

CAKE KINGDOM

Written by Kayla Trinh - Illustrated by David Ng



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Written by Kayla Trinh & Illustrated by David Ng
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B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL

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Once upon a time, on a bright and sunny day,
a new bakery opened on Sugar Frosting Way.



Through the frosted glass windows was a kingdom of sweets,
all baked to perfection, and ready to eat.

The shelves were full of pastries all perfectly dressed,
each frosted, sugared, and ready to impress.

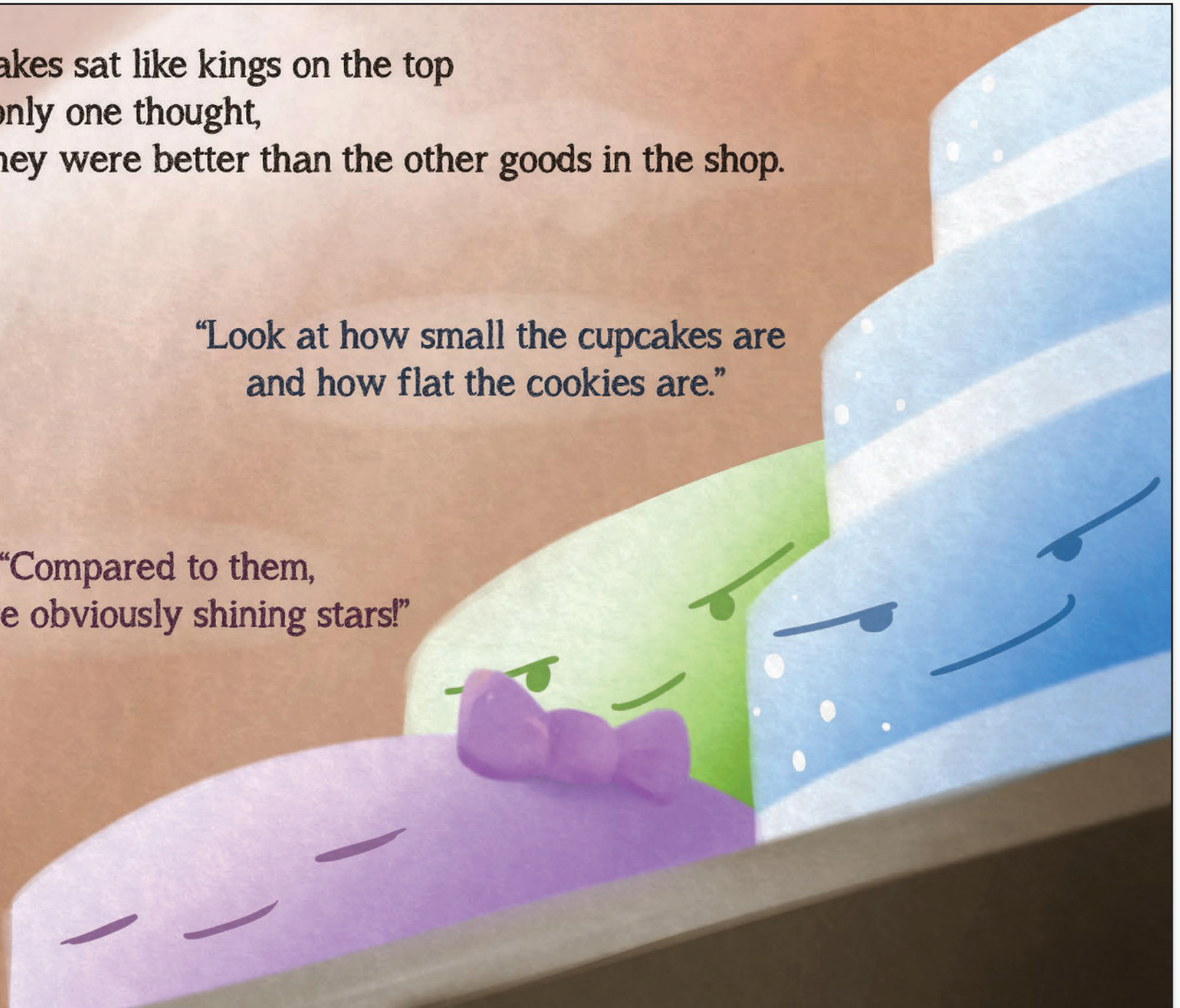
But there was one group that towered above the rest,
trying its hardest to look the very best.




The cakes sat like kings on the top
with only one thought,
that they were better than the other goods in the shop.

“Look at how small the cupcakes are
and how flat the cookies are.”

“Compared to them,
we are obviously shining stars!”



A group of colorful cakes with faces are gathered on a brown surface. From left to right, there is a blue cake with white frosting and blue spots, a purple cake, a green cake with white spots, a pink cake, a white cake with a pink base, a yellow cake, and a white cake. They all have small brown eyes and mouths. In the background, a baker wearing a white chef's hat and a white apron over a black shirt is visible, holding a blue object. The baker is standing on a brown brick floor. The cakes are looking towards the baker.

As the cakes chattered,
they looked over and saw,
the baker putting something
up on the wall

...

New

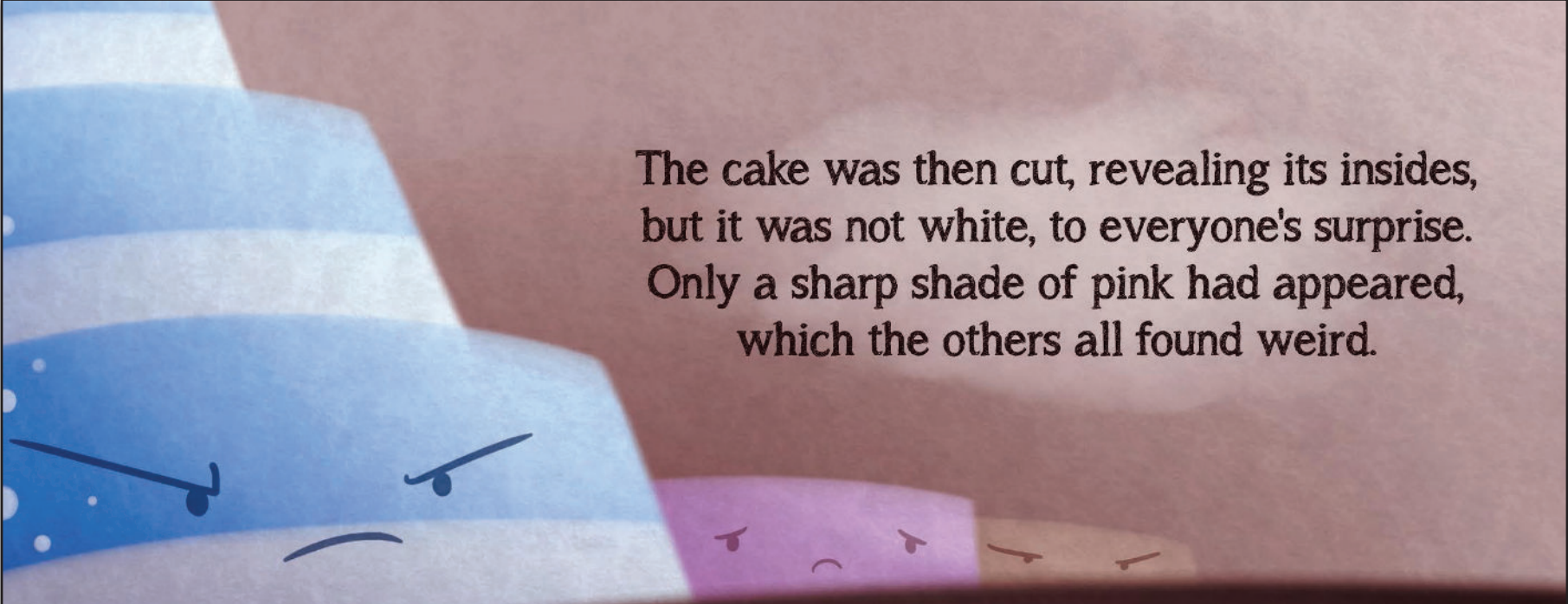


“Look!” they cried,
“That must be how we look inside!”
“Elegant and white,
who knew we were so bright!”





It was then that the first customer ordered a slice,
a slice of cake with the finest price.



The cake was then cut, revealing its insides, but it was not white, to everyone's surprise. Only a sharp shade of pink had appeared, which the others all found weird.

“You are not a real cake like the rest of us,” accused the big Wedding Cake.
“What do you mean? Of course I am!” stammered the Strawberry Cake, who let out a shivery shake.



The other cakes then began to shout,
“Leave, get out of here! We are kicking you out!”

And with one last look, feeling a little low,
the Strawberry Cake disappeared down below.





The bell on the door danced as the second customer walked in.
He pointed to a cake saying, "I would like mine thin."

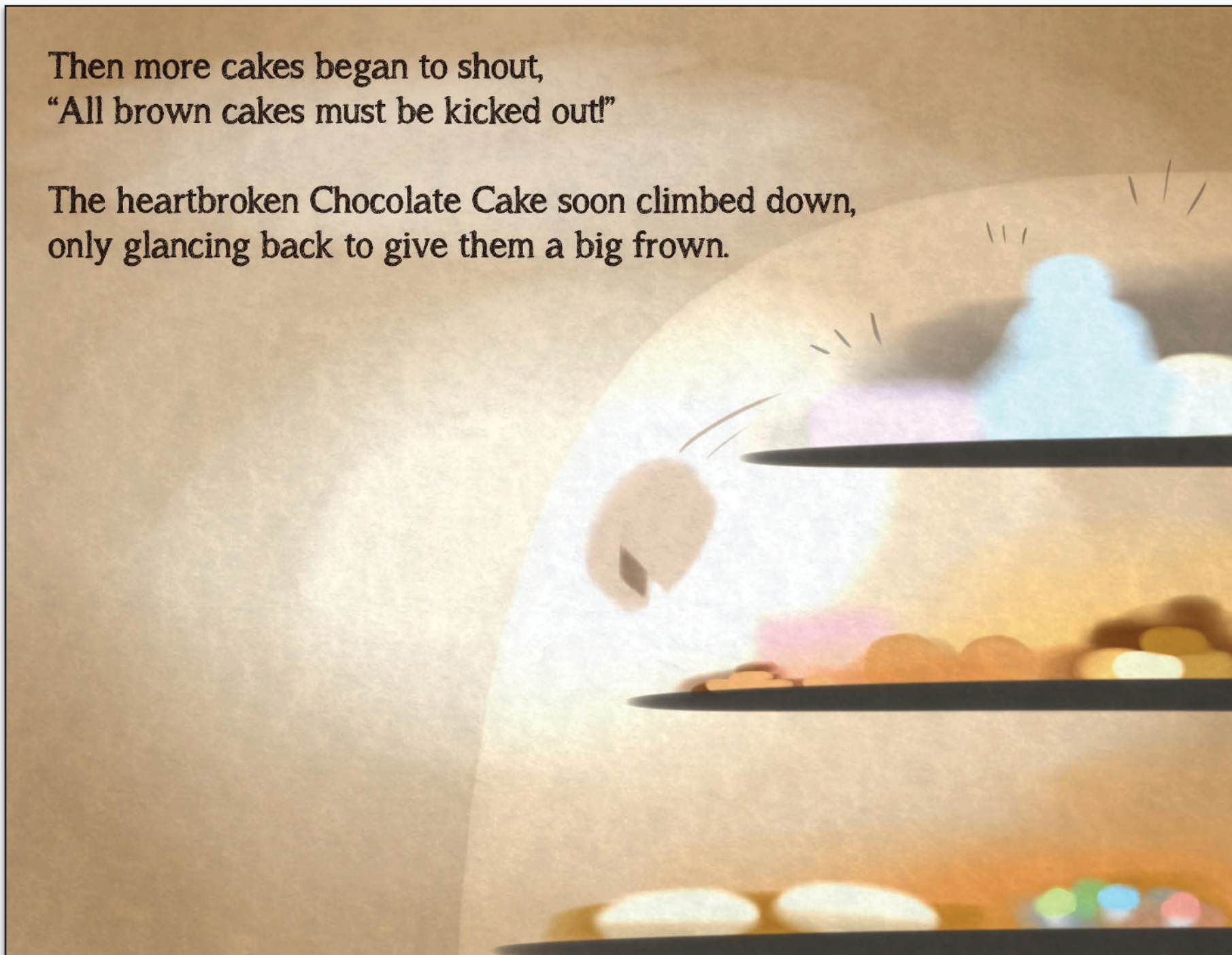
The other cakes fell silent
when they saw the color inside.
The chosen cake could not hide,
no matter how hard he tried.



“You must not be a real cake either,”
announced the cruel Wedding Cake.
“Barely a worthy creature!”
sneered the others.

Then more cakes began to shout,
“All brown cakes must be kicked out!”

The heartbroken Chocolate Cake soon climbed down,
only glancing back to give them a big frown.



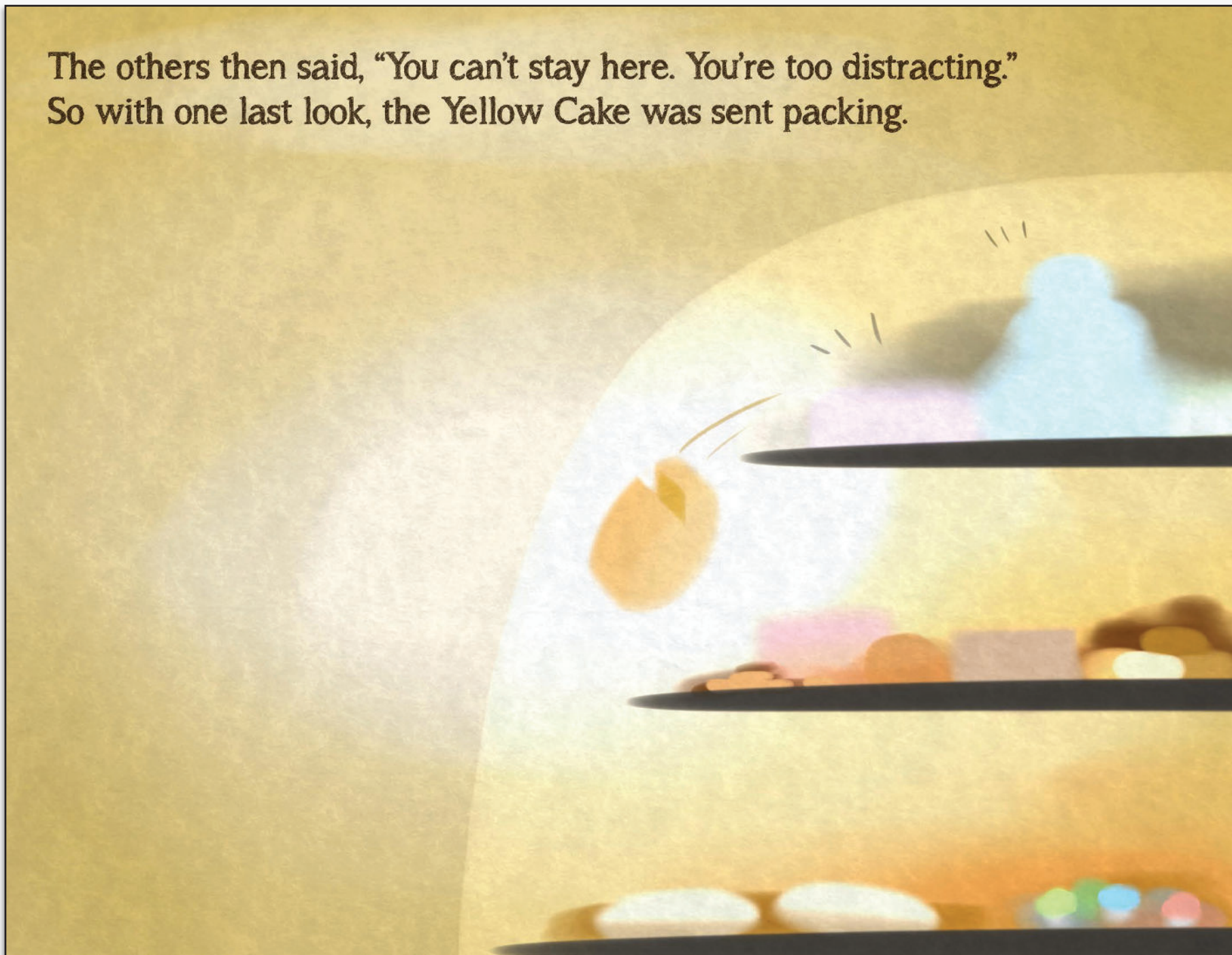


The next customer then called out,
“I would like a big slice of that cake over there.
I heard that your cakes are beyond compare.”

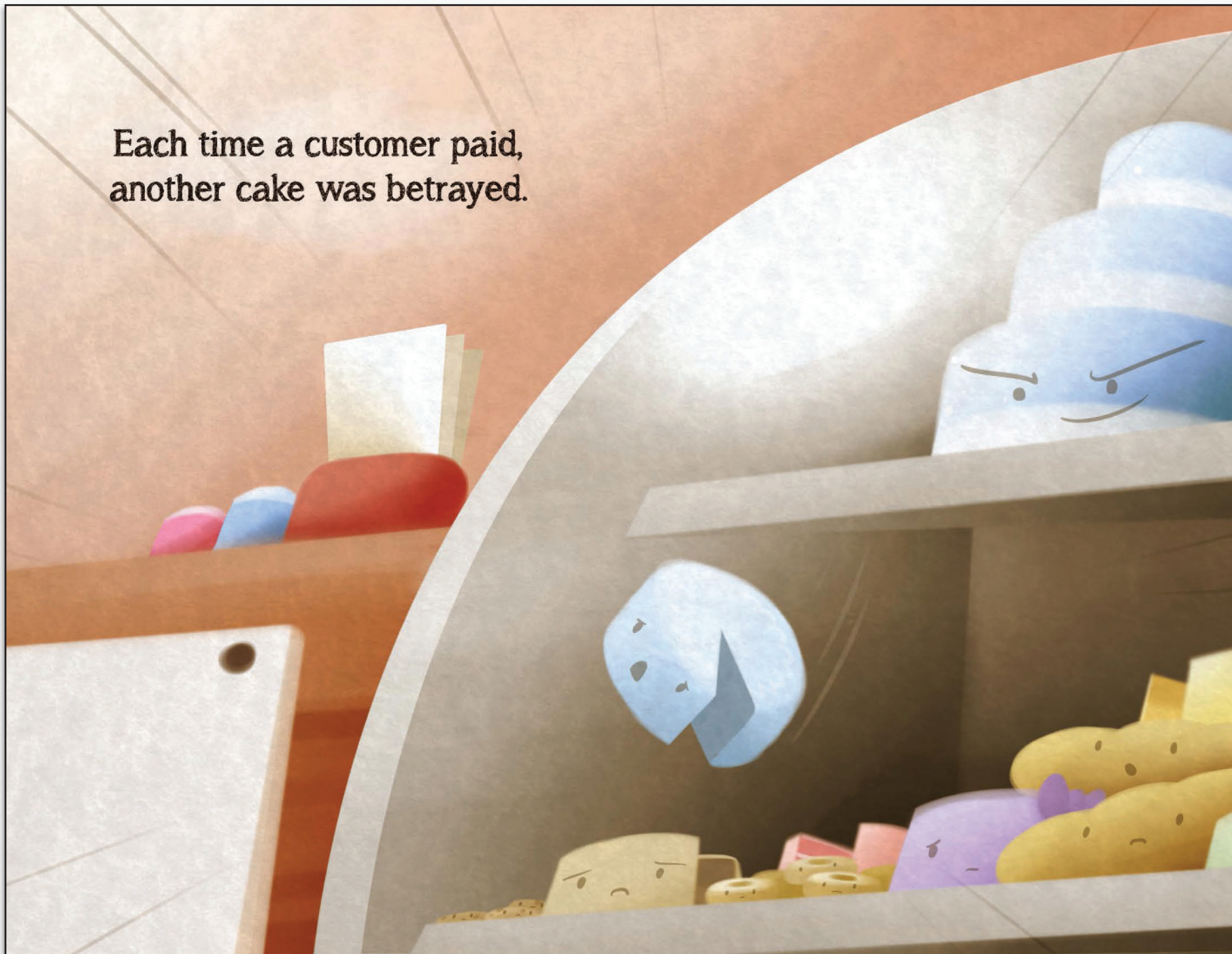
The next cake revealed a mellow yellow inside,
another color that was to be denied.



The others then said, "You can't stay here. You're too distracting."
So with one last look, the Yellow Cake was sent packing.



Each time a customer paid,
another cake was betrayed.





Finally one day, the Wedding Cake found himself a little lonely.
“I wonder what the other cakes are doing down below me.”

But what he saw below was quite confusing.
The cakes and the others were all partying!



And as the Wedding Cake sat on the top shelf,
with no friends, and all by himself,
he realized that it was fine to be different;
everyone could have a different pigment!

The Wedding Cake decided then and there
something he thought to be very fair.
Differences did not have to keep them divided,
for he had now discovered, it could make them united!



And out of the blue,
he knew just what to do.

He quickly slid down and gave a big call
to every sweet treat down below that he saw.

"I have something to say!" he shyly exclaimed.
The other cakes then turned around,
looking a little restrained.



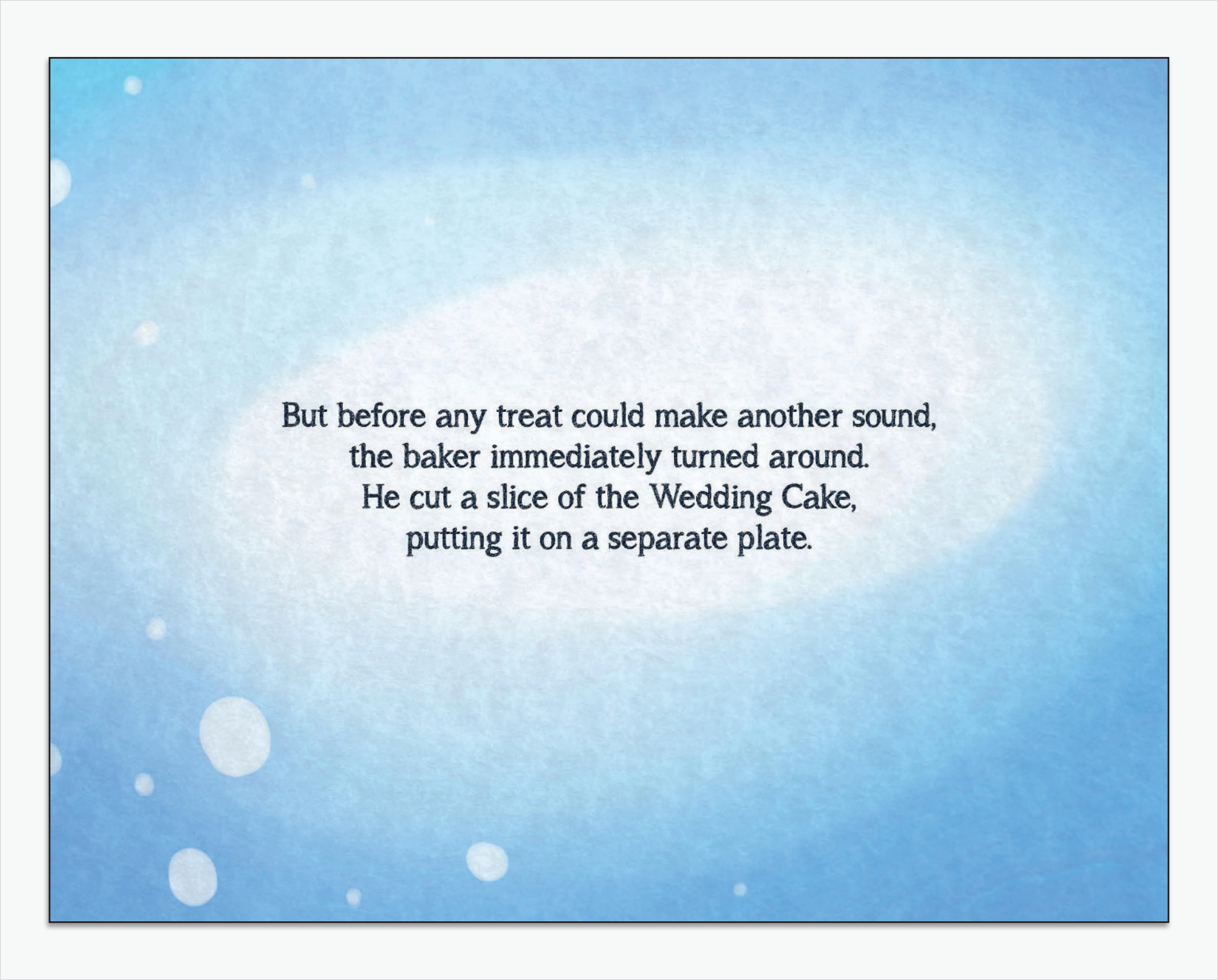


"I'm sorry for kicking you cakes out,"
the Wedding Cake said with a big pout.

"I now know that I was wrong.
I just want us all to finally get along."

"Why should we trust you?" they all asked,
bickering about what he had done in the past.





But before any treat could make another sound,
the baker immediately turned around.
He cut a slice of the Wedding Cake,
putting it on a separate plate.



But inside the cake sparkled rainbow confetti,
hardly what the cakes had once considered trendy.

And not another word was spoken about being different,
for the baked goods were now all friends, everyone indifferent.



B'nai B'rith International



Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge

Cake Kingdom, written by Kayla Trinh and illustrated by David Ng, was created as part of the B'nai B'rith International *Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge* in the Washington D.C. metro area.

The *Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge* is an education and awareness initiative created by B'nai B'rith International as part of its series of programs developed to combat bigotry through the promotion of tolerance and equality. The contest aims to present positive views about diversity to a broad range of youth in order to achieve tolerance within our communities.

Executed through public and private high schools within the Washington D.C. metro area, the contest asks high school students to write and illustrate a children's book that tells a story of diversity and tolerance. Participants are required to think about how these principles can improve our world, and then create innovative ways to teach these ideas to children through the creation of a book.

Book submissions were reviewed by a local judging panel comprised of business leaders, educators, non-profit community leaders and local officials. Scholarship prizes in the amounts of \$5,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 are awarded to the first, second and third place winners, and the first-place winning book is professionally published and donated to elementary schools, libraries and literacy organizations.

For more information about the program and next year's contest, please visit www.bnaibrith.org/diverseminds.

Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge

WASHINGTON, D.C. METRO AREA

JUDGING PANEL

B'nai B'rith International would like to thank the following judging panel members for donating their time and talents to reviewing the finalists' submissions and selecting the winners for the 2014 *Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge*.

Alexander D. Baumgarten

*Director of Government Relations
The Episcopal Church*

Marc Battle

*Region Vice President
Pepco*

Ari Z. Brooks

*Executive Director
Friends of the Library, Montgomery County*

Donna Cooper

*Region President
Pepco*

Kaya Henderson

*Chancellor
DC Public Schools*

Dr. Sybille A. Jagusch

*Chief, Children's Literature Center
Library of Congress*

Cedric Jennings

*Director of the D.C. Youth Advisory Council
The Executive Office of the Mayor
of the District of Columbia*

Jacqueline Jules

Award-winning Author and Poet

Louise Kennelly

*Executive Director
DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative*

Daniel S. Mariaschin

*Executive Vice President
B'nai B'rith International*

Anita Merina

*National Coordinator, Read Across America
National Education Association*

Kenneth J. Parker

*Senior Vice President
Pepco Holdings, Inc.*

Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard

*President
Montgomery College*

Carol H. Rasco

*President and Chief Executive Officer
Reading Is Fundamental*

Joseph Rigby

*Chairman of the Board, President,
and Chief Executive Officer
Pepco Holdings, Inc.*

Nancy Schwalb

*Executive Director
D.C. Creative Writing Workshop*

Roberta I. Shaffer

*Associate Librarian for Library Services
Library of Congress*

Ingird M. Turner, Esq.

*Council Member, District 4
Prince George's County, MD*

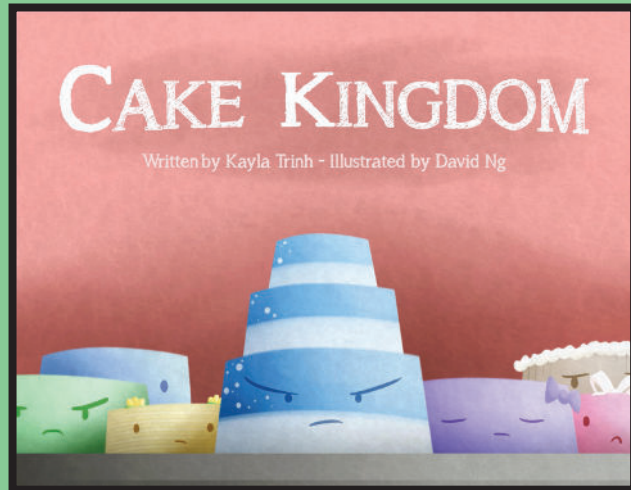
David M. Velasquez

*Executive Vice President
Pepco Holdings, Inc.*

Kim Westheimer

*Director, Welcoming Schools
Human Rights Campaign*

FIRST PLACE WINNER



CAKE KINGDOM

Written by
Kayla Trinh

Illustrated by
David Ng

Clarksburg High School
Clarksburg, Maryland

Damascus High School
Damascus, Maryland

Kayla Trinh and David Ng, students at Clarksburg High School and Damascus High School respectively, have been selected as the first place winners of the 2014 *Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge* for the Washington, D.C. Metro Area.

This is the second year that Kayla and David have participated in the Challenge and they believe that this submission reflects the growth they've experienced over the last year. "Our own personal goal is for the book to be an eye opener and to inspire young children to embrace all kinds of people. It would be an honor to be able to make this possible."

SECOND PLACE WINNER

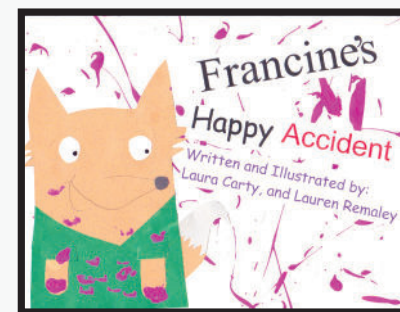


OUR DIFFERENT FAMILIES

Written & Illustrated by
Rachel Bird

Walt Whitman High School
Bethesda, Maryland

THIRD PLACE WINNER



FRANCINE'S HAPPY ACCIDENT

Written & Illustrated by
Laura Carty and Lauren Remaley

Chevy Chase High School
Bethesda, Maryland

PROGRAM SUPPORTER



A PHI Company

B'nai B'rith International would like to thank PEPCO for their support of the *Diverse Minds Youth Writing Challenge* in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area.

Pepco has been providing reliable electric service for more than one hundred years. Today, we work around the clock to deliver electricity to more than 793,000 customers in Maryland and the District of Columbia. We're proud of the accolades we've earned for service, reliability and customer satisfaction.

We also place a high value on being a good corporate citizen. We conduct our business responsibly and in a manner designed to protect the health and safety of our employees, our customers, the general public and the environment. We encourage and support our employees who give their time and energy creating a brighter future for others, and we are fortunate to serve an area so rich in diversity.

That's why Pepco attaches great importance to learning from and working with the diverse cultures that make up our community in the District of Columbia and Montgomery and Prince George's counties in Maryland.