

# YAMIE CAT'S TERRIBLE NIGHT



Sheila Hamanaka

Tabby Avenue

Furball Lane

Catnip Street

Scratching Post Road

Scratching Post Road

Doulevard

Fu

Scratch

Feline Bou

Purr

Feline Boulevard

To my ever-cool dad Conrad  
Hamanaka, my forever  
friend Kalluk (aka "Mr. K"),  
Sachiko's grandfather DoDo,  
and Ava's beloved Kamie.  
You all joined the ancestors  
much too soon.

Furball Lane

Shelter Avenue

Purring Lane

Furball





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# KAMIE CAT'S TERRIBLE NIGHT



Animal Welfare Institute



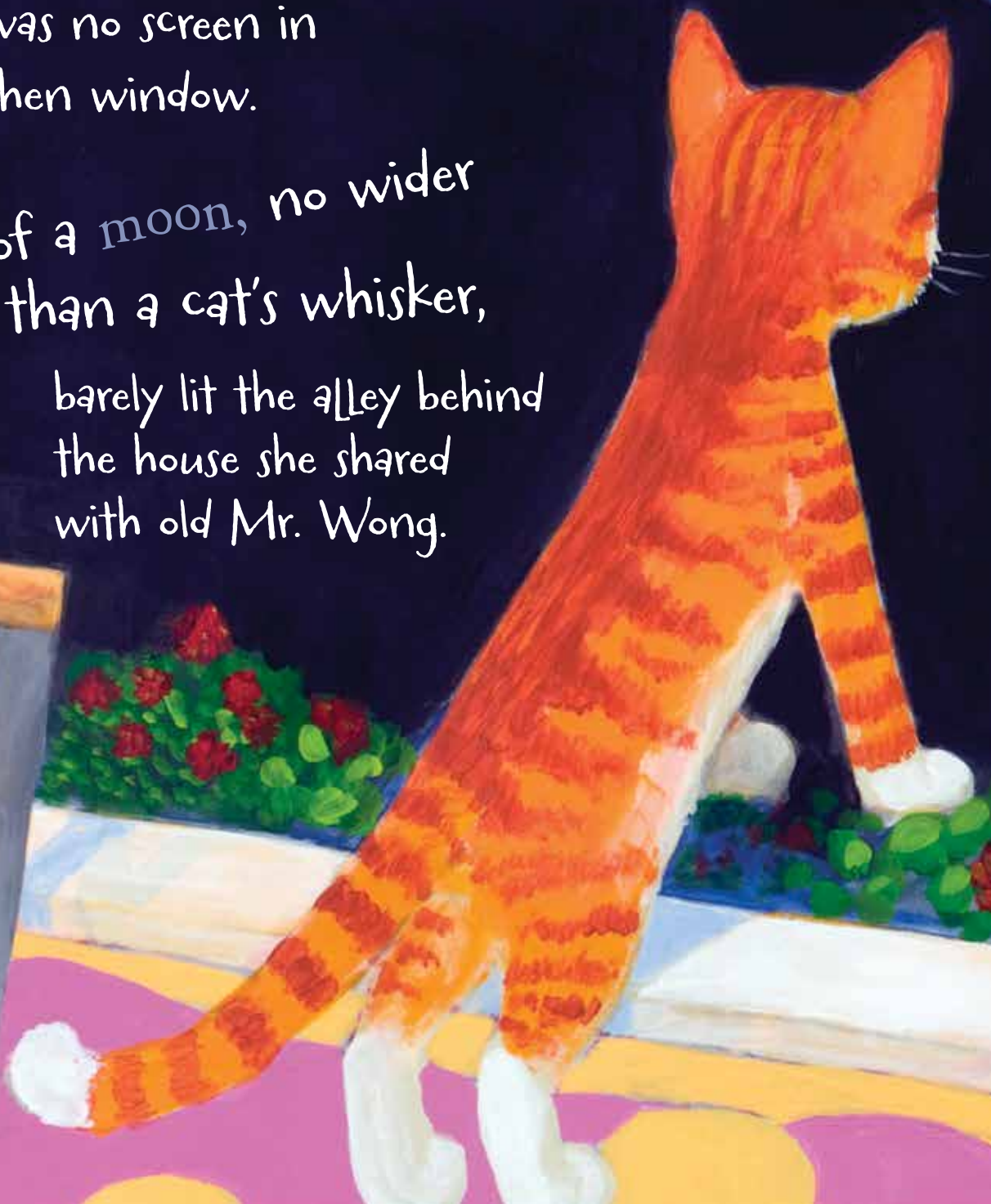
# One night

Kamie Cat noticed something unusual.

There was no screen in  
the kitchen window.

A sliver of a moon, no wider  
than a cat's whisker,

barely lit the alley behind  
the house she shared  
with old Mr. Wong.





Music and the delicious smell of fried fish floated  
in on the night air.

Someone was  
having a party!

Kamie had never been to a party,  
and fish was her favorite food.

Quicker than a wink,

Kamie Cat went out through  
the open window.



A large black dog with a spiked collar is running through a dark alley at night. The dog is the central focus, moving from the left towards the right. The alley is dimly lit, with a few colorful lights (yellow, green, red) visible in the background. The dog's fur is dark and textured, and its eyes are glowing. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and slightly scary.

It was a **big mistake.**

From the other end of the alley,  
Kamie saw a big, black shape  
charging toward her.

**A dog!**

He, or she, was  
barking like crazy.





Kamie ran.

She ran through one  
backyard, and then another.

She ran up a tree, but  
unfortunately it was a small tree.

The dog jumped up and knocked her to the ground.  
Kamie Cat landed on her feet and ran...  
right into the **street!**



Something even **bigger**  
and faster than the dog  
was headed right toward her!

It had **two big eyes**, each one  
brighter than the full moon!





Kamie ran and  
climbed over fences,



garbage cans,



and  
gazebos.

Fortunately, the dog  
and the thing with big yellow  
eyes were gone.

Unfortunately,  
Kamie was **lost.**

And lonely.

How she missed her best  
friend, Mr. Wong!

In Kamie's  
neighborhood all the little  
houses looked the same.

Was this her house?  
Kamie peeked inside.

Yum!



A woman was serving her cat  
fresh food and water in clean bowls.



"MEOW!" Kamie yowled.  
"I'm hungry, too!"

The woman looked up.  
But instead of inviting Kamie  
to dinner, she yelled,



On the next block  
she peeked  
into another  
window.



Inside,  
a little boy was brushing  
a cat with a  
soft brush.

Kamie sighed.

Mr. Wong brushed  
her every day!

Kamie almost meowed  
but she remembered  
how the lady had  
yelled at her.

She kept going.





At the next house  
Kamie watched a man  
clean a cat box.

He filled it with fresh litter.


"There you are, Princess,"  
the man said to  
his cat friend.

"I know cats are  
clean and like a nice,  
clean litter box."

Mr. Wong cleaned  
Kamie's litter box every day.

He loved Kamie,  
and Kamie loved him.





It was very  
late now.

At the next house  
Kamie saw two cats  
curling up in a nice,  
round cat bed.

Mr. Wong had made Kamie  
a bed from an old basket.  
How she missed her  
soft, warm bed!





Sadly, Kamie moved on to the next house.



A colorful illustration of a living room. A man with red hair, wearing blue pajamas, is sitting on a red armchair, shouting with his mouth wide open and one arm raised. A blue slipper is flying through the air above him. In the background, there is a window with red curtains, a yellow lamp on a side table, and a large red sofa. The floor is covered with a red patterned rug.

But it wasn't  
their house.

Inside, a cat was scratching  
the arm of a sofa.

A man who was sitting across the room began to yell.  
Then he threw a slipper at the cat!

Kamie frowned.

Mr. Wong always made sure that Kamie had a  
scratching post. He knew that cats need to scratch.



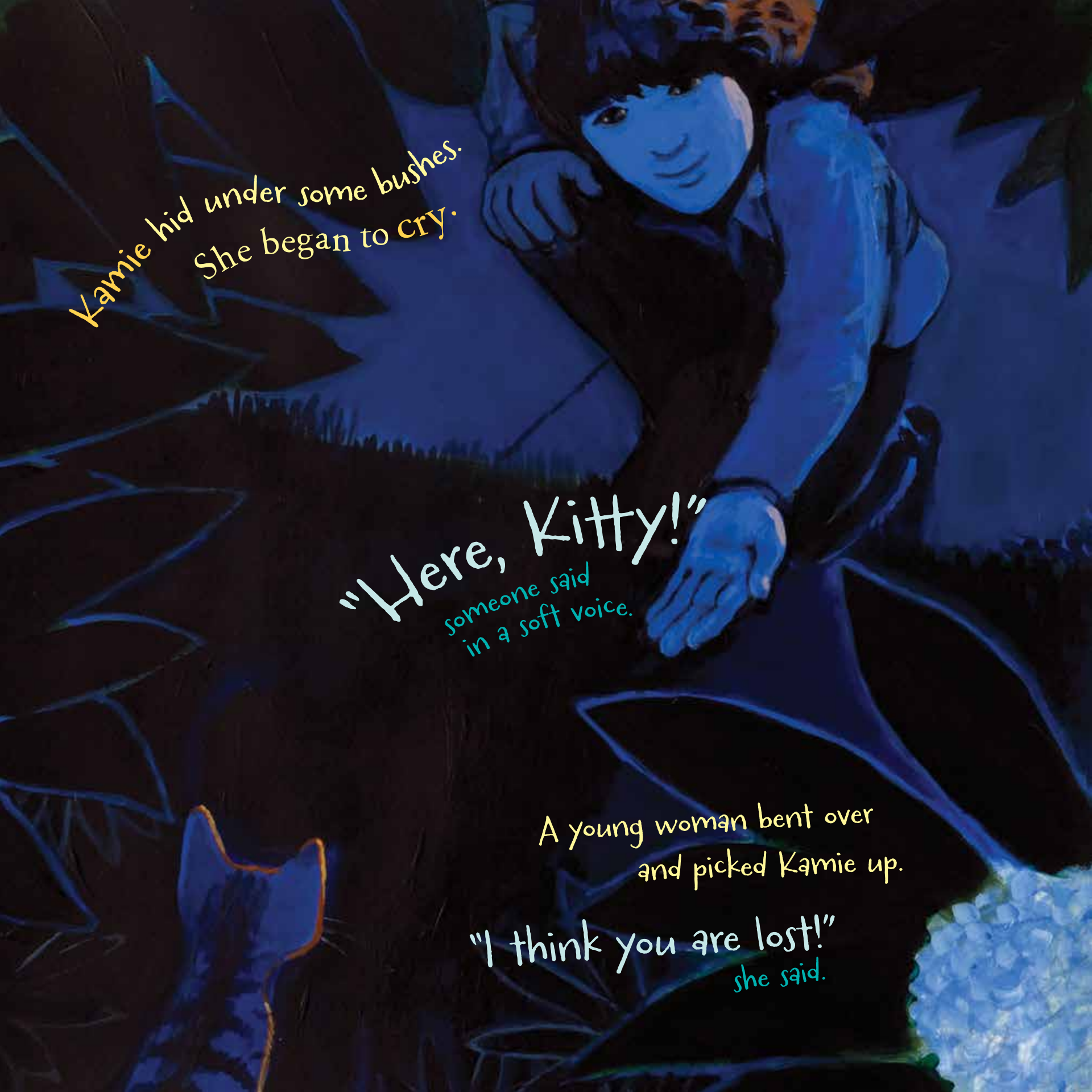


And he never,  
ever  
yelled at Kamie.

He never **hit** Kamie,  
either, or threw anything at her,  
even if she made a mistake.

Mr. Wong was kind.

Kamie ran away  
from the house.



Kamie hid under some bushes.  
She began to cry.

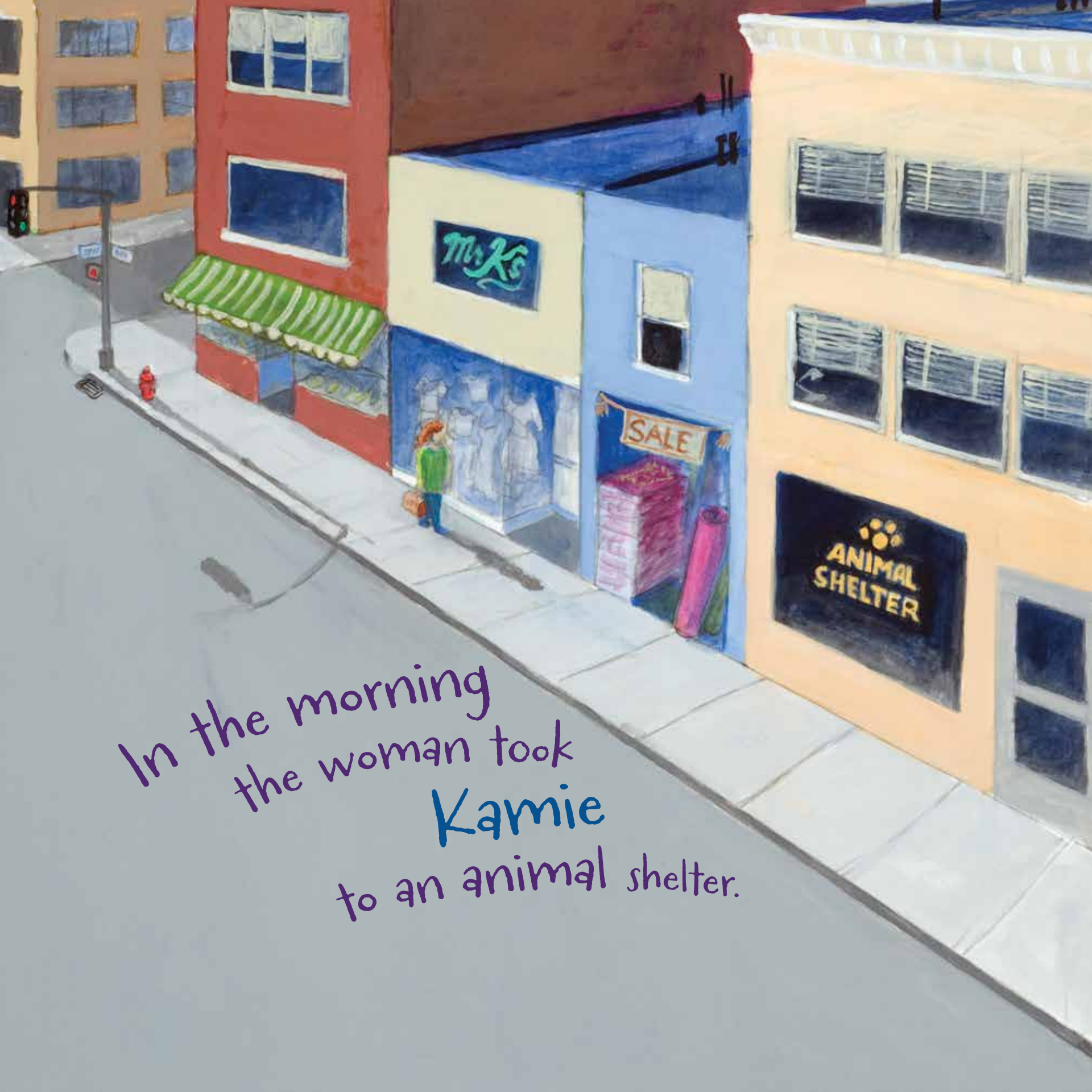
"Here, Kitty!"

someone said  
in a soft voice.

A young woman bent over  
and picked Kamie up.

"I think you are lost!"  
she said.





In the morning  
the woman took  
Kamie  
to an animal shelter.

An illustration of a veterinarian with a mustache, wearing a white lab coat and a stethoscope, holding a ginger and white striped cat. The scene is set against a bright pink background. A brown suitcase is visible on the left, and a grey surface is at the bottom.

"We're a bit crowded,  
but come on in,"  
the veterinarian at the shelter said.


"No tag?"  
he said to Kamie.

"How are we supposed  
to know where you live?"

"I think she's old,"  
said the young woman.

"Yes," said the veterinarian.



An illustration of a woman with curly brown hair, wearing a green long-sleeved shirt and blue pants, looking towards the right. She is standing next to a cage. Inside the cage, two black cats are perched on a blue horizontal bar. The background of the cage is pink with vertical white lines representing the bars. The woman's face is partially visible on the left side of the frame.

"And most people  
want to adopt  
cute little kittens,"  
he added.

"Hmmm... she looks  
kind of scruffy,  
wouldn't you say?"



"No!

I would say she looks beautiful!"  
a voice called out.

"And old is good.

An old friend is the  
best friend of all!"

It was Mr. Wong!

He had come to the  
shelter to look for her!

Kamie meowed  
for joy.







"I'm sorry," said Mr. Wong.  
"I'm sorry I forgot to put the screen in the window!"

I'm sorry I didn't  
give you a collar with a  
tag on it so people would  
know where you live.

It will never  
happen again."



That night  
Kamie and Mr. Wong

sat in the kitchen  
after a fine dinner of fried fish.





The moon was no wider than two cat whiskers and the alley behind the little house was quiet and dark.



And the only thing  
that went out the window

was the sound of Mr. Wong's guitar  
and Kamie Cat's purr

as she  
hummed along.





## About the Animal Welfare Institute

The Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) was founded in 1951 and is dedicated to alleviating suffering inflicted on animals by humans. AWI helps a wide range of animals in need, including those used in experimental laboratories, confined to factory farms, caught in steel traps in the woods, and threatened with extinction across the globe—from the smallest mice to the great whales of the sea. We believe that each person can make a difference for the animals by stepping up to help those who are suffering or are in need of a little assistance. Please consider becoming a member of AWI and helping us make the world a better place for all living creatures. For more information, including educational materials for children, visit AWI at: [www.awionline.org](http://www.awionline.org).



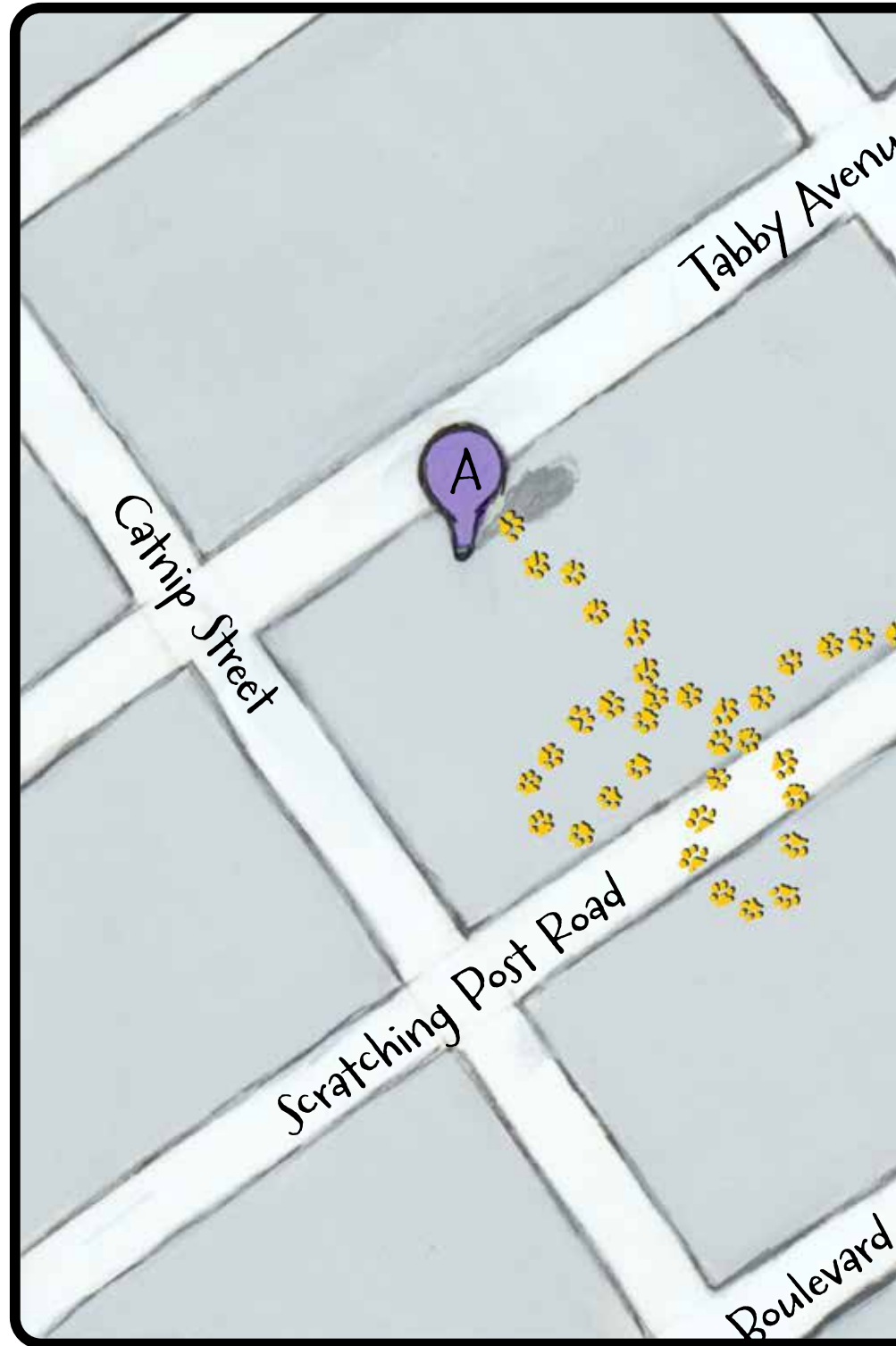
A Mr. Wong's House

B Animal Shelter

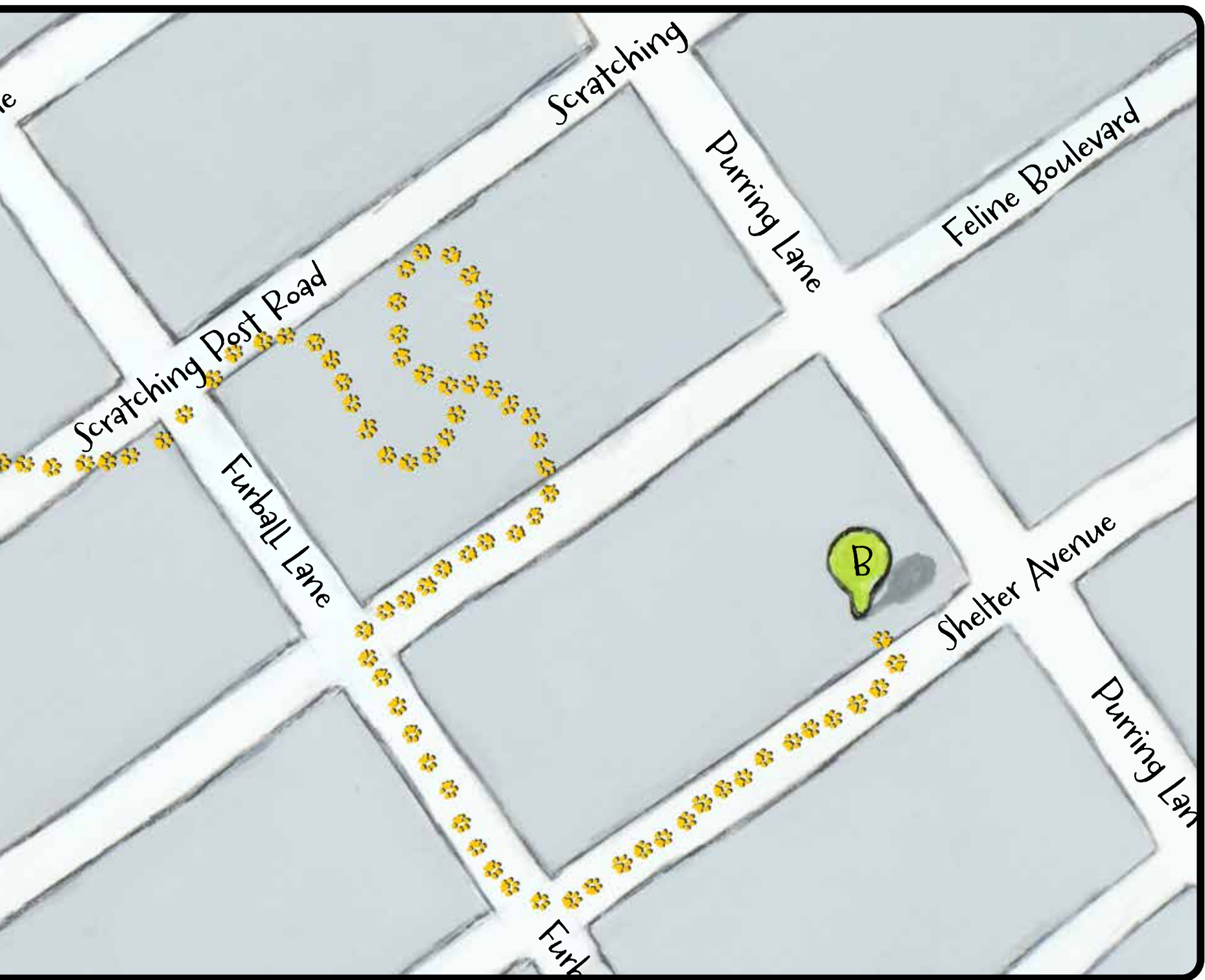
Get Directions

## About the Author-Illustrator

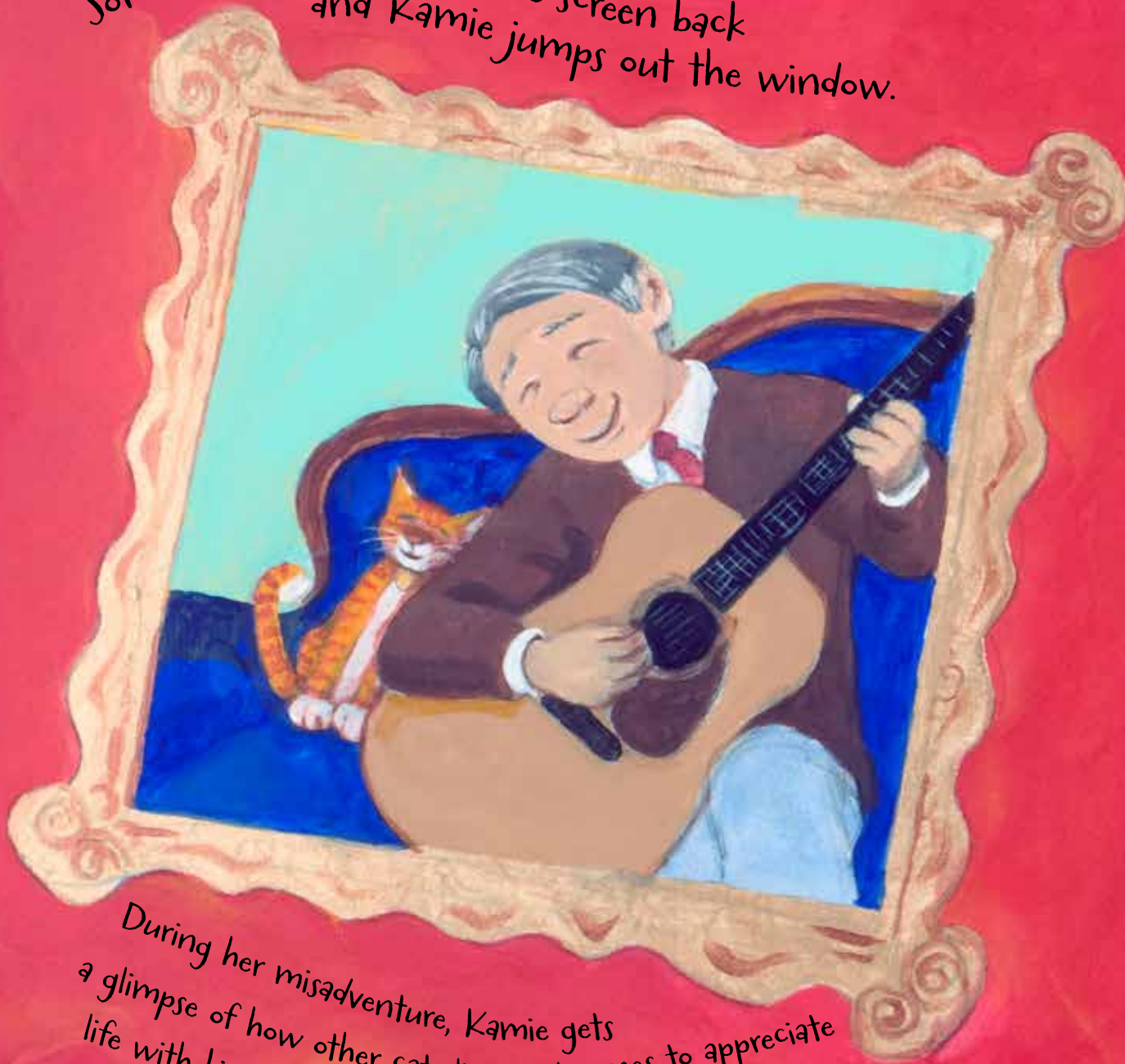
1. Sheila Hamanaka is an award-winning children's book author-illustrator whose work focuses on **multiculturalism** and **peace**. 200ft
2. Her books include the popular *All the Colors of the Earth*; *The Journey: Japanese Americans, Racism, and Renewal*; *Grandparents Song*; and *Bebop-A-Do-Walk*. 3mi
3. Deeply concerned about our **fellow animals** and the future of our planet, Hamanaka wrote and illustrated two other books for the Animal Welfare Institute: *The Boy Who Loved All Living Things: The Imaginary Childhood Journal of Albert Schweitzer* (2006), and *Pablo Puppy's Search for the Perfect Person* (2008). 500ft
4. She is currently working on a novel for middle grade readers. She lives in New York City. 5mi







Oh no!  
Someone forgets to put the screen back  
and Kamie jumps out the window.



During her misadventure, Kamie gets  
a glimpse of how other cats live, and comes to appreciate  
life with kind Mr. Wong. In this colorful story, kids learn  
the basic dos and don'ts of caring for our feline friends.

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