



The Louse's New House

Author: Nandita Jayaraj

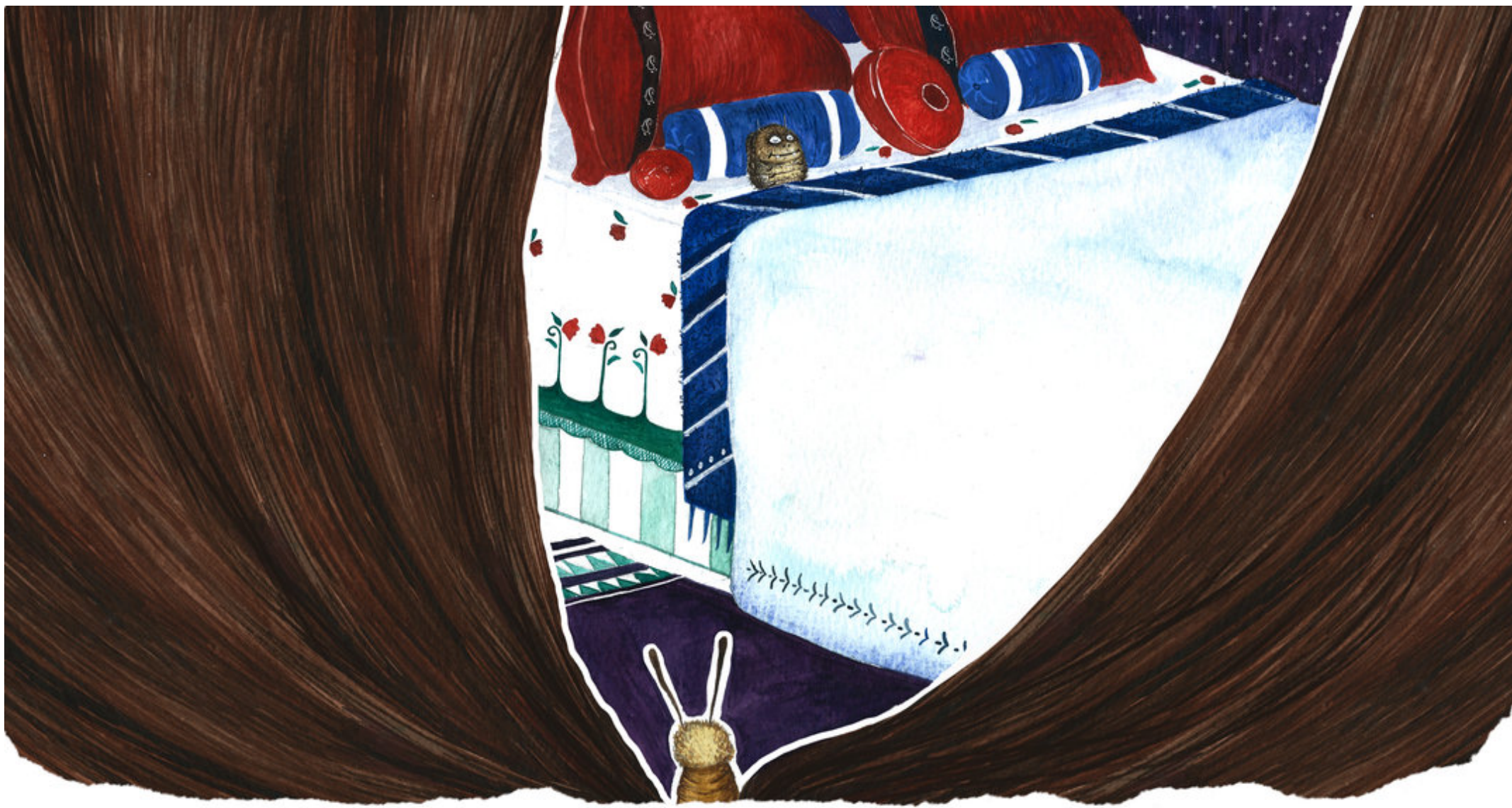
Illustrator: Vridhhi Chaudhry

Level 2



There was once a jolly louse which lived in the hair of a girl. Every day, it sipped blood from her head.

The poor girl! She scratched and scratched! With its stomach full, the louse was happy.



One day, the louse heard about a bed bug. This bed bug lived in the royal mattress of the King himself.

“How marvellous to live in such a grand home!” thought the louse.



The louse dreamt about the King's head all day and all night. "His hair must be so soft and thick, not sweaty and smelly like this little girl's head."



The next day, the louse decided, "I am moving to a new home!"
So while the little girl was playing in the park, the louse hopped out of her head and landed on...



... the head of a little boy!

This boy's mother was the King's chariot driver. As the boy kissed his mother goodnight, the clever louse leapt into the woman's hair.



There it waited quietly, until the next day when the chariot driver set off for the palace. The louse was careful not to give her an itch. If she scratched, it may fall off.

The louse did not want that! Not when it was so close to the King's royal hair.



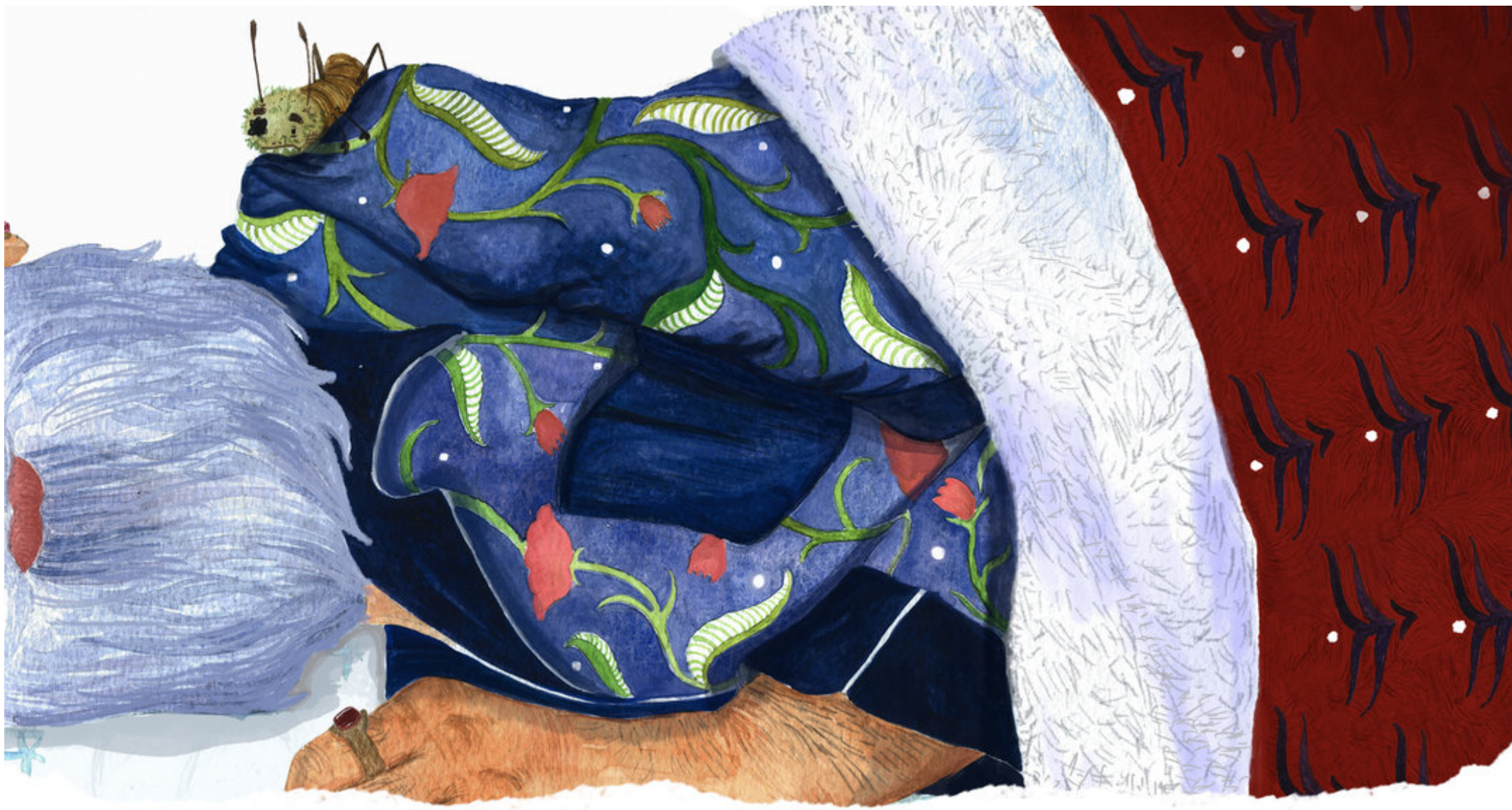
At the palace gates, the King was waiting to go for his morning ride. As soon as he sat down, the louse bit into the driver's scalp. "Ouch!" said the lady, and scratched her head.

The louse flew off her hair and landed on...



... the King's freshly-bathed shoulder. Mmmm. He smelt good!

After a breezy chariot ride, the King returned to the palace. As he sat down to rest, the louse looked around his room. It was thrilled. No dirt! No heat! And such a lovely smell!



But soon, the louse got hungry. The King was asleep so this was the perfect time for a royal feast! The louse ran up the sleeping King's neck.



It crawled higher and higher, stomach rumbling with hunger.

Finally, on top of the King's head, the louse was shocked.



The old King barely had any hair!

What a **terrible** mistake!

Story Attribution:

This story: The Louse's New House is written by [Nandita Jayaraj](#) . © Pratham Books , 2018. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

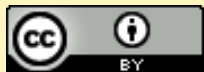
Other Credits:

'The Louse's New House' has been published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. Dedication: For my grandfather, who inspired this tale.
www.prathambooks.org Guest Editor: Yamini Vijayan

Images Attributions:

Cover page: [A Louse smiling](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [A Louse sitting happily in a head](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [A Louse imagining a bedbug on king's bed](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [A louse dreaming about king's head](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [A Louse hoping in a garden](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [A Mother talking to her son](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [A Louse on a lady's braid](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [A Louse inside a chariot](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [King's royal room](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2018. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [A Louse crawling on a man's shoulder](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [Louse hanging on an ear hair](#), by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2018. 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](#).

Images Attributions:

Page 12: [A Louse crying on a bald man's head](#) by [Vridhhi Chaudhry](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. 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 Louse's New House

(English)

A head louse is fed up of its smelly home. Hop, hop, hop it goes, in search of the perfect new home. Hop along to find out what happens next.

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!