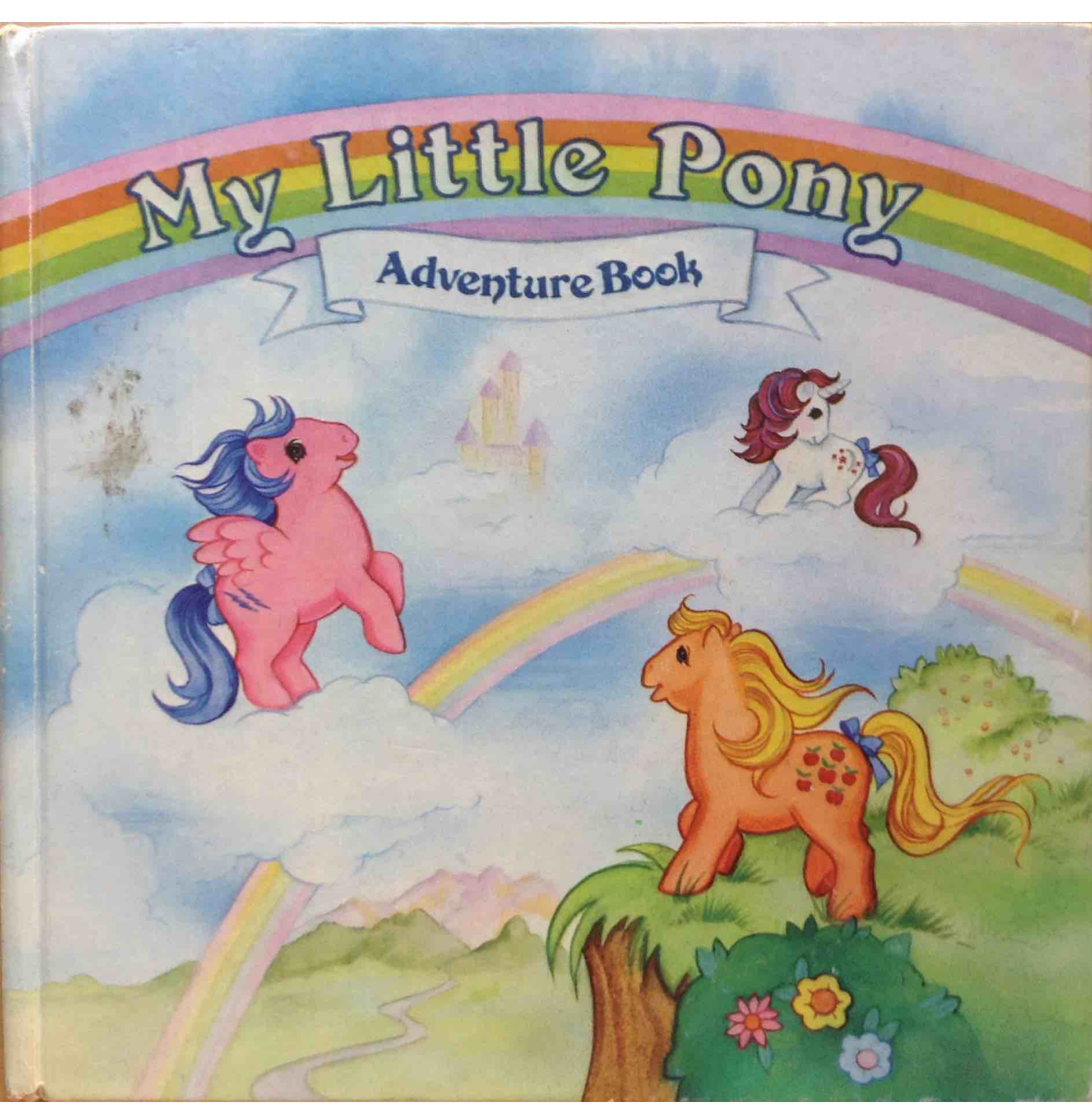


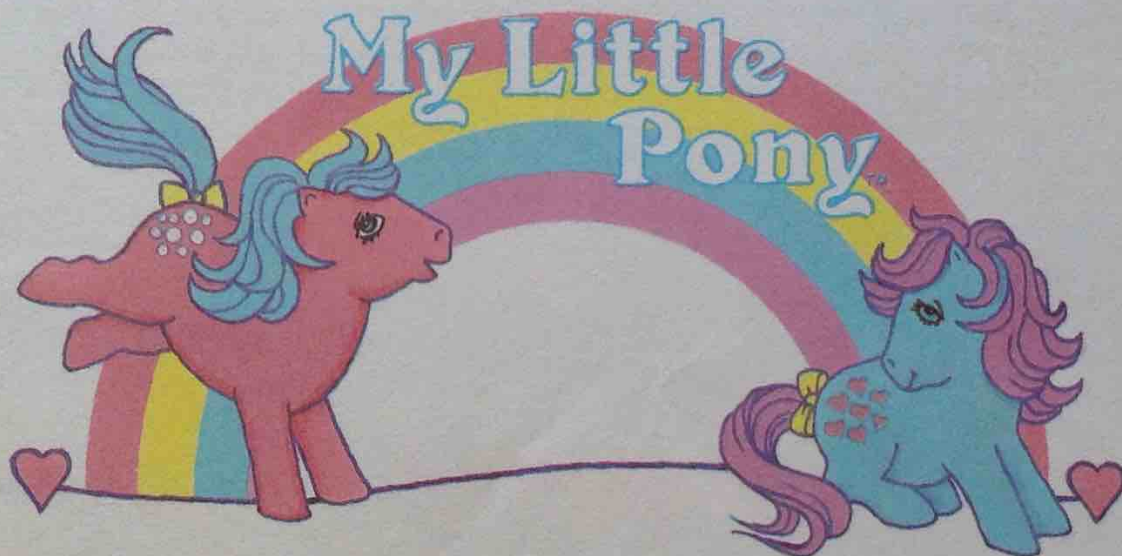
# My Little Pony

Adventure Book



**Listen**  
**'n Look**  
**Book™**





Hello, everyone. This is your My Little Pony Listen and Look Book. Every time you hear this chime ... it means it's time to turn the page in your storybook. When you finish the story, you can turn the tape over and record your own My Little Pony story. Okay, now let's begin....

Story by John Braden

Art & Production by Ed Rowe Studio

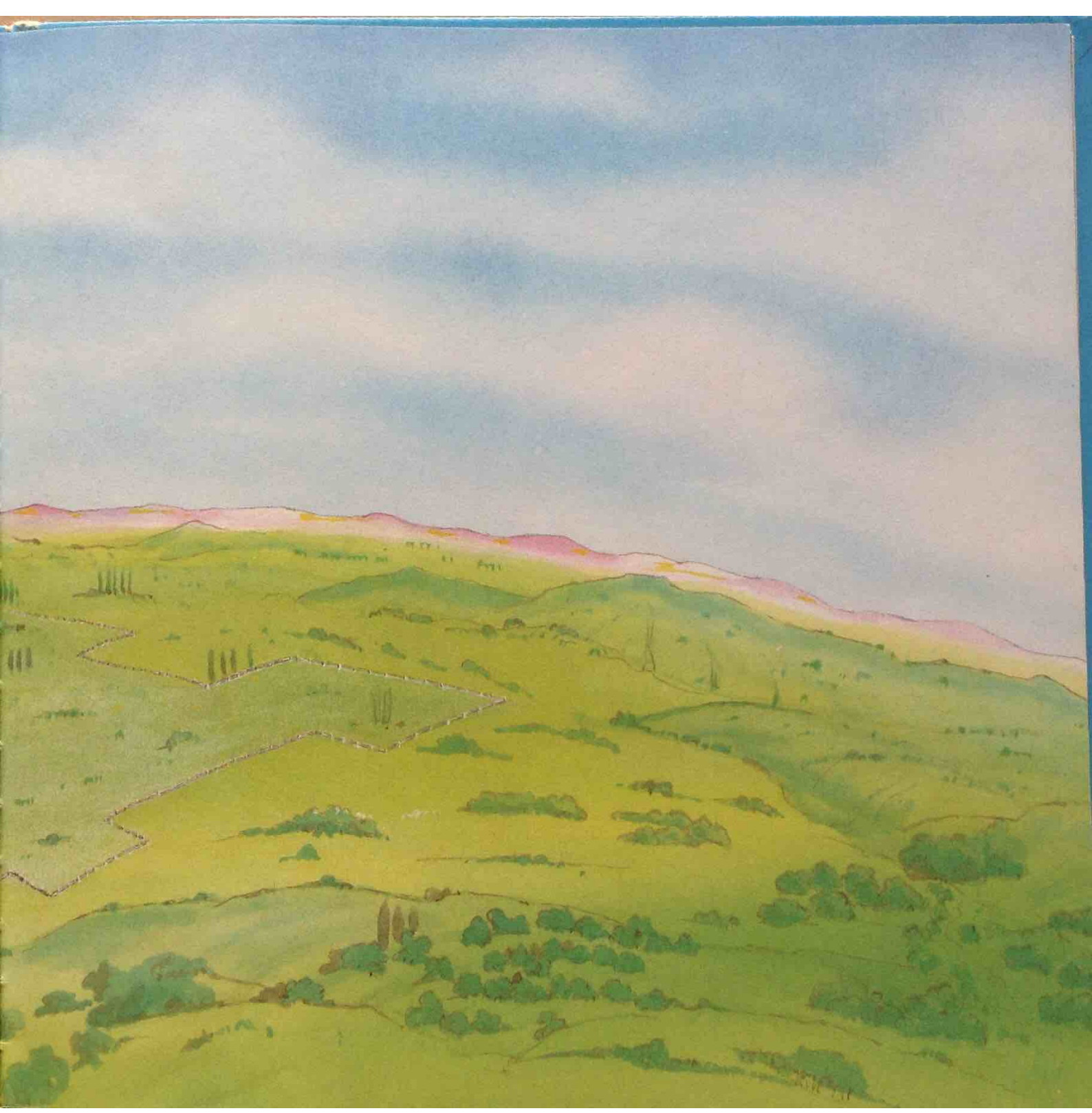
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Imagine a land where green grassy hills roll on endlessly beneath a brilliant blue sky. Gigantic white fluffy clouds tumble across the sky like mountains of cotton candy. Imagine a place where flying ponies gallop and play among the clouds and race with the wind, where magical unicorn ponies frolic in the deep and mysterious forests. On the ground, beautiful ponies in a rainbow of colors graze and play on the hillsides and fields nearby their home. If you can imagine all this, then you can come along on an amazing adventure in the magical world of My Little Pony.



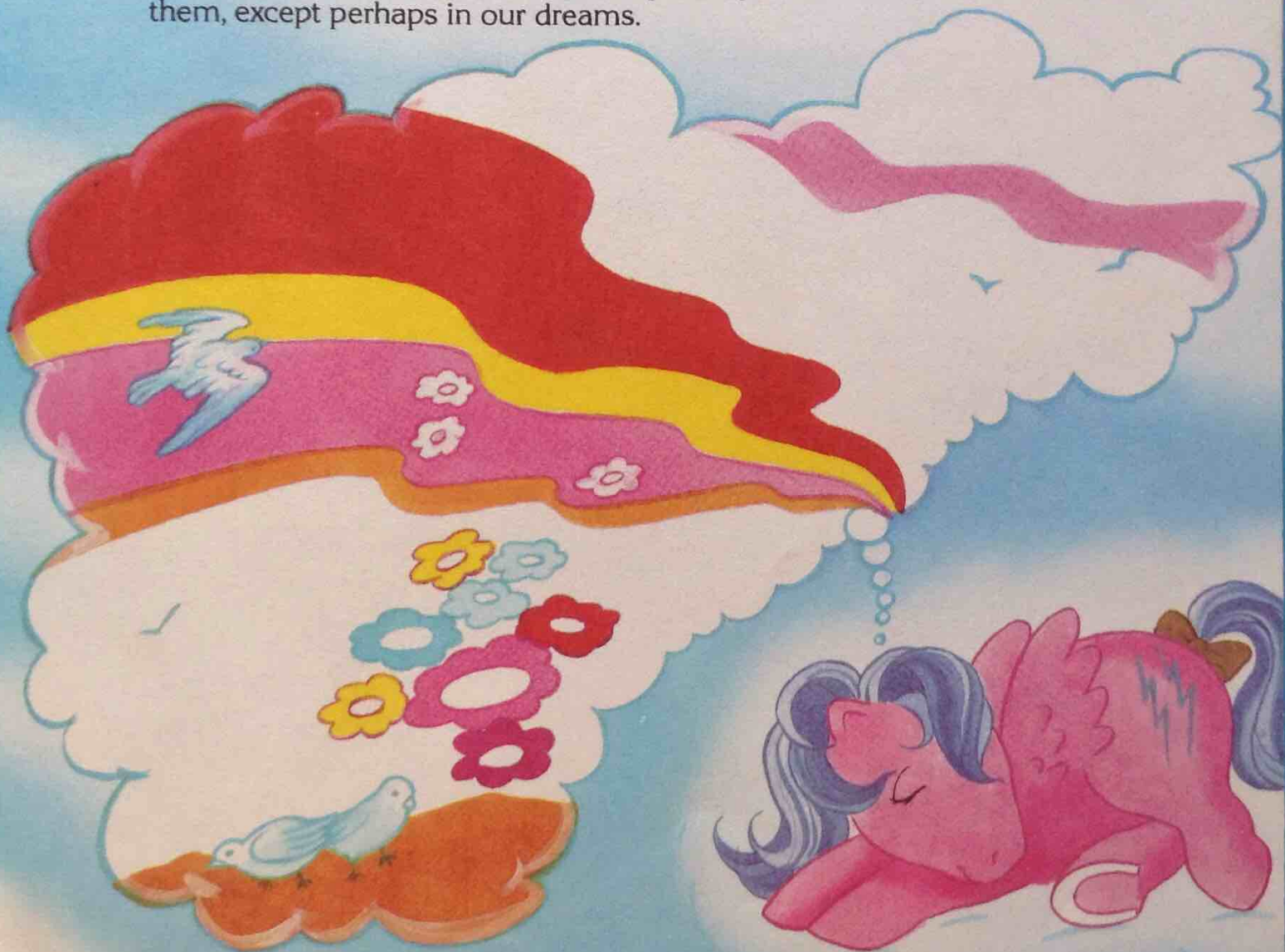






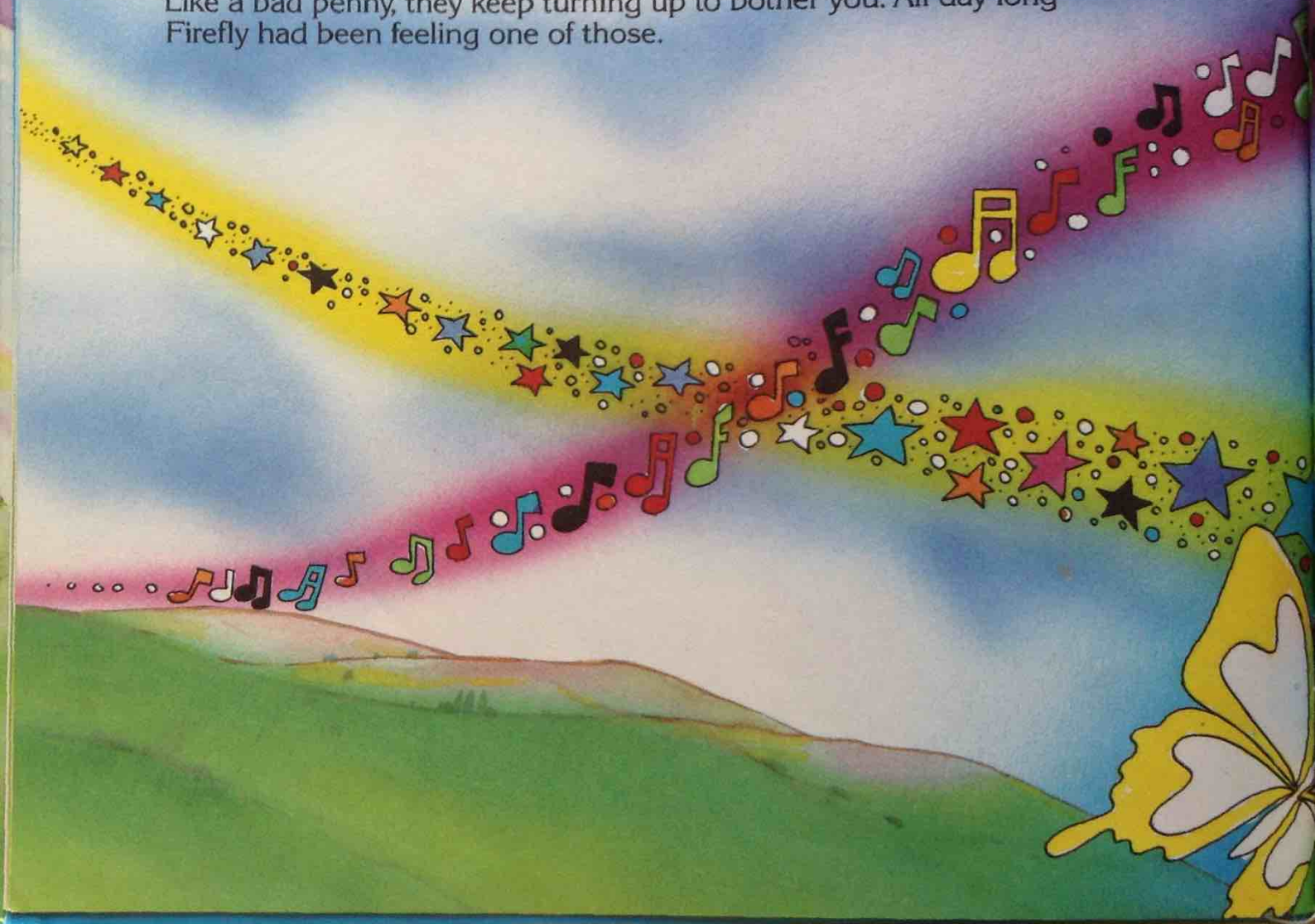
See that beautiful pony with the pink wings who is resting on the top of a pile of clouds? It's Firefly. All day long, Firefly has been chasing the clouds. Now she's tired. She is lying down for a nap. She has such a dreamy look in her eyes, I wonder what she's thinking.

Actually, Firefly was barely thinking at all. Oh, she is smart enough but there are times in a young pony's life when thinking about almost anything just doesn't seem very necessary. Besides, all smart ponies know it's much more fun to feel than to think and when you are a pony who can fly there are so many wonderful feelings just waiting to be felt. The feelings swirled around in Firefly's mind like pastel colored clouds, blending together to form colors so special, you and I may never see them, except perhaps in our dreams.





Pony feelings (or anyone's feelings for that matter) come in all shapes and sizes. There are great big clumsy feelings that are too big to get a hold of. They can hang around all day and make you feel like you don't know how you feel, which is a pretty peculiar feeling. There are warm and comfortable feelings that wrap themselves around you like a patchwork quilt and make you feel nice and cozy for hours. There are the crazy little feelings which fly around inside your mind like butterflies. They never seem to stay in one place long enough for you to get a good look at them. And of course, there are those annoying little feelings. Like a bad penny, they keep turning up to bother you. All day long Firefly had been feeling one of those.





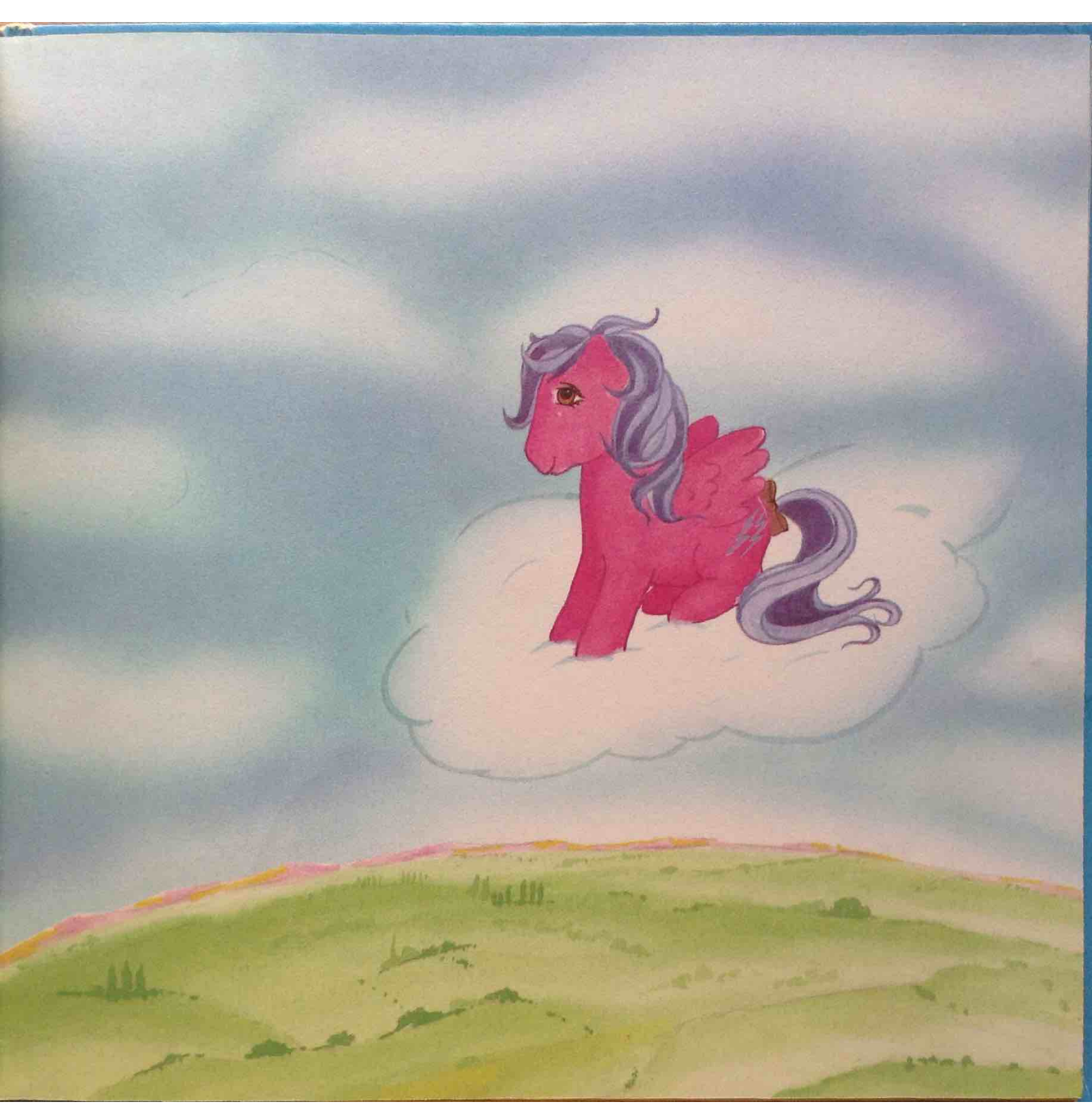






It wasn't really a bad feeling. It was a wrong feeling, a feeling that somehow, somewhere something was going wrong, something was out of place. It was a feeling that Firefly didn't like one little bit. She tried keeping it in the back of her mind but this pesky feeling kept pushing its way to the front. Finally she decided it was time to deal with this feeling once and for all. If something was wrong or out of place, Firefly would find out.







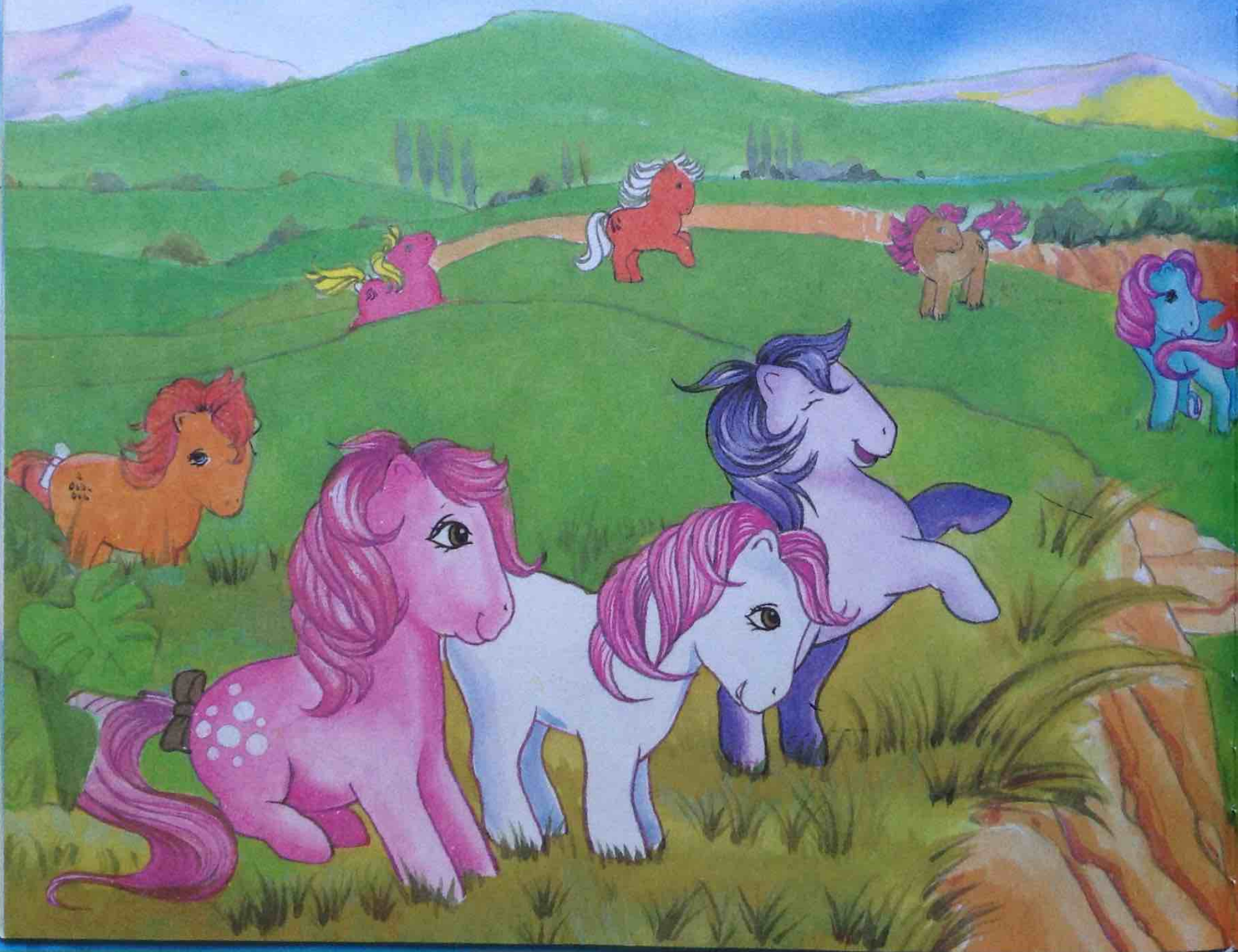
Jumping up from her soft cloud bed, Firefly spread her strong wings and leaped off into the clear blue sky. A gust of wind sent her blue mane flying as she soared round and round, spiraling toward the ground. Far below she could see the countryside. The fields and farms, streams and hillsides formed a bright pattern of greens, blues and browns. It almost looked like a patchwork quilt spread out across the land.



Down and down toward the ground flew Firefly. Soon she could see the green hills and tall trees that surround the Show Stable. There, grazing all over the fields and hills were all her other pony friends. Each one had its own colored coat. The beautiful pastel colors stood out against the green background. From this height, the ponies looked like brightly colored flowers growing across the hillside.



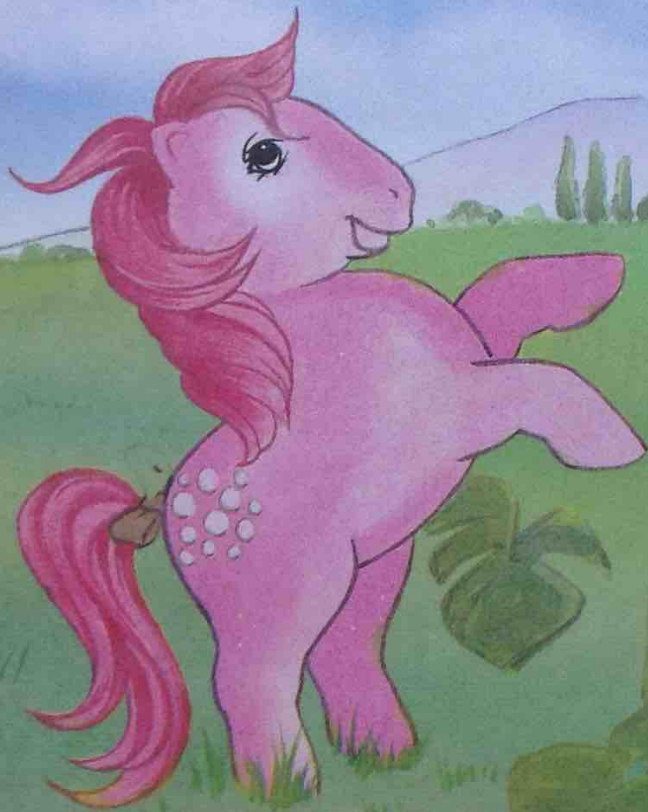
When the other ponies gazed up and saw Firefly soaring down through the clouds, they all galloped towards the Show Stable where Firefly was about to land. Cotton Candy, Blossom and all the other ponies had seen their friend Firefly soaring through the air many times before. This didn't lessen their amazement though and the ponies grew wide eyed every time they saw Firefly drifting in and out of the clouds!







"Look!" shouted Blossom. "It's Firefly! She's going to land right here in the meadow. I wonder what she wants. She seems to be in a very big hurry."

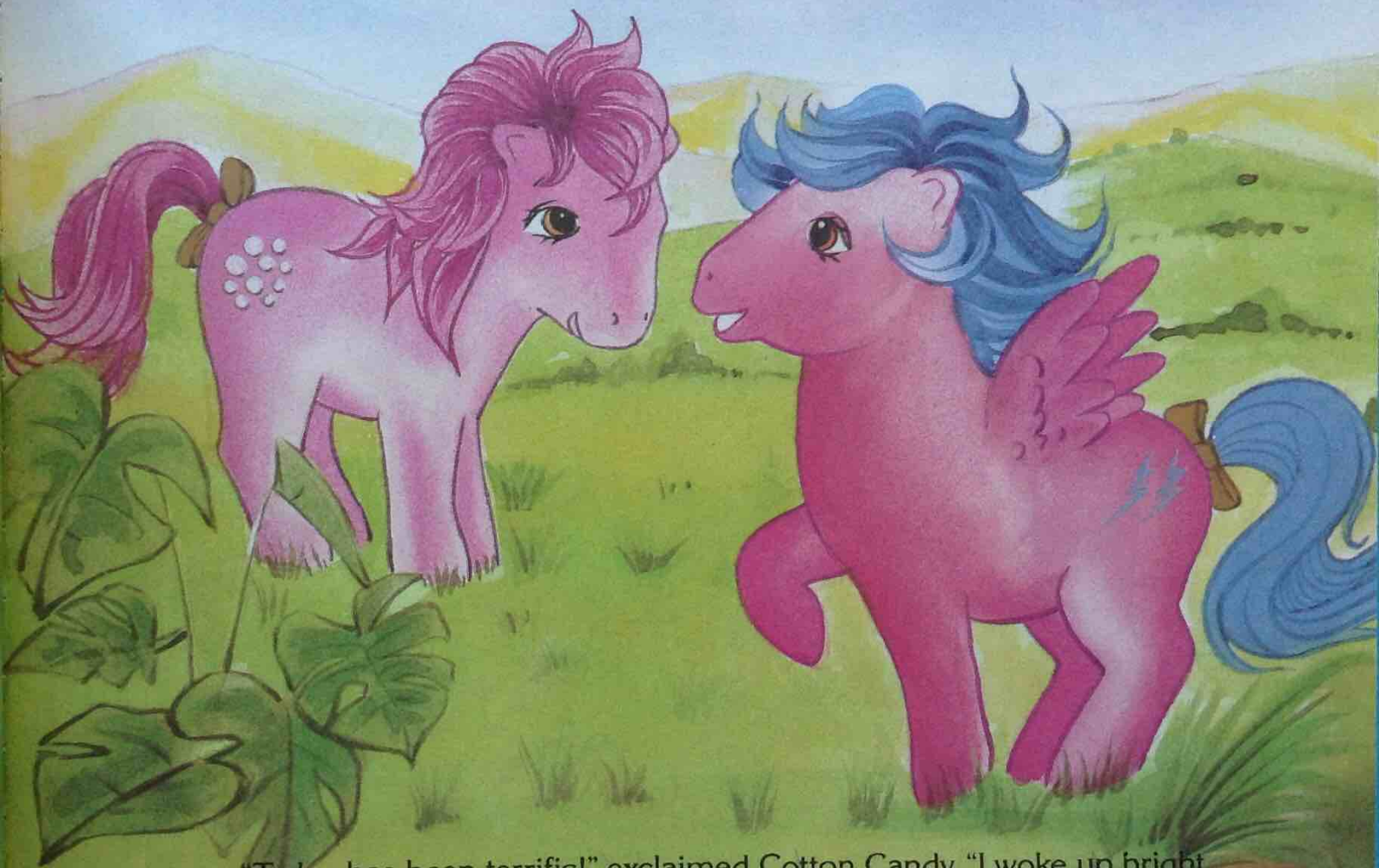


By now Firefly was just a few feet off the ground. The wind from her flapping wings stirred the afternoon air. Soon, she was standing on the grass with her wings folded gently at her sides.

"Hi, Firefly," said Cotton Candy. "It sure is nice to see you. What brings you down from the clouds on such a beautiful day?"



"I've had the strangest feeling all day that something is wrong," said Firefly in a worried voice. "I can't quite put my hoof on it but I've got a funny feeling inside about today."



"Today has been terrific!" exclaimed Cotton Candy. "I woke up bright and early, went for a run down by the stream, and then came back to the Show Stable. Oh, I may have stopped for a little sweet snack. Honey, sweet grass, flowers..."

"Flowers?" exclaimed Blossom. "Not in my flower garden I hope."

"Of course not, silly," said Cotton Candy, "They were wildflowers."



"My day has been wonderful, too," said Blossom. "Moondancer took me for a long run in the forest this morning, and I spent all afternoon tending my garden. Perhaps your feeling is wrong, Firefly. Everything is just fine today."

"And where is Applejack?" asked Firefly.

"Gosh, I don't know," said Cotton Candy. "I haven't seen her since early this morning."

"I saw her at noon over in the far side of the orchard," remembered Blossom. "She said she was going to hunt for a wild crab apple tree across the river."





"Across the river," shouted Firefly. "I've told that pony a thousand times never to go across the river alone. Besides the strong current, there's the Sunken Swamp on the other side."

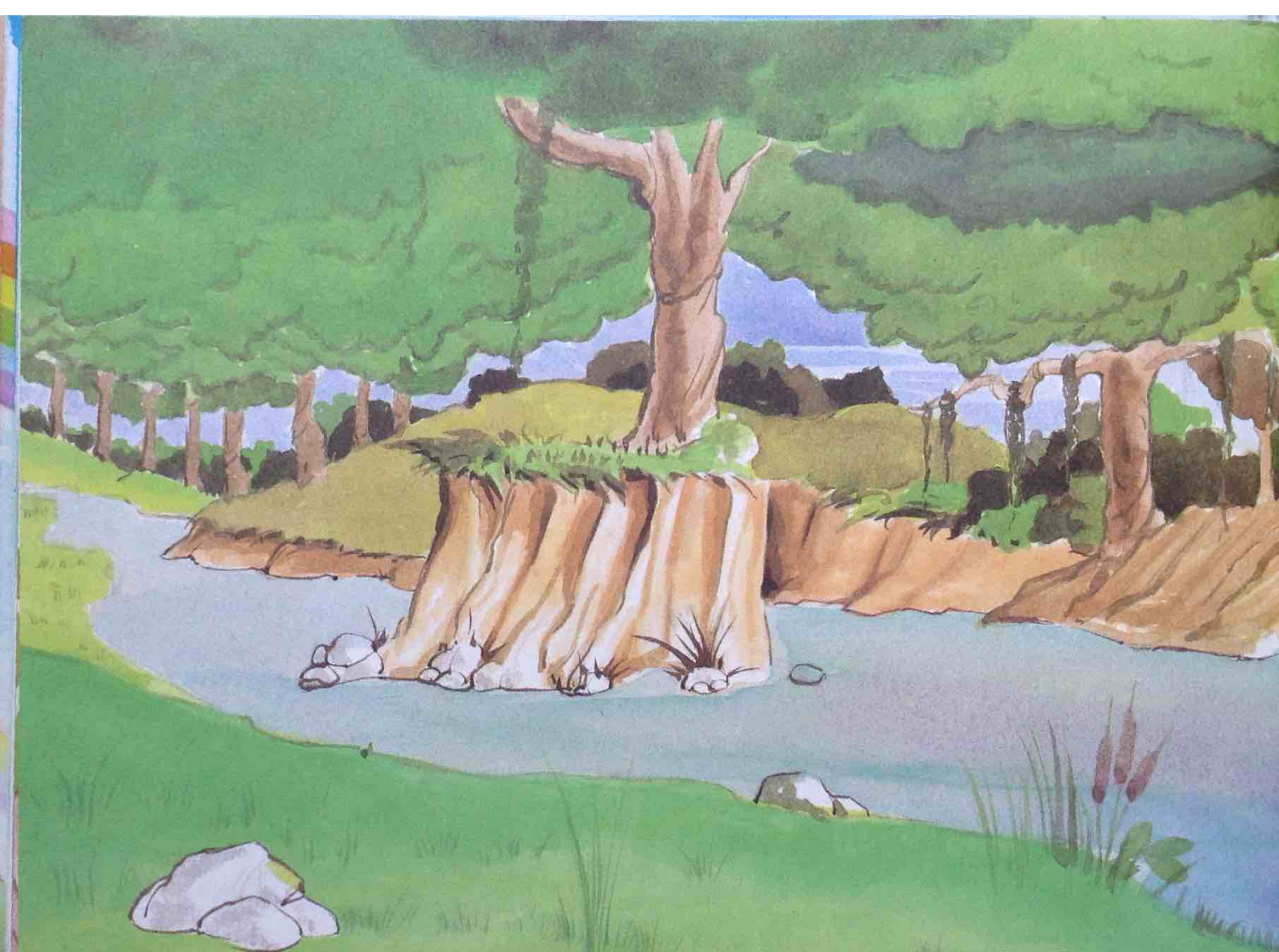
"You don't suppose she could have wandered in there do you?" asked Cotton Candy. "It's such a spooky place."

"I'd be willing to wager a bale of hay that Applejack has lost her way in the Sunken Swamp," said Firefly. "My feelings are never wrong."

"Well, if she is lost we have to do something and fast!" exclaimed Blossom, as she looked nervously around. "It's almost sunset."





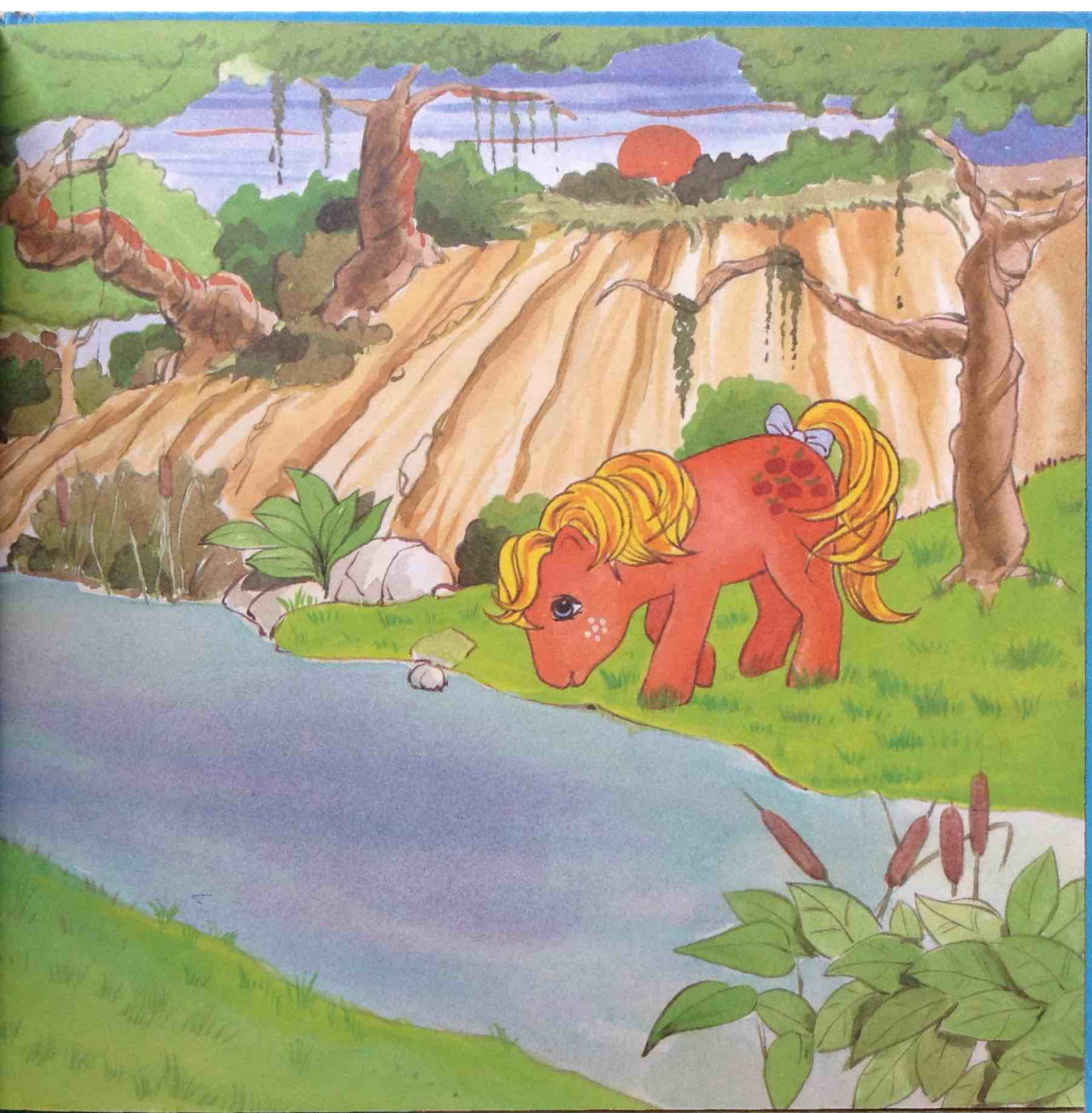


Far across the river, deep within the shadowy swamp, wandered Applejack. She had been so busy searching for the wild apple tree that she had not even realized that she was completely lost. Suddenly she stopped in her tracks as she heard a strange and eerie sound.

"What's that?" wondered Applejack as she raised her head and looked around.

"I don't think I have ever been in this part of the swamp before. It's kind of scary. I'd better just head back towards the Show Stable. I'll find that old apple tree another day."







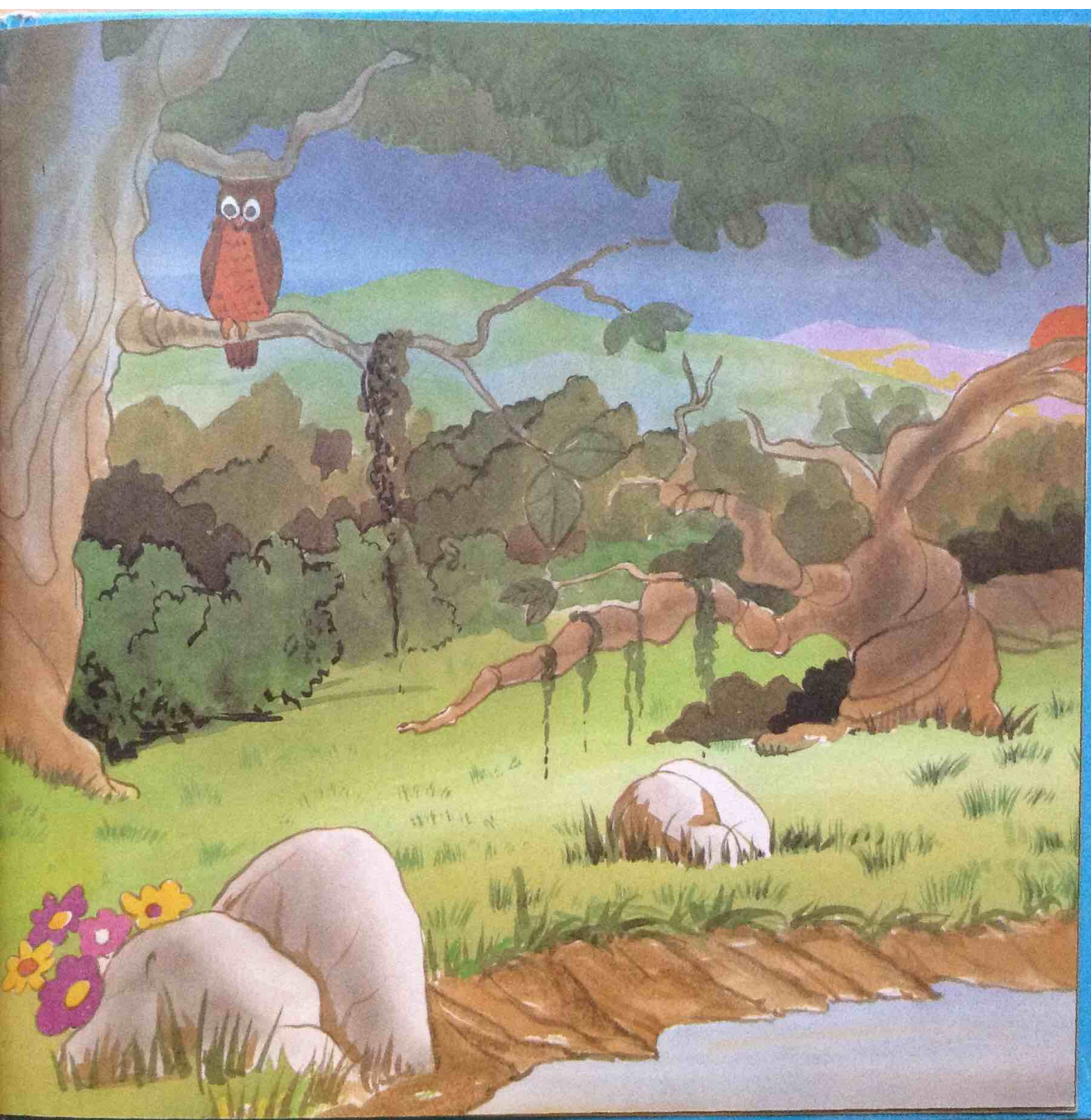
As Applejack turned and started to head back toward home, she made a frightening discovery.

"Oh my goodness!" exclaimed Applejack. "I do believe I'm lost!"

By now the sun had begun to set. The long thin arms of the old trees in the swamp seemed to reach up and grab the setting sun and pull it toward the horizon while to the east the cold shadows of night moved swiftly across the ground. A hoot owl shouted from a high limb. Poor Applejack began to shiver as a strange chill seemed to settle in over the Sunken Swamp.









Applejack tried desperately to find her way out of the swamp. She charged up one dark path and down another. Soon she realized that she was wandering around in circles. In the gathering darkness Applejack could see the glow of strange red eyes peering out from the shadows. A bat flapped its way through the foggy night air. Applejack tried to be brave but slowly she realized she had done something very silly in crossing the river alone. She was afraid, as frightened as she could remember ever being in her short life.







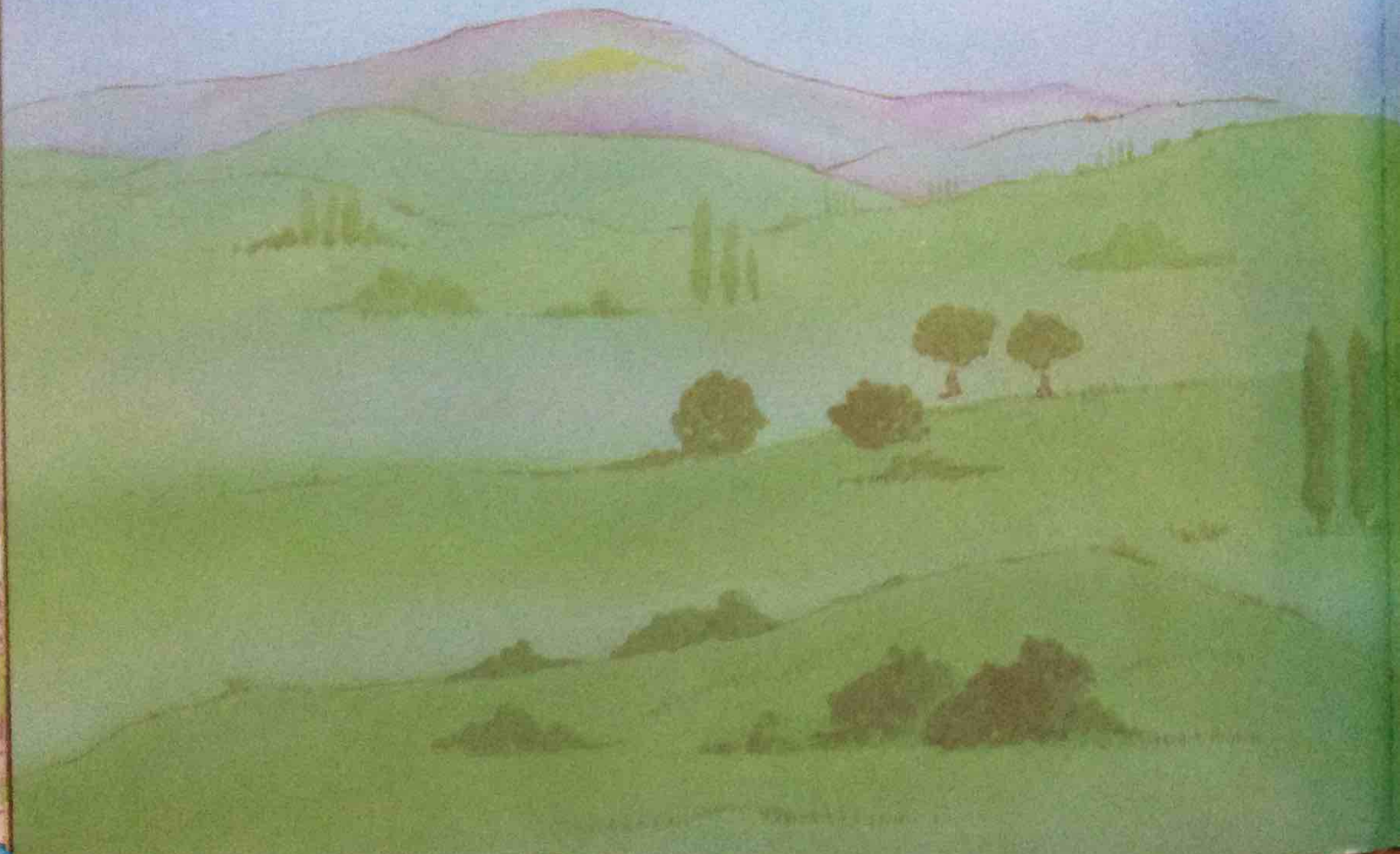
"It's getting darker by the minute," whispered Applejack. "I hope my friends realize that I am lost and come looking for me soon. Otherwise I might have to spend the night here in this spooky swamp."

Firefly told Cotton Candy and Blossom to wait at the stable and she flew off towards the Sunken Swamp. As she looked down far below her, she saw an amazing sight. There on the bank of the river was a unicorn glowing in the dark.

"It's Moondancer," thought Firefly. "She can help me find Applejack by lighting the way through the dark swamp." Firefly soared low just a few feet over Moondancer's head and called to her in a loud voice.

"Follow me!" shouted Firefly. "We have got to find Applejack."

Soon the two of them were across the river near the edge of the Sunken Swamp.







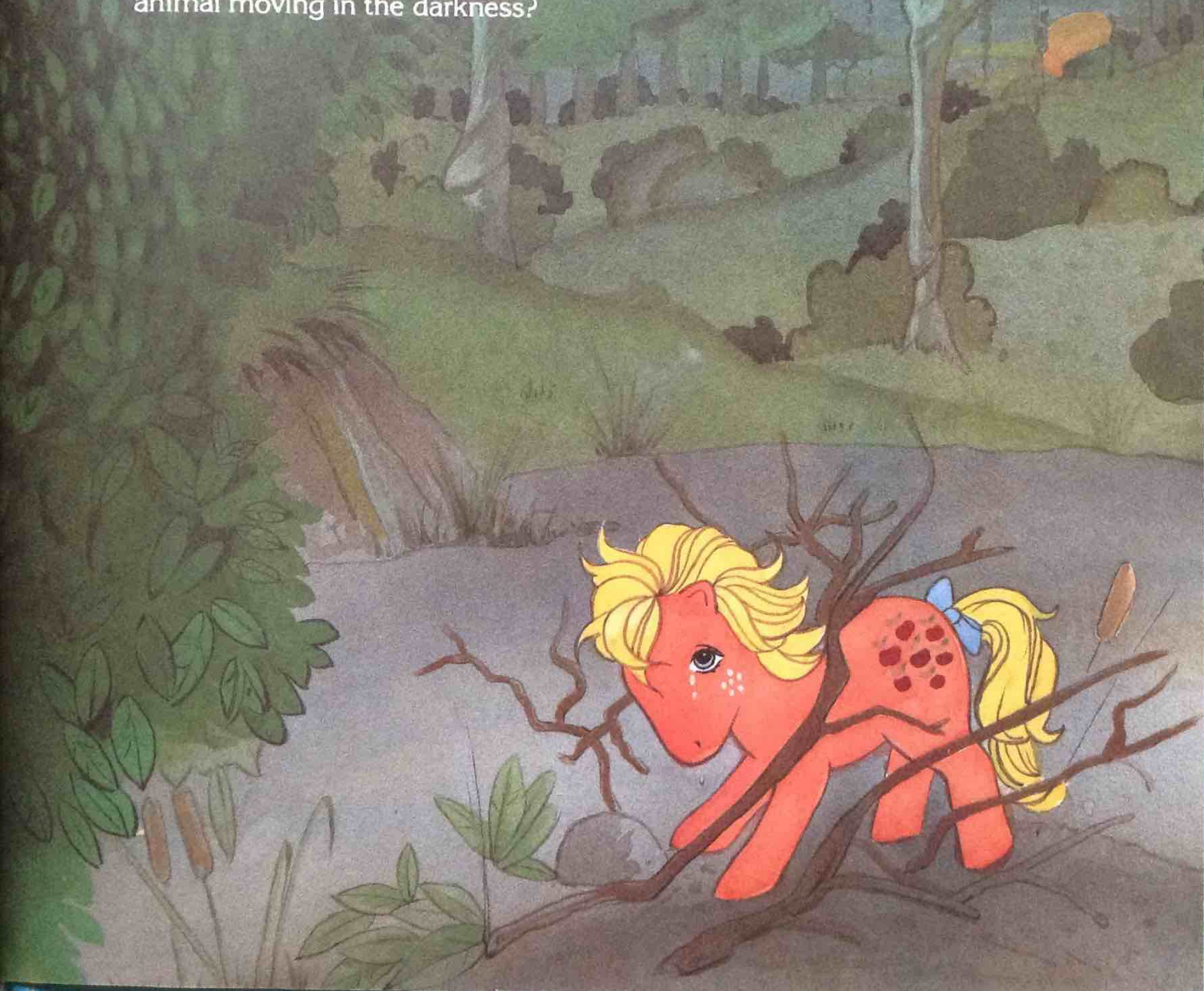




Moondancer charged fearlessly ahead into the dark swamp. She was not afraid of the dark. Her bright glow lit up the night. Flying just a few feet overhead, Firefly kept a keen eye out for any sign of Applejack. By now the lost pony had wandered far into the swamp. Although she was afraid, she was certain that her friends would find her soon.



Firefly and Moondancer were starting to worry. They had searched most of the Sunken Swamp and so far they had not found a trace of Applejack. Suddenly Firefly thought she saw something moving off to her left, deep in a thick and tangled patch of briars. Moondancer saw it too and hurried in that direction. Could it be Applejack or just a swamp animal moving in the darkness?





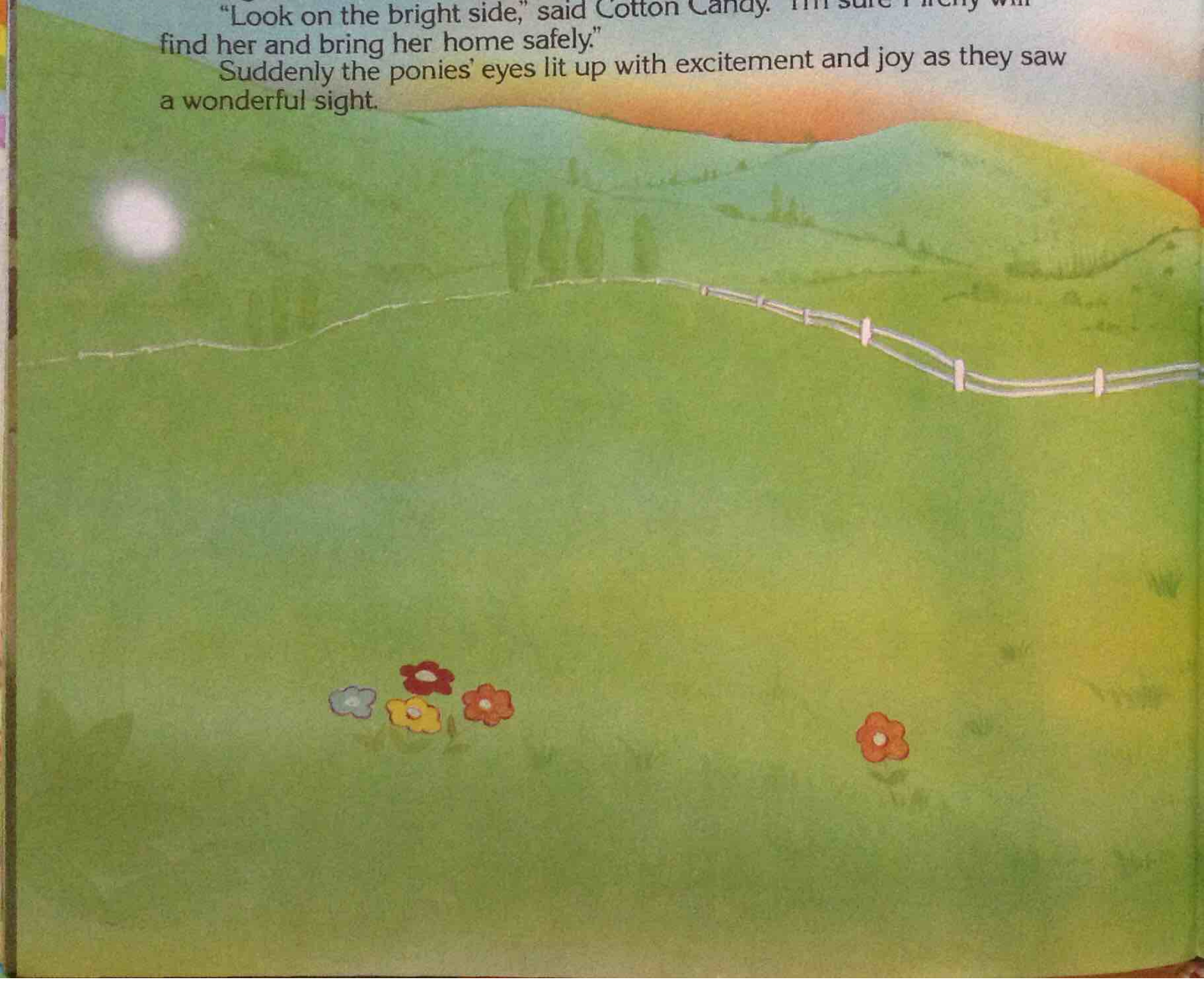
Back at the Show Stable, the hour had grown late. Blossom and Cotton Candy waited nervously for any news of their lost friend.

"Firefly must have found Applejack by now," said Cotton Candy in a worried voice. "She's been gone for more than one hour."

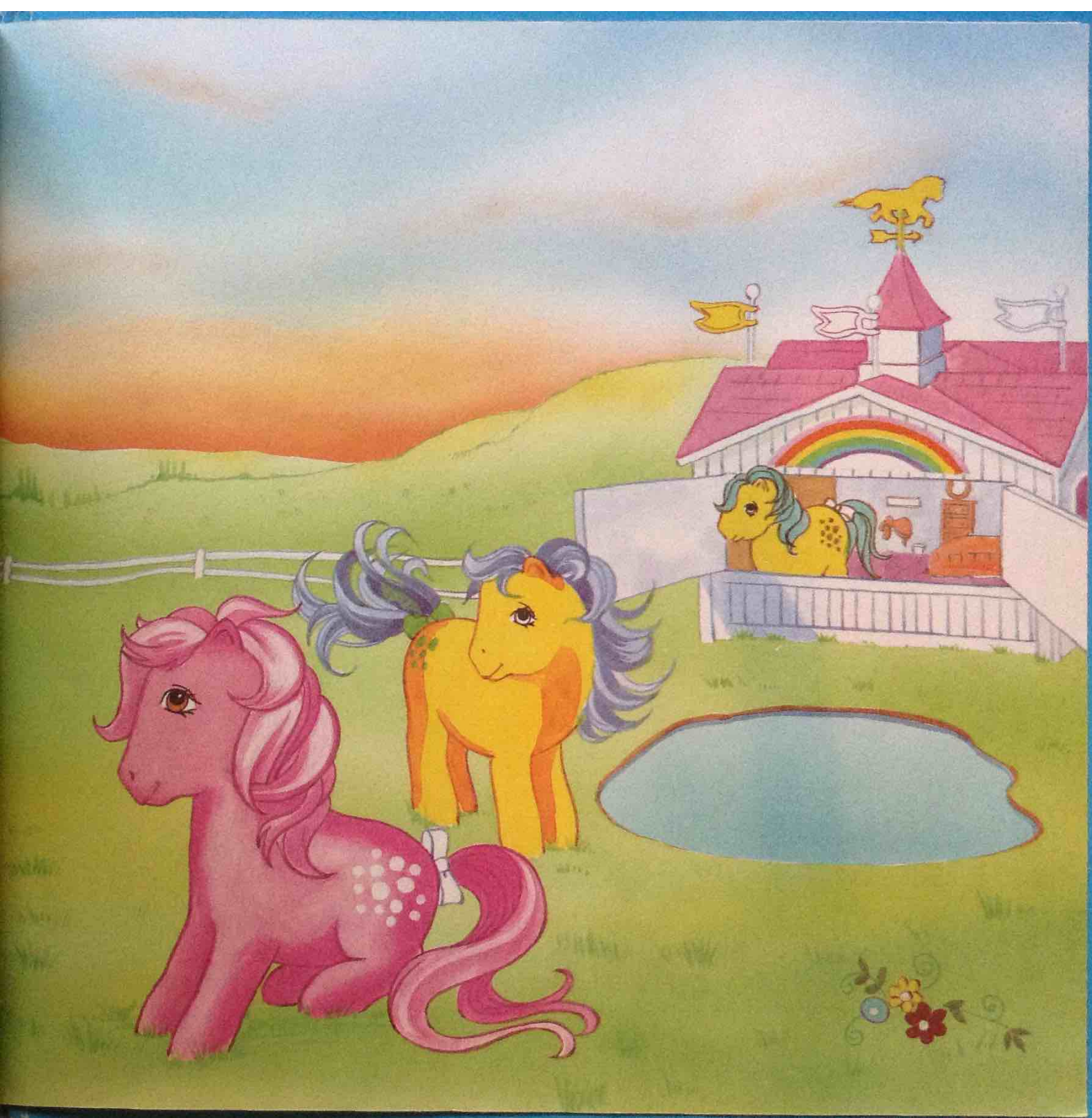
"I hope so," said Blossom. "I'm so worried. I just hope poor Applejack is all right."

"Look on the bright side," said Cotton Candy. "I'm sure Firefly will find her and bring her home safely."

Suddenly the ponies' eyes lit up with excitement and joy as they saw a wonderful sight.









There, galloping up over the low hills which surrounded the Show Stable came Applejack! Right behind her ran Moondancer, her long white mane blowing in the wind. Overhead, just barely clearing the tops of the trees soared Firefly!



Blossom and Cotton Candy gave a cheer as Applejack kicked up her hooves and jumped over the wooden fence and back into the corral. Firefly hovered overhead for a moment and then landed nearby in a flurry of dust. Moondancer stood nearby glowing proudly. All the ponies rushed to Applejack's side.





"What have you learned from this experience, Applejack?" asked Firefly, still breathing heavily from the long day's search.

Applejack thought for a few moments, and then spoke in a serious voice which surprised even her closest friends. "I have learned that no matter how green the grass or how delicious the apples look on the other side of the fence, I'll always be happier right here with my good friends. Thank you, everyone, for finding me and showing me the way back home. You know I love you all very much."

A bright and shiny tear formed in the corner of Firefly's big brown eye as she thought to herself, "Today, for the first time, Applejack started to grow up. I have a feeling that pony is going to turn out just fine."

All the ponies nuzzled close to Applejack. They were so very happy that their long-lost friend was home at last. Applejack was a happy little pony.





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