



# Beauty Is Missing

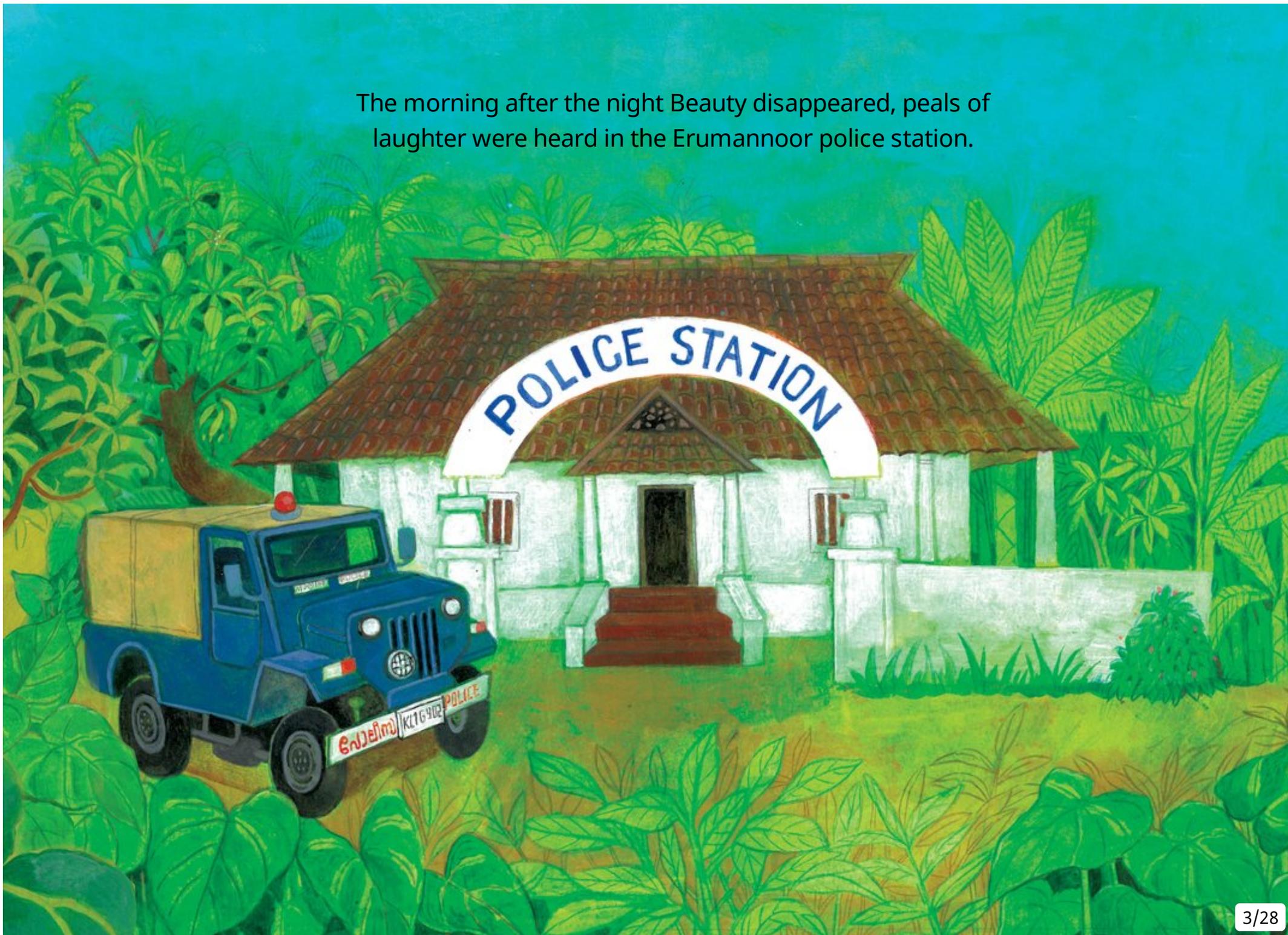
Author: Priya Kuriyan

Illustrator: Priya Kuriyan

Level 3

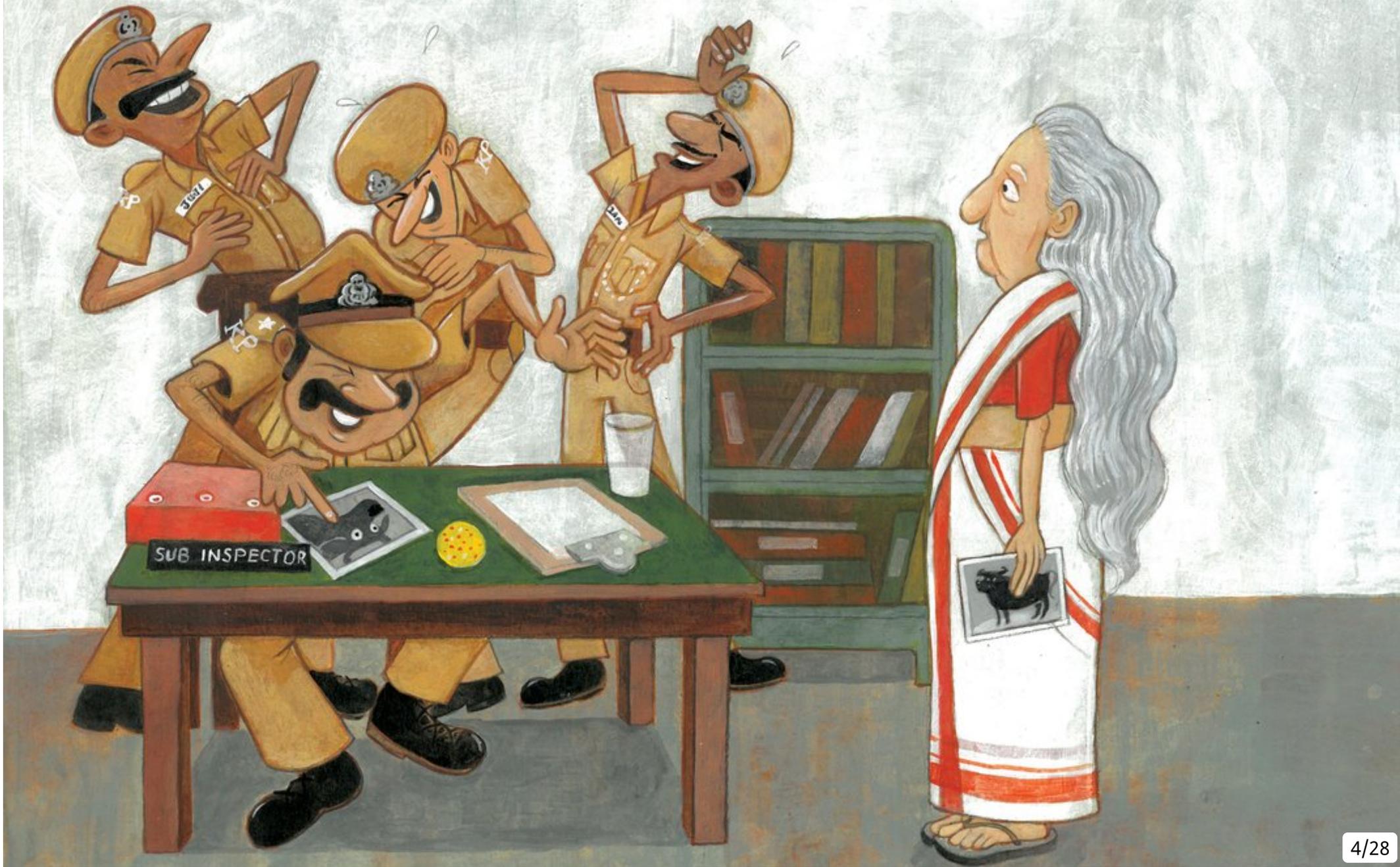


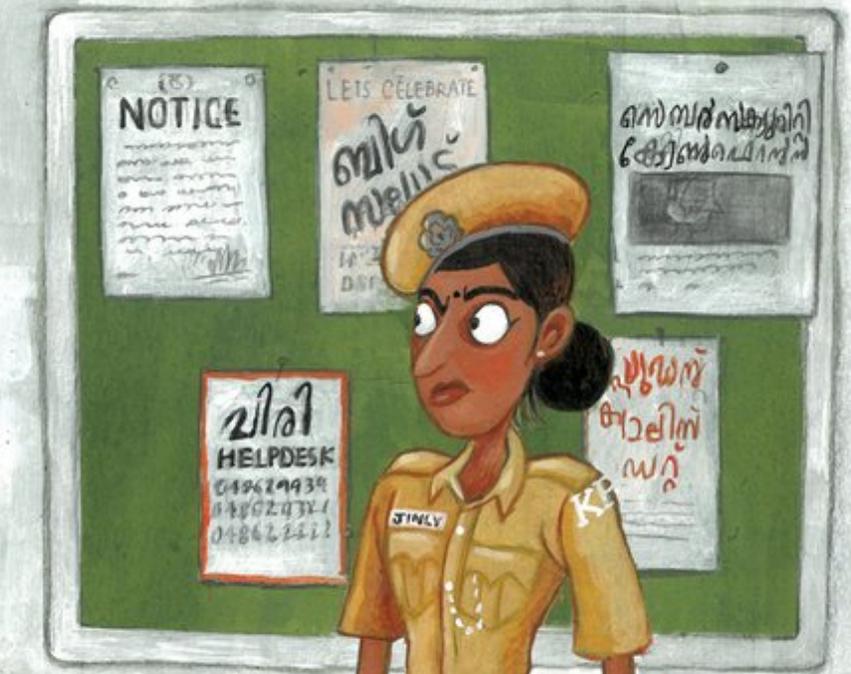
The morning after the night Beauty disappeared, peals of laughter were heard in the Erumannoor police station.



**HOOO... HAAHAHAHAHA!**

“Who names a buffalo Beauty!” guffawed inspector Gopi.





Only two people did not find the whole situation funny.

Tessamma, whose beloved buffalo Beauty was missing, and Jincy Jose, the new constable at Erumannoor police station...

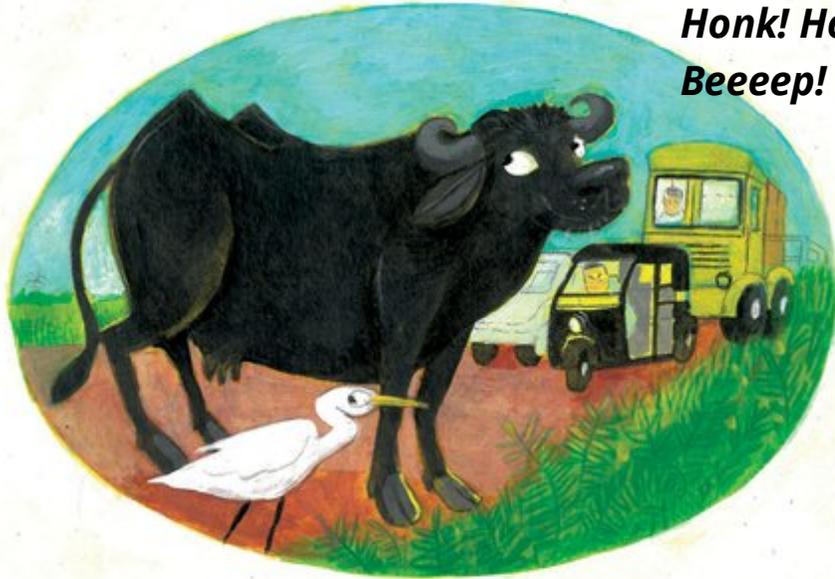
who immediately got down to work.



"So, tell me about Beauty," Jincy said.

"Well, first things first, she *is* a beauty," said Tessamma.

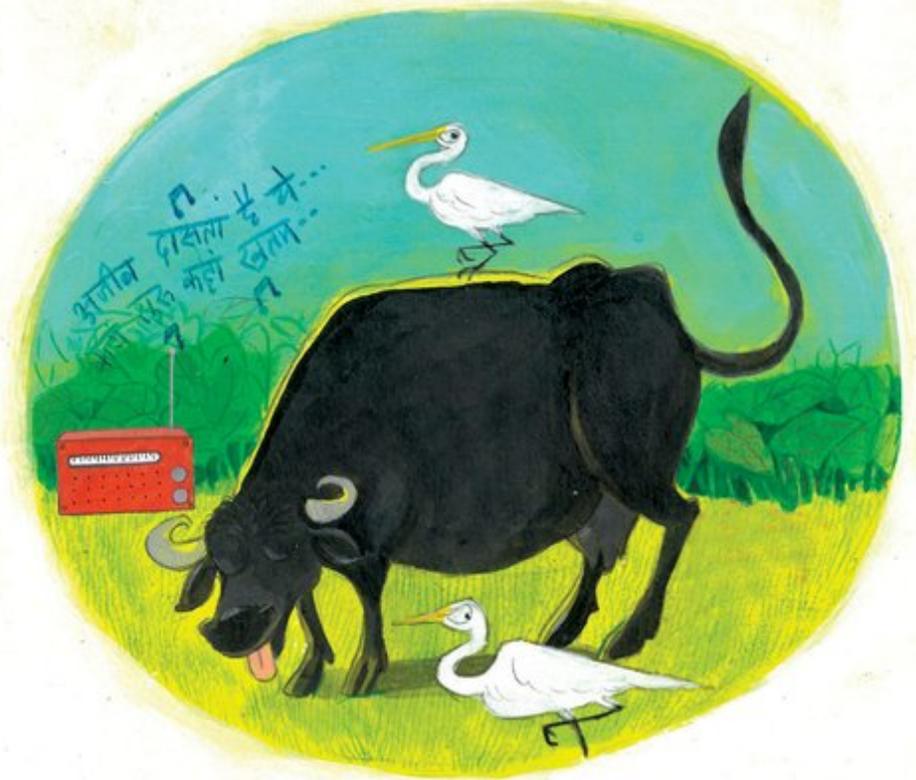
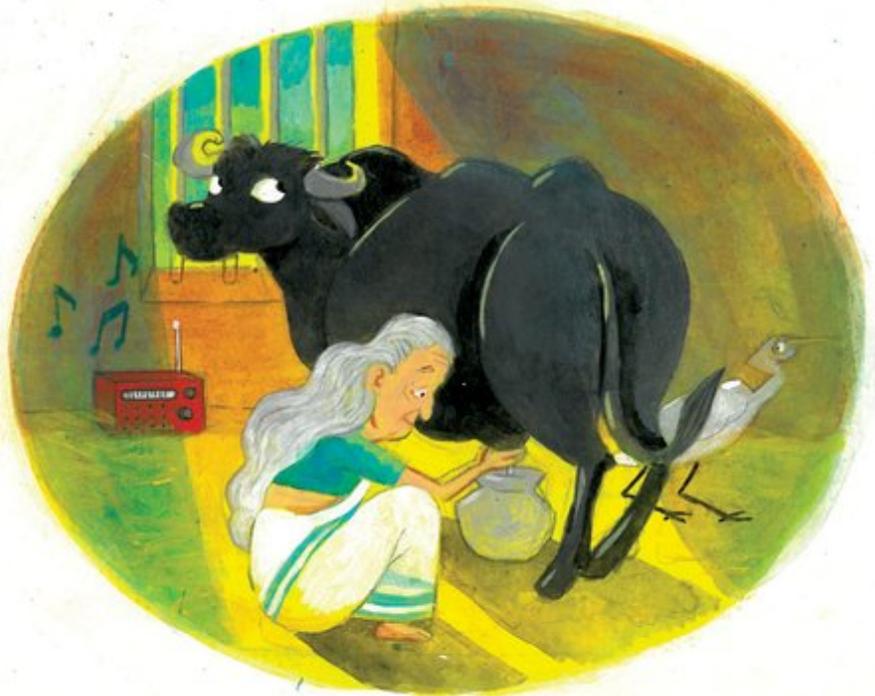




**Honk! Honk!**  
**Beeep!**

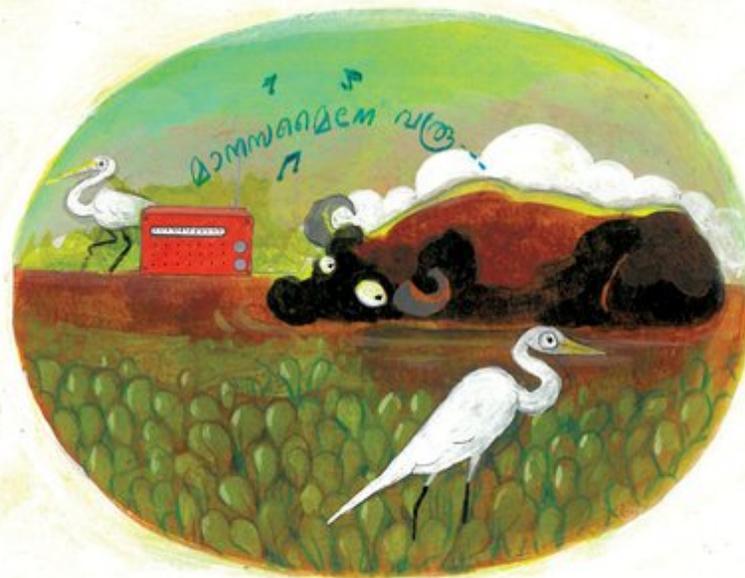
“Honestly, she’s a traffic stopper.

“While she’s being milked at dawn, she insists on listening to Western classical music on her radio.



“While she grazes, it’s always music from Bollywood.

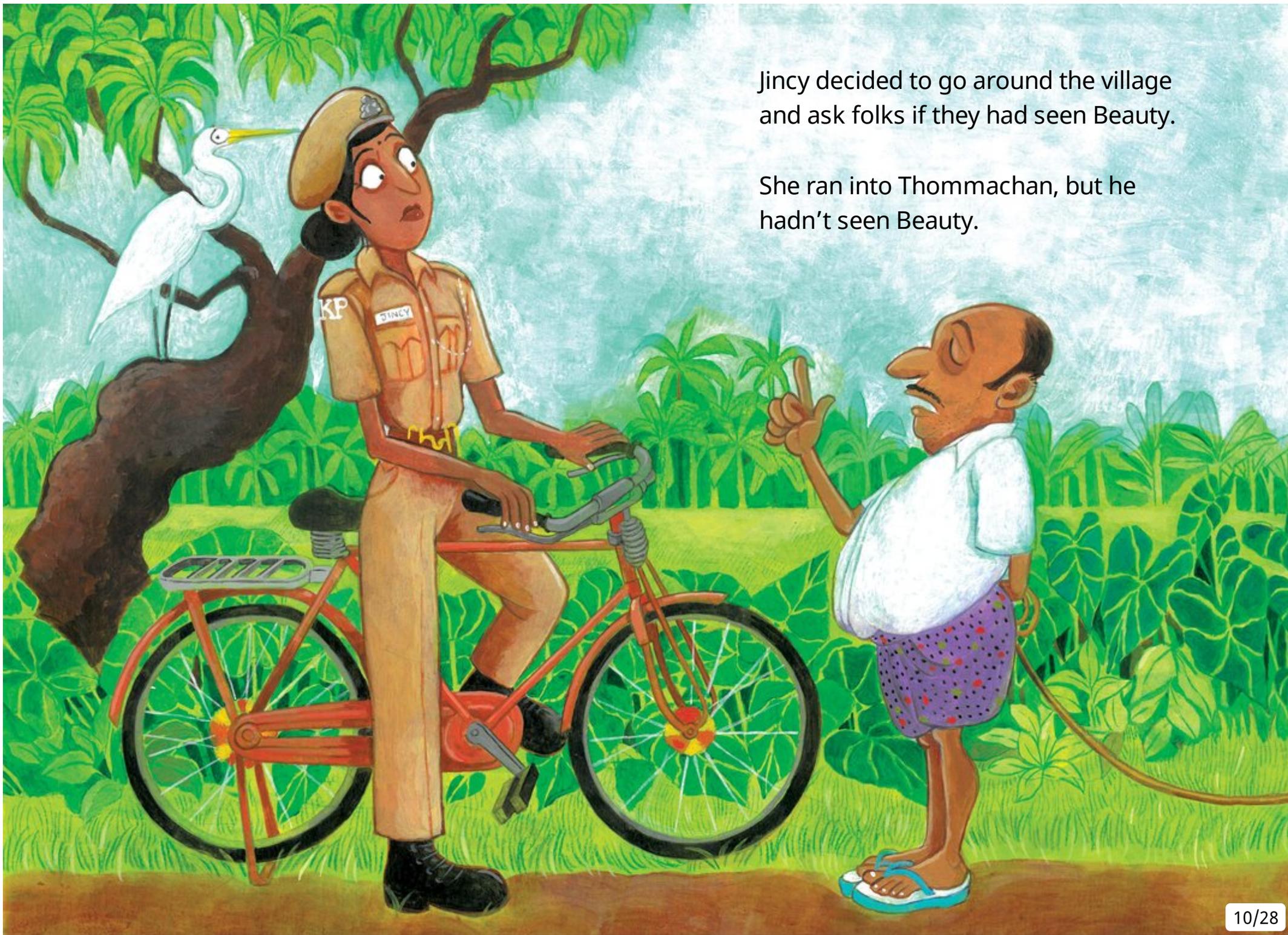
“When she wallows in the pond — it’s her beauty regimen, you see — she prefers romantic Malayalam songs.



“And at night, she always sleeps to soft instrumental tunes.”



“What excellent taste in music,” thought Jincy.



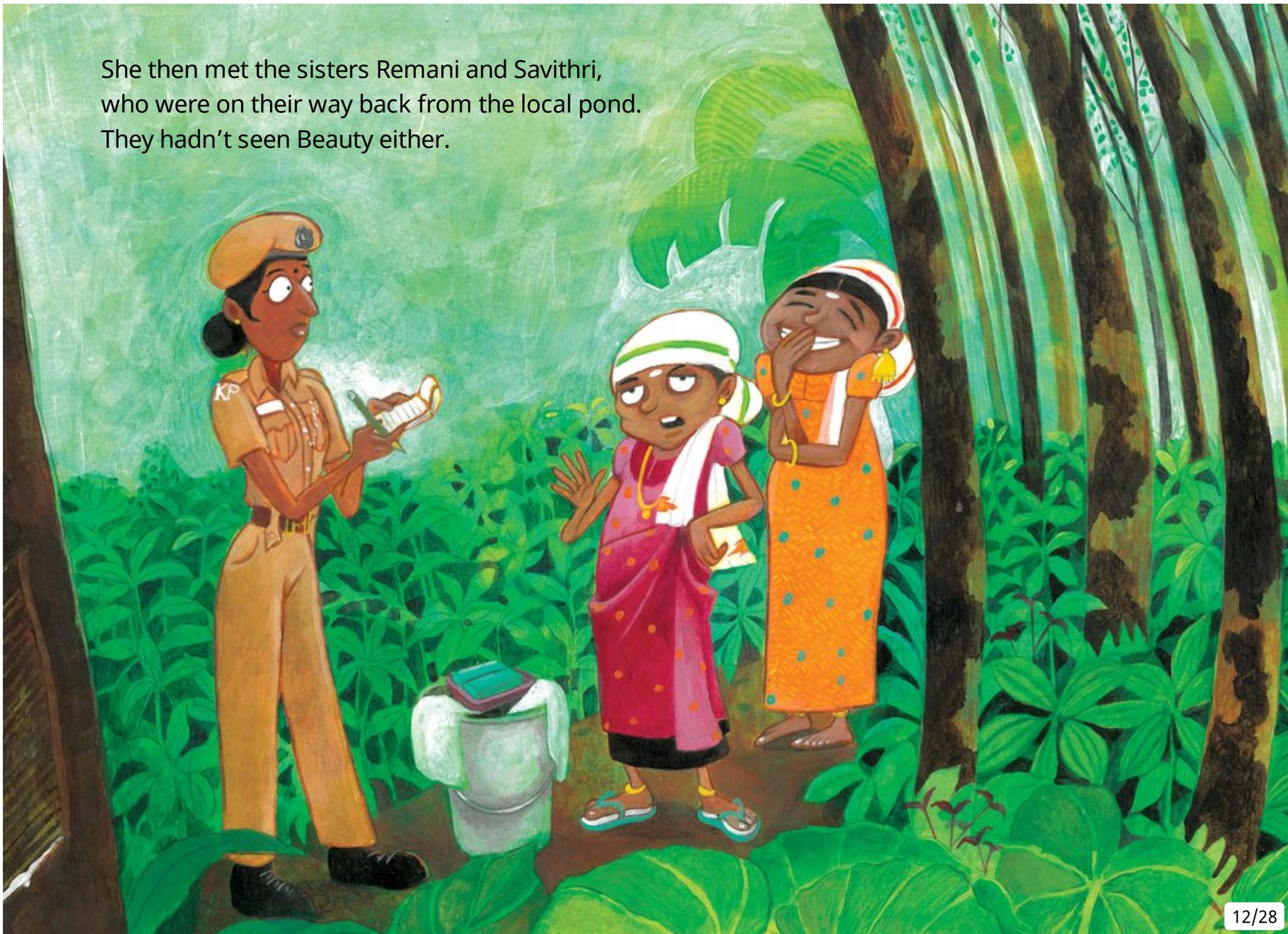
Jincy decided to go around the village and ask folks if they had seen Beauty.

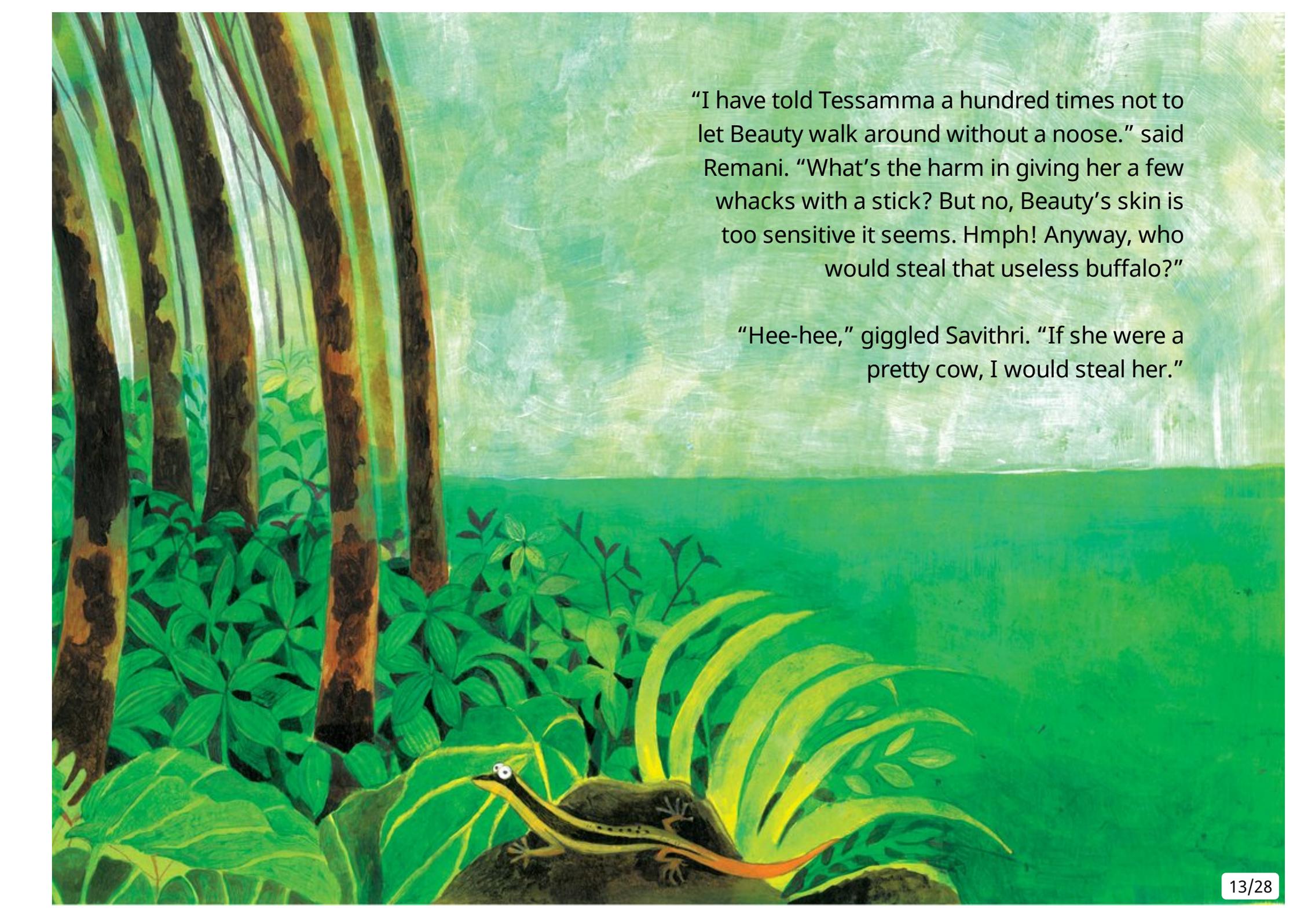
She ran into Thommachan, but he hadn't seen Beauty.

“Sorry, I don’t know any buffalo called Beauty and frankly, I don’t like buffaloes. I only like my cow Chandanakutty and she doesn’t wallow in the mud like those buffaloes.”



She then met the sisters Remani and Savithri, who were on their way back from the local pond. They hadn't seen Beauty either.



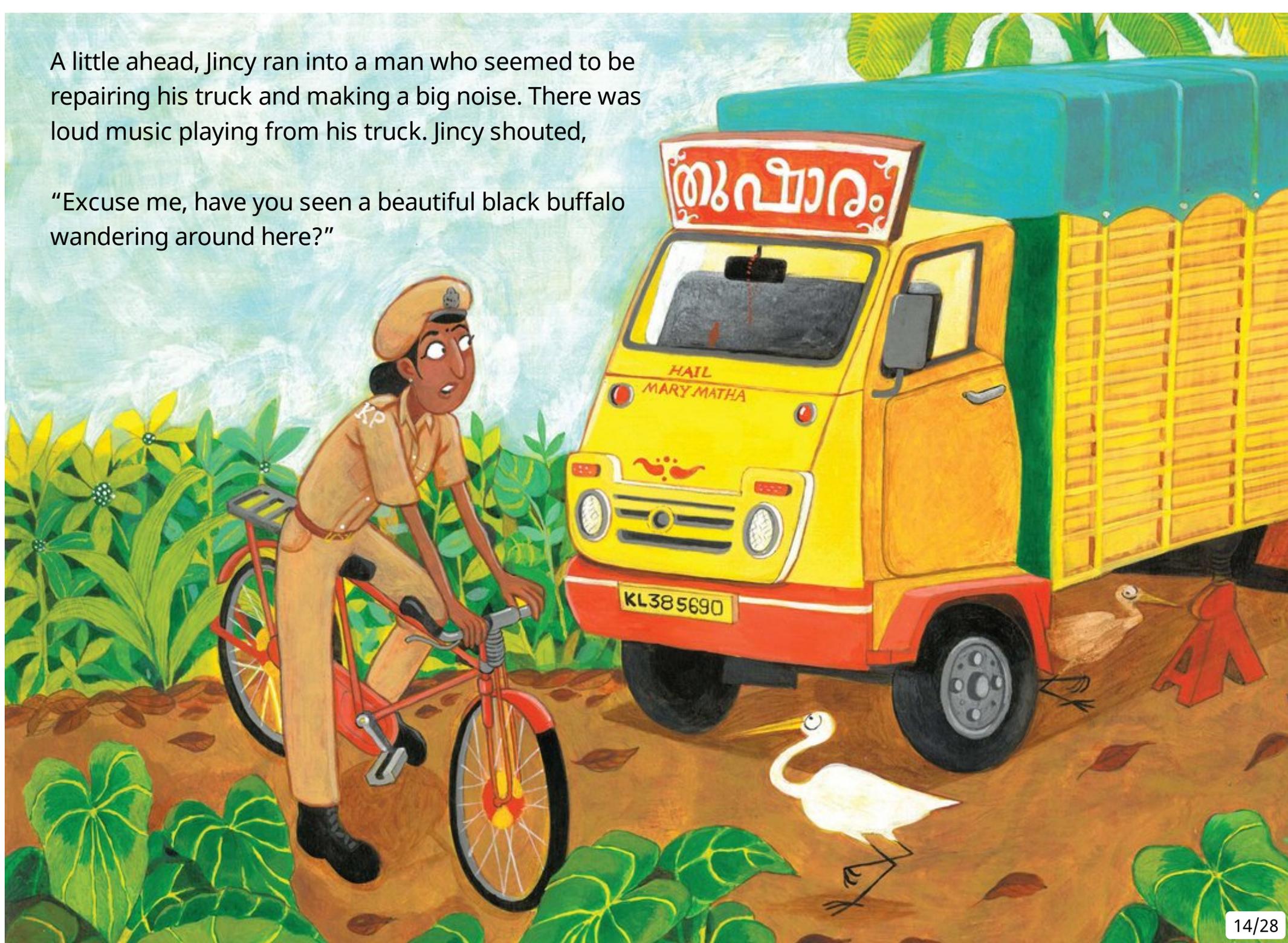


“I have told Tessamma a hundred times not to let Beauty walk around without a noose.” said Remani. “What’s the harm in giving her a few whacks with a stick? But no, Beauty’s skin is too sensitive it seems. Hmph! Anyway, who would steal that useless buffalo?”

“Hee-hee,” giggled Savithri. “If she were a pretty cow, I would steal her.”

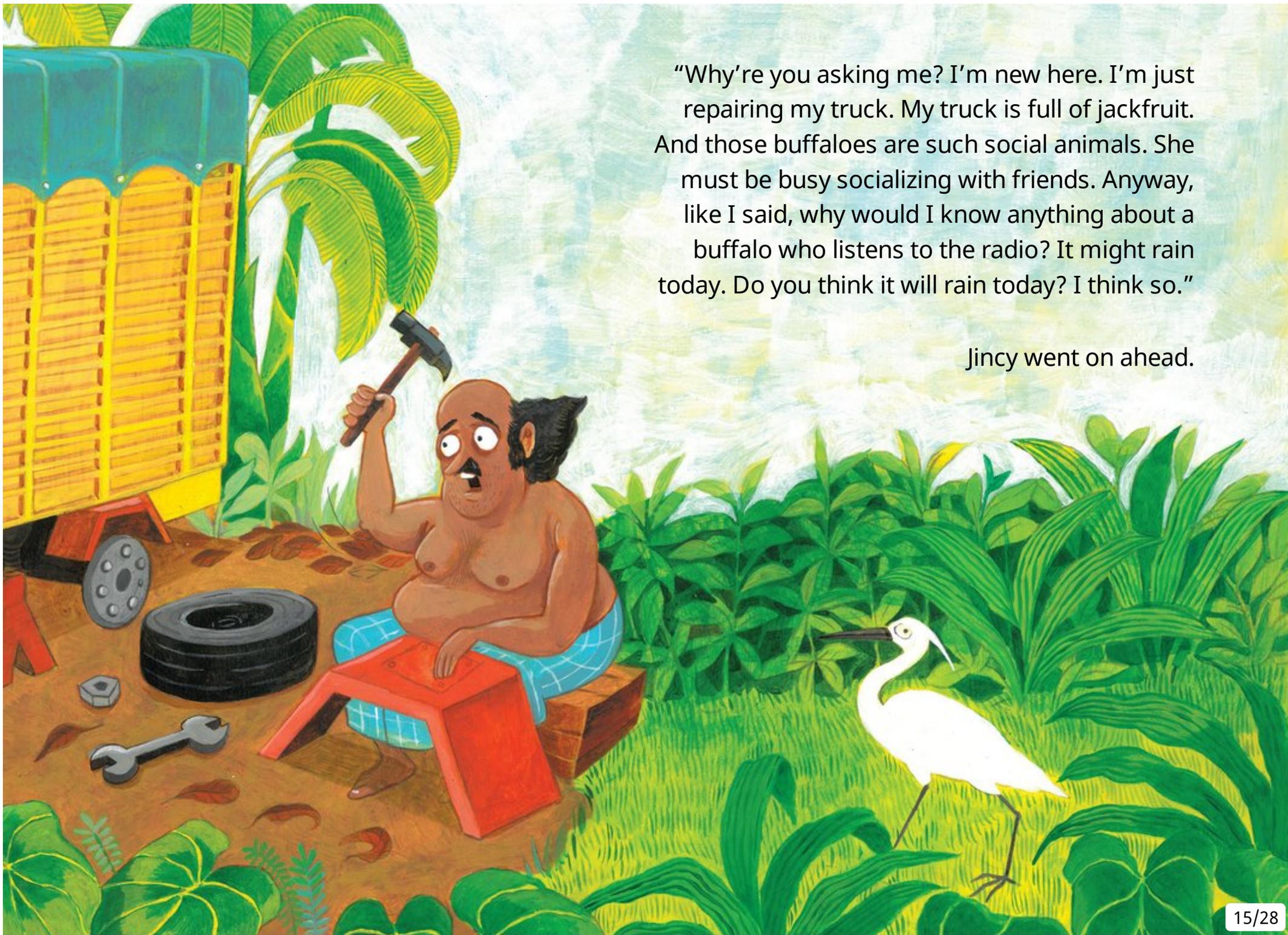
A little ahead, Jincy ran into a man who seemed to be repairing his truck and making a big noise. There was loud music playing from his truck. Jincy shouted,

“Excuse me, have you seen a beautiful black buffalo wandering around here?”



“Why’re you asking me? I’m new here. I’m just repairing my truck. My truck is full of jackfruit. And those buffaloes are such social animals. She must be busy socializing with friends. Anyway, like I said, why would I know anything about a buffalo who listens to the radio? It might rain today. Do you think it will rain today? I think so.”

Jincy went on ahead.



Jincy cycled all around Erumannoor with very little luck.

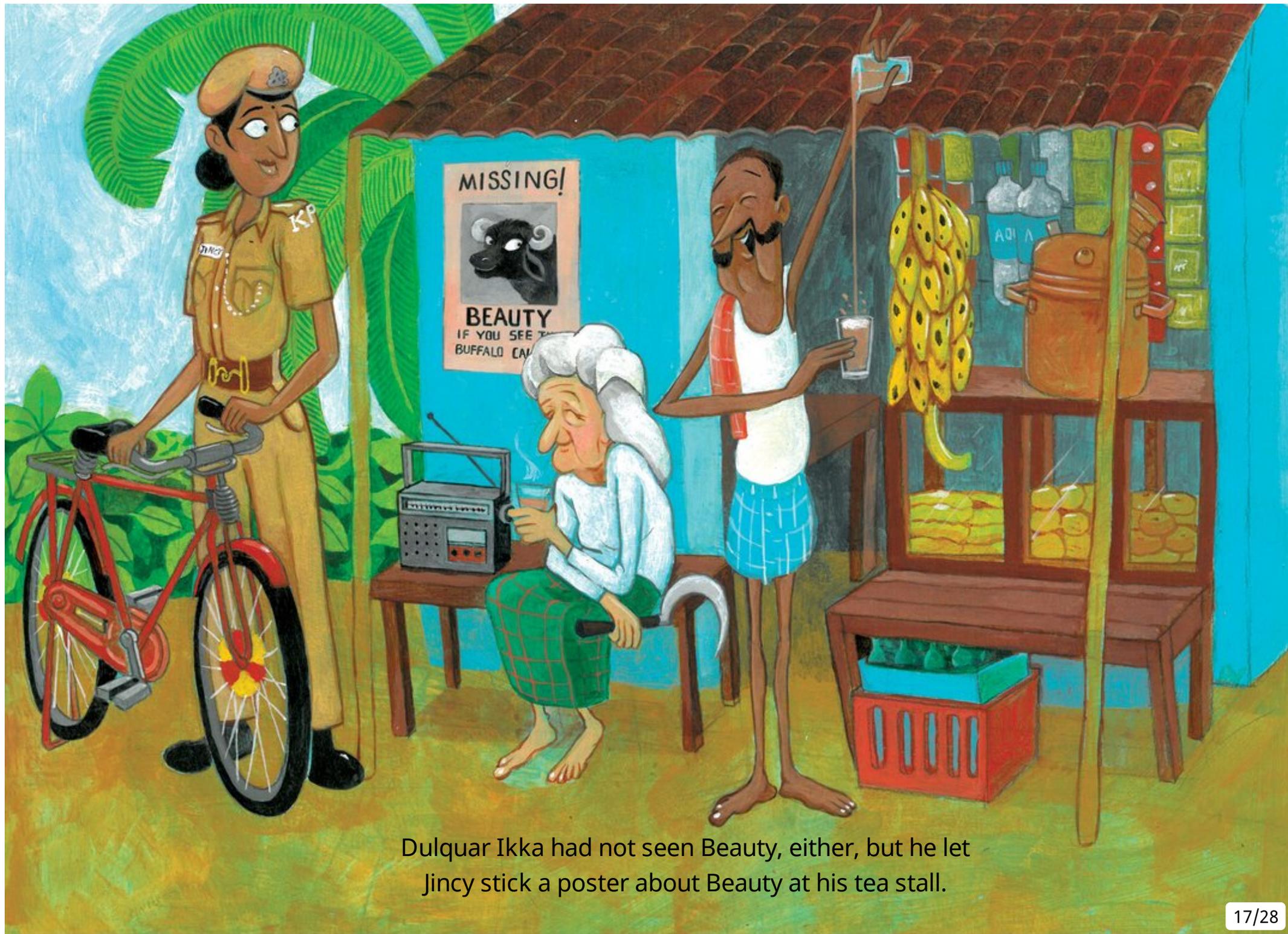
"Sorry, haven't seen any buffaloes."

"Disappeared in the middle of the night? She's probably been sold off at the meat market already."

"Maybe she just decided to run away?"

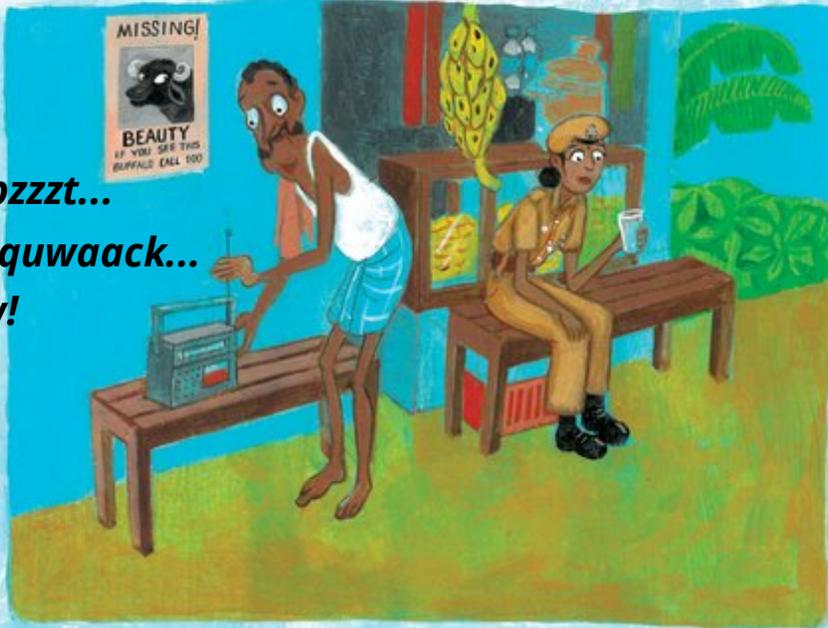
"Beauty? My daughter's name is also Beauty!"

"How will you find her when you can't make out one buffalo from another?"



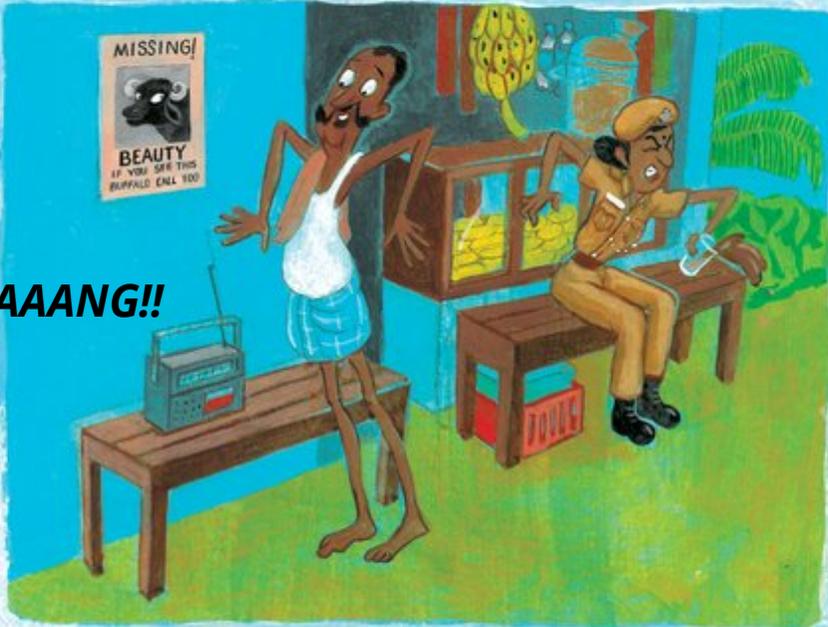
Dulquar Ikka had not seen Beauty, either, but he let Jincy stick a poster about Beauty at his tea stall.

Jincy was tired.



*Bzzzt...bzzzt...  
bzzz... squwaack...  
psheww!*

Just then...

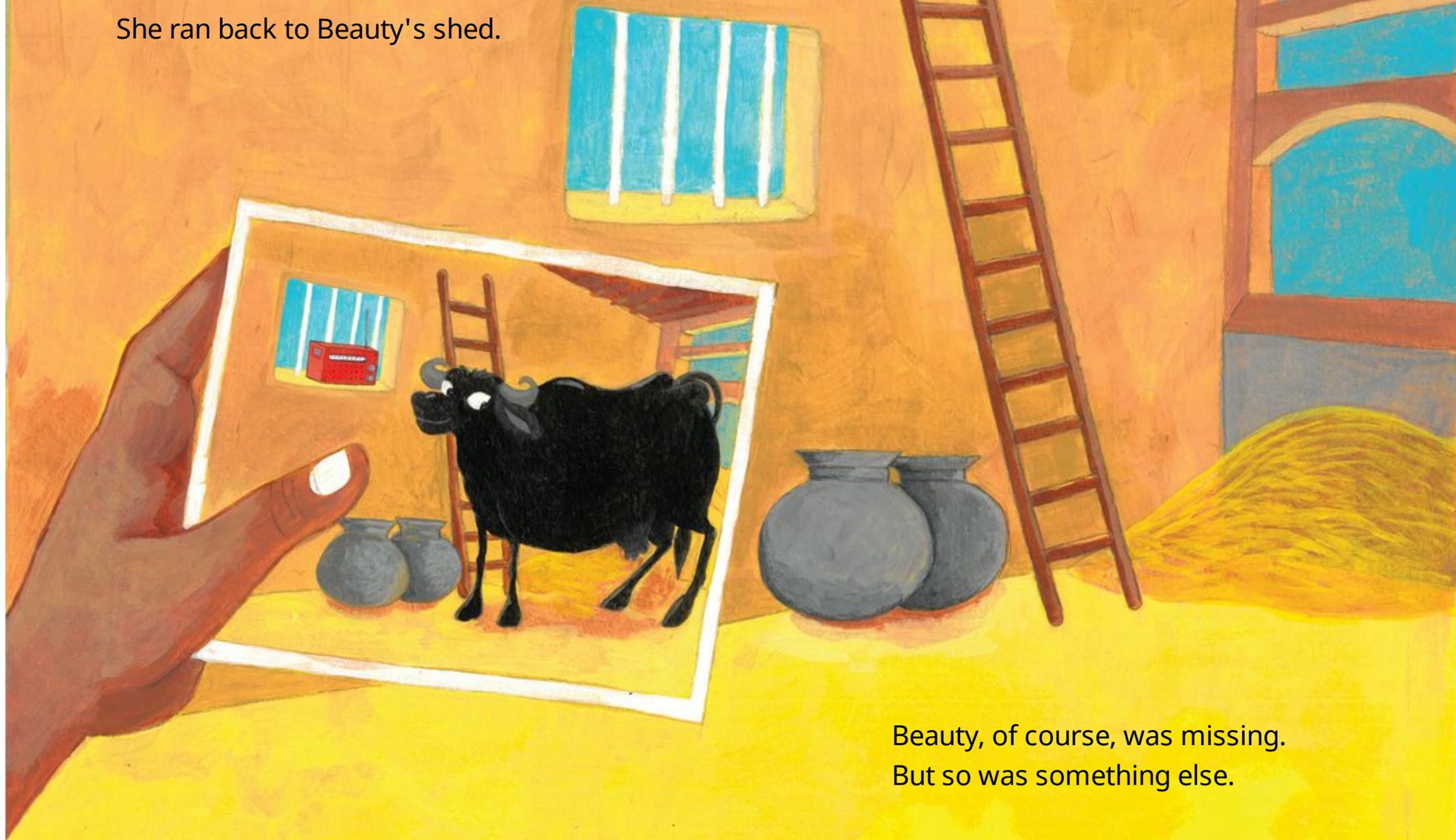


**BRAAAAANG!!**

Jincy had a  
brainwave!



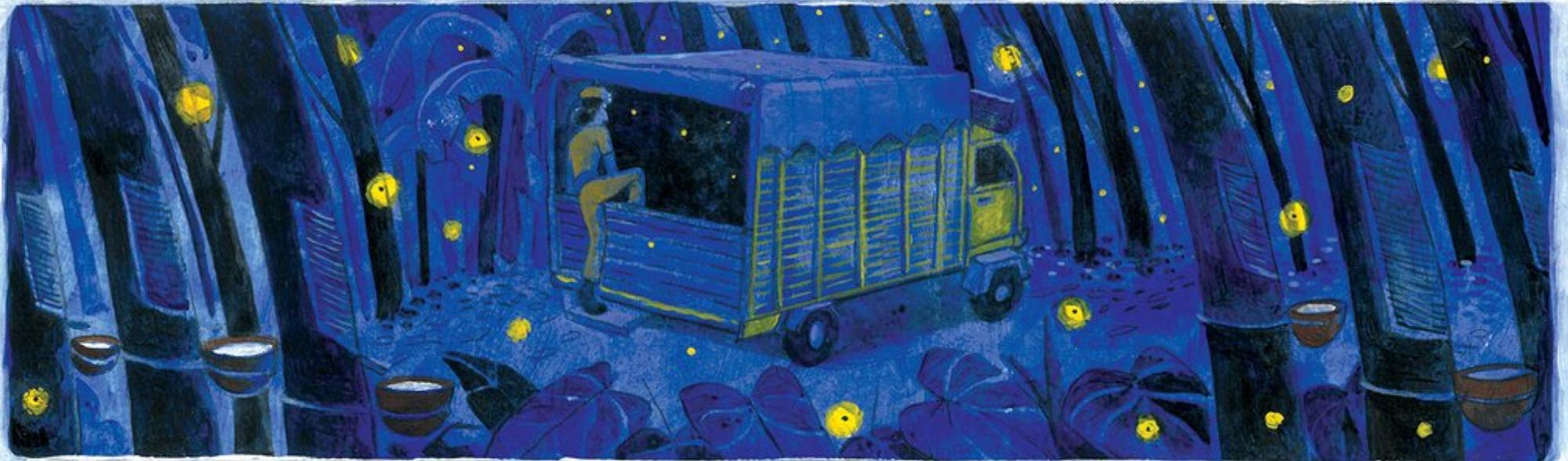
She ran back to Beauty's shed.



Beauty, of course, was missing.  
But so was something else.



That night, Jincy ventured out to set some things right.  
In the darkness of the truck, something other than the fireflies was shining.



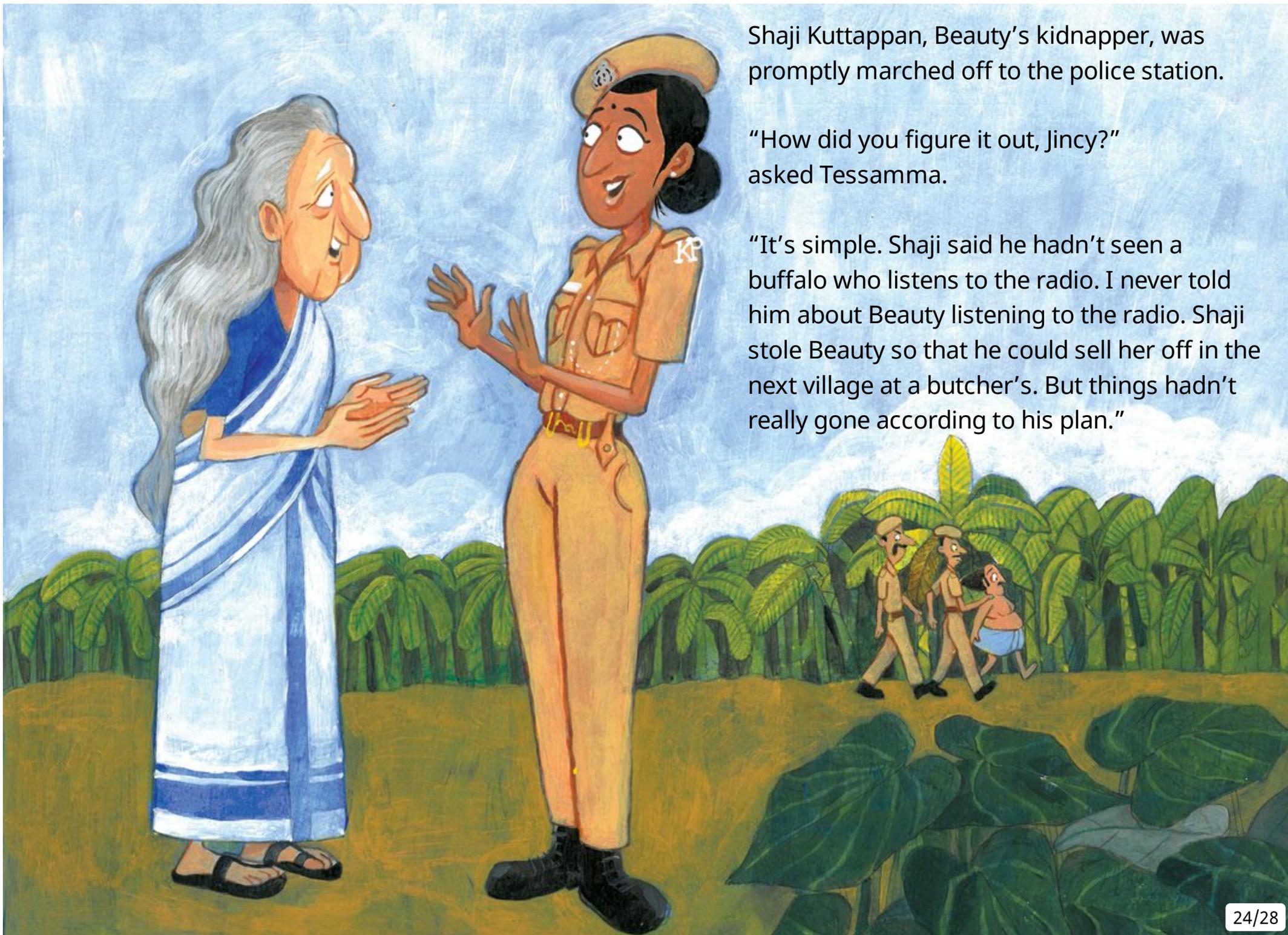




***SCHSSSHEWWWW...***



Jincy had found Beauty!



Shaji Kuttappan, Beauty's kidnapper, was promptly marched off to the police station.

"How did you figure it out, Jincy?" asked Tessamma.

"It's simple. Shaji said he hadn't seen a buffalo who listens to the radio. I never told him about Beauty listening to the radio. Shaji stole Beauty so that he could sell her off in the next village at a butcher's. But things hadn't really gone according to his plan."

Shaji had tried hard to get Beauty out of her shed. But Beauty refused to move.



So Shaji thought he might as well take the radio.



To his happy surprise, Beauty couldn't imagine being without her radio.

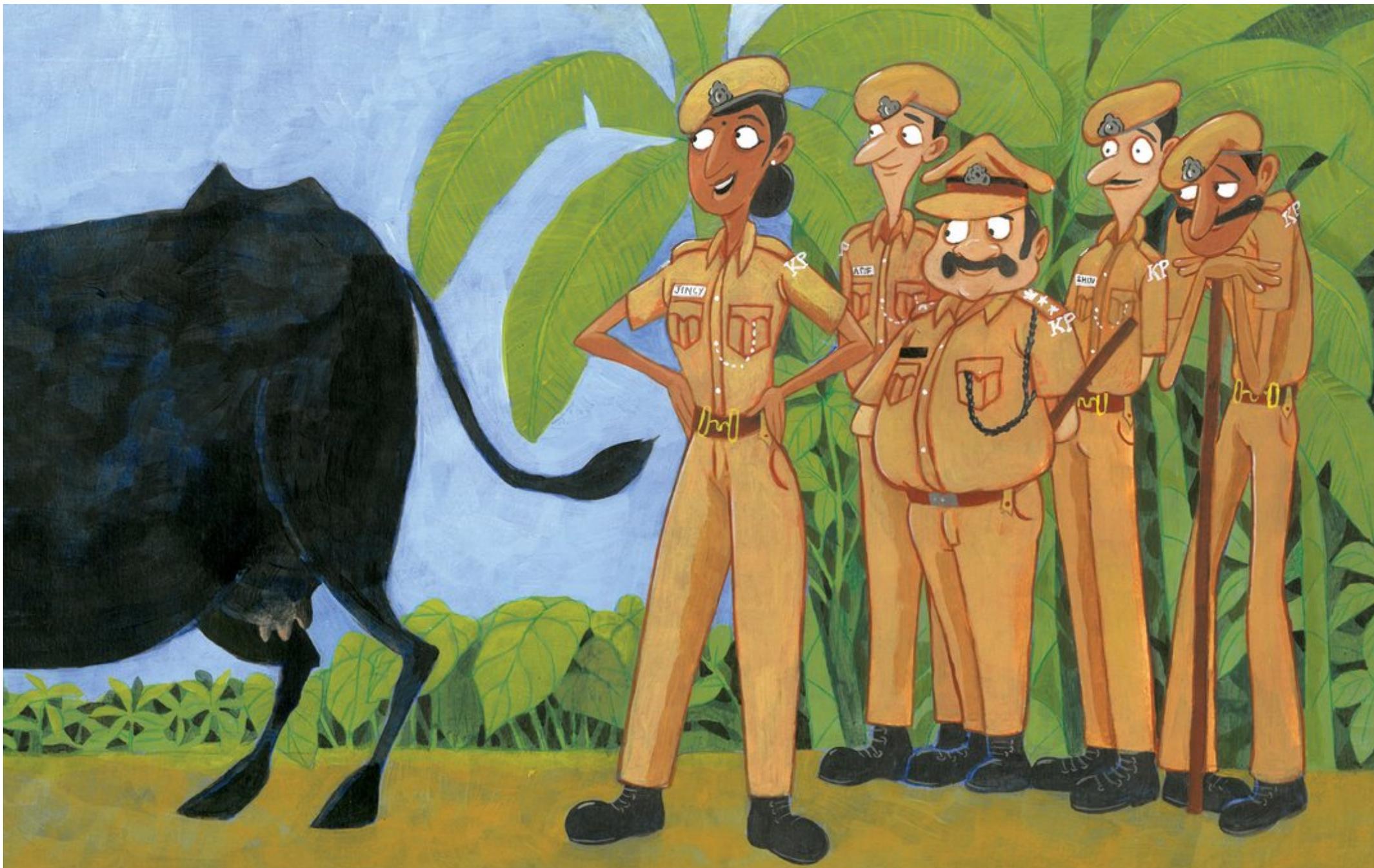


So she followed him into his hideout — his truck, which was under repair.

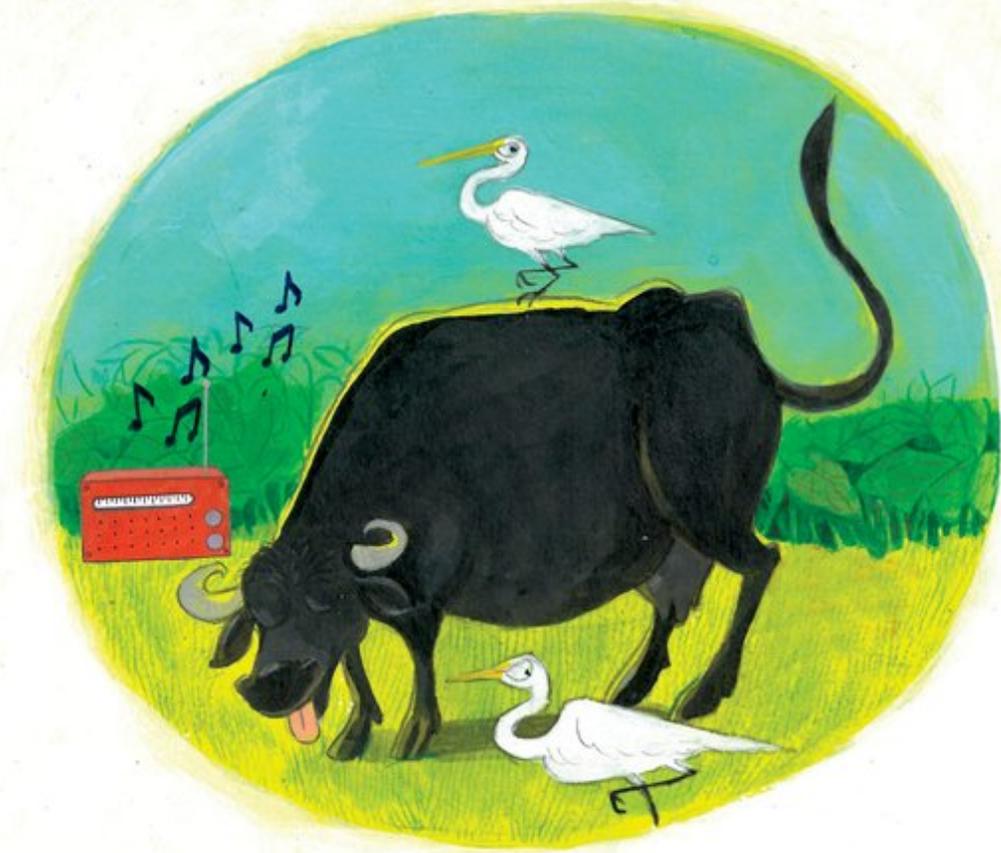


Tessamma was thrilled to have her beloved Beauty back.





"I must say," said Inspector Gopi, "Beauty is indeed a beauty."



## **Beauty and Other Buffaloes**

Buffaloes are highly intelligent animals who love socializing with others of their kind. They're often found wallowing in mud or taking dust baths in order to protect their sensitive skin from sunburn and insects that bite. They enjoy grazing and being outdoors. Research shows that buffaloes also like listening to slow music. It helps alleviate stress and relaxes them.

### Story Attribution:

This story: Beauty Is Missing is written by [Priya Kuriyan](#) . © Pratham Books , 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

### Other Credits:

'Beauty Is Missing' has been published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by Humane Society International in collaboration with Humane Society International India. [www.prathambooks.org](http://www.prathambooks.org).

### Images Attributions:

Cover page: [Buffalo is missing poster](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [Old lady and goat are surprised](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [Police station and jeep surrounded by greenery](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [Old lady with a photo in hand looks at four inspectors laughing](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [Inspector holding red file looks angry](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [Inspector staring at bulletin board filled with posters](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [Old lady talking while inspector takes notes](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [Buffalo doing various activities while listening to music](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [Inspector notes down the activities that the buffalo does](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [Inspector on cycle listening to a man wearing a lungi](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [Cow dung](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: [https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\\_and\\_conditions](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/>



HUMANE SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL  
INDIA

The development of this book has been supported by Humane Society International in collaboration with Humane Society International India

### Images Attributions:

Page 12: [Inspector talking to two women who are on their way back from a bath](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 13: [Lush greenery and a lizard](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: [Inspector stops in front of a truck](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 15: [Man holding a hammer and repairing his truck](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 16: [Map of the village with a mosque, church and other buildings](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 17: [Inspector with cycle comes to a tea stall](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 18: [Inspector is startled by the loud noise of the radio](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 19: [Inspector holds up a photo in a shed](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 20: [Inspector going to the truck at night with flashlight](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Priya Kuriyan, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 21: [Fireflies and two pairs of eyes in the darkness](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 22: [Inspector shining a torch in the dark](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 23: [Buffalo and man startled in the light](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: [https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\\_and\\_conditions](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/>



HUMANE SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL  
INDIA

The development of this book has been supported by Humane Society International in collaboration with Humane Society International India



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

### Images Attributions:

Page 24: [Inspector talks to old woman while man is arrested](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.  
Page 25: [Man steals the radio and is followed by buffalo](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.  
Page 26: [Old woman petting buffalo](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.  
Page 27: [Inspectors looking at buffalo](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.  
Page 28: [Buffalo grazing while listening to music](#), by [Priya Kuriyan](#) © Pratham Books, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: [https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\\_and\\_conditions](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/>



**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
INTERNATIONAL  
INDIA

The development of this book has been supported by Humane Society International in collaboration with Humane Society International India

# Beauty Is Missing

(English)

Tessamma's beloved buffalo is missing! No one knows what happened to her but constable Jincy is determined to find out. She goes all over the village, questioning people and looking for clues. Will Jincy be able to find Beauty the buffalo? The game is afoot in this mystery about a music-loving buffalo.

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



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