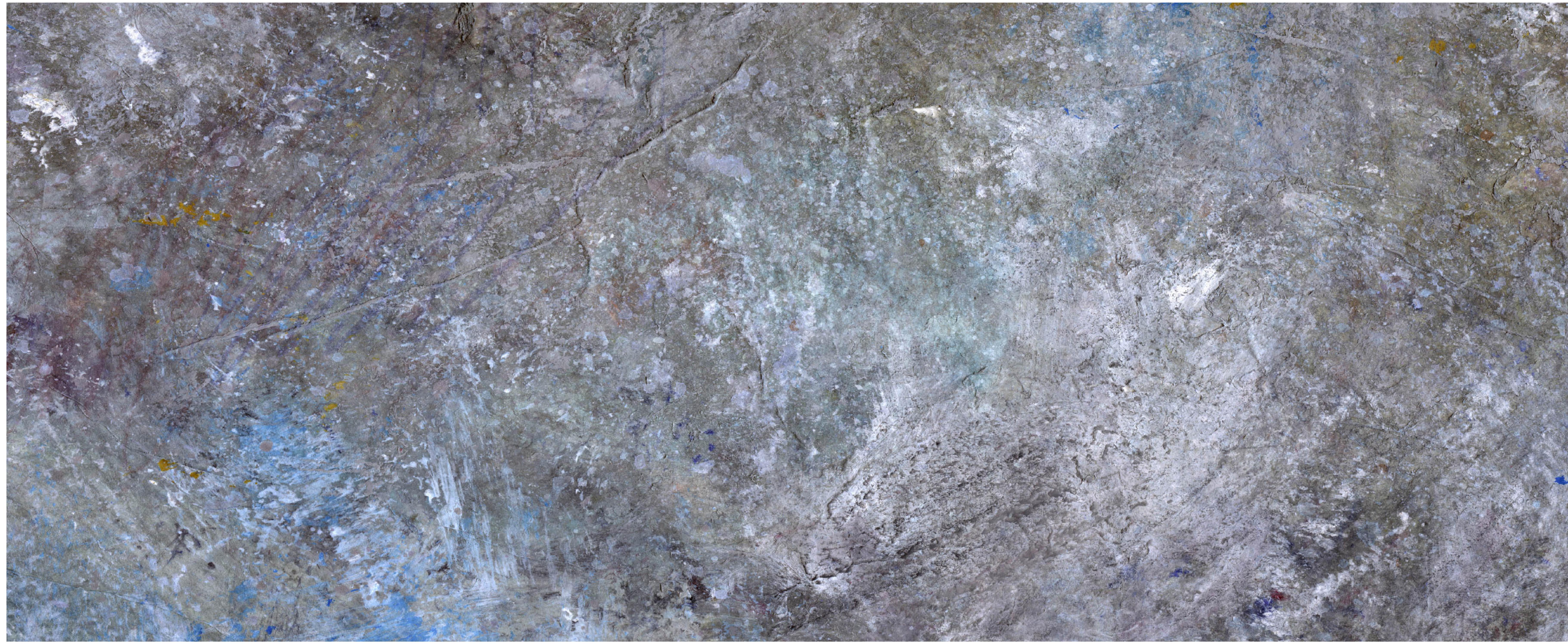


A
STONE
SAT STILL



BRENDAN WENZEL

Creator of the Caldecott Honor-winner *They All Saw a Cat*



A
STONE
SAT STILL

BRENDAN WENZEL

bw
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A stone sat still
with the water, grass, and dirt

and it was as it was
where it was in the world.



And the stone was dark





and the stone was bright



and the stone was loud



and the stone was quiet

A collage-style illustration featuring a large, light-grey, textured rock in the center-left. A small brown snail with a tan shell is crawling across the top of the rock. In front of the rock, there is a dense field of tall, green grass with some yellow and brown blades. To the left of the rock, there are several other plants, including a palm-like frond and a small blue flowering plant. The background is plain white. At the very top edge of the frame, there are some green leaves and branches.

and it sat where it sat
with the water, grass, and dirt

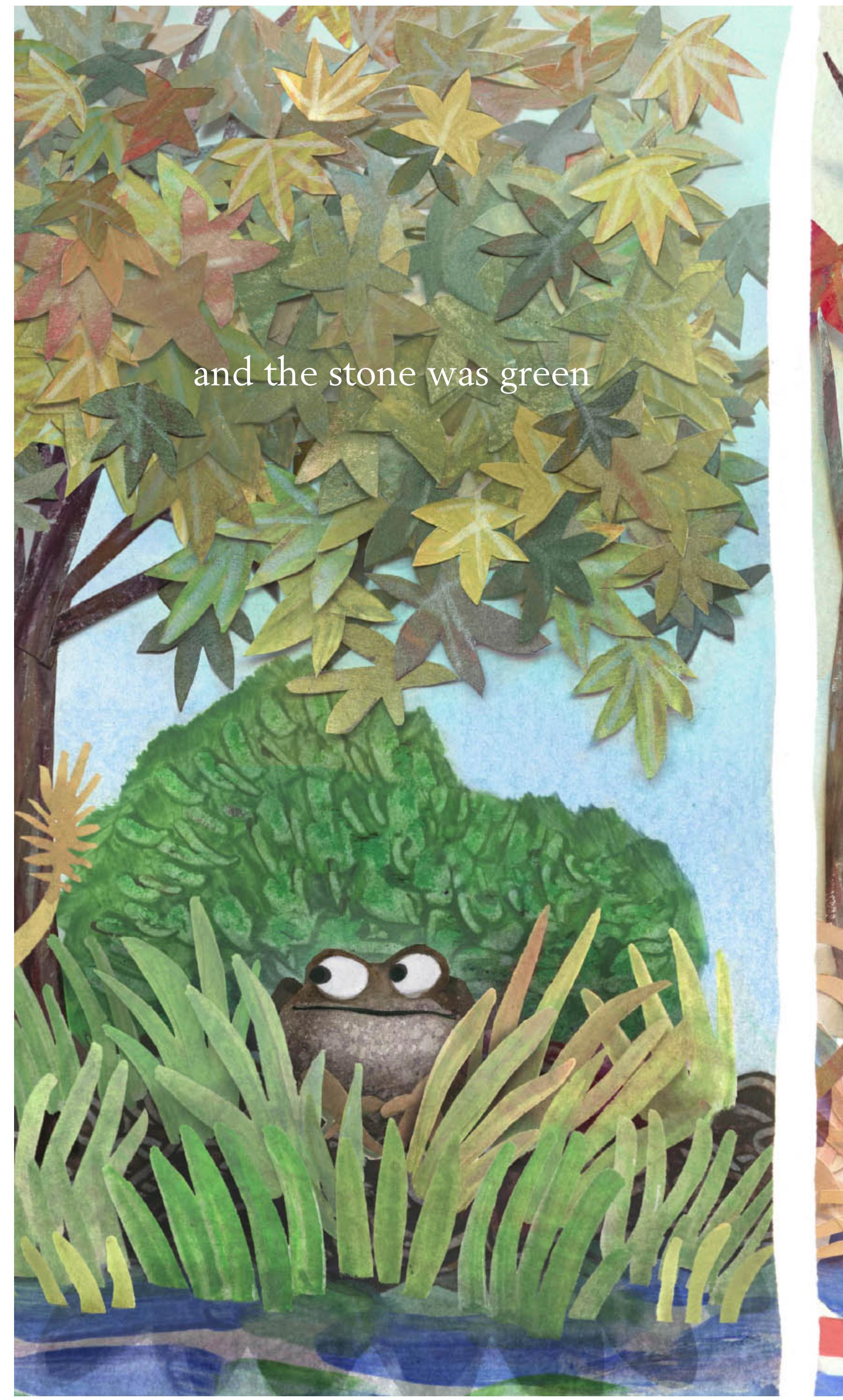
and it was as it was
where it was in the world.



And the stone was rough



and the stone was smooth





And the stone was a pebble

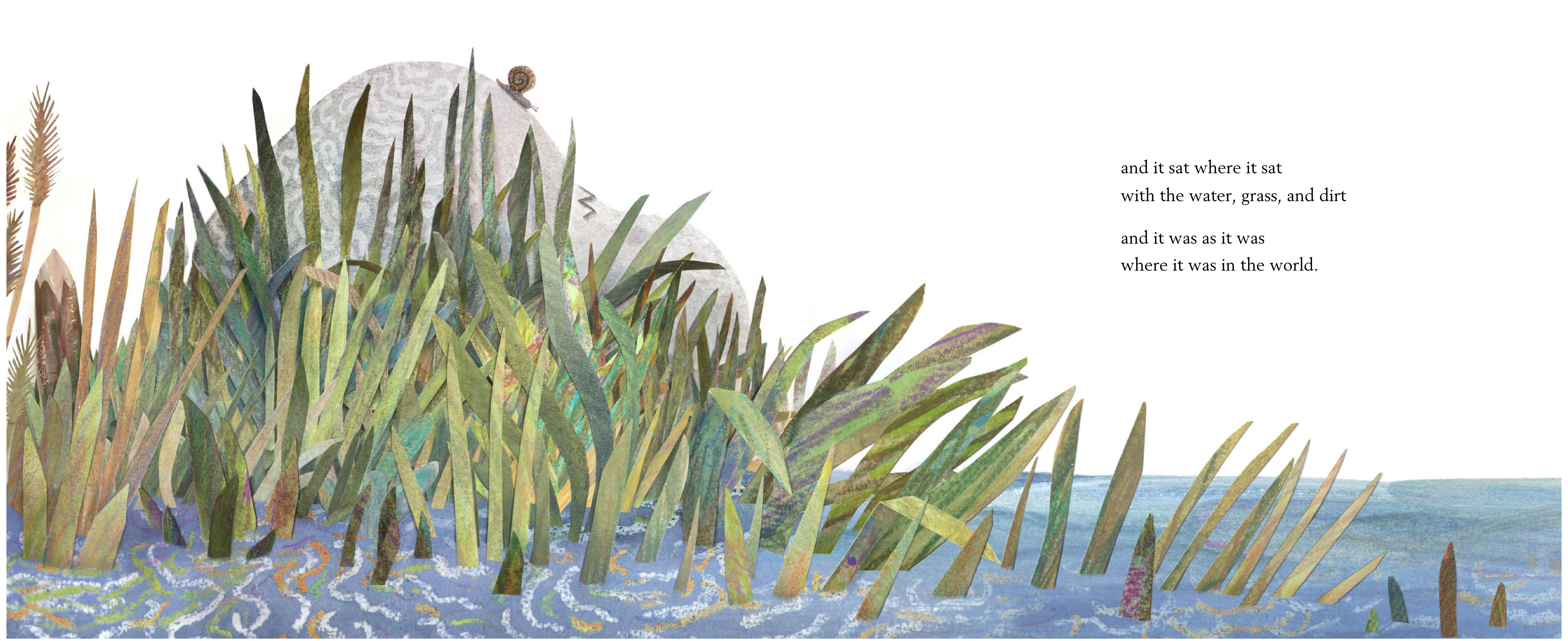
A colorful illustration of a landscape. In the foreground, there are several green, leafy plants with some purple and yellow accents. A small, red, worm-like creature with antennae is perched on a dark, textured rock in the lower-left corner. The background features large, rounded hills in shades of grey and white, with a subtle texture resembling a woven pattern. The overall style is soft and painterly.

and the stone was a hill



and the stone was a feel

and the stone was a smell

A detailed collage illustration. In the upper left, a small snail with a brown, spiraling shell sits on a light-colored, textured rock. The rock is surrounded by a dense field of tall, green grass blades with varying textures and colors. In the background, there are more rocks and a distant horizon over a blue, textured ground. The overall style is organic and painterly.

and it sat where it sat
with the water, grass, and dirt

and it was as it was
where it was in the world.



And the stone was the wild



and the stone was a home

and the stone was a kitchen

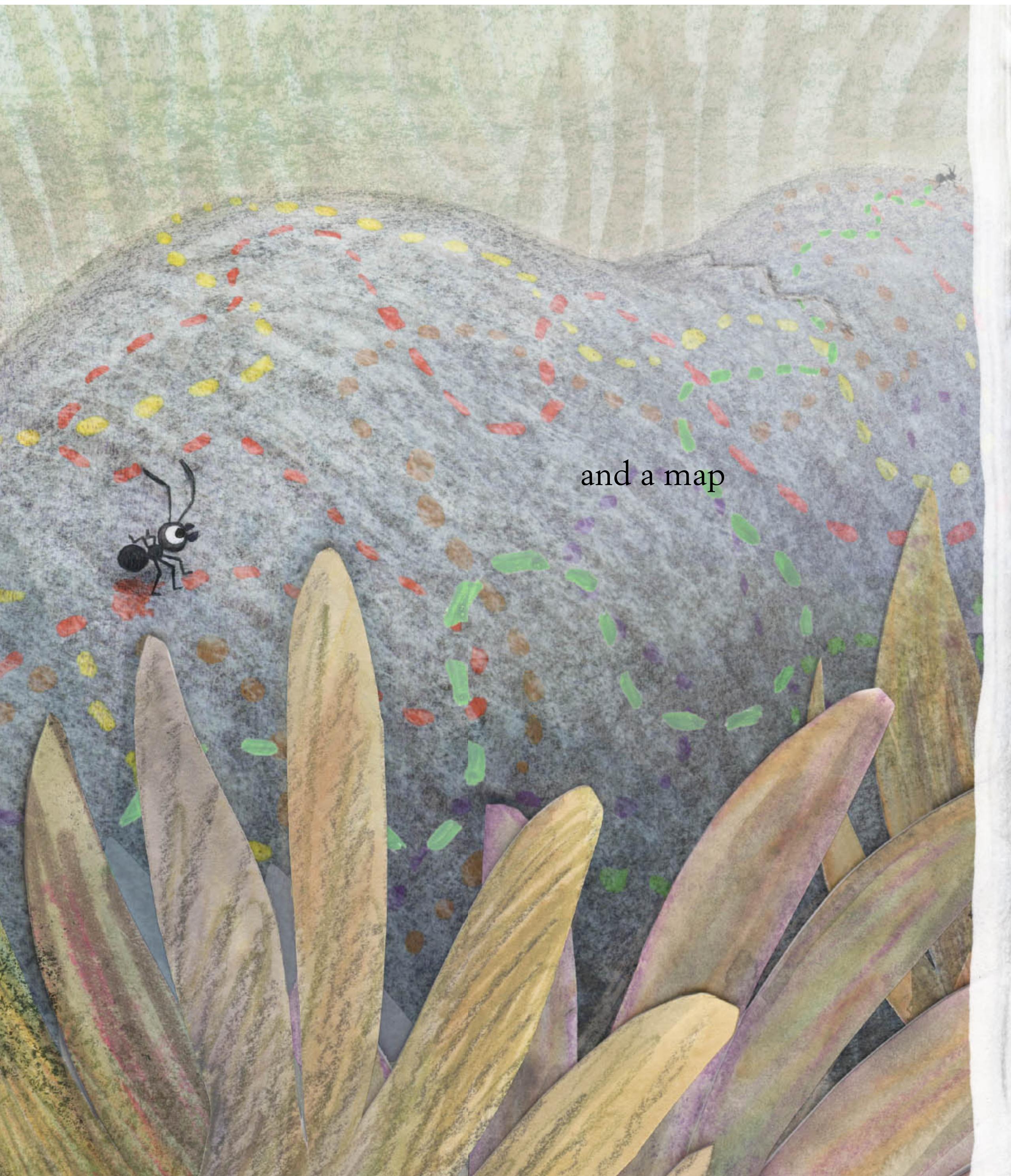


and the stone was a throne.

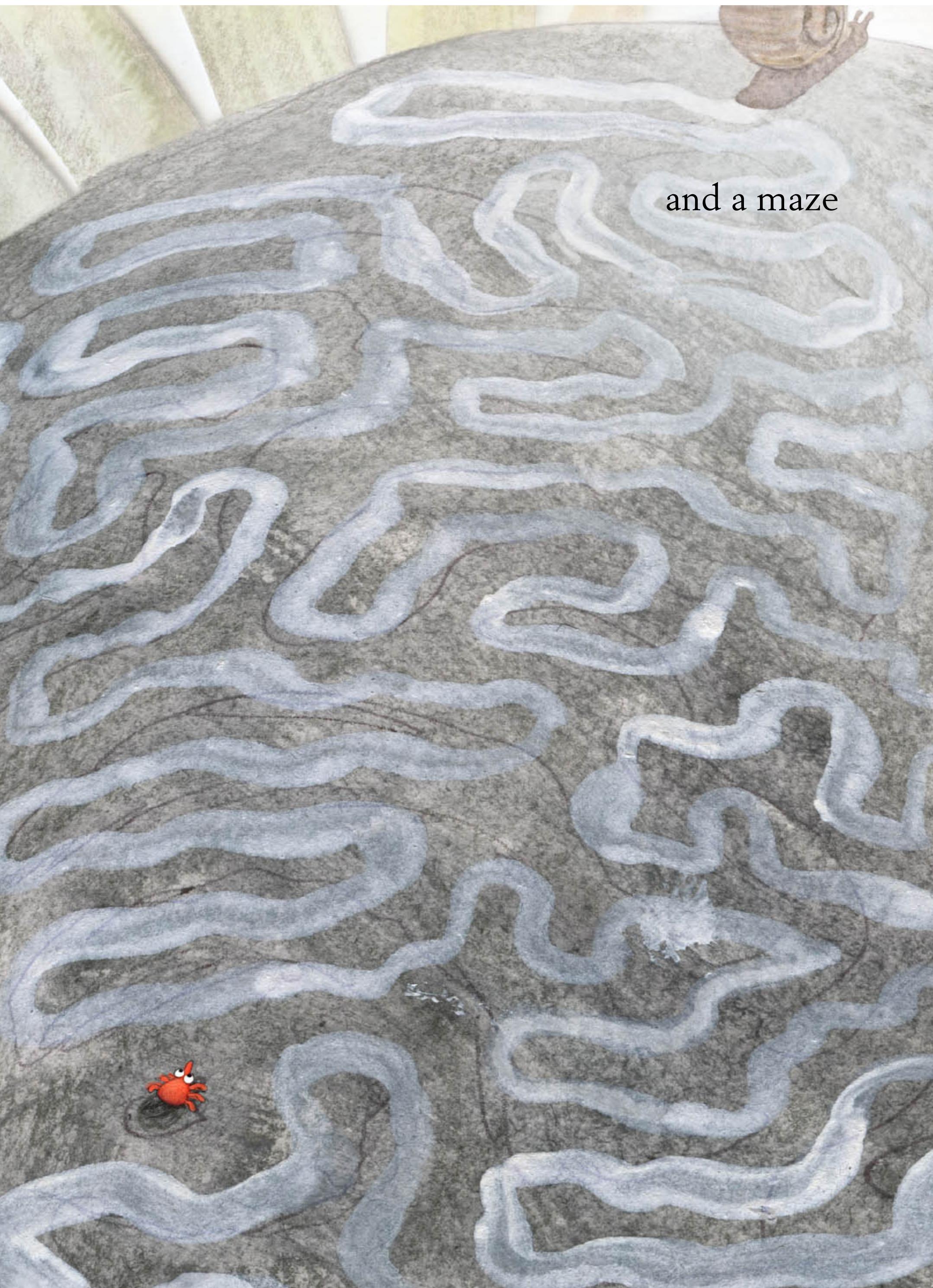




And the stone was a marker



and a map



and a maze

a danger

a haven

a story

a stage.





And the stone was a blink

and the stone was an age.



And the stone was an island

and the stone was a wave





and the stone was a memory



and the stone was always.



Have you ever known such a place?



Where with water, grass, and dirt



a stone sits still in the world.

For Ophelia and Kallisti—B.W.

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Brendan Wenzel is a *New York Times* bestselling author and illustrator based in upstate New York. He has written and illustrated several books for children, including *Hello Hello* and *They All Saw a Cat*, which was the recipient of a Caldecott Honor. He is also a proud collaborator with many groups working to protect and conserve wild places and creatures. You can find more of his work at Brendanwenzel.info.



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