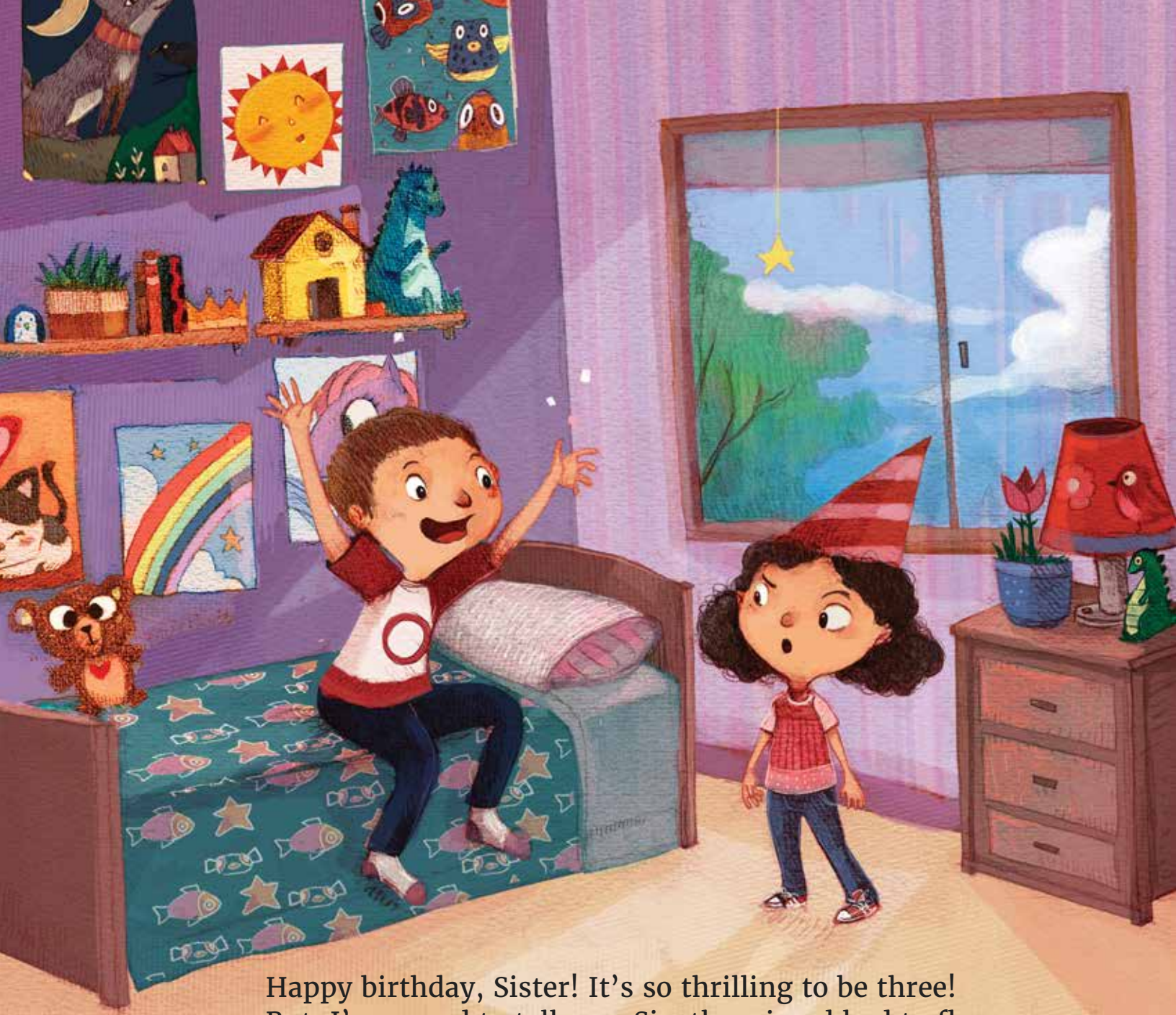
ONE MORE YEAR
By Allison Ione Ballenger
Illustrated by Carlos Vélez Aguilera

Happy birthday, Sister!
It's terrific to be two!
You don't know of all the magic
that's in store for you.
Patience, little Sister—
oh, just wait until you're three!

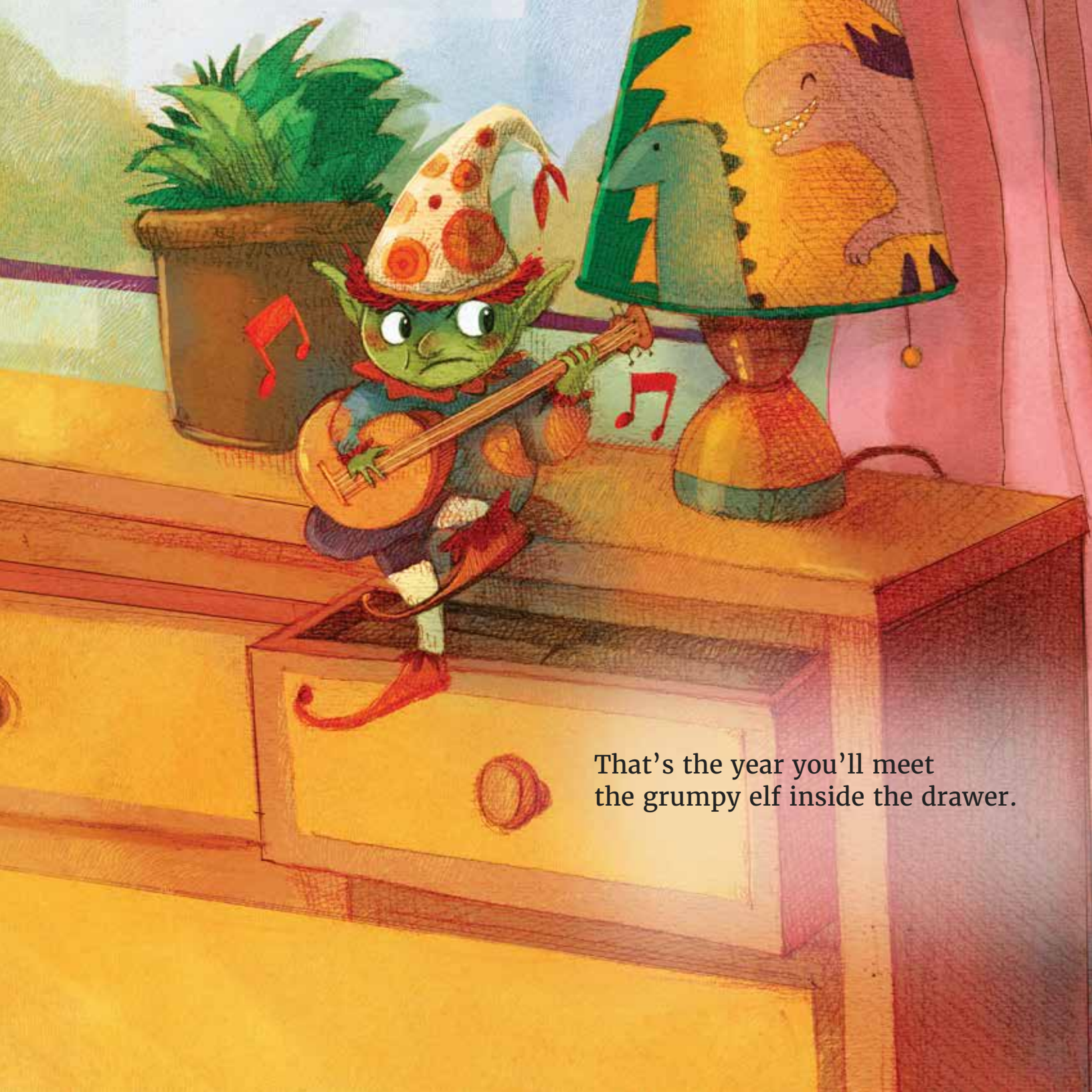
That’s the year you’ll meet
the wise old wizard in the tree.

He’s tall and thin, with a crooked grin, and a beard that’s white as chalk.
He’ll lower down a golden rope and pull you up to talk.
He’ll teach you how to ride the birds and sing a silly tune,
and, if you ask politely, he will fly you to the moon.

But, dear Sister, as I said,
you must wait one more year.
You can climb and sing with me
until that day is here.



Happy birthday, Sister! It's so thrilling to be three!
But, I'm so sad to tell you, Sis, the wizard had to flee.
Patience, little Sister—oh, just wait until you're four!



That's the year you'll meet
the grumpy elf inside the drawer.