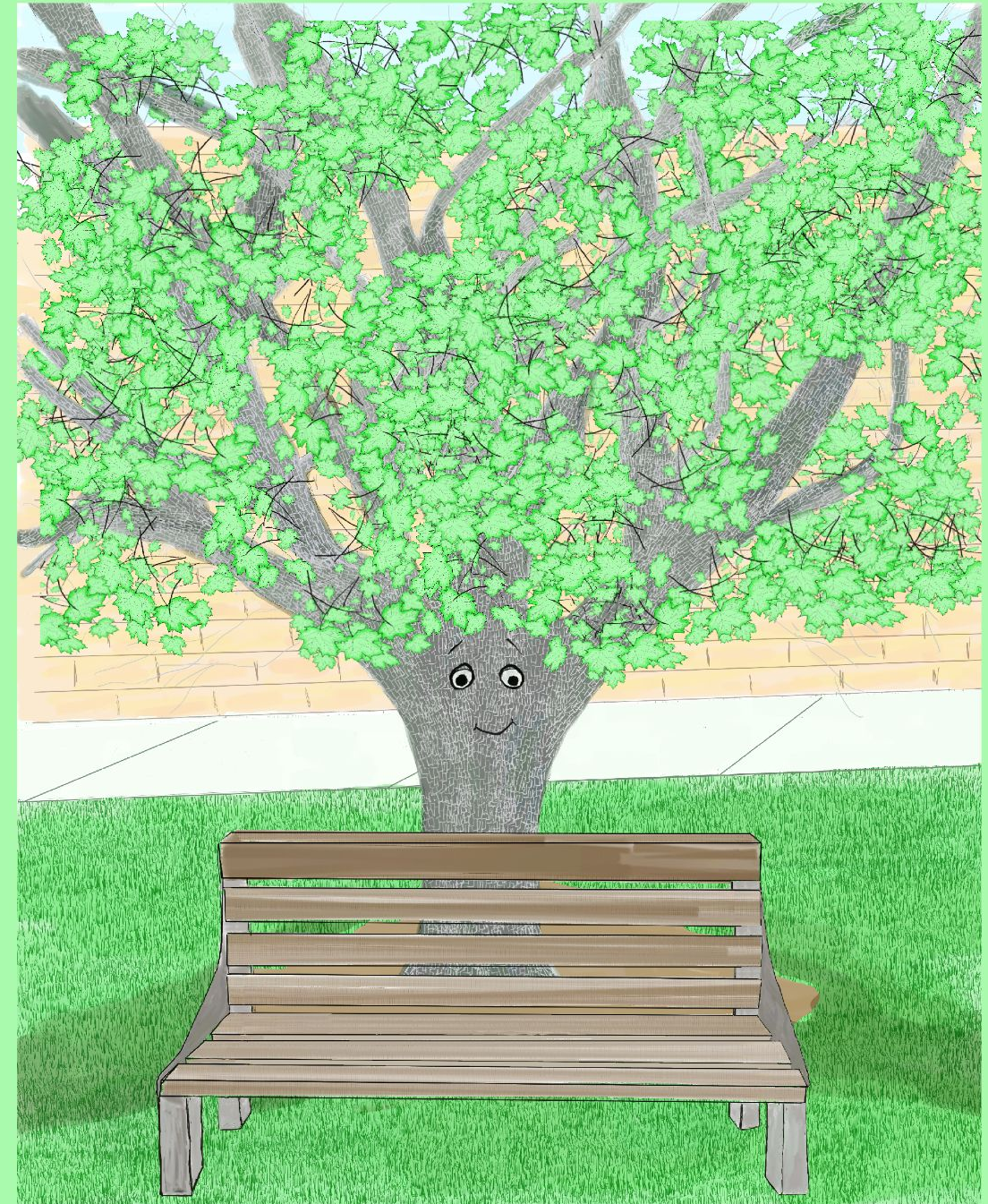


TIMBER

A Modern Fairy Tale

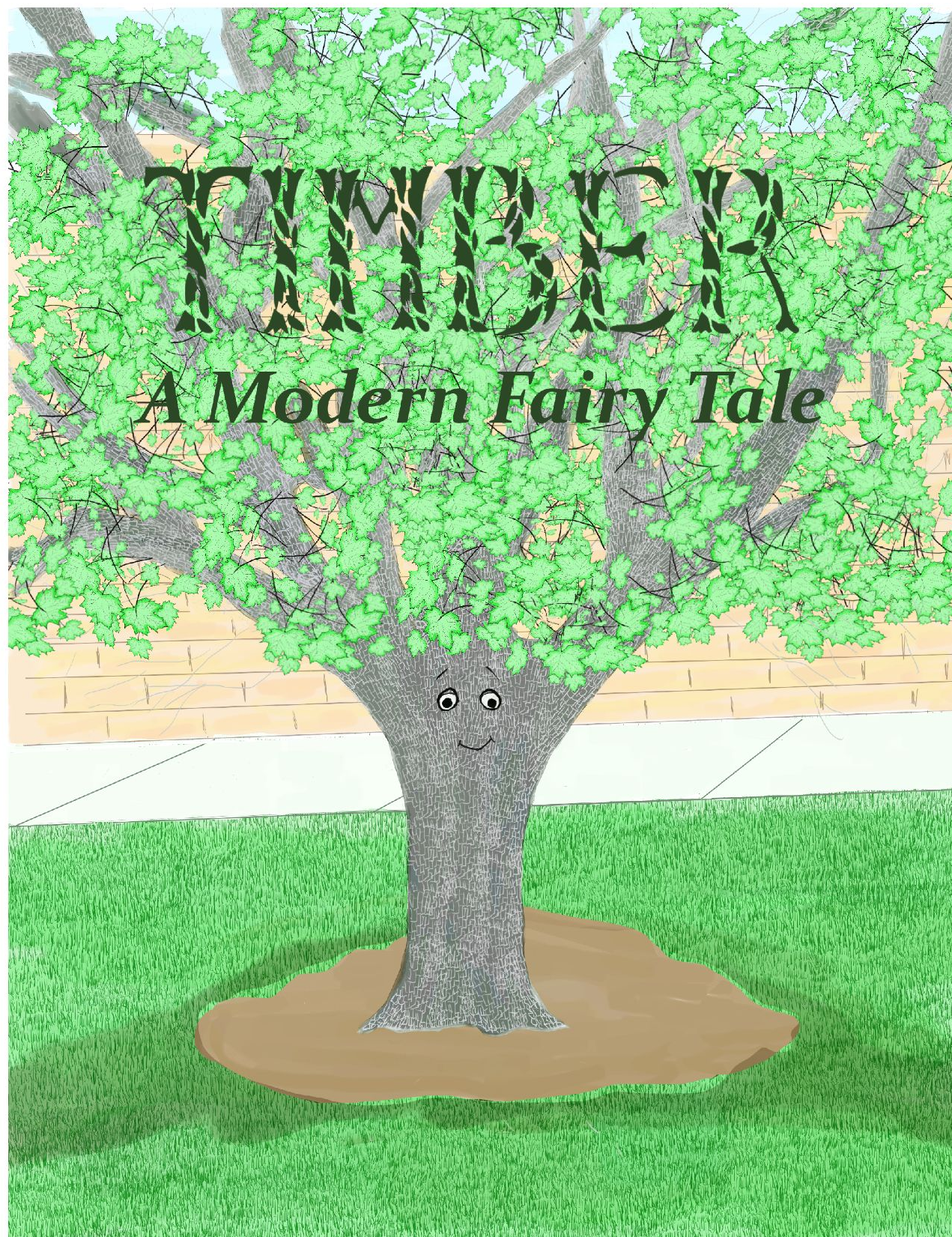
*Written and Illustrated by
Gail Jean Murphy*



Timber has been by the side of the playground for many years, watching the children play. Then one day, she gets a special bench. How does this change things for Timber? Could the bench possibly be...magical?

Retro Ranger
Publishing Company





*Written and Illustrated by
Gail Jean Murphy*

For Sean

*Who always had a book
in his hand*

Once upon a time, but not so long ago, a tree named Timber grew happily by the side of a school playground.

Timber had been in the schoolyard for many years. She'd grown tall and beautiful. On sunny days, her lush canopy of leaves cast gentle shadows on the surrounding lawn. The wind played gently through her branches, leaves rustling like soft laughter.

And even though it was true that the children rarely noticed her, it was equally true that Timber closely observed the children.



Yes, Timber was a happy tree. She watched the children playing at recess, and marveled at their games.

Of course, she could never join in. She was, after all, a tree. She couldn't run and play with them. She couldn't even talk to them. But she loved to see them having so much fun.

By and by, she learned the rules for hopscotch and marbles, and all the rhymes of jump rope.

And so it continued for a very long time.

