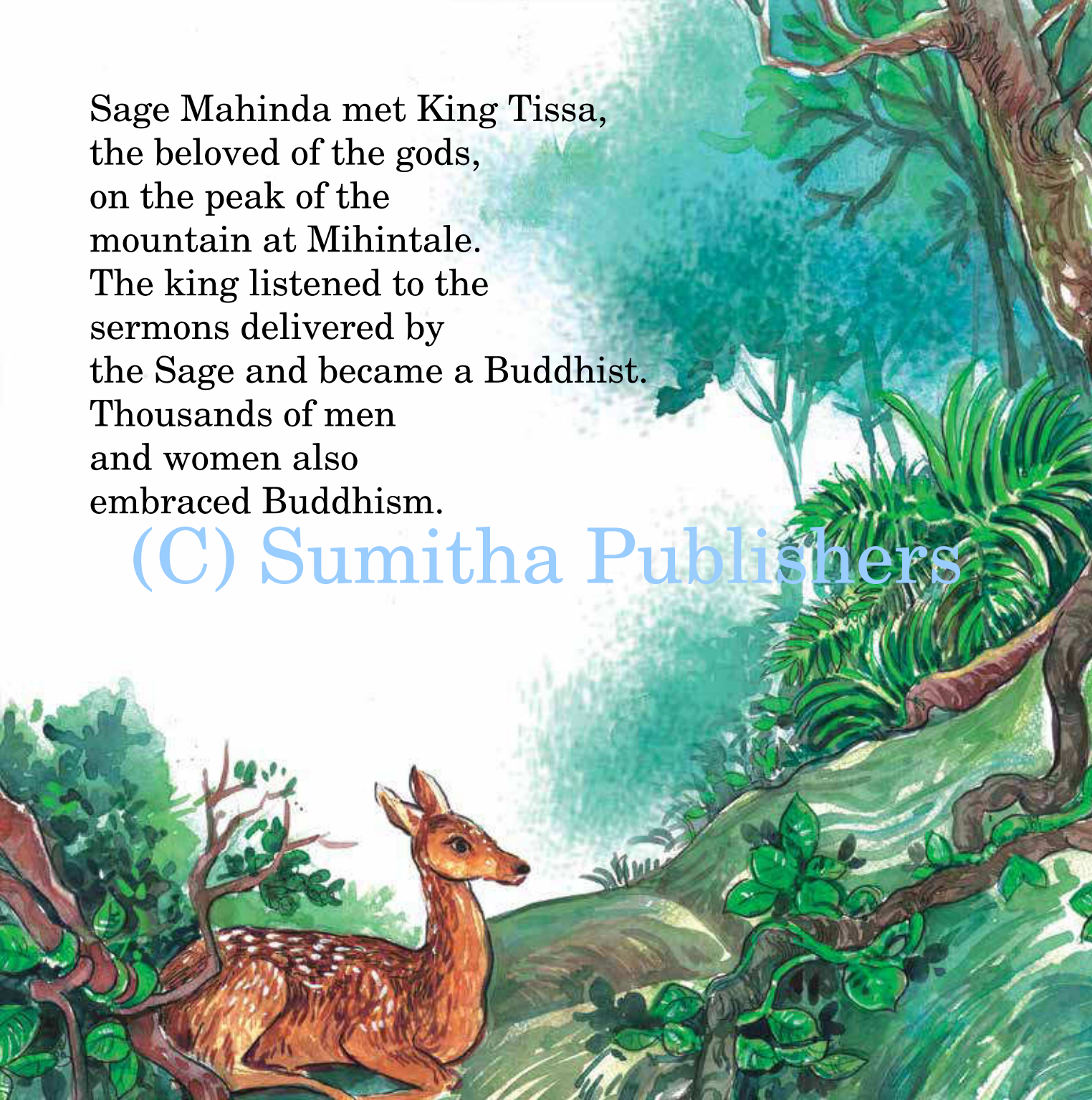




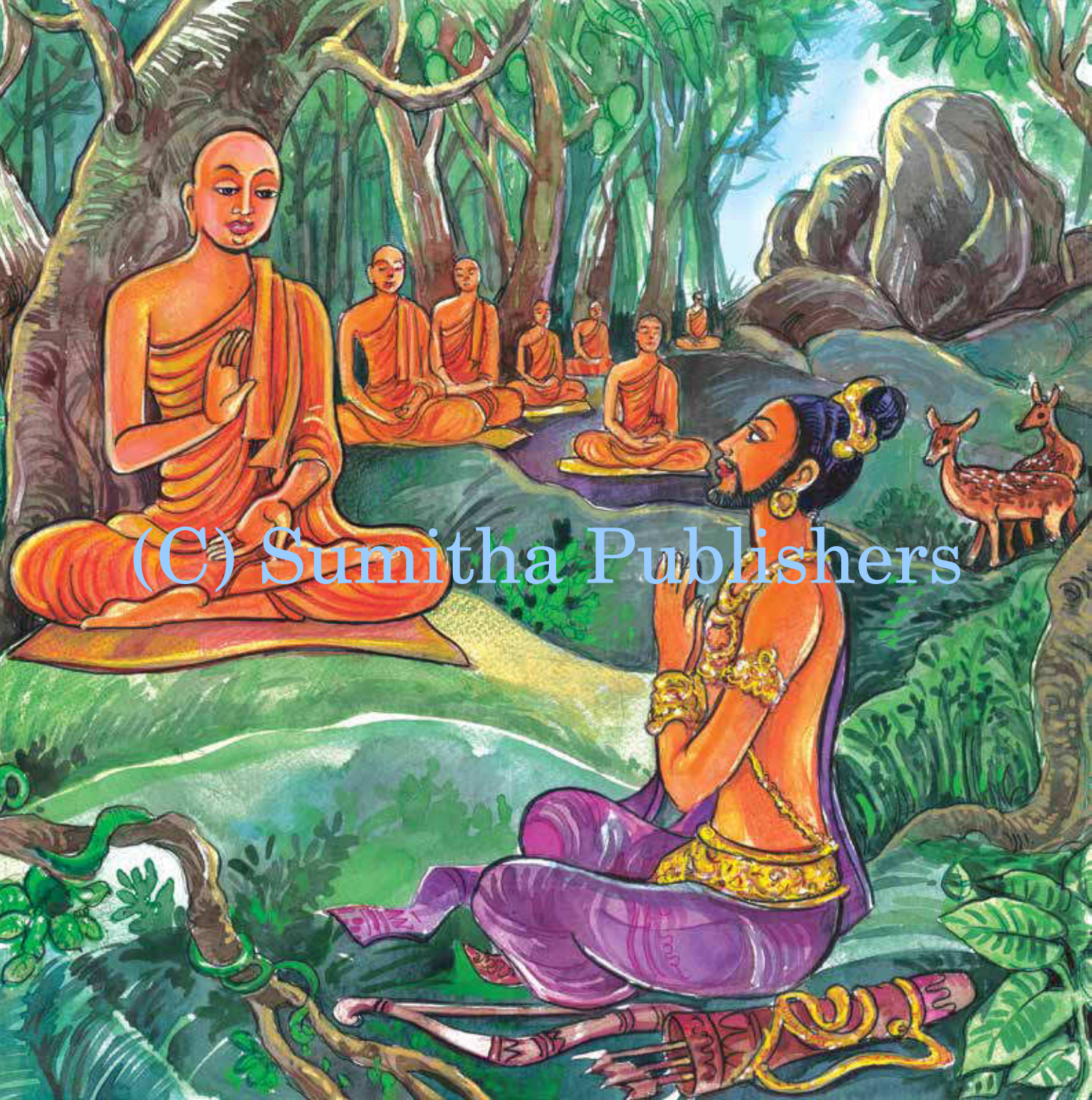
**The Road to the Stone Chamber**

Sage Mahinda met King Tissa,  
the beloved of the gods,  
on the peak of the  
mountain at Mihintale.  
The king listened to the  
sermons delivered by  
the Sage and became a Buddhist.  
Thousands of men  
and women also  
embraced Buddhism.

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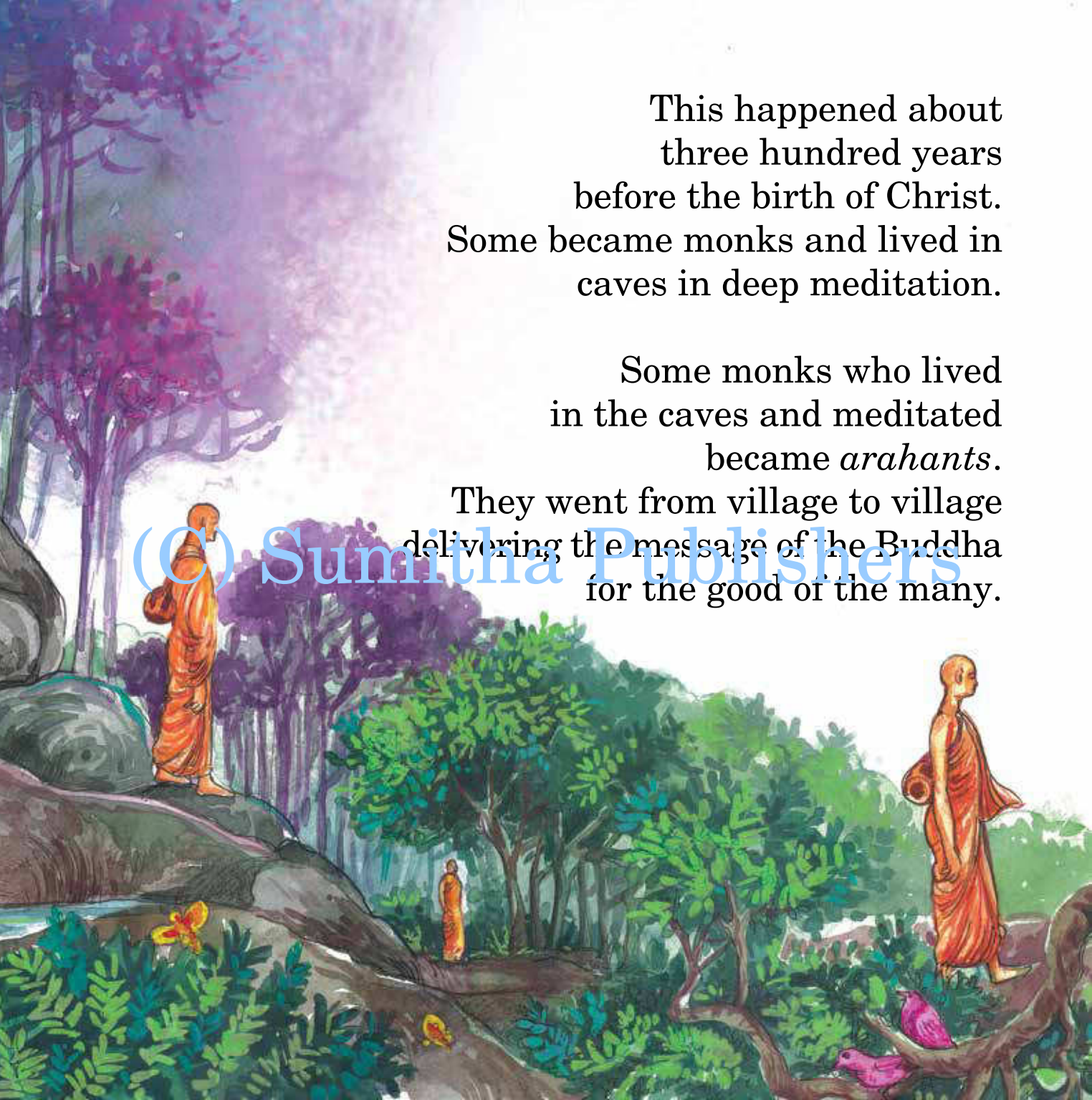
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This happened about  
three hundred years  
before the birth of Christ.  
Some became monks and lived in  
caves in deep meditation.

Some monks who lived  
in the caves and meditated  
became *arahants*.

They went from village to village  
delivering the message of the Buddha  
for the good of the many.





In a temple  
at Wattārama  
near Dēwālegama  
off Polgahawela  
lived an *arahant*  
by the name of *Maliyadēwa*.

He went from  
village to village  
advising rural folk  
on how to lead a good life.

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