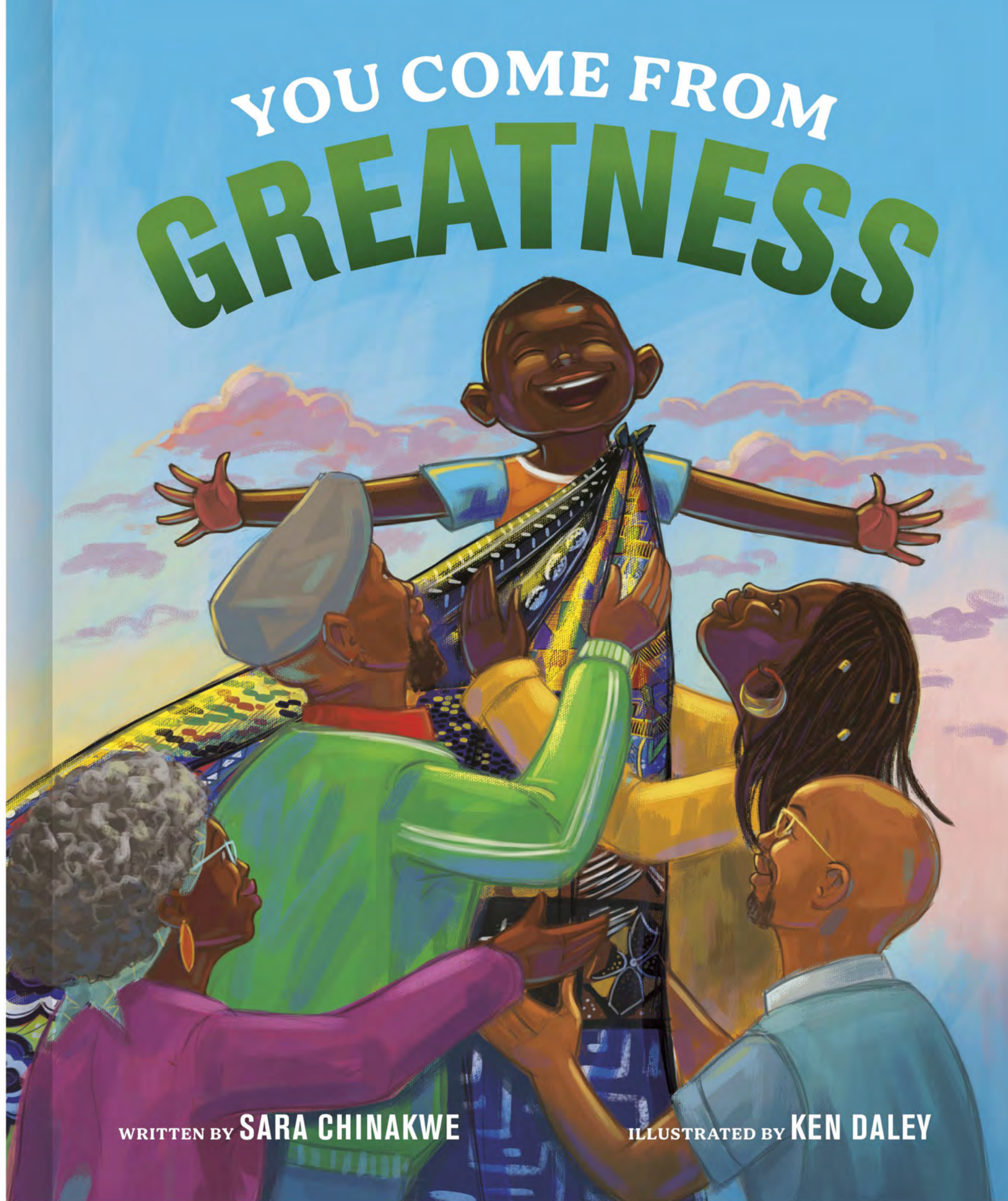




WATERBROOK



YOU COME FROM
GREATNESS

WRITTEN BY **SARA CHINAKWE**

ILLUSTRATED BY **KEN DALEY**



**UNCORRECTED
PROOF**



To Amadi and Elijahon
and all God's children,
I pray that you see yourself
as God sees you.

—Sara

To my mom and dad,
who showed me that
I came from greatness.

—Ken

YOU COME FROM

GREATNESS

**A Celebration
of Black History**

**Written by
Sara Chinakwe**

**Illustrated by
Ken Daley**



WATERBROOK

You came bustling into the world, a mighty bundle of energy, ready to do great things.



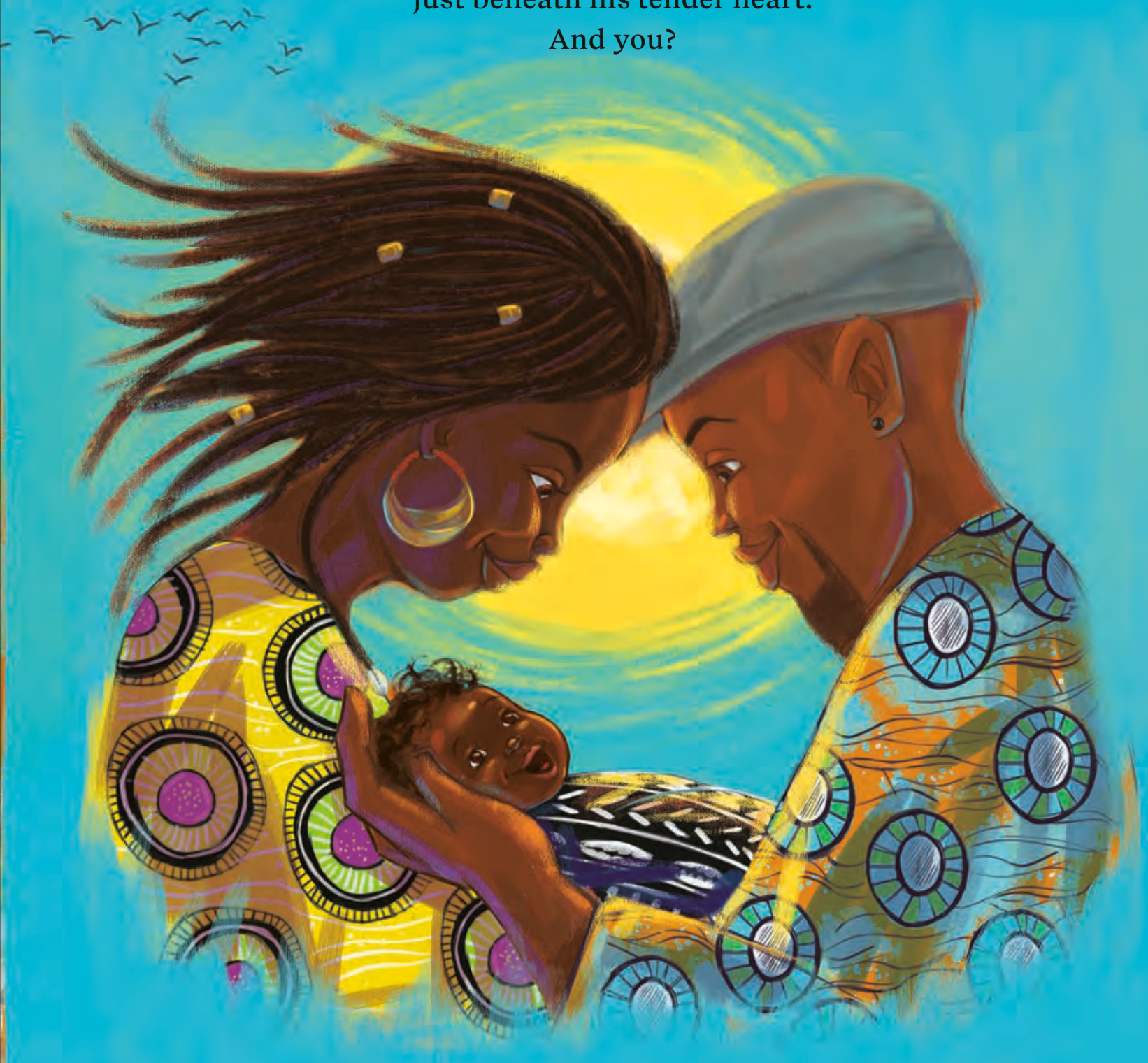
And no wonder—you stand on the shoulders of those who came before, and you, too, were

BORN TO SHINE.

You come from laughter and love.
From a big family—by way of the bayou—who ate
crawdads at the crab boil after Sunday service.



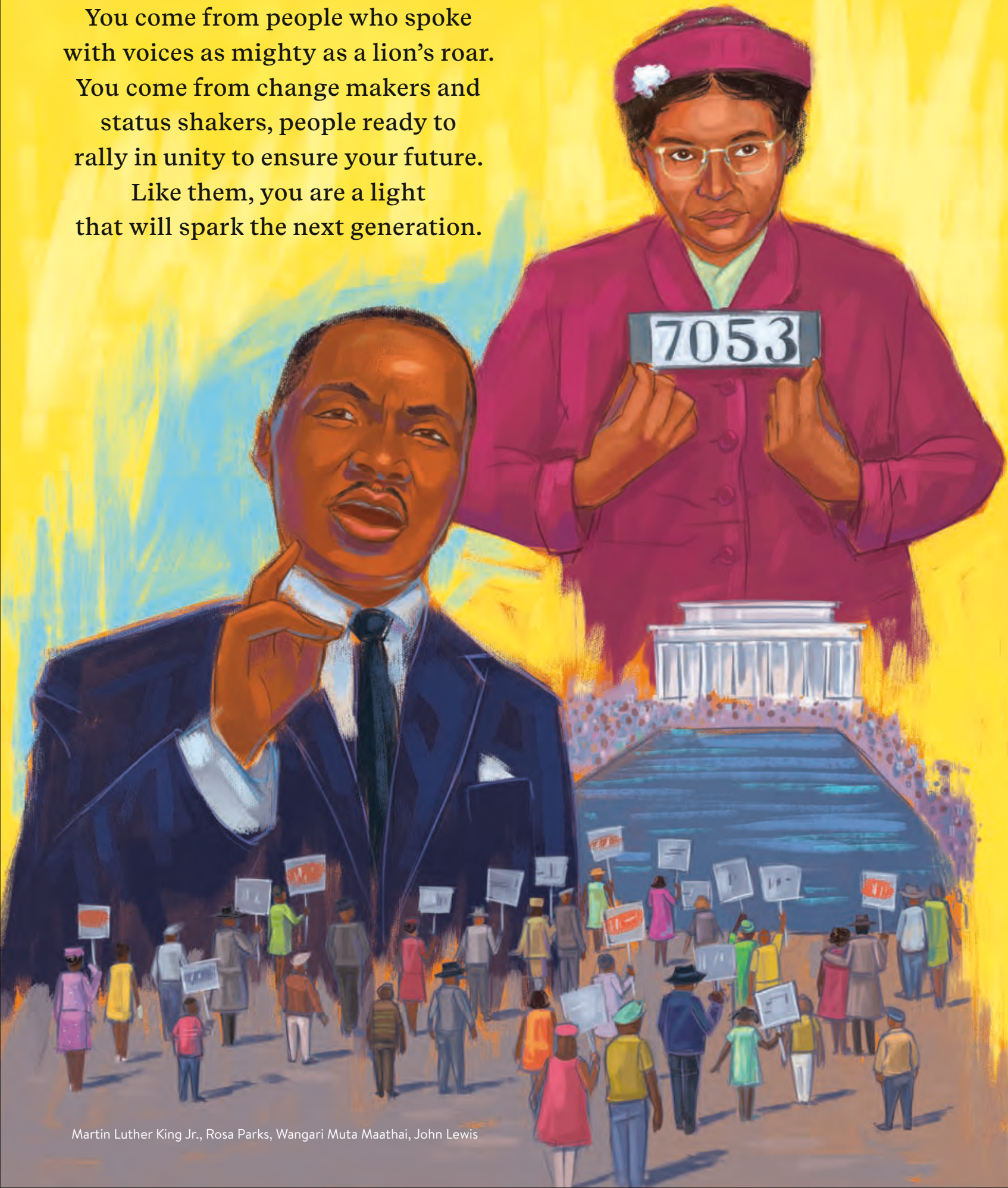
From a mother who's as warm as a brassy African sunset
and a father whose emboldened strength lies
just beneath his tender heart.
And you?



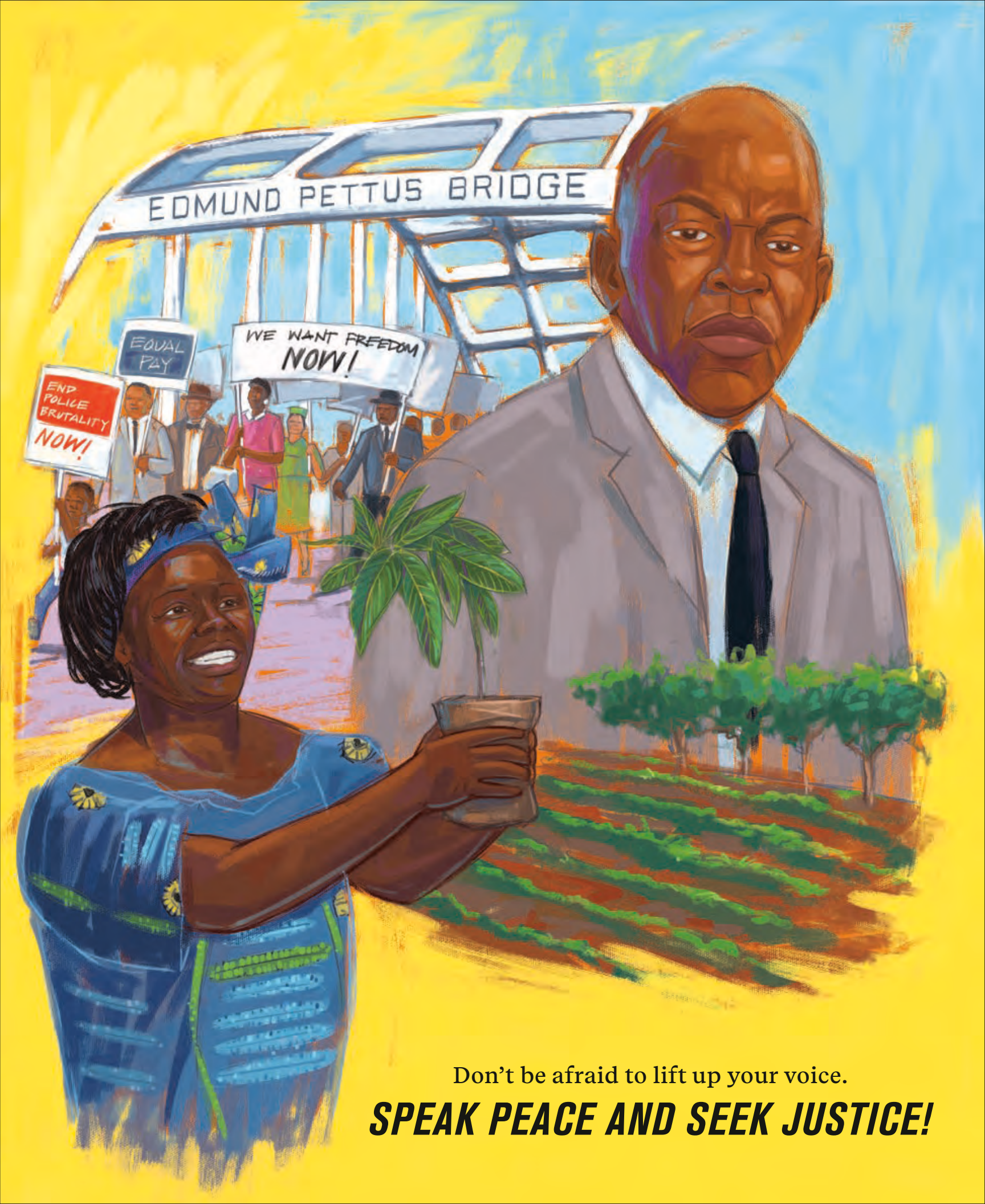
You embody a spirit that soars with delight over
new possibilities. You can go anywhere.

YOU CAN BE ANYTHING.

You come from people who spoke
with voices as mighty as a lion's roar.
You come from change makers and
status shakers, people ready to
rally in unity to ensure your future.
Like them, you are a light
that will spark the next generation.

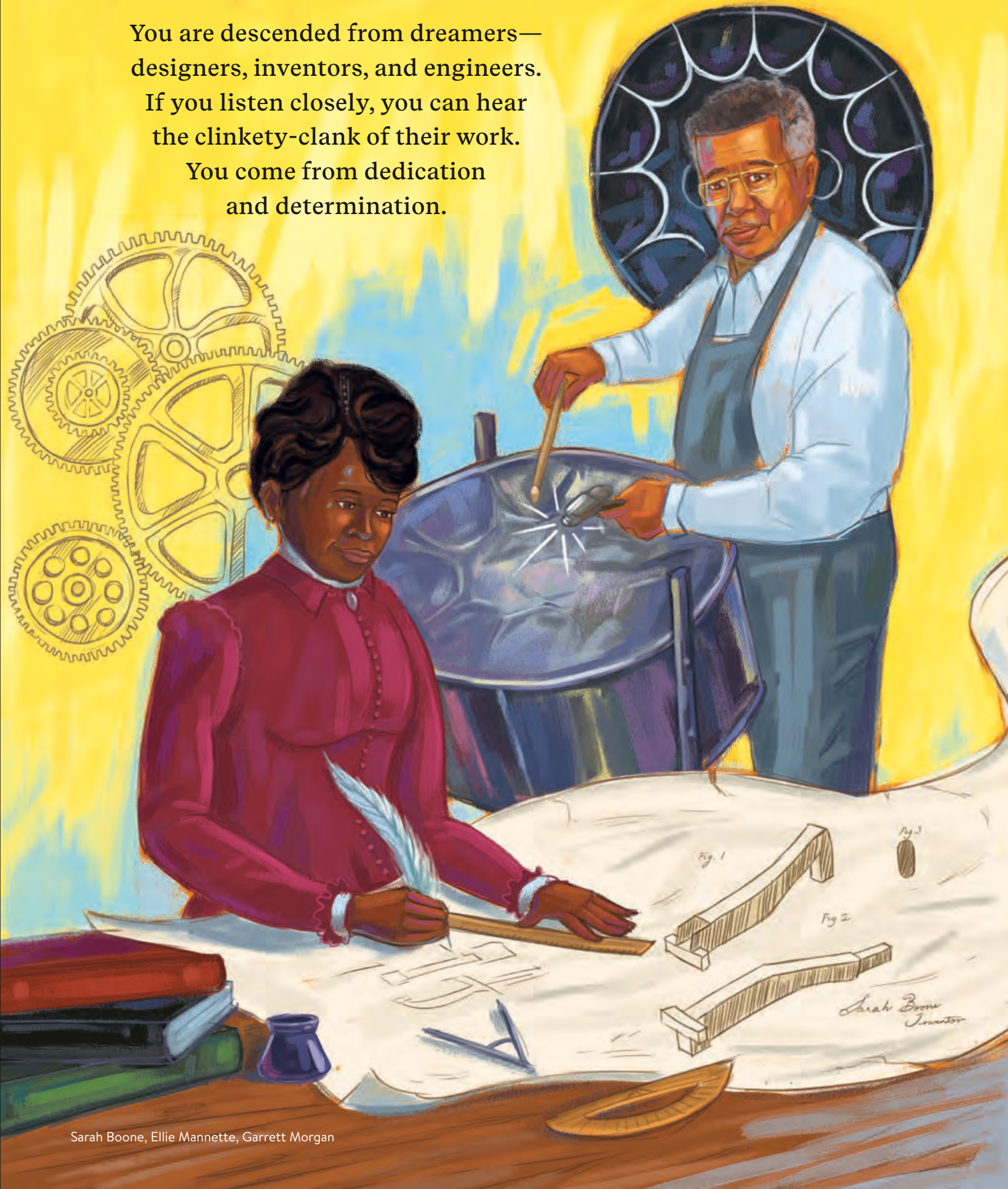


Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Wangari Muta Maathai, John Lewis

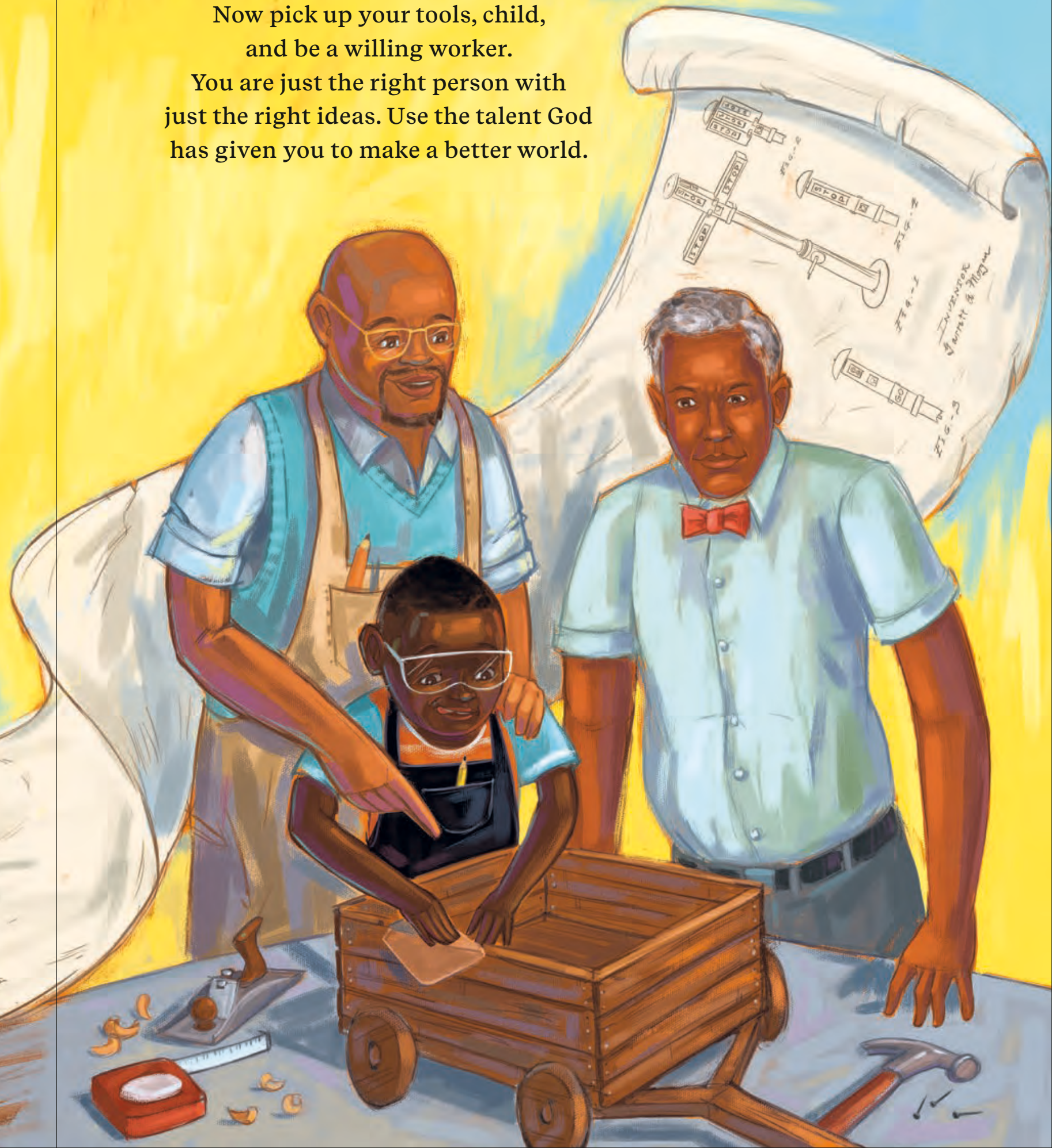


Don't be afraid to lift up your voice.
SPEAK PEACE AND SEEK JUSTICE!

You are descended from dreamers—
designers, inventors, and engineers.
If you listen closely, you can hear
the clinkety-clank of their work.
You come from dedication
and determination.



Now pick up your tools, child,
and be a willing worker.
You are just the right person with
just the right ideas. Use the talent God
has given you to make a better world.



You come from people who
would not give in, who would not give up.
Captivity could not crush them.
The whip did not destroy them.

In songs of lament,
they poured out their pain,
then soared up again
with hopeful refrain.

Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Toussaint L'Ouverture

You come from strong backs
and stronger spirits.
Never forget that.
You have a proud heritage.

WALK TALL.

