

*A Little Bit of Love*

written by

*Addison Riecke*



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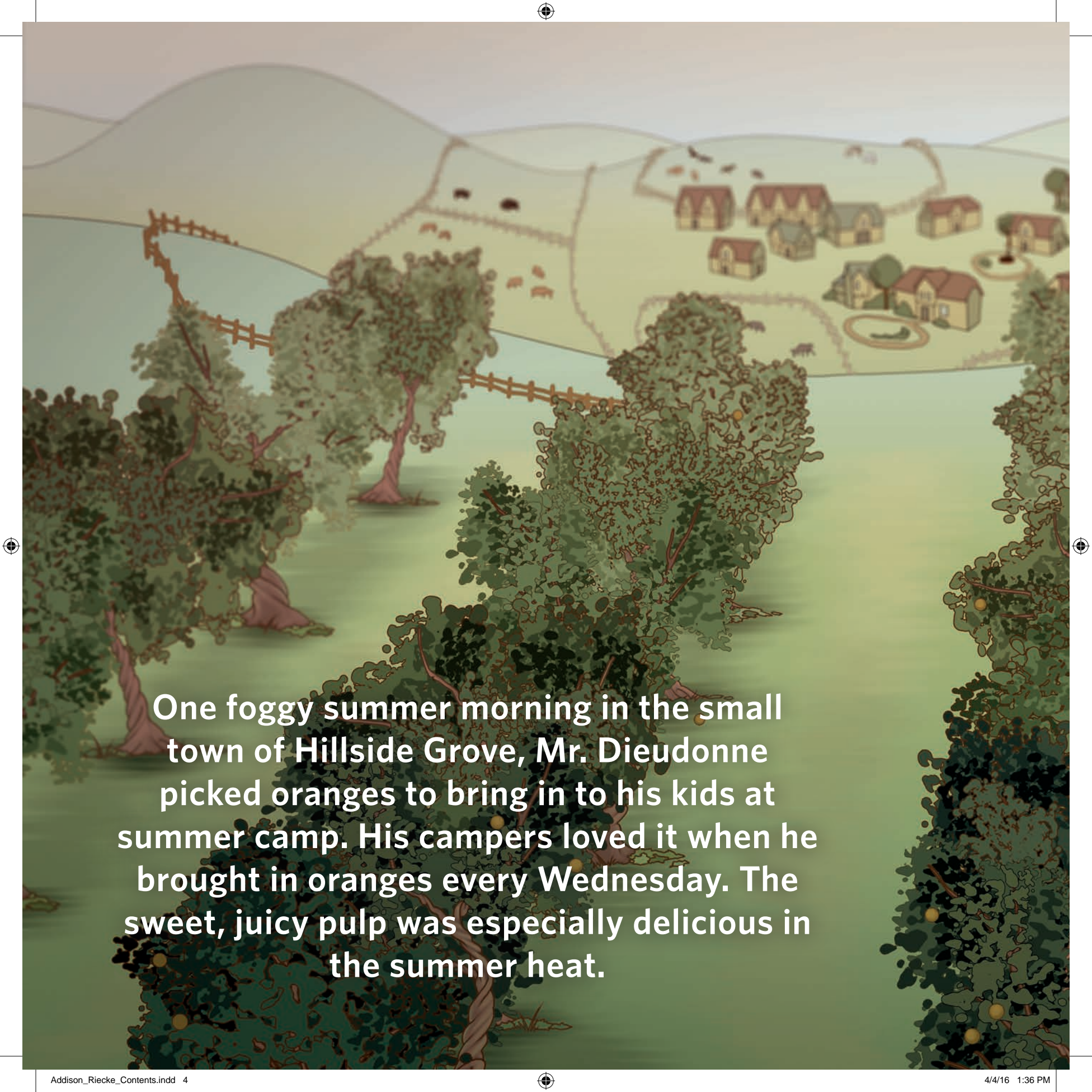
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THIS STORY IS DEDICATED TO

*My Mom and Dad!*

BECAUSE

*their unconditional love and support make it possible for me to do what I love everyday. They have taught me to stay humble and treat others with respect and kindness.*



**One foggy summer morning in the small town of Hillside Grove, Mr. Dieudonne picked oranges to bring in to his kids at summer camp. His campers loved it when he brought in oranges every Wednesday. The sweet, juicy pulp was especially delicious in the summer heat.**













Mr. Dieudonne realized that the oranges he  
had picked had worms in them!

"Oh no!" he said.

"I can't bring my campers bad oranges!"  
He knew how sad the children would be  
when they saw that there were no oranges—  
especially Jane, who loved oranges the most.

Mr. Dieudonne got to summer camp, and all the campers were very excited for their oranges. They followed him over to the classroom where they usually have snack time. Mr. Dieudonne didn't want to tell the kids he didn't have oranges, but he didn't know what else to do.



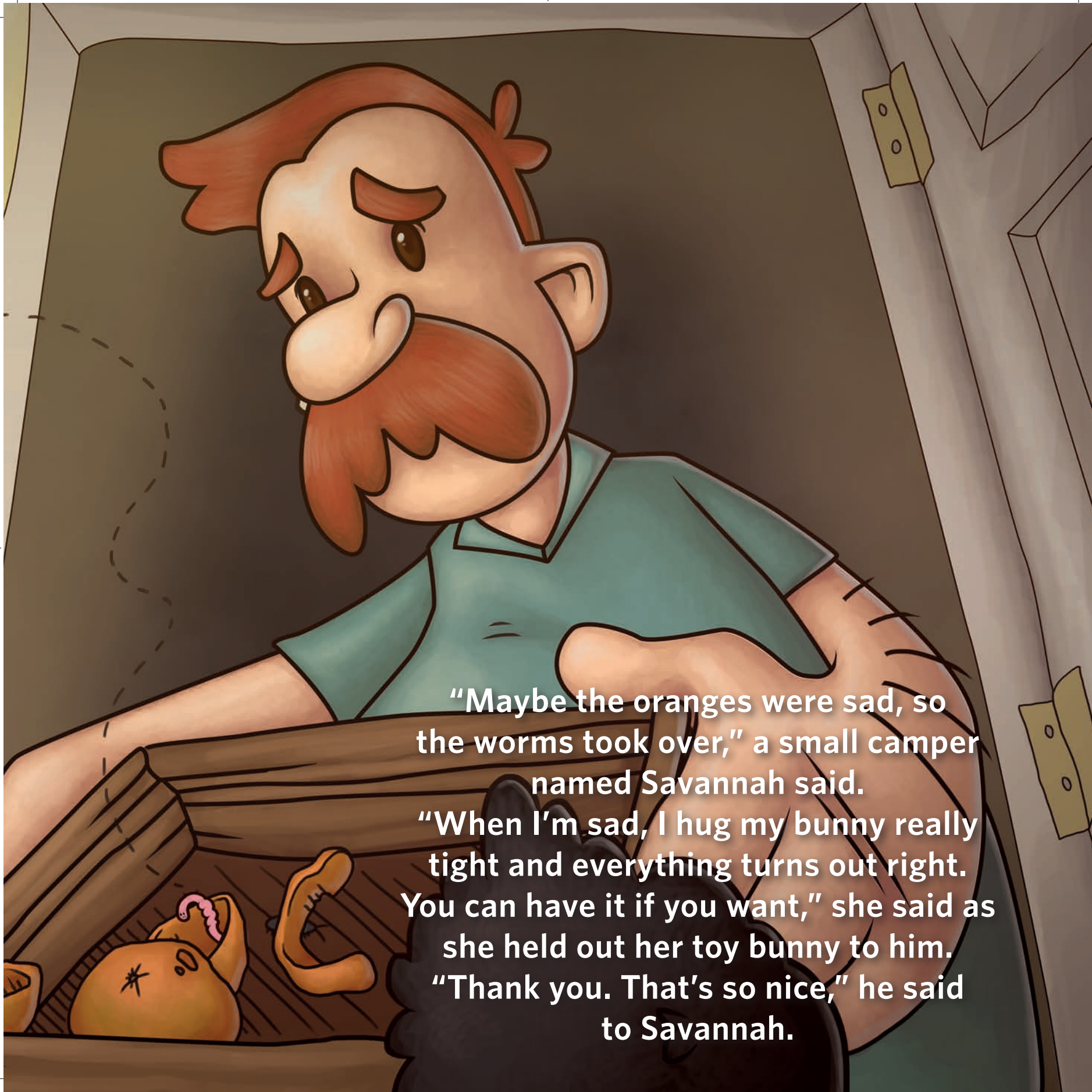




Just as Mr. Dieudonne opened the door to the classroom, he told the campers what had happened. "I'm so sorry, but all the oranges I picked had worms in them! I knew I couldn't bring bad oranges, so I didn't bring any," he said apologetically. All of the campers looked at him sadly.







"Maybe the oranges were sad, so the worms took over," a small camper named Savannah said.

"When I'm sad, I hug my bunny really tight and everything turns out right. You can have it if you want," she said as she held out her toy bunny to him.


"Thank you. That's so nice," he said to Savannah.

Mr. Dieudonne went home and peeled the only two oranges not damaged from the worms. As he was peeling the last orange, he couldn't stop thinking of the campers' faces when he told them he didn't have oranges for them. He looked down in the box and saw the toy bunny Savannah had given him.





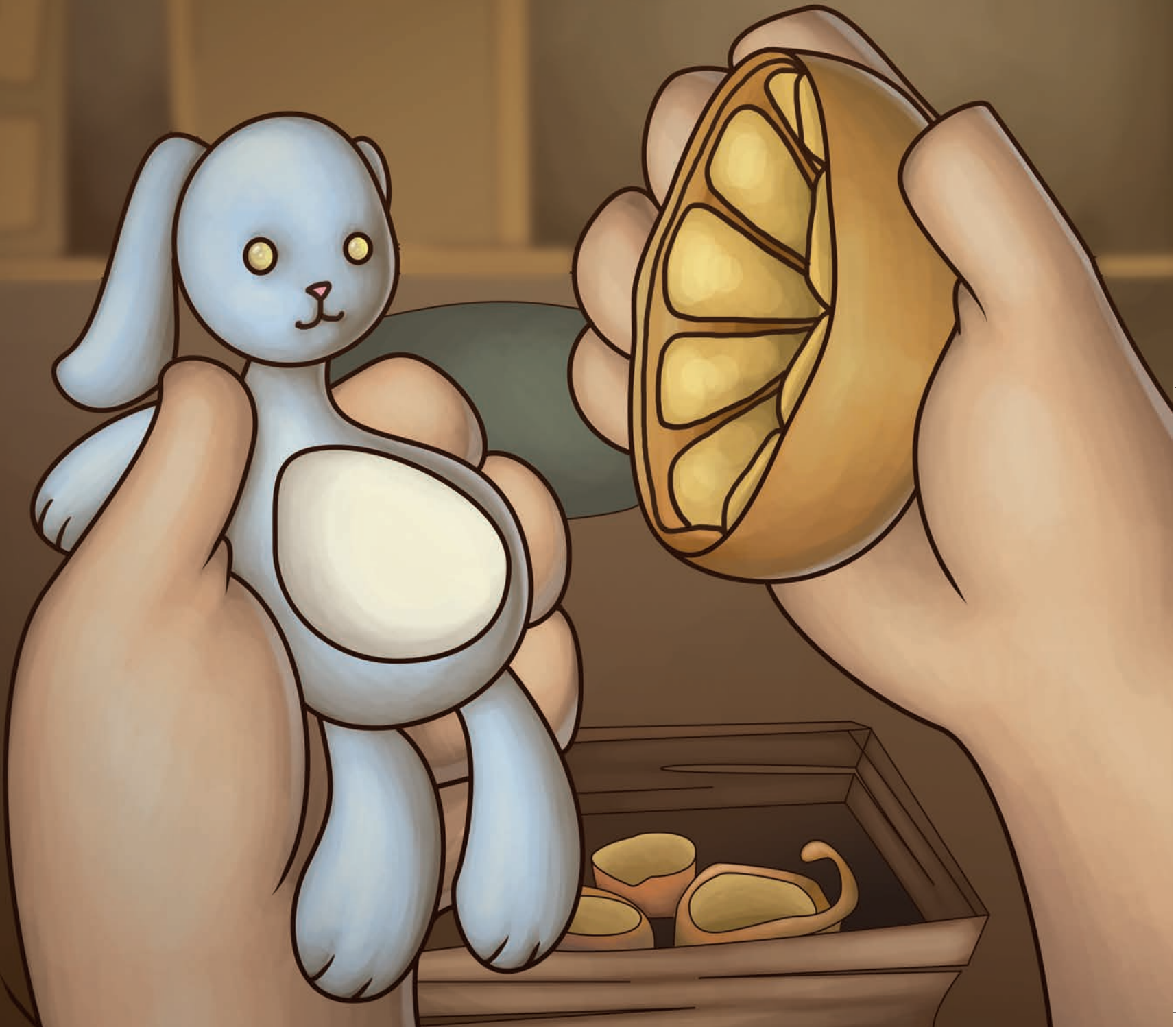




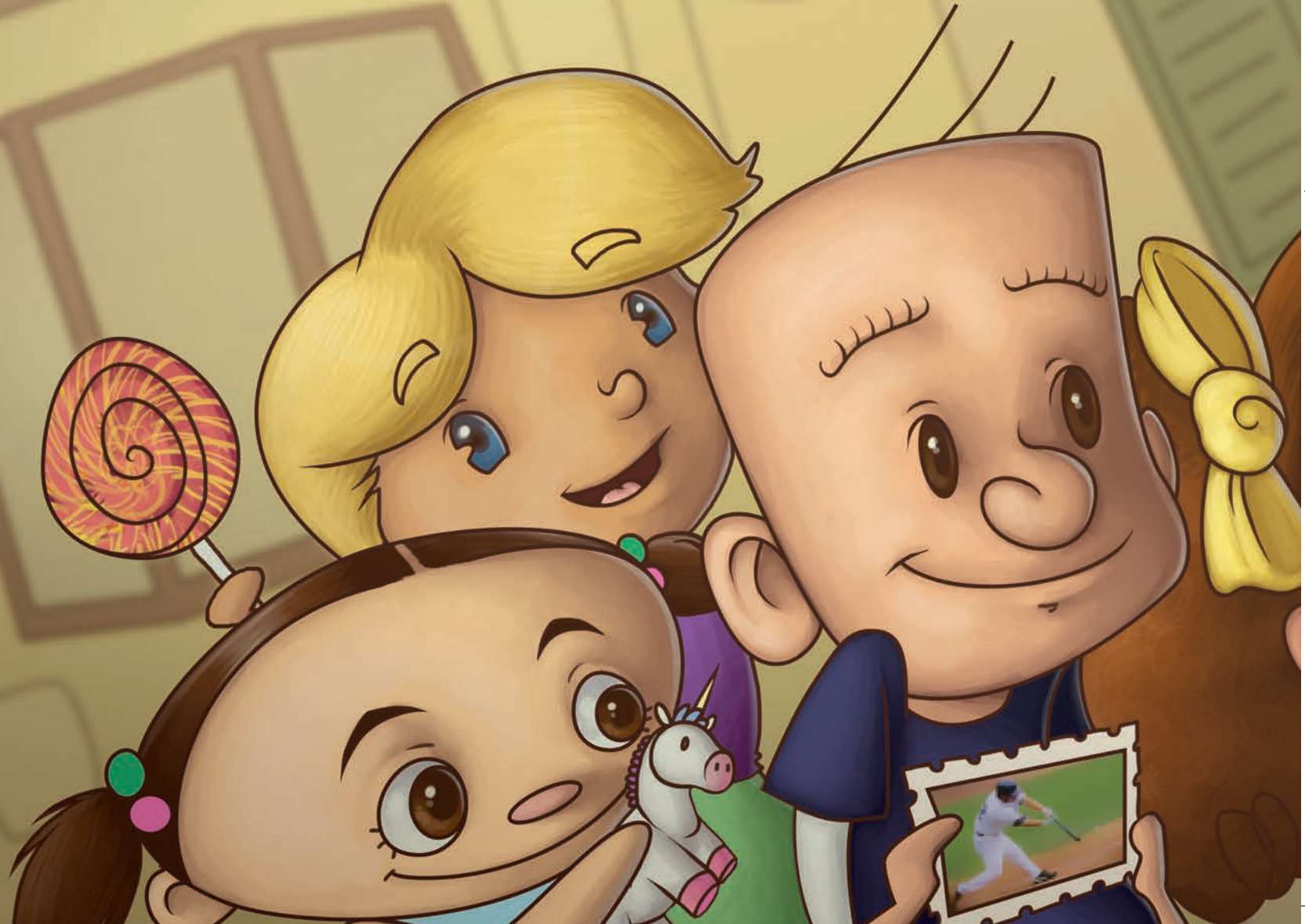
He picked up the toy and looked around the room thinking about what Savannah said. Near him were a few orange peels.



He picked up the toy bunny and thought, *If the bunny helps Savannah when she is sad, maybe it will help the oranges.*



The next day, Mr. Dieudonne told the campers his idea. "Grab two orange peels and one thing that makes you happy!" he said. Everyone had something different. Jane and Savannah got a bow and a toy unicorn. Ryan had a Rubix cube, and Ronny and Buck had a baseball and stamps.















Mr. Dieudonne and all of the campers raced down the hill to get to the orange grove.

"Why are we going to the orange grove?"

Ronny asked curiously.

"You'll find out!" Mr. Dieudonne said.



Everyone got to the orange grove and dug small holes, just big enough for the orange peels. The campers put their orange peels in the holes. "If we put happy things in the ground, maybe the oranges will be so happy that the worms won't be able to get to the oranges!" Mr. Dieudonne explained to the campers. Everyone covered the holes with dirt. Suddenly, warm evening came. "Let's go before it gets too dark," he said.





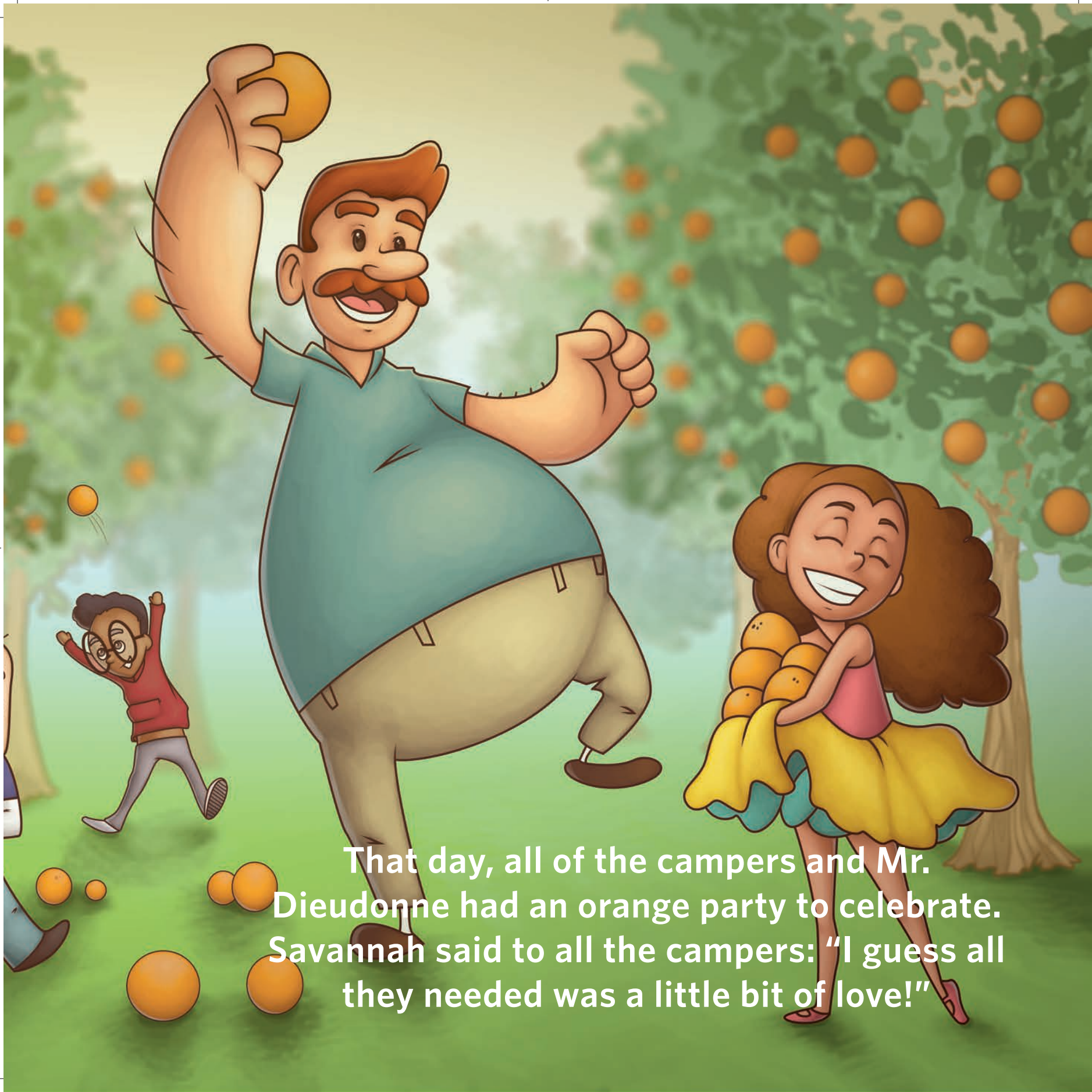




A few days later, they came back to the orange grove and saw dozens of juicy, yummy oranges! Everyone was so excited that their idea had worked and they had lots of worm-free oranges!







That day, all of the campers and Mr. Dieudonne had an orange party to celebrate. Savannah said to all the campers: "I guess all they needed was a little bit of love!"



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Addison Riecke is a resident of Covington, Louisiana. She stars on Nickelodeon's hit show, *The Thundermans*, currently airing its third season. Addison has a big heart and enjoys giving back. She has been involved with charities, including *Holidays for Kids*, St. Tammany Humane Society, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, STARC, Kitty Bungalow, and Food Bank of Covington. In addition to her acting and singing talents, Addison also enjoys playing both the ukulele and guitar.



## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Allison Howle is a native Michigander who has been involved in art since a very early age. She began sketching and doodling around the age of two and has not put her sketchbook down since. In 2012, Allison graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design with a BFA in Animation. While there, she refined her skills as an animator and grew as an artist.

In addition to her art life, she has been involved in competitive Equestrian Sports for over a decade. She owns two horses and competes actively in the disciplines of Dressage and Hunter/Jumper.



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