

Maria and Sebastião

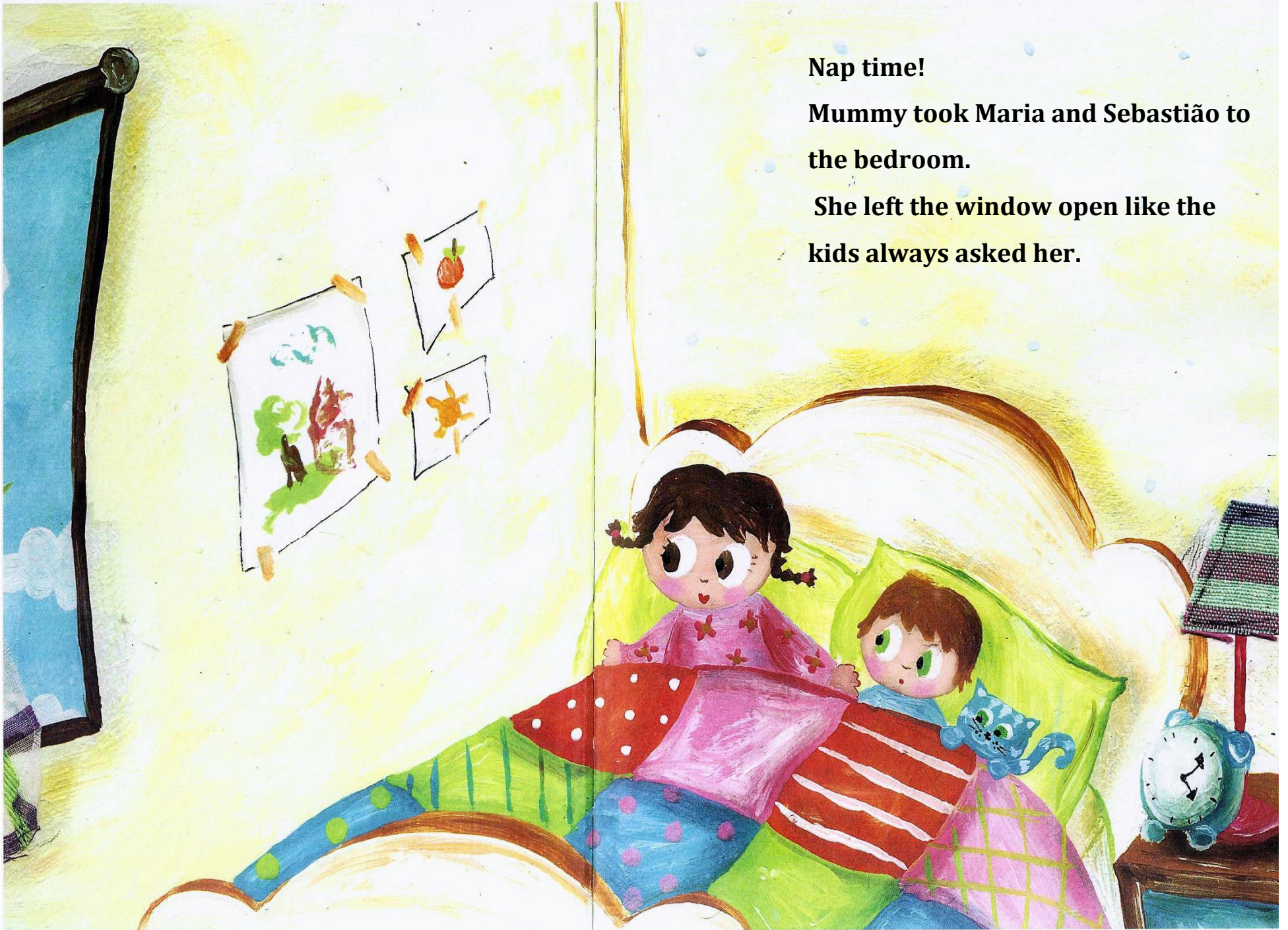
visit the Rainbow Kingdom and learn the colours



Nap time!

**Mummy took Maria and Sebastião to
the bedroom.**

**She left the window open like the
kids always asked her.**



Maria explained to her one day: "You know, Mummy, when we have a nap, we always make a journey."

Mummy smiled: "Of course... A journey to Dreamland..."

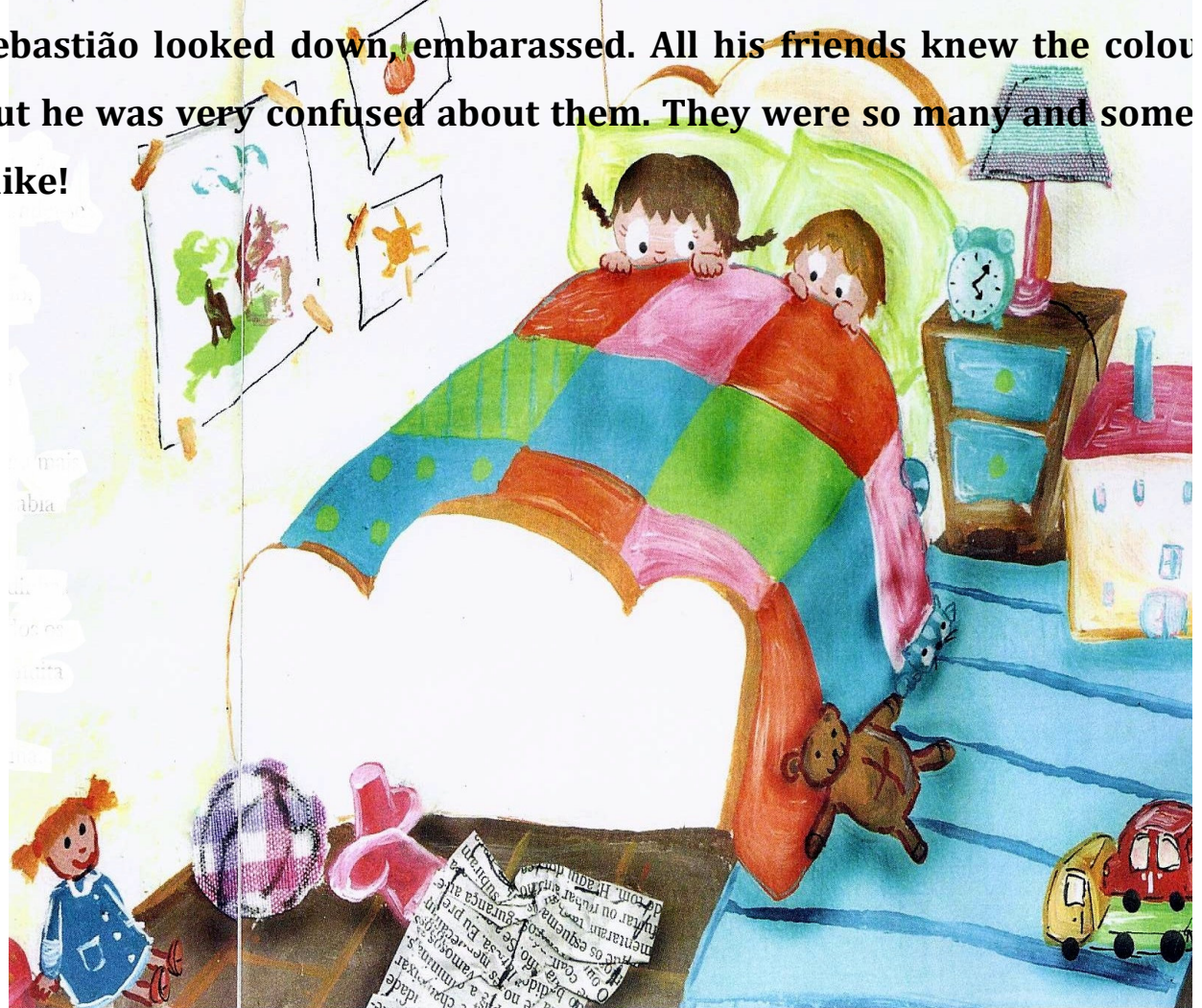
But Maria and Sebastião knew that their journeys were real and went far beyond their dreams...

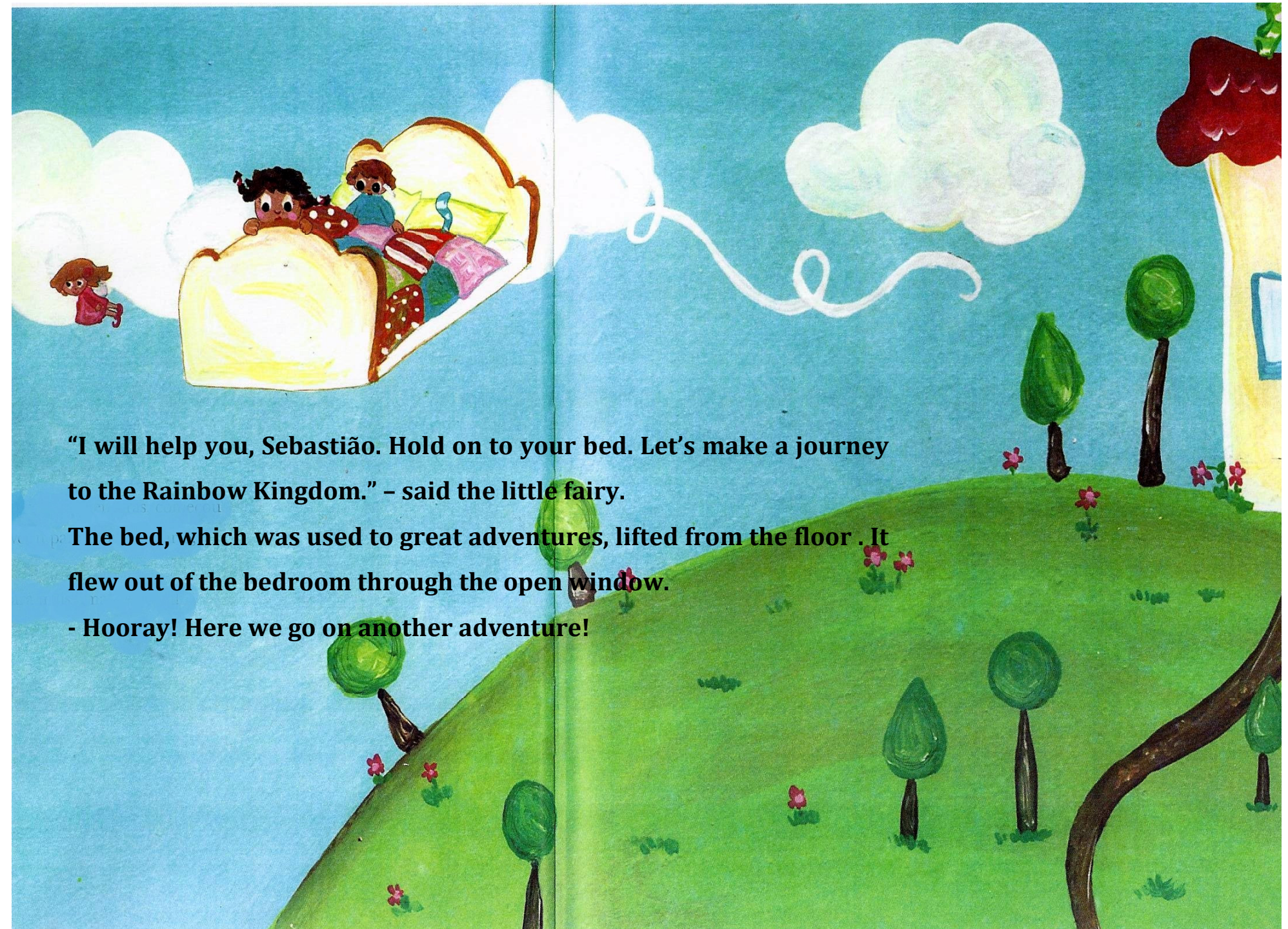




Mummy closed the door and a little fairy appeared, on a colourful dress.
The cat Blue hid under the bed and Sebastião asked: "Who are you?"
"I'm the Rainbow Fairy. I help little boys to learn the colours."
"I know the colours!" – said Maria, showing off.

"But Sebastião doesn't..." – remembered the little fairy.
Sebastião looked down, embarrassed. All his friends knew the colours
but he was very confused about them. They were so many and some
alike!





“I will help you, Sebastião. Hold on to your bed. Let’s make a journey to the Rainbow Kingdom.” – said the little fairy.

The bed, which was used to great adventures, lifted from the floor . It flew out of the bedroom through the open window.

- Hooray! Here we go on another adventure!



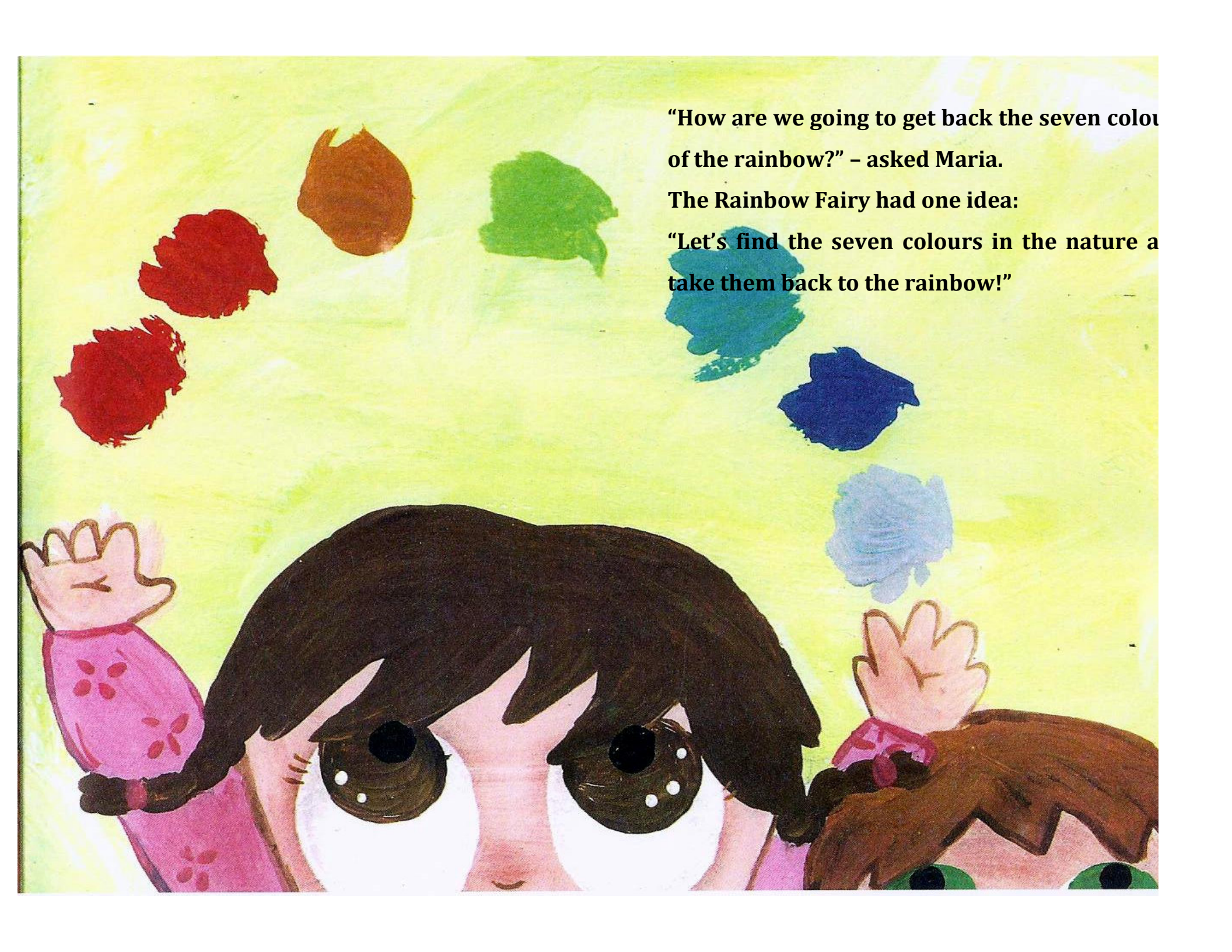
“To enter my kingdom we have to go through the rainbow and say its seven colours.” – explained the little fairy.

“I know them!” – exclaimed Maria. - “Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet.”

But when they got there the rainbow had faded. It was all white and grey. With no fun or colour.

“It must have been a prank from the leprechauns. They can’t learn the colours and sometimes they erase the rainbow so they don’t have to learn them” – told the little fairy.





“How are we going to get back the seven colours of the rainbow?” – asked Maria.

The Rainbow Fairy had one idea:

“Let’s find the seven colours in the nature and take them back to the rainbow!”

“Do you remember the first colour of the rainbow, Sebastião?”

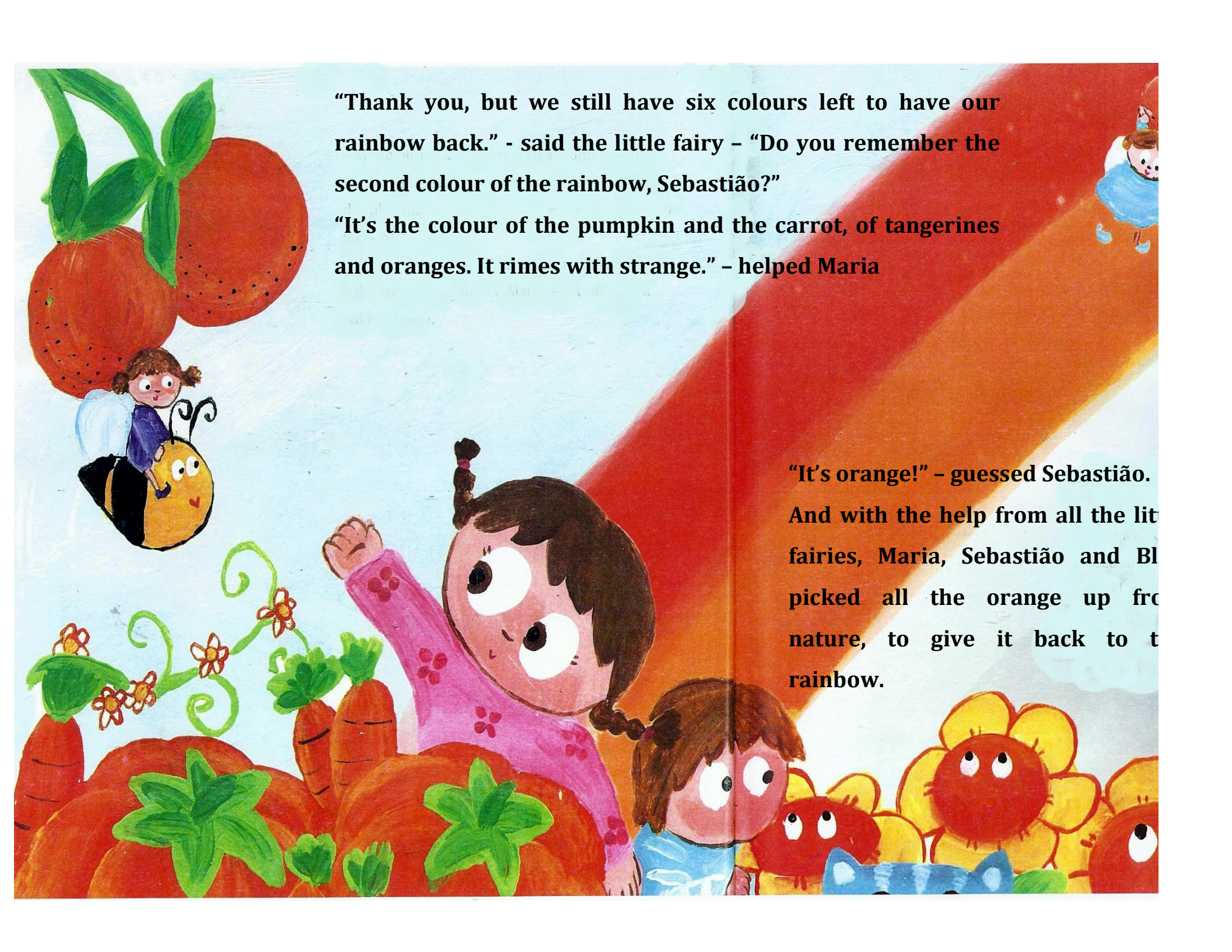
He didn’t remember but Maria helped him:

**“It’s the colour of cherries and strawberries, of ladybugs and poppies.
It rhymes with bed.”**

“It’s red!” – shouted Sebastião, pleased.

**And with the help from all the little fairies, Maria, Sebastião and Blue
picked all the red up from nature, to give it back to the rainbow.**





“Thank you, but we still have six colours left to have our rainbow back.” - said the little fairy - “Do you remember the second colour of the rainbow, Sebastião?”

“It’s the colour of the pumpkin and the carrot, of tangerines and oranges. It rimes with strange.” - helped Maria

**“It’s orange!” - guessed Sebastião.
And with the help from all the lit
fairies, Maria, Sebastião and Bl
picked all the orange up fro
nature, to give it back to t
rainbow.**

An illustration depicting a scene from a story. In the upper left, a large yellow sun is partially visible, with two children hanging from its edge. A string of yellow stars descends from the sun. In the foreground, a girl with dark hair in pigtails holds a large slice of lemon. To her right, a boy with brown hair and green eyes also holds a lemon slice. A small blue fairy with large eyes is visible between them. In the background, a large rainbow arches across the sky, with a prominent yellow band. On the left, there are yellow flowers. The overall style is colorful and whimsical.

The rainbow had two colours and five were missing.

“The third is the colour of the sun, of lemons, sunflowers and stars in the sky. And it rimes with fellow...” – said Maria to her brother.

“It’s yellow!” – said Sebastião cheerfully.

And with the help from all the little fairies, Maria, Sebastião and Blue picked all the yellow up from nature, to give it back to the rainbow.



Now the rainbow had three colours and only four were missing.

“Here’s a clue, Sebastião. It’s the colour of grass and tree leaves.” - said Maria.

“The colour of grasshoppers and caterpillars, of grapes and apples.” added the little fairy.

“That’s easy. It’s green!”

And with the help from all the little fairies, Maria, Sebastião and Blu picked all the green up from nature, to give it back to the rainbow.

With four colours, there were just three missing to complete the rainbow.

“What is the next colour, Maria?” – asked Sebastião.

“It’s the colour of the sky and the sea. It rimes with glue and it’s the colour of our cat!”

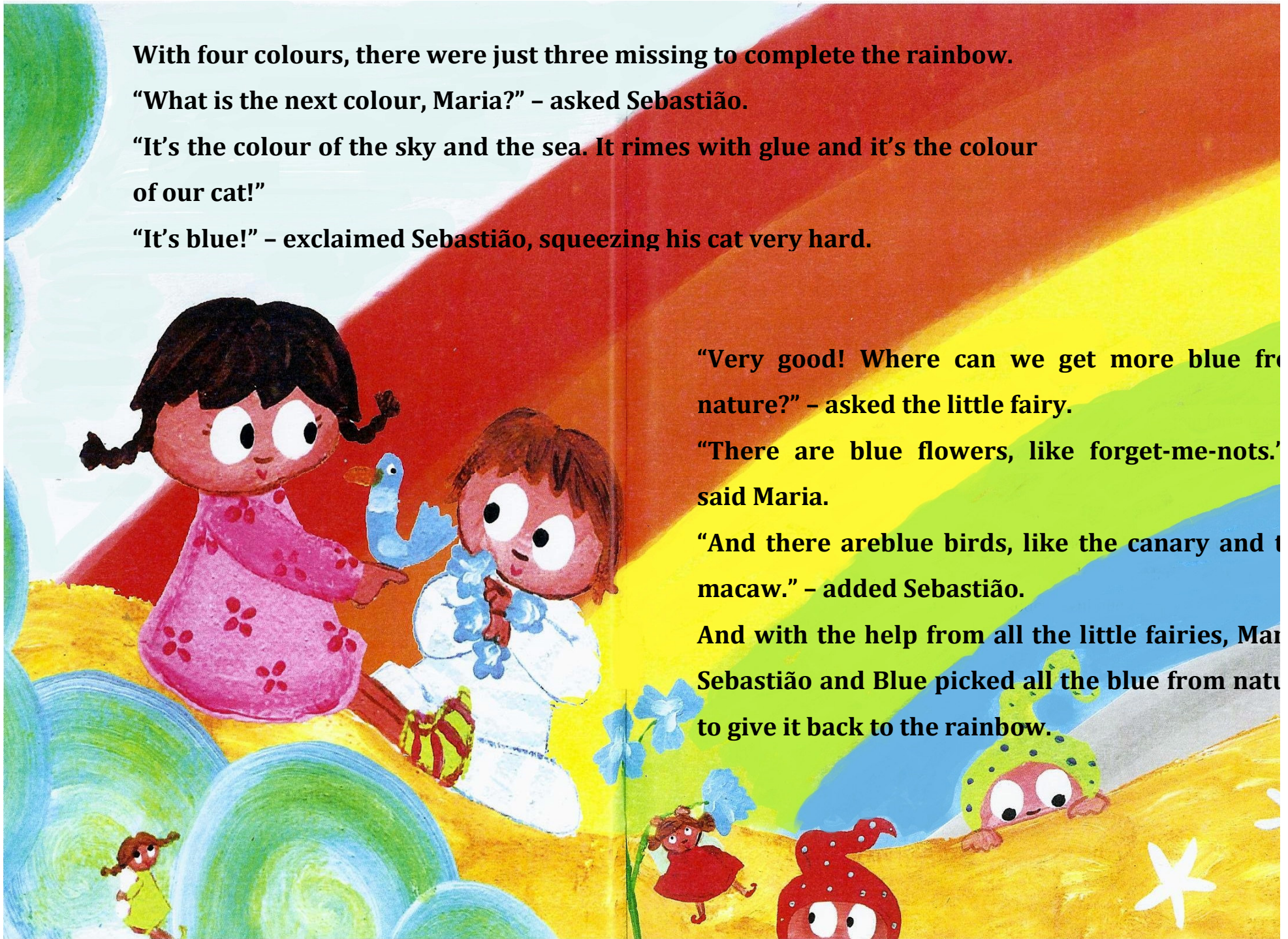
“It’s blue!” – exclaimed Sebastião, squeezing his cat very hard.

“Very good! Where can we get more blue from nature?” – asked the little fairy.

“There are blue flowers, like forget-me-nots.” – said Maria.

“And there are blue birds, like the canary and the macaw.” – added Sebastião.

And with the help from all the little fairies, Maria, Sebastião and Blue picked all the blue from nature to give it back to the rainbow.

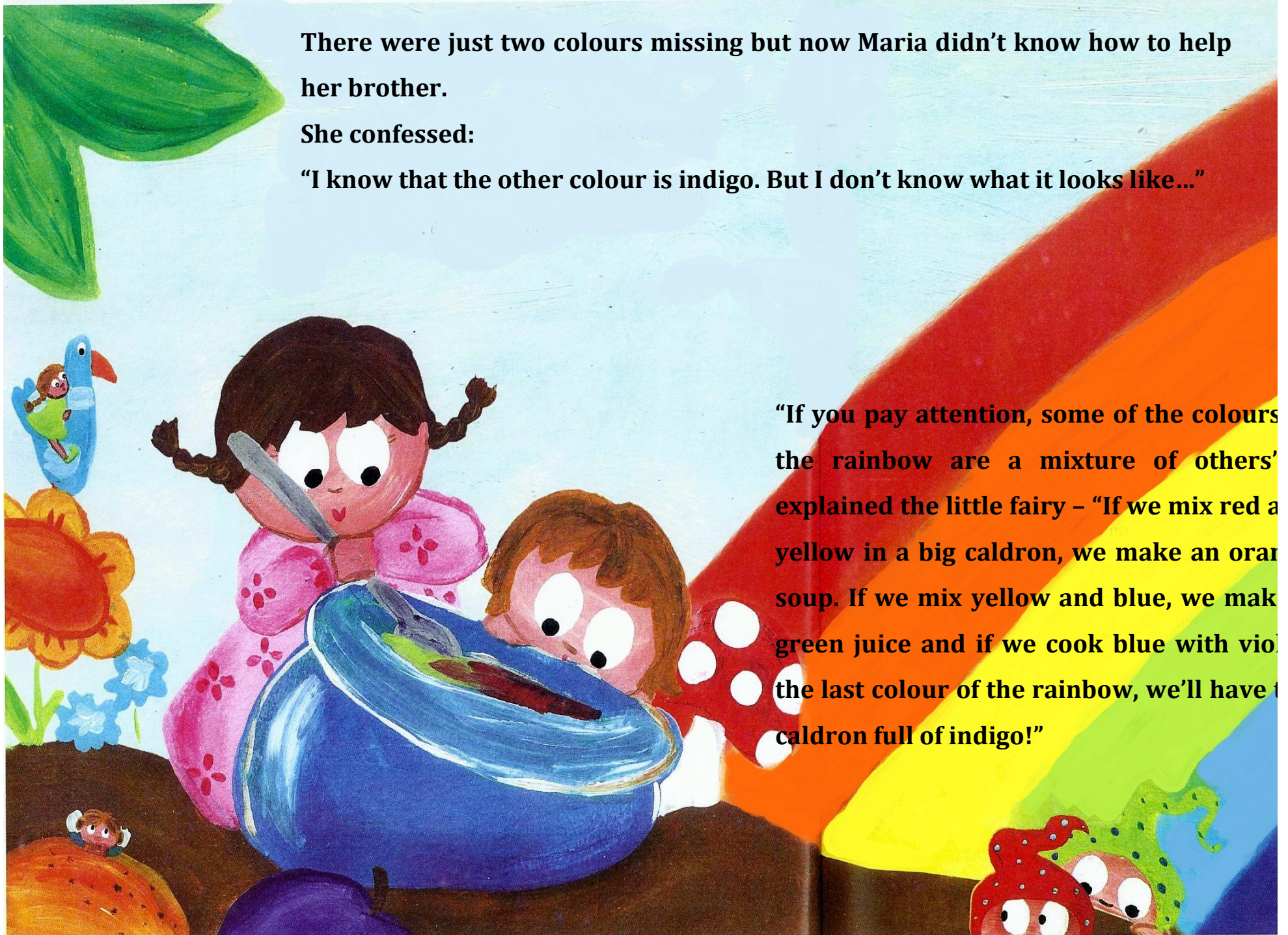


There were just two colours missing but now Maria didn't know how to help her brother.

She confessed:

"I know that the other colour is indigo. But I don't know what it looks like..."

"If you pay attention, some of the colours the rainbow are a mixture of others" explained the little fairy - "If we mix red and yellow in a big caldron, we make an orange soup. If we mix yellow and blue, we make green juice and if we cook blue with violet the last colour of the rainbow, we'll have a caldron full of indigo!"





“It’s the colour of aubergines and it rimes with panflet.” - reminded Maria.

“That’s very easy! It’s violet!” – said Sebastião.

The little fairy completed:

“It’s also the colour of figs and prunes.”.

And with the help from all the little fairies, Maria, Sebastião and Blue picked all the violet up from nature to give it back to the rainbow.





“Now our rainbow has its seven colours!” – said the little fairy, celebrating.

“And my brother knows their names...” - said Maria, smiling.

Party time! All the little fairies held hands and started to dance with the two siblings and the cat Blue.



“Can we join the party?”

All the little fairies stopped dancing, frightened. They saw a leprechaun, that made a signal to many others. They had been watching how the little fairies, the two siblings and the cat returned the seven colours of the rainbow.

“You stole our colours.” – accused one of the fairies.

“That was because we didn’t know their names, but we were watching you and now we know the seven colours of the rainbow. We’ll never take the colours again.”
promised the leprechaun.

“Ok, you can join our party.” - said the little fairy, smiling

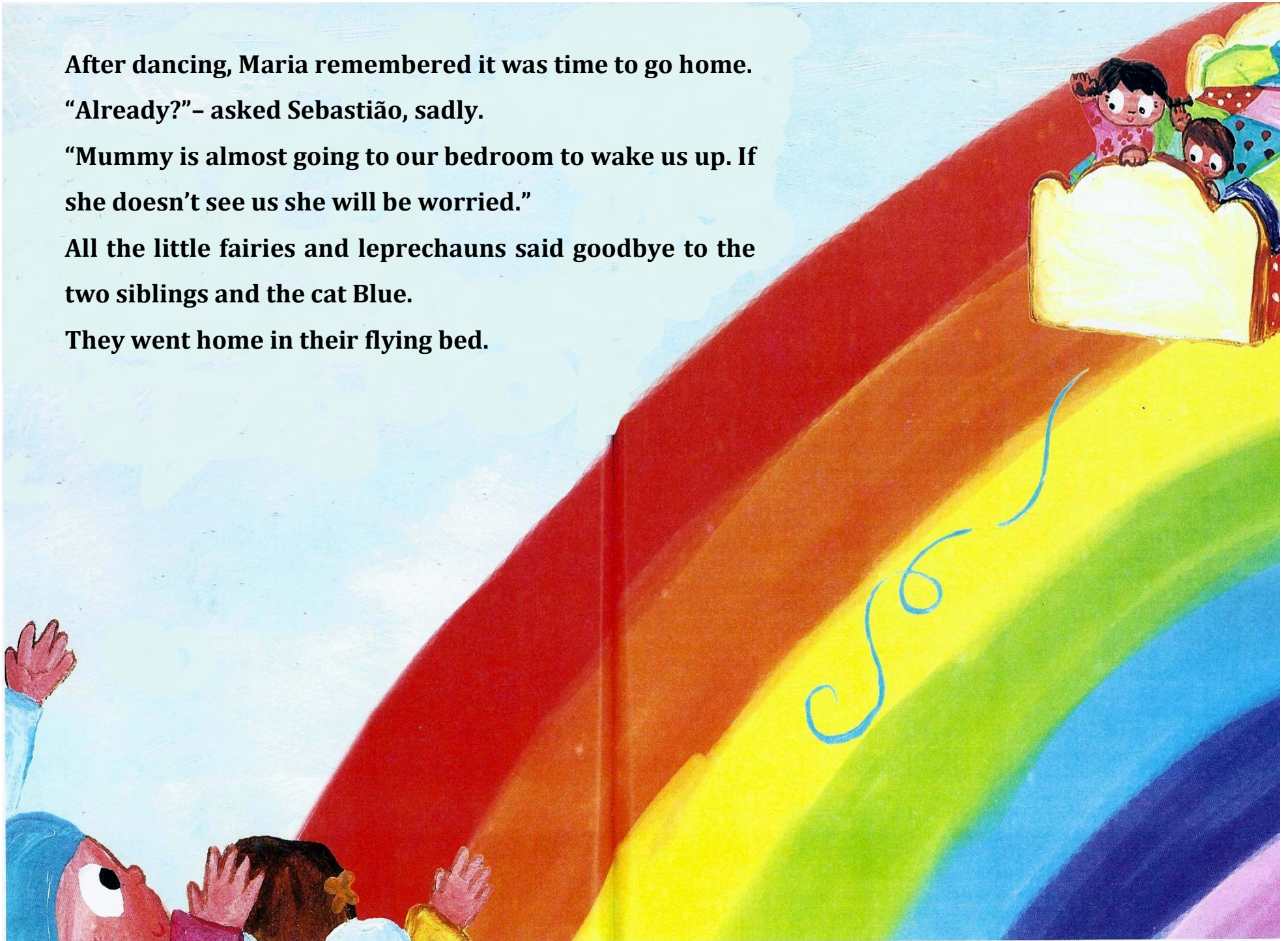
After dancing, Maria remembered it was time to go home.

“Already?” – asked Sebastião, sadly.

“Mummy is almost going to our bedroom to wake us up. If she doesn’t see us she will be worried.”

All the little fairies and leprechauns said goodbye to the two siblings and the cat Blue.

They went home in their flying bed.



“Now that I know the colours, will we ever see the Rainbow Fairy again?” – asked Sebastião, sadly.

“We can visit her sometimes. We just have to fly to the rainbow and say its seven colours.”

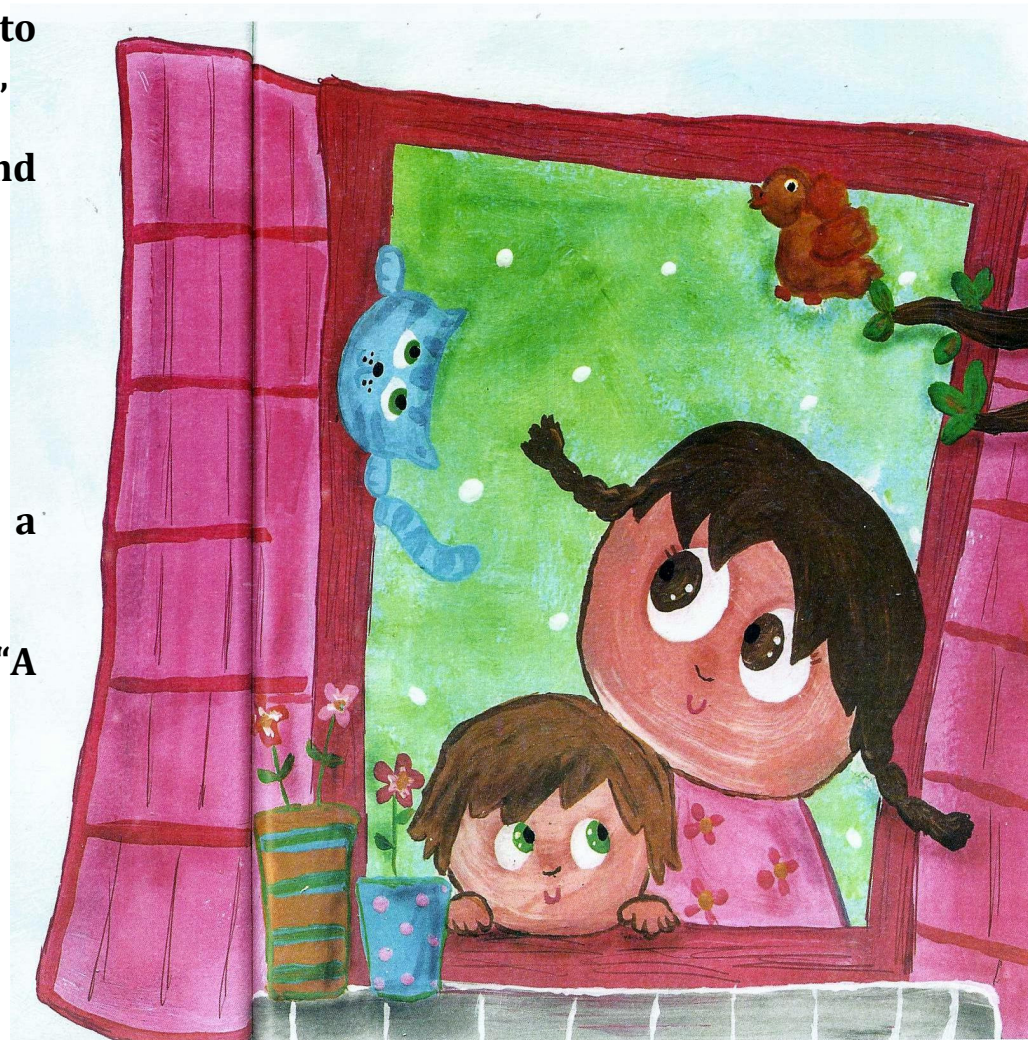
“Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet!” – shouted Sebastião, smiling.

Mummy opened the door:

“Are you up, children?”

“We never got to sleep, Mummy. We made a big journey.”

“Sure, sure...” - said Mummy, smiling. – “A journey to Dreamland...”



Translation by: Paula Mascarenh

