

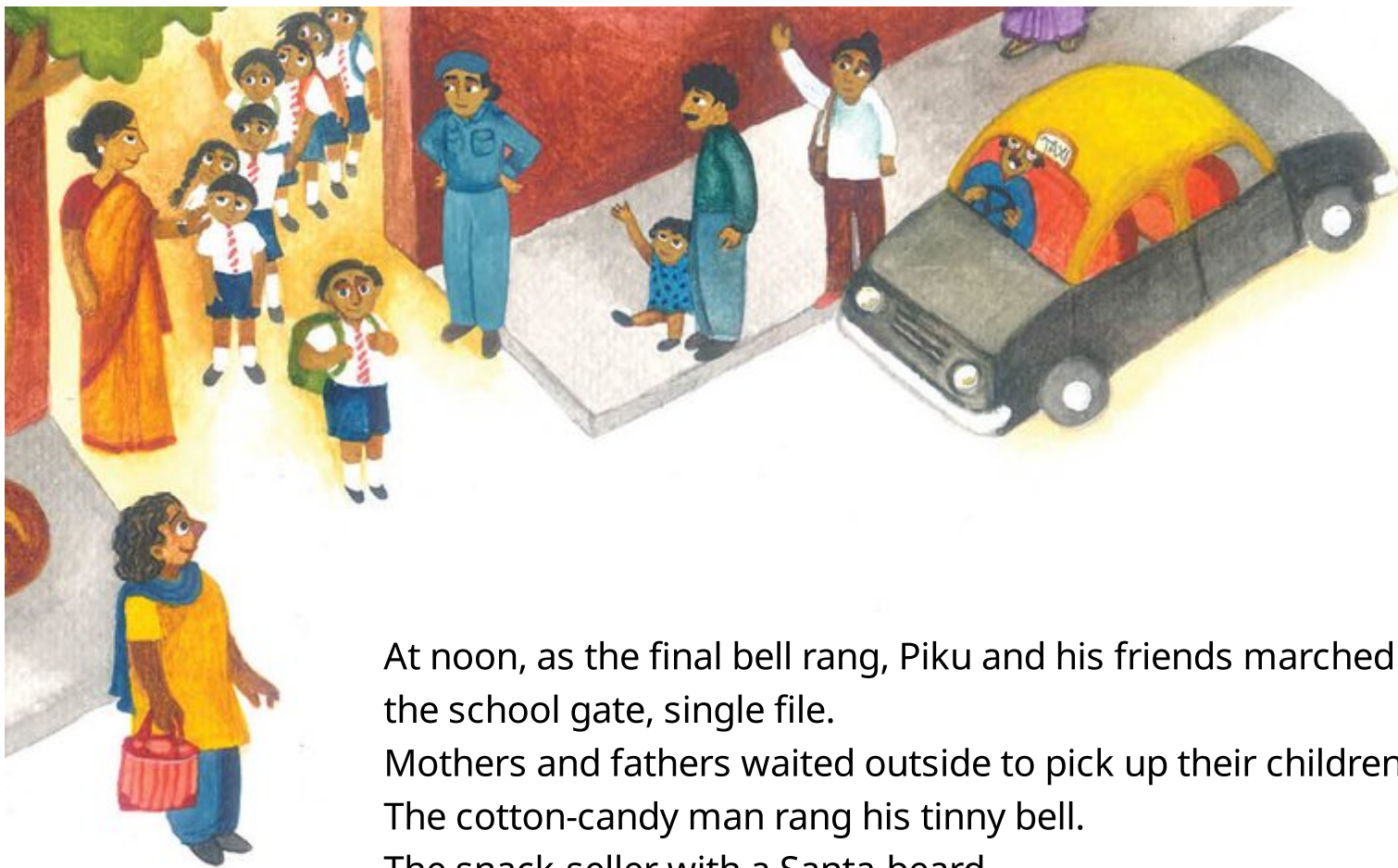


Piku and His Magical Pishi

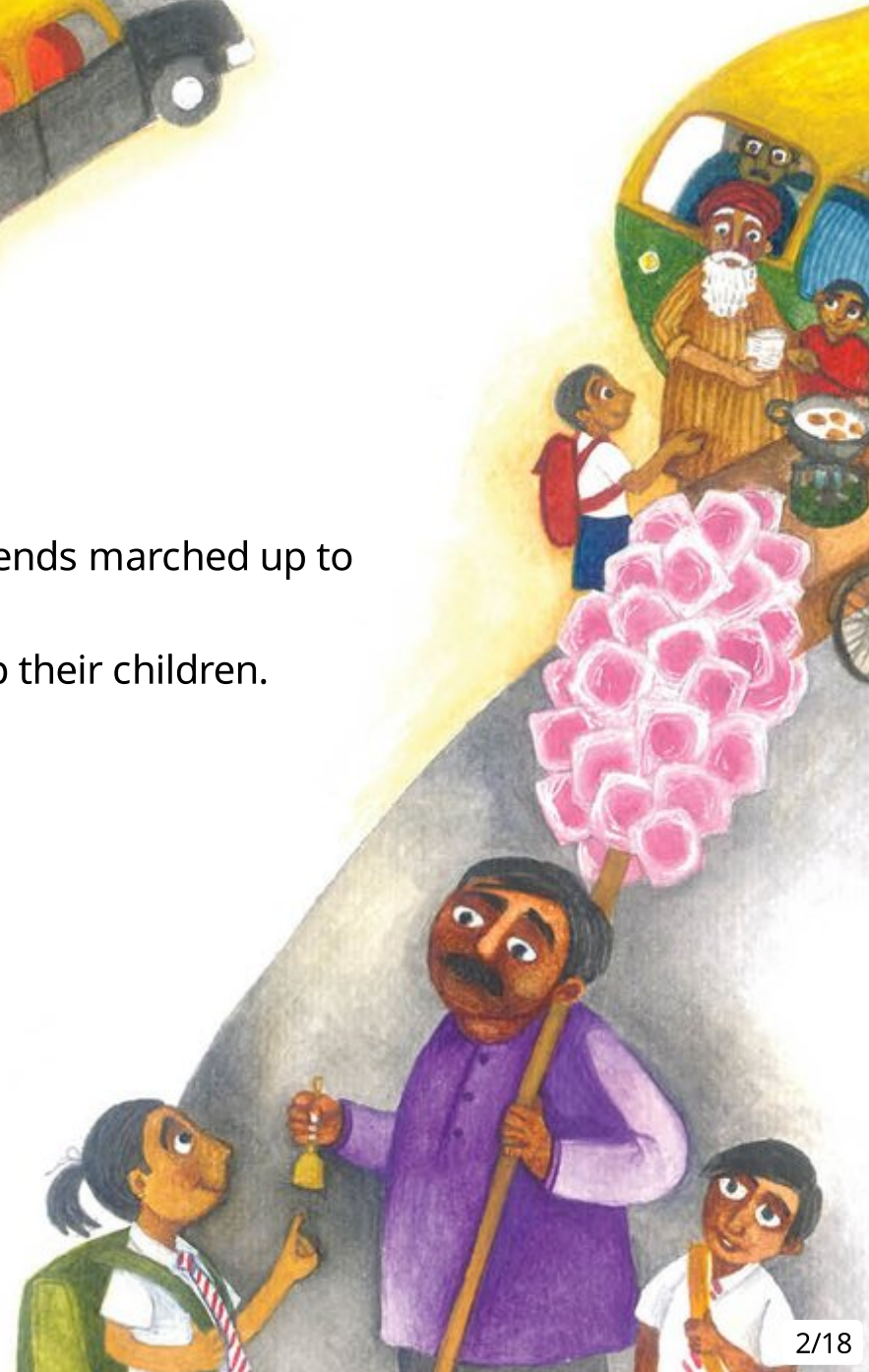
Author: Somak Ghoshal

Illustrator: Proiti Roy

Level 3



At noon, as the final bell rang, Piku and his friends marched up to the school gate, single file.
Mothers and fathers waited outside to pick up their children.
The cotton-candy man rang his tinny bell.
The snack-seller with a Santa-beard fried savoury pakoras.
Taxis honked and buses hooted.
And Piku looked around for his Baba.





On some days, Piku spotted his Pishi instead—and his face broke into a big smile. Those days were special!





Pishi meant stopping for a tutti frutti, while Baba led Piku straight back home.



Pishi meant waiting for the red double-decker bus, while Baba flagged the first cab that came their way.



Pishi meant new comic books and scary masks, while Baba meant maths homework and handwriting practice.

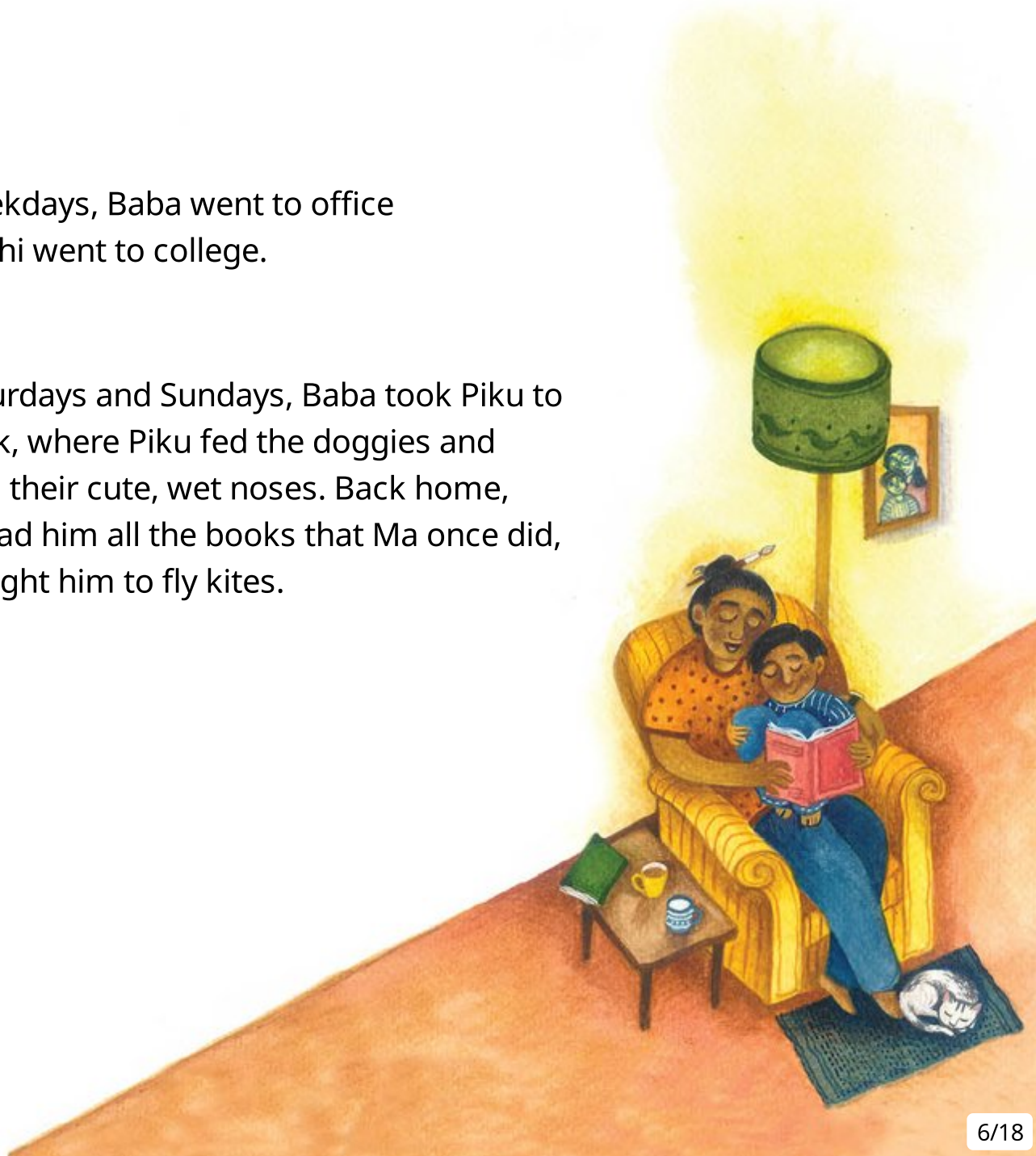


Other children lived with their Baba and Ma. Piku lived with his Baba and Pishi. Baba, the quiet and serious elder brother, and Pishi, his loud and fun-loving sister.



On weekdays, Baba went to office
and Pishi went to college.

On Saturdays and Sundays, Baba took Piku to
the park, where Piku fed the doggies and
booped their cute, wet noses. Back home,
Pishi read him all the books that Ma once did,
and taught him to fly kites.

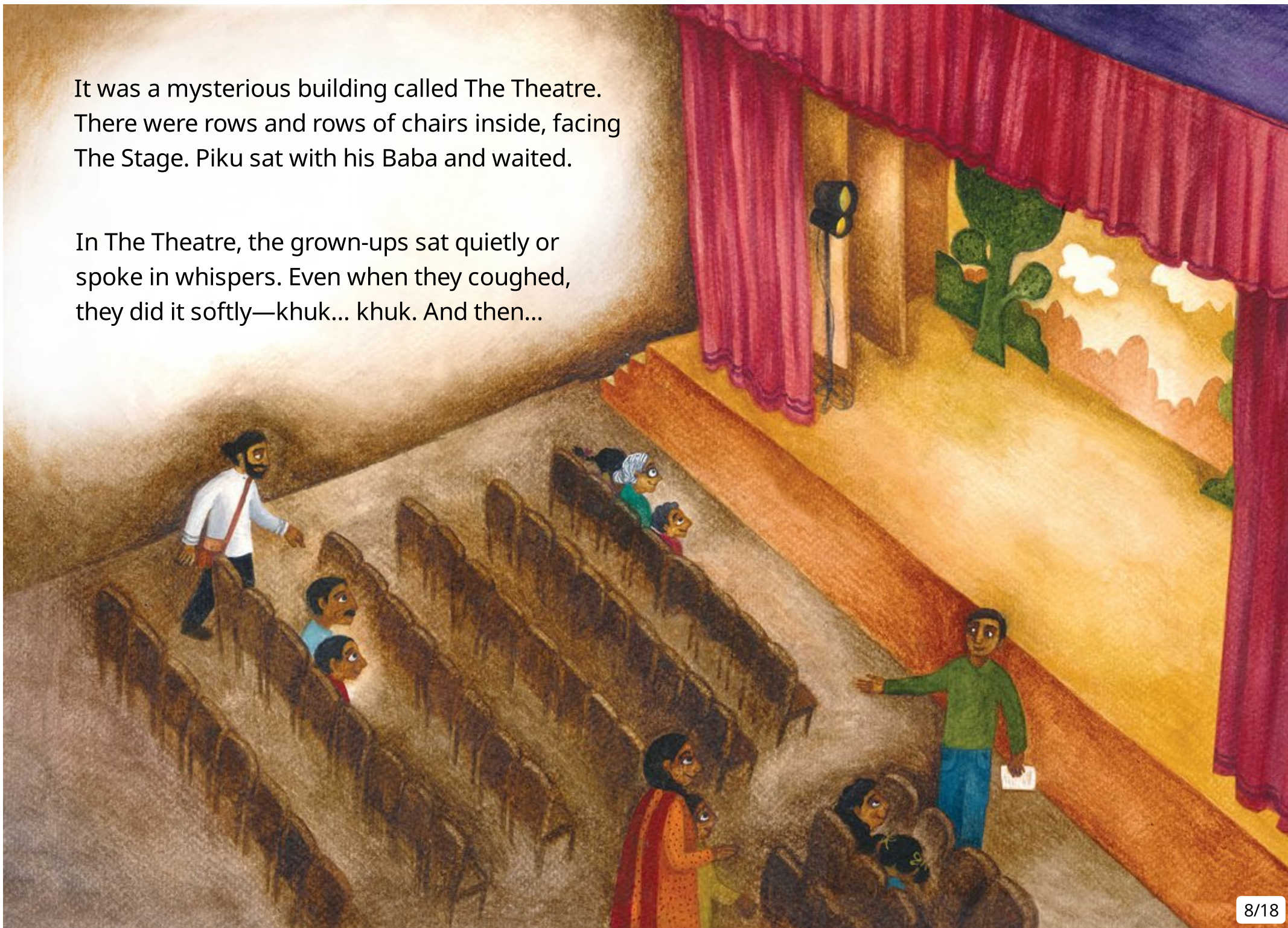


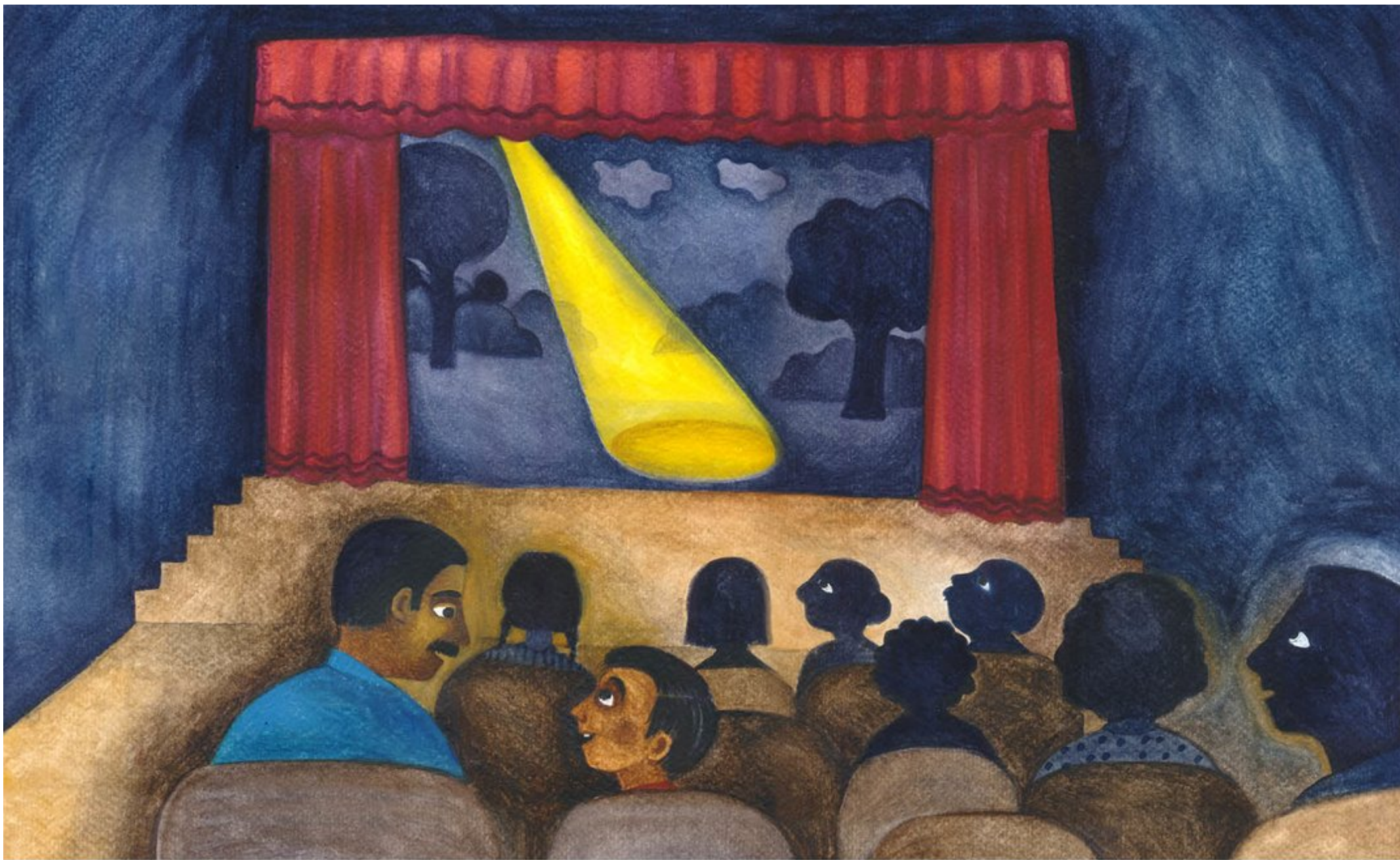
But one Sunday evening, Pishi took Piku and Baba to a place he had never been before.



It was a mysterious building called The Theatre.
There were rows and rows of chairs inside, facing
The Stage. Piku sat with his Baba and waited.

In The Theatre, the grown-ups sat quietly or
spoke in whispers. Even when they coughed,
they did it softly—khuk... khuk. And then...





Shhh...

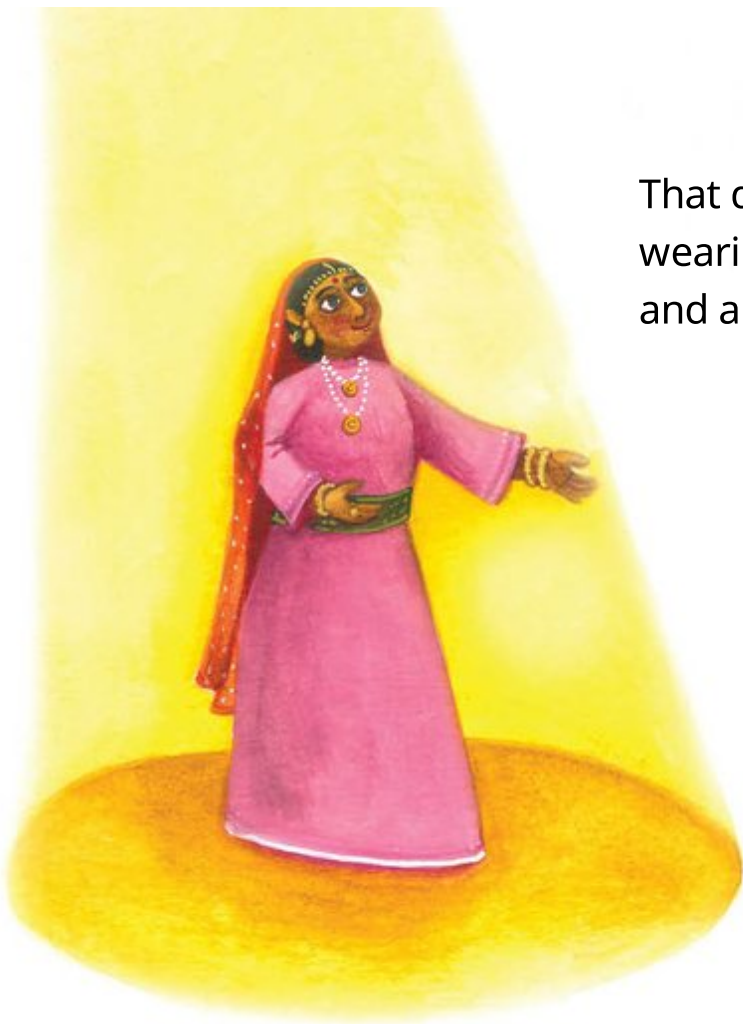
Then a light came on. It shone on...



Pishi. She was on The Stage!

Piku gasped. He wanted to call out to Pishi. But
she was no longer Piku's Pishi...





That day, she was a princess,
wearing fine clothes
and a lot of gold!



The next time she was an
old woman, her hair all
white, her eyes wild.

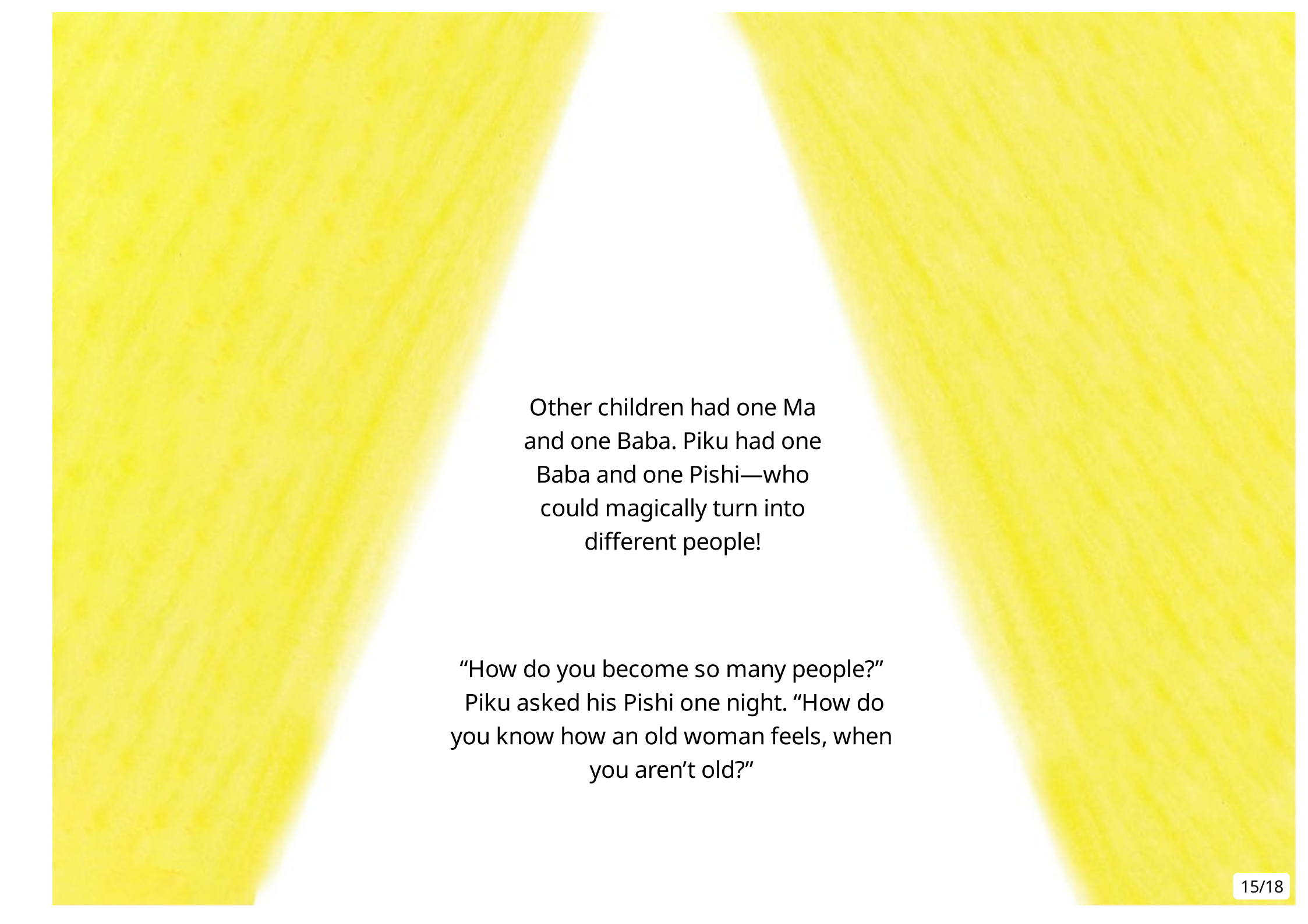
Pishi could speak like a queen. She could sing like a village girl.



Sometimes she wore a sari, not her usual T-shirt and jeans.
Other times, she left her hair open, not in her usual ponytail.

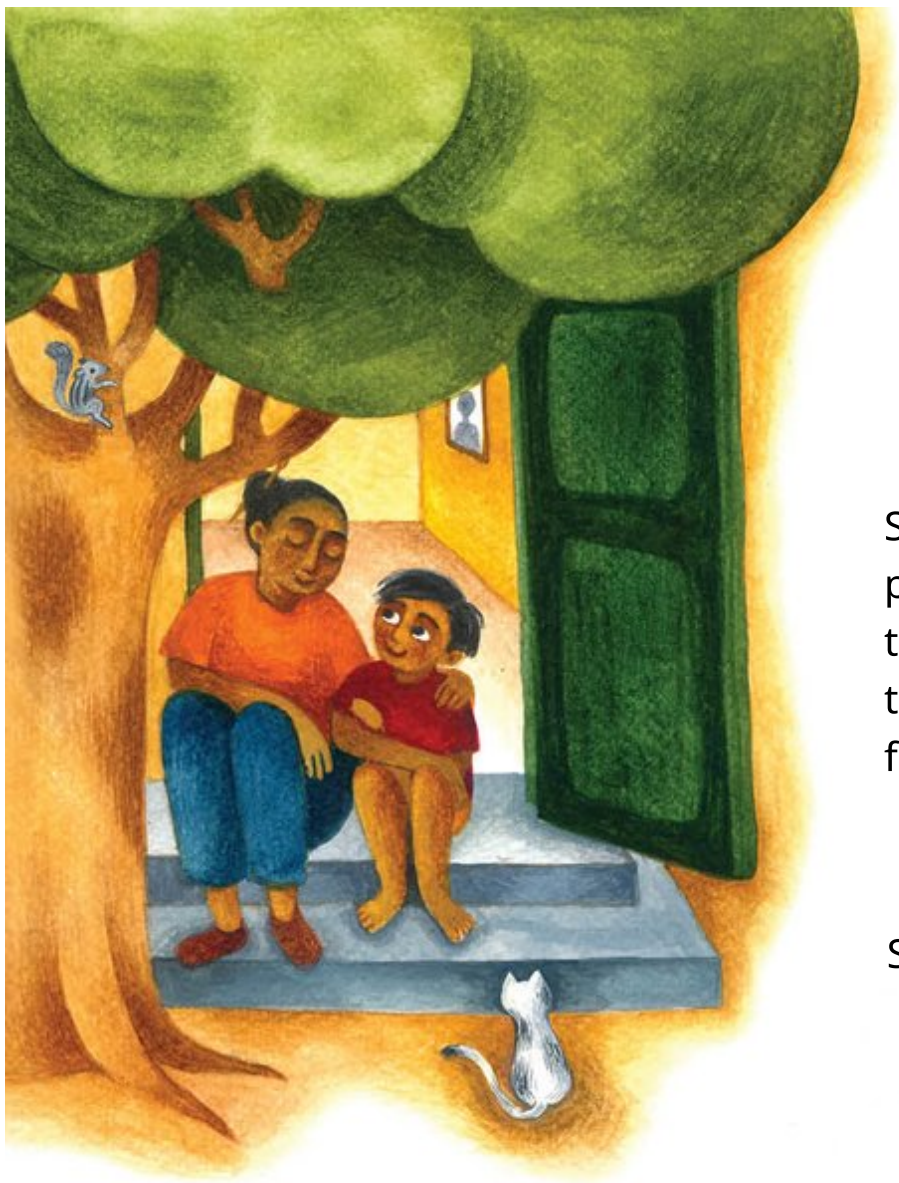


No one had a Pishi like Piku's.

The background is a solid yellow color. A large, white, stylized 'V' shape is centered on the page, pointing downwards. The text is placed within the white space of the 'V'.

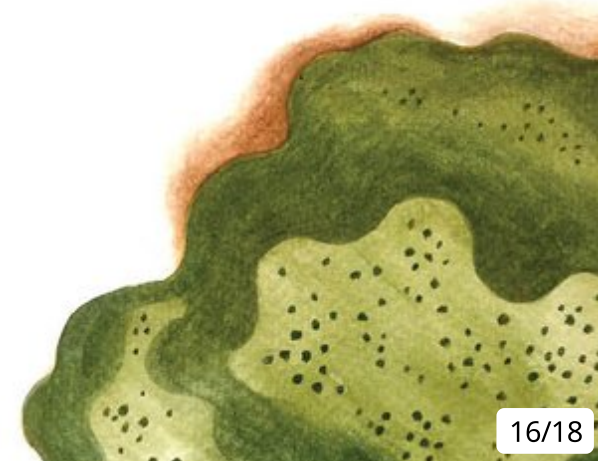
Other children had one Ma
and one Baba. Piku had one
Baba and one Pishi—who
could magically turn into
different people!

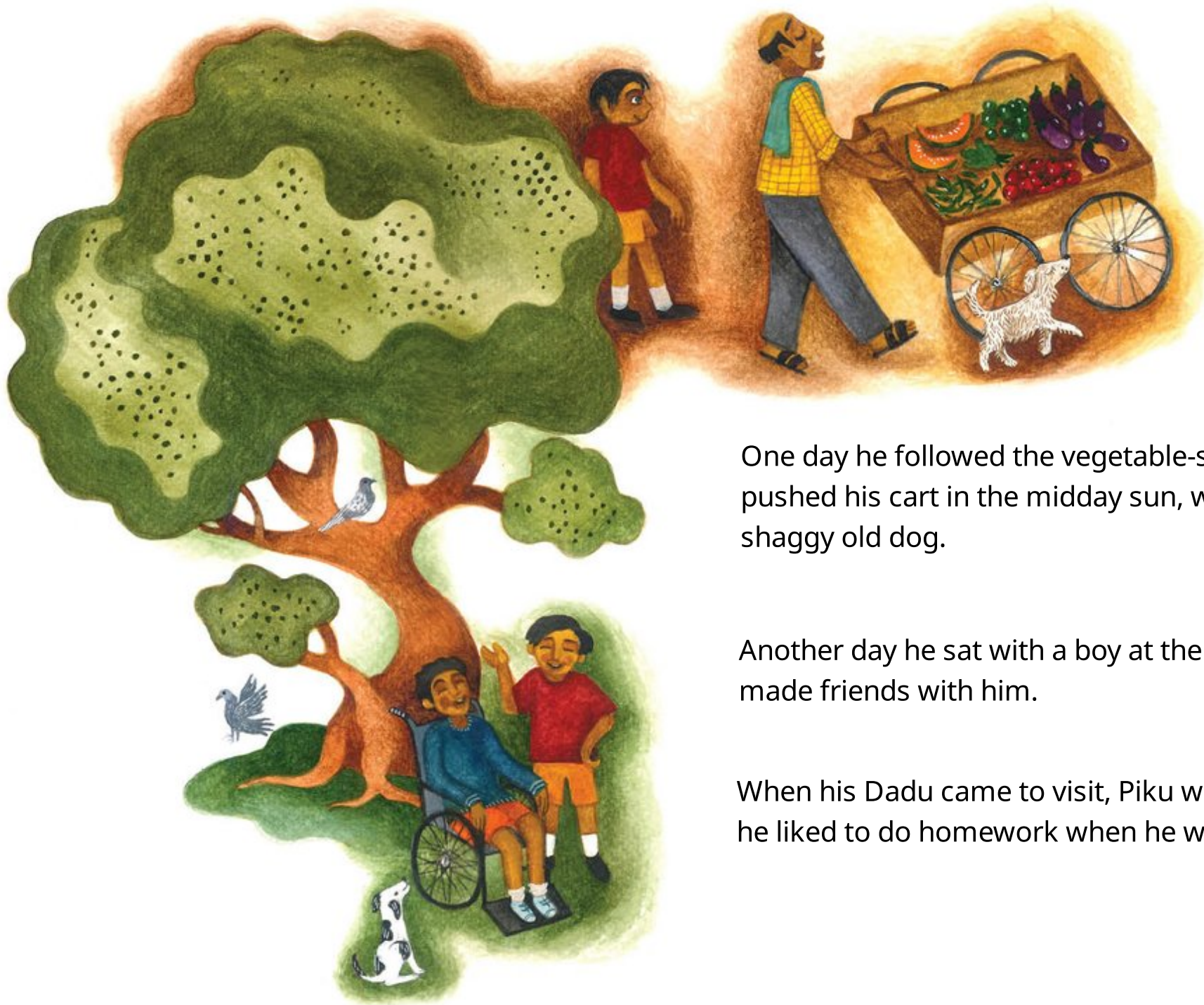
“How do you become so many people?”
Piku asked his Pishi one night. “How do
you know how an old woman feels, when
you aren’t old?”



So Pishi told him her big secret. "To know how another person feels, all you need is to pay attention! To the way they move, the way they speak, the way they think. Ask them questions if you can, make friends, lots and lots of friends, and then let your mind fly, fly, fly..."

So Piku did just that.





One day he followed the vegetable-seller, who pushed his cart in the midday sun, with his shaggy old dog.

Another day he sat with a boy at the park and made friends with him.

When his Dadu came to visit, Piku wanted to know if he liked to do homework when he was a little boy.

To know how
it felt to be someone
he was not,
all Piku had to do
was let his mind fly.
The whole world was a stage
for Piku.





This book was made possible by Pratham Books' StoryWeaver platform. Content under Creative Commons licenses can be downloaded, translated and can even be used to create new stories - provided you give appropriate credit, and indicate if changes were made. To know more about this, and the full terms of use and attribution, please visit the following [link](#).

Story Attribution:

This story: Piku and His Magical Pishi is written by [Somak Ghoshal](#) . © Pratham Books , 2025. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Other Credits:

'Piku and His Magical Pishi' has been published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by 'P.A.N.I. Foundation'. www.prathambooks.org

Images Attributions:

Cover page: [A boy and a woman posing with drama masks](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [Children leaving school at the end of the day](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [A boy waving to a woman as he leaves from school](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [A boy and his aunt walking back home after school](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [A boy and his aunt talking to each other after school](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [A boy reading with his aunt and playing in the park](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [A boy about to enter a theatre with his father and aunt](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [People entering a theatre before a show begins](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [People waiting for a show to begin at a theatre](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [A woman under the spotlight on a stage](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [A boy amazed watching a drama performance](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>



This book was made possible by Pratham Books' StoryWeaver platform. Content under Creative Commons licenses can be downloaded, translated and can even be used to create new stories - provided you give appropriate credit, and indicate if changes were made. To know more about this, and the full terms of use and attribution, please visit the following [link](#).

Images Attributions:

Page 12: [A princess and an old woman in the spotlight](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 13: [A queen and a woman in the spotlight](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: [A boy hugging his aunt](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 15: [A spotlight shining bright](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 16: [A woman talking to a young boy at the doorstep](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 17: [A boy talking to different people at the park](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 18: [A boy acting as different people on a stage](#), by [Proiti Roy](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Piku and His Magical Pishi

(English)

Is Piku's Pishi made up of magic? After all, Pishi can turn into different people. Piku discovers the world of theatre and finds himself making a few friends too!

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



Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child's hand!