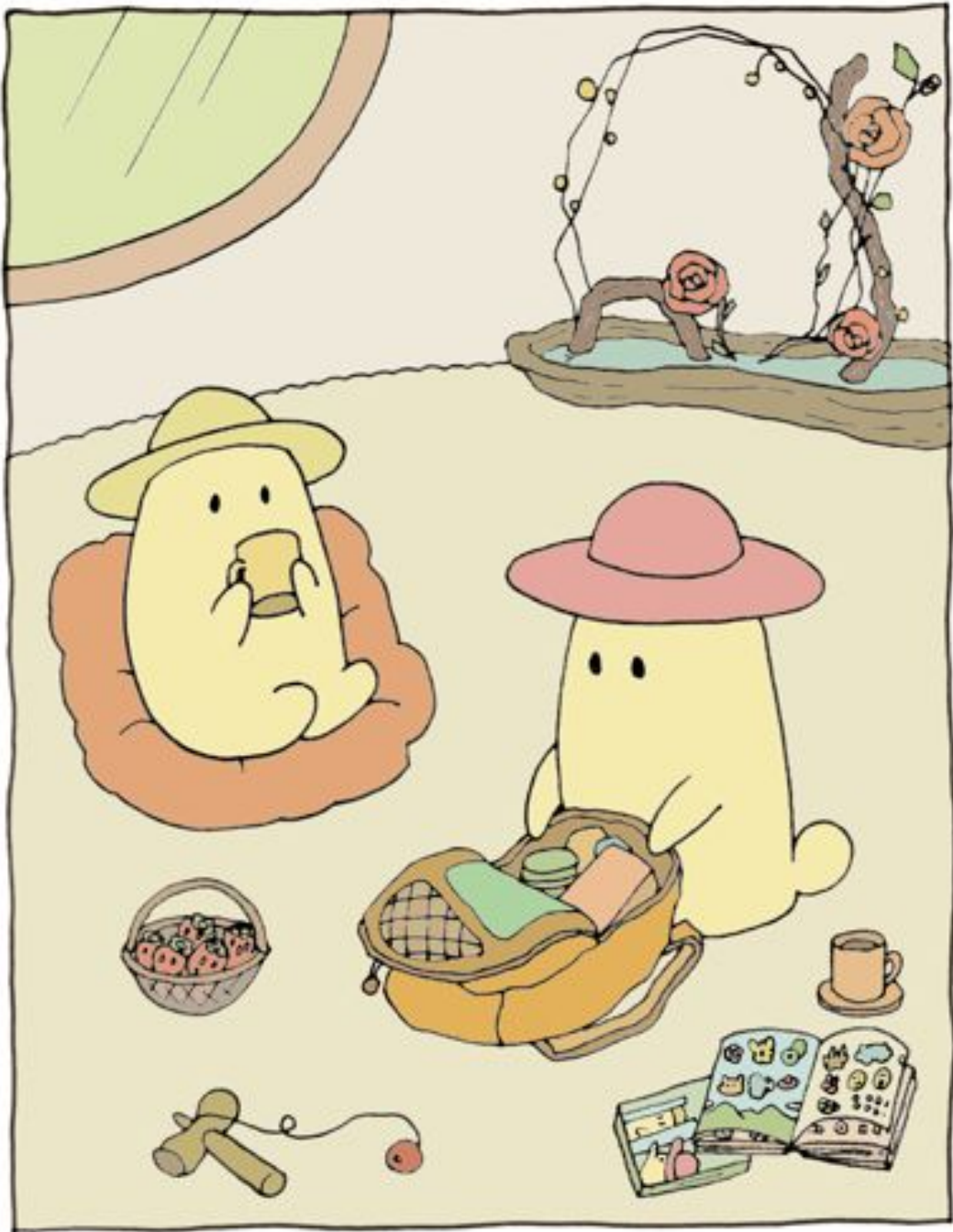


Teto goes to Sarula

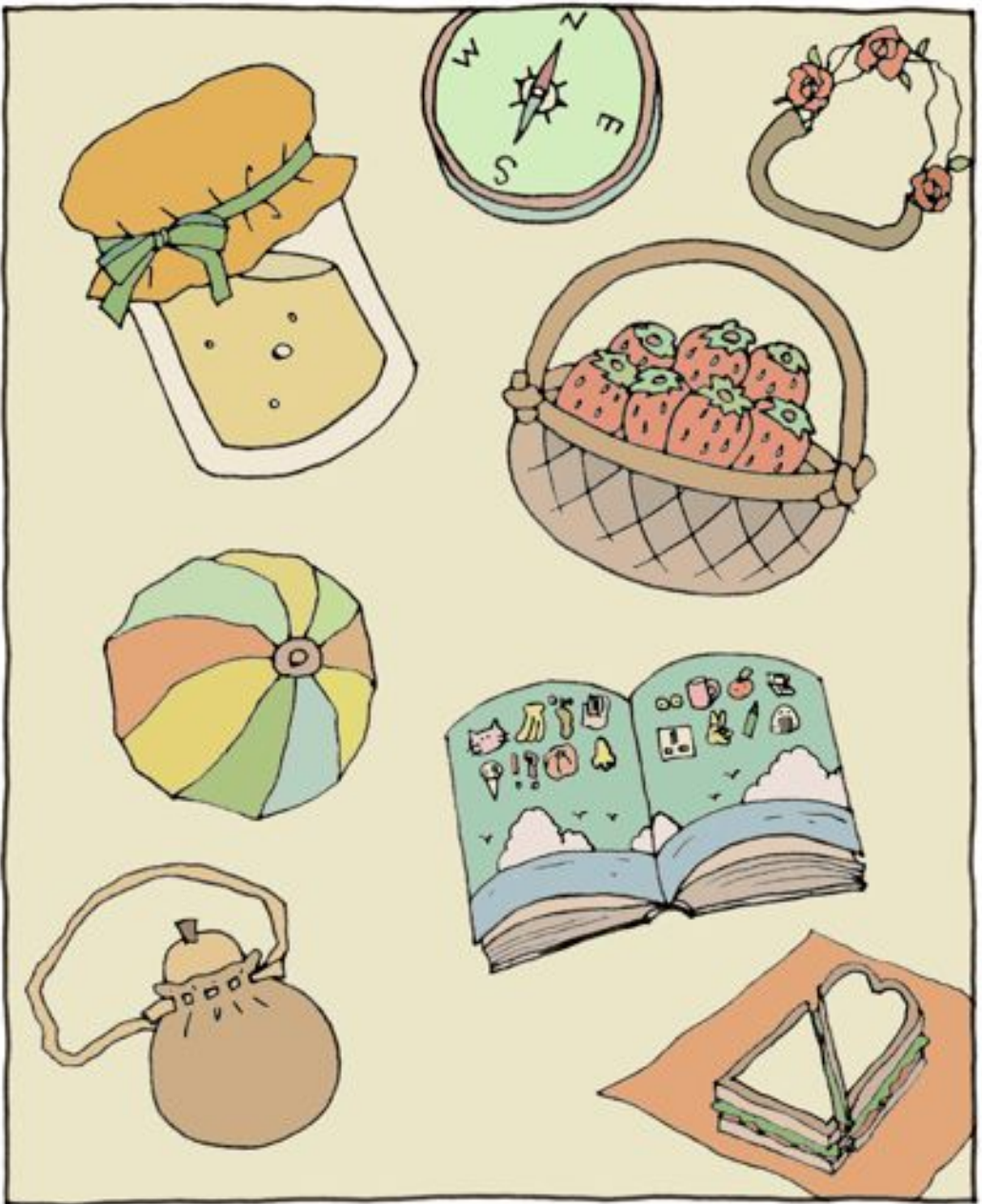
Mika Riedel

I would like to thank Jason Naradowsky and Sebastian Riedel for helping me with the translation of this book.

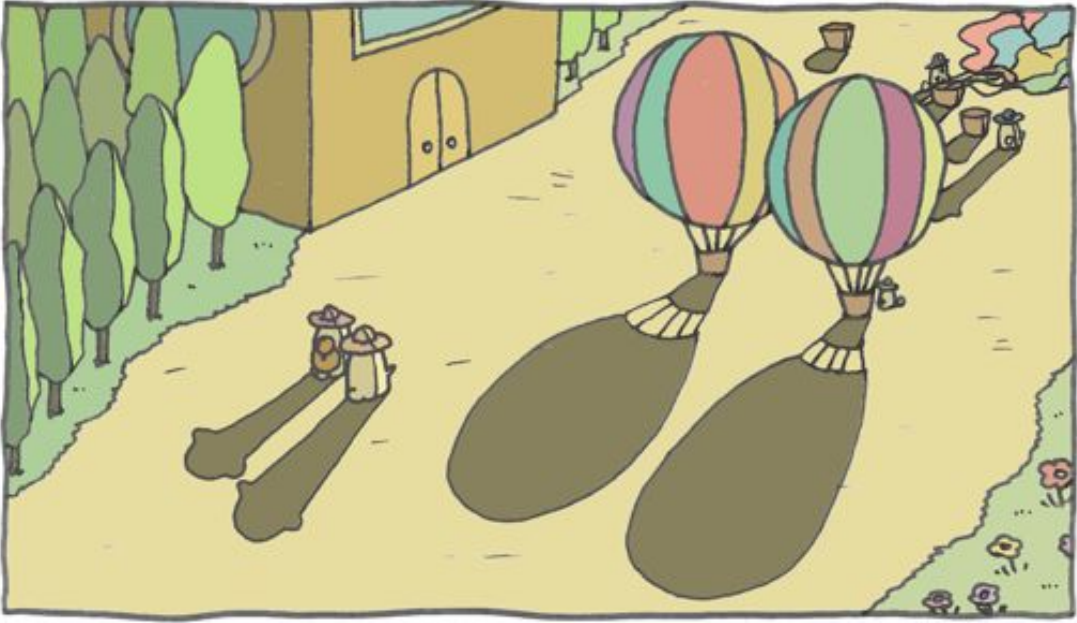
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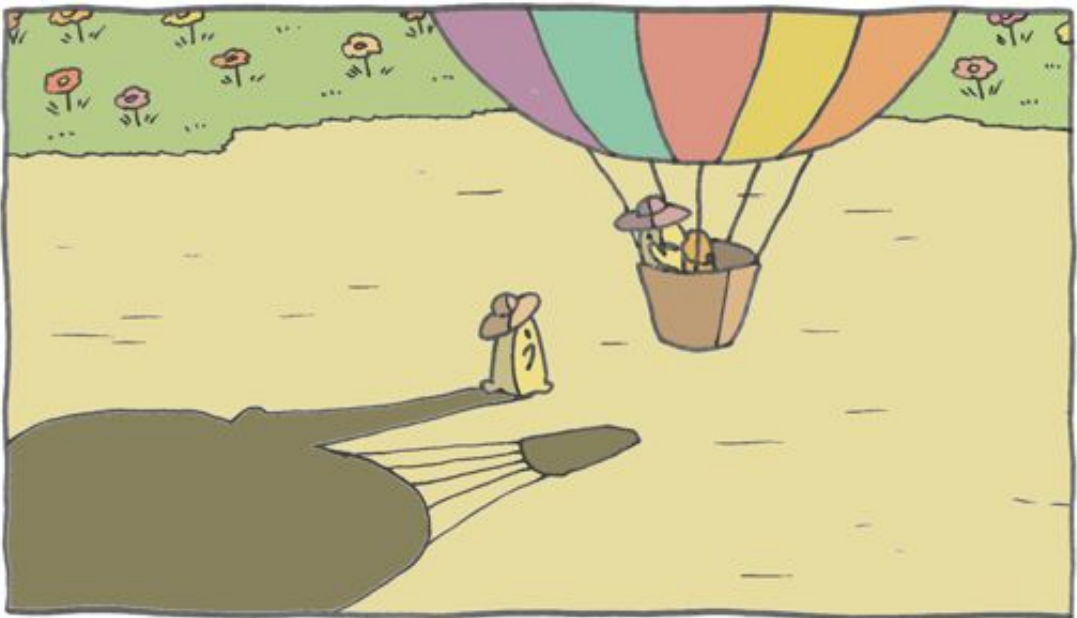
One day, Teto was preparing for his trip to meet his very good friend, Saru.



Teto filled his backpack with many souvenirs: a jar of honey, flowers, strawberries, toys, and picture books. He also packed several travel items: a bottle of water, sandwiches, and a compass.



The next morning he went to the air balloon airport. He always liked to see the shadows grow long when he got up early.



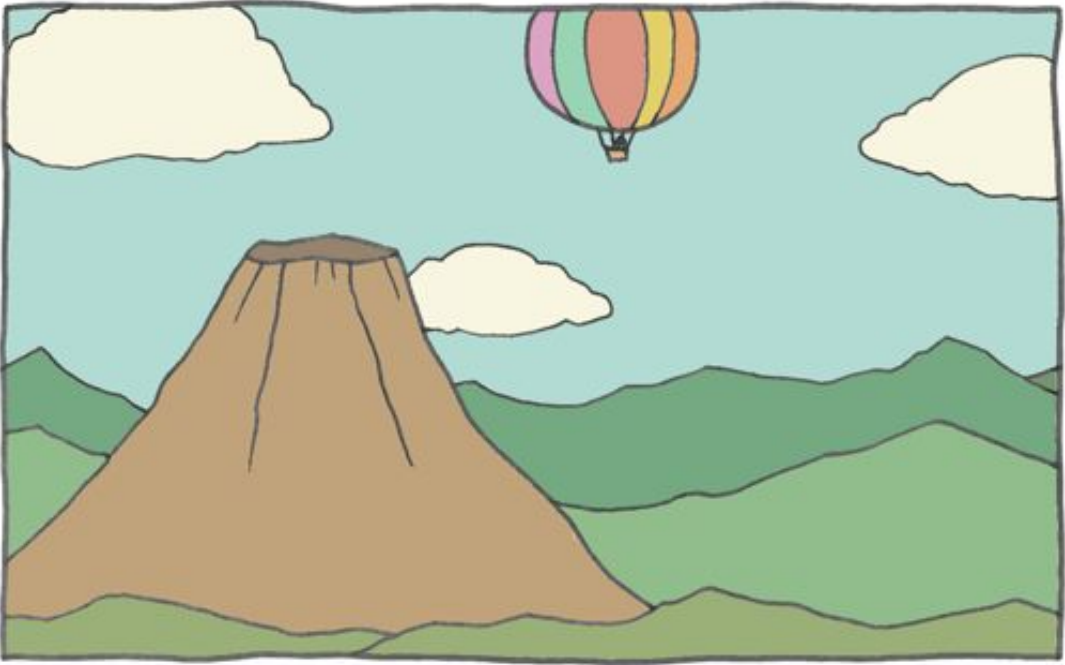
"I'm off," said Teto to his friend.
"Have a nice time!" said his friend.



Teto passed his hometown, Tetola.



He flew over the river,



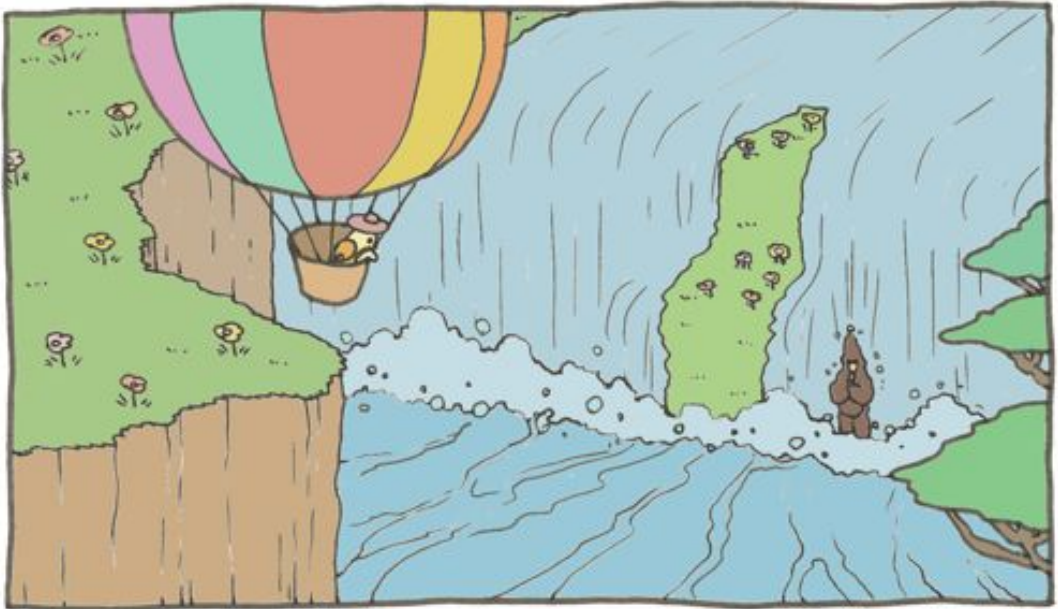
...the mountain...



...the lake...



...and finally, he arrived at Saru's hometown, Sarula, but he couldn't control the balloon well enough...



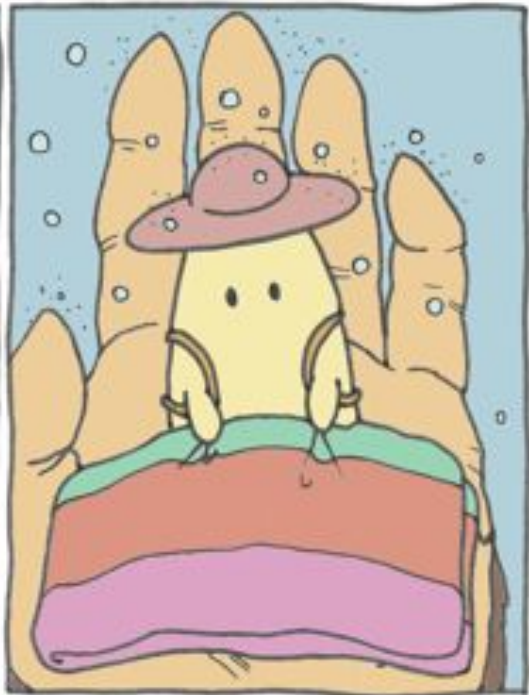
...and came down at a nearby waterfall.



He was approaching a gorilla meditating in the waterfall.



Teto landed on the hand of the gorilla.
"Wait for a second, I'm going to fold my air balloon,"
said Teto.



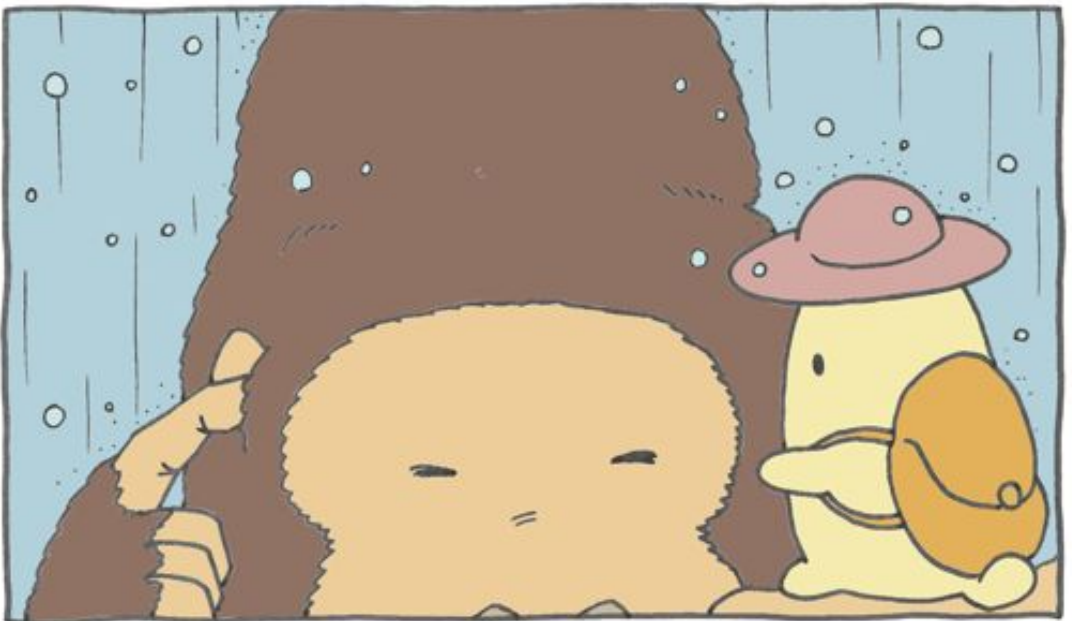
Teto folded his balloon and put it into his backpack.
"Good." Teto was satisfied.



"Okay. I'm Teto, and you?"

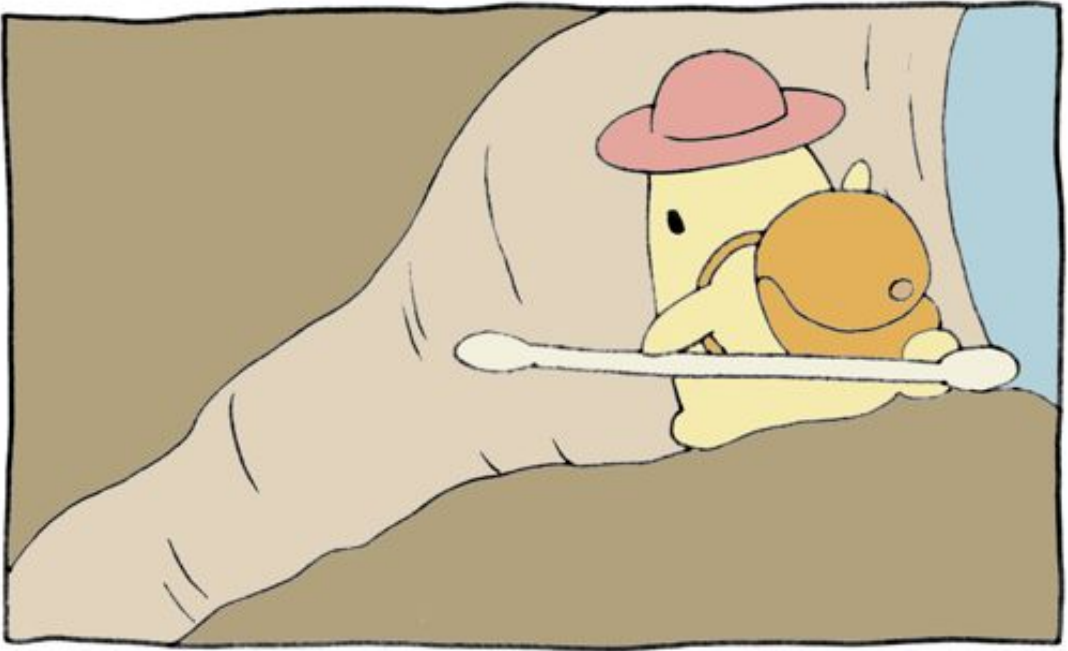
"WHAT?"

"I'm Teto. What's your name?"

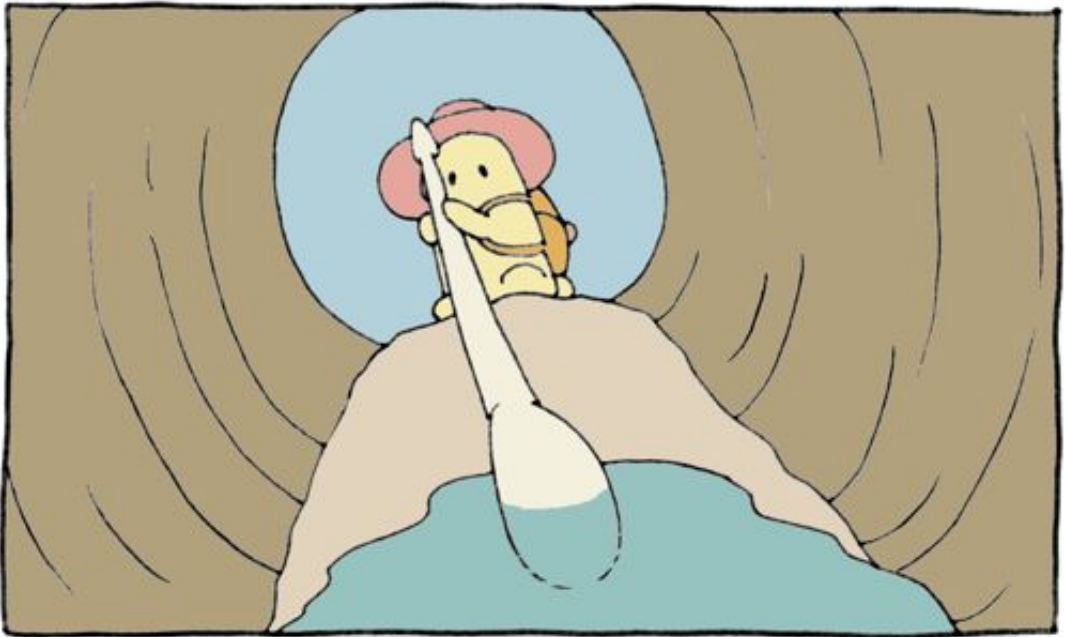


"I CAN'T HEAR, SOMETHING IS IN MY EAR!"

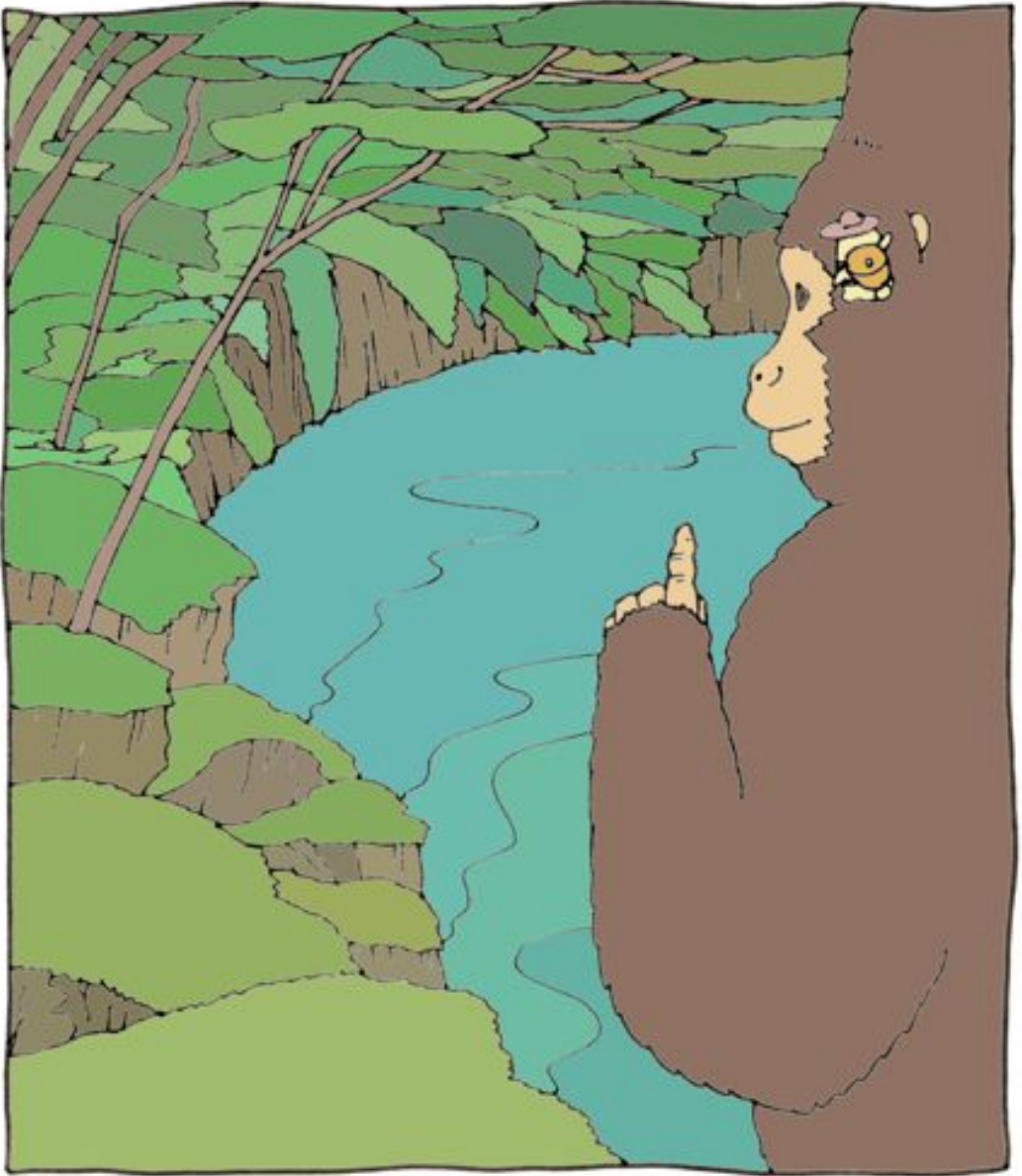
"You may have some water in it."



Teto went into the gorilla's ear with a cotton bud.



"This must be it." Teto used the cotton bud to remove the water from the gorilla's ear.



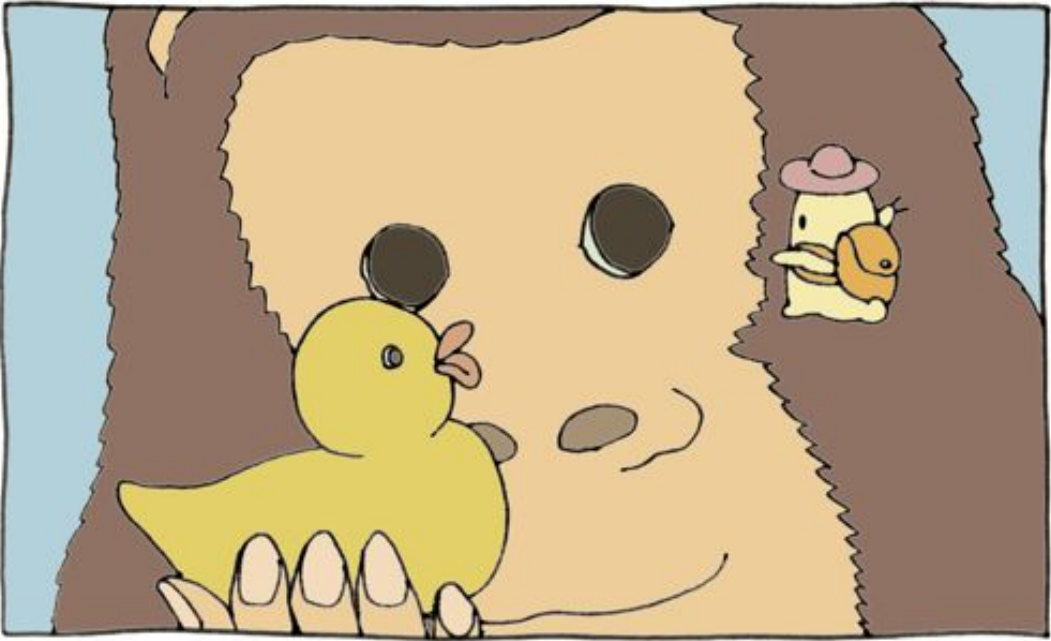
"Oh, I can hear fine now. Thanks! I'm Gori, by the way."

"You're welcome. I'm Teto."

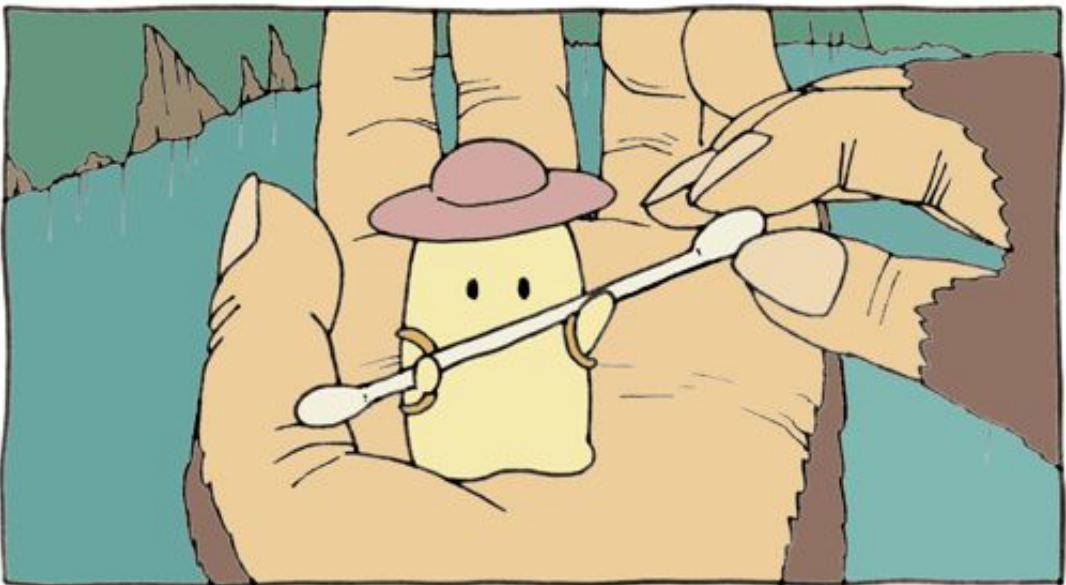
"It's good you are so tiny. You can go into ears."

"Yes, it's good. Hey, do you know Saru?"

"I do. You'll get to his city by going down this river."



"I'll give you my rubber duck for your trip."
"Thanks! I can use it as a ship."



"Does a cotton bud work as an oar?"
"This is a new cotton bud..., right?"



"See you, Gori!"

"See you, Teto!"

Teto enjoyed the good air and the beautiful scenery while he was paddling.

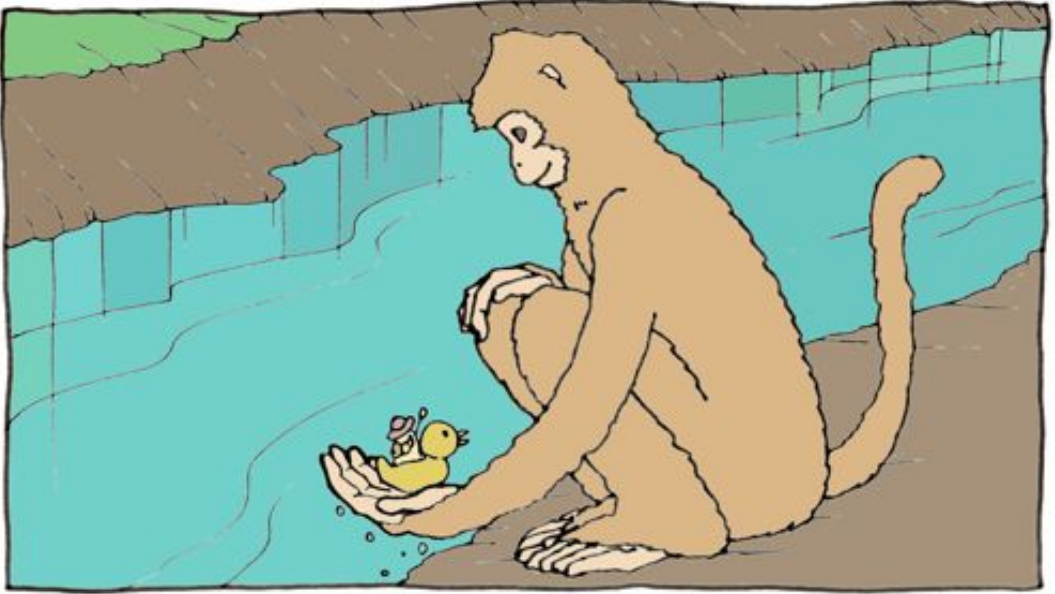


After a while, he found Saru waiting at the river bank.

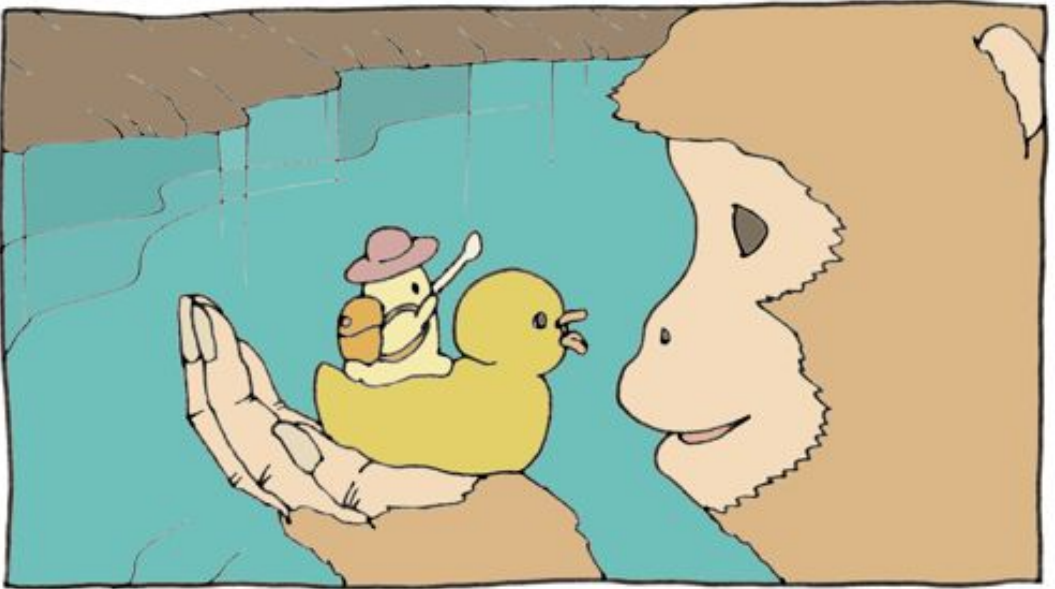
"Saru!"

"Teto!"

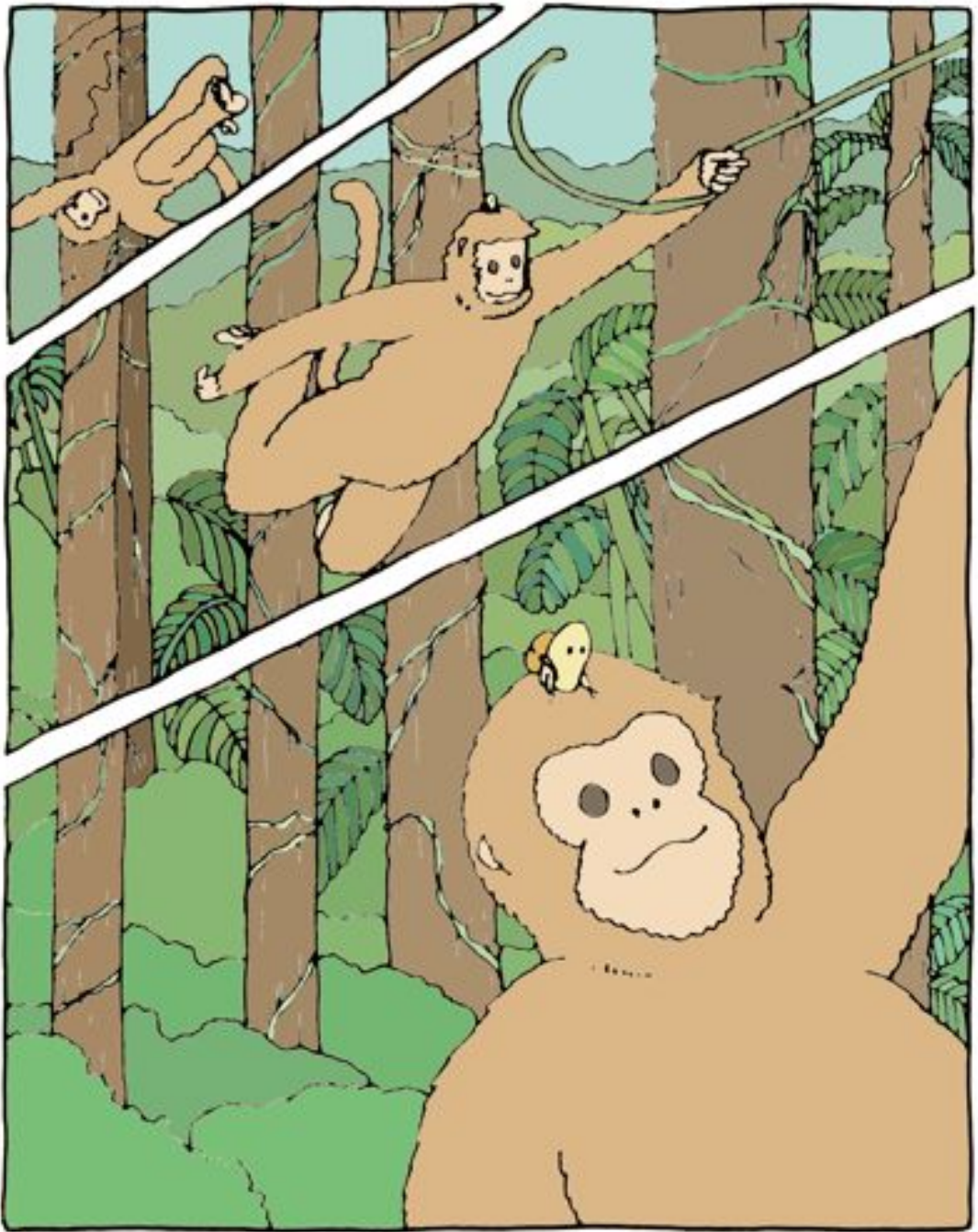
The two of them were very happy to see each other.



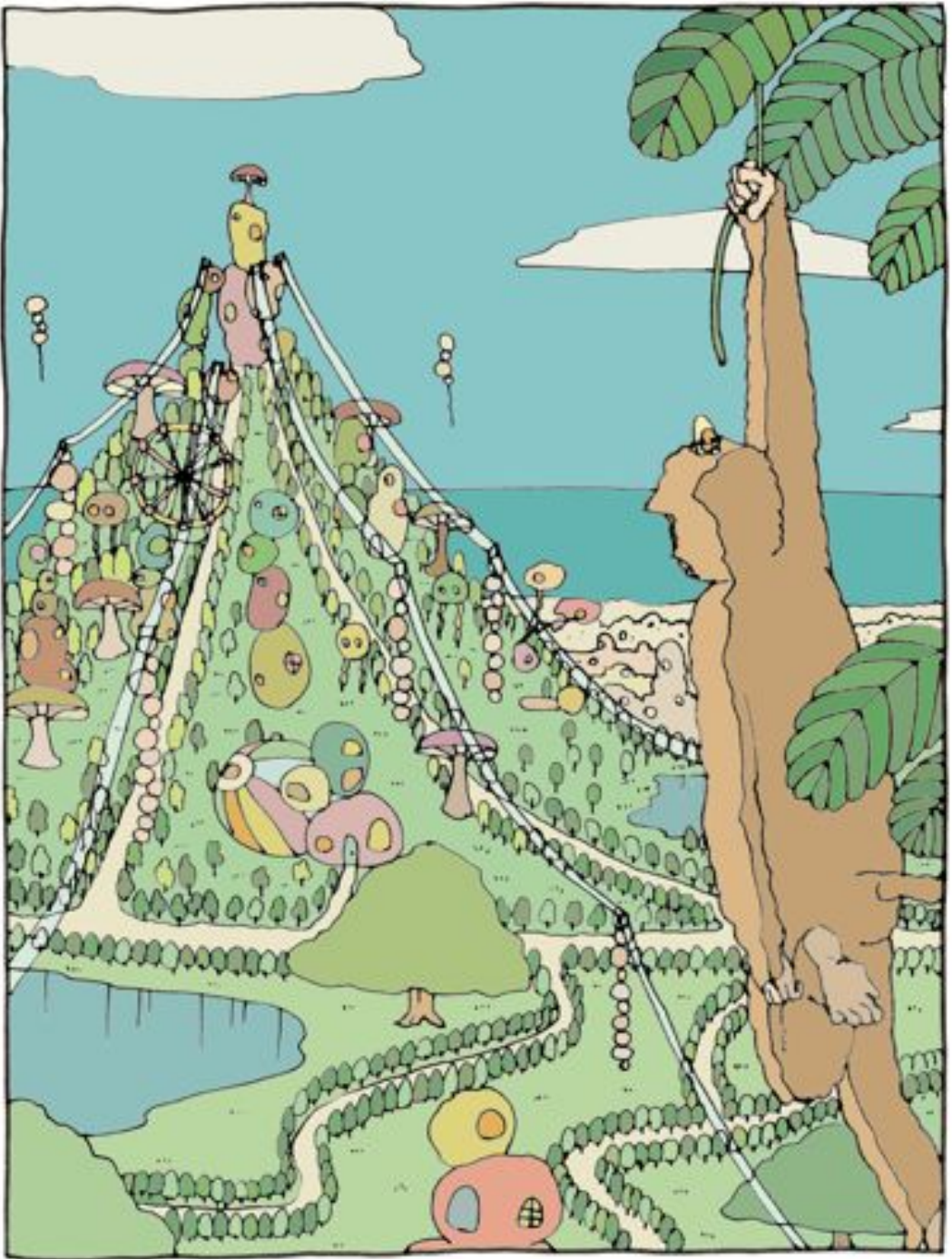
"How did you know I'd arrive here?" asked Teto.
"I saw you fly towards the waterfall. I guessed you would meet Gori." said Saru.



"I got this from Gori!"
Teto talked about Gori to Saru.

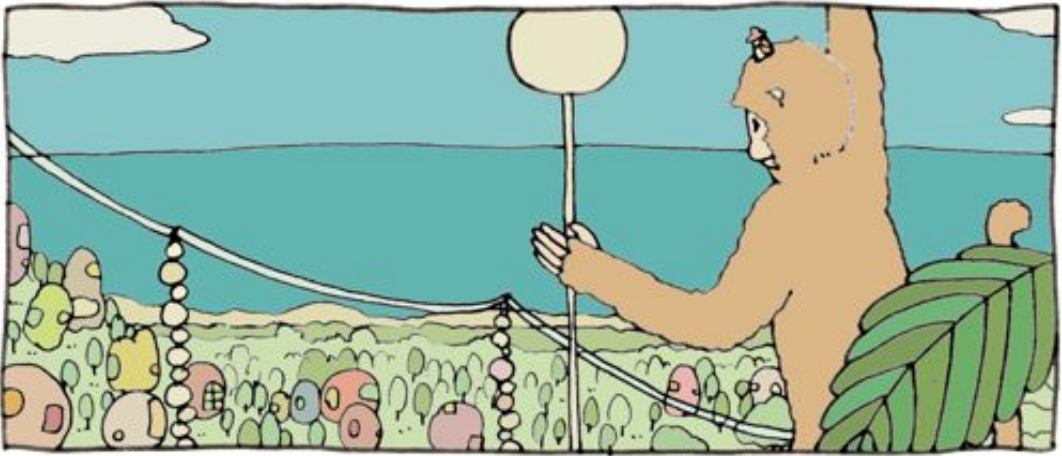


"We'll swing through the forest. Hold on tight."
"Okay!" Teto put his hat and the ship into his backpack.
Saru swung through the forest with amazing speed.

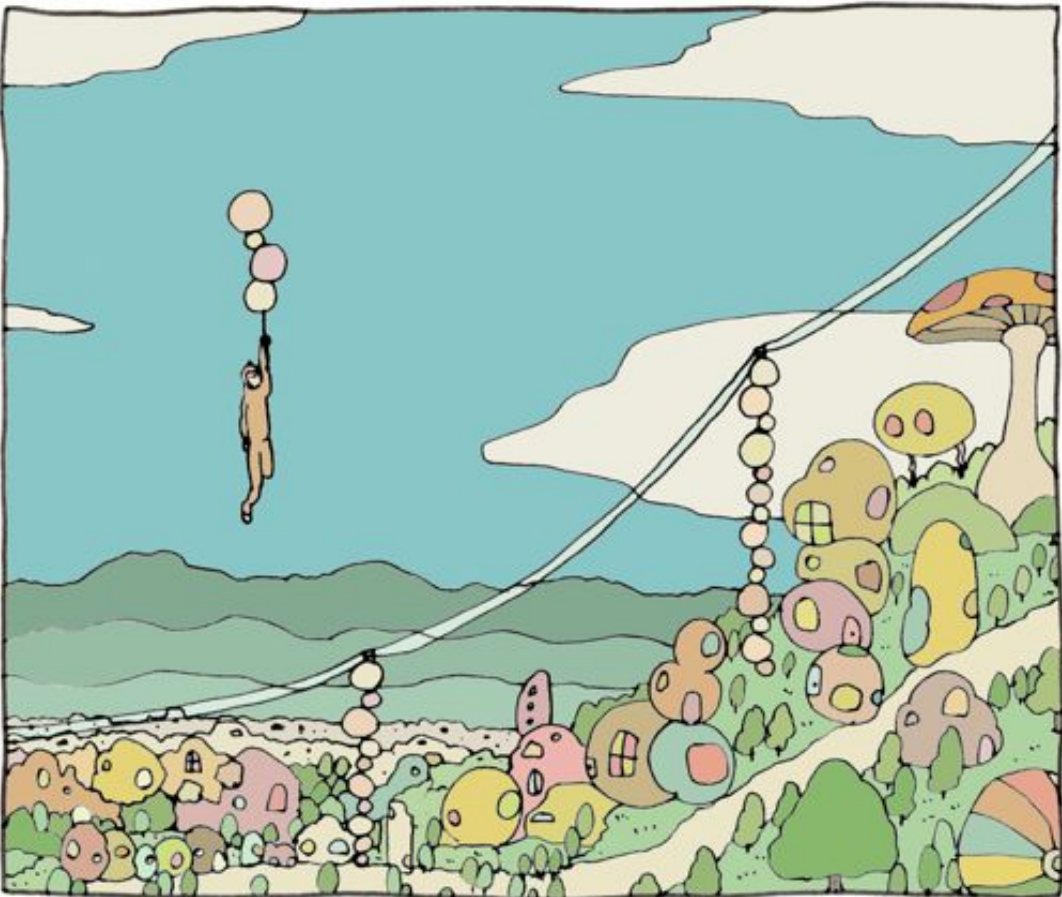


"This is my hometown, Sarula."

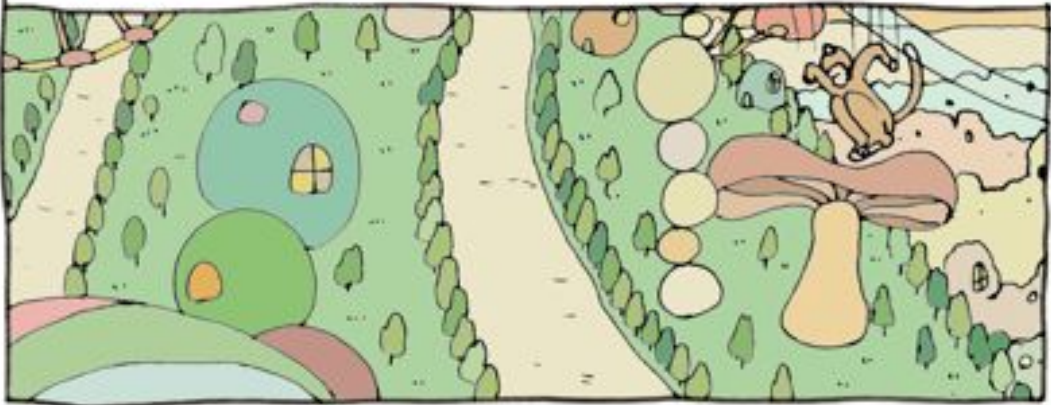
"It's a big city!"



"What's this?" asked Teto.

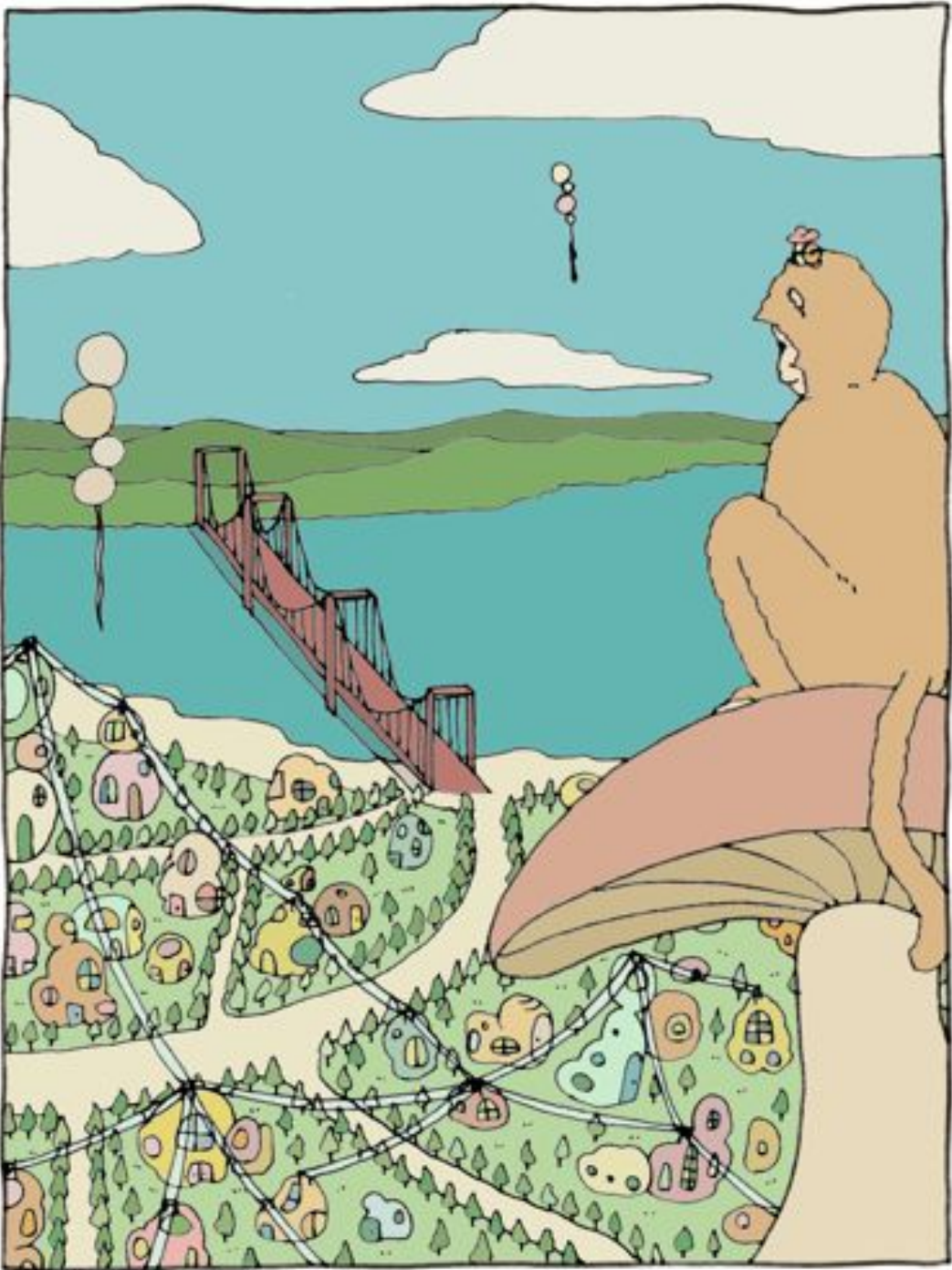


"These are bubble balloons." answered Saru.



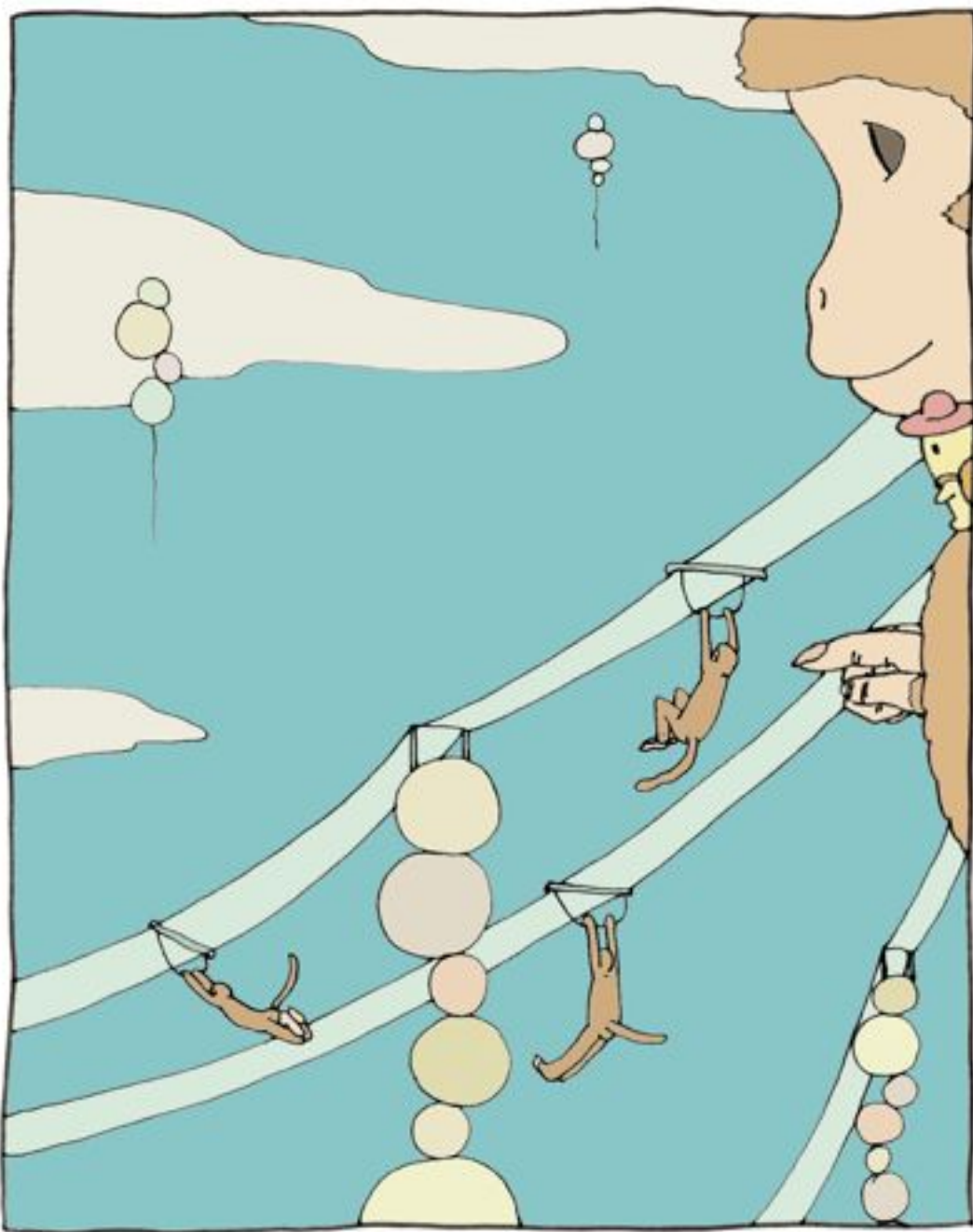
"Here we go!"

Saru and Teto were jumping on the mushrooms to reach the highest point of the city.



"You can see the whole city from here."

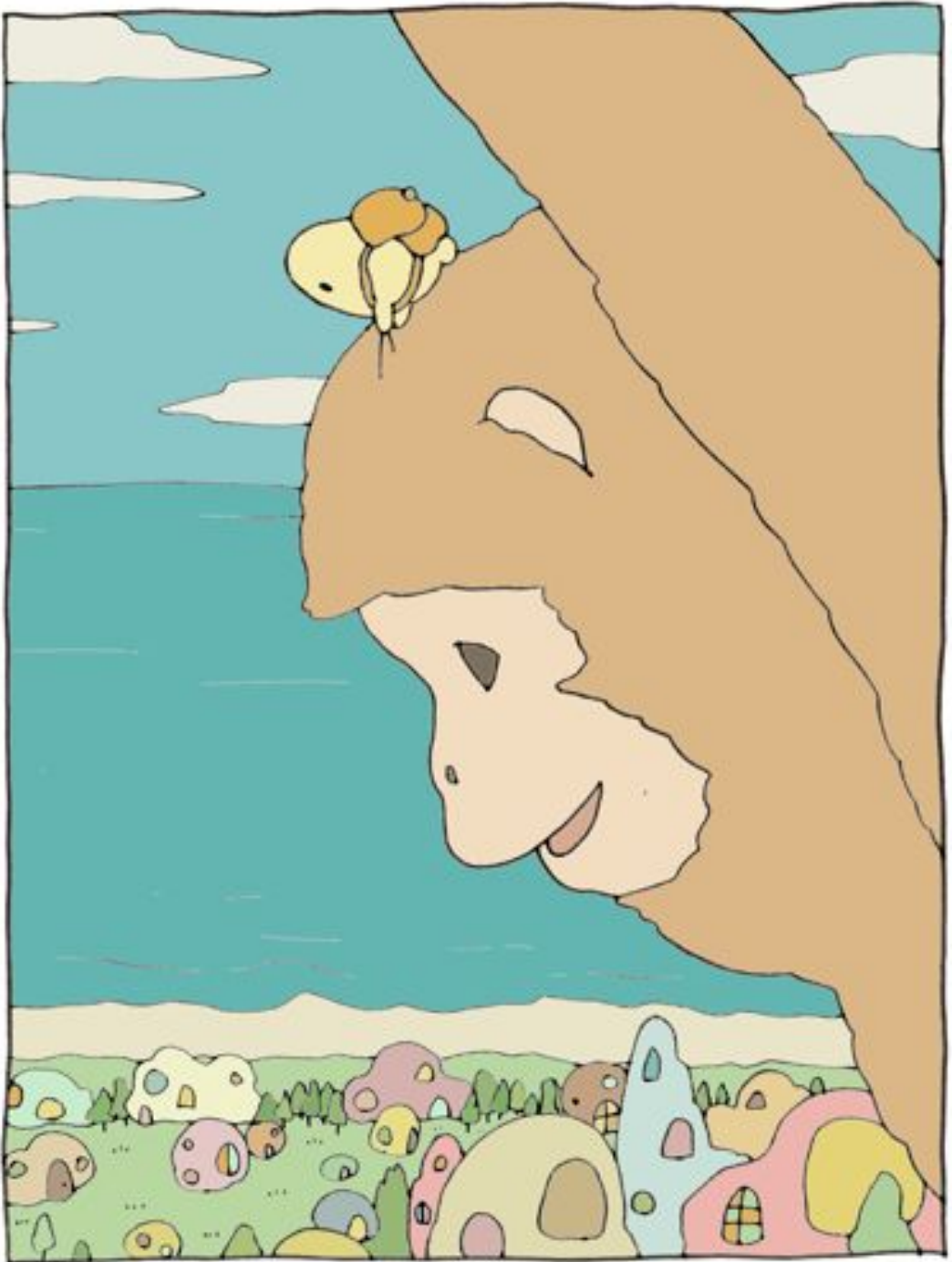
"Those buildings look like rice balls!"



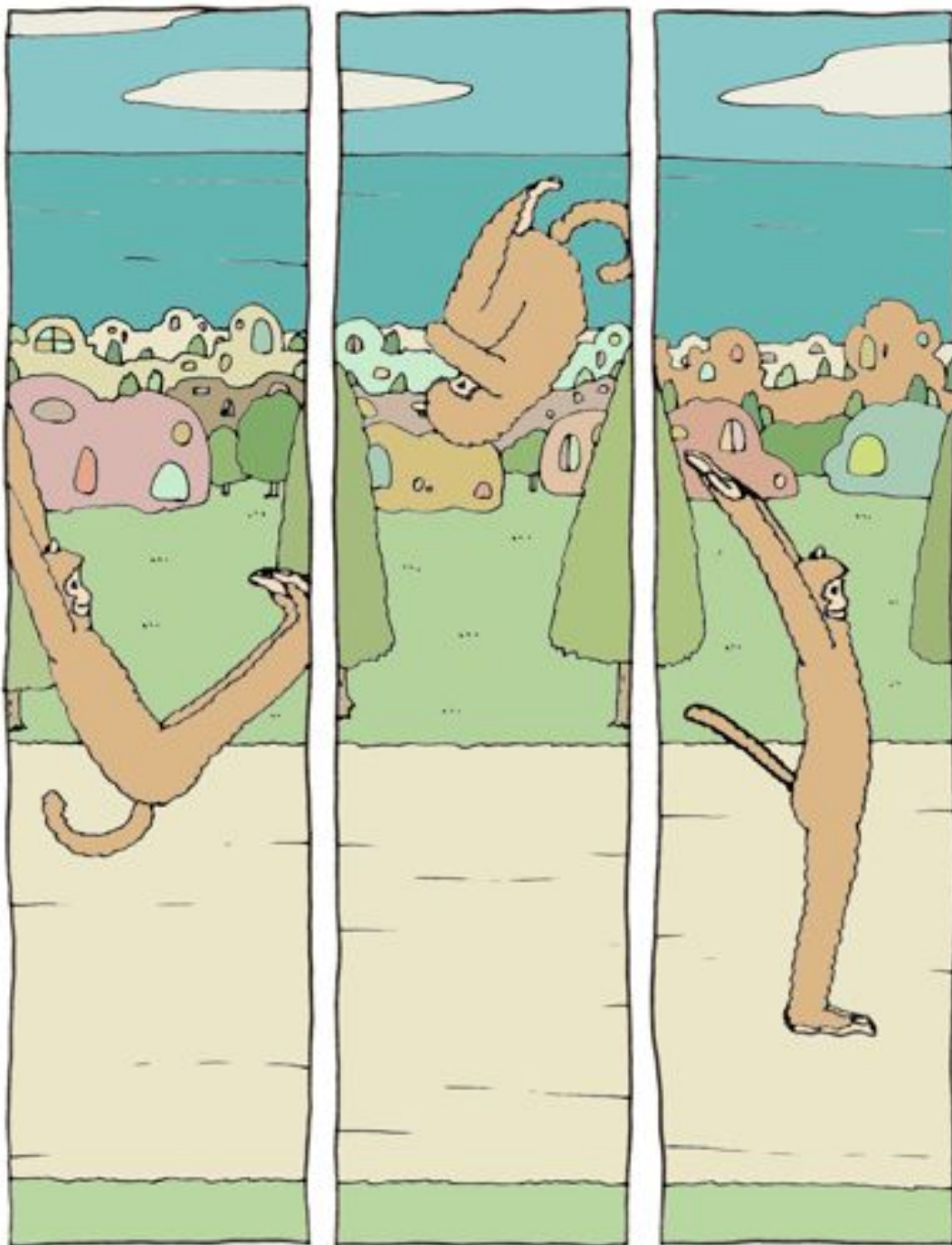
"Let's go down with these Sky Slides." said Saru.
"Looks fun!"



"Yaaaaay!"
Both slid down through the city.

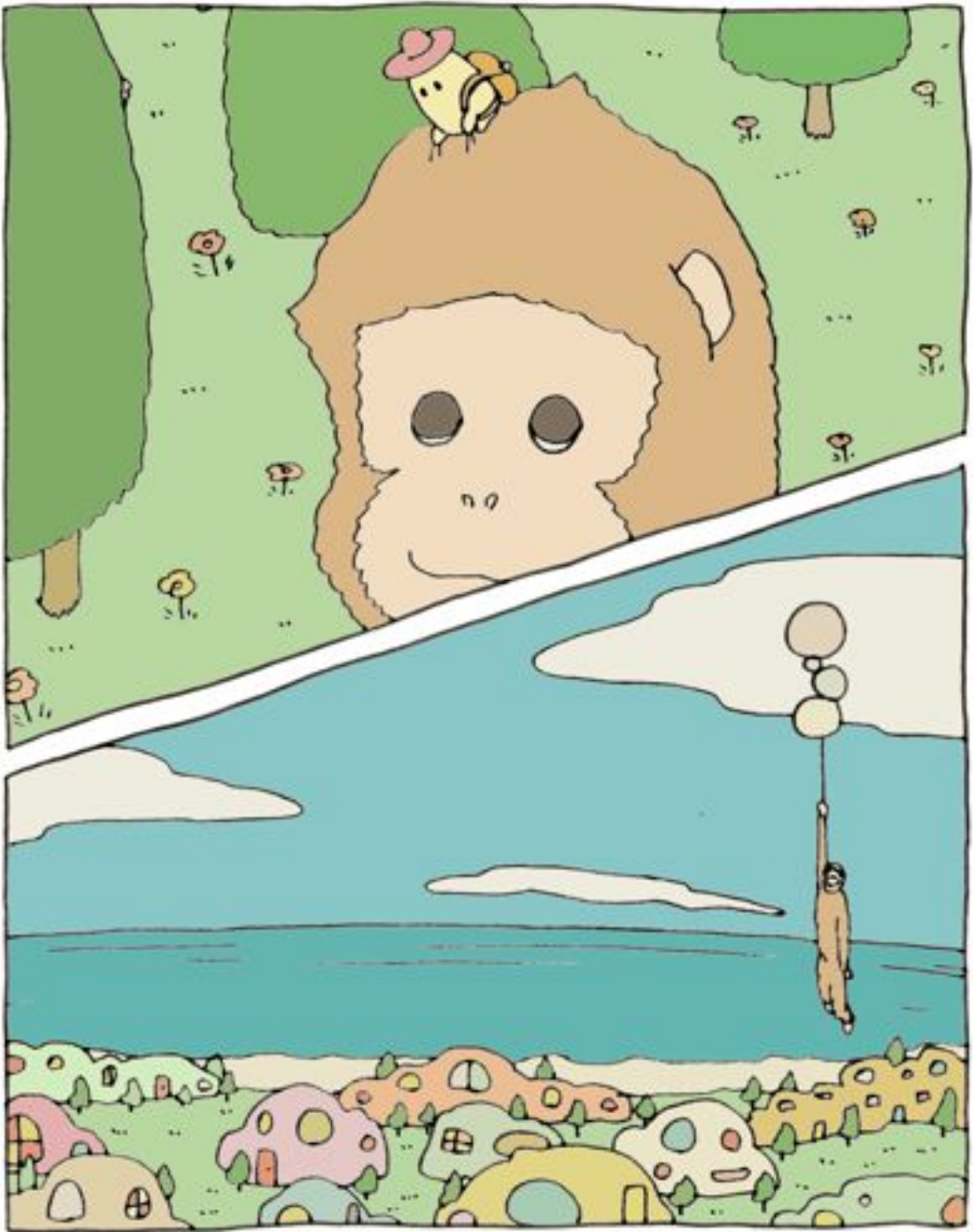


"It's faster than the slide at my place!" Teto has never experienced this kind of speed.



"Ta-da!" Saru backflipped around 10 times before he landed.

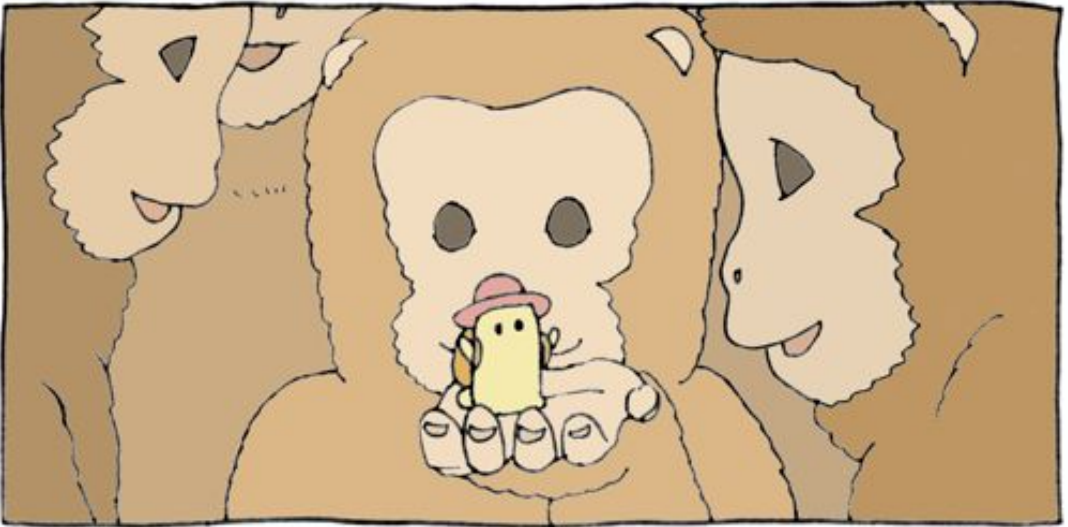
"Cool!" Teto really liked the Sky Slides.



"Should we go to Sarula park?" said Saru.
"What's there?" Asked Teto.
"You'll see." Saru smiled.



Teto saw many Sarulers were gathering in Sarula park.
"Teto's arrived!" All Sarulers in the city were excited.
"They have all been waiting for you, Teto!" said Saru.

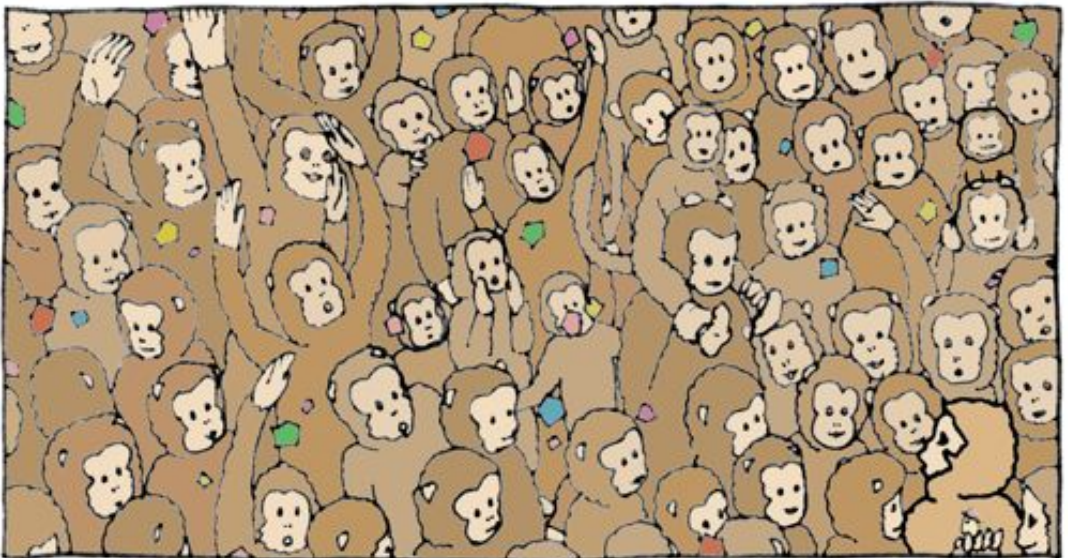


"Hi, Teto!"

"Hello, everyone!" They greeted each other.

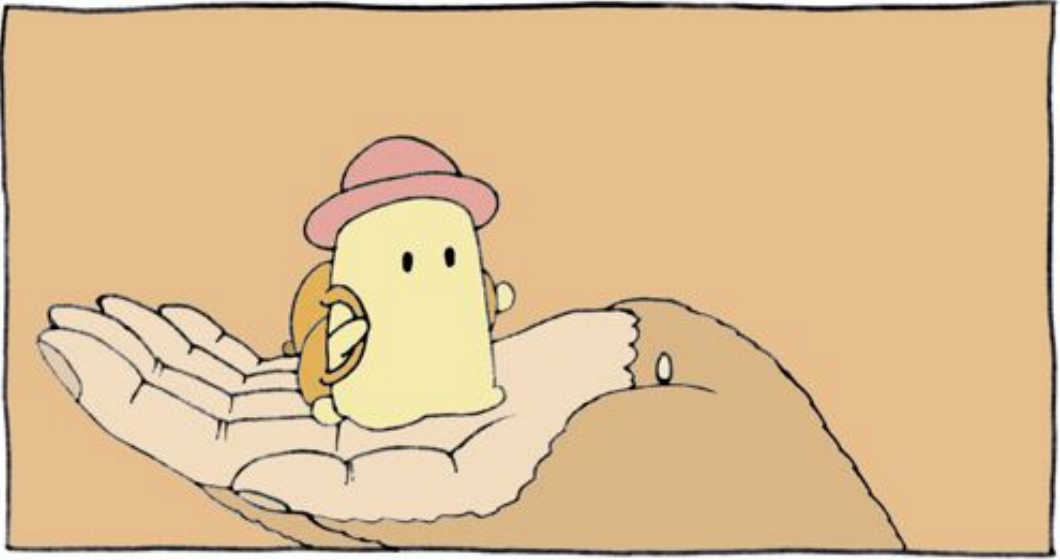
"It's cool he's so tiny!" said Sarulers.

Being tiny is a cool thing in Sarula.



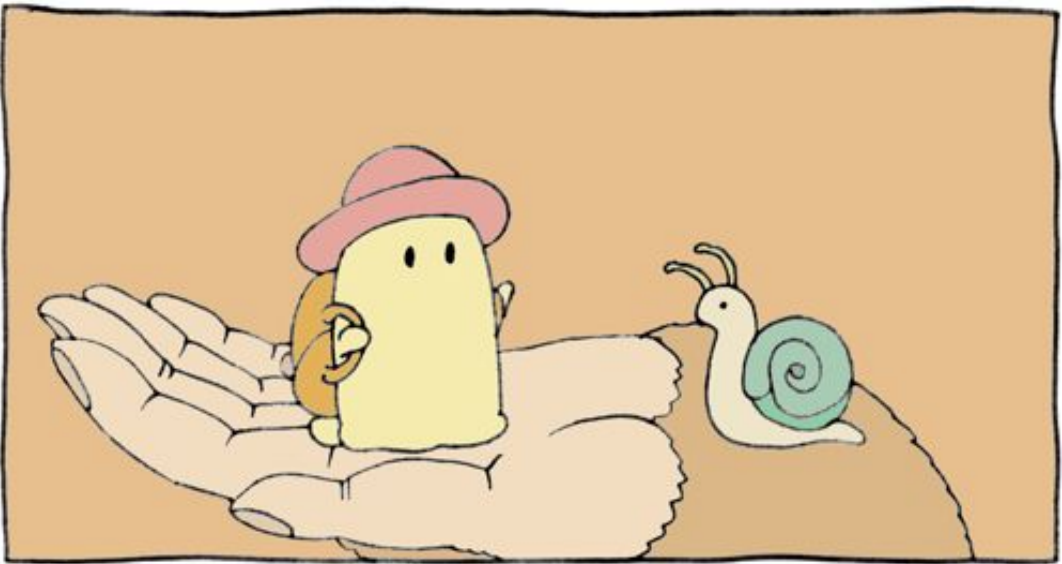
"I can't see him! How small is he!?"

Some Sarulers complained that they couldn't see him.



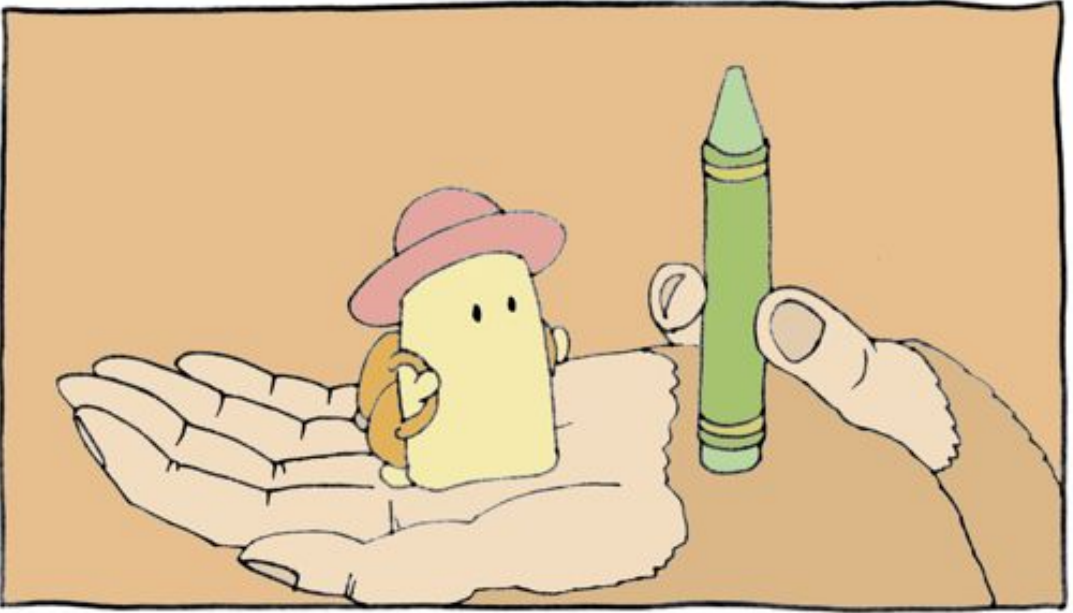
"Are you as small as a grain of rice?" asked one Saruler behind the crowd.

"No, I'm not. I'm much taller than that." answered Teto.

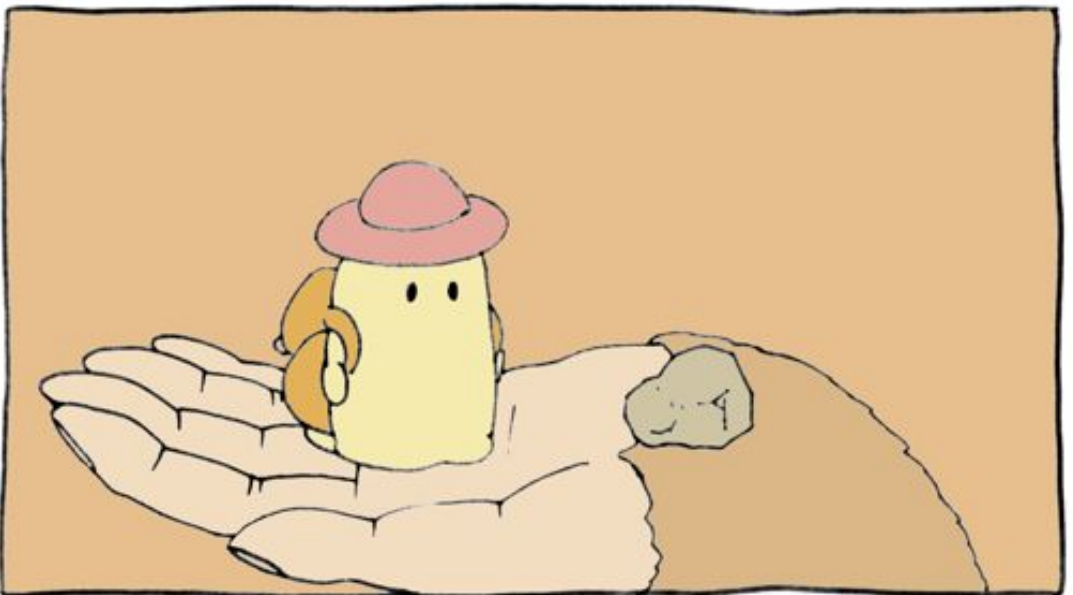


"Are you as small as a snail?" asked another Saruler behind the crowd.

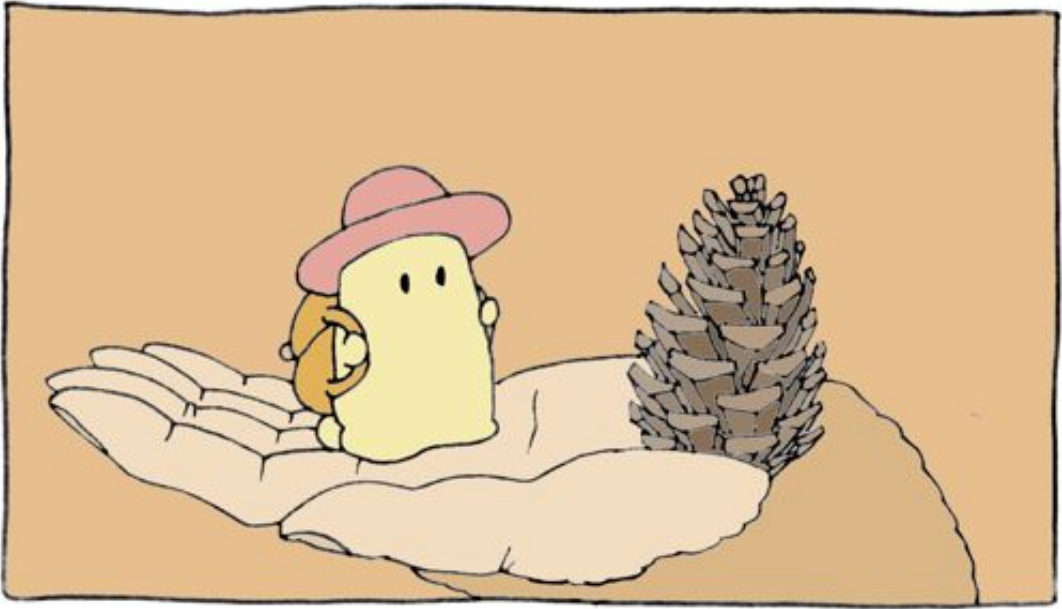
"No, no. I'm much taller than that." answered Teto.



"Are you as small as a crayon?"
"I'm just a little shorter than that."

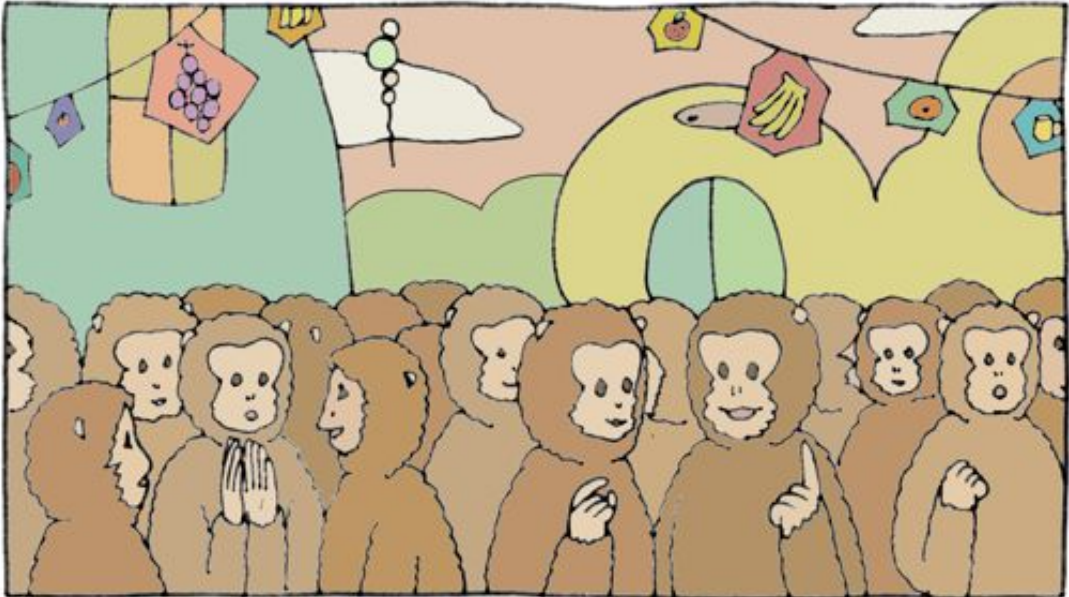


"Are you as small as a rock?"
"... It depends on the rock, doesn't it?"



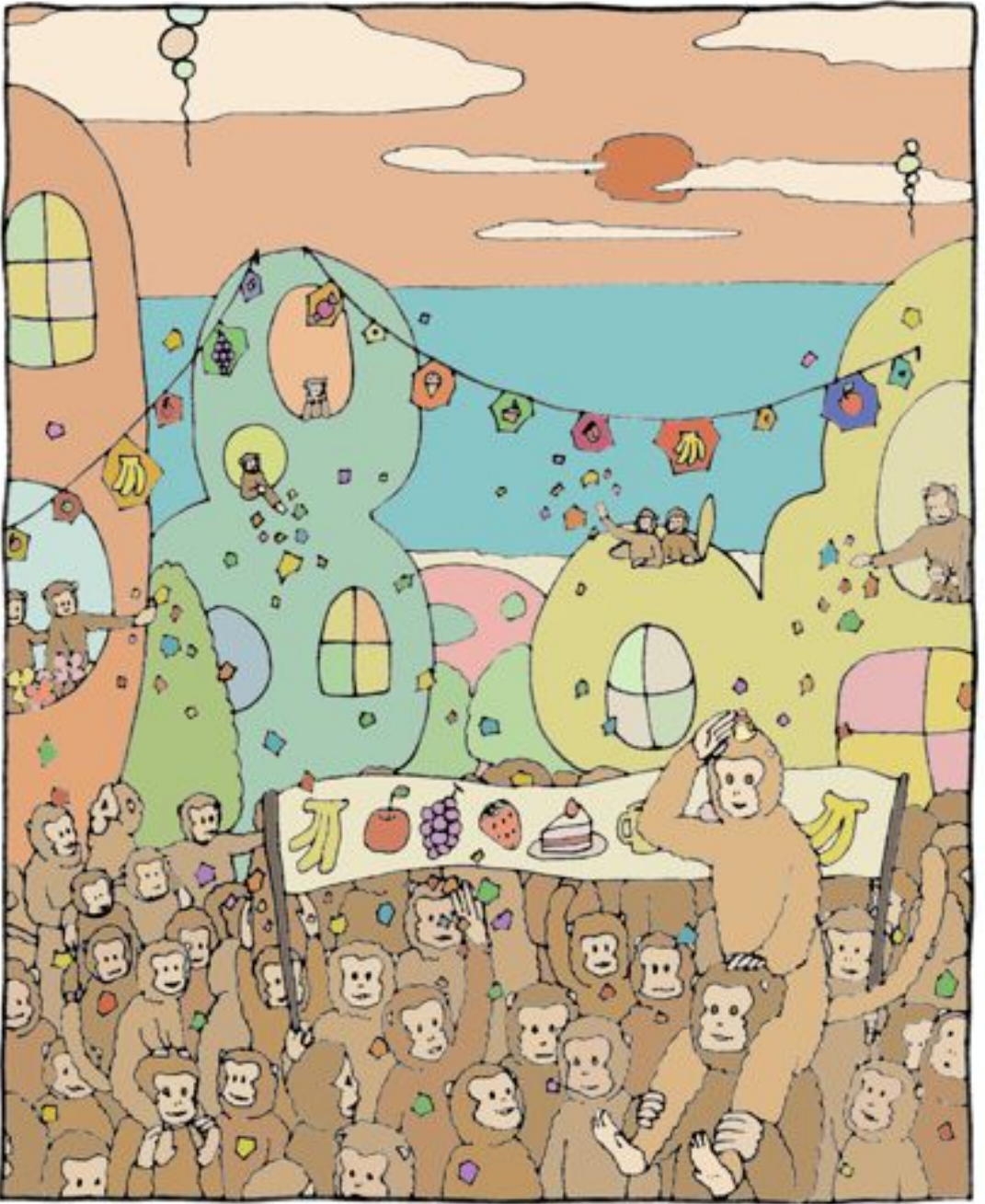
"Are you as small as a pine cone?"

"Well... Yeah, kind of."



"He's as small as a pine cone!"

"I wonder how the world looks like from Teto's view."



"We should start the party!" said Saru.
The welcome party for Teto started, and soon, as the Sarulers wished, they would see how Teto sees the world. But that is another story.