

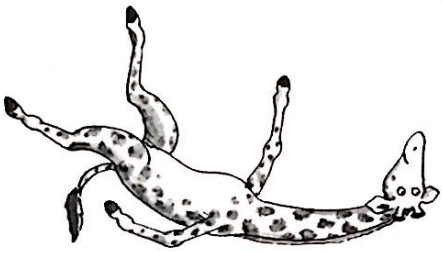
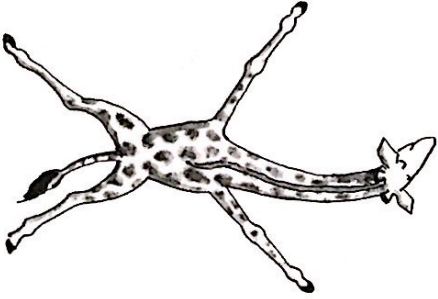




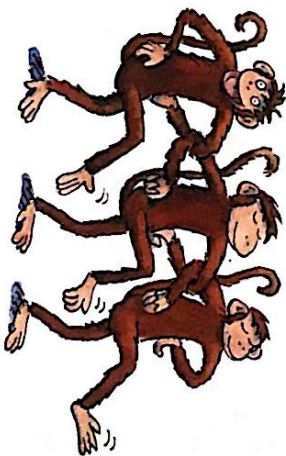
I wrote *Giraffes Can't Dance*
after a trip I made to Kenya.

I'd never seen giraffes galloping before and
was struck by their gracefulness - I didn't expect
such gangly creatures to move so beautifully.
This led me to thinking that we can all do things
which others don't expect us to. All we need is a
little encouragement - just like Gerald.

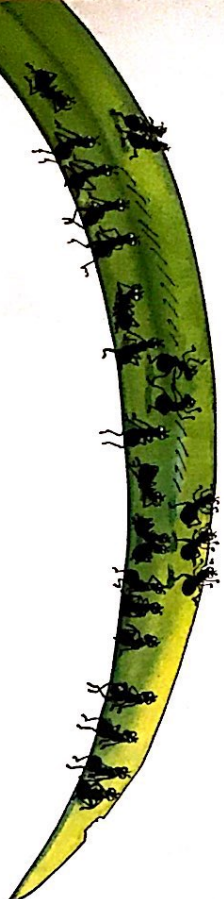
Grainger



GIRAFFES CAN'T DANCE



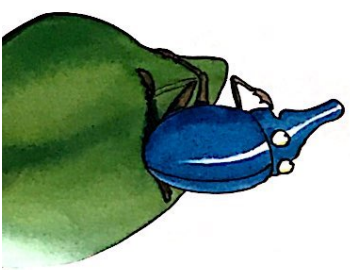
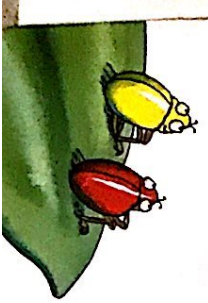
To my cousins at Sandbanks - Giles
For Fi, John, Rod and Andy - Guy



Also by Giles Andreae

- Rumble in the Jungle 1 86039 660 7
- Commotion in the Ocean 1 84121 101 X
- Cock-a-doodle-doo! Farmyard Hullahaloo! 1 84121 031 5
- The Lion Who Wanted to Love 1 86039 913 4
- Love is a Handful of Honey 1 86039 791 3

ORCHARD BOOKS
96 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4ND
Orchard Books, Australia
14 Murr Road, Lane Cove, NSW 2066
1 86039 918 5 (hardback)
1 84121 505 1 (paperback)
First published in Great Britain in 1999
This edition published in 2000
Text © Purple Enterprises Ltd 1999
Illustrations © Guy Parker-Rees 1999
The right of Giles Andreae to be identified as the
author and Guy Parker-Rees as the illustrator of this work
has been asserted by them in accordance with the
Copyright, Design and Patents Act, 1988.
A CIP catalogue record for this book is
available from the British Library:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (hardback)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (paperback)
Printed in Hong Kong

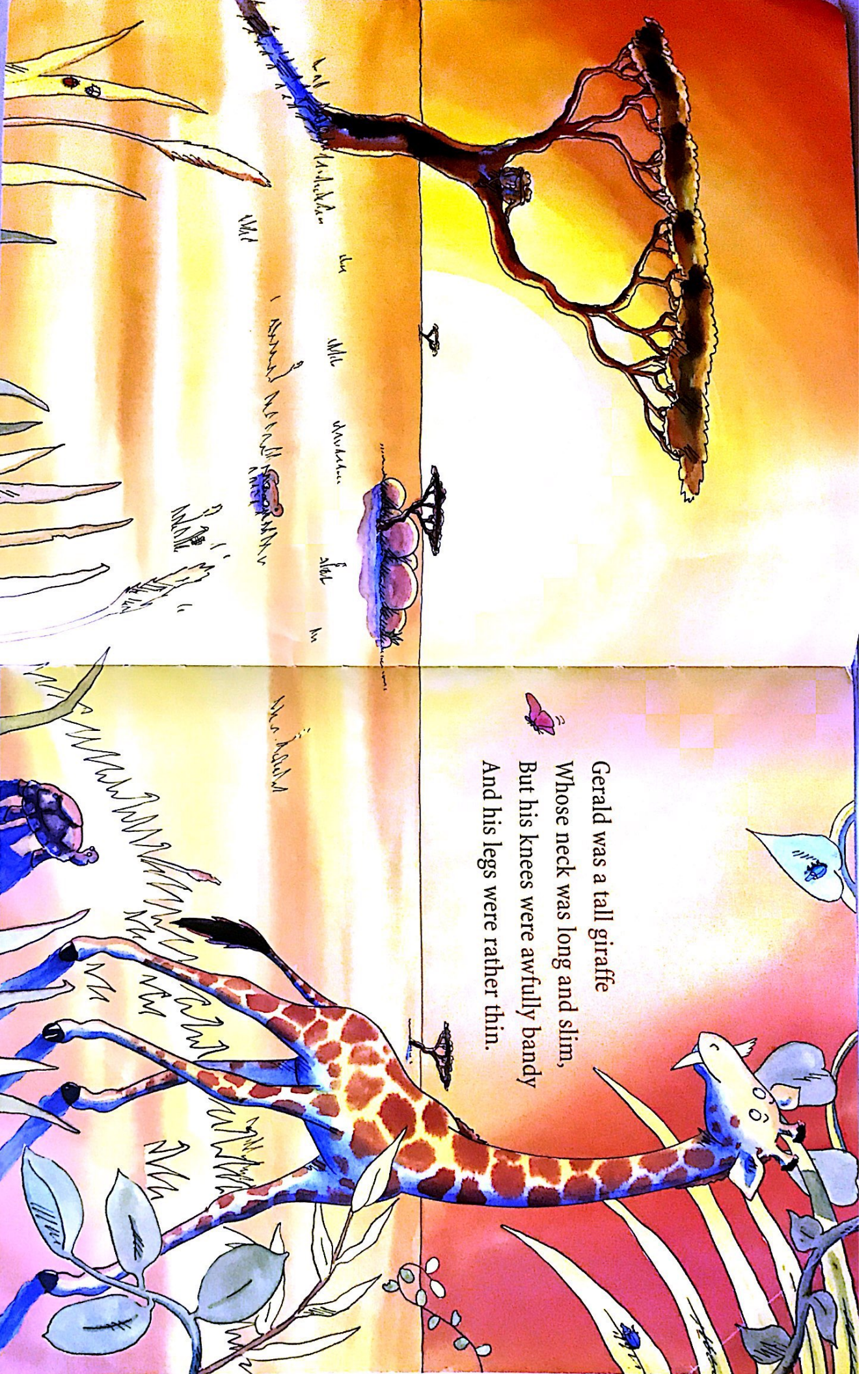


GRAFFES GANT DANCE



Giles Andreae
illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees



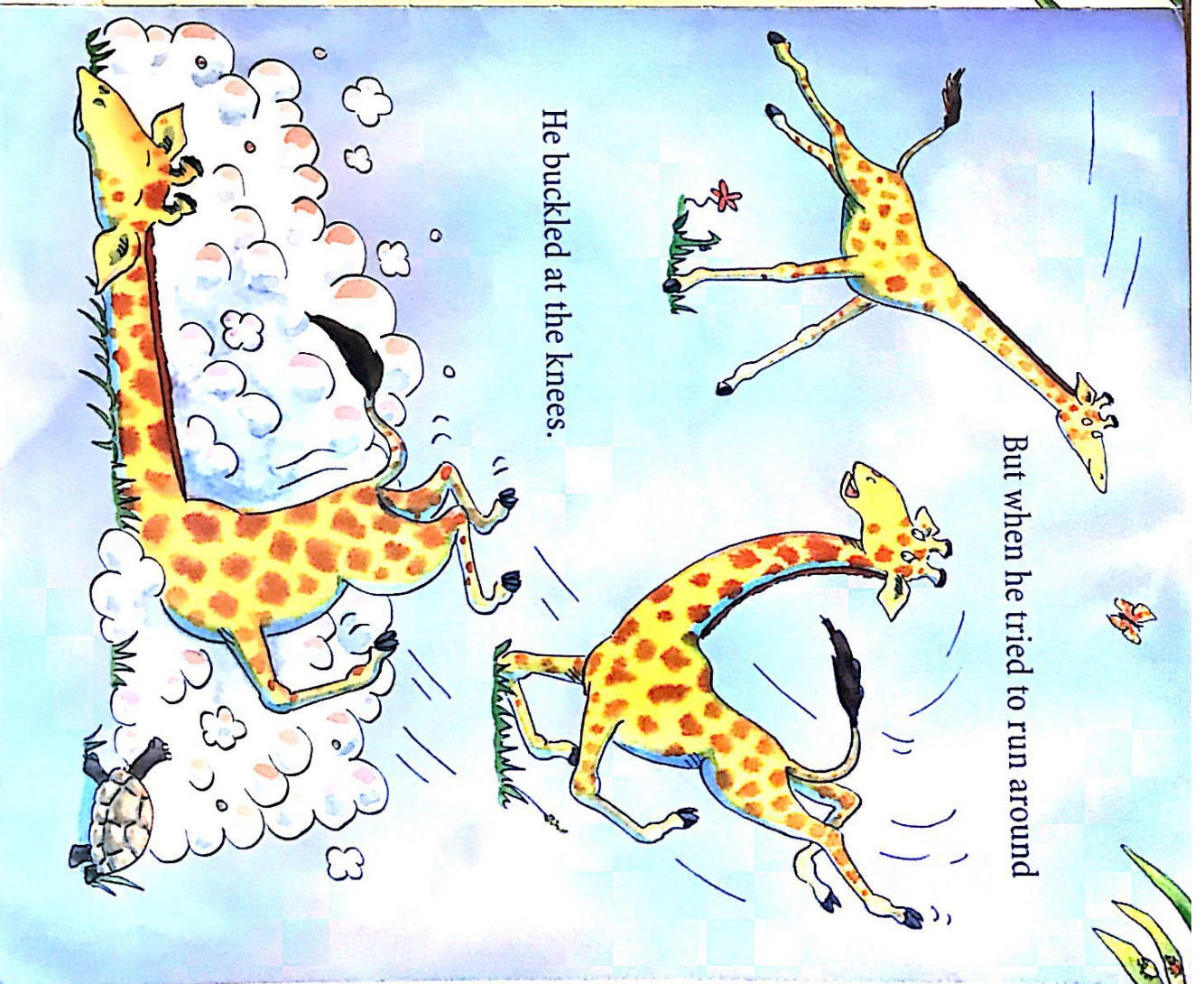


Gerald was a tall giraffe
Whose neck was long and slim,
But his knees were awfully bandy
And his legs were rather thin.





He was very good at standing still
And munching shoots off trees,



But when he tried to run around

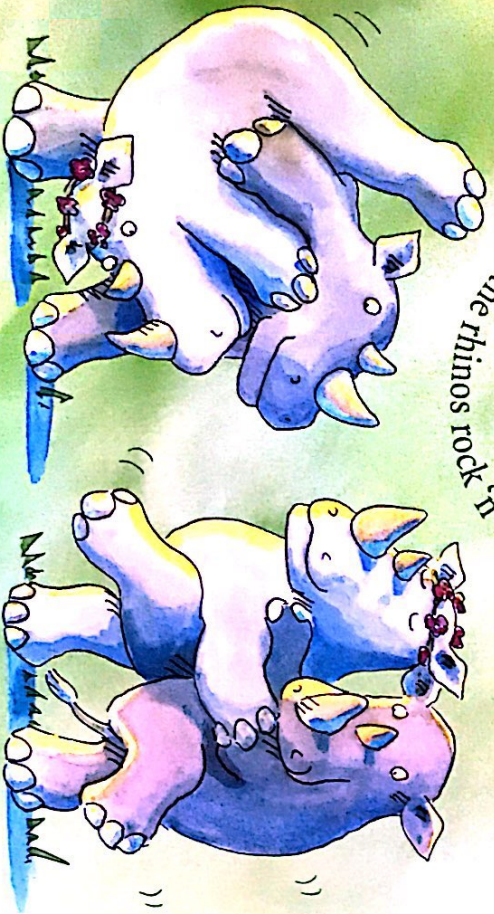
He buckled at the knees.

Now every year in Africa
They hold the Jungle Dance,
Where every single animal
Turns up to skip and prance.

JUNGLE DANCE

And this year when the day arrived
Poor Gerald felt so sad,
Because when it came to dancing
He was really very bad.





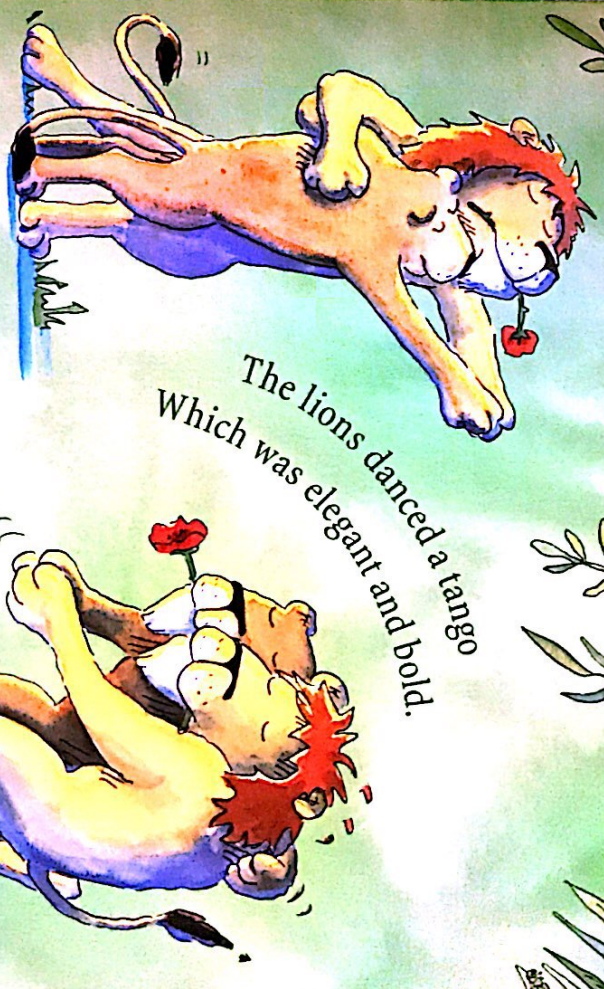
And the rhinos rock 'n' rolled



The warthogs started waltzing



The lions danced a tango
Which was elegant and bold.





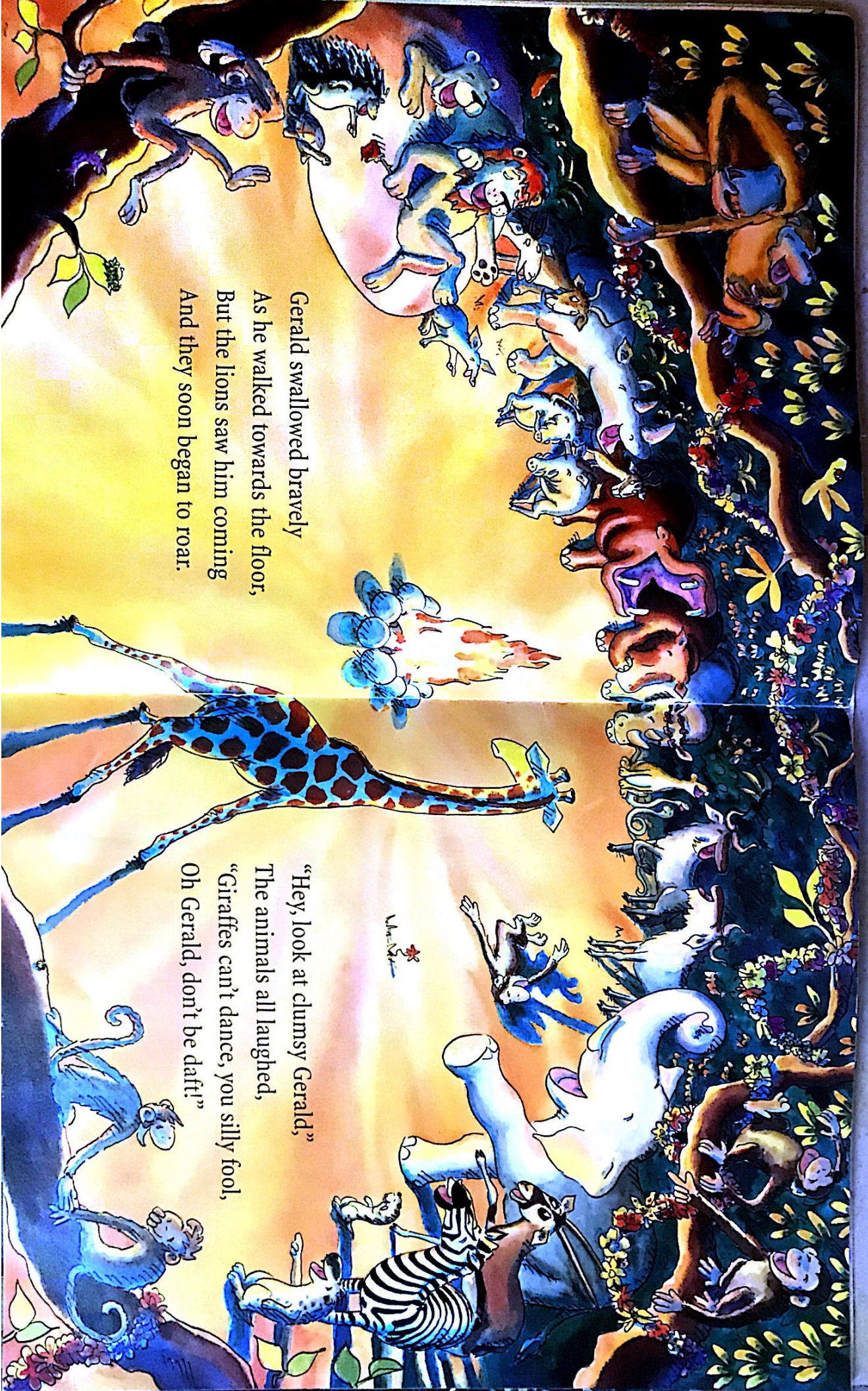
The chimps all did a cha-cha
With a very latin feel,



And eight baboons then teamed up



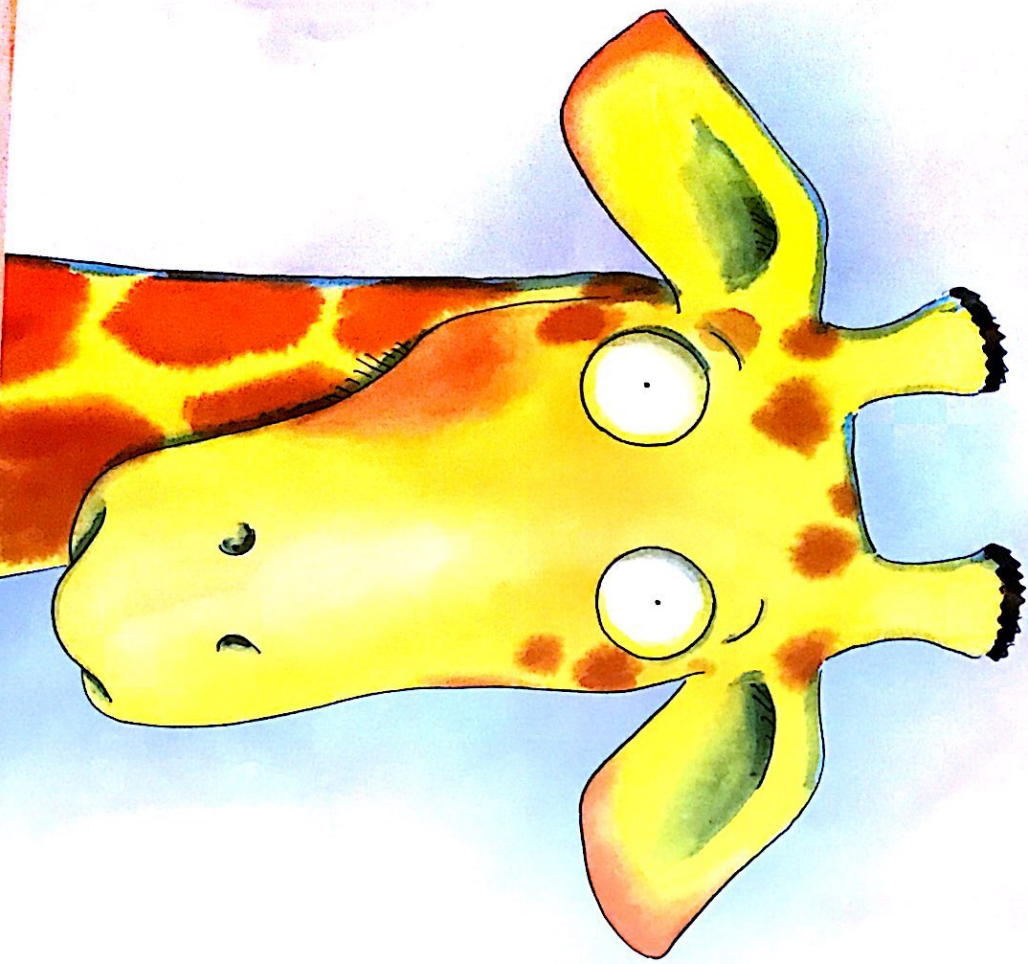
For a splendid Scottish reel.



Gerald swallowed bravely
As he walked towards the floor,
But the lions saw him coming
And they soon began to roar.


“Hey, look at clumsy Gerald,”
The animals all laughed,
“Giraffes can’t dance, you silly fool,
Oh Gerald, don’t be daft!”

Gerald simply froze up,
He was rooted to the spot.
“They’re right,” he thought, “I’m useless,
Oh, I feel like such a clot.”



So he crept off from the dancefloor
And he started walking home,
He’d never felt so sad before
So sad and so alone.



A giraffe with yellow and orange spots is looking up at a dark blue night sky. The sky is filled with white stars and a large, bright white full moon. The giraffe is surrounded by lush green foliage and flowers. The scene is framed by a decorative border of leaves and flowers.

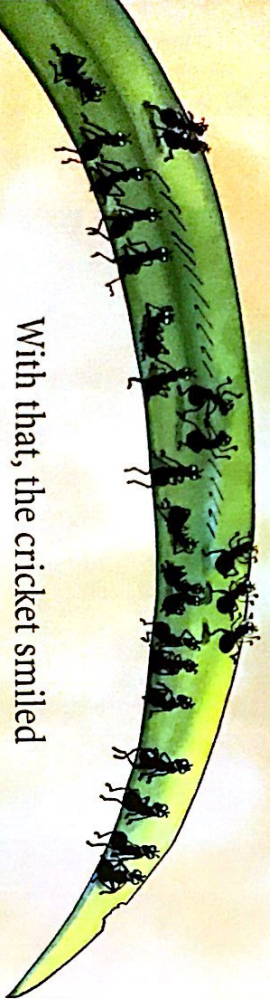
Then he found a little clearing
And he looked up at the sky,
"The moon can be so beautiful,"
He whispered with a sigh.

"Excuse me!" coughed a cricket
Who'd seen Gerald earlier on,
"But sometimes when you're different
You just need a different song."

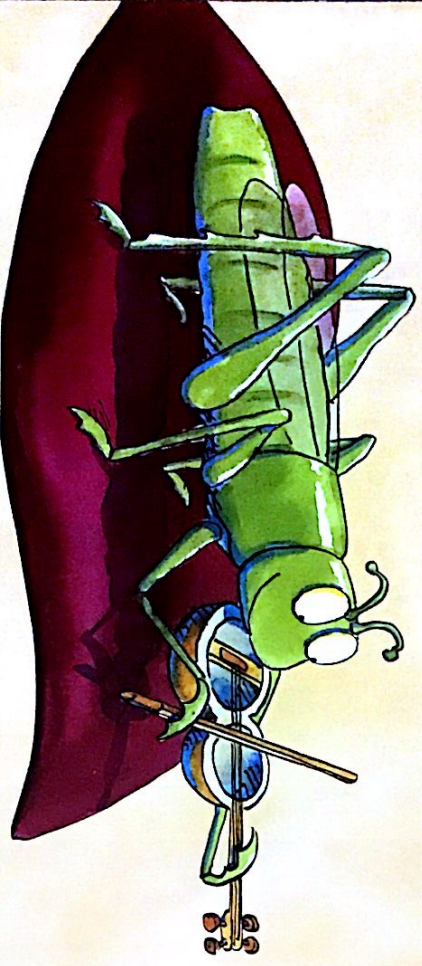


"Listen to the swaying grass
To me the sweetest music
And listen to the trees,
Is those branches in the breeze."

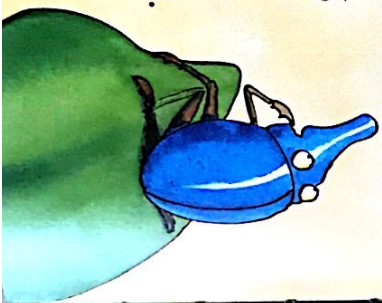
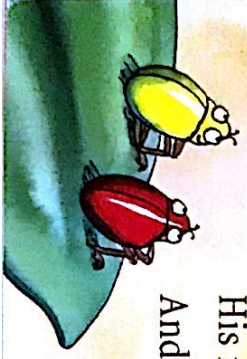
"So imagine that that lovely moon
Is playing just for you,
Everything makes music
If you really want it to."



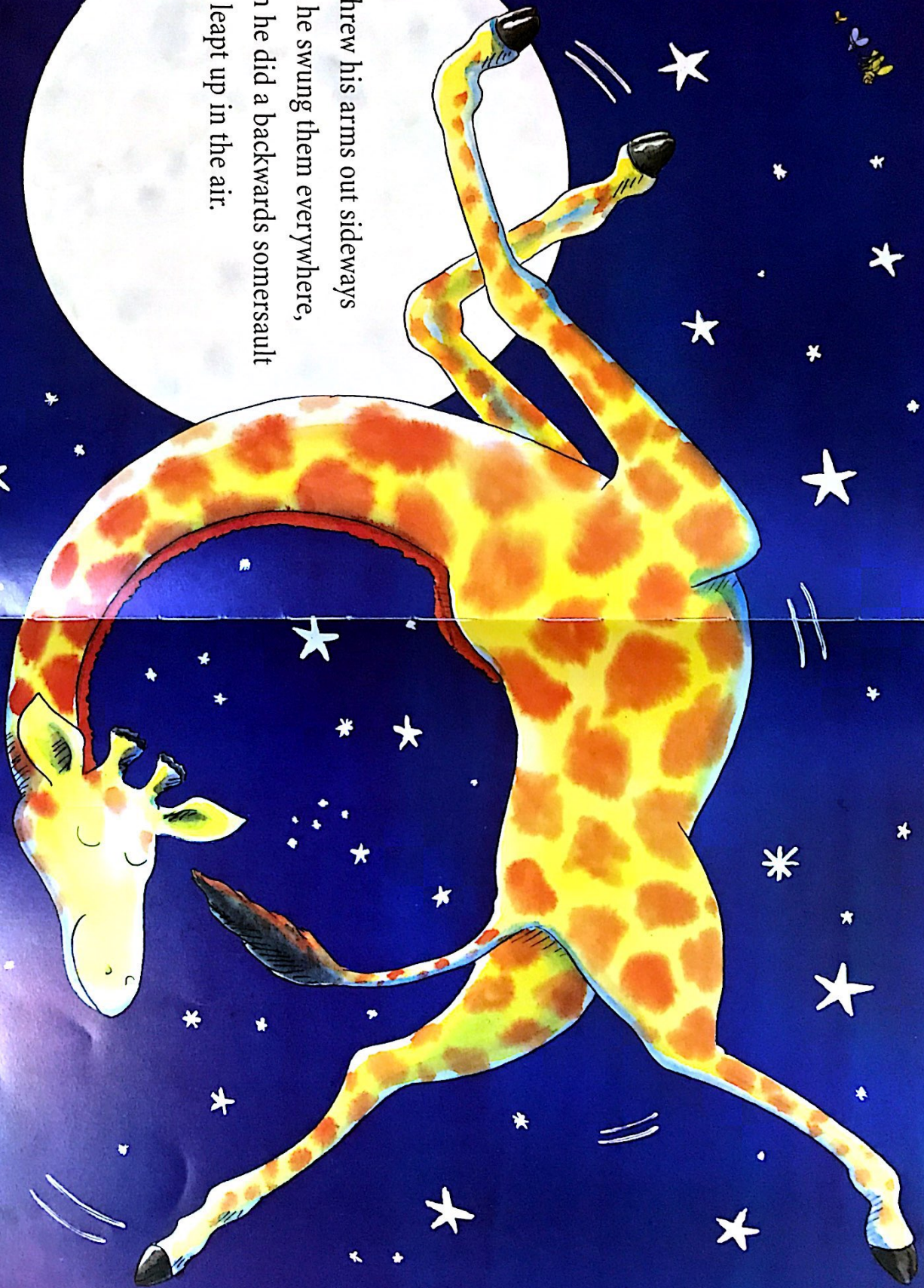
With that, the cricket smiled
And picked up his violin.
Then Gerald felt his body
Do the most amazing thing.

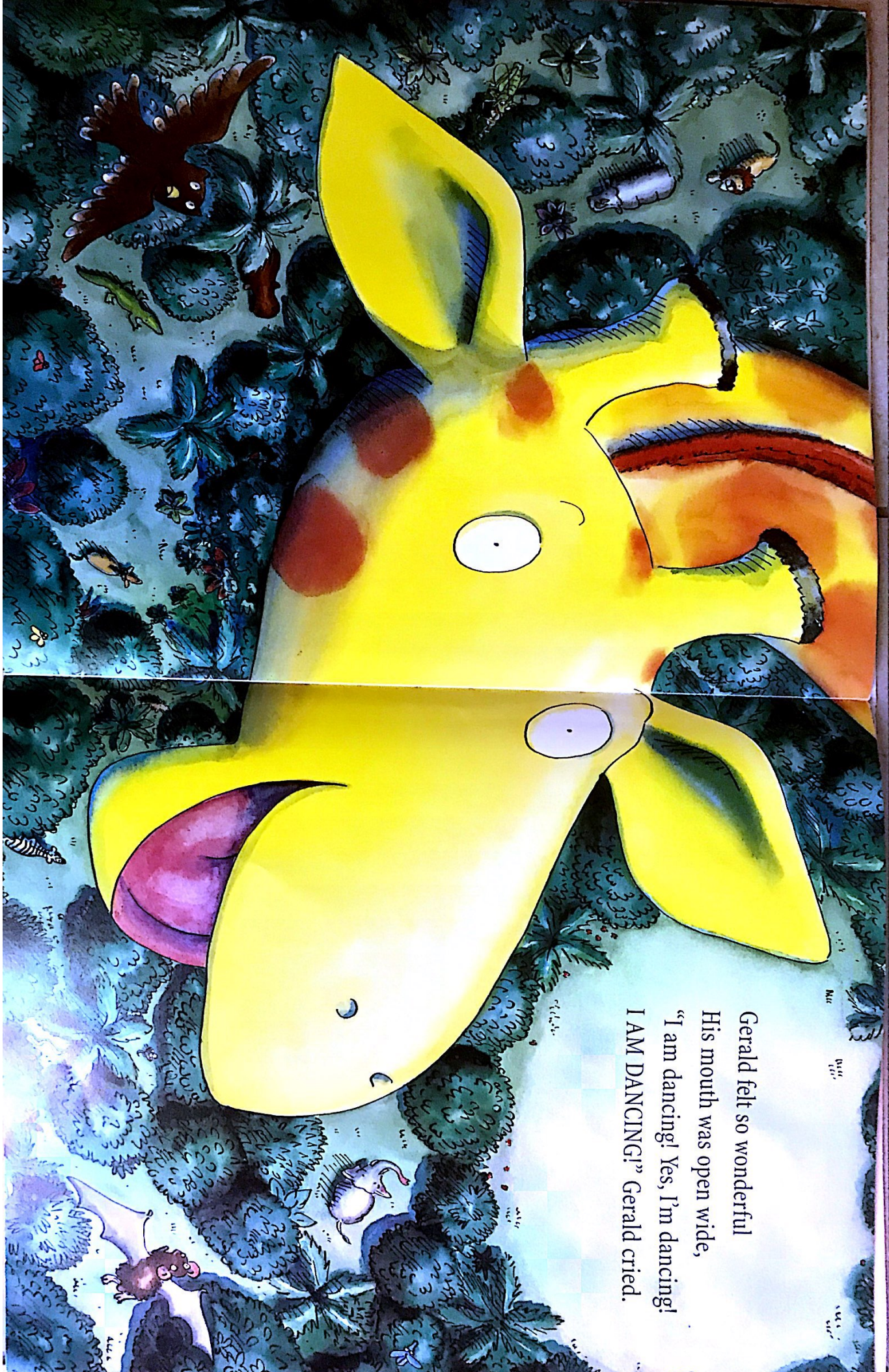


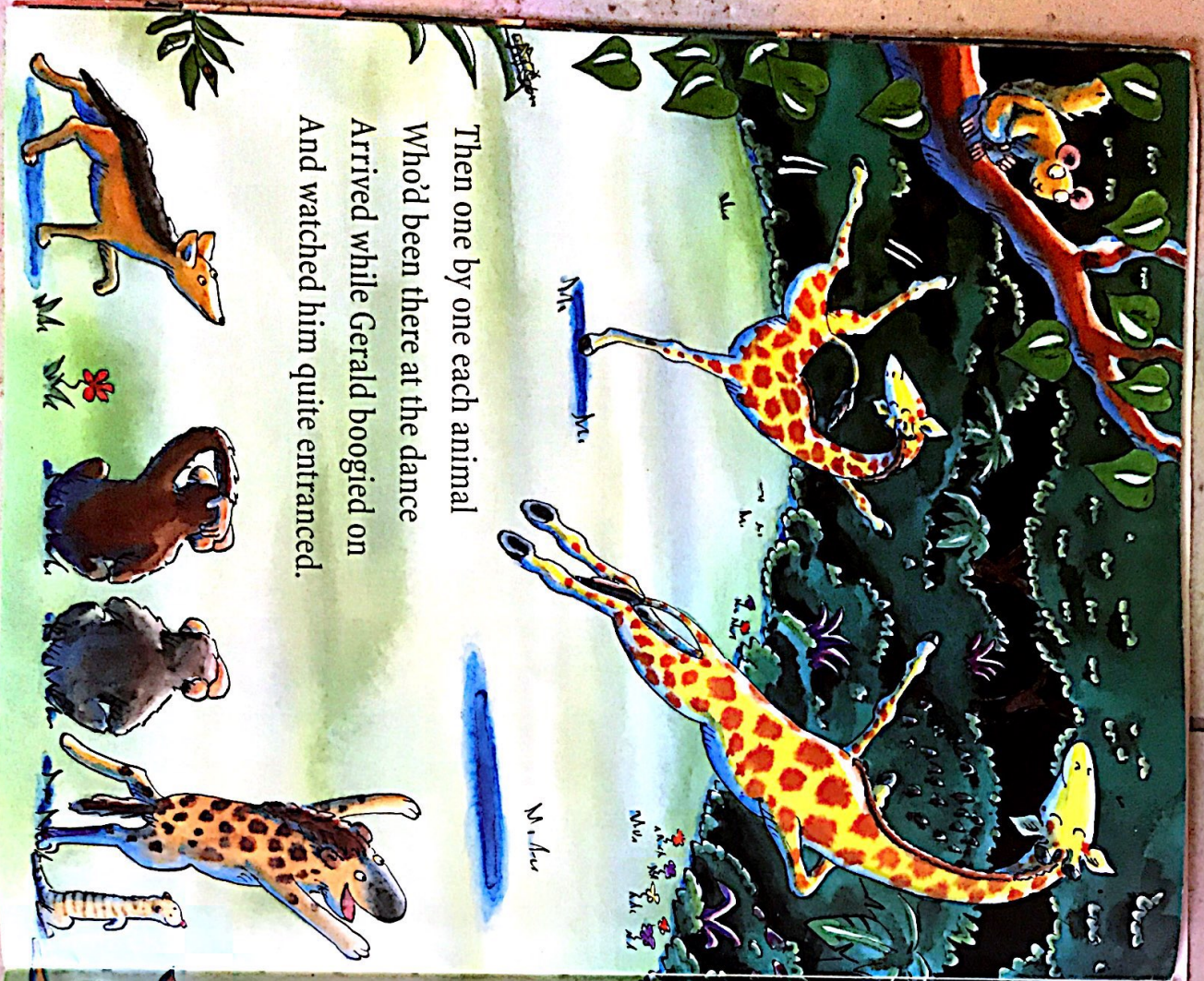
His hooves had started shuffling
Making circles on the ground,
His neck was gently swaying
And his tail was swishing round.



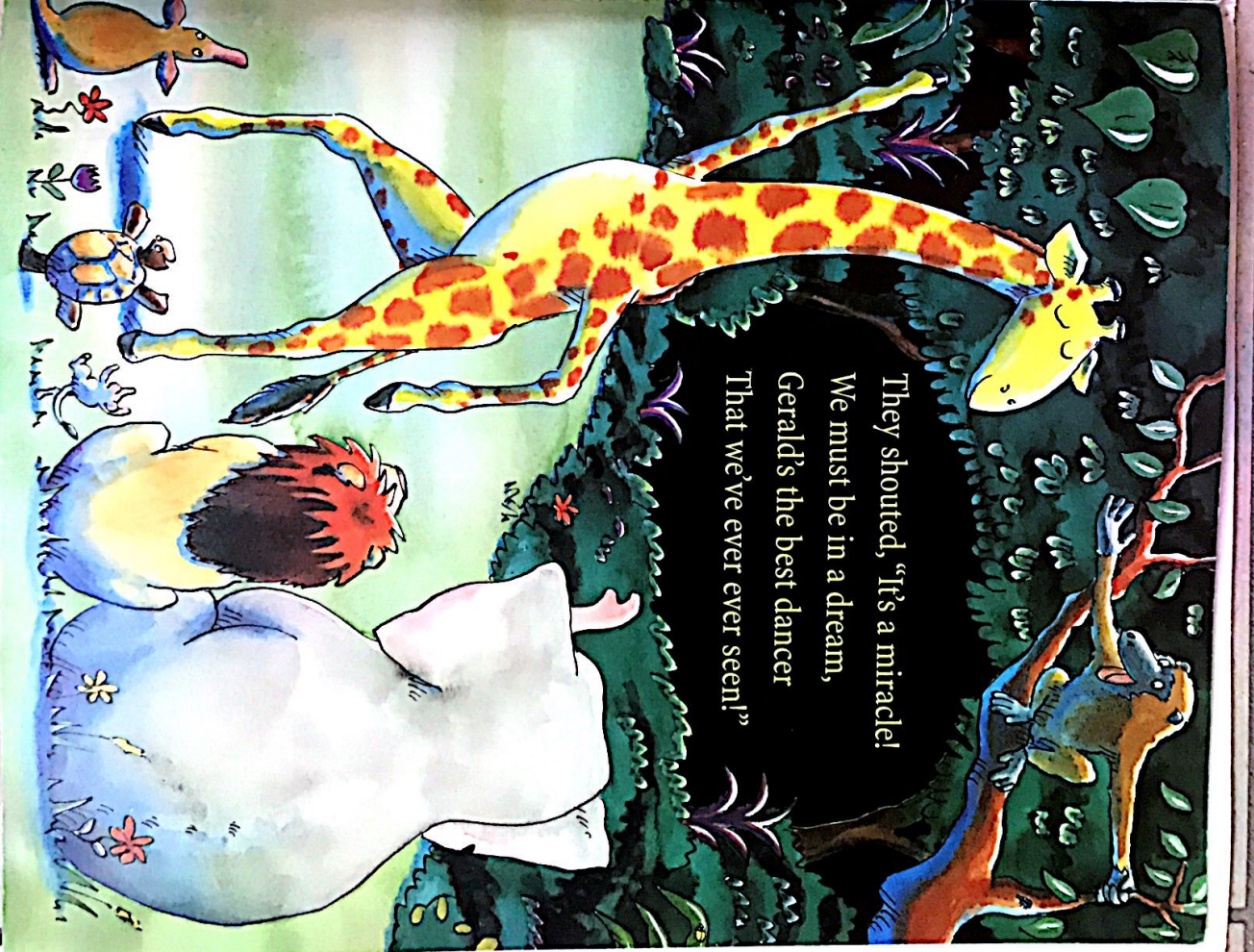
He threw his arms out sideways
And he swung them everywhere,
Then he did a backwards somersault
And leapt up in the air.







Then one by one each animal
Who'd been there at the dance
Arrived while Gerald boogied on
And watched him quite entranced.



They shouted, "It's a miracle!
We must be in a dream,
Gerald's the best dancer
That we've ever ever seen!"



“How is it you can dance like that?
Please, Gerald, tell us how.”
But Gerald simply twizzled round
And finished with a bow.

M.



Then he raised his head and looked up
 At the moon and stars above.
 "We all can dance," he said,
 "When we find music that we love."

If you liked *Giraffes Can't Dance* why not try these books by the same author?



The Lion Who Wanted to Love
 "A sweet tale of love conquering all with
 utterly charming illustrations to match"
 JUNIOR



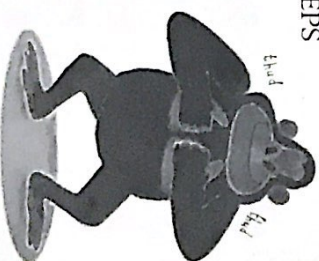
Winner of the Children's Book Award 1998

ISBN 1 86039 441 8



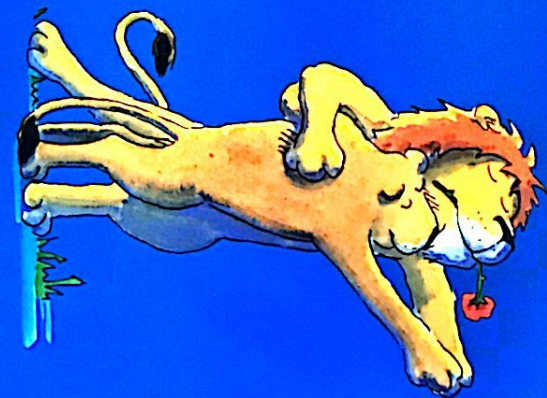
ISBN 1 86039 200 8

Rumble in the Jungle
 'Picture books like Rumble in the
 Jungle get everything right - funny
 witty verses complemented by
 vivacious and colourful illustrations.
 Design, layout and text all
 perfectly in tune.'
 BOOKS FOR KEEPS





Gerald was a tall giraffe
Whose neck was long and slim,
But his knees were awfully bandy
And his legs were rather thin.



Gerald was not a good dancer. Every year
he dreaded the great Jungle Dance.
But what Gerald discovers
one beautiful moonlit night
is that when we're different
sometimes all we need
is a different song
to dance to...



Wonderfully brought to life
by Guy Parker-Rees, this is a
funny, touching and triumphant
story by award-winning author
Giles Andreae, also known as the
successful contemporary poet Purple Ronnie.



£4.99

"This rhyming poem is excellent
and begs to be read aloud."
THE BOOKSELLER