



# Aladdin



*Retold by Sue Arengo*  
*Illustrated by Laure Fournier*



A magician read about an old lamp.  
'Rub this,' he read, 'And a genie  
appears. He can do anything for you!'

His magic ball said, 'The lamp is in a cave  
in China. And only this boy can get it.'



The magician went to China to look for the boy.  
And a year later he found him.



‘That’s Aladdin,’ a girl told him. ‘His father’s dead. He and his mother are poor because Aladdin doesn’t do any work.’

The magician visited Aladdin’s house. He smiled at Aladdin’s mother and said, ‘I am your husband’s brother. I can help you. Look! Here is some money.’

‘Oh, Aladdin!’ cried his mother. ‘This is your uncle. Run and get some food!’

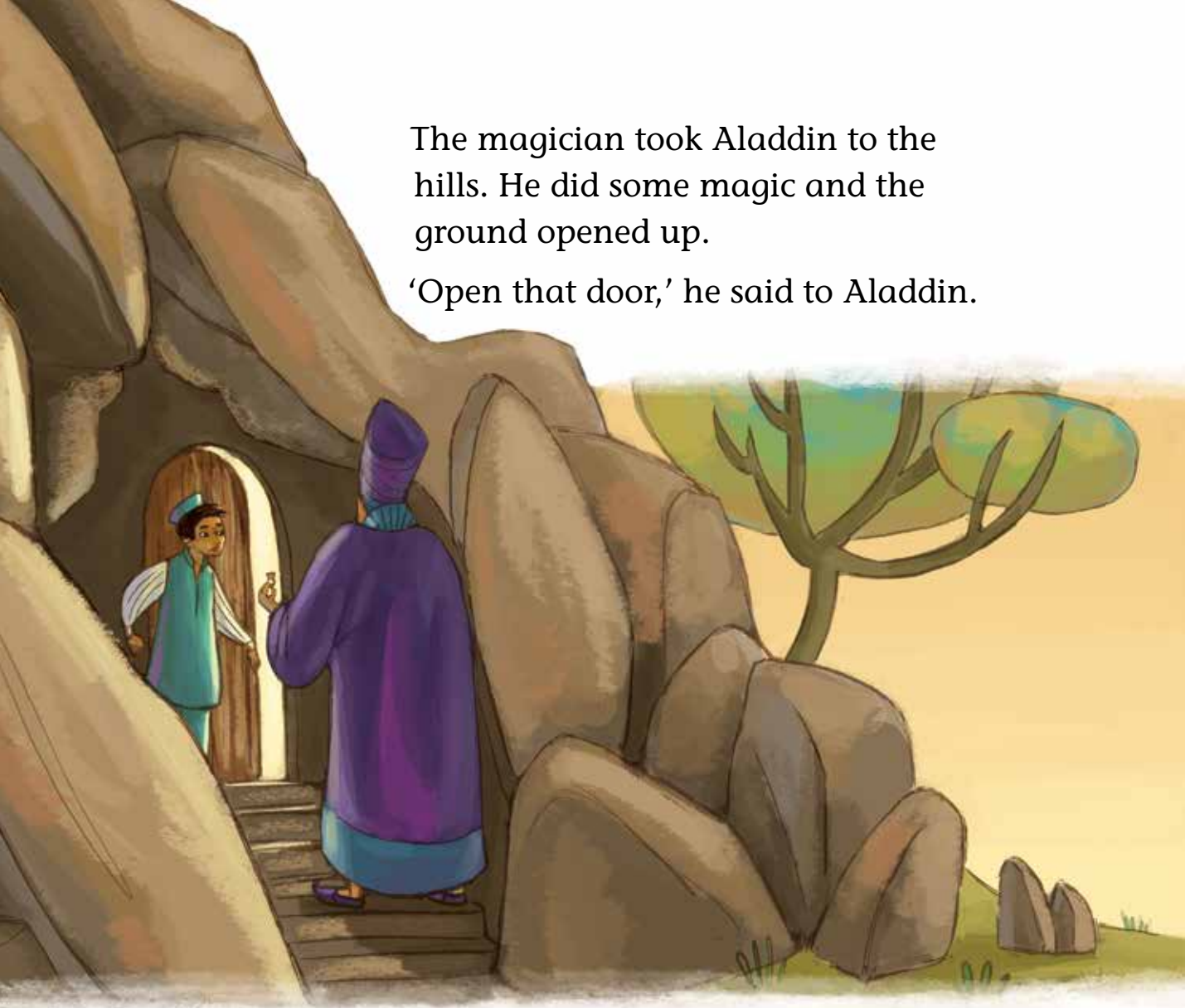
‘Your son must have work,’ said the magician. ‘He can work for me.’

Aladdin’s mother was happy to hear this. But Aladdin wasn’t happy because he didn’t like work.



The magician took Aladdin to the hills. He did some magic and the ground opened up.

‘Open that door,’ he said to Aladdin.



‘There’s a cave of gold down there,’ said the magician. ‘Go through that cave, but don’t take any gold. Then there’s a garden. Go through the garden to a small cave. There’s an old lamp there. Get it for me!’

‘Are you afraid? Here! Put this ring on your finger. It can help you. Now, go!’

Aladdin went down and got the lamp.  
He didn't take any gold. But he took  
some strange fruit from the garden.



‘Uncle, can you help me?’ he called.

‘Where’s the lamp?’ said the magician angrily.

‘Give me the lamp. The lamp!’

Now suddenly Aladdin was afraid of his uncle  
and he didn’t want to go back.

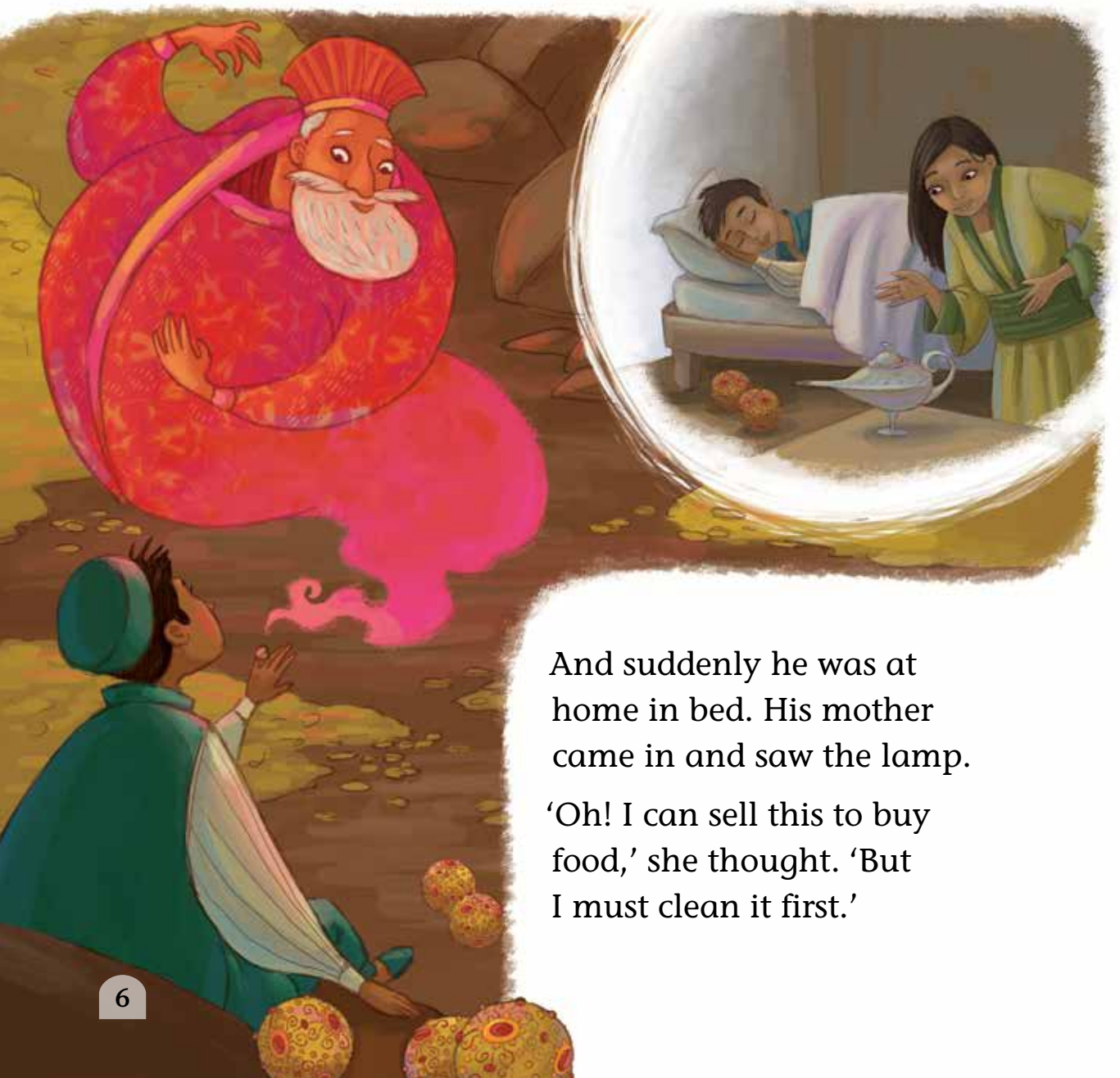
‘Stay down there, then!’ cried the magician.

Bang! And he closed the door of the cave.

It was dark. Aladdin cried and rubbed his hands. By accident he rubbed the ring and suddenly a big red genie appeared.

‘I am the genie of the ring,’ he said. ‘What do you want?’

‘I want to go home,’ Aladdin cried.



And suddenly he was at home in bed. His mother came in and saw the lamp.

‘Oh! I can sell this to buy food,’ she thought. ‘But I must clean it first.’





Aladdin's mother rubbed the lamp. And a very big orange genie appeared.

'I am the genie of the lamp,' he said. 'What do you want?'

'Oh!' cried Aladdin. 'Get us something to eat!'

The genie vanished and came back with silver trays of wonderful food.

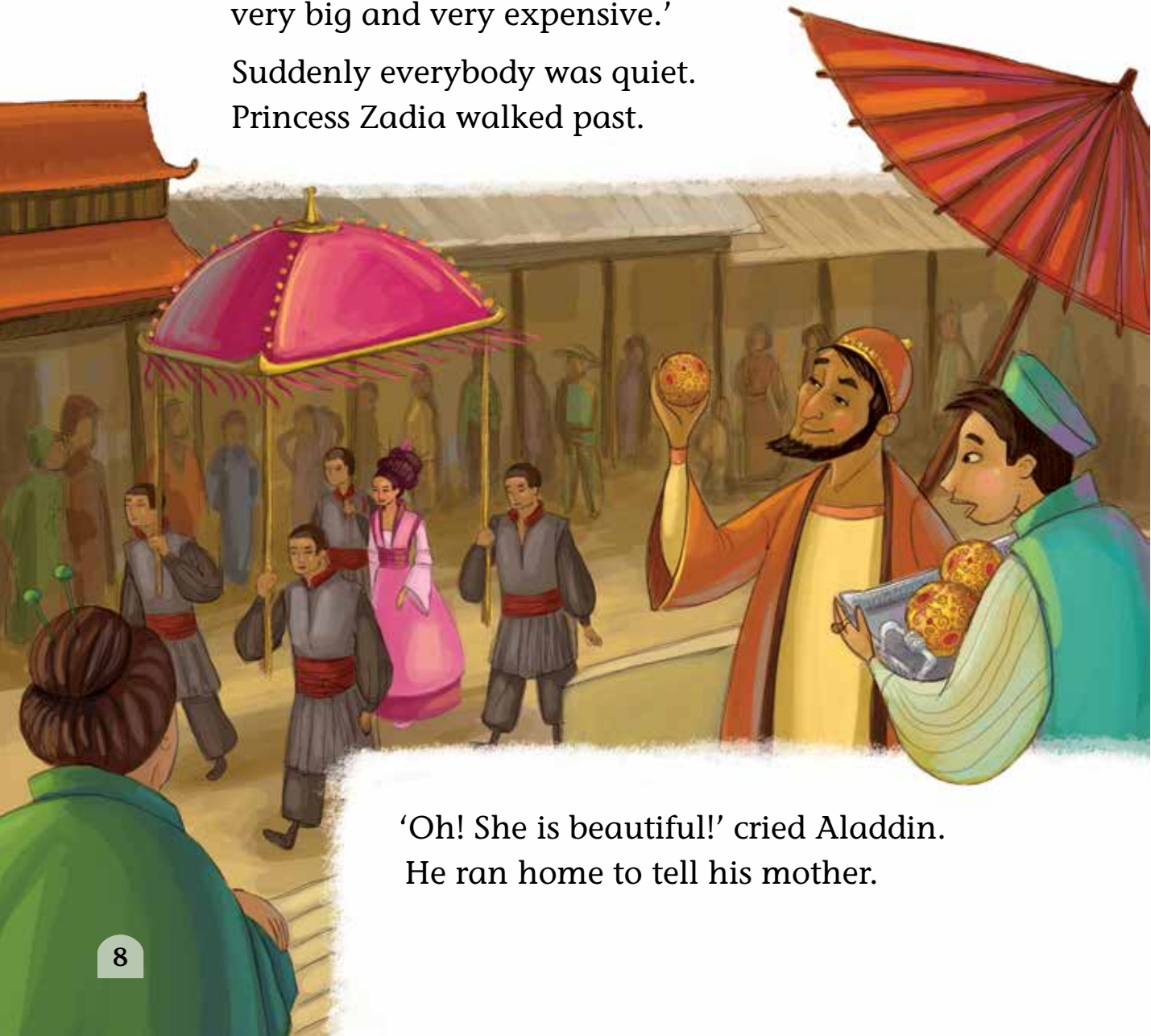


‘That bad man was not your uncle,’ said Aladdin’s mother. ‘Put that old lamp away. We can sell these trays.’

Aladdin took the silver trays to the market. Then he remembered the fruit.

He ran and got it and a man told him, ‘Mmm ... these are jewels! And they’re very big and very expensive.’

Suddenly everybody was quiet. Princess Zadia walked past.



‘Oh! She is beautiful!’ cried Aladdin. He ran home to tell his mother.



‘Mother, I love Princess Zadia,’ said Aladdin. ‘I must marry her or die! Oh please, Mother, go and ask the king! Take him all these expensive jewels.’

So Aladdin’s mother went to the palace and waited. At last the king saw her.

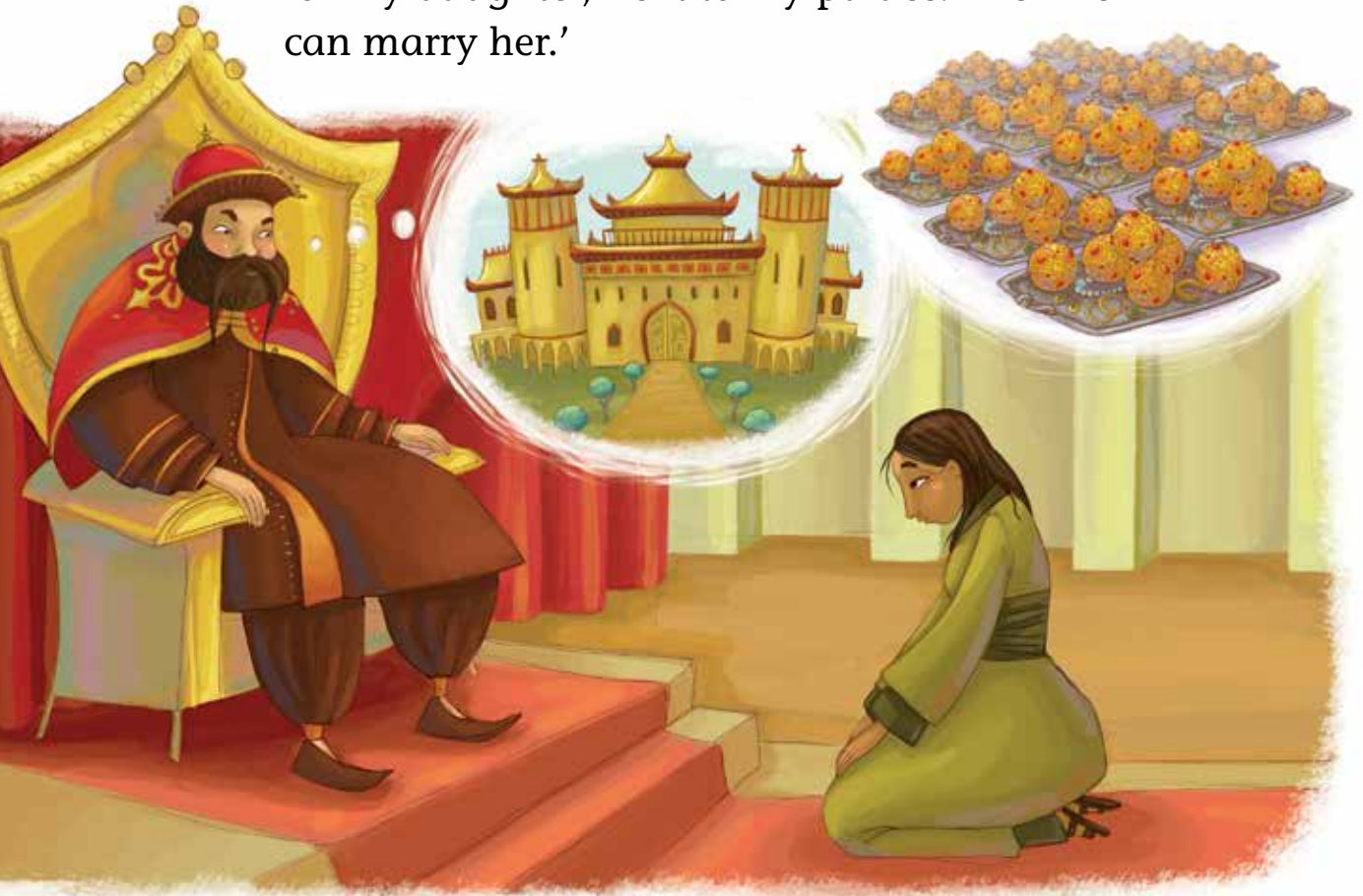
‘Oh please, sir,’ she said. ‘My son wants to marry your daughter. Look, sir! He gives you all these big jewels, sir.’

‘Very nice,’ said the king. ‘But I must think about it. Come back in three months.’



Aladdin's mother came back three months later and the king thought, 'Not that poor woman again!'

And he said, 'Tell your son this. I want forty more trays of jewels. And I want a gold palace for my daughter, next to my palace. Then he can marry her.'



'I'm sorry, Aladdin,' said his mother. And she told him about the jewels and the gold palace. But Aladdin smiled. He took out the magic lamp and rubbed it.