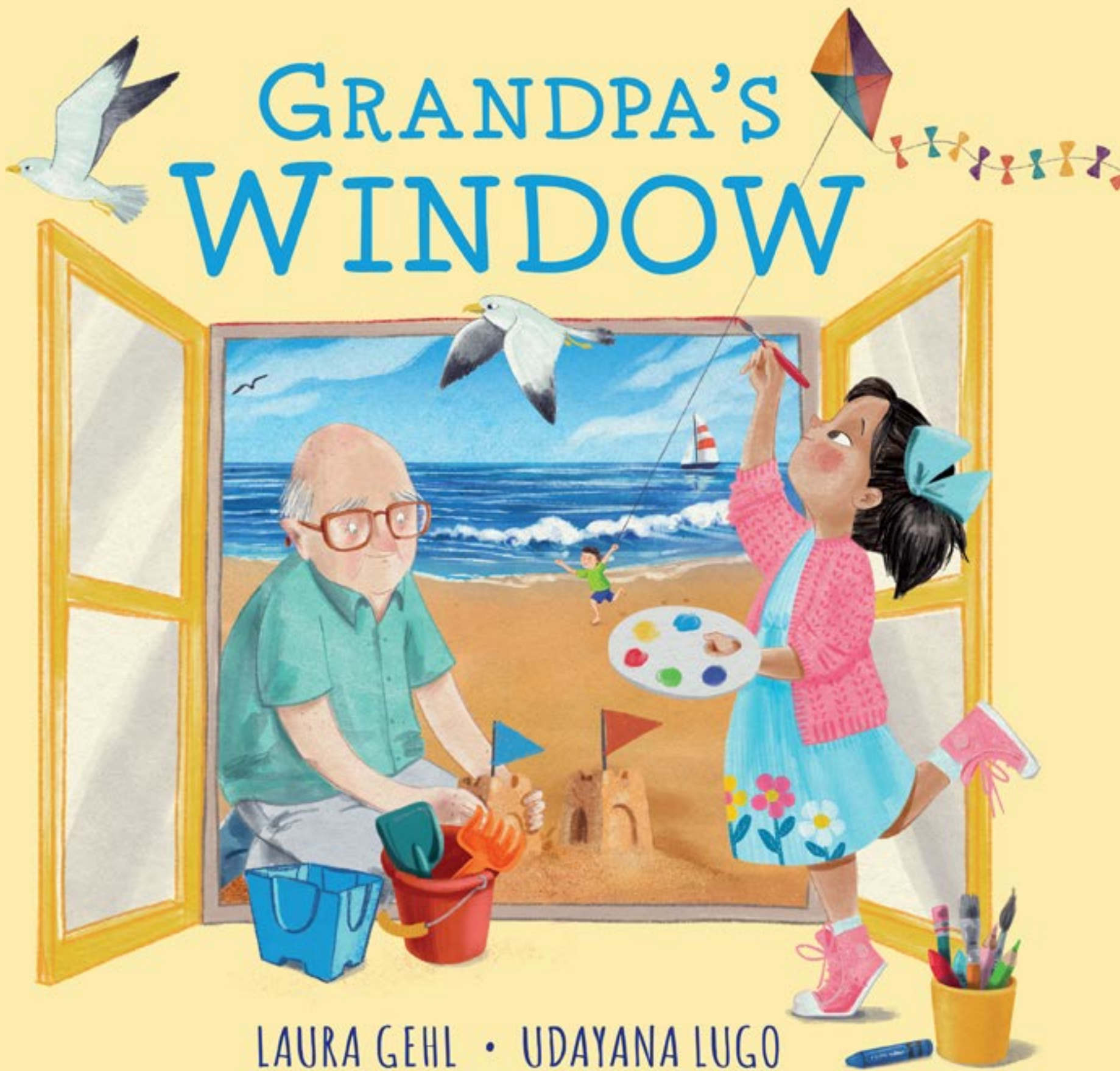


# GRANDPA'S WINDOW



LAURA GEHL • UDAYANA LUGO



For my two grandfathers: Henry Preiss and Dudley Chamberlain.

—L. G.

For Dondok, the granddad I never got to meet. And for Polina, Raquel,  
and Pepe, the most wonderful grandparents I could have had.

—U. L.

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Daria's grandpa had a window that looked out at the ocean. Most of the windows at the hospital looked out on dull, gray buildings.

But Daria's grandpa could see the ocean every day.

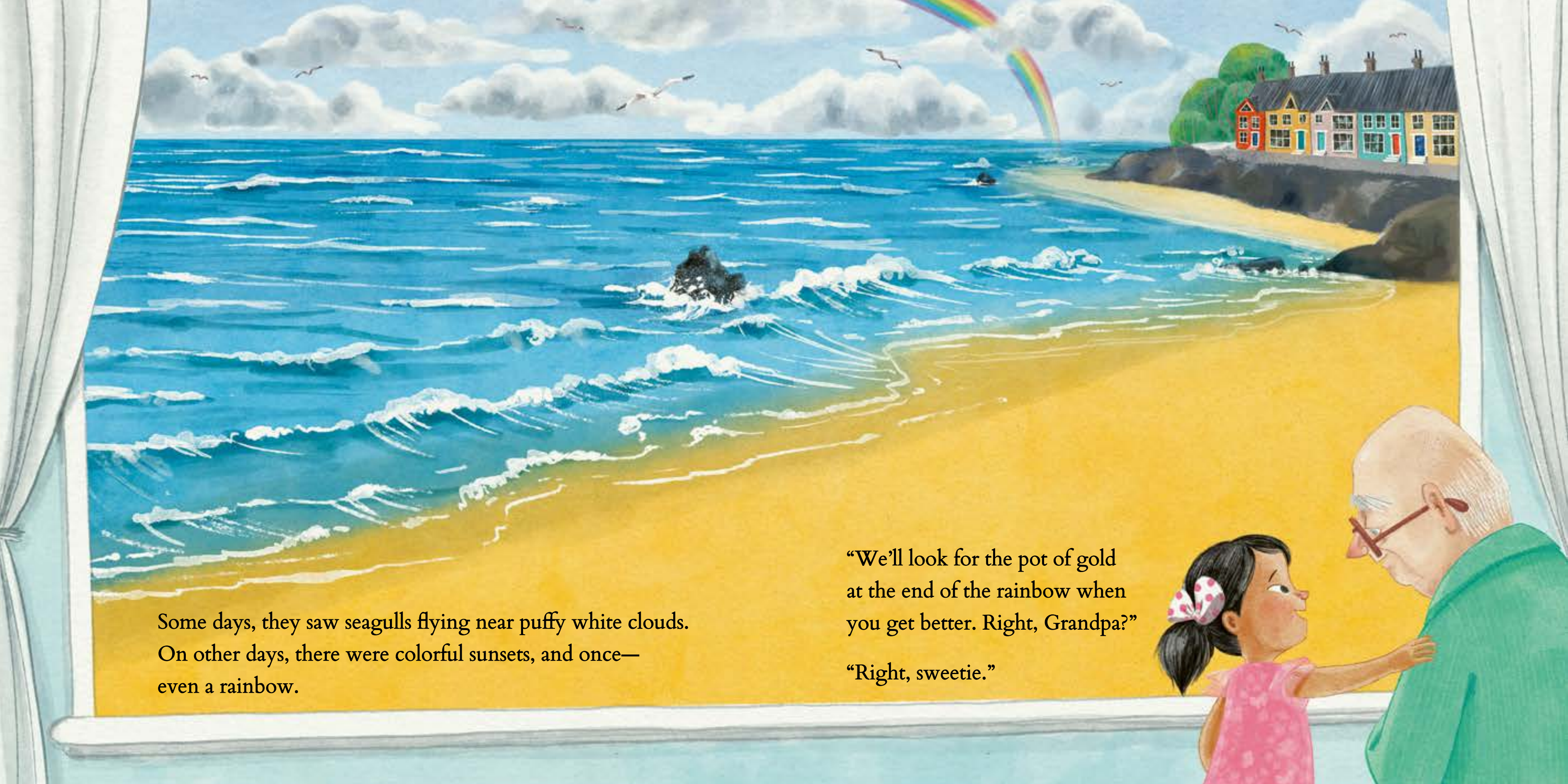


Each time Daria visited, she held Grandpa's hand,  
and they looked out the window together.

They saw waves crashing,  
families swimming,  
kites flying.

“We’ll fly kites when you get better. Right, Grandpa?”

“Of course we will.”



Some days, they saw seagulls flying near puffy white clouds. On other days, there were colorful sunsets, and once—even a rainbow.


“We’ll look for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow when you get better. Right, Grandpa?”

“Right, sweetie.”

One day, Grandpa was too weak to move to a chair. But Daria helped him sit up in bed and look out the window.



“See that little girl and her grandpa building a sandcastle?” Daria said. “They look like us, don’t they?”



Grandpa had an oxygen mask now to help him breathe. He couldn't talk with the mask on, but he nodded, and his eyes smiled at Daria.

“We’re going to build the biggest sandcastle in the world when you get better. Right, Grandpa?”

Grandpa squeezed her hand—not very tight, but tight enough. Daria knew the squeeze meant “yes.”