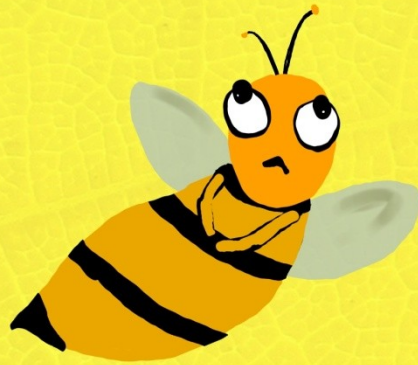


BEE-NOT-SO-BUSY



WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY

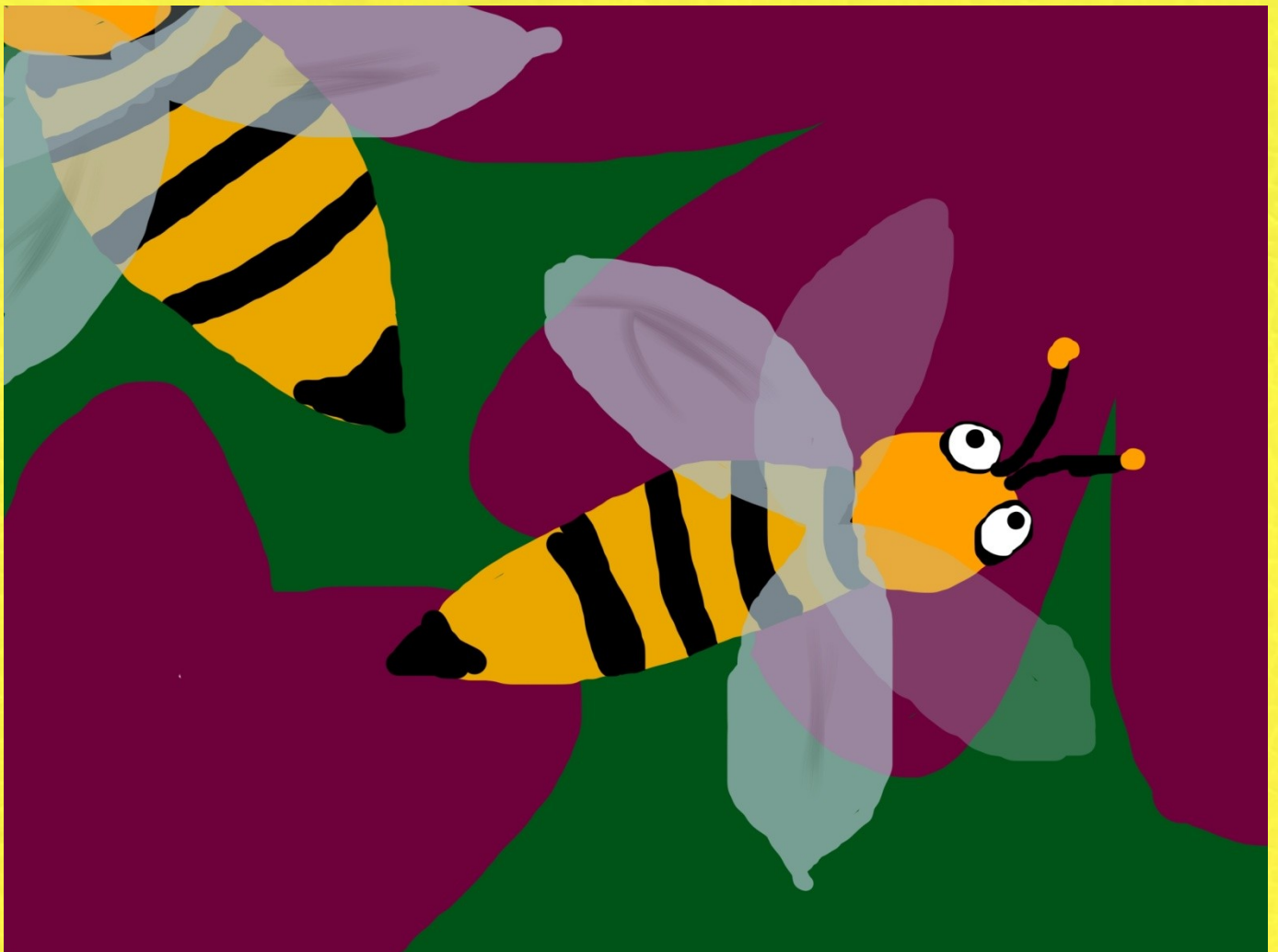
GITA V. REDDY

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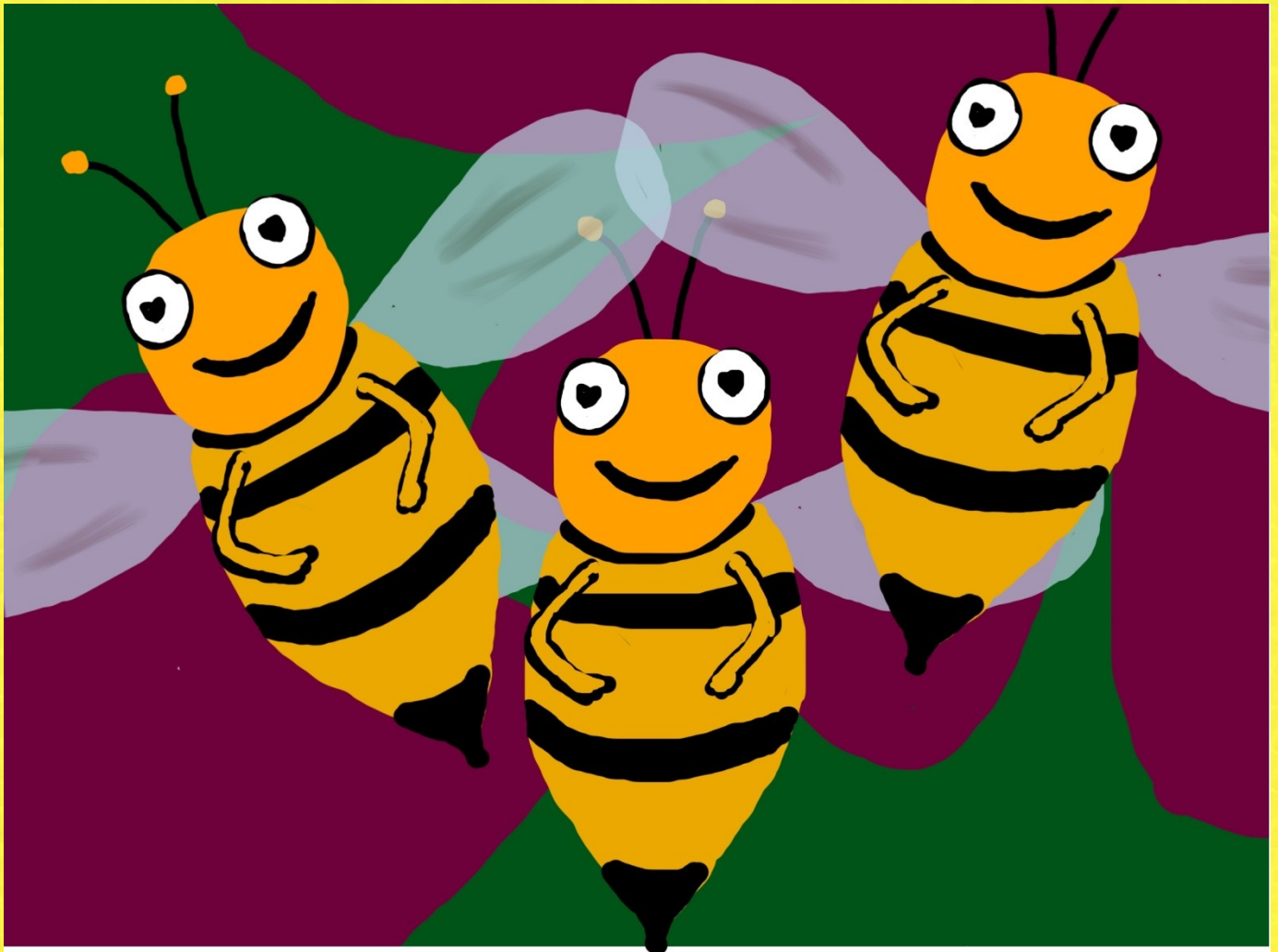
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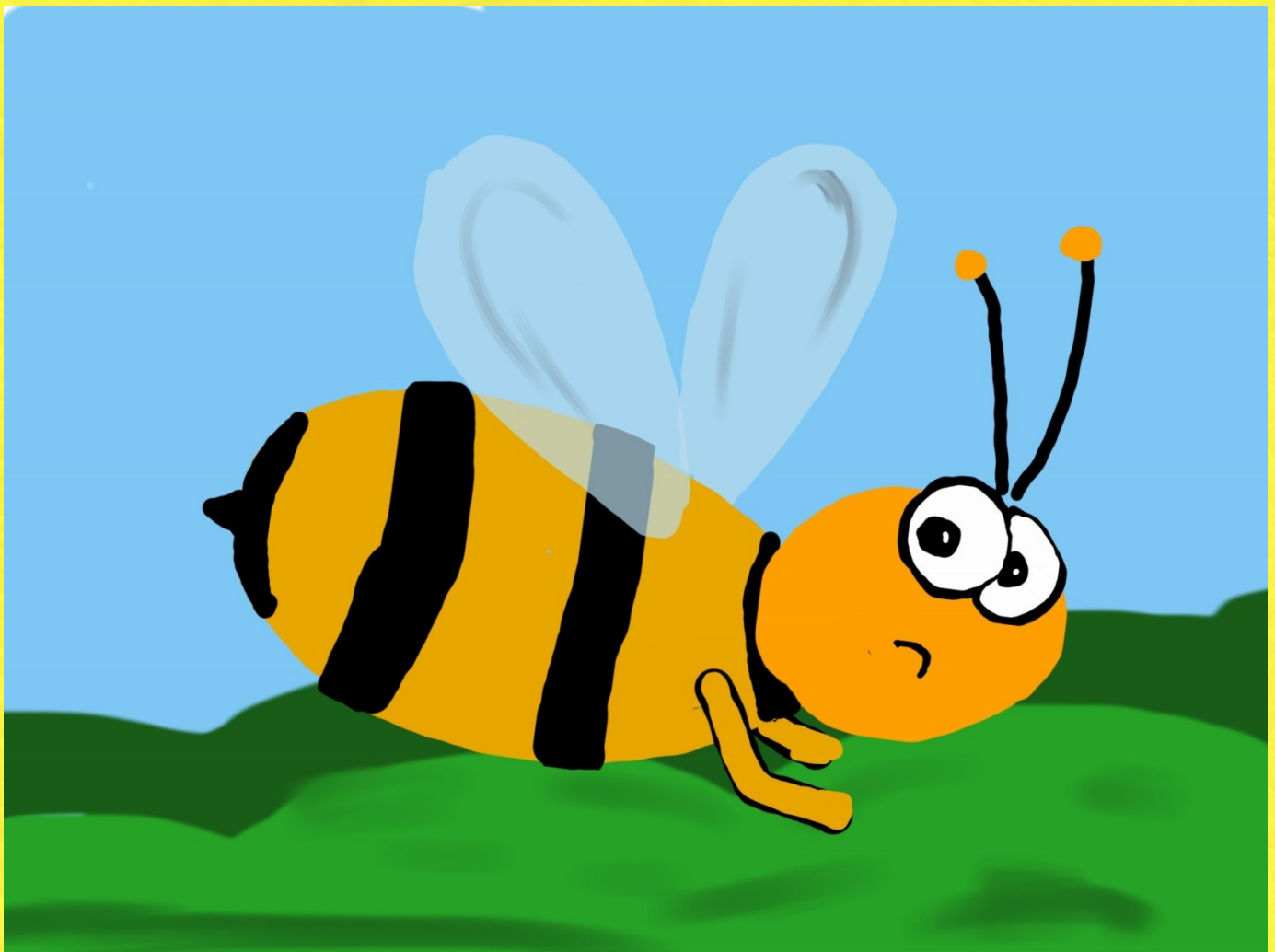
**All day long the Busy-Bees flew from hive to flower and back to
hive, gathering pollen and nectar.**



Their wings beat so fast that they caused a buzz!



“Look at us! We’re humming with activity!” they sang.



Bee-Not-So-Busy was different from the other bees.



“Why don’t bees enjoy the garden like the other insects?” she wondered.



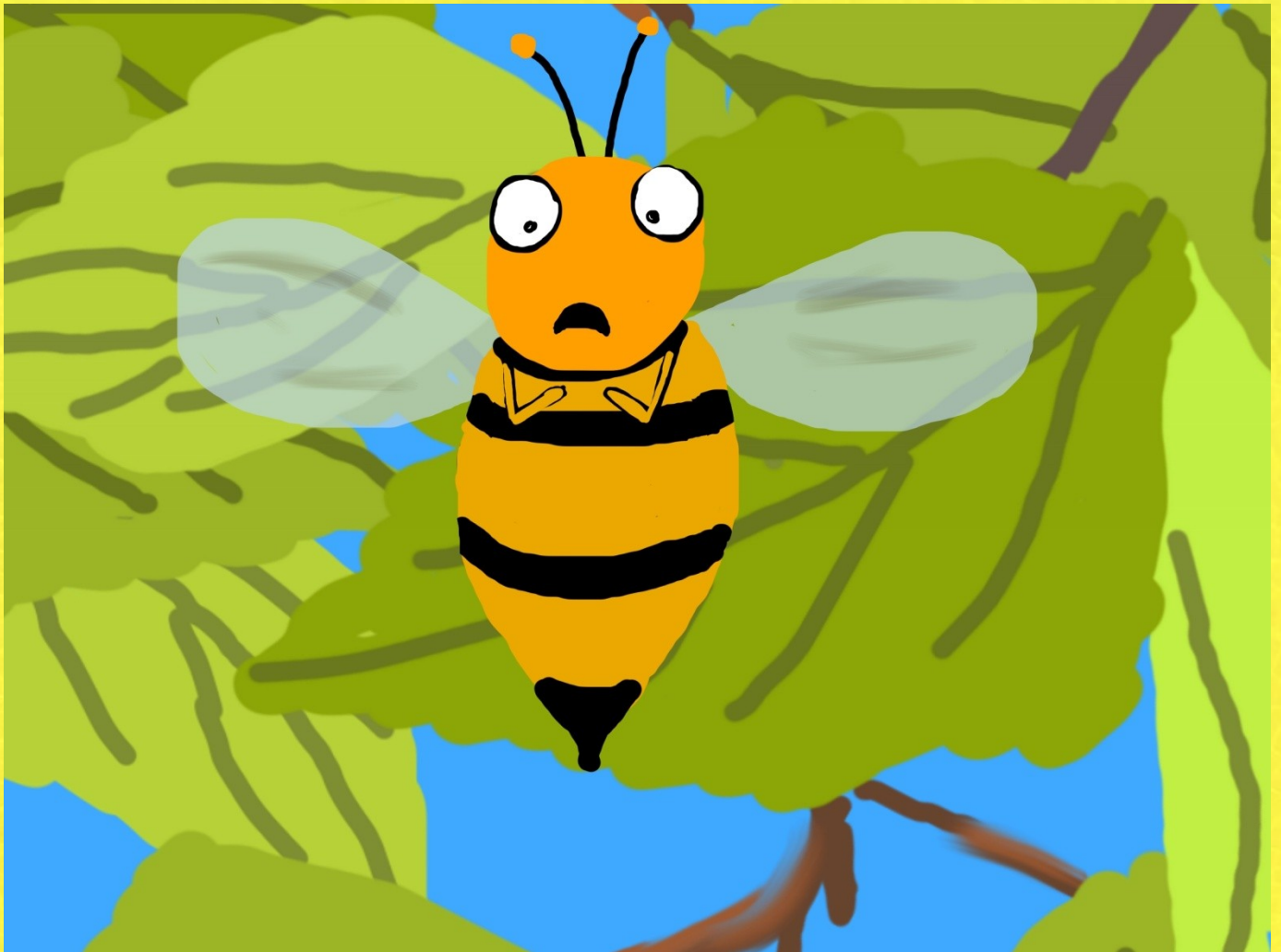
“I’ll leave the hive and live like the beetles and the butterflies, the ants and the grasshoppers!” she said.



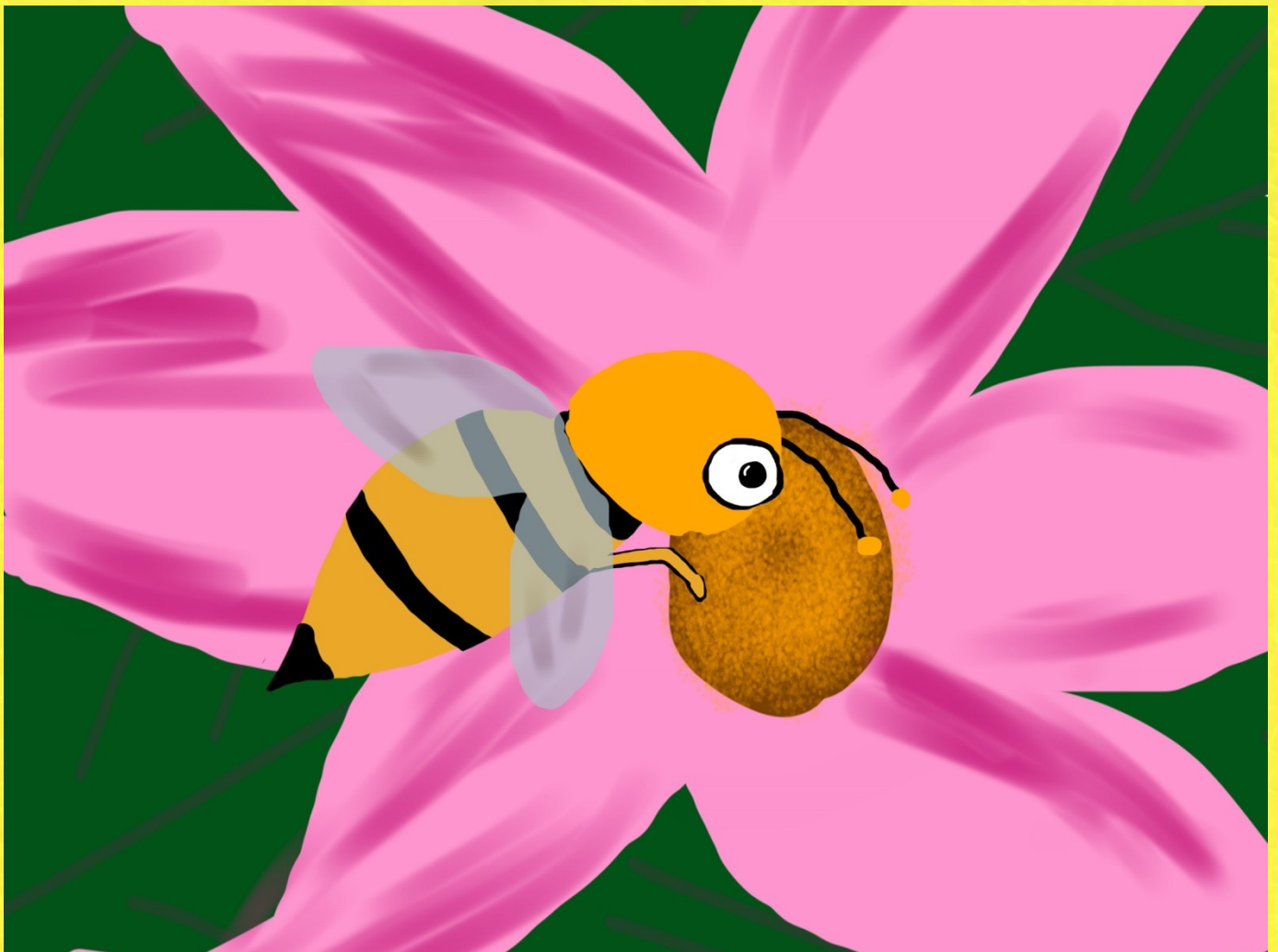
She saw a beetle on a leaf. Beetles are smart. Instead of gathering nectar and making honey, they eat the leaves on the plant,” she said.



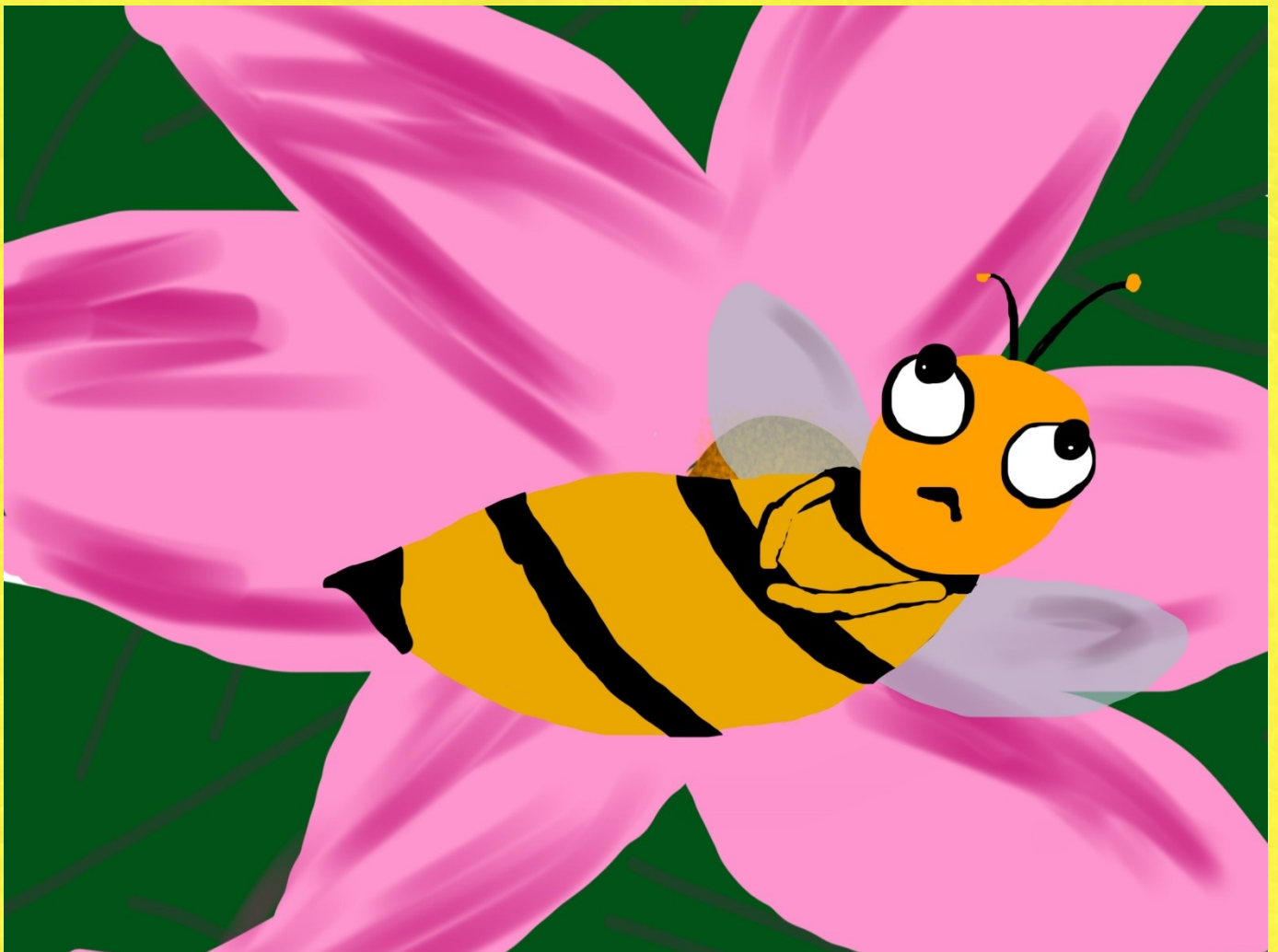
After dressing up in a beetle suit, she flew down beside the beetle.



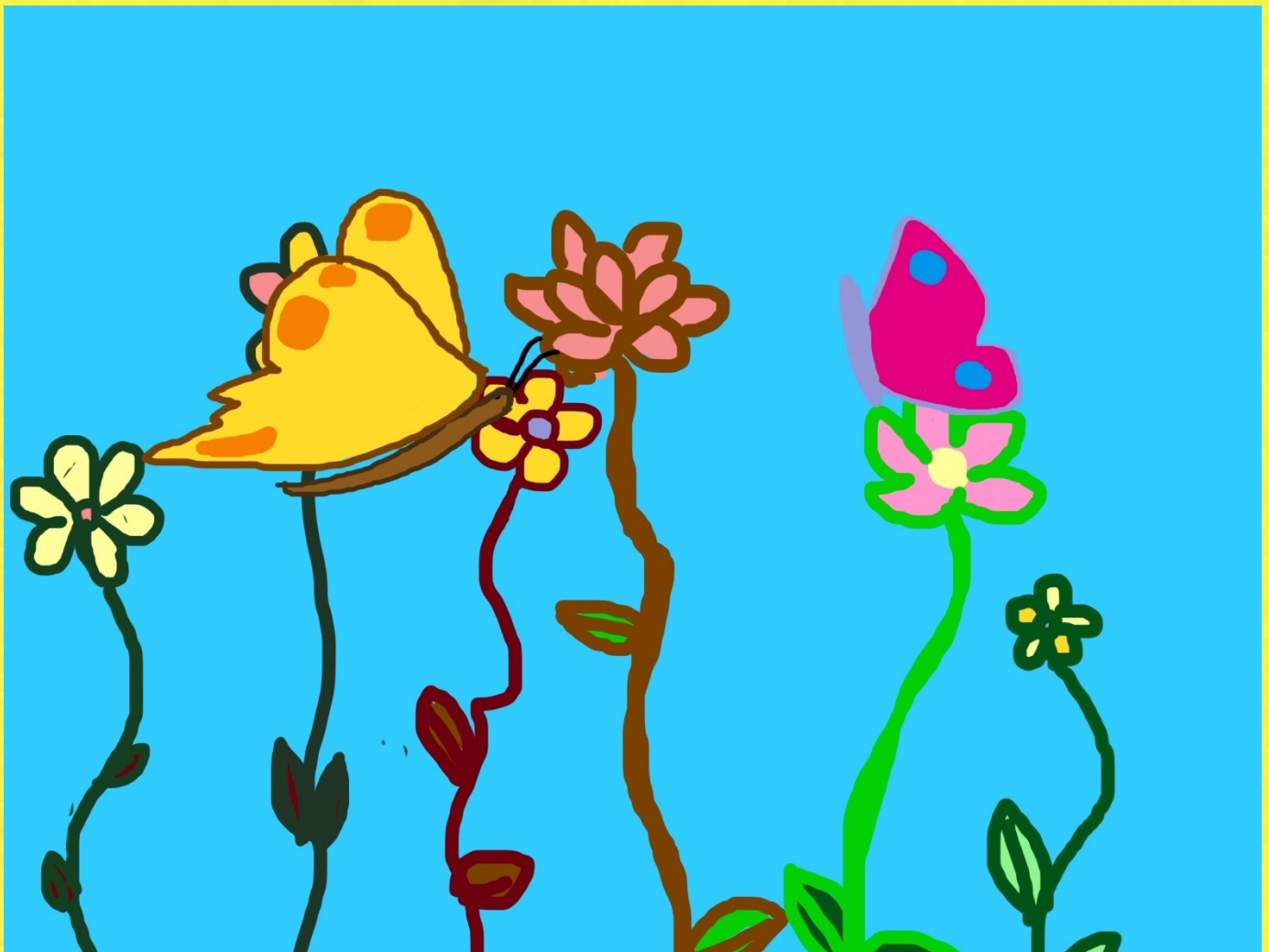
Bee-Not-So-Busy took a big bite and almost vomited. “Yuck! This leaf tastes horrible!”



She flew to a flower and sipped some nectar and felt better.

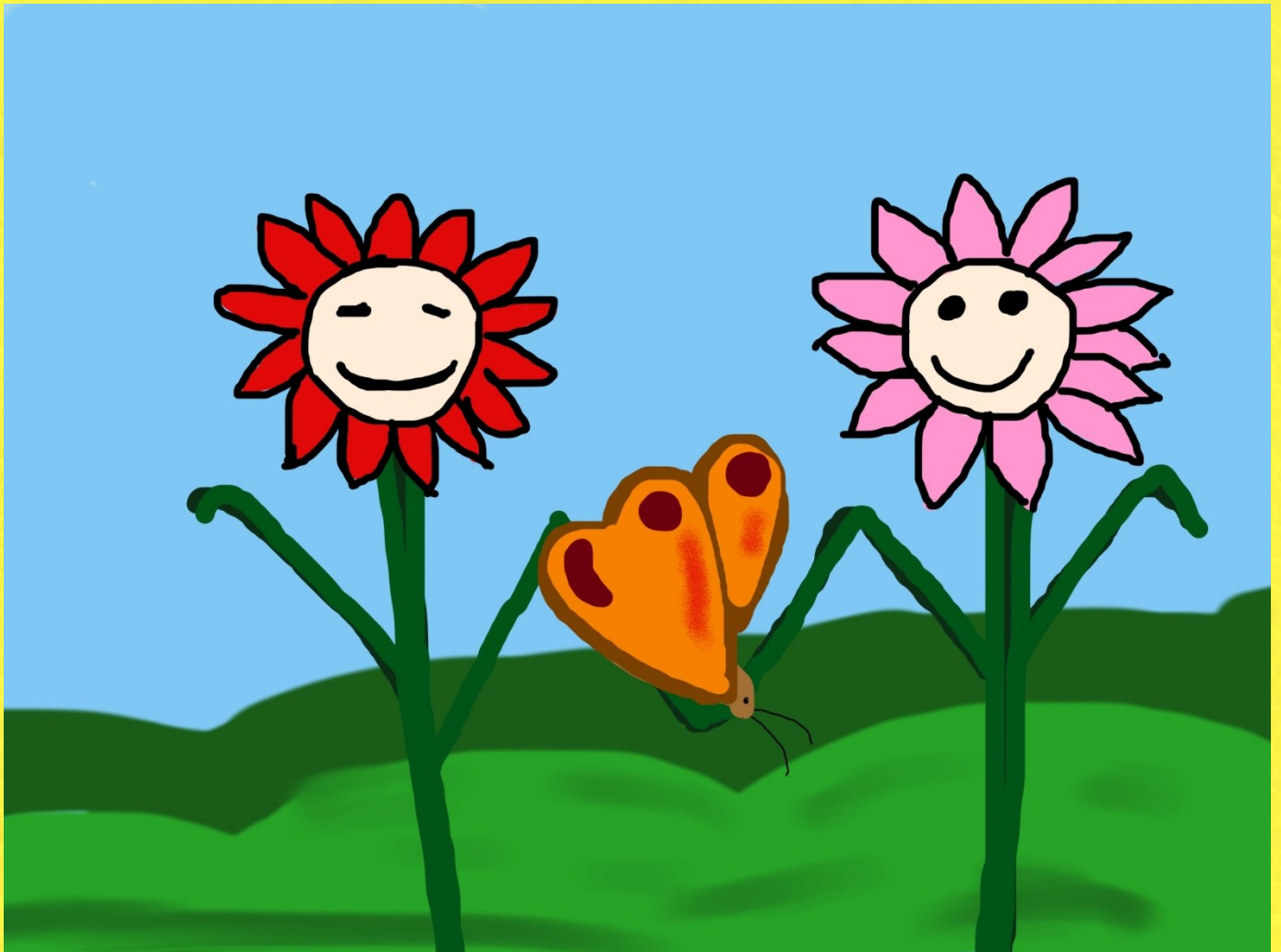


“I’ll live like a butterfly. They sip nectar but don’t work like bees.”



“They fly over flowers before choosing one.

They don’t rush at all. And they don’t hum.”



“They have so much fun!”



Bee-Not-So-Busy found a bright and colorful butterfly costume.



She had a nice day sipping nectar and flying among the flowers.



By evening, she was tired. Like the other butterflies, she folded her wings and went to sleep under a leaf.



Suddenly there was thunder and lightning. Thick drops of rain fell hard and fast.



Bee-Not-So-Busy took shelter under a bunch of flowers. The flowers grew heavy with the rainwater.



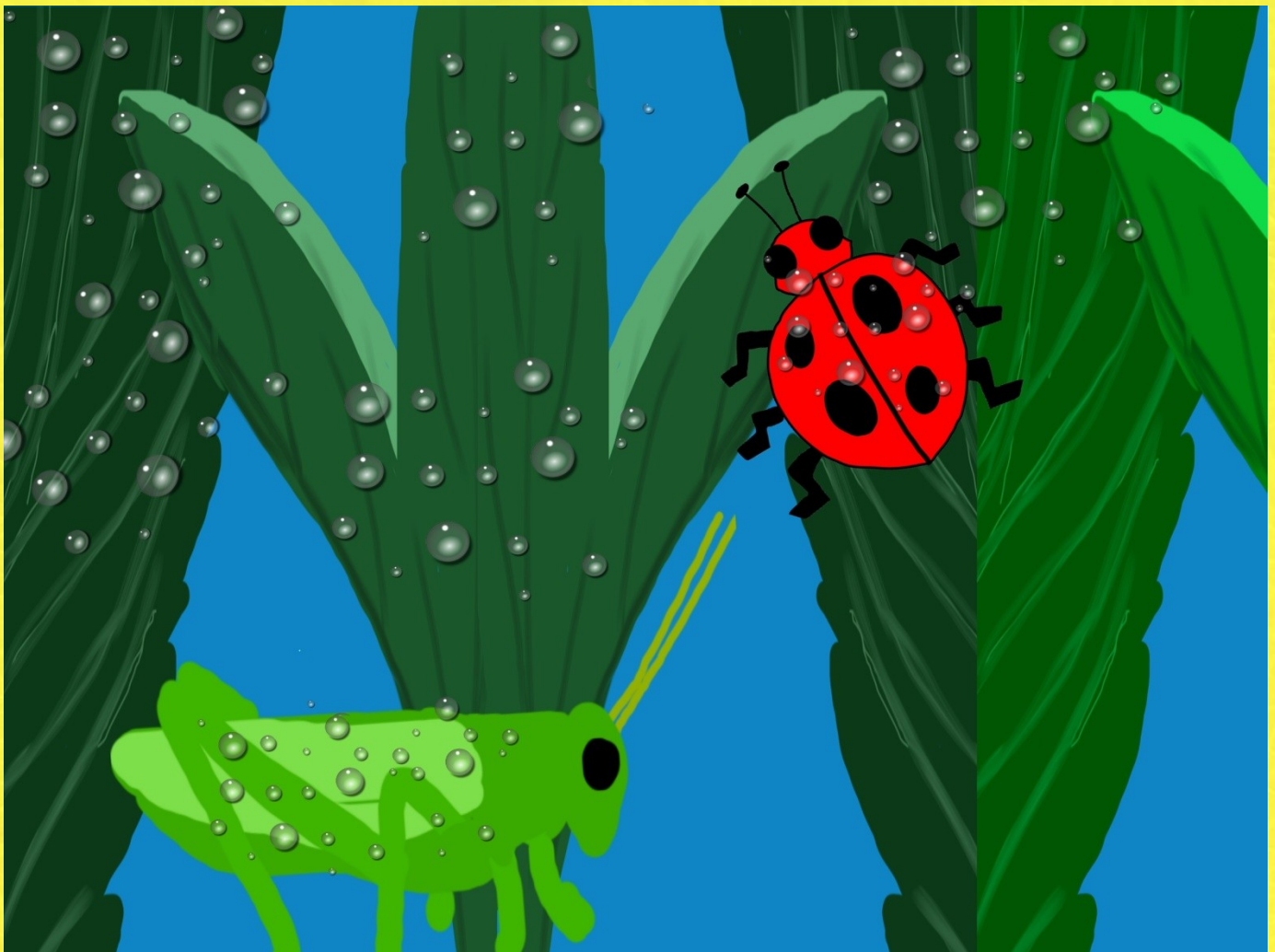
Bee-Not-So-Busy was scared she would drop into the puddle that had formed around the plant.



The rain stopped after sometime. Bee-Not-So-Busy threw away the wet butterfly coat and rested on a stem.



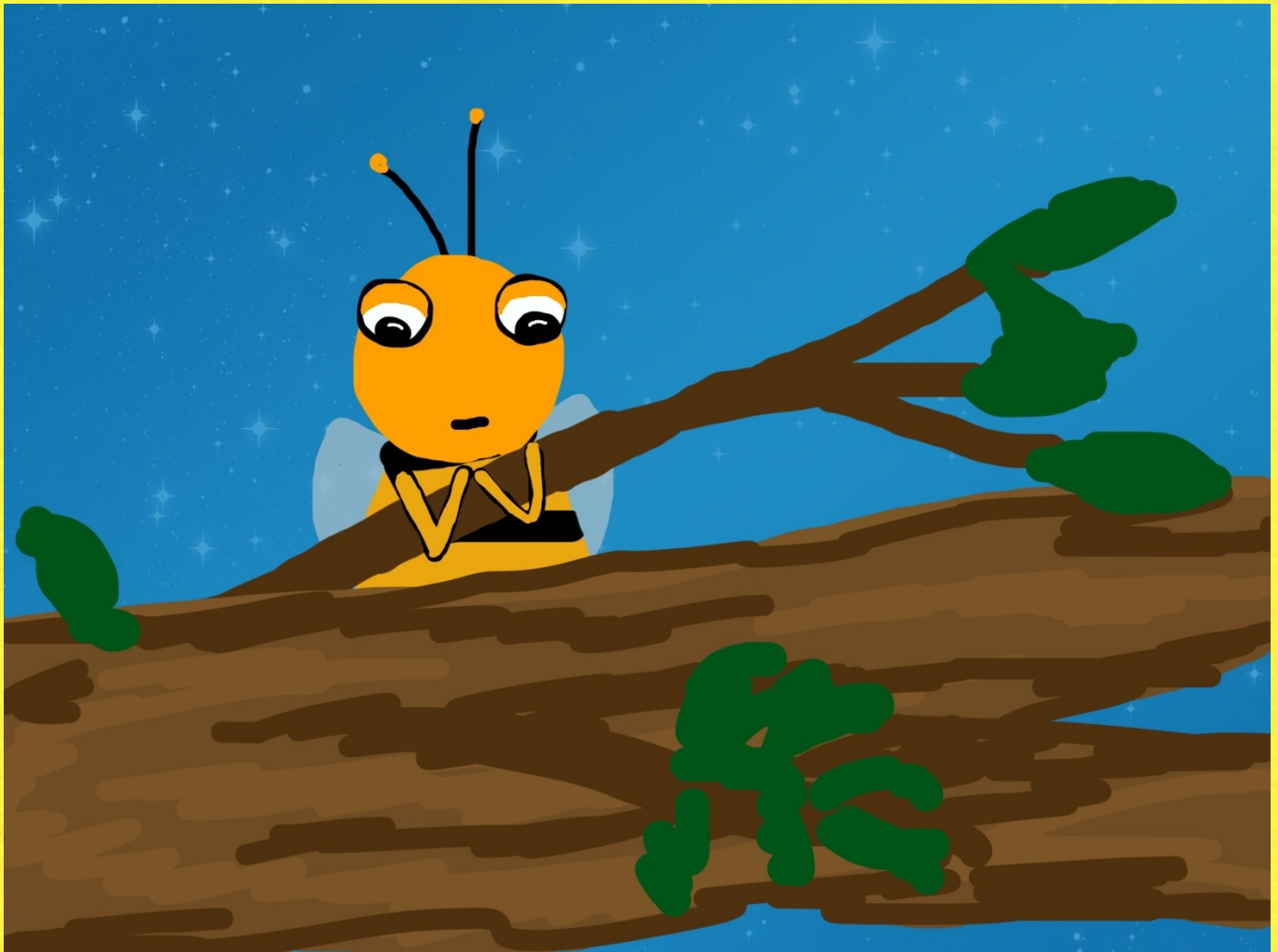
She saw ants rushing out of an anthill. “Our food is all gone! Our home is all wet!” they cried.



Moths, beetles, butterflies, grasshoppers were all wet. They would have no food until the sun shone tomorrow.



Bee-Not-So-Busy missed her dry, warm, and safe beehive.

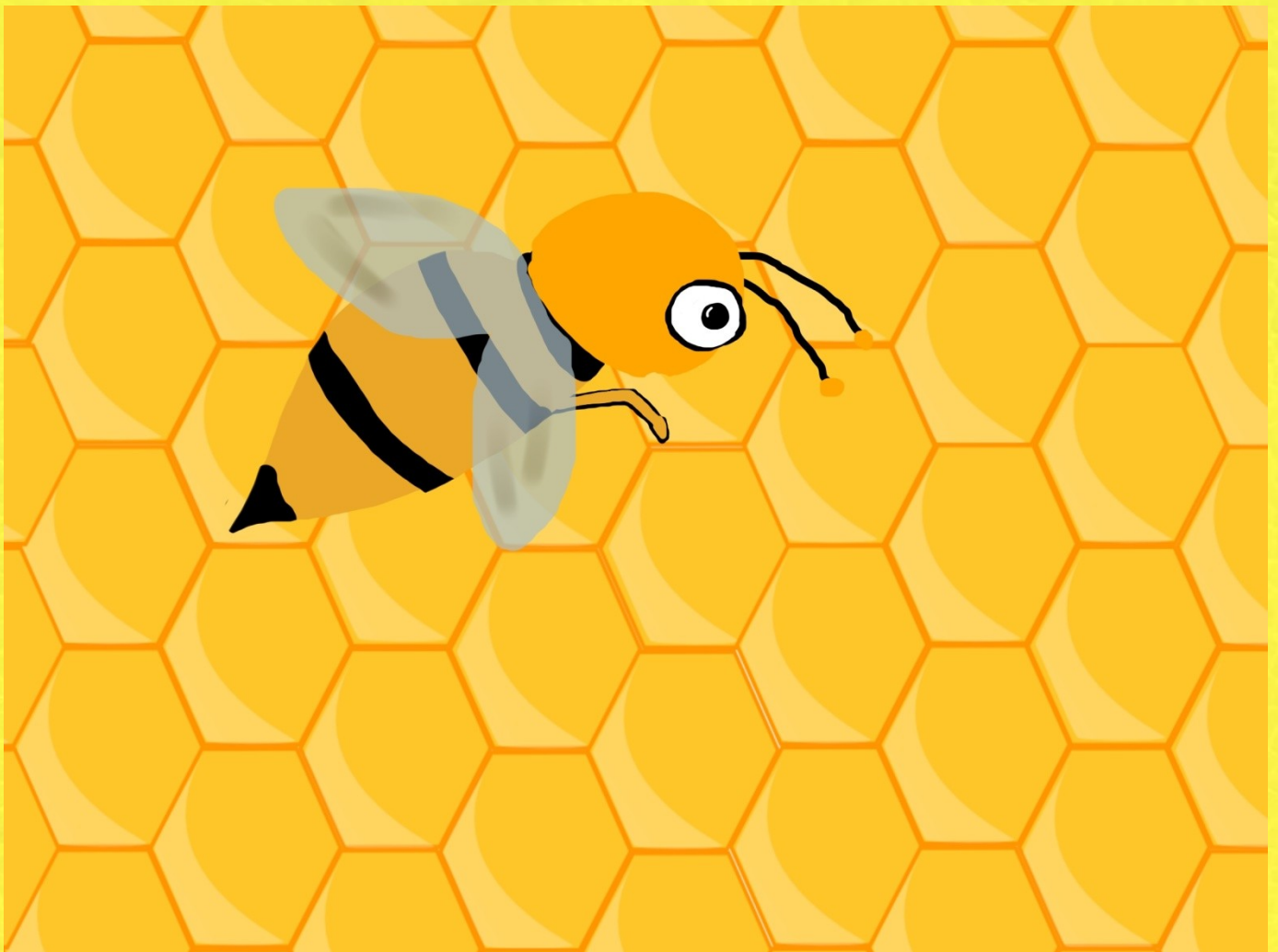


She was also hungry and longed for the food stored in the hive.

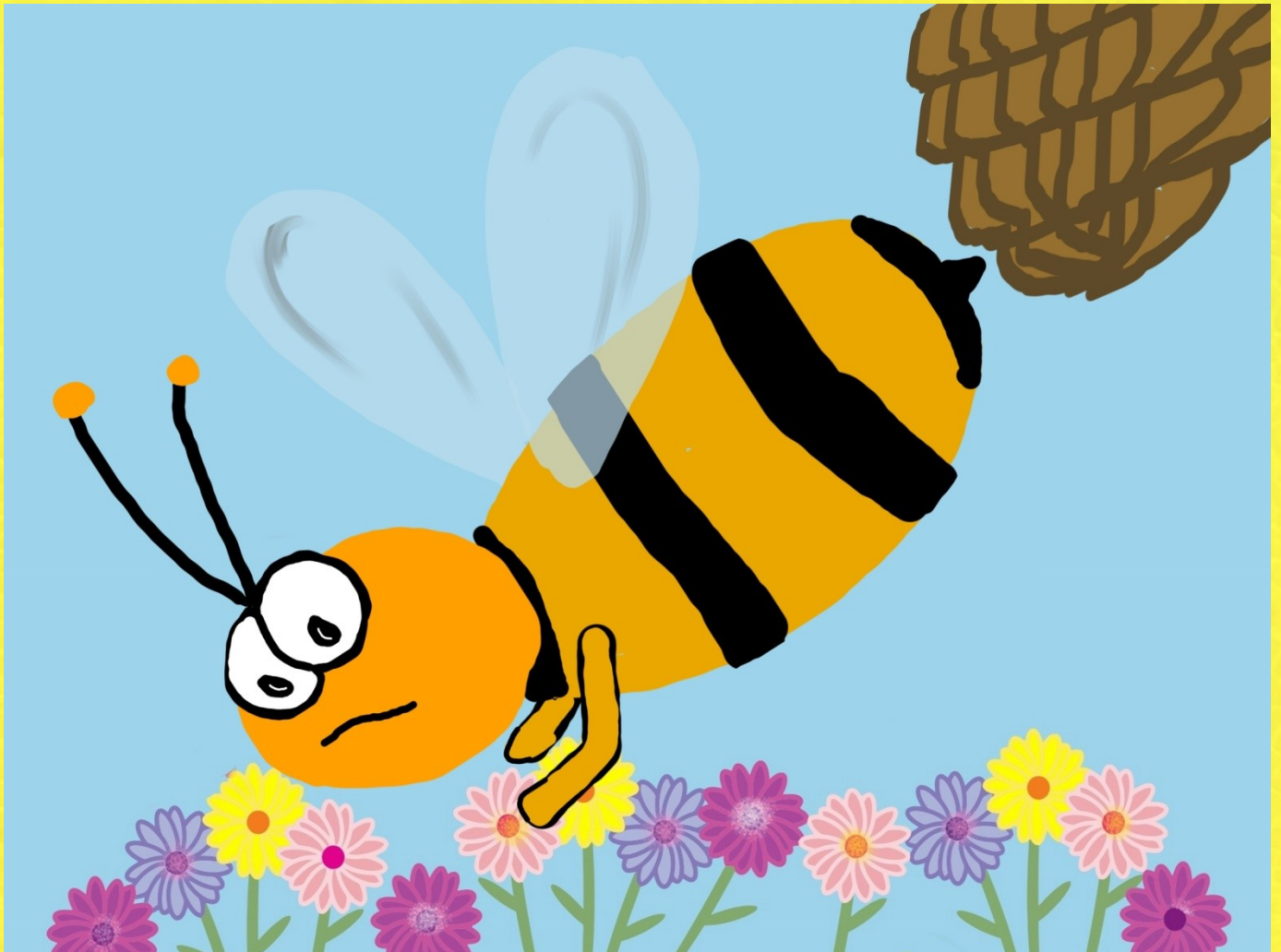
There was honey and nectar and pollen in there.



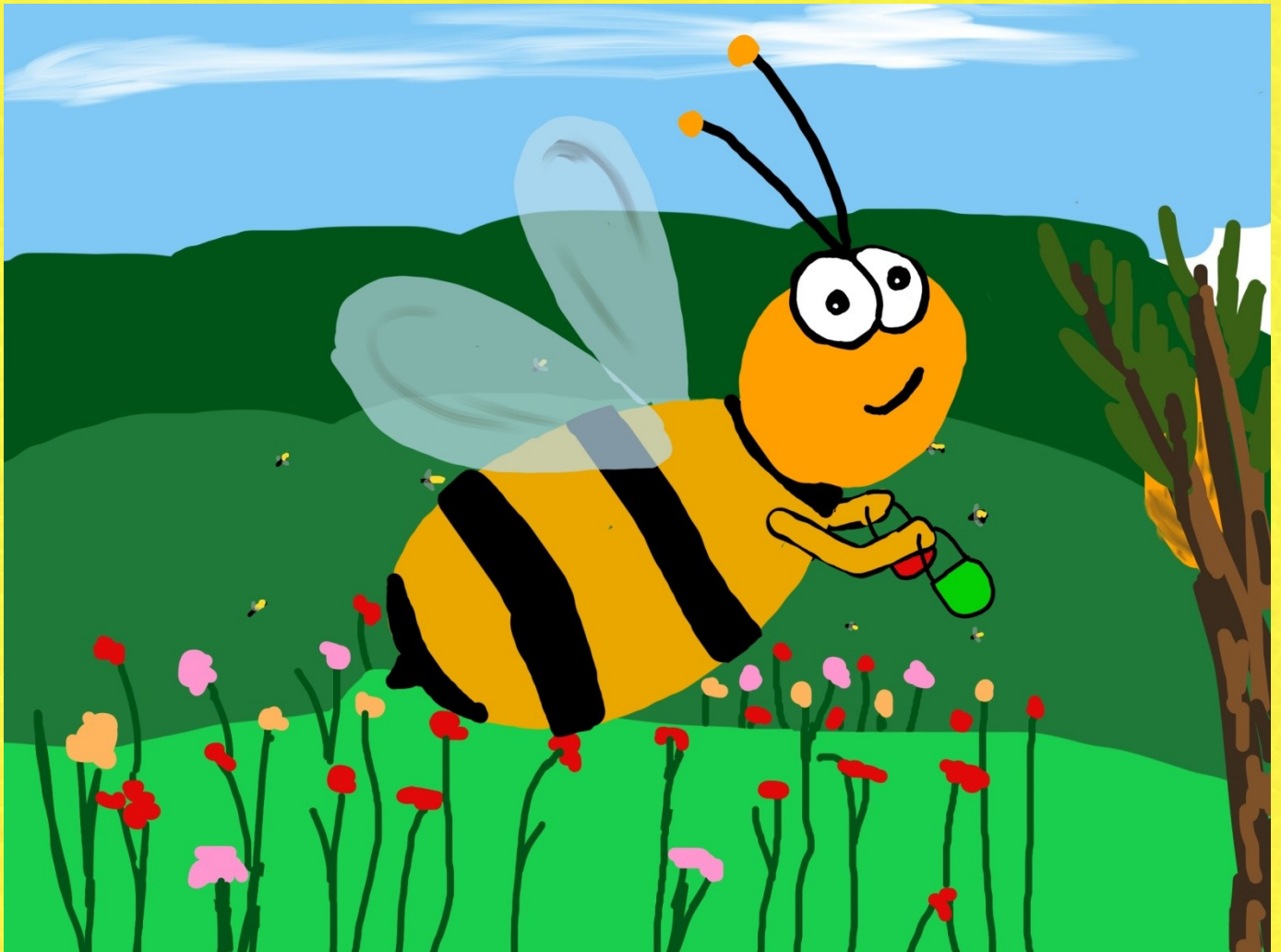
She shook herself dry and flew back to the hive.



Bee-Not-So-Busy had a tasty meal. Happy to be back in her safe, warm, and dry home, she fell asleep.



Early the next morning, she flew from flower to hive and back to flower. She worked all day long.



Bee-Not-So-Busy had become a Busy-Bee.

Dear Children and Parents,
I hope you enjoyed my story.

'Busy Bee'.



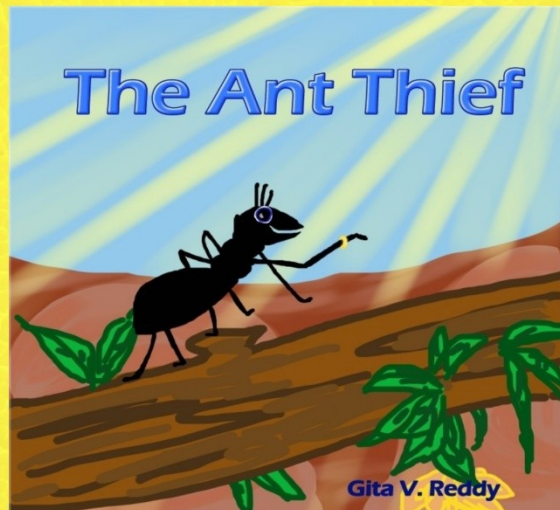
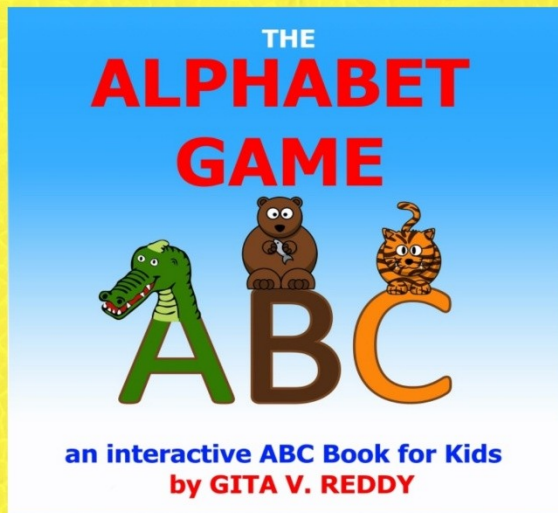
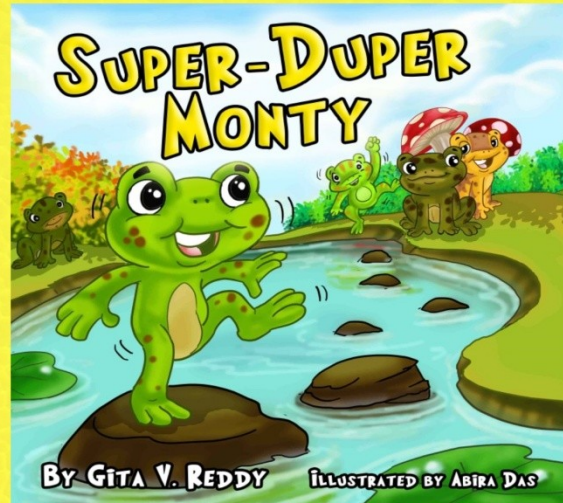
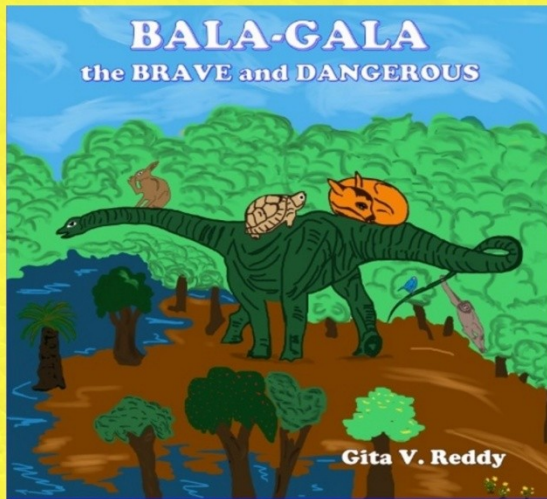
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gita V. Reddy writes for children of all ages. She has published novels, chapter books, short story collections, and picture books.

Please visit her website for details.

www.gitavreddy.com

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