

EXODUS

Brian Wildsmith



THE *TEN* COMMANDMENTS



I AM YOUR GOD.

I RESCUED YOU FROM EGYPT

WHERE YOU LIVED AS SLAVES.

YOU MUST NOT WORSHIP ANY OTHER GODS.

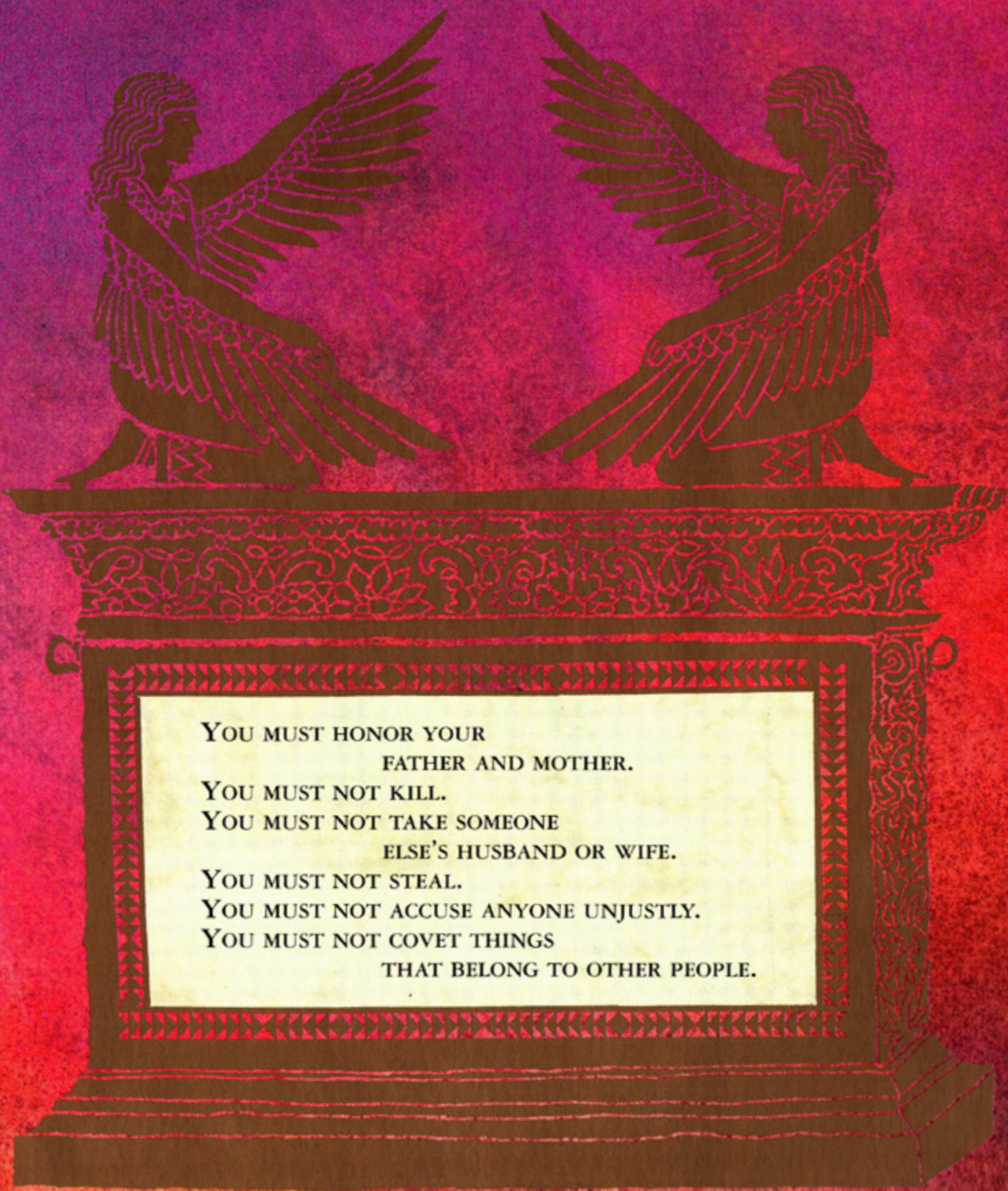
YOU MUST NOT MAKE ANY IDOLS

OR IMAGES TO WORSHIP.

YOU MUST NOT USE MY NAME WRONGFULLY.

YOU MUST NOT WORK ON

THE SABBATH DAY.



YOU MUST HONOR YOUR
FATHER AND MOTHER.
YOU MUST NOT KILL.
YOU MUST NOT TAKE SOMEONE
ELSE'S HUSBAND OR WIFE.
YOU MUST NOT STEAL.
YOU MUST NOT ACCUSE ANYONE UNJUSTLY.
YOU MUST NOT COVET THINGS
THAT BELONG TO OTHER PEOPLE.

For Clare, Rebecca, Anna, and Simon

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EXODUS

Brian Wildsmith



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WHEN the Hebrews were slaves in Egypt, a Hebrew woman gave birth to a son. Now Pharaoh had ordered that all the Hebrew baby boys should be killed. The mother made a basket of reeds, placed her baby inside, and hid it among the bullrushes. Her daughter Miriam kept watch nearby.

Some time later Pharaoh's daughter came down to the river to bathe. She heard the baby crying and picked him up. She felt sorry for the little boy.

Miriam came forward and asked, "Shall I go and find one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?"

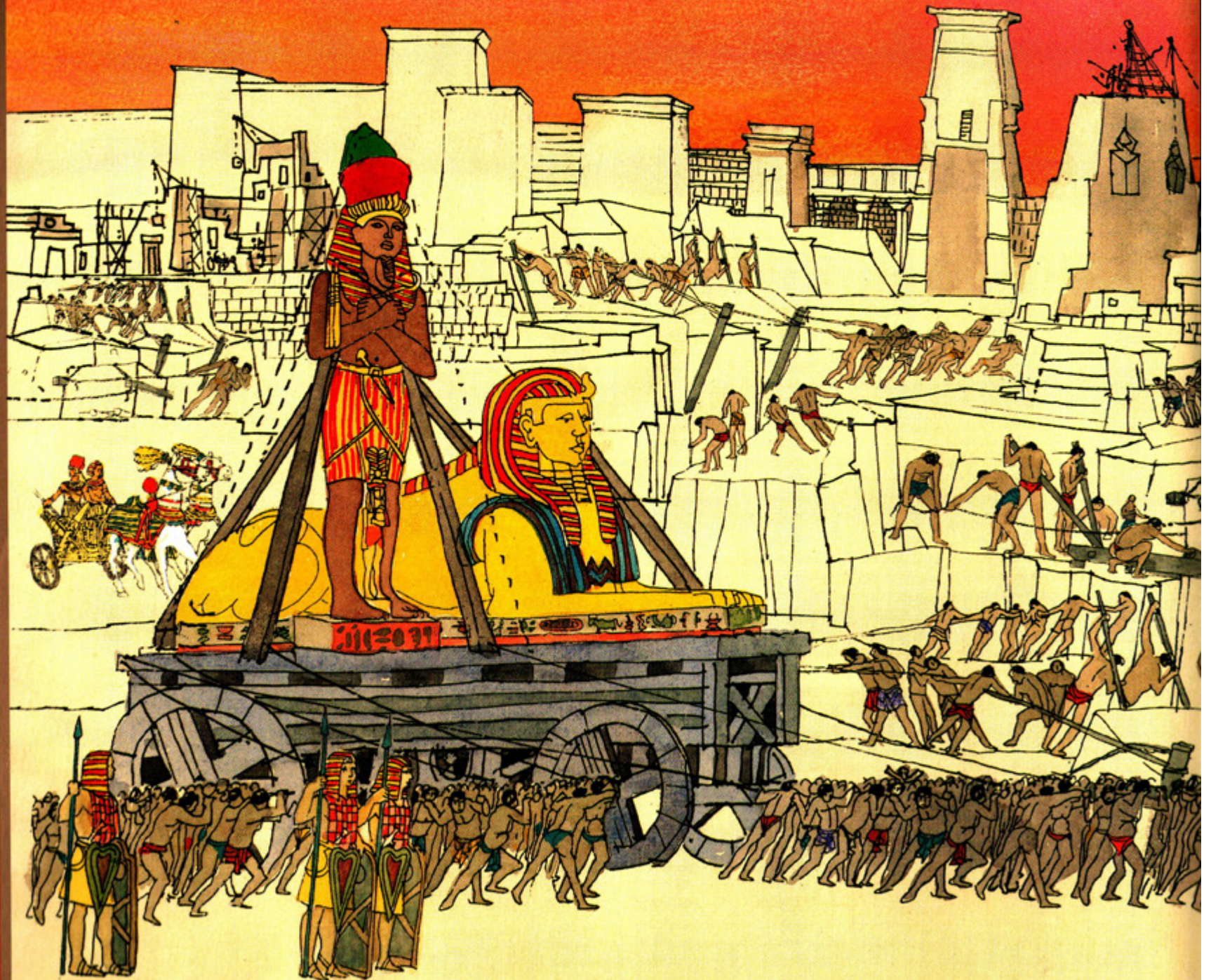
So Miriam fetched the baby's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said, "Look after this little boy for me, and I will pay you."

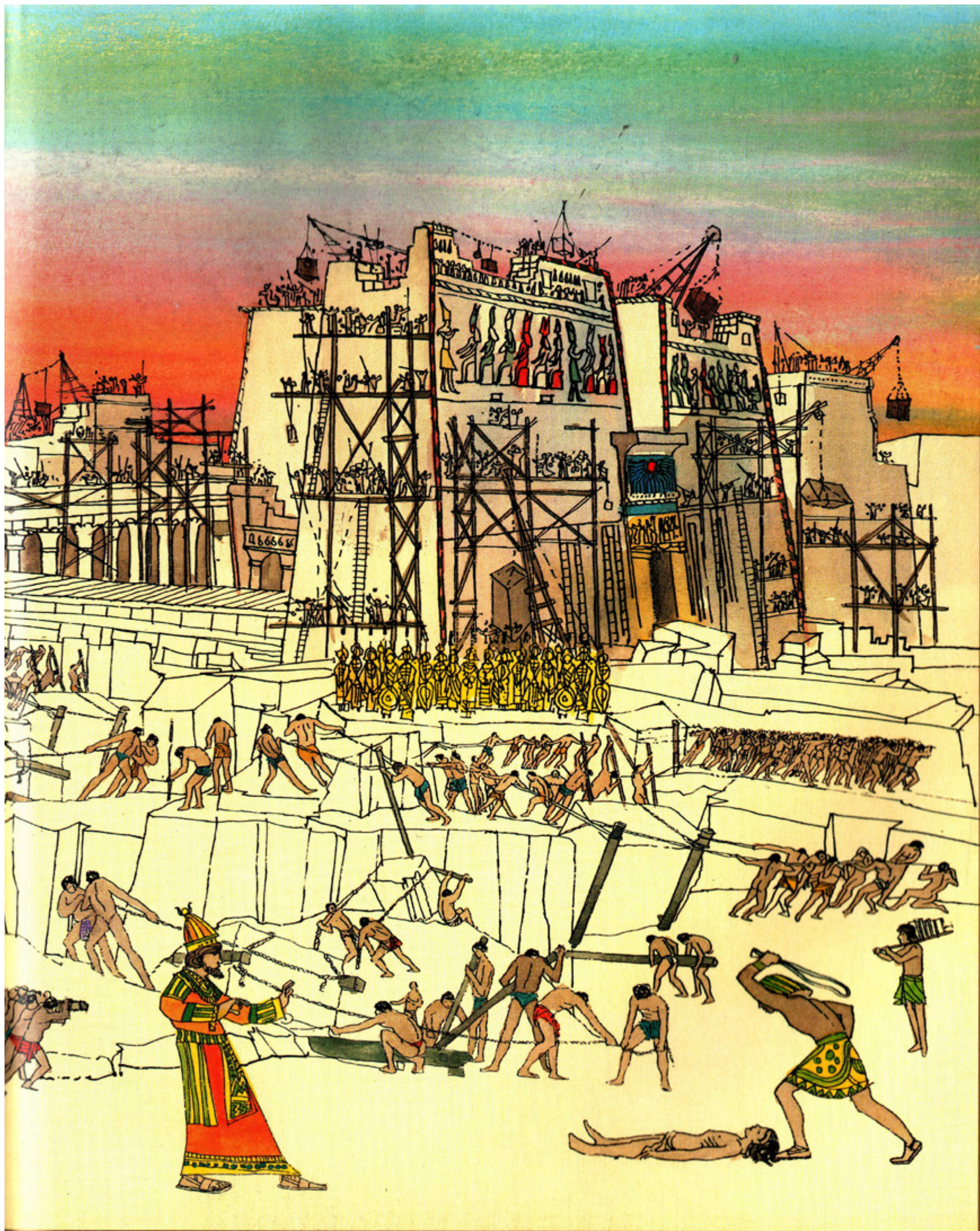
The woman took the baby and nursed him. When he was old enough, she brought him back to Pharaoh's daughter, who named him Moses.



MOSES grew up as an Egyptian prince, surrounded by the riches of Egypt. But he never forgot that he was a Hebrew, and he hated the cruel way his people were treated.

One day he saw an Egyptian guard whipping a Hebrew slave. Moses was so angry that he leaped at the guard and killed him with his bare hands.







WHEN Pharaoh heard of this, he was very angry and wanted to kill Moses. He summoned the captain of the guard and ordered him to arrest Moses.

But Moses fled to the land of Midian, where he lived and worked as a shepherd for many years.

In time Pharaoh died and was replaced by another king. The new Pharaoh was just as cruel, and the Hebrews in Egypt suffered even more than before.



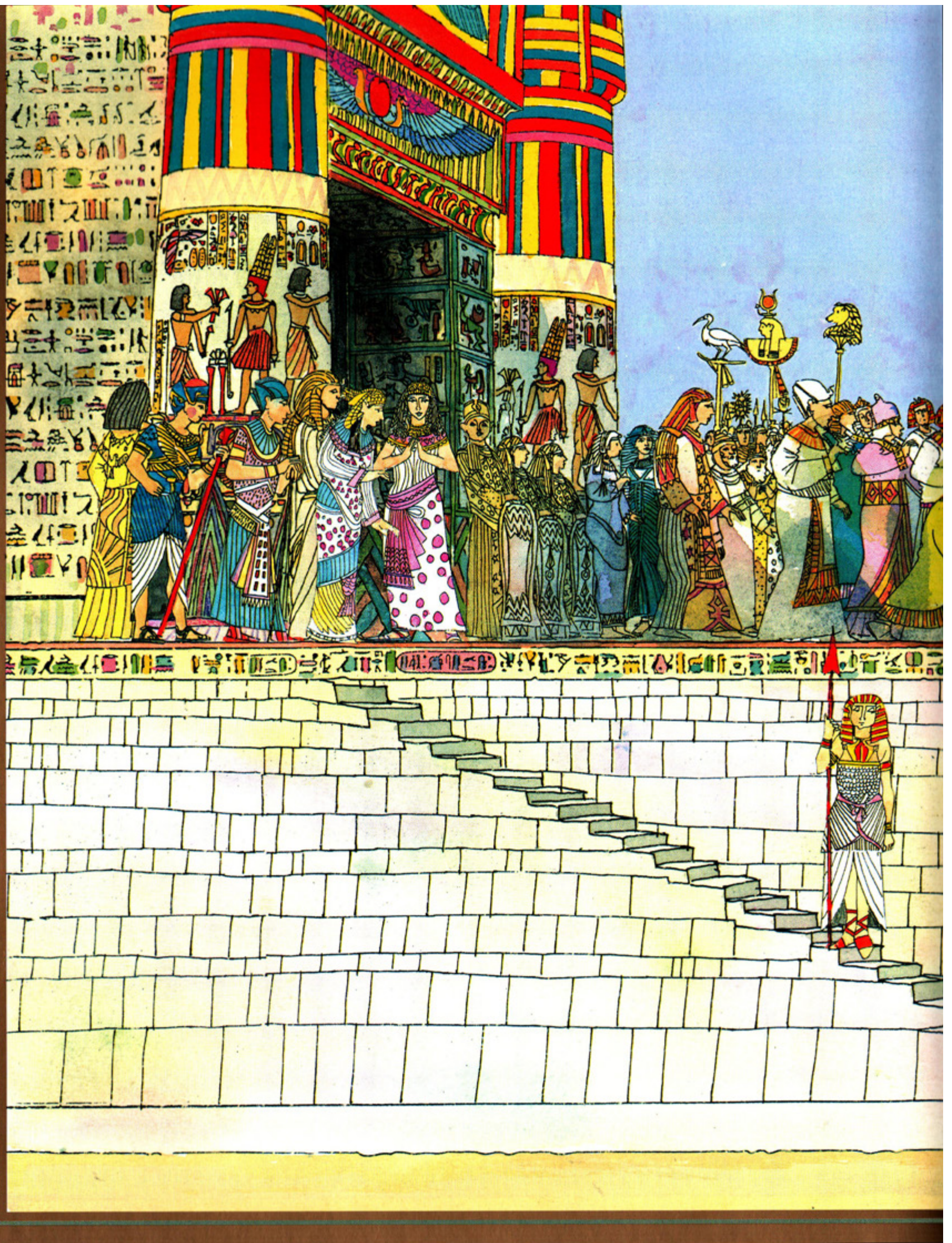
ONE day while Moses was looking after his flock in Midian, God appeared to him as a fire blazing out from a bush. Although the bush was on fire, it was not burned up.

God called to Moses from out of the flames and said, "Take off your shoes, for you are standing on holy ground. I am your God, and I have seen the suffering of my people. Go back to Egypt and tell Pharaoh to let my people go. You will lead them out of Egypt to a land flowing with milk and honey."

Then God spoke to Moses' brother, Aaron, in Egypt, and said, "Your brother is coming home. Go and meet him."





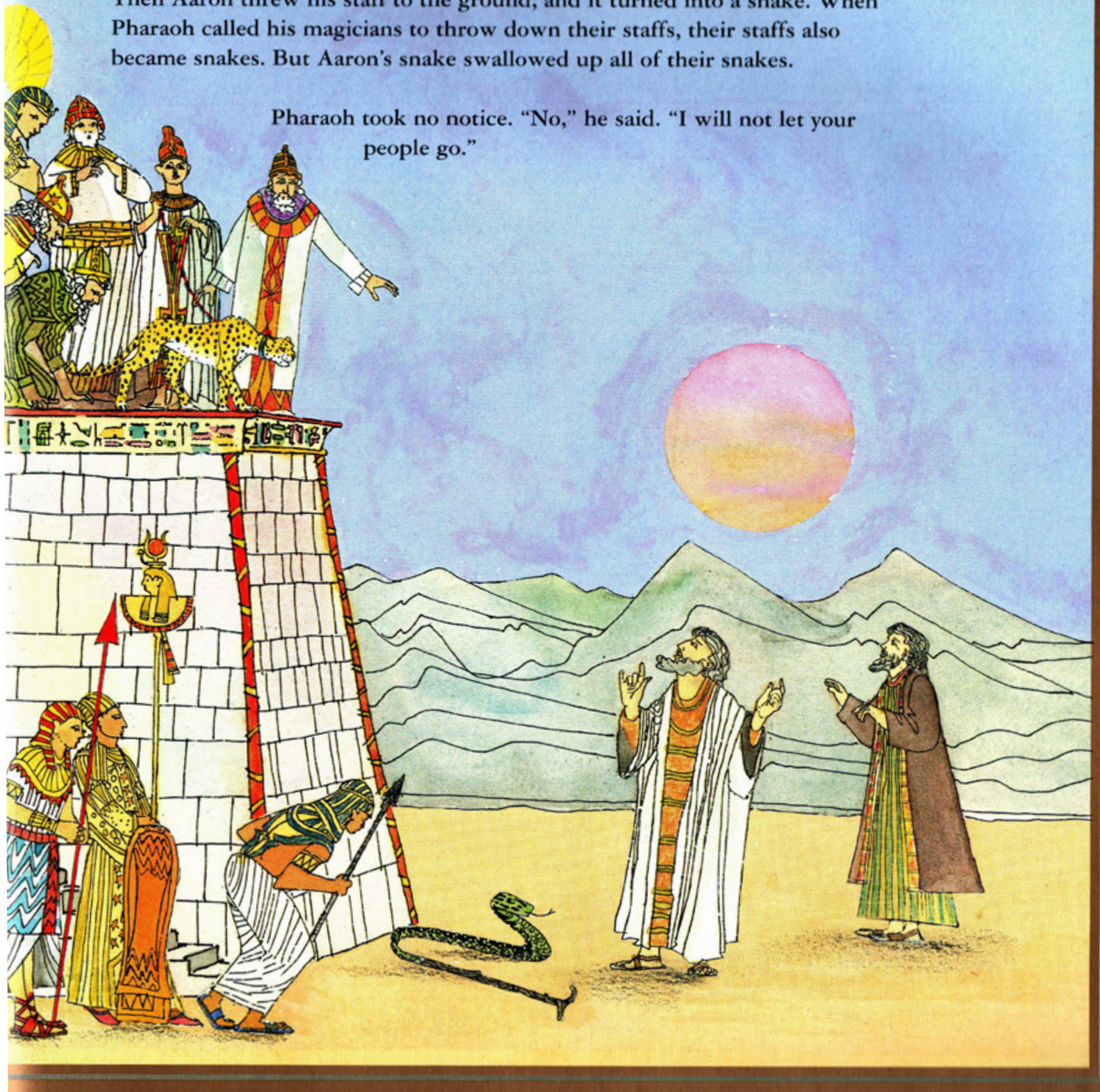


THE two brothers met and went to Pharaoh's court together. They said to Pharaoh, "The Lord God has sent us to tell you to set the Hebrews free and let them leave Egypt."

"I do not know your God," replied Pharaoh. "Can your God show me a sign?"

Then Aaron threw his staff to the ground, and it turned into a snake. When Pharaoh called his magicians to throw down their staffs, their staffs also became snakes. But Aaron's snake swallowed up all of their snakes.

Pharaoh took no notice. "No," he said. "I will not let your people go."



This is the story of how one man led his people out of slavery to a land that God had promised to give them.
His name was Moses.



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