



Reba Wants Ice Cream

Author: Sultana Zakia
Illustrator: Dhiman Sarkar





“Ice cream! Ice cream!”
the shopkeeper called.



Reba ran to her mother.
“Ma! Ma! I want
ice cream!”

“Finish your homework
first,” said Ma.



Reba looked unhappy. Ma asked,
“Are you done with your homework yet?”



“No, but my notebook is full!
I need to buy another one.”





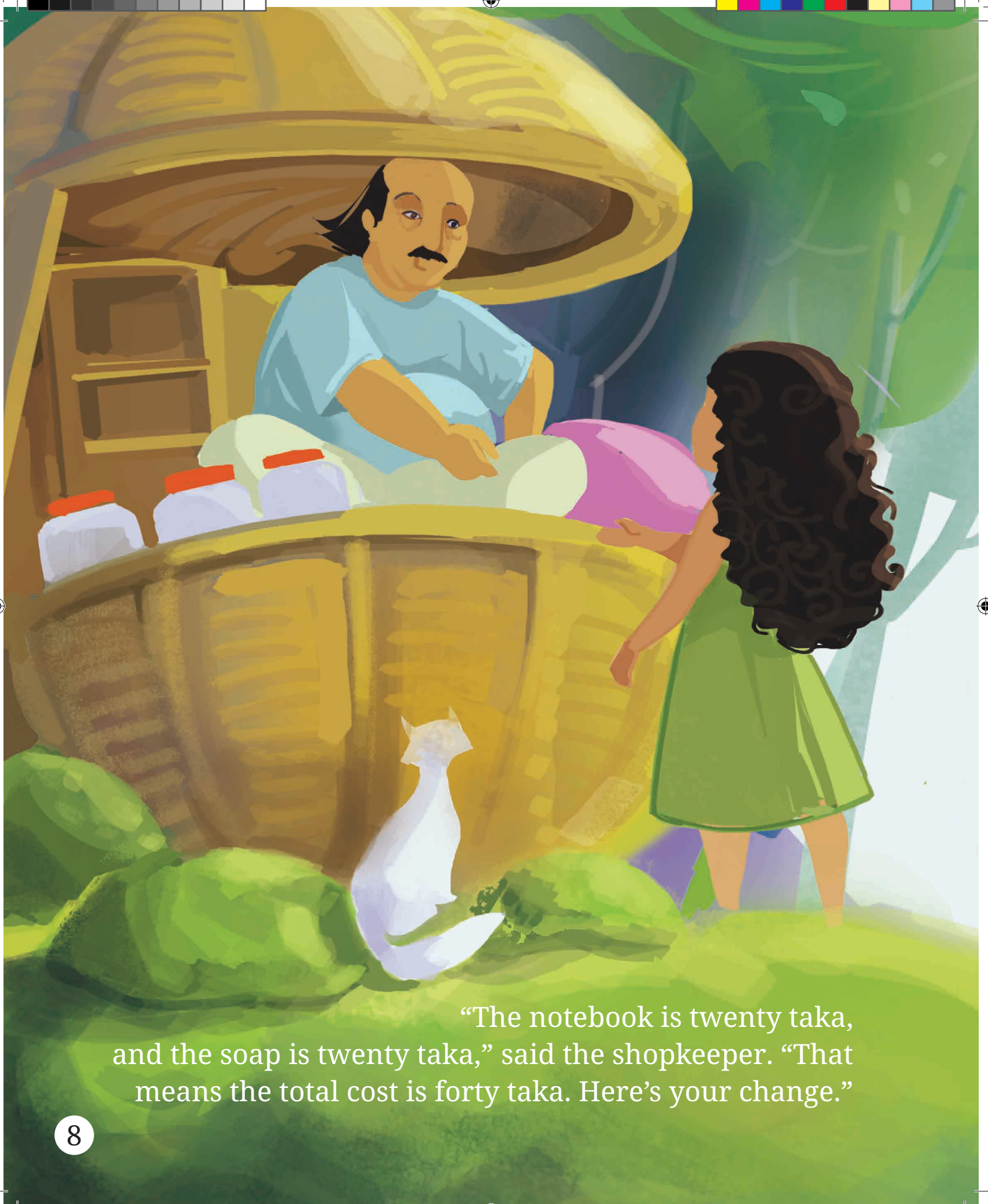
Ma gave Reba fifty taka*.

“Go buy a notebook.
We also need a bar of soap.”

*Taka is the currency used in Bangladesh.

Reba went to the shop. The shopkeeper gave Reba a notebook and a bar of soap.

“How much?” asked Reba.



“The notebook is twenty taka, and the soap is twenty taka,” said the shopkeeper. “That means the total cost is forty taka. Here’s your change.”

Reba counted her change when she got home. She had given the shopkeeper fifty taka. The notebook was twenty taka, and the soap was twenty taka.





*I should have gotten only ten taka back, thought Reba.
Why did the shopkeeper give me twenty taka?*





This is great! thought Reba. I can buy ice cream with this extra money! But then Reba felt ashamed. I should go back and give the ten taka back to the shopkeeper, she thought.

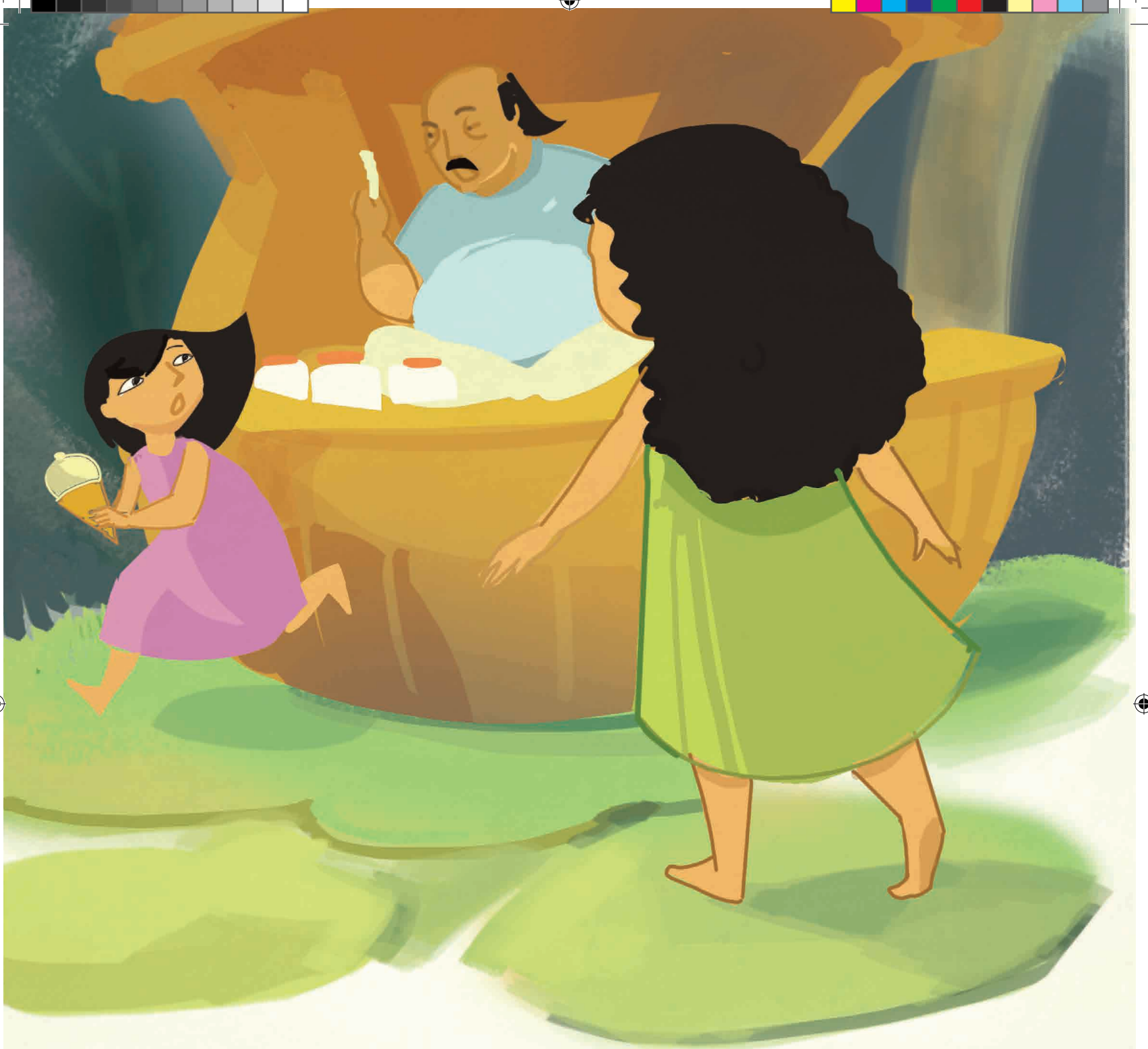




Reba rushed back to the shop.
There were so many kinds of ice
cream that she wanted!



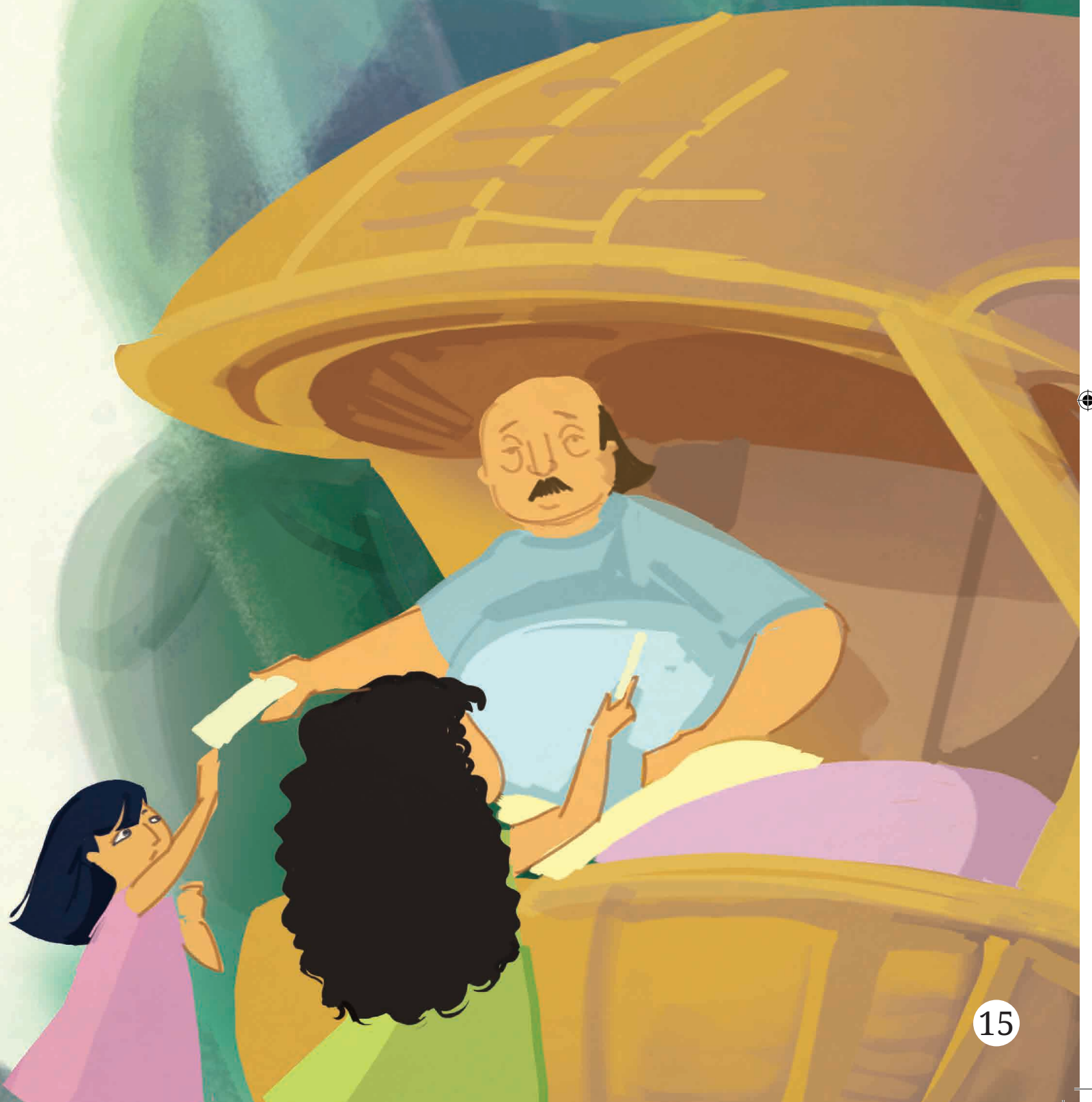
Oh, if only I could have an ice cream! she thought.

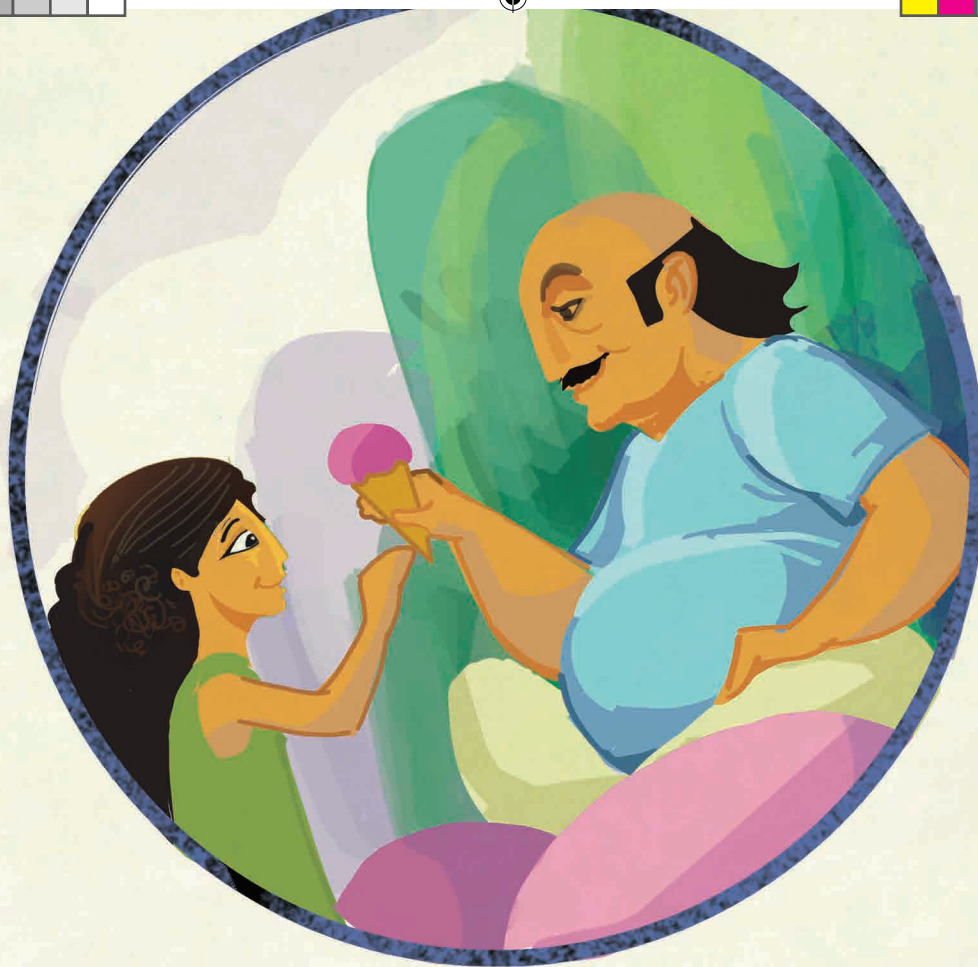


When Reba got to the shop, she saw another girl who had just bought an ice cream. She was about to go home.

The shopkeeper stopped her. “Wait!” he said. “You’ve given me too much money. Come back, take the change.”

The shopkeeper gave the girl her change. Reba stepped forward. “You gave me ten extra taka. Please take your money back.”





“You’re such an honest girl!” The shopkeeper was so happy with Reba’s honesty that he gave her an ice cream for free! Reba happily licked her ice cream all the way home.

