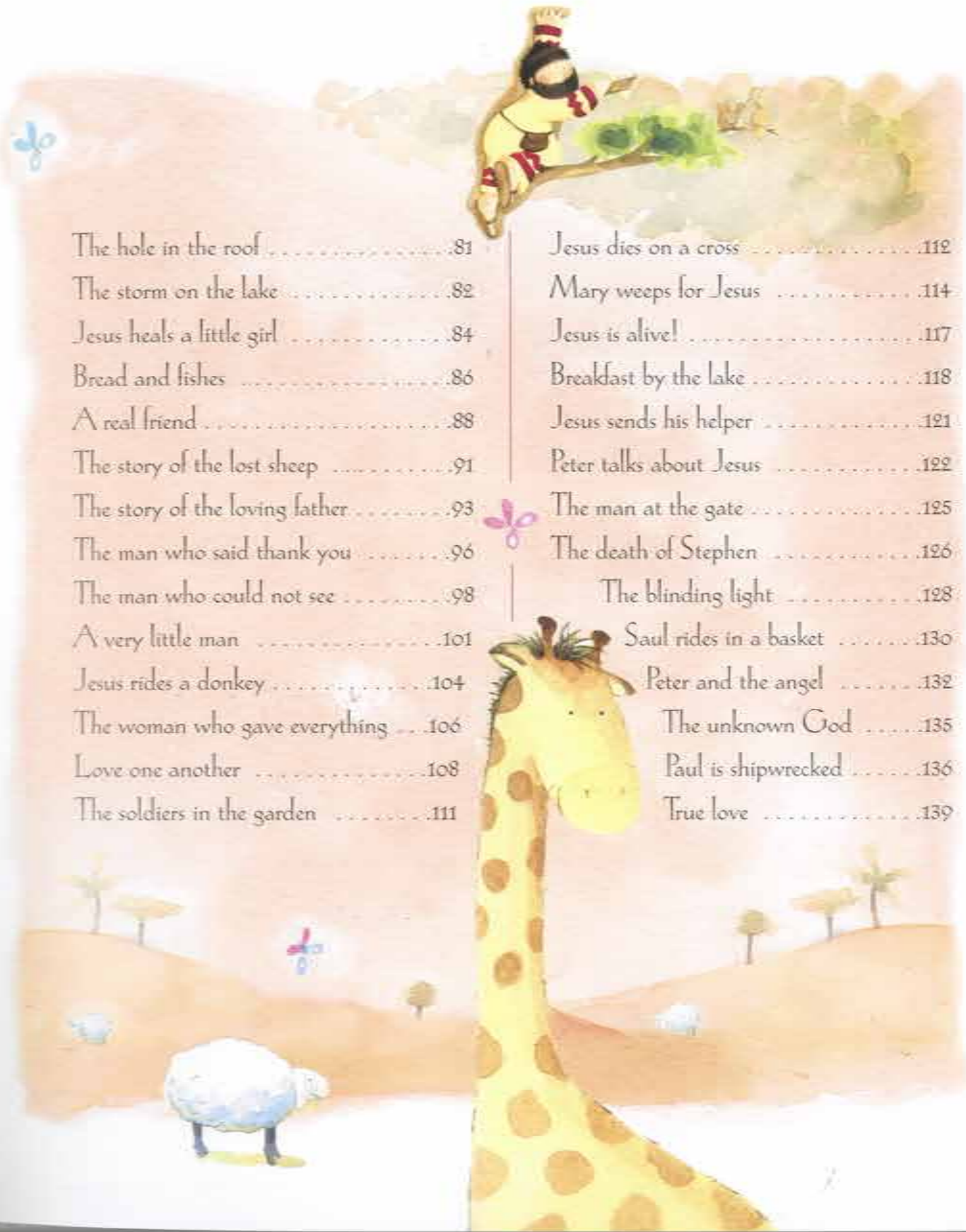


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When the world began

Before anything else was made, God was there in the darkness.

God made light to shine in the darkness and saw that it was good.



God shaped the land so there were snow-topped mountains, and deep blue seas.

God filled the land with flowering plants and fruit-bearing trees.

God made the hot sun to give light by day and the silvery moon and stars to light up the night sky.

God filled the sea with colourful creatures large and small and the air with buzzing bees and bright birds that sang.







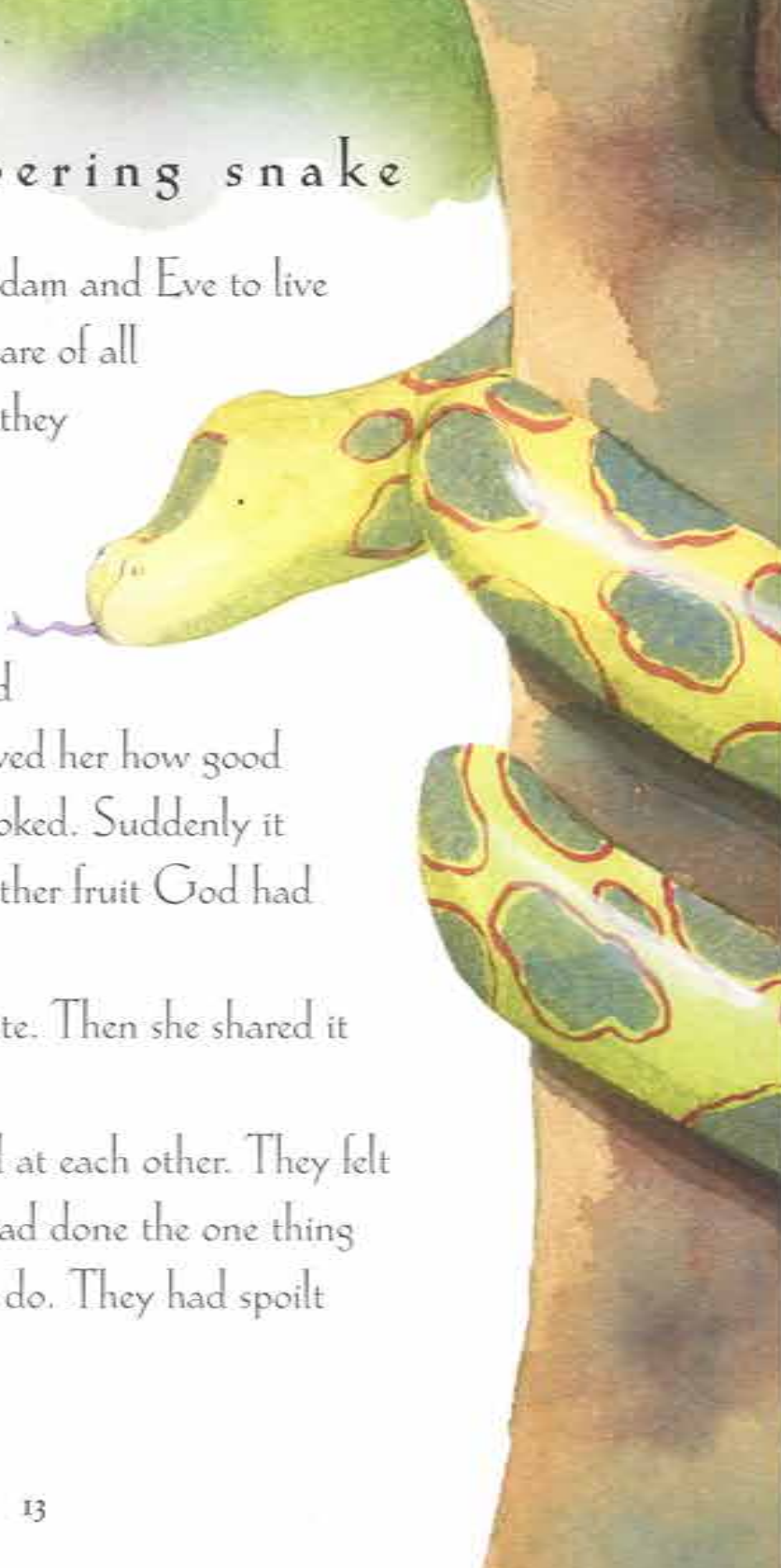
God filled the earth with lumbering elephants and long-necked giraffes, with big cats covered in patterns and stripes, and rhinos, antelope, deer, rabbits and tiny mice. God made the first man and woman. They were called Adam and Eve.

God talked to Adam and Eve and they talked to him. God wanted them to enjoy his world and be his friends.

God looked at the world he had made and it was beautiful. Then God rested.



The whispering snake



God made a garden for Adam and Eve to live in and asked them to take care of all the animals. He told them they could eat anything they wanted, except the fruit from one tree.

But the snake came and whispered to Eve. He showed her how good the fruit on that one tree looked. Suddenly it seemed better than all the other fruit God had given them.

Eve took a big, deep bite. Then she shared it with Adam.

Adam and Eve looked at each other. They felt guilty. They realised they had done the one thing God had told them not to do. They had spoilt everything.