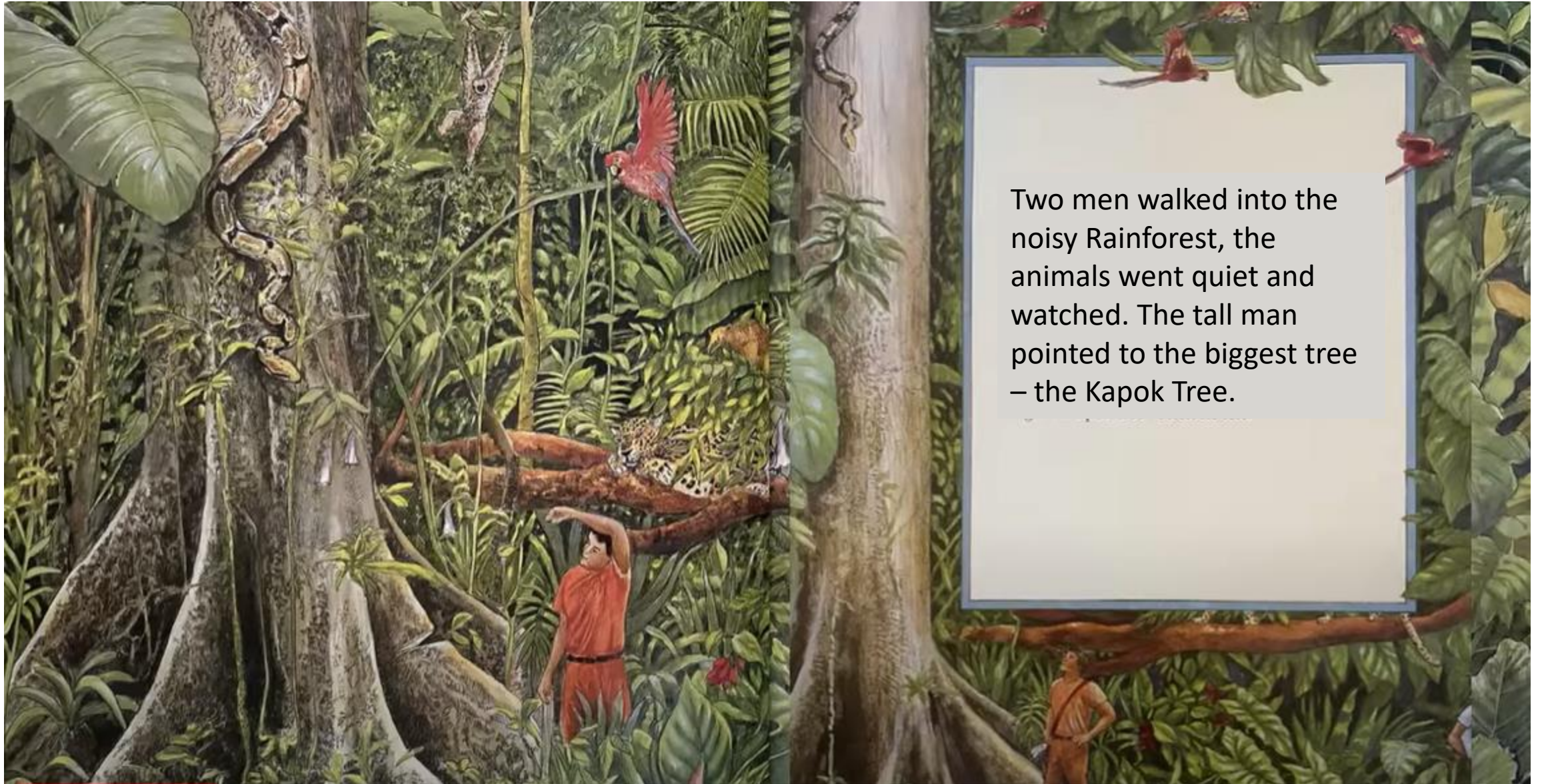


# THE GREAT KAPOK TREE

A TALE OF THE AMAZON RAIN FOREST

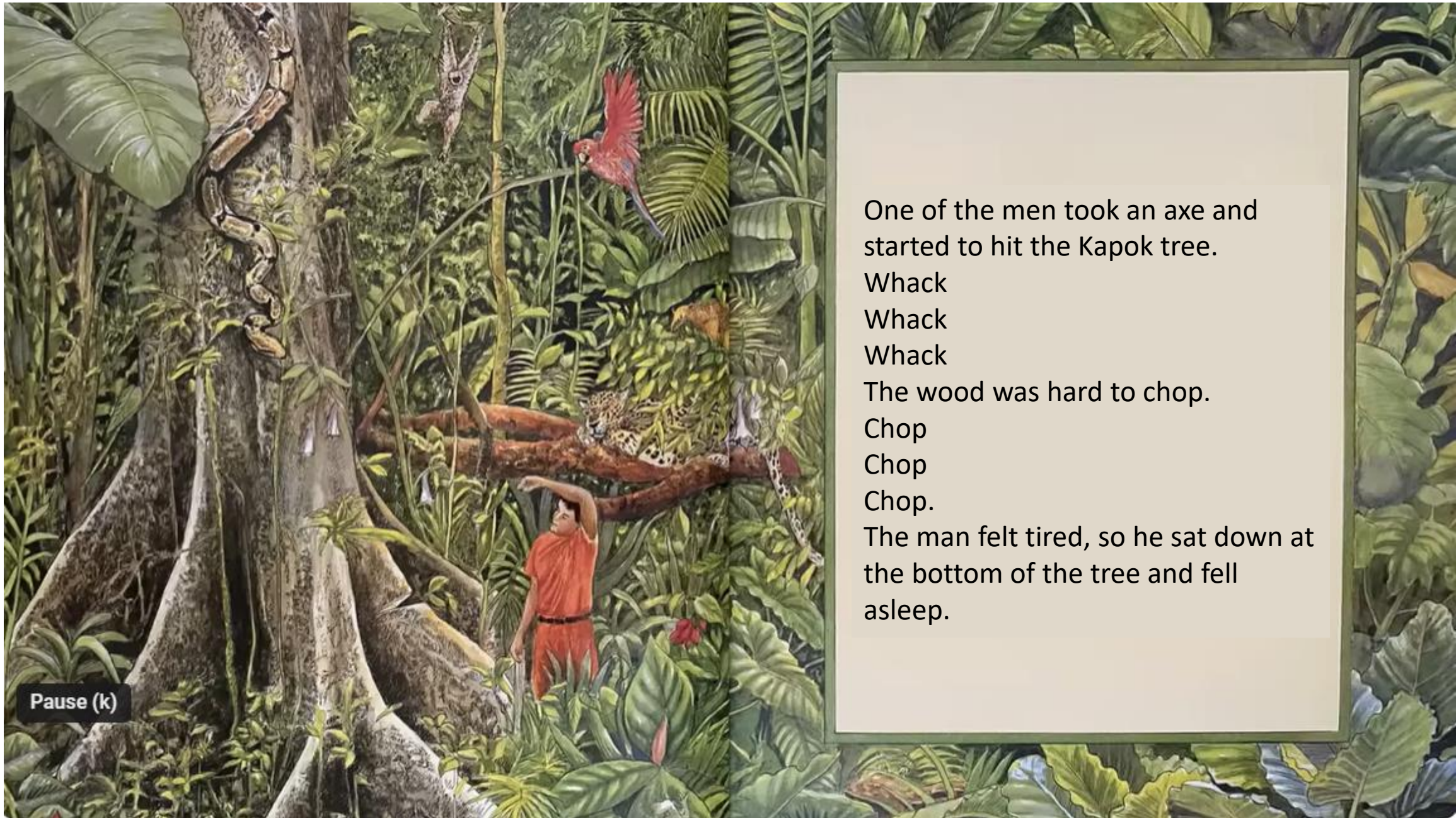
by Lynne Cherry





Two men walked into the noisy Rainforest, the animals went quiet and watched. The tall man pointed to the biggest tree – the Kapok Tree.





Pause (k)

One of the men took an axe and started to hit the Kapok tree.

Whack

Whack

Whack

The wood was hard to chop.

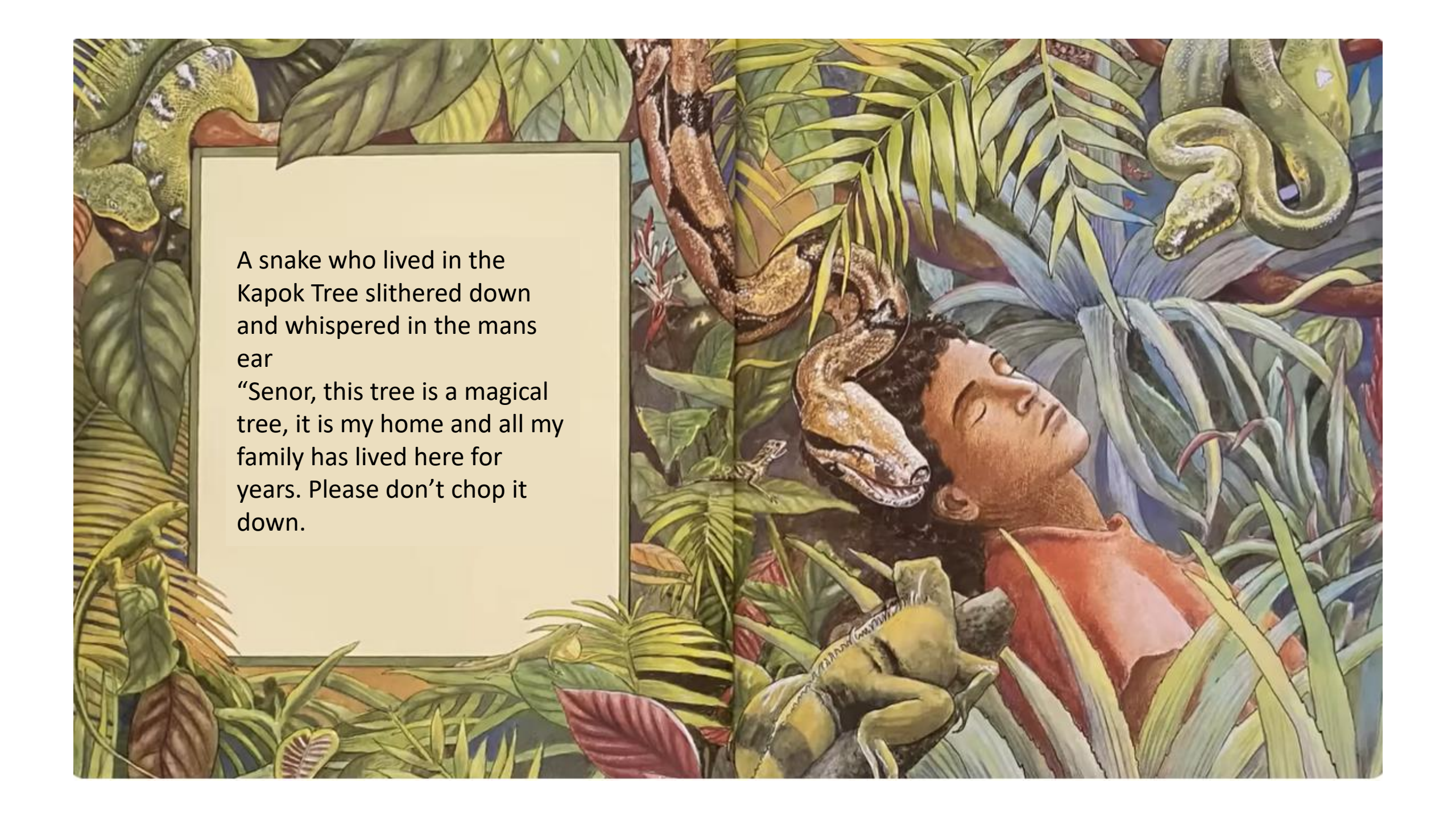
Chop

Chop

Chop.

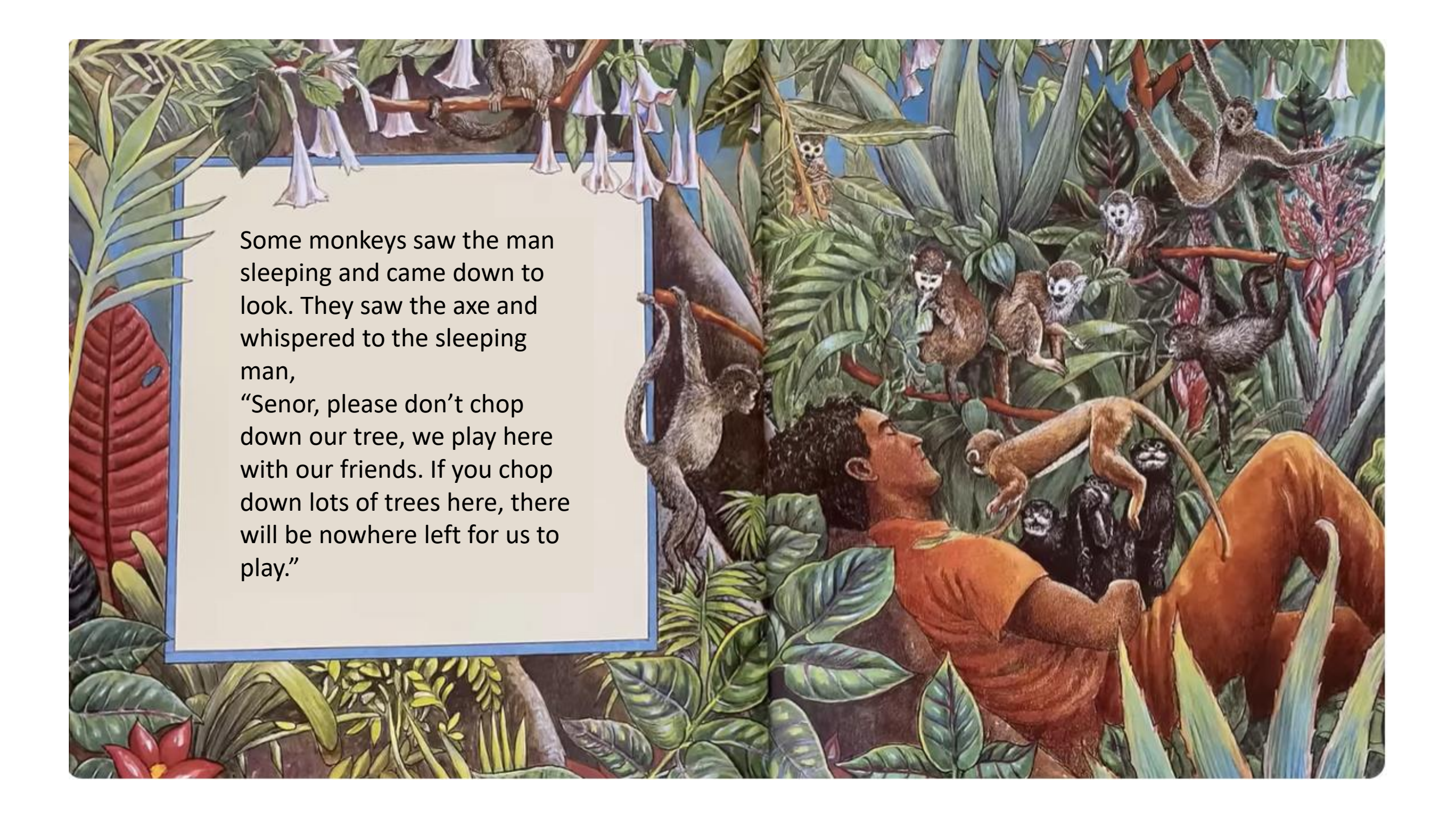
The man felt tired, so he sat down at the bottom of the tree and fell asleep.





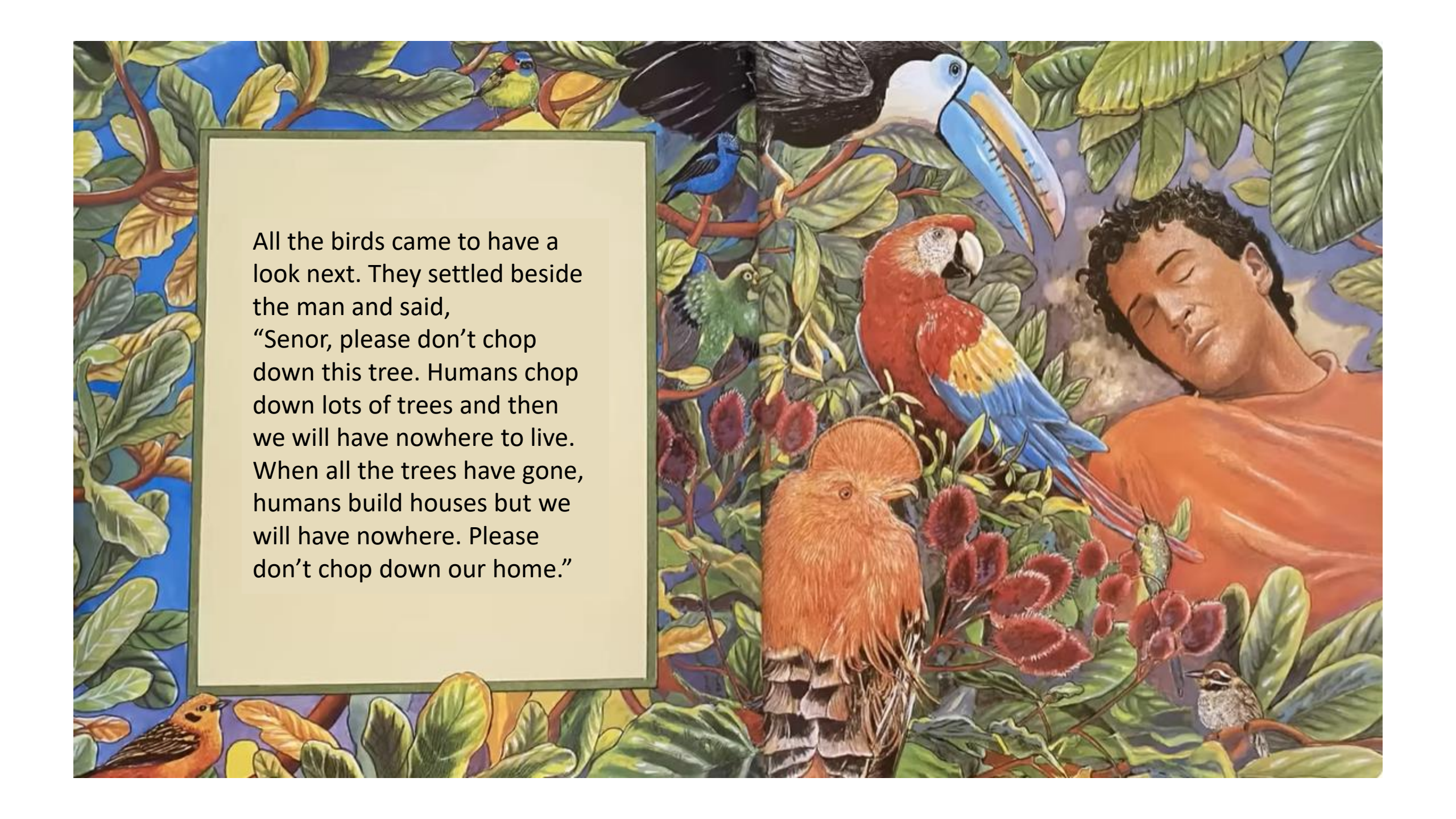
A snake who lived in the  
Kapok Tree slithered down  
and whispered in the mans  
ear  
“Senor, this tree is a magical  
tree, it is my home and all my  
family has lived here for  
years. Please don’t chop it  
down.





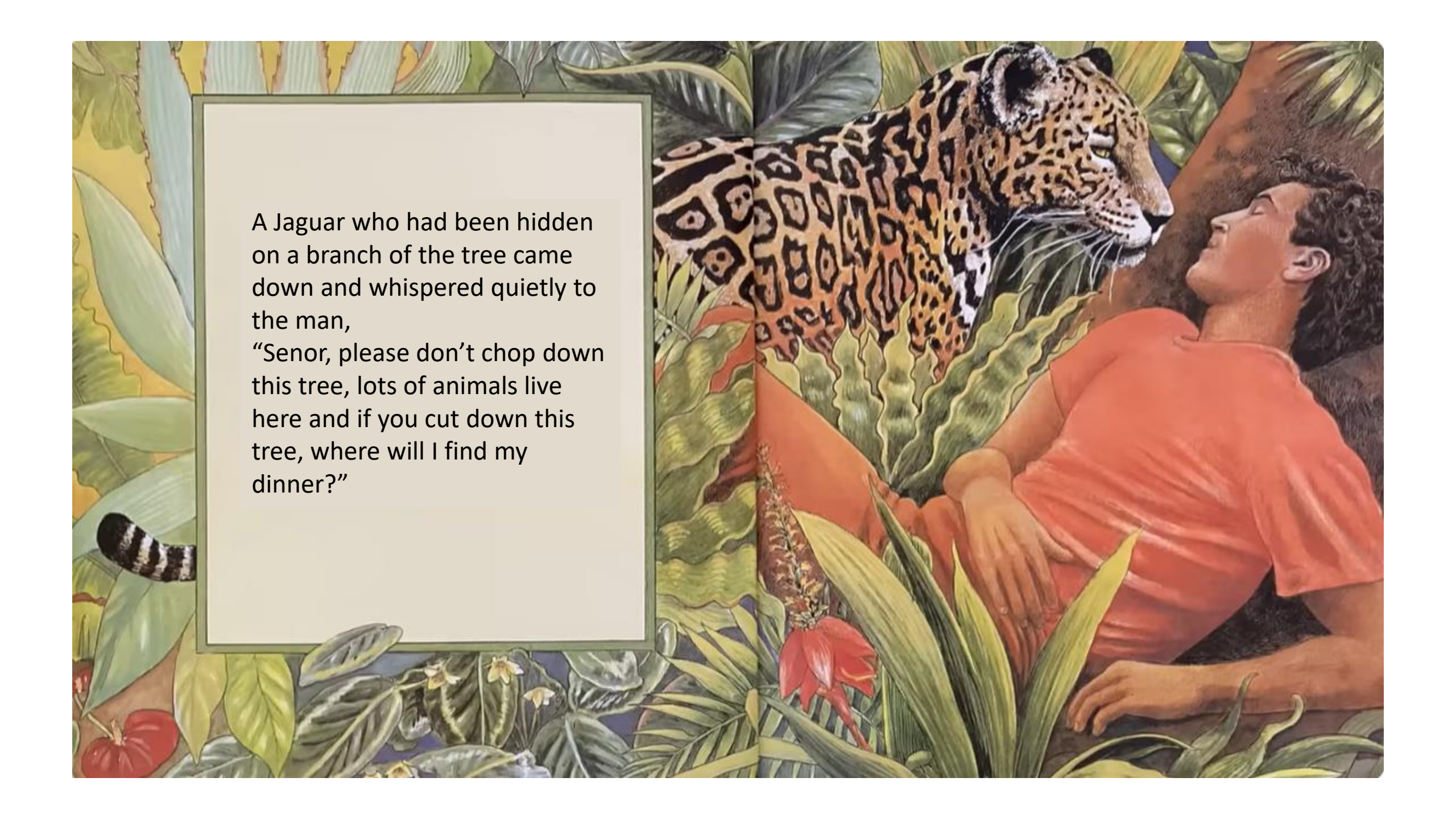
Some monkeys saw the man sleeping and came down to look. They saw the axe and whispered to the sleeping man, "Senor, please don't chop down our tree, we play here with our friends. If you chop down lots of trees here, there will be nowhere left for us to play."





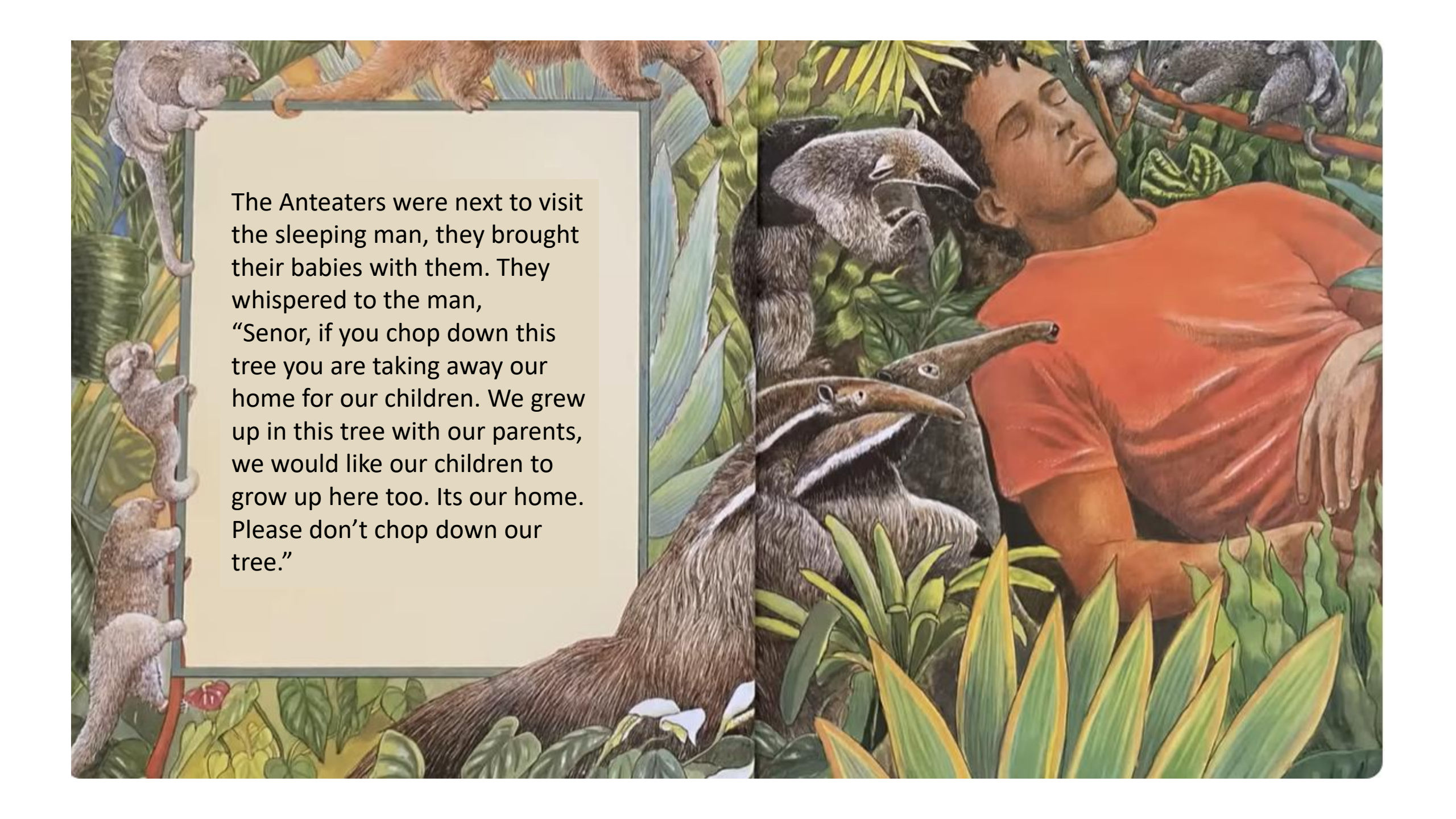
All the birds came to have a look next. They settled beside the man and said, "Senor, please don't chop down this tree. Humans chop down lots of trees and then we will have nowhere to live. When all the trees have gone, humans build houses but we will have nowhere. Please don't chop down our home."





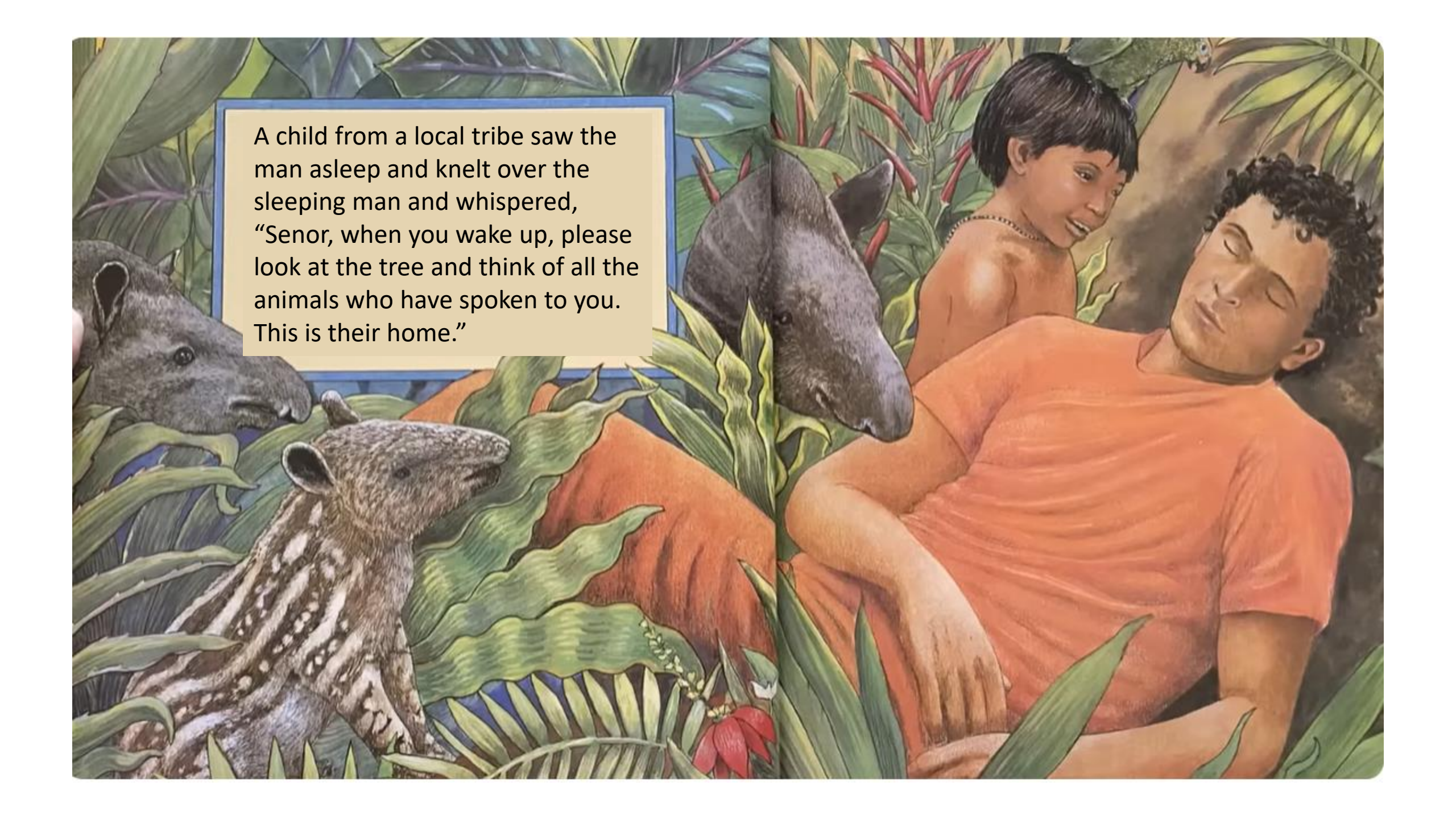
A Jaguar who had been hidden on a branch of the tree came down and whispered quietly to the man,  
“Senor, please don’t chop down this tree, lots of animals live here and if you cut down this tree, where will I find my dinner?”



An illustration of a man in a red t-shirt sleeping peacefully in a lush jungle. He is lying on his back, eyes closed. Several anteaters of various sizes are gathered around him. One large anteater is leaning over him, and several smaller ones are climbing on him and the surrounding foliage. The scene is set in a dense, green jungle with large leaves and a red flower visible in the foreground.

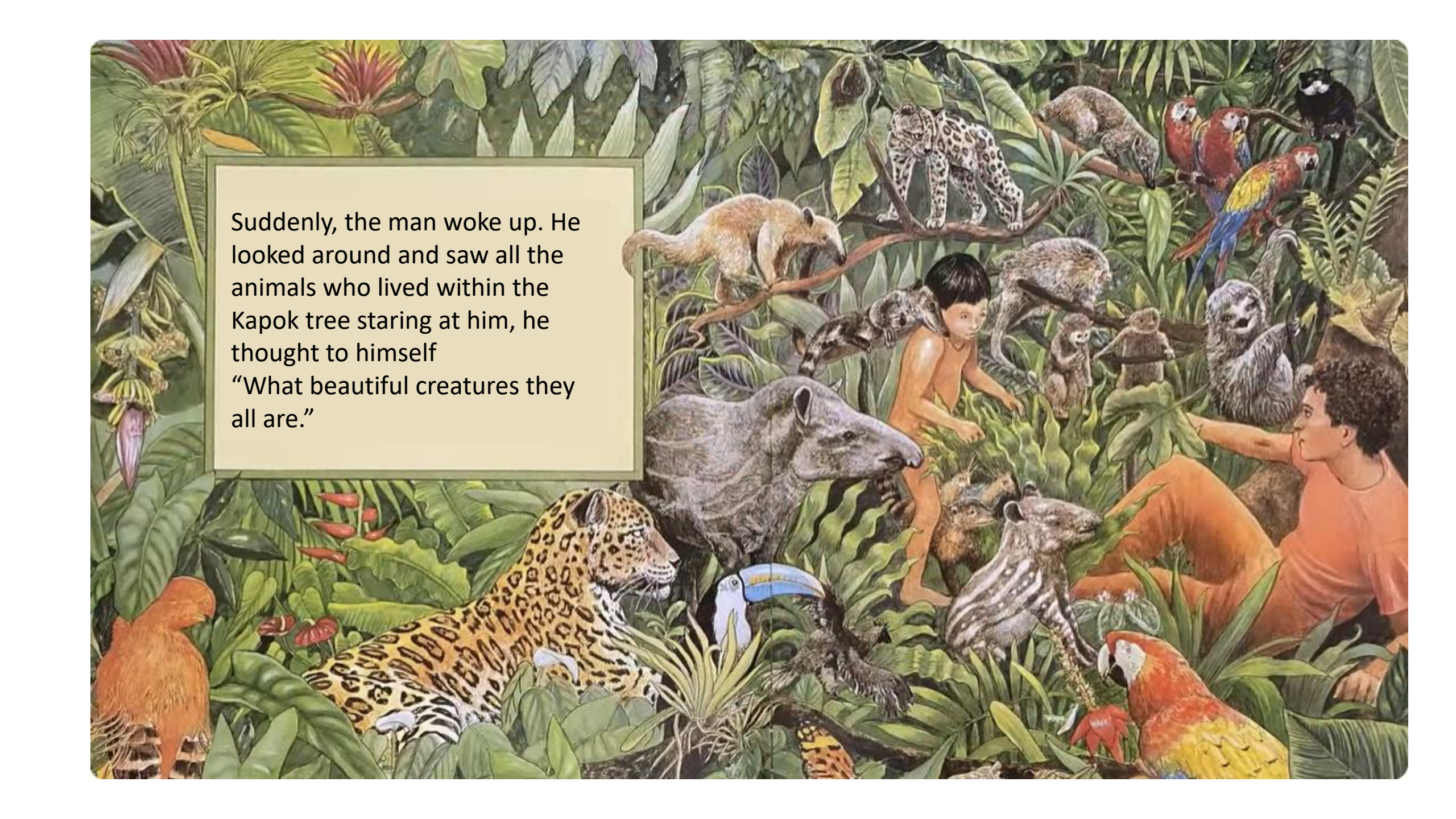
The Anteaters were next to visit the sleeping man, they brought their babies with them. They whispered to the man, “Senor, if you chop down this tree you are taking away our home for our children. We grew up in this tree with our parents, we would like our children to grow up here too. Its our home. Please don’t chop down our tree.”





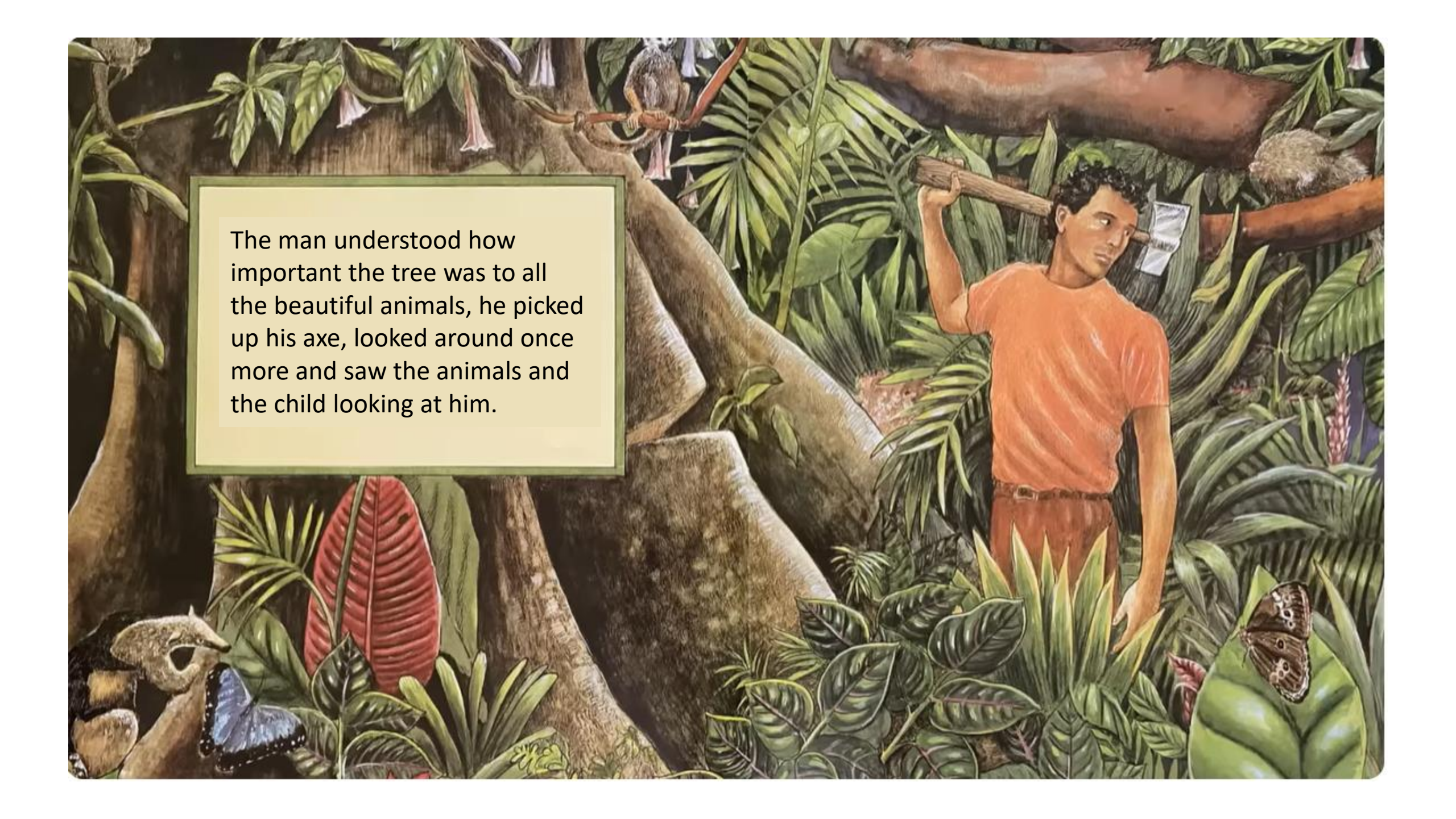
A child from a local tribe saw the man asleep and knelt over the sleeping man and whispered, "Senor, when you wake up, please look at the tree and think of all the animals who have spoken to you. This is their home."





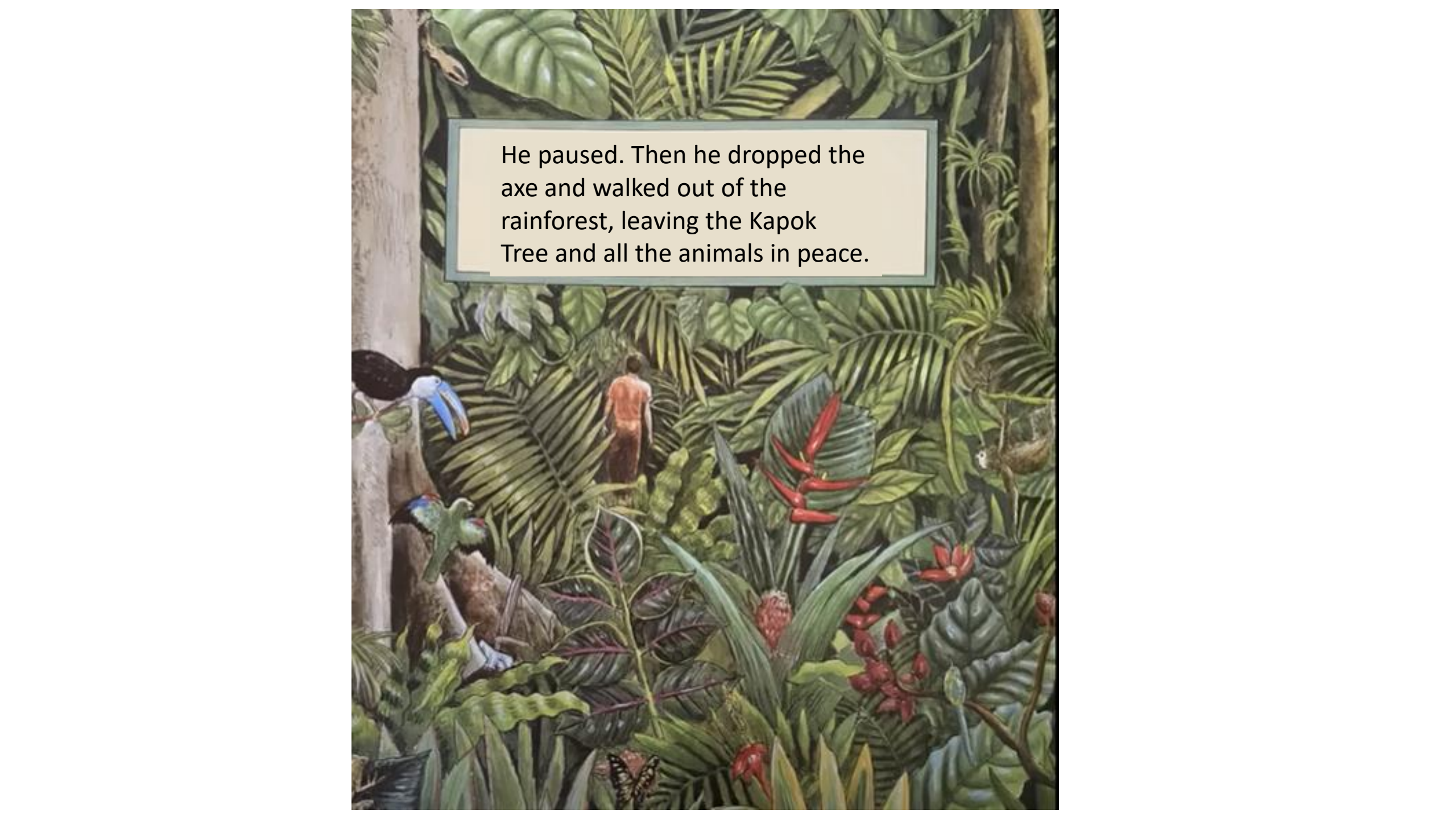
Suddenly, the man woke up. He looked around and saw all the animals who lived within the Kapok tree staring at him, he thought to himself "What beautiful creatures they all are."



A man in an orange t-shirt and brown pants stands in a lush jungle, carrying an axe on his shoulder. He is looking back over his shoulder. The scene is filled with various animals: a bird on a branch above, a toucan on a branch to the left, a blue butterfly on a branch in the lower left, and a brown butterfly on a large green leaf in the lower right. The background is a dense thicket of green foliage and large tree trunks.

The man understood how important the tree was to all the beautiful animals, he picked up his axe, looked around once more and saw the animals and the child looking at him.





He paused. Then he dropped the  
axe and walked out of the  
rainforest, leaving the Kapok  
Tree and all the animals in peace.