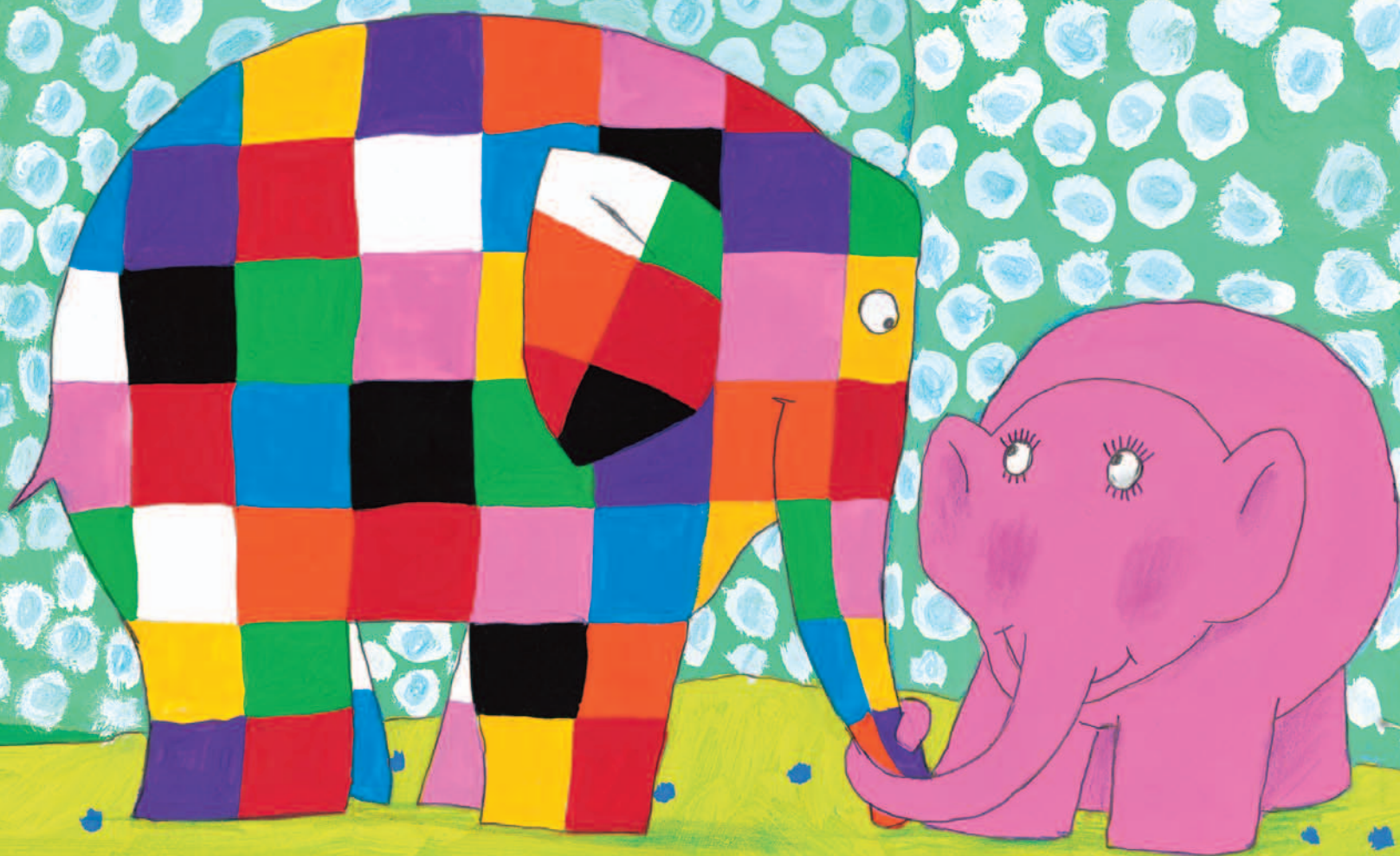


ELMER and ROSE



David McKee

Elmer, the patchwork elephant, has been a favorite of children around the world since the first book debuted in 1989.

Join Elmer and his friend Rose in a new story about what it really means to be unique.

Grandpa Eldo asks Elmer and his cousin Wilbur to help a young elephant find her way back to her herd—and they get a shock when they see she is pink! No wonder she is called Rose. As they help Rose find her herd, Elmer and Wilbur learn a valuable lesson about being different and fitting in.

ELMER and ROSE



David McKee

Andersen Press USA

For Big David M



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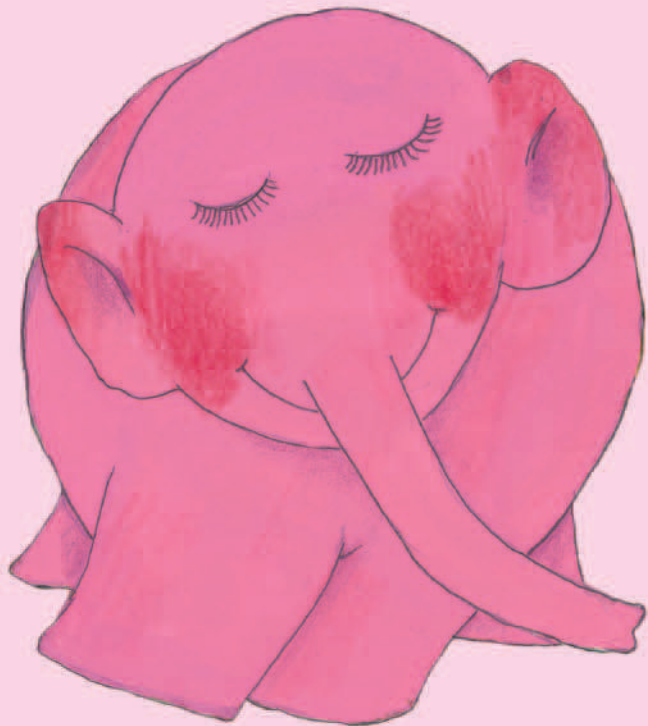
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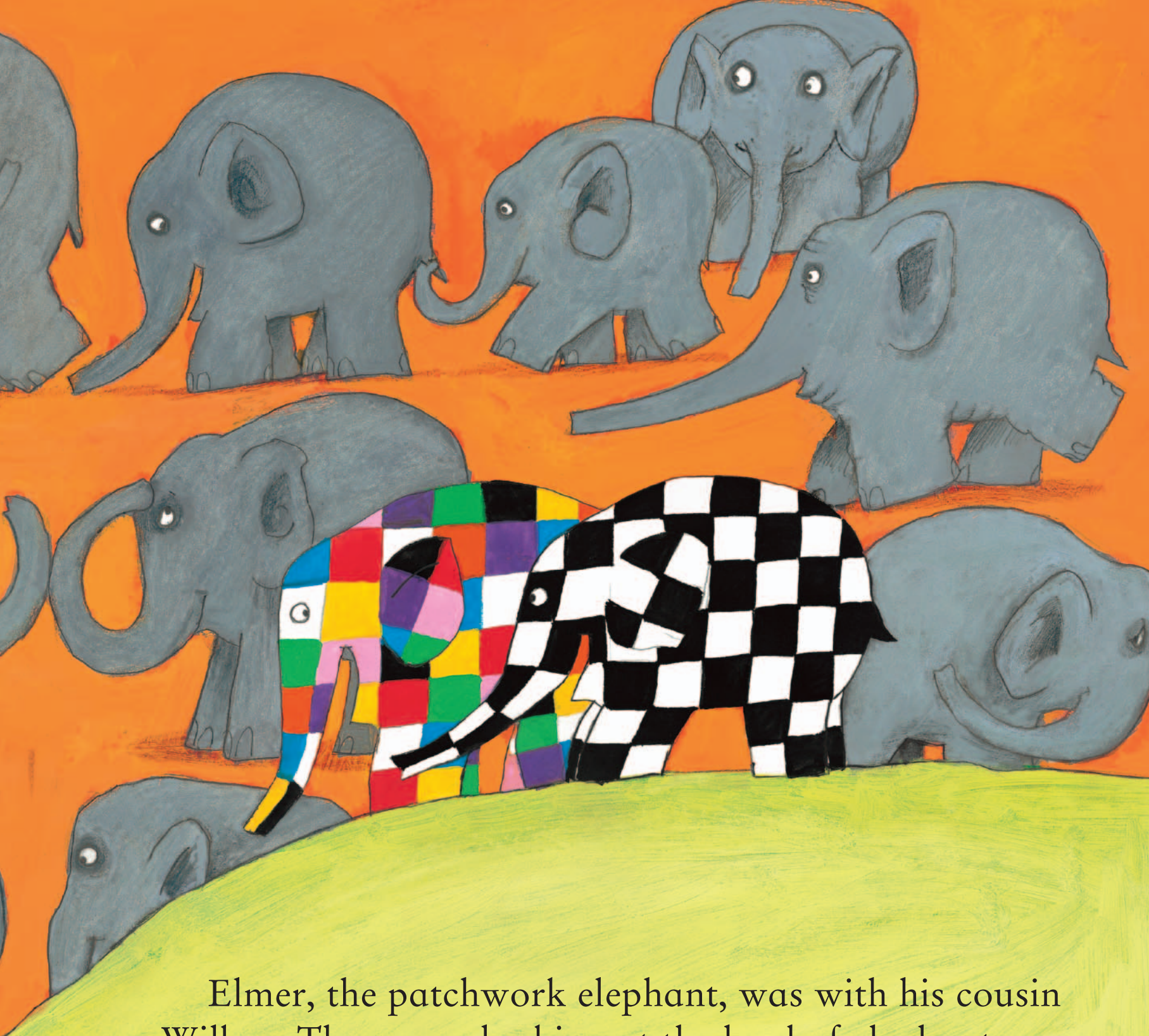
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**A young friend of Elmer's named Rose
Blushes from her head to her toes,
Or sometimes instead
From her toes to her head
But never from her tail to her nose.**







Elmer, the patchwork elephant, was with his cousin Wilbur. They were looking at the herd of elephants.

“Jolly fellows,” smiled Wilbur, “but not exactly unique.”

“They’re all unique,” said Elmer. “Just not as different as us. Imagine a herd like you or me.”



At that moment, Bird arrived and said,
“Grandpa Eldo wants you two.”
“Come on, Wilbur,” said Elmer.



Grandpa Eldo was looking under a bush.
“Where is she?” he muttered.
Then, seeing Elmer and Wilbur, he said,
“She must be hiding from you two.”
“She?” said Elmer. “Who are you talking about?”









“Rose,” said Eldo. “She wandered away from a herd of elephants that passed nearby. You two can take her back to them. Ah! There she is. Don’t be frightened, Rose. Come and meet Elmer and Wilbur.”

From behind a tree peeped a young elephant—a pink elephant.

“Oh!” said Elmer and Wilbur in surprise.

“Very pretty,” Elmer added quickly.

Rose became even pinker.

“She blushes very easily,” whispered Eldo.

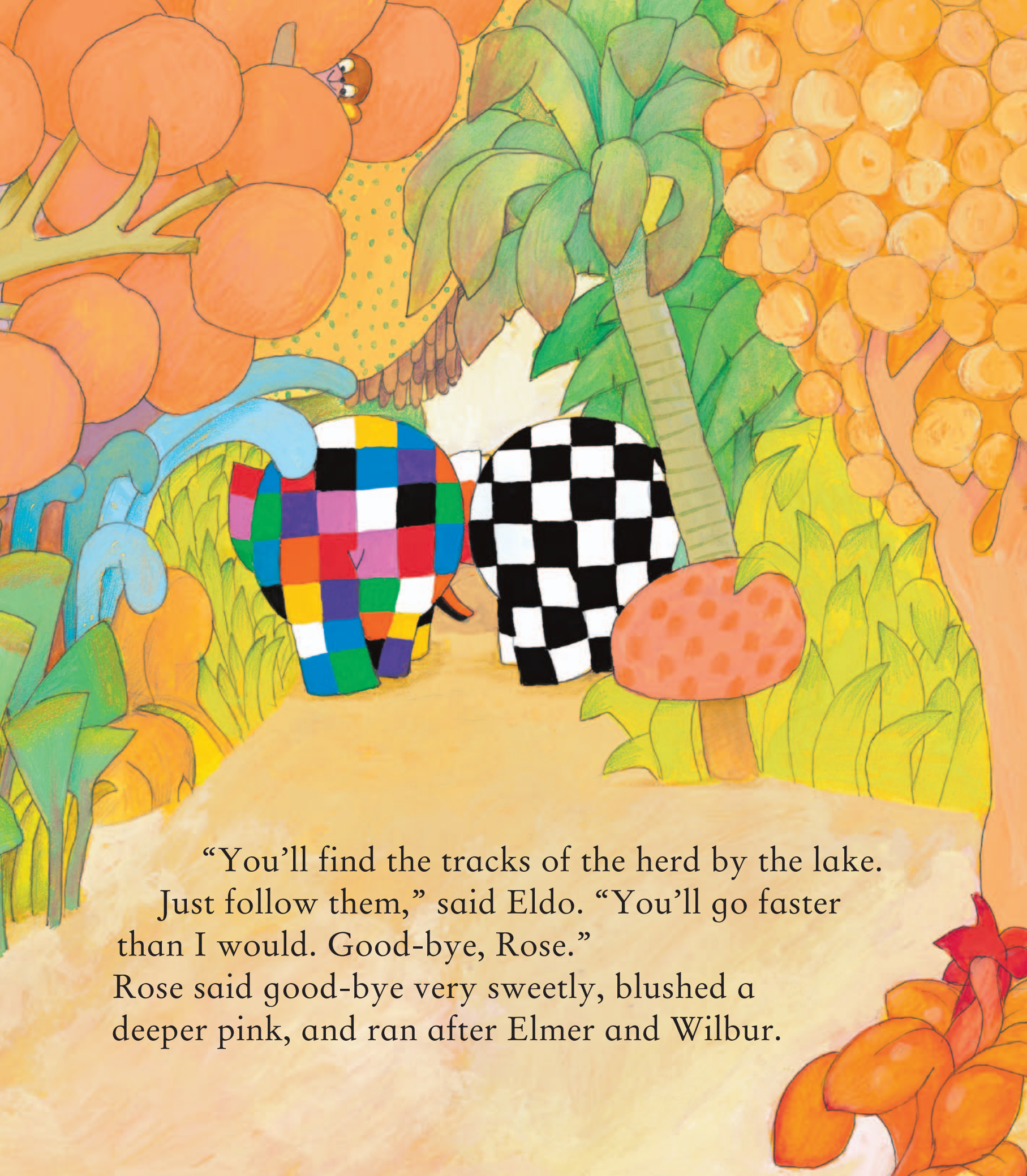
“I imagine that’s why she’s called Rose.”

“Pleased to meet you,” Rose said, and she blushed again.

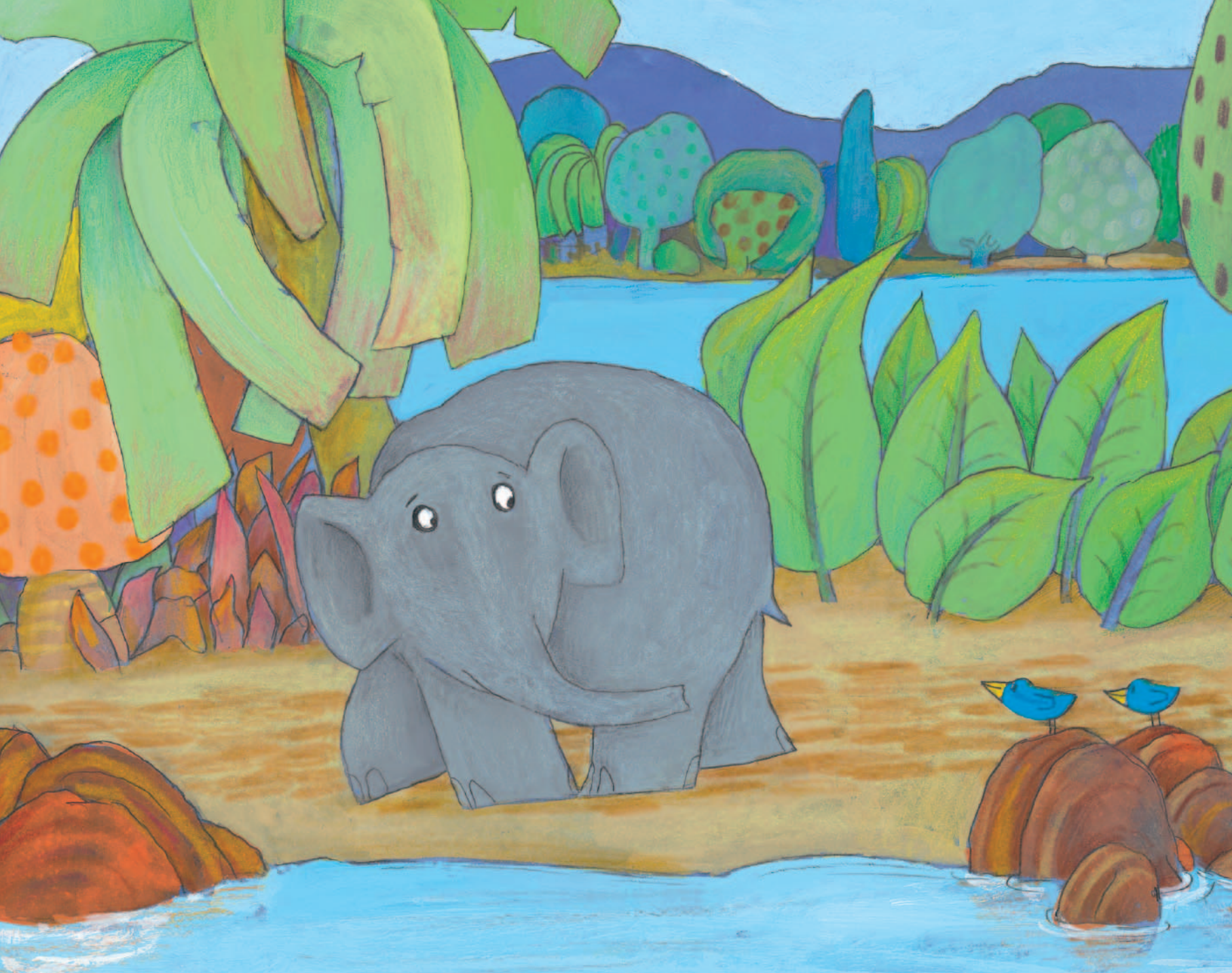








“You’ll find the tracks of the herd by the lake.
Just follow them,” said Eldo. “You’ll go faster
than I would. Good-bye, Rose.”
Rose said good-bye very sweetly, blushed a
deeper pink, and ran after Elmer and Wilbur.



At the lake, they met another elephant.
Rose stared and hid between Elmer and Wilbur.
“Hello, Elmer. Hello, Wilbur,” said the elephant.
“Hello . . .” he continued awkwardly, looking at Rose.
“Rose,” said Elmer helpfully.
After the elephant had gone, Rose said,
“That’s a strange one.”





Every so often, to make the journey
more fun, they raced one another.



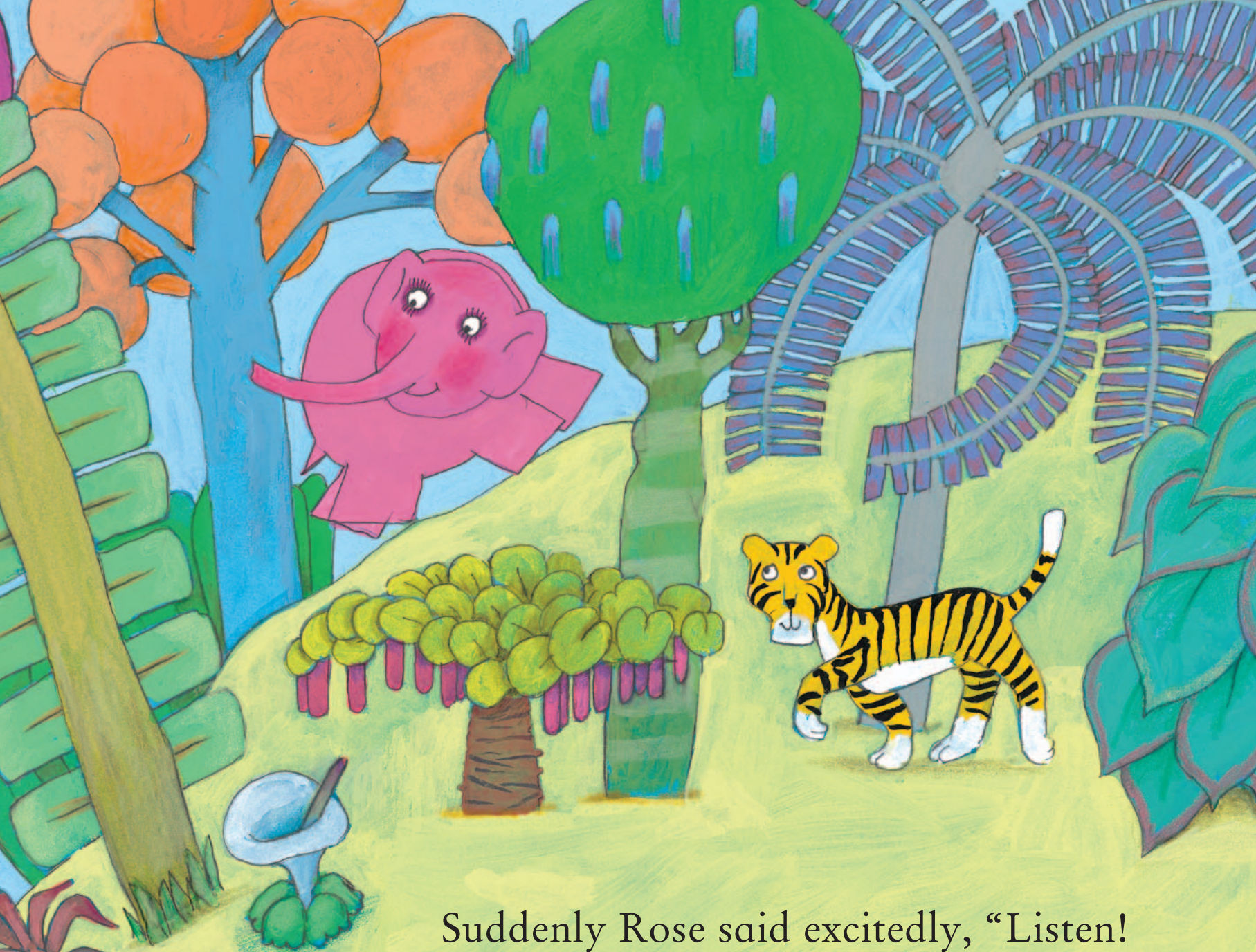
Rose loved that because somehow she always won,
and every time, she blushed even pinker.

Between races, Wilbur played tricks with his voice. He made his voice roar from behind a rock and shout from a treetop. Rose squealed with excitement, blushed almost red, and held onto Elmer's trunk. Elmer just chuckled.









Suddenly Rose said excitedly, "Listen!
They're just over the hill. I'll go alone now.
You may upset the others. They're quite shy.
You're all such unusual elephants, especially
the strange gray one we saw. Thank you for
bringing me back."

"Come and visit us sometime," Elmer called after her.
"Strange gray one? What did she mean?" asked Wilbur.
"I think she was joking," said Elmer.

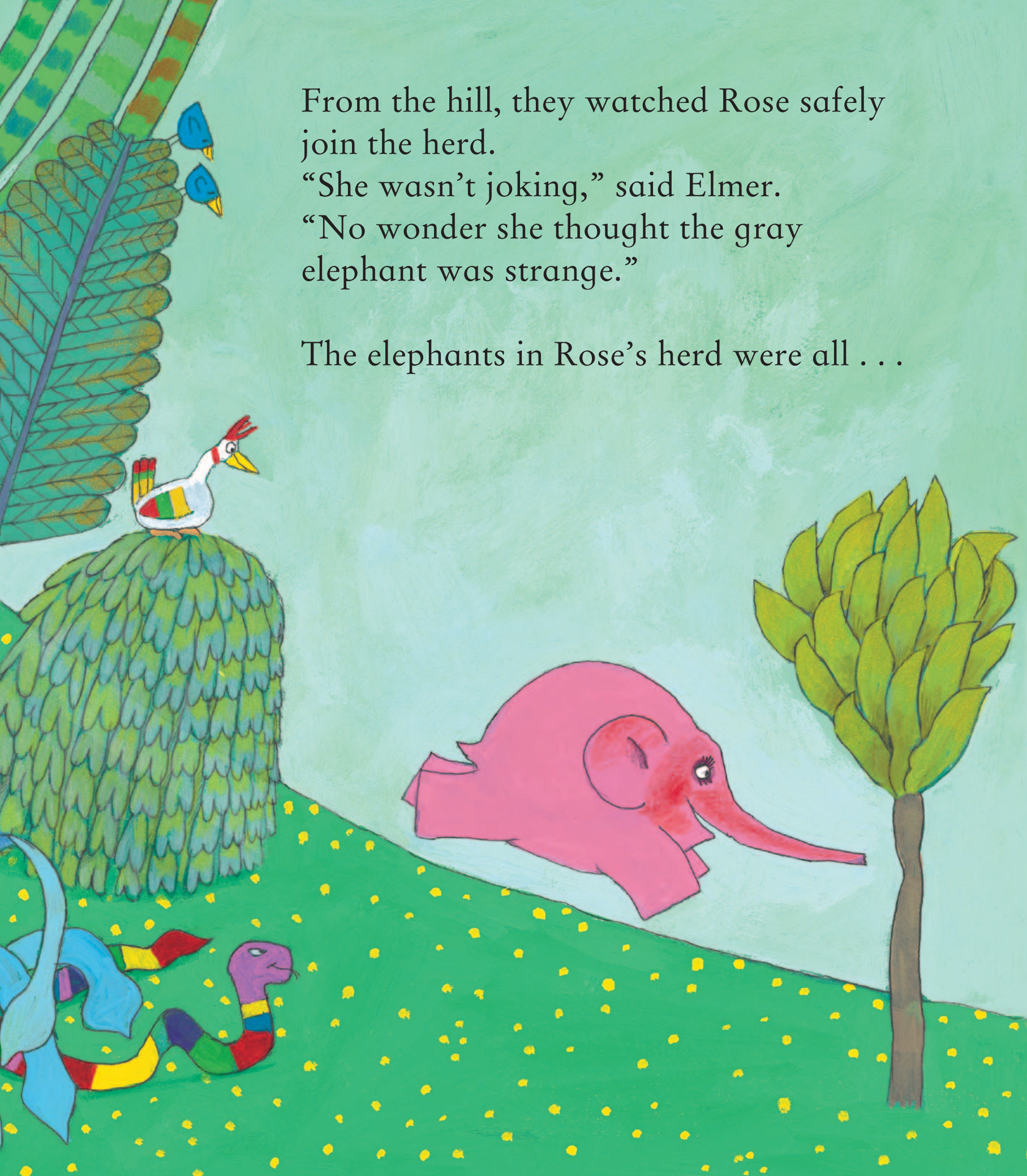


From the hill, they watched Rose safely
join the herd.

“She wasn’t joking,” said Elmer.

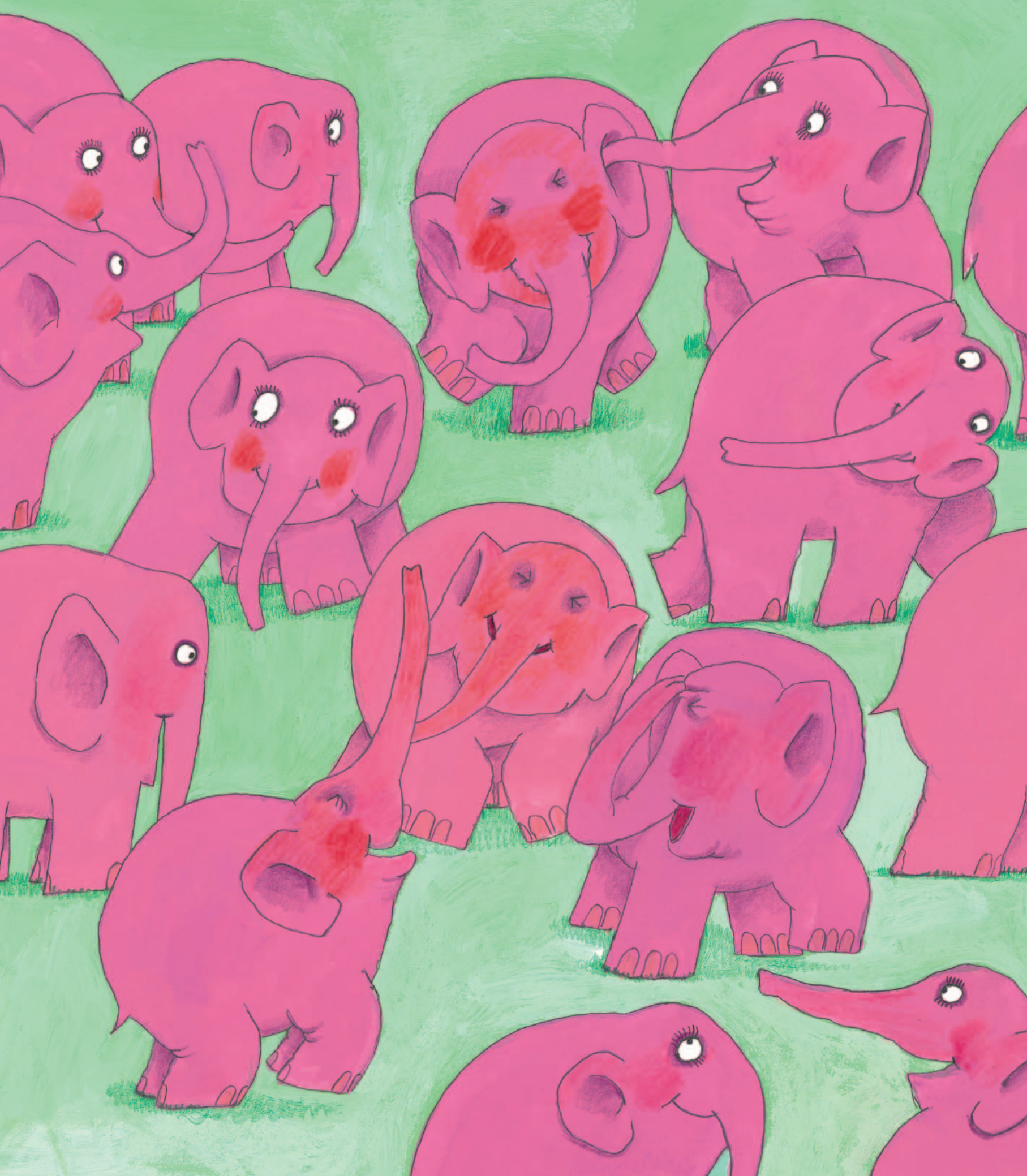
“No wonder she thought the gray
elephant was strange.”

The elephants in Rose’s herd were all . . .



A whimsical illustration featuring a group of pink elephants on a green background. The elephants are drawn in a simple, cartoonish style with large ears, small tusks, and expressive eyes. Some elephants have red blush marks on their cheeks. They are positioned in various poses, some facing forward, some in profile, and some with their backs to the viewer. The word "PINK!" is written in a large, black, serif font on the left side of the image.

PINK!

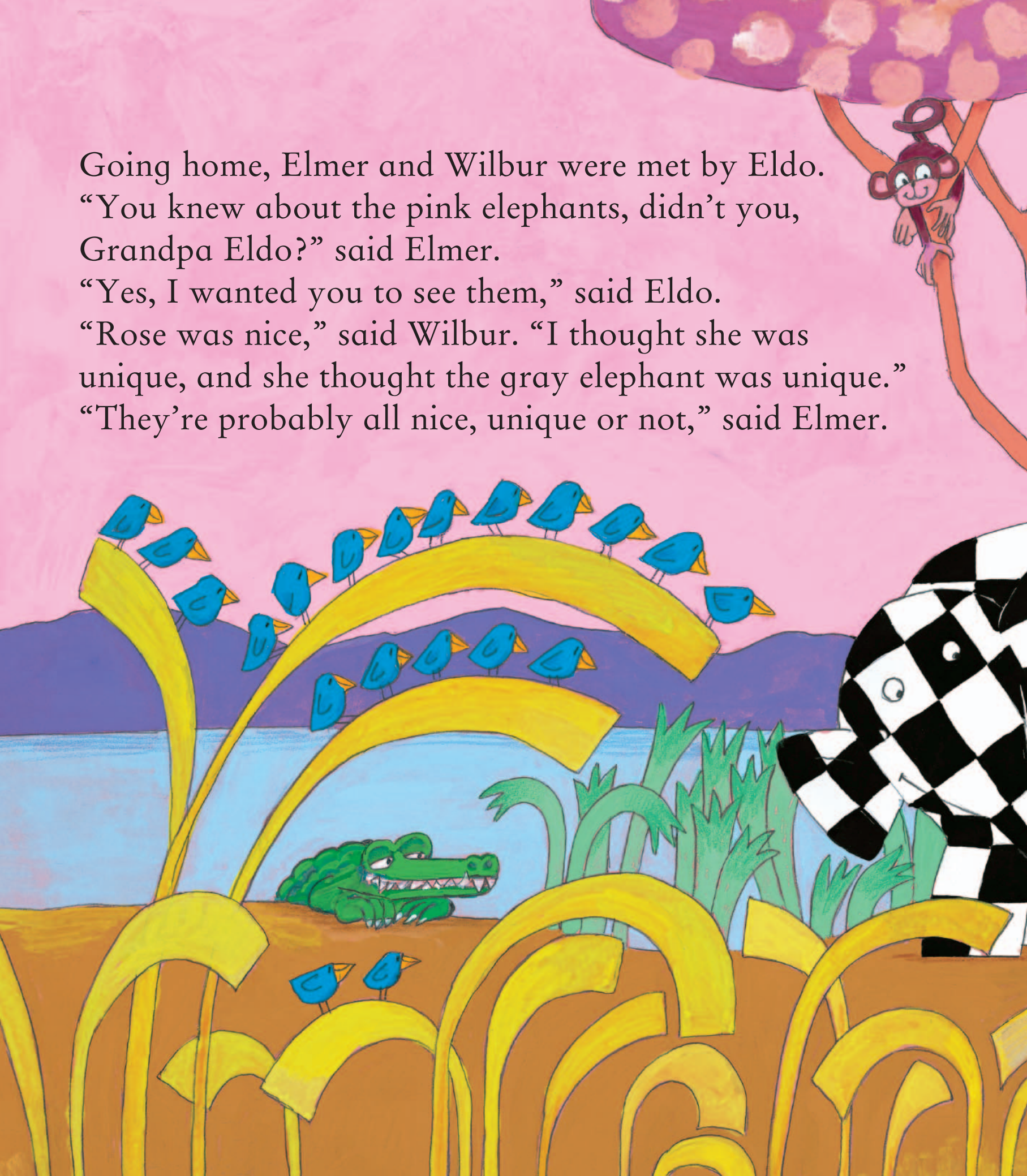


Going home, Elmer and Wilbur were met by Eldo.
“You knew about the pink elephants, didn’t you,
Grandpa Eldo?” said Elmer.

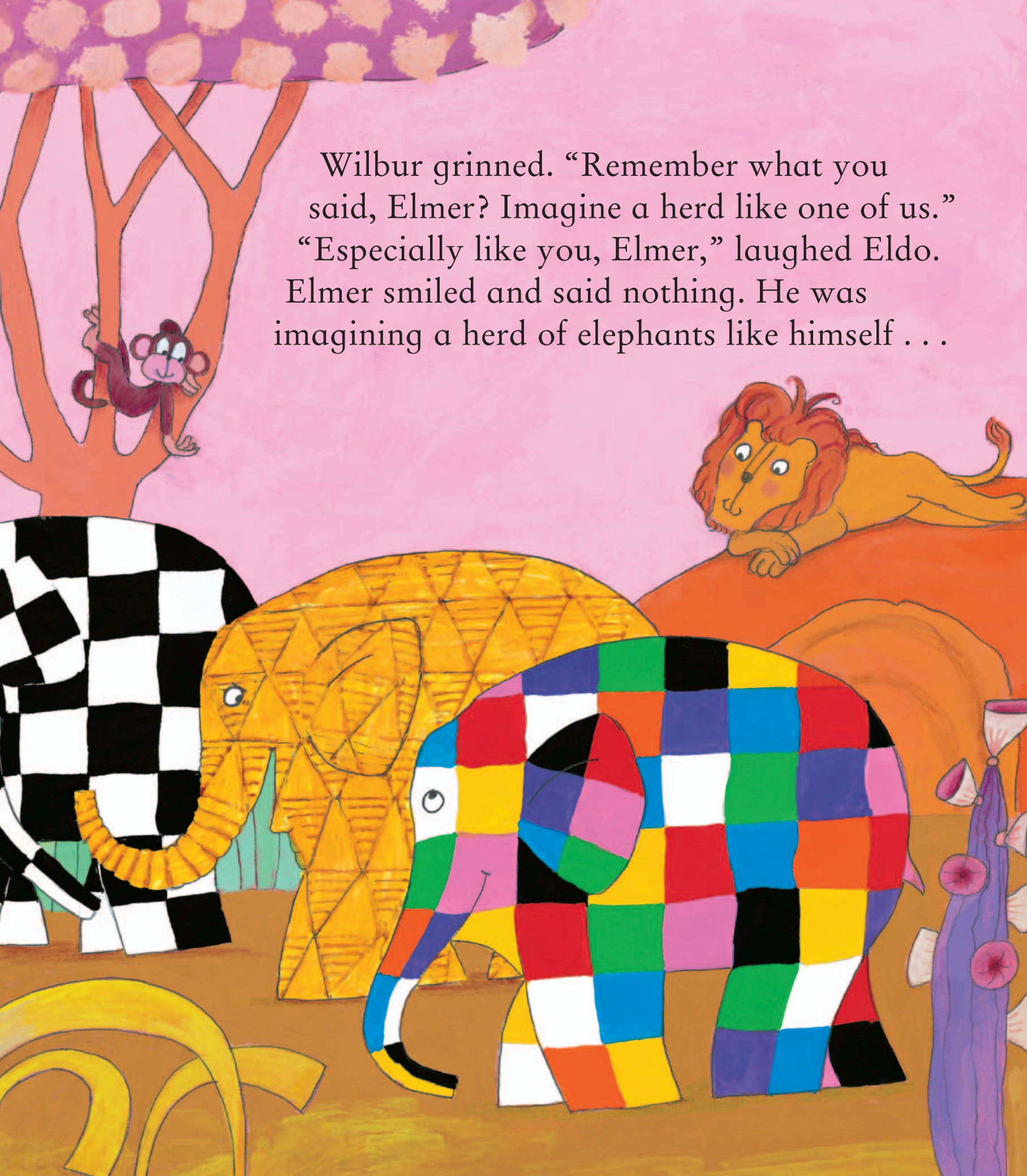
“Yes, I wanted you to see them,” said Eldo.

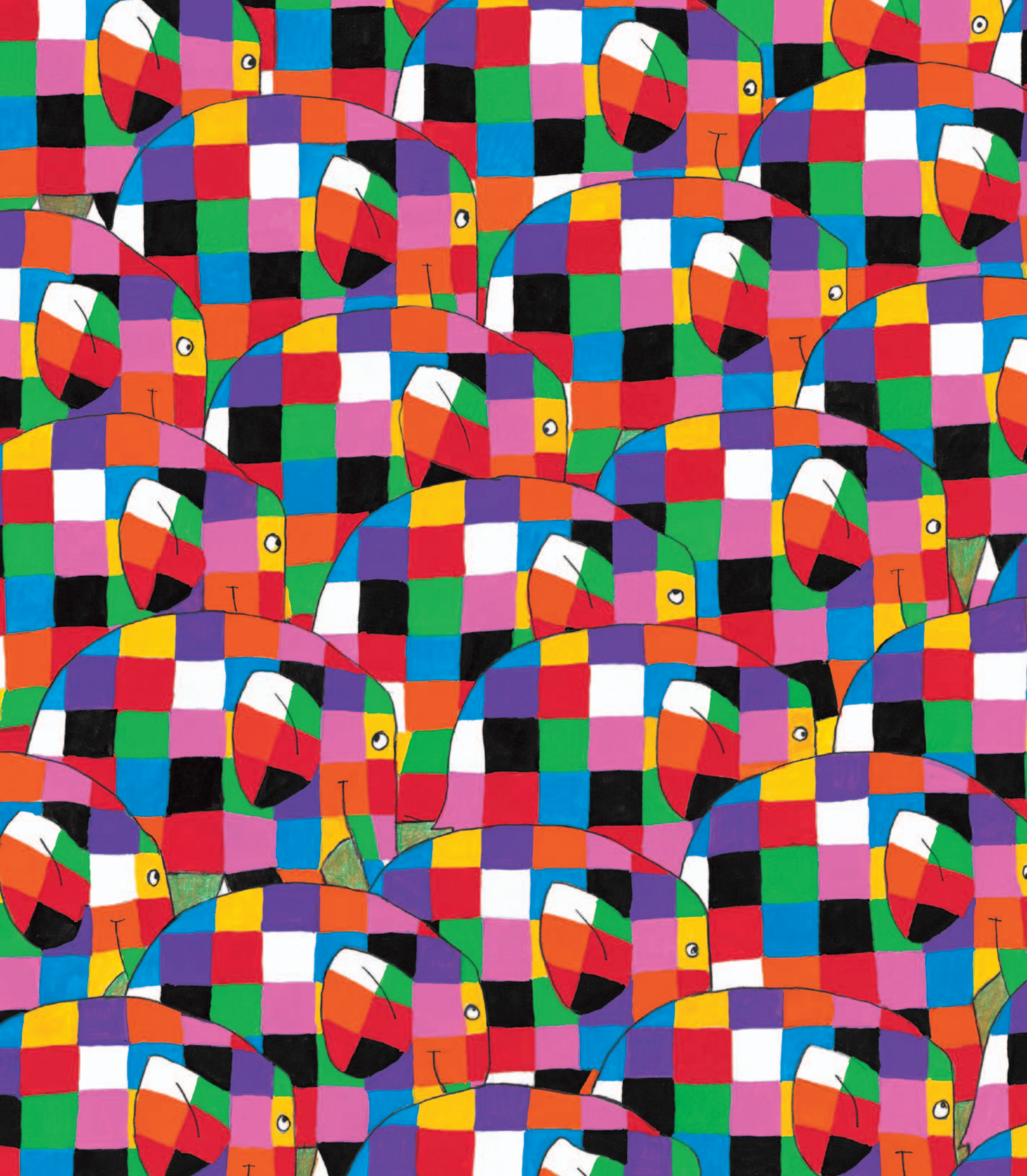
“Rose was nice,” said Wilbur. “I thought she was
unique, and she thought the gray elephant was unique.”

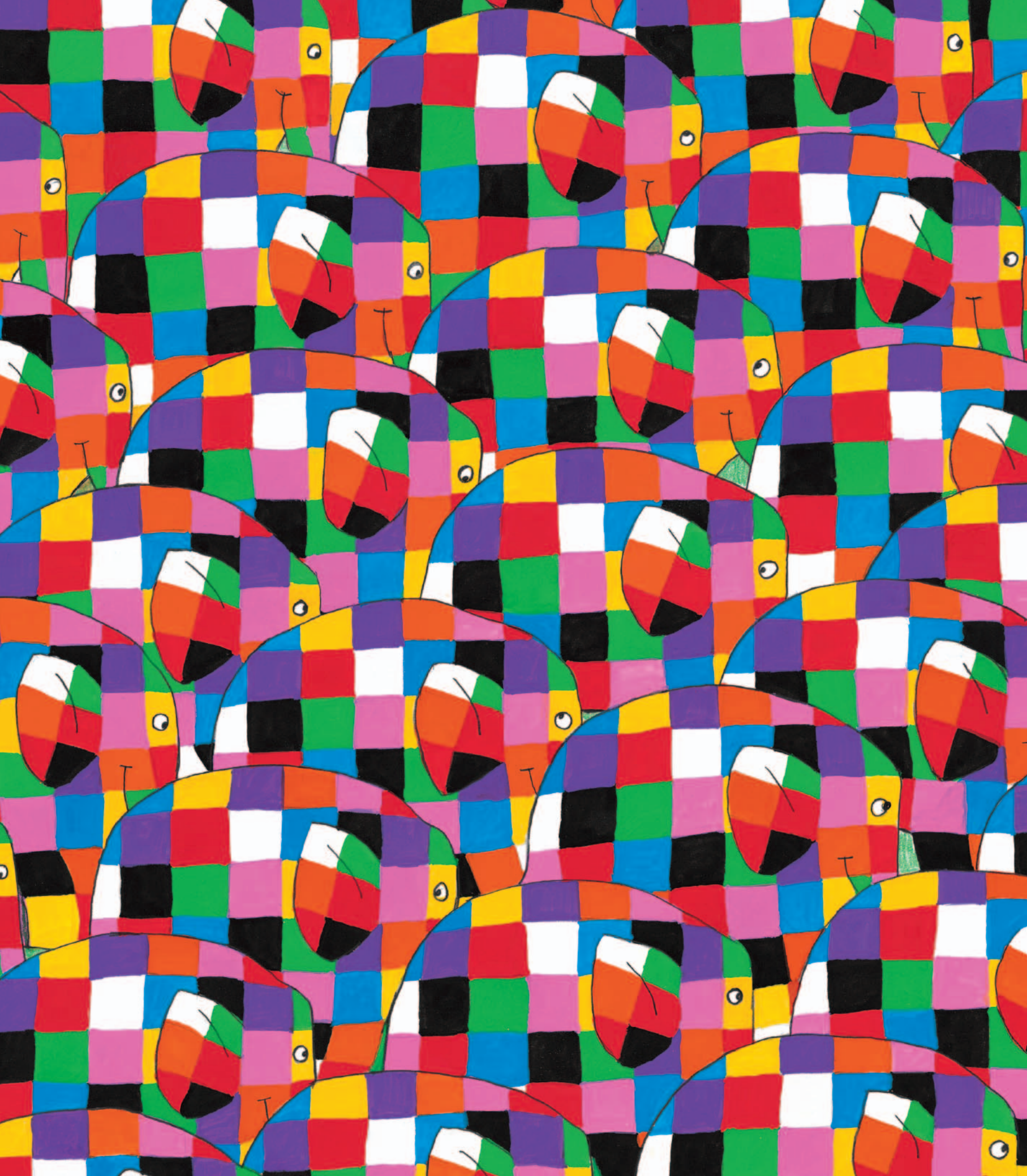
“They’re probably all nice, unique or not,” said Elmer.



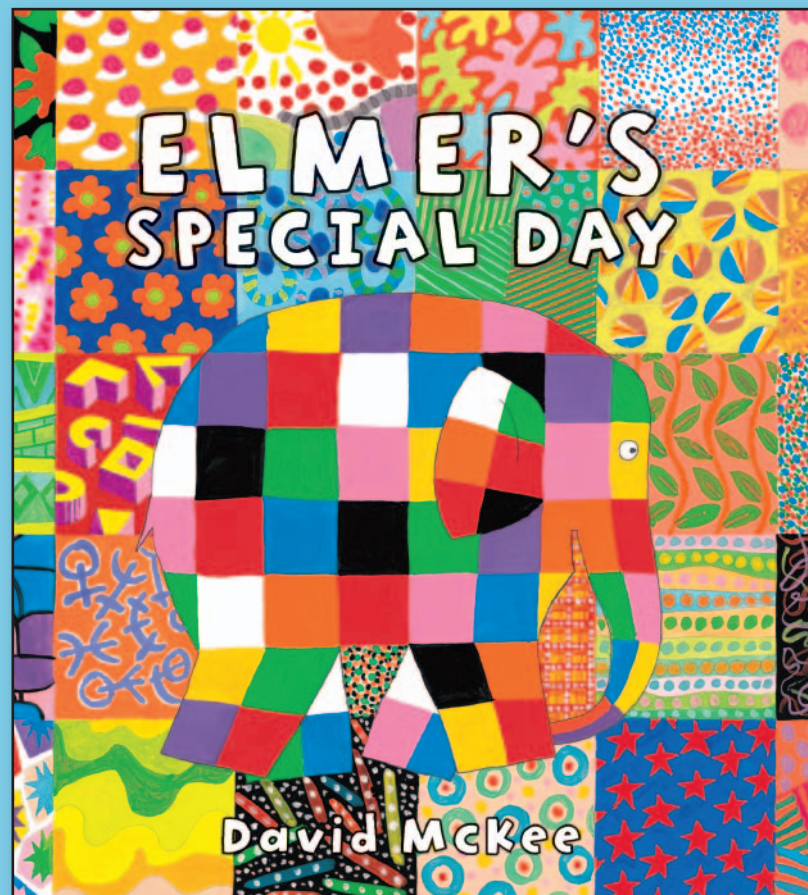
Wilbur grinned. "Remember what you said, Elmer? Imagine a herd like one of us."
"Especially like you, Elmer," laughed Eldo.
Elmer smiled and said nothing. He was imagining a herd of elephants like himself . . .







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Ever since his first book was published in 1964, **David McKee** has been one of the leading contemporary children's book creators. His books are published in numerous languages throughout the world, and many of his books have been adapted for television. He is best known as the creator of Elmer, the patchwork elephant. He now divides his time between London and the south of France.

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