

# FRIGHTENED FRED

Peta Coplans



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*For David*

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Fred was often frightened.





He couldn't help it. He came from a very nervous family.







He was too scared to help his sister check for monsters under the bed. He was too scared to watch his brother's caterpillars wiggle.







When his cousin Jack came to play, Fred showed him his list of Scary Things.





Fred's mother said maybe they should take a nice, gentle walk to the park.

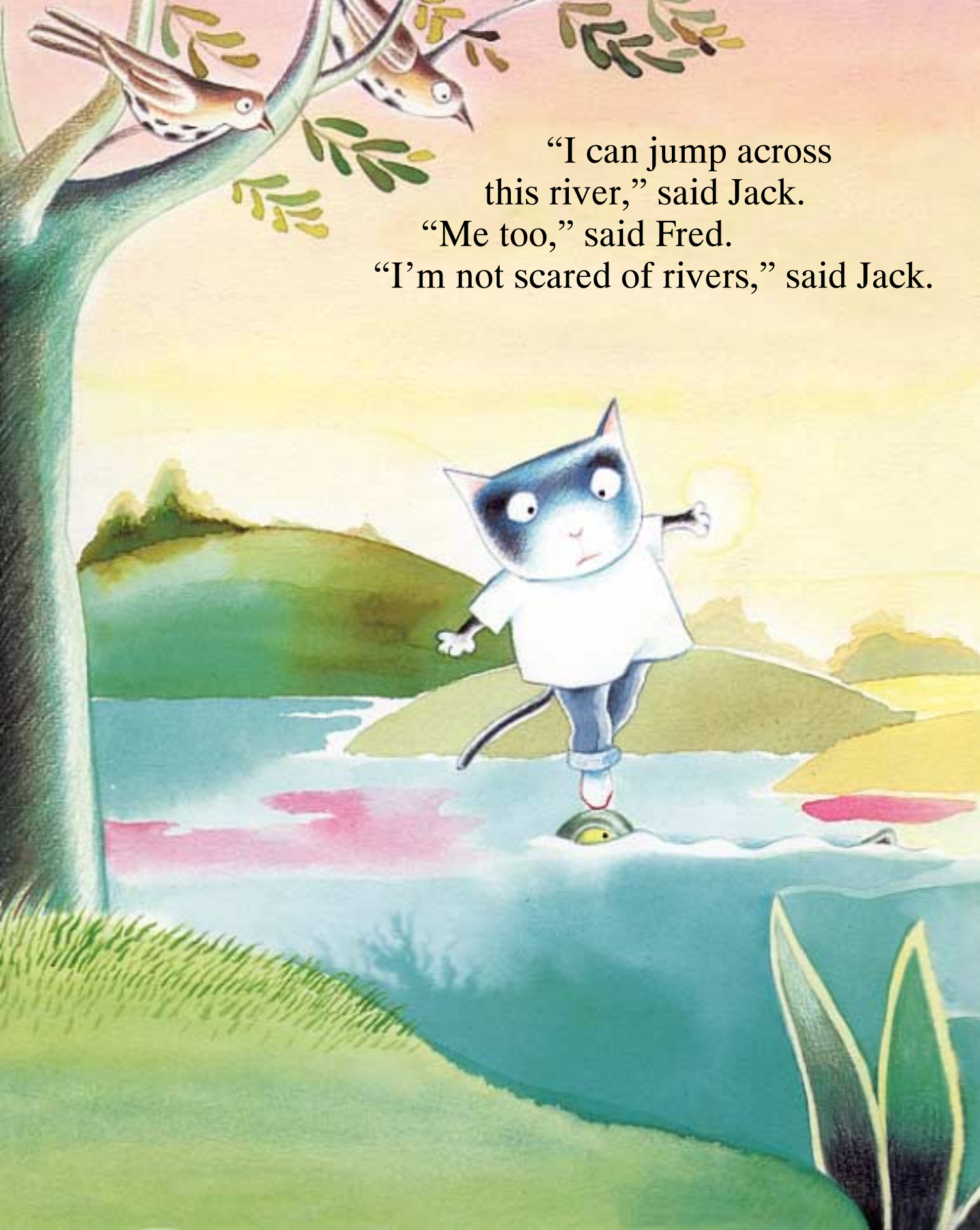






“I’m not scared,” said Jack.  
“I can climb trees.”  
“So can I,” said Fred.





“I can jump across  
this river,” said Jack.

“Me too,” said Fred.

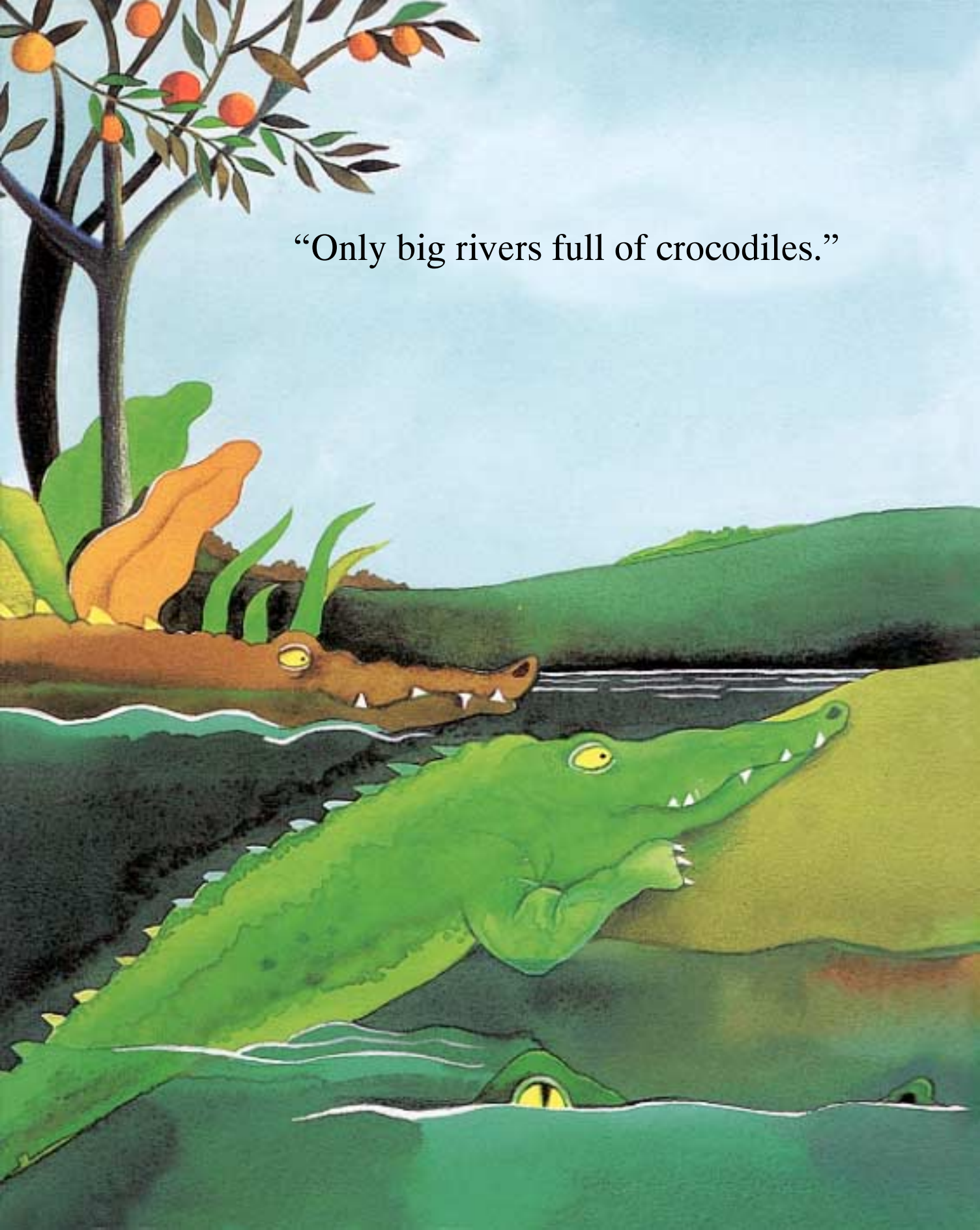
“I’m not scared of rivers,” said Jack.







“Only big rivers full of crocodiles.”











“Spooky, isn’t it?” said Fred in the woods.  
“Not too spooky for me,” said Jack. “I’m  
never scared.”







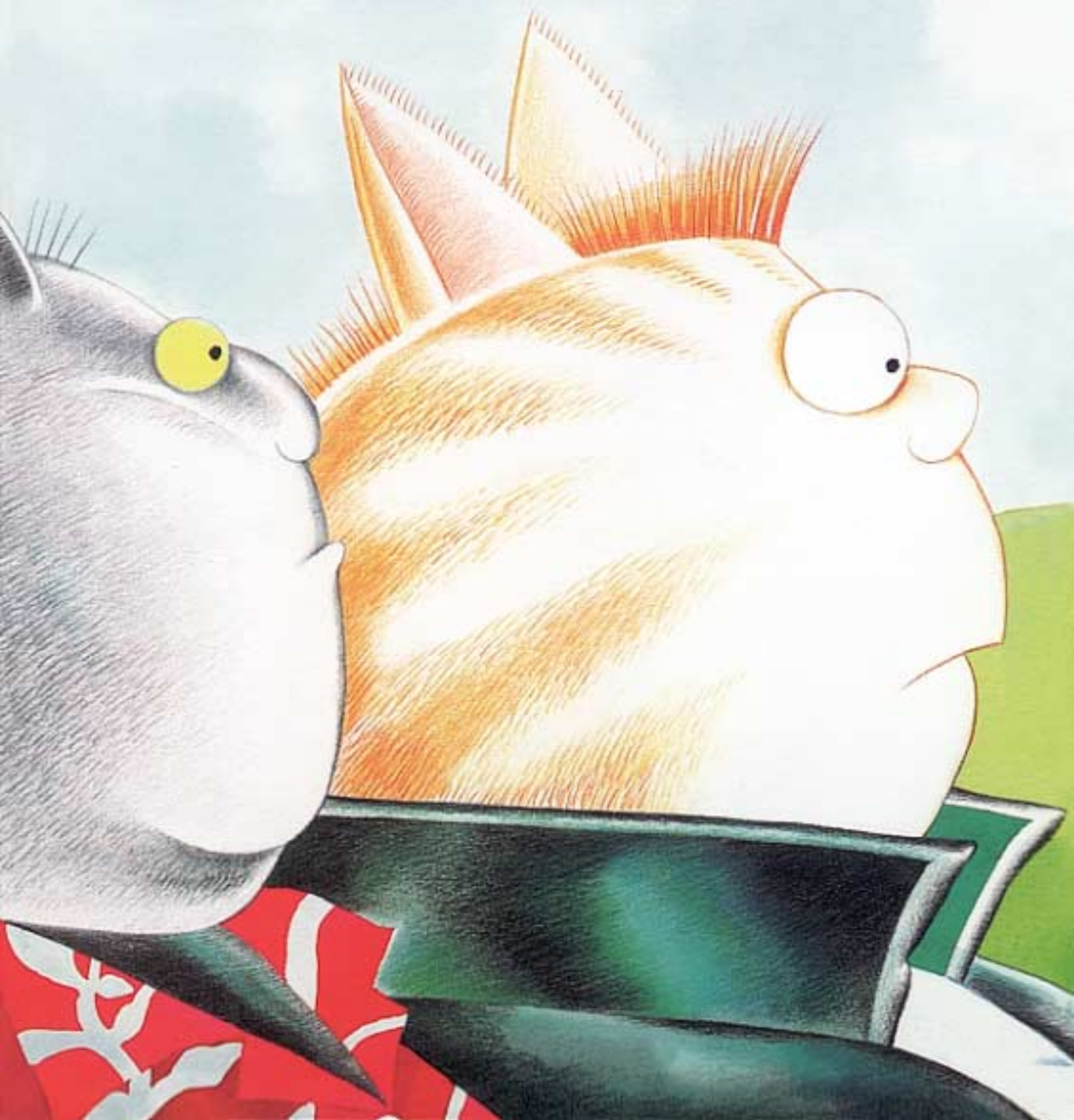




Some cats from Fred's street were coming up the hill. They were big. They were tough. They were getting closer.



And closer...





Jack turned and ran.  
Fred couldn't move.



“Is this the way to the river?” asked  
the biggest cat.



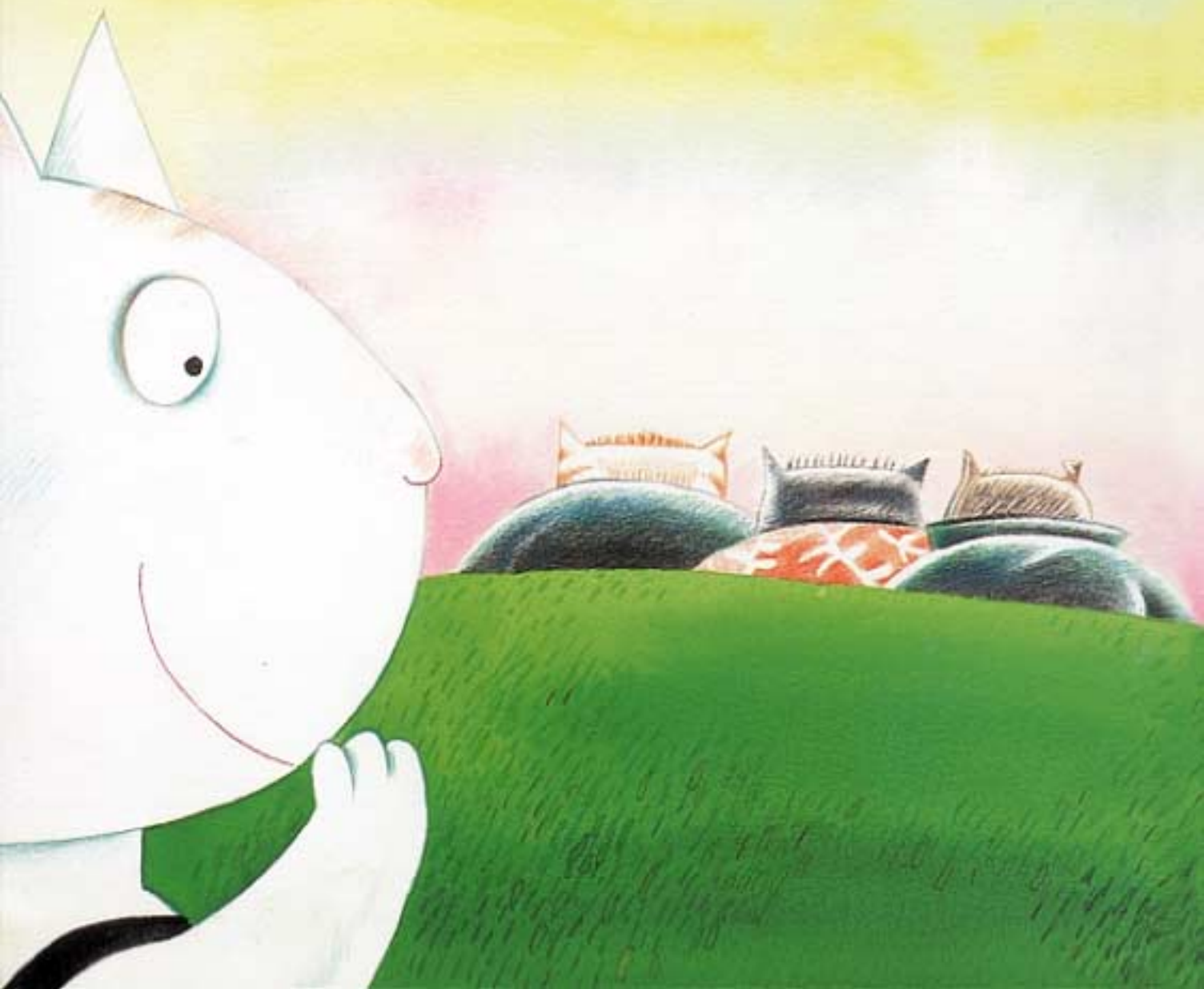


“Yes,” said Fred.

“Thanks,” said the cats. “See you around.”



“Hey Fred,” said Jack when he was sure they’d gone. “Those cats looked so mean - weren’t you scared?”





“Scared?” said Fred.  
“WHO, ME?”

