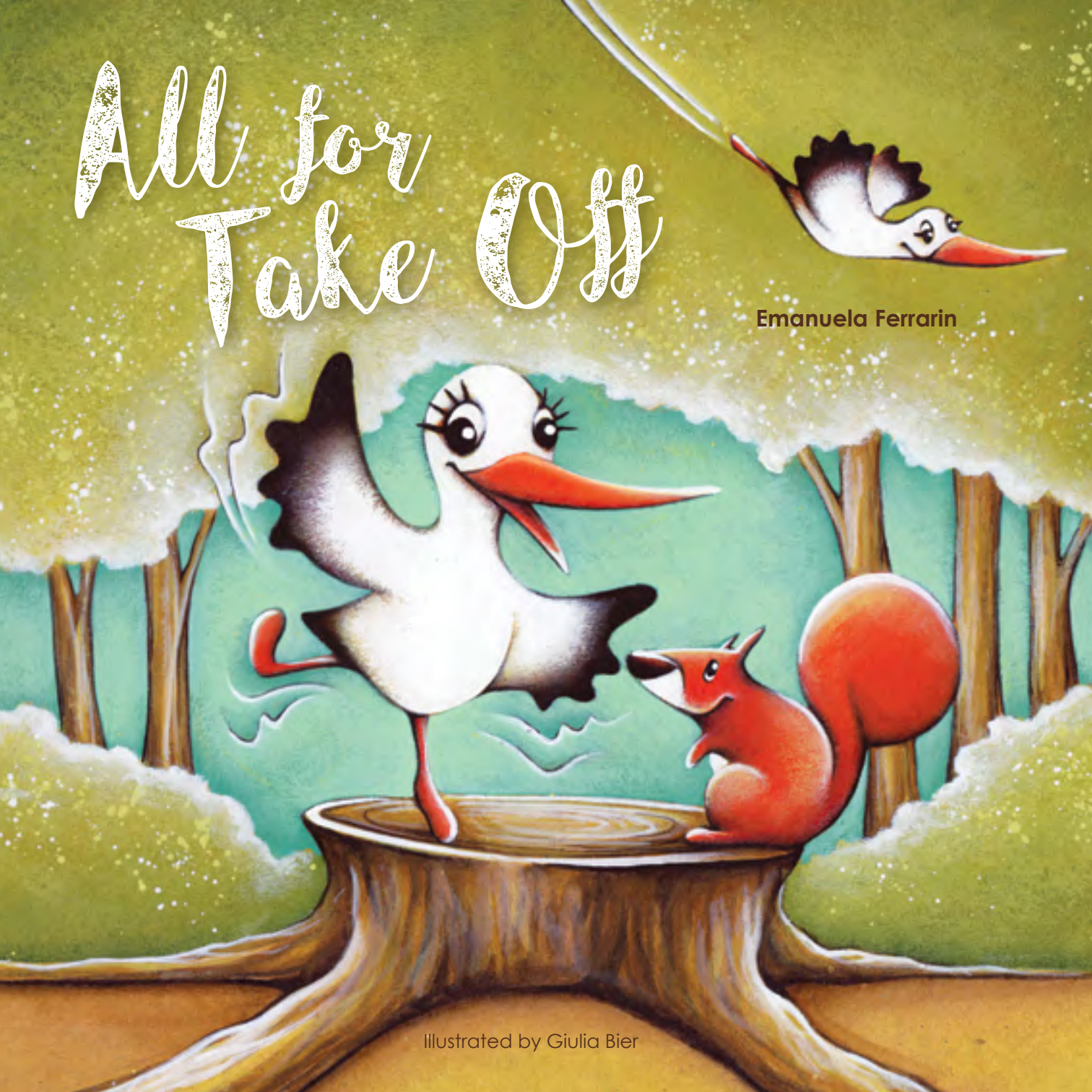


All for Take Off

Emanuela Ferrarin



Illustrated by Giulia Bier

To my daughter and my family.

To Daniela Milan.

To the friends
of the Sydenham's Chorea Association.



Translated into English
from the original Italian edition of the book
by Luigina Mei



Emanuela Ferrarin

All for Take Off

Illustrated by Giulia Bier

In the woods
of Scotland
the storks were preparing
to migrate,
a long journey
of several weeks.

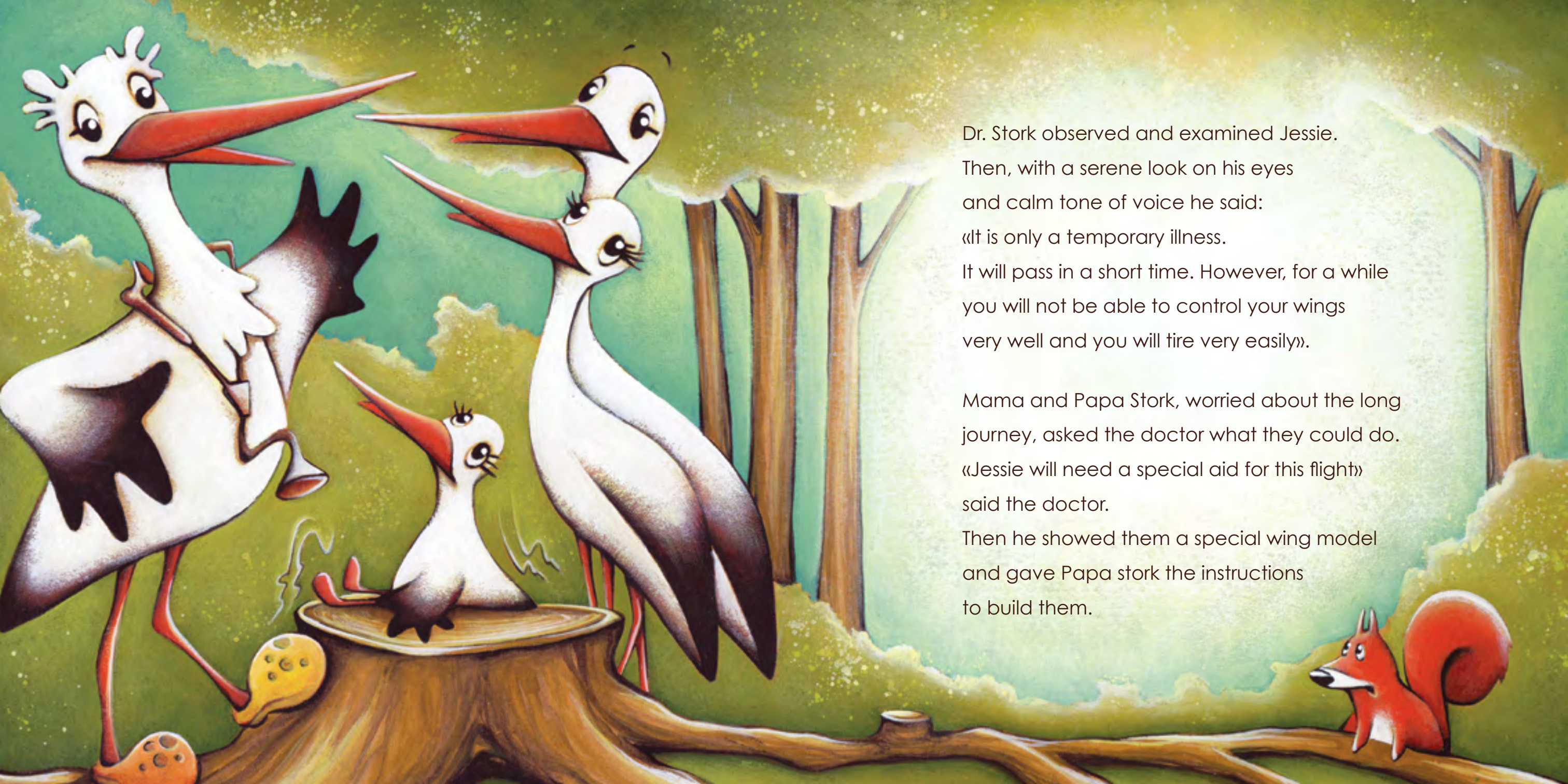
The youngest storks
were very curious,
excited, and a bit anxious too.
It was their first migration!
To prepare for the journey
they attended flight school.



During a lesson, Jessie,
one of the youngest storks, involuntarily started
flapping her wings in a strange manner.
While performing her test flights,
she didn't feel strong enough
and had to land sooner than her schoolmates.

Their instructor had noticed her trouble.
Reassuring her, he called her parents
and suggested them to go see Dr. Stork.





Dr. Stork observed and examined Jessie. Then, with a serene look on his eyes and calm tone of voice he said: «It is only a temporary illness. It will pass in a short time. However, for a while you will not be able to control your wings very well and you will tire very easily».

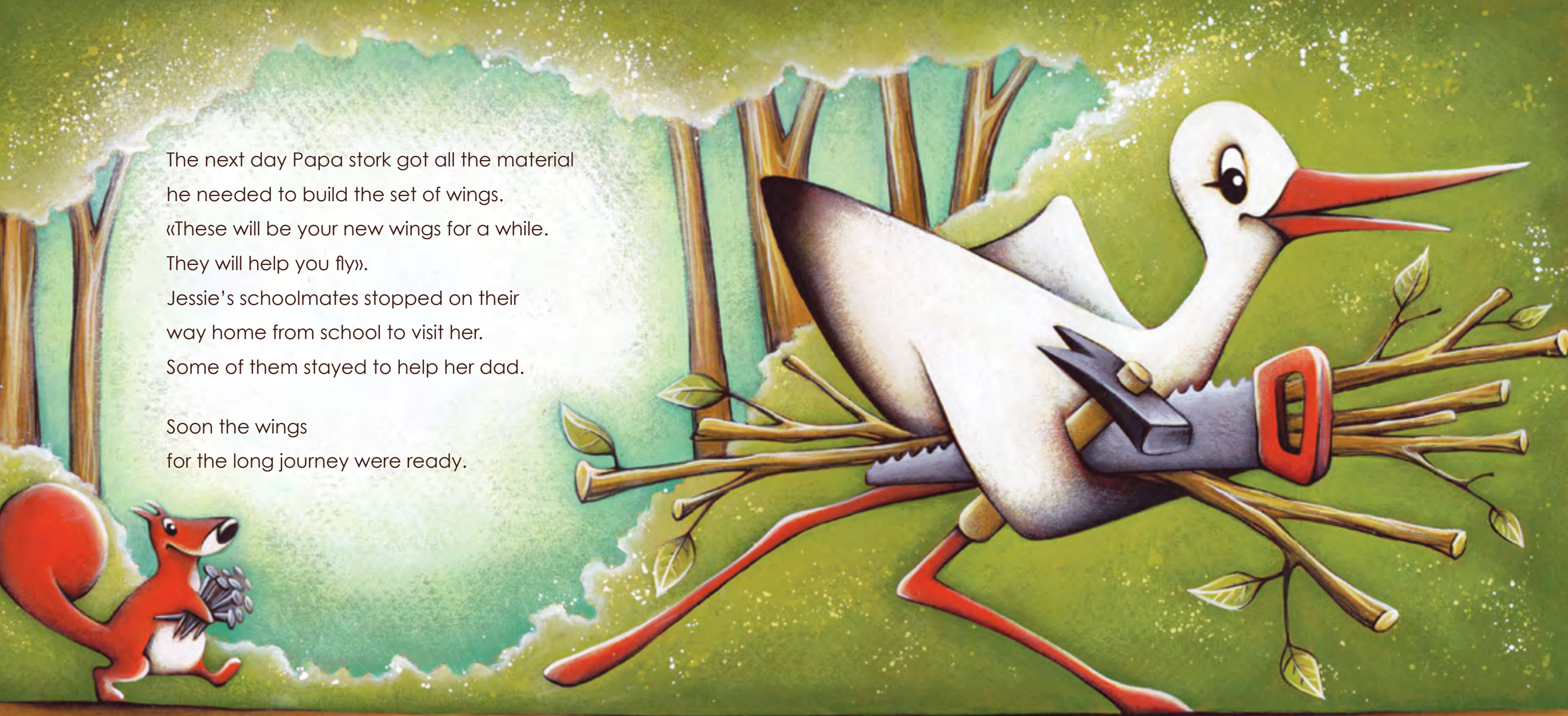
Mama and Papa Stork, worried about the long journey, asked the doctor what they could do. «Jessie will need a special aid for this flight» said the doctor.

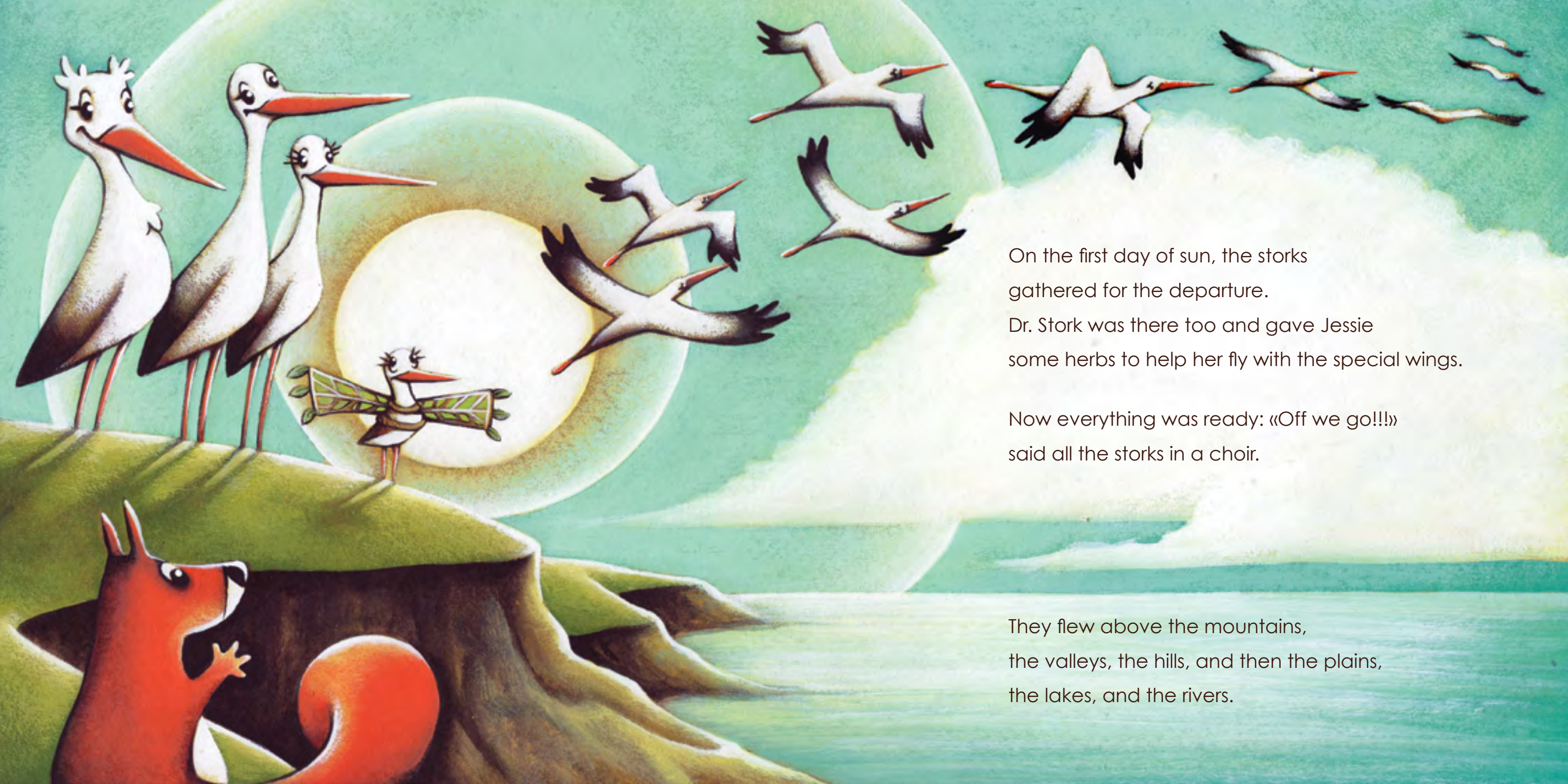
Then he showed them a special wing model and gave Papa stork the instructions to build them.

The next day Papa stork got all the material
he needed to build the set of wings.
«These will be your new wings for a while.
They will help you fly».

Jessie's schoolmates stopped on their
way home from school to visit her.
Some of them stayed to help her dad.

Soon the wings
for the long journey were ready.





On the first day of sun, the storks
gathered for the departure.
Dr. Stork was there too and gave Jessie
some herbs to help her fly with the special wings.

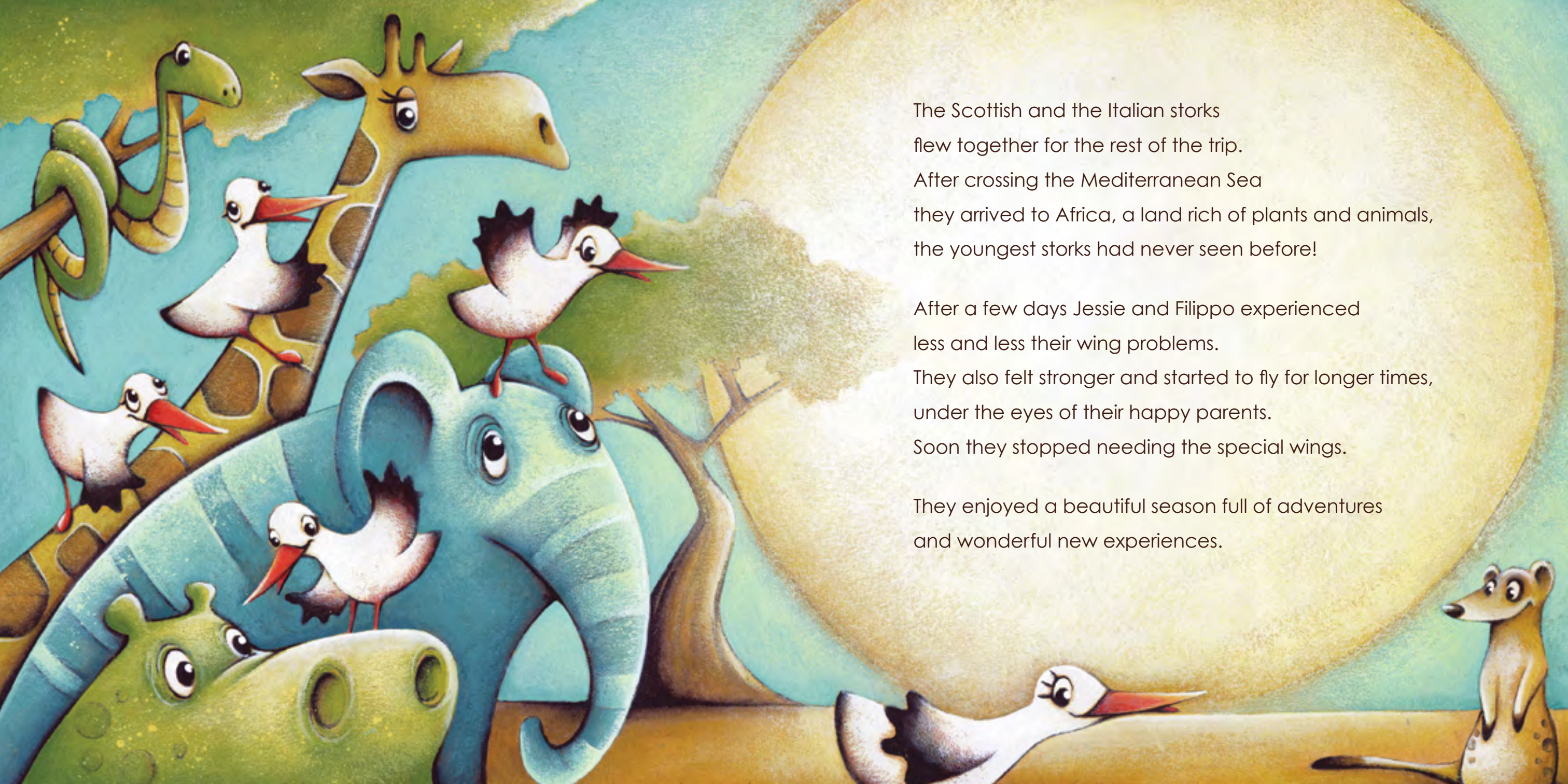
Now everything was ready: «Off we go!!!»
said all the storks in a choir.

They flew above the mountains,
the valleys, the hills, and then the plains,
the lakes, and the rivers.

In Italy
they met another flock of storks ready to migrate.
Among them there was Filippo, a young stork
with special wings, just like Jessie's ones.

His parents to give him confidence said:
«These storks are coming all the way from Scotland,
they have already traveled a long journey.
You'll see, your wings too will take you all
the way to África!»

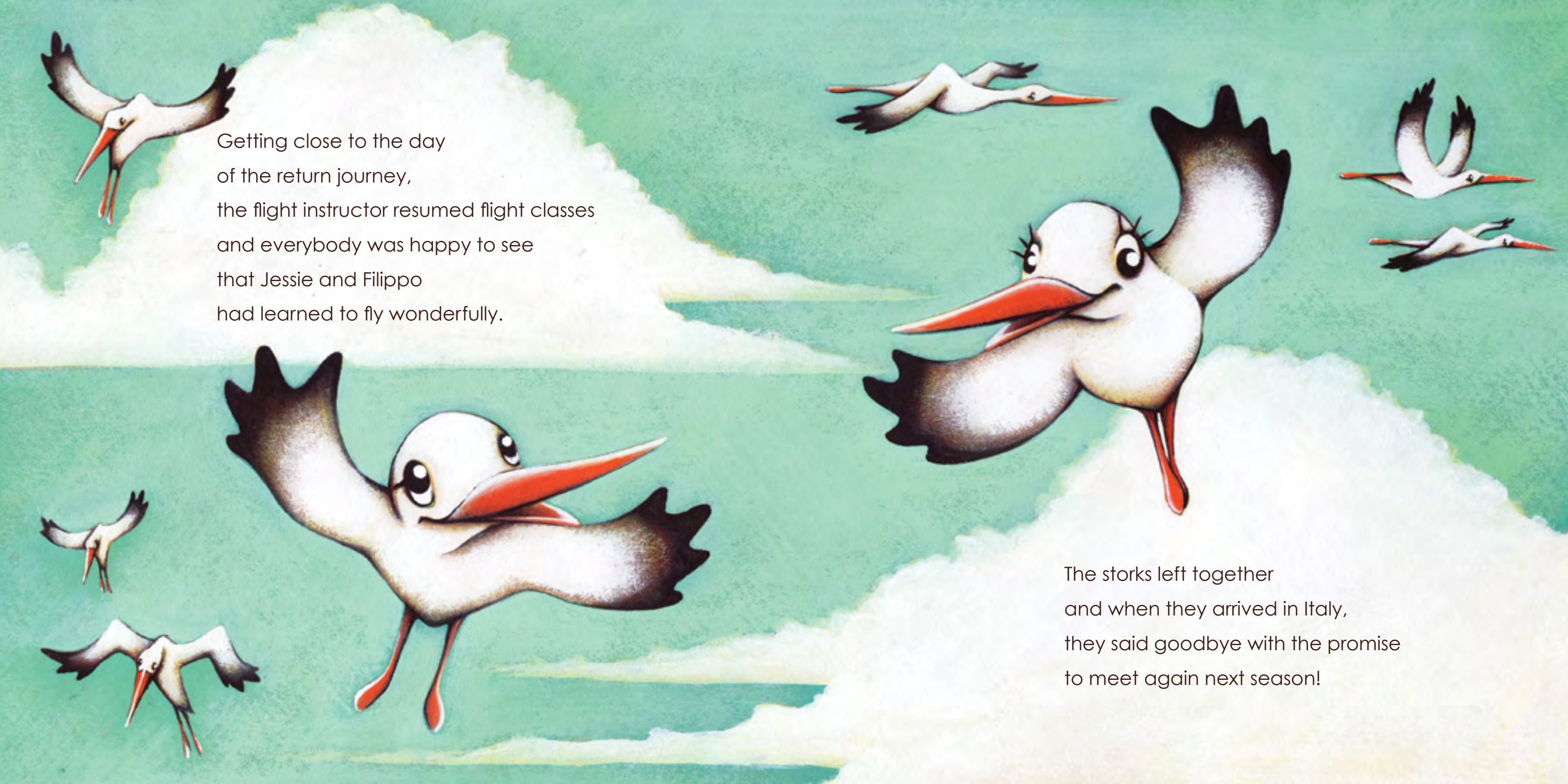




The Scottish and the Italian storks
flew together for the rest of the trip.
After crossing the Mediterranean Sea
they arrived to Africa, a land rich of plants and animals,
the youngest storks had never seen before!

After a few days Jessie and Filippo experienced
less and less their wing problems.
They also felt stronger and started to fly for longer times,
under the eyes of their happy parents.
Soon they stopped needing the special wings.

They enjoyed a beautiful season full of adventures
and wonderful new experiences.



Getting close to the day
of the return journey,
the flight instructor resumed flight classes
and everybody was happy to see
that Jessie and Filippo
had learned to fly wonderfully.

The storks left together
and when they arrived in Italy,
they said goodbye with the promise
to meet again next season!

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Learn more about Sydenham's Chorea
and the Sydenham's Chorea Association,
providing information and support network
and promoting research on this condition, from:
www.sydenhamschorea.org.uk



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Jessie and Filippo are two young storks
who, along with their parents and friends,
bravely take on their first big migration flight
in unexpected circumstances.

