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# ONCE- UPON-A-TIME Story Book

BY ROSE DOBBS

Illustrated by C. Walter Hodges



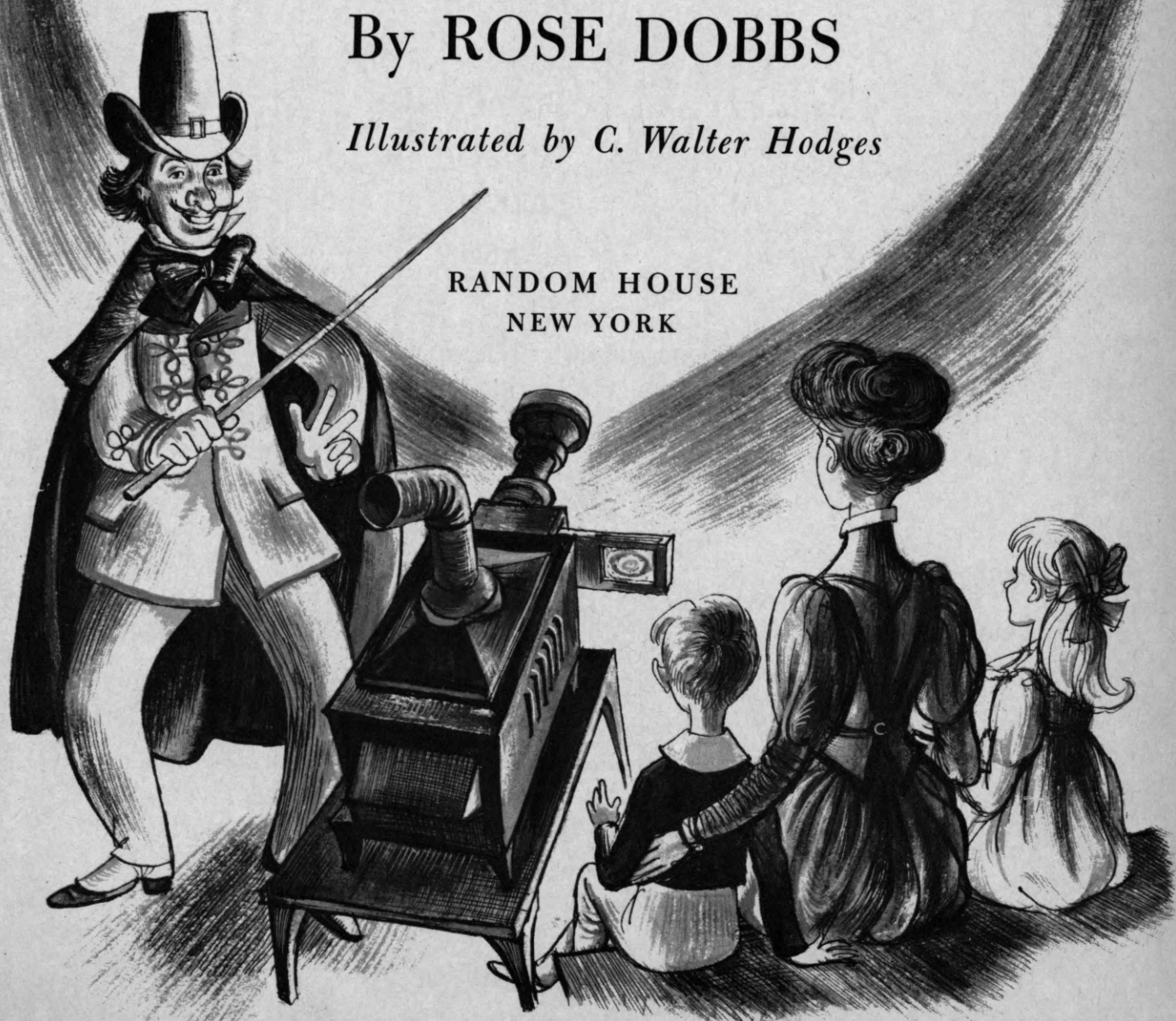
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# ONCE- UPON-A-TIME Story Book

By ROSE DOBBS

*Illustrated by C. Walter Hodges*

RANDOM HOUSE  
NEW YORK



For  
DEBRA,  
CHARLIE,  
NANCY,  
MICHAEL,  
LAURA,  
JACQUELINE,  
LISA,  
ELLEN,  
MARSHA,  
NEIL,  
and—on the other side of the Atlantic—  
CRISPIN.

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## *Why Cats Always Wash Themselves After Eating*

Once upon a time a hungry cat went out to look for something special to eat. She did not want a little mouse and she did not want a saucer of milk and she did not want a juicy fishhead. She wanted something special, something different. All of a sudden she saw in front of her a little bird.

“Aha!” thought the cat. “That’s exactly what I want. What a delicious meal that bird will make!”

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