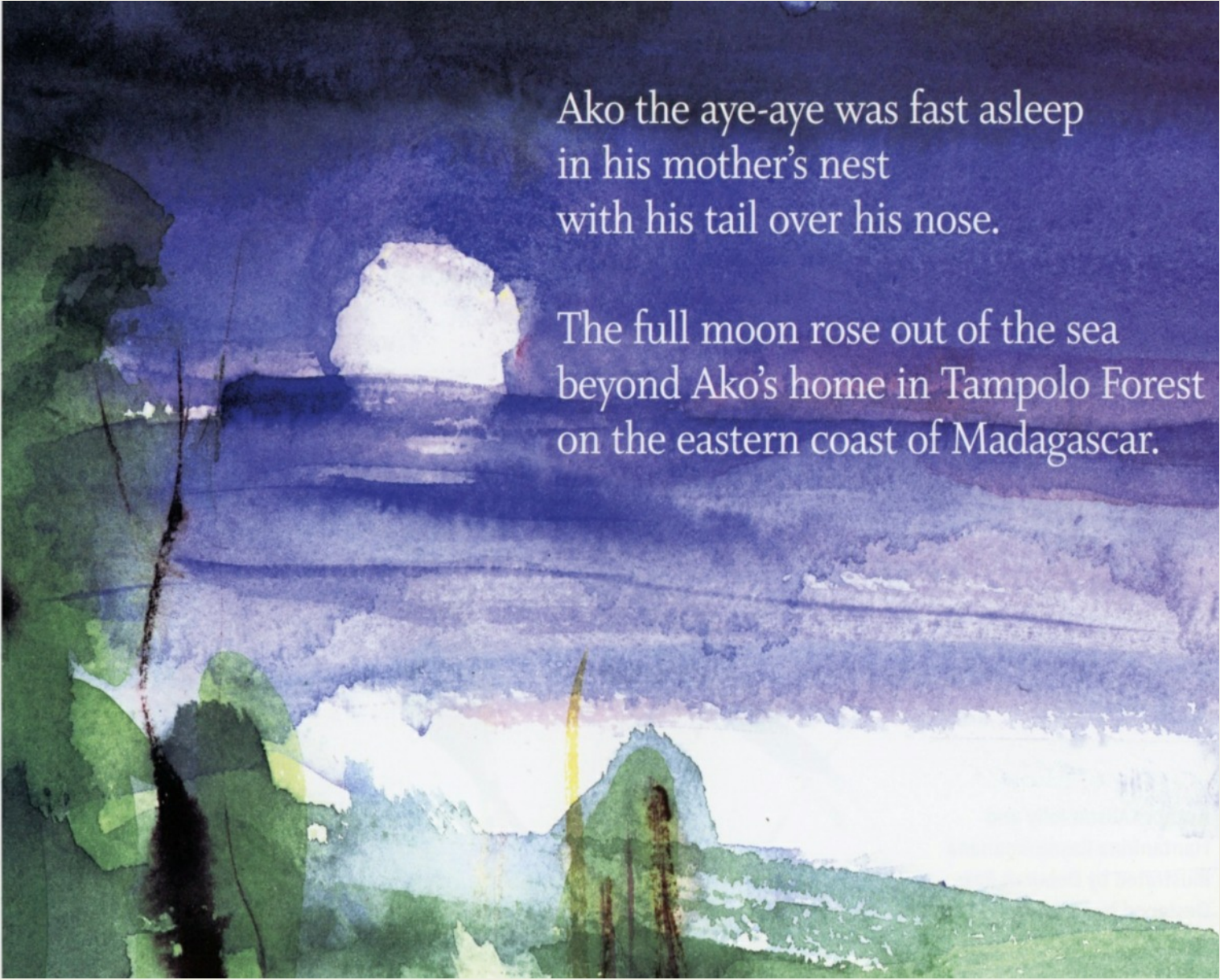


Ako the Aye-Aye

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**What happens when a lemur
just wants to play?**



Ako the aye-aye was fast asleep
in his mother's nest
with his tail over his nose.

The full moon rose out of the sea
beyond Ako's home in Tampolo Forest
on the eastern coast of Madagascar.



They ran up the frond of a coconut palm.
Ako's mother was twice as big as a house-cat.
She stepped so lightly the palm never moved at all.
She looked like a silver ghost running along in the moonlight.

Ako wanted to play.
Ako played tag with his mother's tail.



Nearby grew a tree full of ripe figs.
A mouse lemur scuttled along a branch.

Ako wanted to play.
The tiny mouse lemur was afraid of Ako.
The mouse lemur flicked its tail and ran away.

A dwarf lemur busily ate figs, getting ready
to sleep all through the cold winter.
It would have no food for five whole months,
so it would have to live on the fat stored in its tail.

Ako wanted to play,
but the dwarf lemur was too sleepy to move.



Ako and his mother went to look for their last meal of the night: honey-sweet nectar of a traveller's palm. Ako's mother dipped travellers' palm nectar out of its flower shaped like a bird...

But Ako wanted to PLAY.



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**To join Ako on the rest of
his adventures,
look for *Ako the Aye-Aye*
at your library or on **Amazon**.**