

Baba and Mr Big

C. Everard Palmer



Macmillan Education

The Macmillan Building, 4 Crinan Street, London, N1 9XW

A division of Macmillan Publishers Limited

Companies and representatives throughout the world

www.macmillan-caribbean.com

ISBN 9780333583173

Text© St Lucia Ministry of Education 1974, 1992

Design and illustration© Macmillan Publishers Limited 1974, 1992

First published 1974

This Edition 1992

All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the Publishers.

Printed in Thailand

2010 2009 2008 2007 2006 2005

21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13

Contents

1	Three Boys and a Challenge	5
2	Breakfast with Baba	15
3	Mr Big	24
4	Jim's the Biggest but Lacks a Hurrah	34
5	What? Protect a Hawk?	40
6	Jim Gains Respect	47
7	Milo Plans Anew	54
8	Planning for Mr Big	64
9	You Hawk, Me Man	69
10	Happy Riddance and a Traffic Ticket	75
11	Mr Big Returns	83
12	An Alibi for Mr Big	87

1

Three Boys and a Challenge

JIM ANDERSON HAD lived in the village of Kendal for a week now and still had made no friends. His family had just moved from Savanna-la-mar; his father, a good mechanic, repaired and serviced equipment for a large sugarcane farmer. Jim hadn't minded being new in Kendal at all, but now school was out for the Christmas holiday and he had nothing exciting to do. After breakfast he left the house and wandered off toward the village square.

It was a beautiful day, with the sun climbing ever higher. The wind ruffled the tassled arrows of the tall sugarcane bush and rushed across the land, sweeping the stuffiness away, leaving the village a cleaner place. Christmas was in the air – Christmas, and no friends!

The adults he passed as he strolled along seemed friendly enough, nodding to him and calling out to each other and laughing. But the boys were another matter; they seemed rather clannish. He had met a few of them outside of school, but they had only stared at him or goggled at his feet. He soon found out why: he had been wearing shoes. Today, though,