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THE Great  
Katie Kate

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TACKLES QUESTIONS  
ABOUT CANCER

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A soft, painterly illustration on the left side of the page shows a child lying in a hospital bed. The child is wearing a white hospital gown with colorful polka dots. The background is a light, hazy blue and green, suggesting a window or a bright room. The style is gentle and somewhat ethereal.

Suzy was not feeling well. She had a lump on her leg, which did not go away after her pediatrician gave her several weeks of antibiotics. Her pediatrician wasn't sure what was wrong, so Suzy and her parents went to see a special doctor, Dr. DeMarco.

"I believe that your daughter may have cancer," Dr. DeMarco told Suzy's parents. "We will have to perform certain tests so that we can be sure. Then we can discuss treatment. The nurse has some forms for you to sign. I'll wait here with Suzy."

"Don't worry," said her daddy. "We'll be right back."

But Suzy *did* begin to worry. "Cancer? Tests? What's going to happen to me?"

"I've got a friend who can help, Suzy," said Dr. DeMarco.






A bright streak of light zoomed through the window, and with a flash, a young girl with a cape stood in the examining room.

“Who are you?” Suzy asked.

“I’m the Great Katie Kate. It sounds like you have a whole bunch of questions. I’m going to answer them while Dr. DeMarco talks with your parents.”

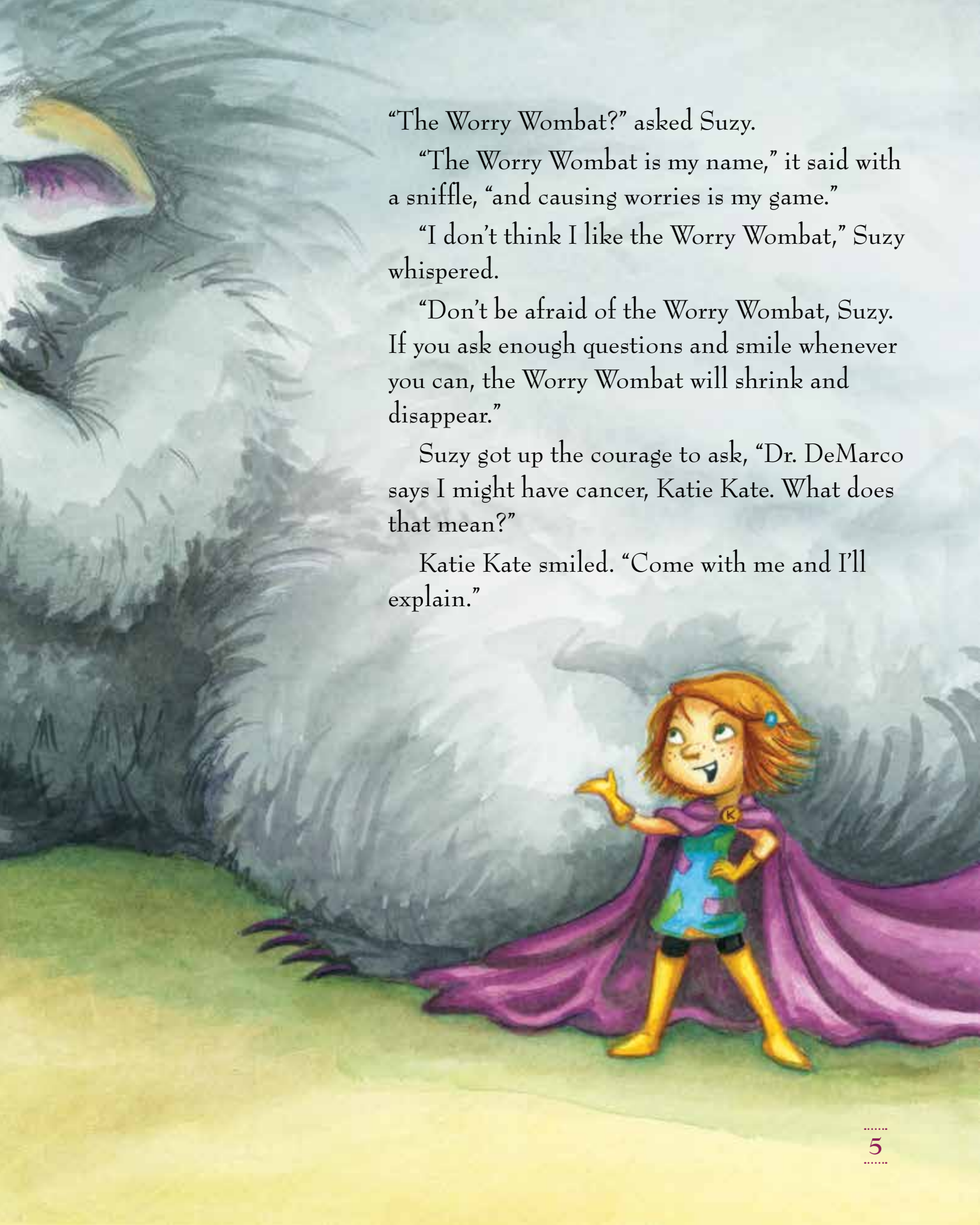
“See you later, Suzy,” said Dr. DeMarco.

“But—” Suzy said. She was very worried.



Just then, a large, furry critter appeared. It looked sad and worried, just like Suzy.

“Uh-oh,” Katie Kate said. “I see the Worry Wombat.”



“The Worry Wombat?” asked Suzy.

“The Worry Wombat is my name,” it said with a sniffle, “and causing worries is my game.”

“I don’t think I like the Worry Wombat,” Suzy whispered.

“Don’t be afraid of the Worry Wombat, Suzy. If you ask enough questions and smile whenever you can, the Worry Wombat will shrink and disappear.”

Suzy got up the courage to ask, “Dr. DeMarco says I might have cancer, Katie Kate. What does that mean?”

Katie Kate smiled. “Come with me and I’ll explain.”

