

Sometimes we need a few experiences,
so we can discover who we really are!
That is what Pencil went through in his exciting adventure.

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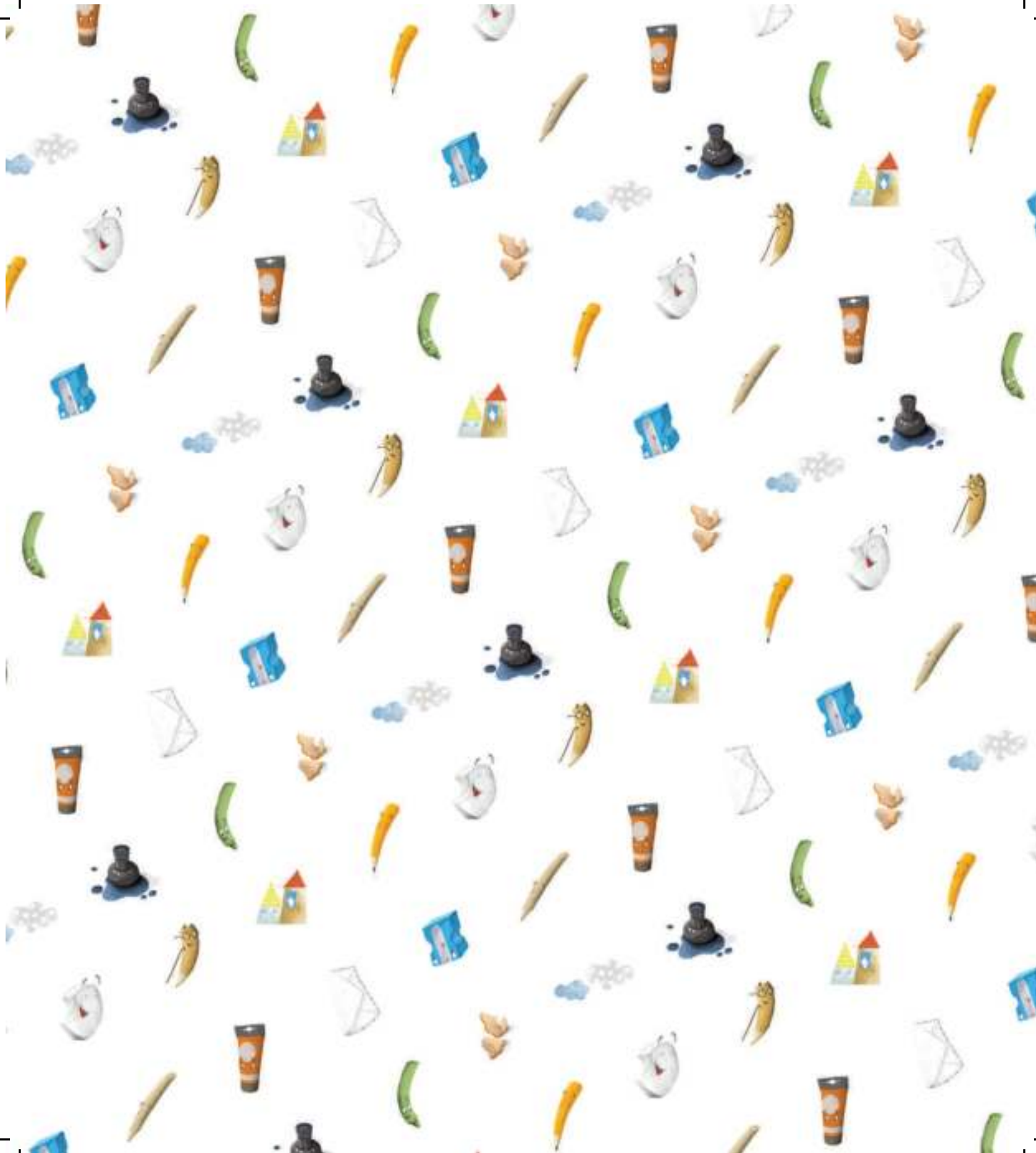
ISBN 978-9948-775-30-0

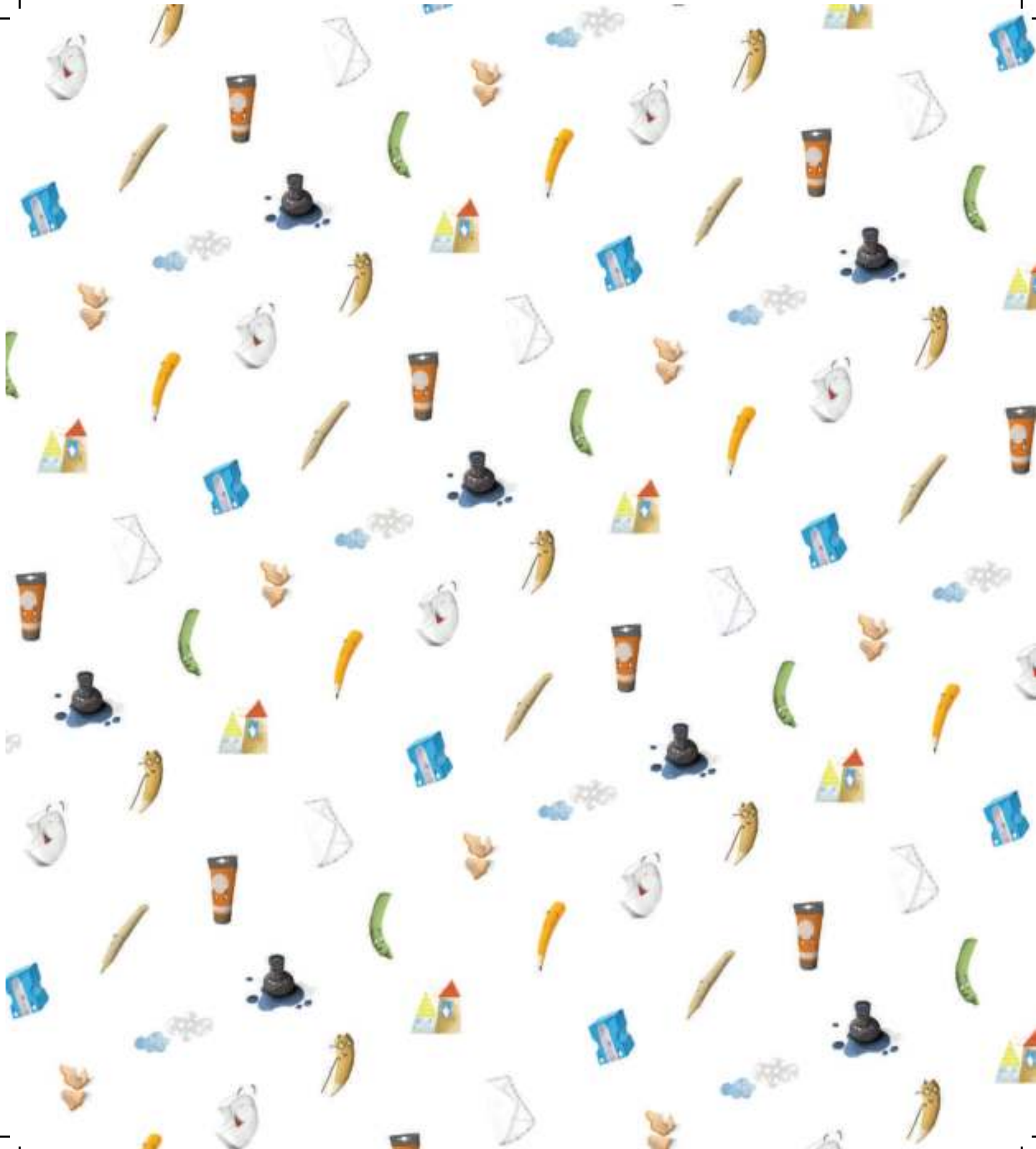


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The Pencil Who Found Himself

Written by Sabah Deebi
Illustrated by Hussein Al Robaie
Translated by Sarah Abdullah







The Dubai Foundation for Women and Children presents this short story to you, to show you that you are all special in your own ways, and kindness and empathy goes a long way.



KIWI Stories Publishing House
Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

The Pencil Who Found Himself

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First Edition 2023

ISBN: 978-9948-775-30-0

Print permit approval number

MC-02-01-9846696

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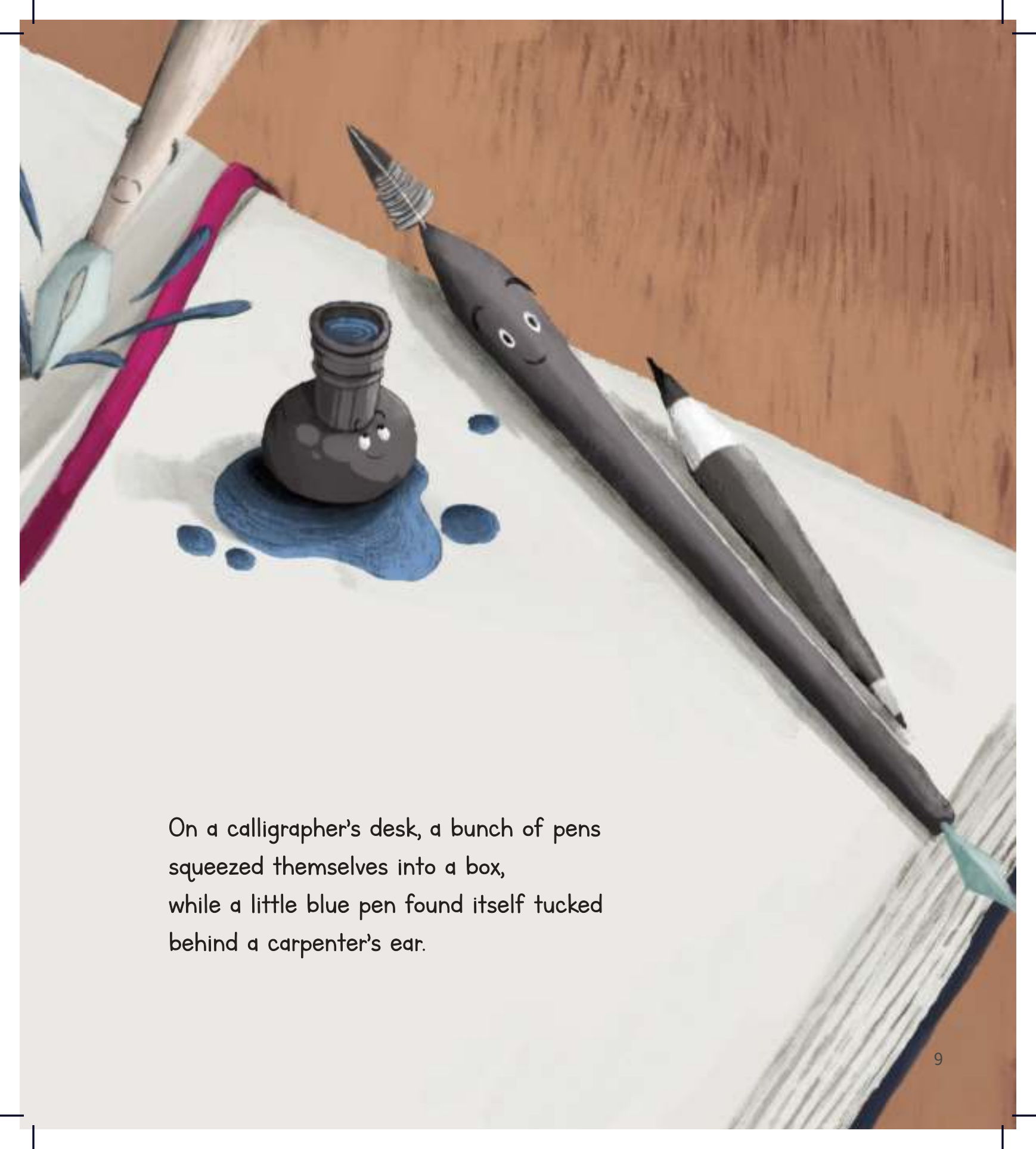
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There once was a cluster of
colorful pencils and bright oil paints
who lived inside an artist's cabinet.
A box of vibrant crayons was hiding
in children's drawers in a nearby
neighborhood school.

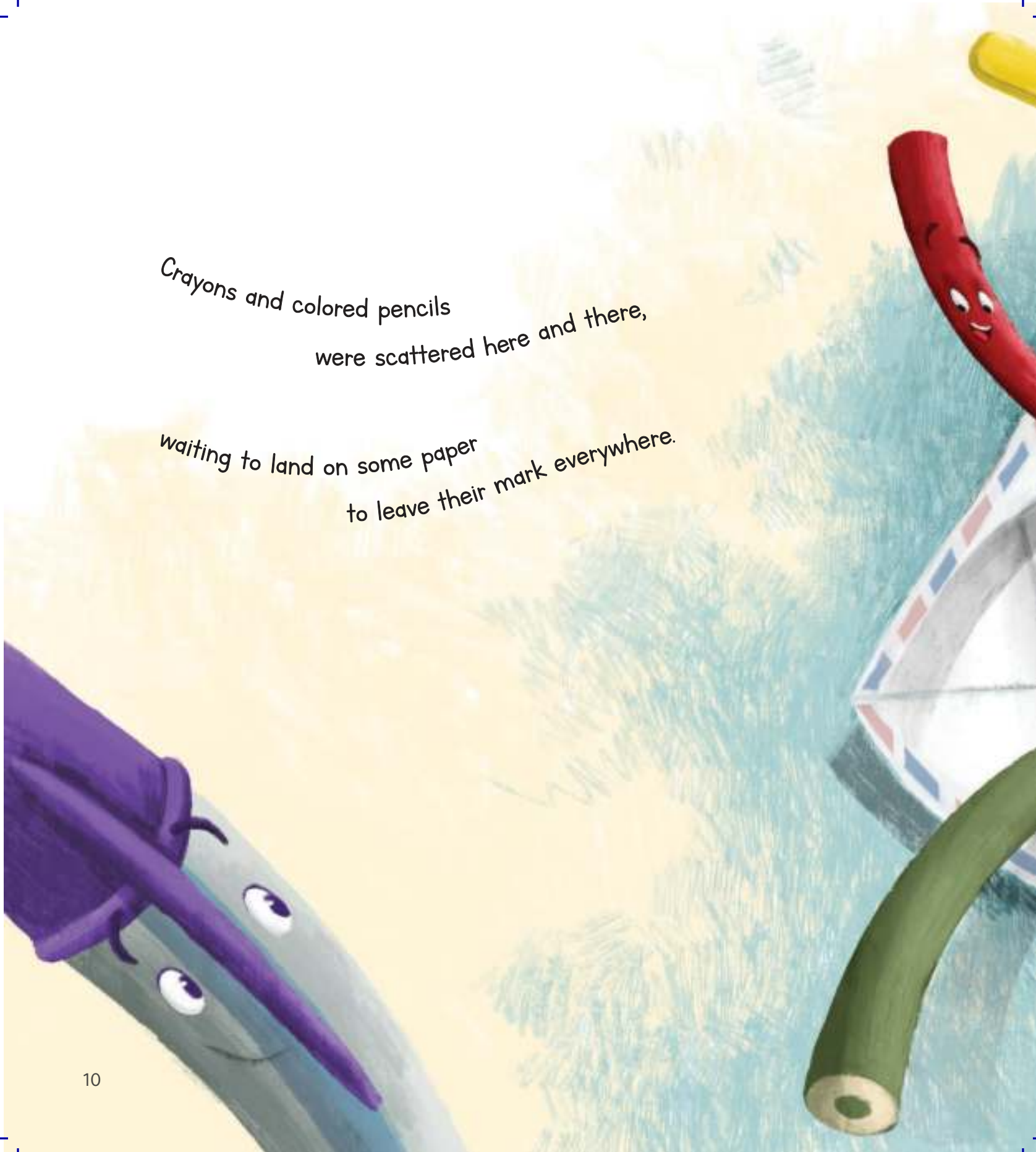


An illustration of a calligrapher's desk. In the center is a black inkwell with a blue cap and a smiling face, surrounded by blue ink splatters. To its right is a large black fountain pen with a smiling face and a silver nib. Next to it is a smaller black pen with a silver nib. In the top left, a wooden pencil and a blue pen are tucked into a pink box. The background is a wooden desk surface.


On a calligrapher's desk, a bunch of pens
squeezed themselves into a box,
while a little blue pen found itself tucked
behind a carpenter's ear.

Crayons and colored pencils
were scattered here and there,

waiting to land on some paper
to leave their mark everywhere.





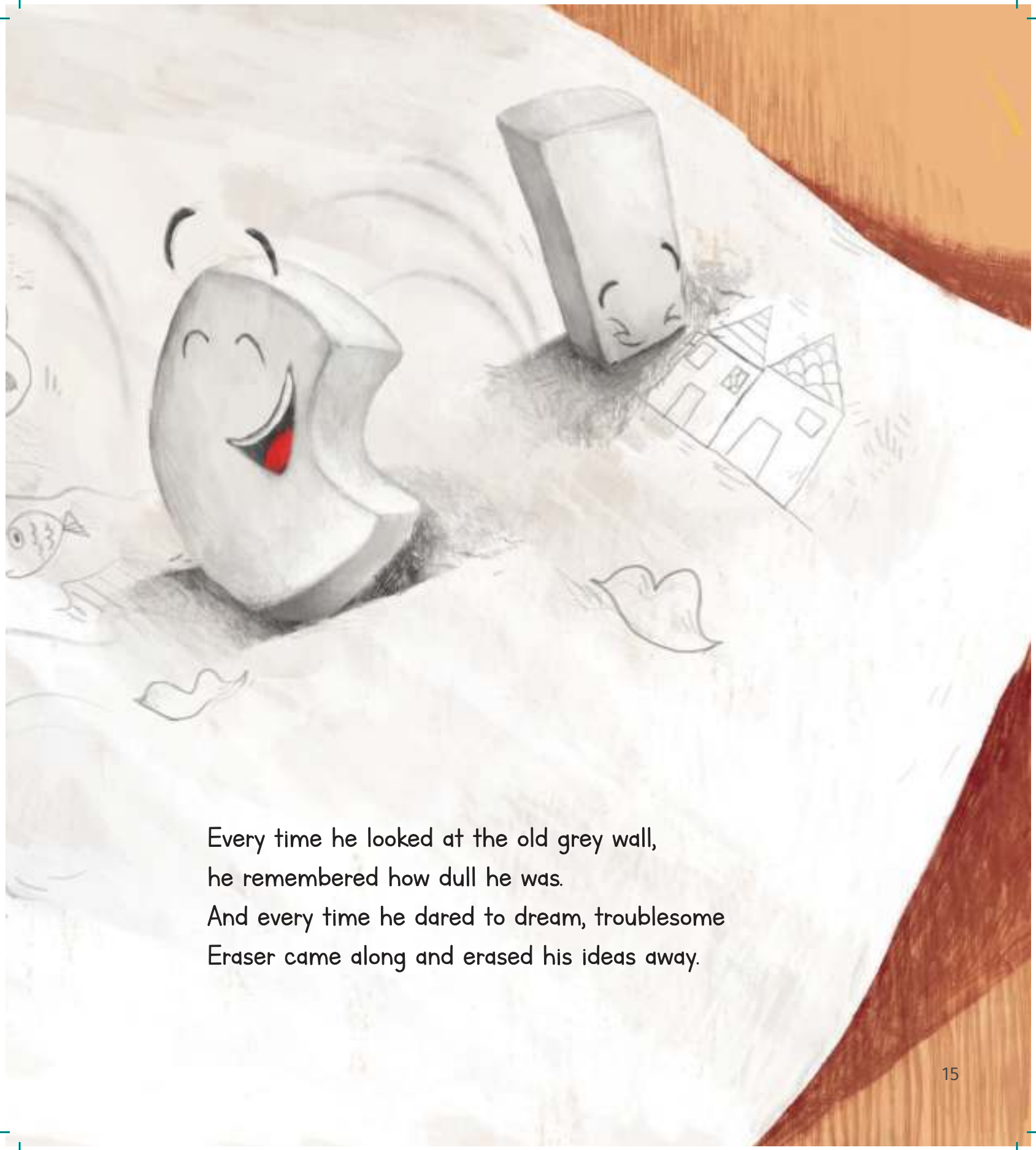


But alone in a corner,
stood Pencil watching and
listening to all the giggles.

He asked himself,
“What’s so different about me?
What am I lacking?”







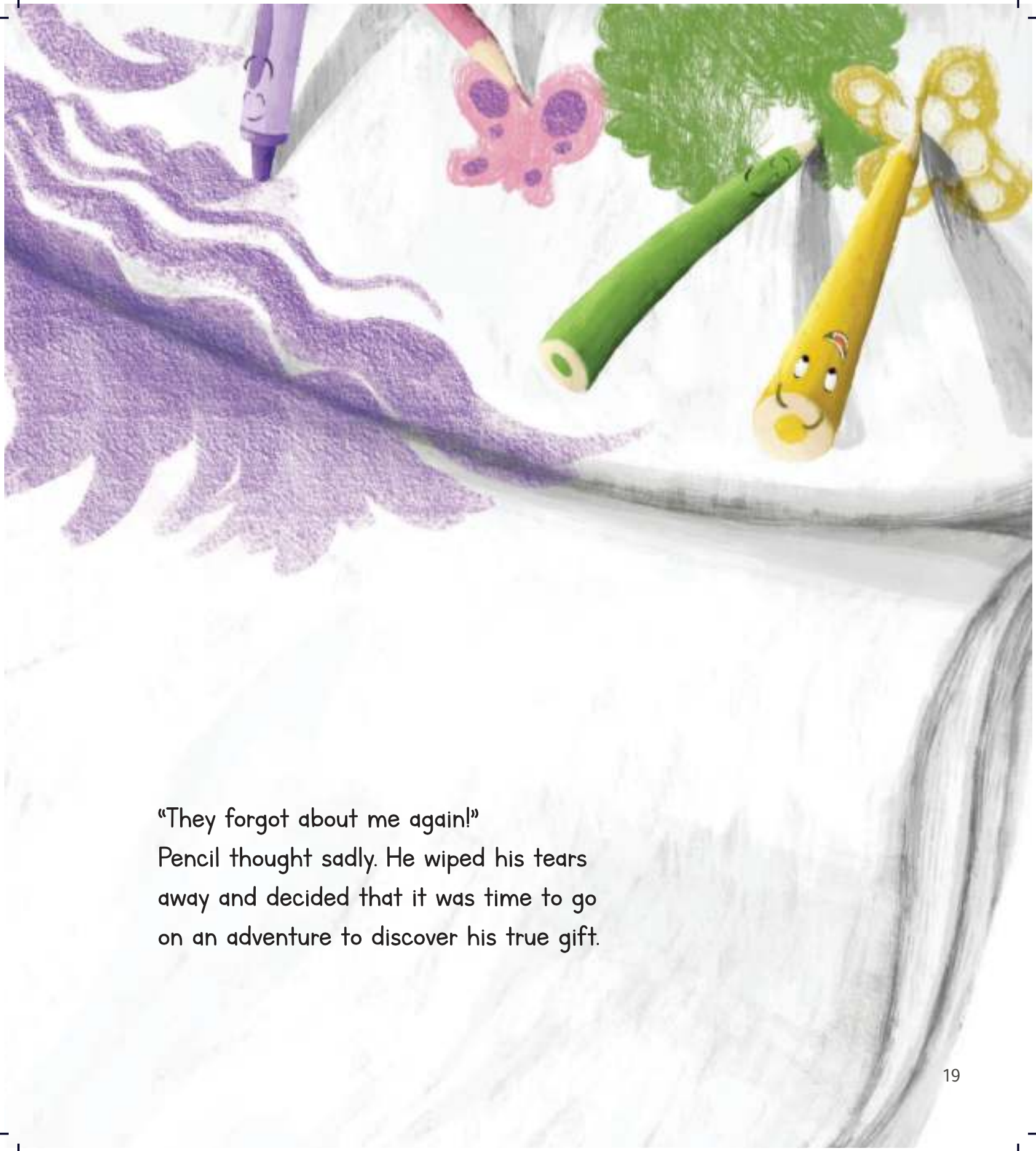
Every time he looked at the old grey wall,
he remembered how dull he was.
And every time he dared to dream, troublesome
Eraser came along and erased his ideas away.

The colors planned a party to get together
and create art, splashing color over green
trees, blue skies and colorful birds.
And, as always, they forgot to invite Pencil.

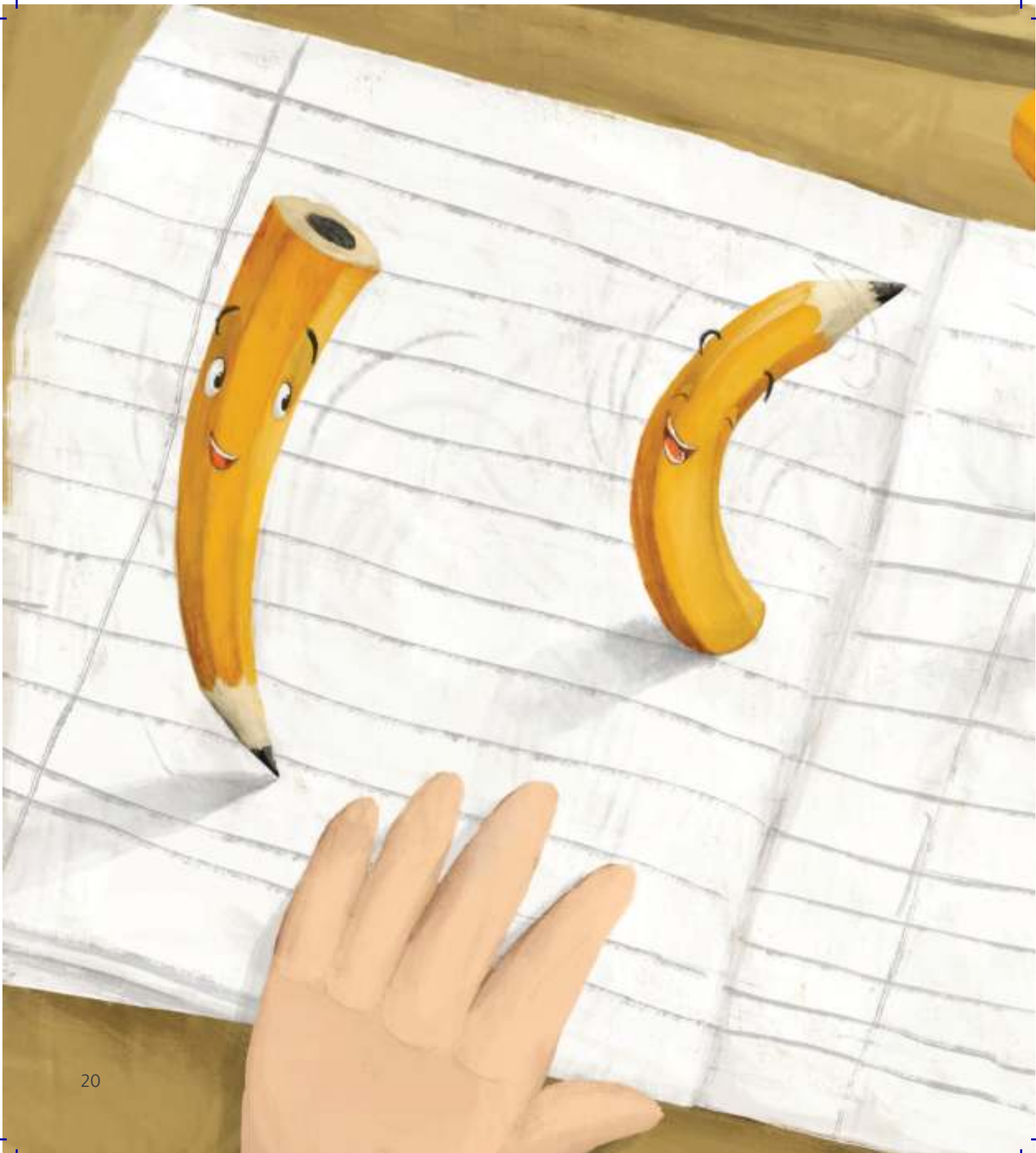


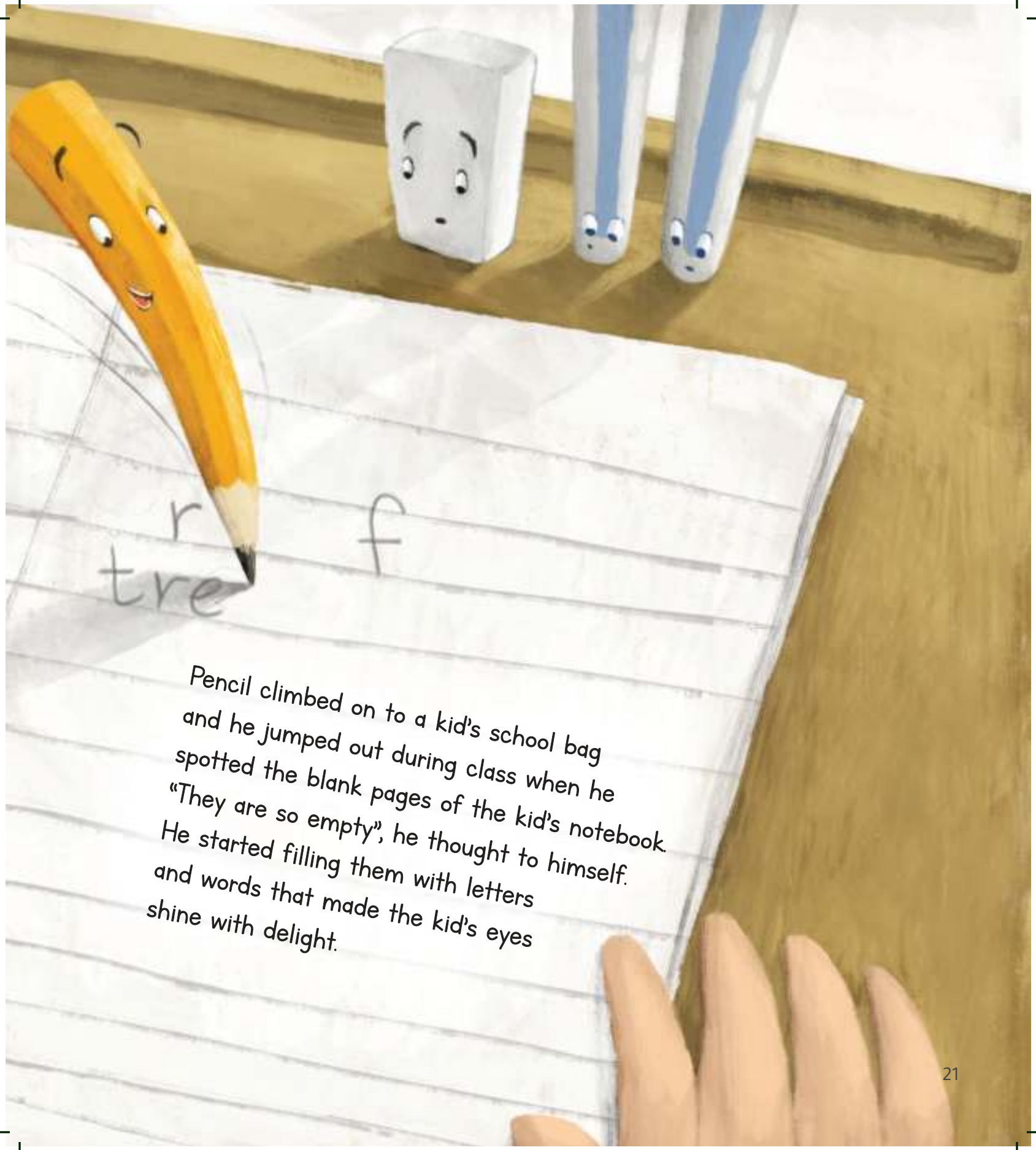






“They forgot about me again!”
Pencil thought sadly. He wiped his tears
away and decided that it was time to go
on an adventure to discover his true gift.





Pencil climbed on to a kid's school bag and he jumped out during class when he spotted the blank pages of the kid's notebook. "They are so empty", he thought to himself. He started filling them with letters and words that made the kid's eyes shine with delight.

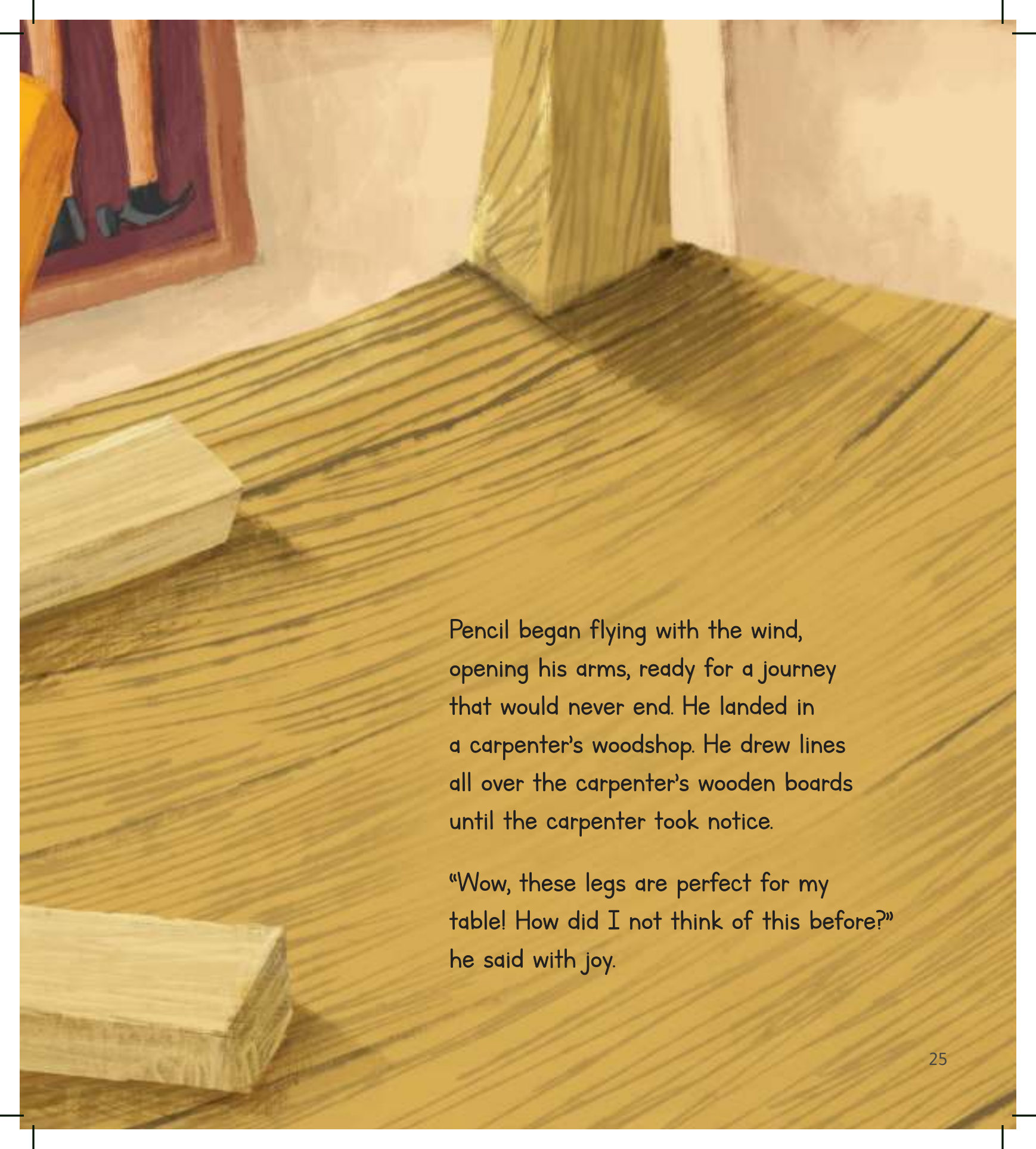
On his way back from school, Pencil saw an artist carrying some canvases and paint brushes. Fearlessly, he jumped into the box of colors, making his way into the artist's studio. Around him there were canvases with unfinished sketches. Pencil had an idea!

He started drawing lines that went up and down and circles that kept going round and round. To the artist's surprise, Pencil's sketches were so beautiful that the artist decided to add color to them, and they created splendid masterpieces together.





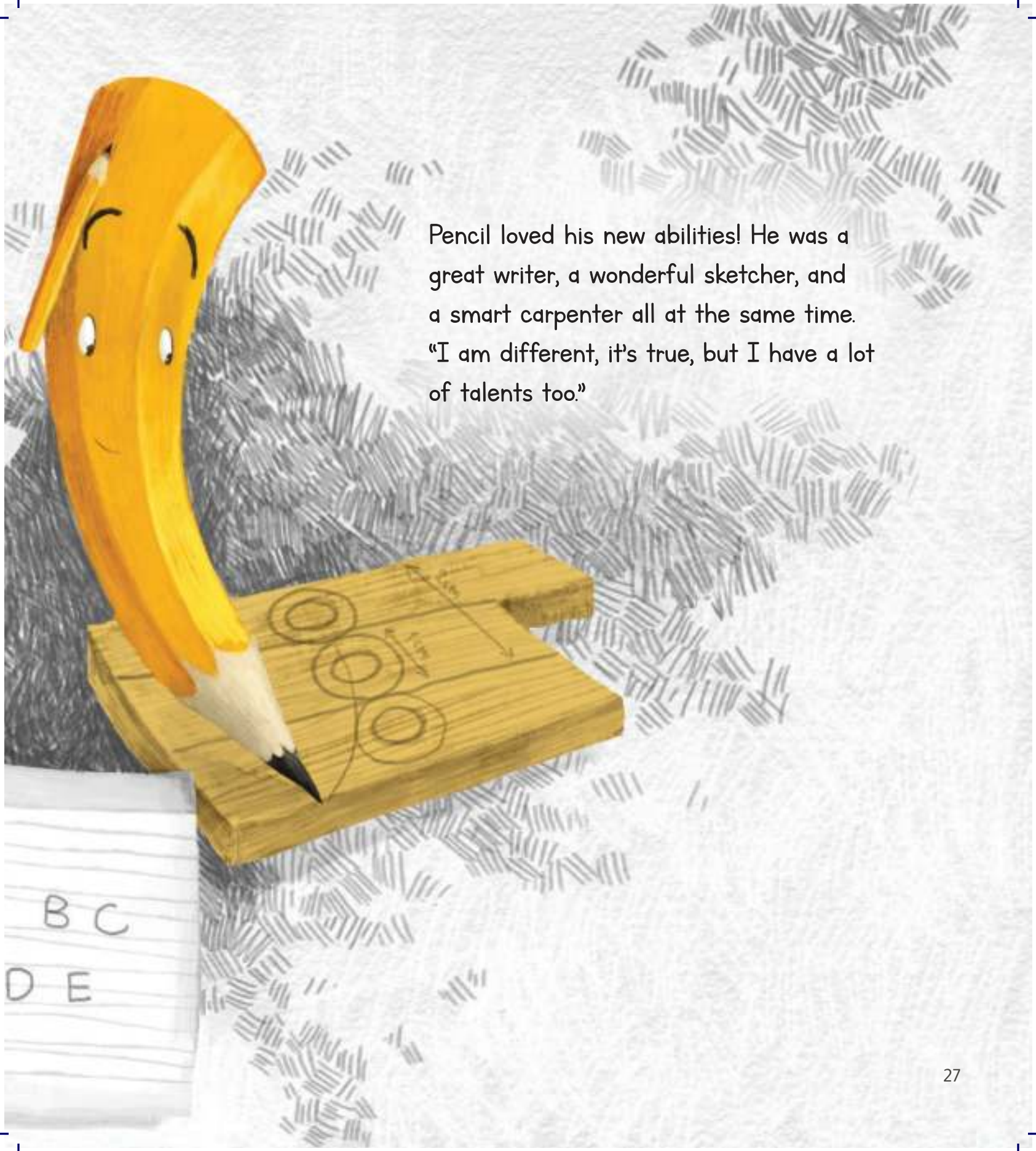




Pencil began flying with the wind,
opening his arms, ready for a journey
that would never end. He landed in
a carpenter's woodshop. He drew lines
all over the carpenter's wooden boards
until the carpenter took notice.

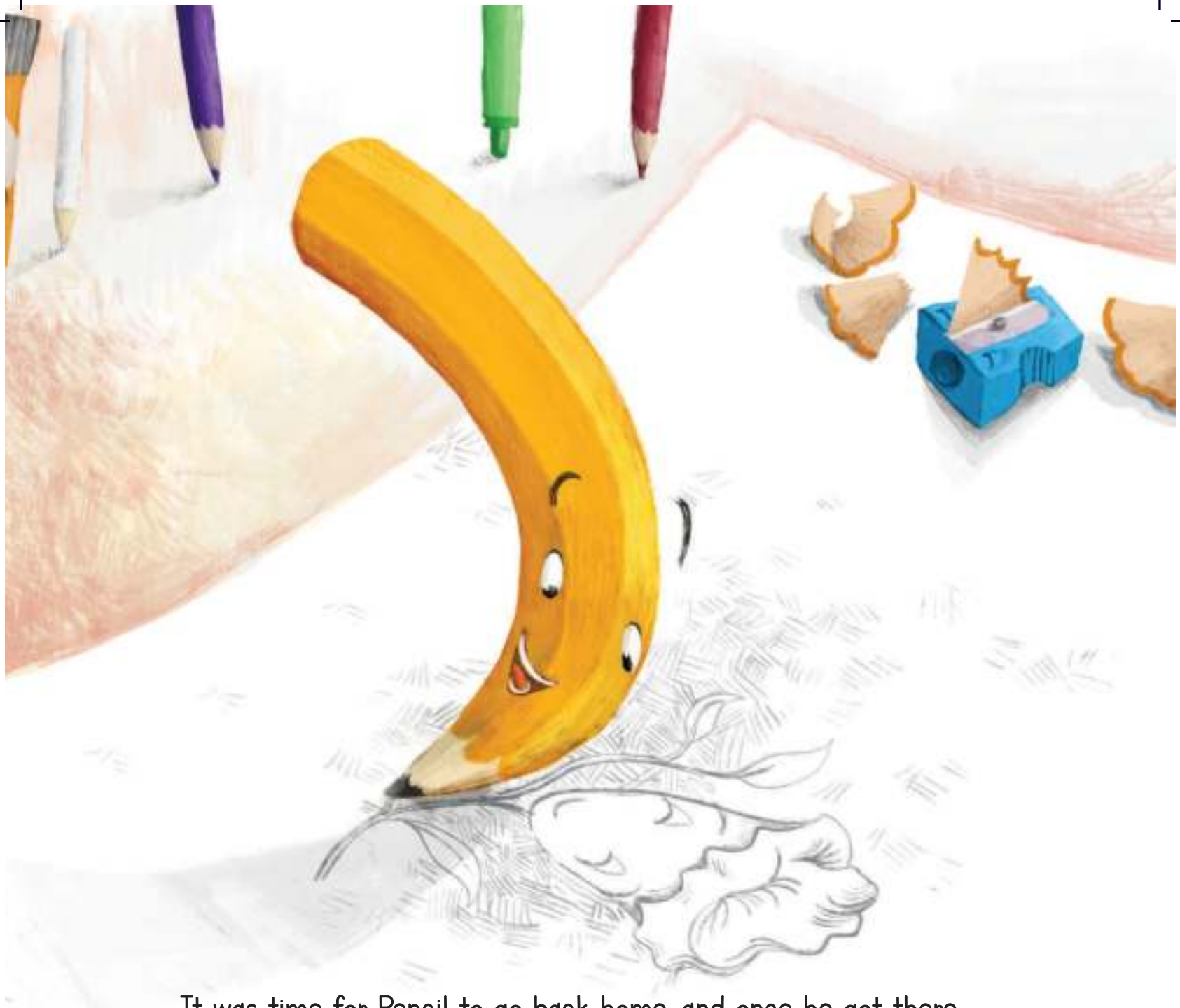
"Wow, these legs are perfect for my
table! How did I not think of this before?"
he said with joy.





Pencil loved his new abilities! He was a great writer, a wonderful sketcher, and a smart carpenter all at the same time. "I am different, it's true, but I have a lot of talents too."

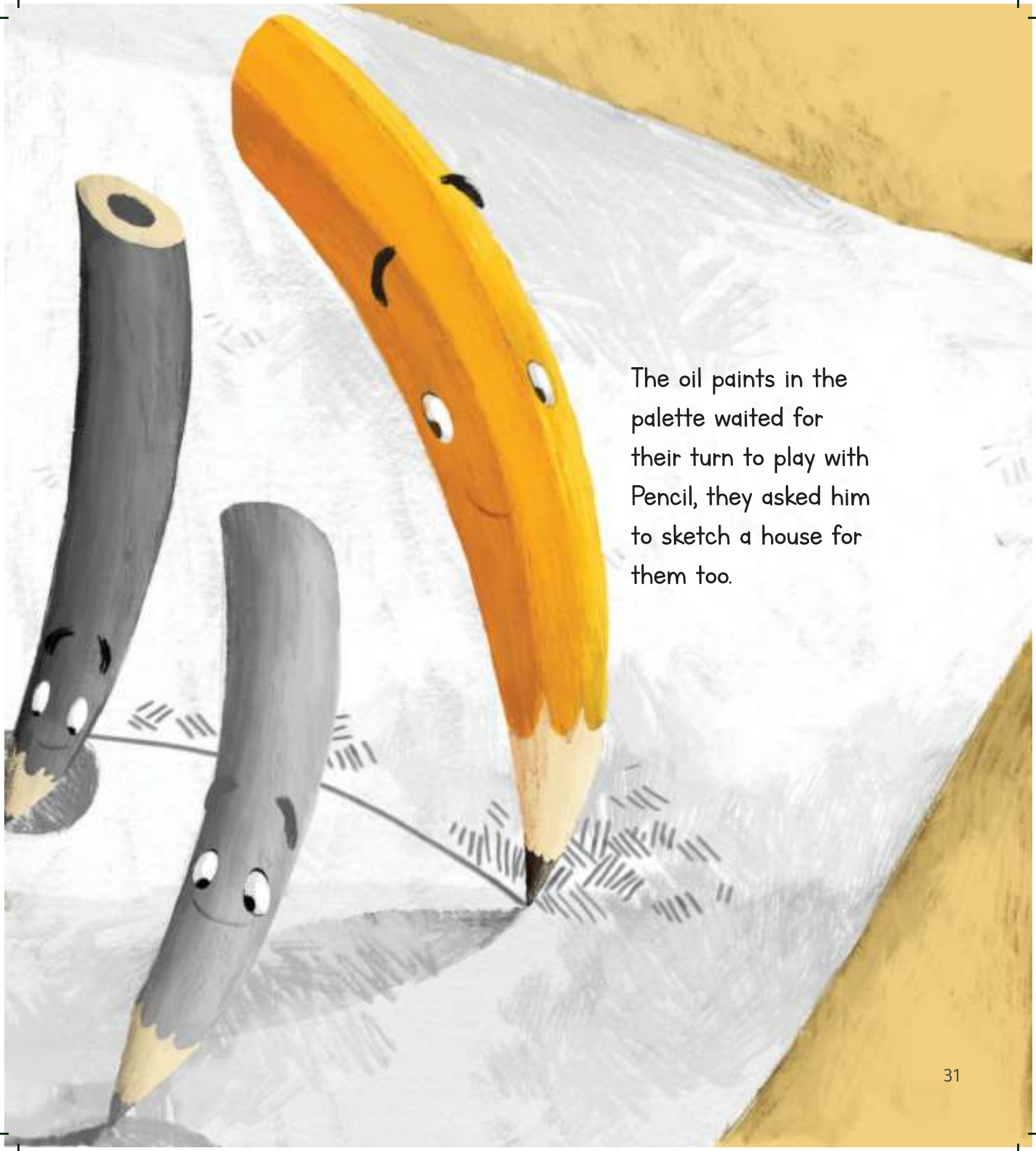




It was time for Pencil to go back home, and once he got there, he wasted no time and went straight to work. He sketched beautiful drawings that sent the rest of the colors into utter surprise. "Pencil, you are so talented, we never knew this!"

The crayons asked, "Pencil! Can you draw us some animals?"
Pencil giggled, "Sure! How about I start and you follow?"





The oil paints in the palette waited for their turn to play with Pencil, they asked him to sketch a house for them too.

Eraser felt embarrassed of her behavior before, so she apologized to Pencil, and promised not to bully him anymore.



“Don’t worry my friend,” he said kindly. “How about you just erase my mistakes when I make them, and we become a team!”



Eraser excitedly leapt
on top of Pencil's head
and they were inseparable
ever since.

After his journey, Pencil was able to overcome his sadness, discover his beautiful qualities, and show his true self to his friends.








As part of its Childhood Protection Program, the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children created this children's book to raise awareness about children's mental and emotional wellbeing, highlighting values of kindness, empathy and self-acceptance.

The Dubai Foundation for Women and Children (DFWAC) was established in 2007 to offer immediate protection and support services for women and children in the UAE against domestic violence, child abuse and human trafficking. It is the first licensed non-profit shelter in the UAE that runs specifically for the care of women and children. The services DFWAC offers are in complete accordance with international human rights obligations.

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We would like to thank our supporters for believing in our cause and the wellbeing of children.

HFW

I too will find myself.

My Name: _____

What I Like About Myself: _____

Color Me:

