

Why do we have a fire drill?

Fires almost never happen in school, but it is important to know how to leave the school quickly just in case.

We practice to stay safe.

Remember we practice to stay safe.

If there was ever a reason we needed to hide because something dangerous was happening we would need to know what to do.

We are going to practice a different
drill.

STORM IS COMING!

by Heather Tekavec

illustrated by Margaret Spengler



The old farmer leaped out of his chair and clicked the radio off.

"Hear that, Dog?" he bellowed. "Storm is coming! We better get the animals safely in the barn!"



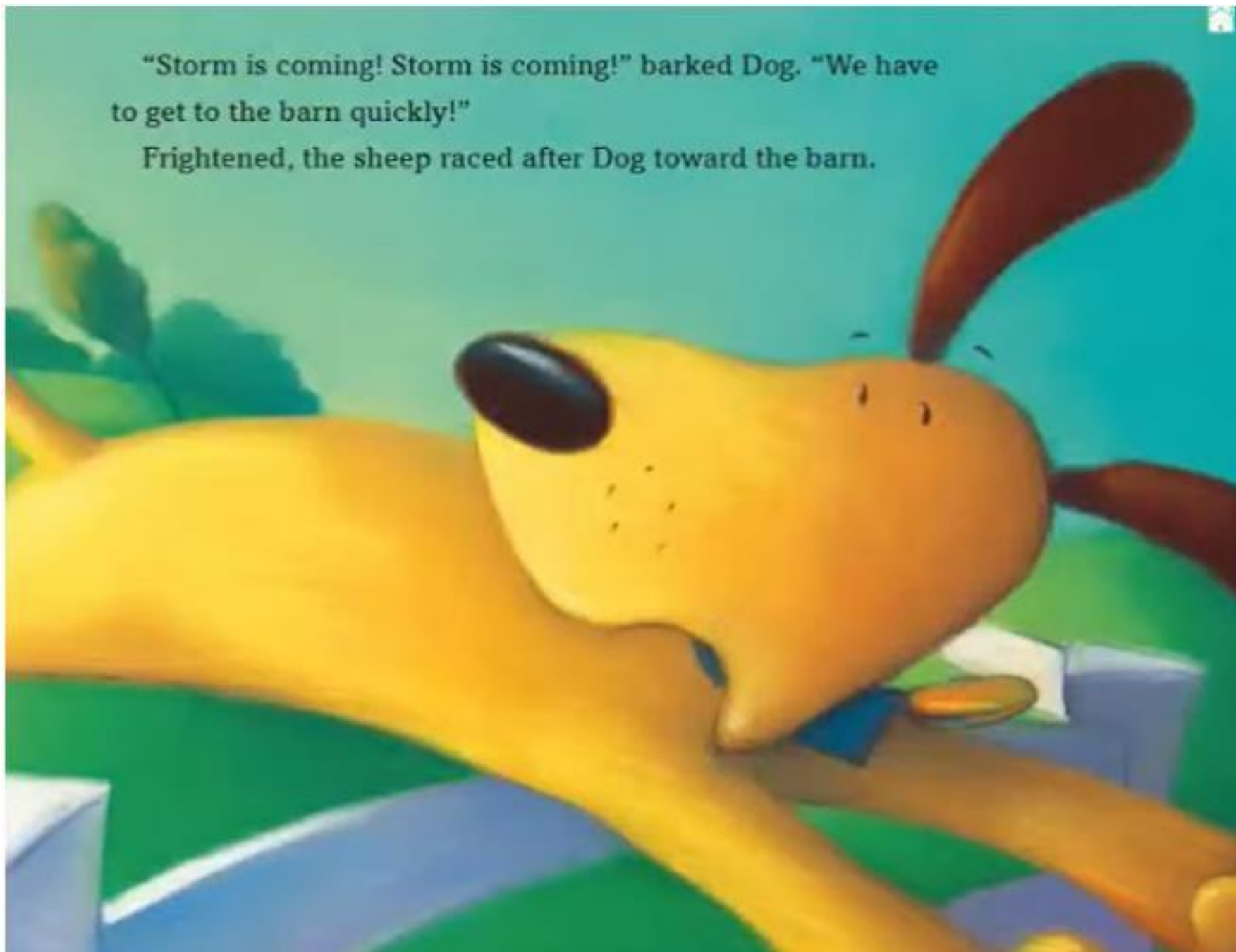
Dog sprang to his feet and bounded out the door.

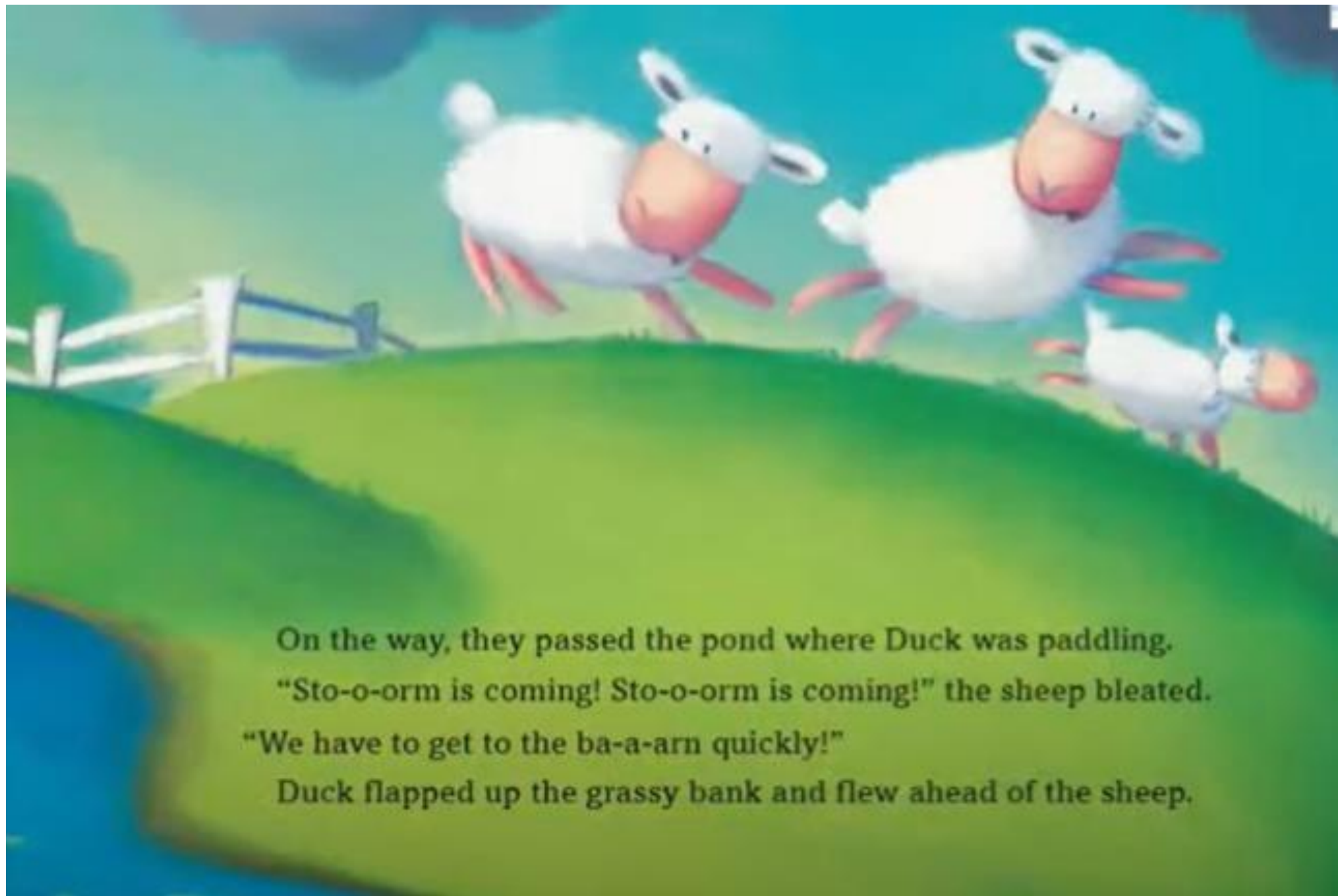
“Round ‘em up!” the farmer called as Dog ran circles around the sheep.



"Storm is coming! Storm is coming!" barked Dog. "We have to get to the barn quickly!"

Frightened, the sheep raced after Dog toward the barn.





On the way, they passed the pond where Duck was paddling.
"Sto-o-orm is coming! Sto-o-orm is coming!" the sheep bleated.
"We have to get to the ba-a-arn quickly!"
Duck flapped up the grassy bank and flew ahead of the sheep.

The cows in the pasture looked up as the animals sped past.

"Storm is coming! Storm is coming!" Duck quacked. "We have to get to the barn quickly!"

The cows herded together and joined the stampede. When they all reached the barn, the farmer hurried them inside. Then he shut the heavy door.



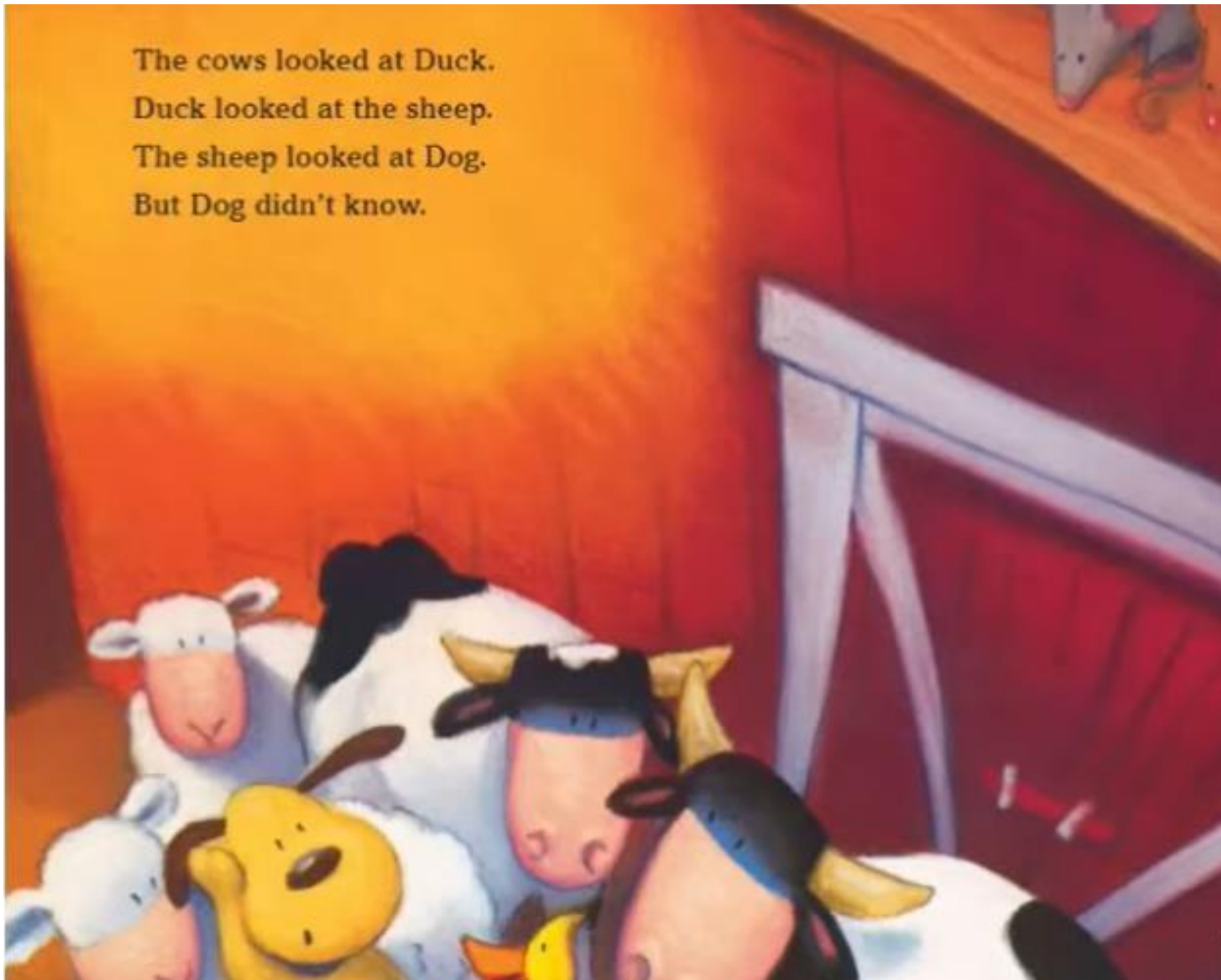
The barking, the flapping, the bleating, and the mooing awoke Cat from her nap in the hay. She stretched and yawned and opened one eye.

"STORM IS COMING!" the animals told her all at once.

"And who is Storm?" she meowed.



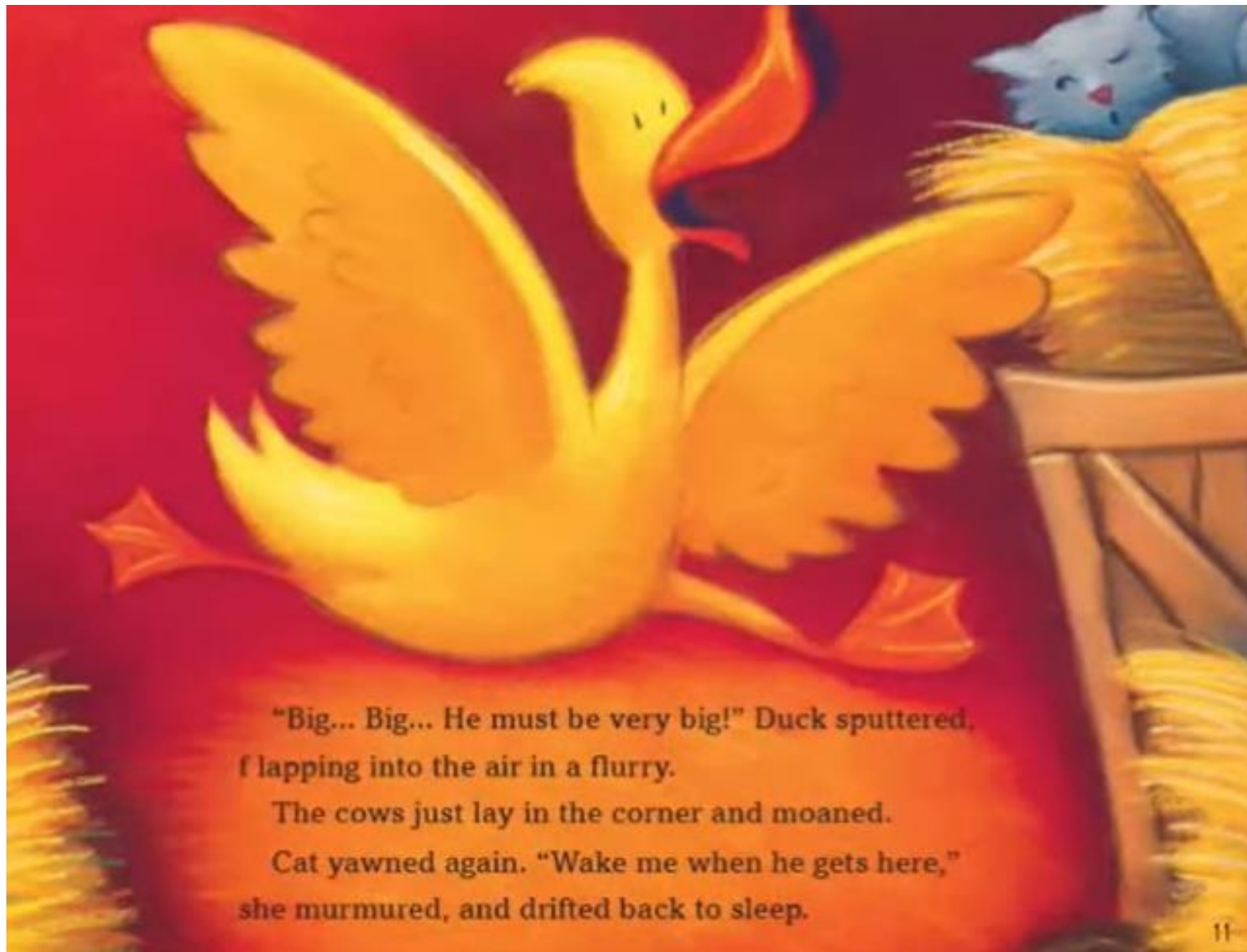
The cows looked at Duck.
Duck looked at the sheep.
The sheep looked at Dog.
But Dog didn't know.



"Well, he must be very mean," Dog decided, moving to guard the door.

"And he must be-e-e very sca-a-a-ry!" the sheep stammered, starting to shiver.





"Big... Big... He must be very big!" Duck sputtered, flapping into the air in a flurry.

The cows just lay in the corner and moaned.

Cat yawned again. "Wake me when he gets here," she murmured, and drifted back to sleep.

The animals waited and listened,
but there was no sign of Storm.


"We need a lookout!" Dog barked.

Duck f flew up to the open window
and cautiously peeked out.

"No Storm. No Storm!" he quacked.

"But the sky is growing very dark."



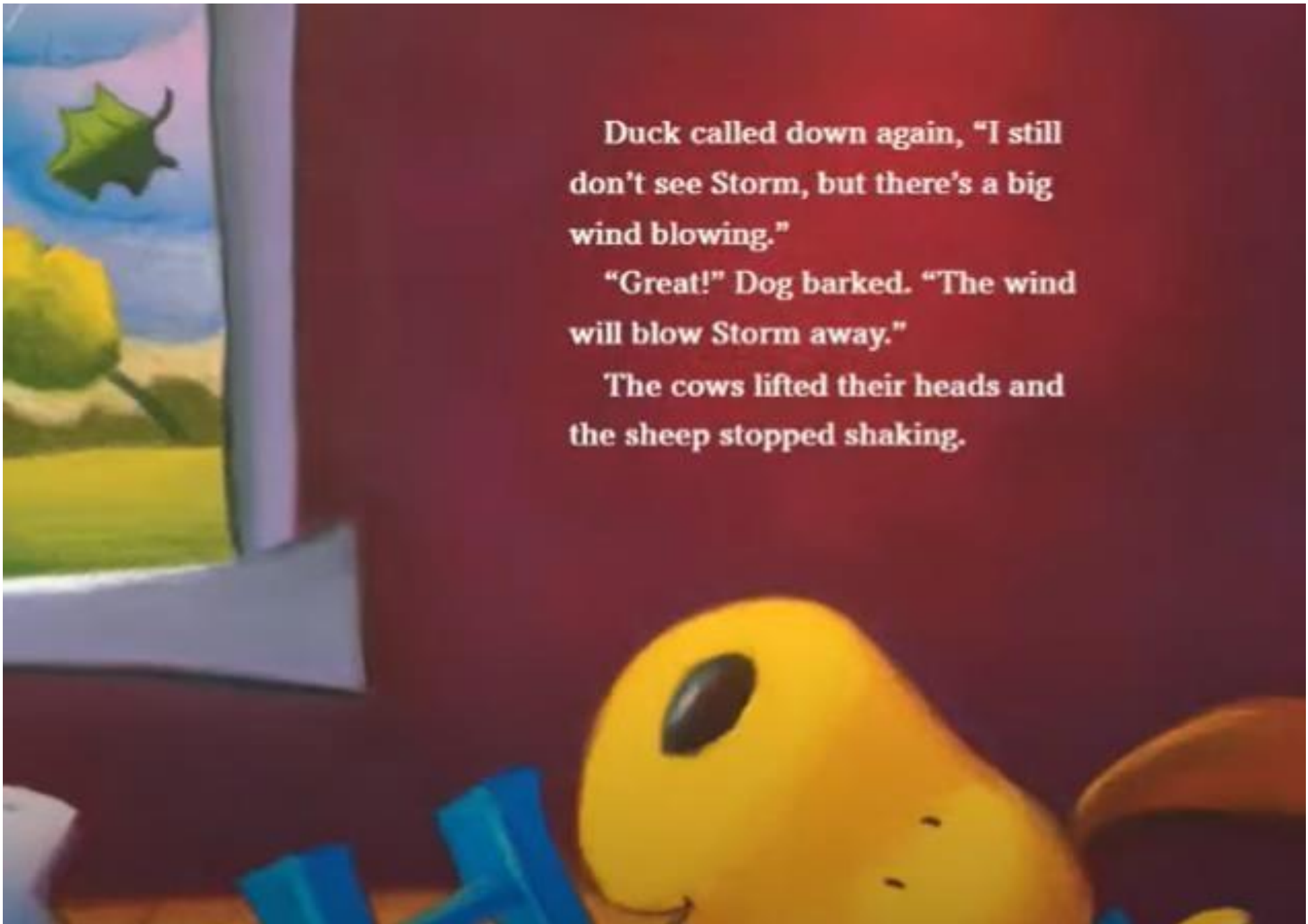
An illustration showing a white sheep in the foreground, looking up. Behind it are two cows with orange faces and blue patches. One cow has large black horns. The background is dark, suggesting a storm or night.

“Oh no-o-o!” bleated the sheep. “Even the su-u-u-n
is hiding from Sto-o-o-rm!”

The cows dropped their heads and moaned louder.

“Dark is good!” Dog told them. “Storm can’t find us
in the dark.”

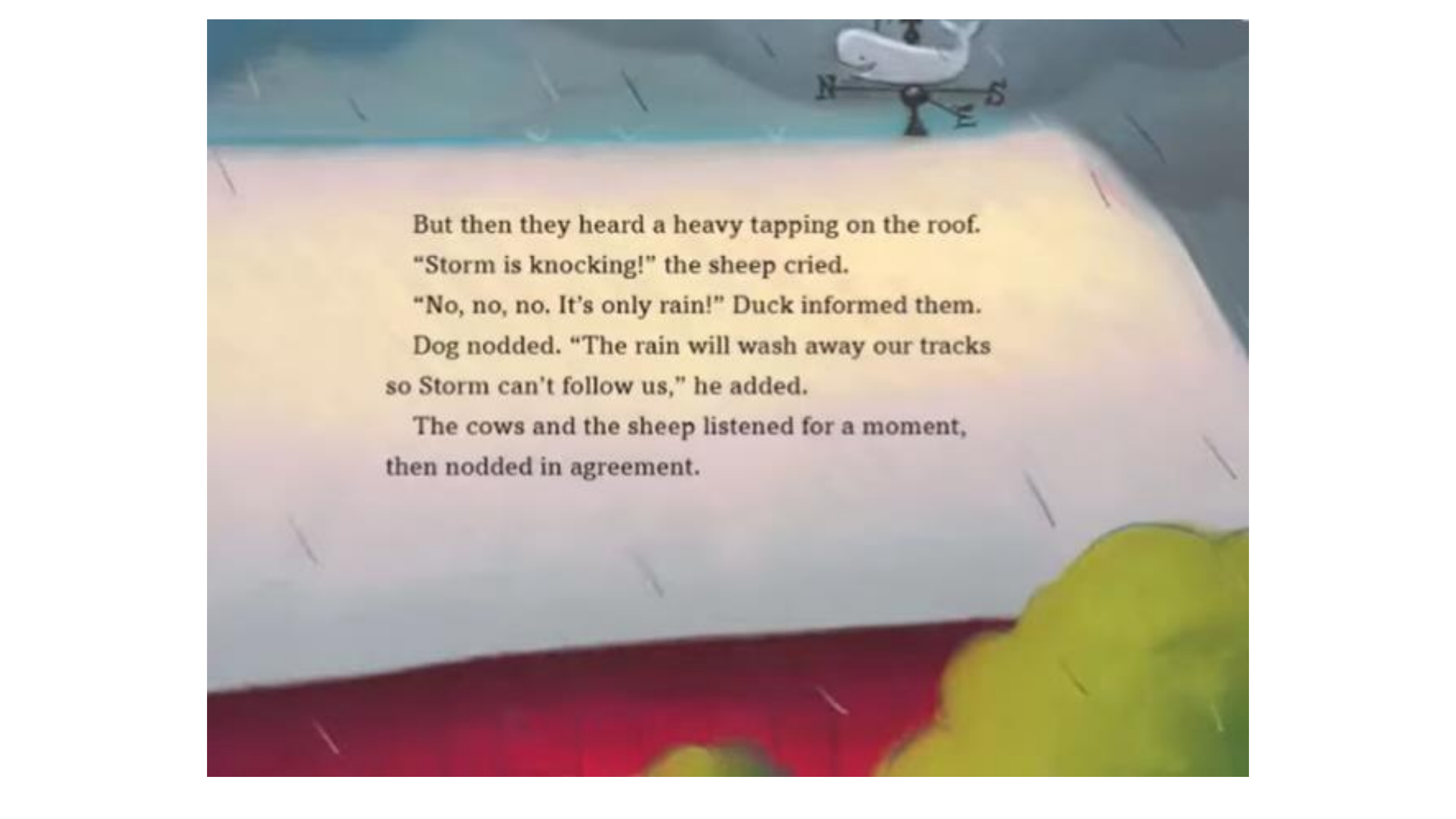
The animals nodded. “That *is* good,” they agreed.



Duck called down again, "I still don't see Storm, but there's a big wind blowing."

"Great!" Dog barked. "The wind will blow Storm away."

The cows lifted their heads and the sheep stopped shaking.



But then they heard a heavy tapping on the roof.
"Storm is knocking!" the sheep cried.
"No, no, no. It's only rain!" Duck informed them.
Dog nodded. "The rain will wash away our tracks
so Storm can't follow us," he added.
The cows and the sheep listened for a moment,
then nodded in agreement.

One more time, Duck called down, "I still don't see Storm, but the sky is flashing!"

"The sky is going to blind Storm so he can't see us!" Dog announced. The cows scrambled to their feet and the sheep started shuffling.



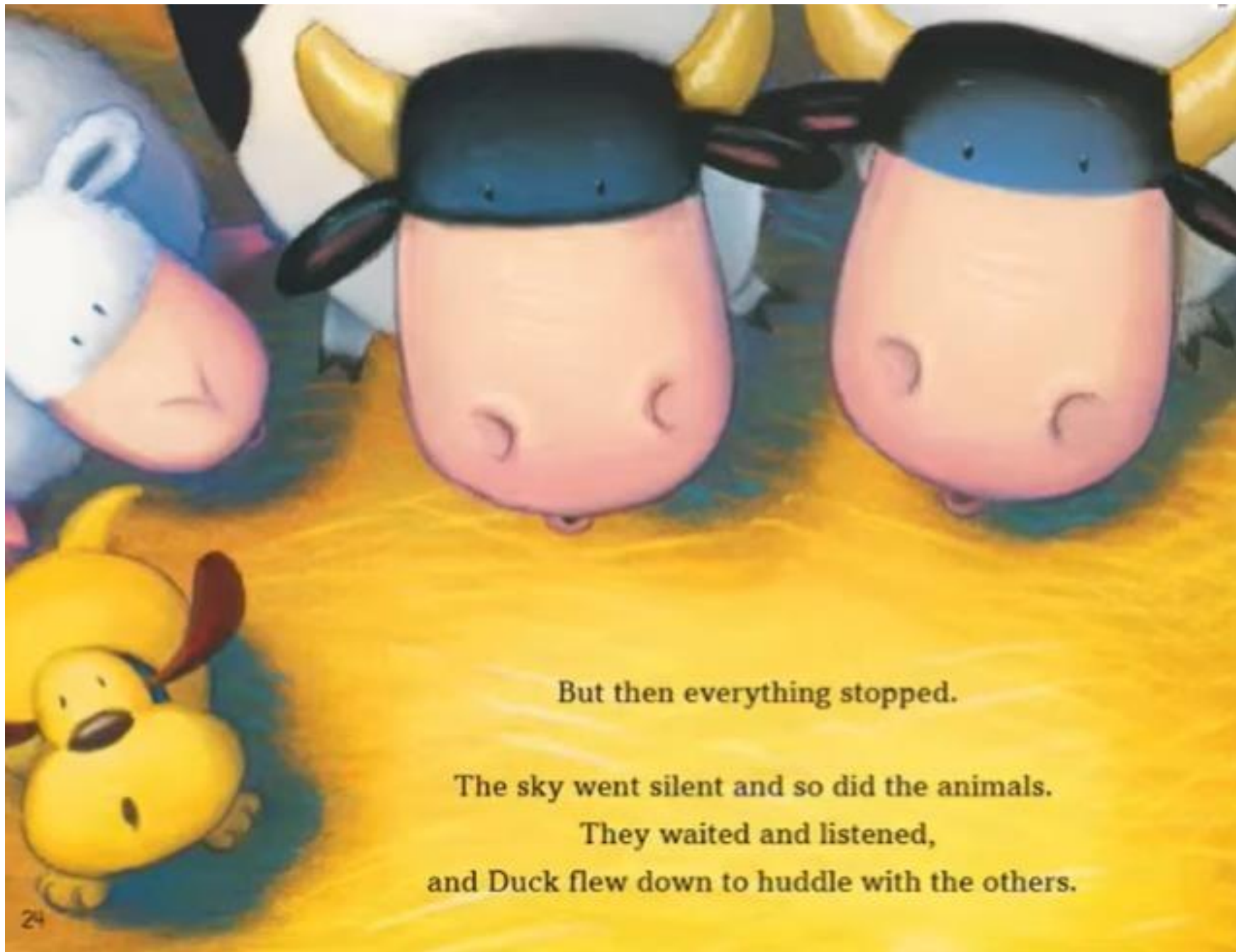
A roll of thunder shook the barn.

"Hear that, Duck?" Dog barked.

"Yes! Yes!" Duck quacked. "The clouds are growling at Storm.
They'll scare him away for sure!"

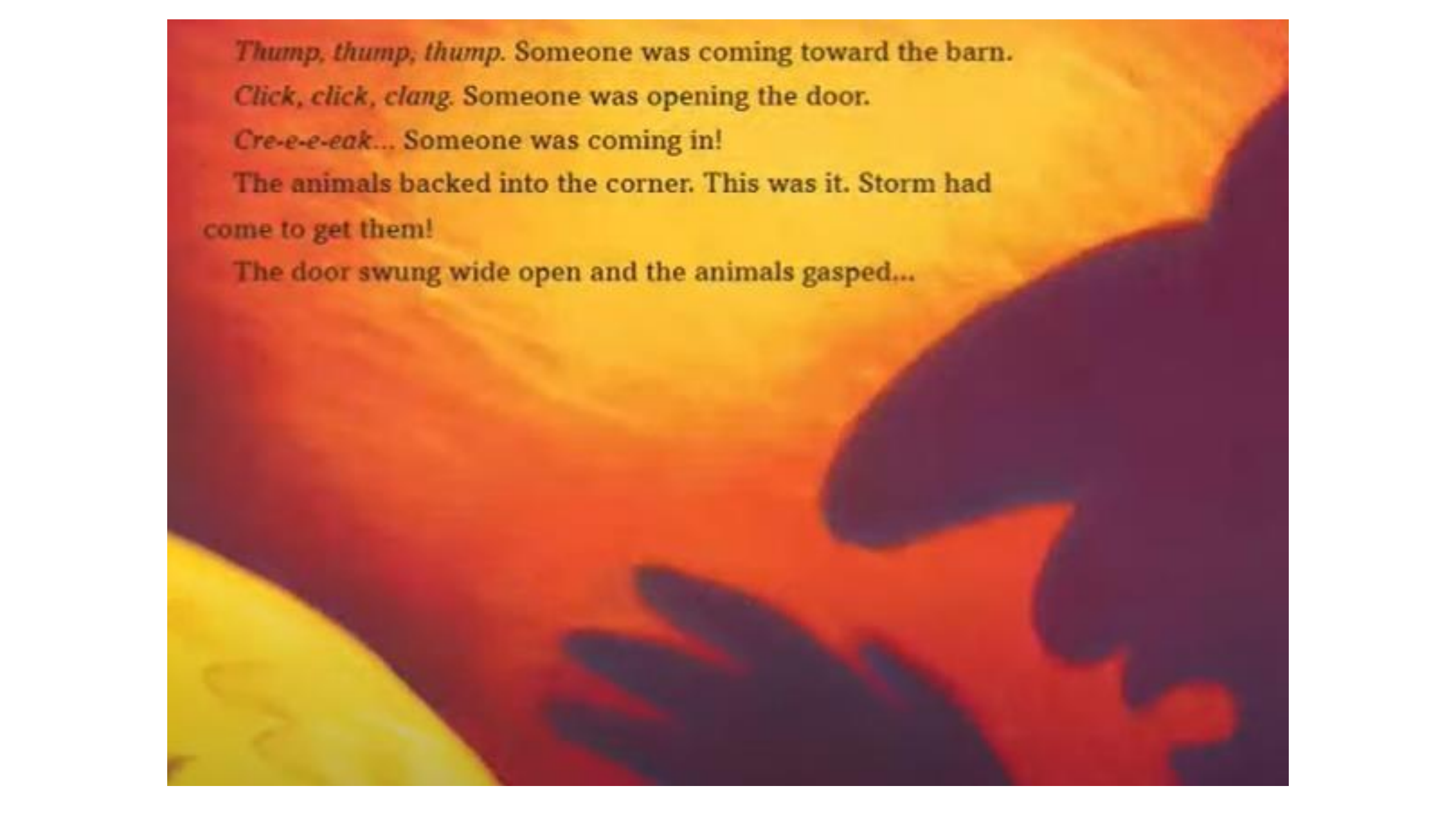
All day long, the wind blew, the rain fell, the lightning flashed,
and the thunder rolled.





But then everything stopped.

The sky went silent and so did the animals.
They waited and listened,
and Duck flew down to huddle with the others.



Thump, thump, thump. Someone was coming toward the barn.

Click, click, clang. Someone was opening the door.

Cre-e-e-eak... Someone was coming in!

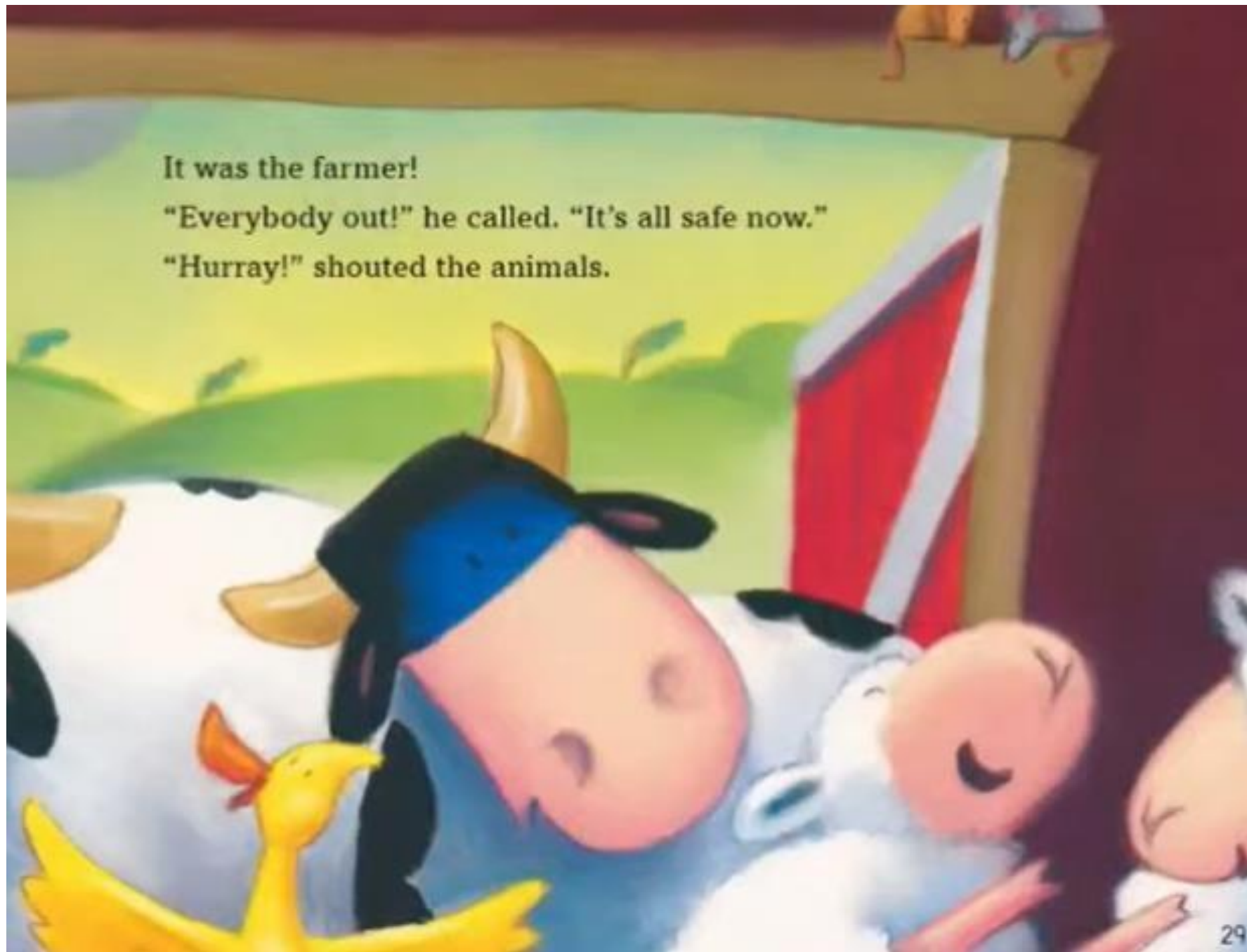
The animals backed into the corner. This was it. Storm had come to get them!

The door swung wide open and the animals gasped...

It was the farmer!

"Everybody out!" he called. "It's all safe now."

"Hurray!" shouted the animals.



Remember we practice to stay safe.

The animals didn't know what the danger was, but they knew what to do in case there was one.

They hid together in the barn.

They waited quietly for the storm to pass.

There was no danger, but they knew what to do just in case there was.

This is what we are going to practice - just in case- just like a fire drill.

Remember we practice to stay safe.

We are going to practice a lockdown.

We are going to practice being together and waiting together quietly just like the animals in the story.

REMEMBER – there is no real danger.

The bell/whistle will ring 3 times.

We will all make sure we are indoors.

We will go into a classroom that the teacher takes us to and lock the door.

We will close the blinds.

We will hide quietly like the animals and wait for the pretend danger to pass.

The teachers will do a silent register.

The bell will ring 3 times again when it is time to unhide.

The teachers will let us know that we are all O.K and make us feel safe before we carry on with our learning.