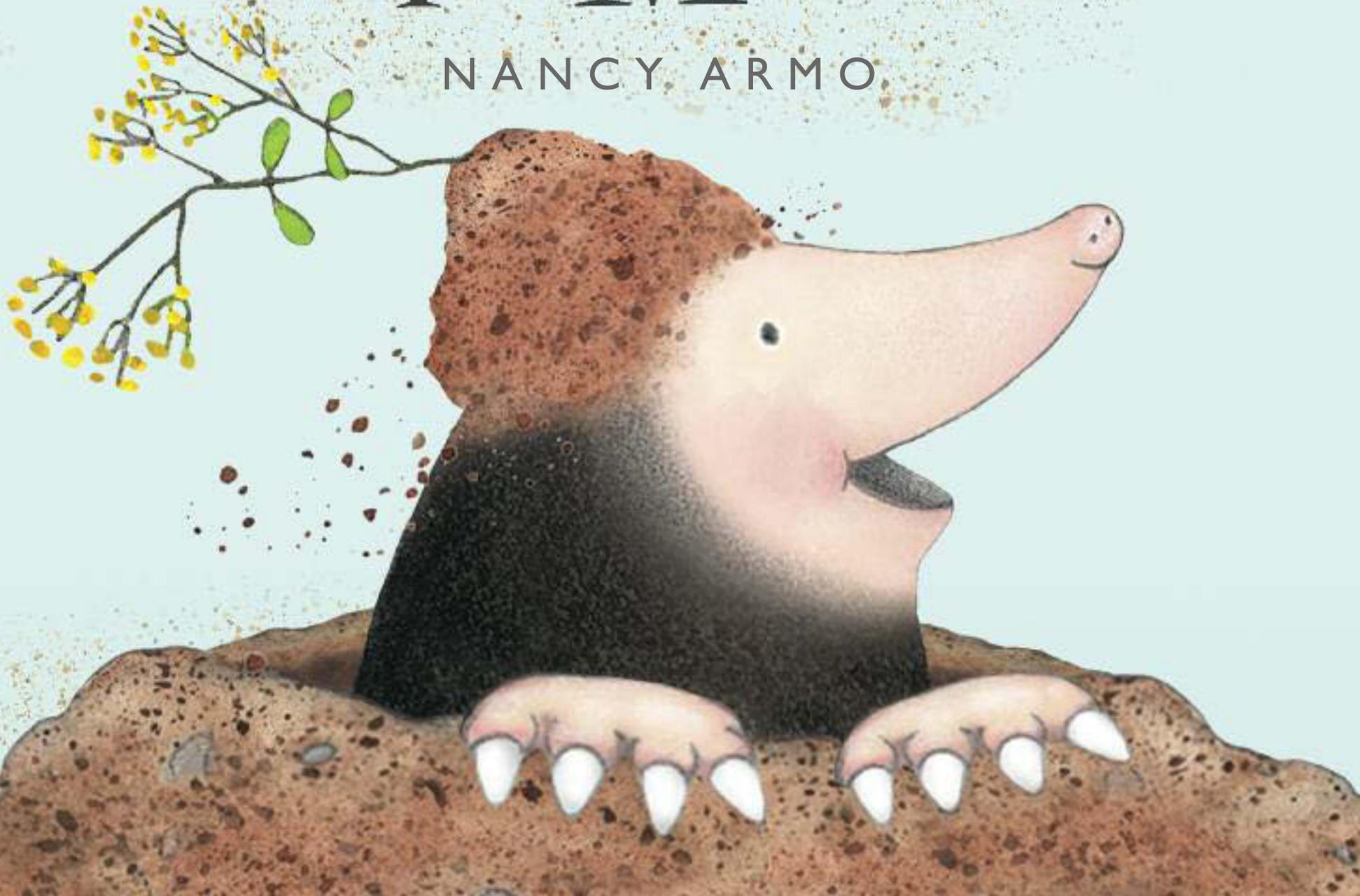


A Friend for Mole

NANCY ARMO



For Jack, Sarah, and David,
whose love and friendship make my world.

—N. A.



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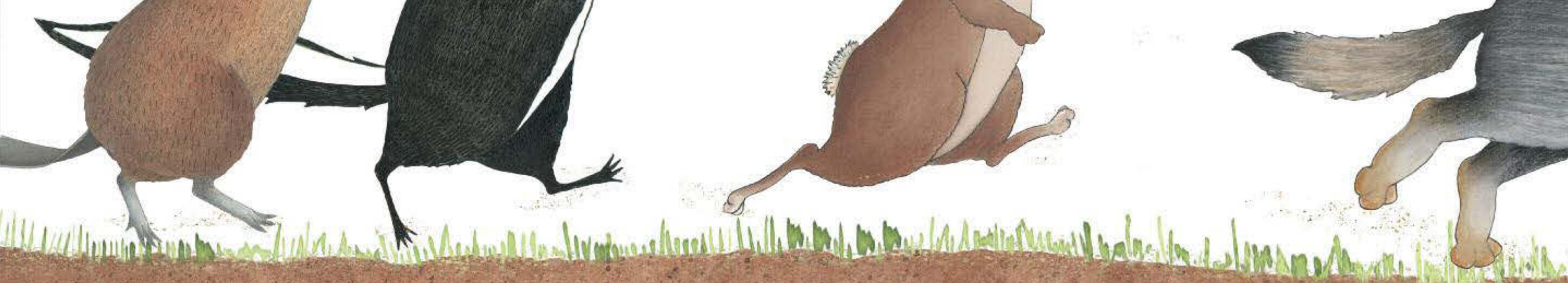



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Mole was quite fond of his cozy burrow.
He liked his soft bed of leaves,
the warm smell of the earth,
and the quiet darkness all around.

Snug underground, he felt the activity above him.
Tapping rain, buzzing insects, scampering footsteps—
all these sounds helped Mole imagine the world outside.



One day, Mole heard loud shouting and laughter overhead.
His burrow shook and dirt drifted down from the ceiling.

What was happening?
He decided to take a peek.

