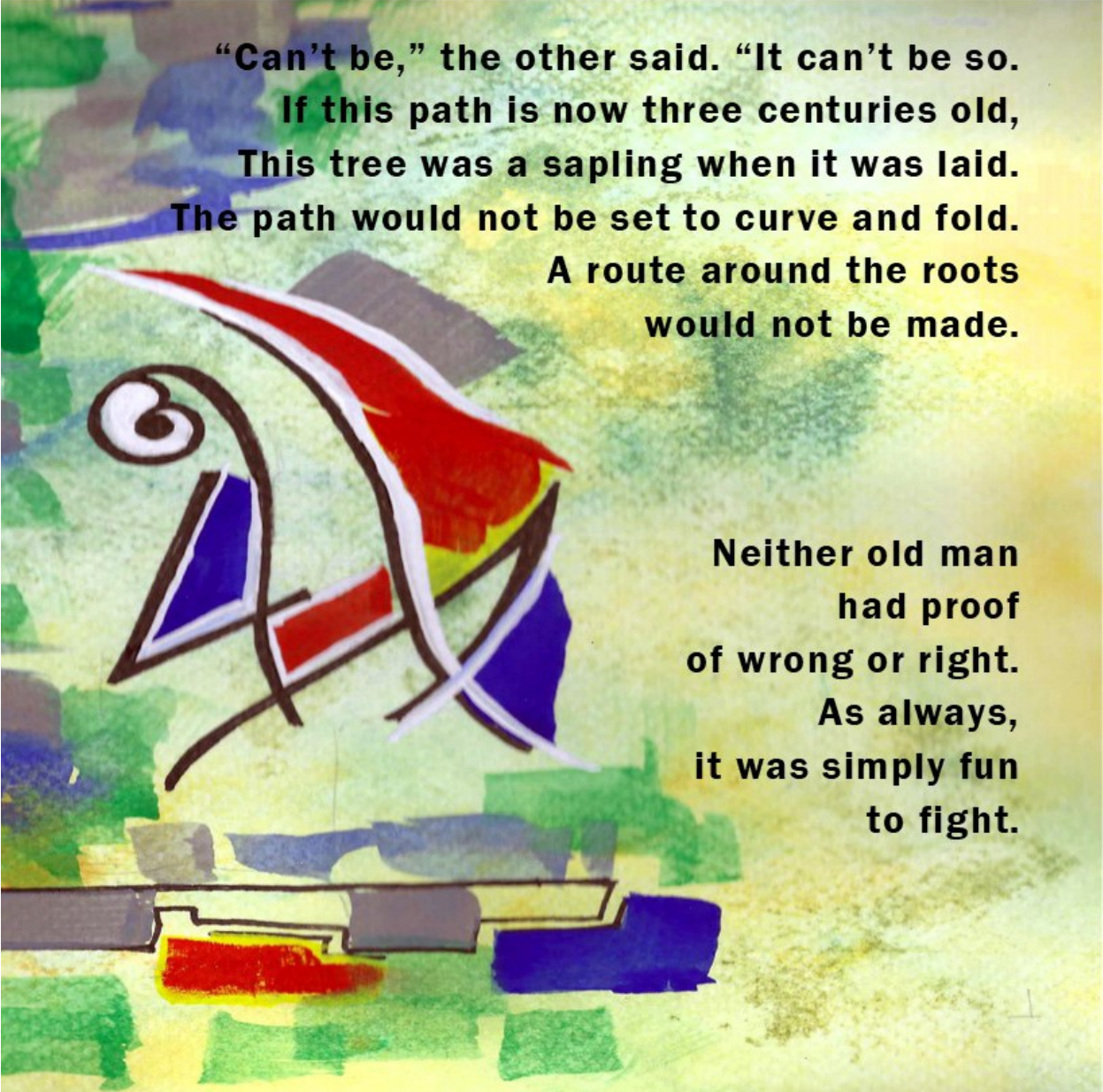


**Two old men sat down face to face to talk,
To argue finer points of history
With observations
from a morning walk
That started on a path
around a tree.**

**“This stone path
was the work of pioneers,
Set down and made
three hundred years ago,”
One proclaimed loudly
to the other’s jeers.**





**“Can’t be,” the other said. “It can’t be so.
If this path is now three centuries old,
This tree was a sapling when it was laid.
The path would not be set to curve and fold.
A route around the roots
would not be made.**

**Neither old man
had proof
of wrong or right.
As always,
it was simply fun
to fight.**