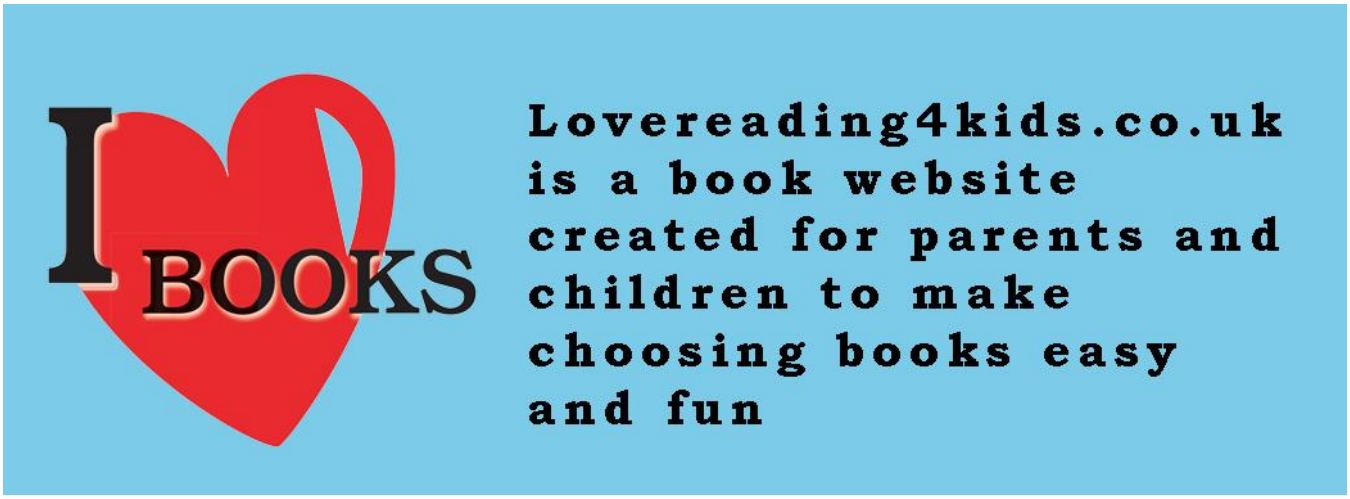


Opening extract from

The Koala Who Could

Written by

Rachel Bright

Illustrated by

Jim Field

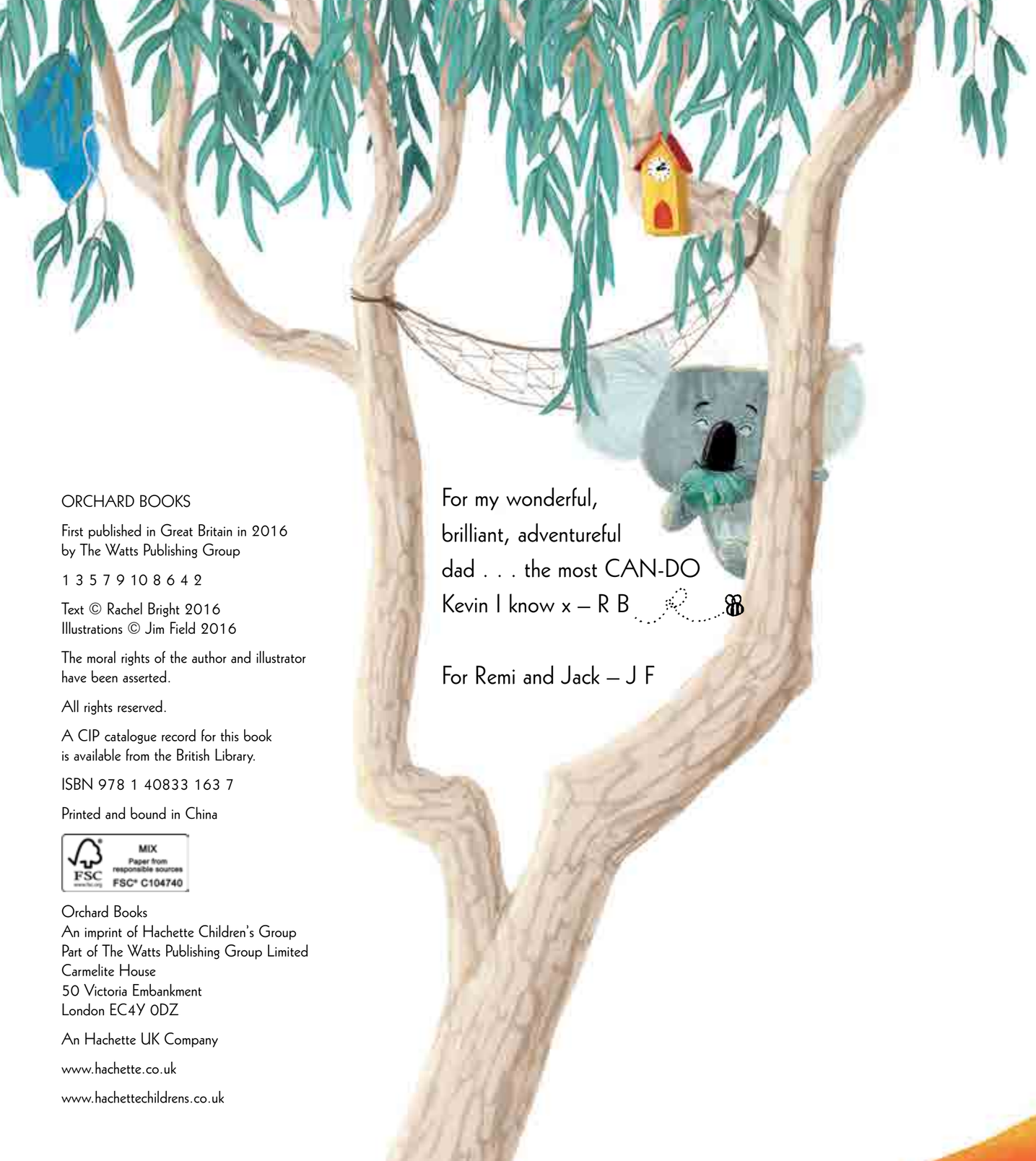
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For my wonderful,
brilliant, adventureful
dad . . . the most CAN-DO
Kevin I know x — R B

For Remi and Jack — J F

THE KOALA WHO COULD

Rachel Bright Jim Field



In a wonderful place,
at the breaking of dawn,
Where the breezes were soft
and the sunshine was warm,

A place where the creatures
ran wild and played free . . .
A koala called Kevin
clung to a tree.



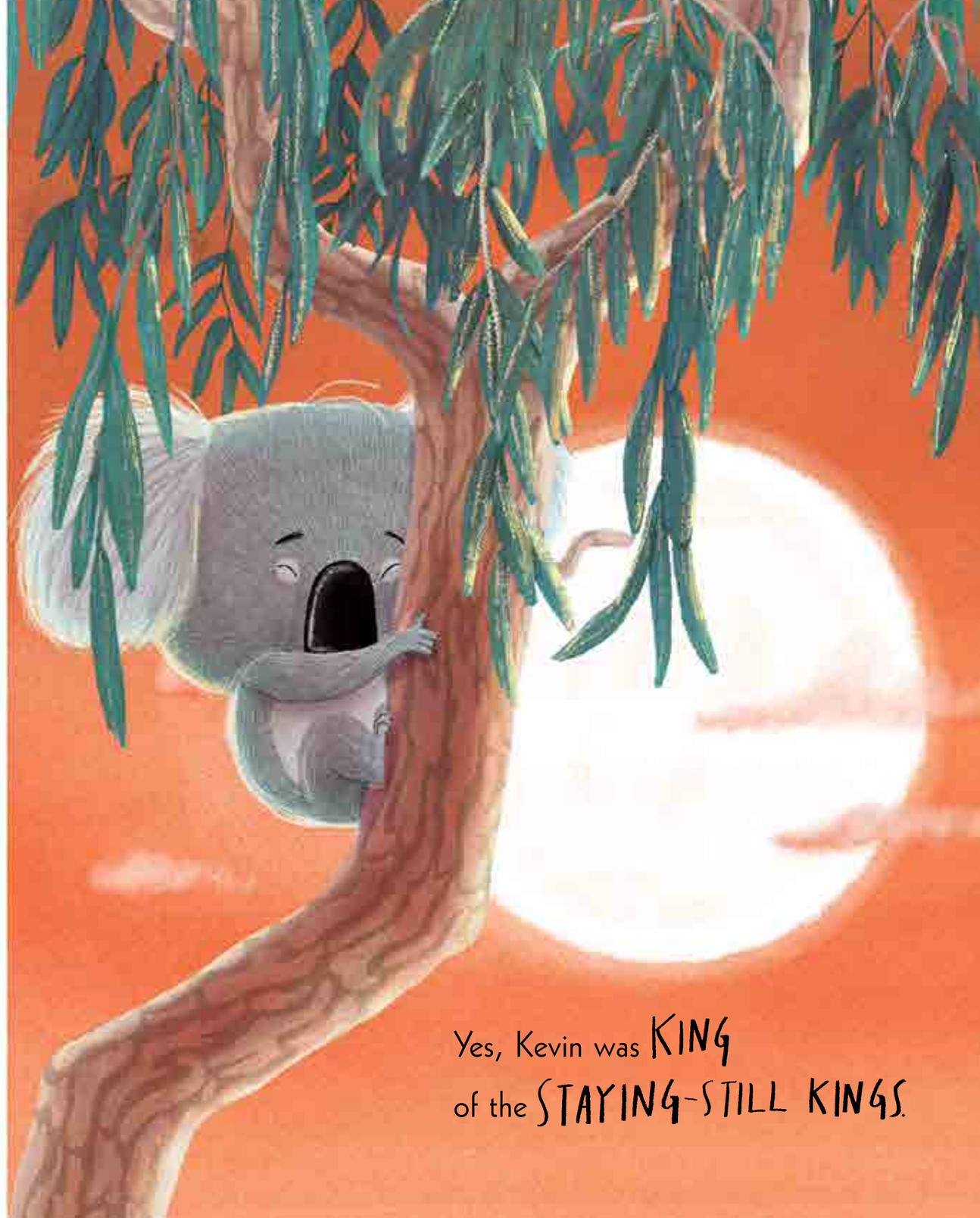
A nicer grey fellow
you never would meet,
As SOFT as a SOFT THING
from ear-tufts to feet.

His favourite way
to relax in the sun,
Was to cling and to nap
and to munch a leaf-bun.





He was terribly good
at all these three things —



Yes, Kevin was KING
of the STAYING-STILL KINGS.

You see, high up was safe since he liked a slow pace,

While the ground down below seemed a frightening place.

TOO FAST

and TOO LOUD

and TOO BIG

and TOO STRANGE.

Nope. Kevin preferred not to move, nor to change.

So he clung to his tree
as he knew how to do,
And was never too keen
to try anything new.

So when Wombat stopped by,
and shouted one day,
"HEY, KEVIN! Why don't you
come down here and play?"

"Um . . . I think," he replied,
"I should stay on my plant.
I'm busy right now . . .
No. I'm sorry. I can't."