

# RONI & MAC



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## **HOW TO ENJOY THIS BOOK TOGETHER**

**Read the book over and over again**  
**Retell the story in your own words**  
**Talk about emotions in the book**  
**Use different voices while talking about the images**  
**Ask some questions about the story**  
**Point to letters and words as you read aloud**



**In the big city where tall buildings touch the sky and cars zoom like busy ants, there lives a girl named Veronica.**



**She lives on the top floor in a nice apartment with her family.**

**Dad always gets up super early to go to work.**

**Dad is big and super strong.**



**Mom is cleaning the apartment. She calls Veronica "Roni" for short.**

**Roni is scared of the angry LOUD vacuum.**



**Mom gets on the phone and is yelling from the other side of the room.**

**Roni has to cover her ears because the noises are too LOUD.**

**She goes into the bedroom.**



**Roni's older sister is named Mac. She loves to play games, but she can be a little LOUD.**



**Together they are  
Mac and Roni.**



**A neighbor has moved in with a new born baby. Now, the baby cries all day and night long.**

**WAAHHHHH!!!**

**Mac notices Roni doesn't like the baby crying.**

**Sometimes, Roni covers her ears and hides under her blanket because of too many LOUD noises echoing through the apartment.**



**“Roni,” says Mom.**

**“Get out from under that blanket. We have to get going to the Battle of the Flowers. They are expecting me to help!”**

**Mac smiles at Roni, gives her a hand, and a little hug.**





**Mom, Mac, and Roni walk  
past the green trees in the  
bright sun to the bus stop,  
carrying baskets of flowers  
for the parade.**



**SKRRROOONK!**

**As they walk, a tractor with a loader growls and beeps as it scoops up dirt at a nearby construction site.**

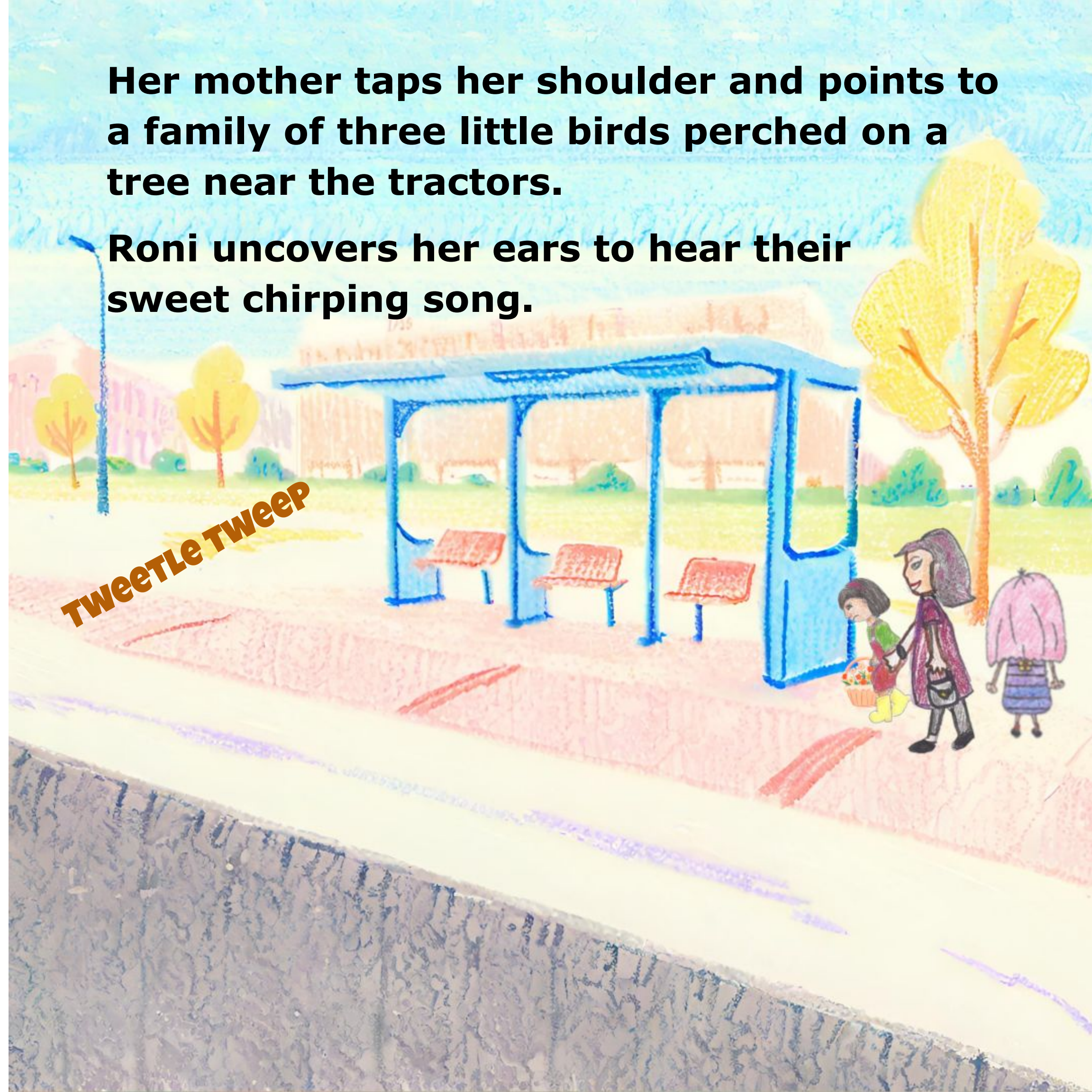
**Roni covers her  
ears!**



**Her mother taps her shoulder and points to a family of three little birds perched on a tree near the tractors.**

**Roni uncovers her ears to hear their sweet chirping song.**

**TWEETLE TWEEP**





**SKEEEEEEE! BEEP BEEP  
BEEP PFFFFFFFFFFSH.**

**After a while, the beastly bus arrives  
beeping, shaking, and braking.**



**Roni hides behind a bouquet of flowers.**

**She peeks over her shoulder and sees an old lady exiting the bus who smiles at her warmly, just like her grandma.**

**Maybe this bus isn't so beastly after all.**

**Roni bravely steps up  
into the bus.**



**HONK! HONK!**



**HONK!**



**The traffic is bad, and everyone's mad.**

**Cars honk all around the bus.**



**Roni covers her ears!**

**Mac turns her head towards Roni and smiles.**

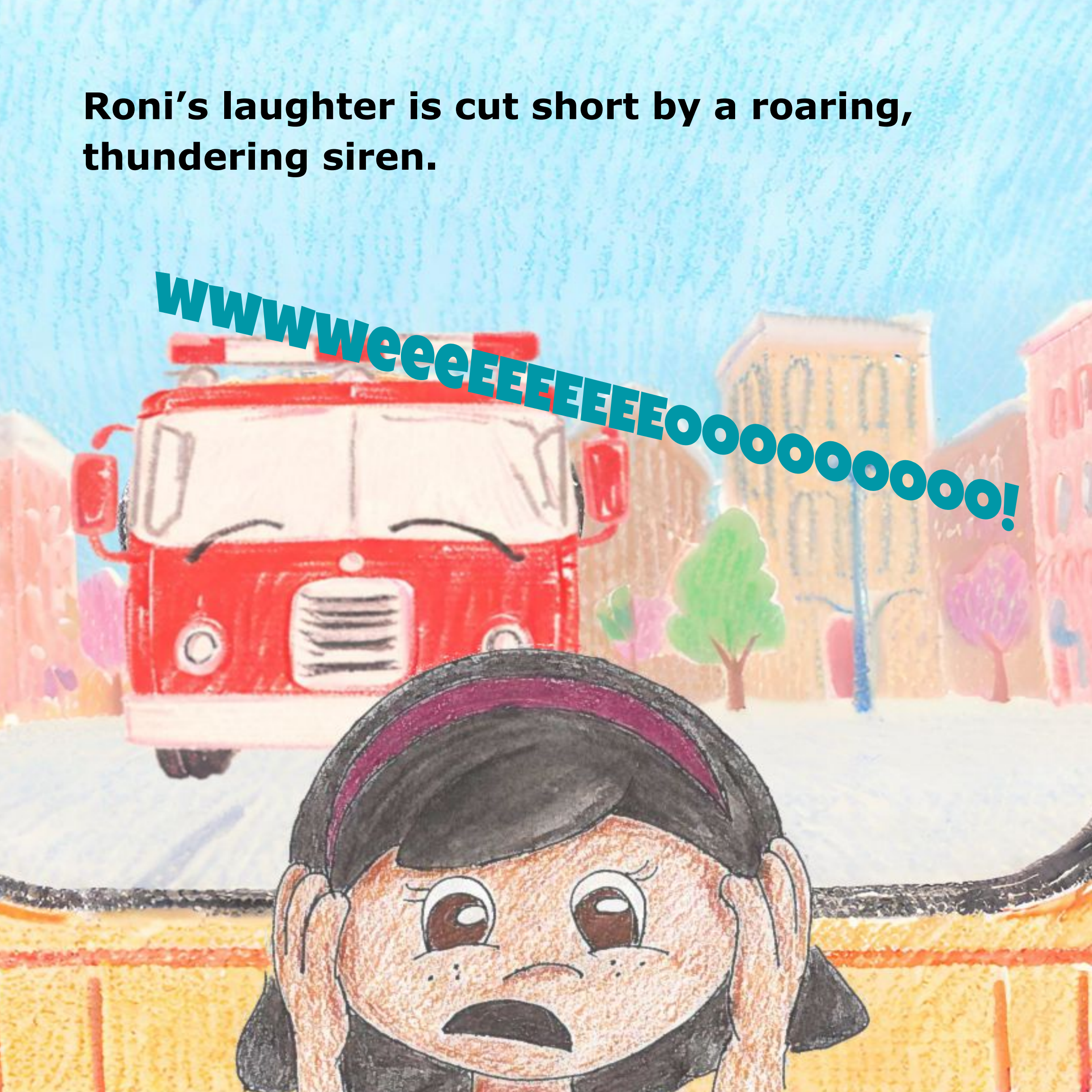
**She boops Roni's nose with a rose petal, a familiar game that distracts her from the horrible honks.**

**Roni giggles!**



**Roni's laughter is cut short by a roaring, thundering siren.**

**wwwweeeEEEEEEEEOOOOOOO!**



**Her mom holds her tight and points ahead where a fire truck has stopped. It extends its ladder up a tree to a stuck kitten. As they pass by on the bus, a firefighter brings the cat down to safety.**





**SKRRRRREENK,  
SKRONK, SKORTT!**

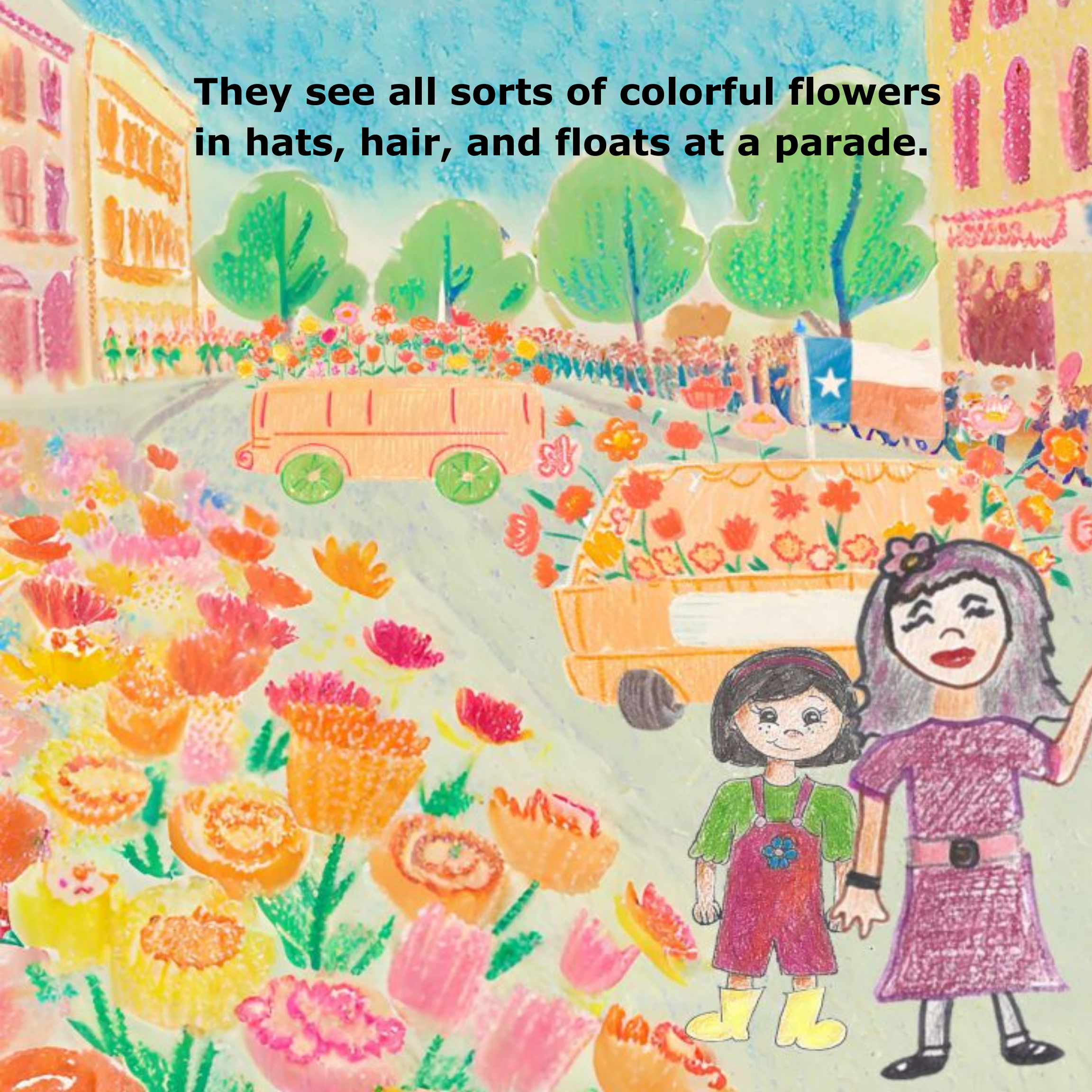
**“This is our stop,”  
says Mom.**

**Roni gets off the bus,  
one hand holding a  
basket of flowers, the  
other hand holding onto  
her mom.**

**Mac runs ahead.**



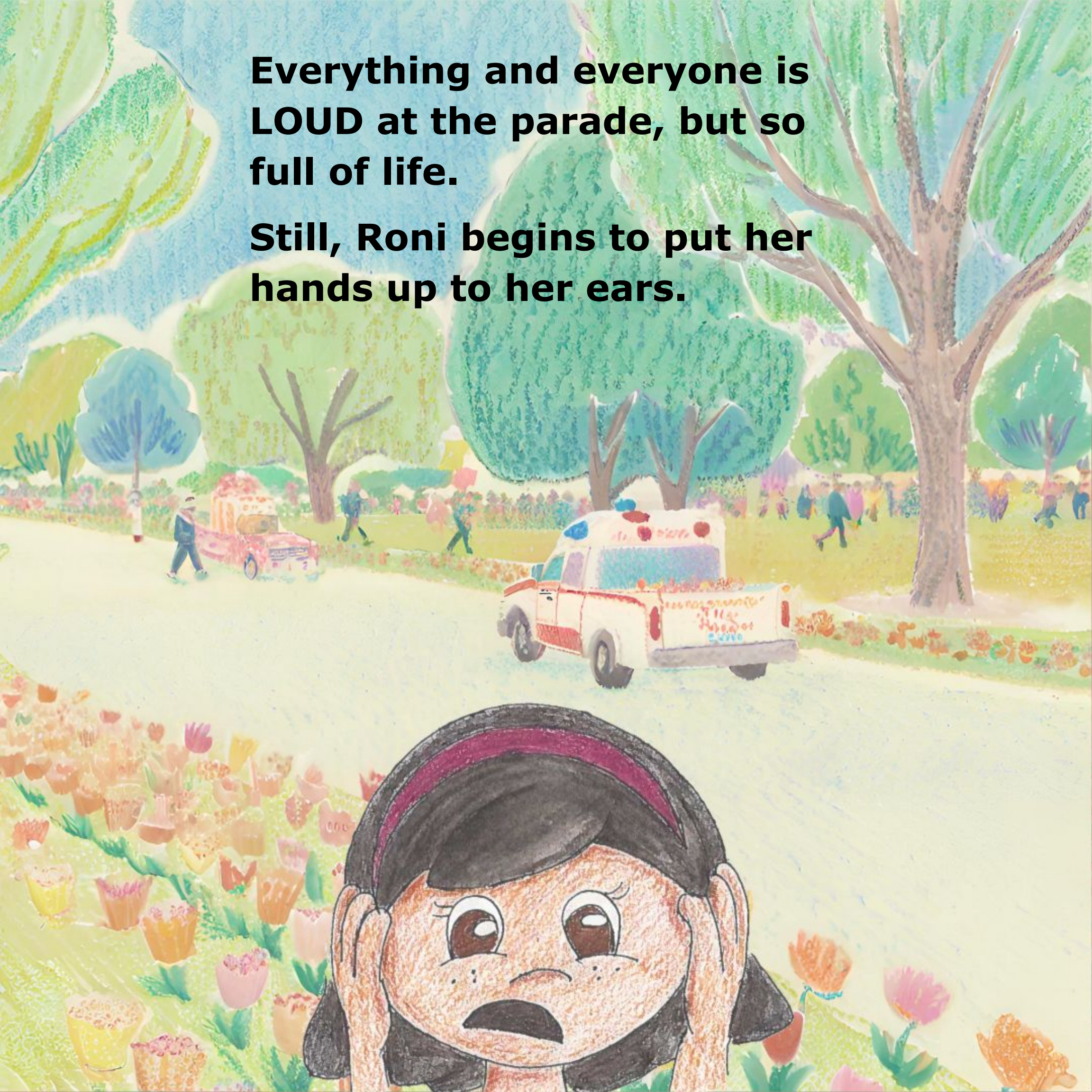
**They see all sorts of colorful flowers in hats, hair, and floats at a parade.**





**Everything and everyone is  
LOUD at the parade, but so  
full of life.**

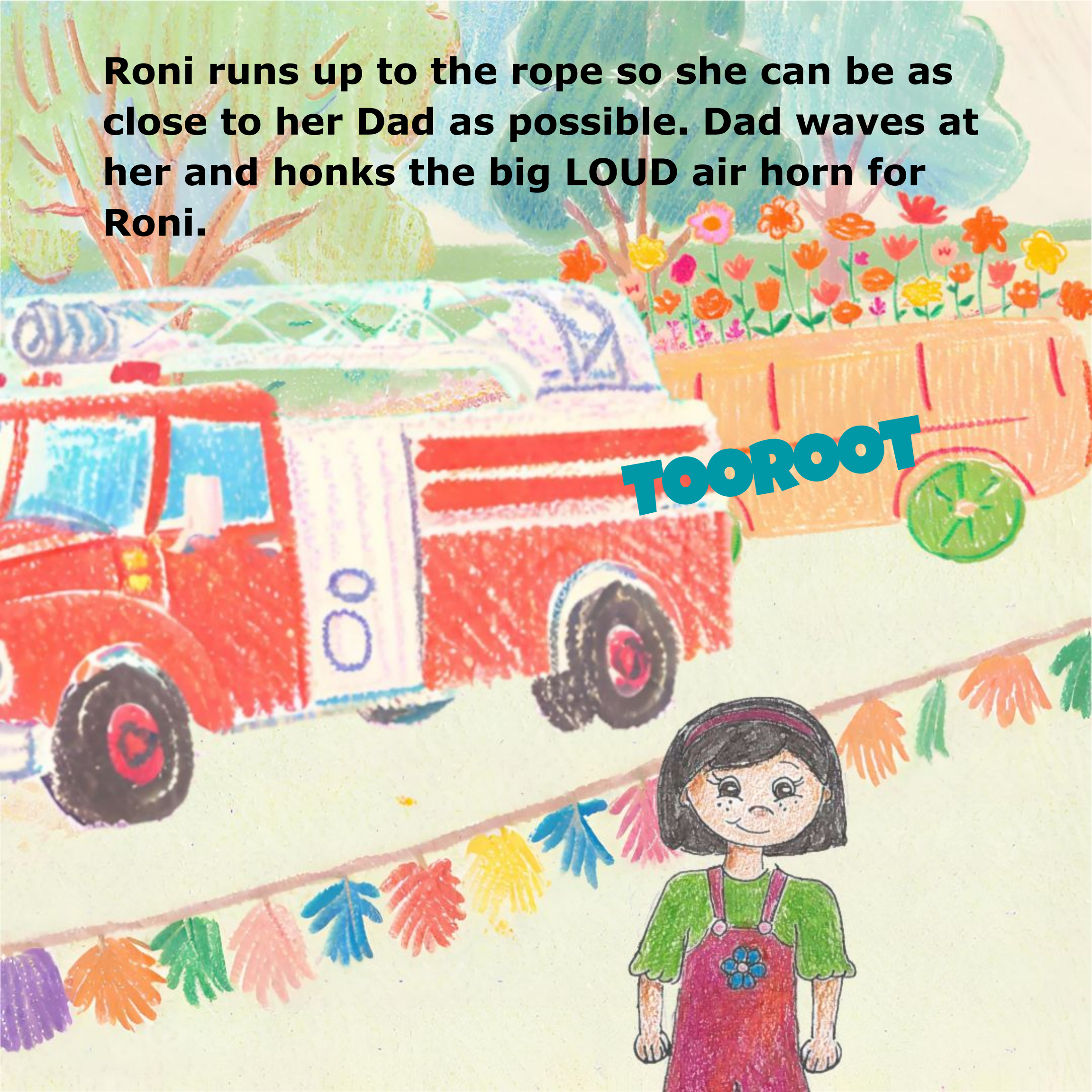
**Still, Roni begins to put her  
hands up to her ears.**



**Just then, a fire truck proudly rolls along in the parade. This time, Roni is not afraid. She sees her Dad in the window!**



**Roni runs up to the rope so she can be as close to her Dad as possible. Dad waves at her and honks the big LOUD air horn for Roni.**



**TOOROOT**

**“Roni,” says Mac. “Aren’t you scared of all this noise?”**

**Roni shakes her head to say no.**

**“What’s different?” says Mac.**

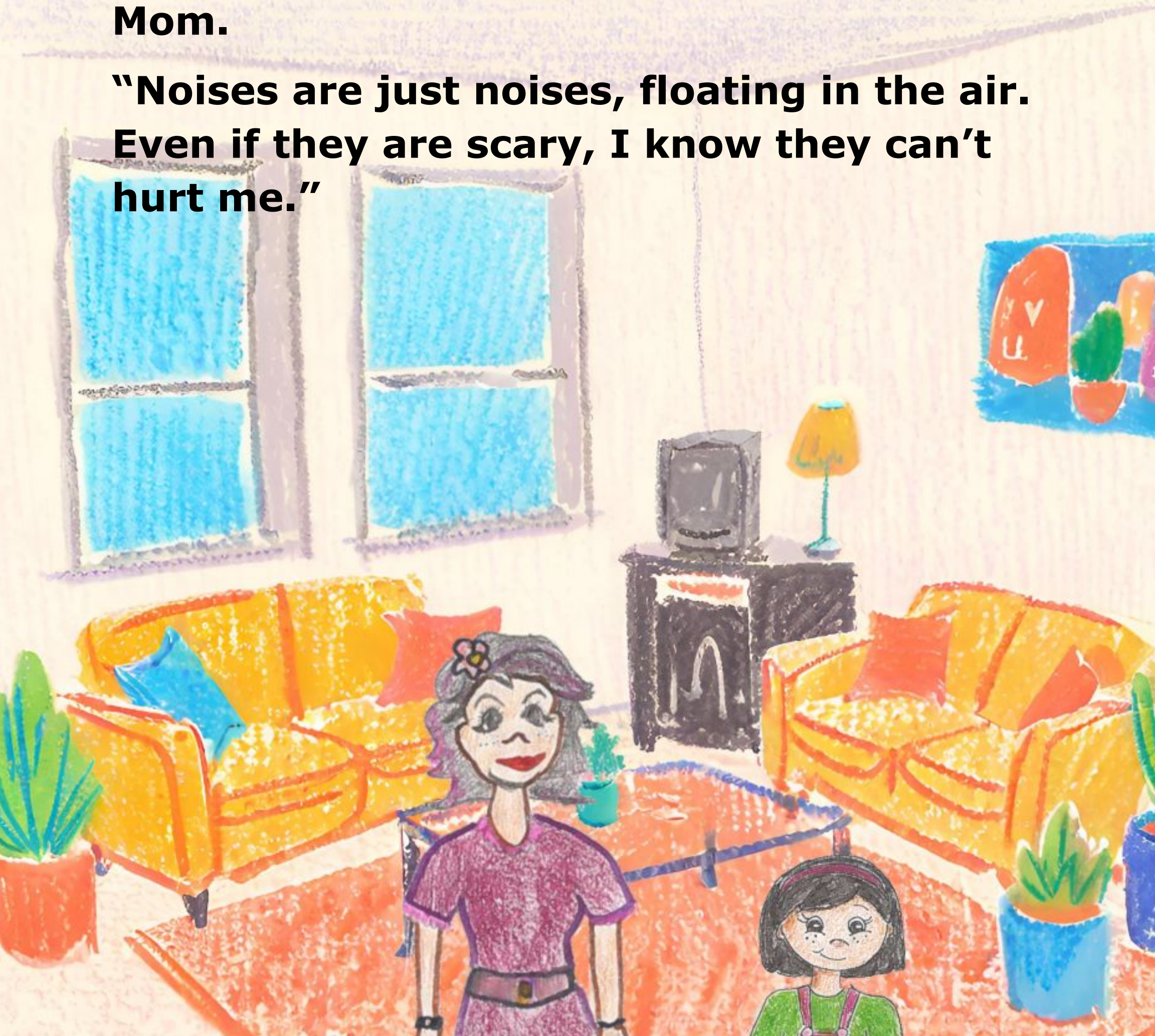
**“I realized something,” says Roni.**

**“Different sounds tell different stories. They are all important.”**



**When she gets home, Roni whispers to Mom.**

**“Noises are just noises, floating in the air. Even if they are scary, I know they can’t hurt me.”**





As you reflect on this book, we invite you to delve deeper into the rich tapestry of San Antonio's beloved **Battle of the Flowers** Parade.

Held in April every year, this Texas-sized festivity is a journey of dedication and passion. From its inception in 1891 to the present day, this festive event has stood as a beacon of community spirit and cultural history.

To explore further and discover the countless tales of dedication, innovation, and civic pride that have shaped the Fiesta tradition, we encourage you to explore the resources provided by the **Battle of Flowers Association**.

<https://www.battleofflowers.org/>

As you continue your journey, remember that the spirit of Fiesta lives on not just in the parade floats and confetti-strewn streets, but in the hearts of every volunteer and attendee who has contributed to its legacy. May the spirit of Fiesta and a brave heart continue to flourish in your family for generations to come.

*Viva Fiesta!*





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