



# Come Back Soon, Mira

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Level 4

Today is Mira's last day at home.  
She will soon be leaving for boarding school.

Arav follows her around until  
she makes him curl up in her empty suitcase.



"Stop playing around!" Papa says, lifting Arav out. "There's so much packing to be done!"

Arav wants to go away with Mira, although he secretly wishes she wasn't so bossy.





Like now. She is at the table  
doing Arav's homework.

"I can do it, didi!" Arav says.

"You are too silly," says Mira,  
batting his hands away.



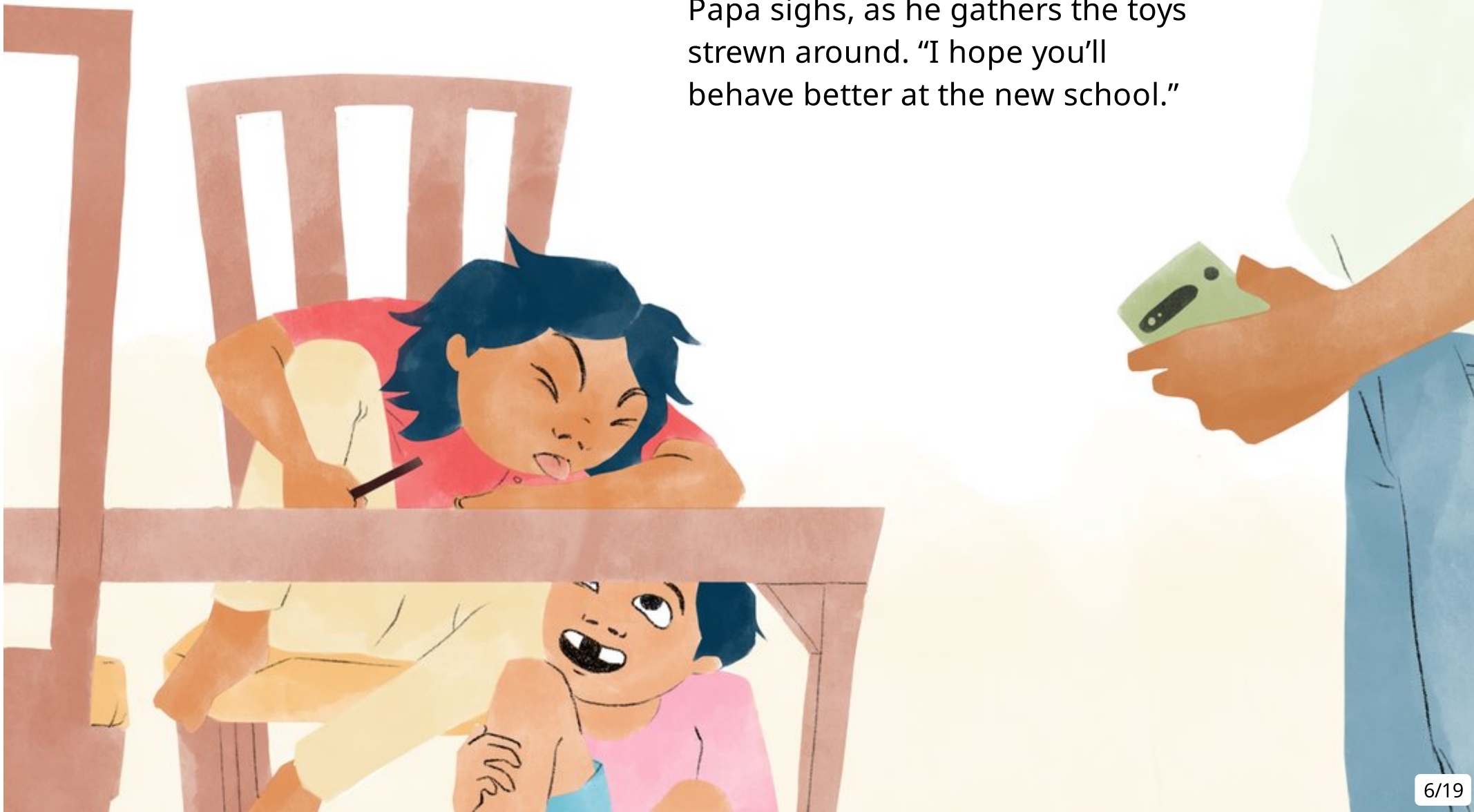
“I just spoke to your tuition teacher. She says you poured the juice she gave you into a potted plant!” calls out Papa from the other room.



“It was green and tasted muddy...” Mira tries explaining.

Arav slips under the table to laugh.

"Another one of your pranks,"  
Papa sighs, as he gathers the toys  
strewn around. "I hope you'll  
behave better at the new school."



At this, Mira feels sad.



Later Arav wonders, "What shall I make for didi as a goodbye gift to make her happy?"

Mira loves playing in the park every evening. So Arav draws a picture of a girl sitting on a swing, and colours it neatly.



A cold splash on his shoulder makes him jerk upright.

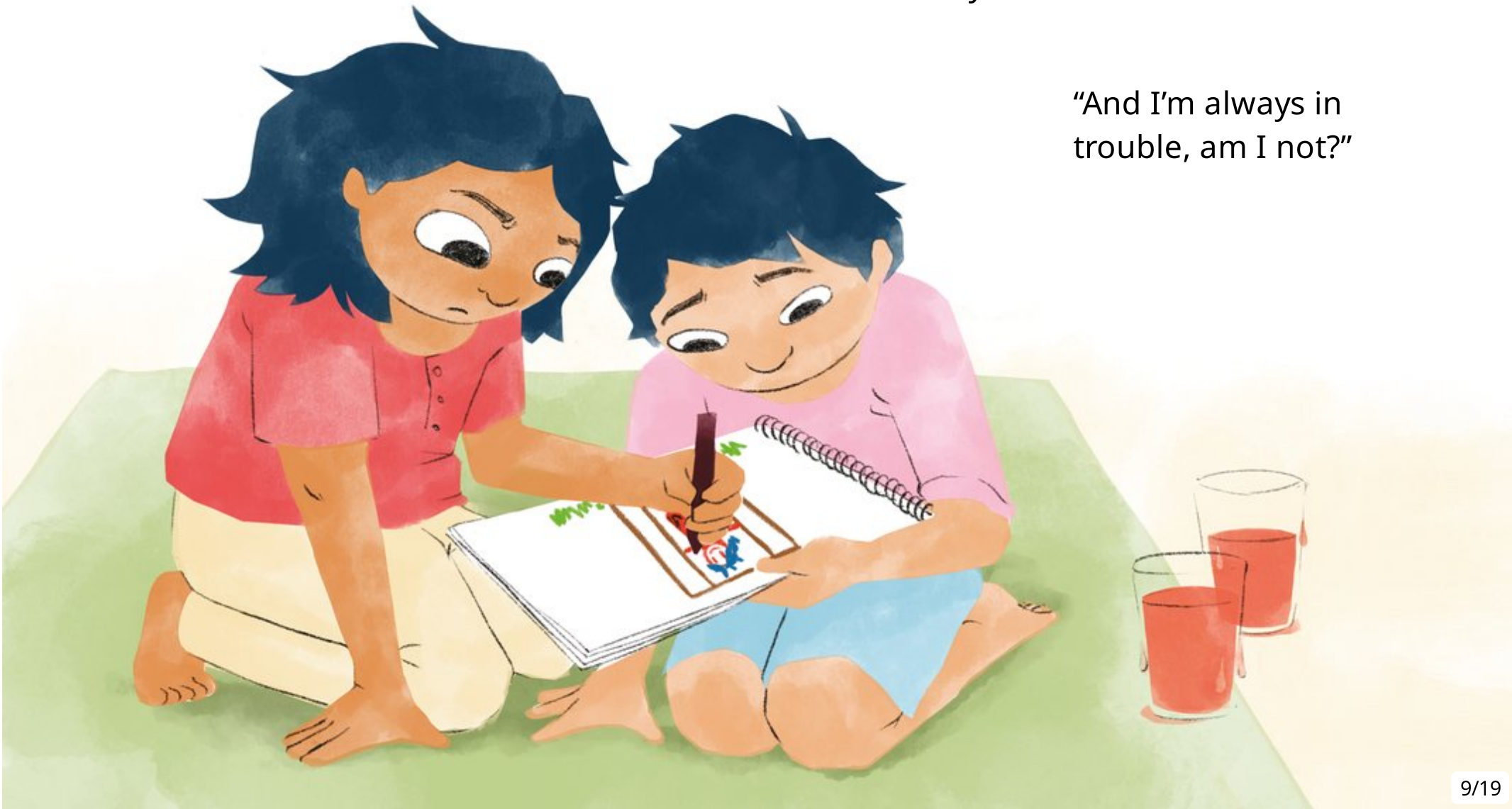
"Oops!" Mira giggles. Arav takes a glass of sharbat from her before she spills any more.



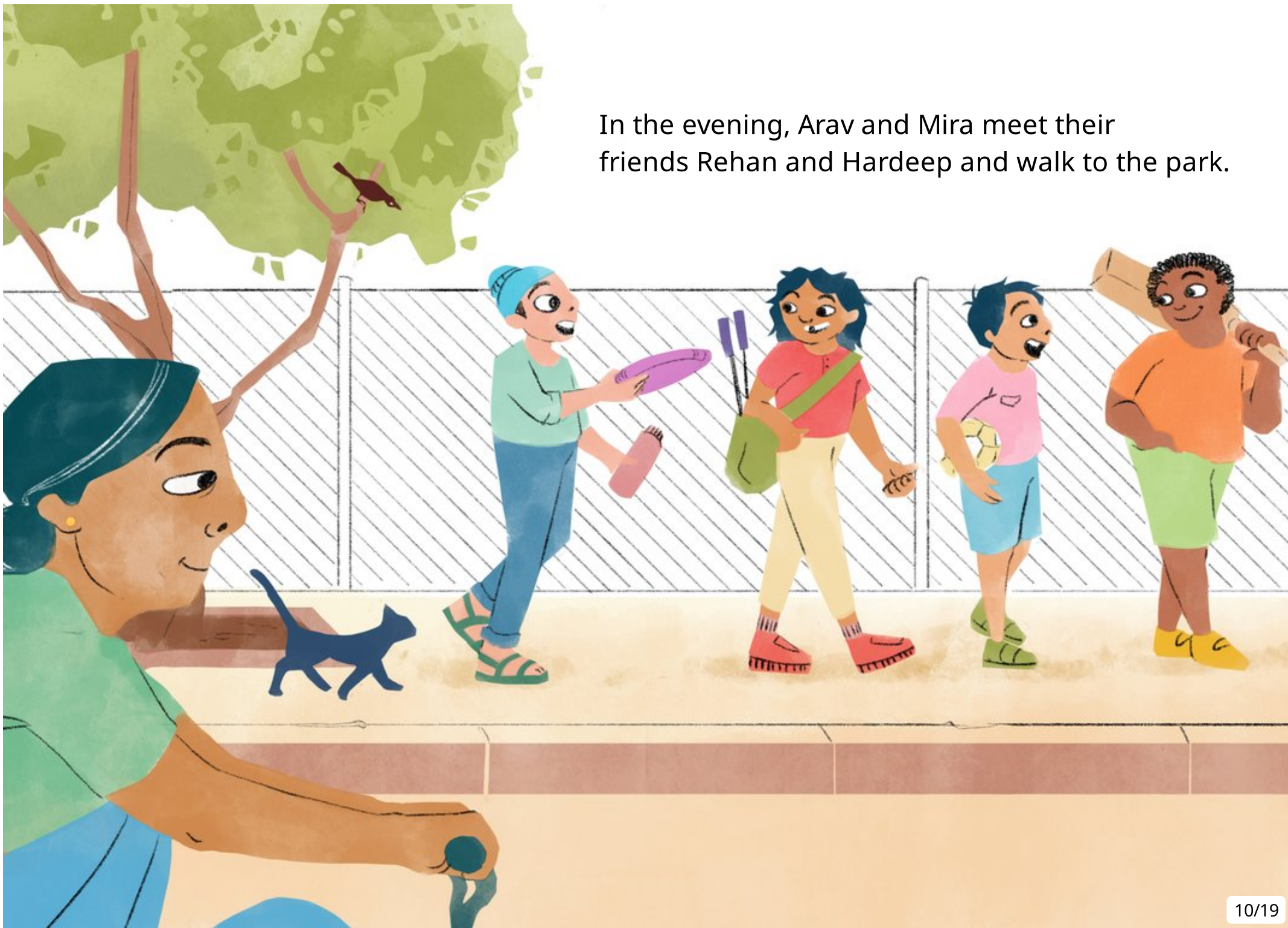
"Is that me?" Mira asks, looking at his drawing. Arav nods.

She sits close to him. "Too neat. I'm not neat," she says.

"And I'm always in trouble, am I not?"



In the evening, Arav and Mira meet their friends Rehan and Hardeep and walk to the park.





Mona and Leon join them.



Punyam, Sonu and Ayisha also run up.

And so do Piggie and Brownie, the naughty dogs of the park,  
and then the cats from the sports club next door.

They are a happy mix of hair, fur, legs and tails.







Mira gets everyone together to play hide-and-seek.



Whenever any two quarrel,  
Mira tosses a coin to decide  
who should back off.



Arav slips into a puddle and Mira dries him off with leaves.

When he gets tired of being the 'den' at catch-catch, Mira lets him grab her sleeve and she becomes the den instead.



“Come back soon, Mira!” all her friends say when it is time for them to go home.

Mira walks home slowly, looking at the shops and the people around.

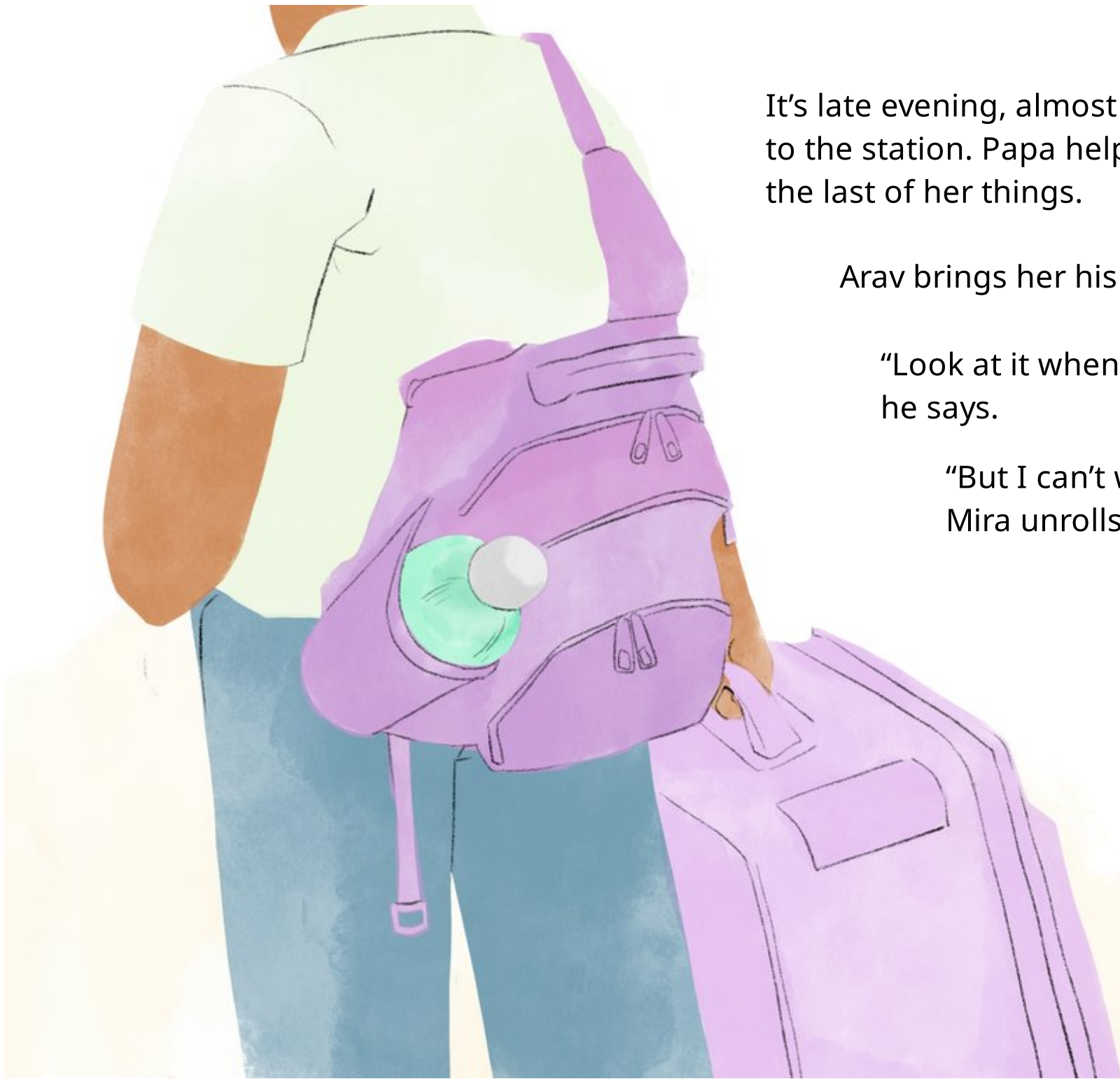






It will be a while before she comes this way again.





It's late evening, almost time to go to the station. Papa helps Mira pack the last of her things.

Arav brings her his gift.

"Look at it when you get to school," he says.

"But I can't wait!"  
Mira unrolls the drawing.

The drawing shows Mira on the swing, surrounded by all their friends. Arav is there too, peeping between them with his usual grin.

“That looks like a frog, but it’s Leon!”  
Arav says, pointing at the drawing.

“And Piggu looks like a cow here!  
Mooggu!” Mira giggles.

“Let’s stick this  
drawing on the  
wall right here so  
I won’t really be  
gone,” Mira says.



"Come back soon, didi," Arav says.  
His heart feels as though it might burst.

"I will miss you," says Papa.

"I will come back soon for the holidays,"  
Mira says softly.

Arav and Papa hug Mira like they would  
never let her go.



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# Come Back Soon, Mira

(English)

Mira is leaving for boarding school tomorrow. Arav will miss his older sister who is so much fun to be around. Can he make her some memories to take along?

This is a Level 4 book for children who can read fluently and with confidence.



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