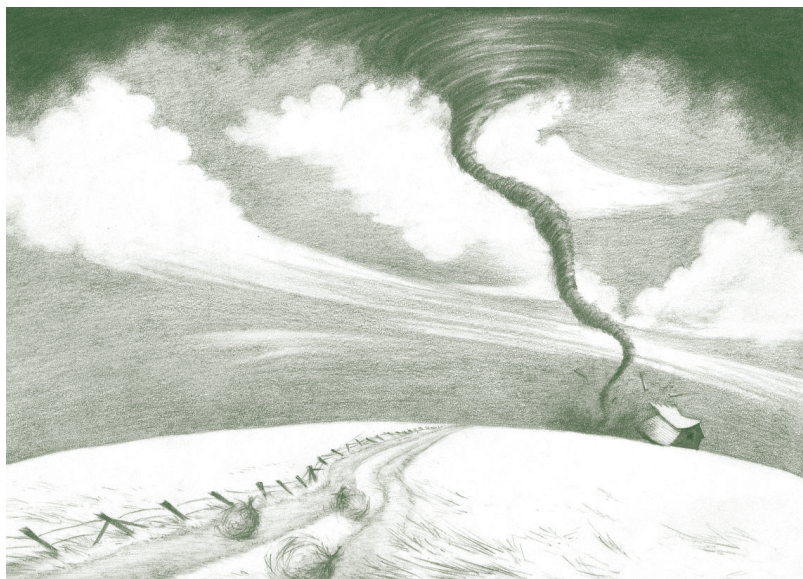


1 The cyclone

Dorothy lived in a small house in Kansas, with Uncle Henry, Aunt Em, and a little black dog called Toto.

There were no trees and no hills in Kansas, and it was often very windy¹. Sometimes² the wind came very fast and very suddenly. That was a cyclone³, and it could blow trees



A cyclone could blow trees and people and buildings away.

¹ **windy** *adj.* with much wind 多风的 || ² **sometimes** *adv.* at some times but not all the time 有时候 || ³ **cyclone** *n.* a violent destructive windstorm 龙卷风



and people and buildings away. There were cellars¹ under all the houses. And when a cyclone came, people went down into their cellars and stayed there.

One day Uncle Henry came out and looked up at the sky. Then he ran quickly back into the house.

‘There’s a cyclone coming,’ he called to Aunt Em and Dorothy. ‘We must go down into the cellar!’

They ran to the door of the cellar, but Toto was afraid, and he ran under the bed. Dorothy ran after him².

‘Quick!’ shouted Aunt Em from the cellar. ‘Leave the dog and come down into the cellar!’

Dorothy picked up³ Toto and ran to the cellar door. But before she got there, the cyclone hit the house.

And then a very strange⁴ thing happened.

The house moved, and then it went slowly up, up, up into the sky. Aunt Em and Uncle Henry were down in the cellar under the ground, but the house, Dorothy, and Toto went up to the top of the cyclone. Dorothy looked through the open cellar door and saw hills and houses, a long way down. She closed the cellar door quickly.

The wind blew the house along for many hours. At first Dorothy was afraid.

‘But we can’t do anything about it,’ she said to Toto. ‘So

¹ **cellar** *n.* an underground room for storing things (储藏东西用的) 地下室, 地窖 ||

² **run after sb** to run to try to catch sb 追赶某人 || ³ **pick up** to take hold of and lift sb/sth 举起或抬起 (某人或某物) || ⁴ **strange** *adj.* unusual or surprising, especially in a way that is difficult to explain or understand 奇怪的, 不寻常的