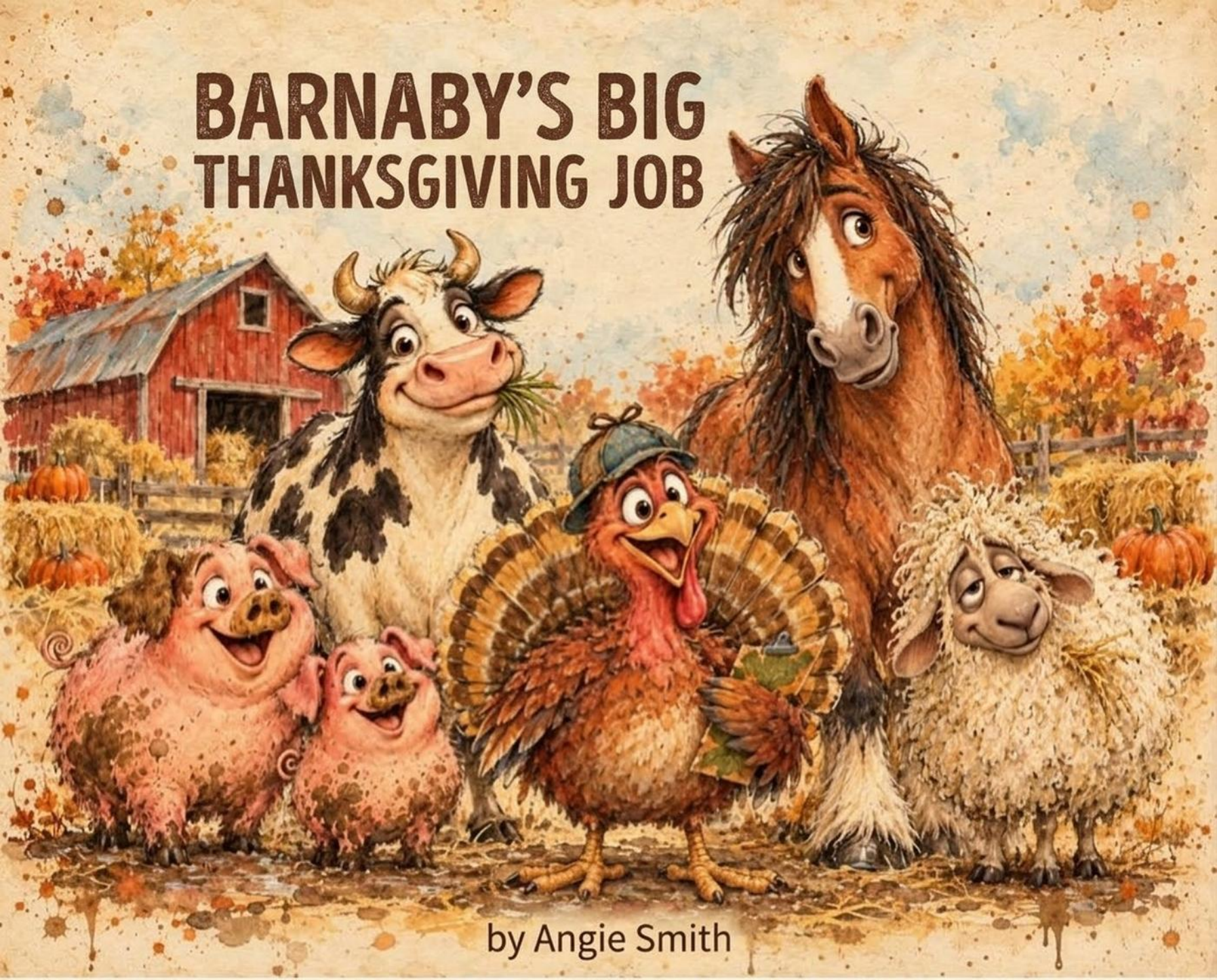

BARNABY'S BIG
THANKSGIVING JOB
by Angie Smith

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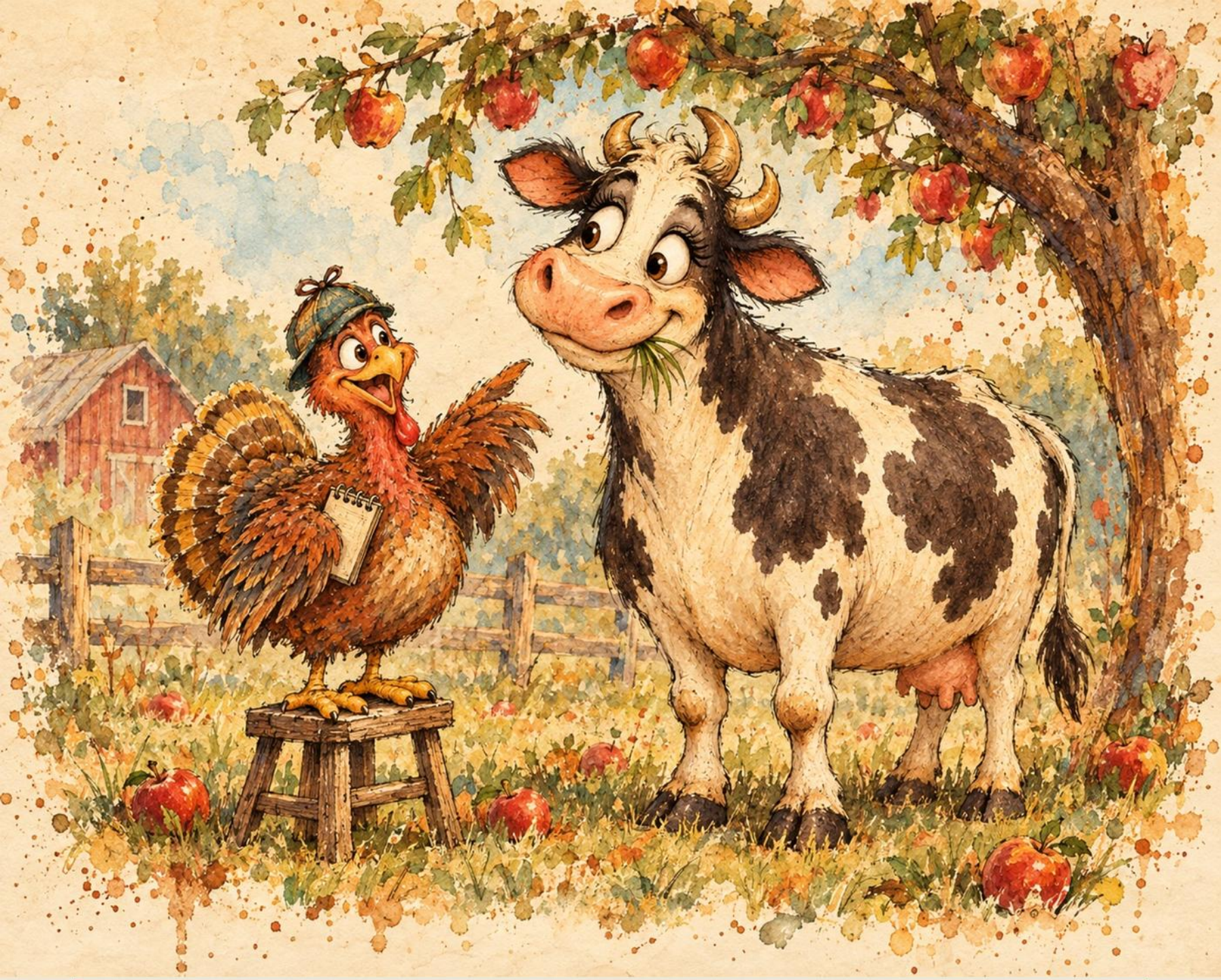
Meet Barnaby Bird, the silliest clown,
The funniest turkey in all of the town!
He struts past the tractor, he trips on his toes,
And nobody knows quite which way he will go!



Today is a very big day on the farm,
There's pies on the table and food in the barn.
The farmer is smiling, the animals cheer,
And Barnaby waddles to see why they're here!



"Aha!" squawks our turkey, "a mystery to solve!
I need to know what Thanksgiving involves!
Is it running real fast? Is it jumping up high?
Or tasting a spoonful of sweet pumpkin pie?"



He marches right up to the sweet apple tree,
Where Cow is enjoying a snack. "Pardon me!
Why are you happy? What makes today great?"
Says Cow, "I am thankful for food on my plate!"



"For food?" blinks the turkey. "Well, that makes me think,
Of all of the apples and water I drink!
My belly is full, and my feathers are warm,
I guess I am thankful for life on the farm!"



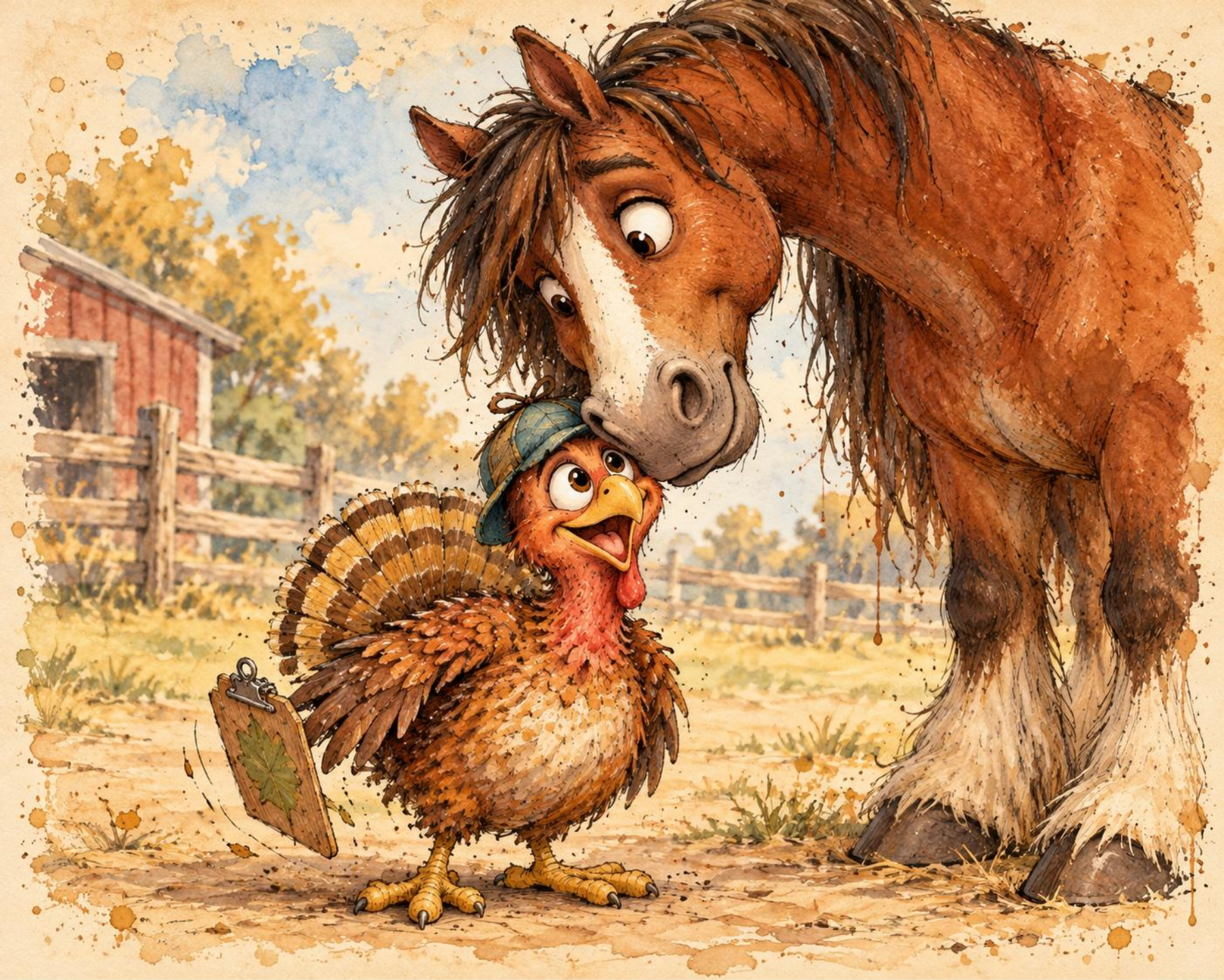
He trots to the pasture and finds fuzzy Sheep,
Who's waking right up from a cozy, long sleep.
"Dear Sheep, why are you smiling big as can be?"
Says Sheep, "For the friends that take such good care of me!"



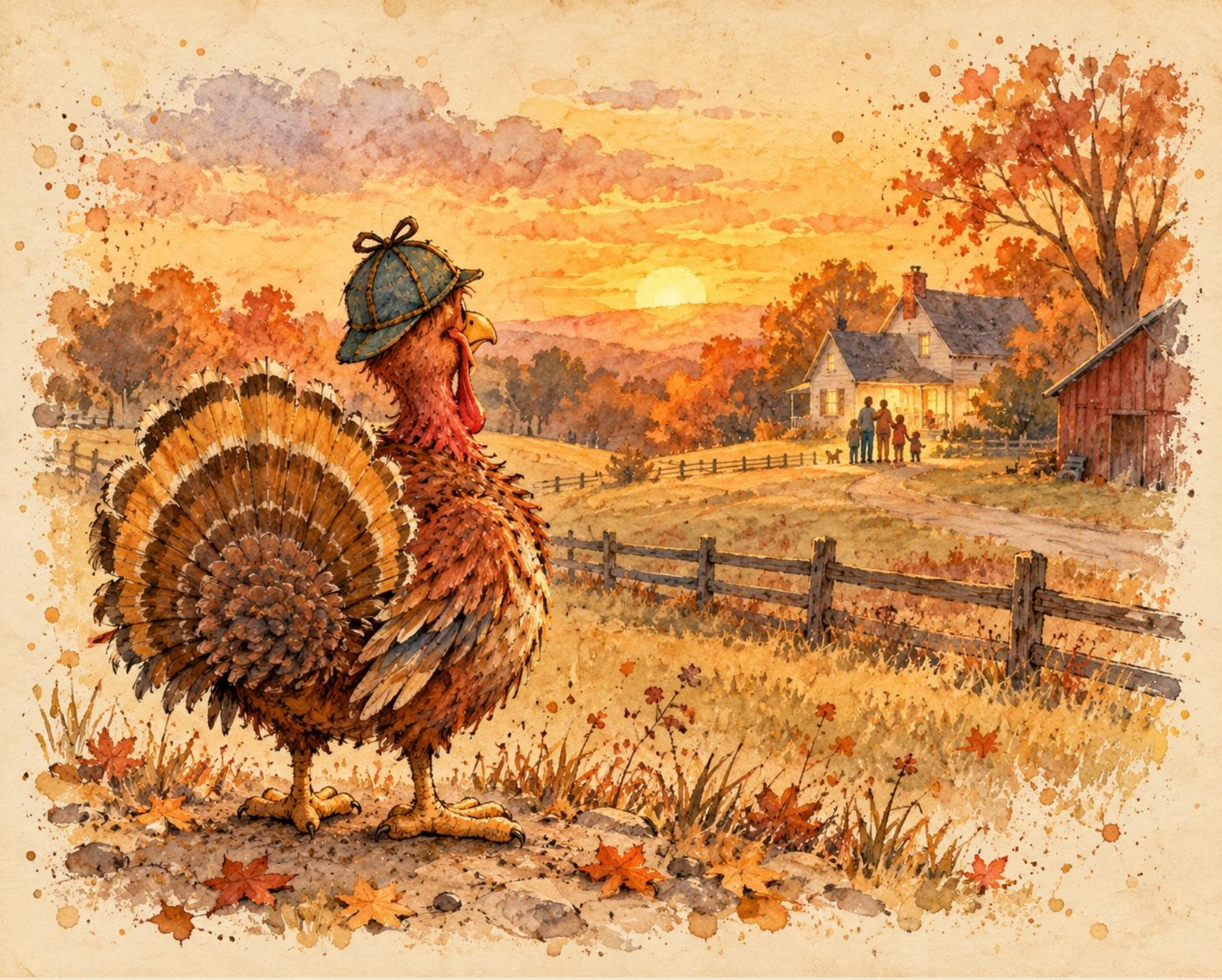
"For friends!" shouts the turkey, kicking his heel,
"That truly is quite a magnificent deal!"
He fluffs up his feathers and wobbles around,
"There's nobody better in all of the town!"



He scribbles it down with a squiggly line,
"Inspector-bird Barnaby says it is fine!"
Then trots to the mud where the chubby pigs play,
To see what they love about this holiday!



Then Horse trots right over and lowers his head,
"There's one more big reason we're thankful," he said,
"It's family, our loved ones, who always stay near,
Who love and protect us throughout the whole year."



"For family!" whispers the turkey right back,
And gives his old feathers a wonderful flack.
"The ones who hug tight when the weather turns cold,
And cherish us whether we're young or we're old."



His mission is finished! His notebook is full!
He gives all his tail feathers one giant pull.
He waddles on back to the animals' yard,
To read all his notes from his little note card!



"Hear ye, hear ye!" gobbles the bird with a grin,
"Thanksgiving is here and the party can begin!
It's not just for eating a giant big feast,
It's thanking for everything, greatest and least!"



"We are thankful for our food, and the friends by our side,
And family to hold us with love deep and wide.
To notice the blessings that come from above,
And fill up our hearts with a whole lot of love!"



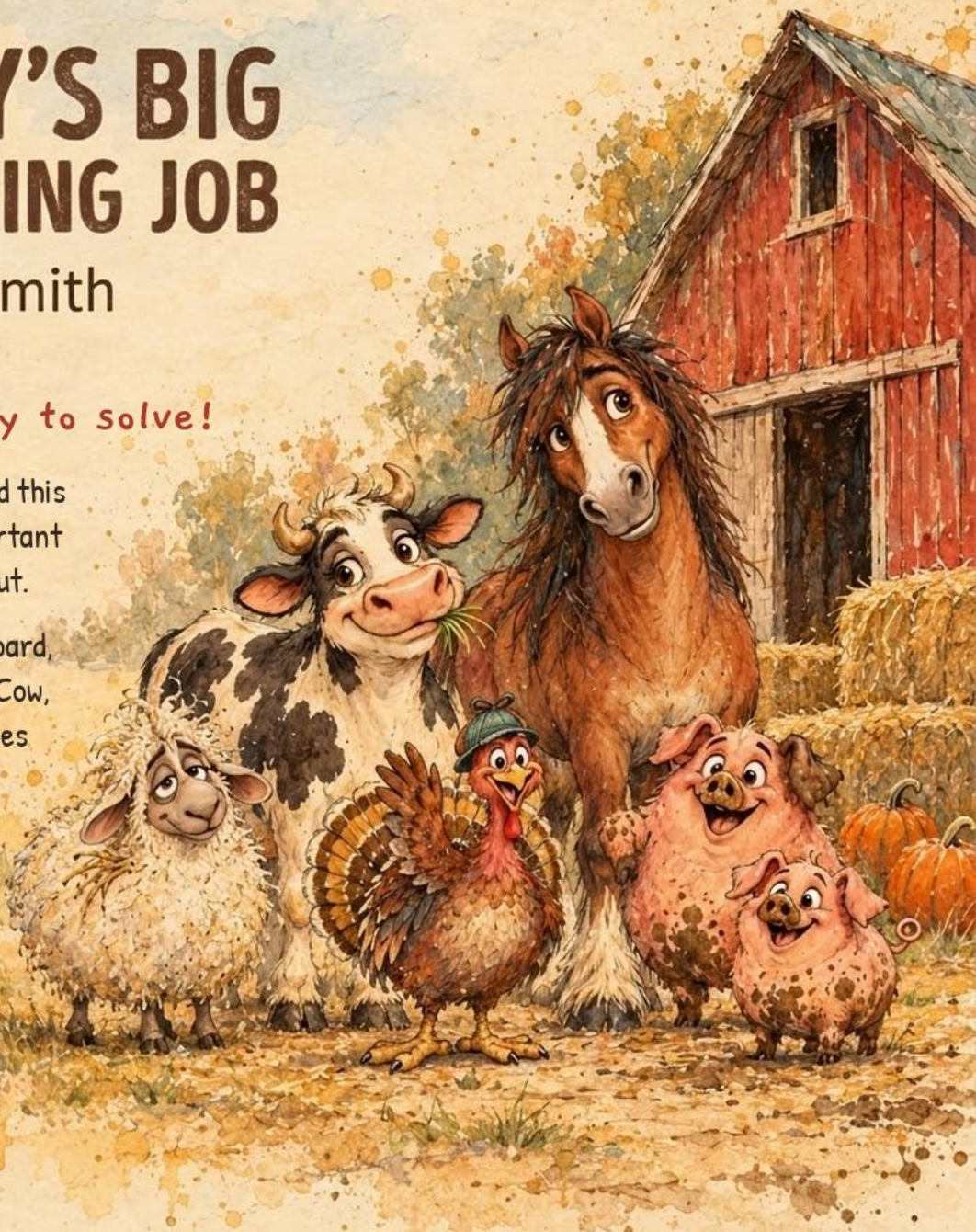
So down goes the sun and the stars twinkle bright,
And Barnaby tucks in his beak for the night.
With a warm, happy heart and a sleepy head rest,
He dreams of the things that he loves the best.



So gobble up joy, little children, and see,
How thankful and happy a heart gets to be.
With giggles and grins, and a thank-you to pray,
We wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving Day!

BARNABY'S BIG THANKSGIVING JOB

by Angie Smith



Barnaby Bird has a mystery to solve!

Thanksgiving Day has come to the farm, and this silly, big-hearted turkey has one very important job: find out what Thanksgiving is really about.

With his detective hat, his trusty leaf clipboard, and a whole lot of questions, Barnaby asks Cow, Sheep, the chubby pigs, and Horse what makes this day so great.

What he finds just might fill your heart, too.

A funny, thankful rhyming story for little readers. Perfect for Thanksgiving!