

Carine Paquin

Laurence Dechassey

THE ROOSTER
WHO WANTED
TO BE
A HEN



DISCOVER THE HAUTE-COUR FARM,
WHERE EVERYONE IS FREE TO SPEAK THEIR MIND AND BE THEMSELVES.

CARINE PAQUIN, AUTHOR

A native of Val D'Or, **Carine Paquin** is an author, primary school teacher, and theatre professor. In addition to working on educational publications and serving as Fiction Publisher at Éditions ÉdiTiö, Carine never misses an opportunity to host or act in literary plays.

LAURENCE DECHASSEY, ILLUSTRATOR

A French expatriate in Quebec for 20 years, **Laurence Dechassey** chose to settle in Montreal and build her universe, practicing her profession as an illustrator. With her pencil, she creates magical illustrations: she draws her dreams, her laughs, her joys and her sorrows.

EXCERPT FROM THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE SERIES ORIGINALLY ENTITLED

"Le coq qui voulait être une poule"

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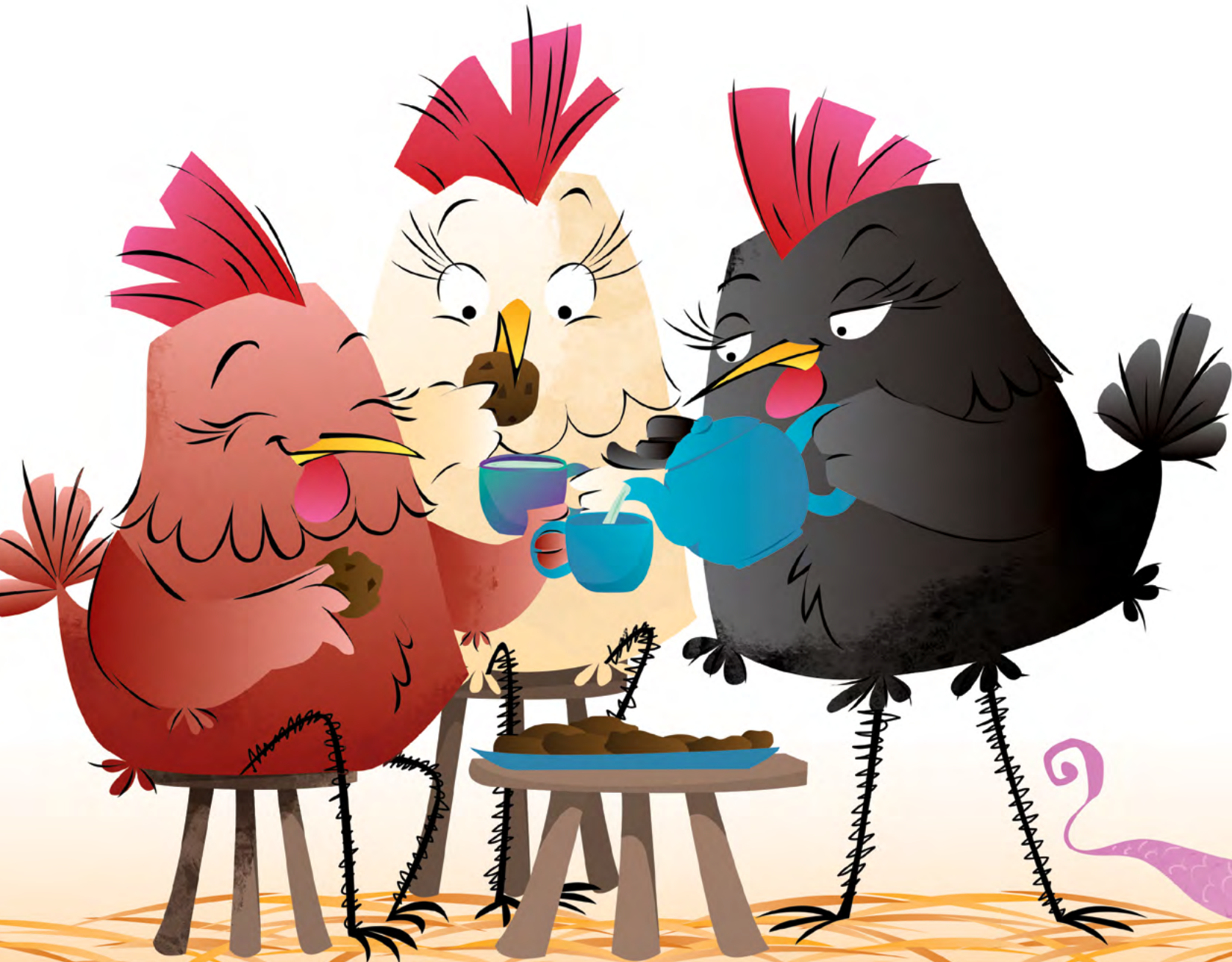
Canada

All of Haute-Cour farm is celebrating hatching day.

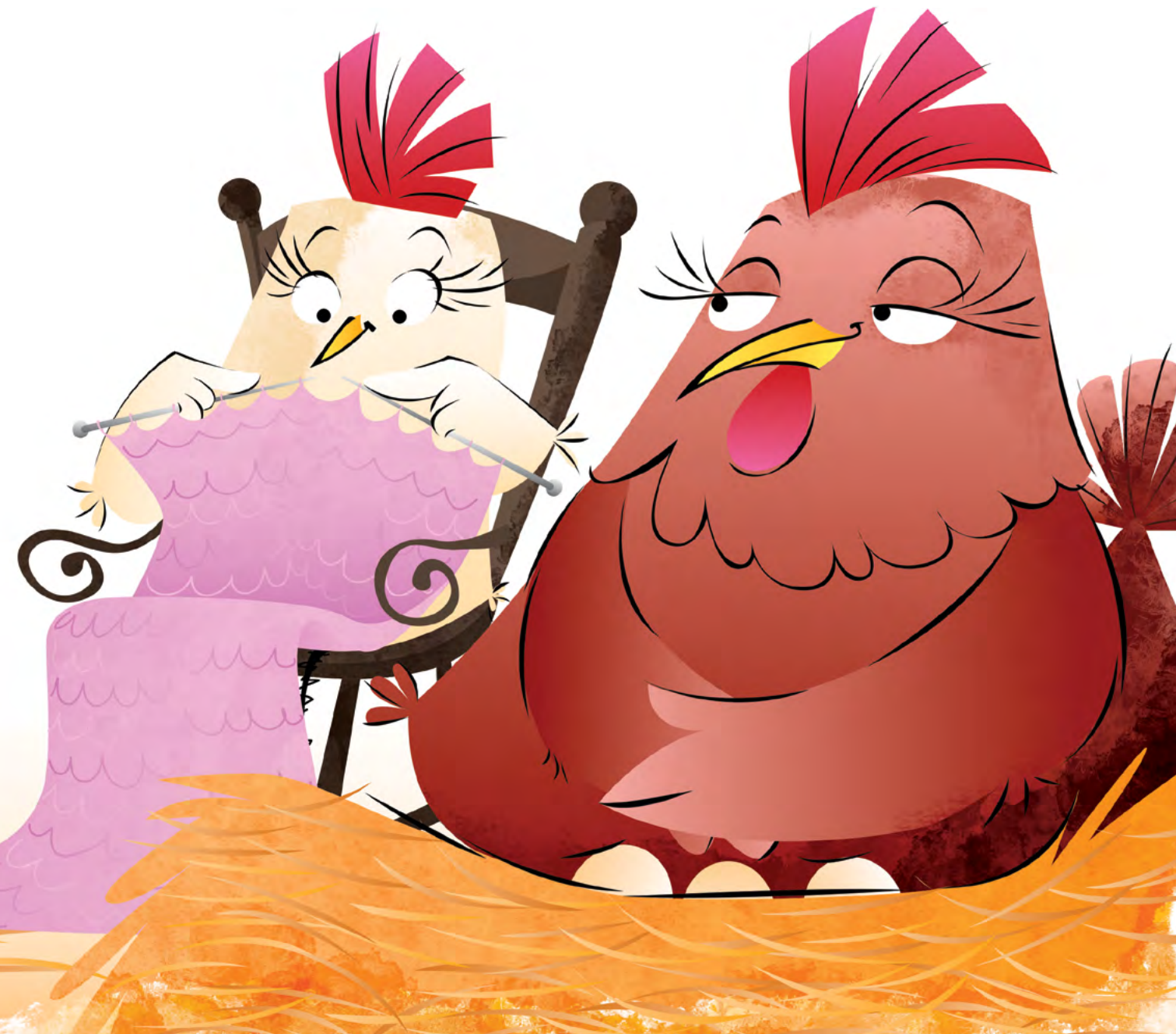
For the past twenty-one days, Colette the hen has been sitting on the eggs. They aren't all hers, but since she is an excellent incubator, the farmer has chosen her for this lengthy task.



Soon, if all goes well, twelve chicks will join the gang at Haute-Cour farm.



It's a colourful event with black, red, and white hens all gathered together to witness the birth.



The first chick to hatch is all black.
Everyone adores him already ...
how cute!

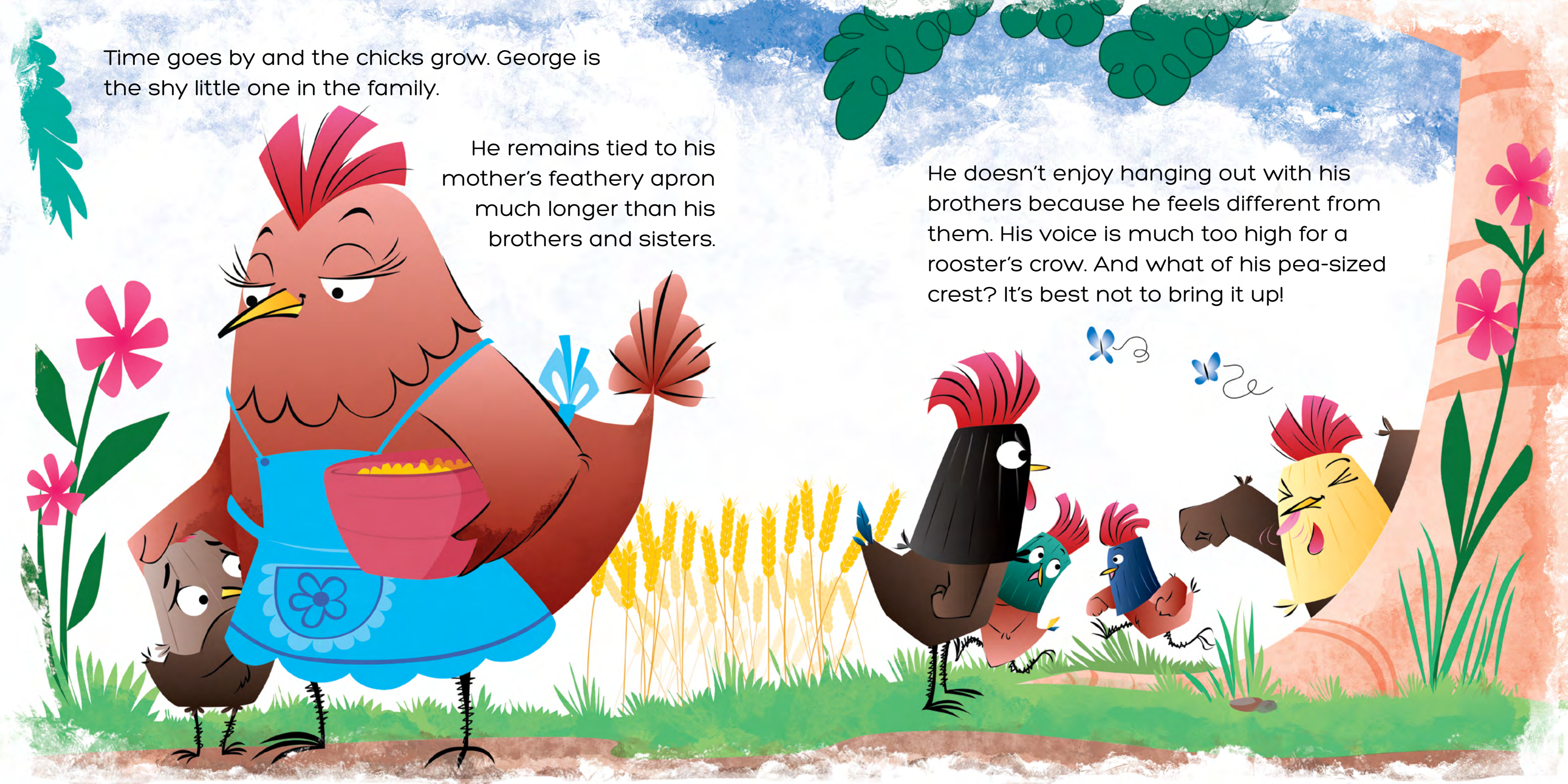
Several hours later the
hatching has resulted in ...



Time goes by and the chicks grow. George is the shy little one in the family.

He remains tied to his mother's feathery apron much longer than his brothers and sisters.

He doesn't enjoy hanging out with his brothers because he feels different from them. His voice is much too high for a rooster's crow. And what of his pea-sized crest? It's best not to bring it up!



All this means he does not fit in well with his group of brothers, who soon begin to mock him, calling him a chicken.

The little chick pays no attention though. He has much more fun with his sisters. They're kind to him and that's enough.



Then, one morning, George wakes up with a serious case of “bad hair day”.



Overnight, at the end of his tail, an infinitesimally tiny blue feather has appeared ... his rooster's tail has started to grow in!



But George doesn't want to be a rooster. He would much rather be a hen. He thinks hens are so much prettier and charming. He has an idea: he'll pull out the embarrassing feather. And he'll pull out all the others that follow.



IT'S HATCHING DAY AT HAUTE-COUR FARM. THE BLACK, RED, AND WHITE CHICKENS HAVE ALL GATHERED TO WITNESS THE EVENT! THE CHICKS BORN ON THIS HAPPY OCCASION ARE ALL SOON CHIRPING ABOUT JOYFULLY. ALL EXCEPT GEORGE, WHO PREFERS TO HIDE UNDER HIS MOTHER'S FEATHERED SKIRT. YOU SEE, GEORGE DOESN'T WANT TO BE A ROOSTER. HE'D PREFER TO BE A HEN...

