



Level 3

# Kanchha, le petit rhinocéros perdu

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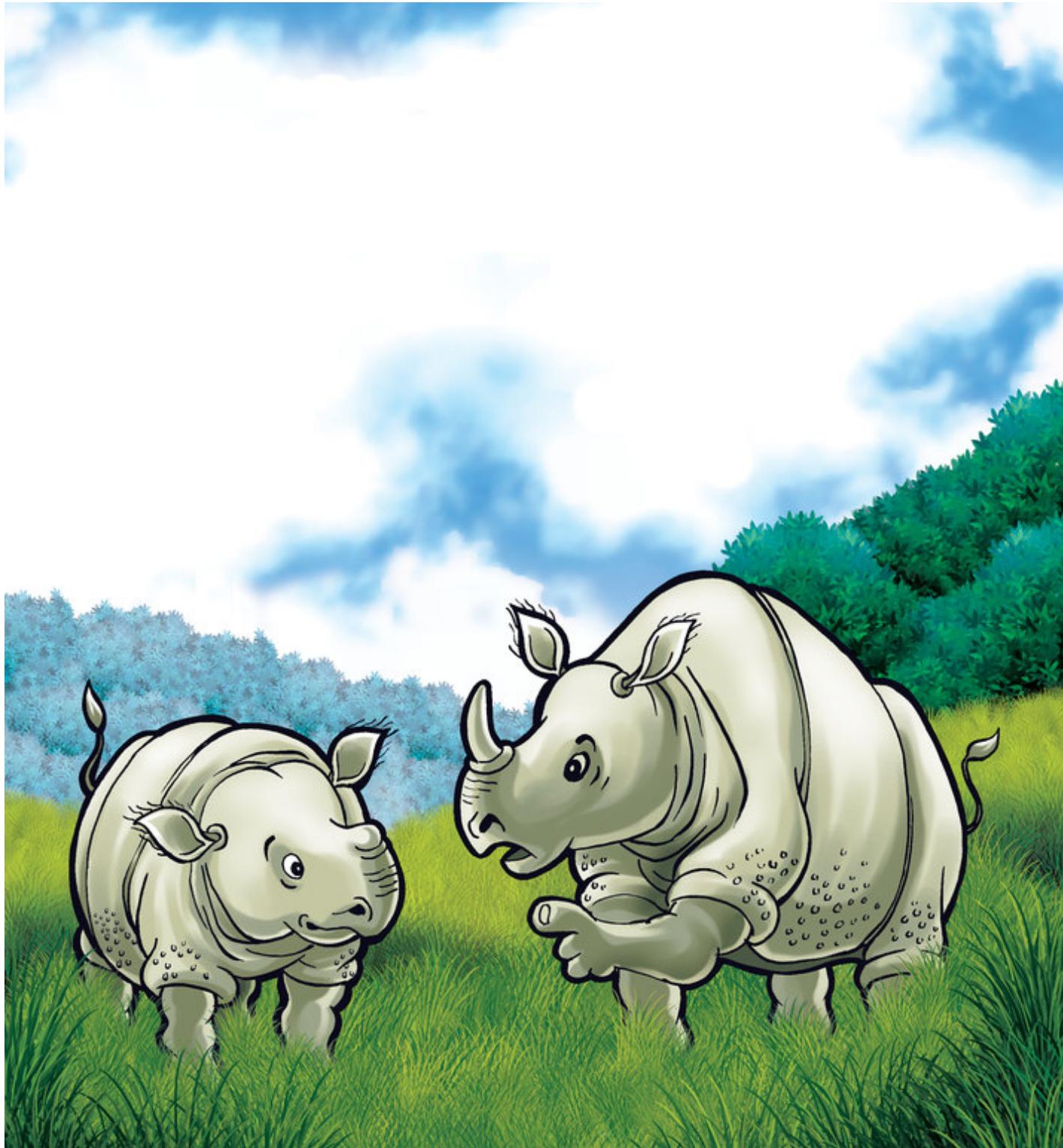
**Translator:** Sak Untala



Dans une grande plaine herbeuse, vivait un petit rhinocéros qui s'appelait Kanchha.

Kanchha avait deux ans et habitait avec sa maman.

Il adorait se promener à travers la savane.



La maman de Kanchha le mettait souvent en garde.

— Kanchha, le danger est partout, ici. Sois prudent. Souviens-toi de toujours laisser ton odeur derrière toi, comme ça, tu pourras retrouver ton chemin.

Kanchha comprenait, mais c'était difficile pour un petit rhinocéros de se souvenir de tout ce que sa maman lui avait dit.

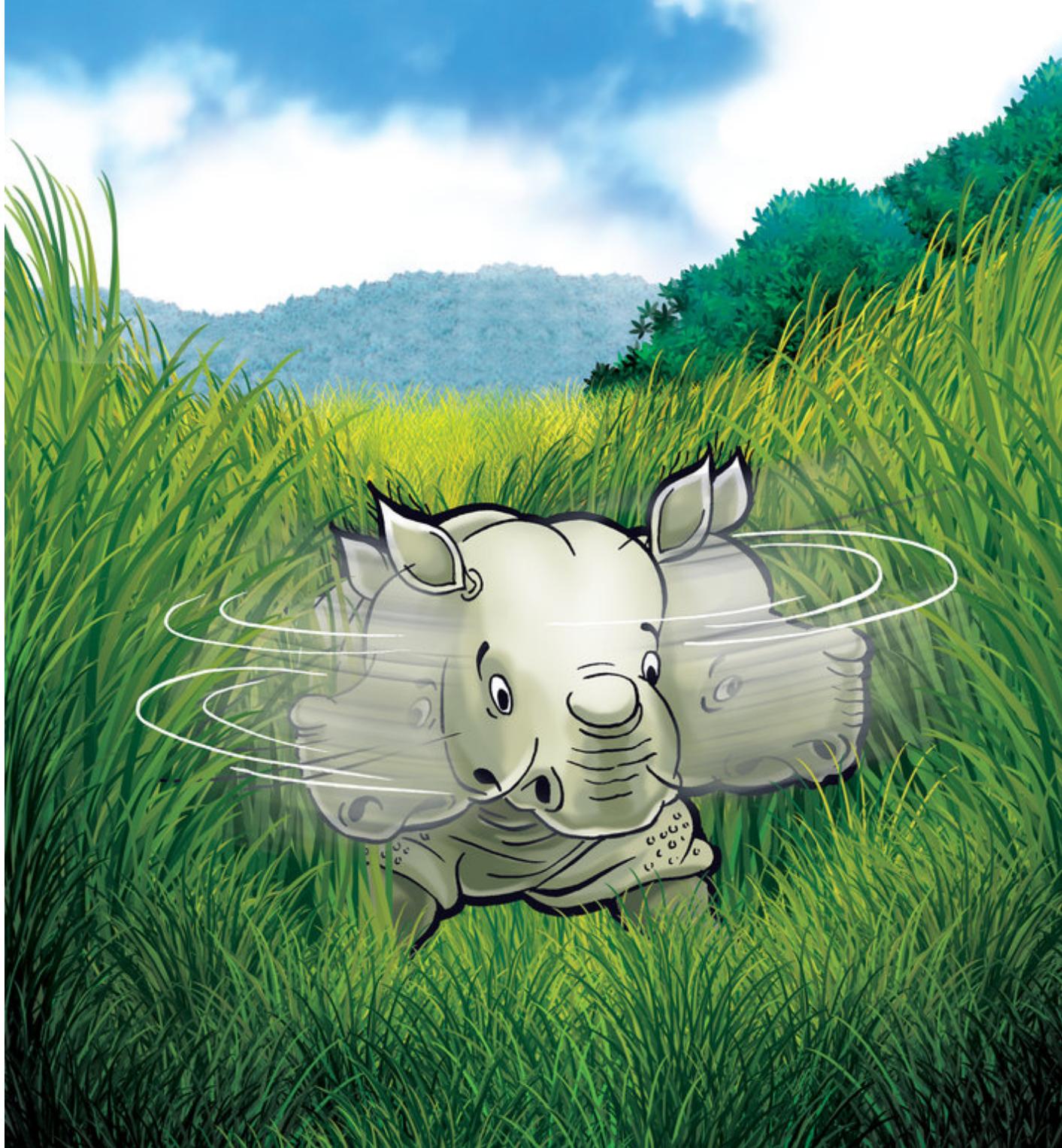


Par un bel après-midi,  
tandis que le soleil dardait  
ses rayons sur la savane,  
Kanchha décida de prendre  
un bain de boue pour se  
rafraîchir.

Allongé dans l'eau boueuse,  
il s'amusait à chasser les  
mouches avec ses oreilles.

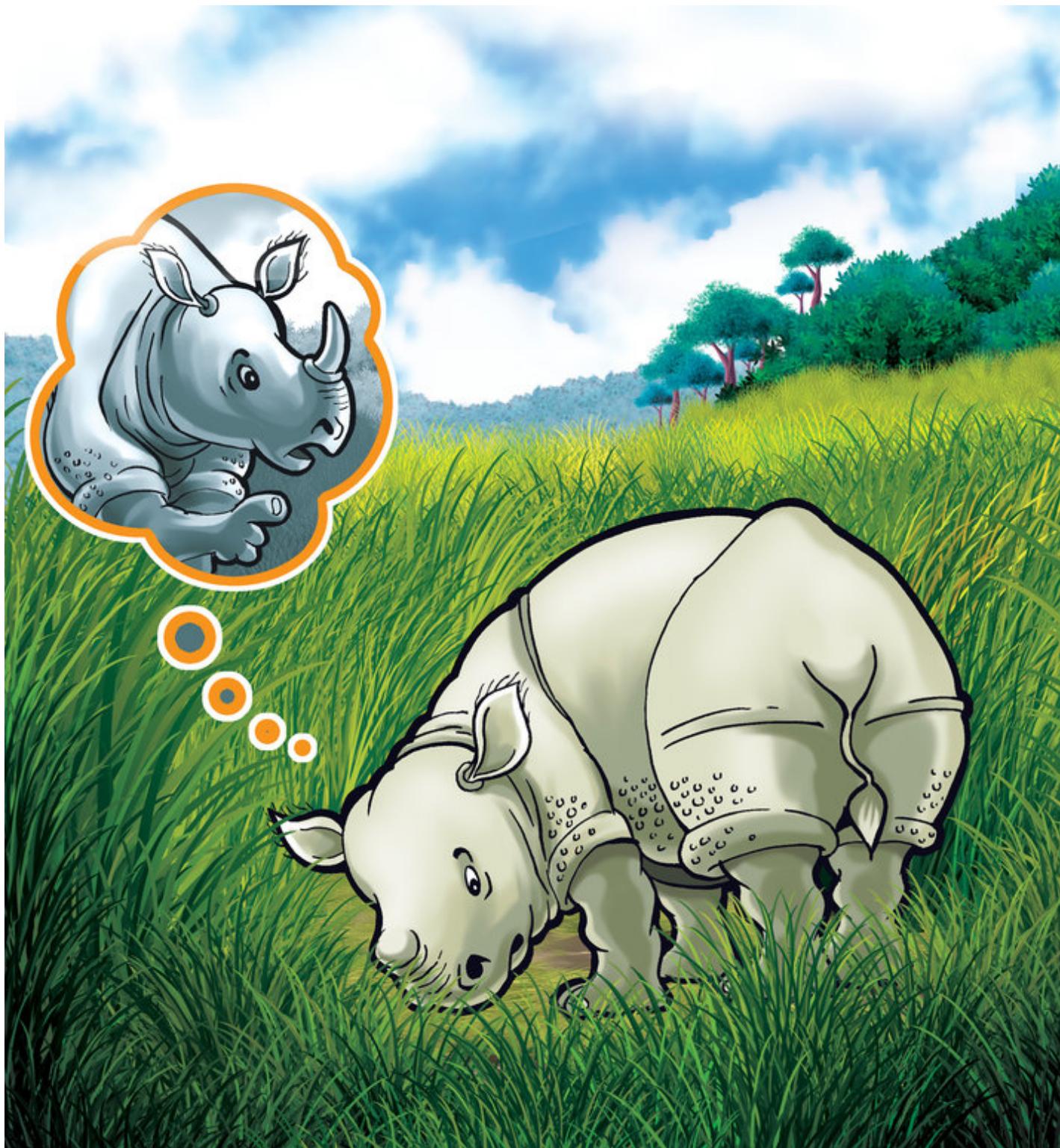


Il entendit tout à coup un bruit étrange. Il dressa l'oreille pour savoir d'où provenait ce bruit. Il n'avait jamais entendu un pareil bruit.



Il sortit de la mare dans laquelle il pataugeait et se dirigea vers l'endroit d'où provenait le bruit.

Il marcha longtemps, mais ne parvint pas à trouver l'origine du bruit.



Il regarda autour de lui et se rendit compte qu'il avait marché beaucoup plus que ce qu'il ne pensait.

Il se souvint alors des mises en garde de sa maman et prit le chemin du retour.



Il entendit alors à nouveau le même bruit.

Soudain, il aperçut un énorme python se précipiter sur lui.

Pris de panique, il se sauva à toutes jambes et se cacha derrière des herbes hautes.



*Ce python va m'avaler tout cru, se dit-il. Maman, au secouuurs !*

Il était terrorisé. Il ferma les yeux et resta immobile un long moment

Heureusement, il ne lui arriva rien.



En écartant discrètement les herbes, Kanchha aperçut le python engloutir un cerf. Il poussa un soupir de soulagement.



La nuit tombait et Kanchha savait que c'était l'heure de rentrer à la maison.

Il se retourna, regarda à droite, puis à gauche.



Il essaya de repérer son odeur sur le sol, mais n'y parvint pas.



Il se mit à courir dans tous les sens, mais ne put retrouver le chemin qu'il avait emprunté quelques heures plus tôt.

Il se souvint des paroles de sa maman et se mit à pleurer à chaudes larmes.



« Kanchha ! Kanchha ! »

Quelqu'un l'appelait ?

Il dressa l'oreille.

Oui, quelqu'un l'appelait !

Il sauta de joie puis courut  
aussi vite qu'il put.



**POUF !**

Kanchha tomba dans un trou et se retrouva dans le noir complet.



— Kanchha ! Kanchha !

Kanckha reconnut la voix de sa maman. Il eut envie de pleurer.

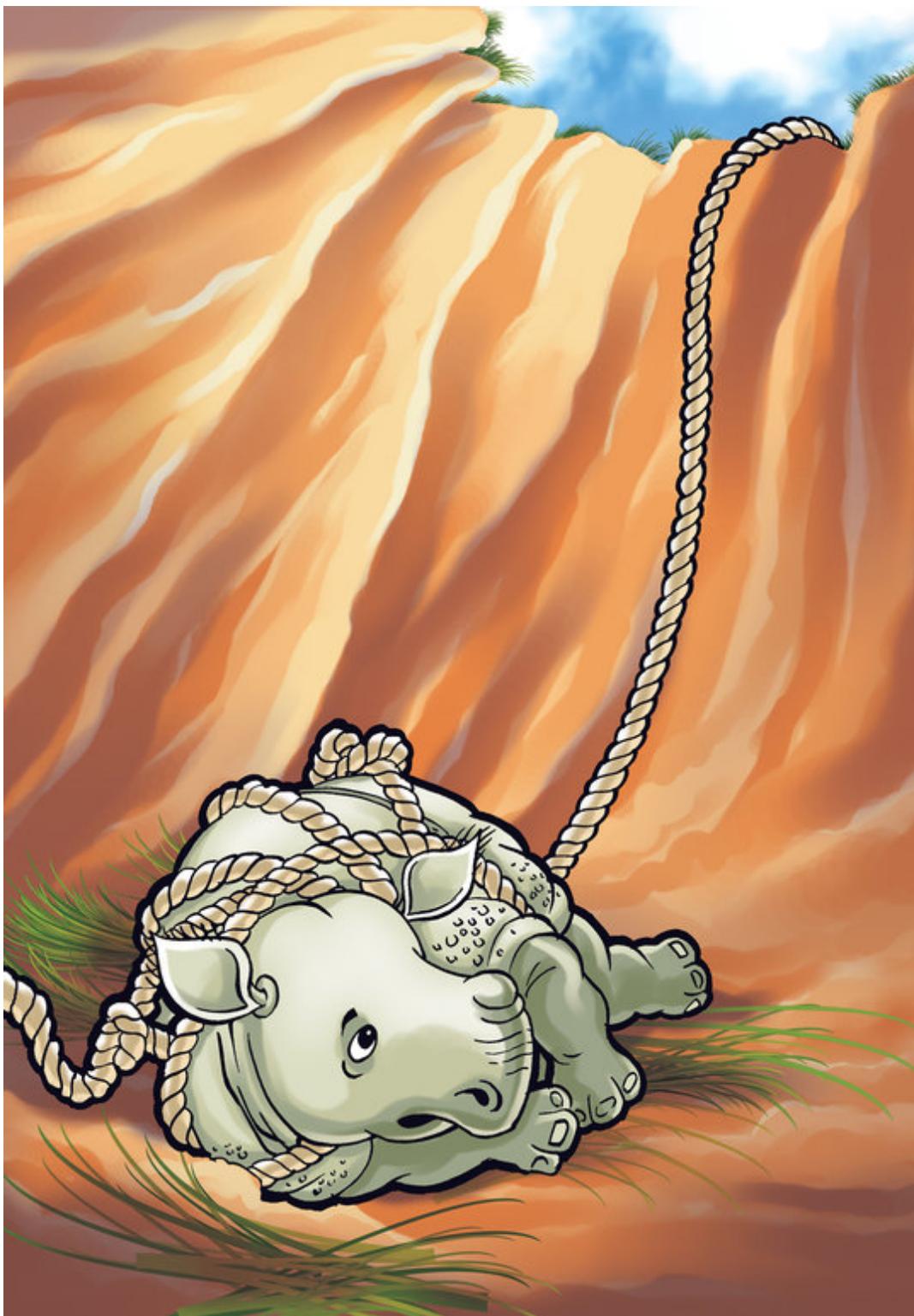
— Je suis désolé de m'être aventuré aussi loin dans la savane, Maman, murmura-t-il d'une voix étranglée.

— Ne t'inquiète pas, mon Chéri, je vais chercher de l'aide, lui promit sa maman.

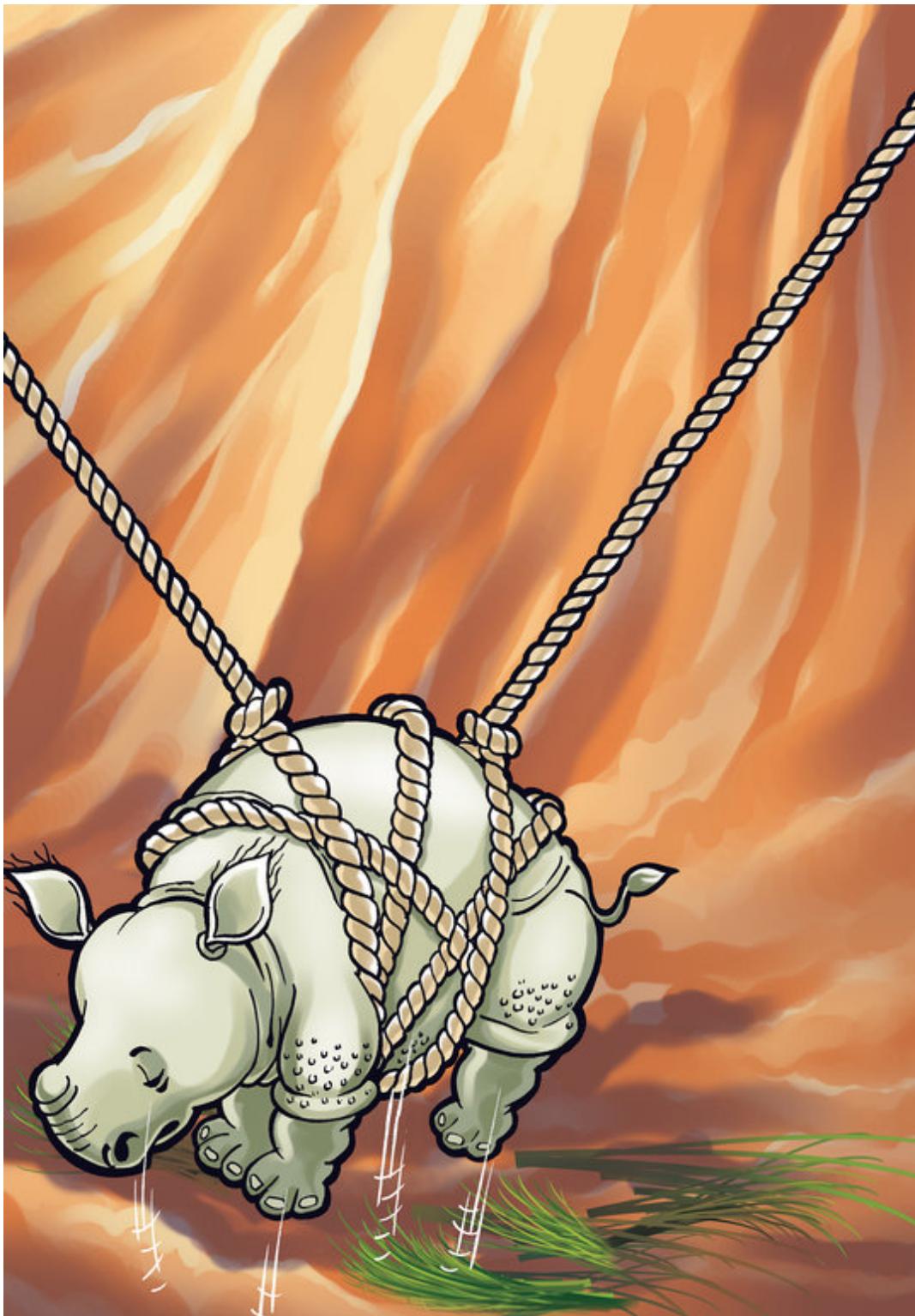


Kanchha regarda le ciel. La Lune brillait de mille feux.

Il se fit la promesse d'être plus prudent à l'avenir.



Le lendemain matin, Kanchha se réveilla ficleé de toutes parts. Il entendit du bruit. Il ne comprenait pas ce qu'il se passait.



Kanchha essaya de se libérer des cordes qui le retenaient prisonnier, mais il se fit mal, alors il ne bougea plus.

Il fut soulevé dans les airs.

*Est-ce que j'ai été capturé ?* se demanda-t-il.



Il se retrouva sur la terre ferme et entendit tout un tas de bruits étranges, des applaudissements et des sifflets.

« Hourah ! Wahou ! »

Il fut aveuglé par les flashes d'appareils photos.



Des centaines d'humains se pressaient autour de lui.

Ils brandissaient des affiches sur lesquelles il y avait une photo de rhinocéros.

Certains arboraient même une photo de rhinocéros sur leur casquette.



Certains étaient à dos d'éléphants, d'autres à bord de jeeps,  
et d'autres encore à pied.

Kanchha découvrit en s'approchant qu'ils lui souriaient tous.  
Mais il ne reconnut personne dans la foule et il avait peur.

*Qui sont ces gens ? Pourquoi sont-ils là ? Que vont-ils me faire ?* se dit-il.



L'un d'entre-eux s'approcha de lui et le caressa.

Il lui fit tourner la tête vers la jungle.

Kanchha aperçut alors sa maman qui l'attendait, cachée derrière un bouquet d'arbres.

Ces humains ne l'avaient donc pas capturé, ils l'avaient sauvé !



Kanchha rejoignit sa maman en courant aussi vite qu'il put.

Il était à nouveau en sécurité. Jamais plus il ne s'aventurerait dans la savane sans laisser son odeur derrière lui.



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# **Kanchha, le petit rhinocéros perdu** (French)

Kanchha, le petit rhinocéros adore partir à l'aventure tout seul dans la savane. Un jour, il s'éloigne trop loin de sa maman et se perd. Découvre dans ce livre quels dangers il va devoir affronter.

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



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