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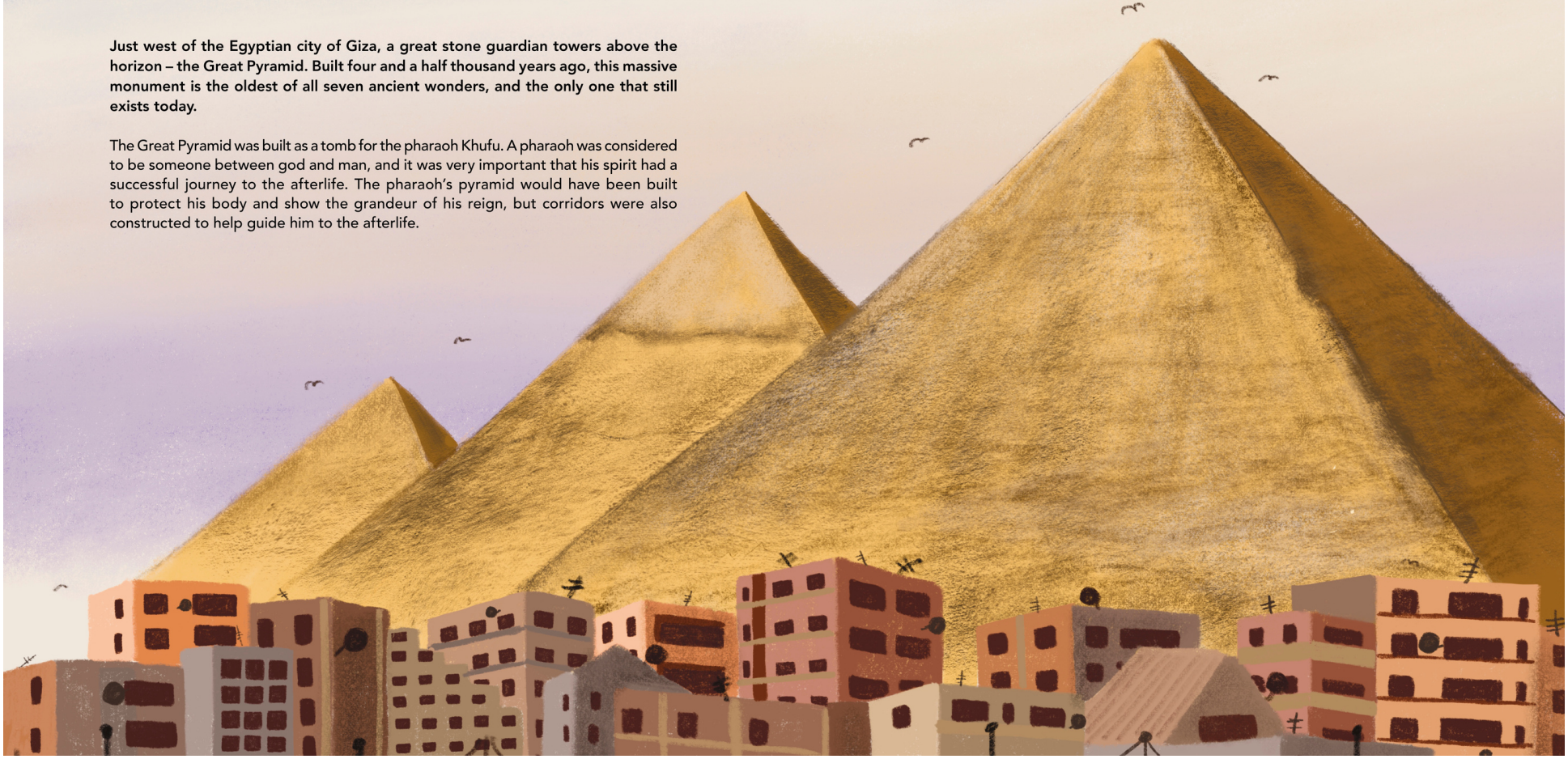
THE GREAT PYRAMID OF GIZA

Circa 2575–2465 BCE

Just west of the Egyptian city of Giza, a great stone guardian towers above the horizon – the Great Pyramid. Built four and a half thousand years ago, this massive monument is the oldest of all seven ancient wonders, and the only one that still exists today.

The Great Pyramid was built as a tomb for the pharaoh Khufu. A pharaoh was considered to be someone between god and man, and it was very important that his spirit had a successful journey to the afterlife. The pharaoh's pyramid would have been built to protect his body and show the grandeur of his reign, but corridors were also constructed to help guide him to the afterlife.

At nearly 150 metres tall and about 230 metres wide on each side, the Pyramid of Khufu (as it is also known) took enormous groups of Egyptian workers somewhere between 10 and 20 years to complete, and remained the tallest building in the world for more than 3,000 years after it was built. Its four equal sides are exactly aligned with the directions of the compass, and its four corners are nearly perfect right angles. This still baffles builders and historians today, because ancient Egyptians did all of this without modern technology like iron tools, pulleys or even wheels!



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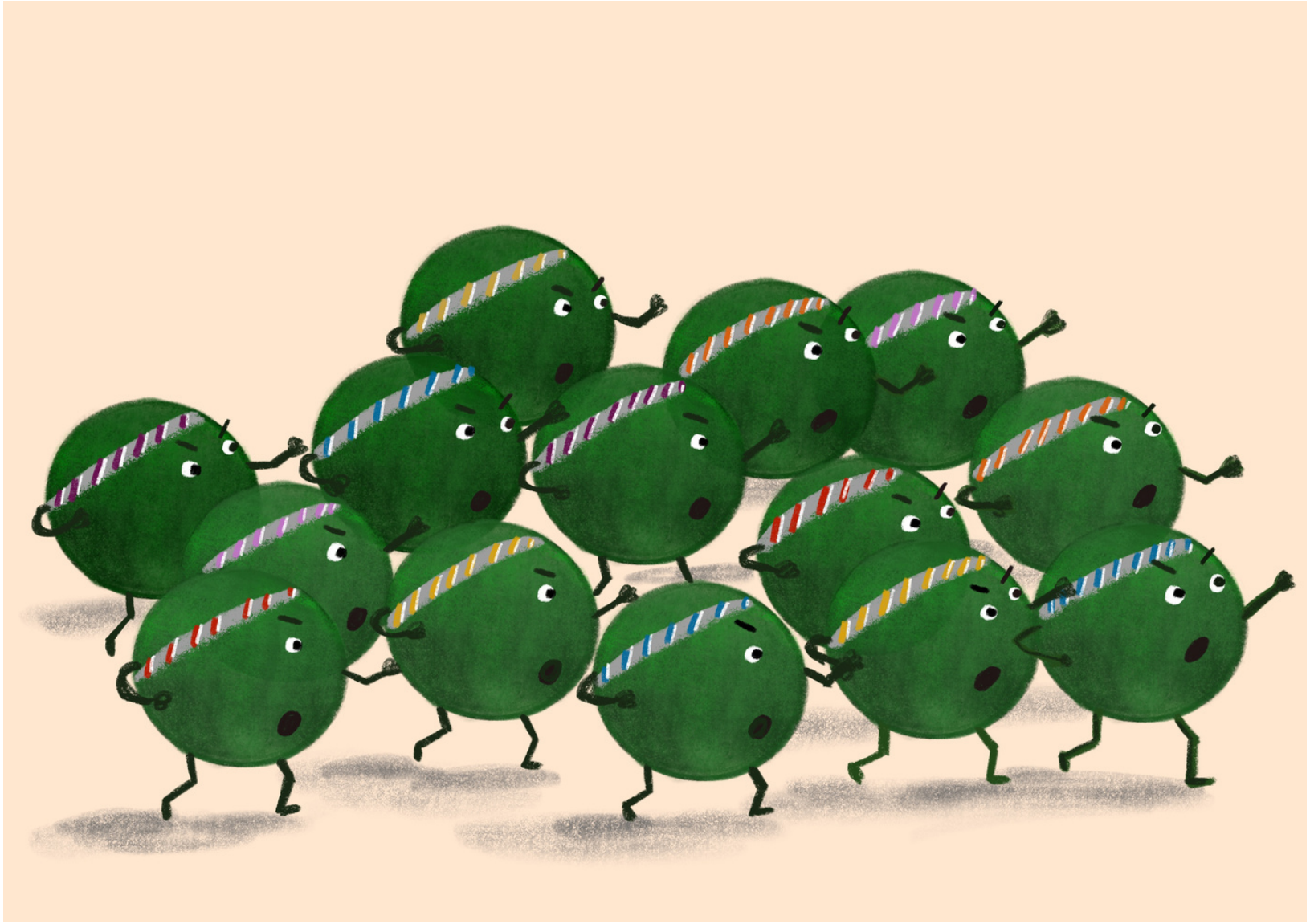

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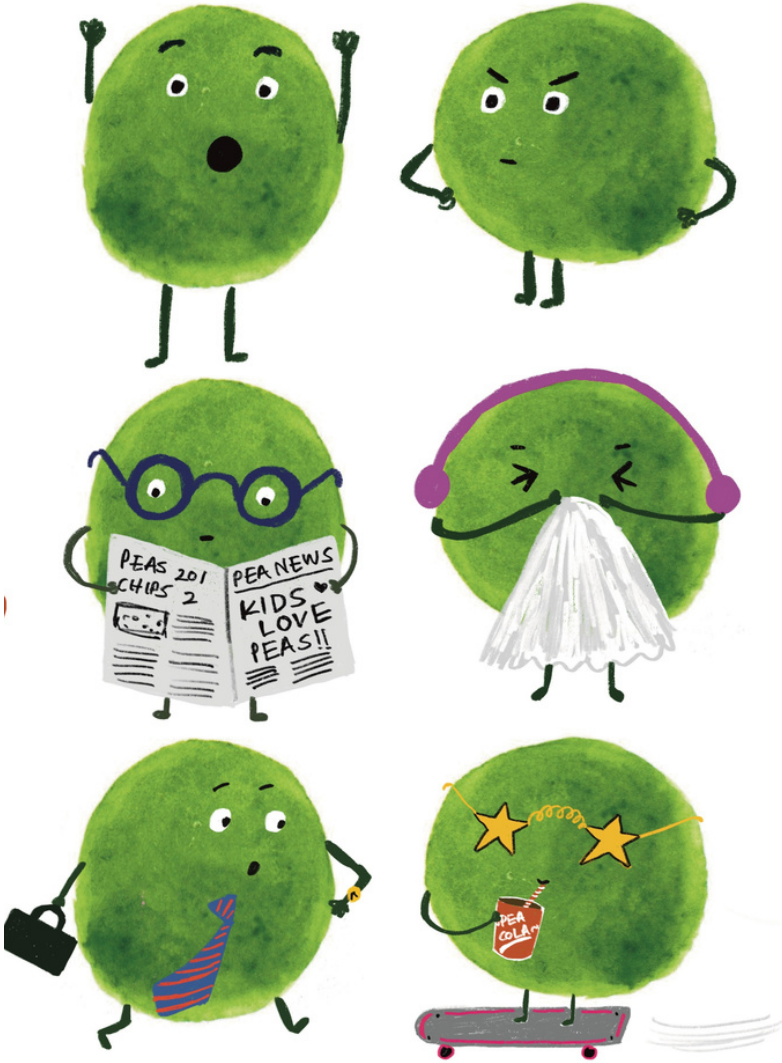

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Nami began drawing when she lived in Japan for three years. Over that time, she developed a series of sketchbooks and returned to London to attend Art College. After graduating with an Art and Design foundation she began working for a number of museum and heritage organisations after finding a passion for curating. She went onto study a Masters in Curating Contemporary Design. This led to a career in exhibition work in China, Germany, and India.

Whilst curating exhibitions and being surrounded by art, she felt inspired to pick up her pencil again and became interested in exploring Illustration for children's books. She attended a course in Illustration at the Putney School of Art. She also studied two courses at the Royal Drawing School in Drawing a Story and Drawing Graphic Novels.

She was keen on pursuing more formal instruction in illustration and the opportunity to be a mentee on the Pathways Into Publishing programme presented itself. Since securing a place onto the programme, she has worked on briefs set by Bloomsbury, Anderson Press, Scholastic, Nosy Crow, Walker Books, Oxford University Press and Flying Eye Books. She has also been mentored by Children's Book Illustrator and Author Claire Alexander and has been taught by a wide variety of publishers, published Illustrators, editors, art directors, and other industry professionals.

Her artistic vision is to create work that a child would want to live inside of and return to again and again. Her love of the everyday is demonstrated continuously throughout her artwork, and she often draws inspiration from work by Edward Hopper, Norman Rockwell and Judith Kerr. She strives to create illustrations that teaches through small details, captures a child's imagination through warm, playful scenes, and widens perspectives through storytelling.

Nami continues to channel her curatorial experience in creating her illustrations. She often looks for concepts and influences that might offer an interesting angle on how an illustration project can be approached.

Nami lives in Farnham, Surrey, with her husband Stuart and young daughter Sophie.

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