



JEN WILKIN

MADE

LIKE

ME

A TRUE STORY FROM THE  
BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING

ILLUSTRATED BY  
ROMMEL RUIZ





For my sons and daughters, and their sons and daughters.

May you bear the image of God with joy and gratitude.

J.W.

To my wife, Anny, for believing. You are here with me, on every page.

To our daughters, who would have loved the task of naming all the animals.

R.R.



## A NOTE ABOUT THIS STORY

I wrote this book to teach a portion of the Bible that was never taught to me as a child.

Yes, I was taught about the six days of creation in Genesis 1, culminating in the creation of humans on Day Six.

Yes, I was taught that in Genesis 2 God said it was not good for the man to be alone and then created woman.

What I was not taught was that bit in between, the bit in Genesis 2:19-20 about God bringing all of the animals to the man for him to name *before* he puts him into a deep sleep. And that bit matters. It heightens the reader's concern that Adam has no one "according to his kind," a phrase repeated ten times in the creation account of Genesis 1. Adam needs help, and God wants him to feel that need. Before Eve can be prepared for Adam, Adam must be prepared for Eve.

So God causes the animals to come to Adam to be named. You will notice that I have told the story with the animals passing two by two in front of him, male and female, each according to their kind. The Bible does not say that they passed two by two, but based on the story of Noah just four chapters later, I suspect they did just that. Noah shares many similarities with Adam, and based on the tenfold "each according to its kind" emphasis of Genesis 1, it seems very likely that they would have come to Adam in pairs to heighten his awareness of his alone-ness.

The story of Genesis 2 teaches God's children that we are made for him and for one another. We are not meant to walk alone through this world. We were created to give and receive help. And the story certainly speaks to the particular partnership of men and women for the purpose of fulfilling God's command to be fruitful. But it also whispers to us of Christ, the true and better Adam, from whose wounded side as he died on the cross, a bride—his people, the church—was formed. Risen from the sleep of death, he partners with her in the work of fruitfulness and multiplication that we know as the Great Commission, to go and make disciples. Together, they fill the earth with new creations: people who trust Christ Jesus and are being conformed to his image.

My prayer for your children is that this little story would lodge in their minds, and that throughout all of their lives they would remember that when life is overwhelming, help is always near at hand for those who trust the Lord.



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This book has been written and illustrated by human beings.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jen".


An illustration showing a man with a beard and a woman leaning over a large green leaf. A red ladybug with black spots is on the leaf. The man is on the left, looking at the ladybug, and the woman is on the right, also looking at it. The background is a soft, light blue and green wash.

Have you ever felt alone?

Found things harder on your own?

Thought that no one understood?

Known that lonely was not good?

An illustration of a man standing in a landscape. In the background, there is a large volcano under a bright yellow sun. The landscape is filled with green hills and a path leading towards the volcano. The man is standing on the path, looking towards the volcano. The scene is framed by a white border.

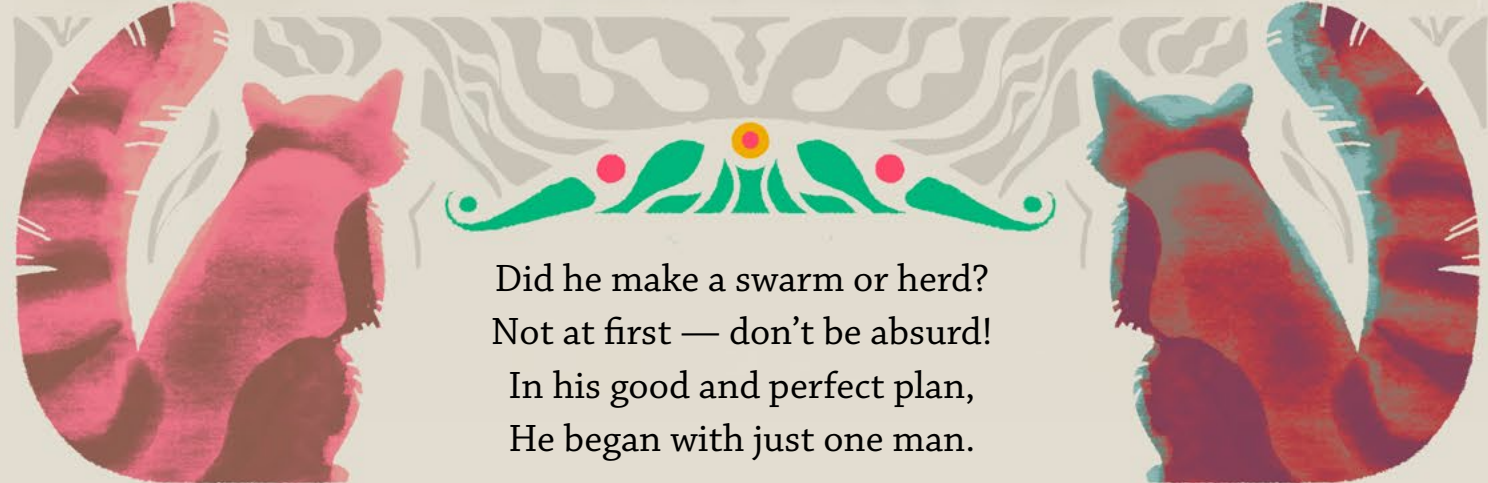
Someone else has felt like that.  
Sit with me — let's have a chat.  
Let's look back when time began,  
To a tale of just one man.



Long ago, God formed the world —  
Seas and skies and lands unfurled!  
These he filled with creatures vast —  
fish and birds and beasts amassed.



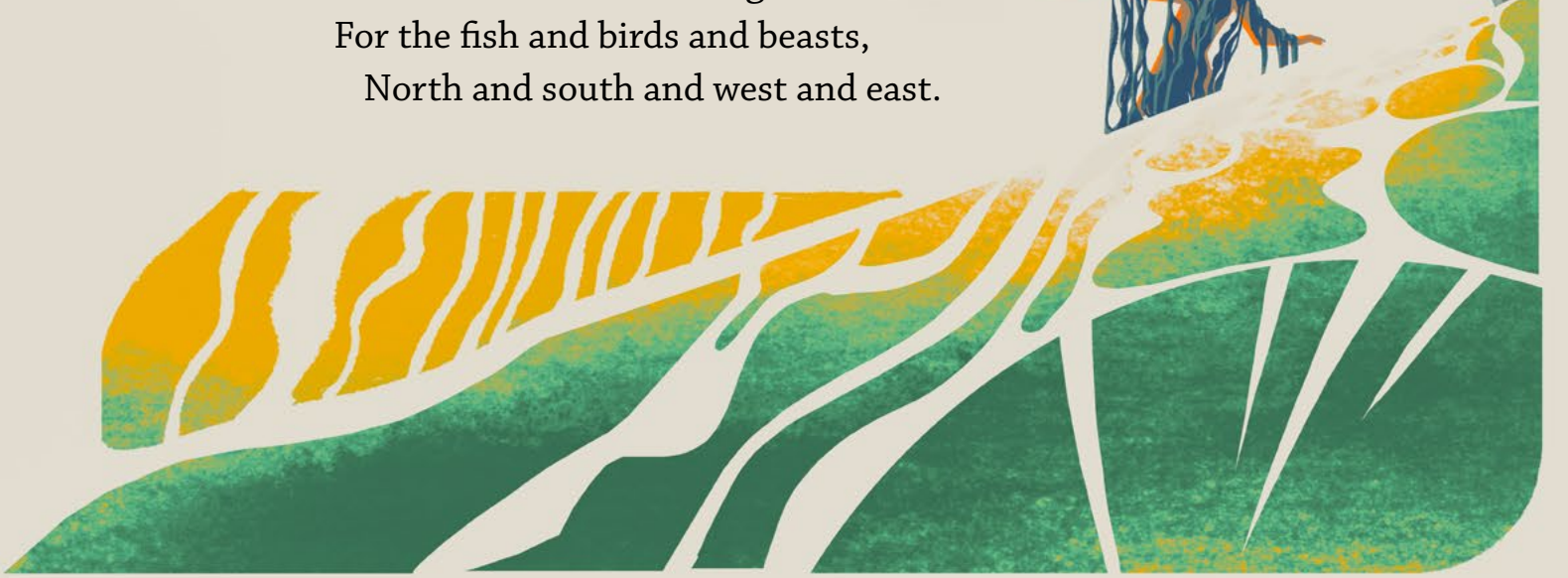
Everything that we can see,  
God created it to be!  
When his work was almost through  
He created people too!



Did he make a swarm or herd?  
Not at first — don't be absurd!  
In his good and perfect plan,  
He began with just one man.

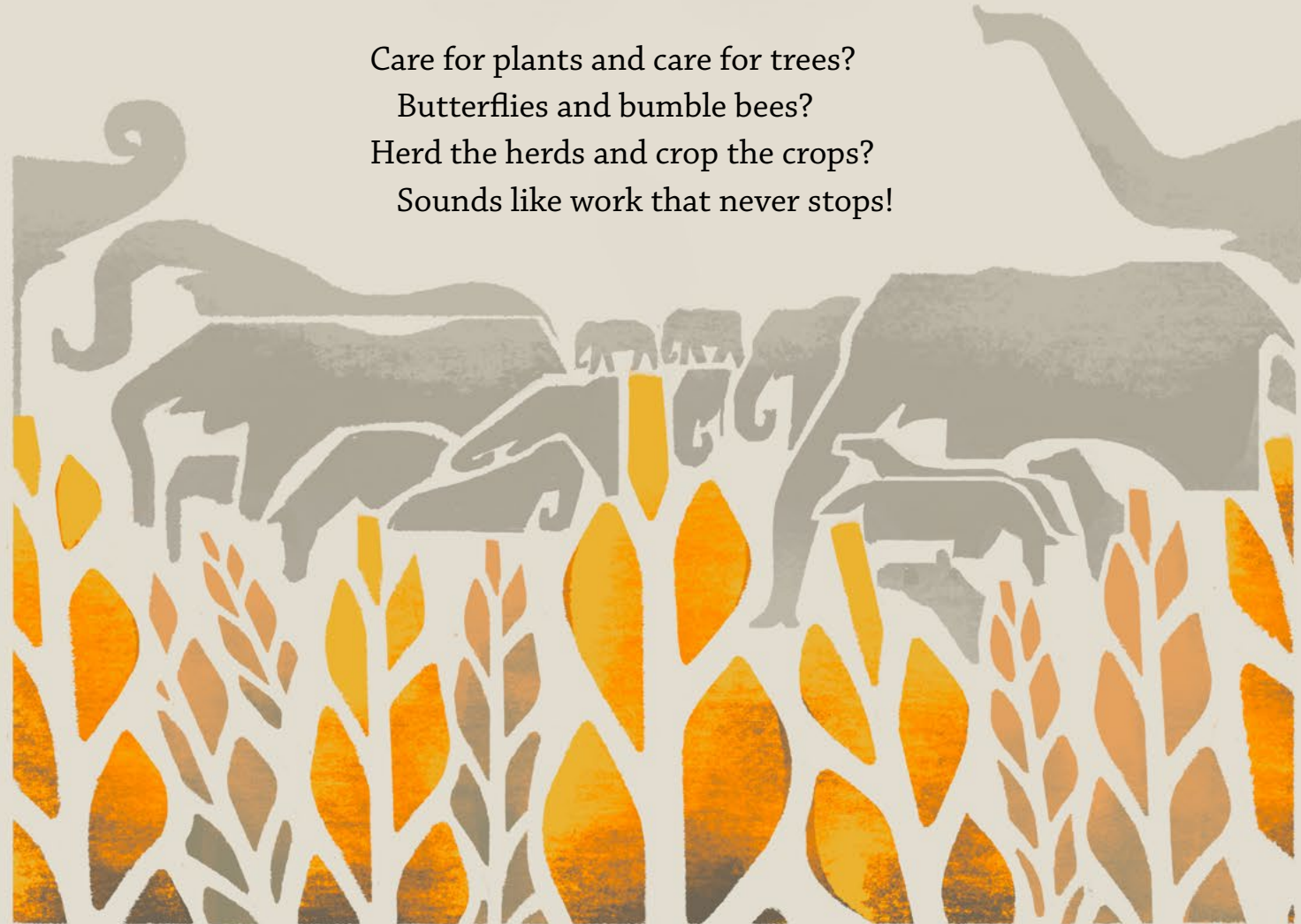


In a garden lush and fair,  
There the man was charged to care  
For the fish and birds and beasts,  
North and south and west and east.





Care for plants and care for trees?  
Butterflies and bumble bees?  
Herd the herds and crop the crops?  
Sounds like work that never stops!



Just imagine it was you —  
“On my own? That just won’t do!”  
One is lonely. One is small.  
One alone can’t do it all!



You're so smart! Exactly true!  
God said much the same as you!  
God said, "One-ness is not good.  
Two can serve me as they should!"

Do you know what God did next?  
Do you think he was perplexed?  
No, he knew just what to do  
so that one would long for two.

