



Educational stories for children

# THE FLYING CAMEL



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“I want a camel with wings that flies!” Yousef told his father.

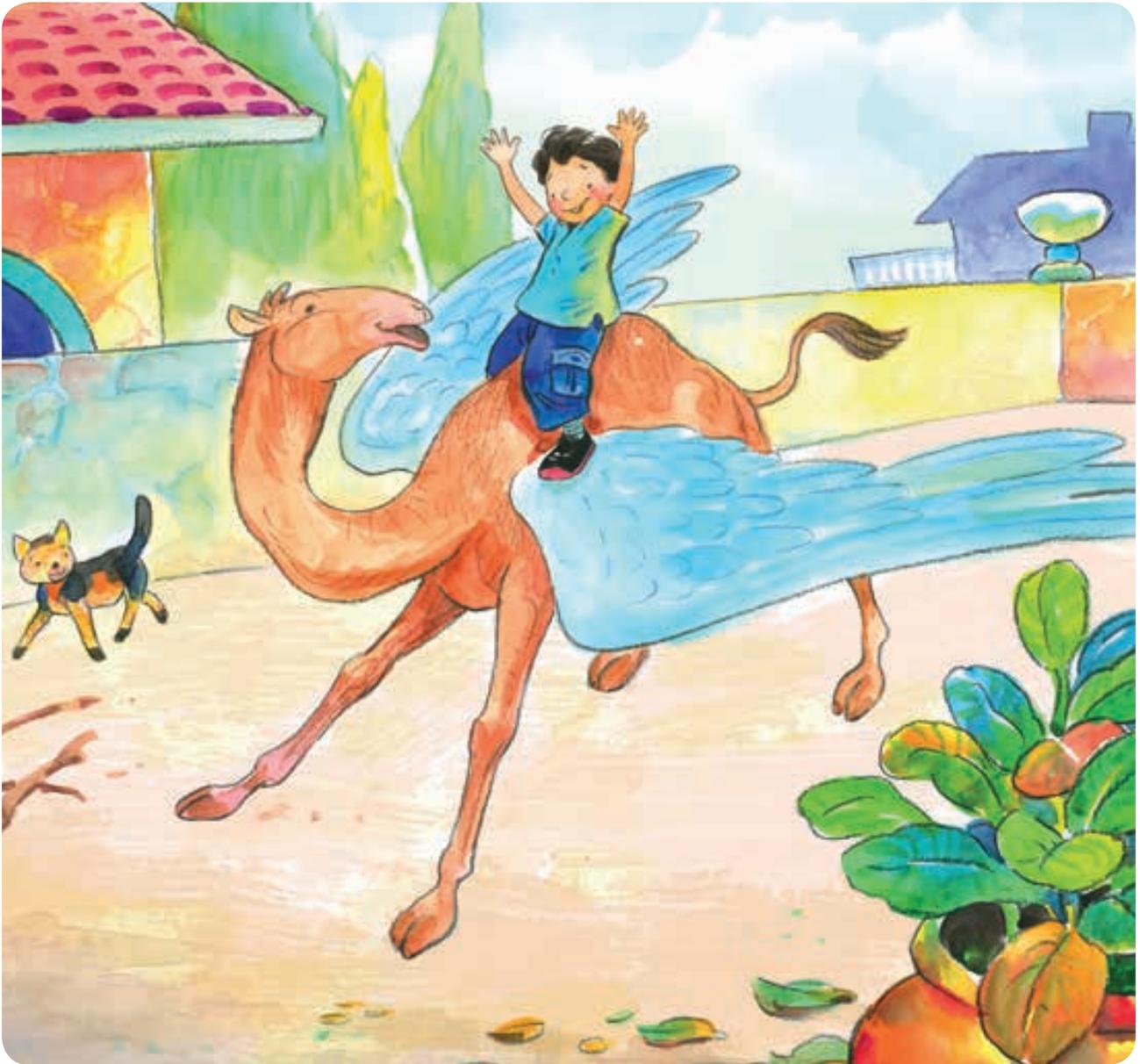
His father laughed and asked, “Are there camels that fly?”

“Yes, there are camels that fly,” Yousef said. “I’ve seen one, and I rode it too.”



“And where did you see it?” Yousef’s father asked him.

“I saw it over the roof of our house,” Yousef said. “I was looking at the sky when I found it flying overhead. When it saw me, it landed, and sat before me smiling.”



He told me, "I'm at your service. Climb onto my back, Yousef, and hold on tight. I'll fly high with you so that you can see our spacious land and its many impressive buildings."



“And did you get on?” asked Yousef’s father.

“Yes, Daddy, I got onto his back and off we flew,” said Yousef.

“Weren’t you scared?” asked his father.

“No,” said Yousef, “I’m very brave, Daddy!”



“And then what happened?” asked his father.

“The camel flapped his two large wings and rose up into the air. He flew up into the sky with me on his back, as happy as can be. I looked down



below and saw the world looking beautiful like the pictures in books. Everything looked so, so small! The houses were small and the trees were small and the streets were small!”



After a while, he flew lower down and said to me, “Look Yousef, what’s that?” I told him, “That’s my grandfather’s house. That’s the dining room, and that’s the bedroom, the living room, the kitchen, and the bathroom.”



The camel laughed and flew back high into the sky. After a while he flew lower down and I saw my school. The classrooms, the courtyard, the teachers' room, the sports fields, the gardens - how beautiful they all looked!



Then the camel flew to the right and asked me, “What do you see?” I told him, “I see many, many buses.” He told me, “That’s the central station that all the buses depart from to their many destinations.”



Then the camel flew to the left and said, “Look, it’s the big hospital. Those are the anesthesia rooms, and those are the operating rooms, the laboratory, and the pharmacy, and that’s the ambulance.”



Then the camel flew on ahead, and gestured before us. He said, "Look, Yousef, that's the grand mosque with the high minaret. Do you recognize it?"

"Yes," I told him, "I pray there with my father."



The camel turned around and said, “That’s the police station that regulates traffic and protects us from thieves. And that’s the fire station that puts out fires, God forbid!”



We flew around in the sky until we found ourselves over the seaside. Below us was a massive cargo ship approaching the port. We circled over the port and the camel said, "Look, Yousef, these massive



cranes lift the freight containers from the ship deck and place them in the beds of the trucks that transport them to merchants and markets.”



We flew back high into the sky, and came across a huge airplane flying beside us. Inside were people who know me; they looked at me through the airplane windows and waved at me!



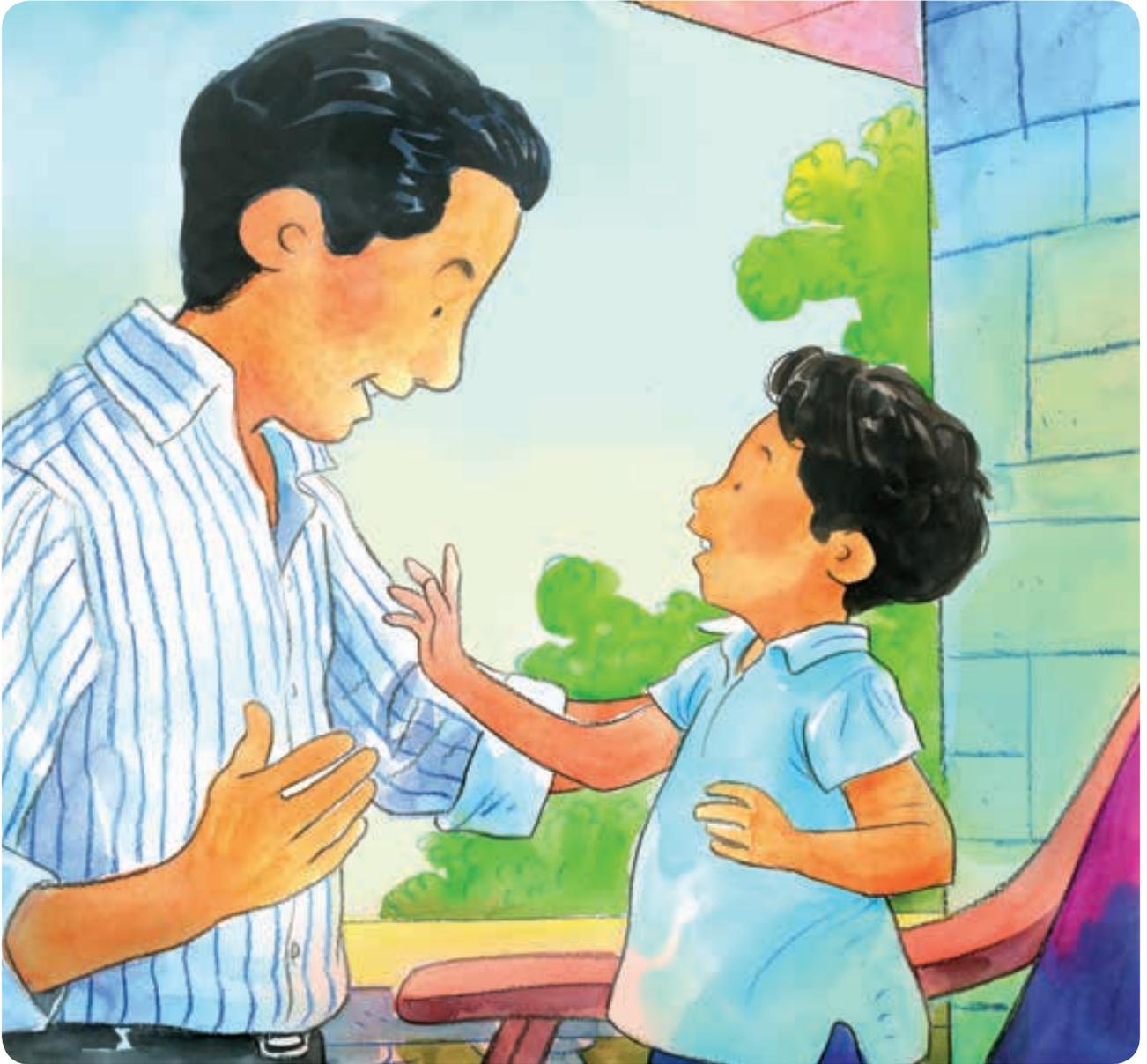
The camel cried, “Look down below and you’ll see the airport! That’s the observation tower, that’s the passenger building, and that’s the cargo depot. Those are parked airplanes, and those are landing, and those are taking off.”



Yousef's father laughed and hugged him. "That was all a dream, Yousef," he said. "You were having a beautiful dream. But it seems that this flying camel was an excellent teacher."



Yousef laughed and said, “Yes, he was an excellent teacher. Everything he said in the dream was just like our teacher Mr. Khaled told us in class. But, why do we dream, Daddy?”



Yousef's father laughed. "The things we think about before sleeping can appear in our dreams, Yousef," he said. "And so I want you to always think about beautiful things so that you have beautiful dreams."