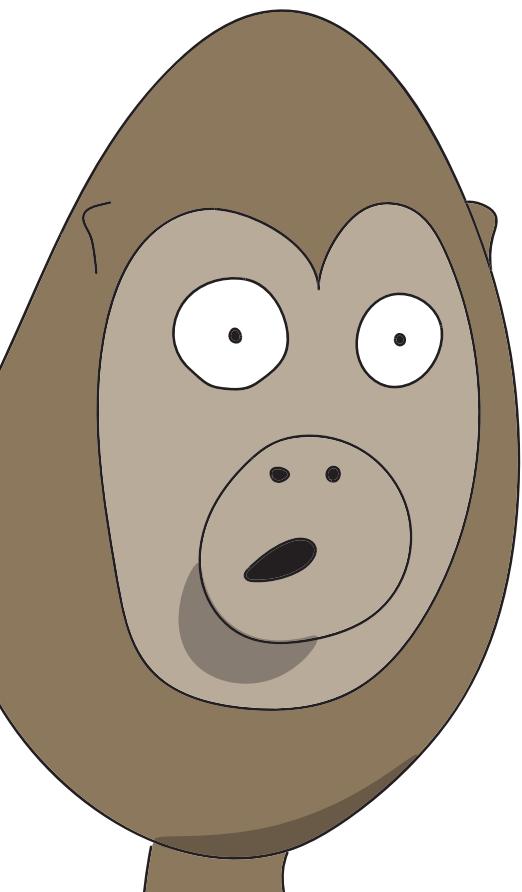


Marcus Gorileeus



Leigh Silverstein

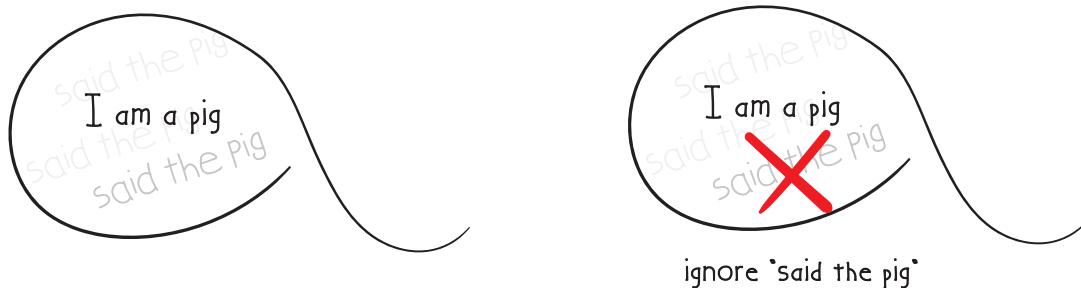


... not to be offended by idiots...

Marcus Aurelius (121-180 CE)  
·Meditations·  
Book 1  
Section 6  
(Translation by Meric Casaubon)

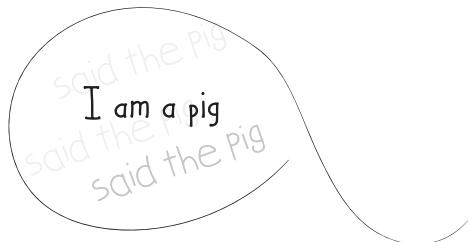
# WARNING!

Do not read the slanted text in speech bubbles if reading **alone**.



---

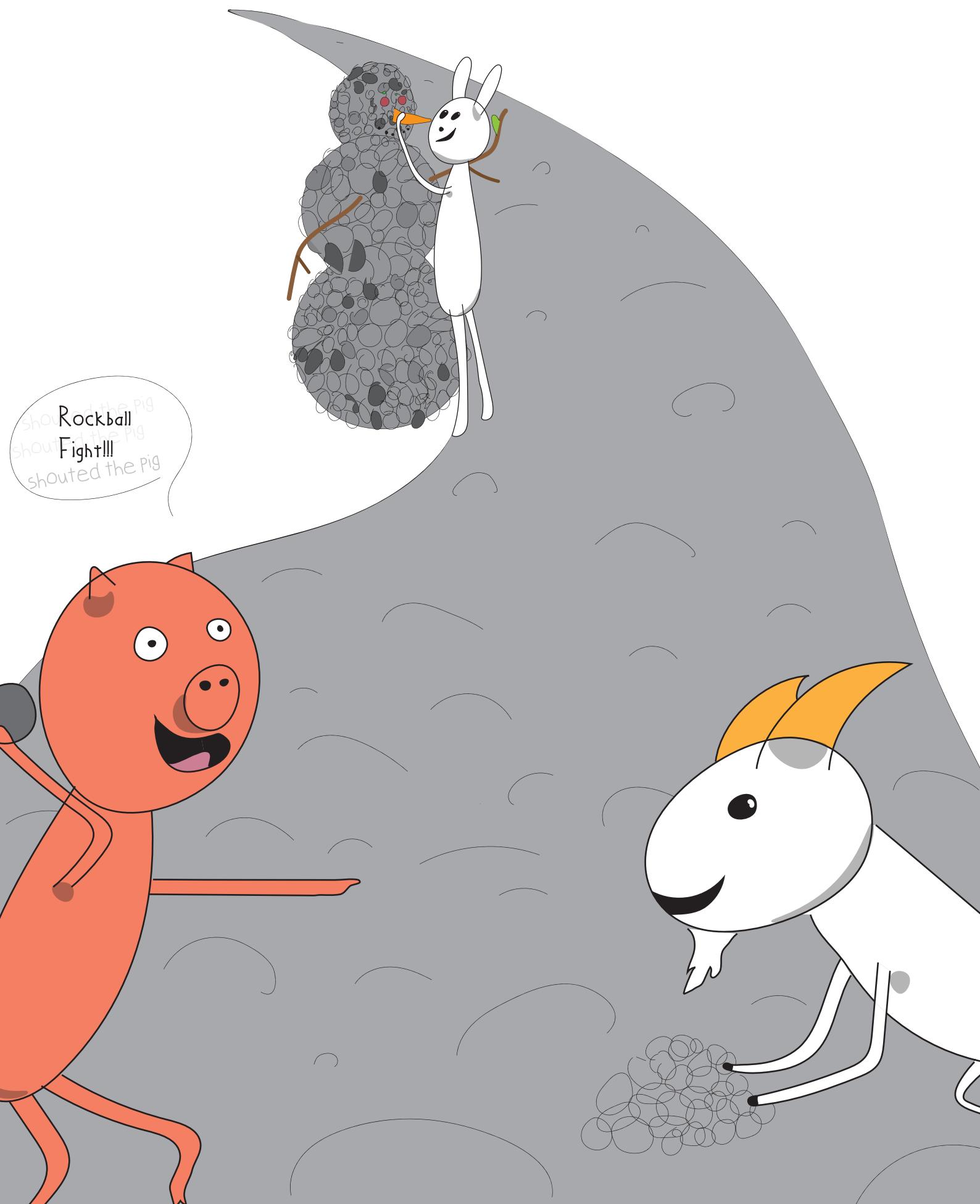
If you are reading **out loud to an audience**, you may read the slanted text in speech bubbles.



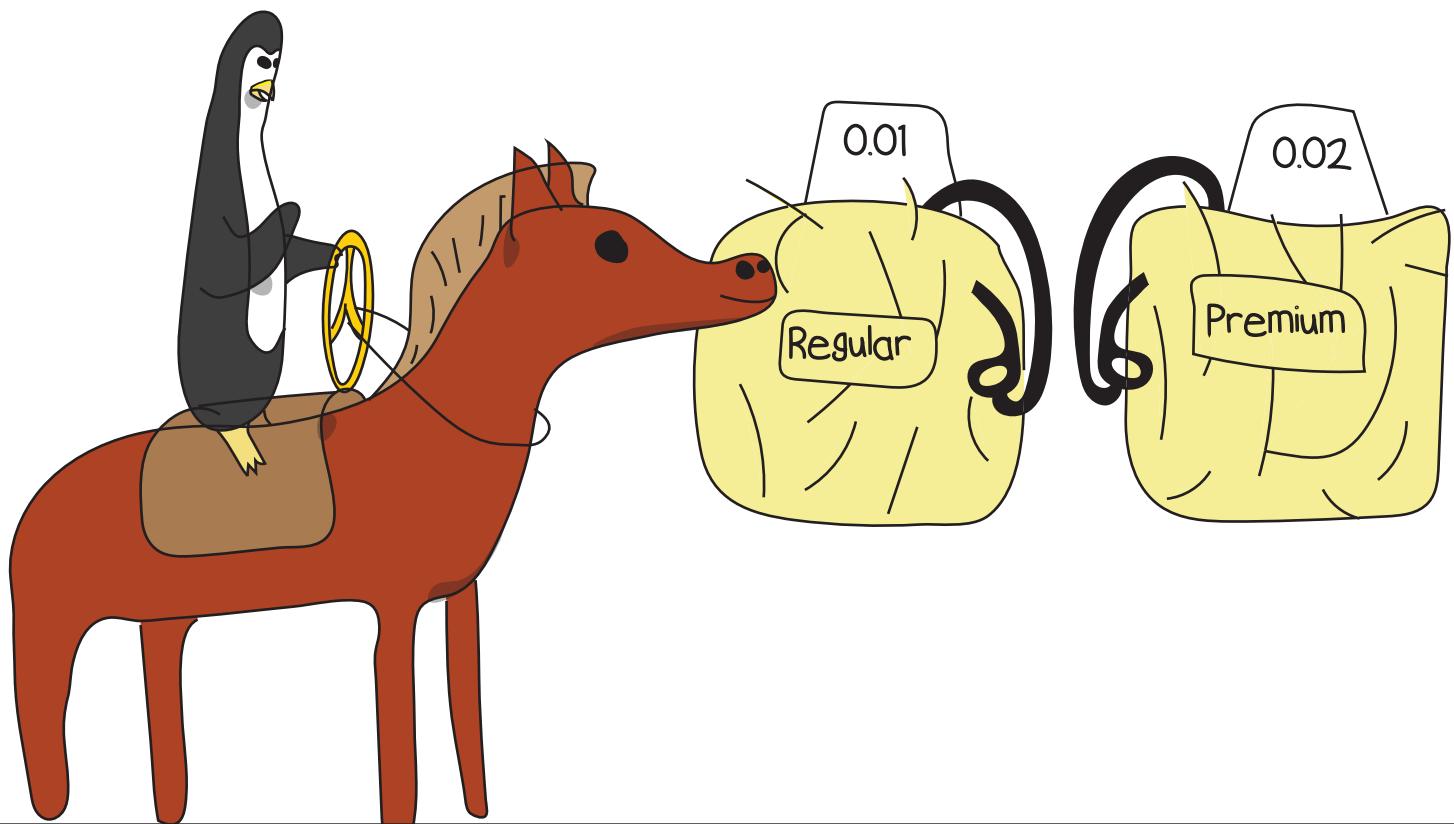
1. read "I am a pig"
2. read "said the pig"

Chapter 1 – Pandus

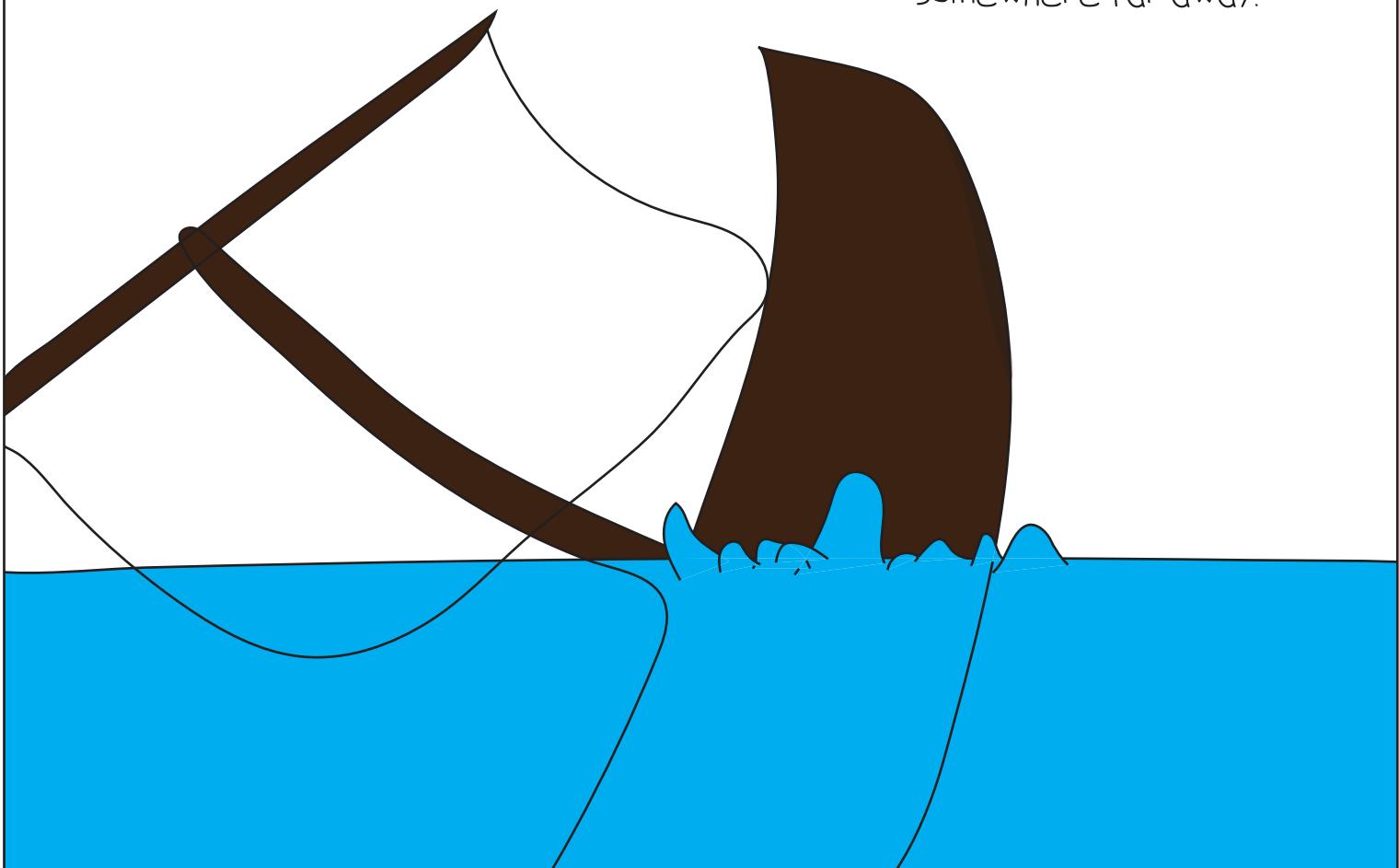
2000 years ago the world was very strange.



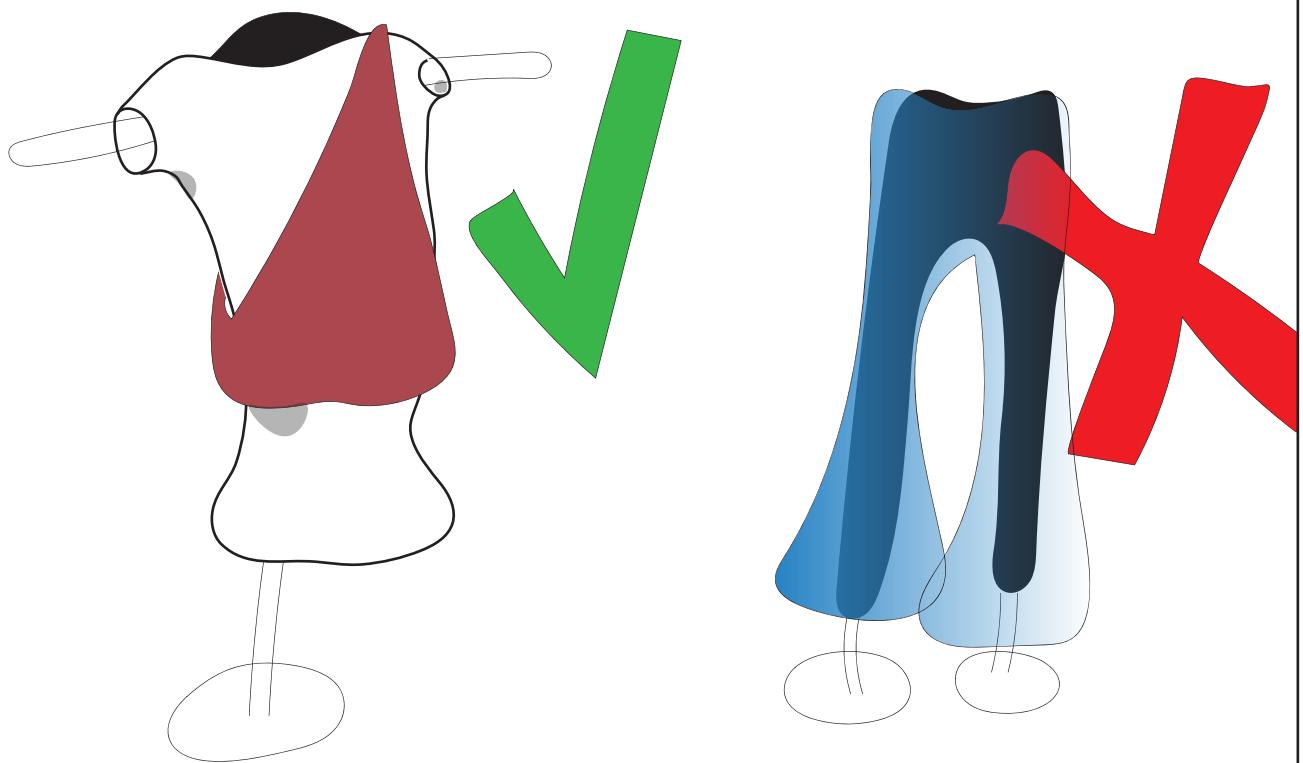
Everyone drove horses  
instead of cars.



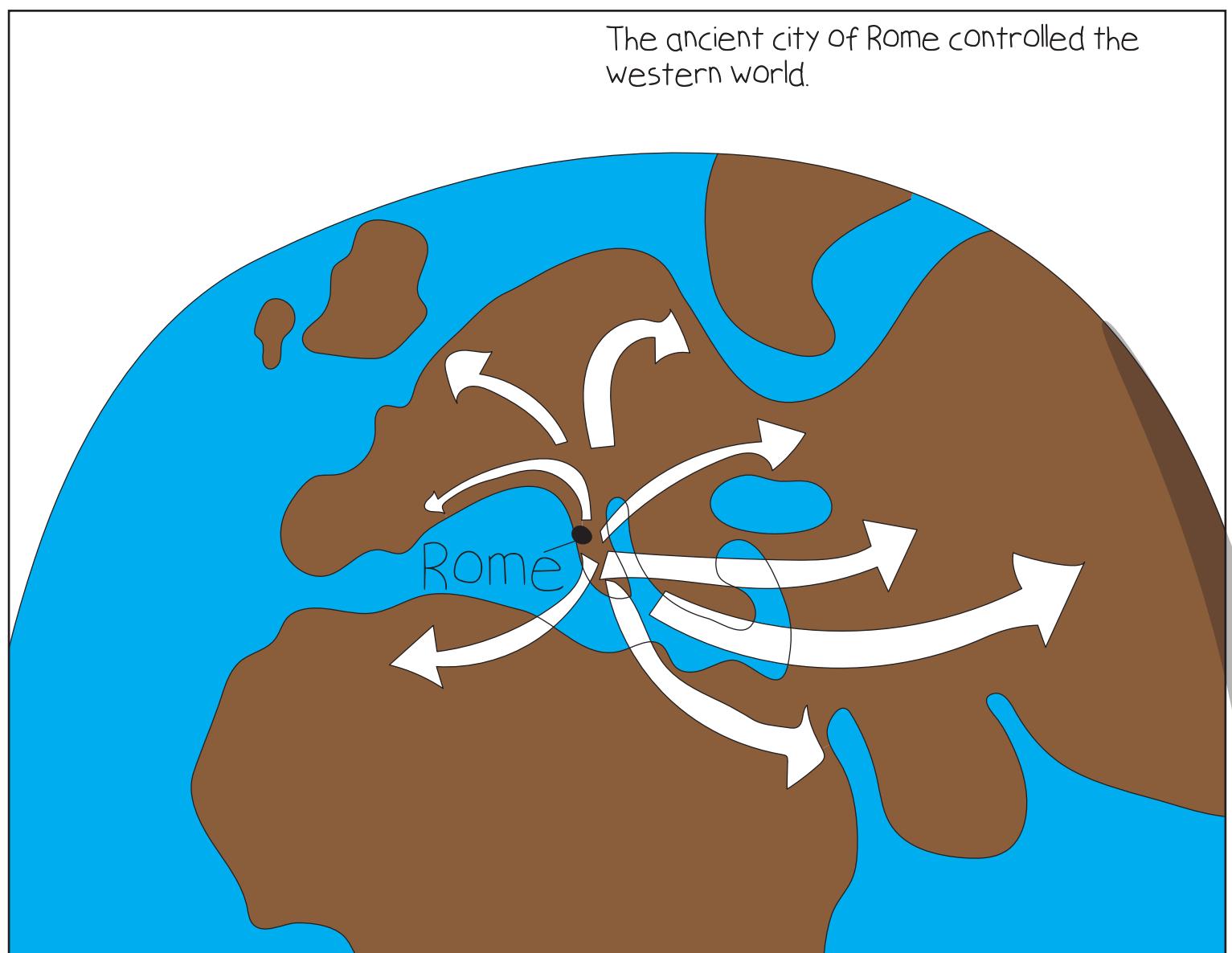
Wooden ships with sails were  
the best way to get  
somewhere far away.



Togas were in, pants were out.

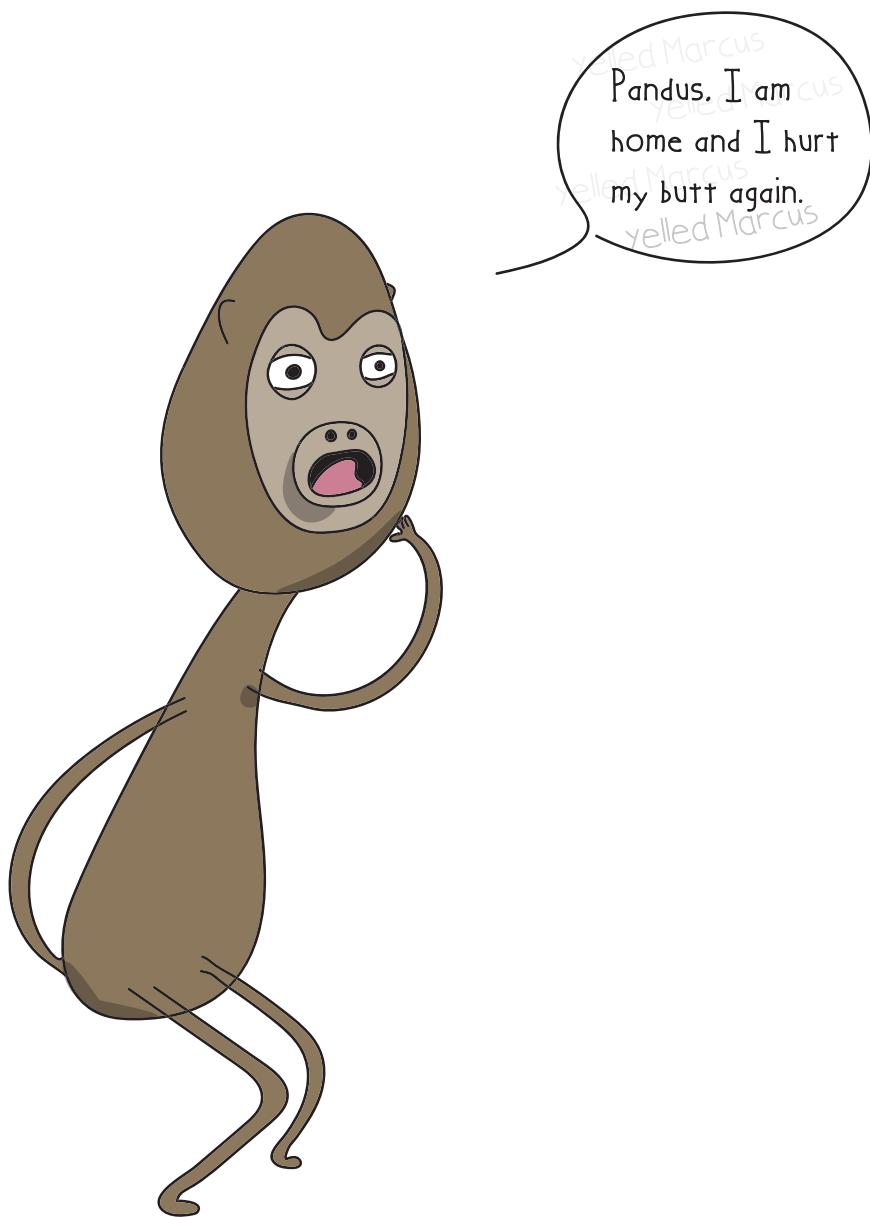


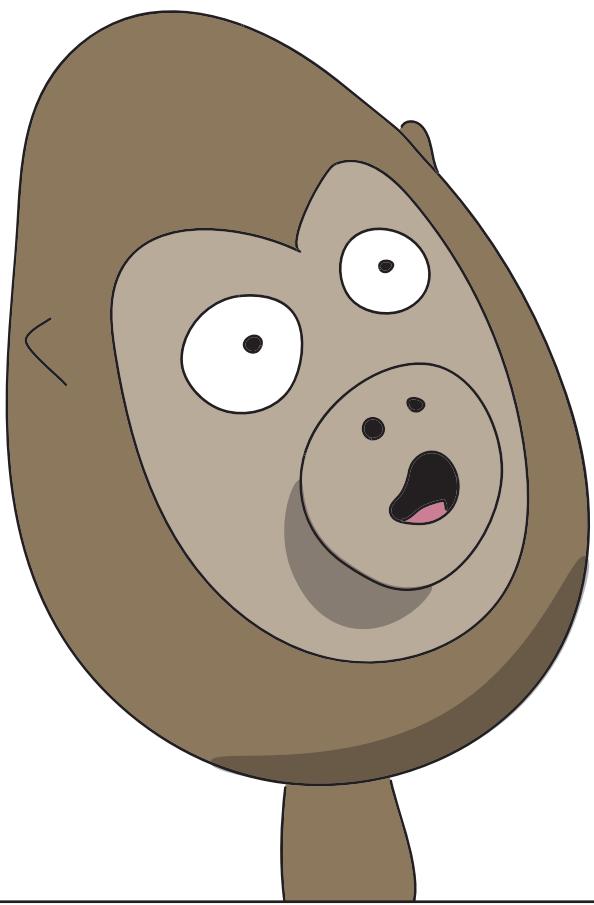
The ancient city of Rome controlled the western world.



And in that city lived a boy named  
Marcus who would grow up to be a  
father and a philosopher.

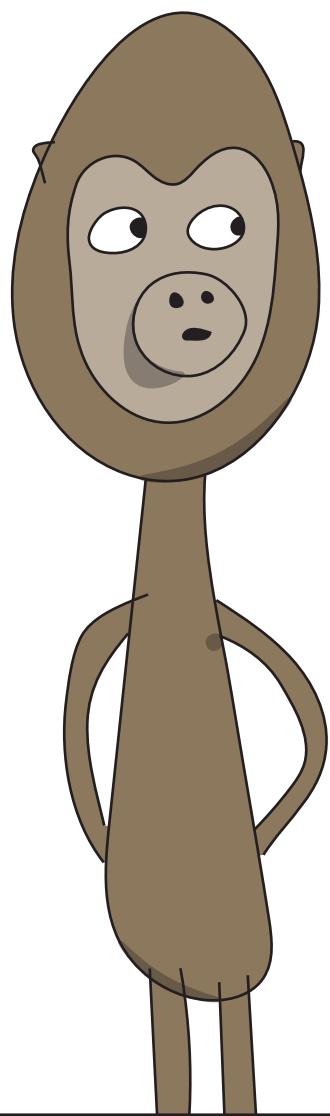
And an emperor.

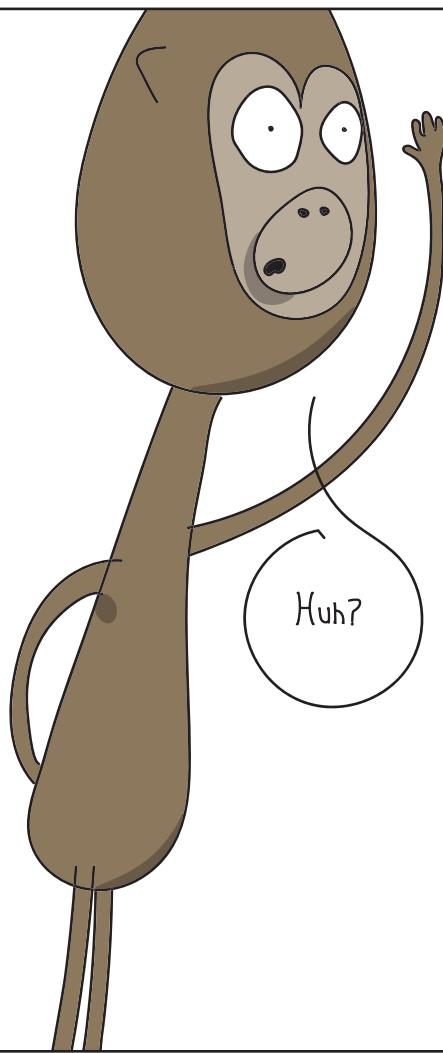
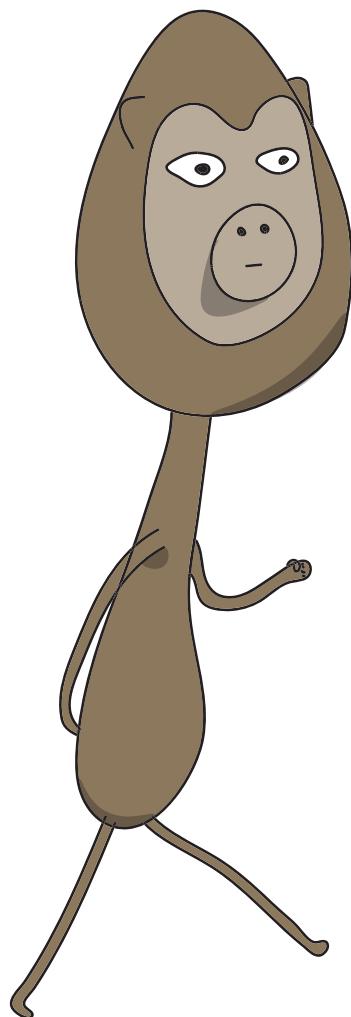


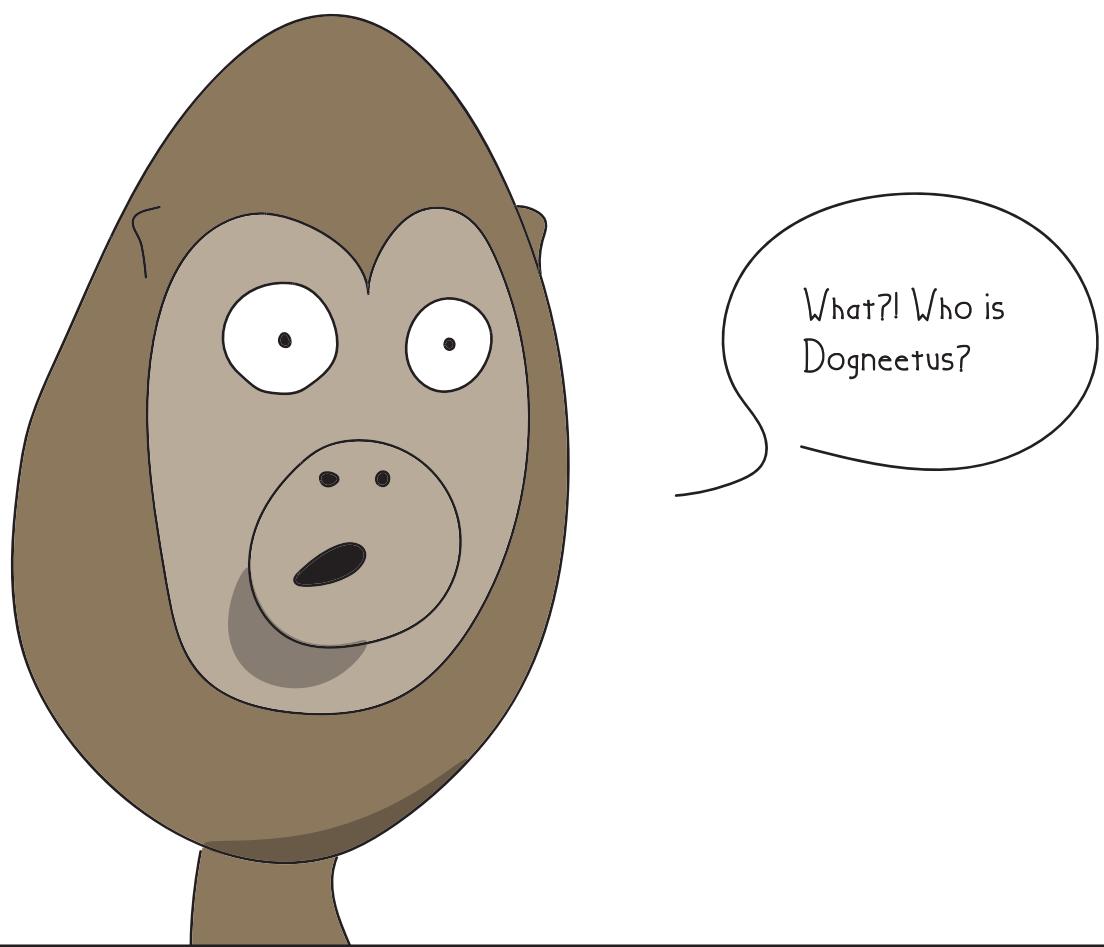
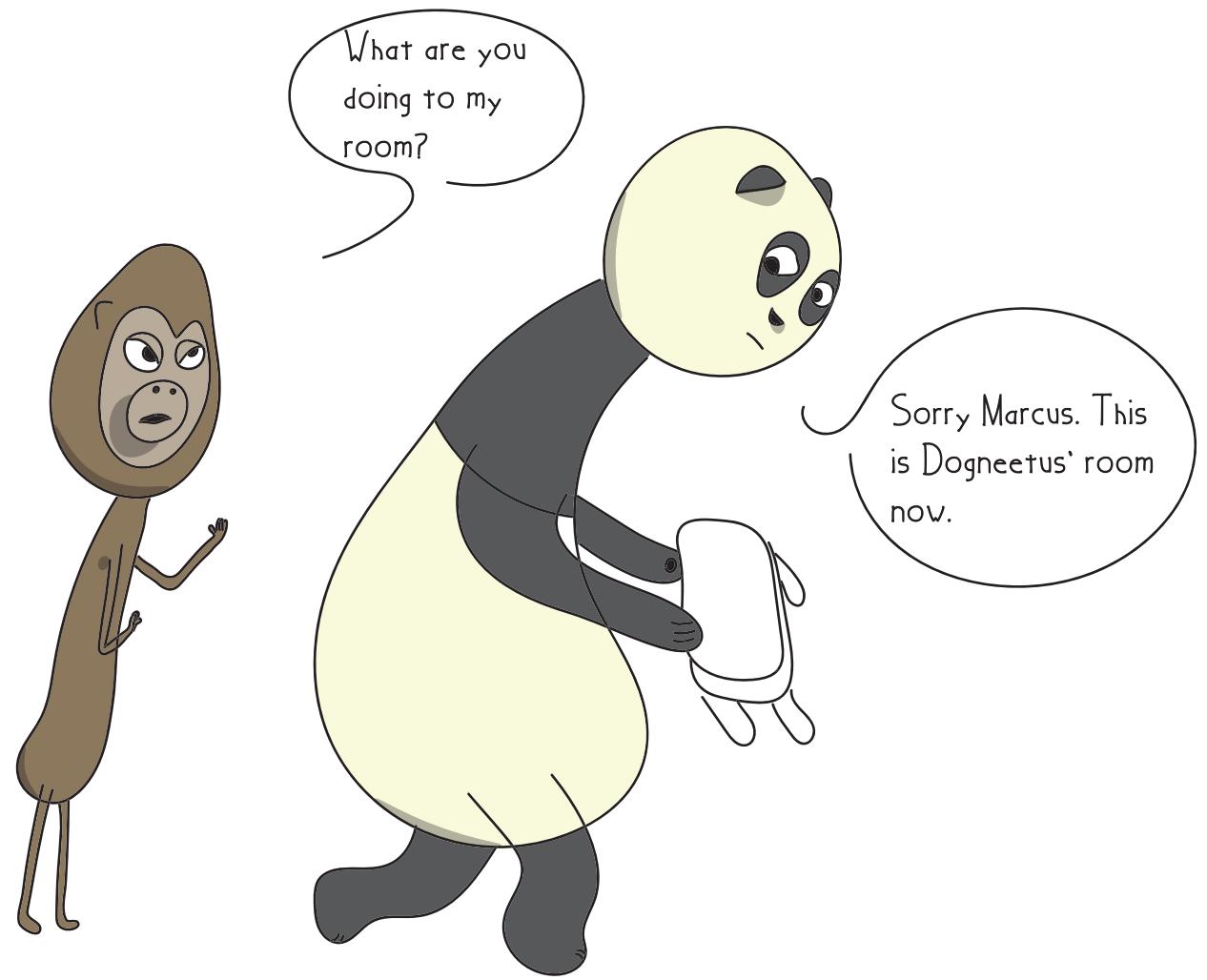


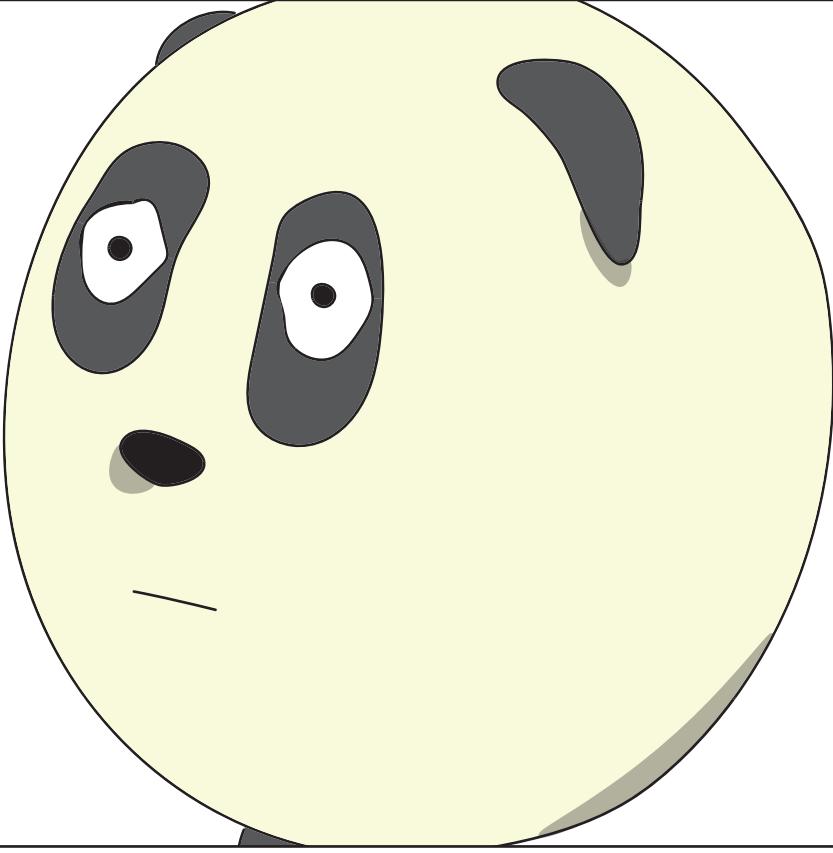
PANDUS?

... she is probably in  
the bathroom.

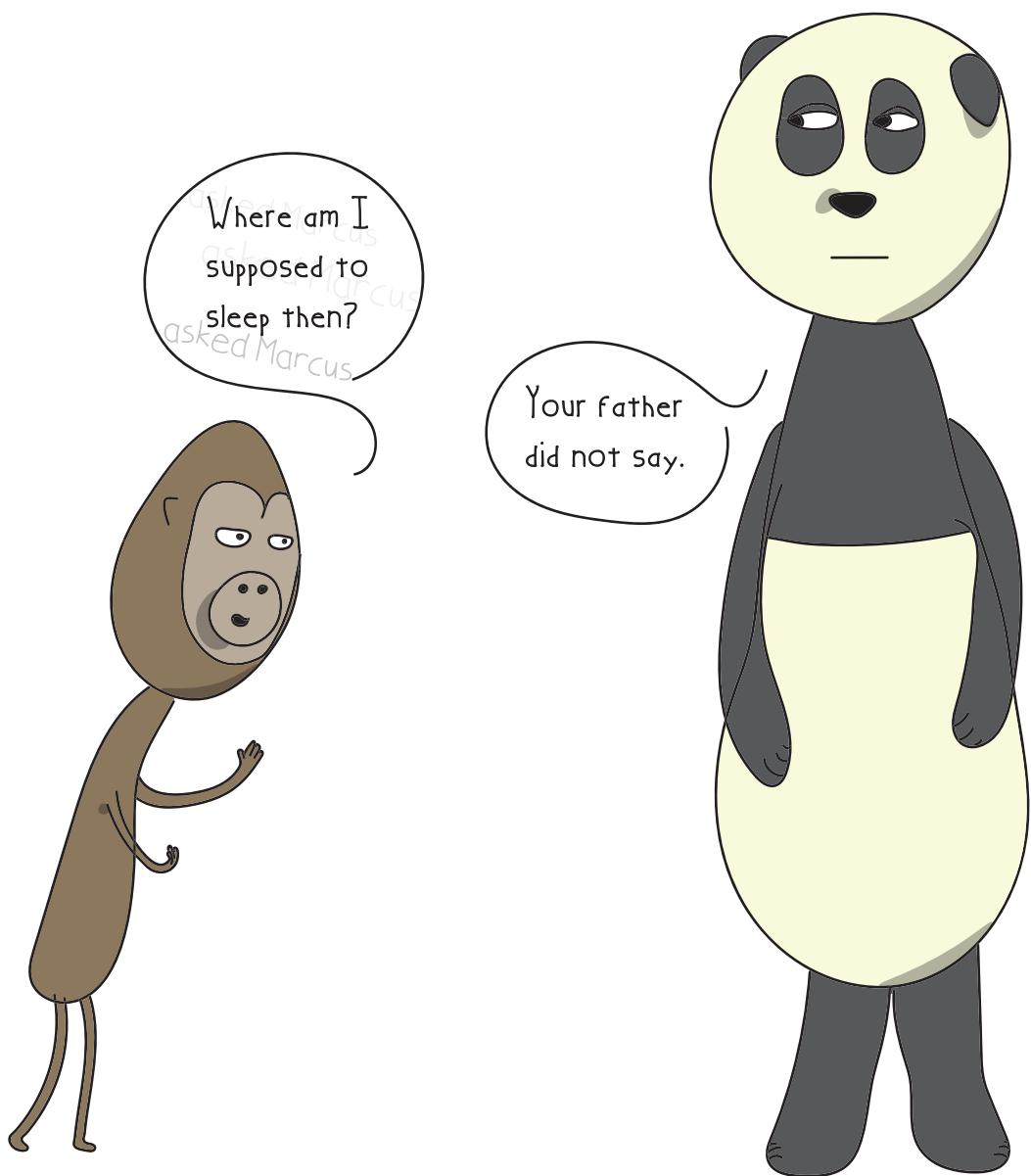


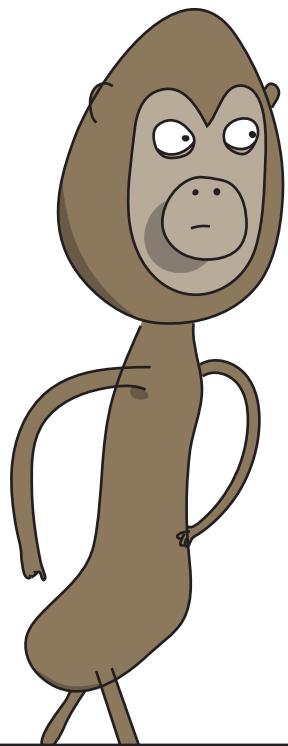






I do not know.  
Your father just  
told me to empty  
the room for  
Dognetus.

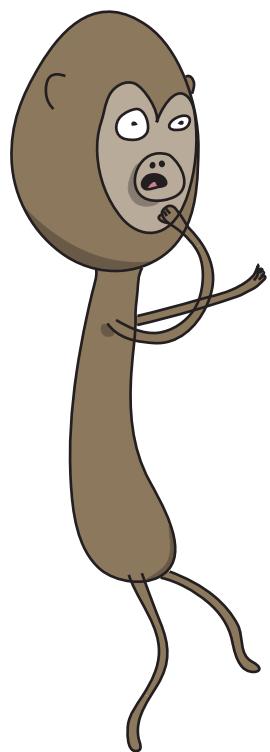




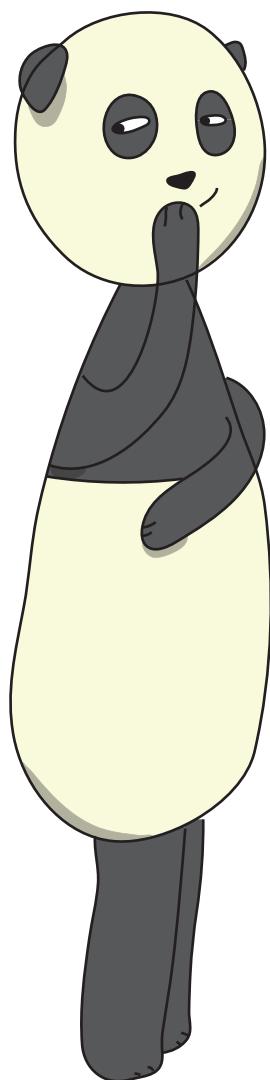
Fine. Then will you  
please apply the lotion...  
To my butt.



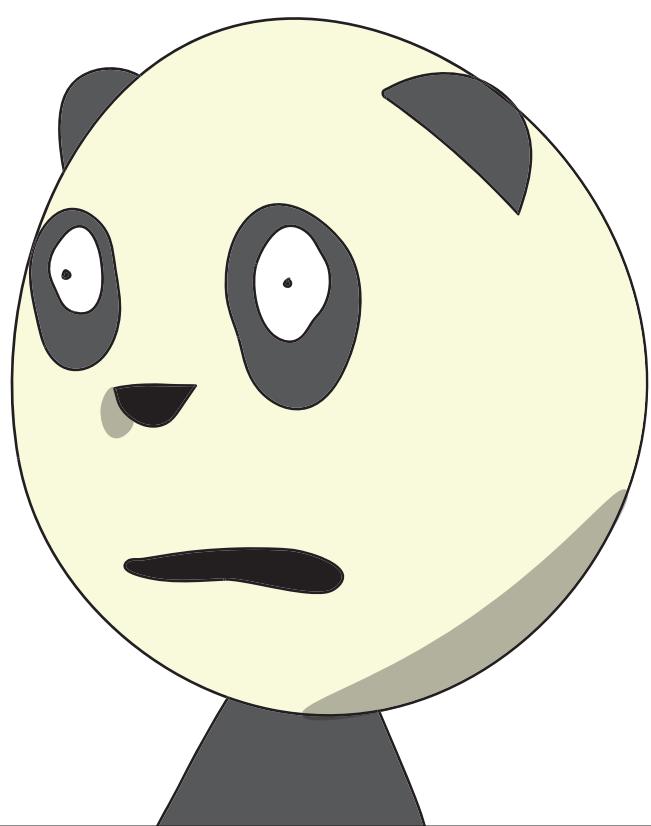
Hmmm.  
thought Pandus

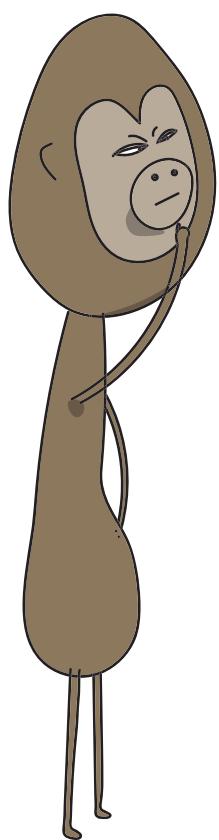


Oh no...



What? Are we  
out of  
LOTION?

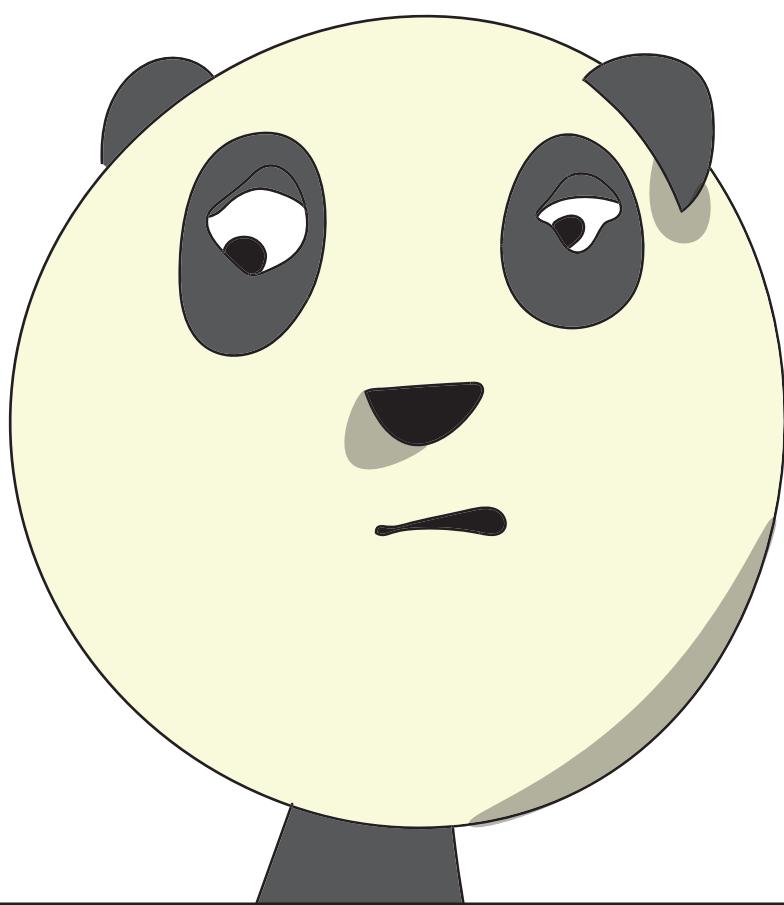


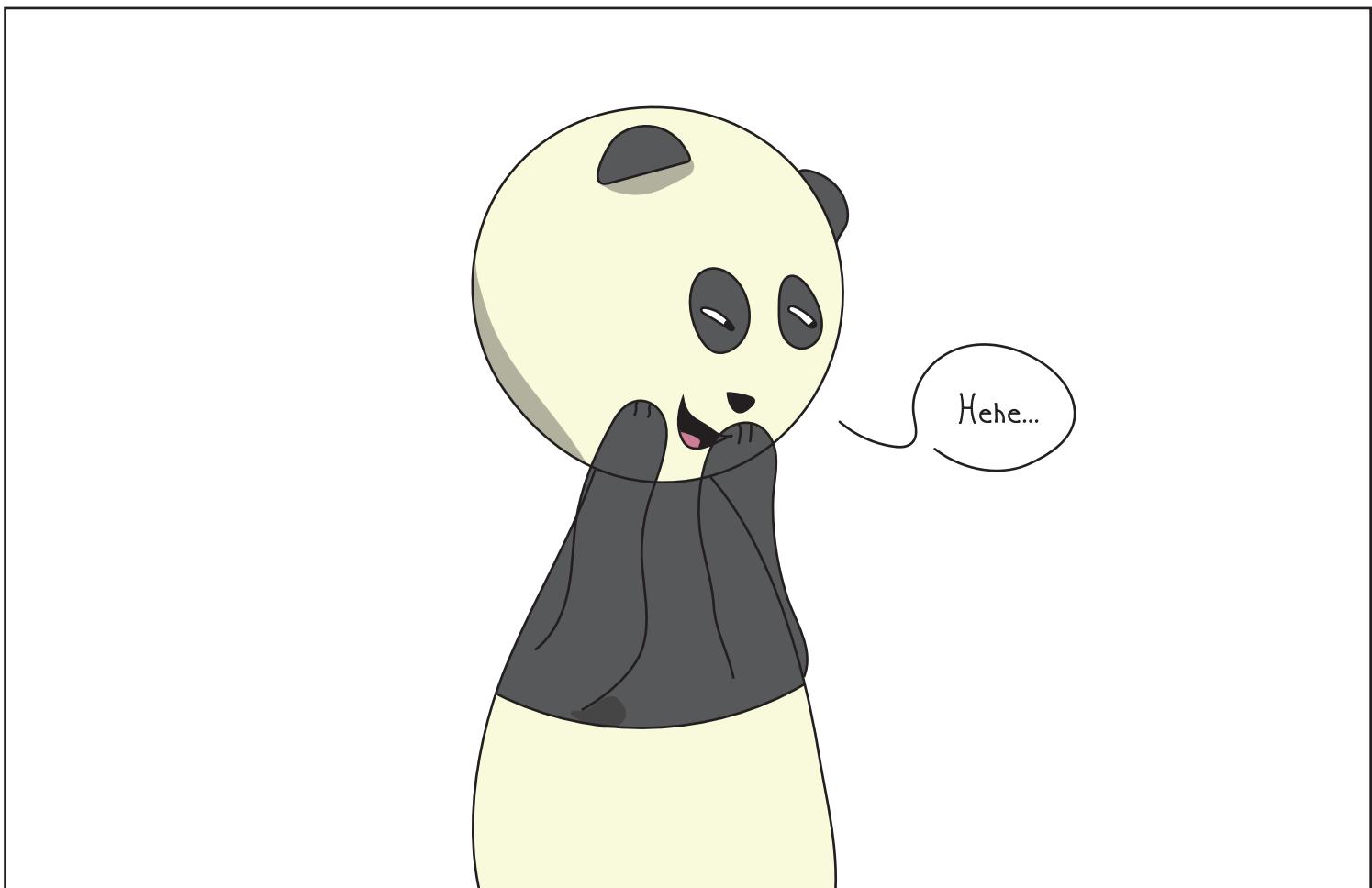
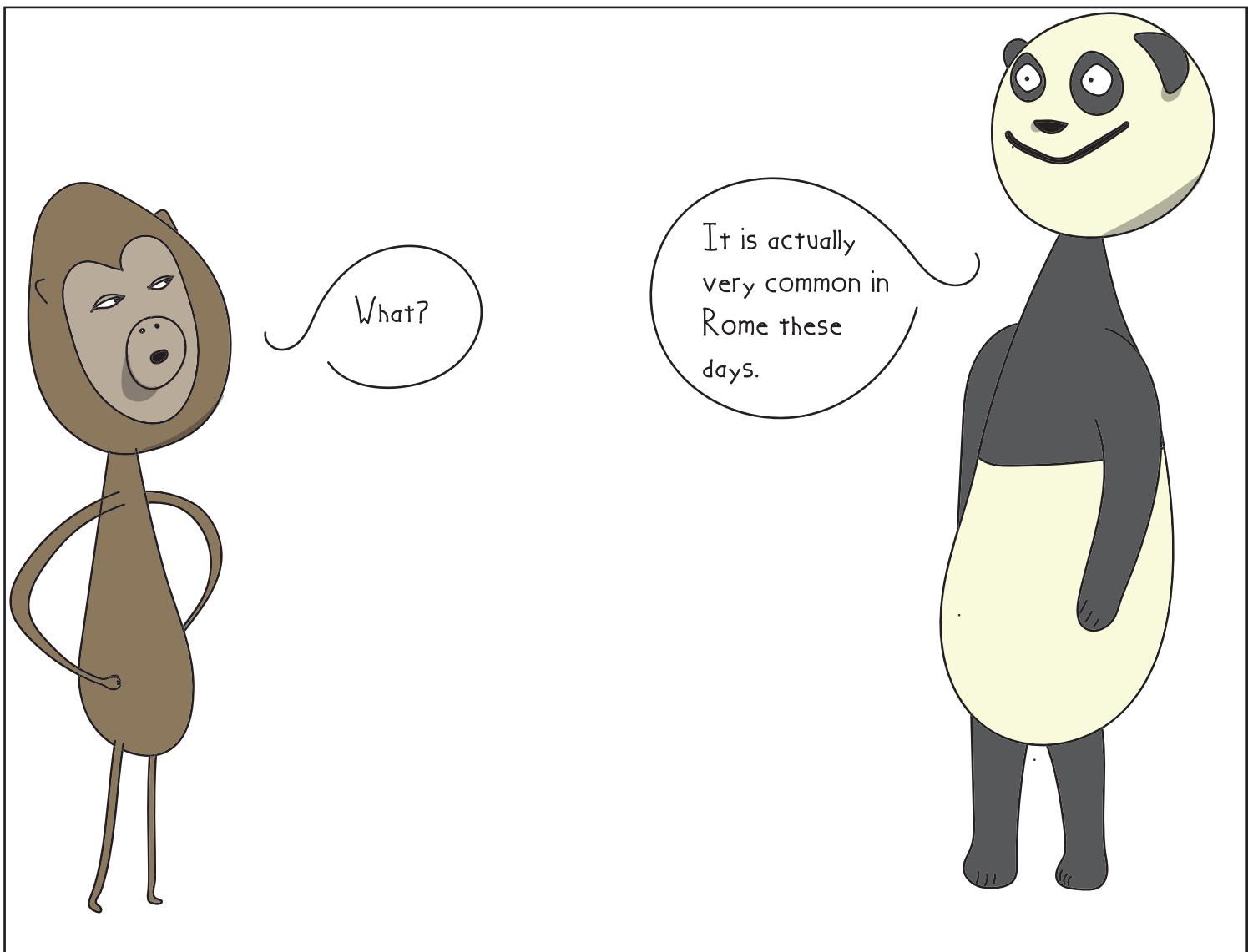


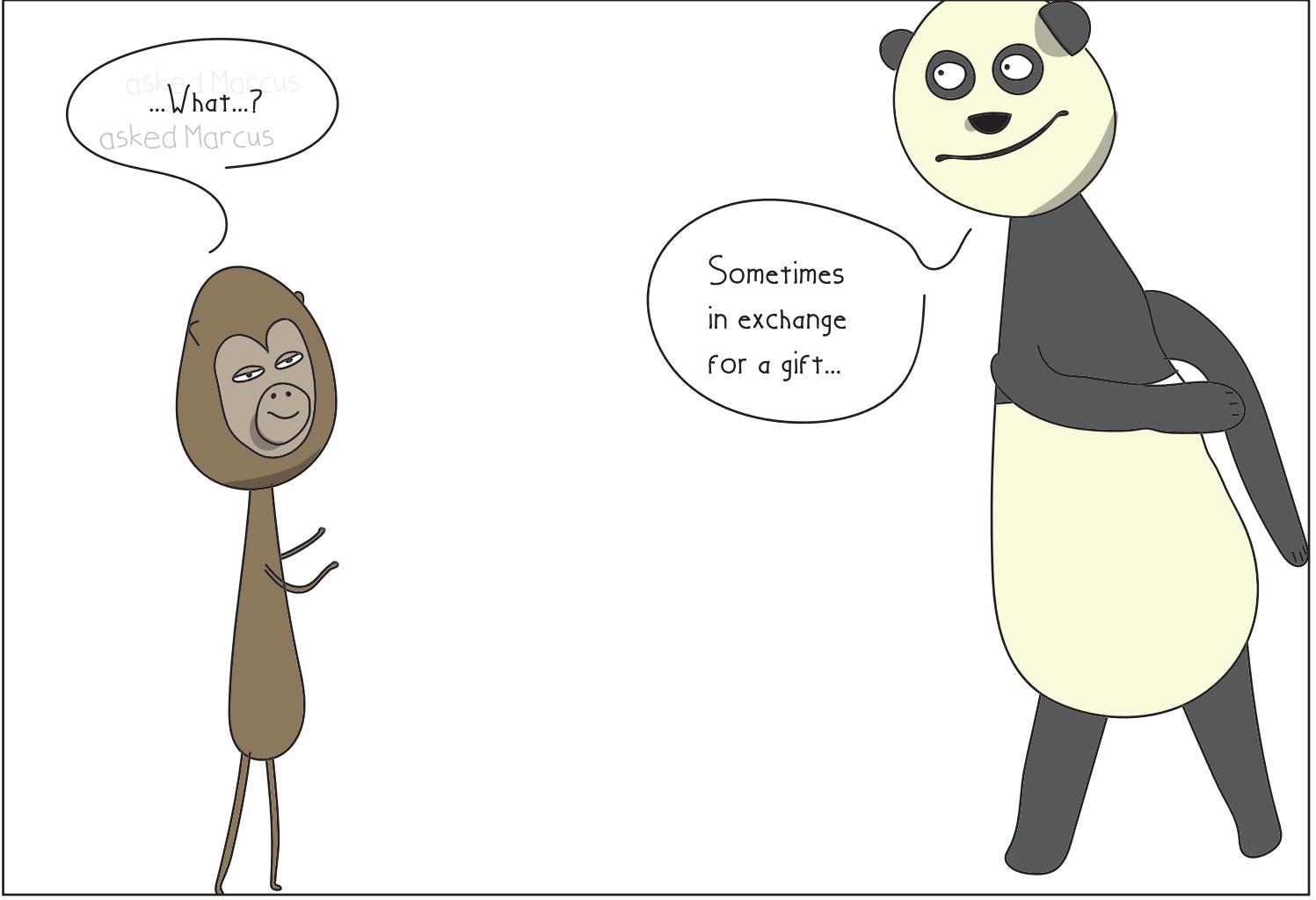
Why are you  
looking at me  
like that?



Said Pandus  
My brother lost his  
room when he was your  
age. And then said Pandus  
something else happened  
to him. Said Pandus

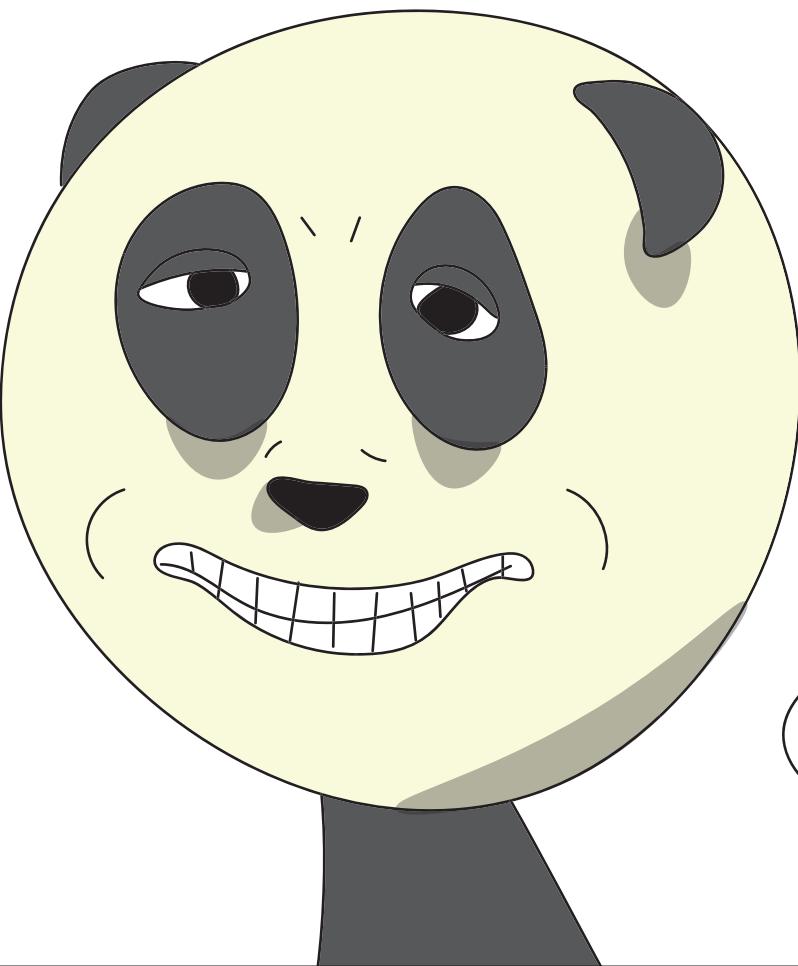




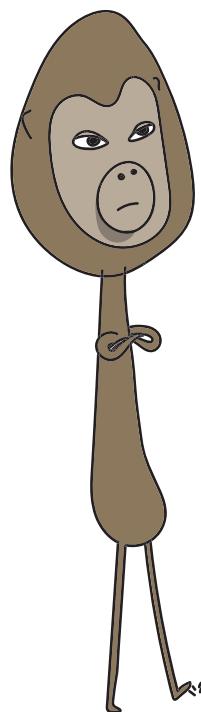


asked Marcus  
...What...?  
asked Marcus

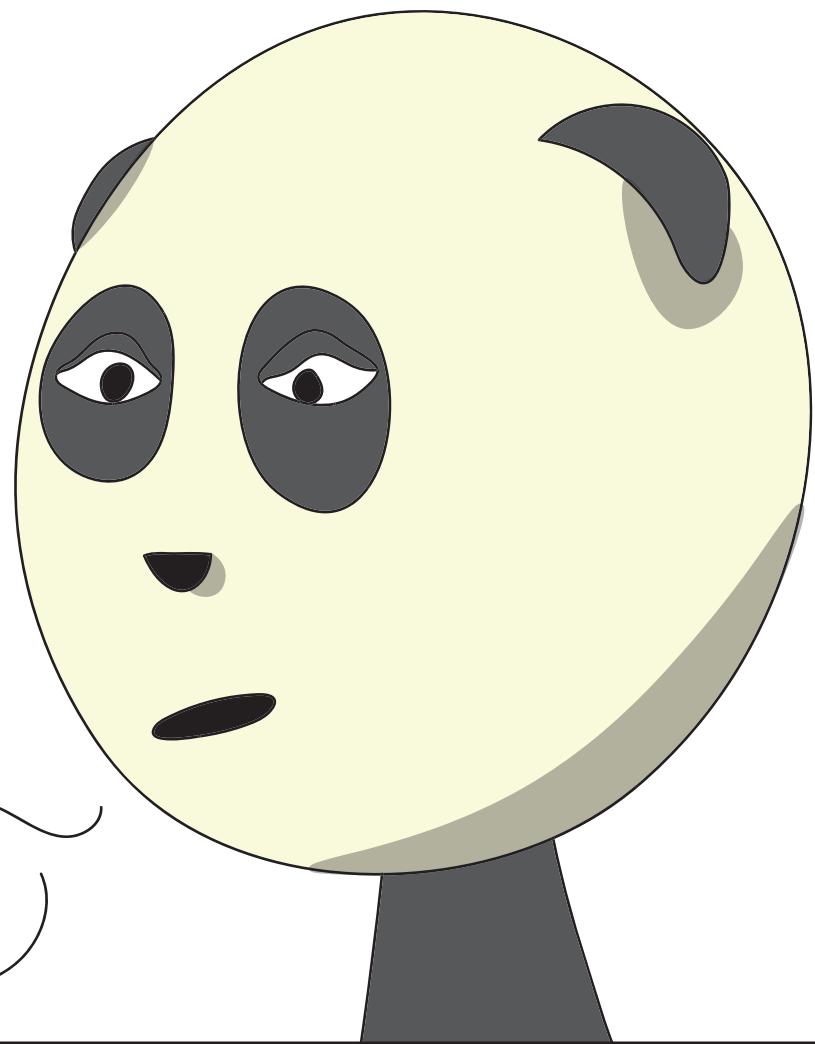
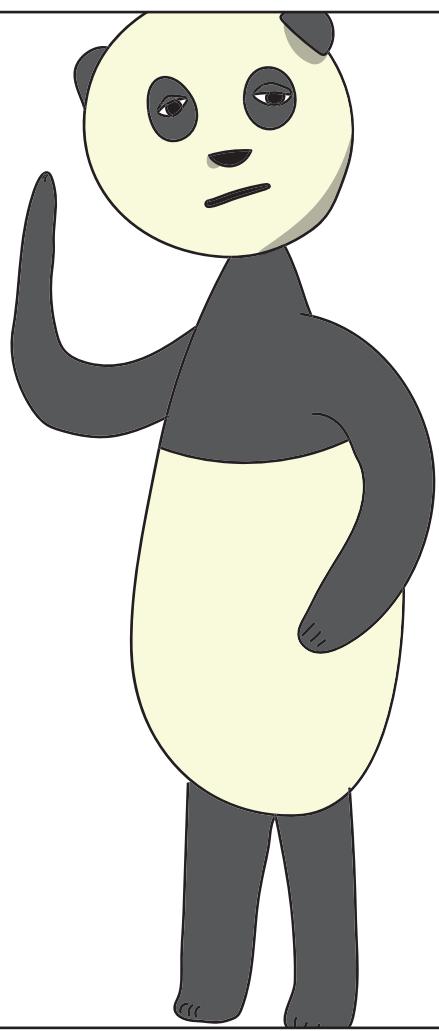
Sometimes  
in exchange  
for a gift...



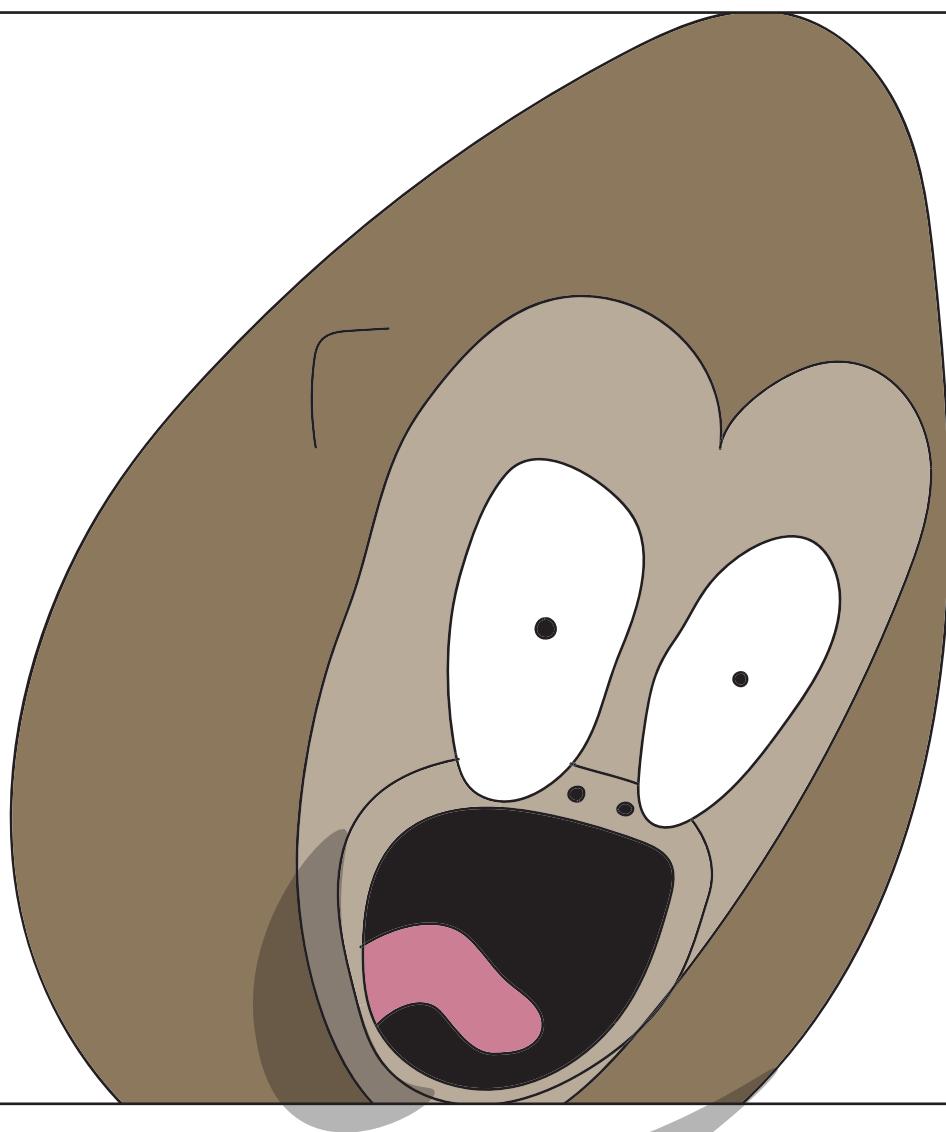
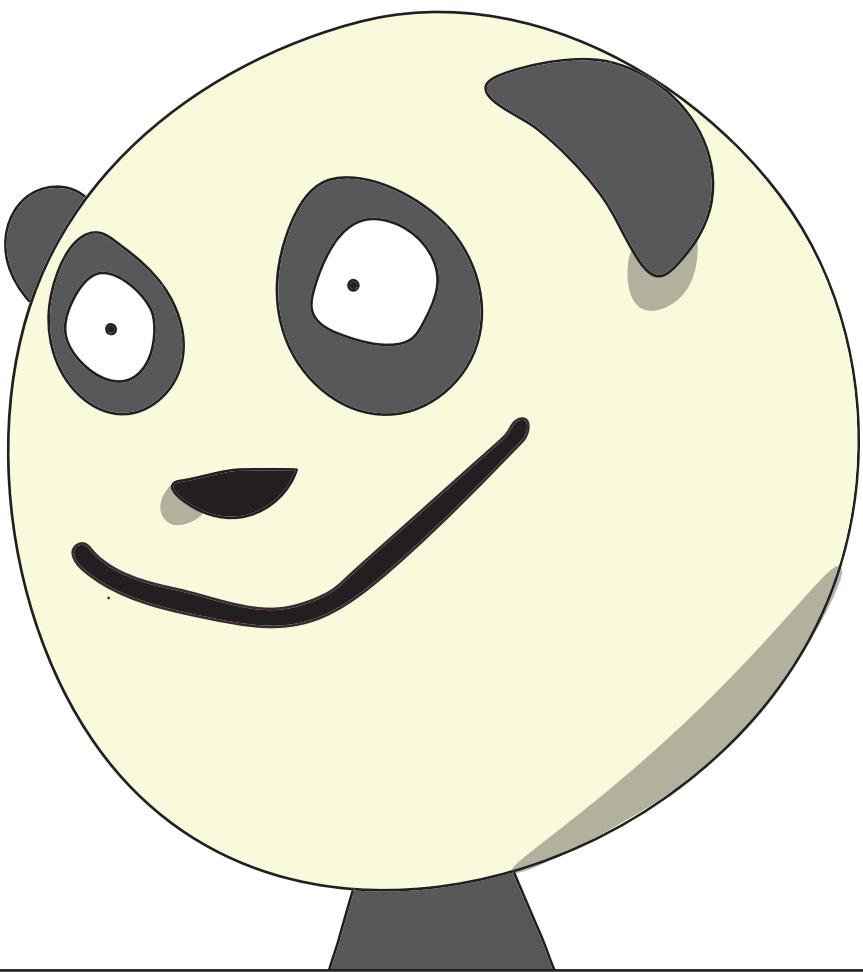
Parents send their  
children away...

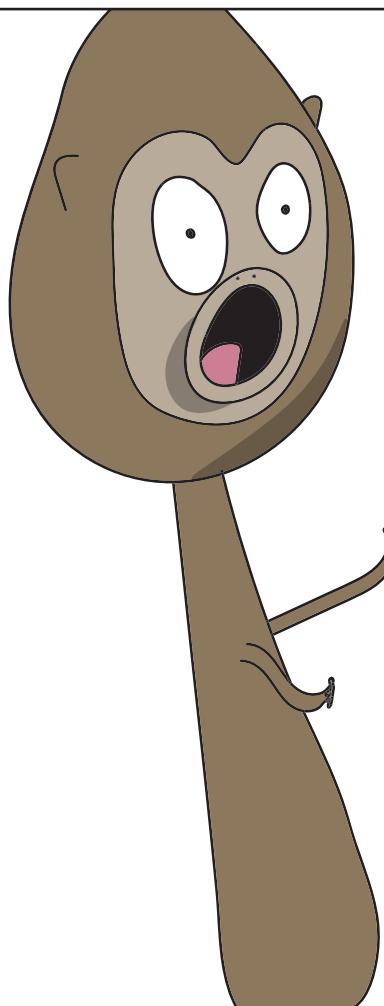


To live with  
another  
family...

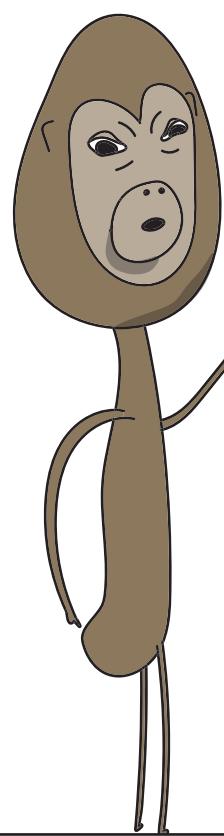


Forever.





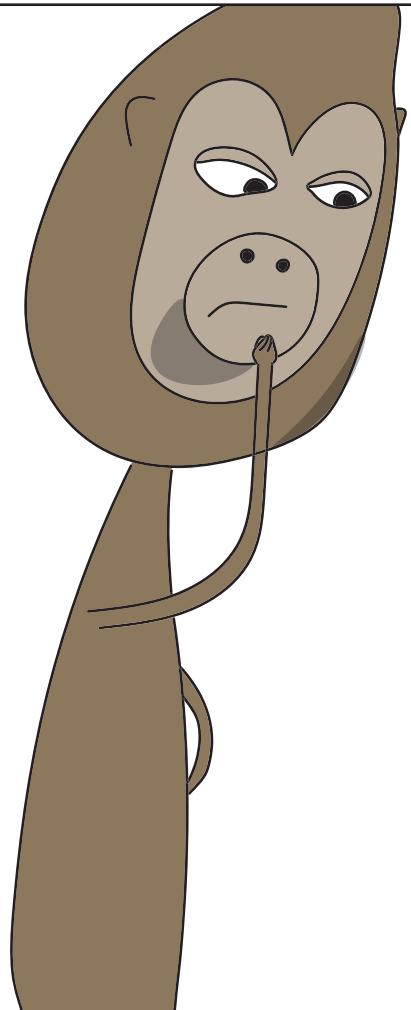
WHAT?!



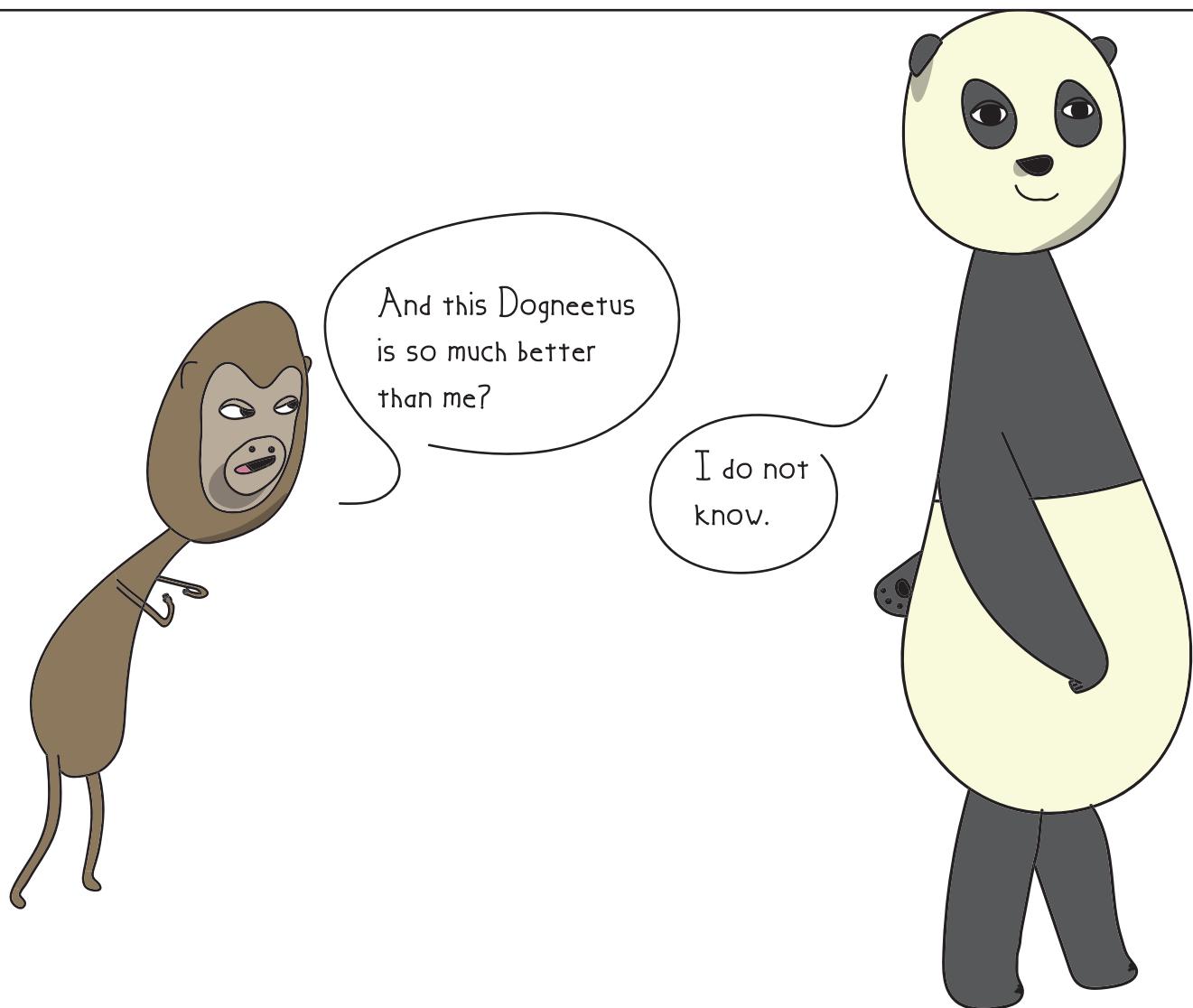
My parents are  
kicking me out!  
Why? Because I  
am always  
hurting myself?

I do not  
know.

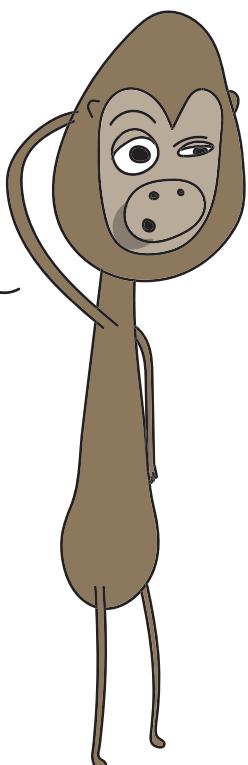




Said Marcus.  
Oh my gods.  
This is terrible.  
said Marcus



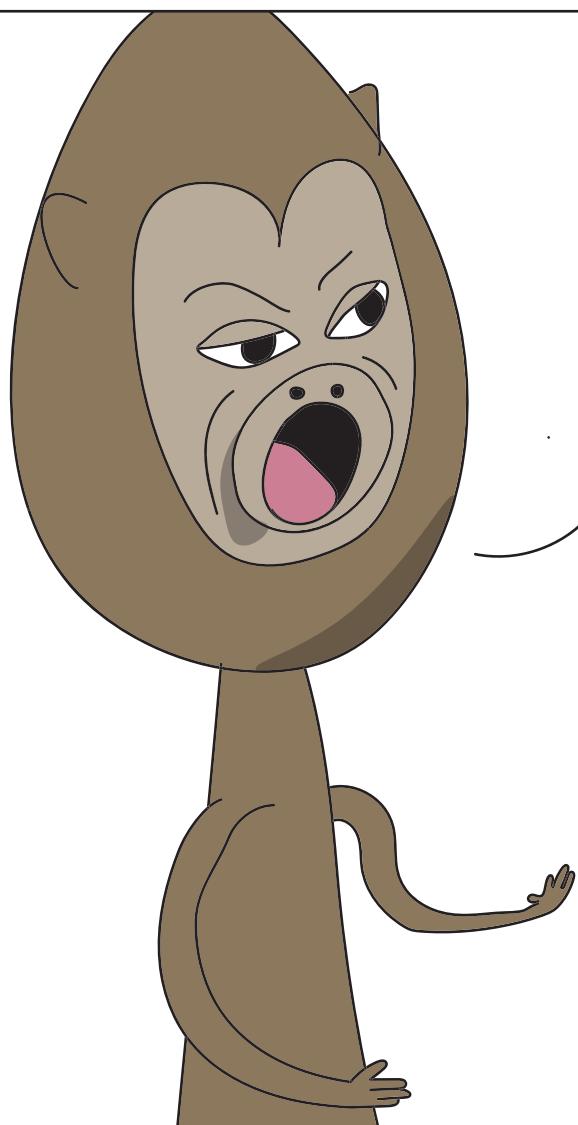
asked Marcus  
Where are  
you going? I  
asked Marcus



I have to pick  
Dogeneetus up from the  
shipping yard now. She  
sailed from Greece.



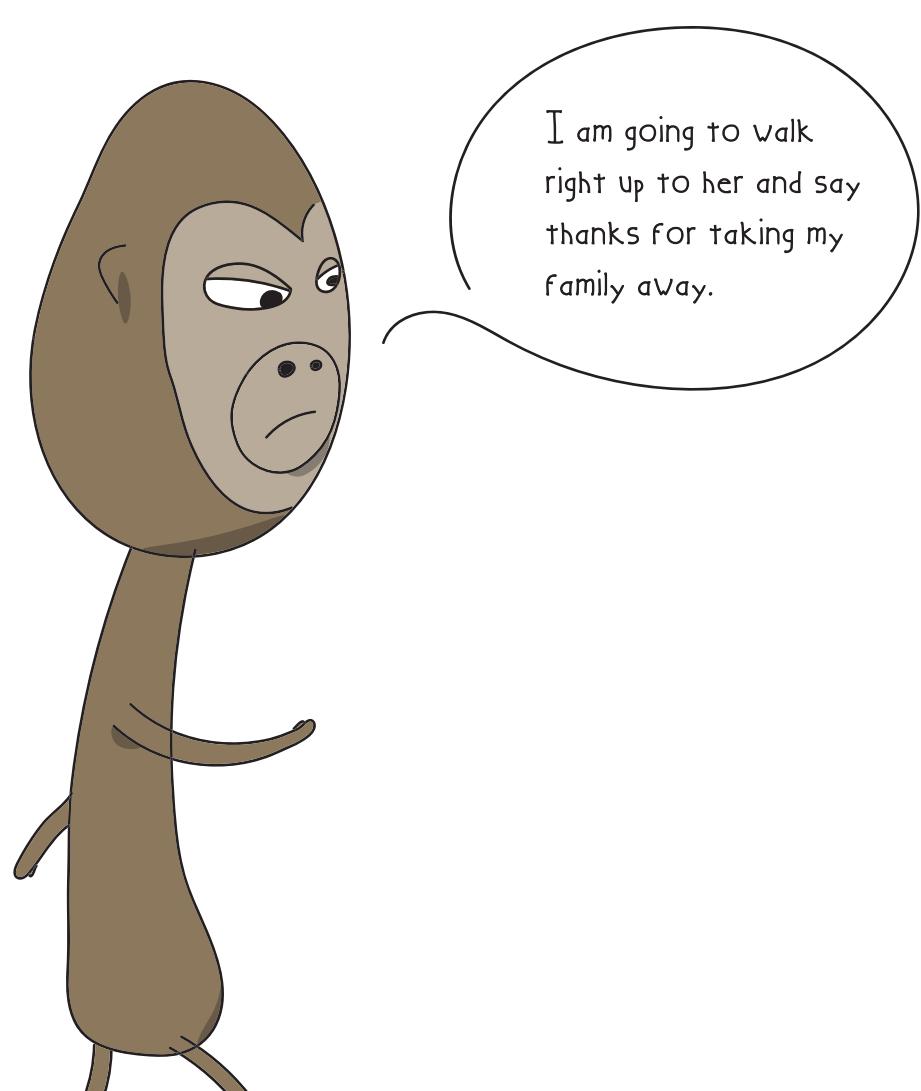
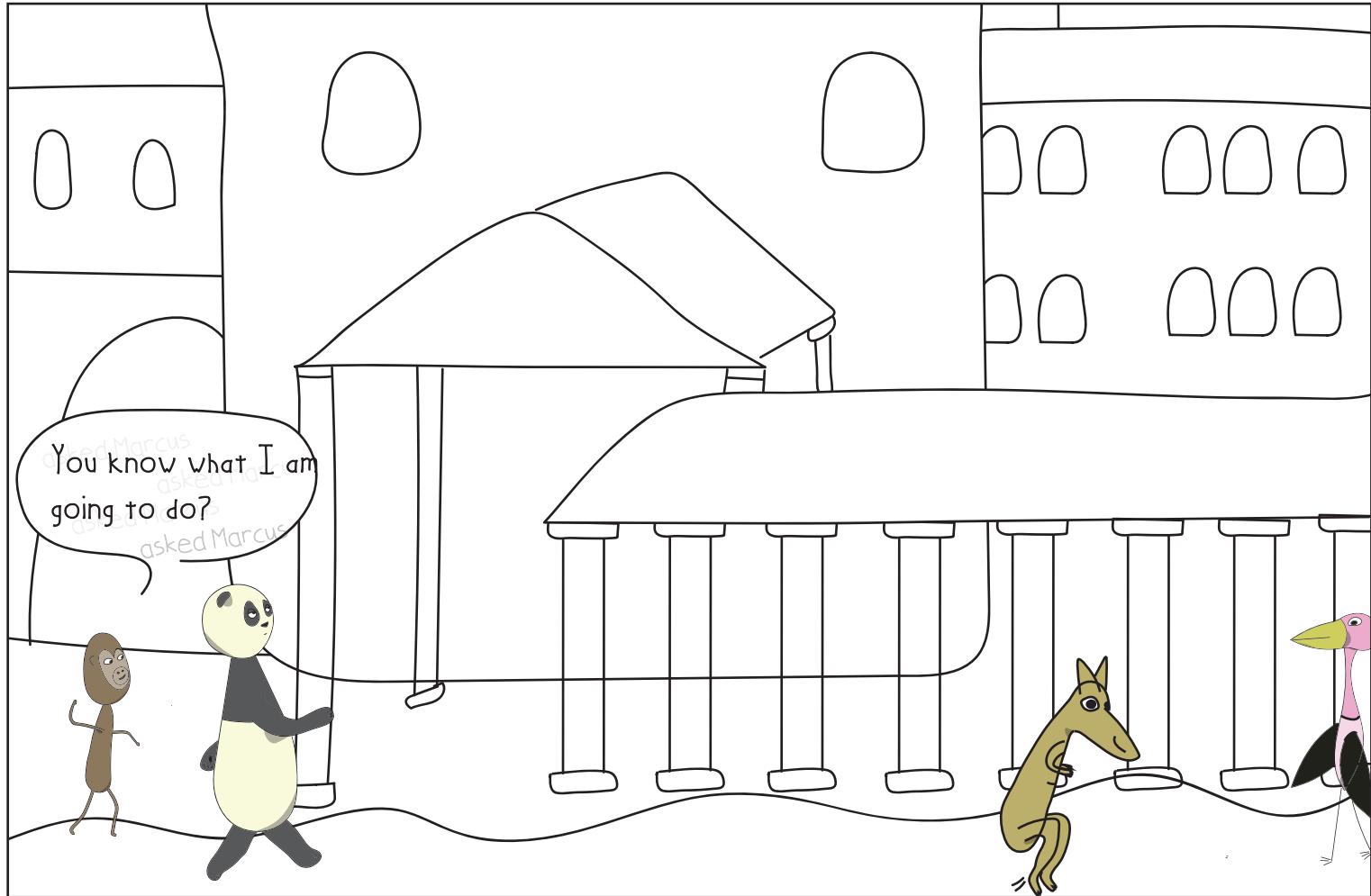
NOW?!

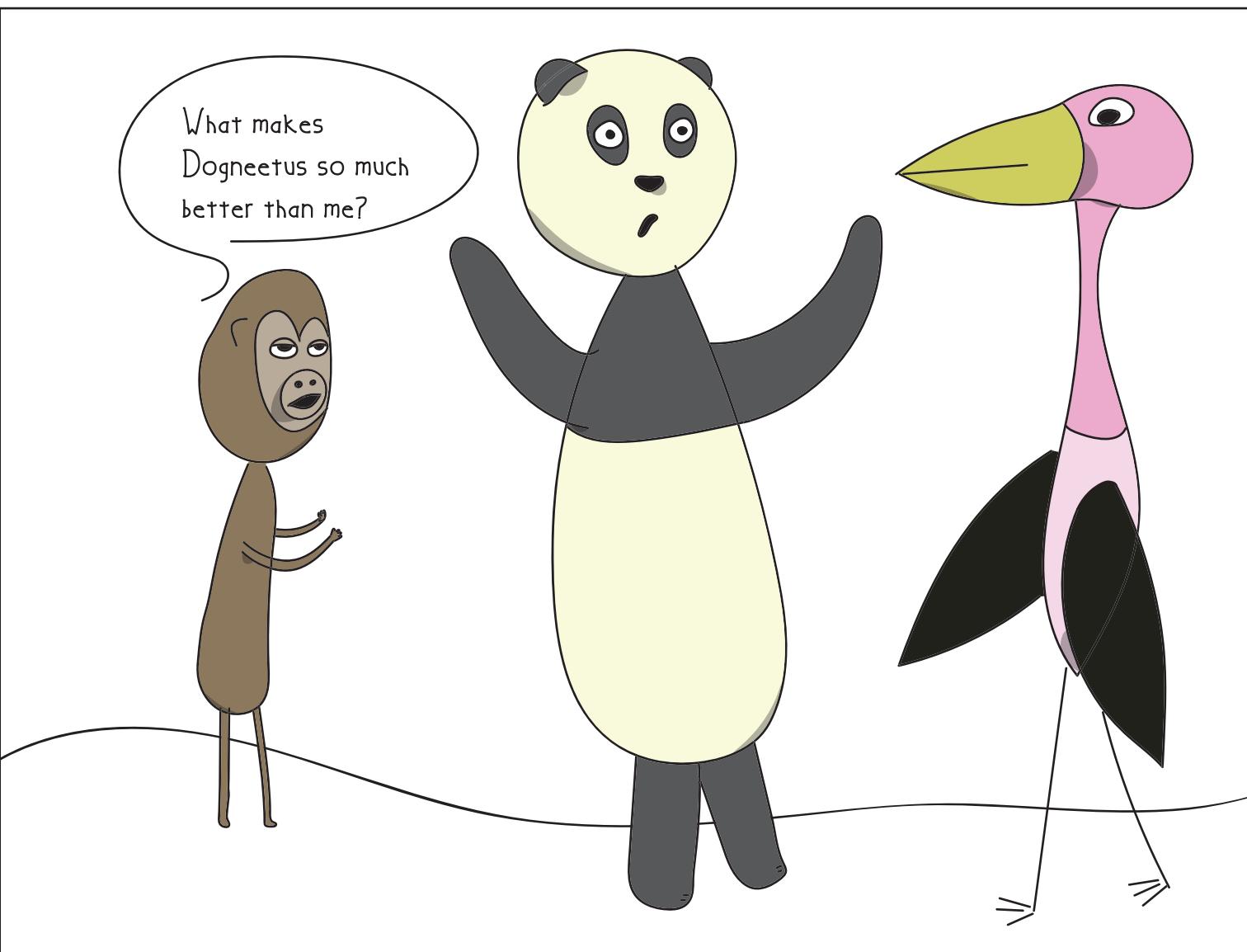
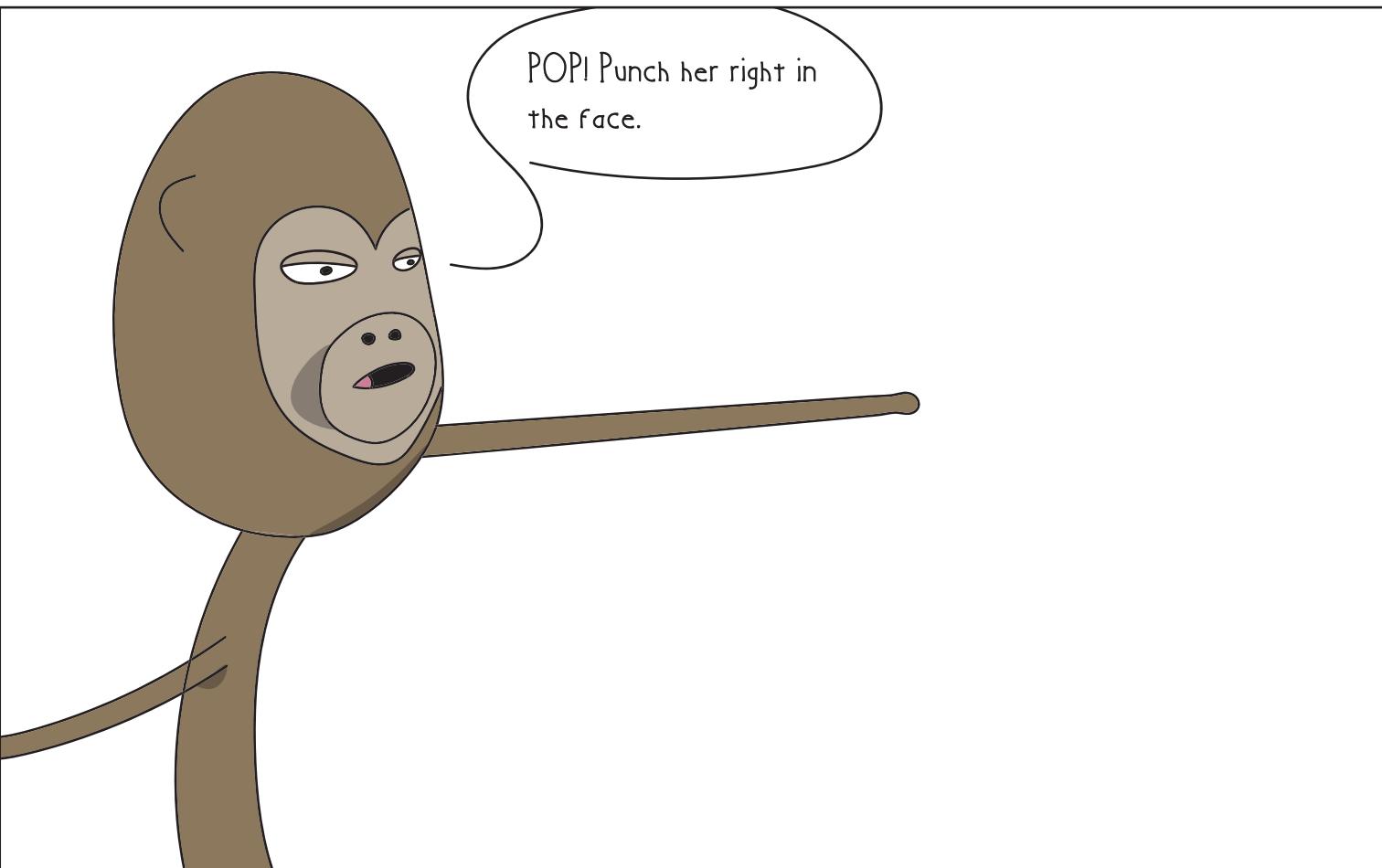


Can I come with  
you? I want to  
meet the person  
stealing my life.

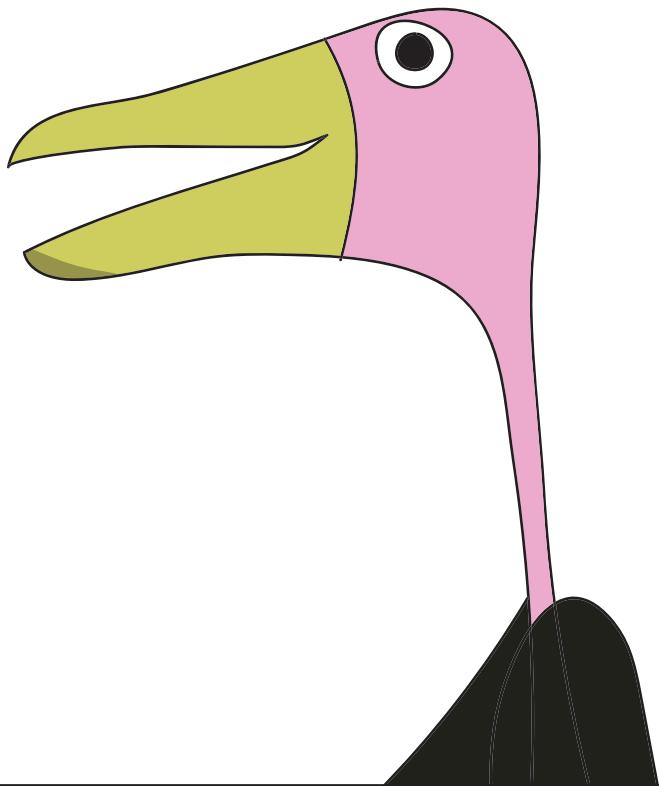
Fine.

## Chapter 2 – Hurt



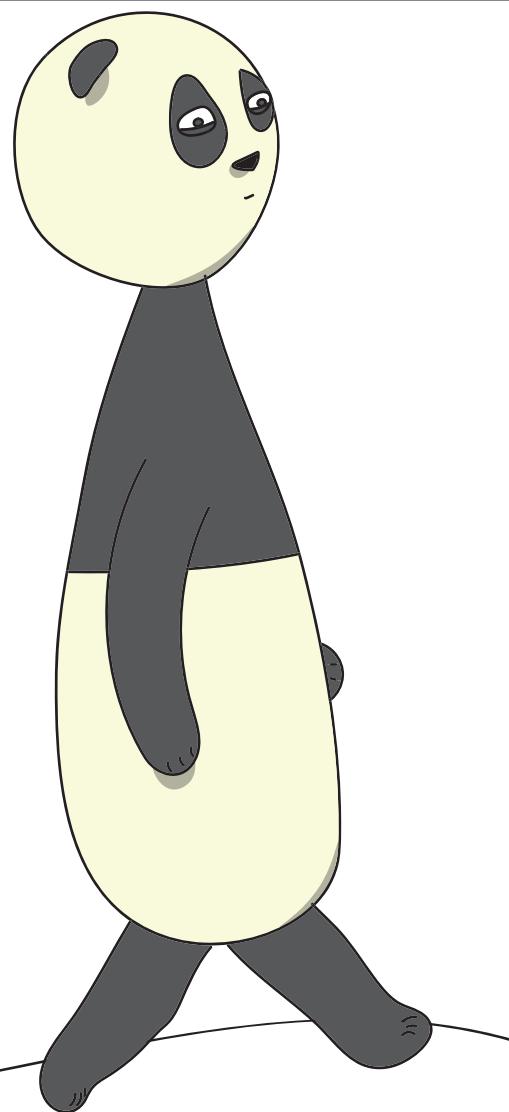
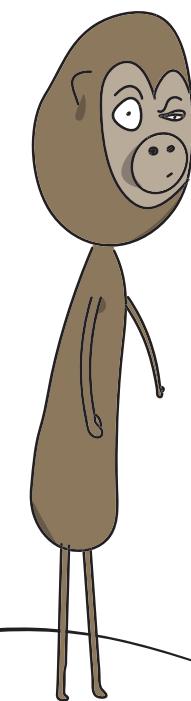


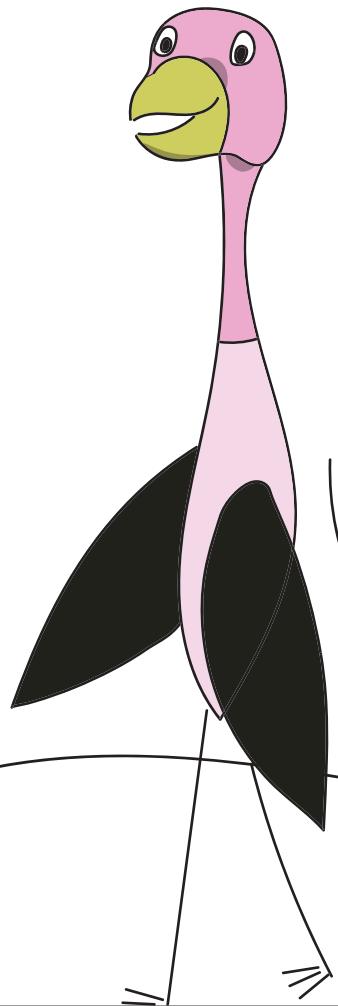
Did you say Dogneetus?  
Dogneetus from Greece?  
said Janus the Stork



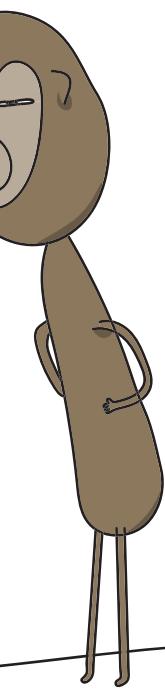
Yeah...

Oh, she is amazing.

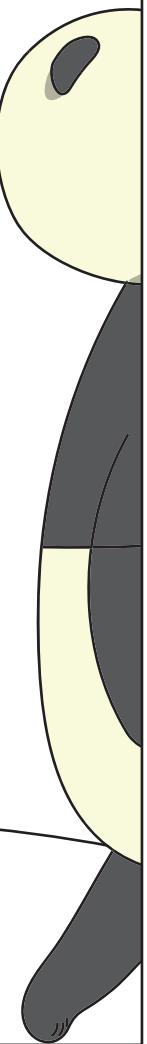




How do you know  
her? asked Marcus

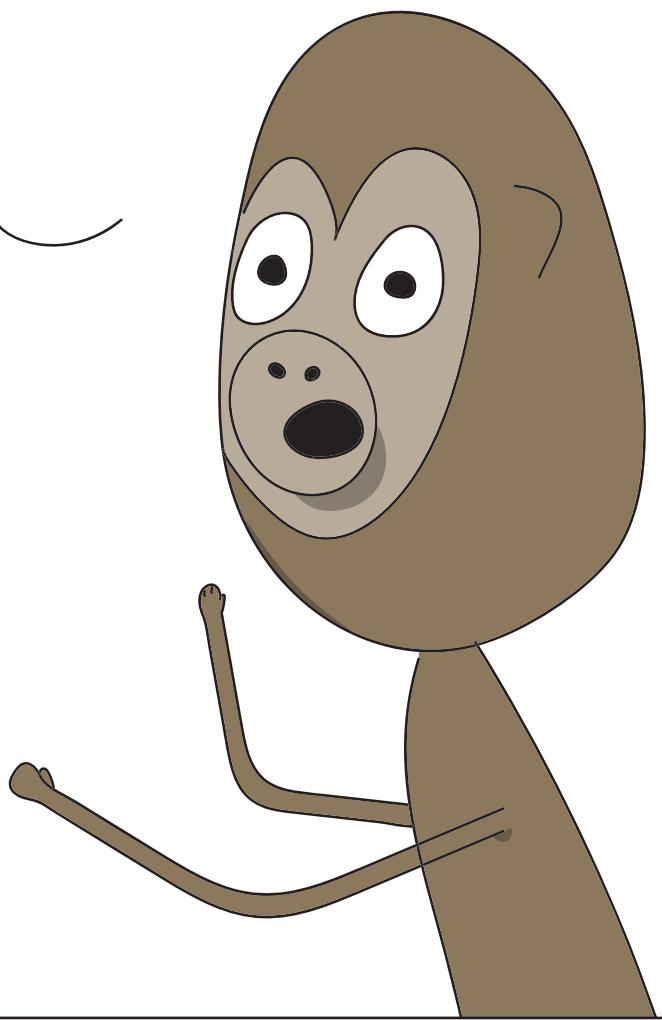


I have not met her,  
but everyone knows  
her. She is famous.

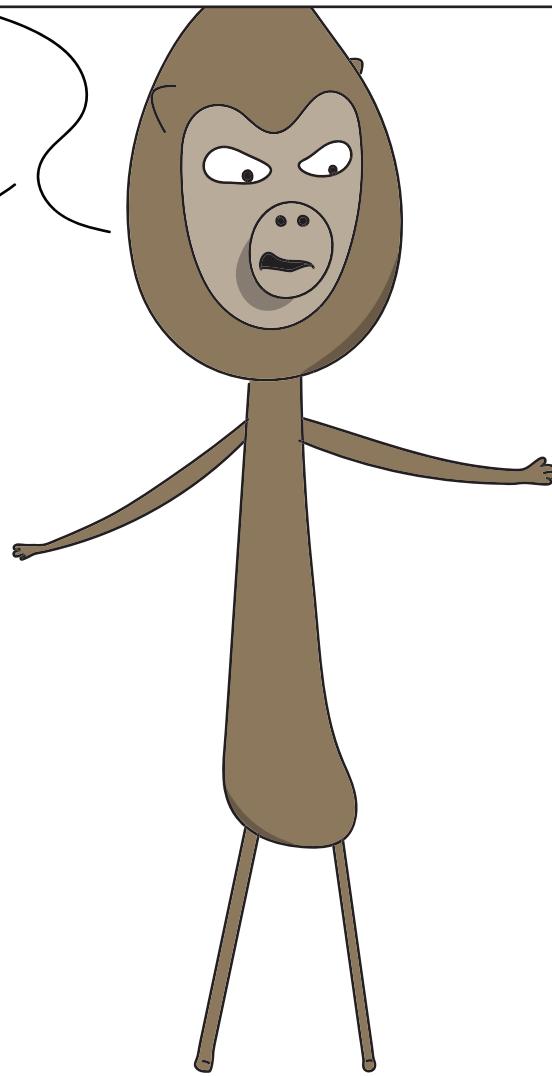


asked Marcus  
asked Marcus  
asked Marcus  
asked Marcus  
Famous for what?

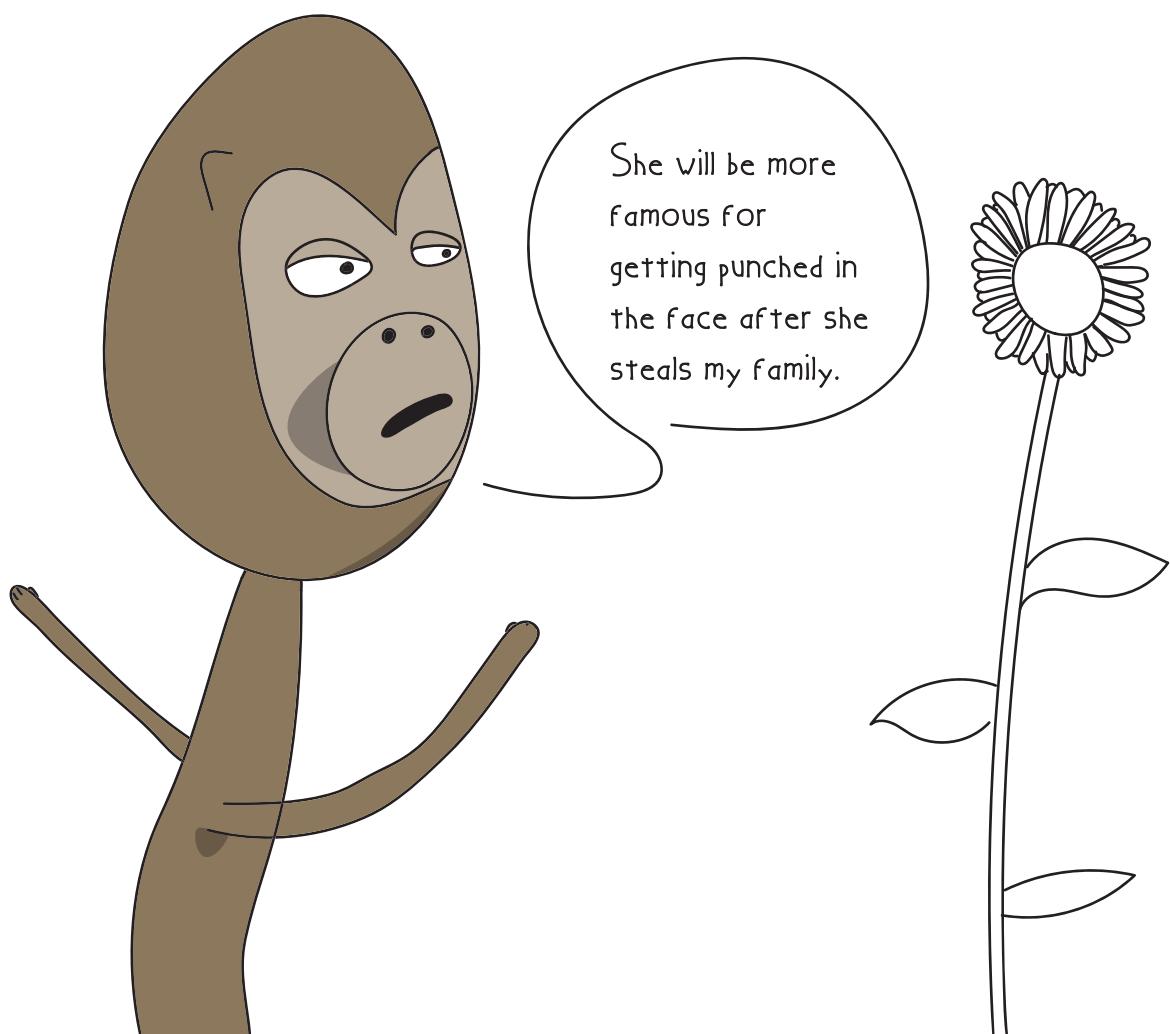
Frescoes. Beautiful  
wall paintings...

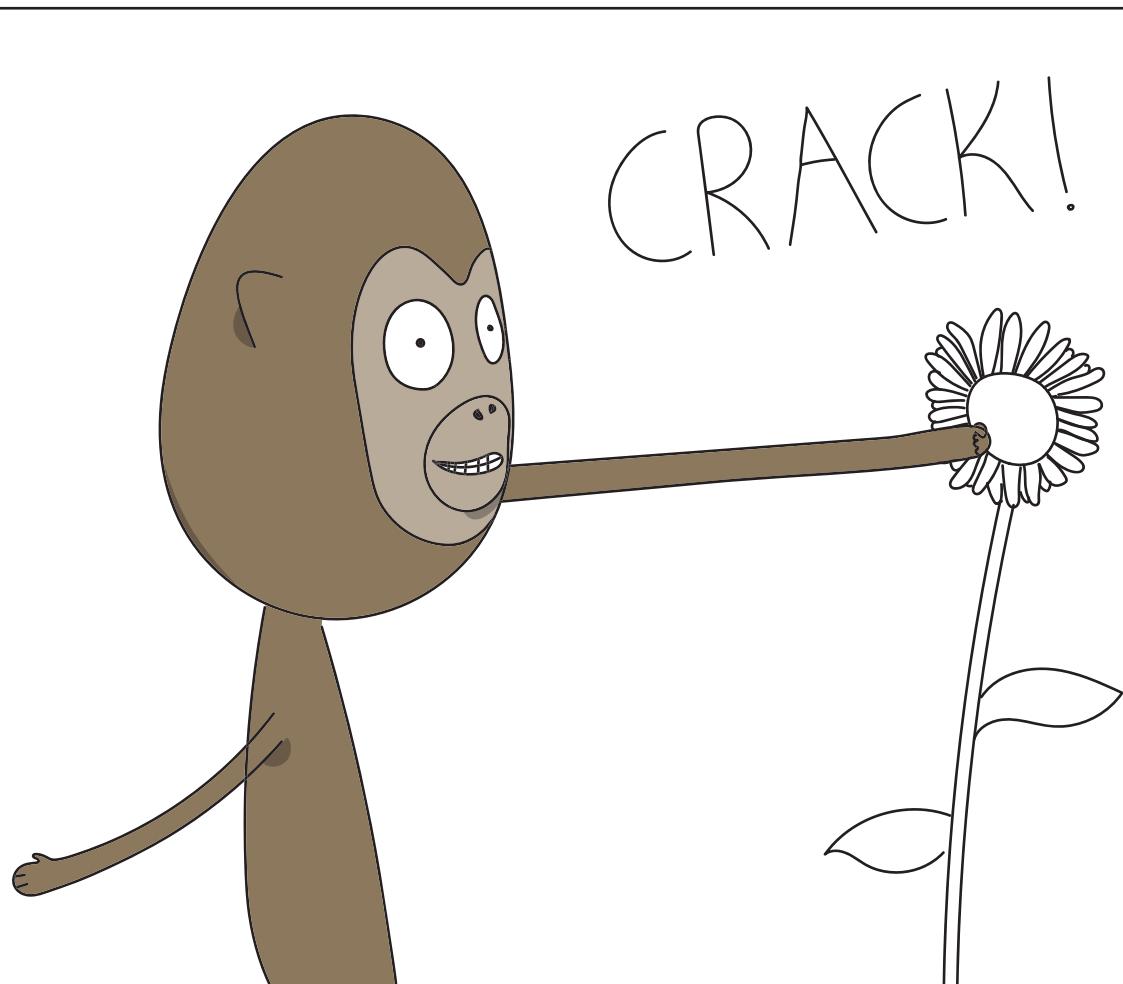
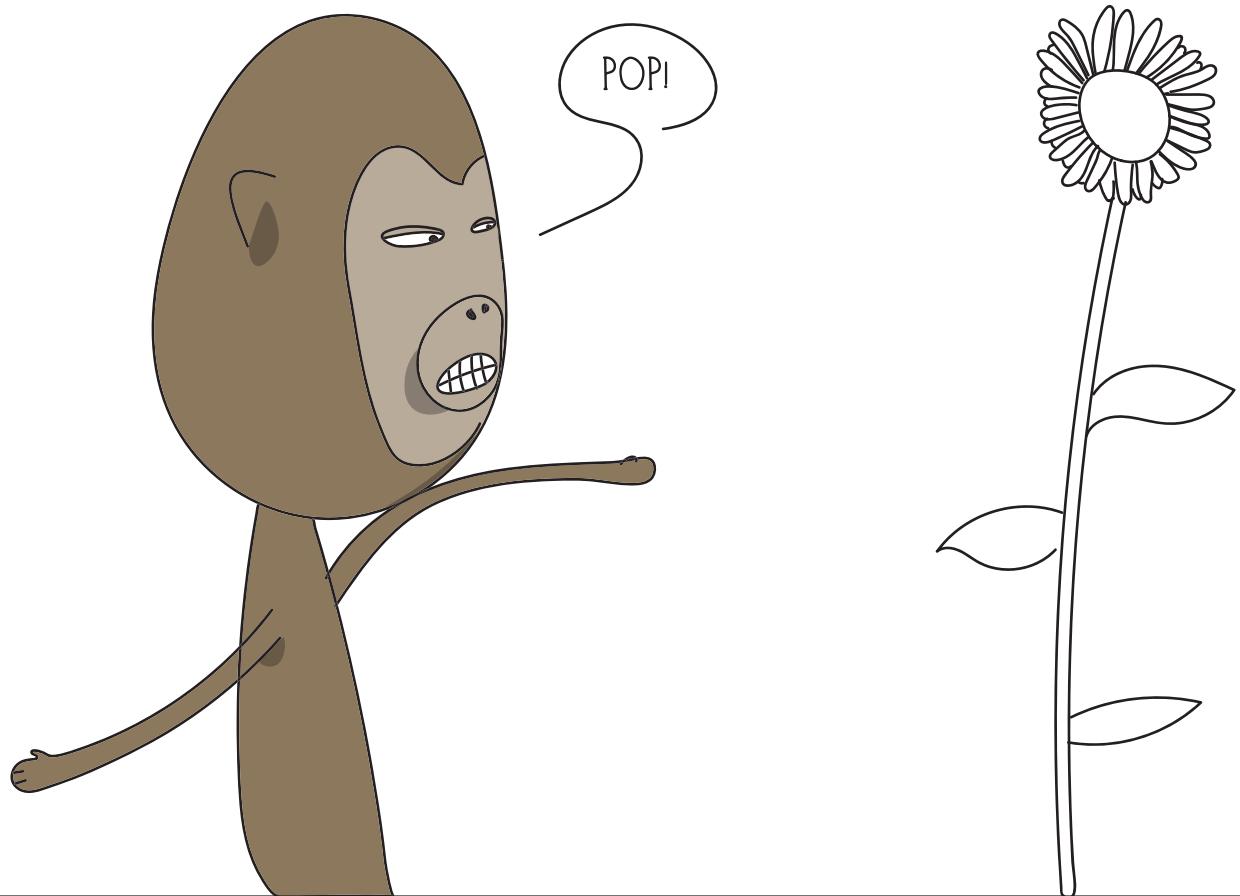


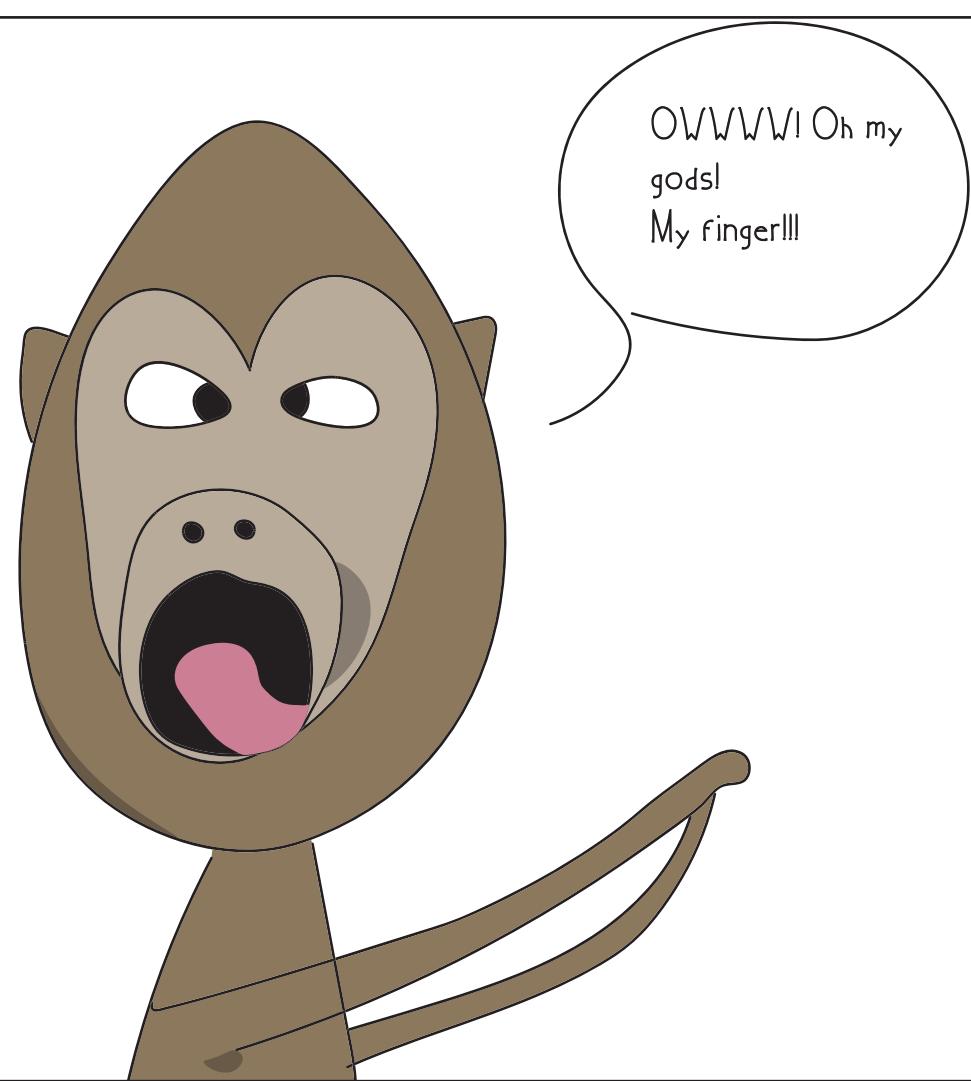
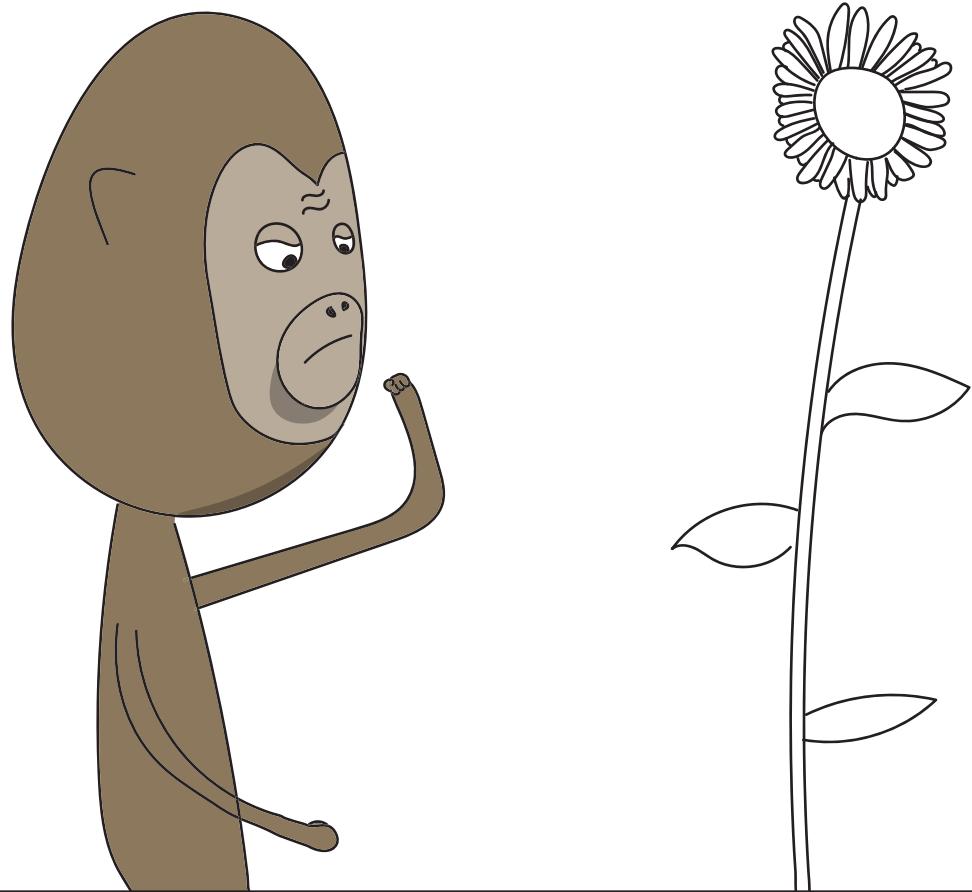
Great. She is famous.

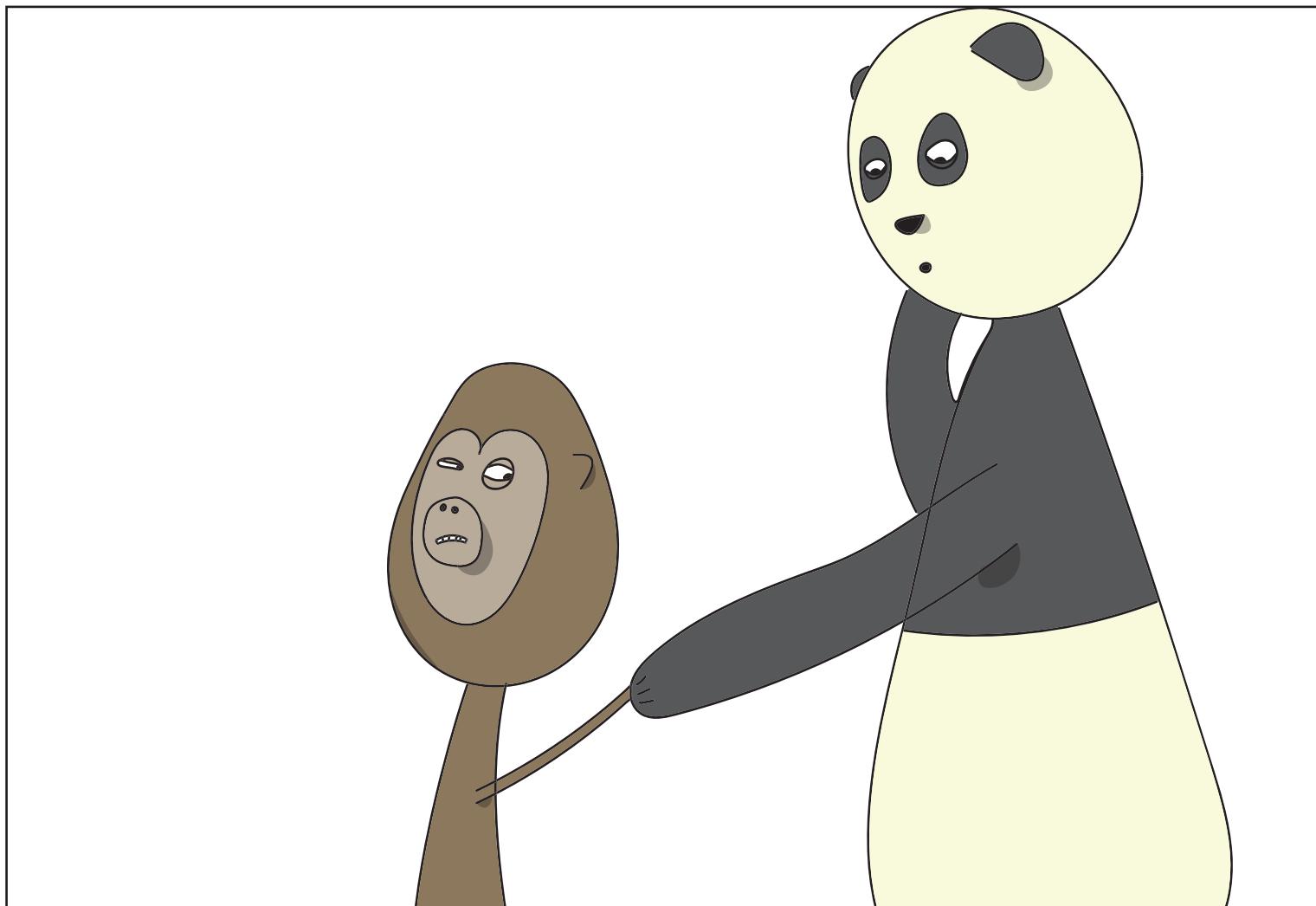
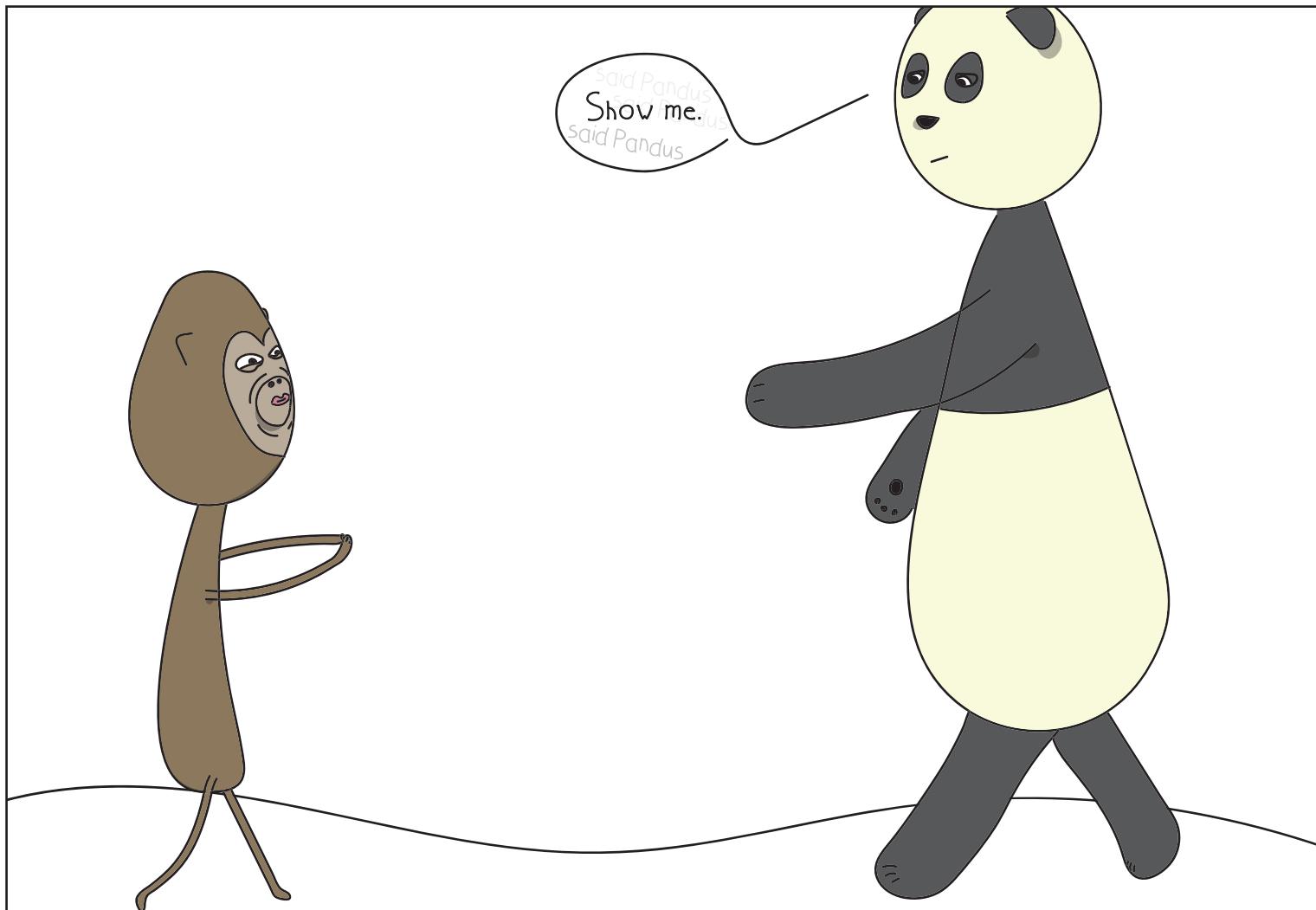


She will be more famous for getting punched in the face after she steals my family.



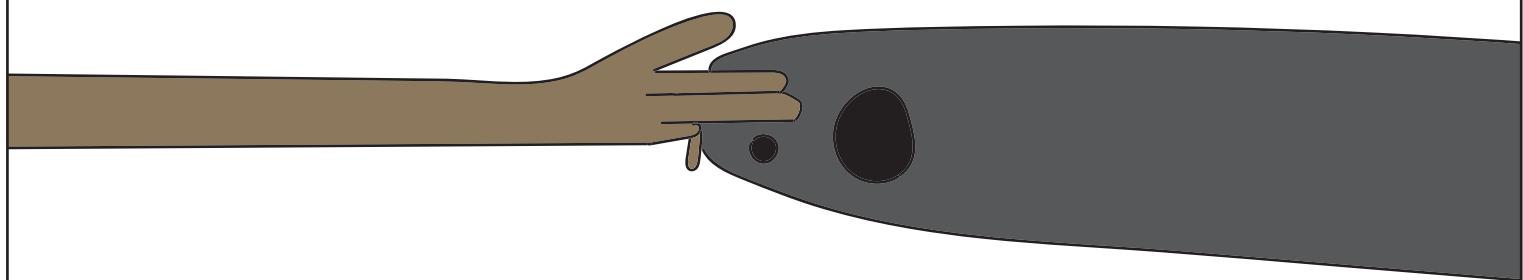






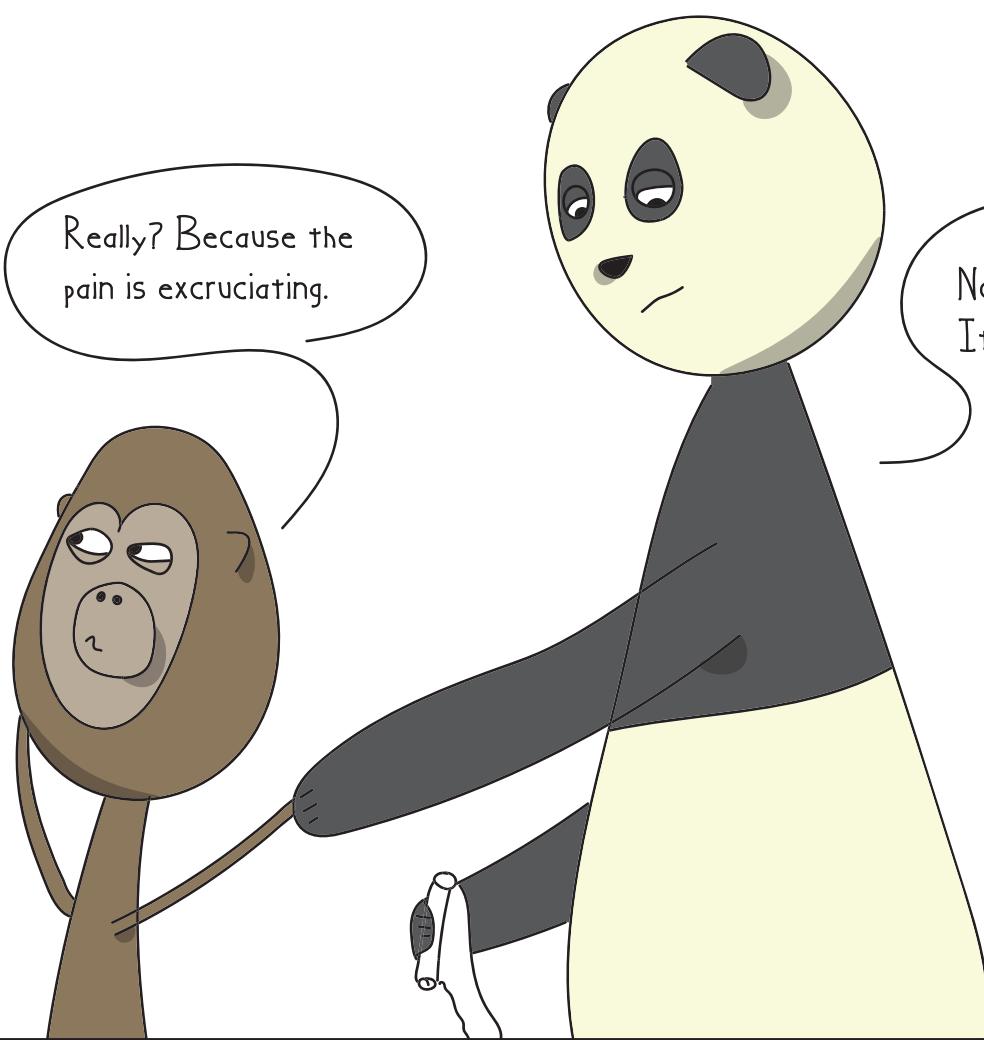
Is it bad?

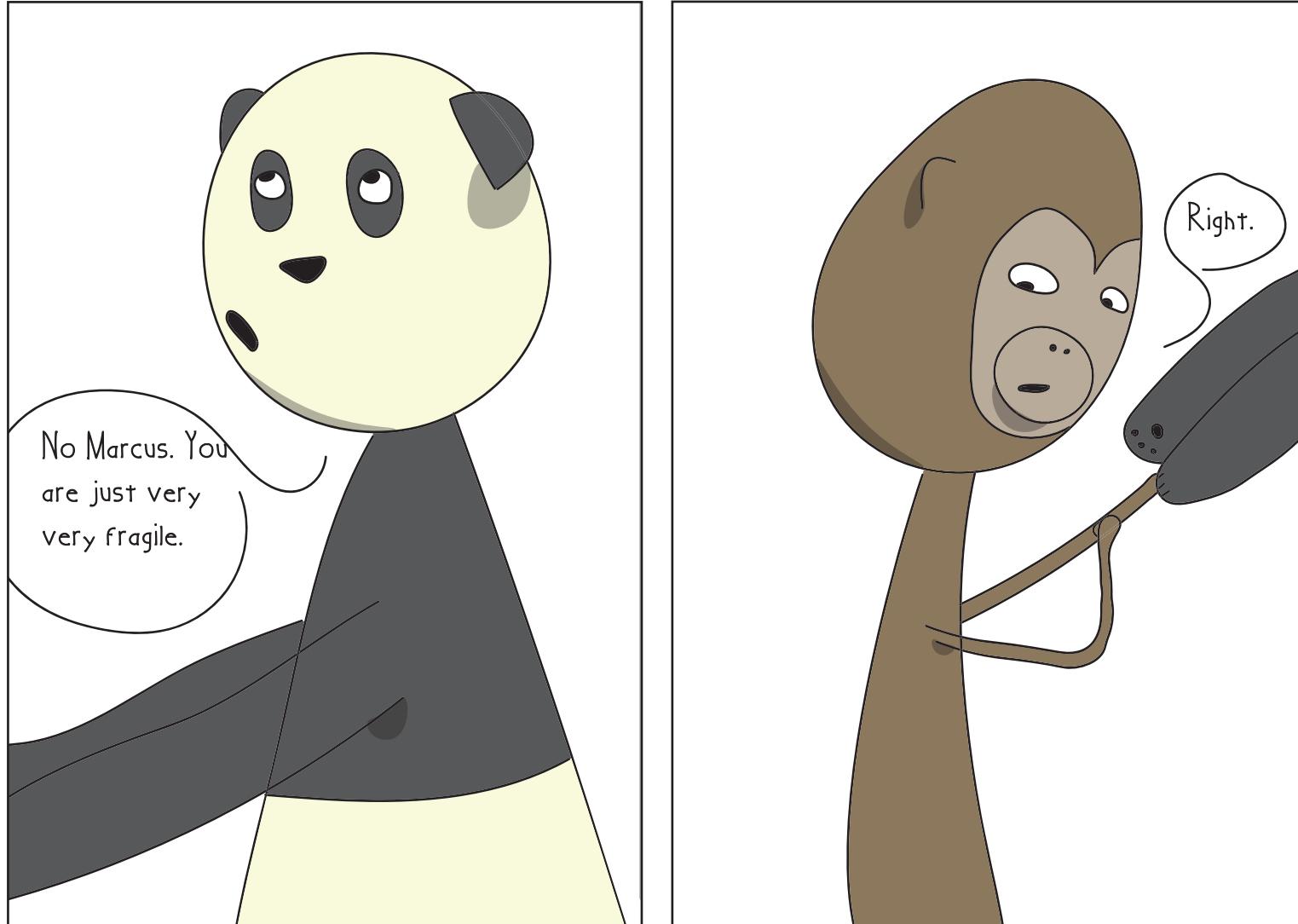
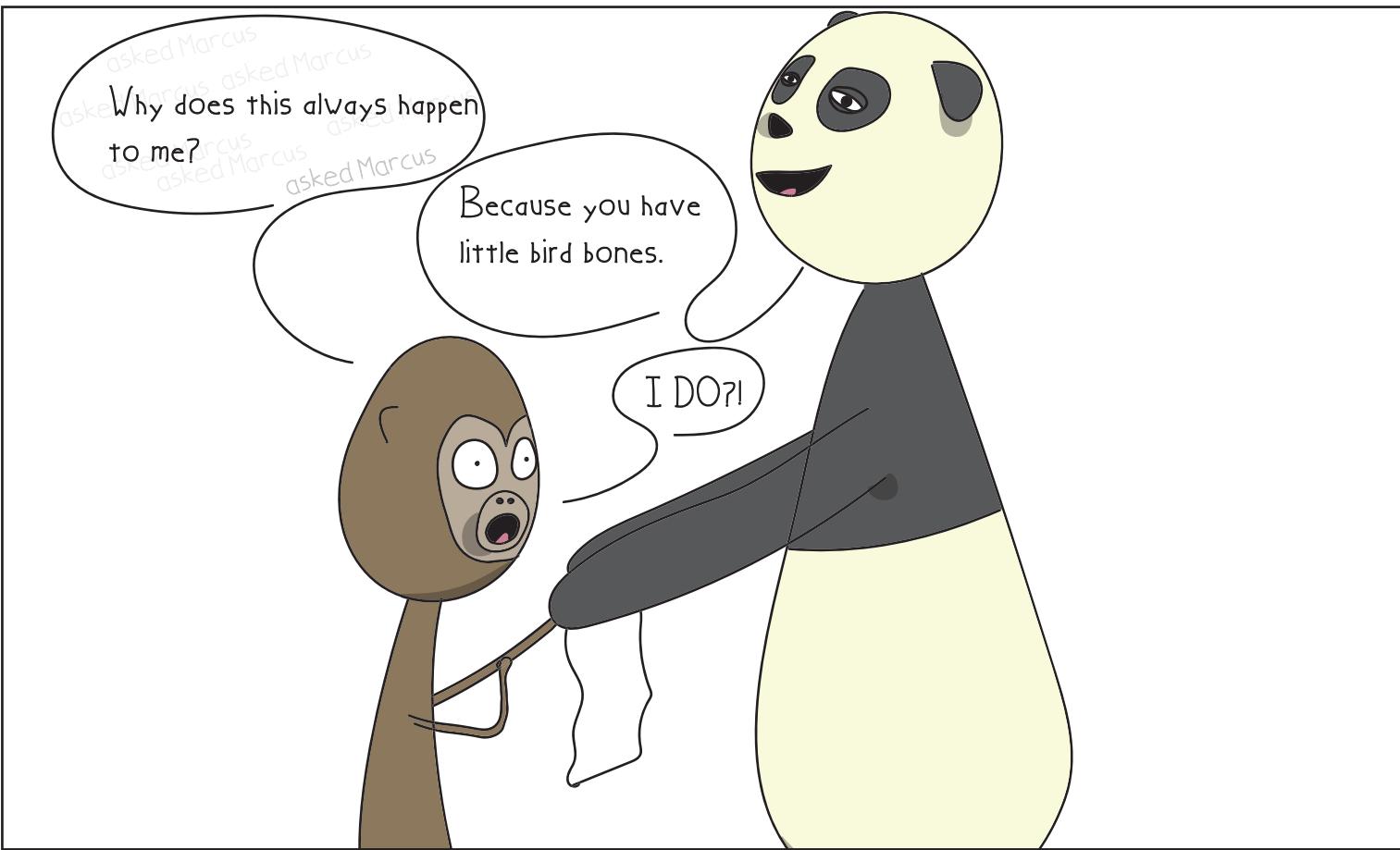
Said Pandus  
Just a  
scratch.  
Said Pandus



Really? Because the  
pain is excruciating.

No, not really.  
It is bad.







How does that  
feel?

I think I am starting to  
understand my problem.

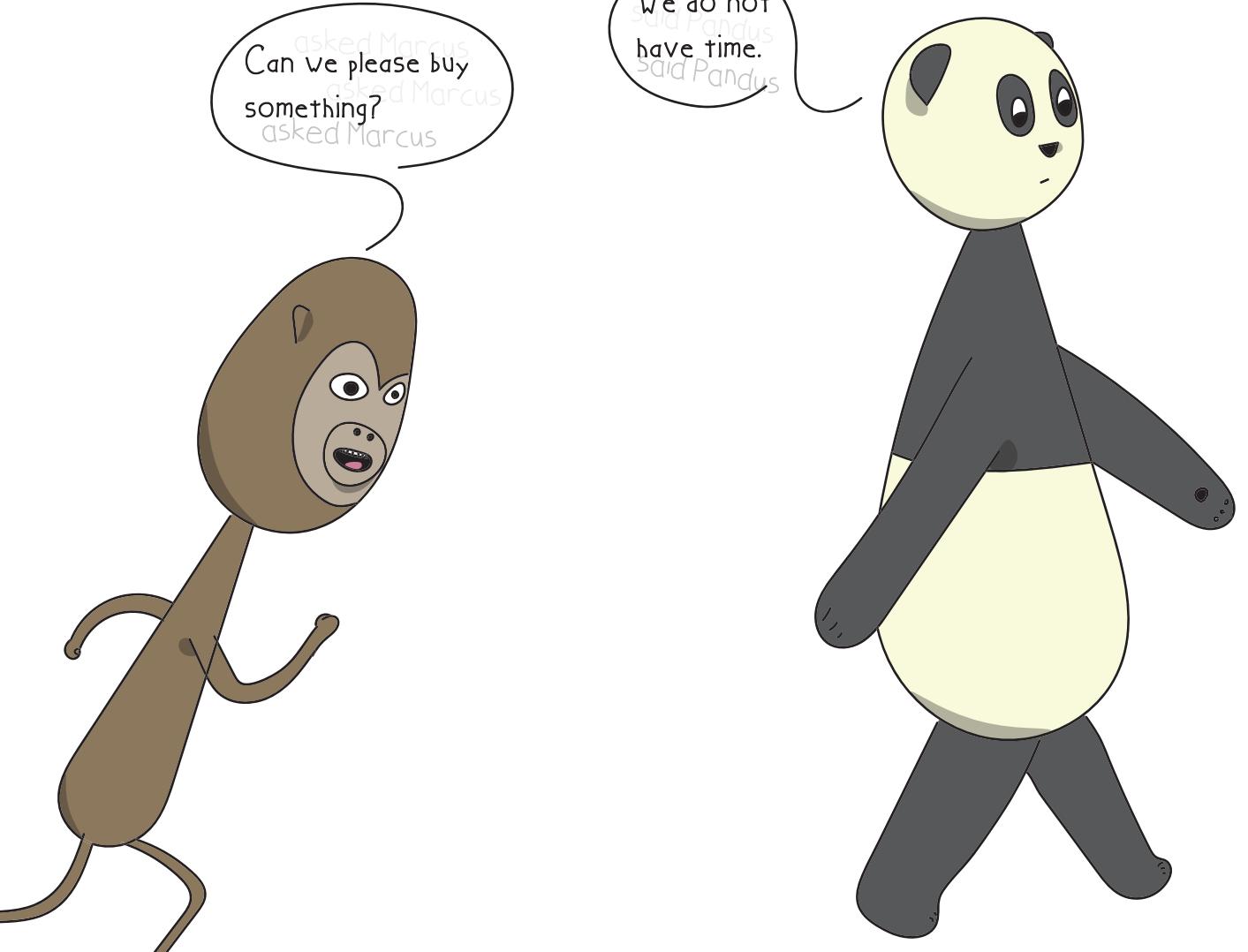
## Chapter 3 – Terry

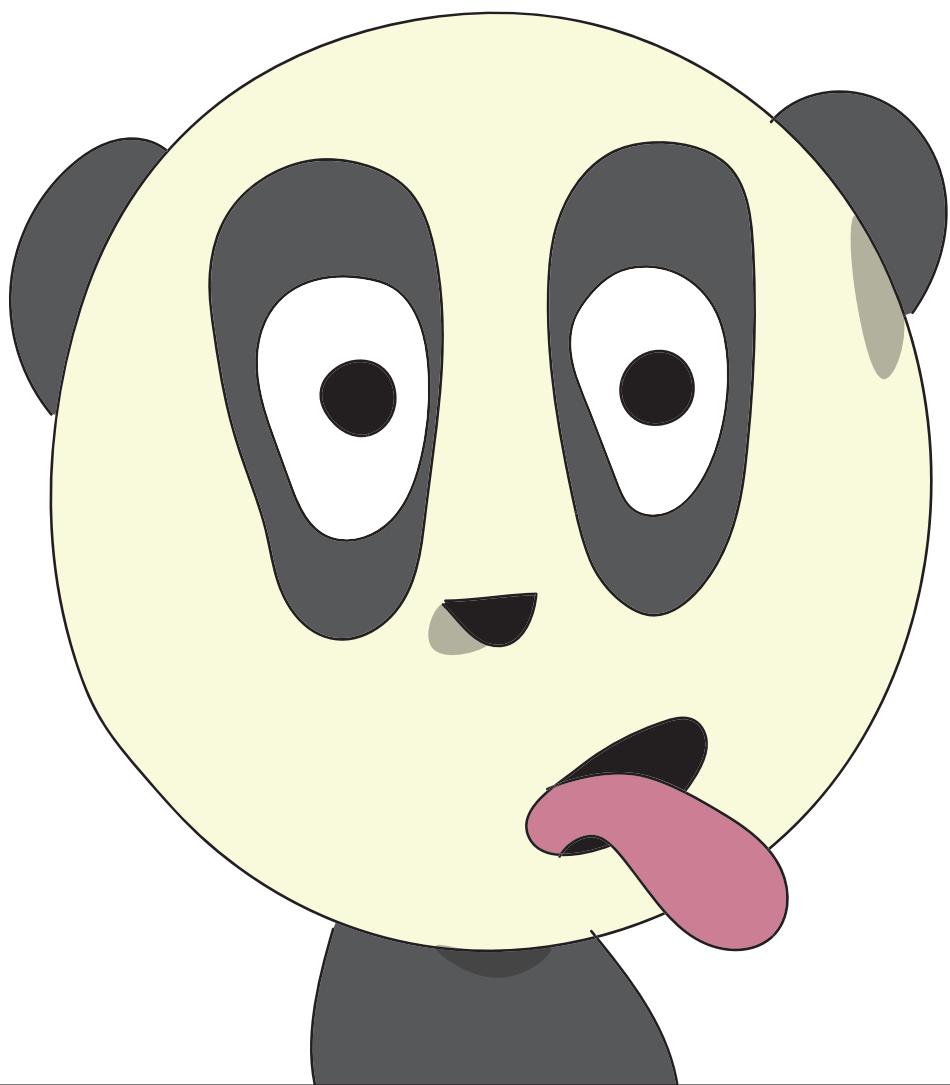
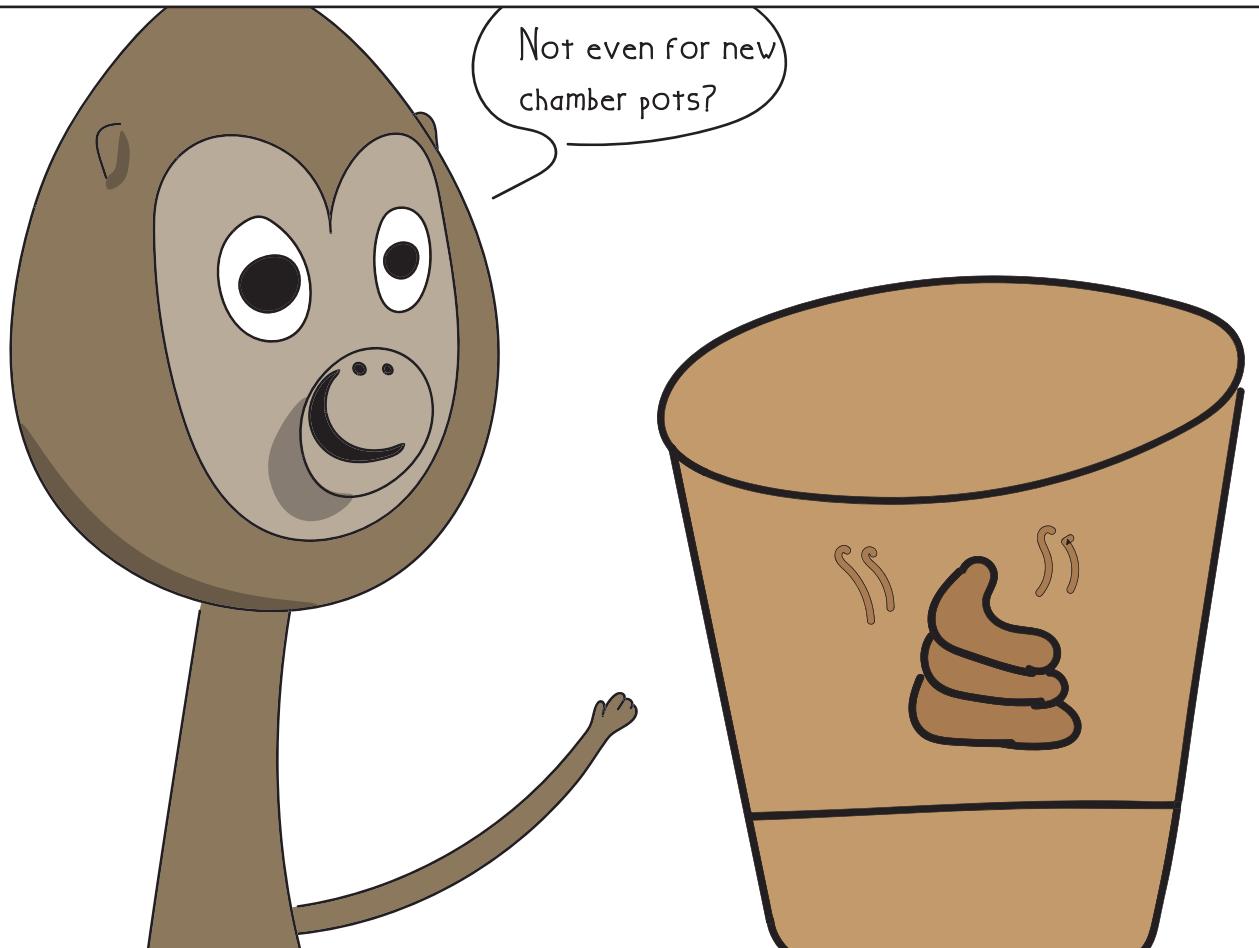
For sale today only! The extra  
extra light stoic pillow!  
Completely featherless! Terry  
will help you sleep like a baby!

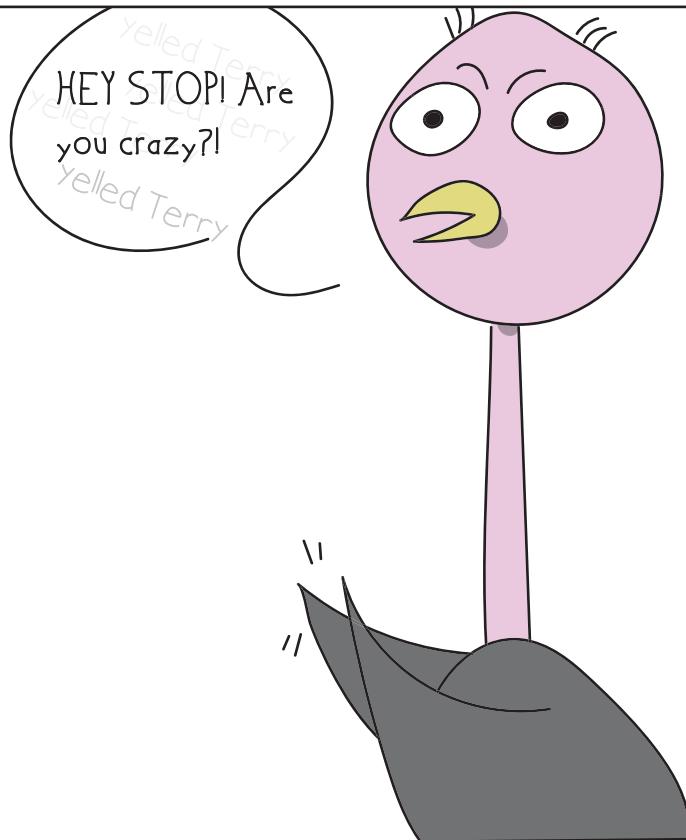


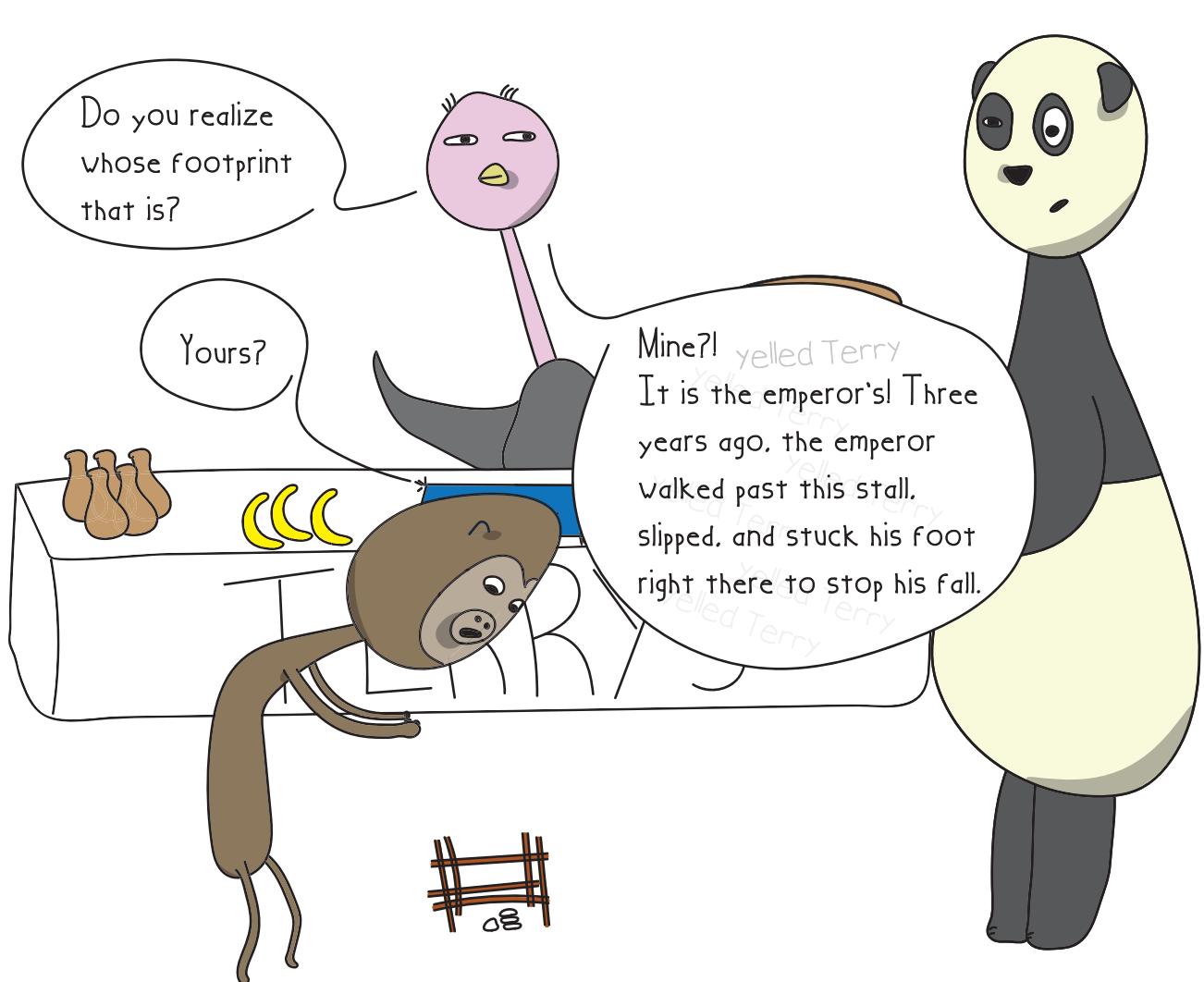
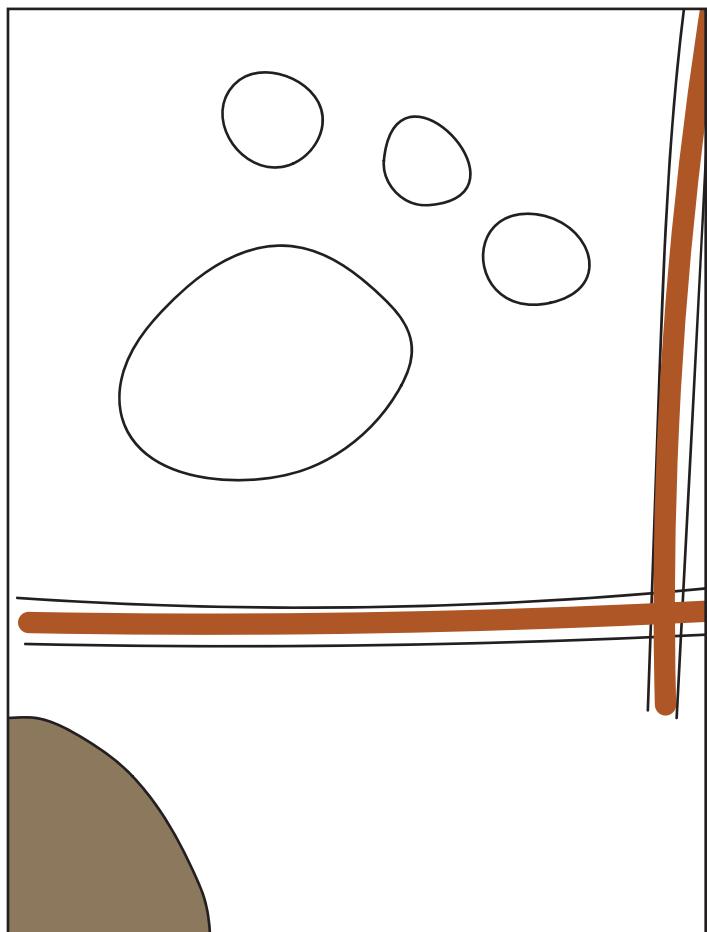
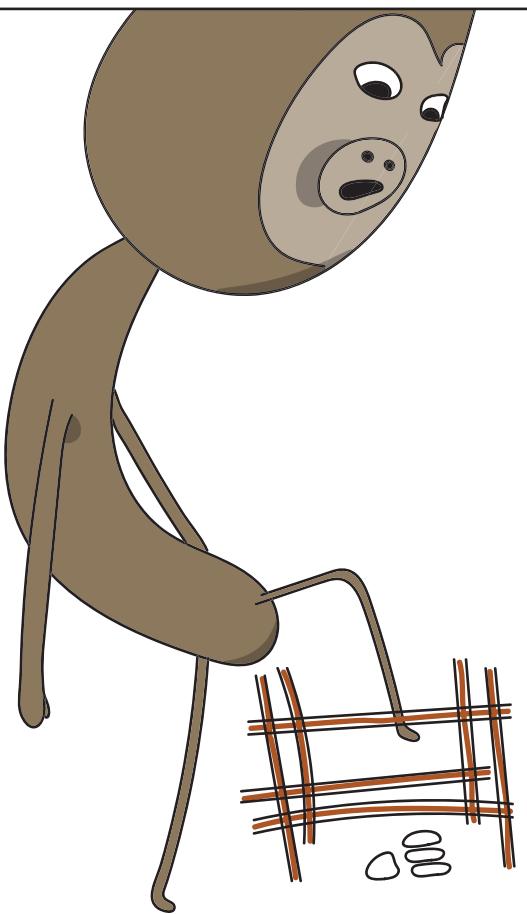
asked Marcus  
Can we please buy  
something?  
asked Marcus

We do not  
have time.  
Said Pandus



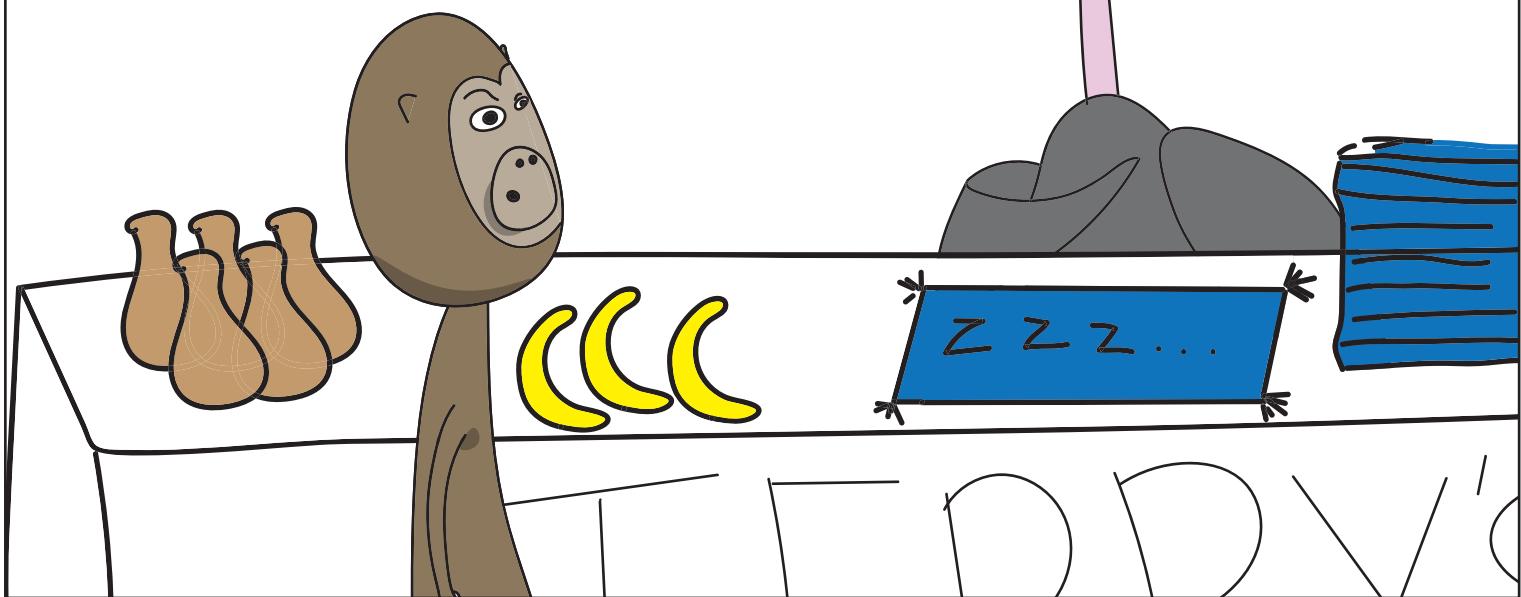




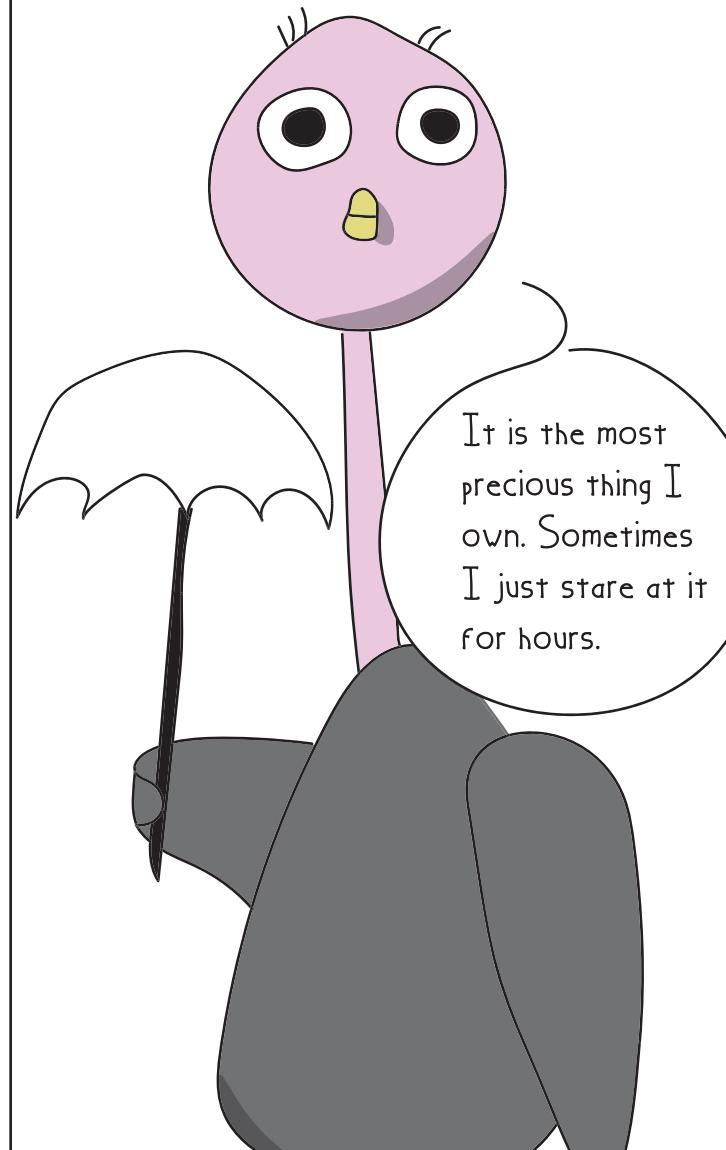
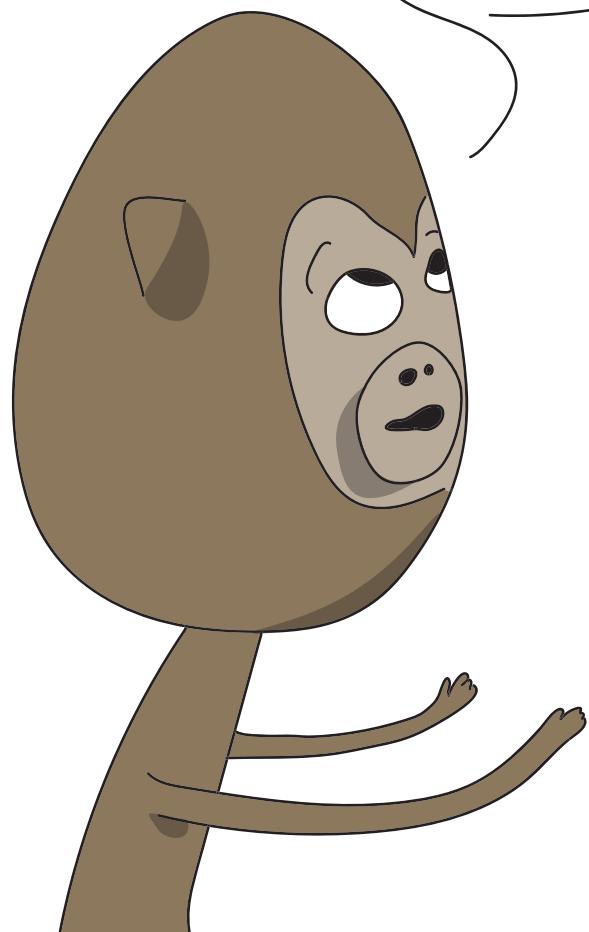


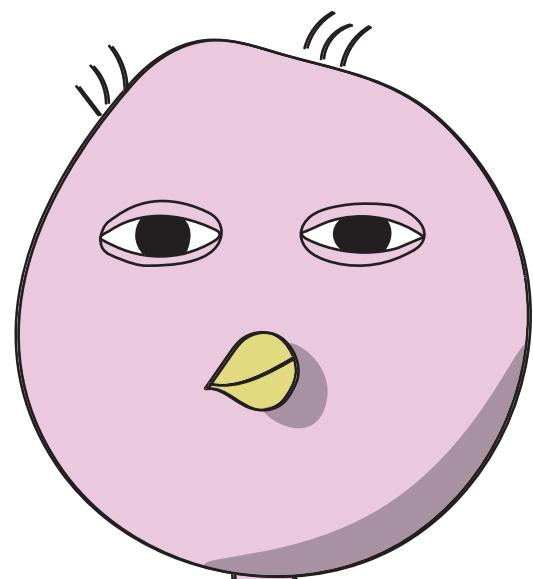
asked  
"And you put a fence  
around it?"  
asked Marcus

Of course. I also do  
some maintenance  
work now and then.

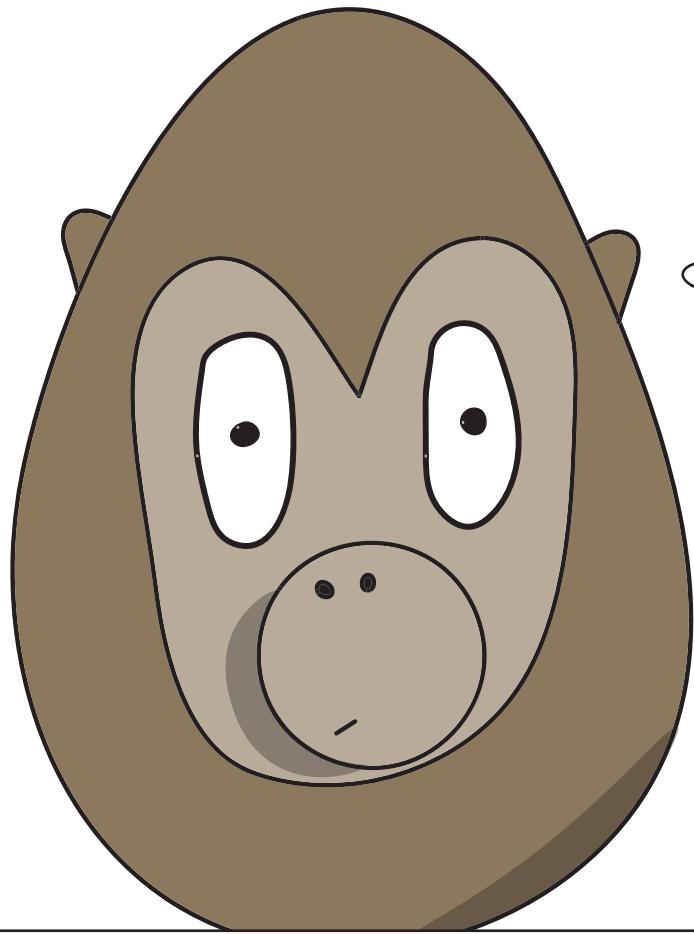


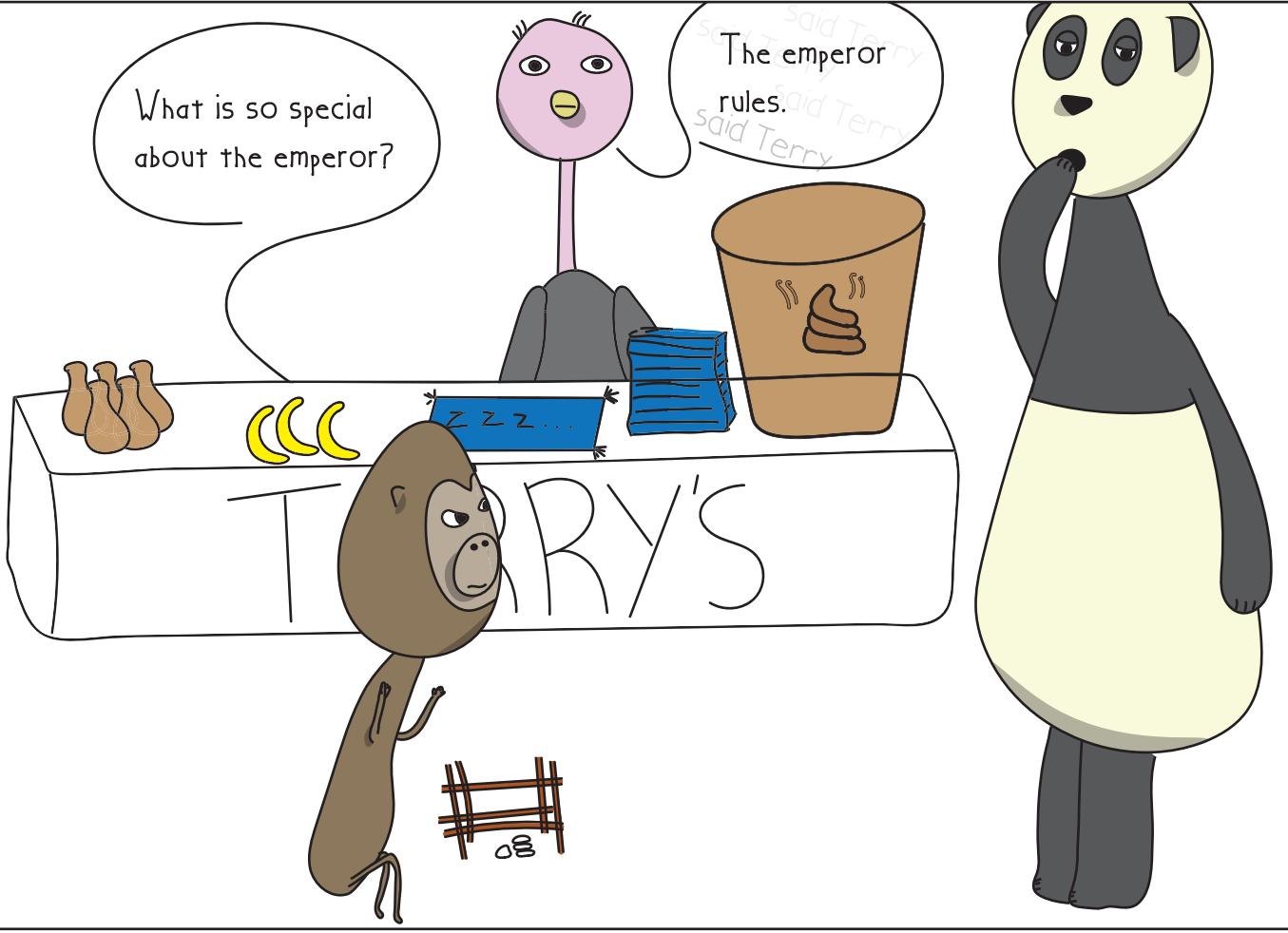
What do you do  
when it rains?



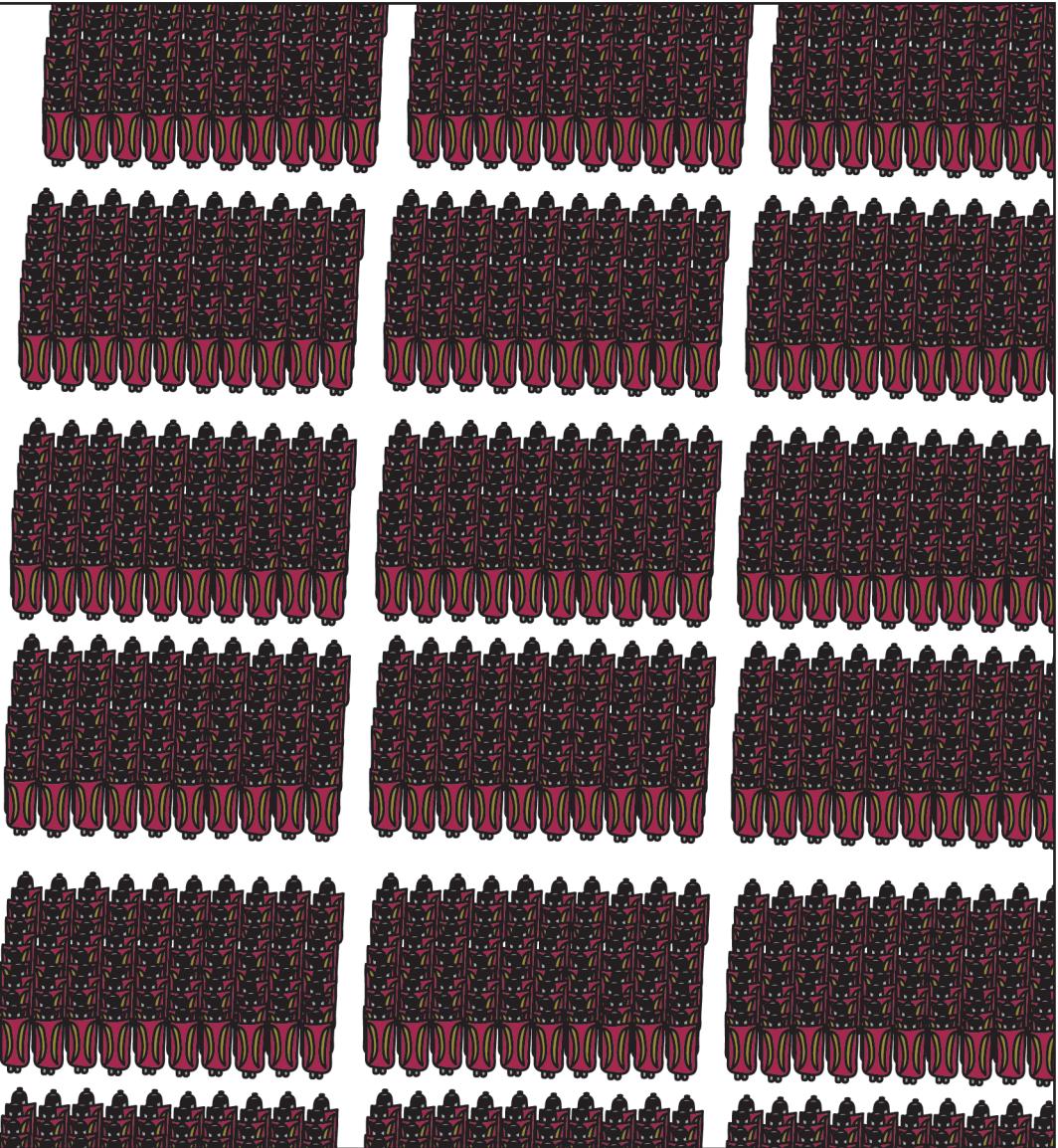


You think this is a chair I am sitting on?

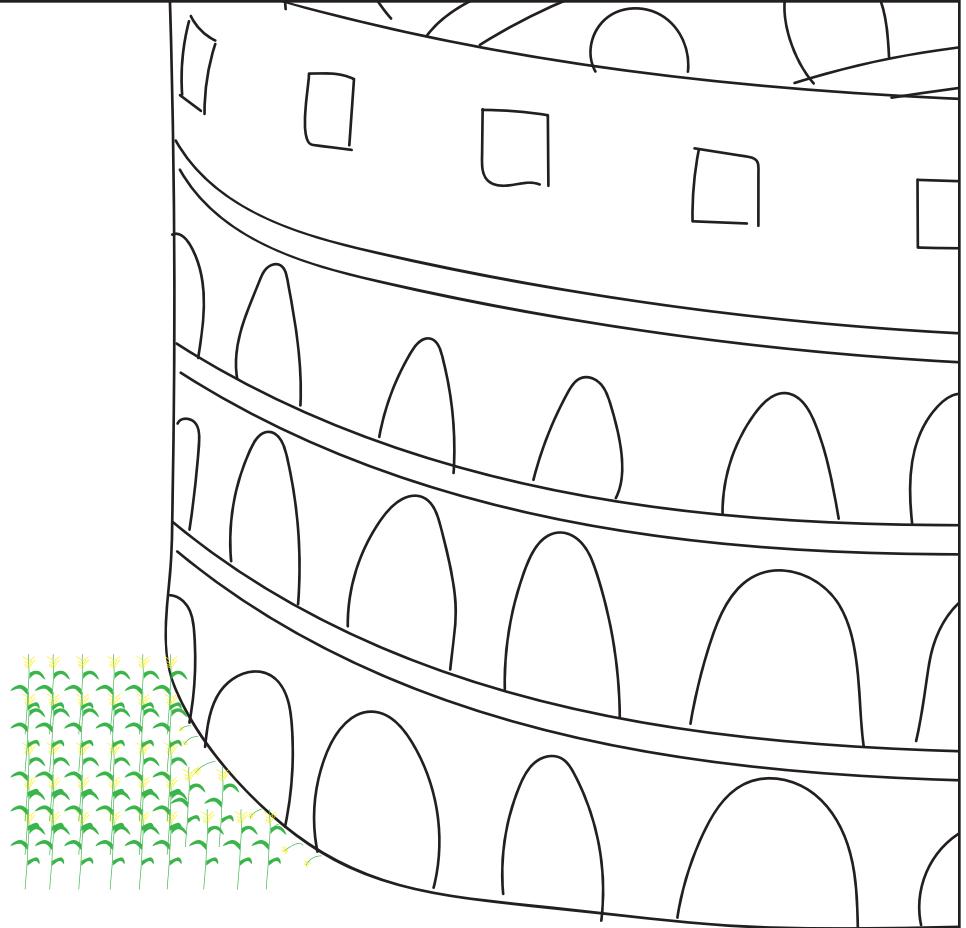
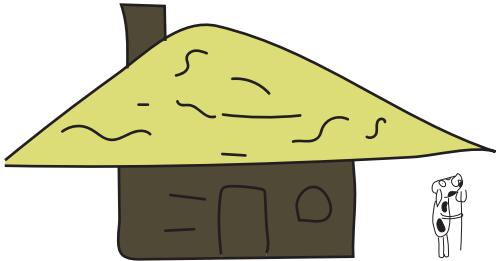




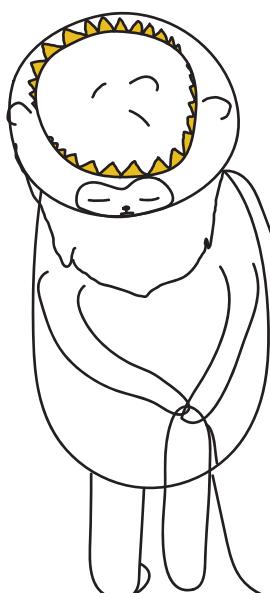
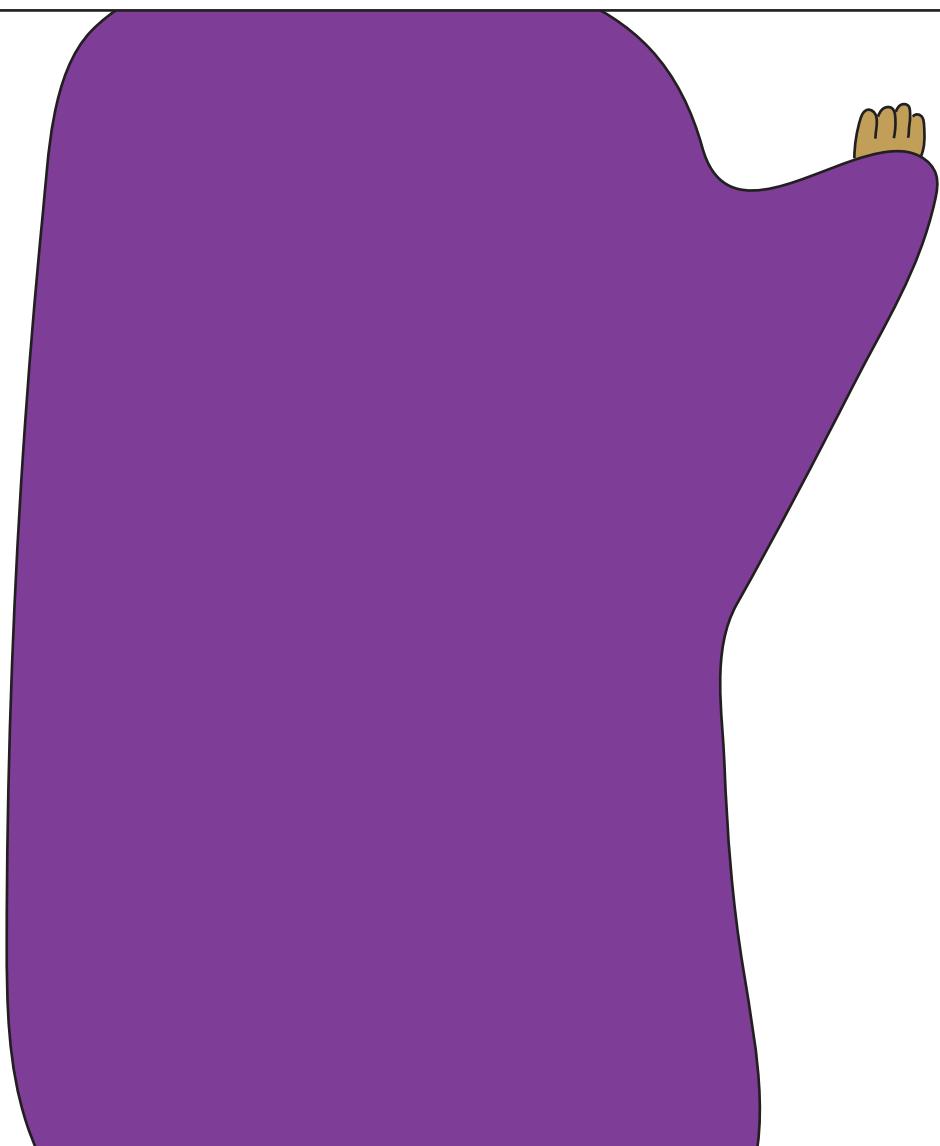
He controls the greatest  
army in the world.



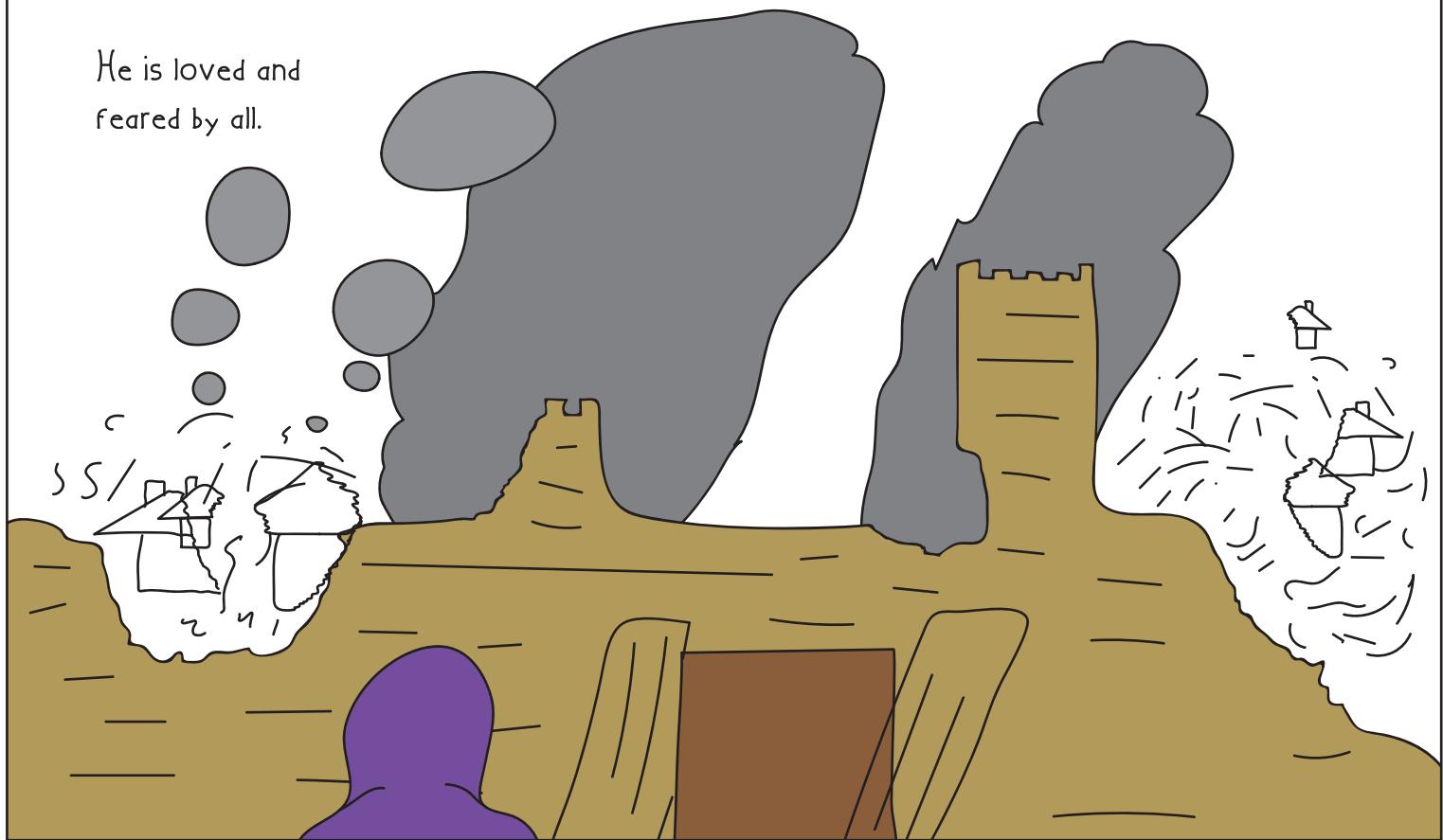
He builds whatever he  
wants, wherever he  
wants it.



Crowns kneel  
for him.

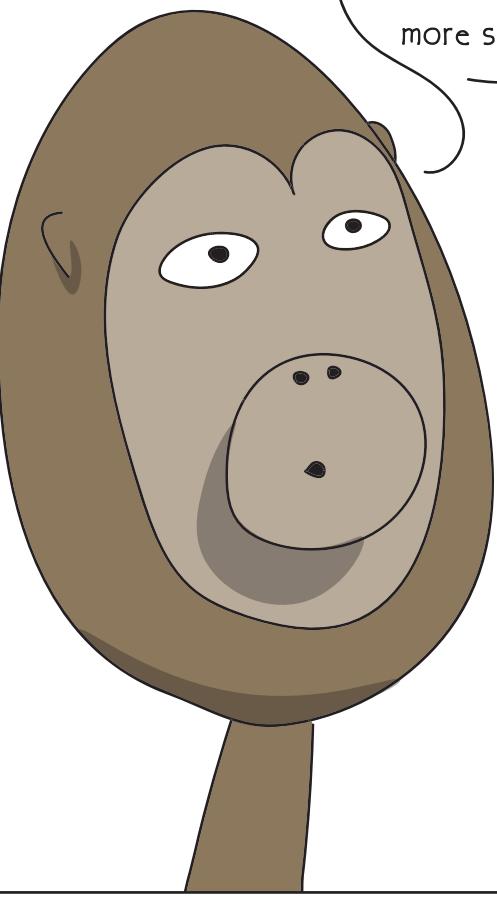


He is loved and  
feared by all.

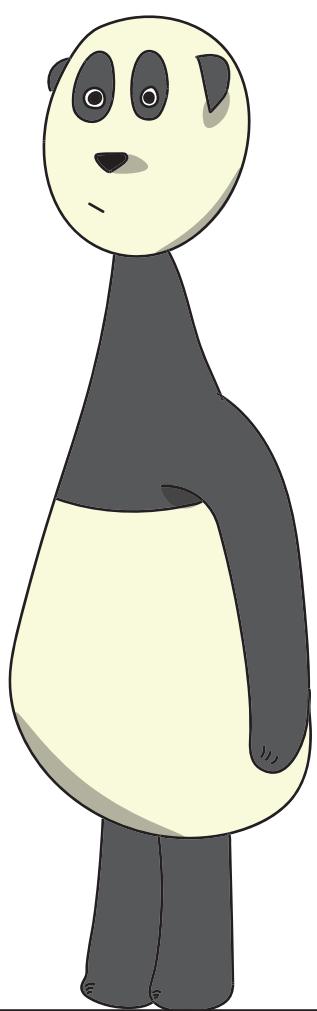
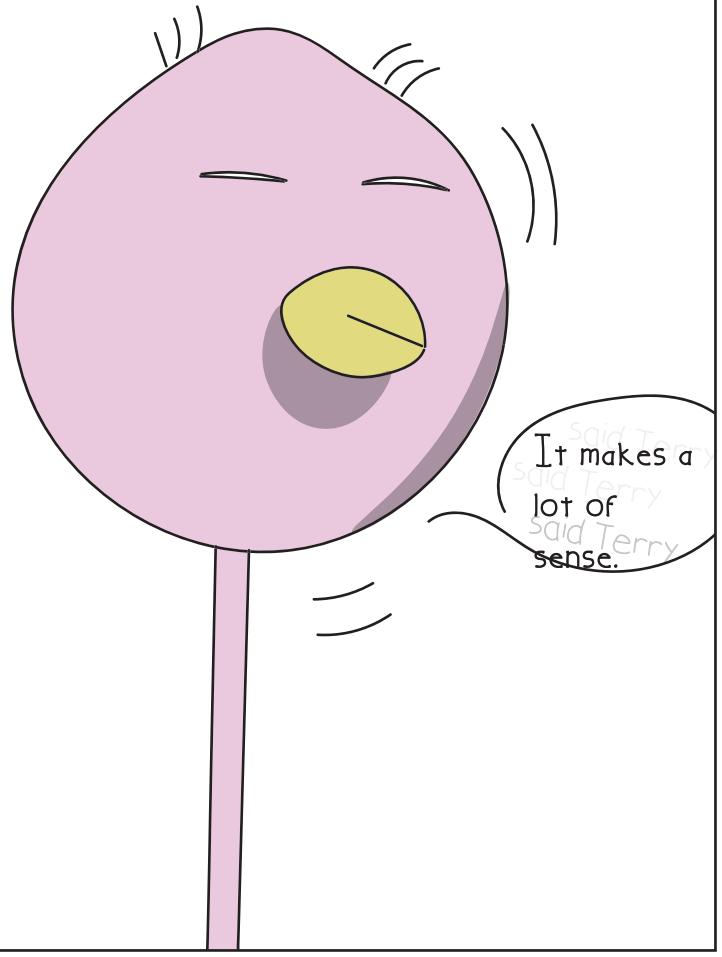


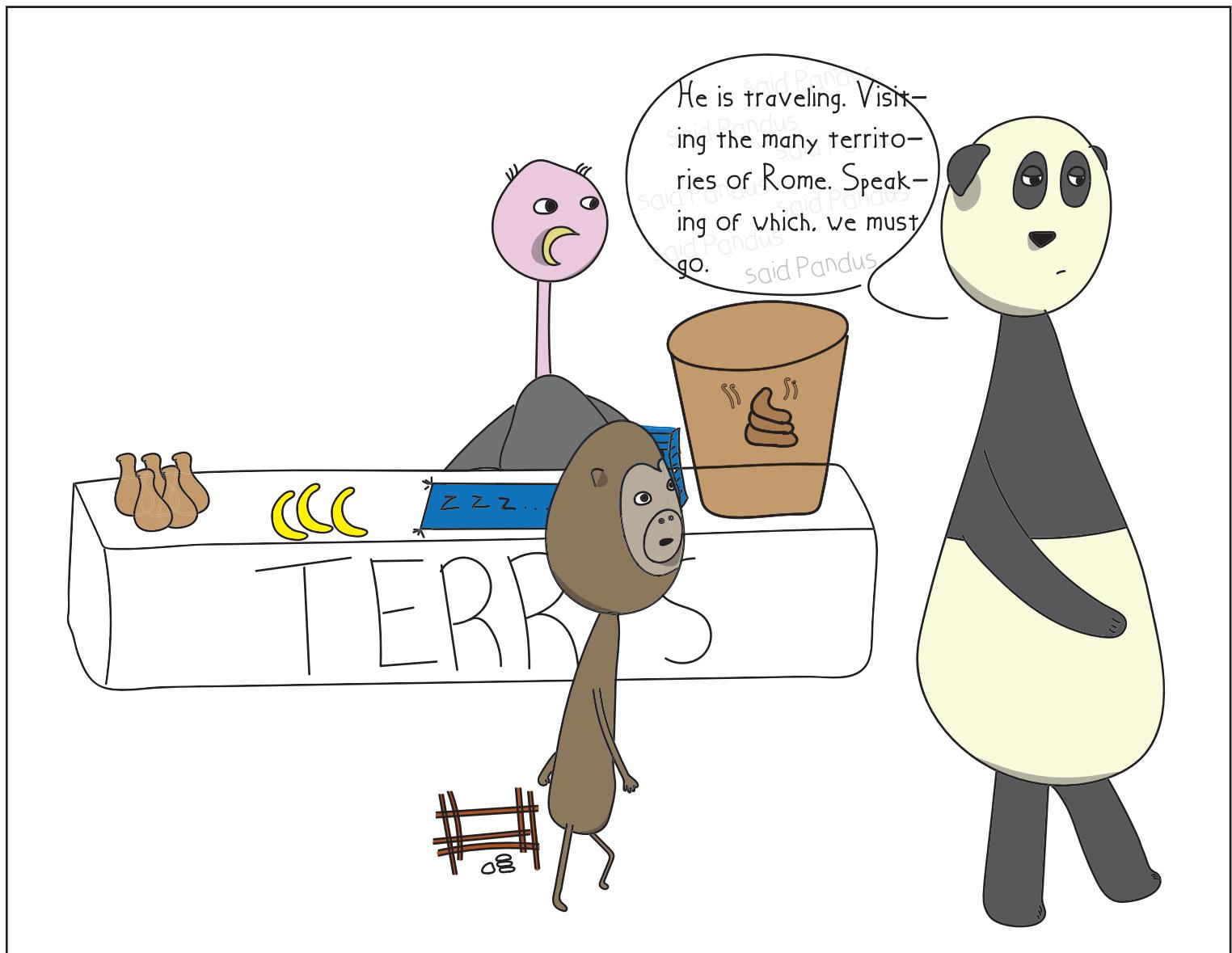
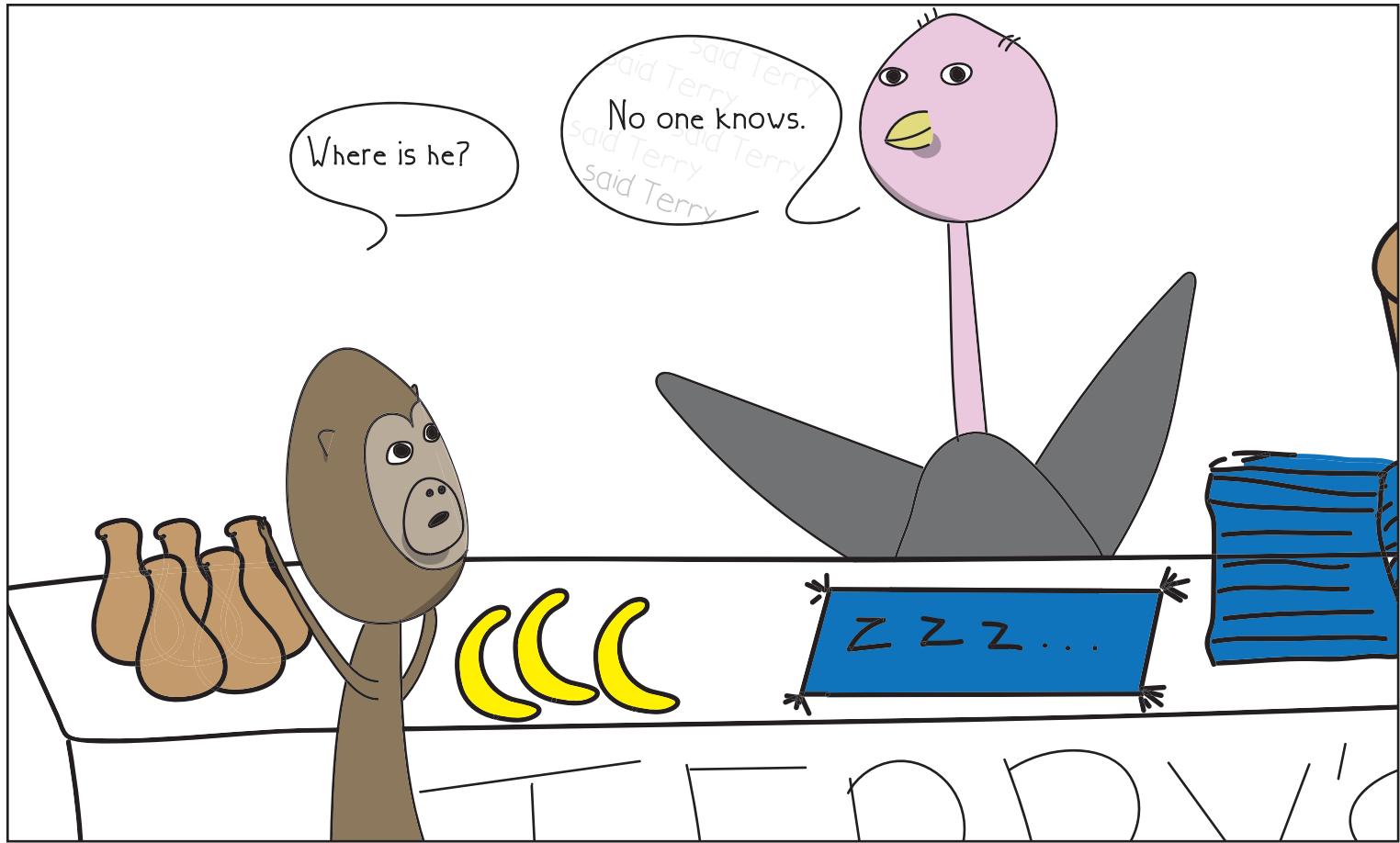
And he  
stepped  
there.

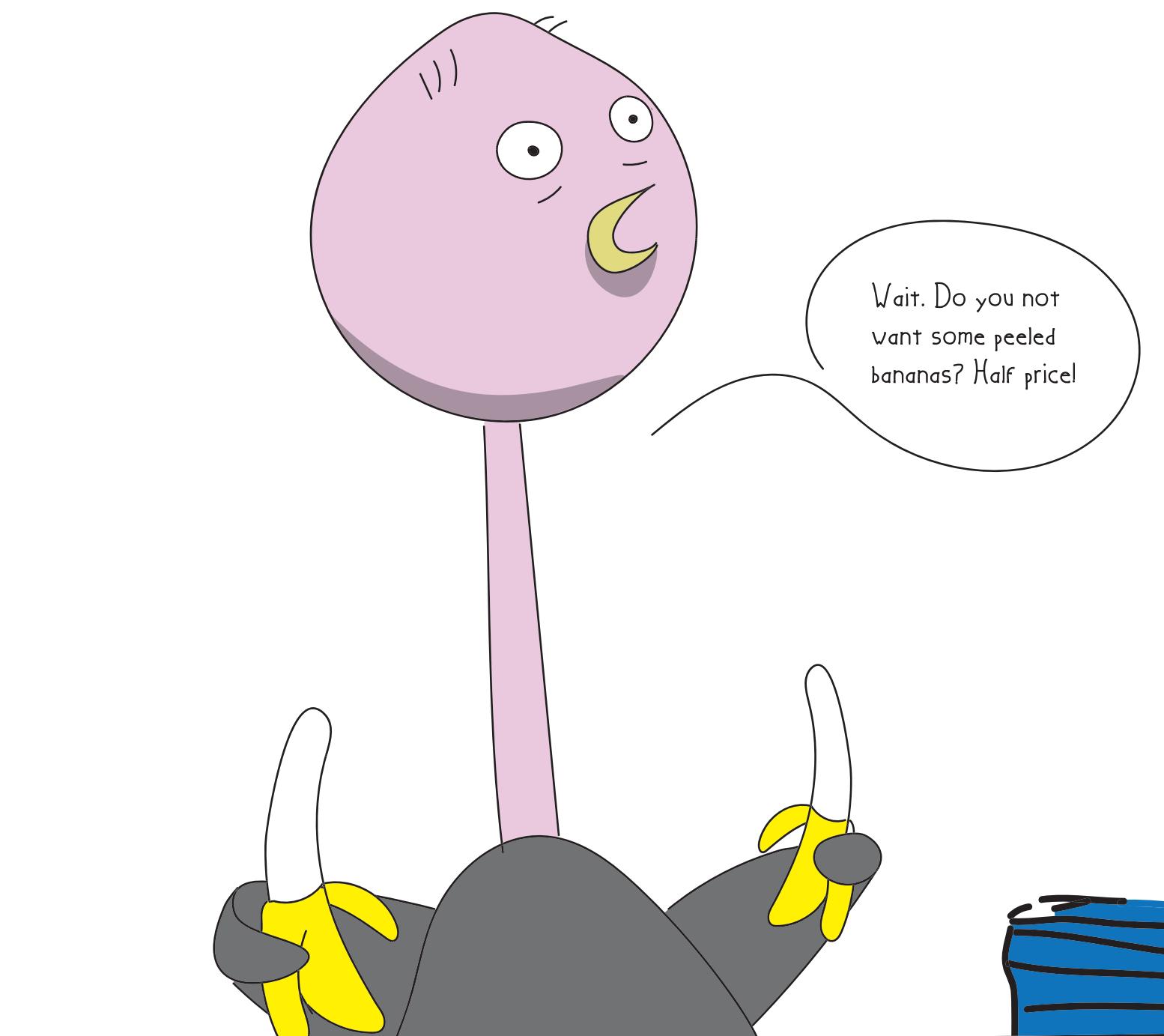




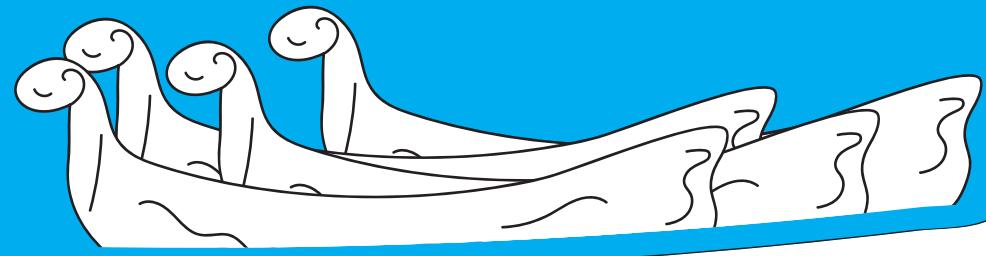
When you put it like that, it makes a lot more sense.



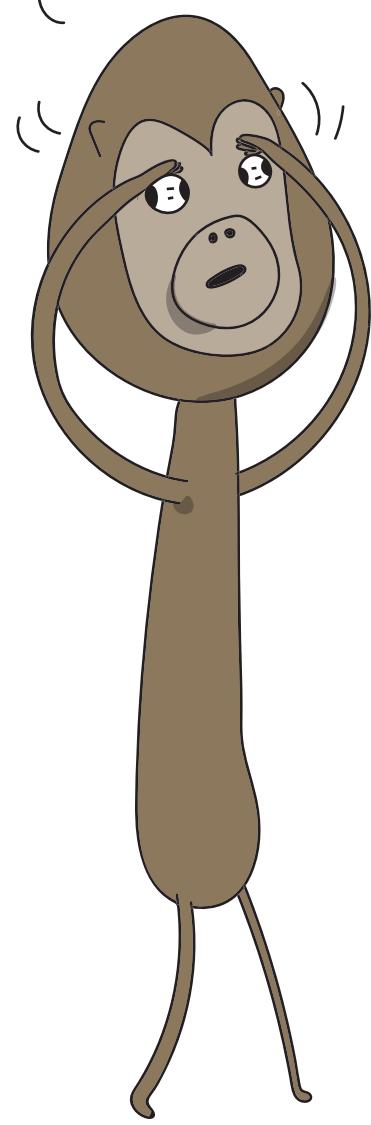


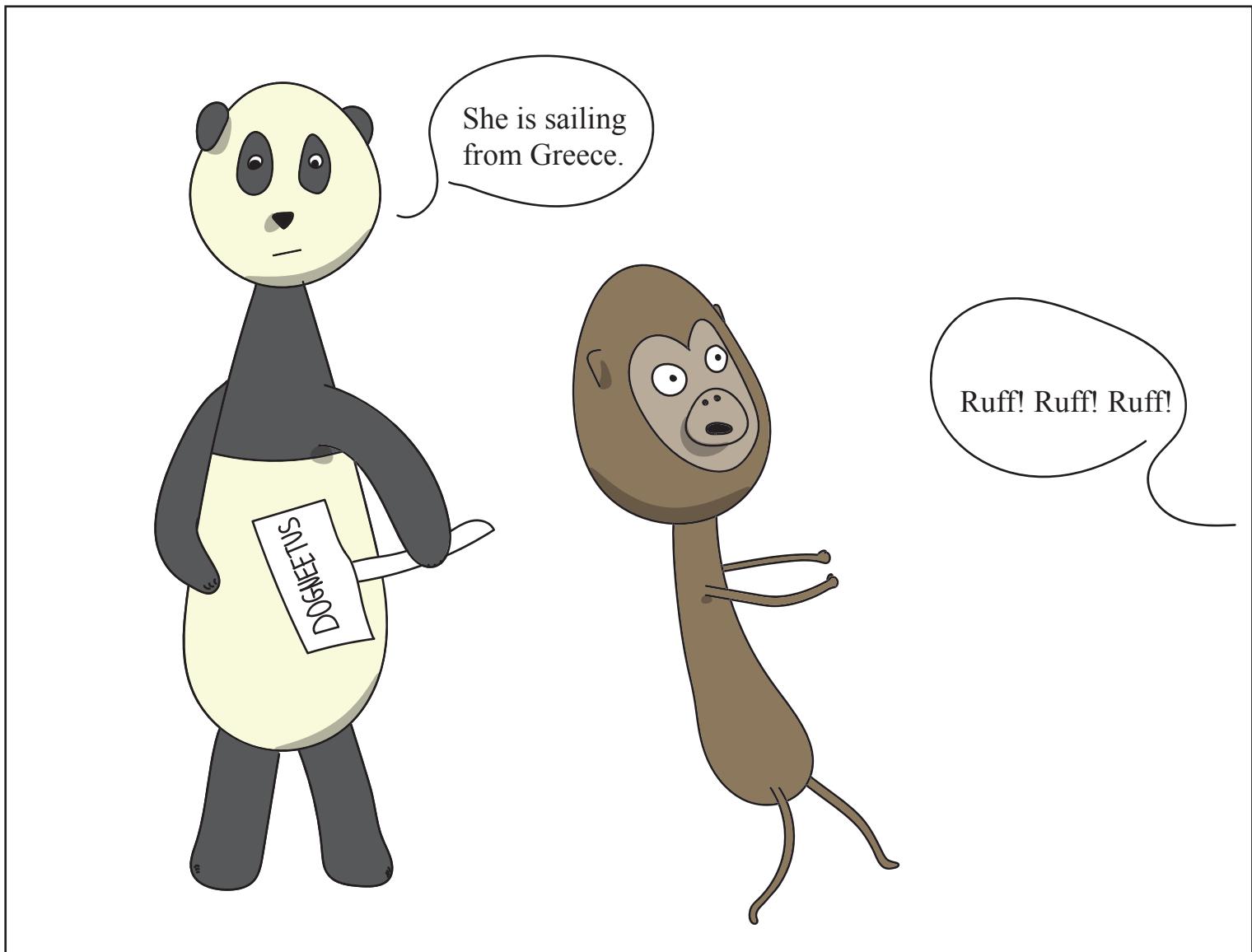
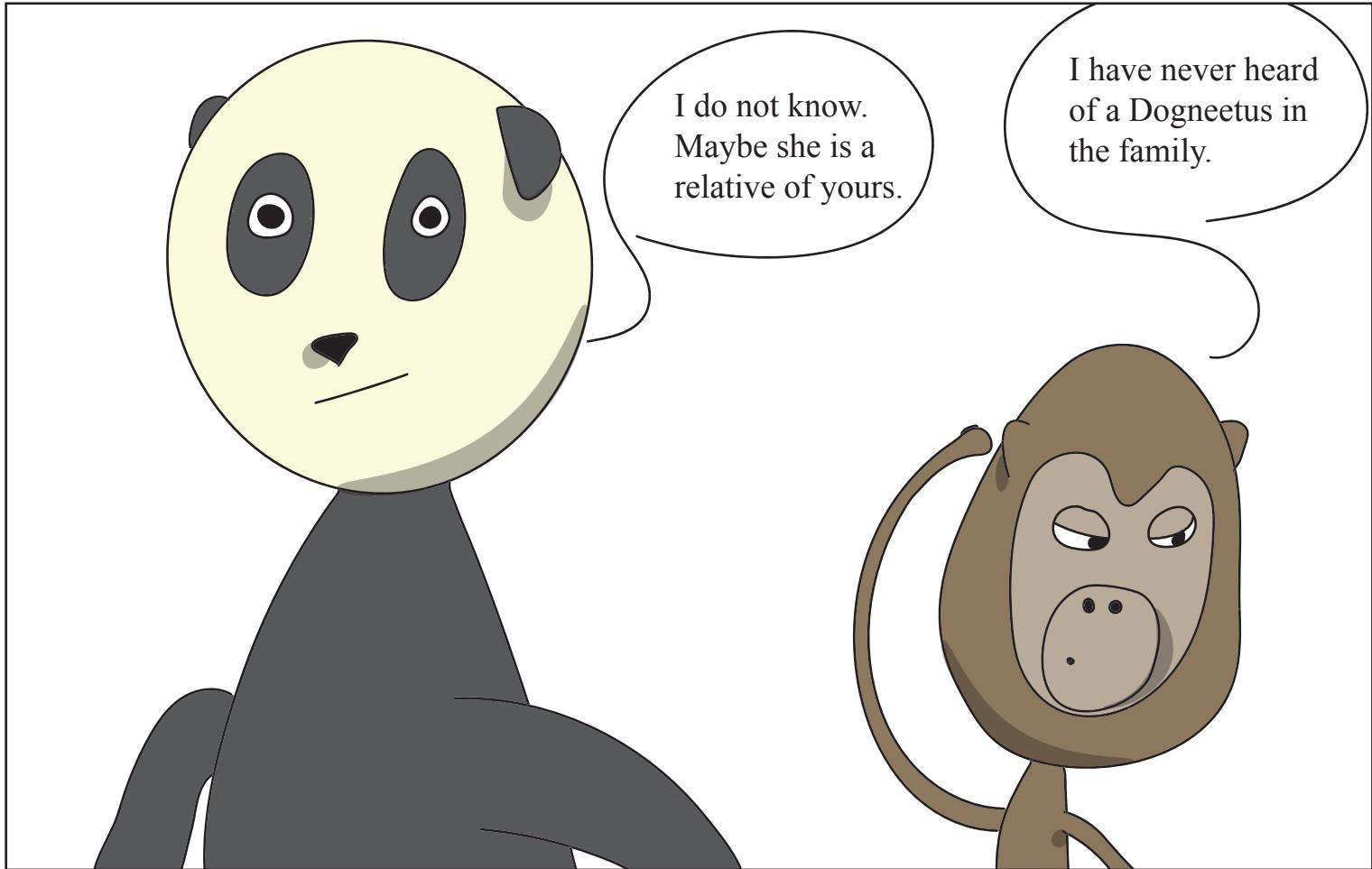


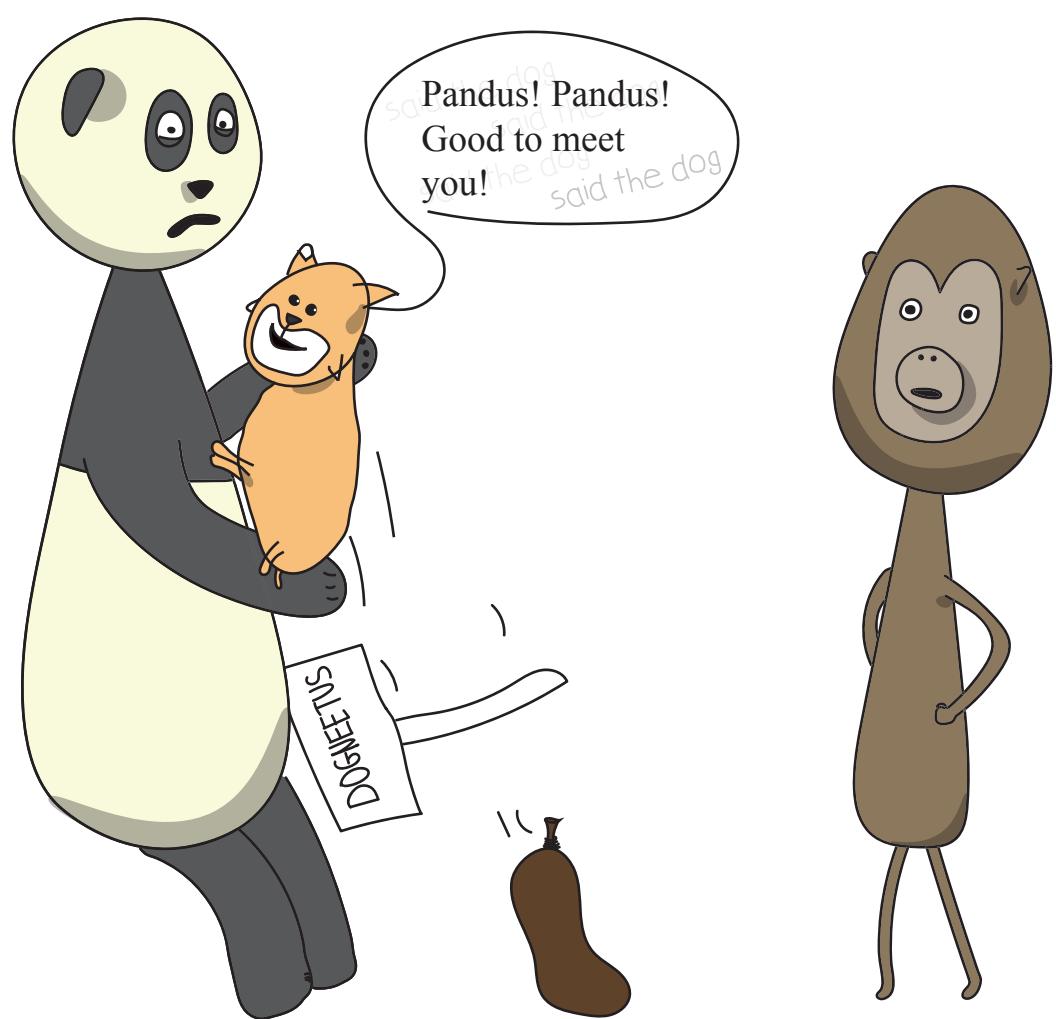
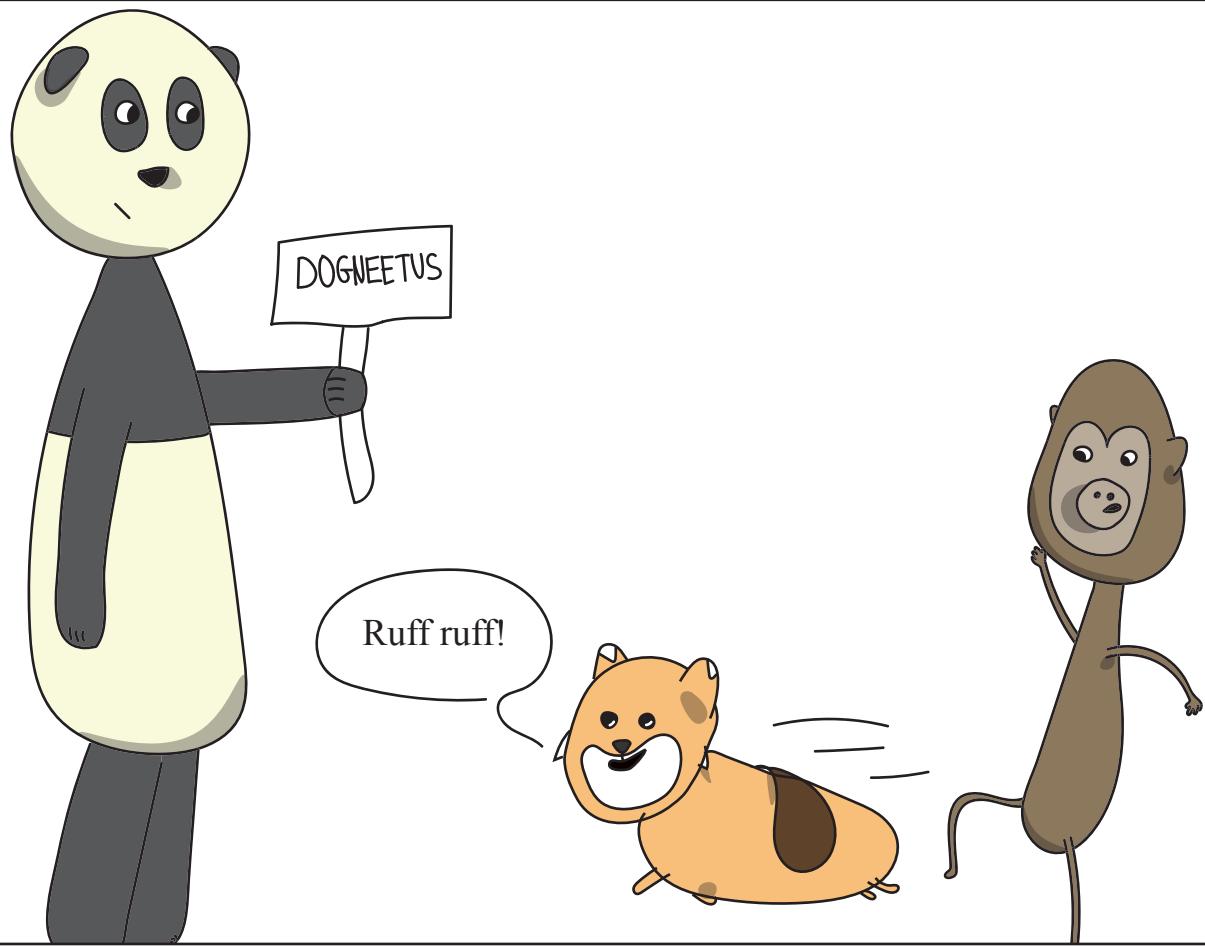
## Chapter 4 - Dogneetus

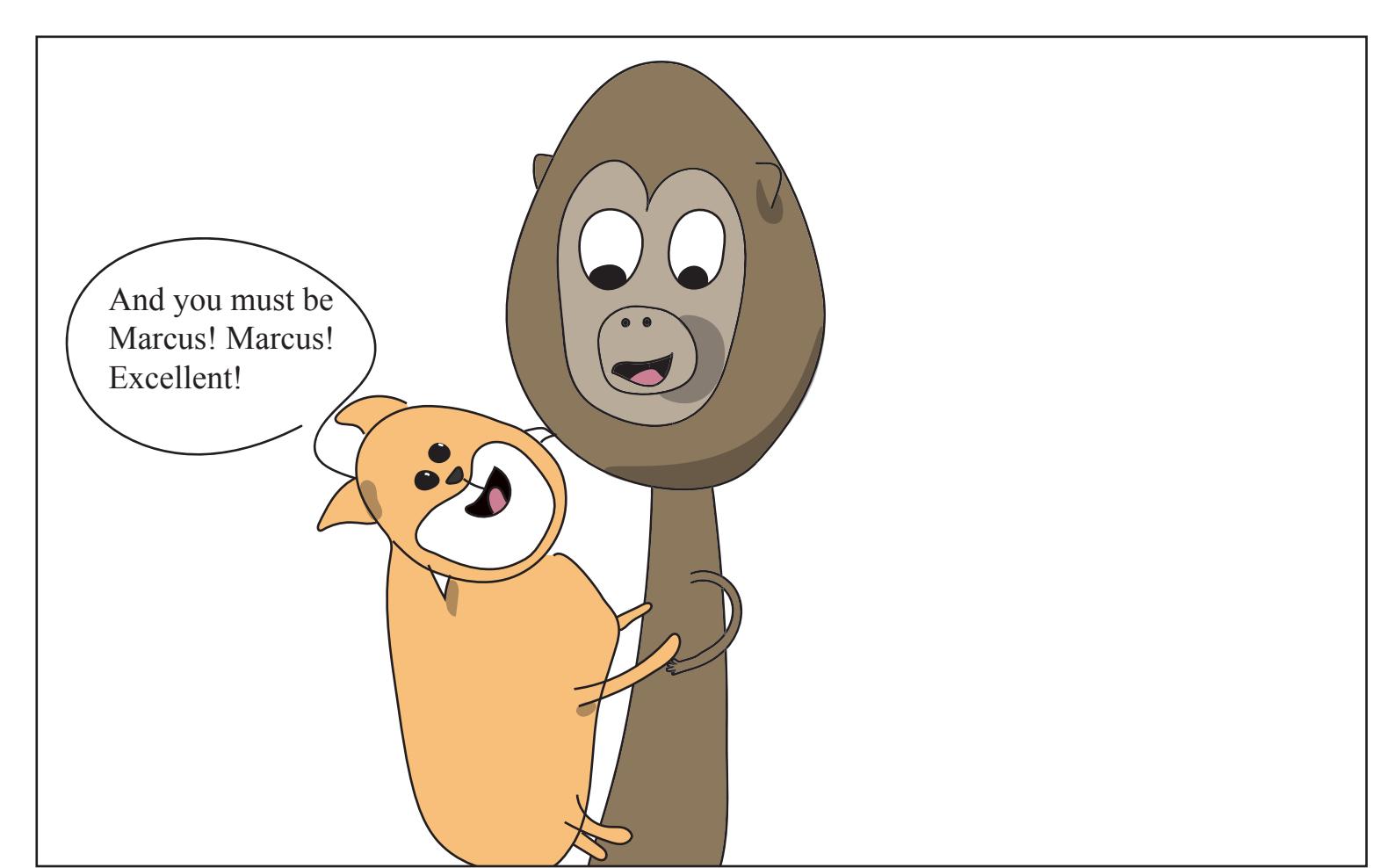


What does  
asked Marcus  
Dogneetus look  
like? asked Marcus

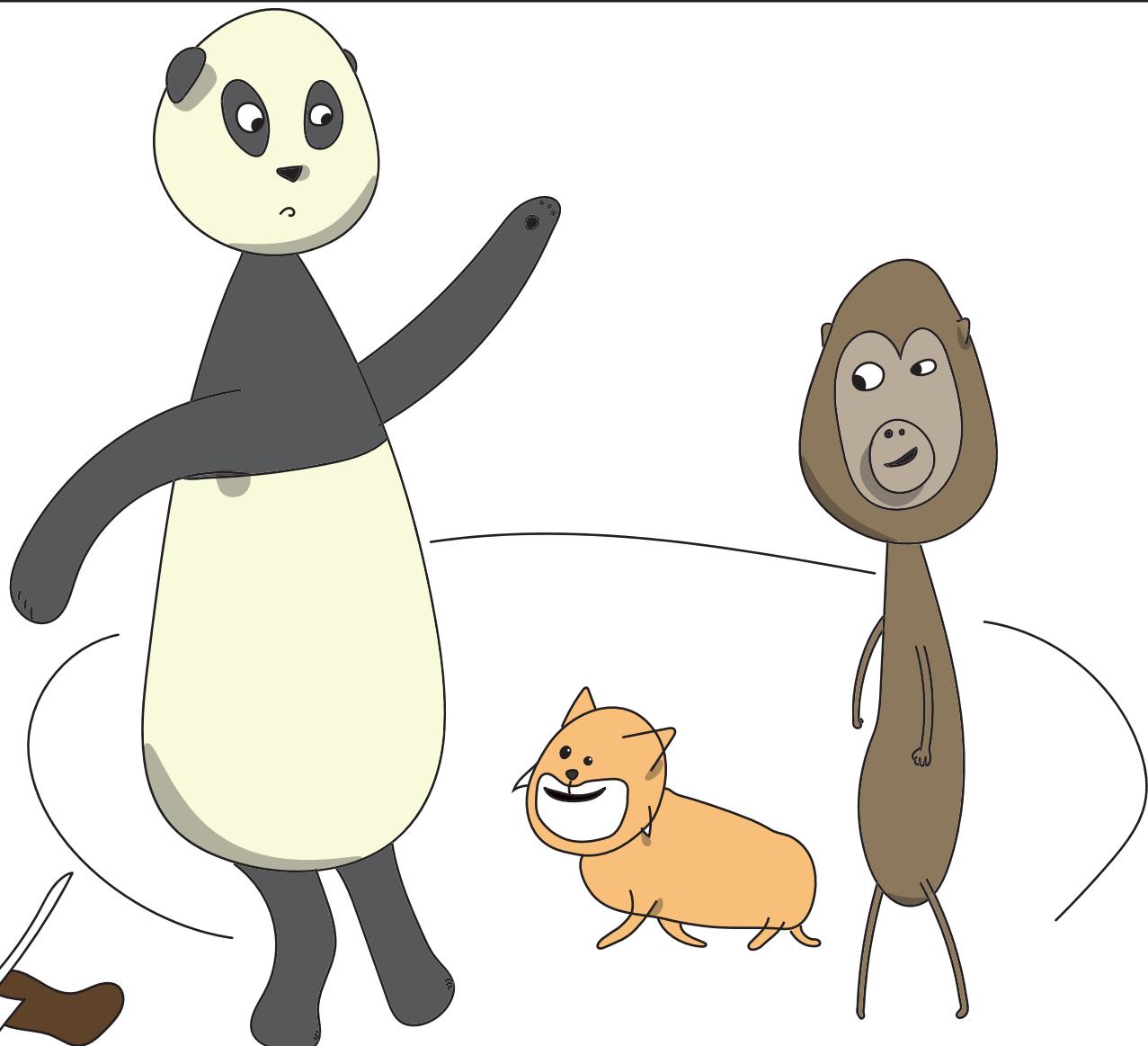


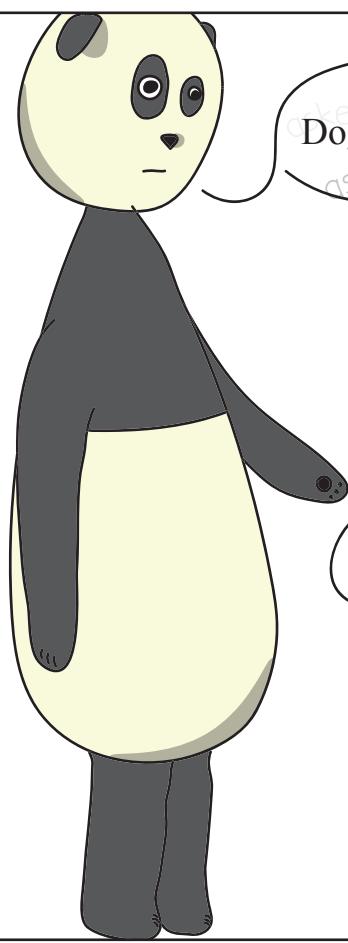




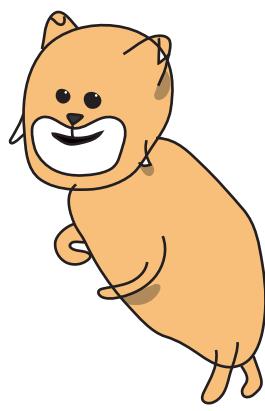


And you must be  
Marcus! Marcus!  
Excellent!

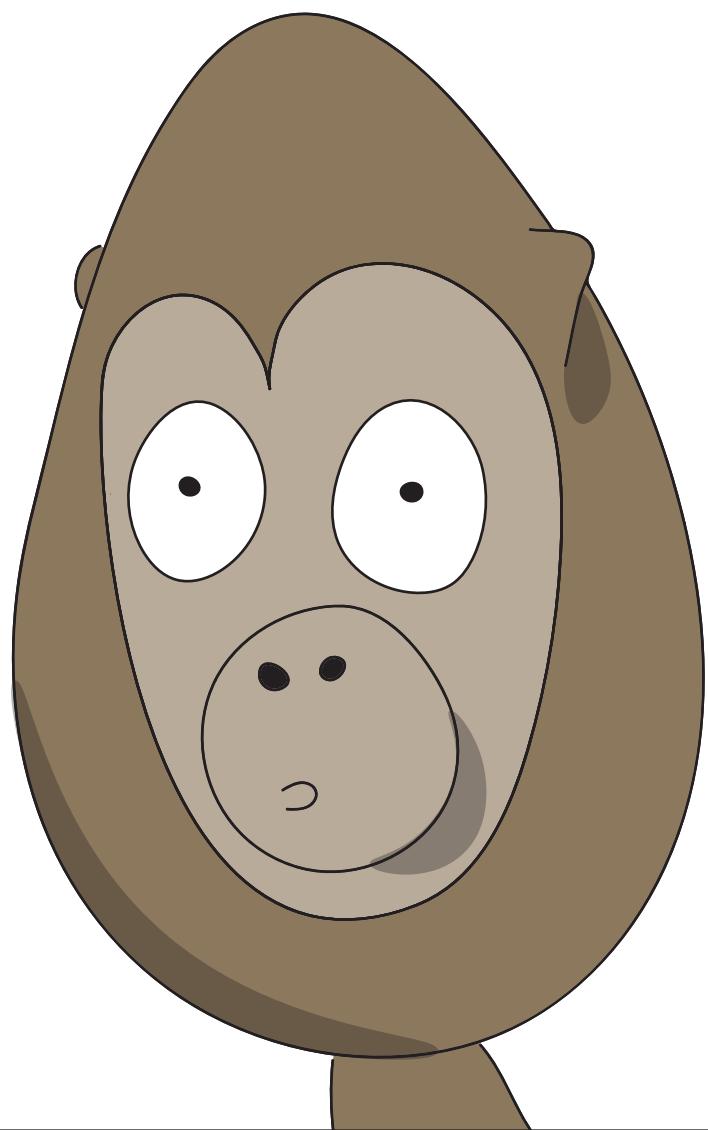
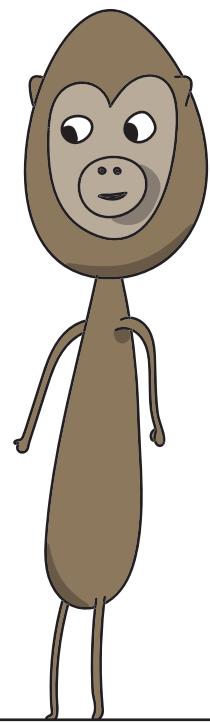


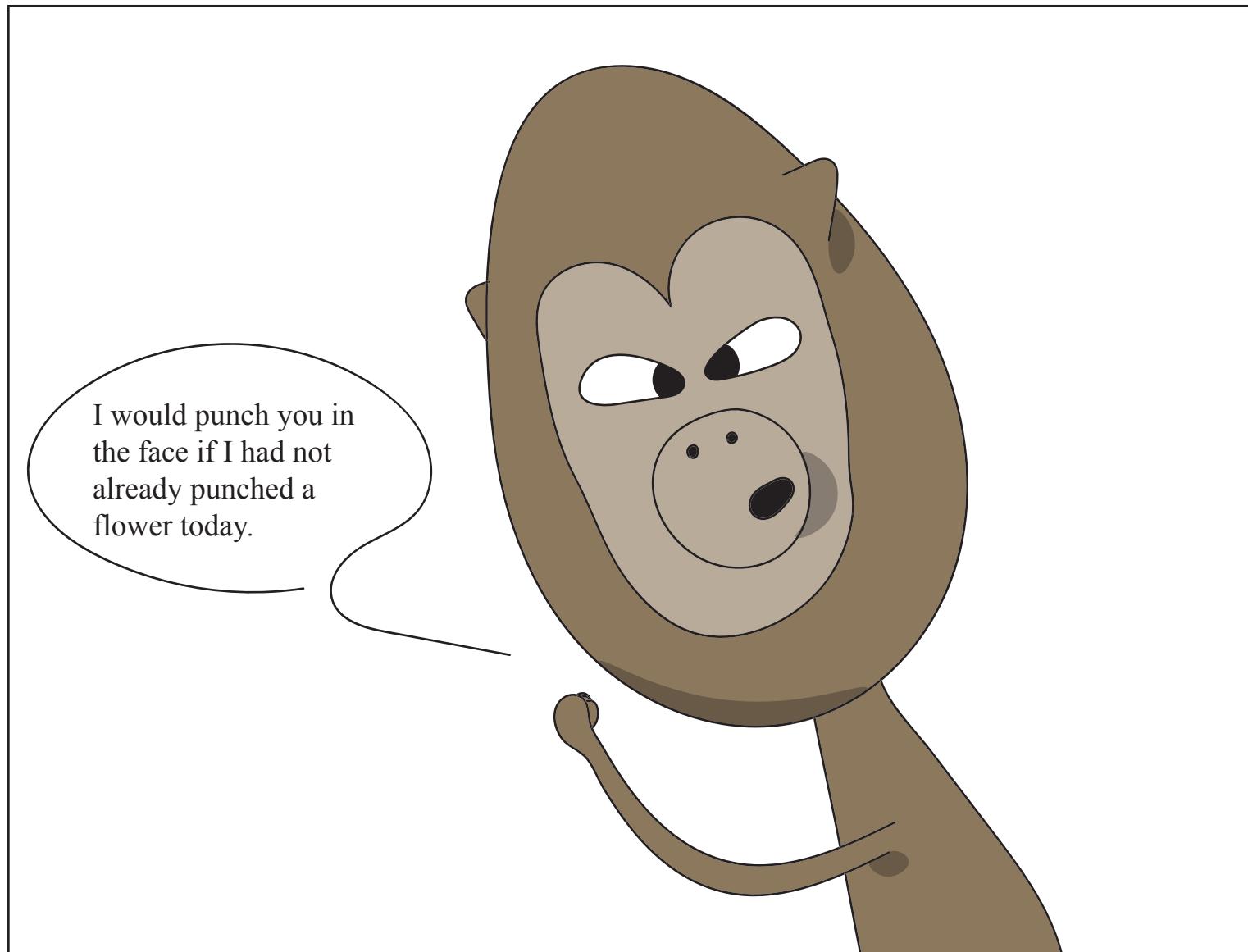
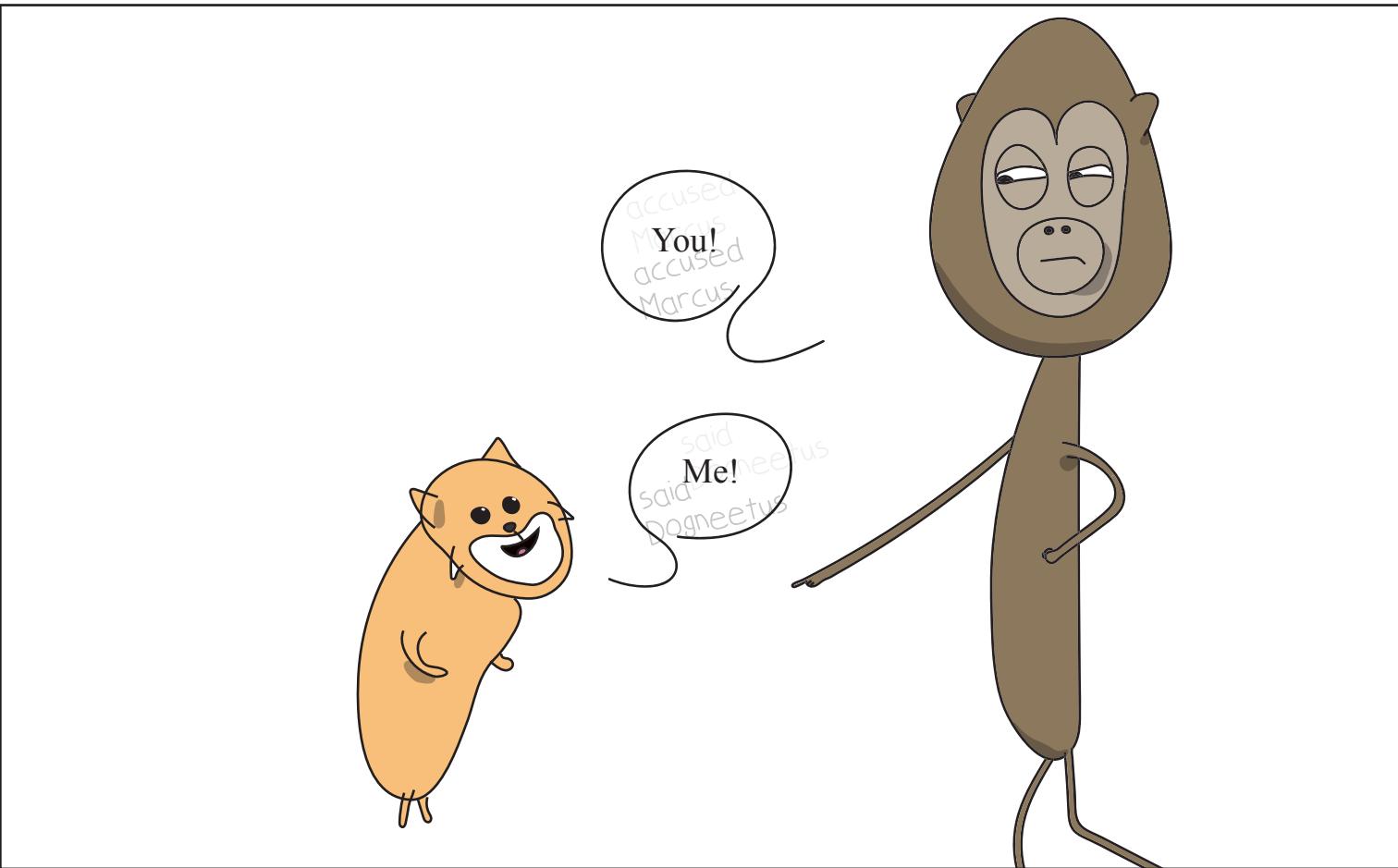


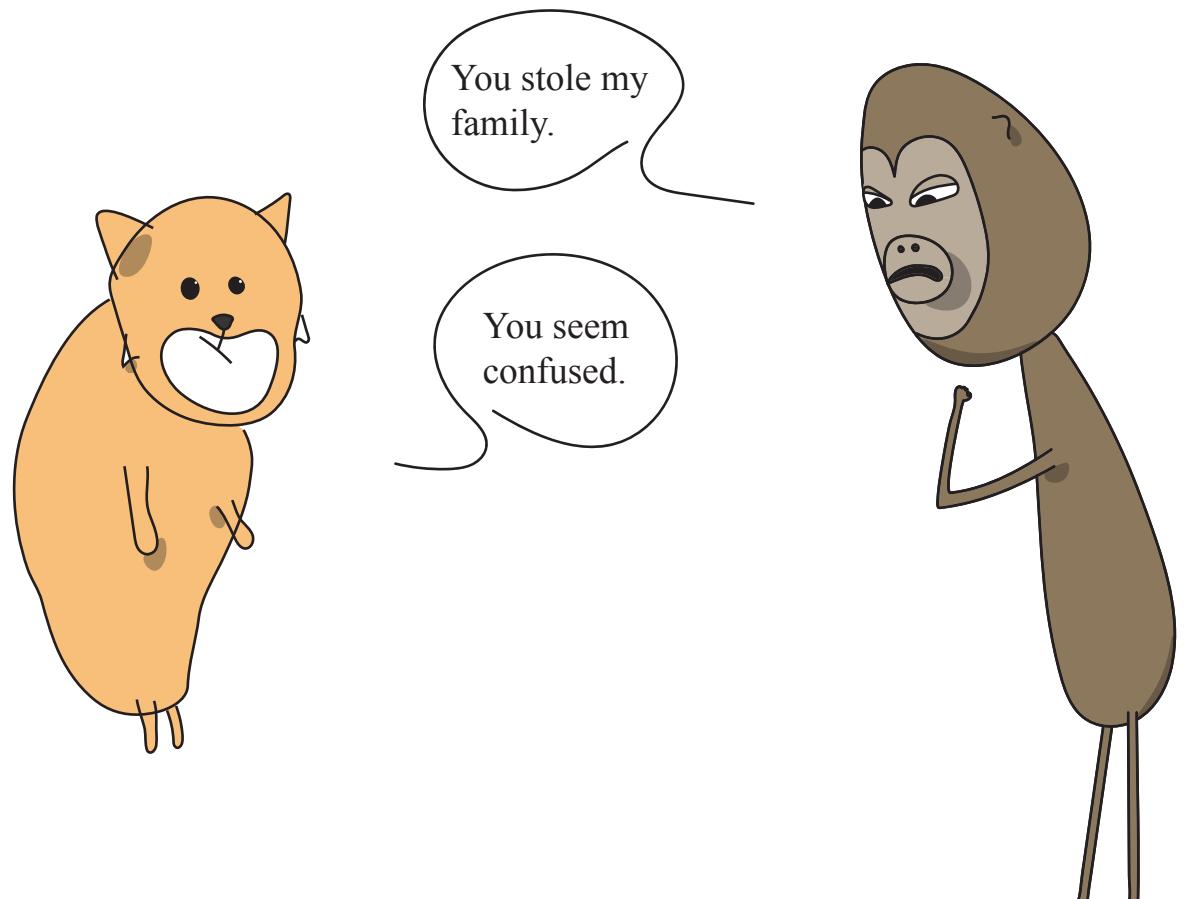
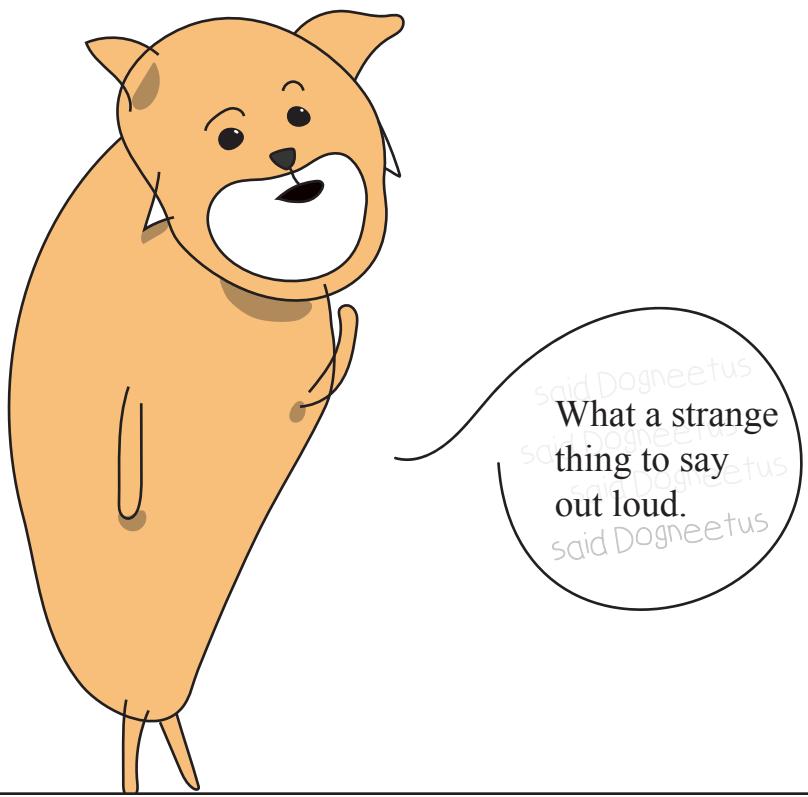
Dogneetus?  
asked Pandus

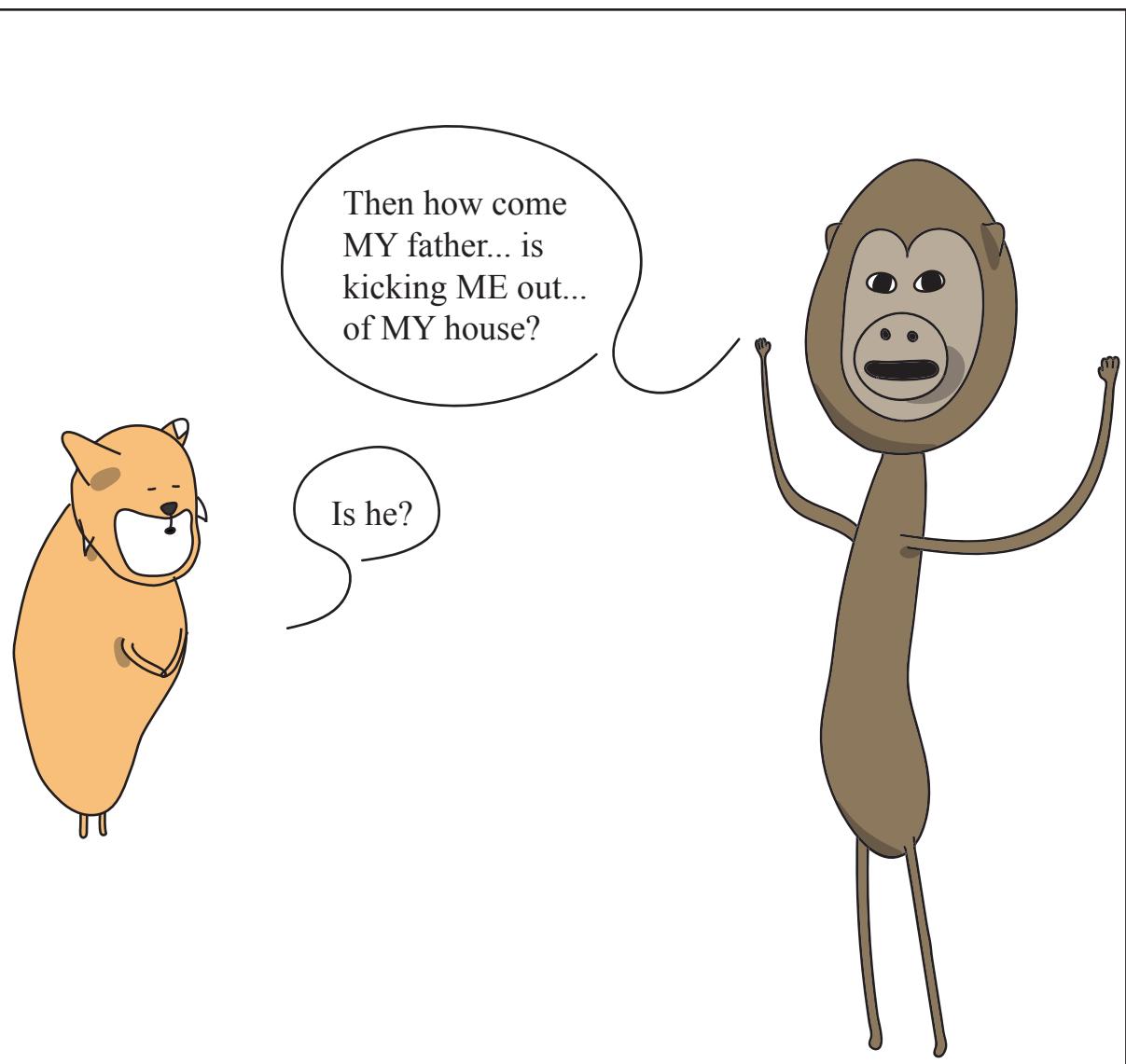
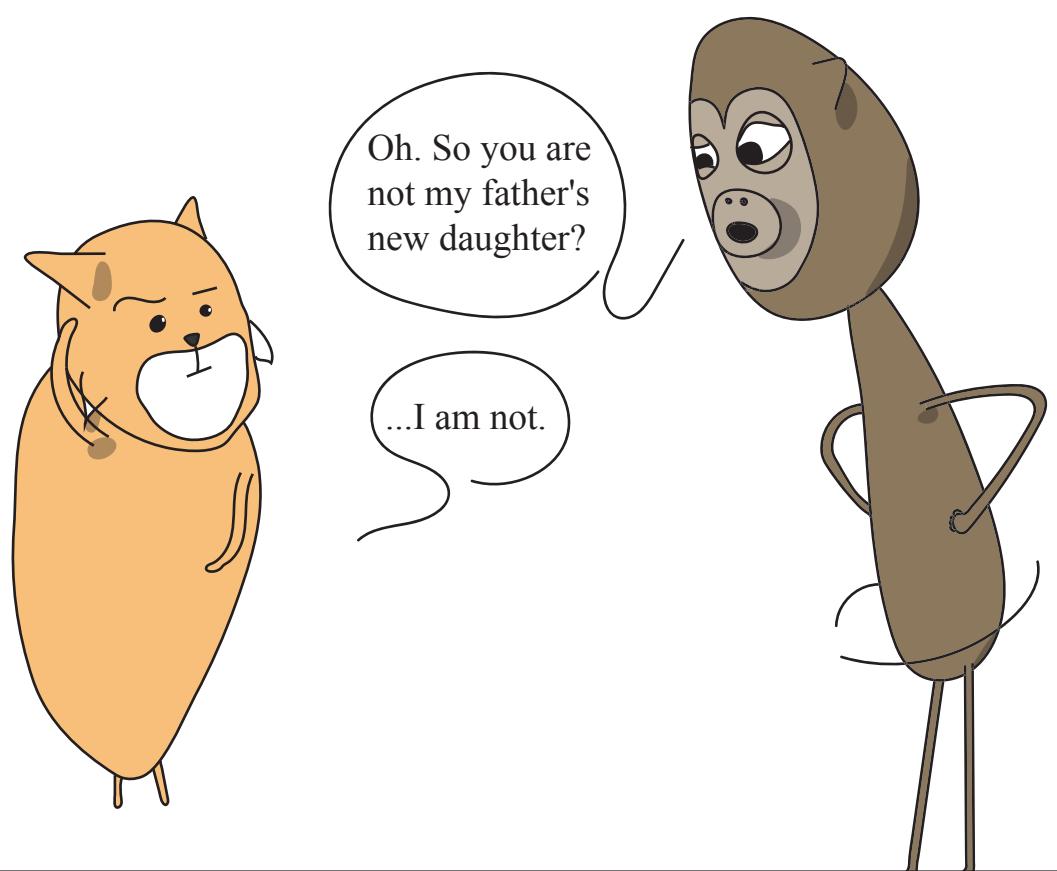


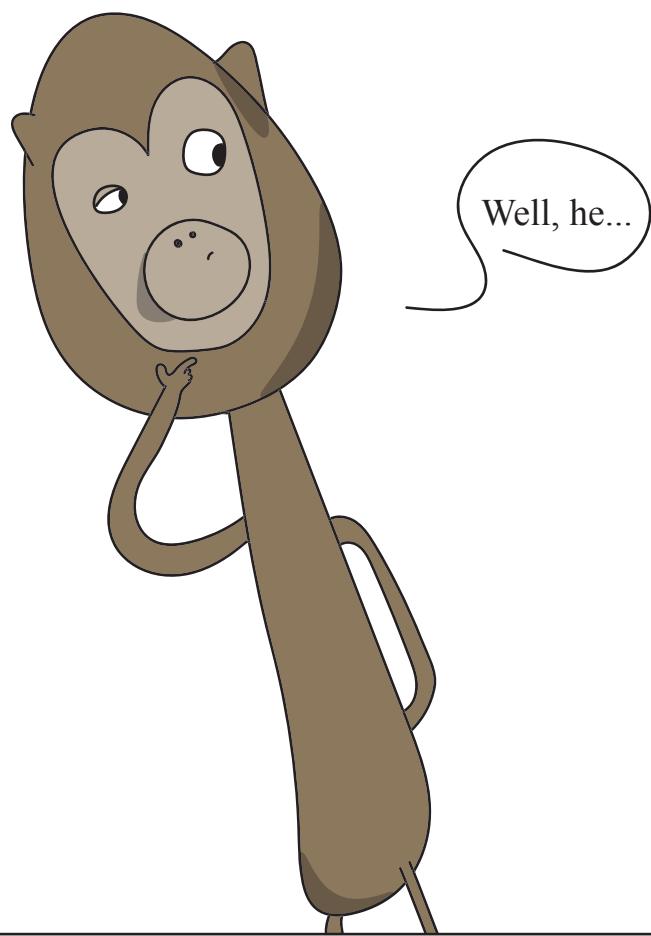
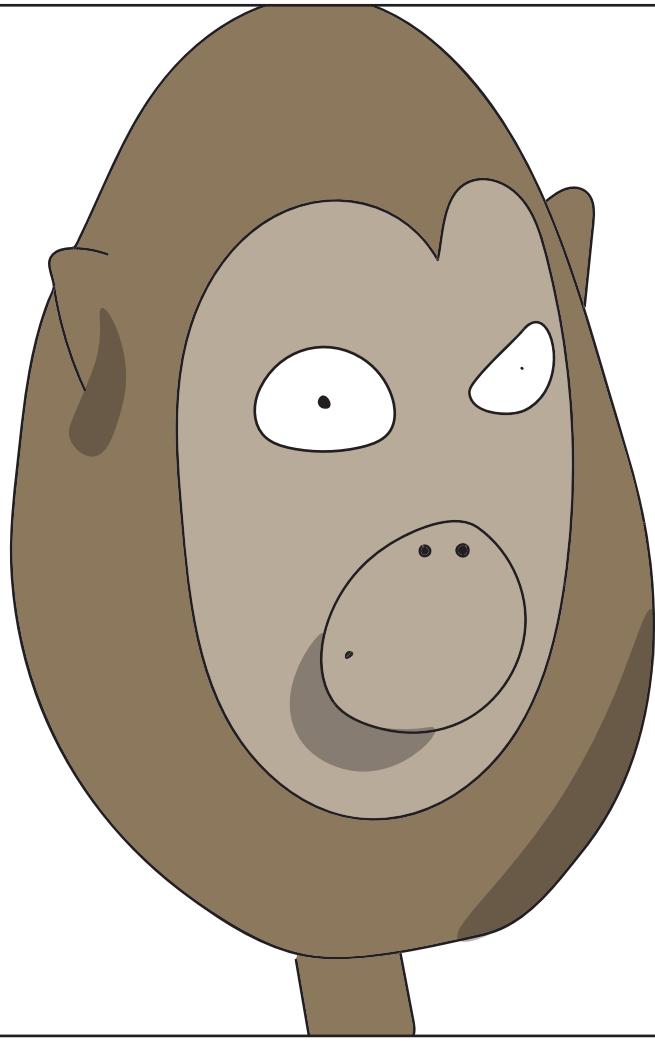
That I am.

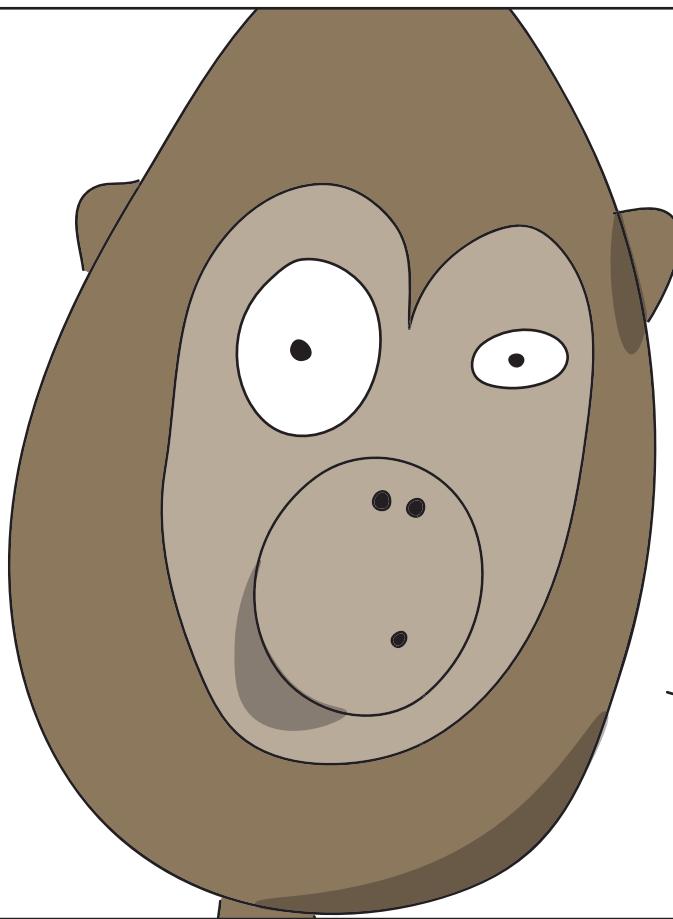




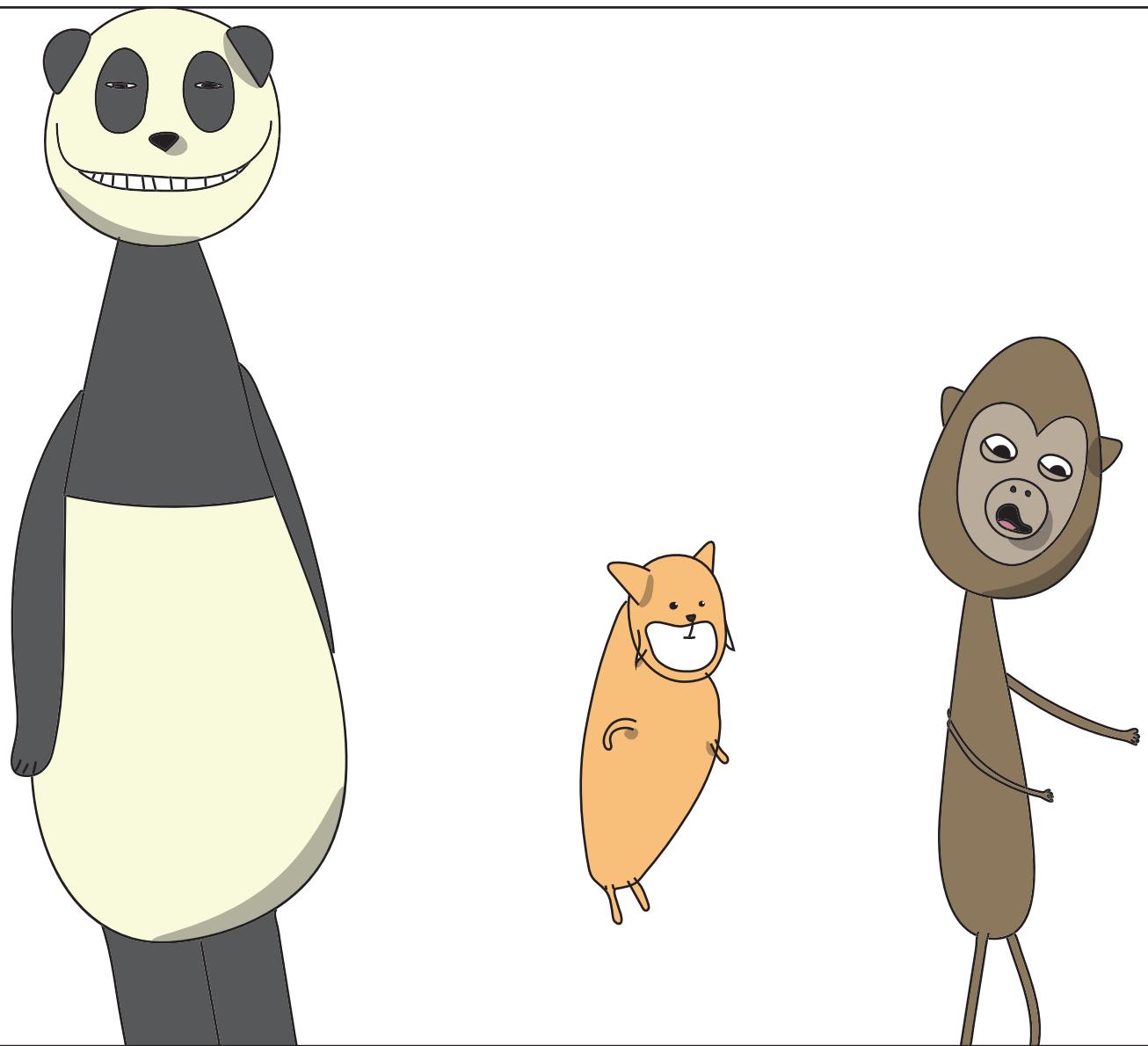


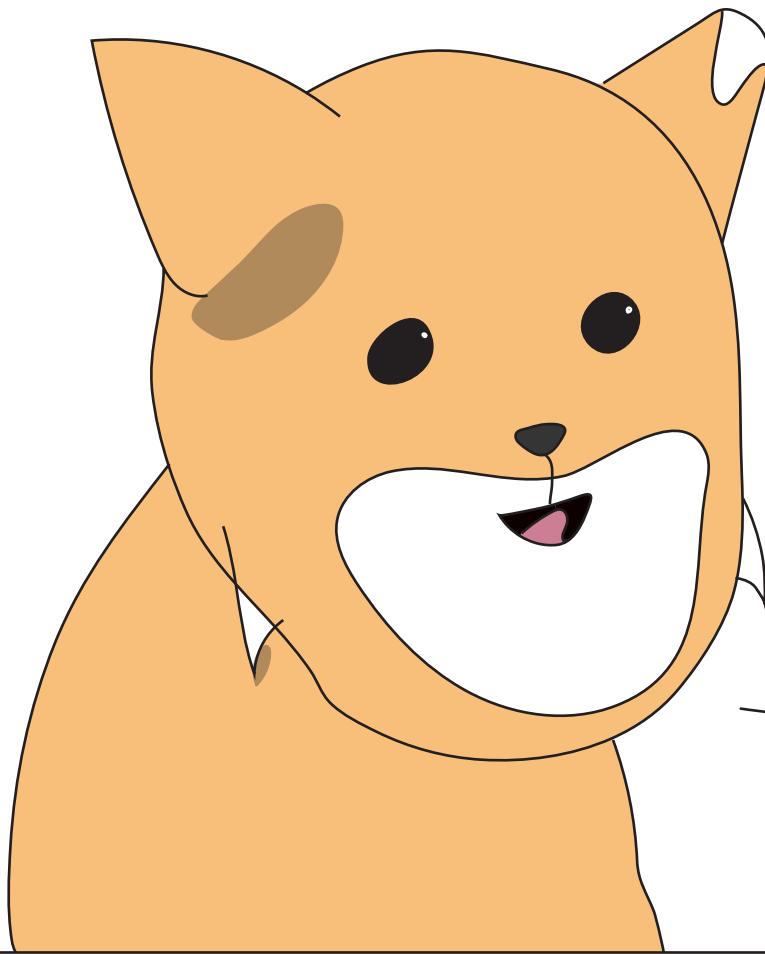






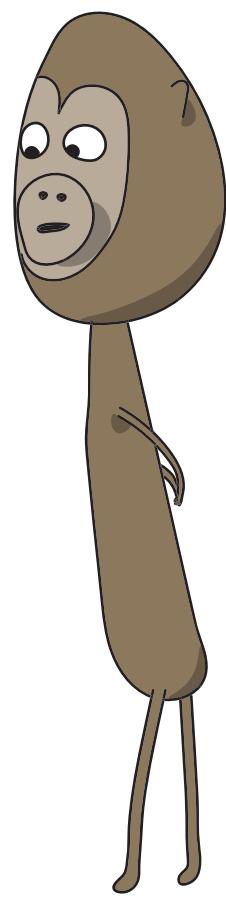
...But I...



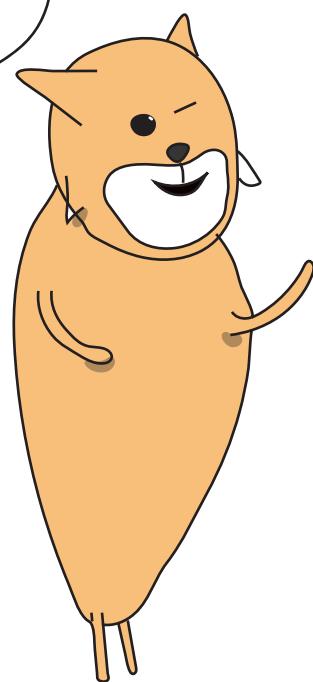


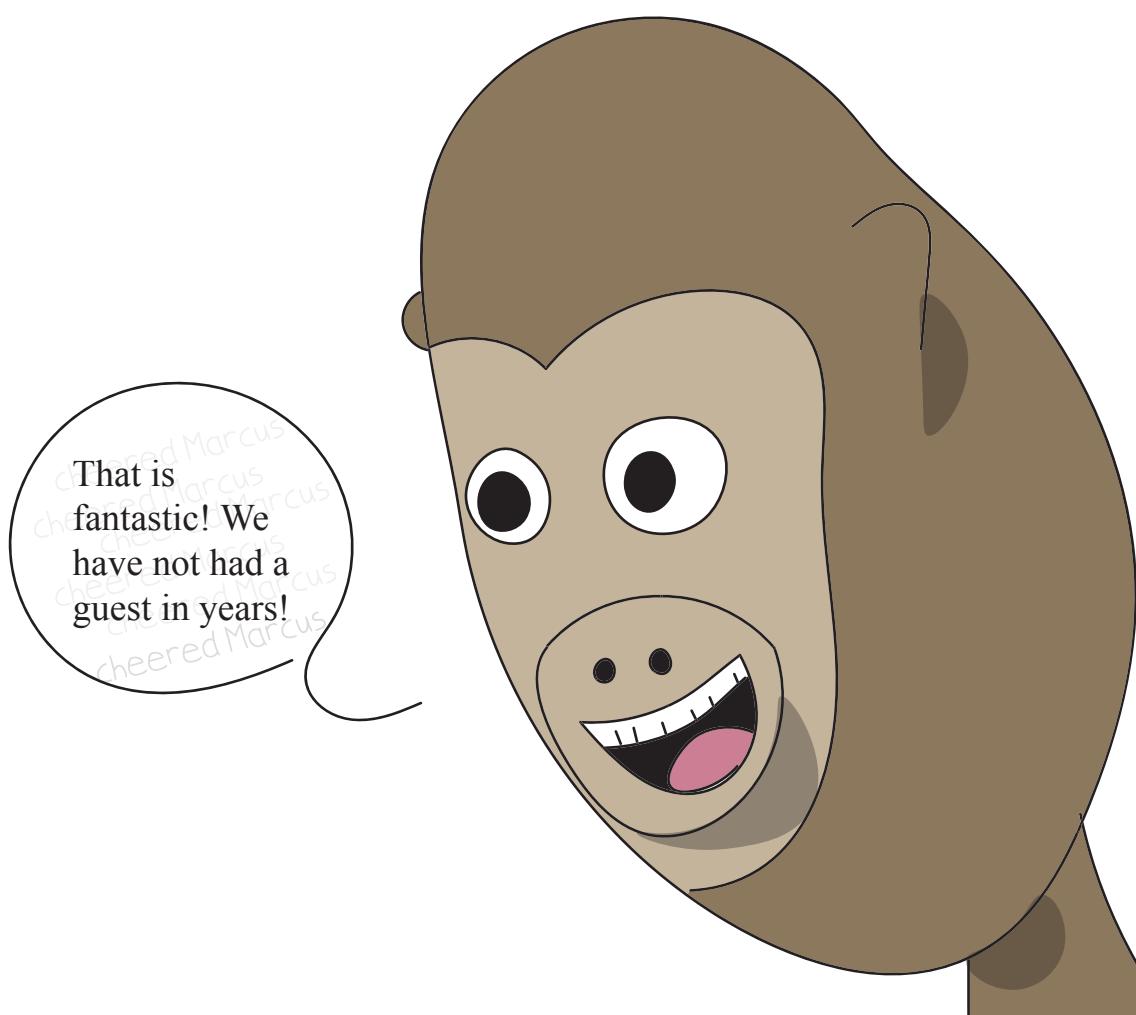
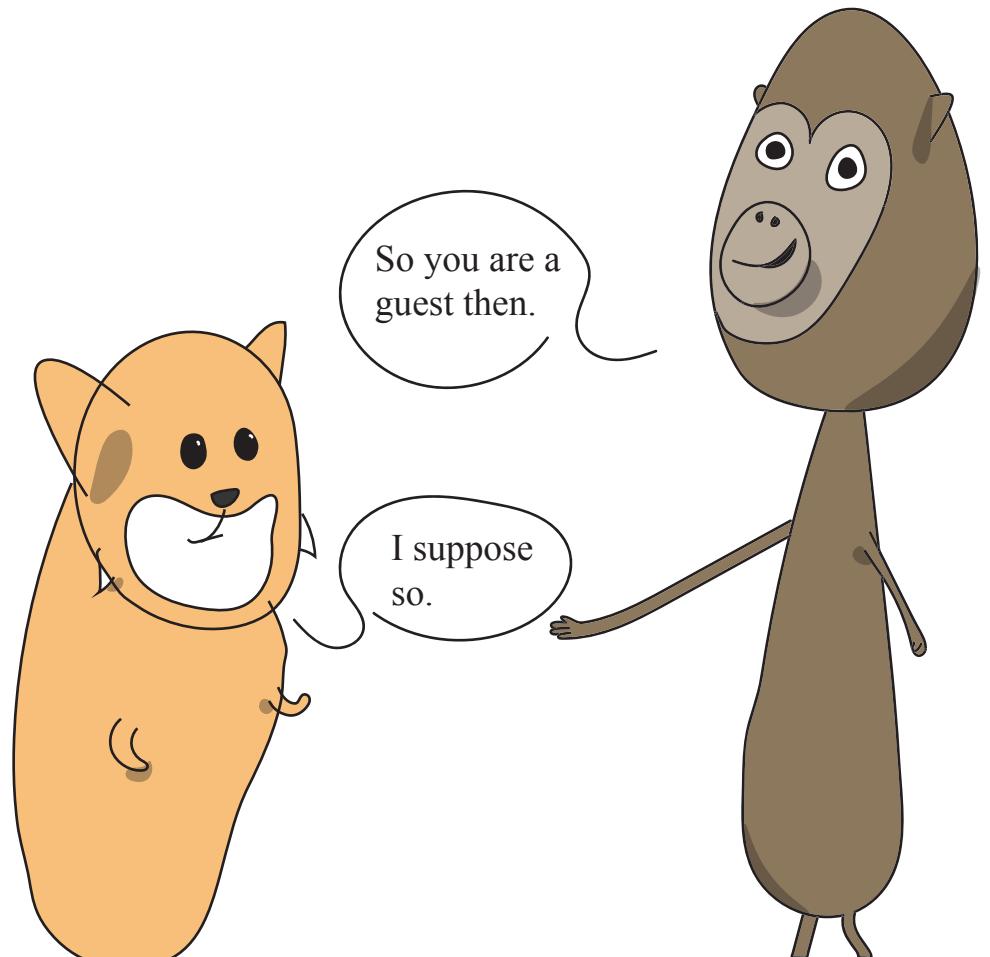
Actually I am  
nearly certain  
you are not going  
anywhere...

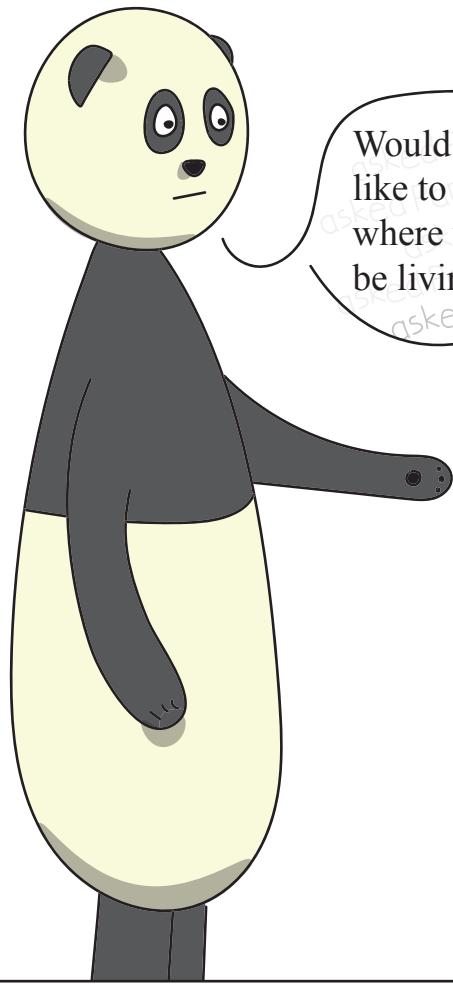
*said Dogneetus*



Since your father  
brought me here  
from Greece to be  
your new painting  
master.

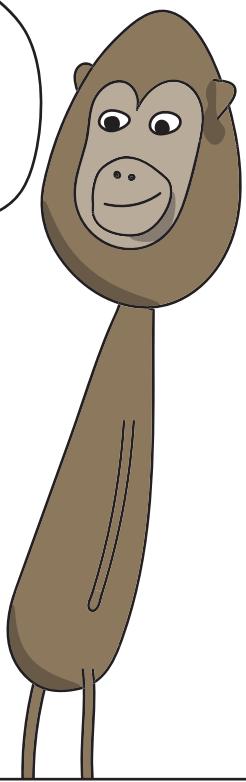
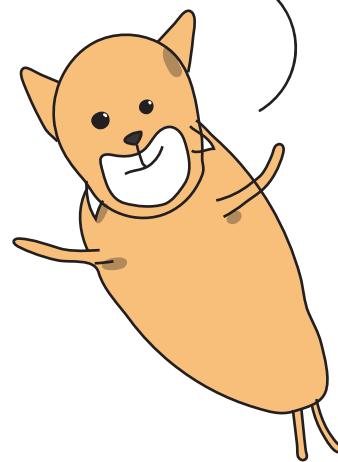






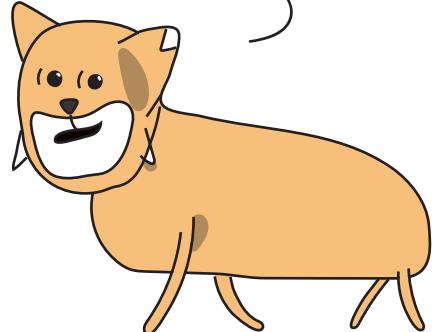
Would you  
like to see  
where you will  
be living?

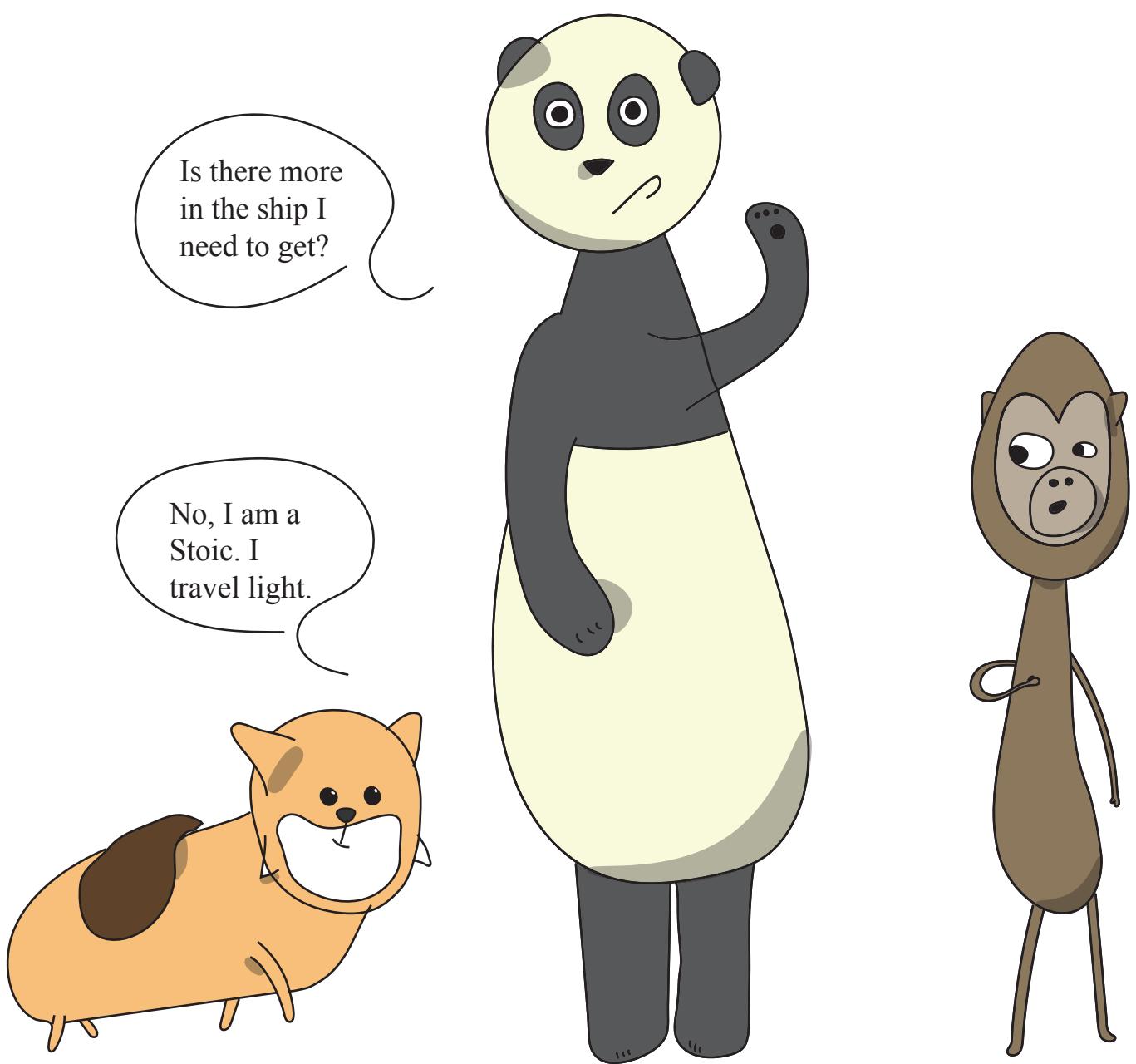
I would like to  
explore Rome, but it  
can wait. I imagine I  
will be staying with  
you for quite a while.



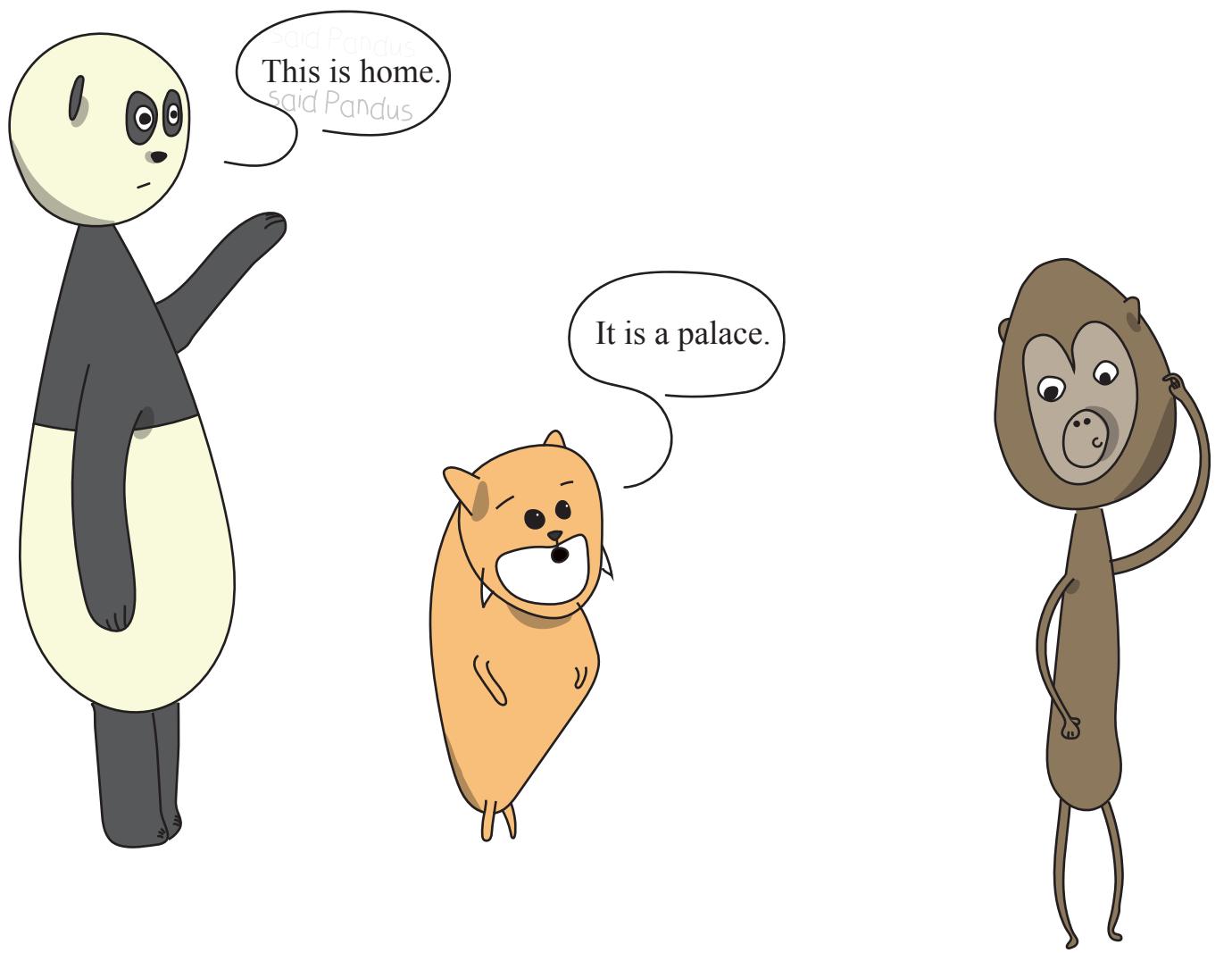
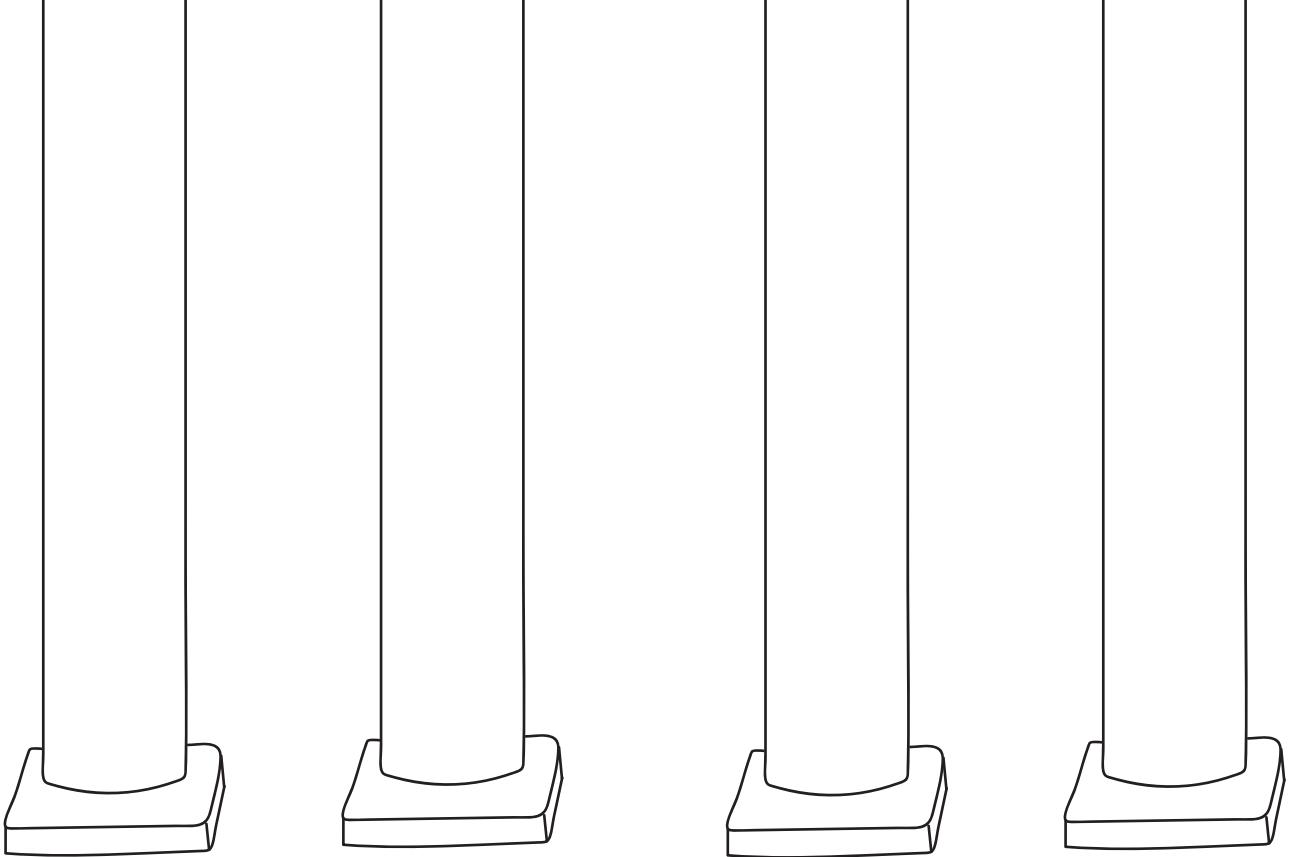
May I carry  
your bag?

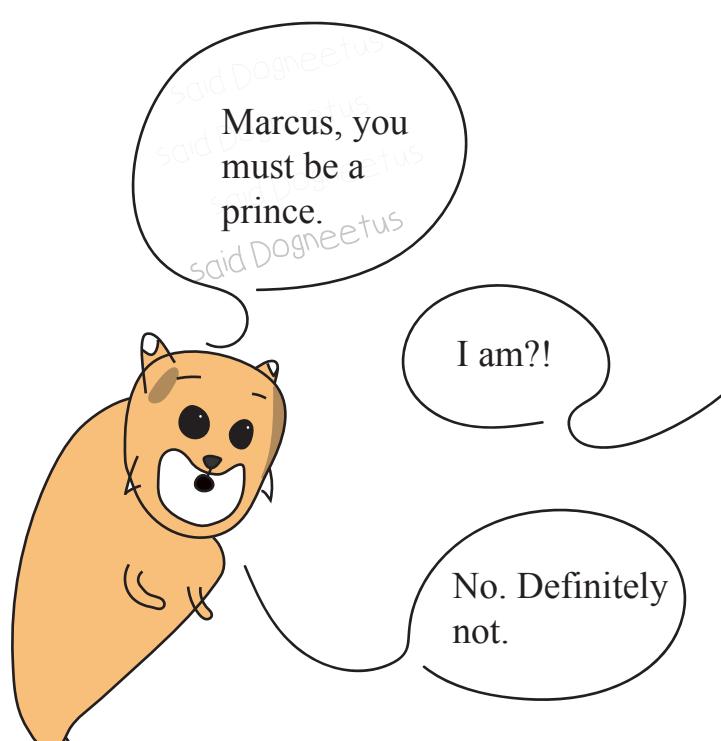
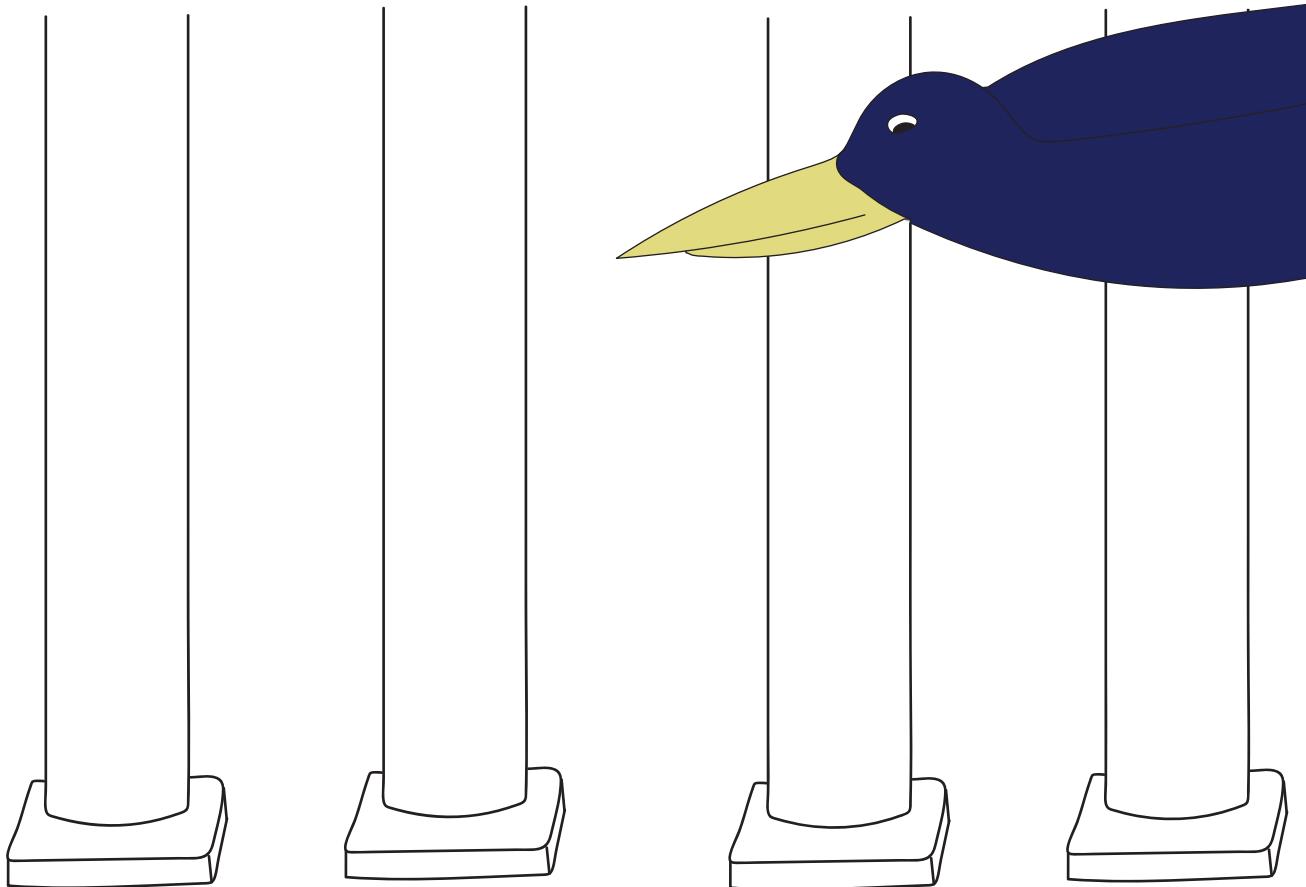
I am fine.





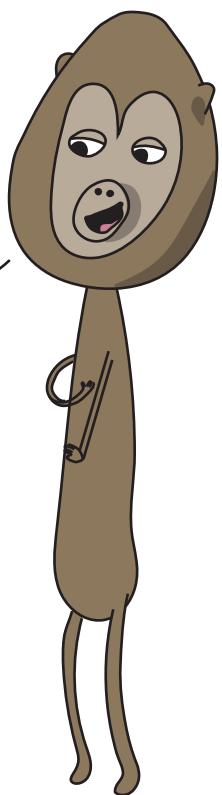
Chapter 5 - Home

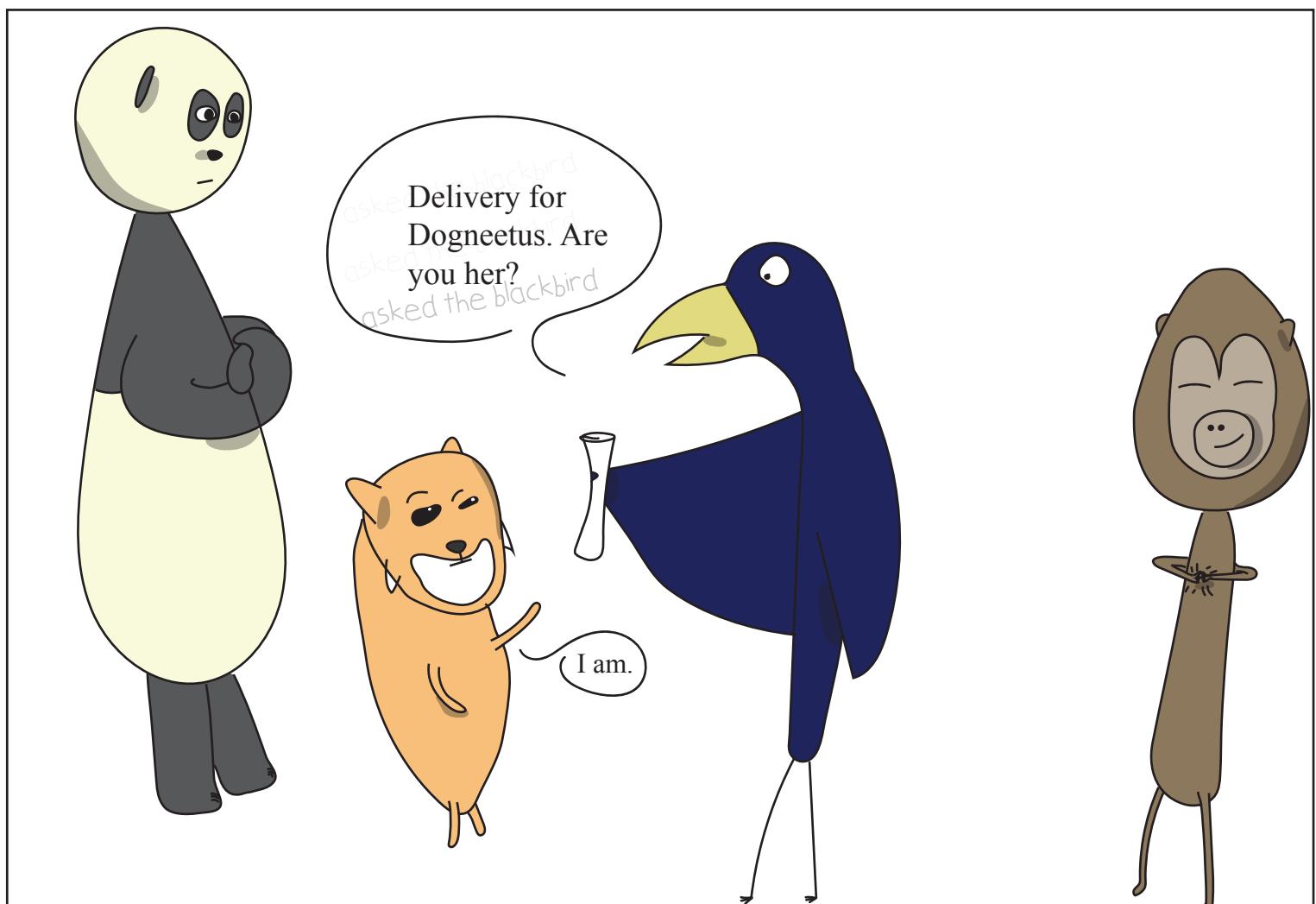


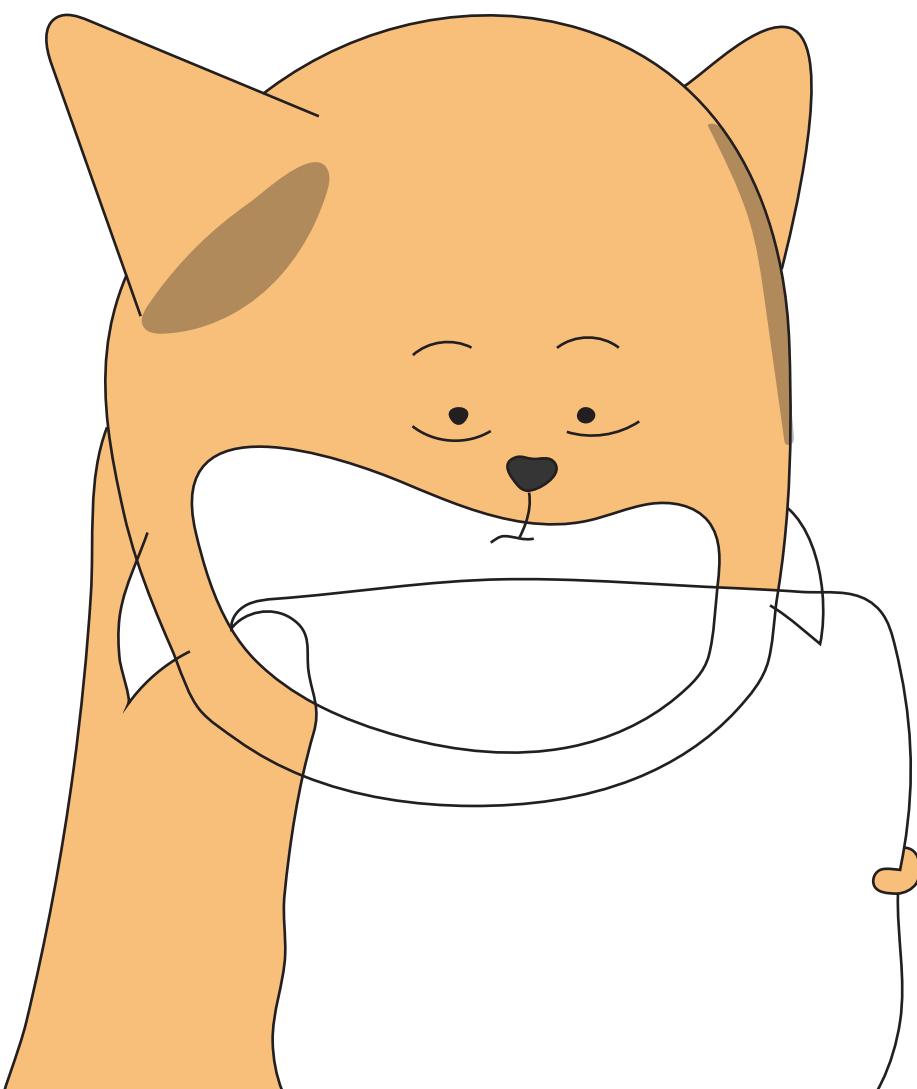


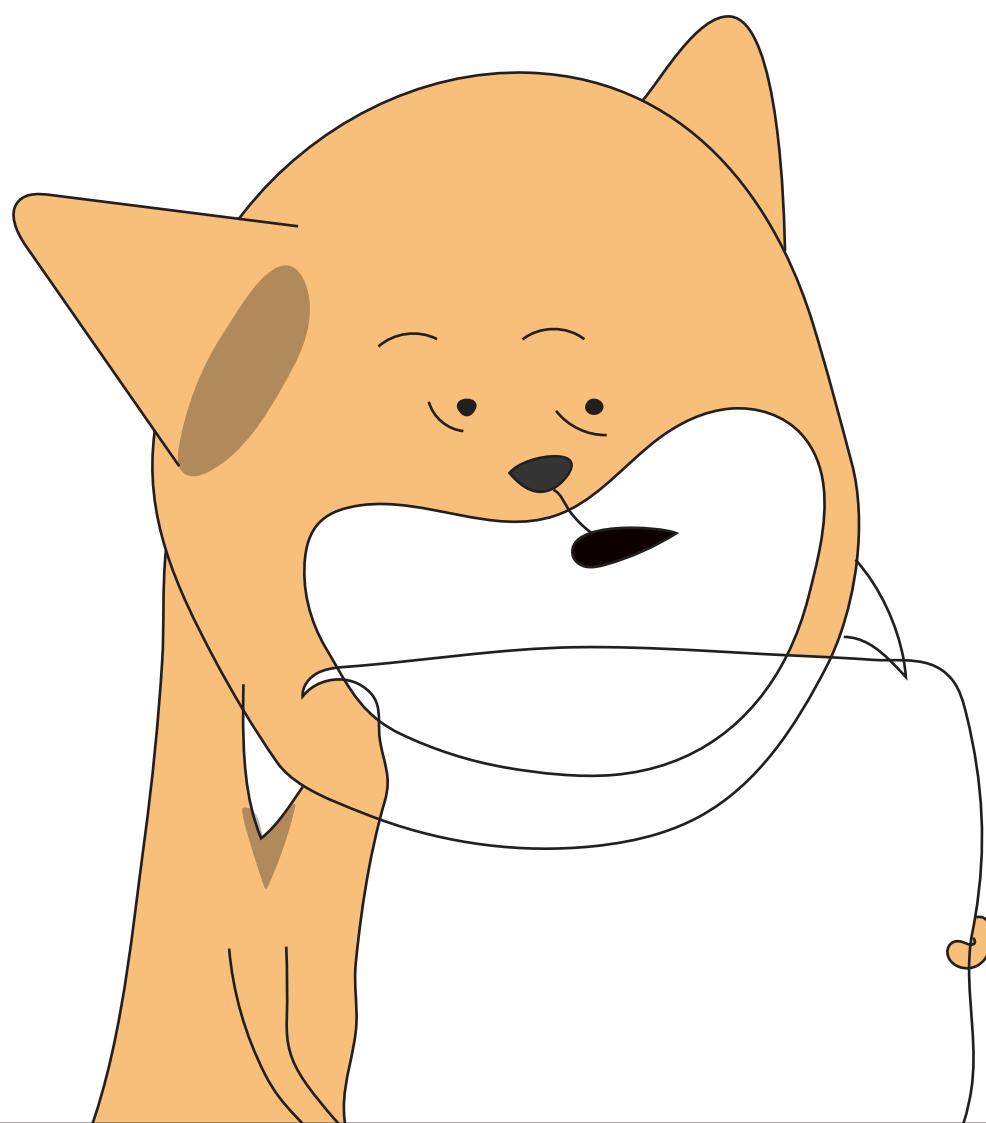
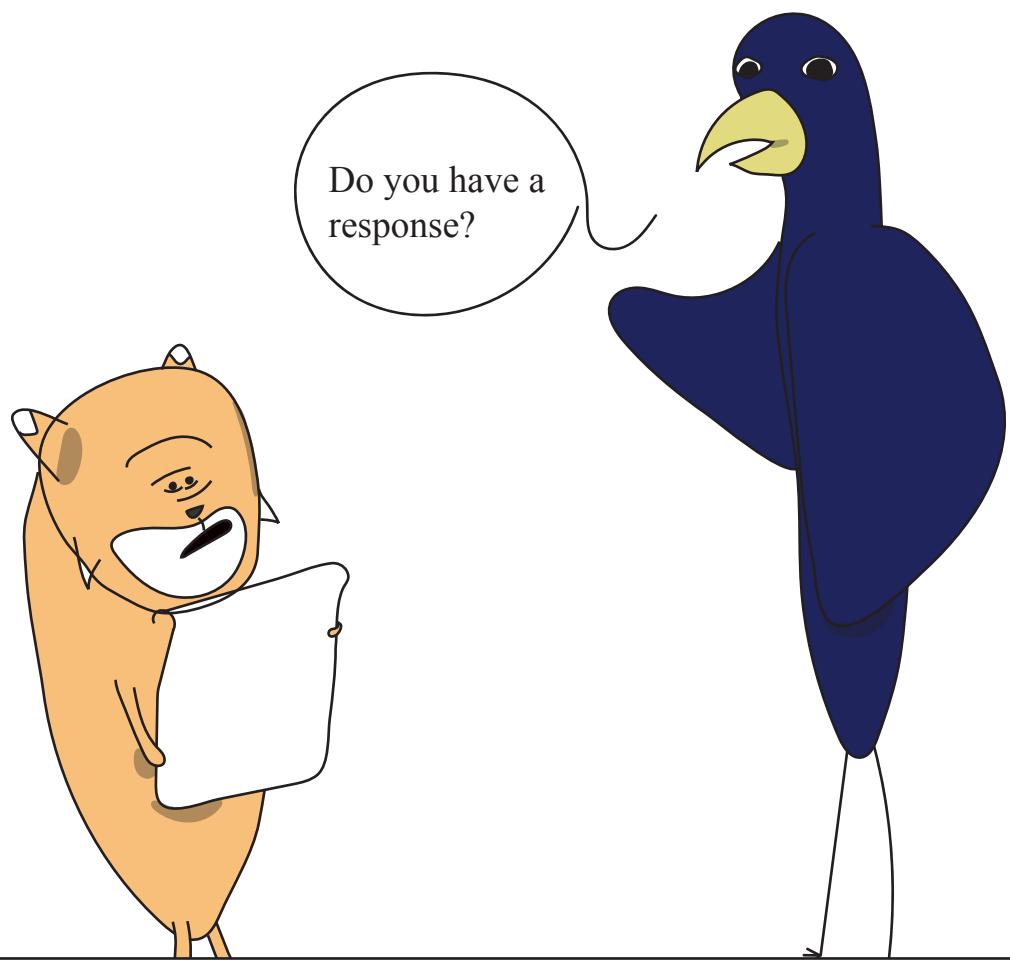
I am?!

No. Definitely  
not.







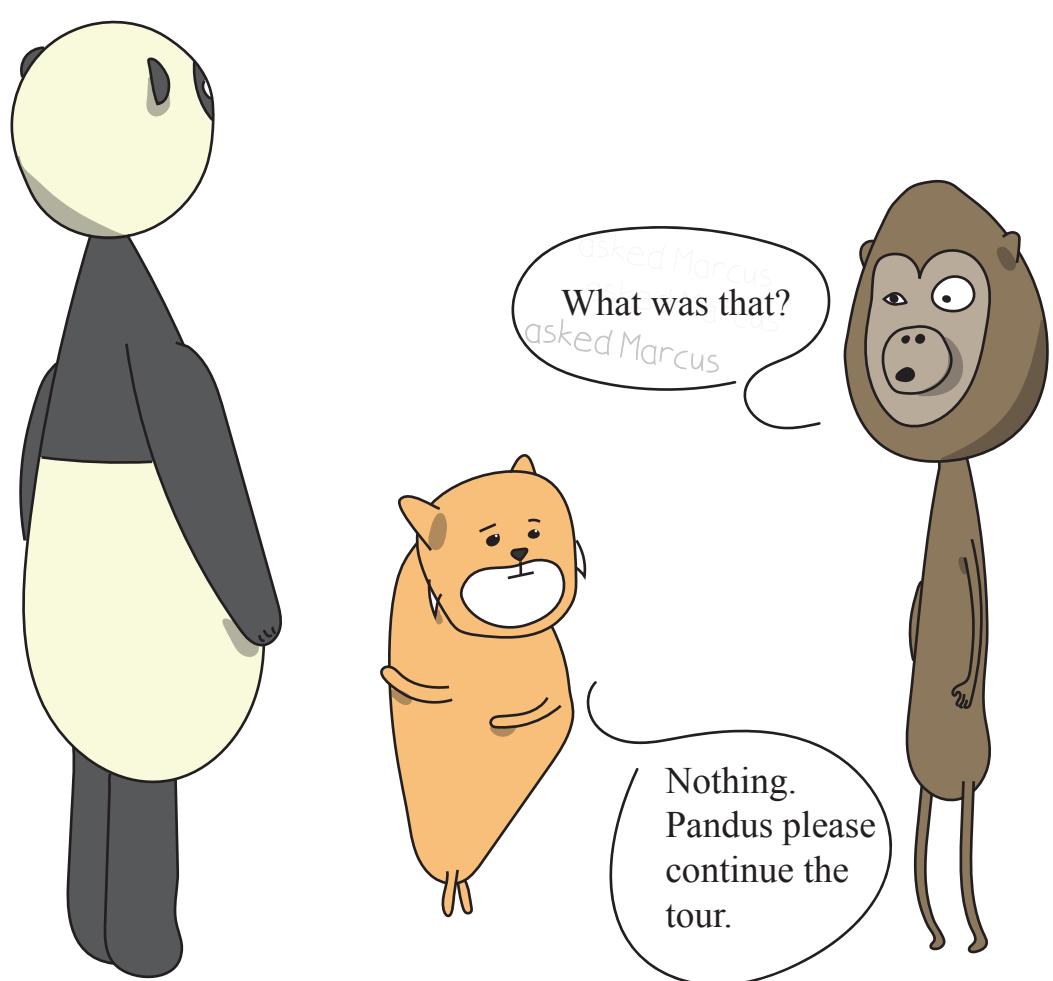
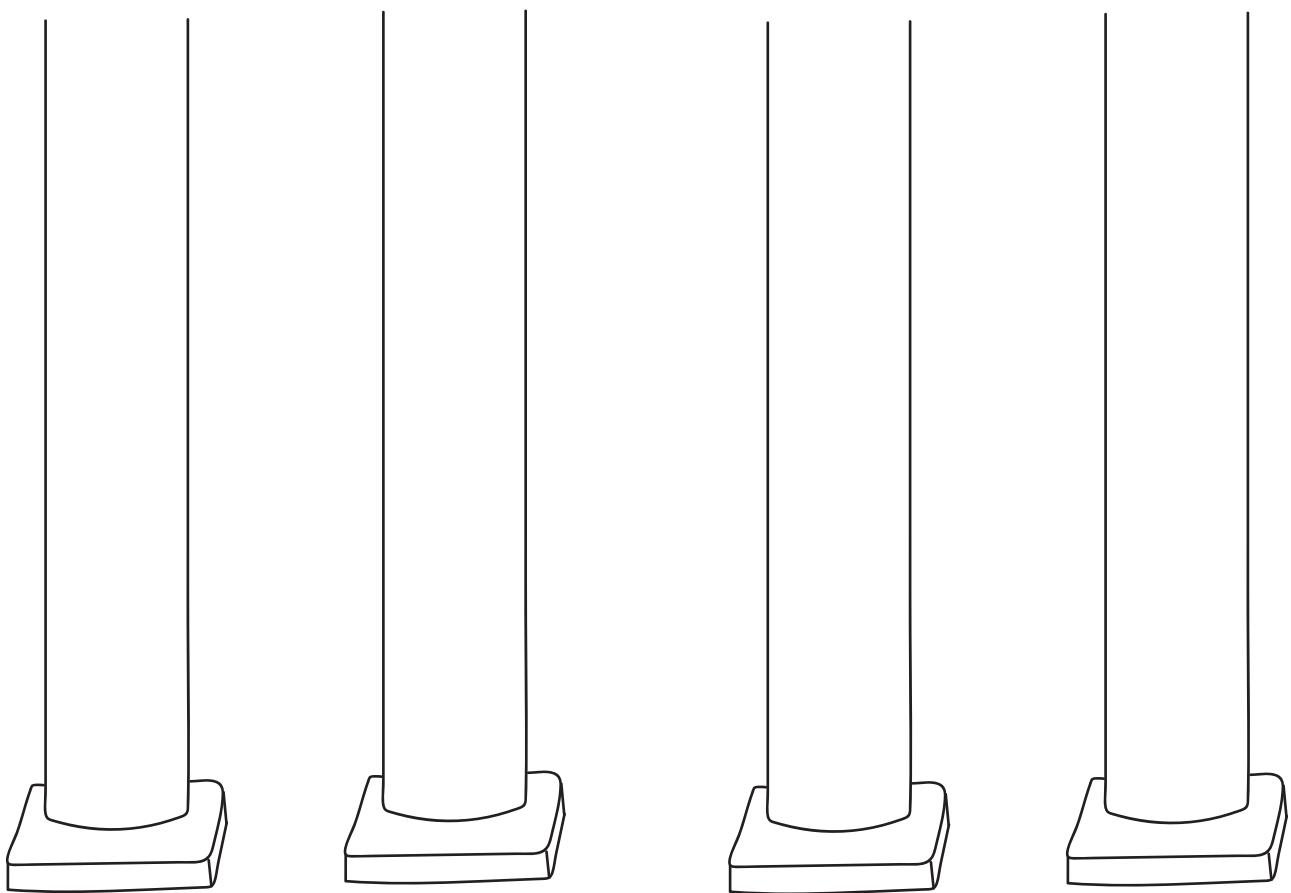


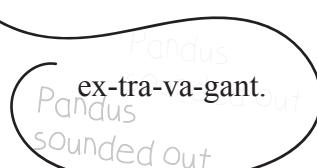
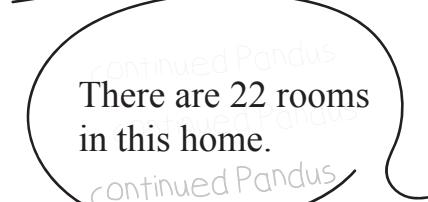
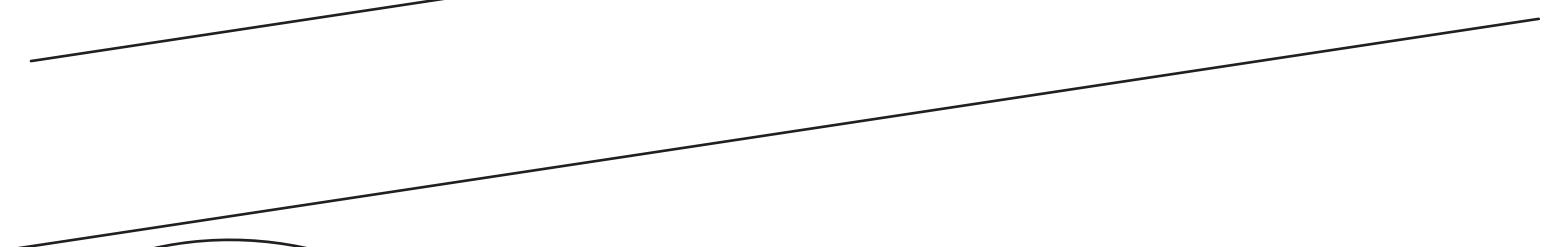
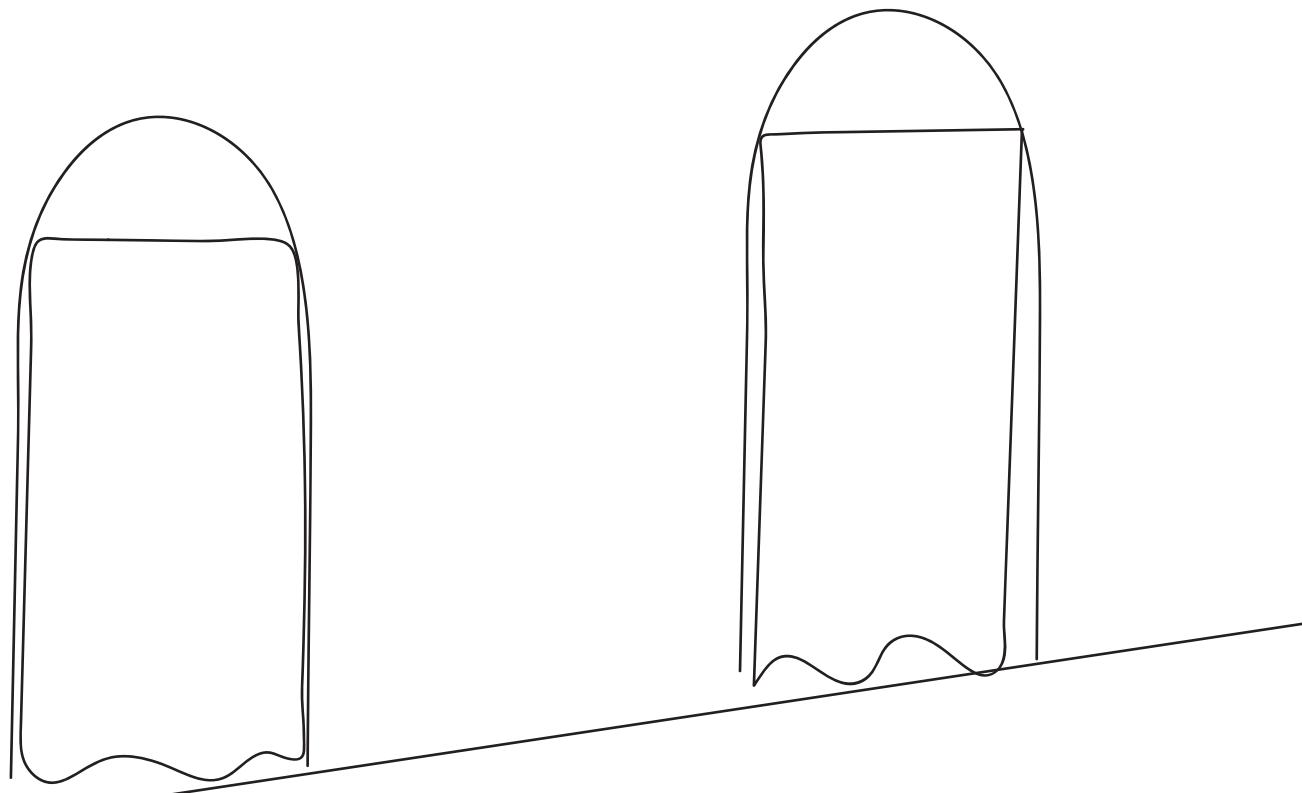
Madam, do you  
have a response?

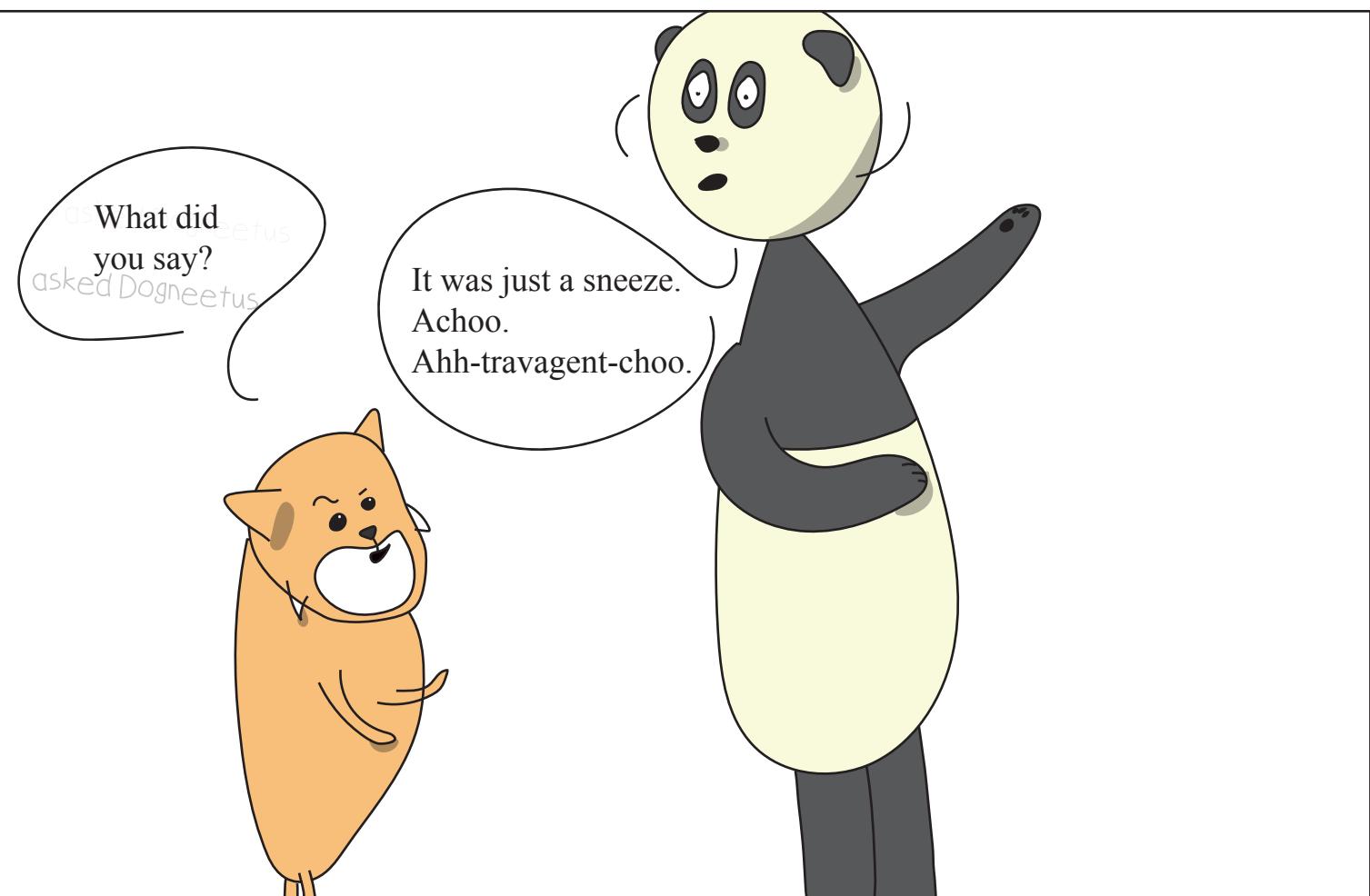
demanded  
the blackbird

I respectfully  
decline. No  
thank you.

said Dogneetus  
Not in a  
million years.  
said Dogneetus

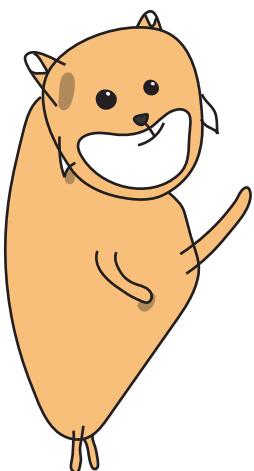




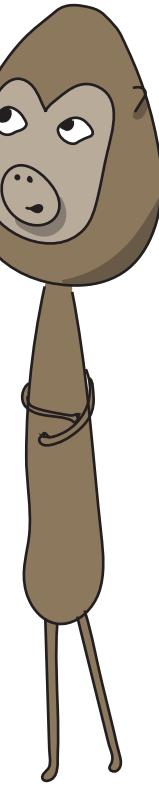




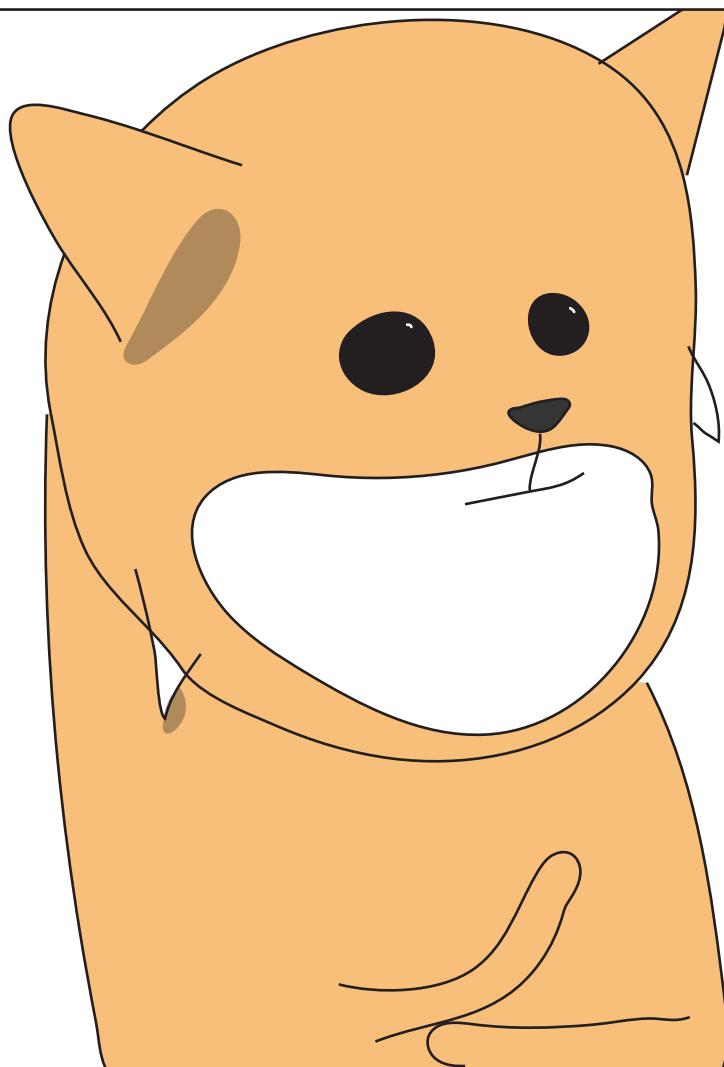
Oh... I just  
repeated the  
word you said.



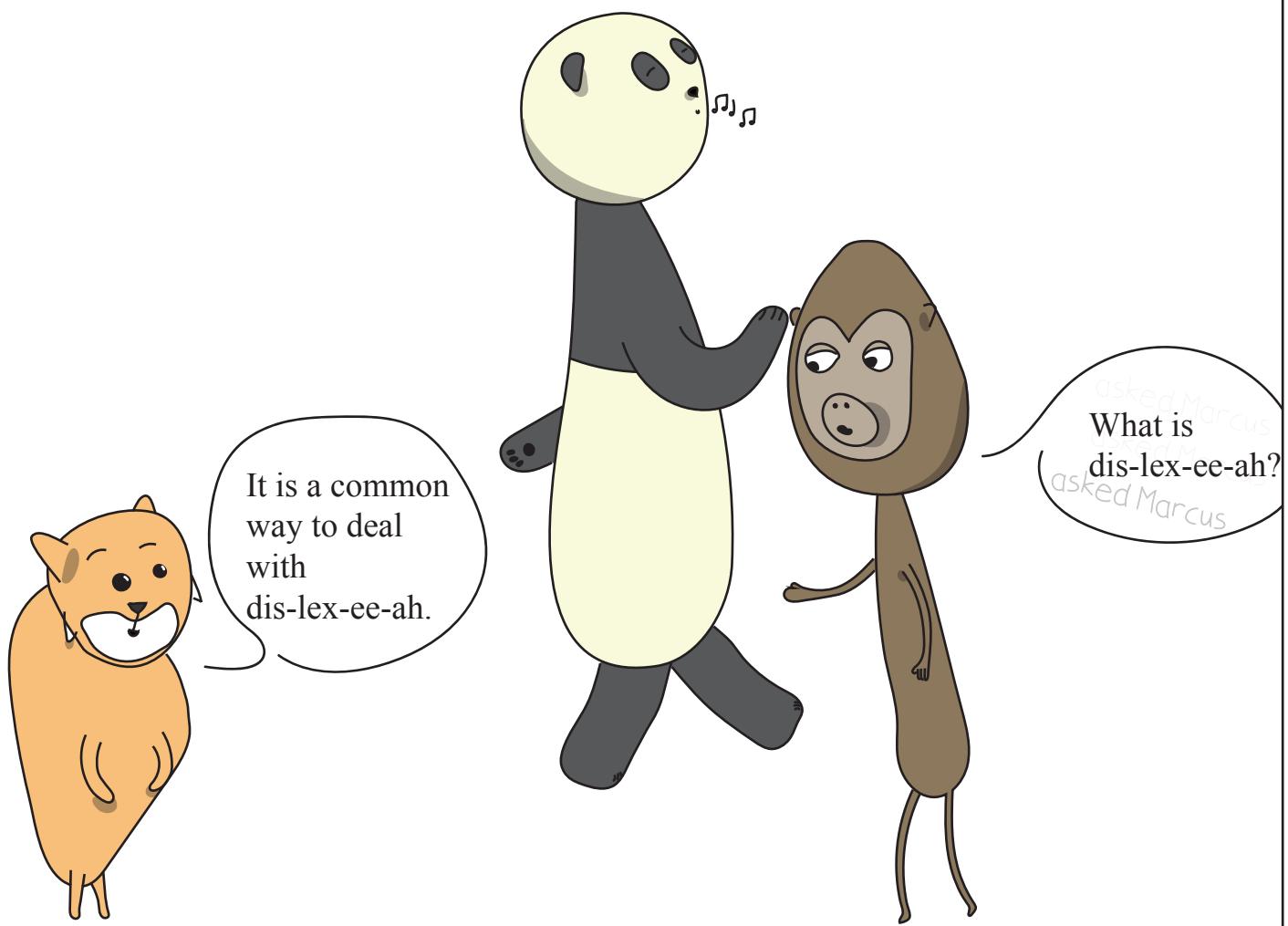
You repeated it in a  
very specific way.  
Like you were  
sounding out the  
letters.

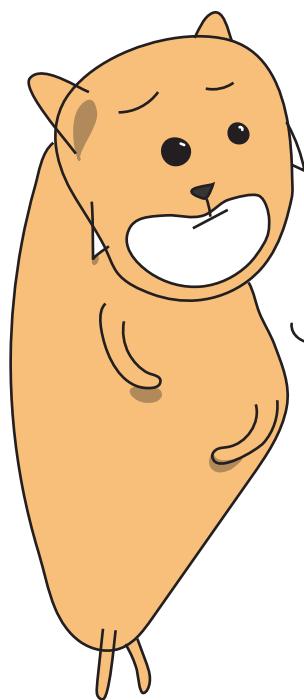


She does that  
sometimes.  
said Marcus

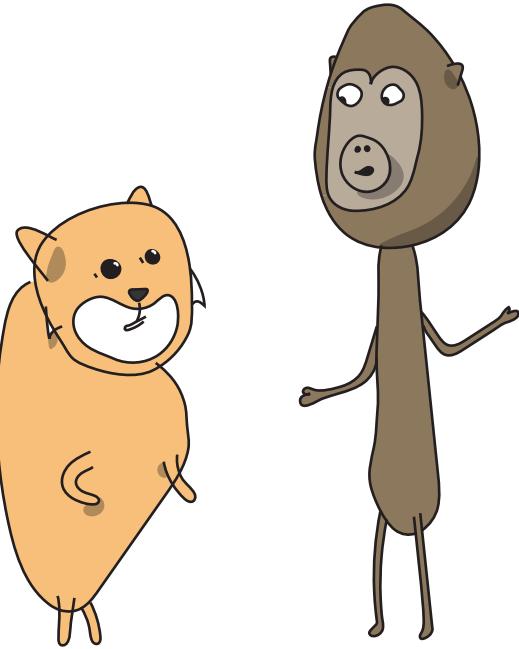


I know one other person who does something very similar when she comes across new words.





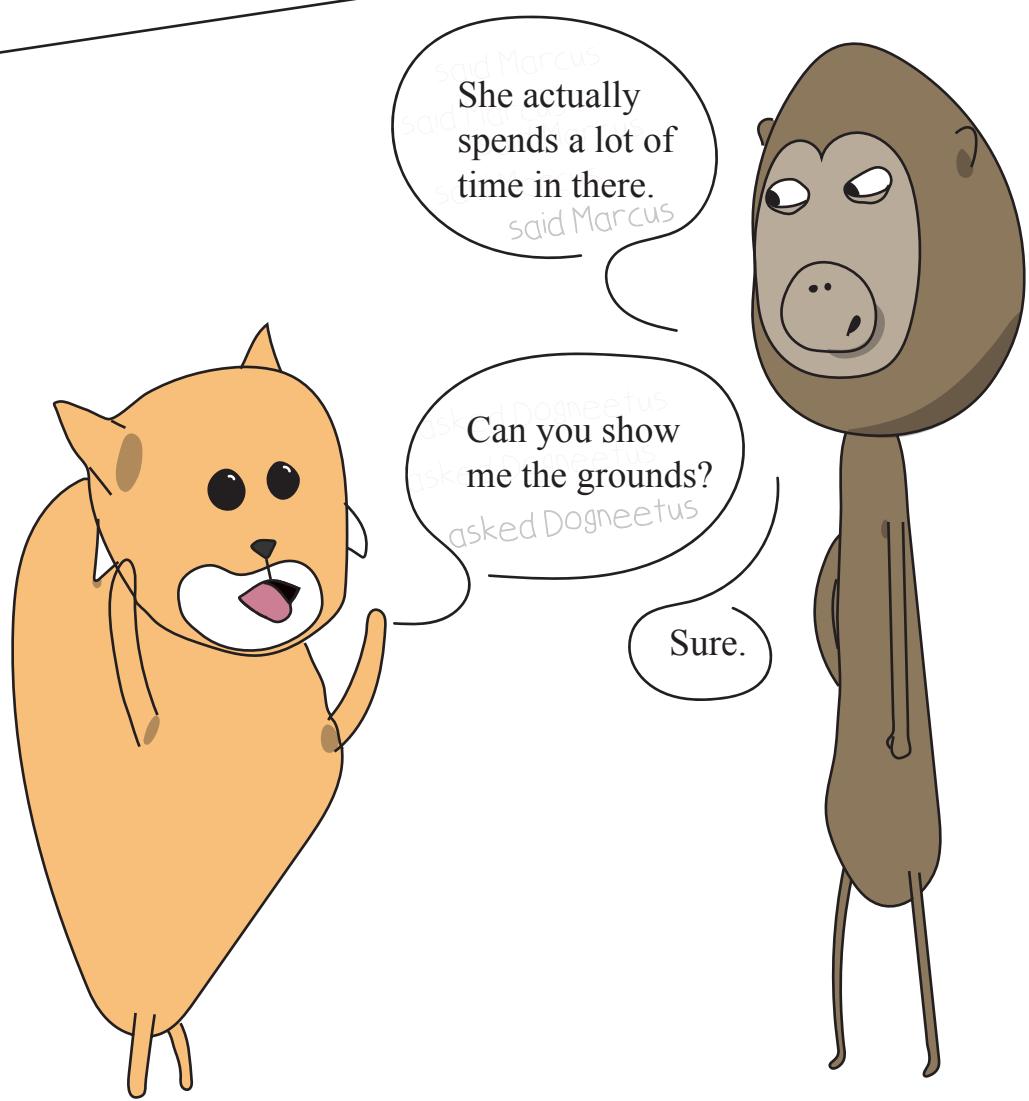
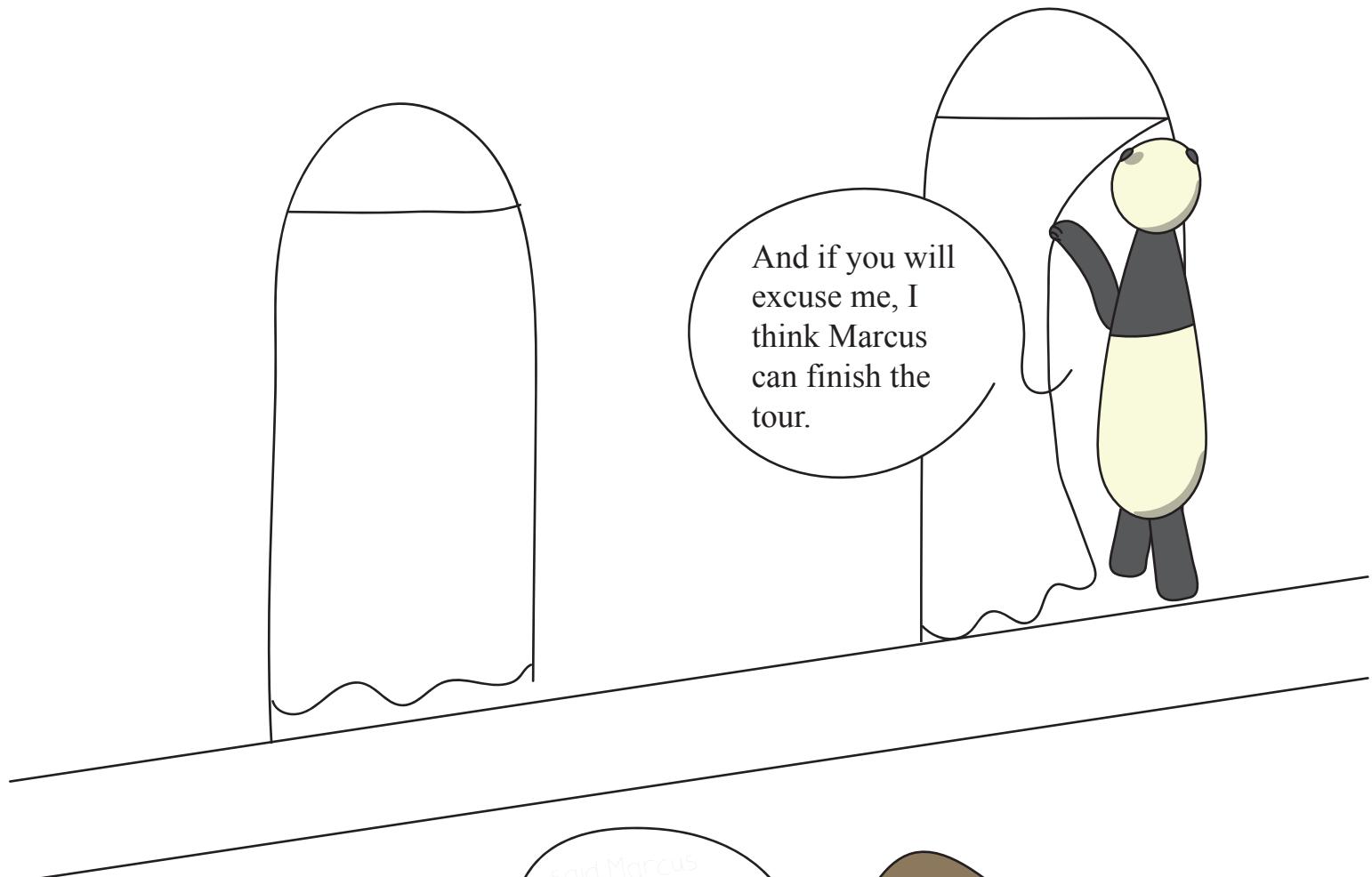
Dyslexia makes it difficult for someone to read.

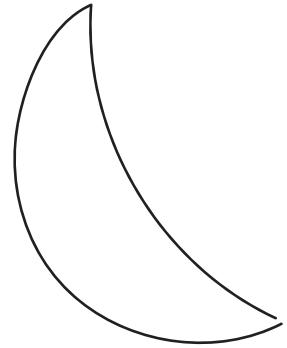


Oh! Look over there! The main bathroom.  
said Pandus quickly



And that is the  
servant's  
bathroom.

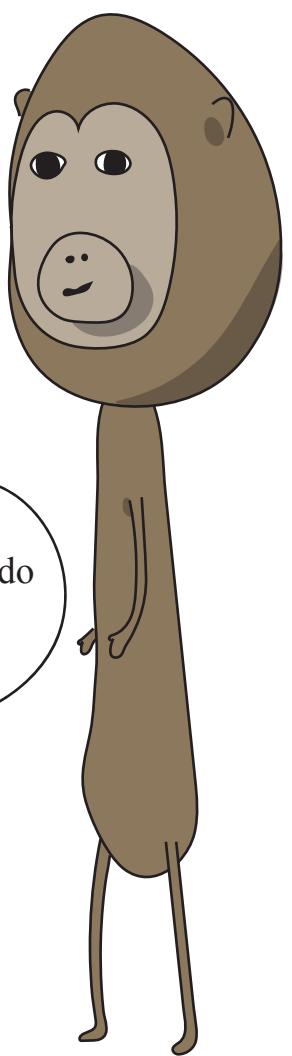
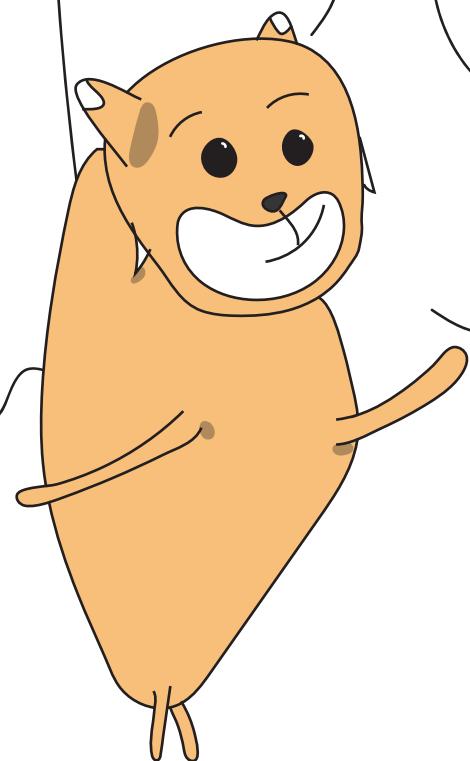


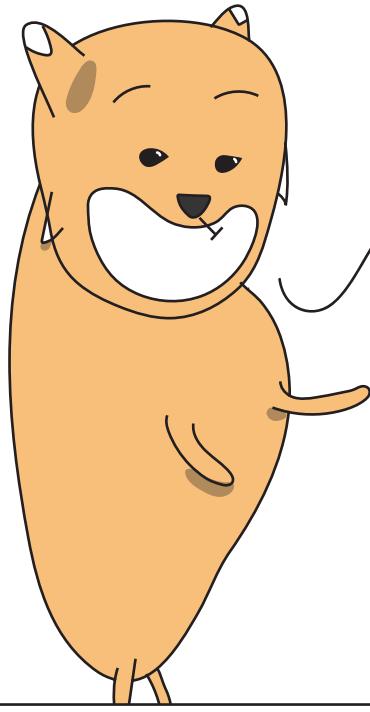


It is beautiful  
out here.  
admired Dogneetus

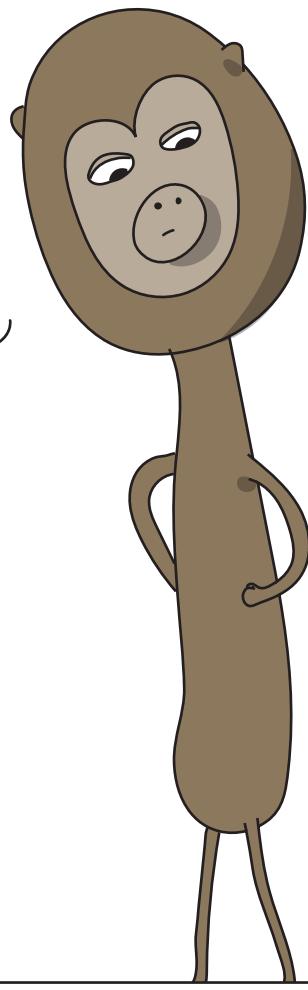
Volus is our  
Gardener.  
You can  
meet him  
tomorrow.

Thank you, I do  
like meeting  
people. Ruff!

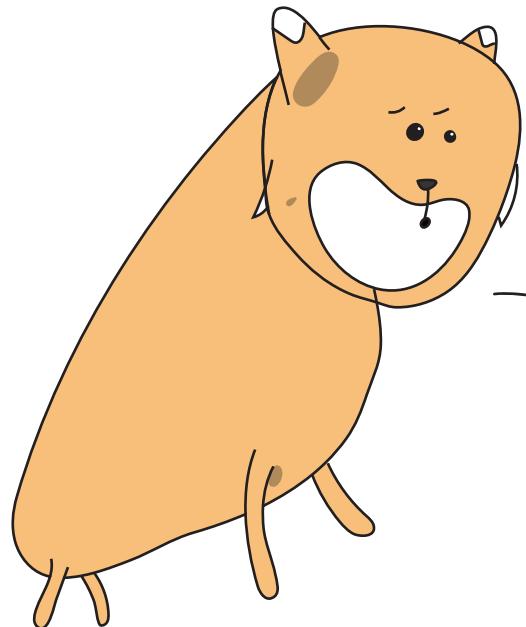




Should I show  
you your room?  
My room. My  
old room.



Actually, I  
will sleep  
here.

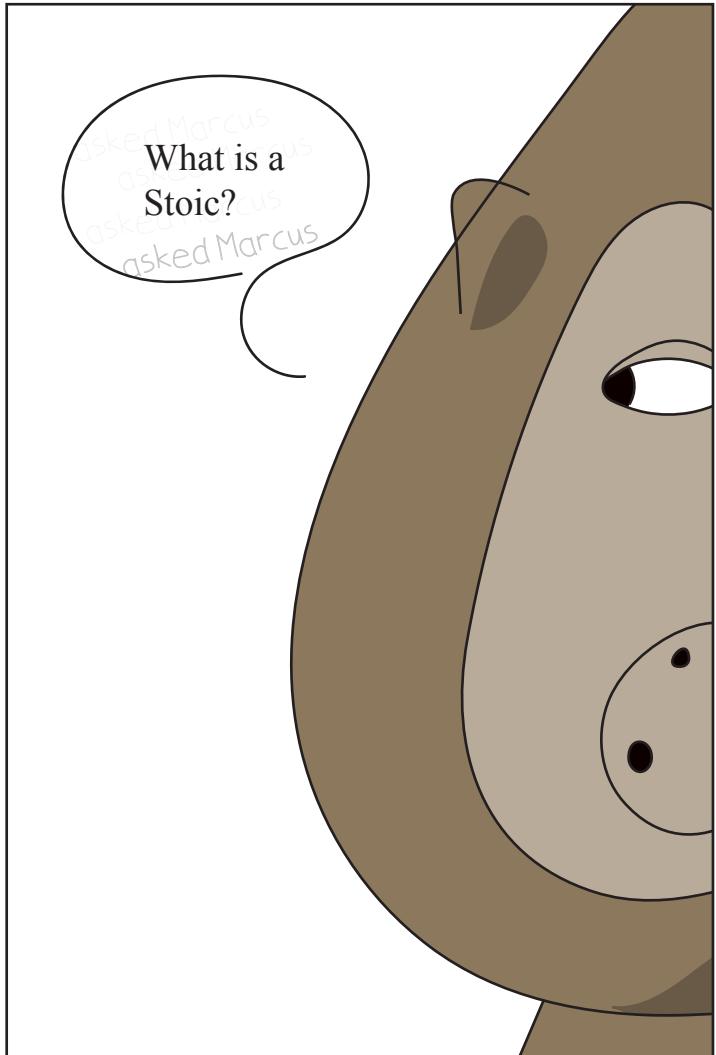
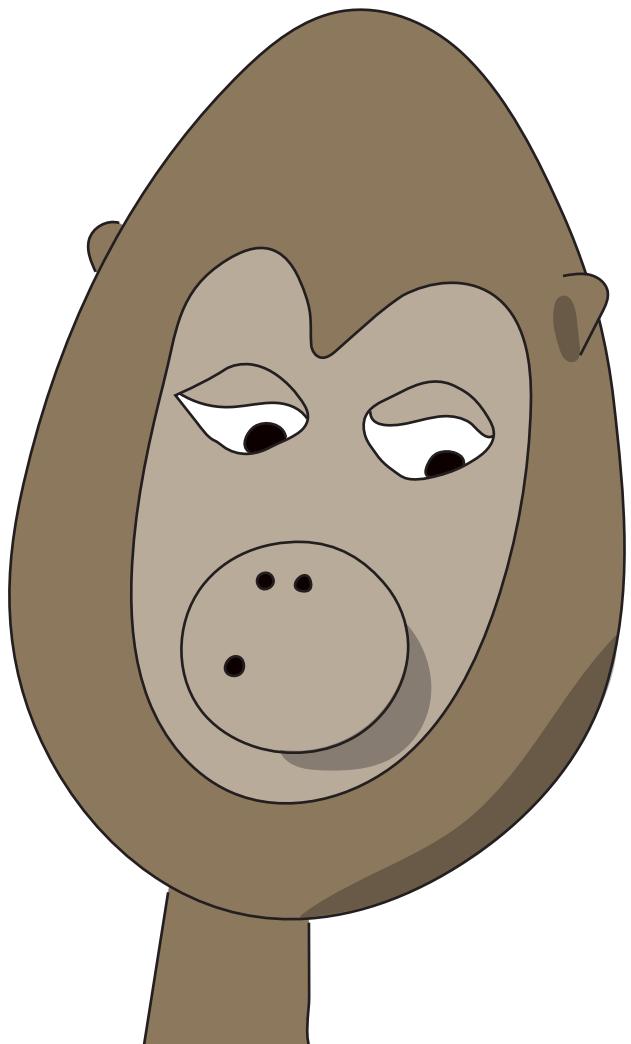


What? That is  
amazing! Why?



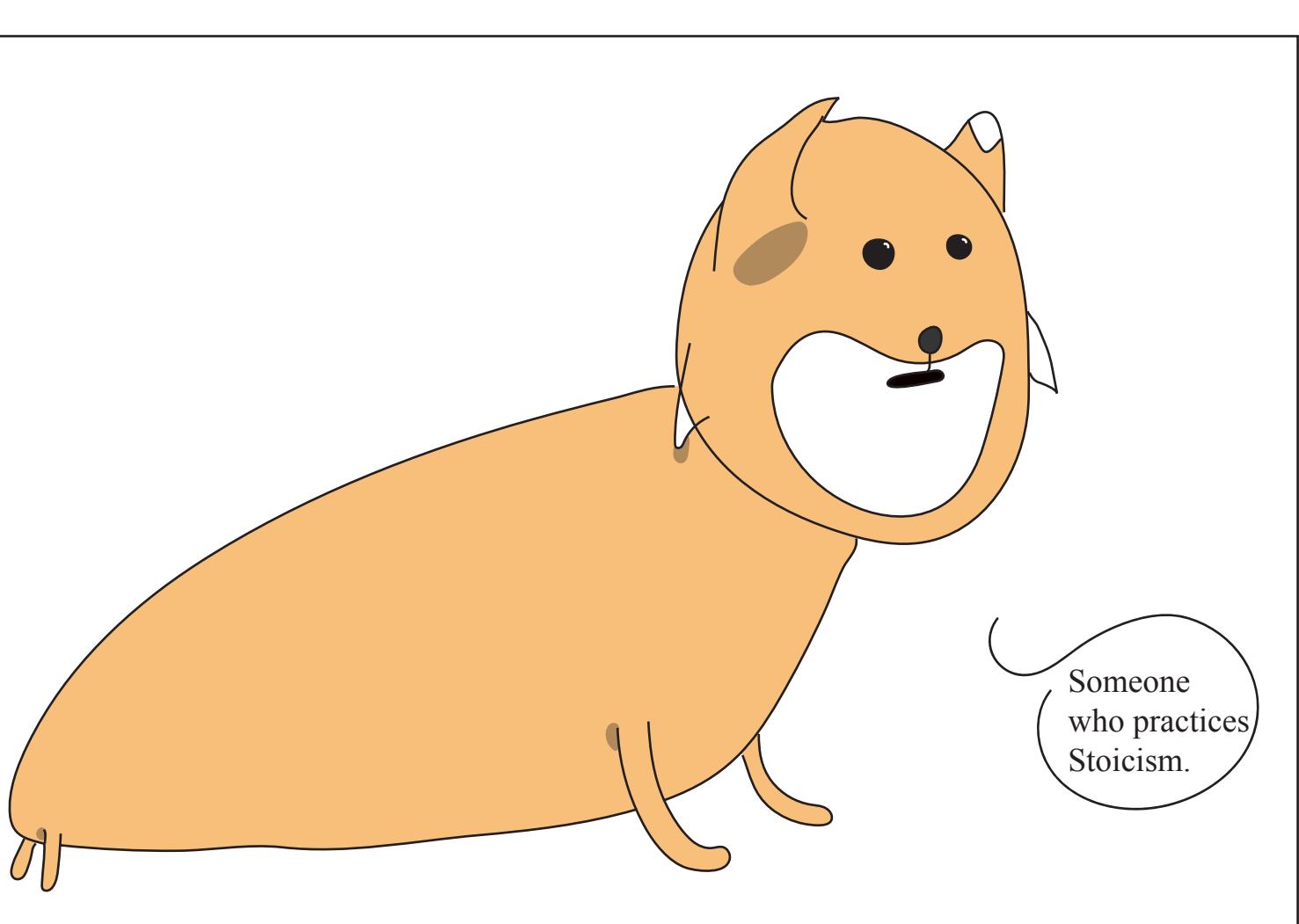
I am a Stoic. I  
sleep on the  
ground.

Right.

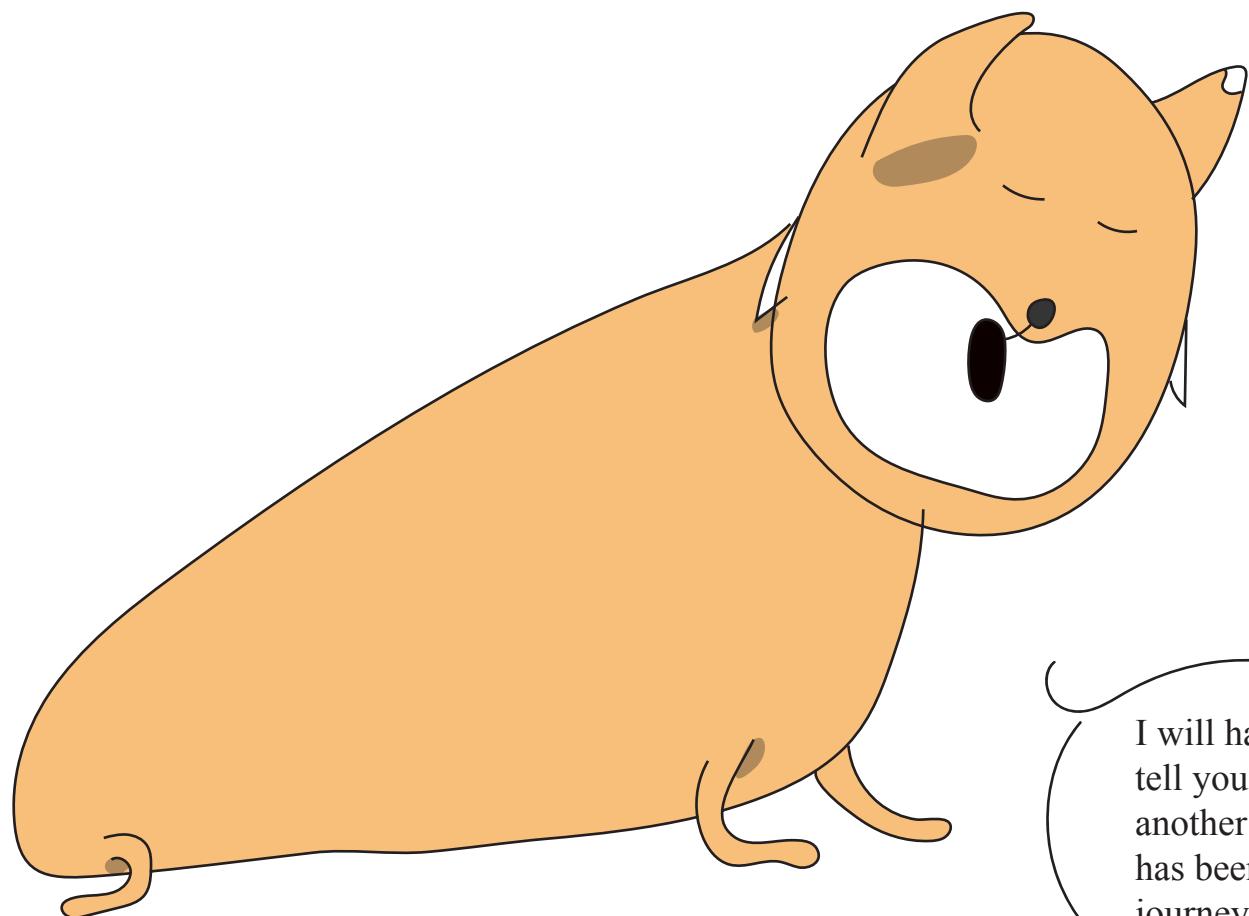
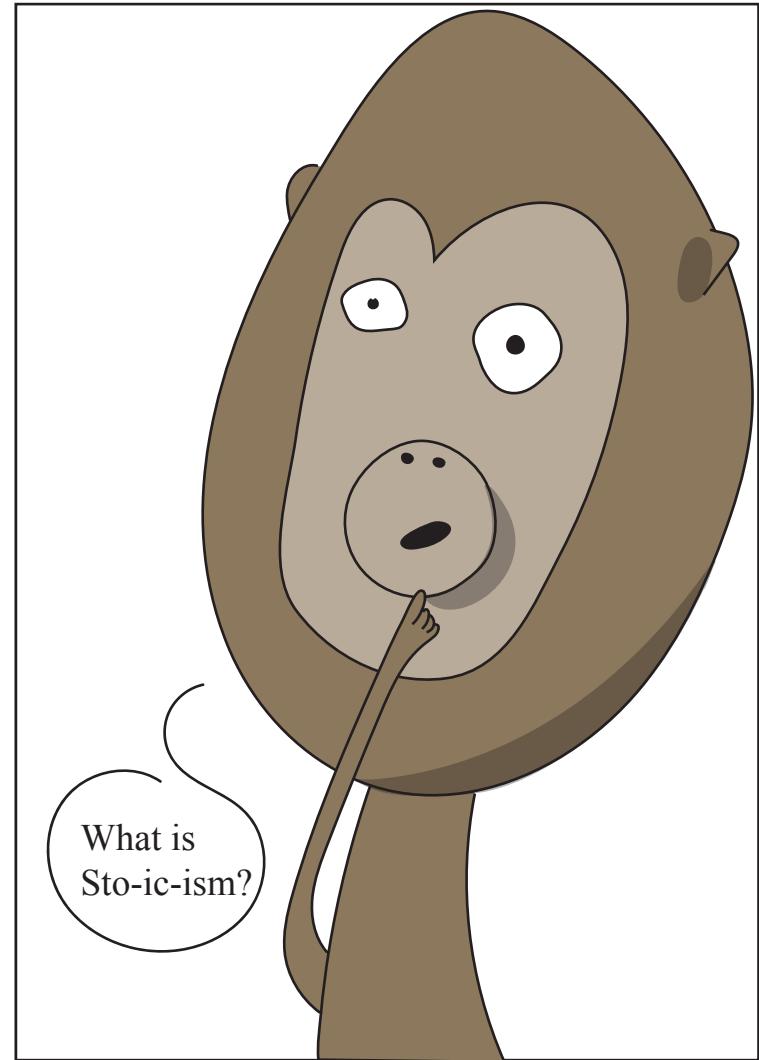


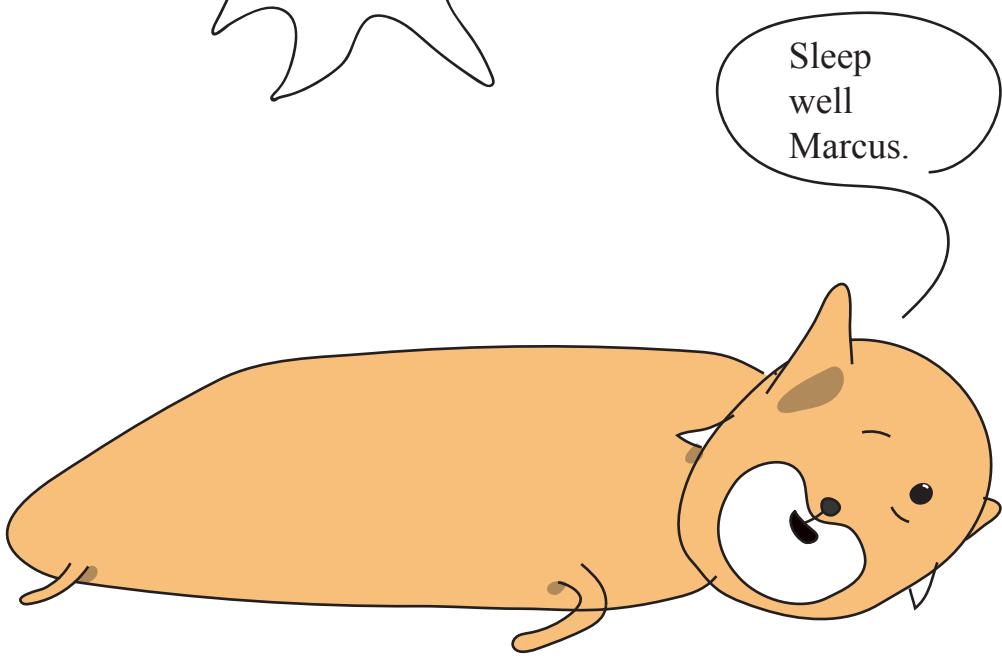
What is a  
Stoic?

asked Marcus

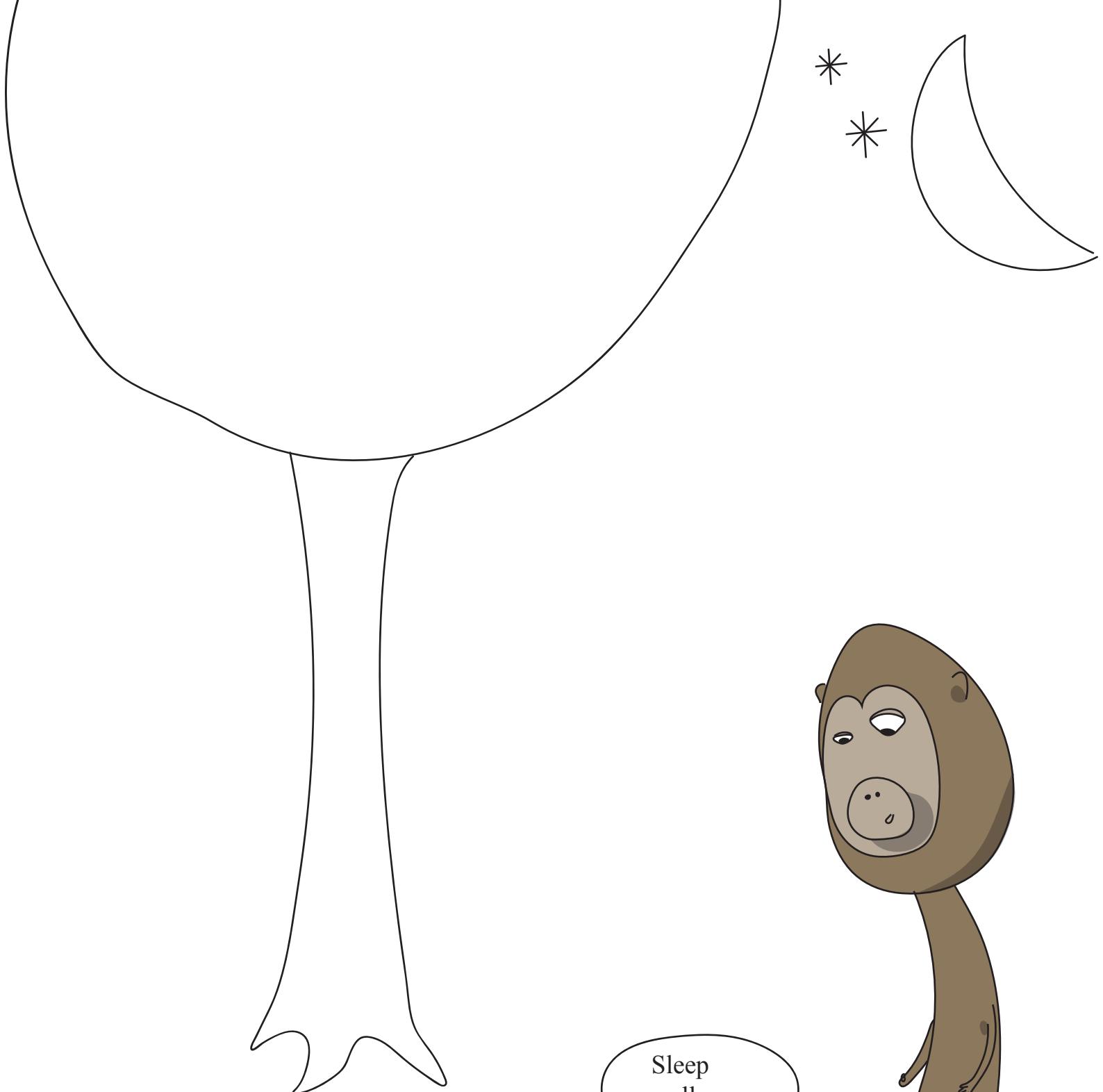
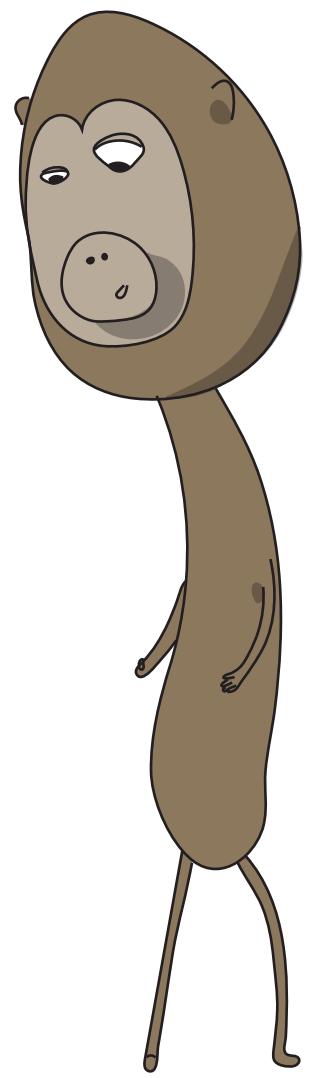


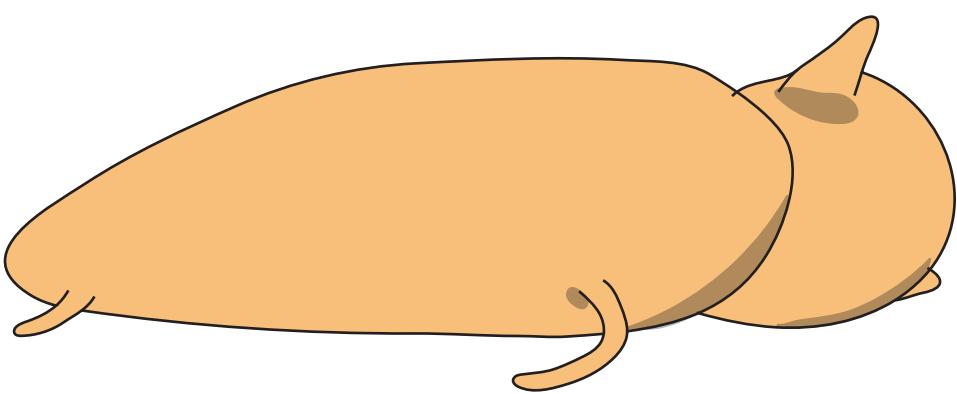
Someone  
who practices  
Stoicism.



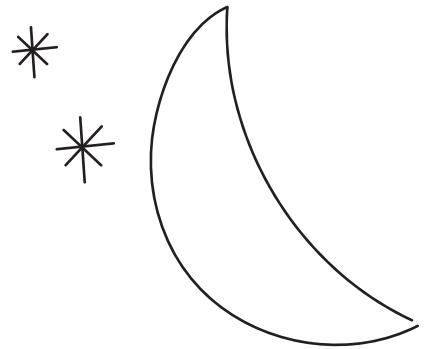
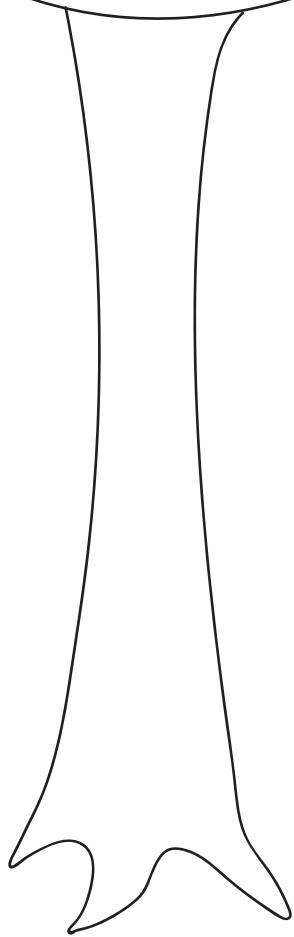


Sleep  
well  
Marcus.



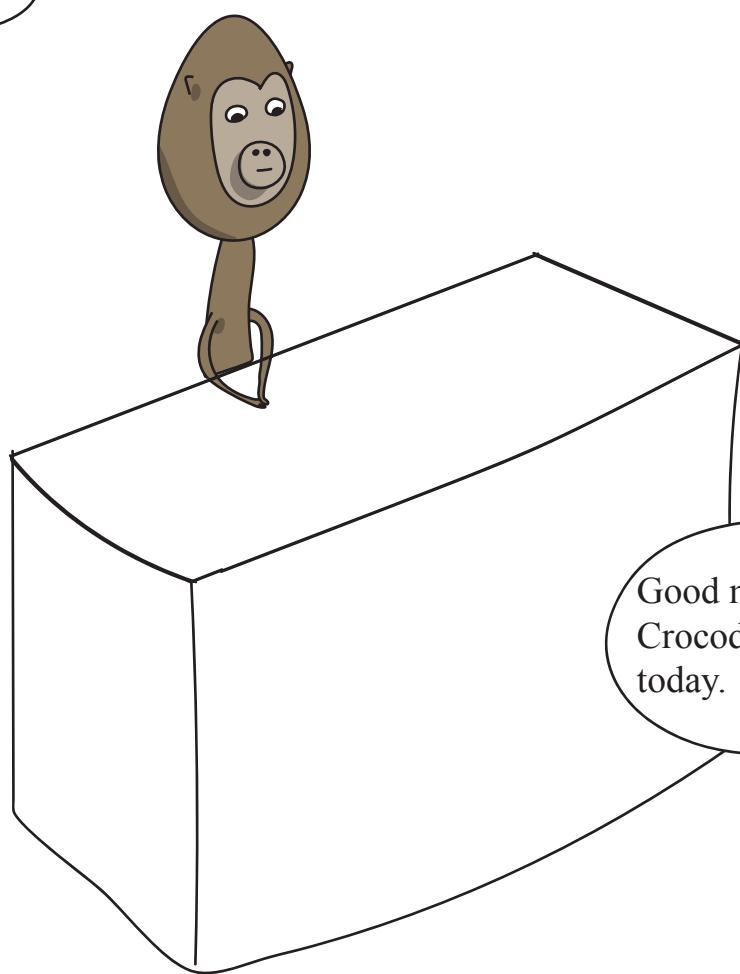


And another  
journey begins.



## Chapter 6 - Crocodus

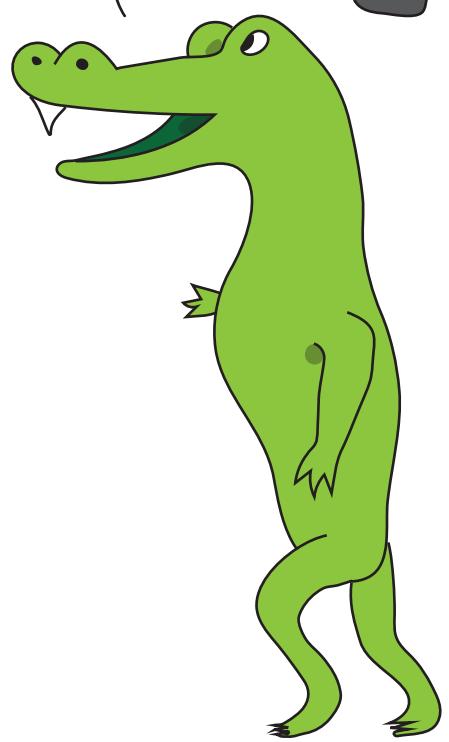
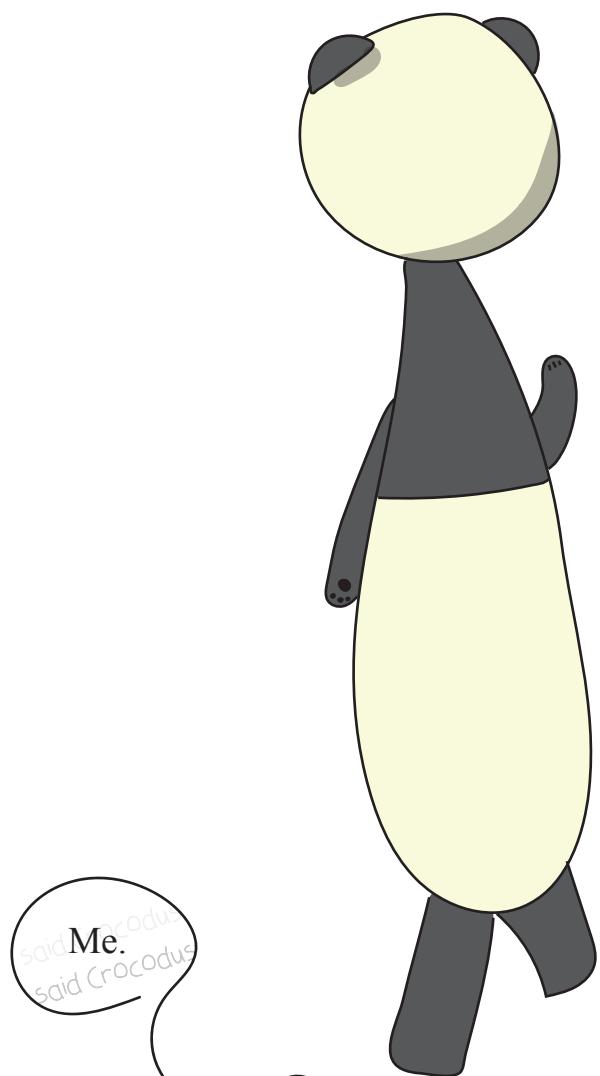
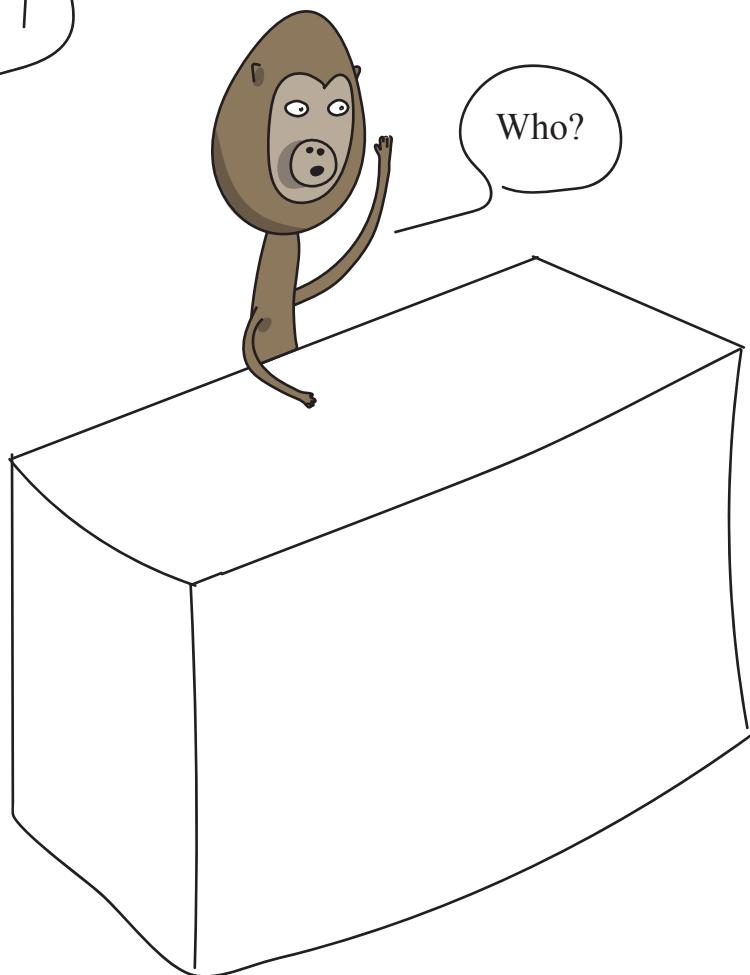
M  
U  
N  
D  
O  
P

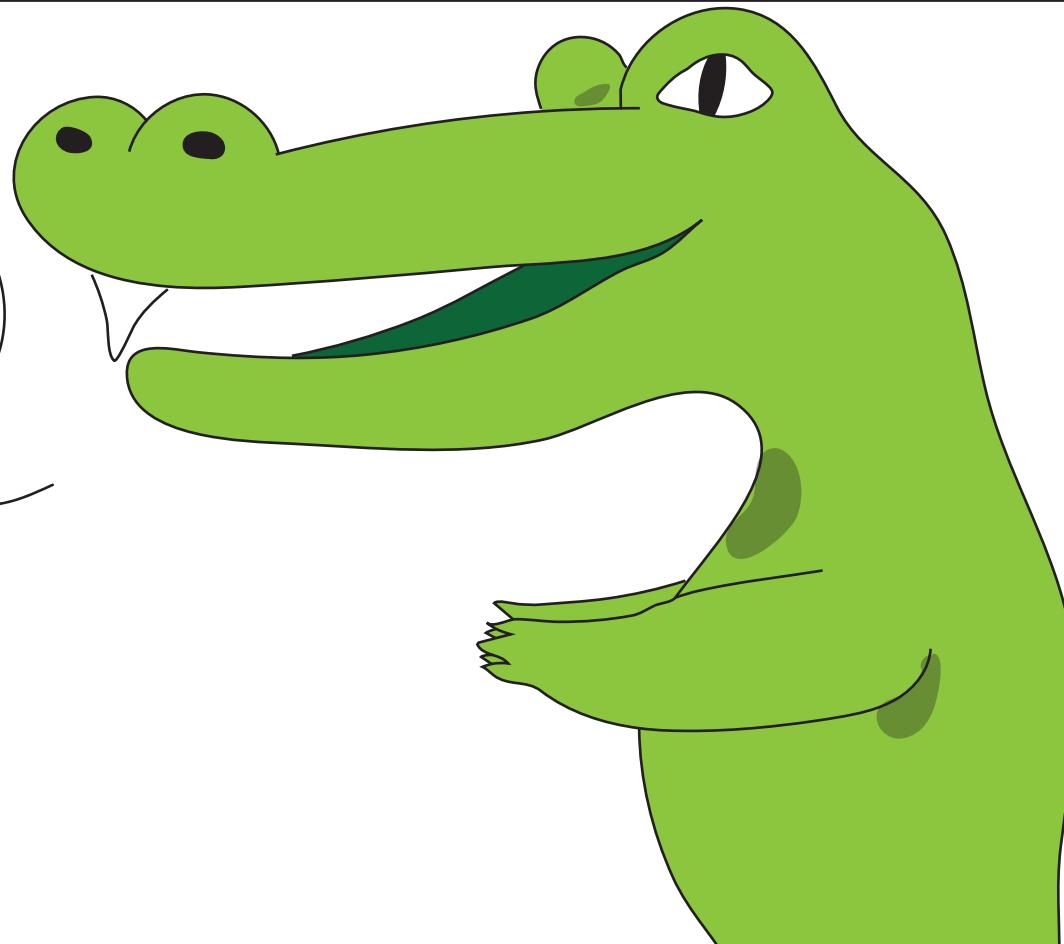


Good morning Marcus.  
Crocodus is with us  
today.

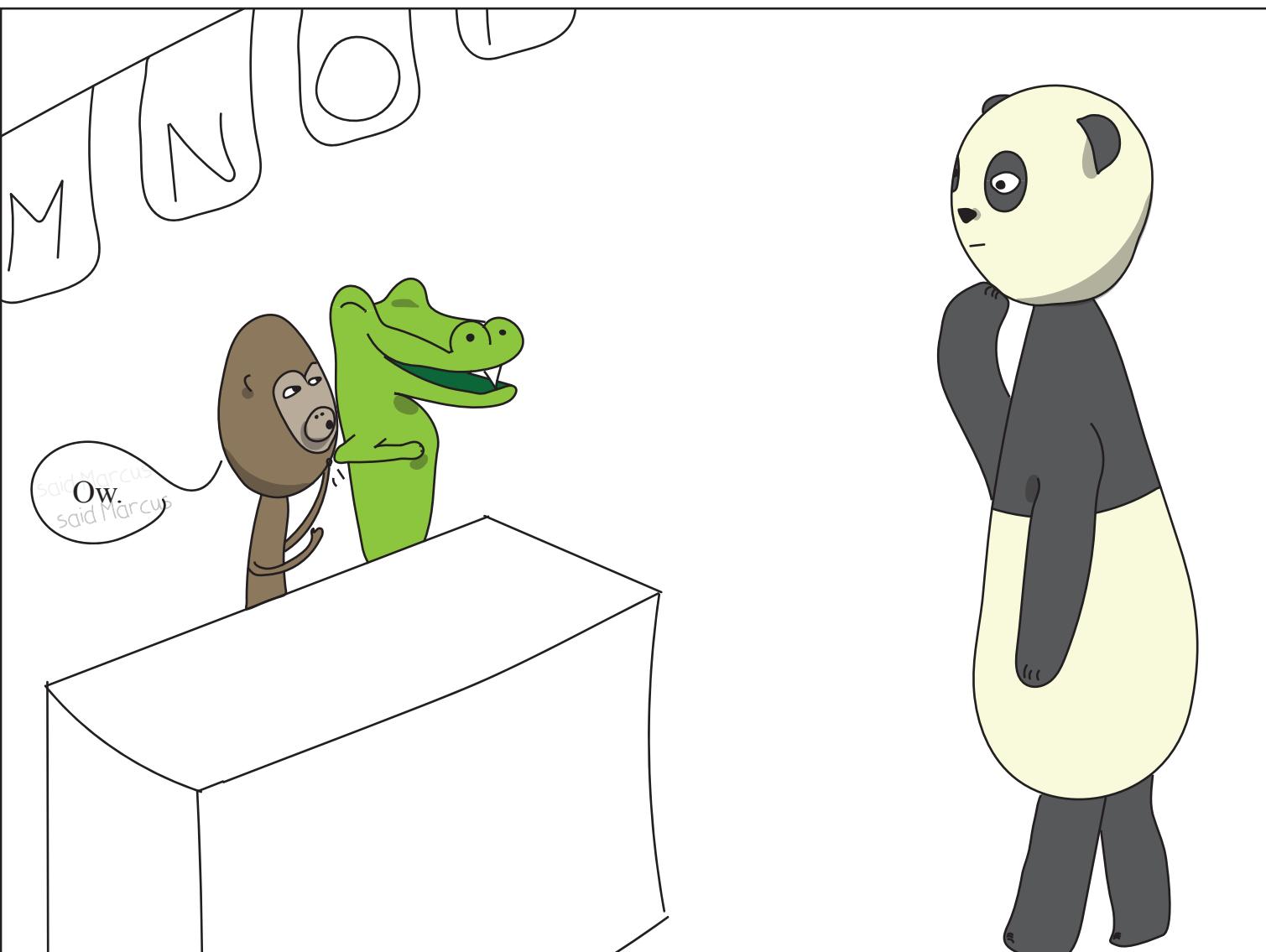


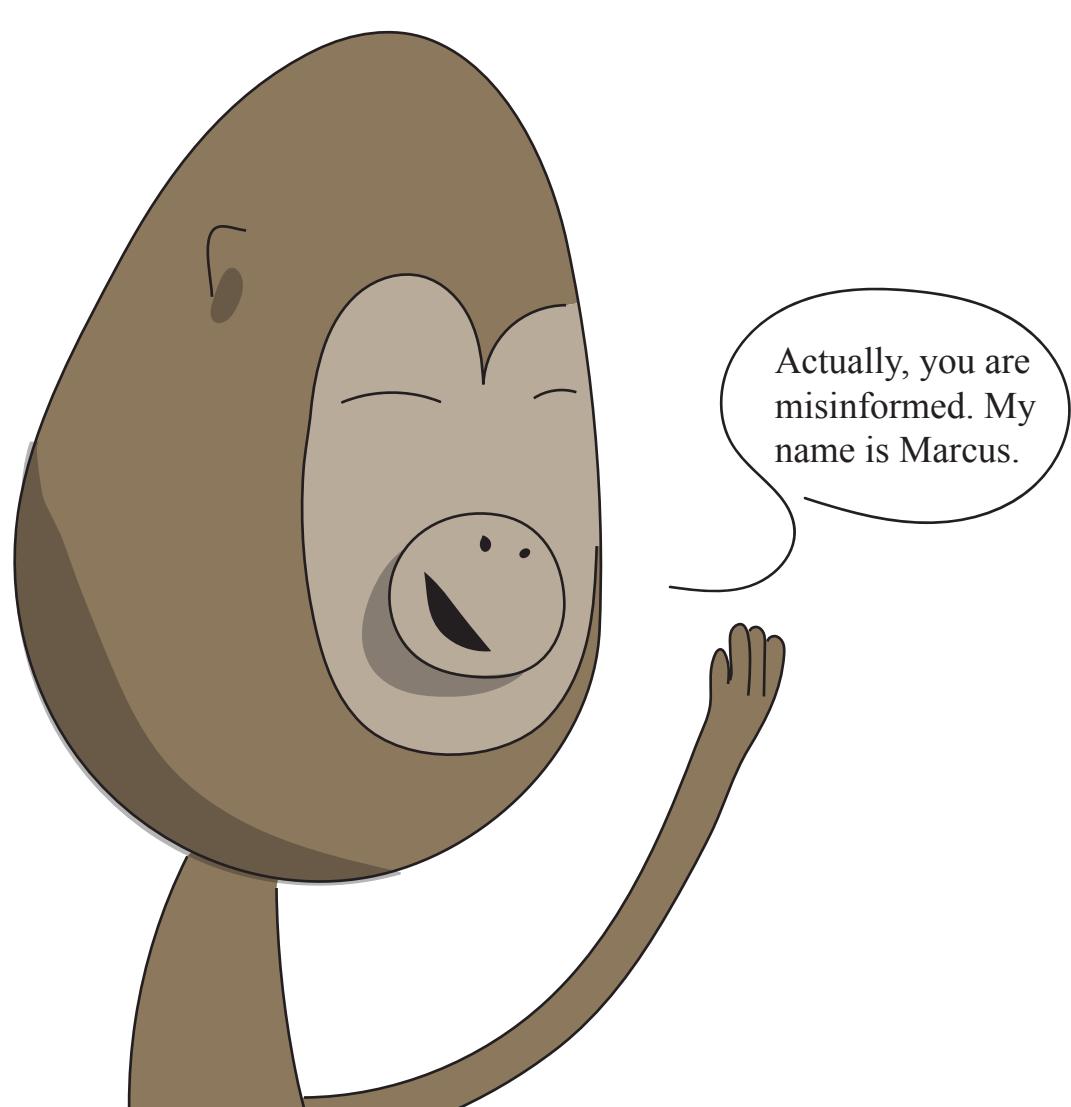
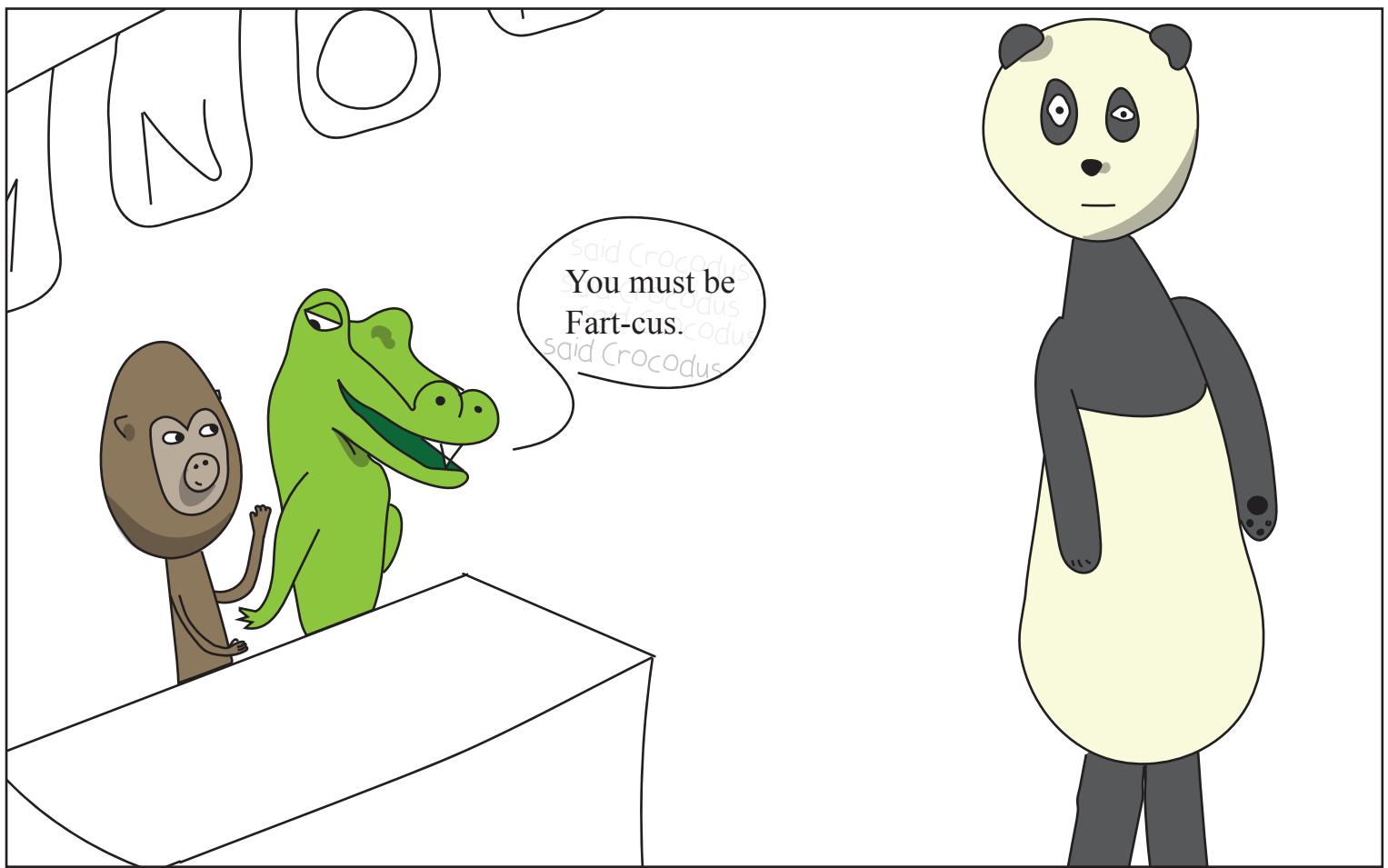
M  
J  
N  
P

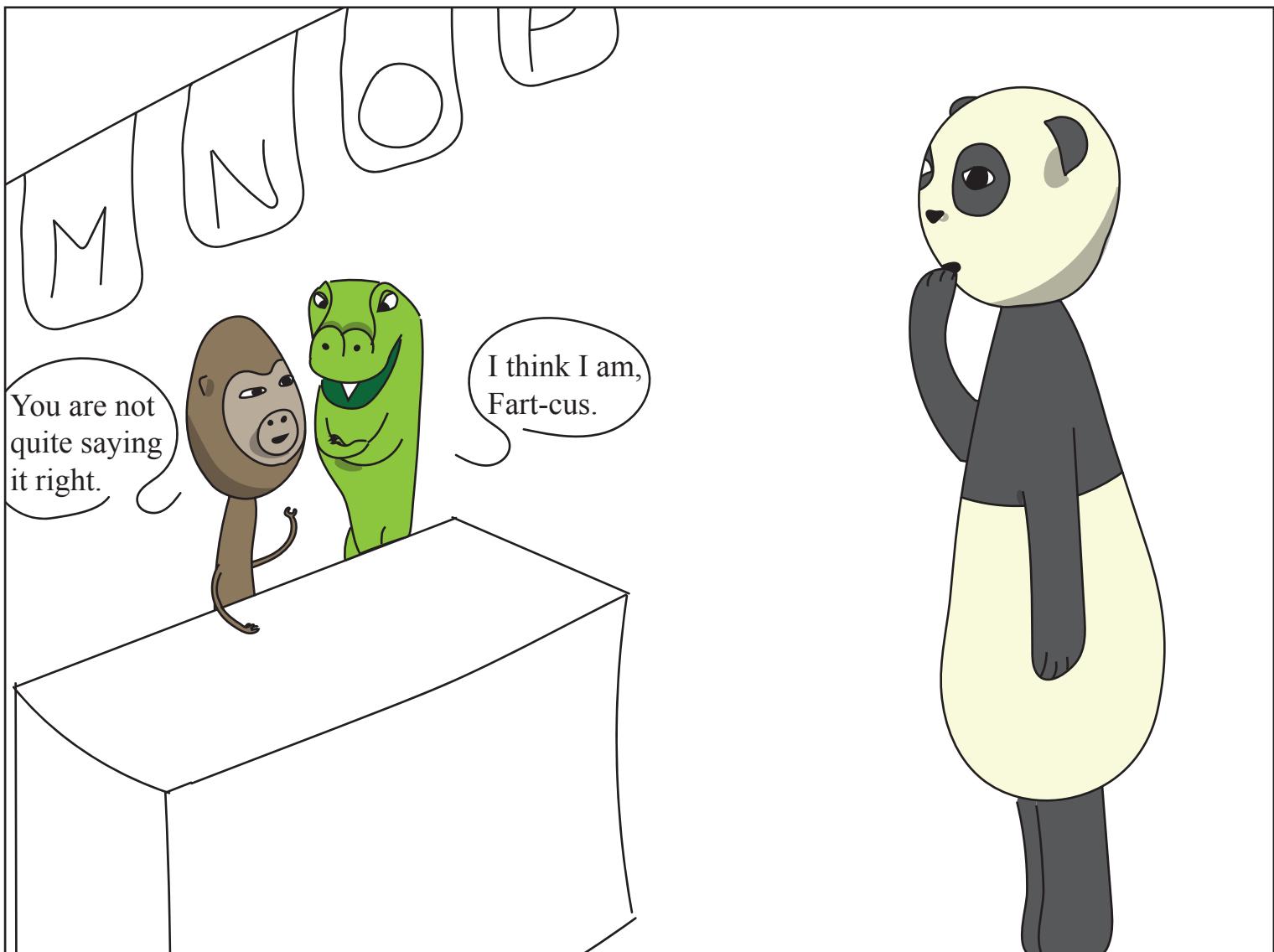
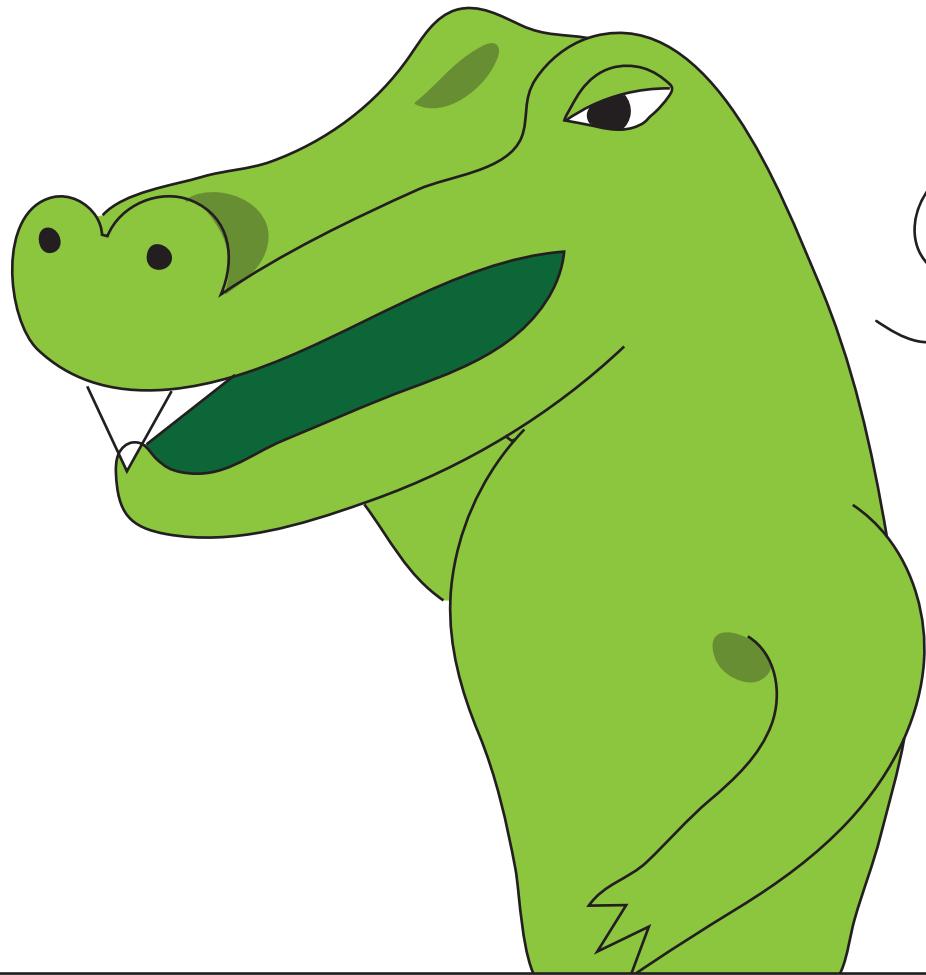


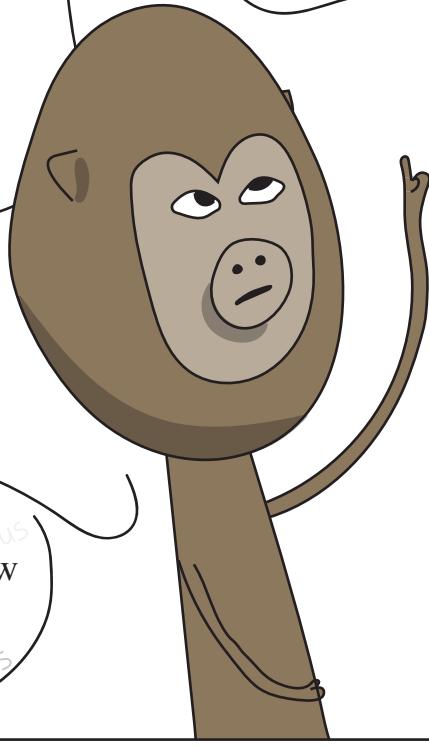


I am your new  
classmate. My dad  
made your dad  
share his private  
tutor.

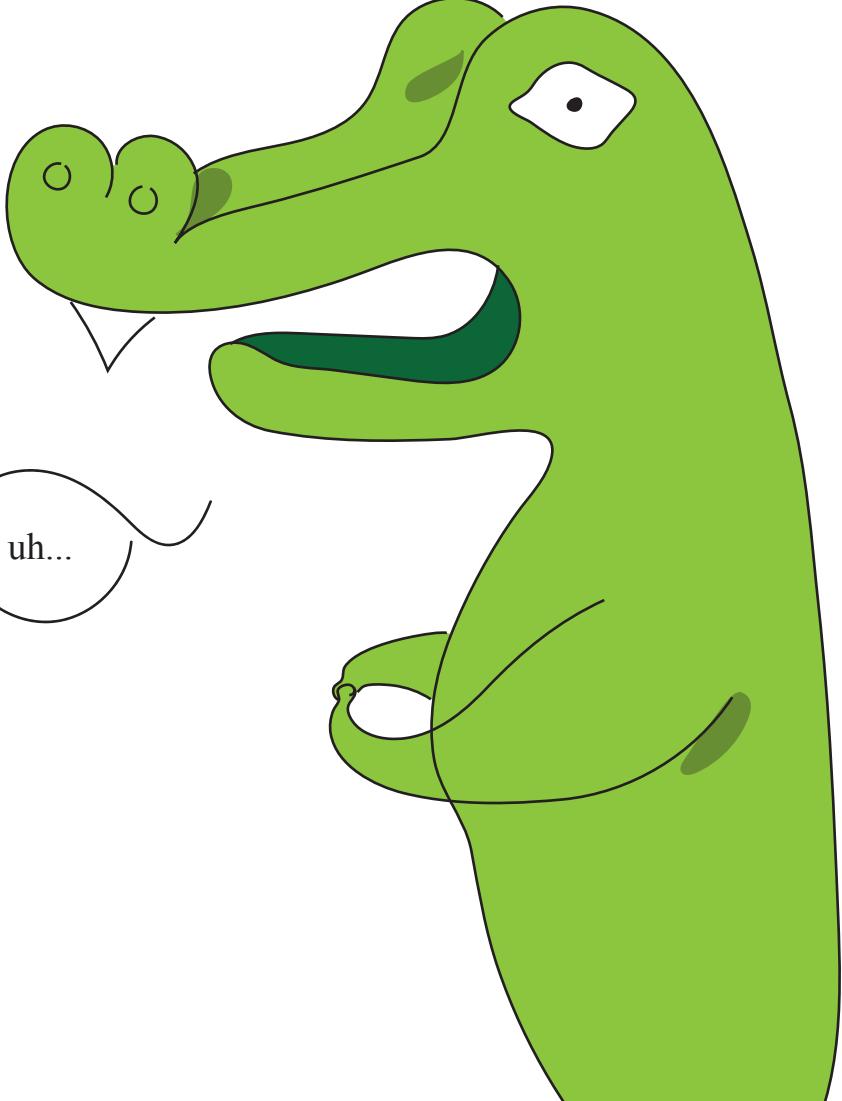




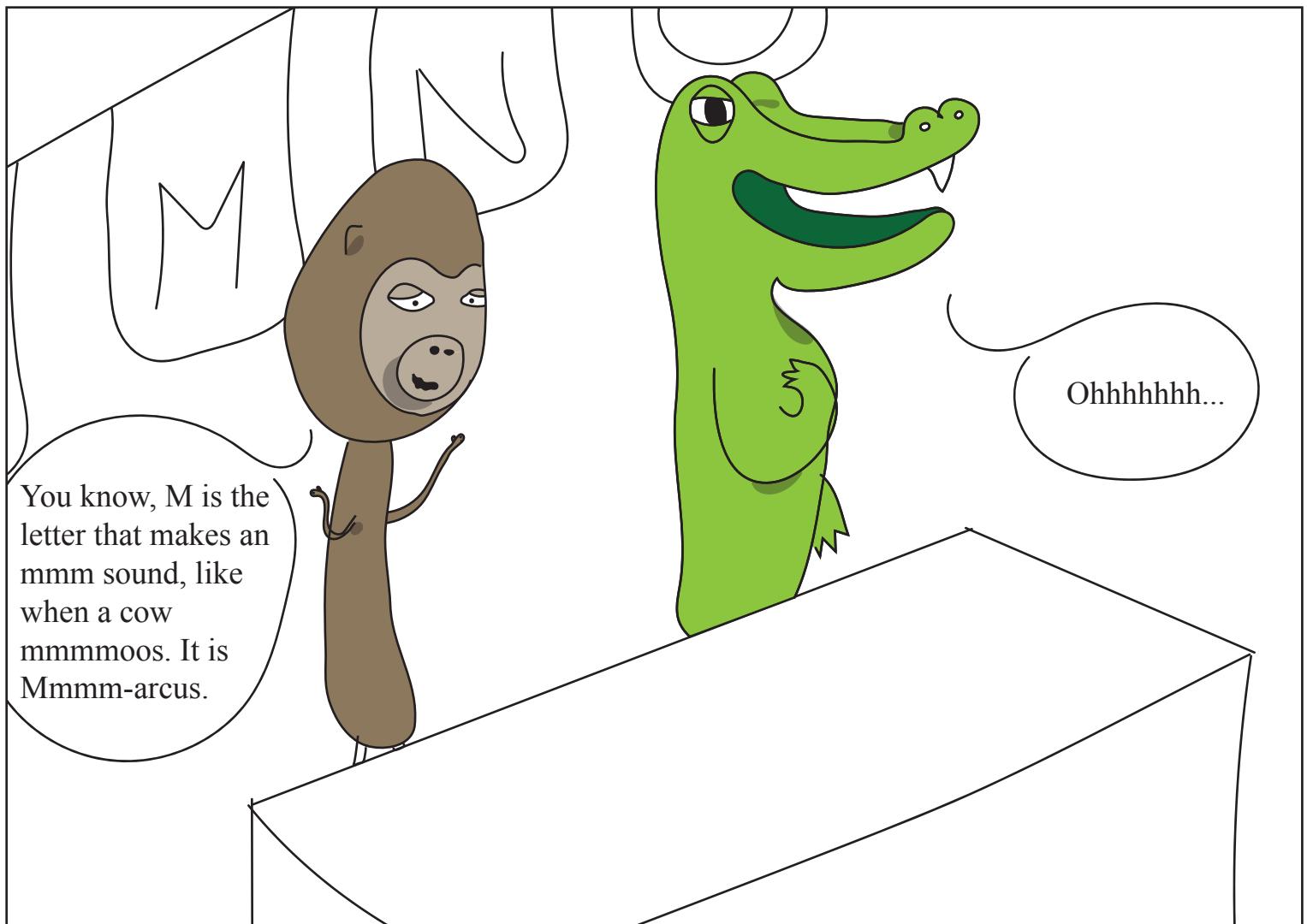
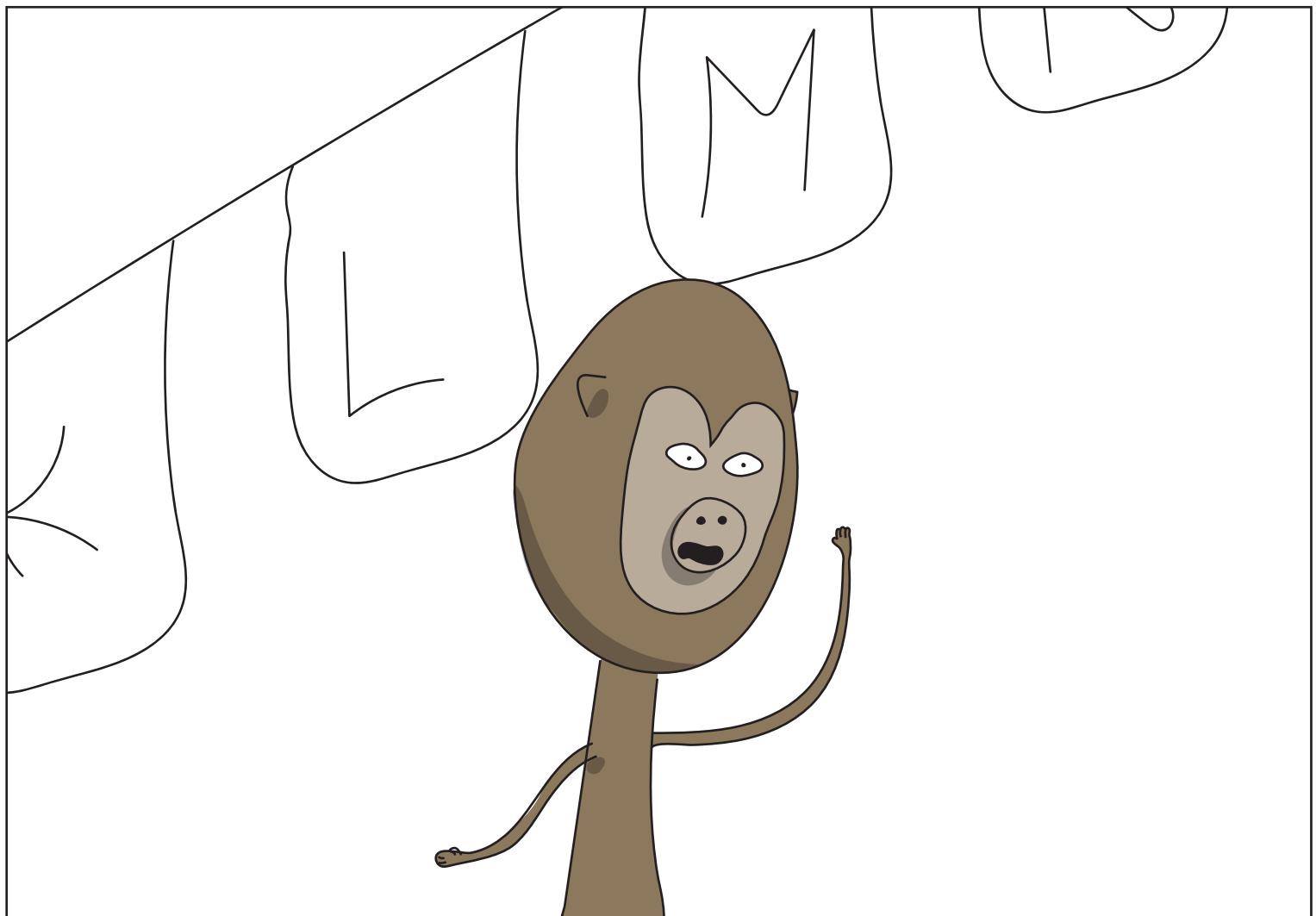




It starts with this letter. Do you know what sound this letter makes?

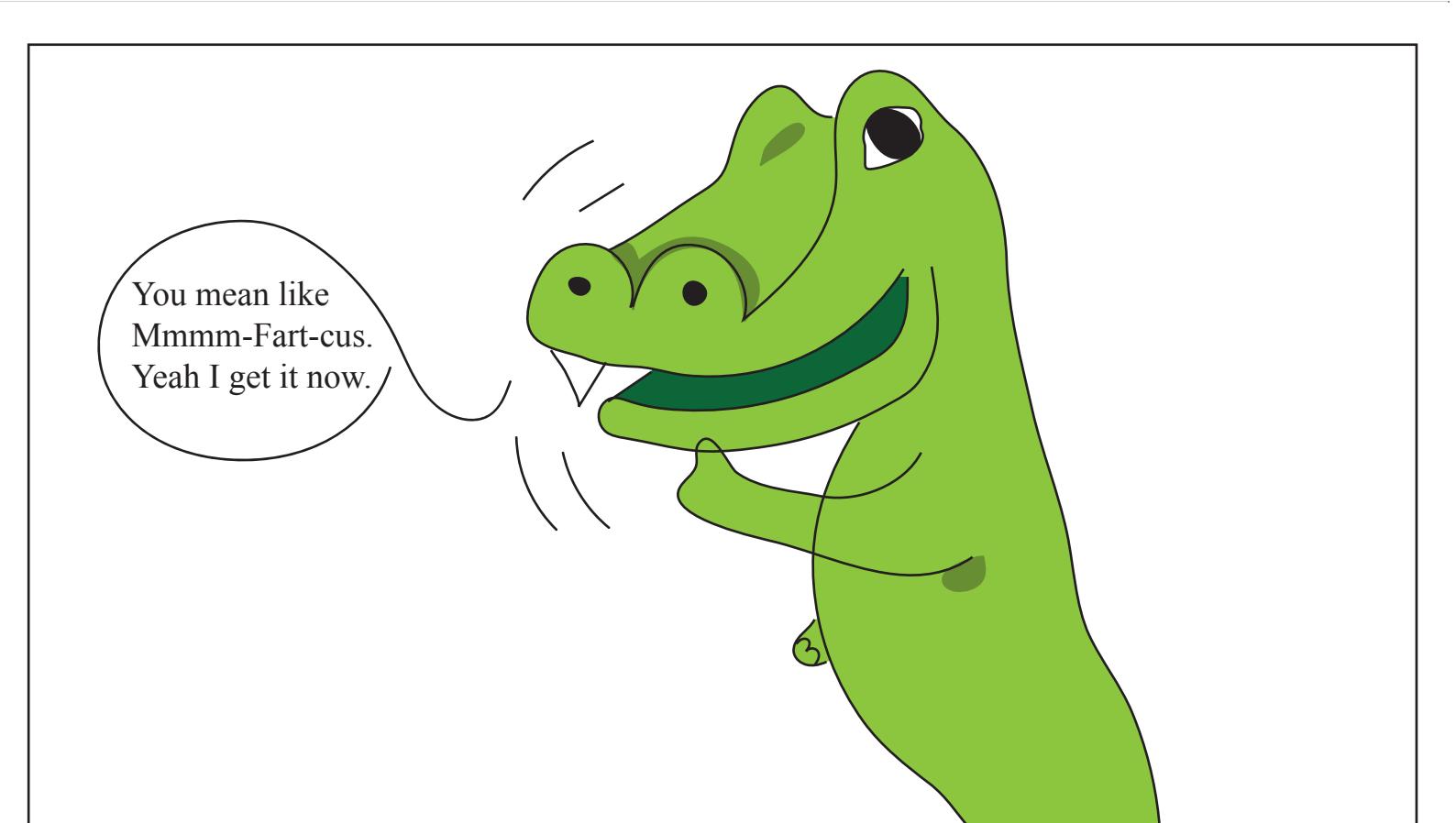


uh...

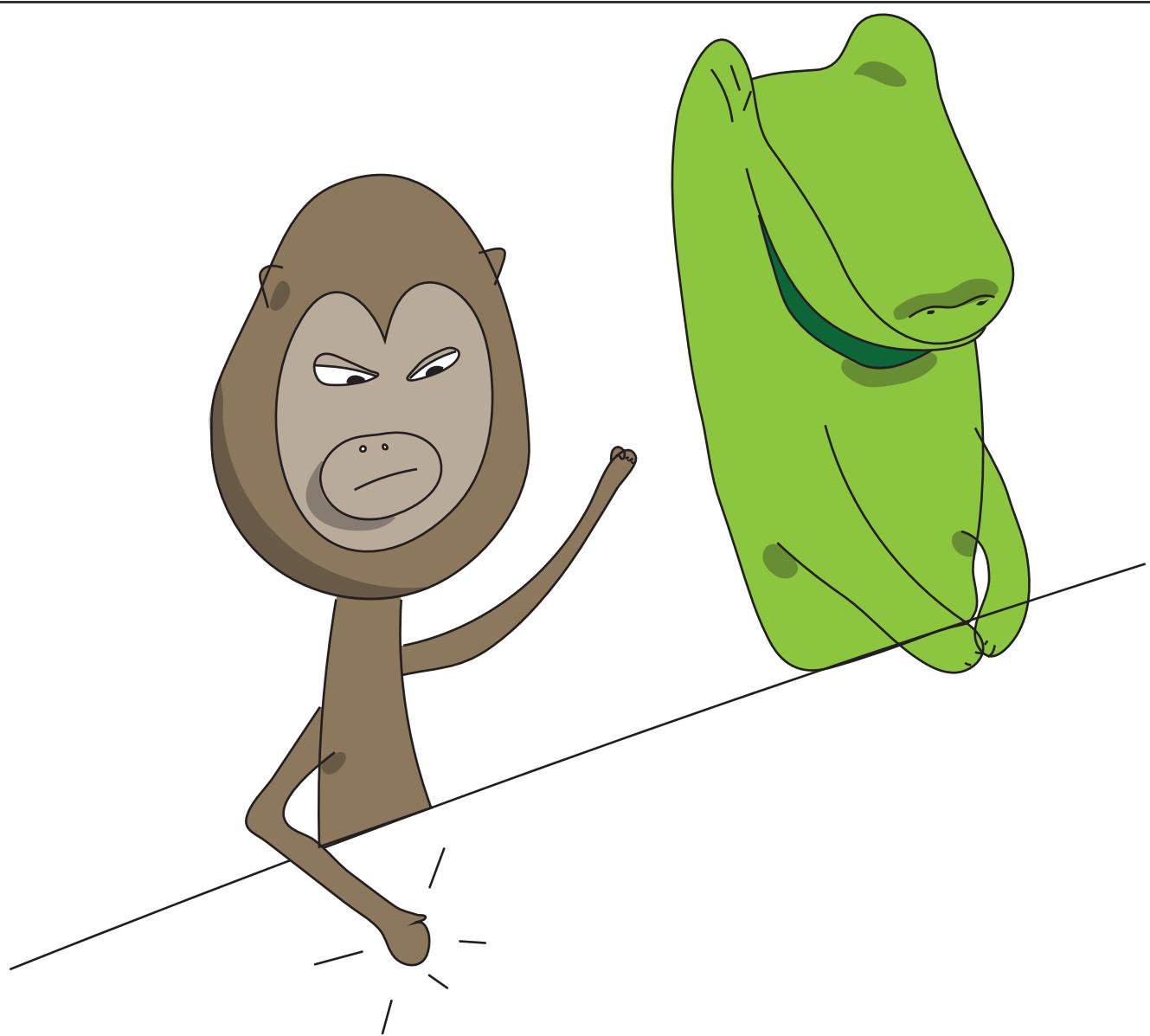


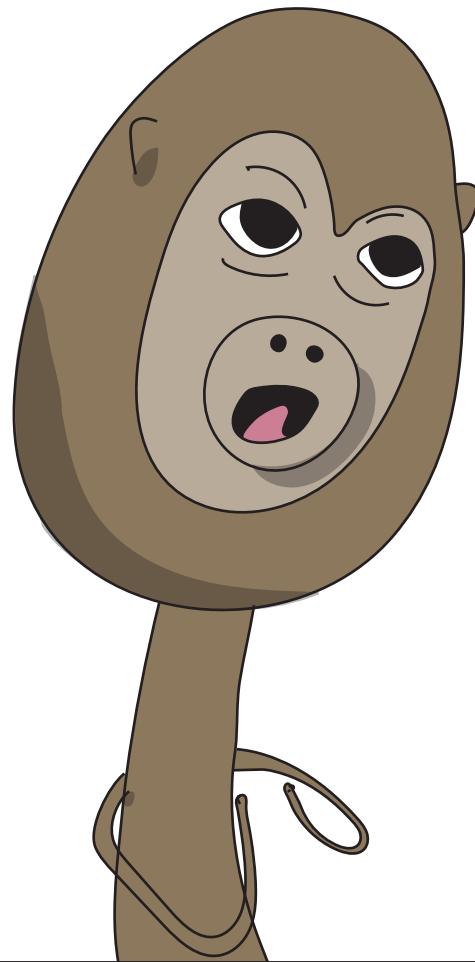
You know, M is the letter that makes an mmm sound, like when a cow mmmmoos. It is Mmmm-arcus.

Ohhhhhh...



You mean like  
Mmmm-Fart-cus.  
Yeah I get it now.

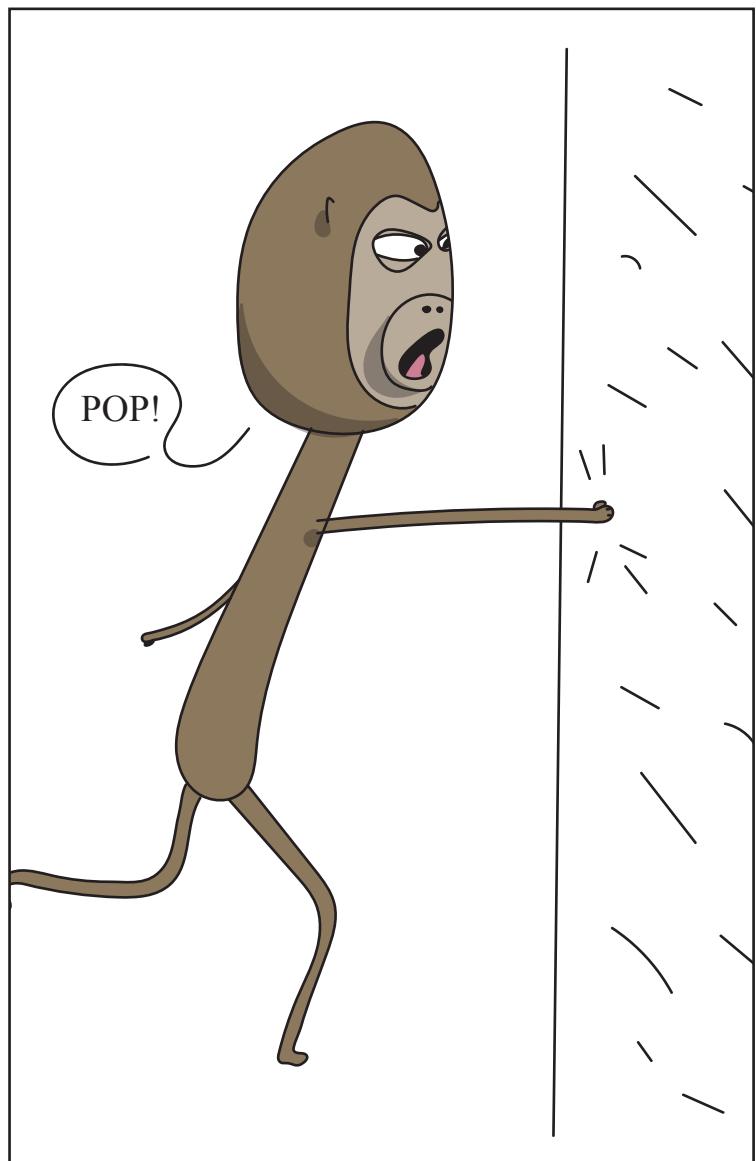
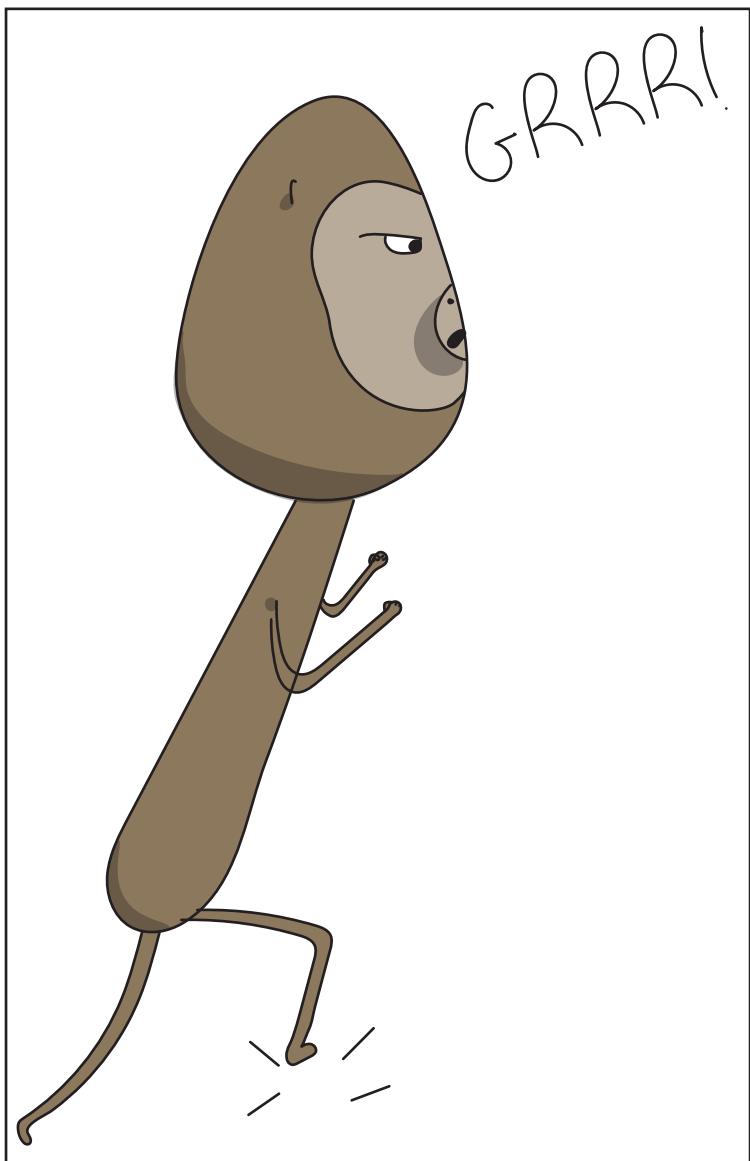
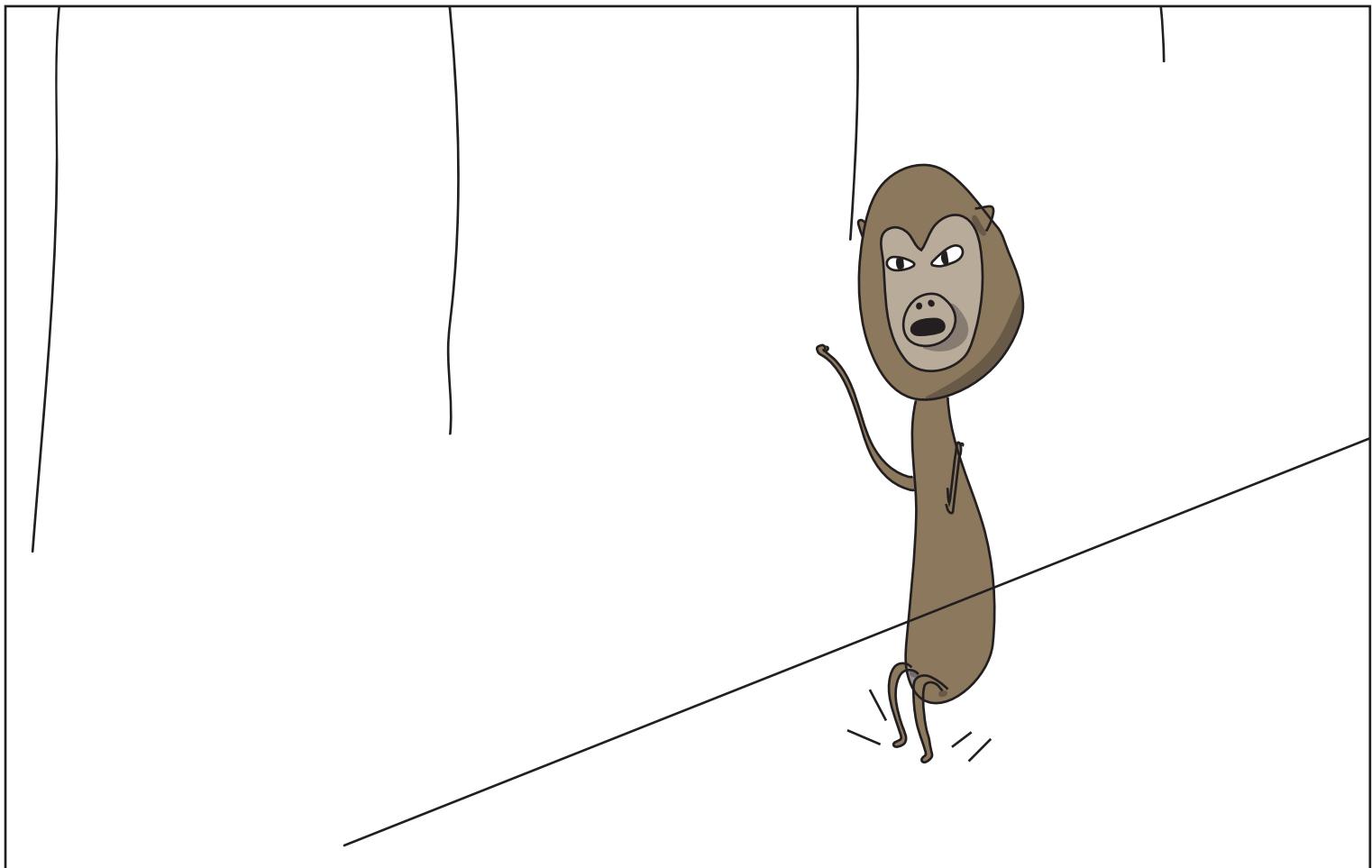




How can you mispronounce my name so badly? It has two syllables. Mar. Cus. Marcus.

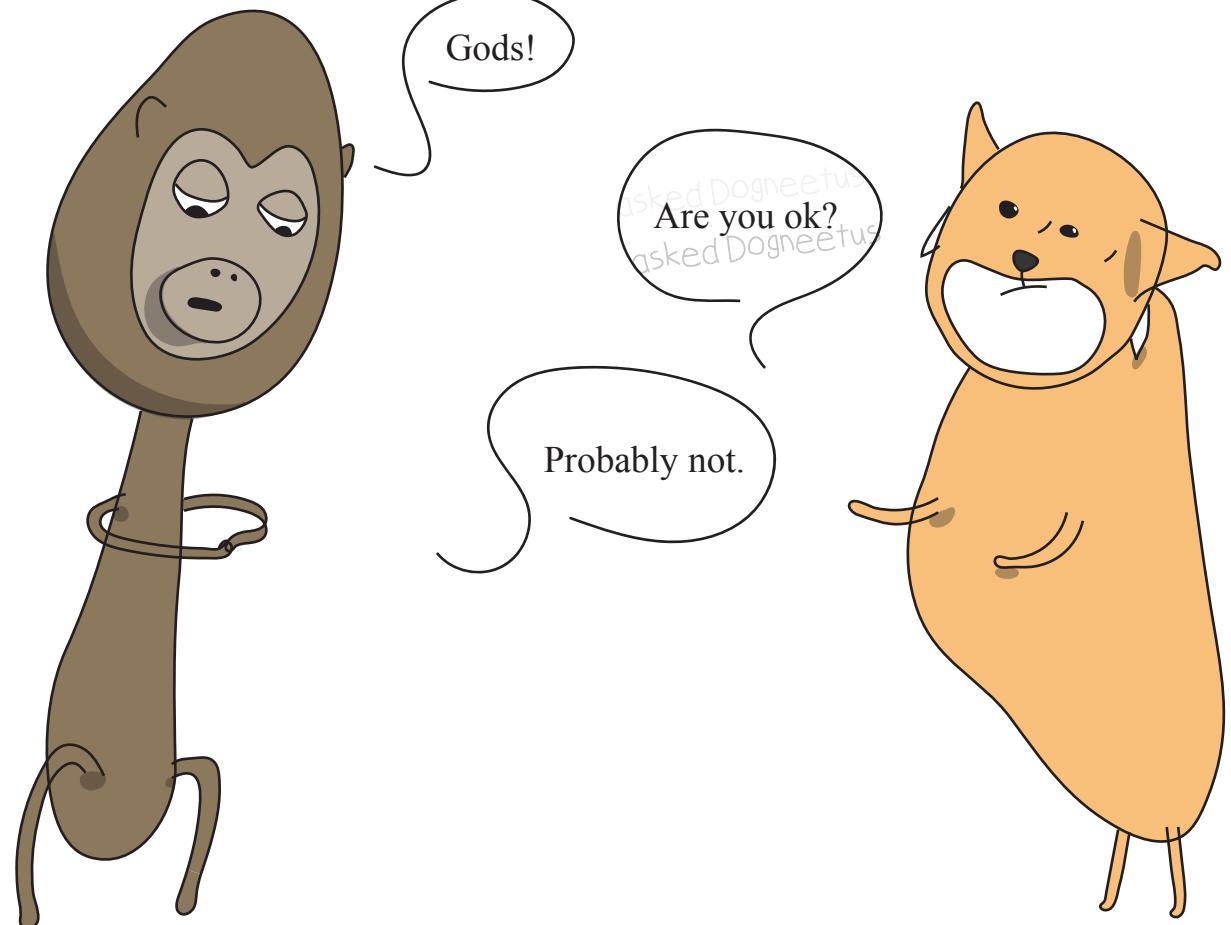


## Chapter 7 - Stoicism



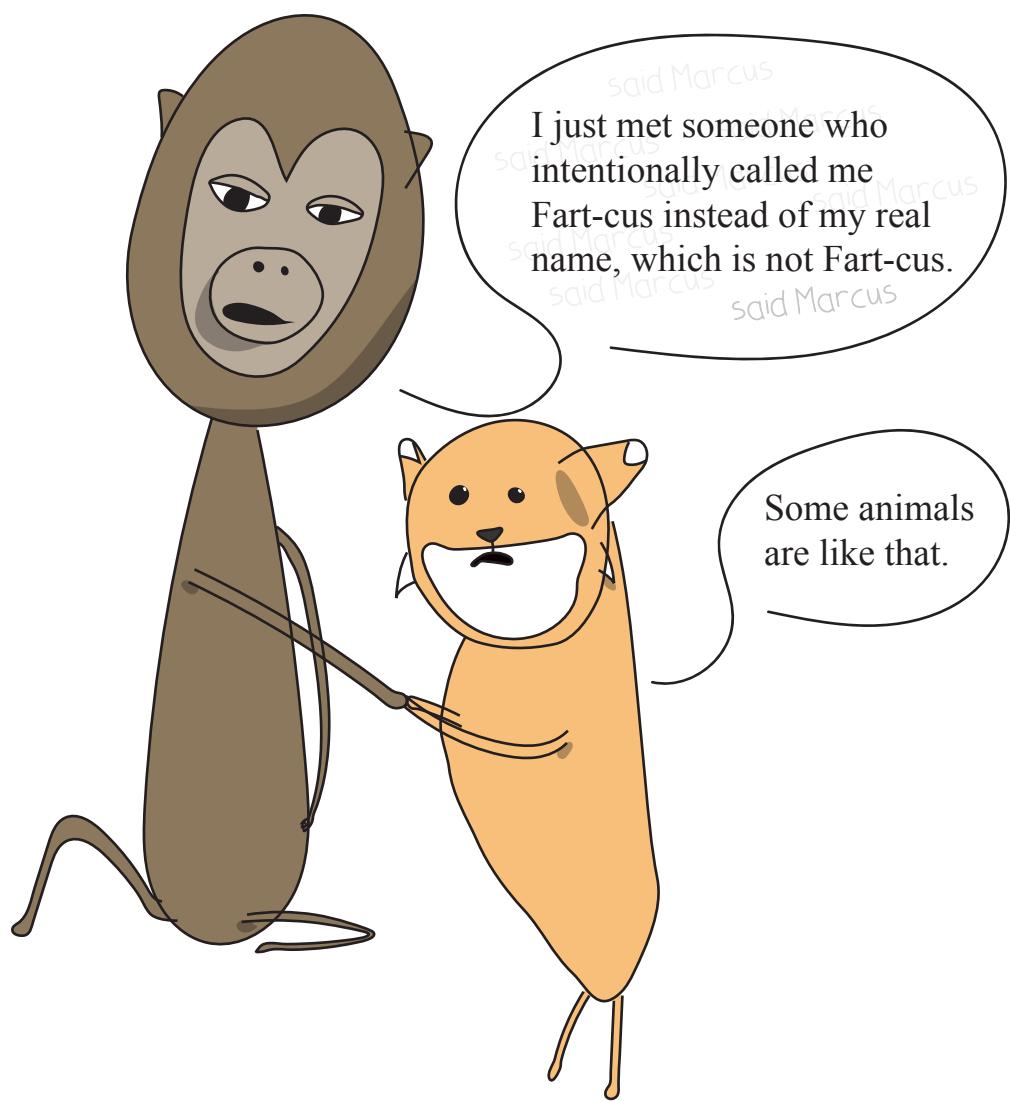


OWWWWWWWWW!



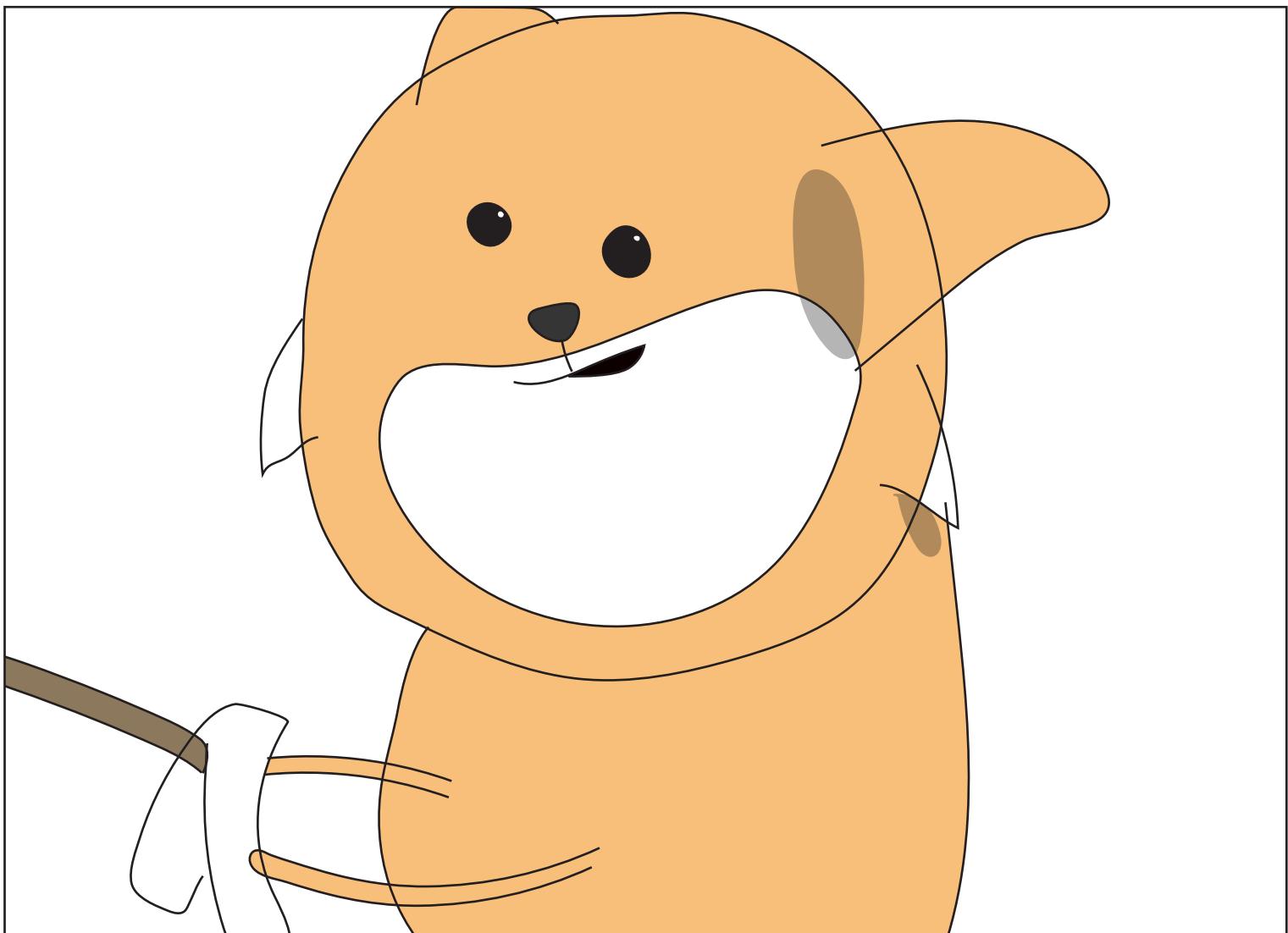
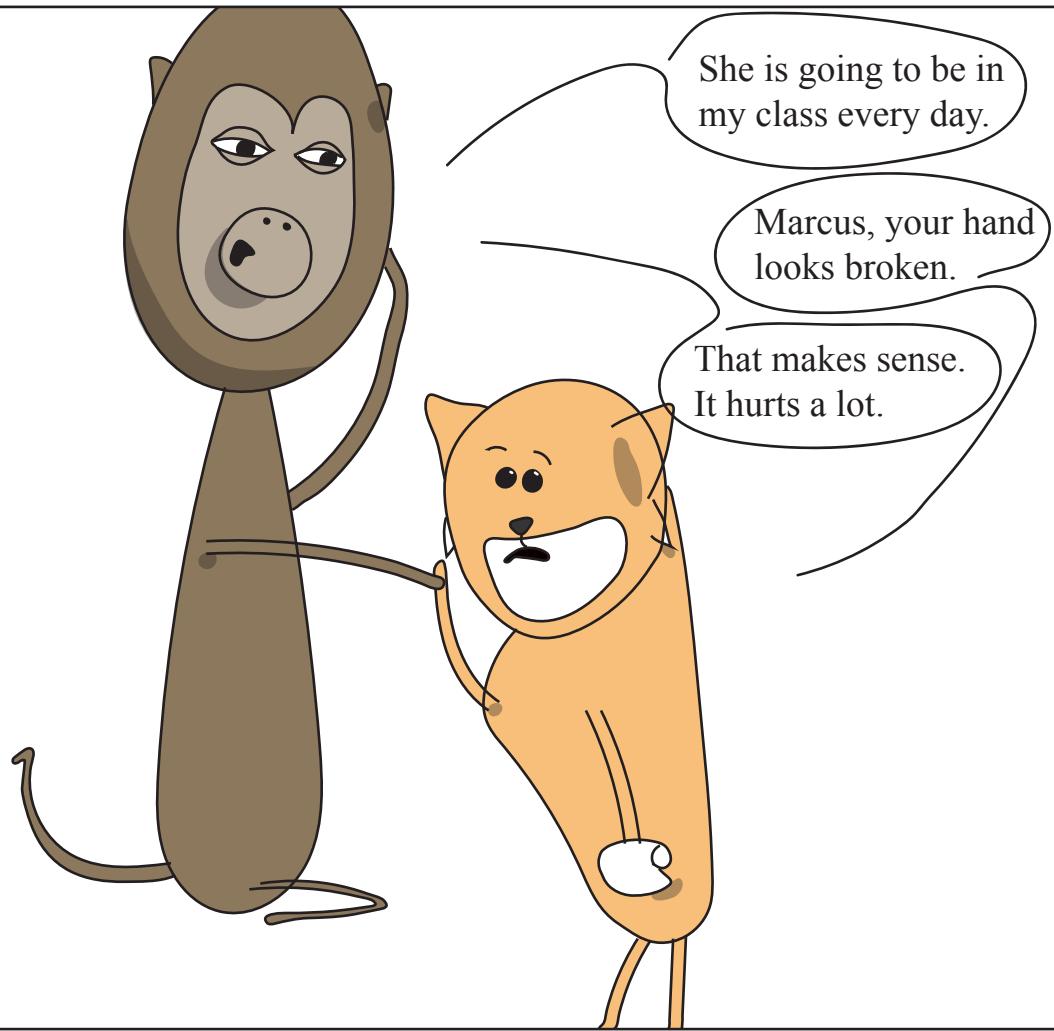


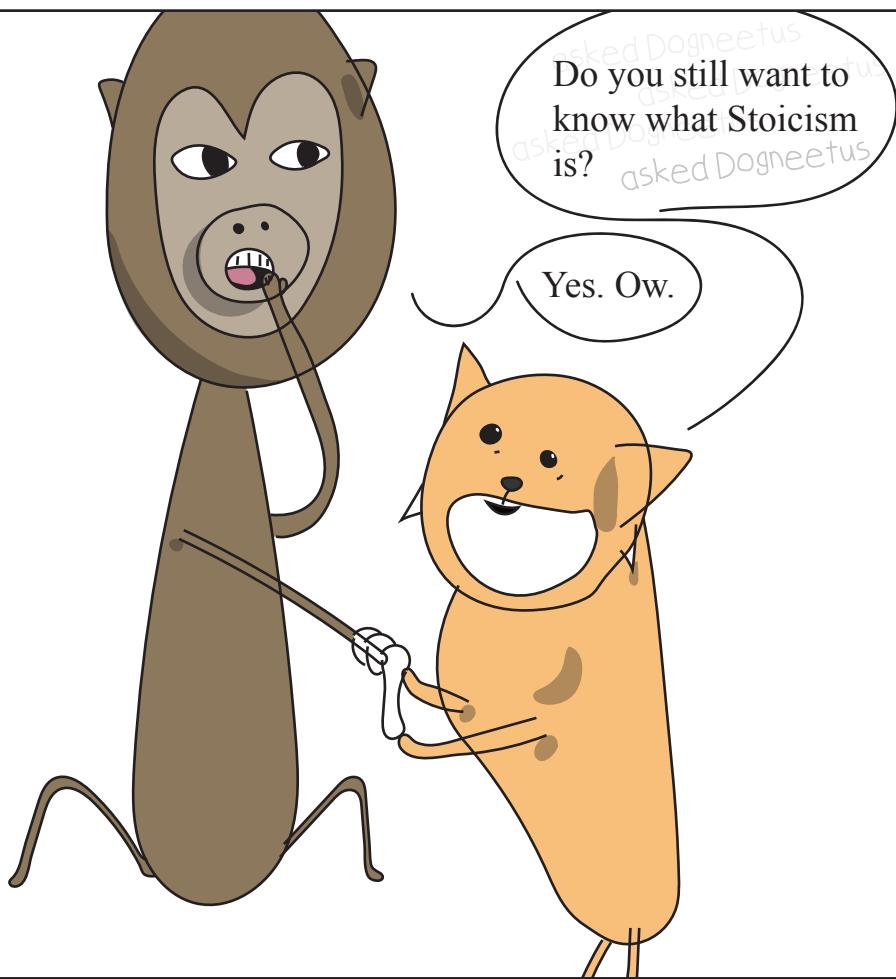
I heard you  
stomping from  
the bathroom.



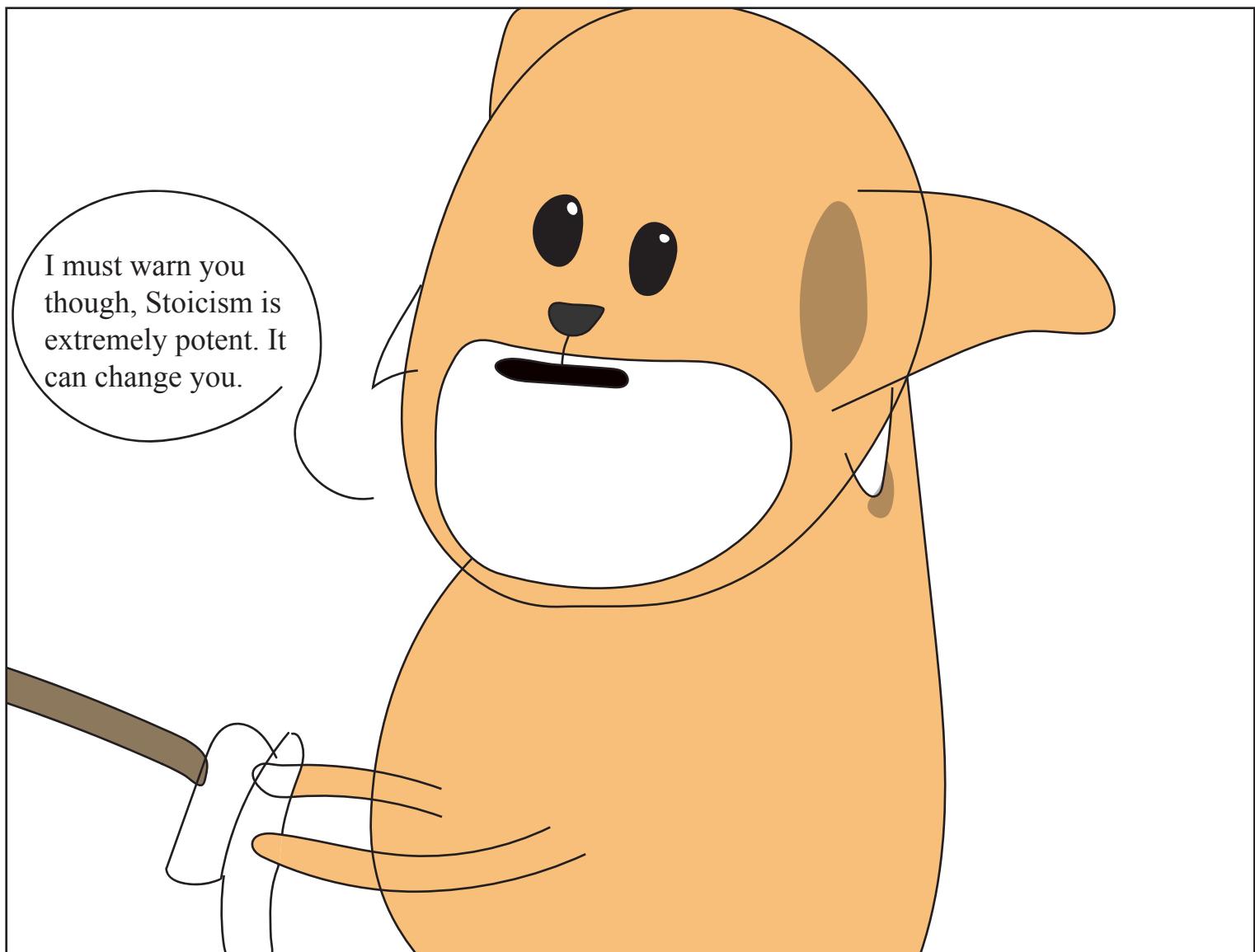
I just met someone who  
intentionally called me  
Fart-cus instead of my real  
name, which is not Fart-cus.  
said Marcus  
said Marcus  
said Marcus  
said Marcus  
said Marcus

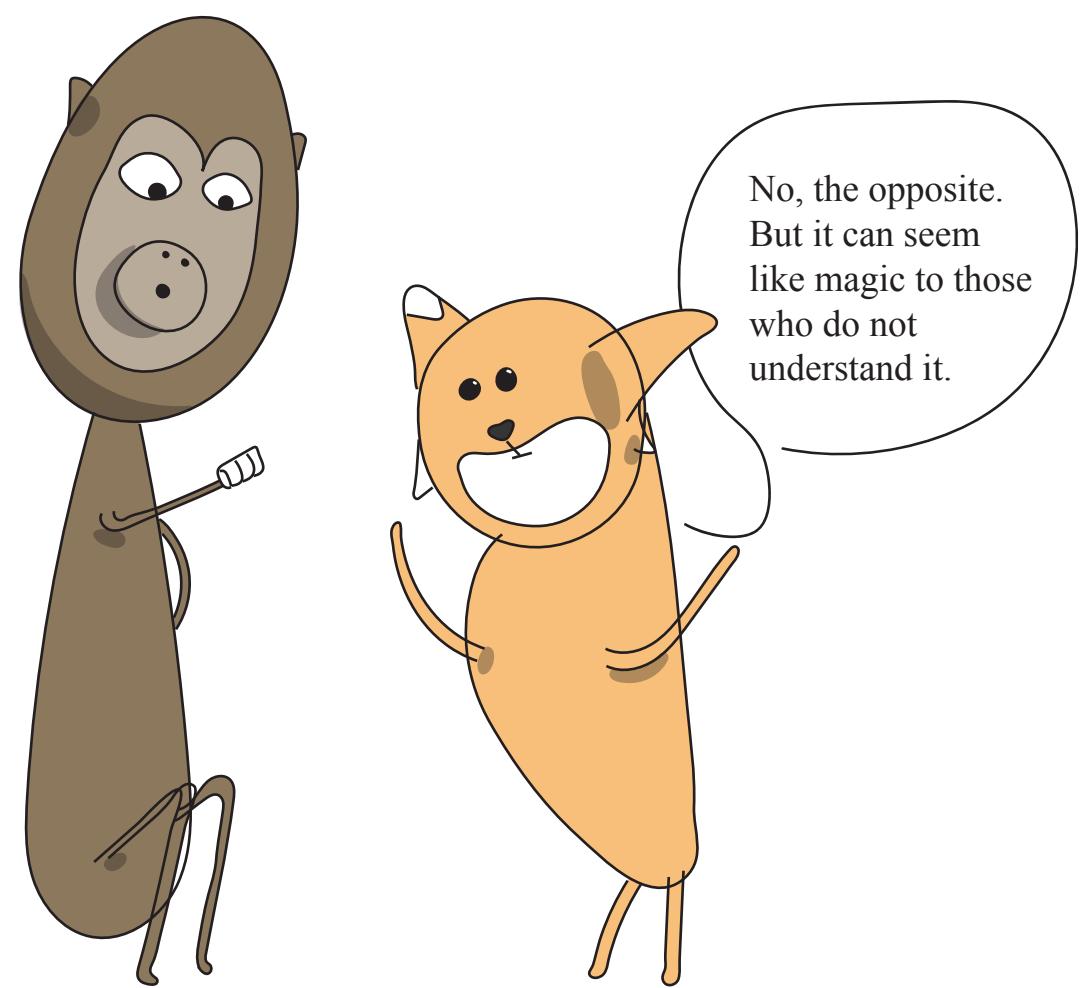
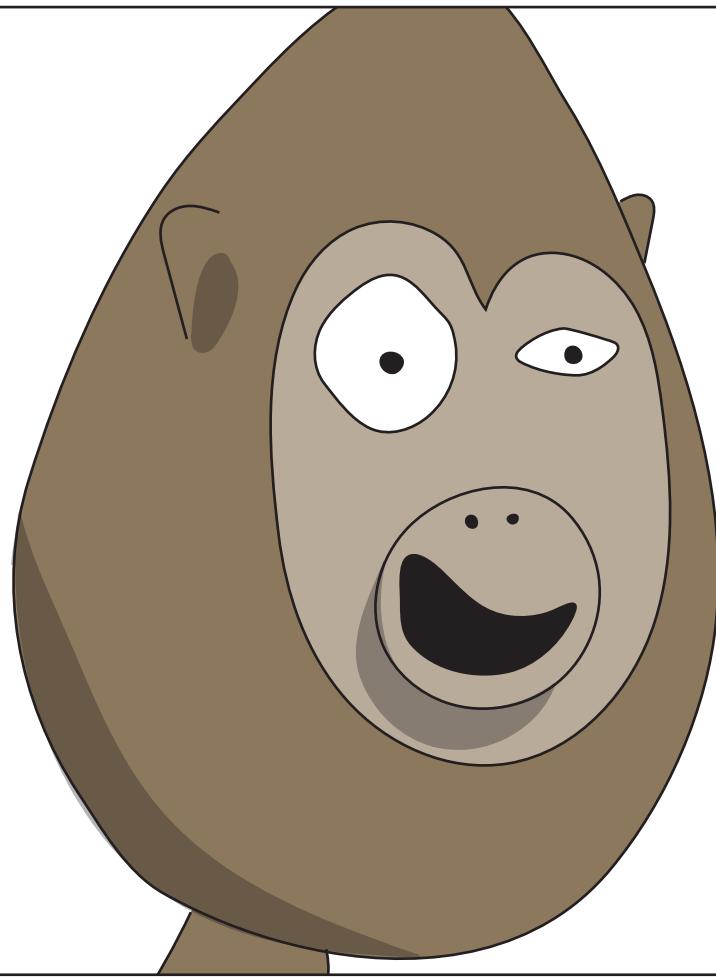
Some animals  
are like that.

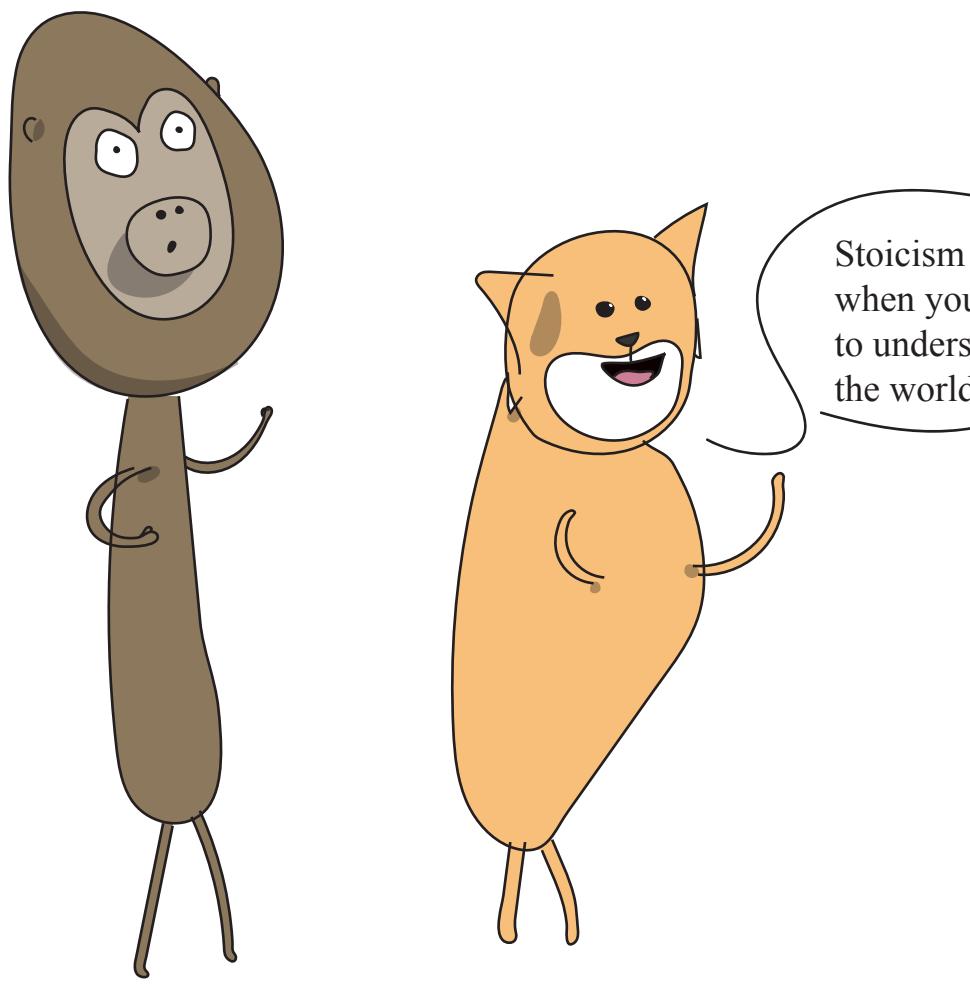
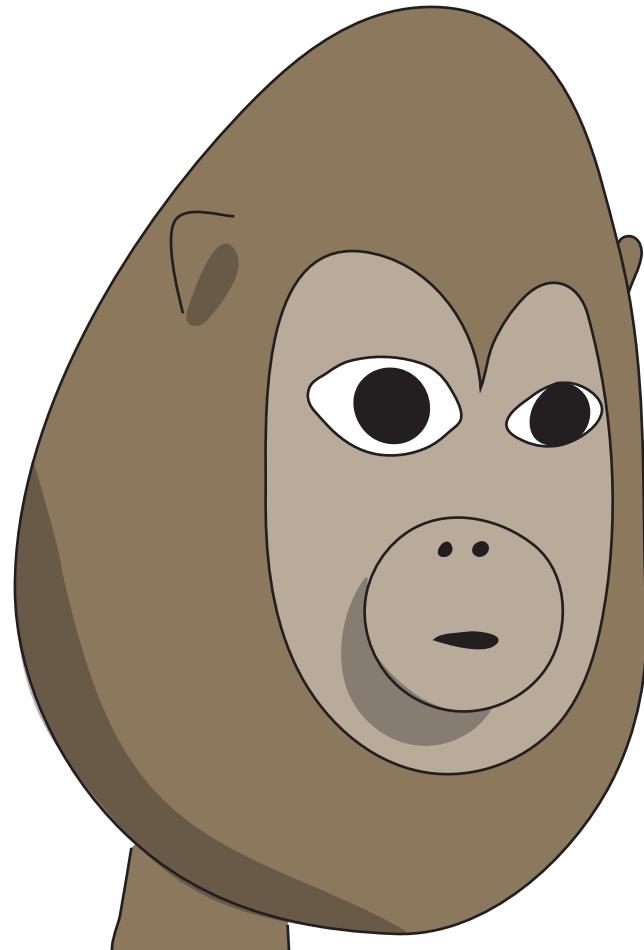


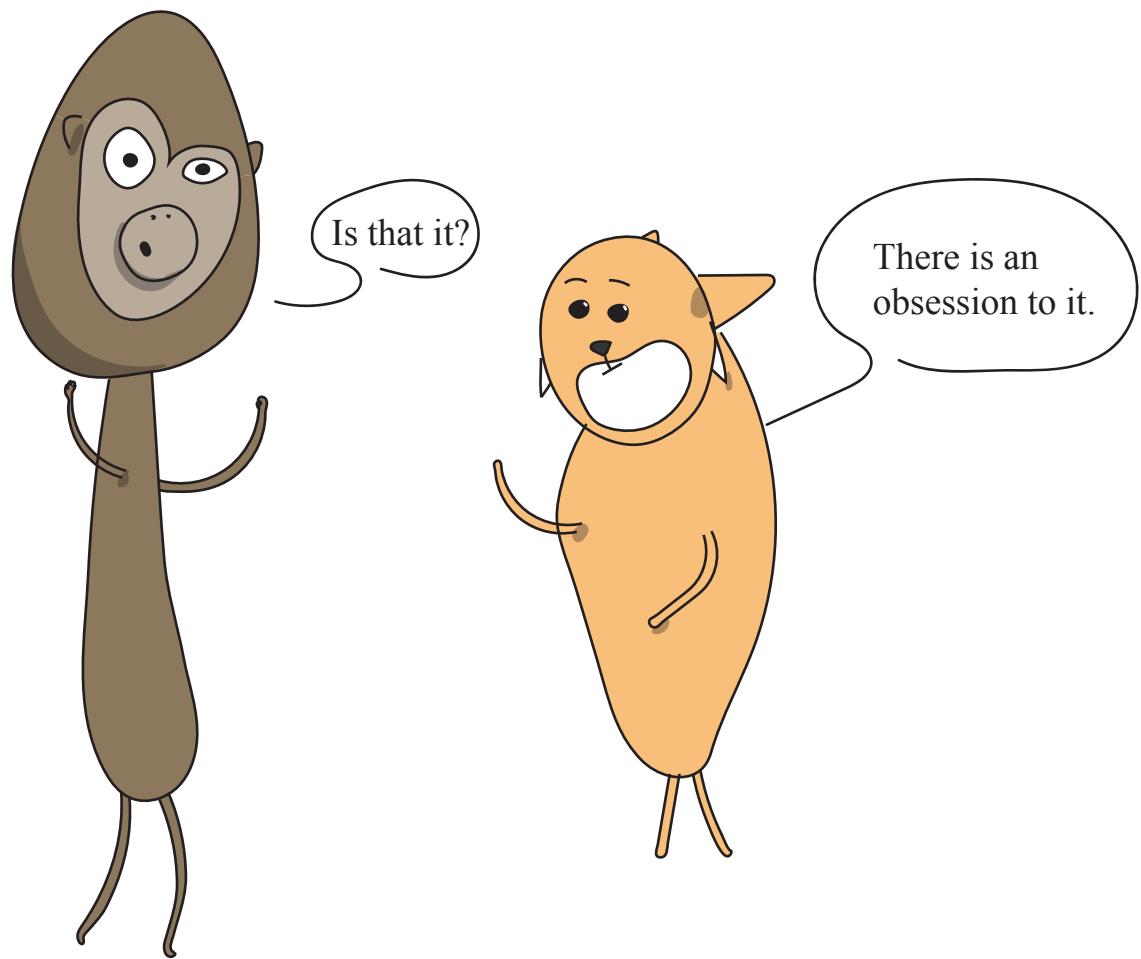
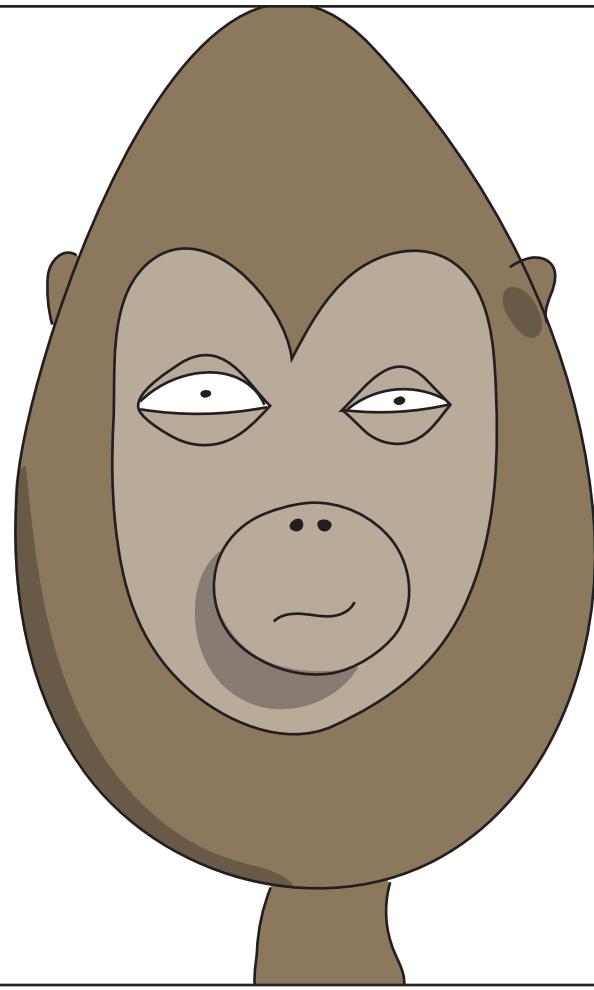


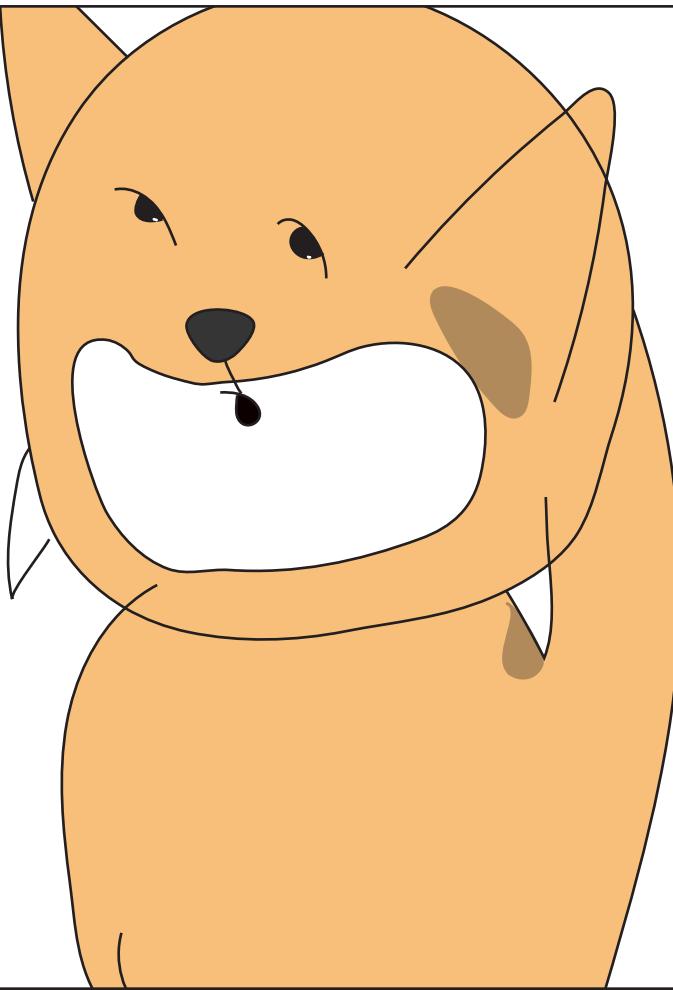
I must warn you though, Stoicism is extremely potent. It can change you.



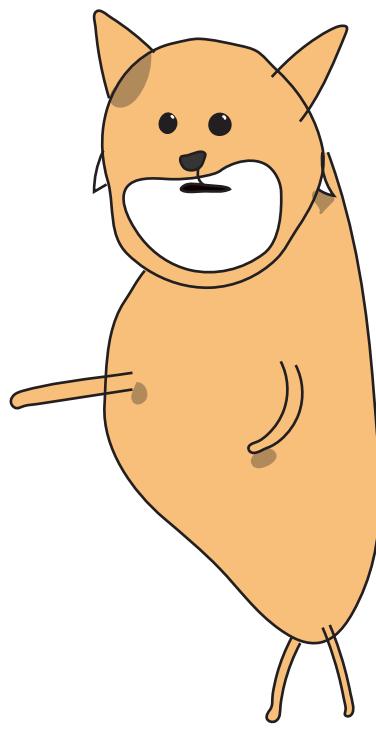




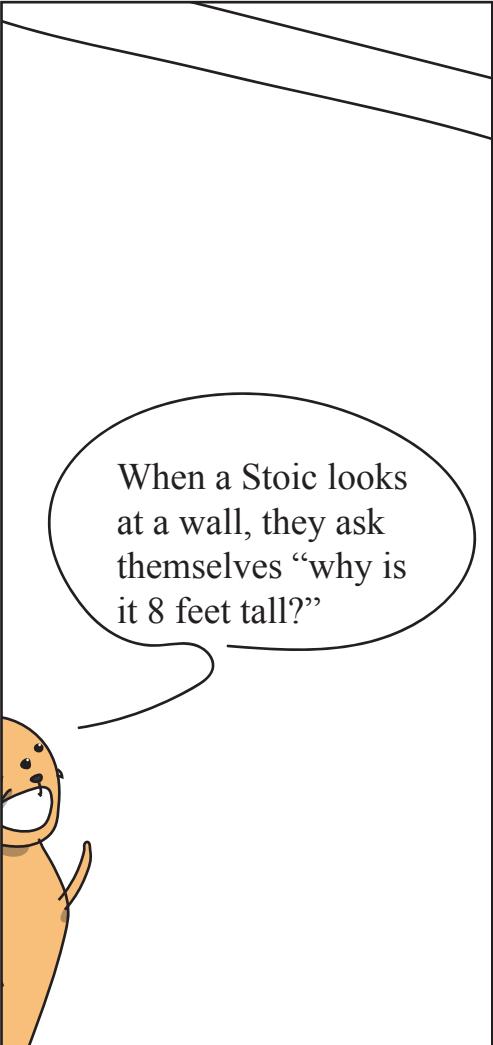




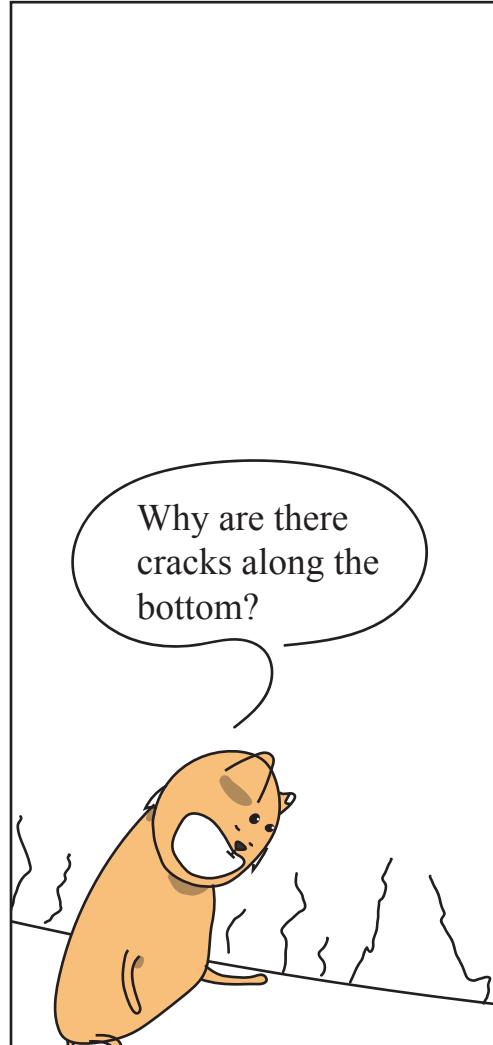
The most zealous Stoics think about the reasons for things with every thought.



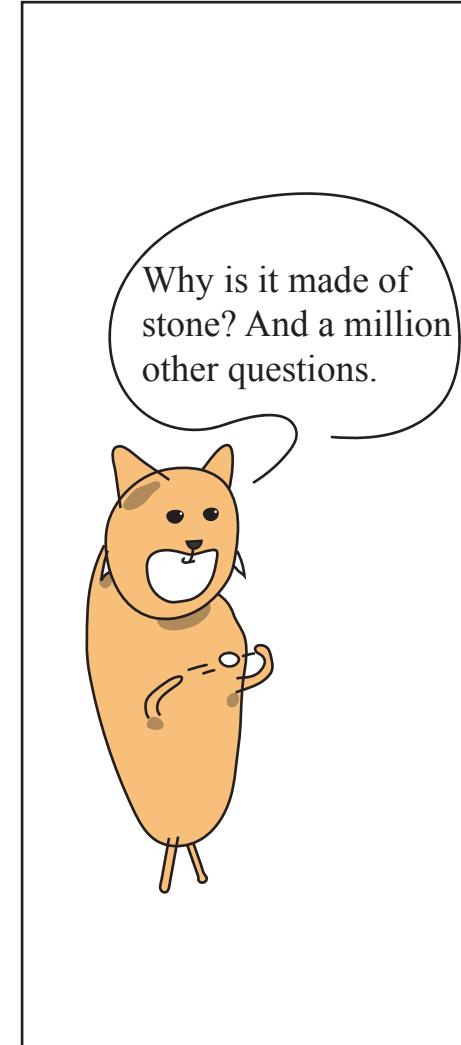
When you look at a wall, you see something you should punch.



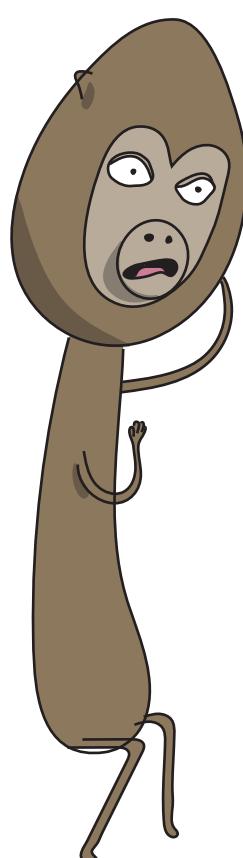
When a Stoic looks at a wall, they ask themselves “why is it 8 feet tall?”



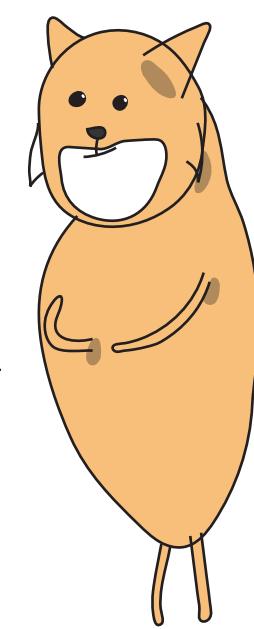
Why are there cracks along the bottom?



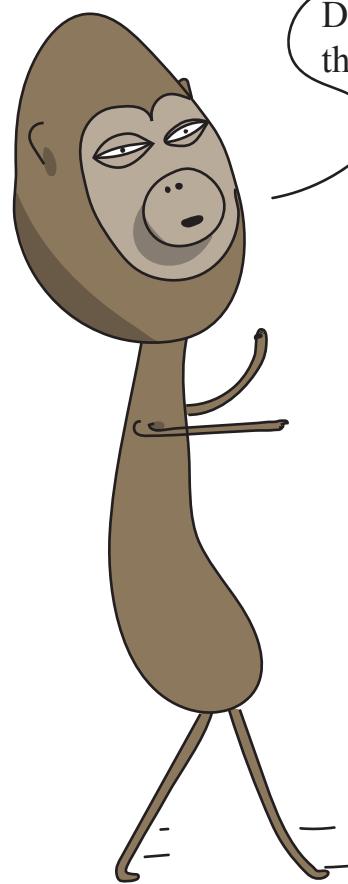
Why is it made of stone? And a million other questions.



That is ridiculous.  
Why would  
someone do that?  
asked Marcus

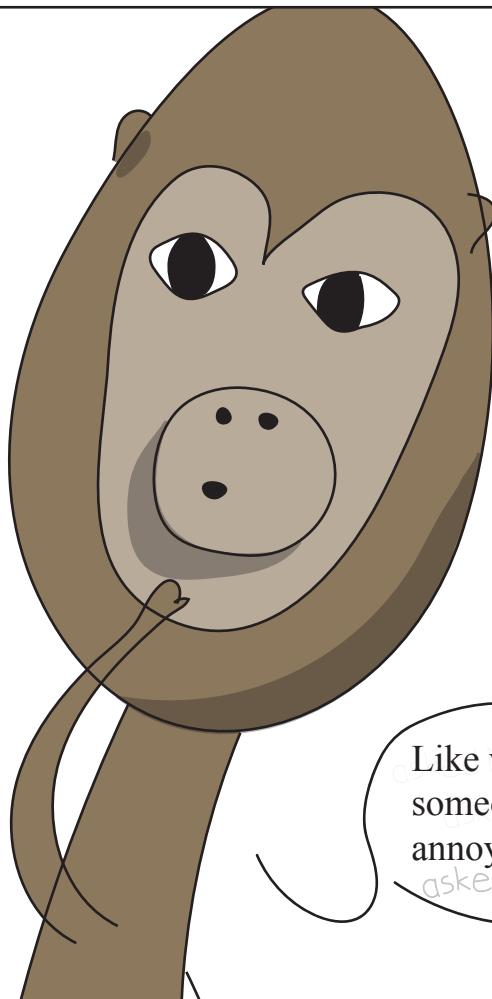


Reasons can  
be very  
comforting.



Do you do  
that?

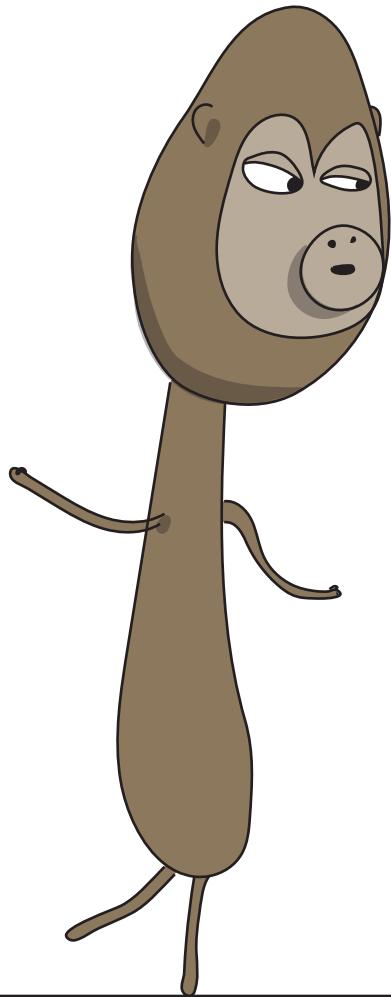
No, I am not that extreme.  
But I practice using it,  
especially when dealing  
with difficult situations.

A large orange dog with a white chest is standing on its hind legs, facing left. It has a slightly smiling expression.

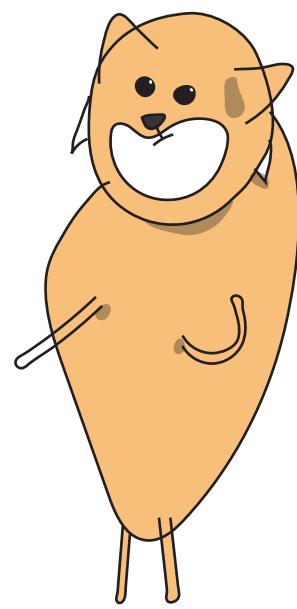
Like when  
someone is  
annoying you?  
asked Marcus

Precisely.

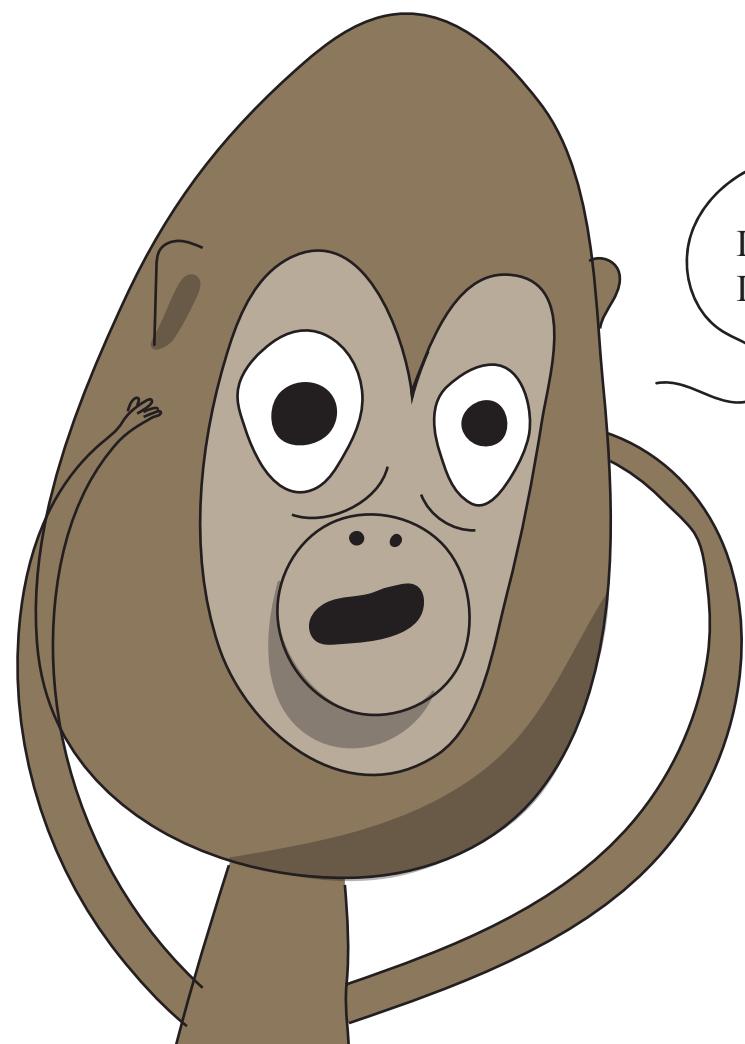
A close-up of the orange dog's face, showing its large eyes and white chest. It appears to be responding to the monkey.



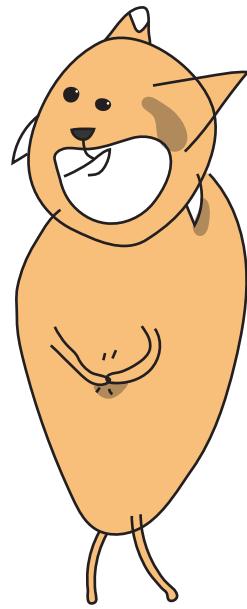
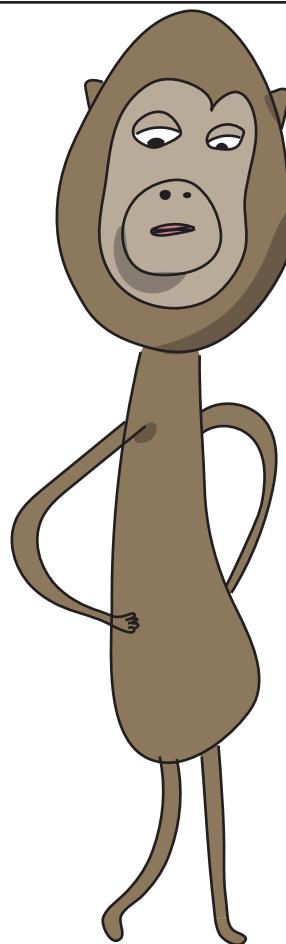
What does that  
have to do with  
sleeping outside?



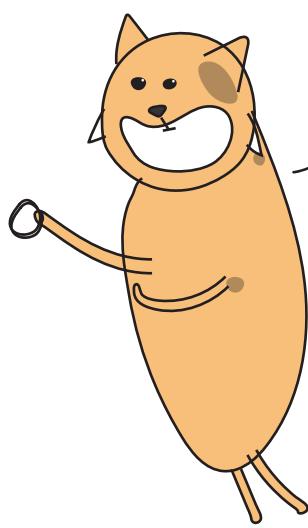
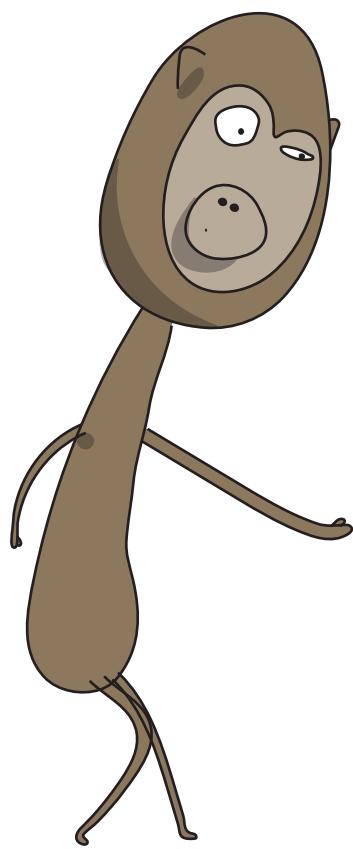
When you  
become a Stoic,  
you start to see  
value in different  
places.  
*said Dogneetus*



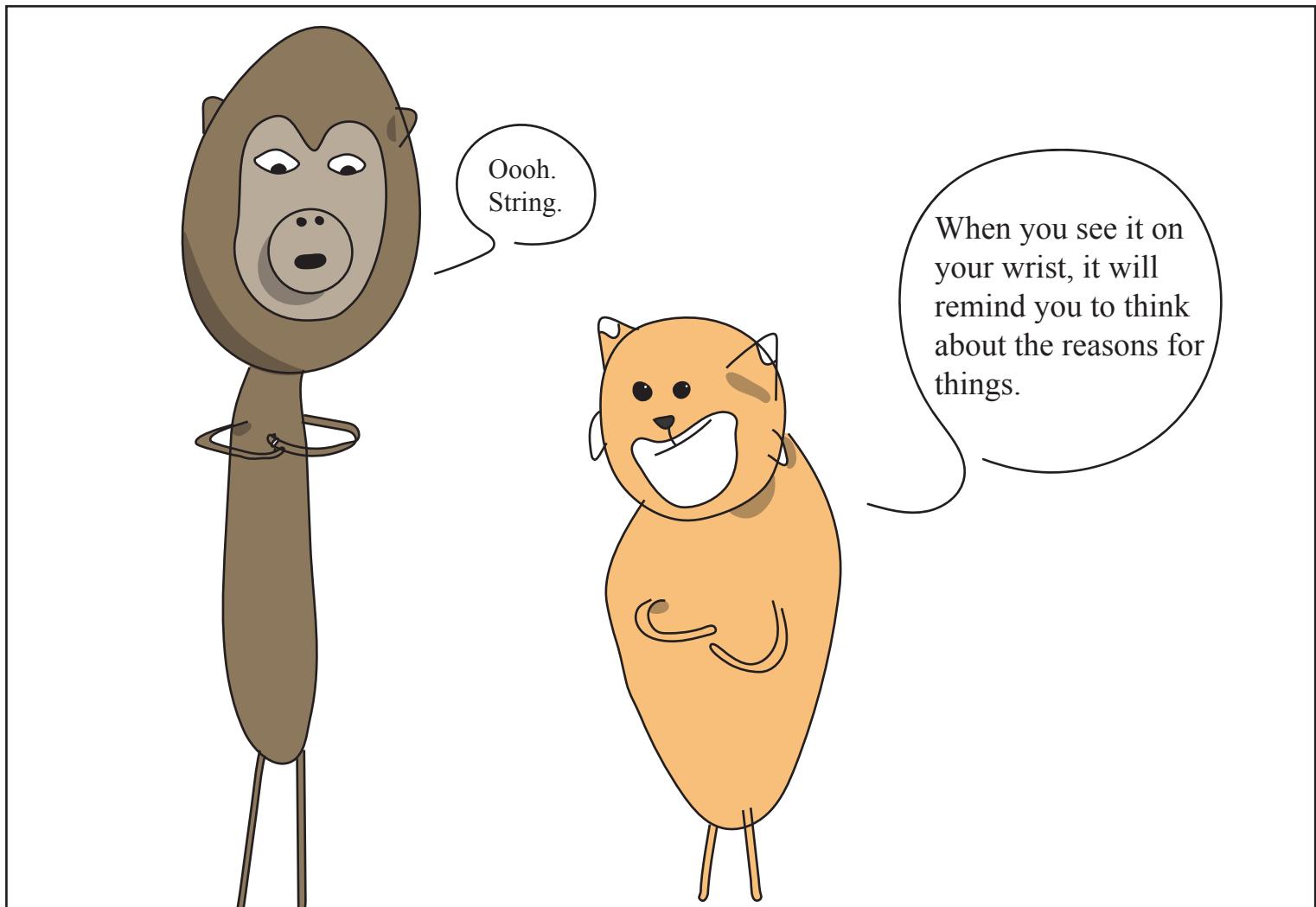
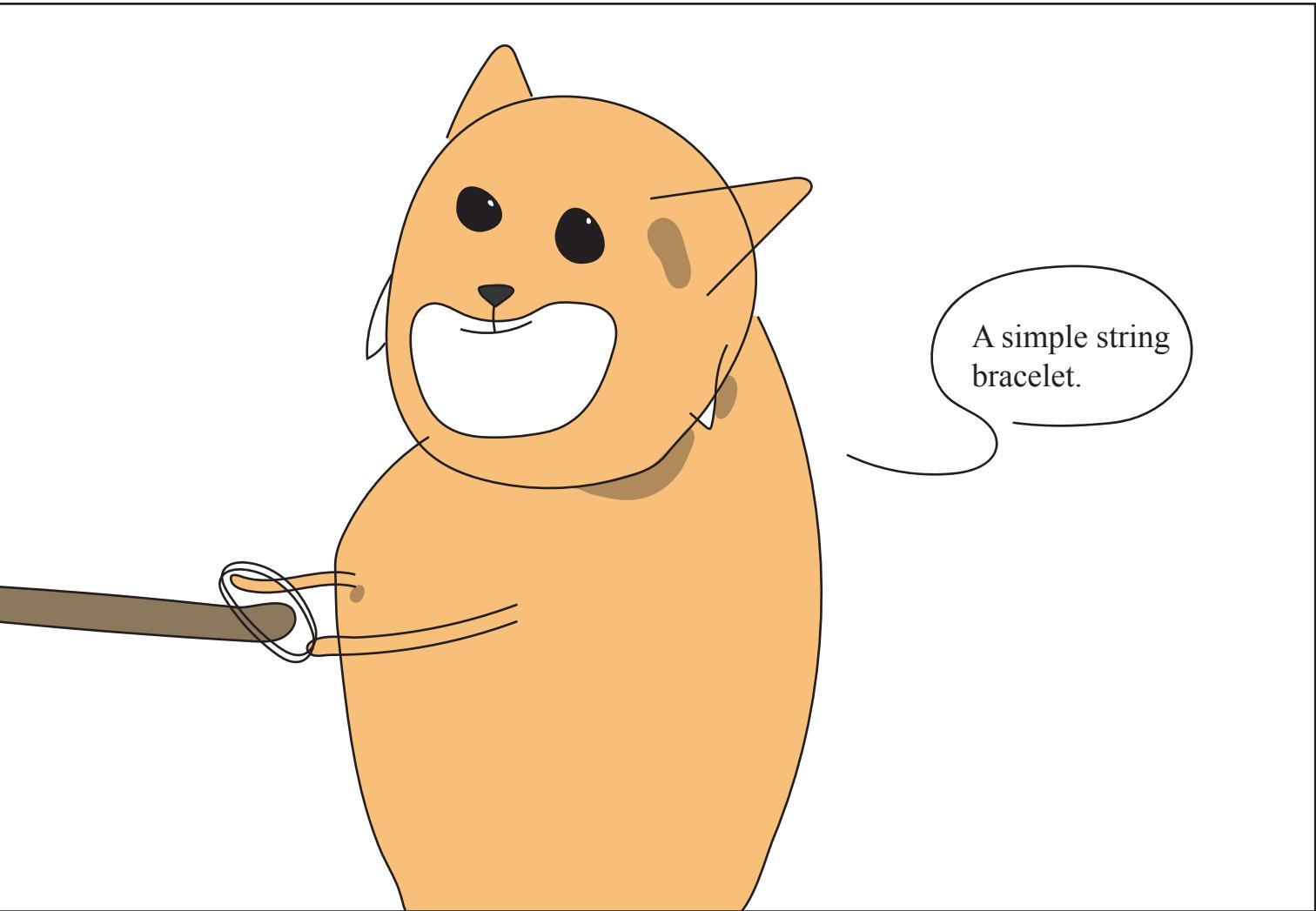
I do not think  
I understand.



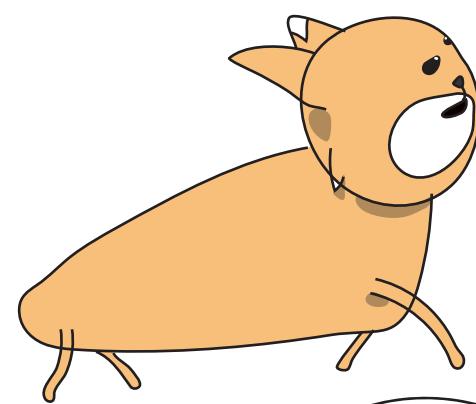
That is  
expected. It  
takes time and  
practice.



Take this.  
said Dogneetus



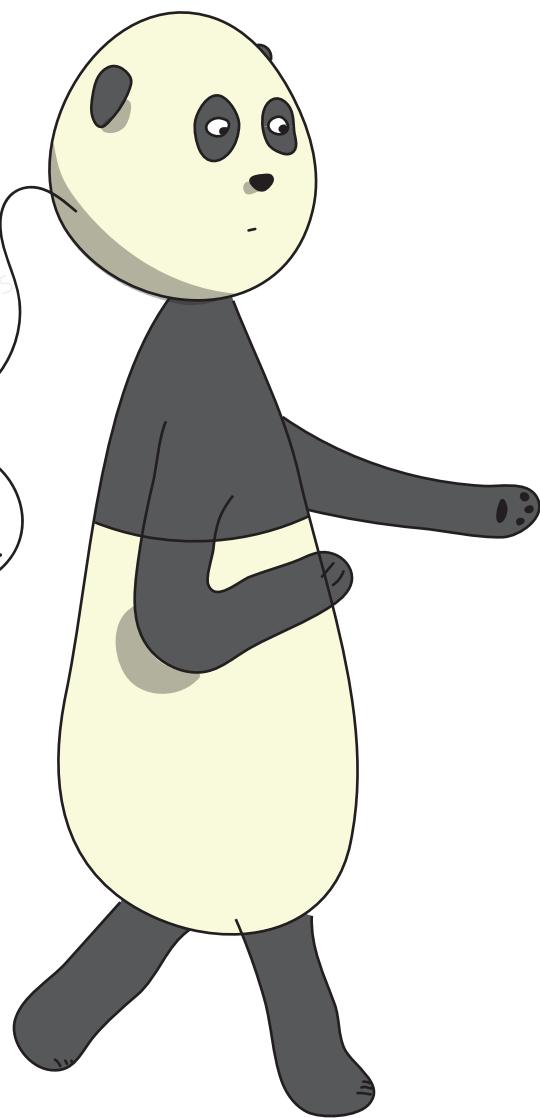
## *Chapter 8 – The Heir*

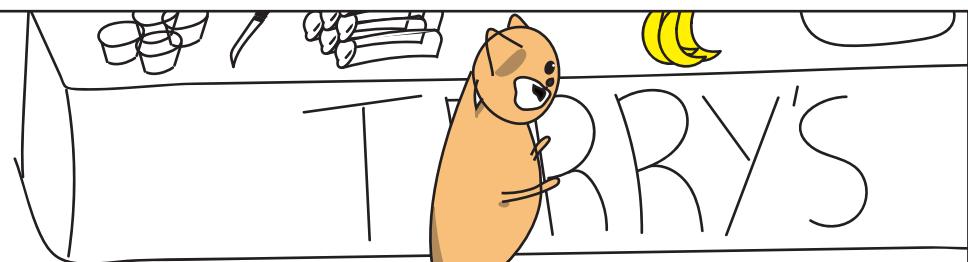


Why do you have  
to teach me and  
Crocodus at the  
same time?

Your father  
says so.  
said Pandus

But I  
hate it.

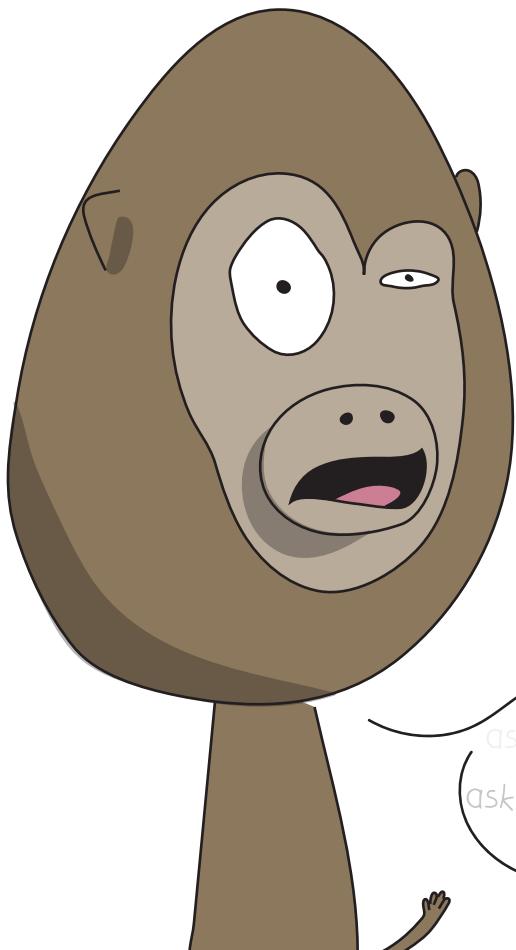




Who is  
Croodus'  
father?



Some kind of  
senator. I think you  
are going to have to  
learn to live with  
Croodus.



How?  
asked Marcus



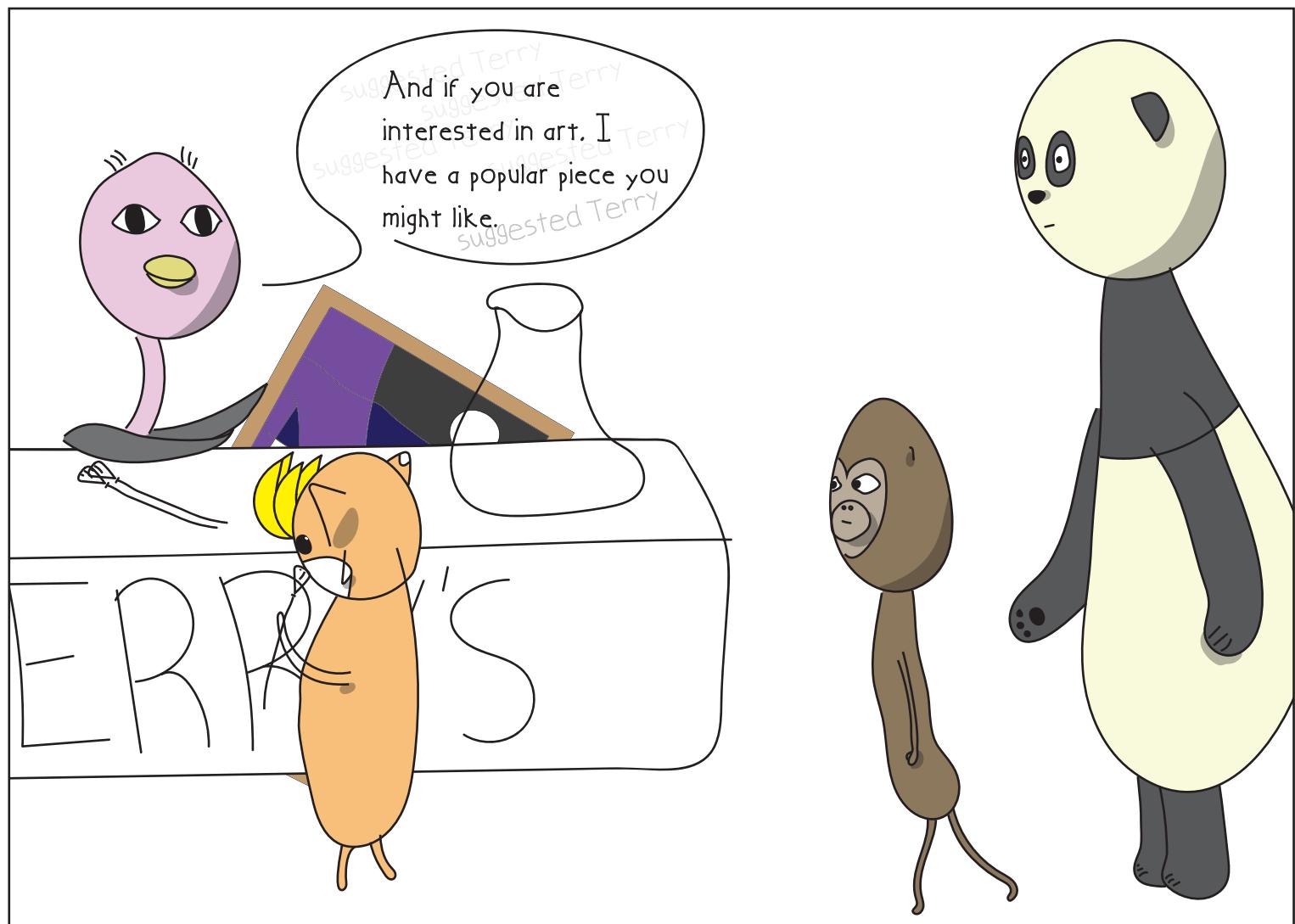
Try ignoring  
her.

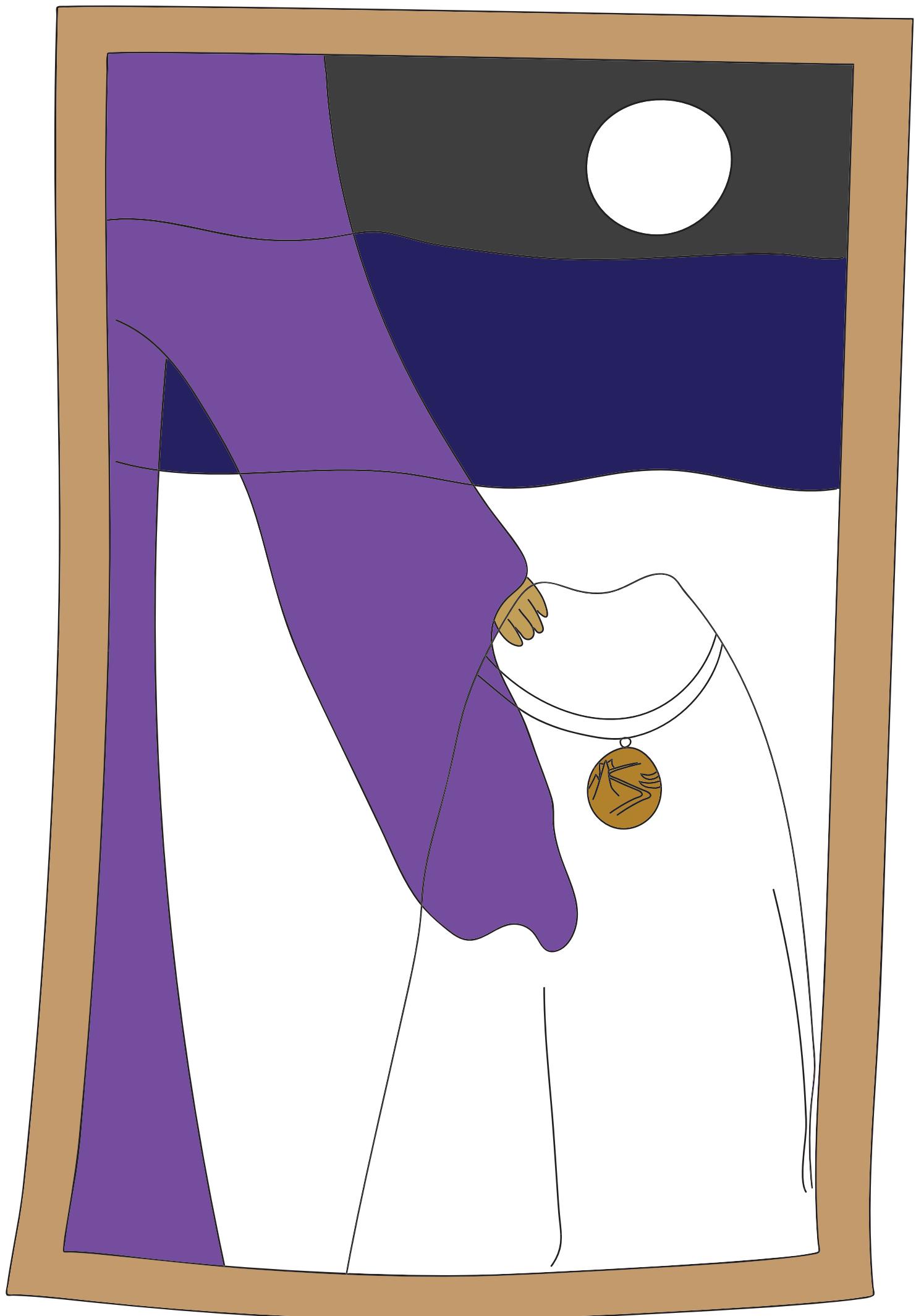


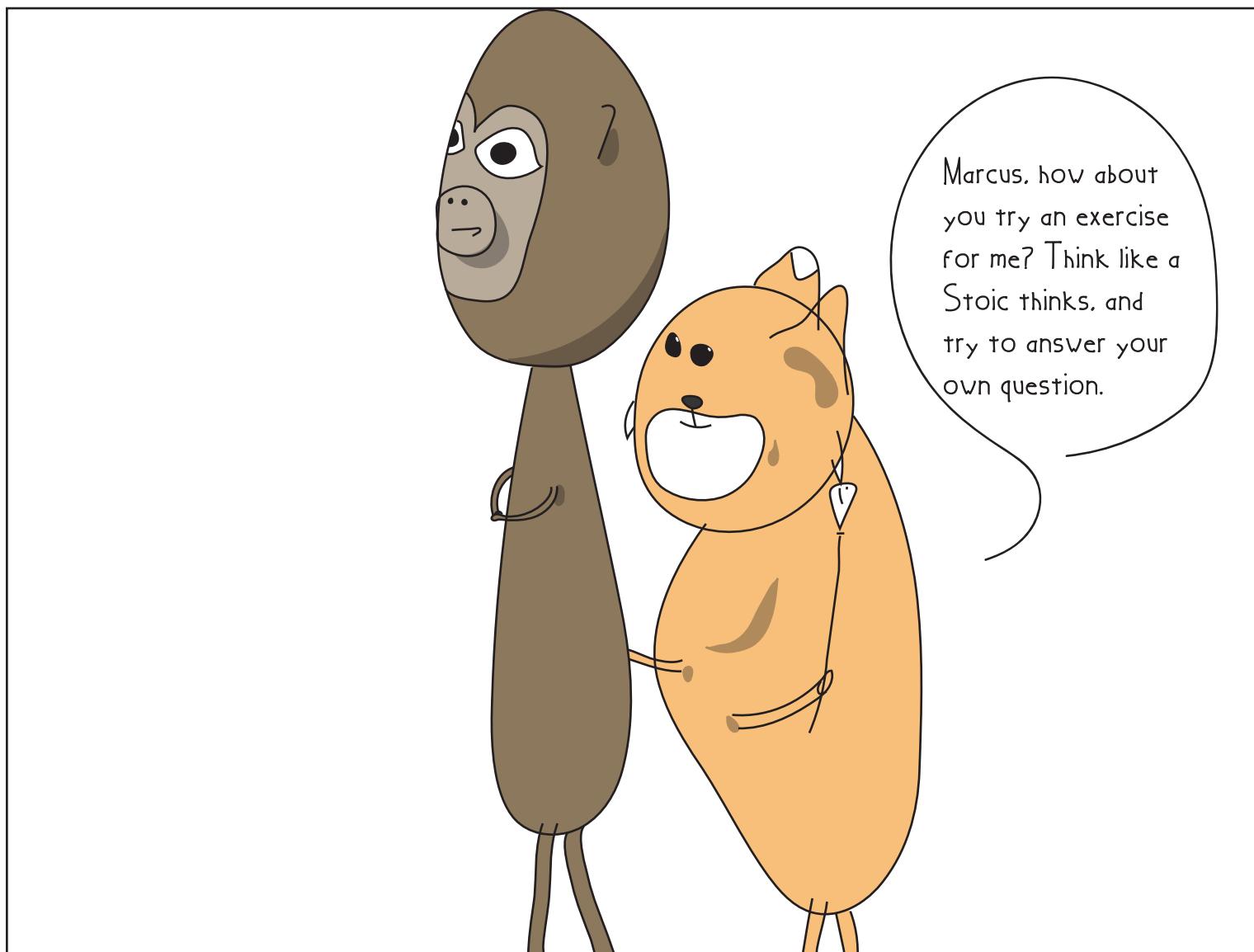
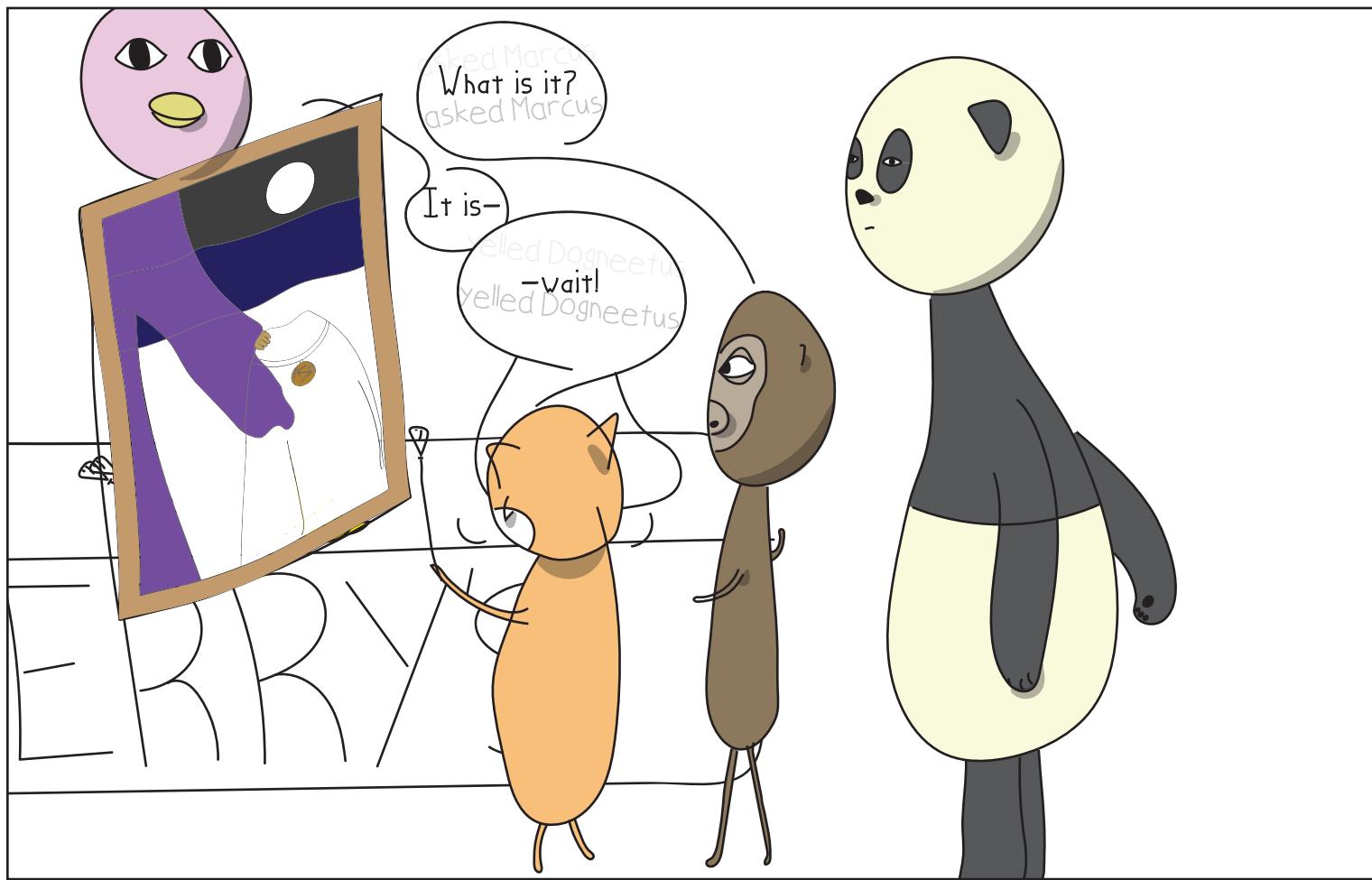
I doubt that  
will work.

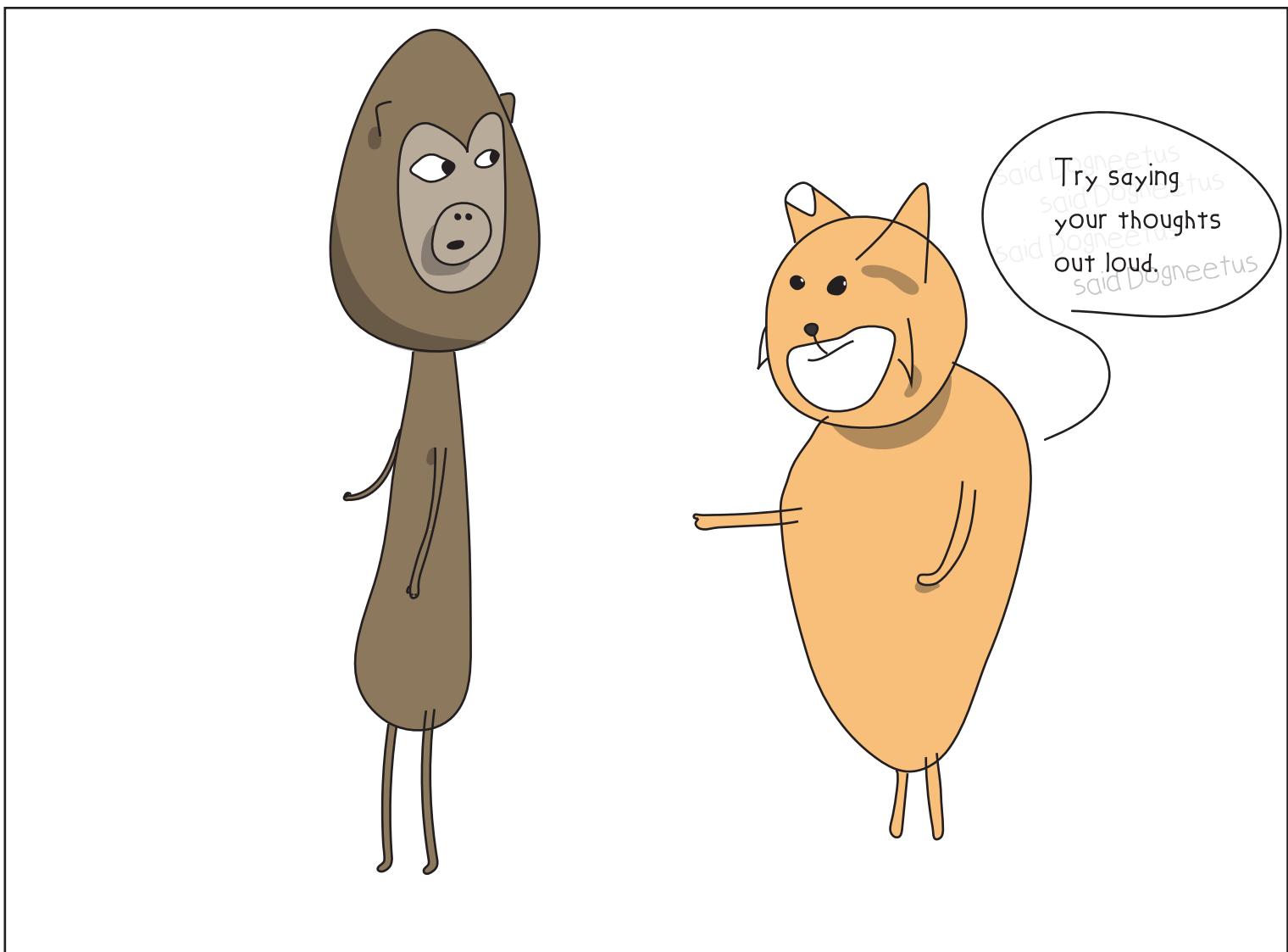
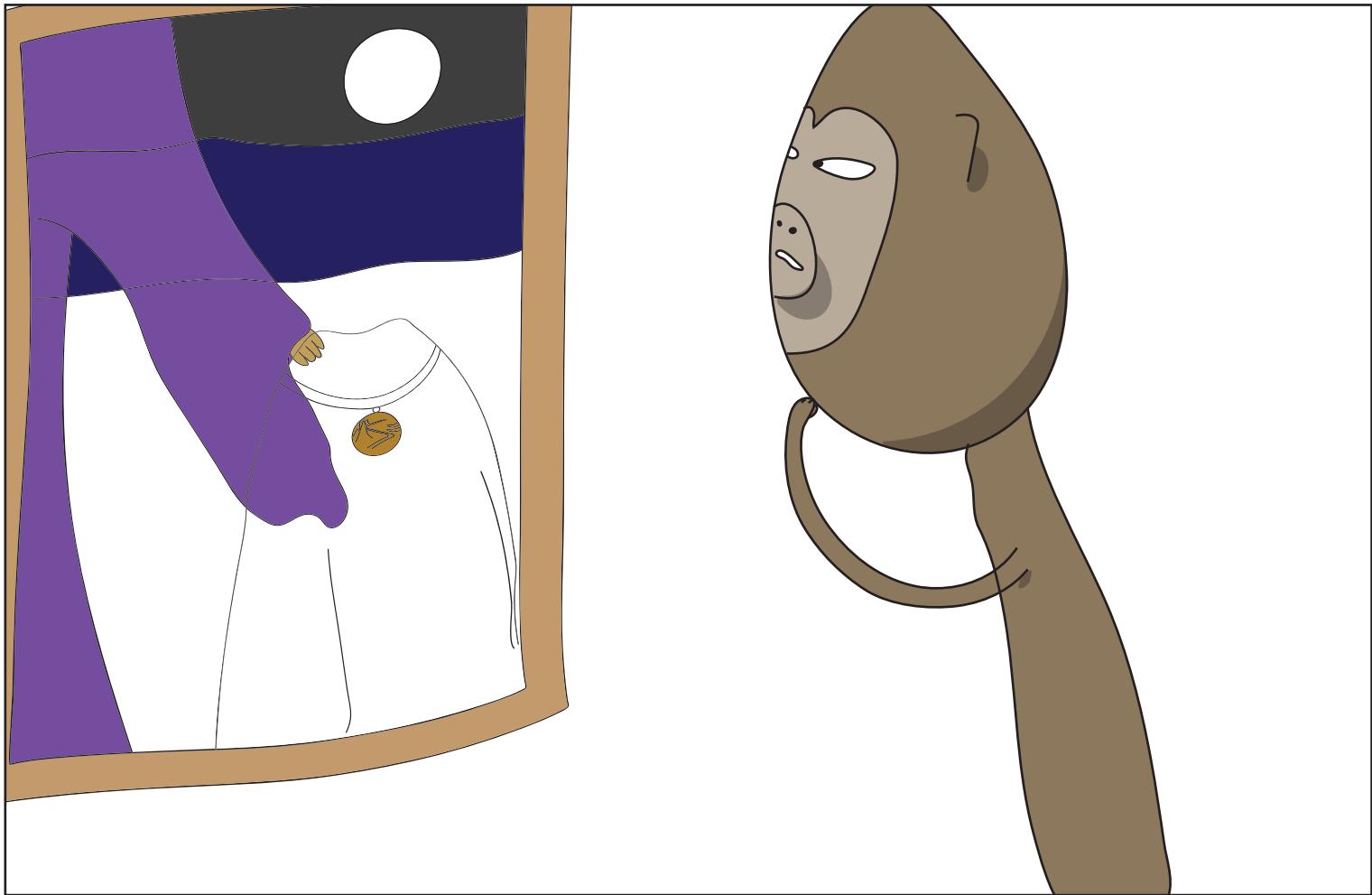


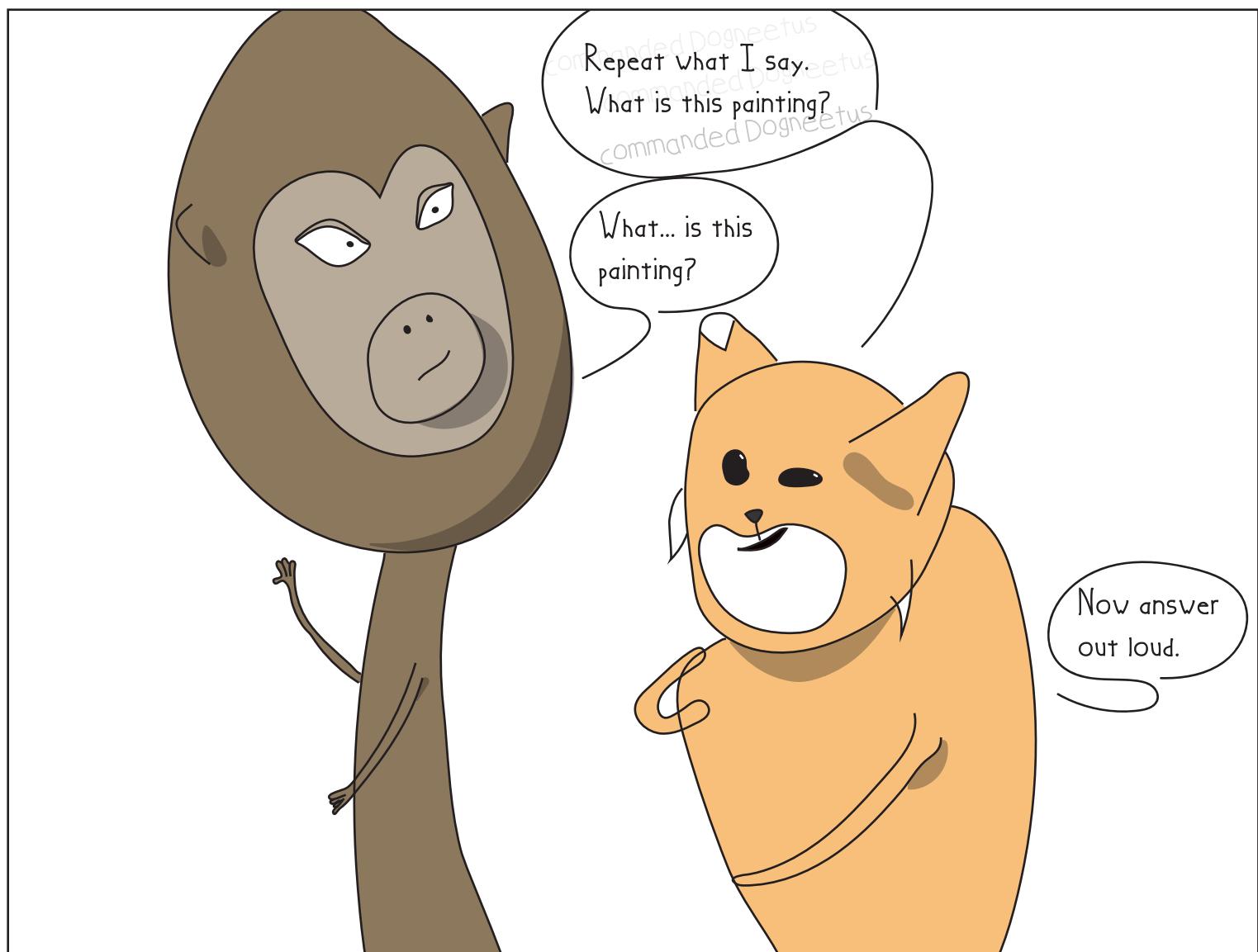
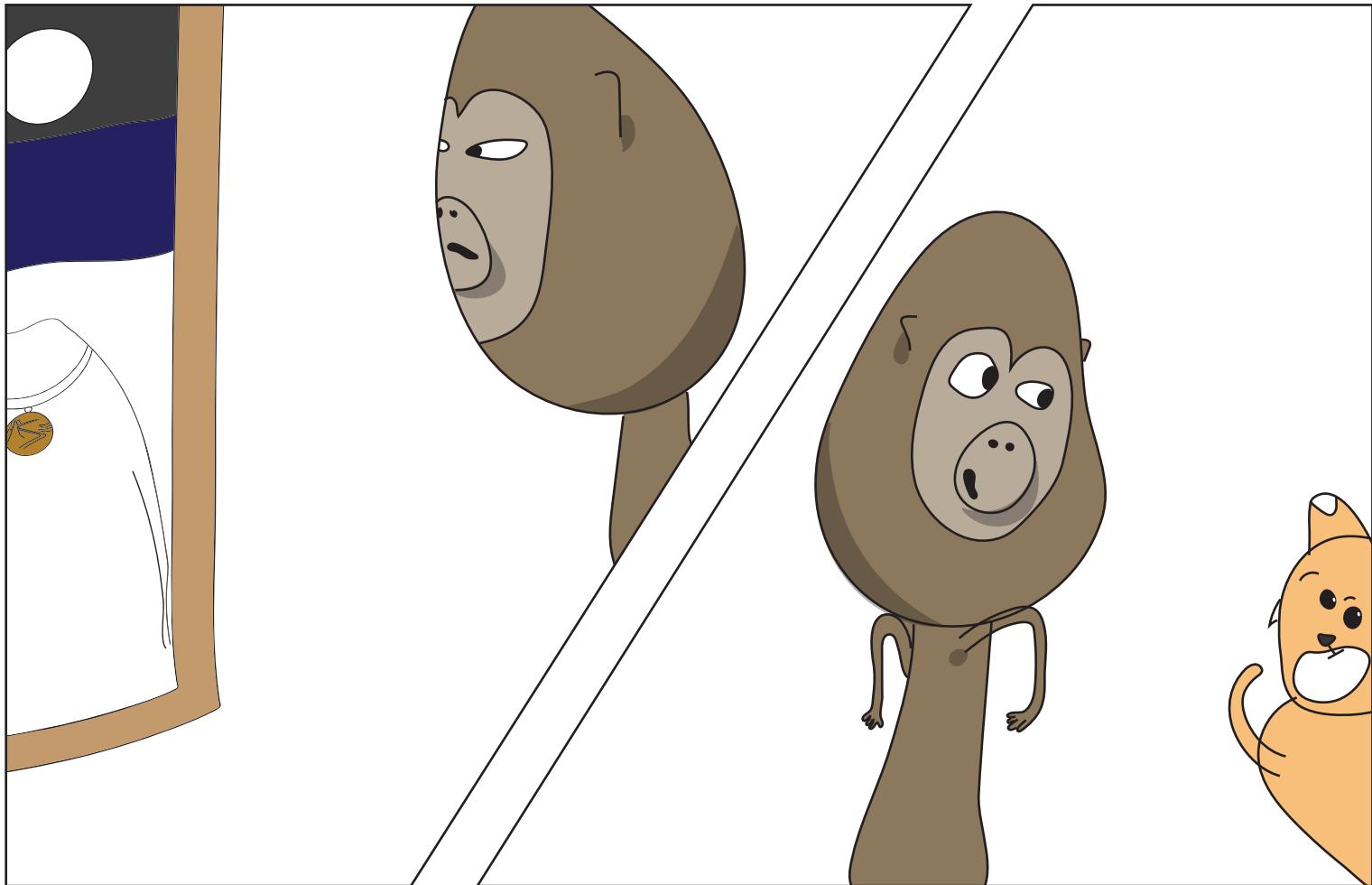
Then find a  
way to fight  
back.

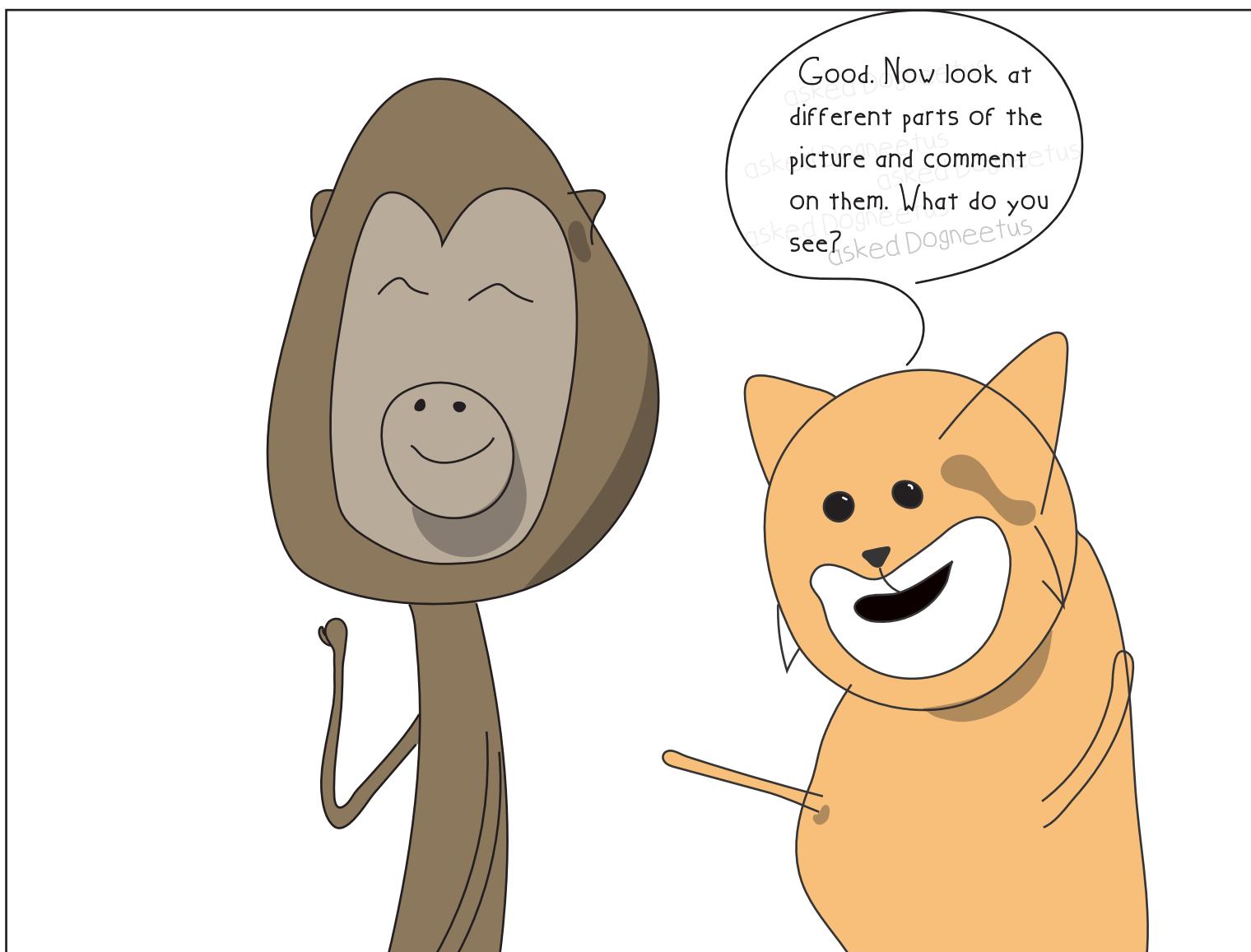
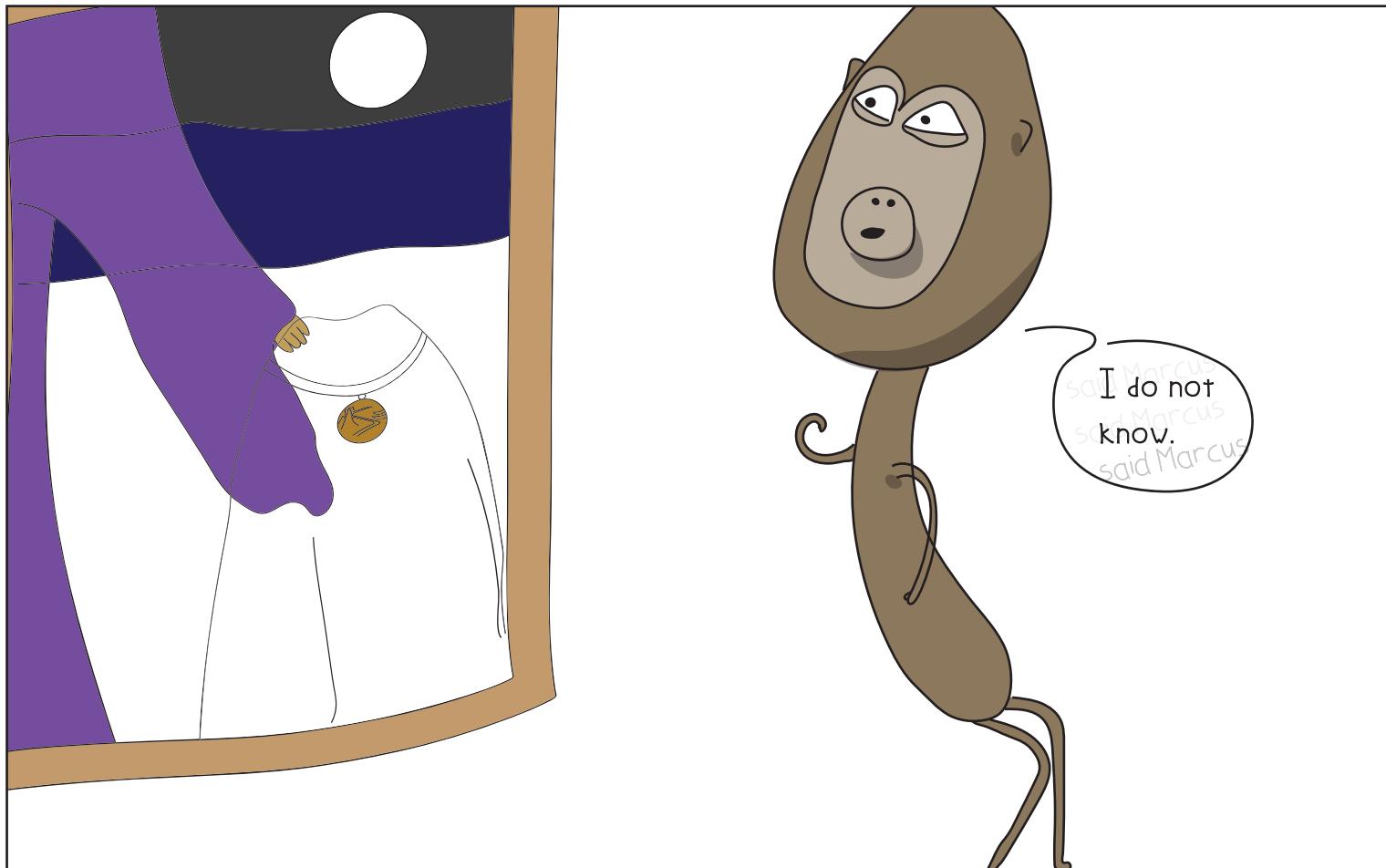


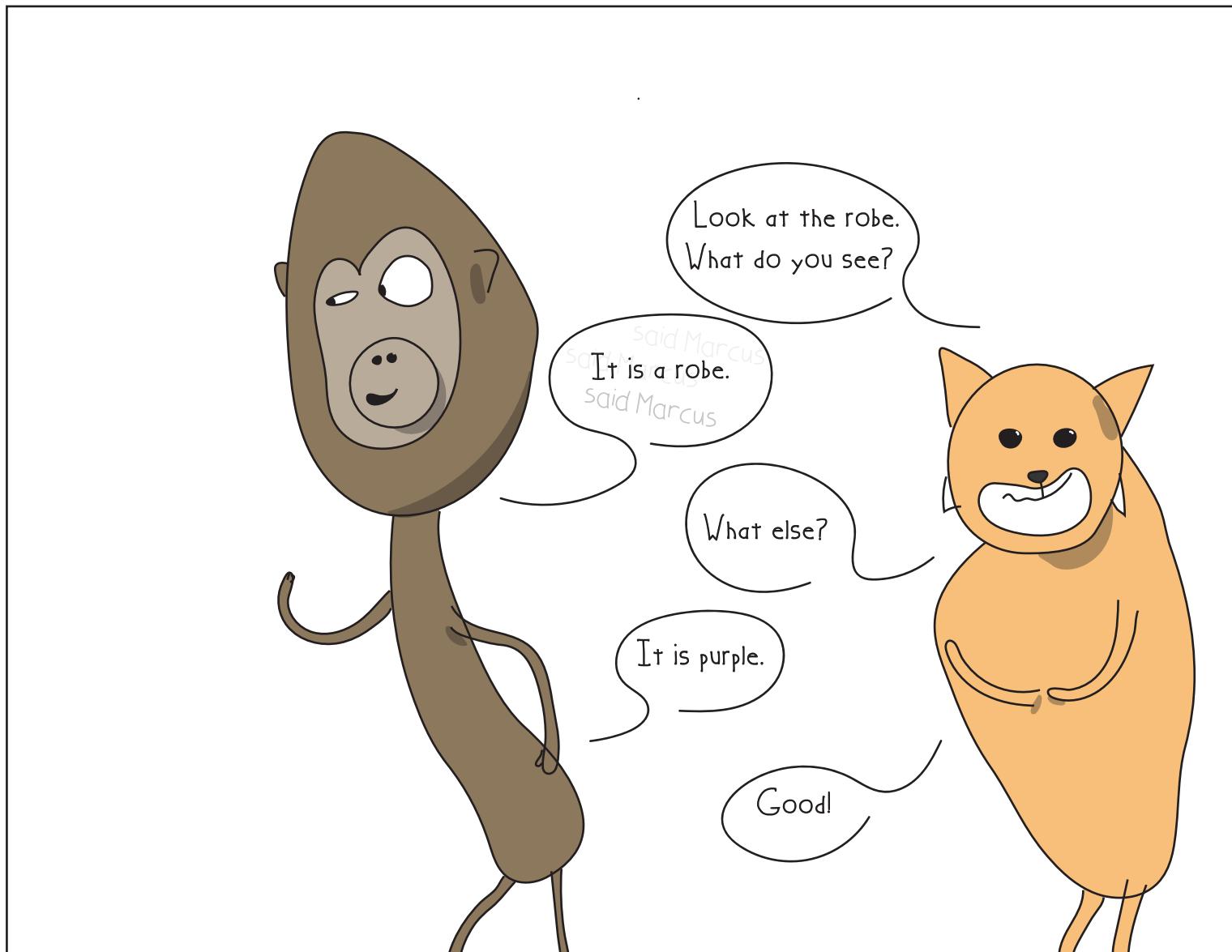
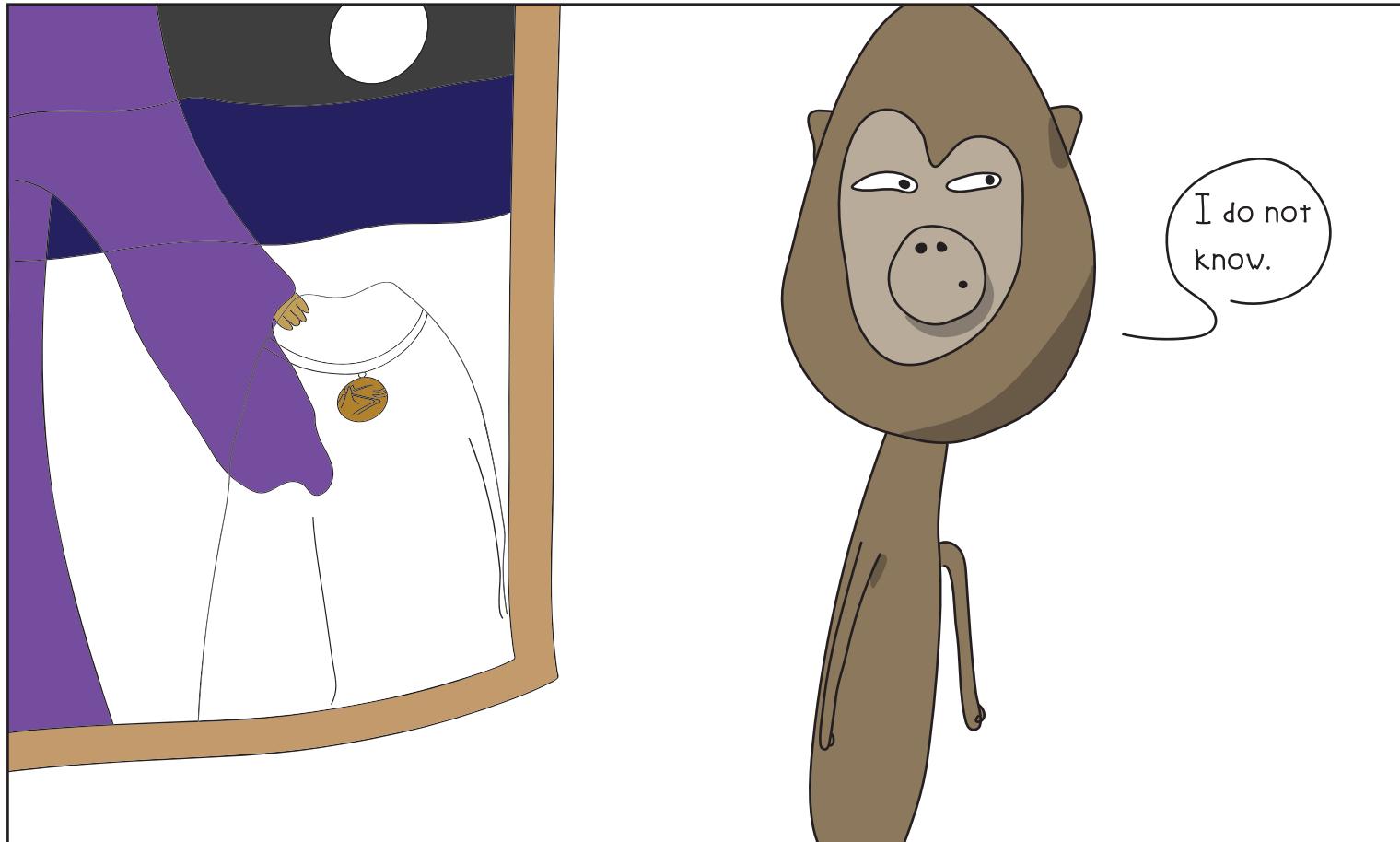


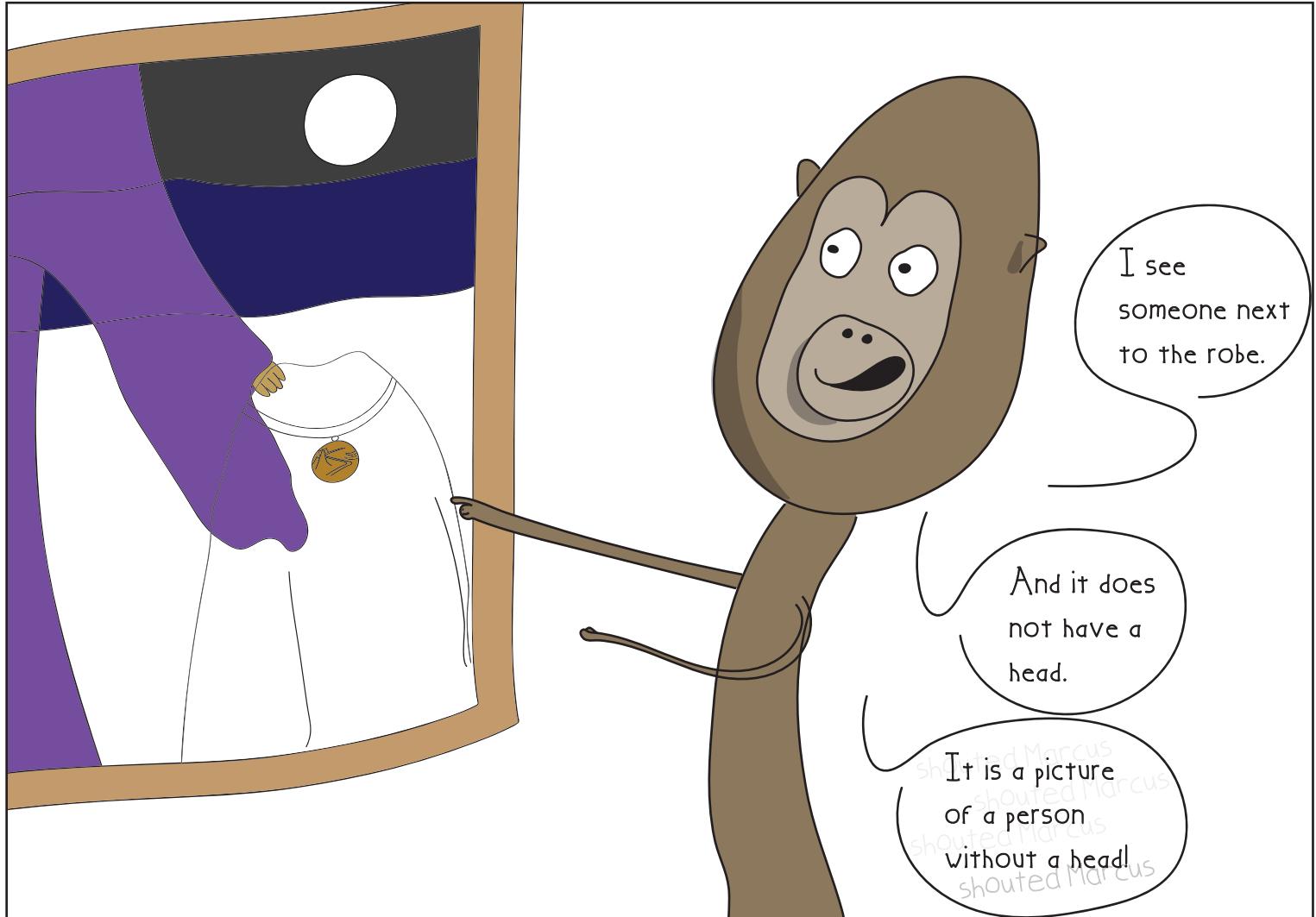
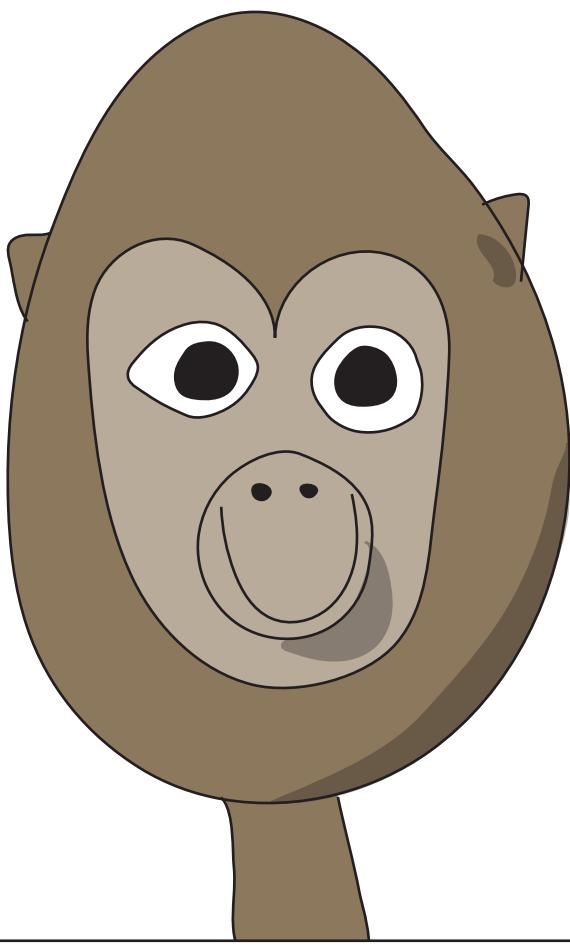


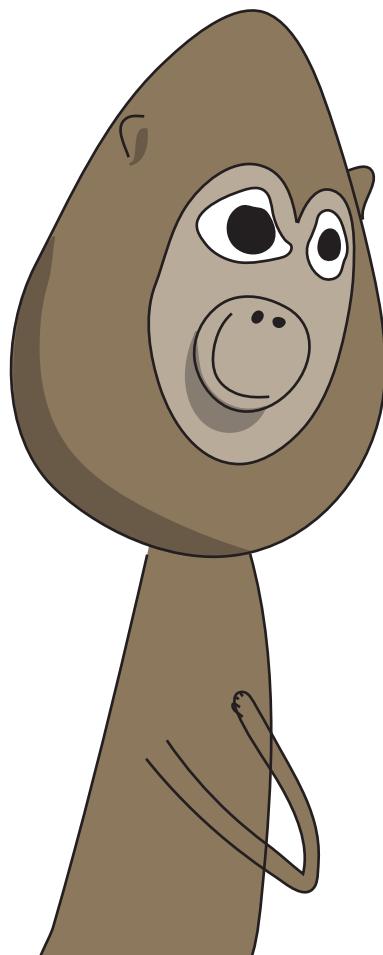




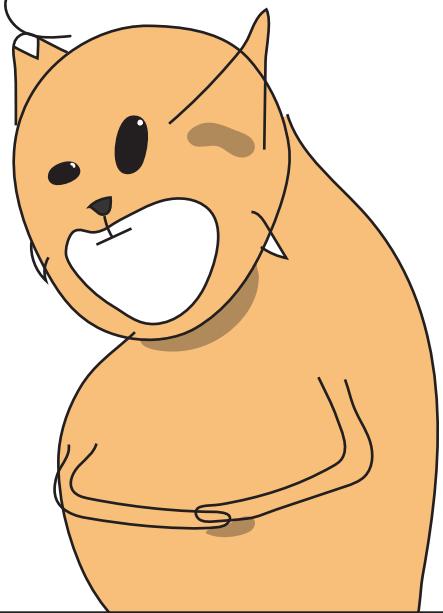




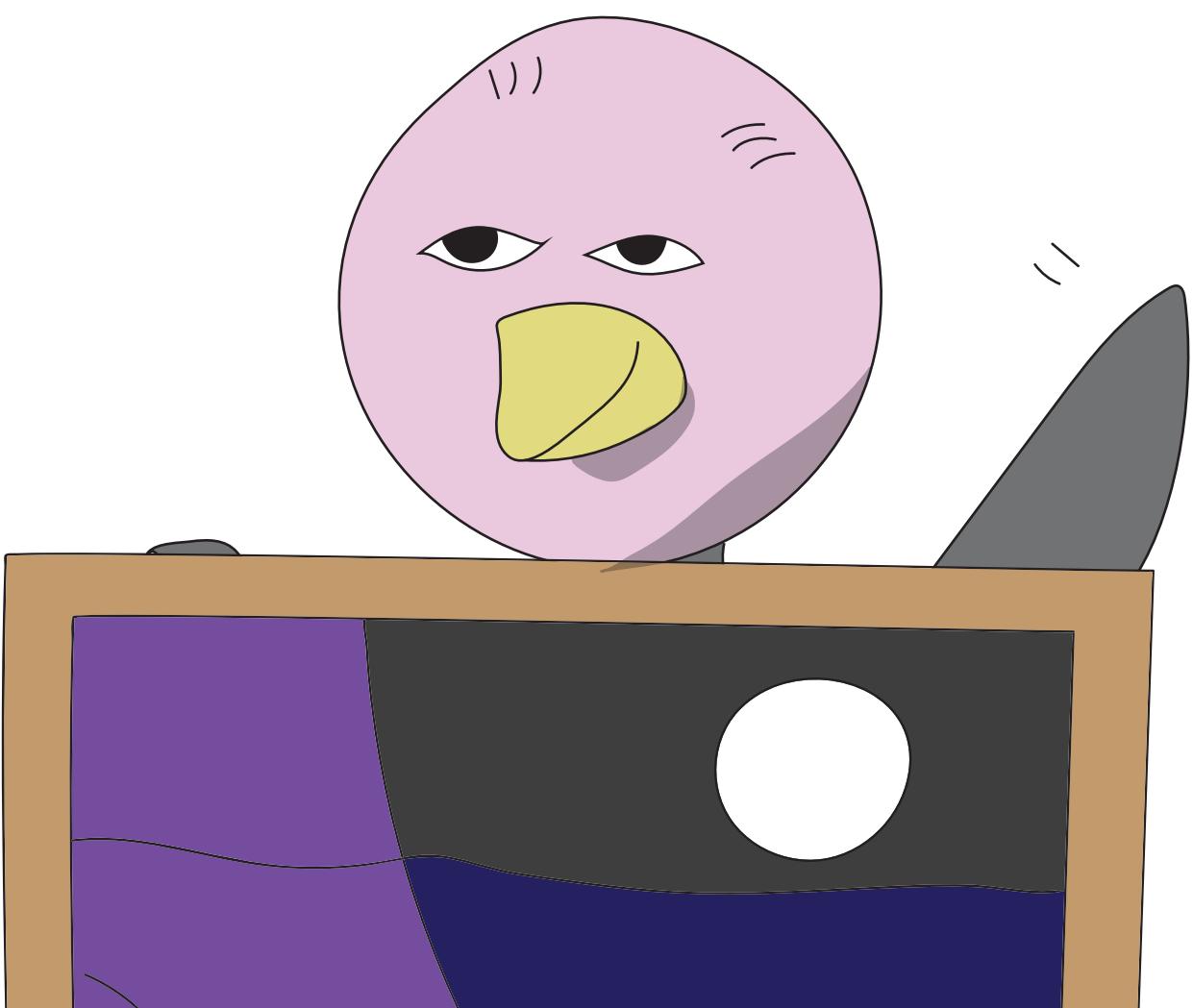


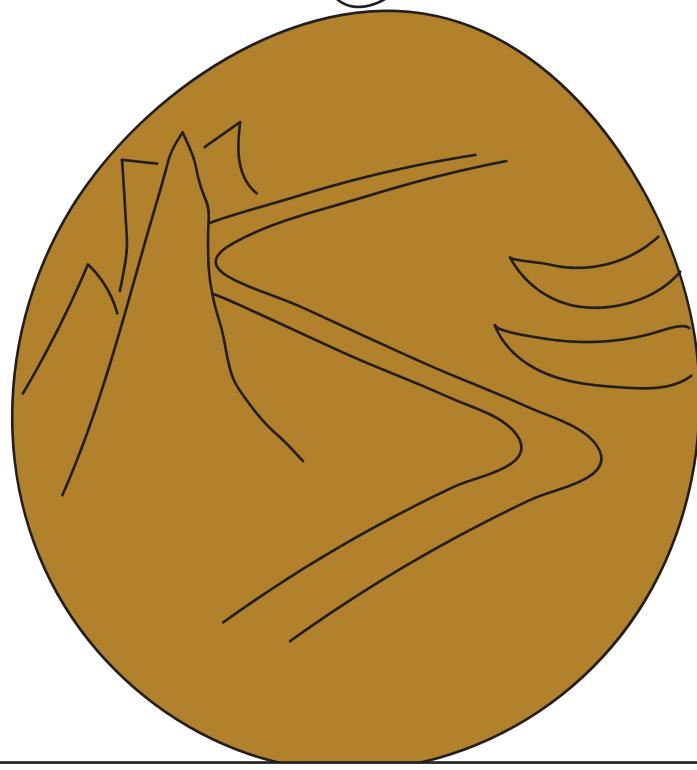
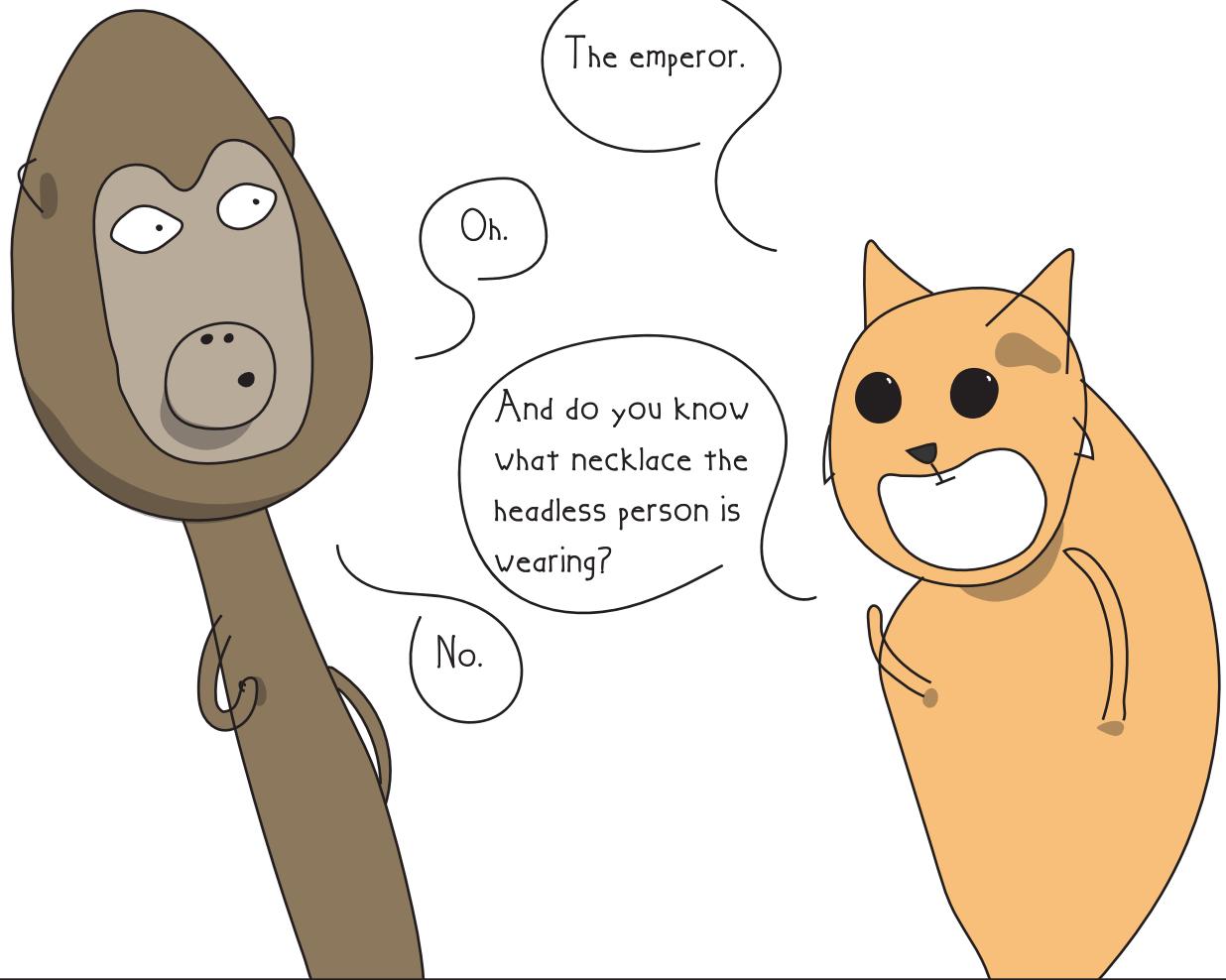


That is not bad for a first attempt, but you must try to uncover more when doing this exercise. You noted the purple robe. Do you know who wears a purple robe?

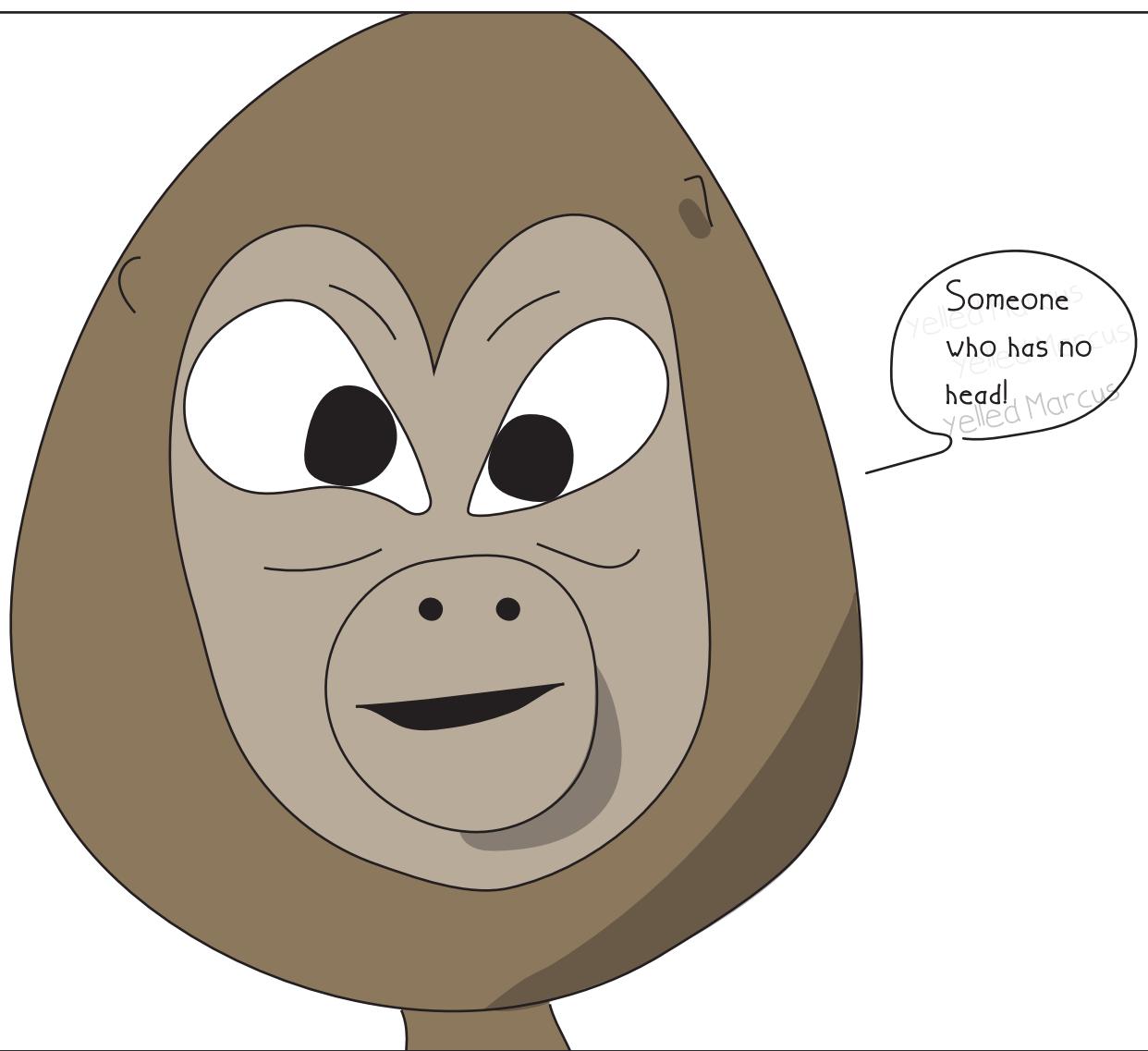
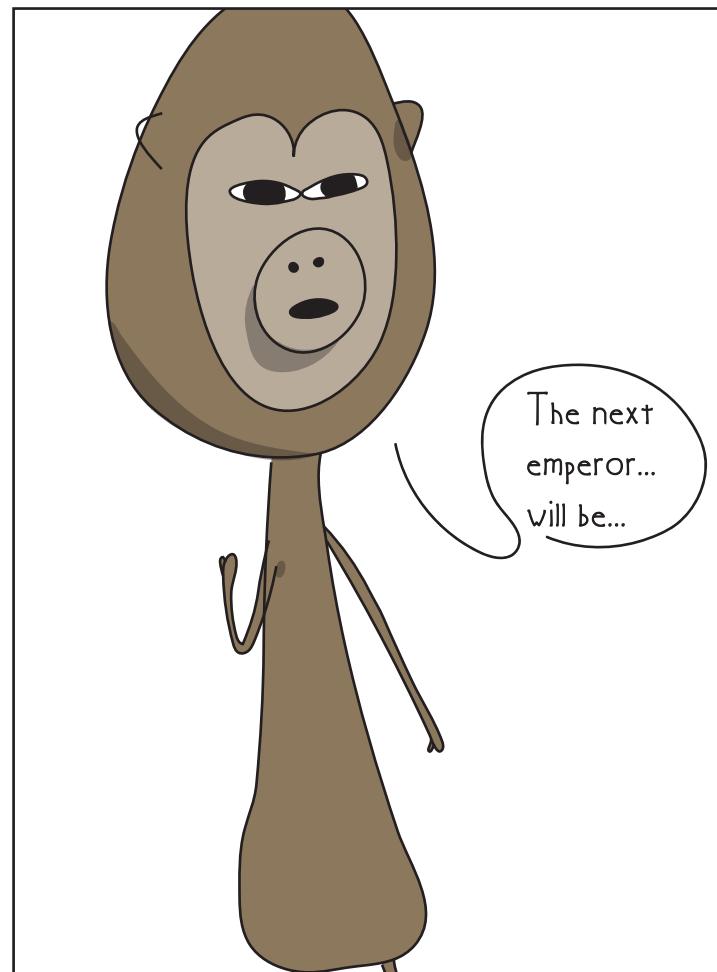
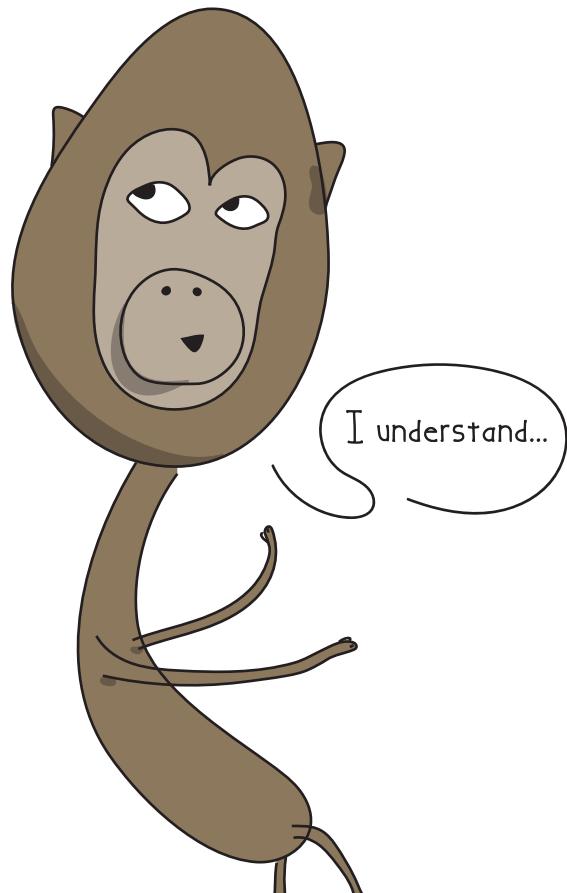


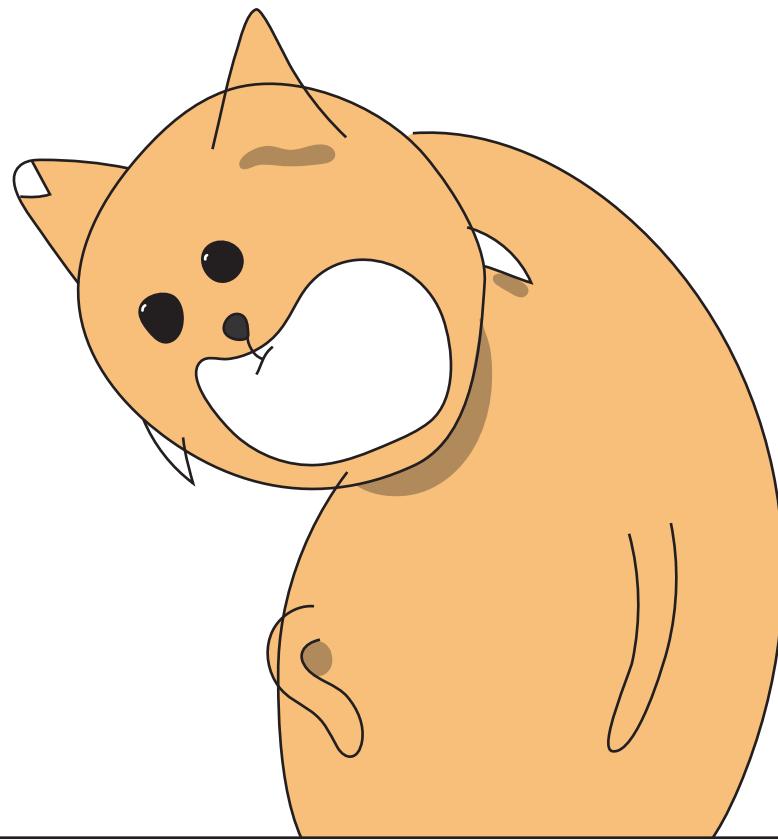
asked Marcus  
Terry? asked Marcus



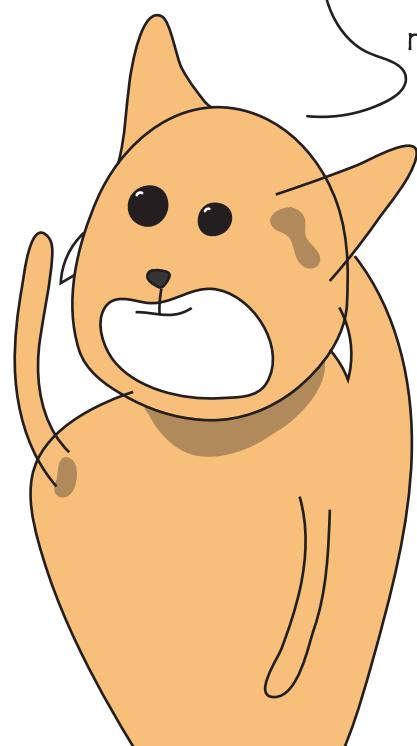
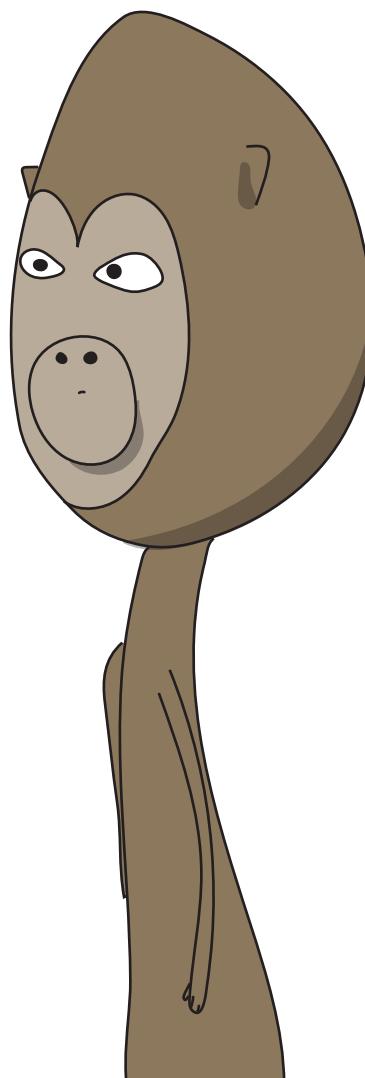


That is Skipee's necklace. It belongs to the heir of the emperor. The person who will become the next emperor and rule the empire.



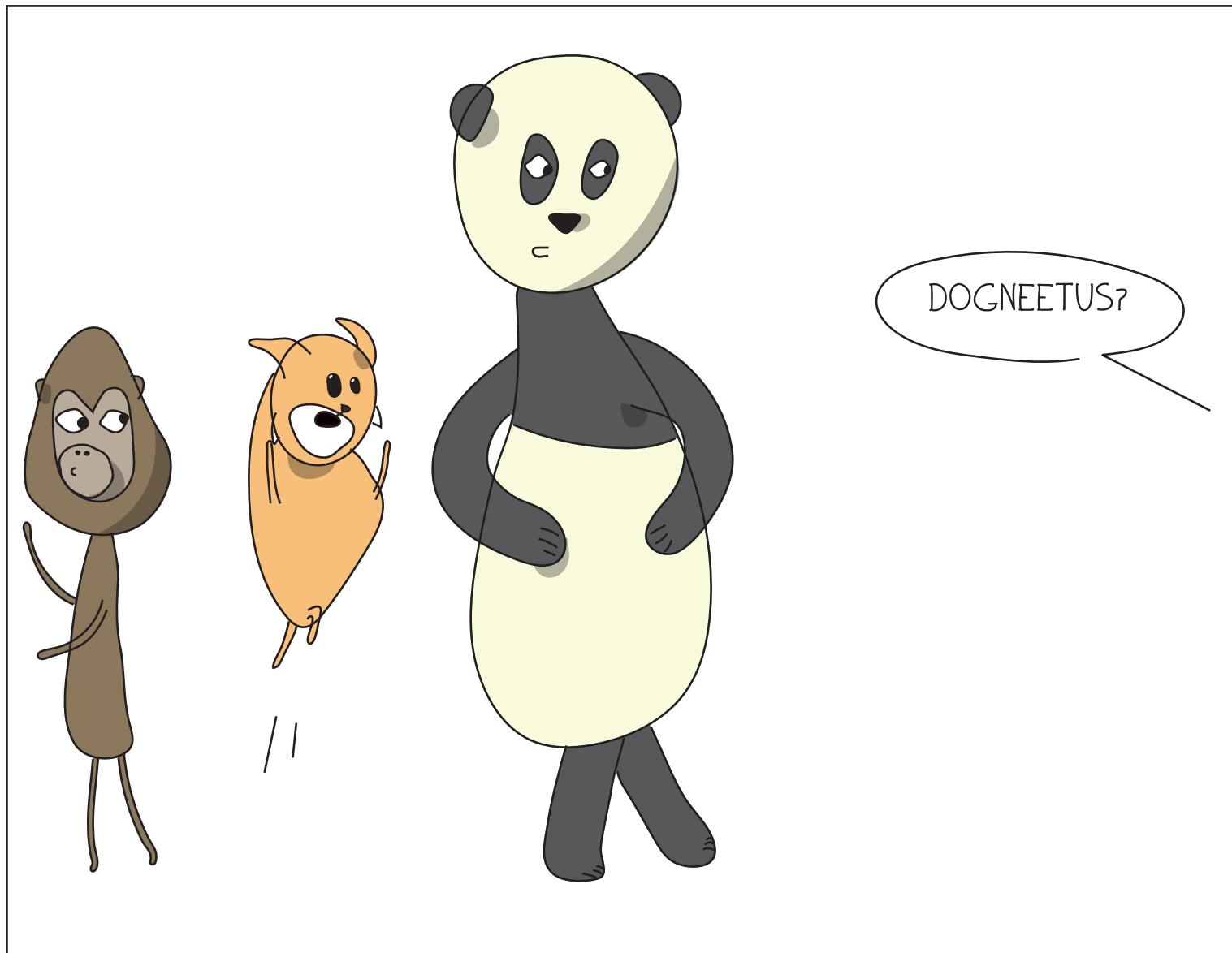
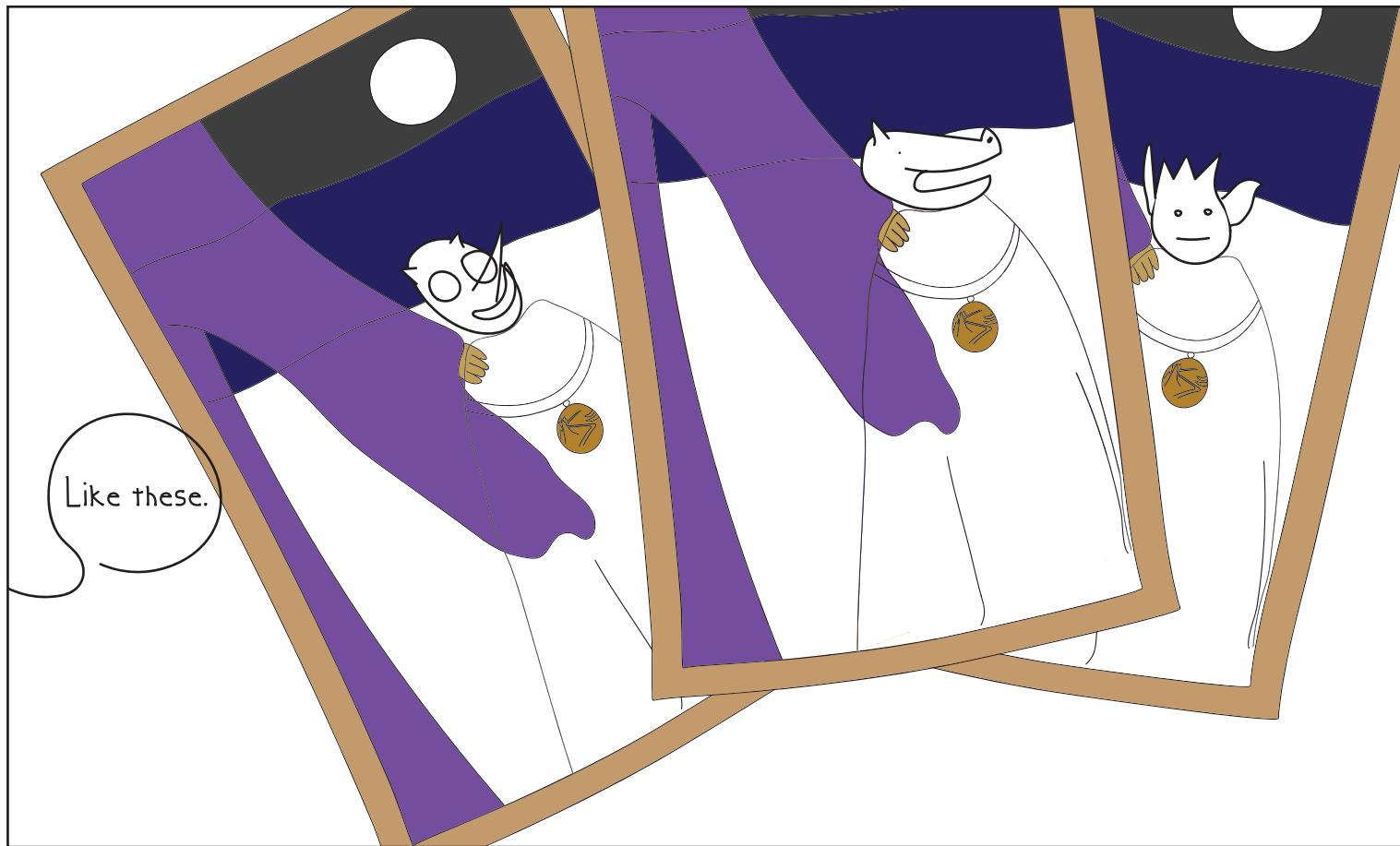


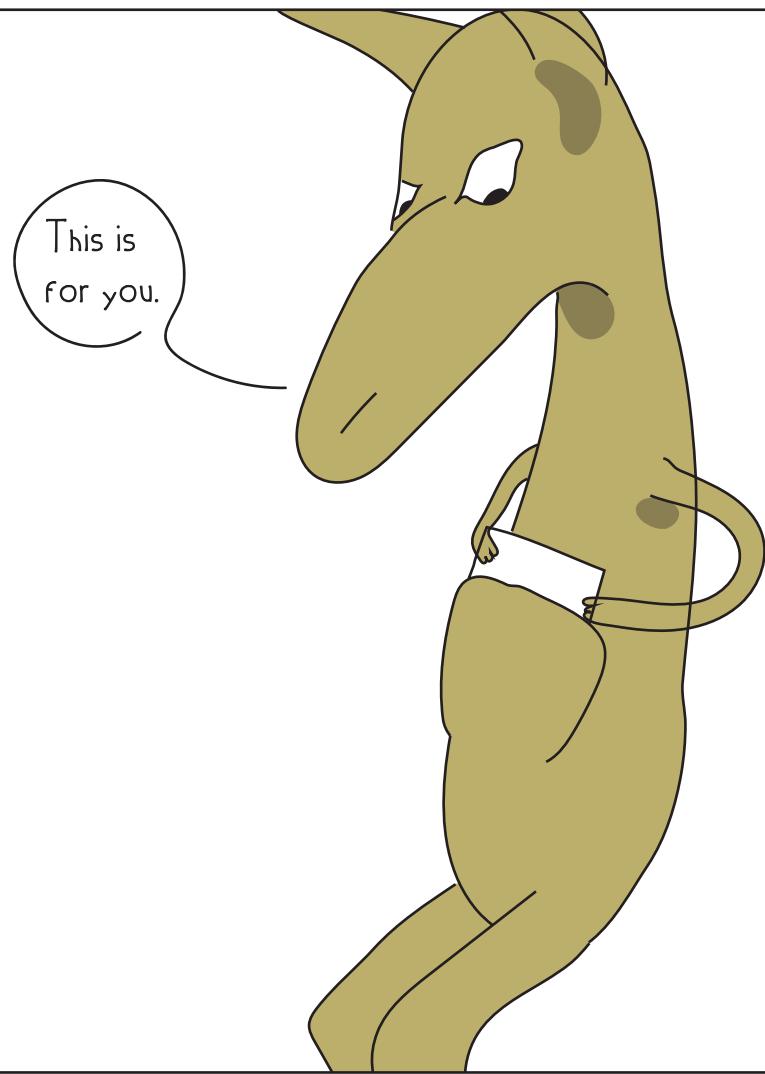
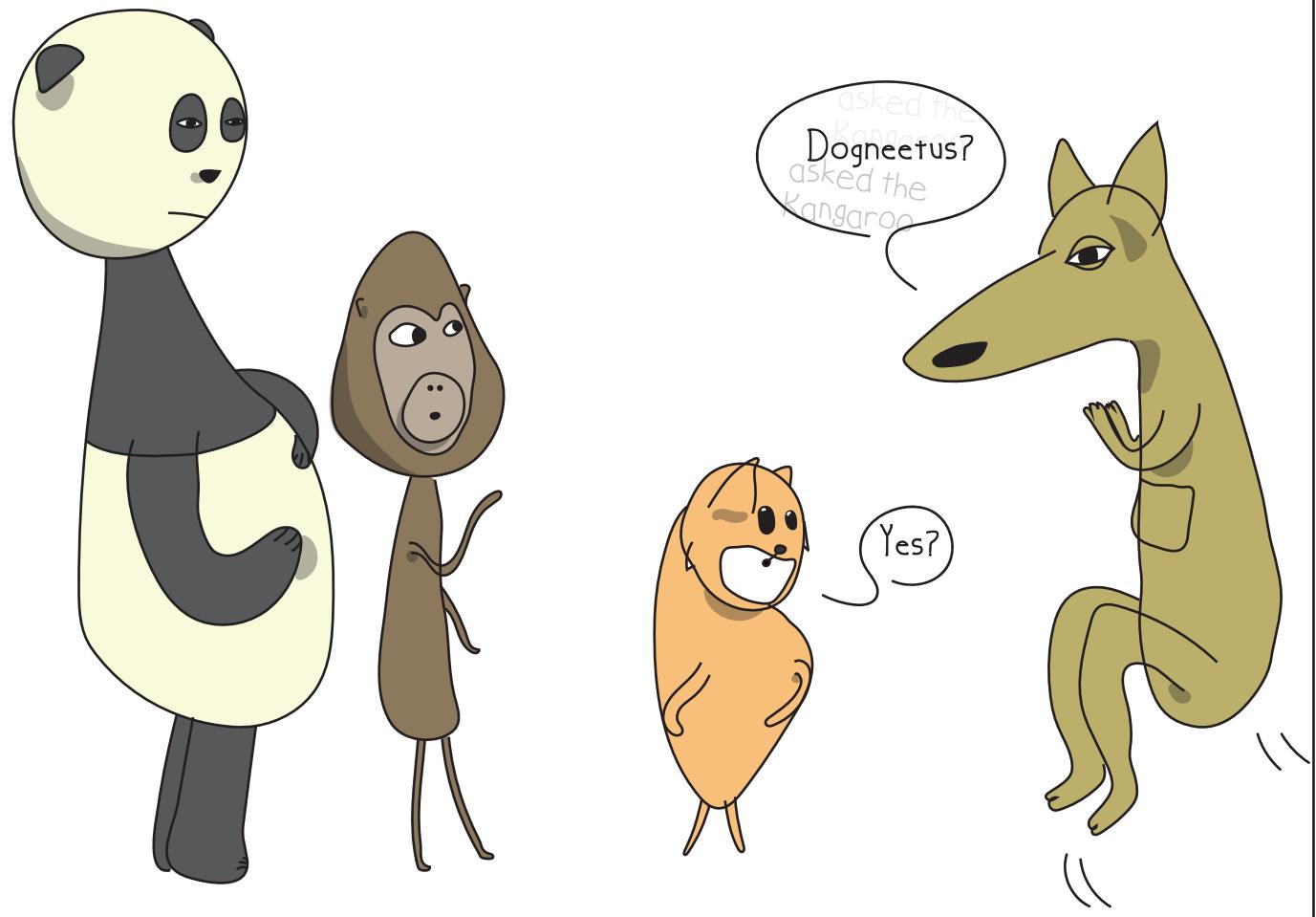
No Marcus. The heir is headless because the emperor has not chosen his heir yet.

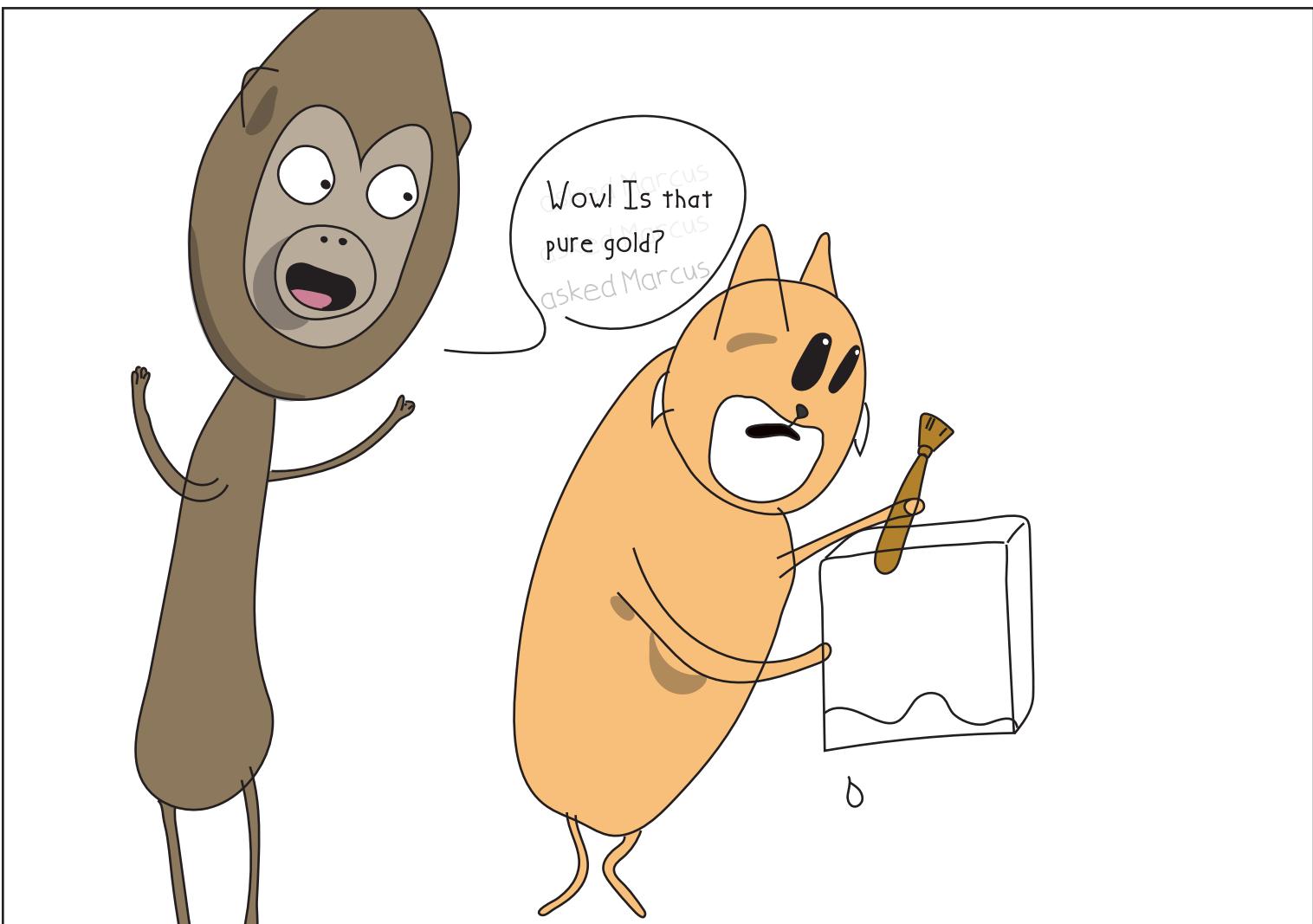
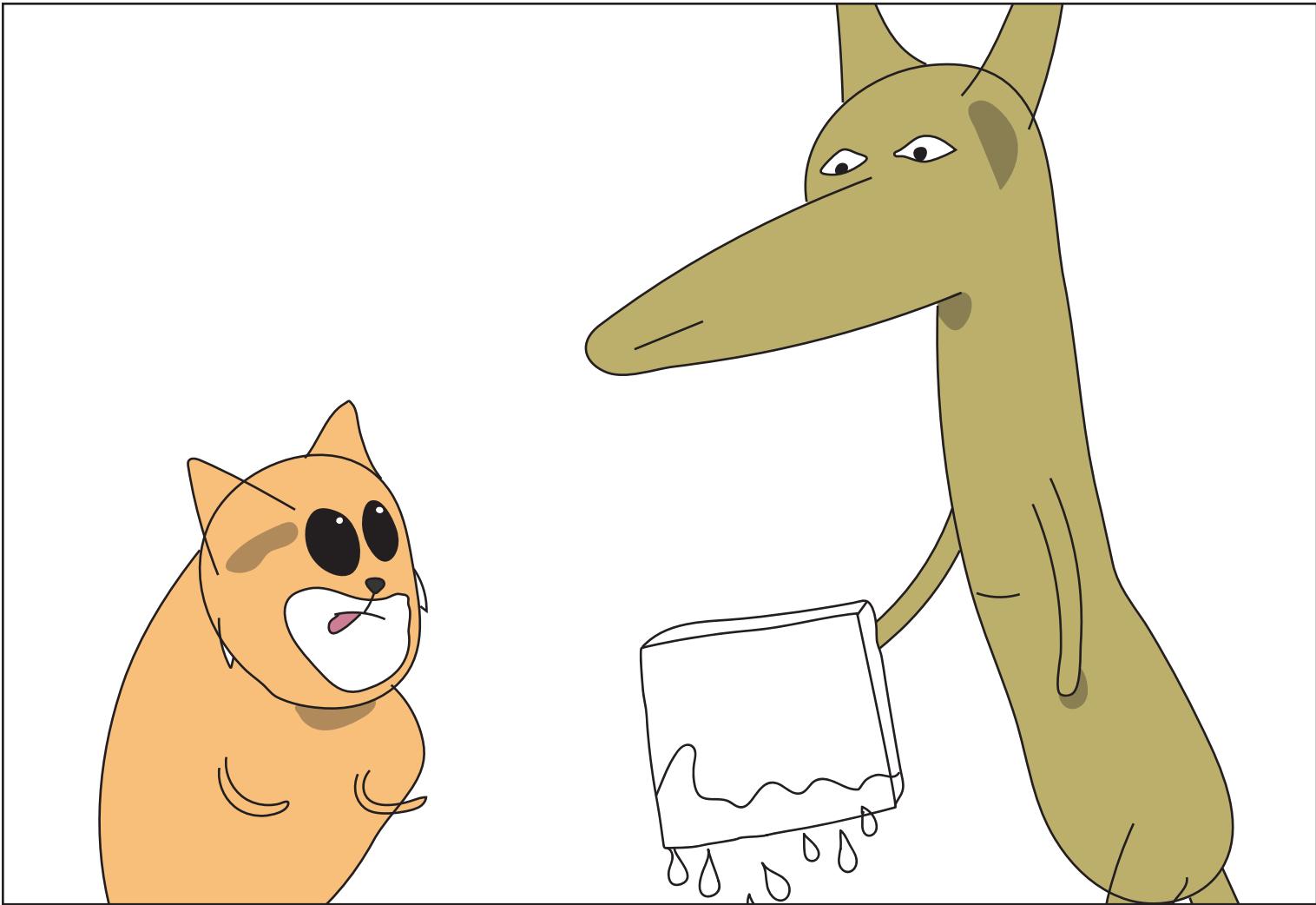


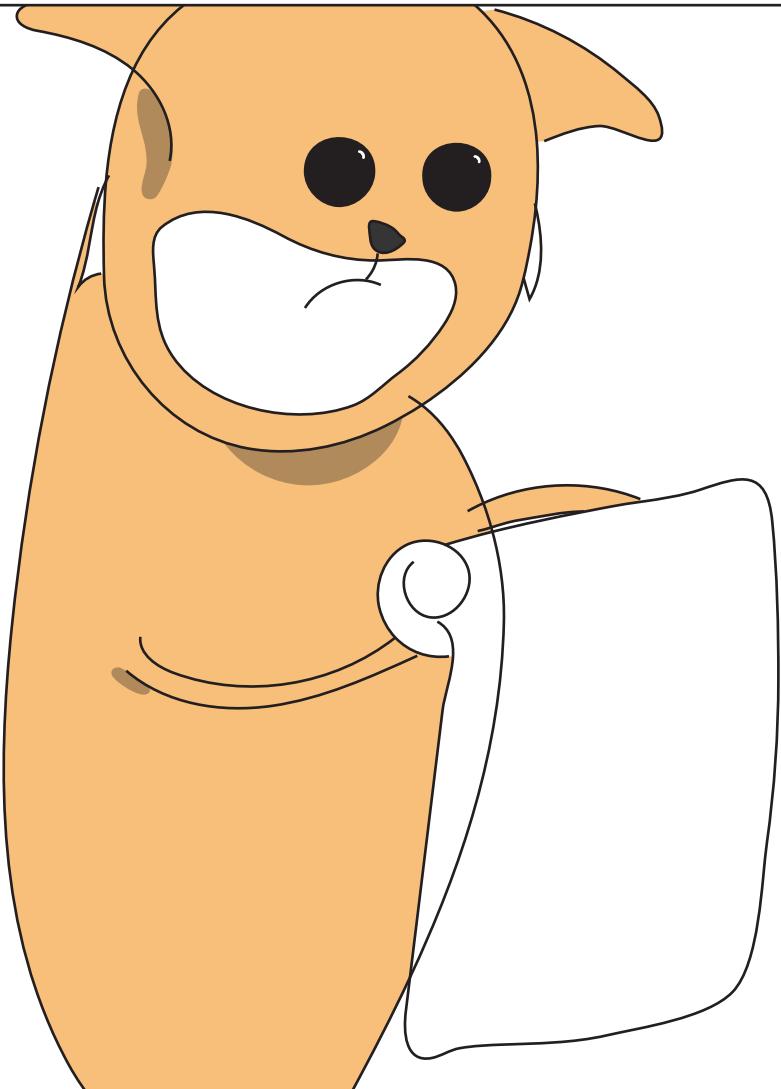
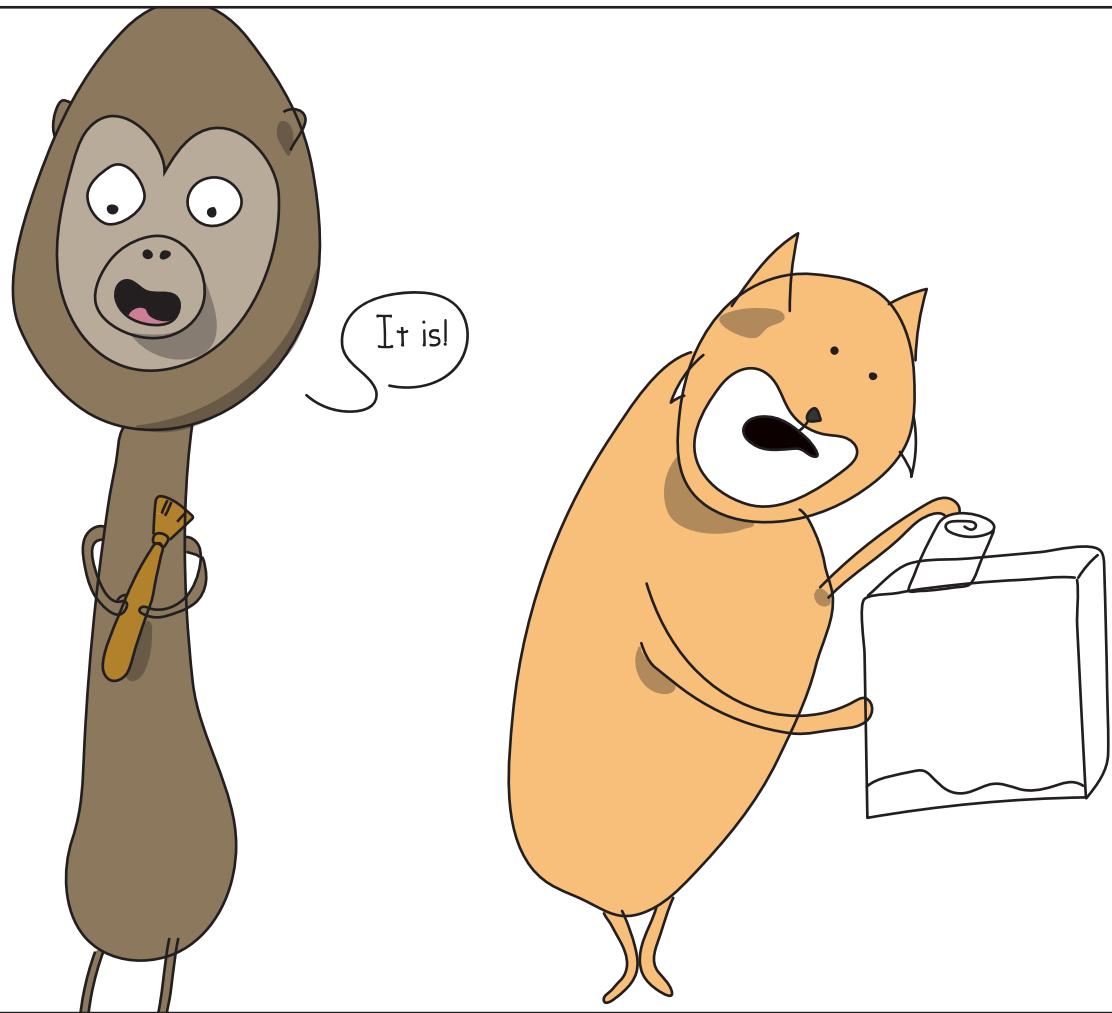
Normally, the heir would be the son or daughter of the emperor, but he has no children.

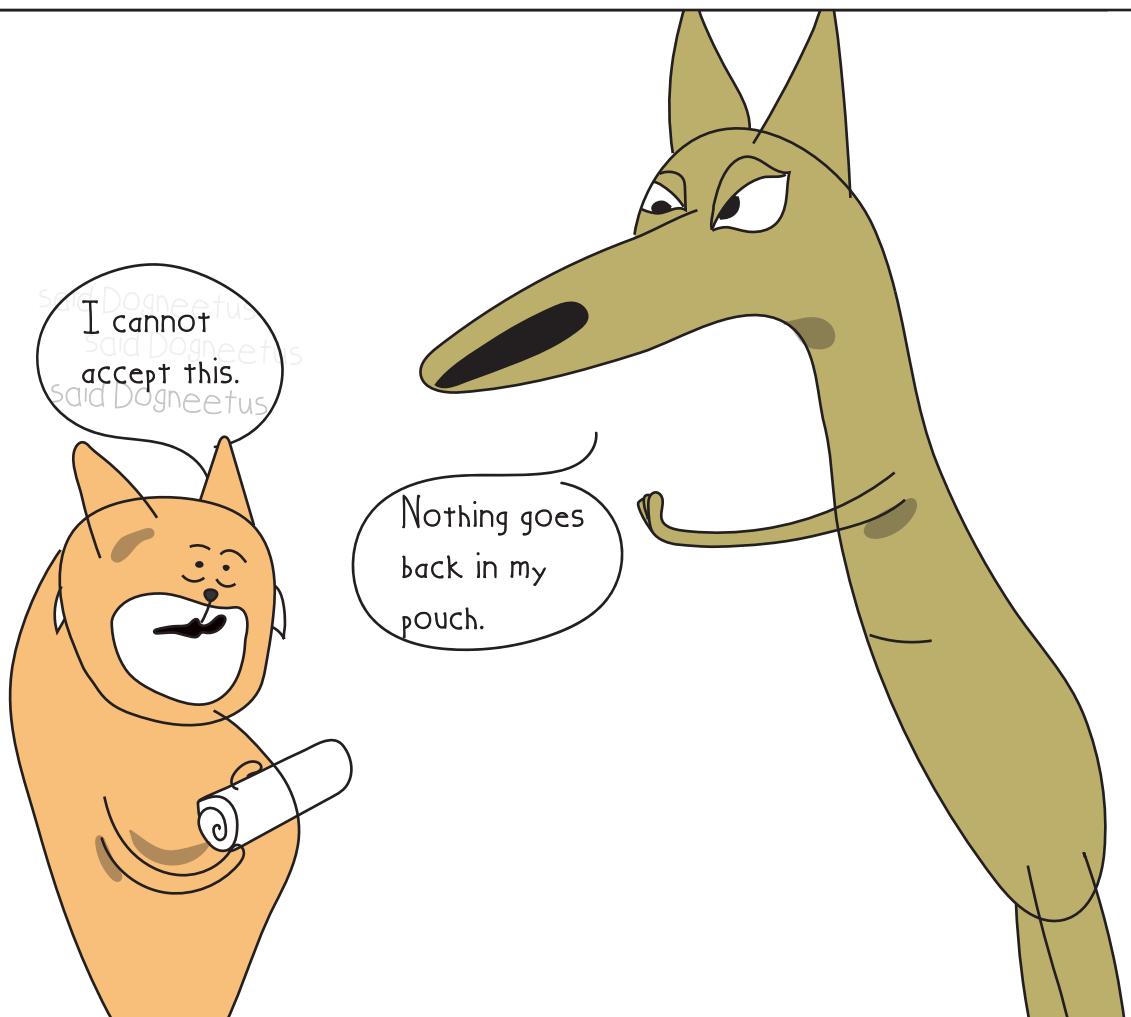
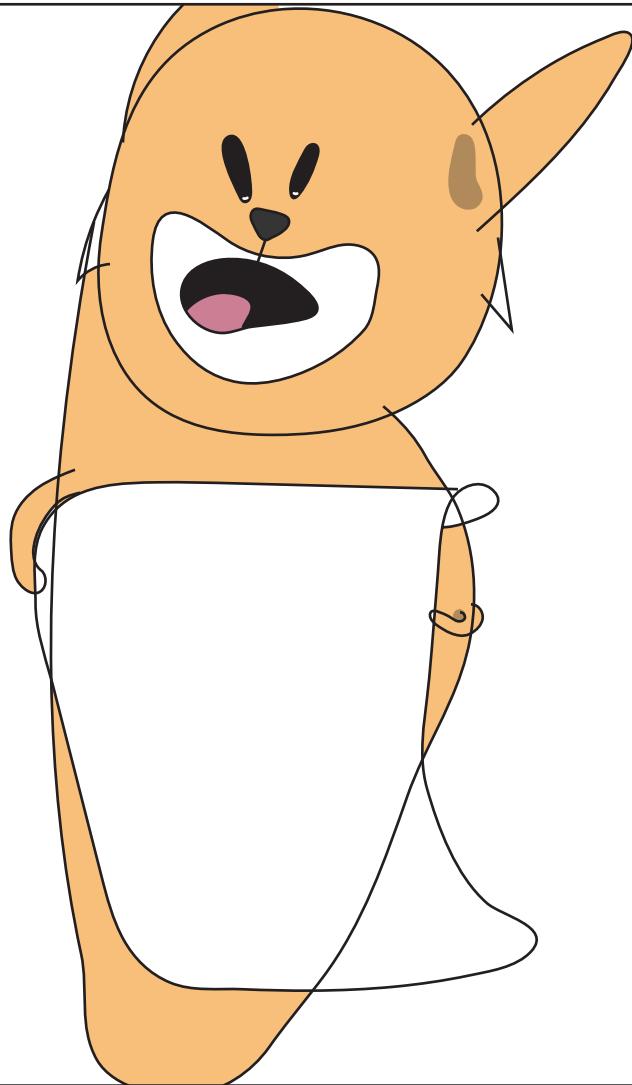


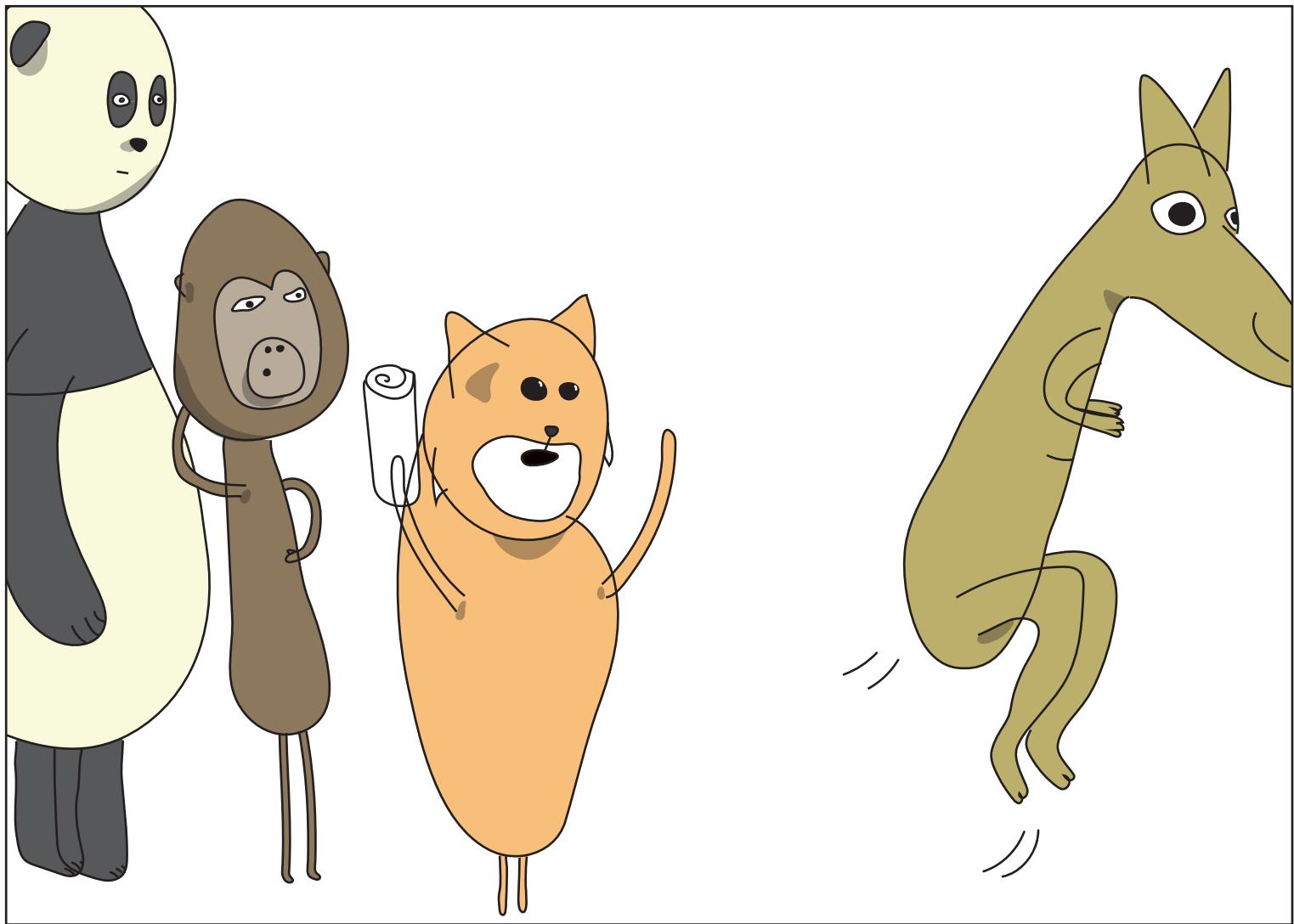


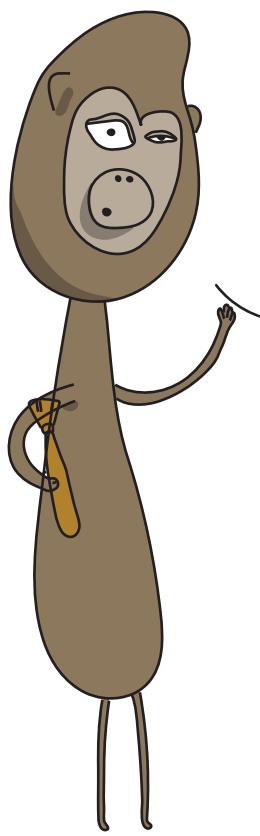
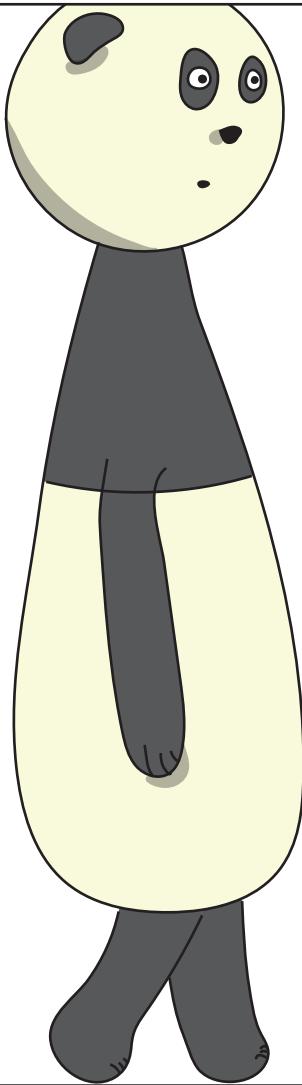








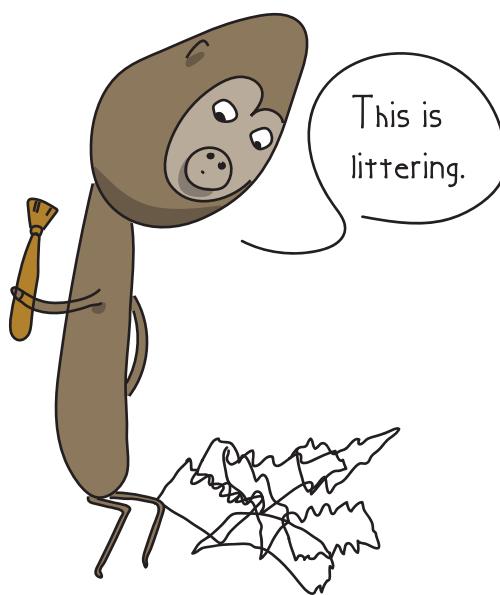
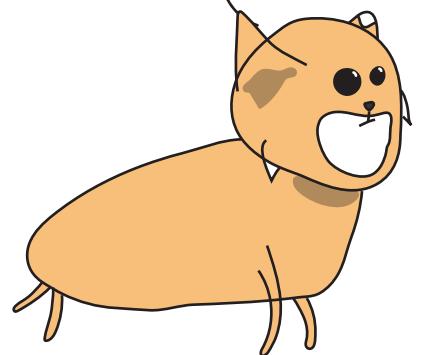




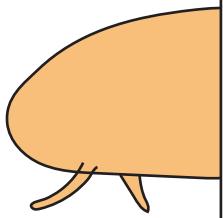
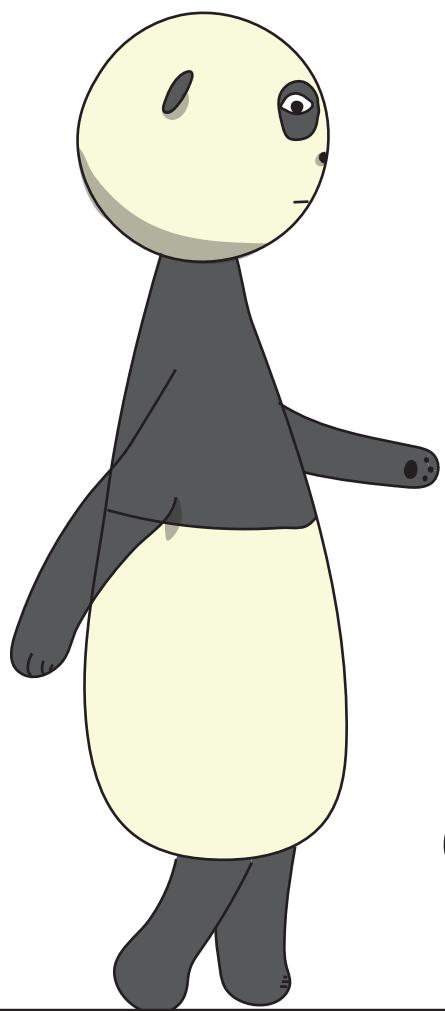
What was us  
asked  
that about? us  
asked Marcus

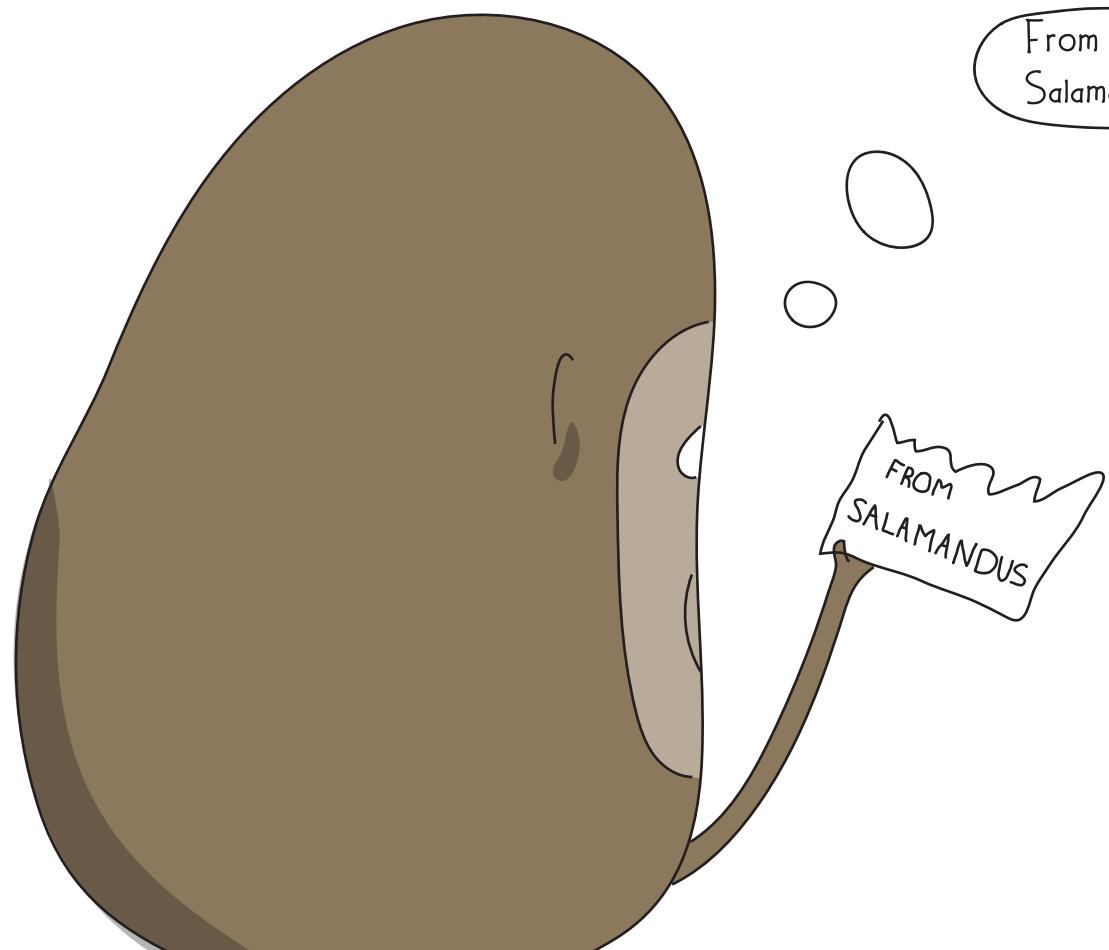
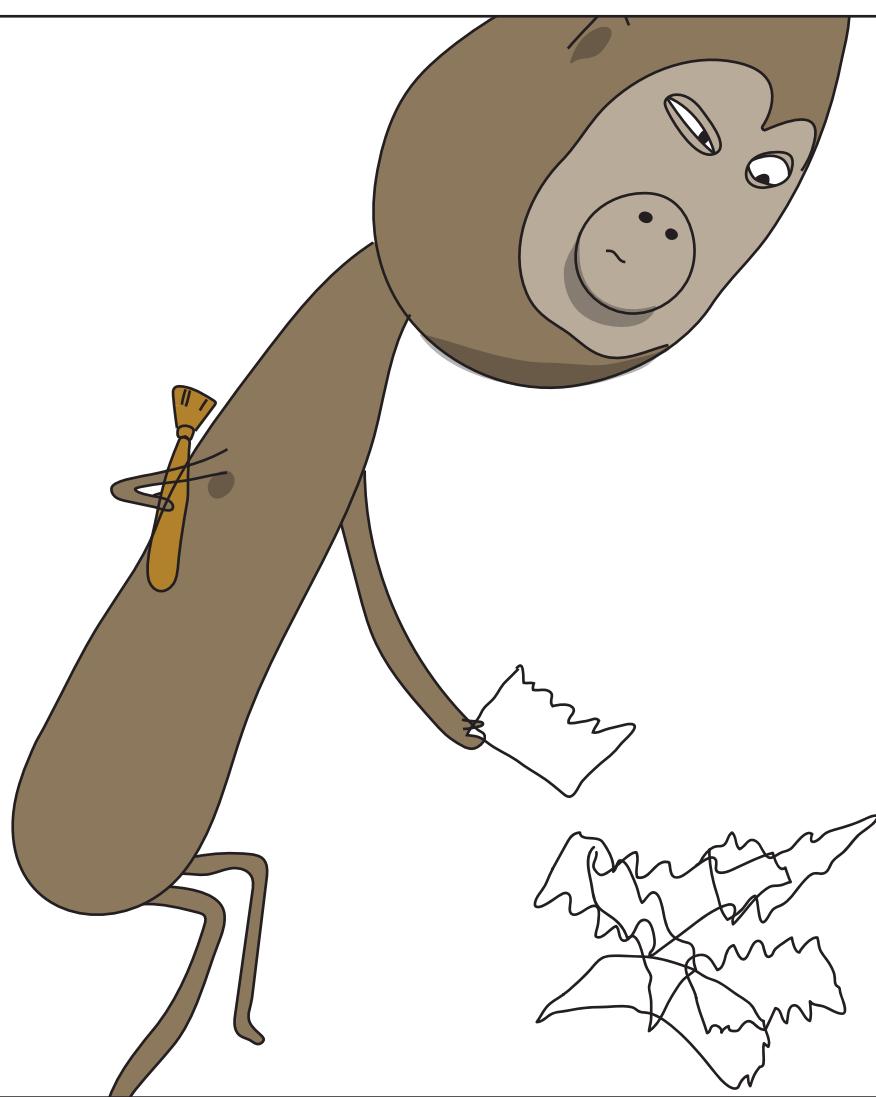


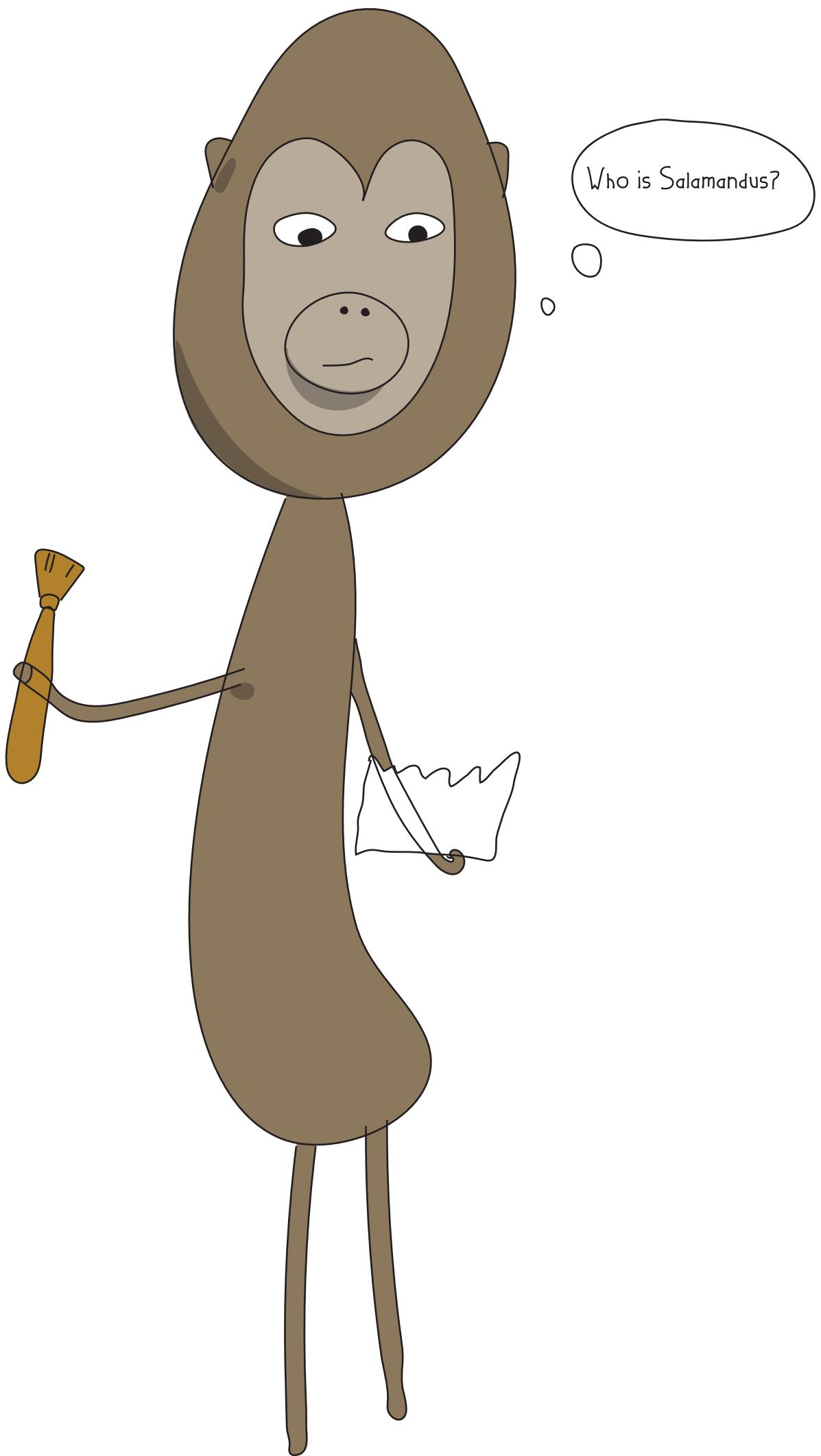
Forget it.



This is  
littering.

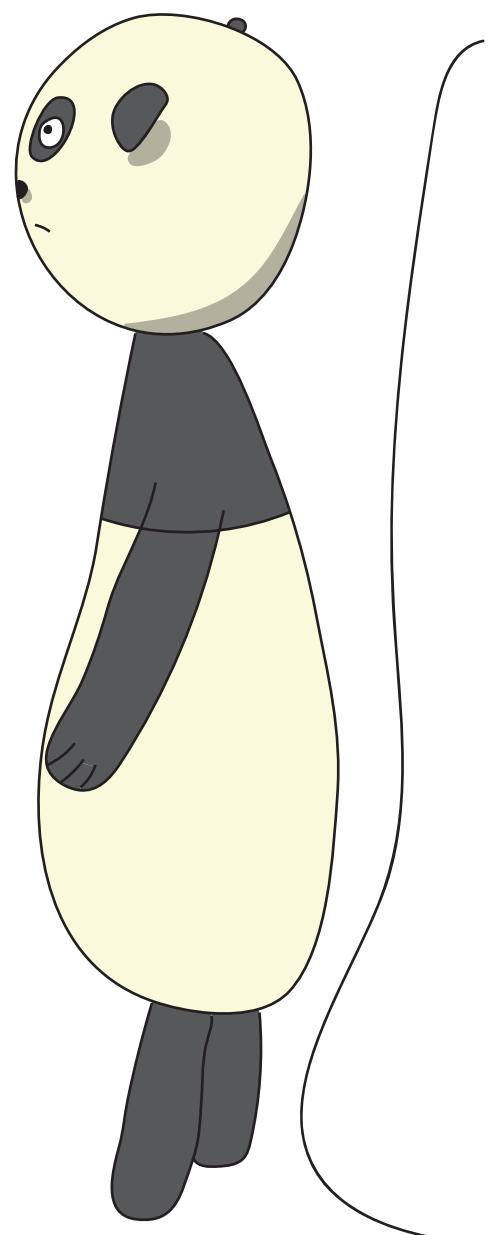
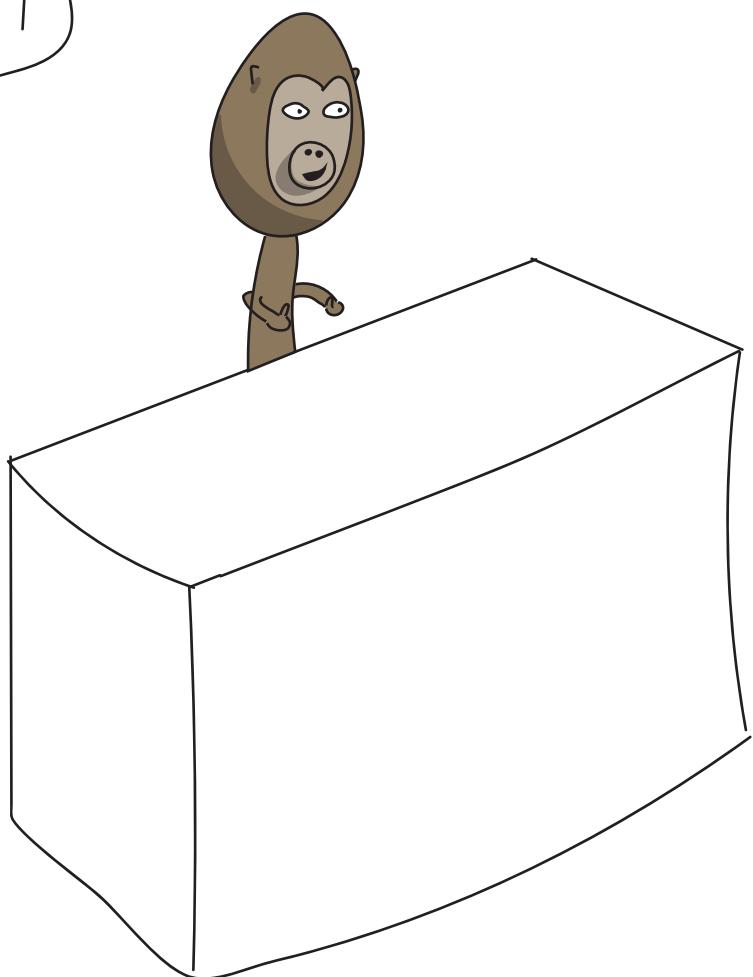




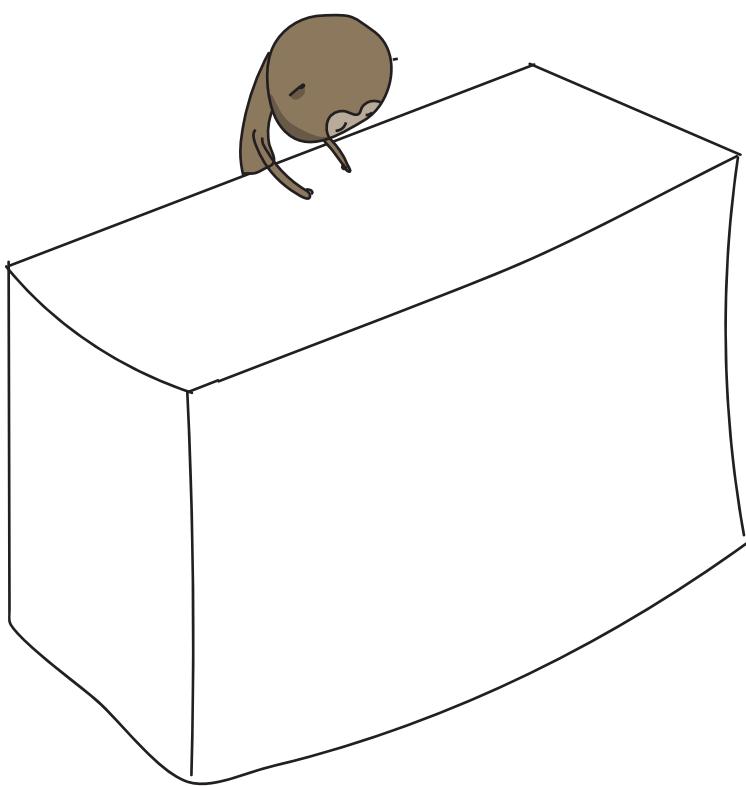


Chapter 9 - Croodus' father

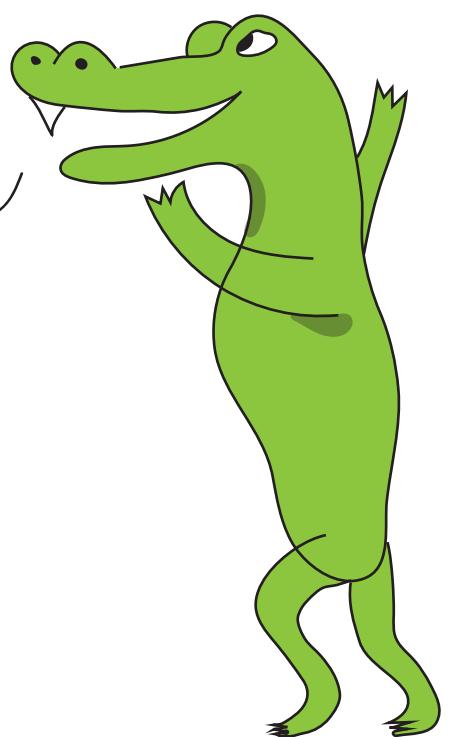
MUNDOPE

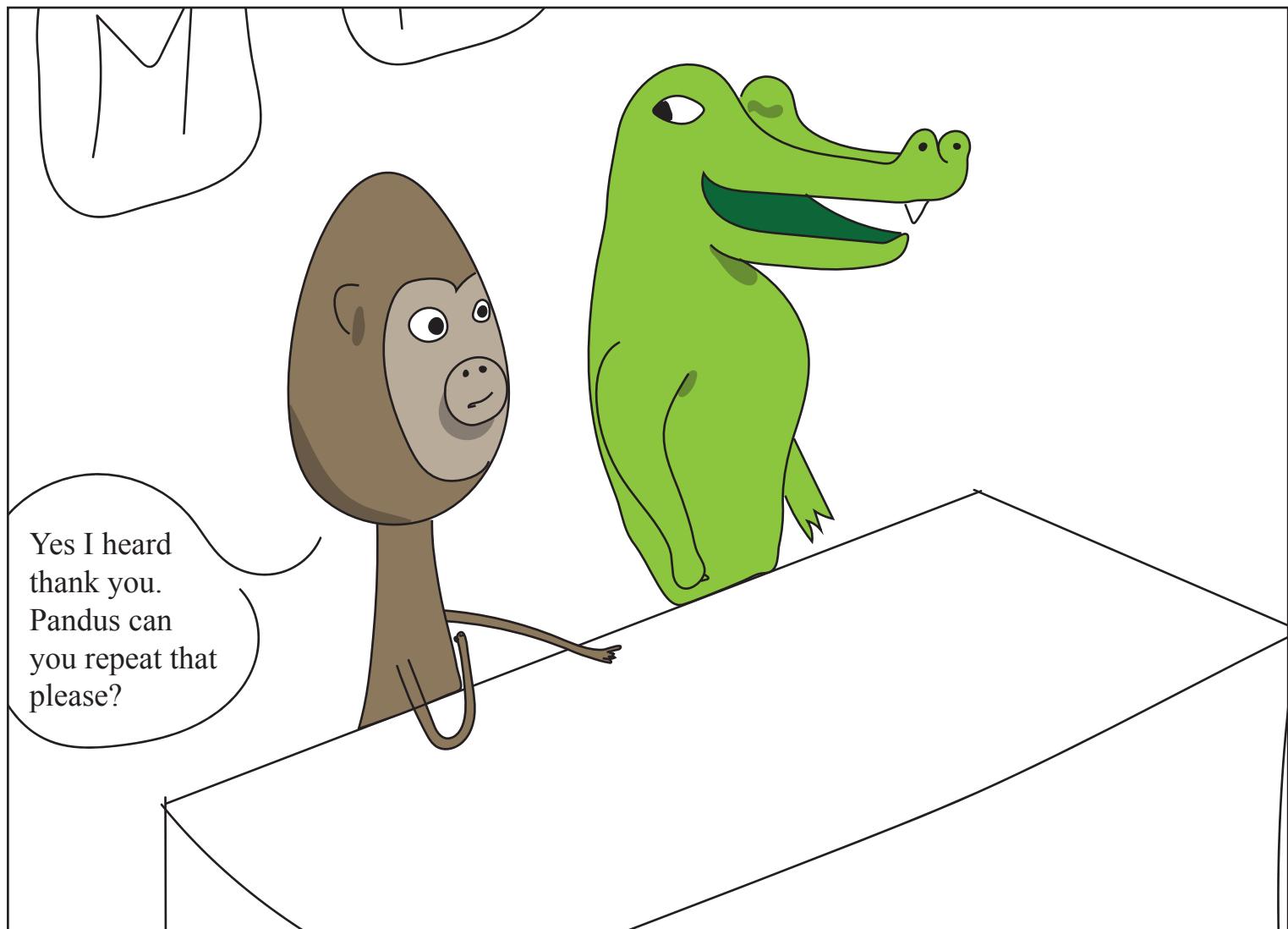


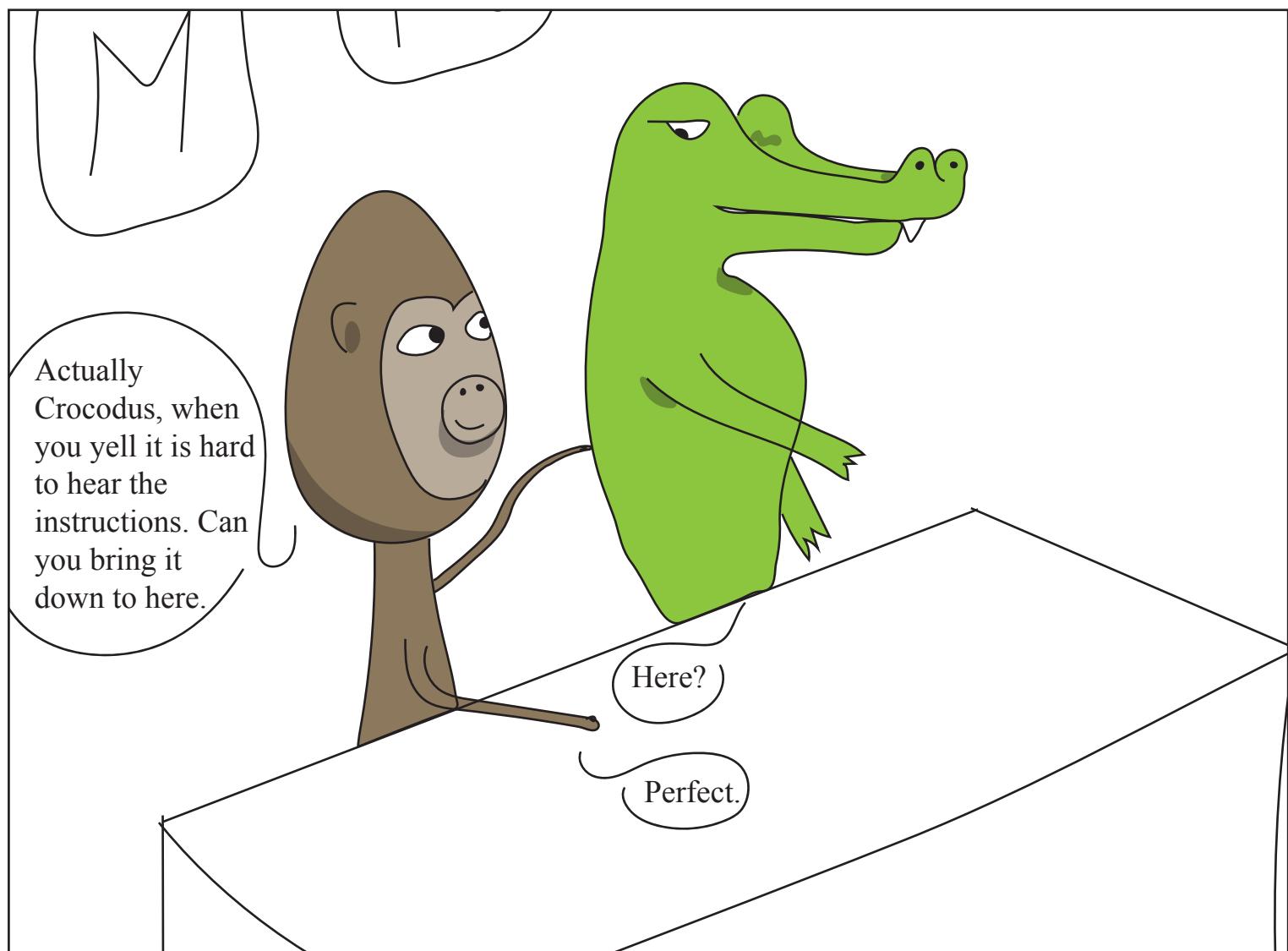
M  
A  
N  
O  
P

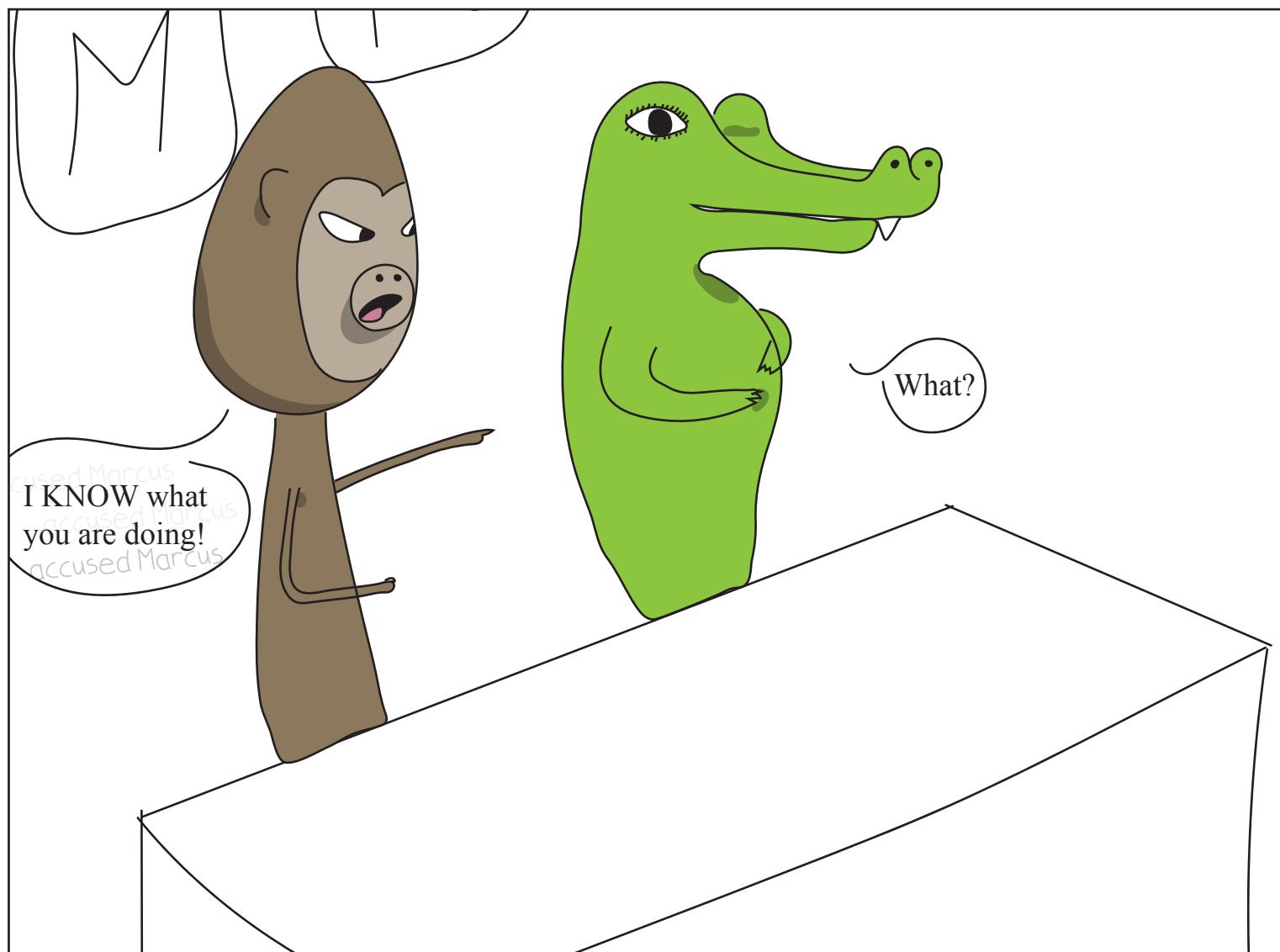
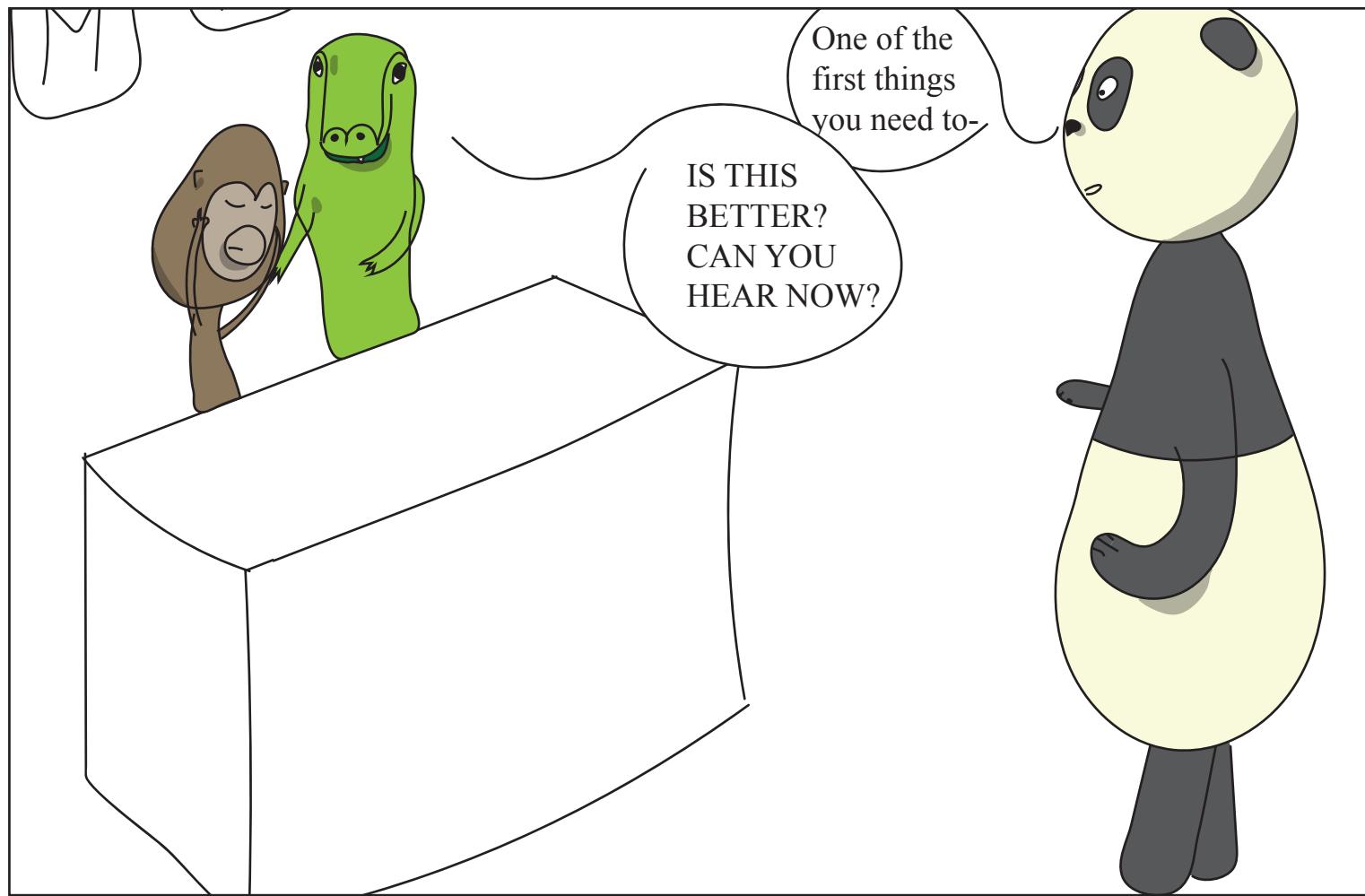


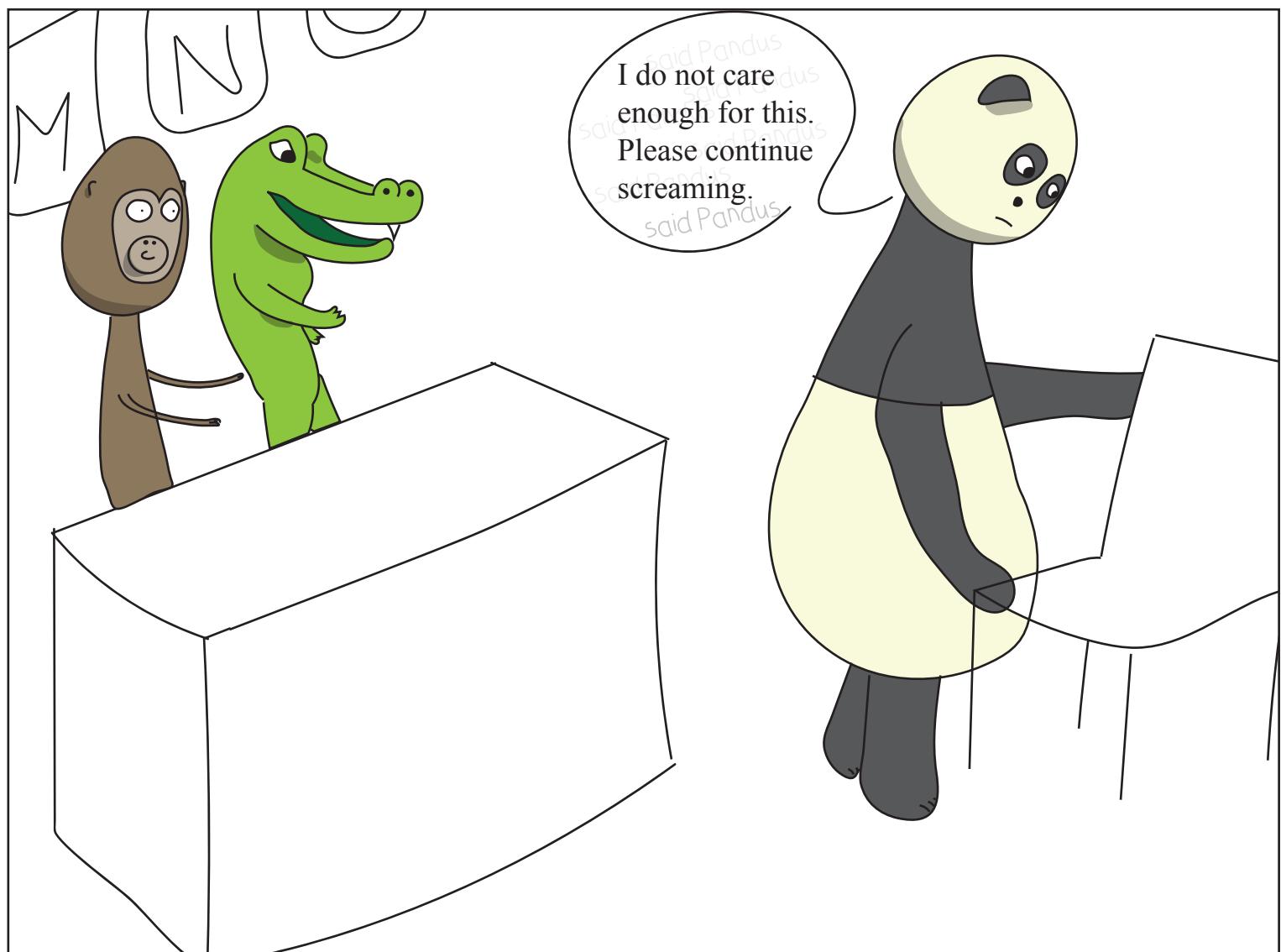
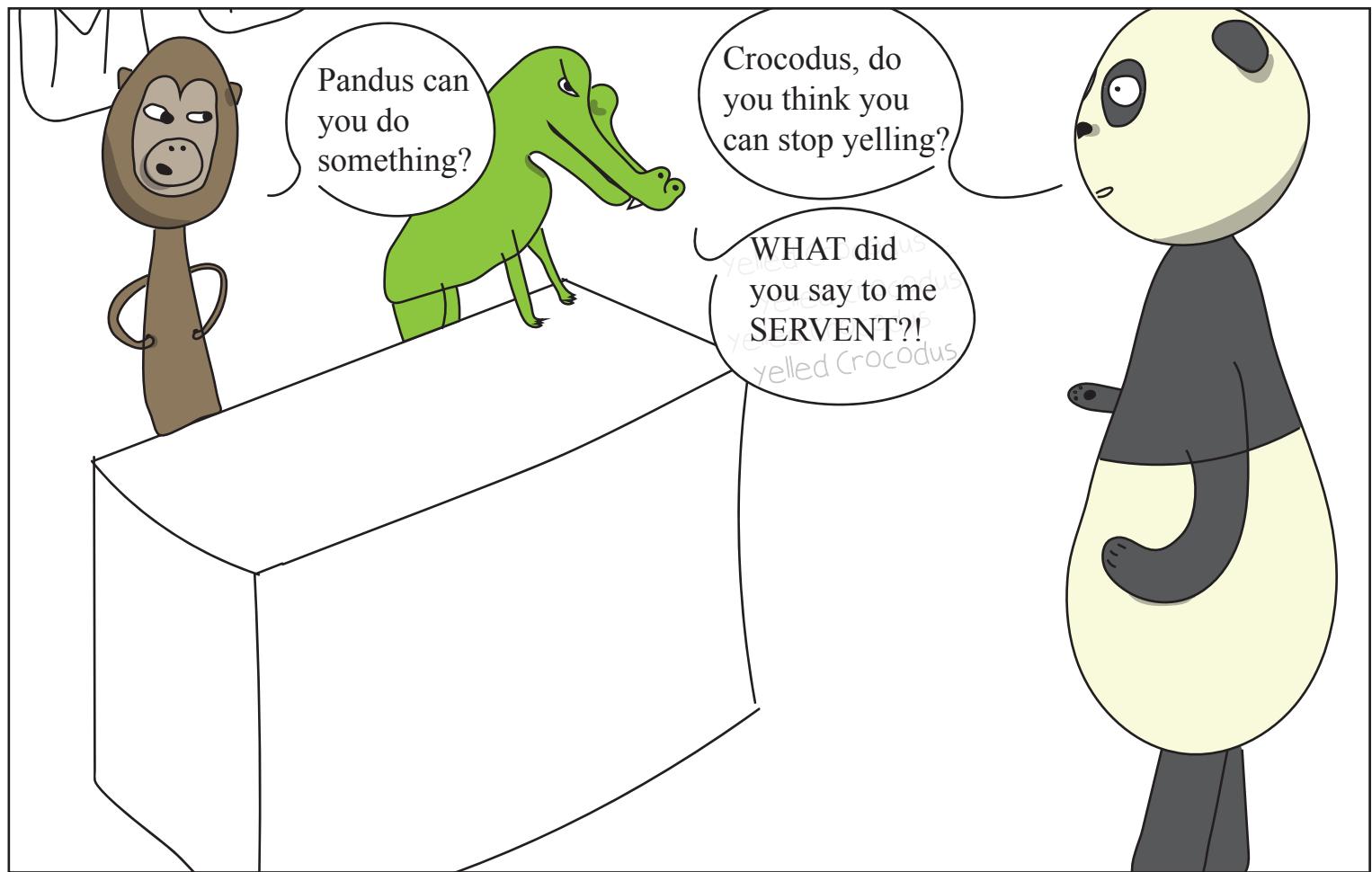
Are you ready to  
learn Markey?!

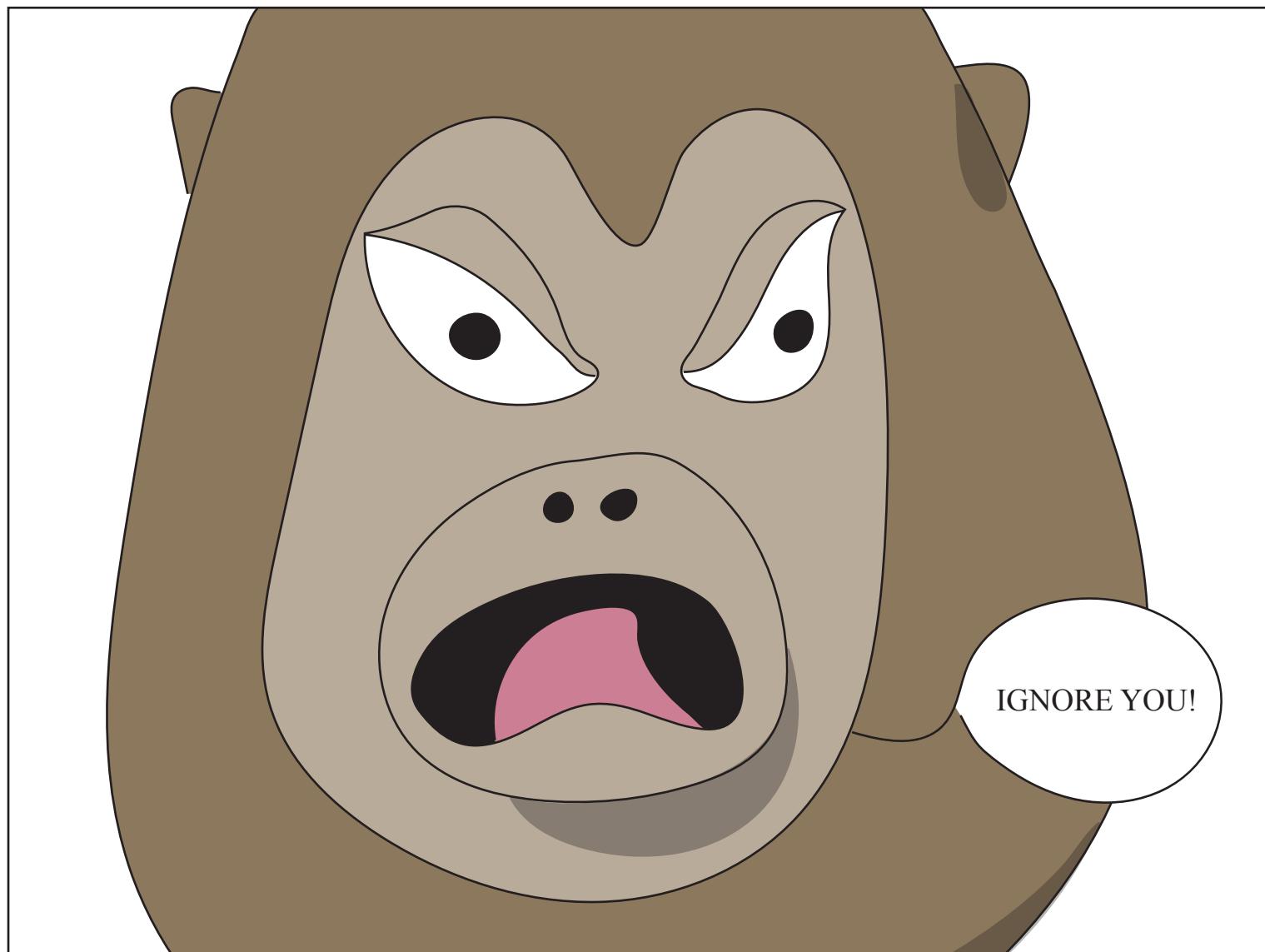
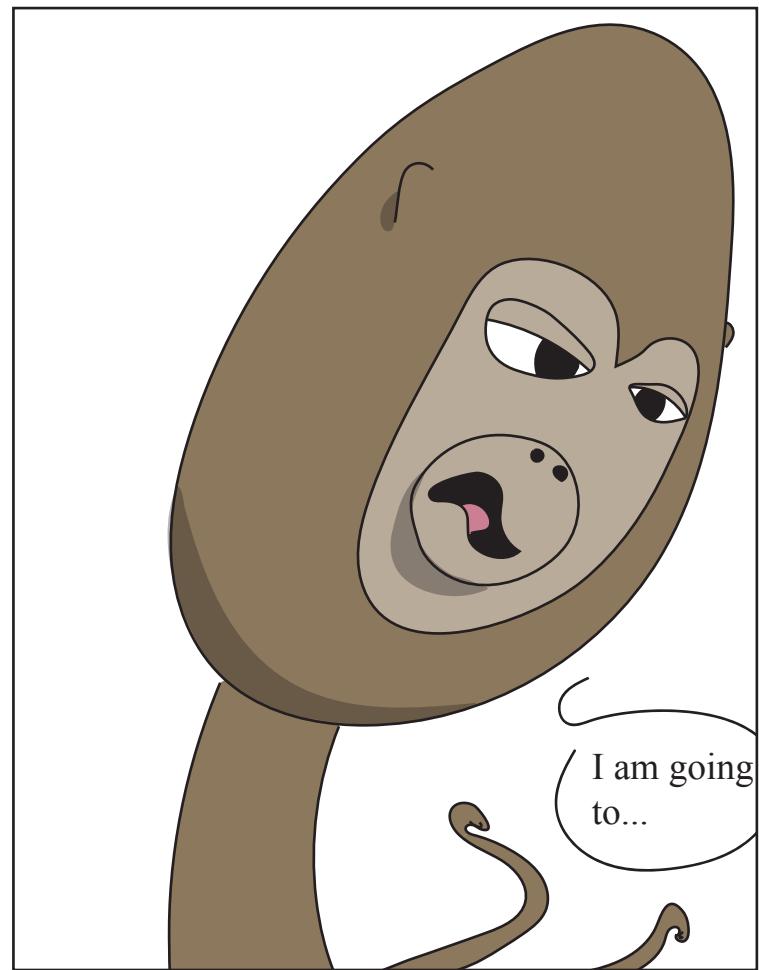


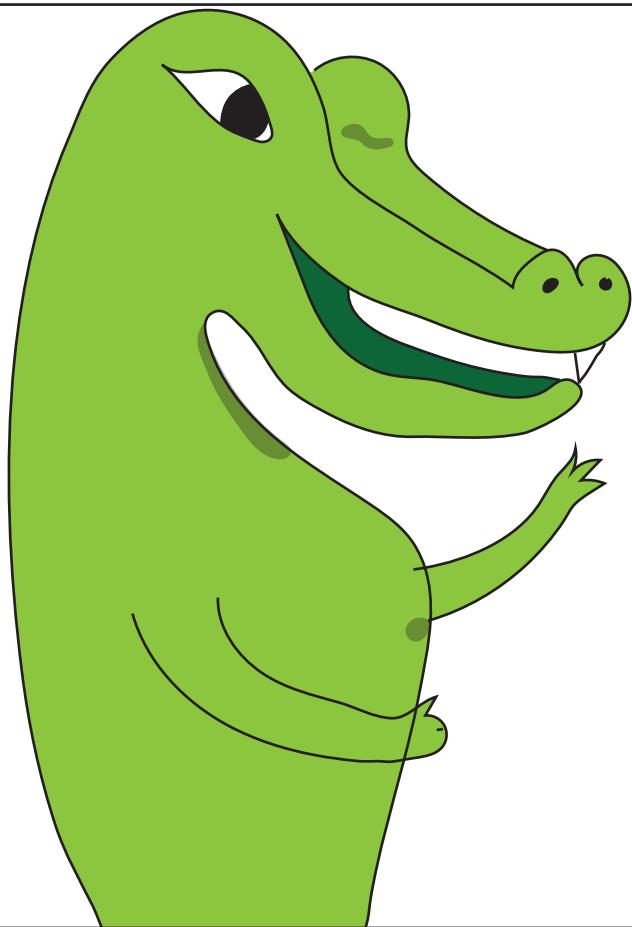












Pandus please  
continue. I think we  
both want to learn  
something.

said Crocodus

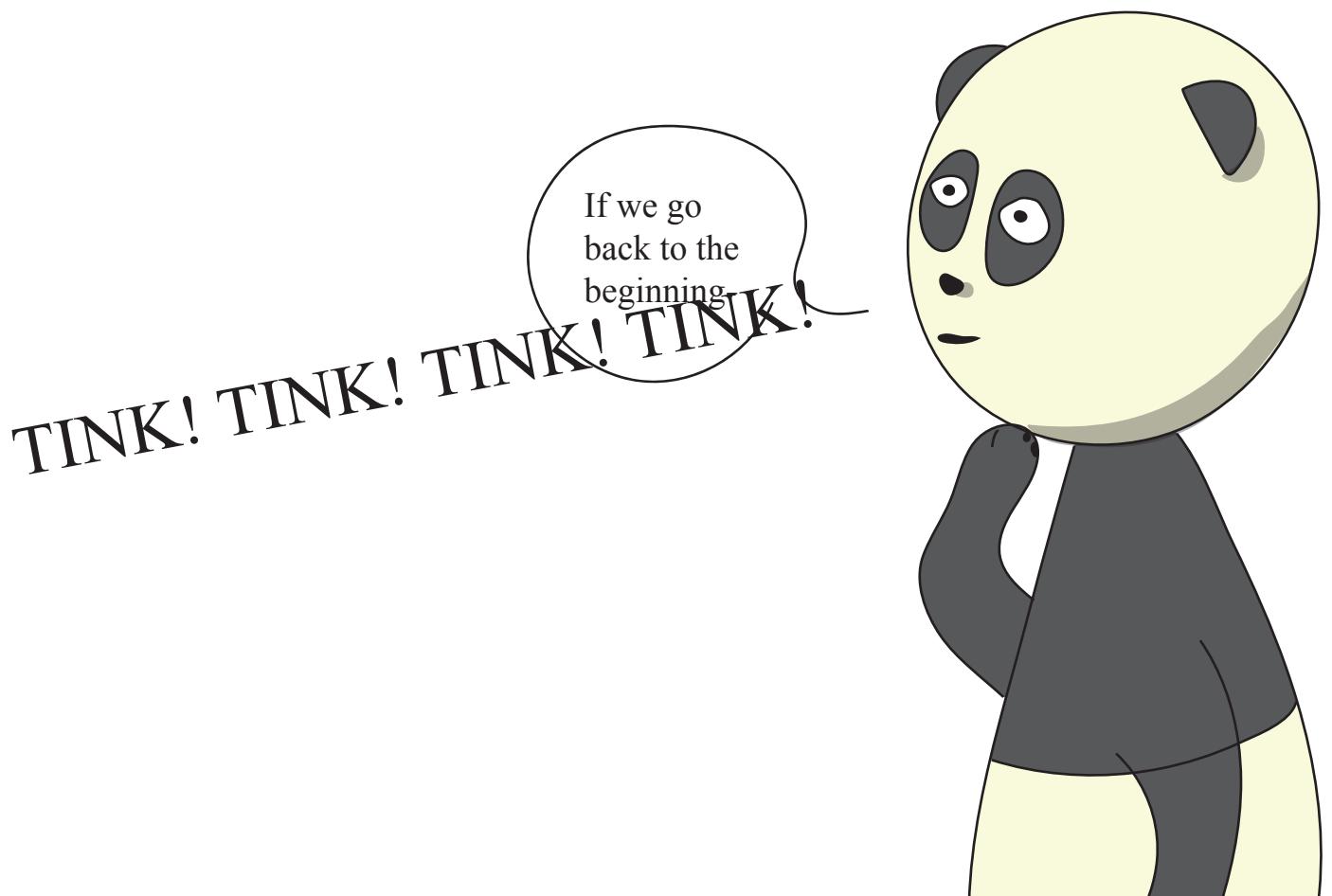


...To start with, we  
will look at-

MARCUS ARE YOU  
STILL LISTENING?  
YOU MUST PAY  
ATTENTION IF YOU  
WANT TO GROW UP TO  
BE A SENATOR.

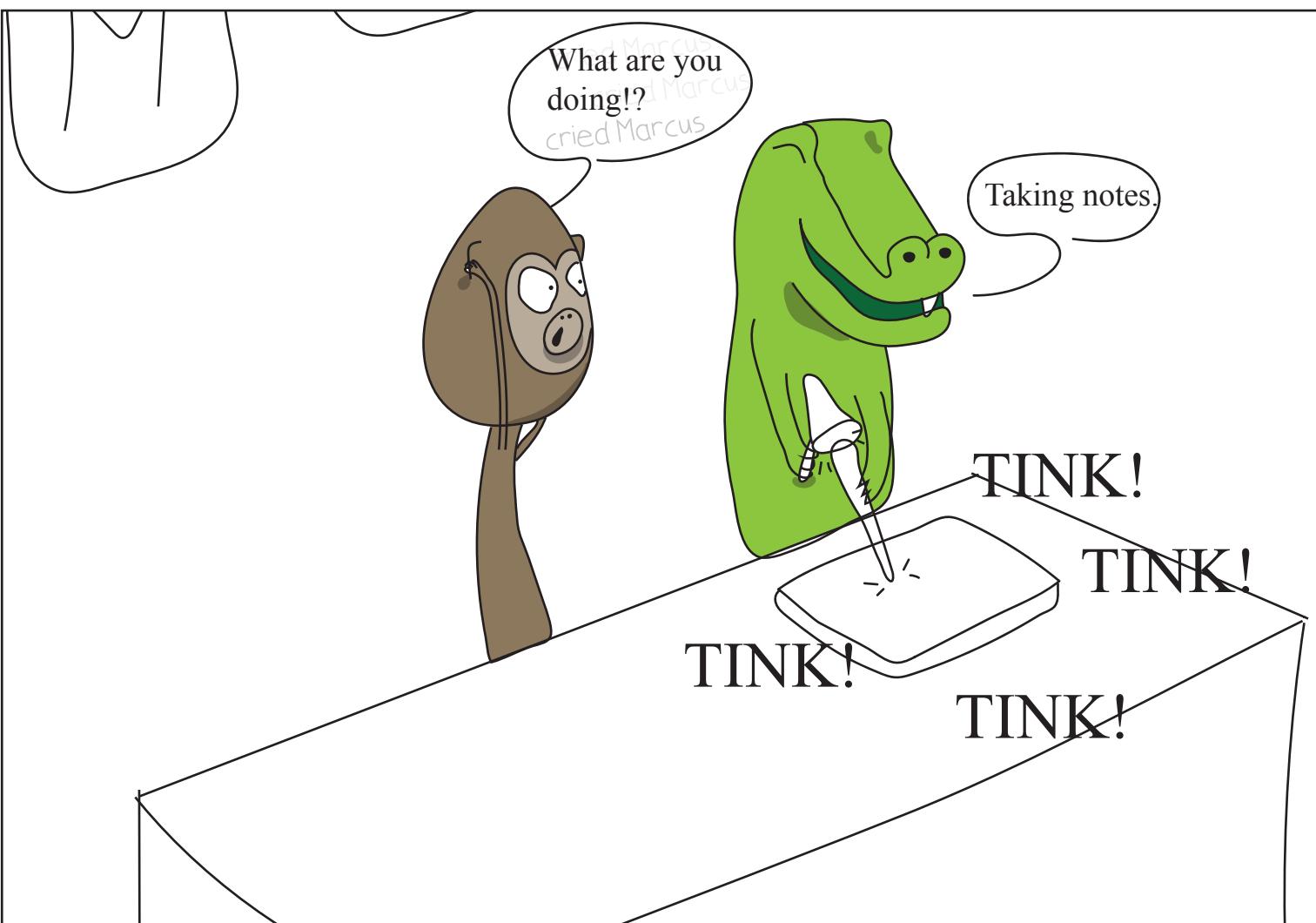
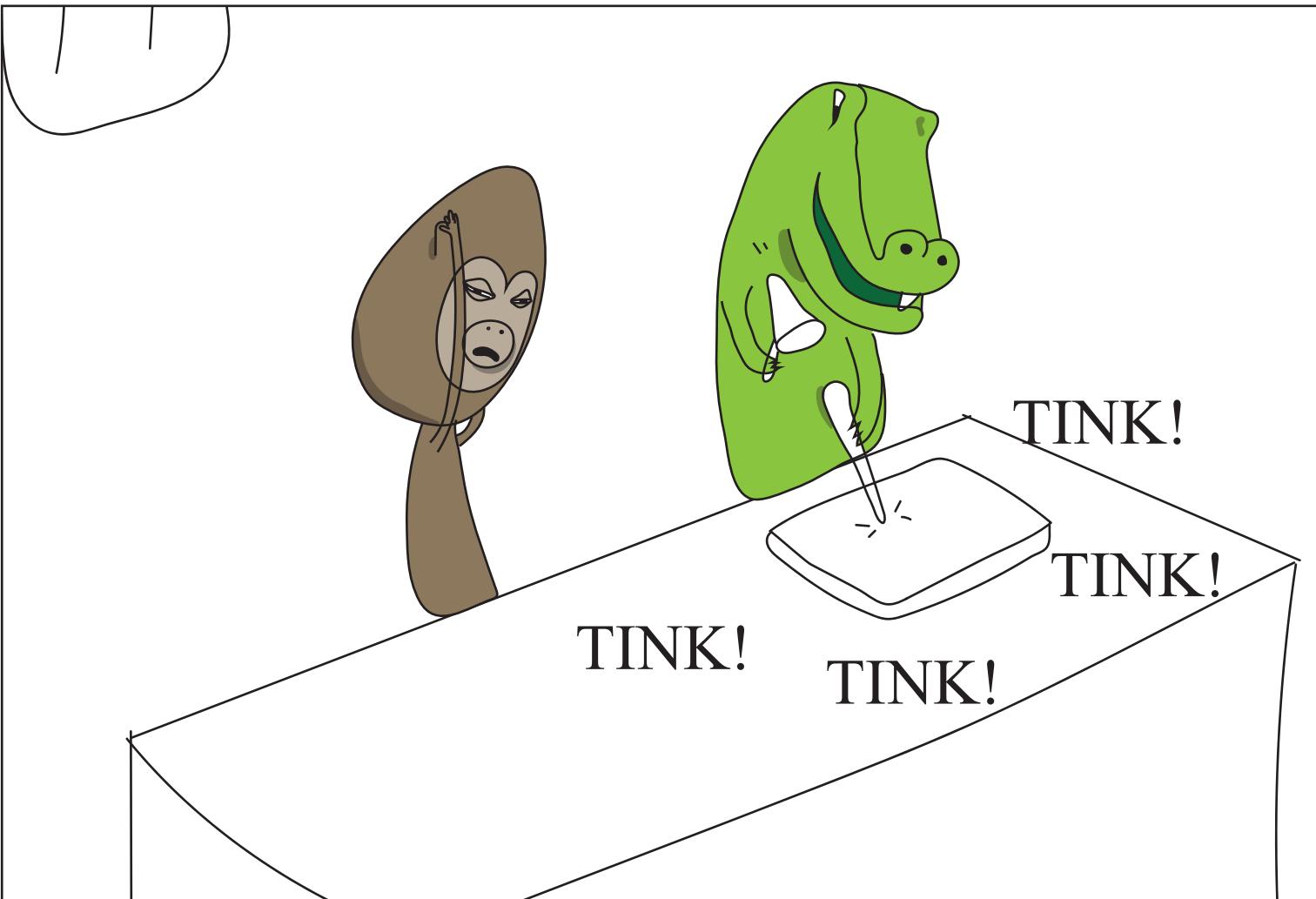


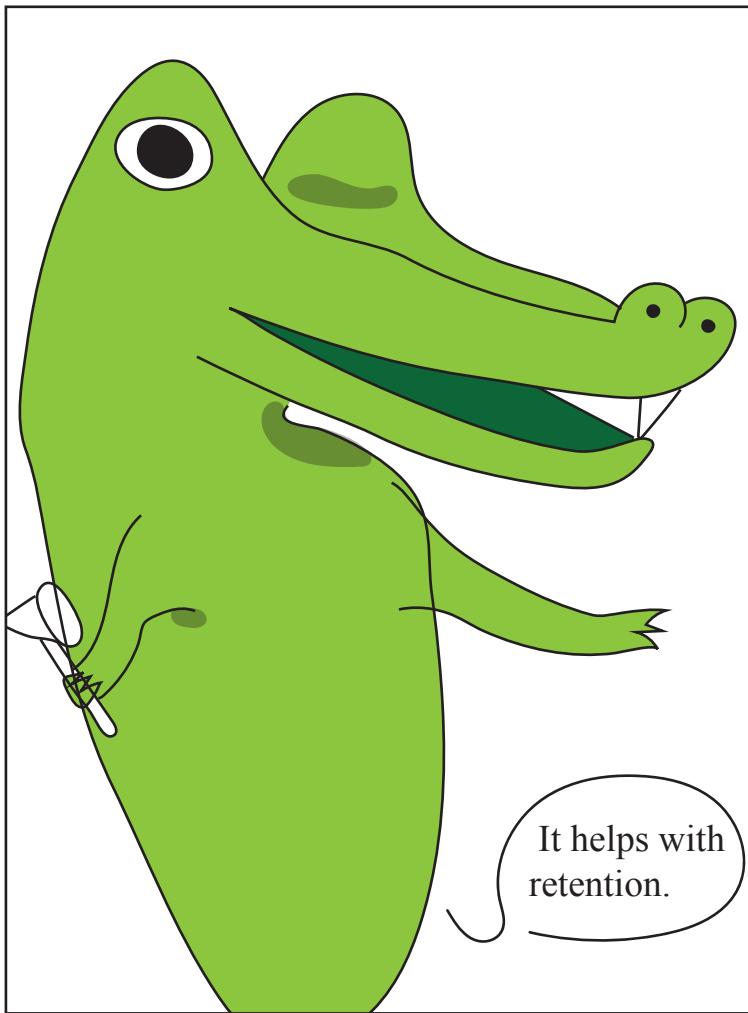
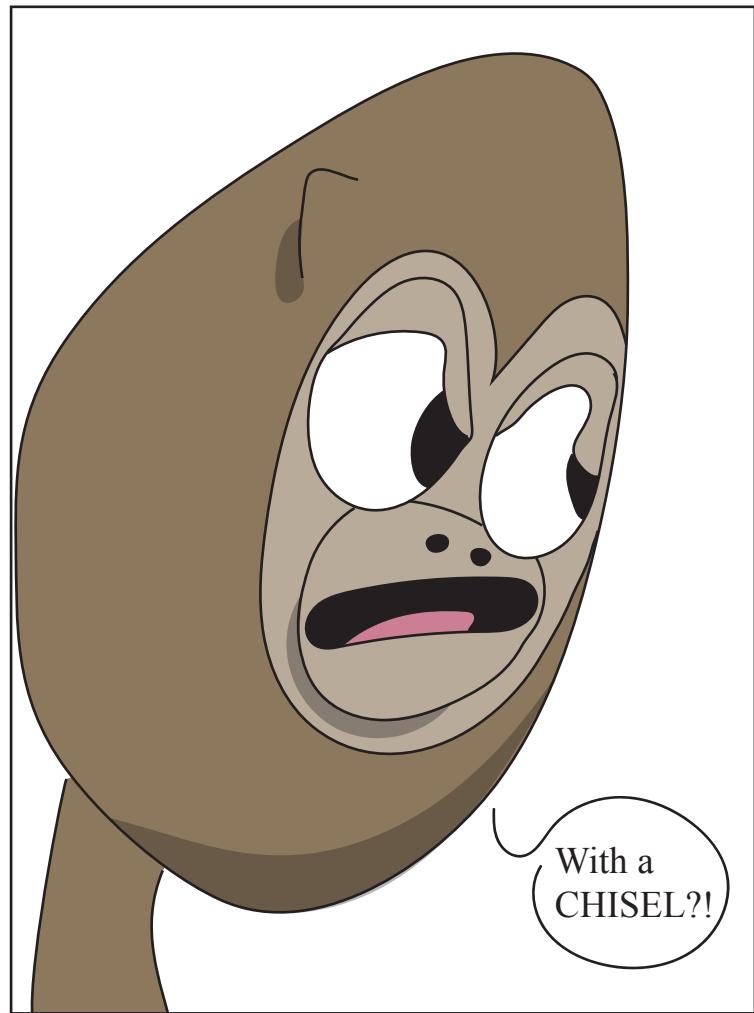
Well played, Markey.  
You know my one  
weakness. Ok  
Pandus, now you can  
really teach us.



TINK! TINK! TINK! TINK!

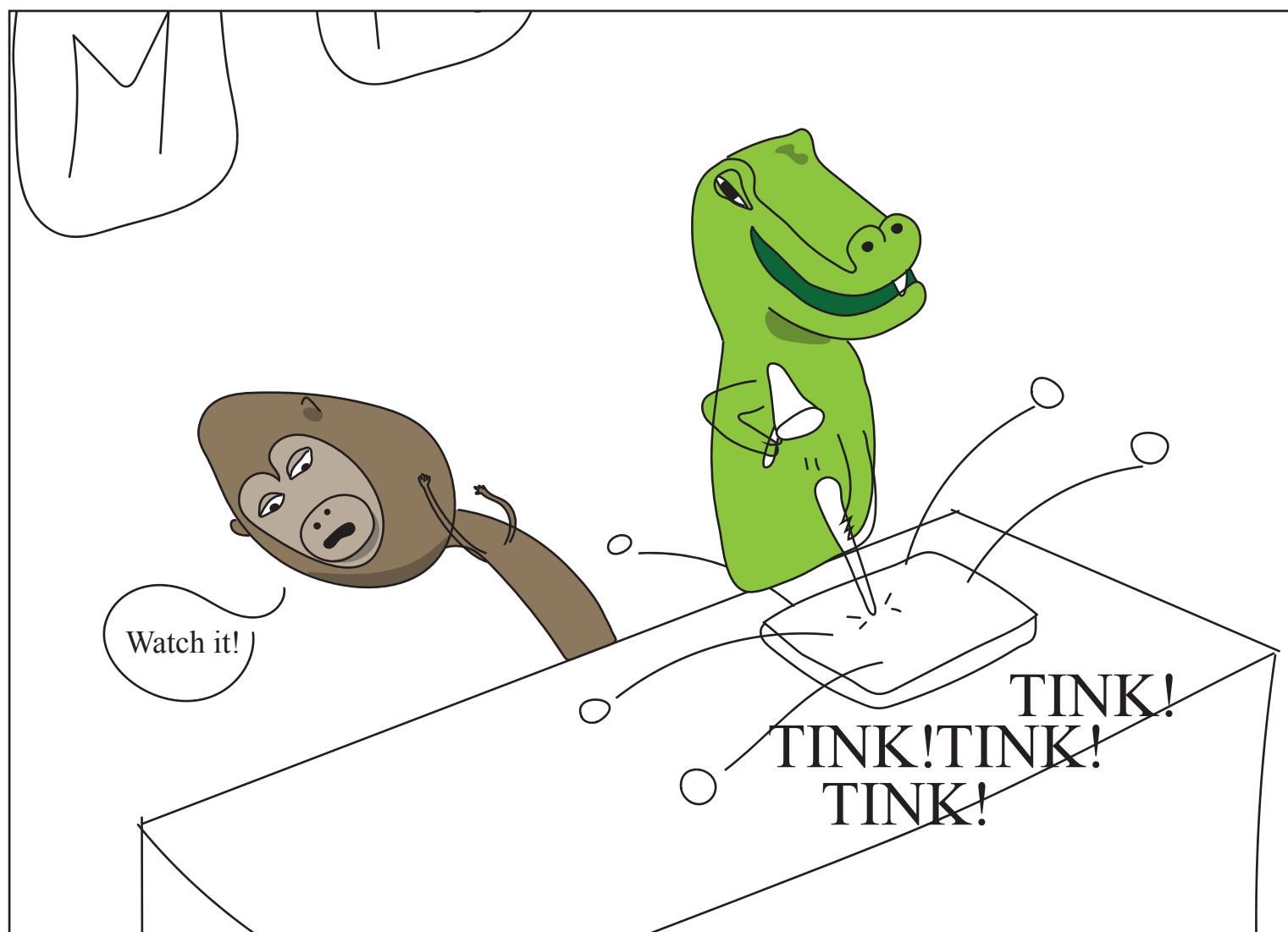
If we go  
back to the  
beginning





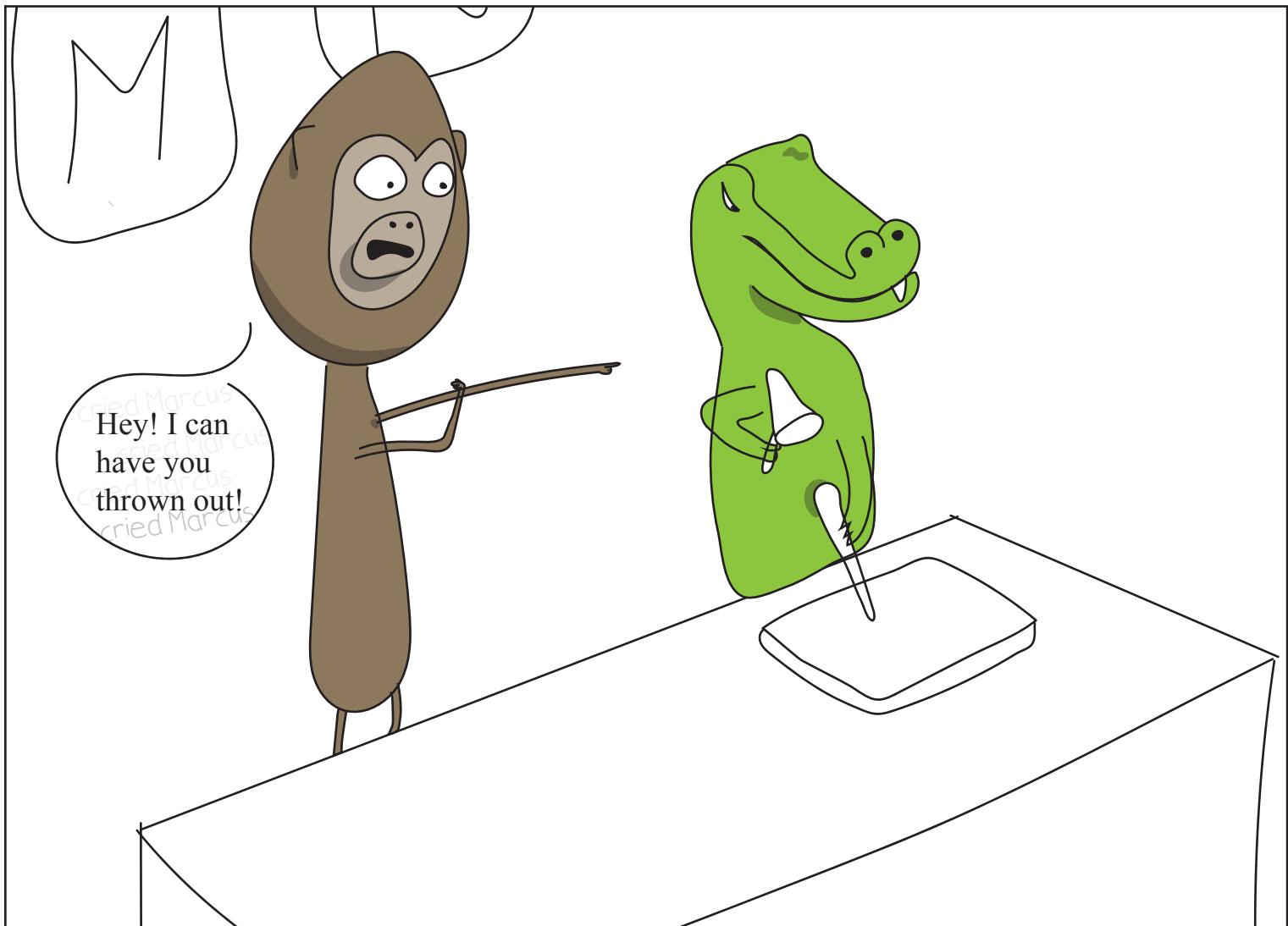
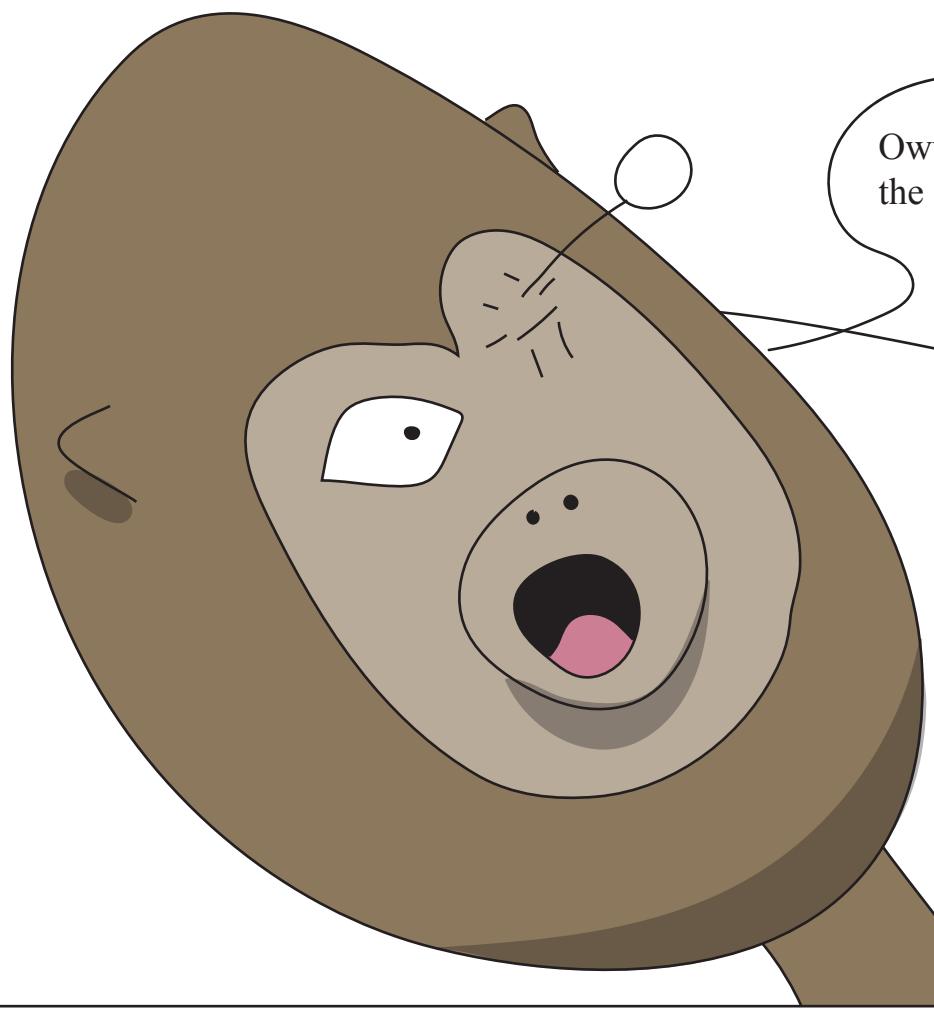
With a  
CHISEL?!

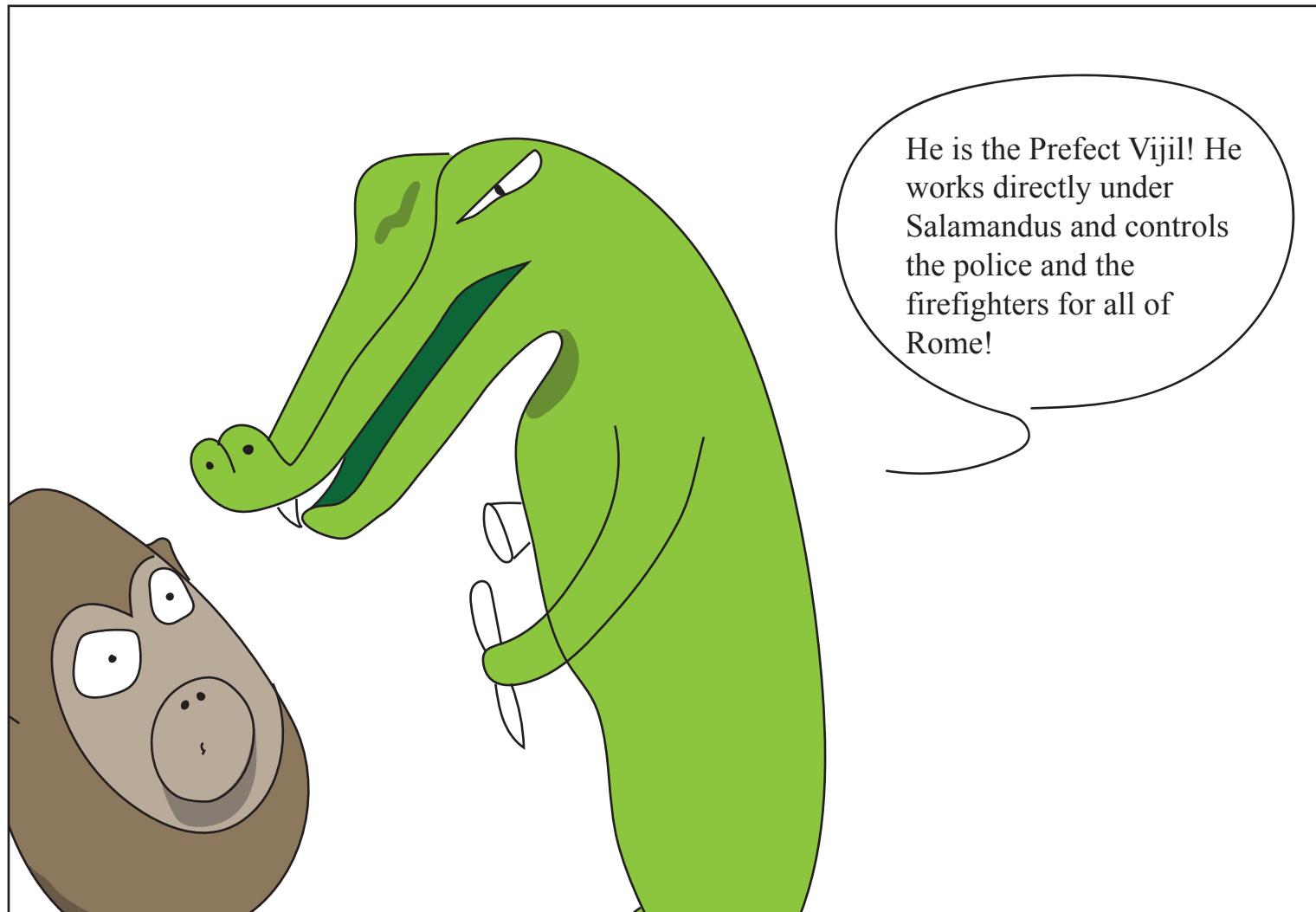
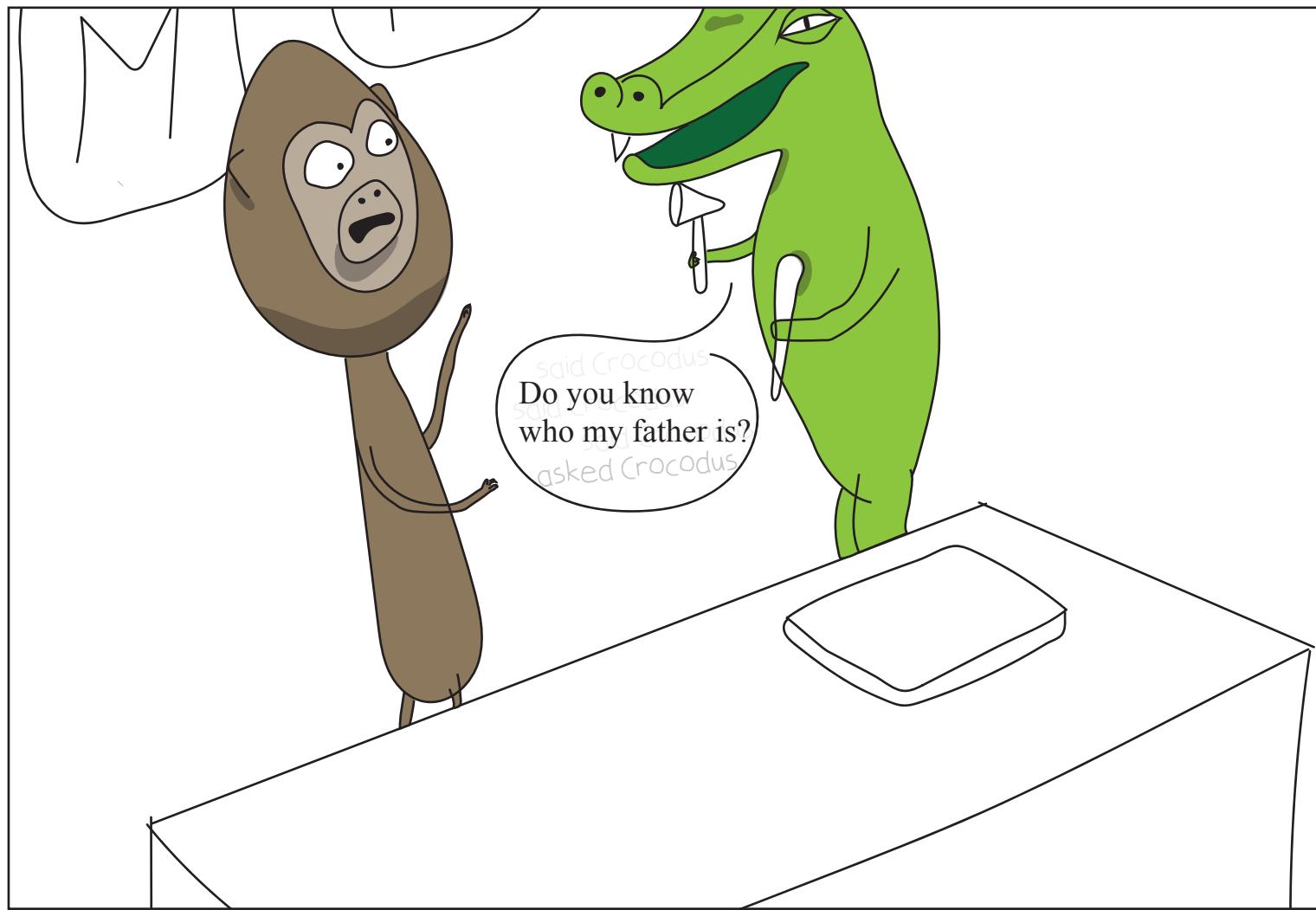
It helps with  
retention.

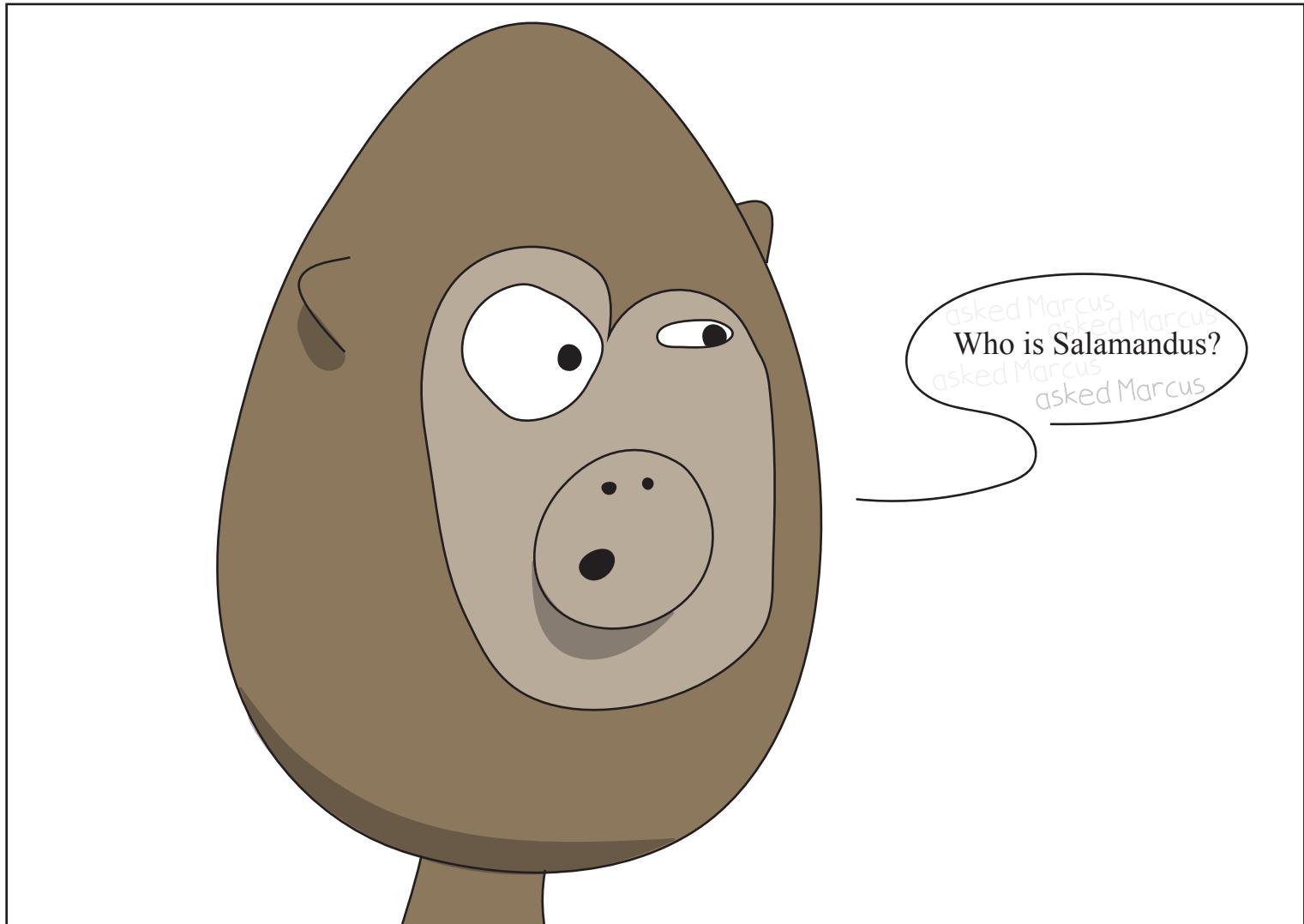
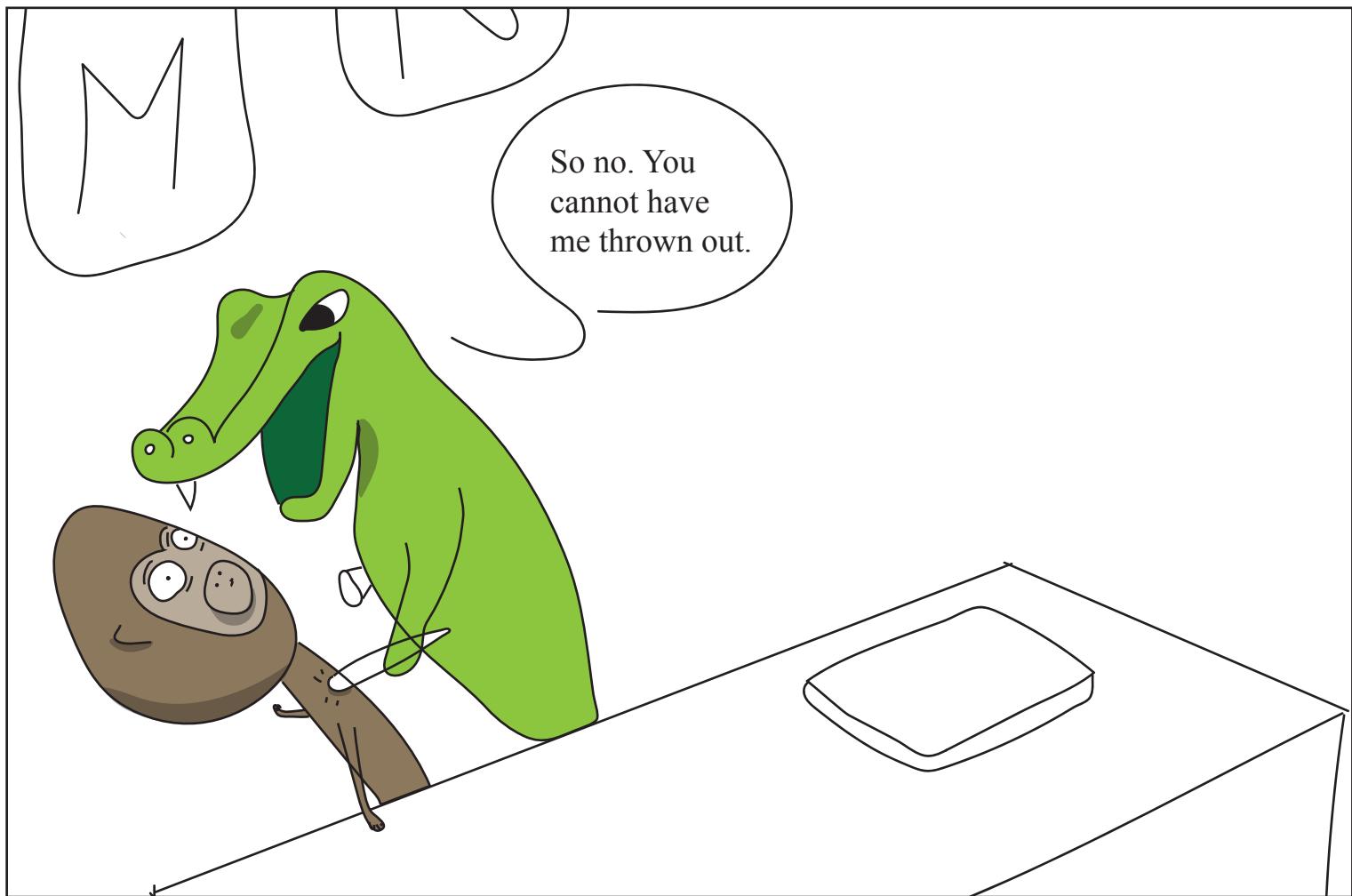


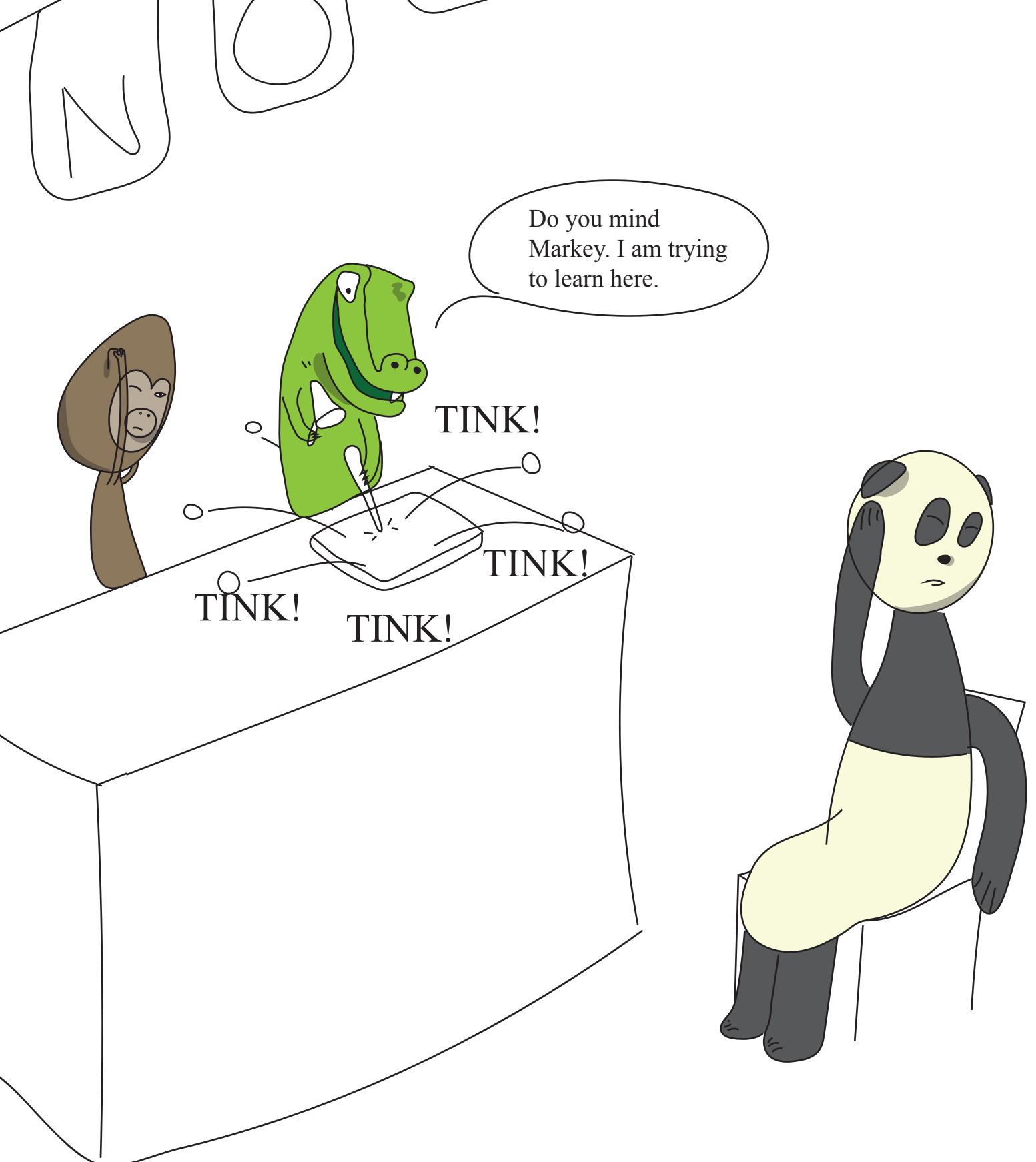
Watch it!

TINK!  
TINK!  
TINK!

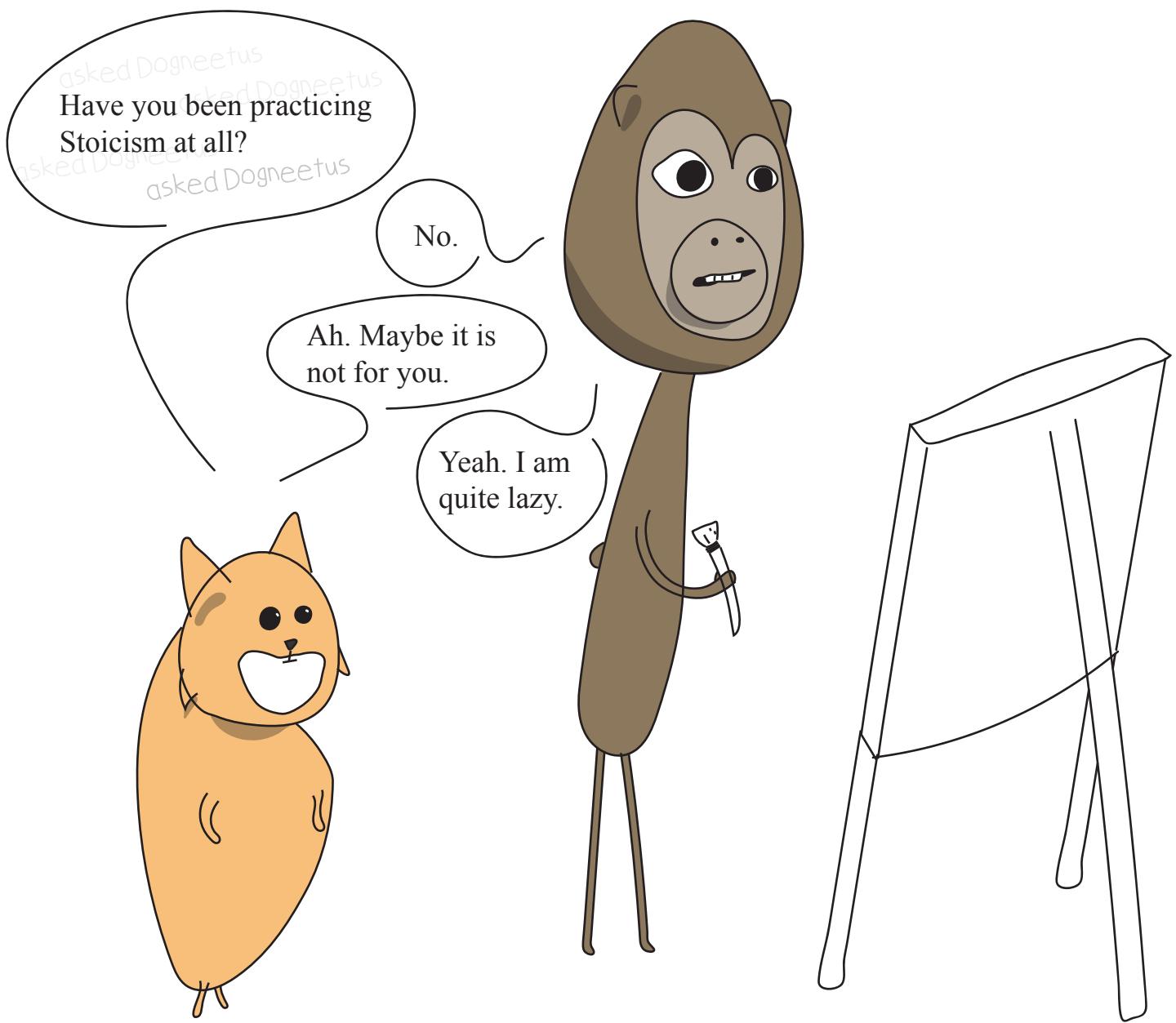


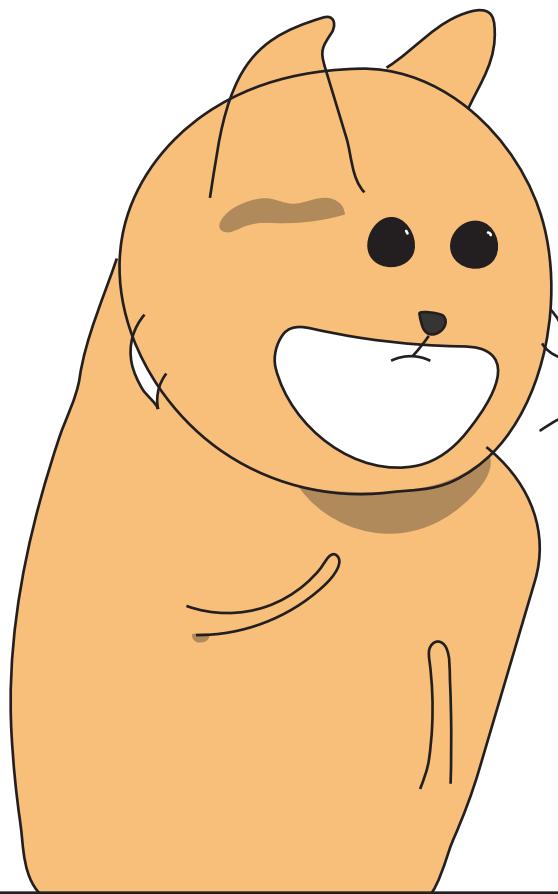




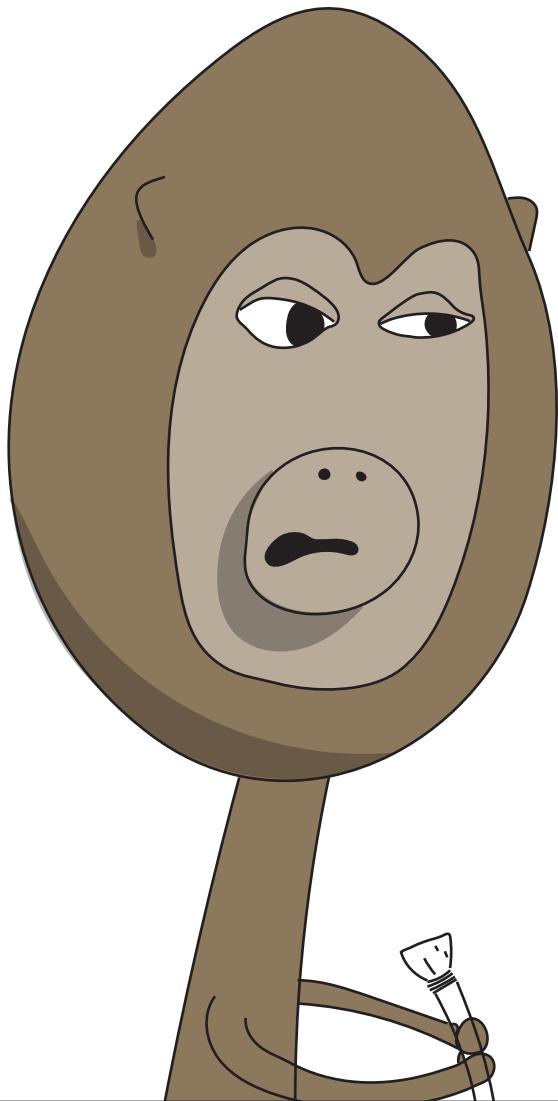


Chapter 10 - Crocodus revealed

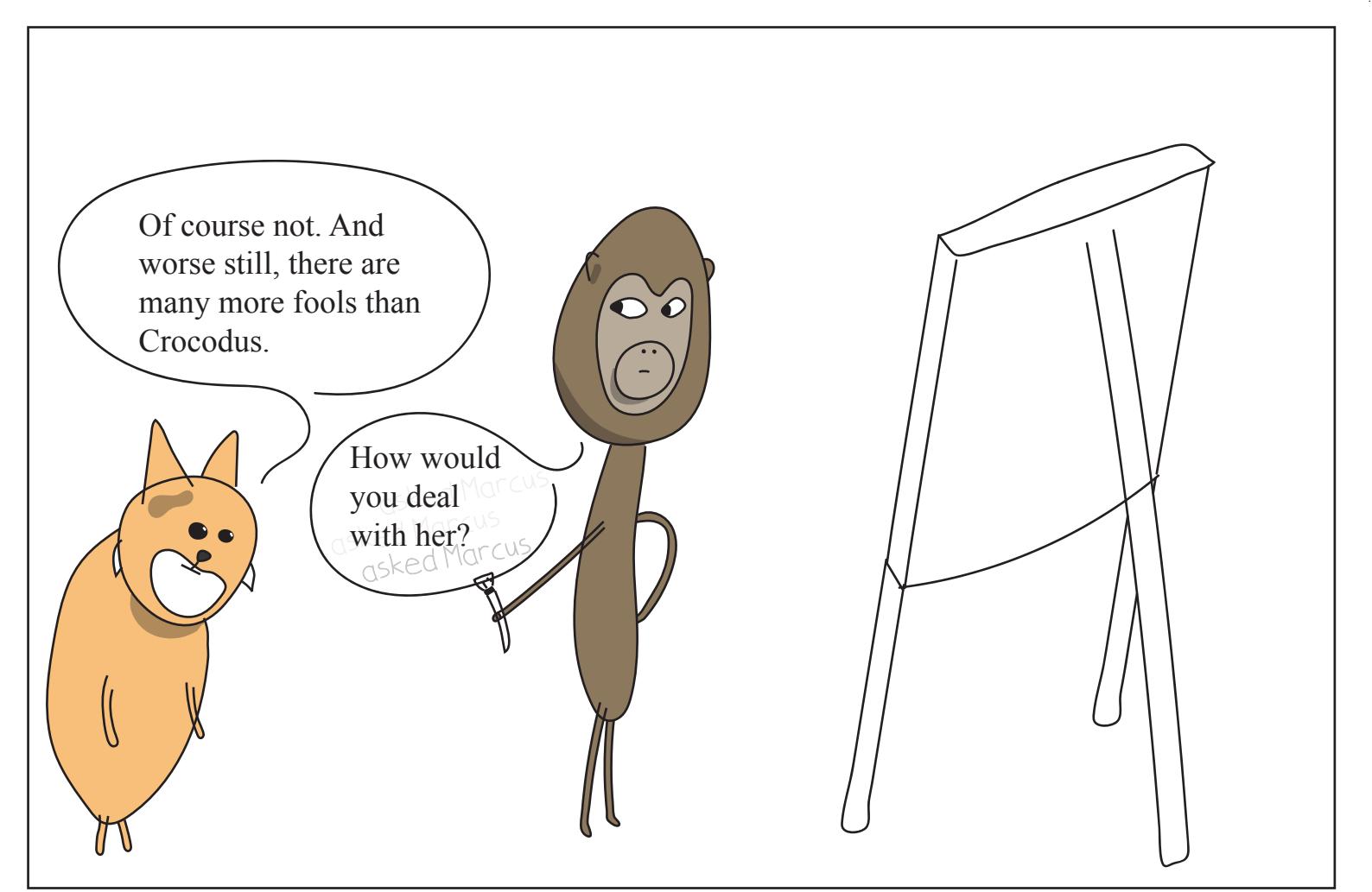




I assume Crocodus is still bothering you. Stoics have a saying for animals like her:  
Do not be offended by an idiot.



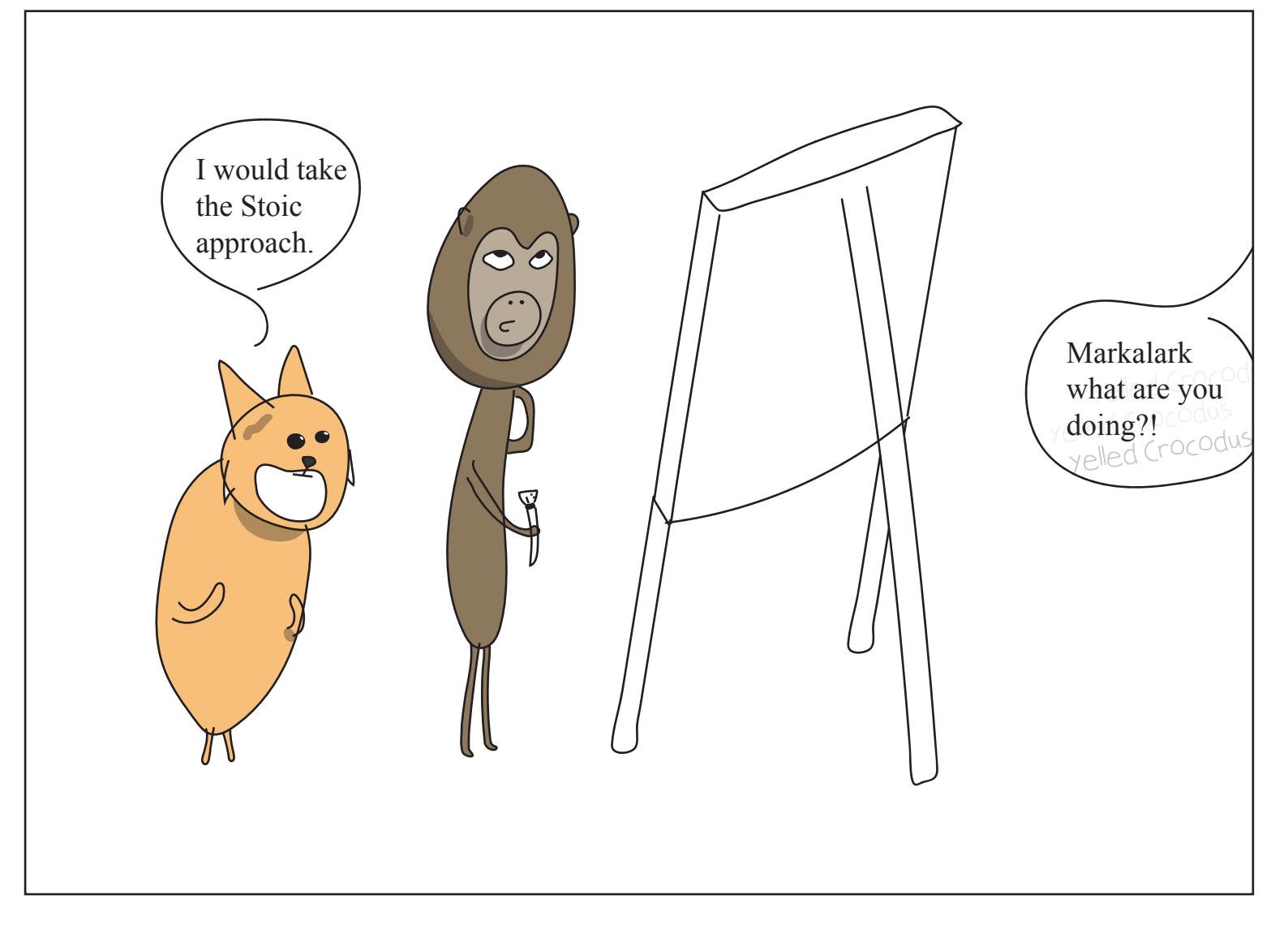
It is not easy to not be offended by someone so unpleasant.



Of course not. And worse still, there are many more fools than Crocodus.

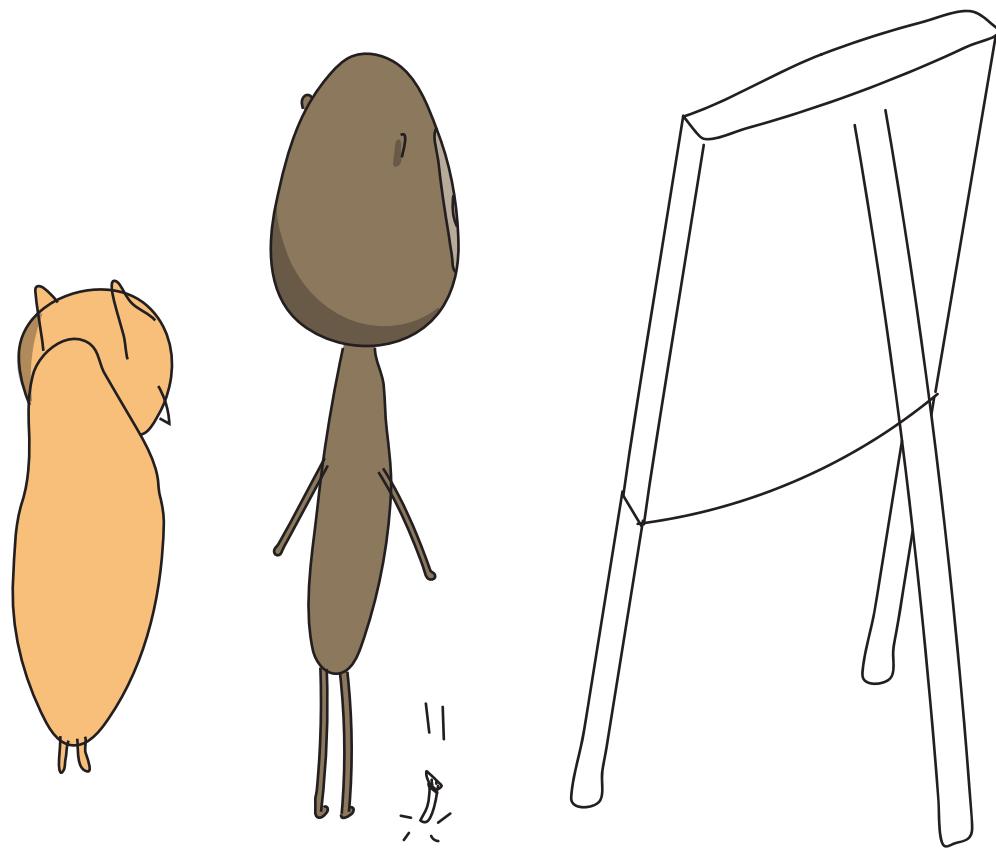
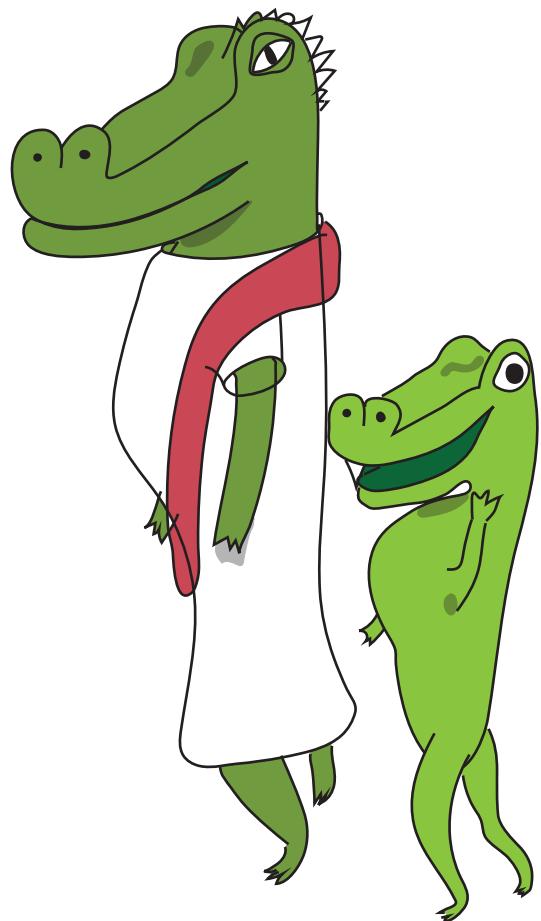
How would you deal with her?

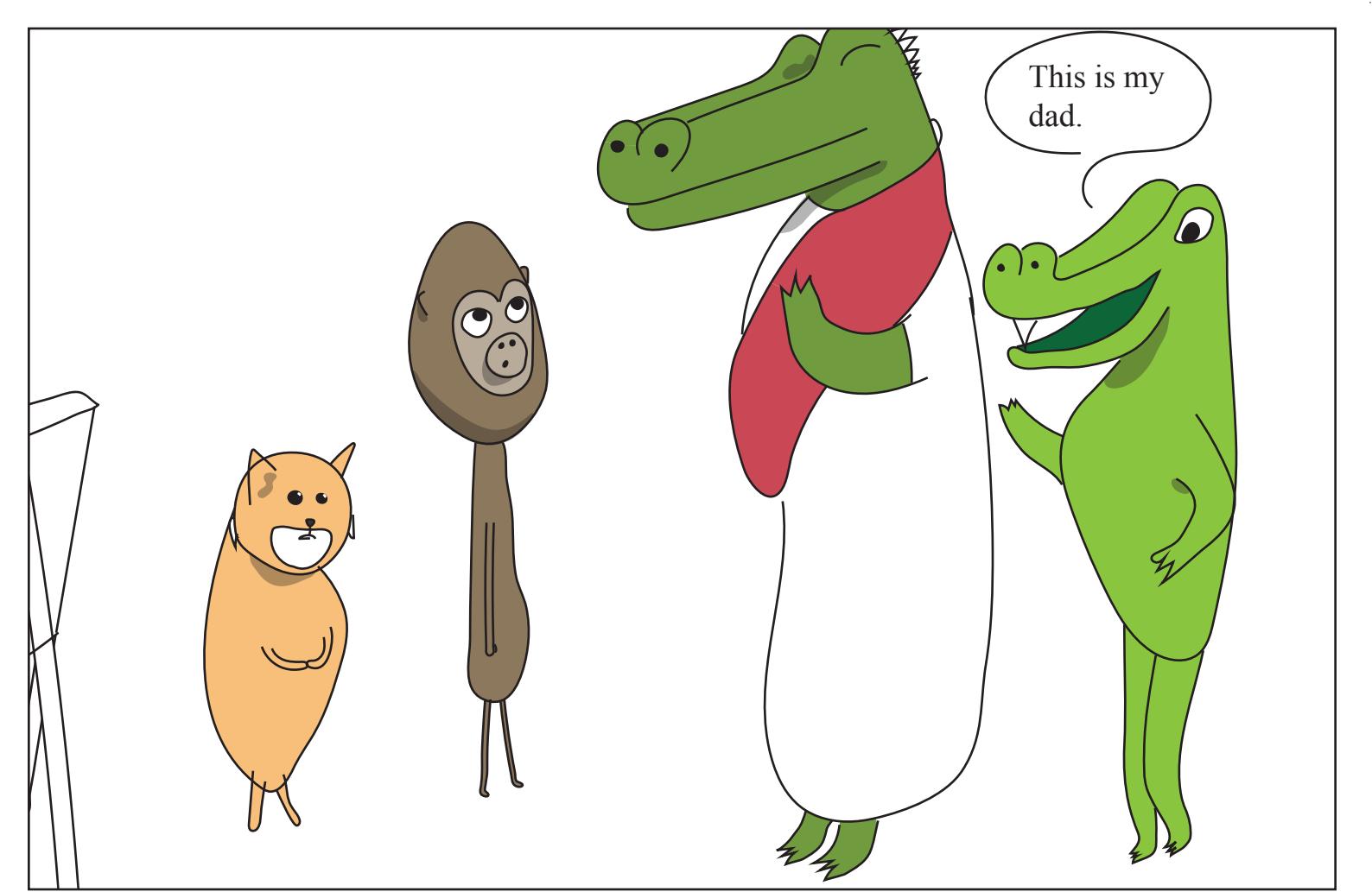
asked Marcus  
asked Marcus



I would take the Stoic approach.

Markalark what are you doing?!  
yelled Crocodus  
yelled Crocodus

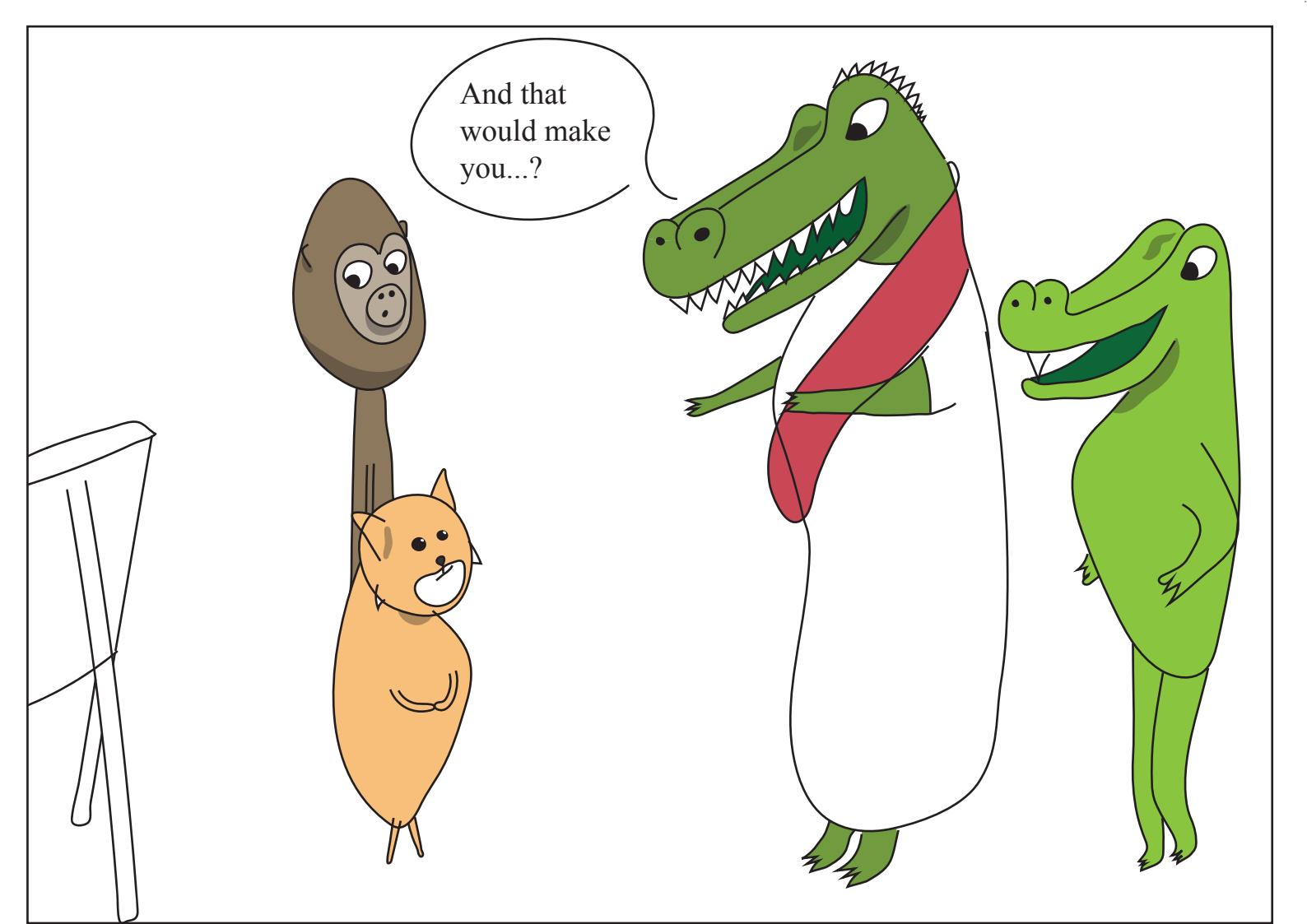




This is my dad.



Call me Saltus.  
Your father has  
told me all about  
you Marcus.



And that  
would make  
you...?

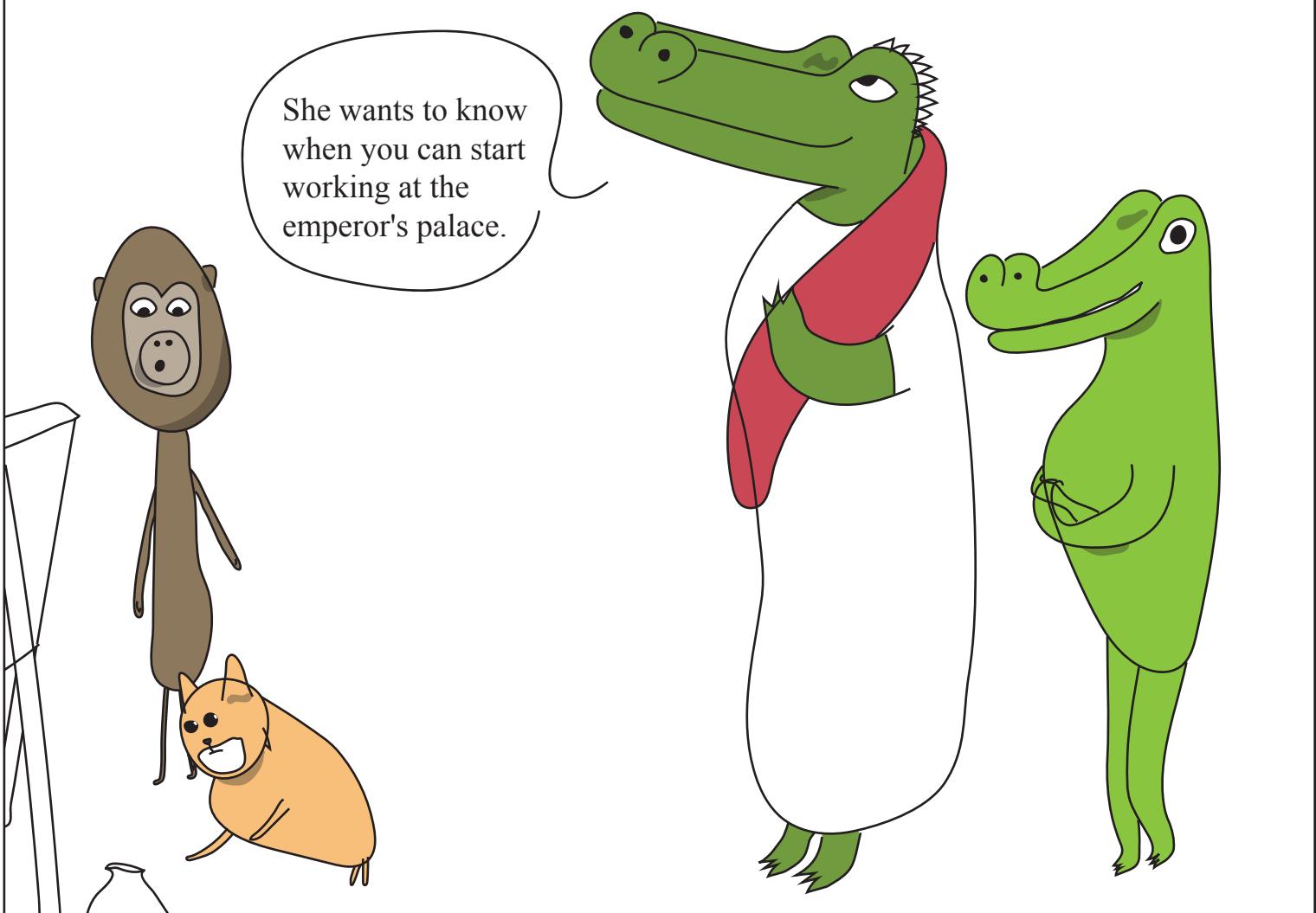
said Crocodus.  
Poop face.  
said Crocodus.

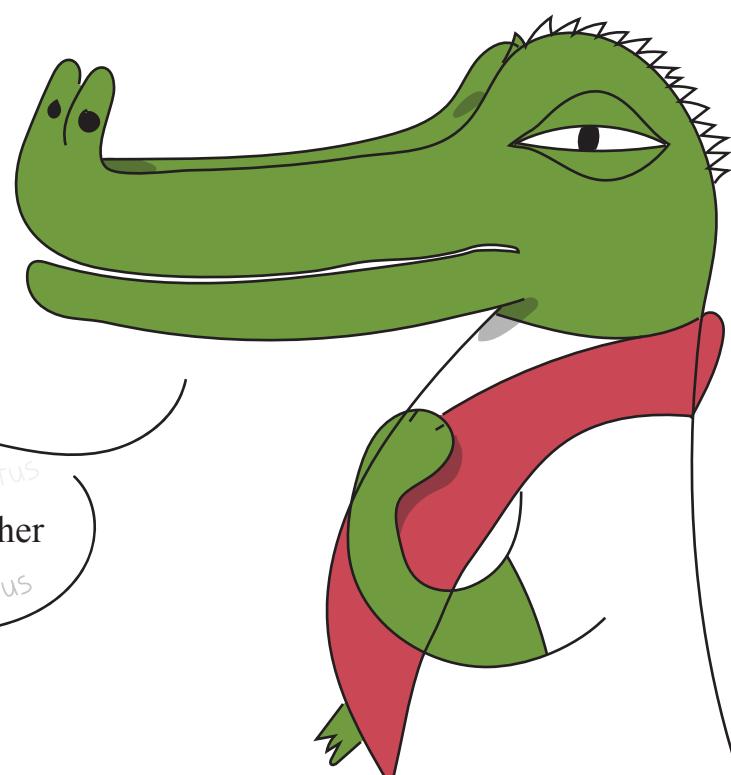
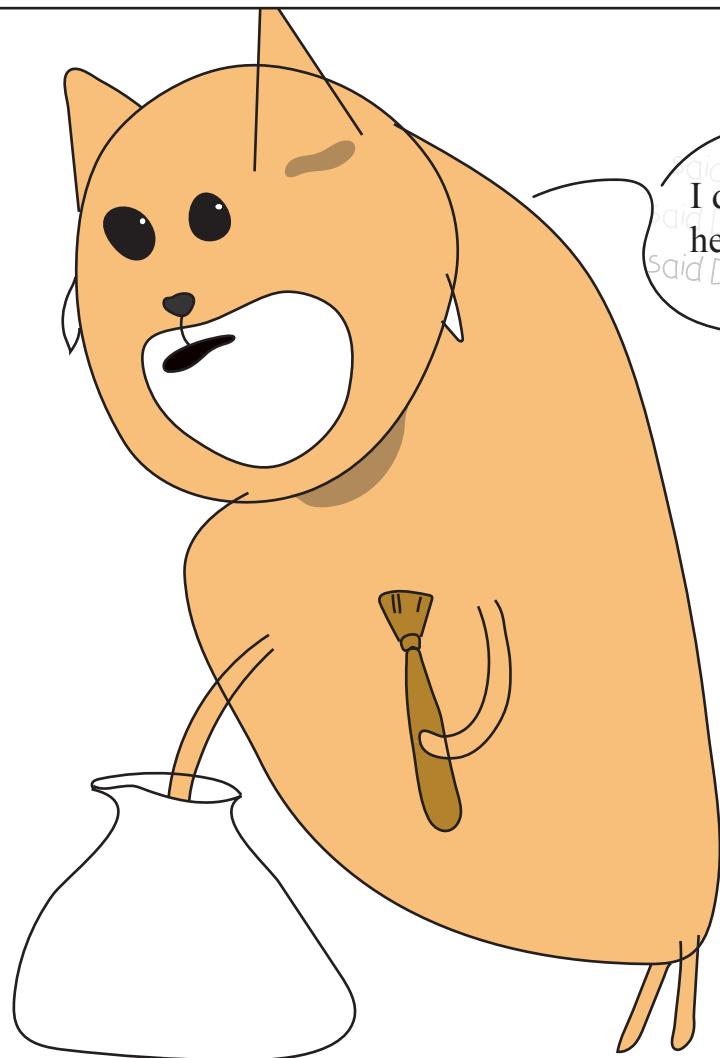
Close.  
Dogneetus.

I thought so. Actually,  
that is why  
Salamandus sent me  
today.



She wants to know  
when you can start  
working at the  
emperor's palace.



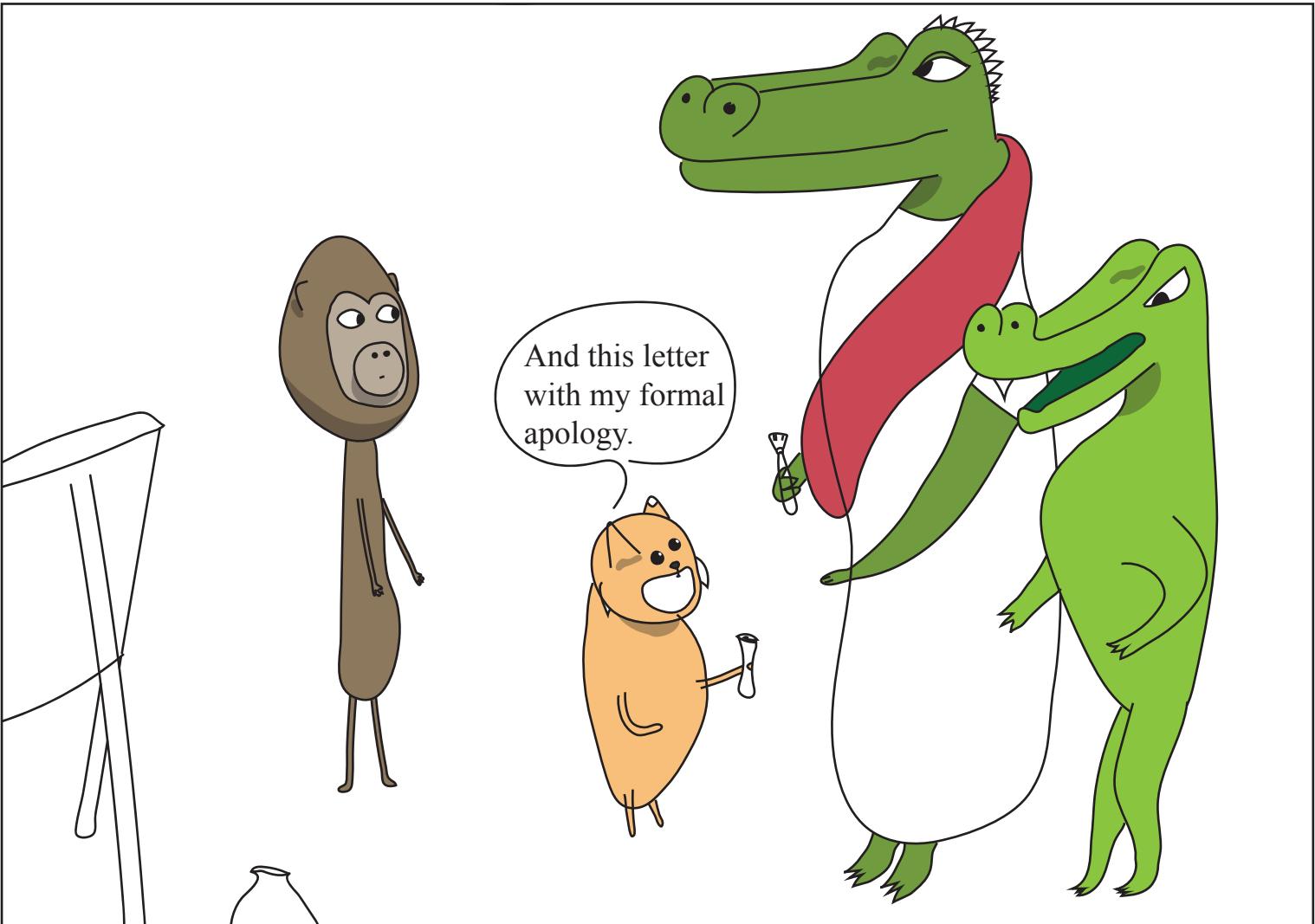


She would pay  
you generously.

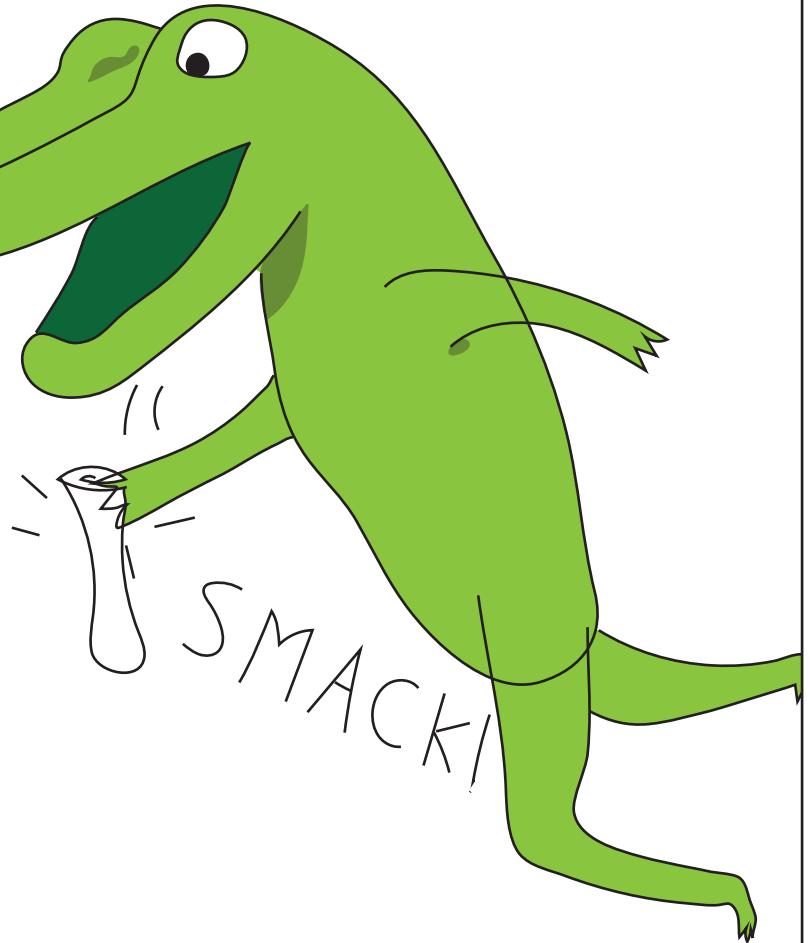
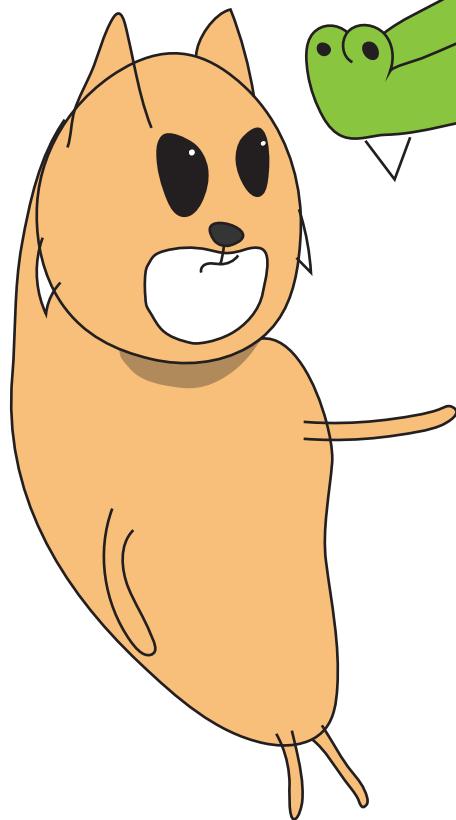
As much as I  
would like to, I  
cannot.

She would  
consider it a  
favor.

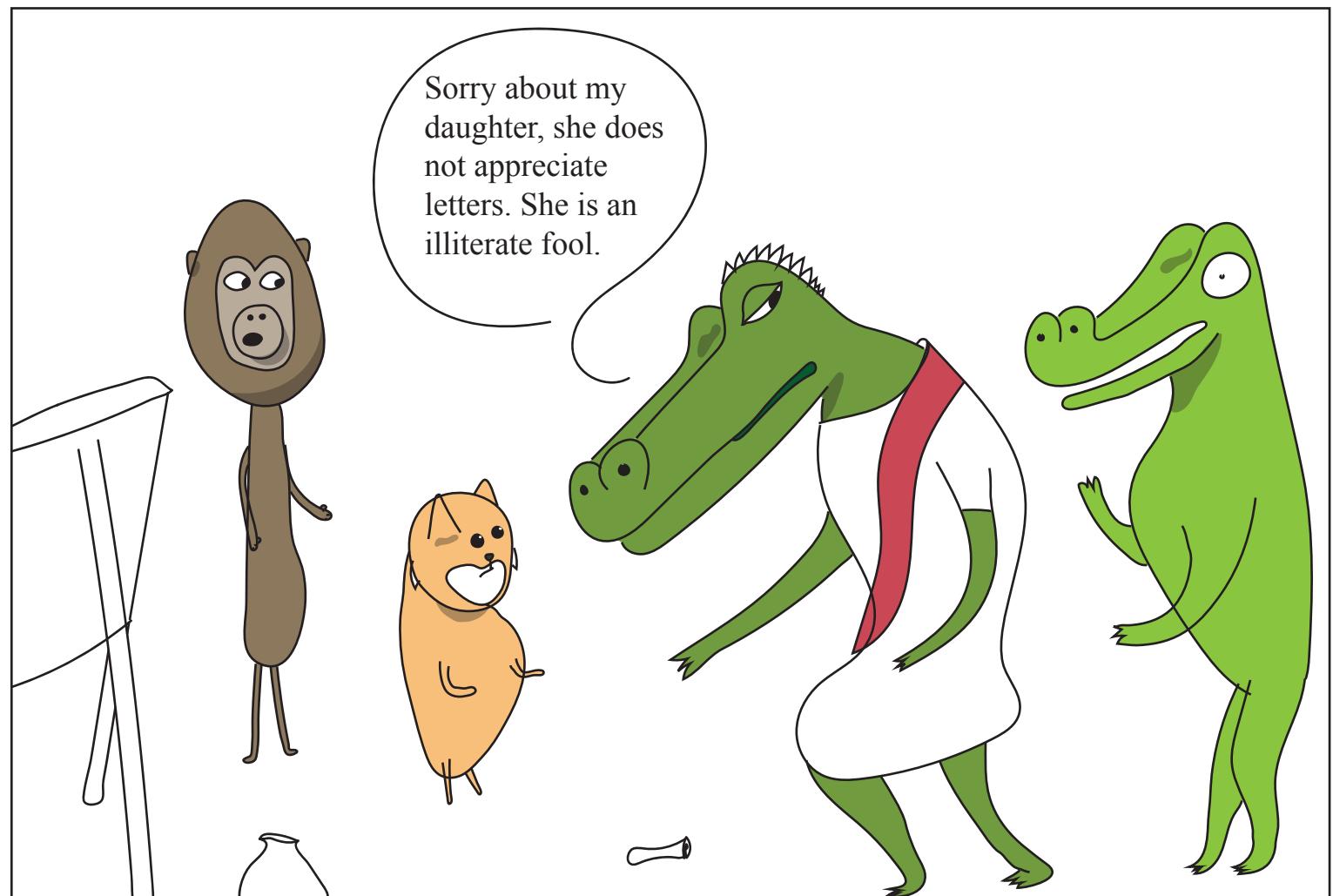
I am sorry.

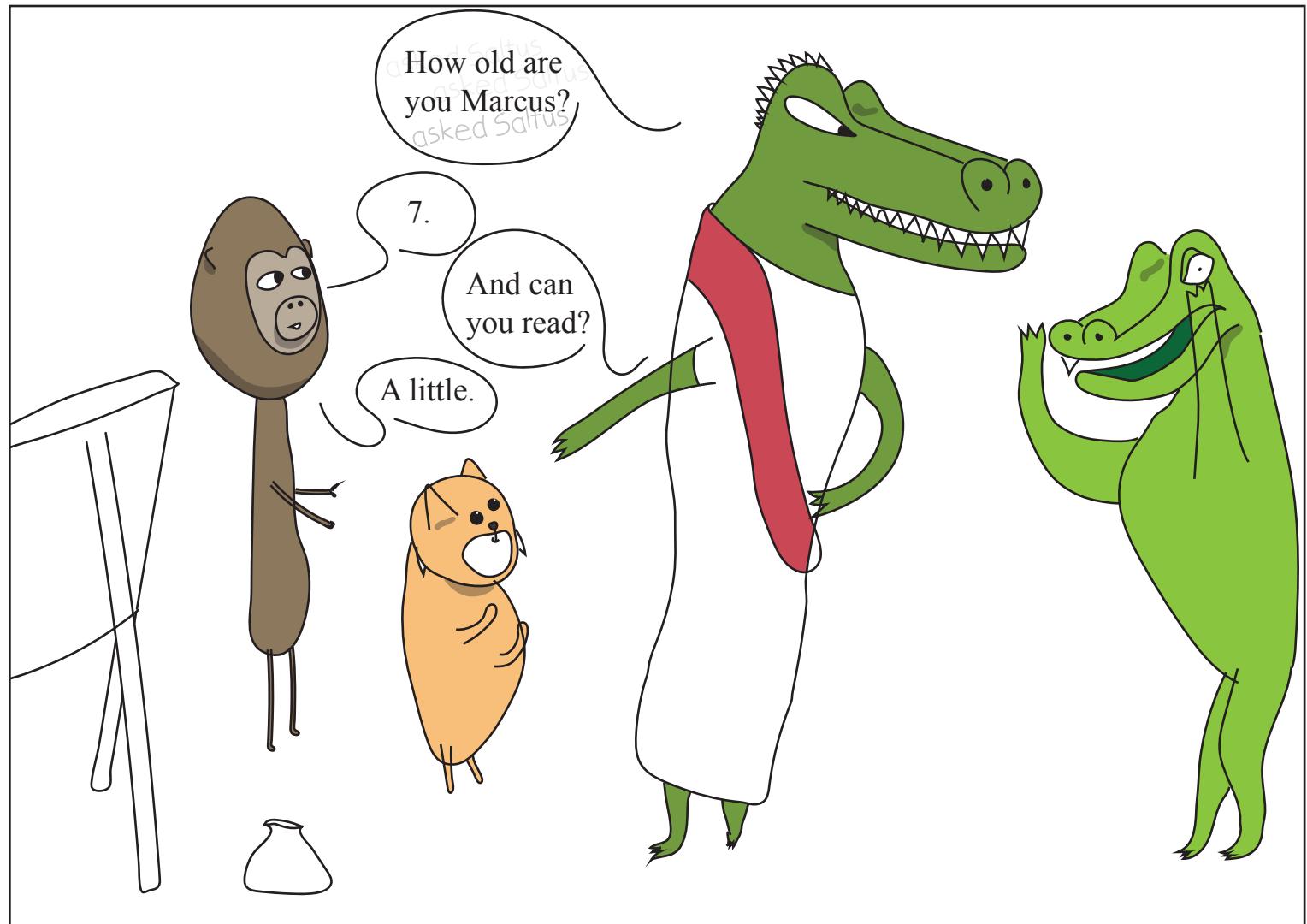
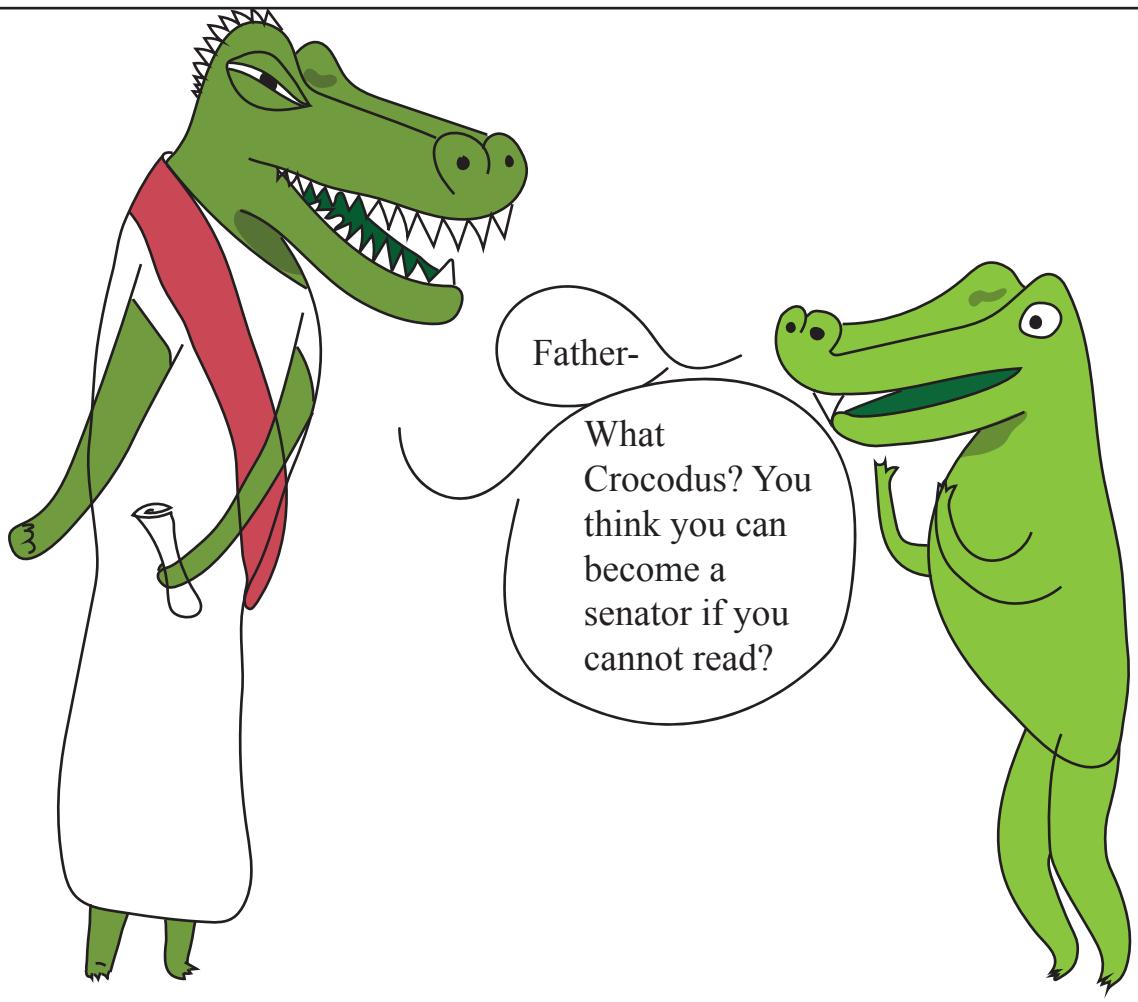


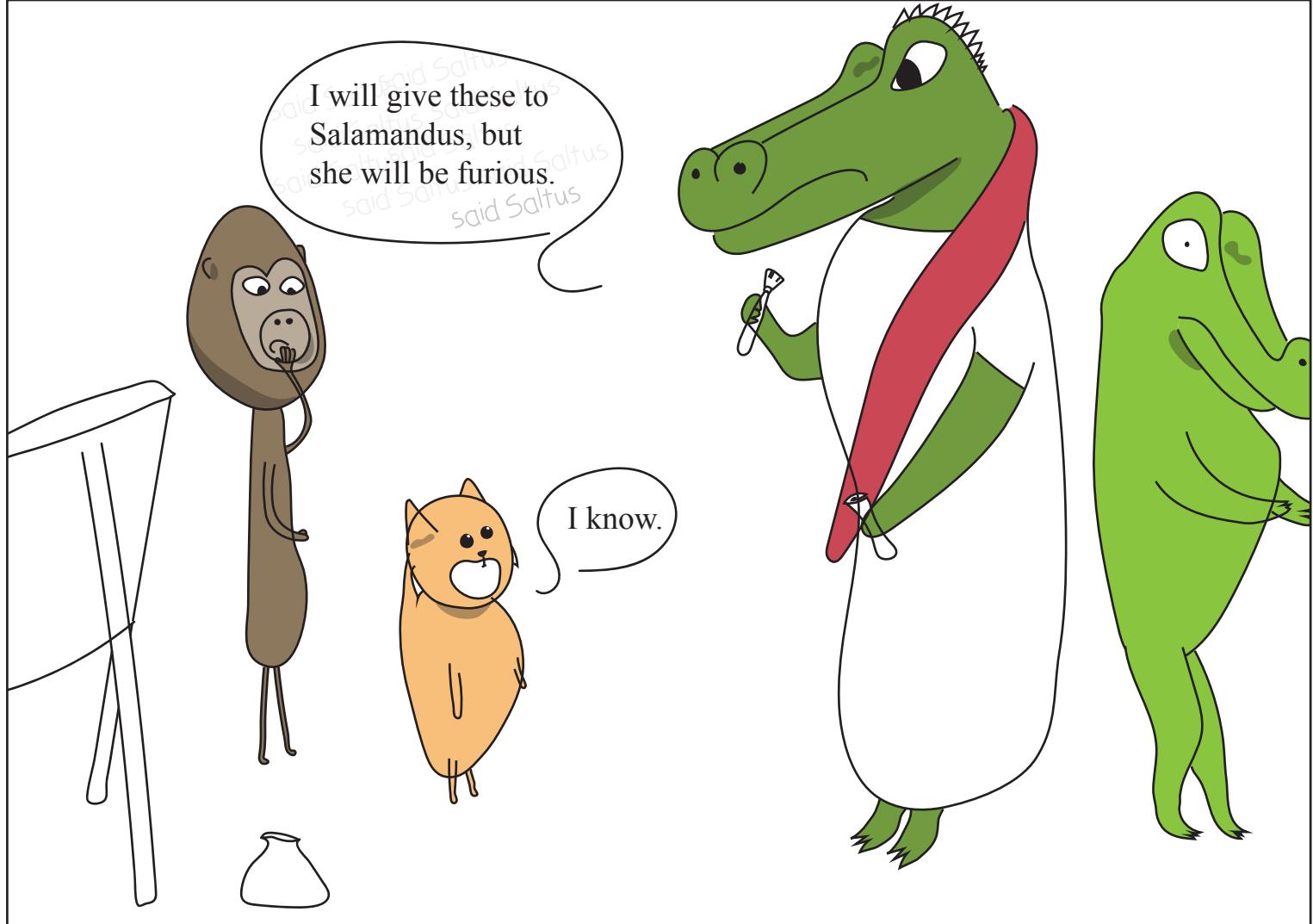
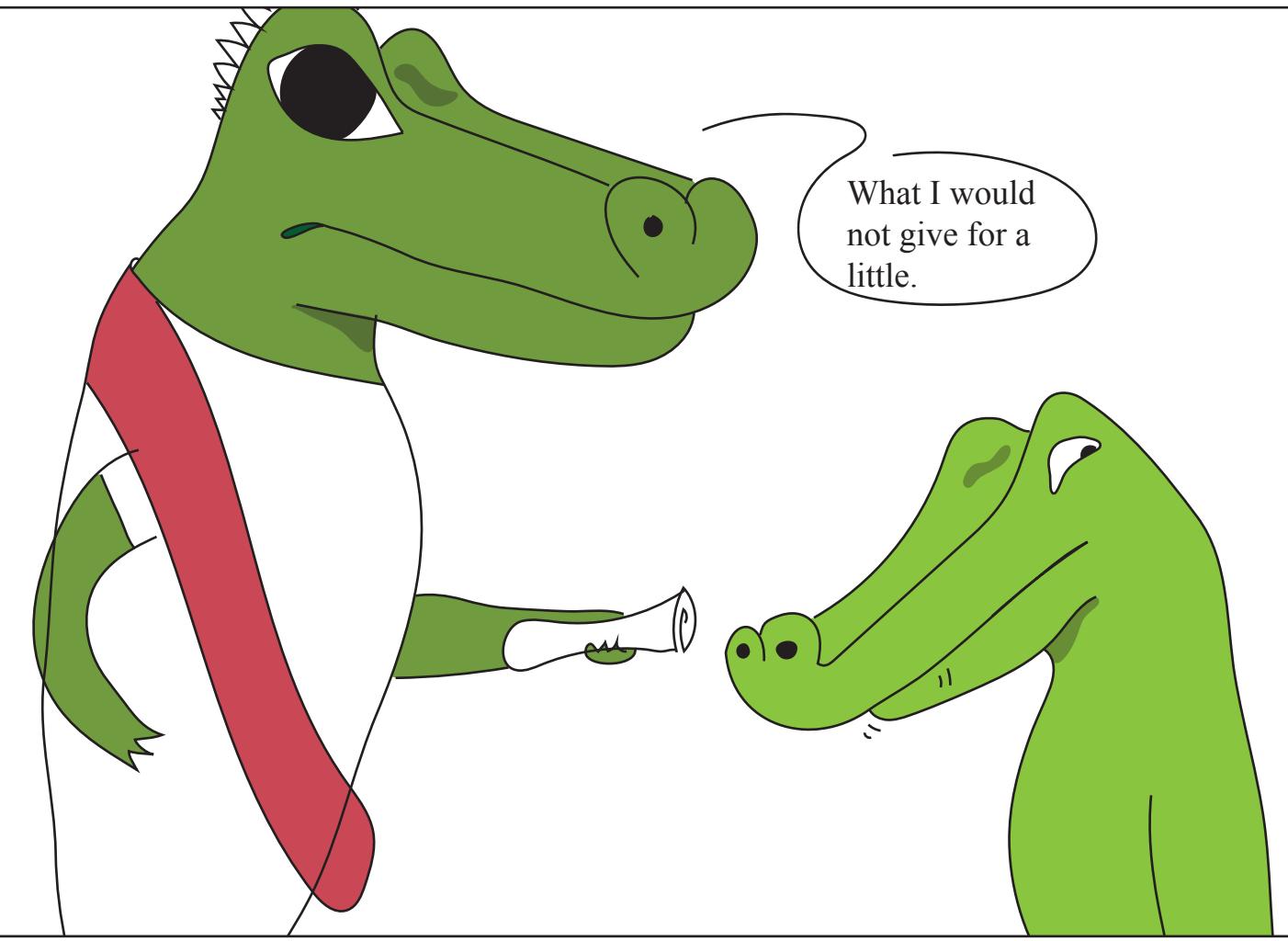
Give it back  
yourself.  
snarled croc

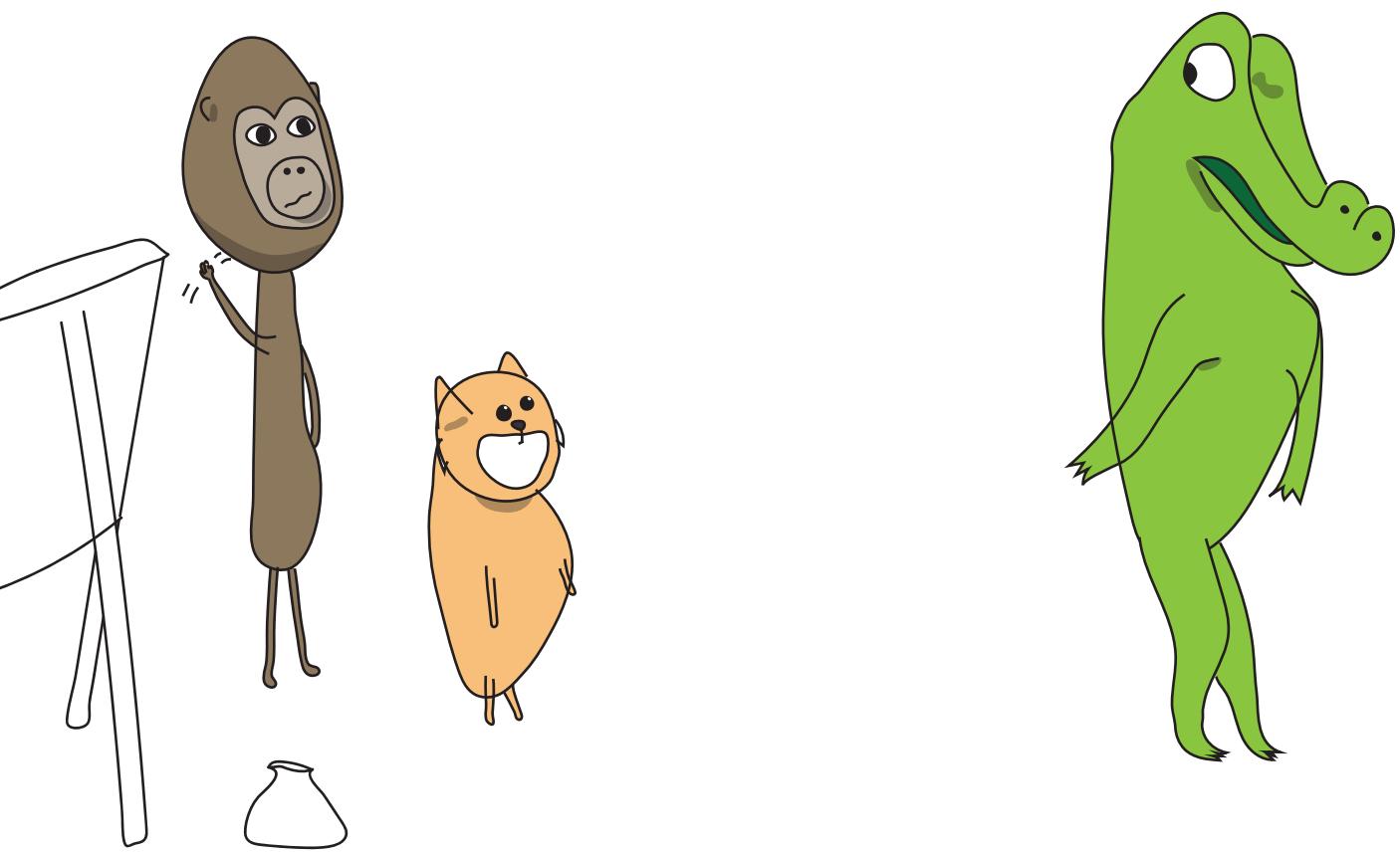


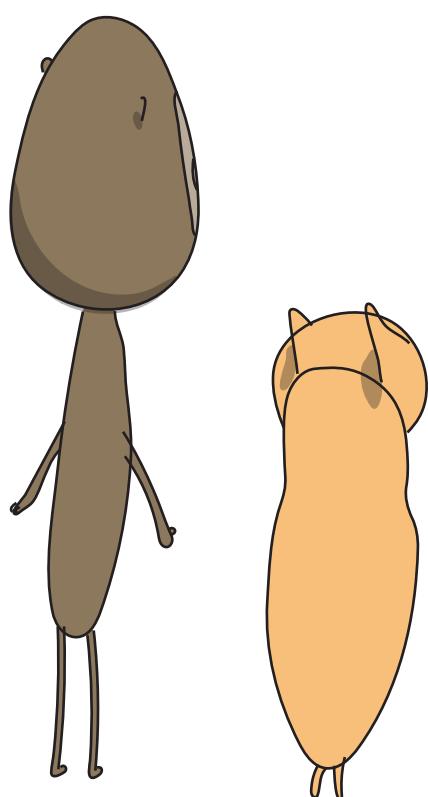
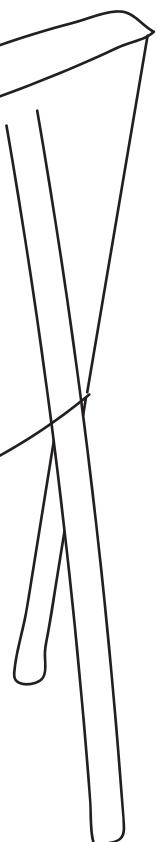
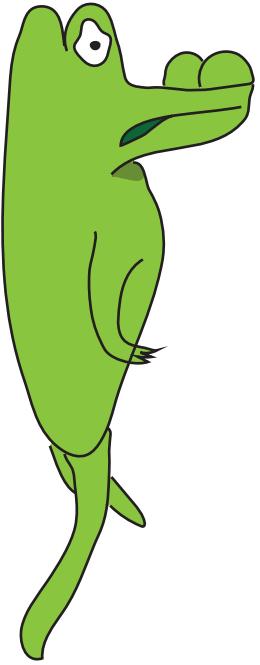
Sorry about my  
daughter, she does  
not appreciate  
letters. She is an  
illiterate fool.





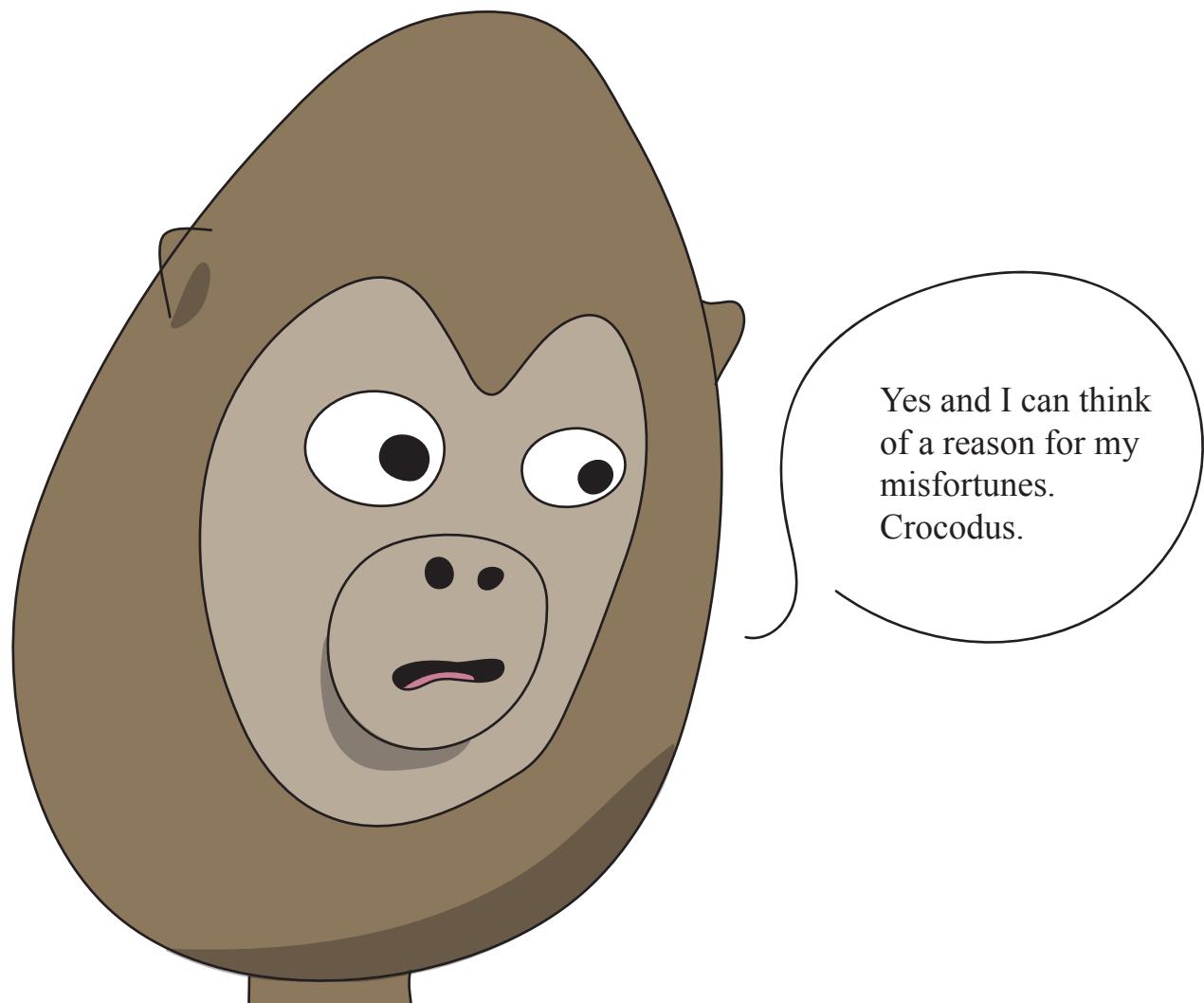
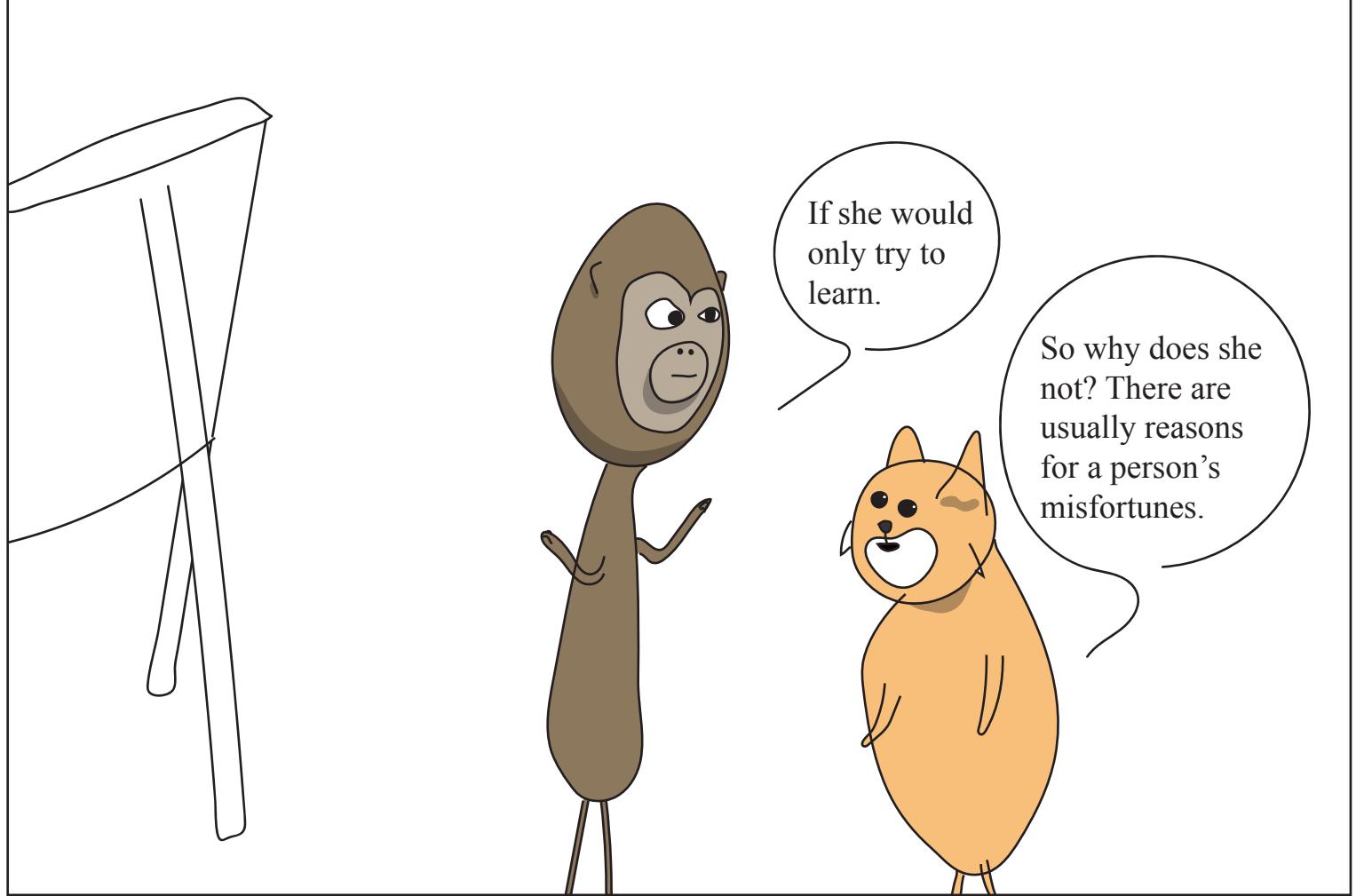


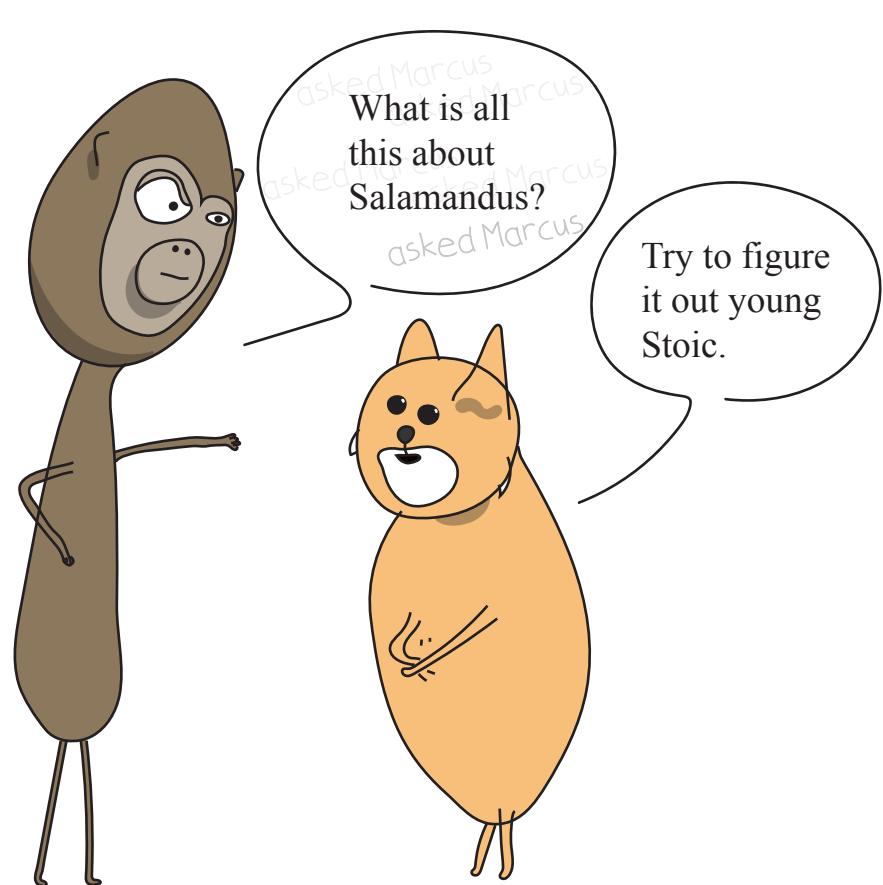
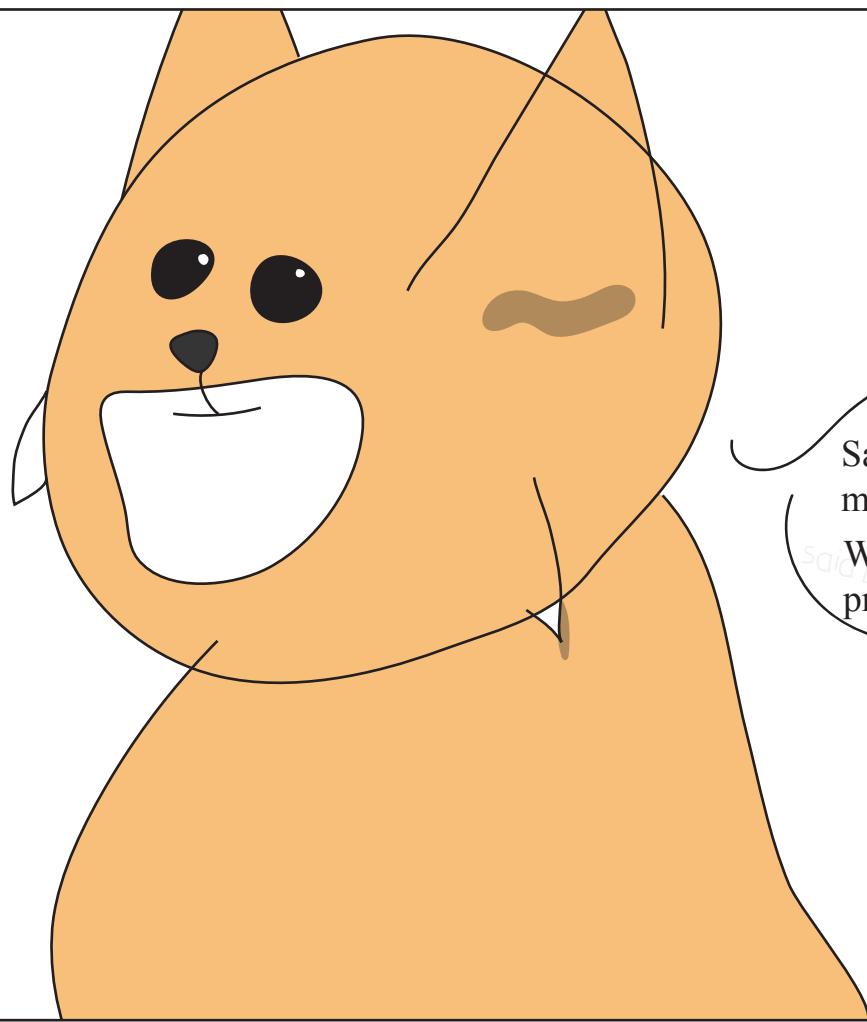


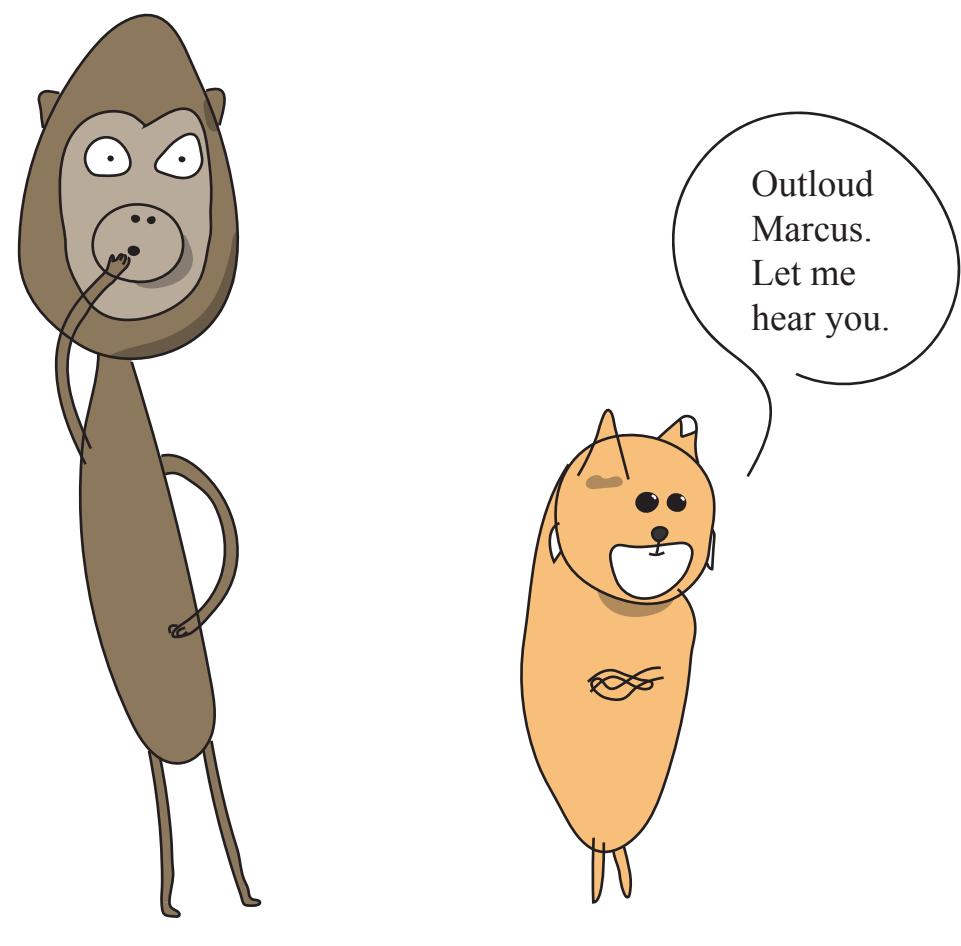
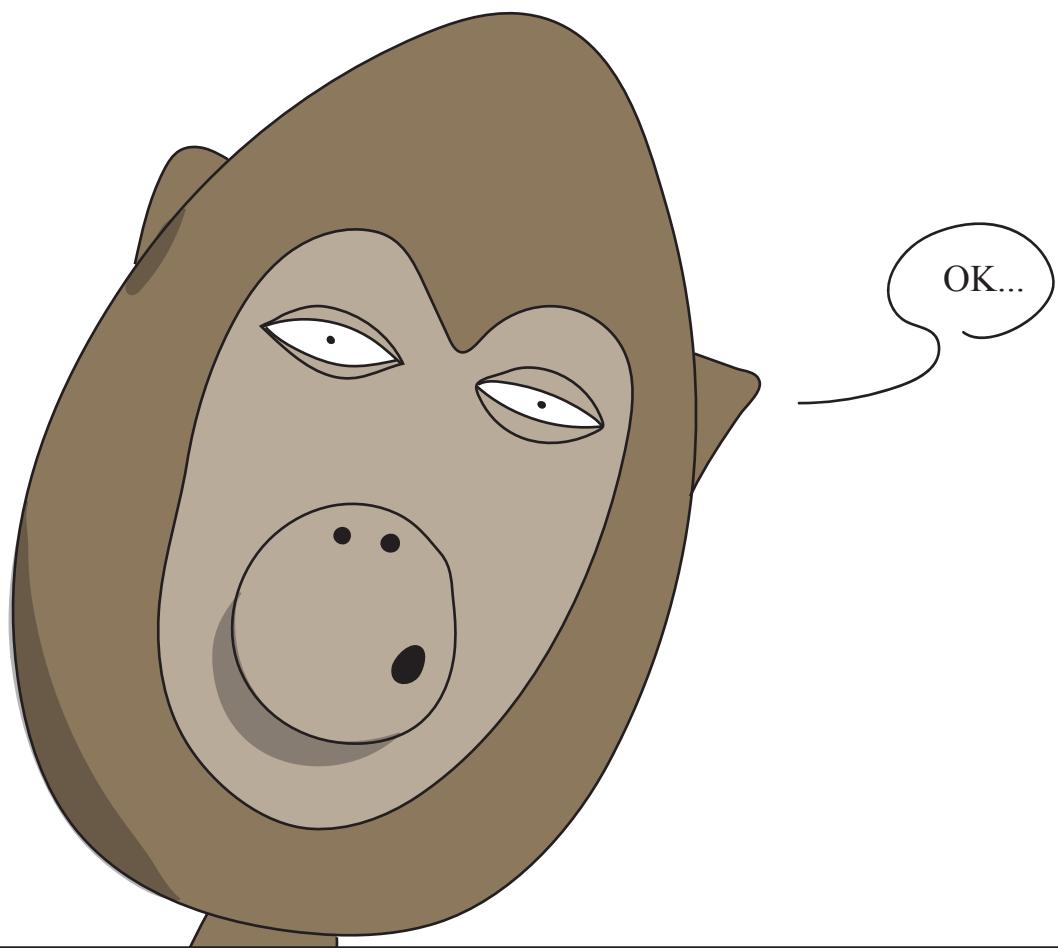


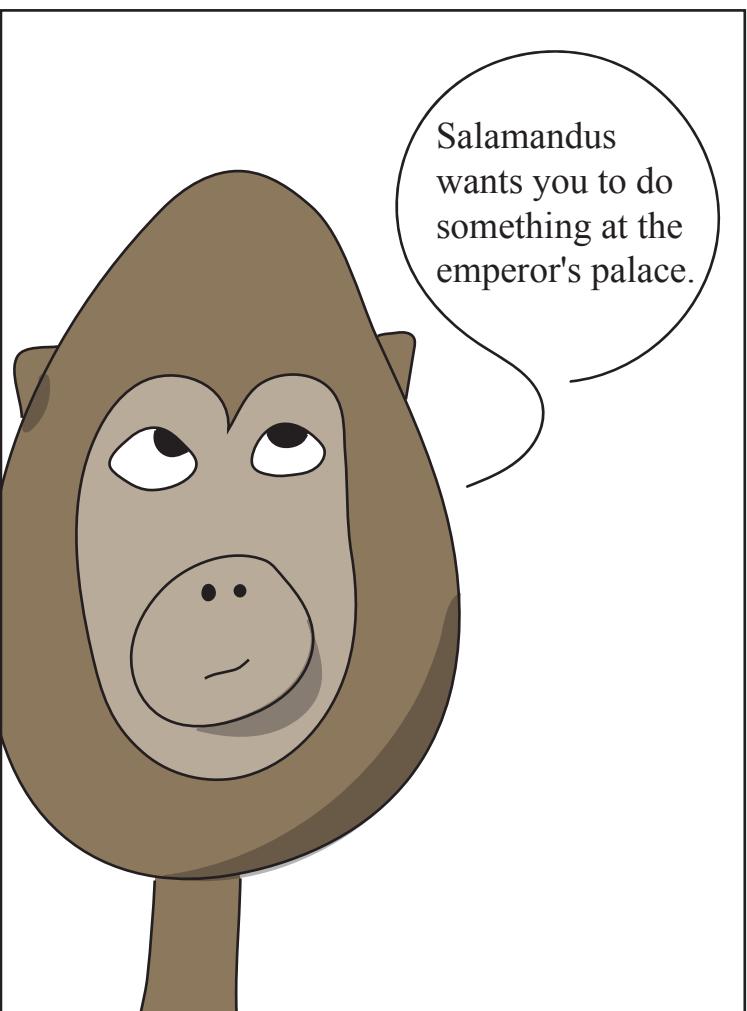
Life is hard for  
animals like  
**Crocodus**

*said Dogheetus*

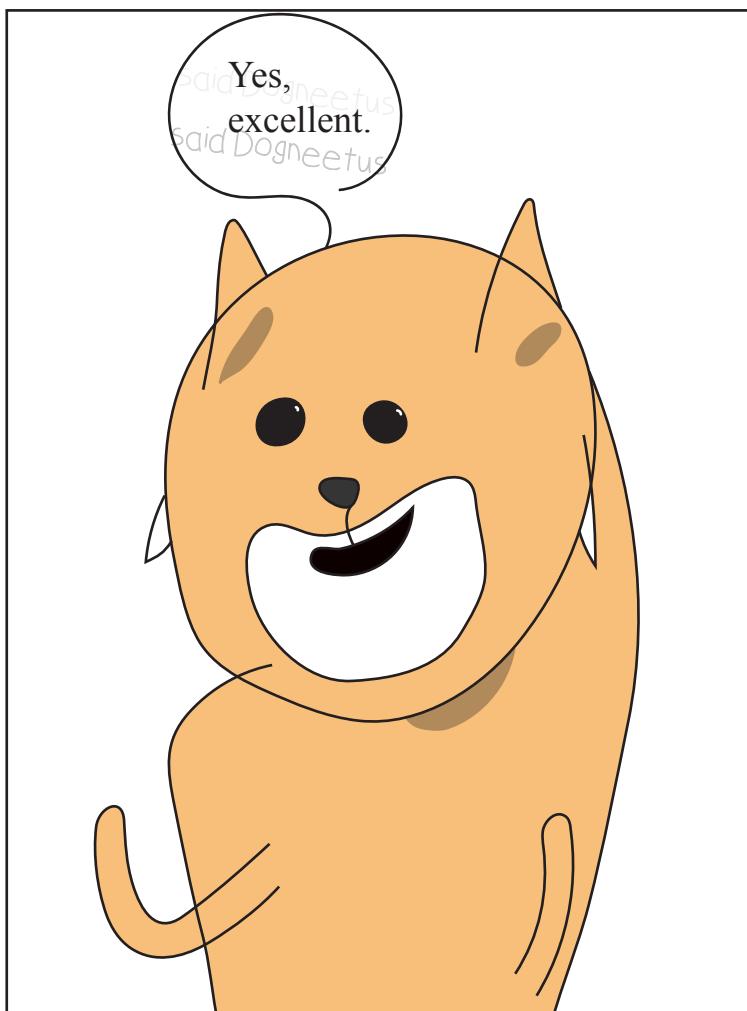




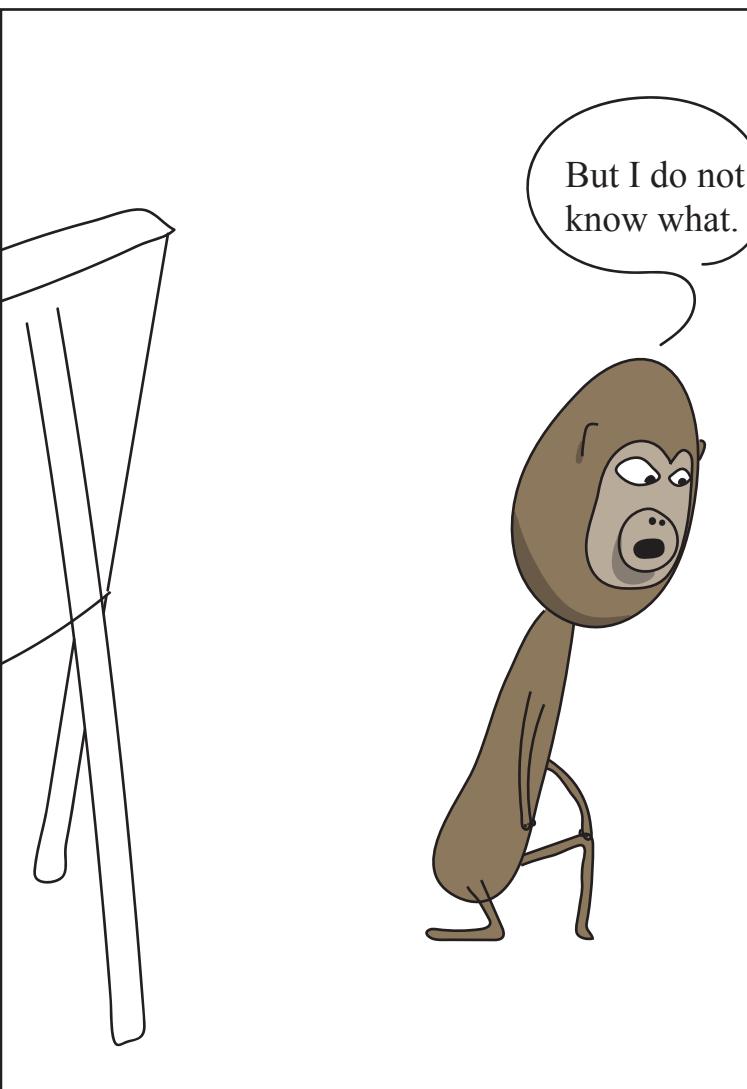




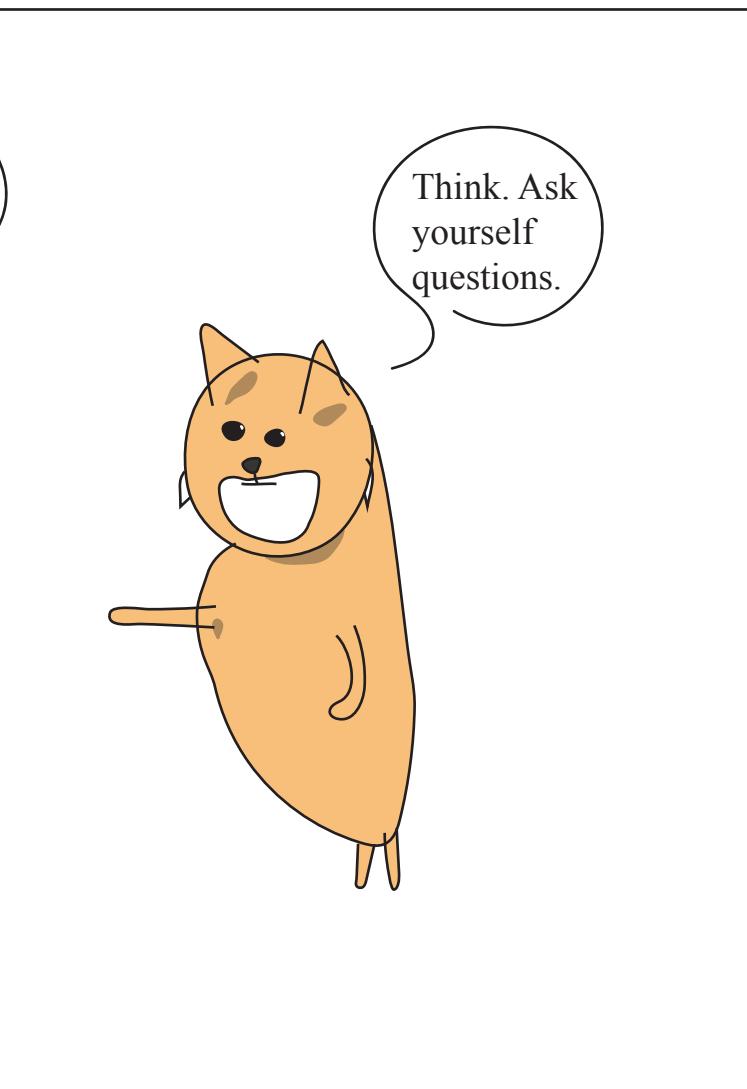
Salamandus  
wants you to do  
something at the  
emperor's palace.



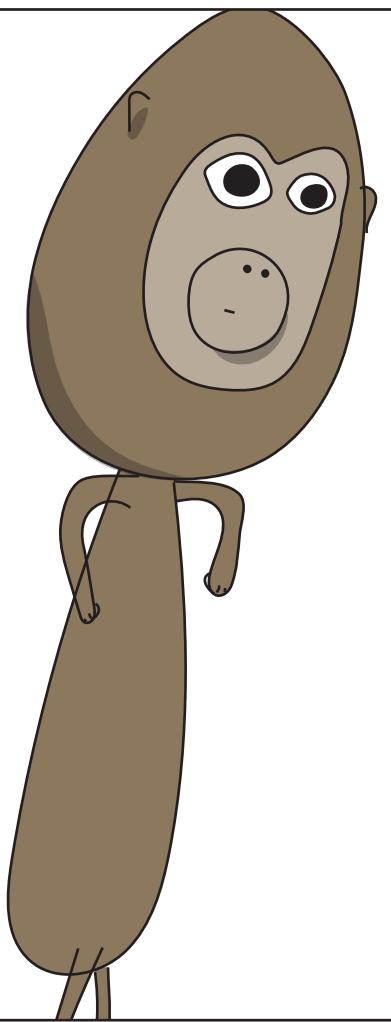
Yes,  
excellent.  
said Dogneetus



But I do not  
know what.



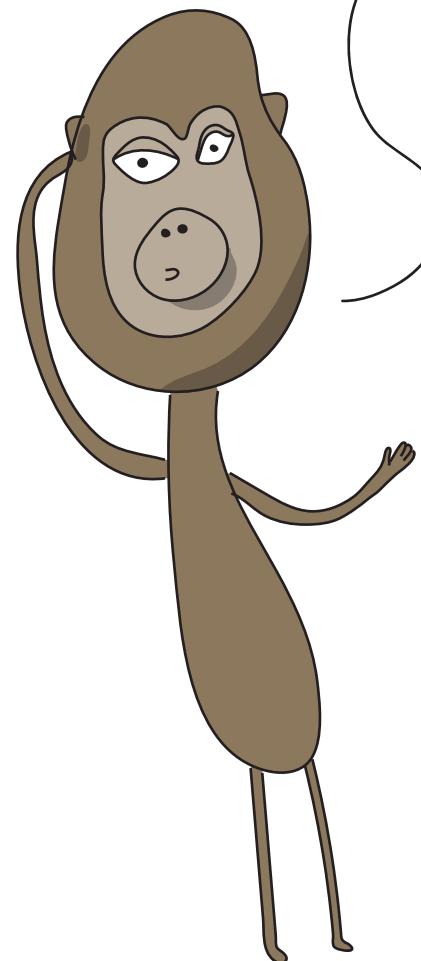
Think. Ask  
yourself  
questions.



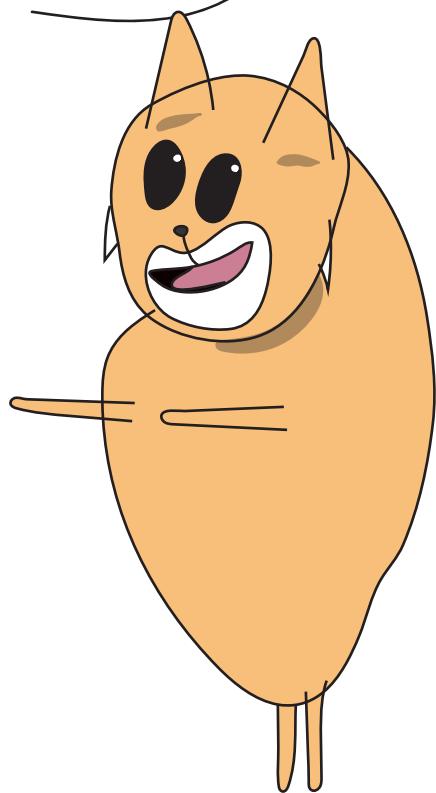
Maybe it has  
something to do with  
why you are famous?  
*said Marcus*



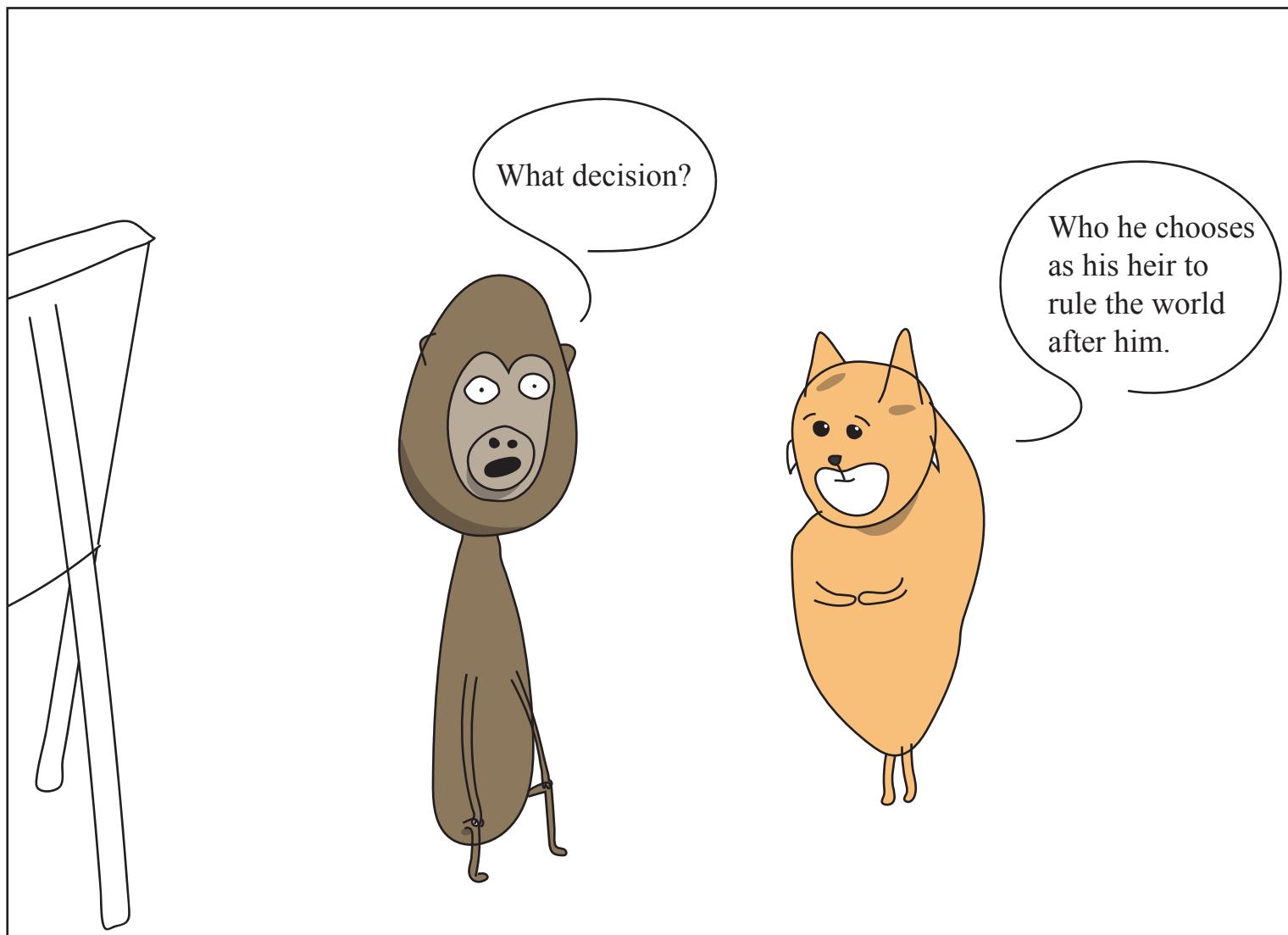
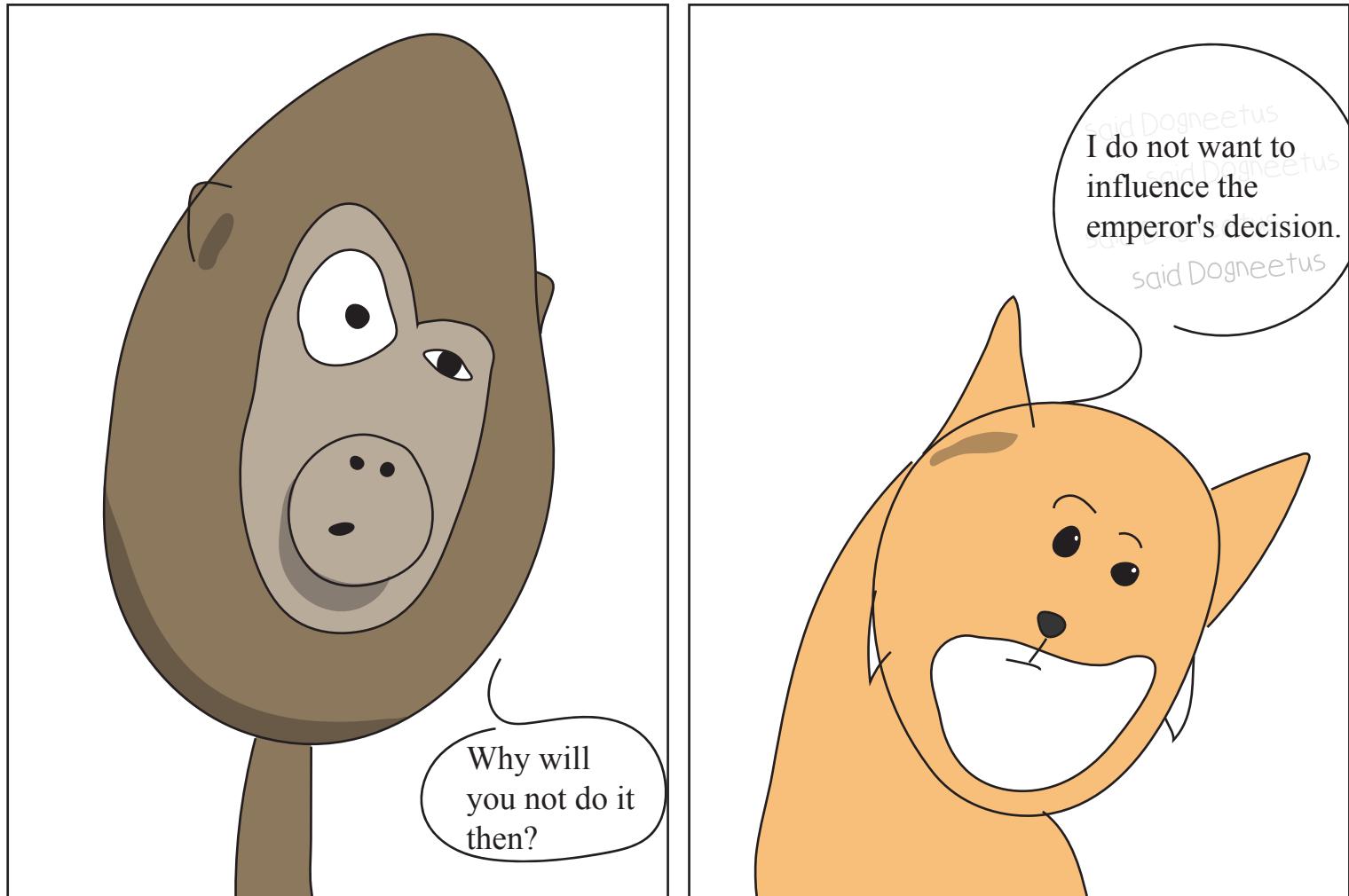
*It does.*

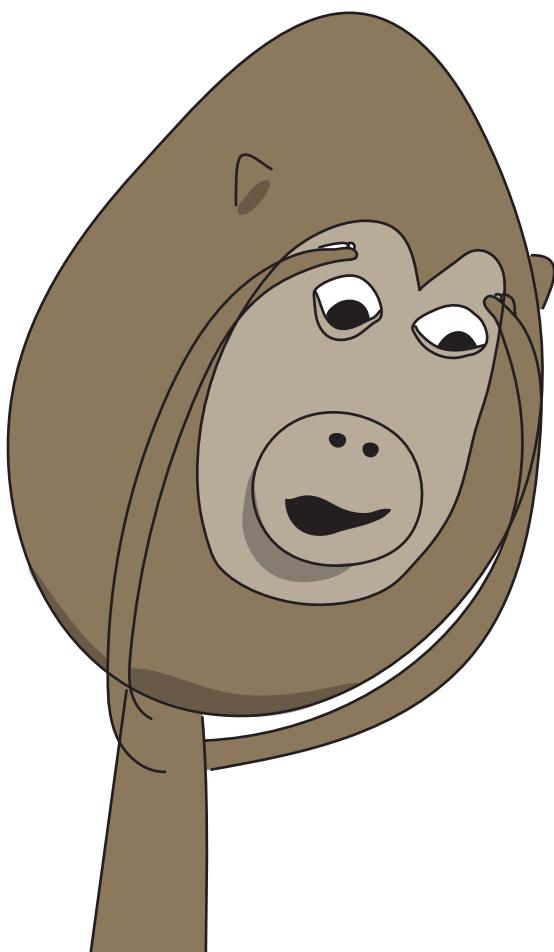


She wants you to  
paint a fresco in  
the emperor's  
palace.



That is correct.  
A giant fresco  
in the main  
hall.

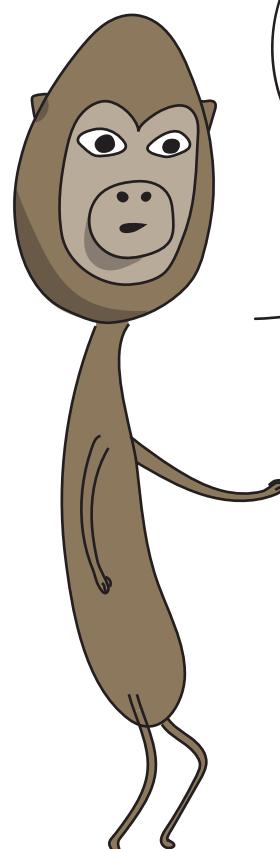




Salamandus wants you to paint a fresco so that the emperor will choose her as the heir.



That is essentially it.



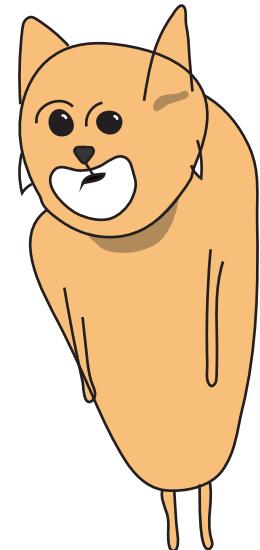
If you helped Salamandus become the emperor, would that not be good for you?

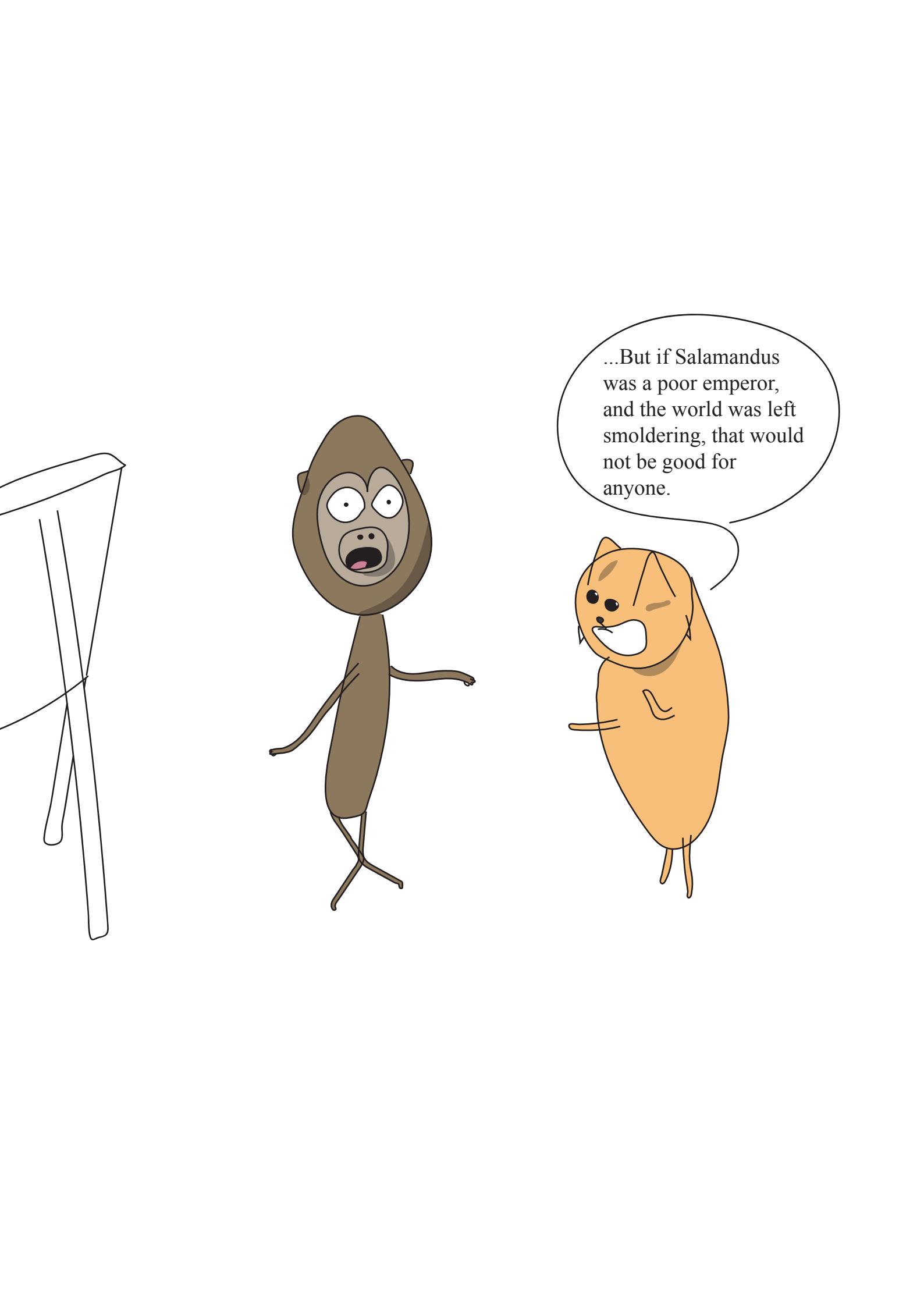
asked Marcus

asked Marcus

asked Marcus

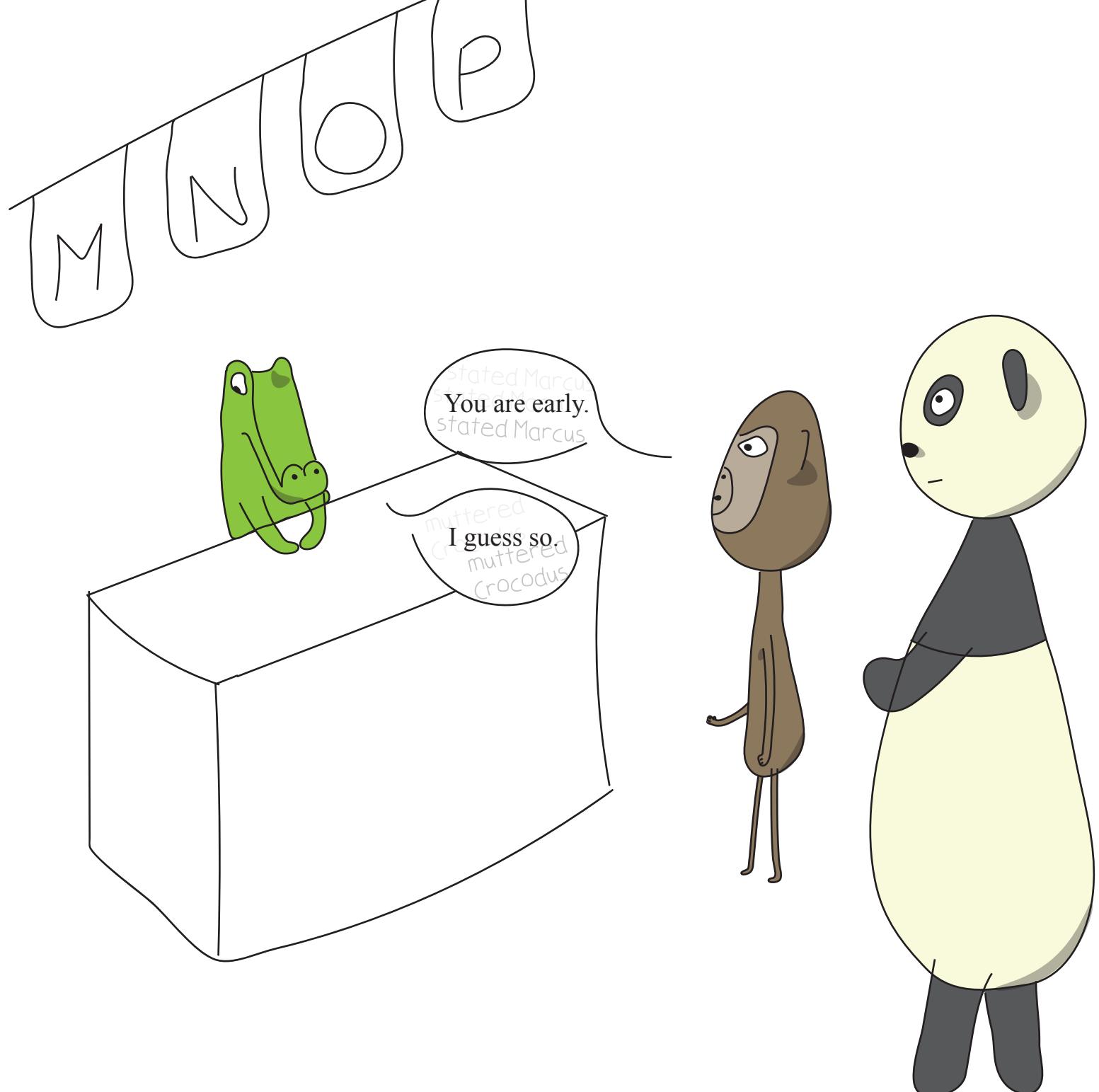
Maybe.



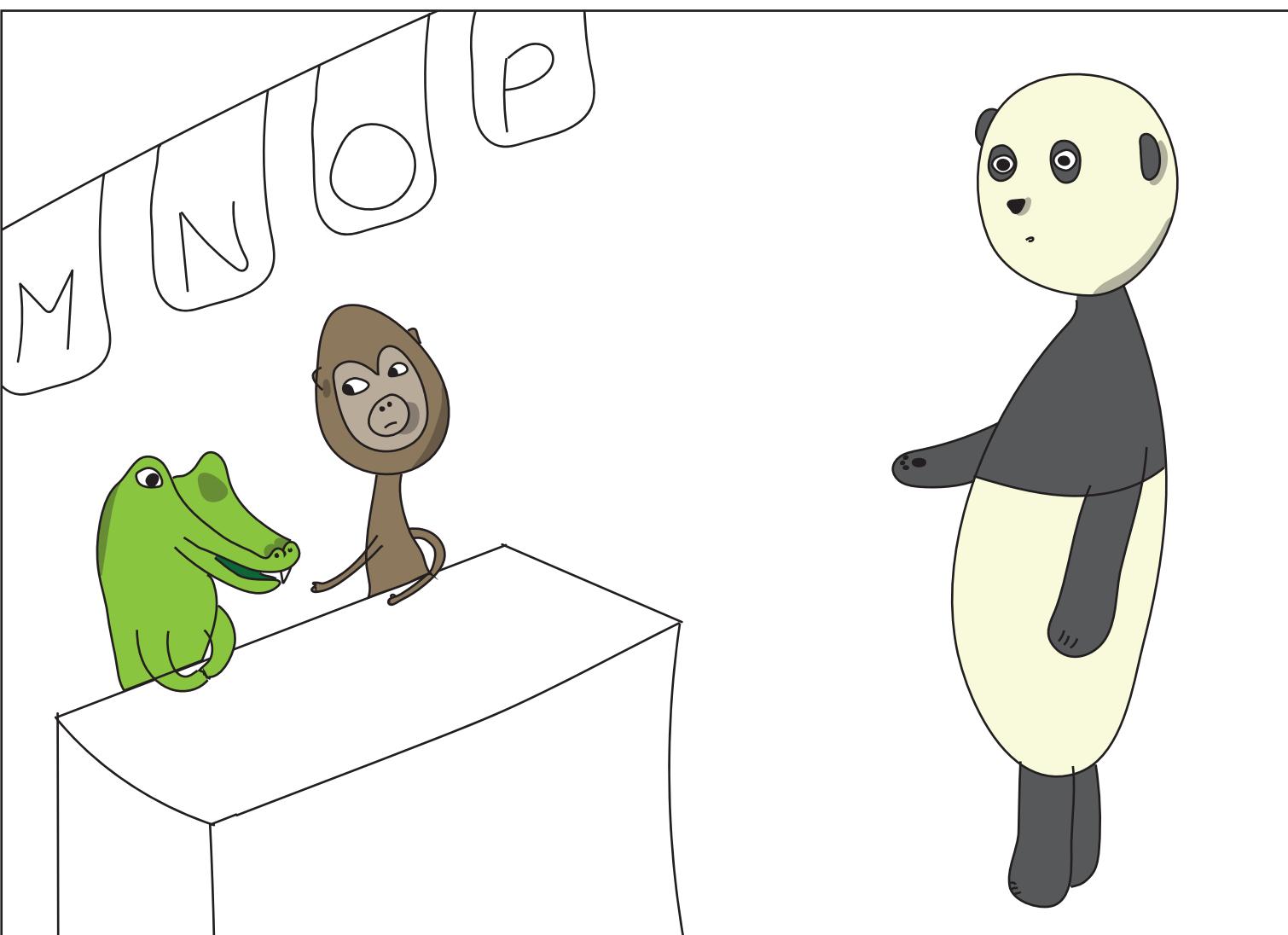
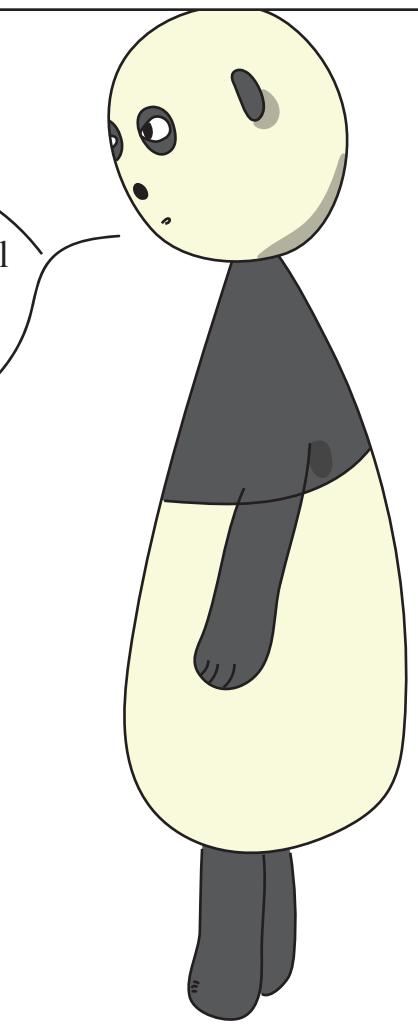


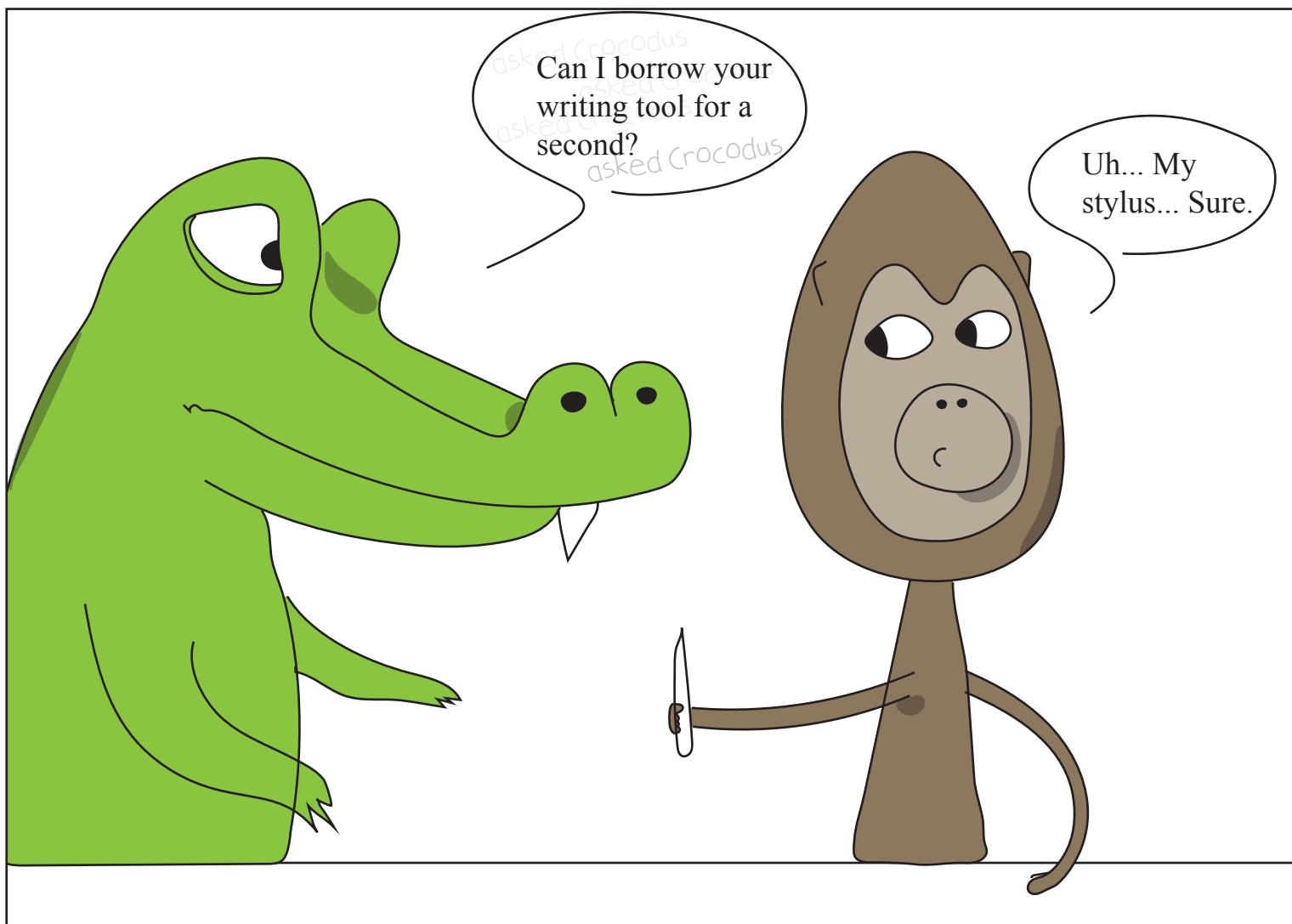
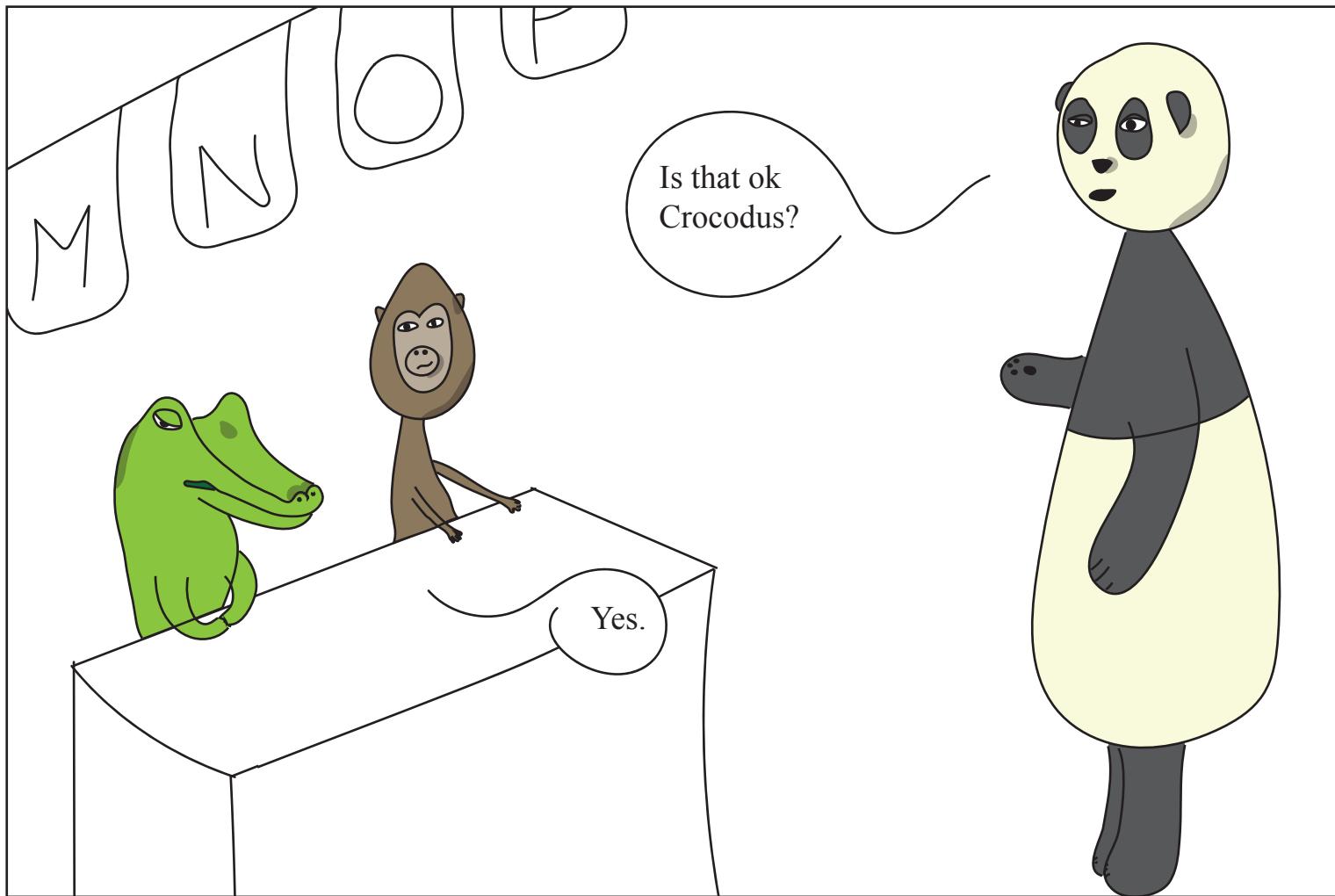
...But if Salamandus  
was a poor emperor,  
and the world was left  
smoldering, that would  
not be good for  
anyone.

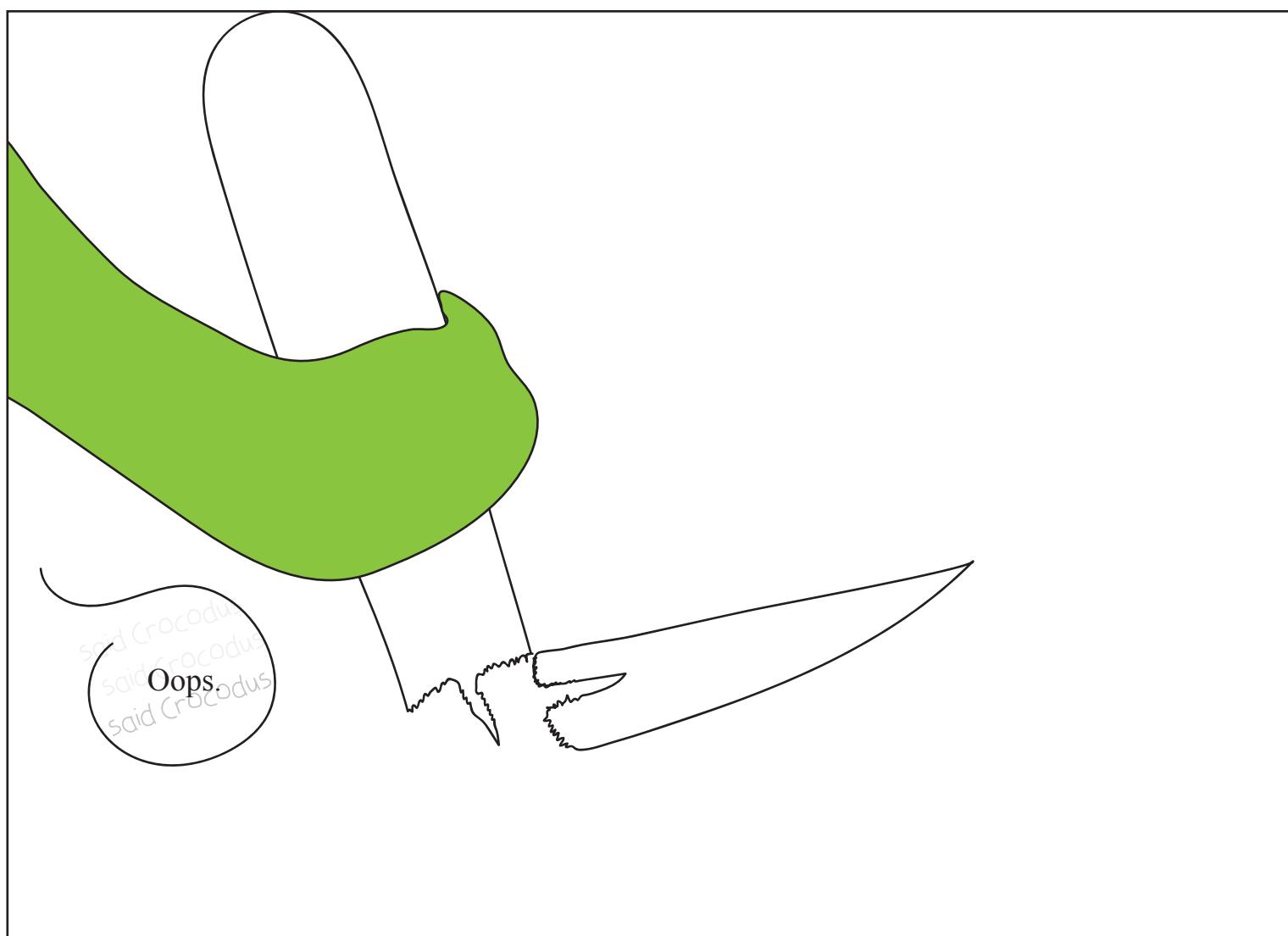
## Chapter 11 - The Emperor

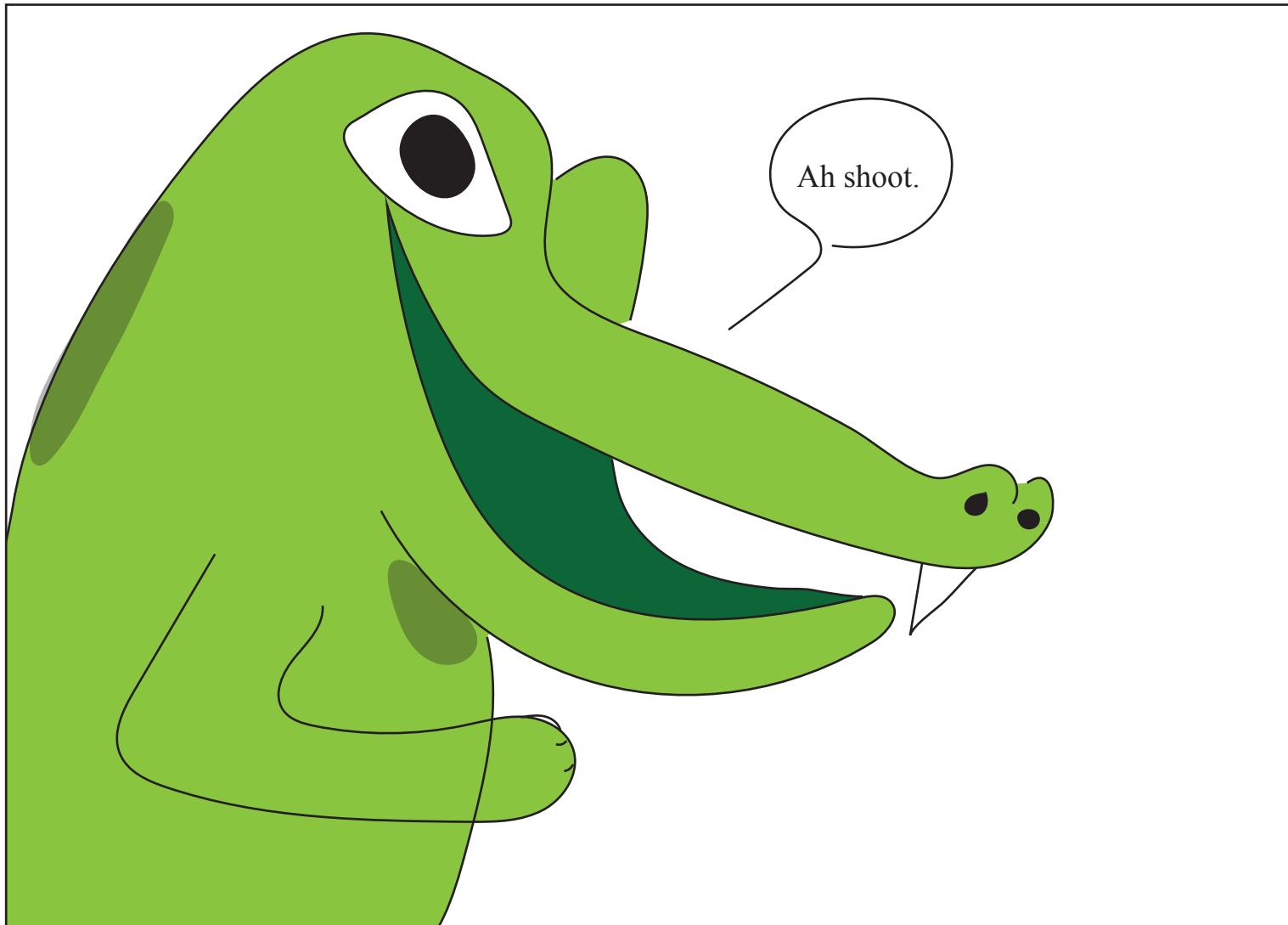


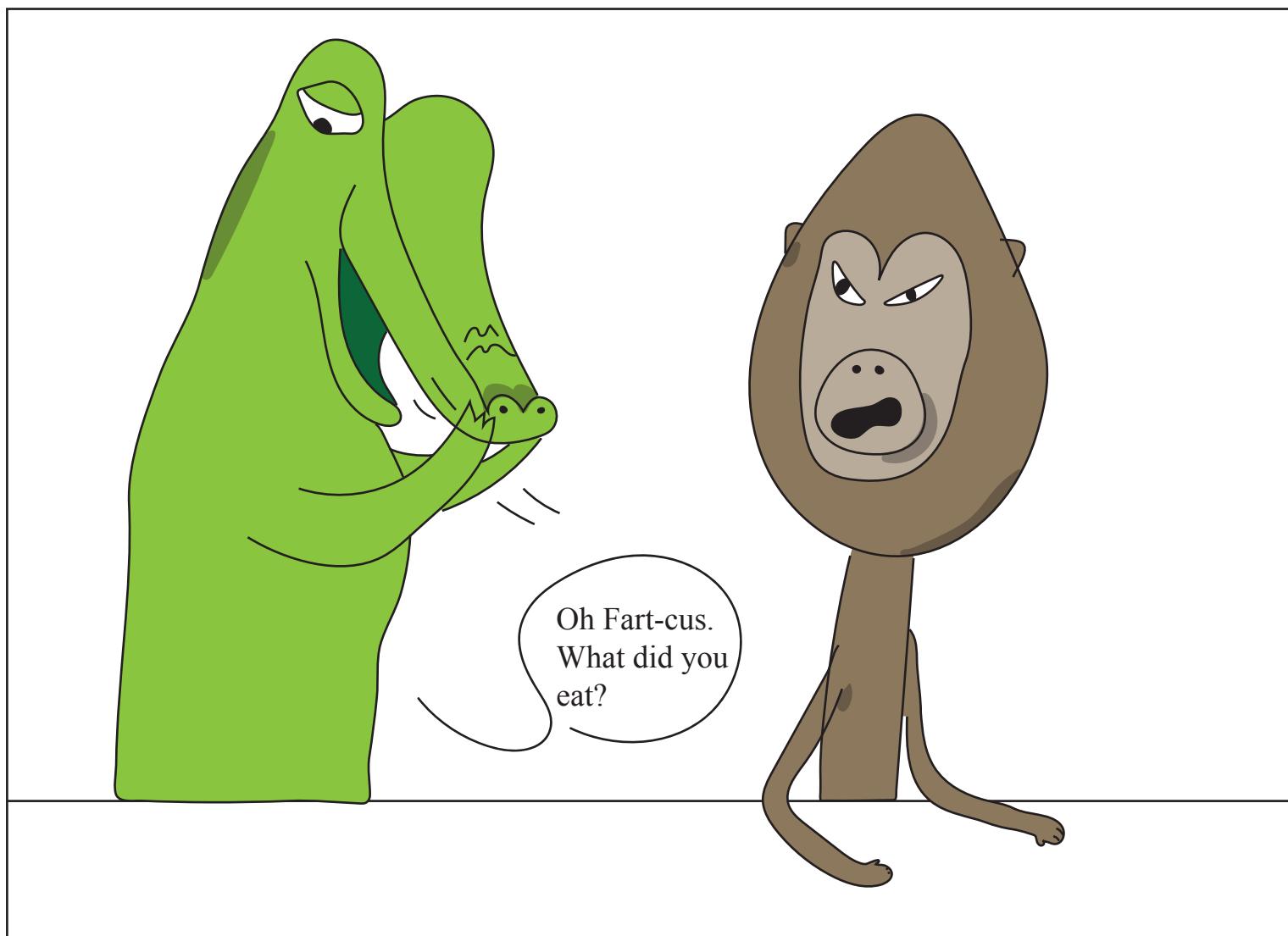
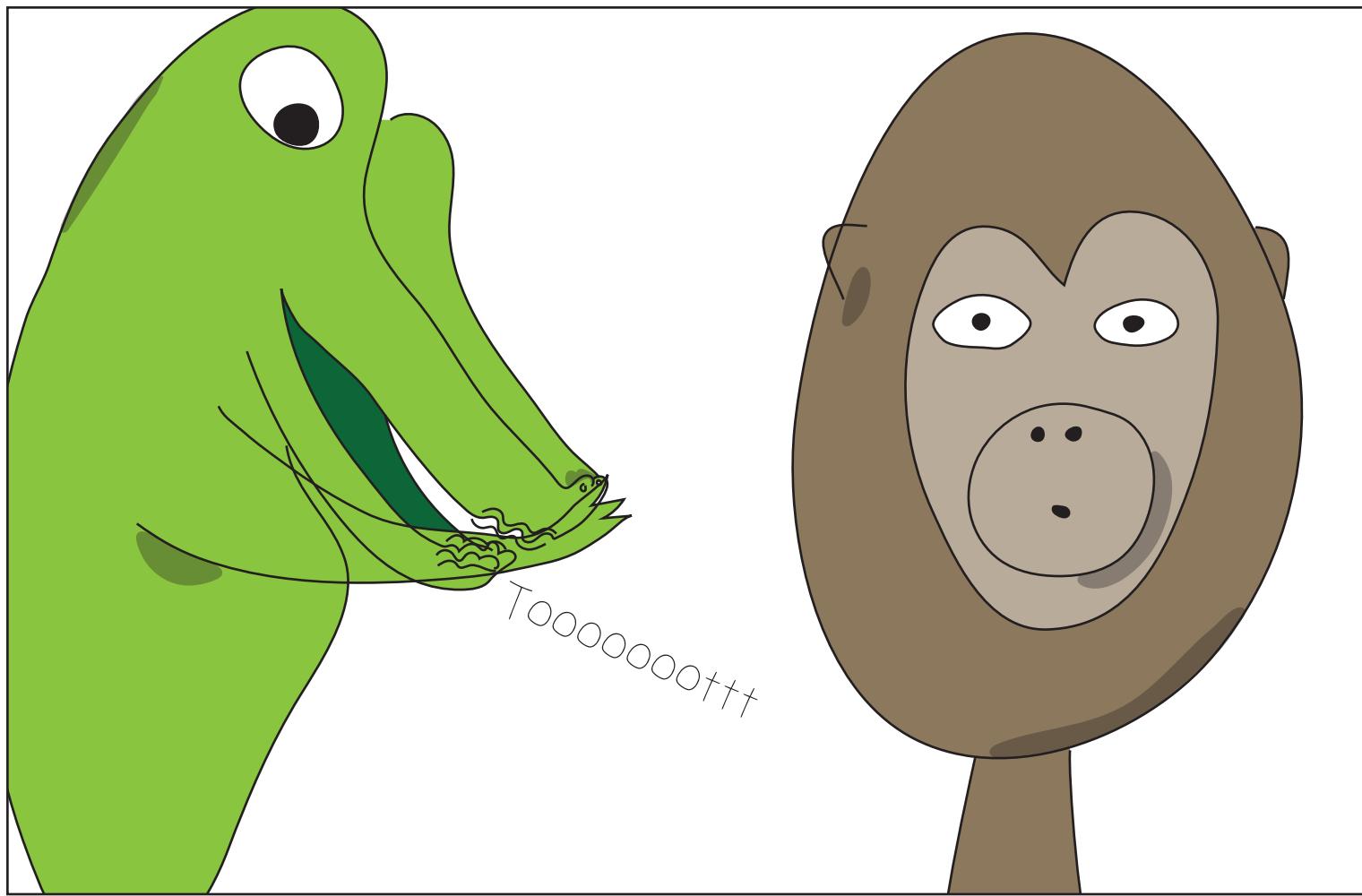
Today we will  
go over odd  
letter sounds.

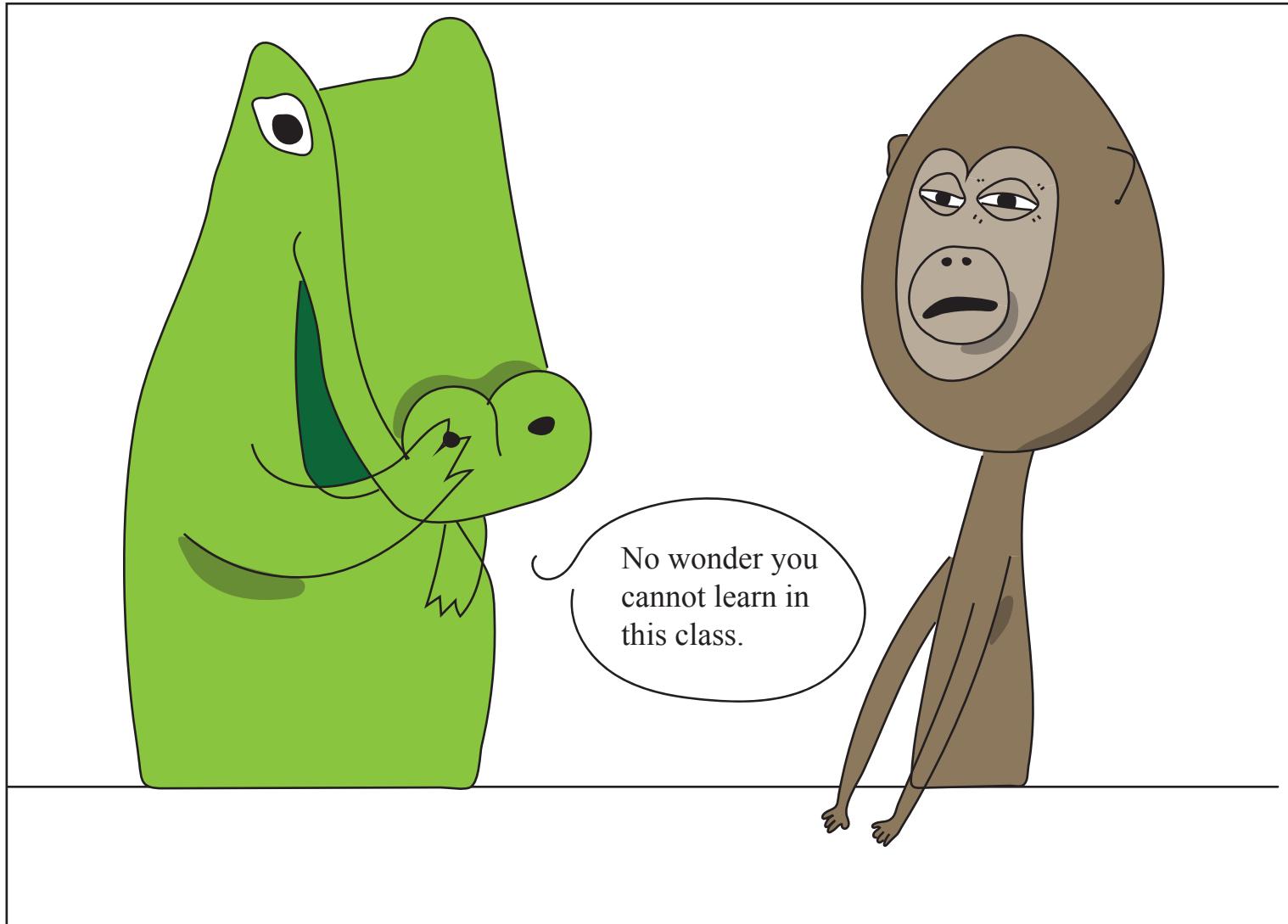
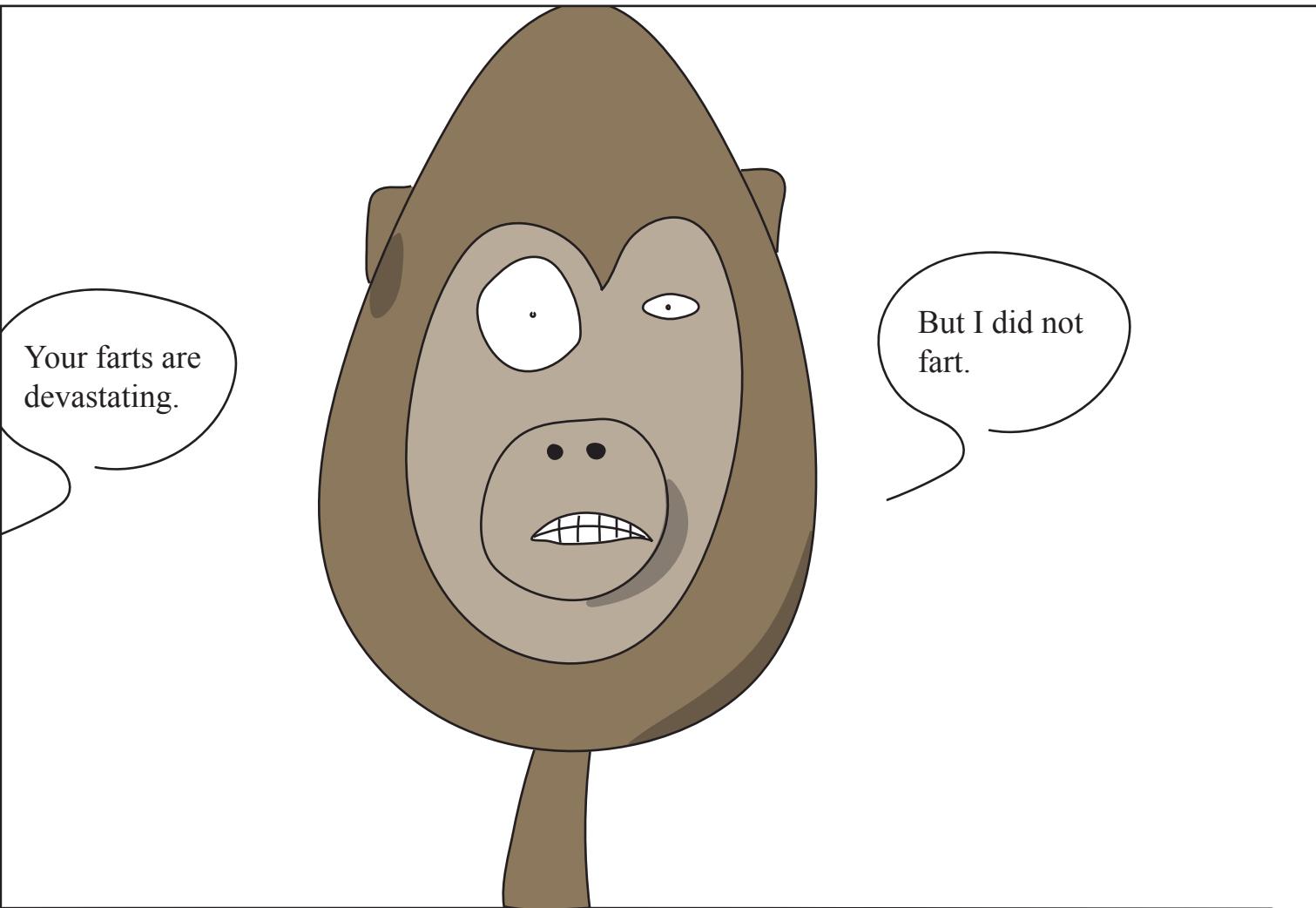


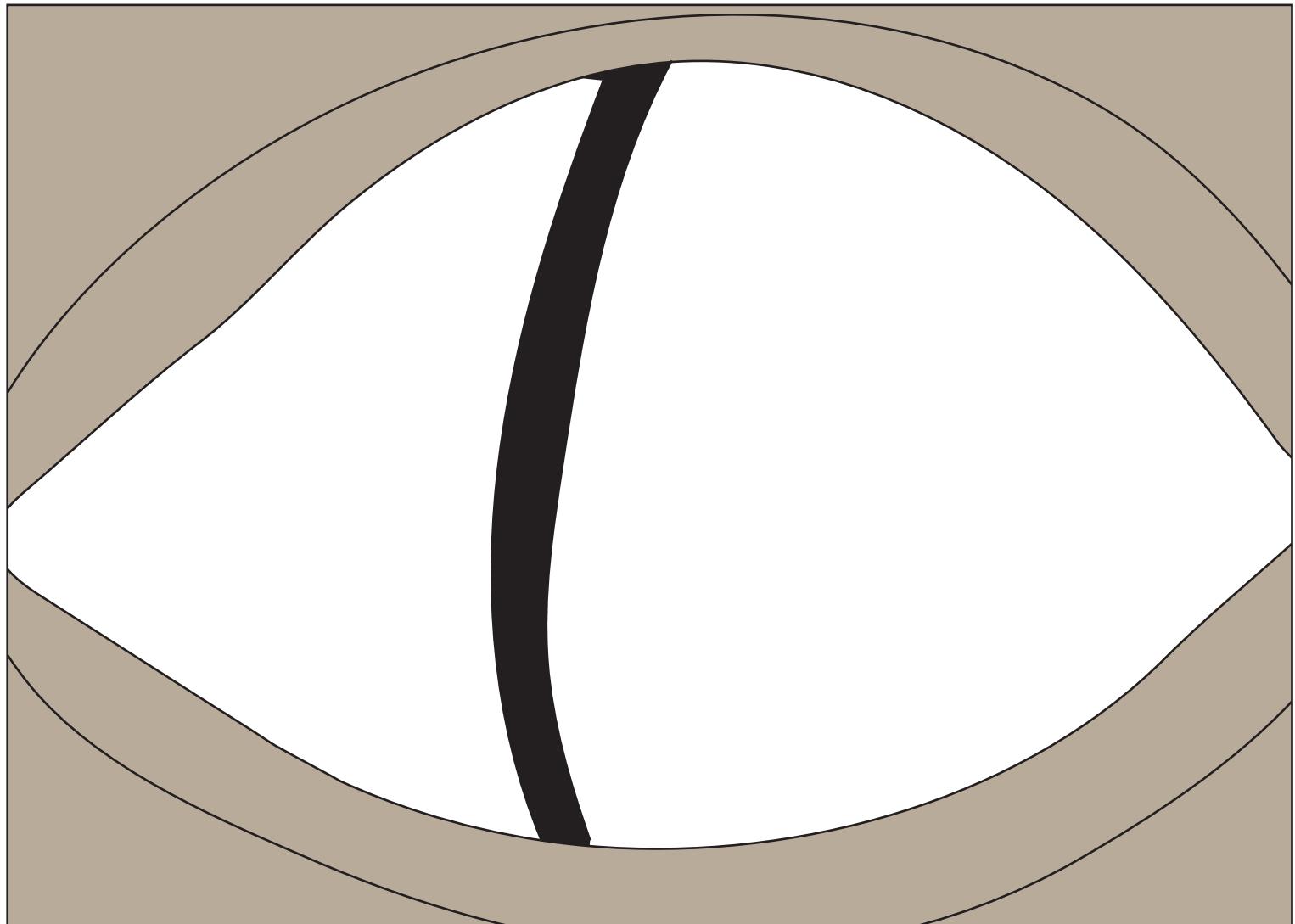
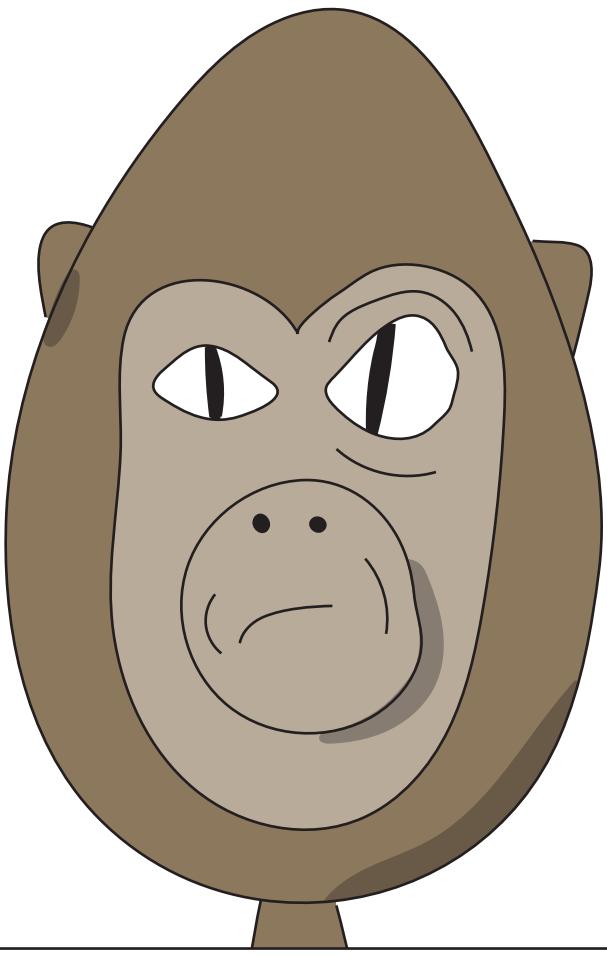


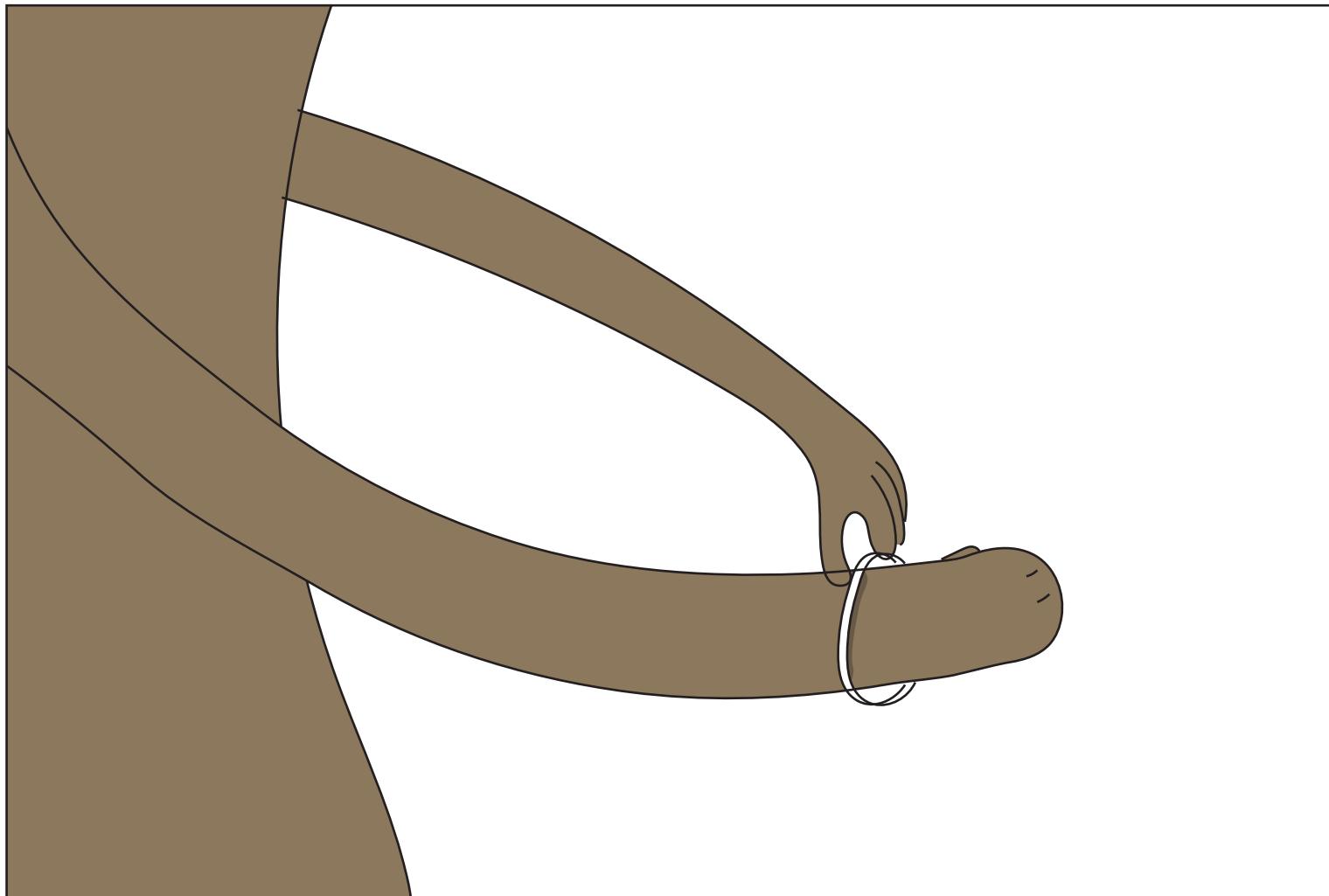
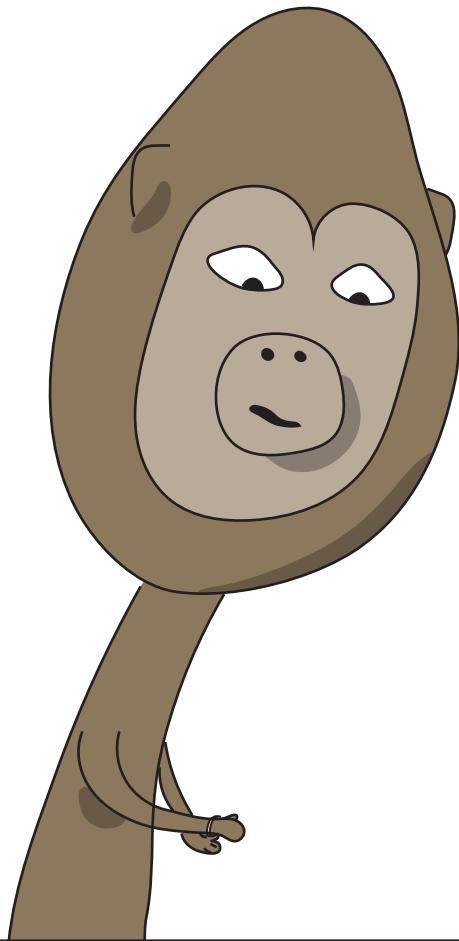


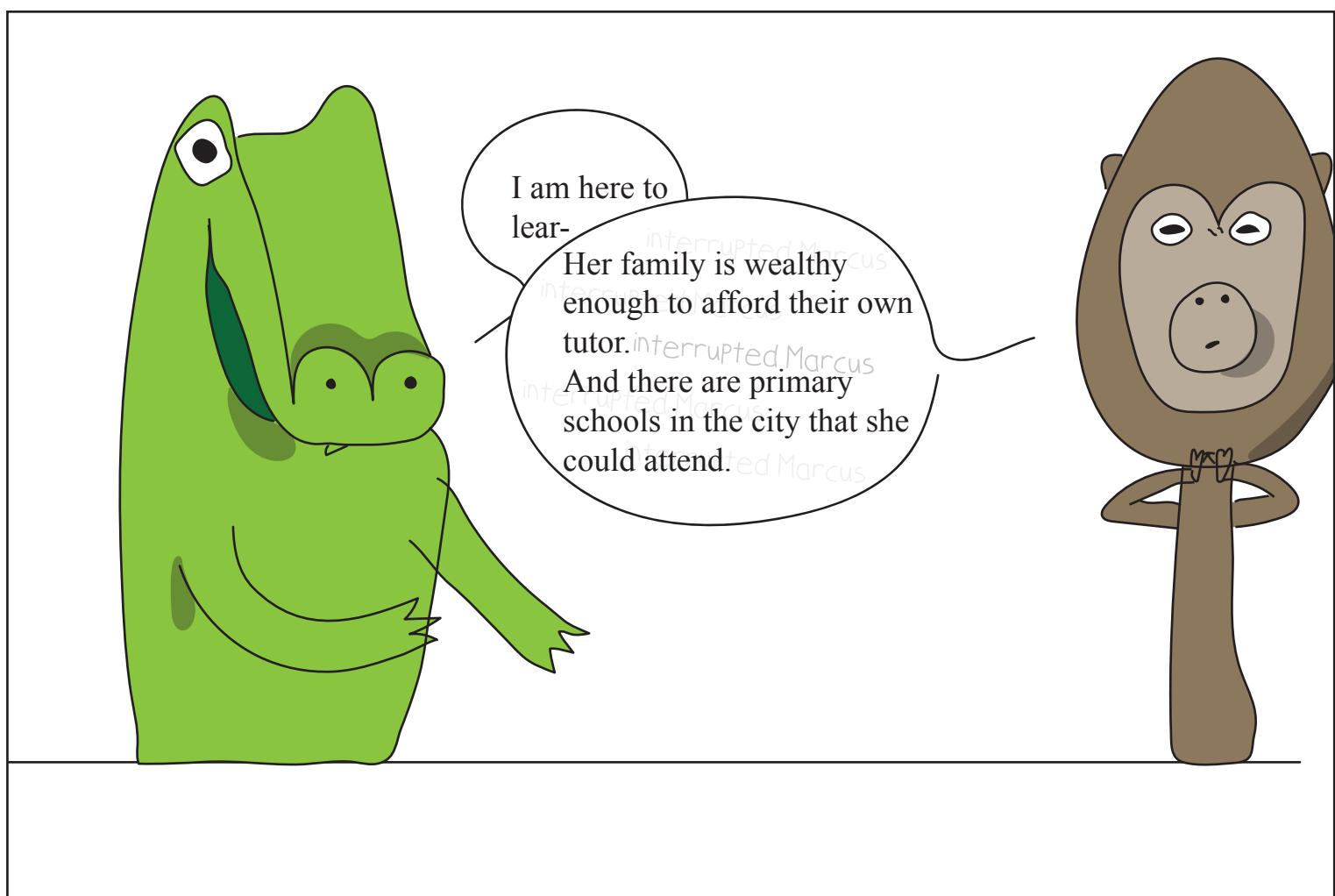
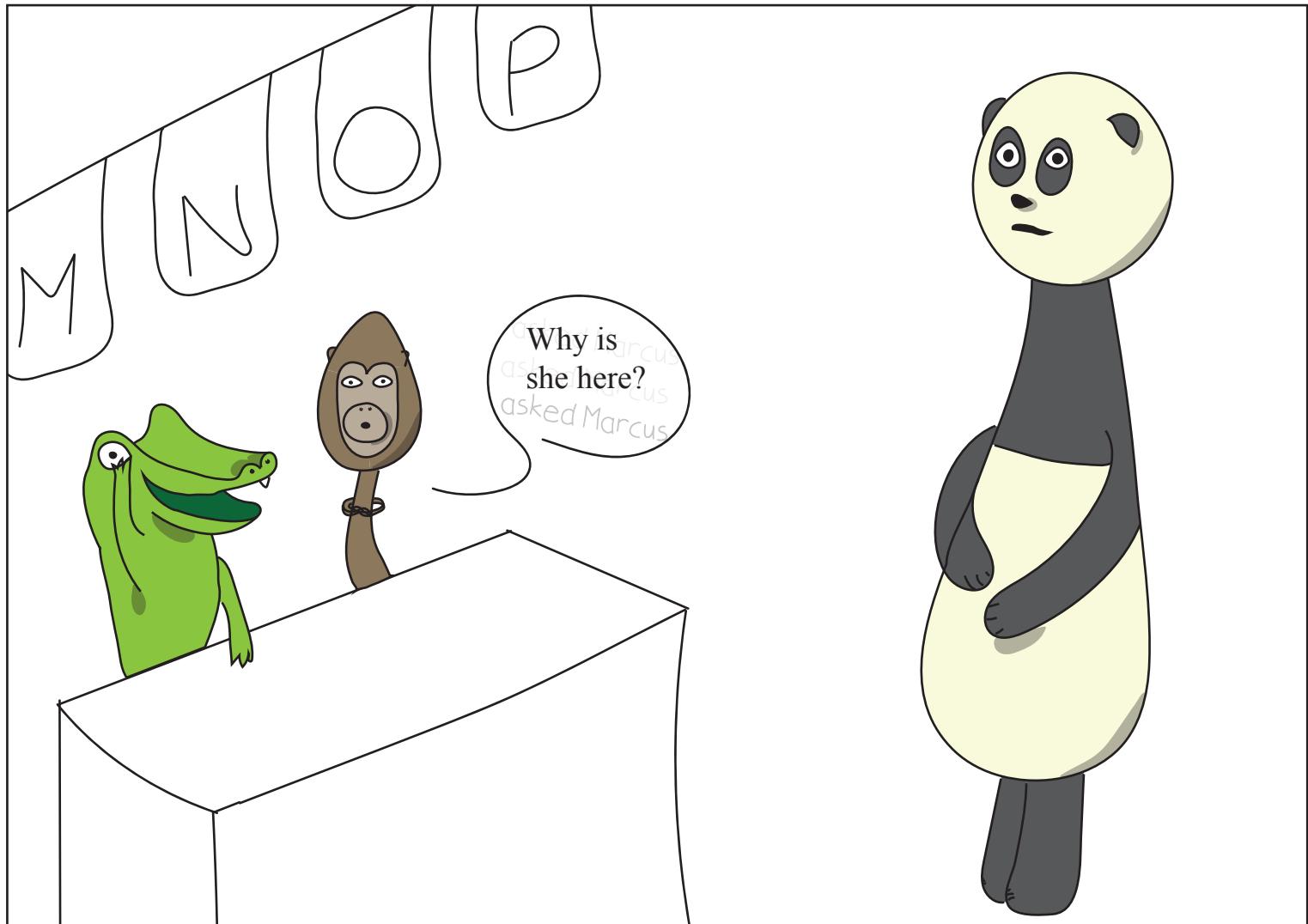


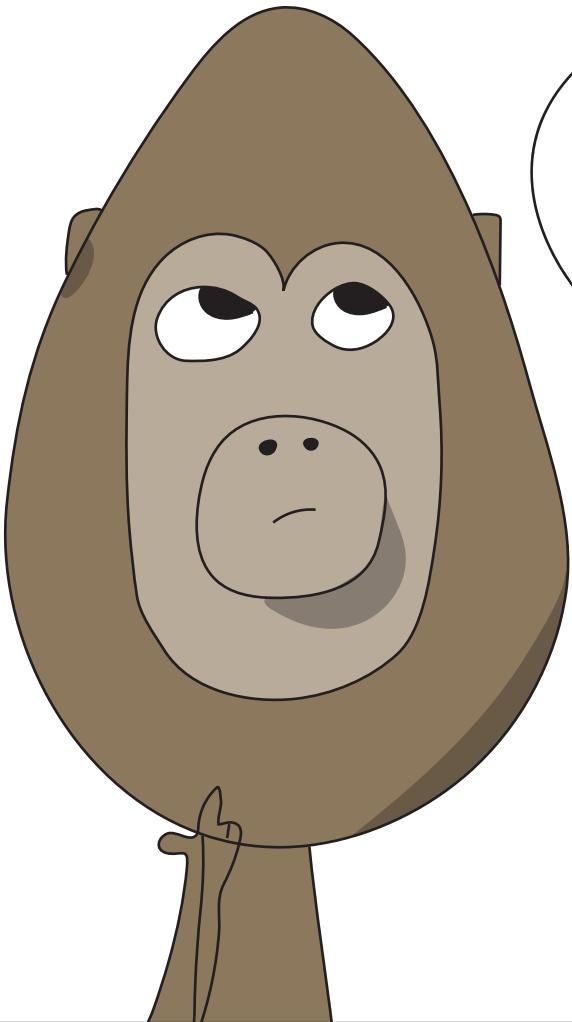




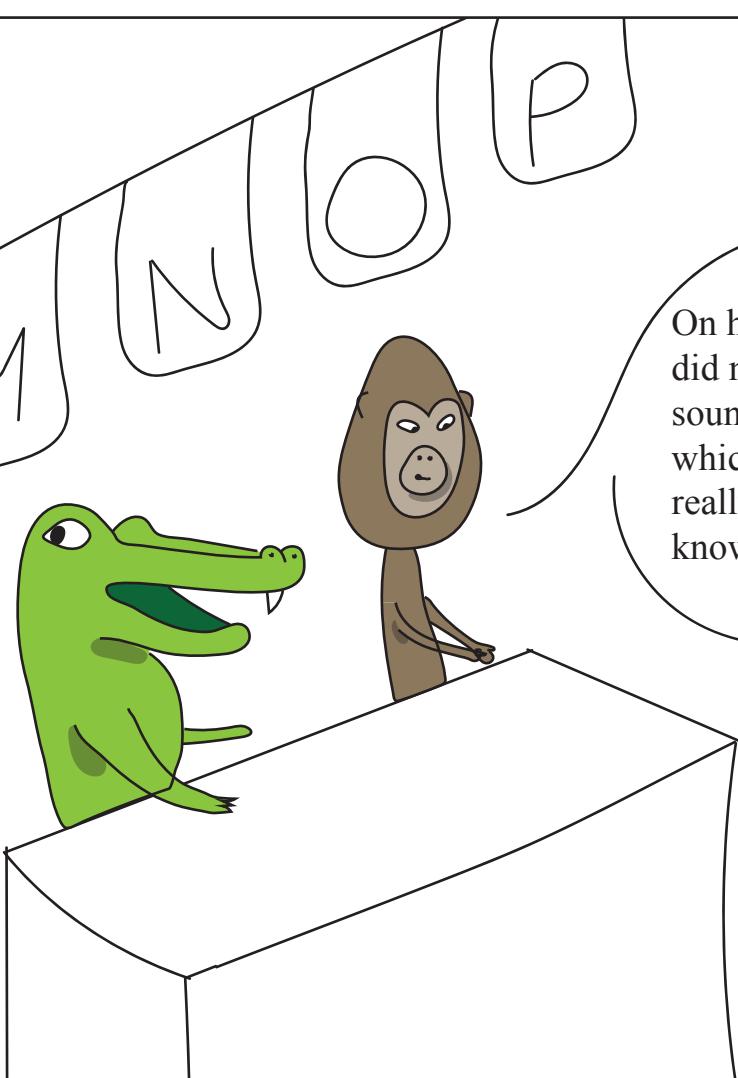






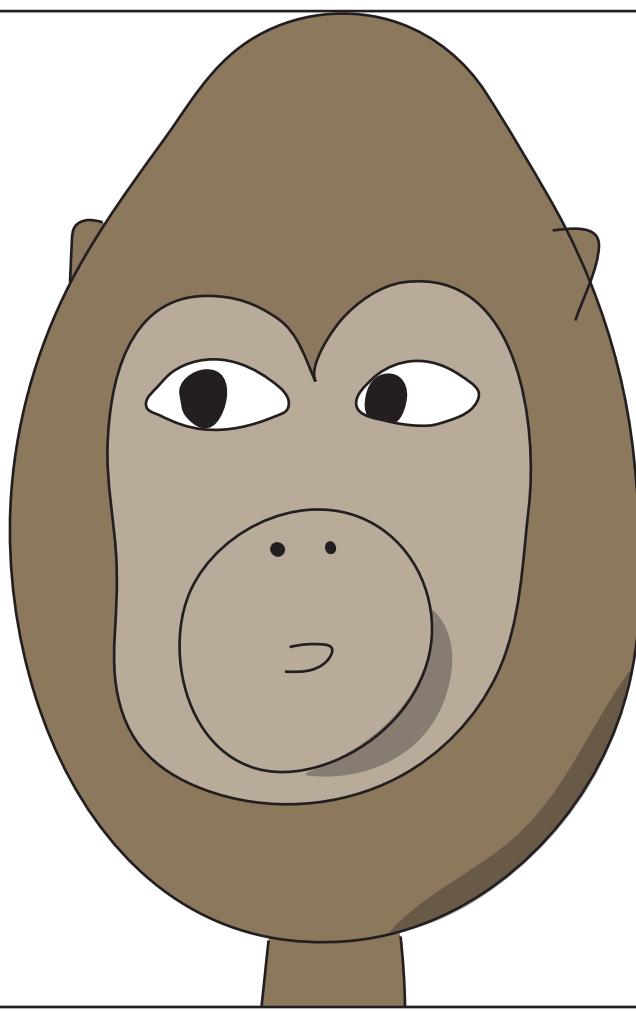


And judging by how her father talked to her, I would guess they have tried both of those things, and maybe more.



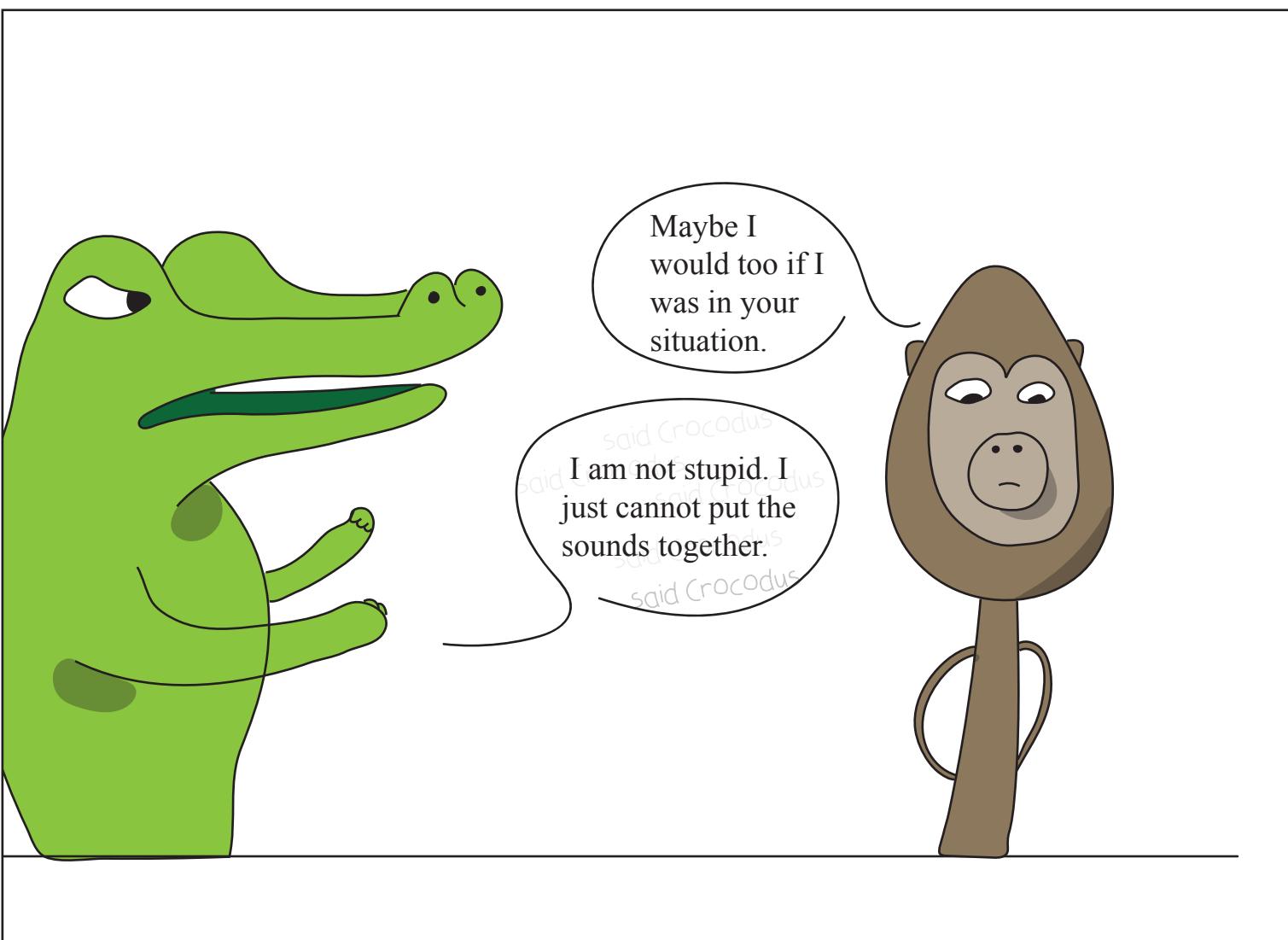
On her first day, she did not know what sound an M makes, which means she really does not know how to read.

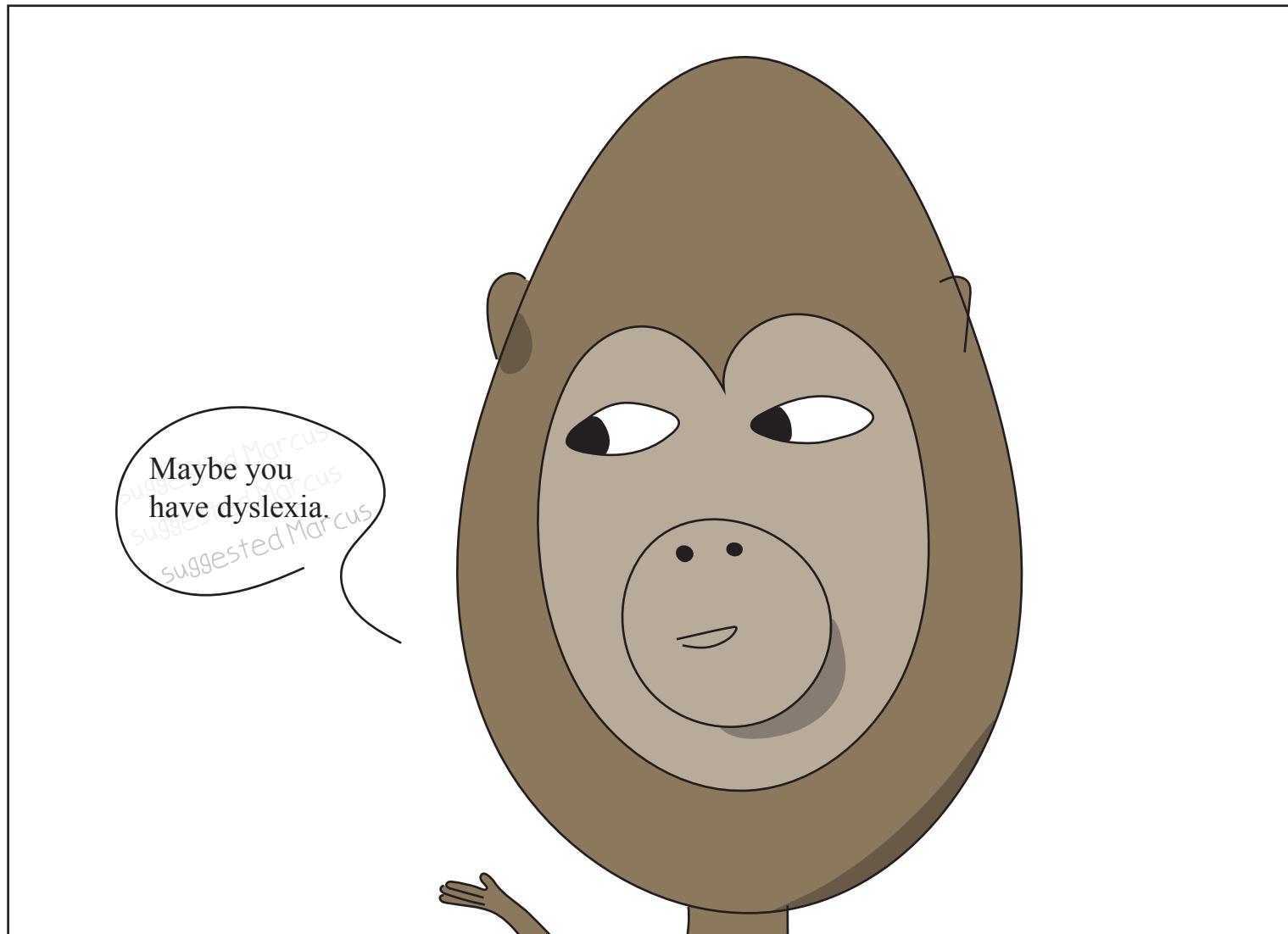
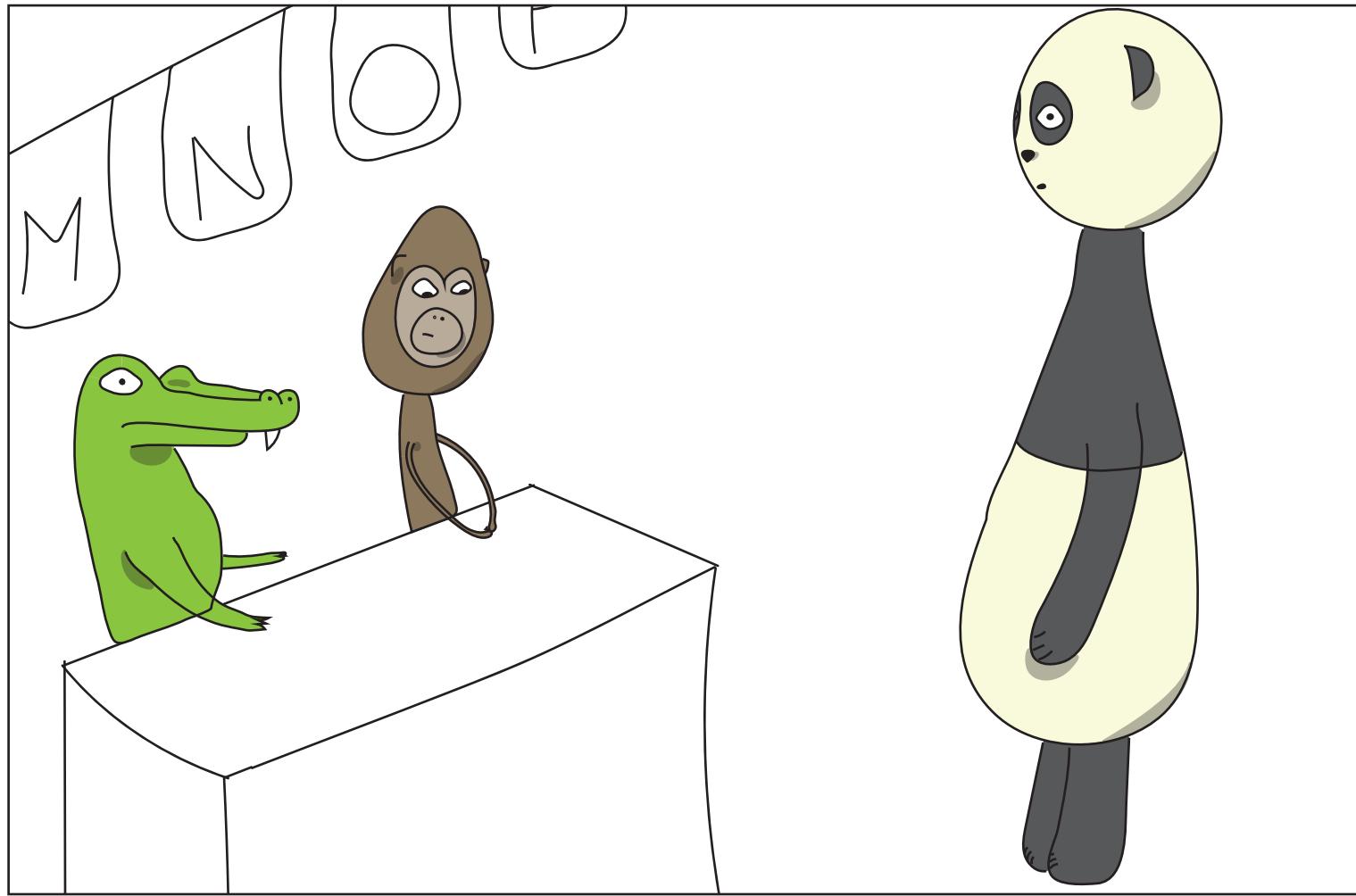


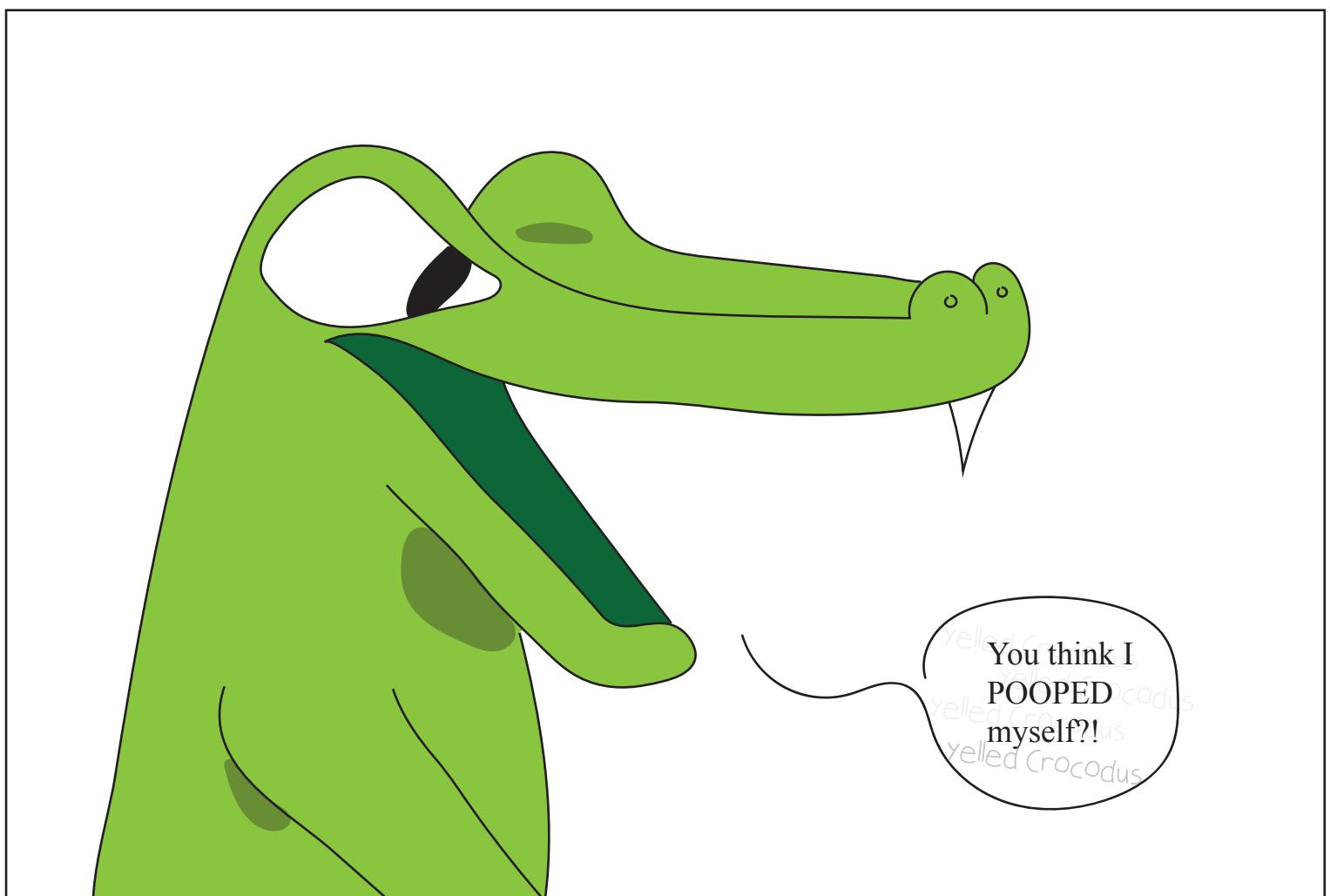
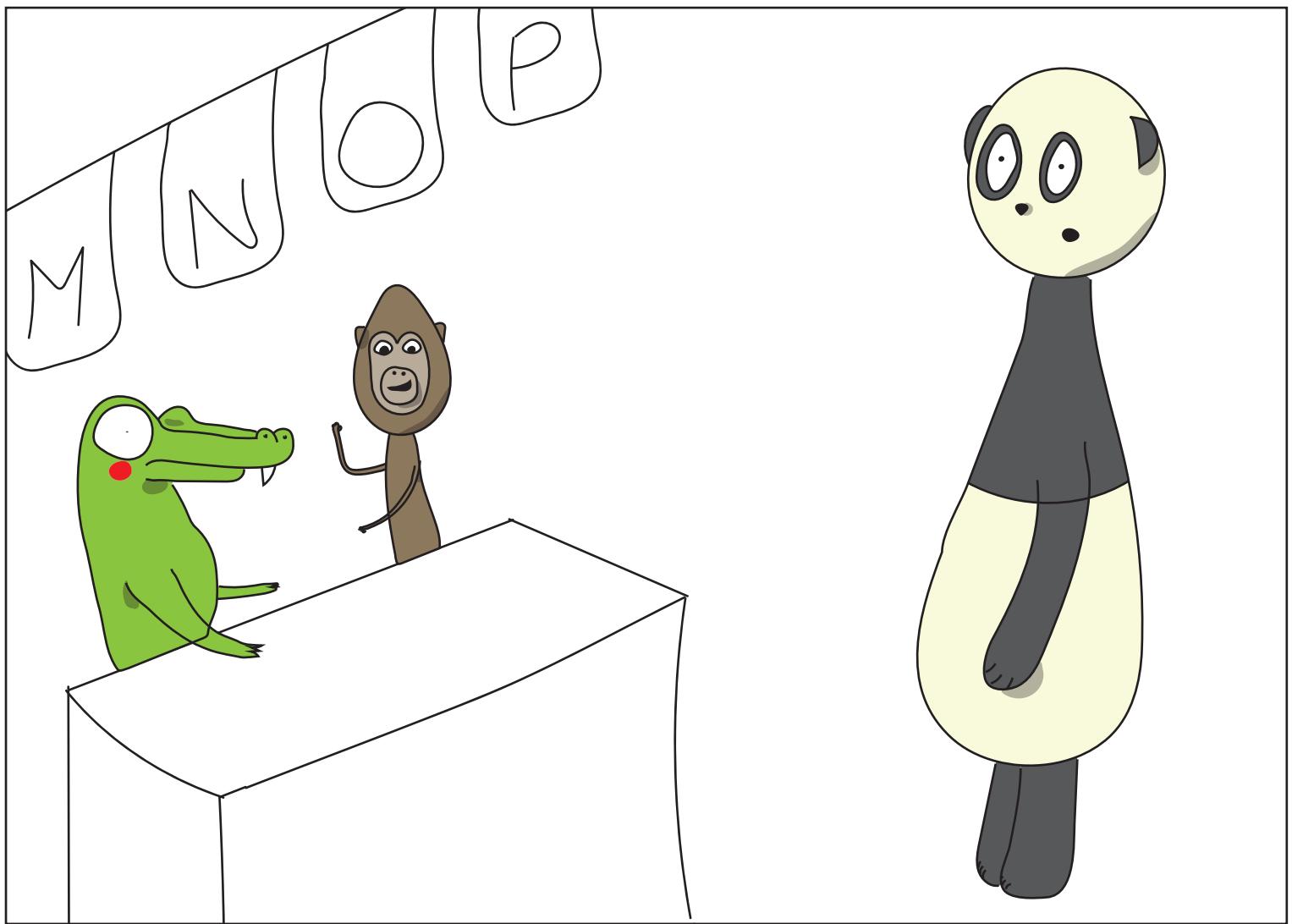


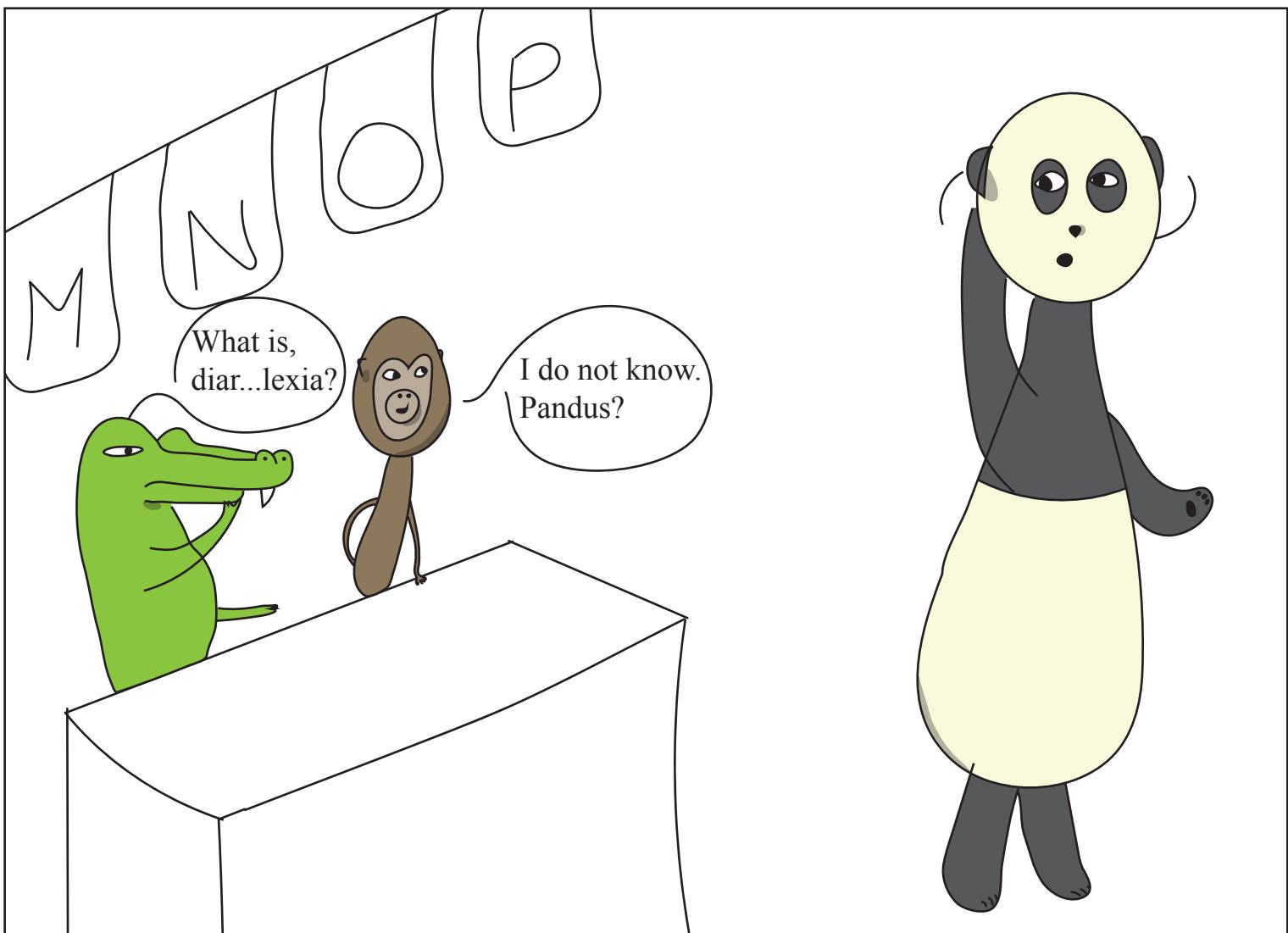
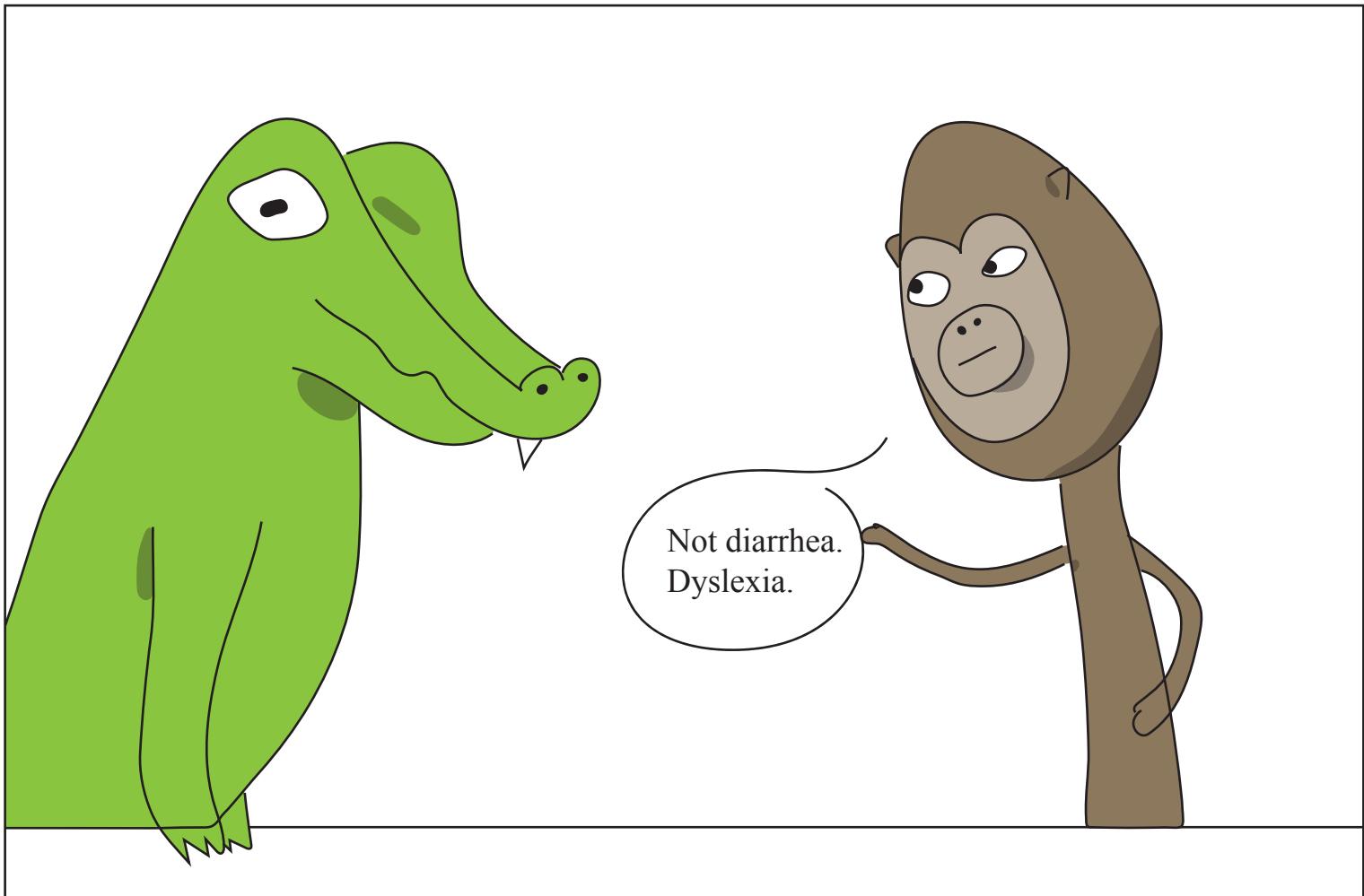
And instead of  
trying to get  
better, you just  
annoy me.

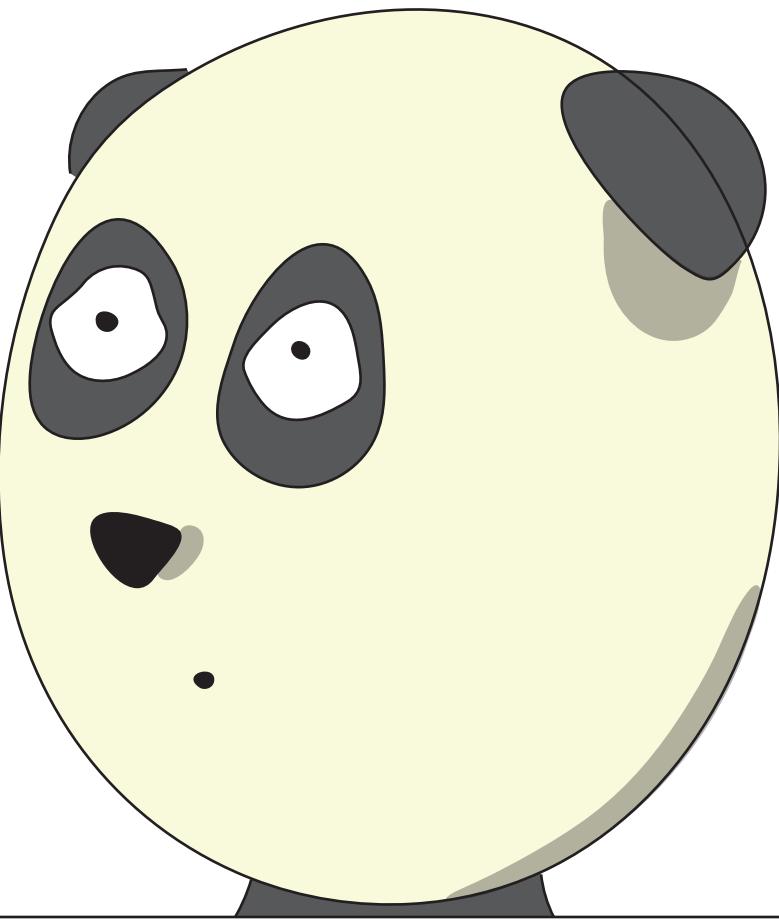
said Marcus



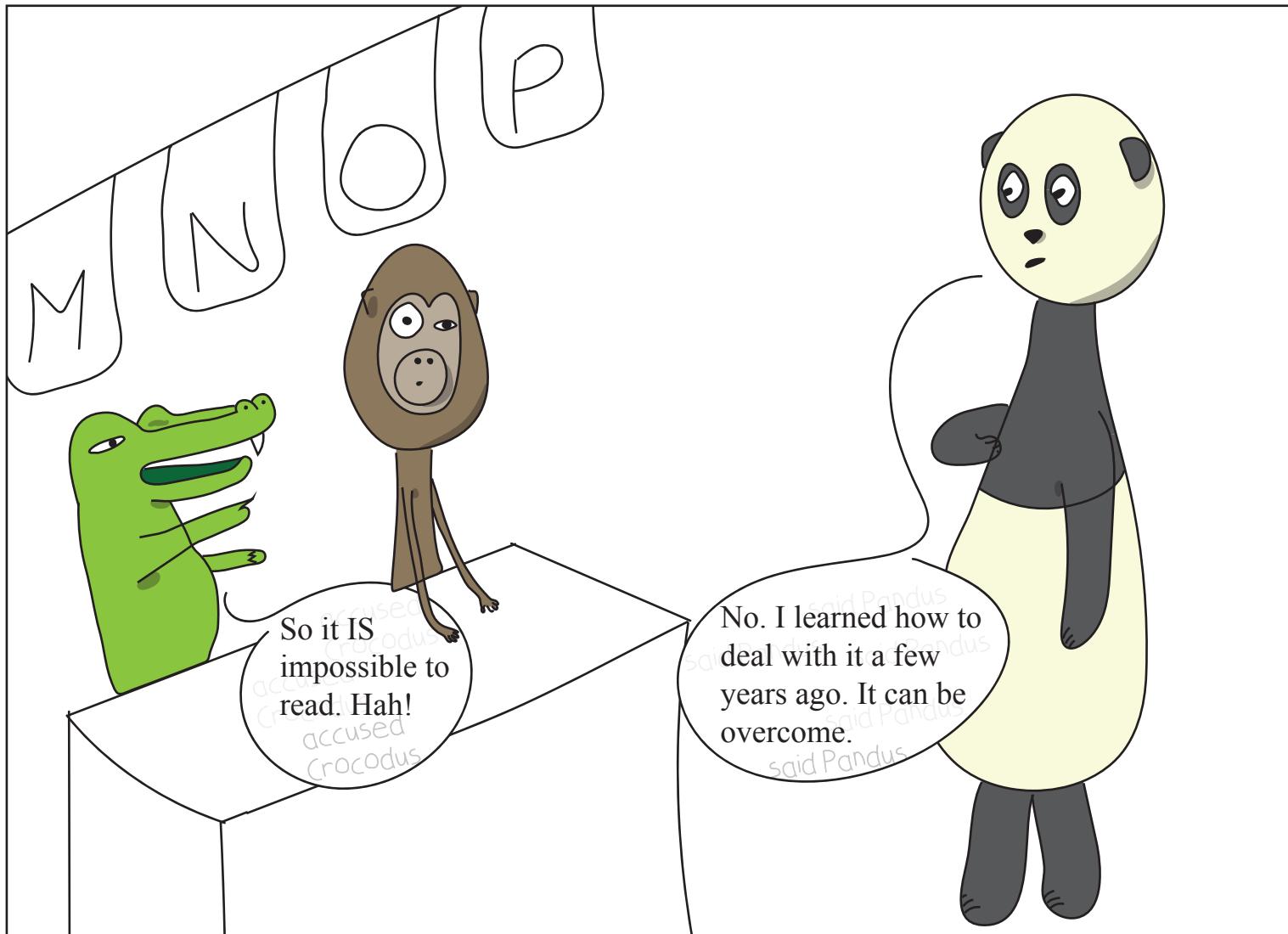


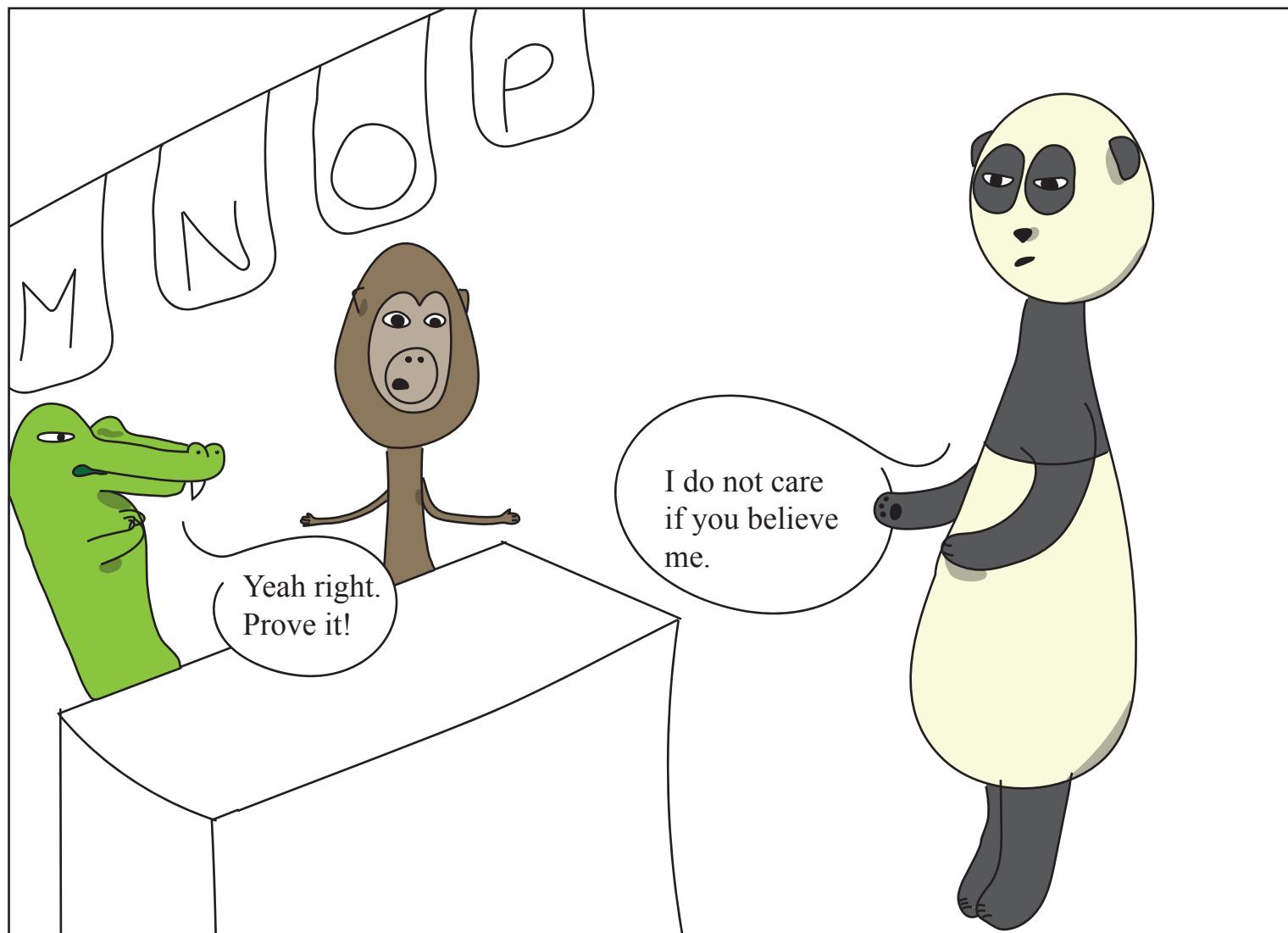
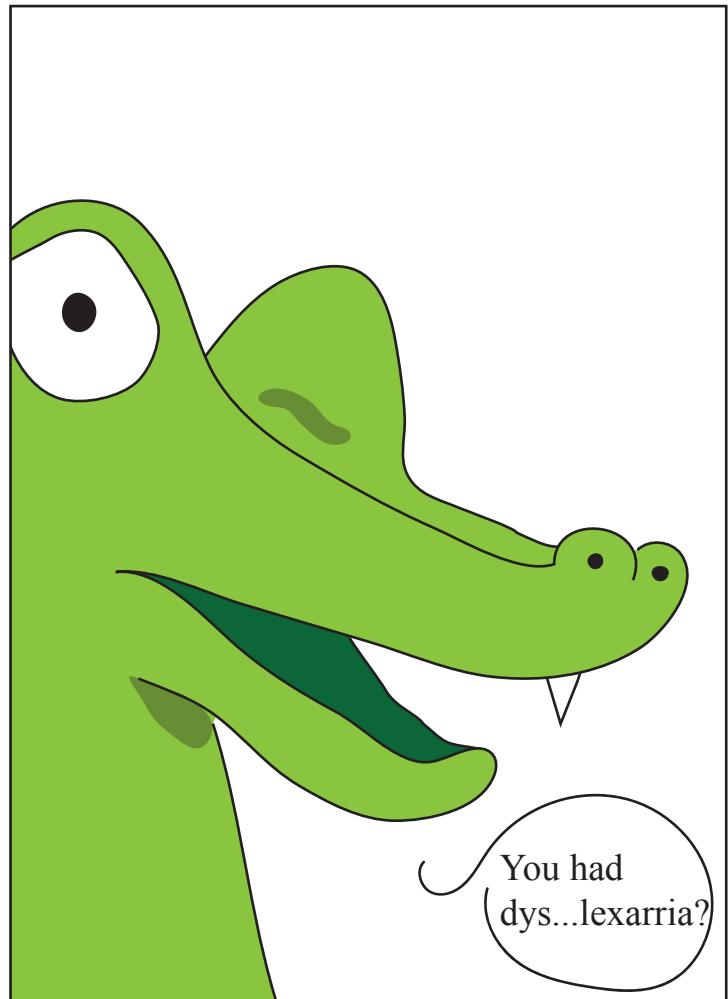


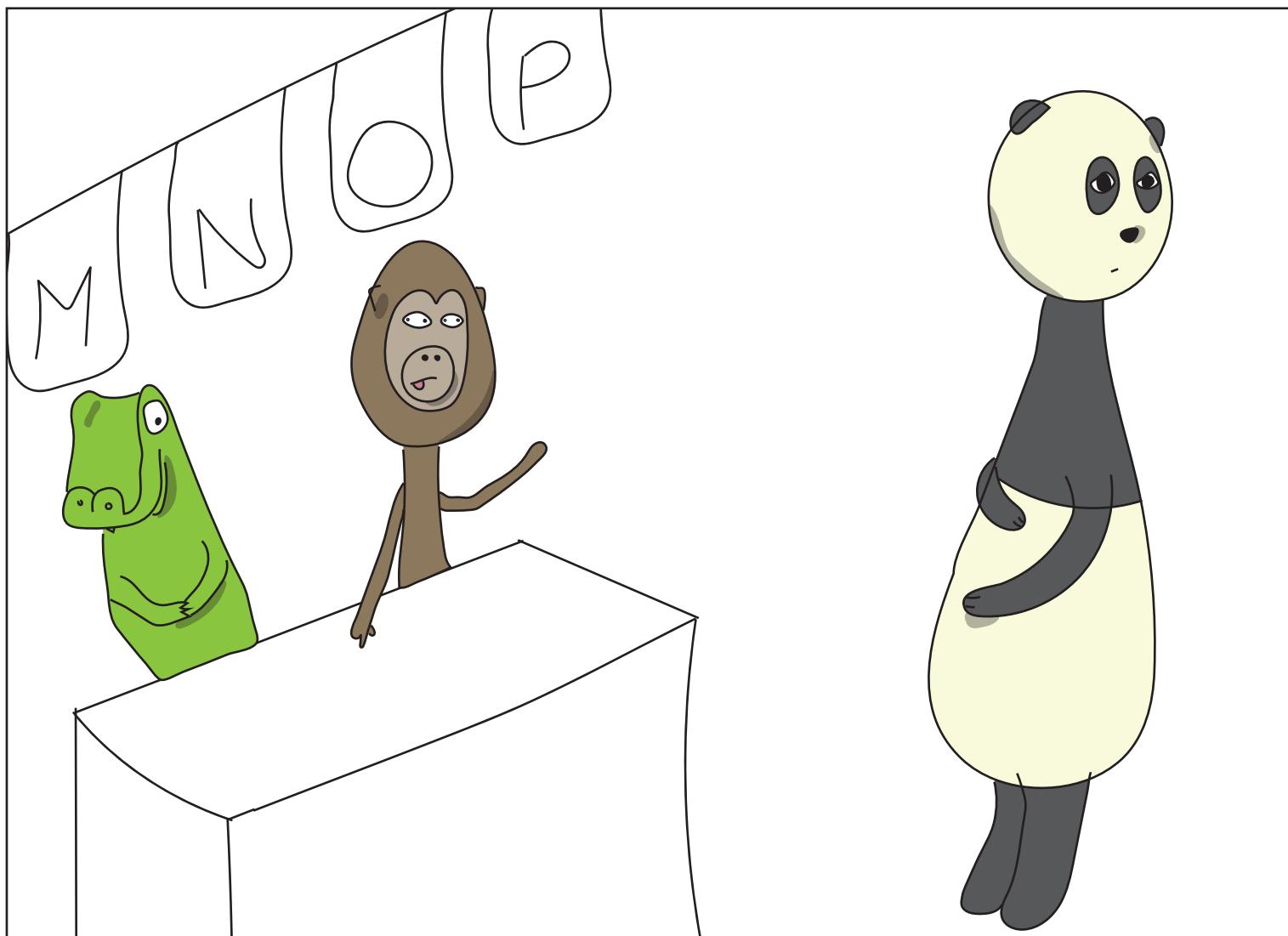
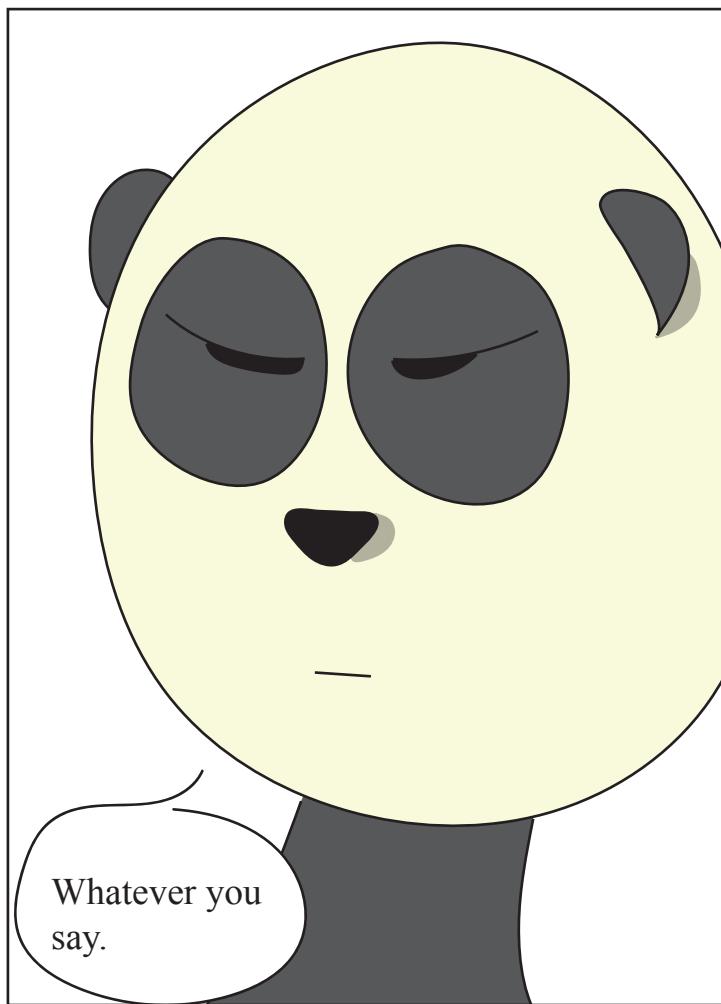
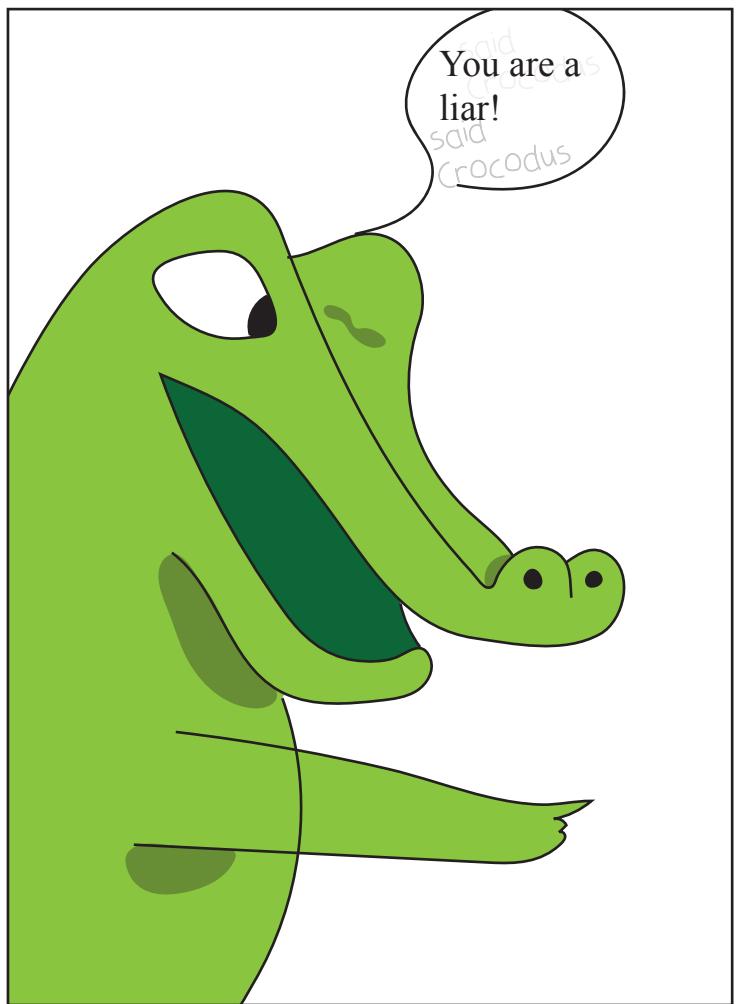


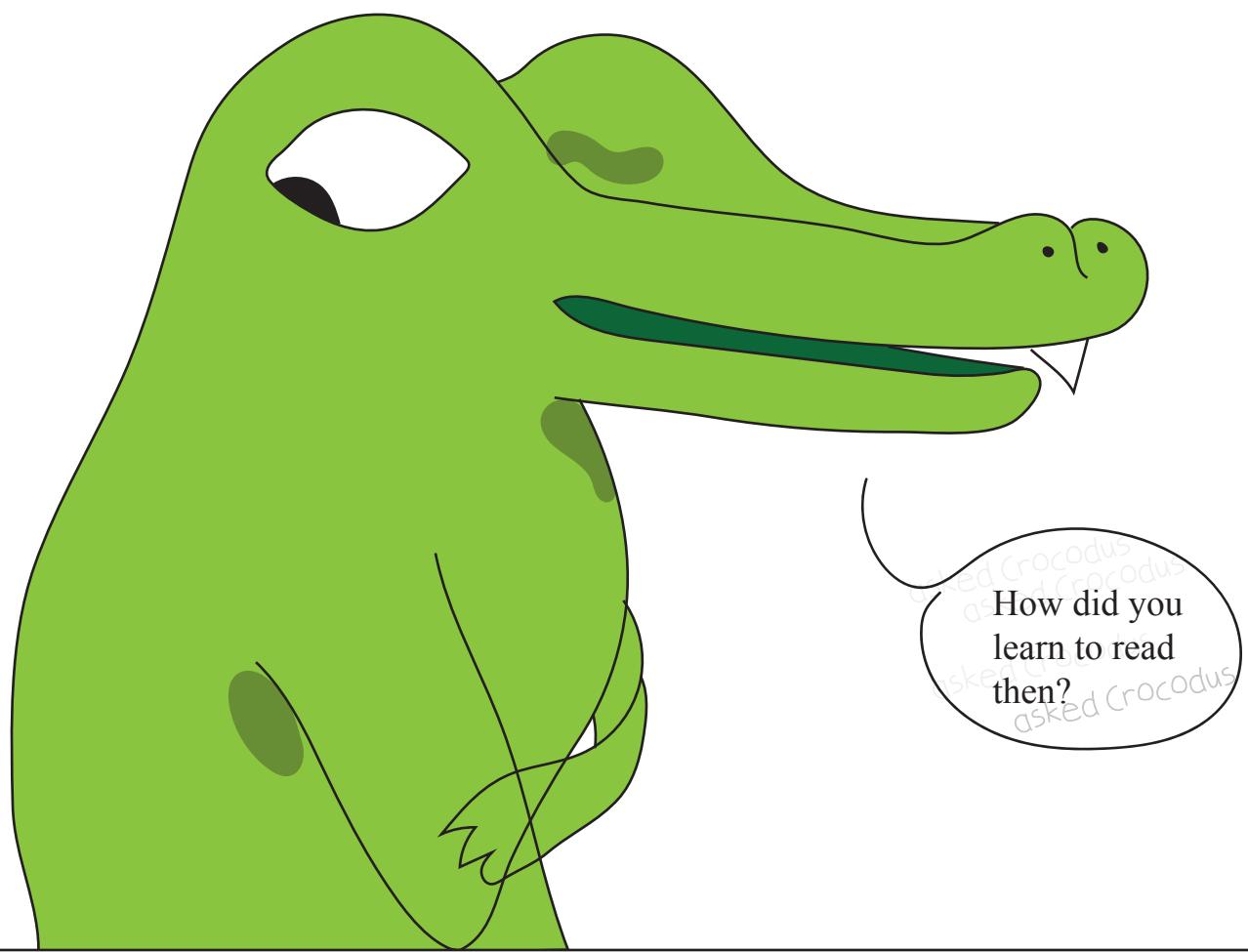


Dyslexia is when  
you know all the  
letters, but the  
sounds just do  
not come to you.  
*said Pandus*

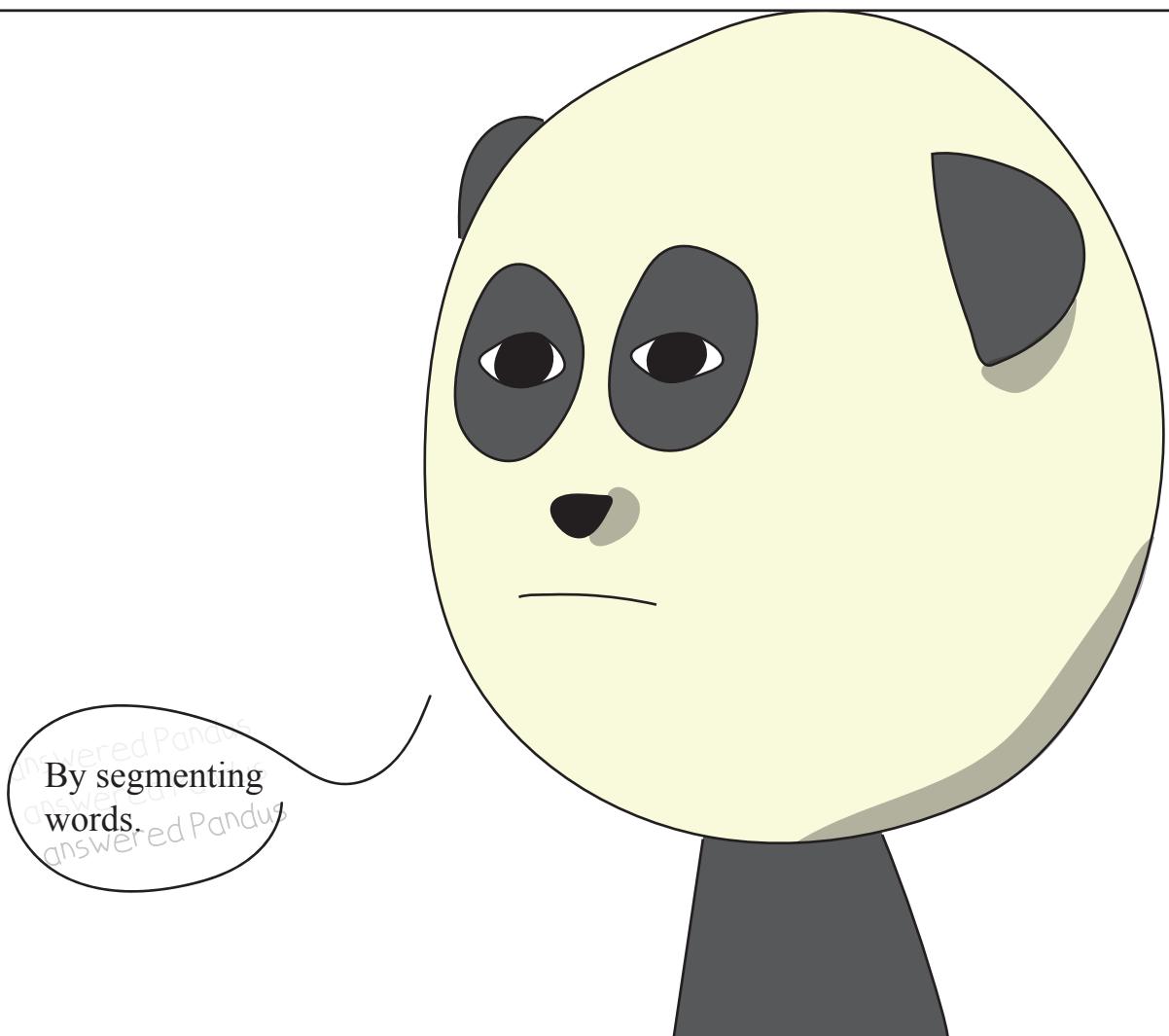




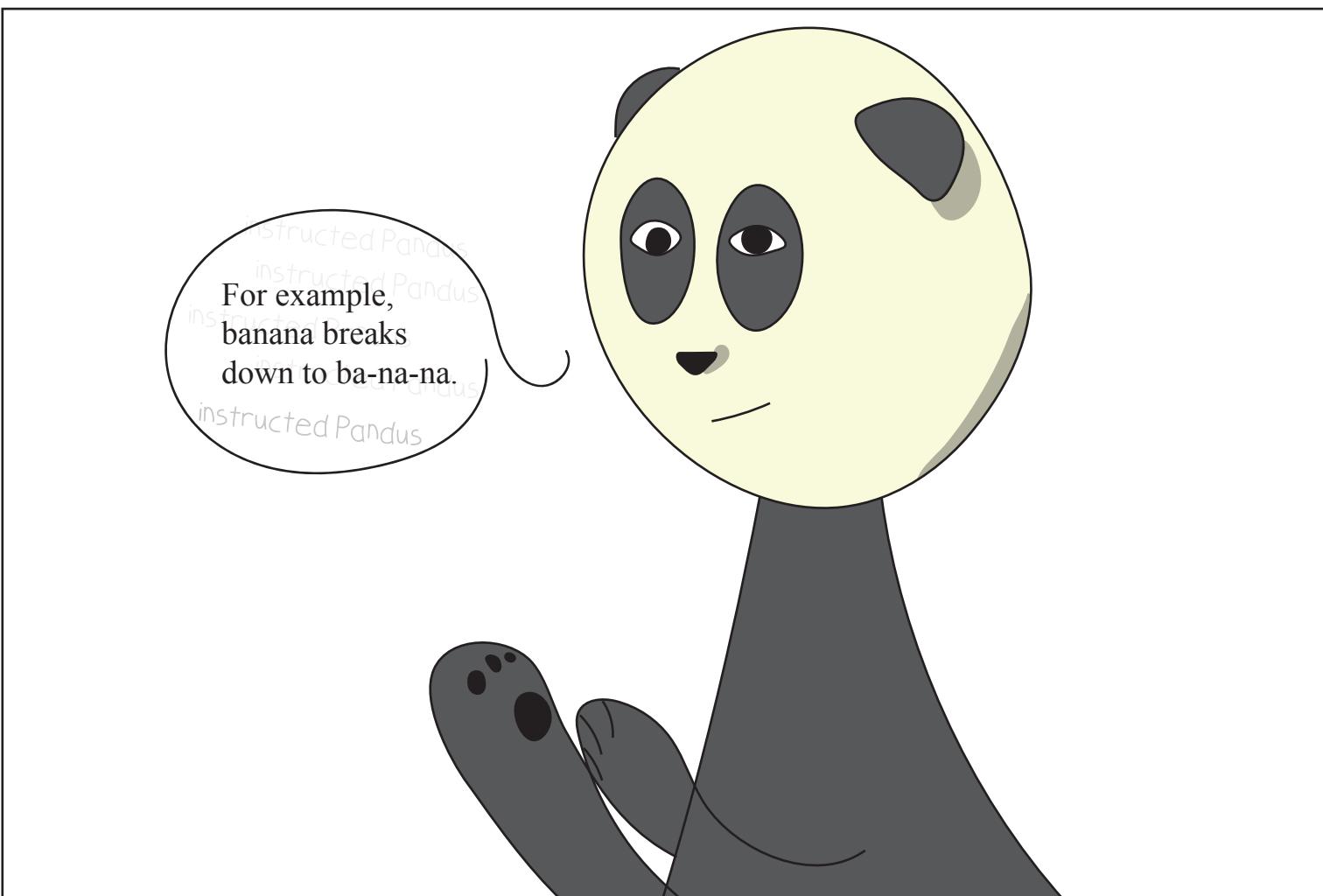
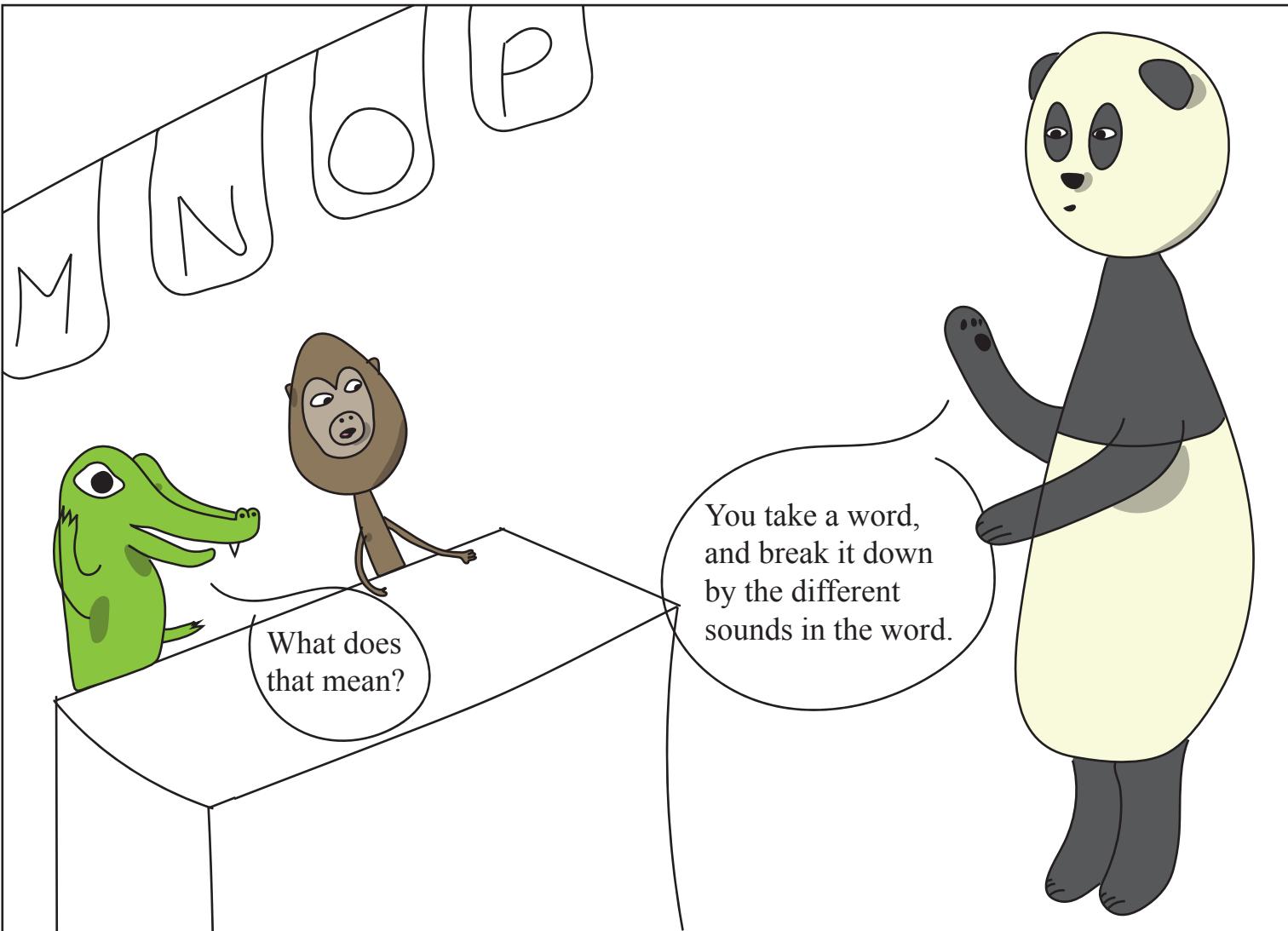


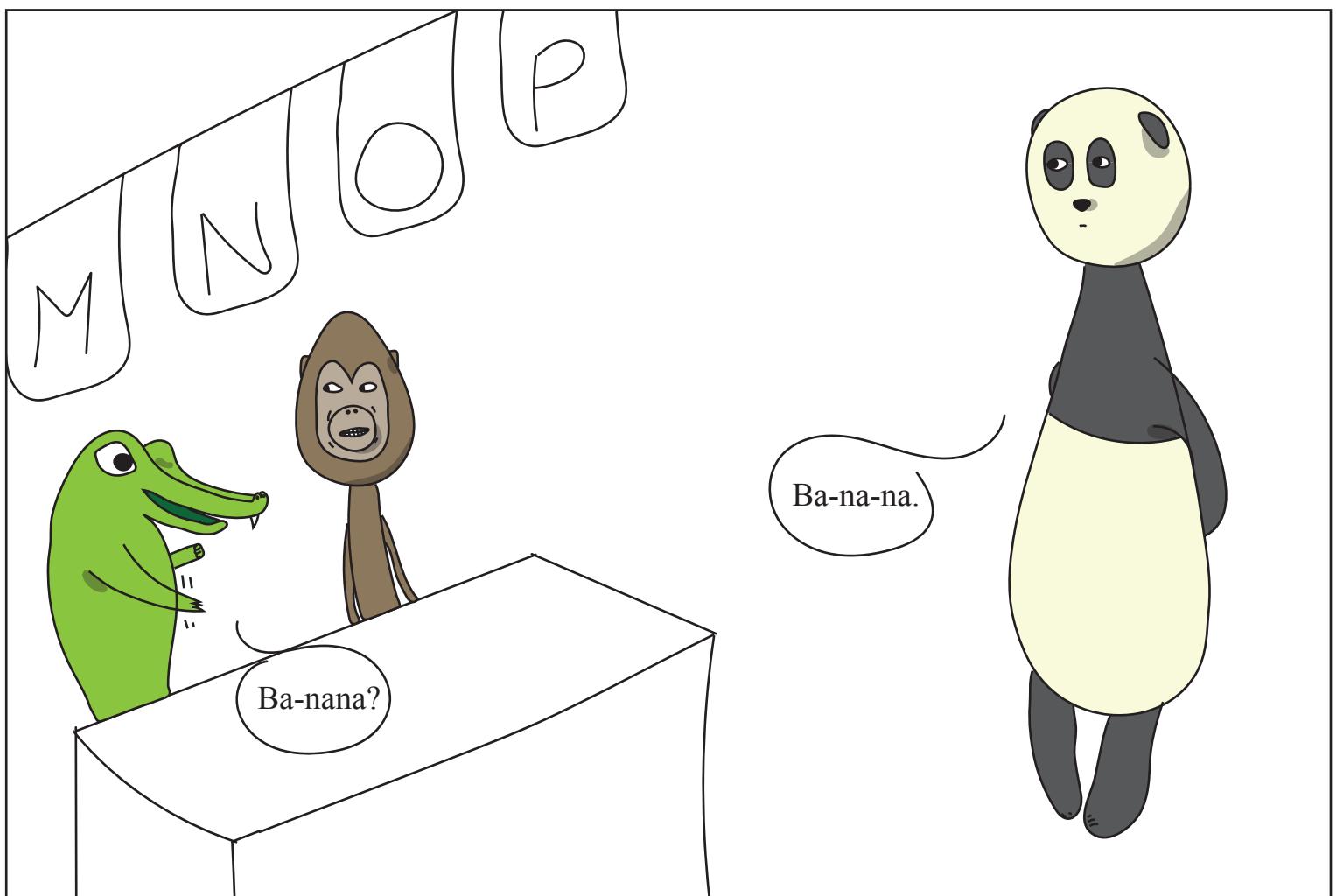
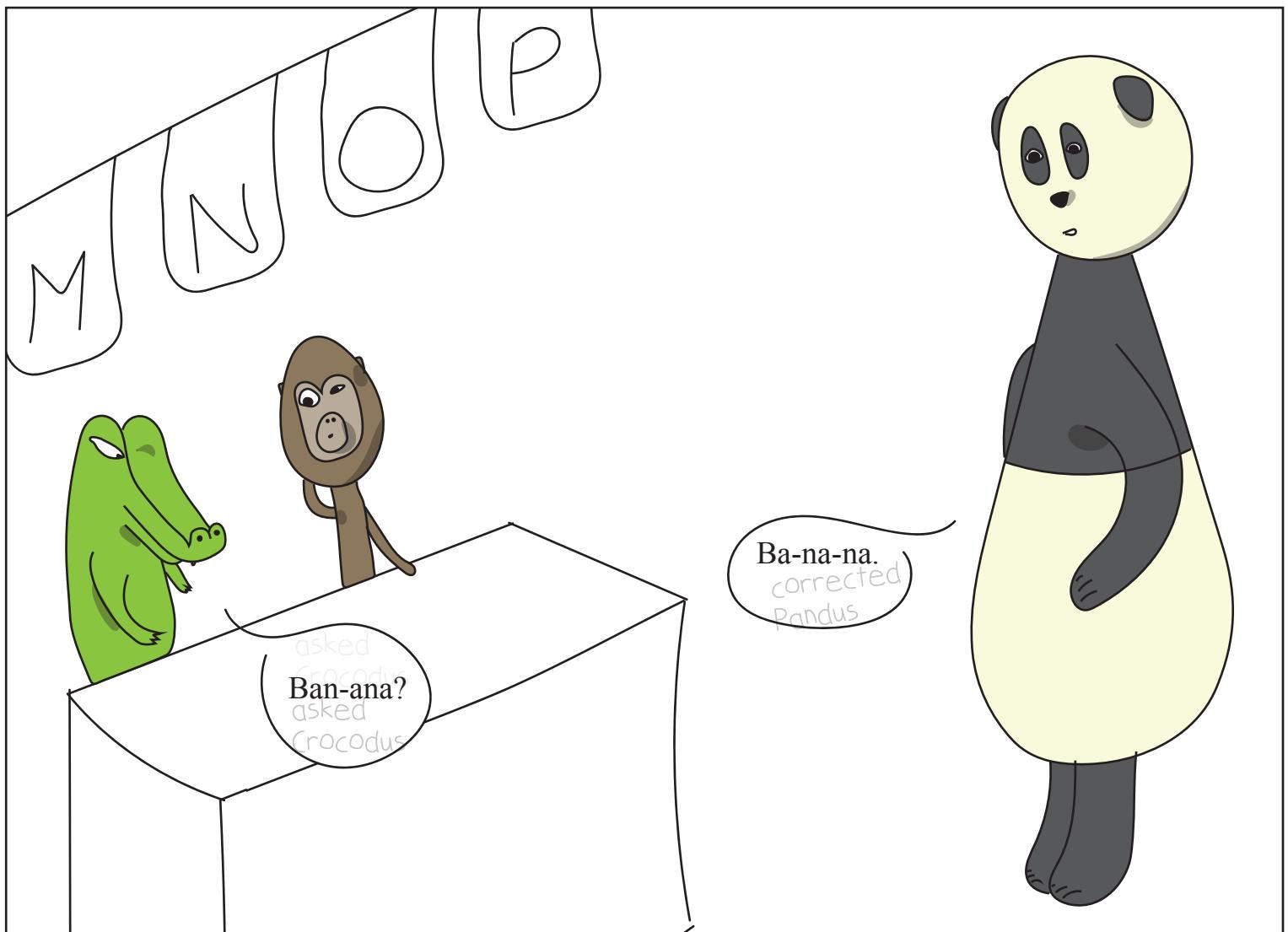


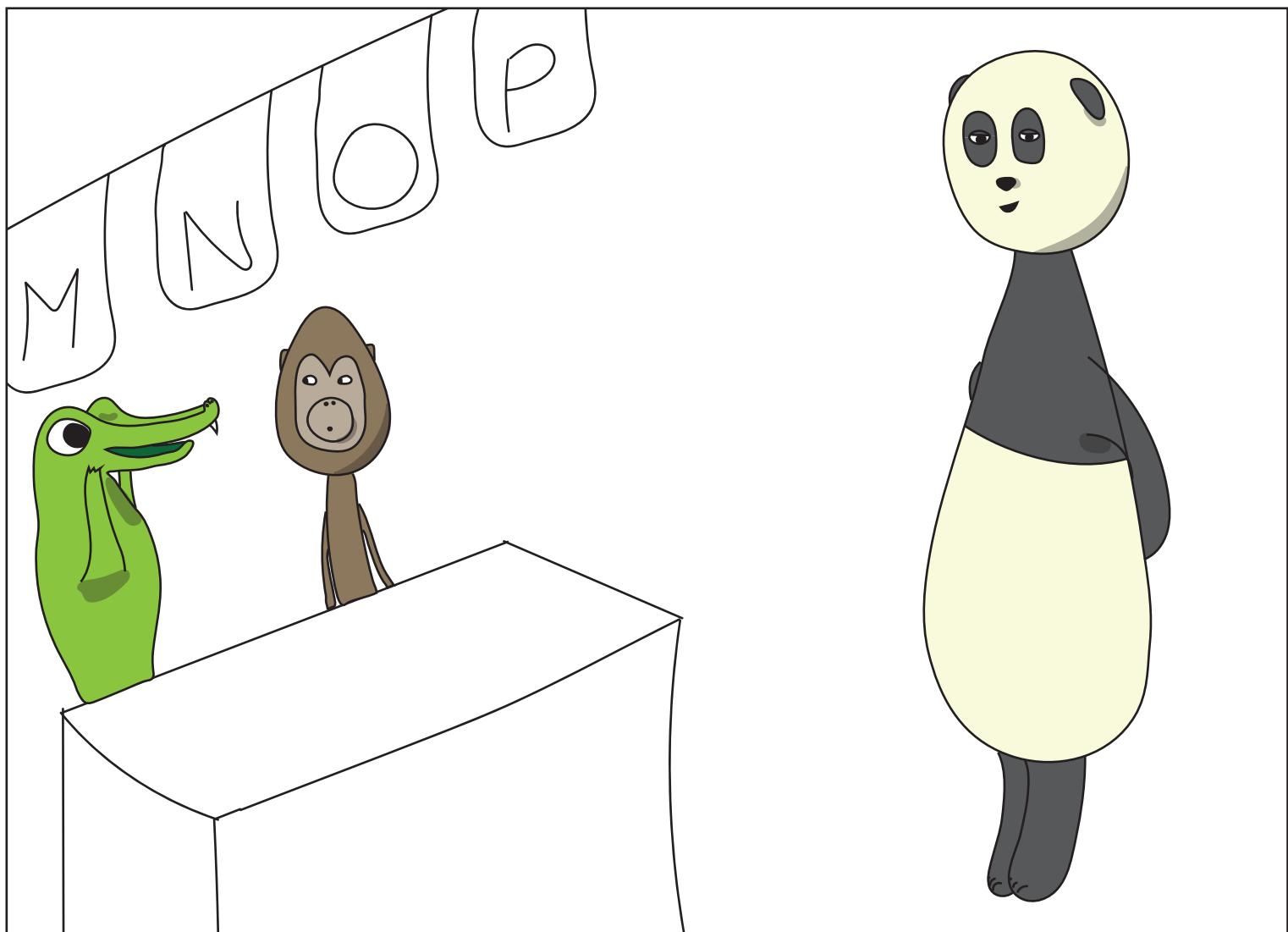
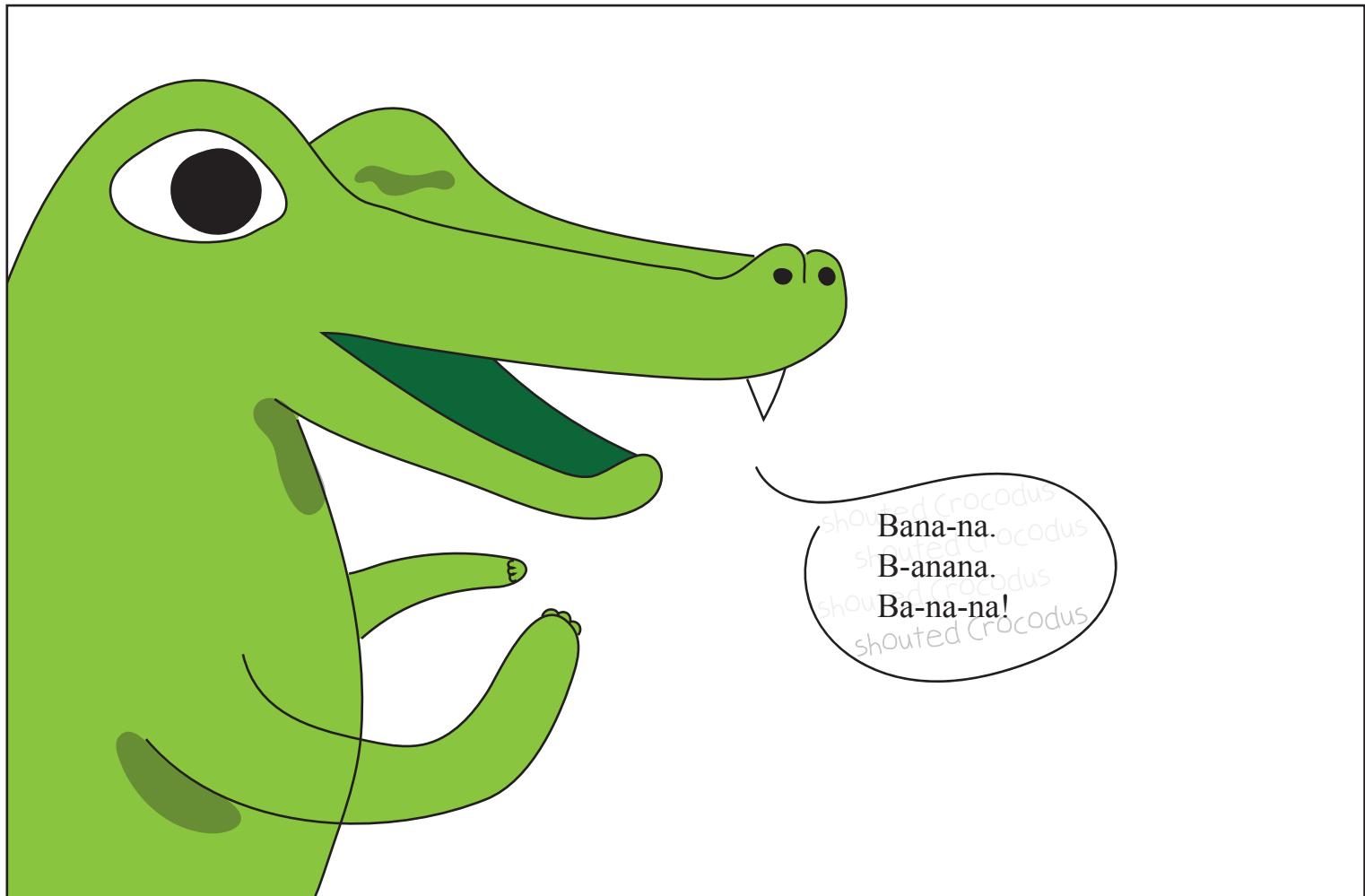
How did you  
learn to read  
then?

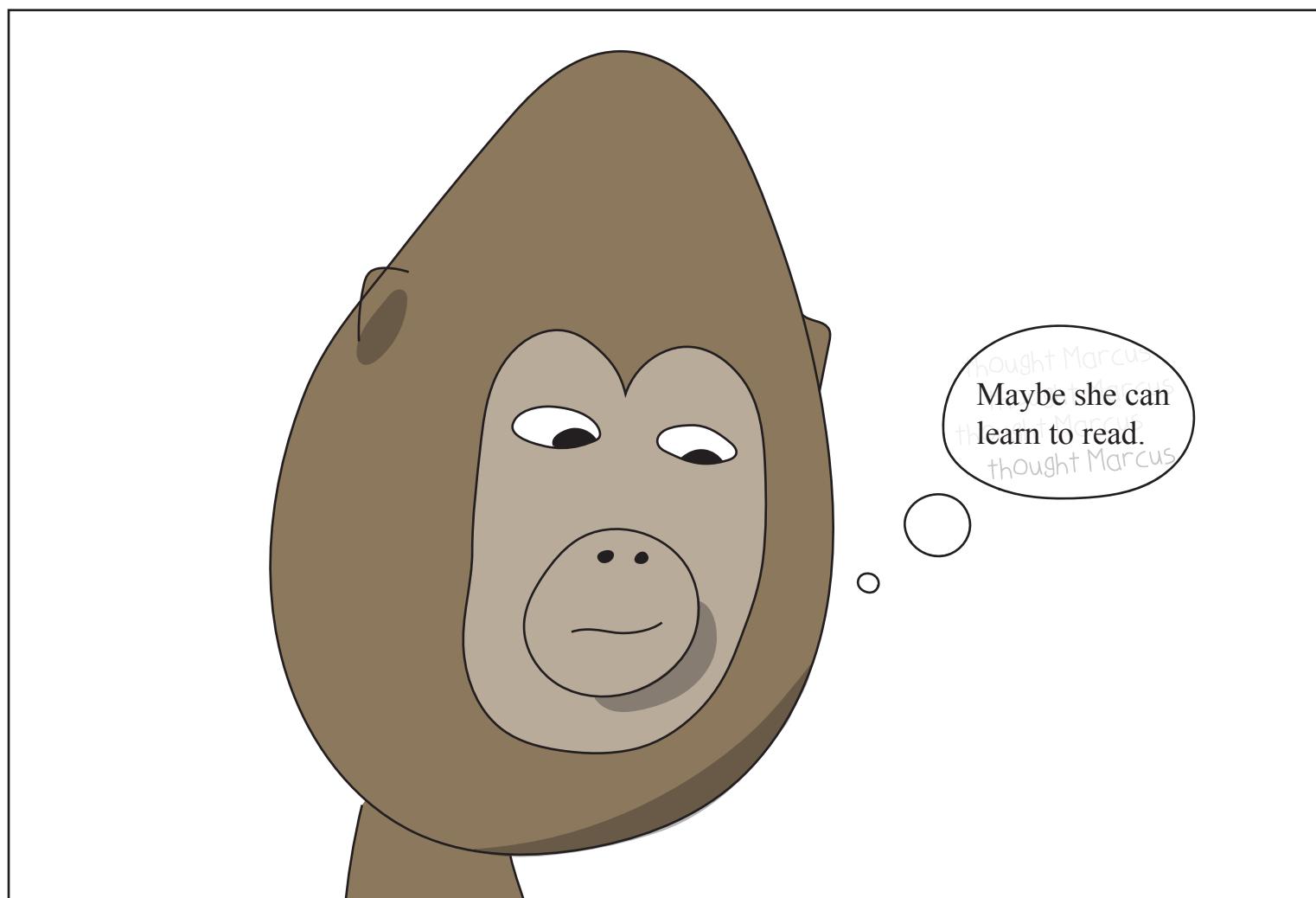
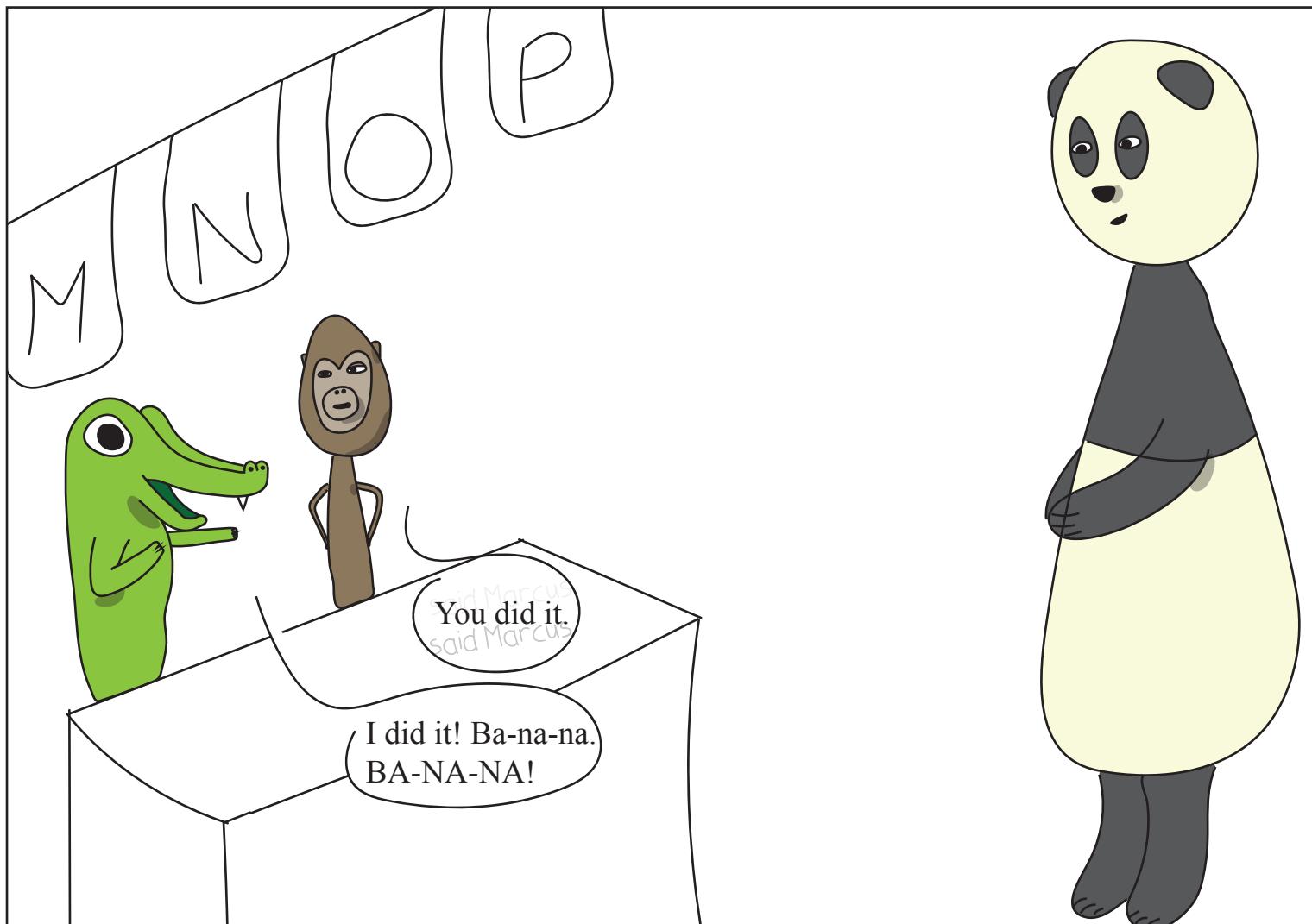


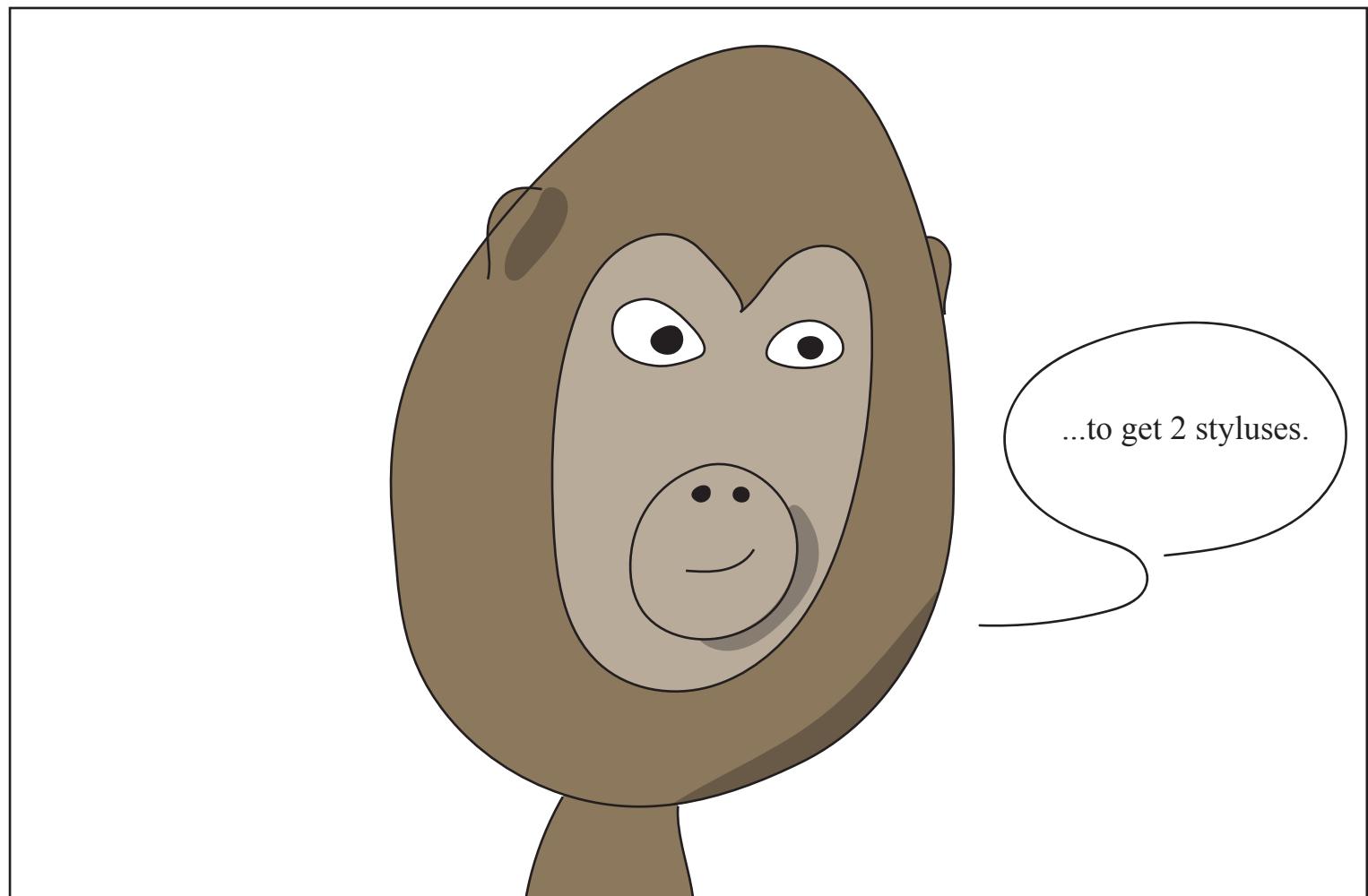
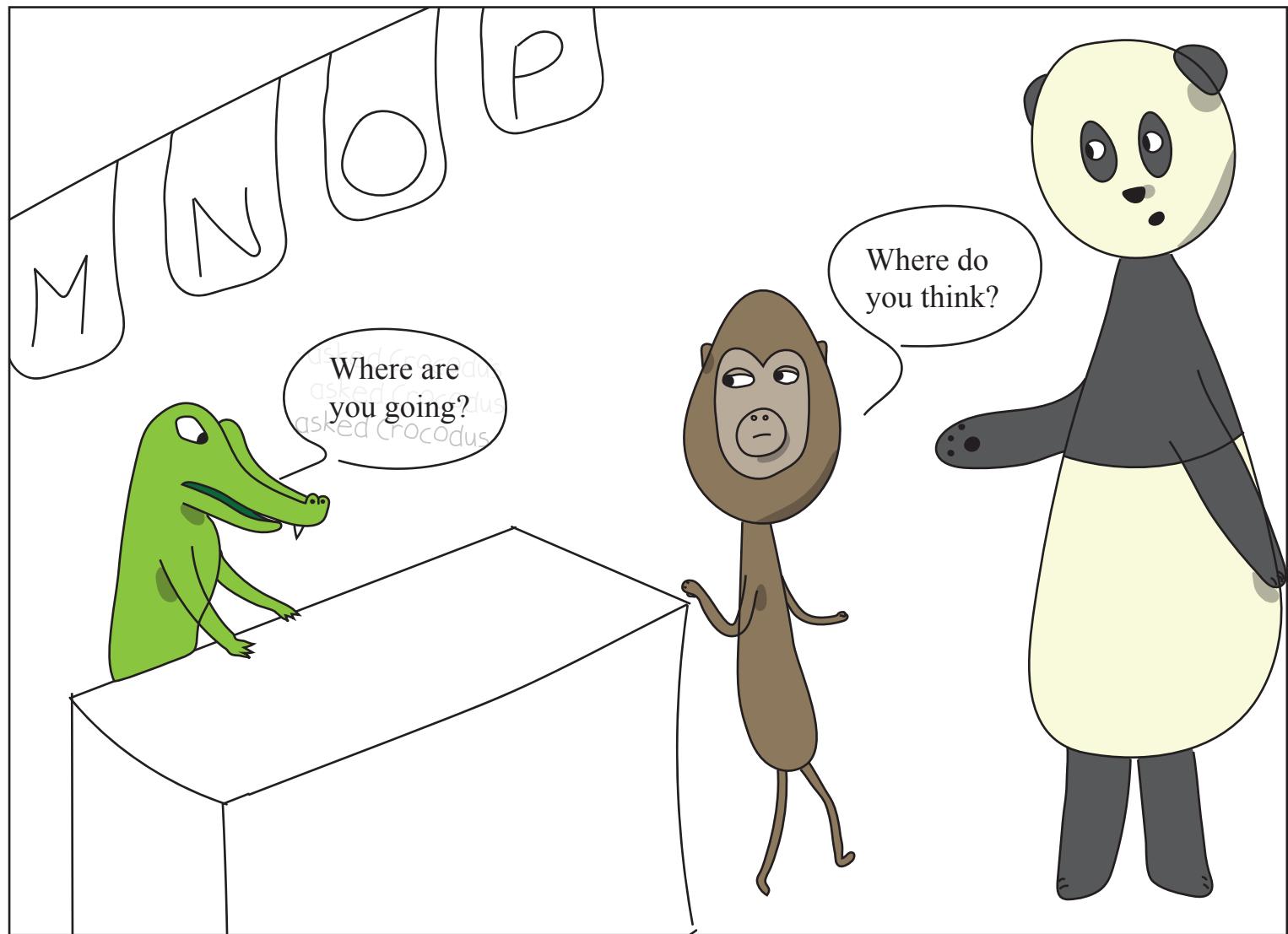
By segmenting  
words.

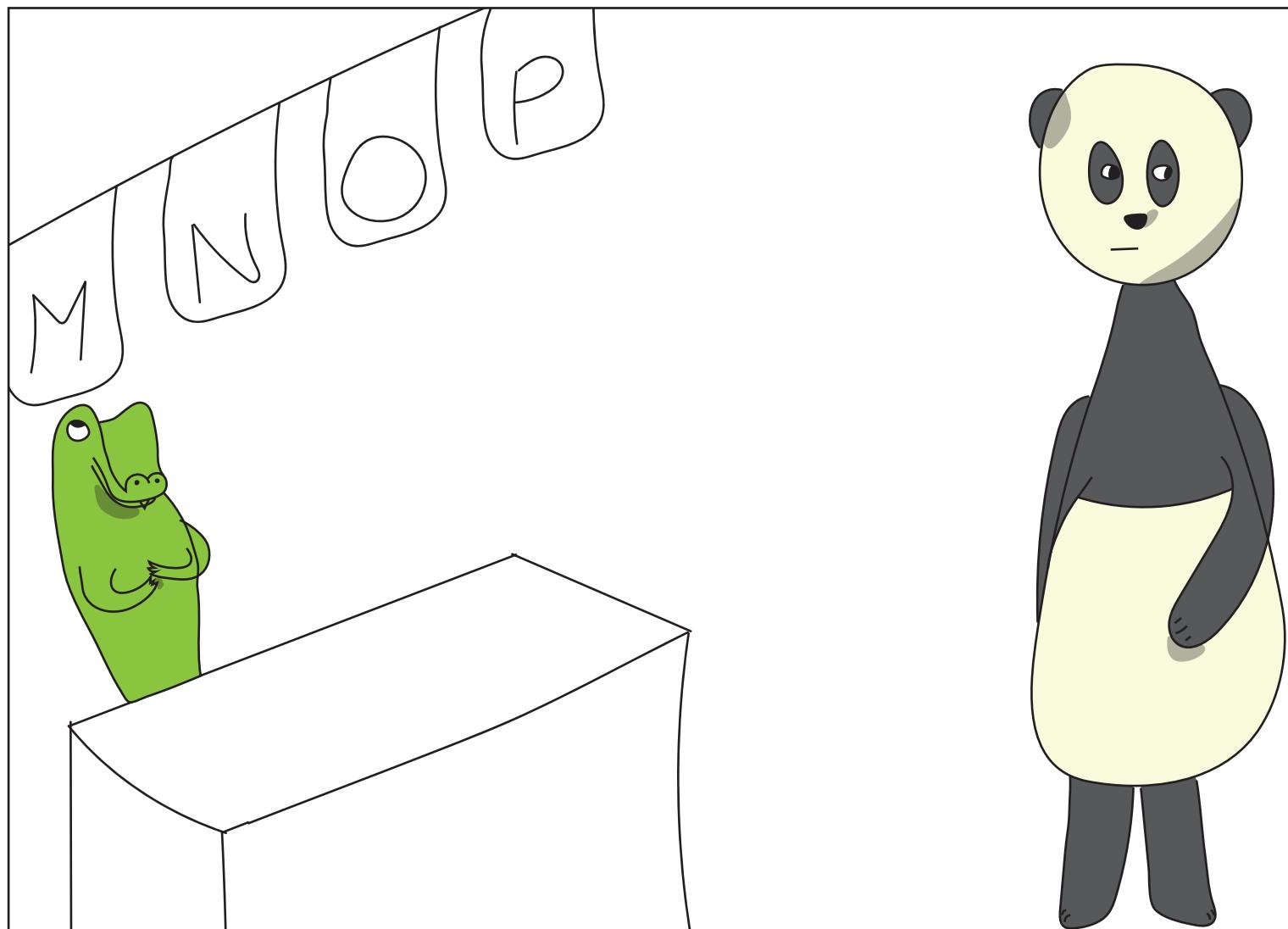
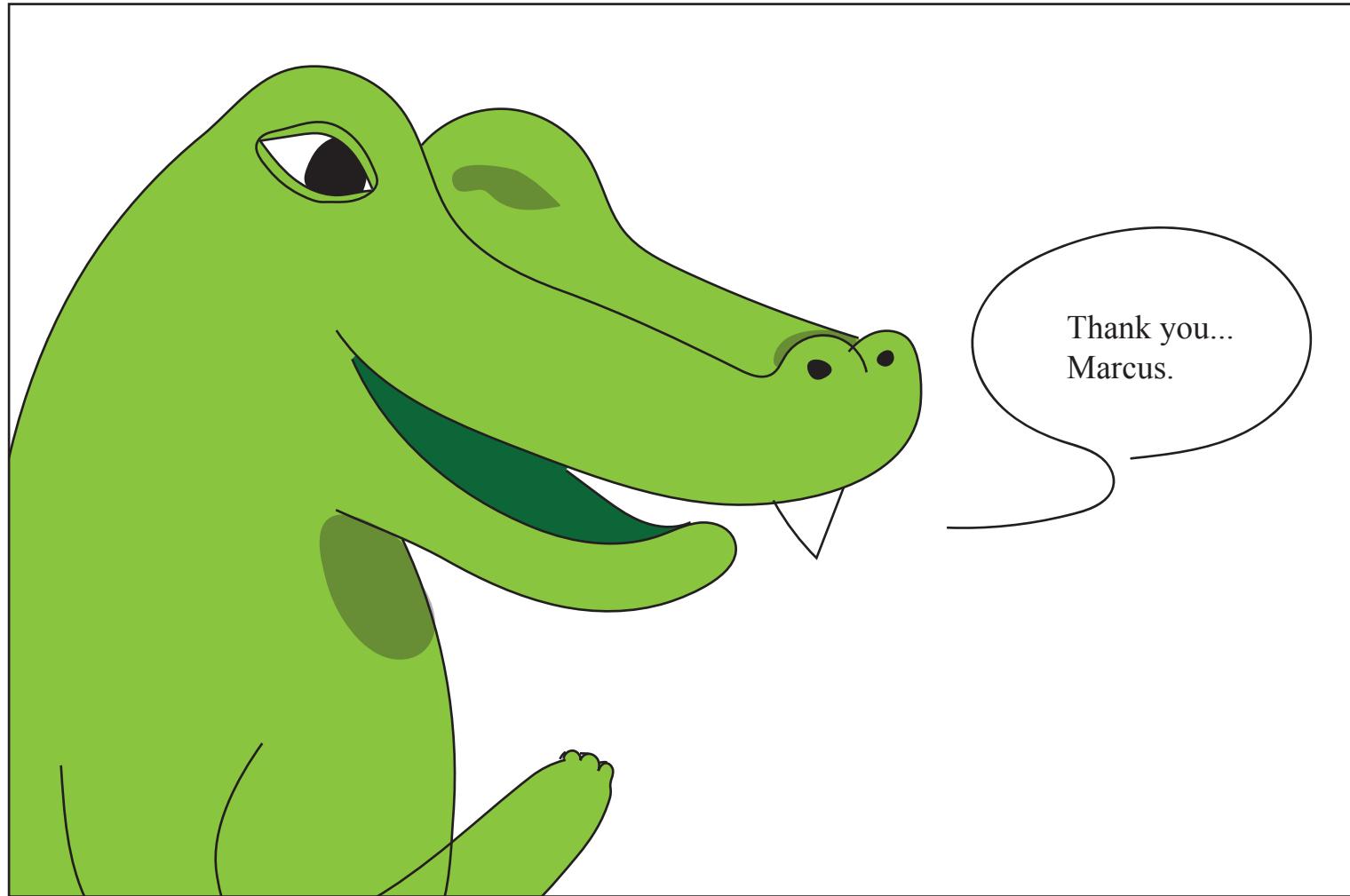




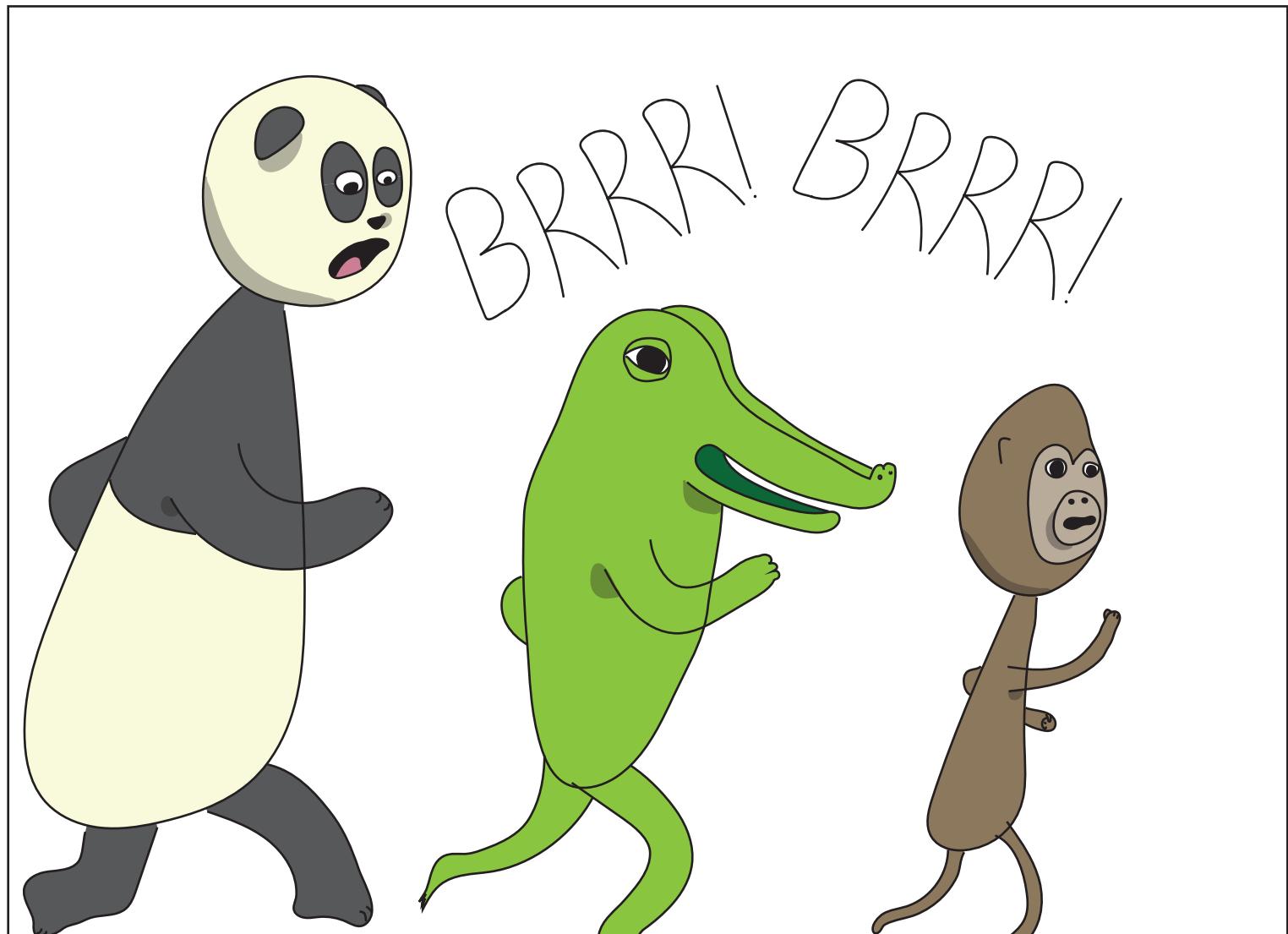
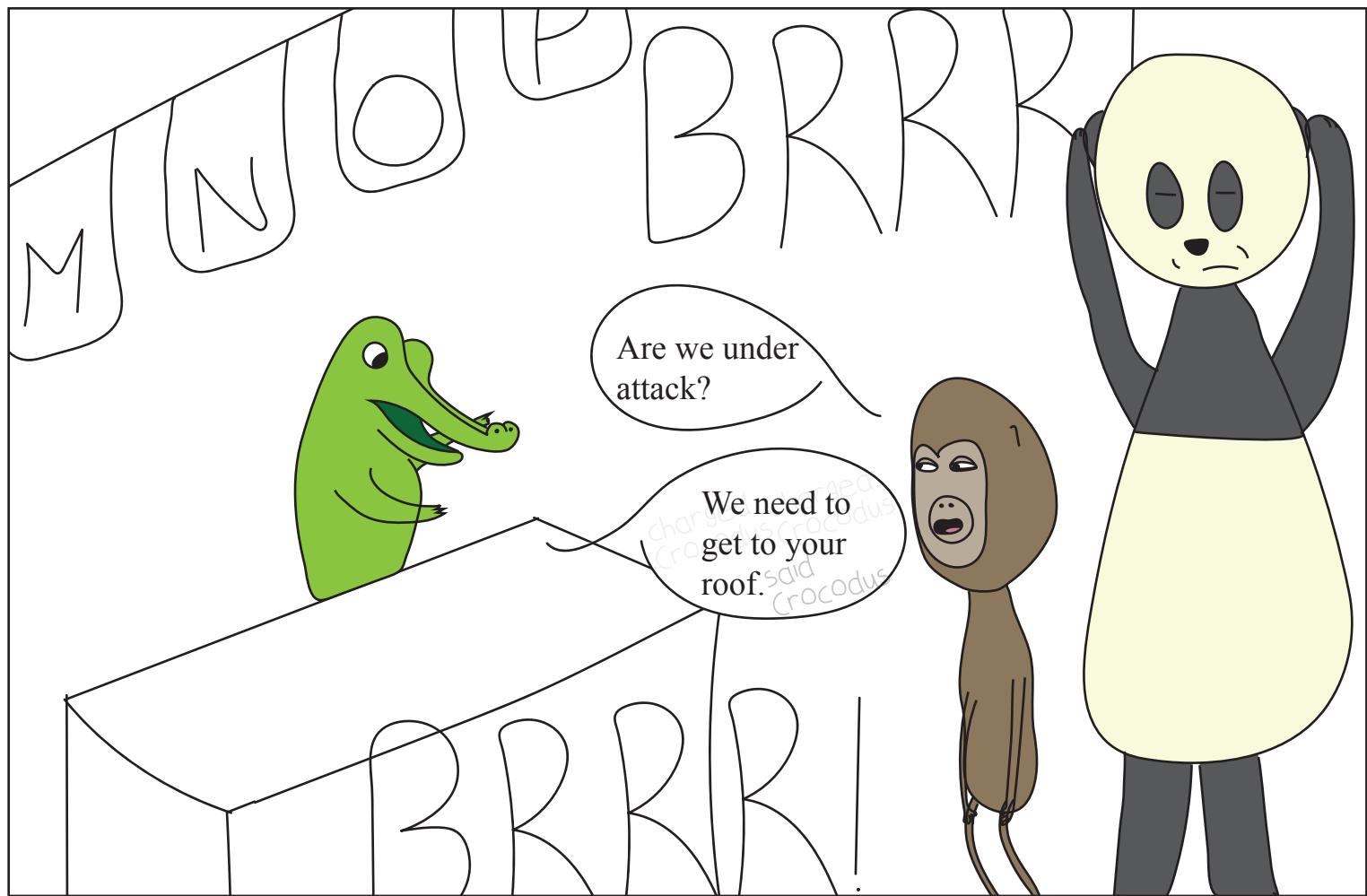




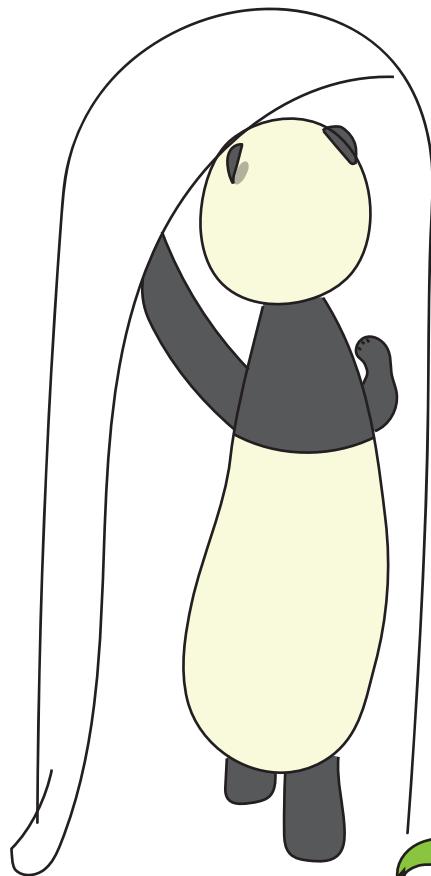




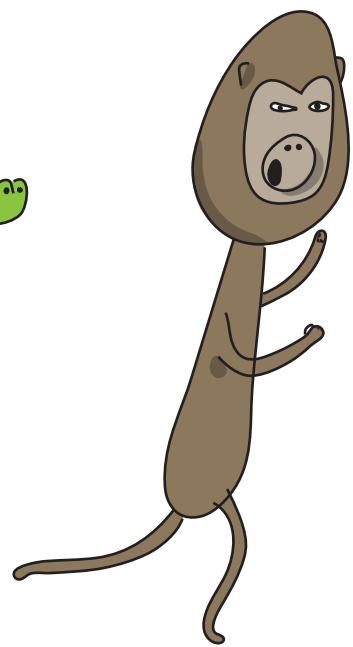
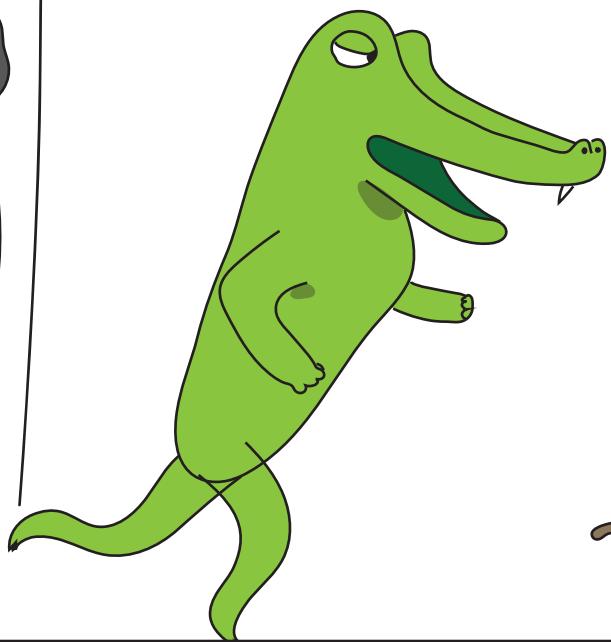




# BATHROOM

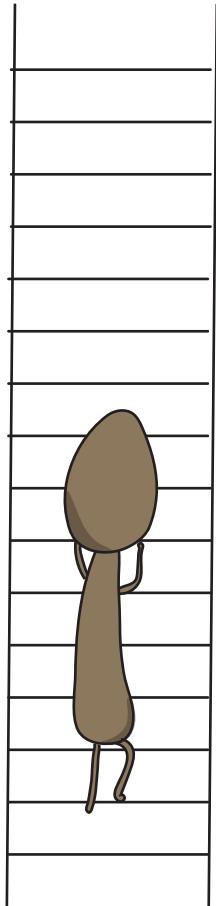
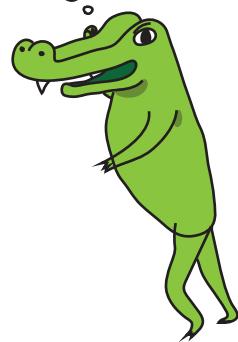


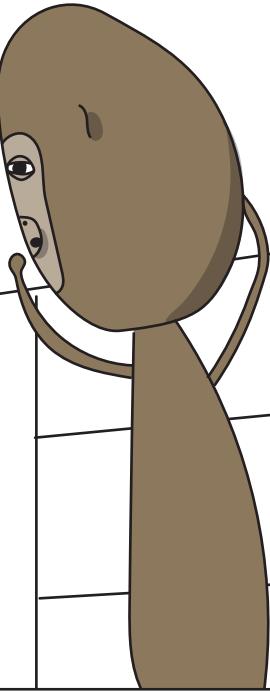
BRRR!



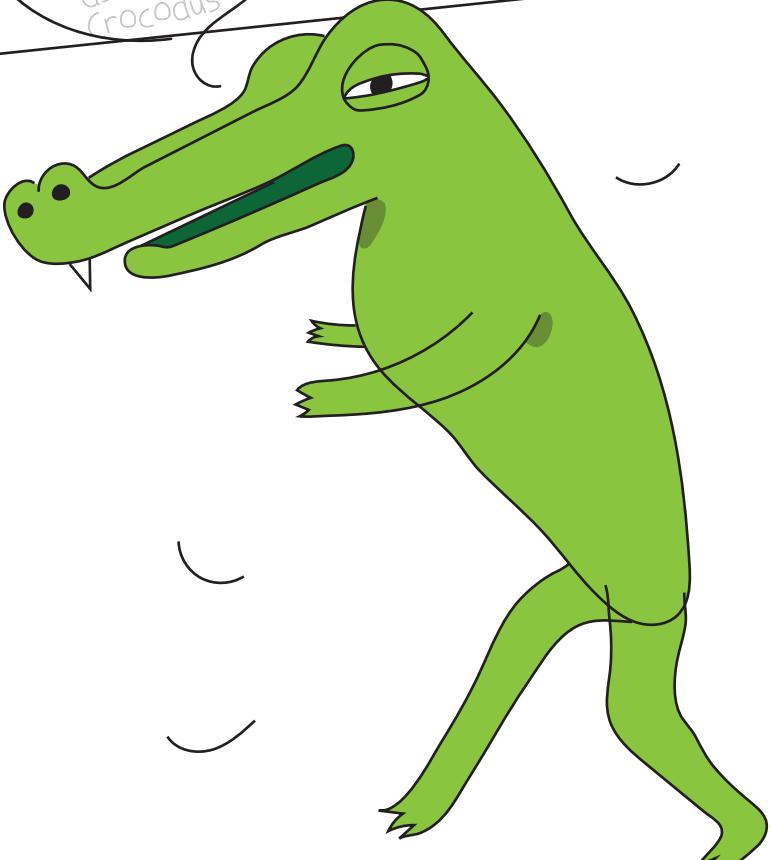
BRRR!

wondered  
Crocus?  
wondered  
crocodus

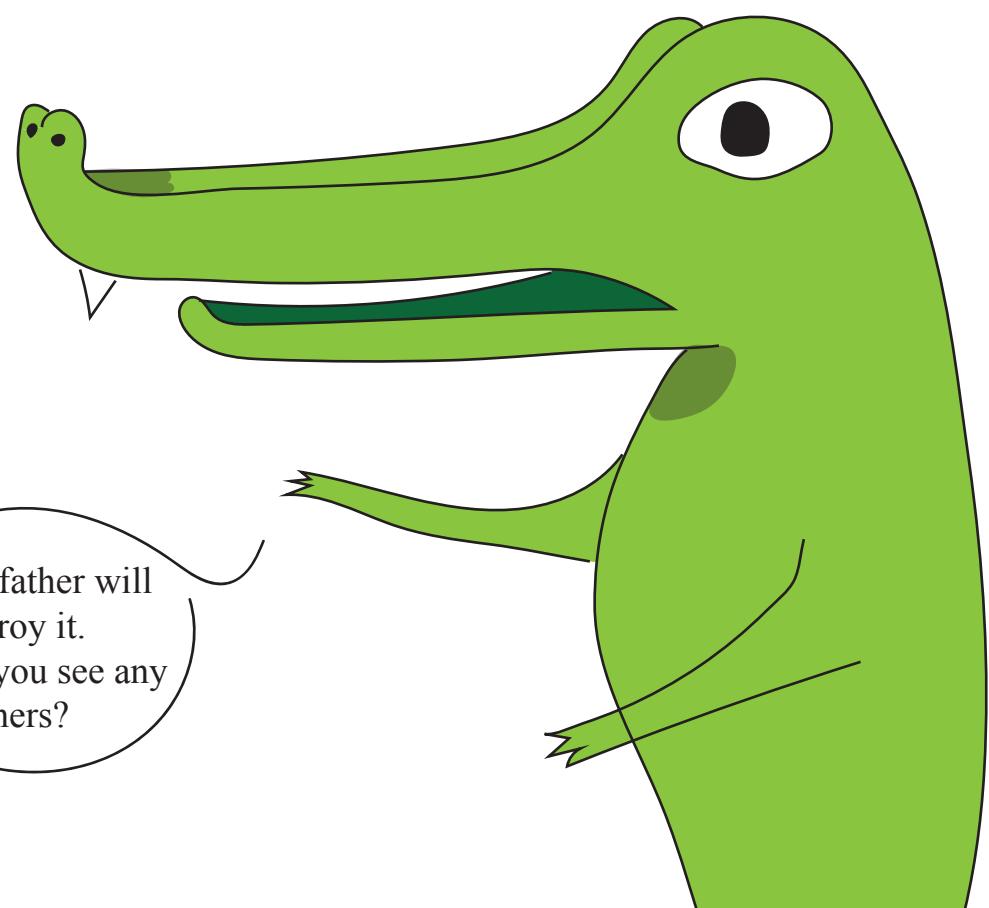
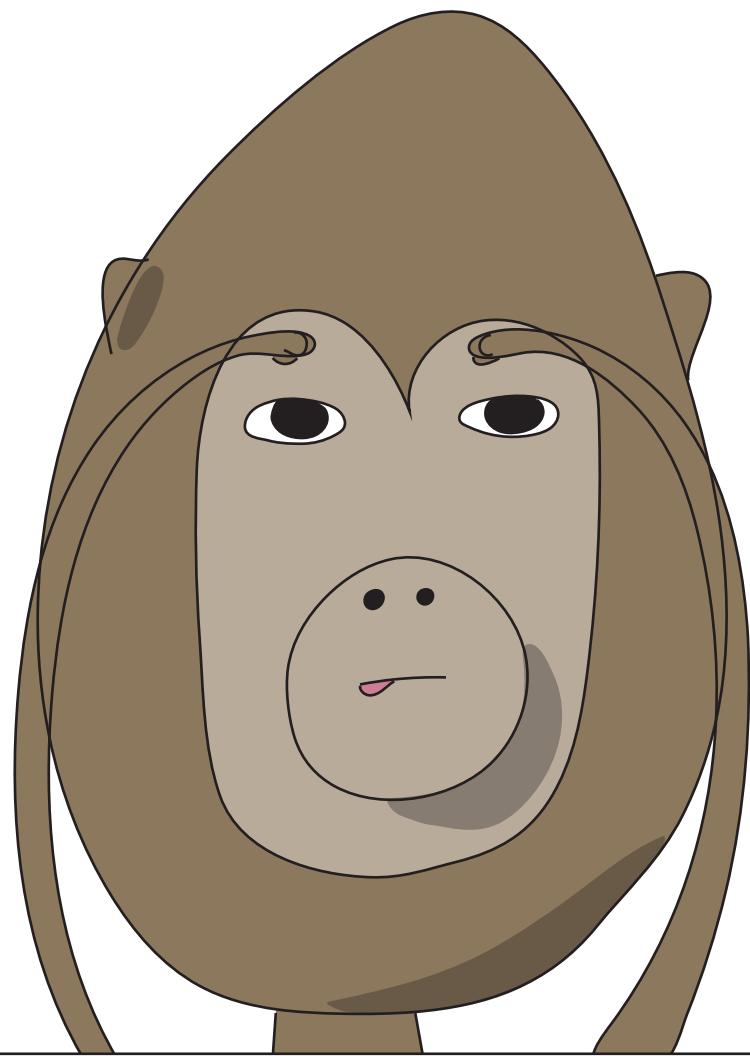


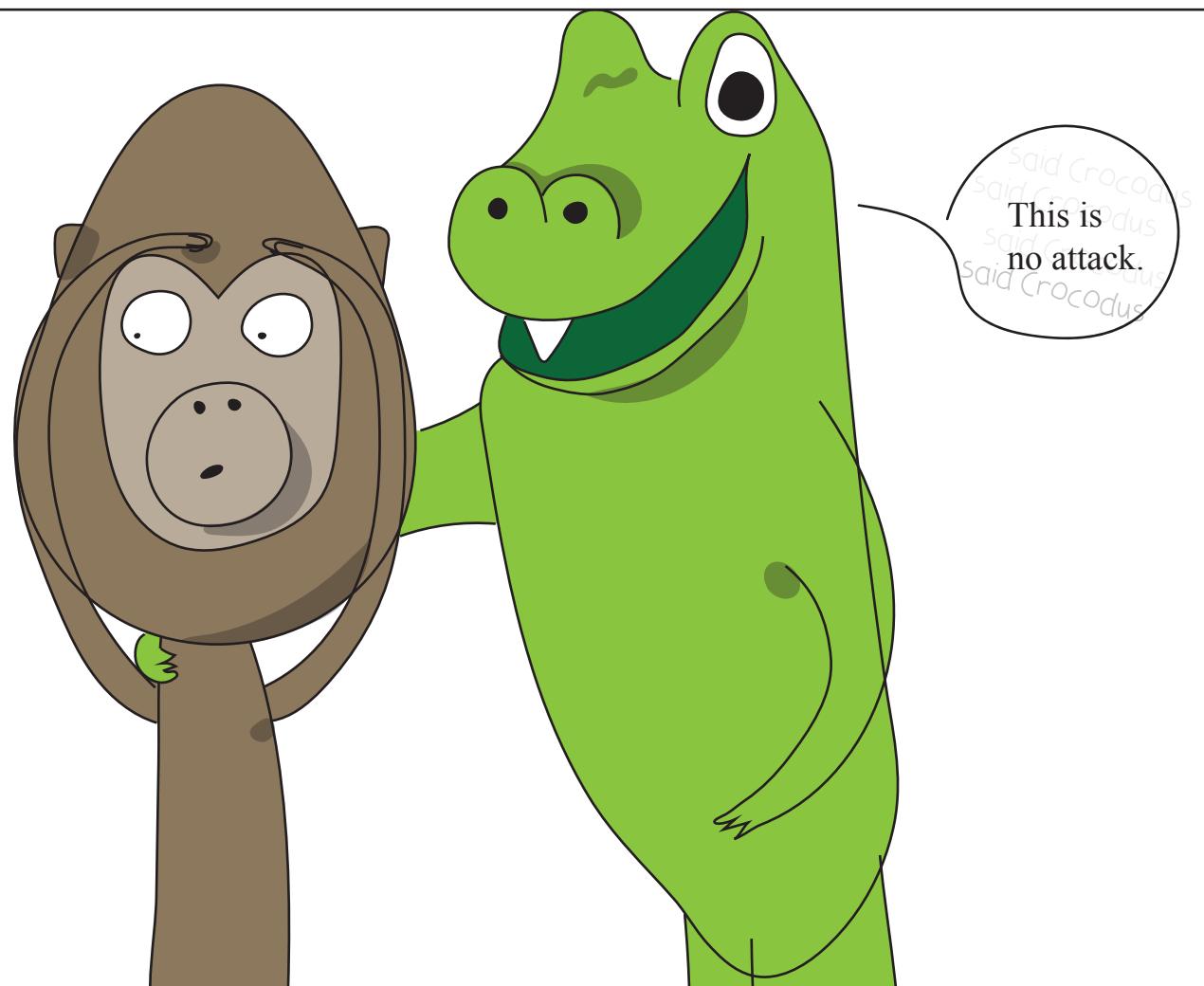
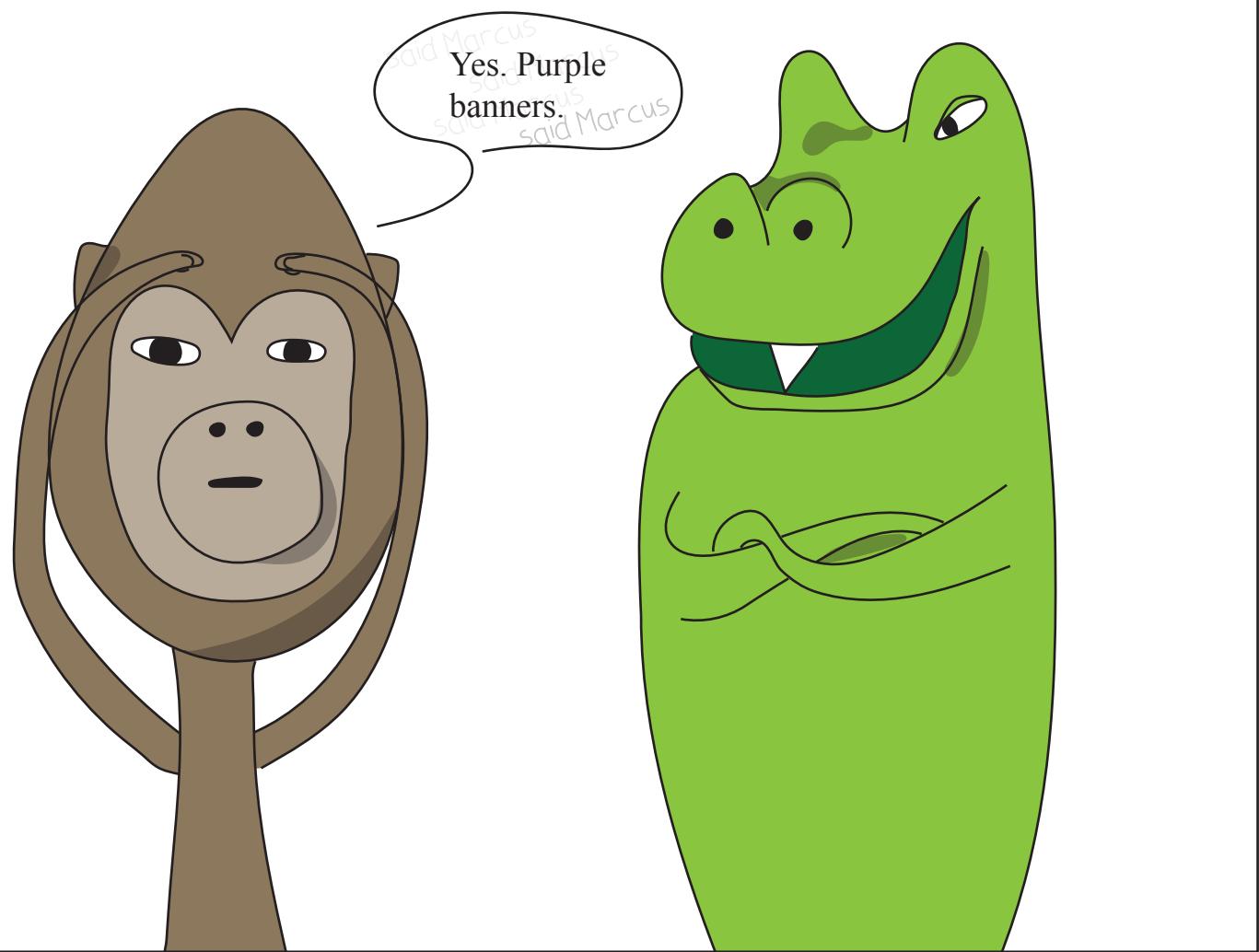


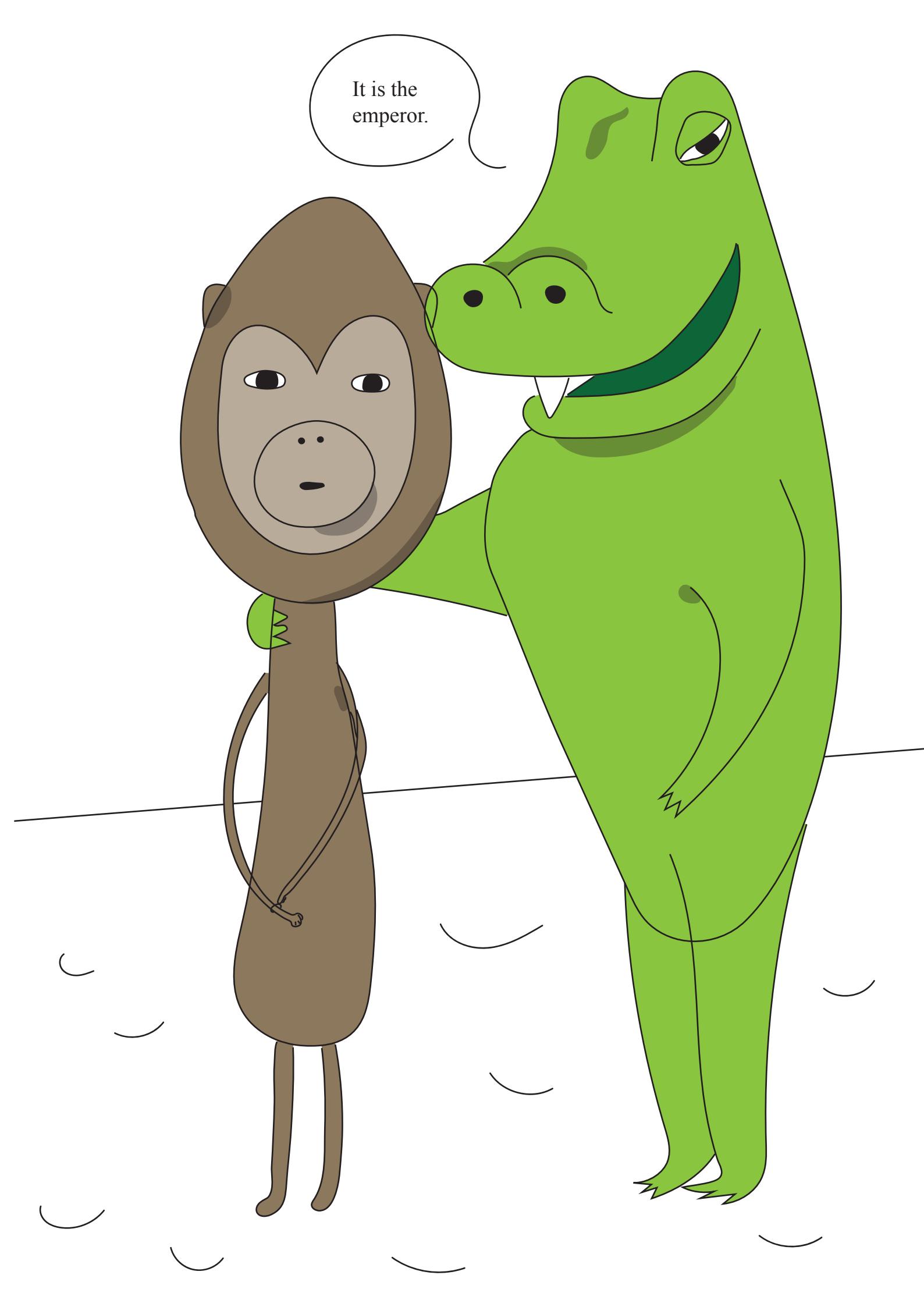
Everyone is running.



I cannot see past the city gates. Can you see anything?







It is the  
emperor.

The End

# Historical Discrepancies

## Marcus Gorilleeus

Marcus Gorilleeus really did live 2000 years ago, although he was human, and his name was Marcus Aurelius. He would grow up to become the emperor of Rome. He lived in a palace in his youth as his family was very wealthy, and he was educated by private tutors. He is known as the philosopher emperor for his writings on Stoicism which were preserved and are now published in the book titled "Meditations".

## Dogneetus

Dogneetus really was Marcus' painting master, although his name was Diogenes. He had strong Stoic beliefs. He may have influenced Marcus to sleep outside like a Stoic.

## Pandus

Marcus probably had many servants, and it was not uncommon for servants to teach the basics of language. Pandus is not based on any specific person in history.

## The Emperor

Hadrian was the emperor during Marcus' youth. He had no children and was forced to choose an heir from the Roman elite class.

## Stoicism

Stoicism is a philosophy that was popular in Ancient Greece and Rome until the rise of Christianity. There is a strong element of logic and understanding of the natural order of life in Stoicism.

## Giving up Children

Romans did actually give their children to other families. It was one way to ensure that the wealth and power of a family was passed along to the correct person. For example, when the emperor did not have an heir, he would formally adopt one.