

Bandit

The Chubby Chihuahua



by Pat Postek

Illustrated by Brad Davies



Bandit, The Chubby Chihuahua
by Pat Postek

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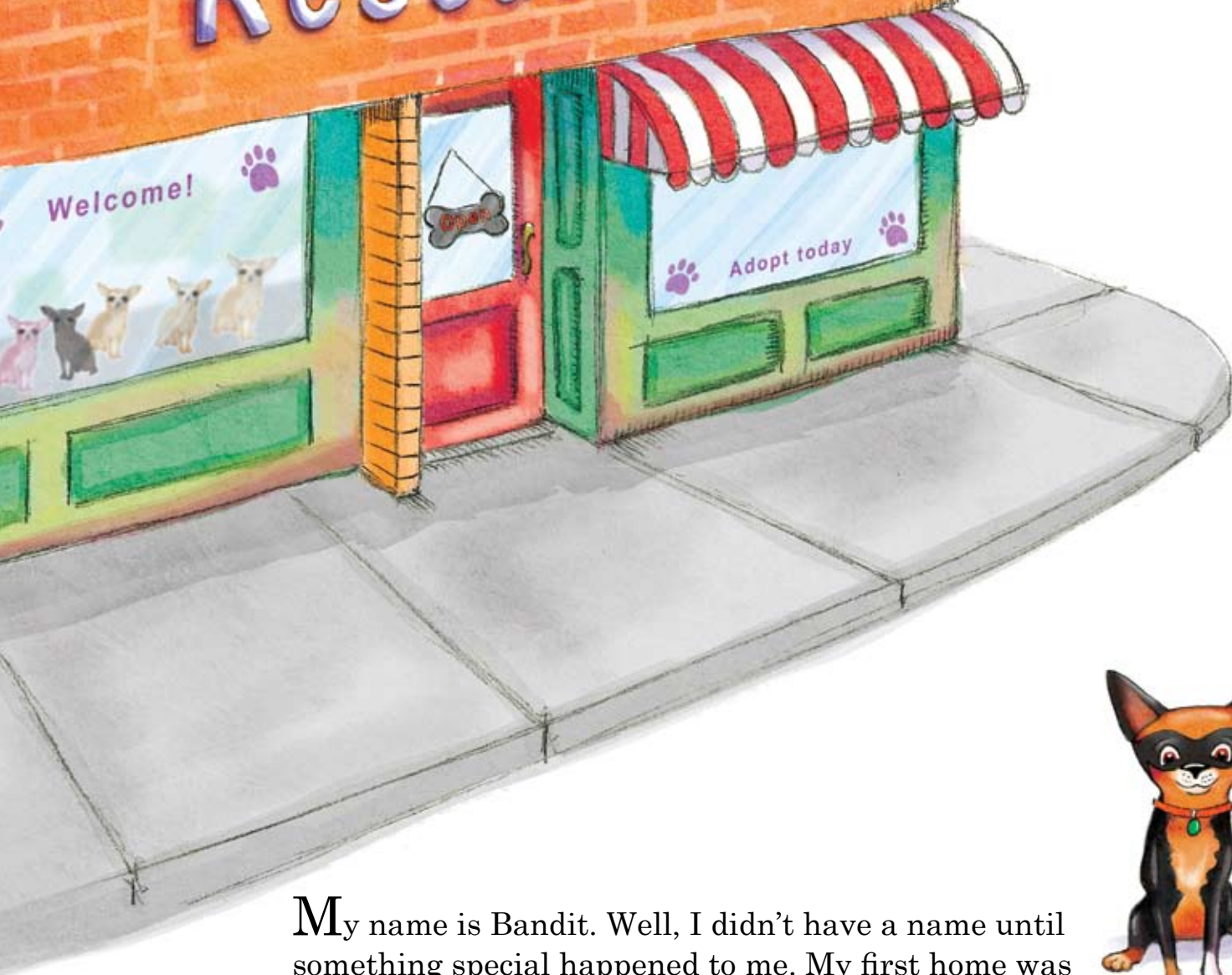
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*This book is dedicated to my grandchildren
Connor, Audrey, and Megan, with love.*



A portion of the proceeds from this book will be donated to
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Their mission is to fight animal cruelty. Visit www.aspca.org to learn more.

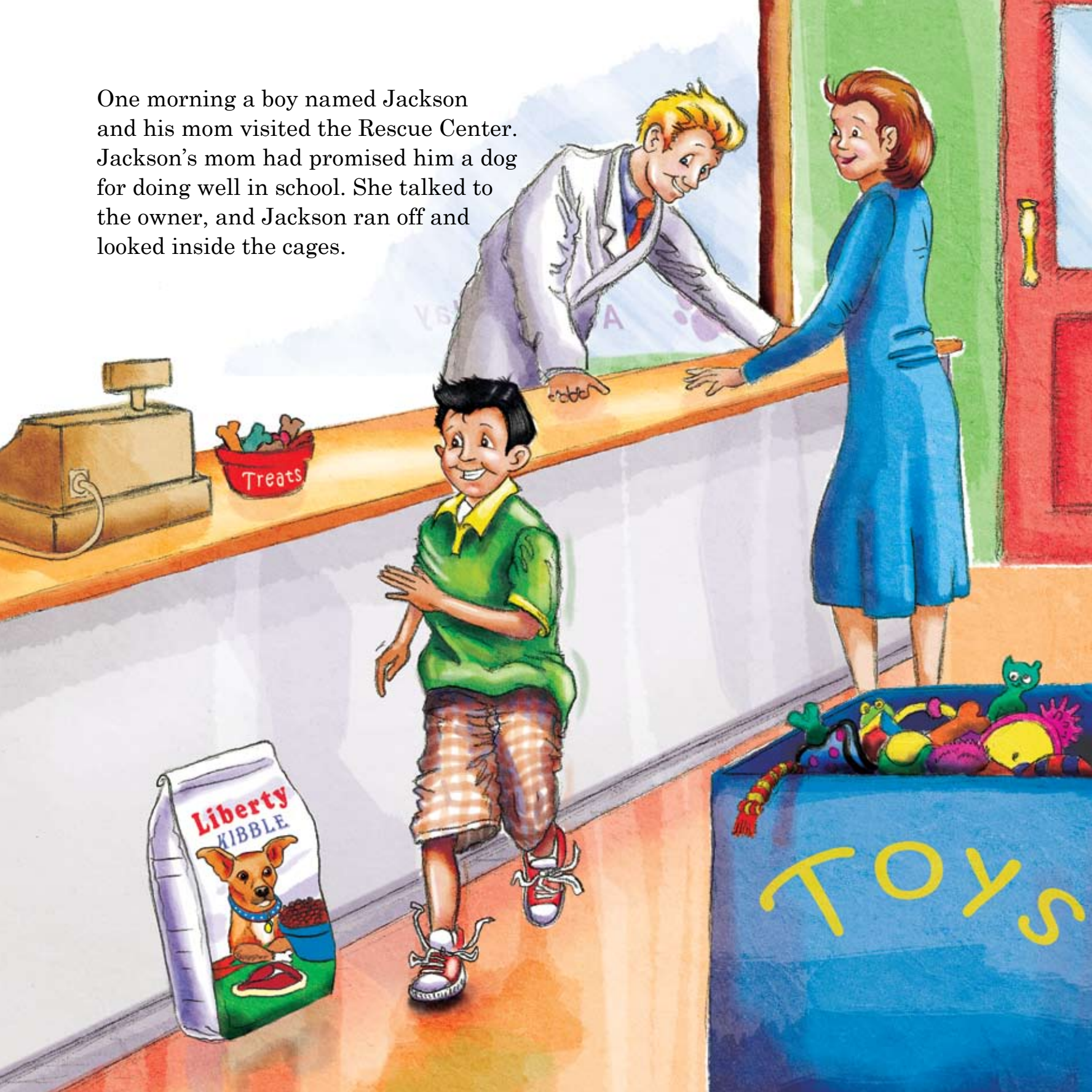
Chihuahua Rescue Center



My name is Bandit. Well, I didn't have a name until something special happened to me. My first home was a small cage in a Chihuahua Rescue Center.



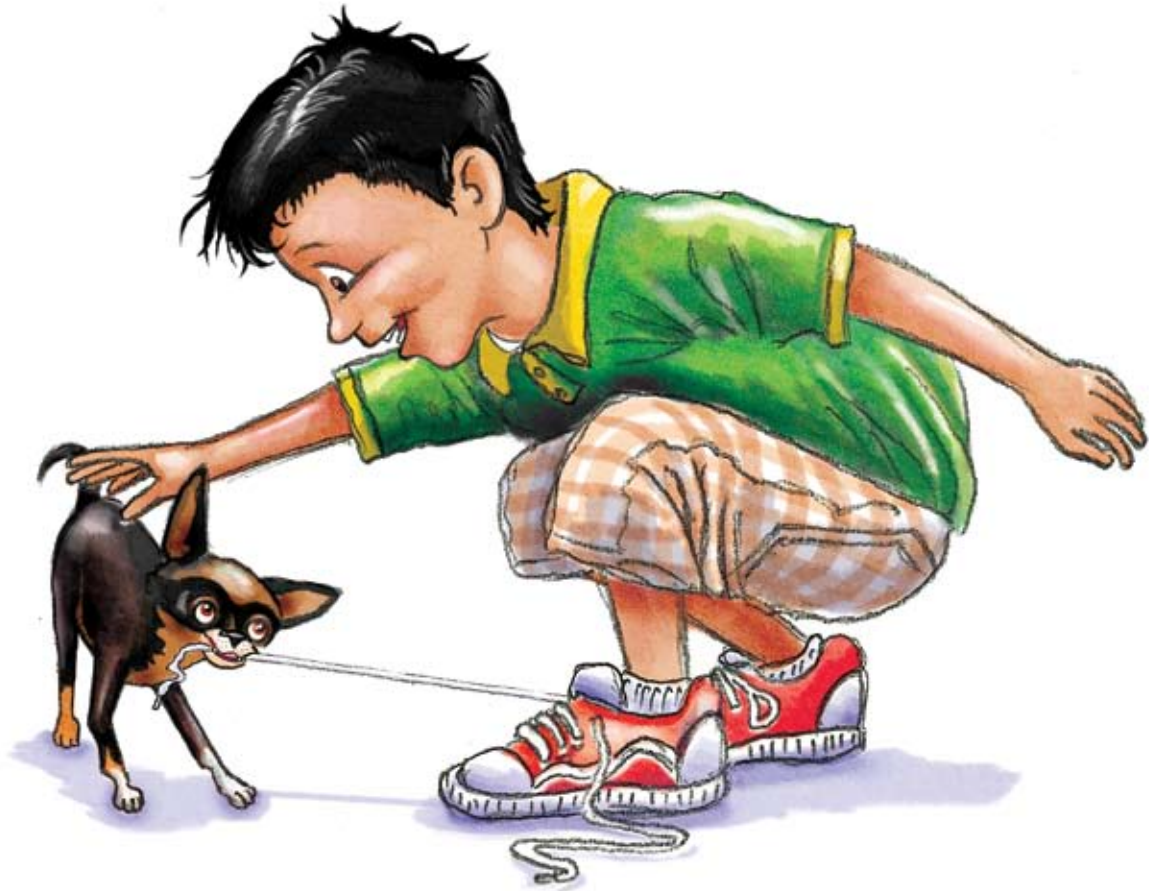
One morning a boy named Jackson and his mom visited the Rescue Center. Jackson's mom had promised him a dog for doing well in school. She talked to the owner, and Jackson ran off and looked inside the cages.



Jackson stopped in front of my cage and called out, “Mom, this dog looks like a bandit—he’s wearing a mask!”

I wagged my tail and barked. I wanted him to like me. I wanted a new home.





Jackson did like me. He said to his mom,
“I want this dog. I will name him Bandit.”



Jackson put
me in the family car.

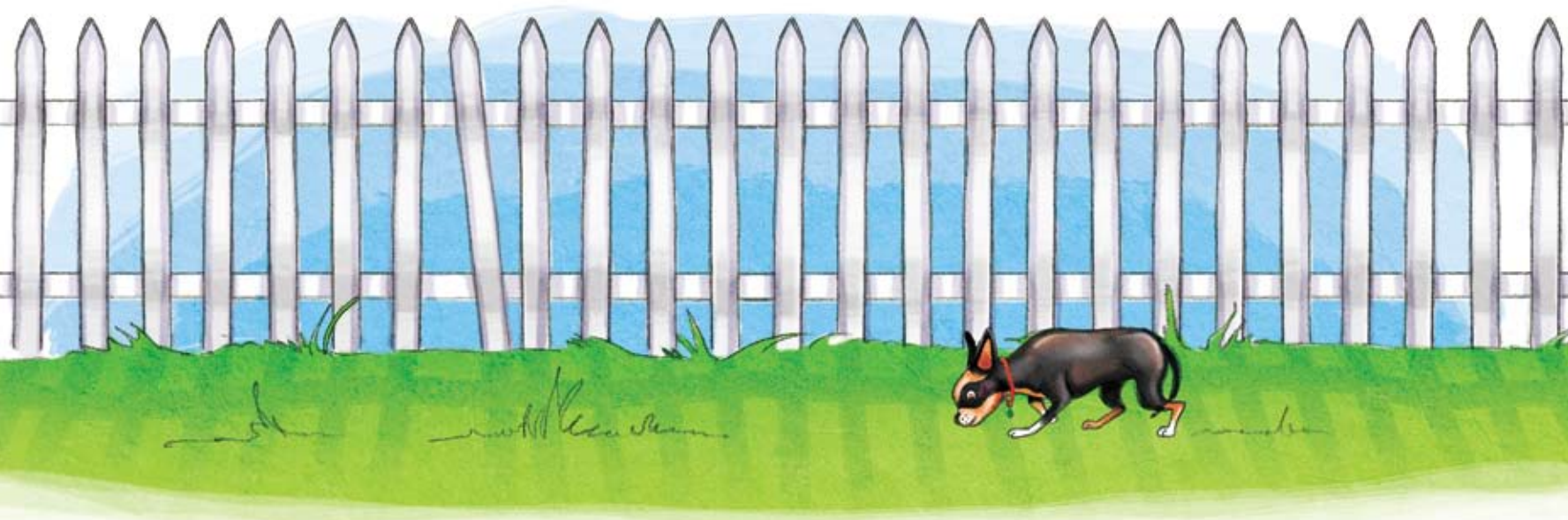


When the car stopped, Jackson said, “Wake up, Bandit. Welcome to your new home!”

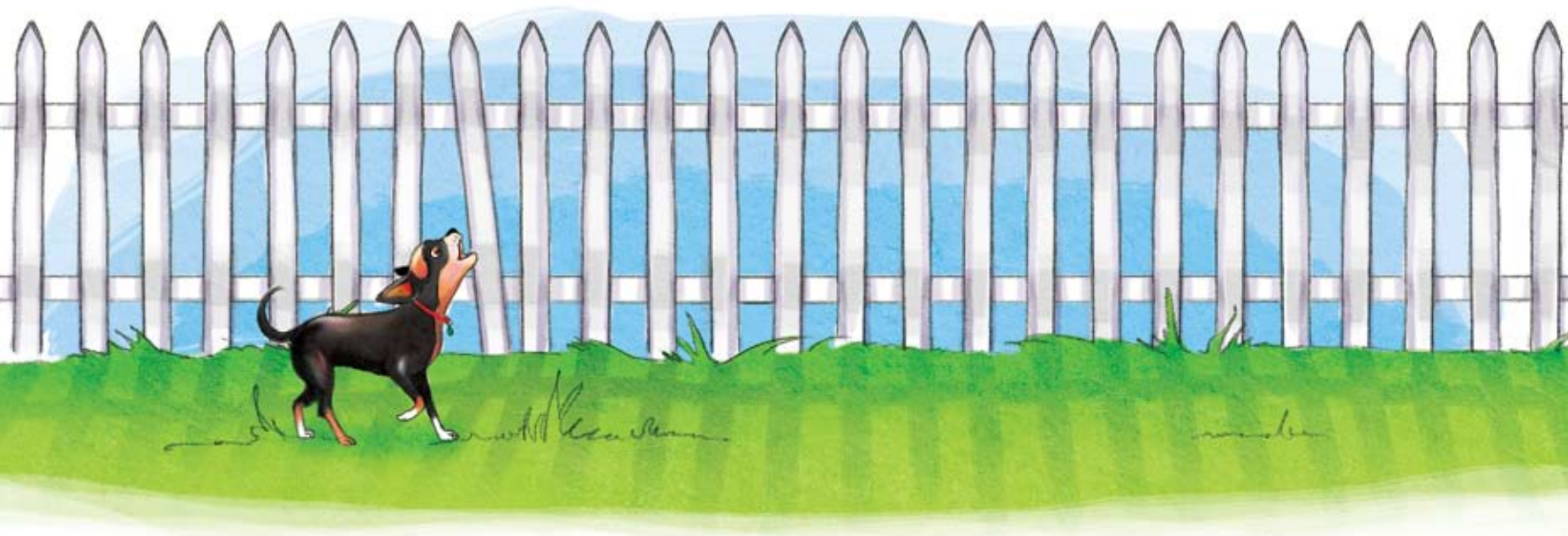
I liked my new family and home,
but I felt afraid and lonely.

That night I couldn't sleep and
stared out the window. I watched
the twinkling stars and wondered
who lived on the moon.





The next morning I explored my new yard while Jackson got ready for school.



I walked along the fence, sniffing and barking.

An orange cat watched me through the fence. We stared at each other.

“Did you just move in?” the cat asked.

“Yes. My name is Bandit. What’s yours?”

“My name is Malcolm.”



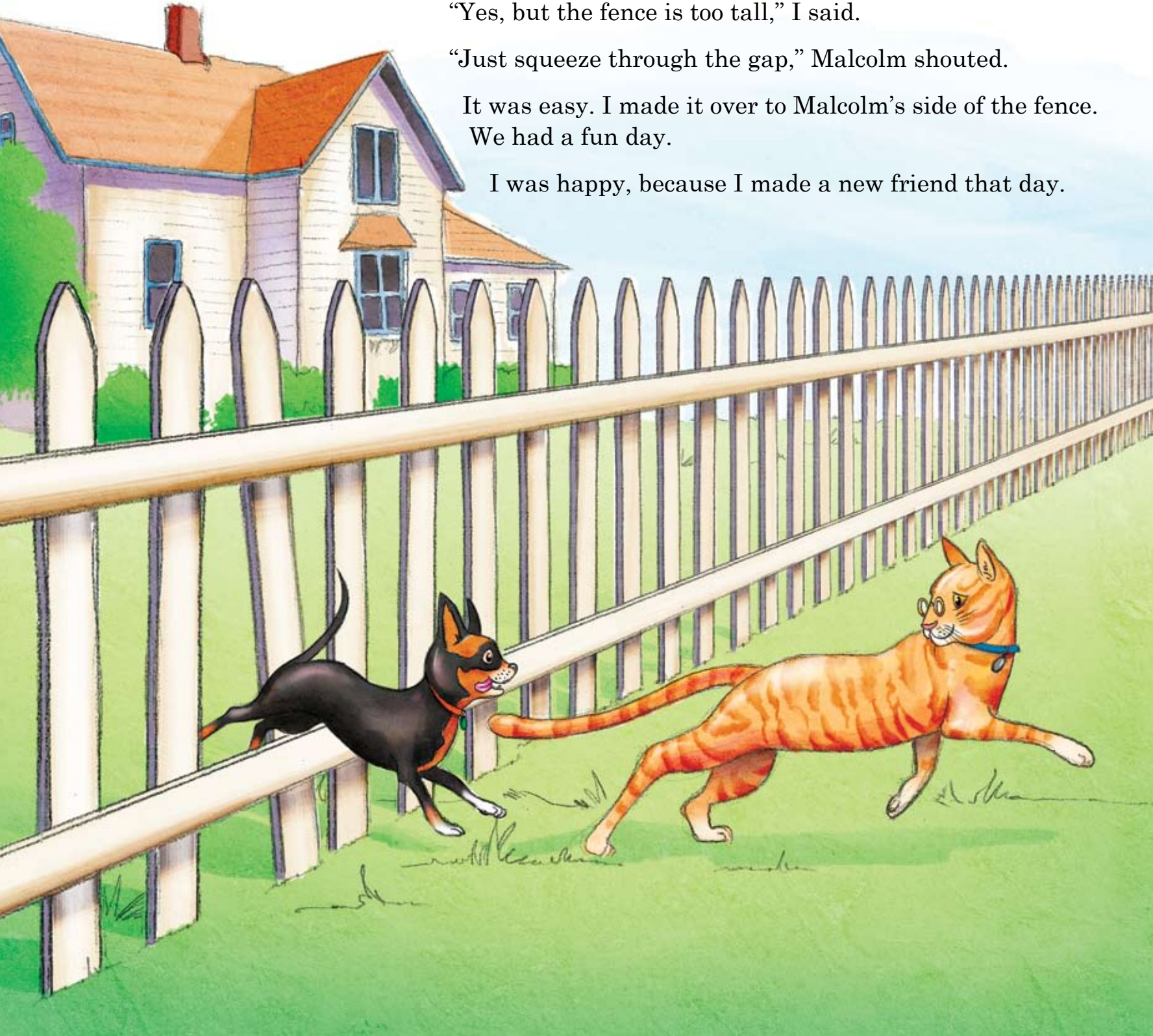
“Can you come over and play?” Malcolm asked.

“Yes, but the fence is too tall,” I said.

“Just squeeze through the gap,” Malcolm shouted.

It was easy. I made it over to Malcolm’s side of the fence.
We had a fun day.

I was happy, because I made a new friend that day.





The next day I couldn't wait to play with Malcolm. He was waiting for me when I squeezed through the fence.

I told him about how I stared at the moon. He asked, "Did you know the moon is almost as bright as the sun?"

"Wow, I didn't know that!"

Malcolm is so smart. I love Malcolm—he teaches me new things.

Every day for a month,
we played together.



We had fun and he taught me
more new things.

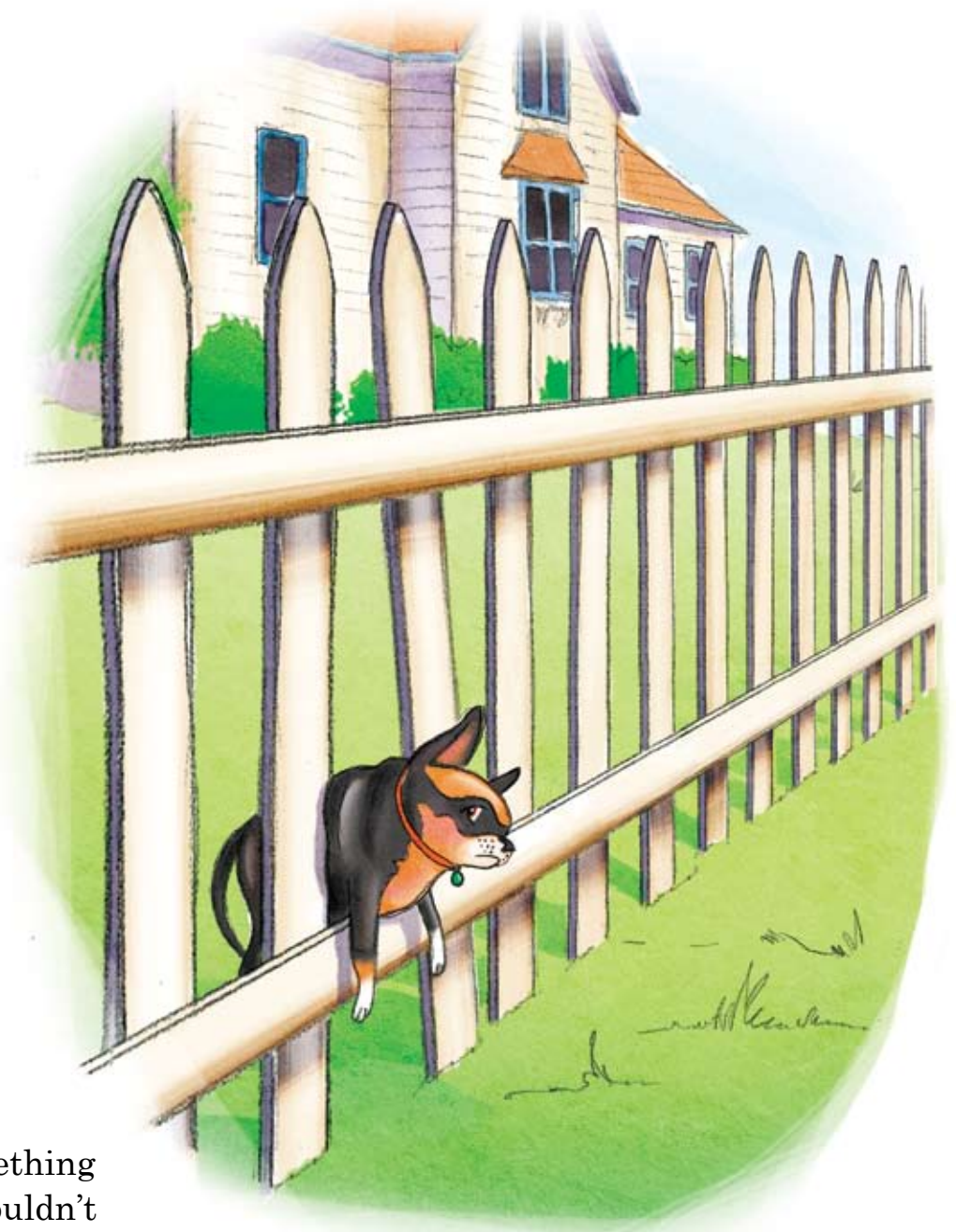


At the end of every day,
I went home to eat.





Every night Jackson put out a great big bowl of dog food for me.
My new mom told me to never waste food. So I ate it all.



Then one day something bad happened. I couldn't fit through the fence to visit Malcolm.

I felt sad.
I missed Malcolm.

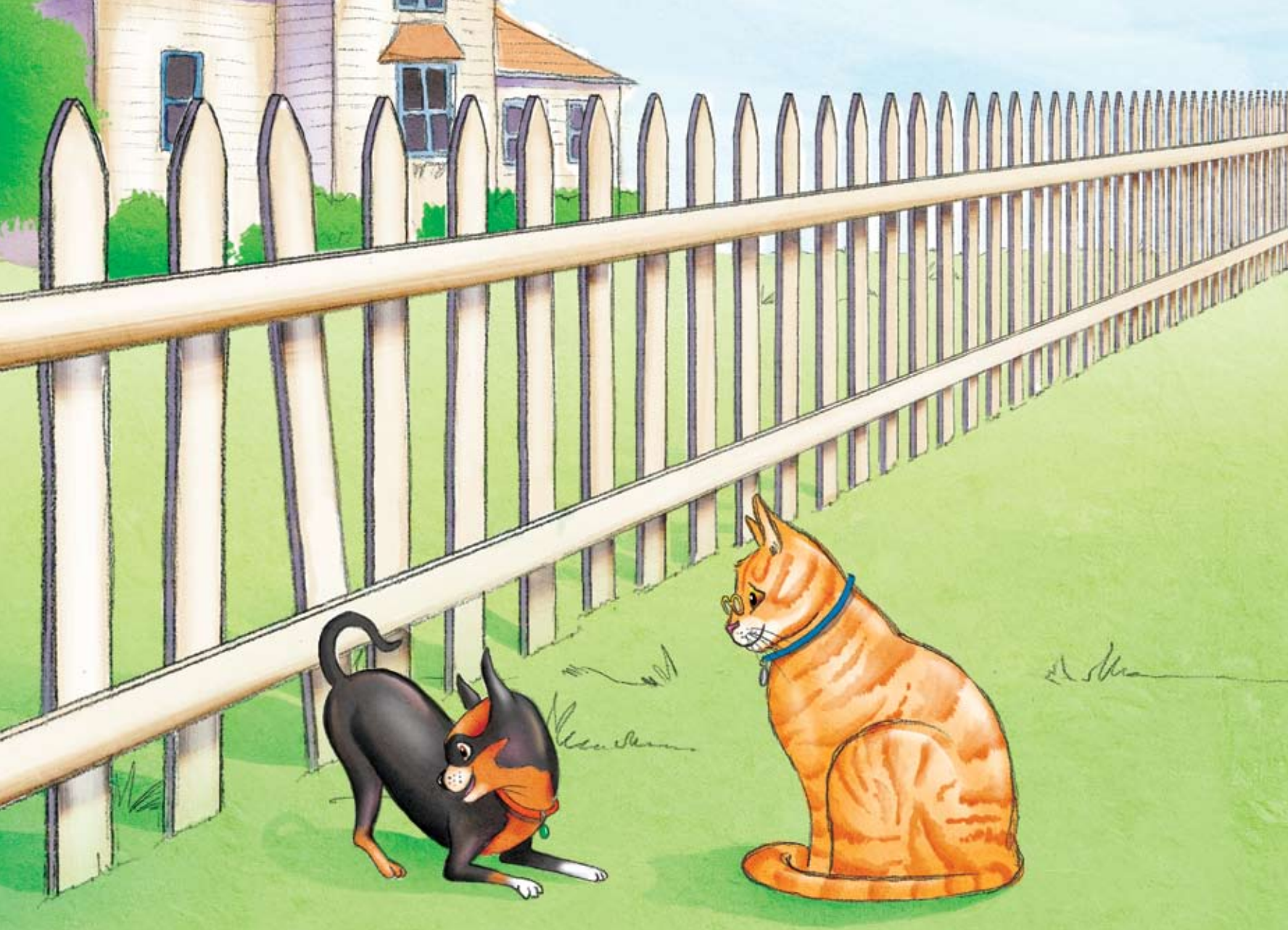


I looked for a way to get to
his side of the fence.



Every day I searched
for a bigger opening.



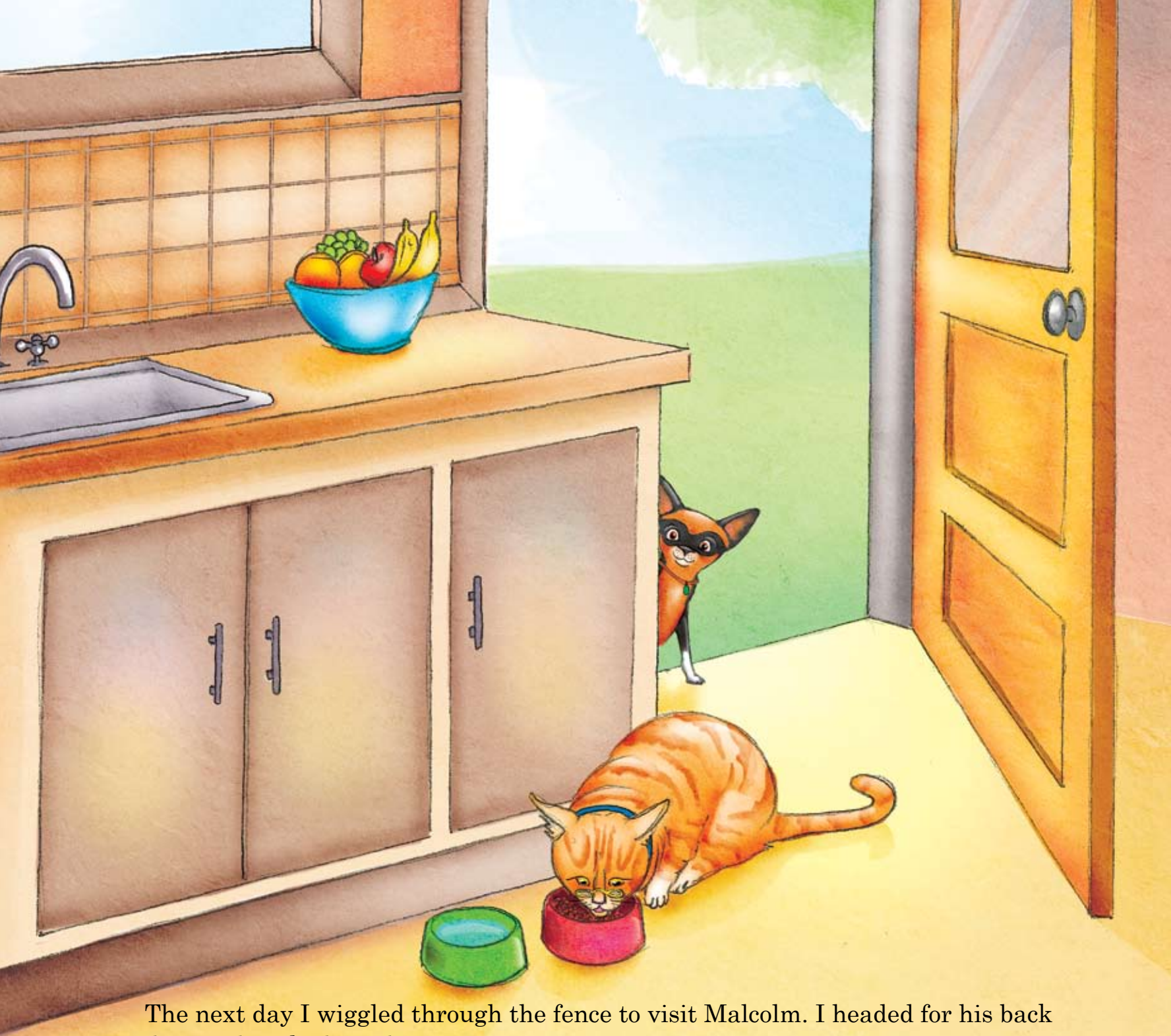


One day Malcolm walked to the fence and whispered,
“Try the first opening again.”

So I did, and I squeezed through the fence.

“What changed, Malcolm?” I asked.

“You changed, Bandit. You got lots of exercise looking for a new opening.”



The next day I wiggled through the fence to visit Malcolm. I headed for his back door and peeked inside.

He was eating breakfast very slowly. He doesn't eat fast like I do.



“Let’s go play, Bandit,” said Malcolm.

“But you haven’t finished your food,” I said.

“Well,” said Malcolm, “when my food doesn’t taste as good as the first bite did, I stop eating.”

Malcolm is so smart.



That evening I followed Malcolm's example and ate my food slowly.

I stopped eating when I felt full. Malcolm was right.
Food tastes better when I eat it slowly.



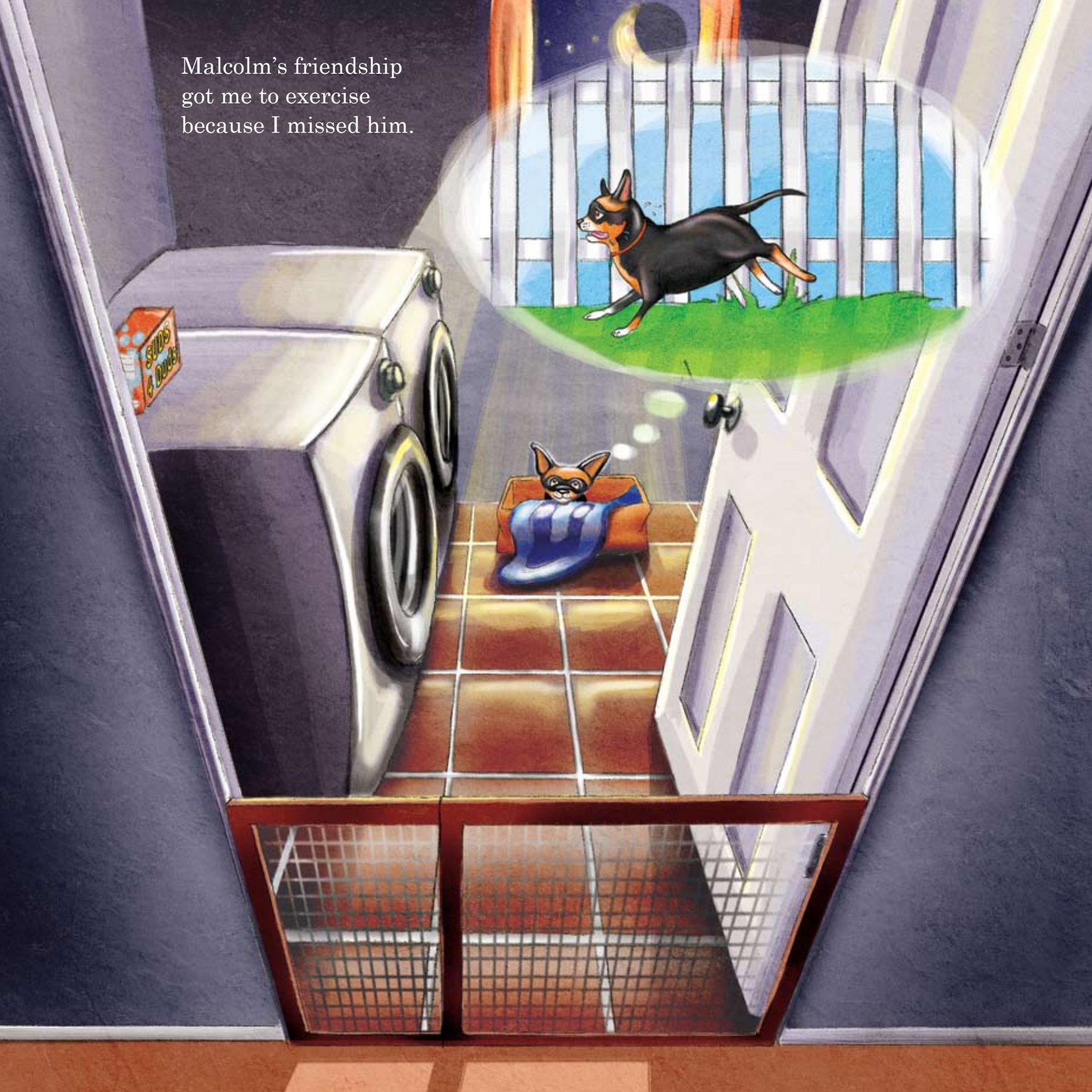
I'm so happy
Malcolm's my friend.



Malcolm taught me
healthier ways to eat.



Malcolm's friendship
got me to exercise
because I missed him.



Since I met Malcolm,
my life has changed.
I'm healthy. I'm happy.
I have the greatest friend.





Malcolm came into my life for a reason.
He is my special friend. Do you have a special friend?
If you don't, Malcolm and I will be your friends.

THE END

About the Author

Pat Postek is a children's book writer and the award-winning author of *Six Tails*.

Dogs have always been a source of comfort, joy, and inspiration for Pat. She believes animals, especially dogs, are our greatest teachers. Her unconditional love and celebration of animals and children shine through her second book *Bandit, The Chubby Chihuahua*.

Pat enlisted Illustrator Brad Davies and the following members of the BAB's Publishing Support Team to assist her in the publication process: coach Patricia Lynn Reilly, book designer Gary D. Hall, editor Pam Suwinsky, and technical manager Nichol Skaggs.

Pat is a member of the Colorado Author's League and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. She is a proud supporter of The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals® (ASPCA®).

To purchase *Six Tails* and *Bandit, The Chubby Chihuahua*, visit www.WagamoreProductions.com.



