The Blagonwight Twins Deal With a Bully

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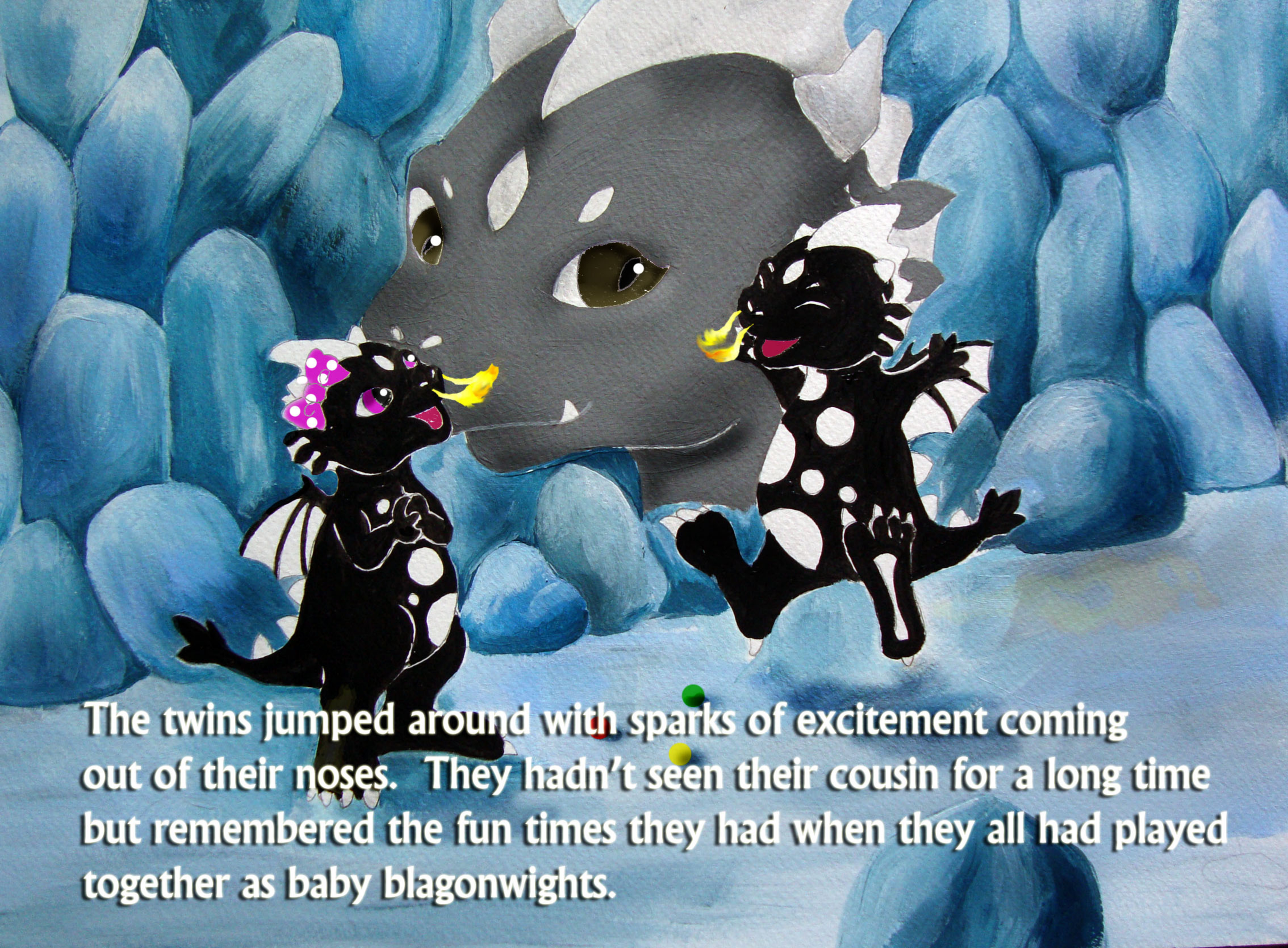
Bimo and Bindi Blagonwight were playing in their cave one afternoon when their parents came in with big news.

"Your cousin, Bakkus is coming for a visit," announced Father.

"He is a teenager now and can teach you two lots of things," added Mother.

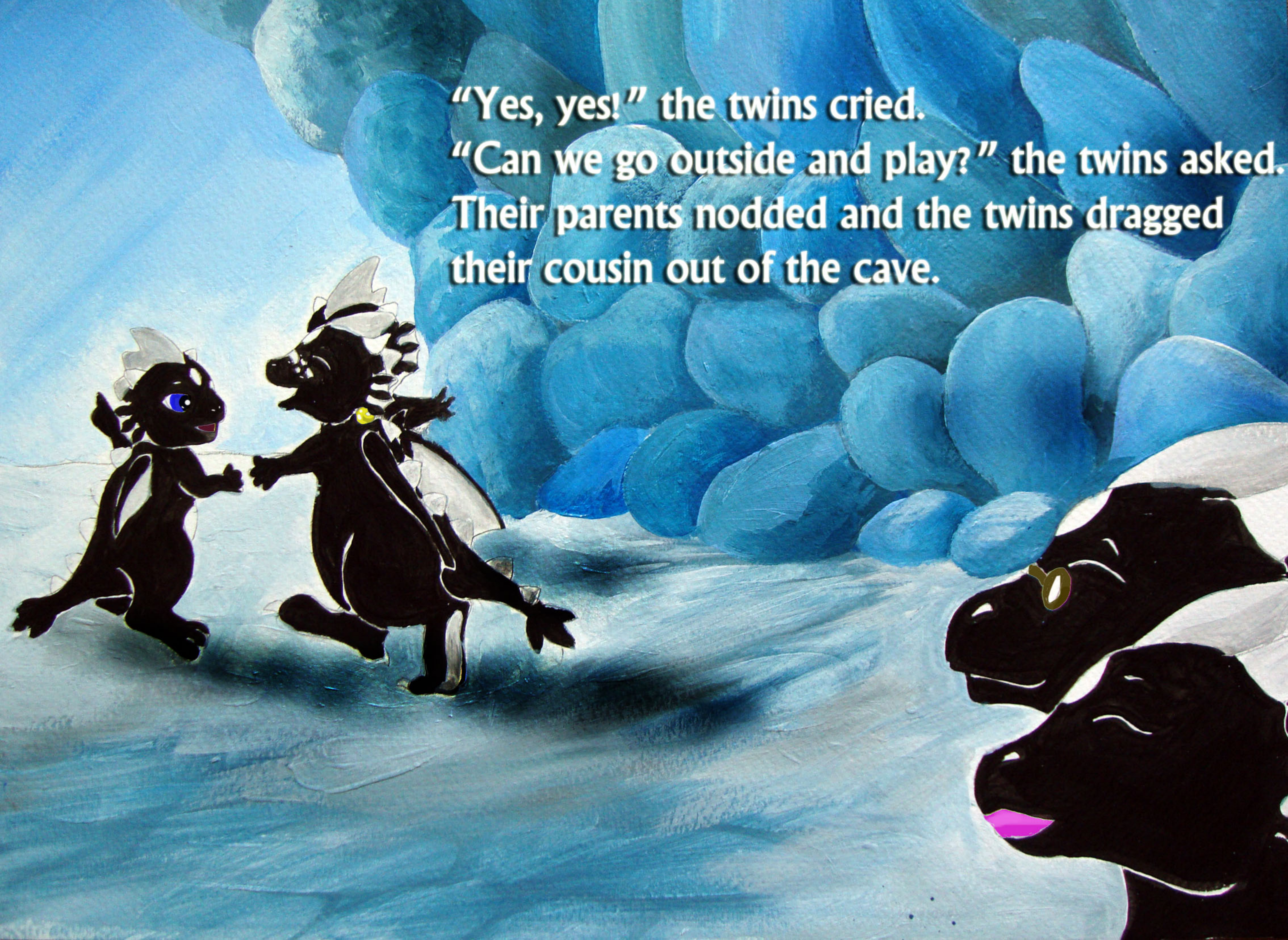


The twins jumped around with sparks of excitement coming out of their noses. They hadn't seen their cousin for a long time but remembered the fun times they had when they all had played together as baby blagonwights.

The twins began to make plans for when Bakkus arrived. Bindi wanted to ask about blowing fireballs. She had been trying for a while and could only blow sparks. Bimo planned to ask about flying. So far, he could only leave the ground for a few seconds at a time.

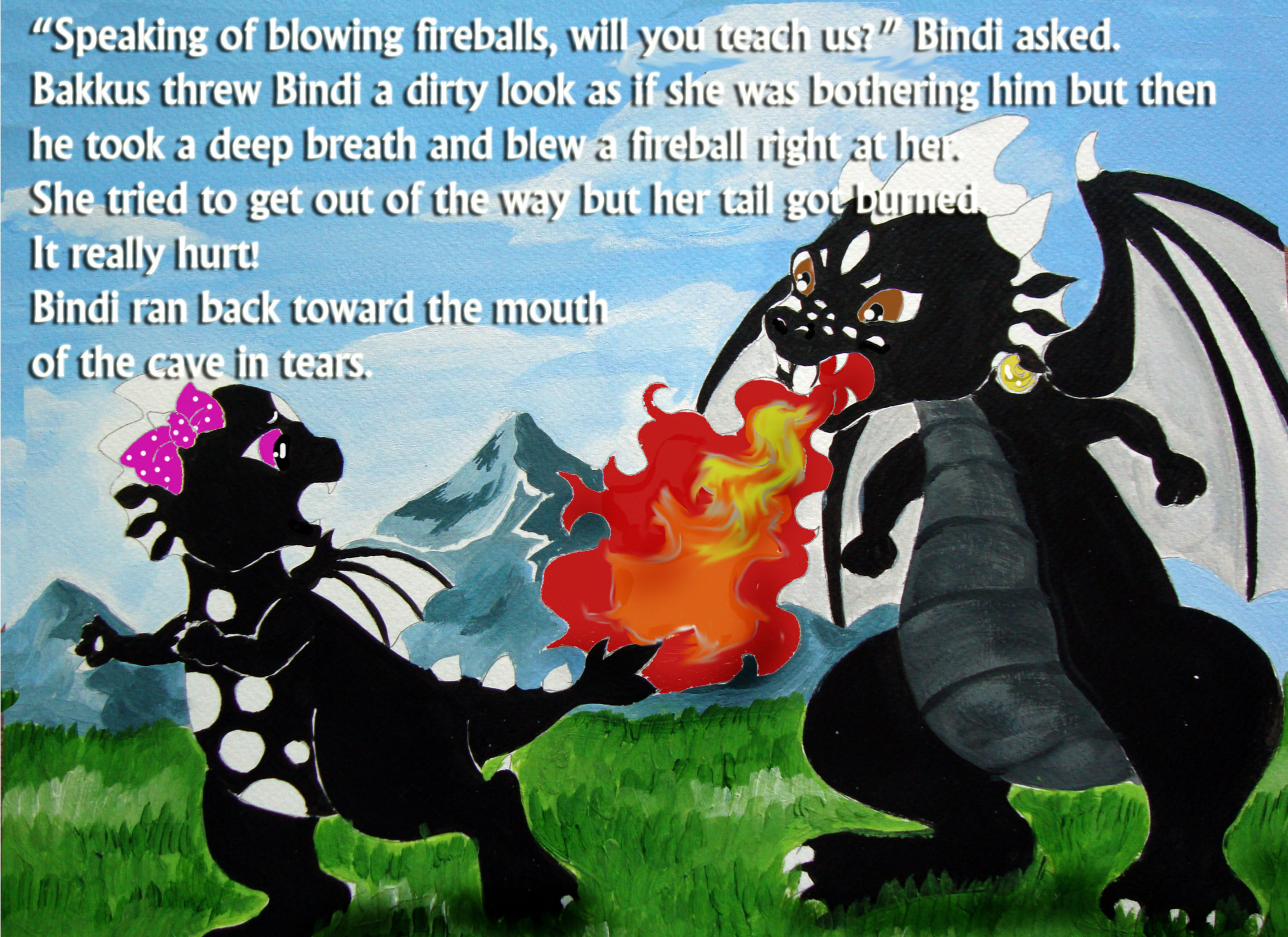
Bimo and Bindi also decided that
they both wanted to ask him about
going on hunts.
They could hardly wait to play and talk
with their older cousin.

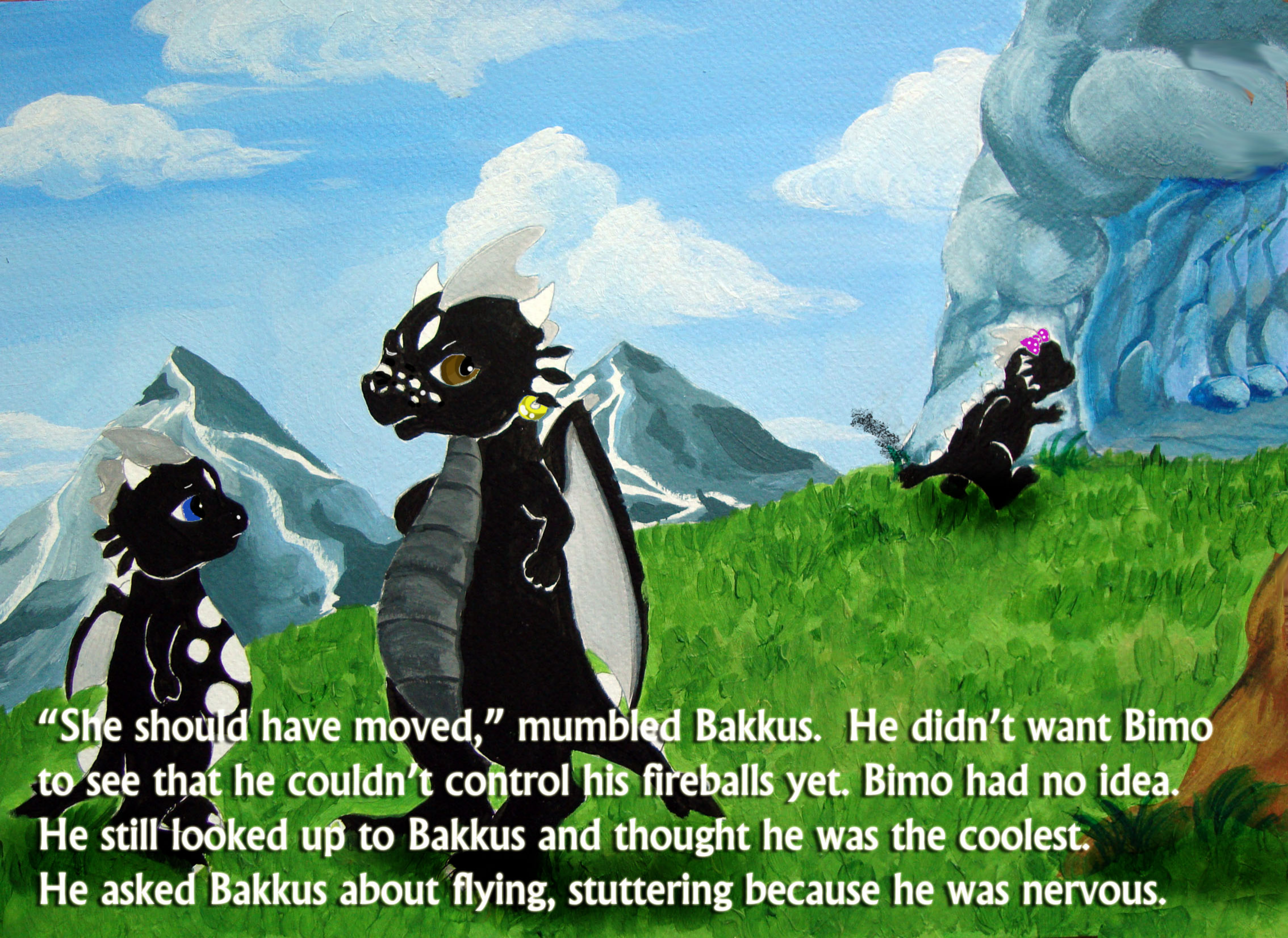
Finally, Bakkus arrived with his bags and the twins each grabbed one of his wings and swung around. Bakkus didn't seem to mind. He said, "Hello, little cousins. Do you remember Cousin Bakkie?" Bakkus didn't have his stomach spots any longer and his wings were bigger but he had little white spots all over his face.


"Yes, yes!" the twins cried.
"Can we go outside and play?" the twins asked.
Their parents nodded and the twins dragged
their cousin out of the cave.

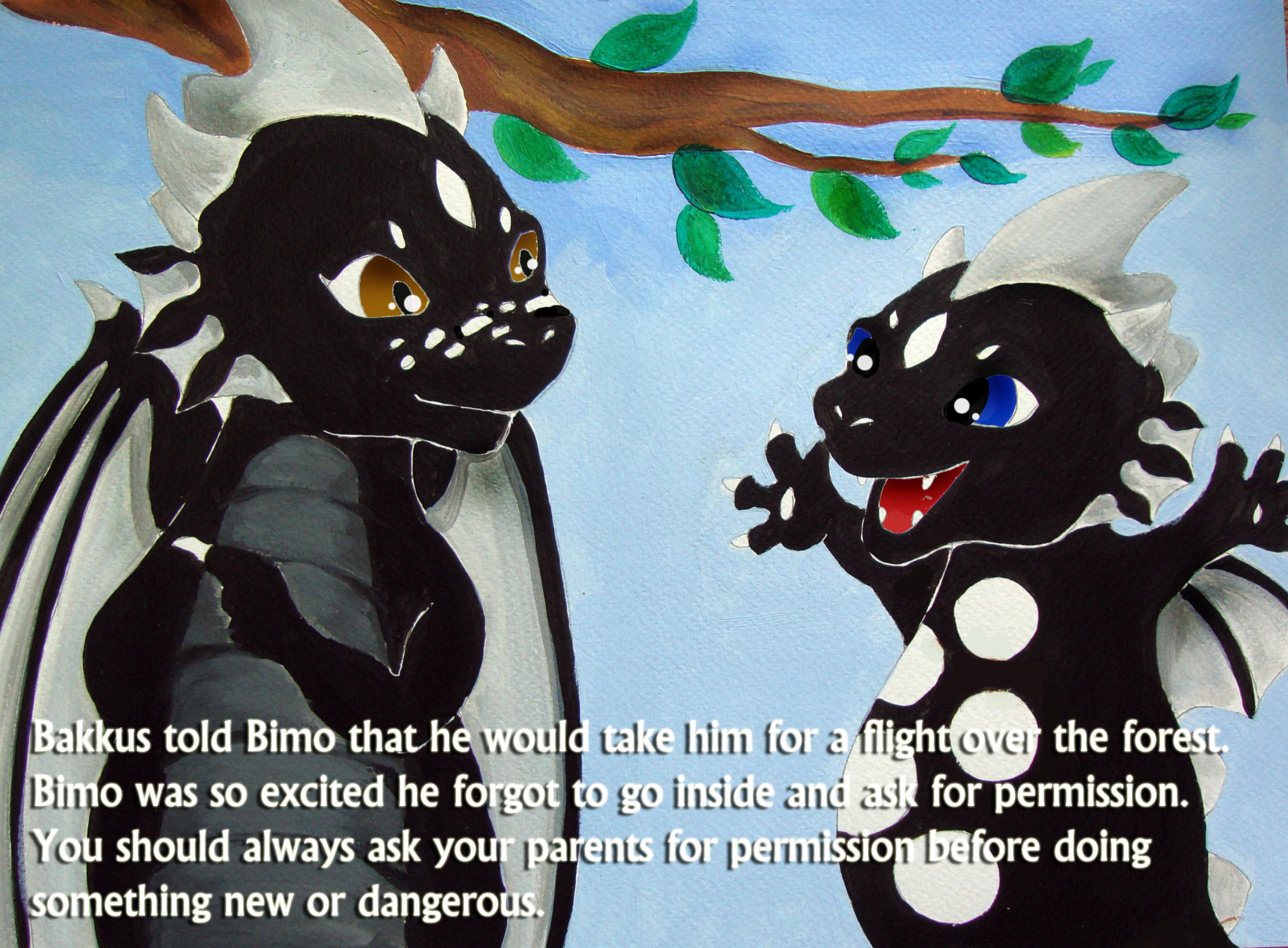
Once outside, Bakkus wasn't nearly as friendly.
He called them newts because they couldn't fly or blow fireballs.
"You two are barely different from a lizard," he sneered.
"My stomach spots are gone and I can blow fireballs as big as my father's."

"Speaking of blowing fireballs, will you teach us?" Bindi asked.
Bakkus threw Bindi a dirty look as if she was bothering him but then he took a deep breath and blew a fireball right at her.
She tried to get out of the way but her tail got burned.
It really hurt!
Bindi ran back toward the mouth
of the cave in tears.

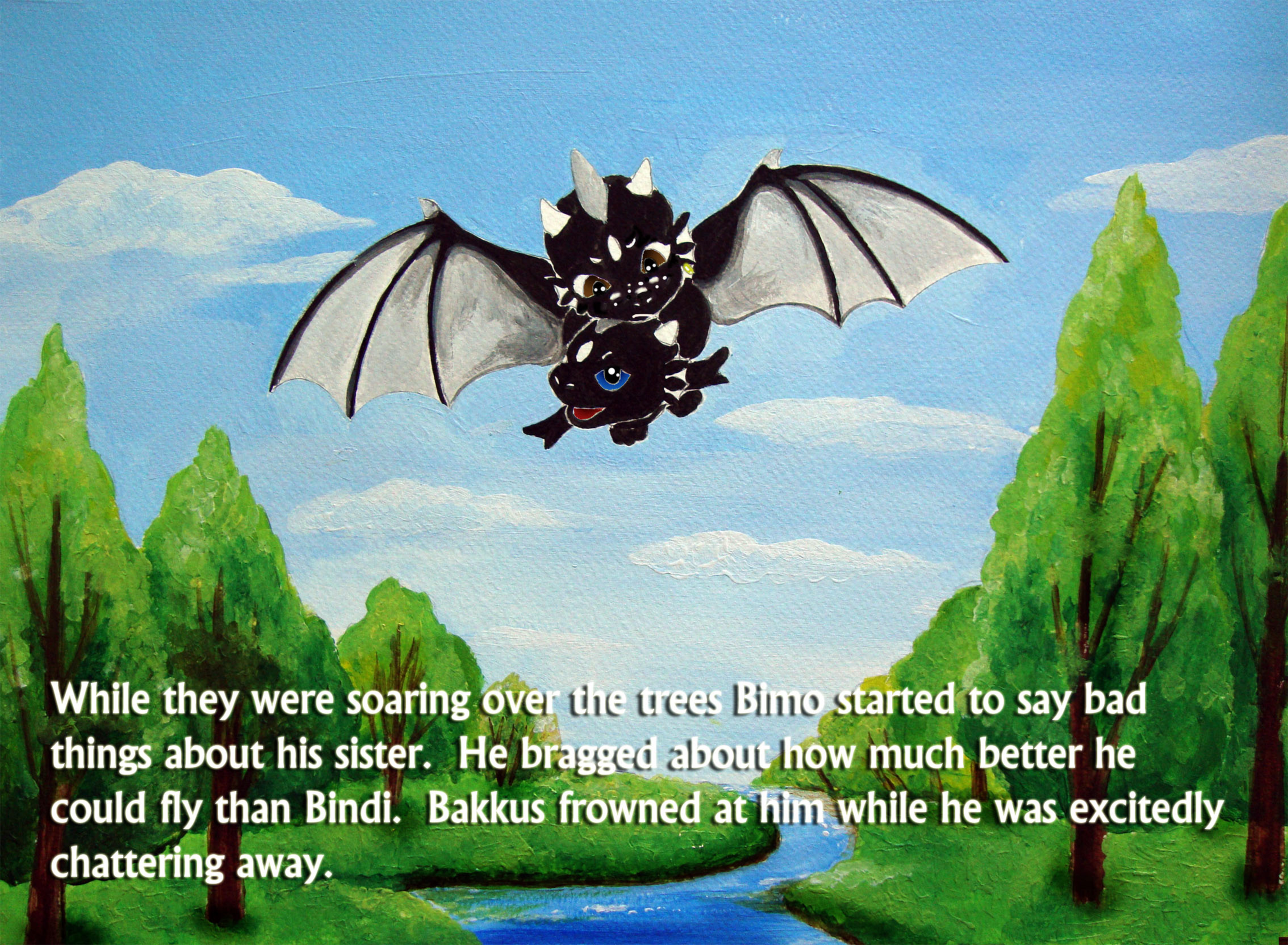




"She should have moved," mumbled Bakkus. He didn't want Bimo to see that he couldn't control his fireballs yet. Bimo had no idea. He still looked up to Bakkus and thought he was the coolest. He asked Bakkus about flying, stuttering because he was nervous.

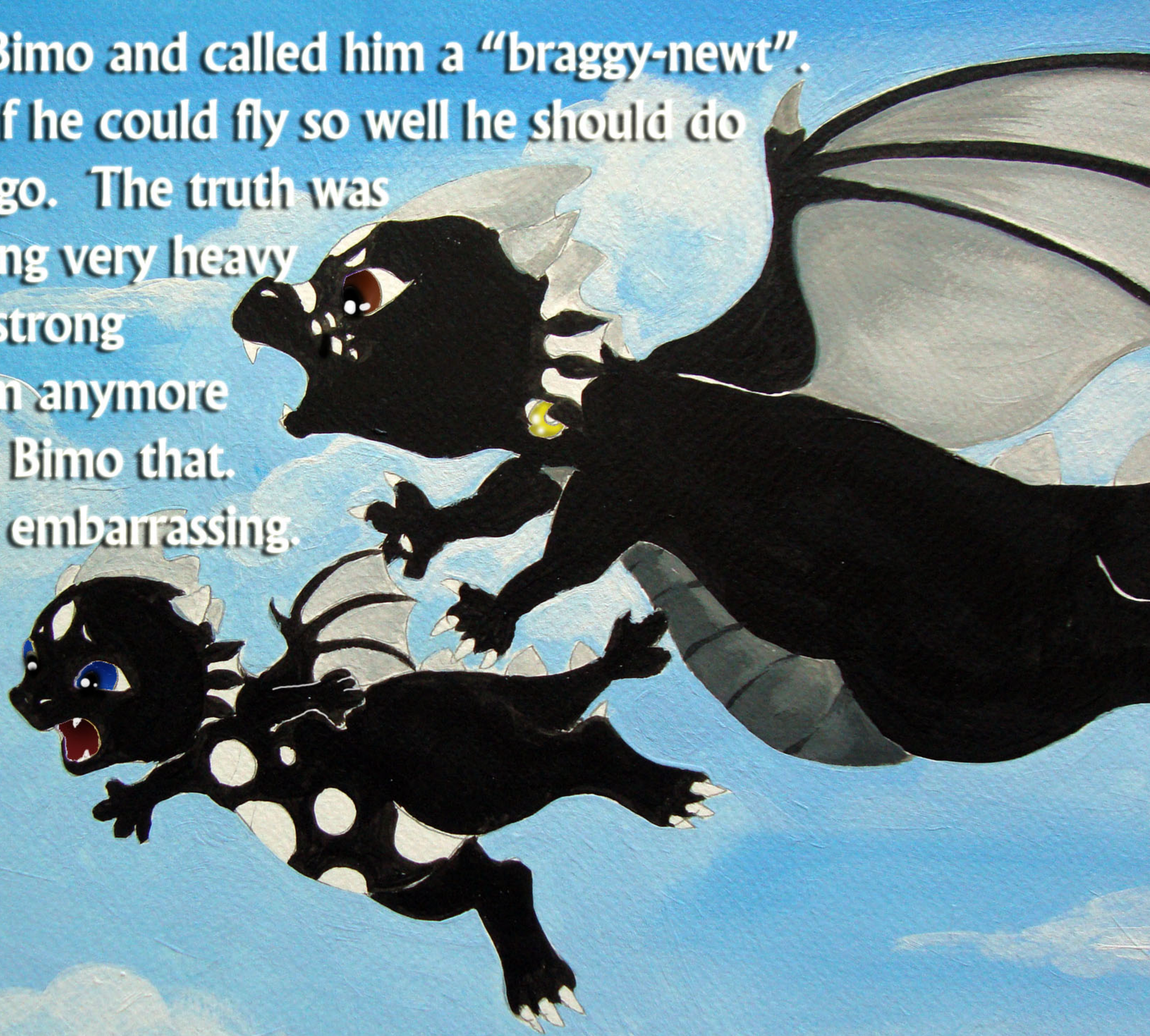


Bakkus told Bimo that he would take him for a flight over the forest. Bimo was so excited he forgot to go inside and ask for permission. You should always ask your parents for permission before doing something new or dangerous.



While they were soaring over the trees Bimo started to say bad things about his sister. He bragged about how much better he could fly than Bindi. Bakkus frowned at him while he was excitedly chattering away.

Bakkus laughed at Bimo and called him a “braggy-newt”.
He told Bimo that if he could fly so well he should do
it now and let him go. The truth was
that Bimo was getting very heavy
and Bakkus wasn’t strong
enough to carry him anymore
but he couldn’t tell Bimo that.
It would have been embarrassing.

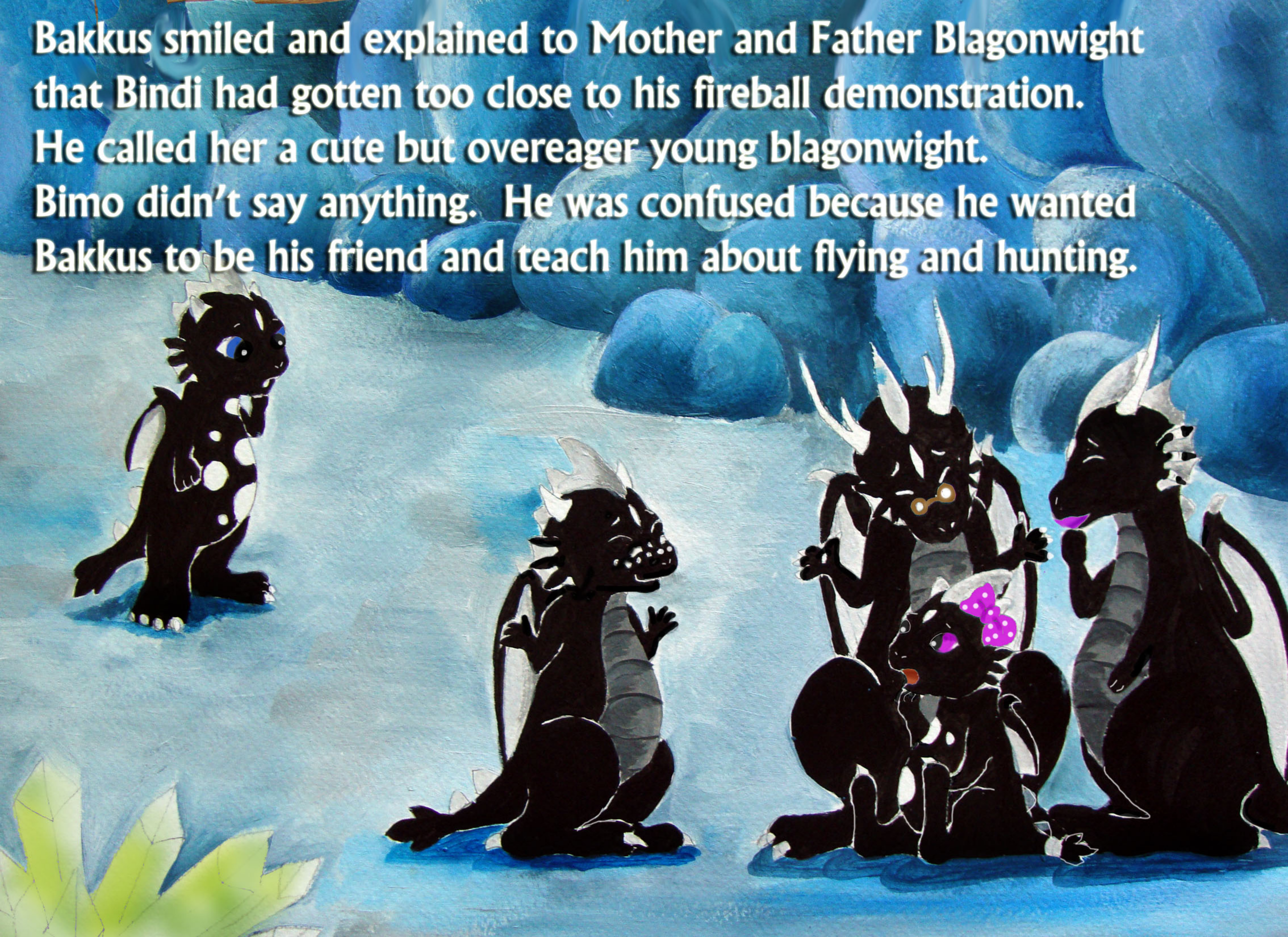


Bimo fell and landed on a tall pine tree. He looked down and saw it was a long way to the ground.
His arm hurt and he was scared of falling.
Bakkus wasn't being nice to him and he couldn't understand why.

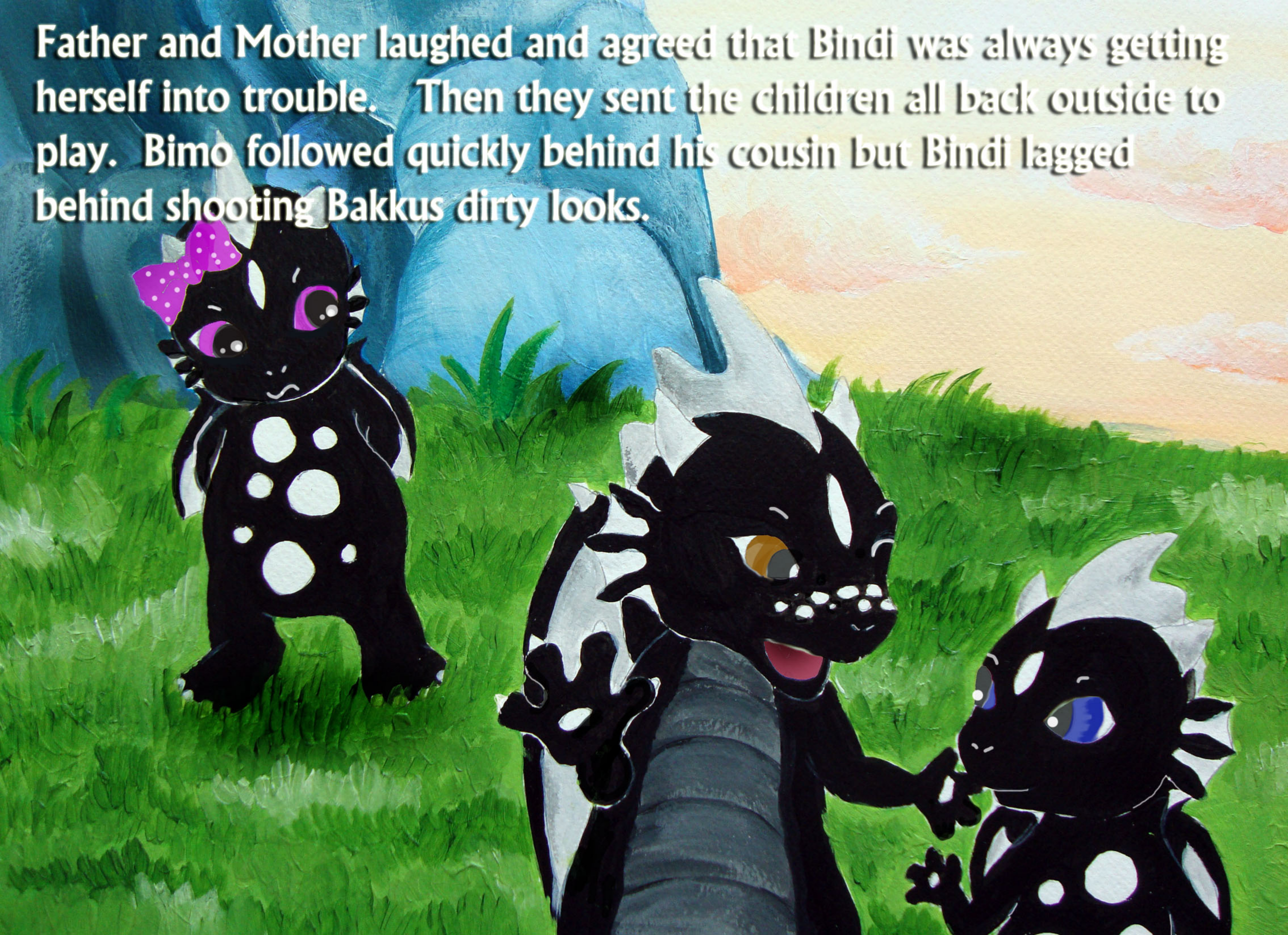
When Bimo finally climbed down, Bakkus was waiting for him and warned him not to tell his parents or he would really get it.
"I had to teach you a lesson," he said.
"My brothers wouldn't let me brag
when I was your age!"

Bimo and Bakkus flew back to the cave.
Bindi was nursing her burnt tail and
complaining to her parents.
When the boys arrived, Bindi
pointed at Bakkus and called him a bully.

Bakkus smiled and explained to Mother and Father Blagonwight
that Bindi had gotten too close to his fireball demonstration.
He called her a cute but overeager young blagonwight.
Bimo didn't say anything. He was confused because he wanted
Bakkus to be his friend and teach him about flying and hunting.



Father and Mother laughed and agreed that Bindi was always getting herself into trouble. Then they sent the children all back outside to play. Bimo followed quickly behind his cousin but Bindi lagged behind shooting Bakkus dirty looks.



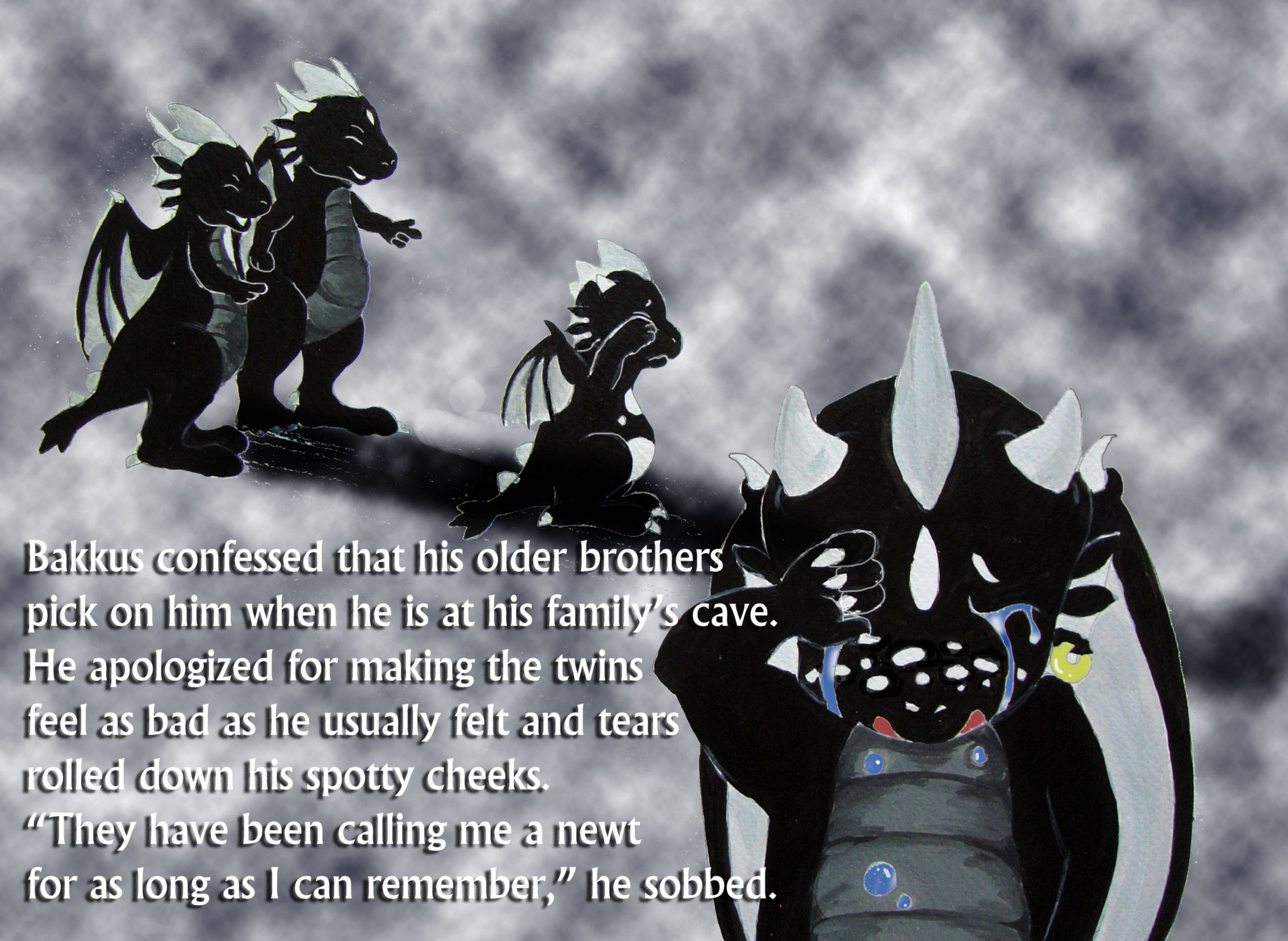
Bakkus casually mentioned going on his first hunt and both twins were eager to hear what happened. Even Bindi came and sat down at Bakkus' feet as he started describing his first hunt as a teenage blagonwight.

Bakkus told them about hunting in a big city and flying into an apartment in a tall building. "It was all grey and as tall as a mountain. There were lights everywhere but they didn't come from fires." Can you guess what kind of lights they were?

Then Bakkus opened the bag he had brought outside with them.
He opened the bag and pulled out the treasure he had found.
It was silver and shiny. Bakkus pointed the long shiny object between the twins and moved his finger.

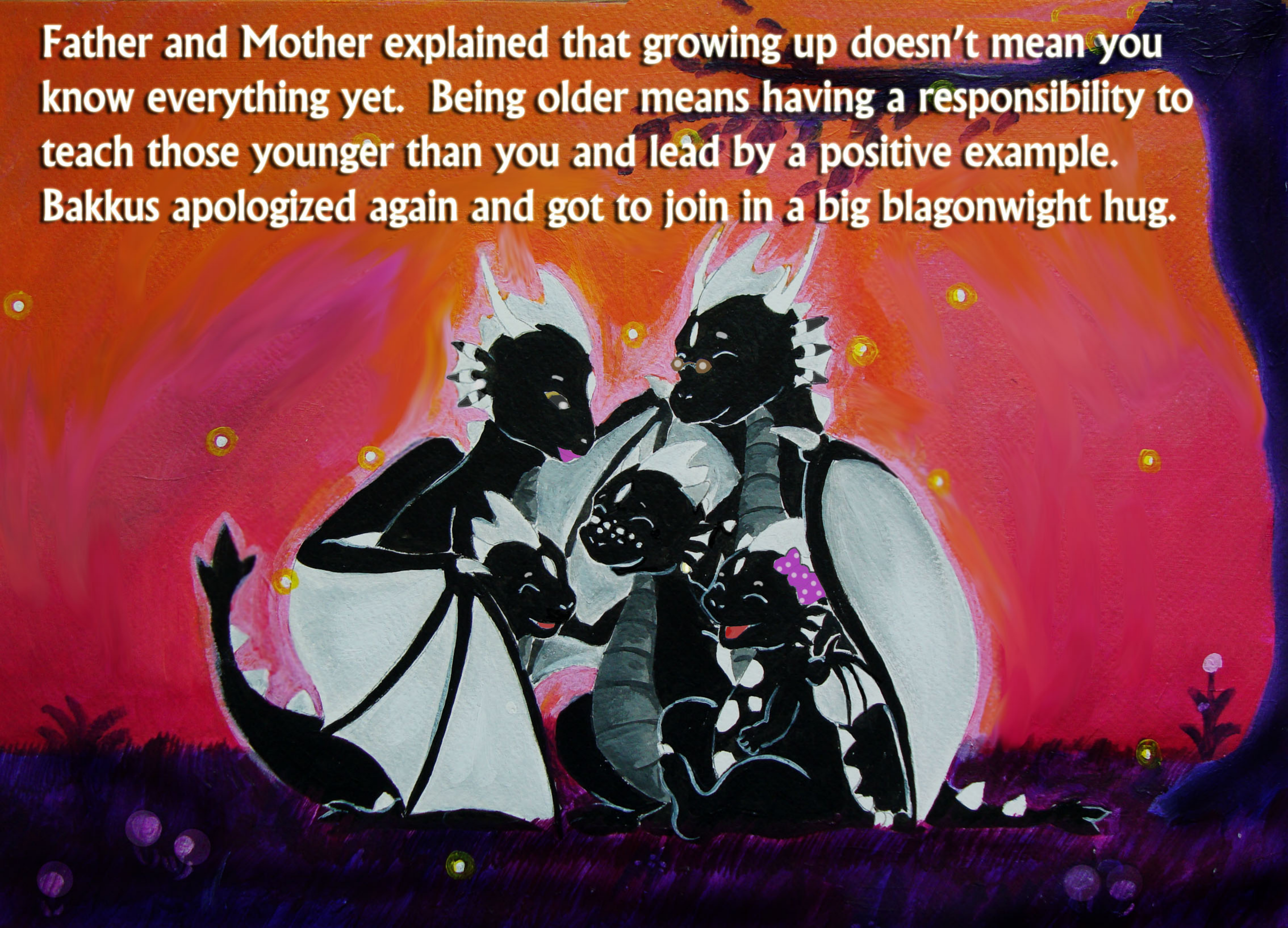
POW! The gun went off and everyone's heart skipped a beat. Even Bakkus looked scared. The twins started to cry and Father and Mother came running.

"I'm really sorry," Bakkus whispered.
"I didn't know what it was." Father and Mother Blagonwight were about to start shouting but they noticed that Bakkus suddenly looked very young and scared.
He looked up at them and started to cry.



Bakkus confessed that his older brothers
pick on him when he is at his family's cave.
He apologized for making the twins
feel as bad as he usually felt and tears
rolled down his spotty cheeks.
"They have been calling me a newt
for as long as I can remember," he sobbed.

Father and Mother explained that growing up doesn't mean you know everything yet. Being older means having a responsibility to teach those younger than you and lead by a positive example. Bakkus apologized again and got to join in a big blagonwight hug.



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