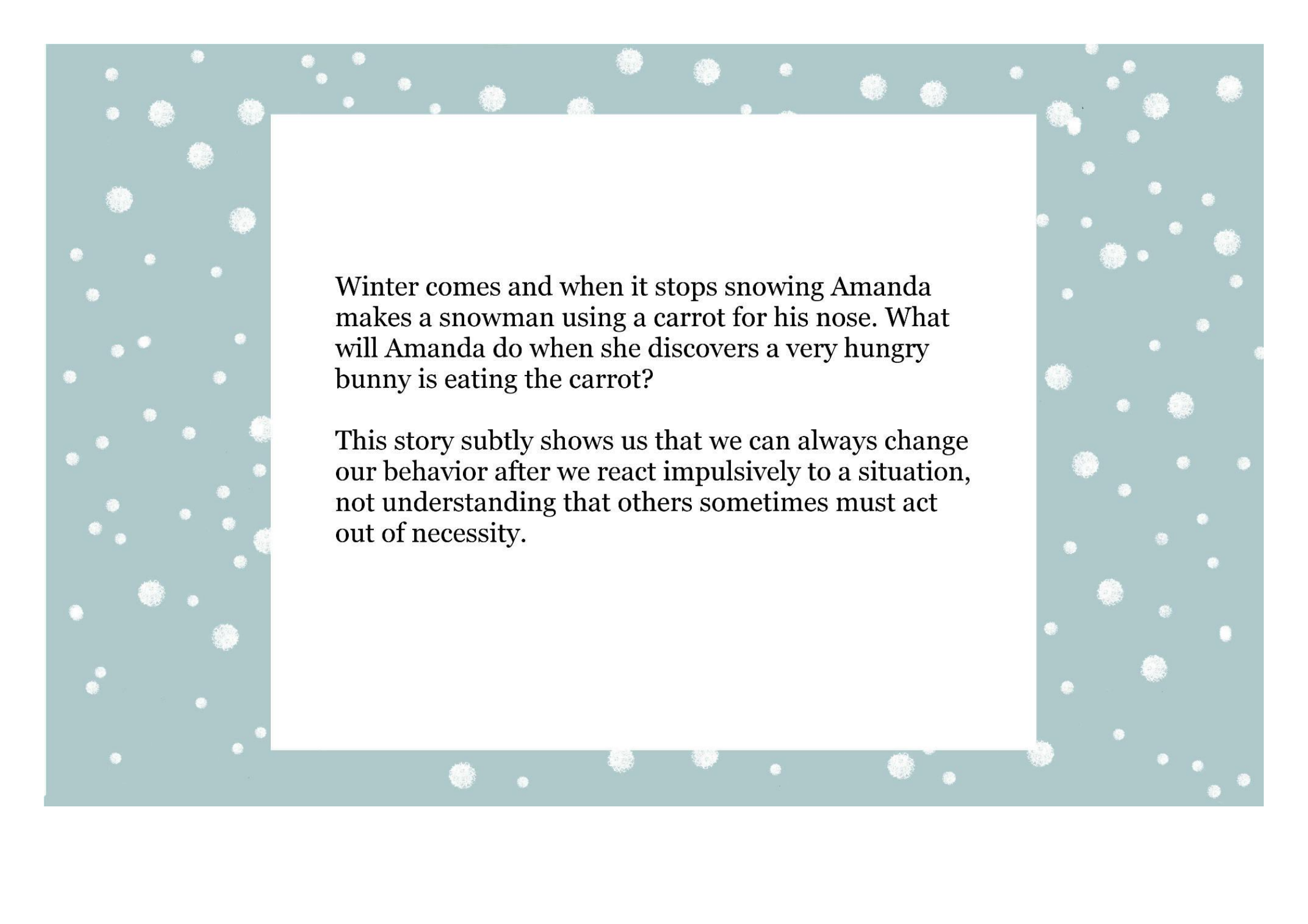


AMANDA AND THE SNOWMAN



NÚRIA VIVES



Winter comes and when it stops snowing Amanda makes a snowman using a carrot for his nose. What will Amanda do when she discovers a very hungry bunny is eating the carrot?

This story subtly shows us that we can always change our behavior after we react impulsively to a situation, not understanding that others sometimes must act out of necessity.

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Amanda looked out the window and saw that it was snowing. "Oooh! Winter has already arrived!" she thought.



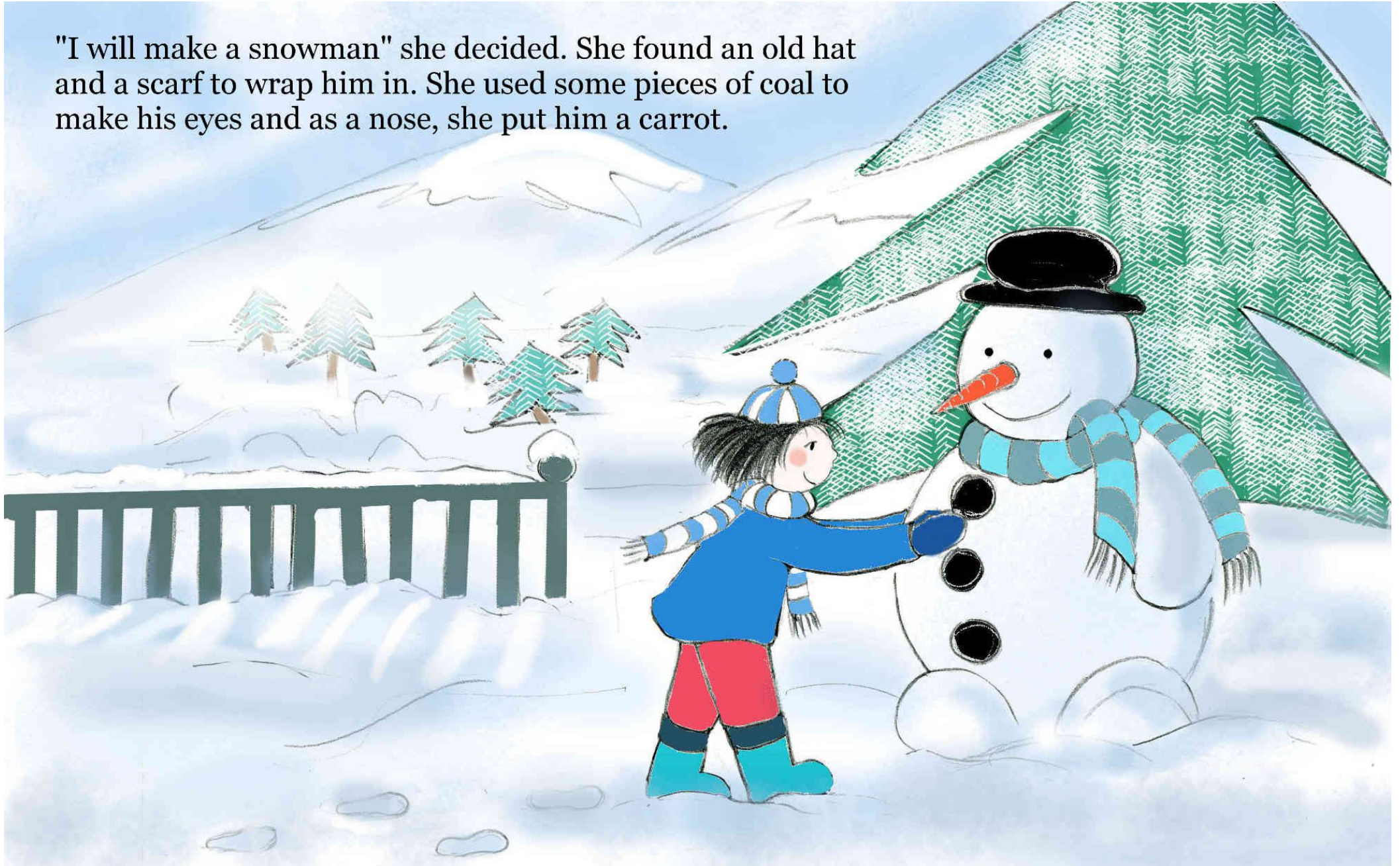
When it stopped snowing, everything was covered in a cloud of cotton. The peaks of the mountains were white with snow. It was such a fantastic spectacle that it seemed taken from a fairy tale.



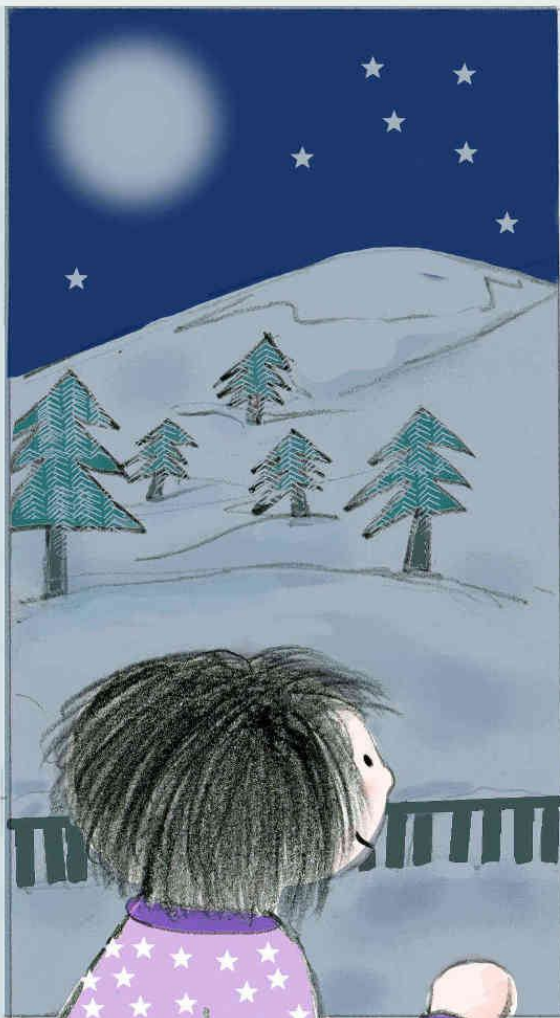
Amanda got her thick coat, gloves, scarf, and wool hat. Then she put on her winter boots. Well protected from the cold, she opened the door to go outside. Seeing that vast sea of snow she shouted, "How cool!". The frosty air reddened her cheeks and her nose, but she continued out into the garden.



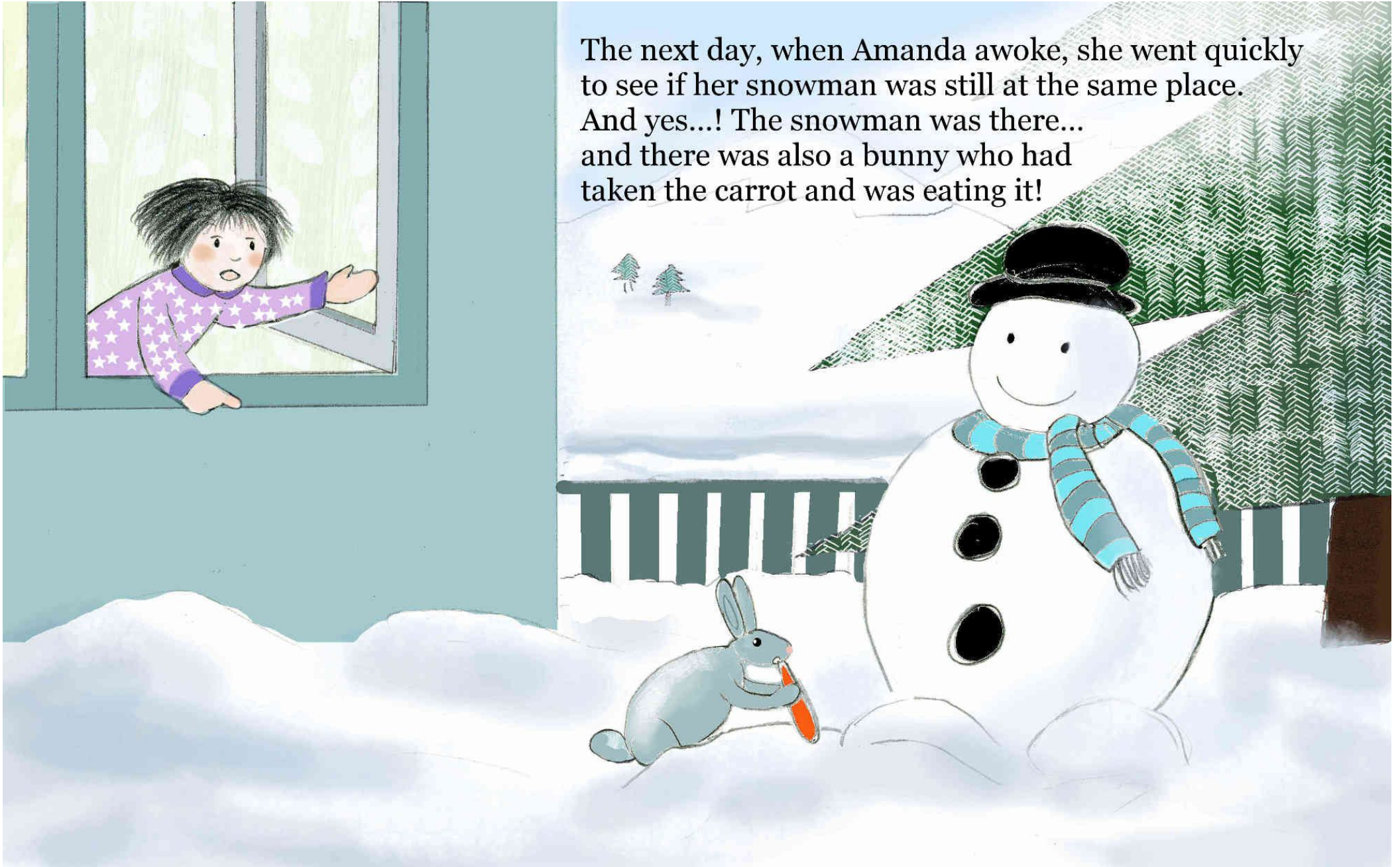
"I will make a snowman" she decided. She found an old hat and a scarf to wrap him in. She used some pieces of coal to make his eyes and as a nose, she put him a carrot.



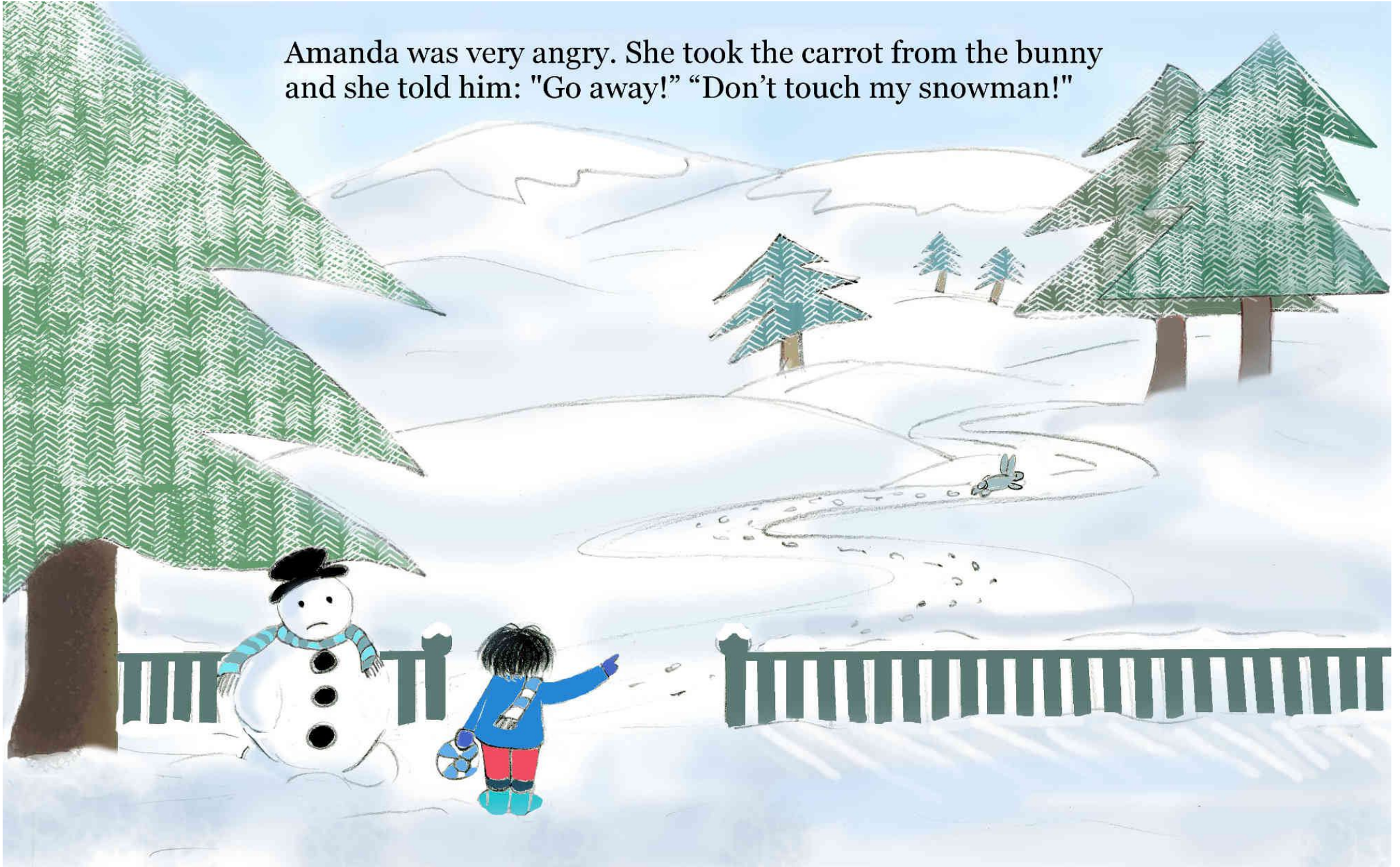
Before going to sleep she thought the snowman was smiling and wishing her good night. The moon and the stars were shining brightly to keep him company.



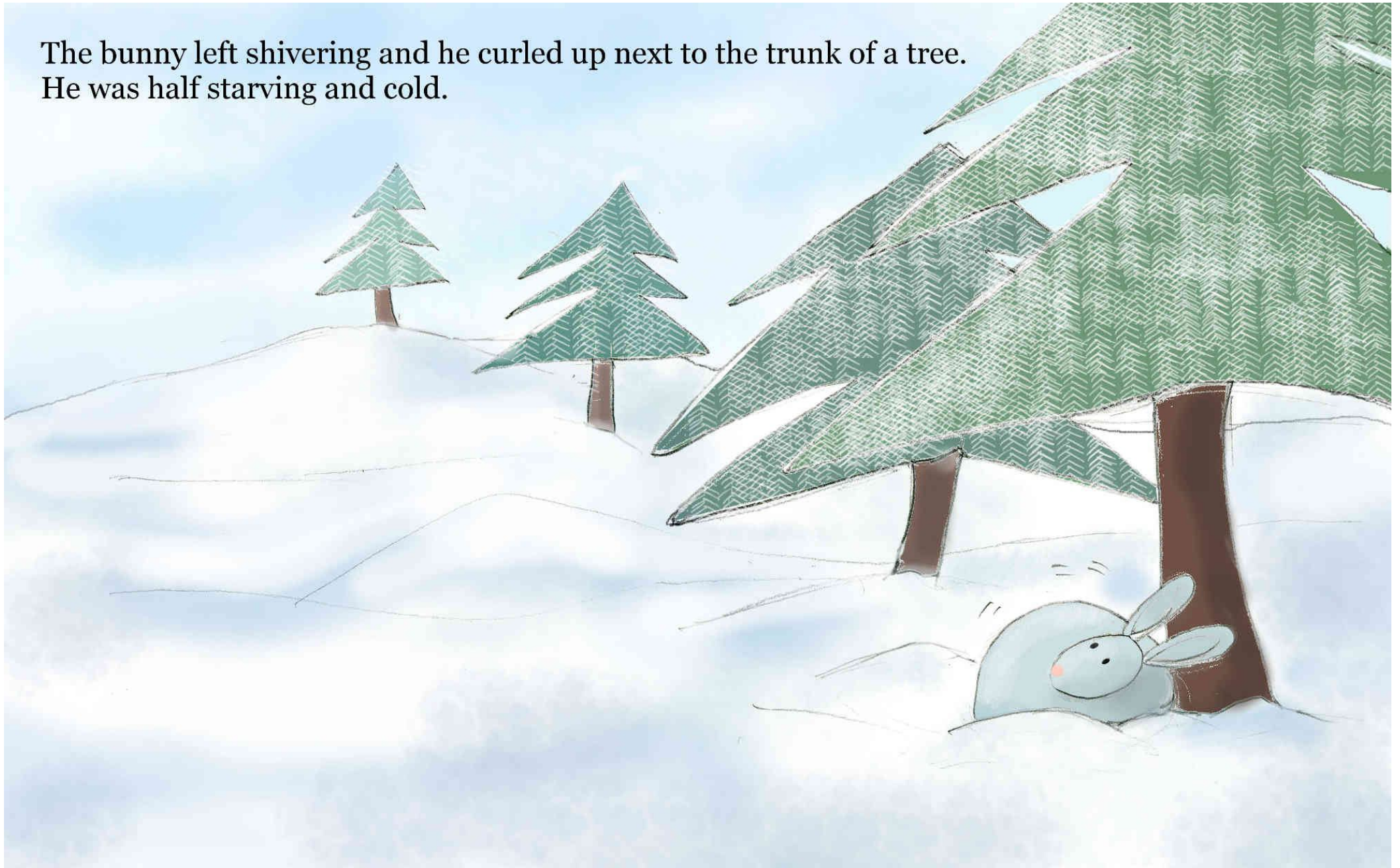
The next day, when Amanda awoke, she went quickly to see if her snowman was still at the same place. And yes...! The snowman was there... and there was also a bunny who had taken the carrot and was eating it!



Amanda was very angry. She took the carrot from the bunny and she told him: "Go away!" "Don't touch my snowman!"



The bunny left shivering and he curled up next to the trunk of a tree.
He was half starving and cold.

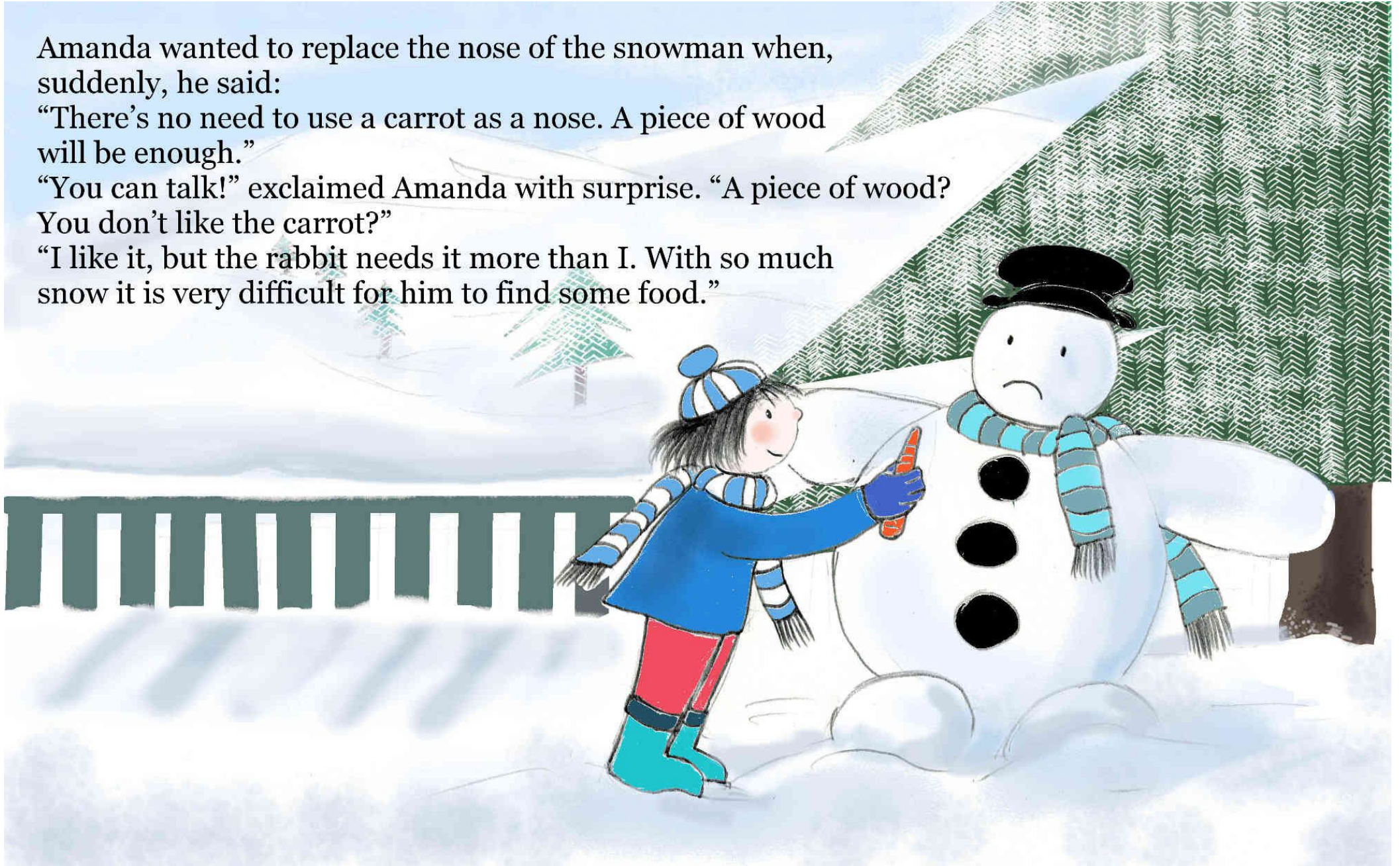


Amanda wanted to replace the nose of the snowman when, suddenly, he said:

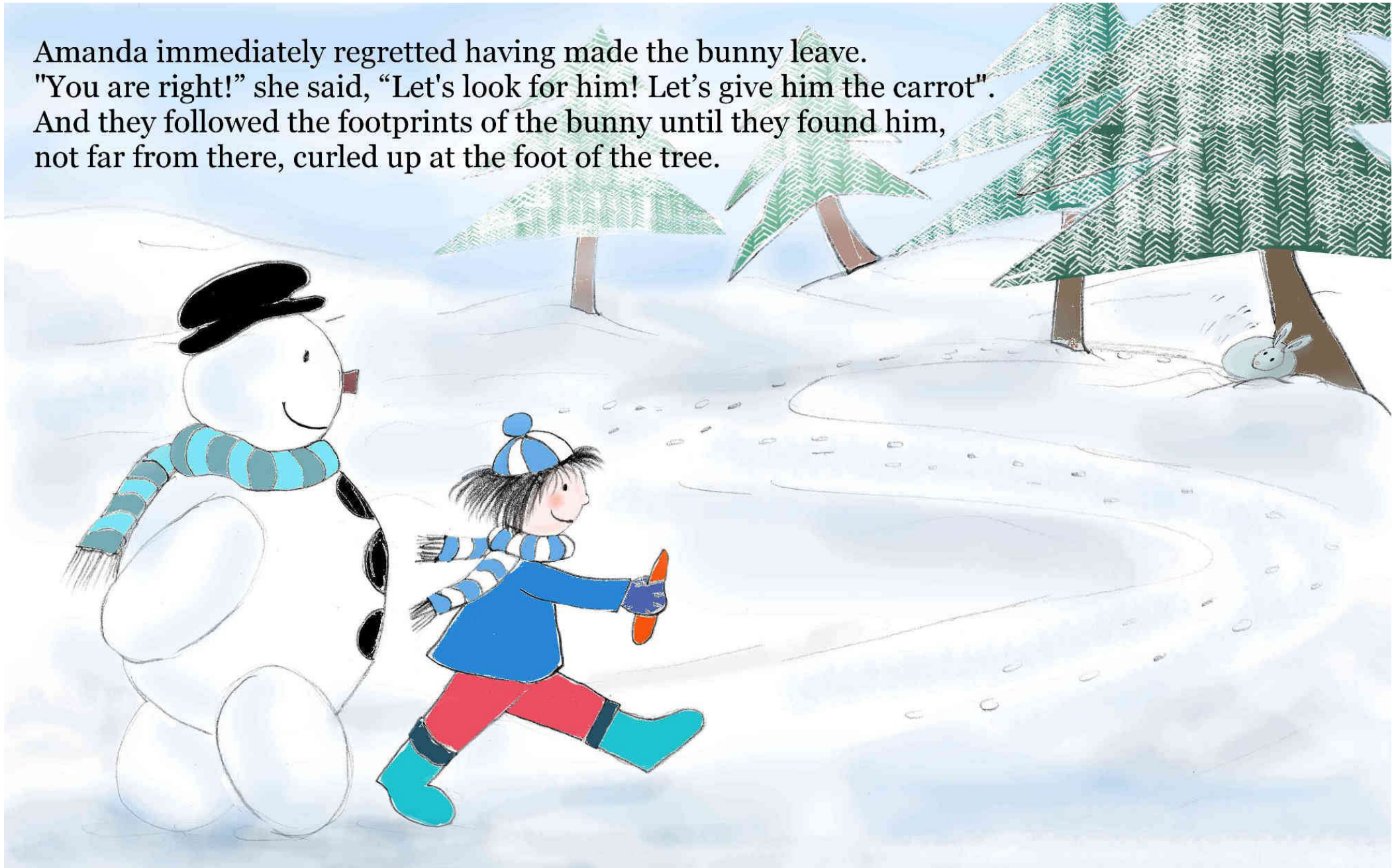
“There’s no need to use a carrot as a nose. A piece of wood will be enough.”

“You can talk!” exclaimed Amanda with surprise. “A piece of wood? You don’t like the carrot?”

“I like it, but the rabbit needs it more than I. With so much snow it is very difficult for him to find some food.”



Amanda immediately regretted having made the bunny leave. "You are right!" she said, "Let's look for him! Let's give him the carrot". And they followed the footprints of the bunny until they found him, not far from there, curled up at the foot of the tree.



Amanda held the rabbit in her arms to revive him with her warmth and took him home.





When they arrived, she looked for a piece of clothing to dress him. She rummaged through the drawers and finally she found a sweater from one of her dolls that seemed a perfect fit. Soon, with so much care, the bunny was revived.

The bunny told them that he was lost. He had gone to look for some fresh herbs and berries and, distracted, he had wandered away from his home.

“Don’t worry. We’ll help you find it!” Amanda said to him.



Amanda remembered that in one of her books there was a snowman that could fly.
“Can you fly like the snowman of this story?” she asked her snowman; “From high in the sky we will soon see the bunny’s burrow.”
“I don’t know, I have never tried,” replied the snowman, “climb on my back and we will try!”



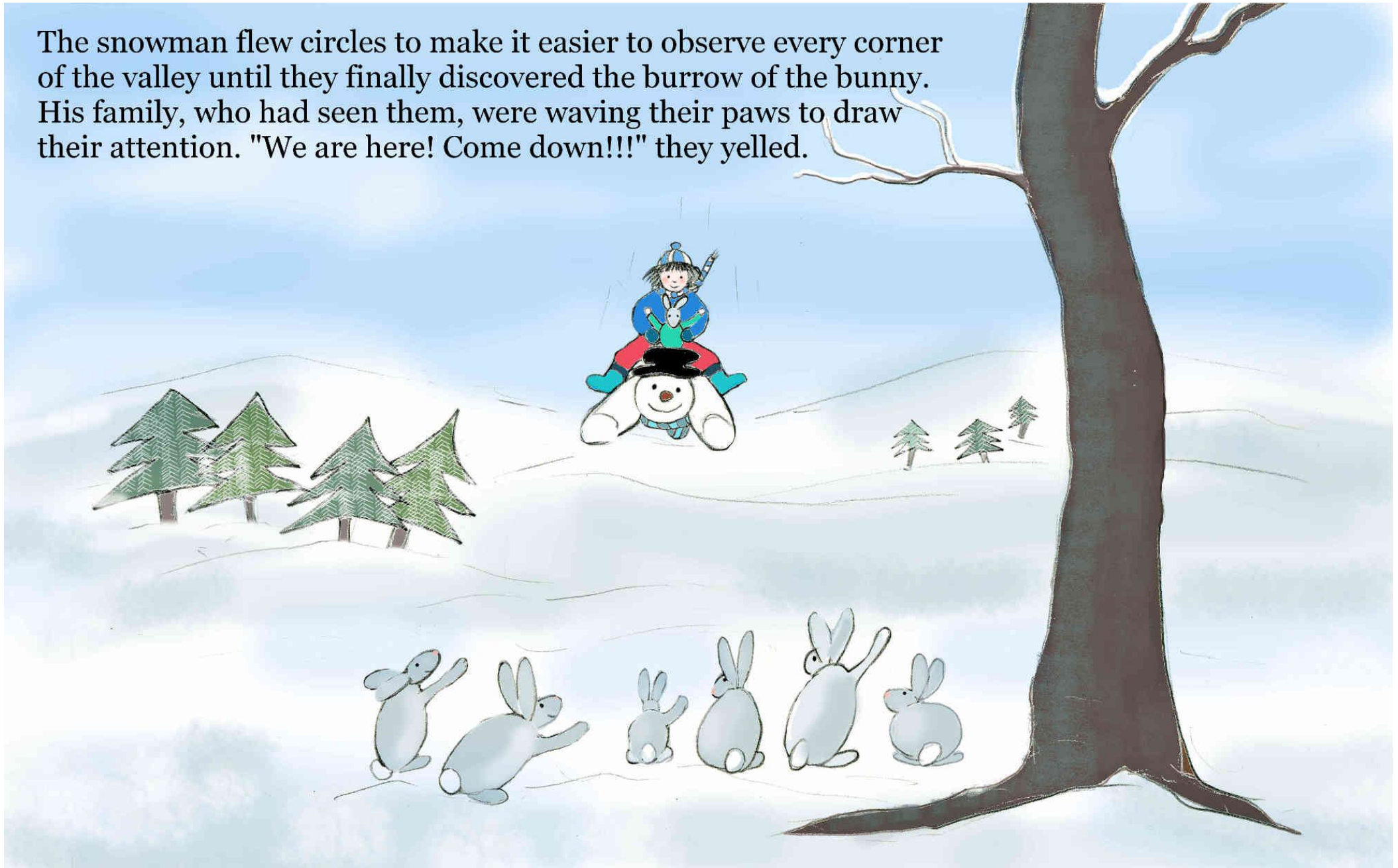
Amanda and the bunny climbed on the back of the snowman and, when he was sure they were well seated, he began to run to gain speed...



... and slowly, softly, he began to take off. "Yay! You can fly!" exclaimed Amanda and the bunny. "It's really fun!"



The snowman flew circles to make it easier to observe every corner of the valley until they finally discovered the burrow of the bunny. His family, who had seen them, were waving their paws to draw their attention. "We are here! Come down!!!" they yelled.



The snowman landed and all showed their joy hugging the bunny and his friends in gratitude.



Amanda and the snowman were happy to leave the bunny in good company. They wished them Merry Christmas and came back home.



After the exciting trip, Amanda felt very happy because she knew that the bunny could also celebrate Christmas with his family. The magical night of Christmas Eve was approaching. Whenever Amanda looked out the window and saw her snowman, she remembered that the dreams and the magic of the tales can come true.



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