

Why Birds Sing at Dawn

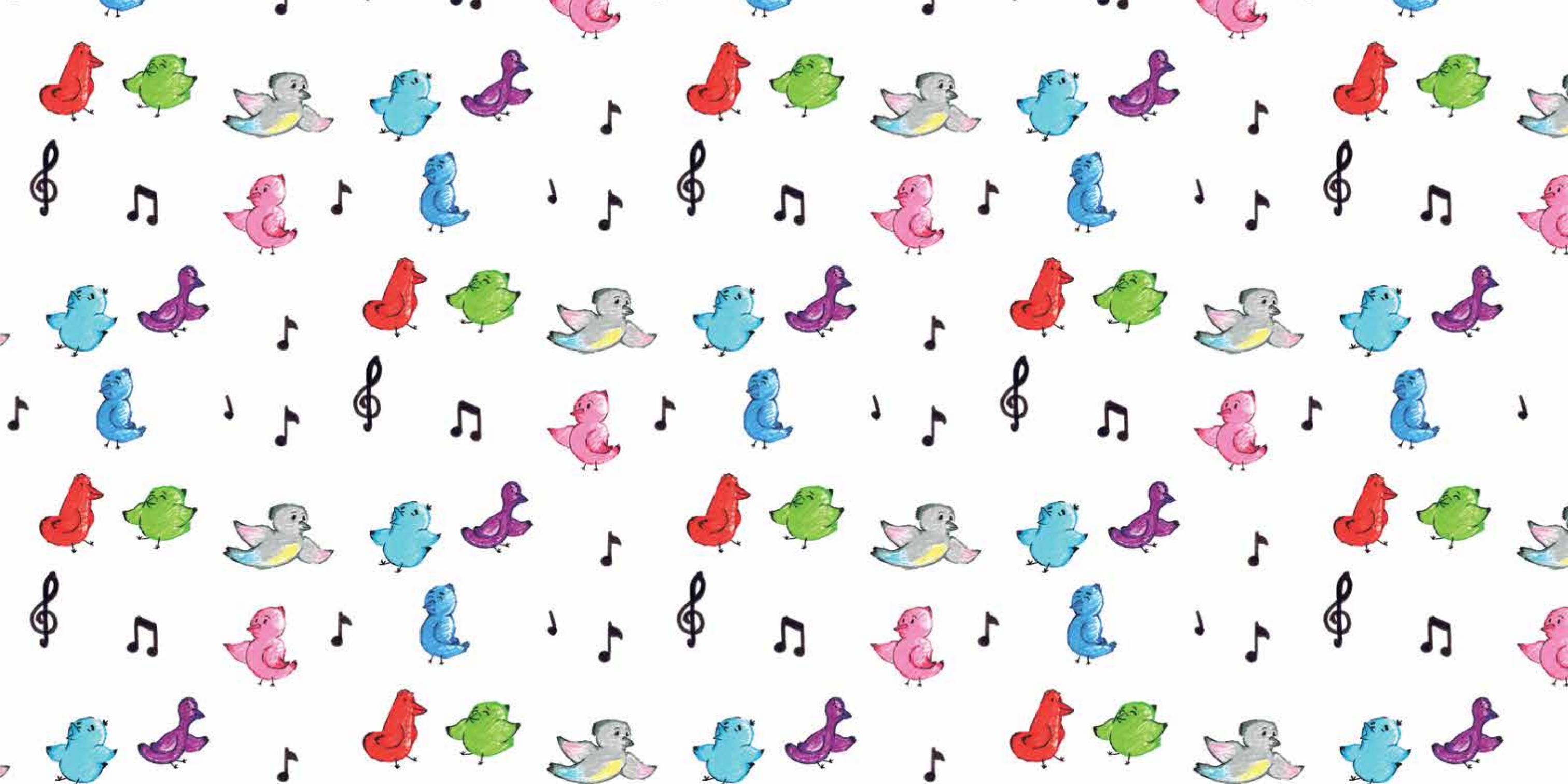
Zanele Dlamini Emmanuel Grebo Joseph Makongo Kiugu



Why Birds Sing at Dawn

This book belongs to







Every child should own a hundred books by the age of five. To that end, Book Dash gathers creative professionals who volunteer to create new, African storybooks that anyone can freely translate and distribute. To find out more, and to download beautiful, print-ready books, visit bookdash.org.

Why Birds Sing at Dawn
Illustrated by Emmanuel Grebo

Written by Zanele Dlamini

Designed by Joseph Makongo Kiugu

Edited by Joey Kok

with the help of the Book Dash participants in Johannesburg on 26 October 2019.

ISBN: 978-1-928497-87-5

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). You are free to share (copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format) and adapt (remix, transform, and build upon the material) this work for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the following license terms:

Attribution: You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

No additional restrictions: You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.

Notices: You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation.

No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material.

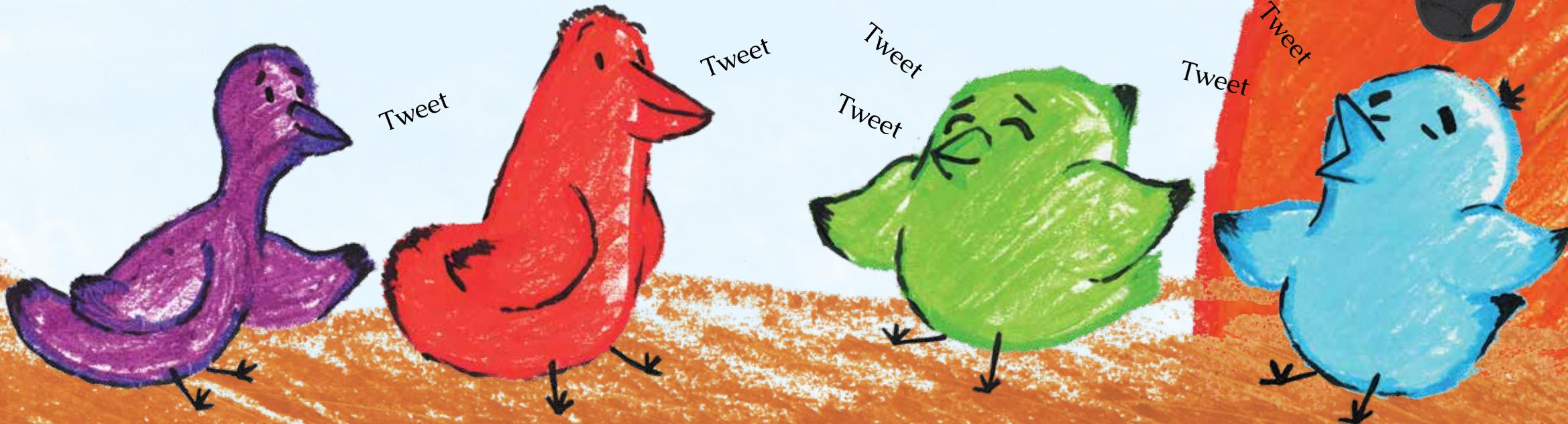
Why Birds Sing at Dawn

Zanele Dlamini Emmanuel Grebo Joseph Makongo Kiugu



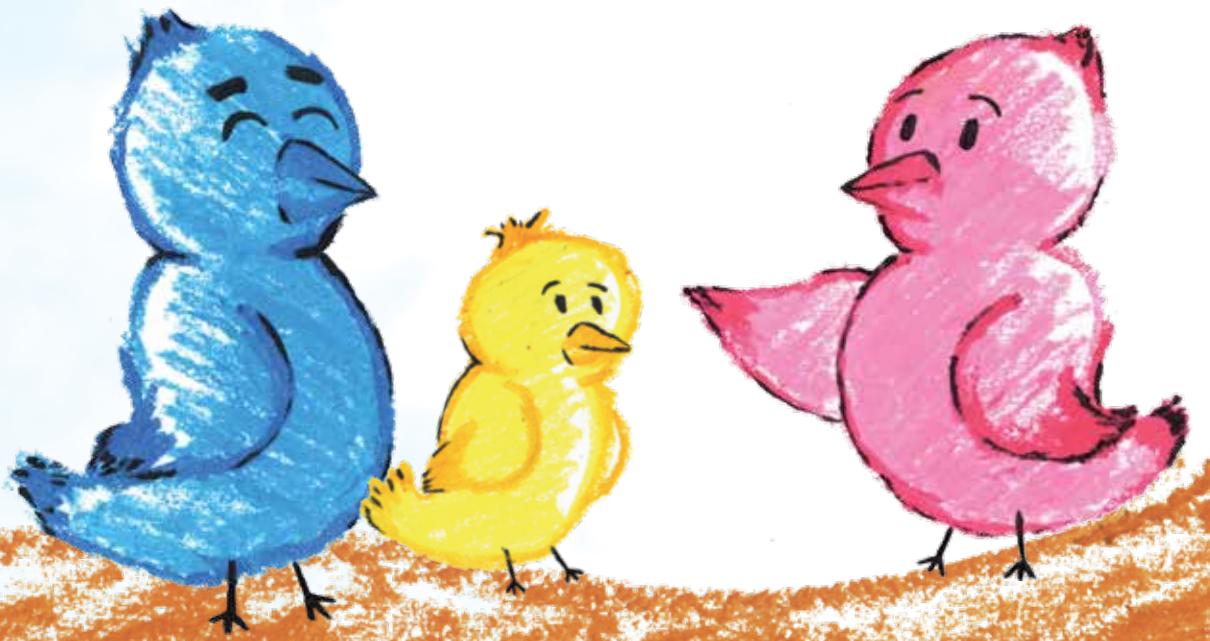
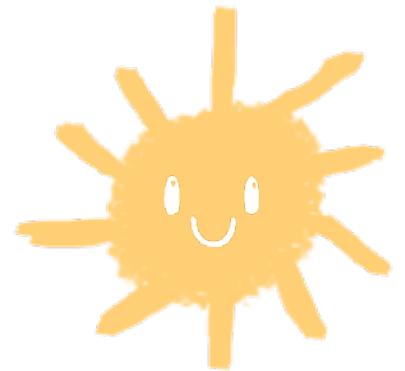


A long time ago, in the forest of Happy-Land, birds and trees could talk to each other.



There was a bird family with three children:
Blue, Pink and Yellow.

They all lived on a big wise tree
called Mamango.



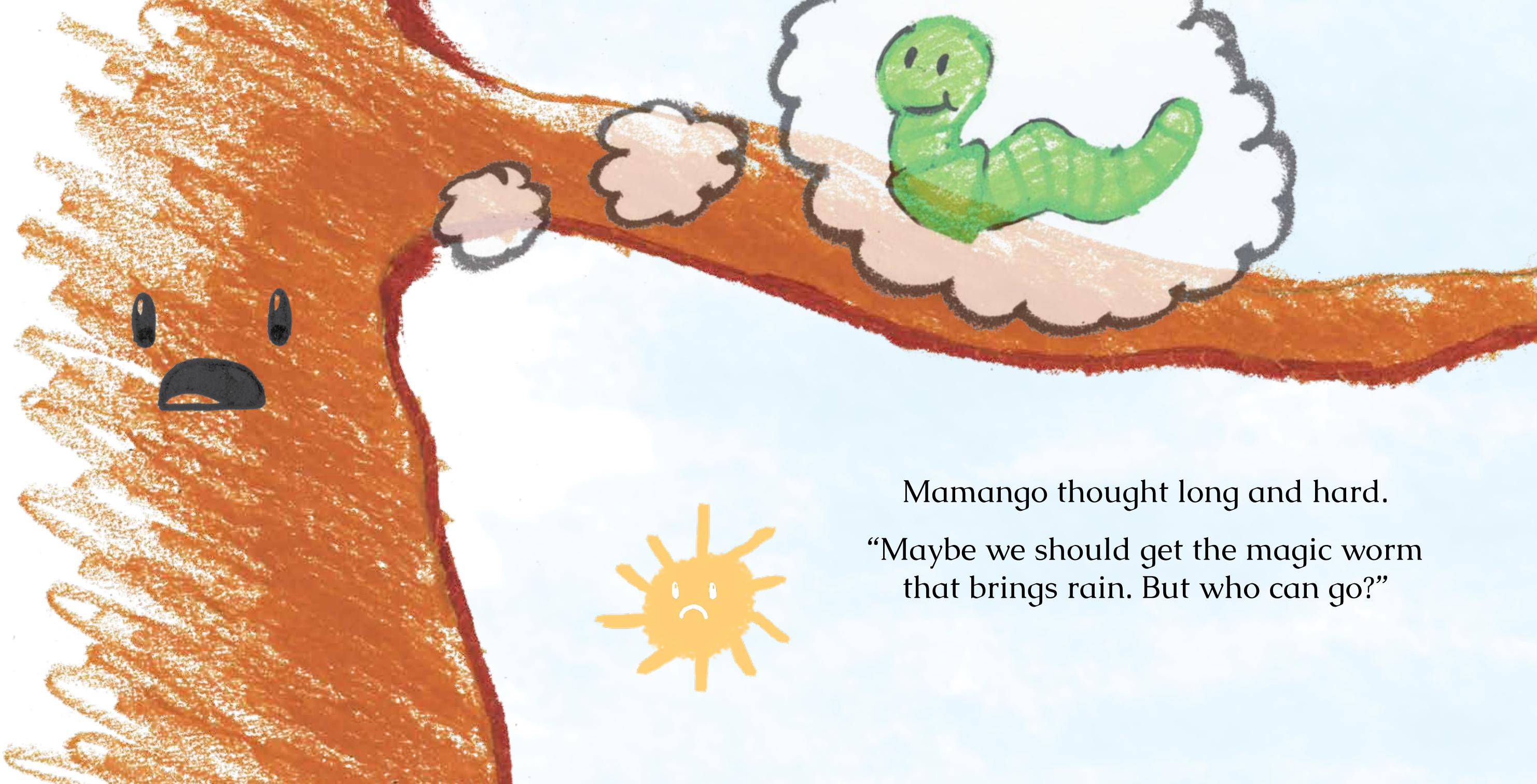


Mama Birdie's voice was beautiful! She would wake up early to sing her song.



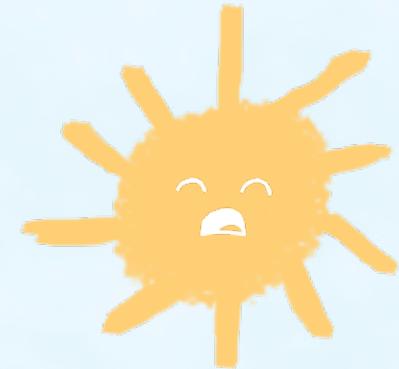
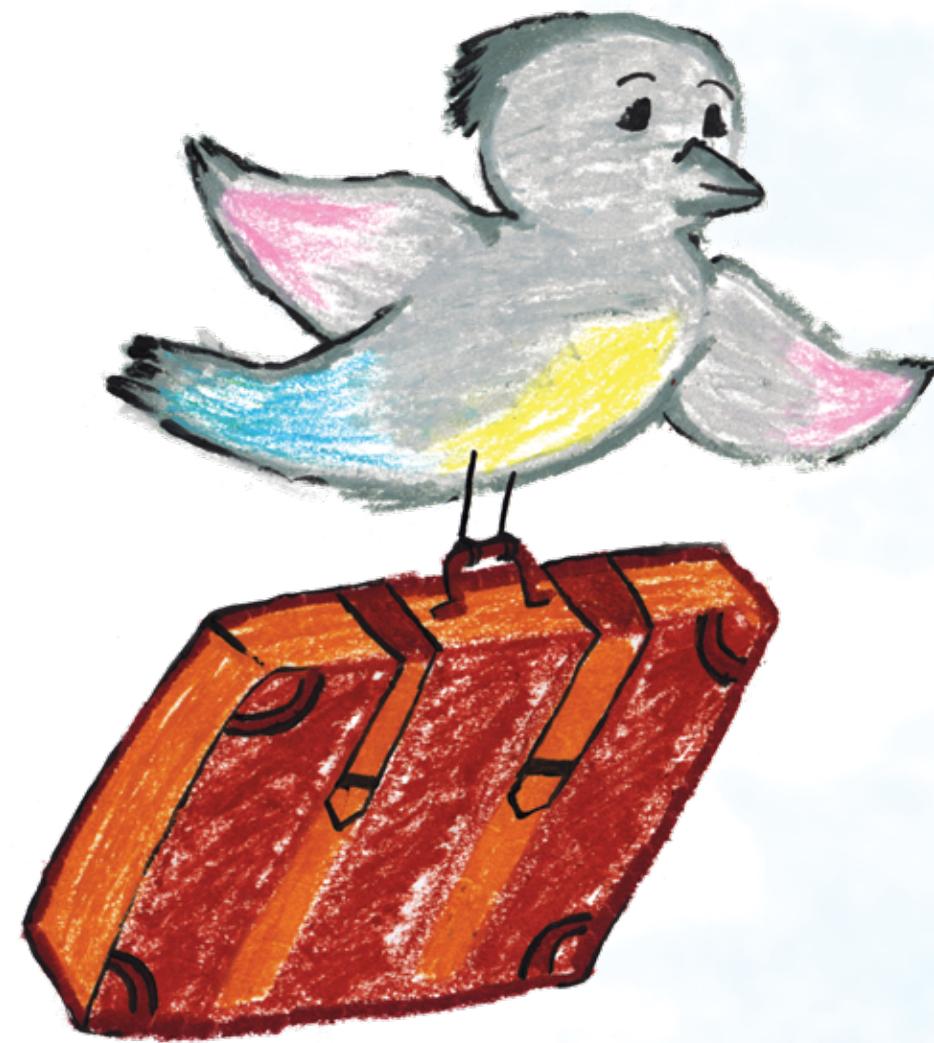


But drought set in on the land. Rivers dried up and leaves fell off.



Mamango thought long and hard.

“Maybe we should get the magic worm
that brings rain. But who can go?”



“I will go. I am not afraid,”
Mama Birdie said.



Everyone missed Mama Birdie, and
her song. Would she ever find her way
back home?



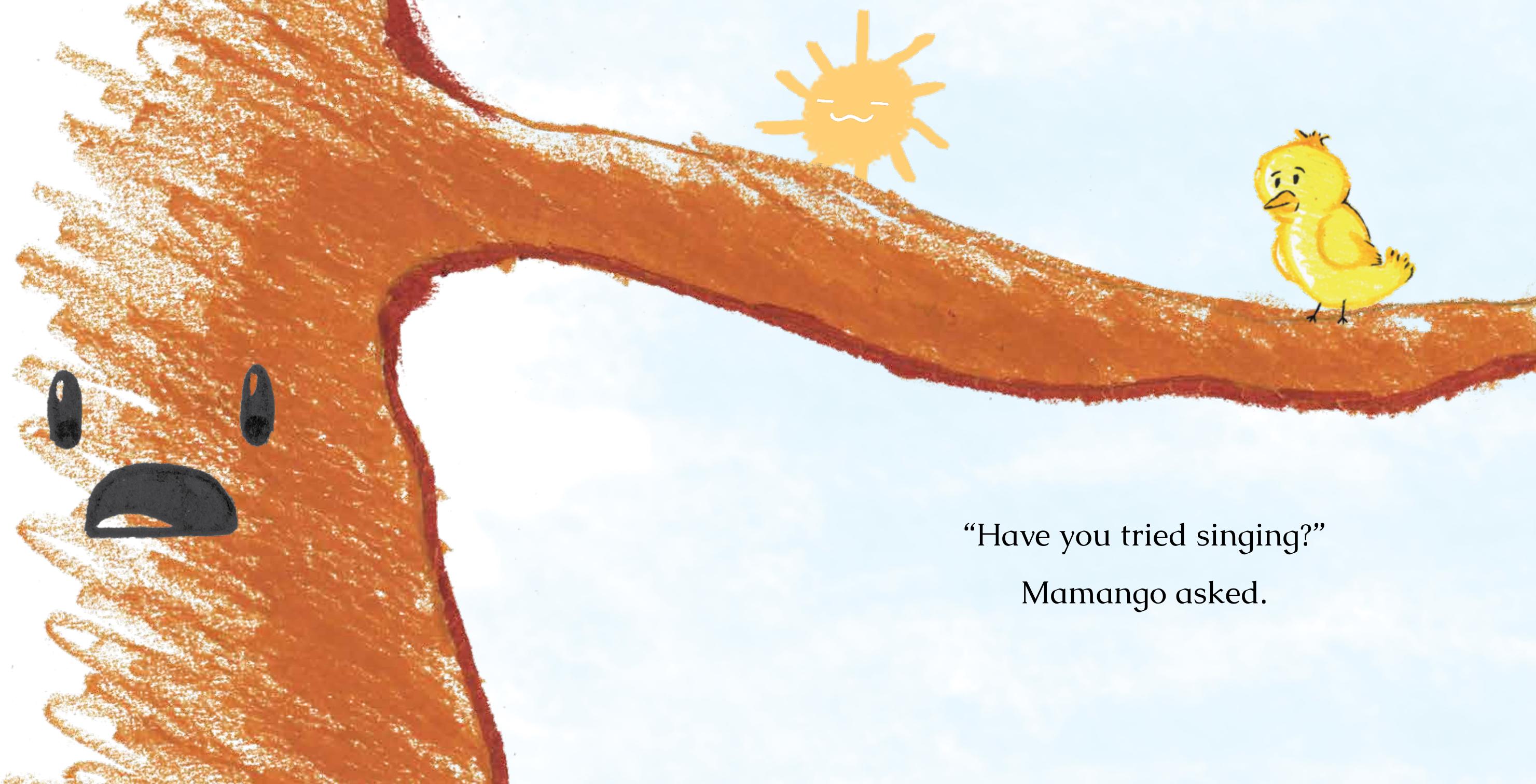


“What if we sing Mama’s song?”
Yellow asked.

“Mama said if we sing her song, she
will find her way back.”

“But I don’t know how to sing!”
cried Pink.

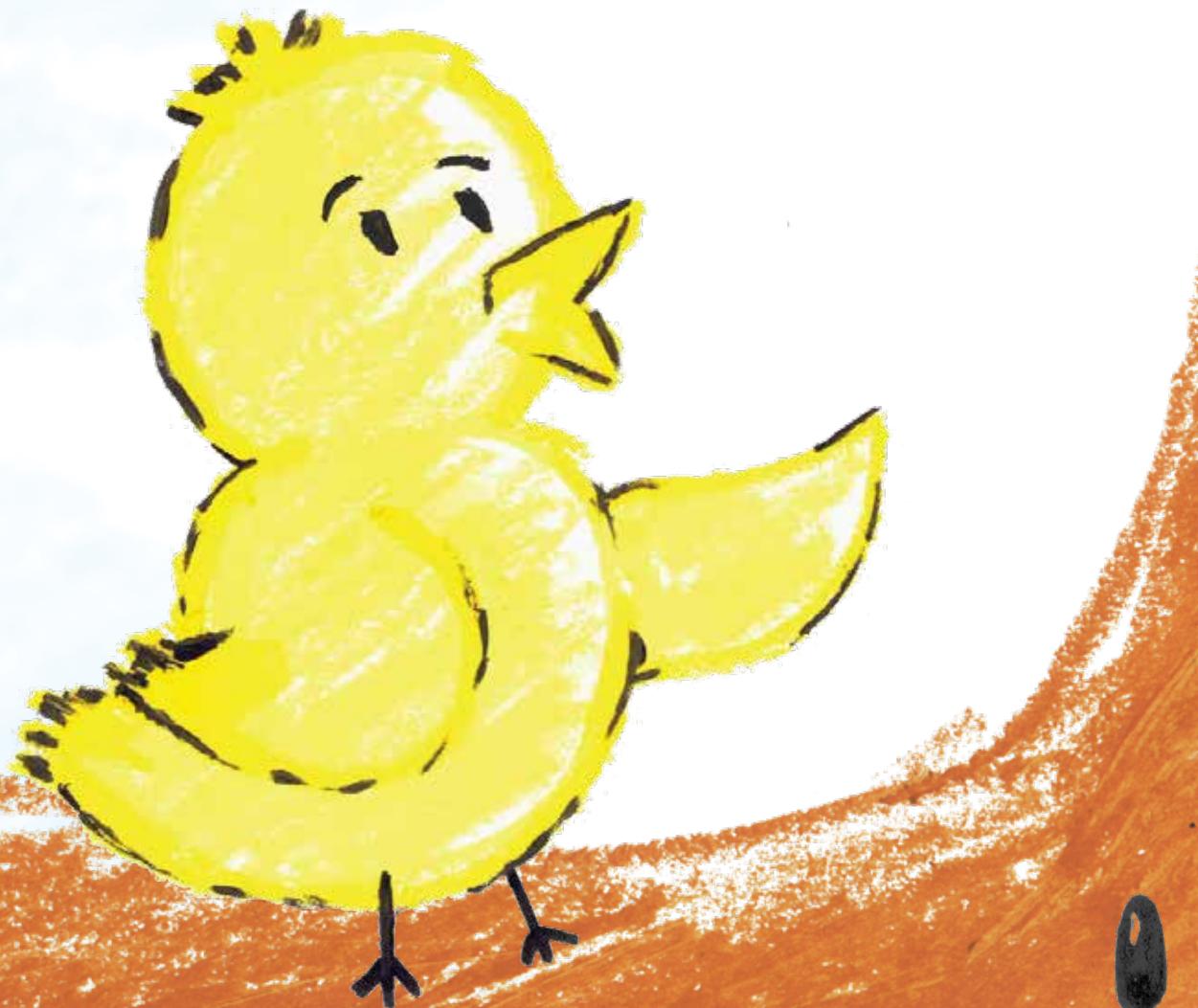




“Have you tried singing?”
Mamango asked.



“I have tried singing,”
said Yellow.
“I can teach you.”





Early the next morning, Yellow
sang Mama's song:

"It's a beautiful morning!"



We wake up and shine!"



And rain started falling.





Eventually, all the birds joined
Yellow in song.

Mama Birdie found her way back
to Happy-Land.

And from then on, birds sang at dawn.

