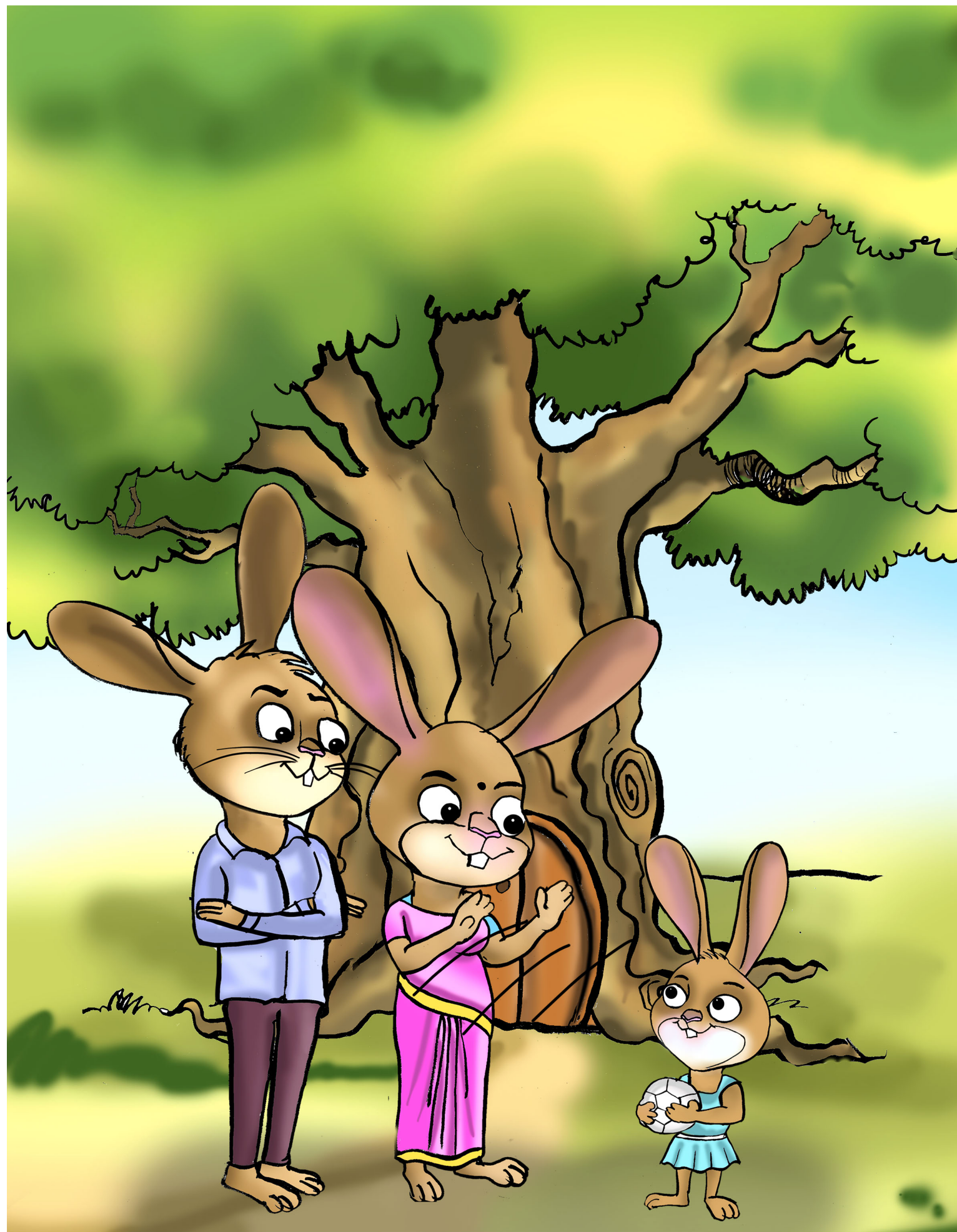
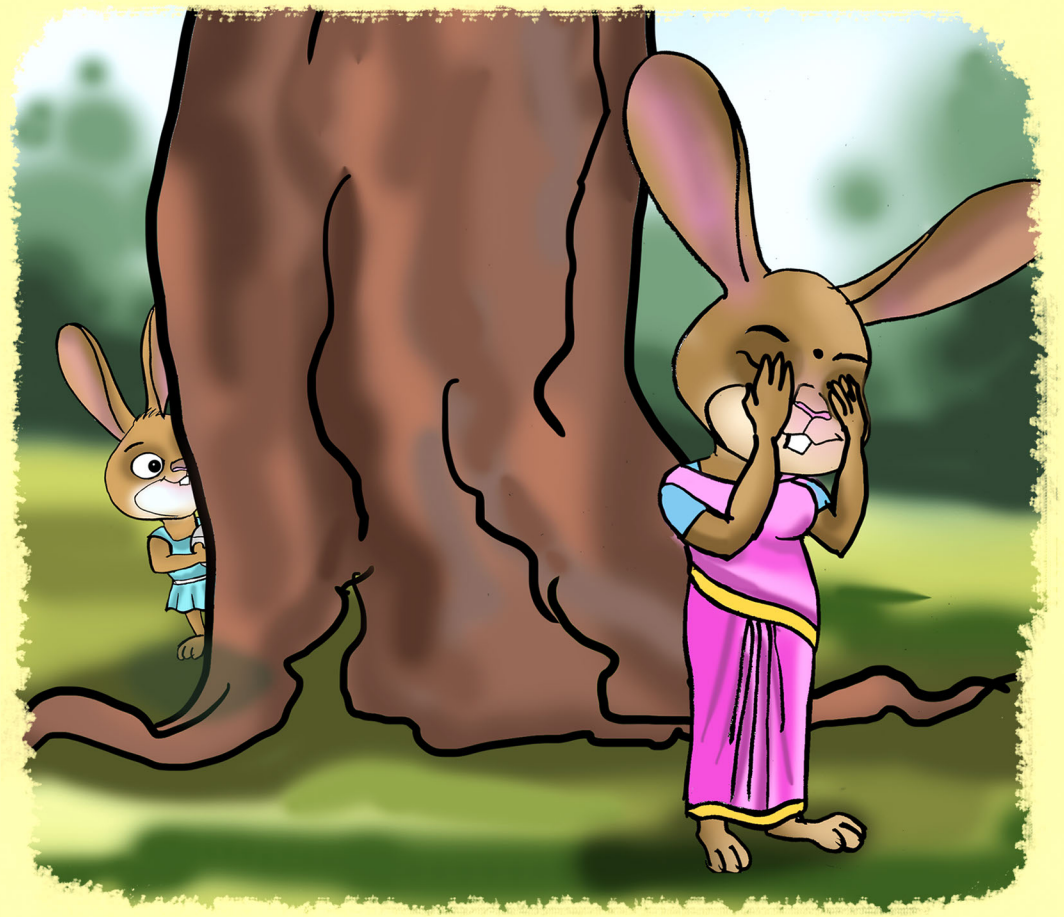
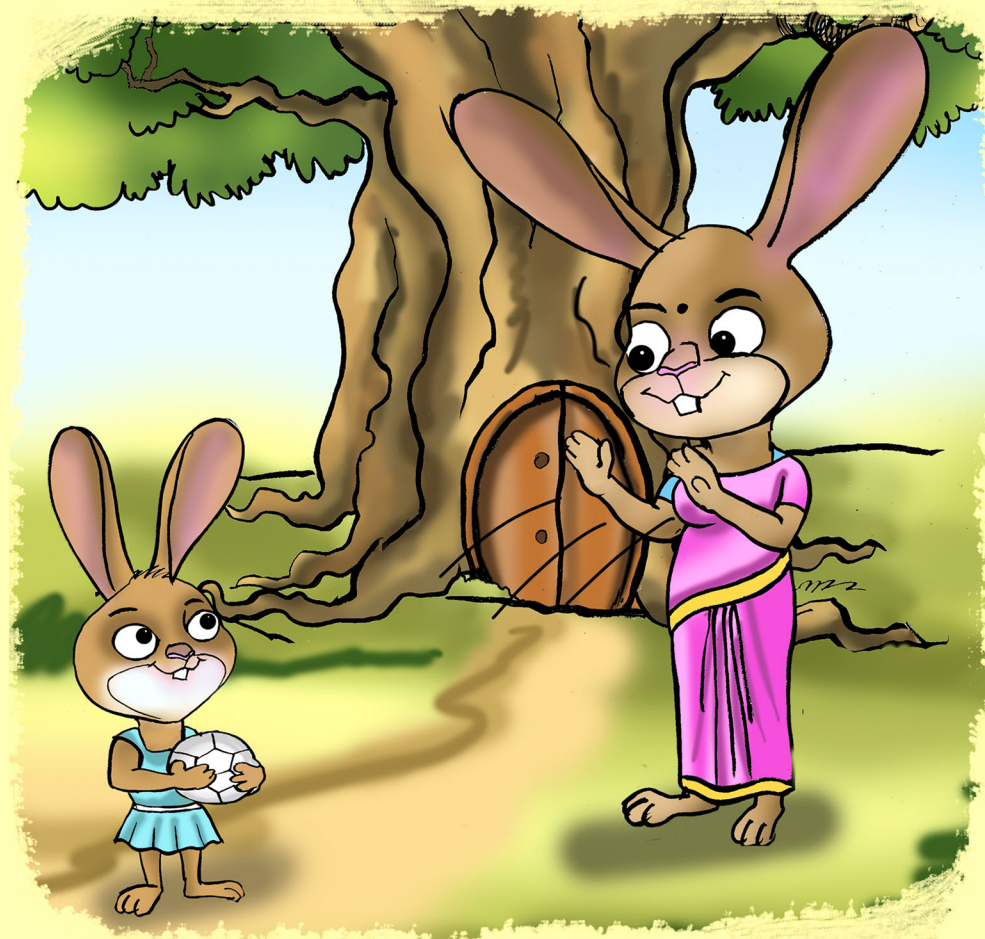


Mimi Gets Lost

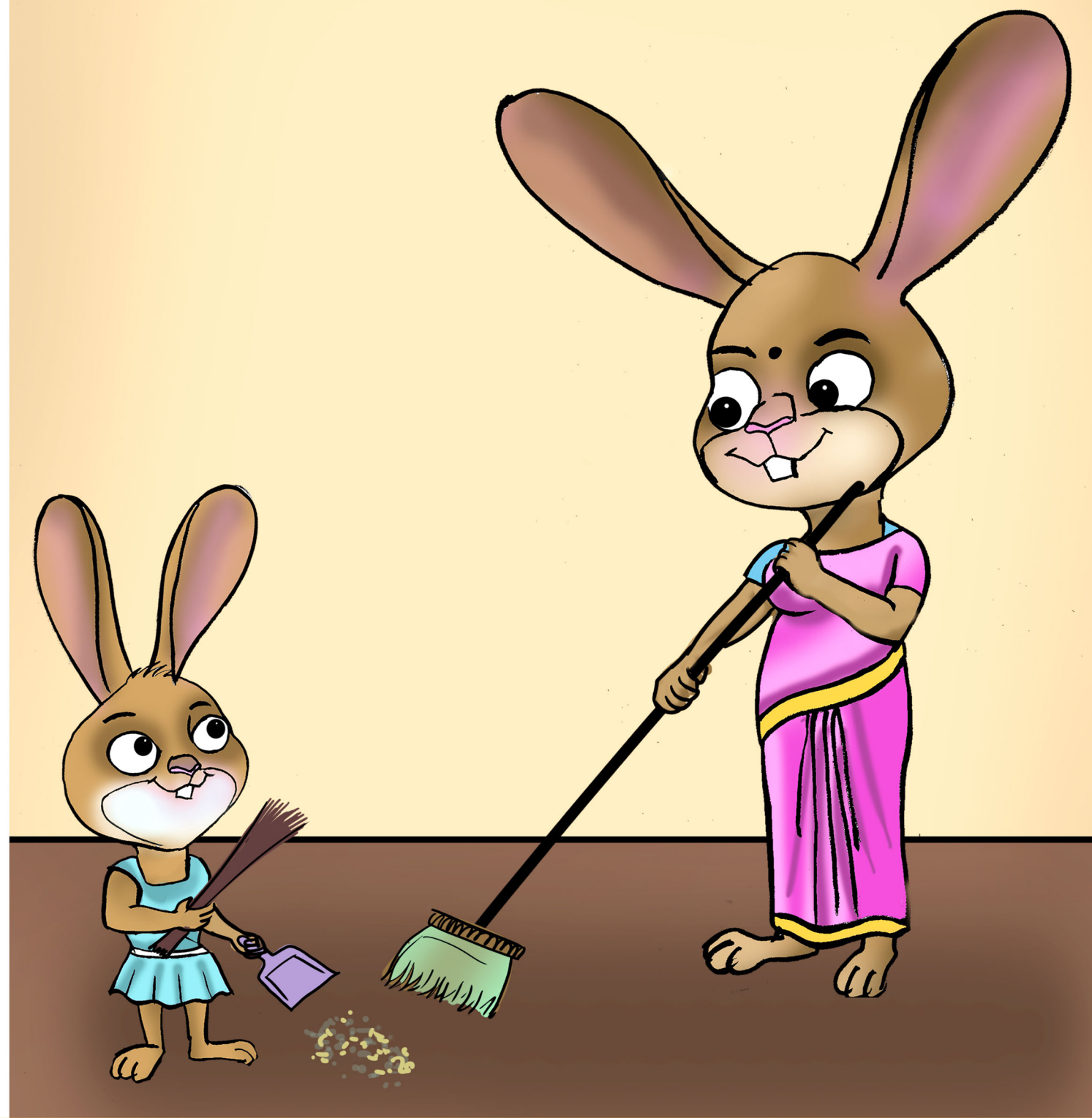




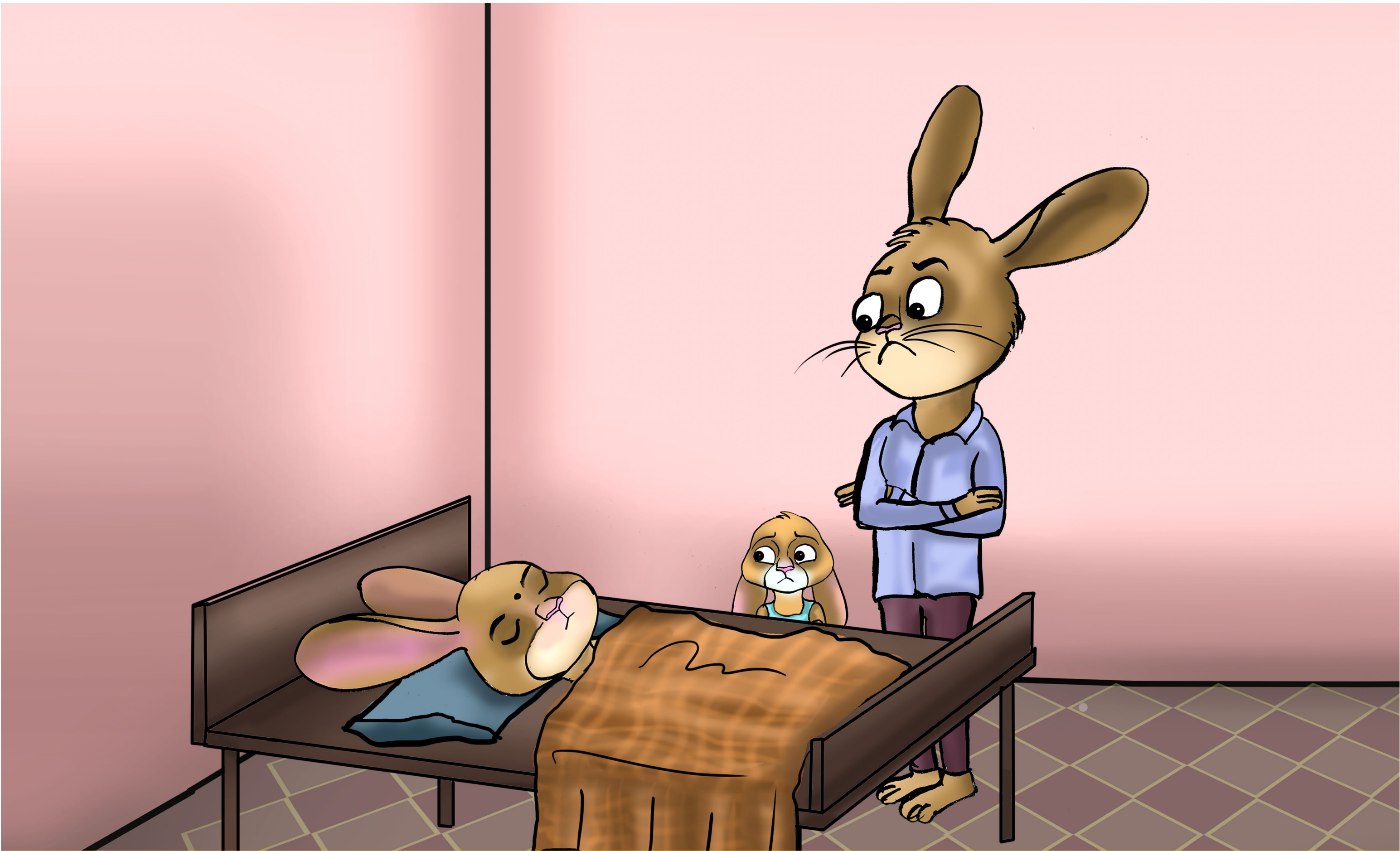
Once upon a time there was a rabbit called Mimi. She lived with her mother and father in a little house at the corner of the forest.



Mimi usually spent the day with her mother, playing games like ball and hide-and-seek.

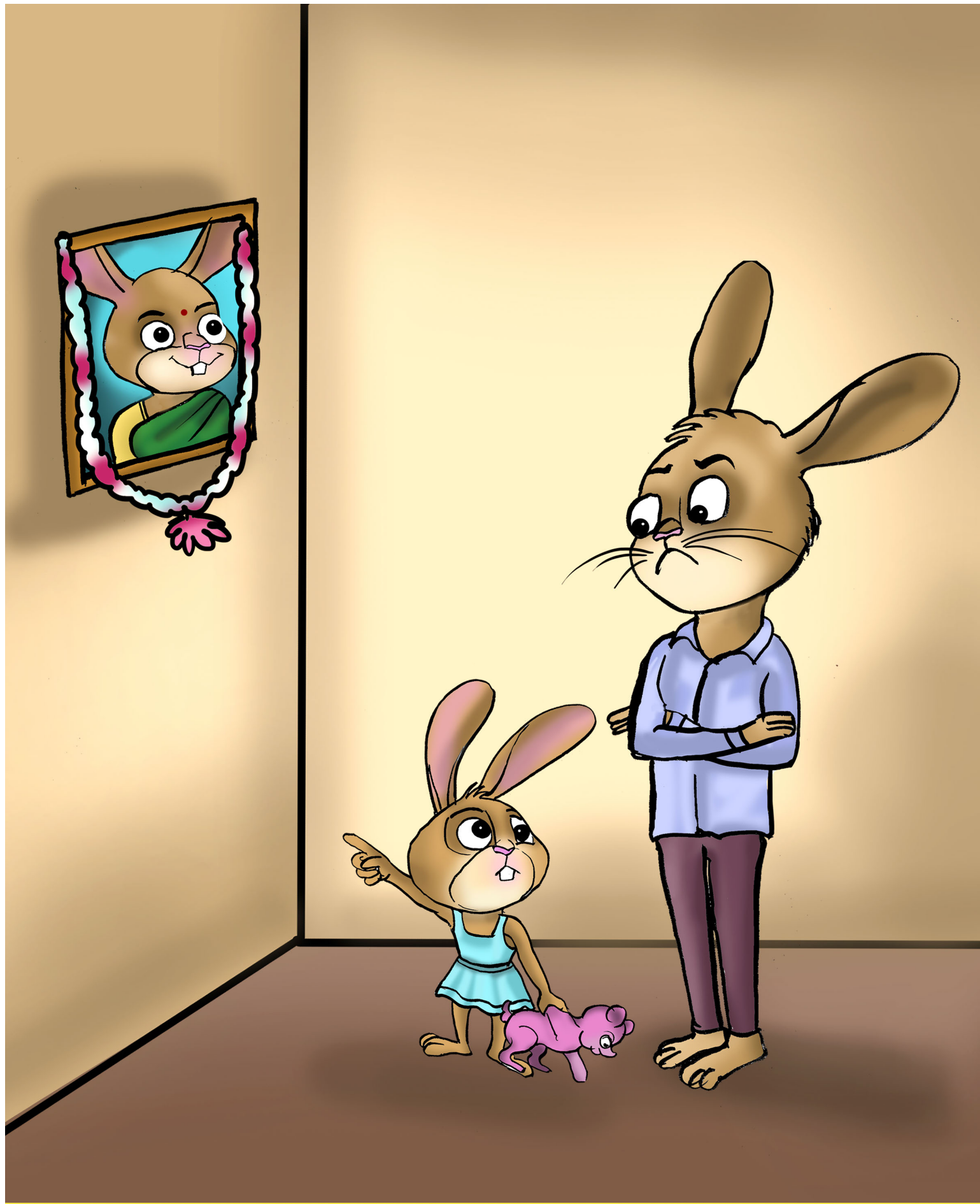


She also liked watching her cook in the kitchen and following her around as she cleaned the house. She loved her mother very much. Mimi did not see her father very much as he was not often at home.



One day, Mimi's mother fell very sick. Although the doctors tried to make her better, they could not because she was very ill. And then, she died. Mimi cried and cried...when her father said that Mummy would not come back.

"I want my mummy...no one but mummy...bring her back!" wept Mimi.



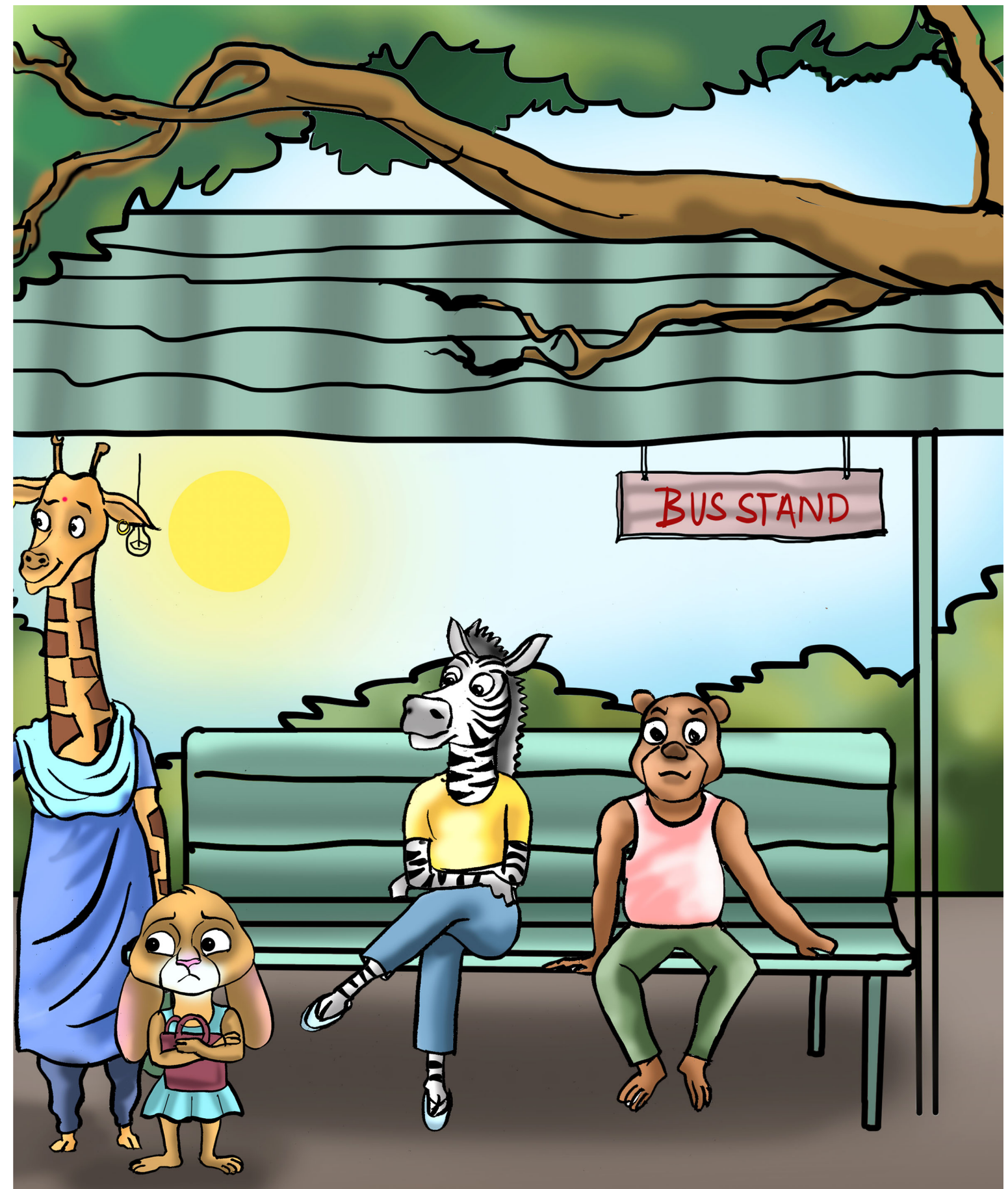
Mimi was very sad and frightened. "What will happen to me? Who will look after me now that Mummy is gone?" she asked, worriedly.



Some days later, Mimi's father took her to the market. The market was a really busy and crowded place...lots of other animals were doing their shopping. Rabbits were buying carrots. Tigers and cheetahs were at the meat shop of course! And elephants never forget to buy their favourite food--coconuts!



Bears bought large pots of honey, to eat at breakfast everyday.
The giraffes bought bunches of green vegetables...mmm, how healthy!

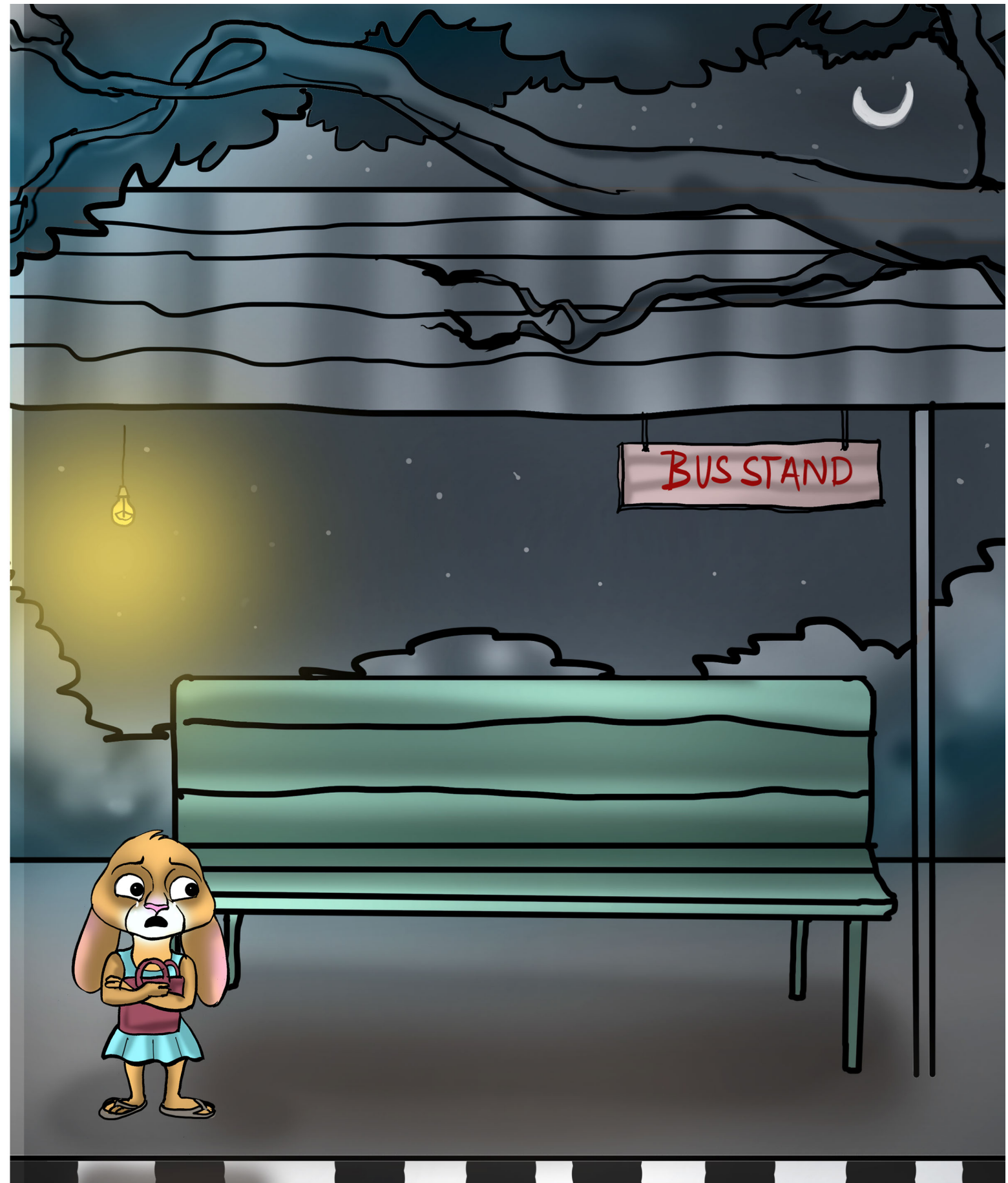


Mimi's father told her to wait for him at the bus stop. "Wait here and I will be back in a while," he said.

Mimi waited and waited...and she waited some more. Where was daddy?
The sun grew hotter and the market more crowded, but daddy still did not come!



Slowly the sun set and it began to grow dark. Most animals finished their marketing and went home. The shops started to close too. But Mimi's father still did not come. The last bus came and the conductor said: "Hey you, little rabbit, you have been standing at the bus stop all day...are you going somewhere? This is the last bus for today, you know." "I am waiting for my father," said Mimi sadly.



It was dark now. Mimi was all alone at the bus stop. She was hungry, thirsty and tired...more than anything, she was really scared. Where was daddy? Why had he not come back? Would he come at all? What must she do now?



Just then, Mr. Fox, the policeman came by.
"Hello bunny rabbit," he said. "Why are you all alone? Are you lost?"
"I think I am", nodded Mimi, starting to cry.
"Come with me, little rabbit", said Mr. Fox, gently. "Young rabbits can't be out on the street, all alone. It is simply not safe! I know just the place where you will be taken care of."



Mimi was not sure that she wanted to go with Mr. Fox because she did not know him.
But then, she did not want to be all alone in the dark either.
And so, Mr. Fox put Mimi in his jeep and drove off.

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