



Rhythm

by **Jackie Azúa Kramer**

illustrated by **Taia Morley**

Rhythm

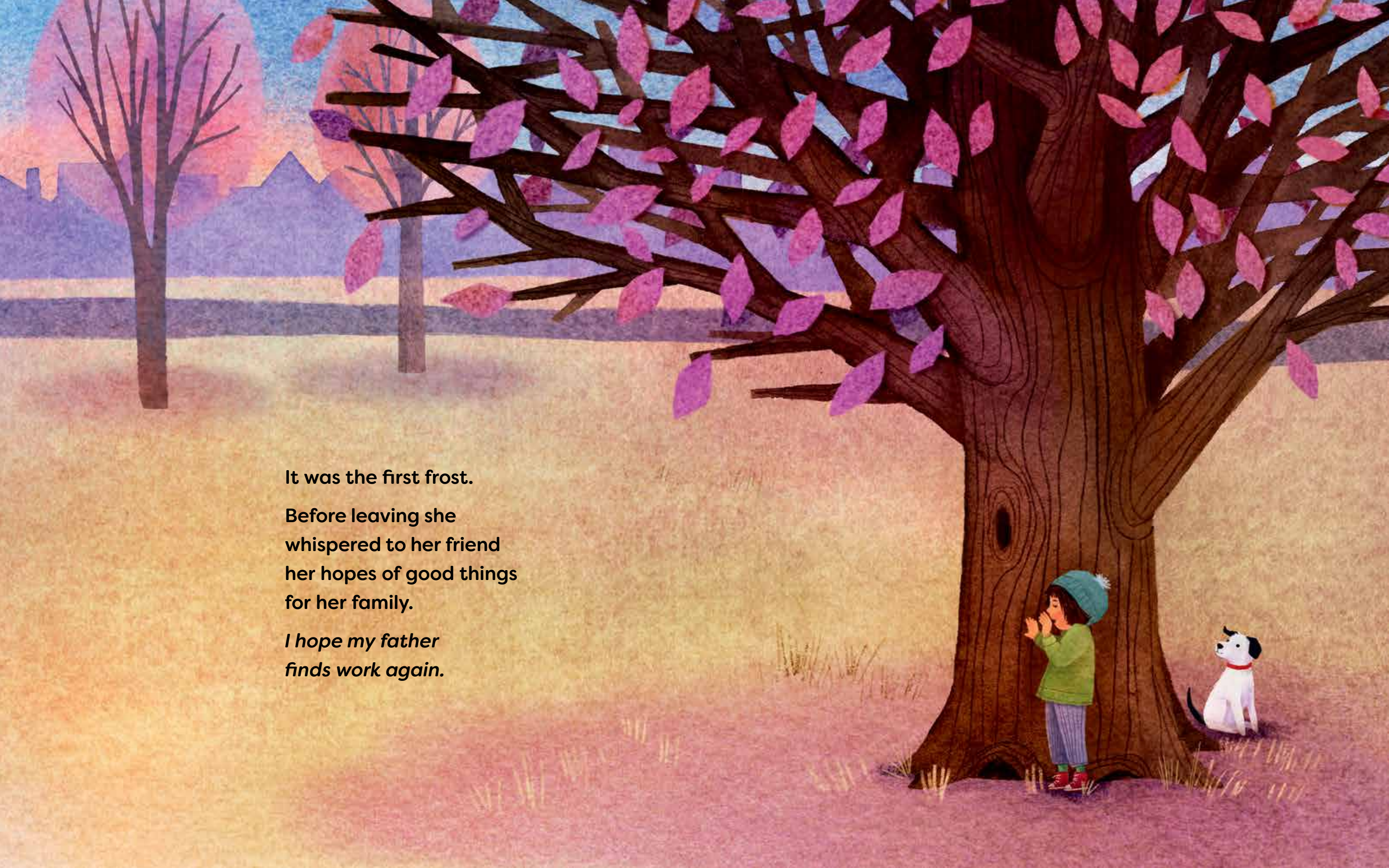


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It was the first frost.

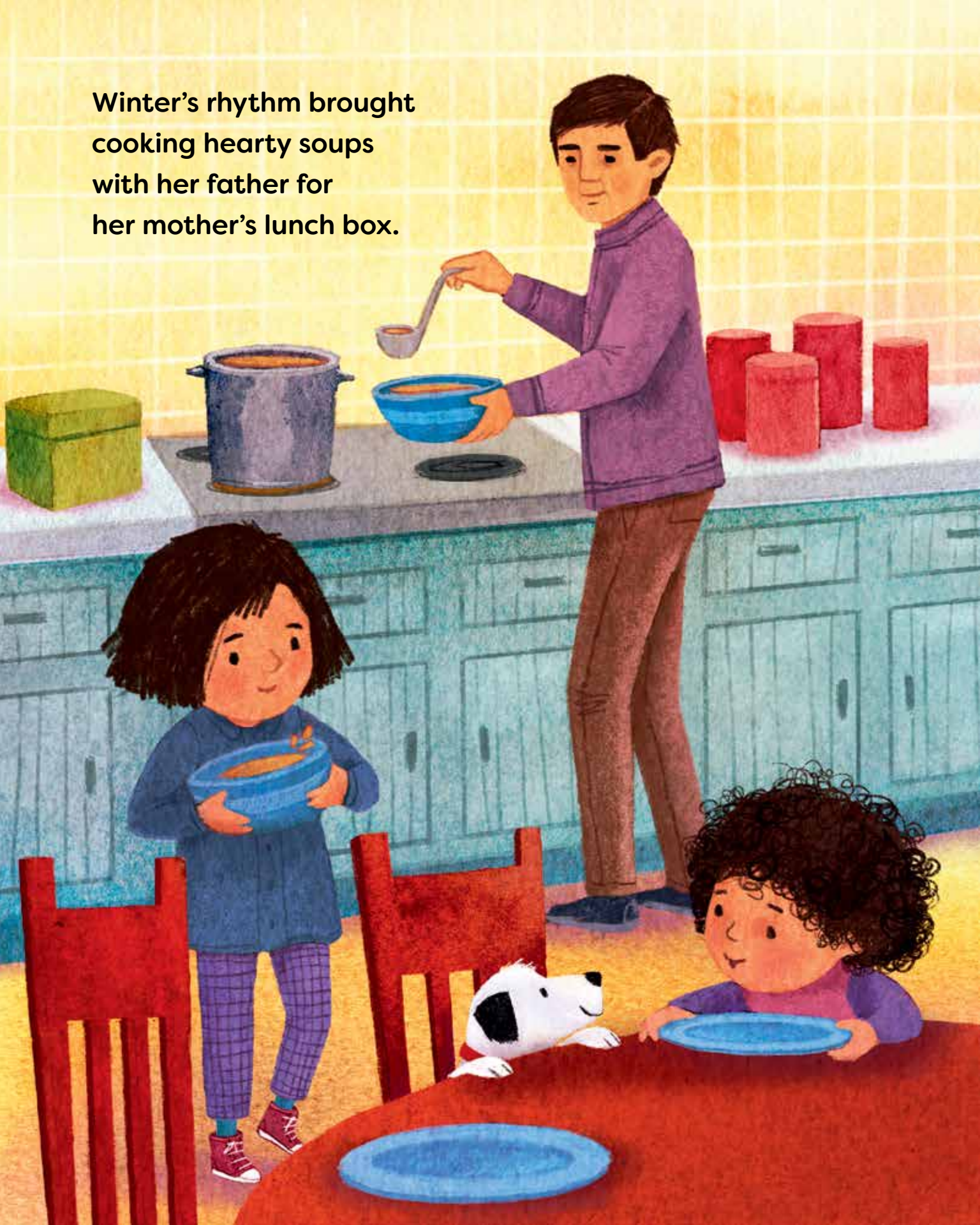
Before leaving she
whispered to her friend
her hopes of good things
for her family.

*I hope my father
finds work again.*






Winter's rhythm brought
cooking hearty soups
with her father for
her mother's lunch box.



She and her class
drew the tree
decorated in lights
for their classmates
and families that had
moved to find work.

A girl with dark hair, wearing a blue shirt, is looking out a window. The window is divided into six panes. The top-left pane shows a white cat sitting on a dark tree branch. The top-right pane shows a warm, orange-yellow sky. The middle-left pane shows the girl's hands holding a small, round, white object. The middle-right pane shows the girl's face, looking out with a slight smile. The bottom-left pane shows a dark tree branch with several red leaves. The bottom-right pane shows a path of red leaves leading towards a large, dark tree in the distance. The background outside the window is a winter scene with a large, dark tree, a path of red leaves, and a warm, orange-yellow sky. The girl is standing in front of a green bush.

From the tree's
twigs and pressed
leaves she made
holiday gifts.

And in return left breadcrumbs
so the birds would keep it company.