



For little Ornella

OXFORD

UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.
It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship,
and education by publishing worldwide in

Oxford New York

Auckland Cape Town Dar es Salaam Hong Kong Karachi
Kuala Lumpur Madrid Melbourne Mexico City Nairobi
New Delhi Shanghai Taipei Toronto

With offices in

Argentina Austria Brazil Chile Czech Republic France Greece
Guatemala Hungary Italy Japan Poland Portugal Singapore
South Korea Switzerland Thailand Turkey Ukraine Vietnam

Oxford is a registered trade mark of Oxford University Press
in the UK and in certain other countries

© Brian Wildsmith 1989

The moral rights of the author/illustrator have been asserted
Database right Oxford University Press (maker)

First published 1989

First published in paperback 1991

Reissued in paperback 2000 and 2007

First published in this edition 2020

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means,
without the prior permission in writing of Oxford University Press,
or as expressly permitted by law, or under terms agreed with the appropriate
reprographics rights organization. Enquiries concerning reproduction
outside the scope of the above should be sent to the Rights Department,
Oxford University Press, at the address above

You must not circulate this book in any other binding or cover
and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data
Data available

ISBN: 978-0-19-277776-8

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in China

Paper used in the production of this book is a natural,
recyclable product made from wood grown in sustainable forests.
The manufacturing process conforms to the environmental
regulations of the country of origin.

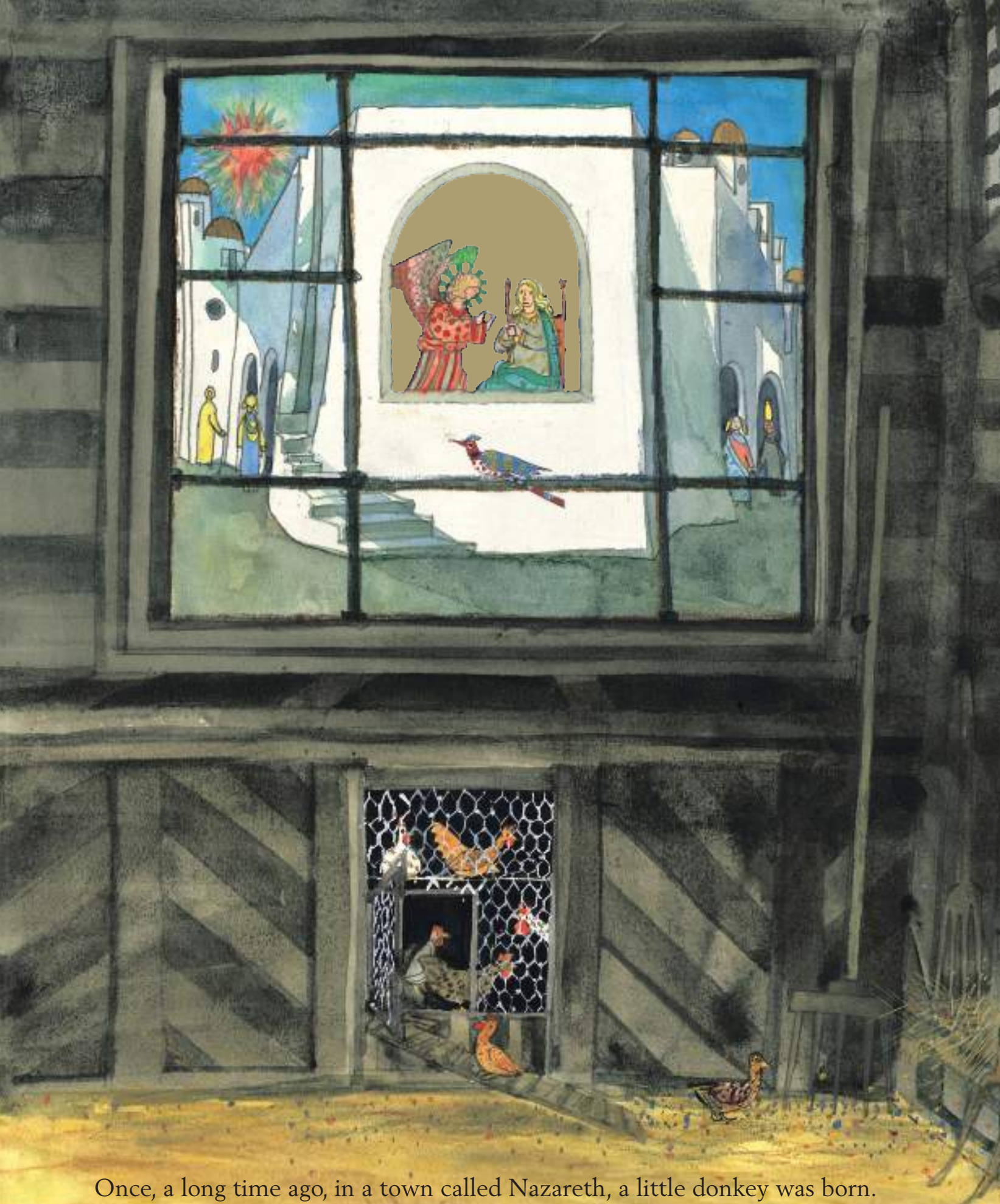


Brian Wildsmith

A Christmas Story



OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS



Once, a long time ago, in a town called Nazareth, a little donkey was born.





When the little donkey was almost nine months old, his mother set out on a long journey with her mistress and master, whose names were Mary and Joseph.



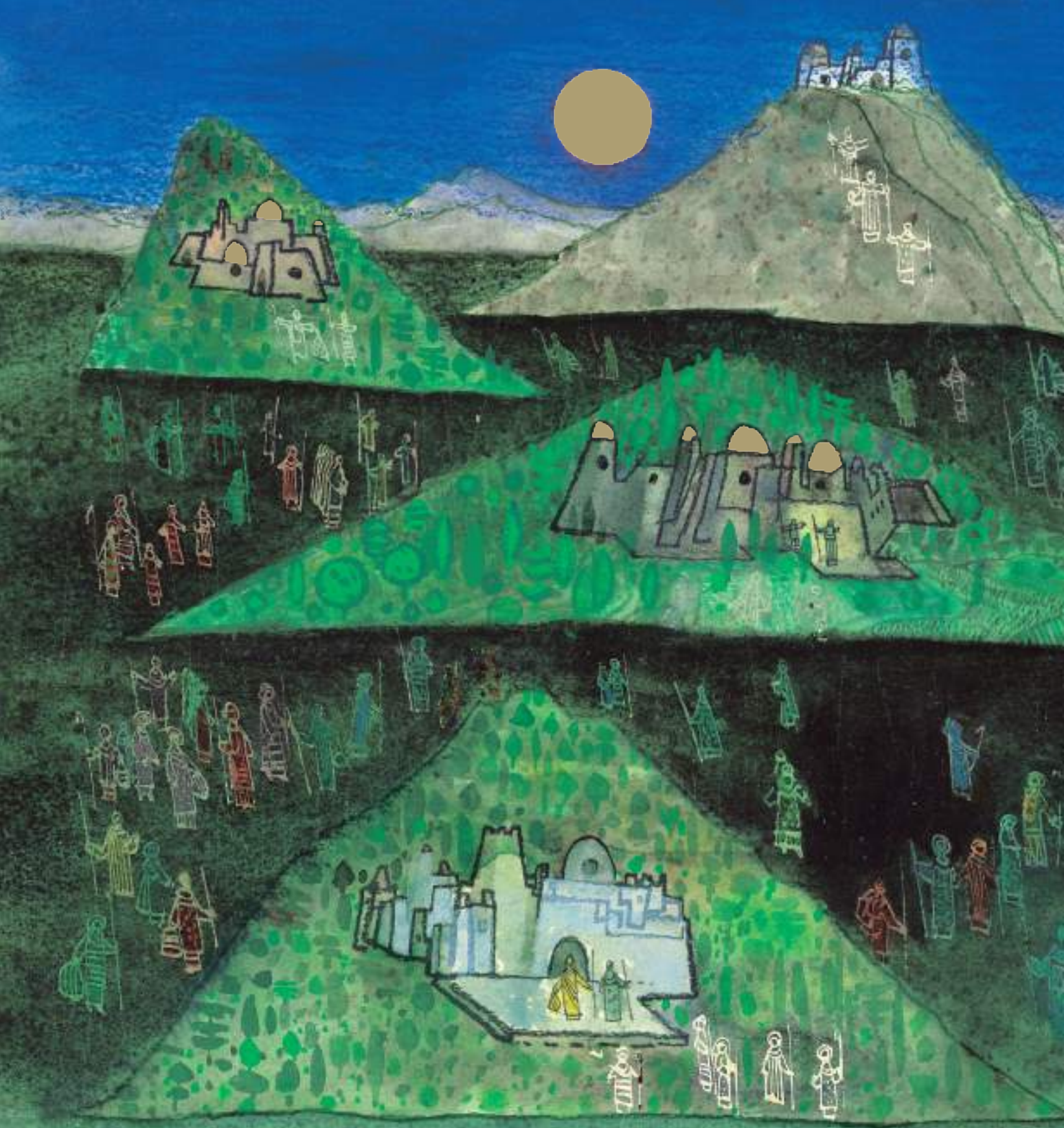
They asked Rebecca, who lived next door to them,
to look after the little donkey while they were gone.



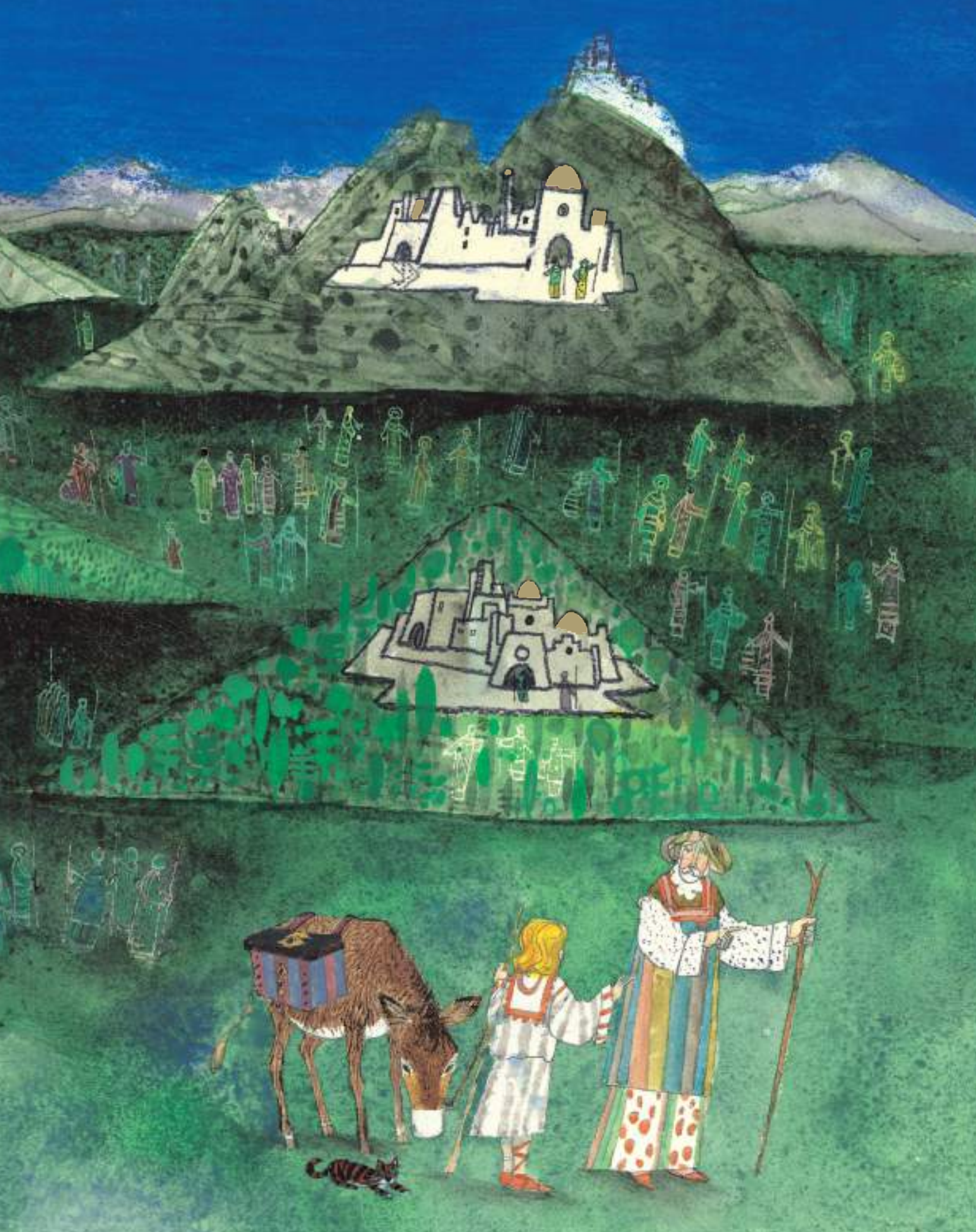
But the little donkey was very sad without his mother and refused to eat. So Rebecca packed food and water and promised the little donkey that they would find his mother.



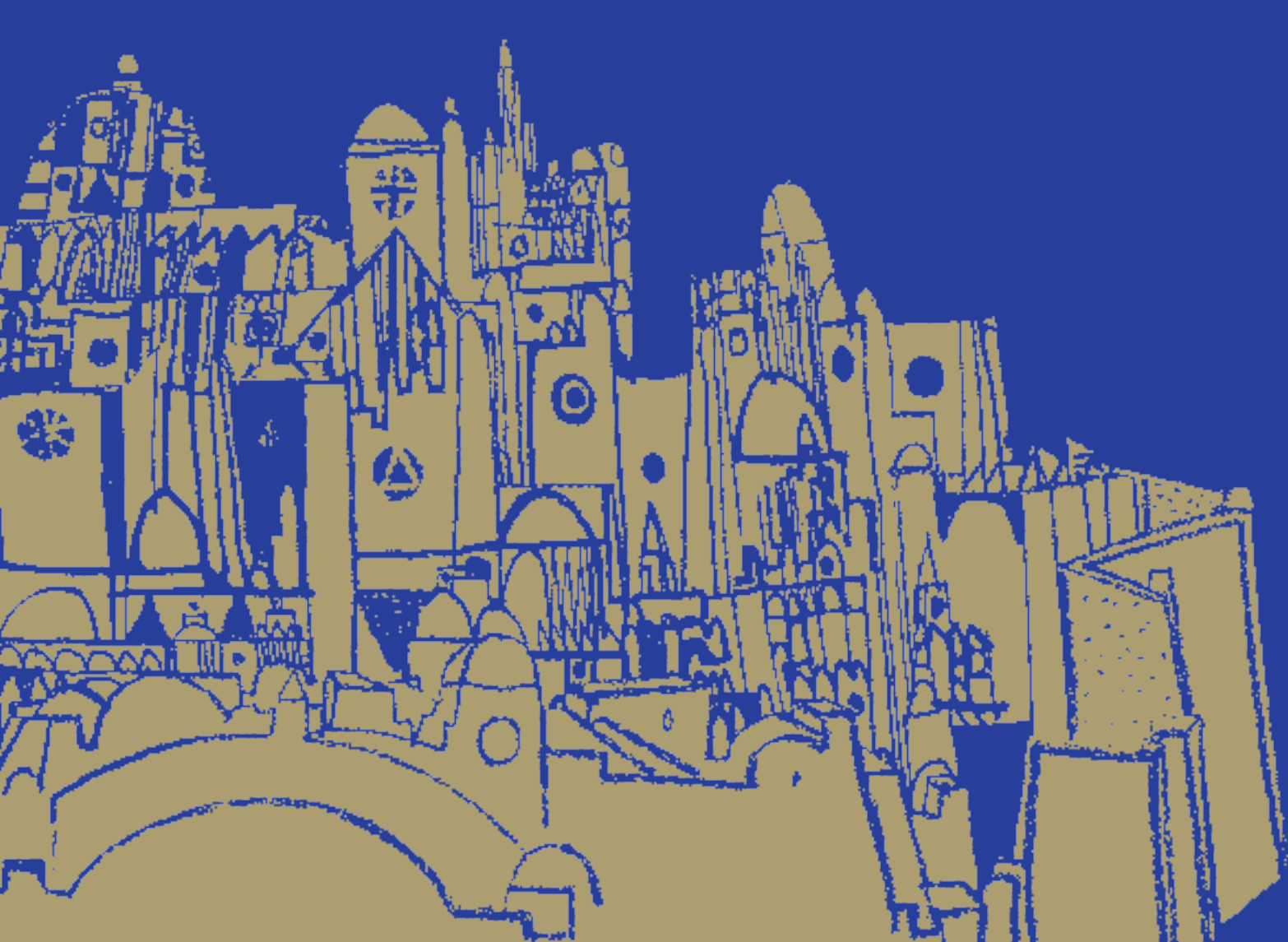
And they set out
to follow Mary and Joseph.



The roads were full of people travelling to various towns and cities.
'Have you seen a donkey with a man and a woman?' Rebecca asked a traveller.
'Yes, they passed me on the road to Jerusalem,' the traveller replied.







Rebecca and the little donkey took the road to Jerusalem. Soon they came to a soldier standing guard at a splendid palace.

‘Have you seen a donkey with a man and a woman?’ Rebecca asked the soldier.

‘Yes, they passed this way,’ the soldier answered.

‘Now hurry along. There are important visitors here to see King Herod.’