

OPEY GETS OVERHEATED

By: Deborah Azim Fleming MSW, RSW and Kathleen Matharoo RECE
Illustrated by: Kathleen Matharoo, RECE



Tires, Wires & Brakes Series

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This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents either are the product of the authors' imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, events, or locales is entirely coincidental.

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We acknowledge that this story has been created on the Haldimand Tract, land that was promised to the Haudenosaunee of the Six Nations of the Grand River, and within the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Neutral peoples.

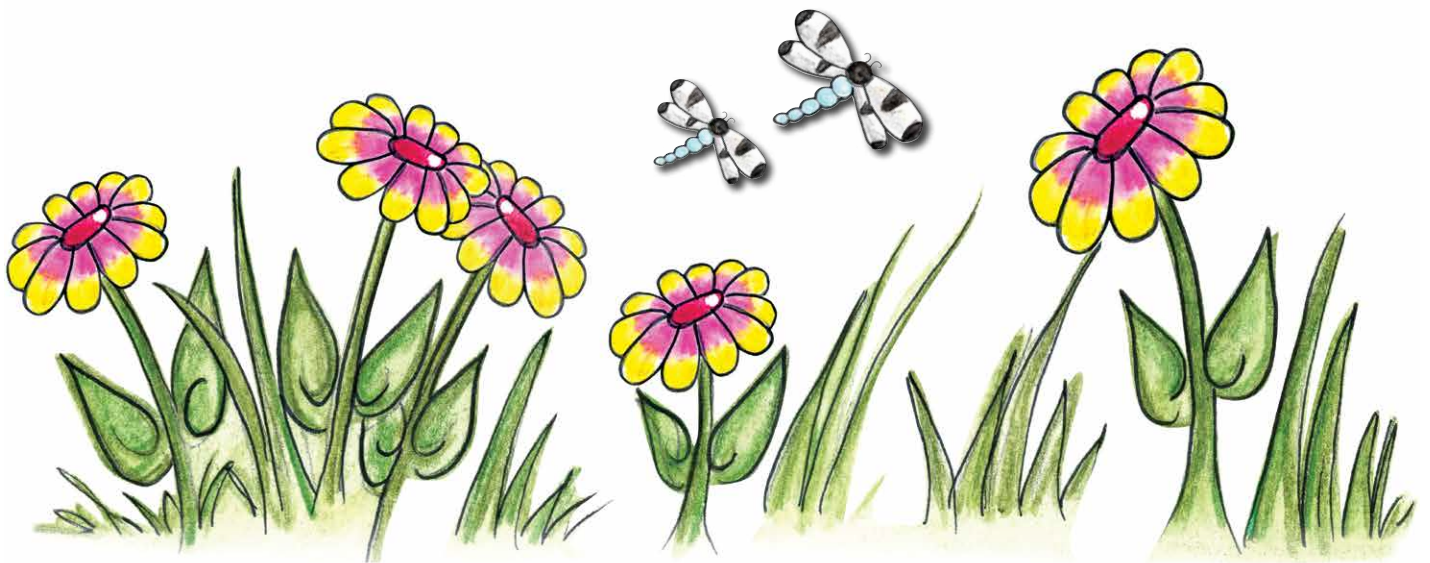
We thank the children, parents, educators, and Our Place staff, who helped to shape this story.

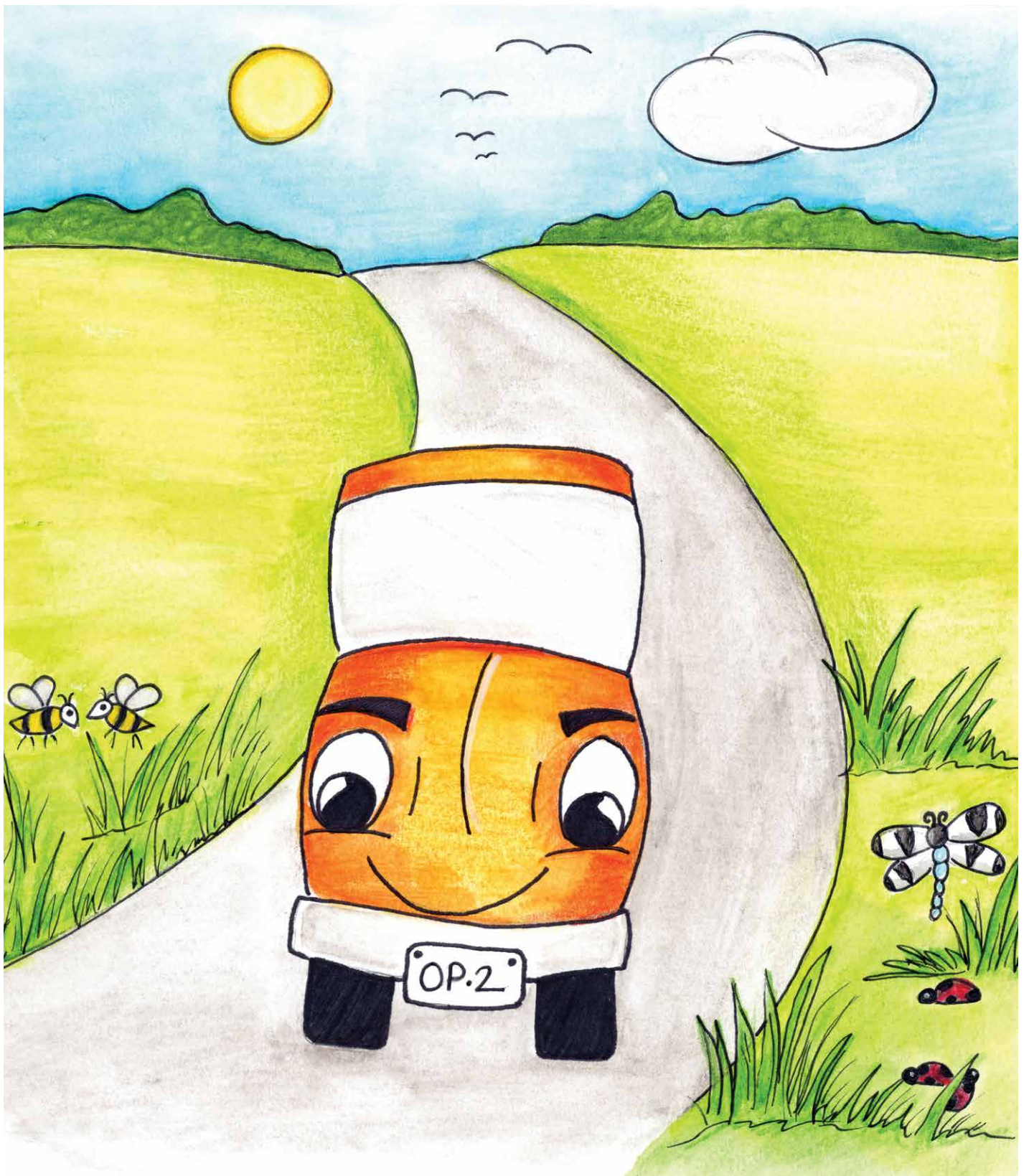
We appreciate the guidance and friendship of Dr. Jean Clinton.

We are grateful for the support of the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation.

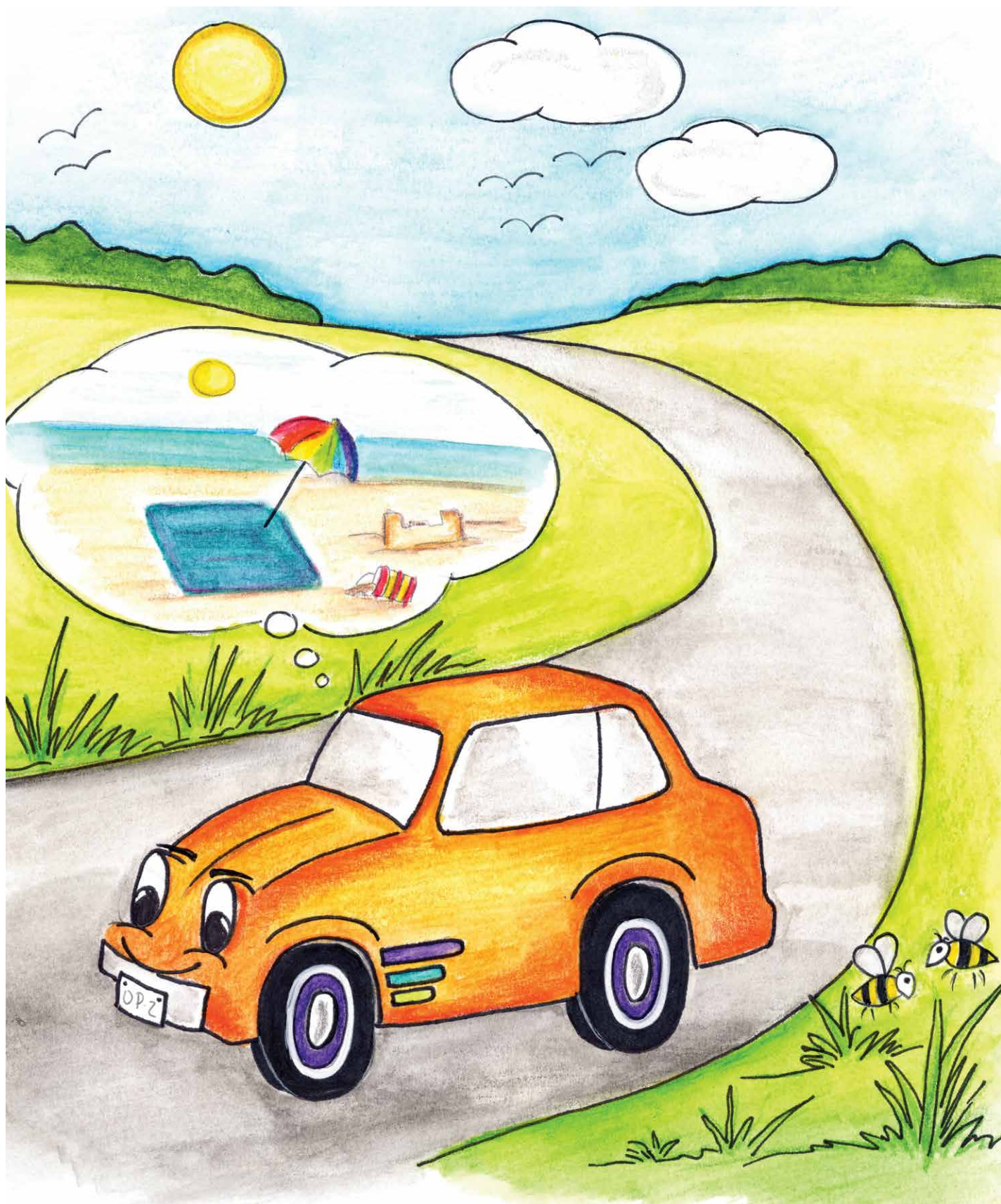
We dedicate this book to everyone who has been a part of Our Place.

This book belongs to





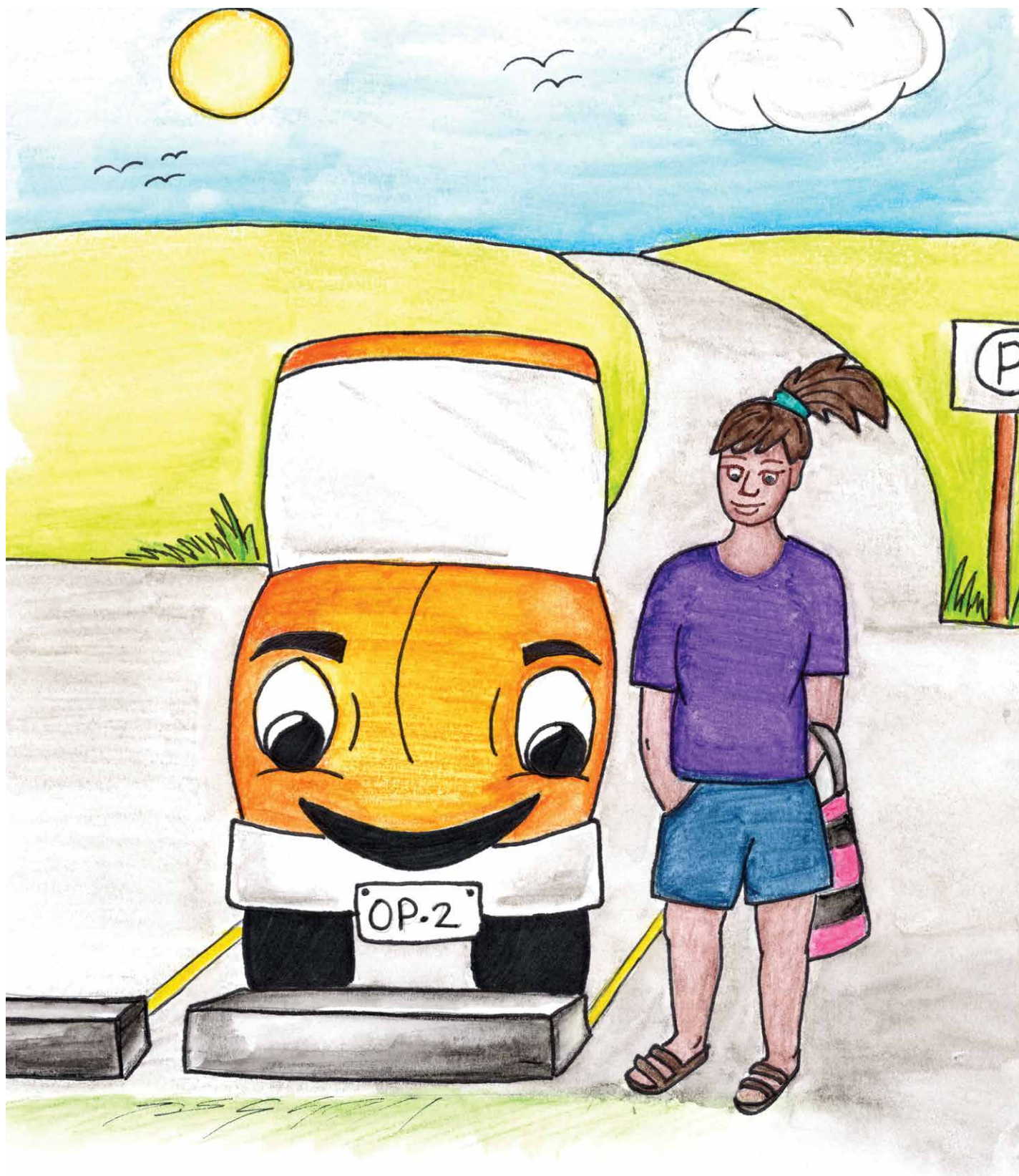
"Hi, my name is Opey!"



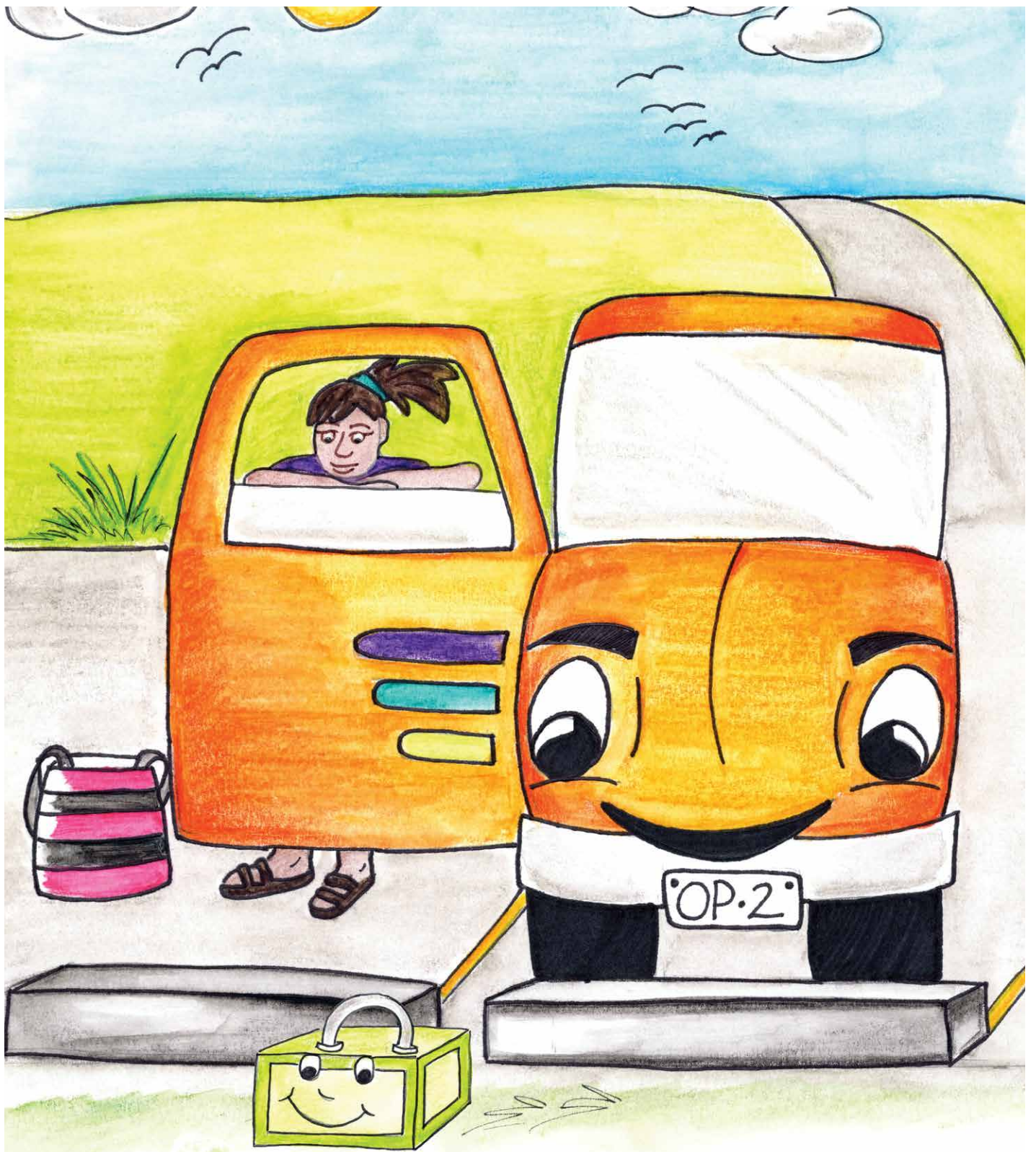
"It's a sunny day for a drive to the beach."



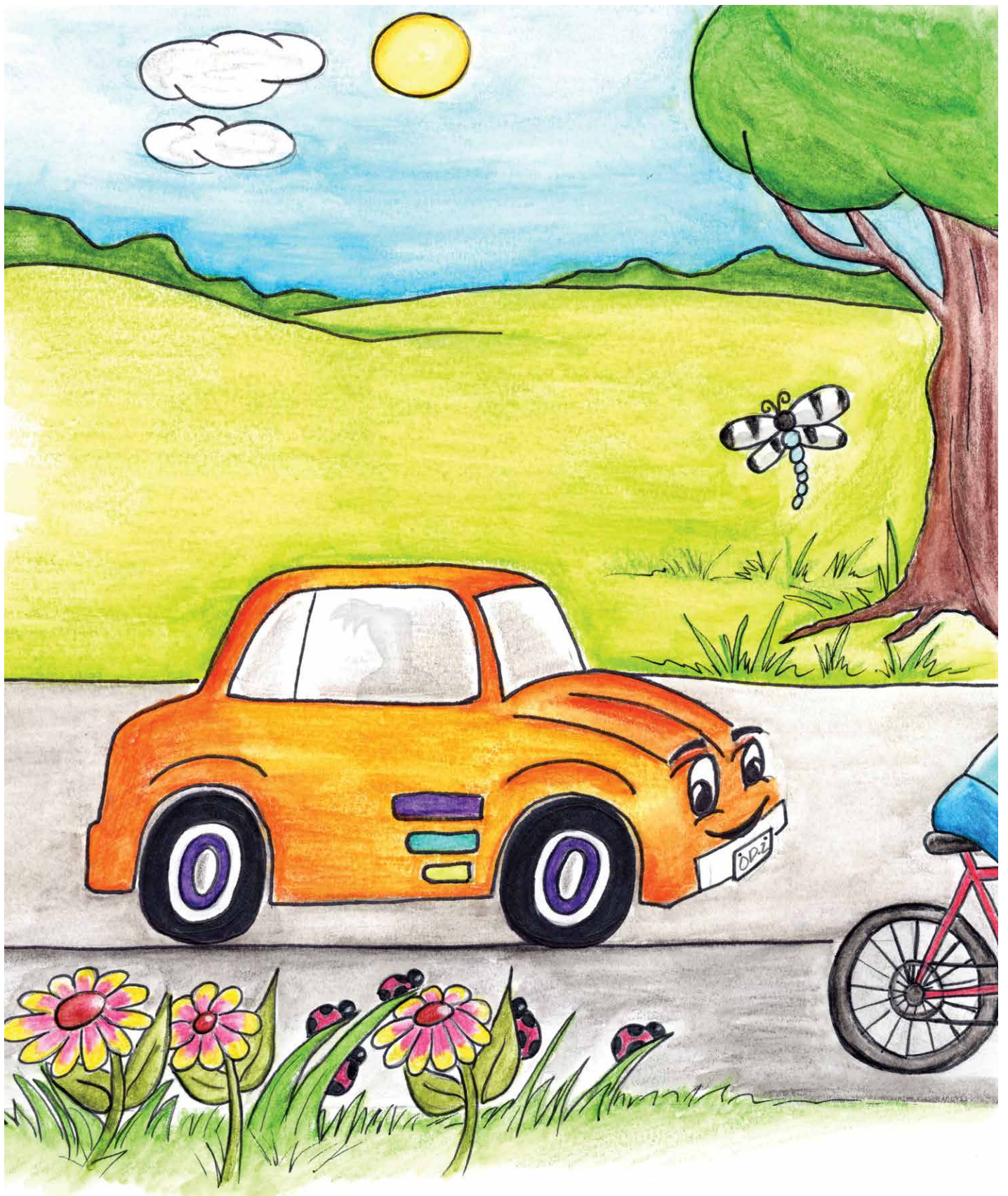
"My friend, Molly Mechanic, is coming with me."



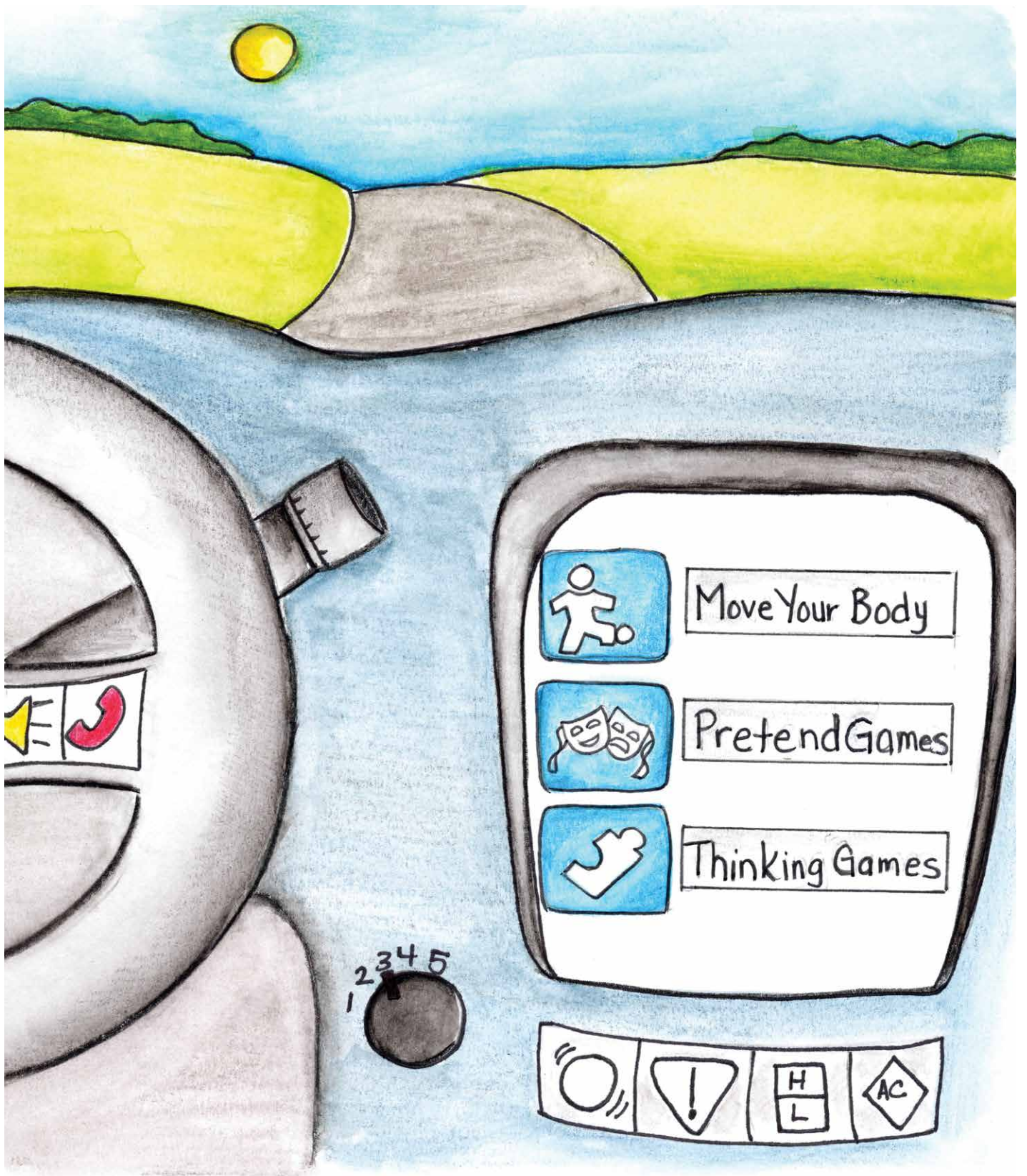
"HI MOLLY! Ready for our day
at the beach?"



"Yes Opey! Hi Tinker! I hope we'll have lots of fun today."



"Molly, I can't wait to play when we get there!"



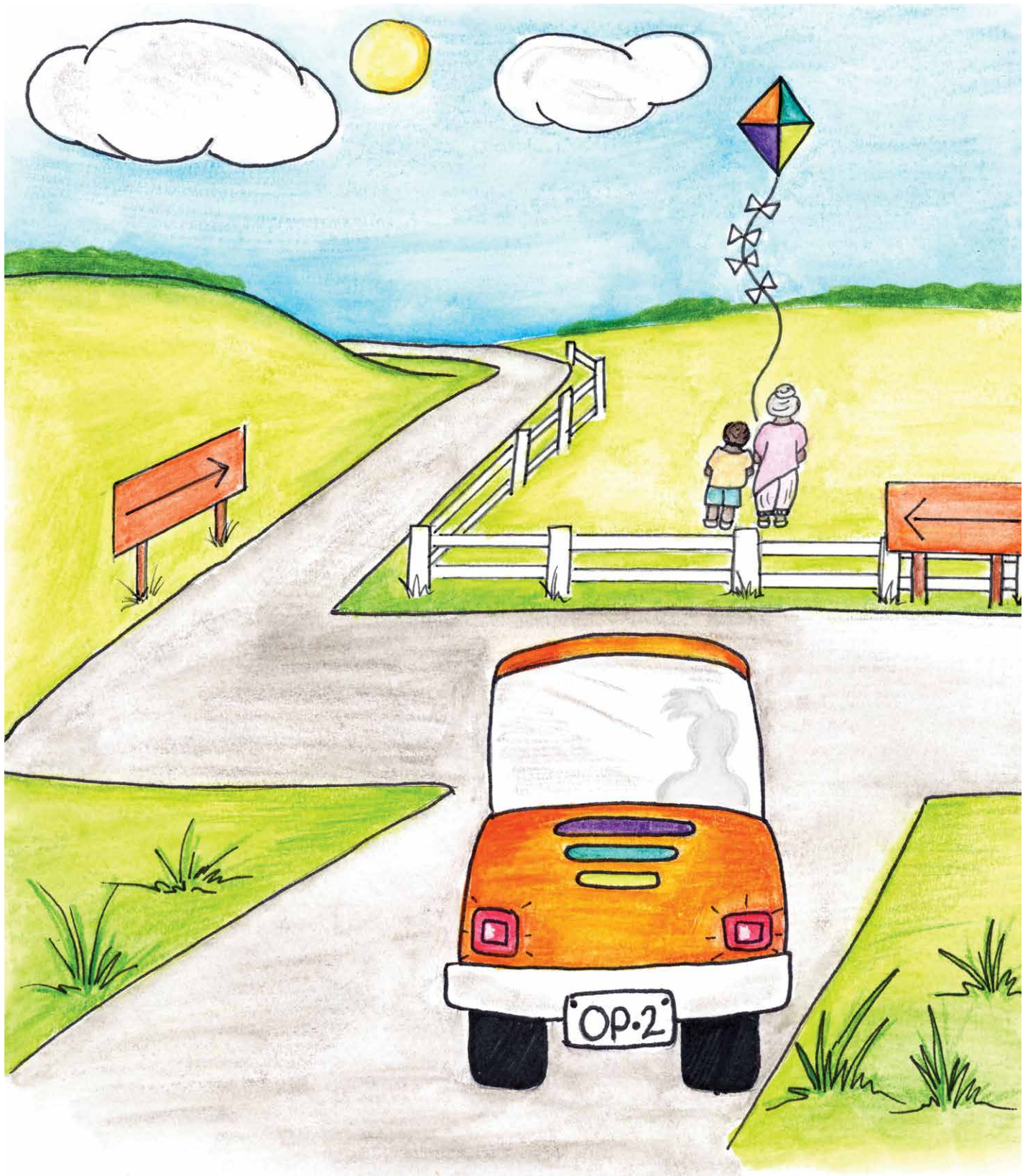
What games do you like to play?



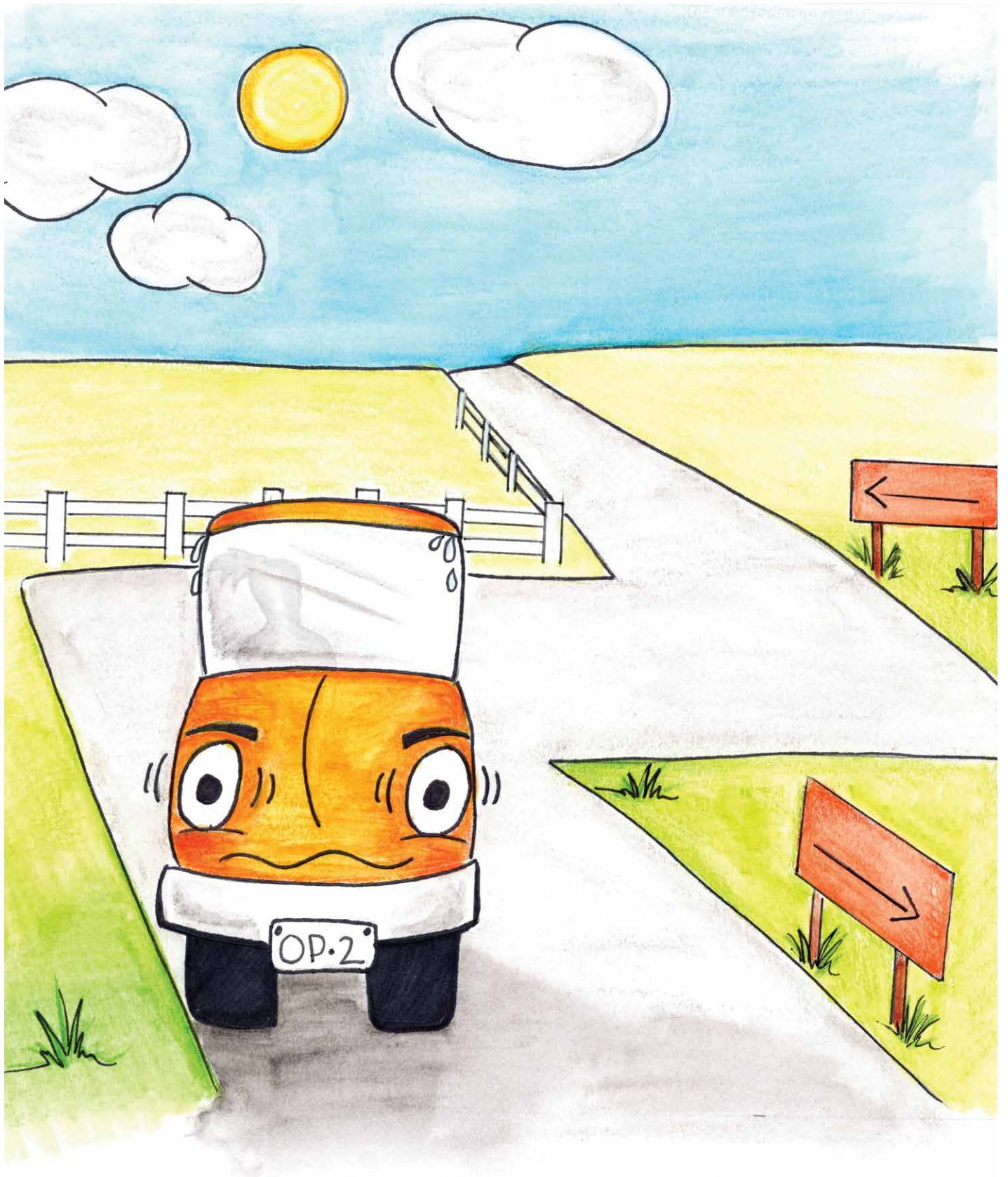
"I'm excited to play too, Opey!"



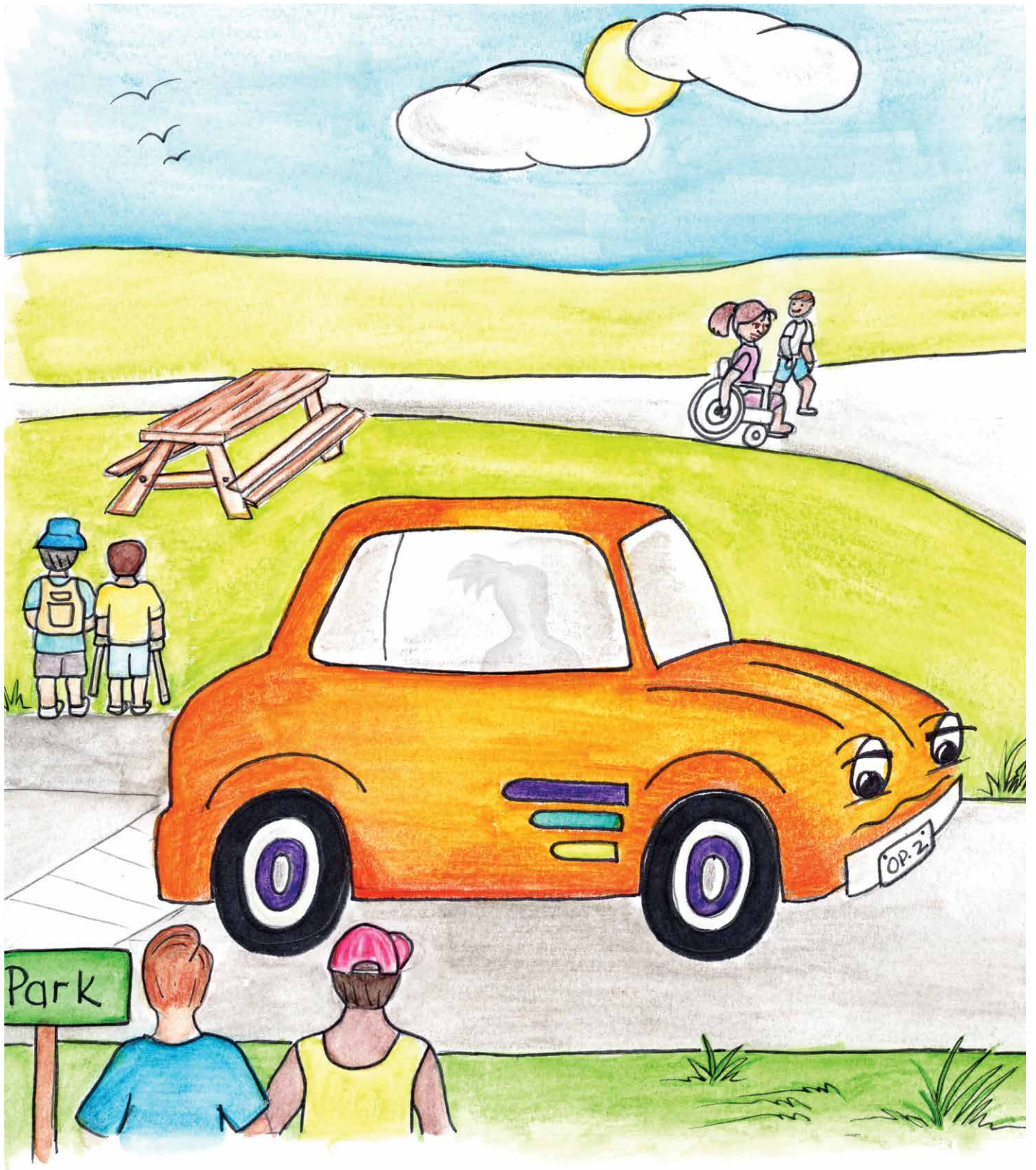
"Oh...NO! A detour," yells Opey.



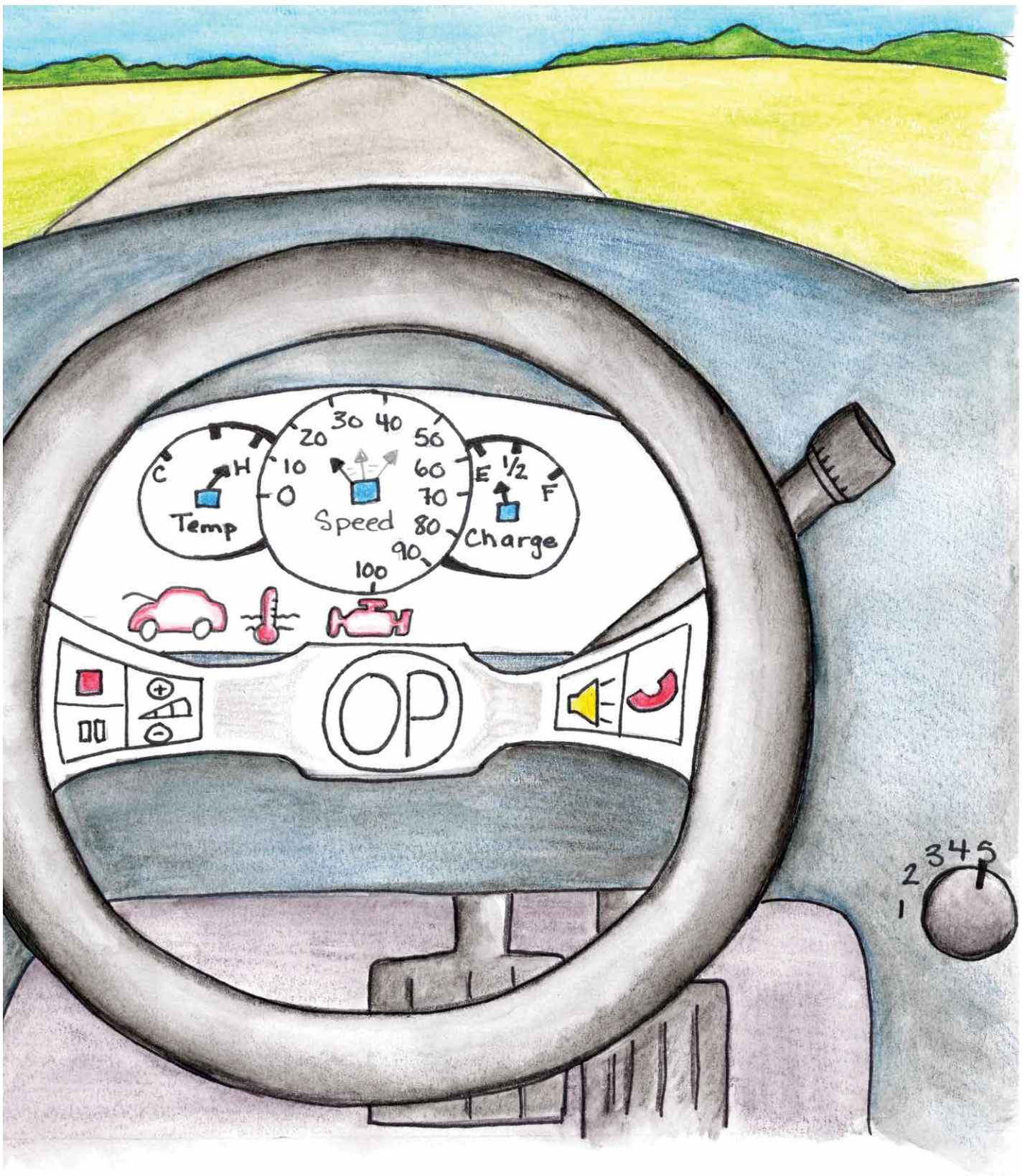
"I don't know this way!"



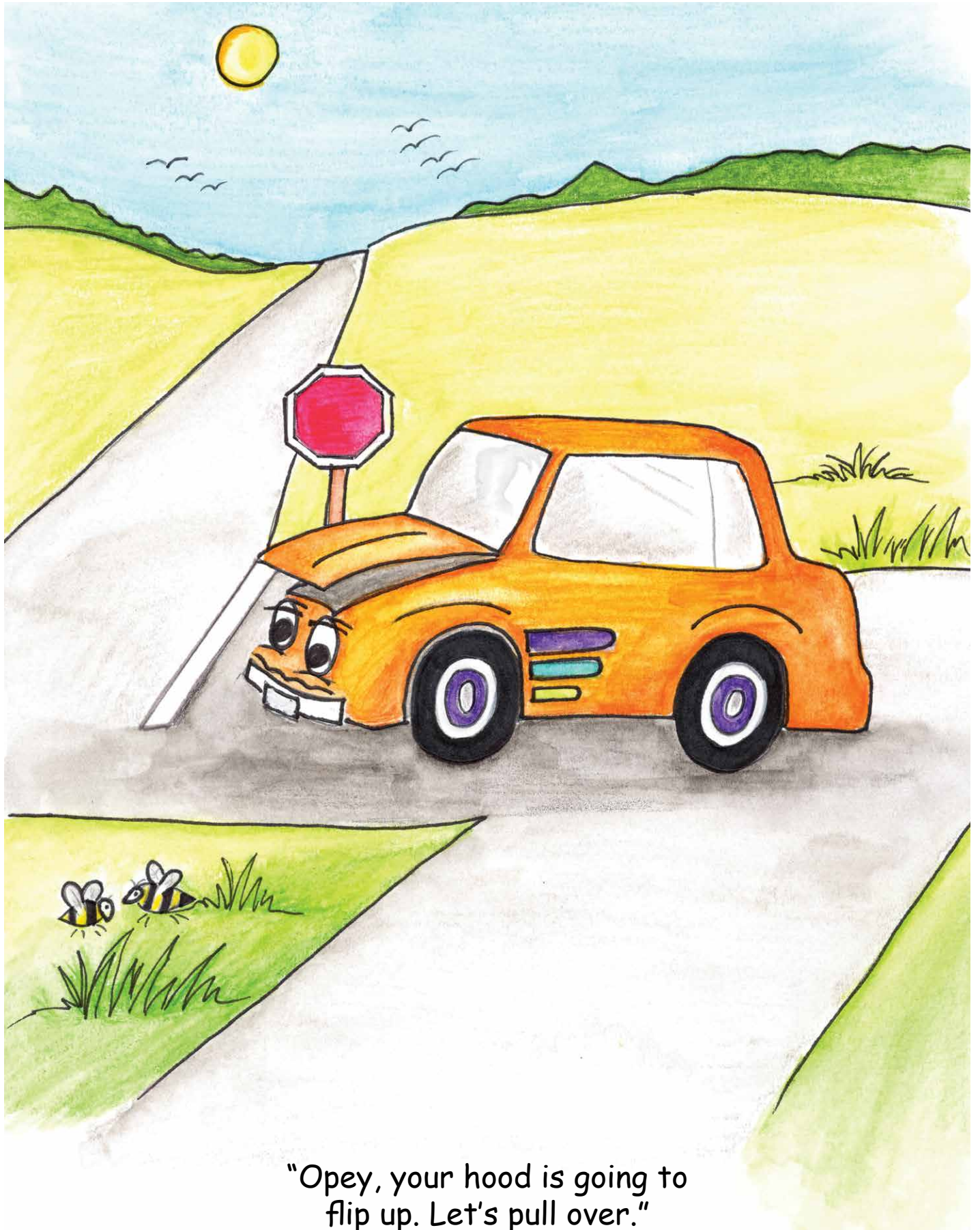
"We're NEVER going to get to the beach!"



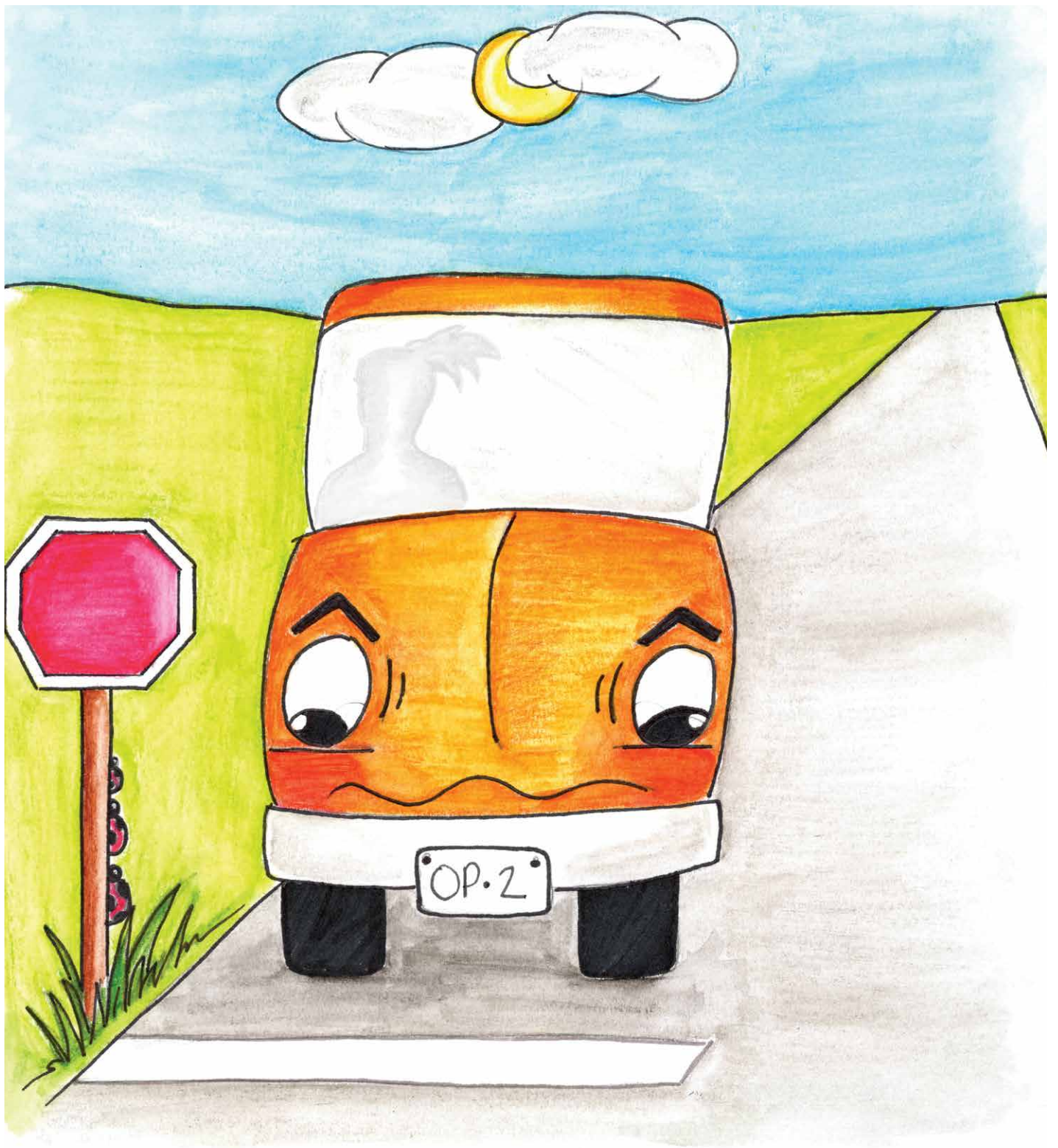
"Opey, are you feeling OK?"



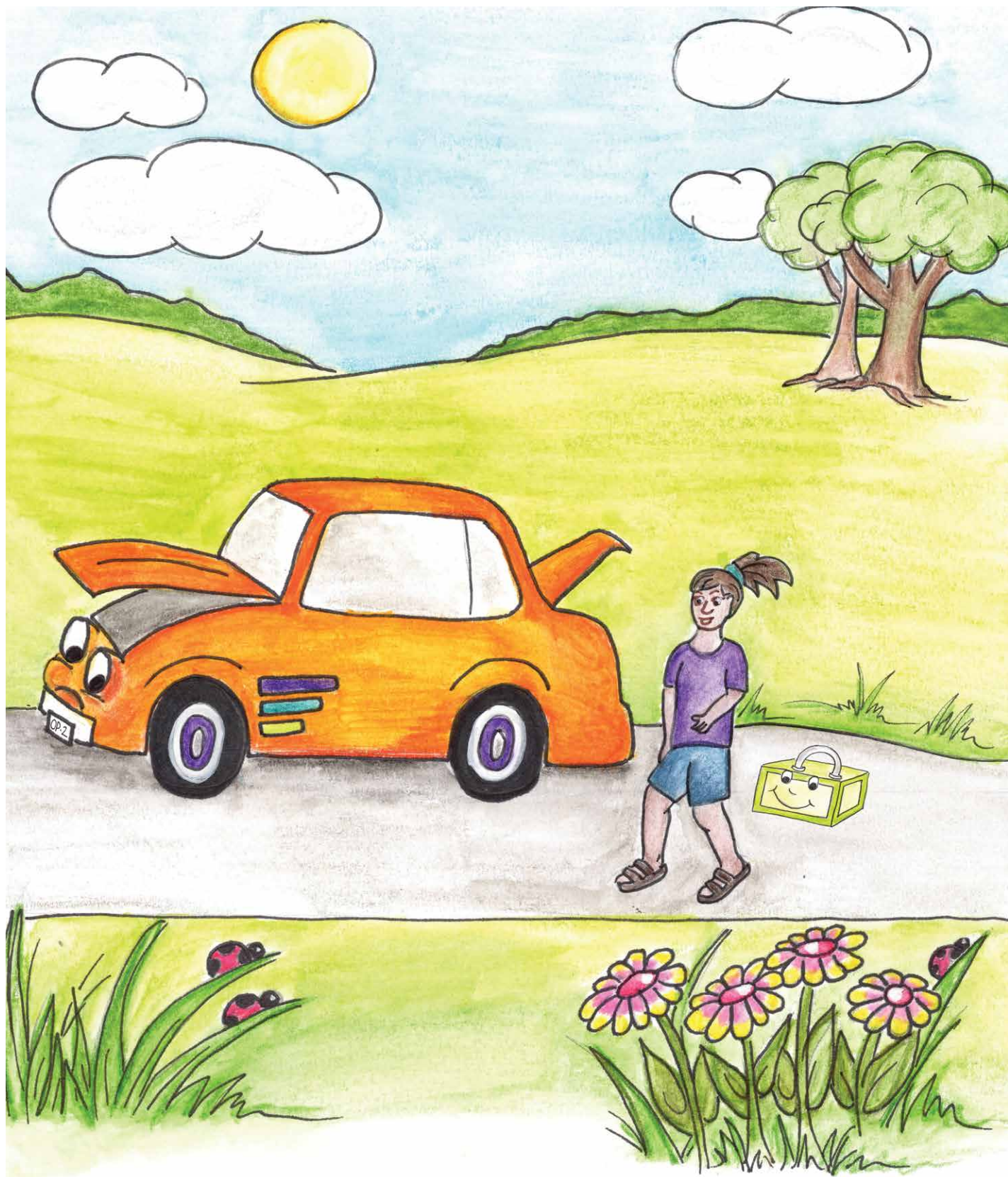
"Molly, something's wrong."



"Opey, your hood is going to flip up. Let's pull over."



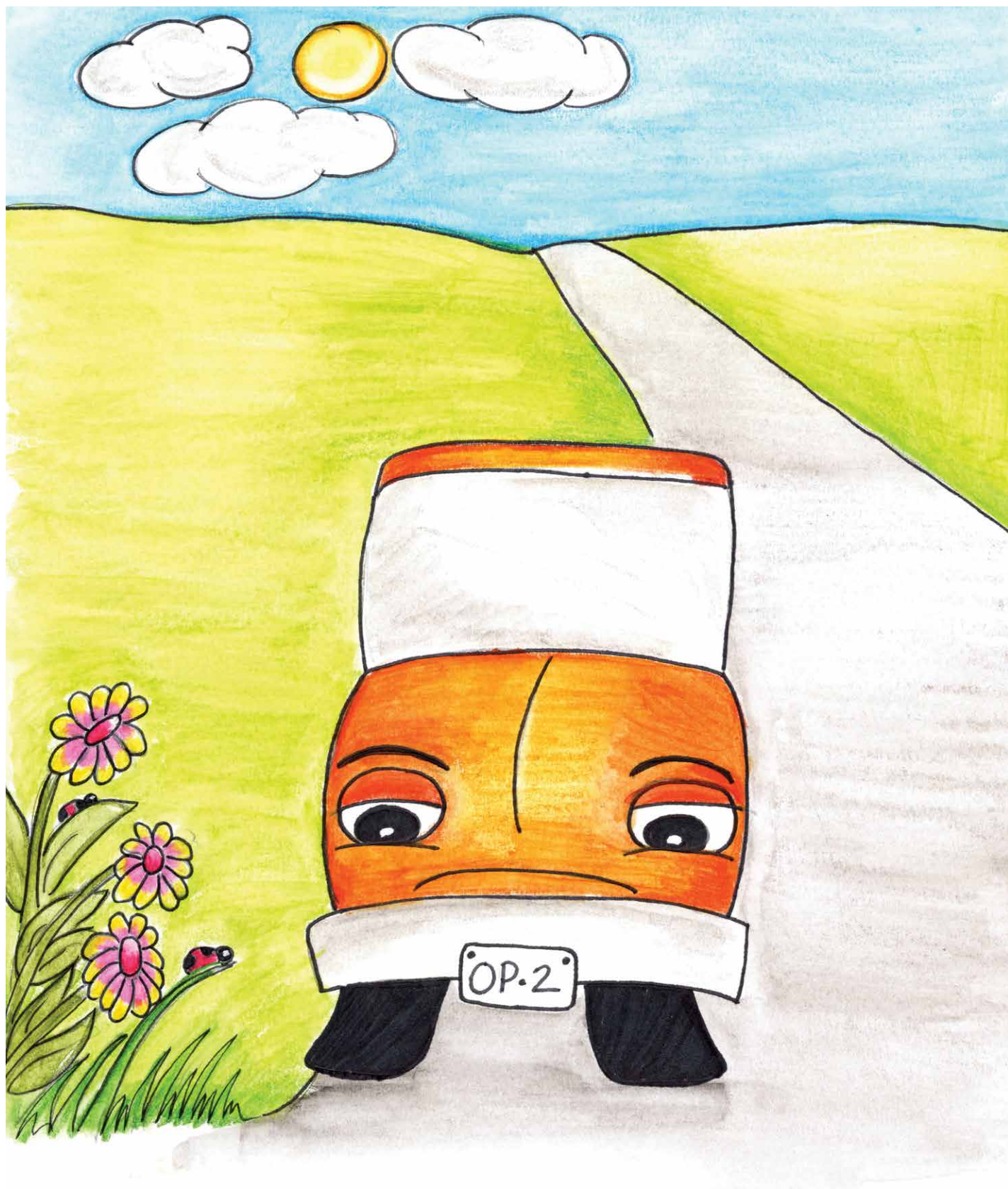
"I don't know what's going on, Molly."



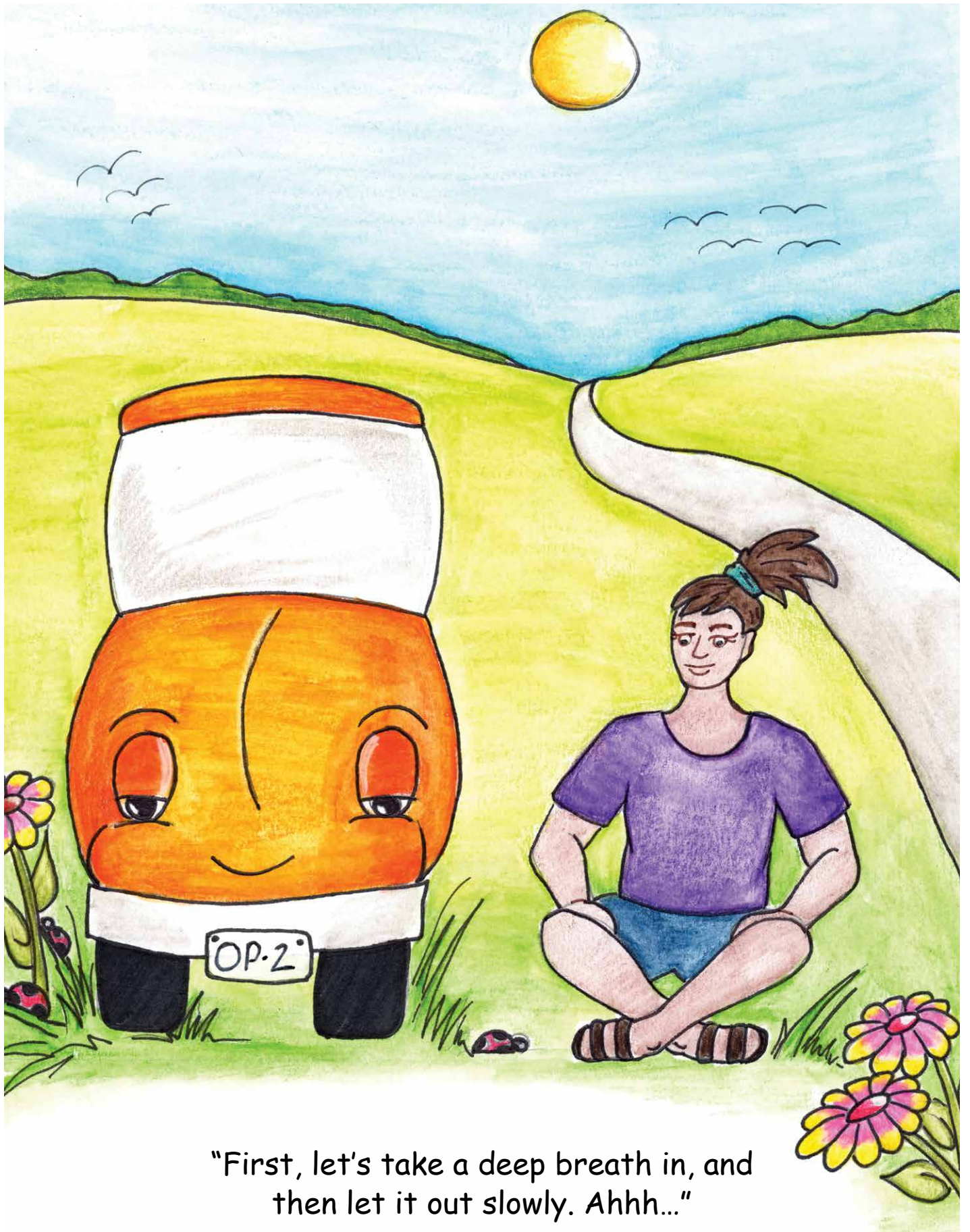
"Let's take a look, Opey."



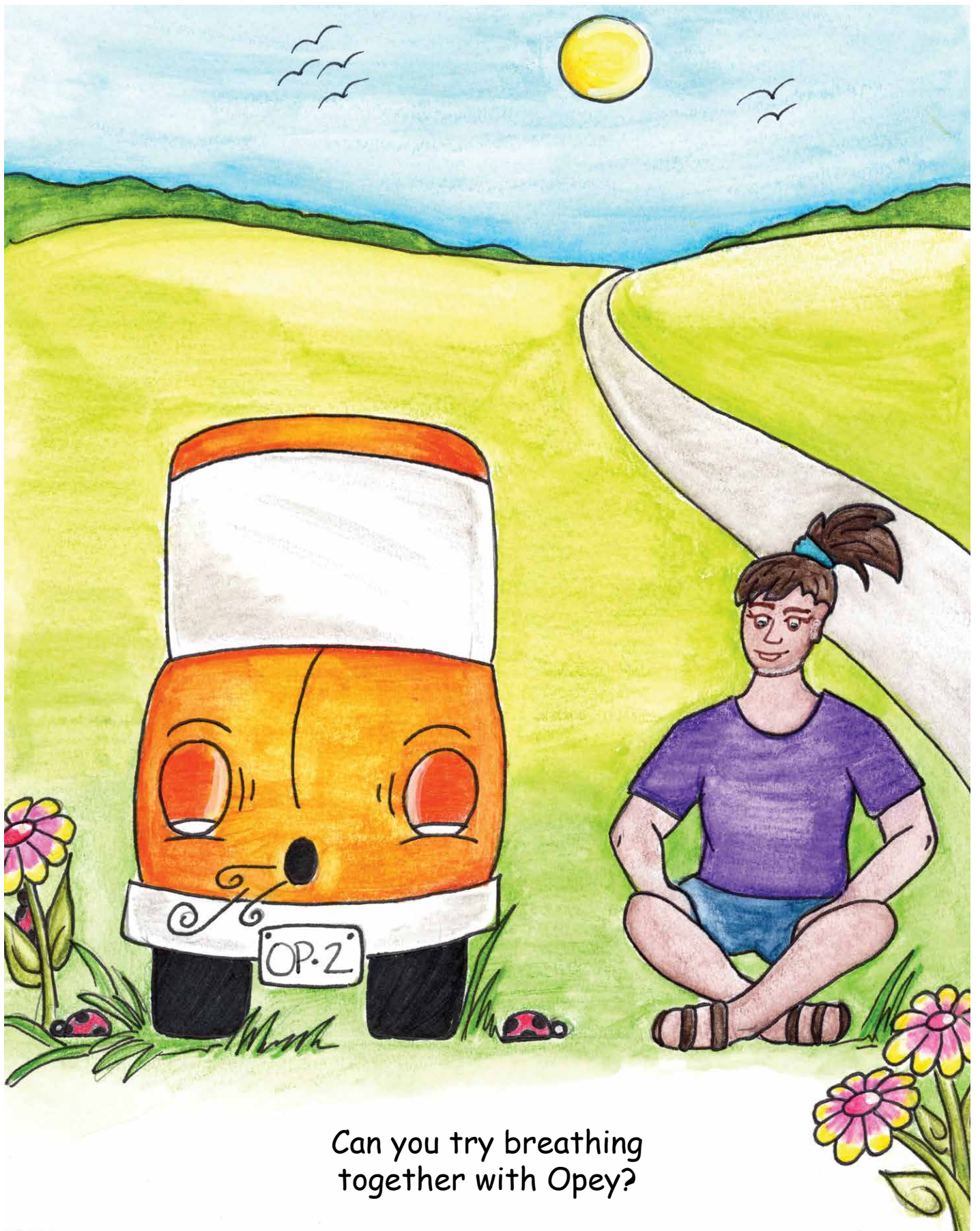
"Opey, you're overheating. Your battery is red. Your wiring is hot. Your plugs are loose. We need to help you feel calm."



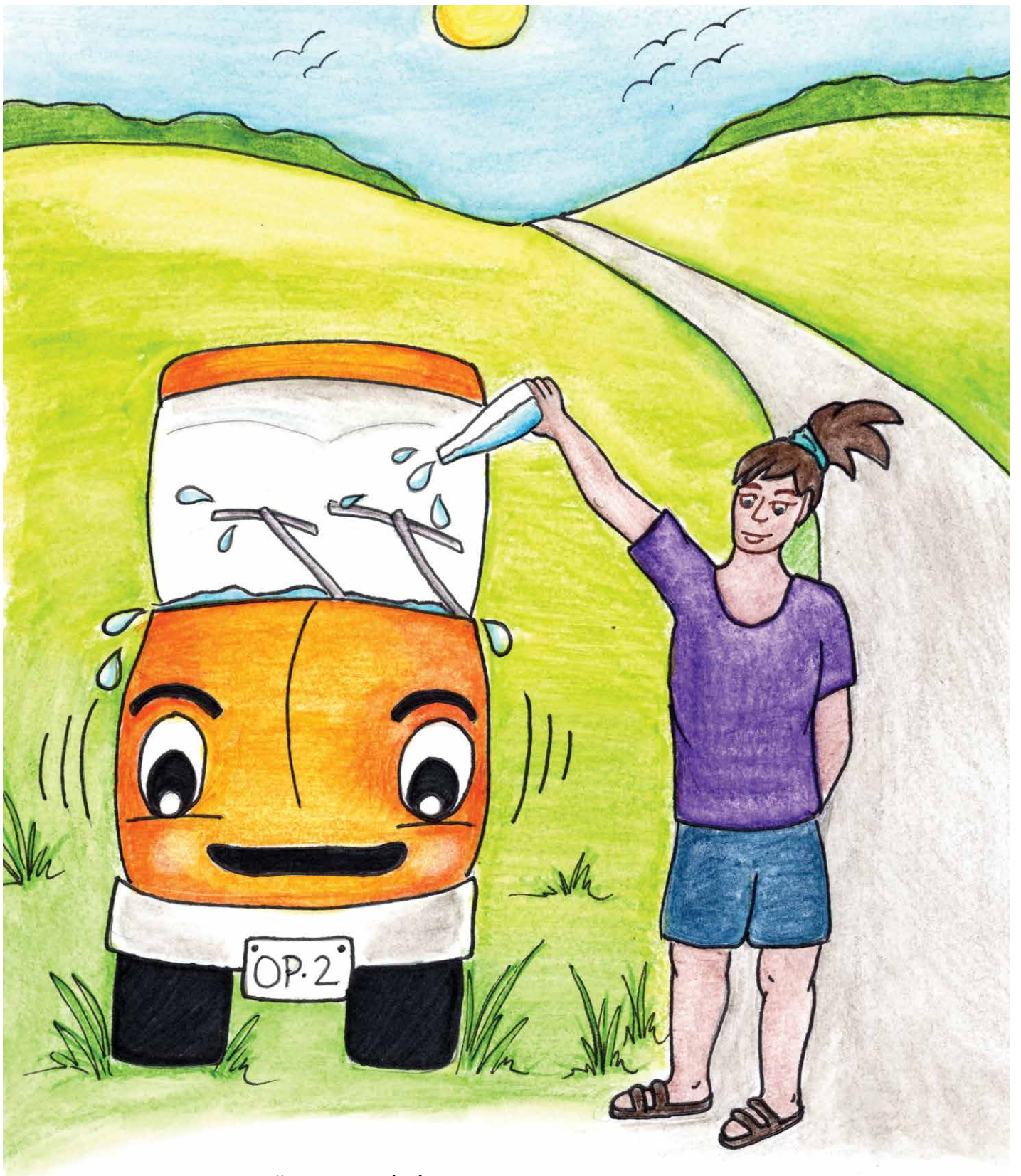
"How Molly? I can't think. I'm tired.
My seats feel itchy and I..."



"First, let's take a deep breath in, and then let it out slowly. Ahhh..."



Can you try breathing
together with Opey?



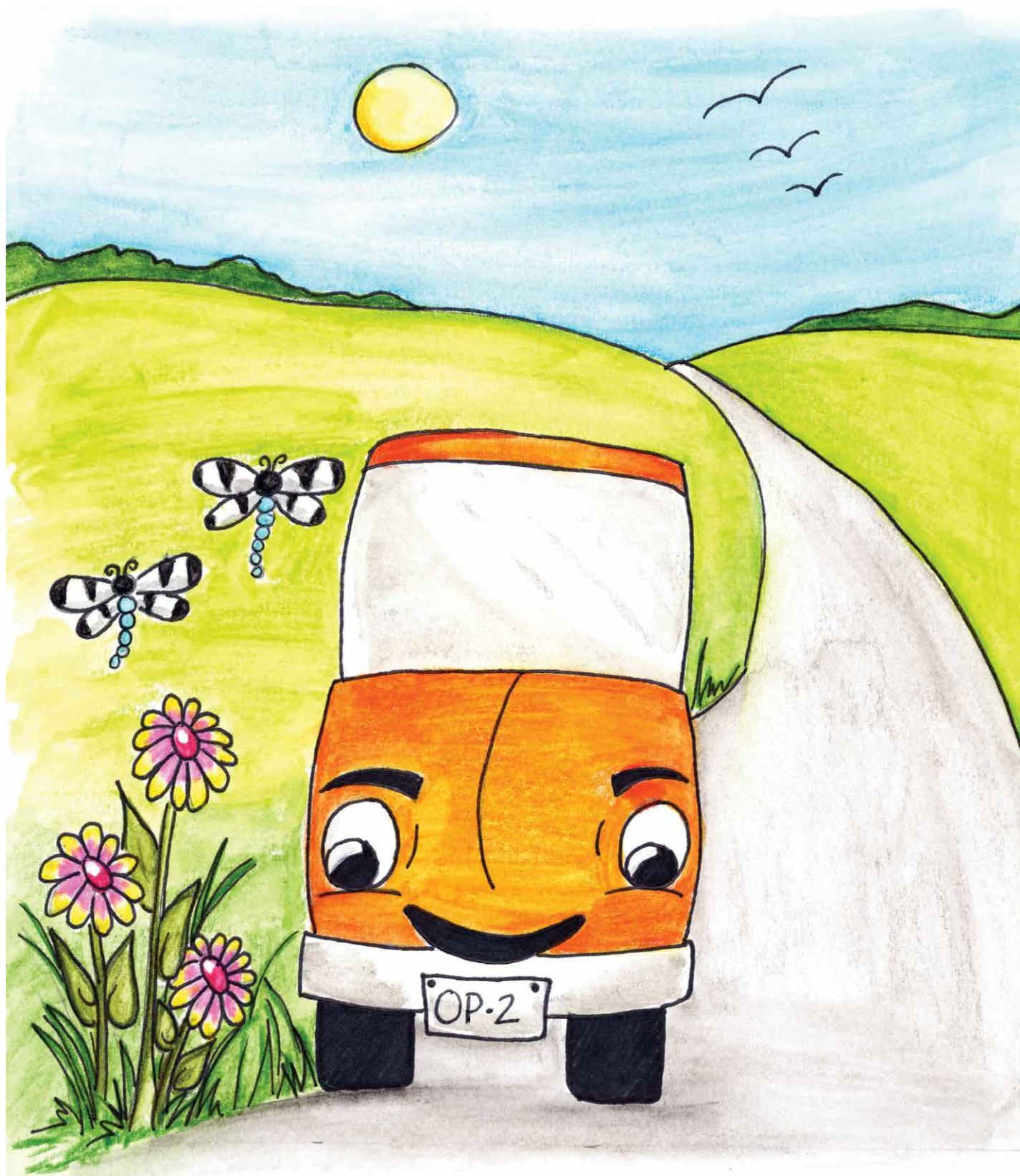
"Second, let's try some water."
"OK Molly. Brrr...the water's cold. It feels good"



"Third, let's think of what makes you feel happy."



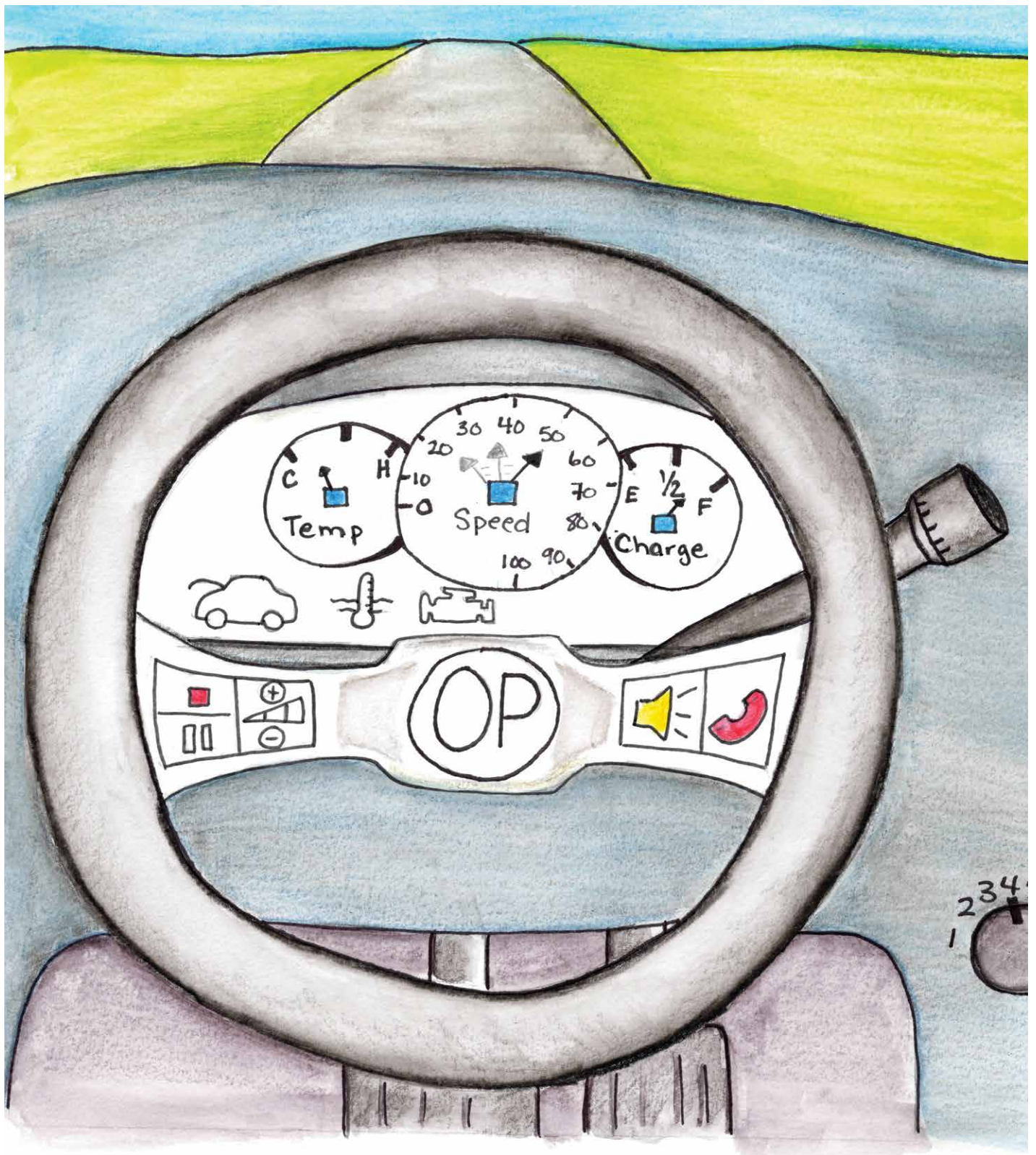
What would you think of to feel happy?



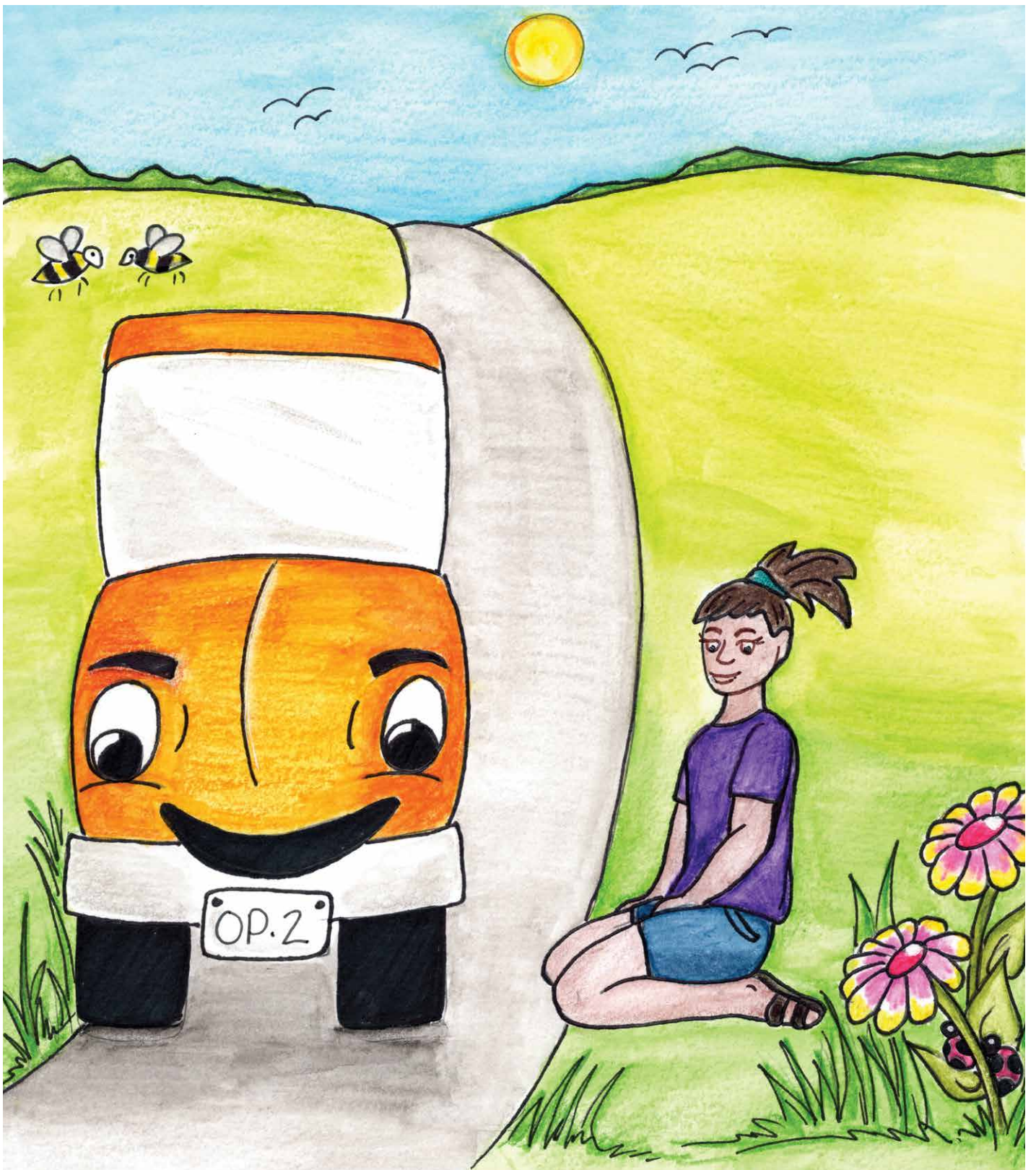
"Molly, I'm feeling better."



"Wow, Opey! Your battery is not red.
Your wiring is cool. Your plugs are connected."



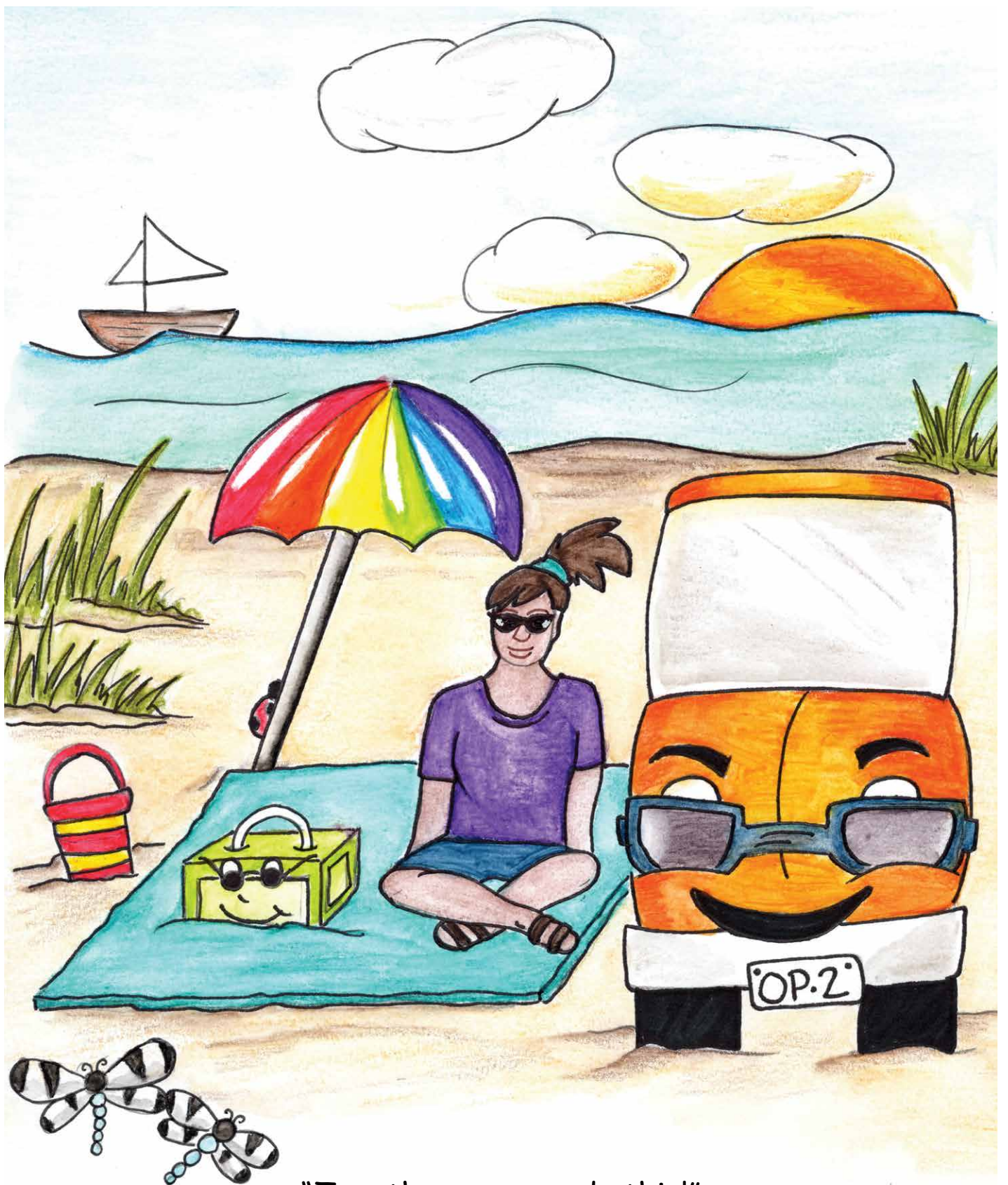
"Opey, it looks like your systems are back on track."



"I'm also here to share my calm with you,
when you need help to feel calm."



"Molly, I'm ready to go now.
I'll be able to follow the signs to
take us to the beach."



"Together, we can do this!"

We hope you have enjoyed
this ride with Opey.



Check out the full series!



This book series, was initiated by Our Place Family Resource and Early Years Centre, in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. Our Place offered innovative child and family centered programs for over forty years.

Find out more about the book series:
opeybooks@gmail.com

www.opeybooks.com

About the Authors...

Debbie thanks her mother for sparking a love of reading, in her early years in Guyana; she recalls eagerly anticipating library trips with her sister to find their new favourite stories. After immigrating with her family to Canada, Debbie's path took her to Waterloo, Ontario where she studied Psychology and Social Work and now lives with her spouse.

Debbie has been committed to supporting the health of children and families throughout her career. She currently practices as a trauma informed Registered Social Worker, and is an Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at McMaster University. Debbie has enjoyed joining Our Place to bring this book series to life, and to share about the importance of relationships in keeping us connected and whole.



Kathleen spent her childhood years asking for paper and crayons, spending a lifetime practicing her love of drawing and painting. During her 25-year career as an Early Childhood Educator, she enjoys sharing and reading books to children, learning how to tell a story to invite children in with their imaginations. Kathleen is deeply grateful to her family and ancestors for guiding her on her journey to co-author this book series, to fulfill a life long dream.

Illustrations drew inspiration from her two shining stars, her greatest teachers. As the illustrator of this book series Kathleen has worked from her heart to create a story that could be told beyond the words on the page.



