

# Leilani 'ē te Vāvā

Bernice Babe



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# Leilani 'ē te Vāvā

*nā*  
Bernice Babe  
*'ī tātā*

*tūtū nā*  
Jennifer Lautusi

*'uri'ia e*  
Ani Maea

Māraurau o te Pae 'Āpi'i

**K**o te pō 'openga teia o Leilani ki te ngutu'are  
o Māmā rāua ko Pāpā. 'E po ma'ana,  
'ē ka rongō atu a Leilani i te au reo 'īmenemene  
o te au tū manumanu tukēkē i va'o. 'E turituri  
tikāi rātou!



I te tomo'anga atu a Māmā no te tatau  
i tētā'i tua 'akamoe kia Leilani, 'e 'apinga  
ta Māmā e mou rā i roto i tōna rima.

‘E manumanu mānea e tōna pereue matie kānapanapa.

‘E vaevae rōroa tōna ‘ē ngā pē‘au ka kite ua atu koe na roto ki tēta‘i tua.

“Auē!” i na Leilani ei. “E mānea tikāi.”

“Kua kite koe ē, ‘ea‘a teia?” i na Māmā ei.

Kua tākirikiri a Leilani i tōna katu.

“‘E vāvā. Nō te ‘īmenemene ana ‘aia i tāna ‘īmene ‘akangateitei i roto i to tātou ‘āua. ‘Ākara‘ia tōna pereue mānea tikāi.”



Kua ‘ākara matatio atu a Leilani i te vāvā.

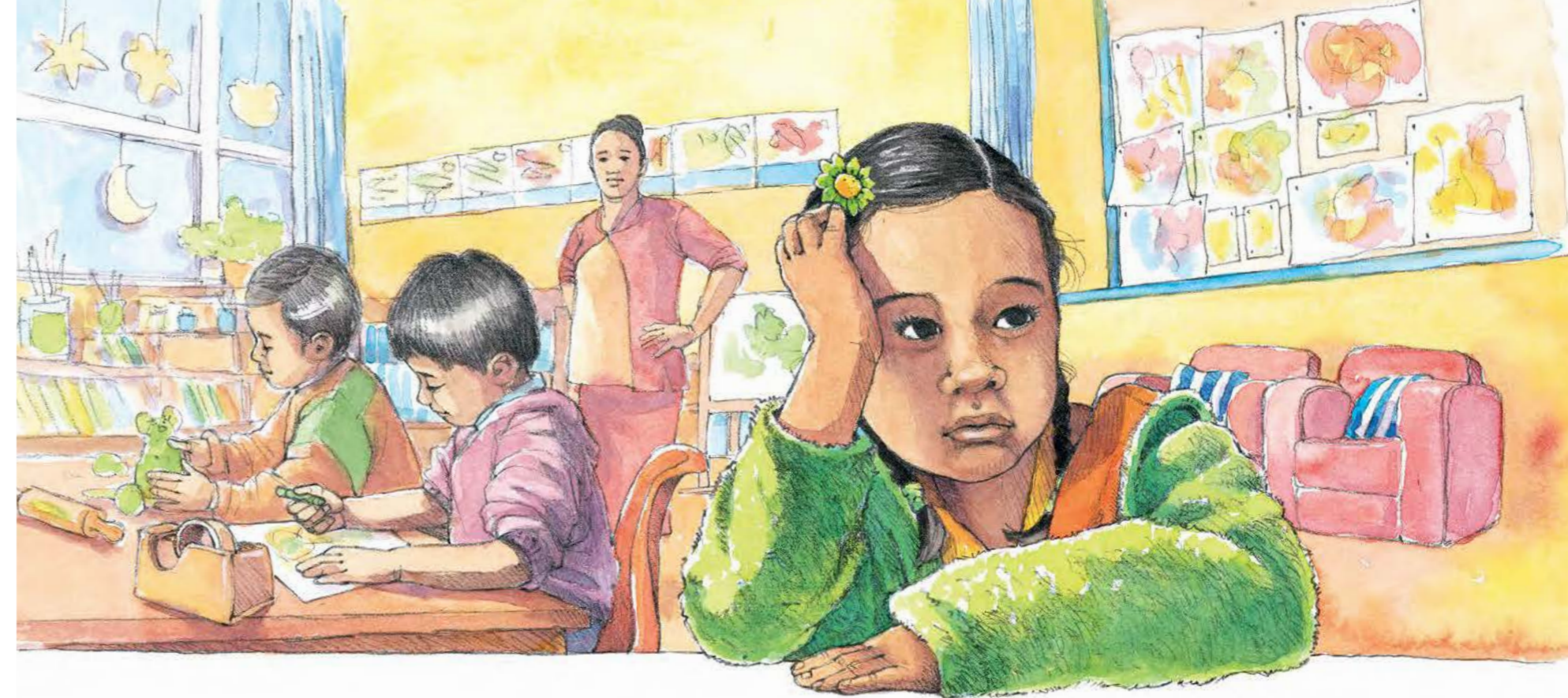
“Ā tēta‘i rā,” i na Māmā ei, “ka tupu ma‘atama‘ata rava teia vāvā no tōna pereue. Ka tupu mai tēta‘i pereue ‘ōu i raro ake i teia. Ka emi te vāvā no roto mai i tōna pereue takere ‘ē ka akaruke ki roto i te ‘āua.”

Kua totoro te vāvā ki runga i to Leilani rima. Auē! Te taratara i tōna vaevae i runga i te pākiri. Kua ‘ākara ‘aia i tōna pereue kānapanapa ‘ē tōna pē‘au ka kite ‘ua atu koe na roto ki tēta‘i tua.

Kua karanga i reira a Māmā ē, ka ‘inangaro te vāvā i te ‘oki ki va‘o. Kua tuku meitaki atu rāua ki va‘o na roto i te māmarama, kia rere atu ‘ē kia ‘īmenemene ‘aka‘ōu.

Kāre i roa kua pōpongi Ma'anākai 'ē kua tae te tuātau nō Leilani i te 'oki atu ki te kāinga. Noātu 'oki ē kua mataora a Leilani i te 'ārāvei'anga i tōna māmī 'ē tōna tētī, kua maromaroā tikāi 'aia i te 'akaruke'anga ia Māmā 'ē Pāpā. Kua karanga atu a Leilani e ka mi'i 'aia 'ia rāua.

Kua tākave a Māmā iāia ma te karanga atu, “Eia'a e maromaroā, e Leilani. Kāre roa ka 'oki 'aka'ōu mai koe ki konei 'ia māua.”



I te Mōnitē, tei te pūnanga reo a Leilani. Te mānako ra 'aia ia Māmā 'ē te vāvā. Kua 'akaea ma'ata 'aia.

Kua kite atu a Tui ē kāre a Leilani e kangakanga ana ki tēta'i atu tamariki. Kua manako 'aia ē, “Ka 'akapē'ea rā au i te 'akarekareka'anga 'ia Leilani?” Kua tū 'aia i te manako.

“Leilani, ka ‘inangaro koe i te āru mai iāku ki va’o i te kanga?” i na Tui ei.  
Kua mou ‘aia i to Leilani rima ‘ē kua ‘aere atu rāua ki te va’arua one, te ngā’i e kanga rā a Reita te taeake o Leilani.

“‘Aere mai, ka kanga tāua,” i na Reita ai.

Kua tākirikiri atu a Leilani i tōna katu.

Kua apai atu a Tui ia Leilani ki te ngā’i kakekake‘anga, kāre rā a Leilani e ‘inangaro i te kakekake. Kua apai atu ‘aia ‘ia Leilani ki te ngā’i tūpā‘oro‘oro, kāre rā a Leilani e ‘inangaro i te tūpā‘oro‘oro. Kua ‘akamata a Tui i te manamanatā.

“‘Ea‘a te manamanatā, e Leilani?” i na Tui ei.  
“Te mā‘ara‘ara rā koe ia Māmā rāua ko Pāpā?”  
Kua tūngoungou atu a Leilani.  
Kua rongou i reira rāua i tēta‘i māniana.

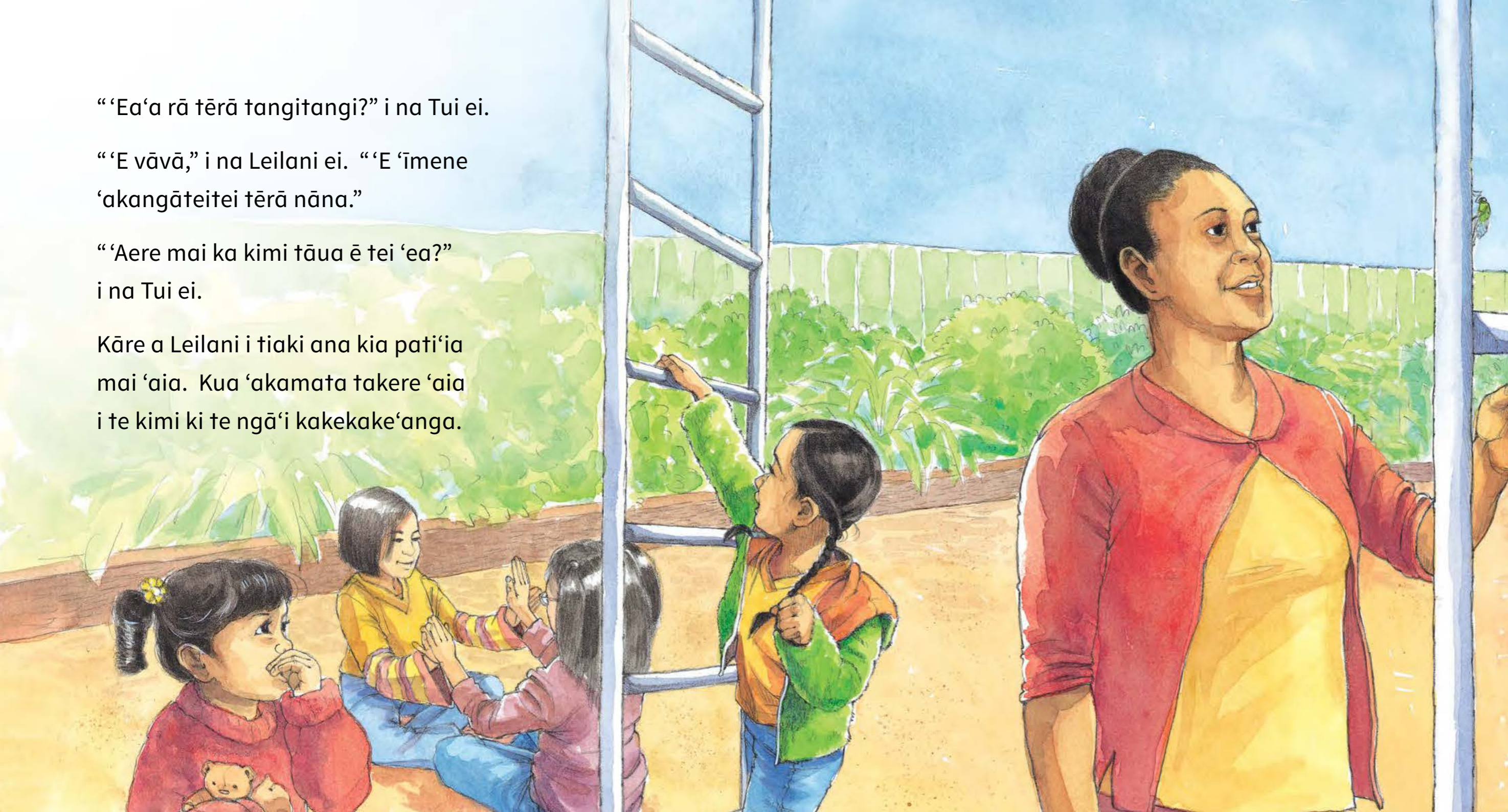


“Ea‘a rā tērā tangitangi?” i na Tui ei.

“E vāvā,” i na Leilani ei. “E īmene  
‘akangāteitei tērā nāna.”

“Aere mai ka kimi tāua ē tei ‘ea?”  
i na Tui ei.

Kāre a Leilani i tiaki ana kia pati‘ia  
mai ‘aia. Kua ‘akamata takere ‘aia  
i te kimi ki te ngā‘i kakekake‘anga.



“Teia,” i na Tui ei. Kua tuku  
atu ‘aia i te vāvā ki roto i to  
Leilani rima.

Kua katakata a Leilani. “Mei te  
vāvā rāi i to Māmā kāinga.”

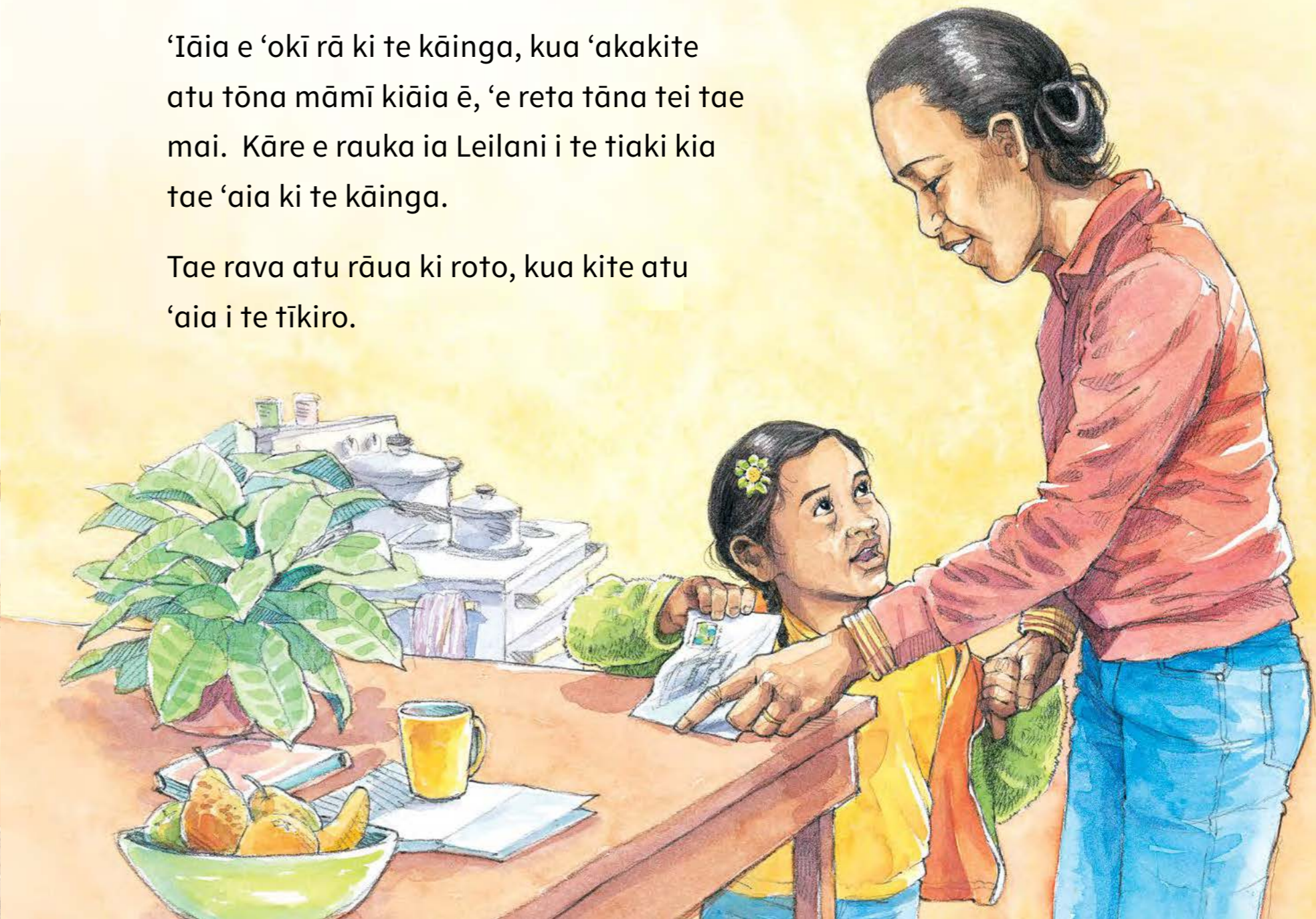
Kua ‘aere marie atu a Leilani ki  
te va‘arua one, te ngā‘i e kanga  
ra rāi tōna ōa a Reita.

Kua 'akaāri atu a Leilani i te apinga i roto i tōna rima kia Reita. “Kua kite koe ē 'ea'a teia, e Reita?” i na Leilani ei. “'E vāvā. 'Ākara i tōna nga pē'au. Ka kite 'ua atu koe na roto ki tēta'i tua.”



'Iāia e 'okī rā ki te kāinga, kua 'akakite atu tōna māmī kiāia ē, 'e reta tāna tei tae mai. Kāre e rauka ia Leilani i te tiaki kia tae 'aia ki te kāinga.

Tae rava atu rāua ki roto, kua kite atu 'aia i te tikiro.





Tei roto, 'e reta na Māmā 'ē tēta'i pi'a meangiti.  
Kia 'e'eu a Leilani i te pi'a, e pereue manumanu  
kurakura-'auro manea tikāi to roto. Mei te vāvā  
rāi tōna tū.

Kua pati atu a Leilani ki tōna māmī kia tatau mai  
i te pēpa a Māmā kiāia.



*Kia orāna e Leilani*

*Te ma'ara rā iā koe te vāvā  
meangiti tāku i 'akaāri atu ana  
kiā koe i te tuātau iā koe i konei  
ia māua ko Pāpā? Kite rā koe ē,  
'ea'a tāku i kite i roto i te 'āua?  
Kua kitea'ia e au te pereue  
takere o te vāvā, 'ē tēnā mai 'ei  
'ākarakara nā'au! Matakite mē  
mou koe i te pereue.*

*Aro'a ma'ata  
Nā Māmā*

Kua kiriti meitaki mai a Leilani  
i te pereue o te vāvā ki va‘o  
ma te matakite kia kore e pue‘u.  
Kua mānako ‘aia i te vāvā tāna  
i kite ana i ko ‘ia Māmā ma.  
Kua kimikimi manako ‘aia,  
mē ‘e pereue matie kānapanapa  
rāi te pereue ‘ōu o te vāvā.  
Kua kimikimi manako ‘aia,  
mē tē ‘īmenemene rā rāi te vāvā  
i tāna ‘īmene akangateitei.

“Ka ‘apai au i teia ki te pūnanga  
‘āpōpō ‘ē ka ‘akaāri kia Reita  
rāua ko Tui,” i na Leilani ei.

‘Ē kua pērā ‘aia.

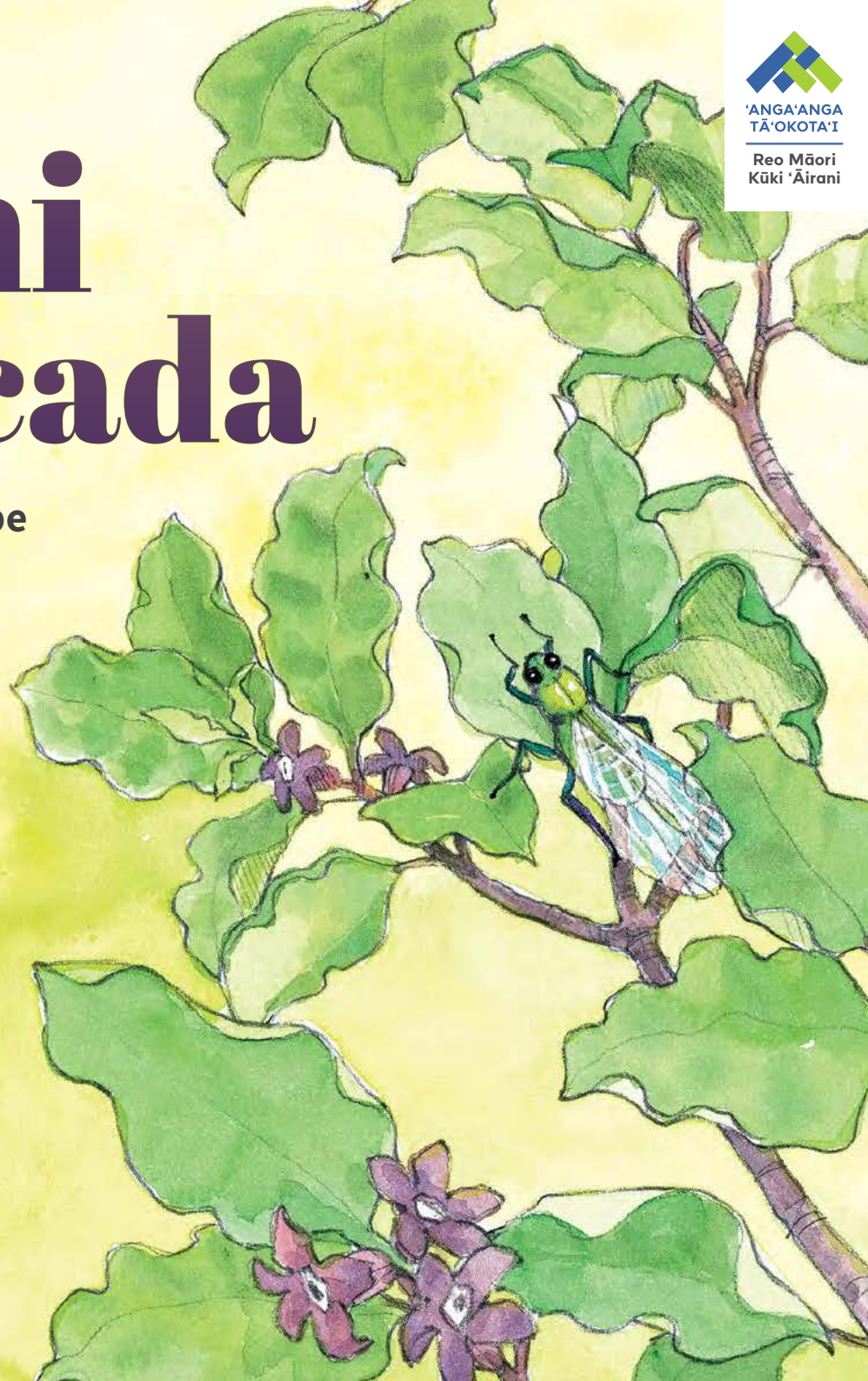


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# Leilani and the Cicada

Bernice Babe



This picture book is for sharing with young children.

Early childhood kaiako and audio support for this text is available online at [www.tewhariki.tki.org.nz/PELP](http://www.tewhariki.tki.org.nz/PELP)

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# Leilani and the Cicada

by  
Bernice Babe  
*illustrations by*  
Jennifer Lautusi

**I**t was Leilani's last night at Māmā and Pāpā's house. It was a warm night and Leilani could hear insects singing outside. They were very noisy!

When Māmā came to tell Leilani a bedtime story, Māmā was holding something.



It was a beautiful insect with a shiny, green coat.

It had long legs and see-through wings.

“Wow,” gasped Leilani. “It’s beautiful.”

“Do you know what it is?” asked Māmā.

Leilani shook her head.

“It’s a cicada. It’s been singing  
its special song in our garden.

Look at its beautiful coat.”




Leilani looked closely at the cicada.

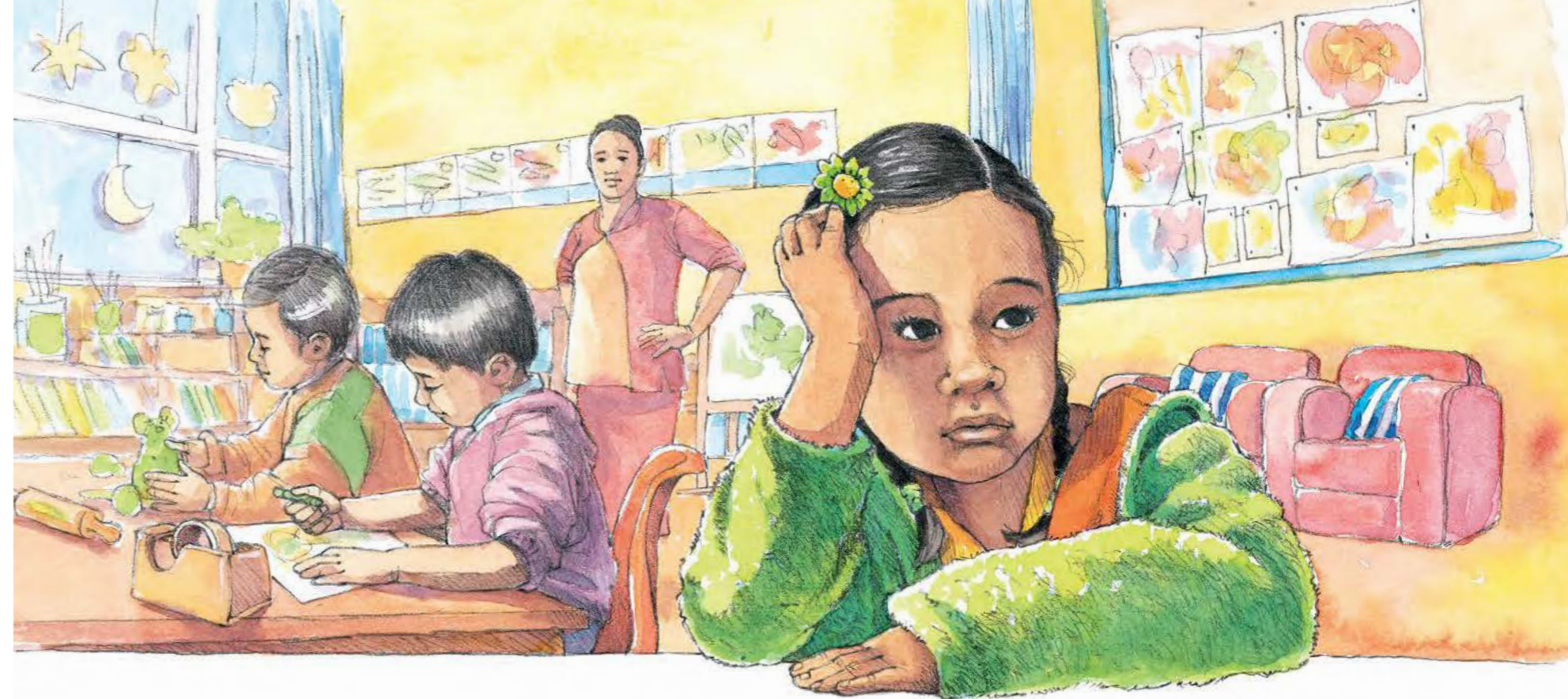
“One day,” said Māmā, “this cicada will grow too big  
for its coat. A new coat will grow underneath this one.  
This cicada will wiggle out of its old coat and leave it  
in the garden.”

The cicada crawled onto Leilani’s hand. Its feet felt  
prickly on her skin. She looked at its shiny coat and  
its see-through wings.

Then Māmā said the cicada needed to go back outside.  
They carefully put it out the window so that it could fly  
away and sing some more.



Soon it was Saturday morning and time for Leilani to go home. Leilani was excited about seeing Mum and Dad, but she felt sad about leaving Māmā and Pāpā. She told Māmā that she would miss them. Māmā hugged her and said, “Don’t be sad, Leilani. You can come and stay with us again soon.”



On Monday, Leilani was at kindergarten. She was thinking about Māmā and the cicada. She let out a big sigh. Tui saw that Leilani wasn’t playing with the other children. She thought, “I need to cheer Leilani up – but how?” Suddenly, she had an idea.

“Leilani, would you like to play outside?” asked Tui. She took Leilani’s hand and they walked out to the sandpit, where Leilani’s friend Reita was playing.

“Come and play with me,” said Reita.

Leilani shook her head.

Tui took Leilani to the climbing frame, but Leilani didn’t want to climb.

She took Leilani to the slide, but Leilani didn’t want to slide.

Tui was getting worried.

“What’s the matter, Leilani?” asked Tui.

“Are you missing Māmā and Pāpā?”

Leilani nodded.

Then they both heard a noise.





“What’s that sound?” asked Tui.

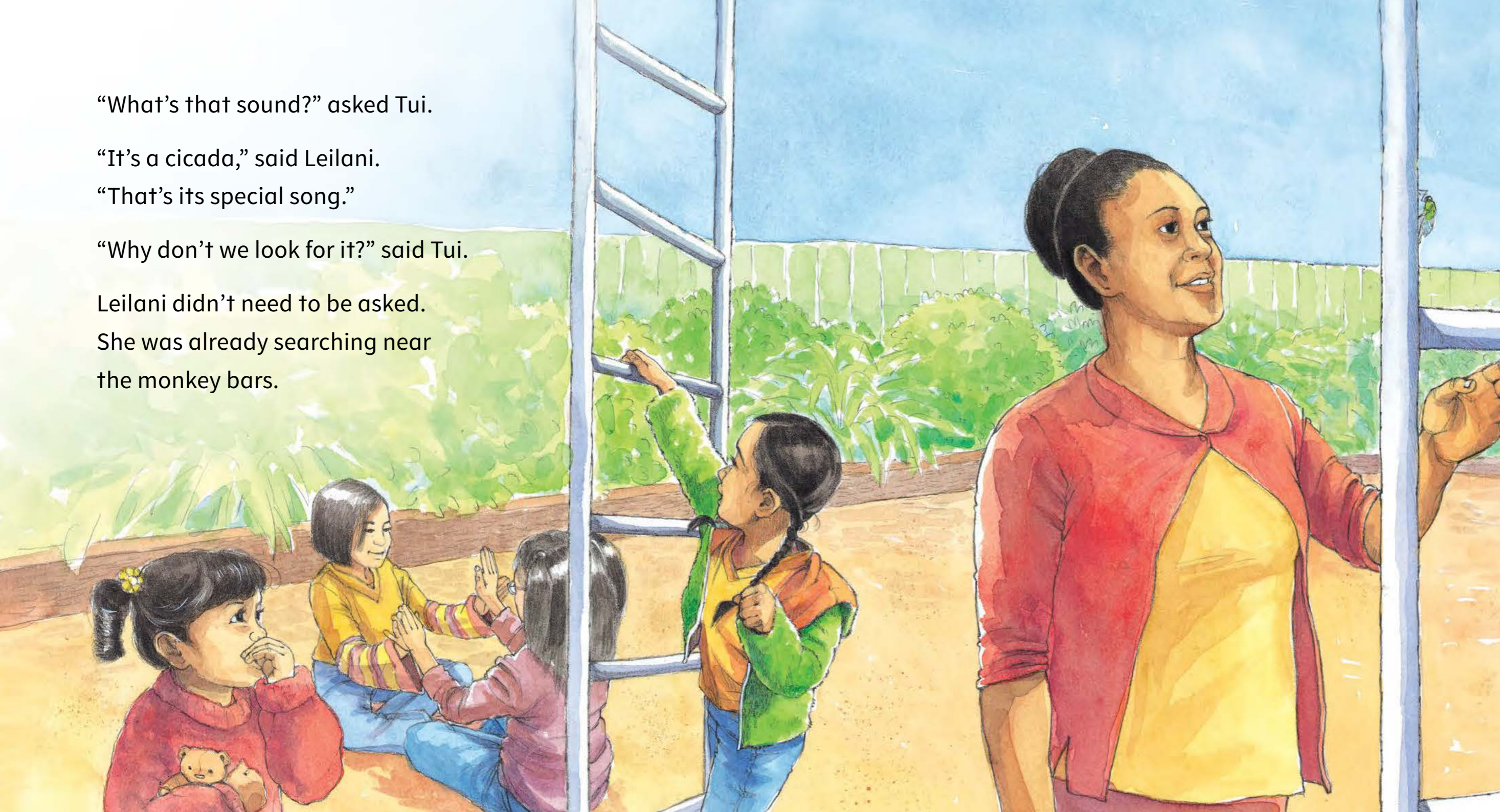
“It’s a cicada,” said Leilani.

“That’s its special song.”

“Why don’t we look for it?” said Tui.

Leilani didn’t need to be asked.

She was already searching near the monkey bars.



“Here it is,” said Tui. She put the cicada in Leilani’s hand.

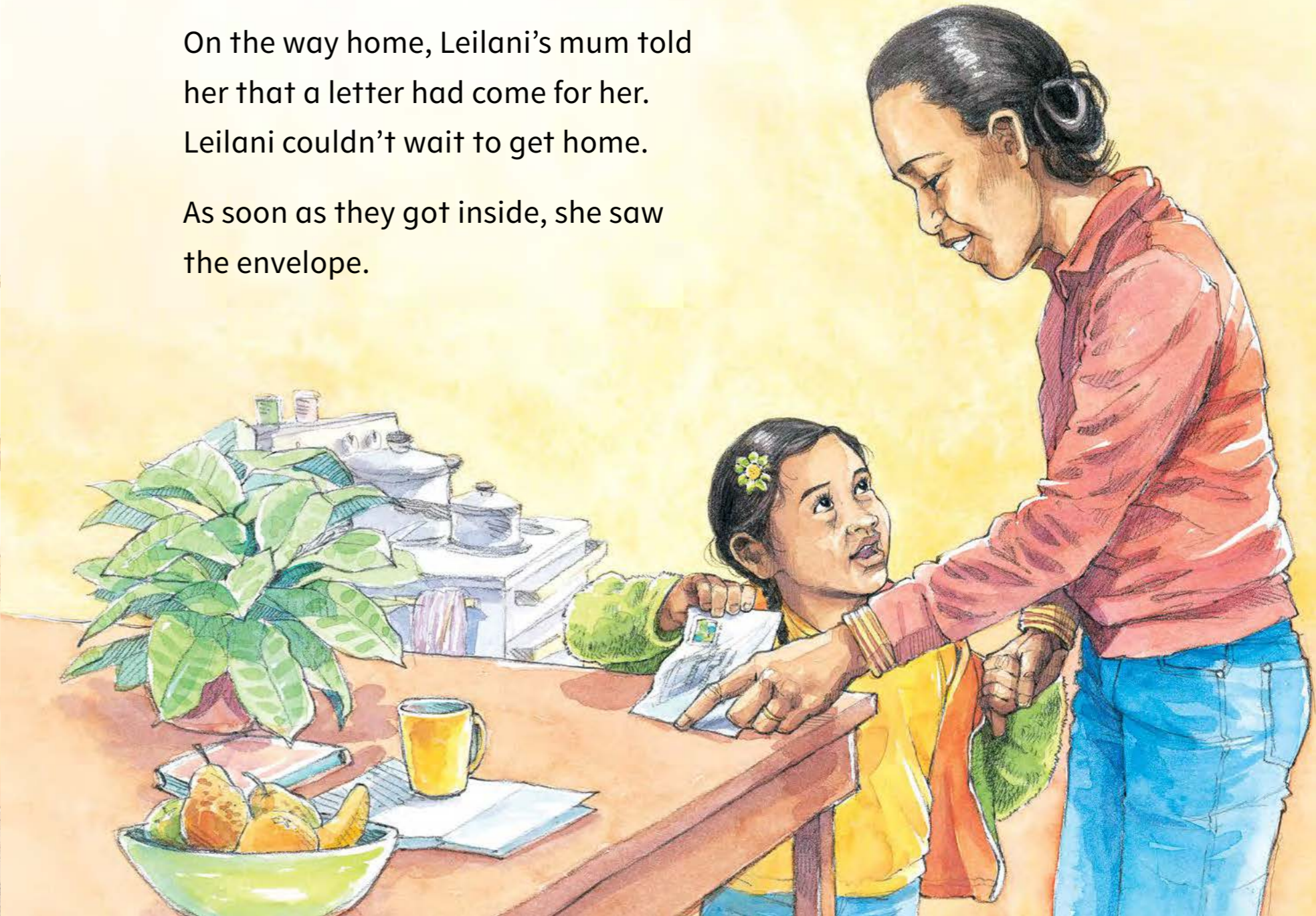
Leilani smiled. “It’s just like the cicada at Māmā’s house.”

Then Leilani walked very carefully over to the sandpit, where her friend Reita was still playing.

Leilani showed Reita what she had in her hand.  
“Do you know what this is, Reita?” said Leilani.  
“It’s a cicada. Look at its wings. You can see  
right through them.”

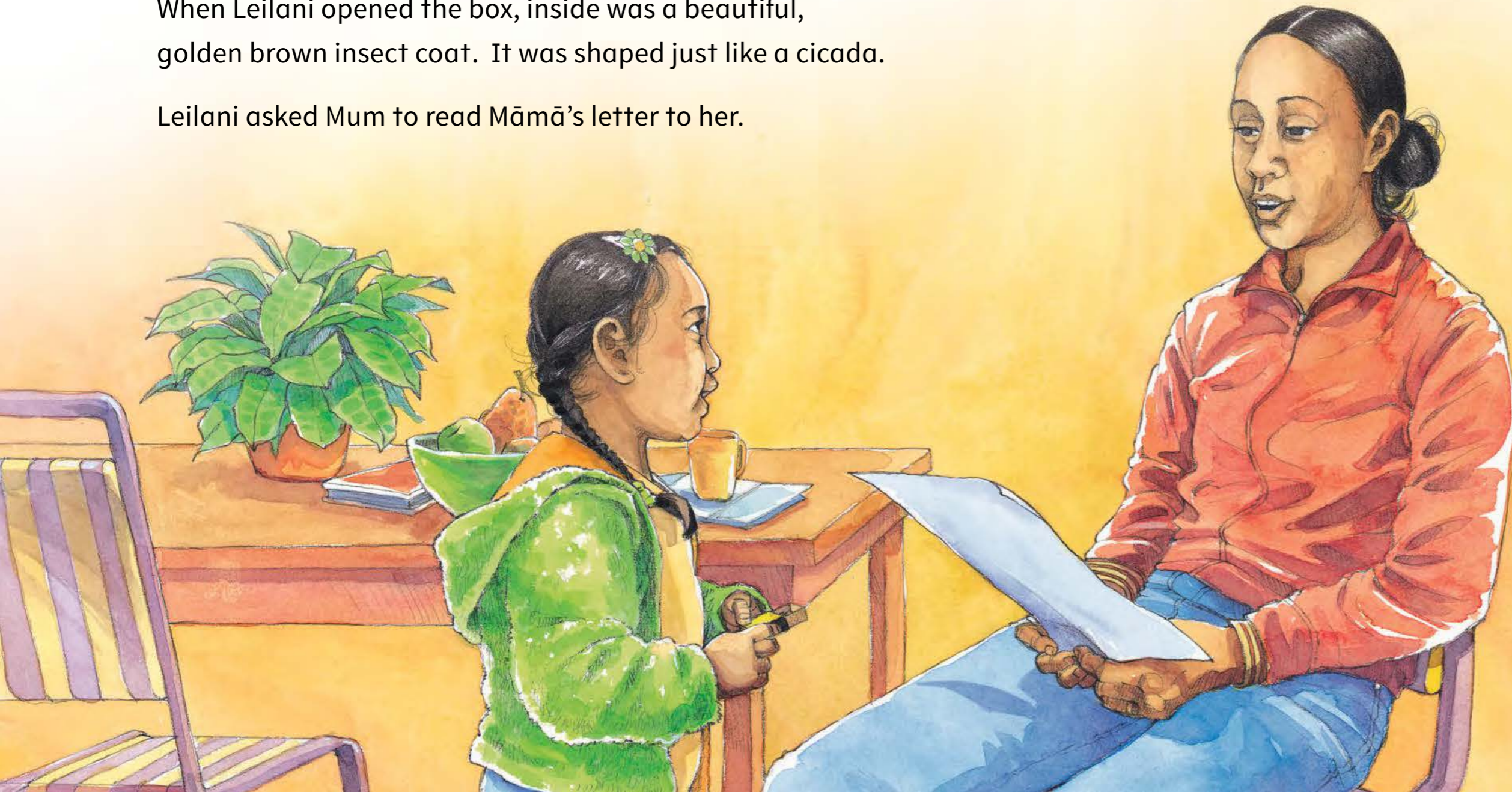


On the way home, Leilani’s mum told  
her that a letter had come for her.  
Leilani couldn’t wait to get home.  
As soon as they got inside, she saw  
the envelope.



Inside, there was a letter from Māmā and a little box.  
When Leilani opened the box, inside was a beautiful,  
golden brown insect coat. It was shaped just like a cicada.

Leilani asked Mum to read Māmā's letter to her.



*Dear Leilani*

*Do you remember the little cicada that I showed you when you were staying with me and Pāpā? Well, guess what I found in the garden? I found the cicada's old coat, and here it is for you to look at! You can hold its coat very carefully.*

*Lots of love  
Māmā*

Leilani took out the cicada's coat very carefully so that it wouldn't break. She thought about the cicada she had seen at Māmā's house. She wondered if its new coat was shiny and green. She wondered if it was still singing its special cicada song.

“I'm going to take this to kindergarten tomorrow and show it to Reita and Tui,” said Leilani.

And she did.



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