

# Willie

the Woodsman





Willie and Bumper drifted asleep to the rhythmic chop, chop, chop of an axe. But suddenly a noise jolted both of them awake.







Snap!  
Crack!

"Timber!!" rang through the woods.  
Willie peered out to see a woodsman just  
outside his tent.

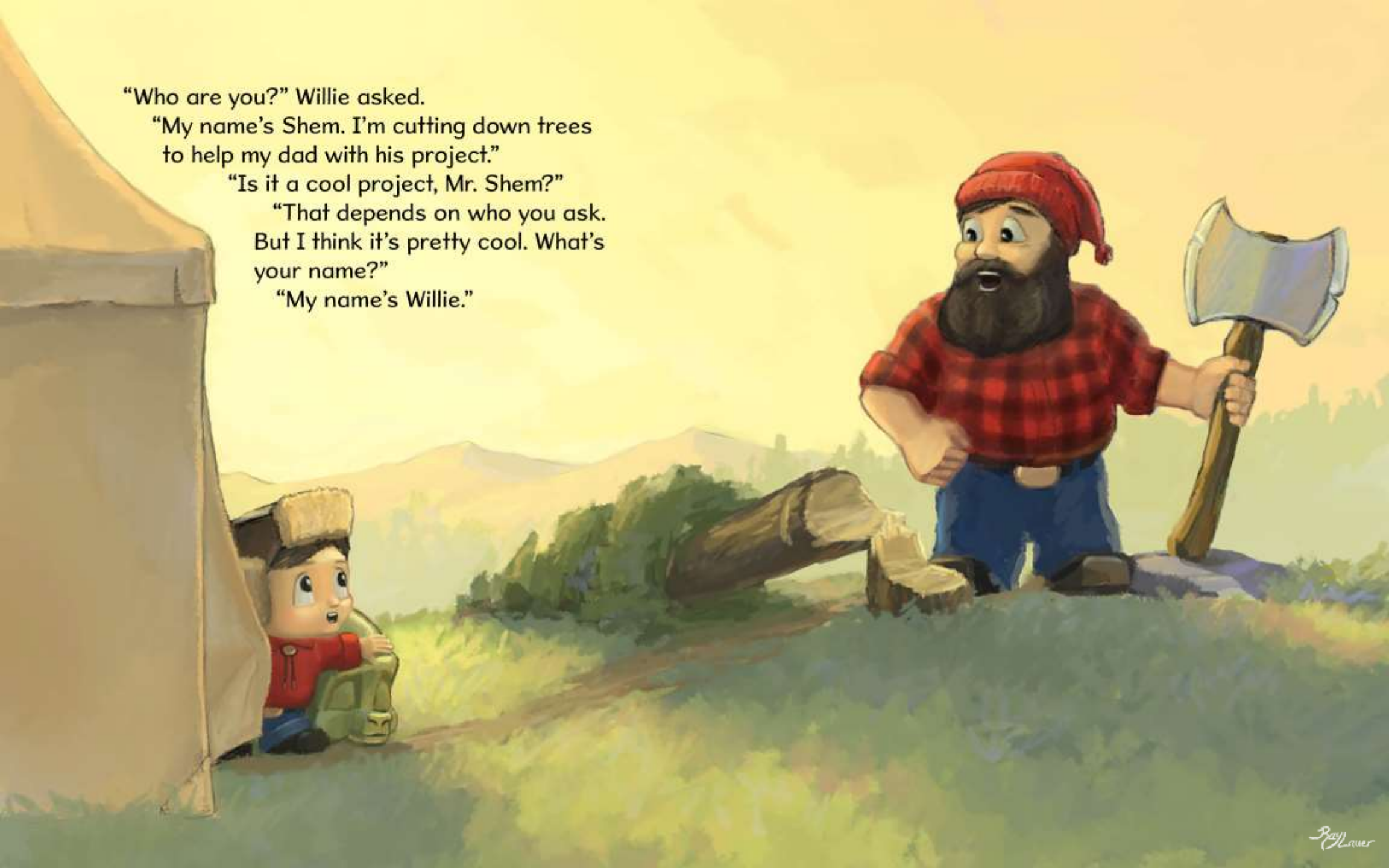
"Who are you?" Willie asked.

"My name's Shem. I'm cutting down trees to help my dad with his project."

"Is it a cool project, Mr. Shem?"

"That depends on who you ask. But I think it's pretty cool. What's your name?"

"My name's Willie."





Willie continued, "You're really strong, Mr. Shem. You must have cut down at least a hundred trees to get such big muscles."

Shem chuckled. "Your guess is as good as mine, Willie. I lost track after a few years."

Willie gasped. "A few years? Whatever you're building must be huge!"

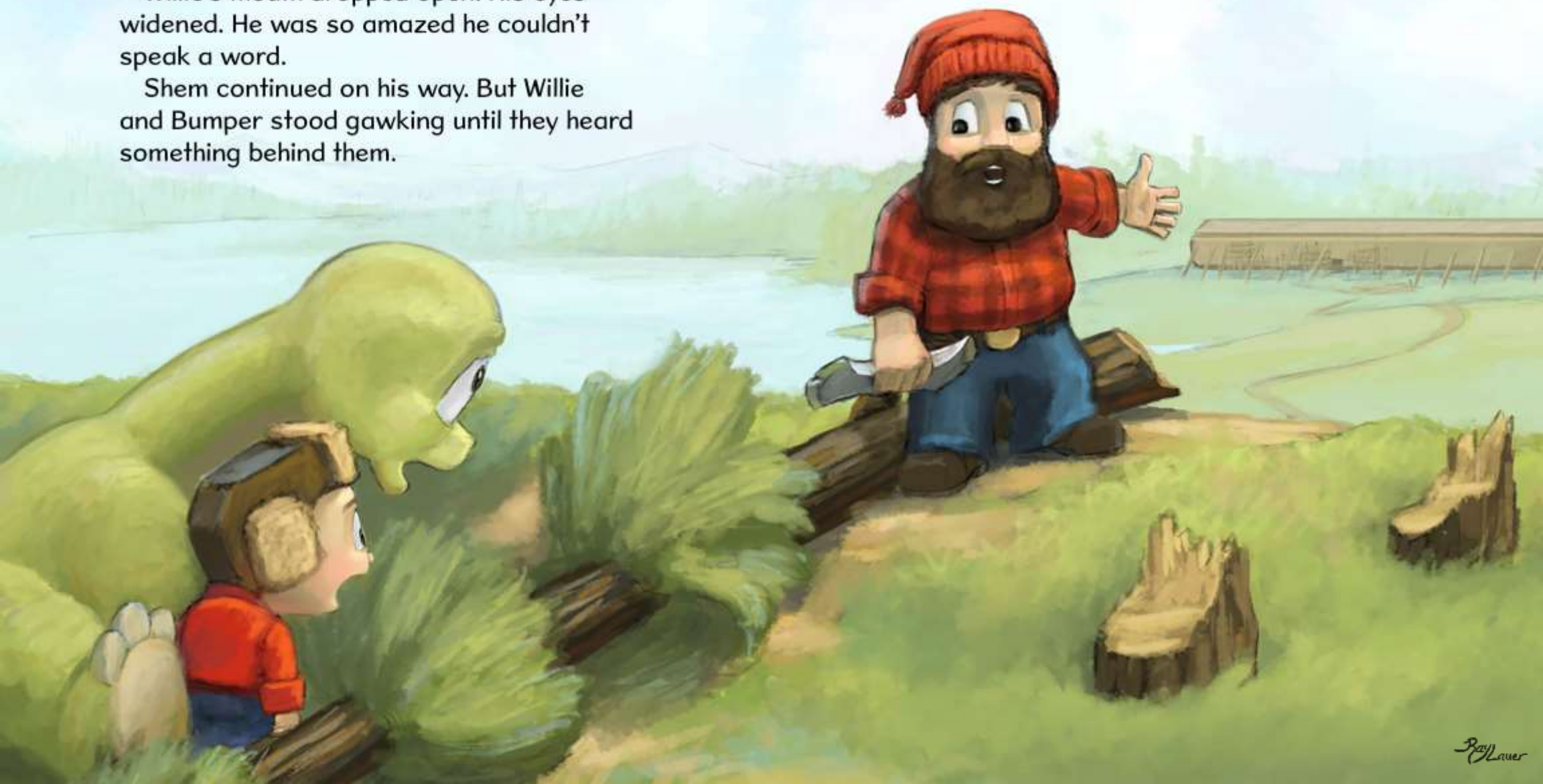
"I'll let you decide for yourself, Willie."



Shem reached the top of a hill and said,  
“Take a look down in the valley.”

Willie’s mouth dropped open. His eyes  
widened. He was so amazed he couldn’t  
speak a word.

Shem continued on his way. But Willie  
and Bumper stood gawking until they heard  
something behind them.







“Quack, quack.”

Willie and Bumper turned around to see three ducks.

“What are you doing?” asked Willie.

“We’re going to that big wooden structure,” replied Mother Duck.

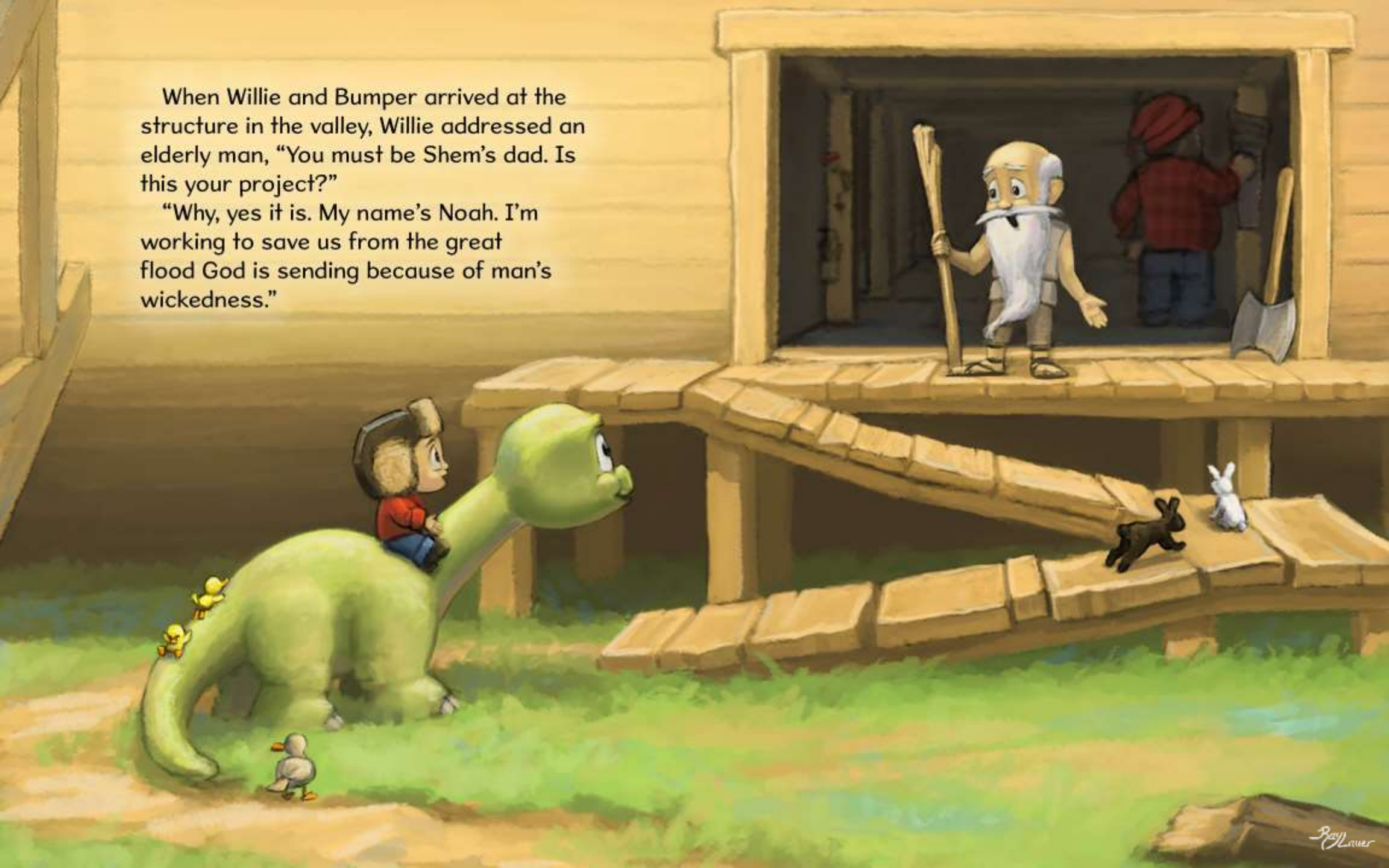
“Bumper and I can give you a ride if you’d like.”

“Yes, and thank you,” replied Mother Duck, “My babies are so very tired.”



When Willie and Bumper arrived at the structure in the valley, Willie addressed an elderly man, "You must be Shem's dad. Is this your project?"

"Why, yes it is. My name's Noah. I'm working to save us from the great flood God is sending because of man's wickedness."



"A great flood!" exclaimed Willie, "We're doomed! Run for the hills!"

Noah shook his head. "No living creature on the face of the earth will survive this flood. The only way to be safe is to get on board my boat, the Ark."

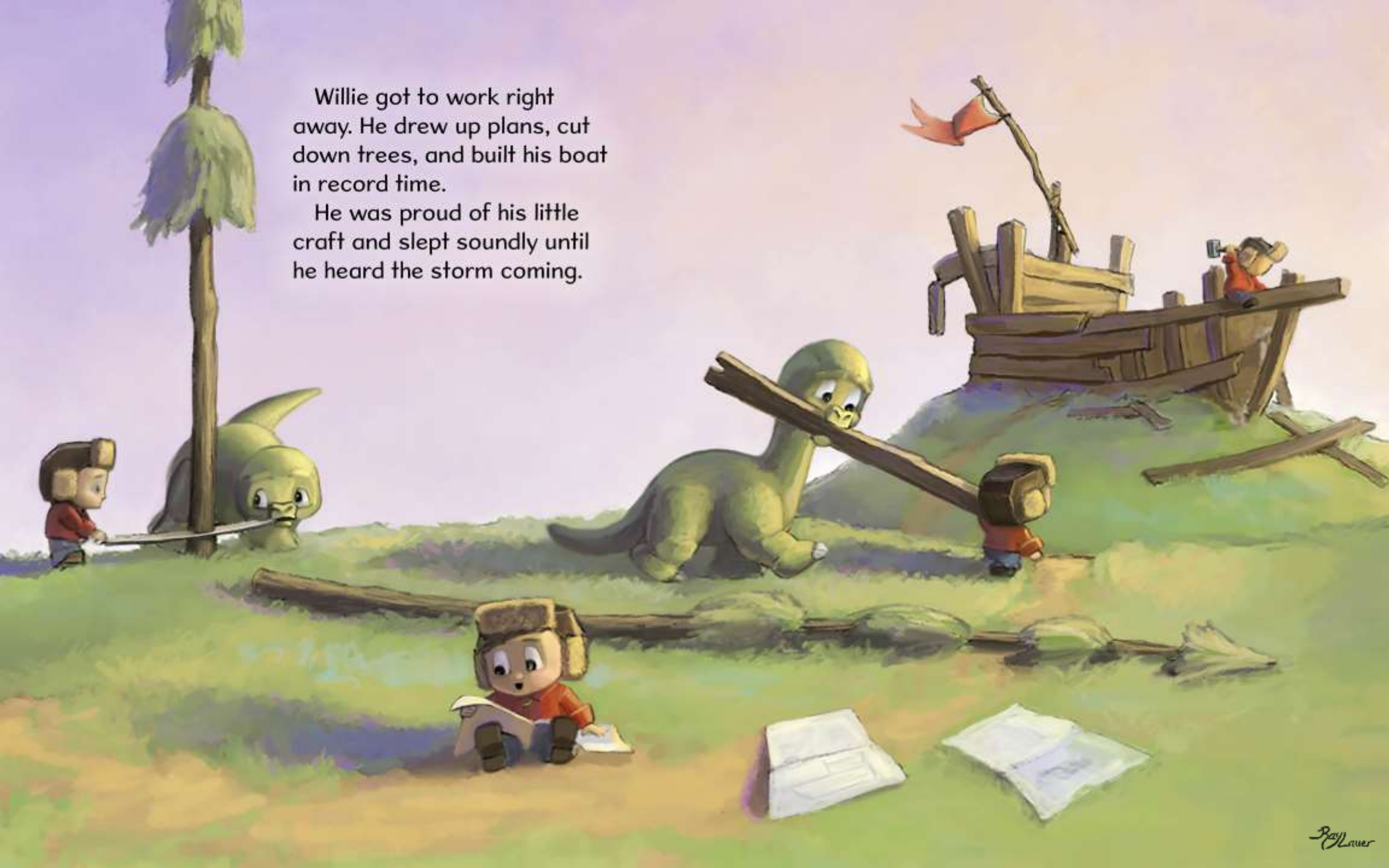
"A boat!" exclaimed Willie, "Why didn't I think of that?" As Willie ran home, he turned to Bumper. "I just hope there's still time!"





Willie got to work right away. He drew up plans, cut down trees, and built his boat in record time.

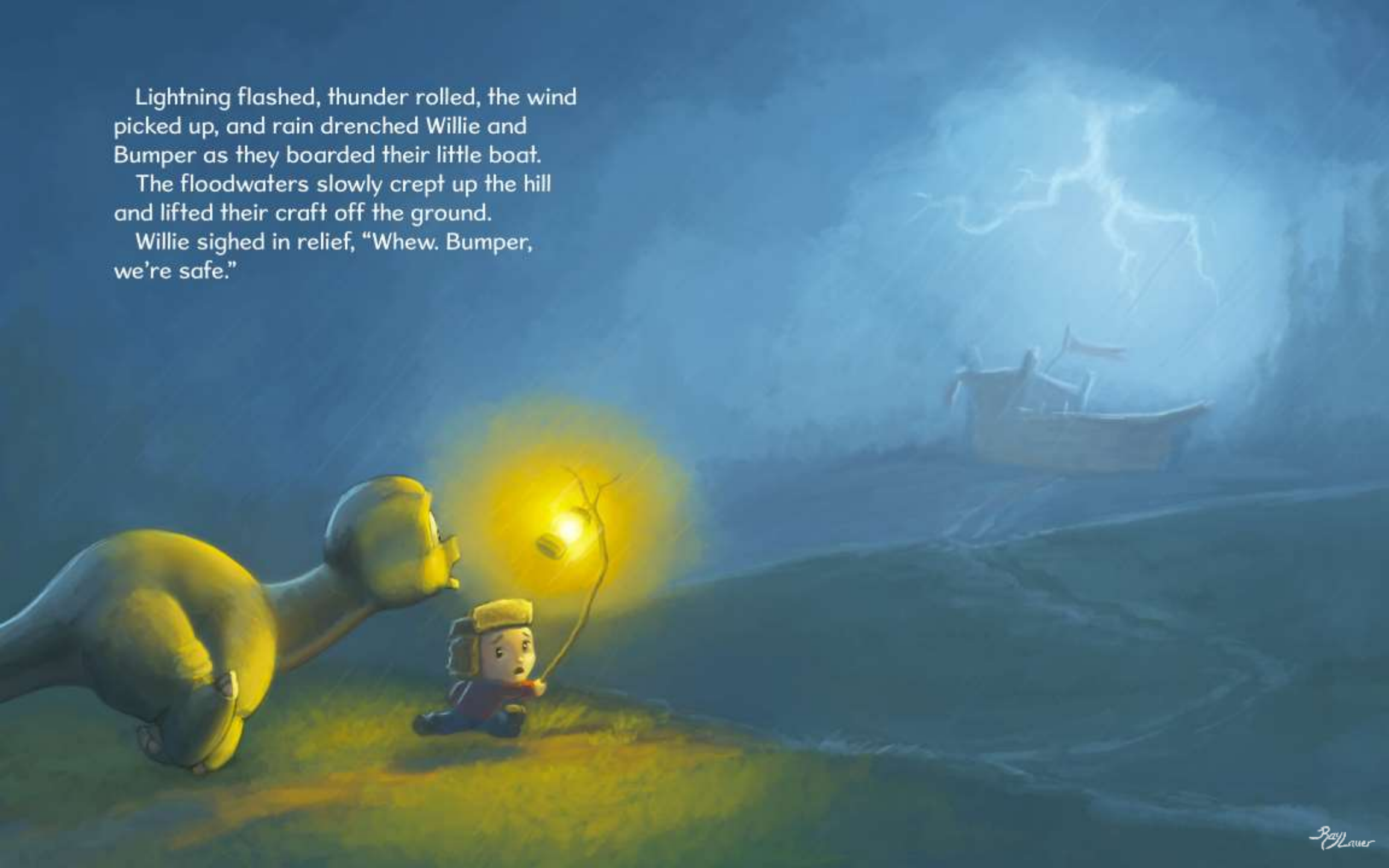
He was proud of his little craft and slept soundly until he heard the storm coming.



Lightning flashed, thunder rolled, the wind  
picked up, and rain drenched Willie and  
Bumper as they boarded their little boat.

The floodwaters slowly crept up the hill  
and lifted their craft off the ground.

Willie sighed in relief, "Whew. Bumper,  
we're safe."





But it wasn't long before their little boat  
started taking on water. Willie tried to empty it,  
but he couldn't keep up.

"No! My boat! It can't sink! I worked so hard.  
It just isn't fair."

Suddenly the boat split in pieces.

**Snap! Crack! "Timber!!"**

Timber? How could that be?



Willie awoke. His eyes slowly looked over the familiar ceiling and walls of his room. "What a dream," said Willie, "Dad must be out cutting down trees in the yard again."







Willie got up and called out, "Daddy!"

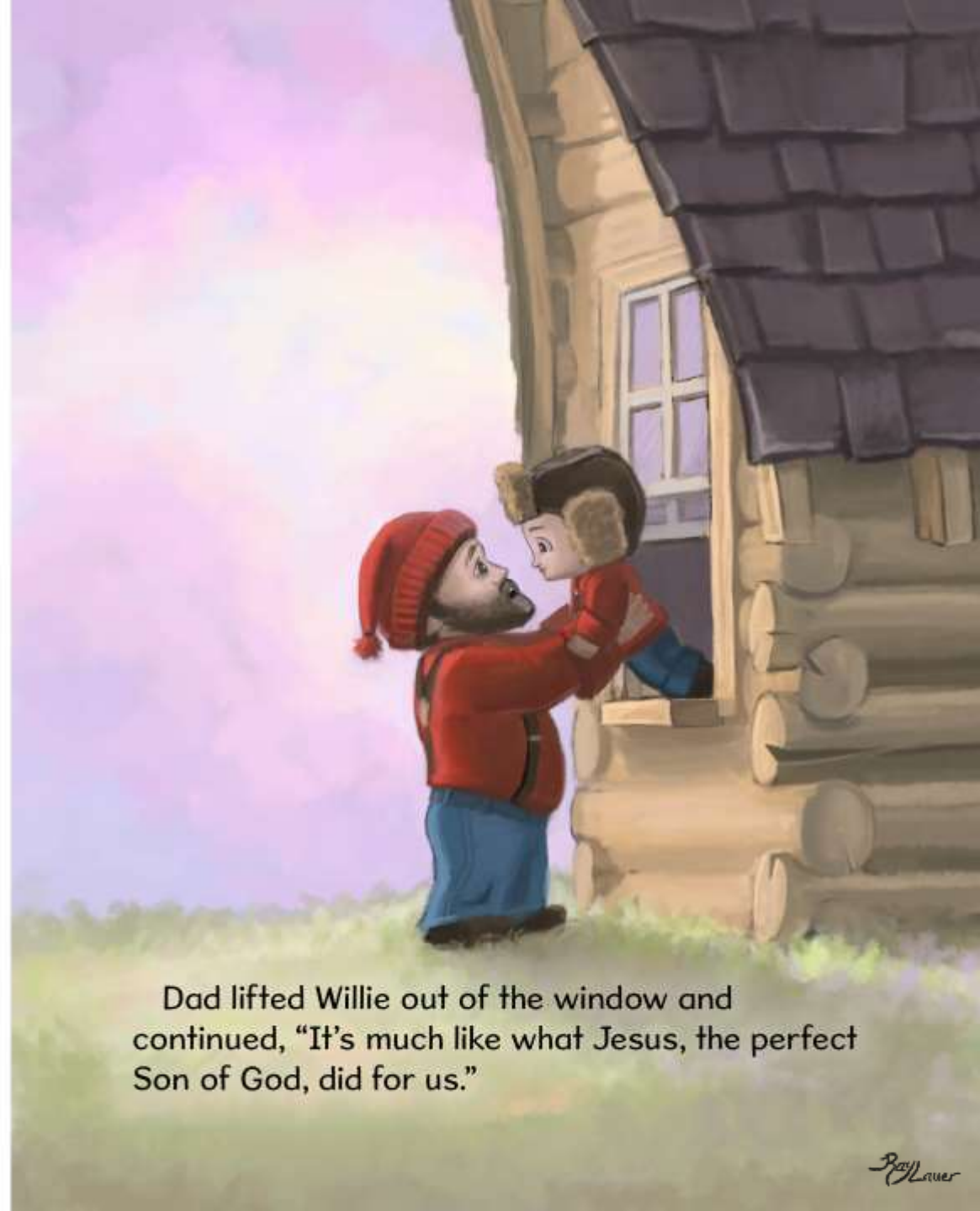
"Yes, Son?"

"I just had the most terrible dream. Shem was there, and Noah, and I built a boat, but it sank. Why'd it sink?"

Dad replied, "Well, Willie, the only way to survive the flood was to be on board the Ark."

"But Dad, I tried so hard."

"I know, Son, but all you had to do was get on board the Ark. All the work was already done."



Dad lifted Willie out of the window and continued, "It's much like what Jesus, the perfect Son of God, did for us."



“You mean when He died on the cross and rose again?”

“That’s right, Willie. All we can do to be saved from Hell is believe that Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sins and rose again the third day. Just like the people in Noah’s day, all they had to do to be saved from the flood was get on the Ark.”



“So all I need to do to be sure of Heaven is trust that Jesus died on the cross to pay for my sins and rose again?”

“That’s right, Willie. All the work was already done.”





“Who [Jesus Christ] did no sin,  
neither was guile found in his  
mouth.”

1 Peter 2:22

“For all have sinned, and come  
short of the glory of God.”

Romans 3:23

“For the wages of sin is death;  
but the gift of God is eternal life  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 6:23

“For by grace are ye saved  
through faith; and that not of  
yourselves: it is the gift of God:  
Not of works, lest any man  
should boast.”  
Ephesians 2:8,9

“That if thou shalt confess  
with thy mouth the Lord Jesus,  
and shalt believe in thine heart  
that God hath raised him from  
the dead, thou shalt be saved.”  
Romans 10:9



Scripture quotations from The Authorized (King James) Version.

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