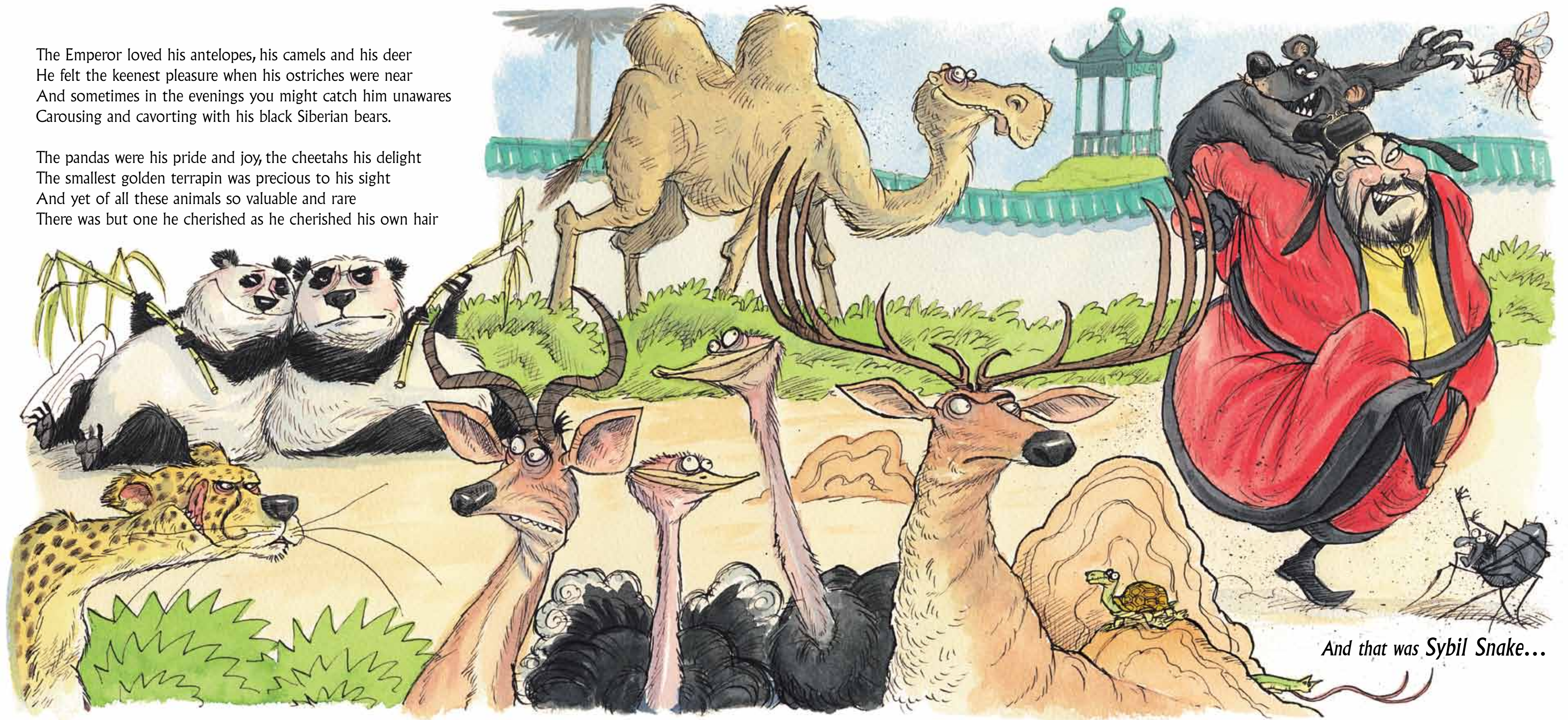


The Emperor's menagerie was full of marvellous things  
Like rainbow-feathered parakeets and fish with silver wings  
And apes from deepest Africa and lions from Timbuctoo  
And elephants and tigers and a white rhinoceros too.



The Emperor loved his antelopes, his camels and his deer  
He felt the keenest pleasure when his ostriches were near  
And sometimes in the evenings you might catch him unawares  
Carousing and cavorting with his black Siberian bears.

The pandas were his pride and joy, the cheetahs his delight  
The smallest golden terrapin was precious to his sight  
And yet of all these animals so valuable and rare  
There was but one he cherished as he cherished his own hair



*And that was Sybil Snake...*

Sybil was a beauty: she was slender, lithe and green  
With skin as soft as satin, with a lustrous emerald sheen  
Her eyes were golden as the sun, her lashes lush and long  
But none of these were lovelier than Sybil's haunting song:

*"I'm Sybil Snake, I'm wide awake  
Watch me as I dance  
To and fro, high and low  
Now you're in a trance  
Up and down, round and round  
Now you're far away  
Nightie night, sleep tight  
Sleep all day..."*



*“Ssss...sss...ss...s...s...s...”*

And every man and beast who heard (and emperor as well)  
Surrendered to her siren song and fell under her spell.