

A Tall Tale

illustrated by
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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.

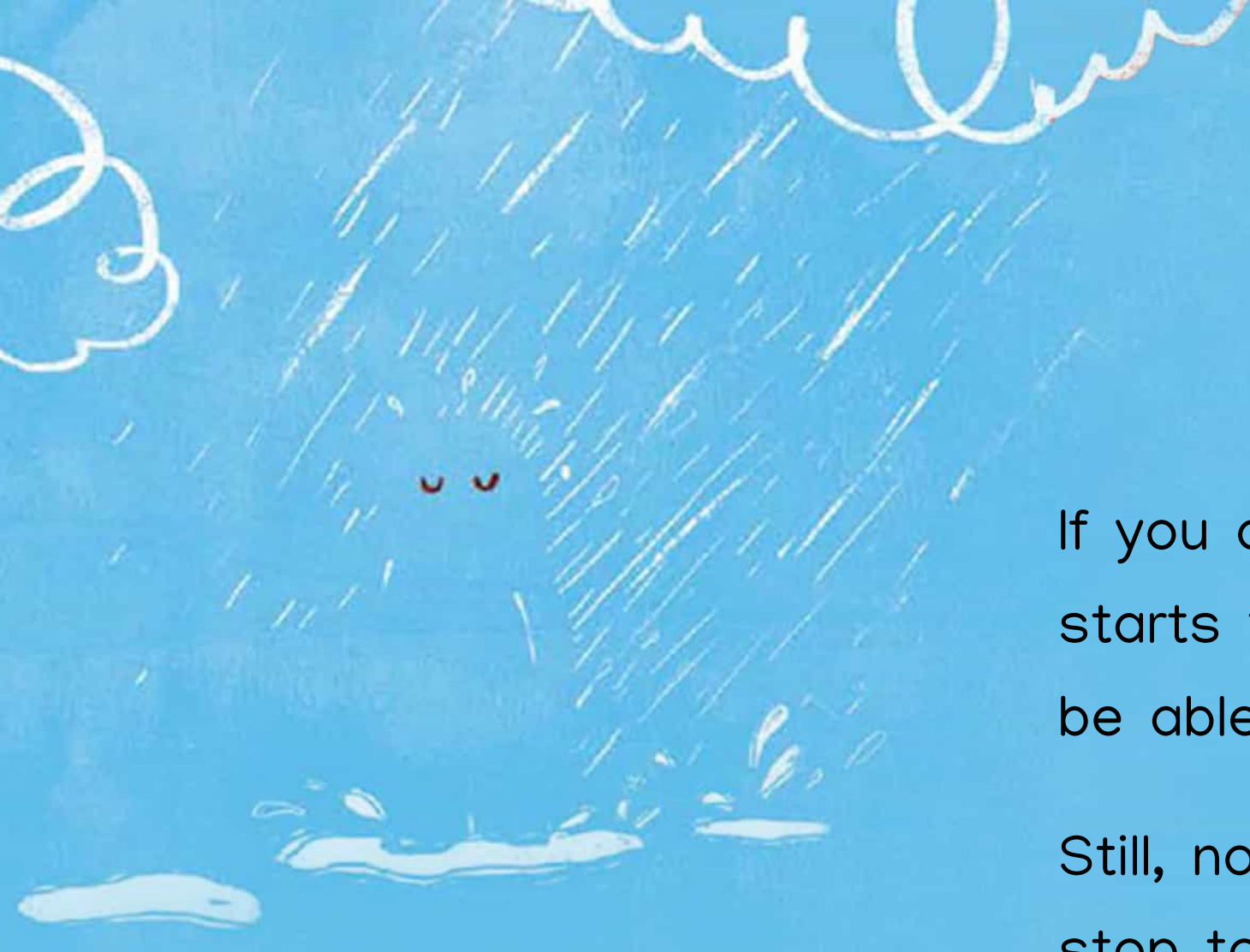
I ask if it is a tall tale. He says that he will ask me what I think at the end.



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

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

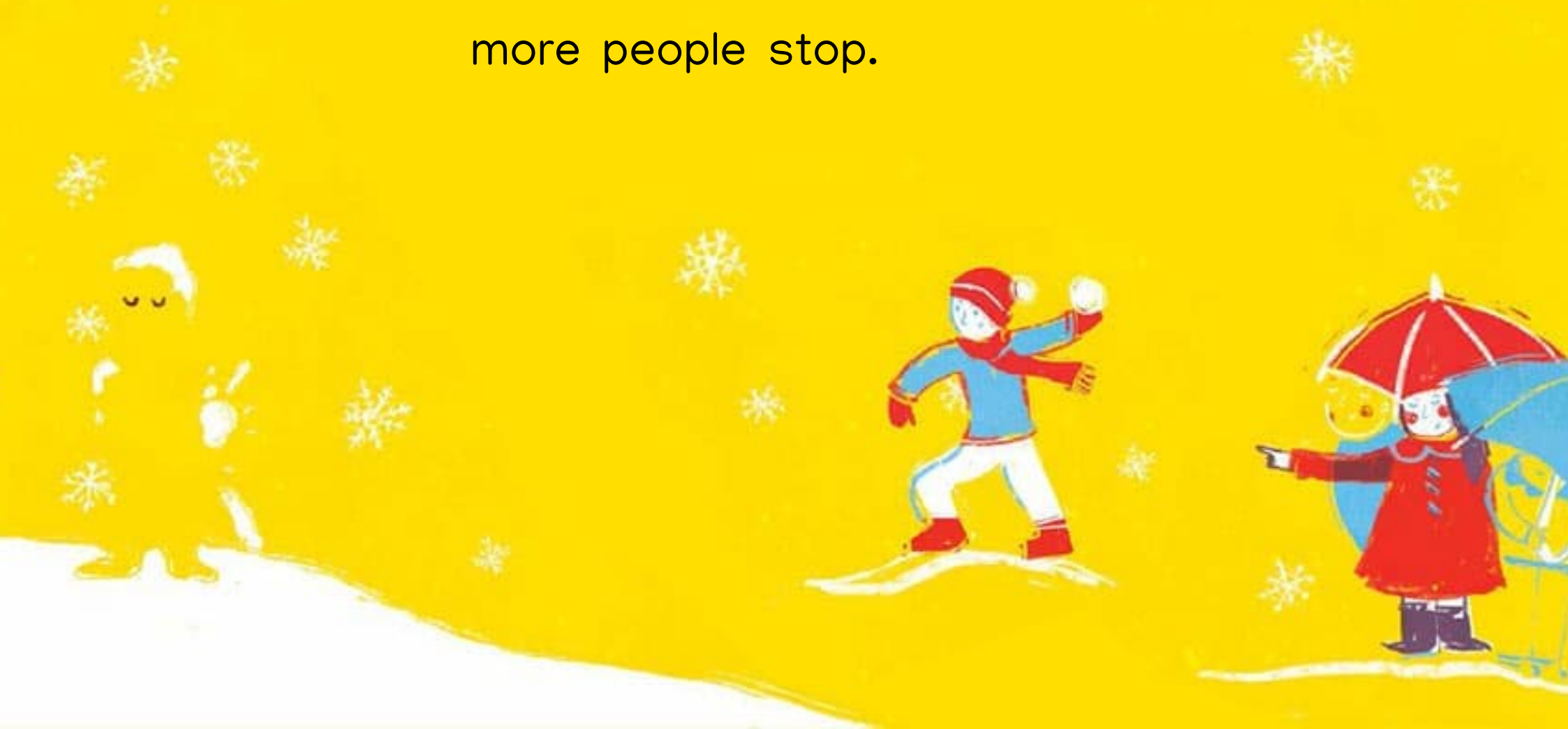




If you are outside and it starts to rain, you might be able to see her shape.

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.

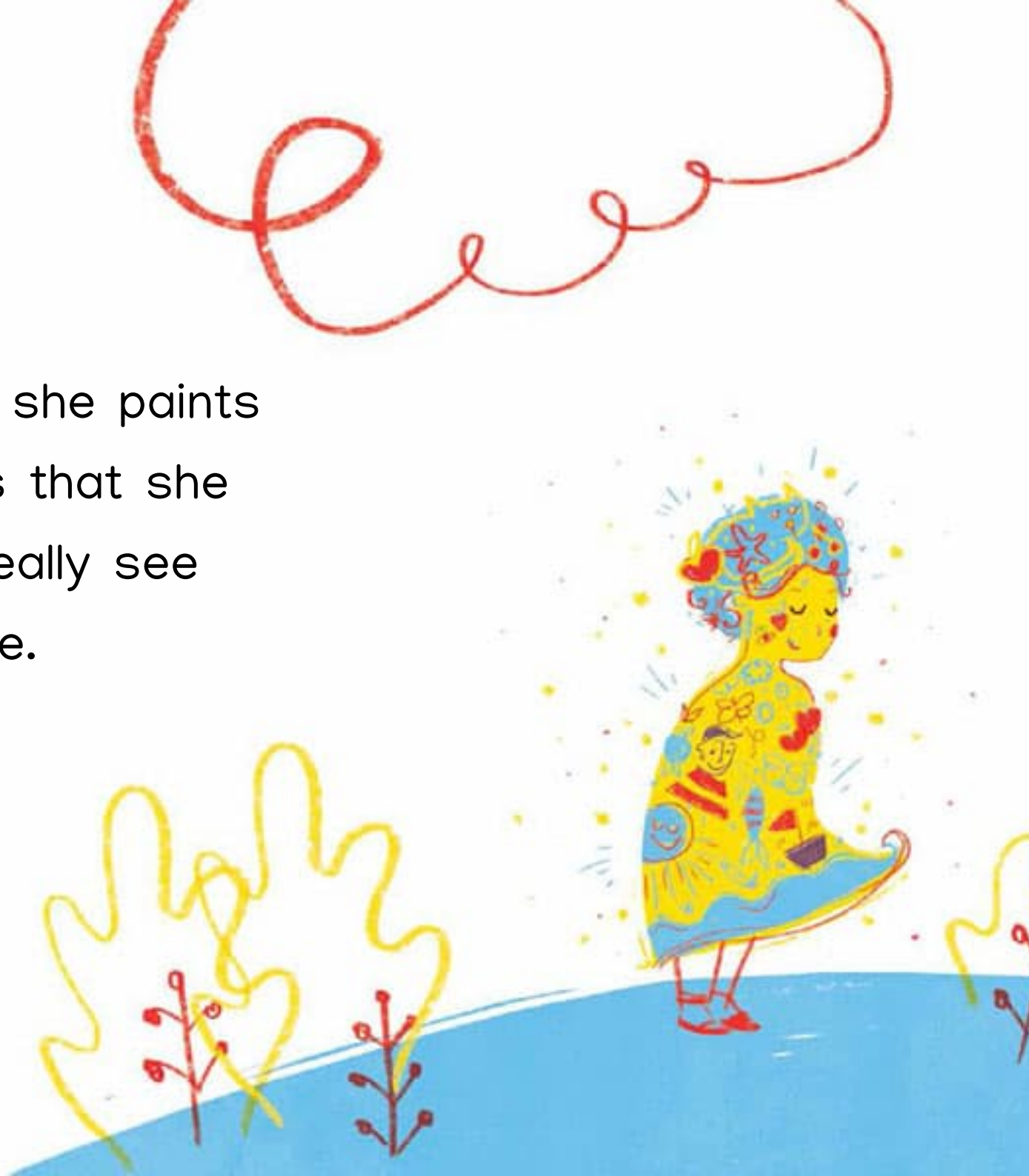
They were all of the things that she loved the best.



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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