

Words Are CATegorical

# Pitch and Throw, Grasp and Know



What Is a Synonym?

by Brian P. Cleary

illustrated by Brian Gable

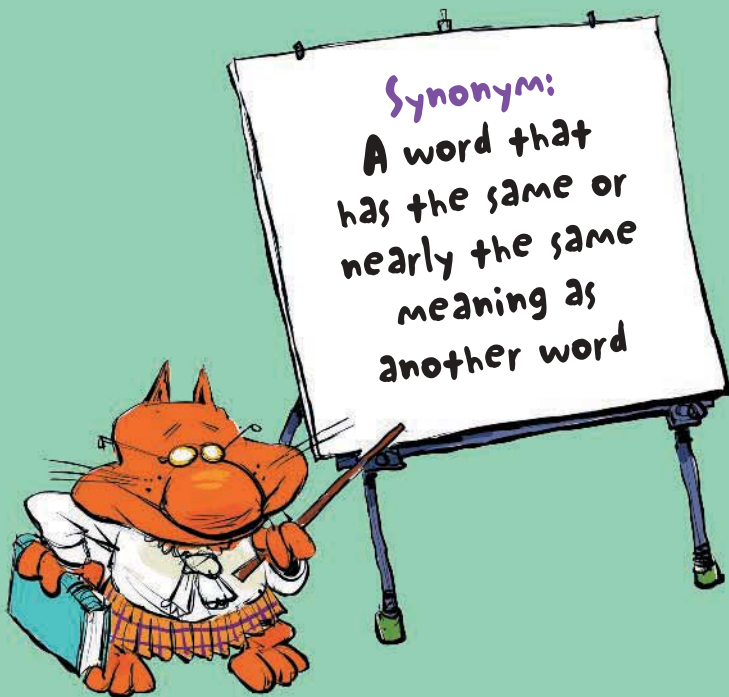
# Pitch and Throw, Grasp and Know



What Is a Synonym?



To my brother Danny—  
the wordsmith of the family  
—B.P.C.



### Synonym:

A word that  
has the same or  
nearly the same  
meaning as  
another word



# Pitch and Throw, Grasp and Know

What Is a Synonym?

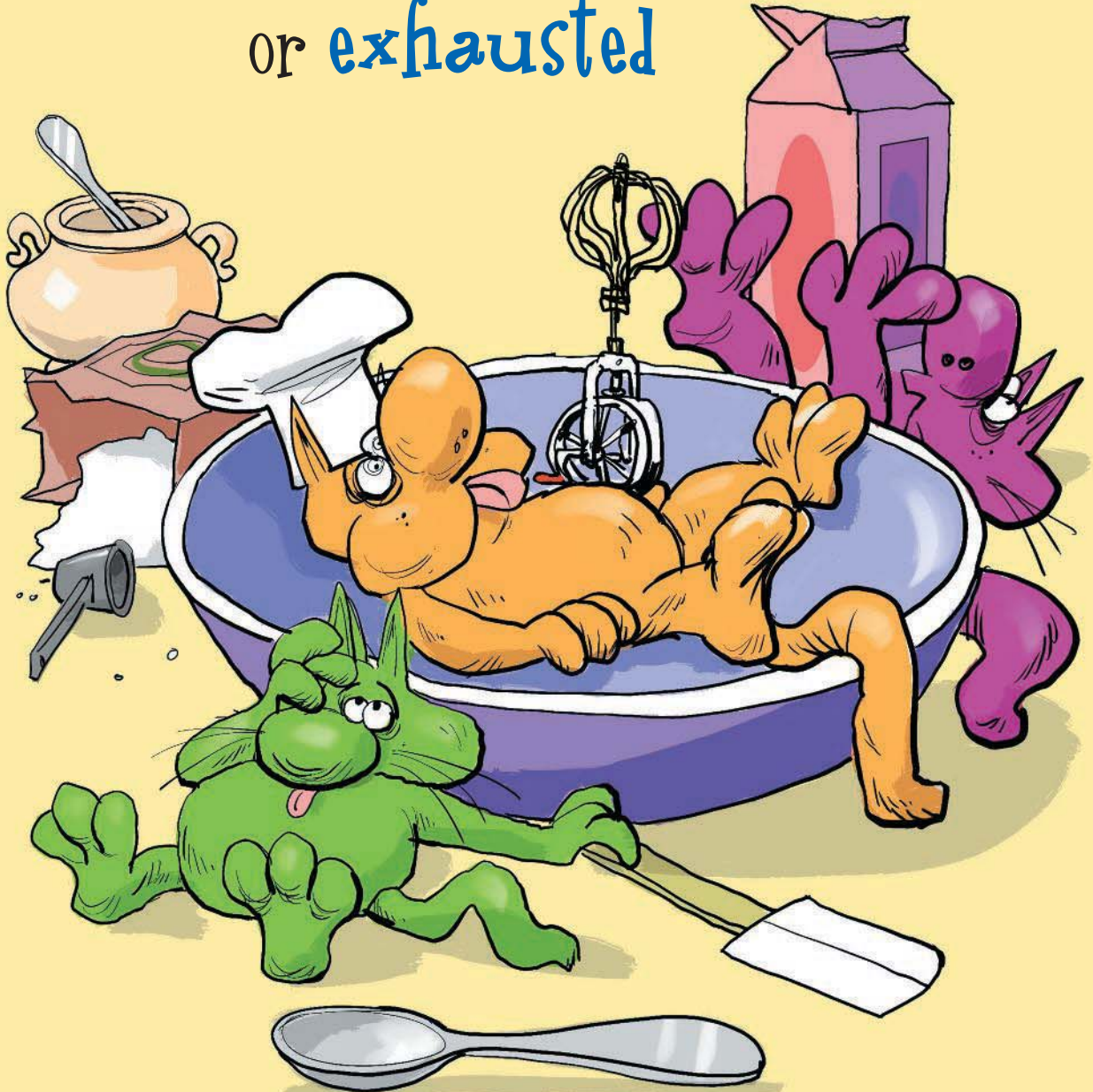
by Brian P. Cleary

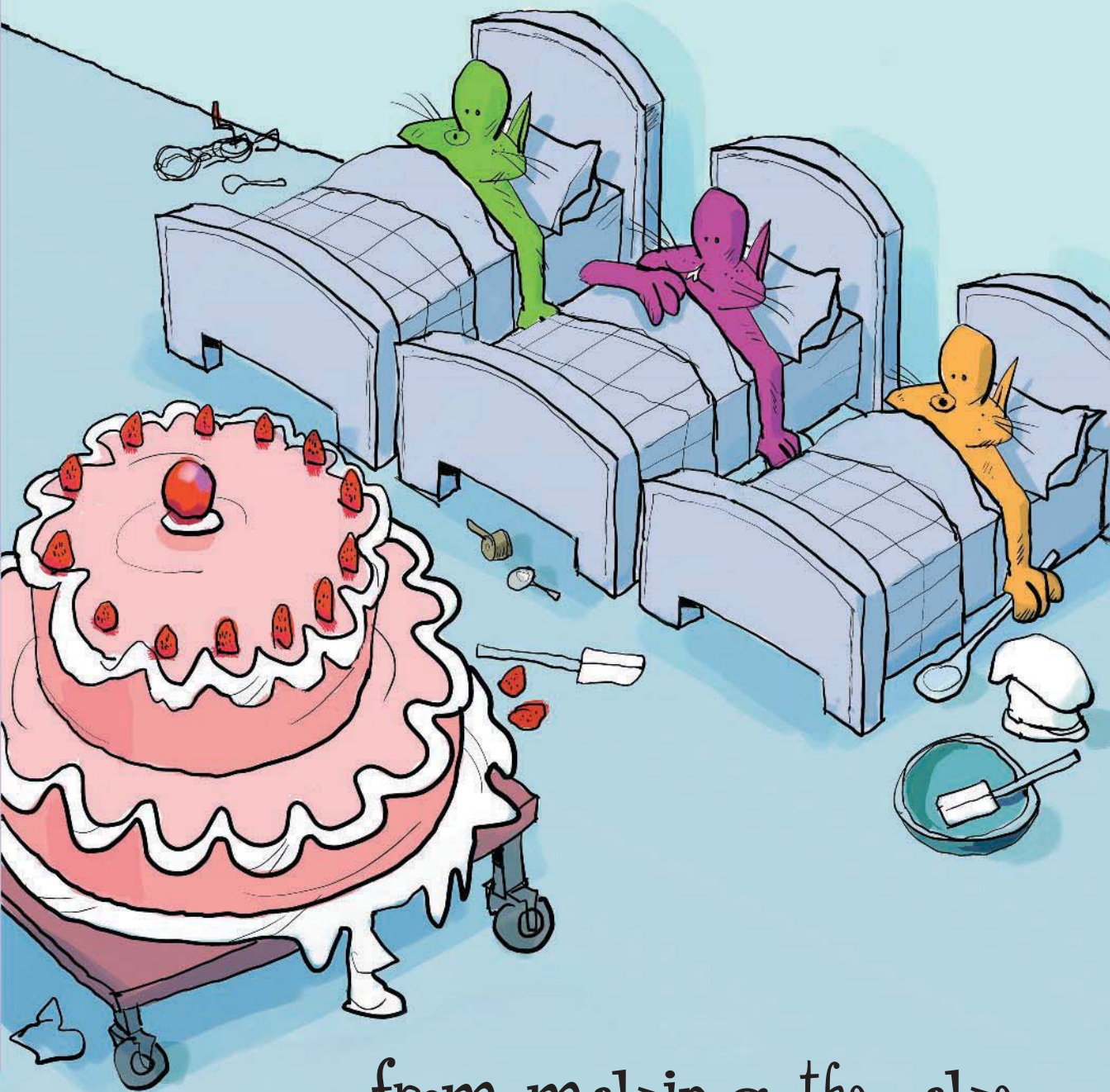
illustrated by Brian Gable

☛ CAROLRHODA BOOKS, INC. / MINNEAPOLIS



Do you feel **tired**  
or **beat**  
or **exhausted**

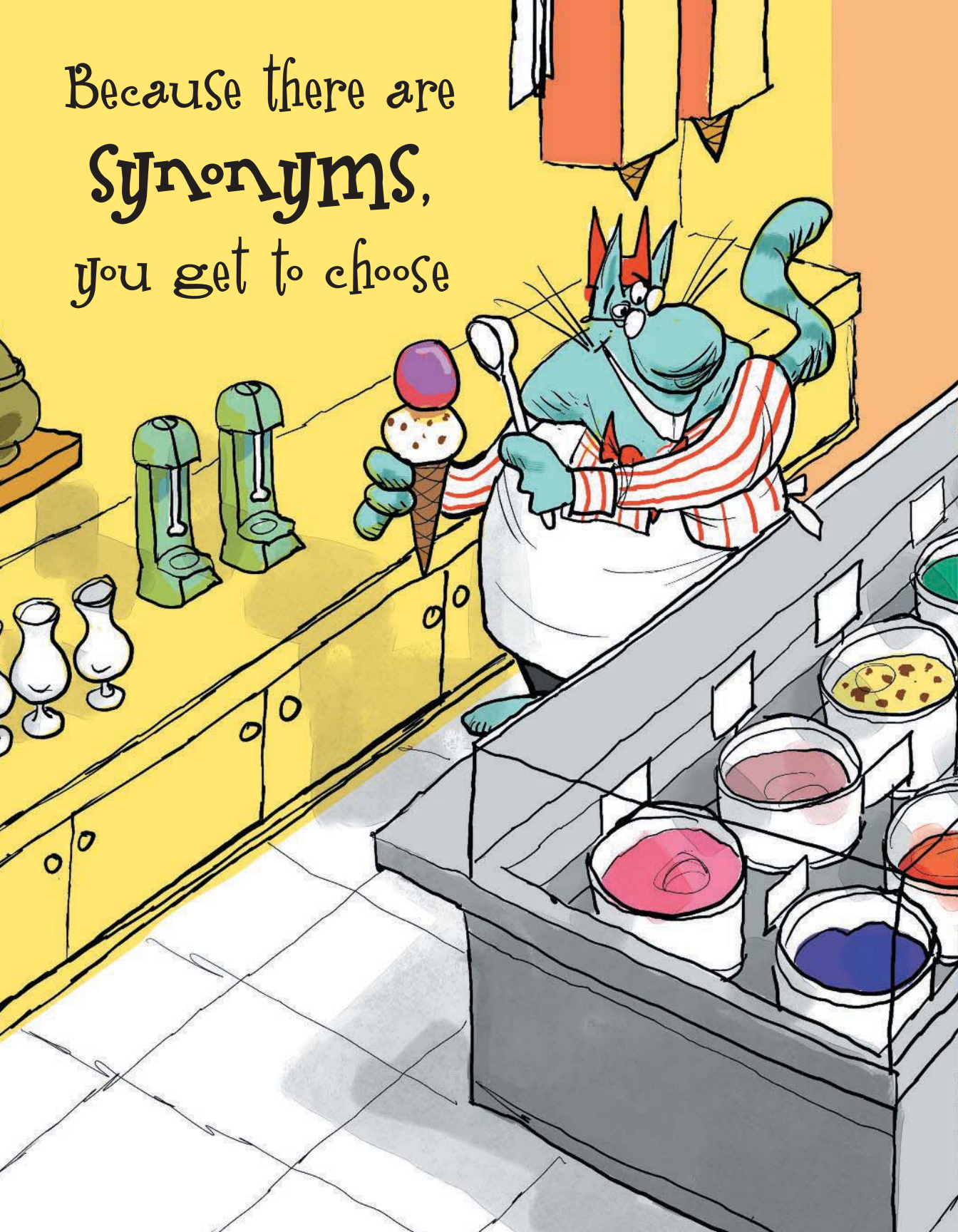




from making the cake  
that you've baked  
and you've frosted?



Because there are  
**Synonyms,**  
you get to choose



from a whole list of possible  
words you can use.





They're words that are

*practically*, *nearly* the same,

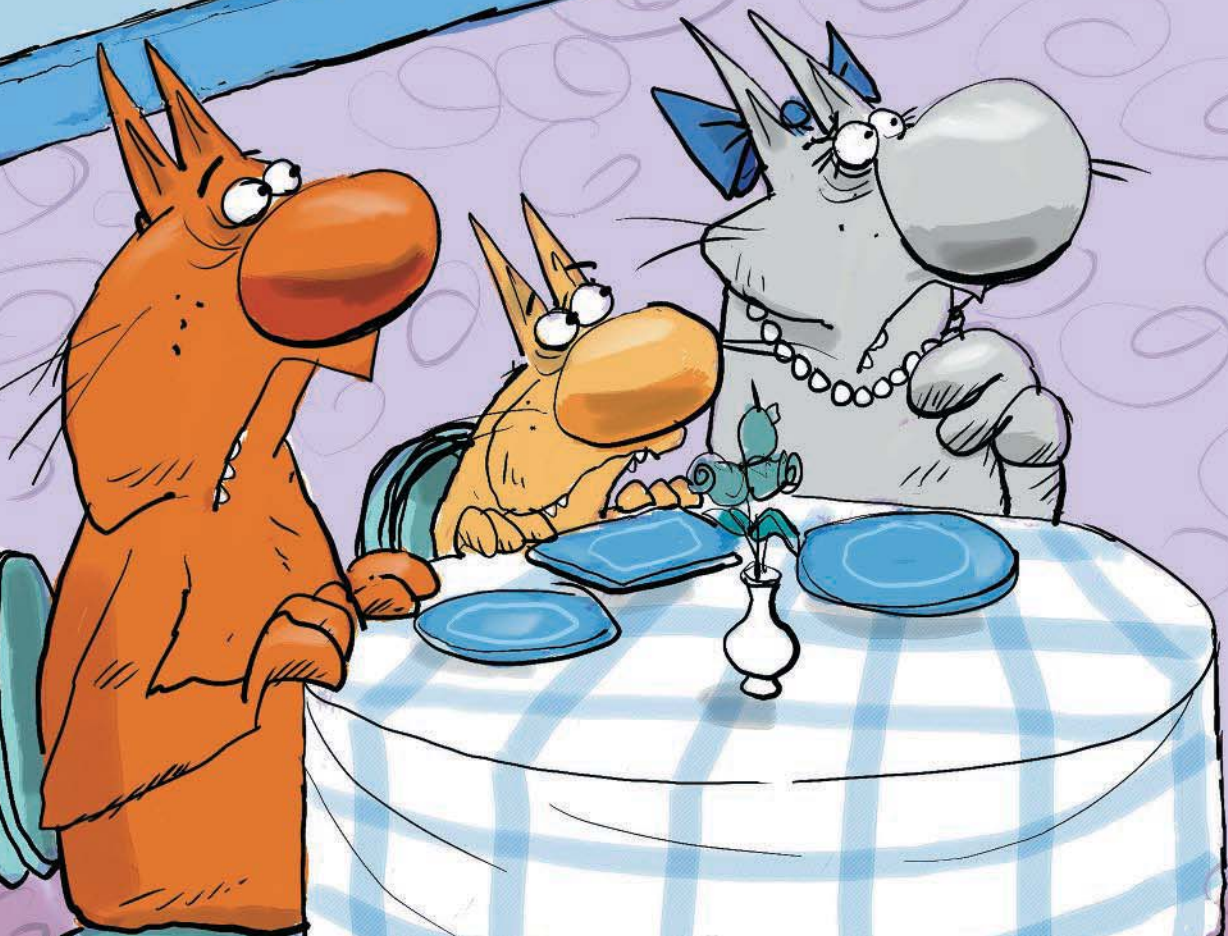


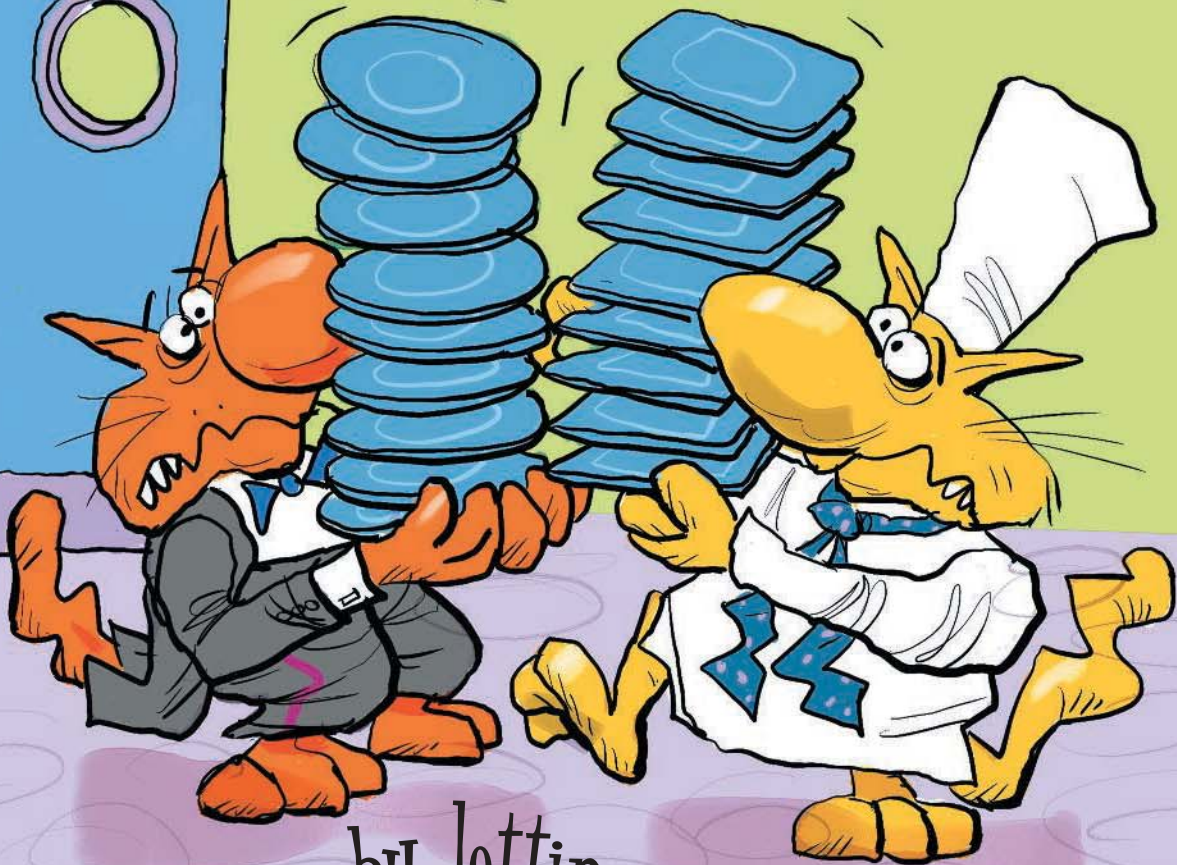
like,  
gentle,  
subdued,  
or incredibly  
tame.





Synonyms  
help us be  
less repetitious





by letting us choose  
between blue **plates** or **dishes**.

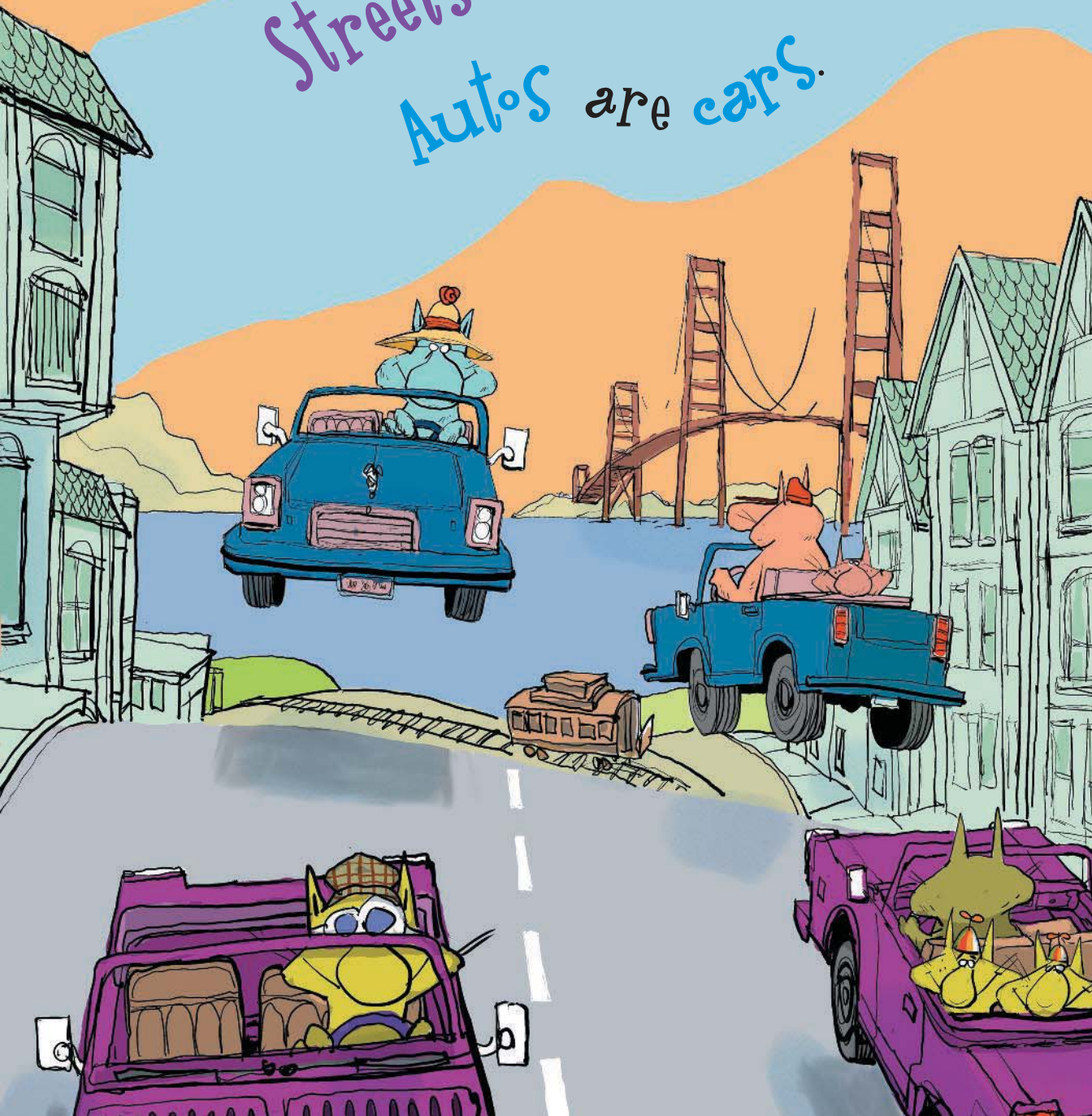




Celestial bodies  
are often called *stars*.



Streets can be avenues.  
Autos are cars.

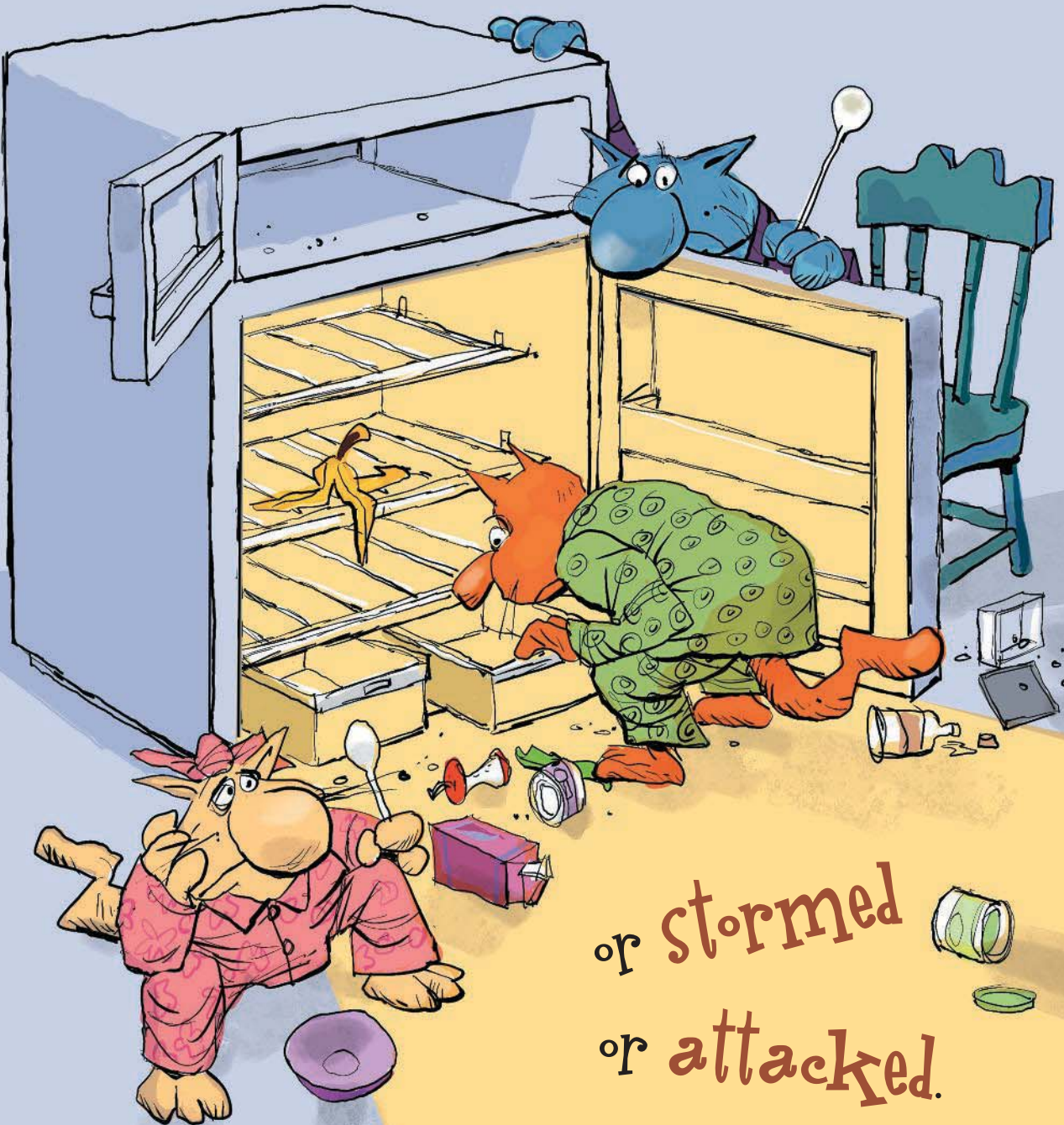




Synonyms  
help us to be  
more exact,



as in, our fridge was **raided**



or **stormed**  
or **attacked.**



They give us  
more options  
and make things  
precise,





like, **nippy**  
or **freezing**  
or **chilly** as ice.



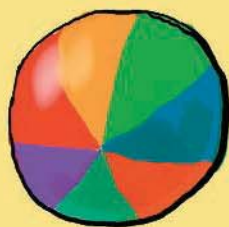
They're words  
like, **toss**



and  
**pitch**  
and  
**throw,**



comprehend  
and grasp  
and know.



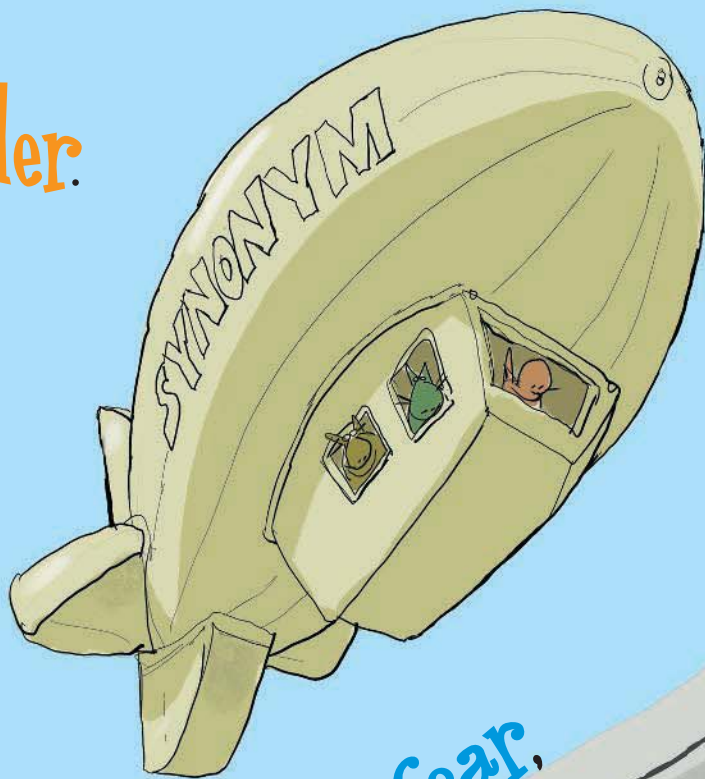


Yell and holler.

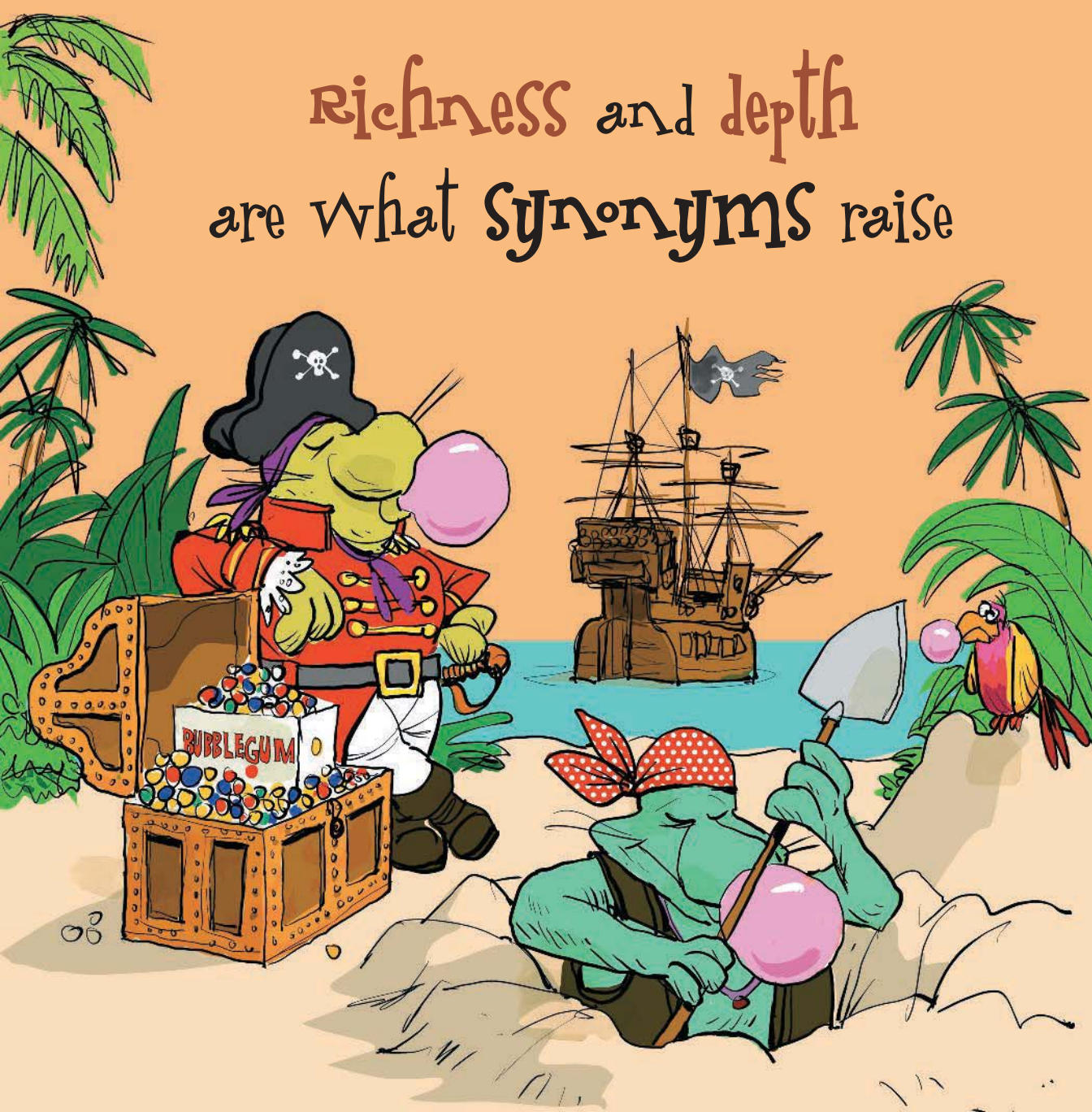
Jump  
and  
leap.

Fly and Soar,

and doze and sleep.



Richness and depth  
are what synonyms raise



when they're used in  
a paragraph, sentence, or phrase.



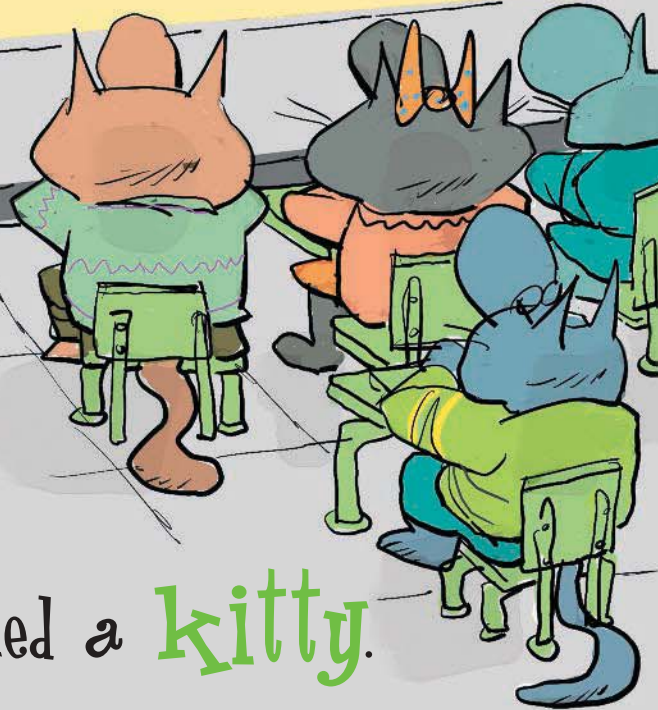
A lovely  
and pretty  
and beautiful city.



Cat  
Feline  
Kitty



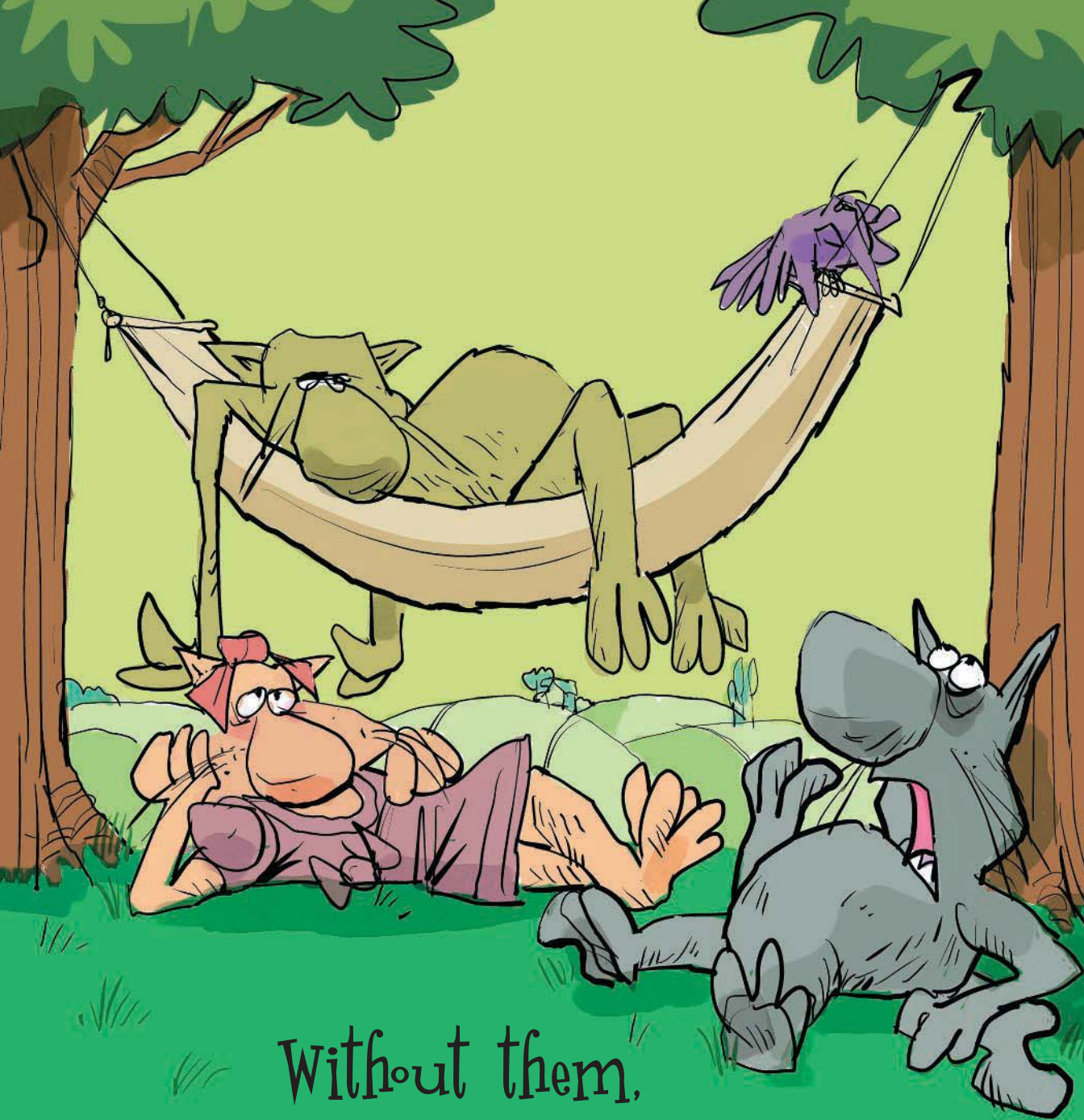
A cat  
or a feline  
could be called a kitty.





They let us pick  
showering,  
raining, or  
pouring.

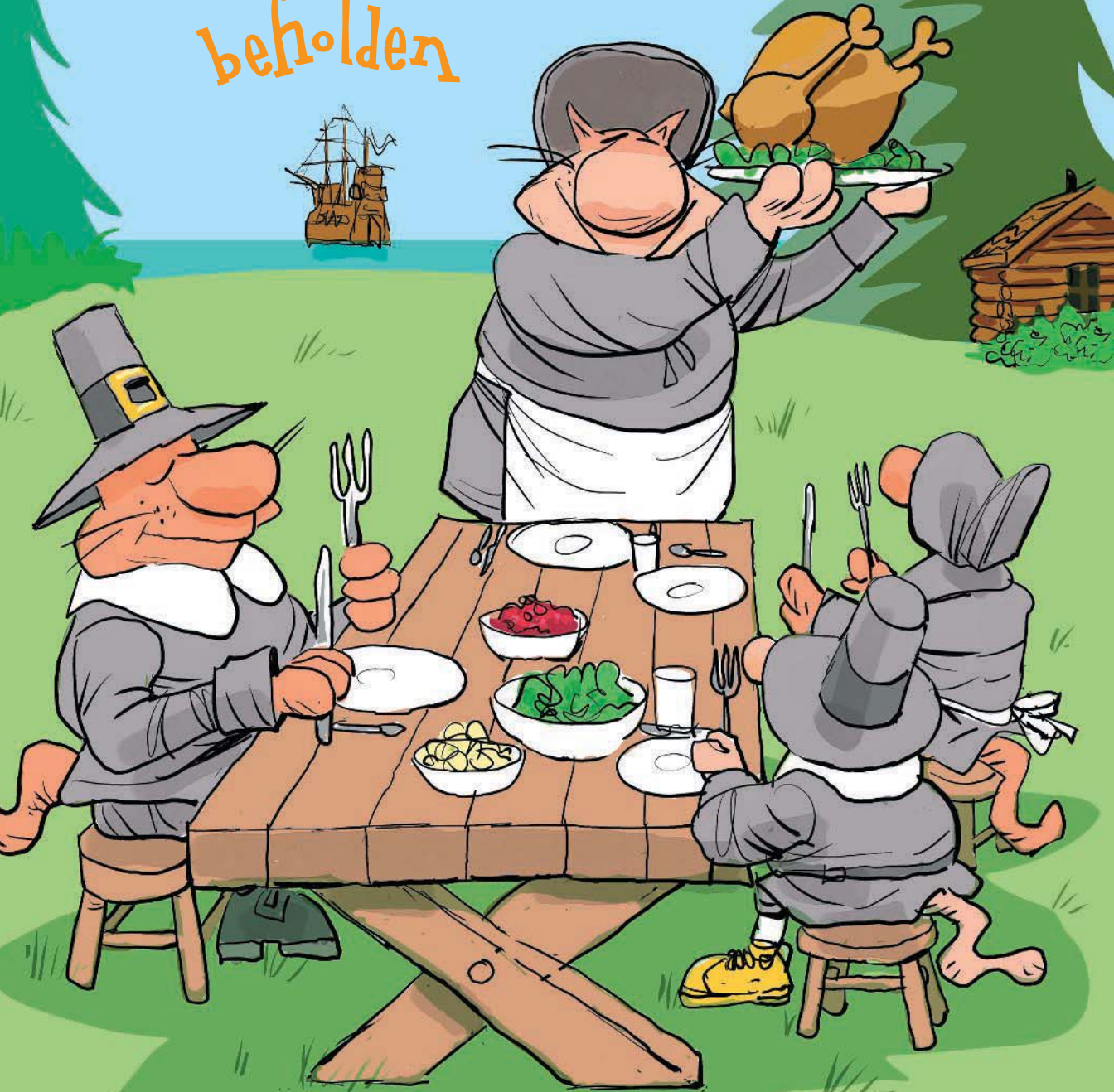




Without them,  
our language would  
surely be boring!



You can choose between  
grateful/ or thankful/  
beholden



for the Sneakers  
or Tennis shoes,



yellow or golden.



Don't you agree  
that it's pretty appealing,  
we have all these choices  
to say how we're feeling?



So now you're a **master!**  
An **expert!**  
A **whiz!**



Because you know  
just what  
a **synonym** is!



So, what is a synonym?

Do you know?







## ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

**BRIAN P. CLEARY** is the author of the Words Are Categorical series, including A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What Is a Noun? and Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What Is an Adjective?, and of Rainbow Soup: Adventures in Poetry. He lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

**BRIAN GABLE** is the illustrator of Dearly, Nearly, Insincerely: What Is an Adverb? and the Make Me Laugh joke books. He lives in Toronto, Ontario, with his wife and two children.

Text copyright © 2005 by Brian P. Cleary

Illustrations copyright © 2005 by Brian Gable

All rights reserved. International copyright secured. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise—without the prior written permission of Carolrhoda Books, Inc., except for the inclusion of brief quotations in an acknowledged review.

Carolrhoda Books, Inc.,  
A division of Lerner Publishing Group  
241 First Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55401 U.S.A.

Website address: [www.carolrhodabooks.com](http://www.carolrhodabooks.com)

### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Cleary, Brian P., 1959–

Pitch and throw, grasp and know : what is a synonym? / by Brian P. Cleary;  
illustrated by Brian Gable.

P. cm. — (Words are categorical)

eISBN: 1-57505-907-X

1. English language—Synonyms and antonyms—Juvenile literature. I. Gable, Brian, 1949– II. Title. III. Series.

PE1591.C56 2005

428.1—dc22

2004011975

Manufactured in the United States of America

1 2 3 4 5 6 — JR — 10 09 08 07 06 05