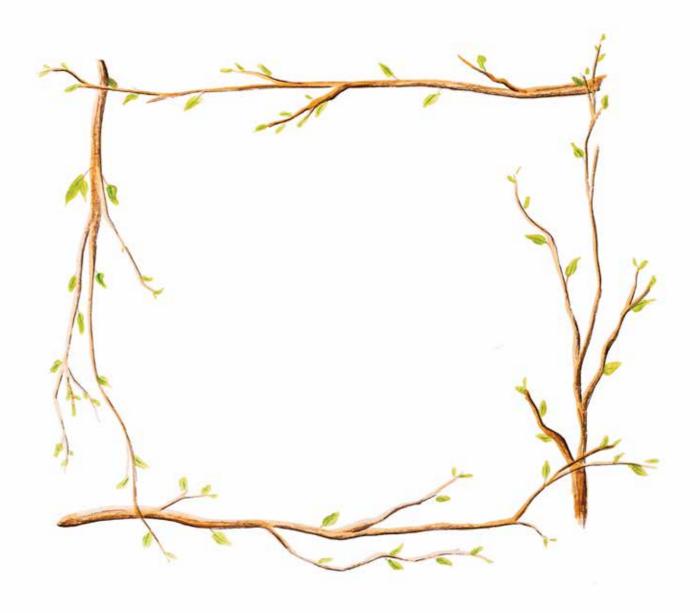


KHA!!

Where is Hadeda's laugh?



Written by Mariana van der Merwe Illustration by Ronel Watkins Layout by Cené de Wit

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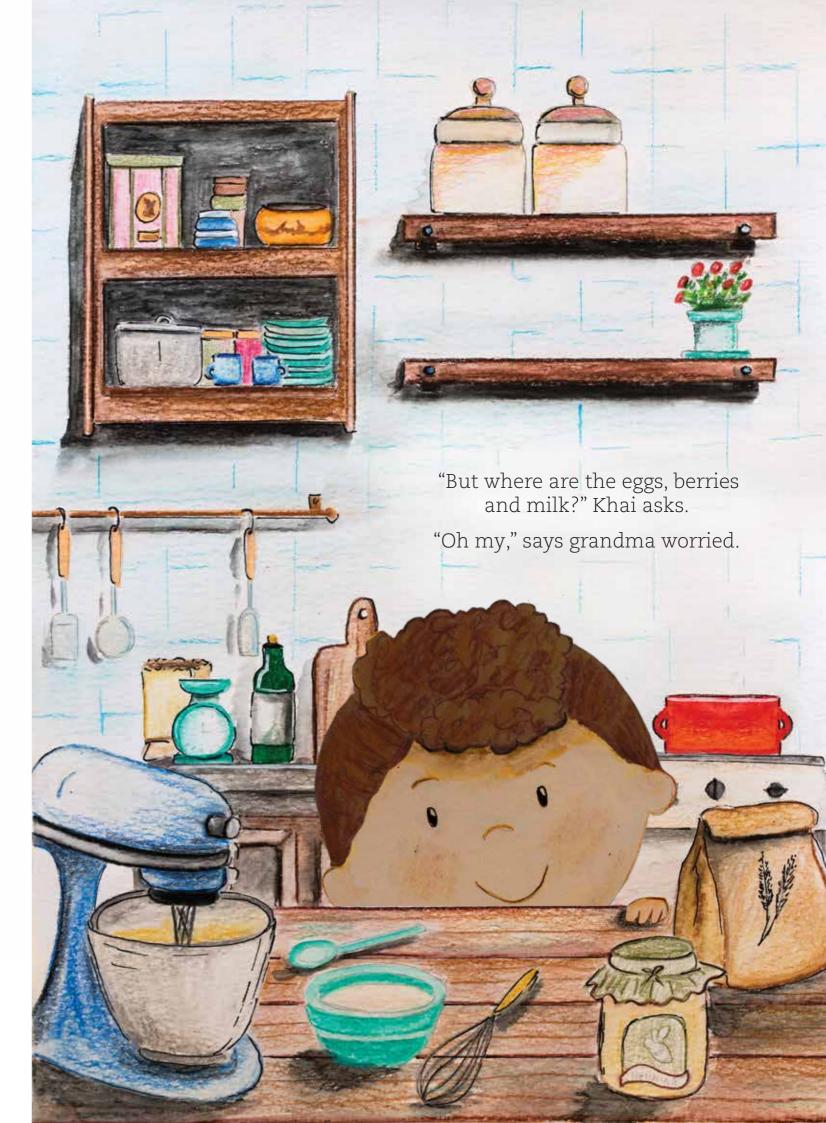
"KHA!!"

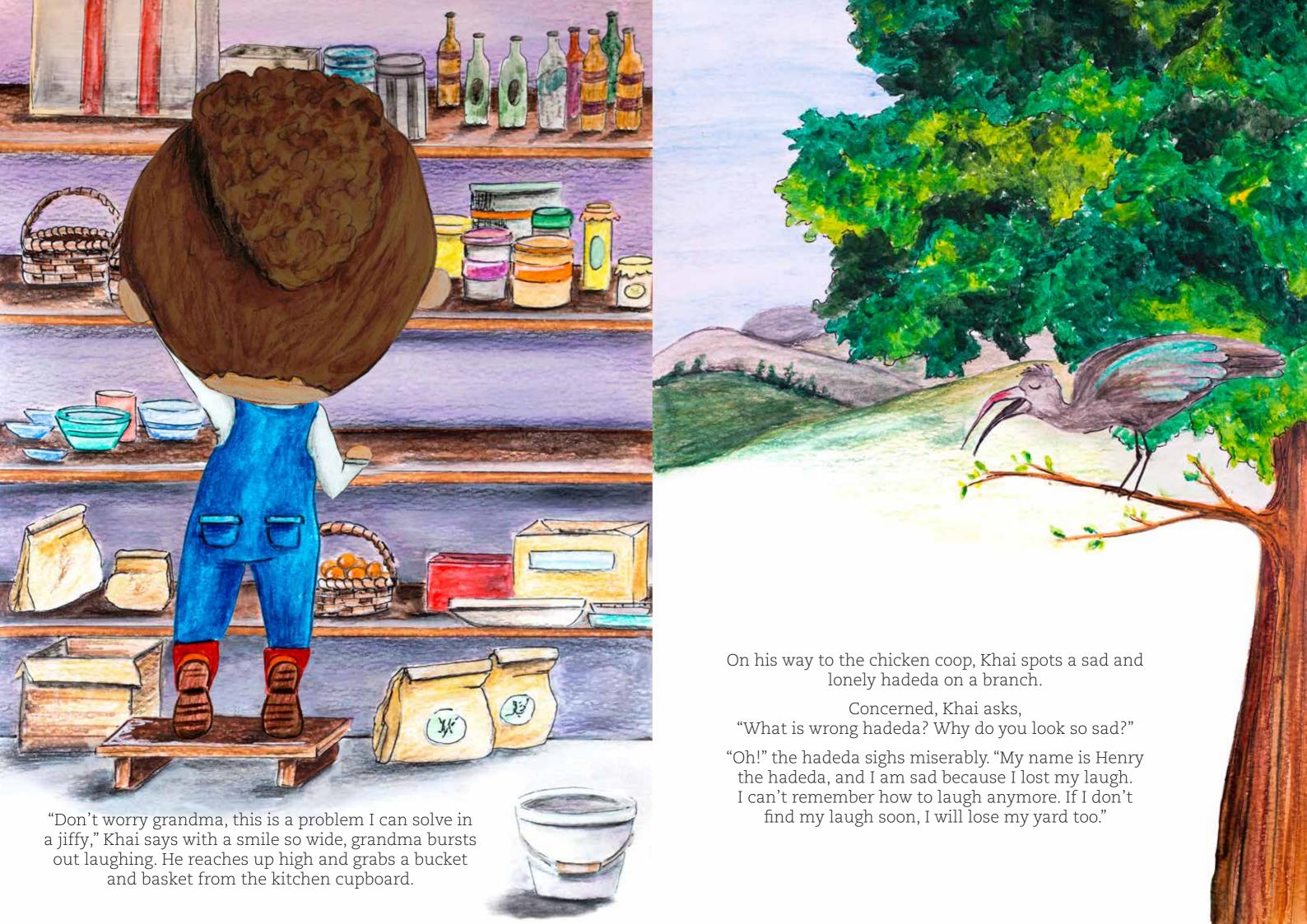
calls grandma cheerfully through the farm kitchen window.



"The weather is perfect for a picnic in the yard this afternoon.

Do you want to help me bake a delicious chocolate berry cake for you and grandpa?" she asks. "Okey-dokey!" replies Khai full of excitement while he unpacks the ingredients on the table.

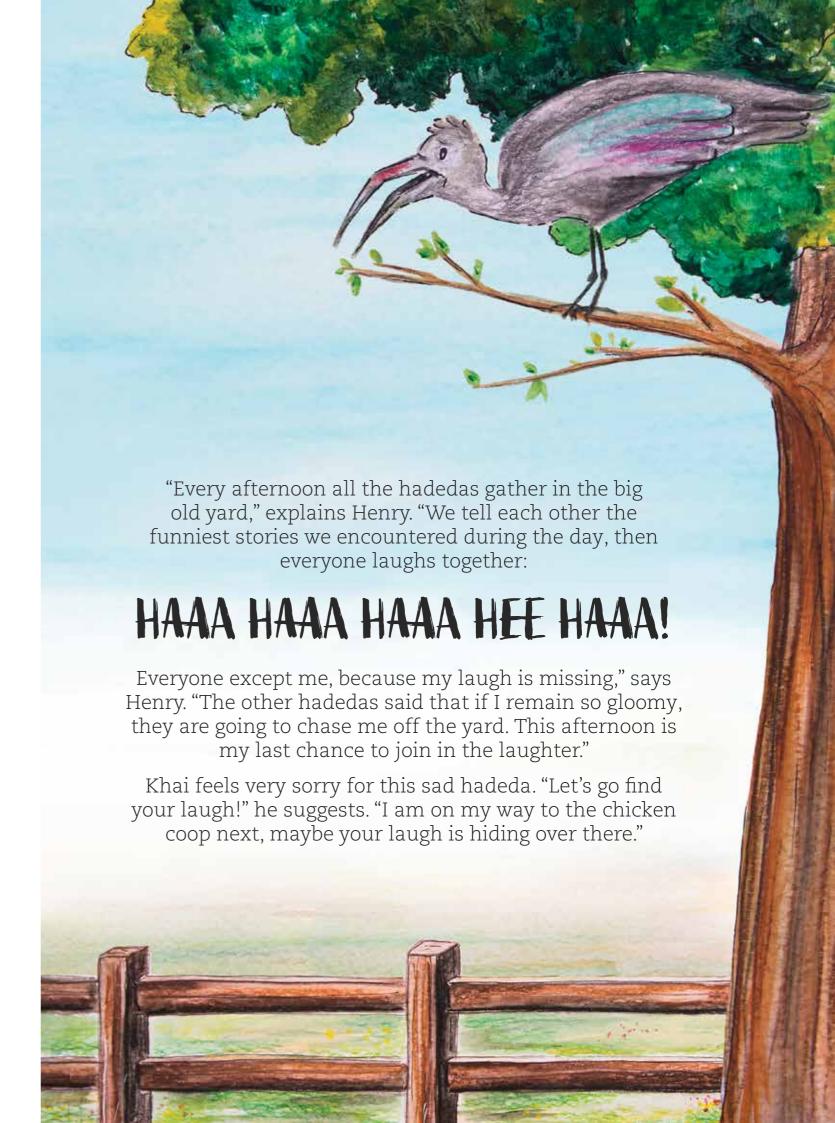




"WHY?"

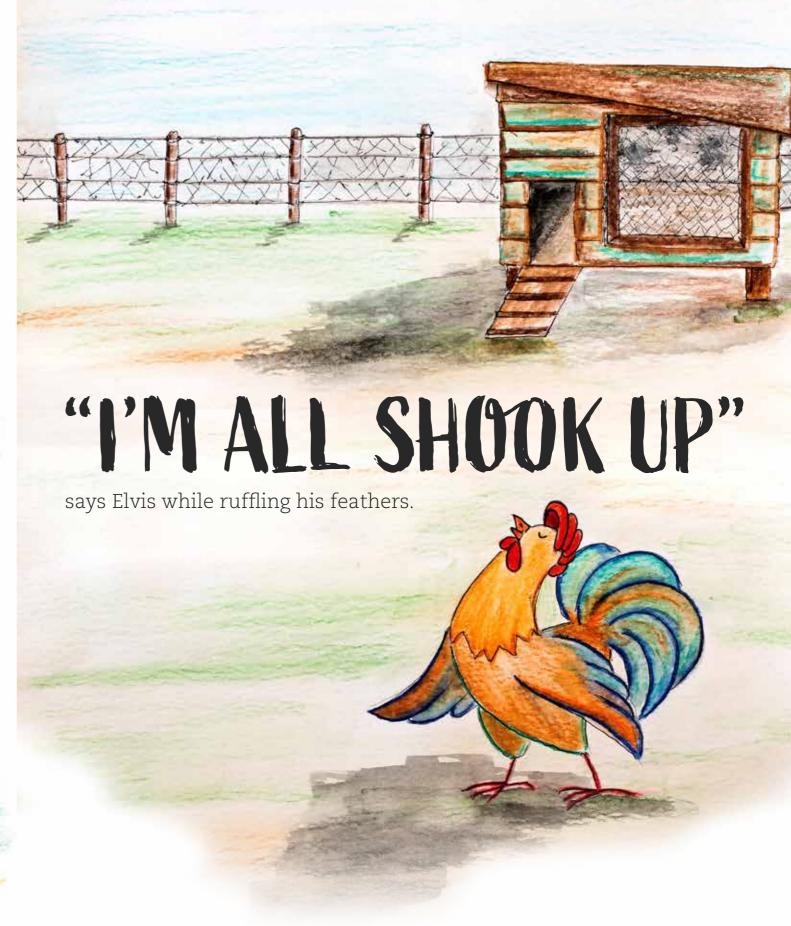
Khai asks with a confused frown.





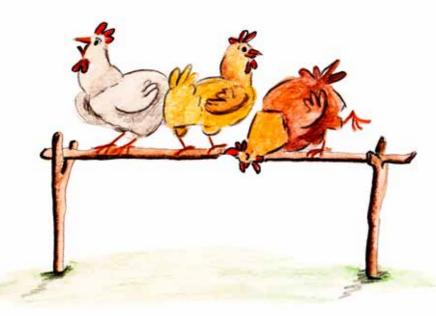
While Khai carefully puts three eggs in his basket, he tells Elvis the rooster about Henry's lost laugh.



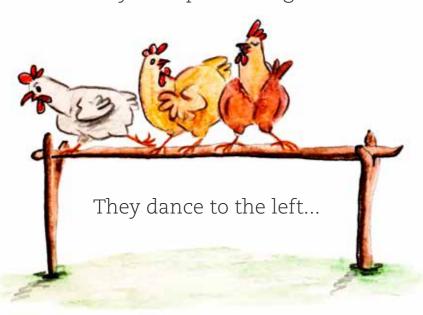


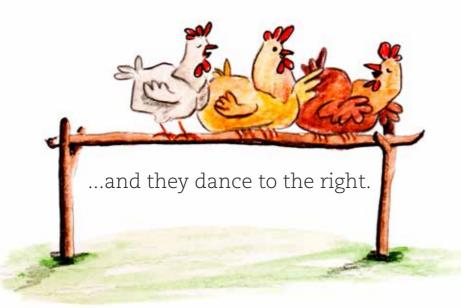
"I don't think Henry's laugh is around here, but I do know of something that might help." The next moment Elvis throws back his head and with a **cock-a-doodle-doo** he cries out loud:

"A ONE, A TWO, A ONE TWO THREE AND..."



In one go all the hens jump up onto a branch behind Elvis. They start performing the funniest dance moves.



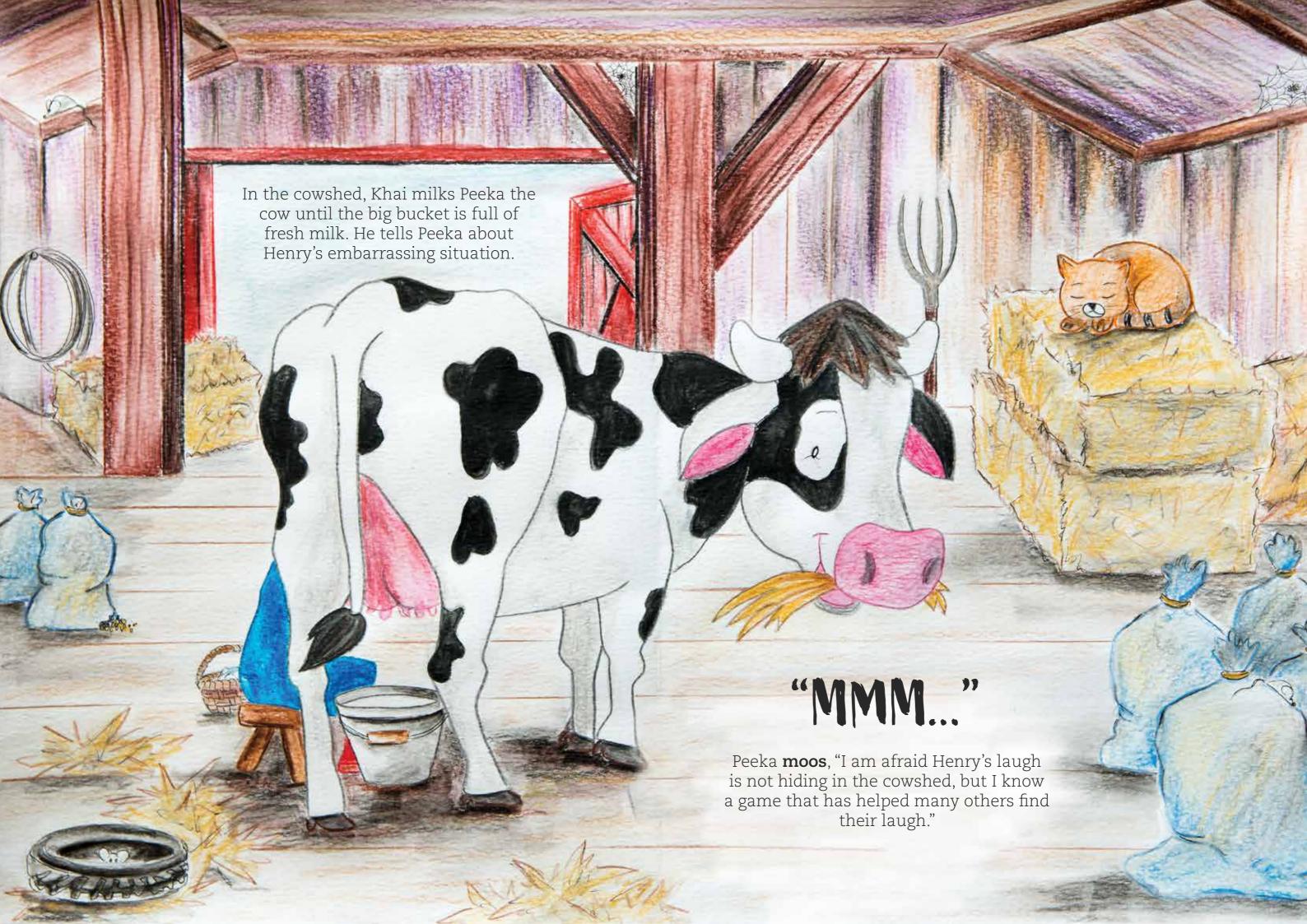


Khai laughs and laughs at the silly chickens.

But Henry just gives them a dull stare. He does not find this funny at all. Henry the hadeda's laugh is still missing.



"Well," says Khai determinedly, "maybe your laugh is hiding in the cowshed. Let's go look for it there."



"I am going to hide behind the hay bale, then you can call my name," explains Peeka.



Khai and Henry call together:

"PEEKA... PEEKA..."



Khai bursts out laughing at this funny Peeka-moo game. But Henry just frowns at them, his beak drooping in disapproval. He does not find it funny at all.

Henry the Hadeda's laugh is still missing, and he feels very sad. He loves the big old yard so much. What will happen to him if the other hadedas chase him away?

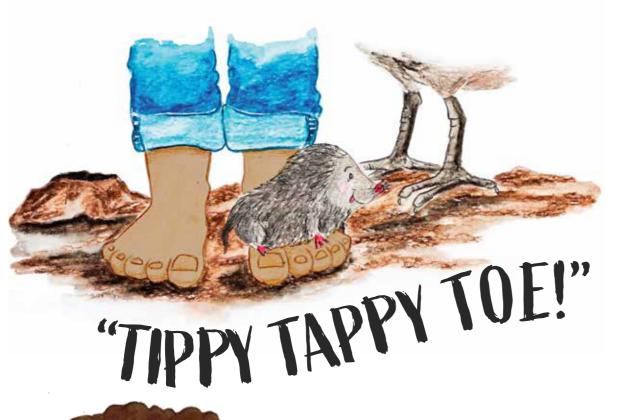


"We can't give up that easily," says Khai bravely. "Let's go look in the big vegetable garden, maybe we will discover your laugh over there."

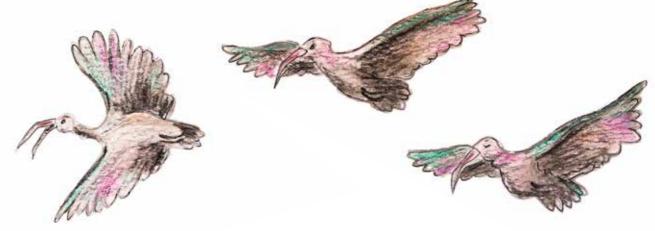


In the vegetable garden Khai takes off his boots. He walks carefully through the garden and picks a handful of berries for grandma.

While searching under the green leaves, Manny the Mole sticks his head out of a molehill in the ground. **"PSSST!** I heard Henry lost his laugh?" says Manny in a hushed voice. "I have an idea that might work." Before Khai can say a word, Manny announces:





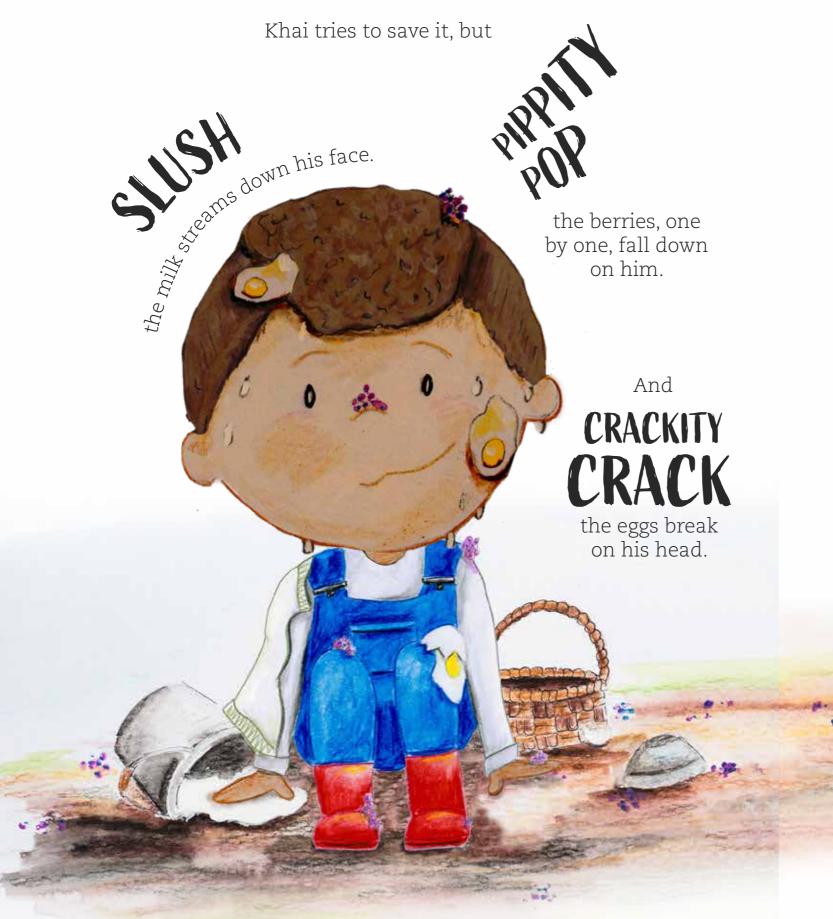


Khai puts his boots on again. Discouraged, they walk back to the farmhouse.

Henry the hadeda's laugh is still missing and they can't find it anywhere.

In the meantime, the other hadedas are flying towards the yard already.





Sitting wide-eyed, Khai doesn't know if he should laugh or cry. He is covered in eggs, berries and milk from head to toe.

HAAA followed by another

HAAA, and a

HAAA, and a



Khai looks like an egg-berry-milk-boy and Henry thinks this is very funny indeed!

"HAAA HAAA HAAA HEE HAAA!"

Henry laughs out loud and proud.

Henry the hadeda's laugh was hiding deep inside him all along. Once his laugh got out, he couldn't contain it anymore. His heart is filled with laughter and Henry can't wait to share his story of the day with the other hadedas.

"It is almost noon," says Khai, "how will grandma and I finish baking the cake now?" "Khai! This is a problem I can solve in a jiffy," says Henry with a wide smile. Without wasting any time, Henry hooks the basket and bucket around his beak. He flaps his wings and flies as fast as he can to Elvis, Peeka and Manny. Just in time he drops off all the ingredients in front of the farmhouse door.





That afternoon Khai, grandpa and grandma sit under the tree in the big old yard to enjoy their delicious chocolate berry cake.

"Why are the hadedas calling out so loudly today?" wonders grandma. "I know!" Khai shouts cheerfully. "They are laughing at the funniest story of the day."

"Oh really," grandpa says with a smile, "and what story might that be?"

Khai blushes and shoves an extra large piece of cake in his mouth.

With a

HAAAAA

and a

HAAAAA

and a

HAAA HEEE HAAAAA

grandpa, grandma, and Khai laugh together with Henry and all the other hadedas of the big old farmyard.





Henry the Hadeda lost his laugh!

If he does not find it before this afternoon, he will lose his favourite farmyard as well! Determined, Khai proposes to help Henry find it. Their search turns into a fun adventure – but they cannot find Henry's laugh anywhere.

What will become of poor Henry?
Will Khai succeed in helping him find his laugh?

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