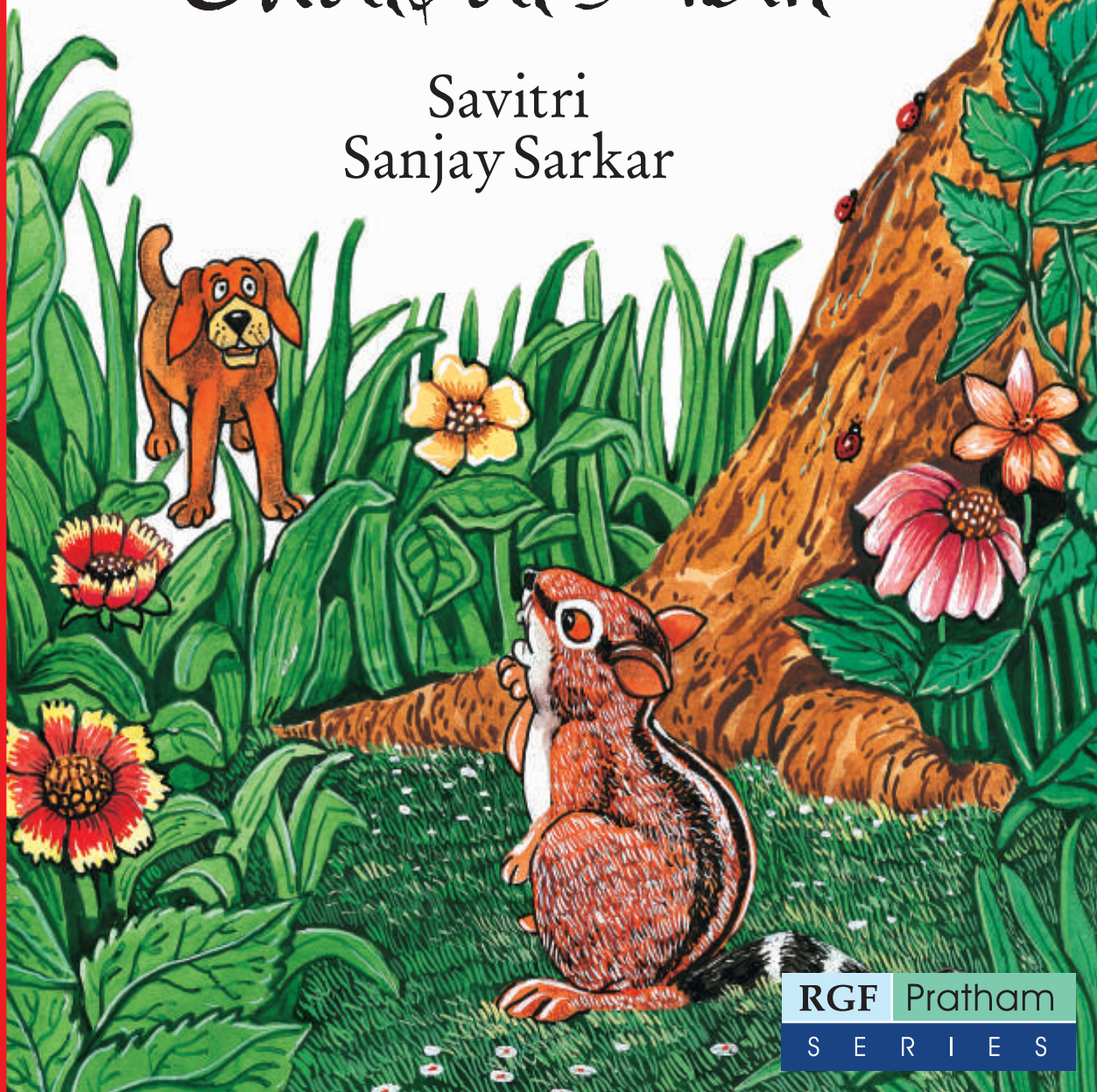




Chulbul's Tail

Savitri
Sanjay Sarkar



LEVEL 2

RGF Pratham
S E R I E S

Original Story in Hindi '**Chulbul Ki Poonch**' by Savitri

Illustrations: Sanjay Sarkar

'**Chulbul's Tail**' – English Translation by Ritu Singh

© Rajiv Gandhi Foundation – Pratham Books, 2006

Sixth English Edition: 2013

ISBN: 978-81-8263-359-9

Typesetting and Layout by:
Pratham Books, New Delhi

Printed by:
EIH Limited Unit Printing Press, Manesar

Published by:
Pratham Books | www.prathambooks.org

Registered Office:

PRATHAM BOOKS

621, 2nd Floor, 5th Main, OMBR Layout

Banaswadi, Bangalore 560 043

T: +91 80 42052574 / 41159009

Regional Office:

New Delhi

T: +91 11 41042483



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-3.0 licensed. Which means you can download this book, remix illustrations and even make a new story - all for free! To know more about this and the full terms of use and attribution visit <http://www.prathambooks.org/cc>.



PRATHAM BOOKS



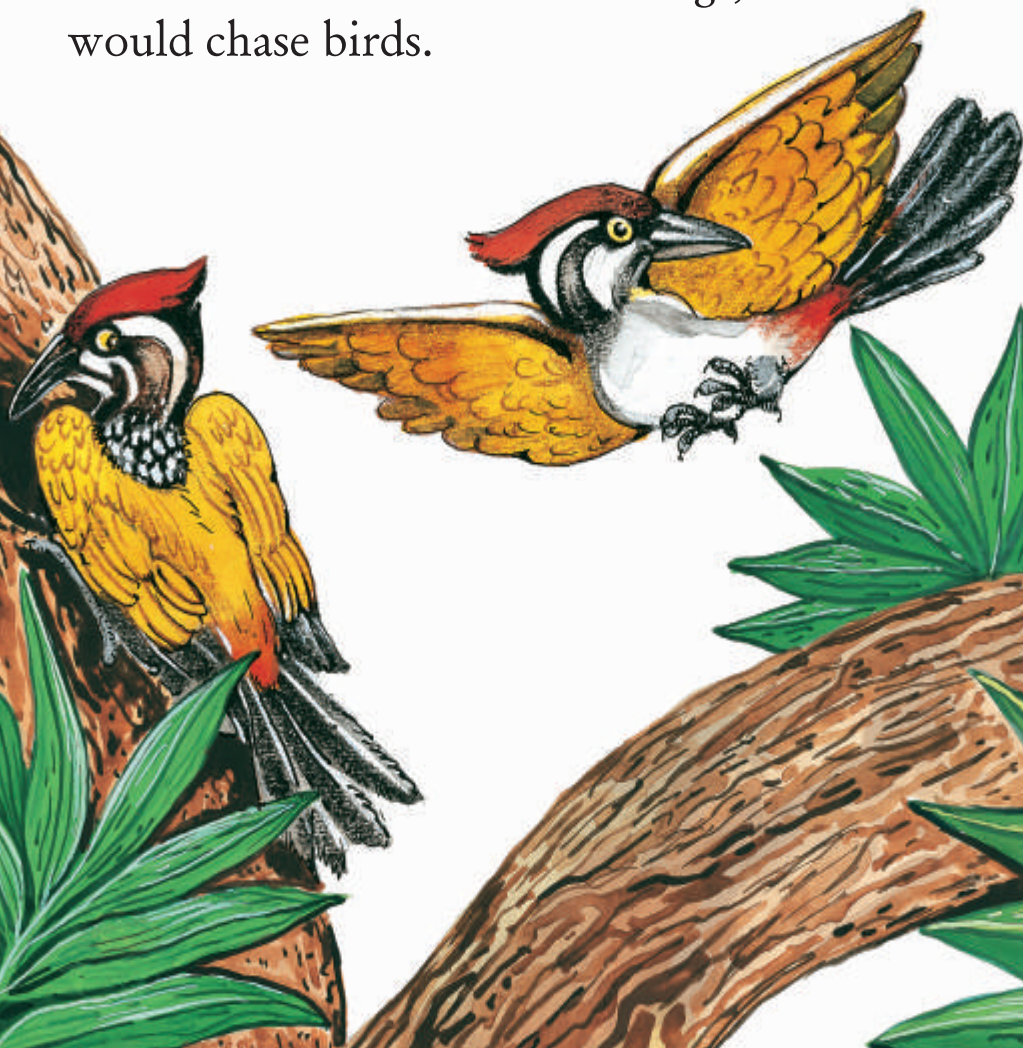
Chulbul's Tail

Written by
Savitri

Illustrations by
Sanjay Sarkar

English Translation by
Ritu Singh

Once there was a squirrel. A very naughty, lively little squirrel named Chulbul. Up a tree in a blink and down before you could wink! Sometimes she would stand on her two little legs, sometimes she would chase birds.





One day Chulbul was sitting on the branch of a tree, munching walnuts. Suddenly her gaze fell upon her tail. “Huh!” muttered Chulbul to herself. “What good is a tail like this? So light that you can’t even feel it is there!”

“Hmm... now, what can be done...”
wondered Chulbul.



Chulbul pondered over her problem for a long time till she came up with an idea. Why not go to Dr. Bombo, the bear!





So off went Chulbul to the hospital, where Dr. Bombo worked. In the hospital was a cupboard where tails, legs and ears of different animals were kept. 'I shall look for a suitable tail for myself while I wait for Dr. Bombo,' thought Chulbul and began to examine them. After a long time, she chose the tail of a monkey.

As soon as Dr. Bombo arrived, Chulbul leapt on to his table.

“Please, Dr. Bombo, could you fix this monkey’s tail on me?” she asked.

Dr. Bombo peered at her over his glasses and asked, “What on earth for? What’s the matter with your tail?”

“I want to change my tail,” insisted Chulbul.

“I do not think a monkey’s tail is suitable for you,” advised Dr. Bombo.

“No, no! That can’t be! I will not hear of it. You **MUST** change my tail,” Chulbul said stubbornly.



“Alright. As you wish. I shall change your tail but...”
Dr. Bombo replied, pushing his glasses further up on his nose.

Chulbul was delighted. Dr. Bombo removed her tail and fixed the monkey’s tail on her instead.





“Now that’s what I call a *real* tail,” said Chulbul as she pranced about gleefully. Now I can also sit on branches high up, with my tail hanging down like the monkeys.” Delighted with the idea, Chulbul left the hospital.

But... “Oh dear! What is this? I can hardly walk, and why does my body feel so heavy?” Chulbul was really worried.



With great difficulty she managed to walk out of the door. She was finding it difficult to walk with her heavy tail. Somehow, by pulling and dragging it along, she reached a tree.



‘I think I’ll go up the tree and rest a while,’
thought Chulbul and tried to climb up. But now
what? She couldn’t even climb an inch. Each time
she tried, she fell. At last, she sat down exhausted.

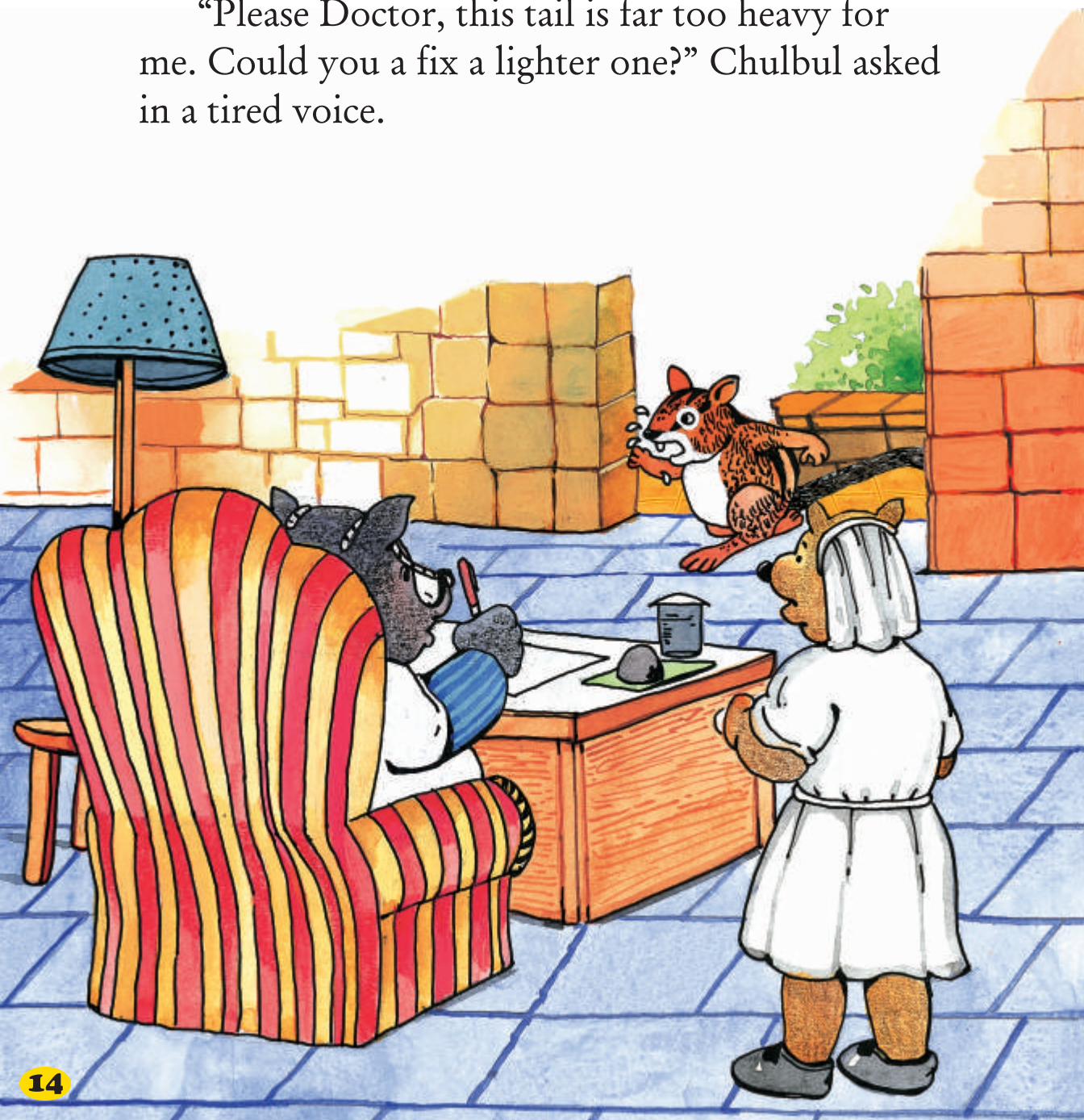


“No way. This tail is not right. I shall have to change it,”
said Chulbul to herself and tried to pick up her long tail
with her hand.



Thus, staggering along somehow she reached Dr. Bombo's hospital once more.

“Please Doctor, this tail is far too heavy for me. Could you a fix a lighter one?” Chulbul asked in a tired voice.



“I told you so,” Dr. Bombo scolded Chulbul.

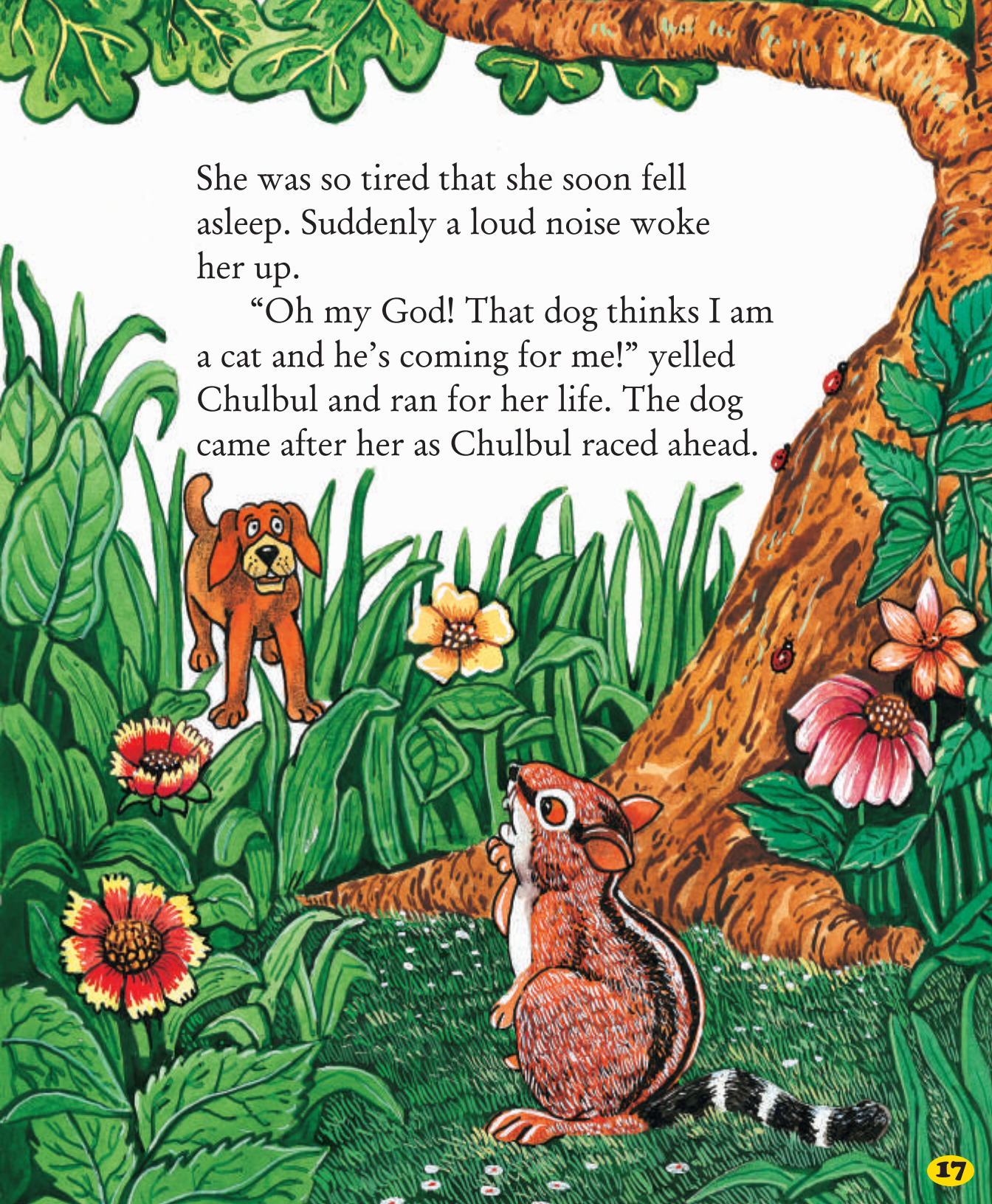
“I am sorry, Dr. Bombo. You can fix a cat’s tail on me this time,” suggested Chulbul.





Dr. Bombo removed the heavy tail and attached a cat's tail in its place.

“Well, at least this is lighter than the earlier one,” thought Chulbul. The change of tails had tired her out, so she simply lay down behind a tree to rest.



She was so tired that she soon fell asleep. Suddenly a loud noise woke her up.

“Oh my God! That dog thinks I am a cat and he’s coming for me!” yelled Chulbul and ran for her life. The dog came after her as Chulbul raced ahead.

“Oh no! I can’t even run with this tail. My own dear tail was so light. I could run so well with it,” Chulbul repented. Stumbling and falling, she managed to reach Dr. Bombo’s hospital yet again.

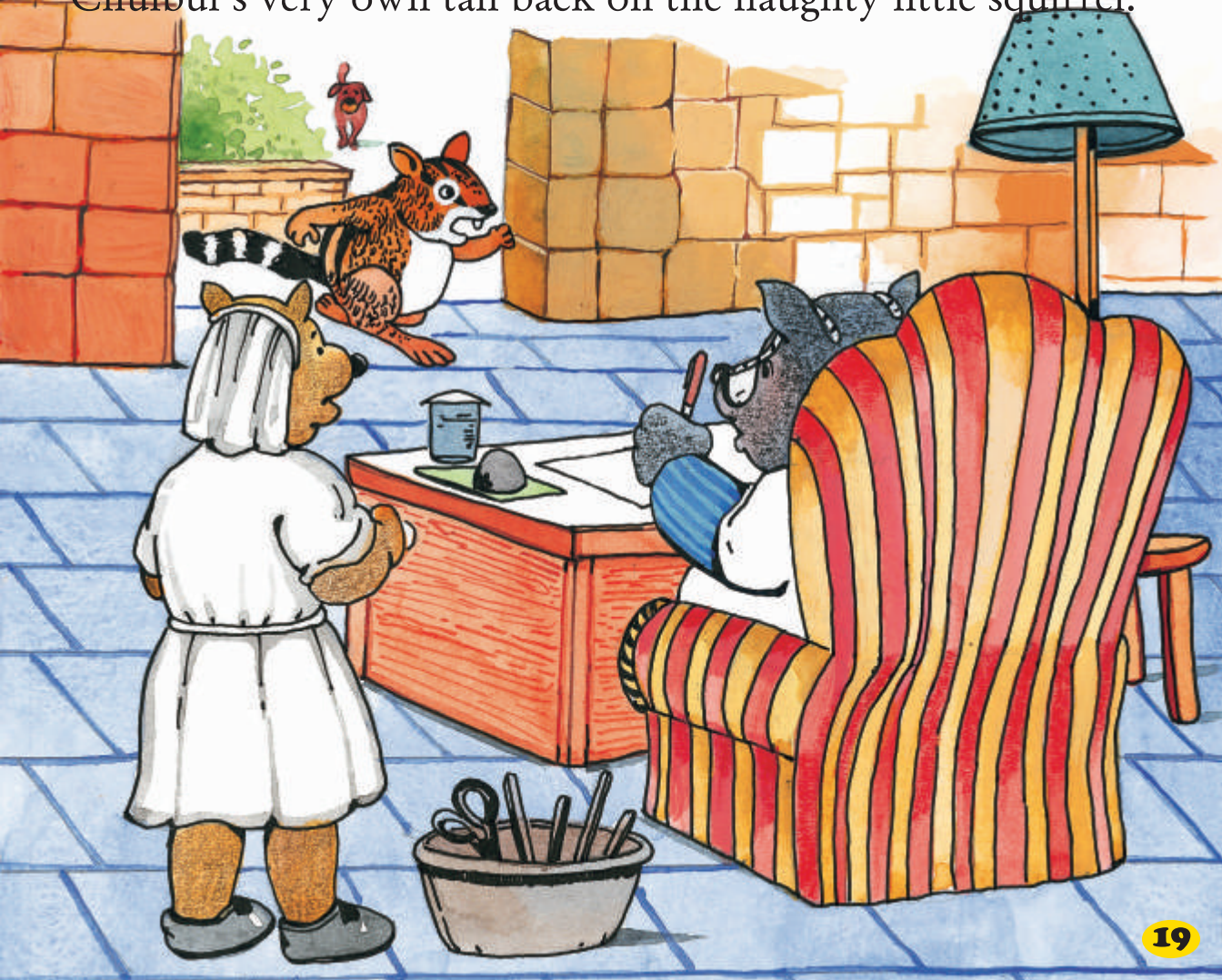


“Help! Dr. Bombo! Help!” cried Chulbul and ran inside. The dog stood outside but kept on barking.

“What is it now?” asked Dr. Bombo.

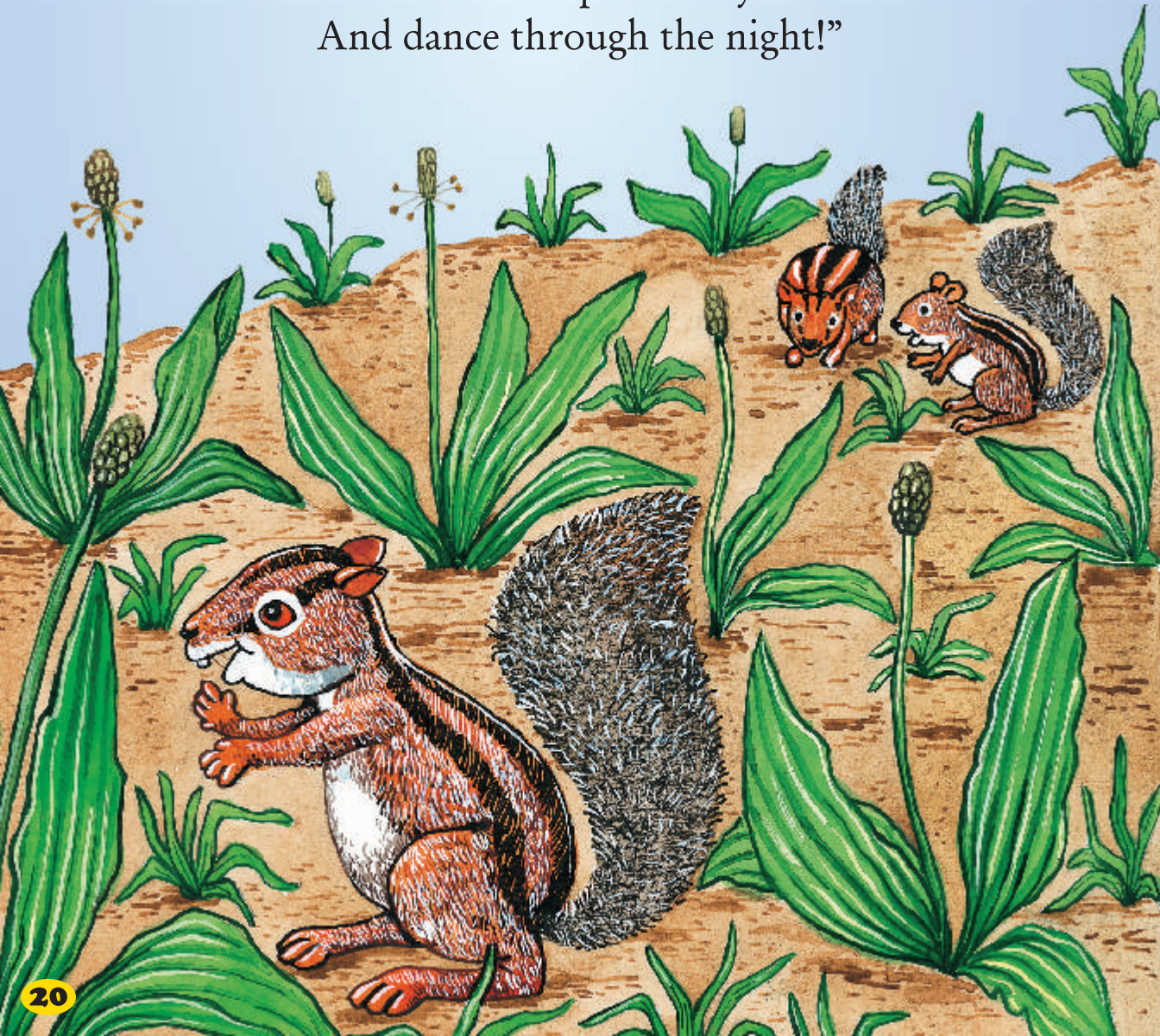
“That horrible dog is after me. Please, Dr. Bombo, just give me back my own tail. I don’t want anybody’s tail, just mine,” said Chulbul, shaking her head vigorously.

“So now you’ve come to your senses!” smiled Dr. Bombo. Cheerfully he removed the cat’s tail and fixed Chulbul's very own tail back on the naughty little squirrel.



Heaving a sigh of relief and without a care in the world,
Chulbul now walked home happily with a song on her lips:

“My tail is the best
So furry and light!
I can scamper all day
And dance through the night!”





Read India

Pratham Books was set up in 2004, as part of the Read India movement, a nation-wide campaign to promote reading among children. Pratham Books is a not-for-profit organization that publishes quality books for children in multiple Indian languages. Our mission is to see "a book in every child's hand" and democratize the joy of reading. If you would like to contribute to our mission, please email us at info@prathambooks.org.



Savitri has over 30 years of experience of early childhood education and has written many rhymes and stories for children. She is particularly fond of storytelling and songs.



Sanjay Sarkar is a promising new talent from Rabindra Bharati University. In his short professional career he has already earned accolades at Anand Bazar Patrika, The Statesman, Oxford University Press, Scholastic and National Book Trust.

Naughty Chulbul was not happy with her own tail. She decided to try on other tails. Did that help? Find out in this sweet little tale...

Learning to read – level by level. This is a Level 2 book.

**Beginning to Read/
Read Aloud**

For very young children who are eager to begin reading and listening to stories

1

Learning to Read

For children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help

2

Reading Proficiently

For older children who can read with confidence

4

3

**Reading
Independently**

For children who are ready to read on their own



PRATHAM BOOKS

Pratham Books is a not-for-profit organization that publishes books in multiple Indian languages to promote reading among children.

www.prathambooks.org

Chulbul's Tail
(English)
MRP: ₹ 30.00

ISBN 978-81-8263-359-9



9 788182 163359