




THE MONKEY THAT WANTED TO FLY

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A vibrant jungle scene with a large tree, a monkey, a snake, and birds. The background is a deep teal color. A large tree with a brown trunk and green leaves is the central focus. A small brown monkey is hanging from a branch on the left. A green snake is coiled around a branch in the middle. A small blue bird is flying on the left, and three black birds are flying on the right. The sun's rays are visible in the top left corner. There are also some stylized purple and red leaves in the corners.

Roarie, the monkey, lives in a big jungle
with lots of trees. These trees are
so tall the sun can only just peak
through the leafy branches.

The jungle is
home to birds
that sing in
the wind,

snakes that slither
around branches

monkeys that play in the
trees, and many more!



Every day Roarie tries to find a way to get up to the tree house where Tommy, Ava and Willie play.

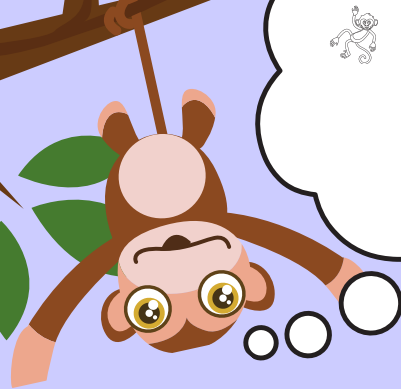
He has never been to the tree house before, because it is up the highest branch, on the tallest of tall trees

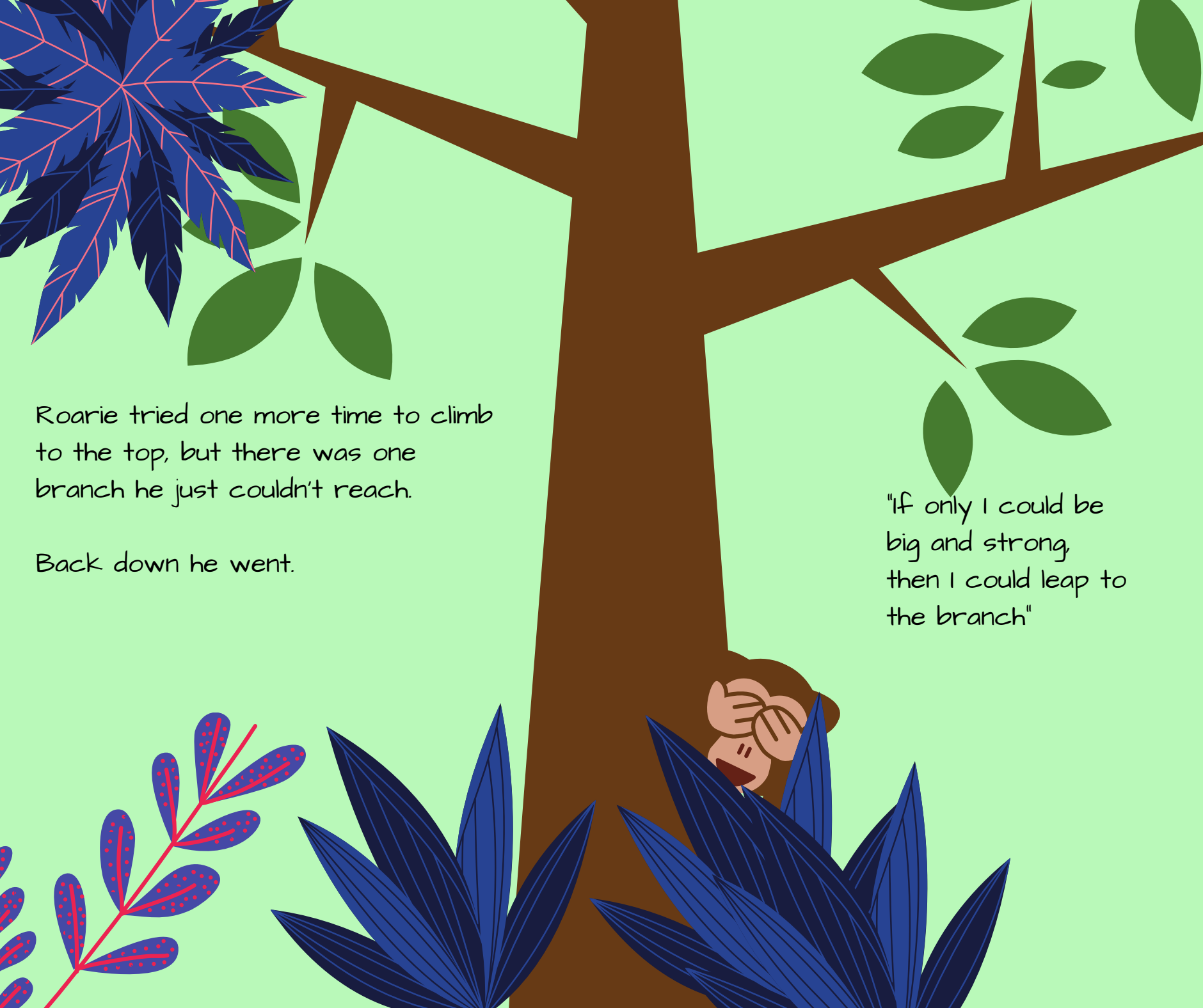
"How can I get there?"

"I can't climb that high" he thought.

There is a swing at the tree
house that makes you fly higher
than the trees.

You go so high it's like you're in
the sky and the forest looks like
a green fluffy cloud below.



A stylized illustration of a tree with a thick brown trunk and several branches. The background is a solid light green. In the top left corner, there is a large, dark blue leaf with prominent pink veins. To its right, there are several green leaves of various shapes. In the bottom left corner, there is a branch with several blue leaves, each with small red dots. In the bottom center, there is a large, dark blue leaf. In the bottom right corner, there is a monkey with brown fur, wearing a brown hat and a brown vest, looking up at the tree. The monkey is partially obscured by the large blue leaf.

Roarie tried one more time to climb
to the top, but there was one
branch he just couldn't reach.

Back down he went.

"If only I could be
big and strong,
then I could leap to
the branch"

Roarie slowly plodded home.

The tribe had already gathered and everyone was sharing their day's adventures.

He heard a familiar voice laughing and talking.

"Did you see it, I jumped so high I was king of the world!"

Tommy was coming over with Ava and Willie

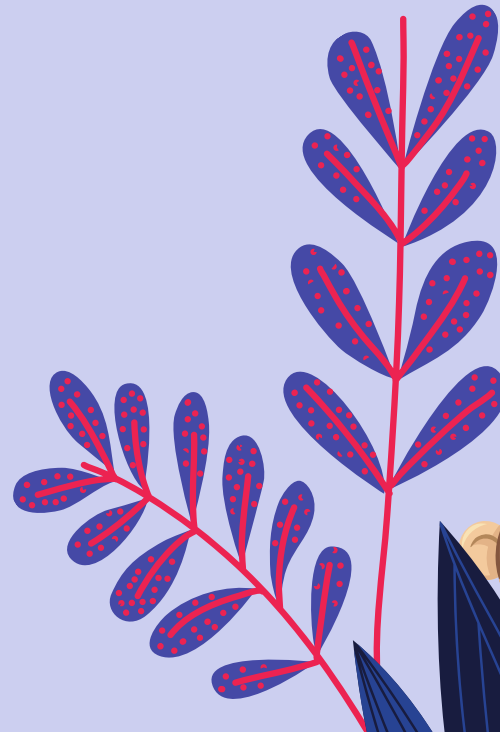




"Couldn't find the tree house? Oh, poor little Roarie. Maybe one day, if you're stronger."



"Aww he's just little Roarie. He's never going to grow stronger."





And they walked off...

Roarie hid in his tree, and tried to drift off to sleep, crying to himself,

"Why can't I be strong, why can't I be strong!?"

Roarie eventually fell asleep.

In the middle of the night, he found himself flying over the jungle and looking down on green fluffy clouds.

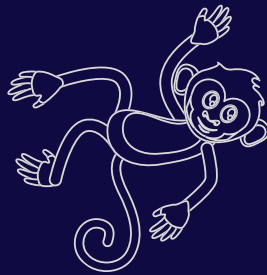
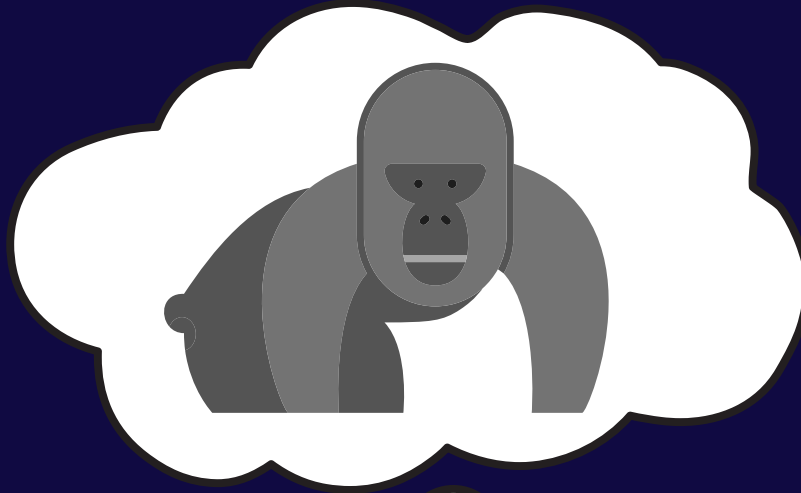


Flying next to him was a beautiful eagle. The eagle's belly shone bright like the sun, and her wings so wide they cast shadows over the trees below.



"You can be strong Roarie. Just swing three times, and then jump as far as you can. You will reach the top of the tree, and there will be the tree house."

"But I can't! I'm just little Roarie. I'll fall right down. If only I was big and strong, like a mighty gorilla!"

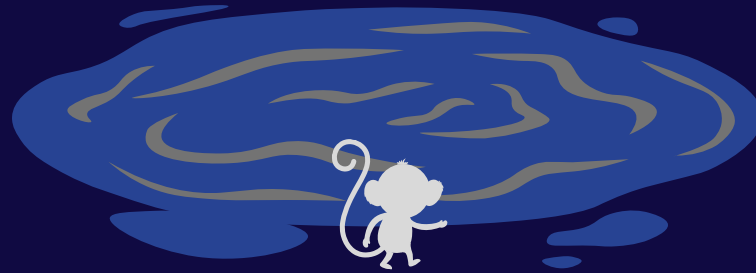


"Come with me. Let's go to the pool of mirrors" said the eagle.



They landed in a clearing which had many pools. There was one in the middle that was a perfect circle. It was so quiet, and so still, the pool created a perfect mirror.

"Look into the pool Roarie."



Roarie gazed into the water.

"I see only me" Roarie said, disappointed.

The wind started to blow, the
leaves surrounding him.

The eagle said "look again, Roarie."

Roarie turned back to the pool.

He couldn't believe his
eyes as he stared at his
reflection.

"Woah I'm huge! I'm a
mighty gorilla!"

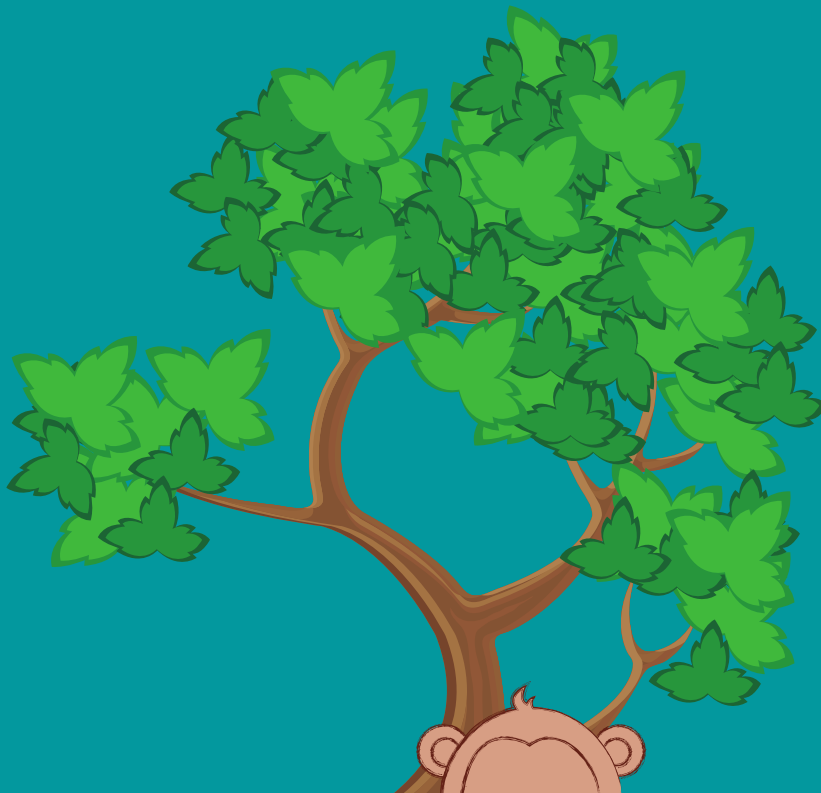
He looked around and the
eagle was gone.



The next morning Roarie woke up when he heard Tommy, Ava and Willie shouting to each other,



"Race you there! Last one to the tree house is a sloth!"



Roarie jumped down from his tree and landed with a thump.

He was huge!

"Was the dream real!?"
Roarie wondered.

Roarie ran towards the tallest of tall trees like the day before. He climbed as far as he could, but couldn't reach the top. He remembered...

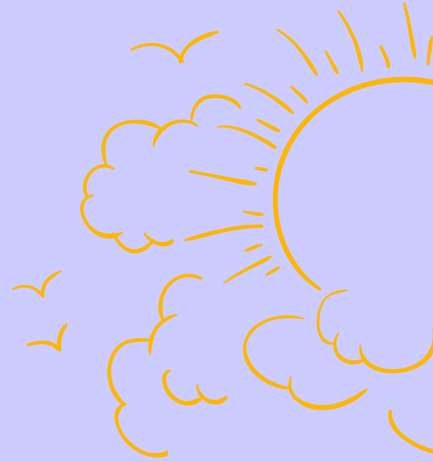
"Just swing three times and then jump as far as you can."

So he swung once

Twice

Three times

and LAUNCHED himself
into the air.

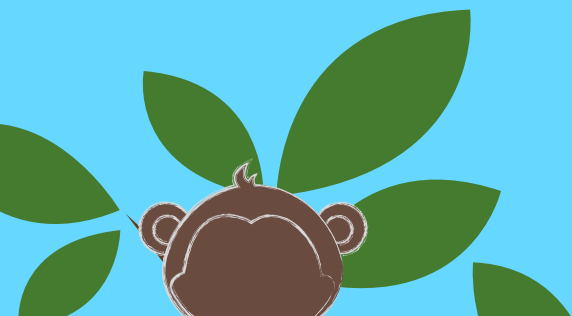


He did it!

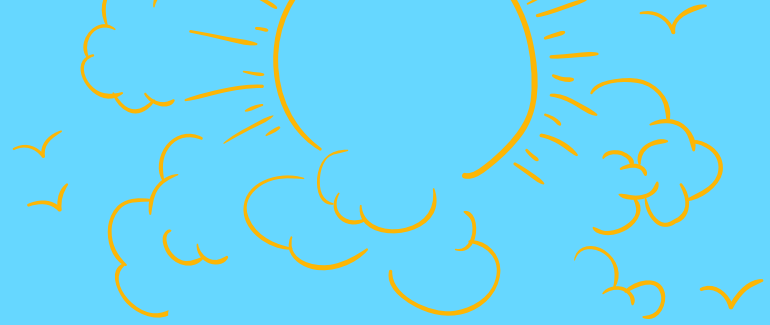


He climbed to the highest point of the tallest of tall trees and there it was! The world above the trees! And look...the tree house, and the swing!

"Aaahhh wow". There was Tommy swinging up above the top of the trees.



"Well done Roarie, you finally made it" Willie said.



But Tommy barked "He can't fly like me, it's just little Roarie."



"Give me the swing, I'm a mighty gorilla" Roarie said

The others
laughed.



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