



# A LITTLE CAMEL FOR BABY JESUS

Written and Illustrated by  
MARIA GIANOLA





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Library of Congress Control Number: 2019937413

CIP data is available.

ISBN-10: 0-8198- 4601-5

ISBN-13: 978-0-8198- 4601-3

Translated by Marlyn Evangelina Monge, FSP

Originally published in Italian as *Un piccolo cammello per Gesù*, written and illustrated by Maria Gianola © Editrice Elledici, in person of the legal representative don Mauro Balma with registered office in Castelnuovo don Bosco (AT) — Fraz. Morialdo, 30 and headquarter in Torino — Corso Francia, 333/3 Italia. P.IVA/C.F. 00070920053.

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First English edition. Copyright © 2019, Daughters of St. Paul

Published by Pauline Books & Media, 50 Saint Pauls Avenue, Boston, MA 02130-3491

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Printed in the U.S.A.

ALCFBJ VSAUSAPEOILL3-2510149 4601-5

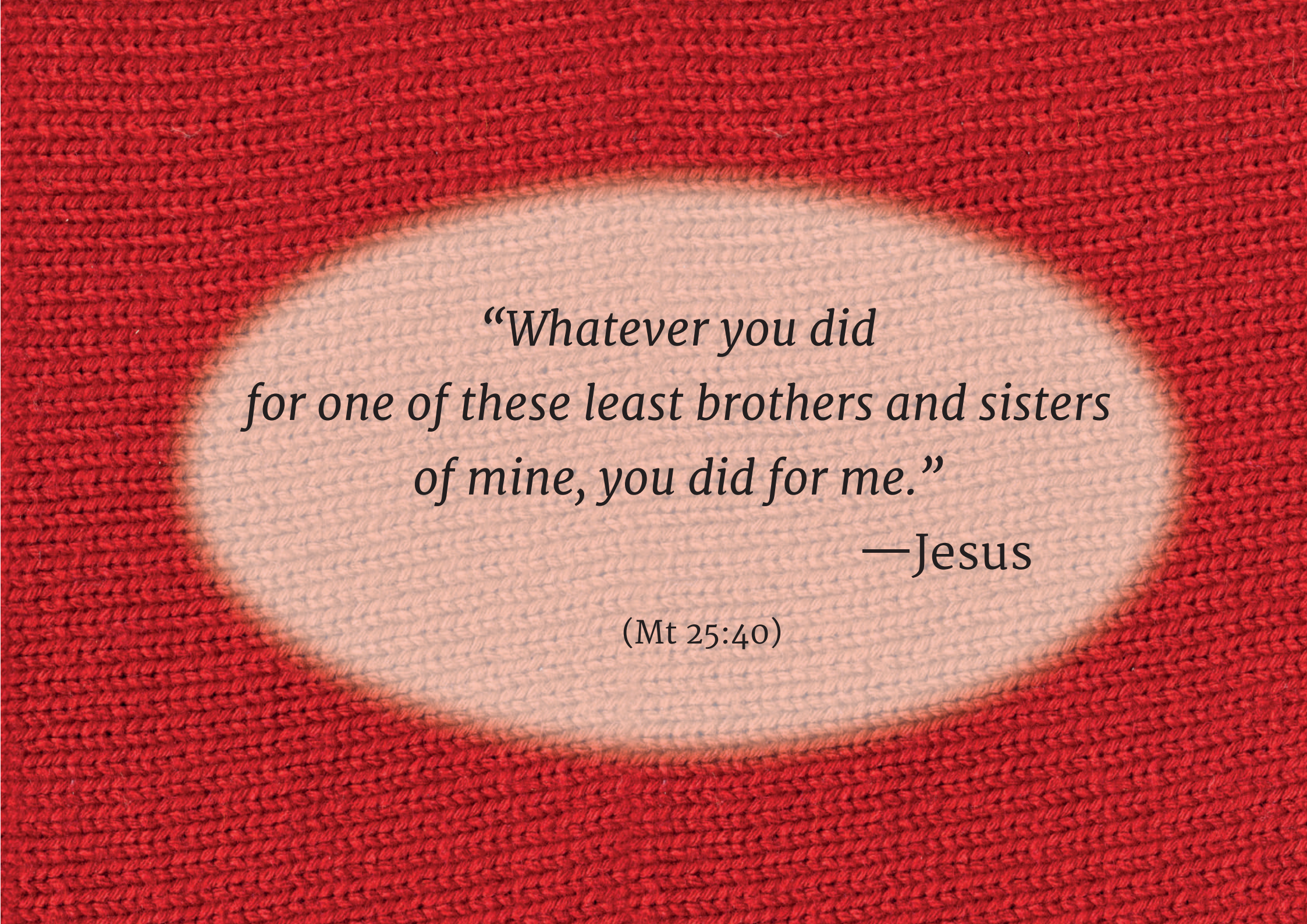
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Pauline Books & Media is the publishing house of the Daughters of St. Paul, an international congregation of women religious serving the Church with the communications media.

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23 22 21 20 19





*“Whatever you did  
for one of these least brothers and sisters  
of mine, you did for me.”*

—Jesus

(Mt 25:40)



“The star we have been waiting for  
has appeared! A new king has been born!”  
announced the king one night.







“We will leave tomorrow  
at sunset to follow the star!”



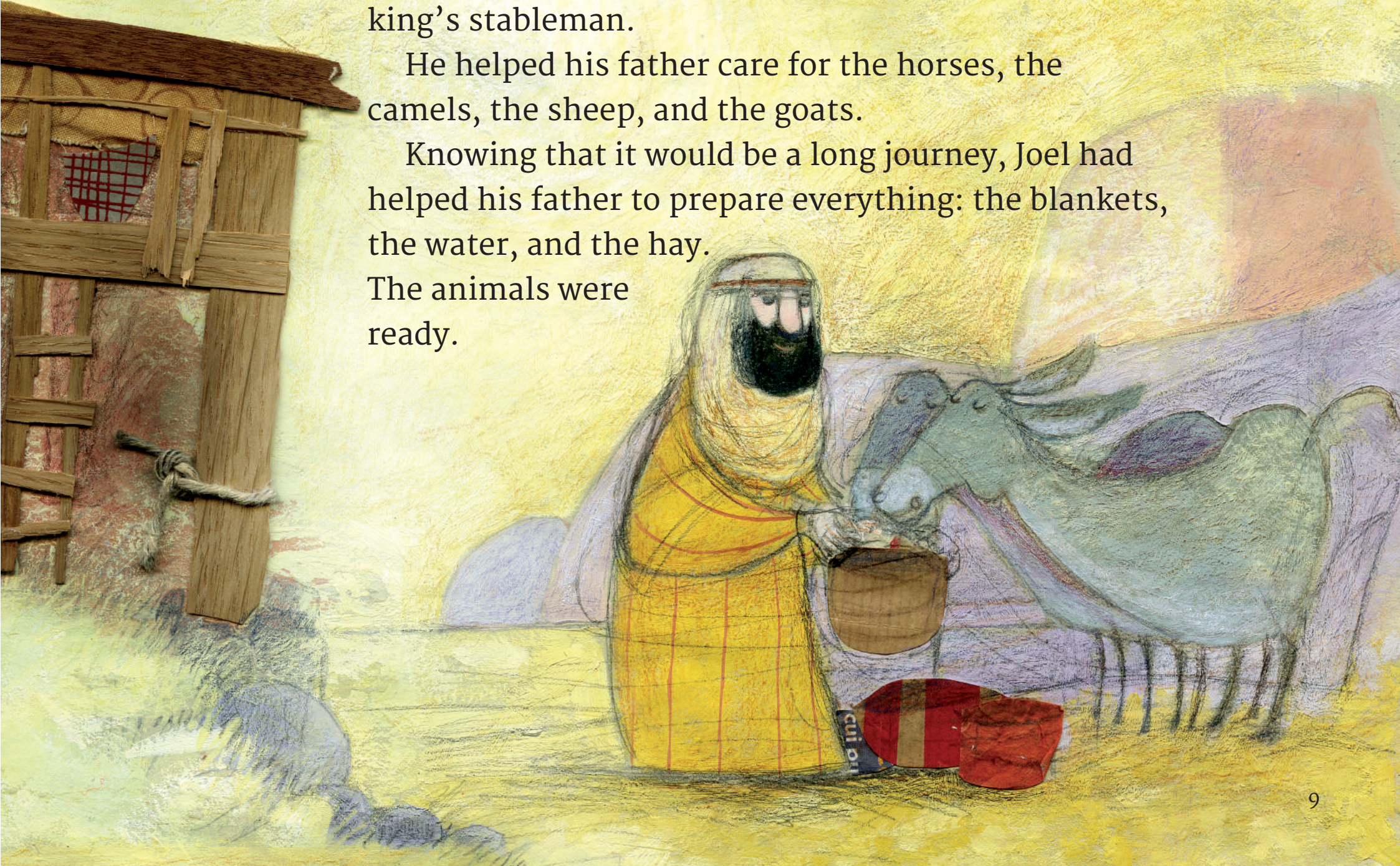





Joel was seven years old. He was the son of the king's stableman.

He helped his father care for the horses, the camels, the sheep, and the goats.

Knowing that it would be a long journey, Joel had helped his father to prepare everything: the blankets, the water, and the hay. The animals were ready.

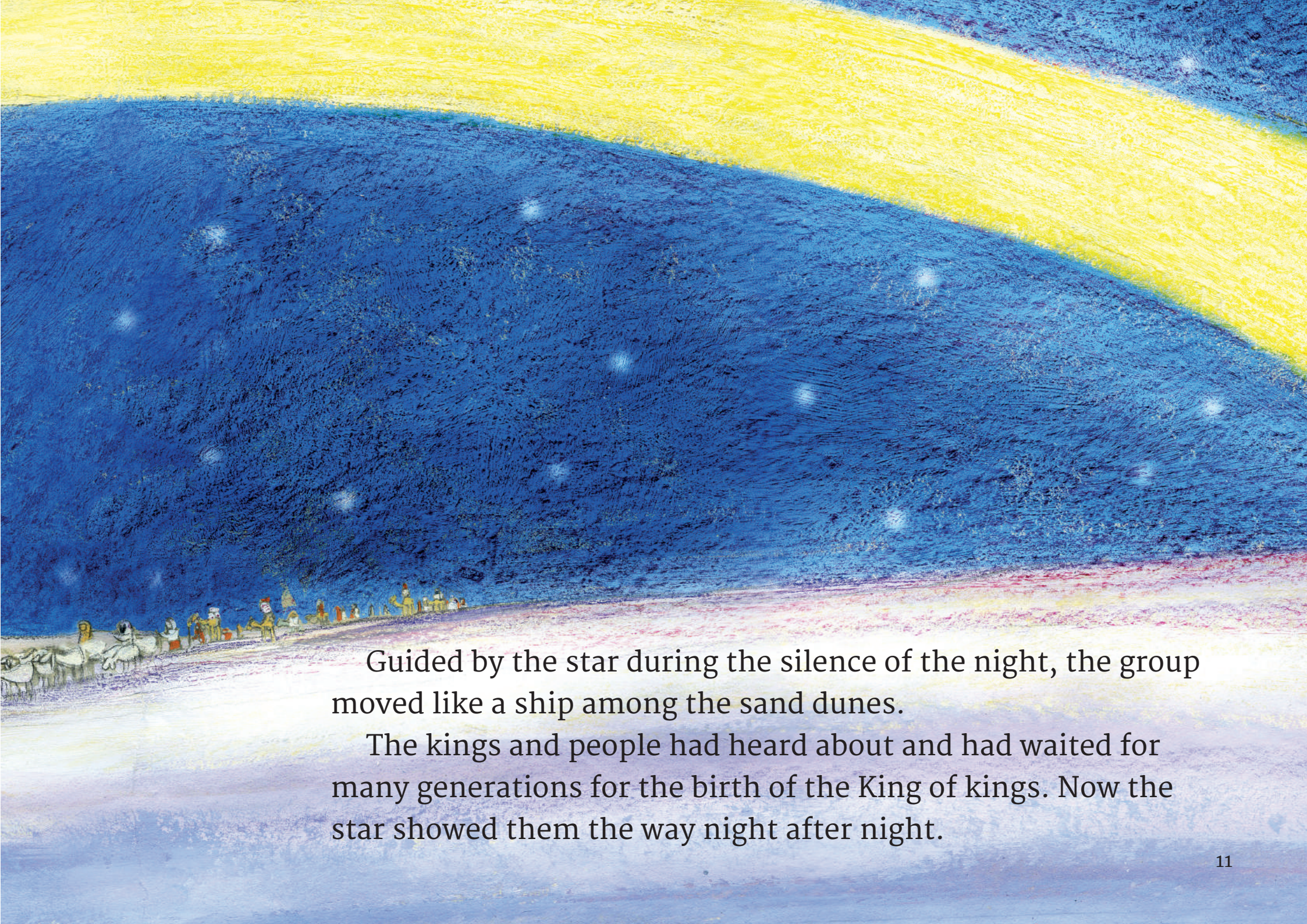






The king's caravan traveled west.  
Soon they met caravans from nearby kingdoms  
and they all traveled together.





Guided by the star during the silence of the night, the group moved like a ship among the sand dunes.

The kings and people had heard about and had waited for many generations for the birth of the King of kings. Now the star showed them the way night after night.



*My king has brought a gift of gold. The other kings are carrying incense and myrrh, thought Joel. How can I meet this new King with empty hands? he worried.*

Then he had an idea. "I know how to whittle wood," he said. "I will bring the newborn King a little camel I can make with my own hands!"





