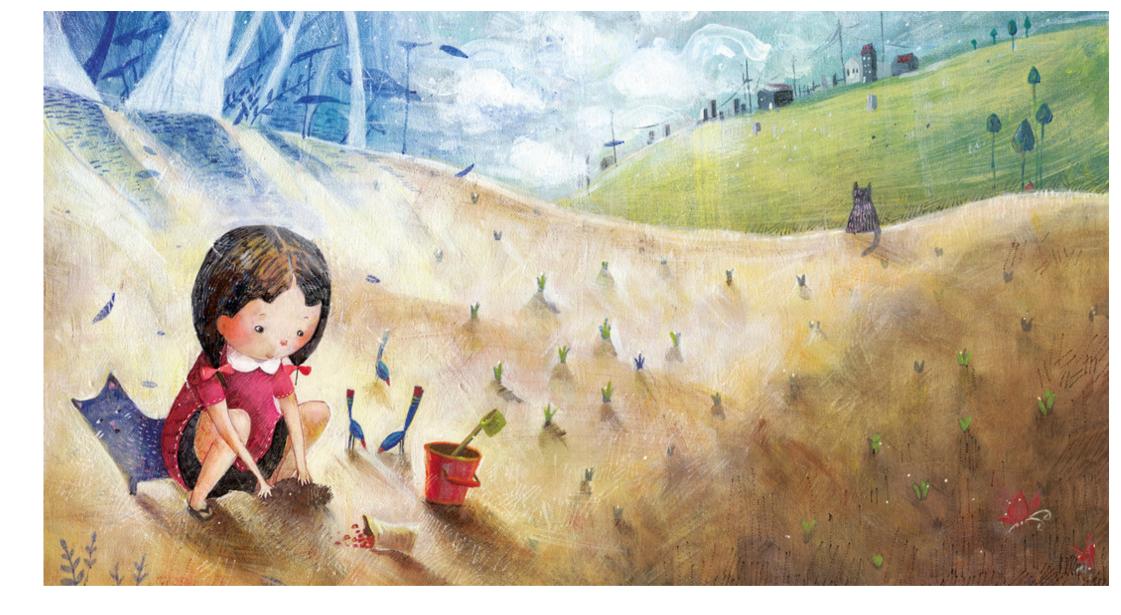






An A-maize-ing Story Author: Nguyễn Thị Ngọc Bích

Author: Nguyễn Thị Ngọc Bích Illustrator: Nguyễn Thị Ngọc Bích Translator: Alisha Berger



I'm Bongie. I'm planting corn seeds for the new season. I must hurry. My parents' seeds have already sprouted.



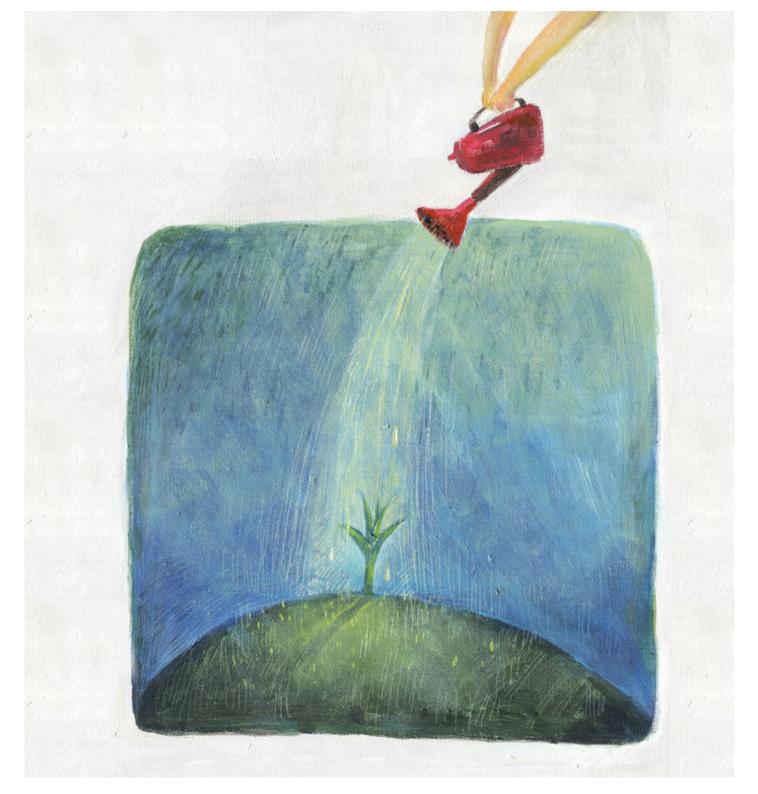
The bird flocks keep flying down to eat the seeds. The cats and I have to chase them away.

"Fly away, you bad birds!" we shout.

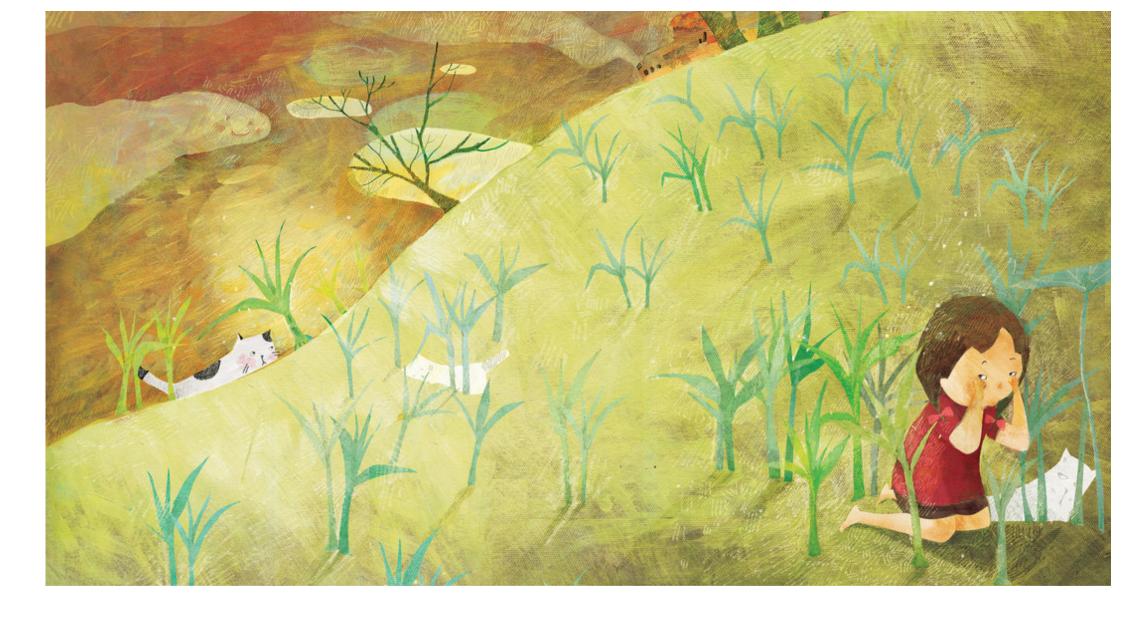


A few days later, a single sprout shows up.

I name it Green Top. I read books to Green Top so he will grow up quickly.



When Green Top is thirsty, I water him.



The cats and I play hide-and-seek with Green Top.



I bring a new kind of food for Green Top. It is called fertilizer.



Green Top grows every day.



One day, I see the bees talking to the other plants. They say that corn is on its way! I quickly run to Green Top. My parents' plants are happy. Why is Green Top so sad? I ask his friends. "Does anyone know why Green Top is sad?" Snail doesn't.





Caterpillar doesn't.

Only Frog answers. He says *ribbit ribbit* and then jumps into the water. What does that mean?





Oh! I get it! There's too much water around Green Top. I'll dig a trench, for the water to flow away.



Sometimes finding Green Top is hard. As he grows, he looks just like the others.

I'll tie a red ribbon around my corn plant.

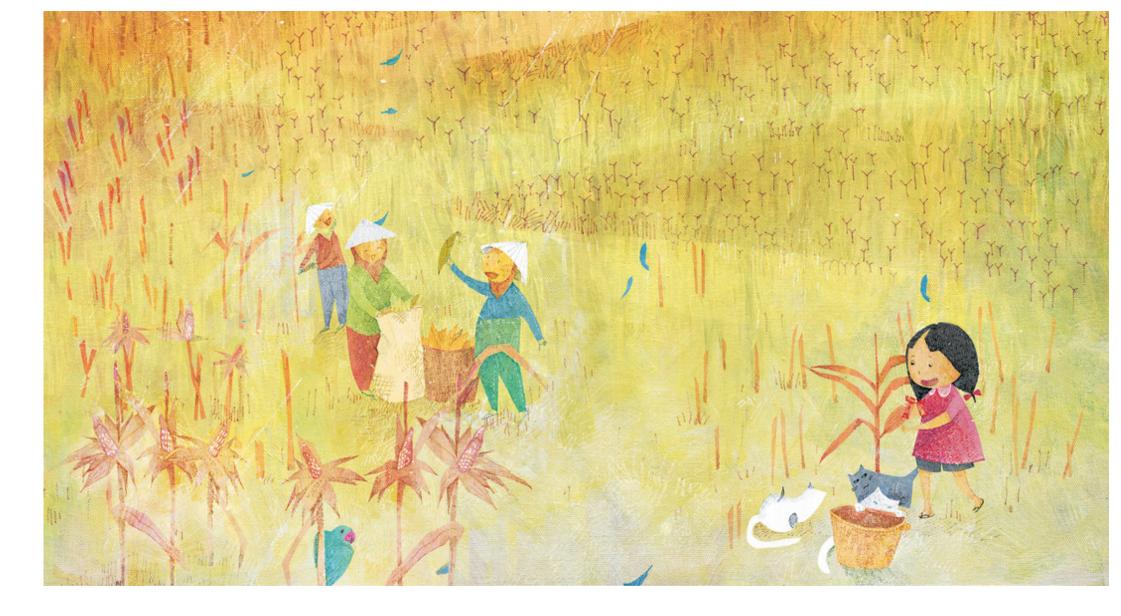




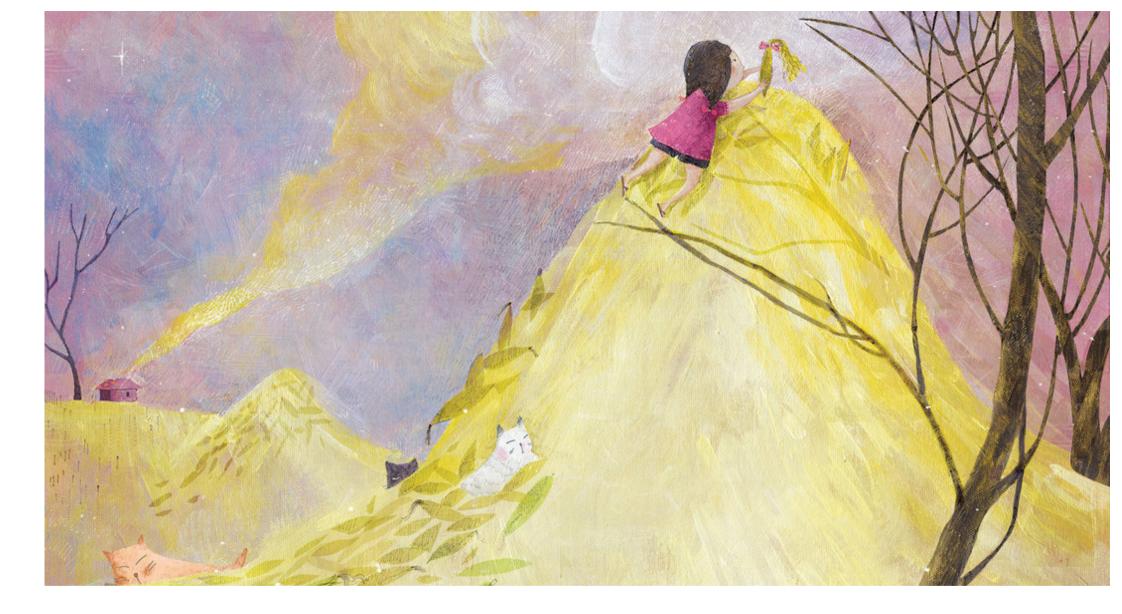
Now I can recognize Green Top easily!



Two more weeks pass. Green Top grows taller.



At last it's harvesting season. Green Top gives me a gift. It's corn!



Our maize harvest makes quite a mountain. I climb up and place Green Top's gift right on top.





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An A-maize-ing Story (English)

While Bongie's family is planting maize in the field, she plants a seed of her own. Bongie takes care of the seed everyday – watering it, making sure it has sunlight, protecting from birds and weeds, and even reading to it. Do you think the seed will grow for Bongie?

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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