



Prophet Stories

Prophet

Yusuf

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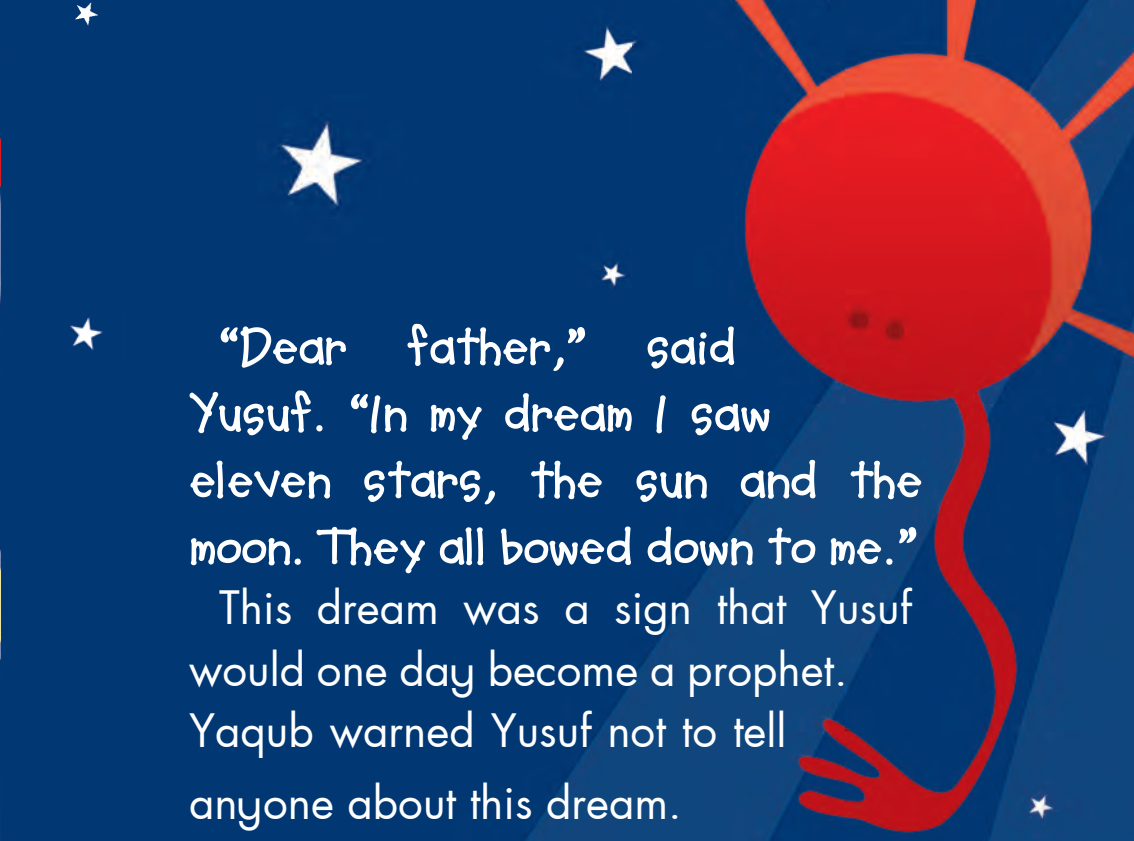
Prophet Yusuf

Yusuf was the son of Prophet Yaqub. Yaqub had twelve sons, but he loved Yusuf most.

Yusuf was different from his brothers. He sparkled like water and shone like the stars in the sky. It was as if he had taken a share from all the beauties that Allah created.

One night when he was a child Yusuf had a dream. The next morning he told this **dream to his father.**






★ “Dear father,” said Yusuf. “In my dream I saw eleven stars, the sun and the moon. They all bowed down to me.”

This dream was a sign that Yusuf would one day become a prophet. Yaqub warned Yusuf not to tell anyone about this dream.

“My sweet son,” said Yaqub. “Don’t tell your dream to your brothers. They might become jealous and, if they fall into temptation, do something bad to you.”



Even though Yusuf did not tell his dream to his brothers, they were still very jealous of him. One day they decided to take him out into the wilderness and throw him into a well at a caravan stop.



They went to their father.
“Father,” they said.
“We are going to walk around and explore the wilderness. We want to take Yusuf. Don’t worry; we will take care of him.”







“I am worried that you will become too caught up in exploring that you will forget Yusuf there,” replied Yaqub. “He is very young. If he is left alone a wolf could snatch him up.”

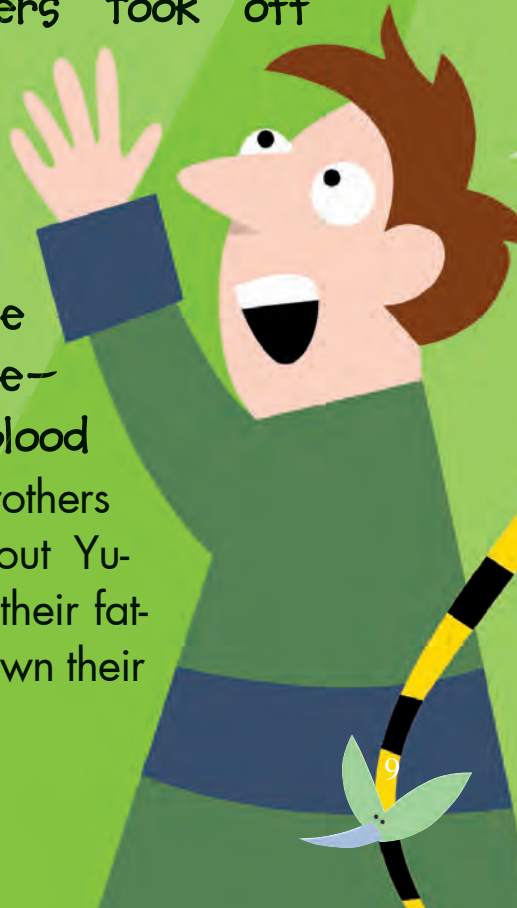
But his sons were very insistent. Yaqub gave in and allowed them to take Yusuf.



The brothers left their father's side with Yusuf. They eventually came to somewhere far away. Yusuf had never seen this place. The brothers stopped in front of the well that caravans used when they stopped to camp.

First, the brothers took off Yusuf's shirt.

Then they pushed him into the well. While Yusuf yelled for help, the brothers killed a sheep and smeared its blood on the shirt. The brothers went back home without Yusuf. They came before their father with tears rolling down their faces.

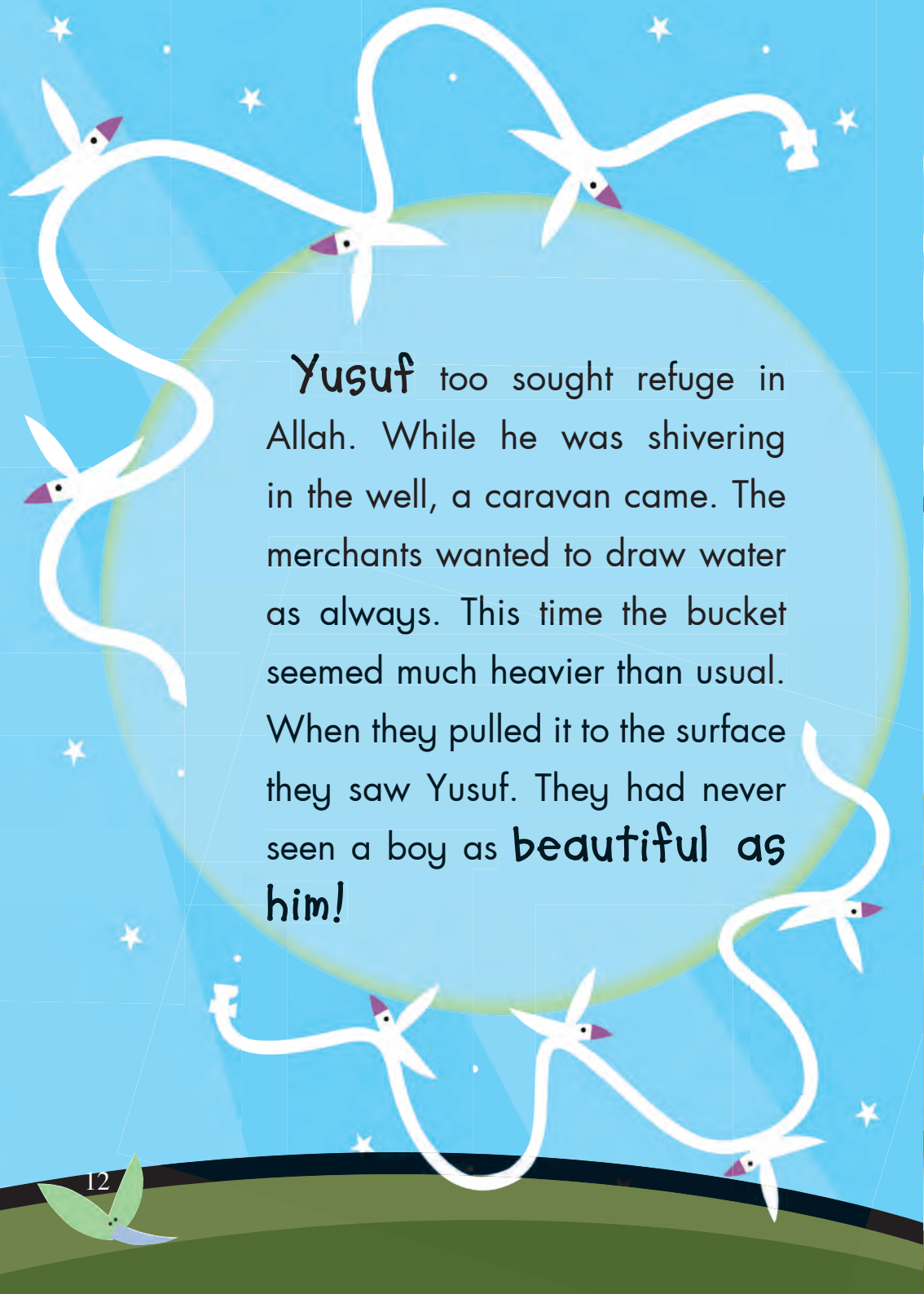




“O father!” exclaimed the brothers. “While we were gallivanting around, we left Yusuf to watch our food. A wolf came out of nowhere and ate him. We brought his blooded shirt to prove it to you.”

The one thing that he had been afraid of happened. Yaqub grabbed the bloody shirt and pressed it against his chest. He smelled the shirt and then looked it over. The shirt had been torn to shreds, but he knew it wasn't the work of a wolf.

“It is obvious that you are up to something,” Yaqub told his sons. “But all I can do is seek refuge in Allah, bear the pain and be patient.”



Yusuf too sought refuge in Allah. While he was shivering in the well, a caravan came. The merchants wanted to draw water as always. This time the bucket seemed much heavier than usual. When they pulled it to the surface they saw Yusuf. They had never seen a boy as **beautiful as him!**




The merchants were both surprised and happy. They took Yusuf with them to Egypt and put him up for sale in the slave bazaar.

He was bought by the chief advisor to the Pharaoh of Egypt. The Pha-

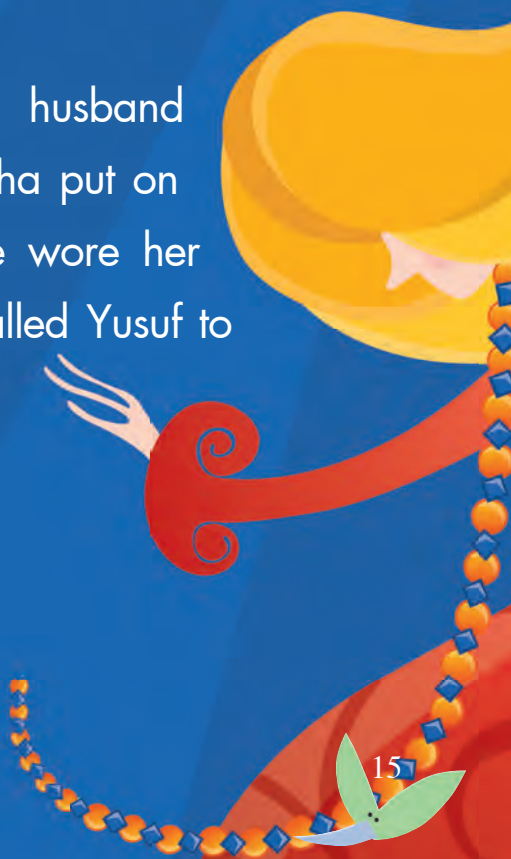
raah took him to his home and gave him as a gift to his wife, Zulaykha.





Many years passed and Yusuf grew into a very handsome young man. Whoever saw him became enchanted by his beauty. Zulaykha completely adored him. She wanted **Yusuf to love** her like he would a young lady.

★ One day when her husband wasn't at home Zulaykha put on her loveliest dress. She wore her brightest jewels. She called Yusuf to her room.





When Yusuf saw that he was alone in the room with Zulaykha he felt very uncomfortable. He tried to leave. Zulaykha ran to him and grabbed the back of his shirt. While Yusuf was trying to escape, his shirt was torn.

Zulaykha was very angry at Yusuf for trying to **escape** from her. She had him arrested and thrown into prison.

