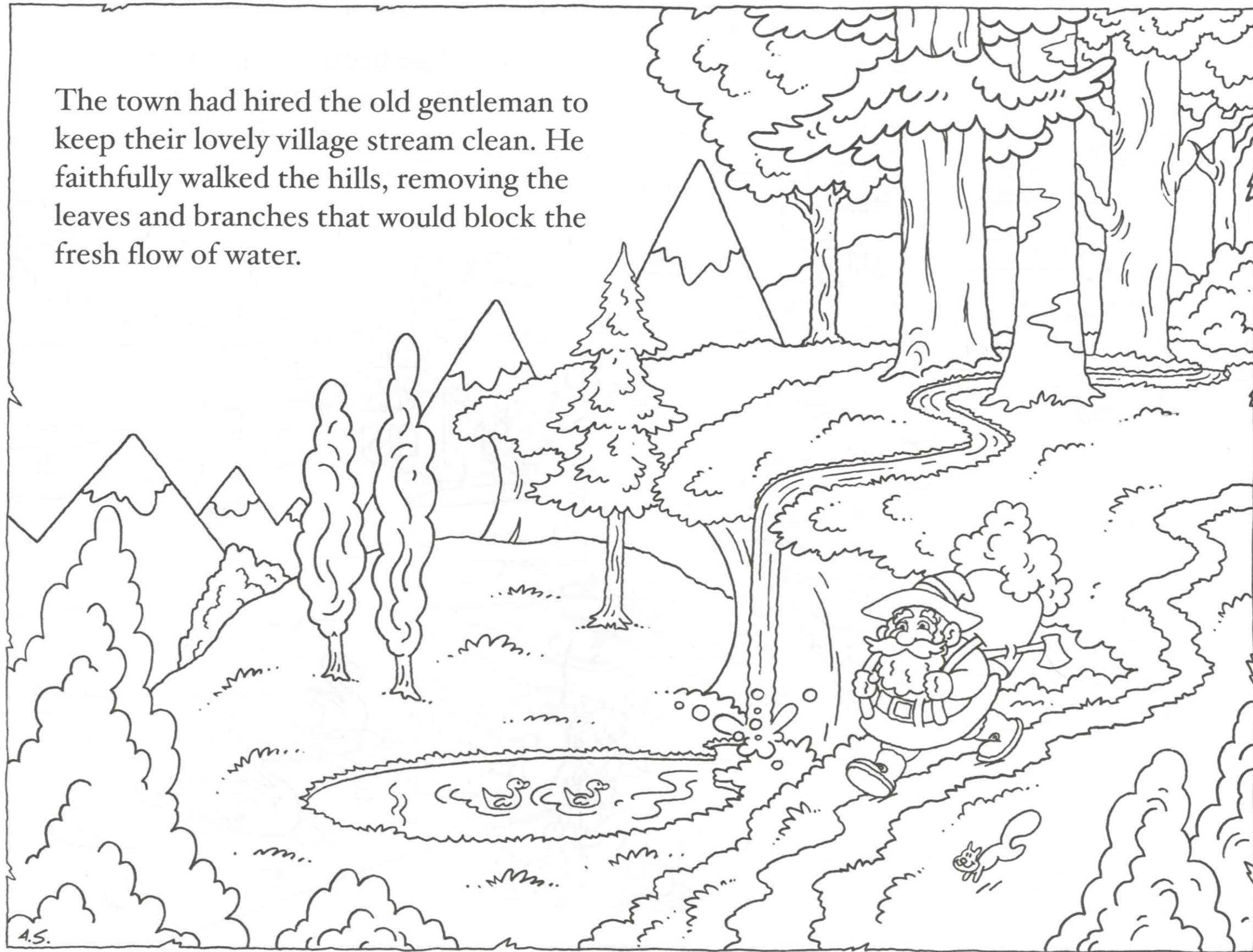
**Northeast Ohio Regional
Sewer District**

Protecting Your Health and Environment

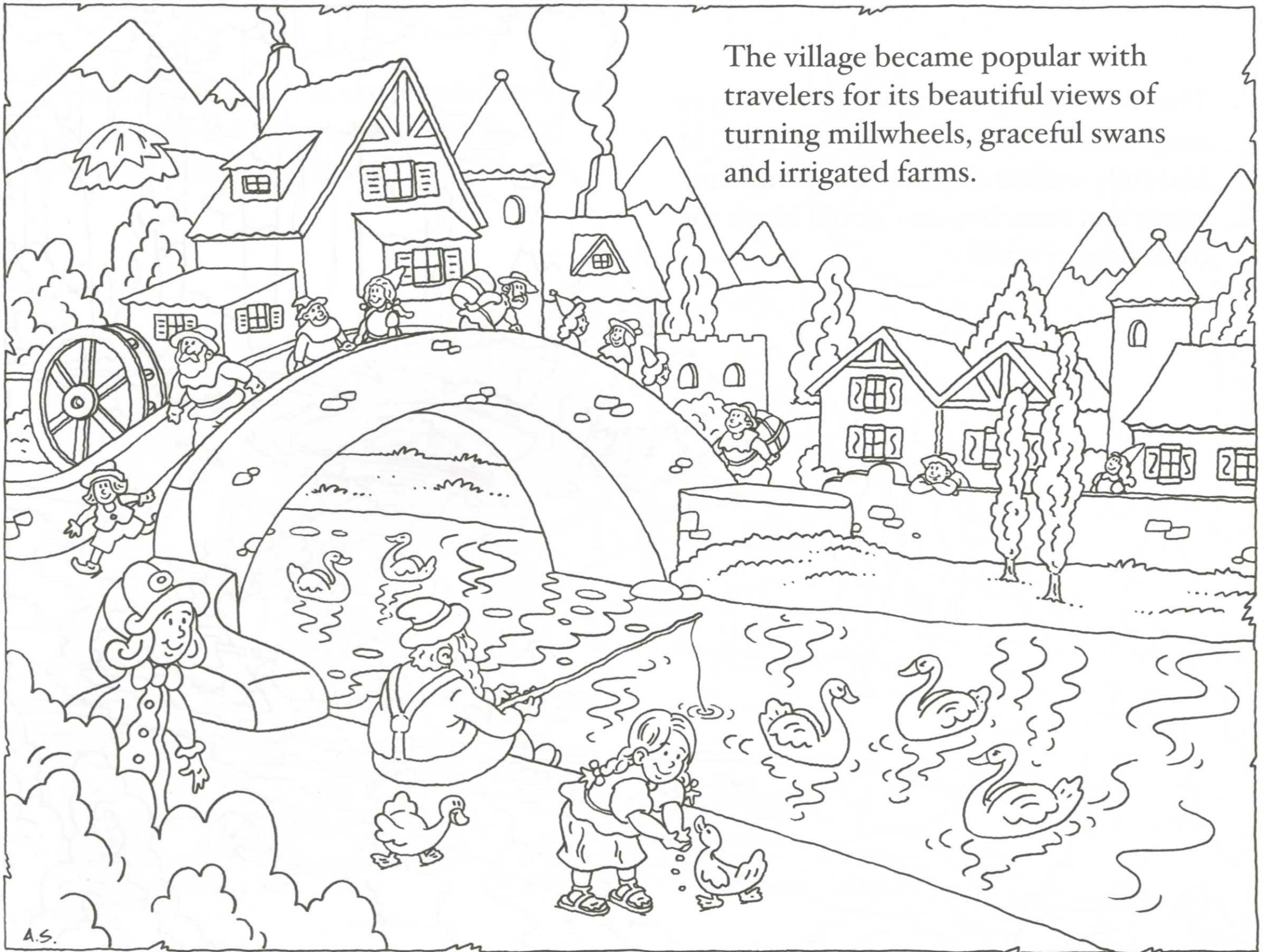
Once upon a time, in the mountains above
an Austrian village, there lived a forest
dweller called the Keeper of the Stream.

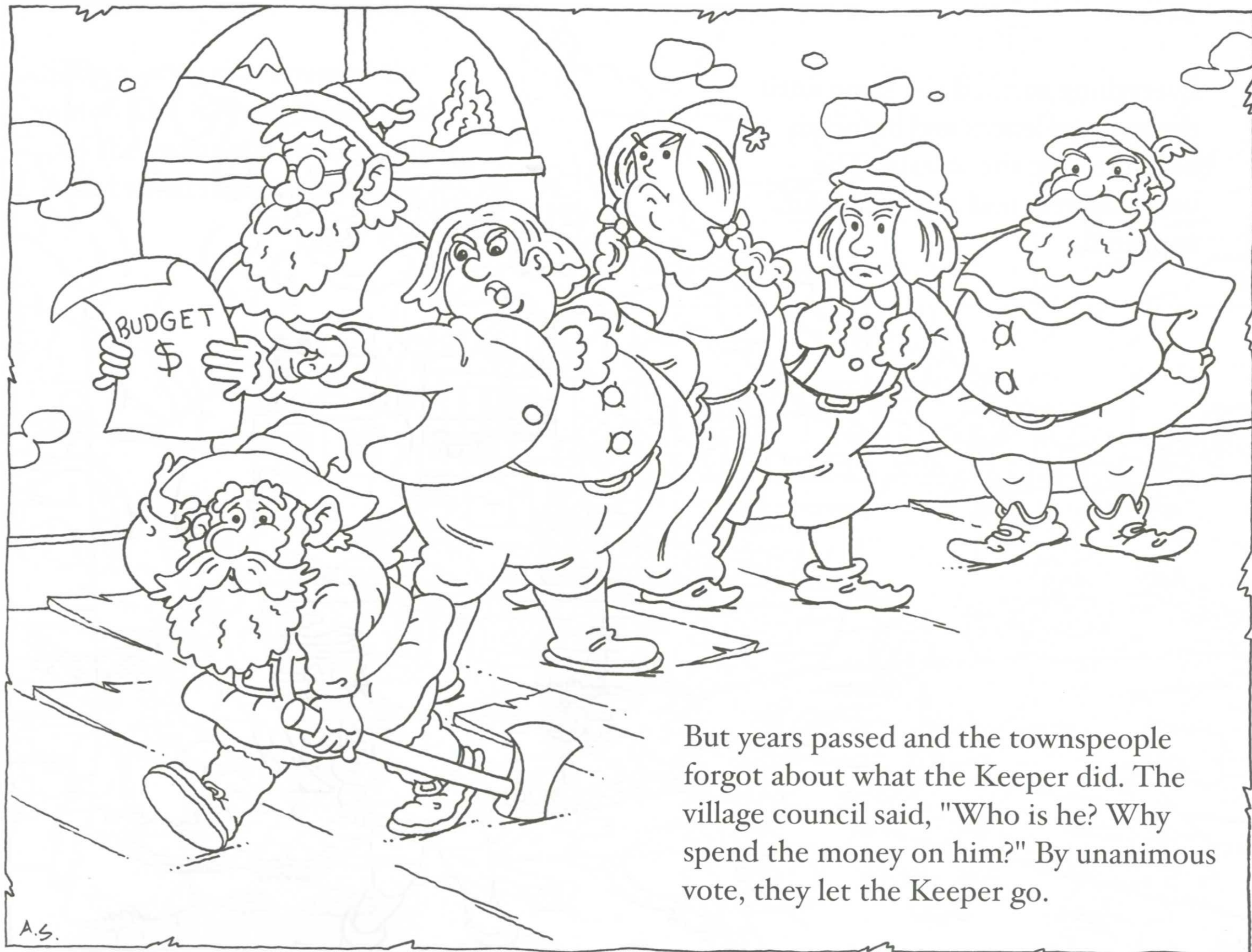


The town had hired the old gentleman to keep their lovely village stream clean. He faithfully walked the hills, removing the leaves and branches that would block the fresh flow of water.



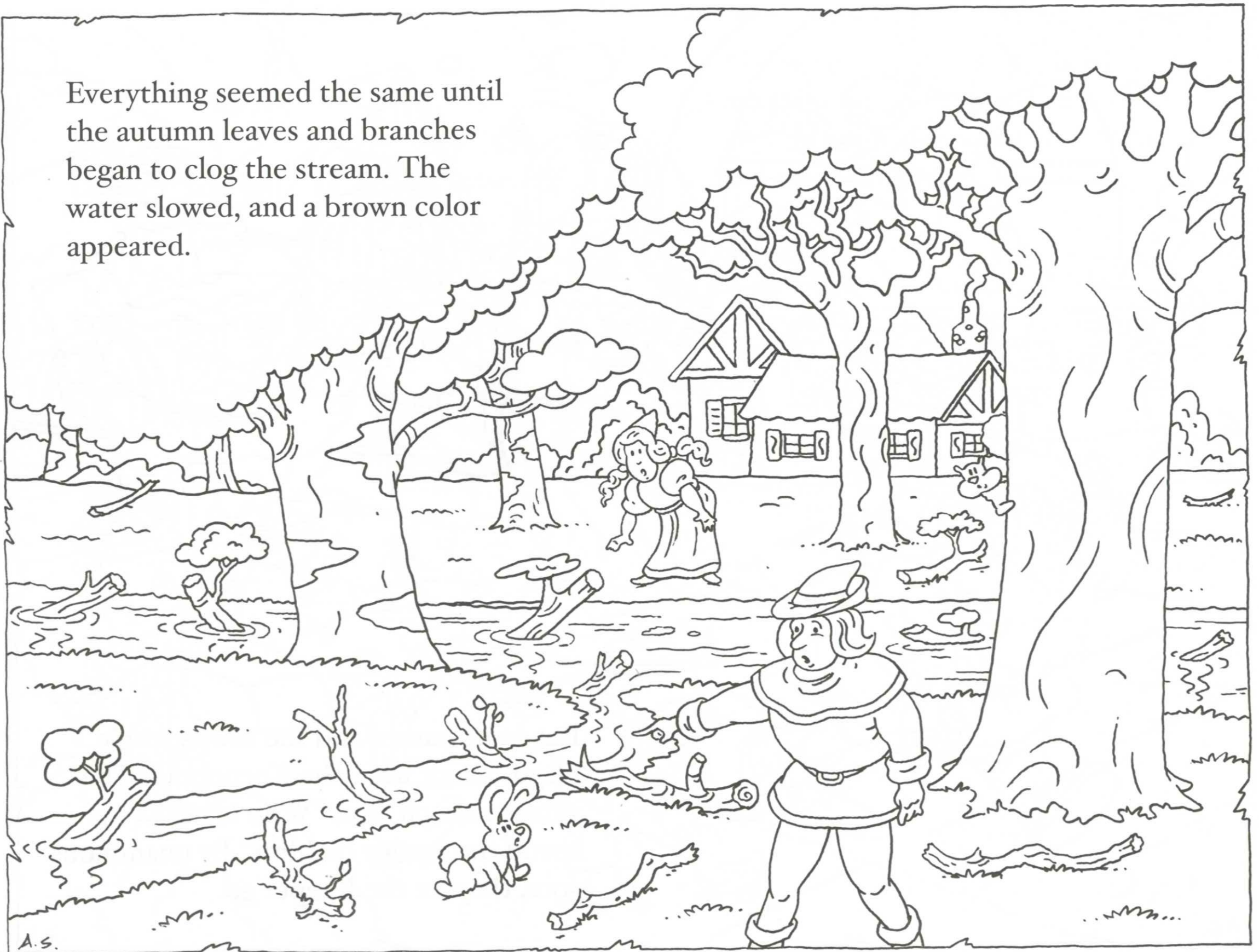
The village became popular with travelers for its beautiful views of turning millwheels, graceful swans and irrigated farms.



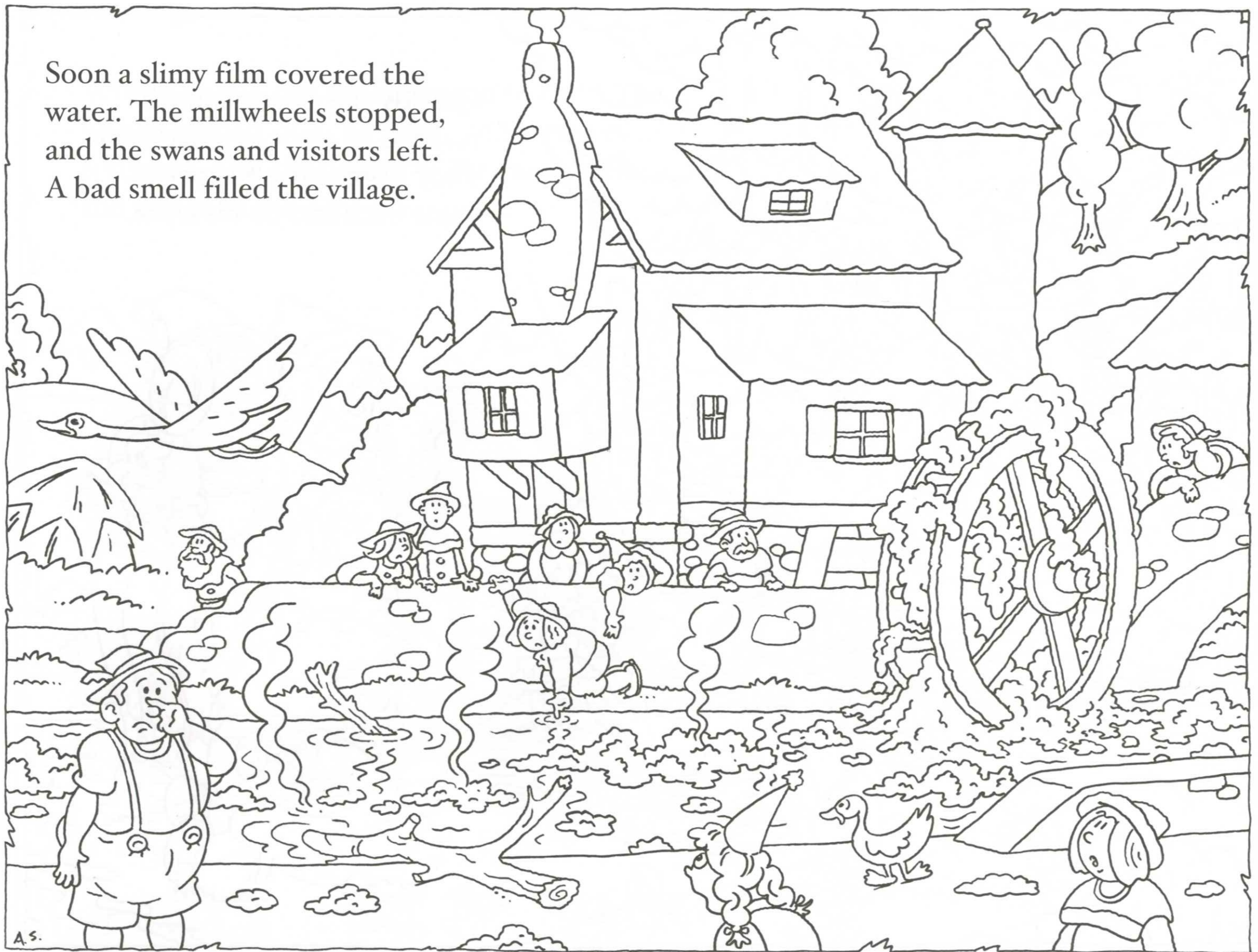


But years passed and the townspeople forgot about what the Keeper did. The village council said, "Who is he? Why spend the money on him?" By unanimous vote, they let the Keeper go.

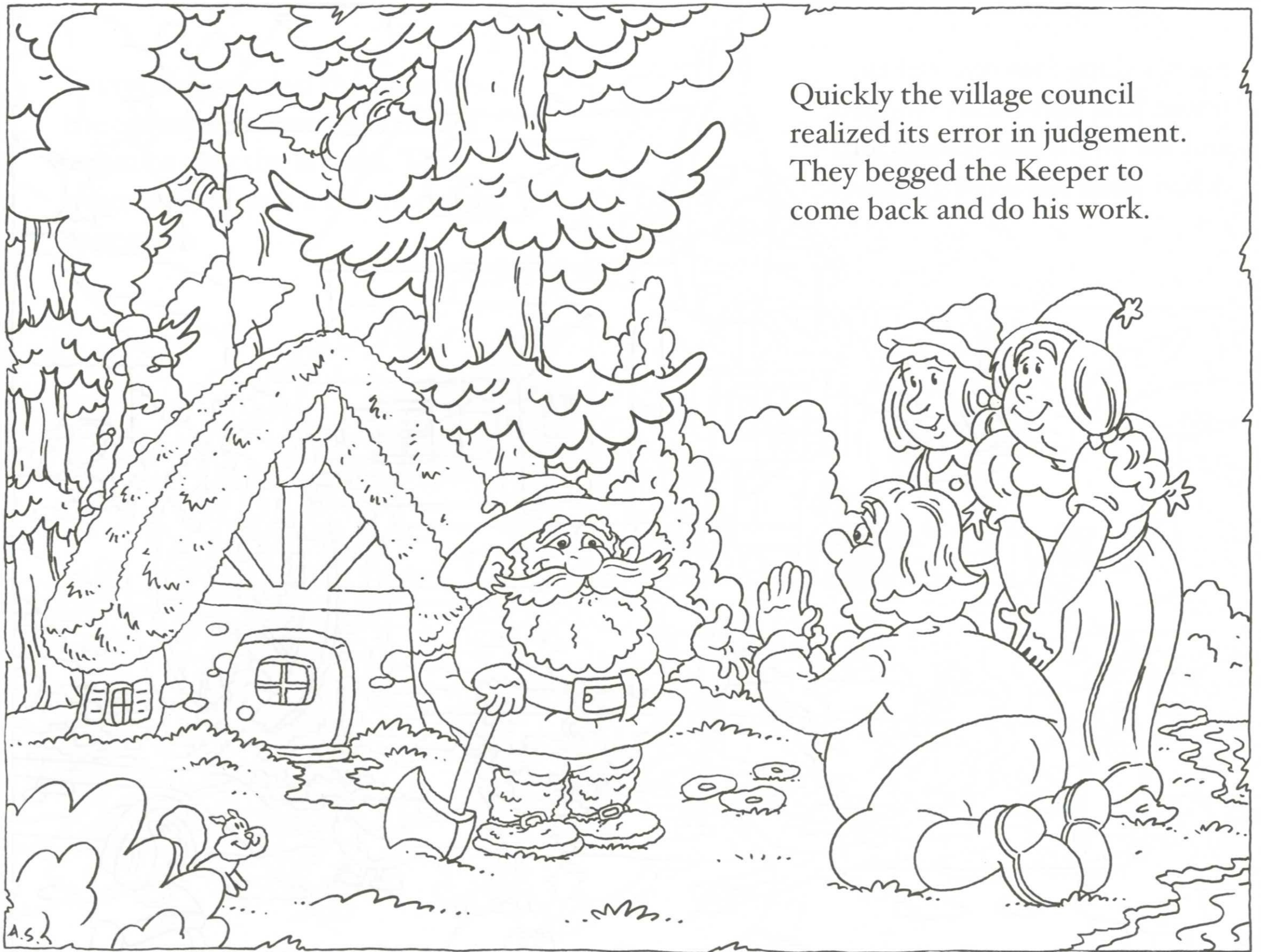
Everything seemed the same until the autumn leaves and branches began to clog the stream. The water slowed, and a brown color appeared.



Soon a slimy film covered the water. The millwheels stopped, and the swans and visitors left. A bad smell filled the village.



Quickly the village council
realized its error in judgement.
They begged the Keeper to
come back and do his work.



Within weeks, the stream began to clear. The wheels turned, and the swans and travelers returned. And the beauty of life came back to the village in the Alps once again.

