



Level 3

Just the Way I Am

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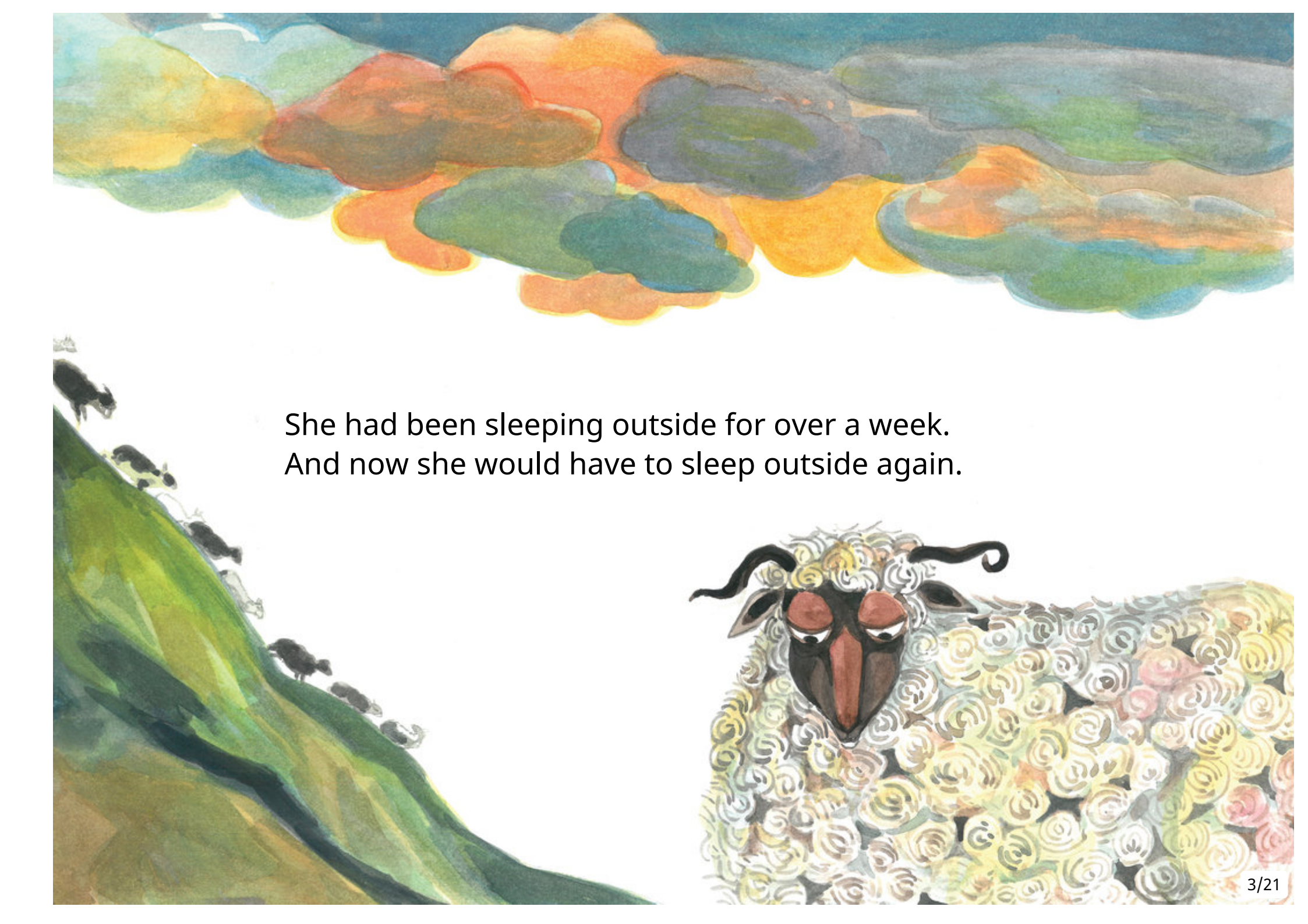
Illustrator: Kanak Shashi

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.

The illustration is a watercolor-style drawing. At the top, there are large, overlapping, colorful shapes in shades of blue, green, yellow, orange, and brown, resembling a sunset or a colorful sky. Below this, on the left side, a green hill slopes downwards, with a line of small sheep walking along its edge. In the foreground on the right, a large sheep is shown from the chest up. Its wool is rendered in a dense, swirling pattern of white, yellow, and pink. The sheep has a dark brown face with large, expressive red eyes and a dark brown nose. The overall style is soft and artistic.

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...

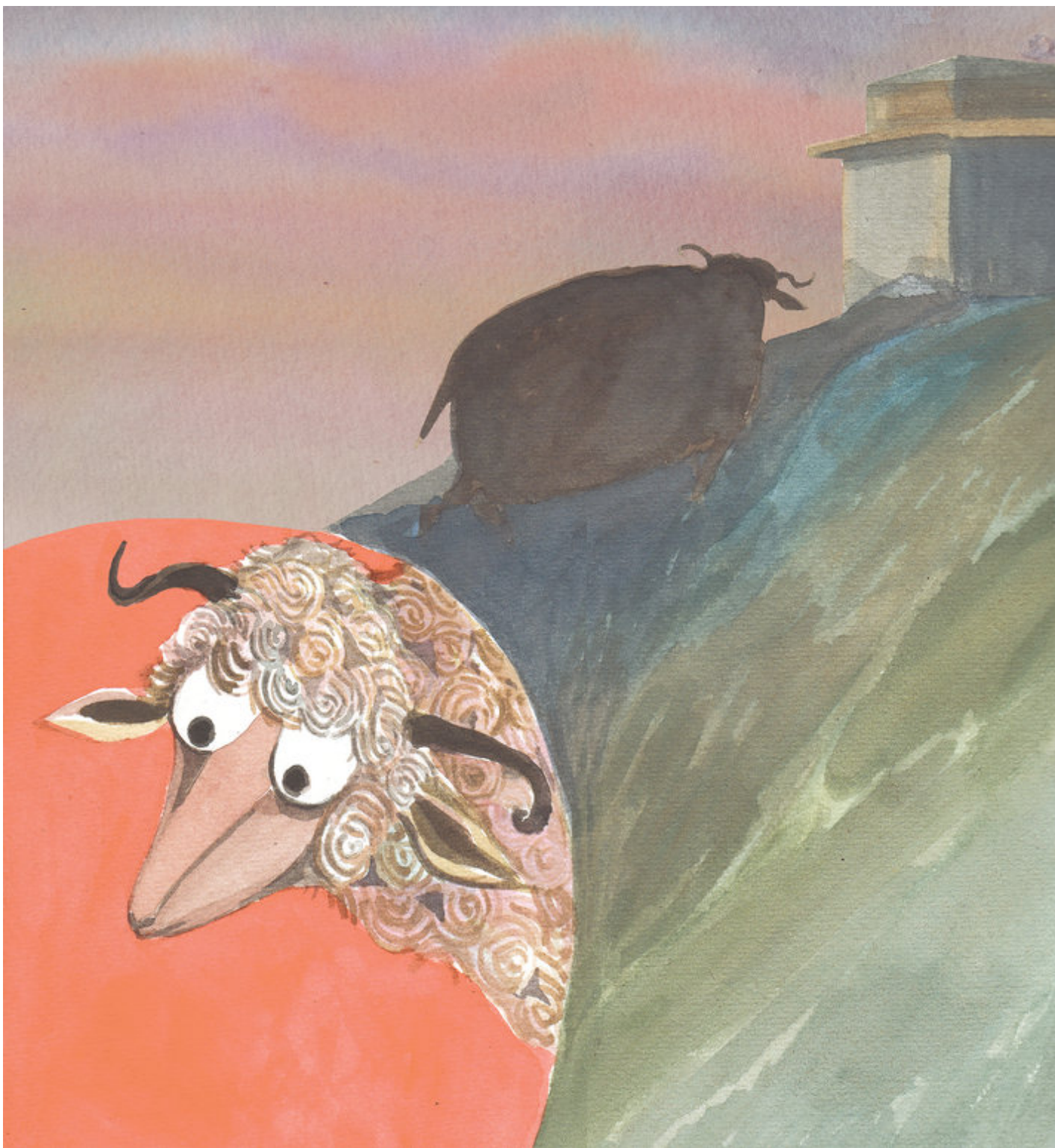


But she was still too wide to fit through the gate!



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.”

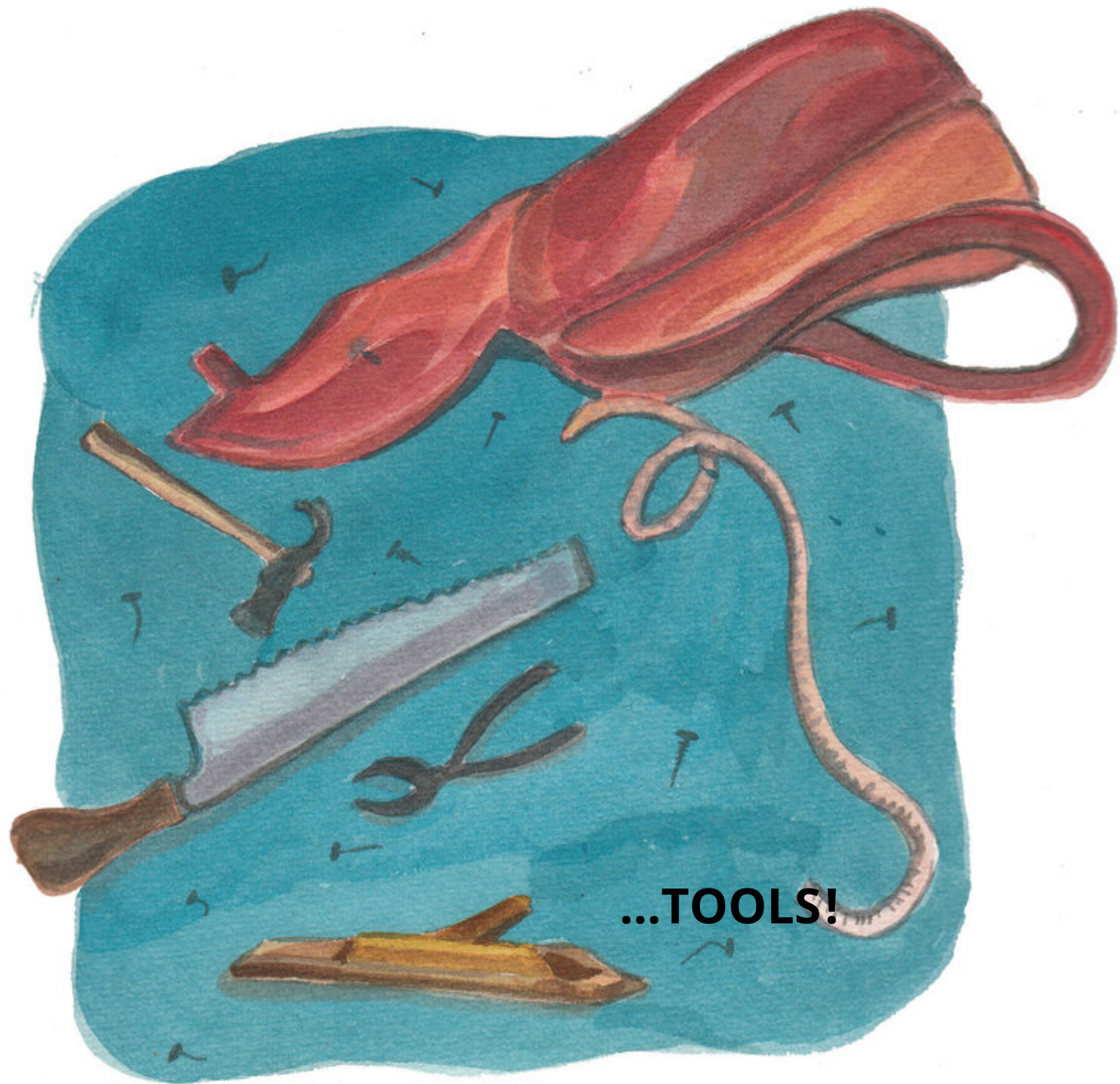
So she thought.
And she thought,
and she thought some
more.

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!**”



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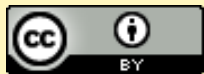
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Just the Way I Am

(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.



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