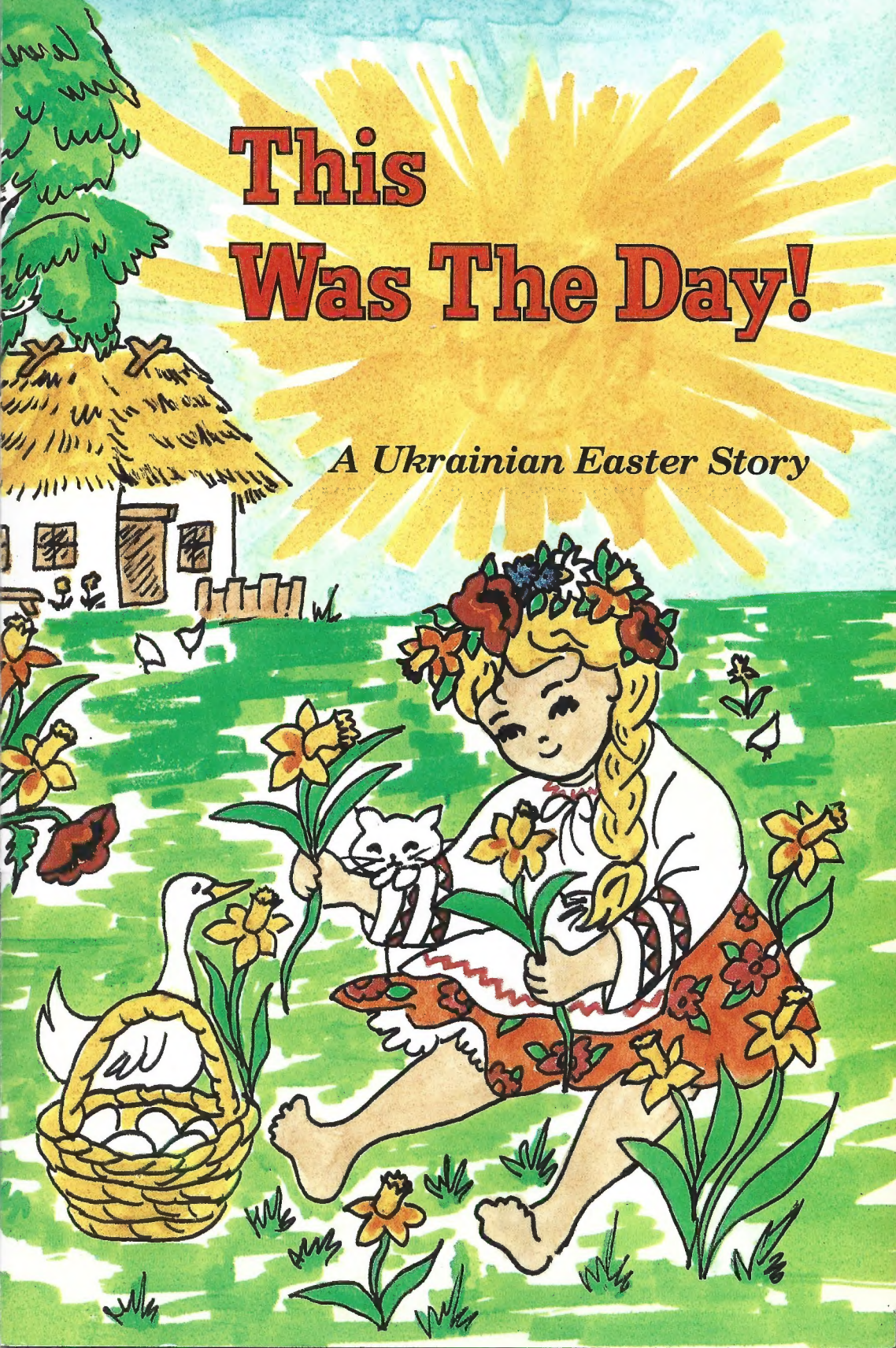


This Was The Day!

A Ukrainian Easter Story



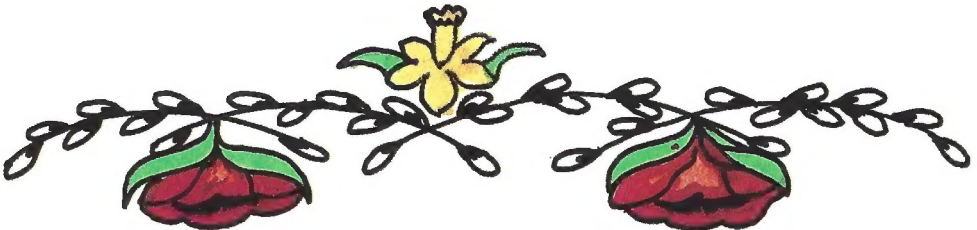


This Was The Day!

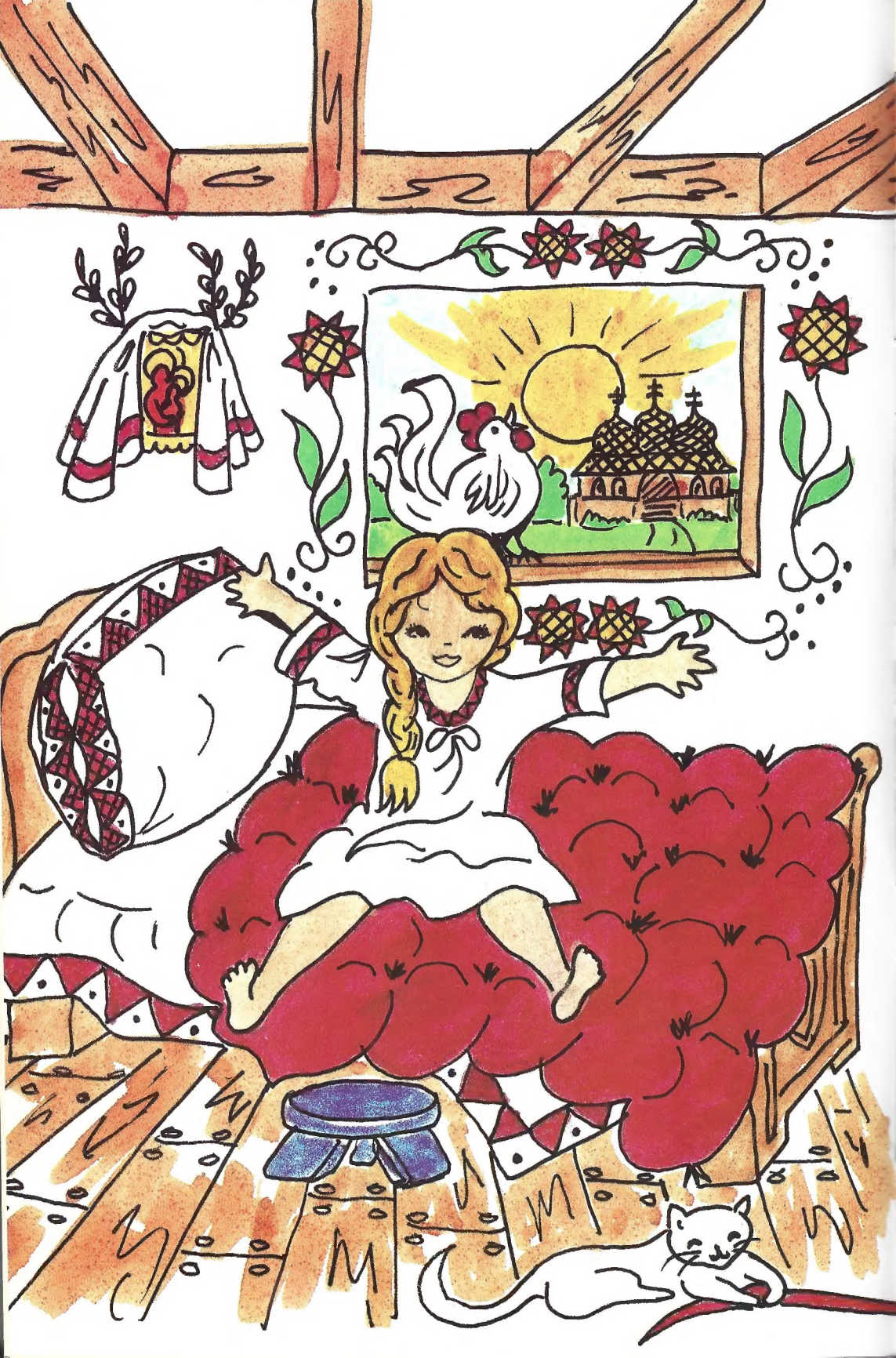
A Ukrainian Easter Story

Written by
ANN KMIT

Illustrated by
PHYLLIS HAYWA

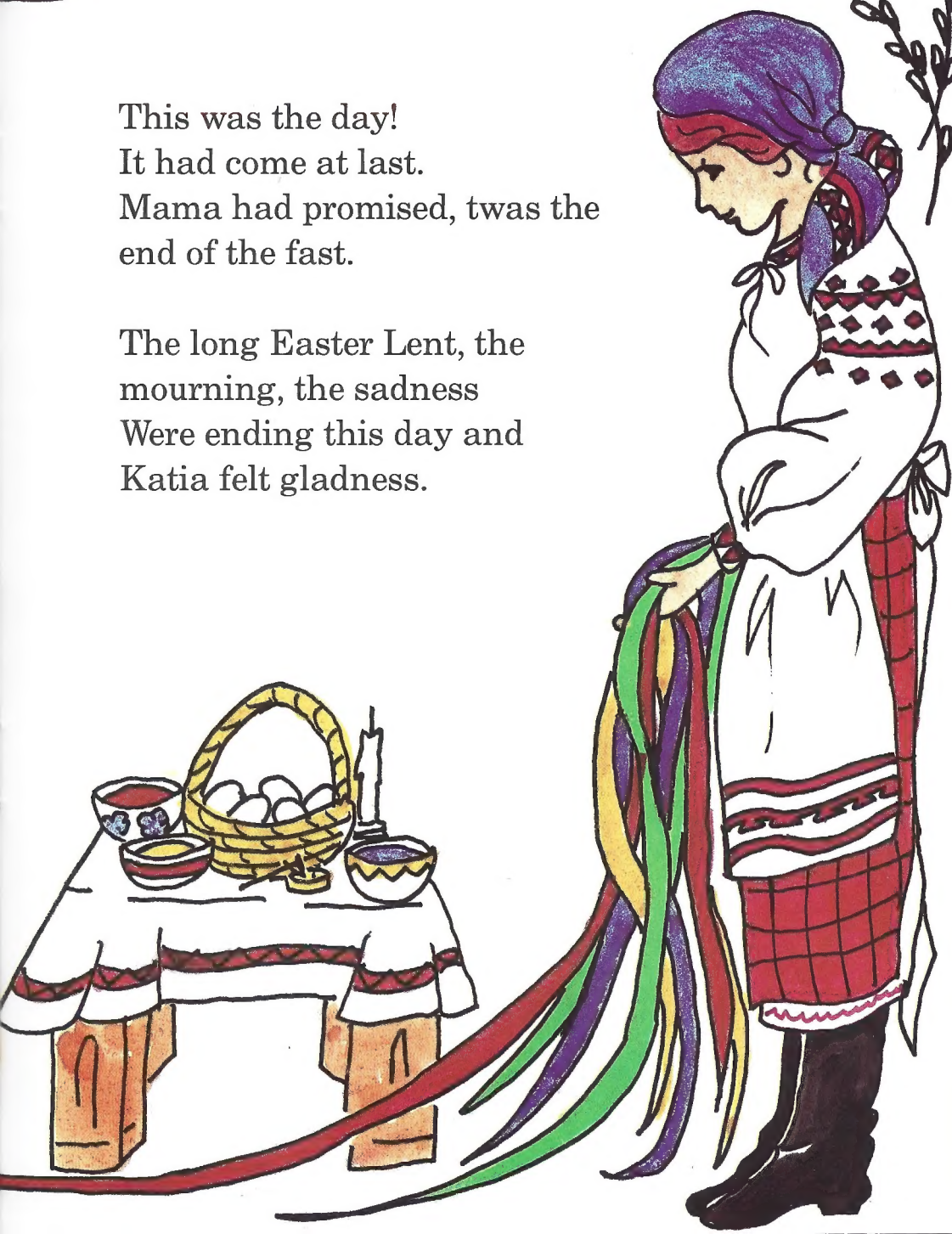


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This was the day!
It had come at last.
Mama had promised, twas the
end of the fast.

The long Easter Lent, the
mourning, the sadness
Were ending this day and
Katia felt gladness.





For mama had said "Now be patient
and good! I'll teach you about
pysanky, it will be understood,





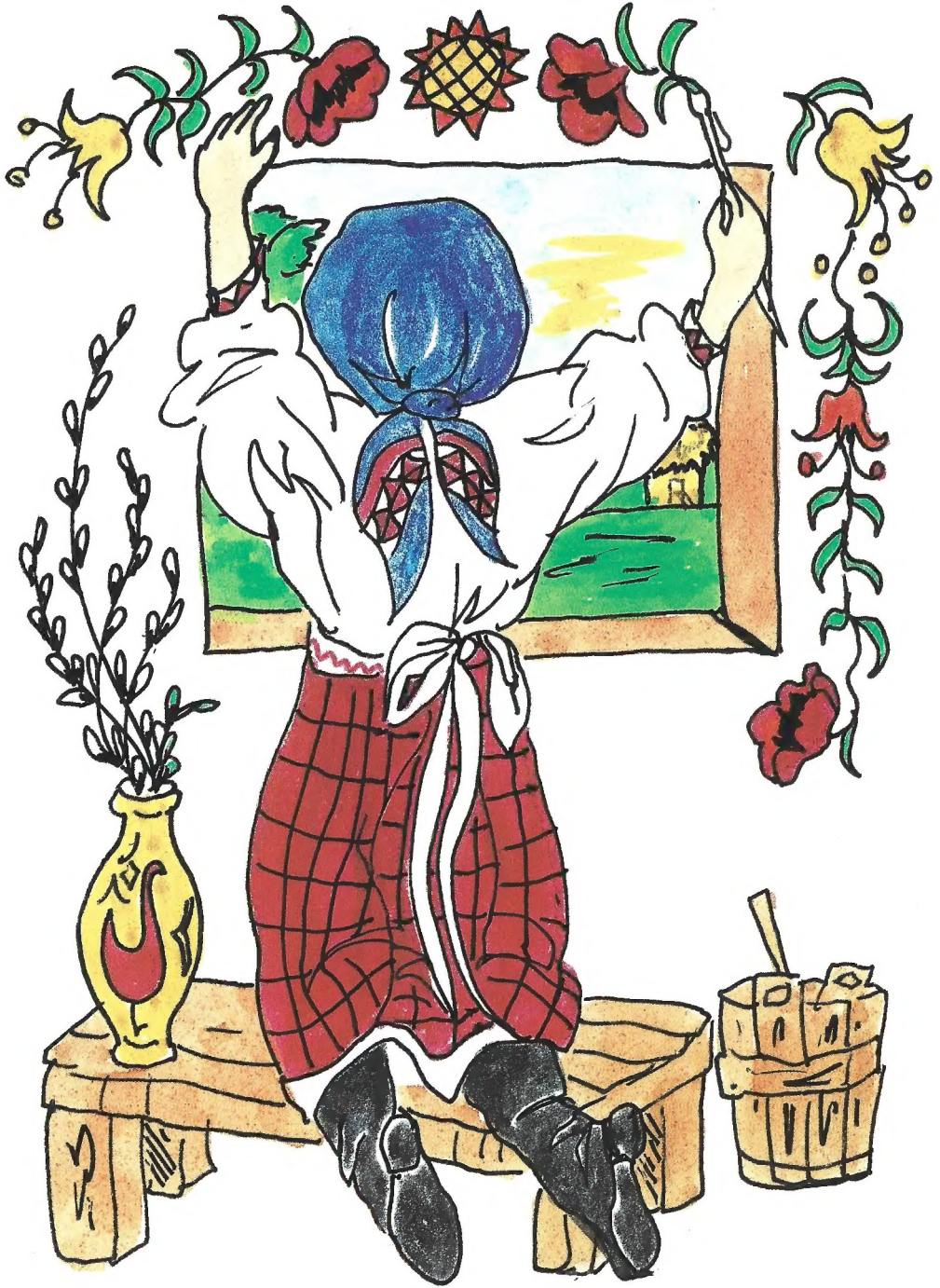
That magic and beauty which will
enchant your eyes
Can be created with eggs, beeswax and
dyes.

But before we get started, before we begin,
The house must be ready,
Must be neat as a pin.

For Easter time is springtime, a beginning
it's true,
And the house and the family must be
fresh as new."







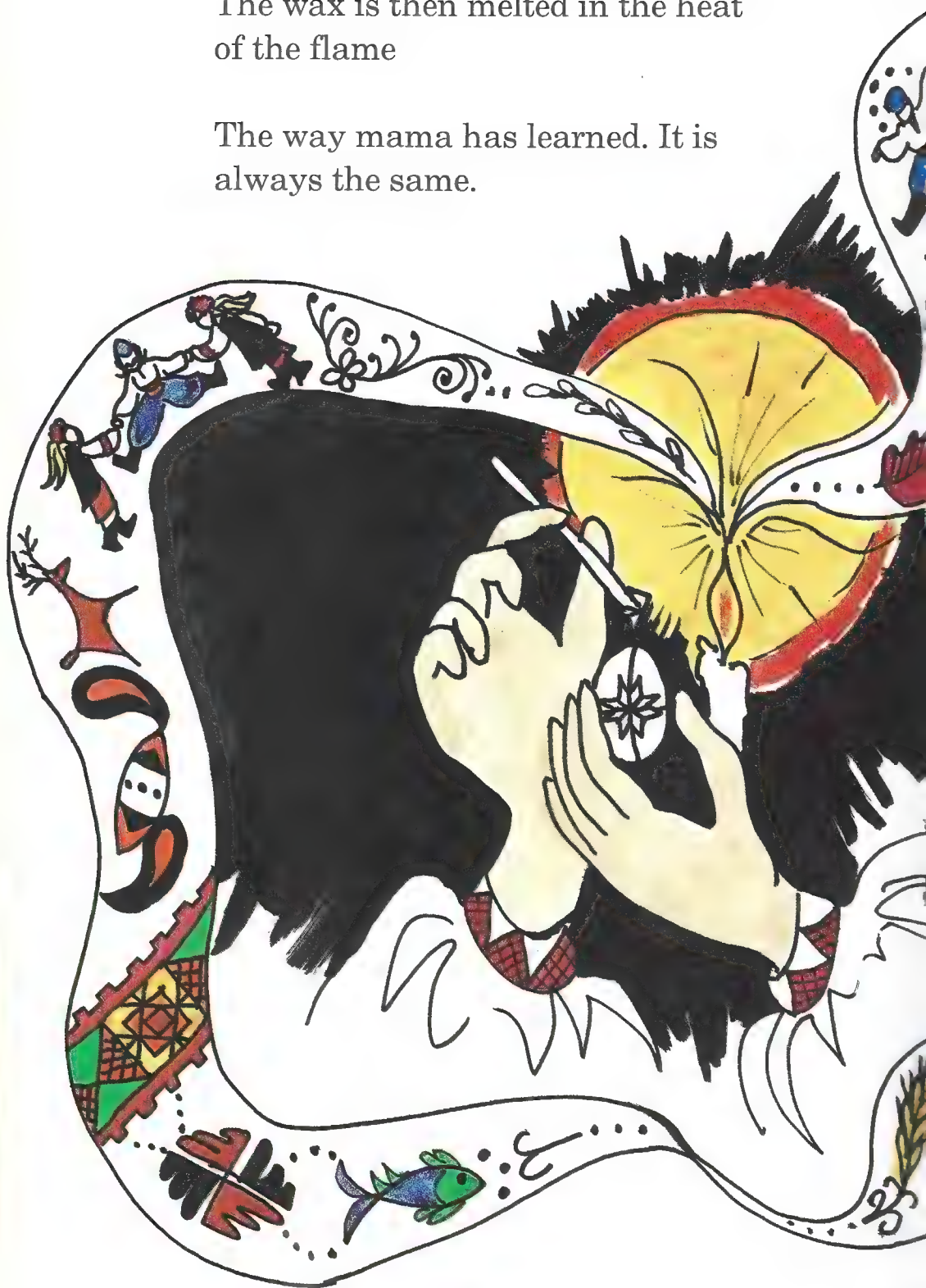
The walls are all whitewashed
And decorated with flowers,

The bedding is aired.
And in a few hours ...



The wax is then melted in the heat
of the flame

The way mama has learned. It is
always the same.



[illegible][illegible][illegible]



Mama tells stories in the quiet of
the night
Till Katia has finished her
pysanka bright.





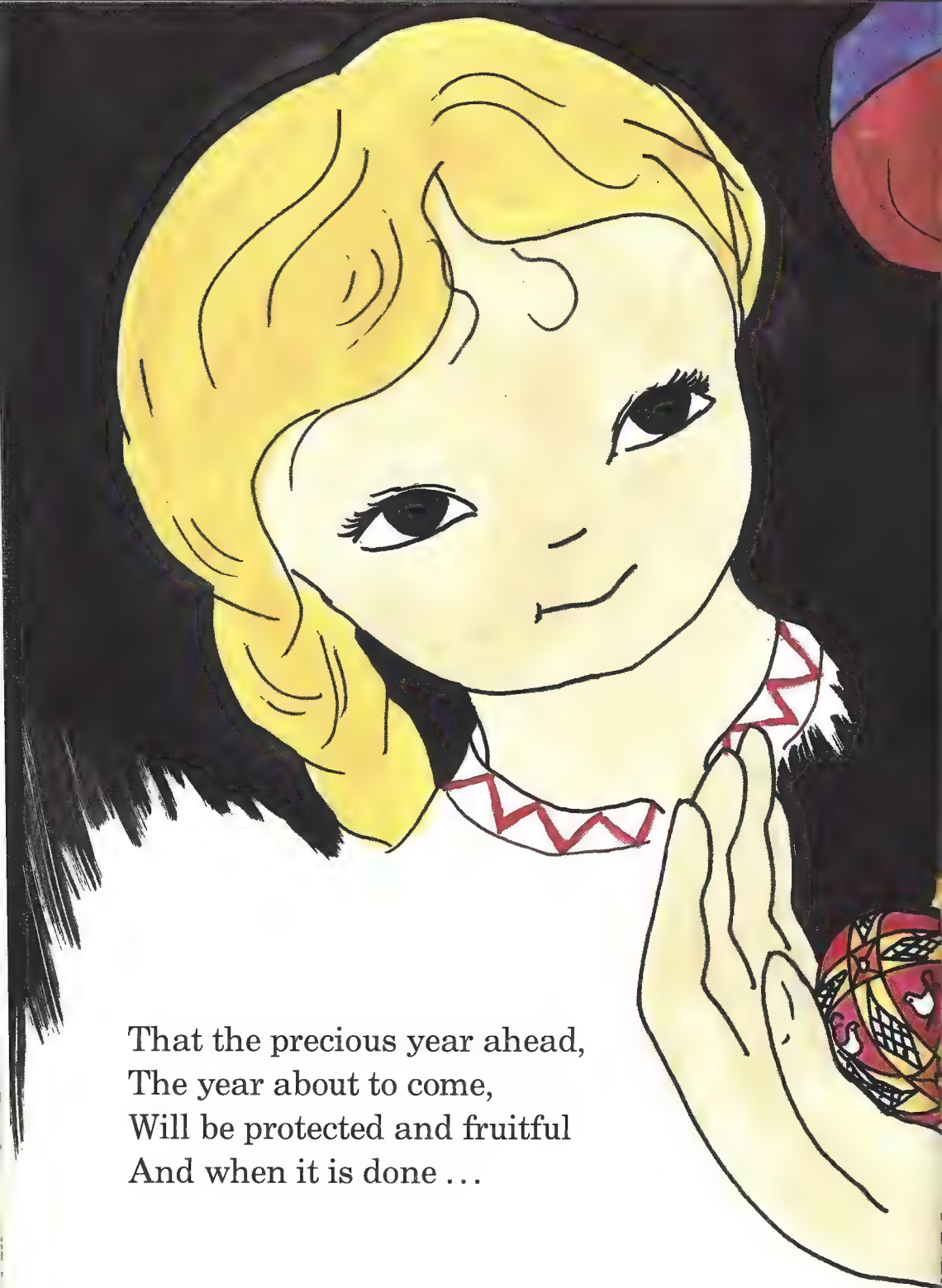
The wax is then melted, the colors
just glow.

Katia and Mama, now sleepy,
both know

That a pysanka with designs rich
and flowing

Means blessings for loved ones, means
joy and means knowing ...





That the precious year ahead,
The year about to come,
Will be protected and fruitful
And when it is done ...







Like the cycles of life, another Easter
we'll see.

And more pysanky will be made by you
and by me.









Meanings of Ukrainian Words:

Pysanky — Plural form for decorated Easter Eggs.

Pysanka — Singular form.

Kistka — Tool used to draw the design on the egg with melted wax.

Some Popular Designs:



Chicken
Fertility



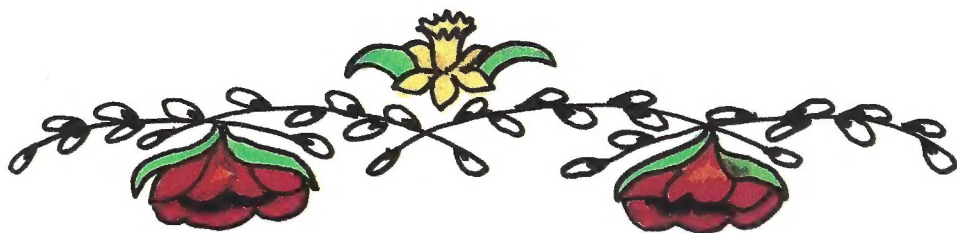
Sun
Growth



Wheat
Abundance

For information about Pysanky, contact:

The Ukrainian Gift Shop
2422 Central Avenue Northeast
Minneapolis, MN 55418 3787
(612) 788-2545





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