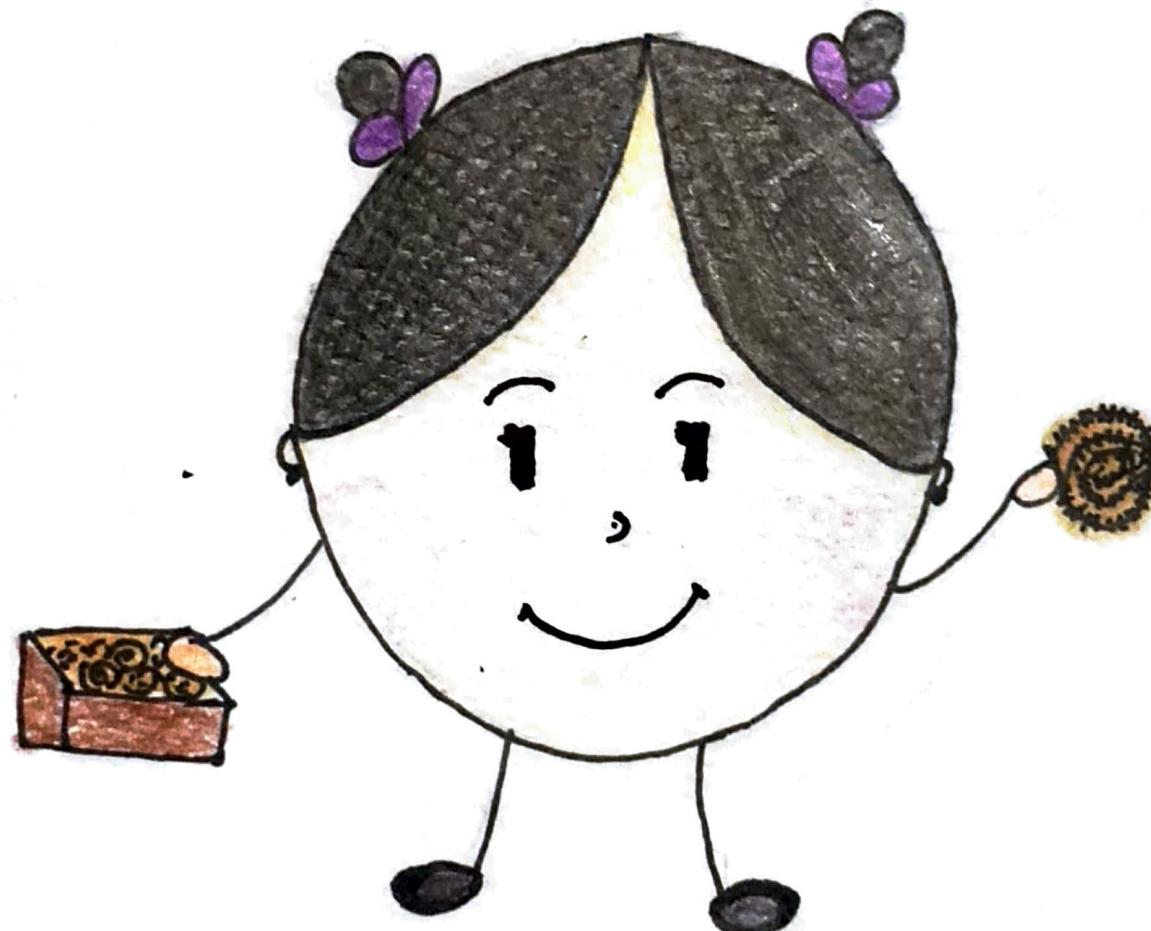
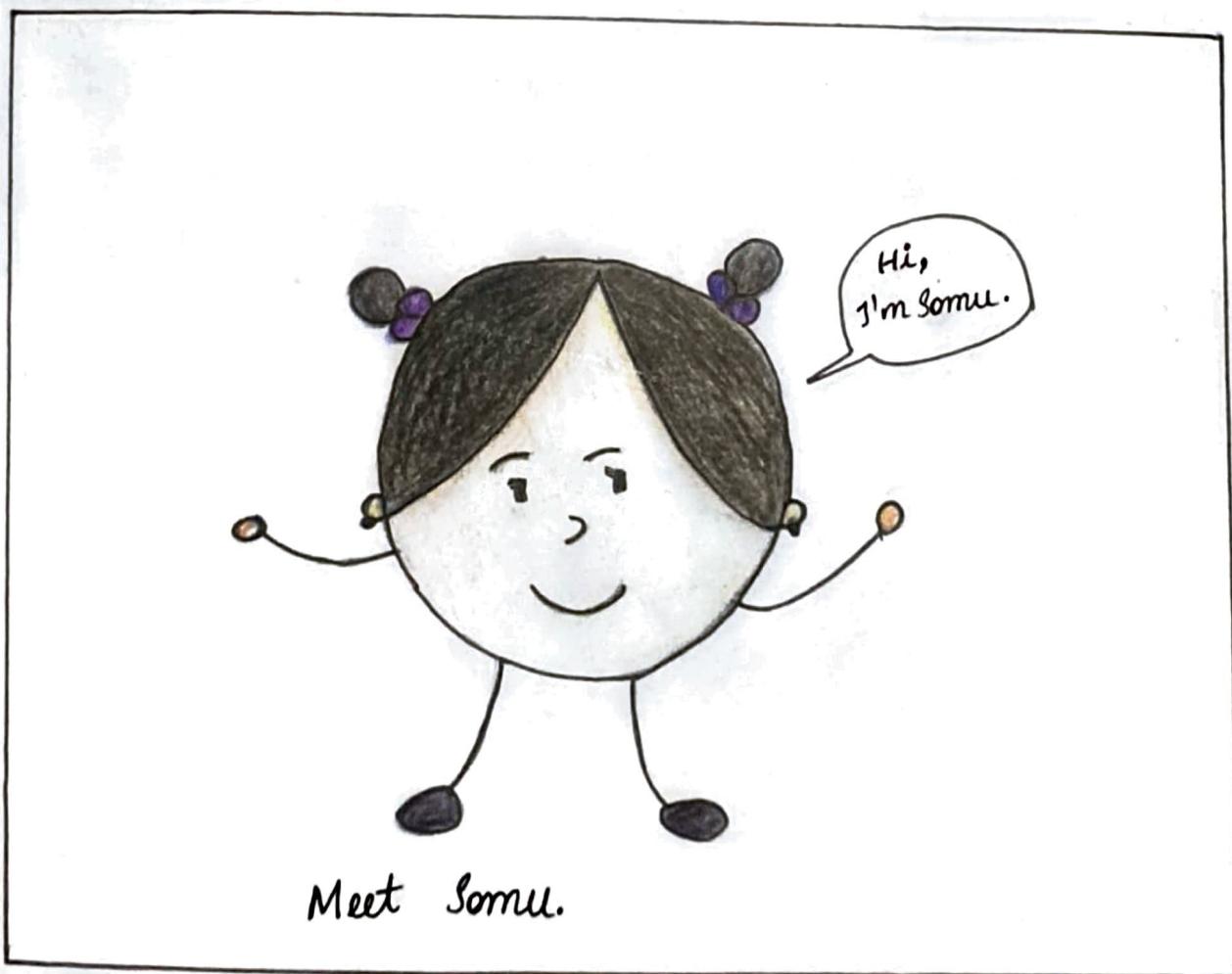


Somu, not Sumo





Meet Somu.

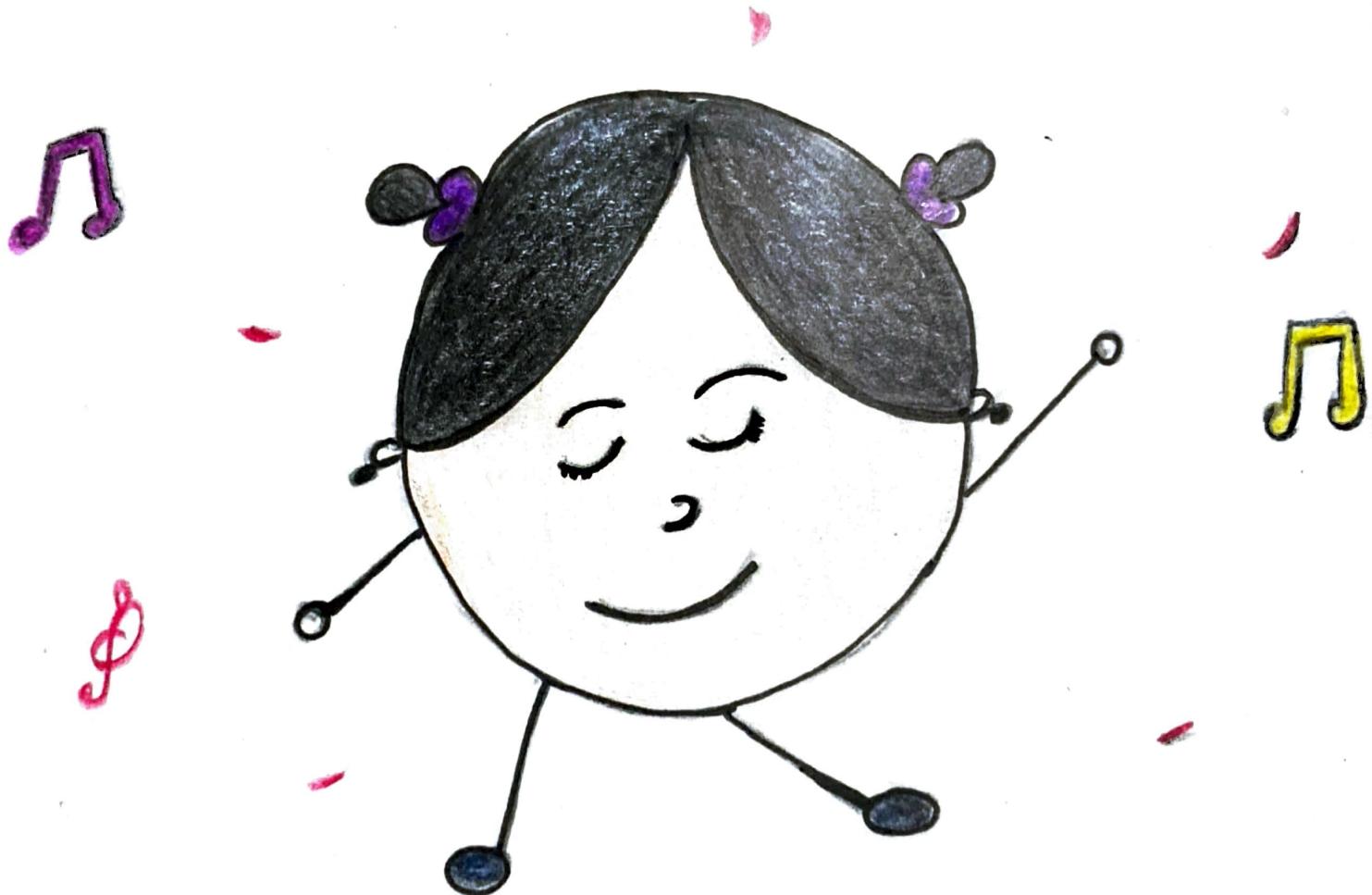


Somu enjoys reading.



Somu loves painting.

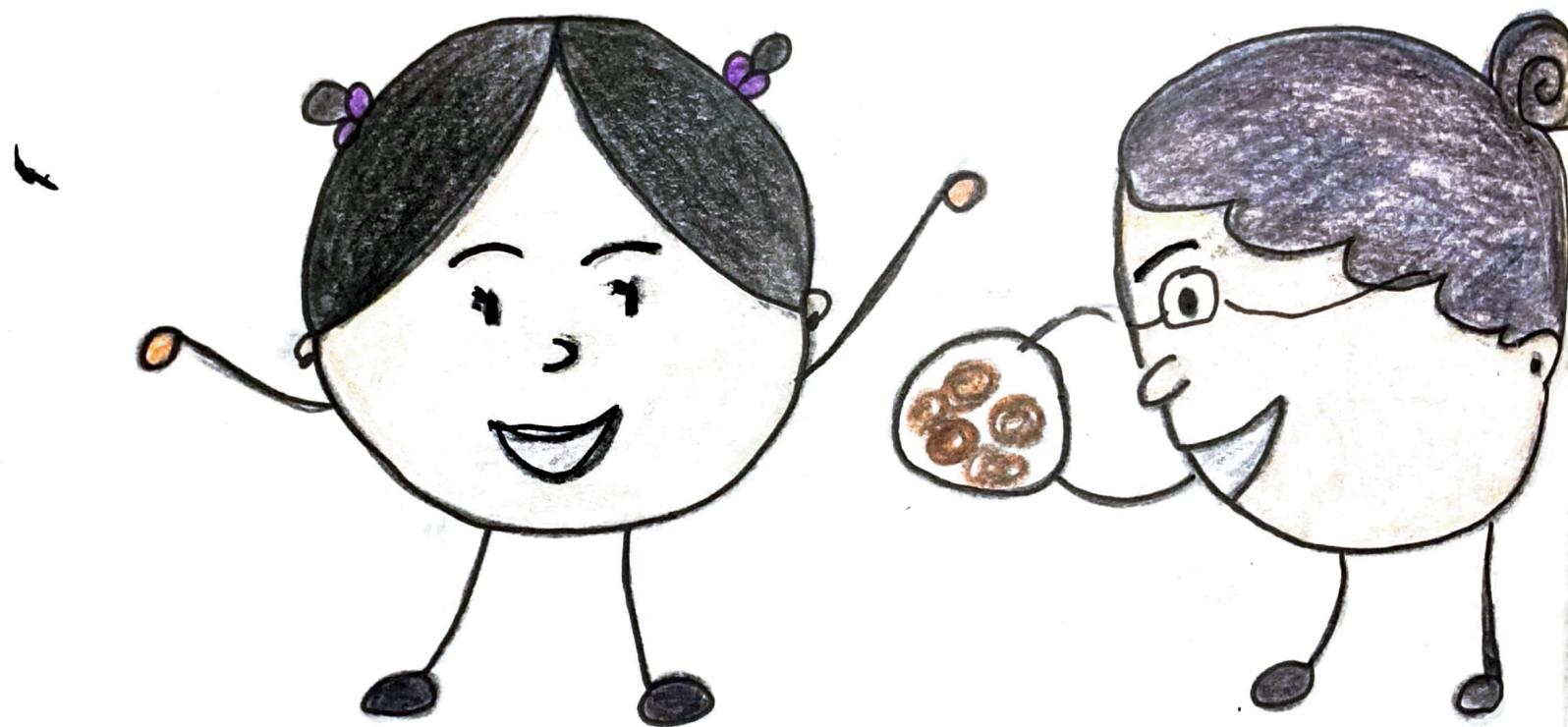




Somu can dance.

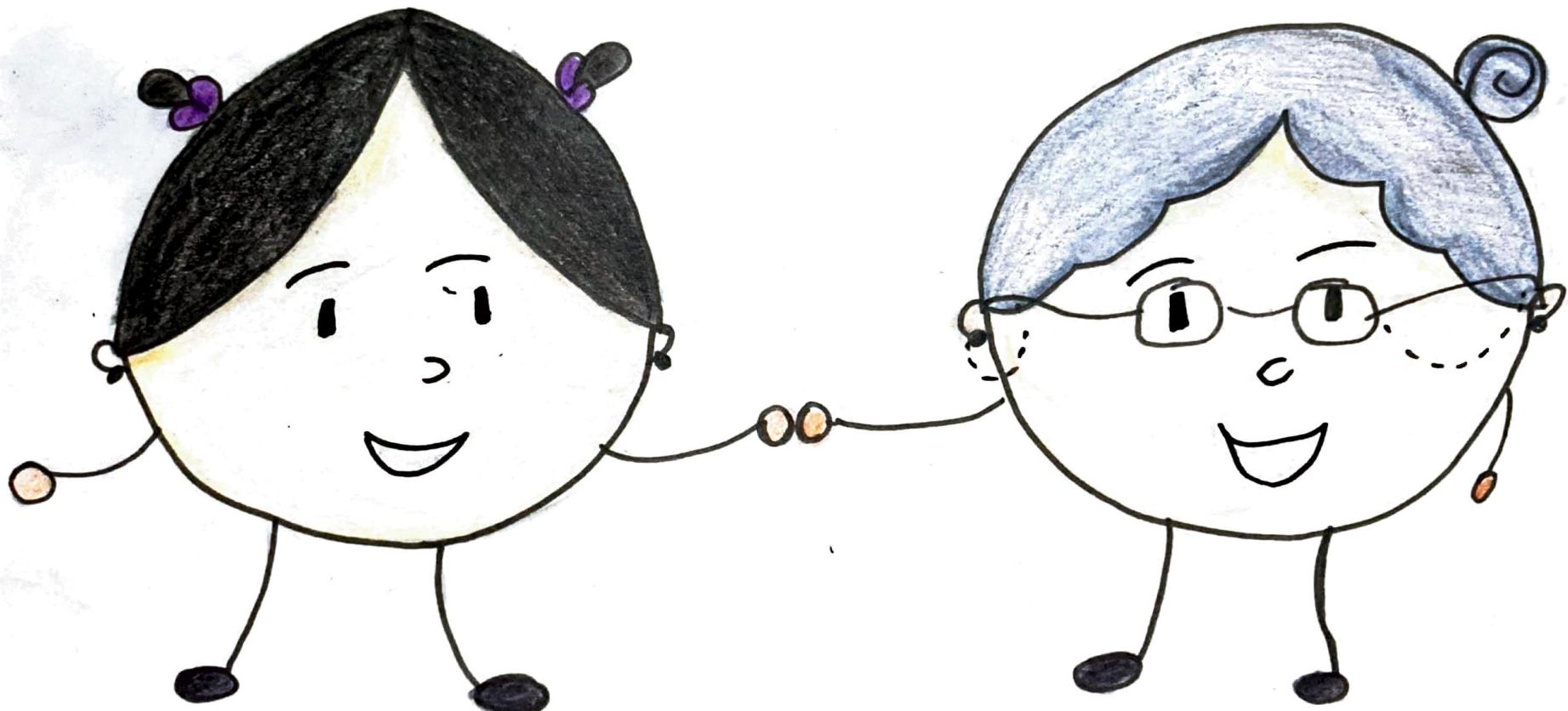


Somu also LOVES food.



Especially if Ammu makes it for her.

Look at them.



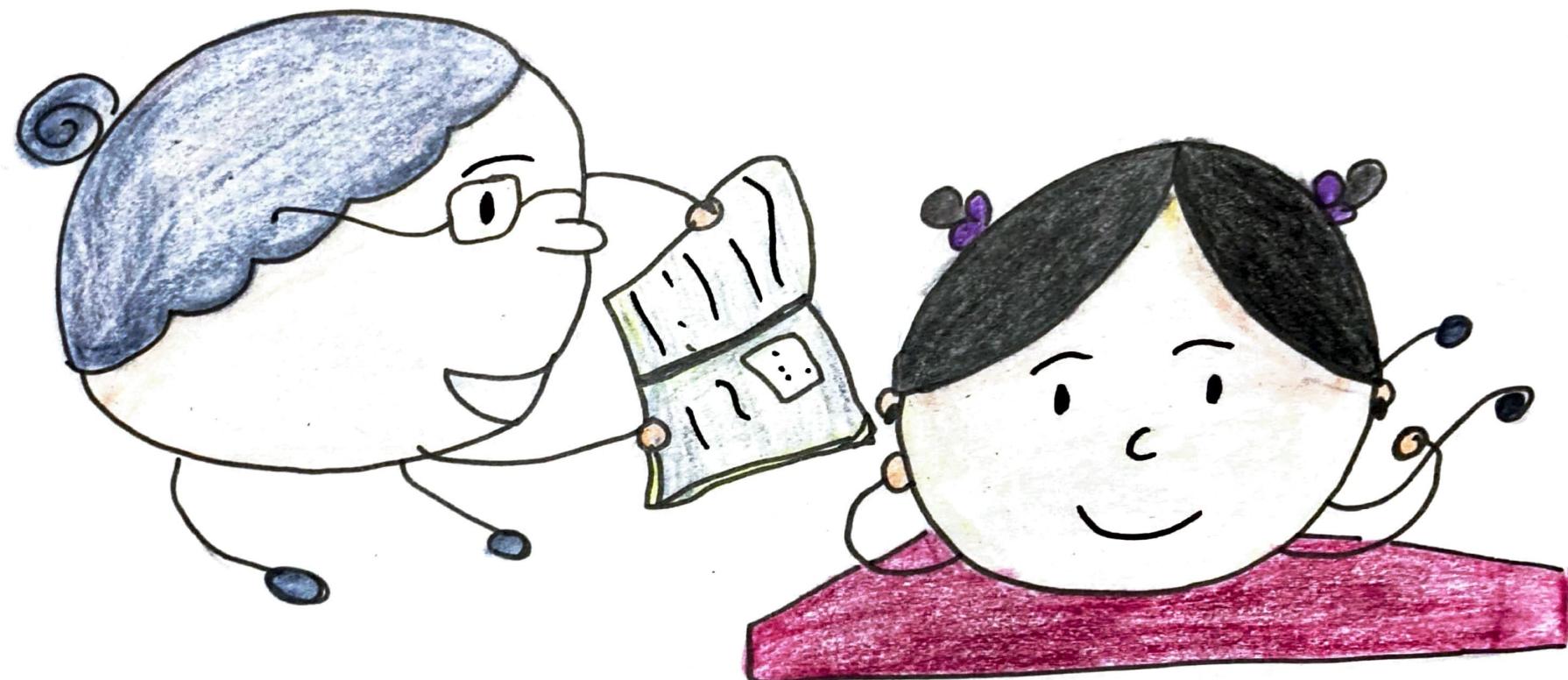
Best friends who do everything together.

Meet Ammu.



Some and Ammu are best friends.  
Also, cool dancers.

They read together.





They nap together.



They garden together.

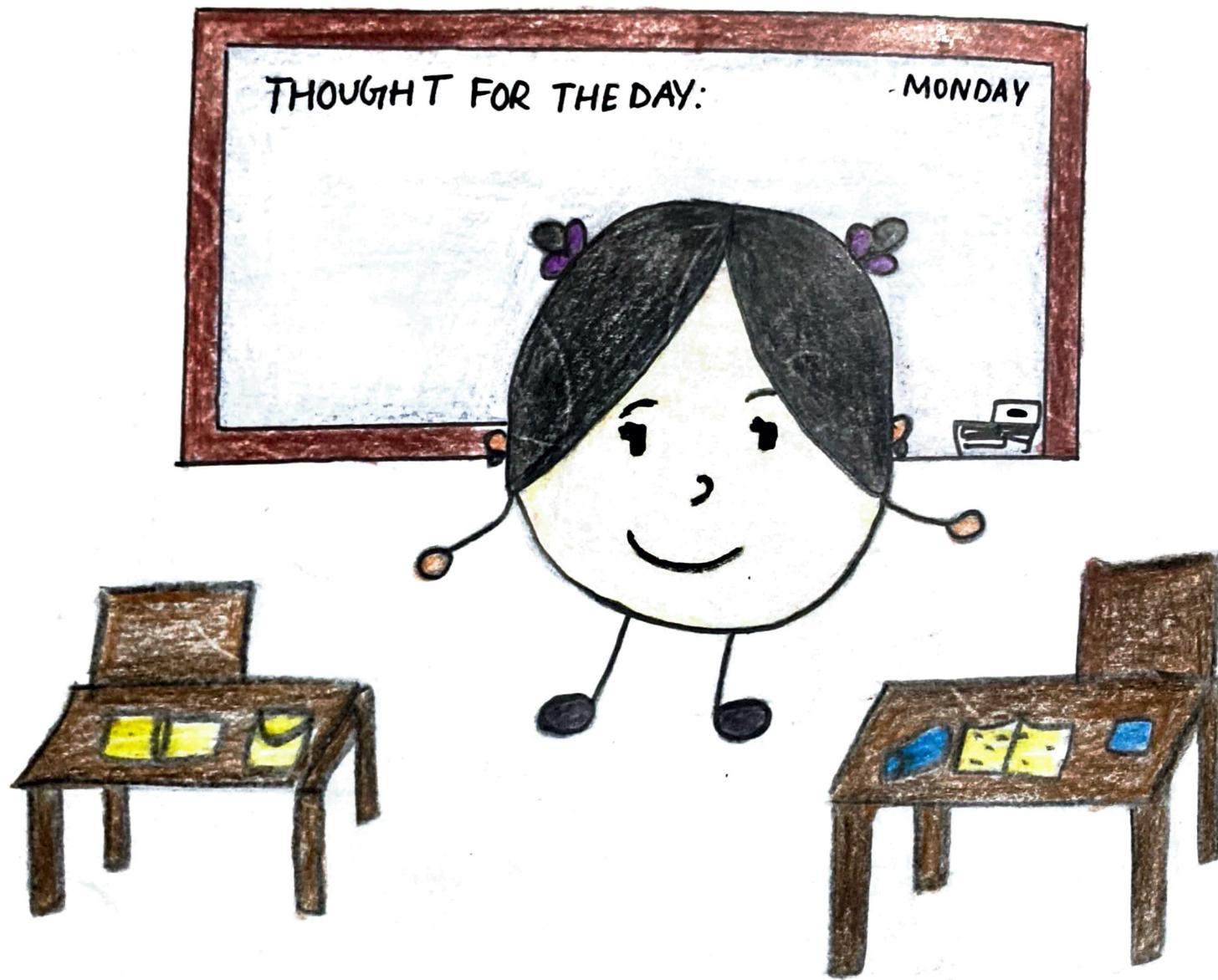


and YES! they cook together.



Everything feels better with Ammu.

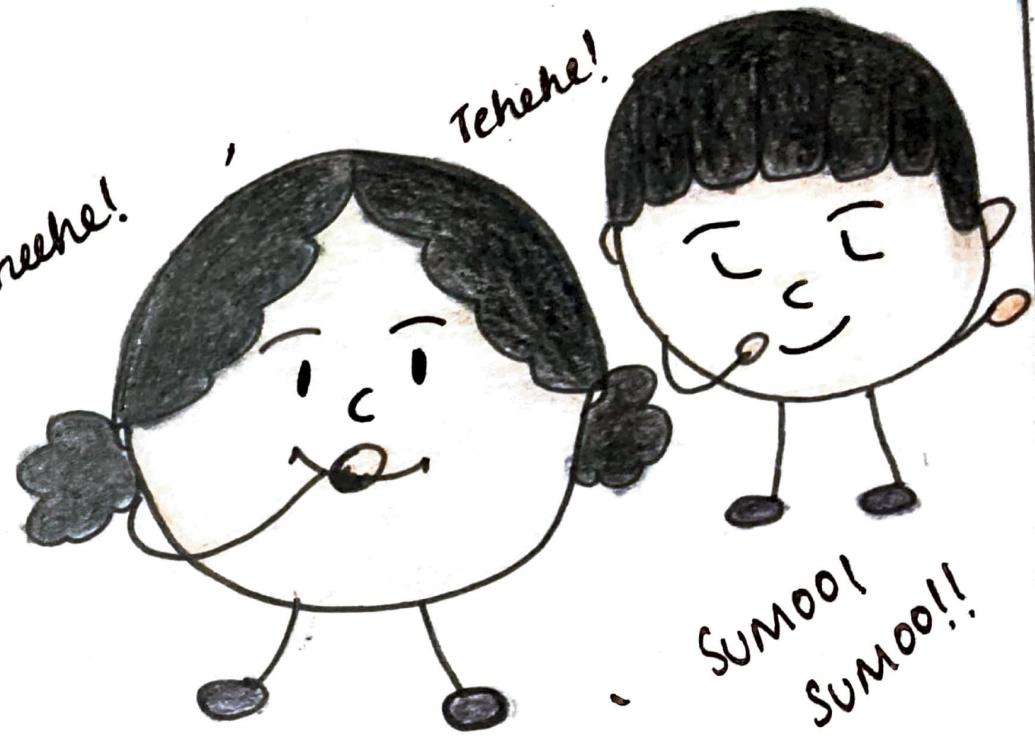
Somu loves going to school. But,



WHY does EVERYONE call her Sumo?



Hahaha!

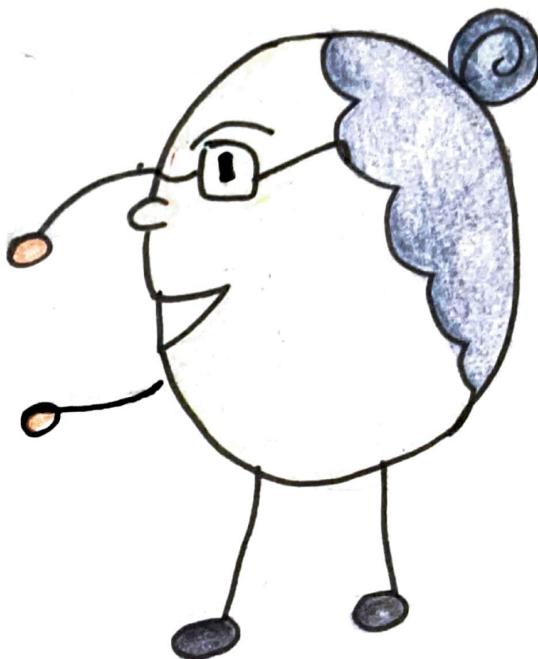


OYE SUMO SOMUU!!



Somu feels sad and confused.

Somu does not feel good.  
Today was a bad day.



Ammu asks, "Hi Somukutta, where's my hug?  
How was your day?"



"Ammu, why does everyone at school call me Sumo?  
Is there something wrong with me?"



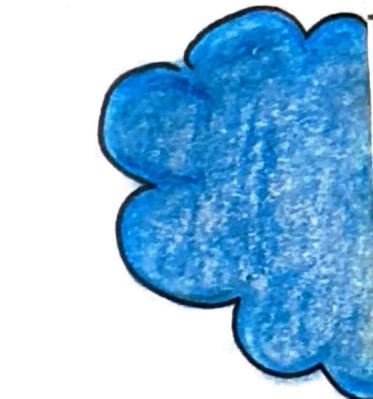
"No, Somukutta. Absolutely nothing.  
Were they mean to you?"



"They call me Sumo and laugh at me.  
Being who I am feels odd now." Somu sobbed.

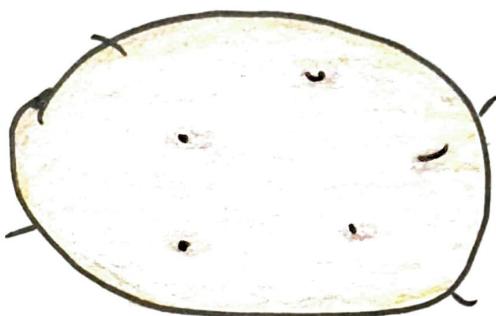
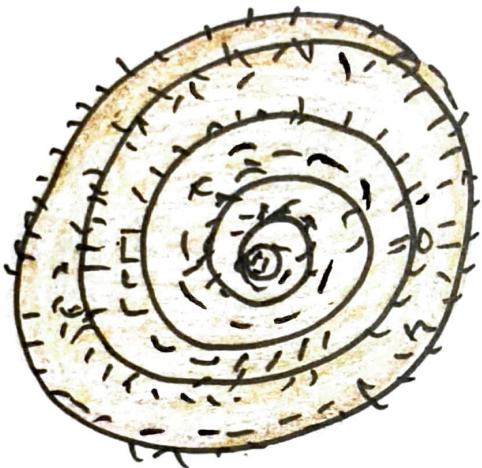


"No Somu, you are so smart and kind and beautiful.  
Ammu's Somu is AMAZING!"



"Look around, isn't everything lovely the way it is?"

Ammu explains to confused Somu.



"Look at this mwukku and also this potato."

'You wouldn't know it is a murukku or a potato if it wouldn't look that way.'



'It is amazing the way it is.'

"Do you think the moon cares what we think?"

Somus replies, "No?"



"Exactly. Neither does the Blue, vast, round Earth  
me like on."

"We are who and what we think we are, Somu"  
said, Ammu.



"And I think, I love who I am.  
says Somu.

"That's my girl" smiles Ammu.

Next day in school,



HAAH!  
LOOK AT  
HER!

! HI SUMO!



SUMO  
SUMU  
IS  
HERE..

Somu replied confidently,



"Hi, I'm Somu, not Sumo, actually.  
Would you like a murukku though?"

## Author's Note

This is a work of fiction. But, resemblances to actual persons and events is NOT coincidental.

Through Somu's story, I wish to channel and express my emotions thoughts on body-shaming. People of all ages: old and young go through this and through Somu, I wish to assert my opinion and say, "it is not okay."

Tackle them with boldness and a murukku.

Saumya D. Kamath  
21/UELA/051