

By
Thomas Meganck

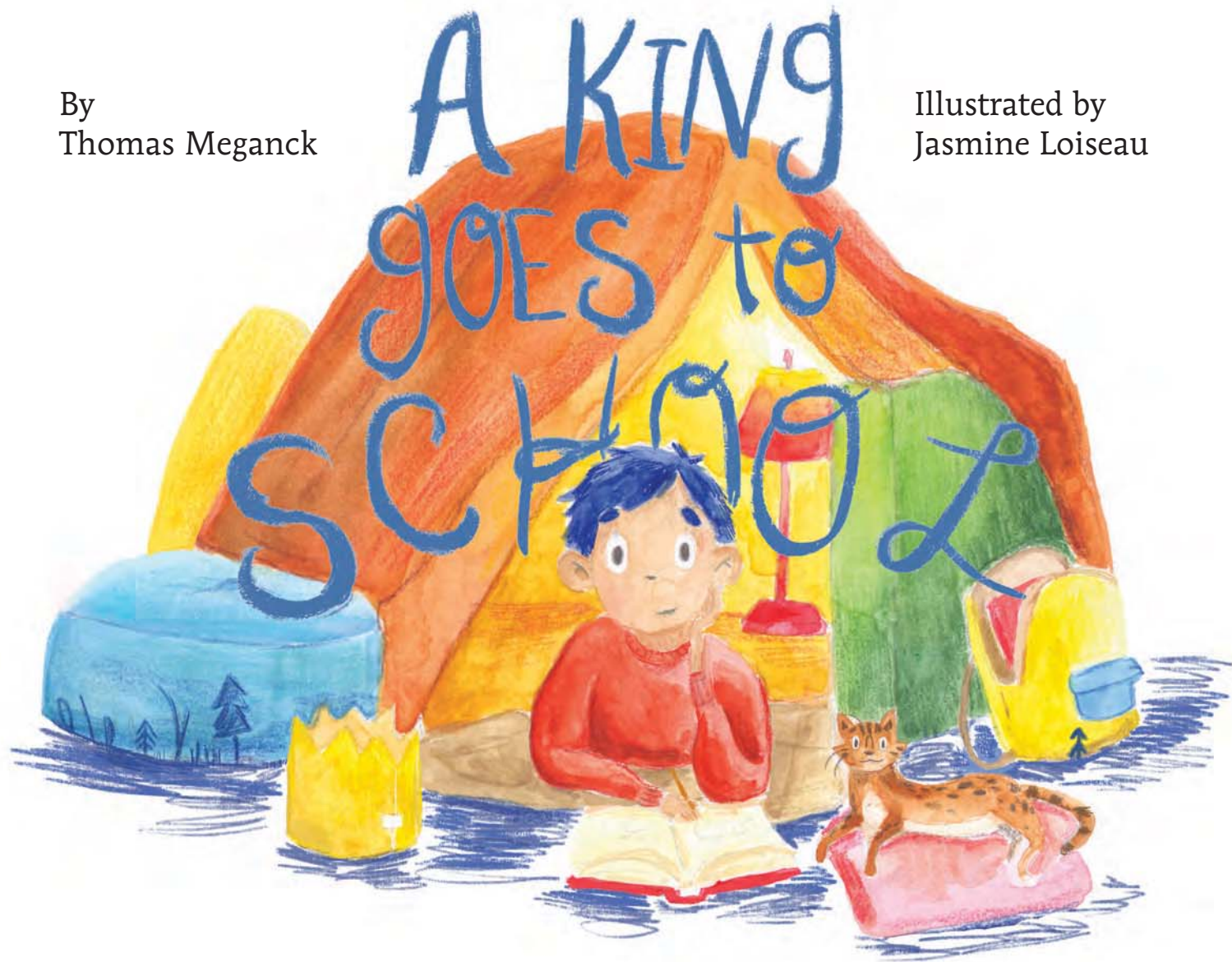
Illustrated by
Jasmine Loiseau

A KING GOES to SCHOOL



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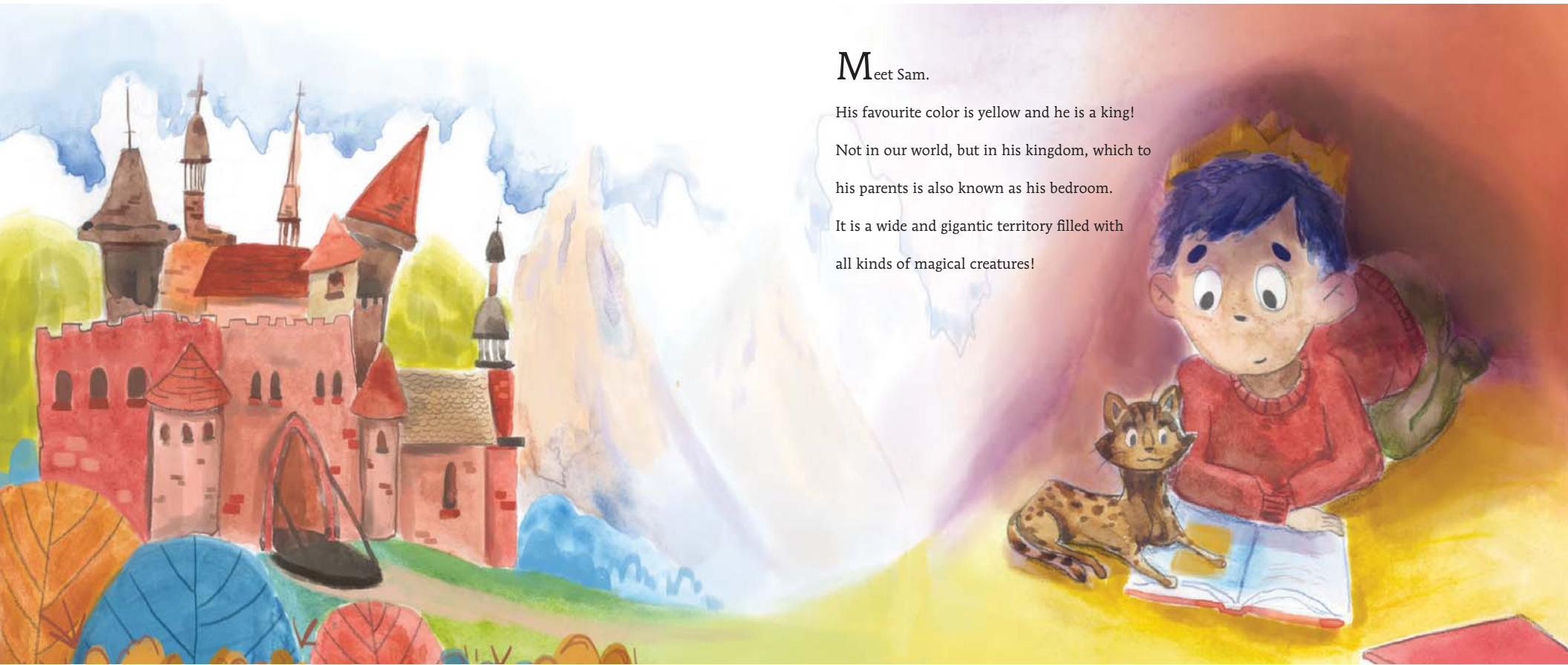
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To my parents;
who have always supported me
and continue to inspire me.
-J.L.



Meet Sam.

His favourite color is yellow and he is a king!

Not in our world, but in his kingdom, which to his parents is also known as his bedroom.

It is a wide and gigantic territory filled with all kinds of magical creatures!

The striped walls are colourful trees that grow and grow and
where monkeys swing from tree to tree. The stairs up to his
room lead to the peak of the highest mountain in the world...



His teddy bears are always the favorite guests for dinner at
“Chez Sam,” where Sam cooks up some crazy meals.



Then, one rainy, boring and sad morning, Sam had to cook his last meal,
because he was going on a new adventure: **SCHOOL!**


He said goodbye to the striped walls, the monkeys, the stairs
and his bears and went with his parents to wait for the school bus.





When the giant banana-colored bus rolled down the street, all he could think of was his friends back in his kingdom who were missing out on this adventure. Inside the bus, walls of seats divided the children from each other. And the children were all tall and loud.





After what seemed like forever, the sun began to poke out through the clouds. His morning had had a bad start, but he was excited for all of the playtime that lay ahead!



In his new classroom, the walls were **BEIGE**, the floor was **BROWN** and worst of all, there were no **TOYS!** And recess was only fifteen minutes! It was **TERRIBLE**.

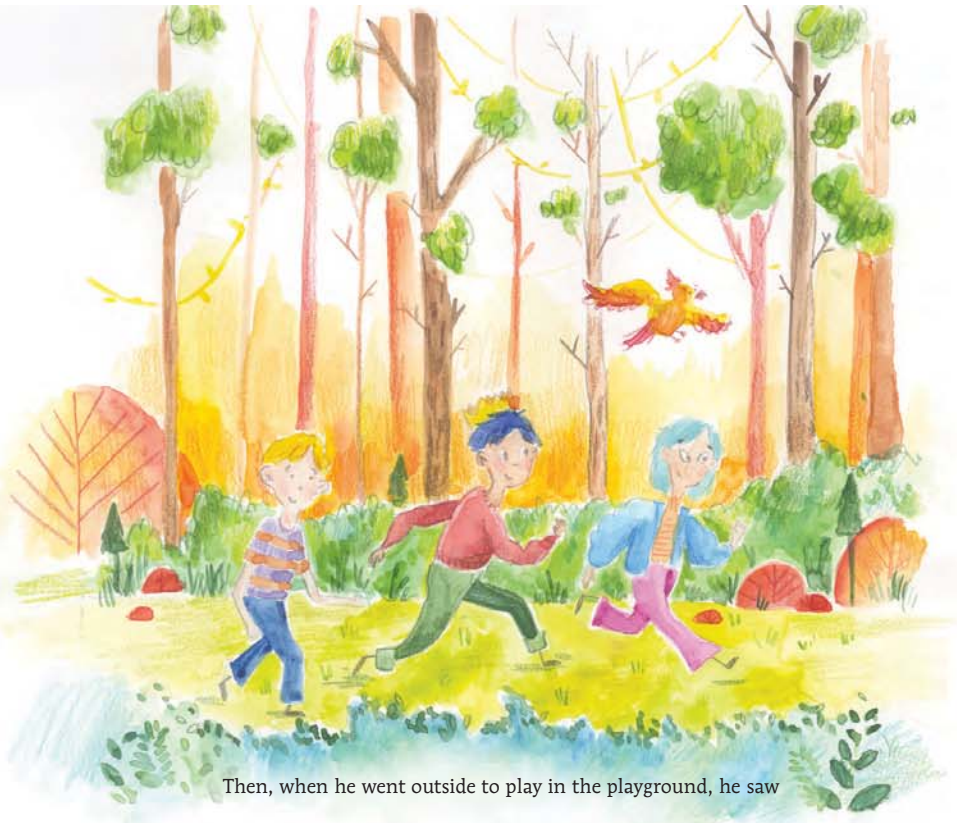
Sam had a very hard time believing that school was fun. It was all work and no play, which made Sam **VERY** unhappy.

“Is school all about drawing and napping?” he thought to himself.



But when it came time for his lunch break, Sam couldn't believe his eyes: on his plate, he saw his monkeys! It must have been some crazy mistake!



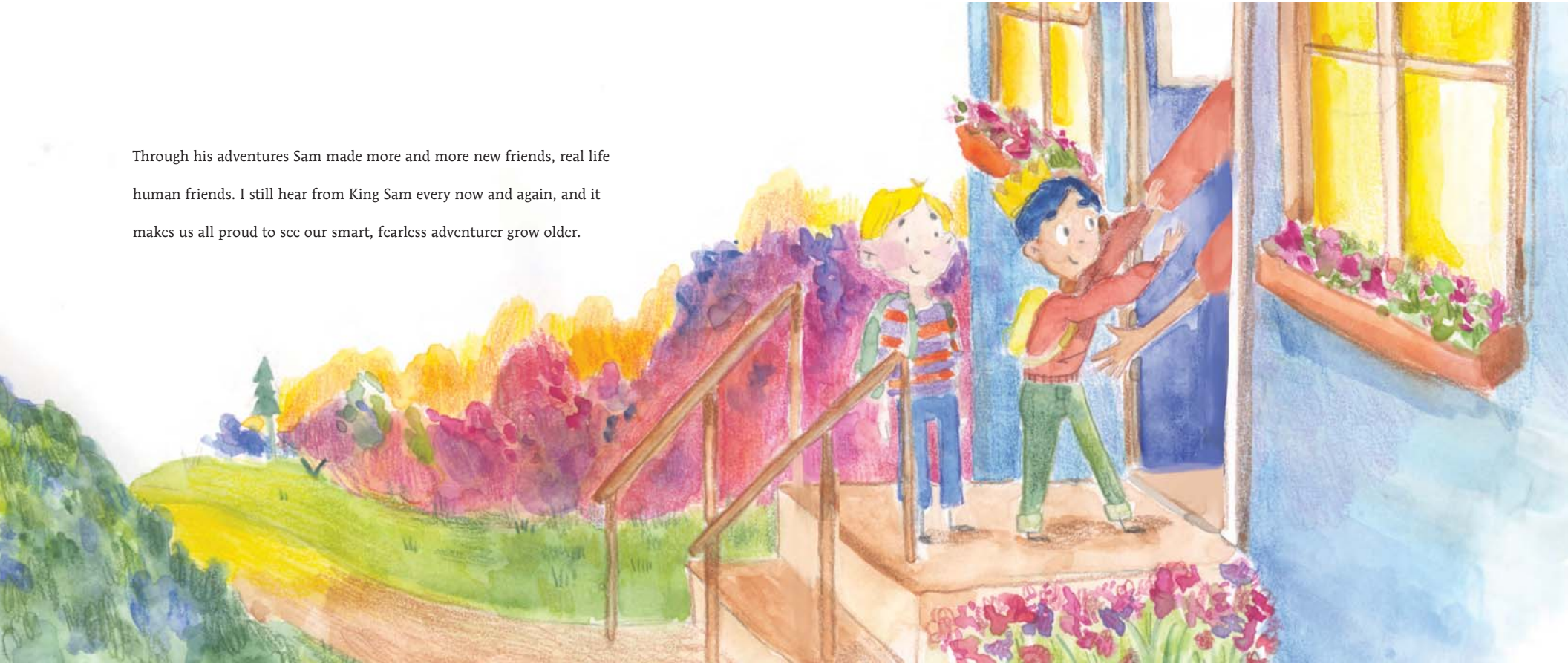


Then, when he went outside to play in the playground, he saw the jungle from his walls in the trees of the school yard!



Sam realized he could still see his friends everywhere in the big world around him. While it made Sam sad that he couldn't spend all day playing at home anymore, he was happy he could still have his kingdom out here.

Through his adventures Sam made more and more new friends, real life human friends. I still hear from King Sam every now and again, and it makes us all proud to see our smart, fearless adventurer grow older.



“King” Sam wants to live life in his imagination,
so the harsh reality of school frightens him . . .



. . . until he realizes that he can bring his creativity with
him anywhere he goes.