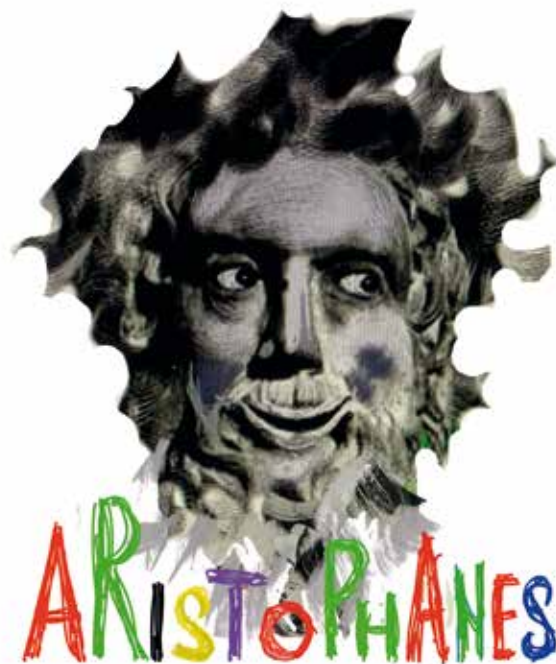


ARISTOPHANES **EIRINI-PEACE**

An adaptation by Sofia Zarampouka





ARISTOPHANES **EIRINI-PEACE**

Adaptation and Illustration
Sofia Zarampouka

Translation
Jason Rigas

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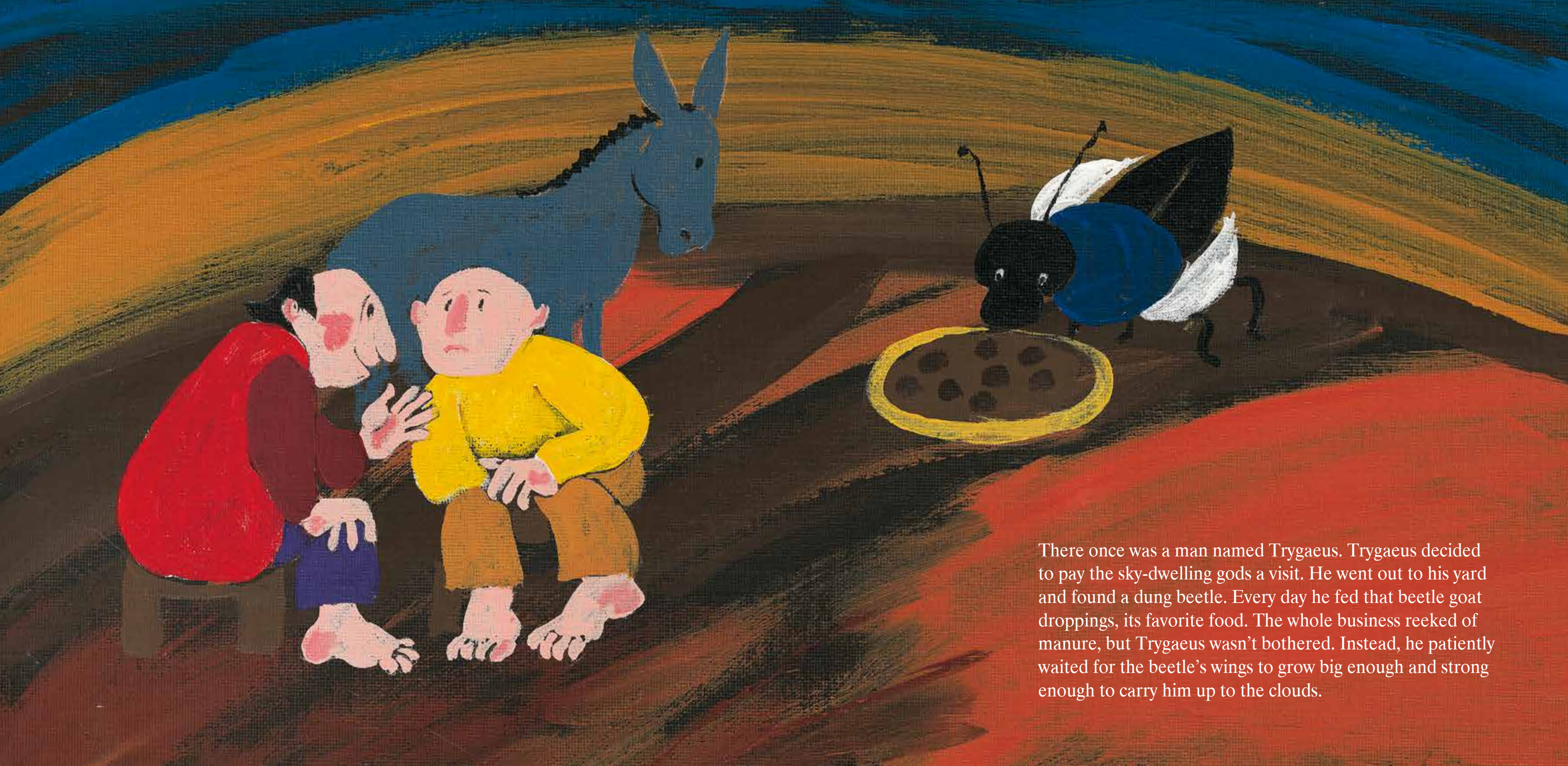


Thousands of years ago Aristophanes wrote this story. It's a story about peace.

Aristophanes lived in Ancient Greece, and in Ancient Greece most people believed in many gods. These gods were said to live in the sky, making sure that everyone on Earth always did the right thing. If people were good, the gods gave them gifts. But if people were bad, they were punished.

“Eirini” is the Greek word for peace. That's why Aristophanes called his story about peace *Eirini*. But Eirini was also the name of a goddess, who took the form of a beautiful young woman and was sent down to Earth during peacetime. Eirini was a gift, a precious offering who was always under threat from Polemos, the war-demon who destroyed everything in his path.





There once was a man named Trygaeus. Trygaeus decided to pay the sky-dwelling gods a visit. He went out to his yard and found a dung beetle. Every day he fed that beetle goat droppings, its favorite food. The whole business reeked of manure, but Trygaeus wasn't bothered. Instead, he patiently waited for the beetle's wings to grow big enough and strong enough to carry him up to the clouds.

His daughters were worried.
Trygaeus had tried to reach the sky
before. “Not again, Daddy,” they said.
“Don’t you remember the time you
fell off that ladder and broke your leg?
Please just stay down here with us.”

“I can’t, girls” he told them. “I need
to see the gods. I need to find out
why they took Eirini away from us
and why Plemos is still running wild
here on Earth.”



Fighting! Bickering! Squabbling! People all across the world can't find a way to live in peace. The gods above have had enough, so they're teaching everyone a lesson. Now people will have to contend with Polemos, the war-demon who goes after Eirini, the goddess of peace, and traps her in a cave. But who will rise to the occasion and save Eirini, and all of us, from endless war?



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