

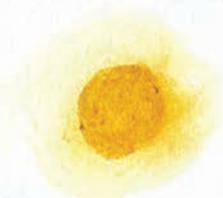
One sunny day, Makenna and her little brother, Tyler,
were outside playing when a beautiful butterfly flew near them.

“Hi butterfly!” said Makenna, “What’s your name?”



Delighted, the butterfly replied,
“My name is Sierra, do you want
to go on an adventure with me?”

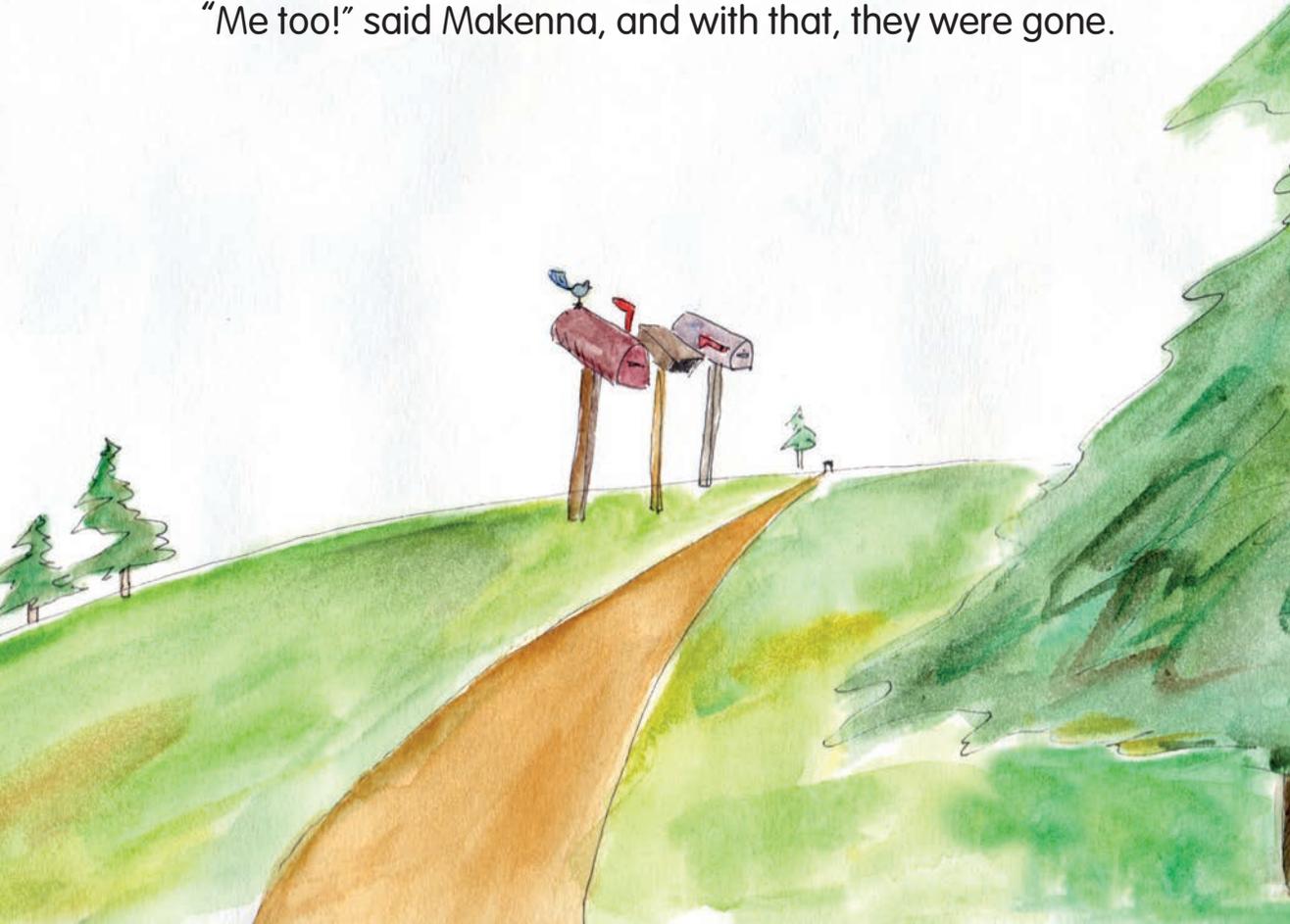




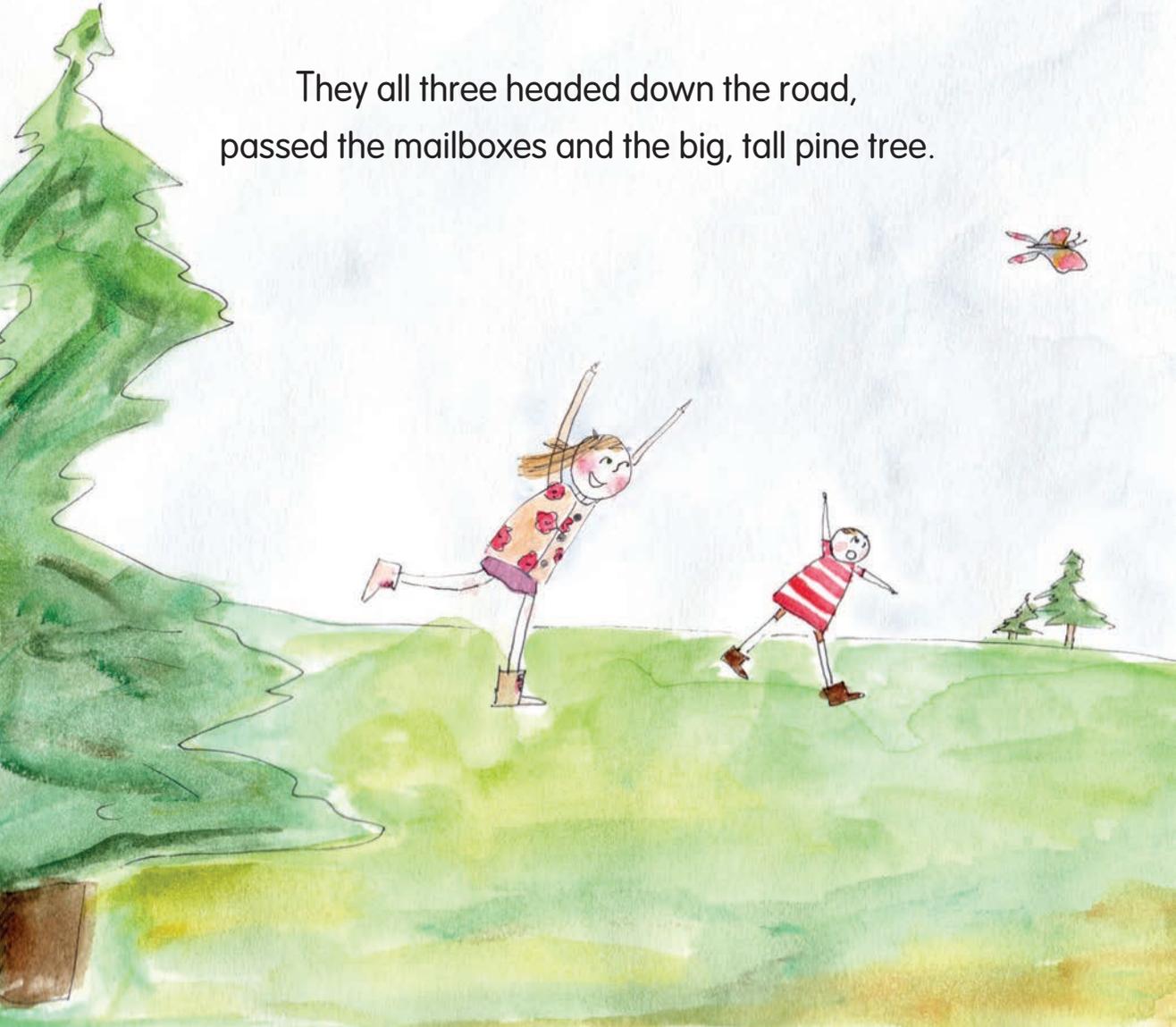
Makenna and Kyler loved adventures!

“I do! I do!” said Kyler clapping his hands.

“Me too!” said Makenna, and with that, they were gone.



They all three headed down the road,
passed the mailboxes and the big, tall pine tree.





Soon they came across a tall, red slide.

“Wow!” said Sierra,

“That looks like fun!

Let’s try to slide down!”





But the slide was very high
and Makenna was afraid.

She stood at the base of the slide
and looked up feeling very nervous.

“I don’t think I can,” said Makenna,
“It’s very high!”

Then Sierra flew over, “Yes you can! I’ll be right here beside you.”
And so Makenna started to climb the ladder, one step at a time.



When she got to the top,

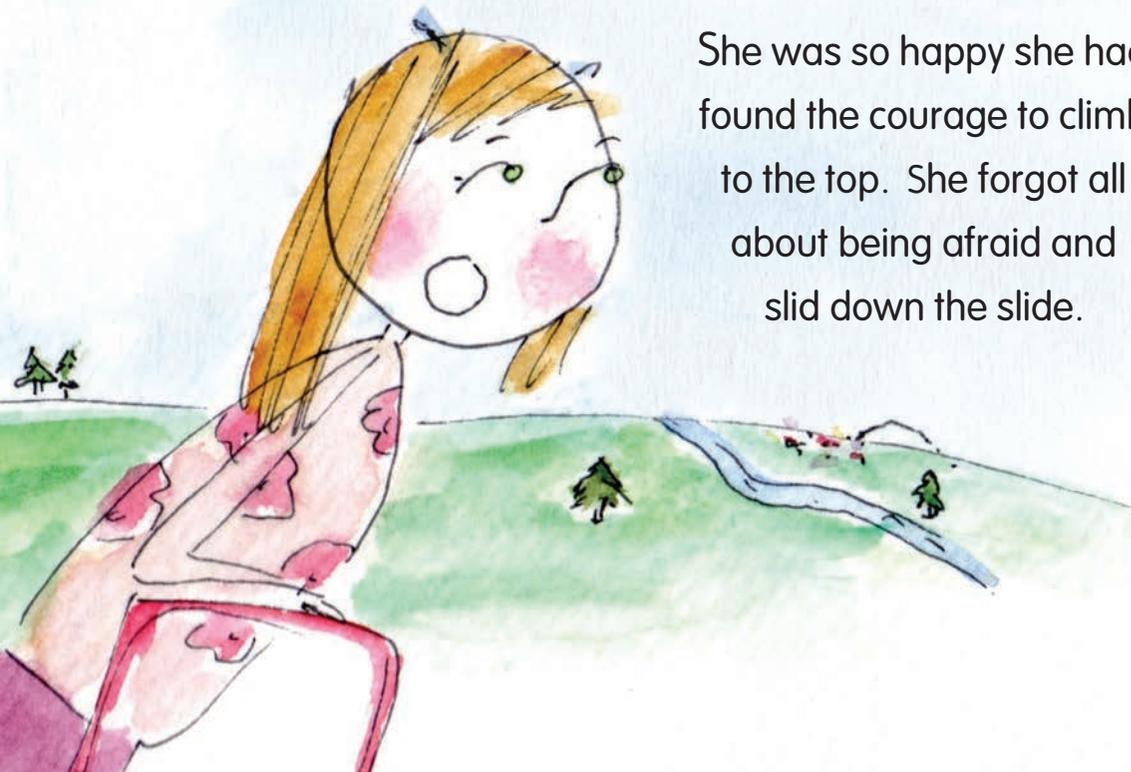
Makenna smiled,

“Wow!”

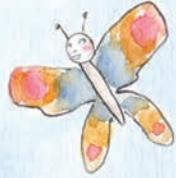
You can see so much
from up here!”



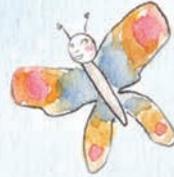
She was so happy she had
found the courage to climb
to the top. She forgot all
about being afraid and
slid down the slide.



“Weeee!” ...



“Plop!”



Makenna landed at the
bottom of the slide,
laughing and smiling,
“That was so much fun!”





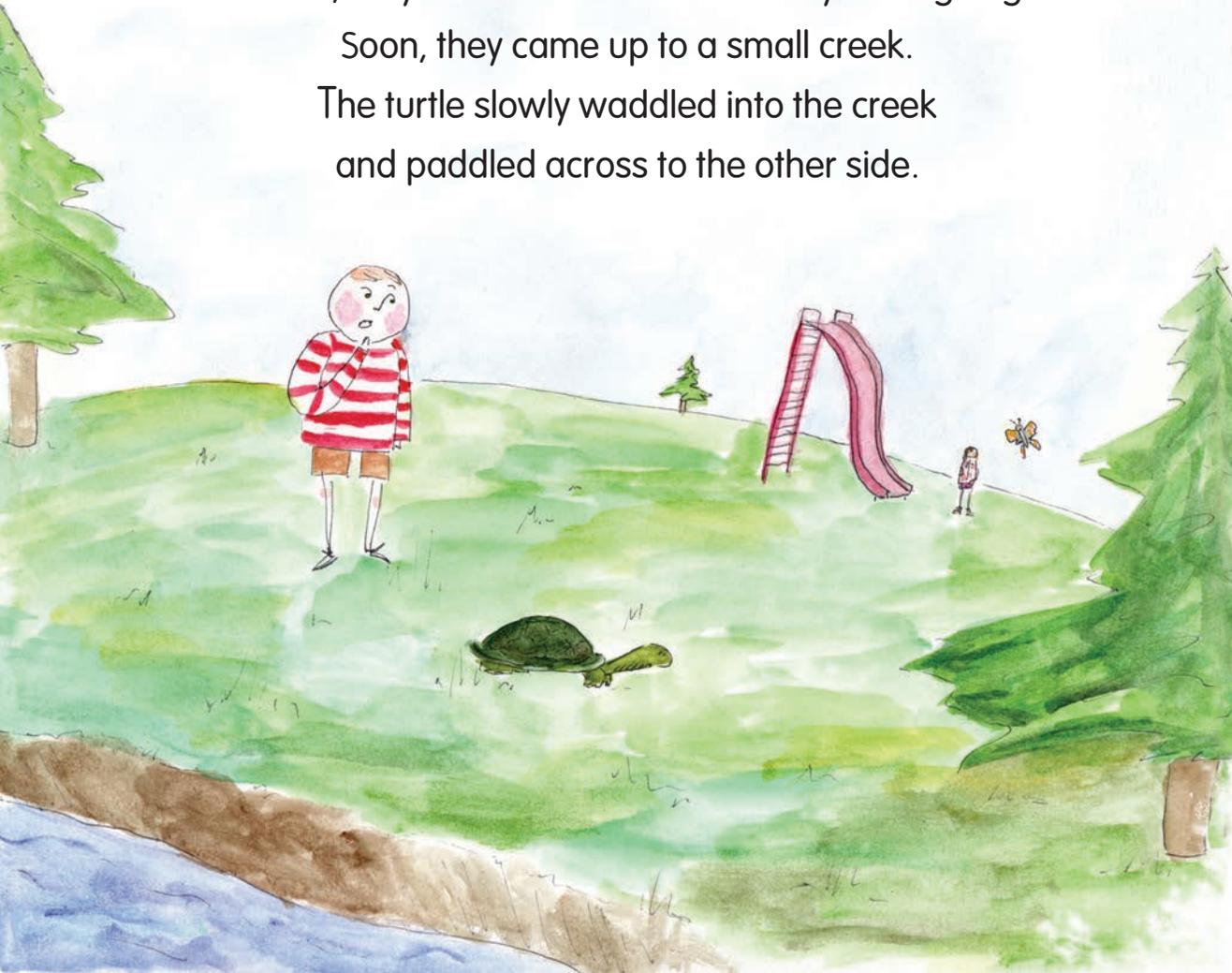
While Makenna and Sierra were laughing, Kyler had found a turtle waddling through the grass and decided to follow it.



“Where are you going?” Kyler asked. But the turtle was very shy and just waddled by, not saying a word.

Once Makenna and Sierra noticed that Kyler was following a turtle, they decided to see where they were going.

Soon, they came up to a small creek.
The turtle slowly waddled into the creek
and paddled across to the other side.



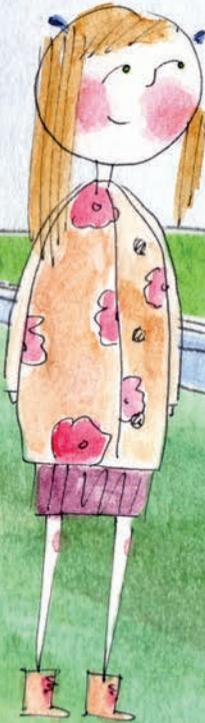


"Come on!" Sierra exclaimed,
"Let's go to the other side too!"

But Makenna and Kyler were worried about crossing.
Makenna put her bare toes in the water,
"Brrr... the water is very cold!" she said.



“Look!” Sierra shouted,
“A log fell across the creek over there.
Let’s use that to get across.”



Kyler was feeling adventurous and started to cross first.
“Just keep your chin up, don’t look down and you will be on
the other side before you know it!” encouraged Sierra.





Soon enough, both Makenna and Kyler had crossed the creek.

“Wow! Look at all the pretty flowers over here!”
Makenna said, as she leaned over to smell them,
“Yum! They smell like cotton candy!”





“That’s not the smell of flowers, silly,
that smell is coming from the top of that hill!”
Sierra said giggling, “Let’s go see what’s up there!”

Makenna and Kyler squinted their eyes to the top of the hill.
“That’s very far, Sierra, I’m not sure we can make it to the top!”
Kyler agreed with Makenna, nodding his head up and down.





“Sure you can!” Sierra said,
“Just focus, take one step
at a time and you’ll be at
the top of the hill shortly!”



So the kids believed in what Sierra had told them
and started to follow her to the top of the hill.
By the time they got there, the day was almost over.



"Look!" said Sierra, "That man has balloons and cotton candy! Let's go say hello!"
And the three of them headed that way.





“Hi kids!” said the nice man, “Would you like a balloon?”

“I do! I do!” said Kyler. And the man gave Makenna and Kyler each a balloon.

“Wow! I’m glad that we came up here,” said Makenna.

“This has been the best day!”

“I had fun too,” said Sierra, “but we should head home now!”



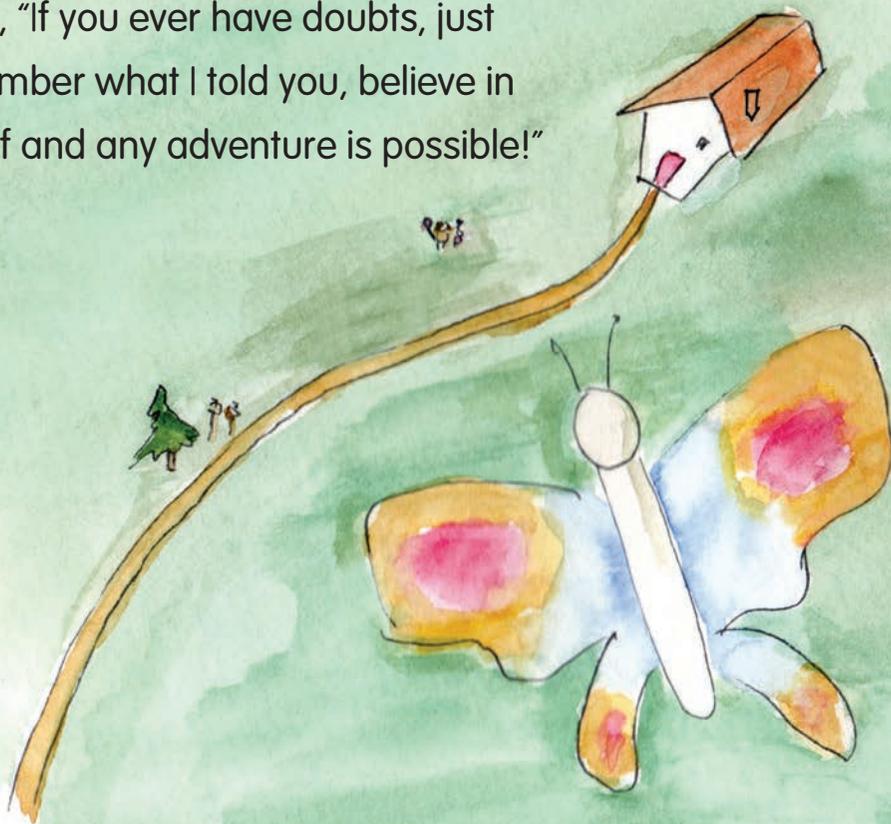
“Can you come home with us?” asked Makenna.

“No, but I will be able to see you all the time”.

“Wow! Really?” asked Kyler.

“Sure, because I spend most of my time up in the sky and I can see everything from up there!” said Sierra.

As she disappeared into the sky she looked back at her new friends and said, "If you ever have doubts, just remember what I told you, believe in yourself and any adventure is possible!"



Makenna and Kyler waved goodbye, then headed home. When they got there, they looked into the sky in search of Sierra.



“Do you think she can see us?”

Makenna asked.

Then Kyler let his balloon go.

It floated high into the sky, passed the big pine tree and into the stars, “She can now!” he said, smiling at Makenna.

Makenna laughed, letting
her balloon fly away too.

Both of them watched their
balloons until they could
no longer see them.

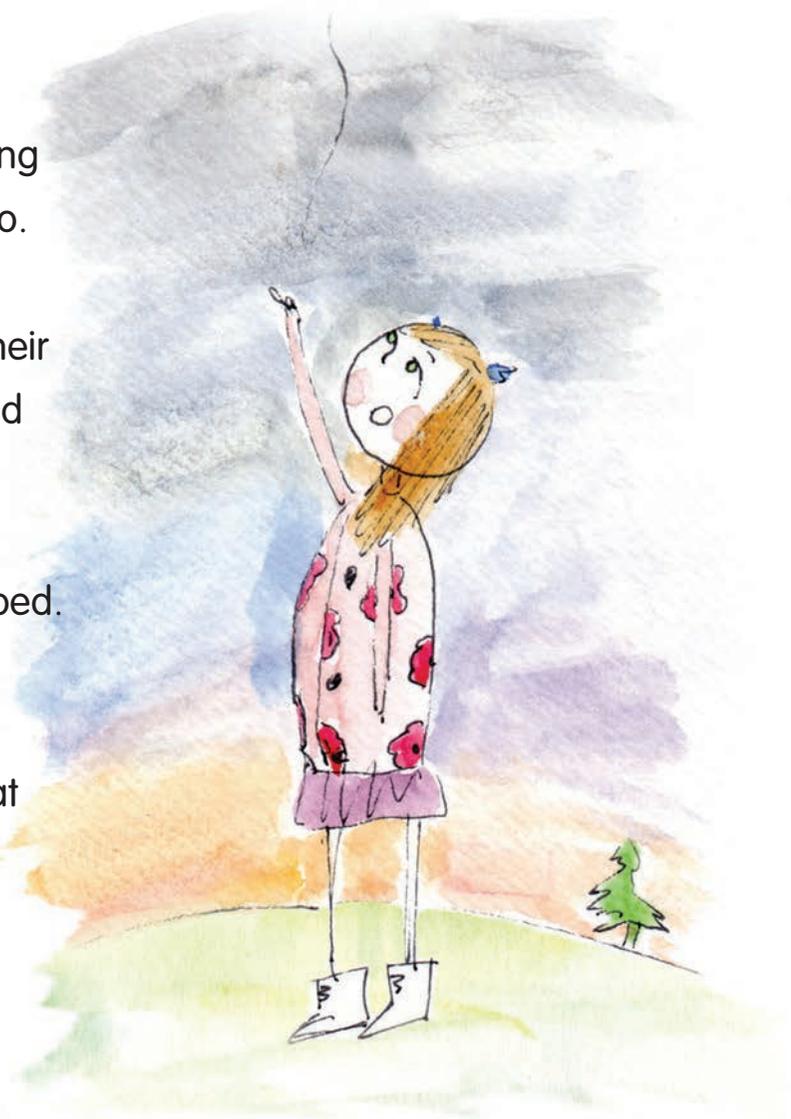
Then they headed in for bed.

“What a great day!”

Makenna sighed,

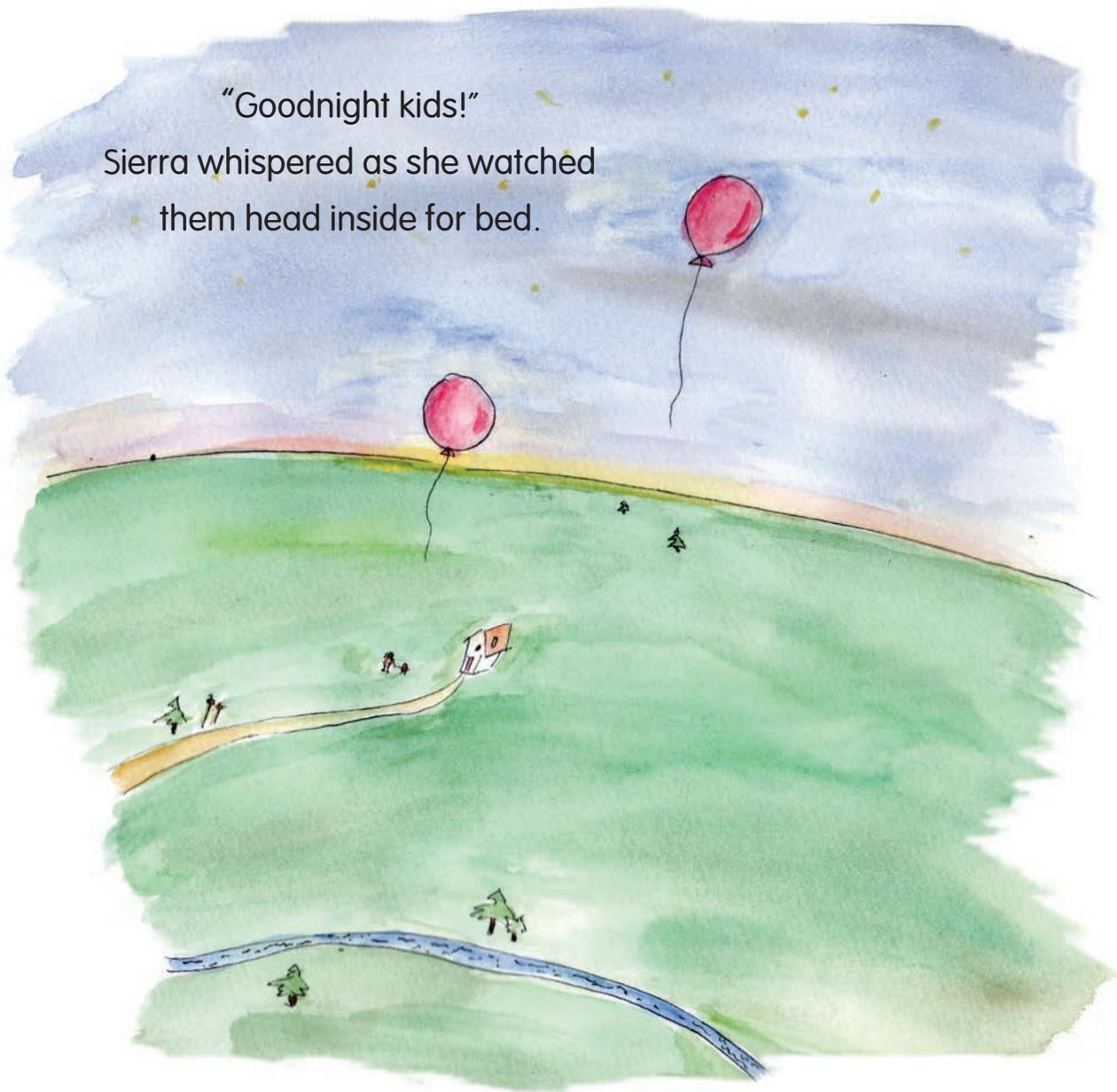
“I can’t wait to see what
tomorrow will bring!

Goodnight Sierra!”



“Goodnight kids!”

Sierra whispered as she watched
them head inside for bed.





THE CAUSE BEHIND THE BOOK...

All proceeds from the sale of this book will go toward the Krizman family's cause, **Sierra's Race Against Meningitis**. This foundation is a non-profit organization which honors the memory of Sierra Marie Krizman by offering free meningitis vaccines to hundreds of people each year. They raise funds by selling merchandise and teaming with local sponsors in the Front Range area of Colorado. Each year, the organization puts on a 5K run/walk and offers scholarships to local graduating seniors who will continue their education toward a career in teaching.

To get involved go to www.sierrasraceagainstmeningitis.com

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR...



At just 15 years of age, Charlie Theobald has already launched a greeting card line that is currently being sold throughout Fort Collins, CO. Charlie jumped at the opportunity to illustrate his first book, and was honored to be involved in the cause behind this one.

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