



Level 3

Just the Way I Am

Author: Bindu Gupta

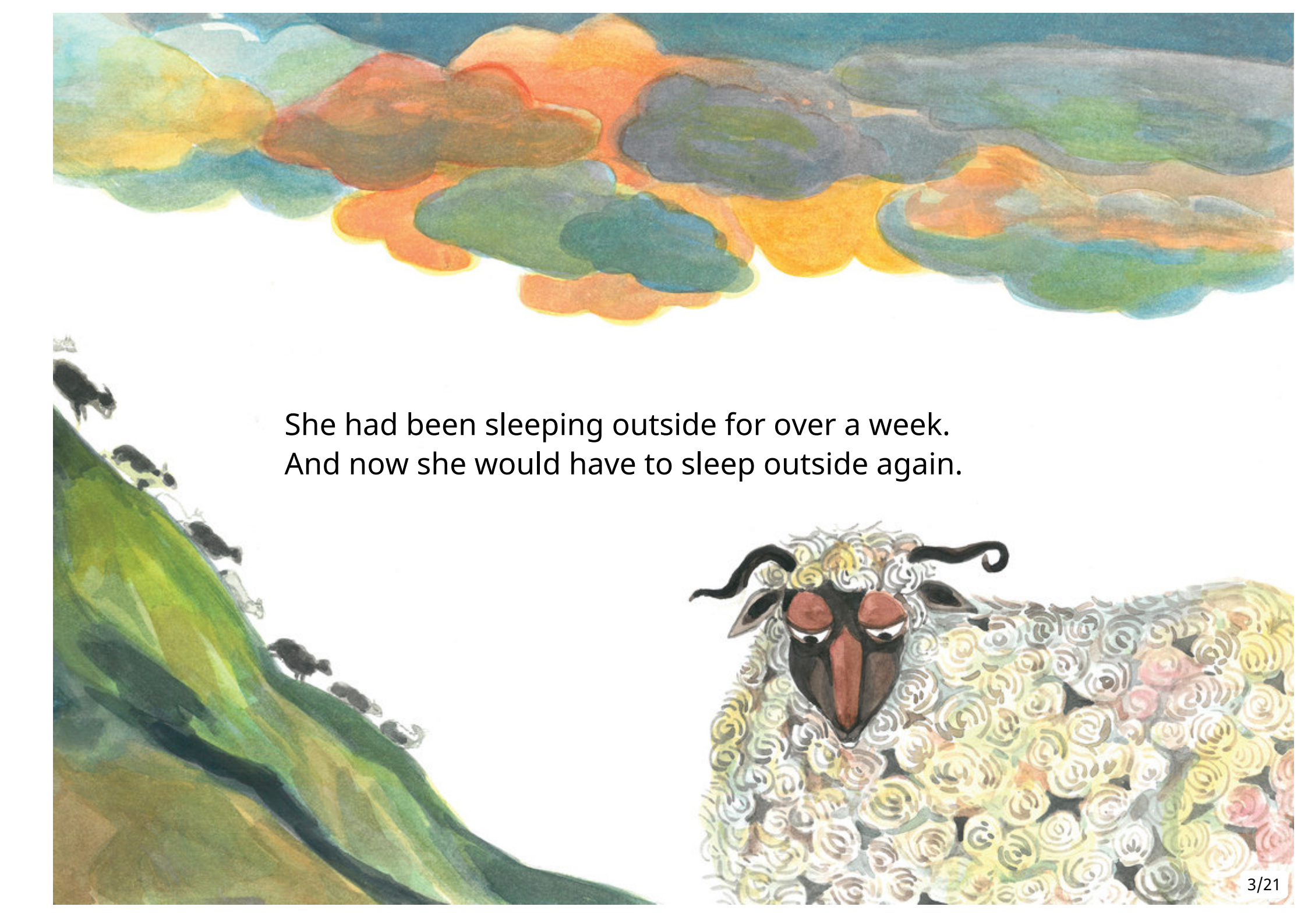
Illustrator: Kanak Shashi

Translator: Alisha Berger



A herd of sheep was coming back home
in the evening, happy as usual.

Except for Matko. She was too wide to fit through
the new farm gate.



She had been sleeping outside for over a week.
And now she would have to sleep outside again.



That darn gate!

It wasn't fair.

The yogi sheep said,
“Do yoga! Yoga will make you
thinner. Then you will fit through
the gate.”





The next day, Matko started doing yoga.





Many days passed...

But Matko was still too wide to fit through the gate.





The jogger sheep suggested, "Start jogging! Jogging will make you thinner. Then you will fit through the gate."



So Matko went for a jog every day.

Days passed, but she was still too wide for the gate.

The swimmer sheep advised,
“Start swimming! Swimming will make you thinner.
Then you will fit through the gate.”





So Matko began
swimming...

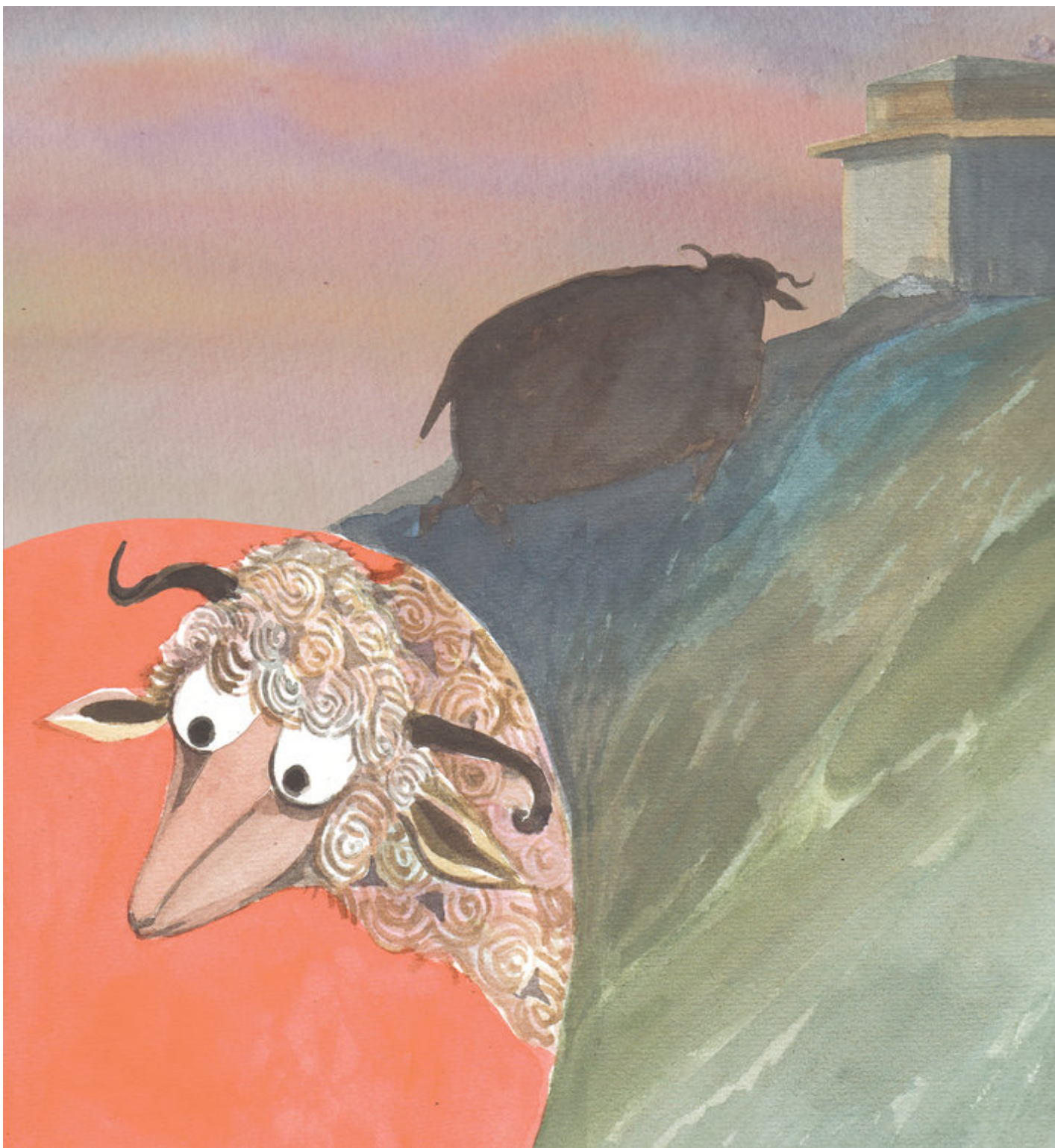


But she was still too wide to fit through the gate!



Bunni came by showing off her bicycle.

“Start cycling, Matko. Cycling will make you thinner. If cycling doesn't help you fit through the gate, I'll eat my hat!”



Matko was upset.

"Enough now! I just want to go home."

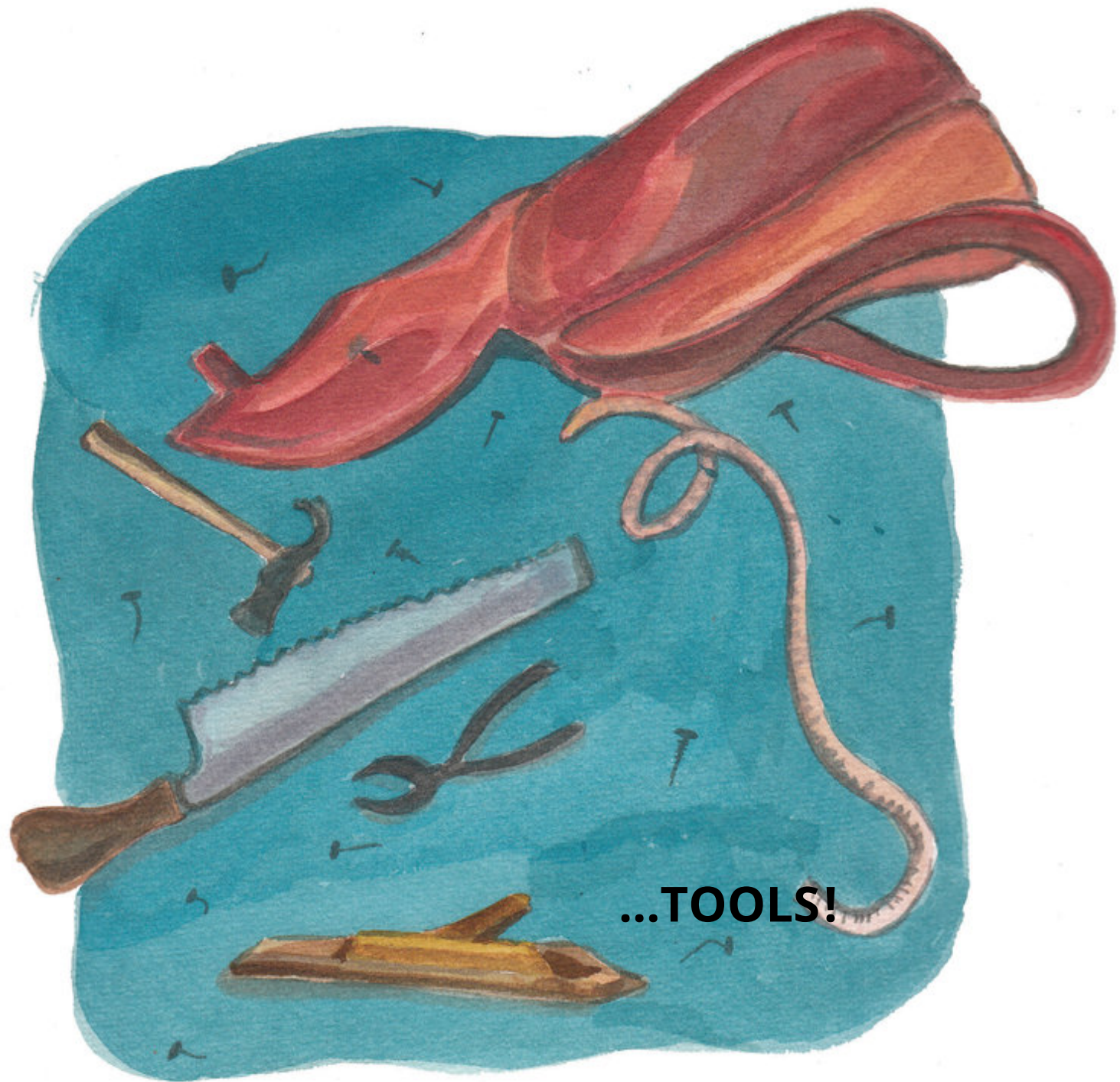
So she thought.
And she thought,
and she thought some
more.

And then she set off.



A few days later,
Matko returned.

Now she had a plan.
She had...



...TOOLS!



The next morning, Matko woke up in her favorite place.





All the other sheep were astonished.
"But you're still so wide!" they brayed. "How did you get inside the yard?"



"I simply made the gate a little wider," Matko replied with a grin. "I am fit, and I am fine...**just the way I am!**"



Story Attribution:

This story: Just the Way I Am is translated by [Alisha Berger](#). The © for this translation lies with Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Based on Original story: 'मैं ऐसी ही हूँ', by [Bindu Gupta](#). © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Other Credits:

This story 'Just The Way I Am' has been published by Room to Read on StoryWeaver.

Images Attributions:

Cover page: [sheep sitting on a hammock above a pond](#) by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [clouds](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [A sheep standing alone while others descend a mountain](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [A sheep gets stuck at the gate of a sheep-pen](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [A sheep watches another do yoga](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [A sheep practises yoga](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [A sheep tries to do yoga](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [A sheep stands among leaves](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [A sheep chewing leaves looks at another](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [An out-of-breath sheep looks at two others running](#) by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. 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/>

Images Attributions:

Page 11: [A sheep watches another swim](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 12: [A sheep dives into water](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 13: [A sheep floats on water](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: [A sheep on a cycle speaks to another](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 15: [A sheep imagines itself walking in the night](#) by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 16: [A sheep looks at a village from a height](#) by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 17: [Carpentry tools](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 18: [A fence](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 19: [Sheep look at a flock of sheep sleeping](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 20: [Sheep relaxing inside an enclosure](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 21: [A sheep looking up amid leaves](#), by [Kanak Shashi](#) © Room to Read, 2016. 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/>

Just the Way I Am

(English)

Matko is too wide to fit through the yard-gate. Her friends suggest different exercises to help her slim down, but nothing works. Finally, Matko comes up with her own way to fit in.

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!