

No Time Now!



Philip Cowherd

The big parade was set for ten.
Finn checked the clock, then checked again.
His wagon wore a dragon grin,
with silver scales from tail to chin.
A paper flame curled from its snout.
Two painted wings stretched proudly out.



Rosie knelt beside one wheel.
“That nut is loose. Come here and feel.”
Finn tied a streamer in a bow.
“Later, Rosie. No time now.”



“One little turn,” said Rosie. “Done.”
Finn shook his head. “We have to run.
I need two horns, one stripe of blue,
and then this dragon will be through.”
So Finn painted. Rosie frowned.
The little nut kept turning round.



At half past nine he grabbed the bar.

“Just four short blocks! It isn’t far!”

The wheel went: click.

The wheel went: clack.

It leaned a little, then leaned back.

Rosie pointed. “Finn, that sound...”

From Market Square came:

BOOM-BOOM-BOOM!



A LITTLE LOOK INSIDE THE STORY

Would you stop now?

The wheel is wobbling. The parade drums are playing.

What would you say if you were Rosie?

And what do you think Finn will do next?

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Opening excerpt only. The complete book has more to discover.

Story by Philip Cowherd. Shared with the author's authorization.

Story Crumb Books | Ages 4-7