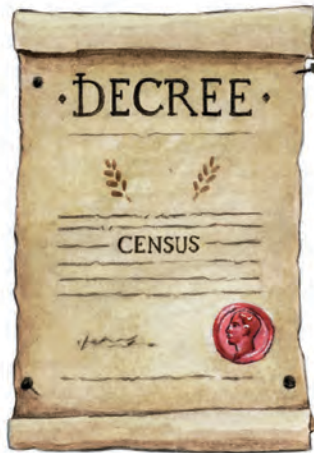


'Twas the Night



by William Dean
Illustrated by Sarah Lowe

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To every little Mary or Joseph,
shepherd or lamb, wise man or angel,
who has ever appeared in a Christmas play:
you have made the season special for me.



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'Twas the Night

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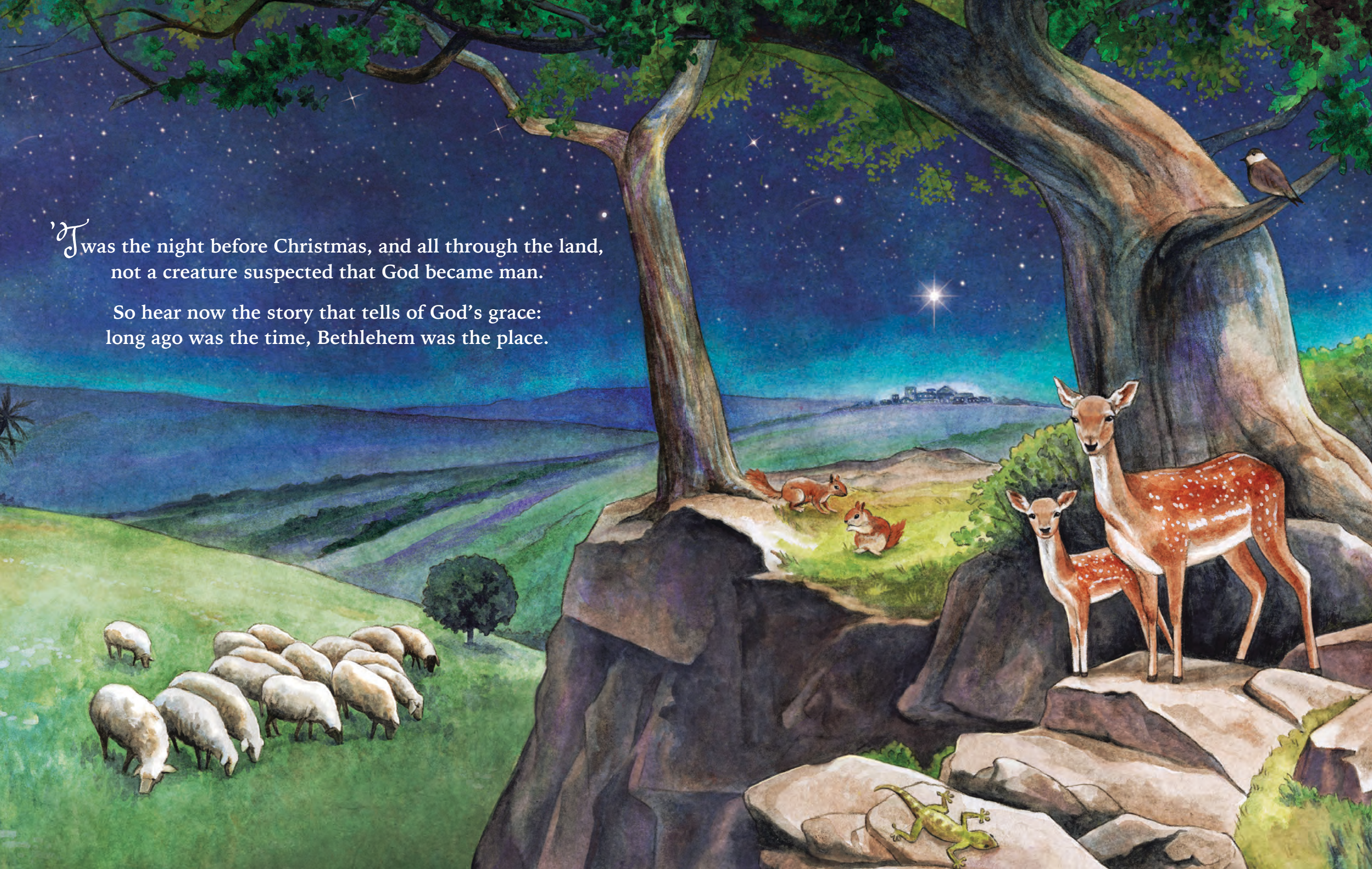
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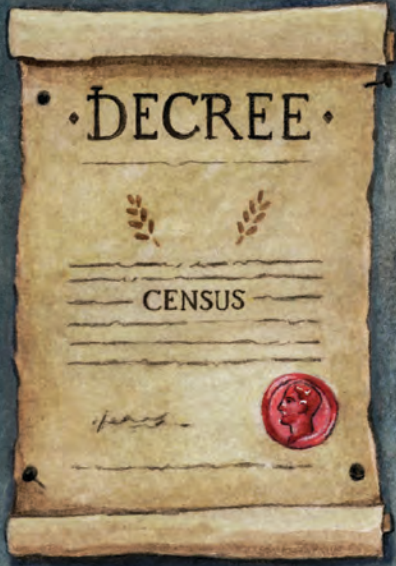
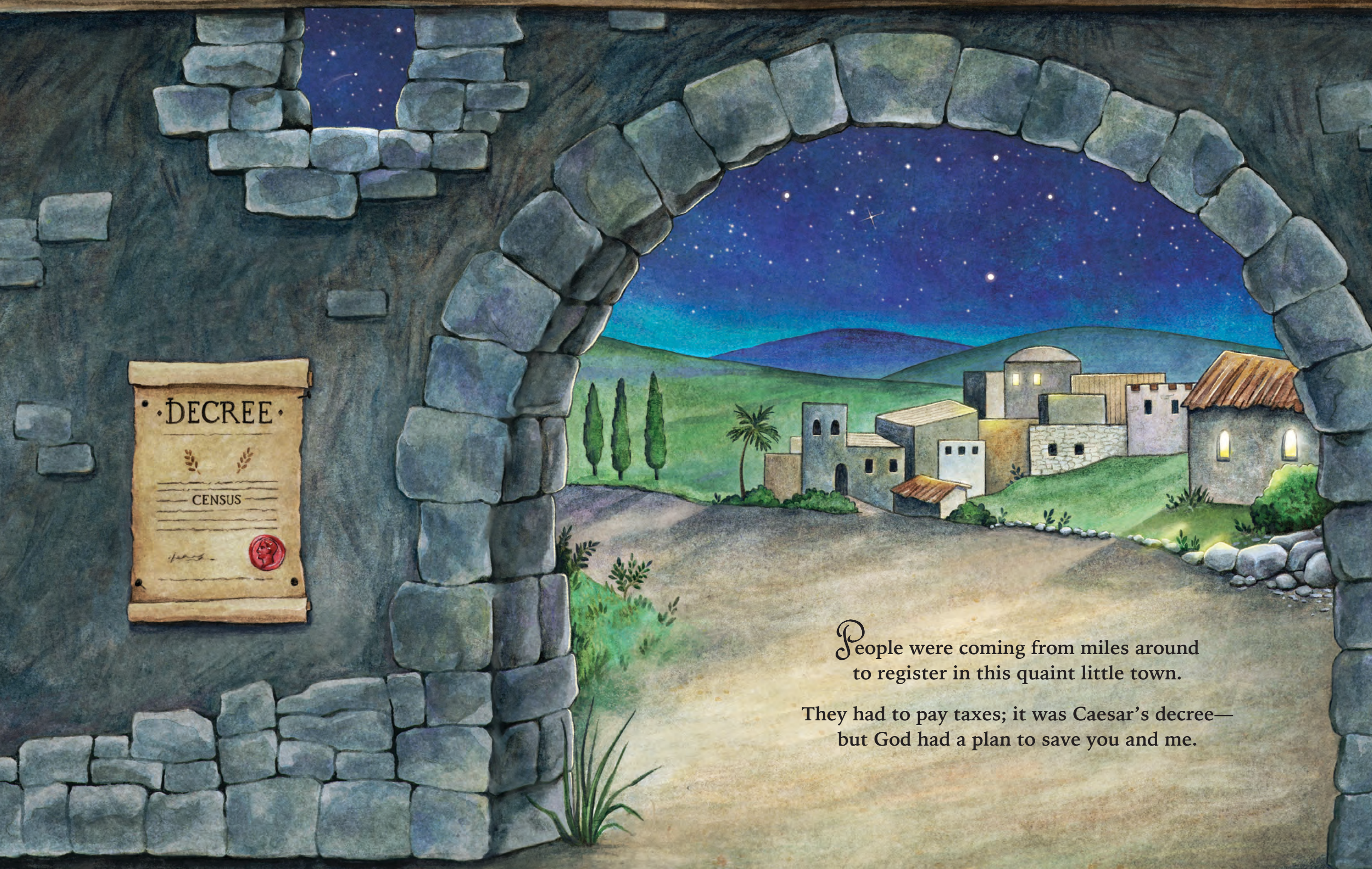
'Twas the
Night





'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the land,
not a creature suspected that God became man.

So hear now the story that tells of God's grace:
long ago was the time, Bethlehem was the place.



People were coming from miles around to register in this quaint little town.

They had to pay taxes; it was Caesar's decree—but God had a plan to save you and me.



The town was asleep, the streets were all bare.
No one knew that two travelers soon would be there.

The man was called Joseph, his wife's name was Mary,
plus One yet unborn that God told her to carry.