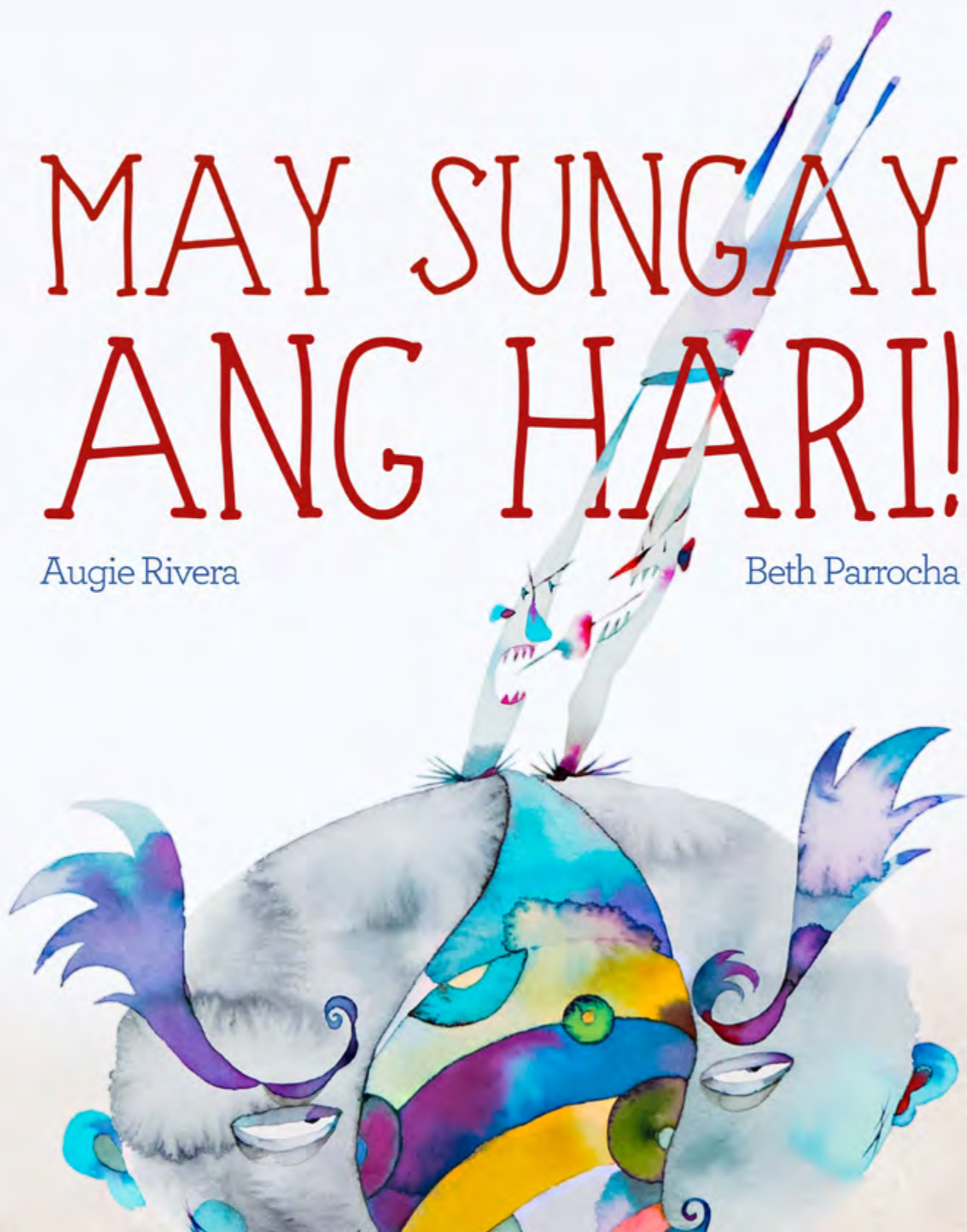


MAY SUNGAY ANG HARI!

Augie Rivera

Beth Parrocha





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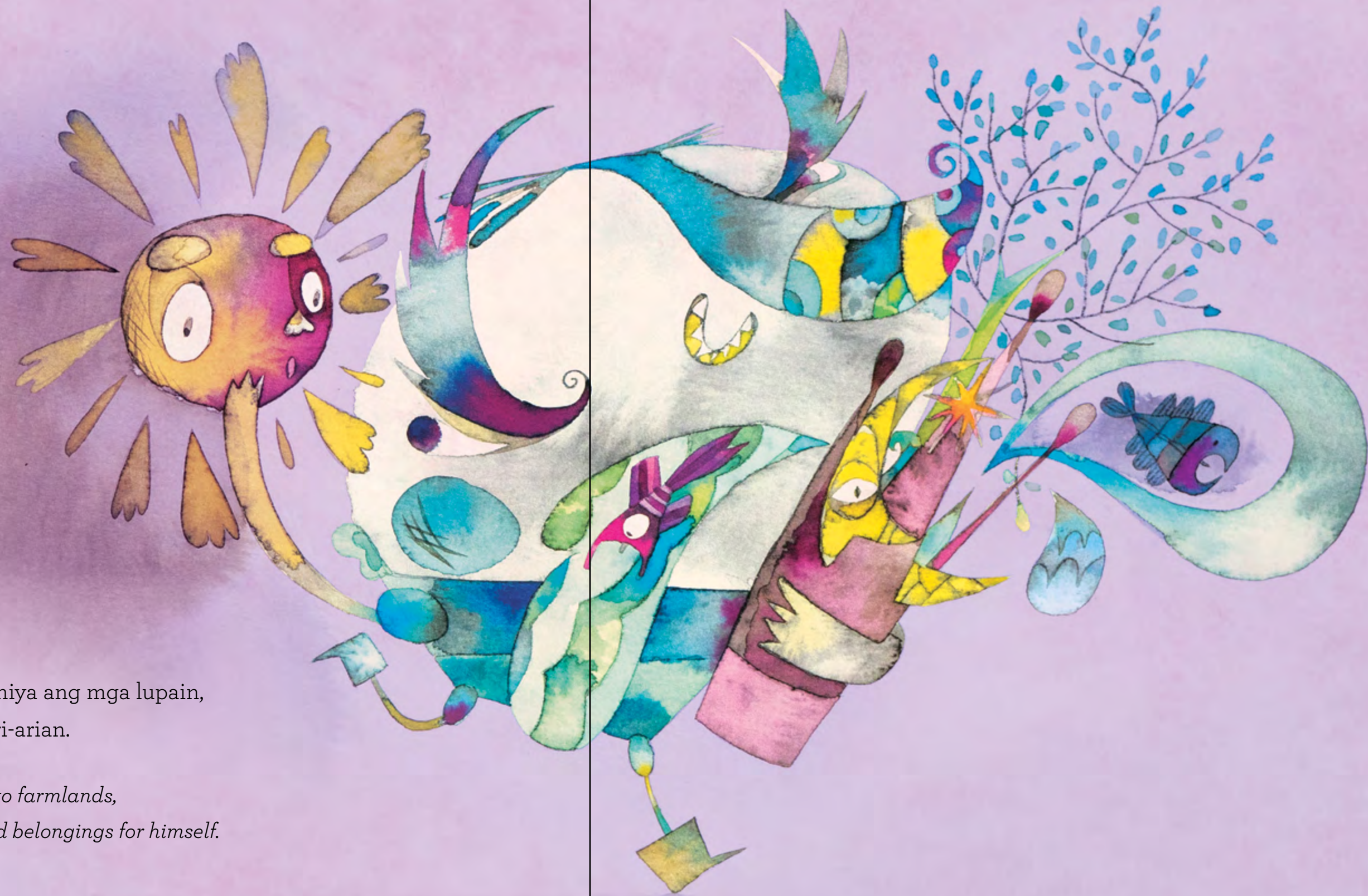
Beth Parrocha



Sa isang malayong bayan, namumuno ang isang haring malupit at gahaman.

In a far away land, a cruel and greedy king ruled.





Sinasamsam niya ang mga lupain,
negosyo, at ari-arian.

*He laid claim to farmlands,
businesses, and belongings for himself.*



Ipinagbabawal din niya ang maraming bagay. Lahat ay takot sa kaniya. Ang lumabag sa kaniyang utos, tiyak na makatitikim ng mabagsik na parusa.

He also prohibited many things. Everyone feared him. Whoever disobeyed his wishes would surely suffer cruel punishment.

Ang tagapagpatupad ng parusa: ang libo-libo niyang mga alagad na tiktik-balang — mga insektong mababagsik, matatalim ang mga ngipin, at may malalaking tenga.

Agad nilang naririnig ang anomang salita na sasabihin laban sa hari. Huhulihin nila ang suwail na nagsabi at dadalhin sa kung saan, at saka sila uugong nang sabay-sabay para burahin at makalimutan ng mga tao ang kanilang narinig.

Those who carried out the punishment: thousands upon thousands army of tiktik-balang - fierce insects with sharp teeth and huge ears.

Any word spoken against the king was immediately heard by them. The defiant speaker would be captured and brought to some place, and all together, the tiktik-balang would make a droning sound that would erase and make people forget what they heard.





Isang araw, sa sukdulan ng kasamaan ng hari, umusbong ang dalawang maliliit na sungay sa ulo niya. “Hindi ito dapat malaman ng mga tao!” pasiya ng hari. At bago siya magtago sa palasyo, binasa ng alipores ng hari ang bagong utos niya para sa mga tiktik-balang:

“Ang pasya ng hari, ‘di dapat mabali!

Hulihin! Parusahan! Agad-agad, dali-dali...

Ang sinomang magsabi na: *‘May sungay ang hari!’* ”

One day, in his most evil, two tiny horns began to sprout on the king’s head. “The people must not know of this!” decided the king. And before he hid in the palace, his henchman read out his new commandment for the tiktik-balang.

“The king’s command cannot be broken!

Arrest! Punish! Quickly! The king has spoken.

Whoever says: *‘The king has horns!’* ”

Nang minsang magpagupit ng buhok ang hari, nanlaki ang mga mata ng barbero nang makita niya ang sungay.

“Bakit? May nakikita ka bang kakaiba?”

“W-wala po... wala po akong nakikita...”

“Mabuti naman. At wala ka ring pagsasabihan. Kung hindi... makikita mo!”

One day, while the barber was cutting the king's hair, his eyes went wide with surprise when he saw the horns.

“Why? Do you see anything unusual?”

“N-no, your highness ... I see nothing...”

“Very well then. And you're forbidden to tell anyone... or else!”





Nang palabas na ng palasyo, takot na takot na bumubulong sa sarili ang tila namatandang barbero:

“May sungay ang hari... may sungay ang hari...”

Pero, narinig pala siya ng isang loro. Kaya, pumalahaw ito ng..

*“Aaakk! May sungay ang hari!
Aaaakkk! May sungay ang hari!”*

As he left the palace, the barber filled with fear kept on whispering to himself, as if under a spell:

“The king has horns... the king has horns...”

But, a parrot heard him. And so it squealed:

*“Aaak! The king has horns!
Aaaak! The king has horns!”*

Agad-agad, mula sa iba't ibang direksyon, dumagsa ang mga tiktik-balang. Binuhat nila sa ere ang barbero, pati na ang loro, at tinangay patungo sa kung saan. Maya-maya pa, may narinig na ugong ang mga tao, at biglang wala nang makaalala pa sa tunay na nangyari sa kawawang barbero at loro.

Immediately, from all directions, the tiktik-balang swarmed. They carried the barber into the air, including the parrot, and brought them to some place. After a while, the people heard a droning sound, then suddenly, no one could remember what happened to the poor barber and parrot.





Lumipas ang ilang buwan, napansin ng mga tao na labindalawang barbero pa ang naglaho sa kanilang bayan. Pero, laging walang makapagsabi o makaalala kung ano ang nangyari sa kanila.

Isang araw, ipinatawag ng dakilang alalay ng hari si Pedro, ang pinakahuling barbero sa bayan. Muntik na niyang mabitawan ang kaniyang gunting nang tumambad sa kanya ang hari.

“Bakit? May nakikita ka bang kakaiba?”

“W-wala po... wala po akong nakikita...”

“Mabuti naman. At wala ka ring pagsasabihan... kung ayaw mong matulad sa iba.”

As months passed, people noticed that twelve more barbers had disappeared from their town.

But as always, no one could say or remember what happened to them.

One day, the king’s henchman summoned Pedro, the very last barber in the land. He almost dropped his scissors when he saw the king.

“Why? Do you see anything unusual?”

“N-no, your highness ... I see nothing...”

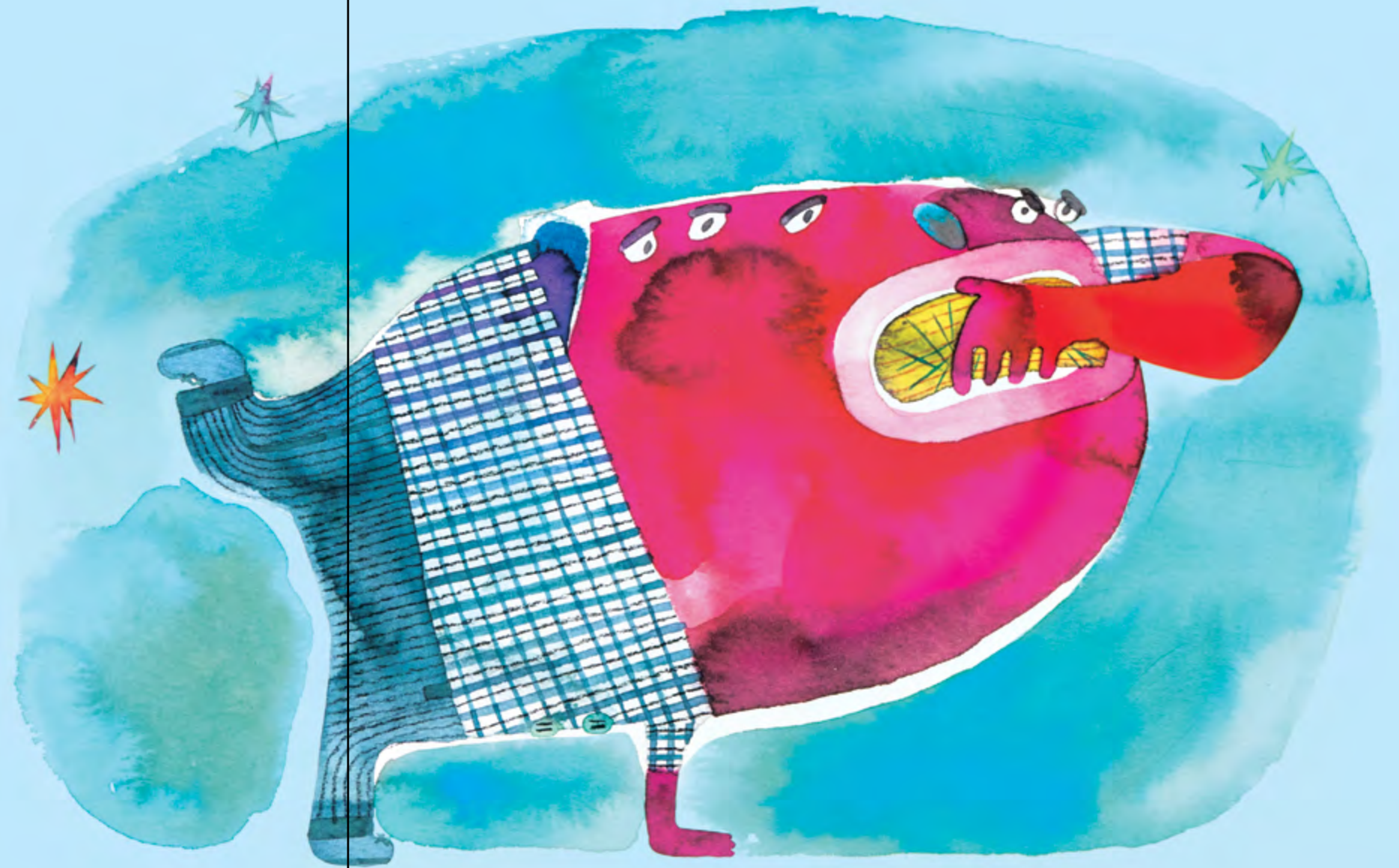
“Very well then. And you’re forbidden to tell anyone... if you don’t want to end up like the rest of them.”

Pag-uwi, hindi mapakali si Pedro sa kaiisip sa nakita niya. “Kaya pala hindi na nagpapakita ang hari. Kaya pala naubos na ang mga barbero. Dapat itong malaman ng taumbayan... pero... paano?”

Binusalan ni Pedro ang sarili ng isang piraso ng tela para hindi siya makapagsalita. Ilang gabi siyang hindi makatulog. Gigil na gigil na siyang ipagsigawan sa lahat ang nakita niya.

As he got home, Pedro could not stop thinking of what he saw. “No wonder the king never shows himself. No wonder all the barbers have vanished. The people should know about this... but... how?”

Pedro covered his own mouth with a piece of cloth so he won't be able to speak. He could not sleep for nights. He was dying to shout all that he had seen to the whole land.





Nang hindi na talaga siya makapagpigil, isang hatinggabi, habang nagsasalitan na sa paghilik ang mga tiktik-balang, naghukay si Pedro ng butas sa lupa sa may kawayanan. Bumaba siya rito, inalis ang busal, at saka niya ibinulong ang lihim sa ilalim ng lupa:

“May sungay ang hari... may sungay ang hari...”

Pagkatapos, agad siyang gumapang palabas ng hukay at muli itong tinabunan ng lupa.

When he could no longer help it, one midnight, while the tiktik-balang were asleep and snoring, Pedro dug a hole in the ground by the bamboo grove.

He scurried down the hole, removed his gag, and whispered the secret into the ground.

“The king has horns... the king has horns...”

Soon after, he crawled out of the hole, and covered it with dirt again.

Habang lumalalim ang gabi, nasipsip ng mga
ugat ng kawayan ang lihim na ibinulong ni
Pedro sa ilalim ng lupa.

*As the night got deeper, the bamboo roots absorbed
the secret that Pedro had whispered into the ground.*





Kinabukasan, nang humangin nang malakas, kasabay ng langitngit at lawiswis ay iniluwal ng mga kawayan ang isang umaalulong na tinig:

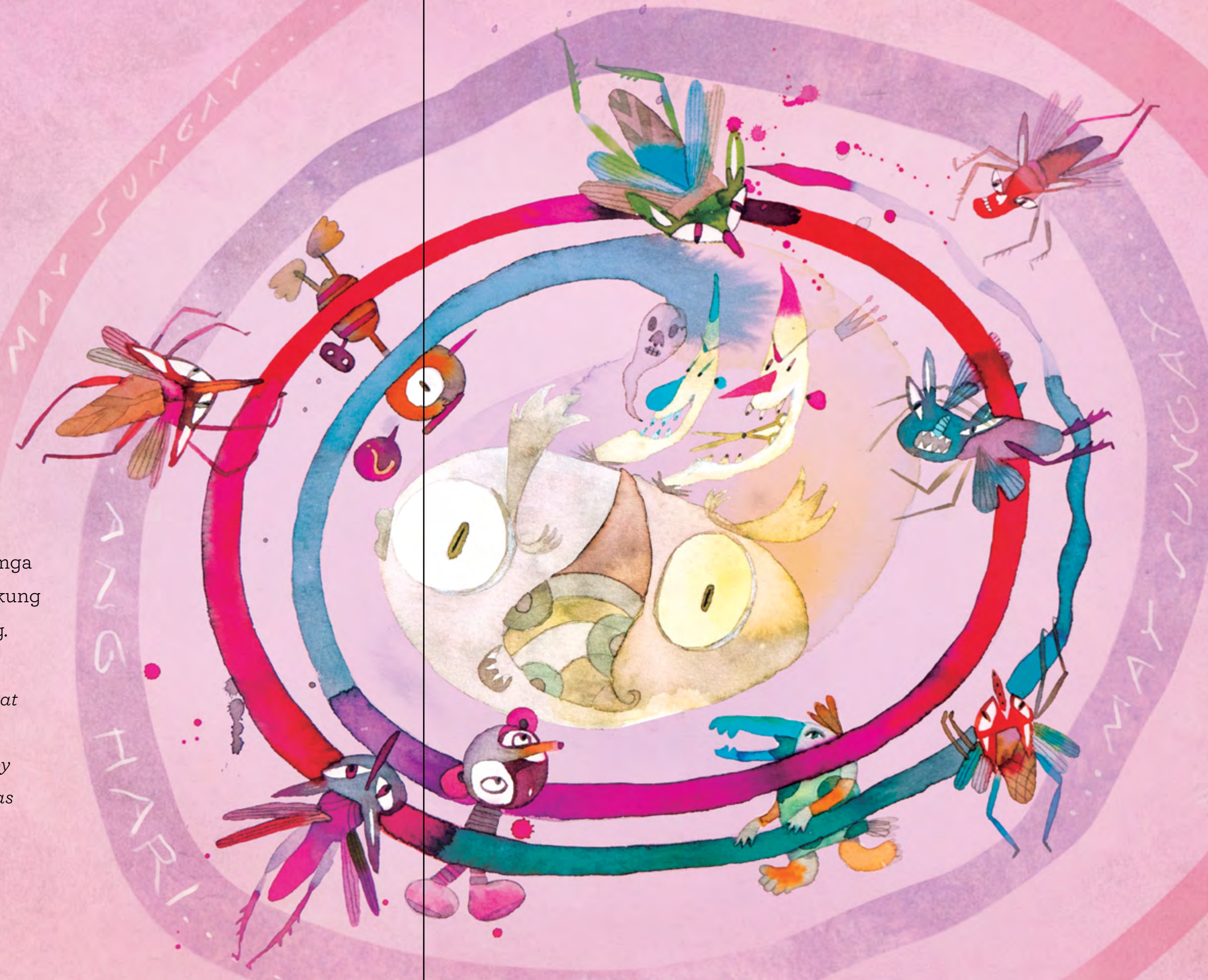
“May sungay ang hari...
may sungay ang hari...”

The next day, when the wind blew strong, along with the creaking and rattling, the bamboo grove murmured an ominous voice:

“The king has horns...
the king has horns...”

Nangilabot ang mga tao sa narinig. Nahilo naman ang mga tiktik-balang sa kahahanap kung saan nanggagaling ang tinig.

Everyone was terrified with what they heard. And the swarm of tiktik-balang grew dizzy as they tried to find where the voice was coming from.





Palihim na nagpulong ang taumbayan tungkol sa kanilang narinig. Iginuhit ni Pedro ang kaniyang nasaksihan sa loob ng palasyo para hindi siya marinig ng mga tiktik-balang. Pagkatapos niyang magpahayag, nagkaisa ang taumbayan:

“Tumubo ang mga sungay na ‘yan dahil sa labis niyang kasamaan!”

“Kung gayon, hindi na siya karapat-dapat na mamuno sa ating bayan.”

“Isa na siyang halimaw!”

The people secretly met to talk about what they heard. Pedro drew what he saw inside the palace so the tiktik-balang could not hear.

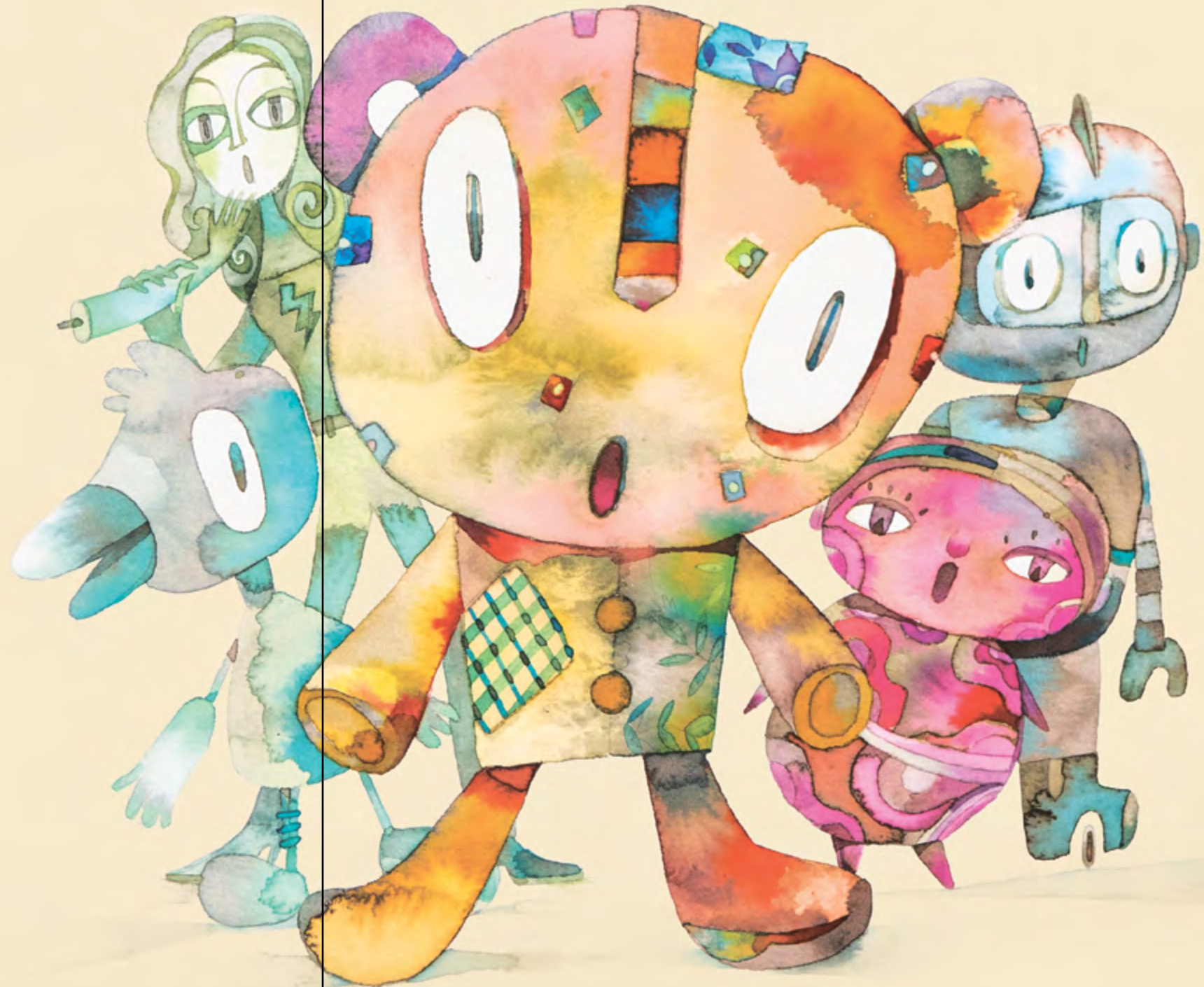
“The king’s horns grew out of his evilness!”

“And so, he is not fit to lead our land.”

“He is now a beast! A monster!”

Sama-samang sumugod sa palasyo ang mga tao para usigin ang hari tungkol sa kaniyang mga sungay. Pero, tumanggi ang alipores ng hari na papasukin sila. Kaya't sinira nila ang pinto at nagpumilit silang pumasok. Napanganga ang lahat nang makita nila ang hari.

Together the people stormed the palace to confront the king about his horns. But, his henchman refused to let them in. So they broke down the door and forced themselves in. Jaws dropped when they saw the king.





“Oo! May sungay nga ako! E ano ngayon? May sungay ang hari... at hindi ito mababali!” singhal ng hari.

“May sungay ako!
May sungay ang hari!”

sabay tawa nang malakas.

“Yes! I do have horns! But so what? The king has horns ... and they will not be broken,” huffed the king.

*“I have horns!
The king has horns!”*

guffawed the king.

Dahil sa narinig, agad na sumugod ang mga tiktik-balang at binuhat ang hari sa ere, pataas nang pataas.

“Hoy! Anong ginagawa n’yo? Ibaba n’yo ako! Ibaba n’yo ako!”

Ibinaba nga siya ng mga ito... sa bunganga ng isang bulkan!
At kabuntot niyang bumulusok ang sanlaksang tiktik-balang na ibinagsak din ang kanilang sarili sa kailaliman.

Because of what they heard, immediately the tiktik-balang swarmed the king and lifted him into the air, higher and higher.

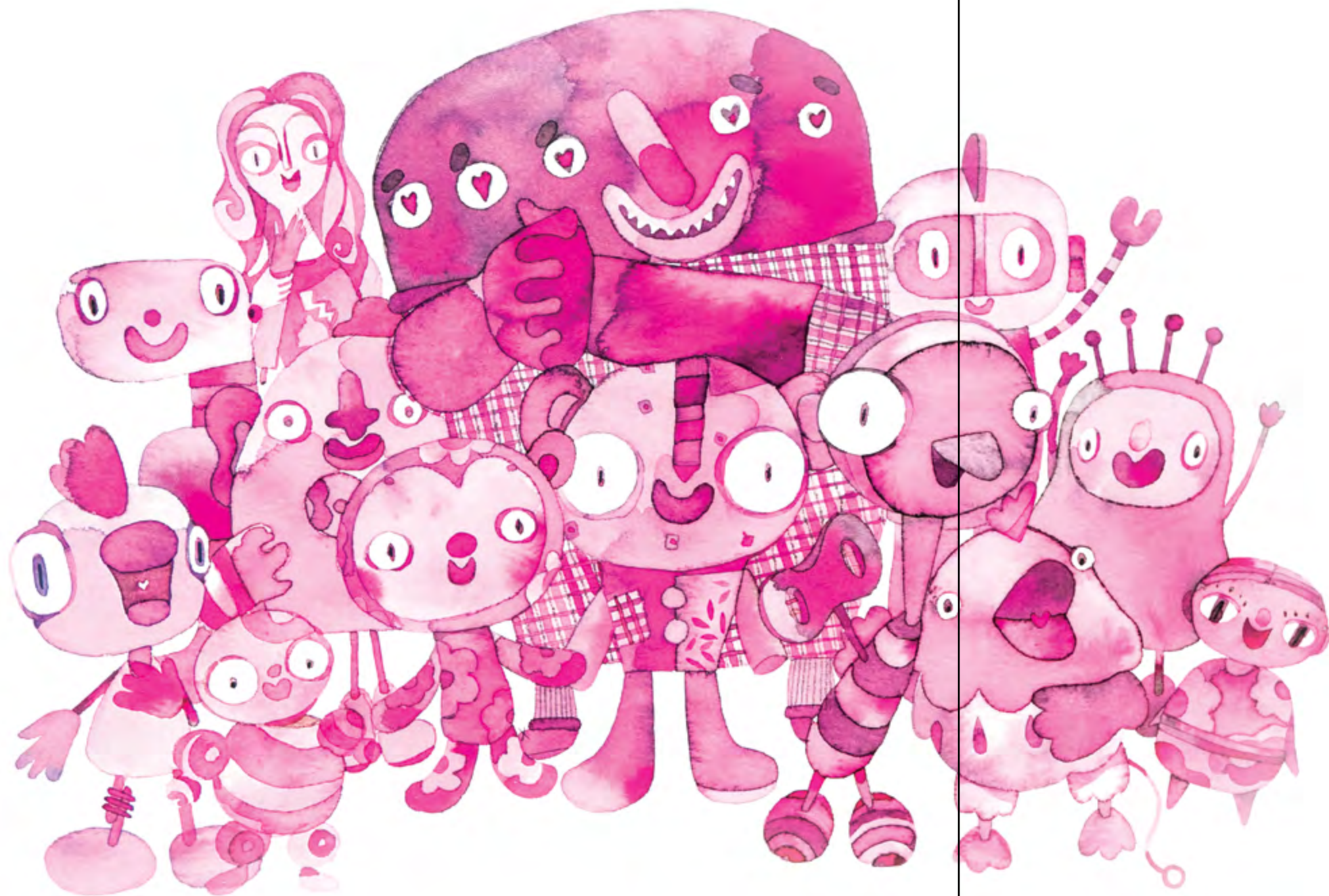
“Hey! What are you doing? Put me down! Put me down!”

And so, they put him down... into the mouth of a volcano! And right on his tail, the swarm of tiktik-balang plunged into the depths, and to their end.



“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaah!!”





Sa wakas, naging malaya na ang bayan sa haring malupit at gahaman. Nagpasalamat ang mga tao kay Pedro sa pagbabahagi niya ng katotohanan.

“Pumili tayo ng bagong pinuno,” pangunguna ni Pedro. At sumang-ayon naman ang lahat.

Sa kanilang pagkakaisa, nailuklok nila ang isang bagong pinuno na magtataguyod at magtatanggol sa kabutihan, katarungan at kapayapaan.

At last, the land was free of the cruel and greedy king. People thanked Pedro for sharing the truth.

“Let us choose a new leader,” Pedro began. And everyone agreed.

Together, they put a new leader in place who would champion and defend goodness, justice, and peace.

Gamit ang mga kawayan, nagpatayo ang bagong pinuno ng isang bulwagan sa liwasan. Doon siya nagpapatawag ng pulong upang pakinggan ang mga puna at mungkahi ng bawat mamamayan para sa ikabubuti ng kanilang bayan.

Mula rin noon, hindi na kailangan pang bumuo ng bagong batalyon ng tiktik-balang.

The new leader had a meeting hall made out of bamboo built in the plaza. There, she would gather the people to listen to the opinions and suggestions of everyone for the good of their land.

From then on, they saw no need to create a new army of tiktik-balang.



Tungkol sa Awtor

Si **Augie Rivera** ay isang premyadong manunulat ng panitikang pambata at programa sa telebisyon. Nakapagsulat na siya ng lampas sa 20 librong pambata. Ang *May Sungay ng Hari!* ang kaniyang pangalawang aklat sa CANVAS mula nang isulat niya ang kauna-unahan nitong libro na *Mga Puno ni Elias* noong 2005. Pinarangalan siya ng 2020 Gawad Pambansang Alagad ni Balagtas para sa Panitikang Pambata sa Filipino, isang national lifetime achievement award na ibinibigay ng Unyon ng mga Manunulat ng Pilipinas (UMPIL) sa mga katangi-tanging Filipinong manunulat.

Tungkol sa Ilustrador

Si **Beth Parrocha** ay nagtapos sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas sa kurso na Fine Arts. Isa siya sa nagtatag ng Ang INK (Ilustrador ng Kabataan), isang samahan ng mga dibuhista at manguguhit para sa mga bata.

Masaya siya sa kanyang gampanin bilang tagaguhit ng mga librong pambata. Masaya din siya sa pagdidisenyo ng mga bagay, tulad ng mga pambalot ng mga tsitserya at kendi.

Maaari syang makontak sa urielpd@yahoo.com.

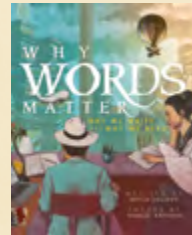


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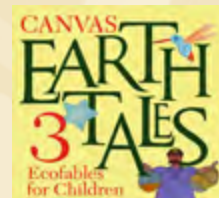


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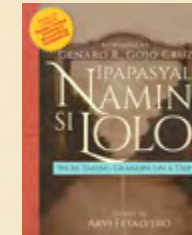
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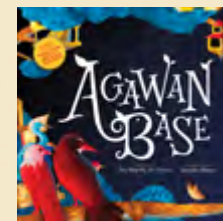


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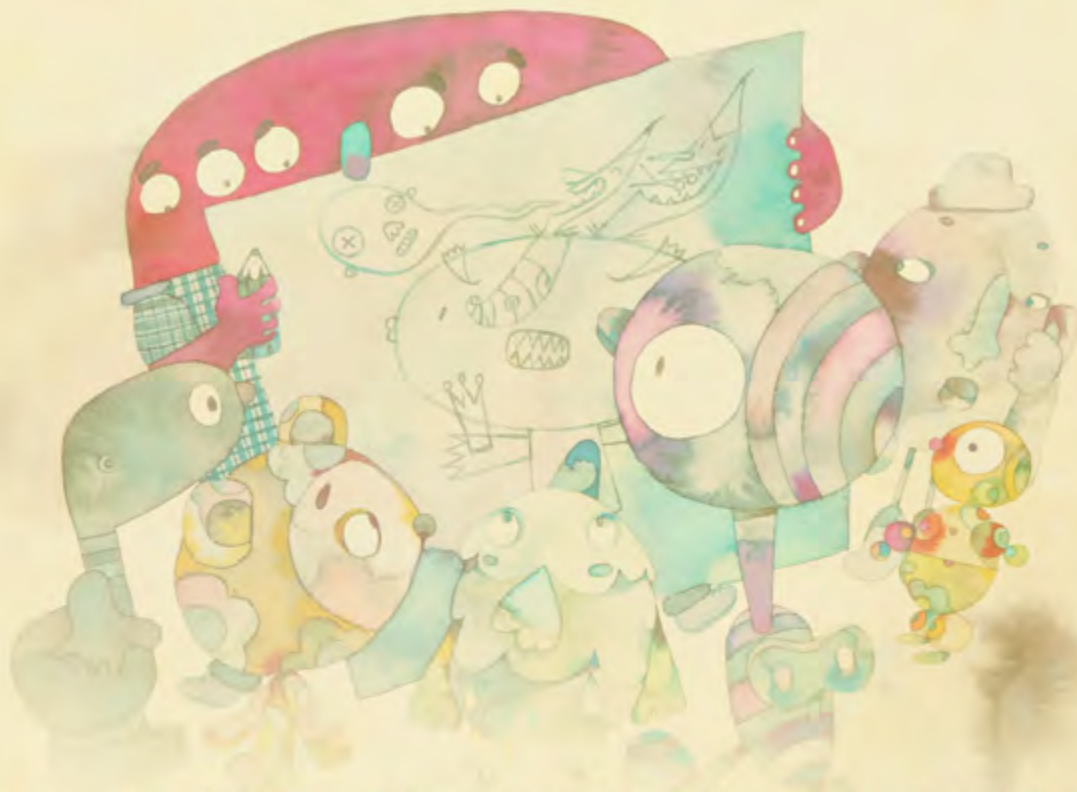
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CANVAS, a non-profit organization,
works with the creative community to promote children's literacy,
explore national identity, and broaden public awareness
of Philippine art, culture, and the environment.





Ayon sa lumang kasabihan ng mga Filipino: “May tenga ang lupa, may pakpak ang balita.” Ibig sabihin, walang lihim na hindi nabubunyag. Pero, paano nga kaya malalaman ng isang bayan ang madilim na lihim na pinakatatago ng kanilang haring malupit at gahaman?

Ang “May Sungay ang Hari!” ay isang bagong pagsasalaysay ng tradisyonal na kuwentong-bayan mula sa Ilocos na “The President Who Had Horns,” na lumabas sa *Philippine Folk Tales* ni Mabel Cook Cole noong 1916.

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