

It All Started with a Pencil



MANAR MOUAFIAK

Once,

a little girl drew to feel less alone.

Now, she illustrates and writes so no child has to feel that way again.

I'm Manar, illustrator, writer, and a book designer.

My passion for children's books goes back as far as I can remember; they've always been a part of my life.



Illustrator

English: Fluent



Author

Arabic: Native



Book Designer

German: B2





MANAR MOUAFAK

ILLUSTRATOR



CONTACT

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HI@Manarmouafak.com

Lärchenhof 1, 99427 Weimar, Germany.

SKILLS

Illustration

Indesign

Storytelling

Writing

LANGUAGES

English

Arabic

German

Fluent

Native

Good "B2"

Education

VOCATIONAL TRAINING
IN COMMUNICATION DESIGN

KW Design Academy
Hamburg

2022 - 2026

GERMAN VOCATIONAL PRIVATE
PROGRAM COMBINING THEORY AND
PRACTICE IN VISUAL DESIGN,
ILLUSTRATION, AND EDITORIAL.

Experience

CHILDREN'S BOOK ILLUSTRATION

I specialize in illustrating children's stories with a focus on emotional depth, charming characters, and imaginative scenes. My illustrations aim to capture the hearts of young readers while supporting the narrative visually and expressively.

CHILDREN'S BOOK LAYOUT DESIGN

I have hands-on experience designing complete children's books using Adobe InDesign. I handle everything from page layout and text integration, ensuring a smooth balance between illustration, text, and white space.

MULTILINGUAL AND CROSS-CULTURAL ILLUSTRATION PROJECTS

As a trilingual illustrator, I work across languages and cultures, creating illustrations that resonate with diverse audiences.

New Message

From: Hi@ManarMouafak.com

Subject Children's Book Illustrator Portfolio Submission

Dear Agency,

I am reaching out to submit my portfolio for your consideration, with the hope of joining your Agency as a children's book illustrator.

My work focuses on illustration for young audiences, and I am currently seeking agency representation to grow within the publishing industry through professional, long-term collaborations.

I've attached my portfolio for your review. If you feel that my illustration style aligns with your agency's vision, I'd be happy to explore the possibility of working together.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Warm regards,
Manar Mouafak
ManarMouafak .com

Send

INVOICE

Nr. 001

Invoice To:

Taylor Sanchez
00491754618789

Invoice Date:

28.08.2025

Service	Price	QTY	Total
- Children's book illustration (Double page spread)	350€	16	5600€
- Full Cover Design (front, back, spine):	600€	1	600€
- Complete Book Layout	800€	1	800€
- Revisions	50€	1	50€

Bank Details:

(Payment due within 14 days.)

Manar Ali
IBAN DE17 1001 0010 0255 5021 26
BIC PBNKDEFF

Subtotal 7050€
VAT (0%)
Total 7050€
No VAT due to §19 UStG

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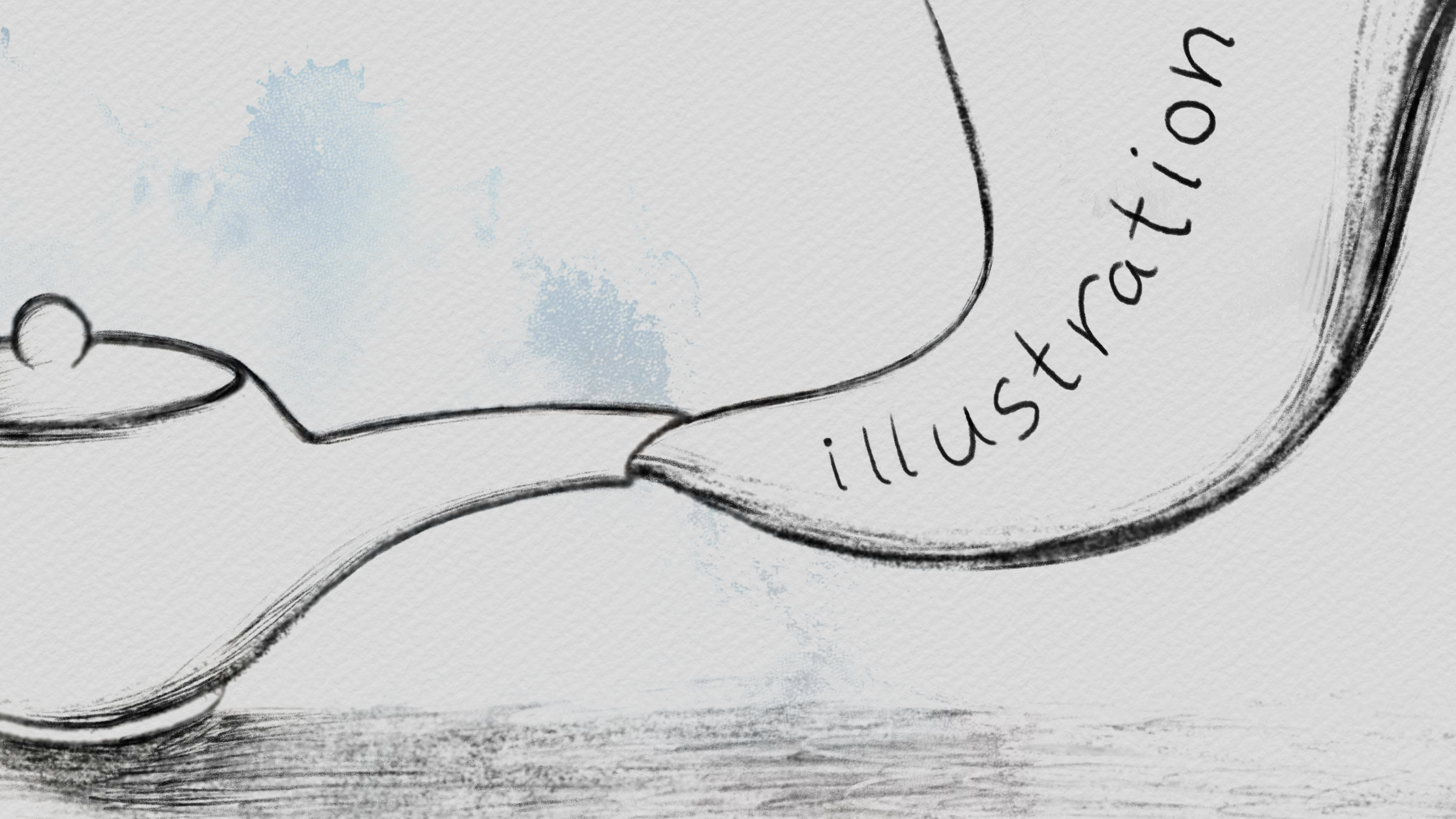
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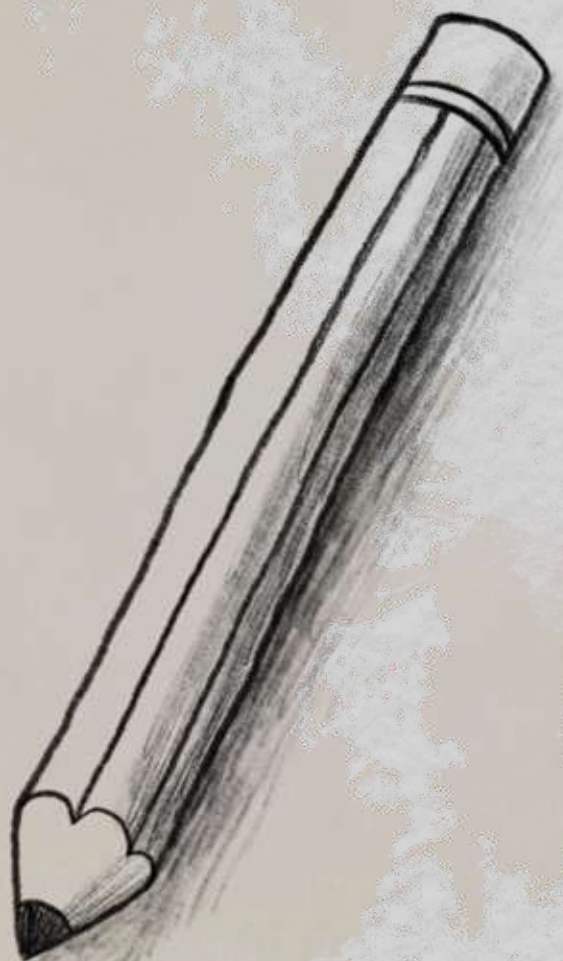
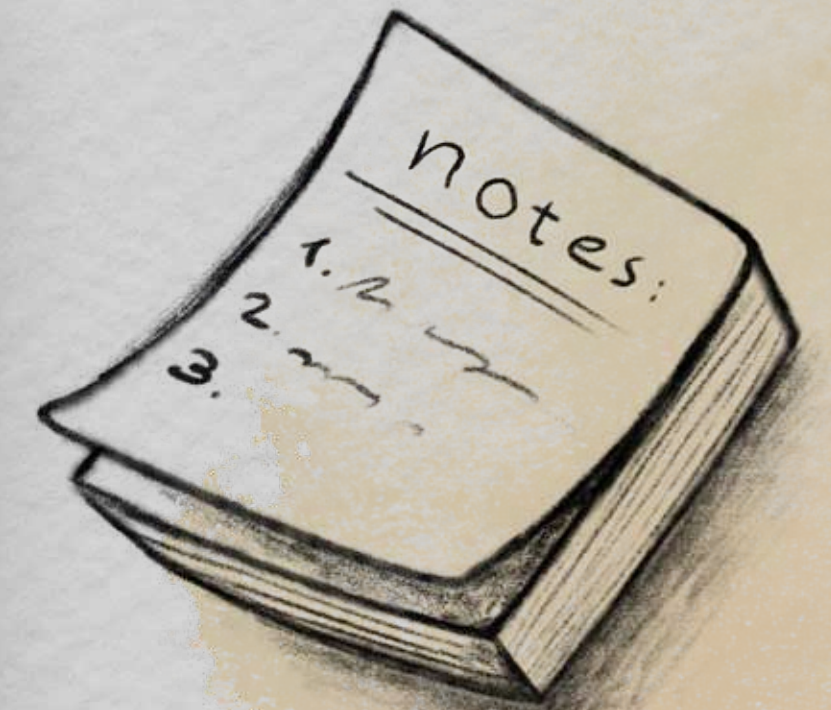


illustration

When Ryan said things like, "Can't you hear me, turtle lookalike?" or "I know you can hear me, broccoli head," Sam acted as if Ryan wasn't sitting beside him at all. This made Ryan furious, and his face turned red.



He eventually shouted at Sam, desperate for any kind of reaction. The teacher overheard him, called Ryan over, and sent him to detention for disturbing Sam.

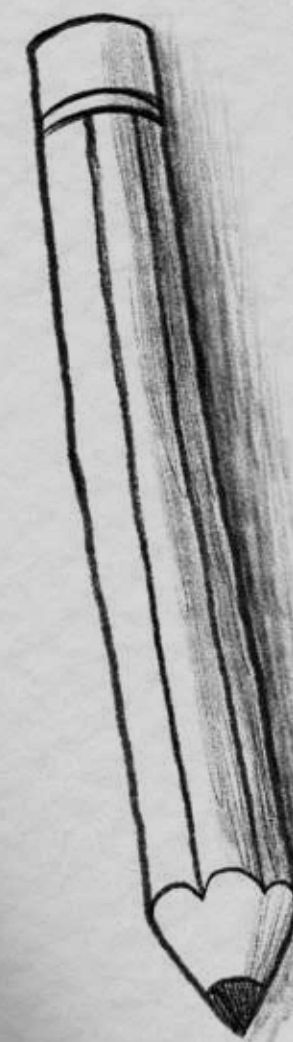


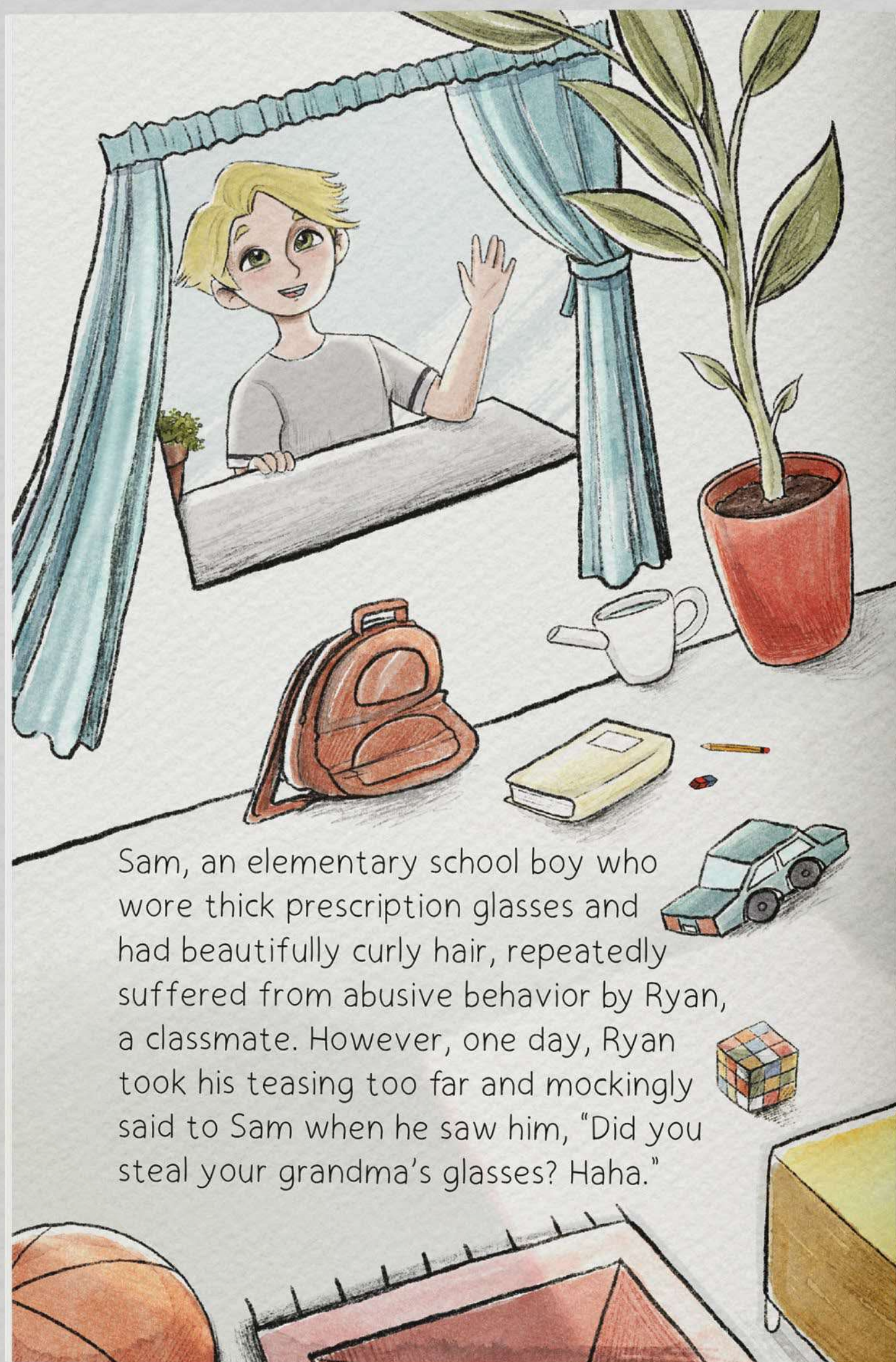


Or maybe he'll start thinking of you as a friend instead of an enemy. However, if he keeps saying the same sort of things without stopping, you can show him that you can respond with confidence, calmness, and strong body language. Perhaps say, 'Actually, I borrowed them from a genius scientist. Maybe if you tried them on, you'd become smarter!'



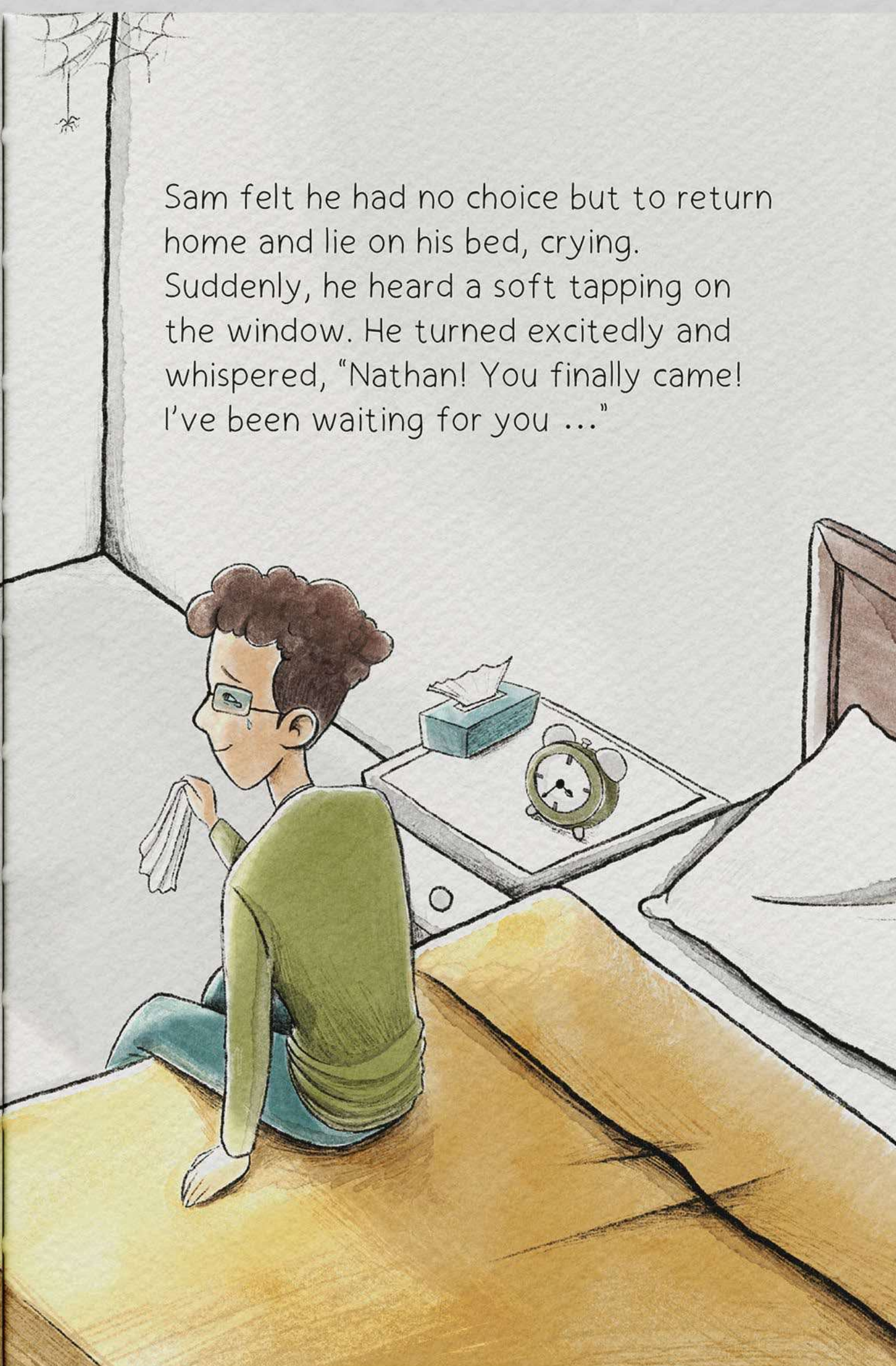
Sam laughed loudly but then suddenly stopped and asked, "But what if this answer provokes him, and he attacks me? Wouldn't that make things worse?" Nathan replied, "That's possible, but in that case, the bullying would shift from verbal to physical. If he pushes you, you must immediately regain your balance and not show him that you're weak or scared. Instead, look straight into his eyes steadily and strongly. Never





Sam, an elementary school boy who wore thick prescription glasses and had beautifully curly hair, repeatedly suffered from abusive behavior by Ryan, a classmate. However, one day, Ryan took his teasing too far and mockingly said to Sam when he saw him, "Did you steal your grandma's glasses? Haha."

Sam felt he had no choice but to return home and lie on his bed, crying. Suddenly, he heard a soft tapping on the window. He turned excitedly and whispered, "Nathan! You finally came! I've been waiting for you ..."





Ryan frowned and asked, "Where exactly is he?"



Sam turned toward the window and saw Nathan standing there. He said, "He's right there! Don't you see him?"

Ryan shook his head and replied, "You're scaring me ..."
Nathan signaled for Sam to come closer. Sam noticed Nathan's body blending into the sunlight.

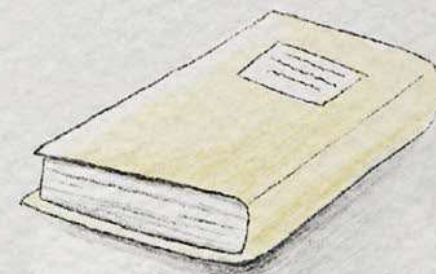




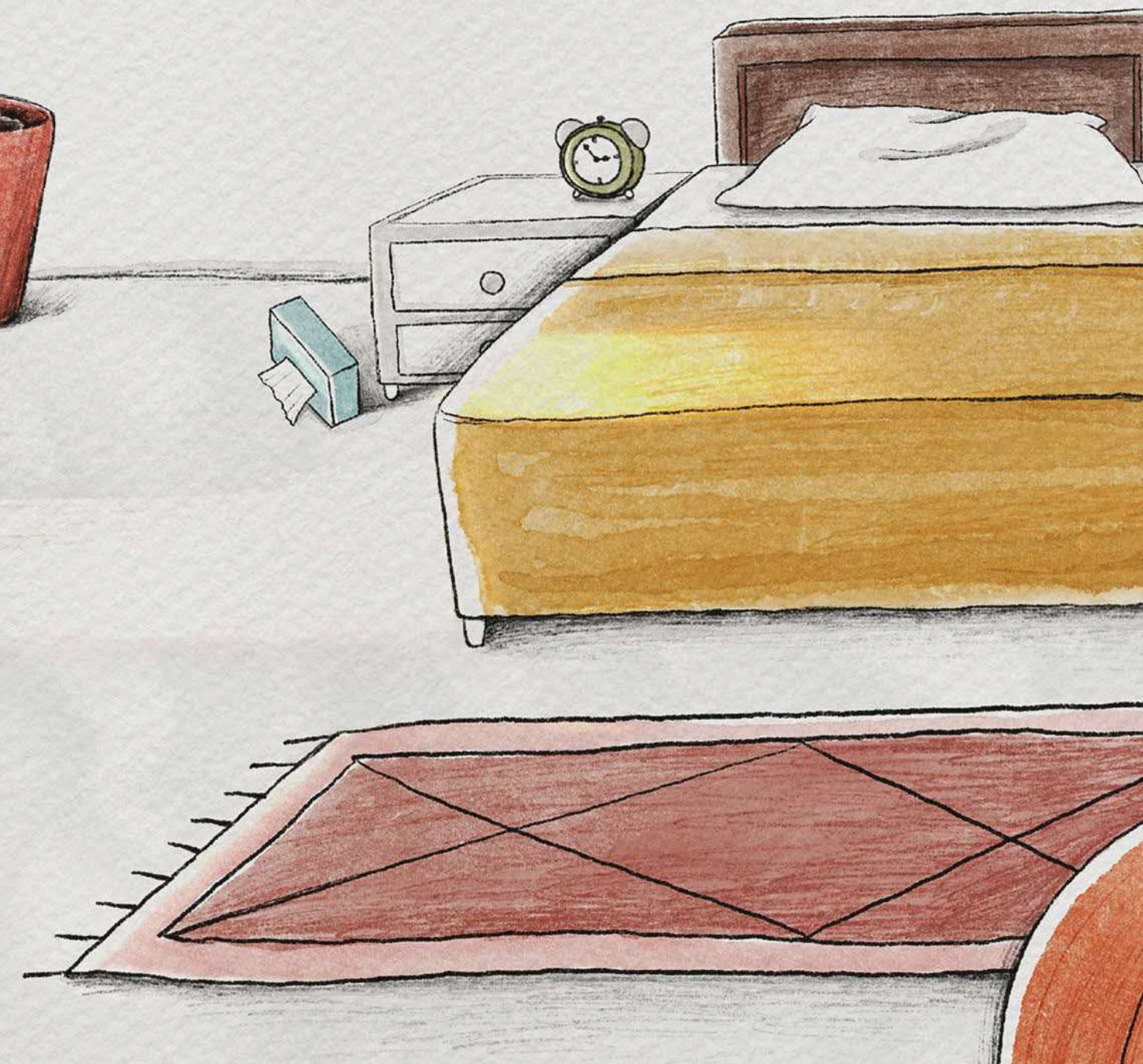
He sat beside Ryan in the lunch hall.
It was their first meal together and
certainly not their last.



Sam returned home bursting with
joy, eager to tell his window friend
everything. Nathan was waiting for him
by the window as he arrived, and Sam
excitedly began recounting all that had
happened.



Suddenly, there was a knock on the
door. Sam opened it, it was Ryan.
"Your mom let me in. I was wondering ...
can we study and play together?"
Sam hesitated and then said, "Maybe we
can play together, the three of us ...
this is my friend, Nathan."
He pointed toward the window.



"It's time for me to leave," Nathan said.
"You don't need me anymore."
With a gentle smile, he closed his eyes,
ready to disappear. Tears streamed
down Sam's face.
"Maybe I solved my problem, but now,
you won't play with me anymore!"

Nathan reassured him, "You have a real
friend now. I was never truly here. I was
just an image in your mind, created by
you for a single purpose, which I have
fulfilled. But don't worry, whenever you
need me, I'll always be there in your
subconscious. Now, it's time for you to
live a real life with a real friend. Goodbye
..."

Nathan vanished into the air, leaving
nothing behind but his memory.

Sam said, "Alright, I'll try this tomorrow. Thank you for your advice."

The next day, Sam began his daily journey to school, feeling nervous. He kept repeating Nathan's words in his mind, afraid he might forget something. When he reached the school gate, he took a deep breath and walked in.

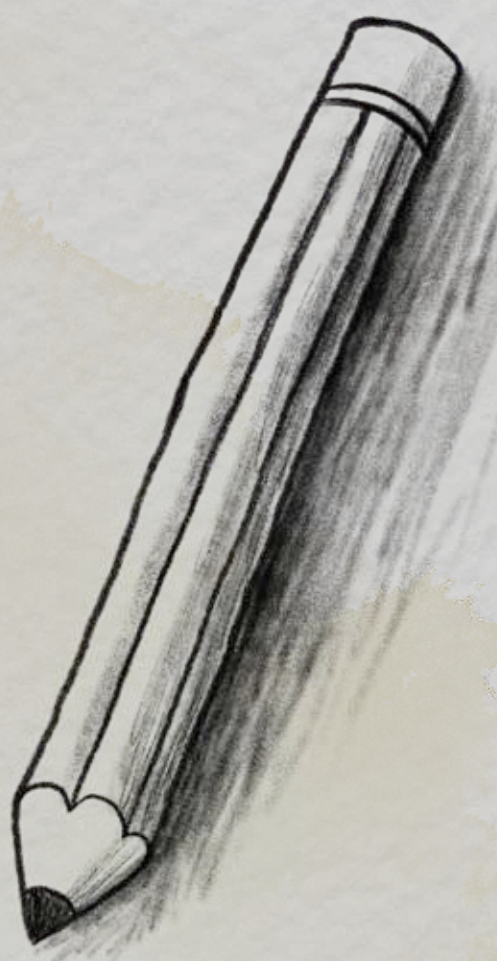
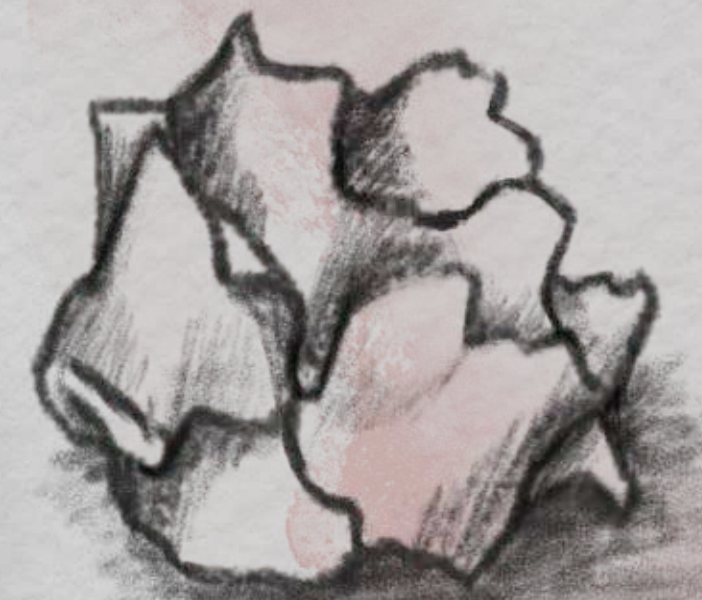
As Sam passed by Ryan without looking at him, Ryan smirked and said, "Hasn't your grandma noticed yet that you stole her glasses? Hahaha!"

Sam confidently laughed at Ryan's comment, which confused Ryan. He asked, "What are you laughing at? Is there something I don't understand?"



Sam replied exactly as Nathan had taught him, "Actually, I borrowed my glasses from a genius scientist. Maybe if you tried them on, you'd become smarter and understand!"

The other classmates around them burst into laughter at Ryan, embarrassing him. He lowered his head and walked away.







As Nathan had promised, he never truly disappeared from Sam's mind. He remained ever-present, his voice echoing in Sam's thoughts whenever he needed guidance.

Only then did Sam truly understand. Nathan hadn't vanished; he had merely transitioned from being an imaginary friend to becoming Sam's inner voice, one that would stay with him forever.

The Friend by the Window





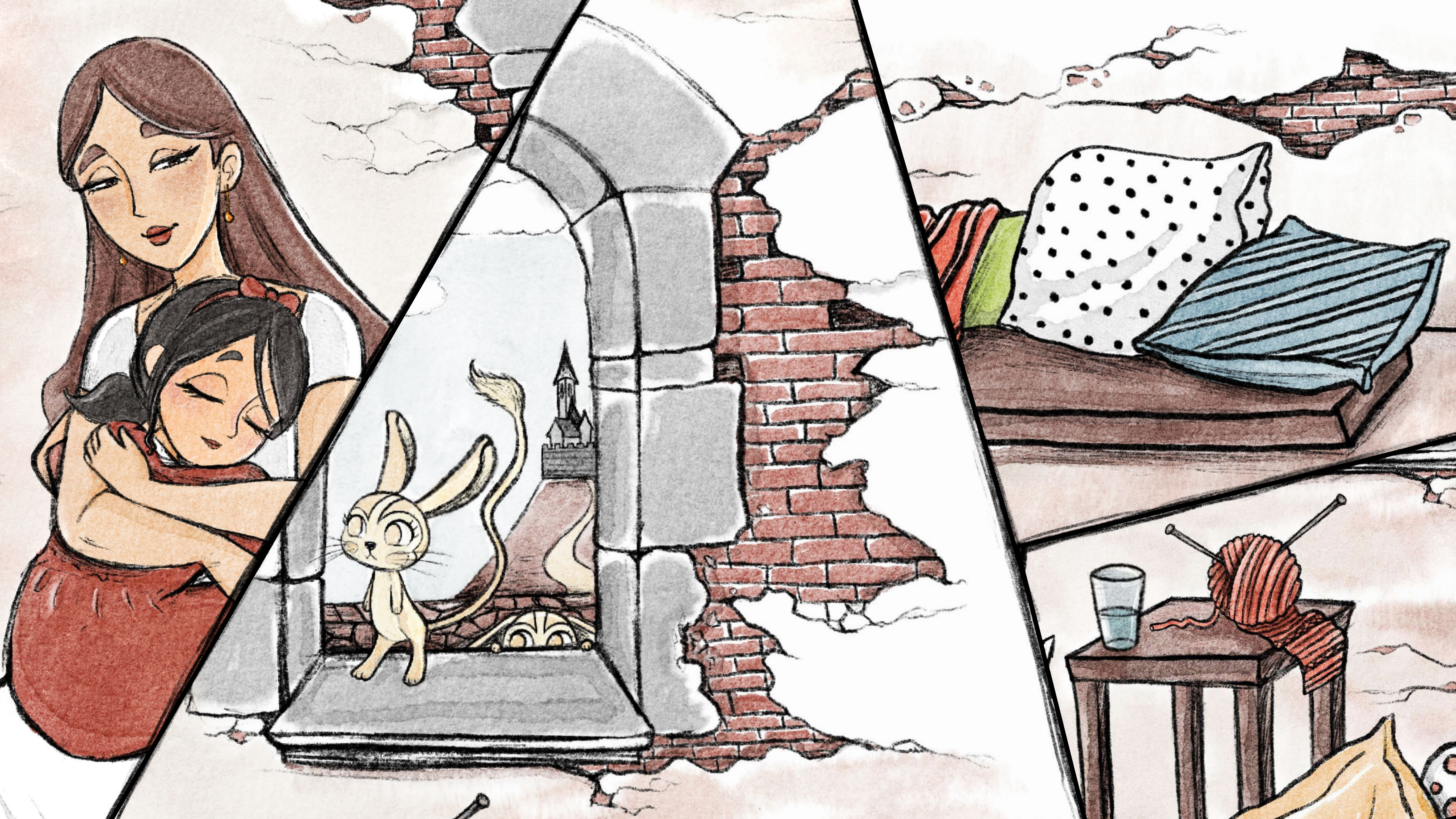
مملكة الرماد

في مملكة الرماد البعيدة، عاش أهلها دون ملك لمدة عام، كانت الأرض فيها قاحلة تعاني من تربة ميتة وجافة، لا ينمو فيها شيء ولا أشجار، كان سكان مملكة الرماد يشترون خضرواتهم من ممالك مجاورة بأسعار باهظة، لكنهم رغم ذلك كانوا أرضهم عند تولي ملك ذو قوى فريدة الحكم، ويقوّته العجبة تلك سينقذ تربة أرضهم من الجوع والفقر.

مملكتهم من مملكة الرماد كان هناك قاحلة منزل صغير مخفي عن الأنظار، مبني تحت على أطراف مملكة الرماد كان حوله أرض قاحلة موحشة، وكان يعيش في ذلك المنزل الأرض. كان فوقه وما حوله أرض قاحلة موحشة، ودودة وتحب مساعدة الغير، متصلة المنعزل قناة صغيرة تبلغ الخامسة من العمر مع والدتها ليلى.

كانت ليلى طيبة في مستشفي المملكة، حيث أنها لا تريد إزعاج الحيوانات الصحراوية بالطبيعة بشكل مبالغ به، حيث أنها لا تريد إزعاج الحيوانات الصحراوية ولم تمتلك يوماً تلفازاً أو هاتفاً نقال، فهي لا تريد إزعاج الحيوانات الصحراوية التي تعيش في الأرجاء.





ولكونها رقيقة القلب، قامت ذات مرة بعلاج يربوعاً جريحاً وأطعمته كل الخضروات التي اشترتها بثمن باهظ من مملكة مجاورة. امتازت ليلي أيضاً بصوت عذب وحنون، ودائماً ما كانت تغني لابنتها بينما تمسح على رأسها برقعة. كانت ابنتها تحب تلك الأوقات، خاصة حين تغني لها قبل النوم كل ما أرادته ليلي هو أن تبقى ابنتها سالمة وسعيدة، فاعتنت بها بكل ما أوتيت من قوة. حتى اتاها المرض فجأة دون سابق إنذار.



كانت الفتاة الصغيرة تحب والدتها حباً جماً، فانتظرتها أياماً حتى تشفى من مرضها، لكنها لم تتعاف بعد، وقد فرغت ثلاثة الطعام من أي شيء يؤكل. فقررت الفتاة الصغيرة الخروج للبحث عن طعام، لعلها تجد شيئاً تطعم به نفسها.

لسوء الحظ، لم تجد الفتاة الصغيرة أي شيء، فهي تعيش في مملكة ذو تربة ميتة قاحلة، لم تجرؤ الفتاة الصغيرة على الذهاب الى المتاجر البعيدة الموحشة لشترى بعض الطعام، فقد كانت خائفة ان تضيع وأنها لن تتمكن من العودة للمنزل.

لكنها قبل ان تلتفت عائدة، لمحت من بعيد منزلاً مهجوراً حوله أعشاب ونباتات على الرغم من كونها نادرة للغاية، انتابها الفضول، فمشيت نحو هذا المنزل ببطء.







one...
Two...
Th...

APRICOTINA

only
for
~~Grandpa~~
Andy

Tools
Box

APRICOTINA

During his visit, he always took
care of it,



played around it,

and kept anything that could
harm it away from it.

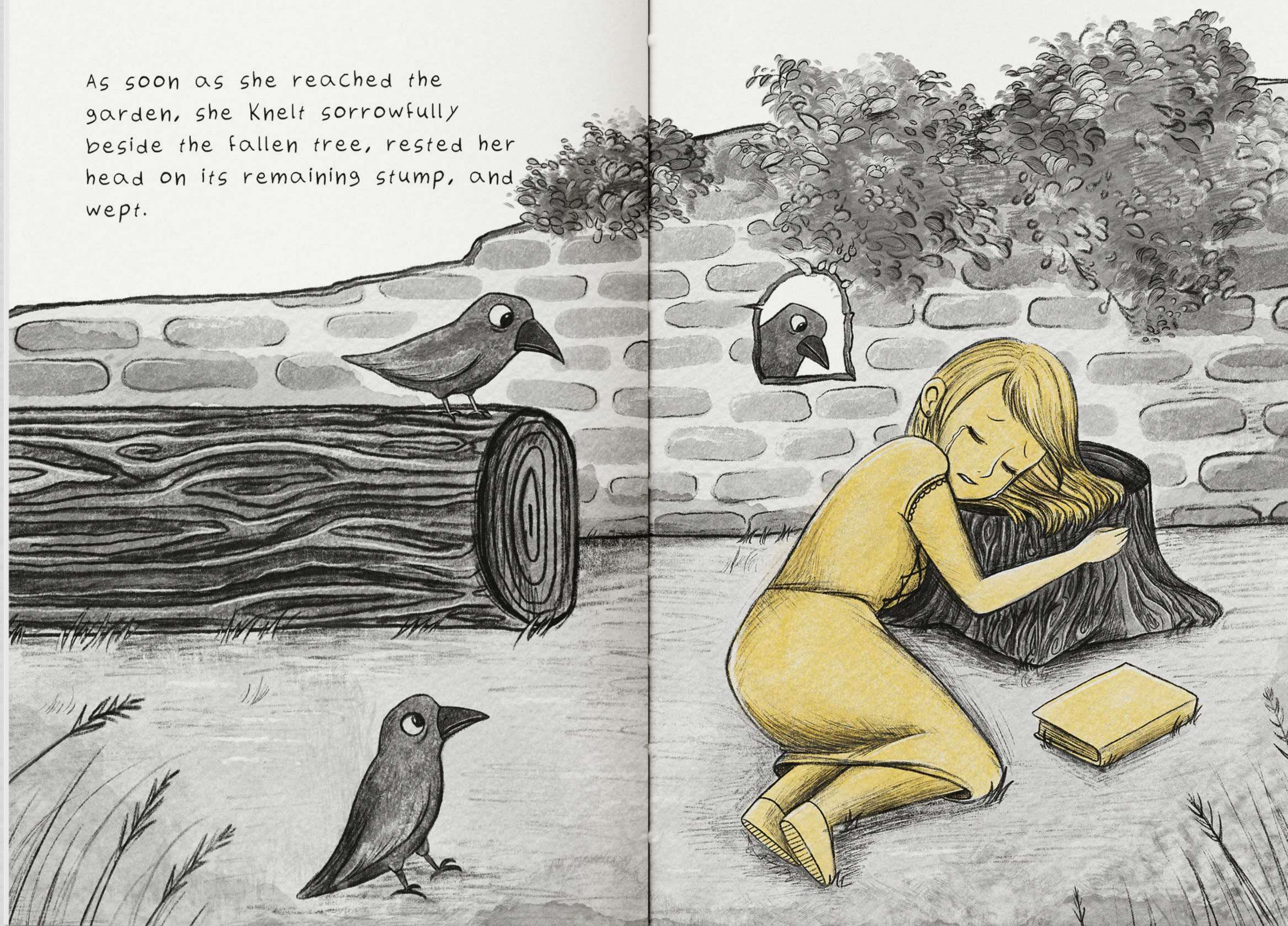


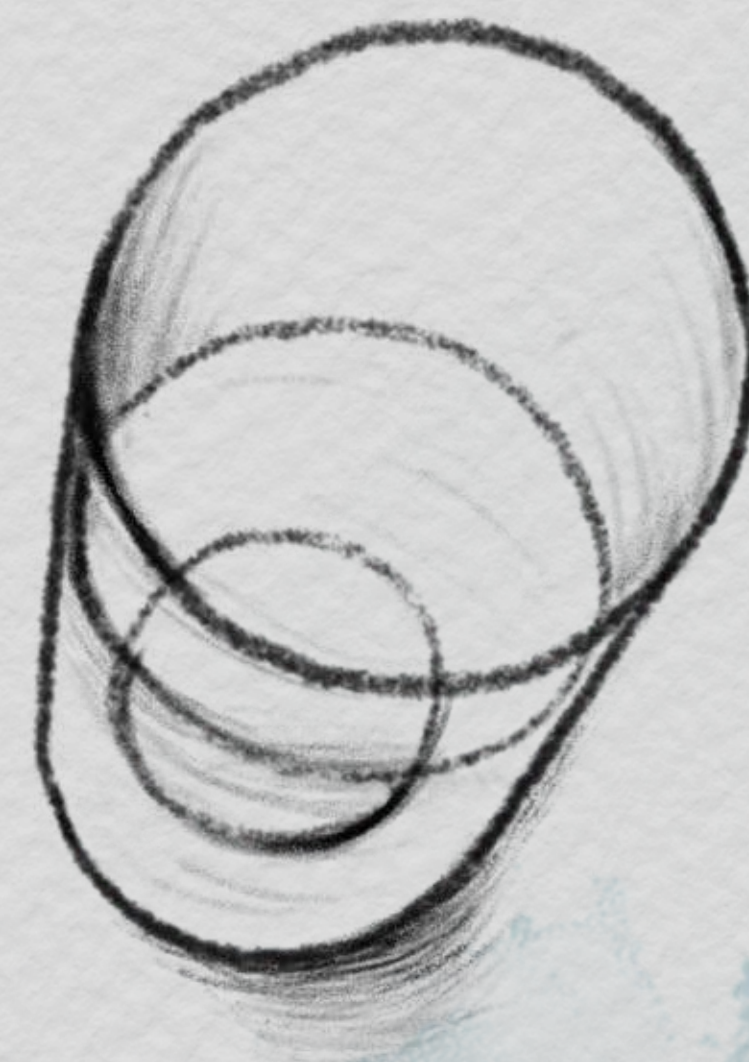


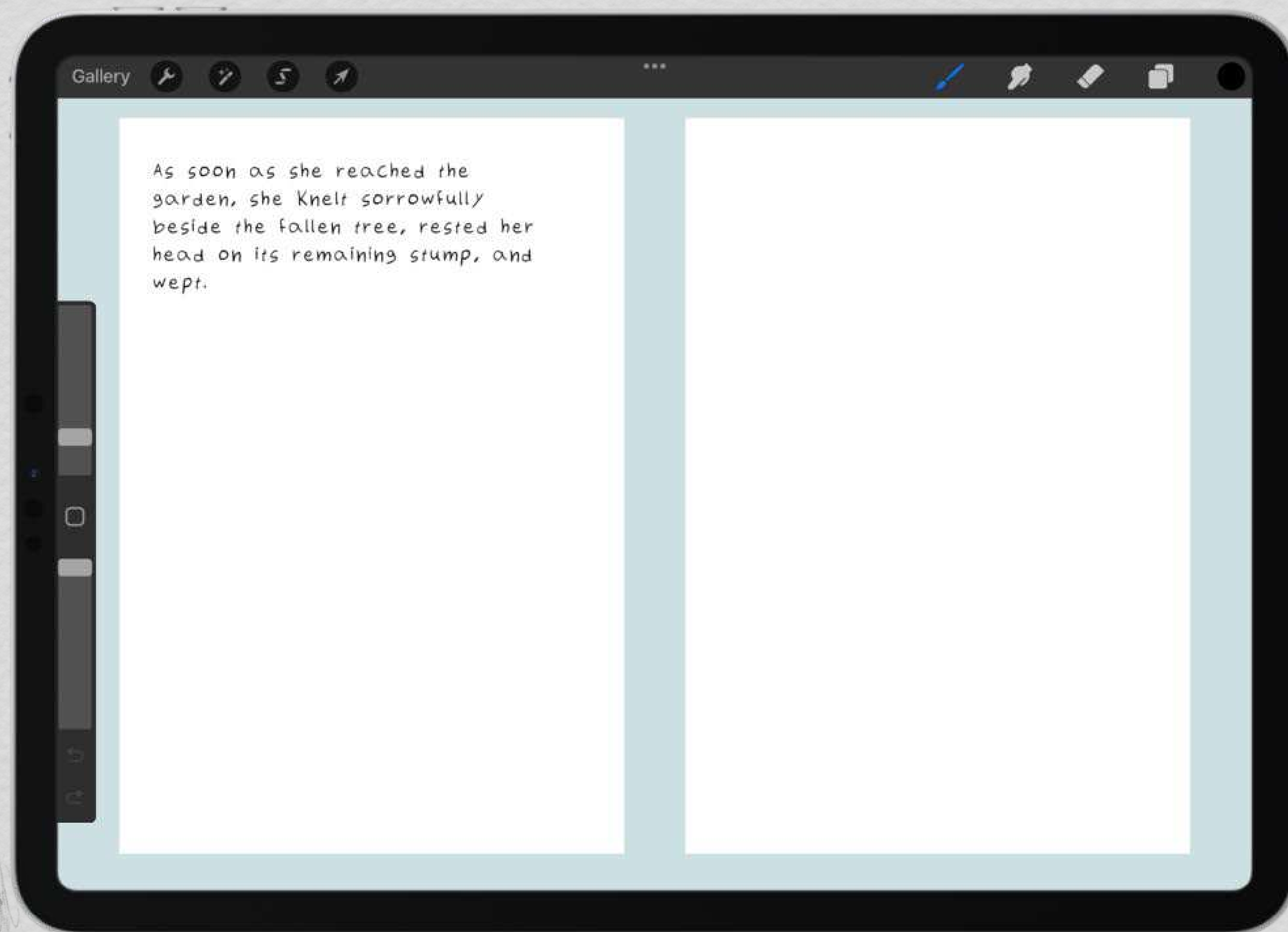




As soon as she reached the garden, she knelt sorrowfully beside the fallen tree, rested her head on its remaining stump, and wept.







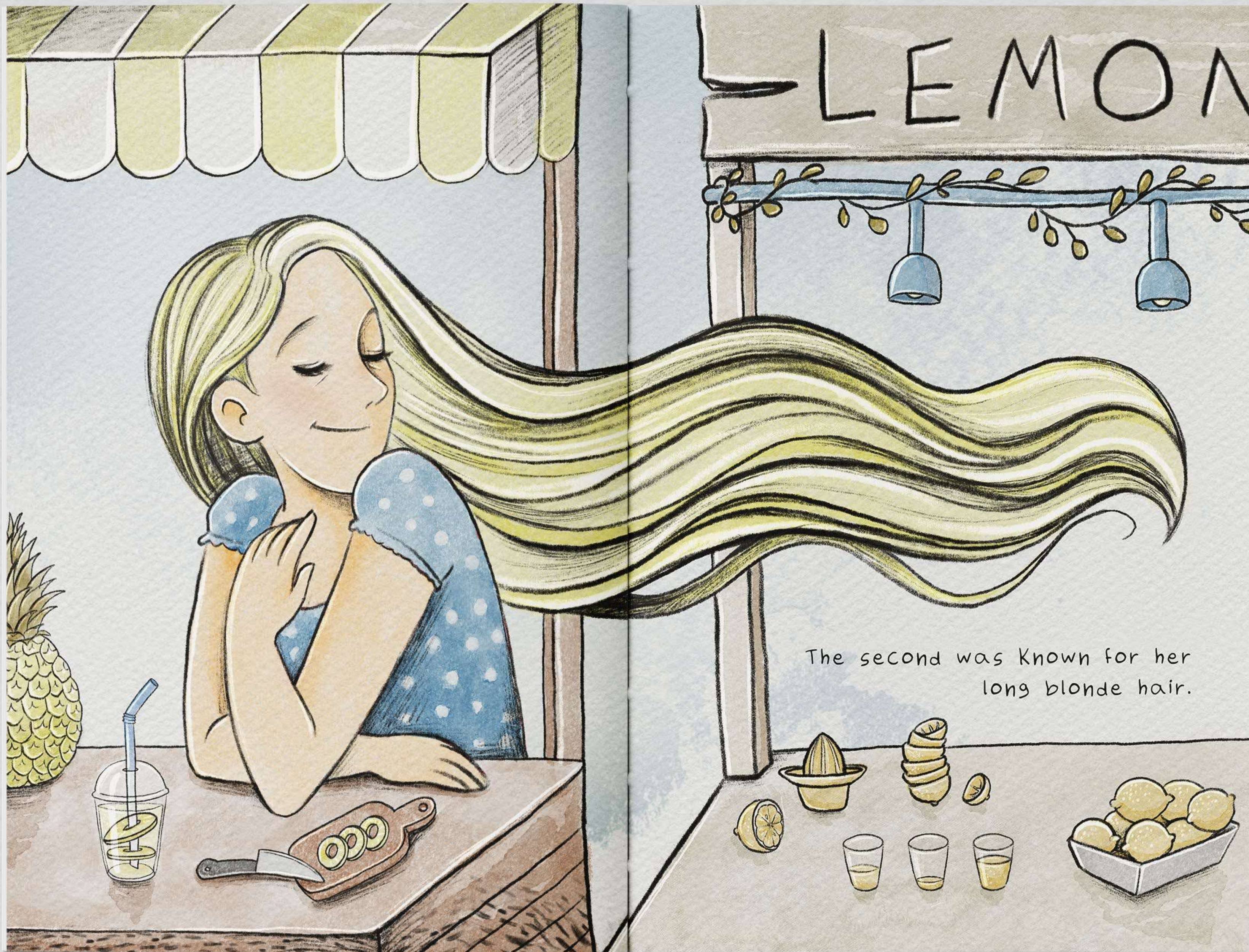




Linik thought it was all over.
She believed she would never
be accepted in this community
because she was different.



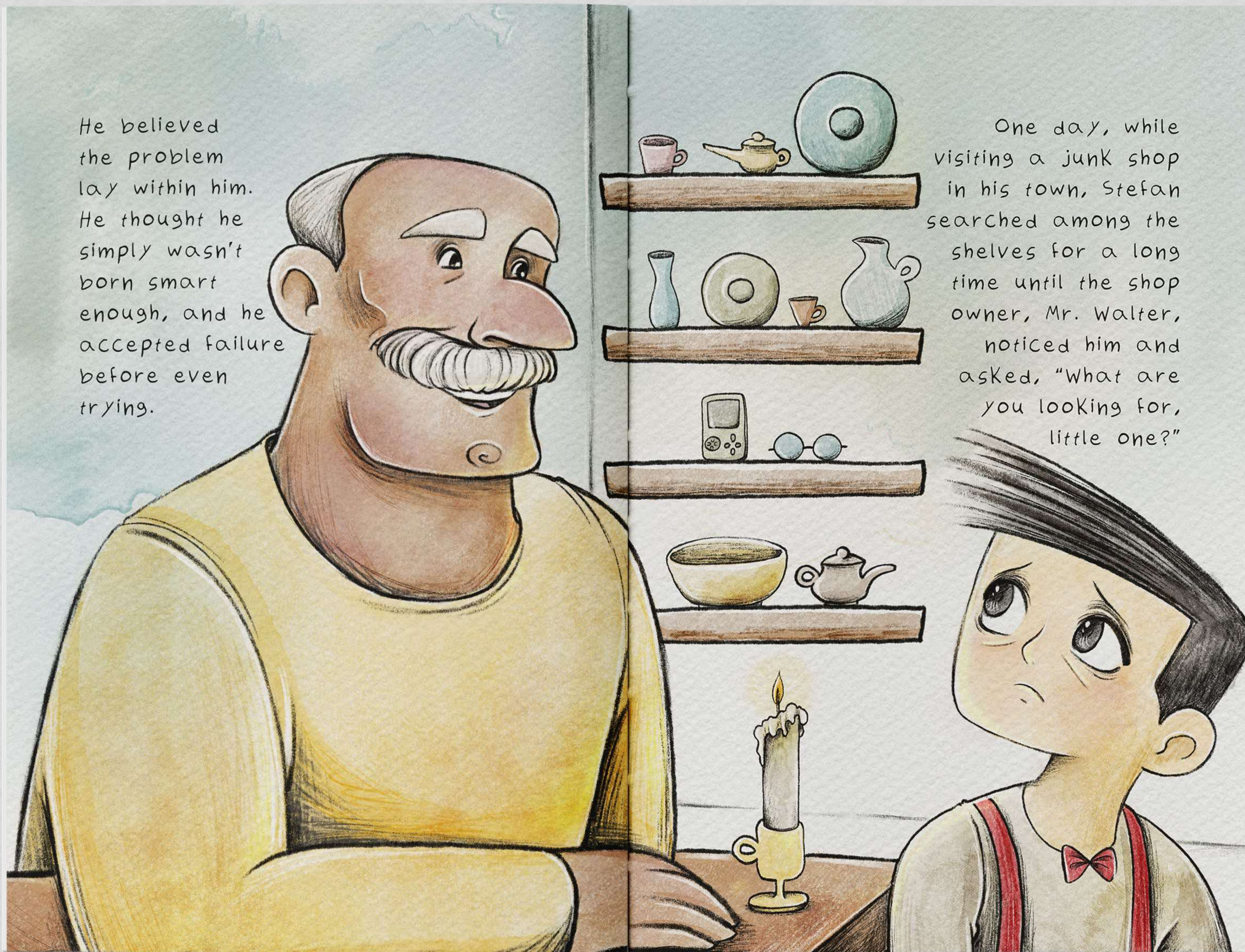




The second was known for her
long blonde hair.

He believed
the problem
lay within him.
He thought he
simply wasn't
born smart
enough, and he
accepted failure
before even
trying.

One day, while
visiting a junk shop
in his town, Stefan
searched among the
shelves for a long
time until the shop
owner, Mr. Walter,
noticed him and
asked, "What are
you looking for,
little one?"





website

Once,

a little girl drew to feel less alone.
Now, she illustrates and writes so no child has
to feel that way again.

I'm Manar, illustrator, writer, and
a book designer.

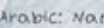
My passion for children's books goes back as
far as I can remember; they've always been
a part of my life.

 Illustrator

 English: Fluent

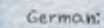


 Author

 Arabic: Native



 Book Designer

 German: B2





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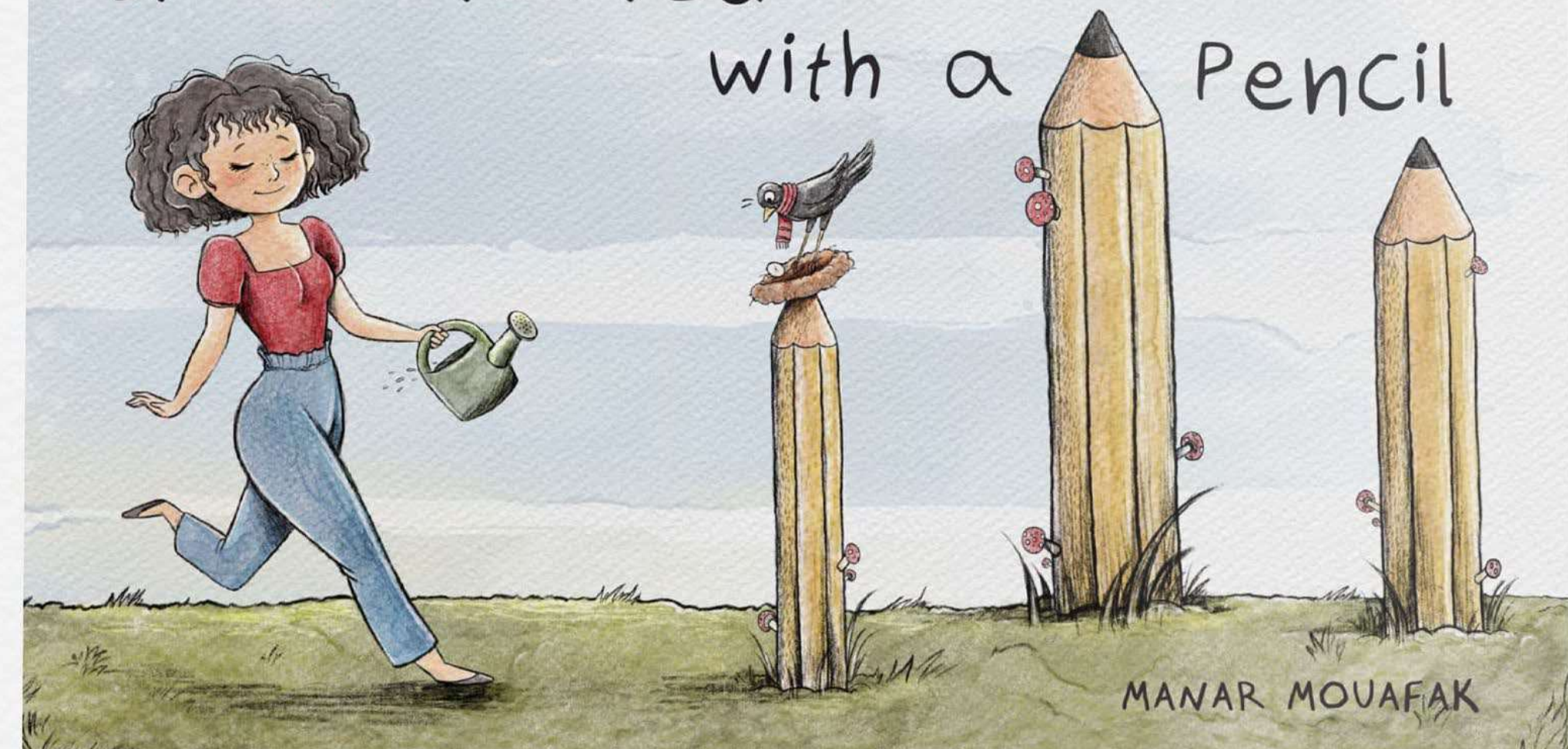
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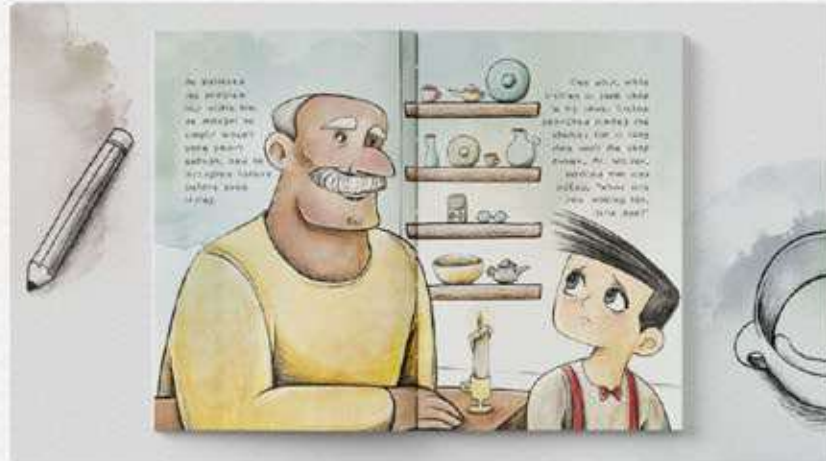
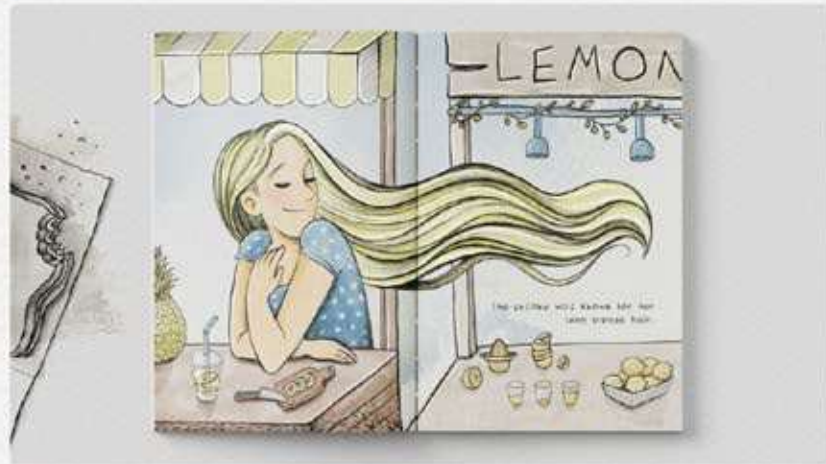
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It All Started with a Pencil



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manarmouafak.com/gallery/

Gallery

Children's Book Illustration Portfolio

A selection of my work for young readers.

If you're a publisher or literary agent interested in collaboration, I'd love to hear from you. Please reach out via the contact page.



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Whether you're painting landscapes, sketching characters, or adding soft textures and details, this set has everything you need:

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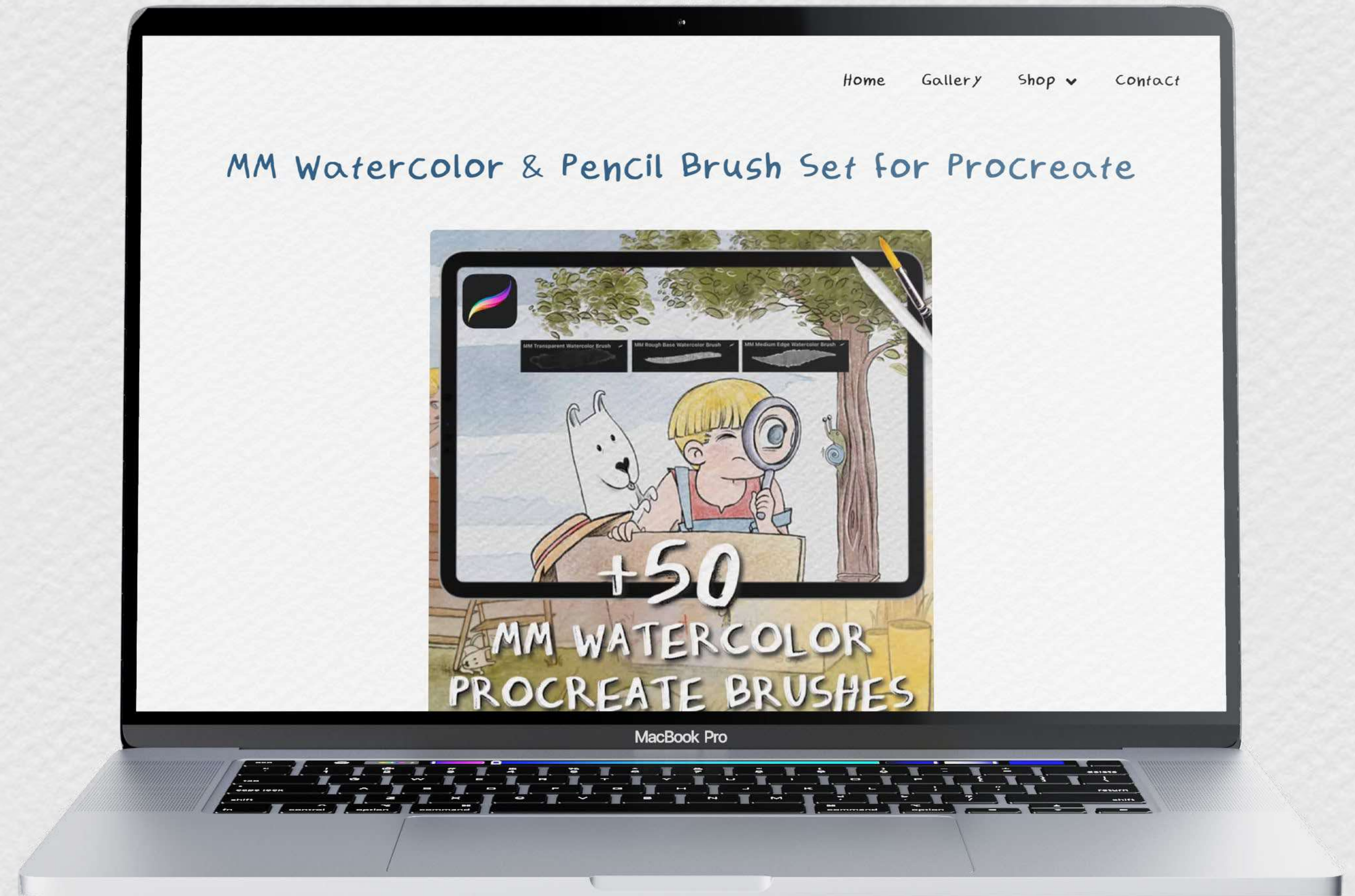


Who is it for?

Whether you're an experienced illustrator or just starting your artistic journey, this brush set is made to spark your imagination and make your digital art feel alive. Specially made for children's book illustrators who want soft and realistic textures.

As a children's book illustrator myself, I created these brushes to bring warmth and softness to my characters. I hope they help you bring your stories to life too.

manarmouafak.com/brushes/



maharmouafak.com/contact/



Please note:

I collaborate exclusively with art or literary agents and publishing houses; I am unable to accept private commissions from individuals. My focus is illustrating children's stories for readers of every age group. Literary agents who would also like to review a writing sample are warmly invited to get in touch, I will be delighted to share excerpts from my completed manuscripts.

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Number

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My Social Media accounts:

 [instagram.com/manarmouafak/](https://www.instagram.com/manarmouafak/)

 [youtube.com/@ManarMouafak](https://www.youtube.com/@ManarMouafak)

The End...

Or Is It?

Most stories end when the last word is told.

But this one, might just begin with your message.

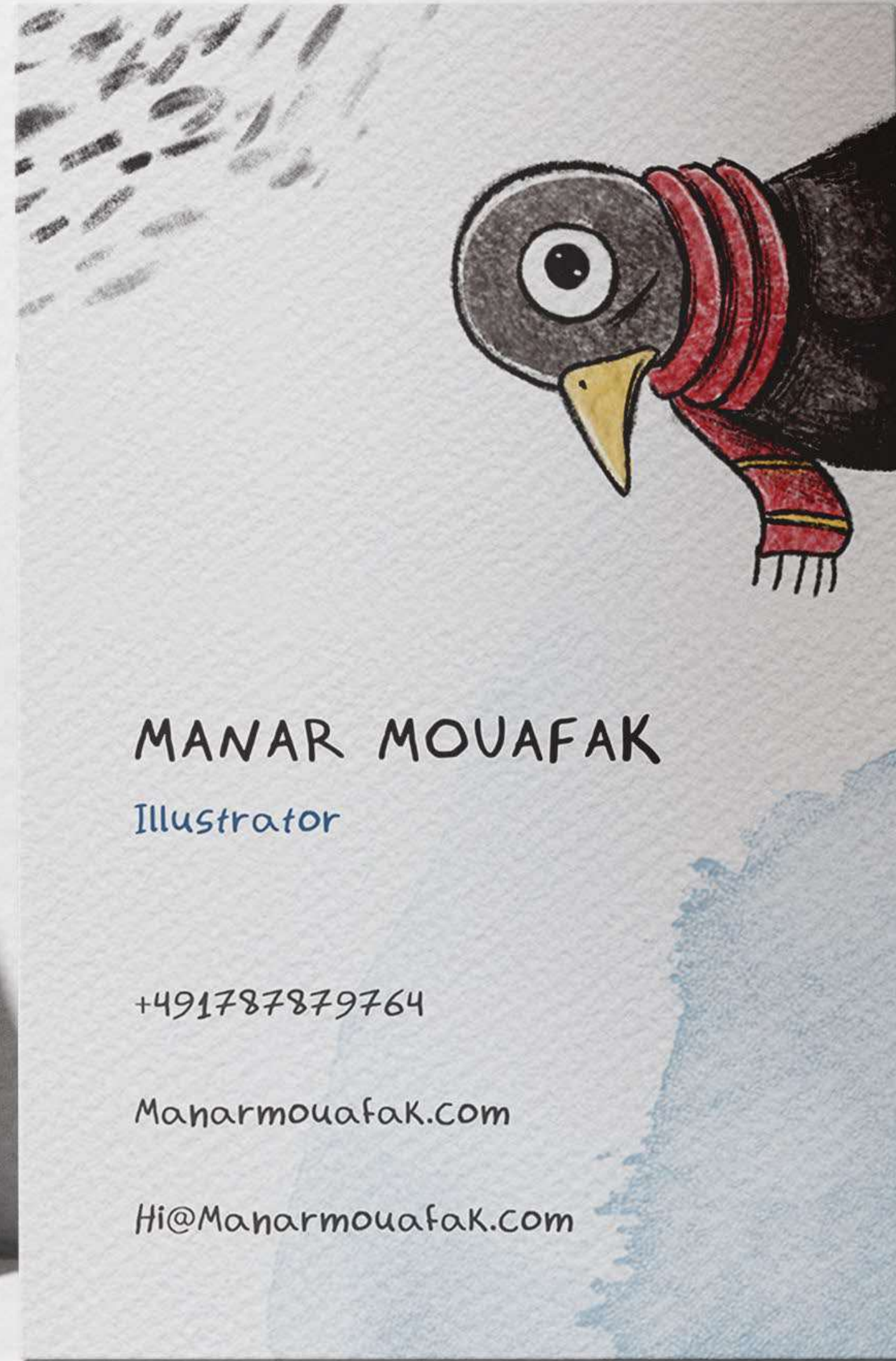
Let's make magic together.

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See
ya!

