



The Man in the Hat

Author: Ambika Rao

Illustrator: Ruchi Shah

Re-level: Lea Shaver

Level 2



Have you ever met
The man in the hat?
Who wanted to find
A big grey cat?

This book is about
That man in the hat.
Come see what he saw
In the Western Ghats!



When he was a boy,
He liked to read books,
All books about animals.
His friends gave him looks!

But the man grew up.
The man in the hat.
He got a nice camera.
To look for a cat.



He wanted to see
Turtles and snakes.
He wanted to see
Crocodiles in lakes.

But on his first trip
to the Western Ghats,
What did he see?
A secret grey cat!



The cat was too fast
For the man in the hat!
The cat ran away!
It hid in the Ghat.

"I will find it again."
Said the man in the hat.
"Its color was grey,
Just like my hat."



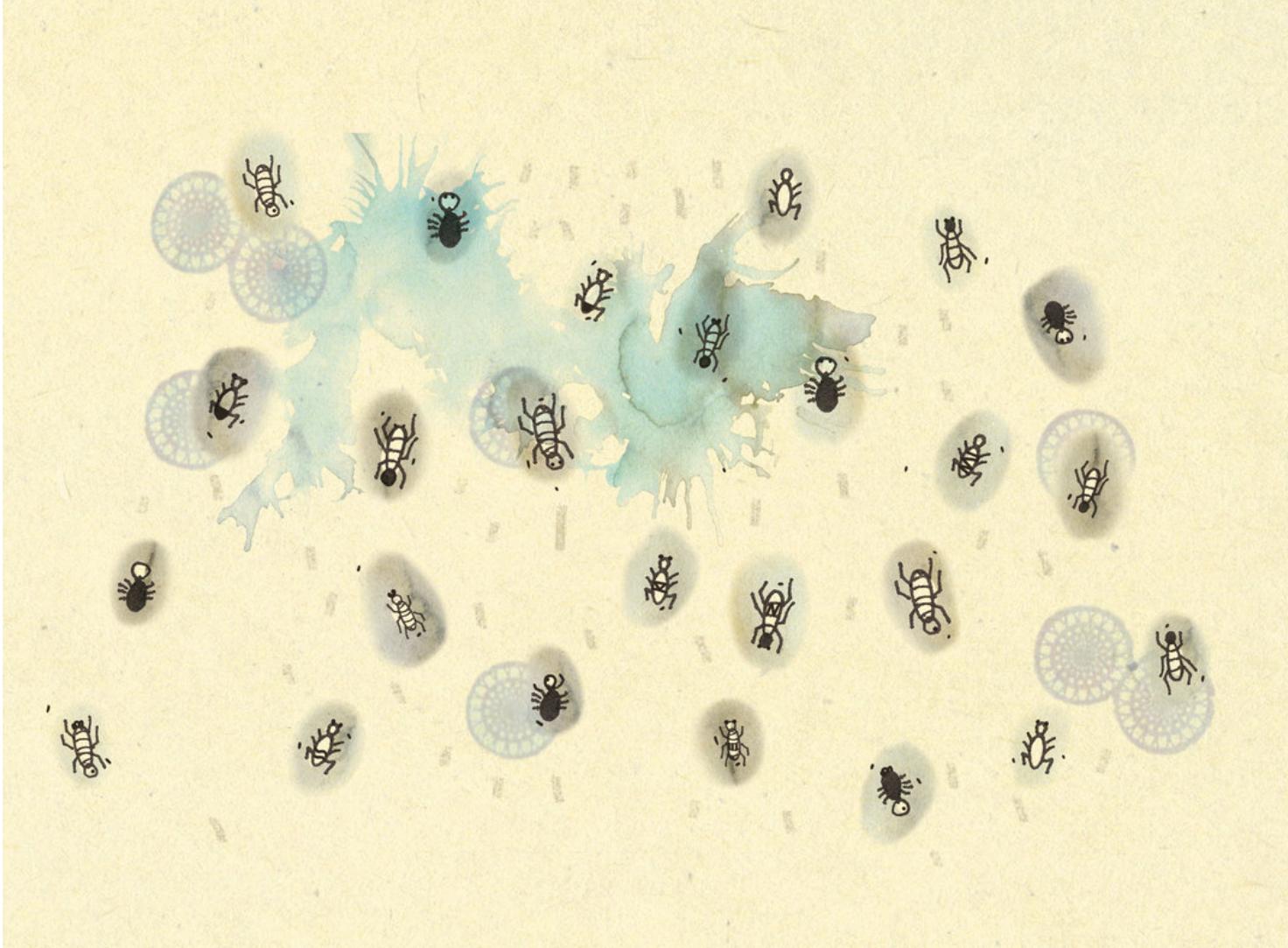
The man walked on
in the Western Ghats.
The sun was so hot,
He needed his hat.

"I'll look for water,"
He said at last.
"All animals need water.
Maybe the cat went past!"



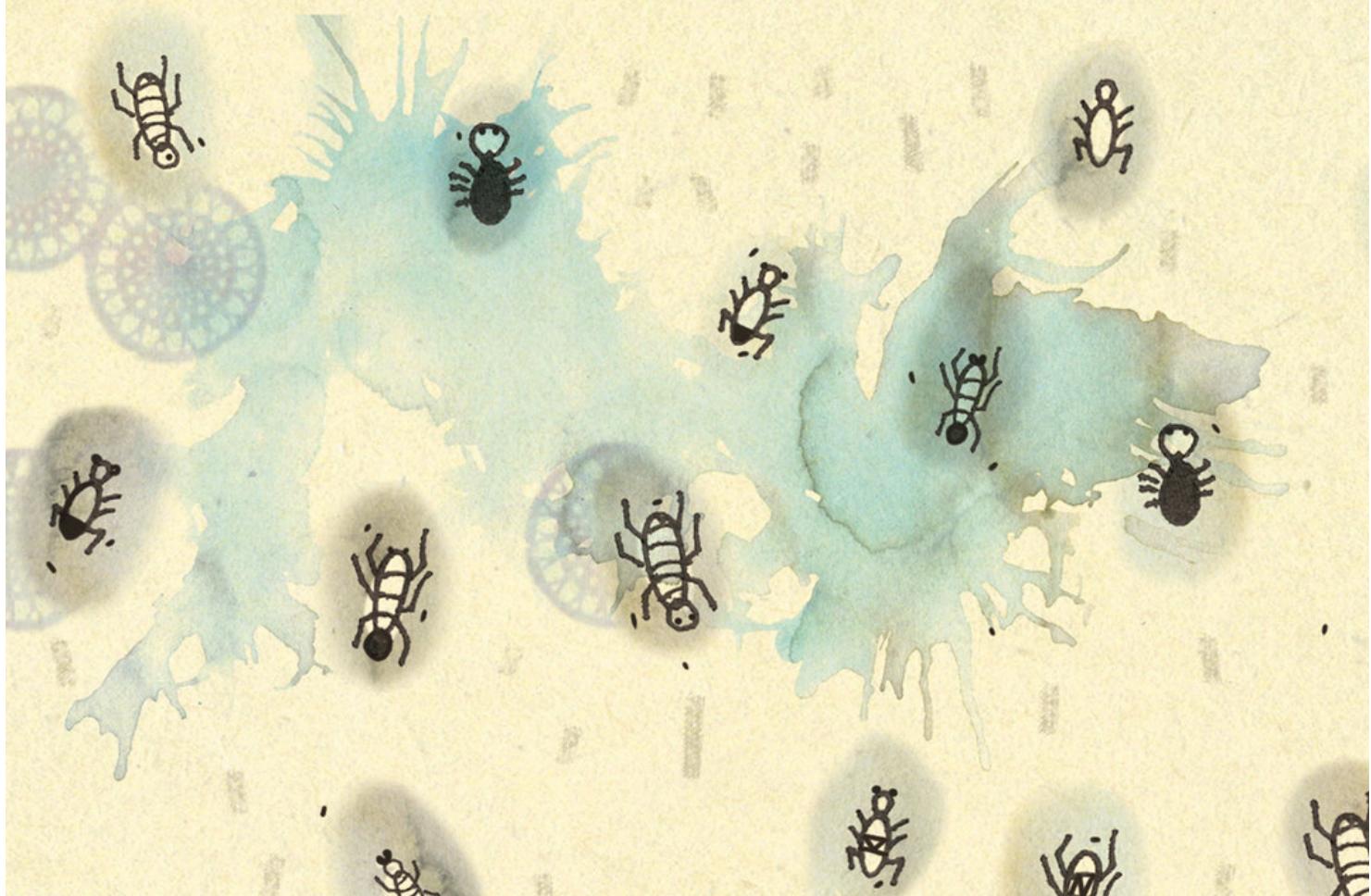
"Oh, Tiger!" he said,
"Have you seen a cat?
One big and fast,
And grey, like my hat?"

If the tiger knew,
she did not say.
She gave a big roar
And ran away!



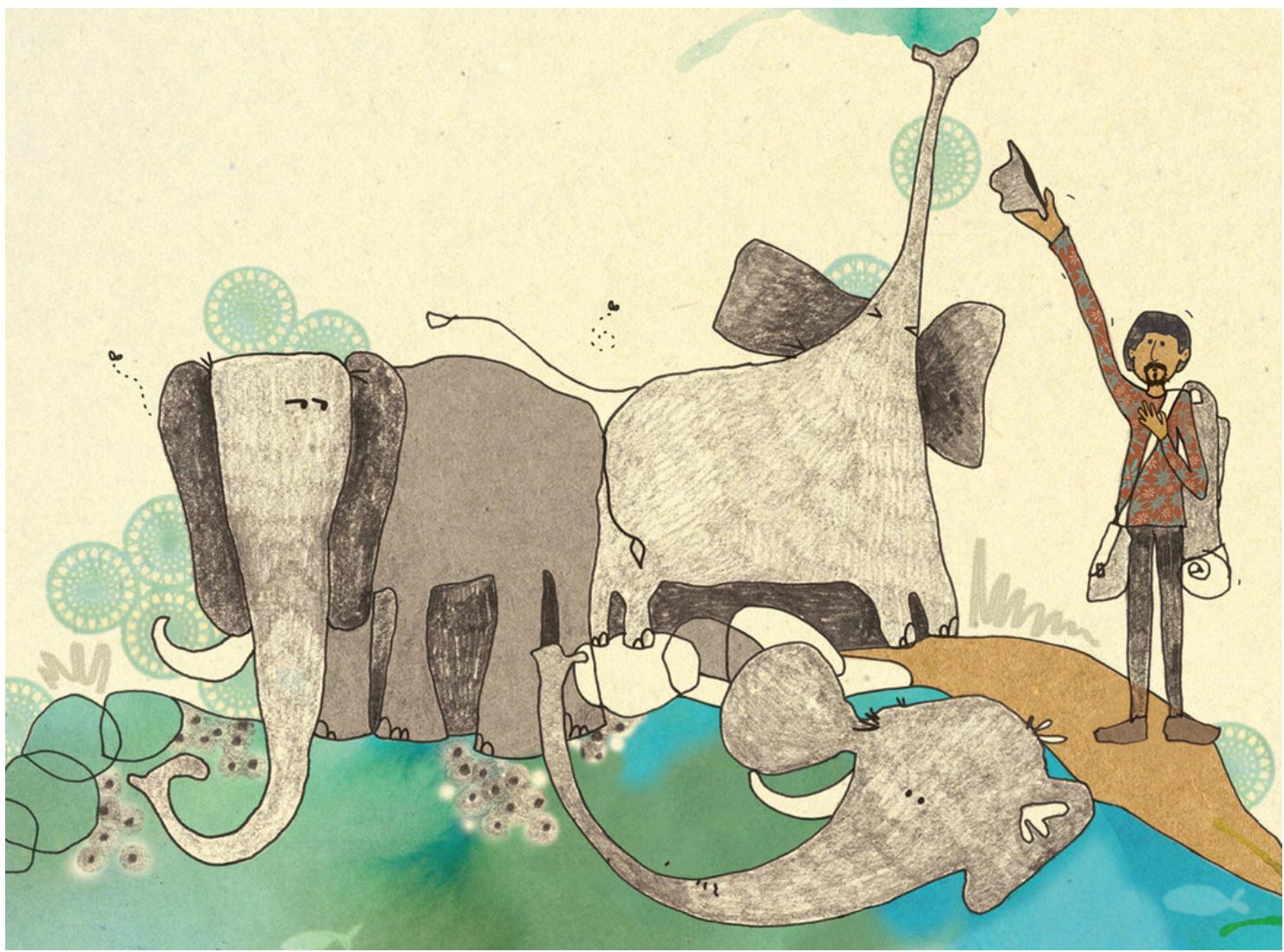
"Well," the man said,
"I must try again."
But as he went on,
It started to rain.

Out came the termites.
Out came the ants.
Soon all of the termites
Were food for the ants.



Rain fell on his hat,
That rain in the Ghat.
It became waterfalls.
And it filled all the rivers.

We all must have water.
Ants, men and cats.
If we will have water,
We must save the Ghats!



The rain was good for
Deer and elephants too.
The man in the hat
Went to ask them, too.

"Excuse me, my friends,"
Said the man in the hat,
"Has anyone here seen
A big grey cat?"



"No," said the elephants
and the barking deer.
"We've not seen a cat
Like that around here."

So on up to the rainforest
went the man in the hat.
In the next-up level
of the Western Ghats.



There in a tree,
What did he see?
A Lion-tailed Macaque
Then two, then three!

"Good day, Macaques,"
said the man in the hat.
"Can you help me find
The secret grey cat?"



"Look in the trees
for a hive of bees.
Under that tree,
Is a frog hard to see."

"He lives underground.
But has friends all around.
Go and ask him about your cat.
Go and ask him, man in the hat!"



Left, right, left right
Went the man in the hat
He went to find
The big grey cat.

At last he came
To a tree so tall,
It had a bee hive
About to fall.



A frog said to him
From underground,
"Are you the man
Who walks around?"

"My friend the bat
Says you look for a cat."
"Yes," said the man,
"The cat in the ghat."



The frog came up
From underground.
A purple frog!
It made a big sound.

The purple frog
Told the man in the hat
To find a guide
Who had seen the cat.



The man went up
Past forests thick.
The trees grew thinner
Very quick.

When people cut trees,
To make things cheap,
The animals
Have nowhere to sleep.



"Dear God," the man prayed,
"Please, please, please,
For the animals here,
Please save these trees!"

And on he went to the tip-top grass.
Up, up he went, the man in the hat.
Will he find the cat at last?
Will he find the cat in the ghat?



So far inside
the Western Ghats
In grass so green
Sat the man in the hat.

He rested a bit
There in that place.
He turned to see
A human face.



"Good day, Sir!"
Said the man in the hat
"Can you guide me
to the big grey cat?"

"This cat I have seen
But once before!
Please help me find
What I came here for."



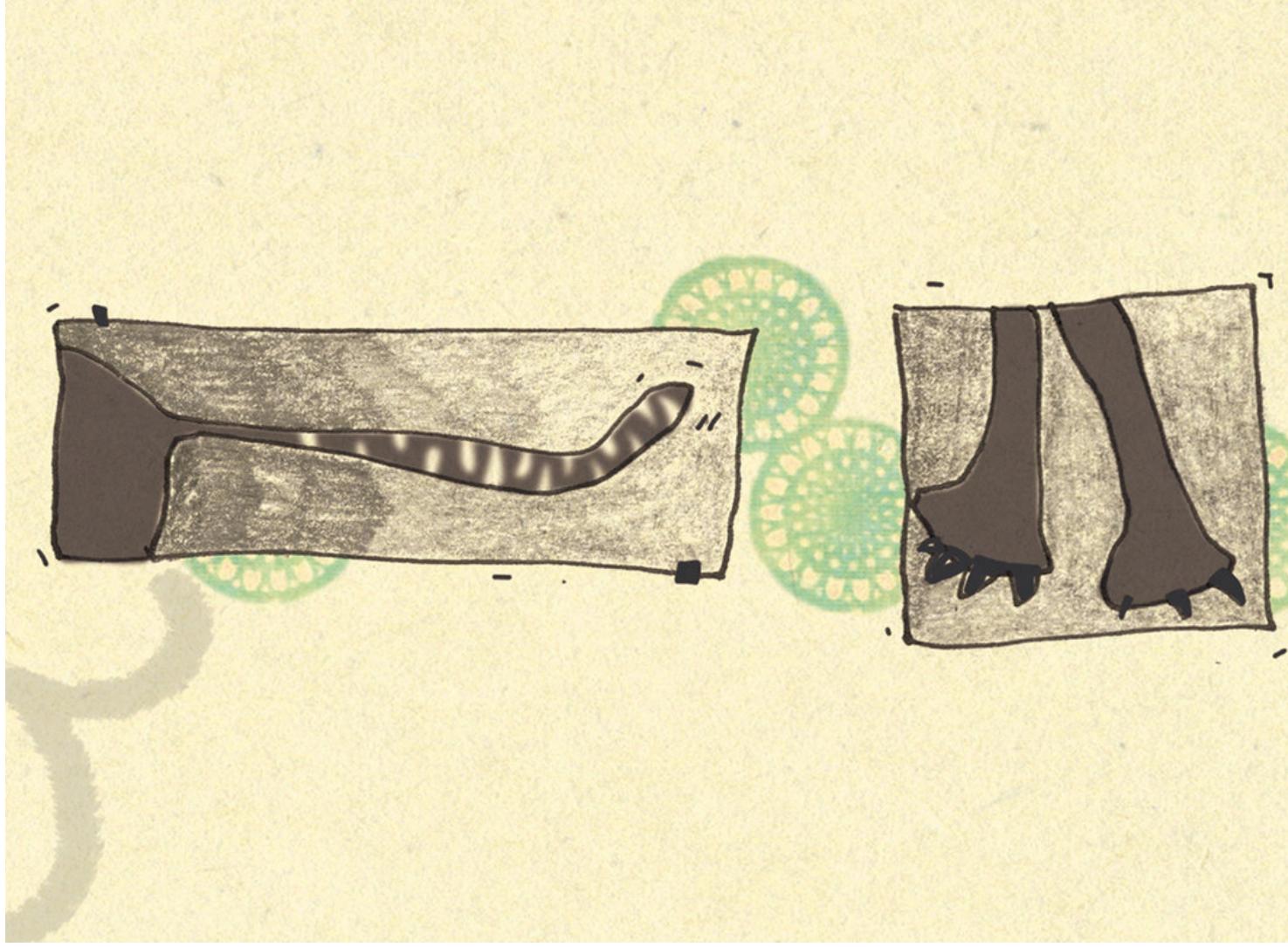
"*Pogeyan* is your cat,"
Said the kind guide.
"Far up in the ghats
Is where she hides."

"Where she is now,
Nobody knows.
But up in this ghat
She comes and goes."



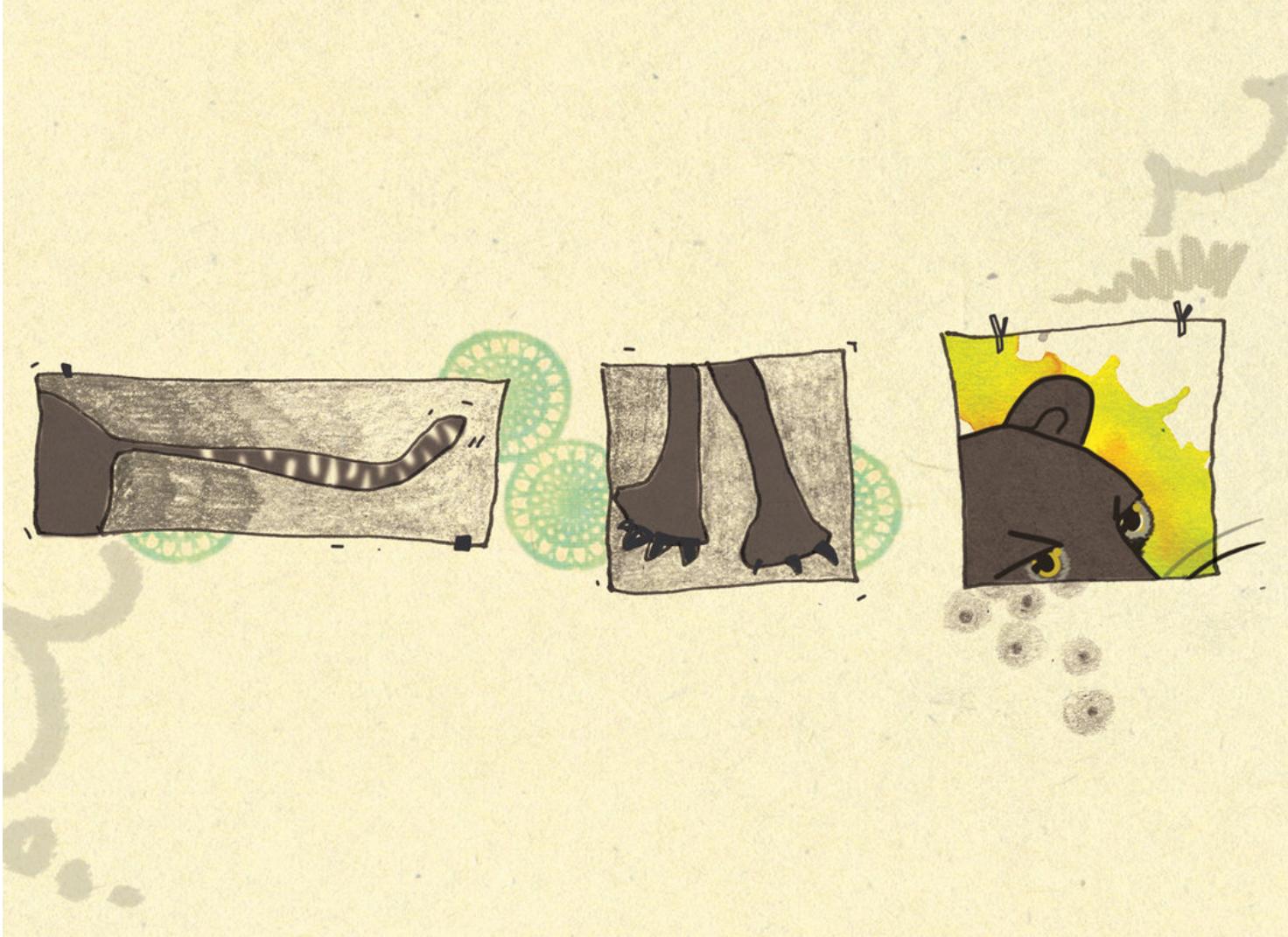
So happy he was!
The man in the hat.
He turned a flip,
Just like that.

"Then up I will go!"
Said the man in the hat.
Like a Nilgiri Tahr,
The goat of the ghat.



It was time to sleep
So the man in the hat
Set a camera trap
For the cat in the ghat.

He slept. He woke.
He looked in the trap.
It was good! He saw it!
The secret grey cat!



Then a snake woke him up.
And that's when he knew.
It all was a dream.
Let's hope it comes true!



The Man in the Hat

He looks for a cat.
He looks for the cat
way up in the ghat!

This tale is based on the real-life trek of Sandesh Kadur, a nature film maker and explorer. The Western Ghats are the oldest mountains in India and home to many rare animals.

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

Story Attribution:

This story: The Man in the Hat is re-levelled by [Lea Shaver](#). The © for this re-level lies with Lea Shaver, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Based on Original story: '[The Cat in the Ghat!](#)', by [Ambika Rao](#). © Pratham Books , 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Illustration Attributions:

Cover page: [Man with camera and bag](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [Wildlife photographer](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [Wildlife photographer](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [Black cat near leaves](#) by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [Man and animals in hot sun](#) by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [Man and animals in hot sun](#) by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [A tiger](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [Raindrops, termites and ants](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [Raindrops, termites and ants](#) by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [Man talking to elephants bathing in a pond](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

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



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

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

Illustration Attributions:

Page 11: [A deer](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 12: [Monkey with the face of a lion](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 13: [Beehive and leaves](#) by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: [Man holding a flower](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 15: [A purple frog](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 16: [Forests and trees](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 17: [Man sitting in a forest](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 18: [Man talking to a tribesman](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 19: [Black cat](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 20: [Happy man and tribesman](#) by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

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



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

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

Illustration Attributions:

Page 23: [Images and photos of a cat](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 24: [Images and photos of a cat](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 25: [A man looking through a camera](#), by [Ruchi Shah](#) © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

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



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

The Man in the Hat (English)

This is a book that takes you deep into the jungles of the Western Ghats. A wildlife photographer sets out to find an elusive wild cat and meets a menagerie of fascinating creatures. Quirky illustrations pepper a funny narrative inspired by real-life adventure. What better way to invite you to join his quest!

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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