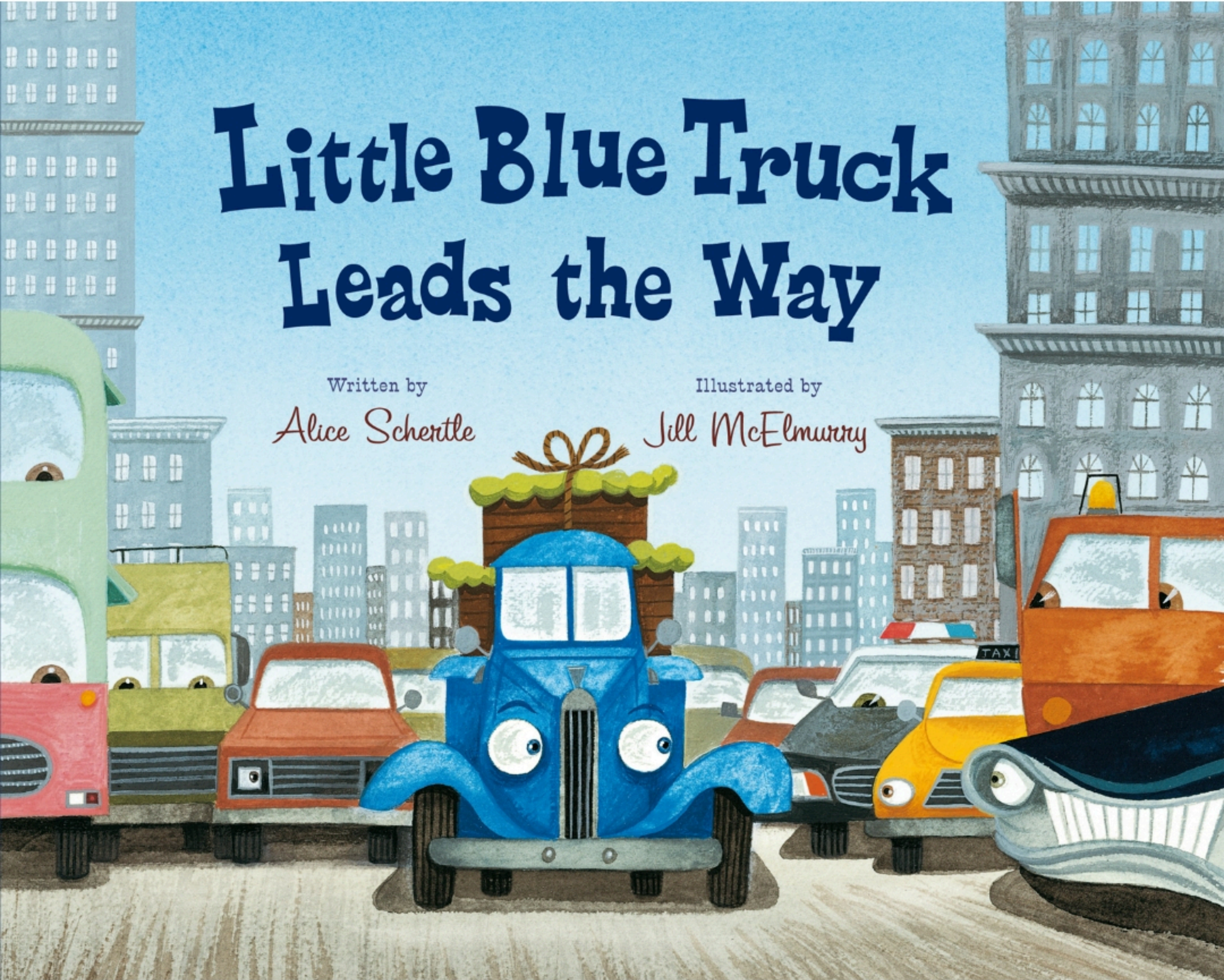


Little Blue Truck Leads the Way

Written by
Alice Schertle

Illustrated by
Jill McElmurry



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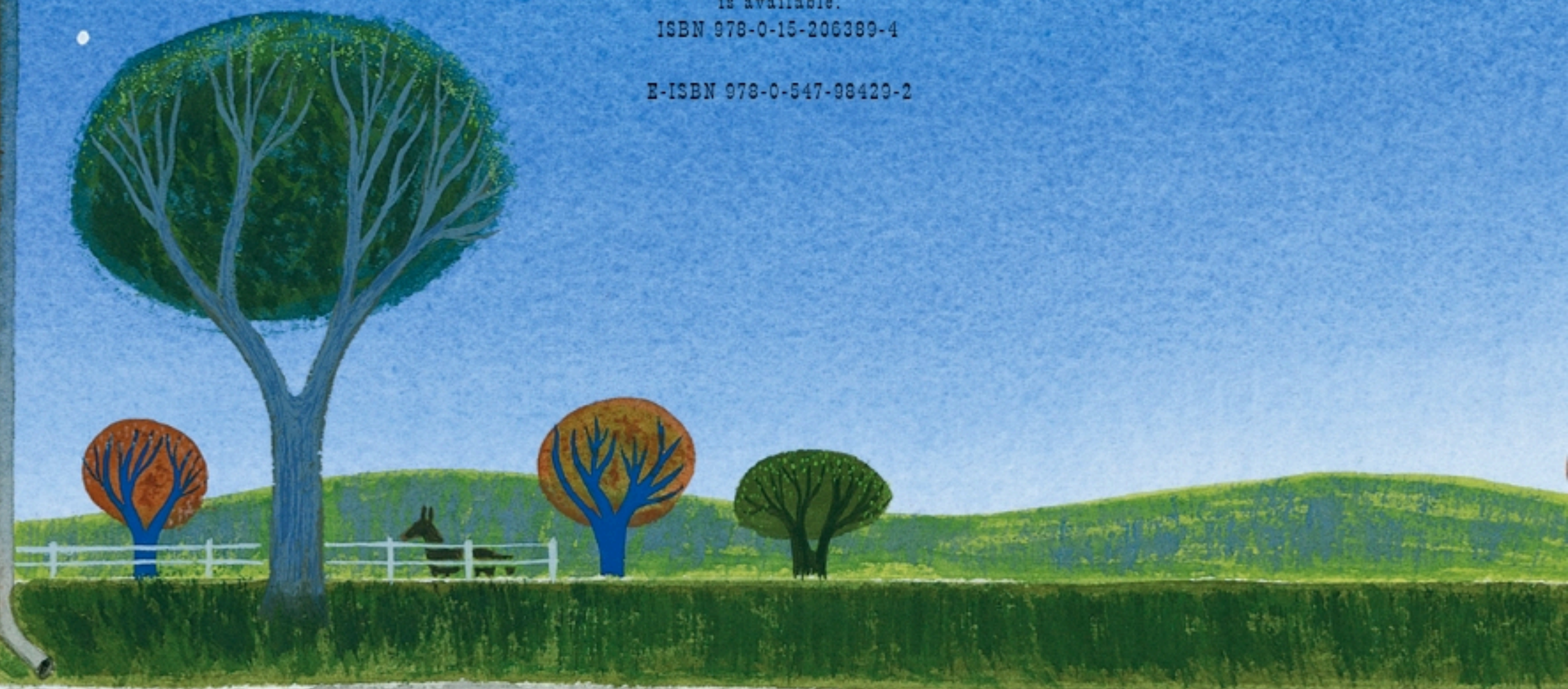
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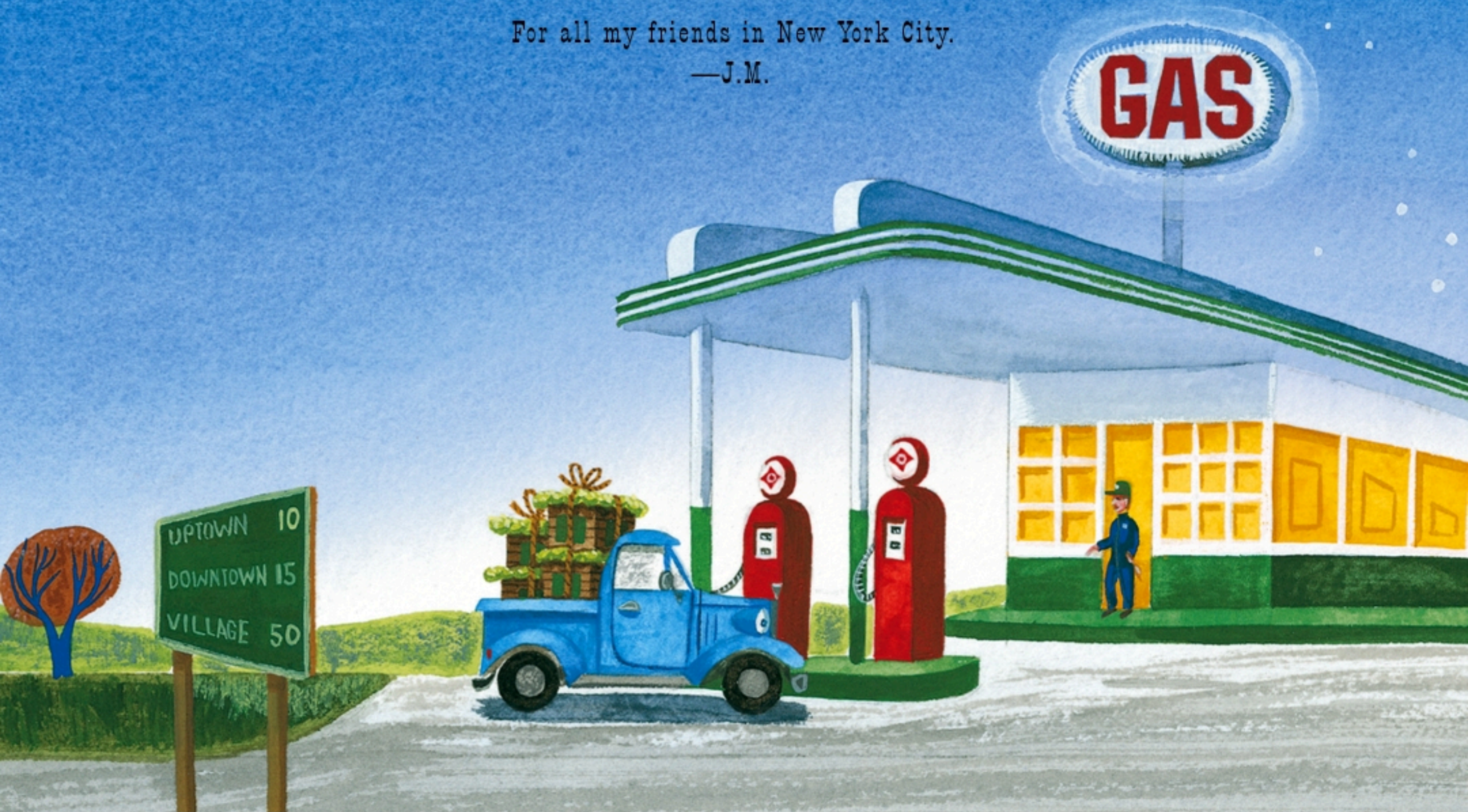


For Kate and John, Jen and Drew, and those
two truckers Spence and Dylan. Beep! Beep!

—A.S.

For all my friends in New York City.

—J.M.



Horn went “Beep!”

Engine purred.

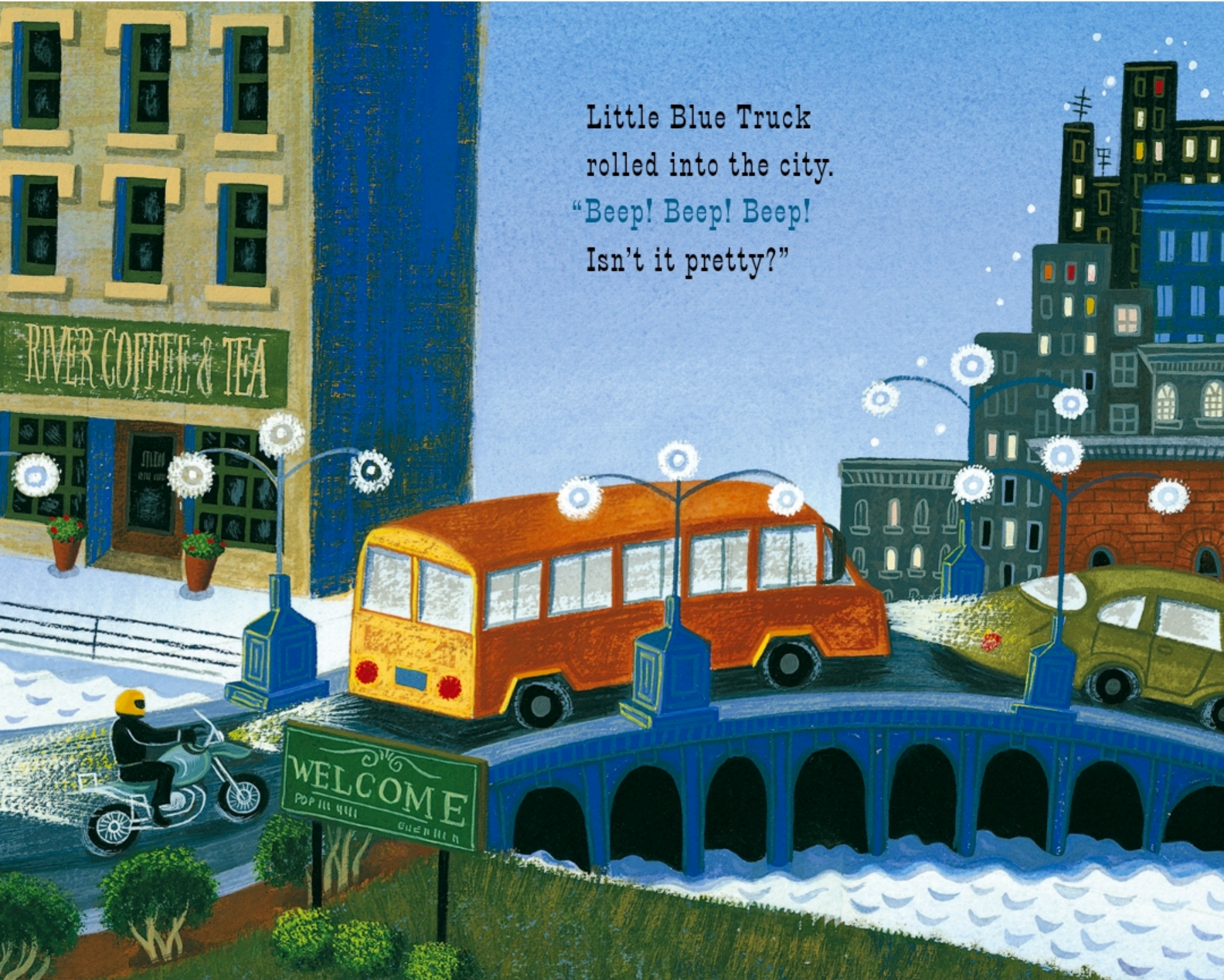
Friendliest sounds
you ever heard.

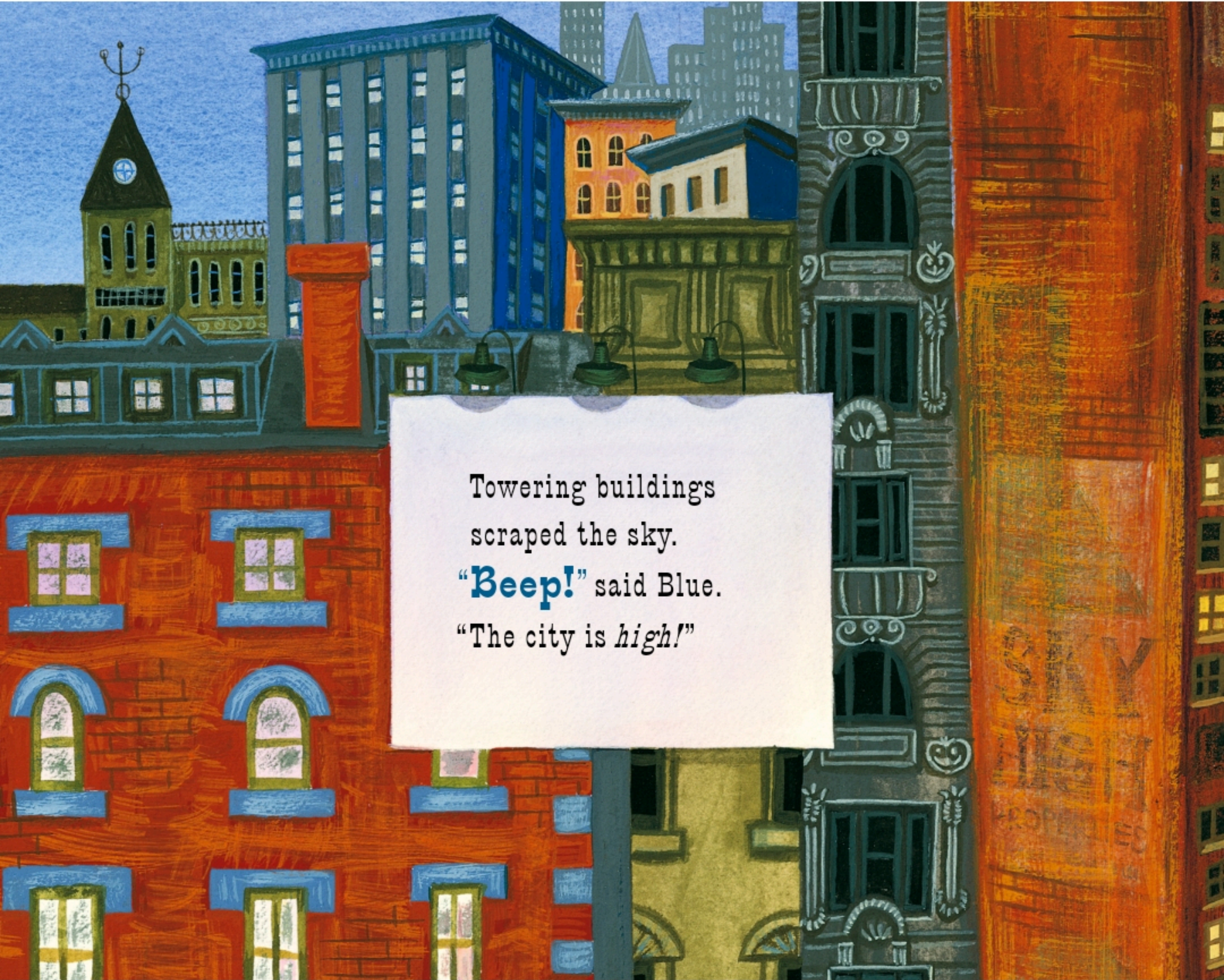






Little Blue Truck
rolled into the city.
“Beep! Beep! Beep!
Isn't it pretty?”





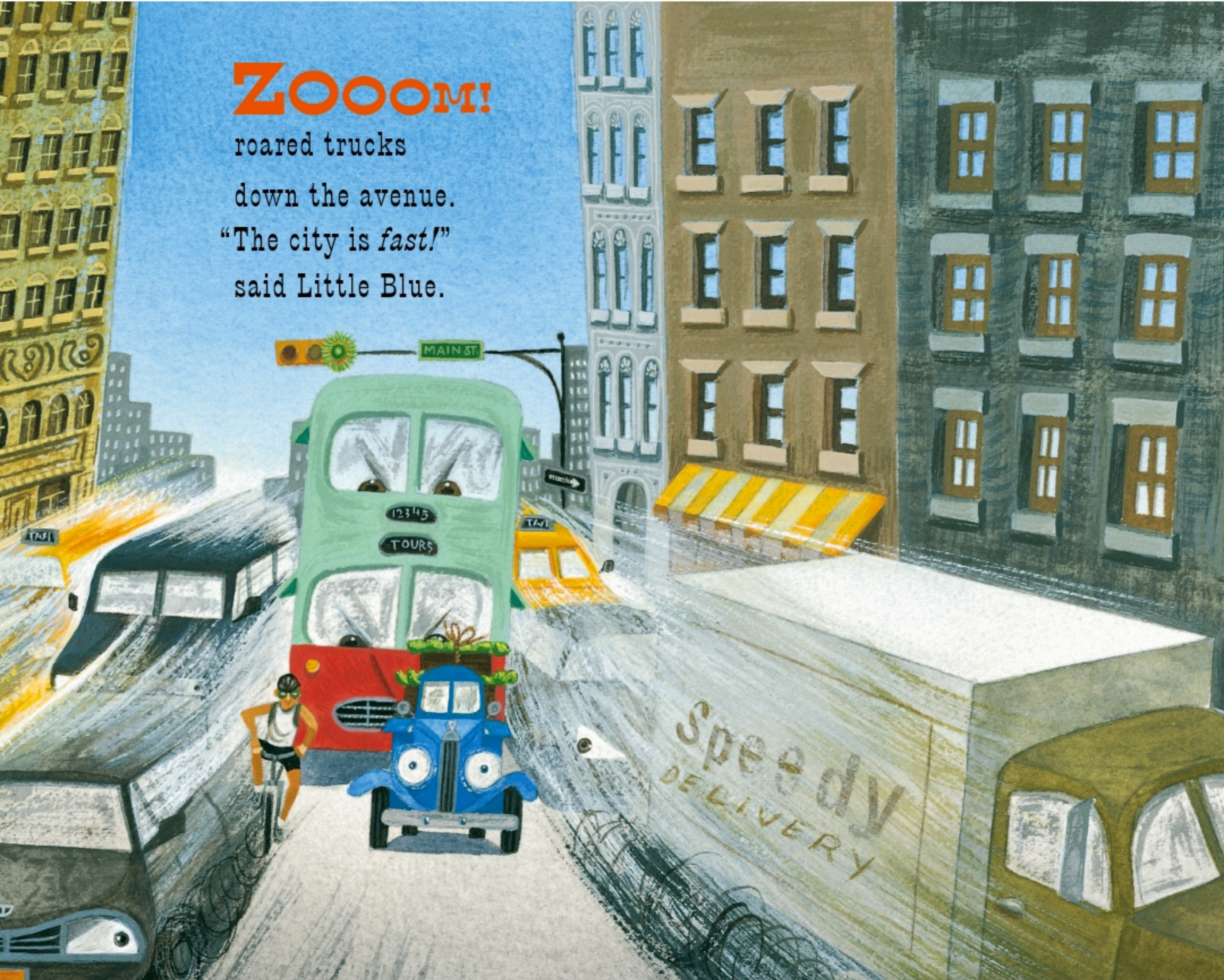
Towering buildings
scraped the sky.
“**Beep!**” said Blue.
“The city is *high!*”

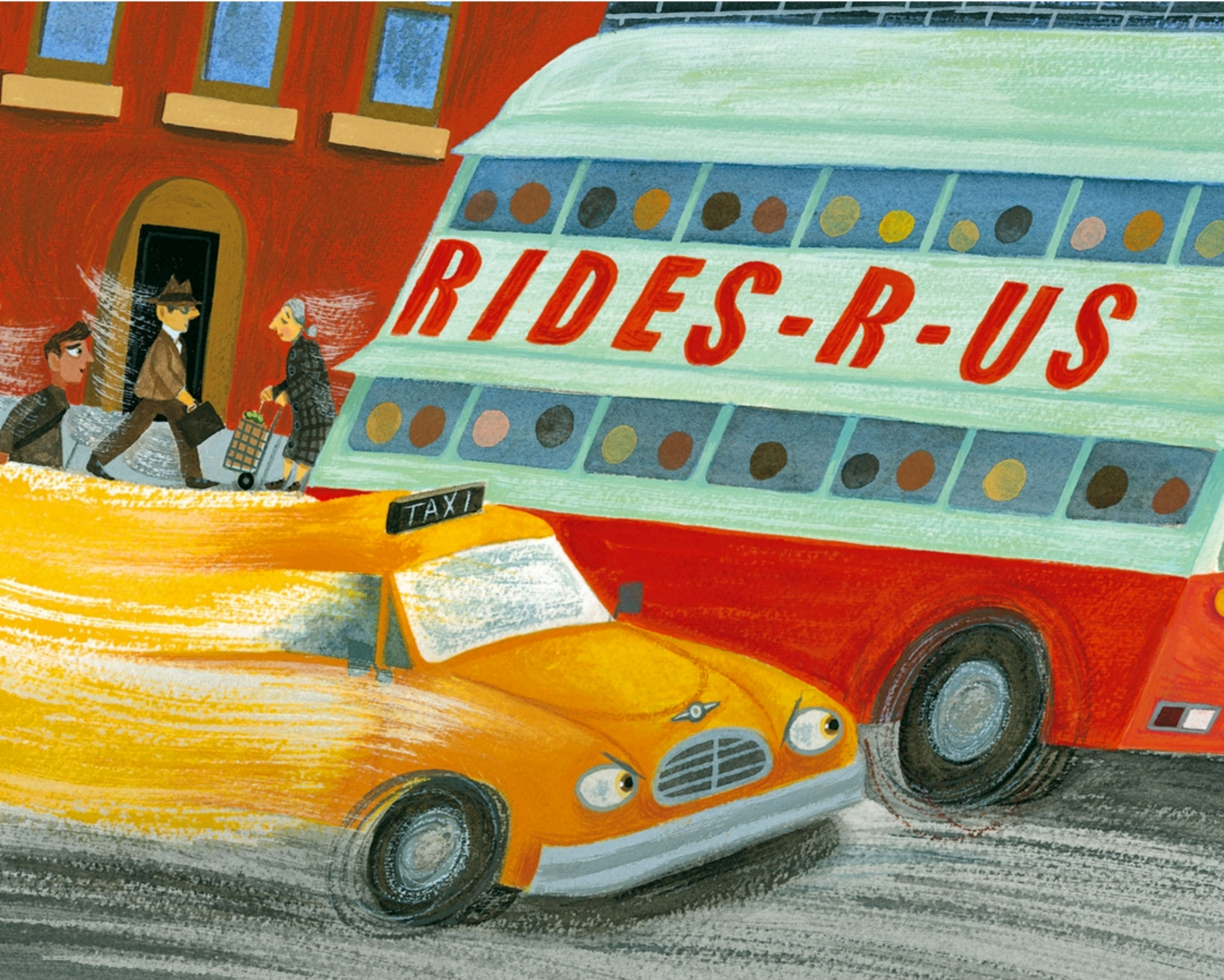




ZOOOM!

roared trucks
down the avenue.
“The city is *fast!*”
said Little Blue.

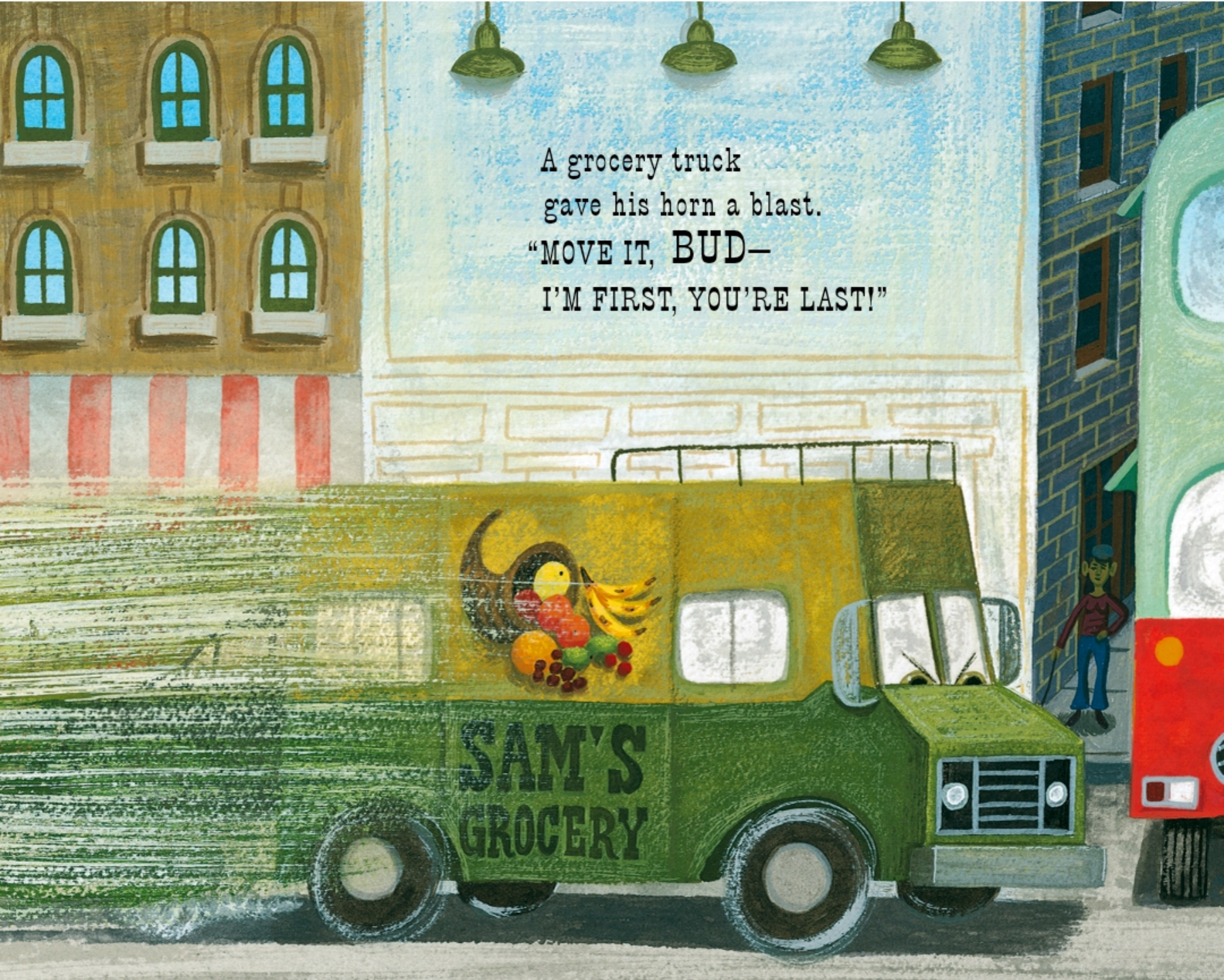






“Shove on, Shorty!”
yelled a double-decker bus
with big red letters:
RIDES-R-US.

A grocery truck
gave his horn a blast.
"MOVE IT, BUD—
I'M FIRST, YOU'RE LAST!"





Woeeeeee...

went a siren.

"Coming through!

Busy police car,
things to do!"





SWISH! **SWASH!** **SWOOSH!**

went a big street sweeper,
hollering, "**HEY!**
BETTER MOVE, LITTLE BEEPER!"





"MAKE WAY!"
yelled a limousine
(the longest car
you've ever seen).





"I've got His Honor
the mayor inside.
I'm *important!*
Move aside!"

Cars and trucks
were all in a tangle.
Everyone started
to shout and wrangle.







Up roared a taxi.
Screech went the brakes.
“STOP!” yelled Blue.
“For goodness’ sakes!”



You might be fast,
and I might be slow
but one at a time
is the way to go."



"Me first!" said the limo,
all puffed with pride.
Then he gave a cough
and his engine died.



He was stuck right there
with the mayor inside.

“Beep!” said Blue.

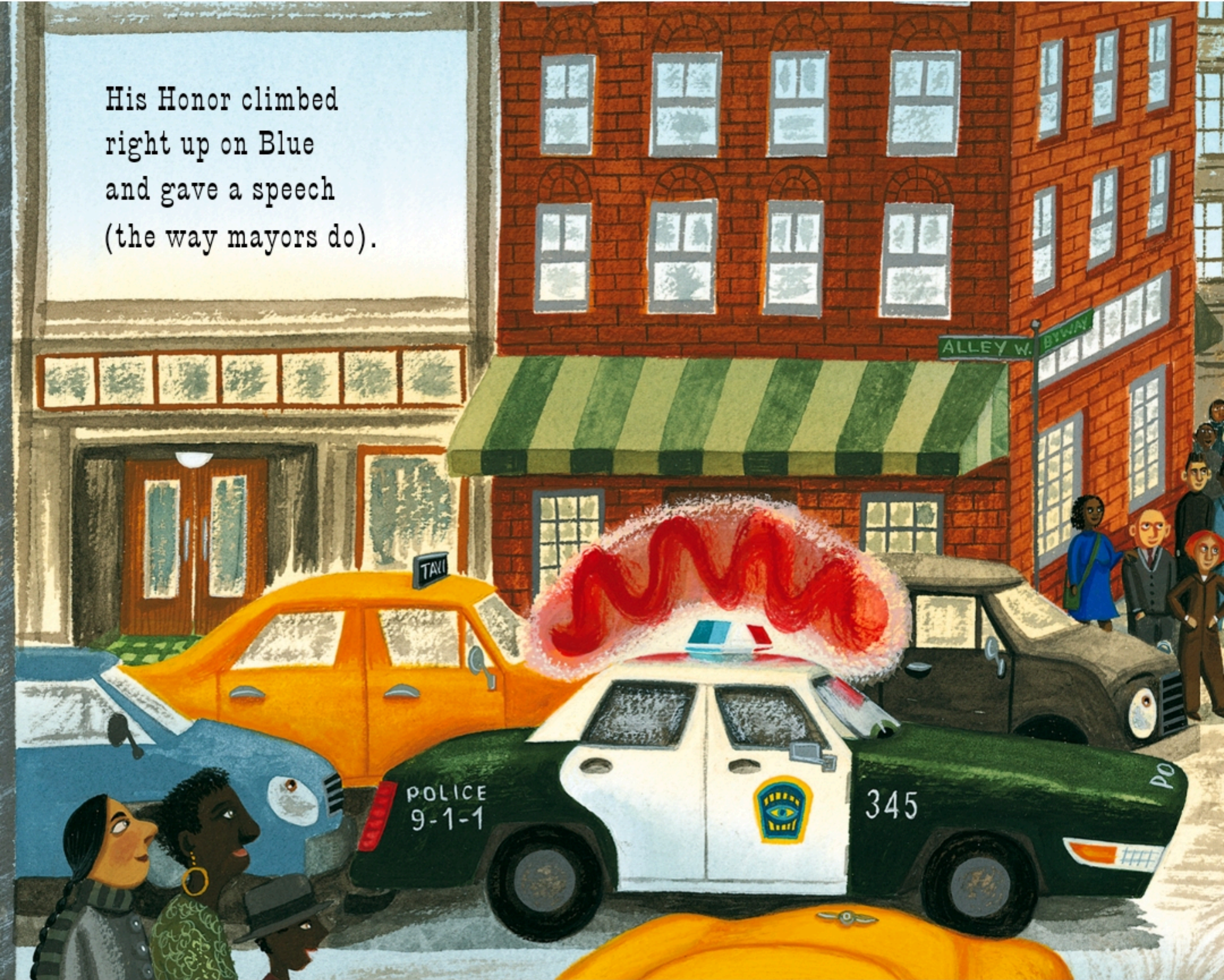
“Would you like a ride?”



Everybody watching
gave a shout
when the door swung open
and the mayor stepped out.



His Honor climbed
right up on Blue
and gave a speech
(the way mayors do).



"My friends," he said,
"what wonderful luck—
this good advice
from a little blue truck!"

One at a time
is what we'll do,
so single file, folks—
FOLLOW BLUE!"





Trucks and buses
got in line
with vans and taxis,
and it all went fine.



A taxi let
a van go past.
The double-decker bus
said, "I'll go last."



A marching band
joined the big parade.
BOOM! went the drums,
and the trumpets played.






They rolled along
the avenue
and everyone waved
to Little Blue.

Blue
is
Cool!





The illustration depicts a vibrant city street scene. On the left, a yellow car is parked in front of a grey brick building with several windows. To the right, a large green van is parked. A group of diverse people, including children and adults, are gathered around the van, clapping and cheering. Two men are standing on a ledge above the van, holding up a large blue banner. A small dog is also visible on the street. The background features a yellow building with arched windows and a fire escape.

They clapped their hands
and yelled, "HOORAY!"
for the little blue truck
who led the way.



THE LETTUCE LEAF

SPECIALS
PILCHARD...
MILK...
BREAD...
EGGS...
BUTTER...
MAYO...
SAUCE...
MILK...
BREAD...
EGGS...
BUTTER...
MAYO...



Beep! Beep!

**Blue is back
on the road!**

