

Tippity-Tippity-Tap

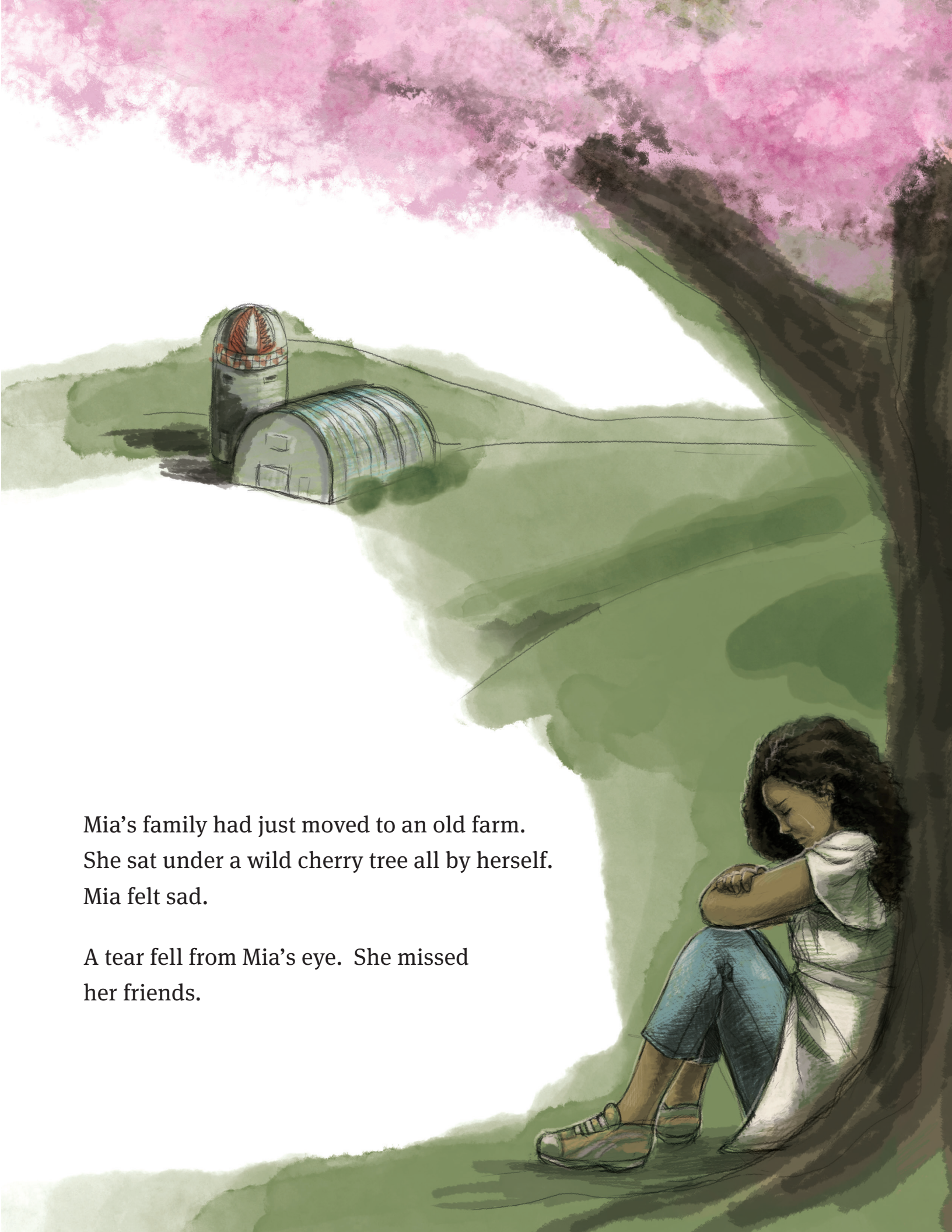


by Susan McMullan
Illustrations by Kaylene Ruwart

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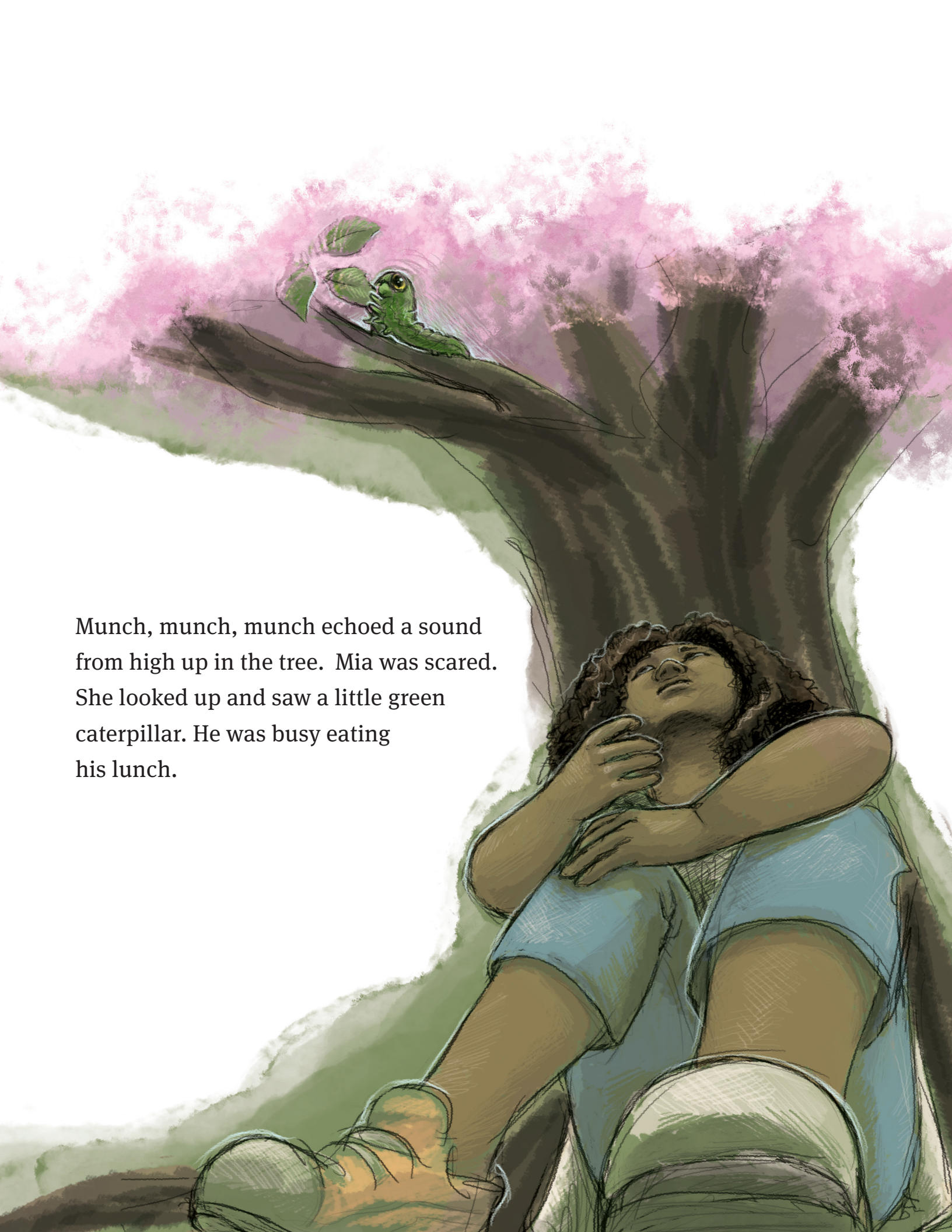


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Mia's family had just moved to an old farm.
She sat under a wild cherry tree all by herself.
Mia felt sad.

A tear fell from Mia's eye. She missed
her friends.

A watercolor illustration of a young girl with curly brown hair, wearing a blue t-shirt and white shorts, sitting on the ground and looking up at a large tree. The tree has a thick, dark brown trunk and a canopy of pink blossoms. A small green caterpillar with yellow eyes is perched on a branch, eating a green leaf. The background is a soft, hazy landscape with green hills and a white sky.

Munch, munch, munch echoed a sound
from high up in the tree. Mia was scared.
She looked up and saw a little green
caterpillar. He was busy eating
his lunch.



The caterpillar crawled down the tree.
Tippity-tippity-tap sounded the caterpillar's feet as he danced
on Mia's shoulder.

Mia's eyes popped open. "Will you be my friend?" Mia begged with hope in her eyes. The caterpillar gazed at Mia and tapped his feet again.





“I need a name for you,” Mia pondered. “Are you a girl?”

The caterpillar stood still.

“Are you a boy?”

Tippity-tippity-tap.



“Can I call you Tiger?”

Tippity-tippity-tap.



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Dedications

To my son, Ryan, who stole my heart.
1989-2014

– S.M.

For Mom, who taught me how to draw,
and for Dad, who taught me how butterflies work.

– K.R.

Summary – A young girl makes a friend in an unlikely place.

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