



Charles Dickens was born in 1812. At age 12, he was sent to work in a factory. He never forgot this and his books show how hard life was in Victorian England, especially for the poor. Charles is known for his incredible characters with fabulous names, like Pumblechook, Bumble, and Chuzzlewit.

“To this young fellow . . . the communication I have got to make is, that he has great expectations.”

Poor orphan Pip longs to be a gentleman. One day news arrives that he has come into money. Who is it from?

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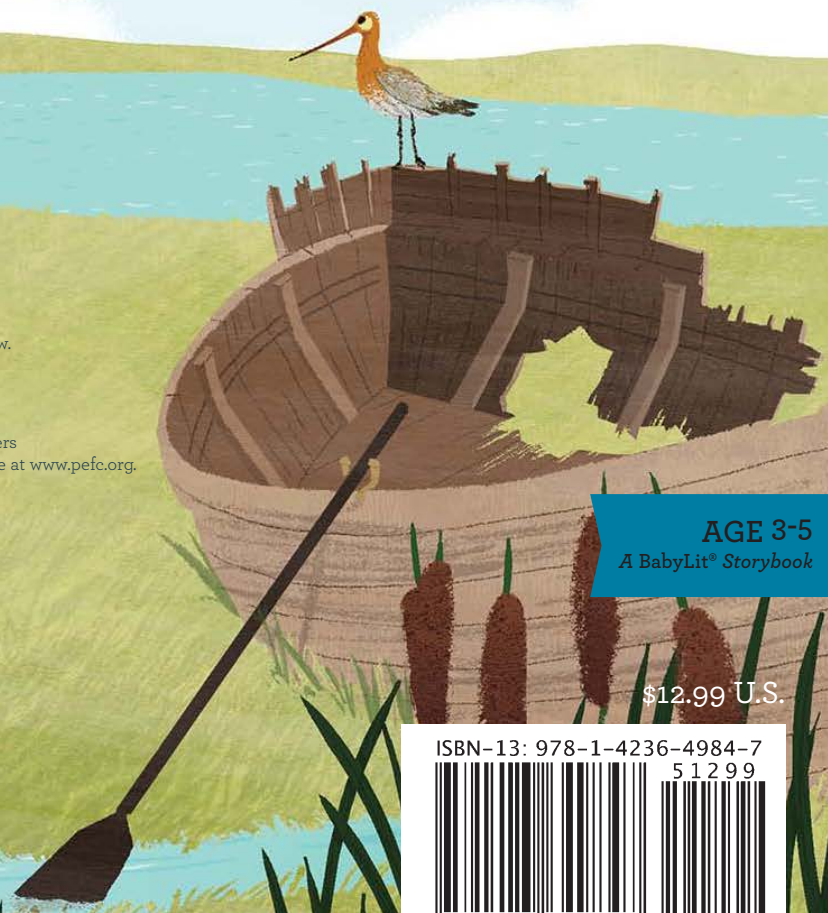
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A BabyLit® Storybook

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GREAT EXPECTATIONS



GIBBS
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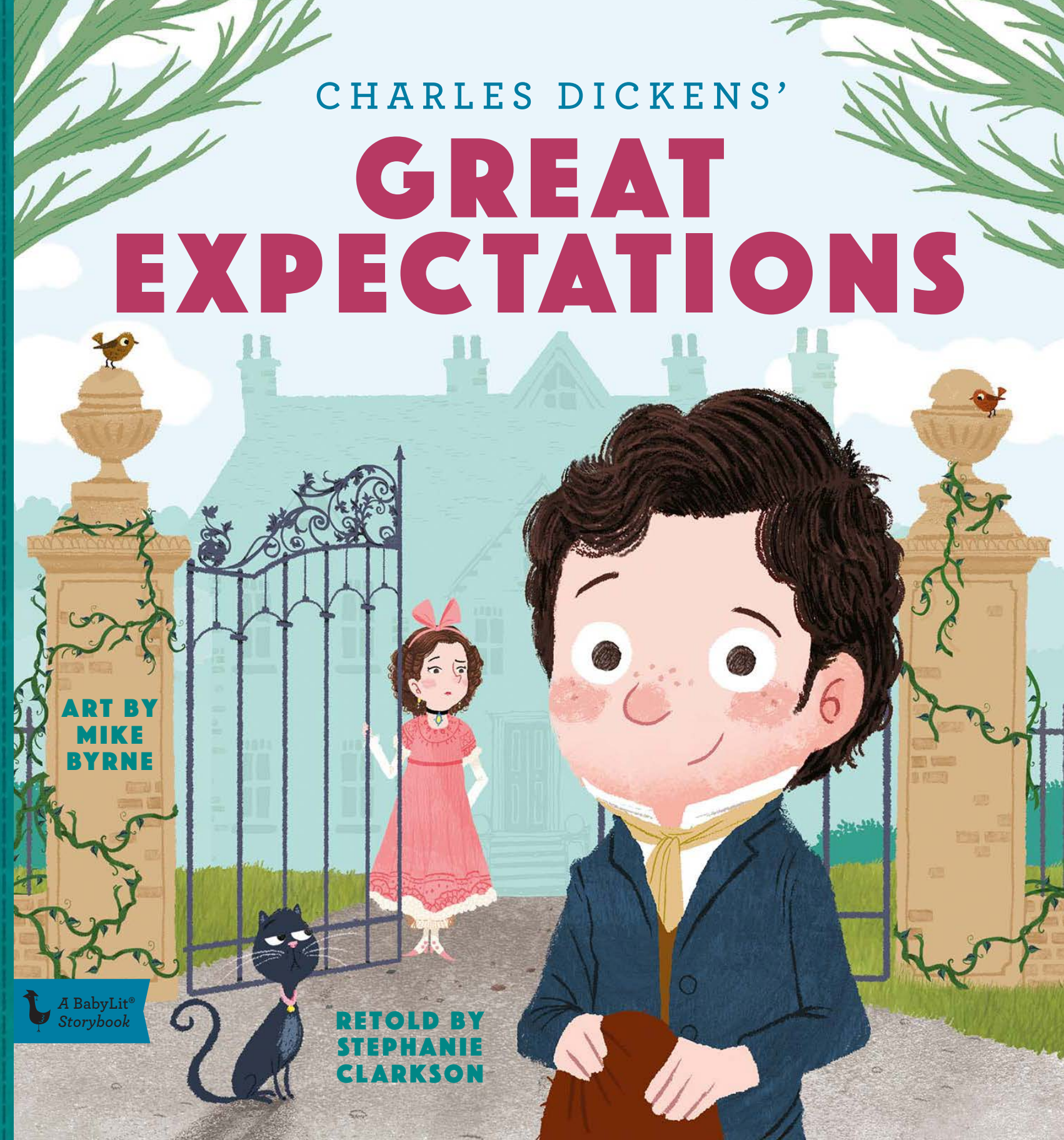
CHARLES DICKENS’

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

ART BY
MIKE
BYRNE

A BabyLit®
Storybook

RETOLD BY
STEPHANIE
CLARKSON



Some weeks later, Joe's uncle, Mr. Pumblechook, visited with news. A rich lady known as Miss Havisham wanted me to go and play with her adopted daughter.

"If this boy ain't grateful this night, he never will be."



The girl was named Estella. She met us at the gates of Satis House and took me inside.



One day Miss Havisham said it was time for me to go and work for Joe. Estella was leaving, too. I felt sad.



I was ashamed to be a blacksmith like Joe. I wanted to be a fine gentleman. If I was a gentleman, perhaps Estella would love me as I loved her.



Soon I became self-important and thoughtless. I avoided poor Joe, even after my sister died. When I returned home I called on Miss Havisham instead.

One day when I visited, Estella arrived. I was more in love with her than ever, but Miss Havisham wanted revenge on men and had brought Estella up to be cold.



“You must know,
that I have no heart . . .
I have no softness there,
no sympathy.
Are you scared?”

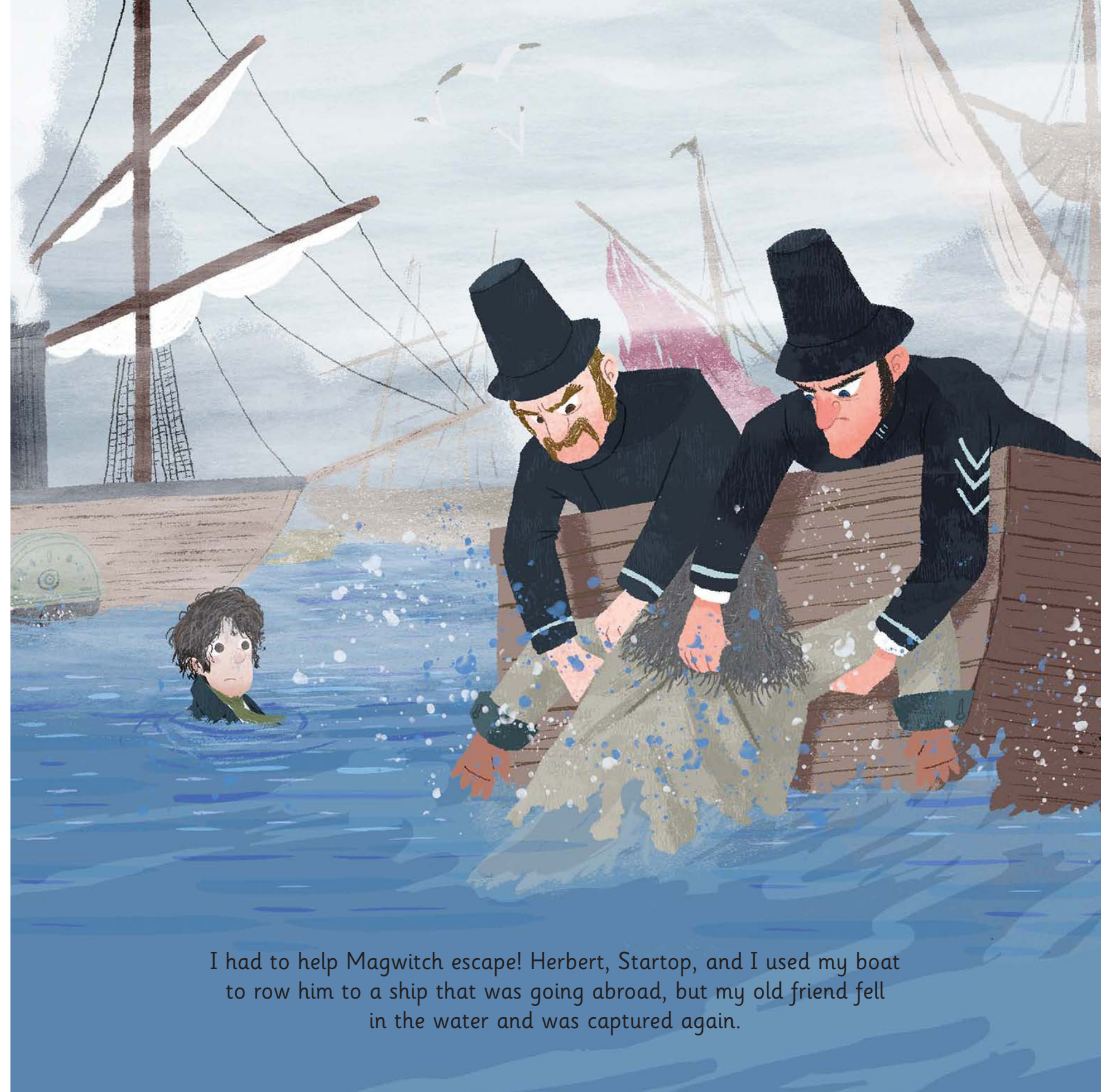
“I should be,
if I believed
what you said
just now.”



Herbert and I got to know Magwitch. He told us about his long-lost daughter.
Suddenly, I realized that he was talking about Estella!



Magwitch had changed, but in England he would always be known as a criminal.



I had to help Magwitch escape! Herbert, Startop, and I used my boat
to row him to a ship that was going abroad, but my old friend fell
in the water and was captured again.