



Little Tara's Big Fire

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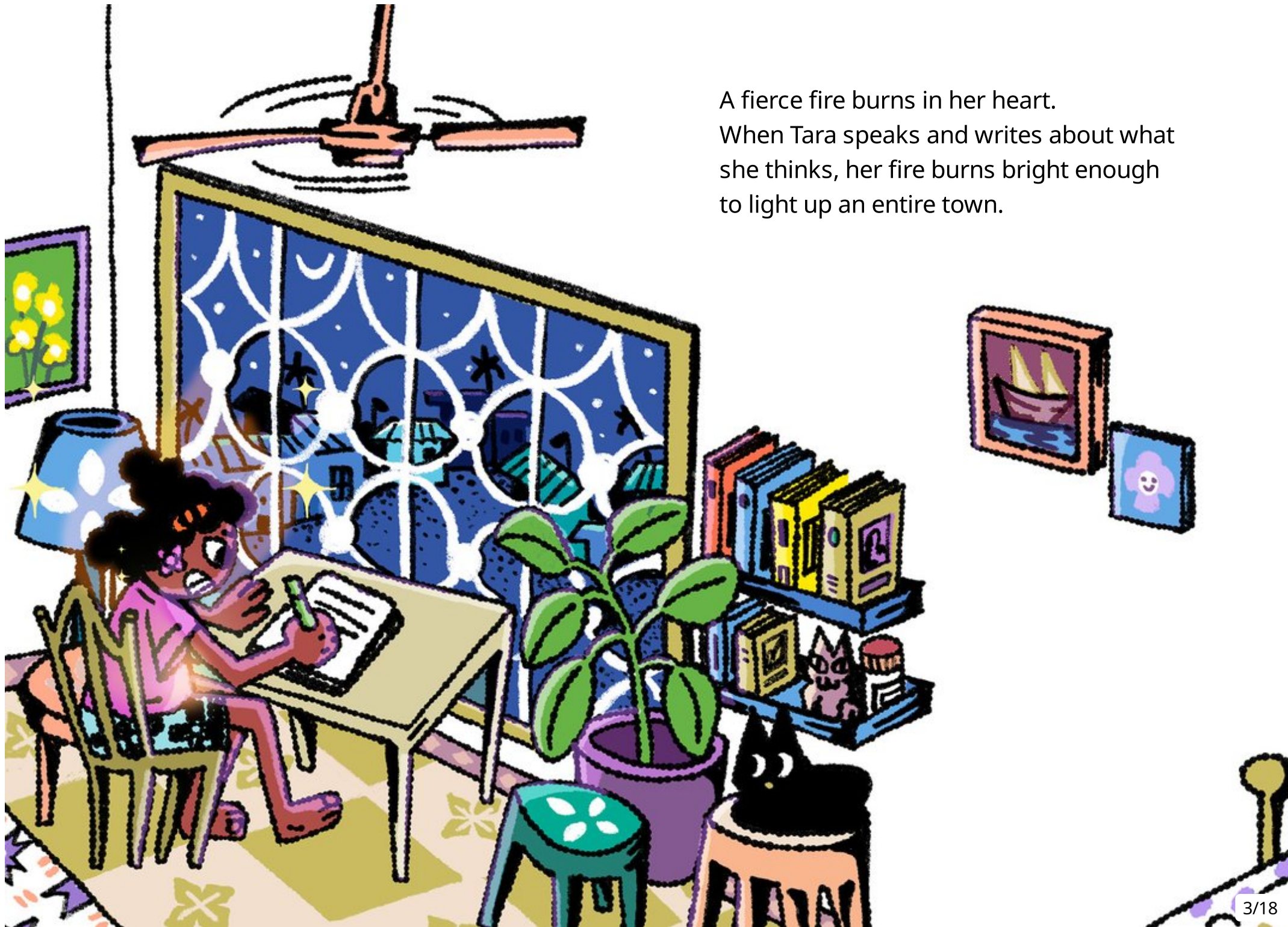
Illustrator: Kruttika Susarla

Level 3

Tara is like any other girl. She loves to giggle, hop, and munch on slices of mango.

But Tara feels different.





A fierce fire burns in her heart.
When Tara speaks and writes about what
she thinks, her fire burns bright enough
to light up an entire town.

*Red, yellow, orange, crimson,
In Tara burns a fire stubborn*



During story time, Tara's notebook overflows with ideas.

Across Tara sits Avni, quiet and too shy to speak up. But Tara has an idea. Tara's hand shoots up in the air. "May I tell a story?" she asks.

Miss Isha nods and Tara weaves a tale of a brave girl who builds a bridge to save her flooding village.

Avni's eyes light up. She raises her hand, too. Soon, many girls raise their hands.



*Red, crimson, yellow, orange,
Little Tara inspires courage*





But the more Tara speaks, the more people get annoyed.

Bunty says Tara should keep her ideas to herself.

Raju says Tara's voice is too loud.

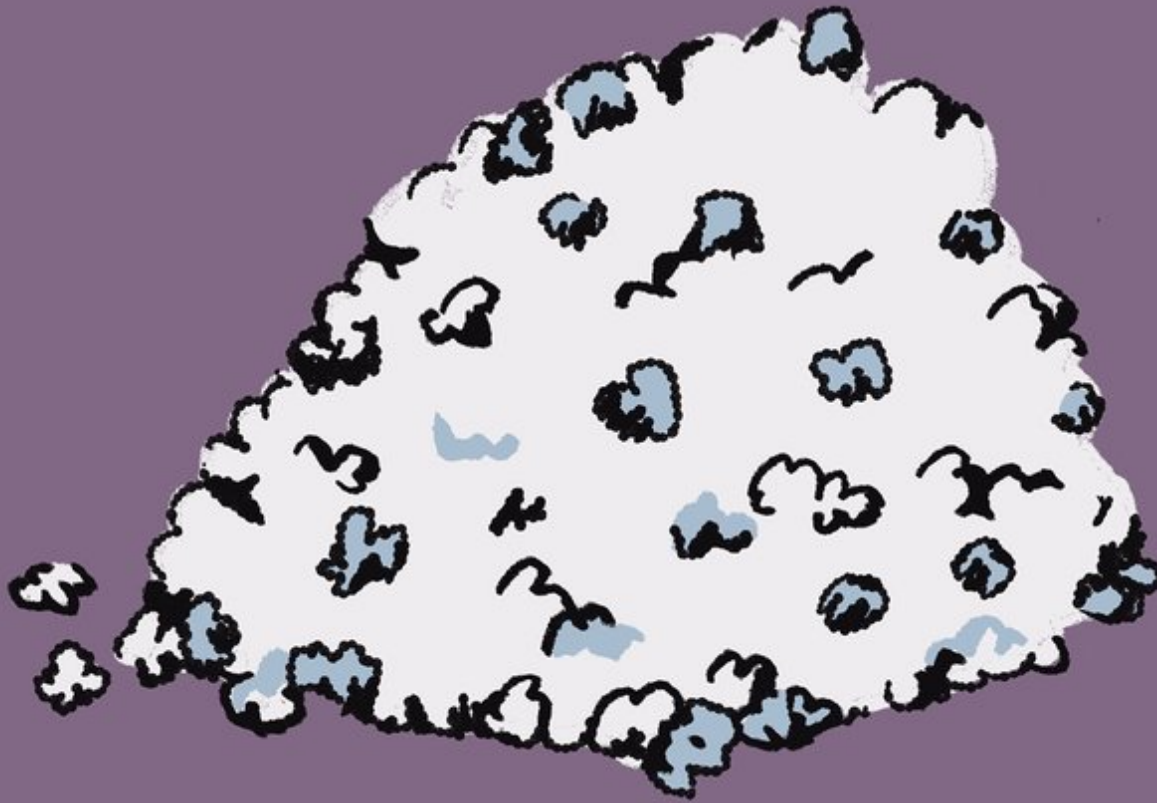


Miss Kadambini frowns. She thinks Tara's handwriting is not neat.

Even Montu Uncle feels Tara is too talkative for a girl!



*Red, orange, crimson, yellow,
Tara's fire flickers in sorrow*



The mean words douse Tara's fire.

Days turn into weeks. Tara thinks, scribbles and erases.
But the stories just don't come.



Tara sees the empty pages of her notebook.
“Maybe I am not good enough,” she whispers.

Then one day, Tara sees a group of sad girls huddled outside her house. "What happened?" Tara asks, her voice small.



"The library has closed because many people were not visiting it," Avni says. "Now we have nowhere to find stories!"



Tara gathers the girls, and narrates a tale about a girl who, with her friends, built a giant paper castle full of stories. The more Tara speaks, the stronger her voice becomes.

The girls love the idea of a place where their own stories could live.



Tara feels a little spark in her heart.

The next day, Tara and her friends bring paper, pencils and crayons.

More girls join them, each writing their own story.

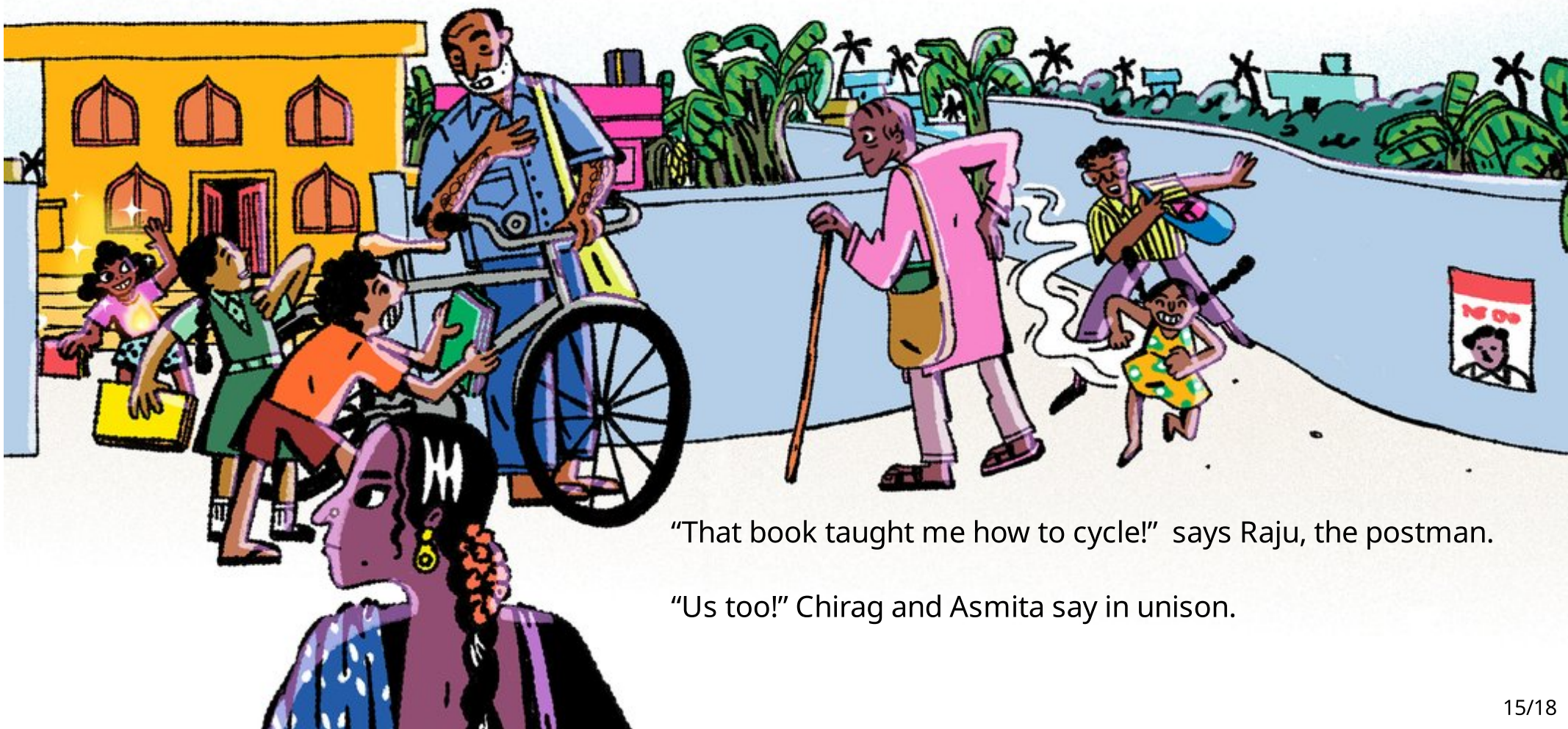
News of their project spreads like wildfire. Children peek through windows, parents stop to admire, and whispers of a 'castle' fill the air.



Soon, everyone in the town is inspired by Tara to find their own stories. They gather at the library.

"I can't believe the entire town is here," whispers Asmita.

"It feels like just yesterday when we read the book about the bear with a bike in this library," Chirag grins.



"That book taught me how to cycle!" says Raju, the postman.

"Us too!" Chirag and Asmita say in unison.

Soon, laughter fills the town. Children decorate the walls with handmade artwork, teenagers unload boxes full of books, the local tea shop brings snacks, and grandmothers share their favourite stories of women who changed the world!

They reopen the library. The air hums with excitement. They are all a part of something big.

The library visitors are greeted by a sight that would make any librarian smile. It's...



The Storytelling Castle, with the stories of many girls.



That day, Tara realises that her words
have power.

All she needs is to be herself and use
her big voice. And her fire will burn
brighter than ever.

*Yellow, orange, crimson, red,
With her voice, Tara led.*





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Little Tara's Big Fire

(English)

Stories light up a fire inside Tara. But not everyone likes her stories. The fire inside her slowly dims. Will she find her fire again?

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



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