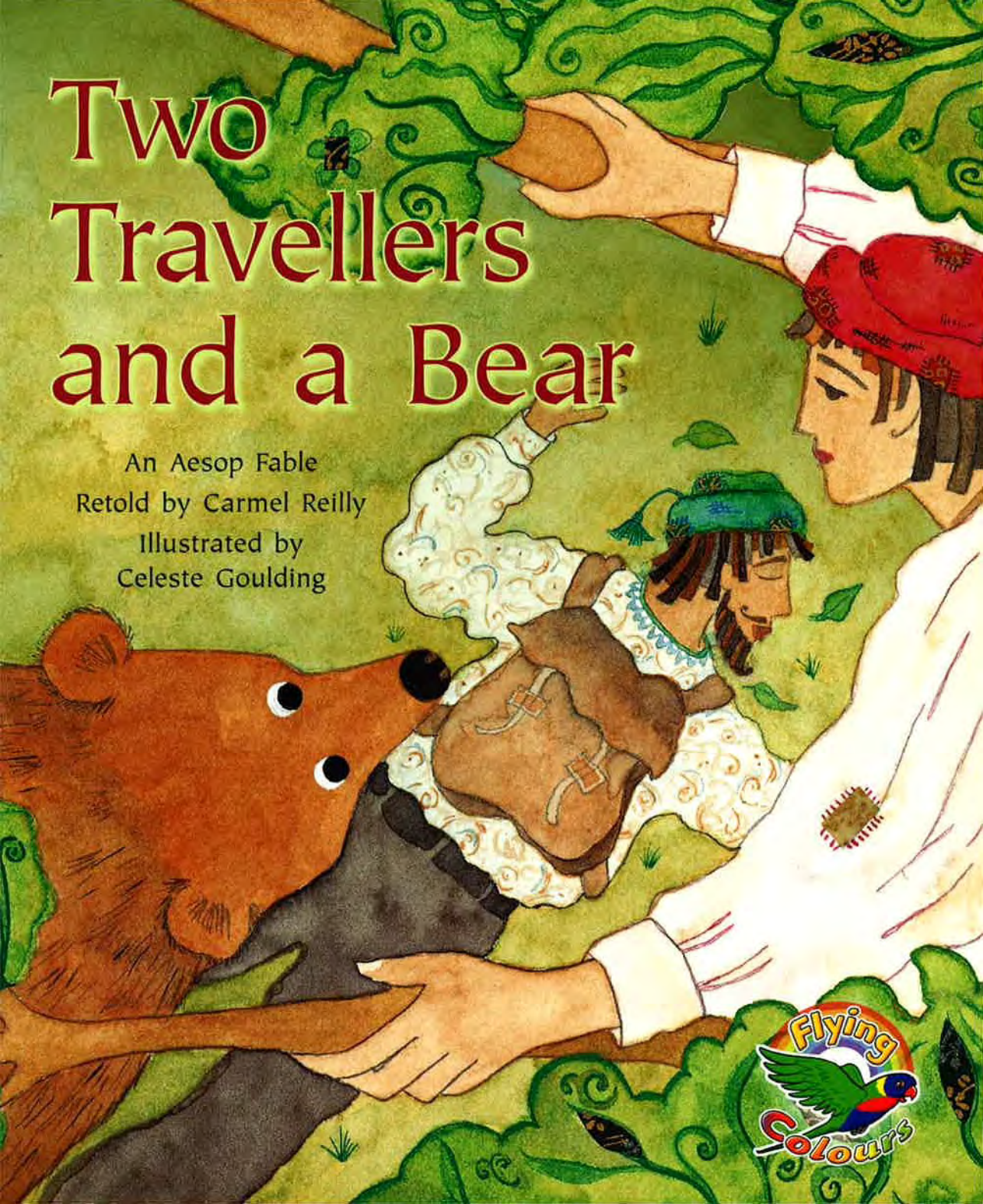
Two Travellers and a Bear

An Aesop Fable
Retold by Carmel Reilly
Illustrated by
Celeste Goulding





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Chapter 1

Walking through the Forest

One day a traveller and his friend were walking from one town to another. As they went along, one of them said, "Why don't we take a short cut through the forest? It will be much quicker than walking along this road."

The other one replied, "I'm not sure. I've heard that the forest is a dangerous place. There might be wild animals."

His friend laughed, "Don't be afraid. We'll be all right."



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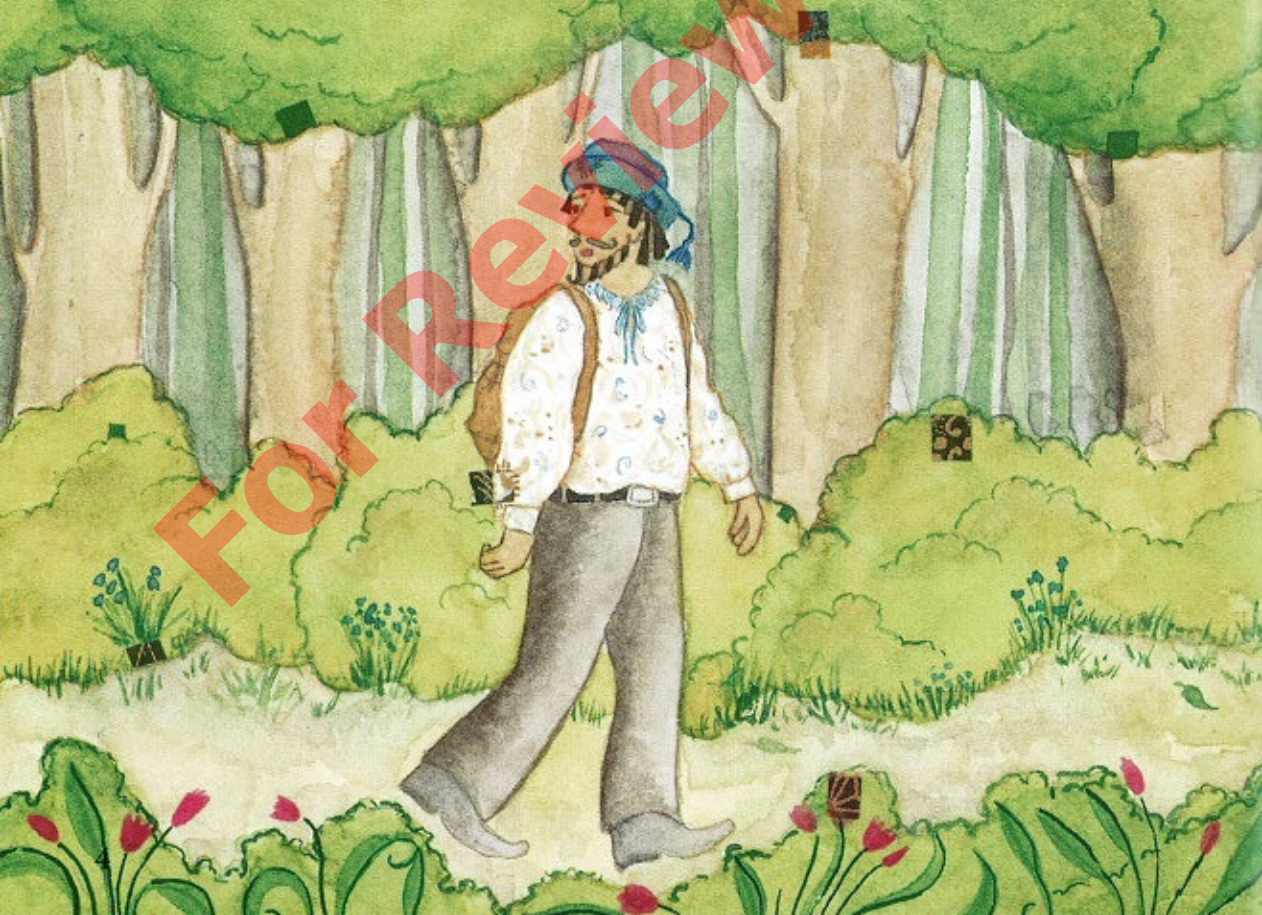


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After they had been walking for a few minutes, they found themselves deep in the forest. It was quite dark. They couldn't see very well, but they could hear strange noises.

"I feel frightened," said the traveller.

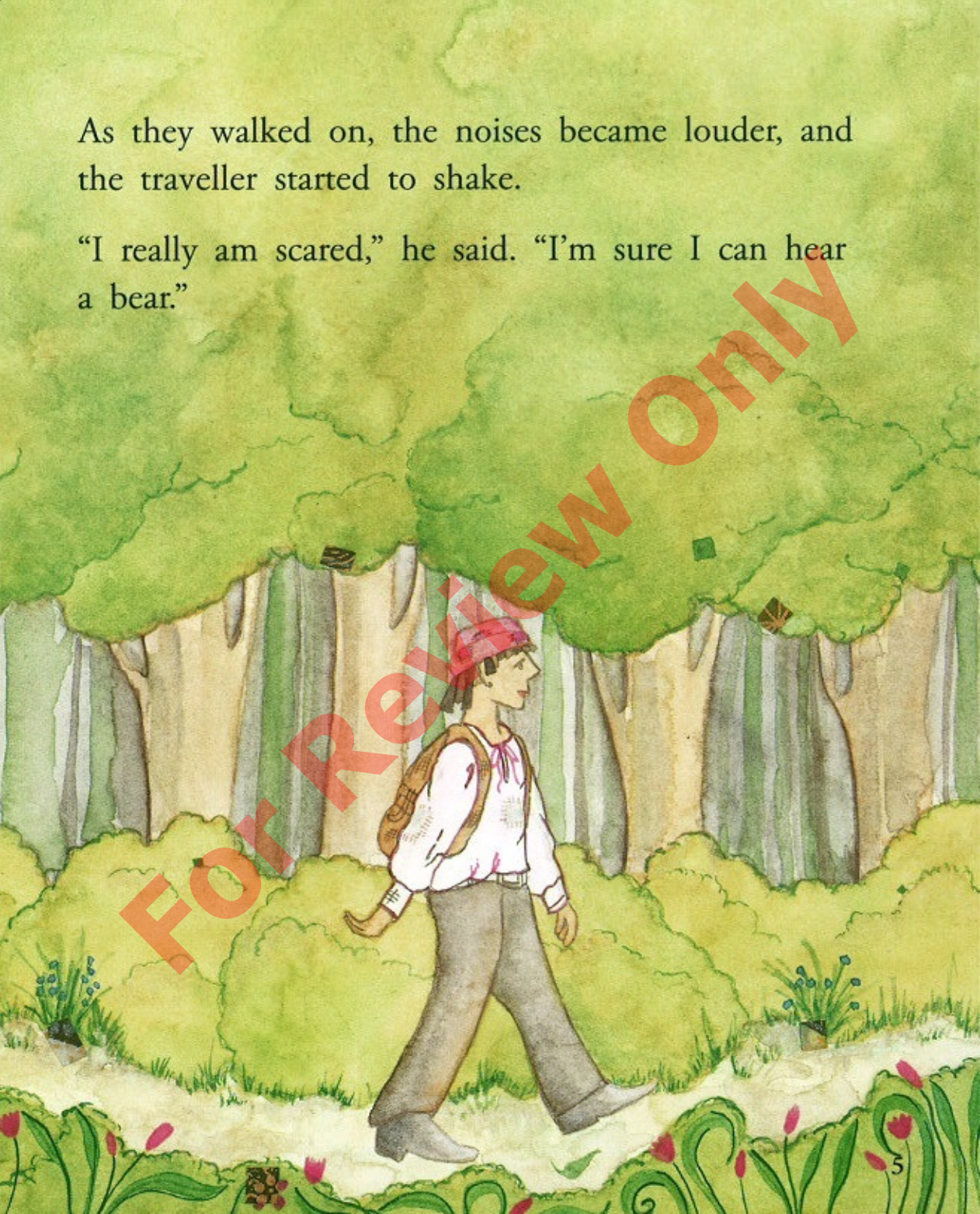
"There is nothing to worry about," said his friend. "It's just the wind in the trees."



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As they walked on, the noises became louder, and the traveller started to shake.

"I really am scared," he said. "I'm sure I can hear a bear."



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Chapter 2

A Large, Dark Shape

Just then there was a loud, fierce growl.

The traveller and his friend stopped and looked at each other. Now they were both frightened. The traveller grabbed his friend by the arm, but his friend shook himself free and started to run. He ran deeper into the forest and quickly climbed a tree, leaving the traveller standing alone on the path.

The traveller was so scared he couldn't move. In the distance he could see a large, dark shape moving towards him.



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