



In loving memory of my grandfather,
Shri Laxmikant Desai – R.S.

To Aaji-Abba and Aaji-Anna,
with whom I wish I had more time – R.M.



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DADAJI'S PAINTBRUSH

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Once, in a tiny village in India,
there was a boy who loved to paint.
He lived with his grandfather in
an old house full of paintings.



First, the boy painted with his fingers. He printed with marigolds, betel leaves and coconut shells.



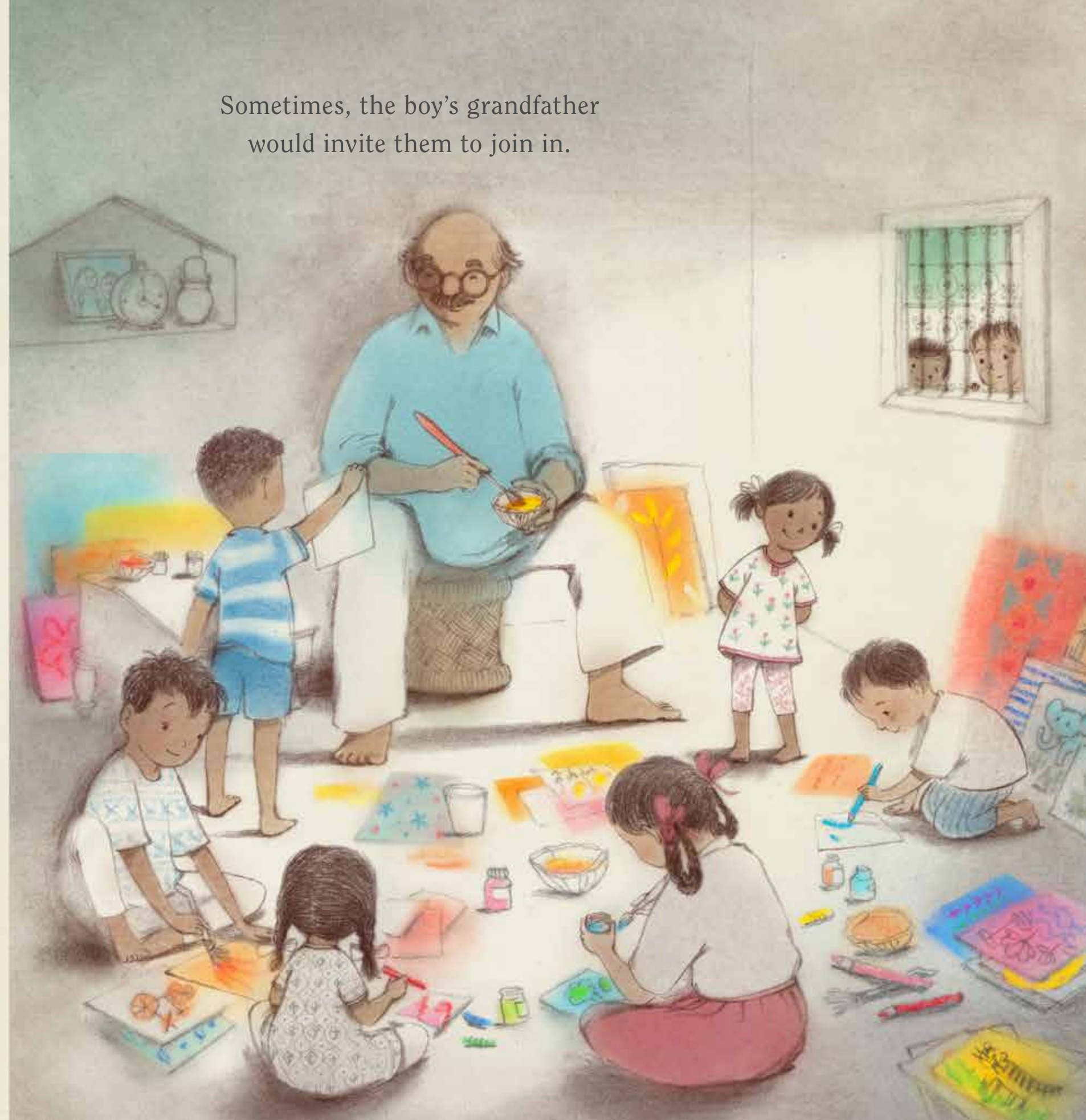
As he got bigger, he painted with brushes made of sticks with strips of cloth, reeds or jasmine flowers wrapped around the ends.

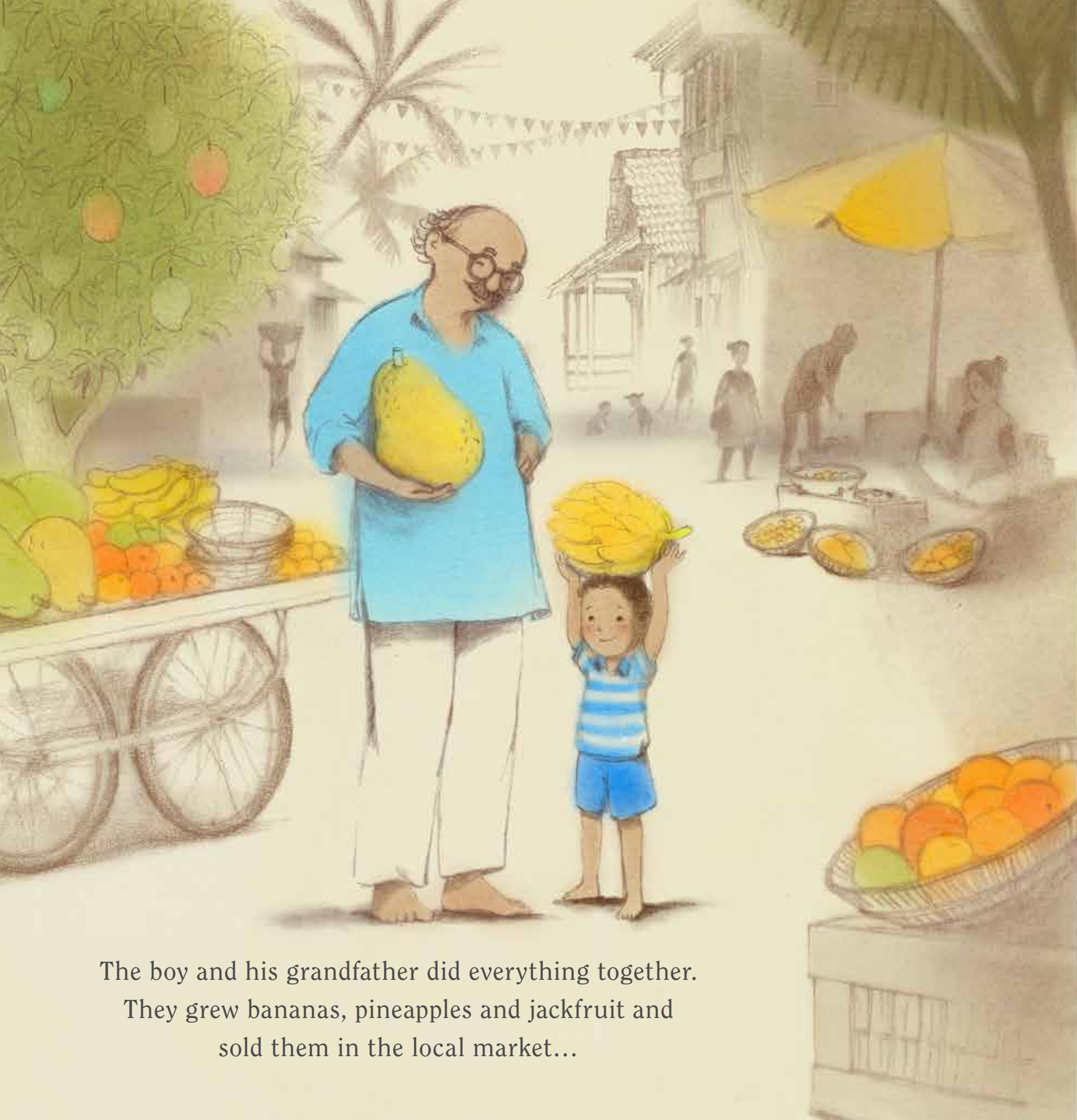


The village children would peep through the windows to watch them paint.



Sometimes, the boy's grandfather would invite them to join in.





The boy and his grandfather did everything together.
They grew bananas, pineapples and jackfruit and
sold them in the local market...

shared sticky, juicy mangoes with
the village children...



and made paper boats for them to float down the street in the
monsoon rain. They read books and picked out what they'd
paint the next day.

