

What does it mean to belong to two cultures?
One little girl explores her rich heritage of memories,
music, art and poetry. She discovers the shared
history and the people who fought for their freedom . . .
and she feels so proud to be who she is.

FROM THE DIVERSE BOOK AWARD-WINNING TEAM
OF DADAJI'S PAINTBRUSH

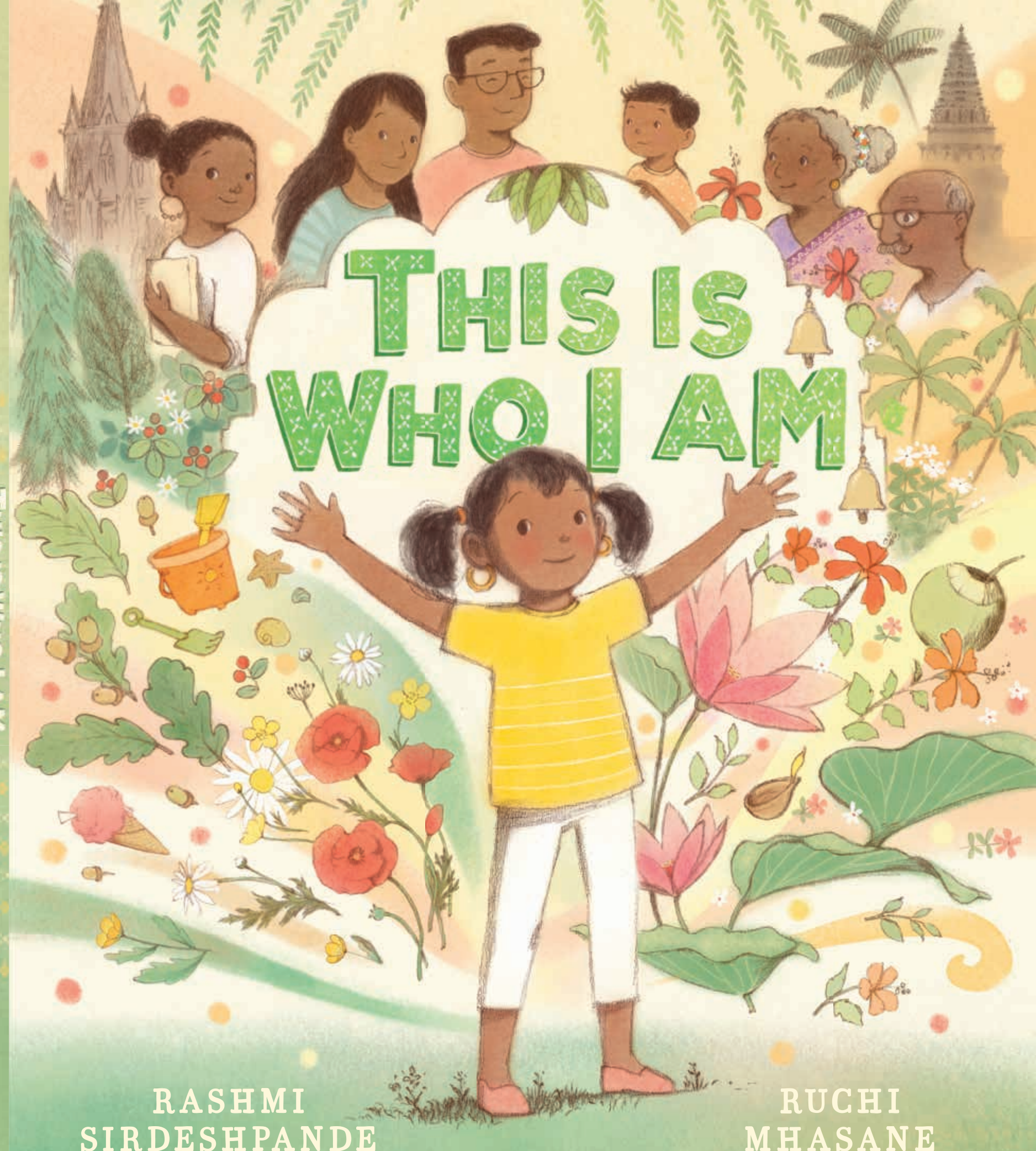


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THIS IS WHO I AM

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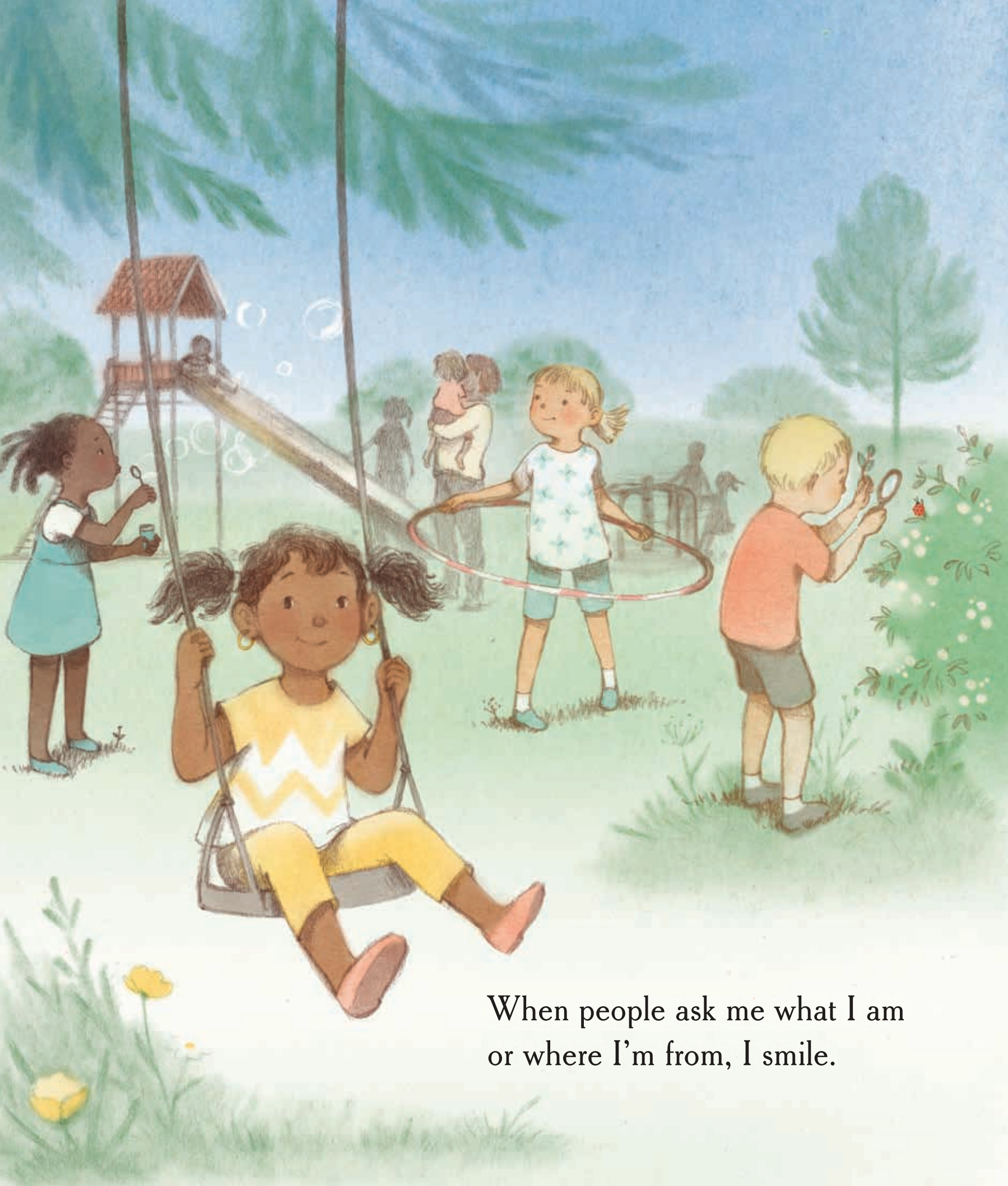
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When people ask me what I am
or where I'm from, I smile.

I say I have a foot in two worlds, but
I am so much more than that . . .





I am the land and memories of
my parents and my ancestors.



I am temple bells and
flower garlands.
I am the deep greens
of the forest . . .



the long, twisted branches
of ancient banyan trees . . .

and the pinks
and whites of
lotuses dancing
on the water.



I am the plane that carried my parents to a new world.



I am the kindness of the people who made them feel welcome.



And the strength they found inside when others did not.



I am the home my
parents built here,



the dreams they dreamed
and worked towards,



step by step



and the good fortune that



brought those dreams to life.

