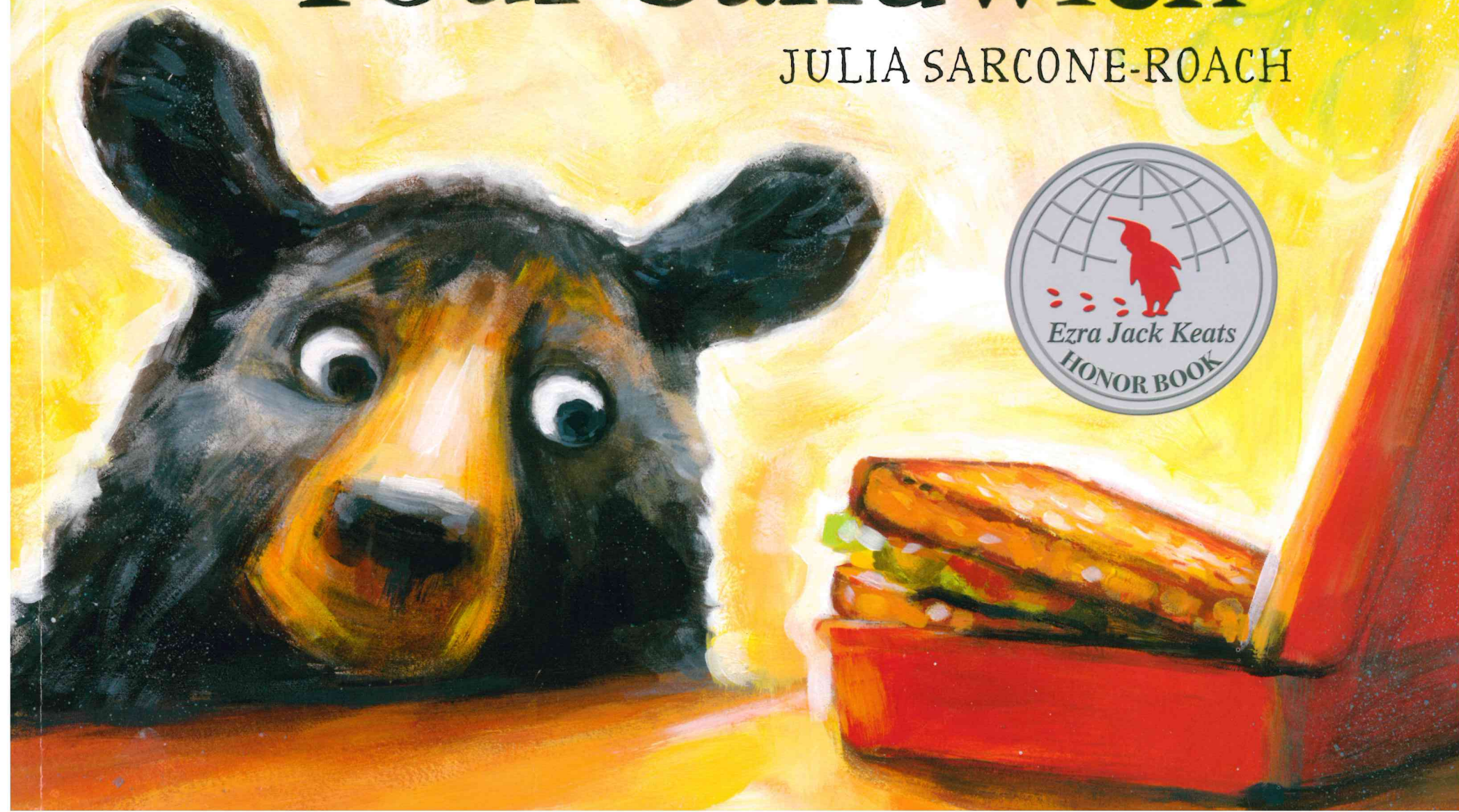
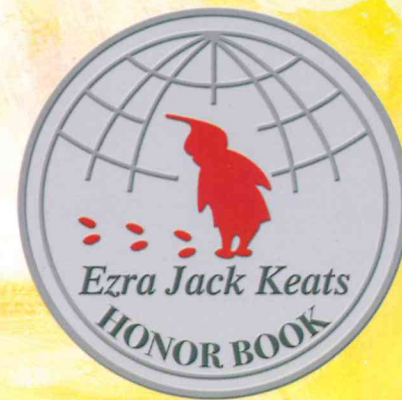


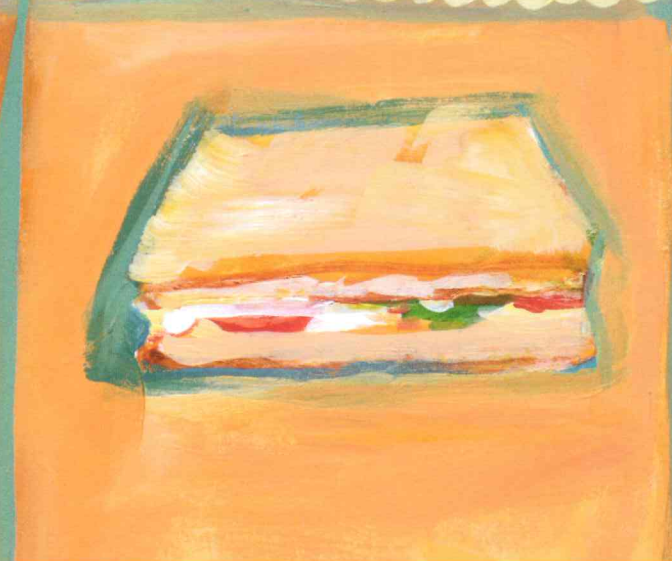
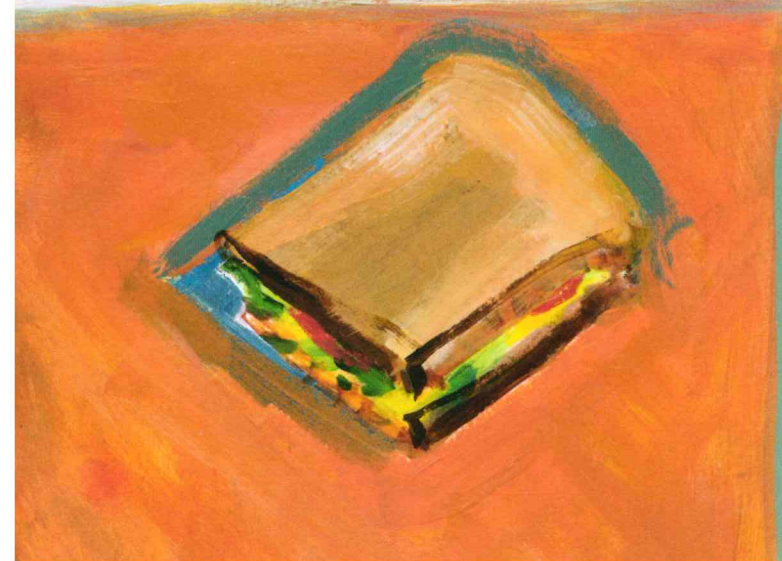
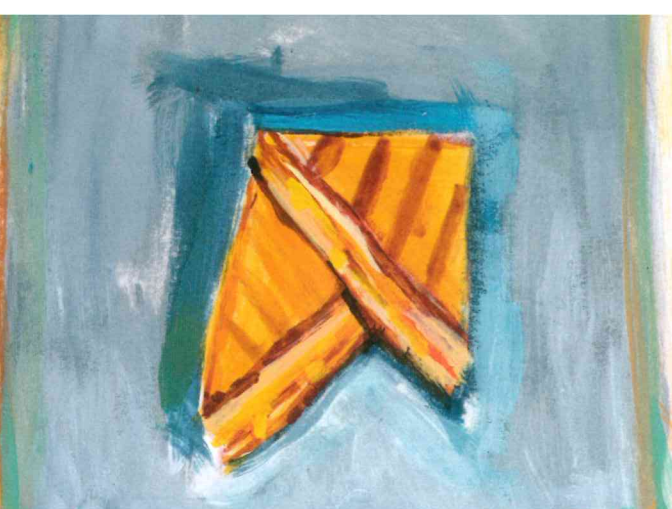
A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER



The Bear Ate Your Sandwich

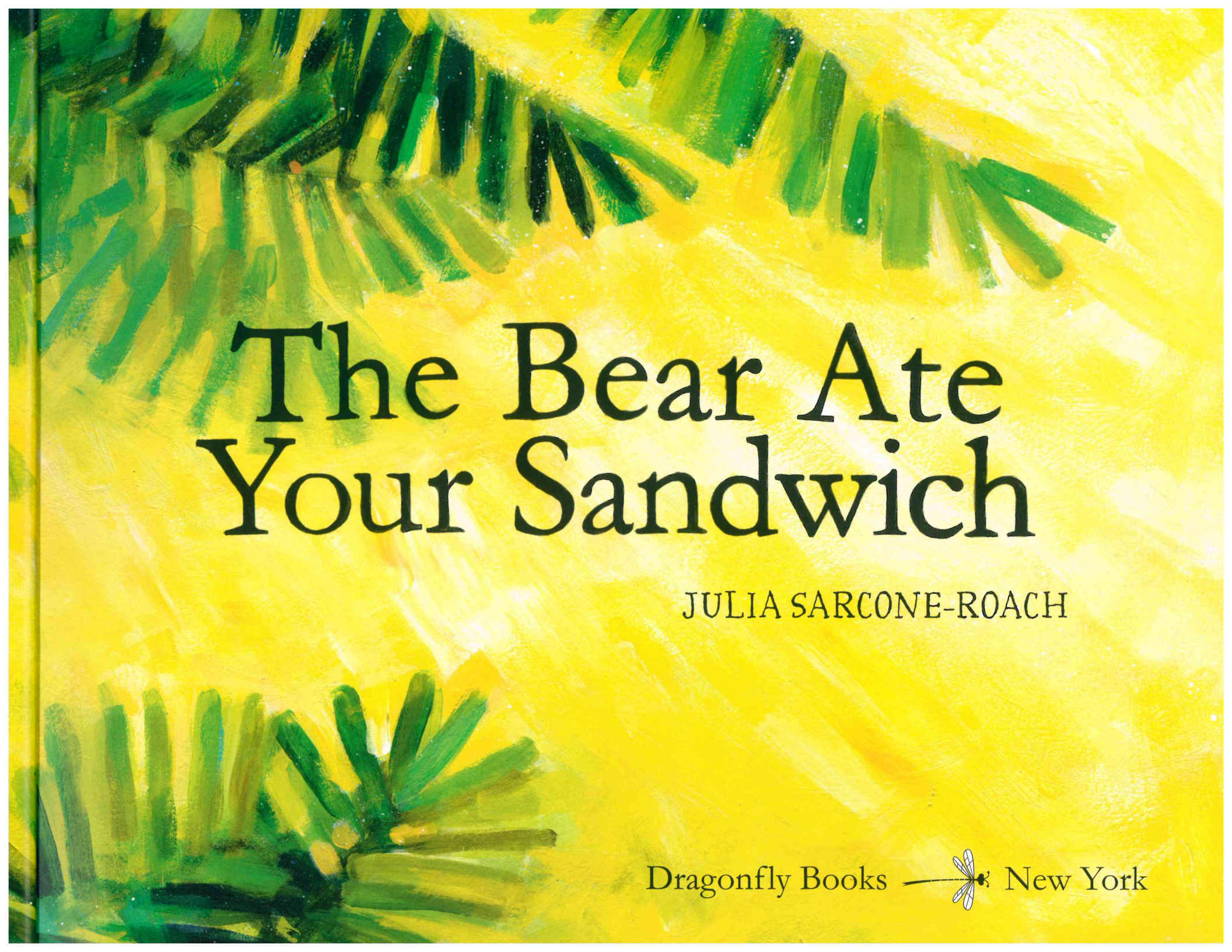
JULIA SARCONE-ROACH







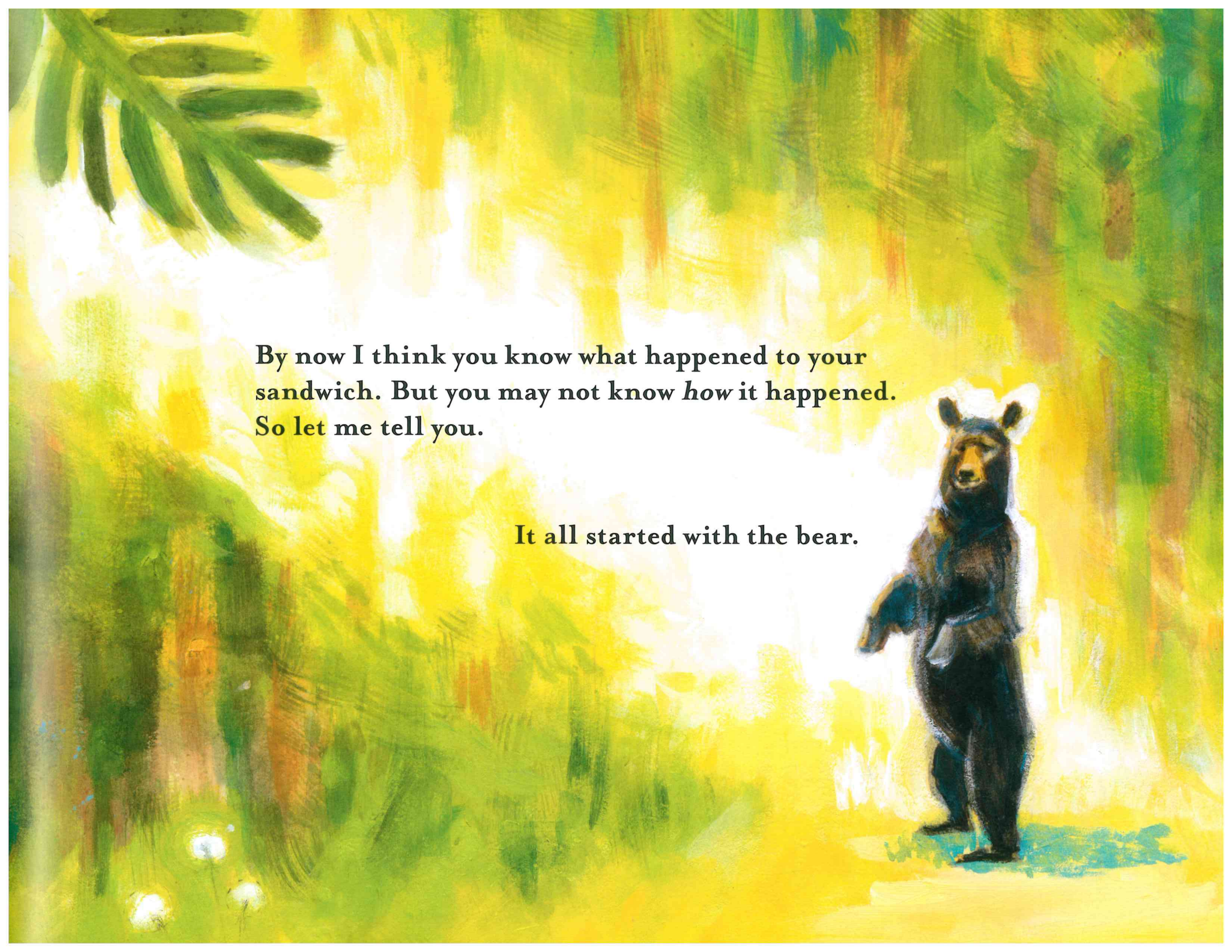




The Bear Ate Your Sandwich

JULIA SARCONE-ROACH

Dragonfly Books  New York



By now I think you know what happened to your sandwich. But you may not know *how* it happened. So let me tell you.

It all started with the bear.





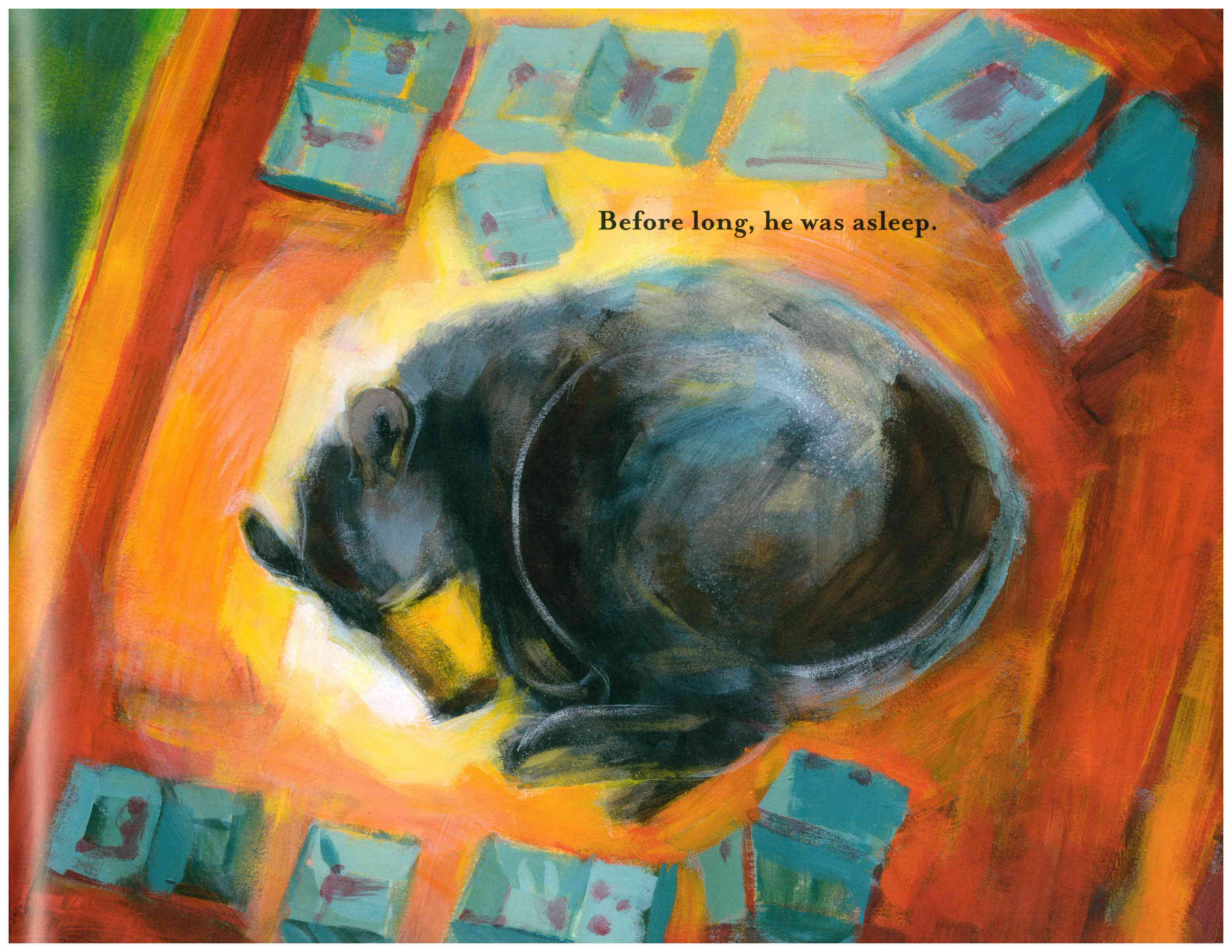
The morning air was warm and bright when the bear stepped out of his den. He stretched and sniffed.

The scent of ripe berries drifted toward
him and led to a wonderful discovery.



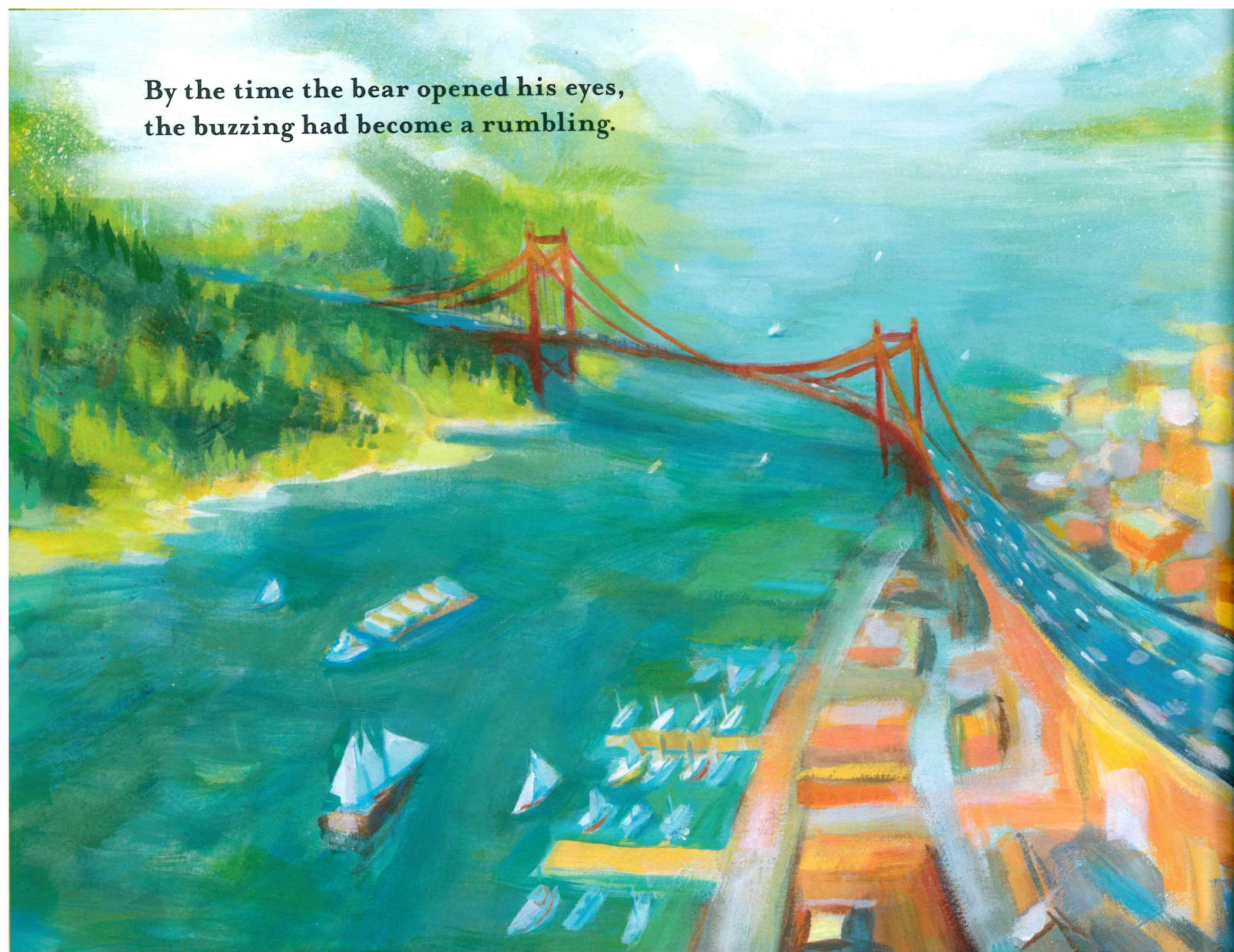
After a berry feast,
the bear curled up
in the sunlight and
listened to the
buzzing of the bees.

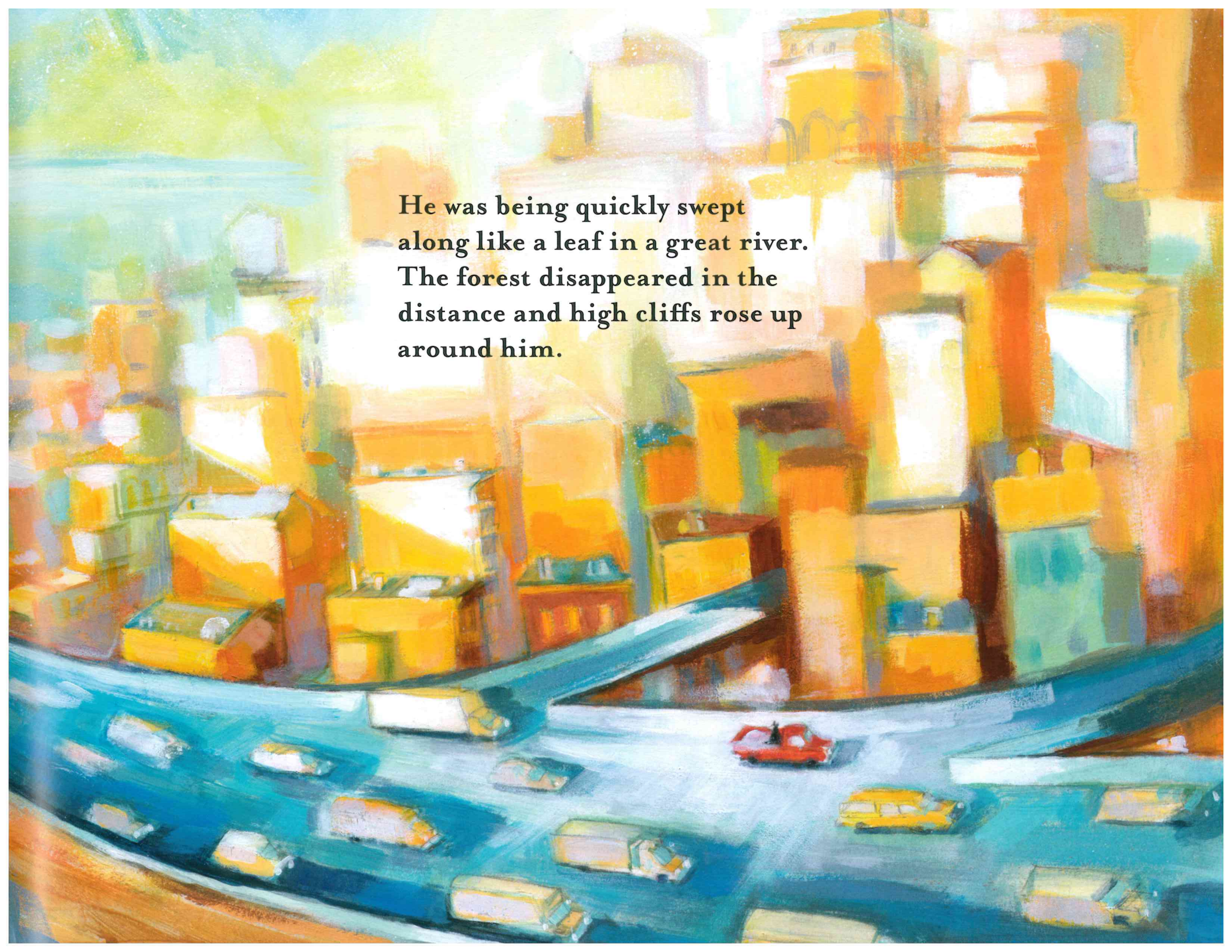


A painting of a dark-colored dog curled up and sleeping on a warm, orange-toned surface. The dog's head is on the left, and its body curves towards the right. It has a white patch on its chest and a yellow collar. Surrounding the dog are several rectangular objects wrapped in light blue paper with small, dark, abstract patterns. The background is a vibrant, textured wash of orange and yellow, with a greenish-yellow area in the top left corner. The overall style is expressive and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and a warm, cozy atmosphere.

Before long, he was asleep.

By the time the bear opened his eyes,
the buzzing had become a rumbling.



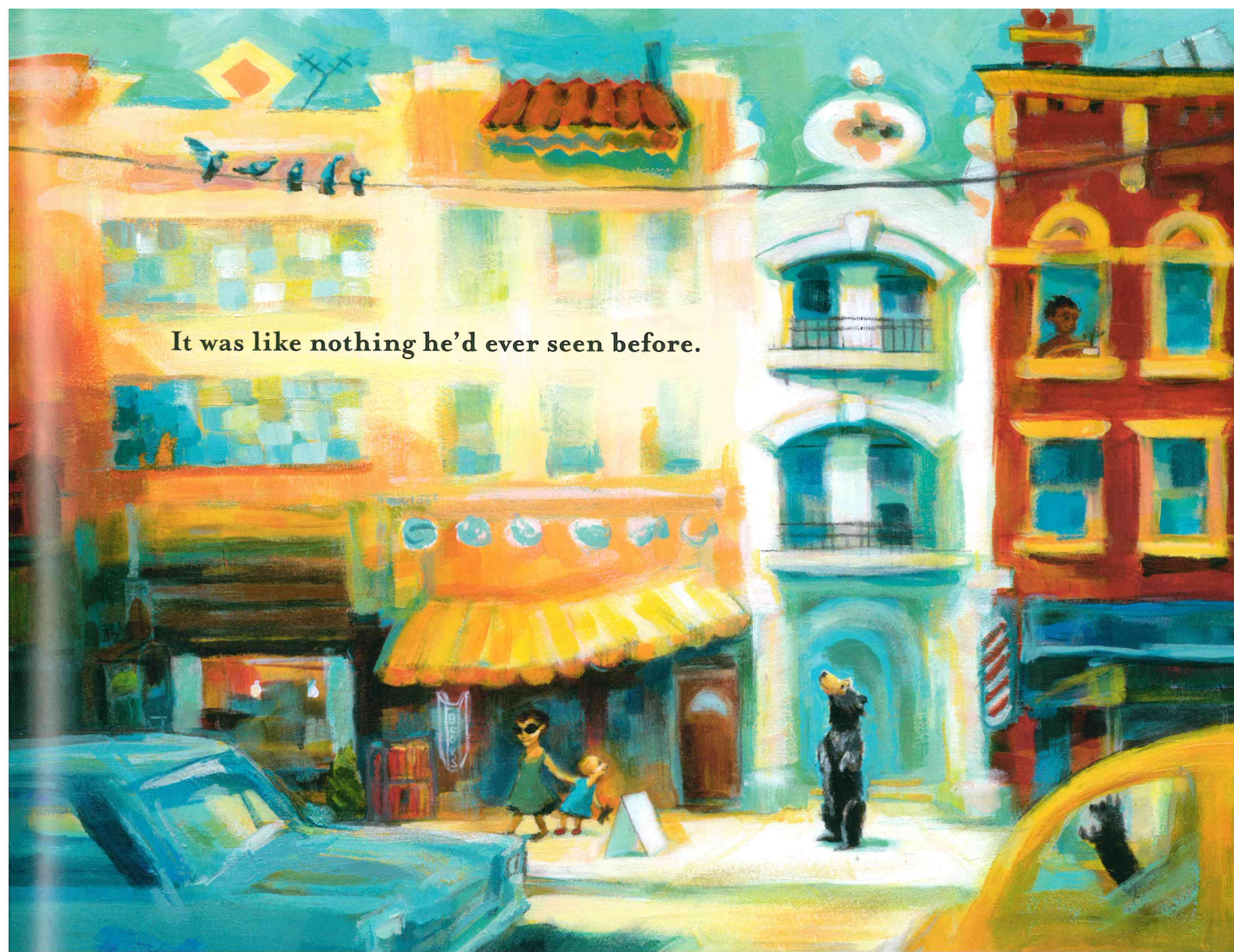


He was being quickly swept
along like a leaf in a great river.
The forest disappeared in the
distance and high cliffs rose up
around him.

Once the rumbling
stopped, the bear found
himself in a new forest.

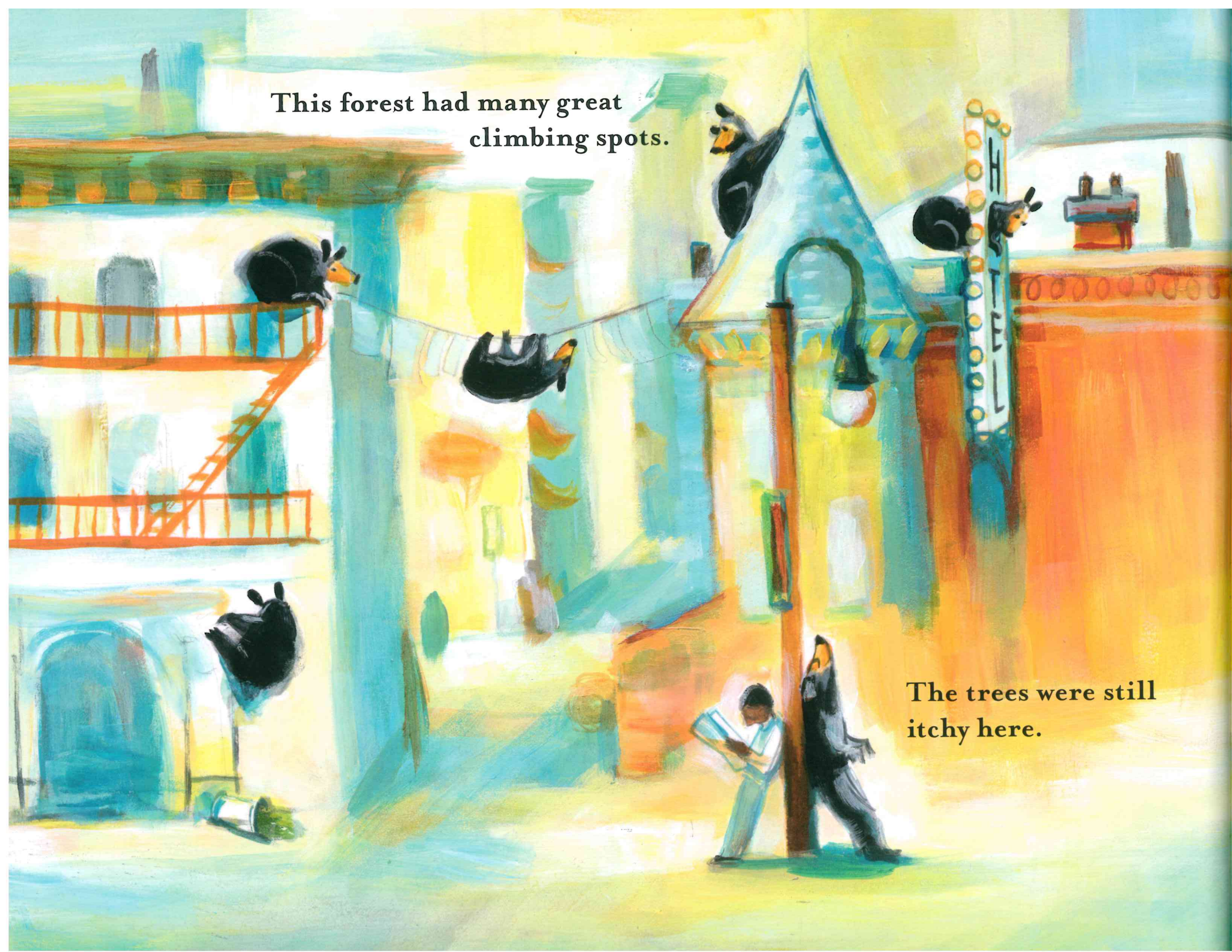


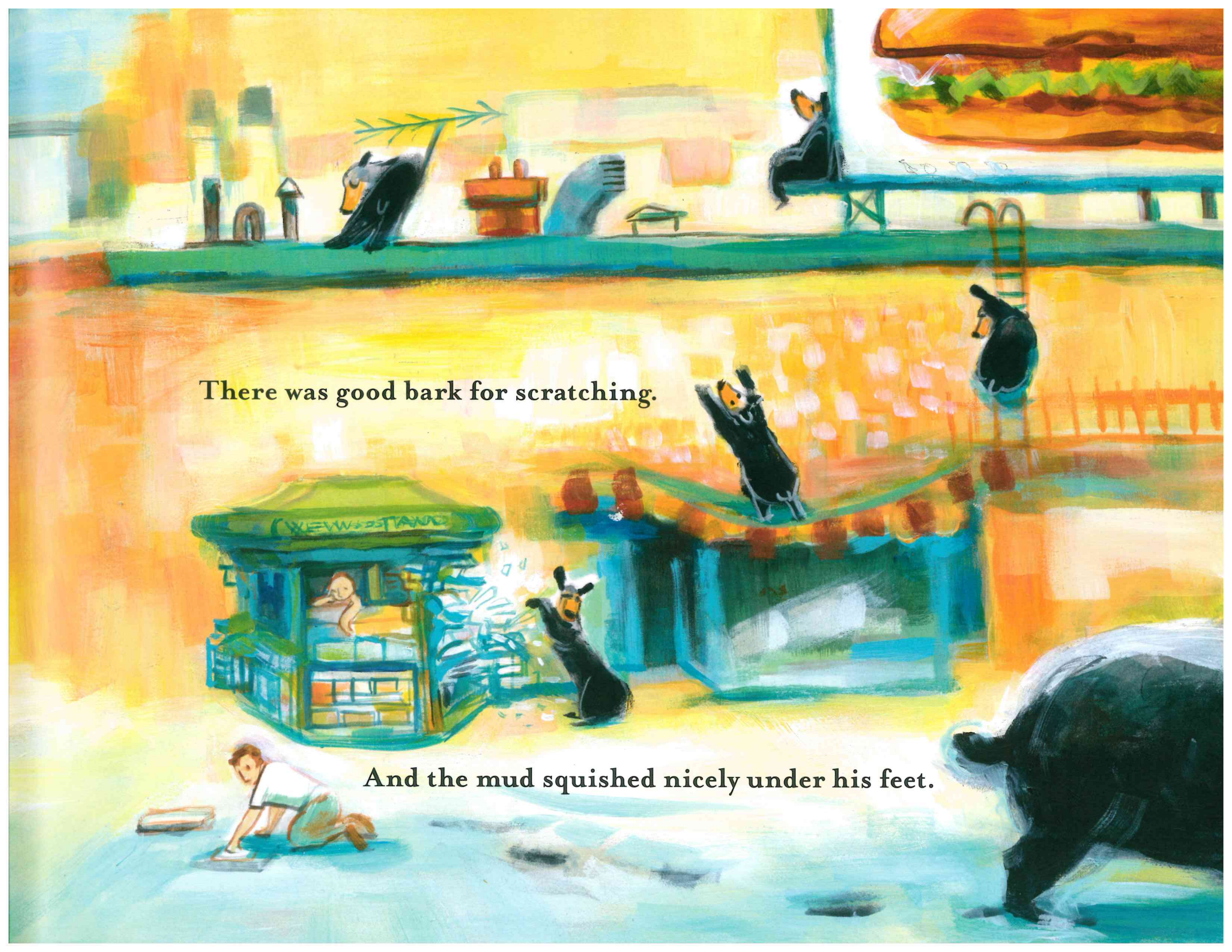
It was like nothing he'd ever seen before.



This forest had many great
climbing spots.

The trees were still
itchy here.





There was good bark for scratching.

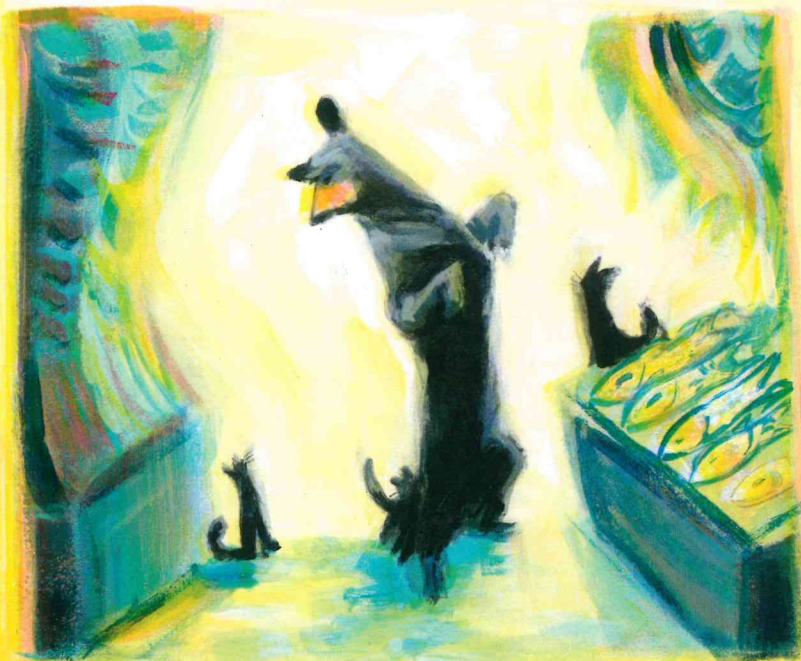
And the mud squished nicely under his feet.

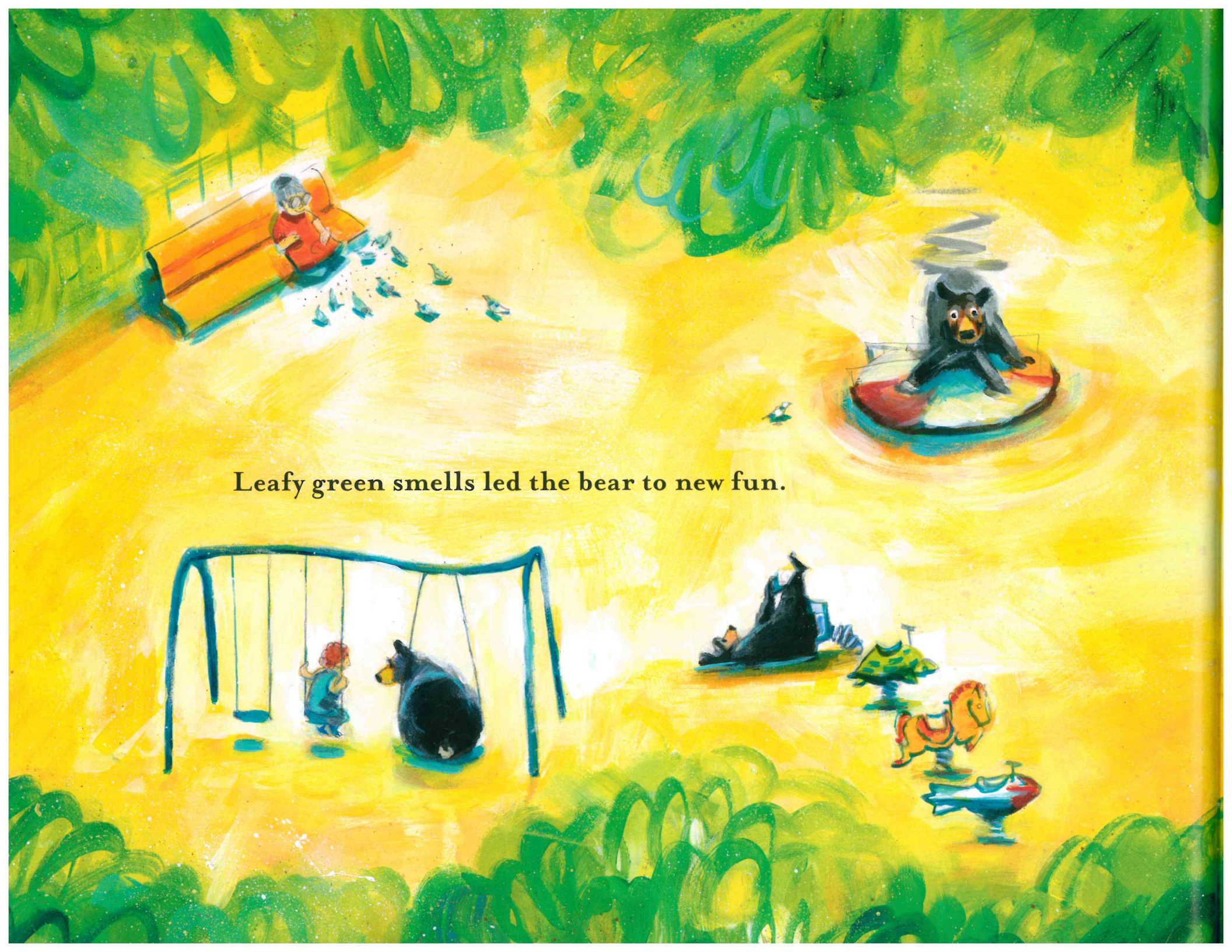
There were many interesting
smells in this forest.



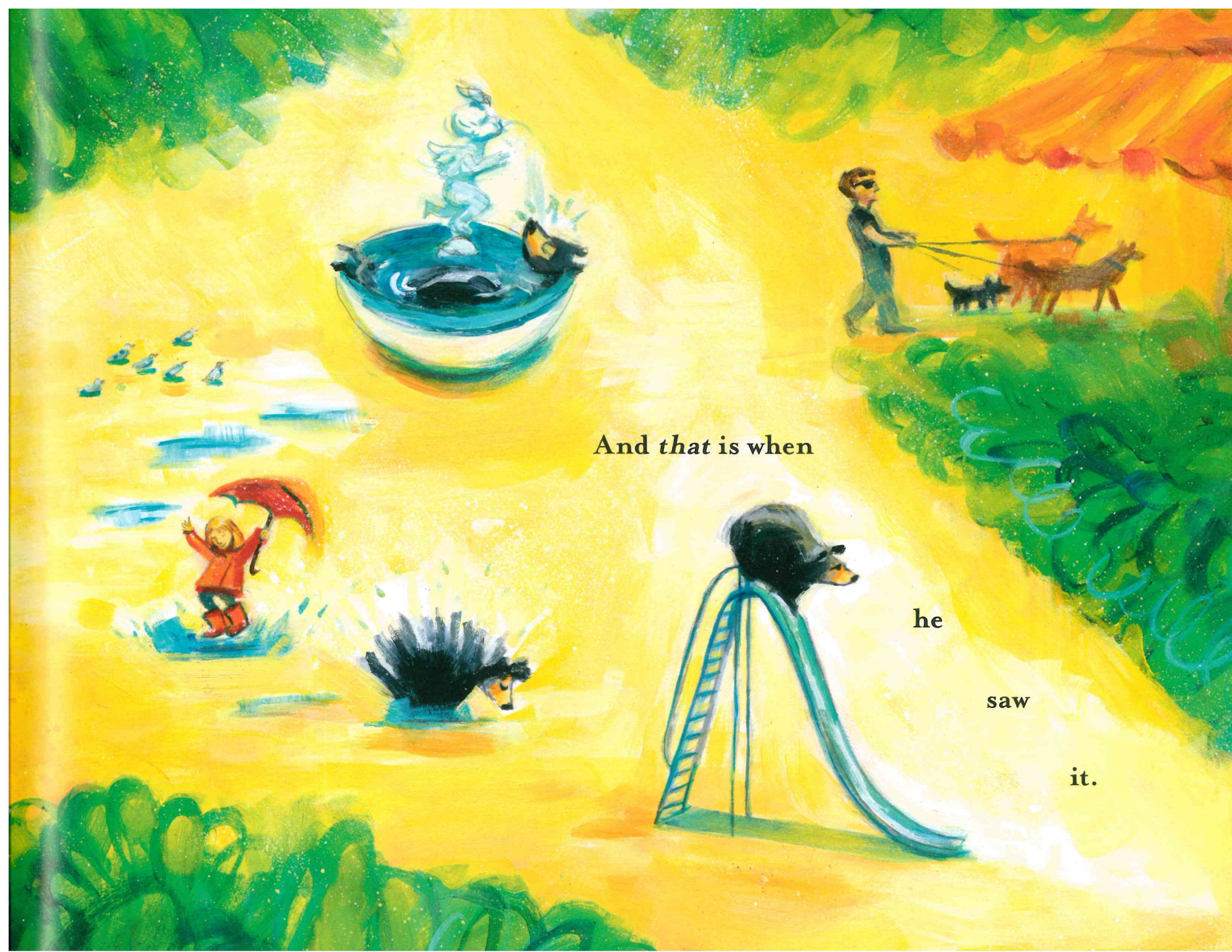


But some of the tastiest ones had already been found.





Leafy green smells led the bear to new fun.

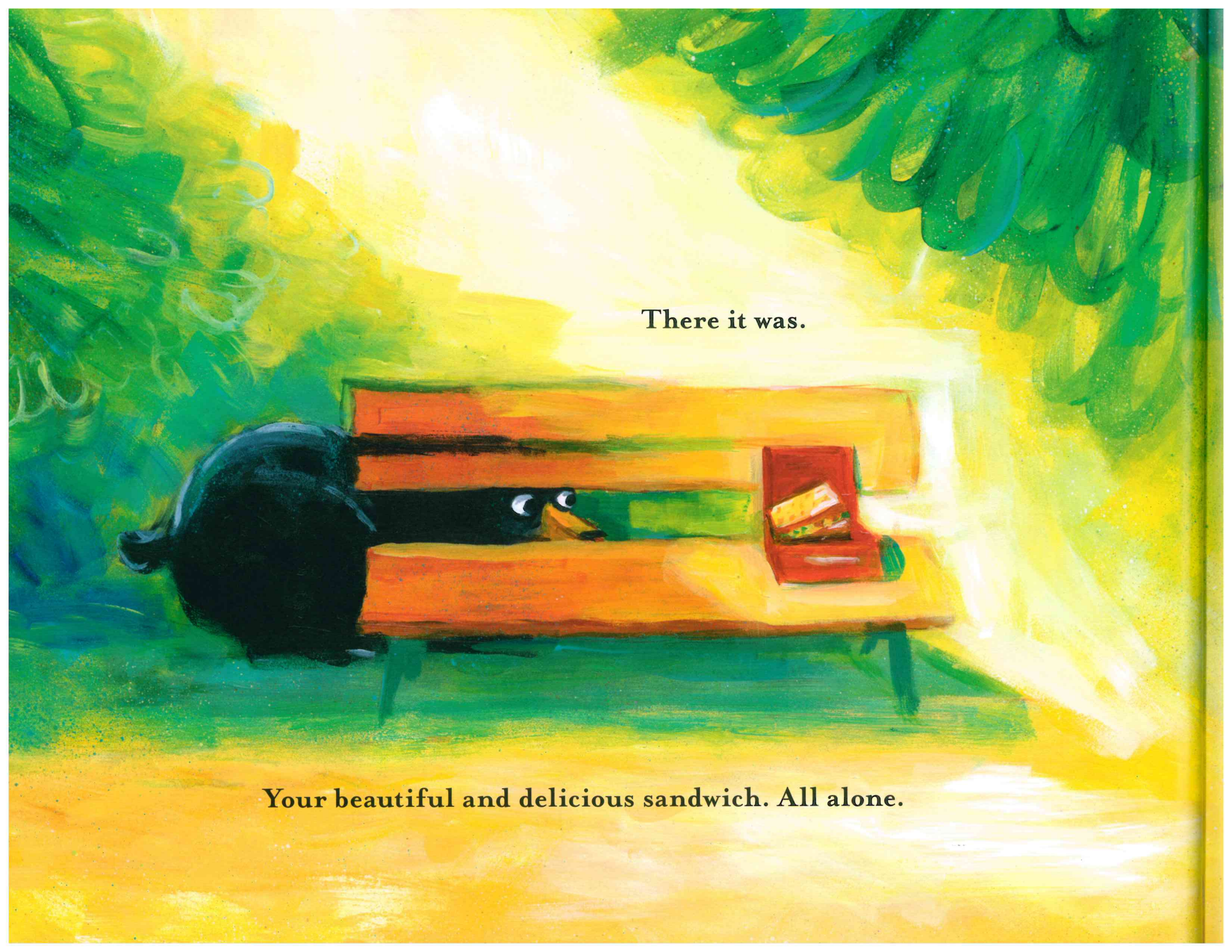


And *that* is when

he

saw

it.

A painting of a black bear sitting on a wooden bench in a sun-dappled forest. The bear is looking at a sandwich in a red box. The scene is framed by green foliage and a bright yellow light source.

There it was.

Your beautiful and delicious sandwich. All alone.



He waited to make sure no one saw him



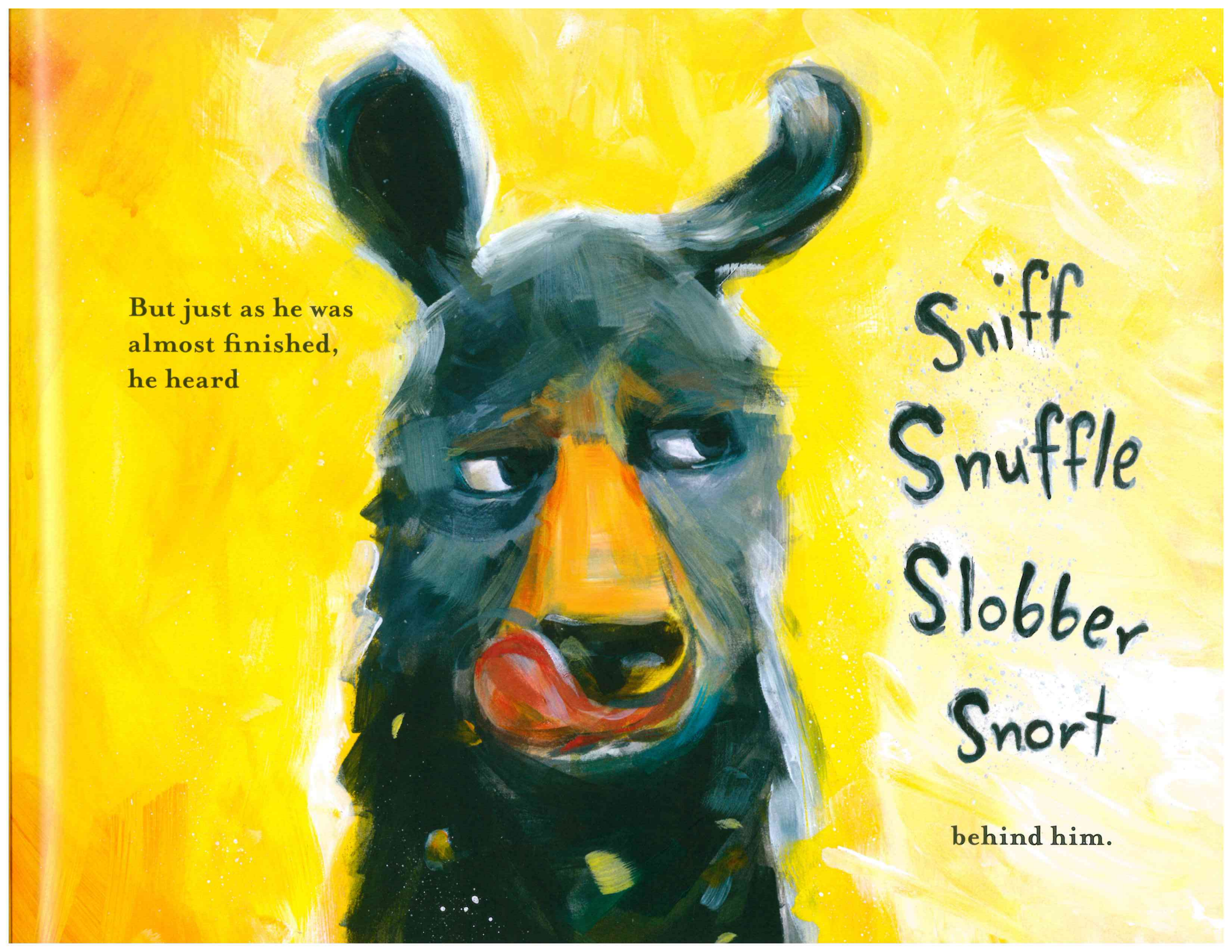
(not even the sandwich)

before he made his move.



It was such a great sandwich.
The bear loved it.



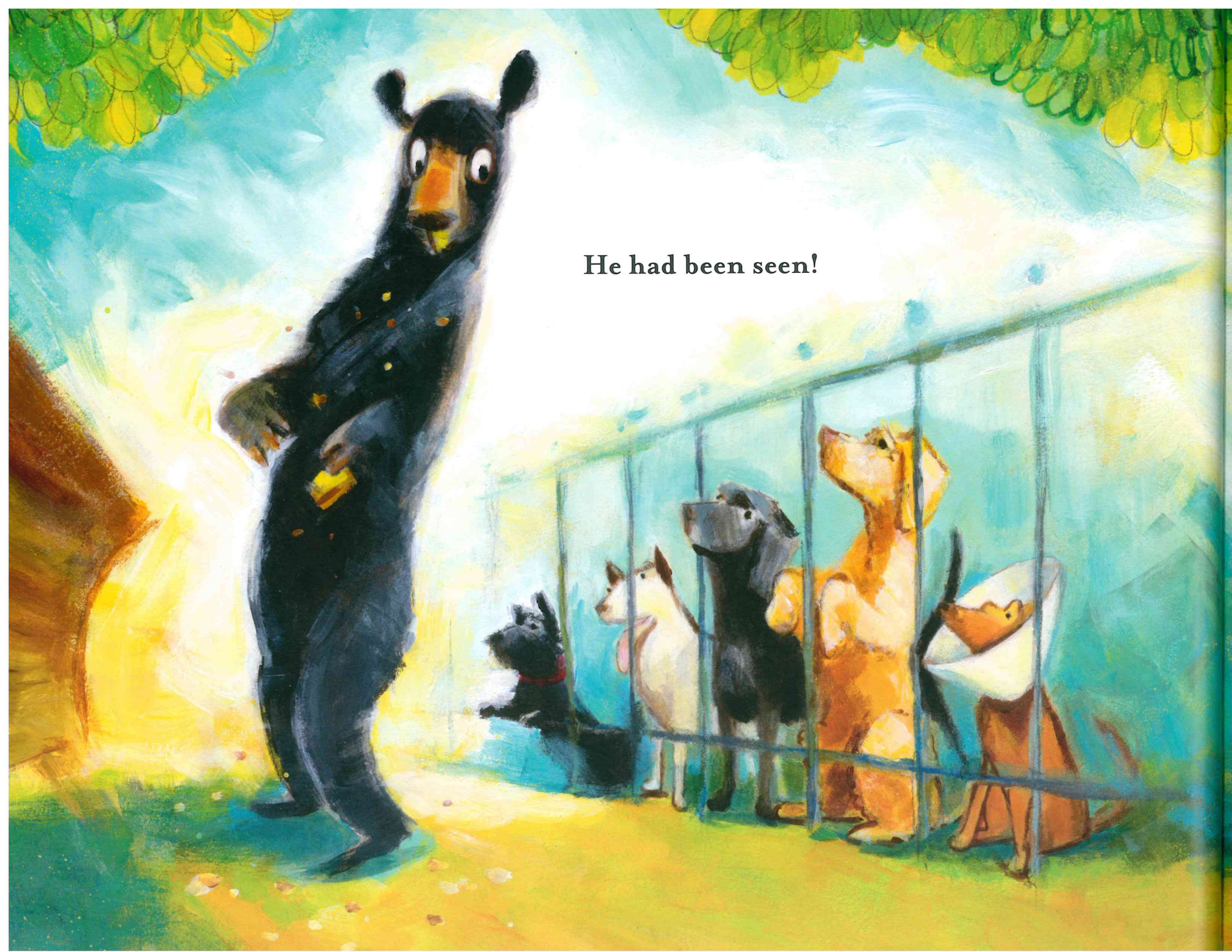


But just as he was
almost finished,
he heard

Sniff
Snuffle
Slobber
Snort

behind him.

He had been seen!





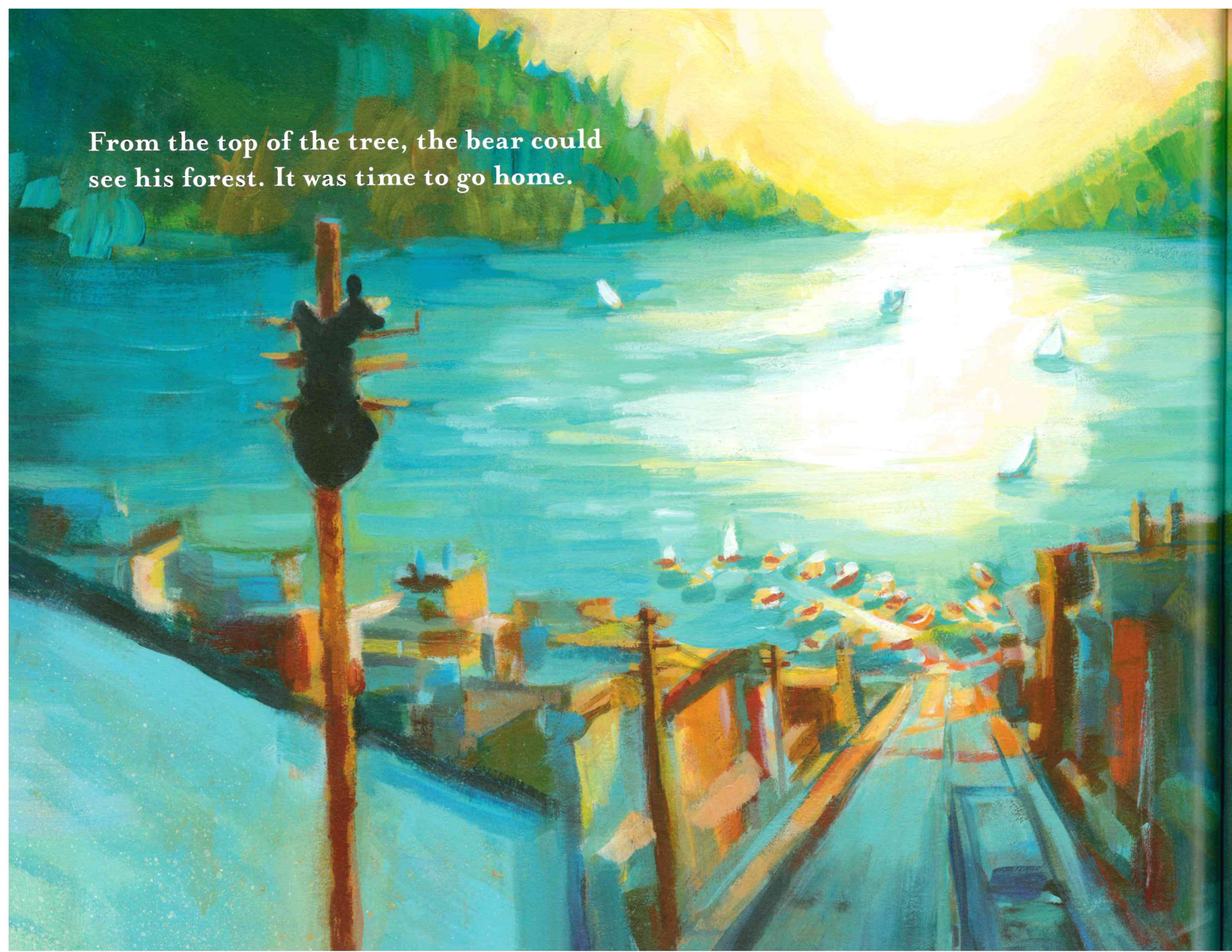
The bear was so surprised that he ran—

out of the park

and down the street—

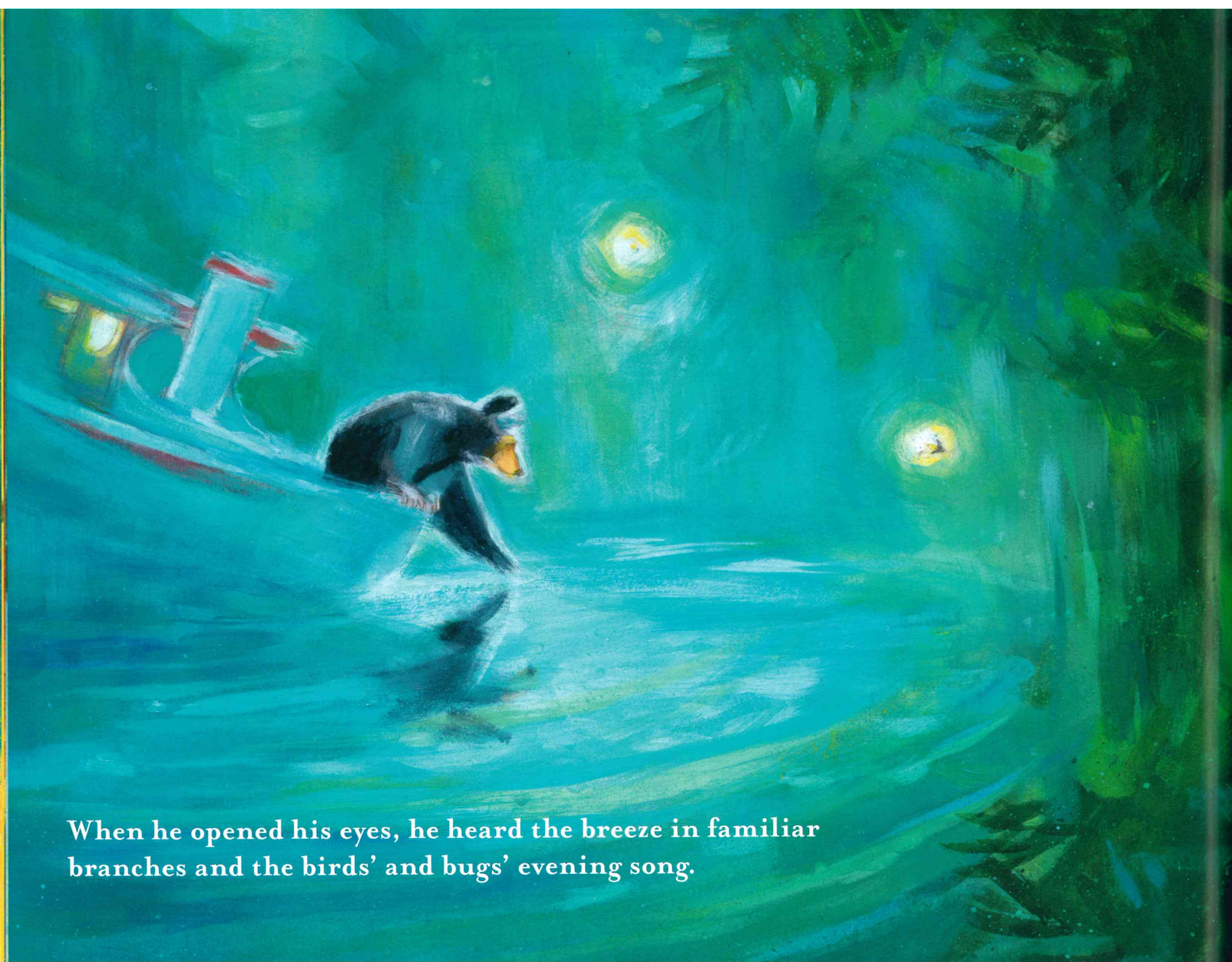
until he spotted a very tall tree.

From the top of the tree, the bear could
see his forest. It was time to go home.




A painting in a textured, expressive style. At the top, a white boat with red and blue stripes is tilted. A black bear is on the deck. The background is a mix of green and blue. Below the boat, the text "The waves rocked the bear and he began to doze." is written. At the bottom, there are two circular portholes. The left porthole shows a bright scene with a small boat and a bear. The right porthole shows a dark scene with a small light source.

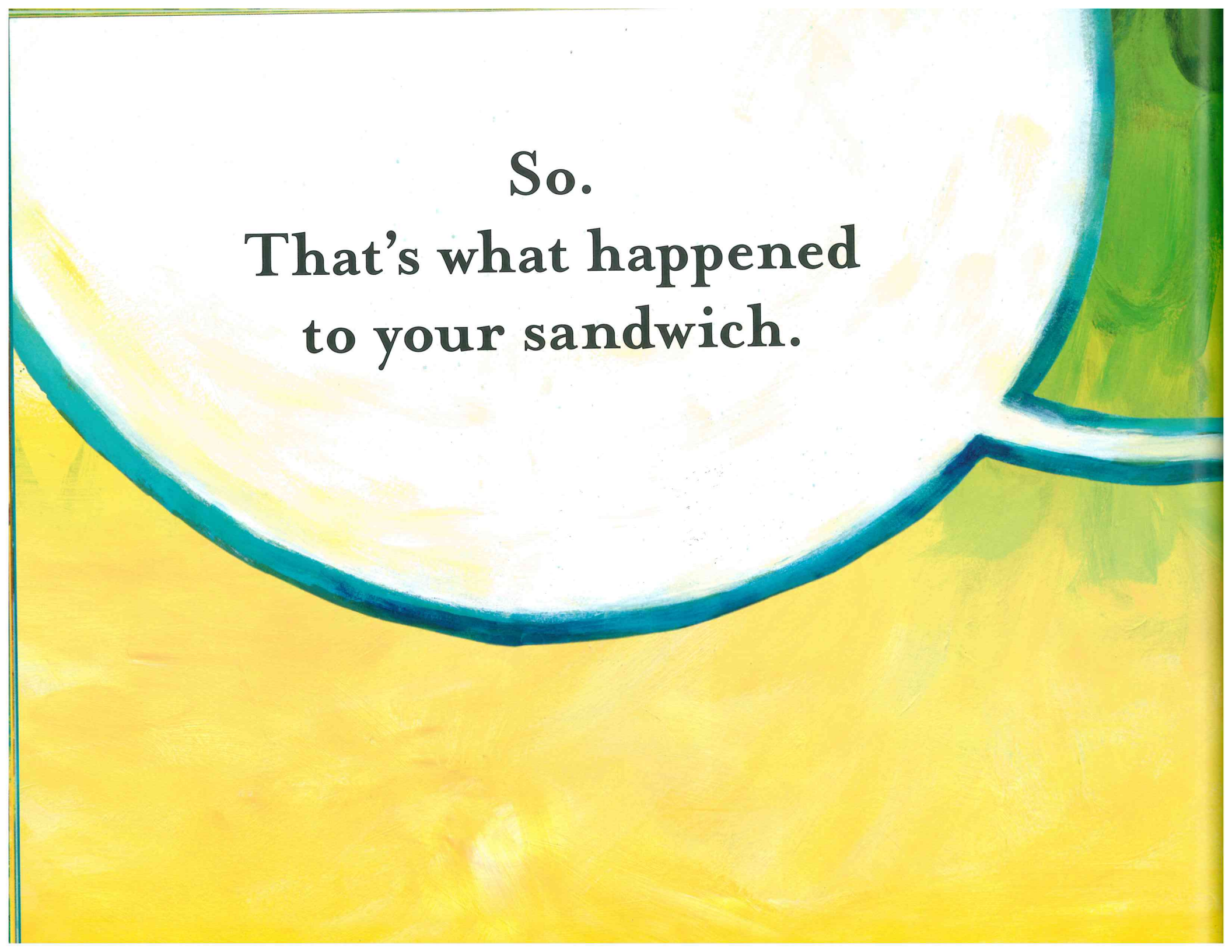
The waves rocked the bear and he began to doze.



When he opened his eyes, he heard the breeze in familiar
branches and the birds' and bugs' evening song.

A black bear is shown in profile, sitting in a nest. The nest is a circular, warm-toned (yellow and orange) area that contrasts with the surrounding dark green forest. The forest is depicted with thick, expressive brushstrokes, suggesting dense foliage and trees. In the lower-left area of the forest, there are two small, glowing yellow circles, possibly representing fire or light reflecting off water. The overall mood is peaceful and cozy.

Well, the bear
made it home
just fine.




**So.
That's what happened
to your sandwich.**



The bear ate it.

I saw it all. I tried to save your sandwich. I was able to save this little bit of lettuce here. The bear dropped it as he ran off, but I couldn't save the rest. I'm sorry to have to tell you about your sandwich this way,

An oil painting of a young girl with dark curly hair, wearing a light blue dress, looking down at a small black dog sitting on a yellow background. A large speech bubble with a blue outline contains the text "but now you know....". The background is a bright yellow with a green tree branch in the top right corner.

but now you
know....

Ruff! Ruff!
Ruff! Ruff!
Ruff!





To Adam

“Enjoy every sandwich.”
—Warren Zevon

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