

Money for sale!

Translation of the picture book «Geld zu verkaufen!» by Birgit Schmidt-Rosemann

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printed book

- Geld zu verkaufen!
- Argent à vendre!
- Soldi in vendita

as a download (without pictures)

• in albanian: Para për të shitur! • in portuguese: Dinheiro à venda! • in serbian: Pare na prodaju!

• in turkish: Satılık Para!

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Ellie is building a treehouse out of driftwood. Liam watches her from his yard for a long time.

Suddenly he calls out, "Mom! I want to build a treehouse!"

8 9 Ellie's treehouse is really coming along today.

But Liam now has some building material of his own, too: The Woodpecker XXL construction set.

"No, mom, I don't need your help. I want to do this on my own!" Liam calls und studies the construction manual.

He needs: A hammer, a small screwdriver, a large screwdriver, a tape measure, and a level.

Liam gets the tools from the basement, returns, and stops short: Weren't there more planks just a minute ago?!

"You, up there!" Liam yells, "You stole my planks! Give them back!"

Ellie grins: "If there's a lot over there and a little over here, you have to share.

It's only fair."

Liam hisses, "It's fair that I clobber you, you thief! Buy your own planks!"

Ellie lets her legs dangle over the side of her platform.

"I don't have any money! Give me money, and I'll buy myself some planks."

But Liam shakes his head: "You don't just get money for nothing. You have to work for money. Work for me: Help me put this together!"

Ellie climbs down with the Woodpecker planks and cocks her head to the side: "How long did you work for your planks, anyway?"

Ellie and Liam put the Woodpecker construction set together. Ellie asks: "Why don't you build up in the trees? It's great up there!"

Liam shrugs: "Mom said the treehouse construction set was currently sold out." Ellie laughs: "She's just scared you'll fall out of the tree! Do I get paid now?"

Liam brings a large object and three small coins. "The money is the pay for your work. If you want to, you can buy this thing here to use as construction material: It's my old puppet theater."

Ellie inspects the material: "How much do you want for it?" Liam points to the three coins: "That much." Ellie agrees.



They continue building up in the tree. Ellie grins: "Now do I have to pay you for your work?"

When everything is finished, they spend the three coins on sodas and have a burping competition in the treehouse.

Ellie thinks for a while: "We need a rope ladder. Do you have a long rope?"

Liam shakes his head. "Mom said ropes are currently sold out."

"Nonsense!" cries Ellie. "Come on, we'll go buy one."

Liam looks at the empty soda bottles: "We don't have any more money...." he sighs.

"So what? We'll make our own money!" says Ellie.

Together they draw many banknotes. Every note is different, with fantastical pictures and fantastical numbers, each with as many zeroes as they can fit on the paper.

20 21 Unfortunately, their money doesn't work at the checkout counter in the hardware store.

Liam has an idea.

They take their banknotes and go sit on the wall in front of the entrance. Liam yells, "Bookmarks for sale!"

In just one hour they sell all of their banknote-bookmarks. And then they take the real money and buy the longest rope.

And they even have money left over!

There's enough rope for two rope ladders: One from the Woodpecker XXL-house to the treehouse. And one from the treehouse into the water.

Ellie and Liam put the rest of the money into a jam jar.

28 29 Liam turns the jar in his hands:

"If we save up some more money, we can buy six empty barrels. We can tie them together to make a raft, and then we can set the house on it!"

Ellie's eyes light up, too: "Then we'll sail off and find a pirate treasure. And then we'll be rich and can spend our days lounging in the sun!"

30 31 Liam grins, "But we're already lounging in the sun...."





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