

Noah

and His Wonderful Day with Bob



By Richard Gomez
Illustrated by Adam Taylor

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**One fine Saturday afternoon, in the middle of March,
a little boy named Noah was playing in the park with his Dad.**



**As they were getting ready to go home, Noah
looked on the ground and saw a spider.
“Look, Dad!” Noah cried. “A spider!”**

**Noah picked up the spider,
but it was not moving.**



**“Why isn't it moving, Dad?”
asked Noah.**

**“That's because it's dead,
Son.” Dad explained, sadly.**

“Can I keep him”, asked Noah?

**“Keep him?” Dad asked back.
“Why do you want a dead spider?”**



**“I like his colors, and he looks alive, enough.
Please, Dad!” Noah begged.
“Ok”, Dad said reluctantly.
“But, what will we keep him in until we get home?”**



Noah thought for a second, and then he remembered
the sandwich baggie he had in his pocket.
Mom always packed he and his dad a peanut butter sandwich when
they went to the park, and he always saved his baggie.



**Taking the baggie from his pocket,
“I can put him in this!” Noah said excitedly.
“That will work fine!” Dad agreed.**



Noah put the dead spider in his baggie, and he and Dad went home.



**When he got home, Noah ran into the house
holding his baggie out in front of him,
screaming, “Mom! Look what I found! Look what I found!”**



Mom was in the kitchen when she heard Noah cry her name. “He sure does sound excited about whatever it is he has found,” she thought. “Maybe he found me a flower, and he cannot wait to get it into some water before it withers.” Now mom was getting excited.





Noah came storming into the kitchen holding the baggie out in front of him. Still screaming, “Look what I found!”

Mom saw the spider in the baggie and jumped two feet into the air, and yelled “Eek, a spider!”

“Don’t worry, Mom. He’s dead.” explained Noah.

“Dead or alive, I do not want that spider in my house!” Mom exclaimed.

“Please, Mom!” begged Noah.

“I promise never to take him out of the baggie.”

Mom reluctantly agreed, “Ok, but you keep him in the baggie, and keep that baggie out of my kitchen.”



**“Thank you, Mom!” cried Noah,
as he jumped into the air and hugged her.
“Your welcome, now go play with your new,
um... pet. I am making dinner.” Mom said.**

As Noah left the kitchen he noticed one of the legs had fallen off of his spider.
“It’s broken!” Noah said to his dad.
“It’s decomposing, Son,” Dad explained.
“It’s something that happens to all living creatures when they die.”

“Well, I better be extra careful with him then” said Noah.



“Him?” asked Dad.

“Was he a boy spider?”

**“Yup,” said Noah, “and I’m
going to name him Bob!”**

**And he and Bob went
upstairs to play.**





**“What kind of game do you want to play,
Bob?” asked Noah.**

**Of course, Bob did not answer,
but Noah acted like he did.**

**“Cops and Robbers? Sounds good.”
Noah said, being agreeable.**



They not only played cops and robbers,



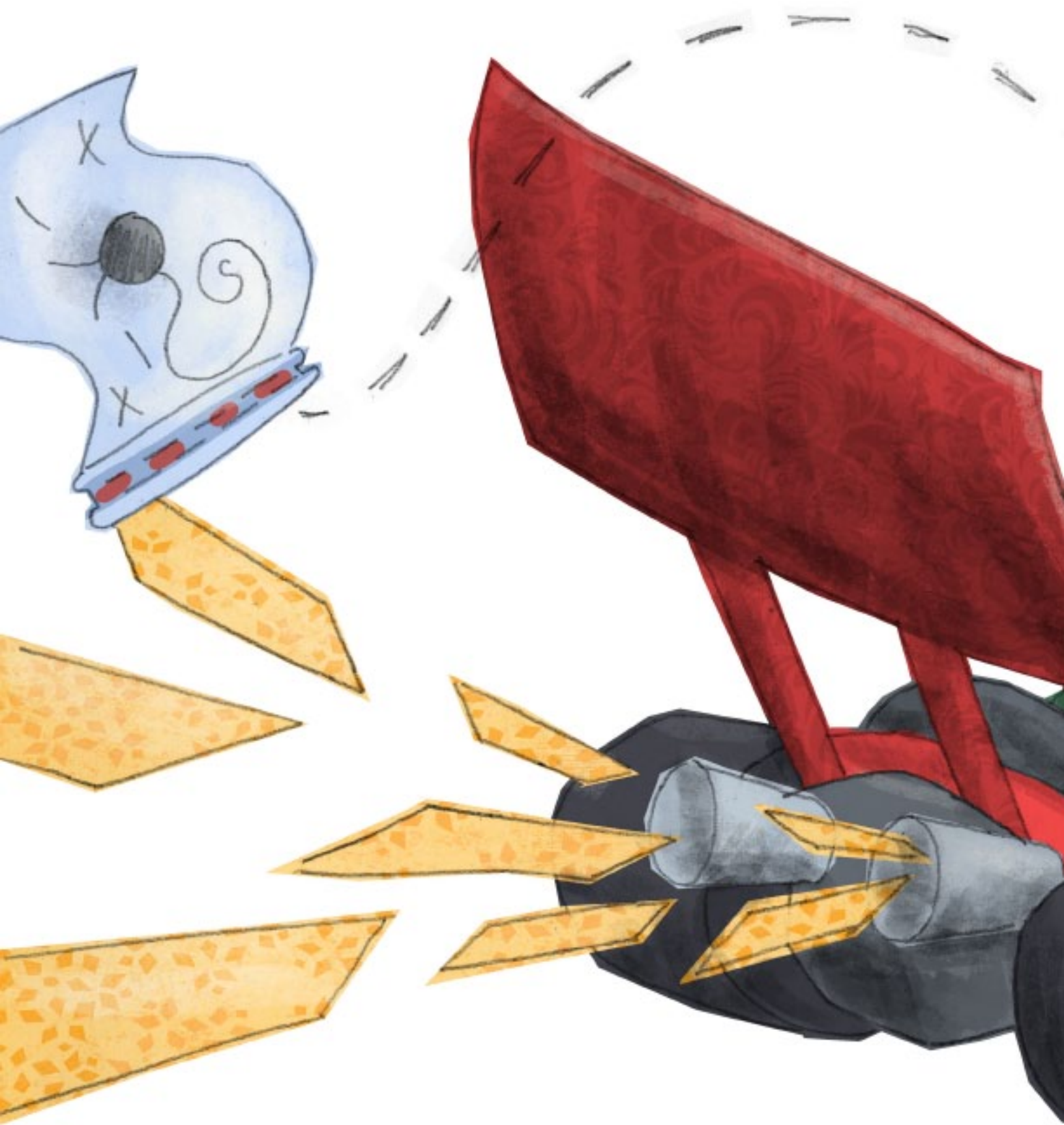
but they also played cowboys and indians...

and they played tag...



and they played checkers...





And they raced cars...



They played so many games that Noah lost count.

**Noah was having so much fun that he didn't realize,
the more he played with Bob,
the more Bob fell apart.**




“Dinner time!” Mom said.

**Noah picked up Bob's baggie and shoved it
into his pocket, and ran down stairs for dinner.**





**After dinner, Noah was excited to get back to playing with Bob.
He reached into his pocket and pulled out the baggie.
Bob was in a bunch of tiny pieces.
Noah was very sad.**



**“I think it’s time for you to bury
your spider, Noah.” Mom said.**

“Why?” asked Noah

**“Because that’s what we do when things we
love pass on,” explained Dad.**

“Where do we bury him?” asked Noah

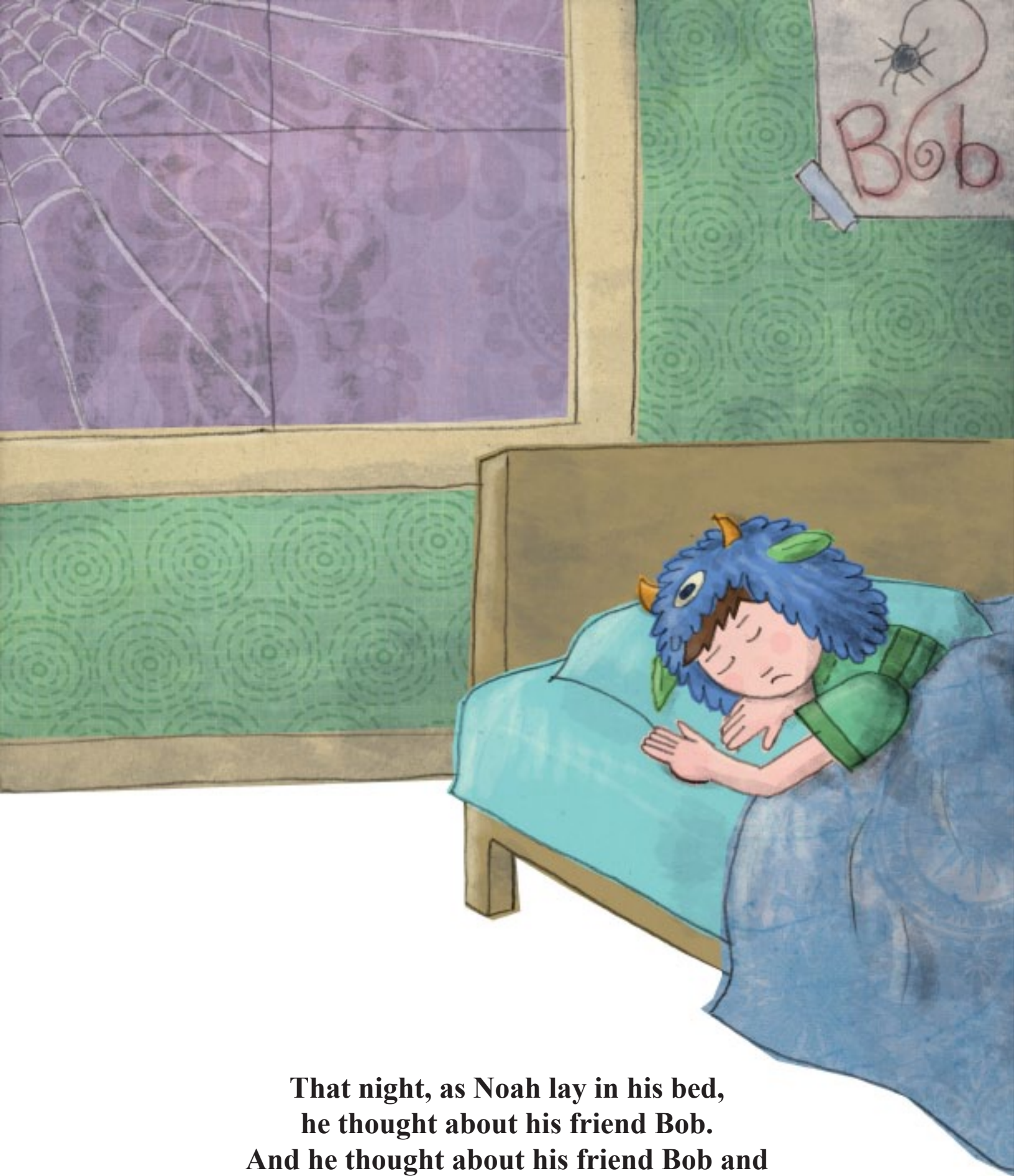
“Anywhere you want,” said Dad.

“Right outside my window?” Noah asked.

“That’s a great place,” said Mom.



**So that is what they did, they buried Bob
right outside of Noah's bedroom window.**



**That night, as Noah lay in his bed,
he thought about his friend Bob.
And he thought about his friend Bob and
his wonderful day with him until his eyes
closed and he fell asleep.**

