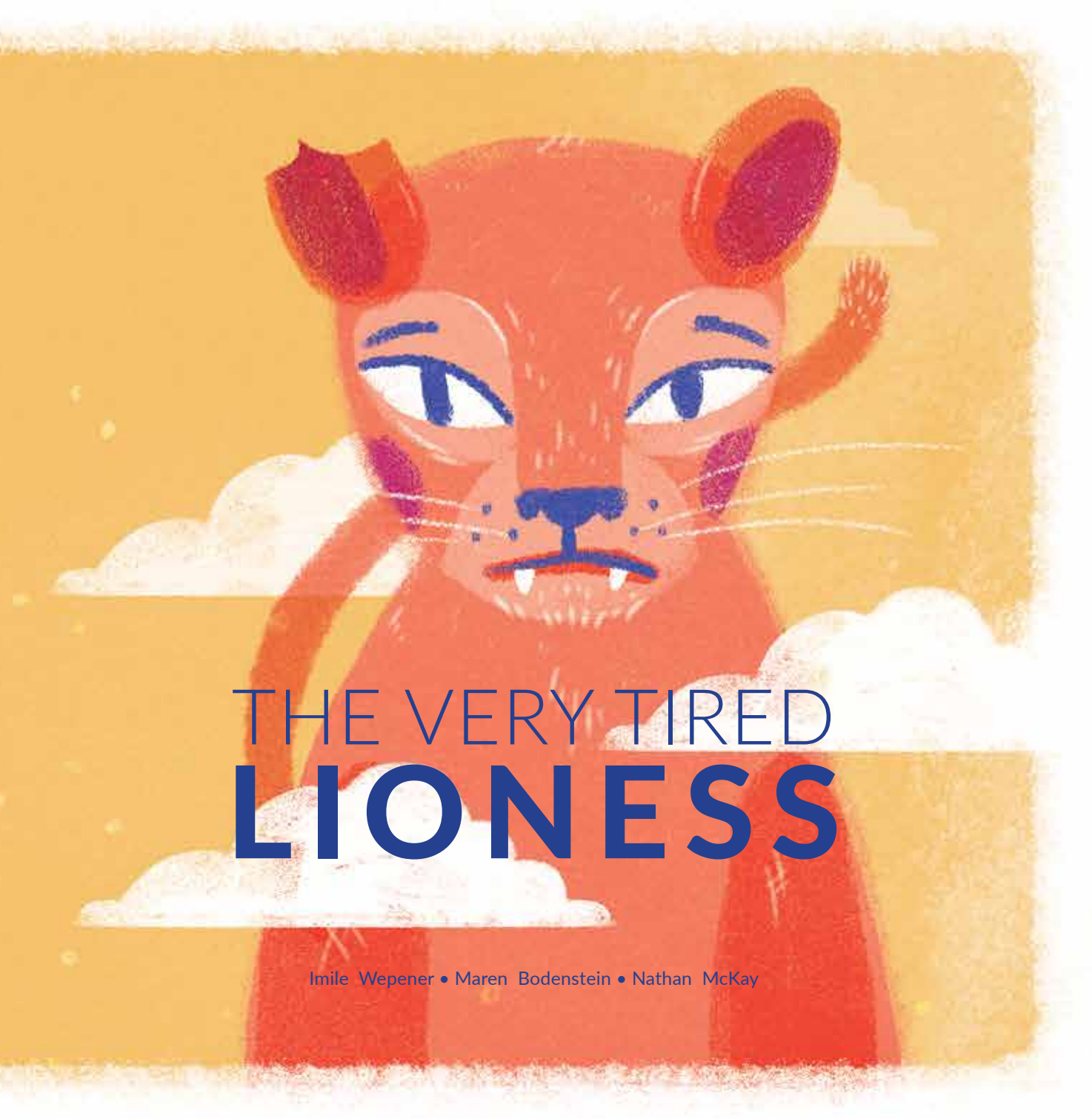


A stylized illustration of a lioness with a weary expression, featuring heavy-lidded eyes and a small, downturned mouth. She has orange fur, a blue nose, and white whiskers. Her right paw is raised near her face. The background is a warm, golden-yellow with soft, white clouds. The title text is overlaid on the lower half of the illustration.

THE VERY TIRED **LIONESS**

Imile Wepener • Maren Bodenstein • Nathan McKay

The Very Tired Lioness

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The Very Tired Lioness

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with the help of the Book Dash participants in Johannesburg on 27 October 2018.

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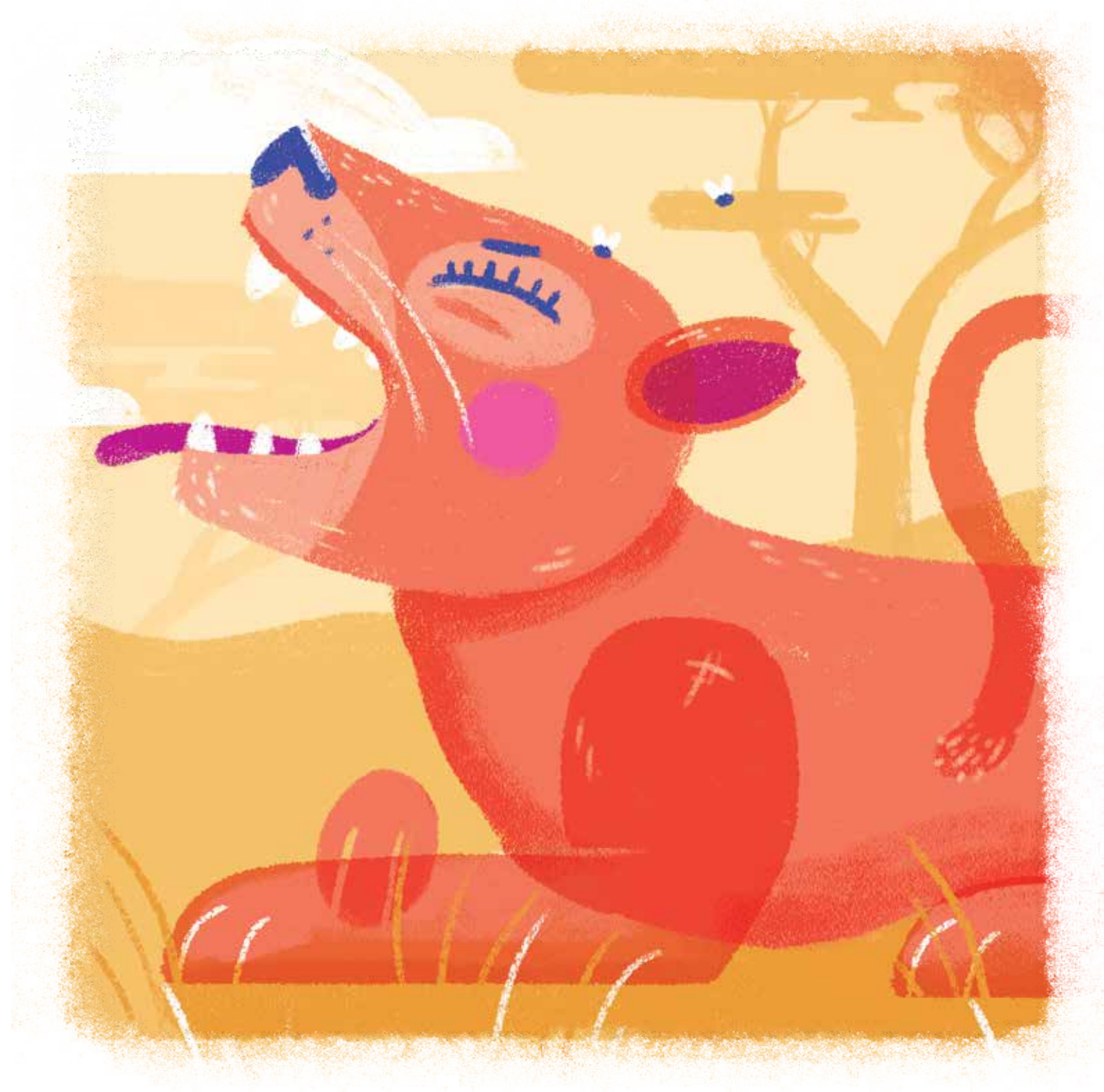
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The book cover features a vibrant, textured illustration of a lioness's face in shades of orange and red, set against a background of stylized white clouds. The title 'THE VERY TIRED LIONESS' is prominently displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font across the center of the cover.

THE VERY TIRED LIONESS

There was once a very old
and very tired lioness.

She was so tired that
she slept all day.
And all night.





“Come and hunt with us,”
said her sisters and daughters.

But the lioness was
too tired.

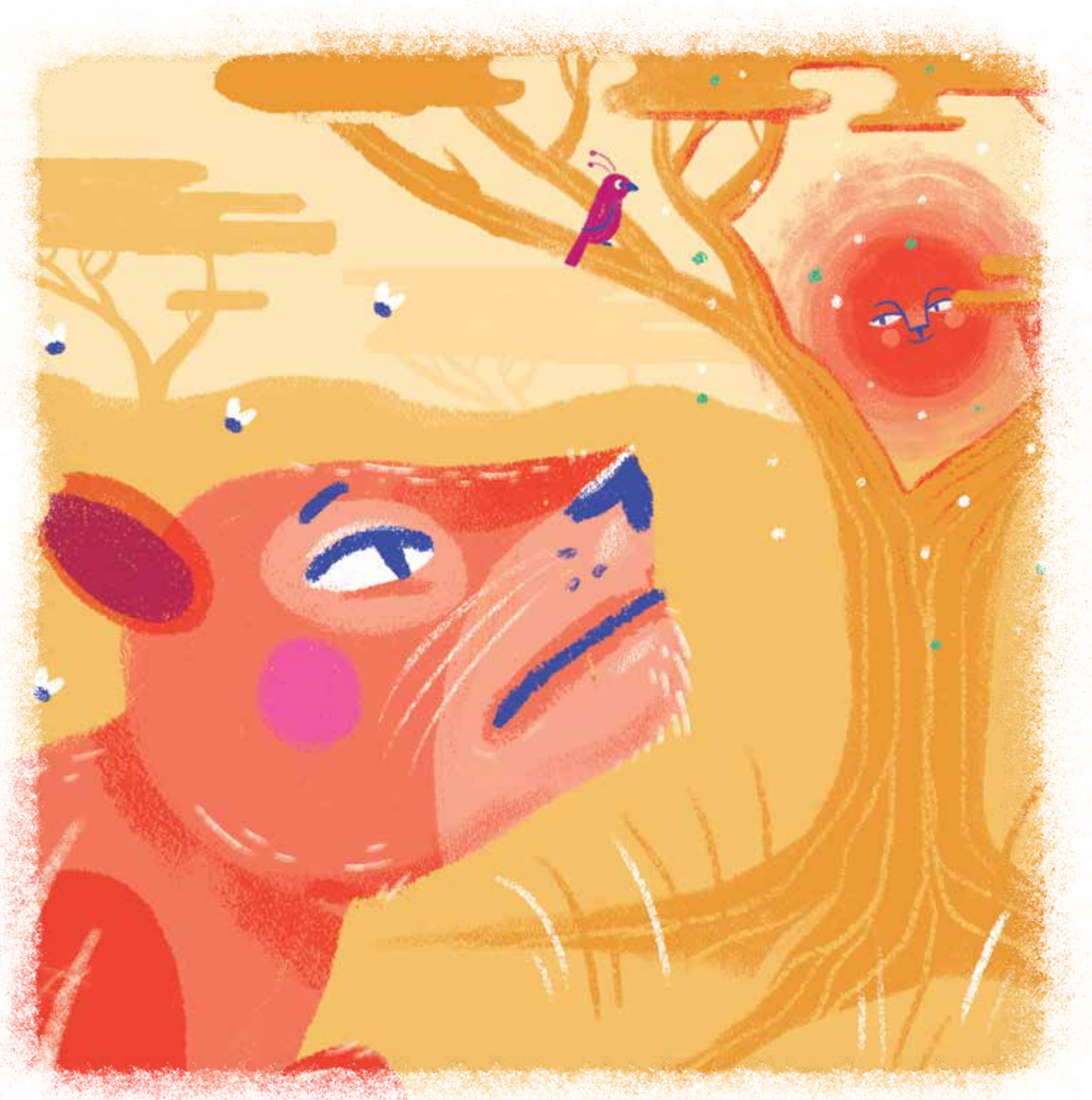
“What’s wrong with her?”

asked the young impalas.

“Don’t go too close,” warned their mothers. **“She might eat you.”**

But the lioness just
flicked her ears to
chase away the flies.





One day the lioness woke up
with a strange feeling that
something was watching her.

When she looked up she saw a
boiling roiling creature in the tree.

“Who are you?” asked the lioness.

"I am the sun.
I have come to fetch you."

"Go away,"
grumbled the lioness.
"I want to sleep."





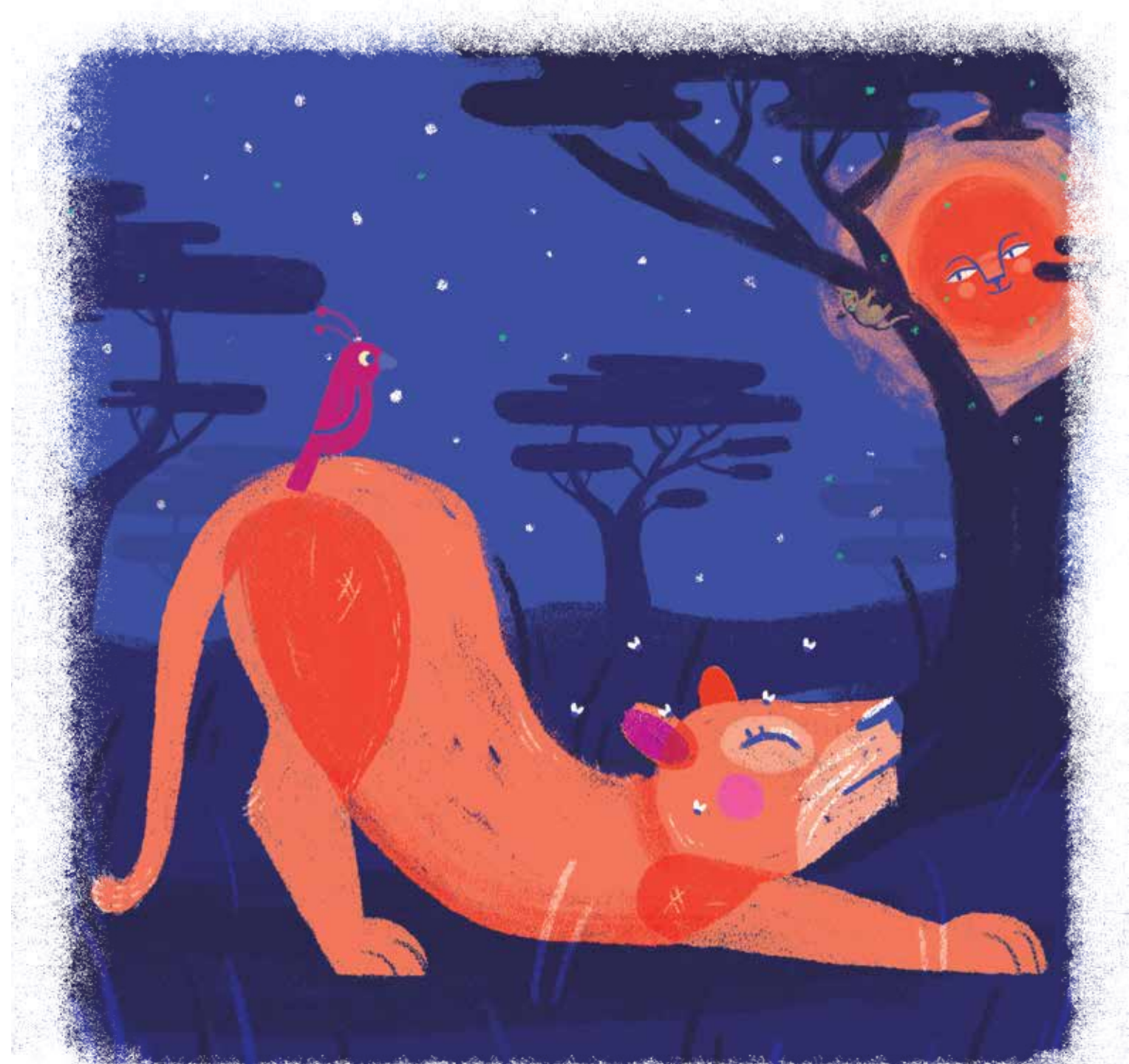
When the lioness opened her eyes again, the sun was still in the tree.
“Can’t you see, you are making us all hot and thirsty?”

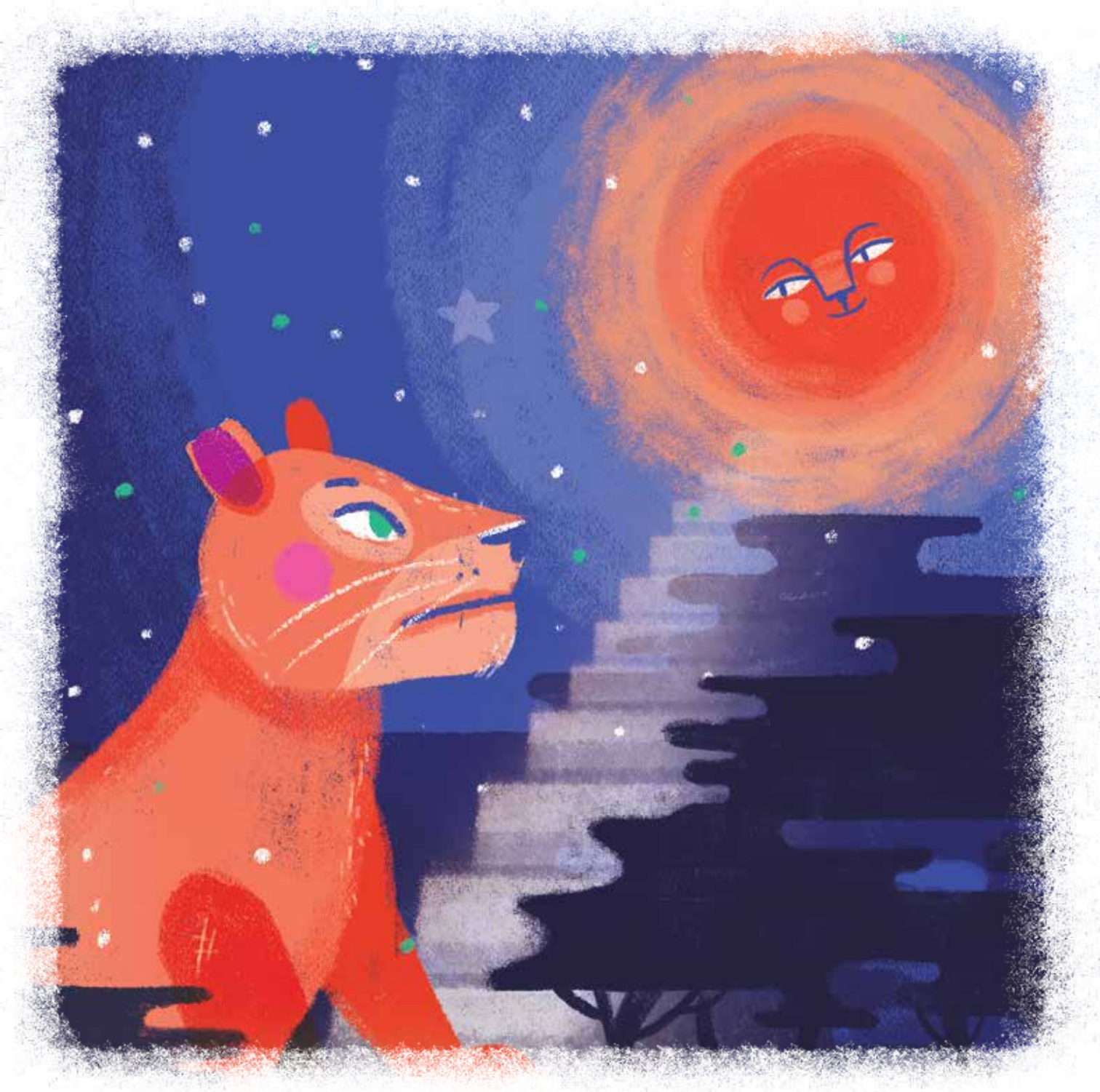
“It’s getting late,”
said the sun.
“Follow me.”

So the lioness slowly
got up and followed the sun.

“Happy hunting,” called her sisters
and daughters after her.

“See you! See you!” chirped the bird.

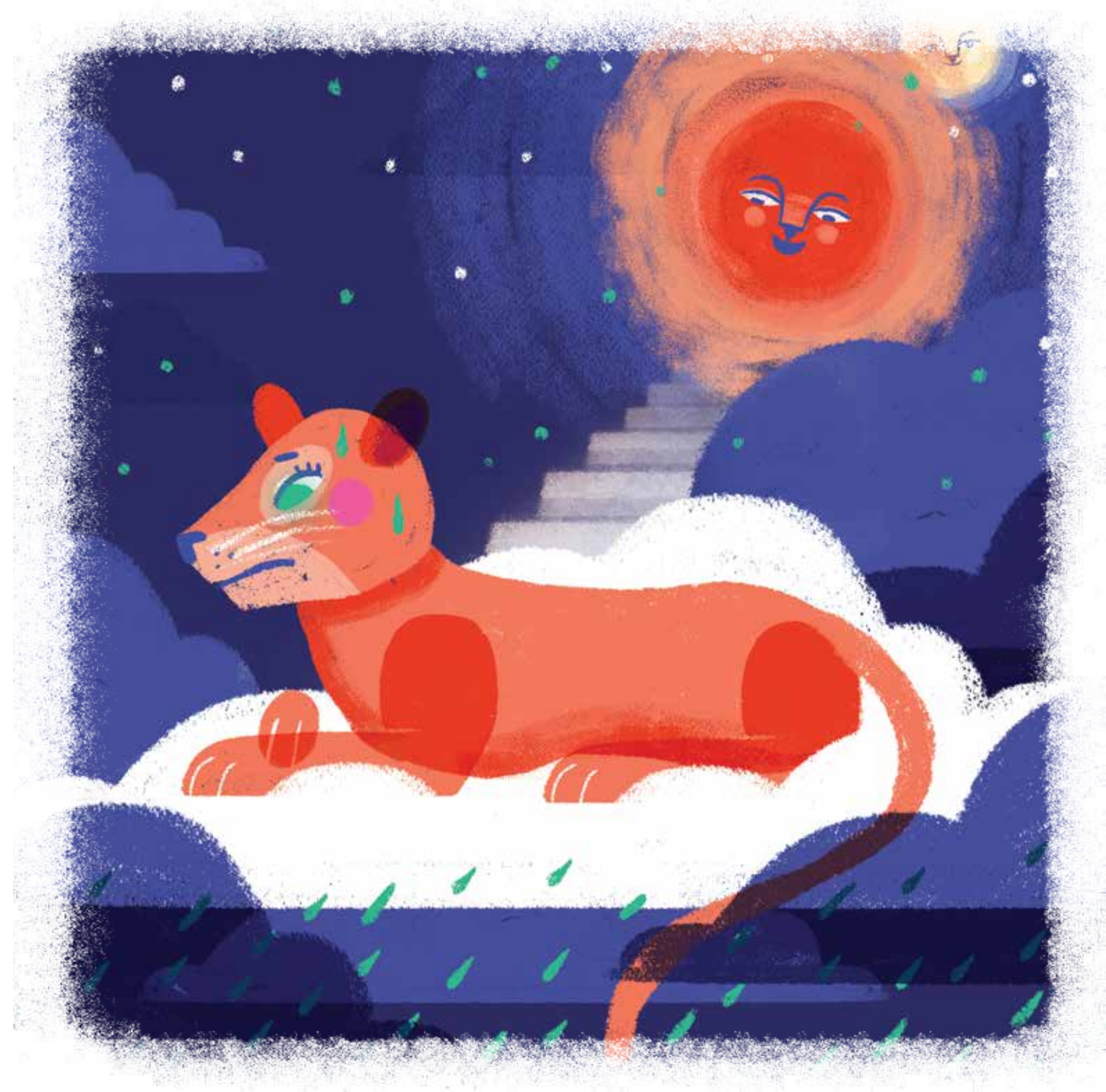


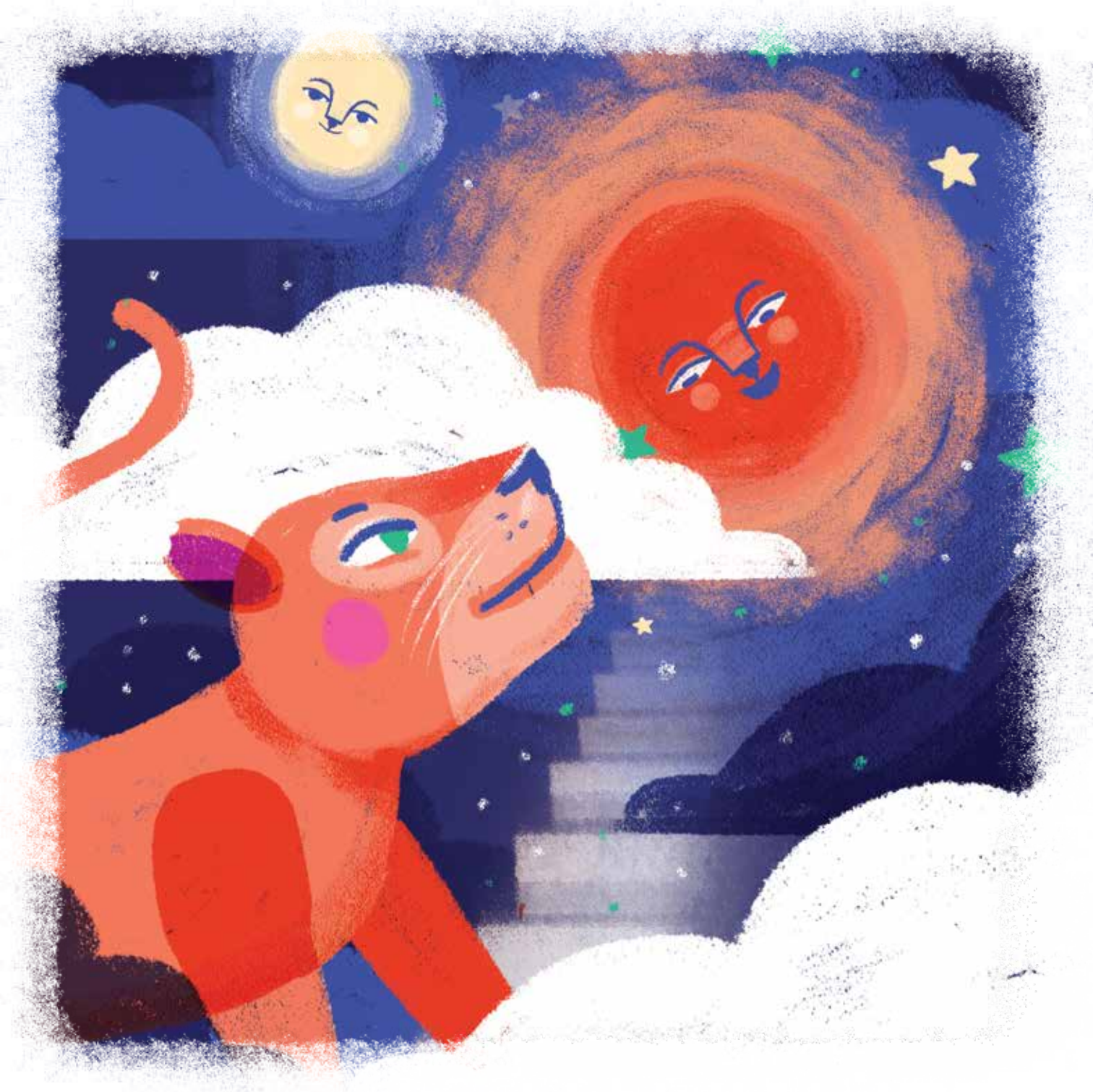


But the lioness didn't
hear anything.

She just climbed higher
and higher and higher
into the sky.

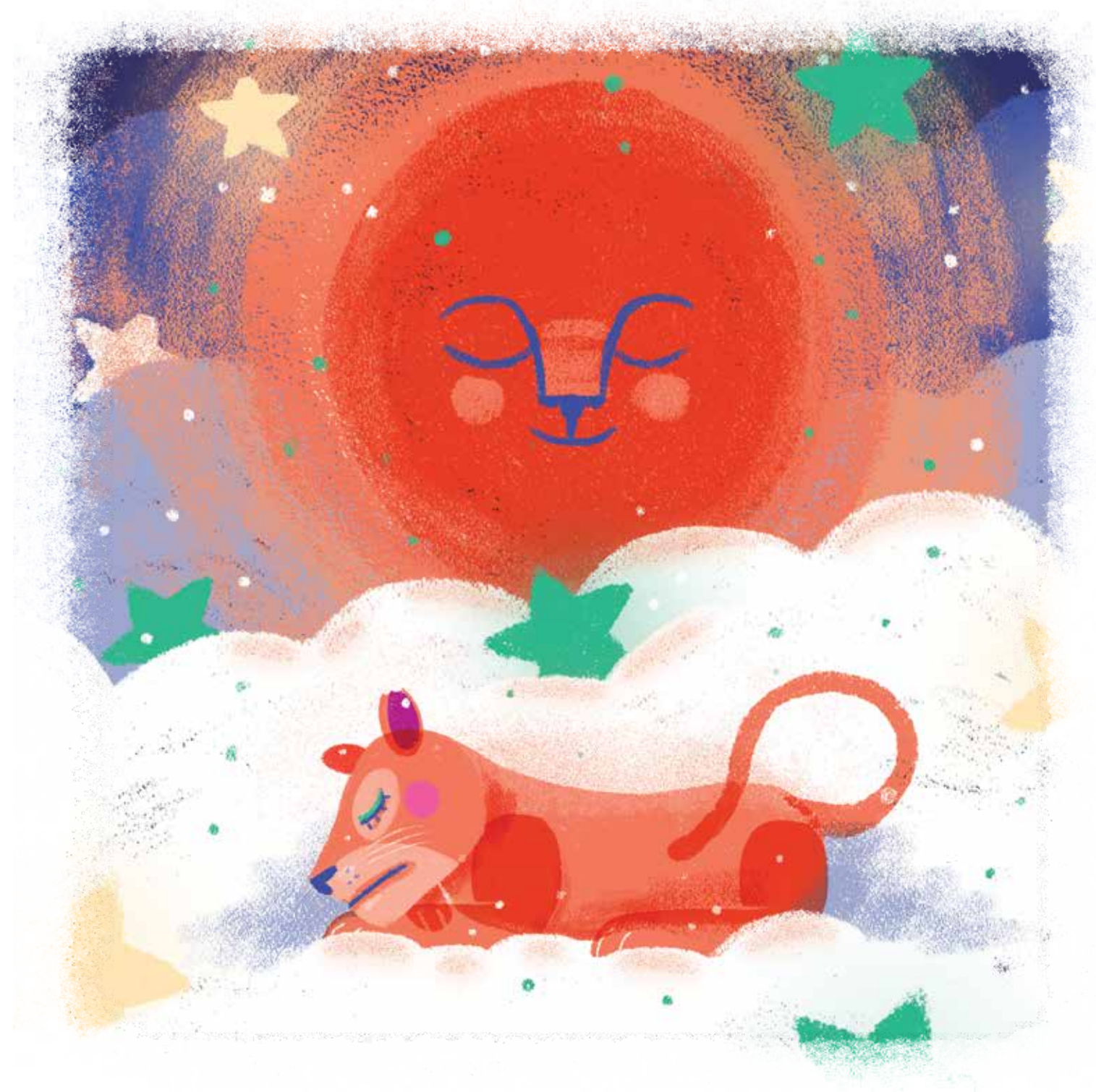
“Phew, it is far,”
said the lioness.





**“Not too far to go anymore,”
said the sun.
“You can rest when we get there.”**

And so the lioness came
to stay with the sun.
All day she lay lazily
in its warmth.





But at night, when the sun was asleep, **she looked down** at the beautiful world **she had left behind.**



