



URSULA



BROOKLYN



PAPPY



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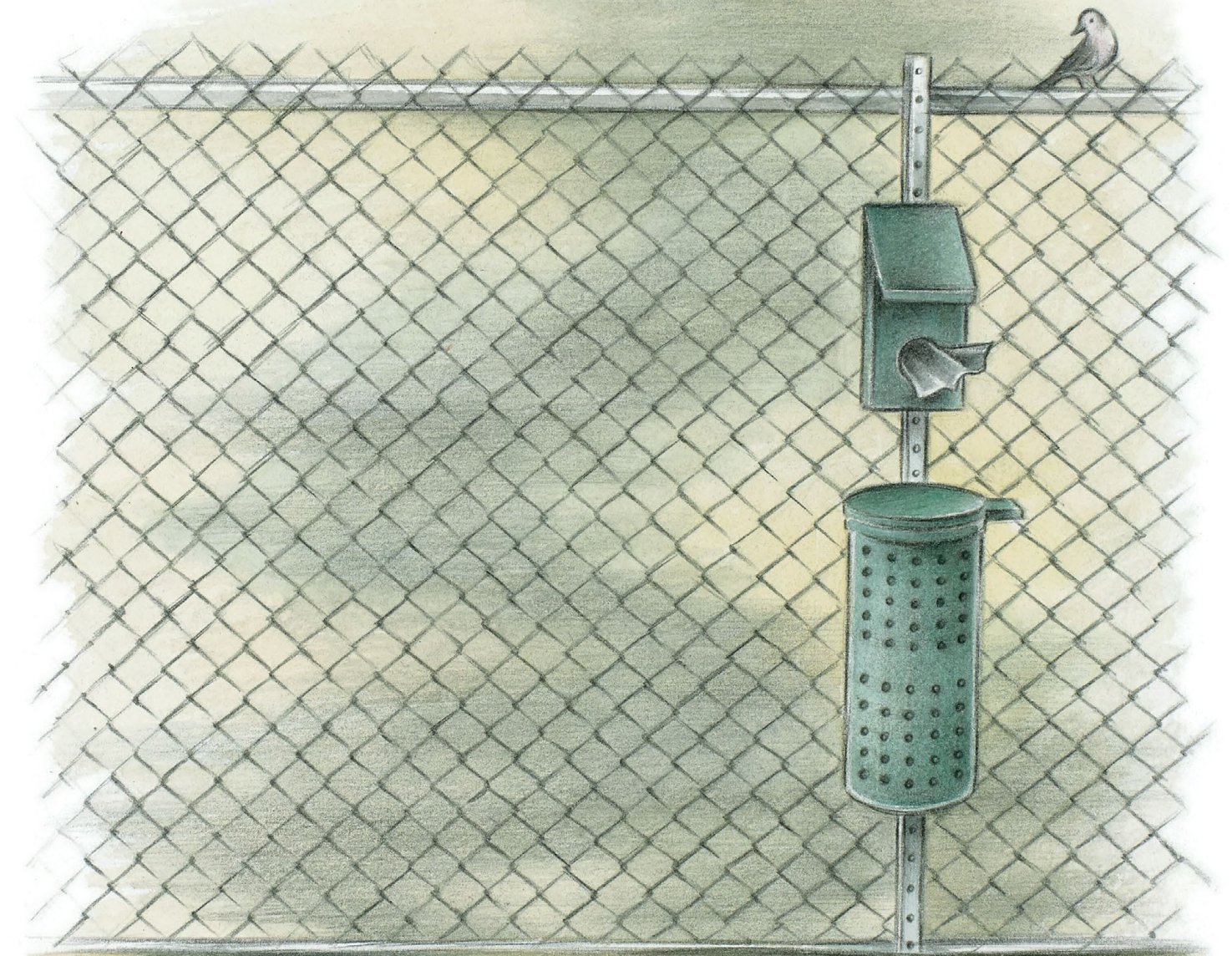
PATCH



DECAF



Little Brown



Marla Frazee

Beach Lane Books

New York London Toronto Sydney New Delhi

For the dogs



BEACH LANE BOOKS

An imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division
1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020
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Book design by Marla Frazee
The text for this book was hand-lettered by Marla Frazee, and the illustrations were rendered in black Prismacolor pencil and goauche.
Manufactured in China
0718 SCP
First Edition
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Names: Frazee, Marla, author.
Title: Little Brown / Marla Frazee.
Description: First edition. | New York : Beach Lane Books, [2018] | Summary: "Little Brown is grumpy and lonely at the dog park, until he decides to take matters into his own hands."— Provided by publisher.
Identifiers: LCCN 2017045043 | ISBN 9781481425223 (hardcover : alk. paper) | ISBN 9781481425247 (e-book)
Subjects: | CYAC: Dogs—Fiction. | Mood (Psychology)—Fiction. | Loneliness—Fiction.
Classification: LCC PZ7.F866 Li 2018 | DDC [E]—dc23 LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2017045043>

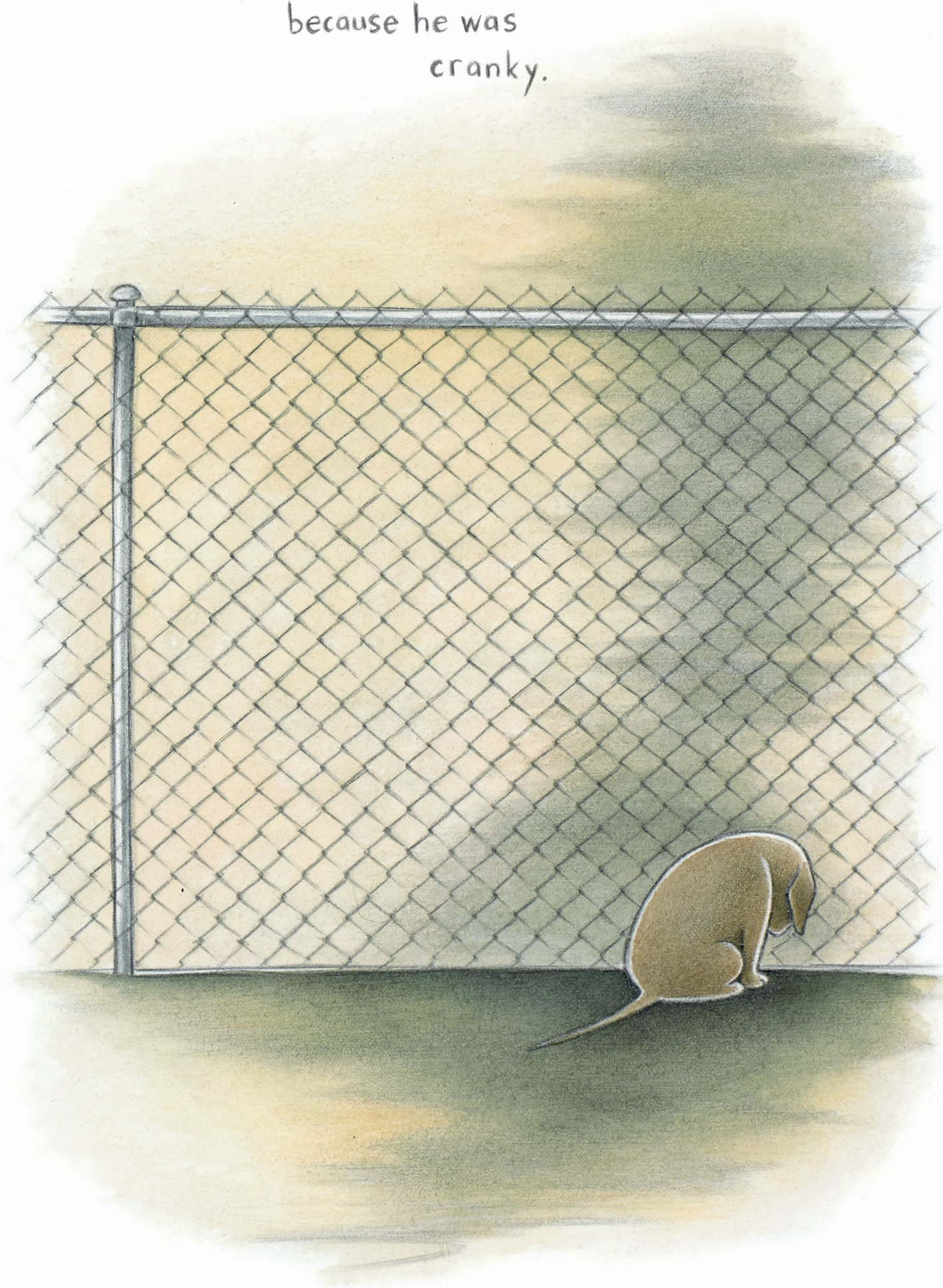
Little Brown was cranky.



Probably because no one ever played with him.



Or maybe no one ever played with him
because he was
cranky.



At this point,
it was hard to know.



The big dogs chased balls.



The old dogs napped together in
the shade.



The small dogs
ran around in circles.

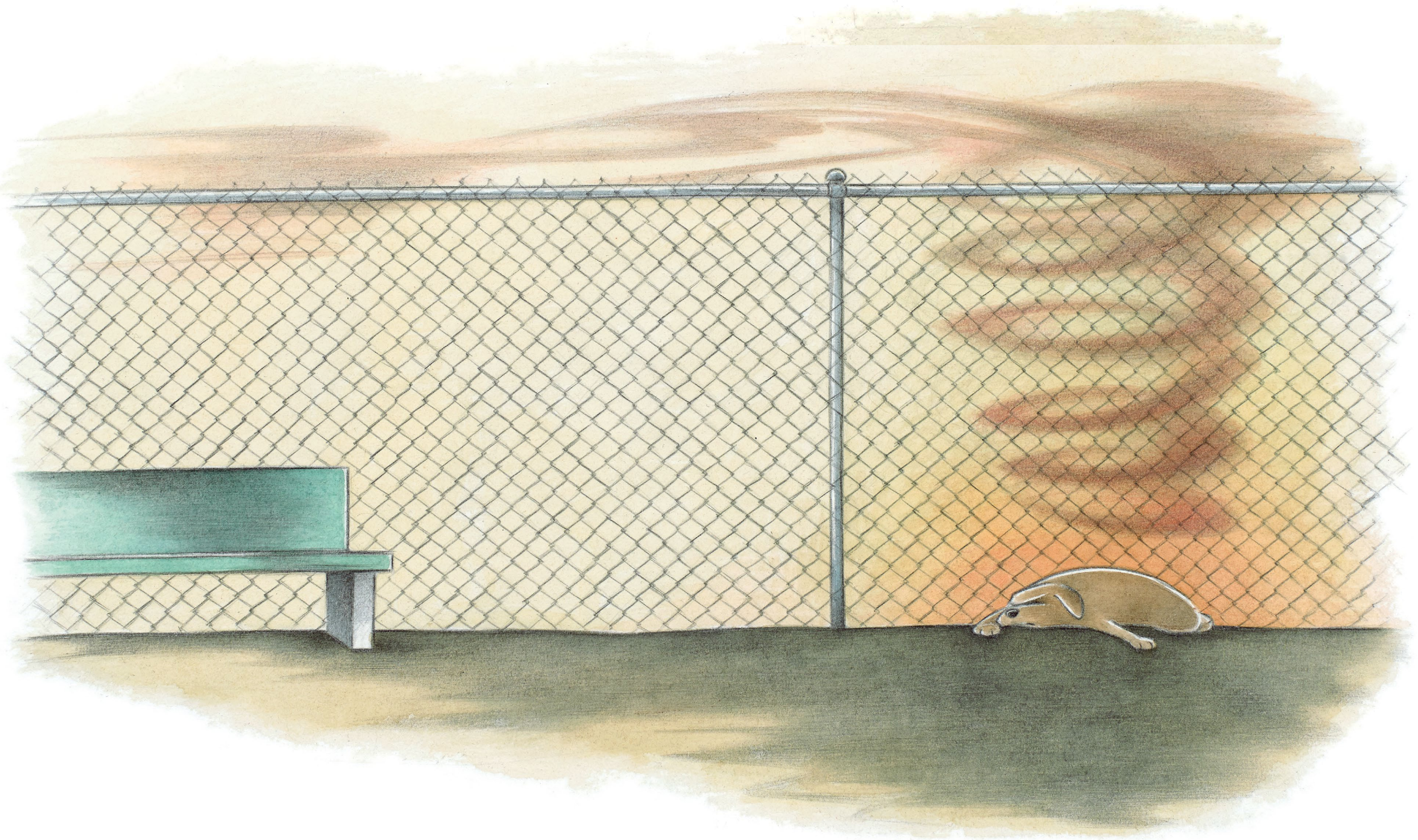


The young dogs
got muddy.



But Little Brown did nothing and did it alone.

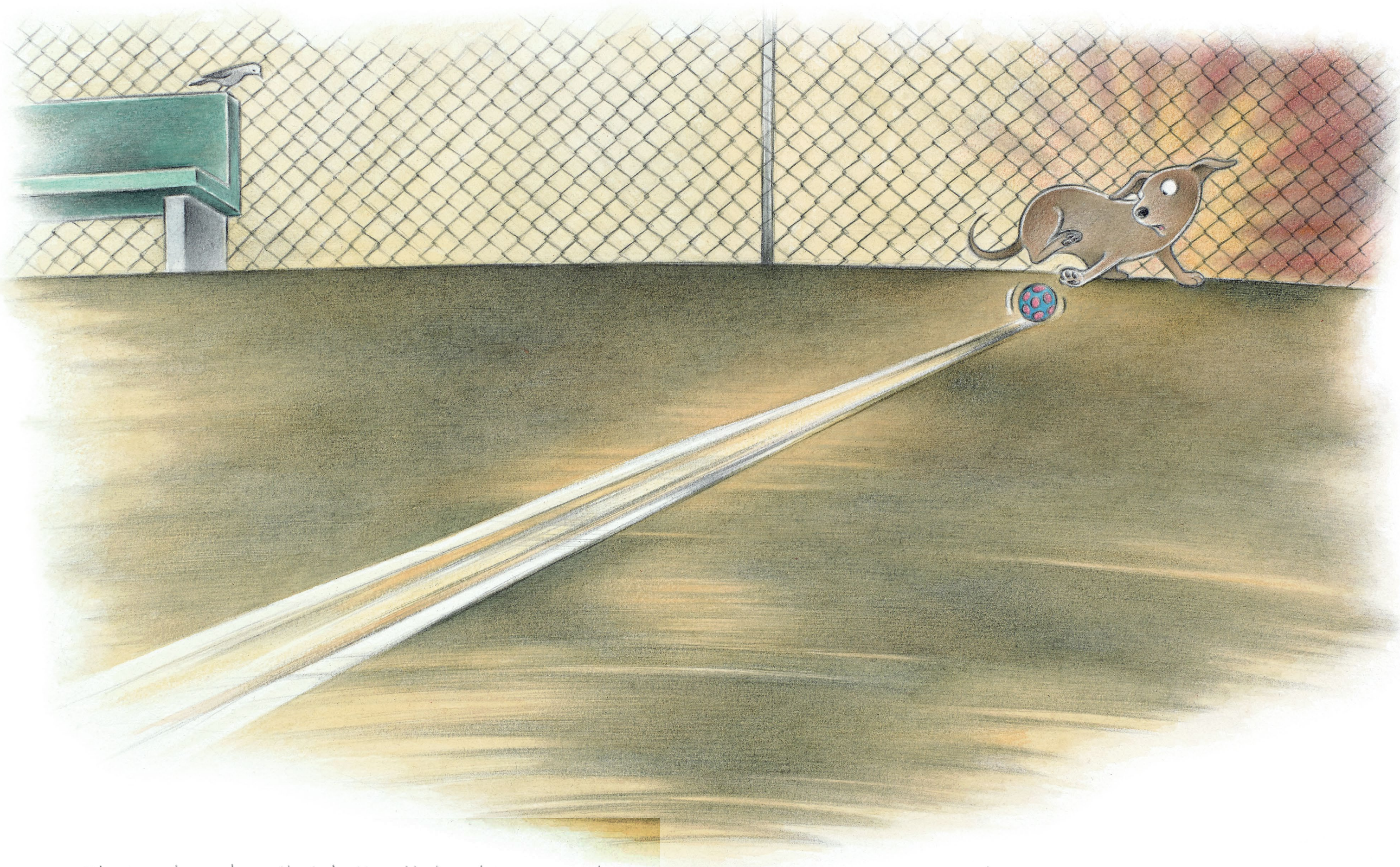
He knew he could be a dog who would — if given half a chance — chase balls, run in circles, nap in the shade, or get muddy.



But Little Brown just watched the others ...

and got crankier and crankier.





That's why when that ball rolled right over to him,

he nabbed it.

And that's why he
grabbed the
tassel toy
too.



And the
blanket.



And the
stick.



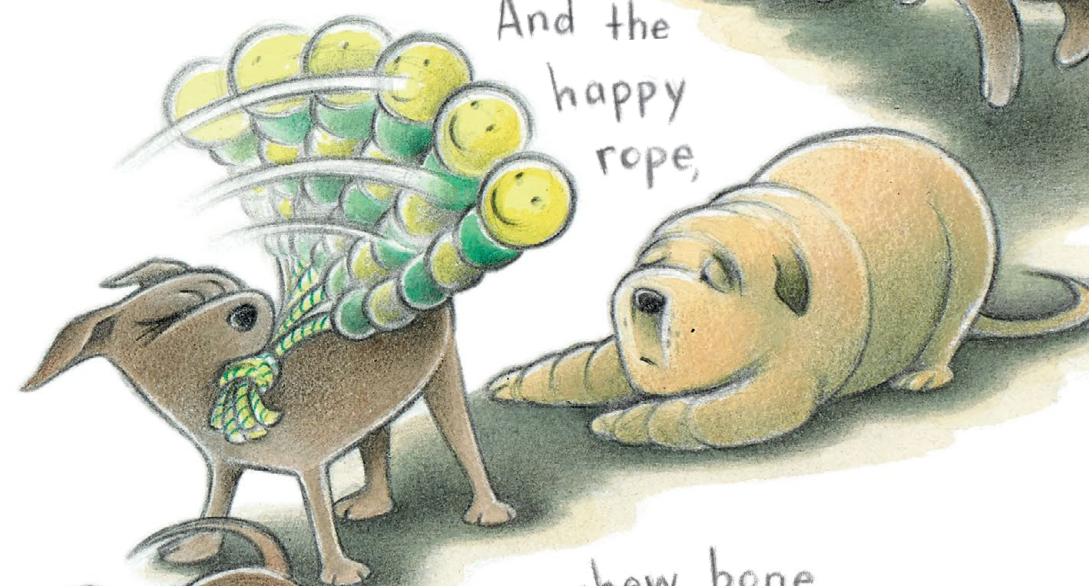
And the
flying disk.



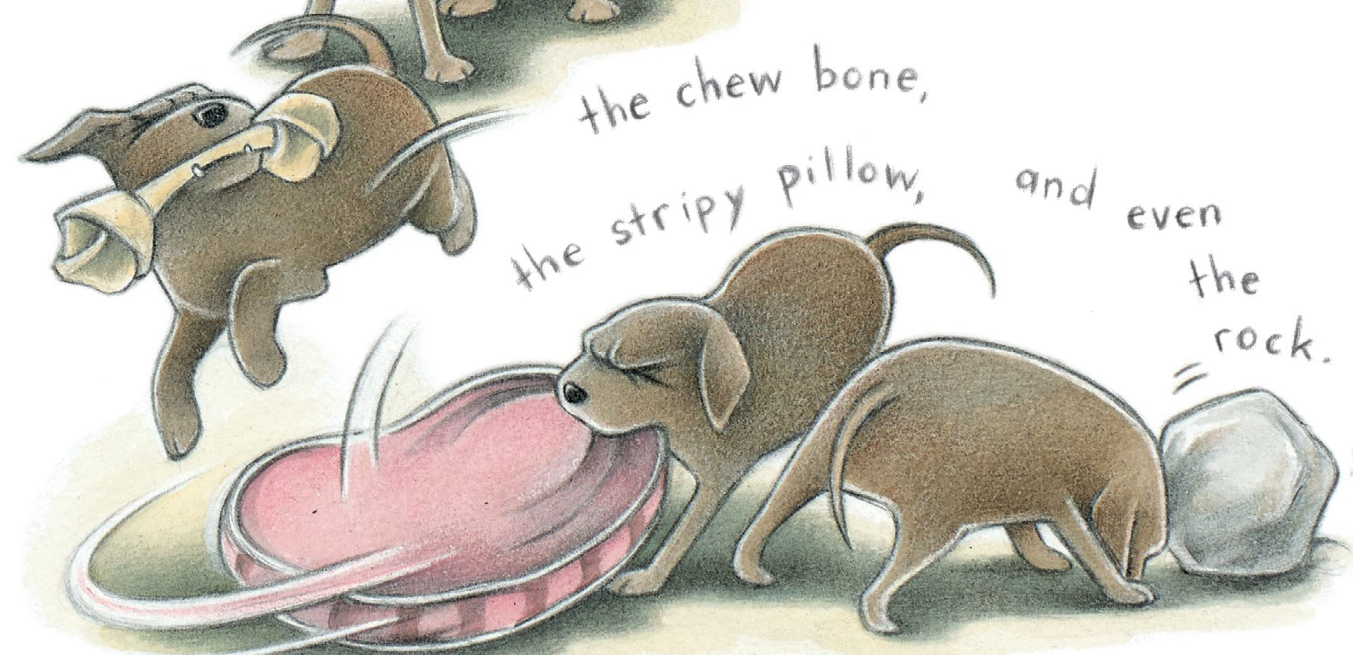
And the
football.



And the
happy
rope,



the chew bone,
the stripy pillow, and even
the
rock.



Soon he had
collected quite
a lot of things
that didn't belong
to him.



The big dogs and small dogs and old dogs
and young dogs stopped what they were
doing and looked at Little Brown.

They looked at the stuff.
They wanted it back.

But Little Brown
wasn't giving in.





This was a dilemma.

The dogs wondered
things, some of
which they'd
wondered
before....

Is Little Brown
cranky because we
don't play with him?

Or do we not
play with him
because he is
cranky?

Should we
play with him
to get the
stuff
back?

Or will
that make
us cranky
too?

What
then?



Little Brown
wondered things
too.

If I give it all back,
will they like me?

Then will they
play with me?

What if I give
it all back and they
still won't play
with me?

What
then?



It was a lot to wonder about.

So they all sat around wondering and scratching until it was time to go in.



Maybe tomorrow...



they would know
what to do.



GUS



MARLITA



ZUMA



JUDSON



LAIKA



ROCKET



KOKONUT



MAVIS

