

This book is dedicated to the Kabi family
and the memory of George Weisz
(a refugee boy who helped another refugee boy).

Mark Arrigo &
Steven Chatterton

Illustrated by
Diala Brisly

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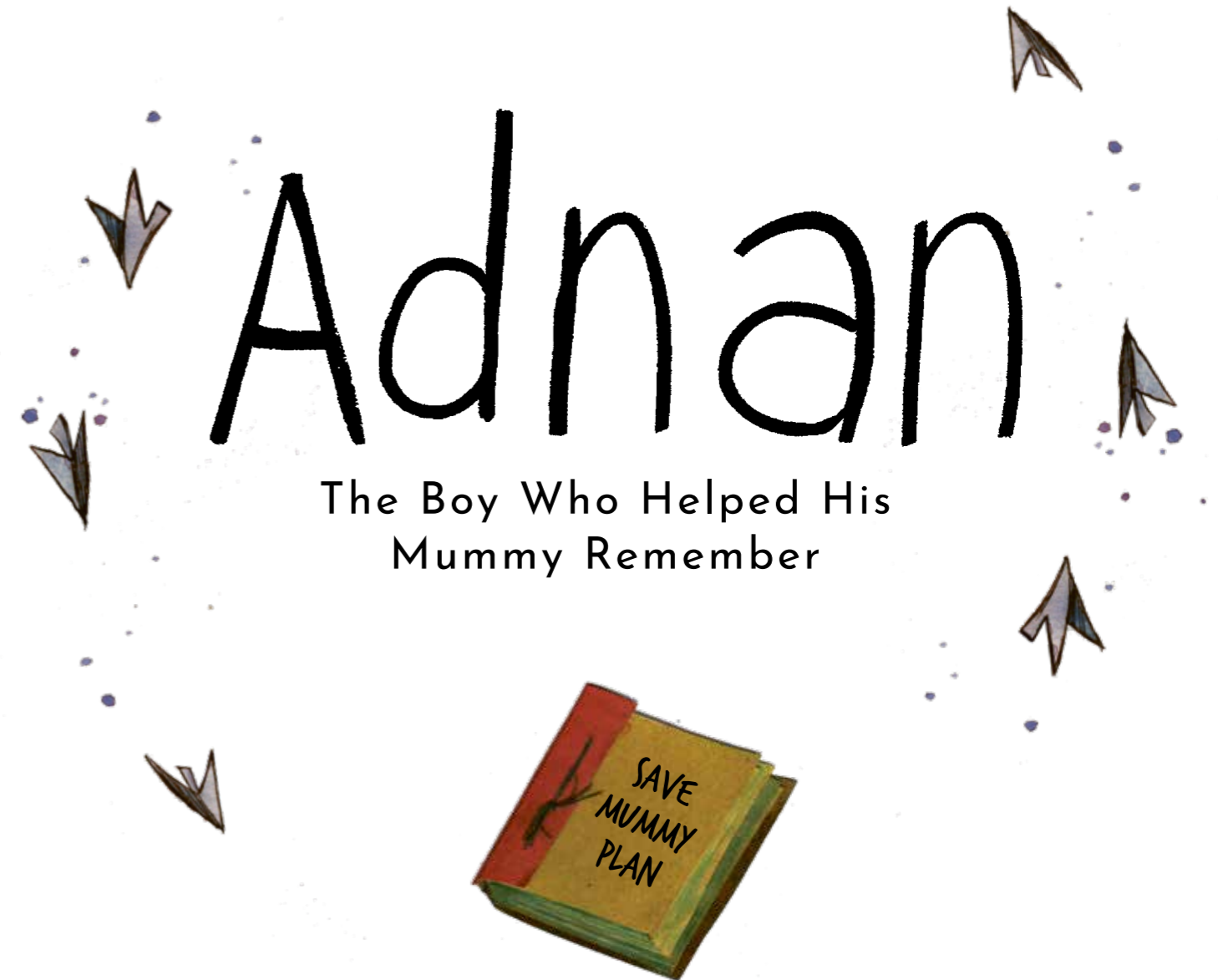
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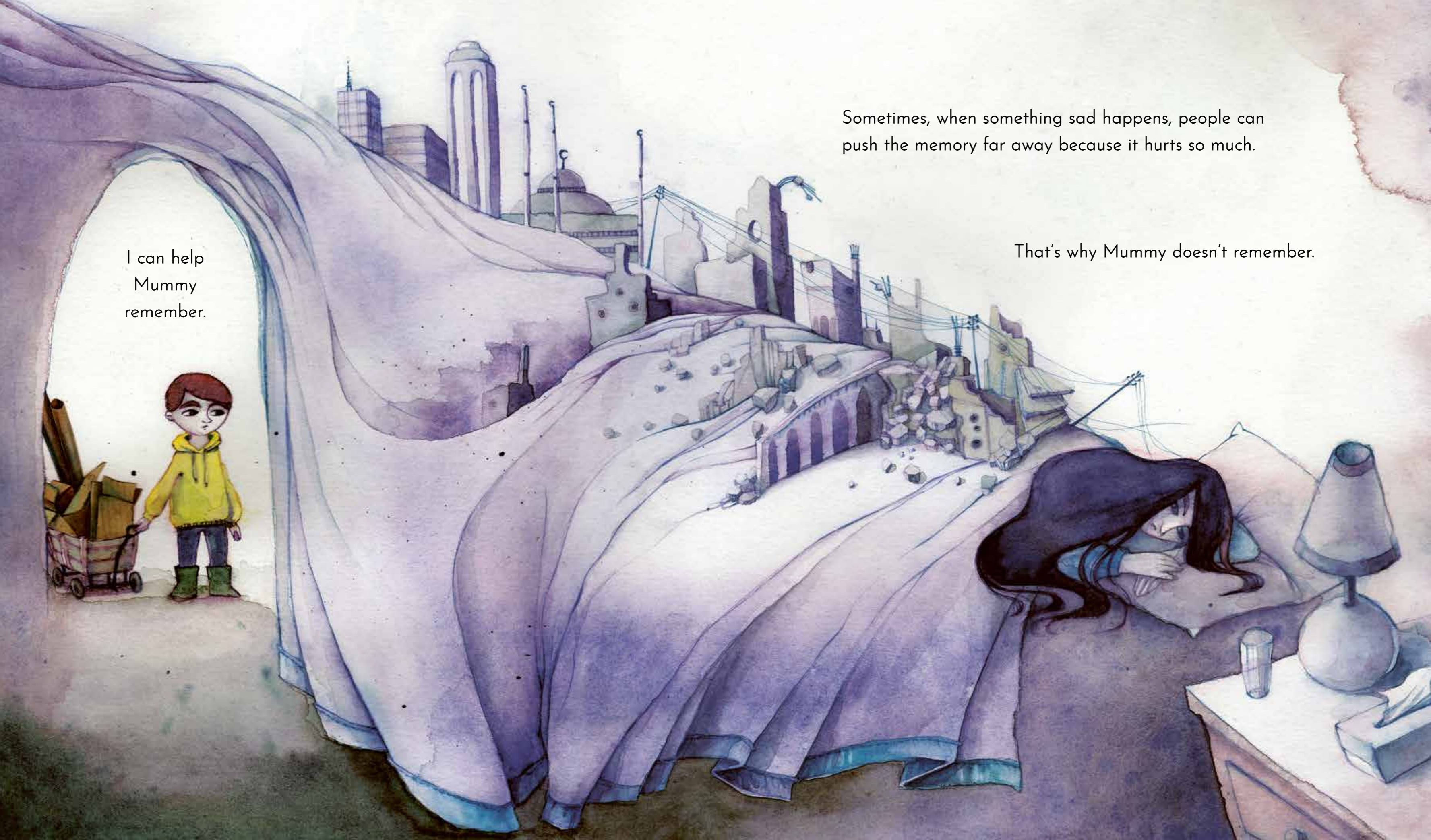


Sometimes, things
get thrown away when
they have no purpose.



But I can give them a new home . . .
a new purpose.





I can help
Mummy
remember.

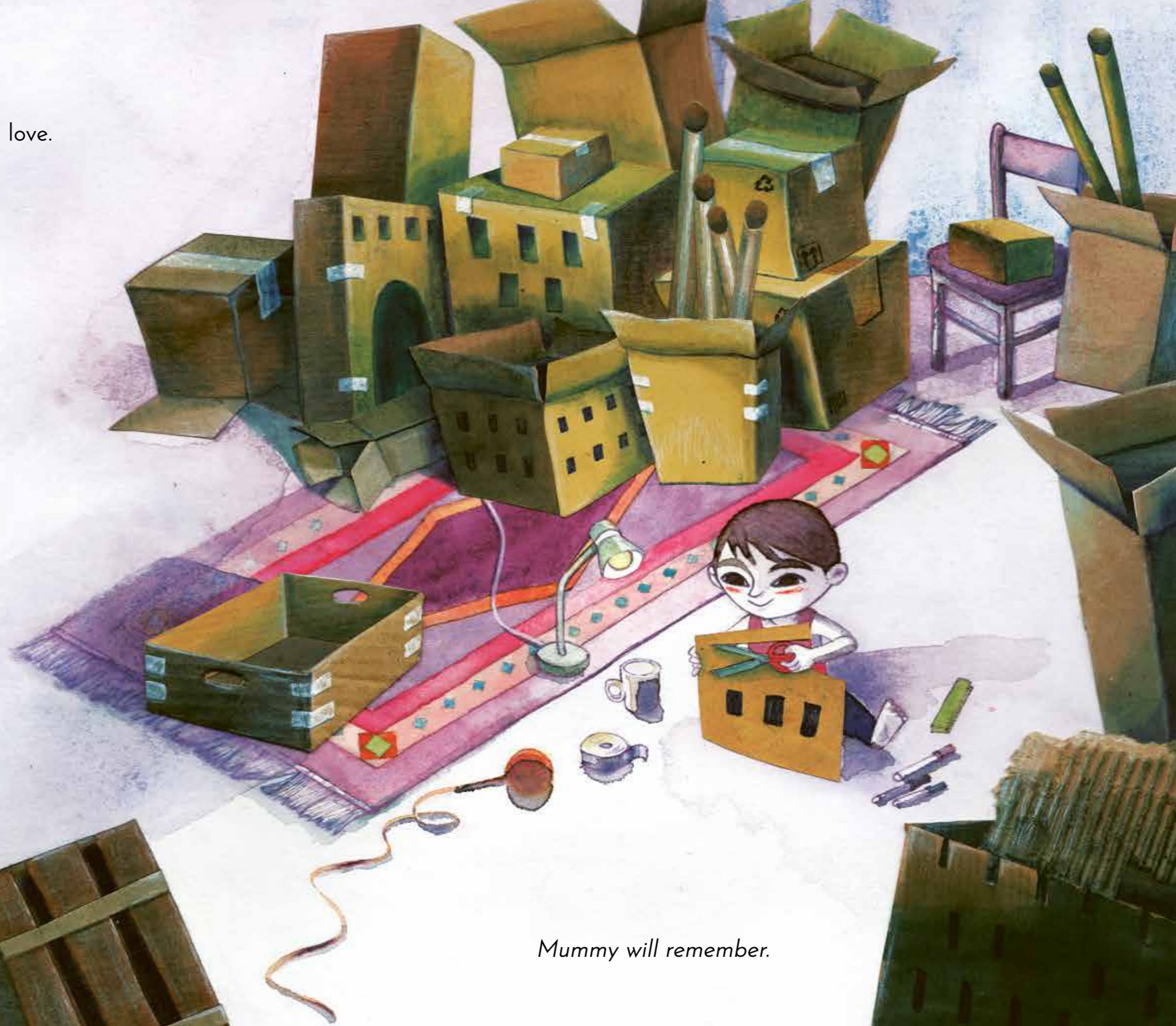
Sometimes, when something sad happens, people can
push the memory far away because it hurts so much.

That's why Mummy doesn't remember.

Sometimes, you need a plan to help the people you love.



I have a plan, and it's going to work.
Then Mummy won't be sad.
Then we can be happy again.



Mummy will remember.



MARK ARRIGO and **STEVEN CHATTERTON** are writer-directors who have dedicated many years to making a change. Mark set up the charity 'A Home for Winter' in 2016, building shelters for refugees in the Calais Jungle, and Steven has worked for many years with children's charities encouraging creativity in kids from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Before this story was a book, it was written as a film, also called *Adnan*. Millions of children like Adnan have to leave their homes because they are not safe, and Mark and Steven wanted to tell a story about these children and the people most affected by war. The little boy who plays Adnan in the film also had to leave his home after his neighbourhood was destroyed by war. But first his father had to make a very difficult journey, much like the one in this story. The little boy and his family now all live happily in England, but it wasn't easy in the beginning.

When refugees arrive in a place of safety, they face new challenges. Local people might speak a different language, look different or celebrate different traditions. It's a whole new world for them, while grieving for what they have been forced to leave behind. That's how Adnan's mummy feels, and that's why Adnan tries to heal her with his love.

When you close this book, your story will continue and there are so many things you can do. When you see someone who seems different, remember they may have gone through a very difficult experience and you can choose to be kind to them. It could start with a simple smile. The message Mark and Steven hope you take from this book is always to be kind and choose love, for others and for yourself. If we can all do that we'll be living in a better world.

DIALA BRISLY began her career as a cartoonist at the Syrian-based Spacetoon channel in 2001. Since then, her career has spanned a variety of mediums including animation, illustration, comic, painting and murals. Born in Kuwait to Syrian parents in 1980, Diala grew up in Damascus and was based there until the war meant that she and countless other Syrians had to flee to different countries. Having grown up in Syria during a time of political and social upheaval, Diala's work often depicts the struggles faced by those affected by war and repression. She uses vibrant colours, bold lines, symbols and playful imagery to highlight the resilience and strength of individuals in the face of adversity.

Now Diala is based in France, and her artwork is still deeply rooted in her own personal experiences as a Syrian refugee. She also uses her artwork to explore themes of identity, displacement and human rights. Diala has also been involved in various art and education projects for children and young people affected by conflict and war. She has been a part of a number of initiatives aimed at promoting dialogue and understanding between different cultures and communities. Through her work, she aims to inspire hope and spark dialogue around issues of social justice, believing art has the power to connect people across cultures and to create spaces for understanding and empathy.



CHOOSE LOVE

Sadly, lots of people around the world are forced to leave their homes to find safety. This could be because they are fleeing war and conflict, trying to find safe environments, or because they are being hurt because of who they are or what they believe. Everyone deserves to live in safety and build a better future for themselves and their families.

Choose Love does whatever it takes to make sure that refugees and displaced people across the world have what they need; whether that's food or clean water, or a safe and dry place to sleep and a school for children to go to. In the eight years that it has been running, Choose Love has helped over 4 million refugees around the world, given away more than 5 million hot meals, made sure that babies have got nappies, and that children and families have clothes to wear.

Around the world, every two seconds a person has to leave their home to escape dangers like war and violence. We can all help by raising money and awareness to make sure everyone has food and shelter. We also can learn more about what refugees have been through and the difficulties they face. And we can make sure that refugees in the towns or communities we live in feel welcome.

Love can change lives.

We can all Choose Love.