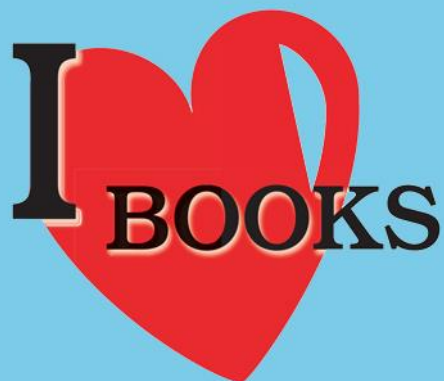




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The Koala Who Could

Written by
Rachel Bright

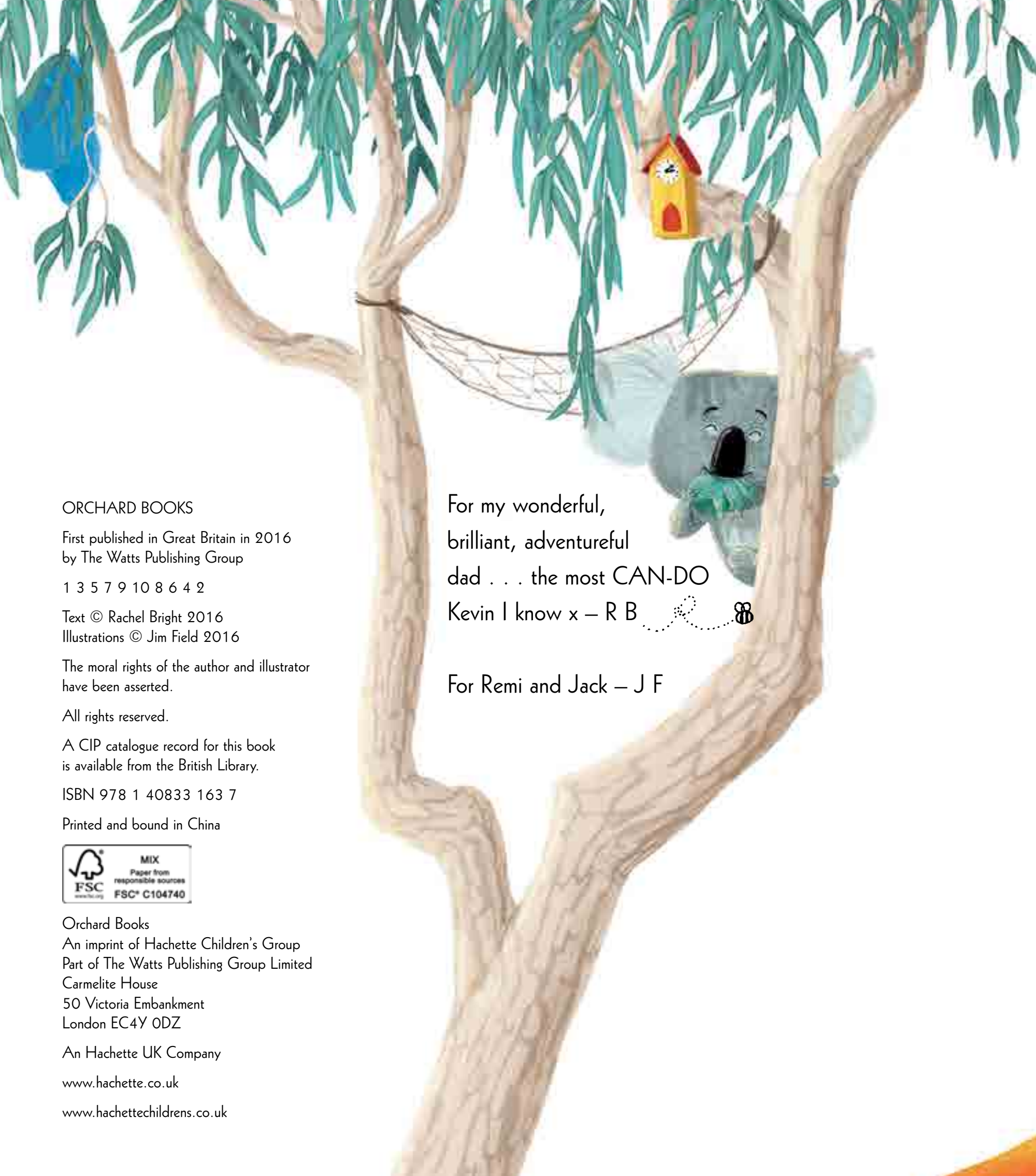
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Jim Field

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THE KOALA WHO COULD

Rachel Bright

Jim Field

ORCHARD BOOKS

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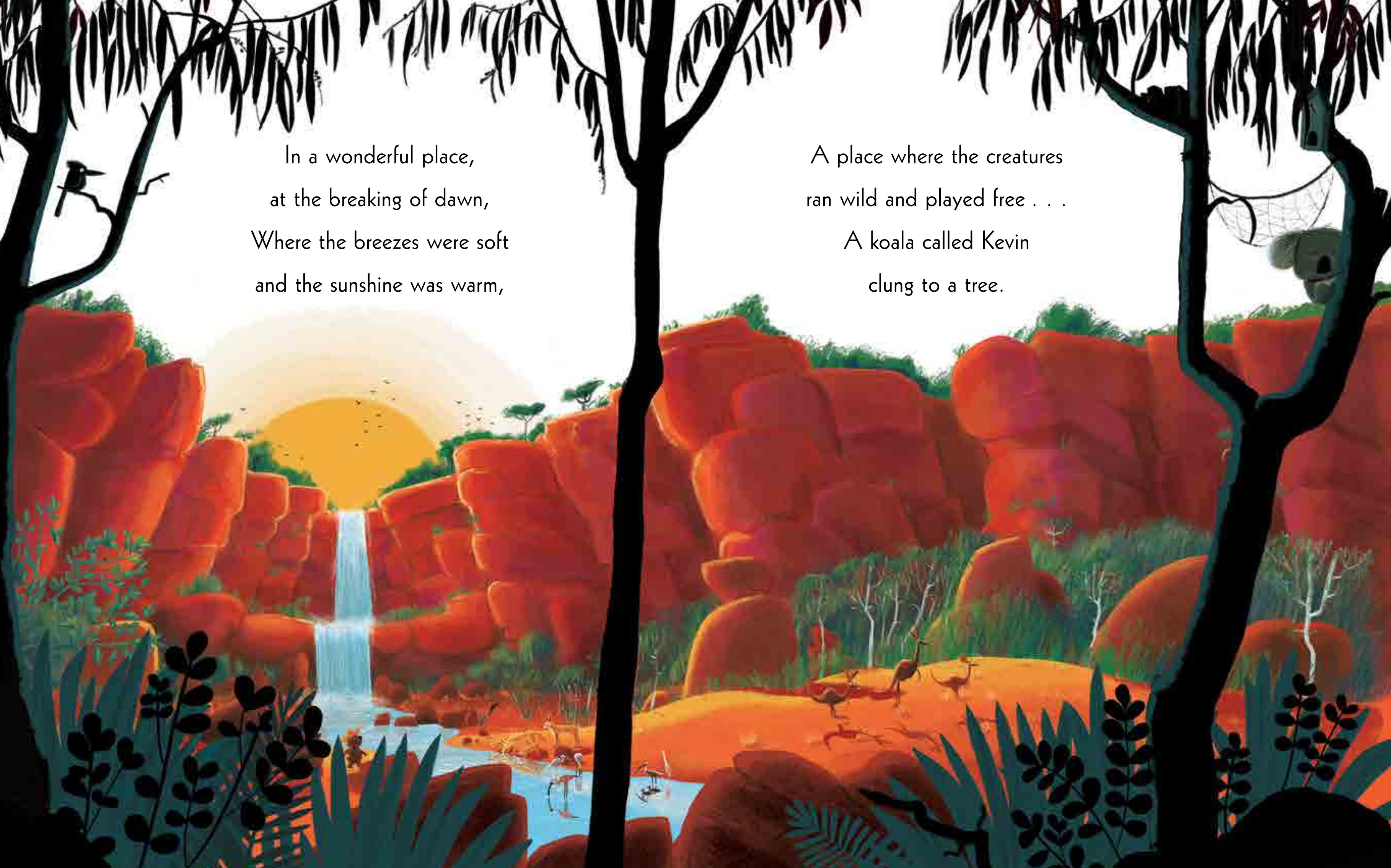
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For my wonderful,
brilliant, adventurous
dad . . . the most CAN-DO
Kevin I know x — R B 

For Remi and Jack — J F



ORCHARD



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.

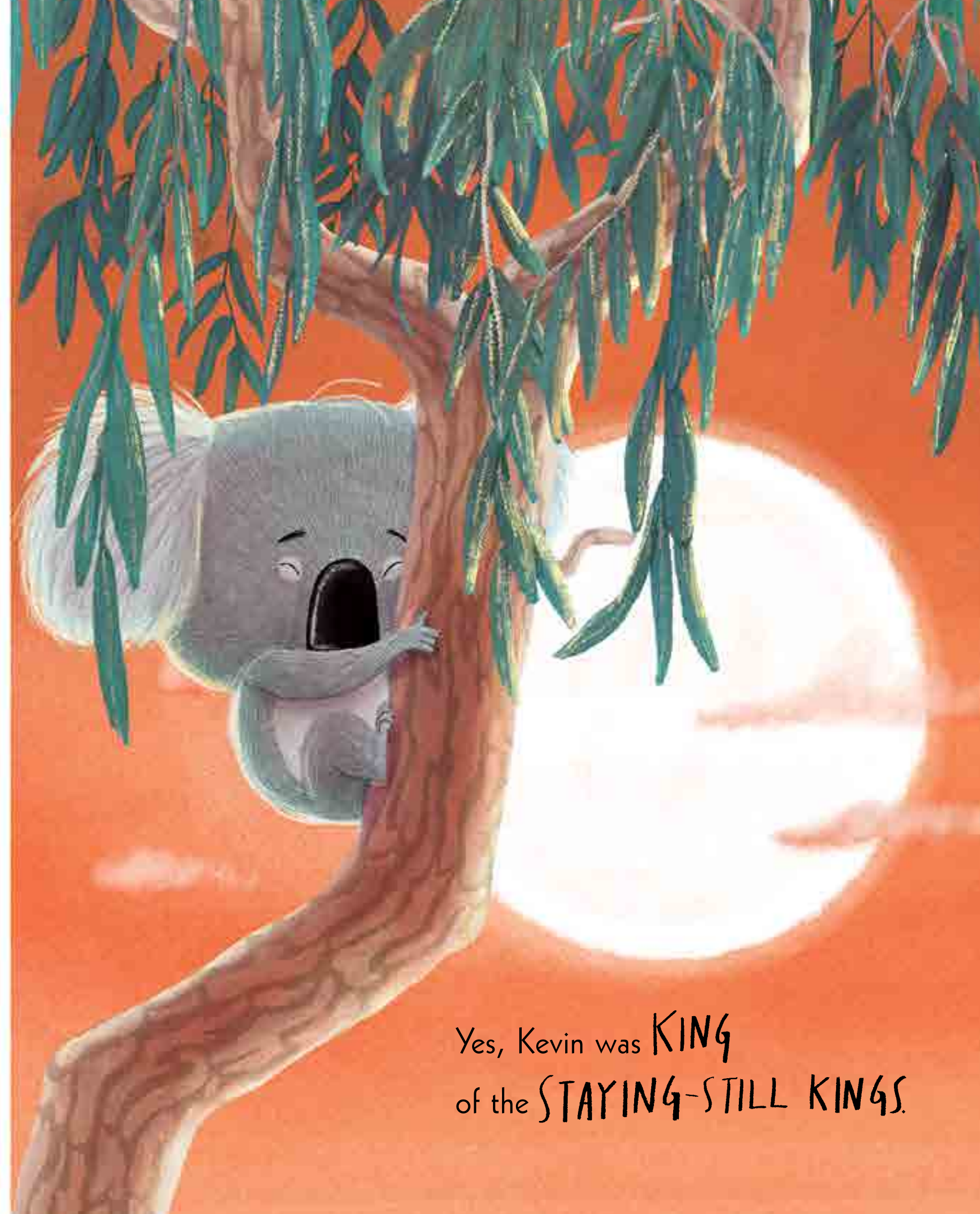


A nicer grey fellow
you never would meet,
As *SOFT* as a *SOFT THING*
from ear-tufts to feet.

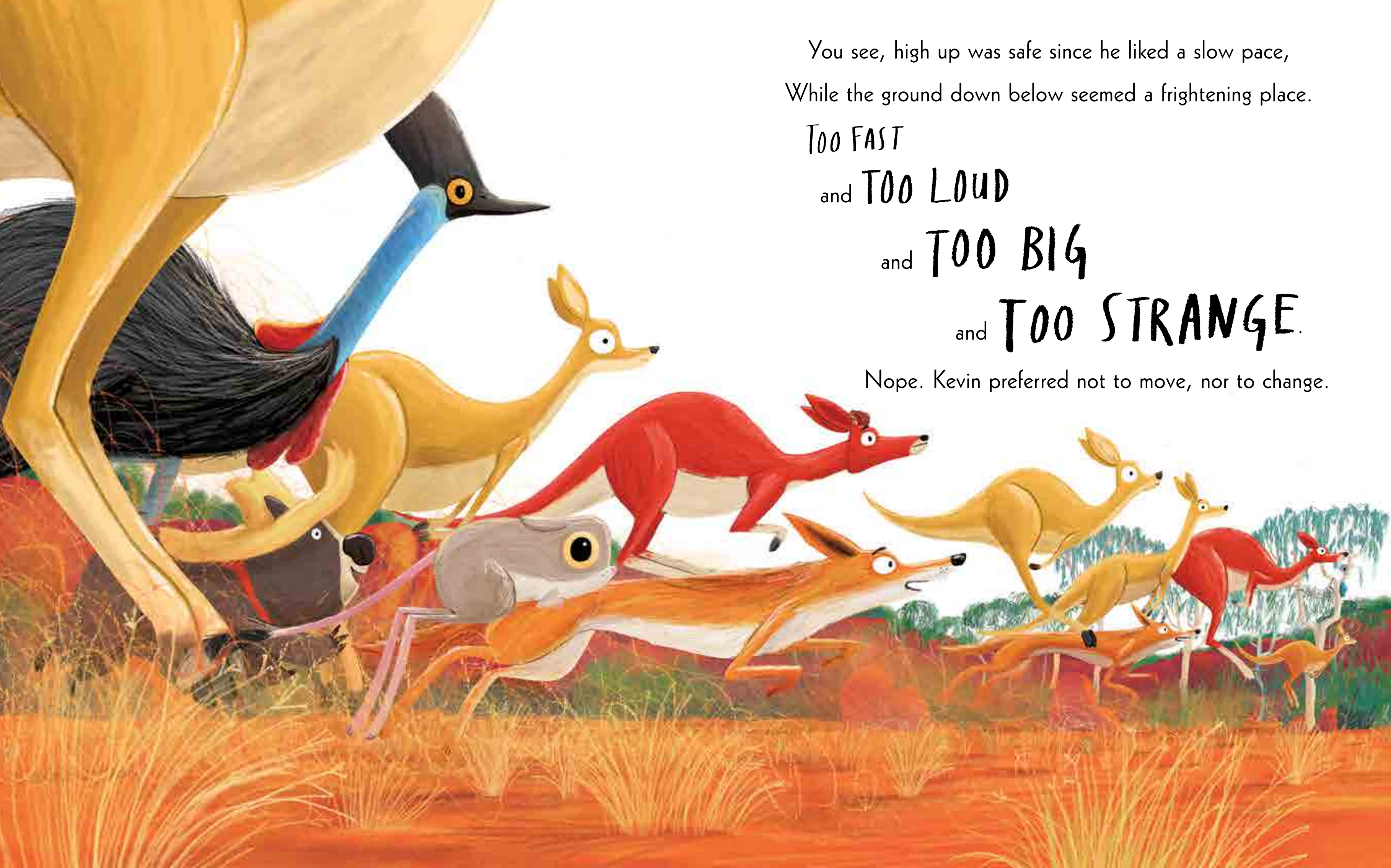
His favourite way
to relax in the sun,
Was to cling and to nap
and to munch a leaf-bun.



He was terribly good
at all these three things —



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

An illustration of a herd of kangaroos and wallabies running through a grassy field. In the foreground, a large ostrich-like bird with a blue neck and black body is running. The kangaroos are in various colors, including yellow, red, and orange. The background shows a line of trees under a white sky.

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.

A vibrant illustration of a koala and a wombat in a stylized Australian landscape. The koala, with grey fur and a large black nose, is perched on a thick, light-colored tree branch. It has a small, yellow and red house-like structure on the branch above it. A small yellow box with green leaves and the text 'KEVIN'S LEAF KOLLEKTION' is hanging from the branch. The wombat, wearing a yellow hat, is on the ground looking up at the koala. The background is a warm orange-red color with green foliage and small yellow flowers.

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."