

Randy's parents were remodeling their living room. They'd already replaced the windows and painted the walls. Now all they needed was a new rug to put on the floor.

Randy's mom was very excited about getting a new rug. She had to wait for a few weeks for the messy painting to be done. Now she invited Randy along to help pick out the rug.

Randy gasped when they walked through the doors of the carpet shop. Rolls of carpet lined the walls, and rugs covered the floor. Some rugs cost a lot of money, and some rugs were cheap. Randy knew his mom wanted something in between.

Randy followed his mom around the shop as she looked. His eyes wandered around the shop and landed on a colorful rug laid out on the floor. The rug had a huge chair on each corner and a couch in the middle. A row of tassels lined each end of the rug. As Randy watched, the rug seemed to quiver under the weight of the four chairs and the couch. Surely, he must be seeing things. Randy took a step closer, but a salesman stopped him.

"Hello, lad," he said. "You don't want to buy that rug. That rug is very old and very ugly."

Just then, the chair on the far left corner of the rug wobbled off the rug and fell to the floor. The salesman smiled, took Randy by the arm, and led him away. He showed Randy and his mom a very boring brown rug that both he and his mom hated.

"What about this rug?" Randy's mom asked as she pointed to the colorful rug with the tassels. "How much is it?"

"It's not for sale," the salesman said.

"Then why is it in the shop?" asked Randy's mother. "Could we push aside the couch and chairs for a better look? I think I like it."

The salesman looked nervous, but he pushed aside the couch and chairs. The rug rippled once, and then laid flat.

"Yes," Randy's mother said. "I adore this rug. We'll take it."