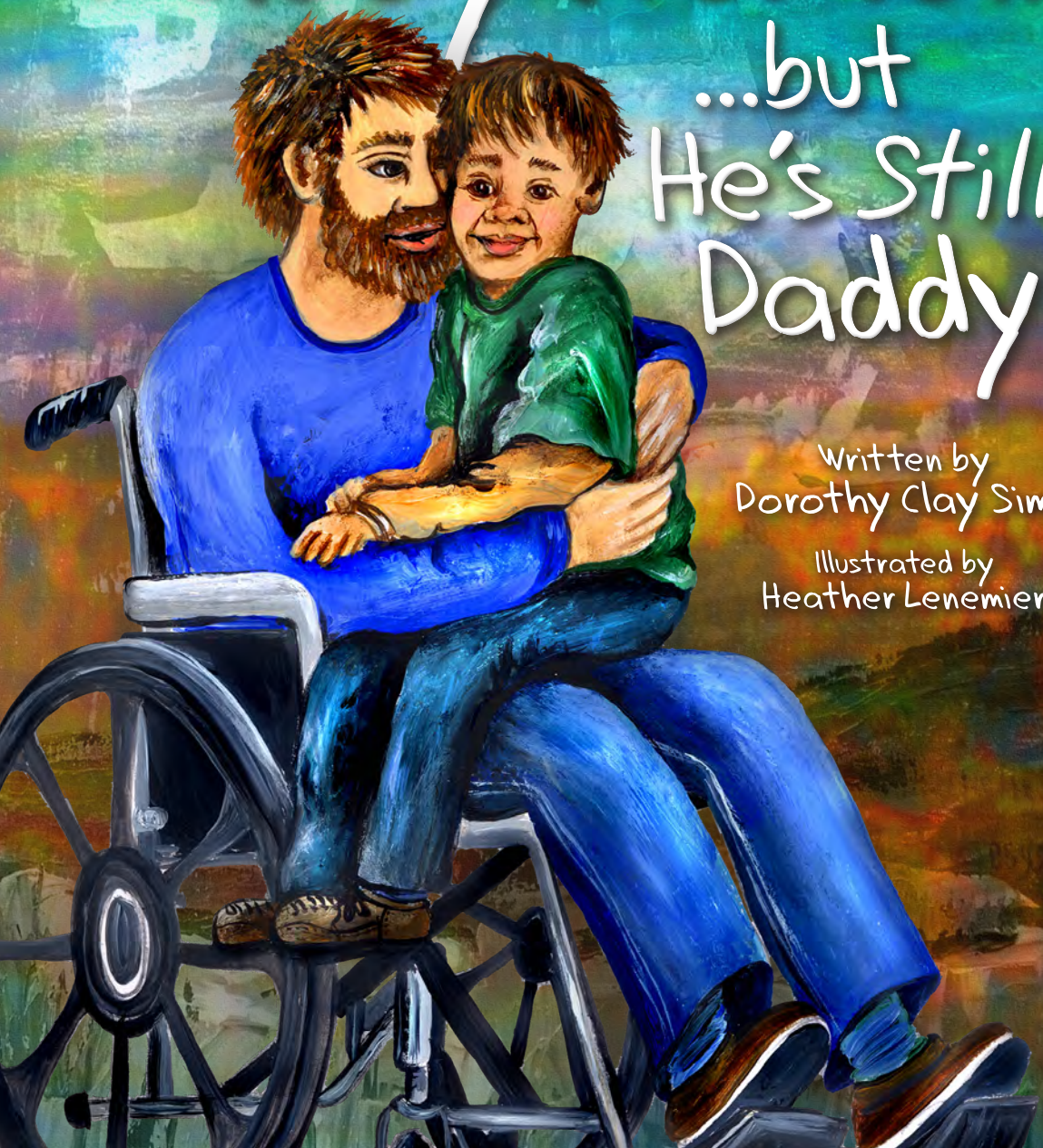
Daddy Hurts...

...but He's Still Daddy!



Written by
Dorothy Clay Sims

Illustrated by
Heather Lenemier

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Being in pain is difficult.

Being young and not understanding why your parent has changed is frightening.

We've seen how children have suffered and we want to help.

We are not professionals, but we put this book together to help your children try and understand what you are going through.

Dorothy Clay Sims Esq.

EMERGE

My name is
Max.

My Daddy worked for the phone company.

One day he fell off a big pole that holds phone wires.

He hurt his back.

My mommy was scared and she cried.

That made me scared too.

When my
daddy got
home from
the hospital
he was a
different daddy.

His back
hurt him and
sometimes
I saw him cry.

I was
scared.

ome Daddy

Report Card
Science B
English A-
Math D
Art A
P.E. B-
Social Studies C

My daddy **never cried** before he fell off the pole.

I thought it was my fault because I got a D in math and because I forgot to make my bed.

My daddy **stopped listening** to me when I told him stories at dinner.

I told him Robert chased a squirrel and ran into a tree and had 3 stitches. Daddy didn't even ask if Robert was ok after that.

After daddy got hurt, he started **getting mad.**

He got mad when the sink got plugged up and he even yelled.

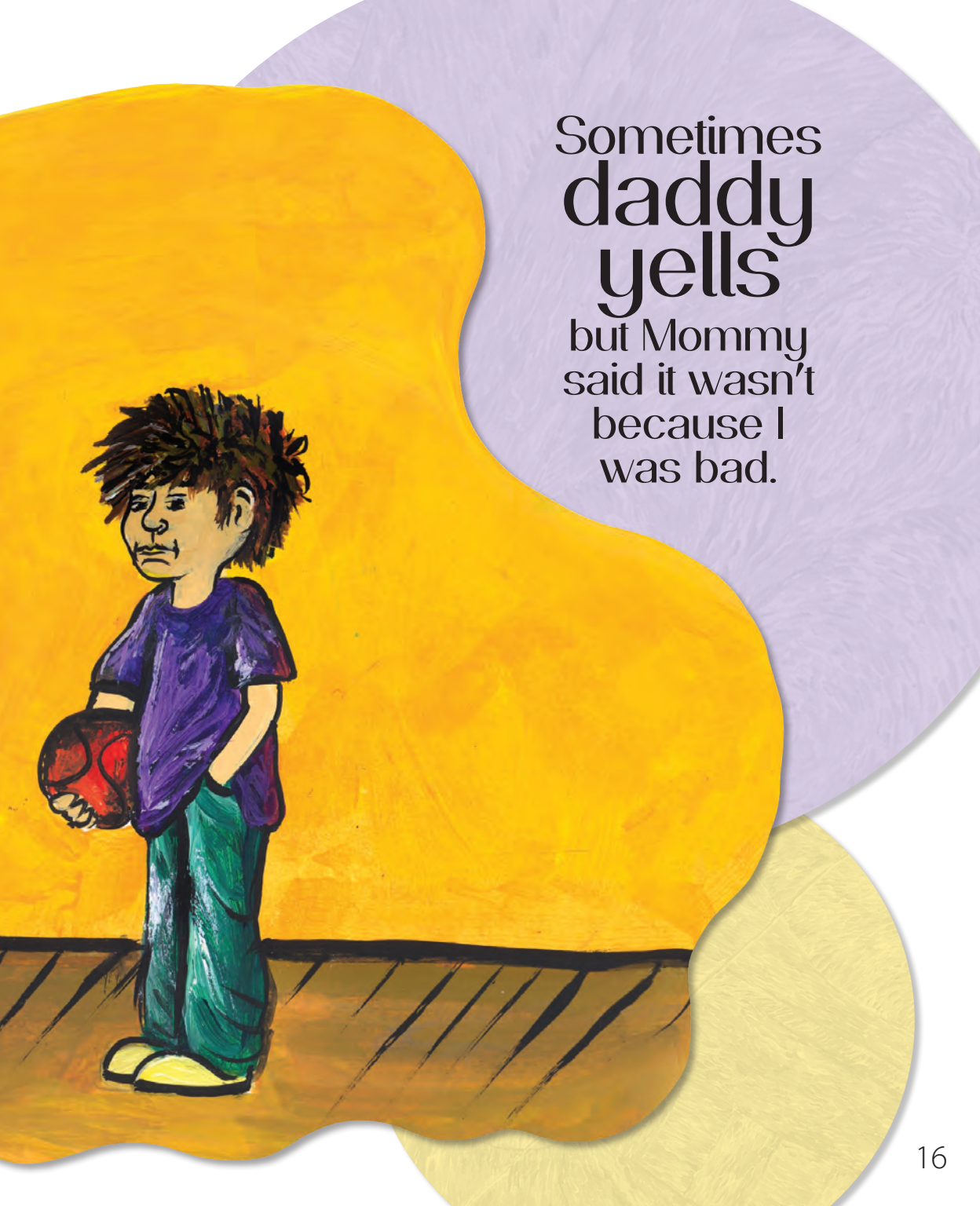
My mommy said it was because he was really sad. She said he missed working.

Mommy said
daddy hurts
all the time.

He hurts even when he takes pills that make him sleepy.

Marissa
told me her
Daddy got
hurt when a
car hit him.

She said
he yelled
at her after
**he was
hurt.**



Sometimes daddy yells but Mommy said it wasn't because I was bad.

Daddy can't play football with me anymore or play soccer. He used to be my coach.

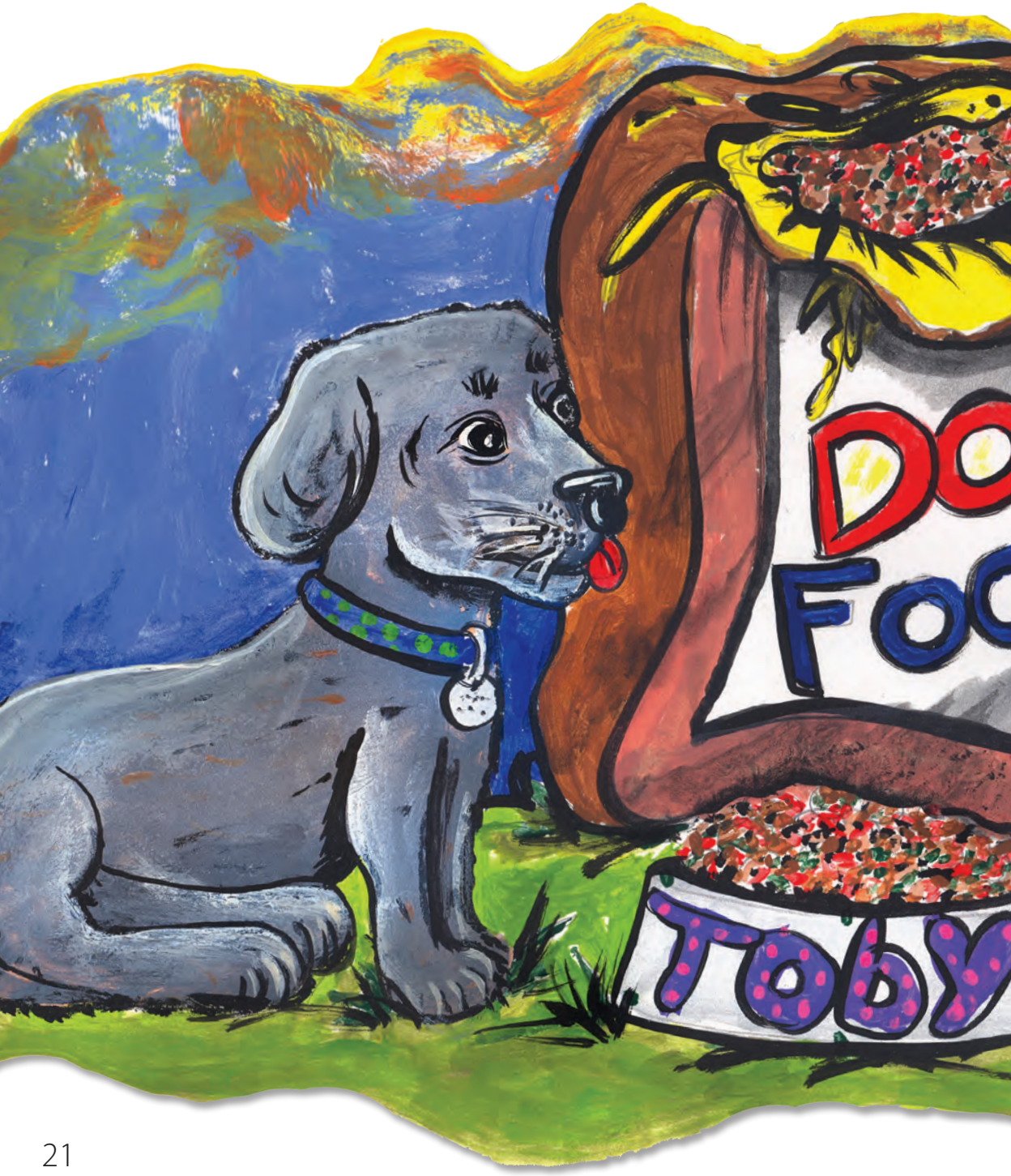
Now he can't even sit to watch me play.

That makes me **really sad.**

One day I was in my room drawing pictures of soccer balls. Mommy came in and sat down.

She said my daddy is the **same daddy.**

She said he can do things with me but just different things.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TOBY

Daddy can't play soccer or pick up Ralph, my dog, or even pick up Ralph's dog food.

But Daddy learned other stuff.

When he sits on the couch with his legs up and a pillow behind him, then he can **watch a movie with me.**

I taught him how to play video games. He isn't very good. We play Super Smash Brothers. I am Diddy Kong and he's Sonic. I think it's funny my daddy chose to be a hedge hog!

Daddy can't do stuff with me like outdoor stuff. But daddy does other stuff.

I met with daddy's doctor who showed me a picture of my daddy's back. He has metal in his back now after the doctor operated on it. The doctor said sometimes people who hurt get grouchy. That made me feel better because I thought it was my fault daddy hurt.

Now when daddy doesn't listen or goes in his room

I don't feel as bad.

I told Daddy I was going to be a doctor when I grow up. I'm going to find a way that stops people from hurting-

I'm going to find a cure for back pain.

Daddy said "that's fine with me!"

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