



# MONSTER TRUCK BUCK

By Dan O'Dell

Illustrations by Jason Doll



***For Julien and Muirenn — D.O.***

***For Jorel and Faith — J.D.***

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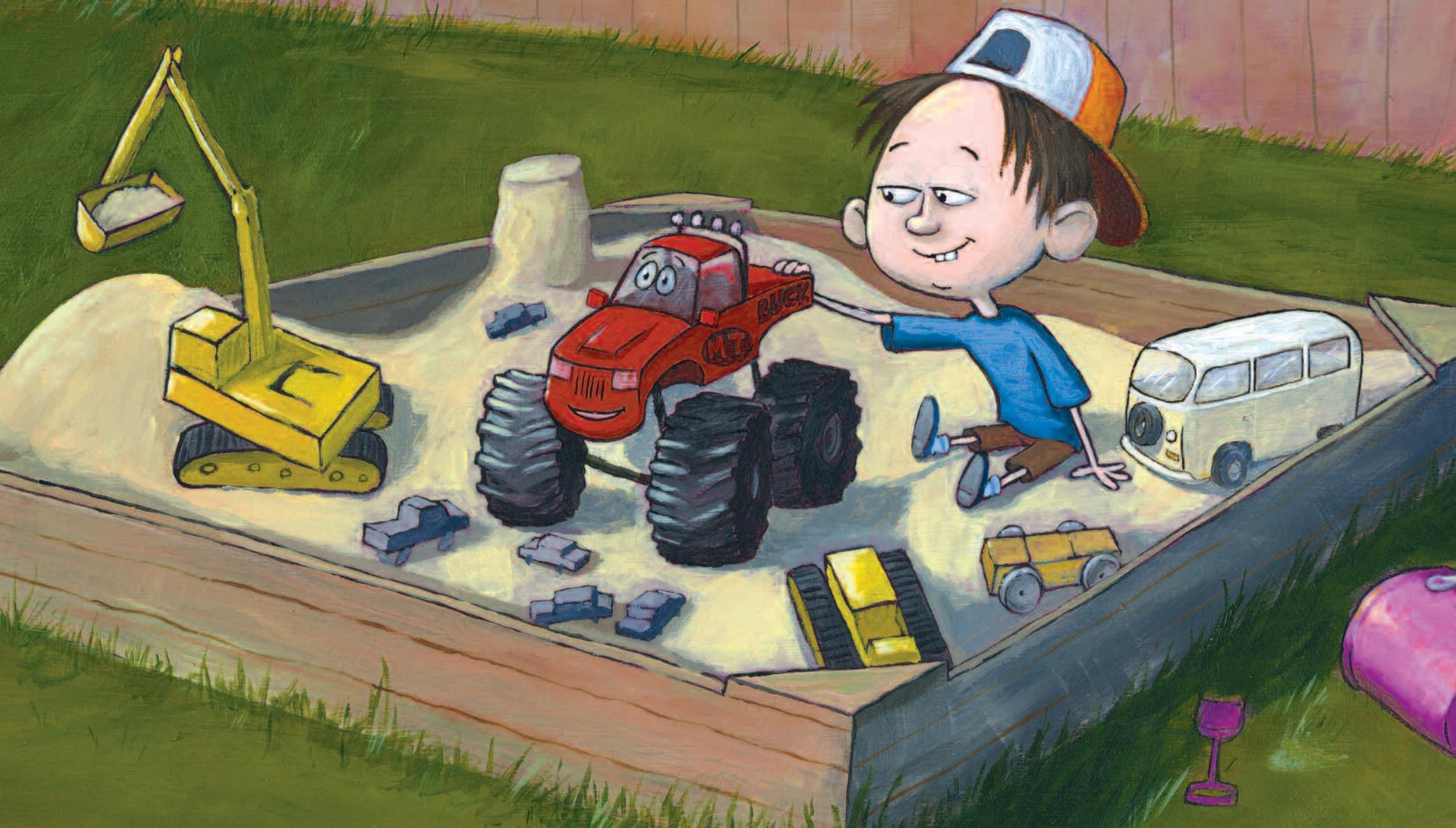
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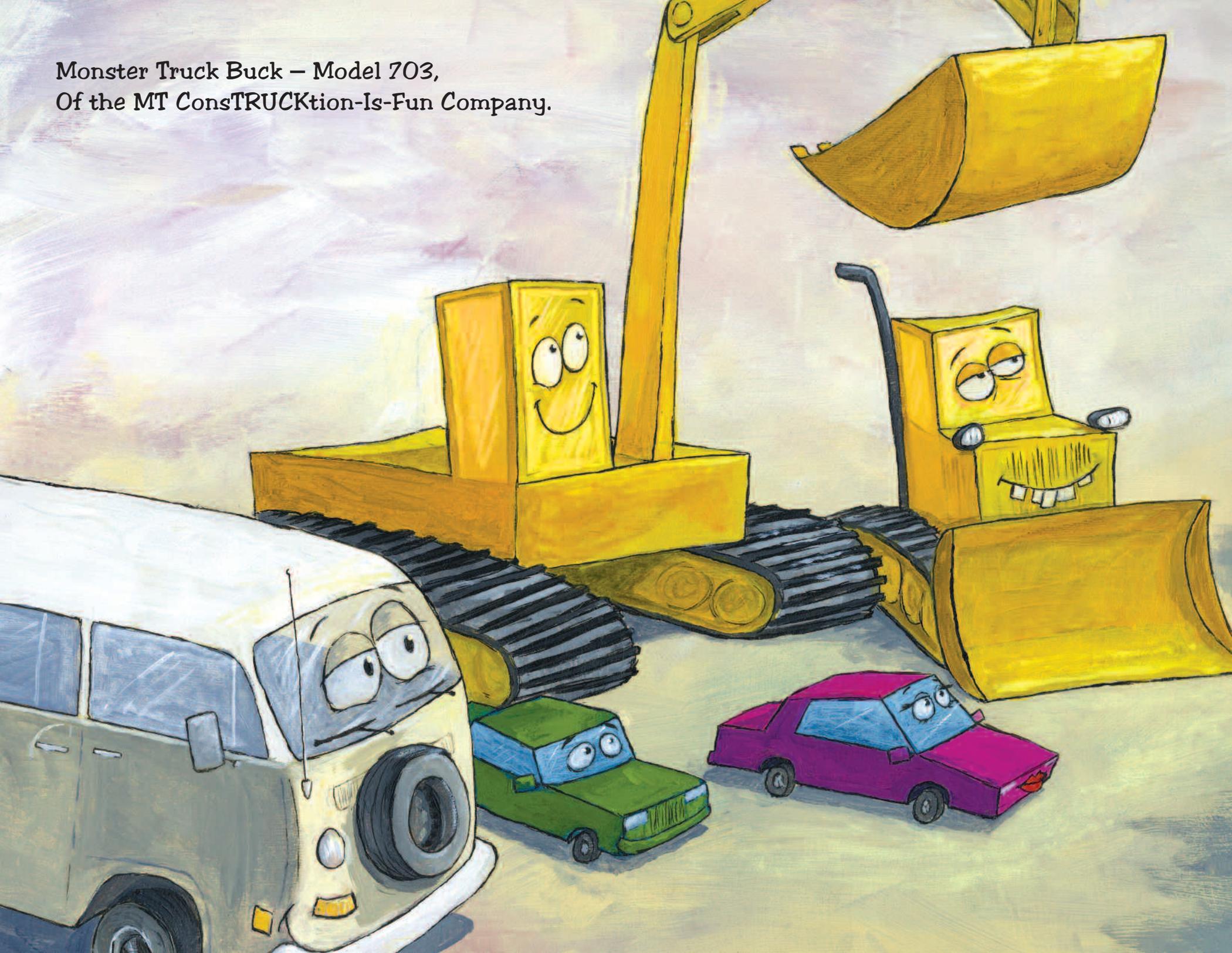
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Gus is a boy, an ever-clever boy,  
And, he has a favourite friends-forever toy.  
A ginormously awesome red monster truck —  
A truck of great fame named Monster Truck Buck!



Monster Truck Buck – Model 703,  
Of the MT ConSTRUCKtion-Is-Fun Company.



The M stands for Monster and the T stands for Truck,  
And, the star in the sandbox is Monster Truck Buck.





Monster Truck Buck has these monsterly tires,  
Gnarly and snarly like constrUCKtion requires.



Gnarlys on the front, Snarlys on the back,  
These are the tires that other trucks lack.

Where other tires slip and skip and slide all around,  
GNARLY SNARLY tire treads grab the ground.

The greater the grip, the greater the traction,  
Which is better for safety and better for action!





That jump and soaRRRR



Tires that RRRroar  
Up mountains of sand,

And bounce when they land.





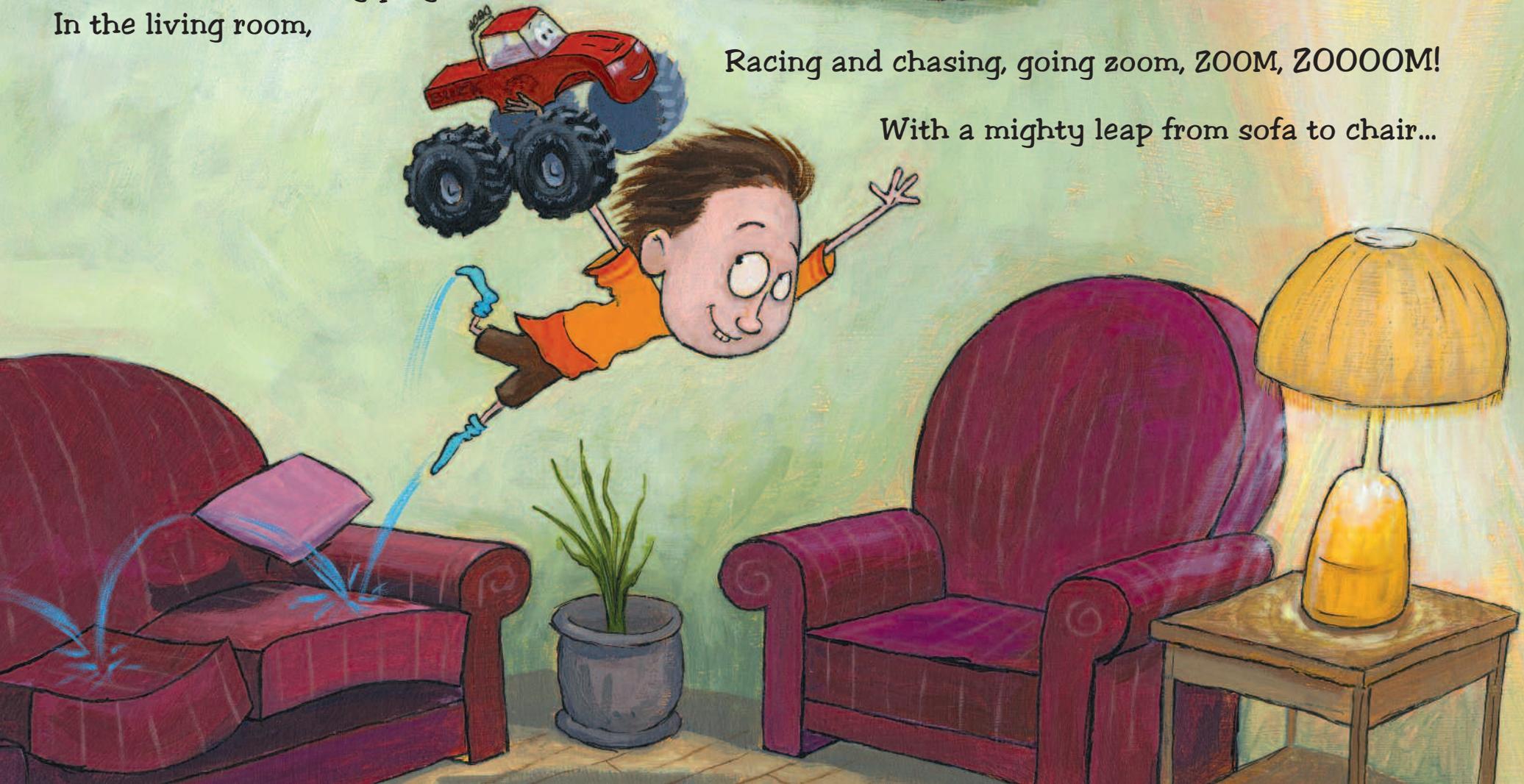
They help Buck move more  
Than other trucks haul  
To build roads and castles  
And fields to play ball.  
And that is why Gus loves Buck  
Most of all.



Sometimes when they play  
In the living room,

Racing and chasing, going zoom, ZOOM, ZOOOOM!

With a mighty leap from sofa to chair...



...they'll fly like a jet-truck high in the air,  
Then land with a squeal and a monster truck wheelie,  
And everyone cheers. It's gnarly cool, really!



They cheer:  
"BUCK! BUCK!  
MON-STER TRUCK!"

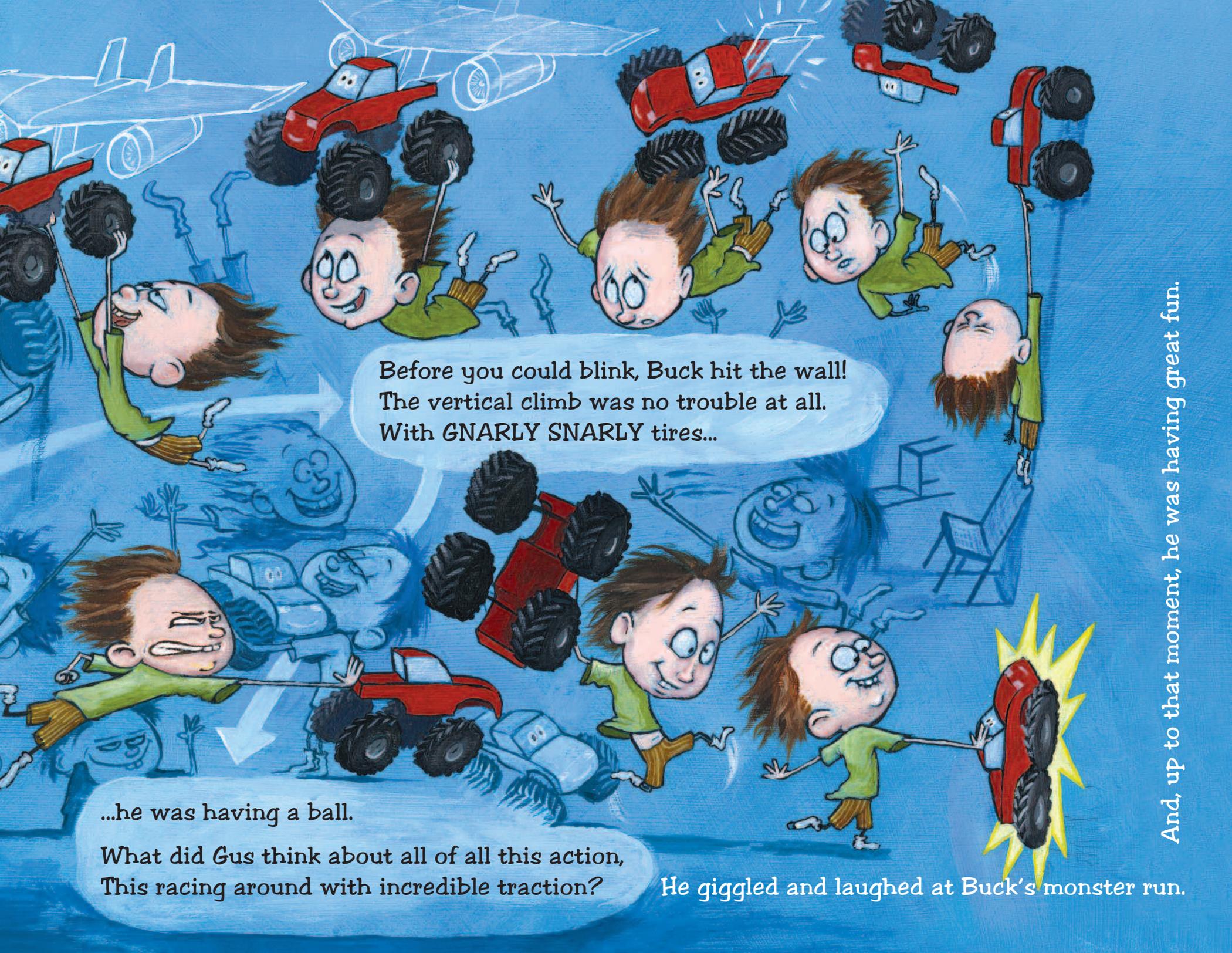
He's Buck the Truck and he never gets stuck.  
Monster Truck Buck, Model 703,  
The mightiest truck in history!"



One time in his bedroom,  
Where no one could see,  
Gus said to Buck, Model 703,

"Why don't you  
Do the driving  
Instead of me?"

Buck blasted off straight up from the bed,  
A boy and his rocket of hot-monster red.



Before you could blink, Buck hit the wall!  
The vertical climb was no trouble at all.  
With **GNARLY SNARLY** tires...

...he was having a ball.  
What did Gus think about all of all this action,  
This racing around with incredible traction?

He giggled and laughed at Buck's monster run.

And, up to that moment, he was having great fun.



When they got to the door, Buck didn't stop.  
He revved up his engine for a leap and a hop.  
He made a sharp turn and raced down the hall.  
Buck was honkin' and skawnkin' his monster truck call.

# SKAWWWNK!



SKAWWWNK! went the air horn. Monster Truck coming through!

"Tooooo fast," Gus gasped, as the danger grew.

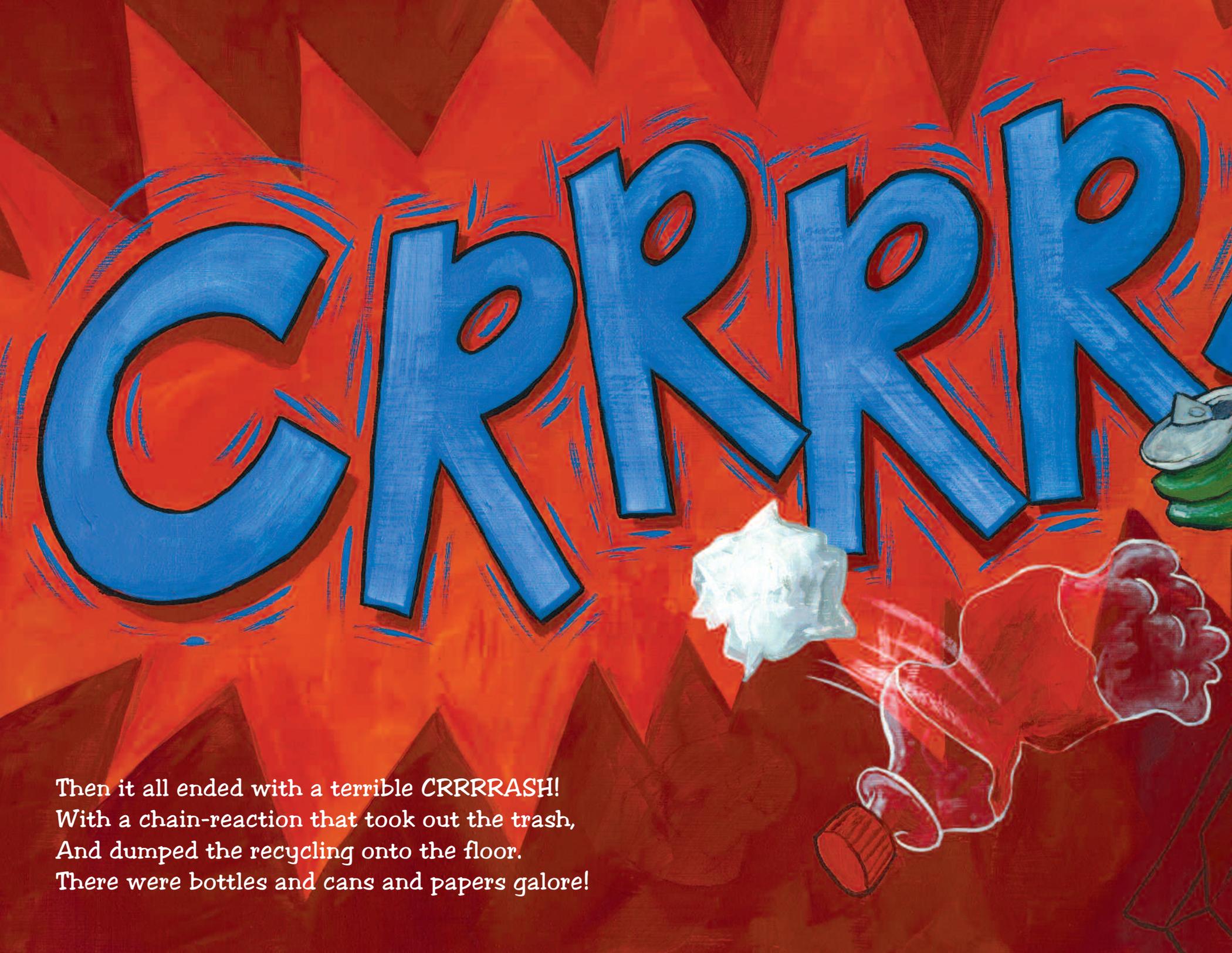
But Buck didn't notice, so onward they flew.



They blew past the pets. They made the rug dance.

Gus felt the wind in his underpants!





# CRRRRASH!

Then it all ended with a terrible CRRRRASH!  
With a chain-reaction that took out the trash,  
And dumped the recycling onto the floor.  
There were bottles and cans and papers galore!





"Oh no," thought Gus. "Just look at this rubble.  
Leaving it here could get me in trouble.  
I should clean up this mess, really fast, on the double."

So, he put on his hat and was getting it done  
When he had an idea – a monster-good one.



Gus thought, "I could clean this myself right through to the end,  
But it could be more fun if I worked with a friend.

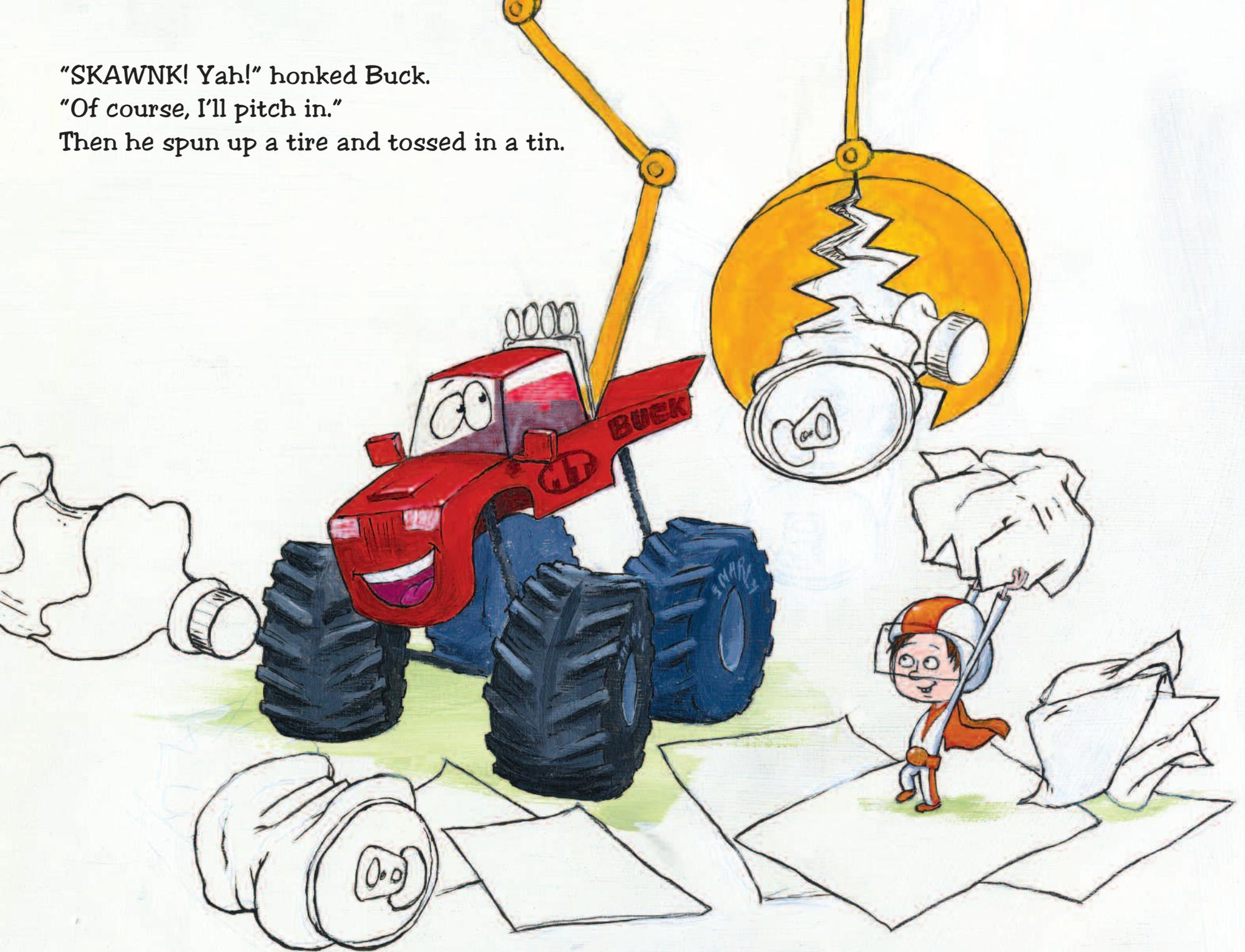
If this was the sandbox and these papers were sand,  
I know that Buck would give me a hand.



With those GNARLY SNARLY tires we could scoop it all in  
And together we'd get it all back in the bin."



"SKAWNK! Yah!" honked Buck.  
"Of course, I'll pitch in."  
Then he spun up a tire and tossed in a tin.

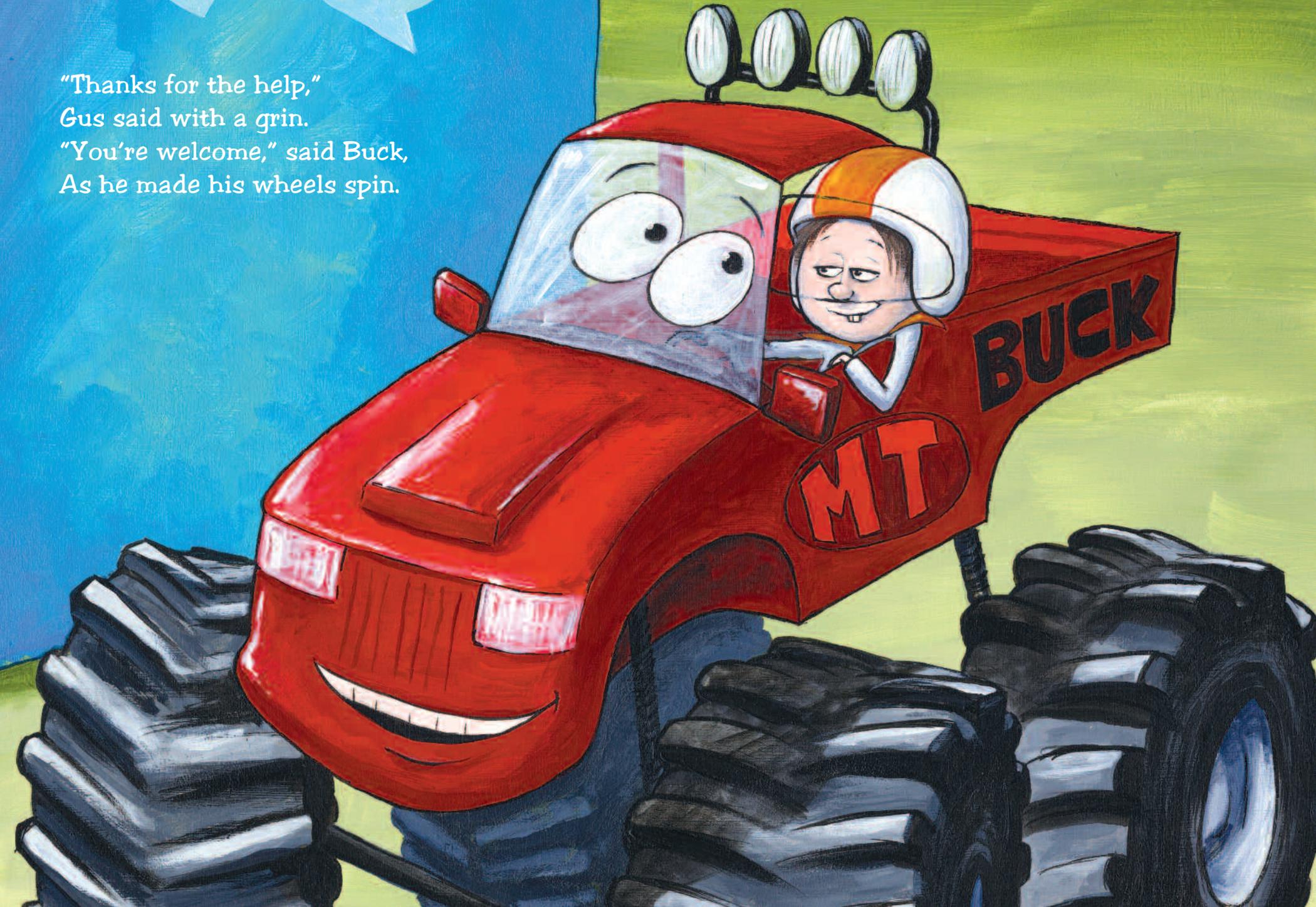


So, one clever boy  
And one monster truck  
Waded into that muddle  
And they didn't get stuck.

They scooped and they dumped.  
They swept and they threw.  
And, faster than fast,  
It was all good as new.

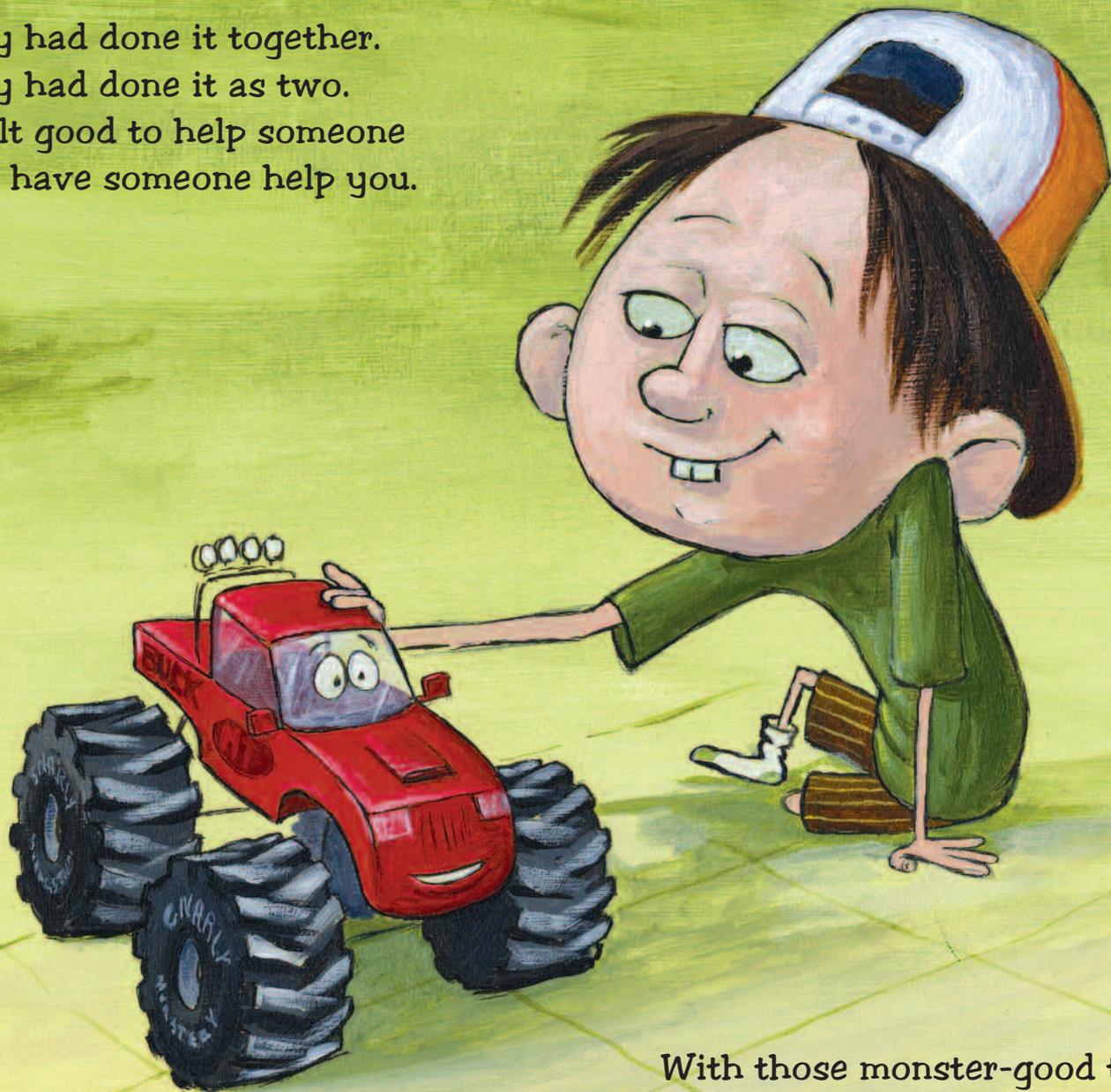


"Thanks for the help,"  
Gus said with a grin.  
"You're welcome," said Buck,  
As he made his wheels spin.



Gus understood – he just knew it was true.  
He and Buck had just done what consTRUCKtion crews do.

They had done it together.  
They had done it as two.  
It felt good to help someone  
And have someone help you.



With those monster-good thoughts,  
Their happiness grew.



Later that night, when Gus was in bed,  
The very last thought that went through his head  
Was that GNARLY SNARLY tires can get things done  
And that working together can make a job fun,

Especially with Monster Truck Buck on your team.



Then he closed his eyes and started to dream...

...a GNARLY SNARLY  
Monster truck dream!

