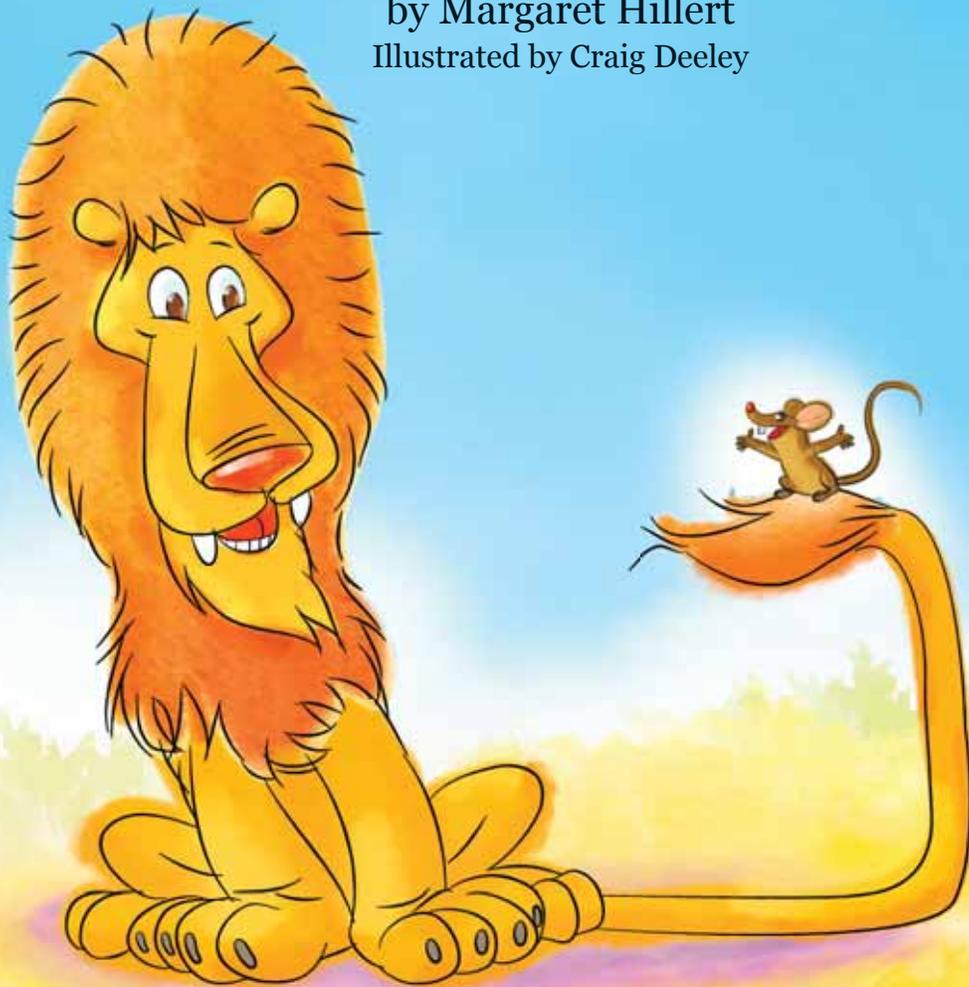


Not Too Little to Help

For the earliest reader

by Margaret Hillert
Illustrated by Craig Deeley



This book is part of the
“I’m Reading!” fluent reading series
featured on



The books in this series are written with a controlled set of high-frequency words. High-frequency words are the words that appear most often in print. As children read the substantial fiction and nonfiction stories in this series, they will develop reading fluency and confidence.

We recommend reading these books after or alongside Starfall’s popular “Learn-to-Read” phonics series featuring Zac the Rat™ and other tales.

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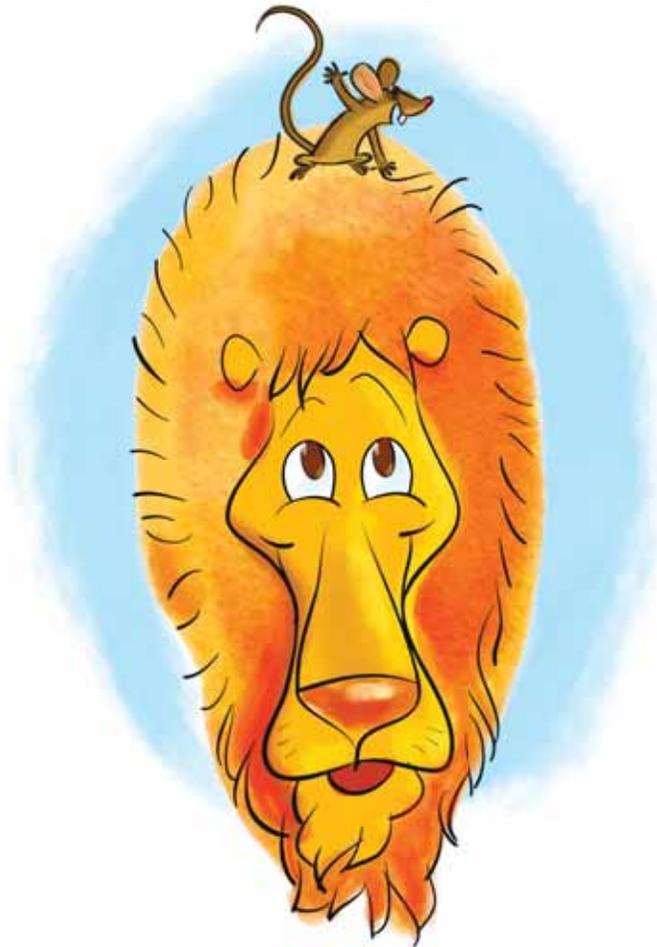
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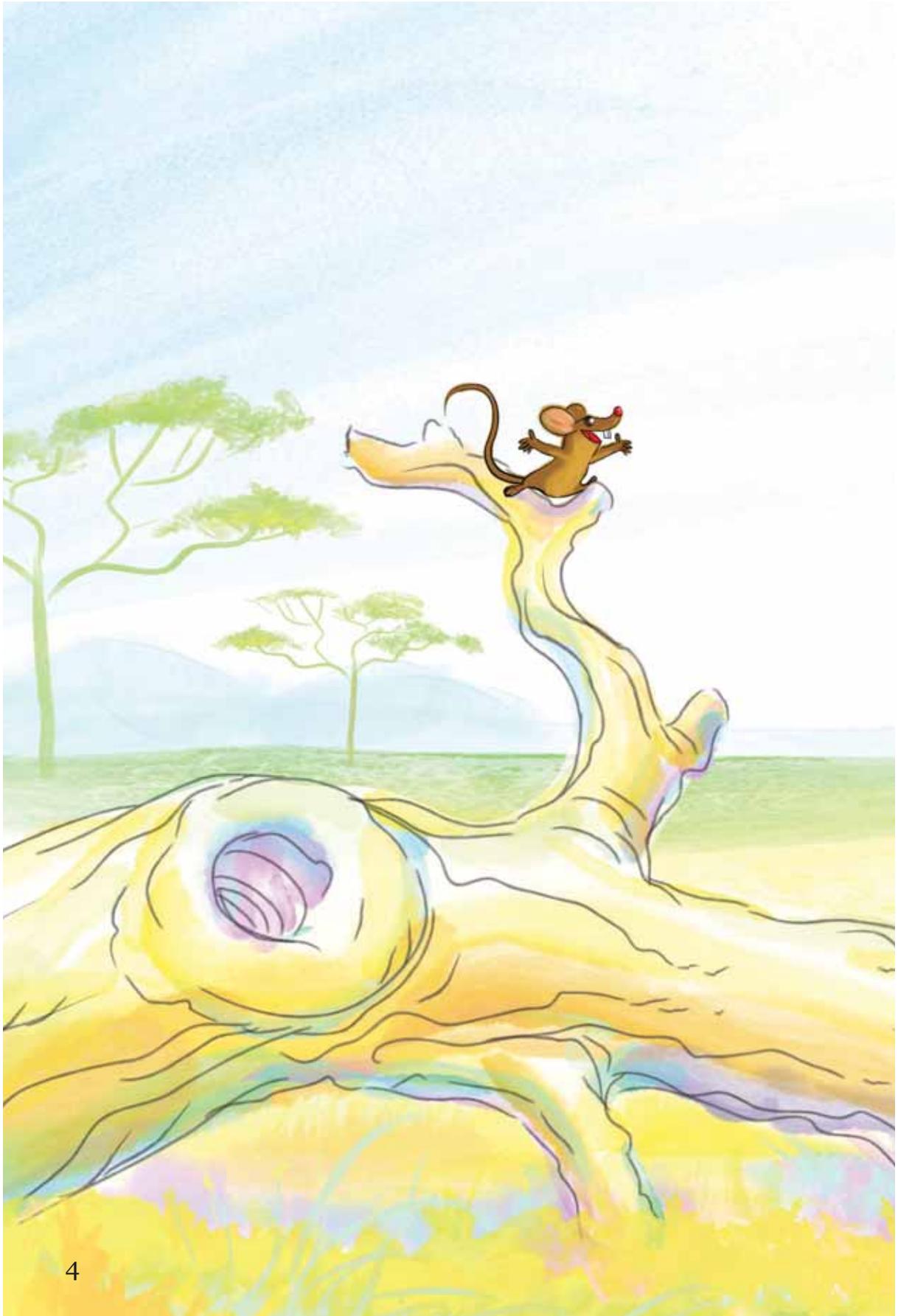
(A version of *The Lion and the Mouse*)

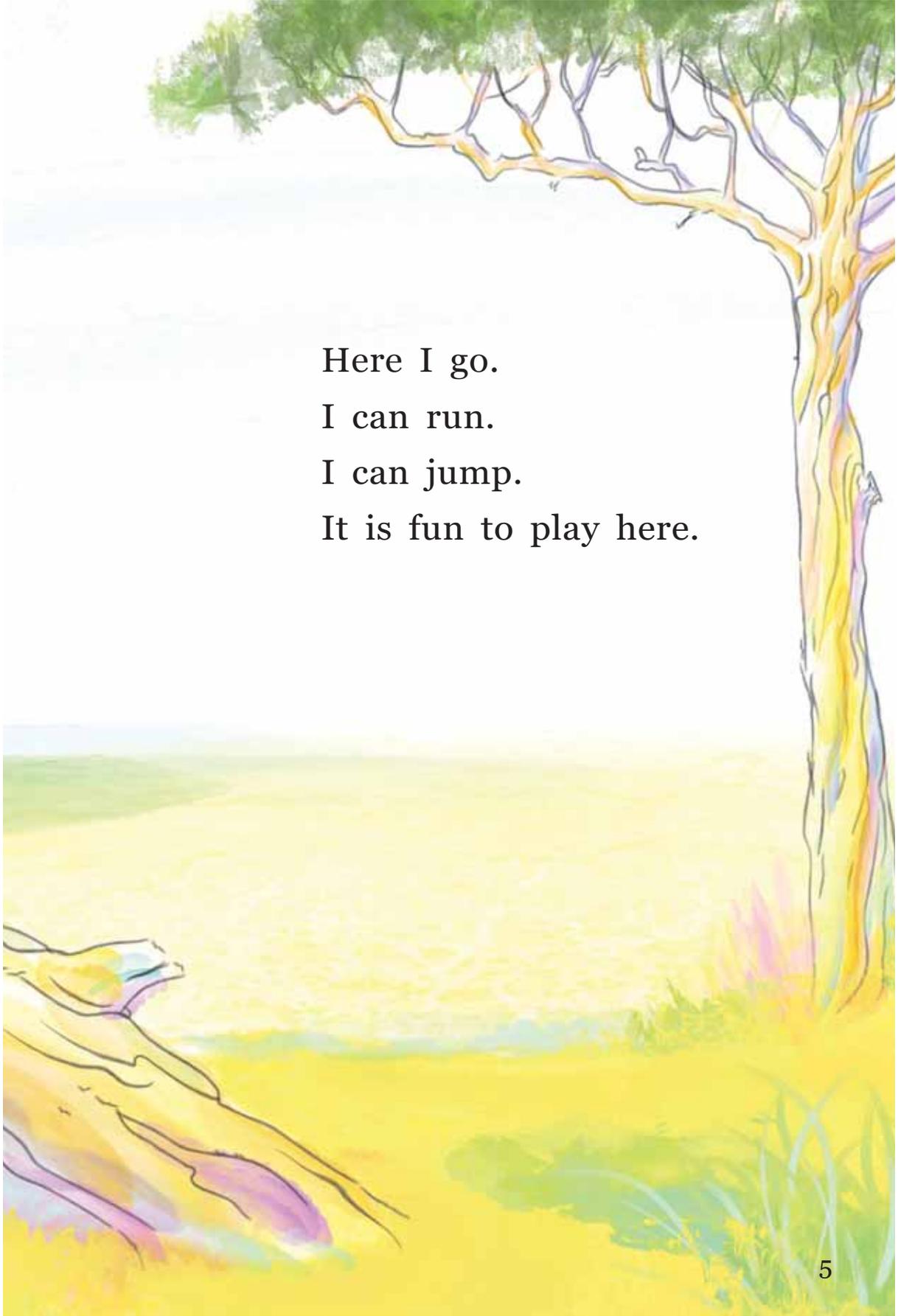
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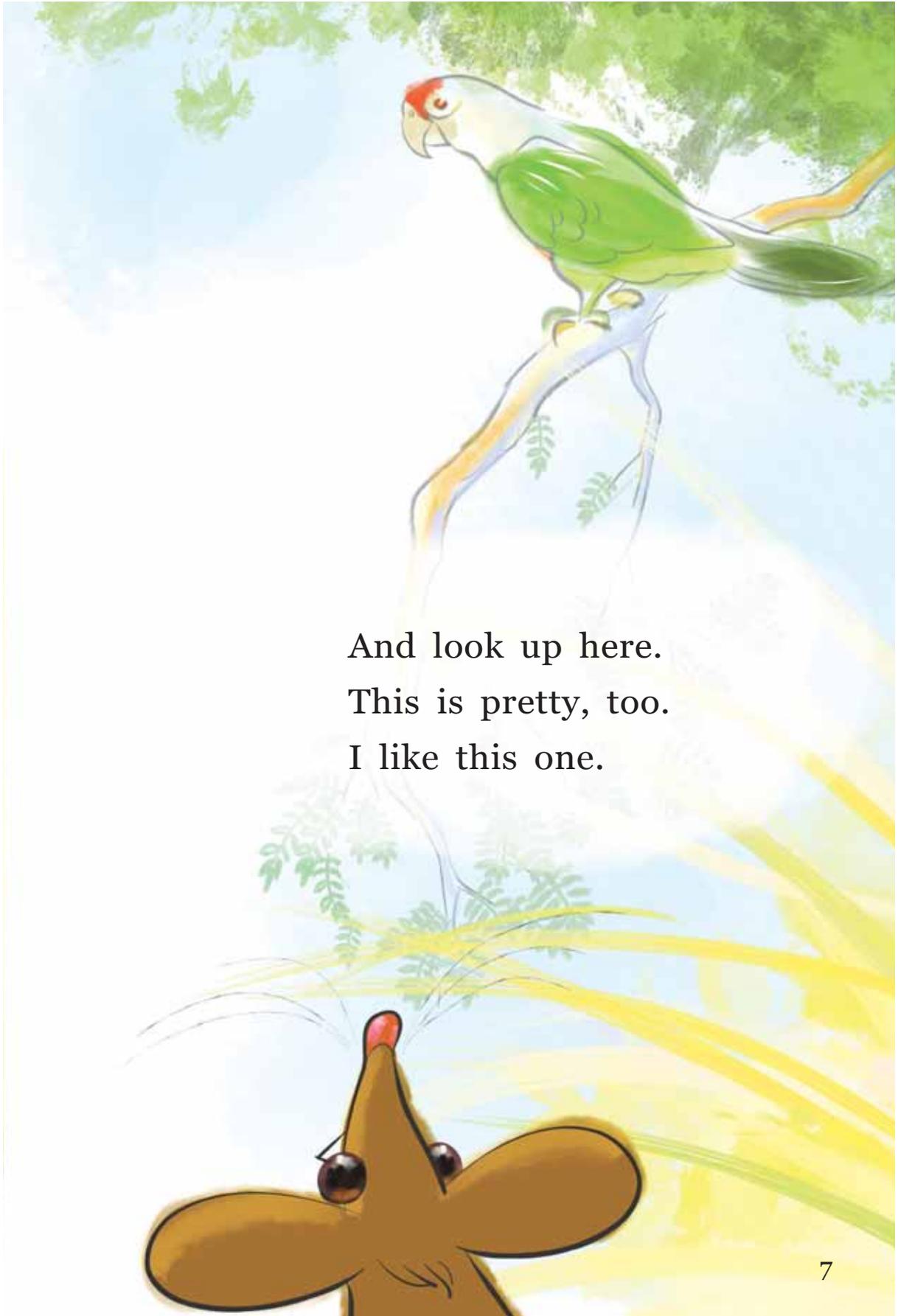




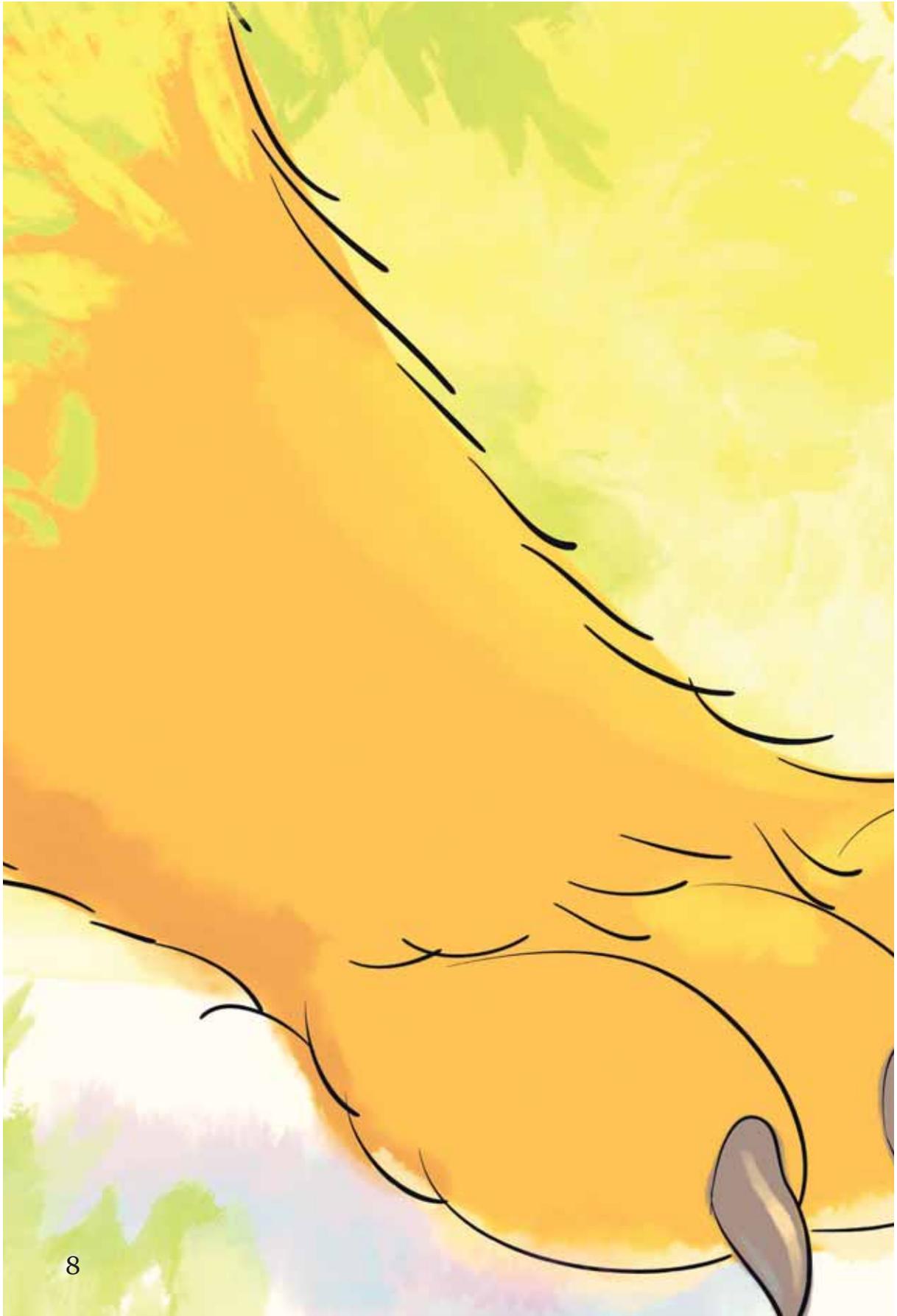
Here I go.
I can run.
I can jump.
It is fun to play here.



Oh, look here.
Here is something pretty.
Red, yellow, and blue.



And look up here.
This is pretty, too.
I like this one.



But what is this?
I can not run.
I can not jump.
I do not like this.

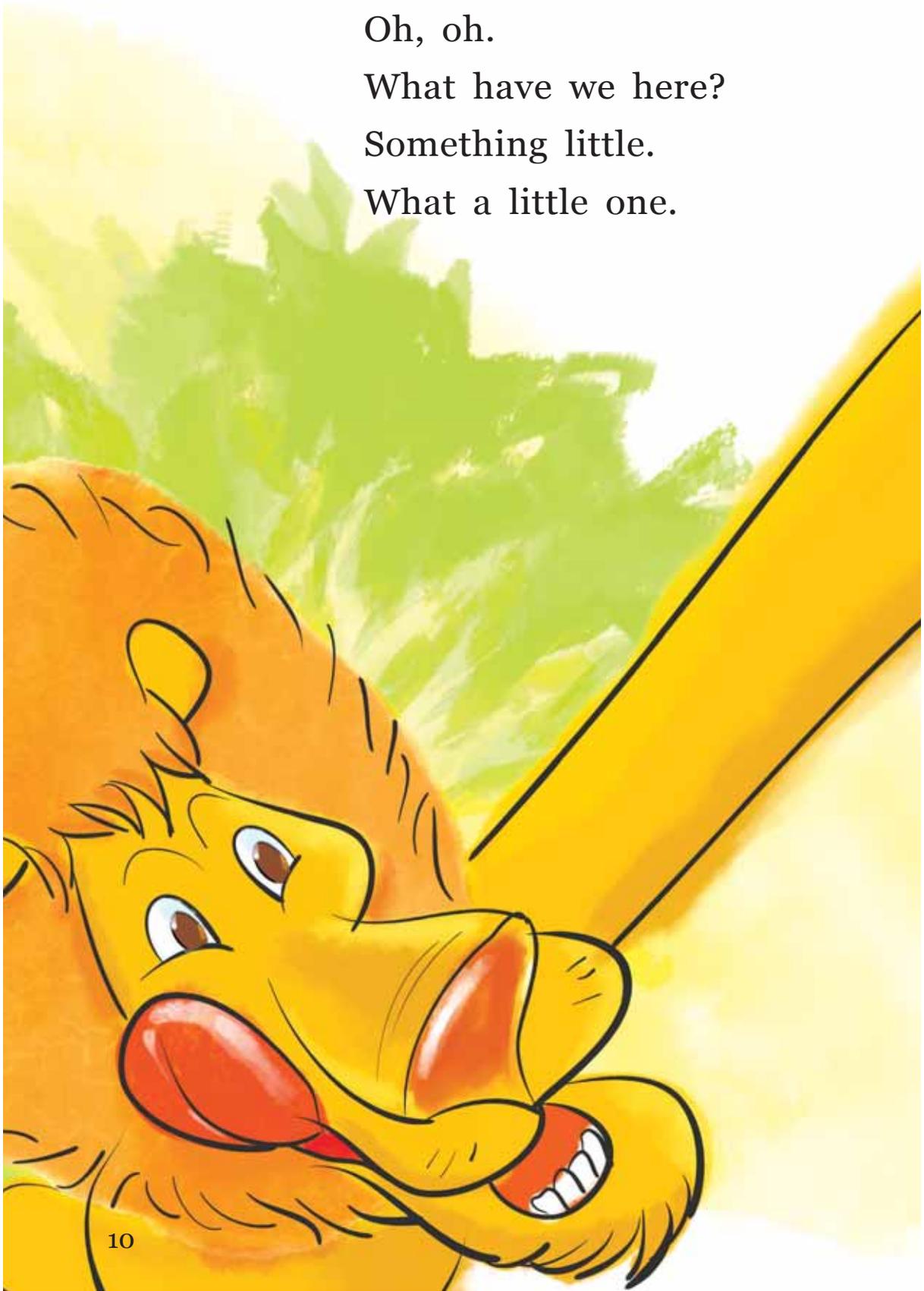


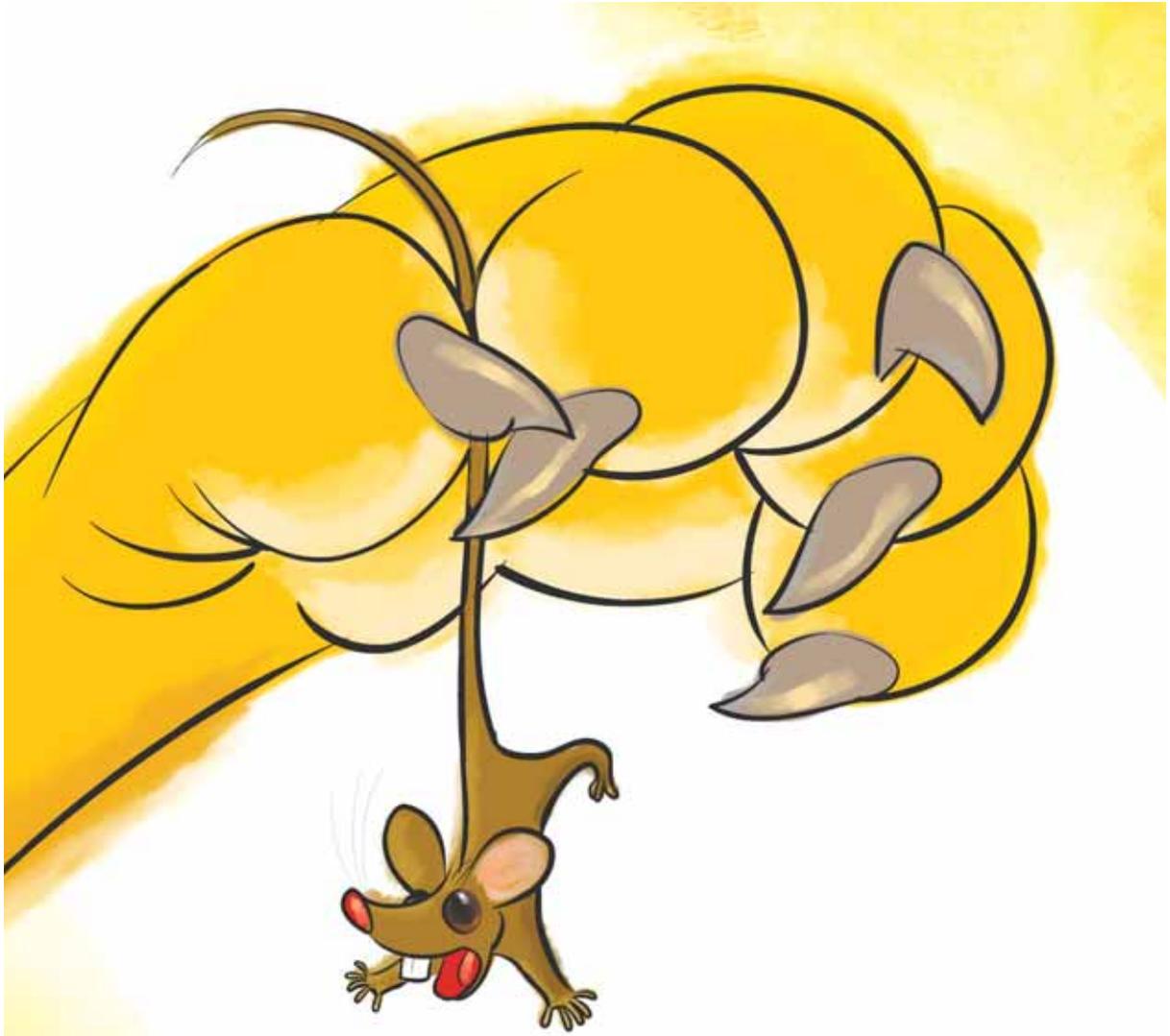
Oh, oh.

What have we here?

Something little.

What a little one.





But not too little for
me to eat.

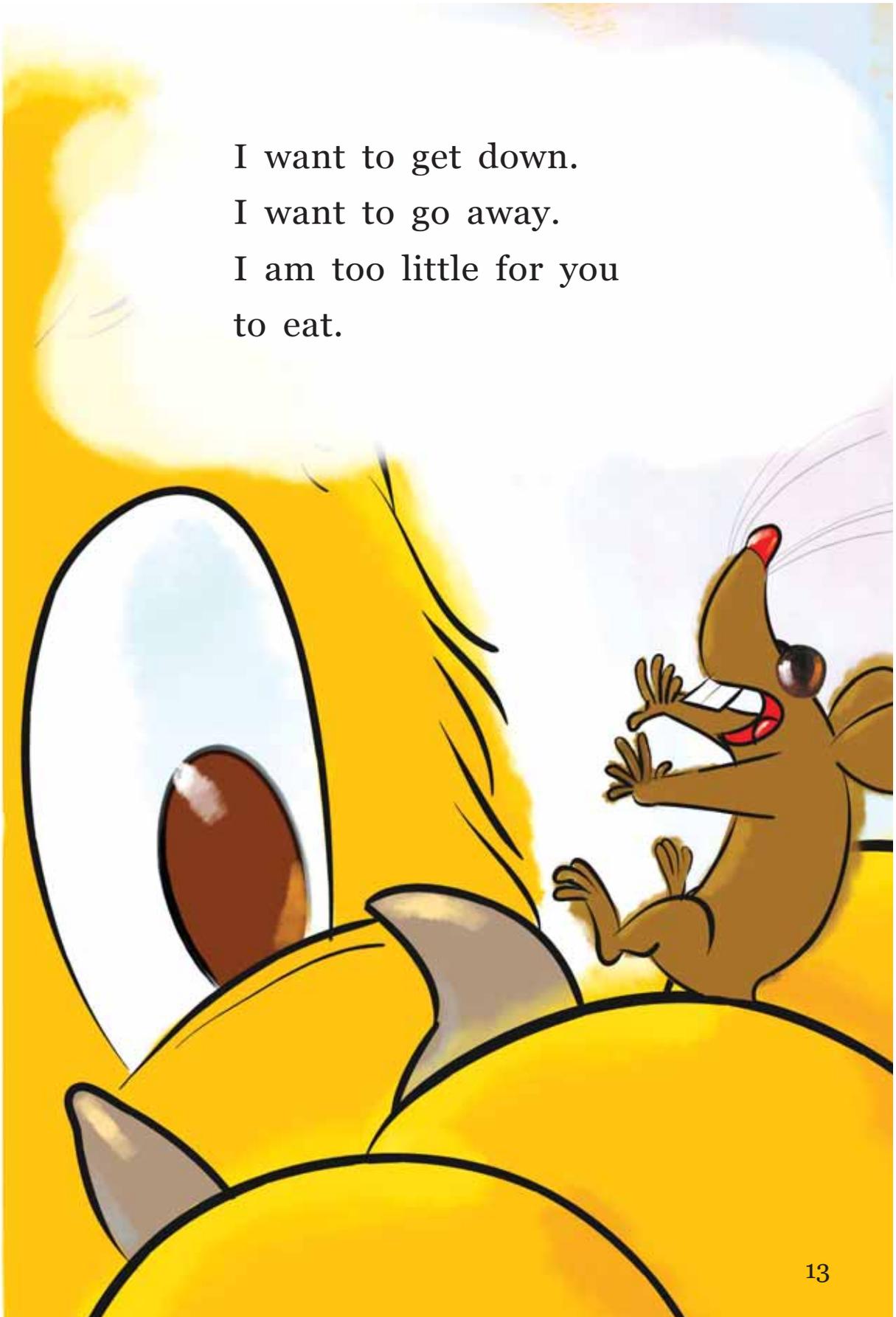
You are good to eat.

I will eat you up.

Oh, help, help.
I do not want you to
eat me.
No, no, no.



I want to get down.
I want to go away.
I am too little for you
to eat.



Yes, I guess so.

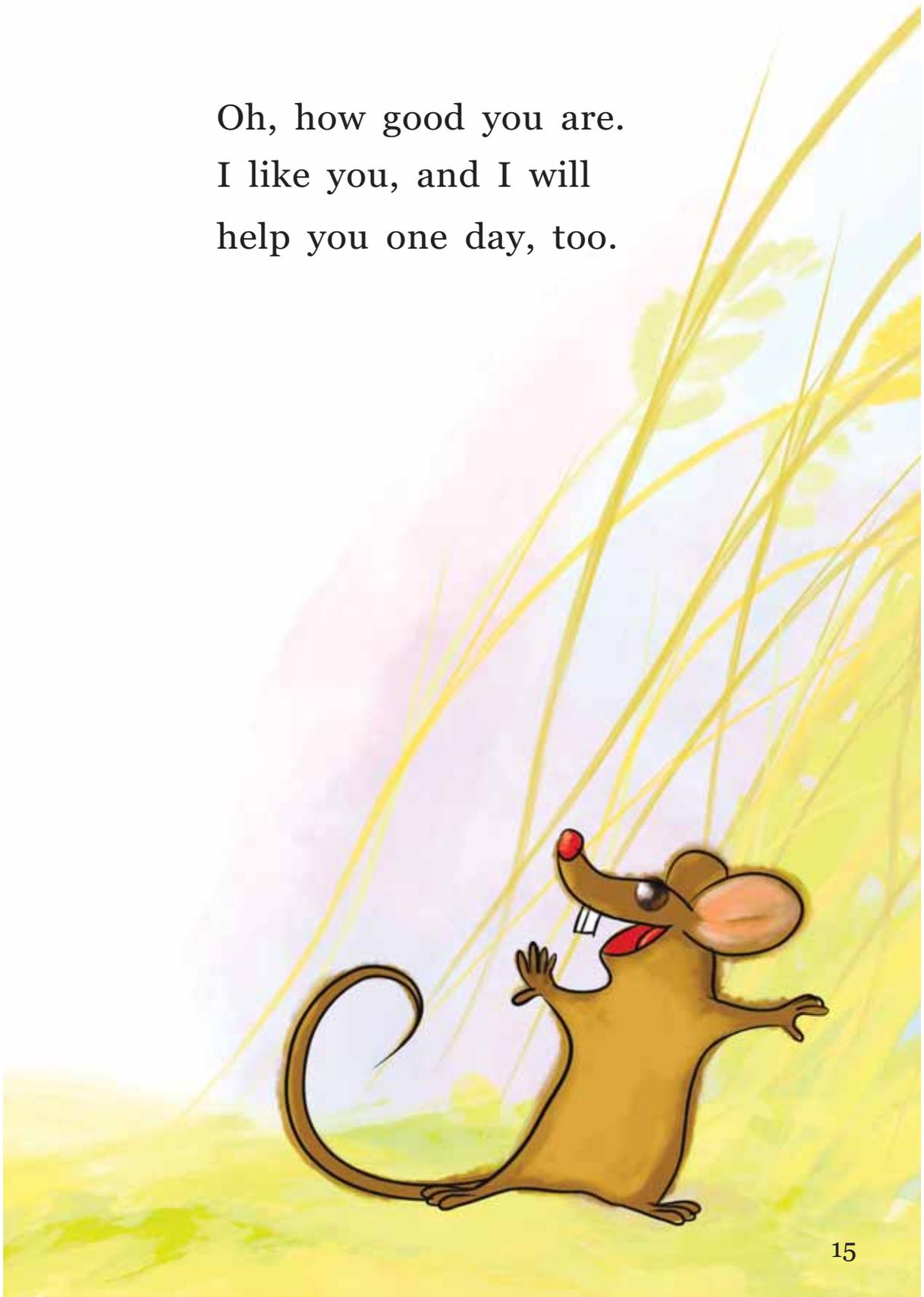
I guess you are pretty little.

Go, go.

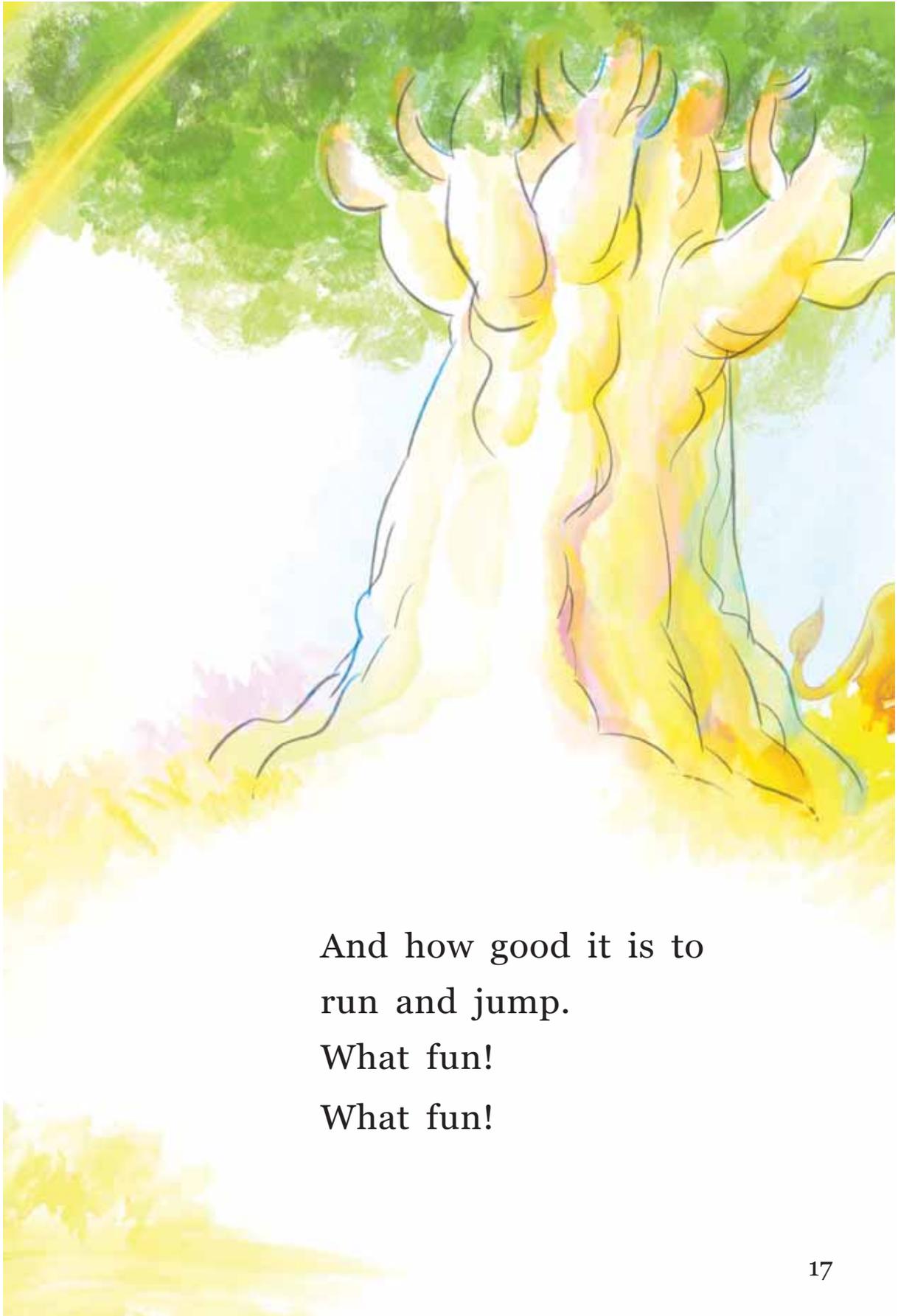
Run, run, run.



Oh, how good you are.
I like you, and I will
help you one day, too.





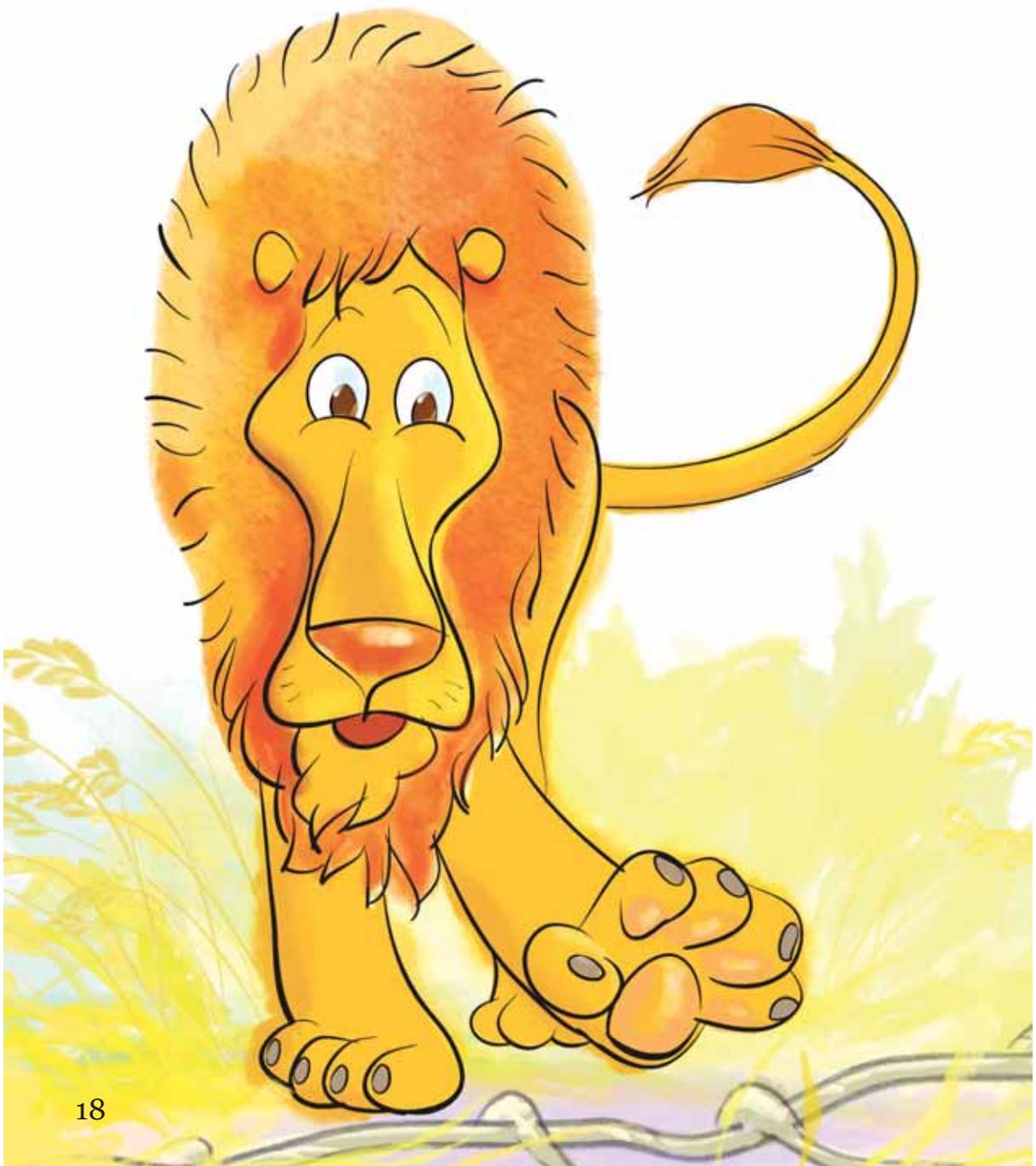


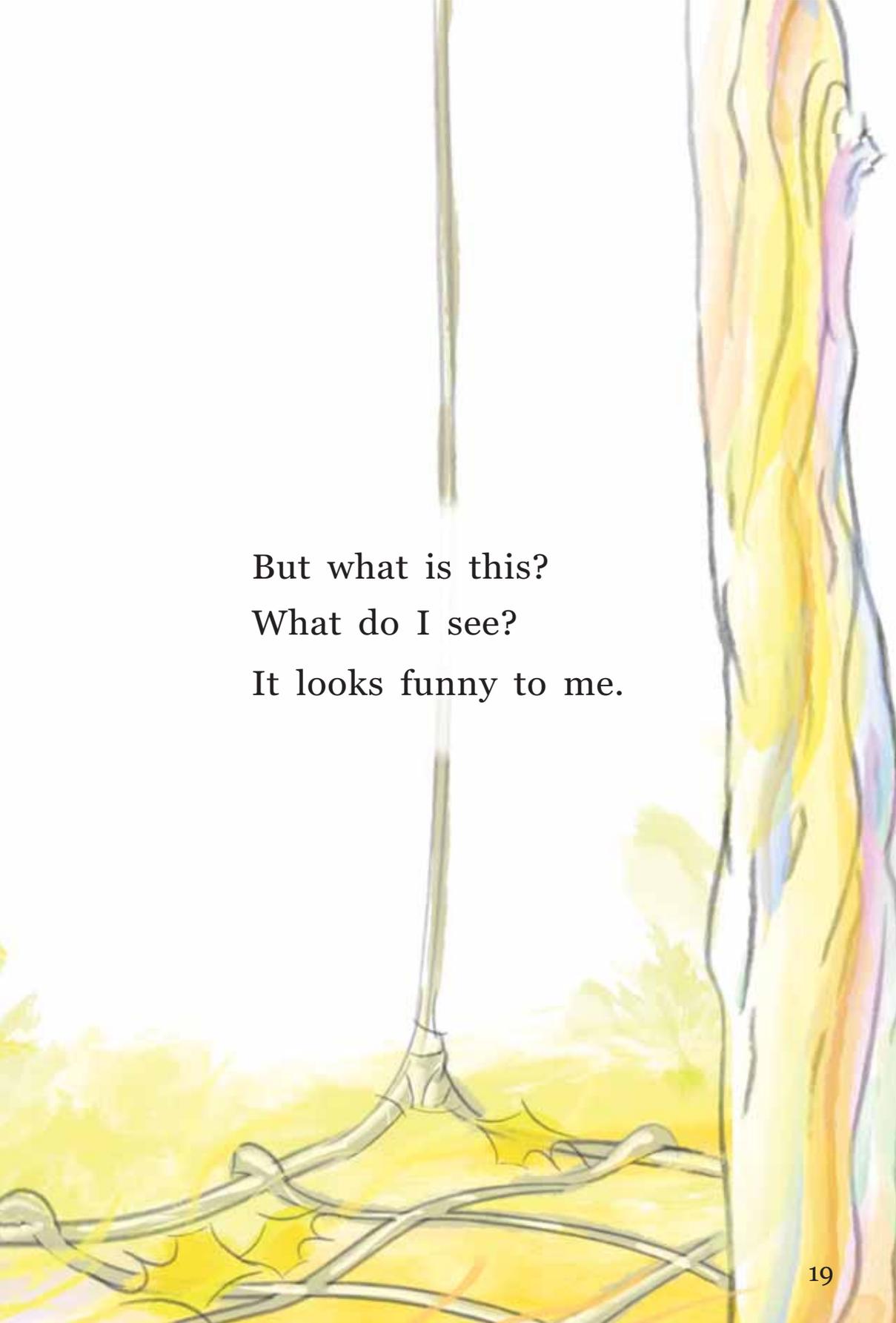
And how good it is to
run and jump.

What fun!

What fun!

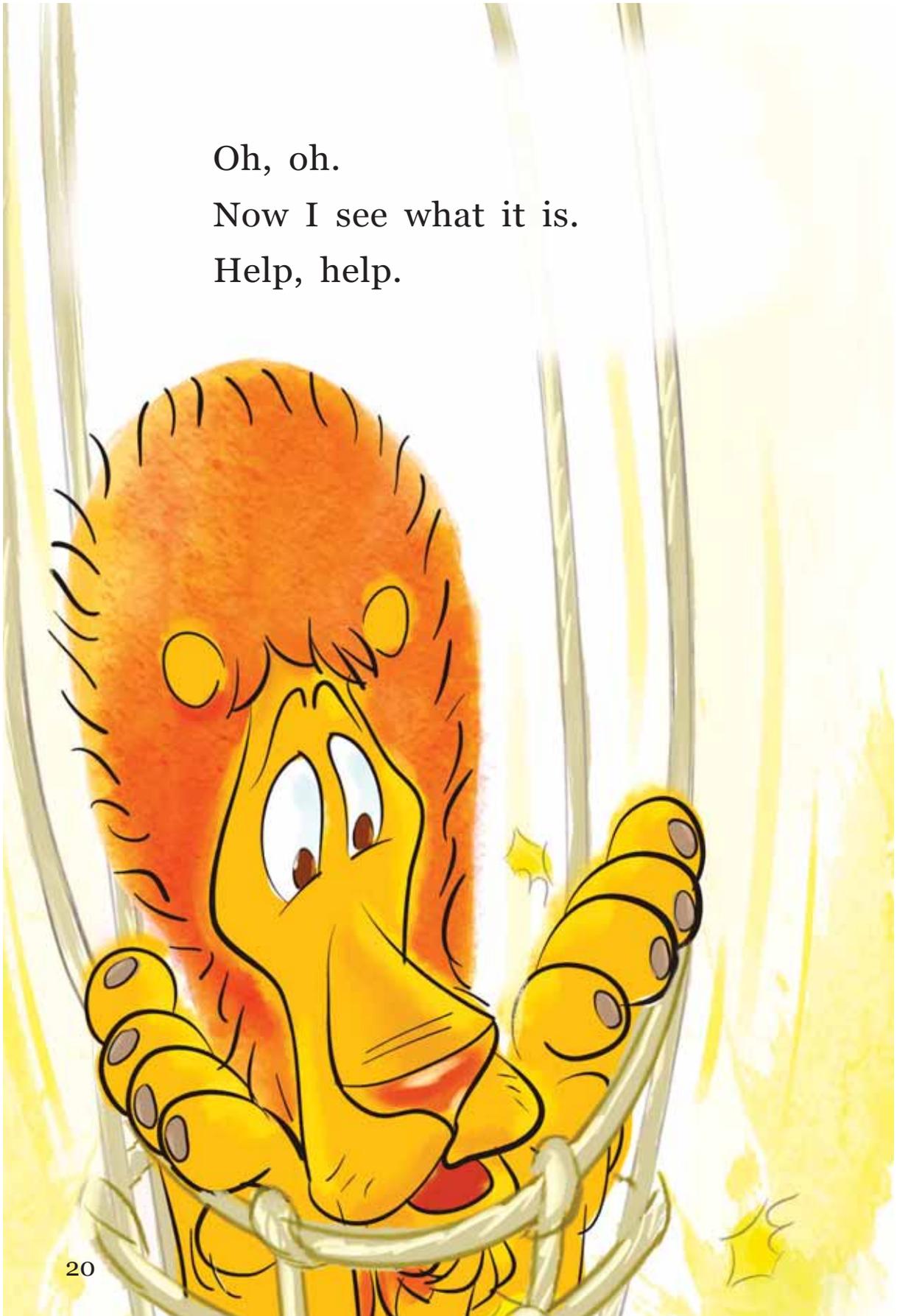
I like it here, too.
This is a good spot for me.
I like to walk here.

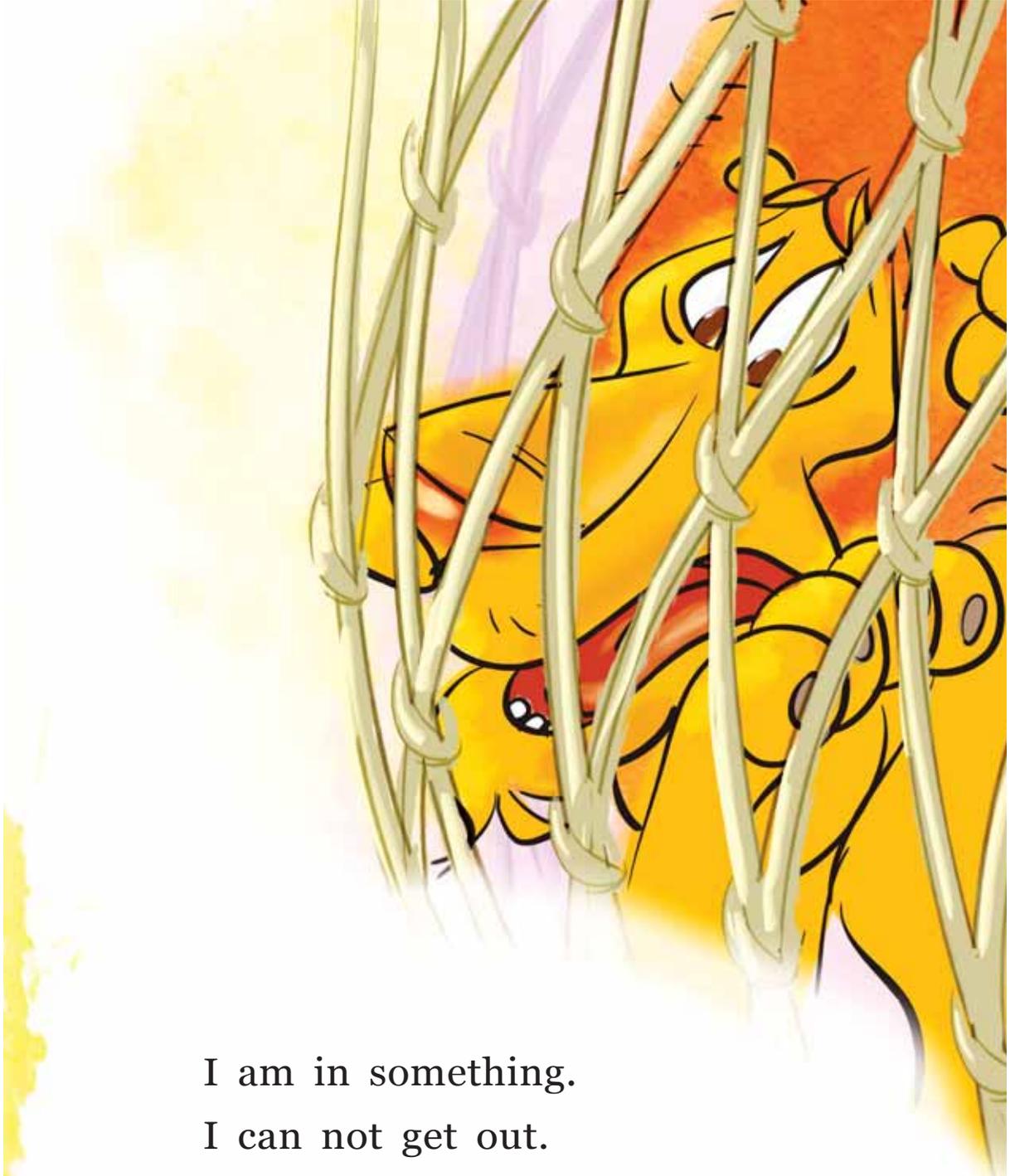


An illustration of two tree trunks. The trunk on the left is a simple, greyish-brown color. The trunk on the right is much more colorful, with a rainbow-like pattern of yellow, orange, red, purple, and blue. The background is a soft, yellowish-green wash, suggesting a grassy or wooded area. The style is simple and artistic.

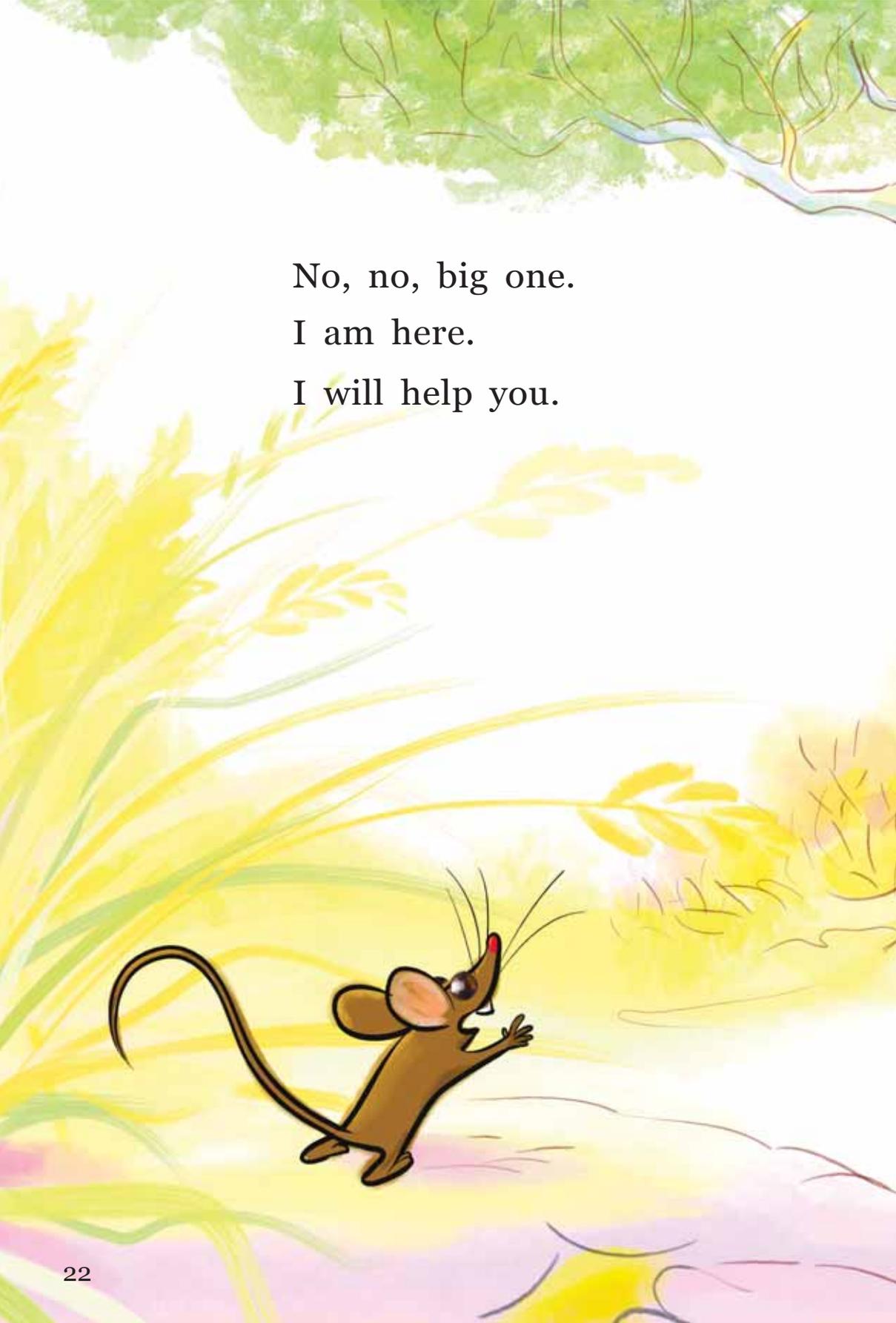
But what is this?
What do I see?
It looks funny to me.

Oh, oh.
Now I see what it is.
Help, help.





I am in something.
I can not get out.
What will I do?
Men will come and get me.

A cartoon illustration of a brown mouse with a long tail and whiskers, standing on a patch of pinkish ground. The mouse is looking upwards and to the right, with its mouth open as if speaking. The background consists of tall, yellow-green grasses and a bright, hazy sky. At the top of the page, there are green, leafy branches of a tree.

No, no, big one.

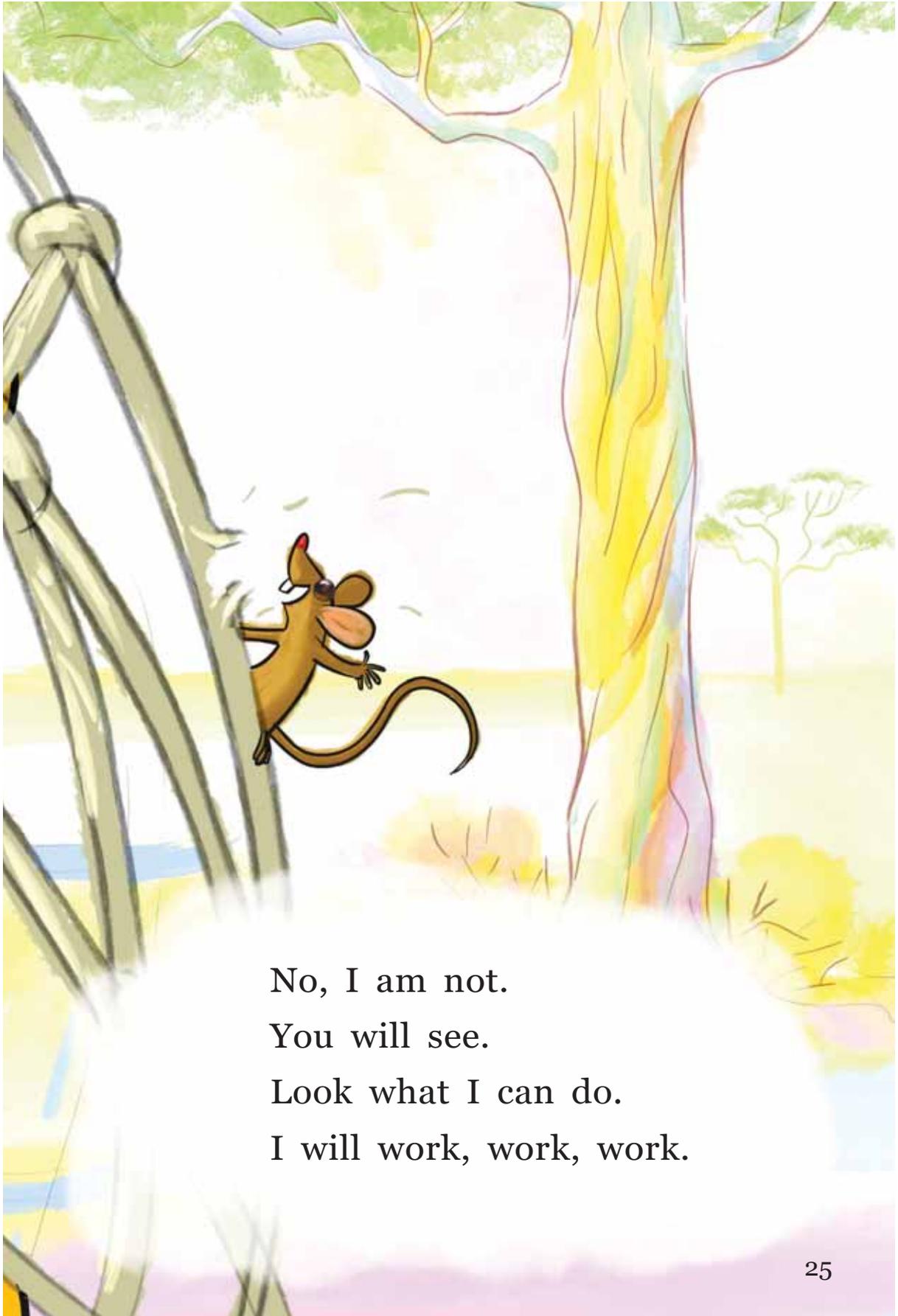
I am here.

I will help you.

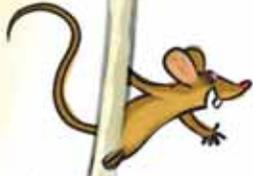


You!
You help me!
What can you do?
You are too little.





No, I am not.
You will see.
Look what I can do.
I will work, work, work.

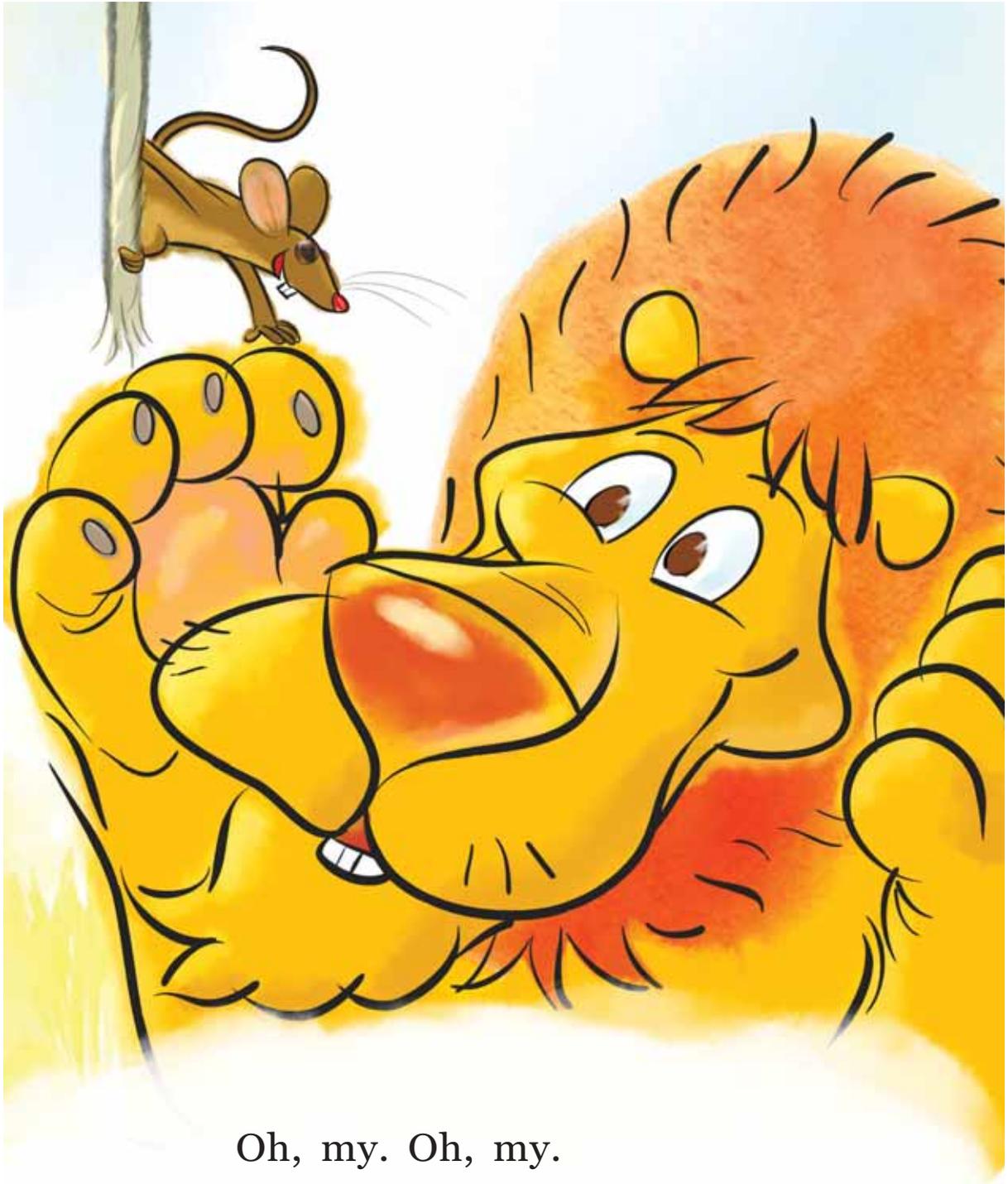


Look at you now.

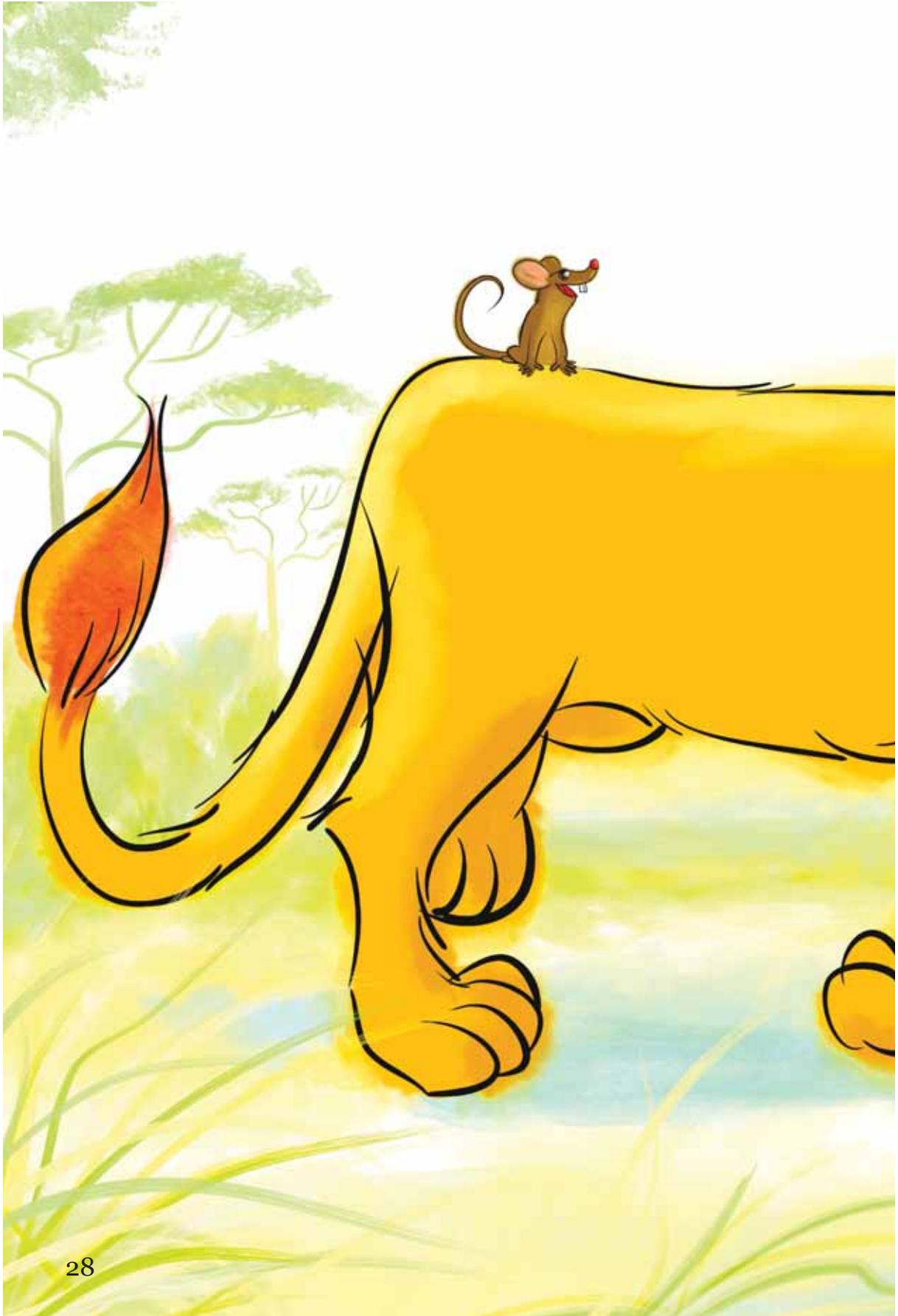
Get up. Get up.

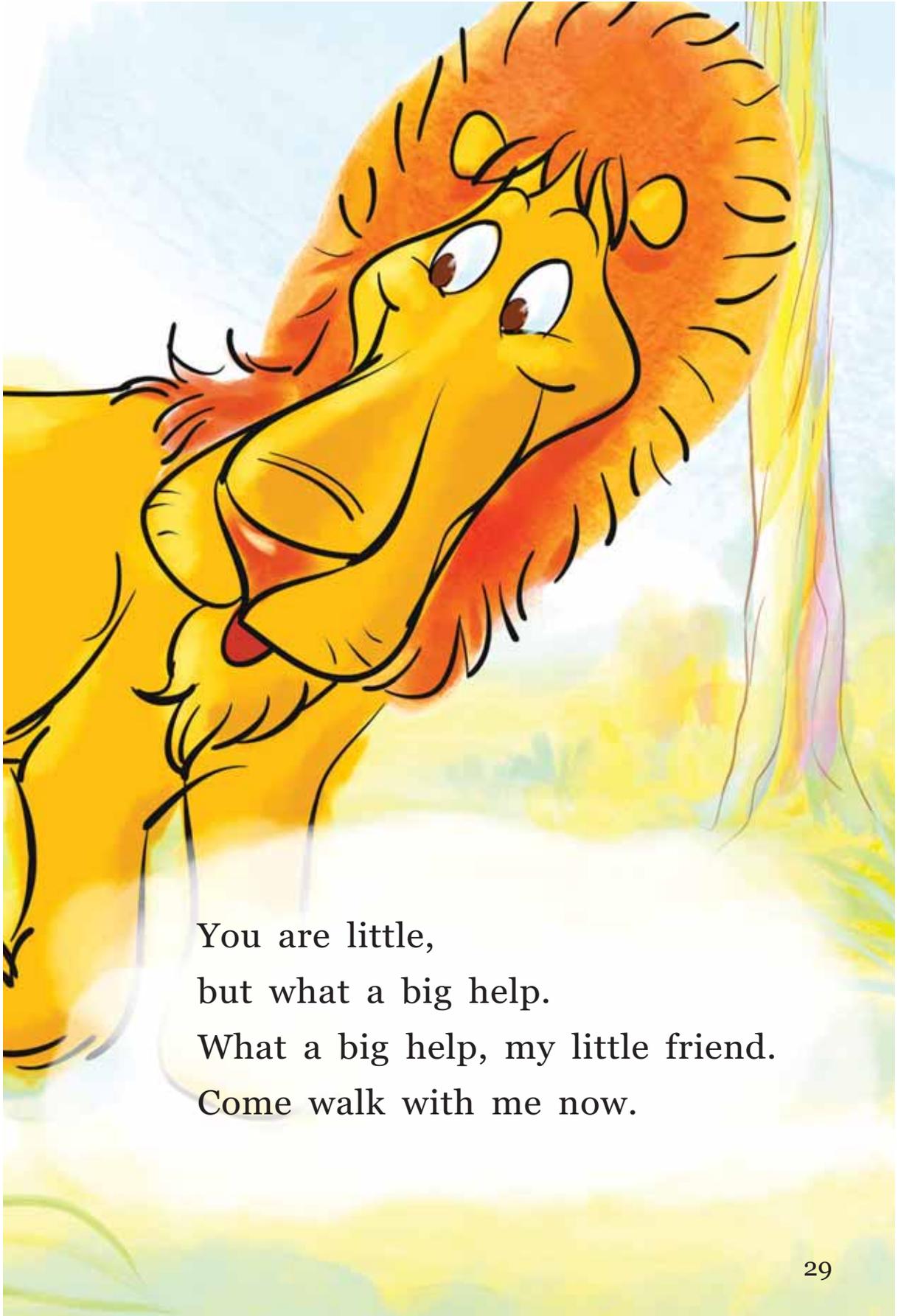
Now a man can not get you.



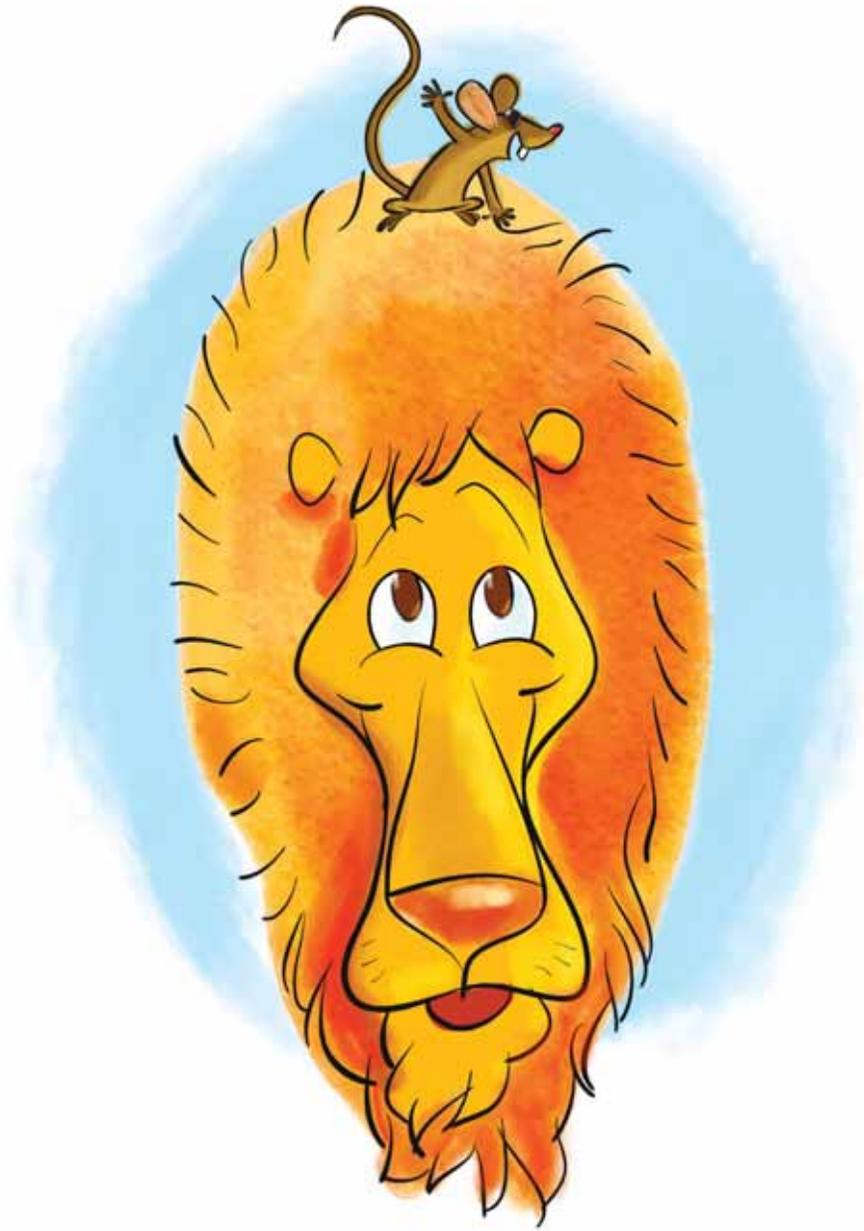


Oh, my. Oh, my.
You did something good for me.
It makes me happy.





You are little,
but what a big help.
What a big help, my little friend.
Come walk with me now.



About the Author

Over a million children worldwide have learned to read and to love reading thanks to Margaret Hillert. She developed her knack for writing exciting books for beginning readers during her 34 years as a first-grade teacher. She continued writing into her '90s, and published over eighty books for children. Margaret's use of a controlled vocabulary of high-frequency words helps children gain confidence and reading fluency. Her wonderful stories spark their interest.

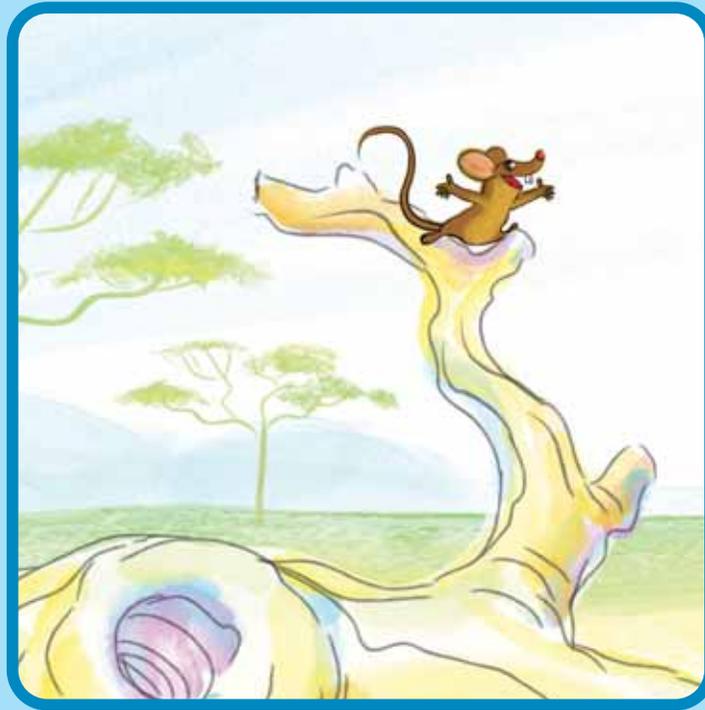
Margaret earned a teaching degree from Wayne State University in 1948, after completing a nursing degree in 1944 at the University of Michigan. In addition to writing children's books, Margaret authored a book of poetry for adults, wrote magazine articles, gave lectures, and always found time to read to children at her local library. In 1993, Margaret won a prestigious award from the Woman's National Book Association for her contribution to early reading, but believed her biggest reward to be the three generations of students whom she taught to read.

Margaret passed away in 2014.

Vocabulary - 66 Words

a	happy	out
am	have	play
and	help	pretty
are	here	red
away	how	run
big	I	so
blue	in	something
but	is	spot
can	it	this
come	jump	to
day	like	too
did	little	up
do	look	walk
down	makes	want
eat	man	we
for	men	what
friend	me	will
fun	no	with
get	not	work
go	now	yellow
good	oh	yes
guess	one	you

SB271



A tiny mouse goes exploring and meets a big lion. What will happen next?

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