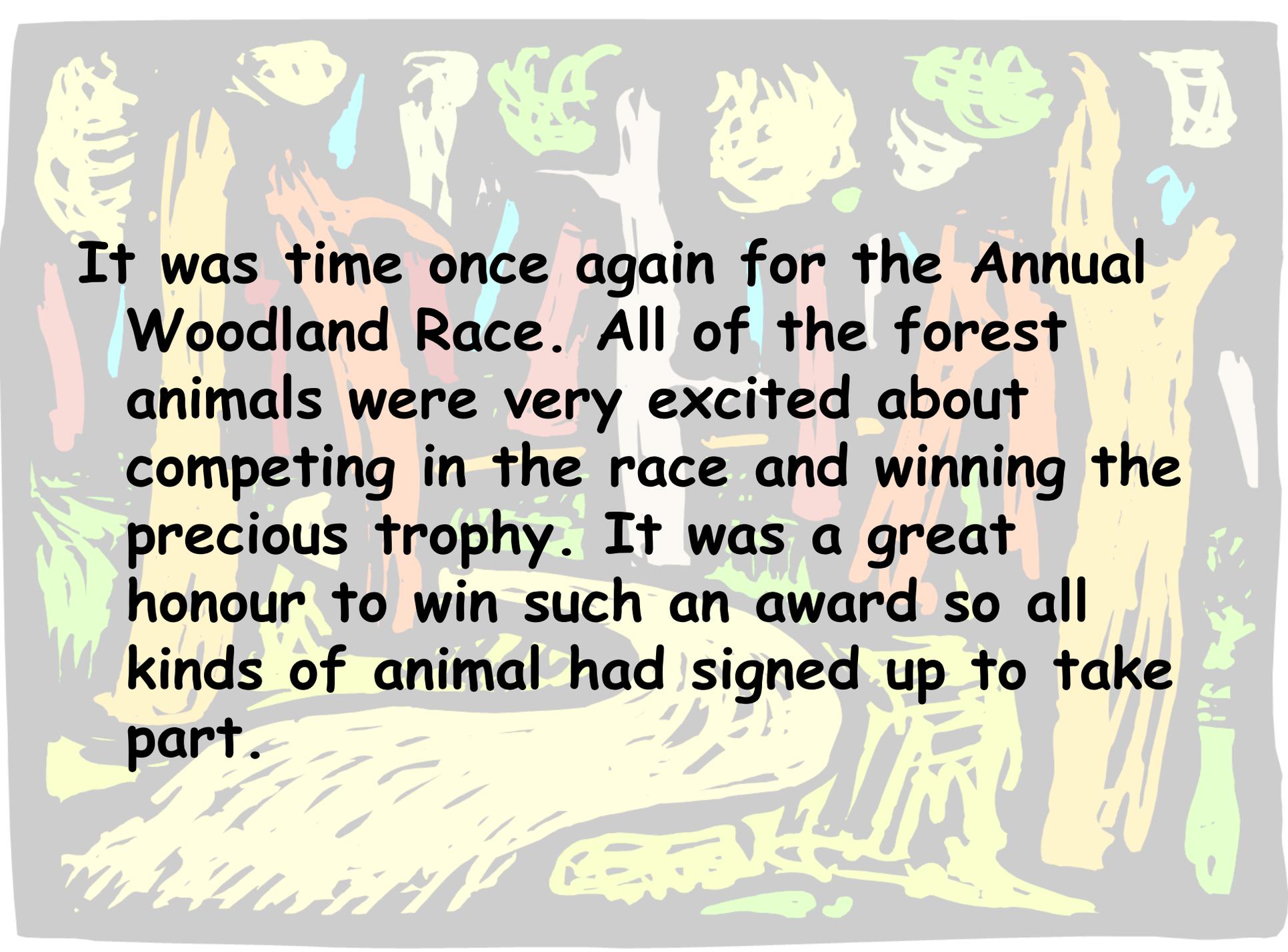
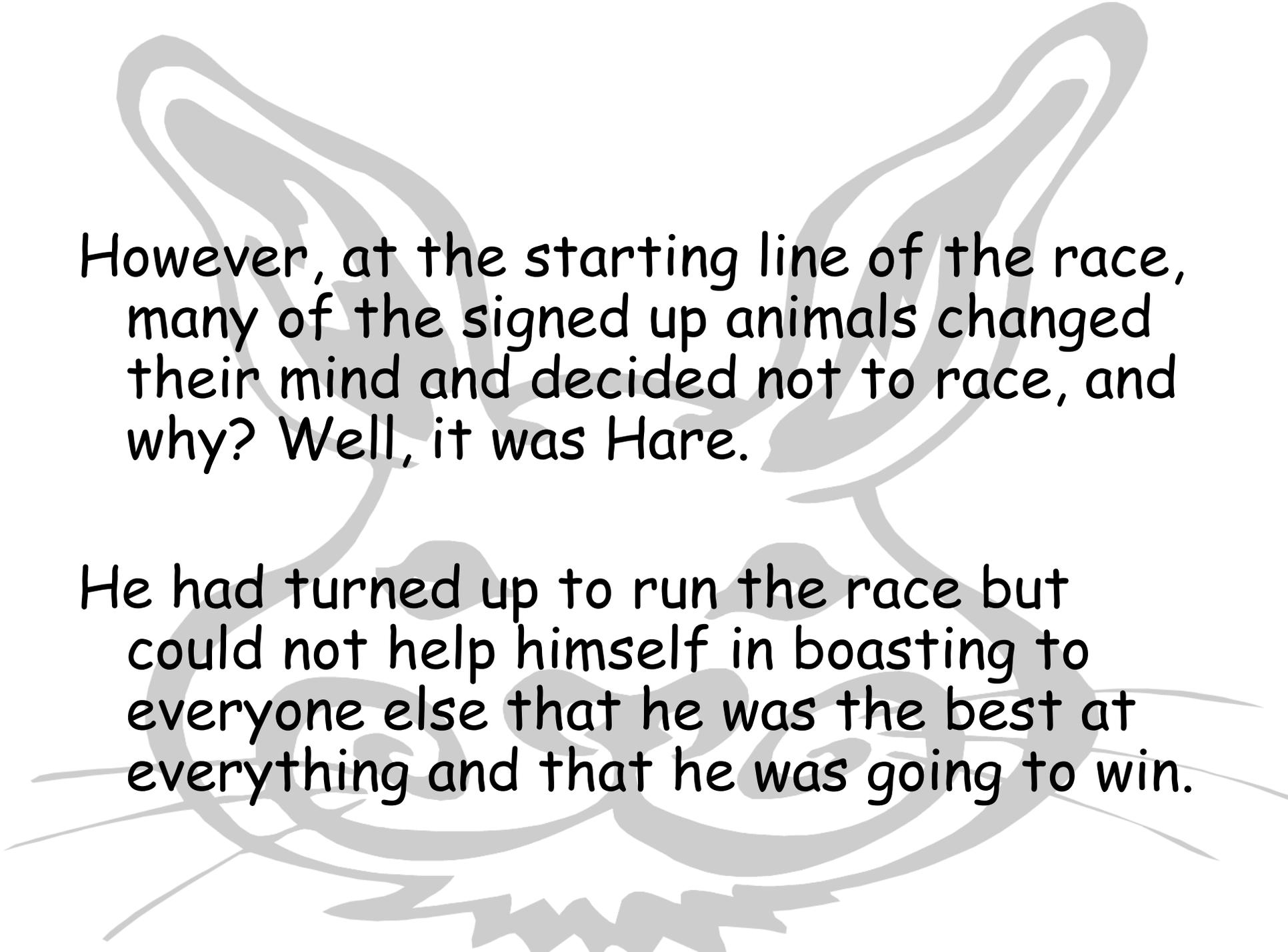


The Hare and the Tortoise



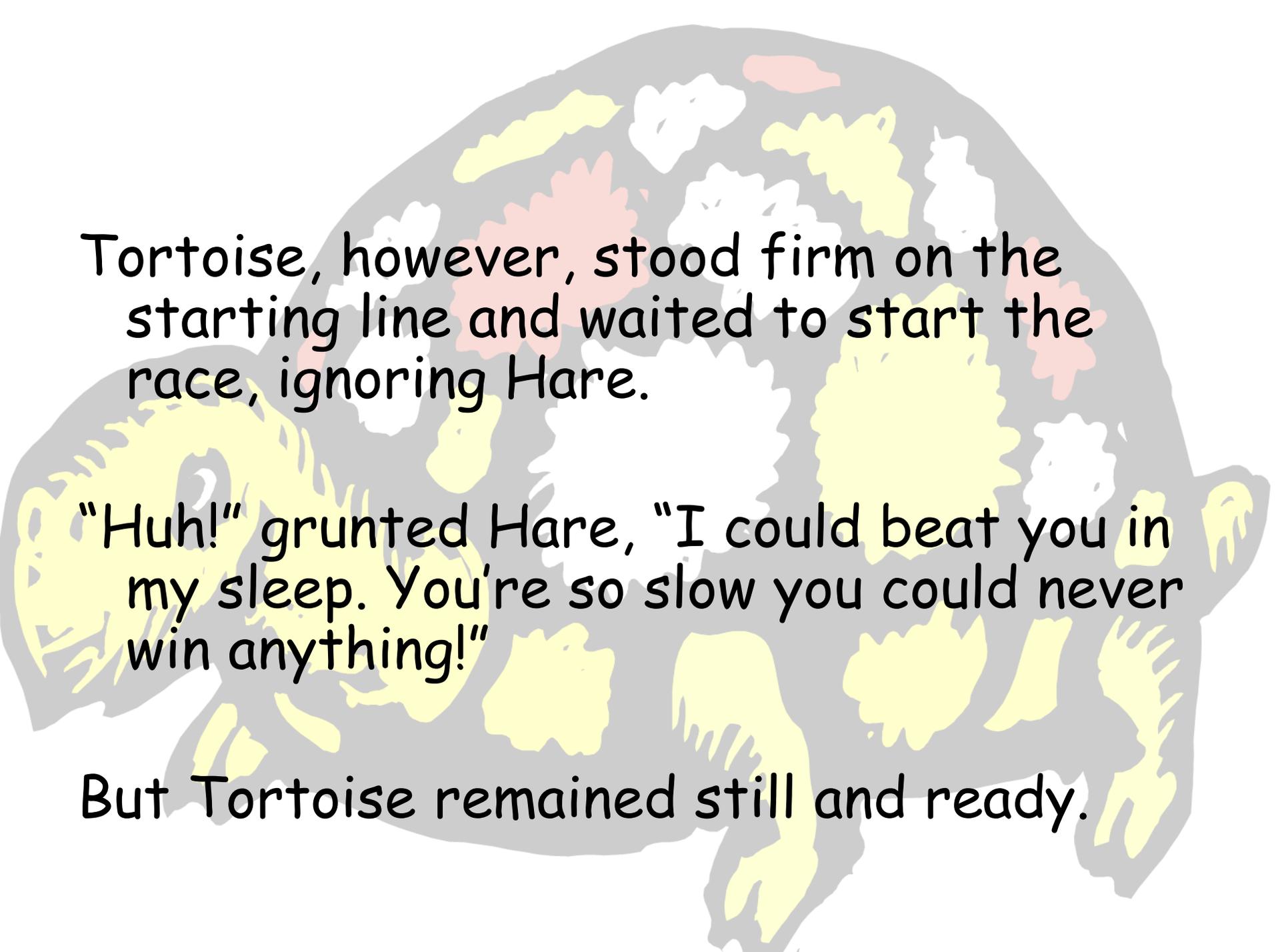
The background is a vibrant, abstract illustration of a forest. It features a variety of colors including reds, oranges, yellows, greens, and blues. The shapes are expressive and somewhat chaotic, suggesting a dense, lively woodland. There are hints of animal silhouettes and tree trunks, but they are not clearly defined, blending into the overall colorful texture.

It was time once again for the Annual Woodland Race. All of the forest animals were very excited about competing in the race and winning the precious trophy. It was a great honour to win such an award so all kinds of animal had signed up to take part.



However, at the starting line of the race, many of the signed up animals changed their mind and decided not to race, and why? Well, it was Hare.

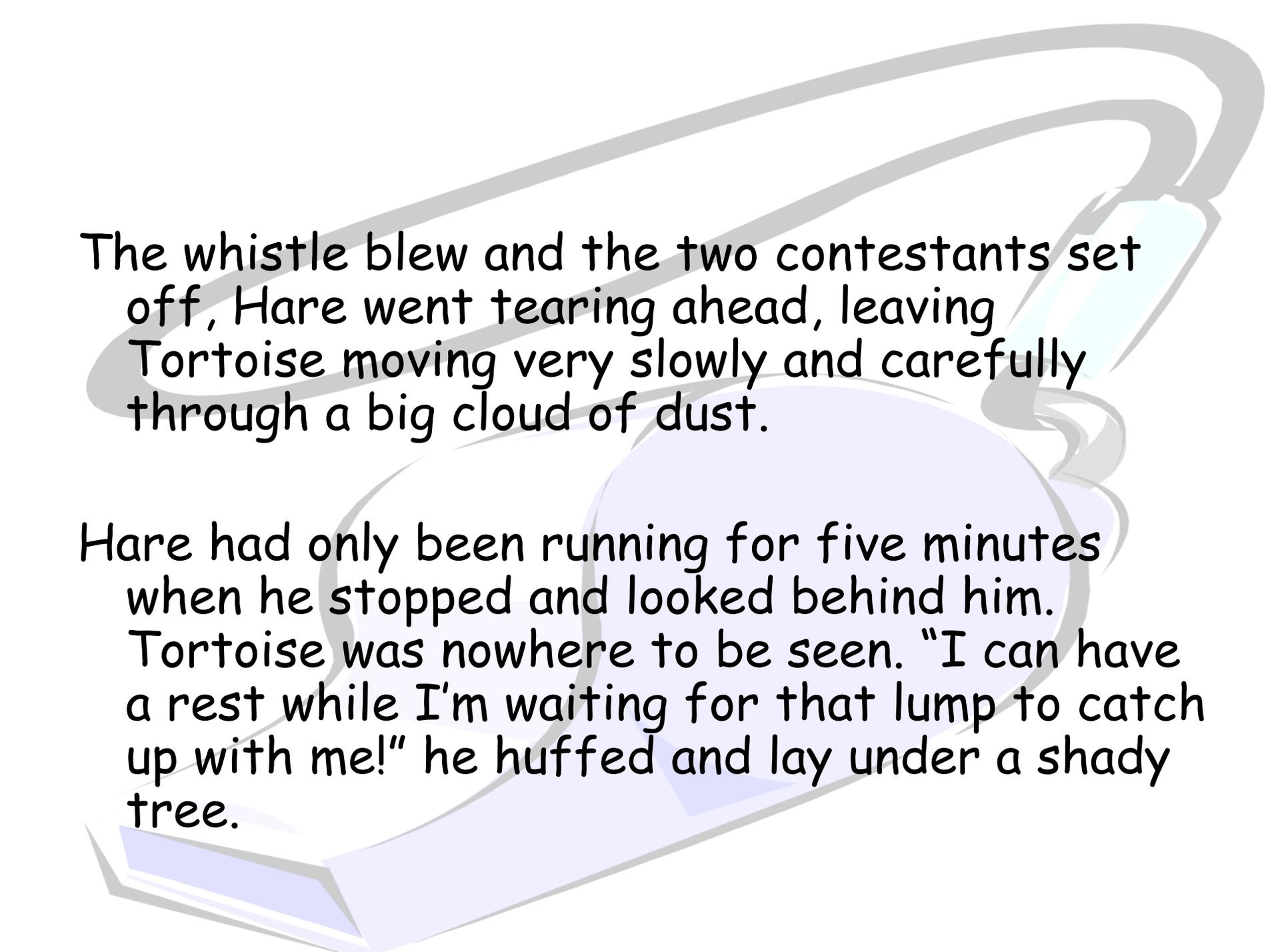
He had turned up to run the race but could not help himself in boasting to everyone else that he was the best at everything and that he was going to win.



Tortoise, however, stood firm on the starting line and waited to start the race, ignoring Hare.

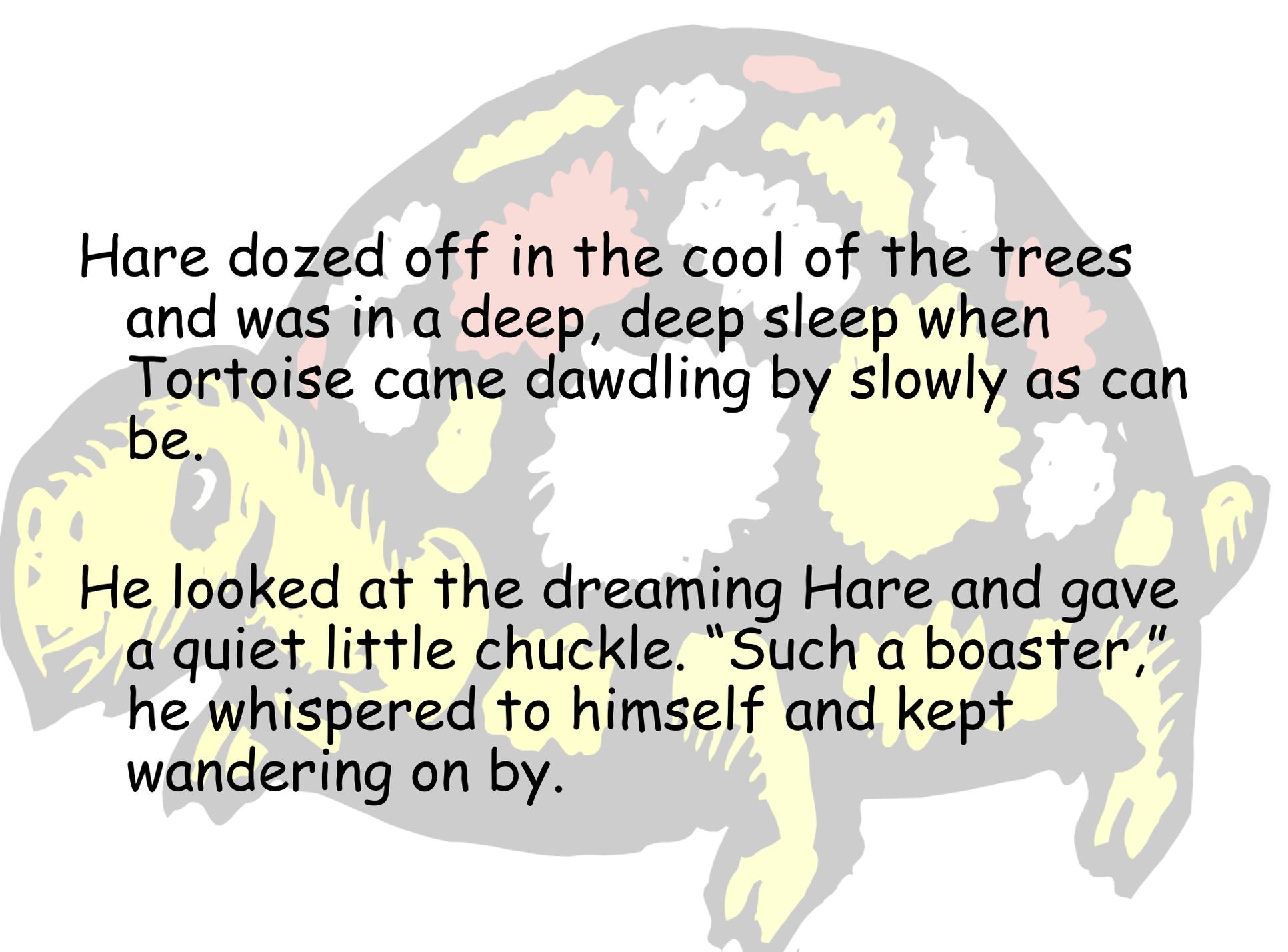
“Huh!” grunted Hare, “I could beat you in my sleep. You’re so slow you could never win anything!”

But Tortoise remained still and ready.

The background features a stylized illustration of a hand holding a pencil. The hand is rendered in shades of grey and white, with the pencil pointing towards the top right. A large, light blue speech bubble with a white outline is positioned in the lower half of the image, containing two paragraphs of text. The overall style is clean and modern, with soft shadows and a white background.

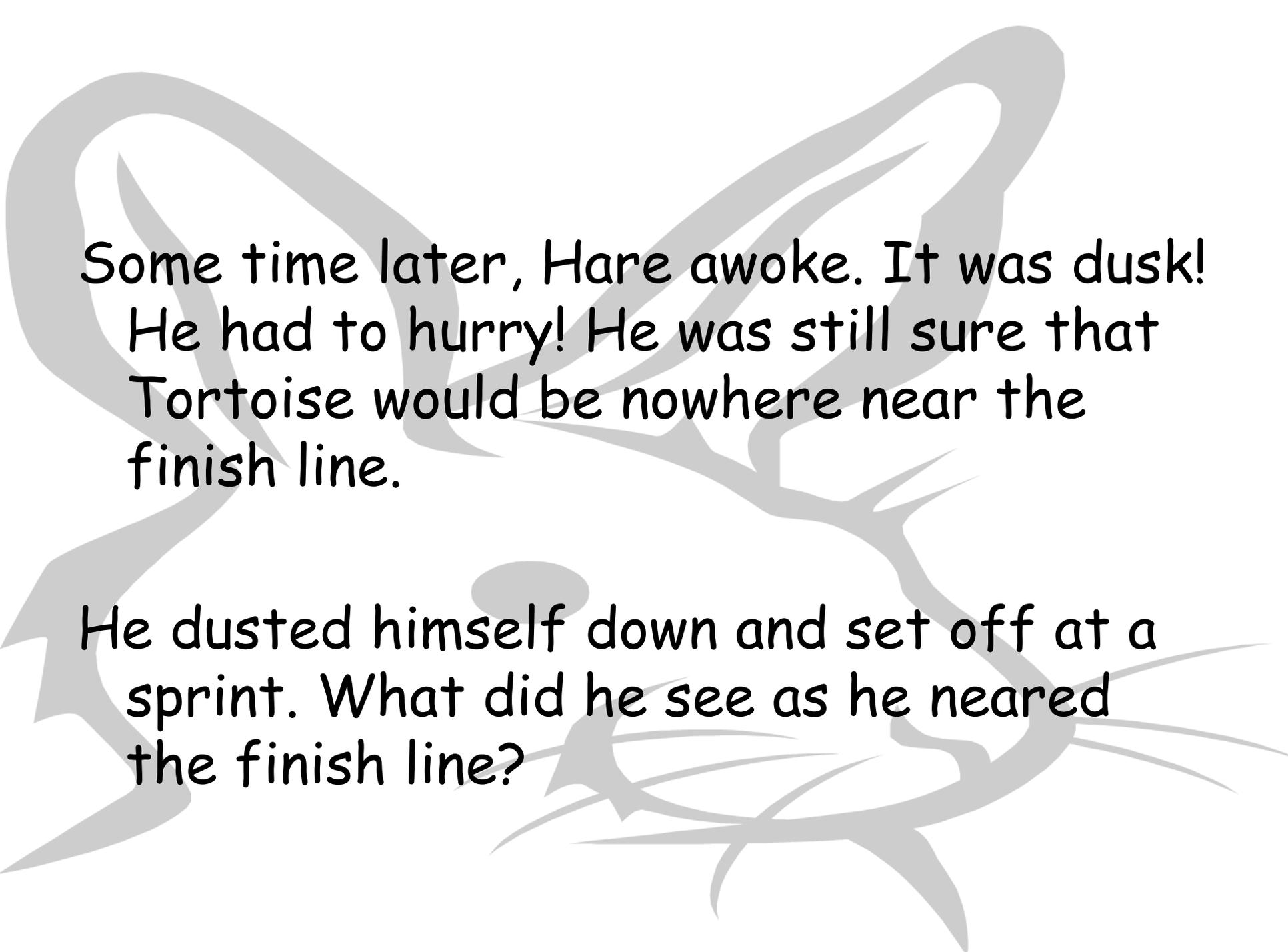
The whistle blew and the two contestants set off, Hare went tearing ahead, leaving Tortoise moving very slowly and carefully through a big cloud of dust.

Hare had only been running for five minutes when he stopped and looked behind him. Tortoise was nowhere to be seen. "I can have a rest while I'm waiting for that lump to catch up with me!" he huffed and lay under a shady tree.



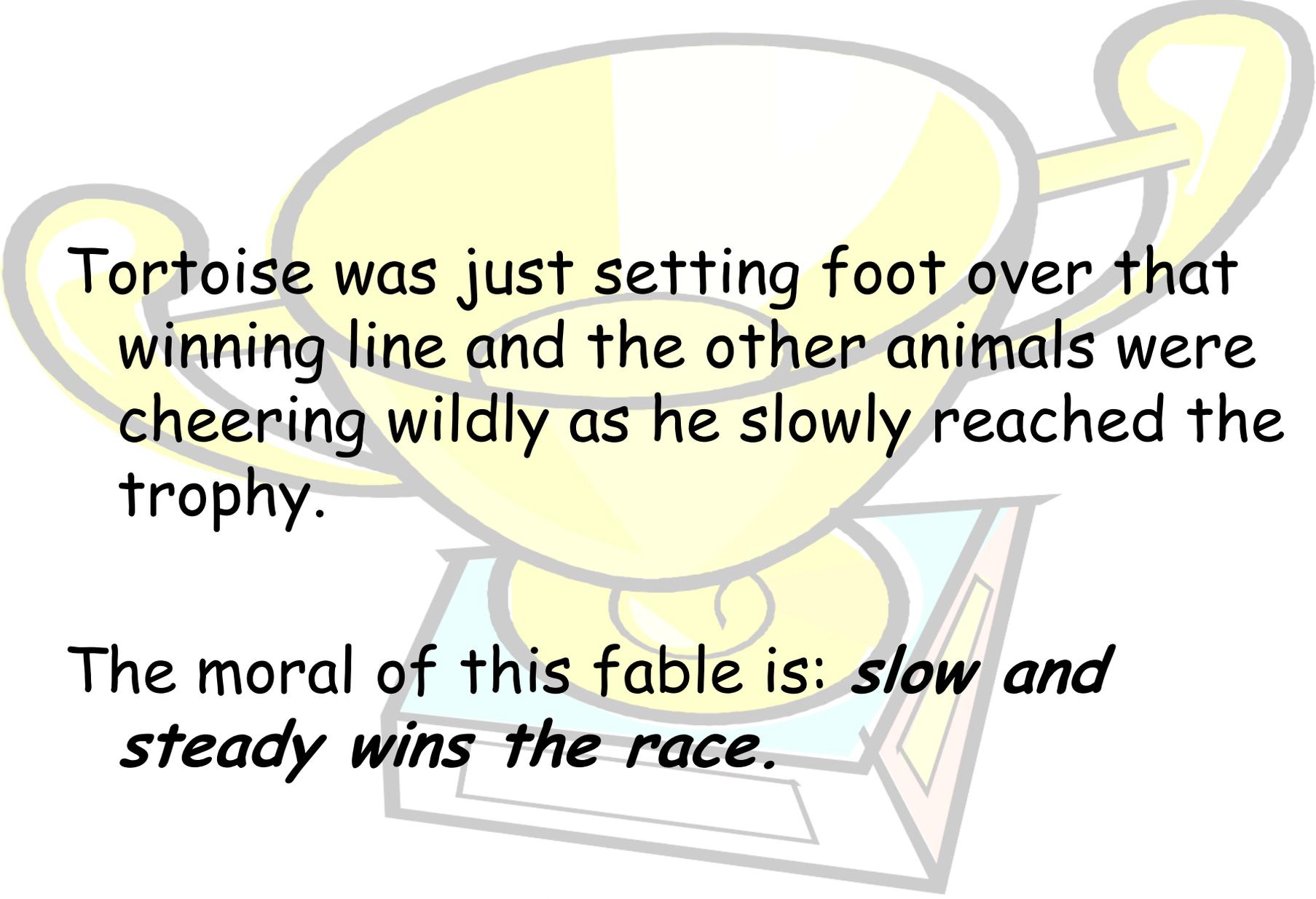
Hare dozed off in the cool of the trees and was in a deep, deep sleep when Tortoise came dawdling by slowly as can be.

He looked at the dreaming Hare and gave a quiet little chuckle. "Such a boaster," he whispered to himself and kept wandering on by.

A faint, stylized illustration of a hare and a tortoise in the background. The hare is on the left, and the tortoise is on the right. The illustration is in a light gray color and has a sketchy, artistic feel.

Some time later, Hare awoke. It was dusk!
He had to hurry! He was still sure that
Tortoise would be nowhere near the
finish line.

He dusted himself down and set off at a
sprint. What did he see as he neared
the finish line?



Tortoise was just setting foot over that winning line and the other animals were cheering wildly as he slowly reached the trophy.

The moral of this fable is: *slow and steady wins the race.*