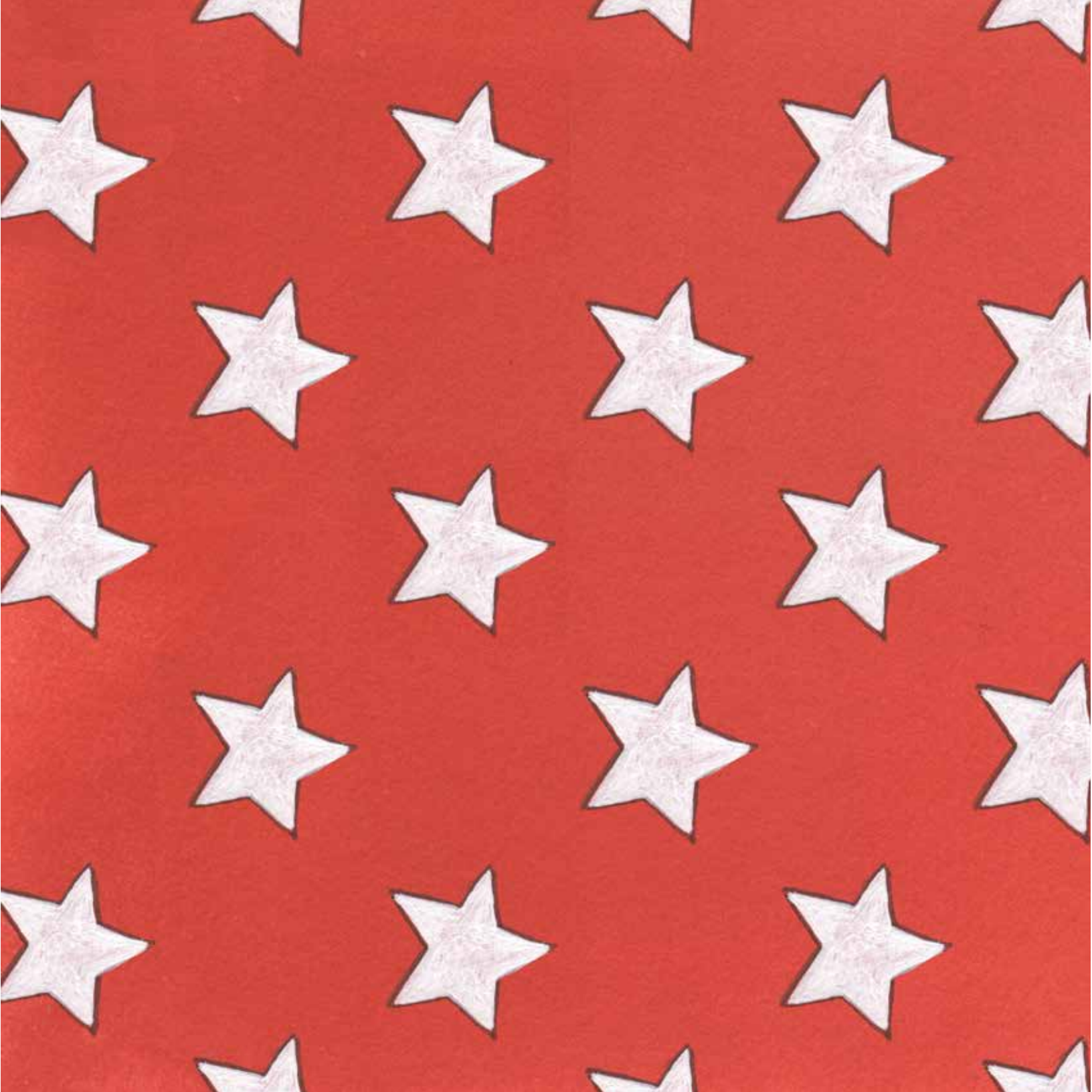
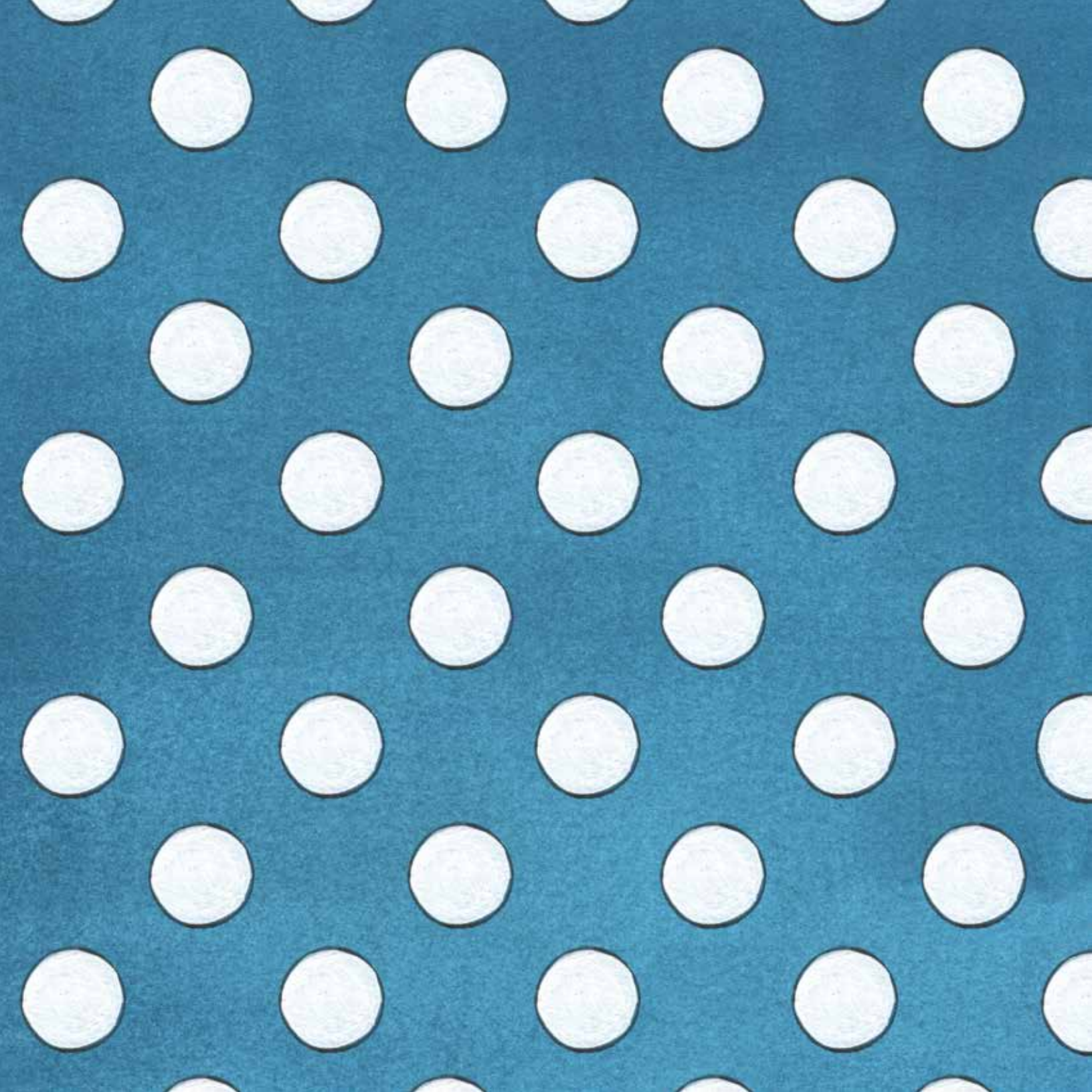


Don't Turn the Page!

By Rachelle Burk

Illustrated by
Julie Downing





To Cara and Alana, who kept me turning pages.
— R.B.

To Marissa, for her contagious spirit of adventure.
— J.D.



Text copyright © 2014 Rachelle Burk
Illustrations copyright © 2014 Julie Downing

Cover and book design by Simon Stahl

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means including information storage and retrieval systems -- except in case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles or reviews --with-out permission in writing from its publisher, Creston Books, LLC.

The characters and events portrayed in this book are fictitious or are used fictitiously. Any similarity to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental and not intended by the author.

Published by Creston Books, LLC in Berkeley, California
www.crestonbooks.co

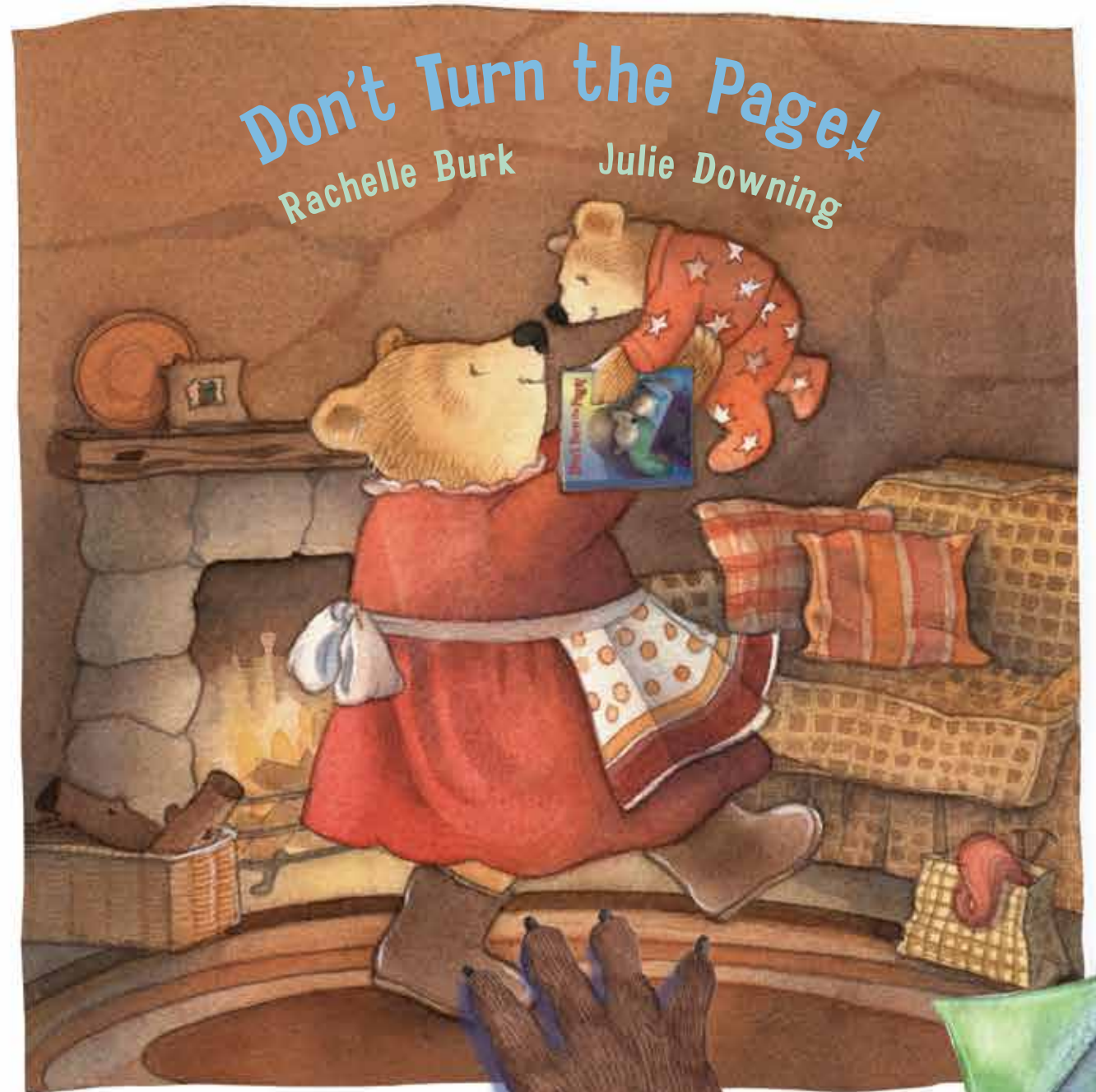
Source of Production: Worzalla Books, Stevens Point, Wisconsin
Printed and bound in the United States of America
1 2 3 4 5



Don't Turn the Page!

Rachelle Burk

Julie Downing





“How about a bedtime story?” Mama asked.

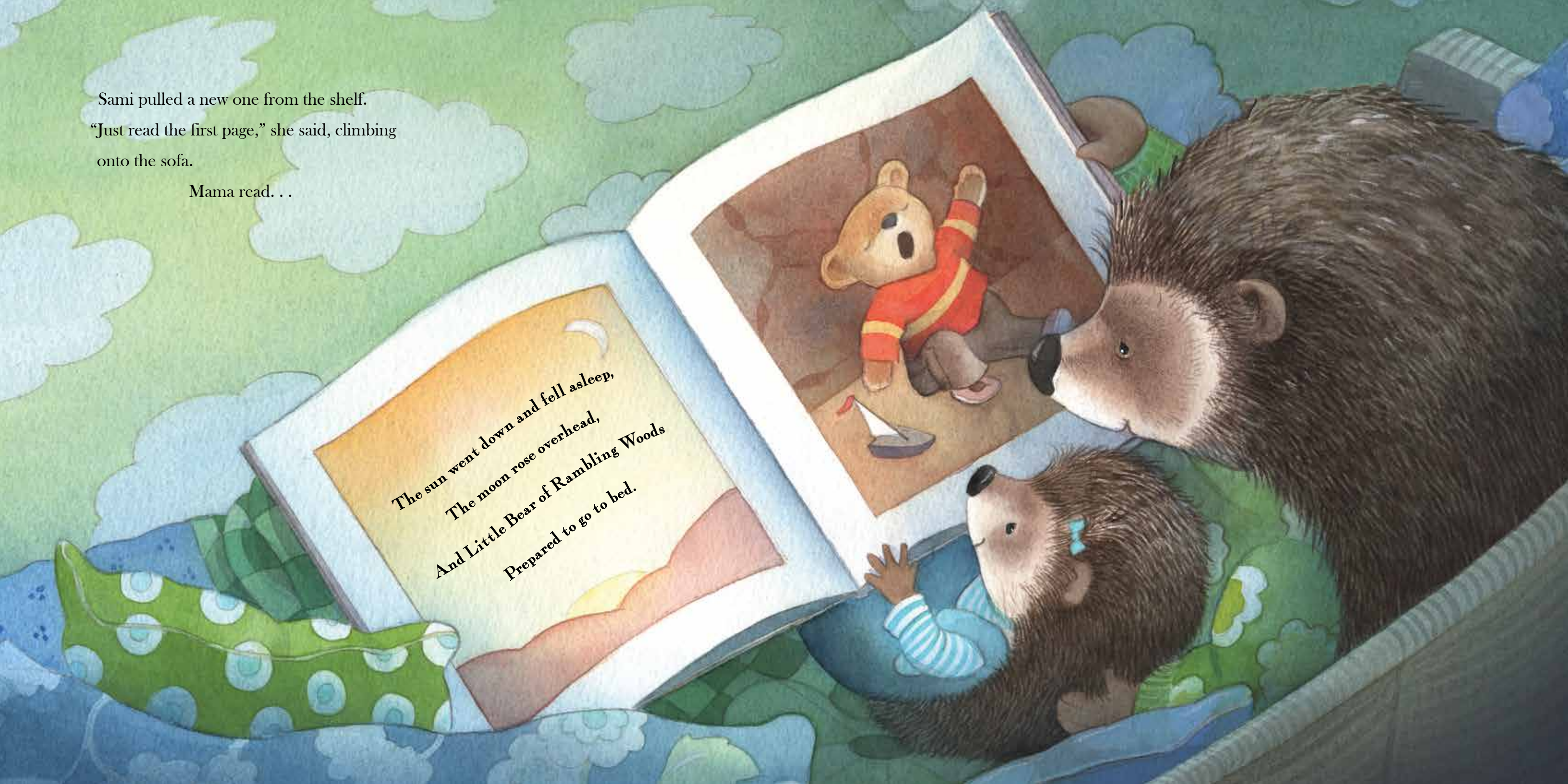
Sami shook her head. “I don’t want to go to bed.
I’m not tired yet.”

“All right,” said Mama. “Why don’t you pick out a
book to read later?”

Sami pulled a new one from the shelf.
“Just read the first page,” she said, climbing
onto the sofa.

Mama read. . .

The sun went down and fell asleep,
The moon rose overhead,
And Little Bear of Rambling Woods
Prepared to go to bed.





“That’s enough,” said Sami. “Don’t turn the page.”

Mama slipped a bookmark between the pages.

Sami thought a moment. “How do bears get ready for bed?” she asked.

“I don’t know,” said Mama.

Sami lifted the edge of the page and peeked. She liked the picture.

“What does it say?” she asked.

Mama read. . .

The sleepy cub went to his cave,
And with a growly yawn,
He slipped into his jammies and
Put fuzzy slippers on.



Sami gave a growly yawn.

“I’m going to put on my jammies like Little Bear,” she said.

“But that’s all. Don’t turn the page.”

Mama helped Sami into her jammies and fuzzy bear slippers.

“Do bears have story time, too?” Sami asked.

Mama shrugged.

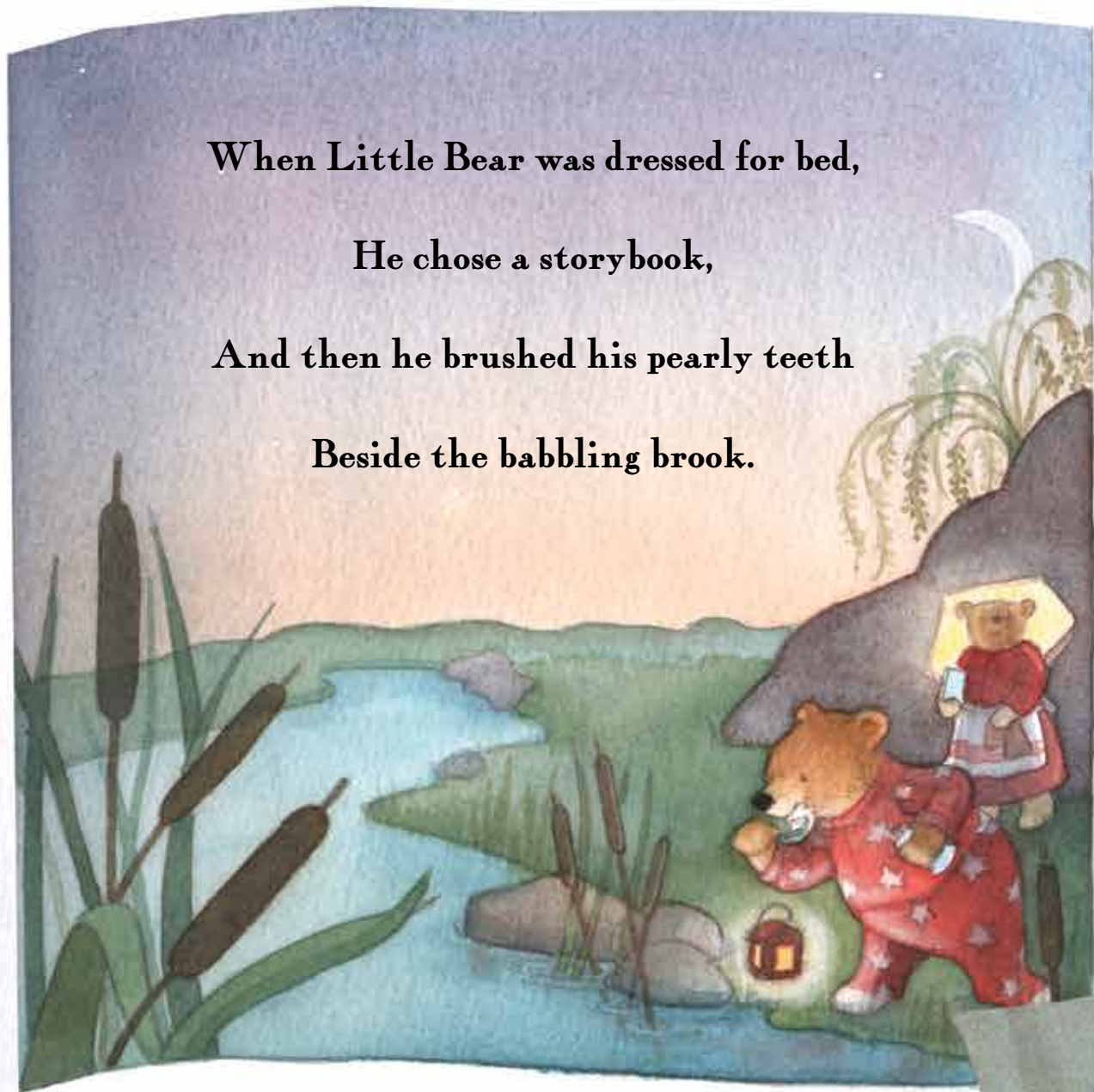
“Maybe we should find out,” Sami said.

So Mama read. . .





When Little Bear was dressed for bed,
He chose a storybook,
And then he brushed his pearly teeth
Beside the babbling brook.



Sami held up her hand. "No more," she said. "Don't turn the page."

Mama and Sami sat still for a moment.

"Little Bear brushed his teeth, so I will, too," said Sami.

"But I won't go to bed yet."

"Fair enough," said Mama.



Sami turned on the faucet.

"Maybe you can read to me while I brush," she said.

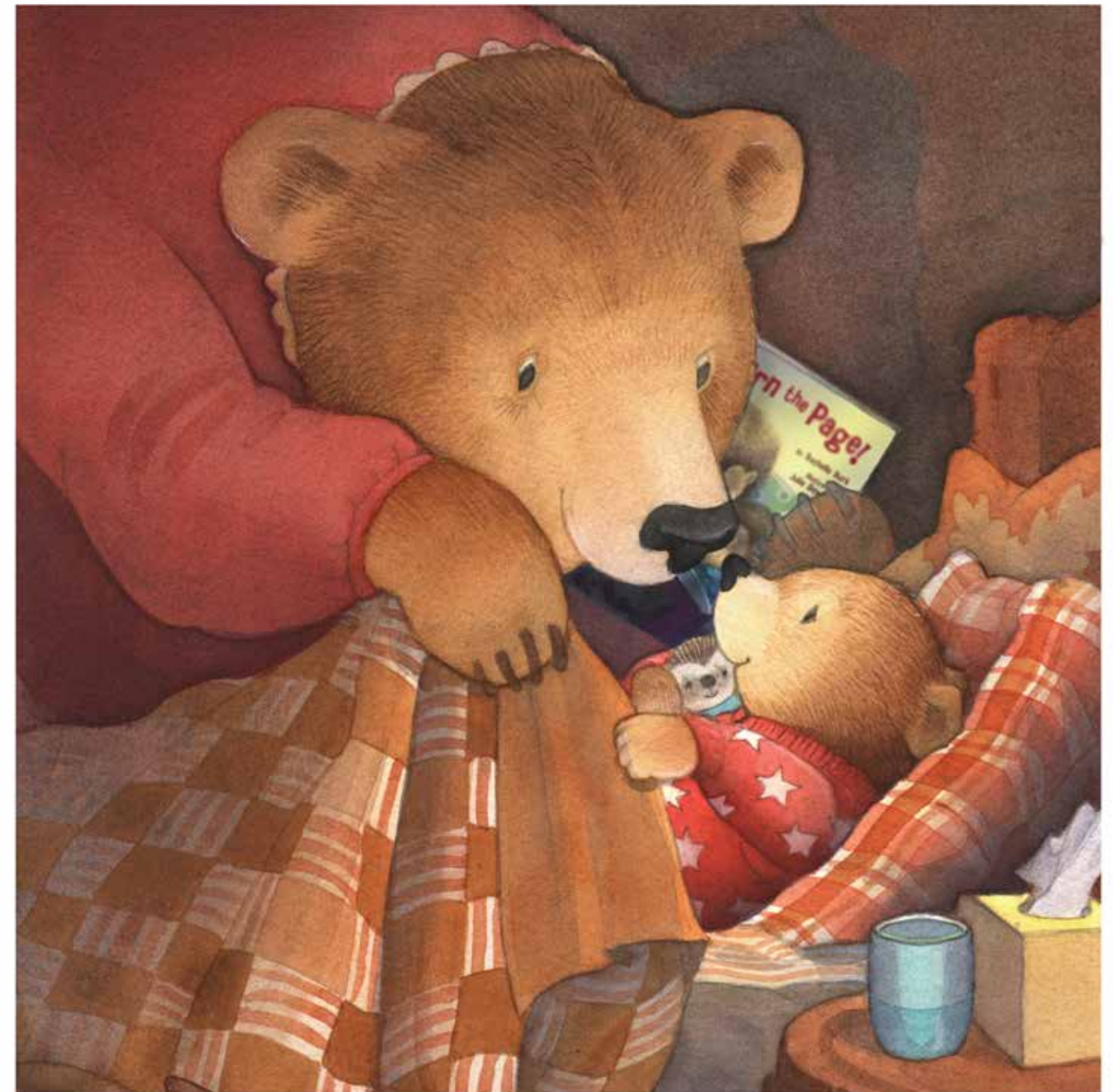
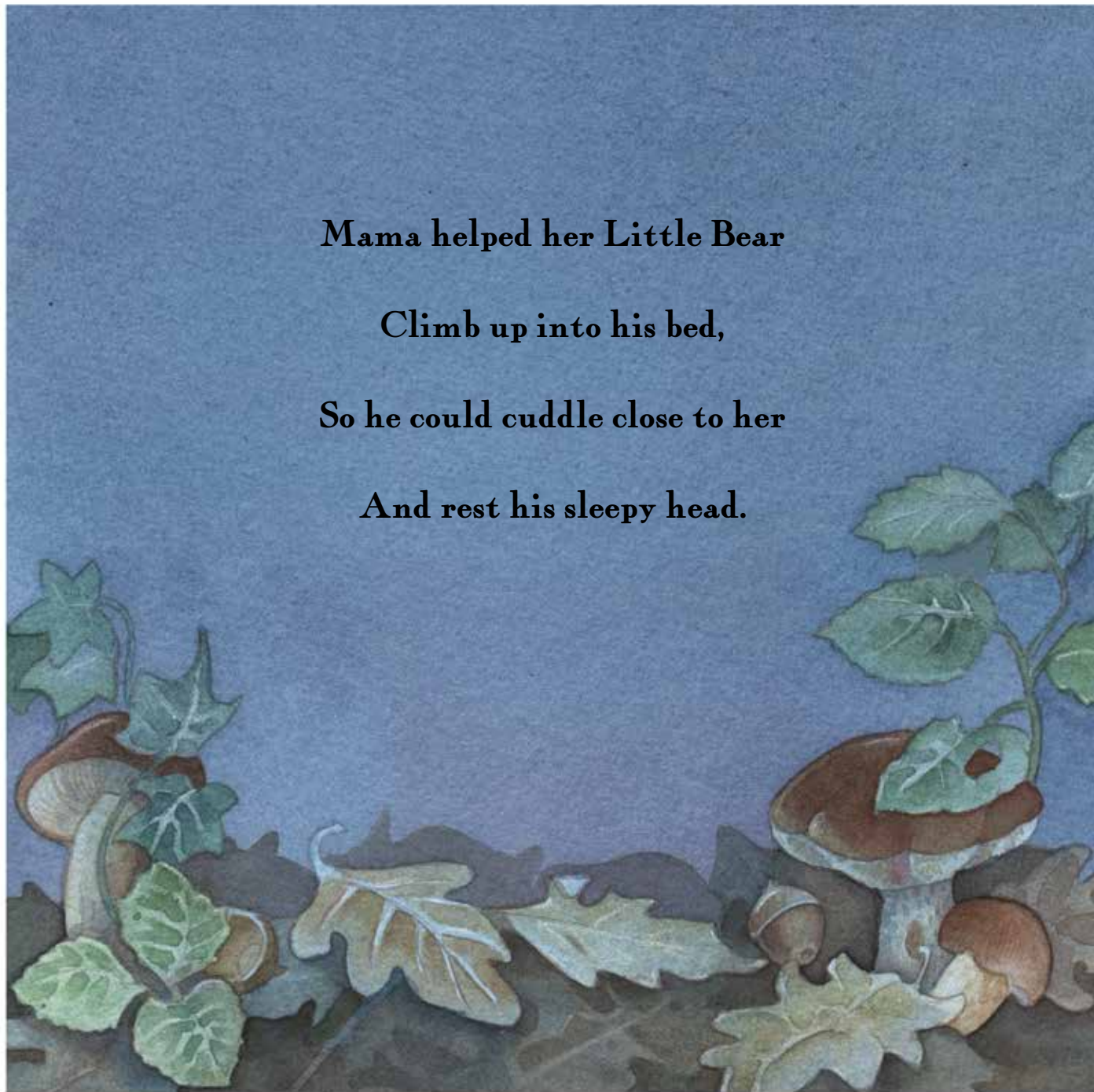
So Mama read on. . .

Mama helped her Little Bear

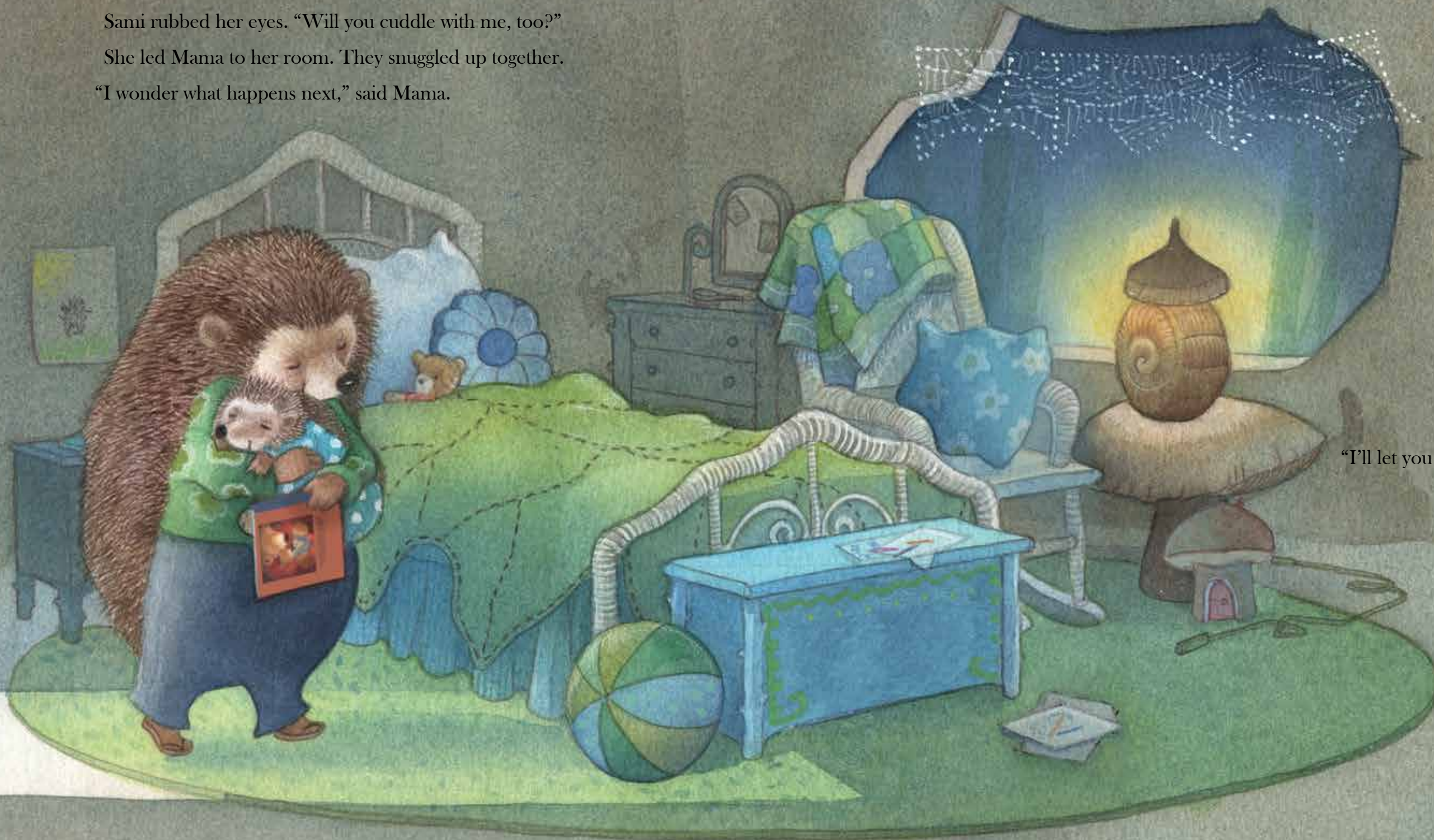
Climb up into his bed,

So he could cuddle close to her

And rest his sleepy head.



Sami rubbed her eyes. “Will you cuddle with me, too?”
She led Mama to her room. They snuggled up together.
“I wonder what happens next,” said Mama.



“I’ll let you read one more page,” said Sami.
Mama read. . .

As crickets sang a lullaby,
And stars blinked dreamy light,
His Mama read a fairy tale
And kissed her cub goodnight.

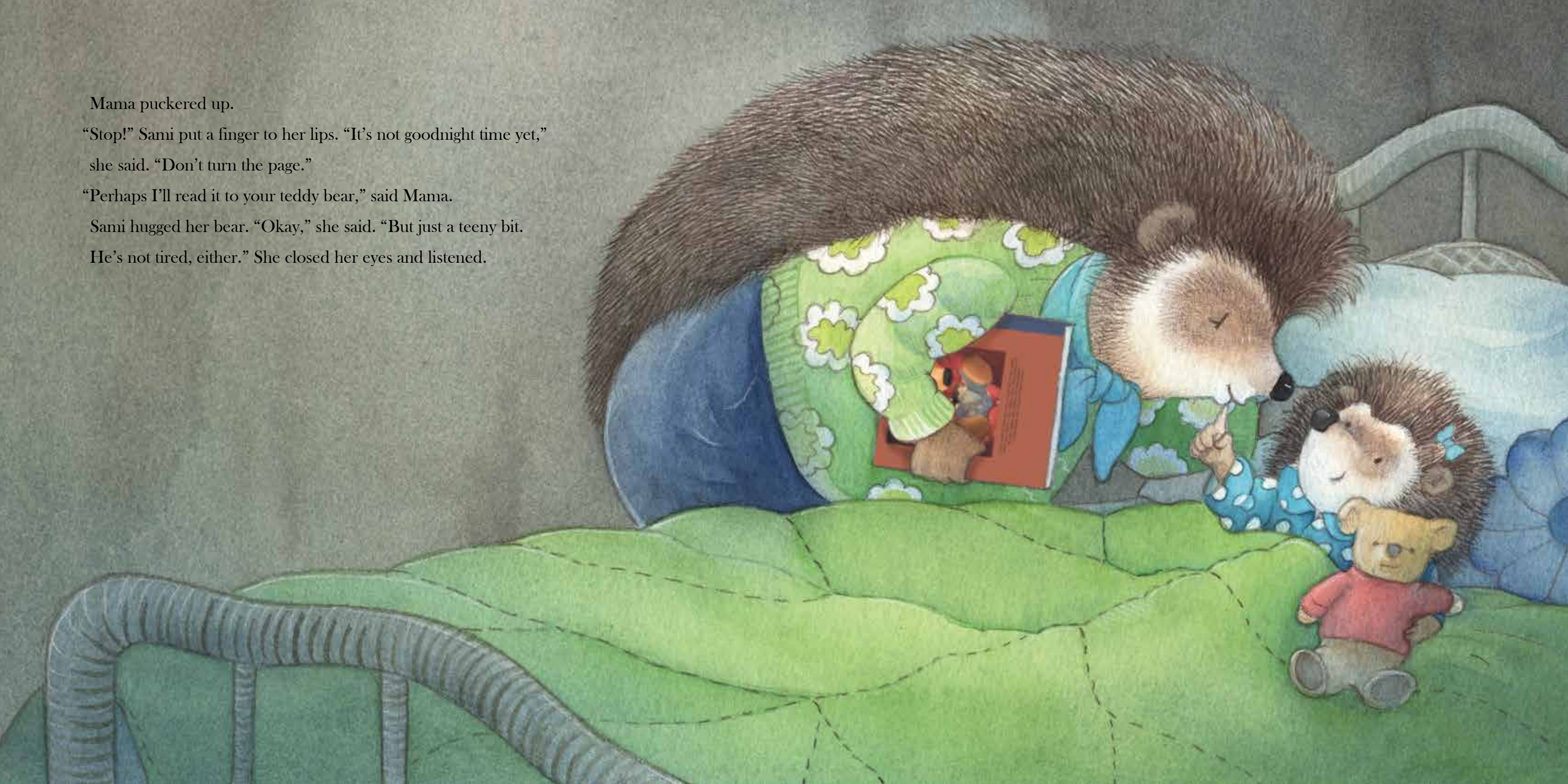


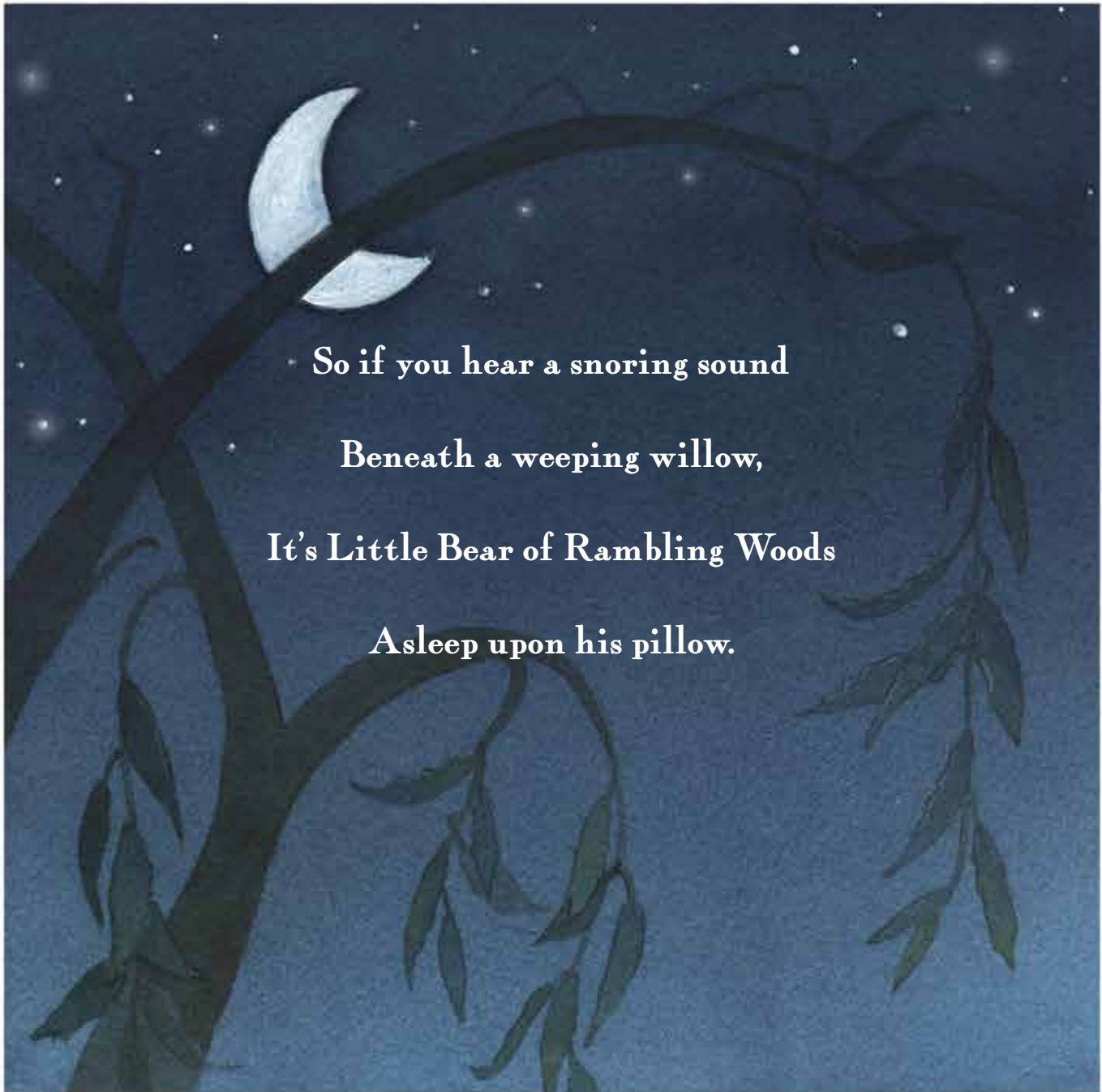
Mama puckered up.

“Stop!” Sami put a finger to her lips. “It’s not goodnight time yet,” she said. “Don’t turn the page.”

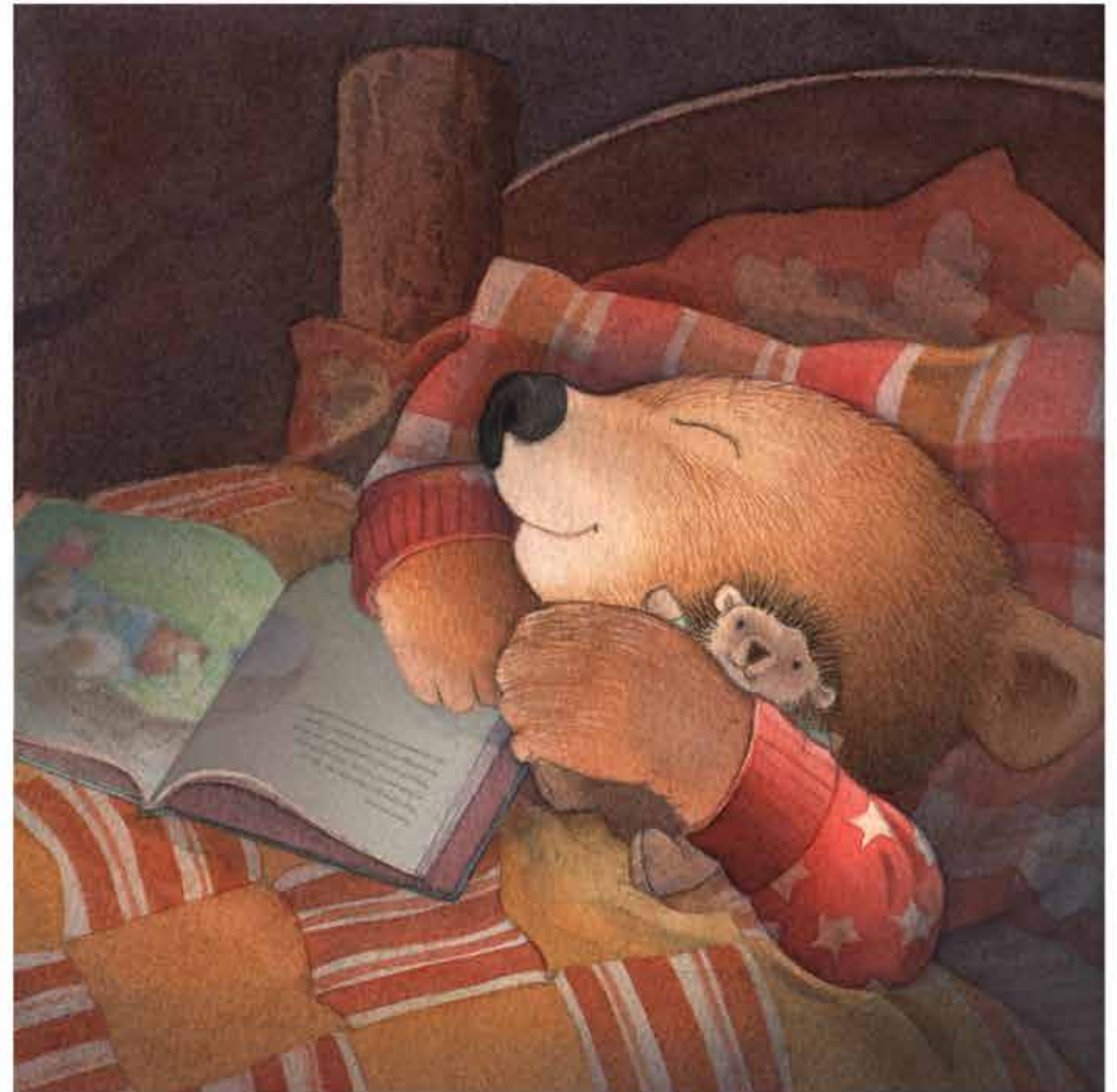
“Perhaps I’ll read it to your teddy bear,” said Mama.

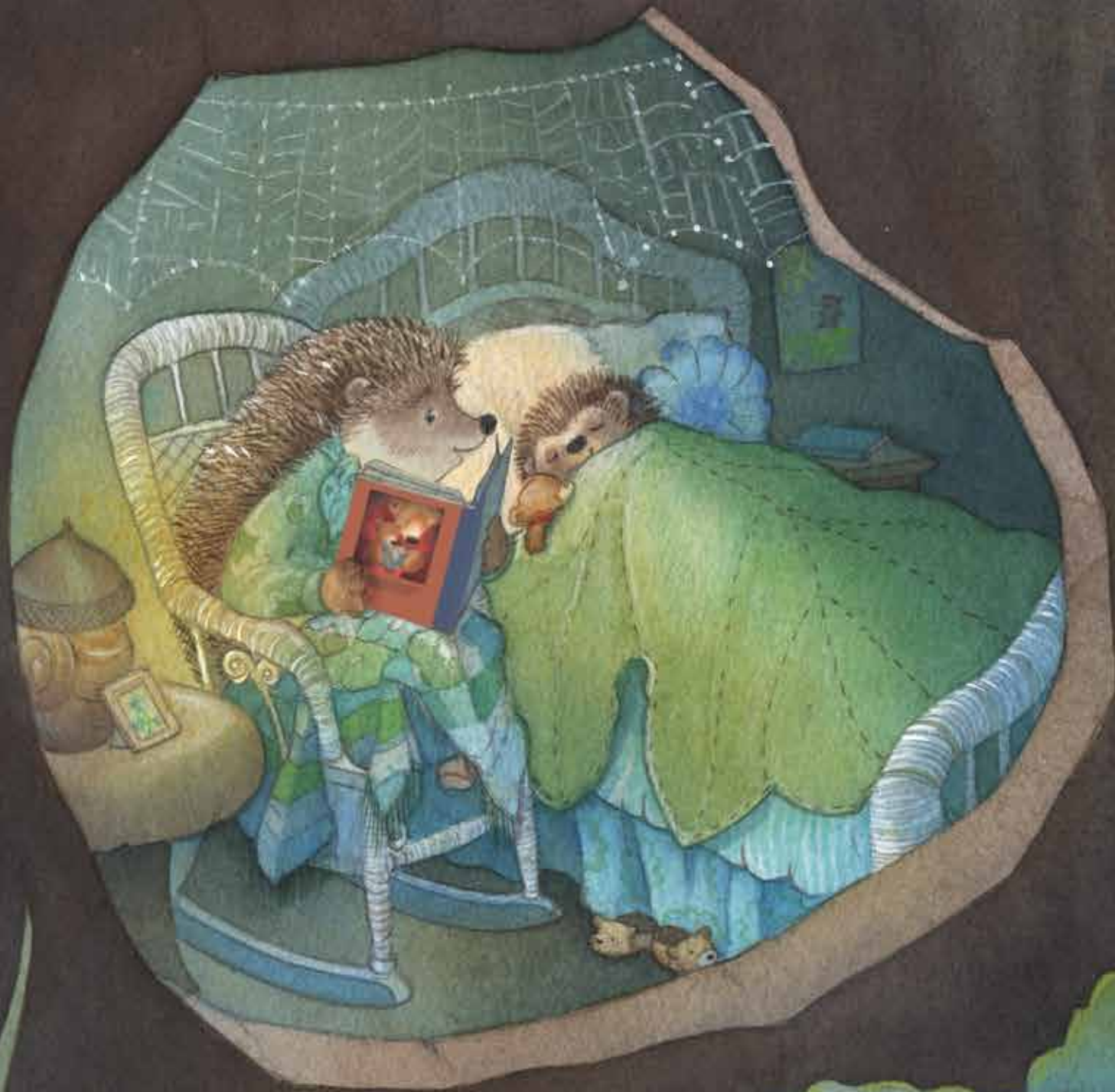
Sami hugged her bear. “Okay,” she said. “But just a teeny bit. He’s not tired, either.” She closed her eyes and listened.





So if you hear a snoring sound
Beneath a weeping willow,
It's Little Bear of Rambling Woods
Asleep upon his pillow.

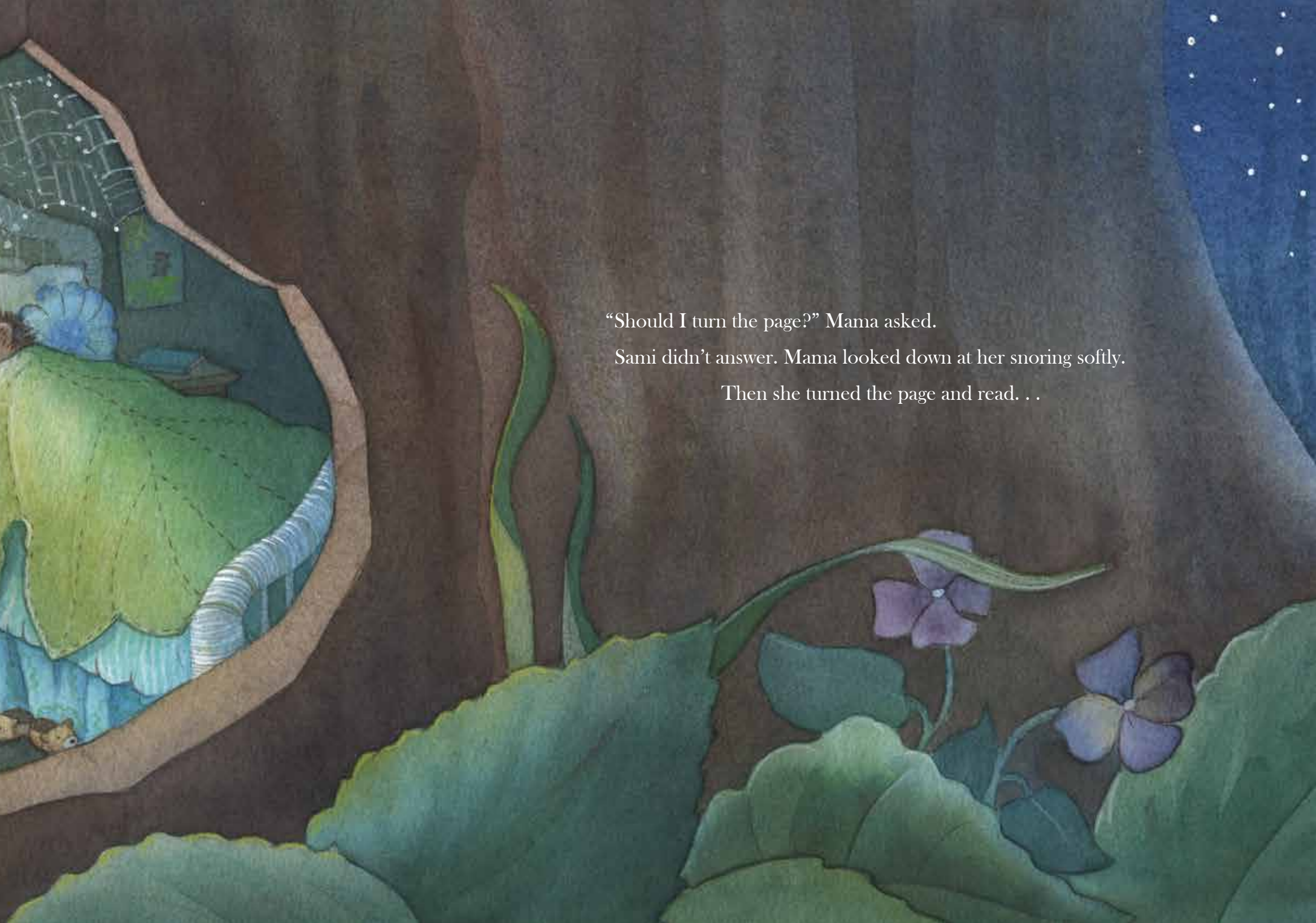




“Should I turn the page?” Mama asked.

Sami didn’t answer. Mama looked down at her snoring softly.

Then she turned the page and read. . .



The End





Rachelle Burk is a writer of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry for children. Her books include *Tree House in a Storm*, *The Tooth Fairy Trap*, and *A Good Sign for Alice*. Her work has appeared in national publications such as *Highlights for Children* and *Scholastic Science* classroom magazines.

Rachelle is also a popular children's entertainer, performing as Mother Goof Storyteller and Tickles the Clown. In a parallel life, she works as a social worker and rescue squad volunteer.

The New Jersey author loves to share the joy of reading and writing through dynamic school visit programs. For more information, visit her website: rachelburk.com

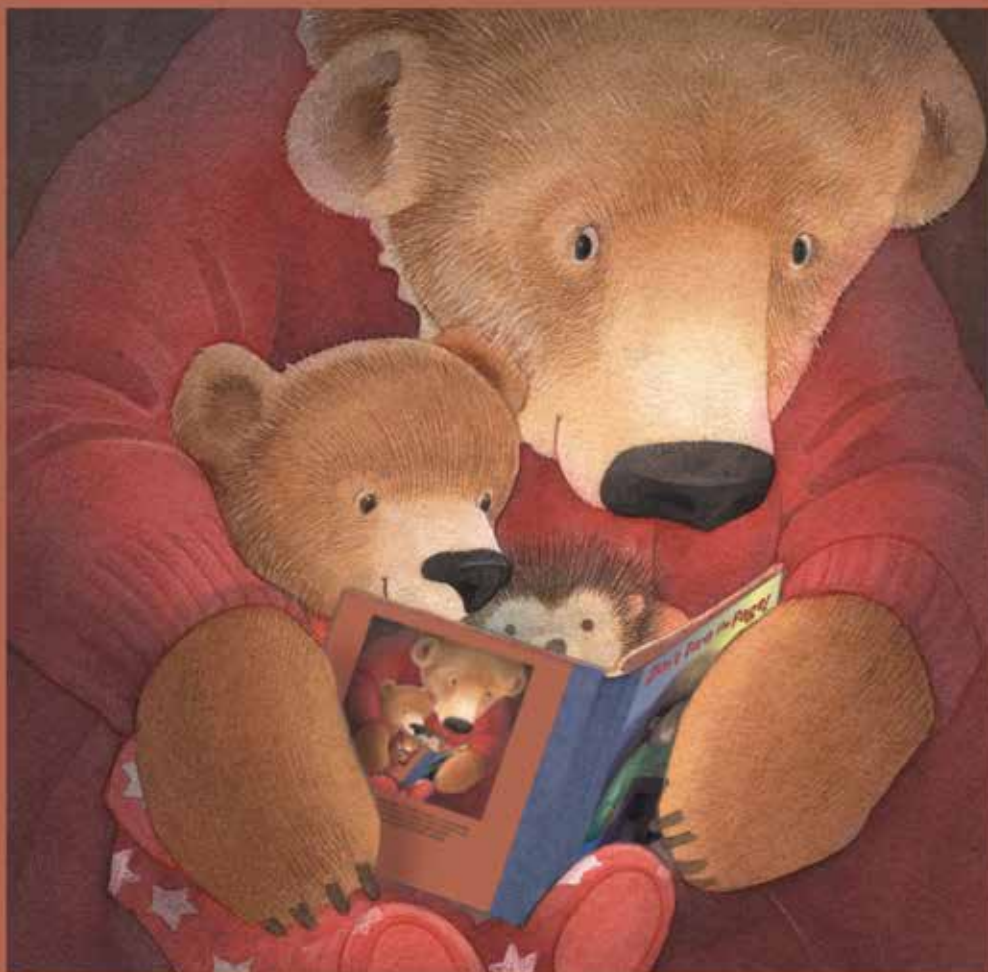


Julie Downing is an internationally published author and illustrator. She has written and/or illustrated over 40 books for children.

The San Francisco artist is known for her innovative approach in illustrating traditional stories, and her list of books includes: *The Night Before Christmas*, *Lullaby and Goodnight*, and *First Mothers*.

Downing has won many awards for her work, including a Parent's Choice Award and the New York Public Library Best Books Award. She was selected to appear in *Talking with Artists, vol.2*, a book about 12 of the nation's best children's book illustrators.

Downing is most noted for her rich, jewel-like watercolor illustrations. Her work has been exhibited in galleries throughout the United States and England. She currently teaches watercolor and children's book illustration to both graduate and undergraduate students at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco.



"A cozy story for little ones who try their best to stay awake, with a story within a story within a story! This should ease all cubs, hoglets and children off to Dreamland."

— Carla Kozak, San Francisco Public Library

\$16.95

