

WAGGERS

For Rainer, who is a dog's best friend.

WAGGERS



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Waggies tried to be good. He tried really hard. When he saw Moni and Michael, he sat very straight and perked his ears. But when they picked Waggies up, his tail twirled so hard it sent the other puppies flying.

"That's some tail," said Mom.

"I'll say," said Dad.

"Yeah!" said Moni and Michael.

They begged and pleaded until Mom and Dad were swayed. It was only a tail. How much harm could it do?



They adopted Waggies and took him home.

"Let's make cookies," Moni said.
Waggers helped Moni get the
ingredients. He kept her company while
she mixed them up. He even tested the
dough without Moni having to ask.

Yum!

His tail started to wag.





"Wagers, no!" Moni said.
But it was REALLY good cookie dough.

"Bad dog, Wagers!" said Mom.

Wagers hung his head. He tried to be good.
He tried really hard. But his tail got in the way.





"There's a monster," Michael whispered. He crouched down. Wagers crouched down. Michael crept toward the sofa. Wagers crept, too. He even pounced on the monster's shoes without Michael having to ask.

Mmmmm!
His tail started to wag.

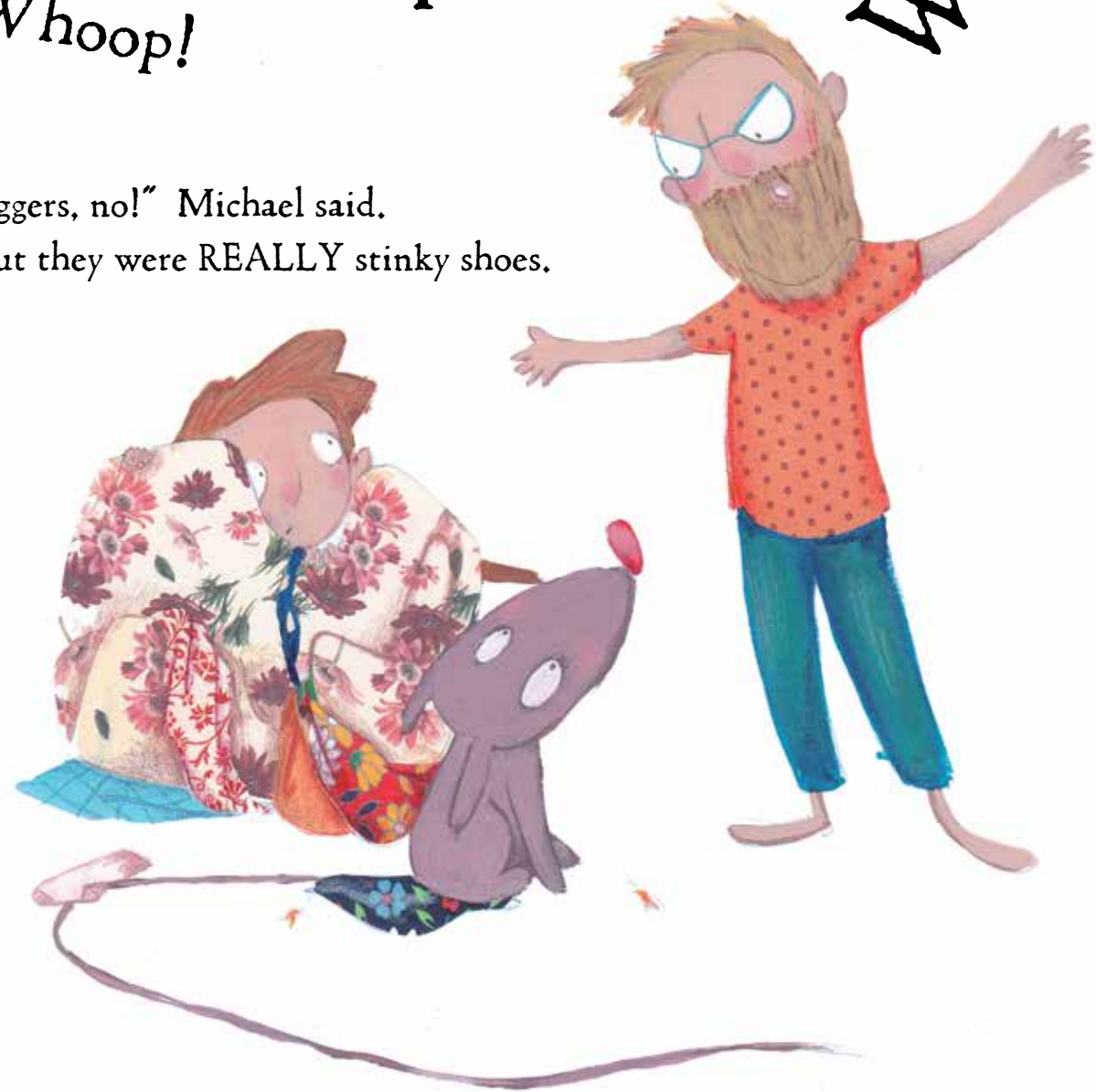


Whoop! Whoop!
Whoop!

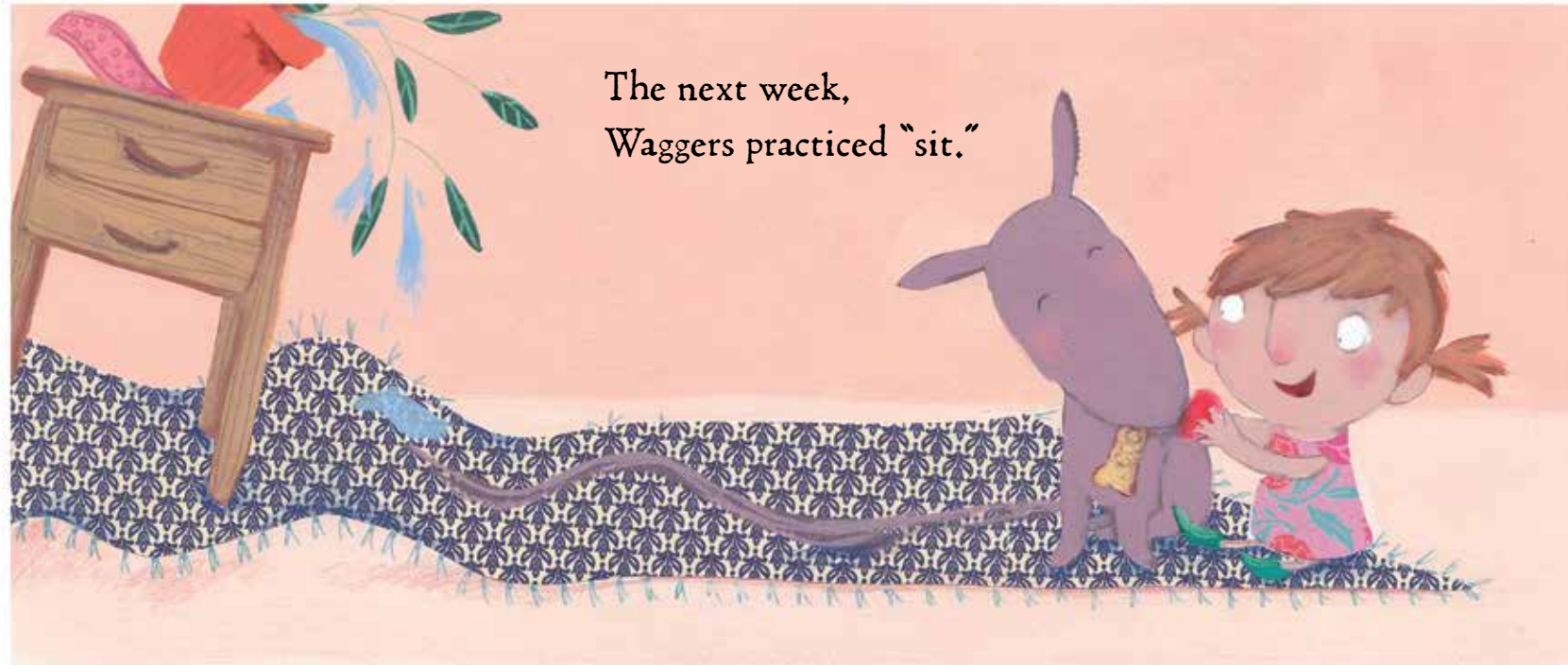
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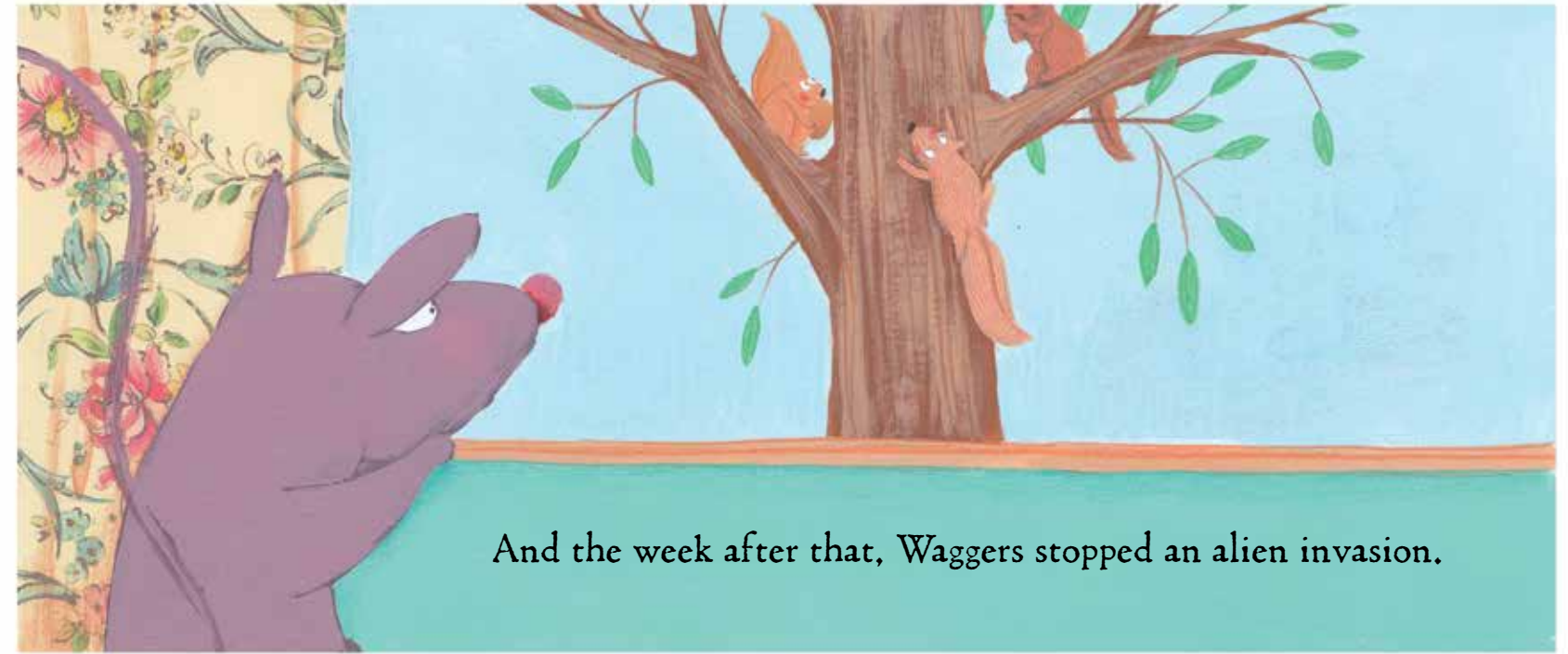
"Waggers, no!" Michael said.
But they were REALLY stinky shoes.



"Bad dog, Waggers!" said Dad.
Waggers hung his head. He tried to be good. He
tried really hard. But his tail got in the way.



The next week,
Waggers practiced "sit."



And the week after that, Waggers stopped an alien invasion.



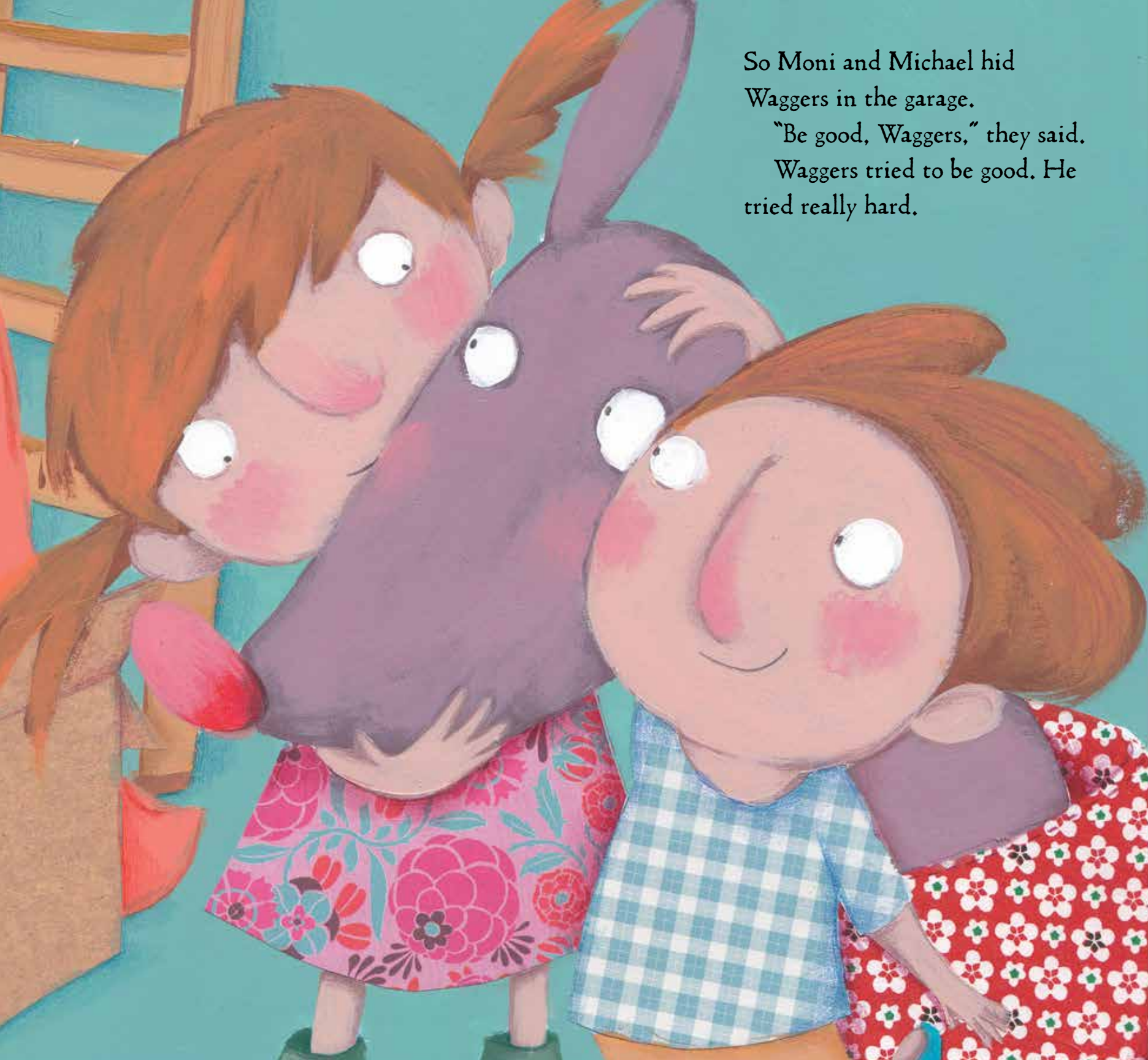
The week after that, he
found hidden treasure.



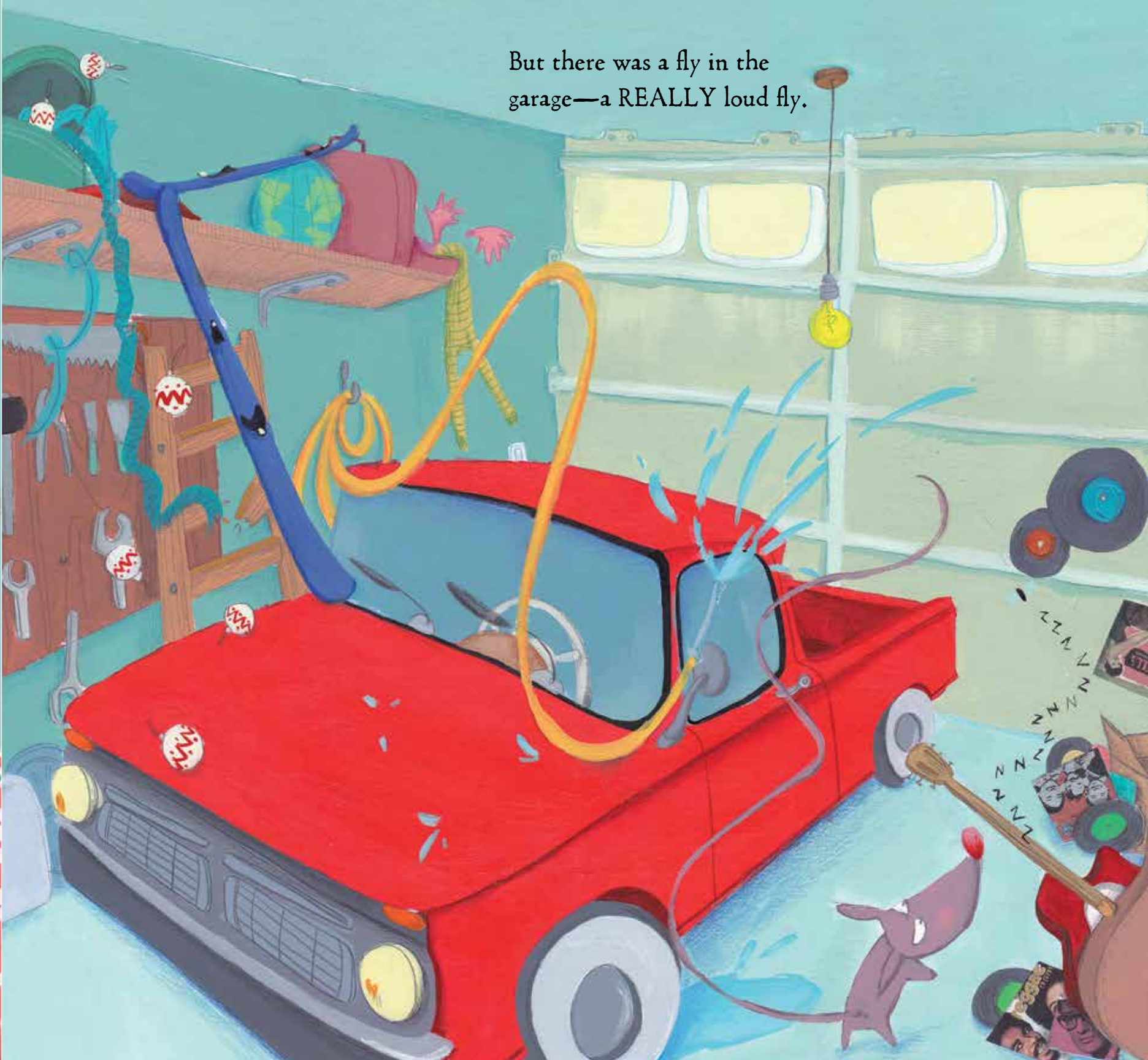


"Something's got to be done about that dog," said Mom.
"He's ruining our house," said Dad.



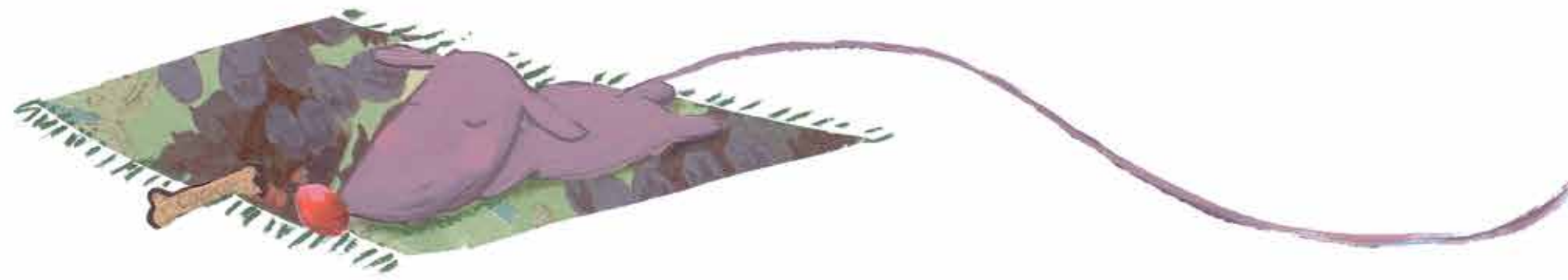


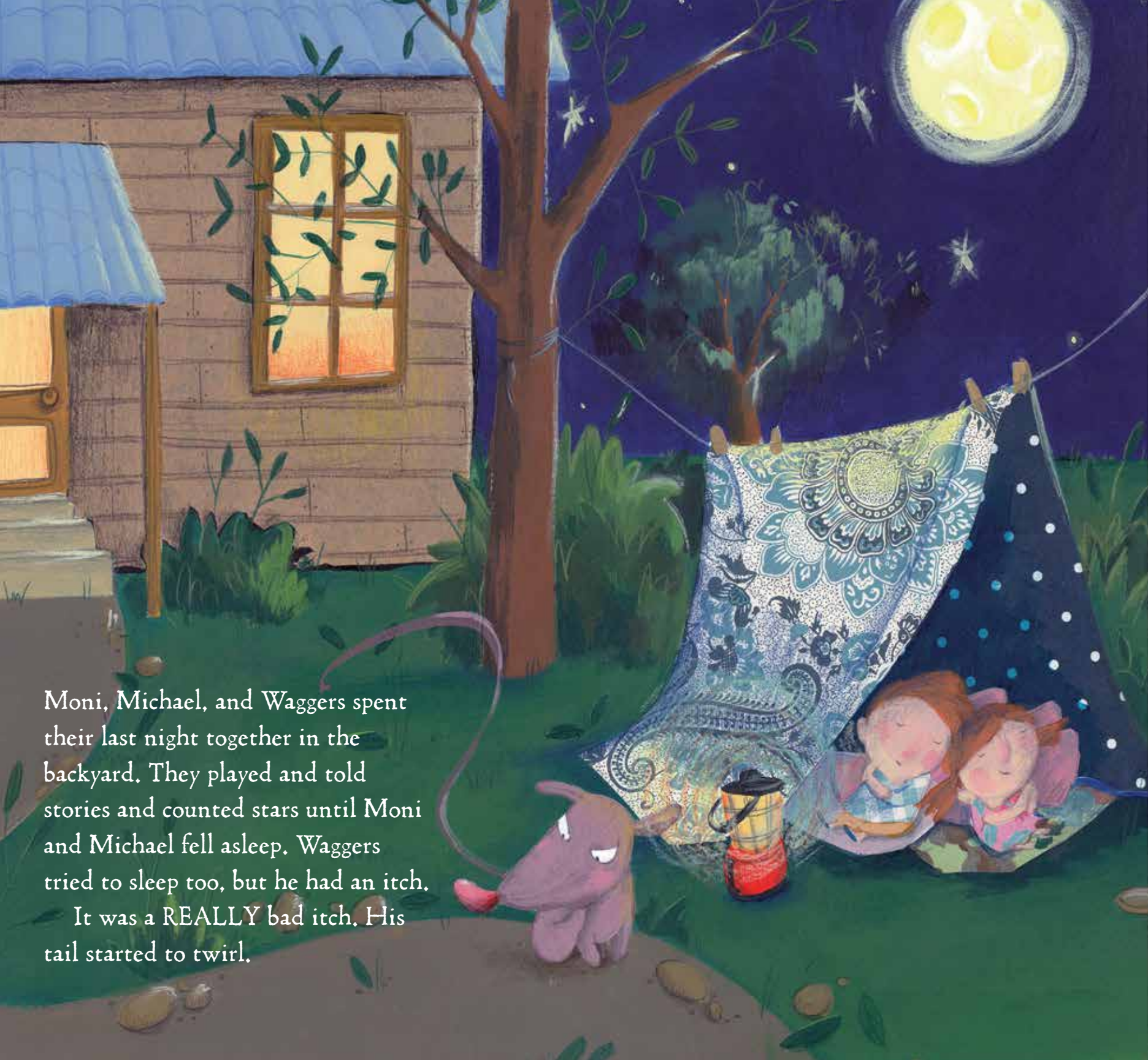
So Moni and Michael hid
Waggers in the garage.
"Be good, Waggers," they said.
Waggers tried to be good. He
tried really hard.



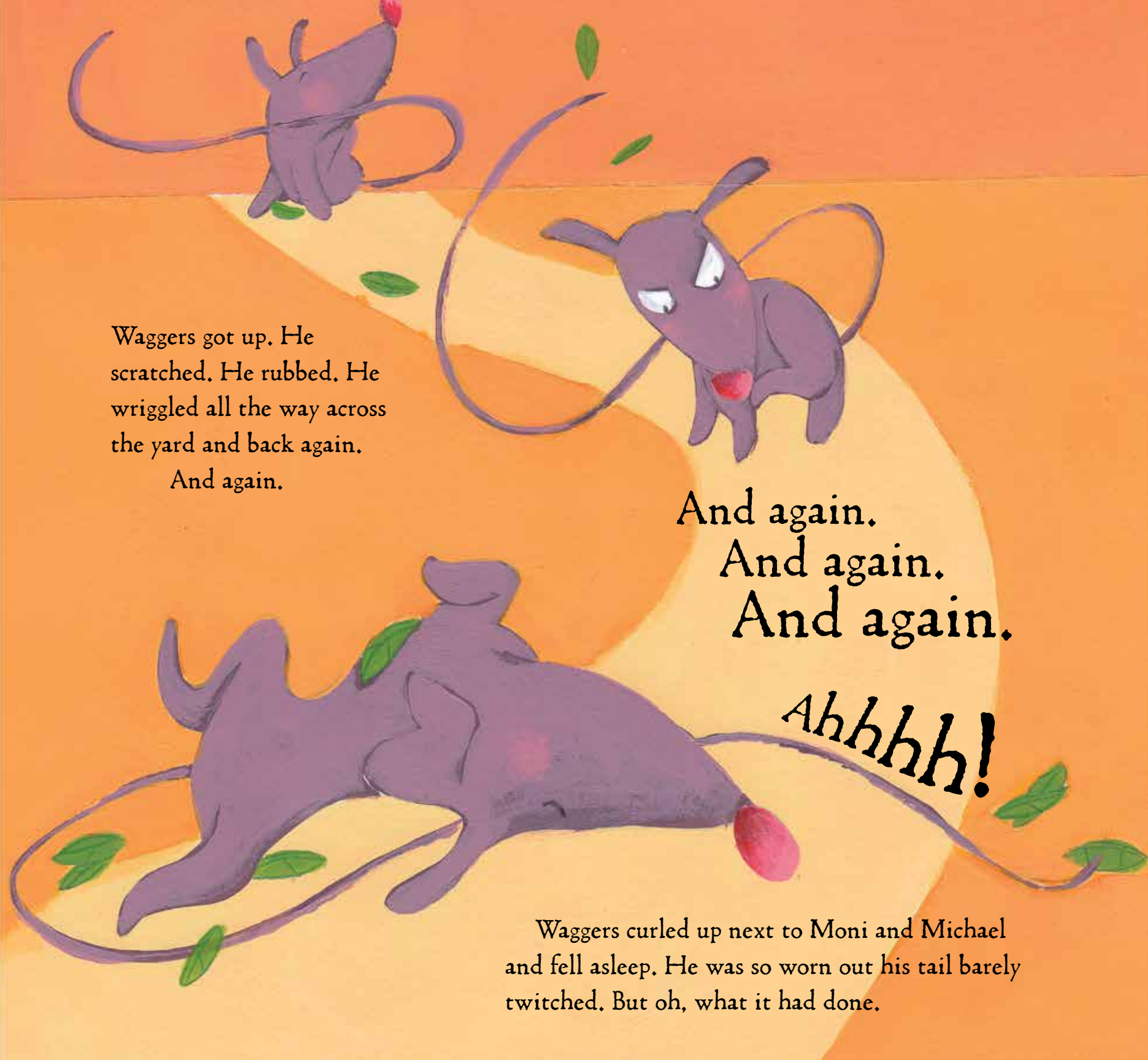
But there was a fly in the
garage—a REALLY loud fly.

Mom and Dad decided Waggars needed a new home. Moni and Michael begged and pleaded, but it was no use. The house was falling apart. It couldn't take one more wag.





Moni, Michael, and Wagers spent their last night together in the backyard. They played and told stories and counted stars until Moni and Michael fell asleep. Wagers tried to sleep too, but he had an itch. It was a REALLY bad itch. His tail started to twirl.



Wagers got up. He scratched. He rubbed. He wriggled all the way across the yard and back again. And again.

And again.
And again.
And again.

Ahhhh!

Wagers curled up next to Moni and Michael and fell asleep. He was so worn out his tail barely twitched. But oh, what it had done.



"My bushes!" said Mom.

"My yard!" said Dad.

Waggers tried to be good. He tried really hard. But his tail . . .



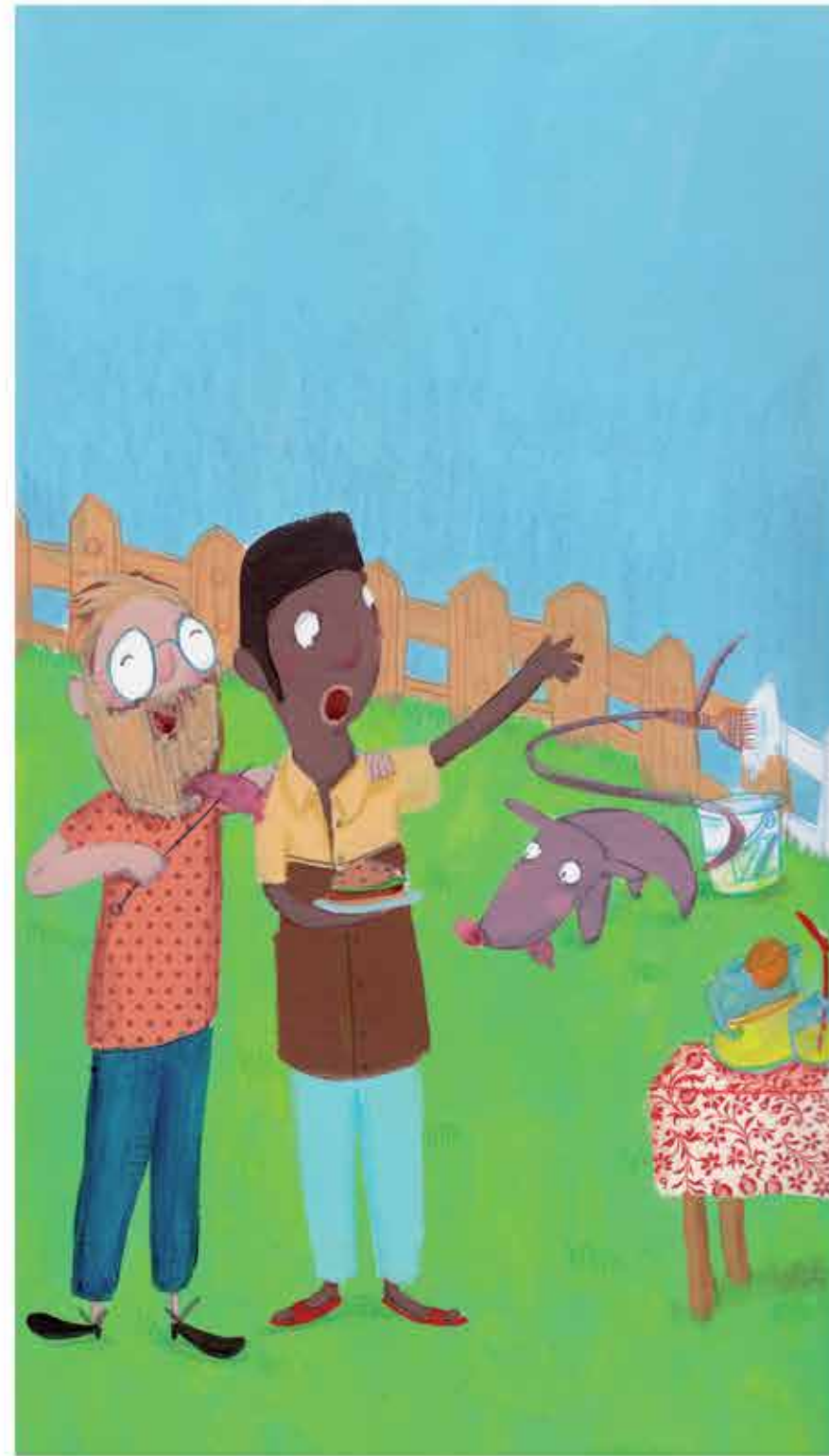


... his tail had cut the grass, trimmed the bushes, and even pruned the drooping branches.

"That's some tail," said Mom.

"I'll say," said Dad.

"Yeah!" said Moni and Michael.



It turned out Wagers didn't need a new home. He needed a new yard. Lots of them. Wagers swept leaves, piled snow, even painted fences.

By dinner each night, his tail was all wagged out.

"Good boy, Wagers!"

Waggers didn't have to try to be good anymore. He was good. He was the best dog ever, and his tail never got in the way again.

Well, almost . . .



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