

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW



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illustrations

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RING-NECKED PARAKEET

You can hear the noise
 Of the bright green boys
 In the Parakeet brigade.
 In flight formation
 They're a green sensation
 But watch out for a raid!
 A few sharp tweaks
 Of their bright red beaks
 Will lay your sunflowers bare.
 With military drill
 They will eat their fill
 While you just stand and stare.
 You can stamp and shout,
 Wave your arms about
 But they're beyond your reach.
 Bring out the cat
 And at last they'll scat
 With an ear-splitting screech!



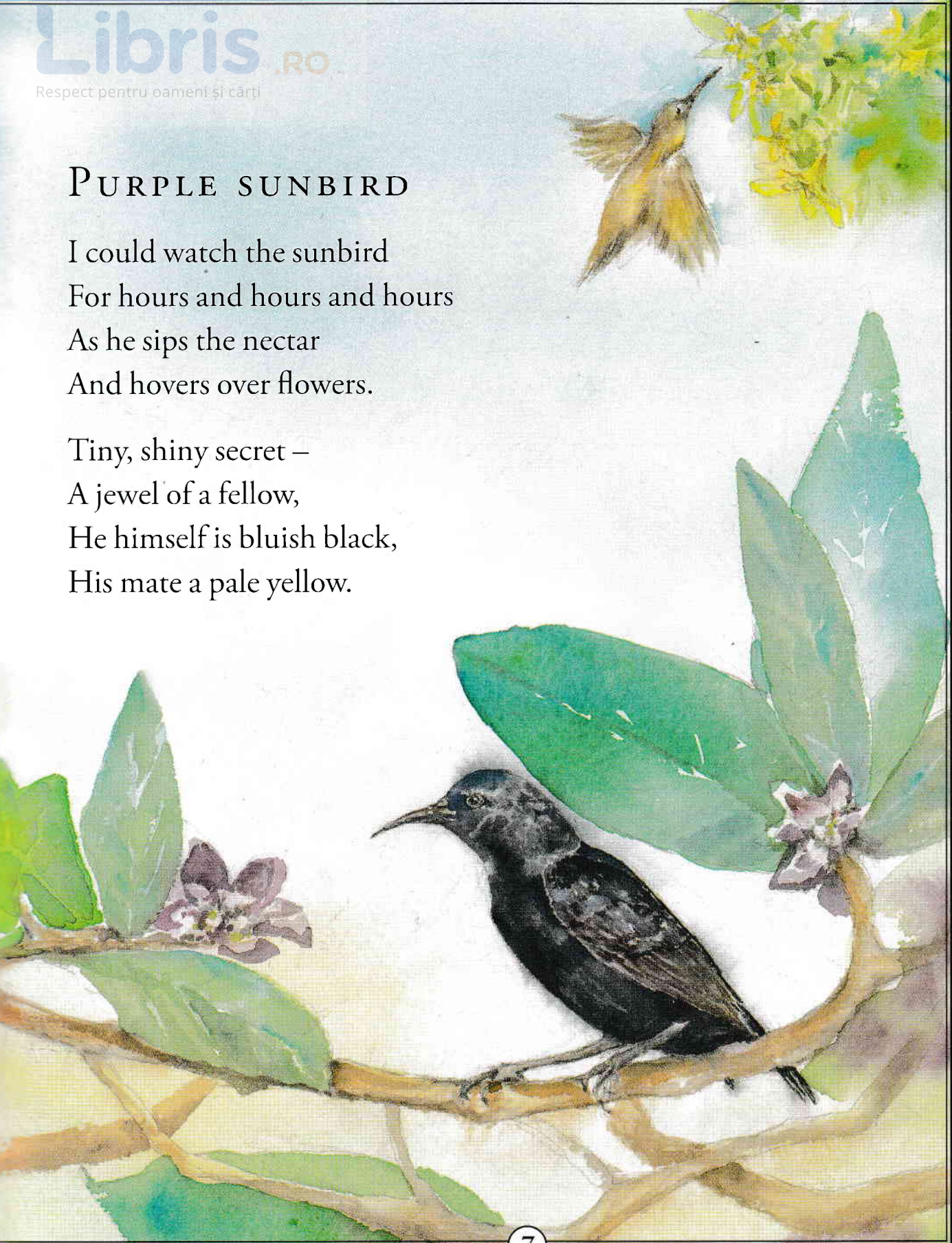
LITTLE GREEN BEE-EATER

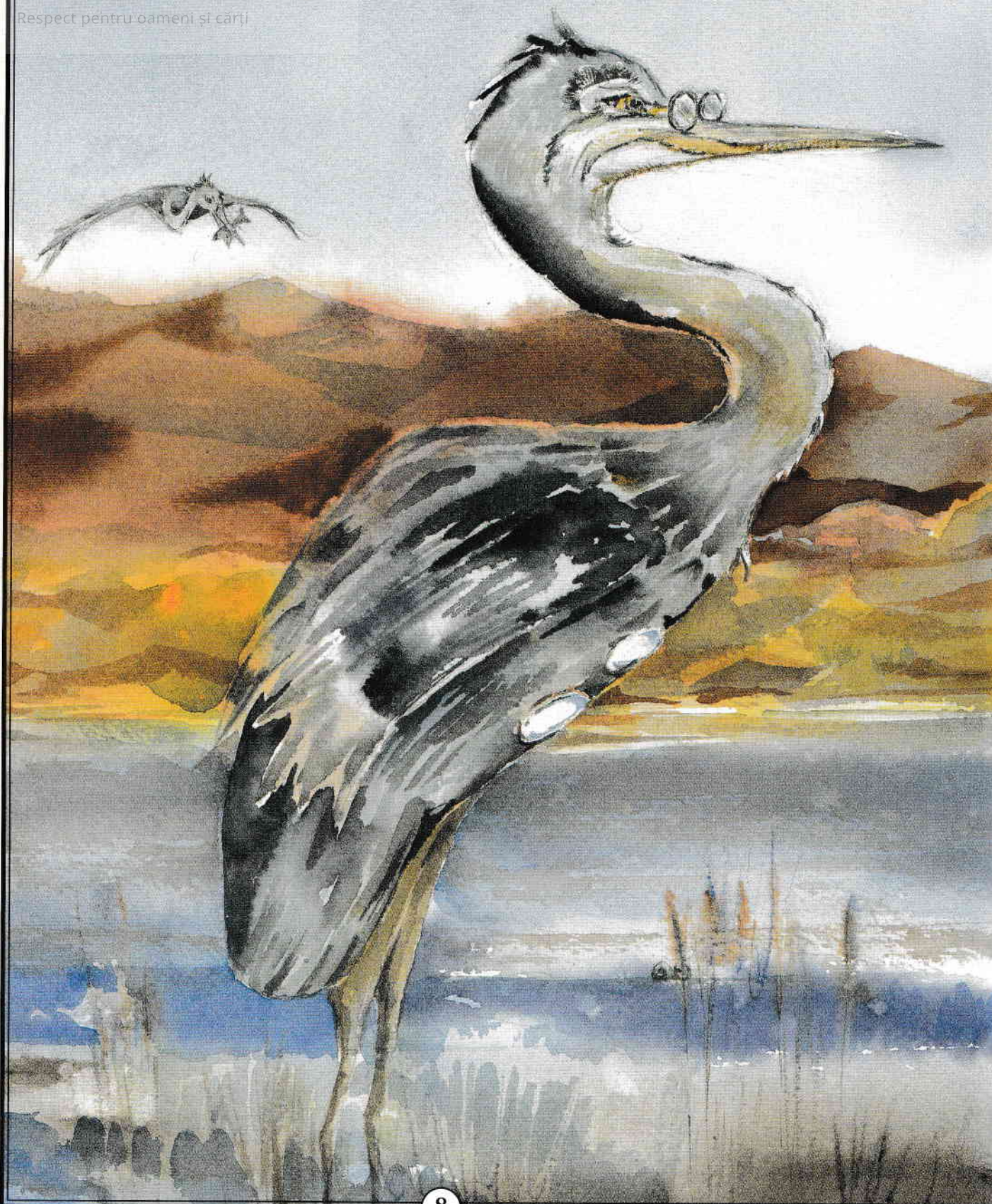
The sting in the tail of the bee
Seems to bother this bird not a fig!
He loves two or three for his tea
And skewers them onto a twig!

PURPLE SUNBIRD

I could watch the sunbird
For hours and hours and hours
As he sips the nectar
And hovers over flowers.

Tiny, shiny secret –
A jewel of a fellow,
He himself is bluish black,
His mate a pale yellow.





GREY HERON

The heron stands at his sentry post
 Watching and waiting, a silent grey ghost,
 Patrolling the shoreline with keen bright eye;
 Do not disturb him - he's really quite shy.
 Hunched in his coat like a funny old man,
 Deep in his thoughts, making a plan.
 Alone like a statue, and so very still,
 Not even a feather is stirring until
 All of a sudden, fulfilling his wish,
 A glint of the sun on the scales of a fish,
 With dagger-like beak, quick as a flash
 He seizes his prey with barely a splash.
 His patience rewarded, away see him fly
 Outlined against the blue of the sky.

