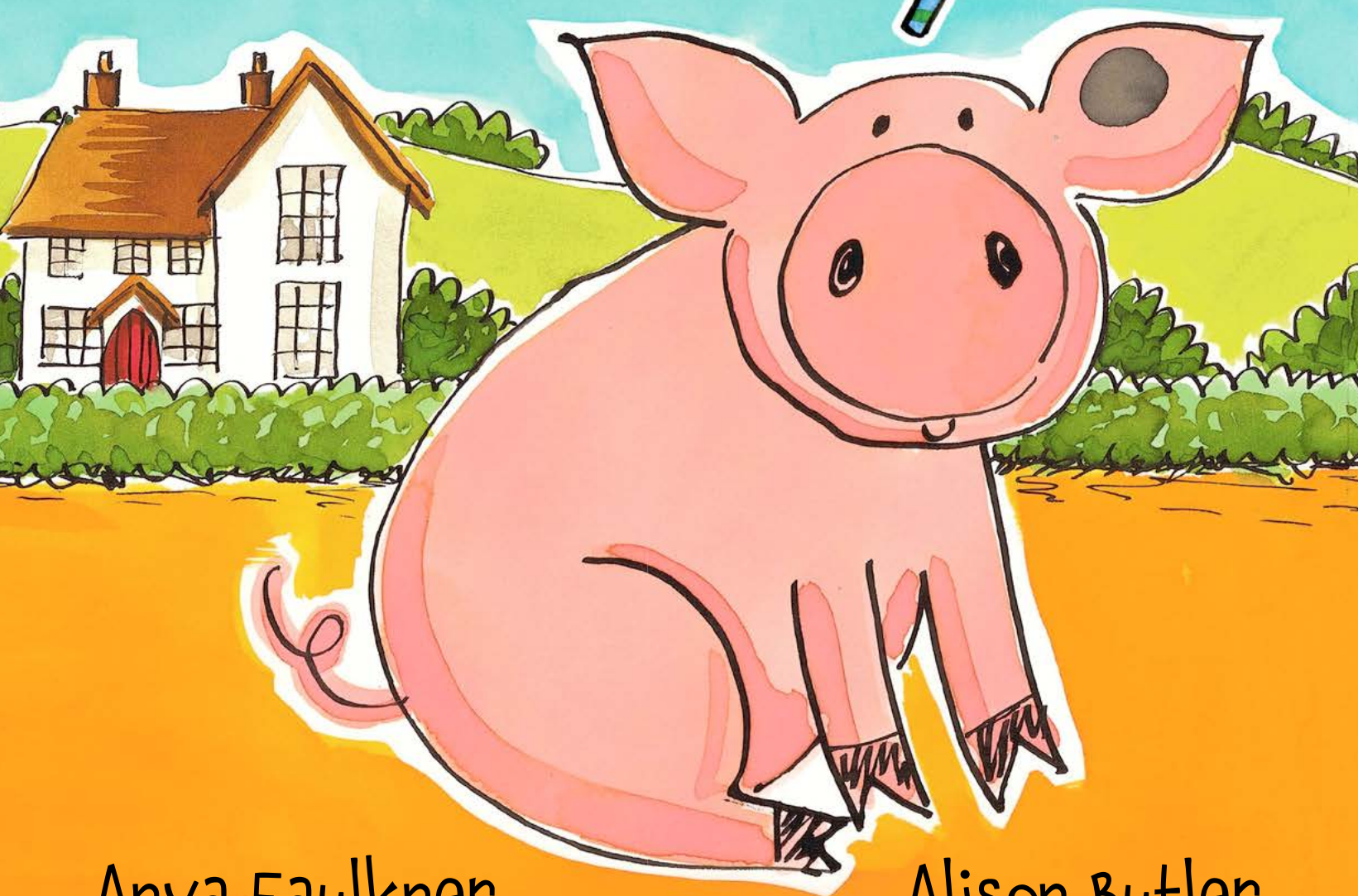
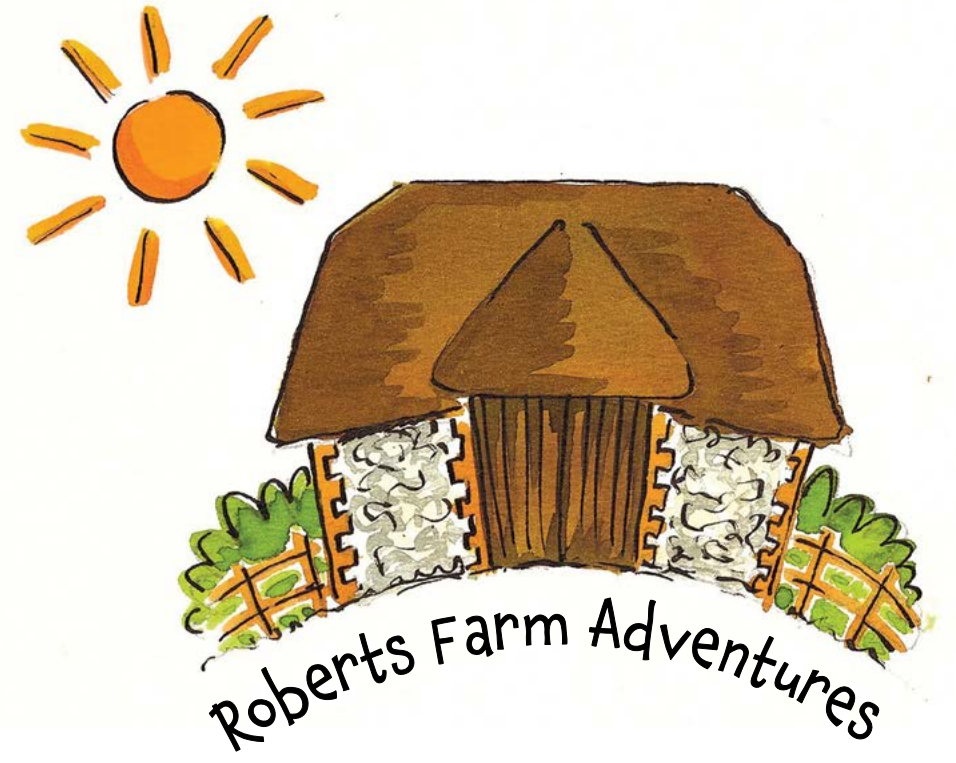


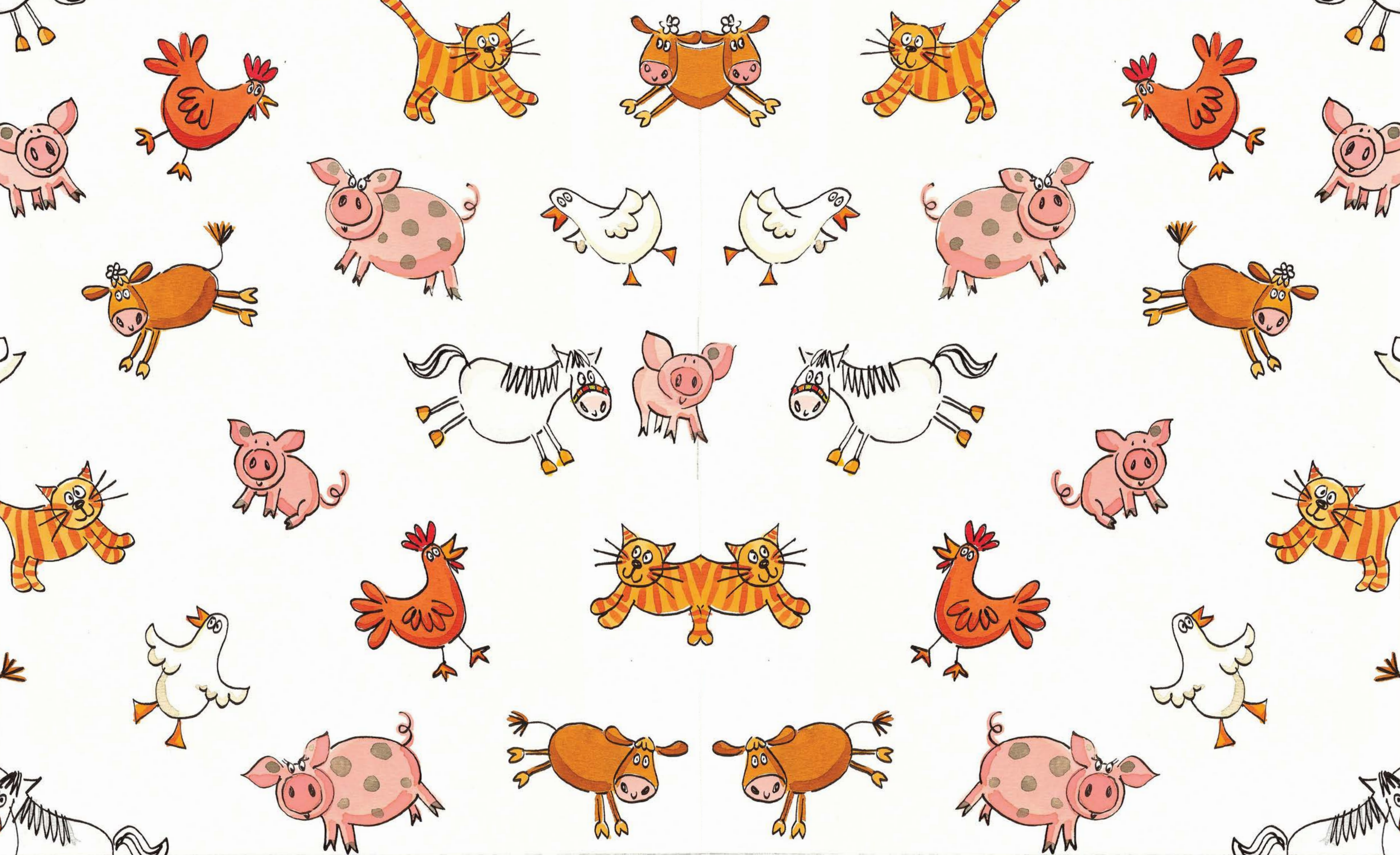
Charlie Pig's BIG Day!

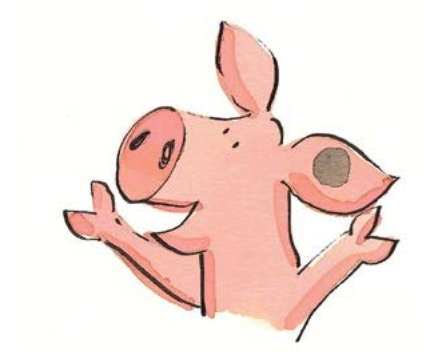


Anya Faulkner

Alison Butler







For Soukie, Max, Orla and
all the animals on the farm - AF

For Flora and Jemima - AB

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Charlie Pigg's BIG Day!

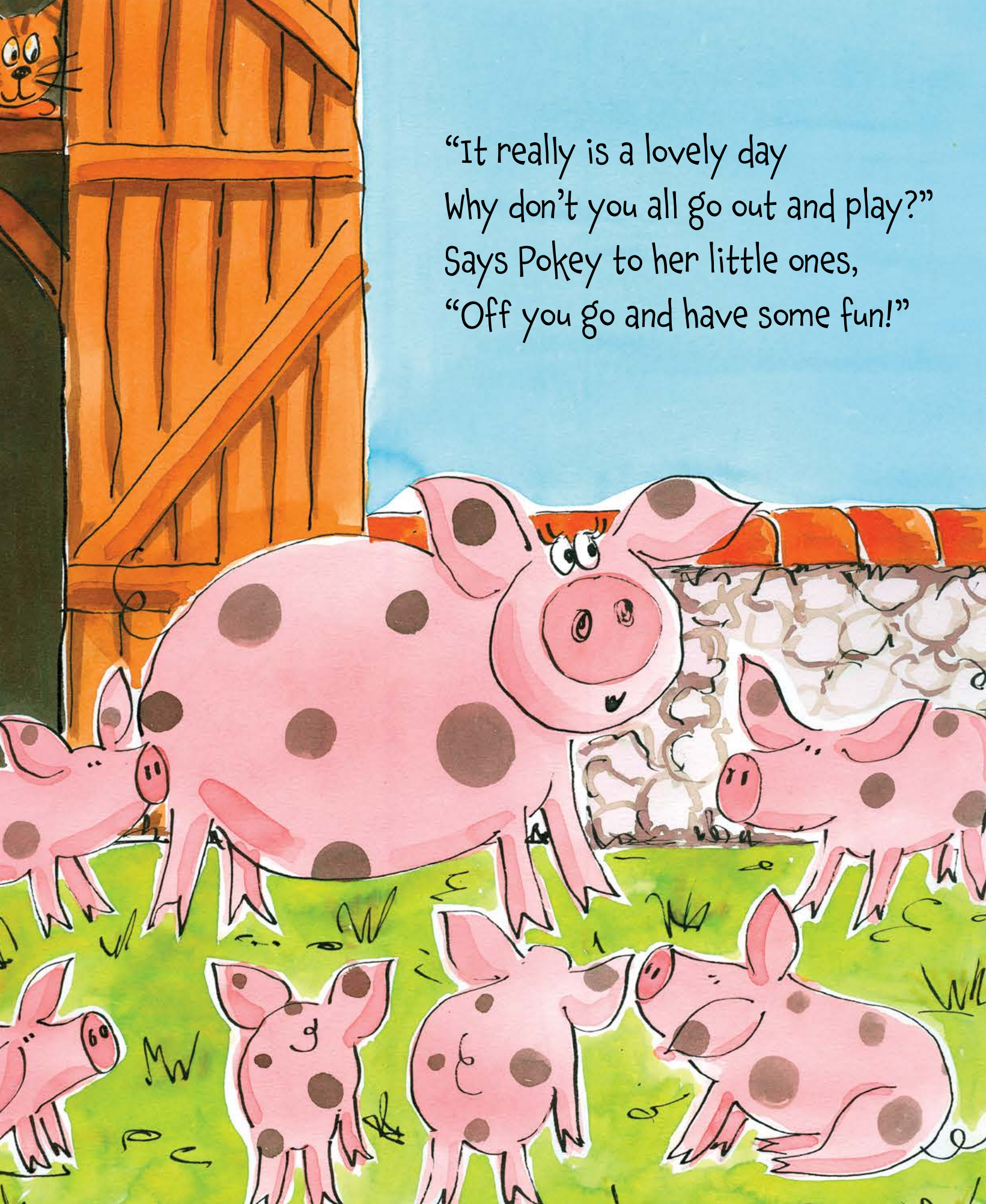


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Alison Butler




The sun shines down on Roberts Farm.
All the animals are in the barn.
Pokey pig and her six piglets,
The cows, the chickens,
ducks and cygnets.




"It really is a lovely day
Why don't you all go out and play?"
Says Pokey to her little ones,
"Off you go and have some fun!"

They all charge out and jump the wall
Except for one,
who's far too small.



He trips and
falls into the hay



The others laugh
and run away.

For Charlie Pig, as well as small,
Has hardly any spots at all,



And just because he's not the same
The piglets tease and call him names.

And so he wanders off alone,



Desperate to find a
friend of his own.

He looks for paint
in old tin pots
So he can paint
on more black spots.



And just as he begins to cry
A friendly badger wanders by.

“It’s so not fair, I want to be
Just like the rest so they’ll play with me.



“Good day small pig,
whatever’s wrong?
Have you been sobbing
here for long?”

And so I’m painting extra spots
Because the other pigs have lots!”



The badger frowned and shook his head
“Come sit with me,” he gently said.
“Don’t try to be something you’re not
You mustn’t listen to that lot.
Of all the things you like to do
What is special about you?”



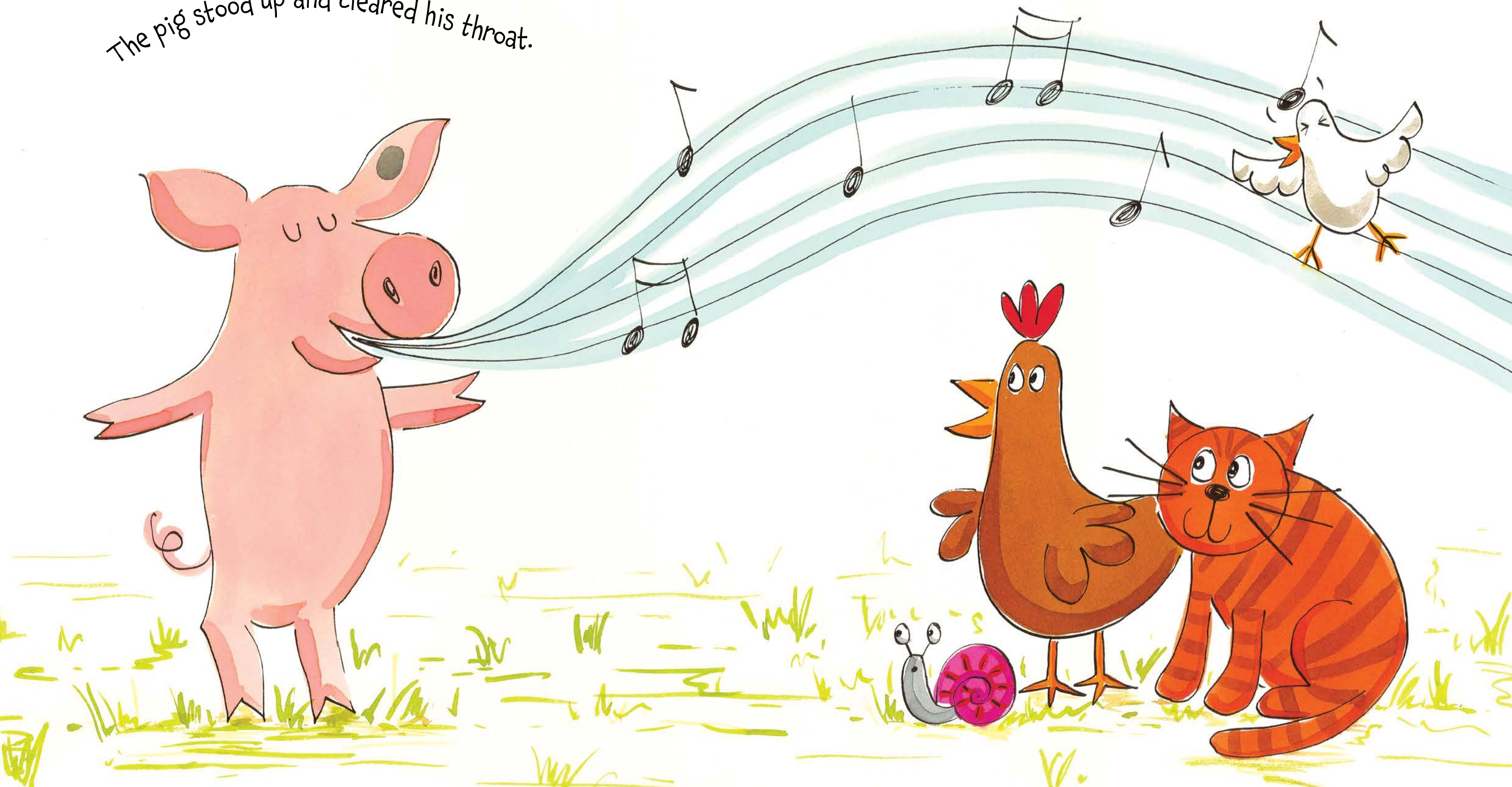
“Well actually I like to sing
And I can sing most anything”

The badger didn’t say a word
(A singing pig? Well how absurd!)



The pig stood up and cleared his throat.

The song was perfect – note for note.



His singing voice was quite superb
And left the badger lost for words!



“What a beautiful melody.
Can you sing something else for me?”



“I’m pretty good
at rockin’ roll,”



Or something
with a bit of soul!”





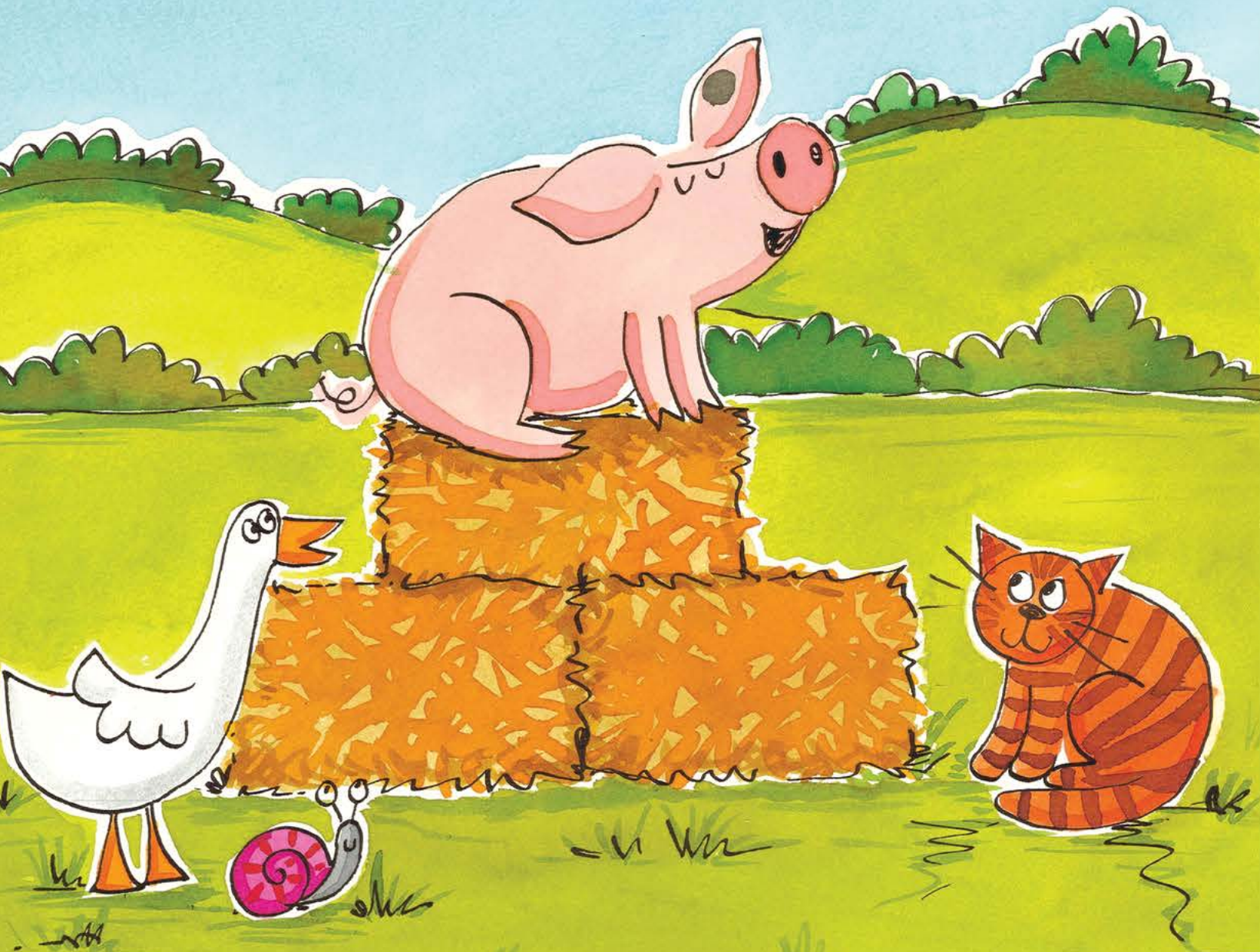
So Charlie sang his repertoire –

“You’ve all the makings
of a star!

So how about we plan a show
And let the farmyard
animals know

The **GREATEST** PIG
that ever lived
Has just one spot and isn’t big!”

Charlie practiced every day
up in the fields by the bales of hay.



He sang and sang with all his might
So he'd be ready for his big night.



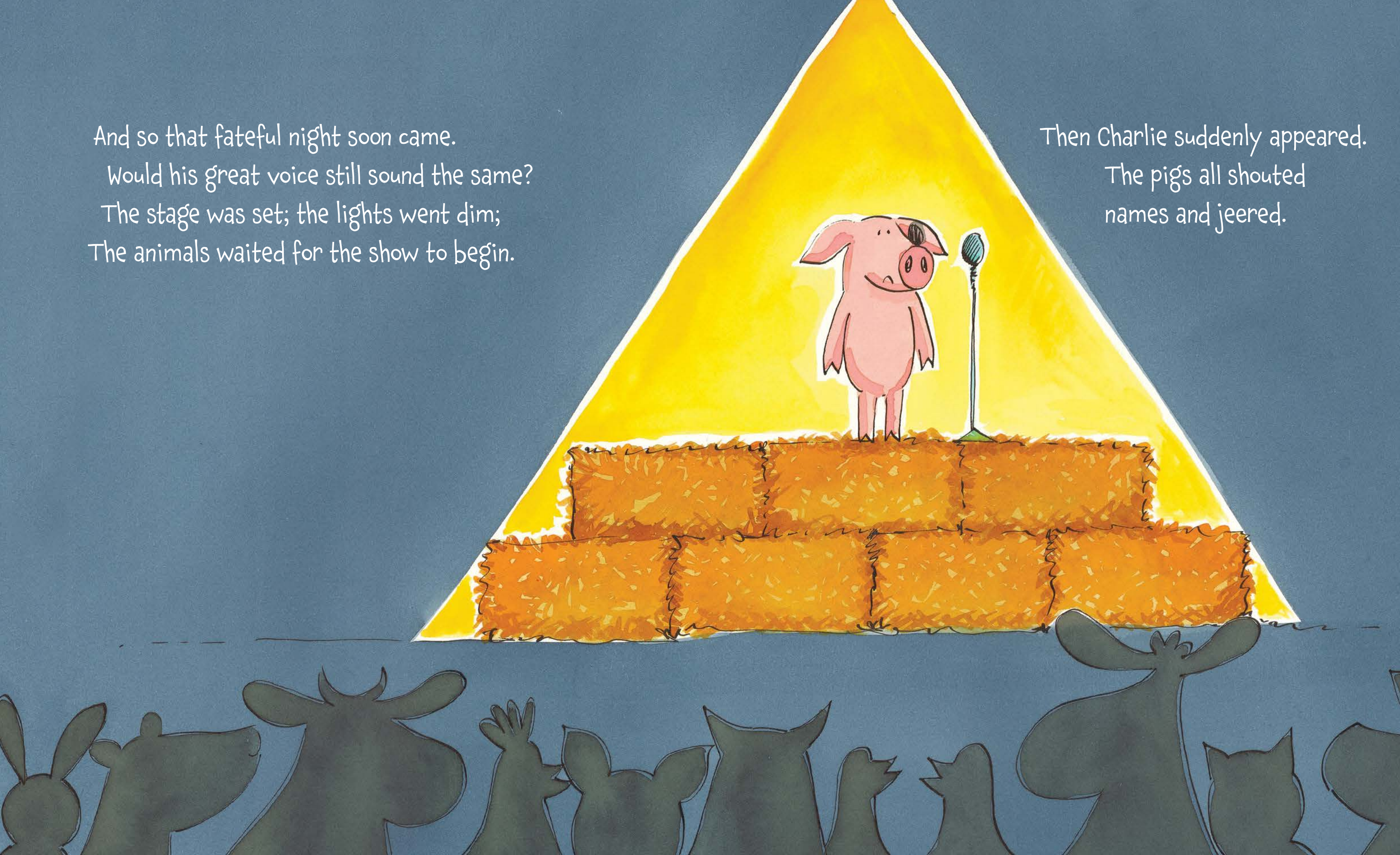
The badger spoke to all the birds
And told them they
should spread the word



That the greatest show the
farm had seen
Would be Saturday night,
up by the stream.

And so that fateful night soon came.
Would his great voice still sound the same?
The stage was set; the lights went dim;
The animals waited for the show to begin.

Then Charlie suddenly appeared.
The pigs all shouted
names and jeered.



“Have you gone mad, get off the stage!”



They all got into quite a rage.

But Charlie held his head up high
And started singing a lullaby...

Not an animal made a sound
But watched in awe from the grassy mound.
How could such a little pig
Have a voice that was so **big!**

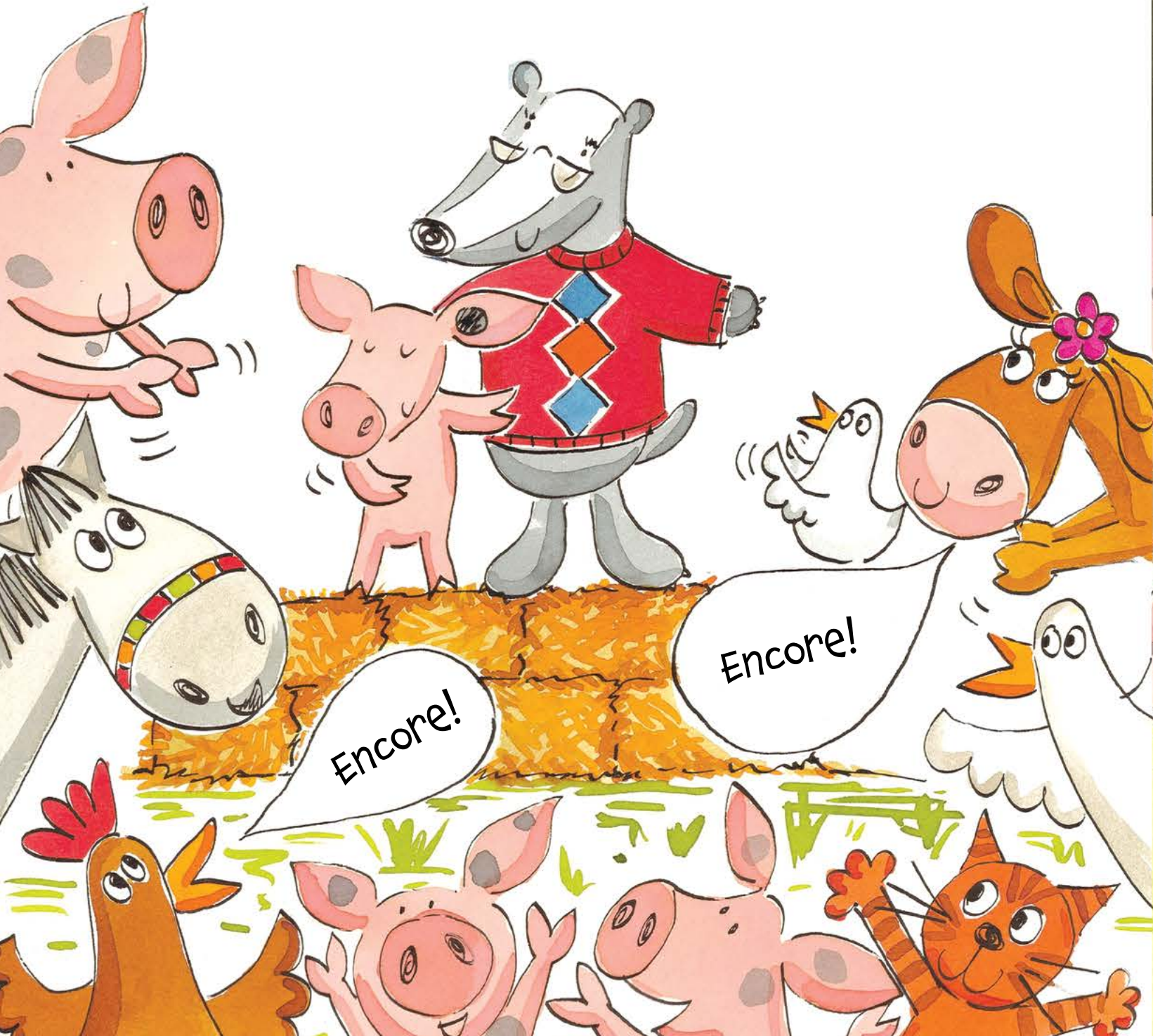


And when he'd finished his first song,
It didn't take the piglets long

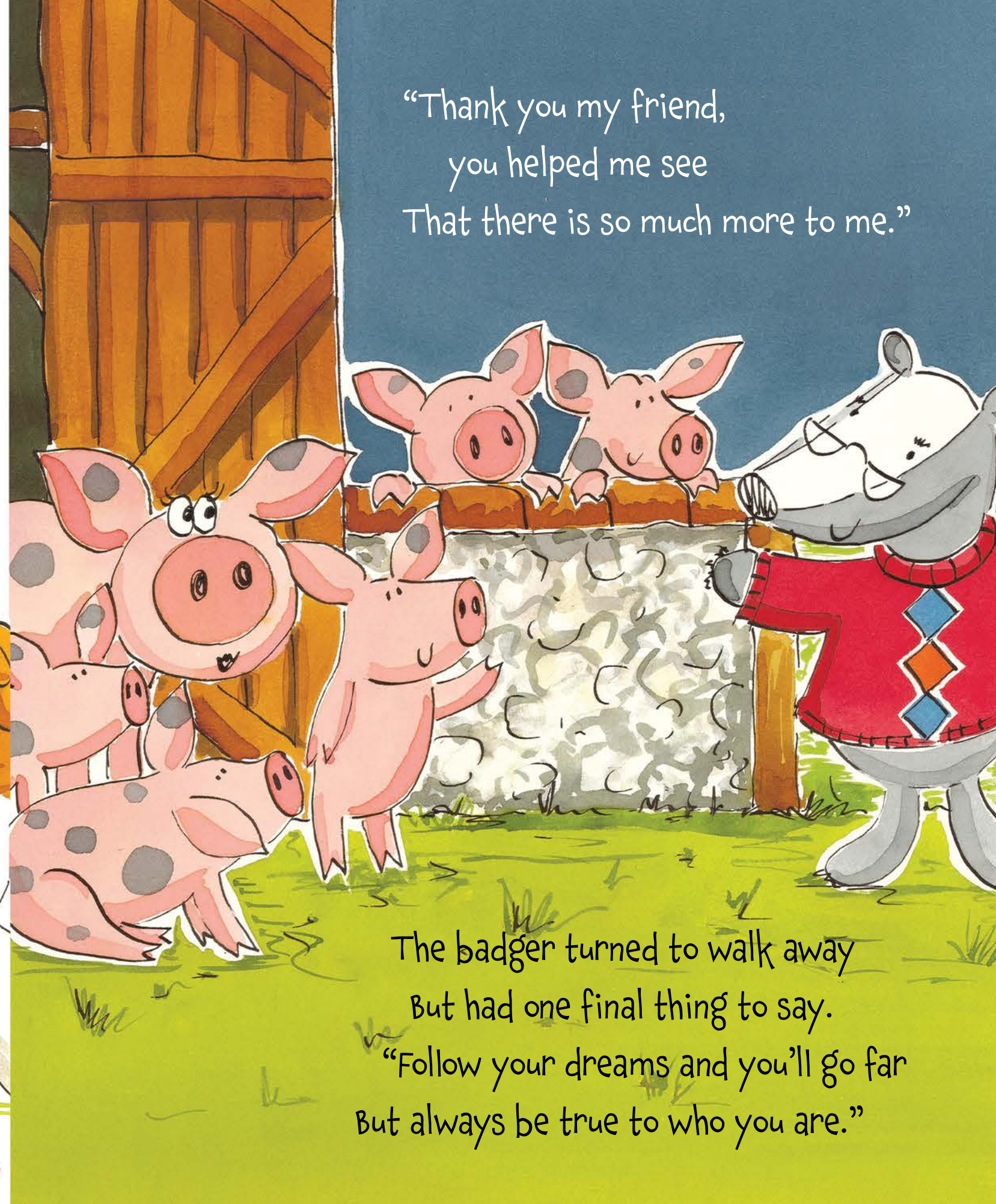
Before they started to applaud
...finally he was adored!



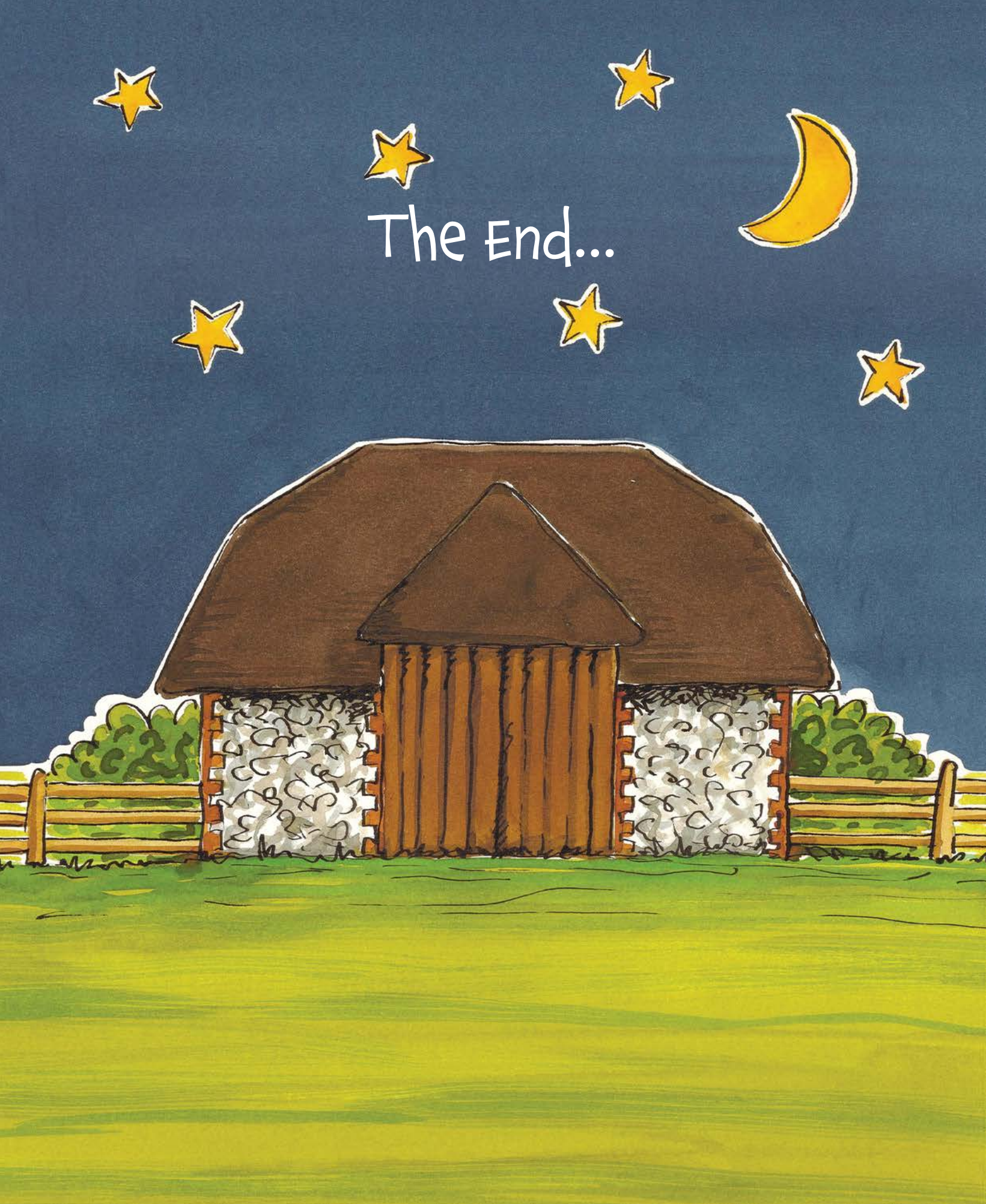
When the show came to an end,
Charlie stood with his new friend
And watched the animals shout “Encore!”
(They wanted him to sing one more).



“Thank you my friend,
you helped me see
That there is so much more to me.”



The badger turned to walk away
But had one final thing to say.
“Follow your dreams and you’ll go far
But always be true to who you are.”



The End...

Set in a rustic thatched barn on Roberts farm,
this is the tale of Charlie Pig who is teased and taunted
because he is different,
but who discovers that with the right determination
and encouragement even a little pig can become a
big star!



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