



Level 2

# The Ok Om Bok Festival

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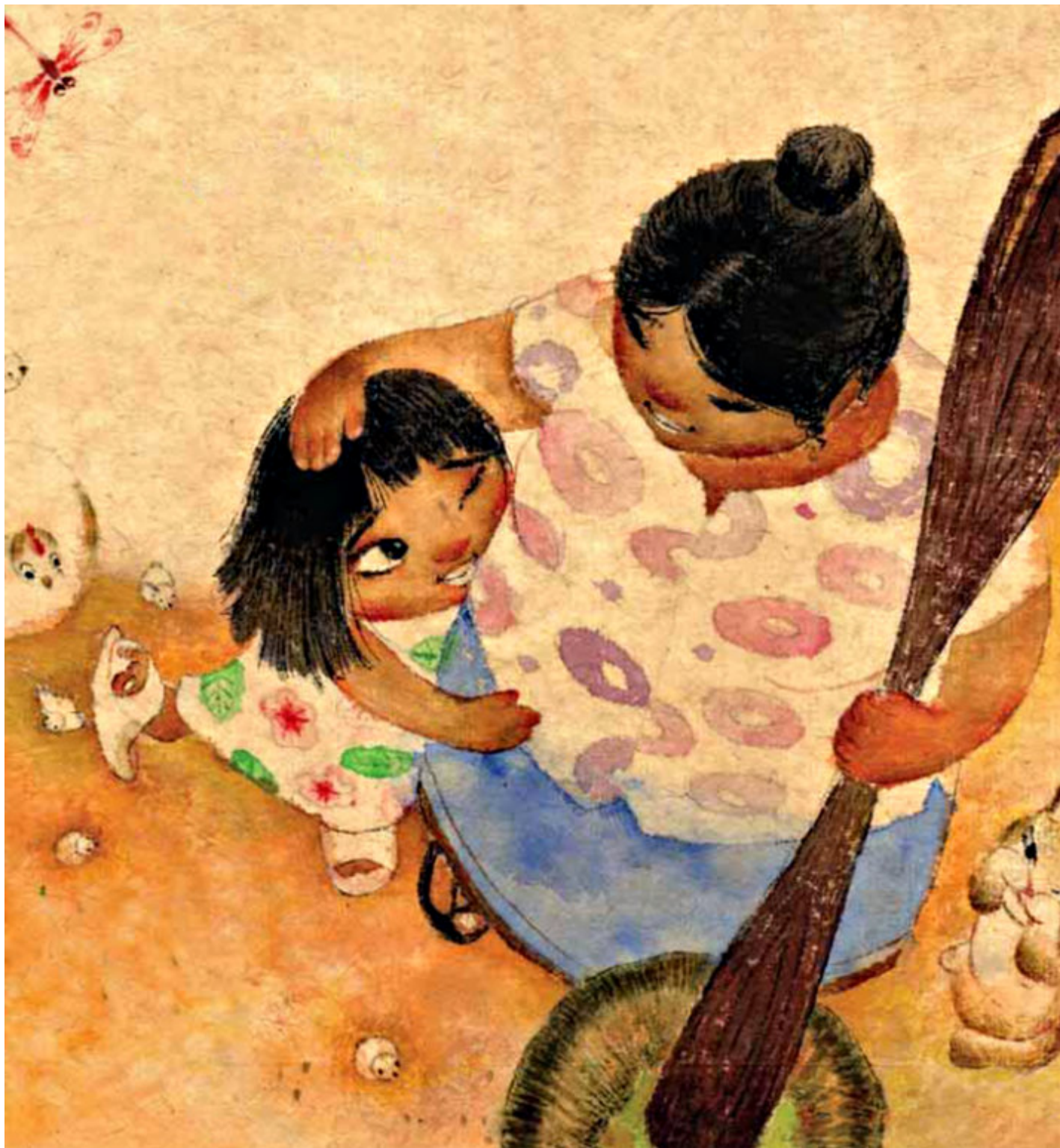




*DHUBB! Khhhh!  
DHUBB! Khhhh!  
DHUBB! Khhhh!*

One morning, Nhâ  
woke up to the lively  
beating sound of a  
pestle banging against  
a mortar.





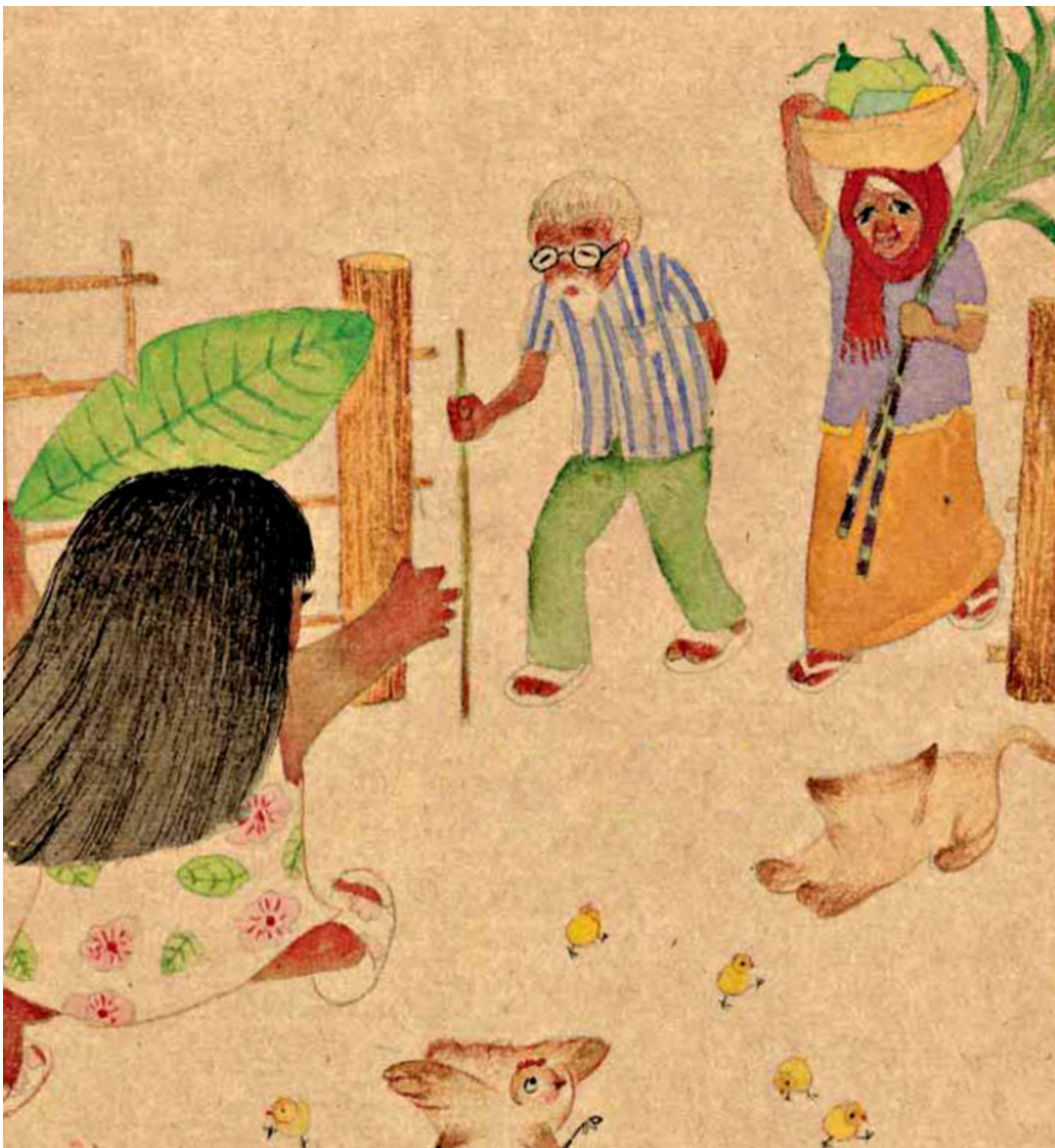
"Ah," she thought.  
"Mum is making green  
rice!"





Father says, "Today is the Ok Om Bok festival, don't you remember? Granny and Grandpa are arriving soon."

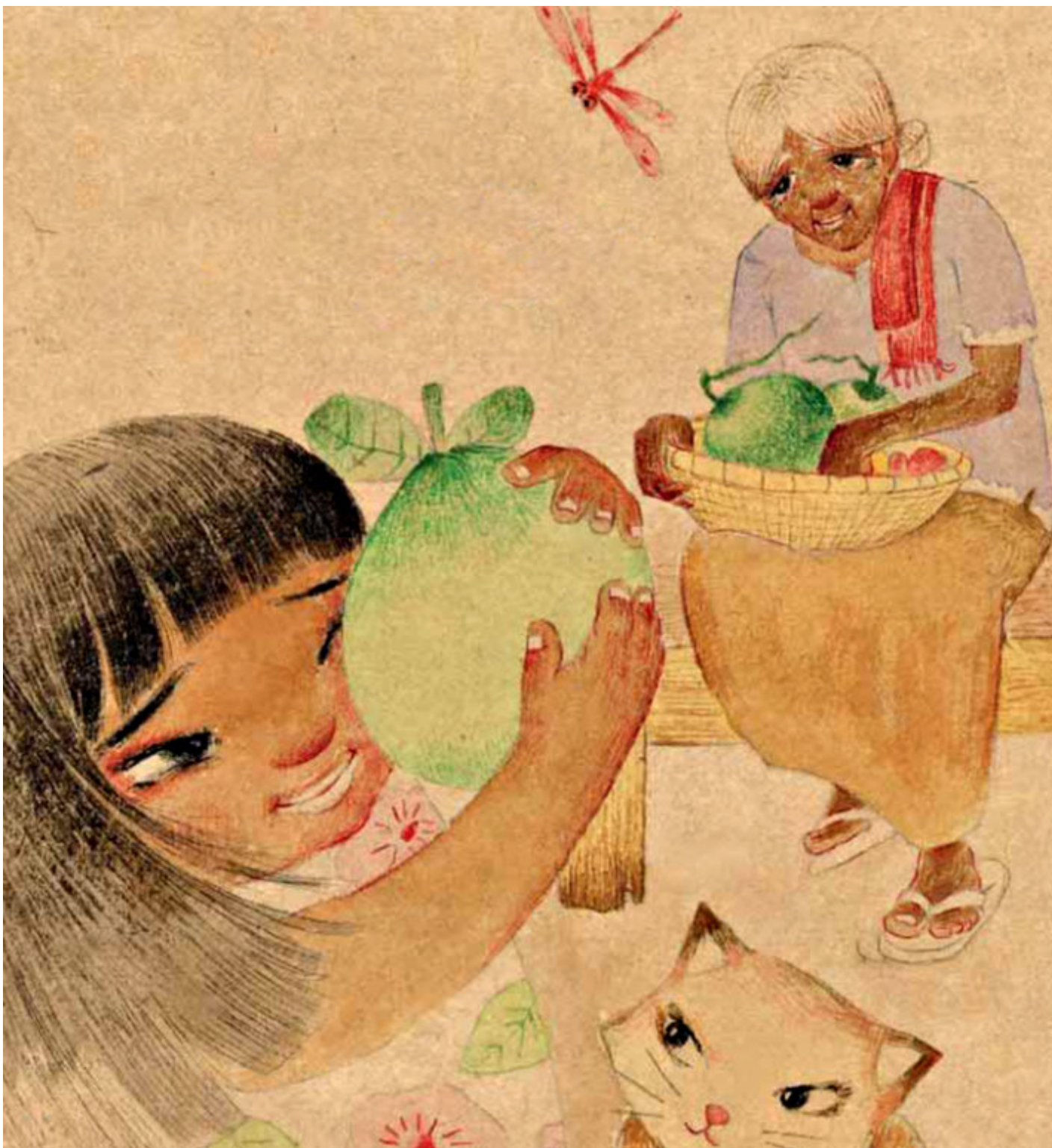




Now it's afternoon.

Nhây runs to meet her grandparents. "What have you bought from the market?" she asks eagerly.

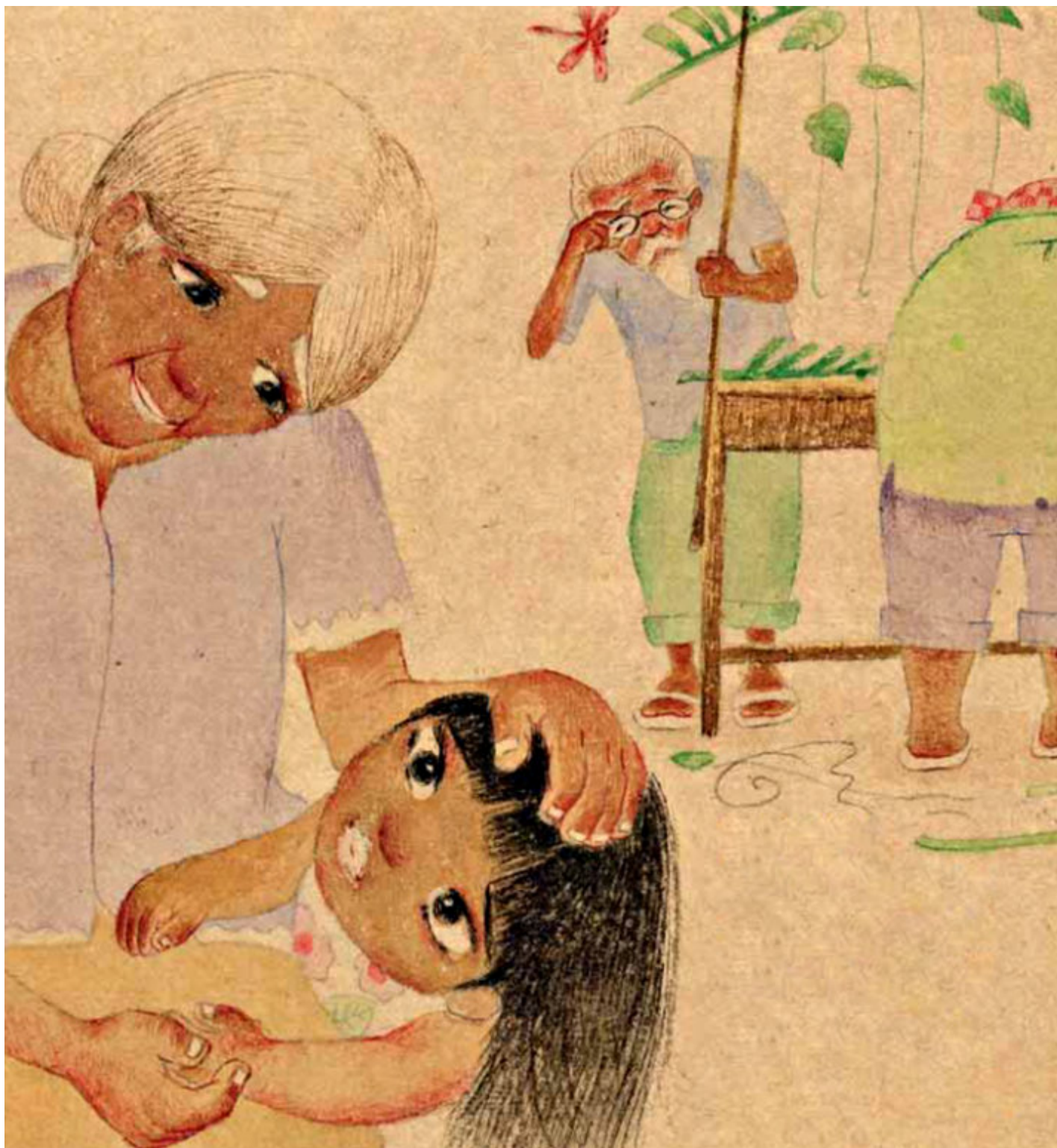




Grandmother shows  
Nhây the special food  
in her basket.

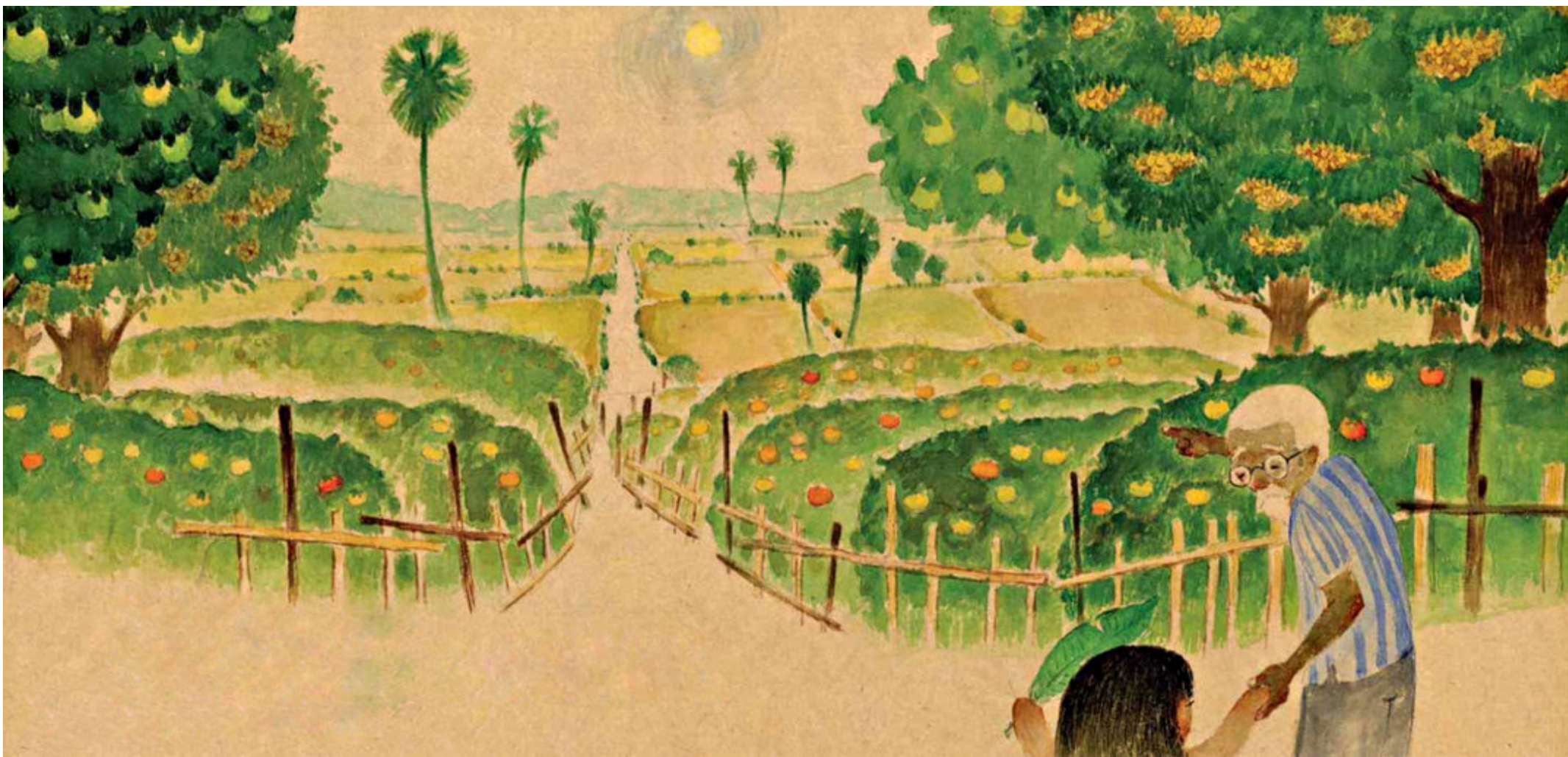
"I bought these for the  
Ok Om Bok offerings,"  
Granny says.





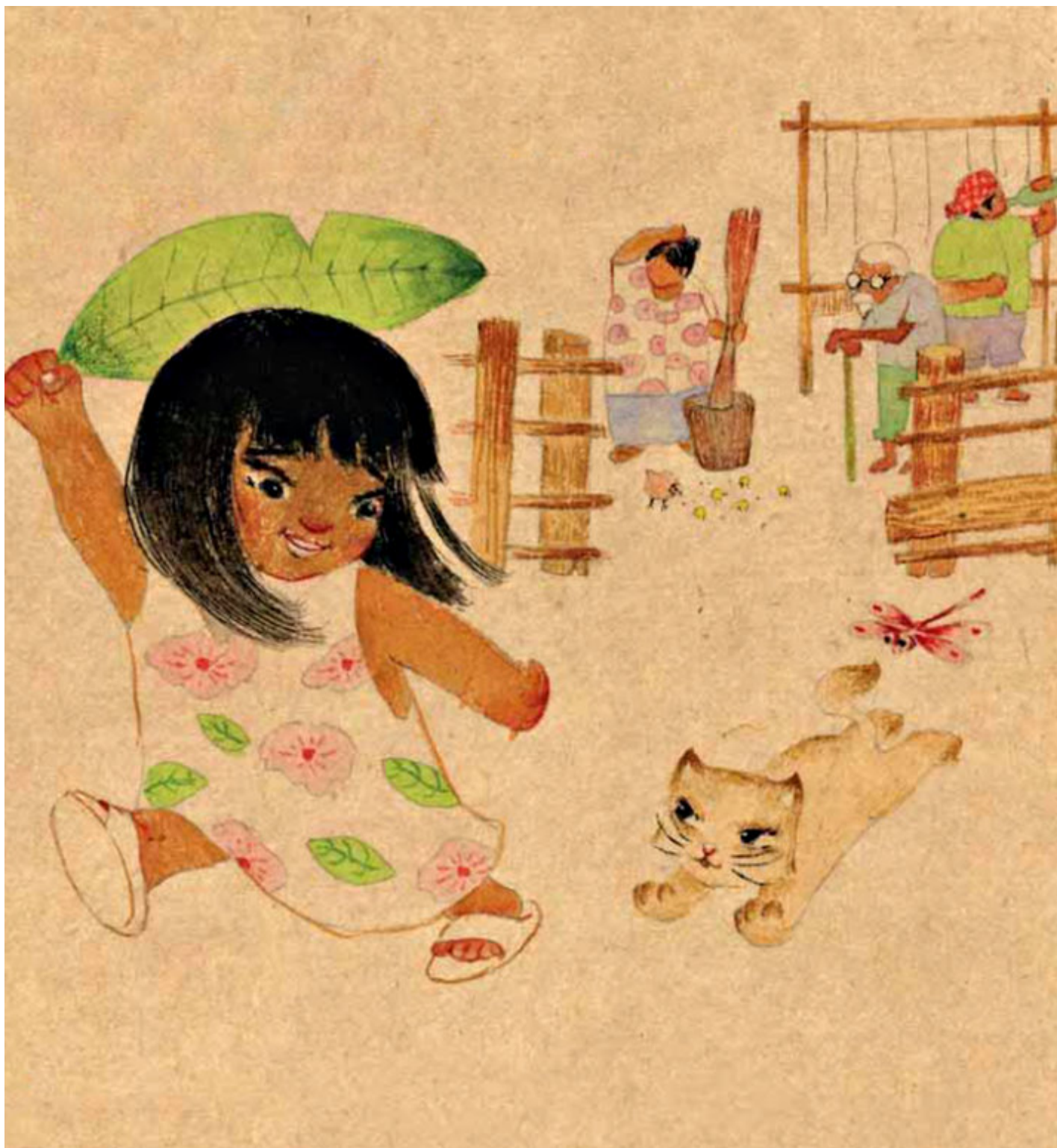
Nhây asks her grandfather, "Why do we celebrate Ok Om Bok, Grandpa?"





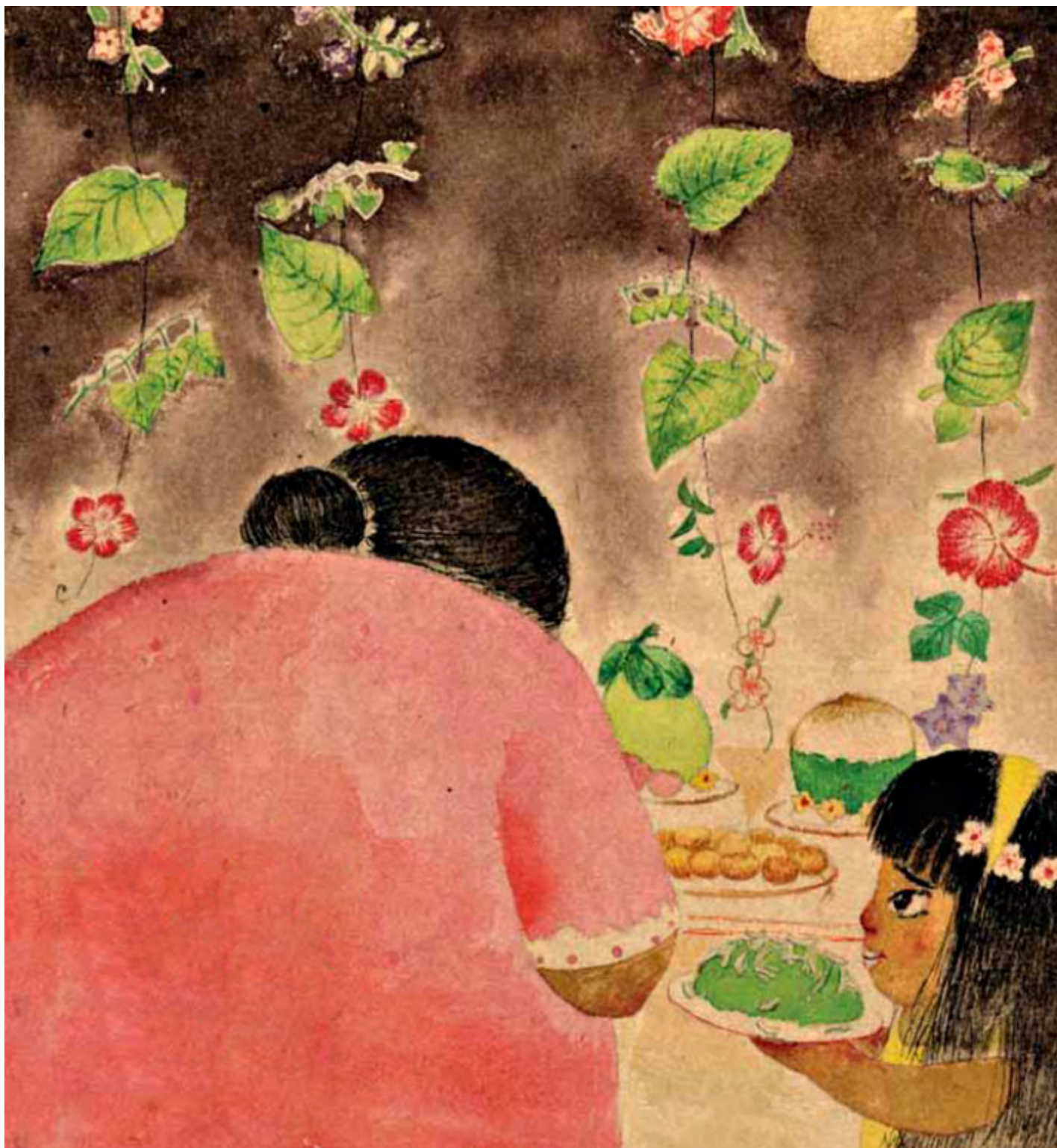
Grandpa explains gently, "For the Ok Om Bok festival, we make offerings to the Gods and thank them for favourable weather and bountiful crops. Everyone eats today, everyone is fulfilled."





"I want to help, too!"  
Nhâ says. "I'll get  
some flowers for the  
village gate."





That evening, the family gathers around the table full of offerings. Nhâỵ fixes her eyes on the green rice dish.





Mum asks, “Nhây, do you remember how to make this delicious green rice?”



First, we must select the best rice kernels.







Second, we roast them over straw fire until they soften.

Last, we pound them with a mortar and pestle.



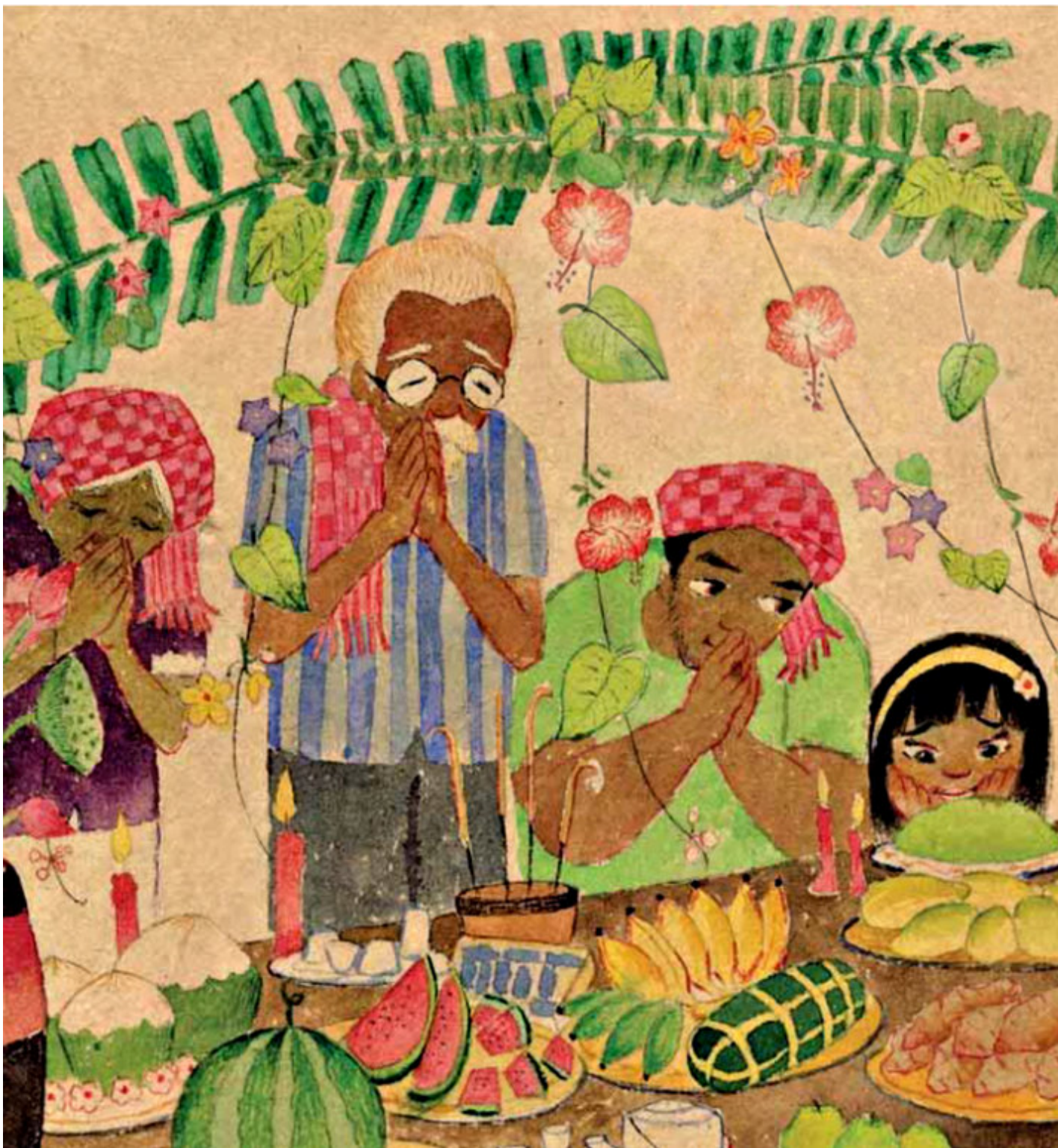


Fourth, we remove all the husk.

Fifth, we mix the rest with fine sugar and coconut shavings.

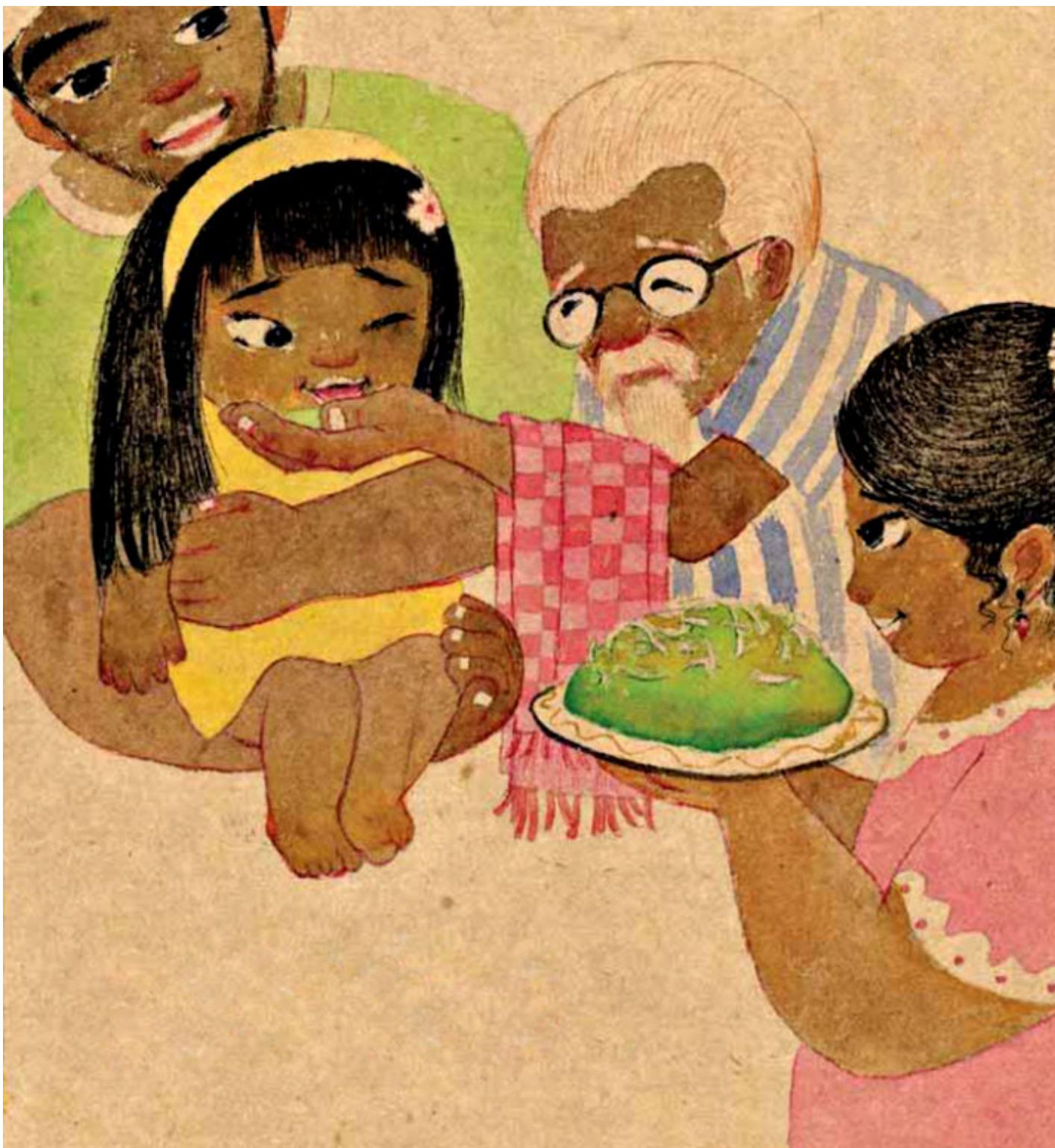
"Now I remember, Mum!" says Nhâ.





At last, the Ok Om Bok festival begins!

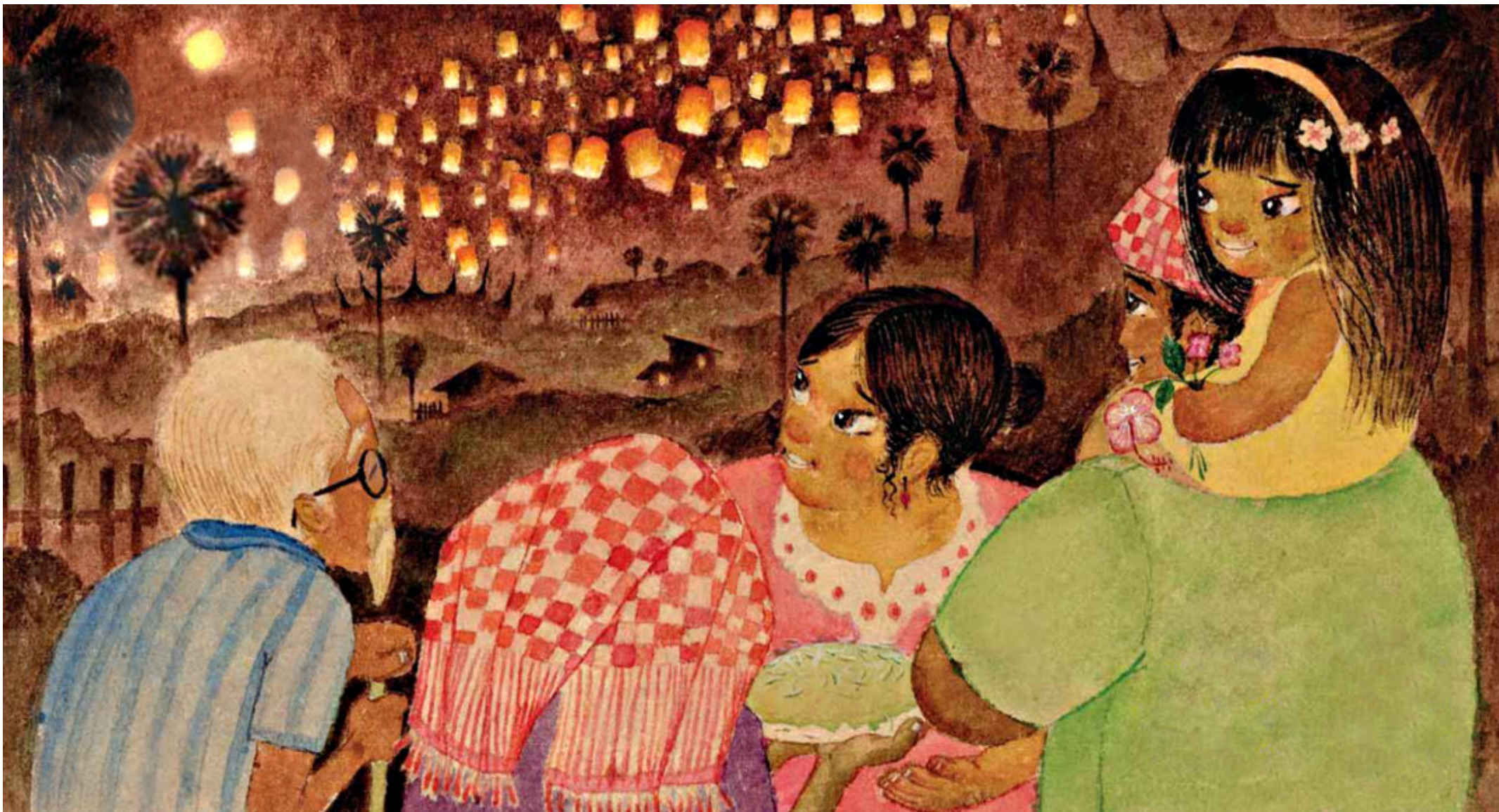




Grandpa asks Nhâ, "What do you wish for?"

"I wish that my family has lots of love and good health," says Nhâ. "And lots of green rice to eat!"





The family hears an excited cry from the street. "Wind lanterns! The wind lanterns are coming!"

Nhây and her family step outside. The sky is filled with lanterns floating like flowers in the wind. It is the perfect ending to the Ok Om Bok festival.







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# The Ok Om Bok Festival

(English)

It's a special day in Nhay's neighbourhood. Every house is decorated with flowers and ribbons for the Ok Om Bok festival. Everyone is preparing offerings. How can Nhay help?

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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