

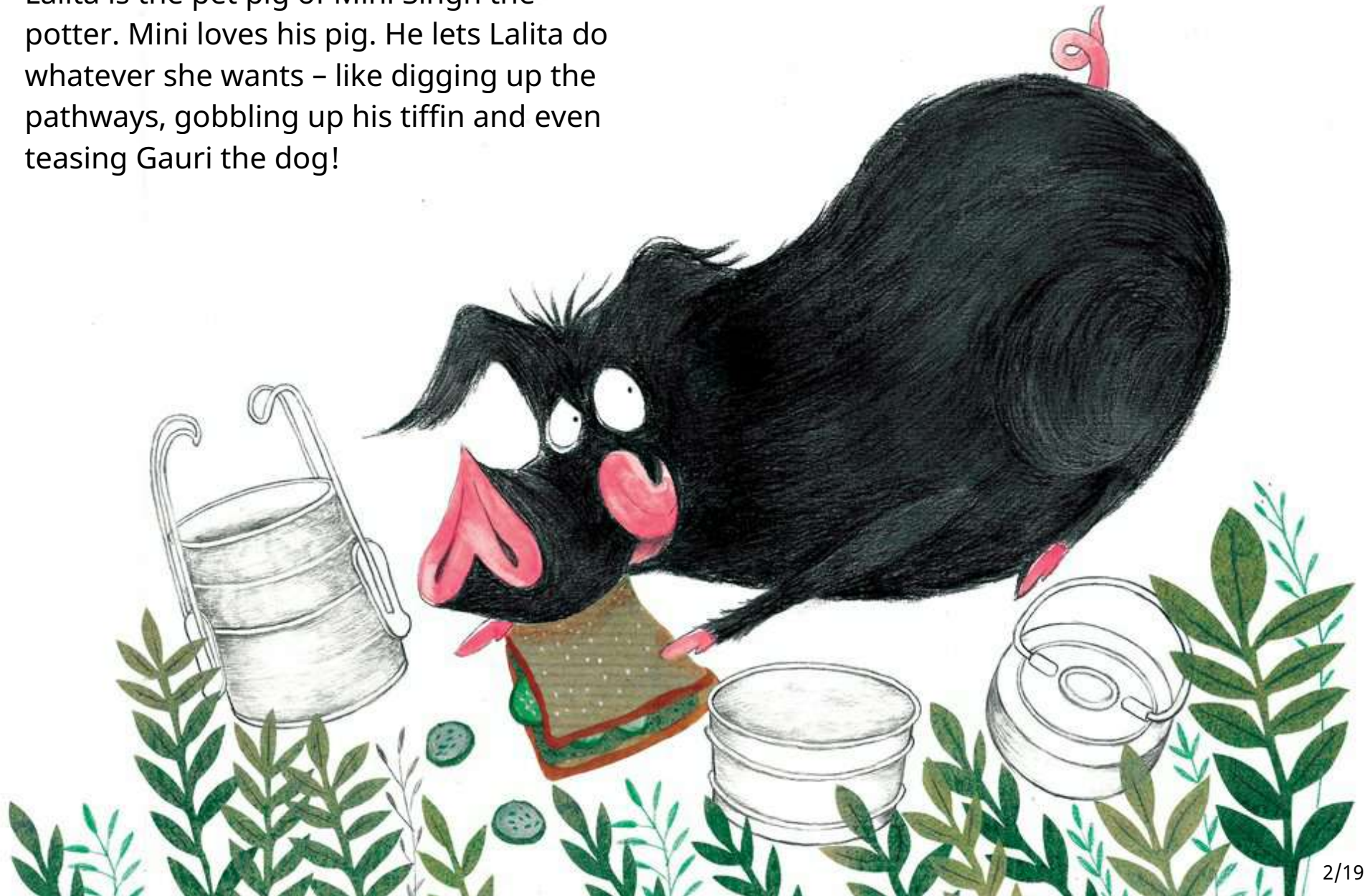


The Runaway Pig

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Lalita is the pet pig of Mini Singh the potter. Mini loves his pig. He lets Lalita do whatever she wants – like digging up the pathways, gobbling up his tiffin and even teasing Gauri the dog!



Lalita shuffles over to the bag of cucumbers hanging from the badaam tree.

Unnnngggghhhh mmmnnnngh!

Lalita stands on her tippy toes, stretching her snout towards the bag. She feels quite like a giraffe.

Flooom flooomm cawwrrrr!

Two big black crows fly down and nod encouragingly.



Klink klink klink!

Just then, the bells on the pottery gate tinkle.

Harrumph-harrumph-pharrrrrrrump!

Lalita snorts in delight. The pottery gate is wide open!

She forgets about the cucumbers.

She forgets about the crows.

She forgets about Mini the potter and Gauri the dog.





Ta-dhump, ta-dhump, ta-dhump dhump dhumppp!

Clicking her heels, Lalita trots out of the open gate.





Sniff-whiff-whiff!

Lalita raises her snout and smells the air. Who is this furry animal in the middle of the path? It is taller than her. It has knobbly legs and greyish white hair. It has long ears, a long tail and a long face.

Harrrrrump! says Lalita, always happy to make a new friend.



But Jenny the donkey has
no time for friendly pigs.
Jenny turns and...





thakekk!

She gives Lalita a hard kick.



Yowww oowww owwww!

Lalita yowls as she staggers back.



Lalita grunts softly and
keeps walking on.
**Ta-dhump, ta-dhump,
ta-dhump, ta-da-da-da-
dhuppp?**



Who is this black beast walking so slowly?
It has one big nose and two big horns.
It has broad hooves, a wide back, and a
large head.
Where is it going?



Whiffle-sniffle-whiffle!

Lalita's nose quivers.

The buffalo is going to a
pond full of water.



Lalita forgets her fear and
trots towards the water.

But...



Splish, splosh, splish, splosh!



The buffalo walks right into the pond.

Sploooooobugullbbbbb! Bulooooosshgb!

She plonks down and
splashes water all over Lalita.
The pond is full of buffalo!



Disappointed, Lalita shuffles away.
**Ta-dhump, ta-dhump,
ta-dhump ta—**

dhaaan!

Out of nowhere, a scruffy dog appears. Snarling, the dog moves slowly towards her.

Grrrrrrrghrrrrrrrr!

Lalita picks up all her four hooves and runs as fast as she can.

**Ta-dhump, ta-dhump,
ta-dhump, ta—**



dhhhissshhhh!

She finds herself in the
middle of a thicket of bushes.

Swuuuup-wooosh swuuuuup-woooosh!

Lalita pants and gasps. She is tired. And she
is very hungry.



Buzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz!

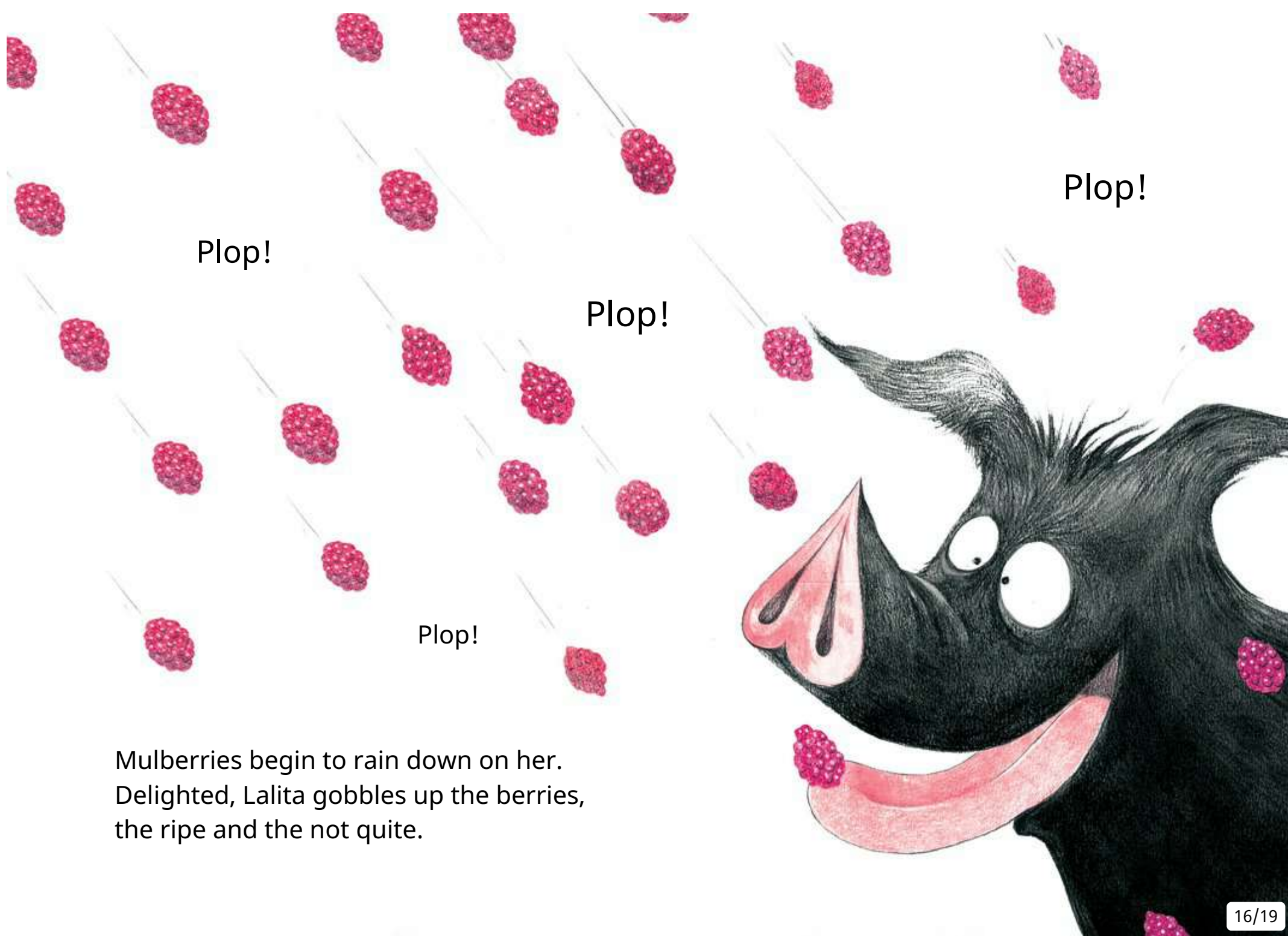
Zzzzzzzziinnnnng!

A pesky mosquito buzzes near her.

Flappa-wappa-wap-wap!

Lalita shakes her head,
flapping her ears. The
entire bush shakes.





Mulberries begin to rain down on her.
Delighted, Lalita gobbles up the berries,
the ripe and the not quite.

Her nose and and her tongue
now a delicate purple, a very tired
Lalita settles down in the
bushes. And falls fast asleep!

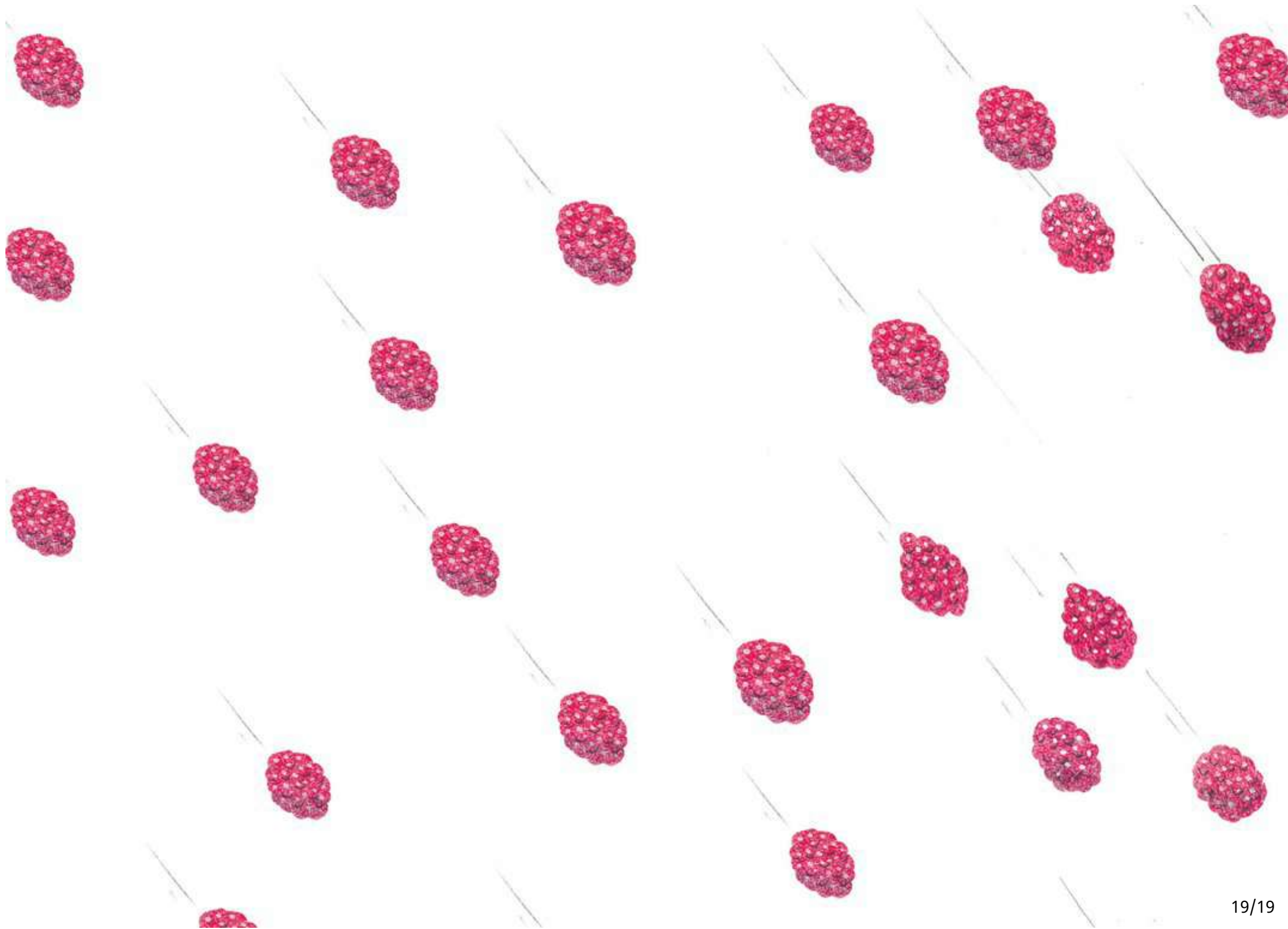
In her sleep, she dreams
of kicking cucumbers and
swimming donkeys.



Tomorrow will be a brand new day. Who knows what new excitement it will bring?

One thing is for sure, Lalita's adventures have just begun!





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The Runaway Pig

(English)

Lalita, the pet pig of Mini Singh, clicks her heels and runs away! And lands right into an adventure where she meets unfriendly donkeys, big buffaloes, and snarly dogs. But nothing can stop her from having fun. After all, isn't that what adventures are all about?

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



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