

# Crazy Eddie Muldoon Stories

by Patrick F. McManus



Patrick had many friends growing up but none helped him get into more mischief than Crazy Eddie Muldoon.

The Muldoons lived at the farm next door to Patrick. Most of the implements of childhood mayhem could be easily constructed from materials found on the Muldoon farm property.

Here is a complete list of all 37 stories telling the exploits of Patrick and Crazy Eddie found in the 13 volumes of McManus's collected stories.

## Another Boring Day

Crazy Eddie Muldoon and Patrick can't think of anything to do on a boring summer day. After running through their usual list of pranks, they remember Buster's canoe. They just want to put it in the water and sit in it, but when Buster comes along they have to row for their lives. Their escape route leads through a pasture with a wild bull.

*How I Got This Way*

## At Loose Ends

Patrick's knot-tying experience began in the Cub Scouts. As ten-year-old boys, he and Crazy Eddie Muldoon played their tying-up game, and Patrick won by tying Eddie to a cast-iron frame. The thing to remember about rope is there is never enough—it is always six inches too short, so all that knot-tying experience comes in handy.

*The Night The Bear Ate Goombaw*

## Big Woods, The

Mr. Muldoon takes Crazy Eddie and Pat into the Big Woods to pick dewberries. It's a pleasant outing until Crazy Eddie's imagination makes everyone jumpy.

*How I Got This Way*

## Bush Pilots, The

On the heels of a failed deep-sea-diving experiment, Crazy Eddie Muldoon and Pat decide to become bush pilots, building a plane and taking the maiden flight off the barn roof.

*Never Sniff a Gift Fish*

## Cereal Crime

Crazy Eddie Muldoon finally receives his Famous Detective Crime-Solving Kit after sending in his five thousand box tops from Yum-Yum cereal boxes. With his kit he is able to solve the mystery of who stole Mrs. Swisher's flower pot.

*Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing*

## Christmas Hatchet, The

One of the most longed-for presents of Pat's childhood was a hatchet. When they were eight years old, both he and Crazy Eddie Muldoon received one for Christmas.

*Never Sniff a Gift Fish*

## Crash Dive!

In a summer of many exploits, Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon build a submarine and test it in the duck pond.

*Real Ponies Don't Go Oink!*

## Culinary Magic

Not many people are as gifted as Pat when it comes to cooking. One more thing to be grateful for.

*The Bear in the Attic*

## Edgy Rider

Having only pigs and cows to ride as a child, it isn't until he is an adult that Pat finally gets a horse—but it ends up being only for his children.

*Never Sniff a Gift Fish*

## For Crying Out Loud!

Now that it's okay for men to cry (it is, isn't it?) and express their feelings, Pat looks back on his life and all the miserable experiences and ponders how good it would have felt to let it all out.

*Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing*

## Good Deed Goes Wrong, A

Rancid Crabtree is inexplicably upset with Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon after riding their toboggan run and receiving their gift of a road-killed bobcat.

*Real Ponies Don't Go Oink!*

*The Deer on a Bicycle*

## Grasshopper Trap, The

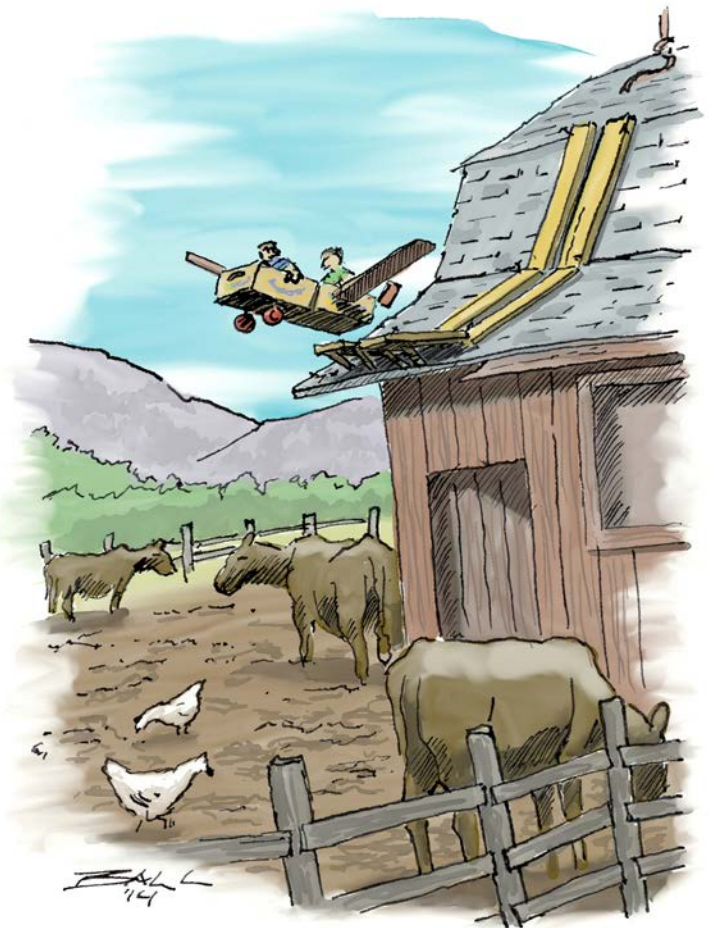
Finally, one of Crazy Eddie Muldoon's ideas for a contraption actually works. With Rancid Crabtree's help, they build a grasshopper trap that works, in some ways, even better than they imagined. In other ways, not quite.

*The Grasshopper Trap*

## Kindest Cut of All, The

Newcomer to Kelly's Bar & Grill, Hal Figby, commits an inexcusable breach of etiquette by asking Retch Sweeney how he got a scar. Never ask an outdoorsman how he got a scar.

*Never Sniff a Gift Fish*



## Mean Tents

Patrick describes the various tents that have tormented him throughout his life. In particular, he tells of shooting arrows through Cousin Buck's new tent, and the time he and Crazy Eddie were mistaken for a mummy late one night in the Muldoon's kitchen.

*The Grasshopper Trap*  
*The Deer on a Bicycle*

## Mountain, The

Enduring the torture of third grade in April, Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon decide to climb the mountain overlooking their hometown.

*Rubber Legs and White Tail-Hairs*  
*Never Cry "Arp!"*

## Mountain Men

Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon always wanted to be mountain men but there was no one to teach them. Then amazingly they find out that one lives nearby, but everyone lives in fear of him. His name is Rancid Crabtree, and after they survive their first encounter with him they think he might be persuaded to teach them his ways.

*Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing*

## Muldoon in Love

The lovely Miss Deets's tenure as third-grade teacher was a short one. Her ill-fated idea of Show and Tell began well enough, but when the poor kids brought in their "most interesting possessions," the end was not far away.

*Rubber Legs and White Tail-Hairs*  
*Never Cry "Arp!"*  
*The Deer on a Bicycle*

## Never Cry "Arp!"

As kids, Patrick and Crazy Eddie Muldoon were always getting injured, but Eddie's injuries were so frequent they were layered on each other. And of course, crying was against the rules so they relied on many other noises and expressions.

*The Night The Bear Ate Goombaw*  
*Never Cry "Arp!"*

## Night the Bear Ate Goombaw, The

When the Muldoons invite Patrick to go camping, his mom makes him take along an old fur coat to ward off the chill of the cold mountain night. This leads to a problem of mistaken identity.

*The Night The Bear Ate Goombaw*  
*Never Cry "Arp!"*  
*The Deer on a Bicycle*

## Nude, with Other Wildlife

From an early age, Patrick wanted to be a wildlife artist. One day he and Crazy Eddie Muldoon discovered there was an actual wildlife sculptor nearby, whose medium was chewing gum.

*Rubber Legs and White Tail-Hairs*

## Of Fire and the Night

Typically, Patrick is inept at starting campfires. But there was a time when he and Crazy Eddie Muldoon did manage to set a stump pile on fire.

*The Bear in the Attic*



## Pigs

Returning from a fishing trip, Pat, Retch Sweeney, and Al Finley, find a farmer selling pigs for \$7 apiece. Unable to pass up such a good deal they load up six of them in gunny sacks. Bedlam ensues. Of course.

*Rubber Legs and White Tail-Hairs*

## Real Ponies Don't Go Oink!

Old Tom was not exactly the kind of horse Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon had in mind while wishing for a pony.

*Real Ponies Don't Go Oink!  
Never Cry "Arp!"*

## Really Nice Blizzard, A

When school gets canceled because of a blizzard, Rancid Crabtree shows Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon the proper way to ride an upside-down truck fender while wearing a parachute.

*Rubber Legs and White Tail-Hairs  
Never Cry "Arp!"*

## Risk Assessment

Pat reflects on the many times he ran risk assessments (or failed to) on his outdoor adventures.

*The Horse in My Garage*

## Secret Places

Throughout his life, Pat has had hundreds of secret places. Two in particular stand out: the Muldoon's garage and a bend on Sand Creek.

*Real Ponies Don't Go Oink!  
Never Cry "Arp!"*

## Shooting Lesson, The

Their own parents being unwilling to let Crazy Eddie Muldoon and Pat anywhere near a gun, their first shooting lesson was given by crazy Mr. Pritchard.

*The Bear in the Attic*

## Skunk Ladder, The

Of the many things Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon hoped to catch in their wild animal trap, a skunk and Eddie's father were not among them.

*The Grasshopper Trap*

## Sling Bleed

Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon discover that it's easier to make a sling than to use one. But when their nemesis, Olga Bonemarrow, comes along on her bike, Eddie slings a dirt clod in her general direction...

*The Bear in the Attic*

## Smoke!

Pipe smoking has been a source of both pleasure (for Pat) and irritation (for Bun). Pat reflects on how pipe smoking helped him become a professor and the gravitas it lends him as an angler.

*Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing*

## Snow Cave, The

While Pat and Bun were taking a shortcut through the mountains in a blizzard, Pat was reminded of the time he and Crazy Eddie Muldoon built a snow cave during a blizzard in their youth.

*The Bear in the Attic*

## Stone Soup

When Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon run away from home to hop a freight train they meet two hoboes who teach them a few of the ropes, the most important being the use of a soup stone.

*The Grasshopper Trap*

## Stupidity Alarm, The

Patrick considers the benefit of a stupidity alarm, something that could warn you before doing that crazy thing you might be contemplating.

*Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing*

## There She Blows

Most kids in town collected boring stuff, but there was one who's parents gave him a model steam engine every year—model steam engines that actually worked! Thus inspired, Pat and Crazy Eddie Muldoon decide to build one of their own.

*How I Got This Way*

## Throwing Stuff

Walking along a beach one day with Bun, Patrick finds himself amidst the mother lode of throwing rocks. Of course, he remembers the wonderful projectiles of his youth—rotten eggs and dirt clods.

*Rubber Legs and White Tail-Hairs*

## Work and Other Horrors

To avoid a gambling debt, Uncle Flynn holes up with Rancid Crabtree. They come up with a scheme to con Rancid's sometime girlfriend, Ginger Ann, out of enough money to get Uncle Flynn back on his feet. Of course it doesn't go quite as planned.

*Into the Twilight, Endlessly Grousing*

## Wrestling Toads

Blight County seems to be the only place where wrestling toads can be found. A toad-wrestling match scheduled for recess gets derailed when the teacher, Mrs. Terwilliger, accidentally discovers Crazy Eddie Muldoon's toad.

*The Bear in the Attic*

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