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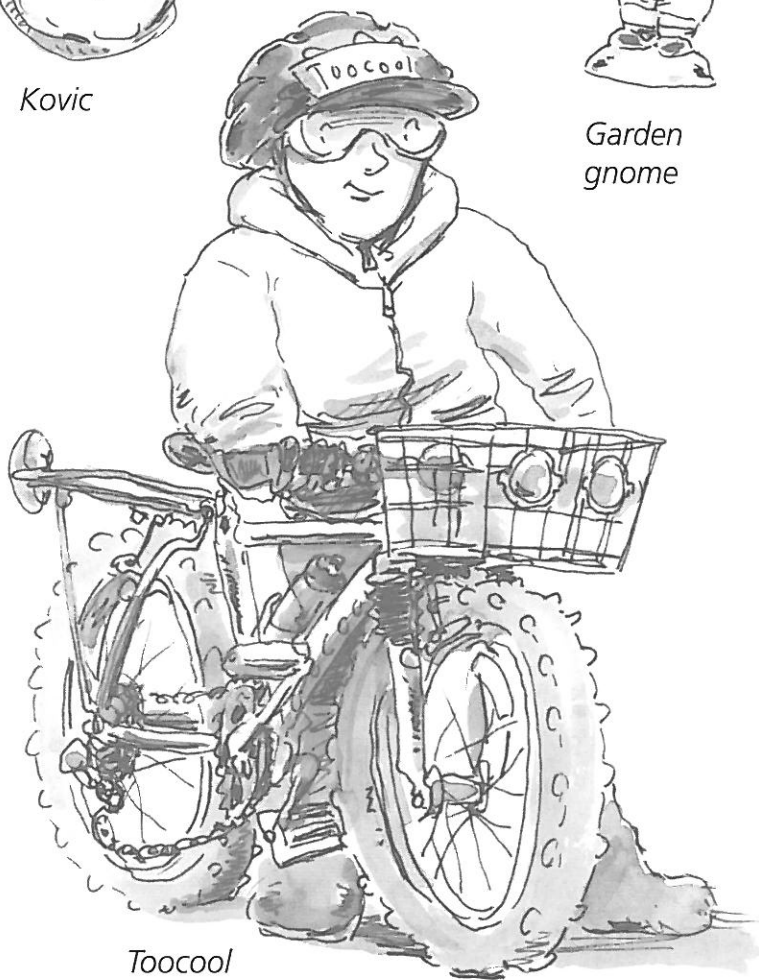
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*Mr. Kovic*



*Garden  
gnome*



*Toocool*

# The New Bike



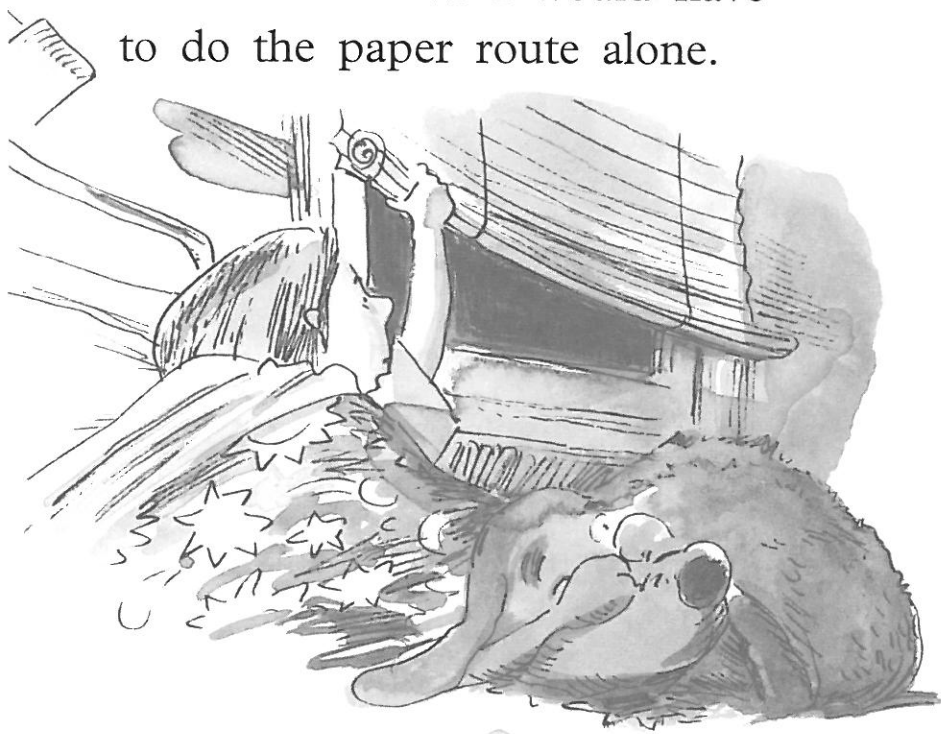
**T**he alarm clock rang like the half-time buzzer at a basketball game. I turned on the lamp and looked at the clock. It was 5 o'clock in the morning!

It was still dark outside, and it was freezing. I yawned.

“Come on, Dog,” I said.  
“Time to deliver the papers.”

Dog opened one eye. He looked out the window. Then he put his paws over his face.

It looked like I would have to do the paper route alone.





I jumped out of bed as fast as I could. You *had* to be tough to be a paperboy, especially in late autumn.

I got dressed. Then I pulled on my helmet, goggles, and boots.

It was time for the Sonic Mountain Bike challenge.