

If I Were a **TIGER**

**SNEAK
PEEK**



**SAMPLE
ONLY**

**UNCORRECTED
PROOF**

WRITTEN BY **Caroline Coleman**

ILLUSTRATED BY **Nadya Bonten-Slenders**

If I Were a **TIGER**

Tyger Tyger,
burning bright,
in the forests
of the night



written by
Caroline Coleman



WATERBROOK

illustrated by
Nadya Bonten-Slenders

**To my Luke, who loved his tiger costume
in every season and in memory of my
beautiful daughter, Sheila**
—CAROLINE

To my little Luky
—NADYA

IF I WERE A TIGER

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**Beyond the cave
of my cozy bed
there lies a world
that gives me dread.**

Shadows slip beneath the door
and pad along my creaking floor.
In the dark, they take on shapes
of tigers, bears, and hairy apes!





Everything's dandy. I'm feeling carefree!
Nothing's the matter at all—not with me!

My name is **Tim Bone**, and I'm scared of the moon,



the yellow-winged owl,



and the wailing typhoon!





I can't wear my sneakers.
I'm afraid to go near them.
There are monsters inside.
I know 'cause I hear them.

I hide from the big kids.
I don't want to look dumb.
What if they say that
I once sucked my thumb?



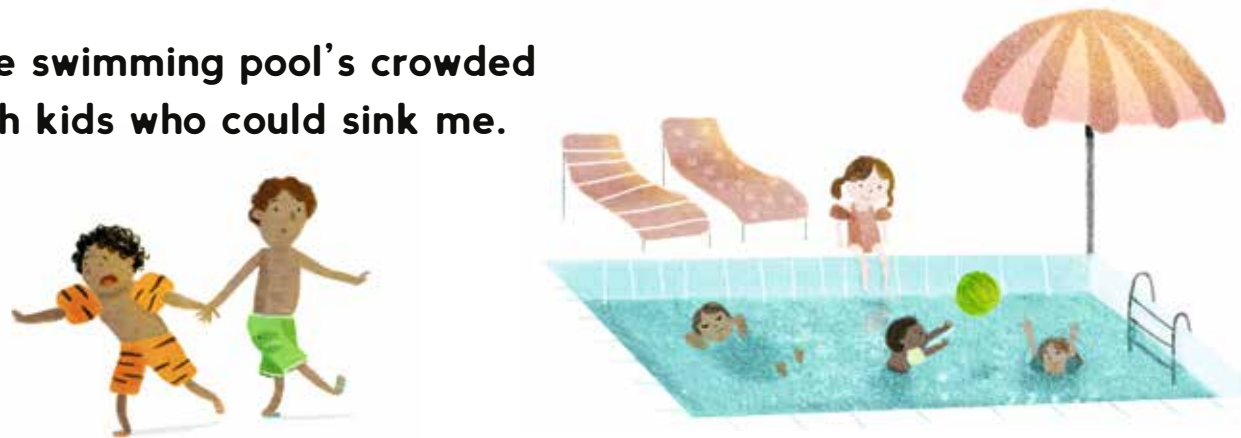
When it's time for drama,
I pull out a book.
The curtains make
a cozy nook.



Recess is
a lot to swallow.
Under the slide
makes a secret hollow.



The swimming pool's crowded
with kids who could sink me.



Mom's golf ball could **bling-blanc** a tree and unjoint me!

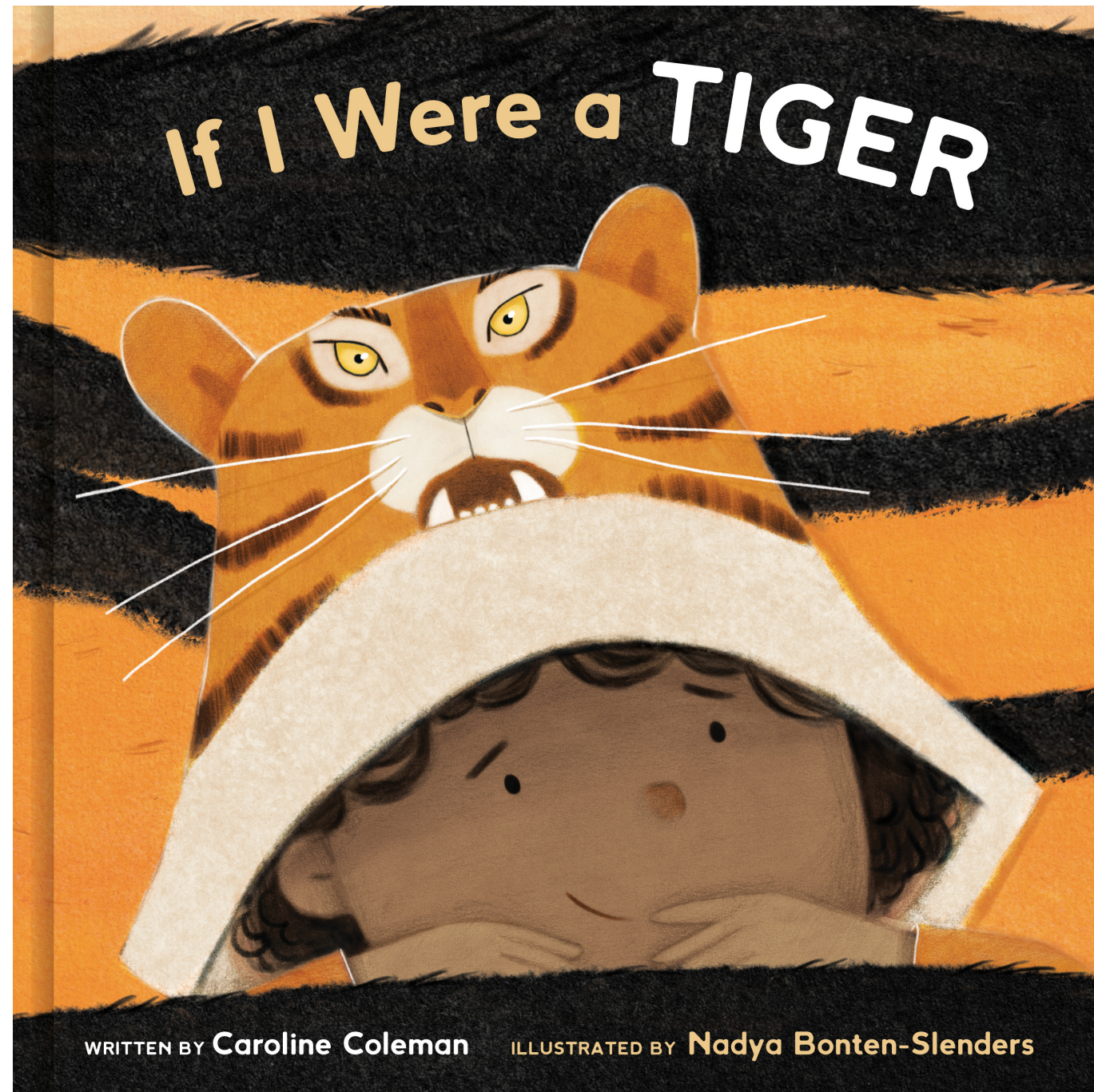


For dinner, Dad cooks a vegetable stew.
I dive for the floor. It's totally **ew**!



I have to do something to **conquer my fears**.
Otherwise I think I'll break out in tears.

I have a **big plan**, and I'm going to do it.
I'm becoming a tiger. That's all there is to it.



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