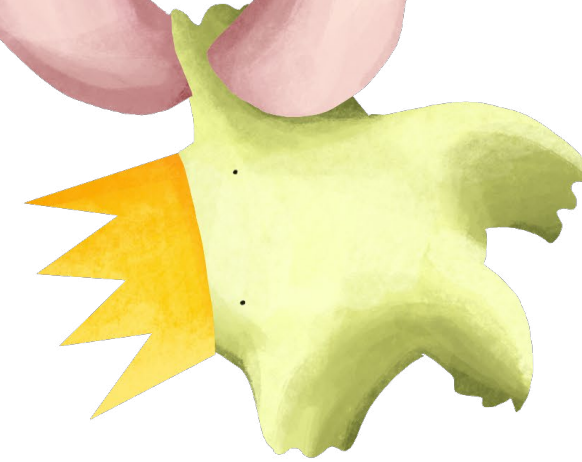


The little
creature



who always wore
a crown

Text by
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Illustrations by
Cecilia Caporlingua

Once upon a time
in a faraway land



lived a VERY small creature.

A creature so small
that it could only be seen
with a microscope,

an object that allows you to enlarge
anything through a lens.

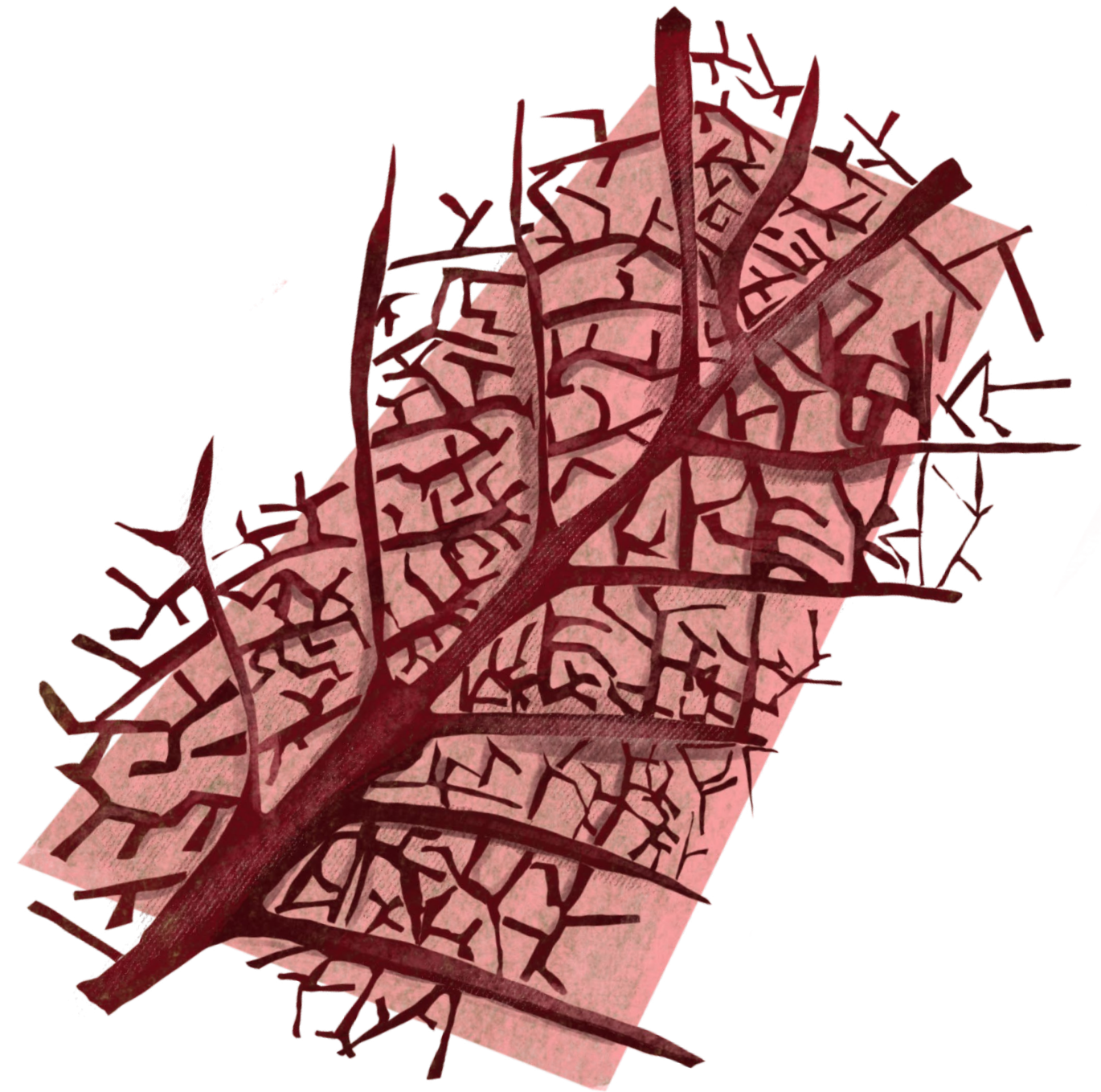


If you look at a fly under a microscope,



it will look like a VERY BIG fly.

If you look at a leaf under the lens,



you will see all its veins.

When observing this little creature
under the microscope,
scientists noticed
it was wearing a HUGE CROWN...

...what a show off!



Indeed,
this creature had
a very difficult personality,



but at the same time,
it hated being alone.

As soon as it met someone,
the little creature
would immediately
stick to them.



Yet boys, girls and even adults,
found this little creature
to be quite irritating.



It made them cough

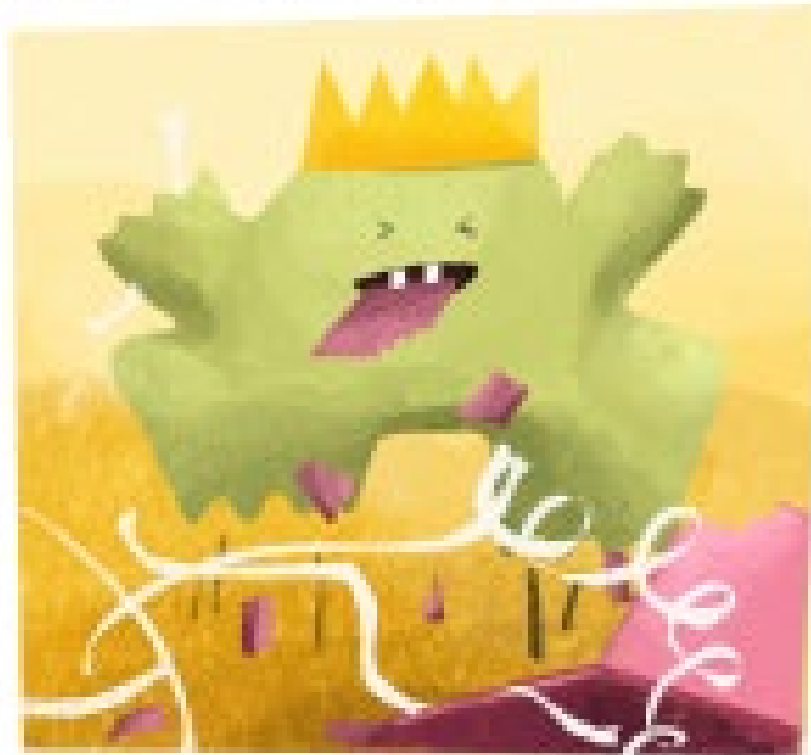


and it would scratch all over their
throats with its crown!



The little creature who always wore a crown was very naughty!





Doctors and scientists were always
learning more about it,
trying to make it be
more friendly and kind.



In the meantime, all over the world,
people were looking for ways to avoid
meeting the little creature with a crown,
so that they wouldn't be annoyed by it.



Children started spending a lot of time at home,
without going to school or to the park.





08:30AM



01:30PM

Both children and adults started washing
their hands very often
because the little creature who always
wore a crown hated soap and water!

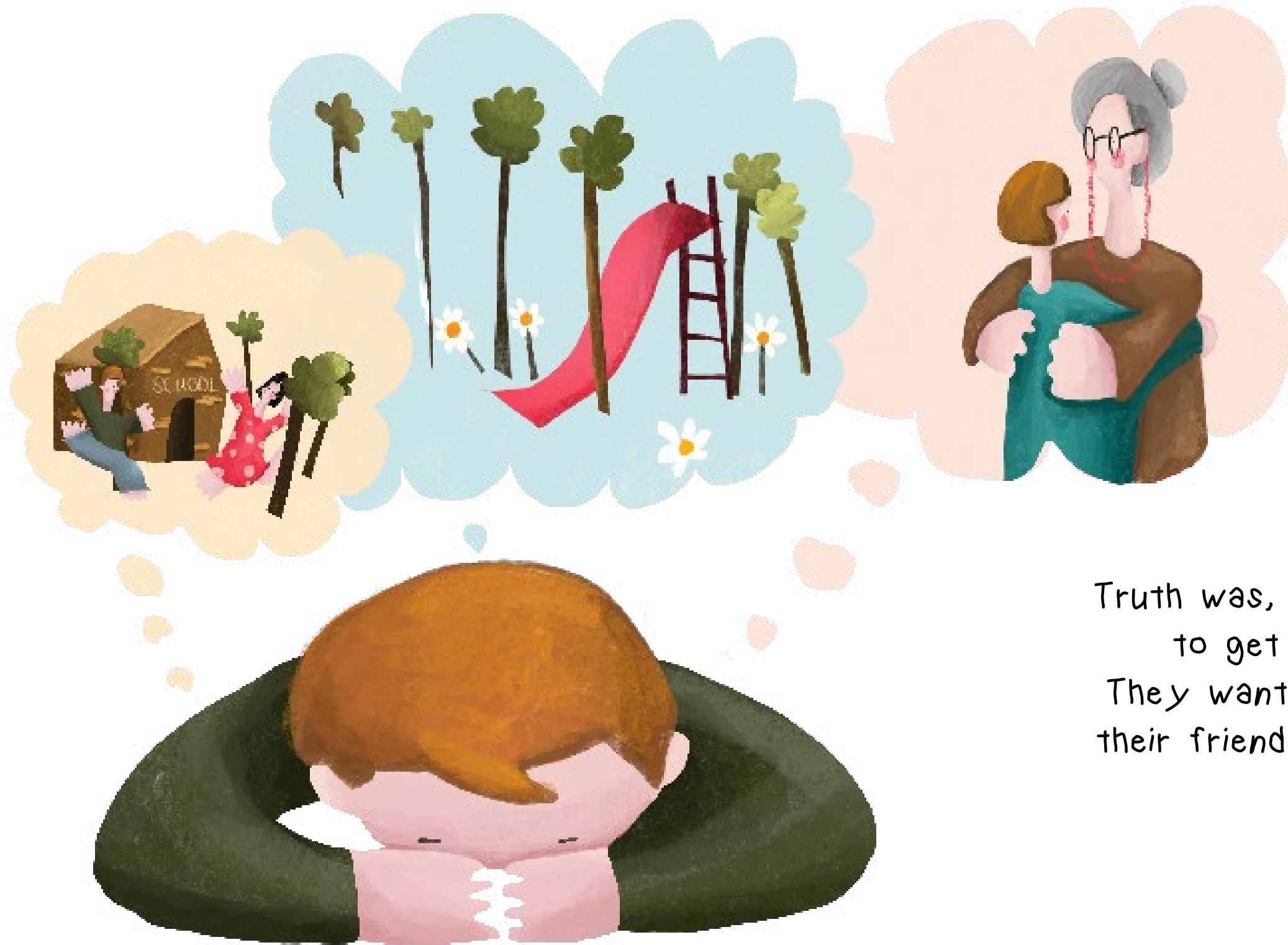


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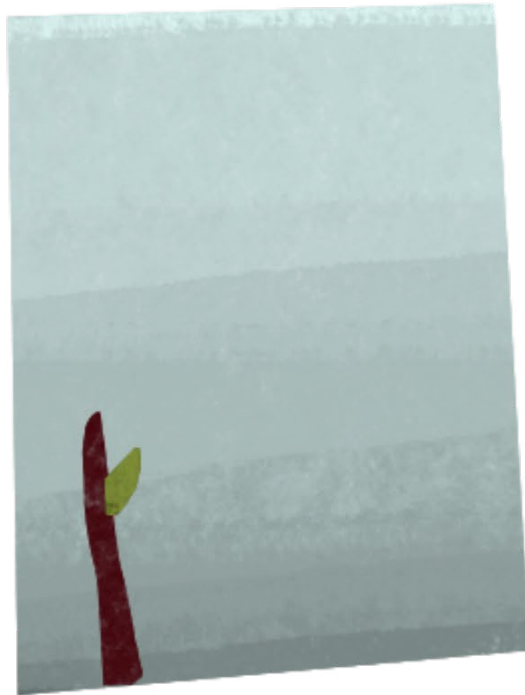


08:15PM





Truth was, that the children were starting
to get upset about this situation.
They wanted to go back to playing with
their friends and hugging their loved ones.



But with a little *patience*,
while everyone respected these rules
and waited...



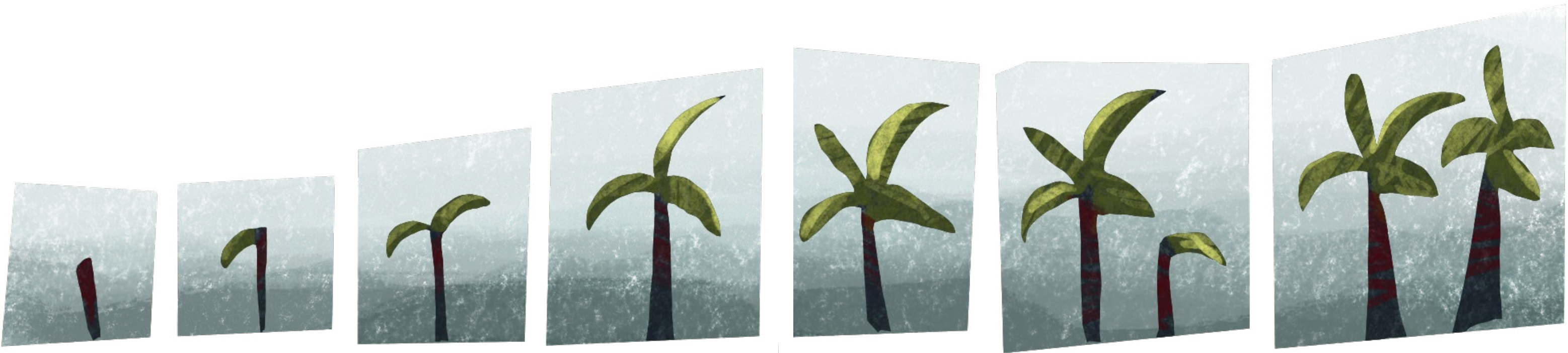
doctors and scientists continued to study...



study and...

study!

Because studying was the only way
to learn more about that little creature



who kept causing damage, undisturbed.



As time passed by,
the little creature who always wore a crown
became harmless and less vain and it decided to
go away and stop bothering
others with its crown.



Finally the children went back to
play in the parks. You could even hear
some of them shouting
"HURRAY, we love school!"

The air smelled of freedom.
Everyone got out of their houses to play
in the streets of their cities
and lived happily ever after.



Authors Note

"The Little Creature Who Always Wore a Crown" is a tale originally written in Italian in March 2020. A time when Italy was facing the Coronavirus Pandemic which soon spread all over the globe. During this time of lockdown, general activities had to be interrupted, the population was forced to stay home, and our thoughts went to the children. How do we explain to our children what is happening around them? And just like that, from a faraway land, came along a little creature who always wore a crown.

The word "Crown" translated in Italian to "Corona" is a game of words in reference to the Coronavirus, thus indirectly addressing the virus to this little creature who changed the lives of many.

The tale refers to the struggle's children might have faced during these days of quarantine, when their daily routines had been abruptly interrupted. Difficulties such as missing their loved ones, the inability to play in the parks or seeing their friend, but also the relevance and importance of following rules and trusting science and research to find a solution to this global emergency.

The evocative function of the fable speaks universally to both children and adults leaving space and respecting each one's desire of knowledge.

Translations by Lior Misano



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