

1001

Our storytelling program, 1001 Stories, brings meaningful learning to some of the hardest to reach populations around the world. We aim to facilitate the creation, development, and gathering of 1001 empowering stories from every participating local community.

Children love to tell stories. However, in many places in the world, their creative voices are rarely heard or cultivated. The 1001 Stories Program conducts storytelling workshops that build on children's natural potential to become original storytellers. Through the 1001 Stories Program, children are empowered while their literacy skills are developed.

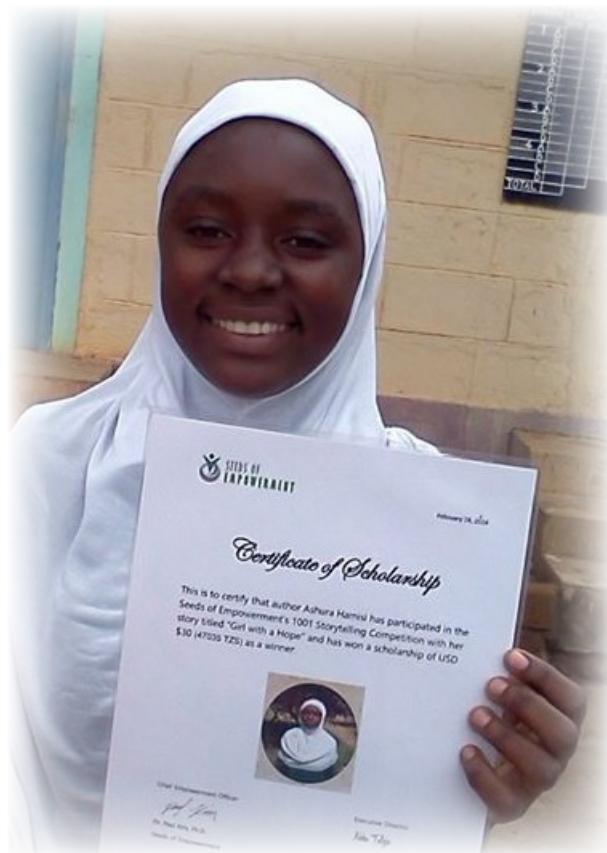
When integrated with technologies, these stories become an effective tool for literacy by growing reading and writing skills grounded in local languages and local themes in underserved areas worldwide.



A map of Africa showing country boundaries. Tanzania is highlighted with a green fill. The word "Tanzania" is written in green text to the right of the country.

Tanzania

Our Author



ASHURA HAMISI

My name is Ashura Hamisi. I am a 7th grader at Nangwanda secondary school in Newala, Tanzania. I want to publish many creative stories.



1001 Stories Presents

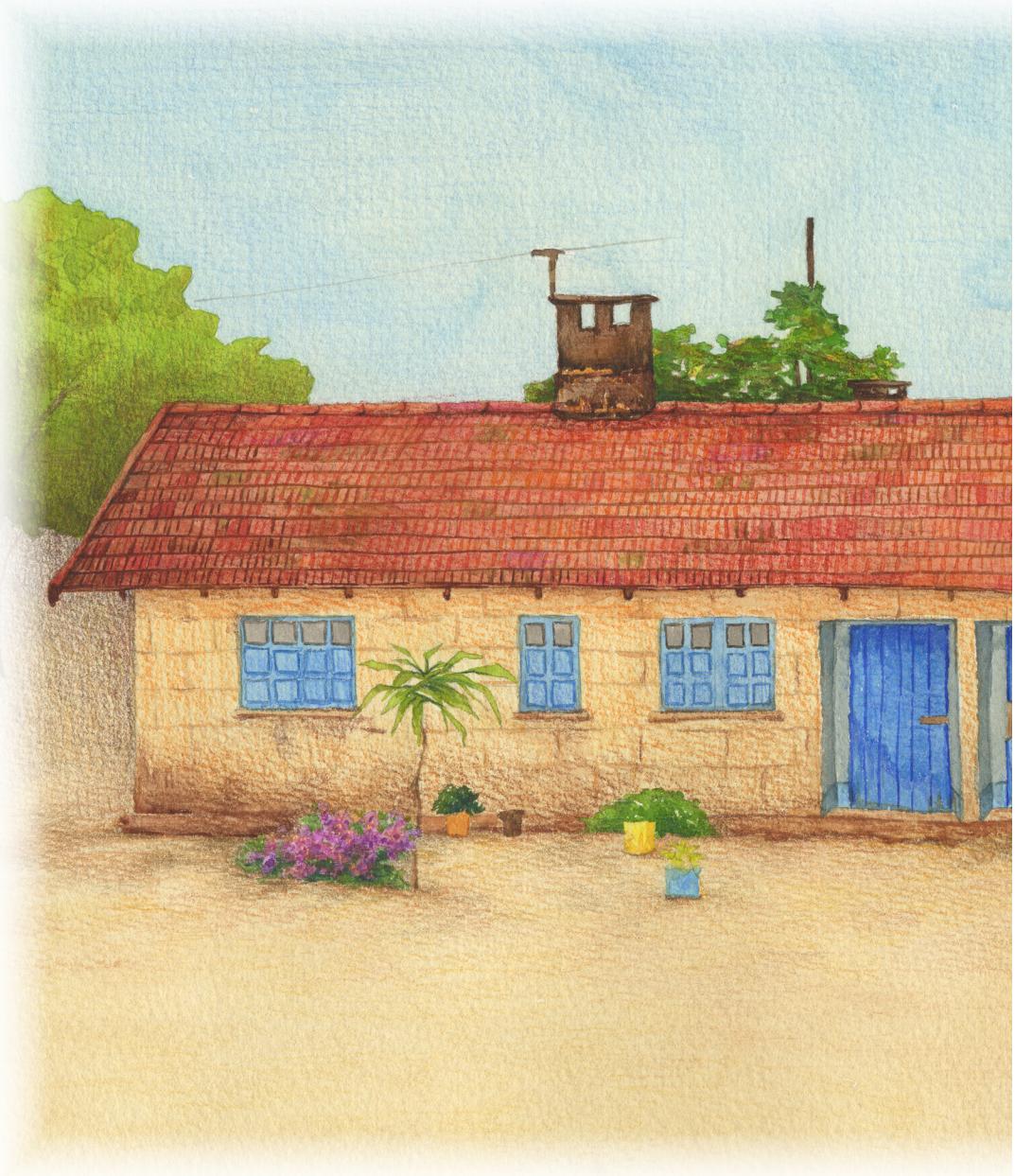
GIRL WITH A HOPE

Written By:
Ashura Hamisi

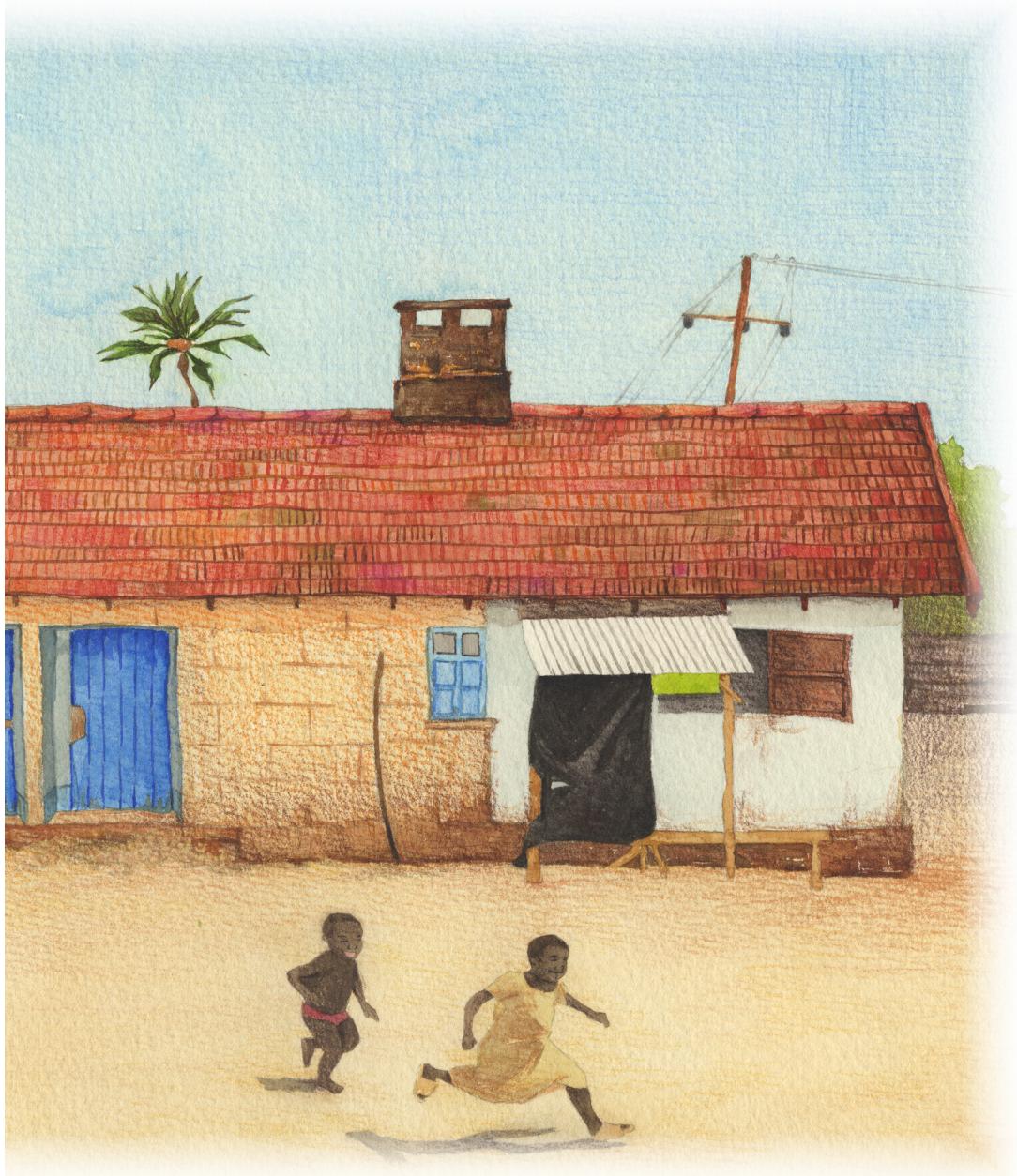
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Ashura is a kind and cute girl who lives in a small town called Majengo. She lives with her dad, who sells vegetables from his stand, and her mom, who cooks the most delicious Ugali (Africa



rice cake made from maize). Ashura's dad returns from his job each day looking tired. Even though he works hard, he worries about feeding the family and buying Ashura's school supplies.



Ashura feels sorry for her dad having to work so hard for the family, and she thanks him for his effort. She speaks to her dad after he comes back late one night from work.



“Dad! My teacher says no matter how difficult a situation is, if we try hard without losing hope and remain honest, everything will turn out fine. So cheer up, Dad!” Her dad smiles faintly. Her mom nods with approval.



However, things in Ashura's home are getting worse. There are days when they have nothing to eat.

Then one day, her dad decides to go far away to sell pineapples and cabbages.

Ashura worries about her dad biking a long way, all alone, with a large basket of fruits and vegetables.

"Goodbye, Dad. Good things will happen to us soon. Cheer up Papa. Cheer up!"

"Okay, you must mind what your mother says." He hugs Ashura and her mother and sets off on the long journey





A few days pass, and Ashura does not hear anything from her dad. Ashura and her mother start worrying about him. Then one day, the village headman runs quickly to Ashura's home.

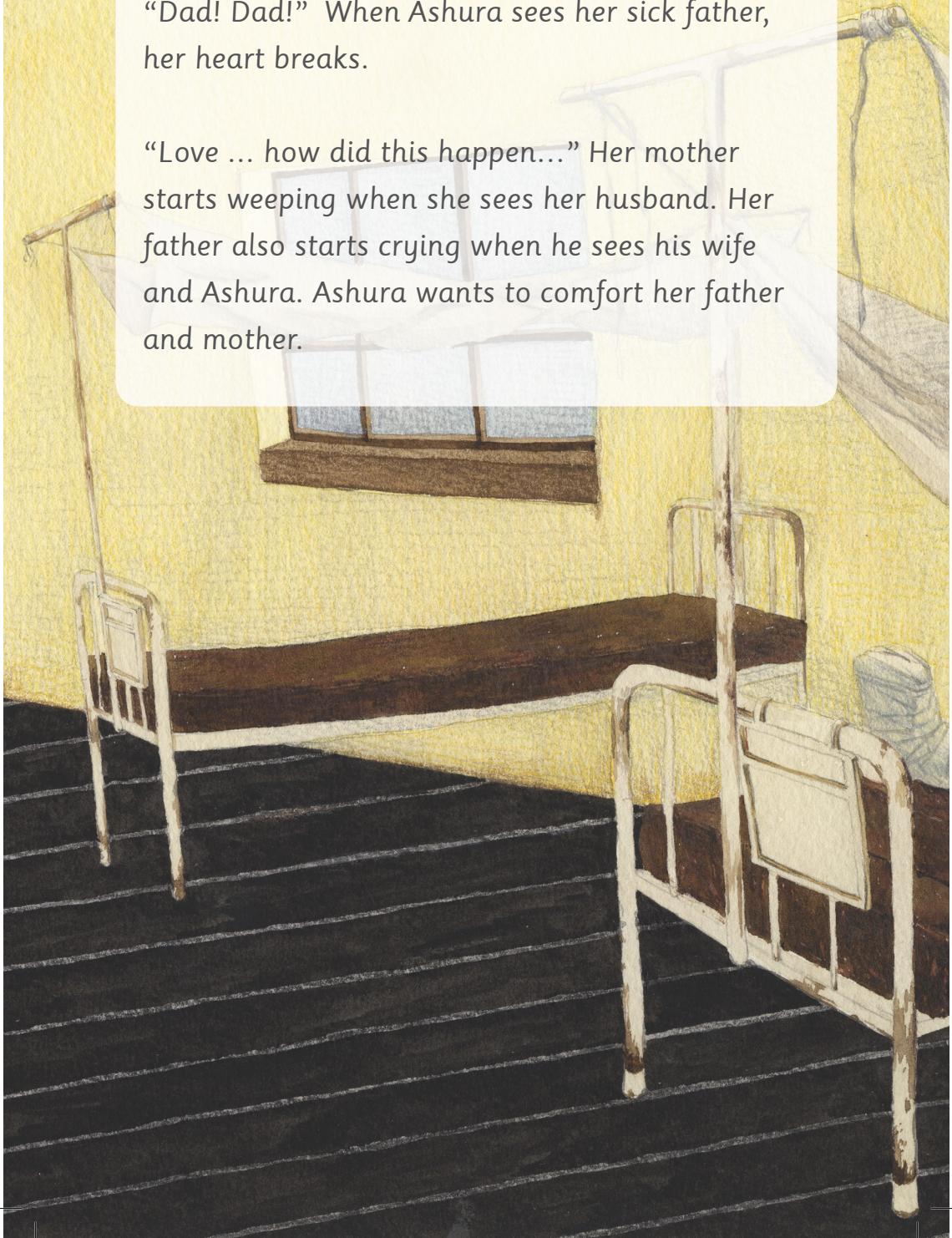
"Bad news!" he cries, "Your father had a terrible accident on the way back home!" Ashura's mother sees everything go dark.

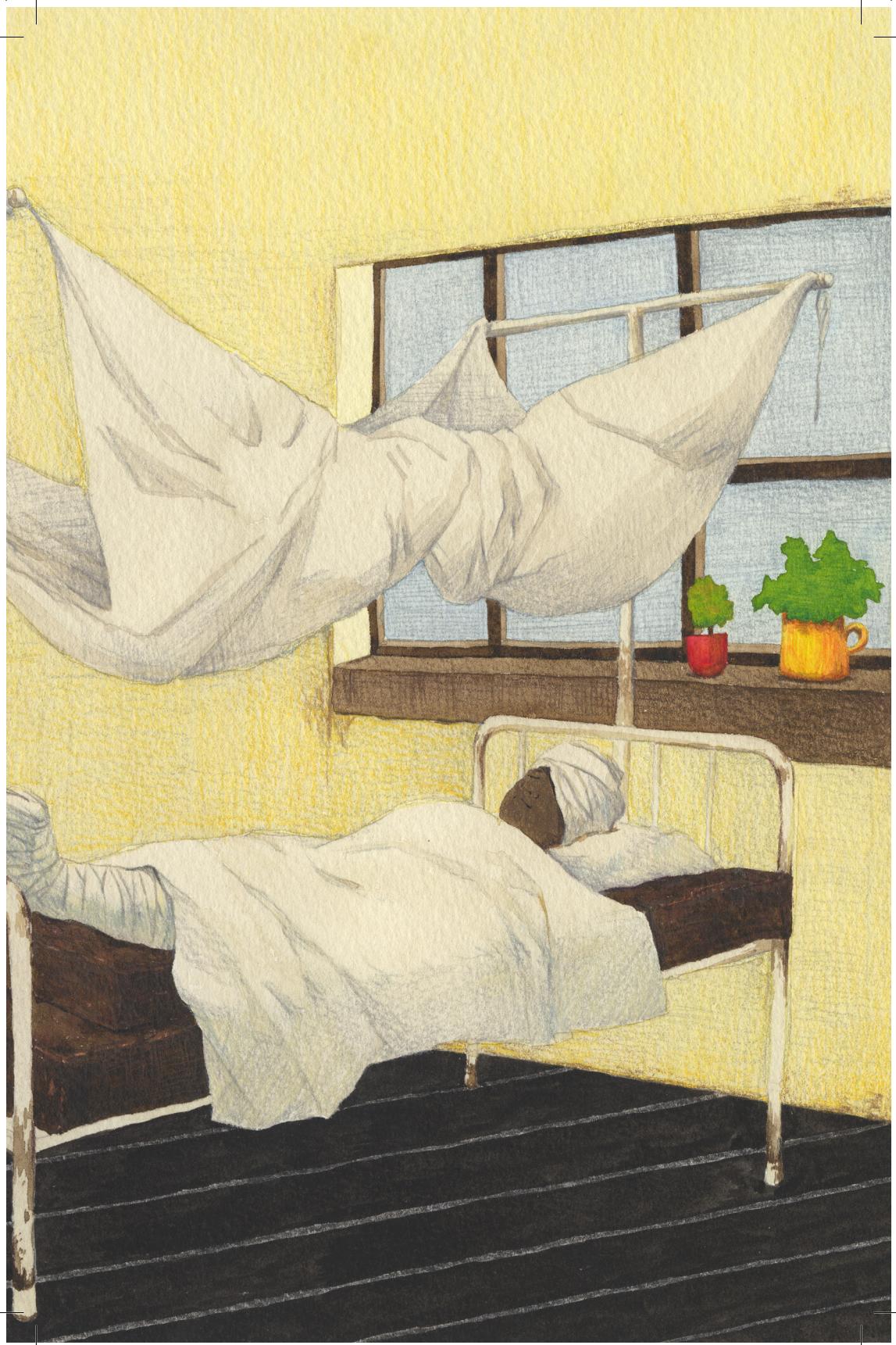
"A speeding car hit your father and he is in the hospital," the village headman explains.

"He is still alive, but the driver left the scene and there is no one to pay the medical expenses."

Ashura and her mother rush to the hospital.
“Dad! Dad!” When Ashura sees her sick father,
her heart breaks.

“Love ... how did this happen...” Her mother starts weeping when she sees her husband. Her father also starts crying when he sees his wife and Ashura. Ashura wants to comfort her father and mother.





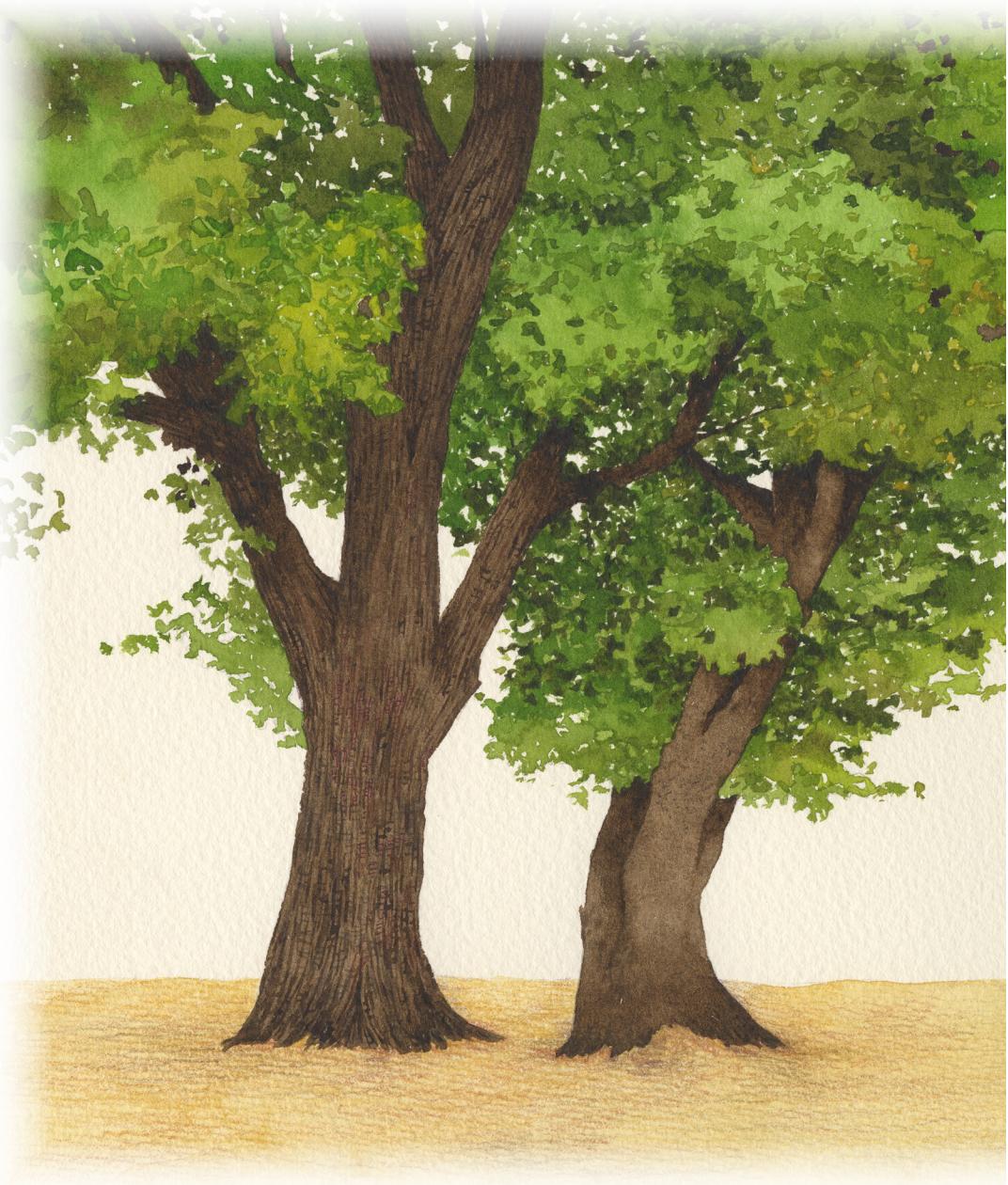
“Mommy and Daddy, do not cry. We are good people, so good things will happen soon, as long as we don’t lose hope!”

Suddenly, her dad is horribly angry at her and says “Ashura! Stop telling us everything will turn out fine. I was hit by a car, and you are still saying everything will be okay!”

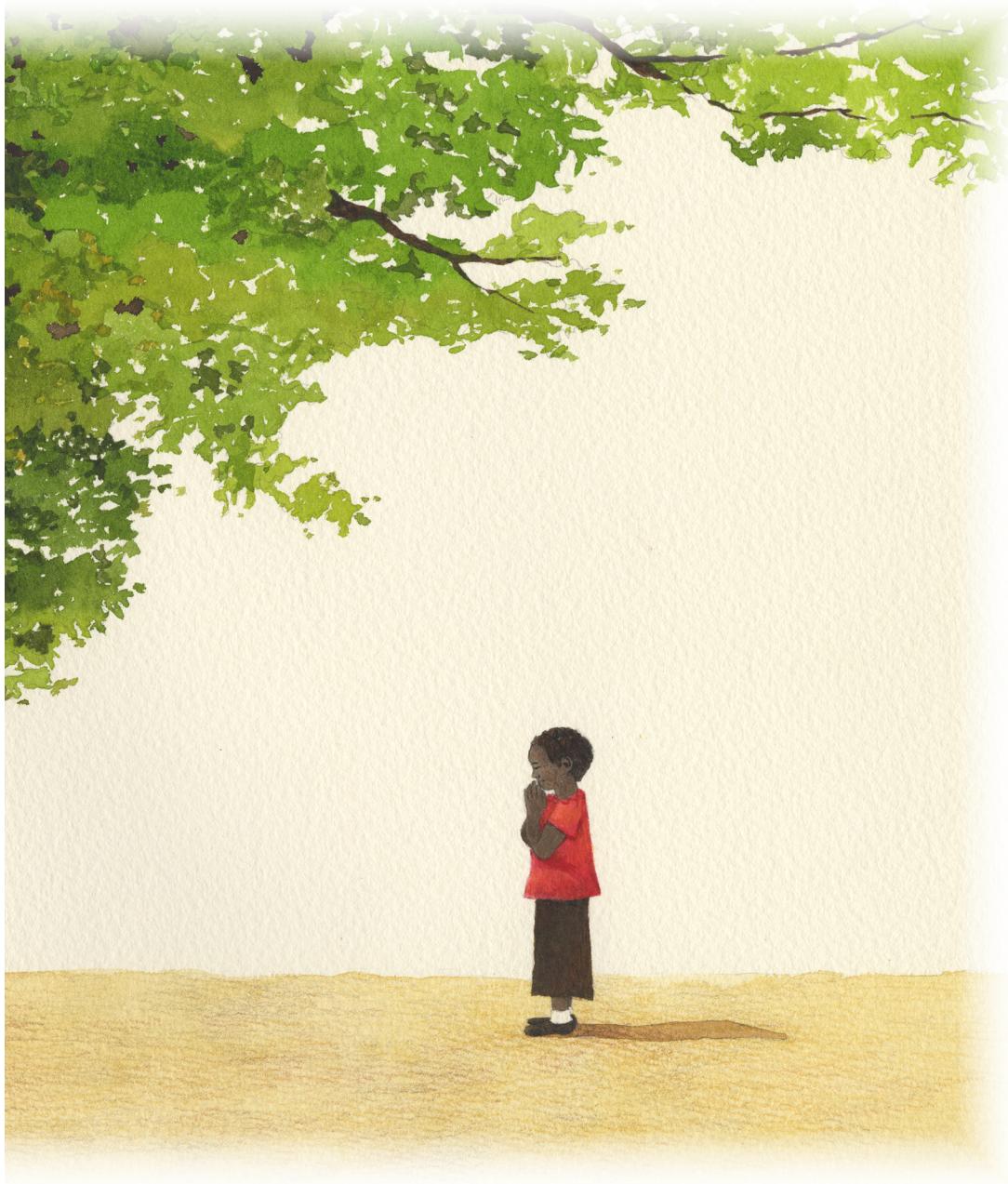




Ashura is distraught, but she stays with her father until he falls asleep. She then leaves the hospital to go to a big tree growing at the entrance to the village.



S he prays, "God, my father got hurt, and he is very sick. I just wanted to give him hope, but I made him angry. What should I do?"



"Hello kid!" she hears someone calling her. When she turns around, there is a man wearing a suit standing behind her.

He asks, “I am not familiar with this town. Is there a hospital around here?”

“Yes, there is a hospital. Follow me. I will take you there.”

Ashura speaks to him on the way to the hospital.
“You are wearing a nice suit and shoes and also look smart and kind. So can I ask you something?

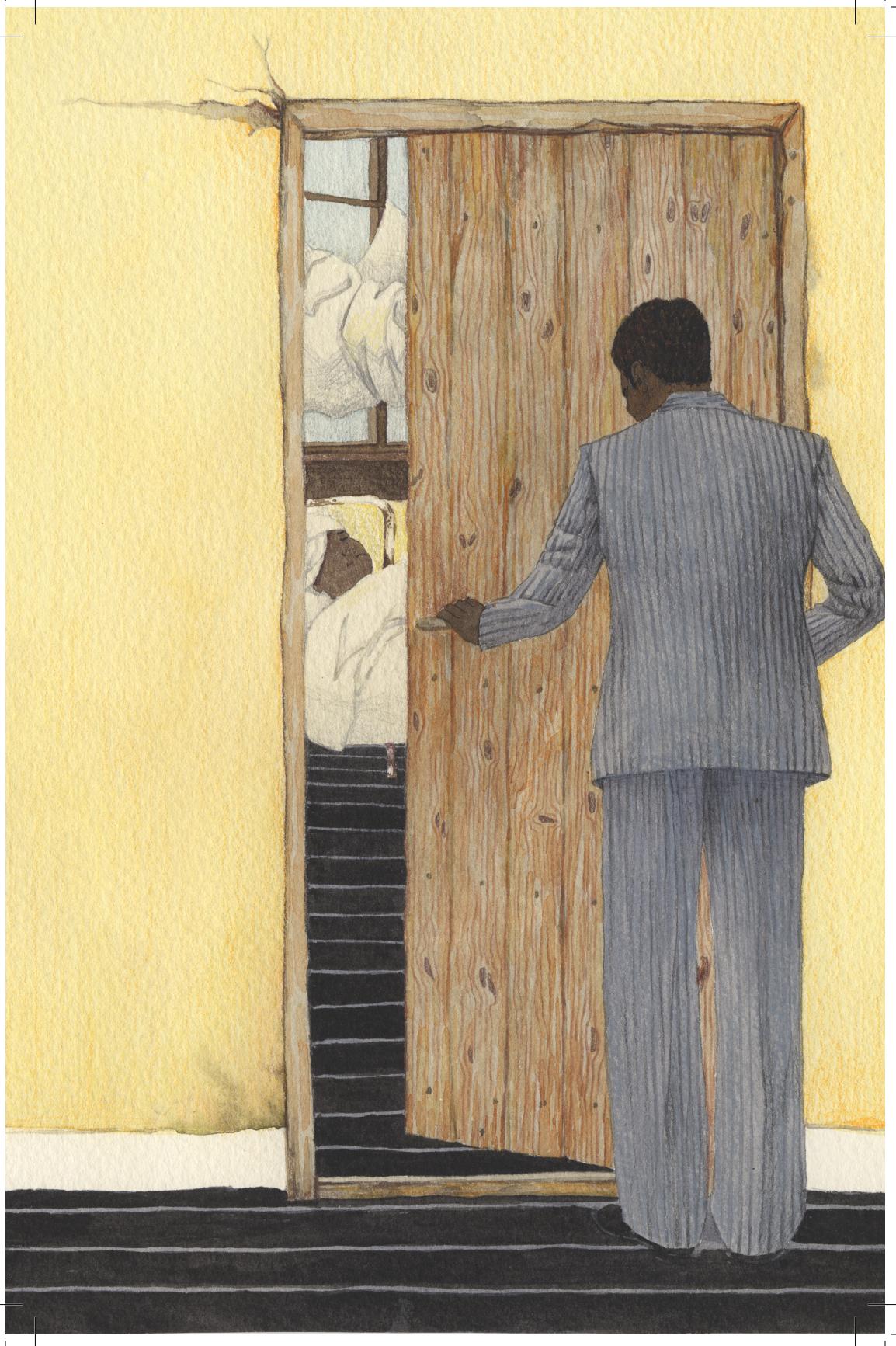
He smiles at her and says, “What are you wondering? Let’s hear it.”



Ashura asks him, “My teacher says that things are never as good or as bad as they seem. Even though bad things happen, if we don’t lose our hope and fight through it, everything will turn out fine. Is this true?”

“Of course! It is up to you all along. No matter how difficult a situation is, if we try hard without losing hope and remain honest, everything will turn out fine. I grew up in a refugee shelter but I am thankful for every day of my life. I never gave up and worked very hard, and so now I own a company. If I felt bitter about my poor situation in the refugee shelter and never tried, I would never have been able to achieve my dream and own my company,” he answers.





T hey art still talking when they arrive at the hospital. "So if I don't lose hope, everything will turn out fine, right? Ah! What a relief. Thank you very much for talking with me. Here we are. This is the hospital. My father is here in the first room."

Ashura looks through the window at her father. The man in the suit turns to look and sees Ashura's father. There is a surprised look on his face and he suddenly runs to the bathroom

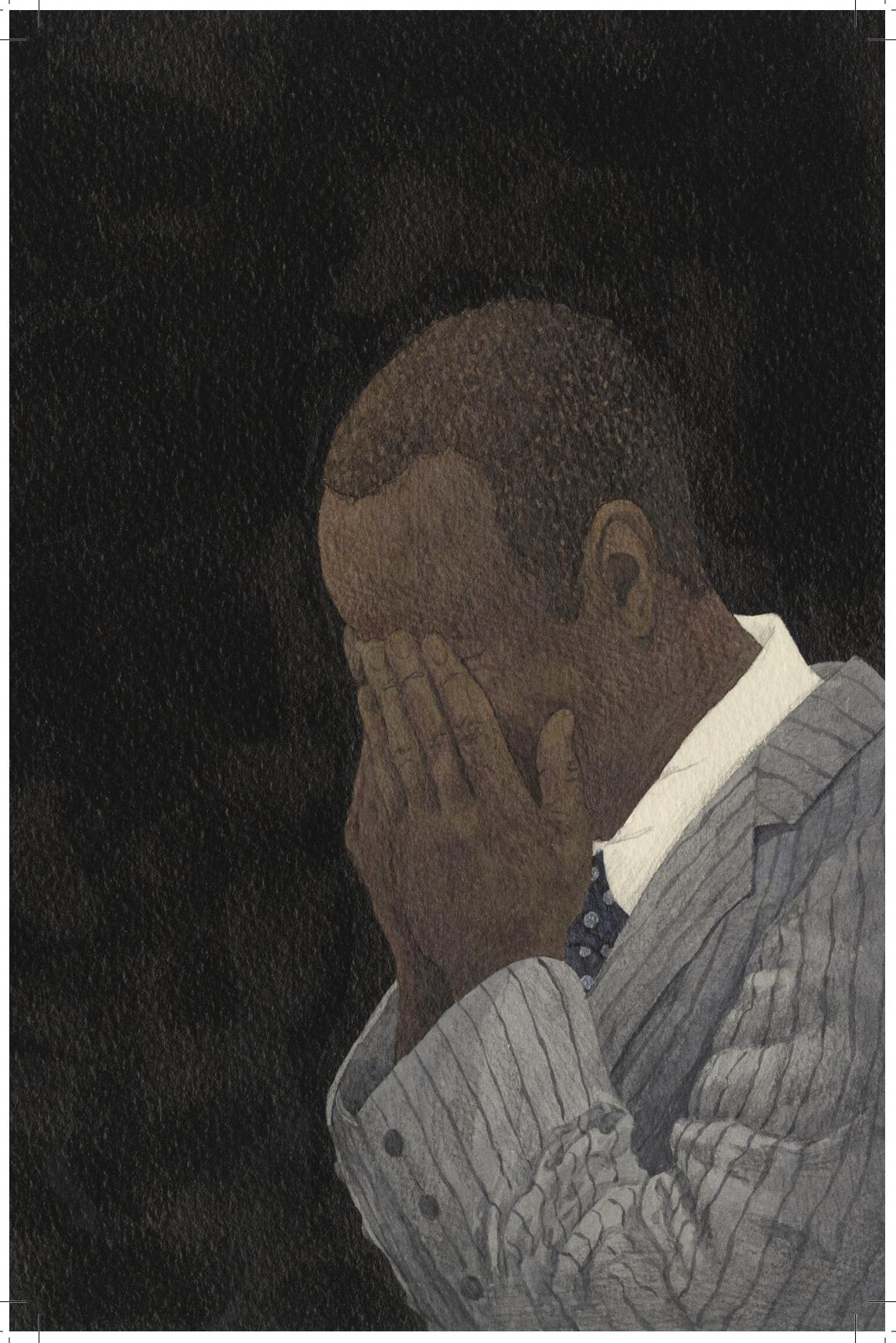
Ashura looks at him and thinks, "He is a nice person. I hope he is not here because something bad has happened..."



The man in the suit, Aron, runs to the bathroom and locks the door. “How could I have caused this terrible car accident? Ashura is a kind-hearted girl and I hit her father and ran away.” He punches the wall with one hand and cries while clamping his mouth with the other. He feels very regretful.

Aron is a businessman who trades nuts. A few days ago, he was on the way to sign a contract and got lost on an unfamiliar street. He hit a person with his car and unwittingly fled because he was so scared. After the accident, Aron could not eat and sleep. He was overwhelmed by his guilt and returned to the scene of the crime.

He decided that he would go and apologize for his mistake. However, he is very scared and cannot bring himself to leave the bathroom. After one hour, he hears someone knocking on his door and comes back to reality. It is still difficult for him to face Ashura’s father.







Then he remembers Ashura's clear eyes when he met her at the entrance to the village. He finally finds the heart to tell the truth and walks to the room where Ashura's father is recovering.

He confesses his mistakes and sincerely asks for forgiveness. "I am sincerely sorry for everything. I will do everything to help you recover and start working again. Don't worry about the medical expenses. Once you get out of the hospital, I will open a store in the city. Also, if you allow me, I would love to pay Ashura's school fees until she finishes her college degree. I know it is not enough to ask for forgiveness, but I will try my best. I am truly sorry, please forgive me." Aron looks at Ashura's father kneeling down and asking for forgiveness. Ashura starts to cry. The family forgives Aron.



After six months, her father and mother open a clothing boutique. Aron comes every weekend to make suits with his friends. He also never forgets to bring fairytale books and candy for Ashura.





Tomorrow, Ashura will start her studies at a great school that has the best dormitory in Tanzania. Aron bought a red school bag and English dictionary for her.

Ashura promises that she will study very hard and will become an inspiration to all children in Tanzania. Most of all, she will never lose hope.











