

A Tall Tale

illustrated by
Sonia Dearling





This is my granddad.

He likes to tell me
stories as I am going to
bed. No books equal his
stories. He likes to tell
tall tales the best.

This time, he is going
to tell me a story
about a girl made out
of air.

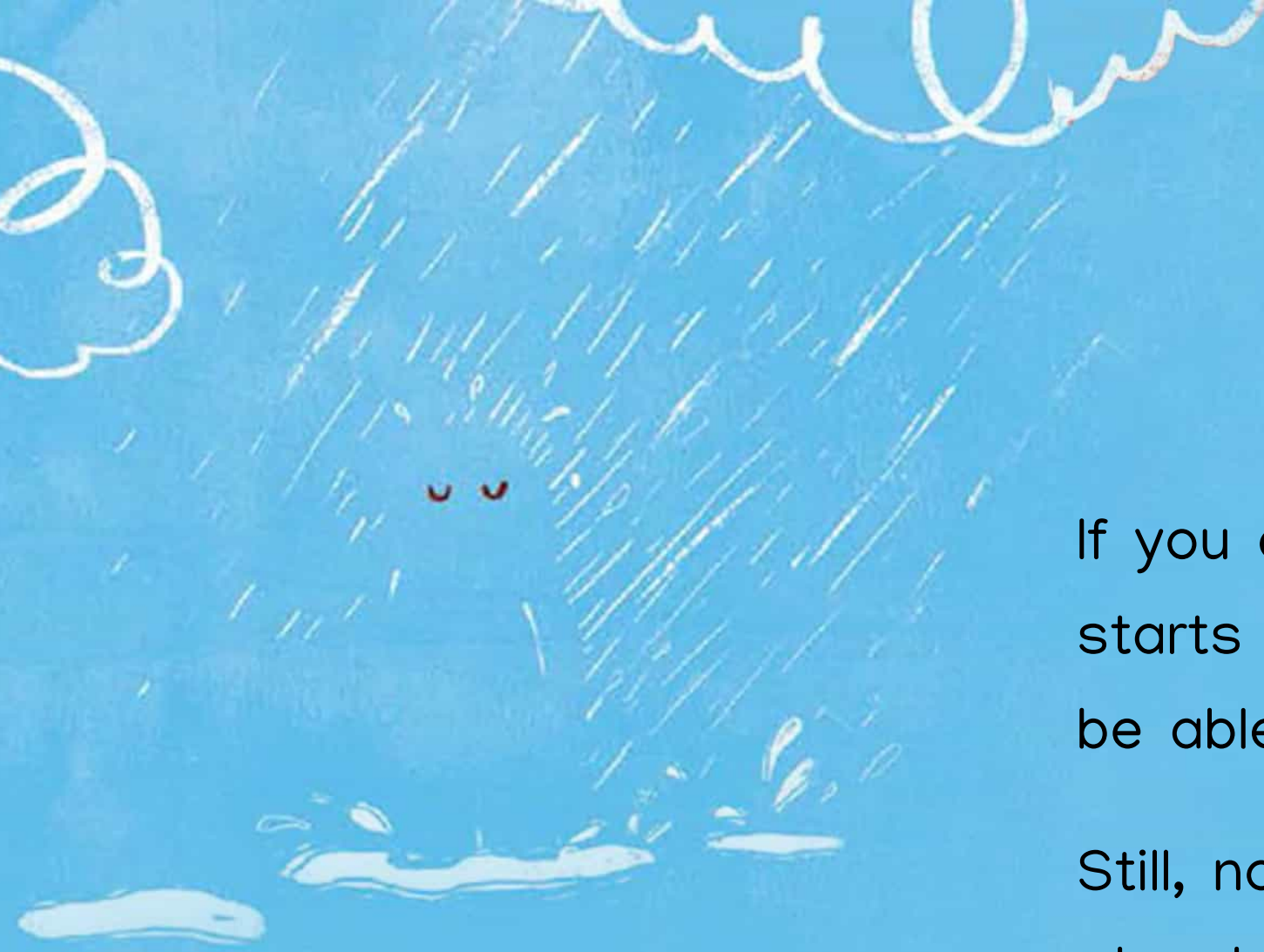
I ask if it is a tall tale.
He says that he will
ask me what I think at
the end.



The girl made of air cannot be
seen most of the time.

If she stays quiet, you would
not know that she was there.

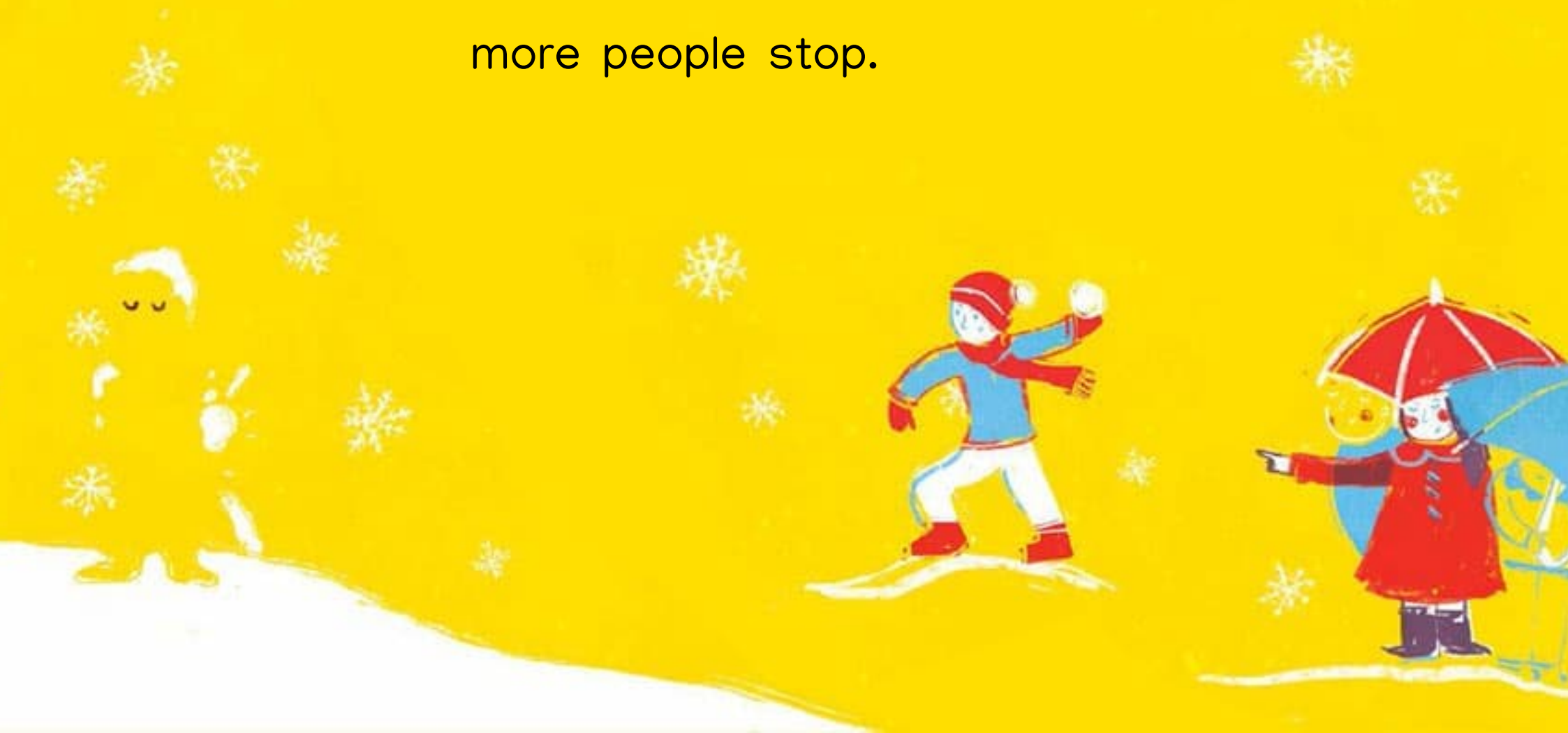




If you are outside and it starts to rain, you might be able to see her shape.

Still, not a lot of people stop to look.

If it snows, the flakes will rest
on top of her head and on her
shoulders. That makes a few
more people stop.



One day, the girl made of air
wanted to go to school.

She started to draw and
scared a boy half to death!





When she spoke to him, the boy asked if he could put some paint on her face so that he could see what she looked like.

When he was done with the face, the girl asked him to paint different things in her hair.

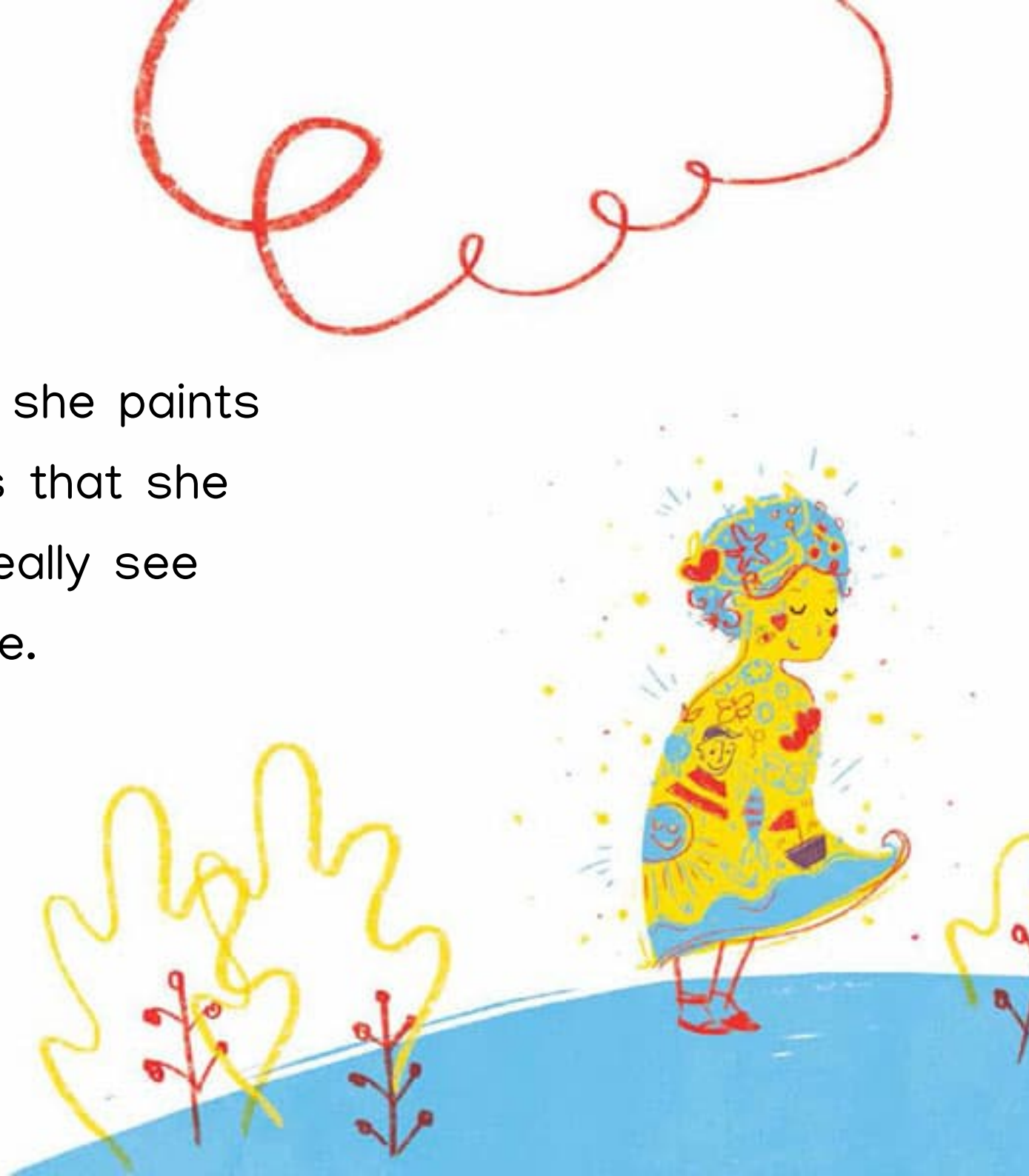
They were all of the things that she loved the best.





The girl made of air soon
had a habit of painting
herself in the morning before
she went out into the world.

She feels like when she paints
herself full of things that she
loves, people can really see
her for the first time.



Pa comes to the end of the tale. He asks me to think about what I just heard and if I think it is true or not.



I tell him that I think it is
all made up. He smiles
and says goodnight.

But then, the door
creaks open and he is
not there...





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