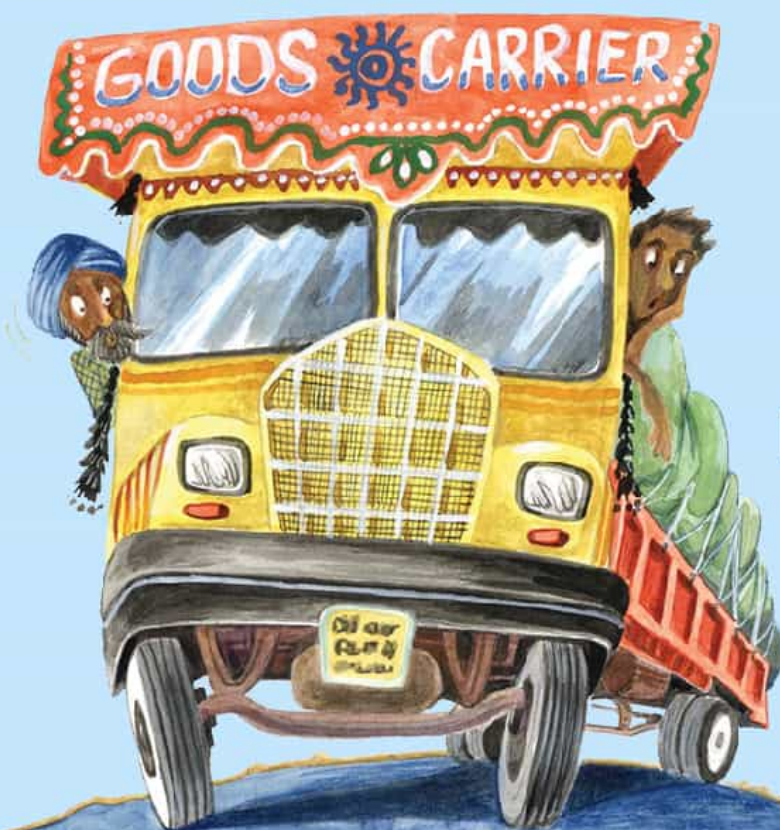


TIRE TROUBLE

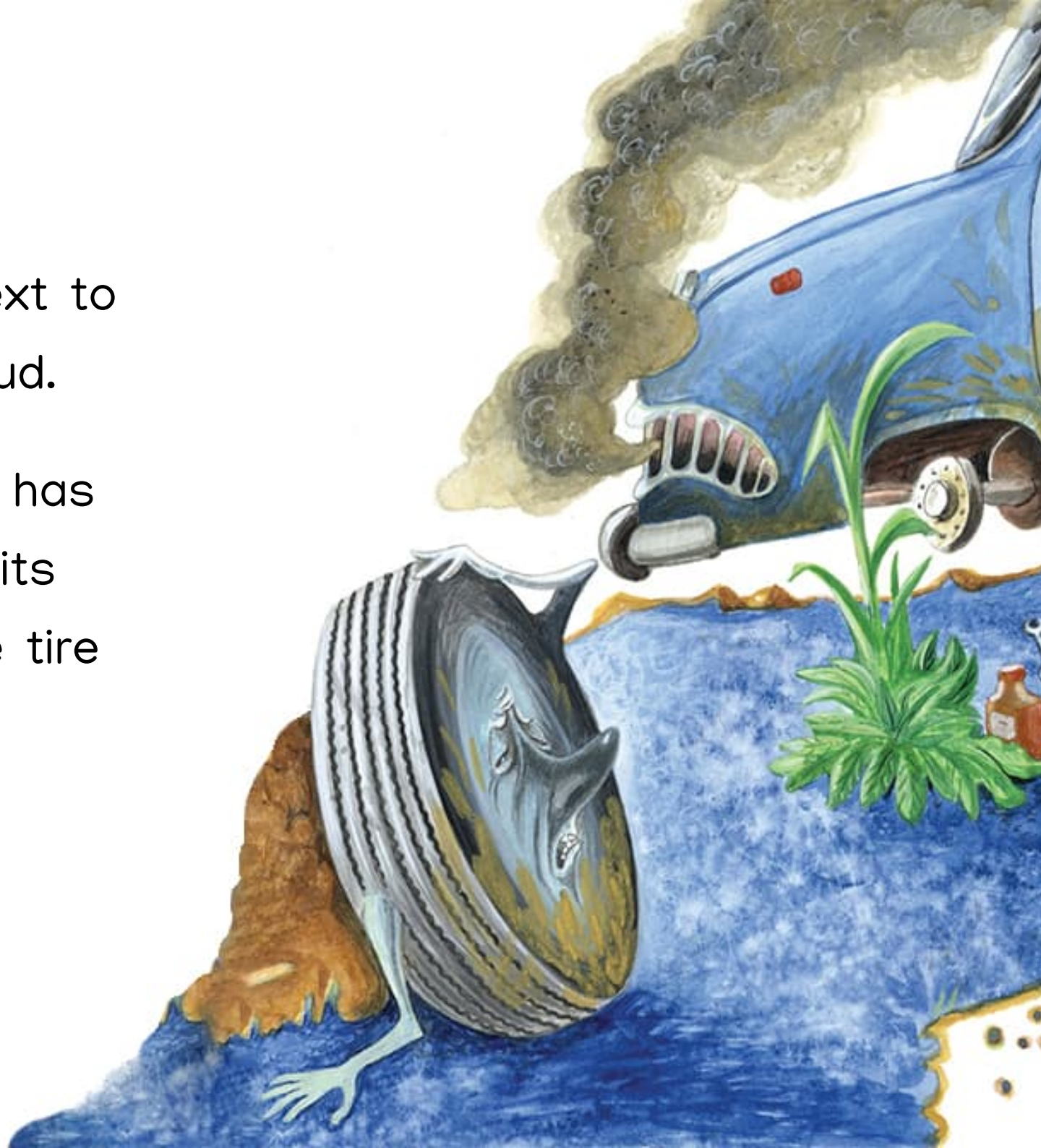


illustrated by
Prashant Soni



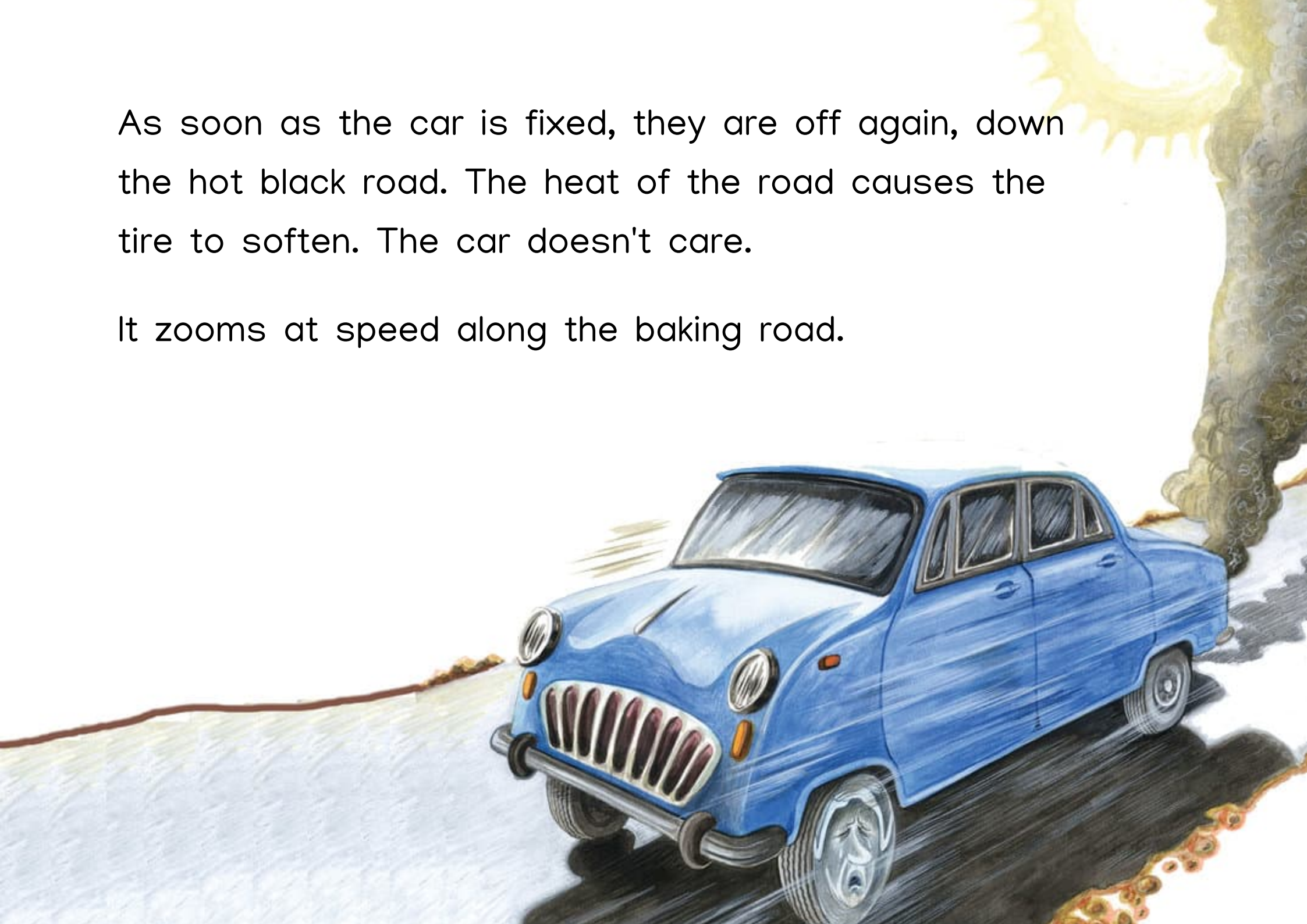
An old tire sits next to
the road in the mud.

A part on the car has
broken, and while its
owner fixes it, the tire
gets a short rest.



As soon as the car is fixed, they are off again, down the hot black road. The heat of the road causes the tire to soften. The car doesn't care.

It zooms at speed along the baking road.

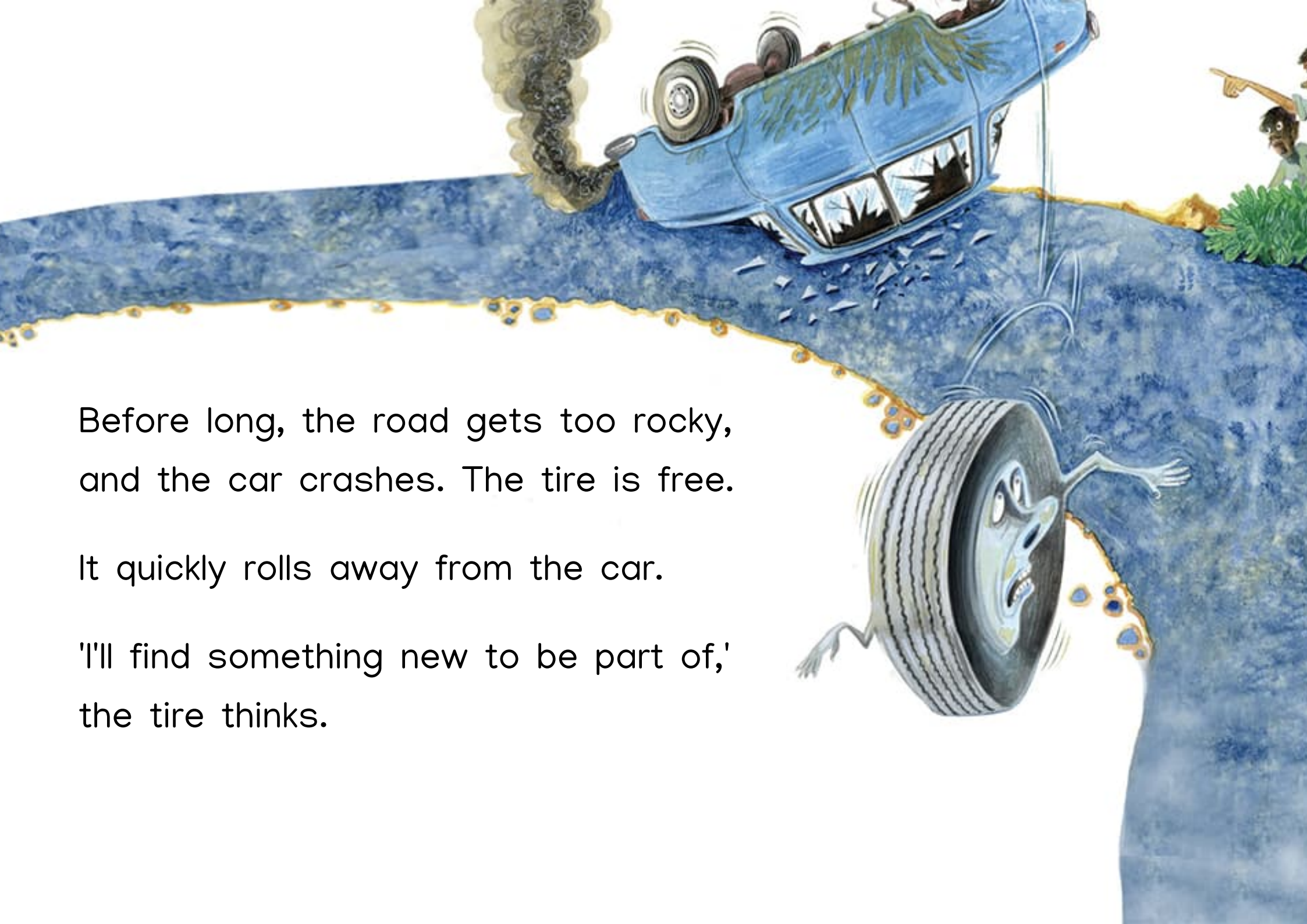


Then the car dashes down a dirt track.

It is a rocky and bumpy path. The poor tire is rolled over stones and into holes. It isn't sure how much more of this it can take.



Before long, the road gets too rocky,
and the car crashes. The tire is free.
It quickly rolls away from the car.
'I'll find something new to be part of,'
the tire thinks.



The next thing to come
down the road is a truck.

'Do you need a tire?' the
tire asks its drivers.

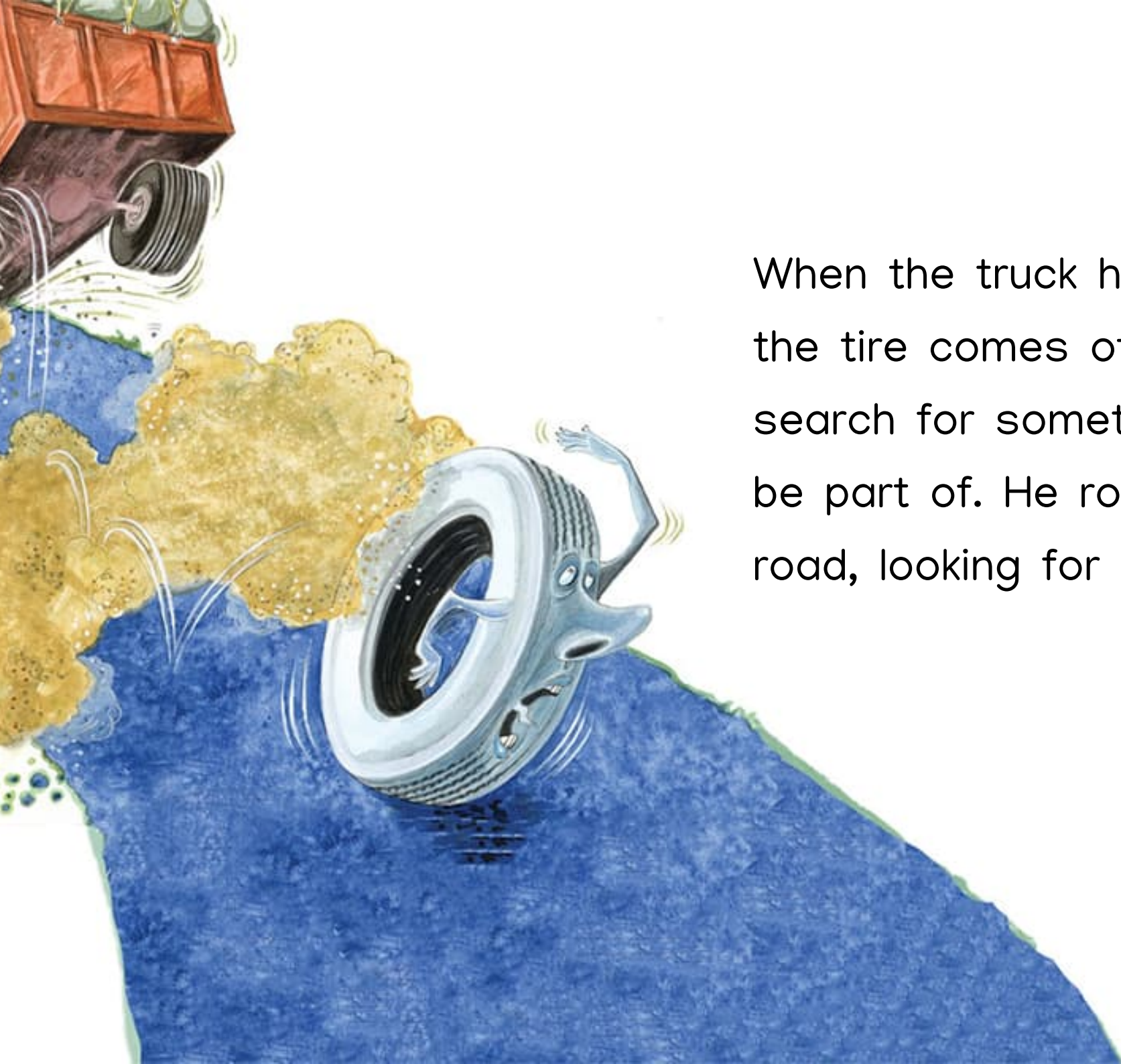
'Yes, we do. Come along
with us,' the men say.





But the load on the truck is too much for the small tire. It can't hold the end of the truck up off the road.





When the truck hits a bump,
the tire comes off. He will
search for something new to
be part of. He rolls down the
road, looking for the best fit.

Next, he sees a bike.

'Do you need a new tire?' he asks.

'Oh no,' she says, 'you are far too wide for my wheels. I am sure we would fall over.'

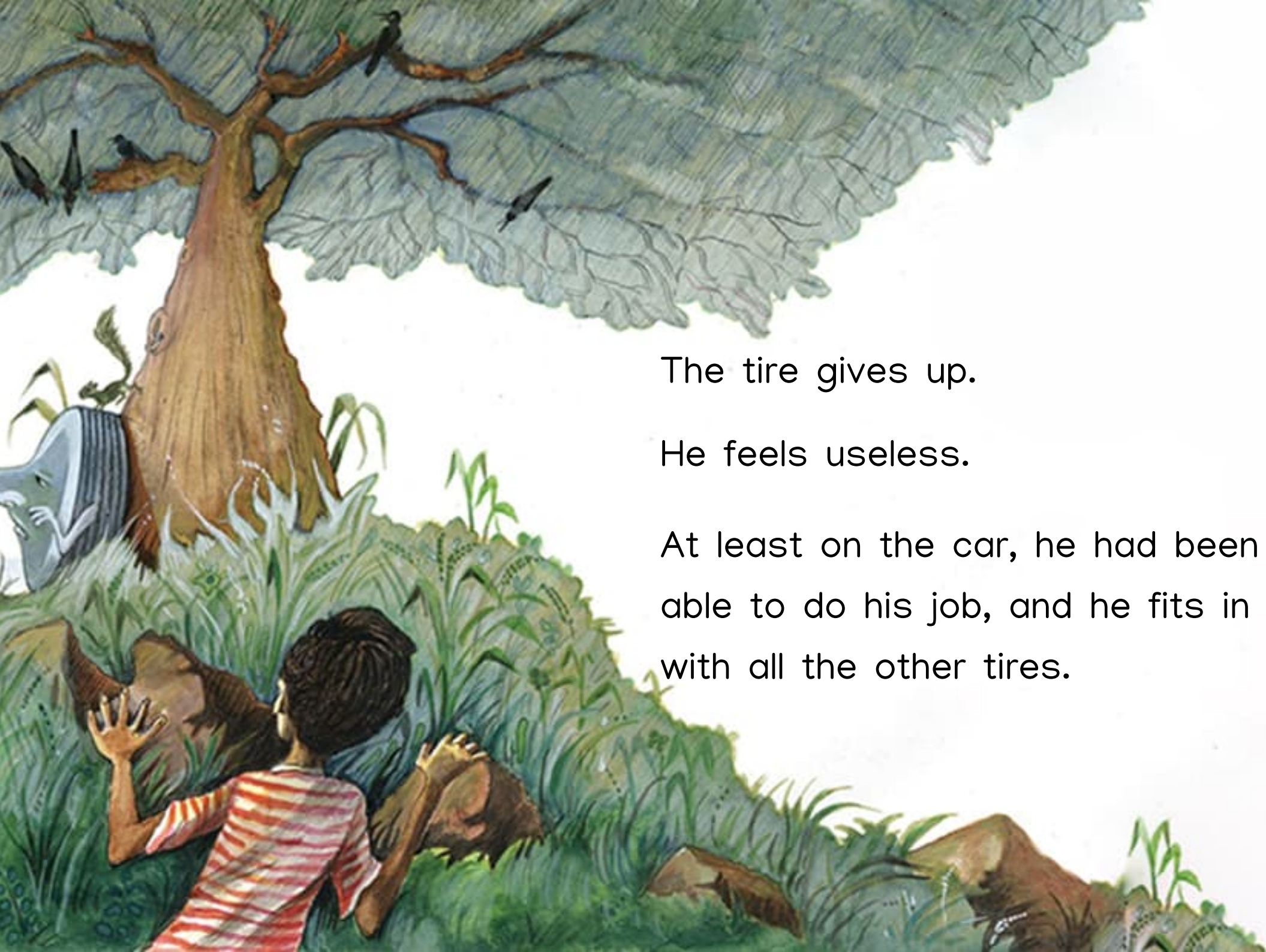


Along comes a horse and cart.

The tire has seen horses before.

'I bet the cart moves nice and slow,
and does not carry a lot,' the tire
says to himself. But when he looks,
the tire sees that the cart had no
tires at all on its wheels.





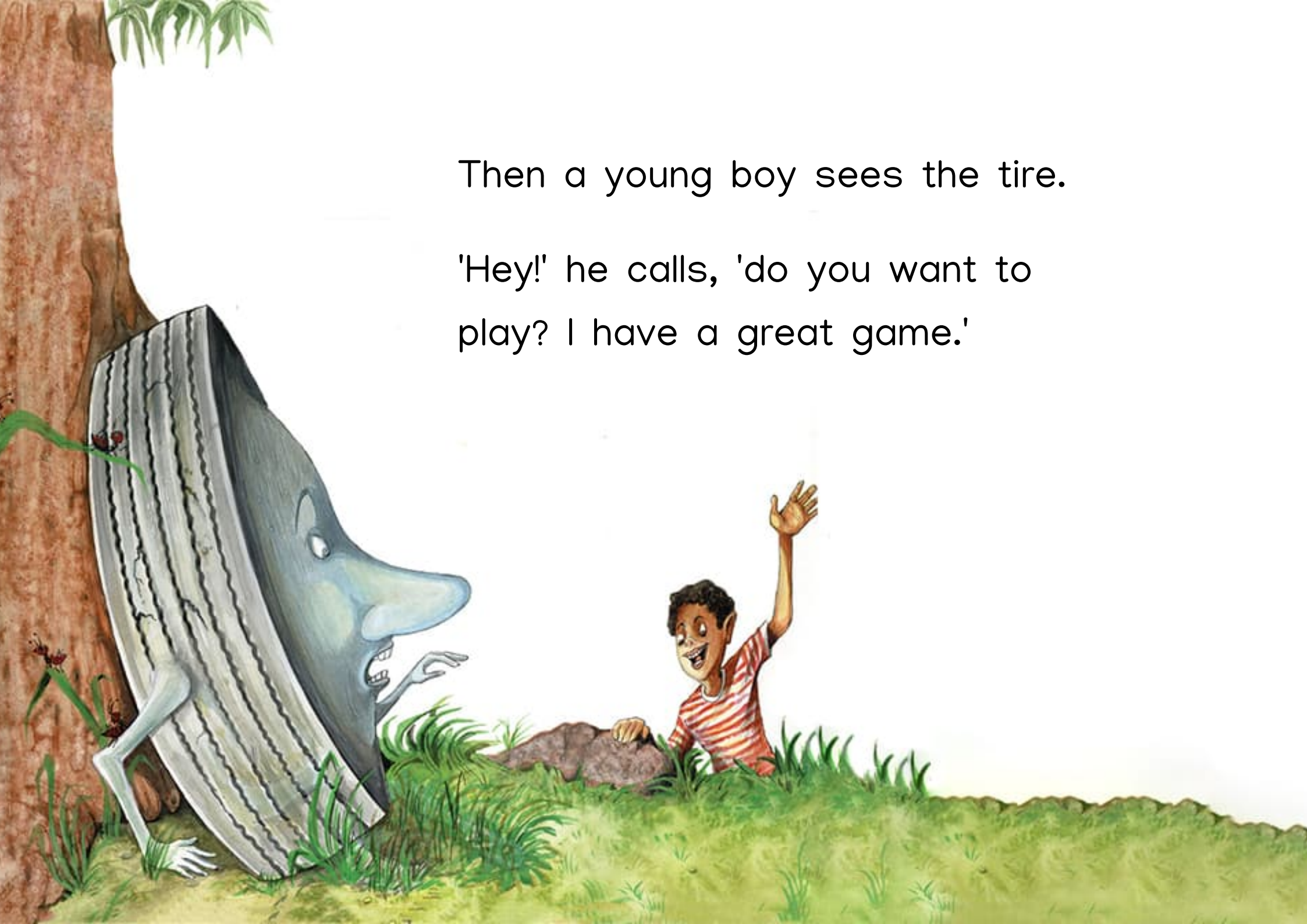
The tire gives up.

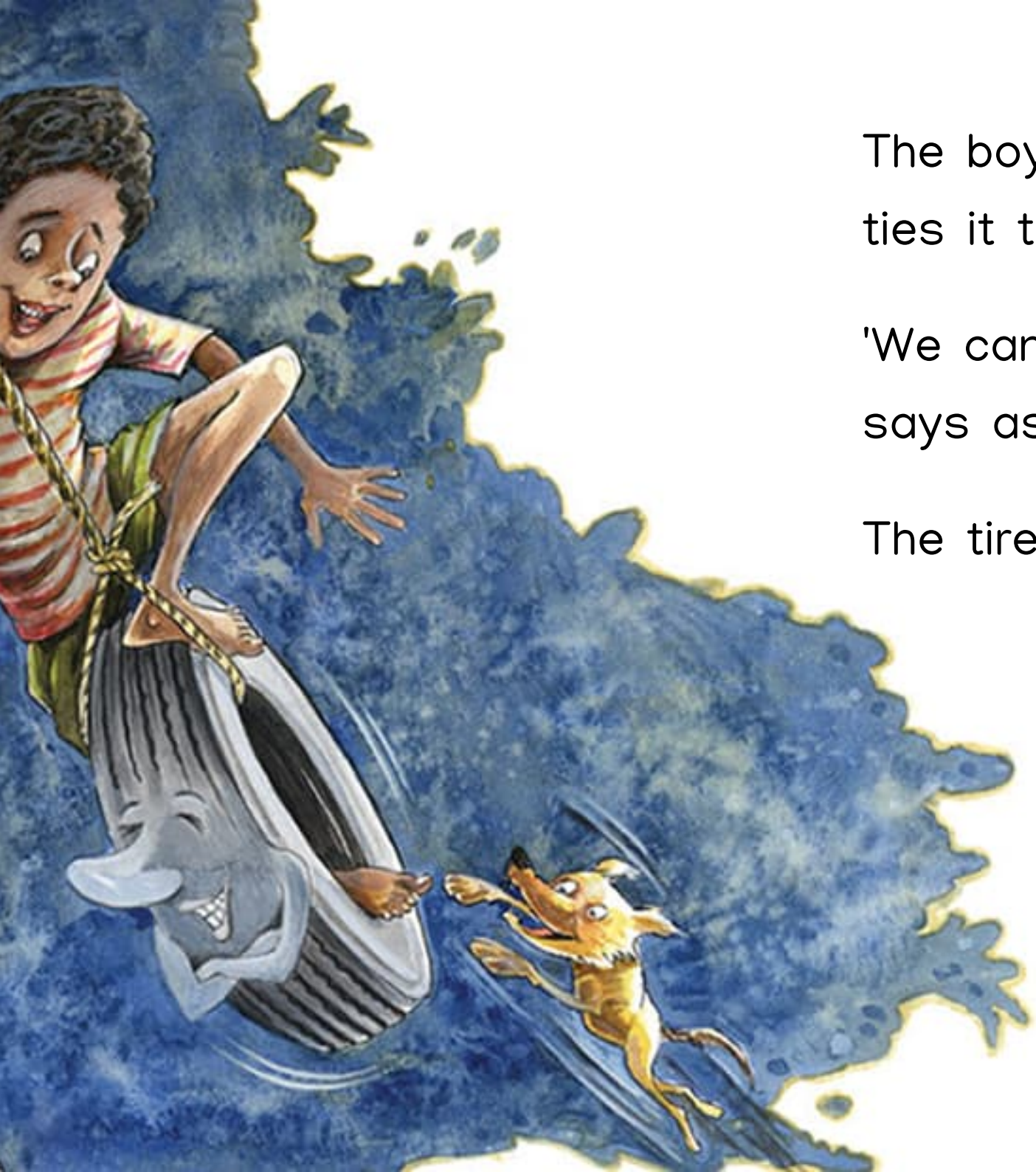
He feels useless.

At least on the car, he had been able to do his job, and he fits in with all the other tires.

Then a young boy sees the tire.

'Hey!' he calls, 'do you want to play? I have a great game.'





The boy takes a rope and
ties it to the tire.

'We can make a swing,' he
says as he hops on top.

The tire is happy at last.



ES

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