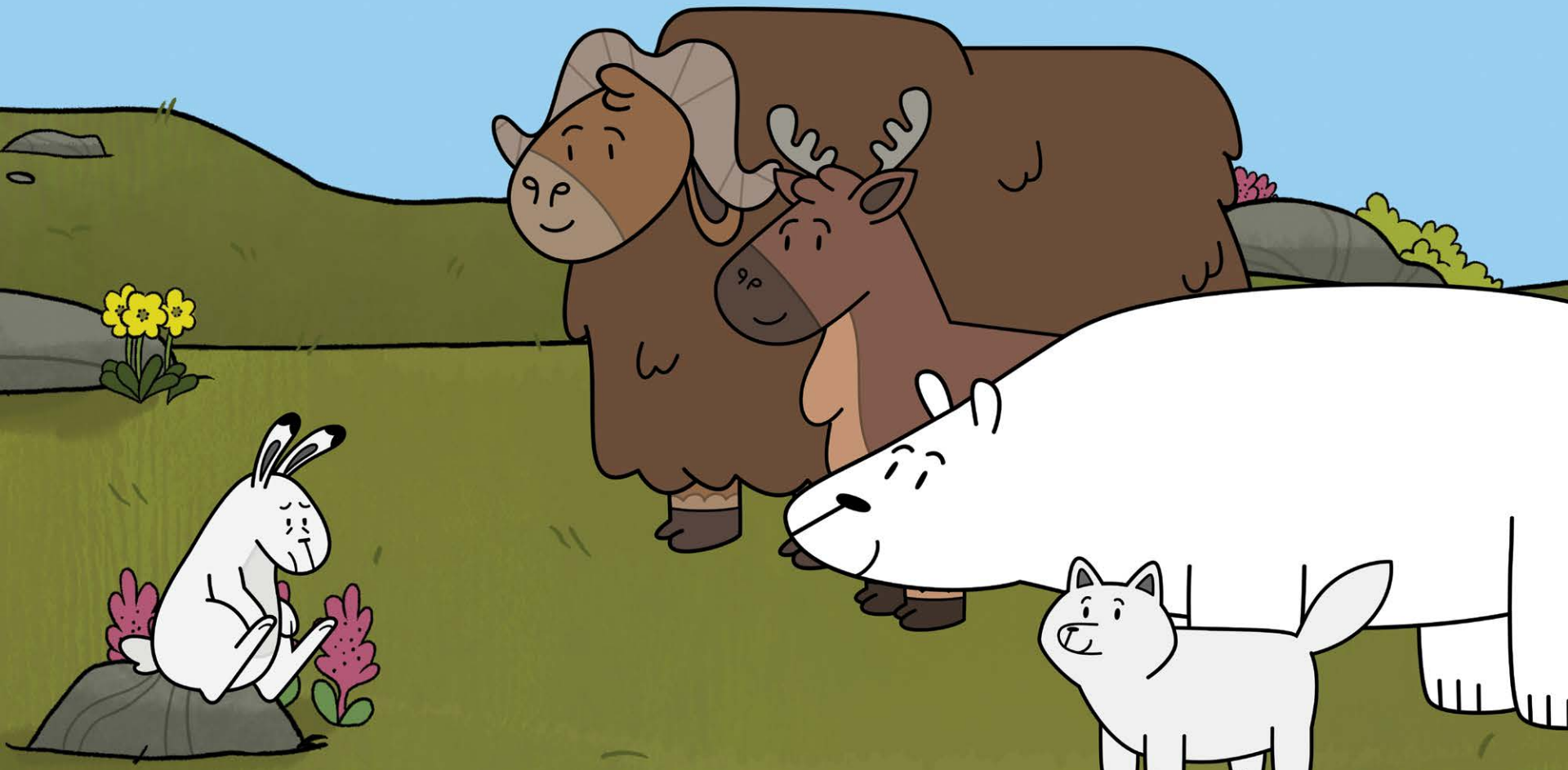


UKALIQ'S BAD DAY



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UKALIQ'S BAD DAY

WRITTEN BY

Nadia Sammurtok

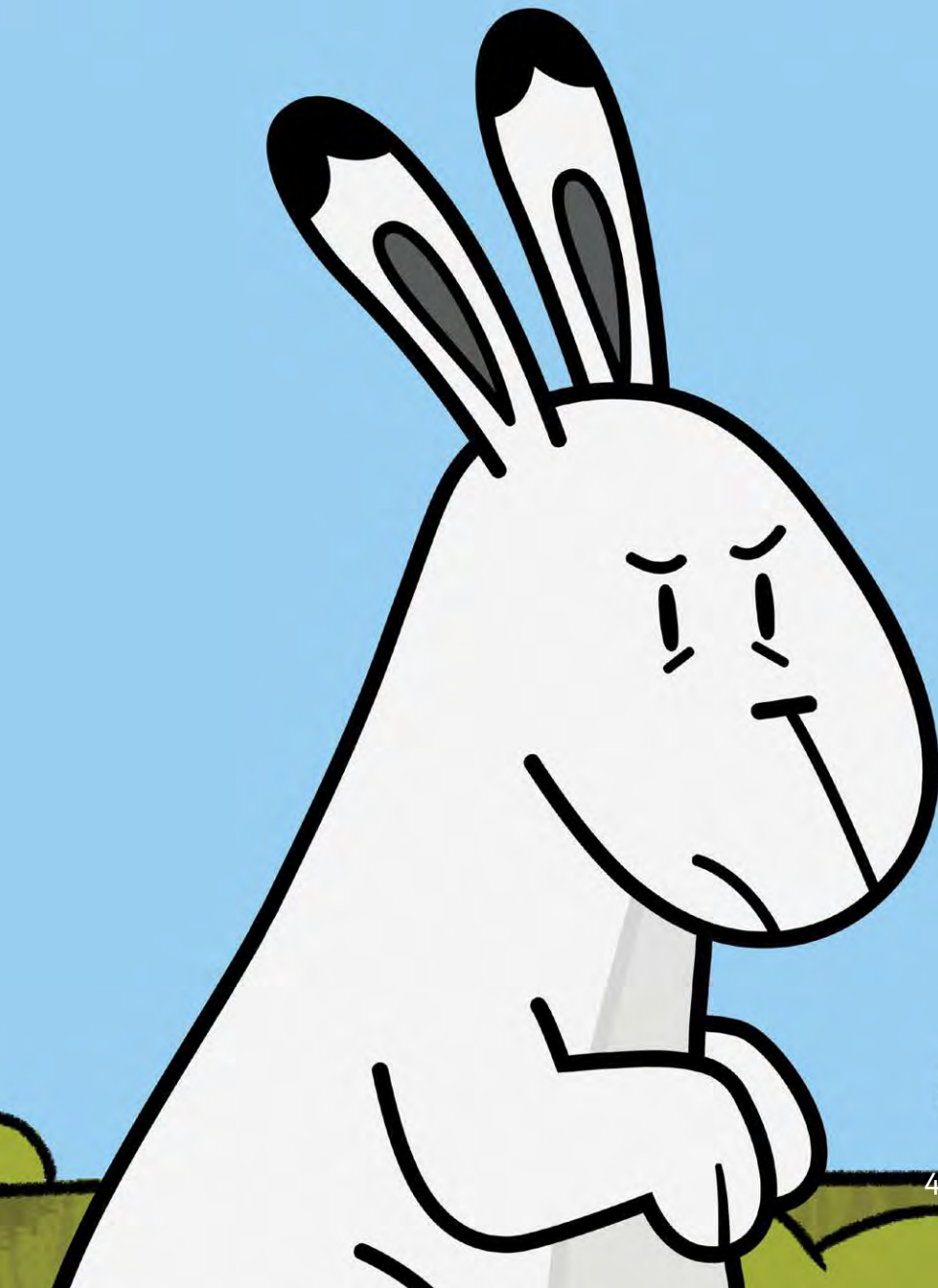






One morning Ukaliq wakes up tired. He did not sleep very well. He tossed and turned all night.

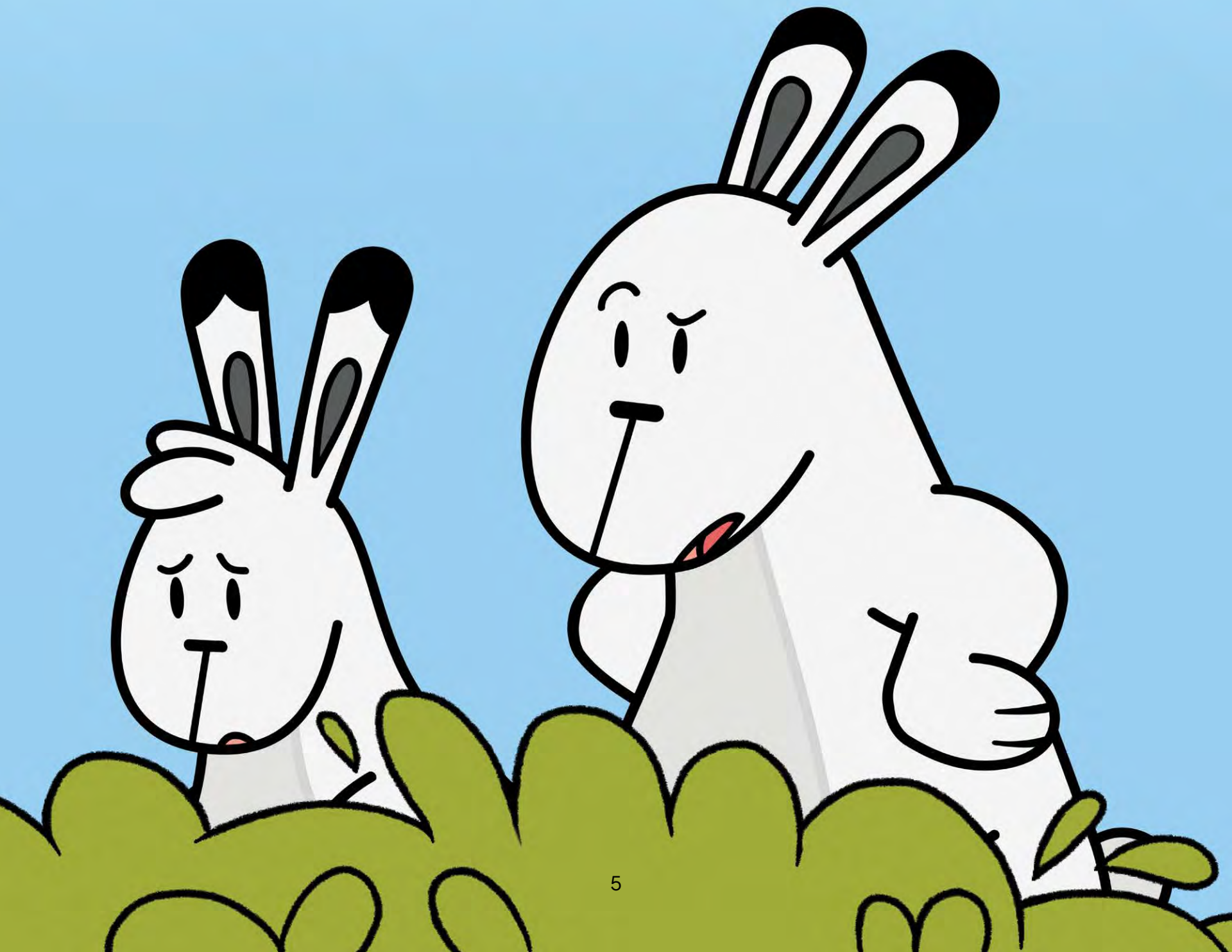
Now he is too tired to do anything today.



After Ukaliq gets up and eats breakfast,
his little brother asks to play with him.

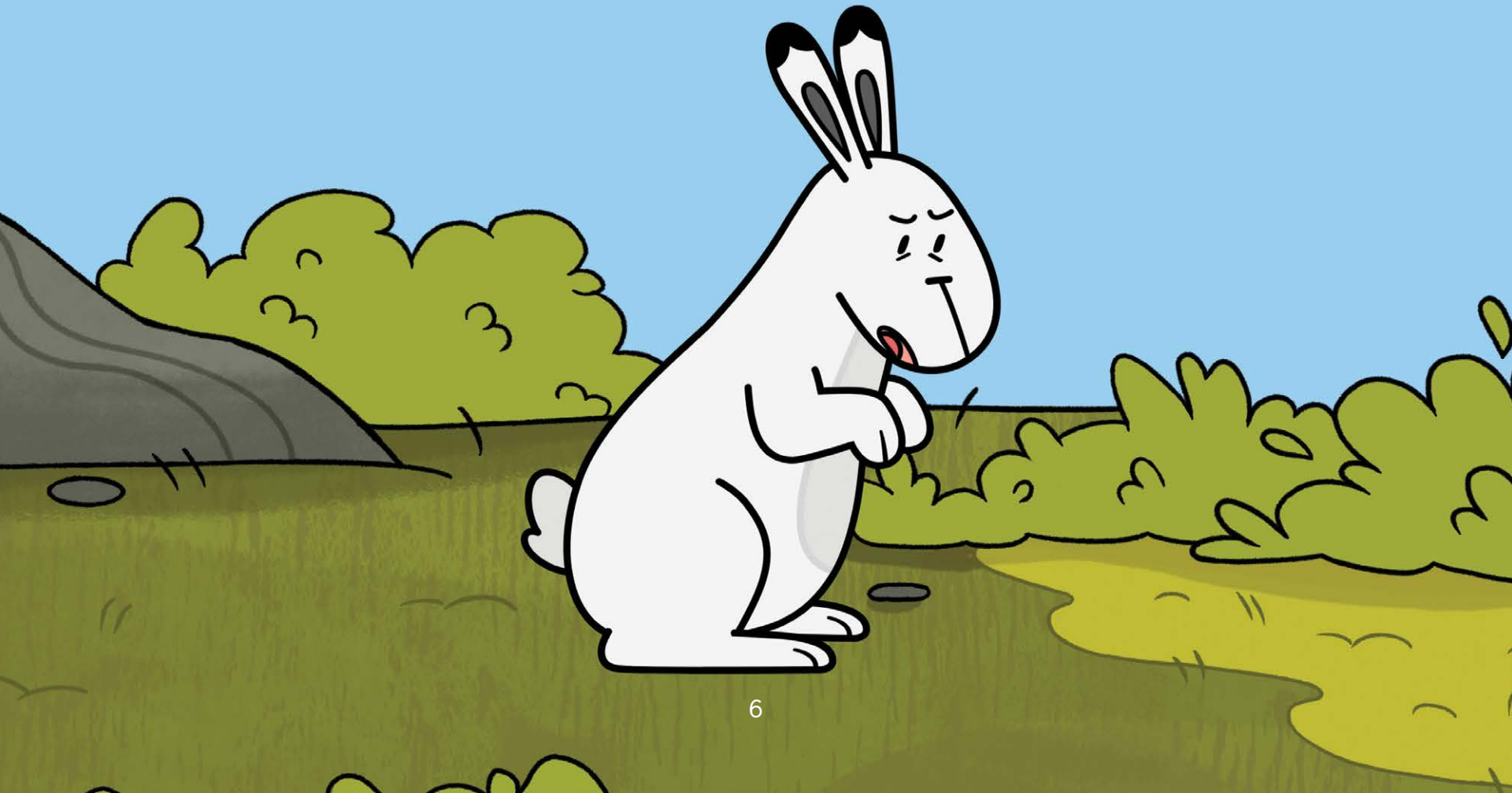
“Leave me alone!” says Ukaliq. “I’m too
tired to play.”

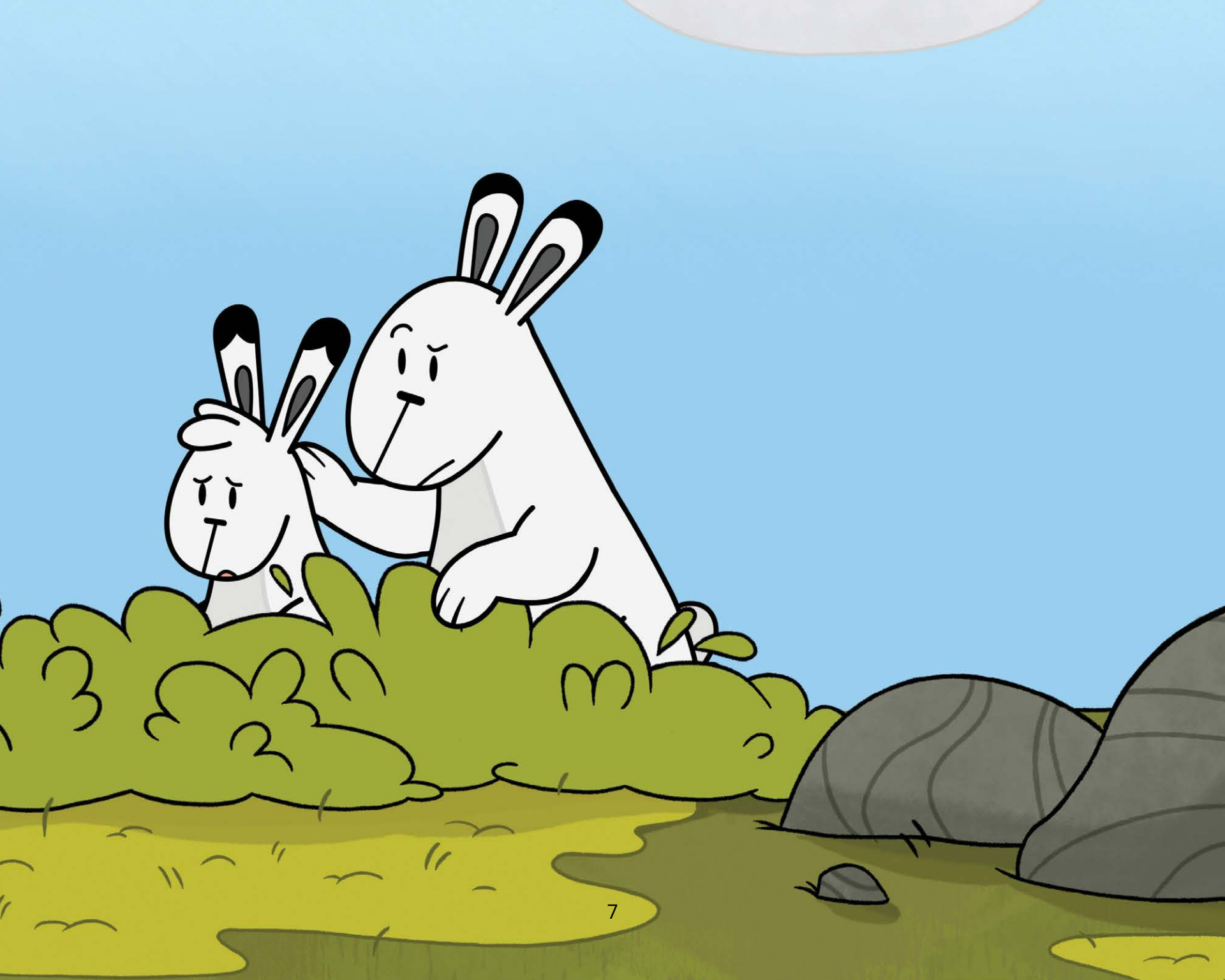
Ukaliq’s brother is upset.

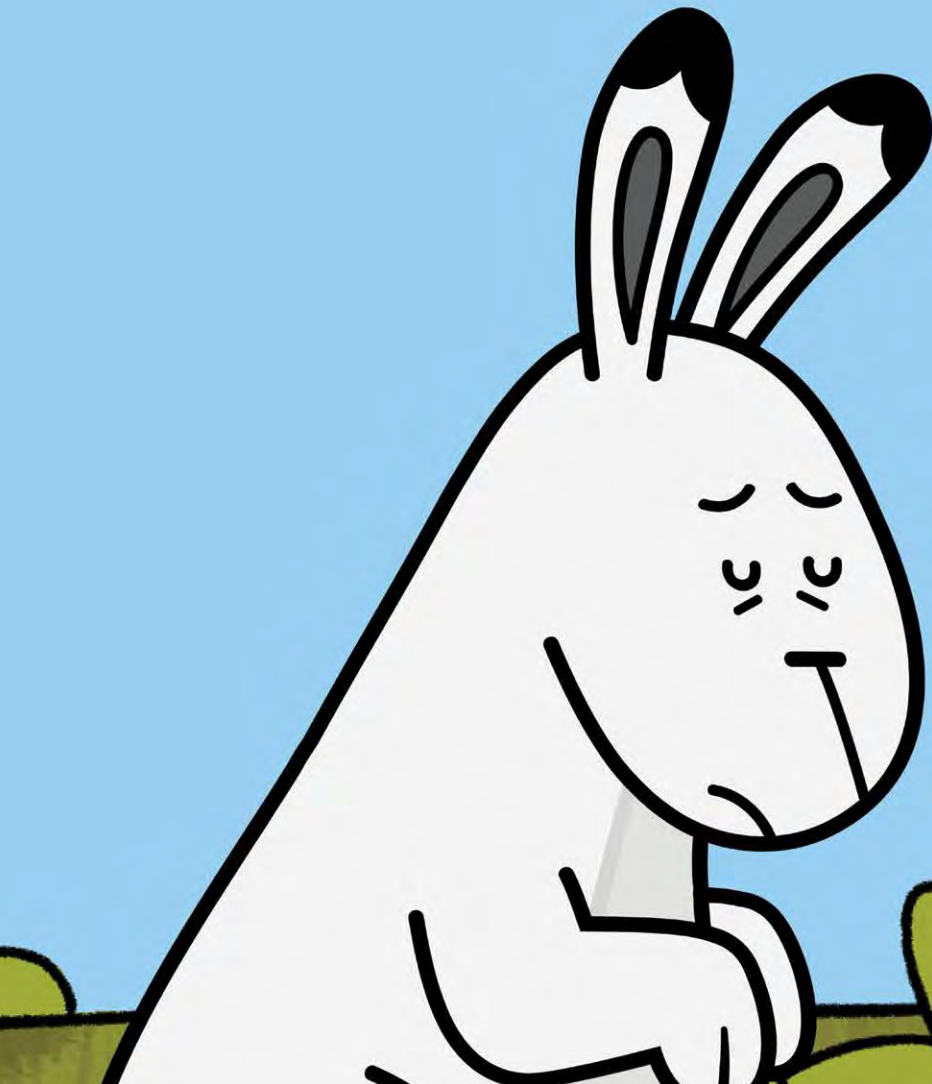


“Ukaliq, you’re not being nice. Say you’re sorry to your brother,”
says Ukaliq’s mom.

Ukaliq groans. “Sorry...,” he says to his little brother. “I’m just
really tired. I didn’t sleep well last night,” says Ukaliq.







“Ukaliq, I’m sorry you didn’t sleep well. But that doesn’t mean it’s okay to be rude to others. Maybe you should go and get some fresh air. See what your friends are up to,” says Ukaliq’s mom.





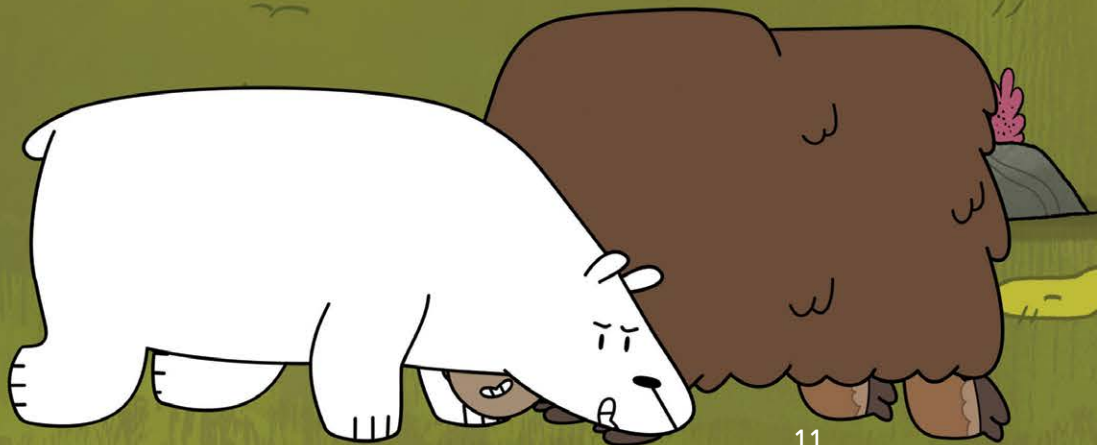
Ukaliq walks outside. The birds are chirping. The sun is bright. Ukaliq rubs his tired eyes. He just wants to go back to bed.

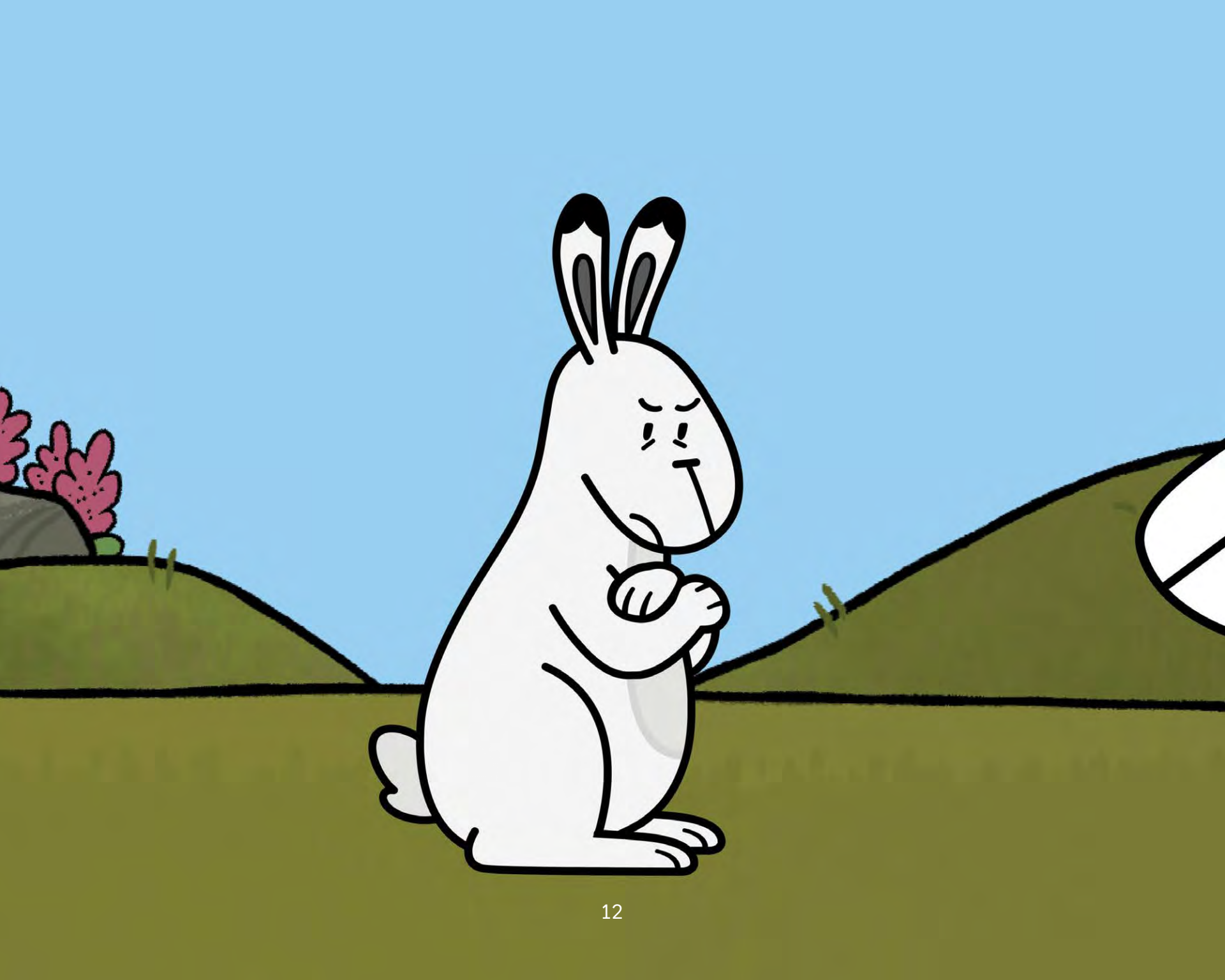
Ukaliq sees his friends playing on the tundra. He walks over to them.

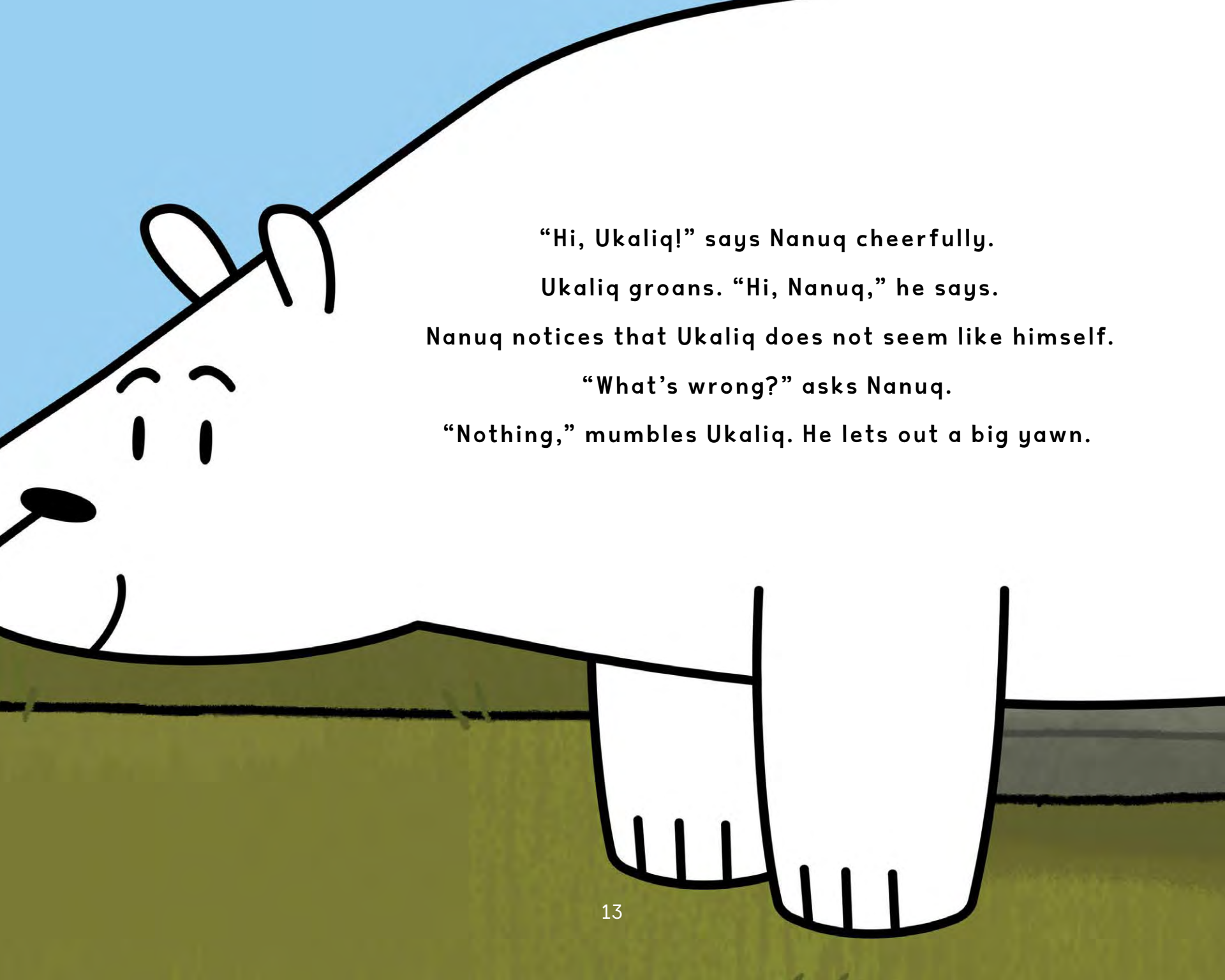
Tiri is jumping over a rock.

Umingmak and Nanuq are playing Inuit games.

Tuktu is playing hopscotch.







“Hi, Ukaliq!” says Nanuq cheerfully.

Ukaliq groans. “Hi, Nanuq,” he says.

Nanuq notices that Ukaliq does not seem like himself.

“What’s wrong?” asks Nanuq.

“Nothing,” mumbles Ukaliq. He lets out a big yawn.



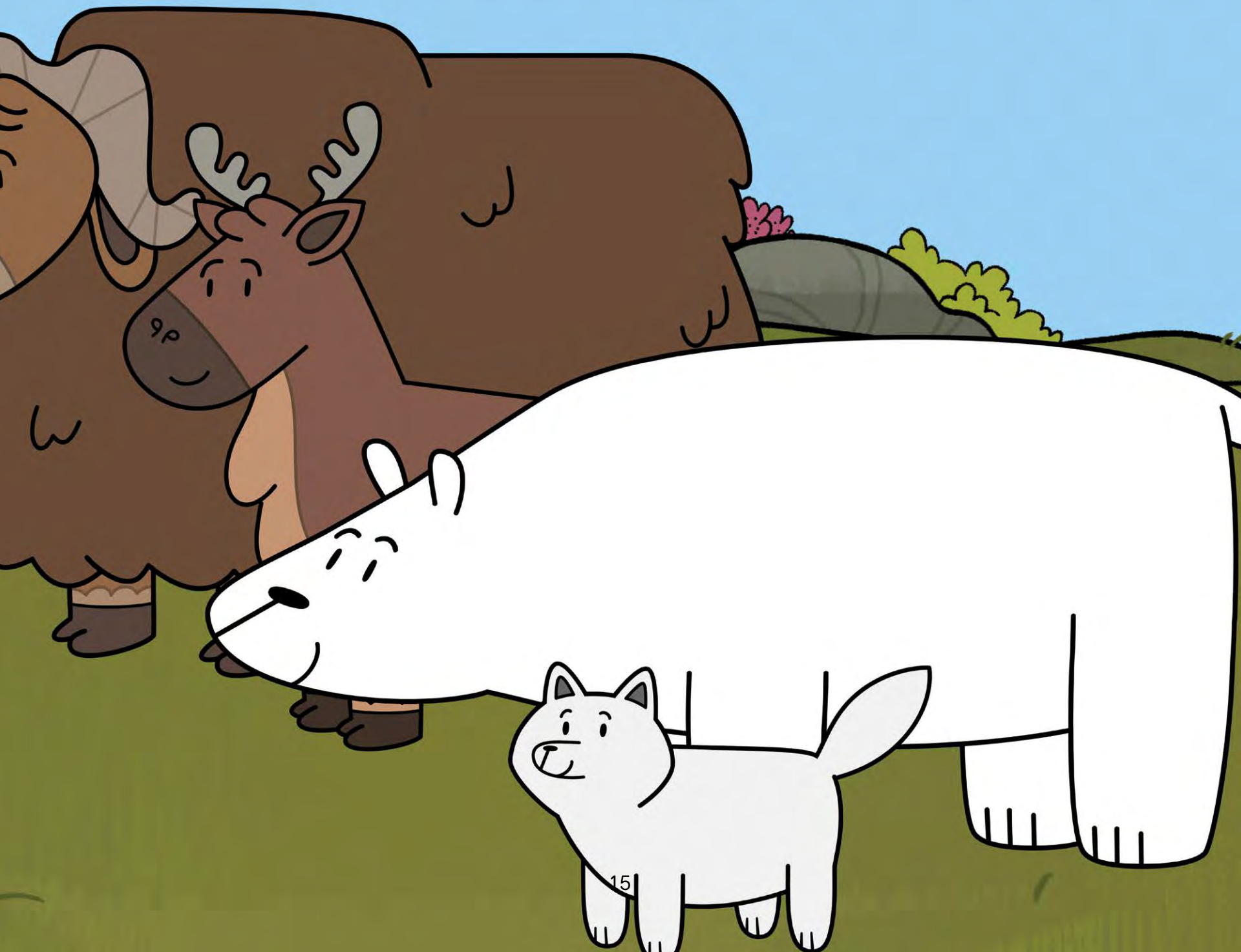
The rest of Ukaliq's friends walk over to Nanuq and Ukaliq.

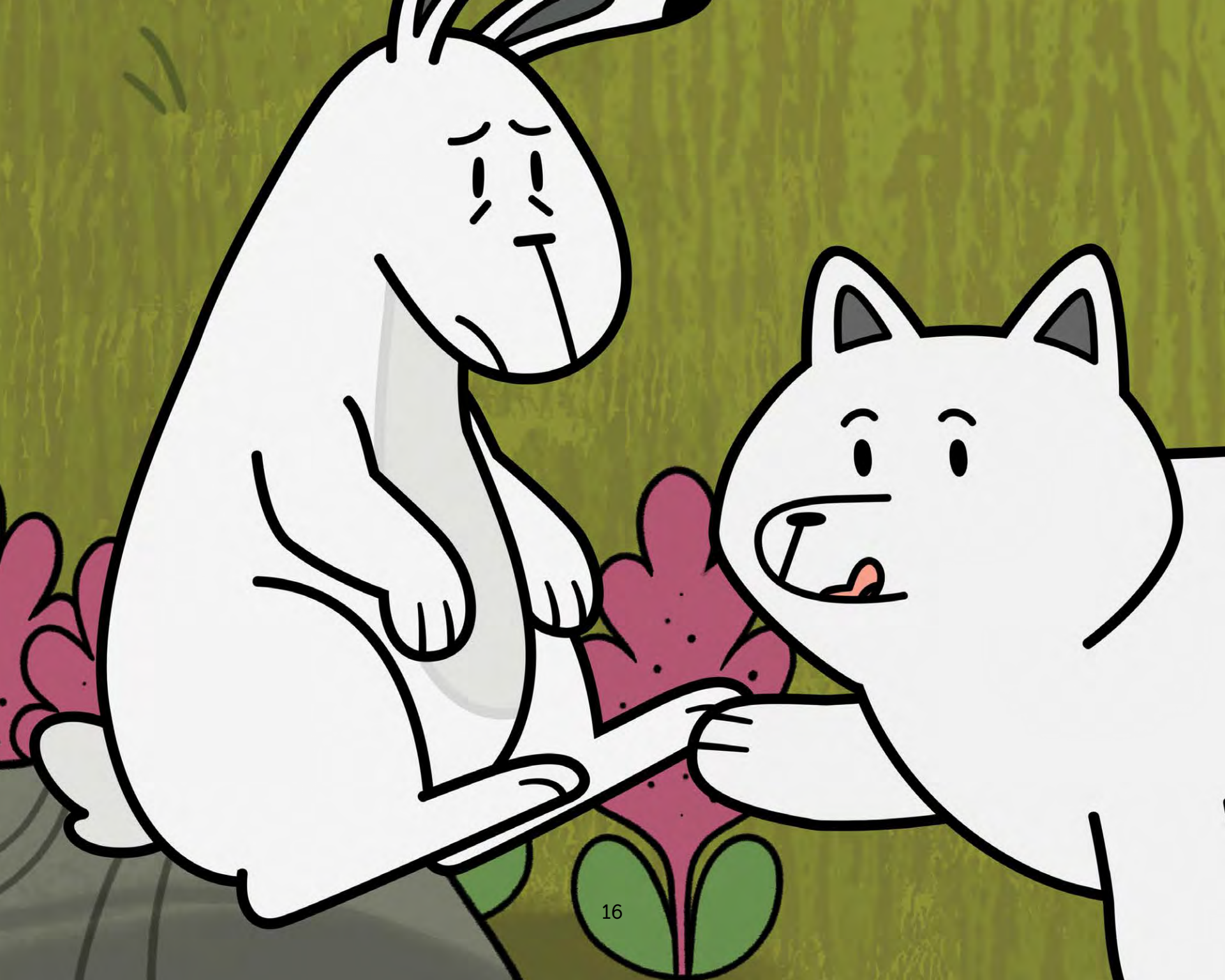
"Hi, Ukaliq!" says Tiri cheerfully.

"Ukaliq, you're here!" says Tuktu.

"We were wondering when you'd come out to play. Isn't it a beautiful day?" says Umingmak.

Ukaliq sighs and yawns again.







“Are you okay, Ukaliq?” asks Tirtu.

“I’m just tired,” says Ukaliq. “I couldn’t fall asleep last night. When I finally did, I was tossing and turning all night.”

“Hmm...I know what will help,” says Tirtu.
“Tag, you’re it!”

Tirtu touches Ukaliq and starts to run away. Ukaliq does not move.





“I don’t feel like playing tag,” says Ukaliq.

“How about hopscotch?” asks Umingmak.

Ukaliq sighs. “No. You guys play. I’m just going to rest here for a little while,” says Ukaliq, sitting on a rock.

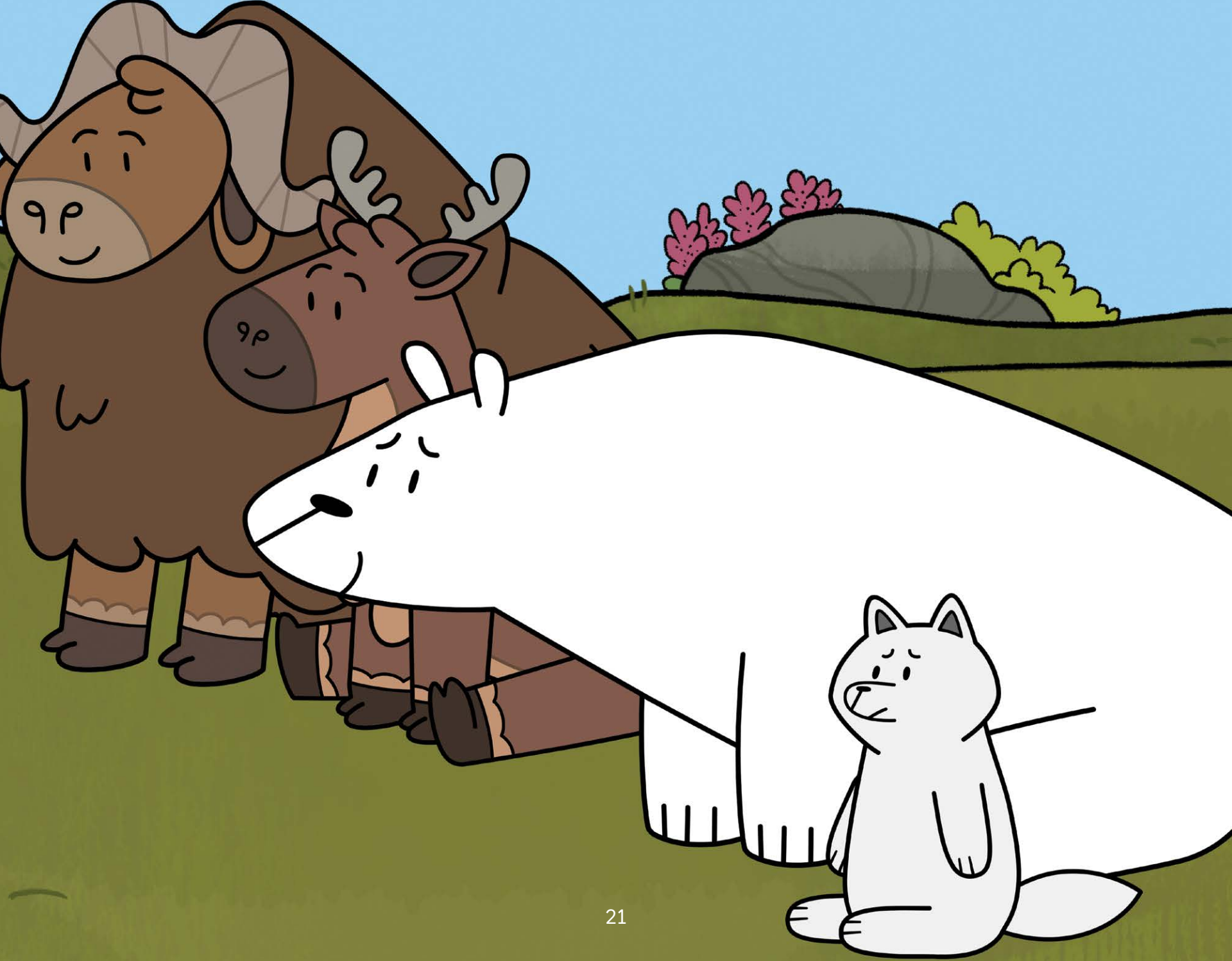
Tuktu sits next to Ukaliq. He looks concerned. “We don’t have to play,” says Tuktu.

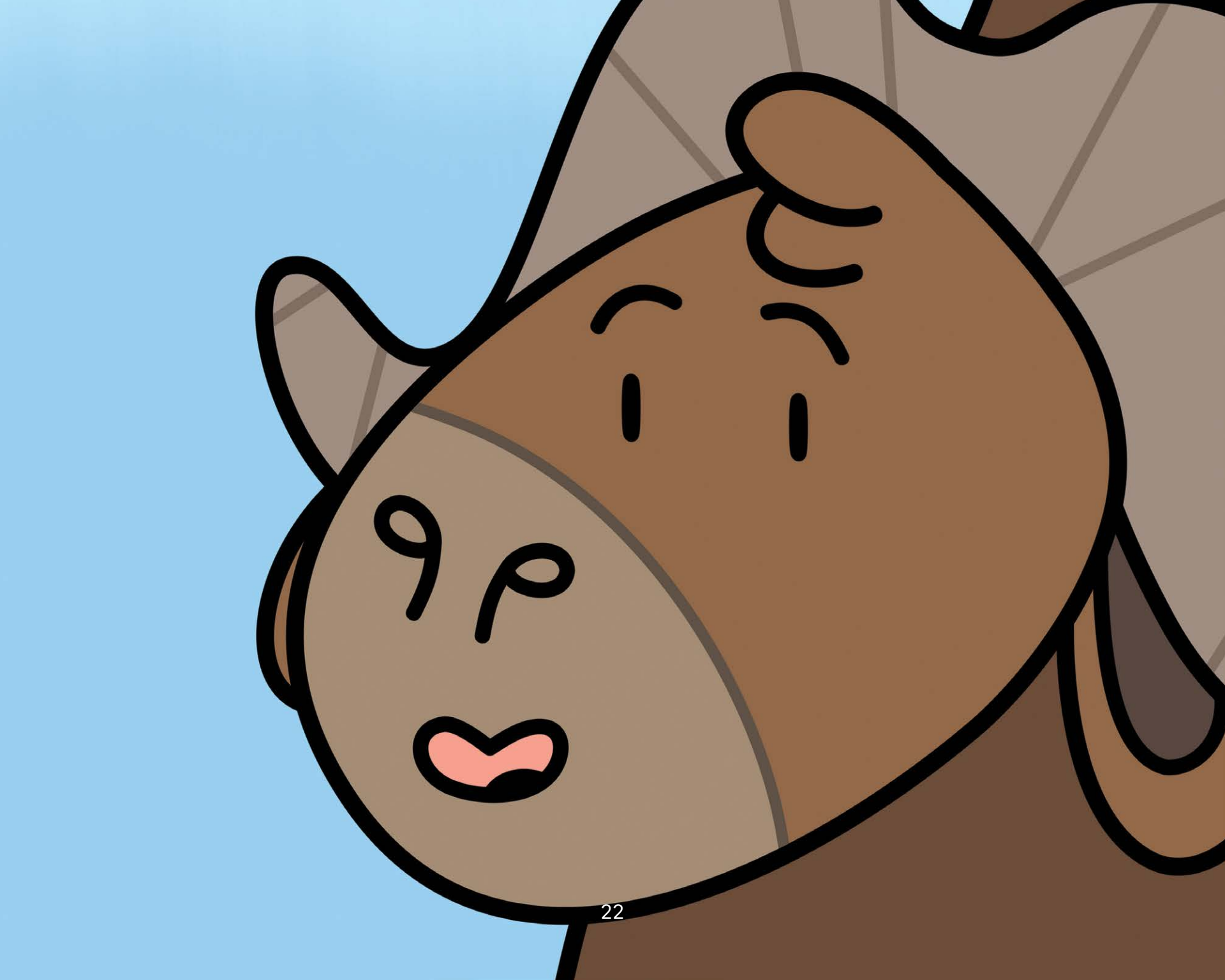
“Yeah,” says Nanuq. “We can sit with you and talk.”

The rest of the group sits down around Ukaliq.

“Thanks,” says Ukaliq. “I wish I wanted to play. I usually love tag. I’m just in a bad mood. Everything is bothering me. When I was walking here, even the sounds of birds were annoying me.”





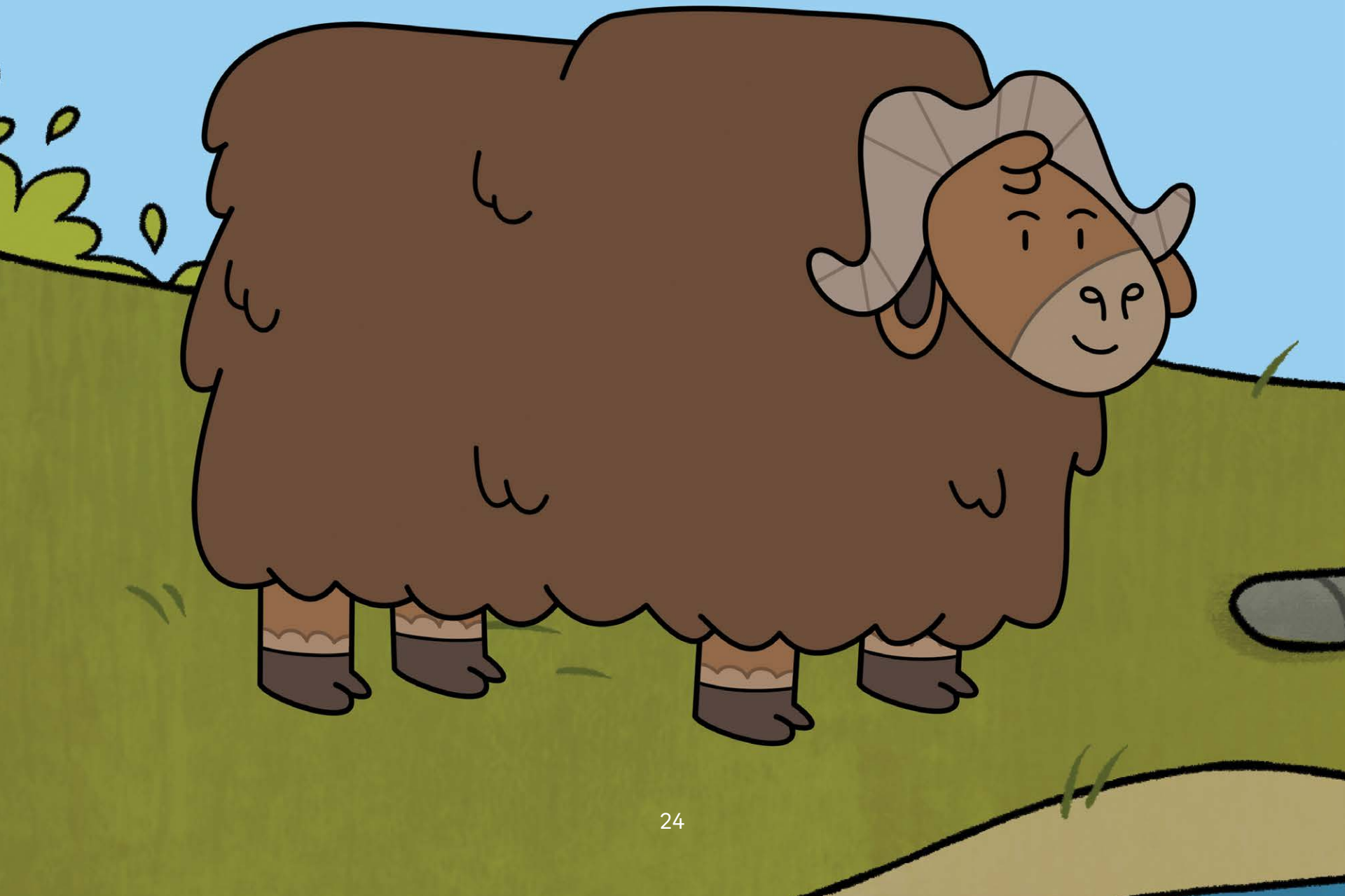




“I understand,” says Umingmak. “Last week I had a bad day. Everything was annoying me.”

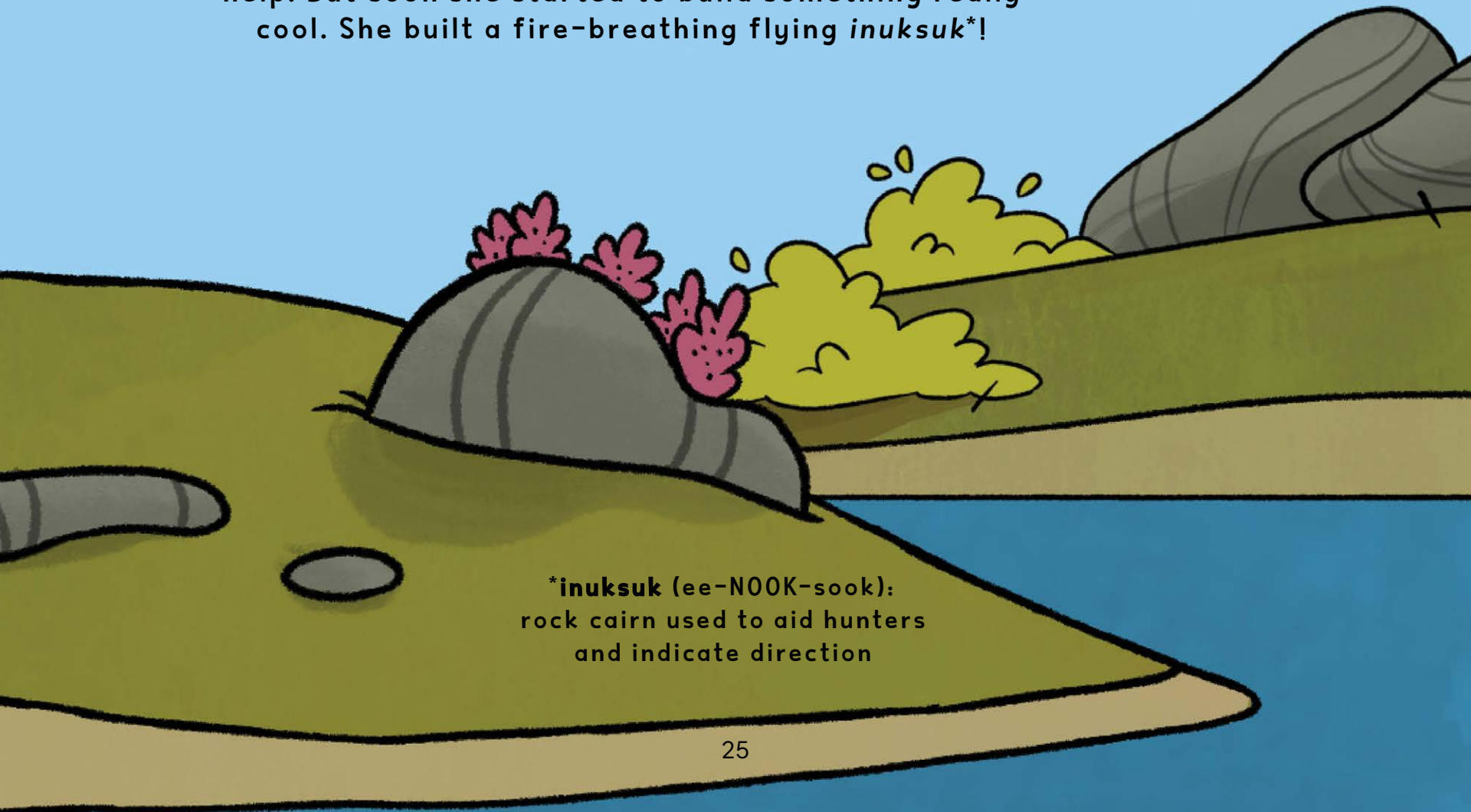
“What did you do to feel better?” asks Ukaliq.

“Well, I talked to my dad. He said that sometimes we just have bad days. He said I could try doing something I like to make me feel better,” says Umingmak.



“So what did you do?” asks Ukaliq.

Umingmak tells the group about how she went to play with some rocks by the water. The sound of the water made her feel calm. At first playing with rocks didn't help. But soon she started to build something really cool. She built a fire-breathing flying *inuksuk**!



***inuksuk** (ee-N00K-sook):
rock cairn used to aid hunters
and indicate direction



Ukaliq starts to feel his mood getting better. “That’s so cool!” he says, imagining a fire-breathing flying inuksuk.

“Maybe you should try doing something you like,” says Tuktu.

“You’re right,” says Ukaliq.

Ukaliq feels better after talking to his friends.

“I think I’m still too tired to play tag,” says Ukaliq.

“But how about hide-and-seek?”

The friends all like that idea.



Nanuq closes her eyes and starts counting.
Everyone else spreads out to find a hiding spot.

“One...,” says Nanuq.

Umingmak hides behind a big rock.

“Two...,” says Nanuq.

Tuktu hides behind an inuksuk.




“Three...,” says Nanuq.

Tiri hides behind a small rock.

“Four...,” says Nanuq.

Ukaliq hides behind a berry bush.





Nanuq finishes counting. “Ready or not,
here I come!” she calls out.

She starts looking for her friends.

First she finds Tuktu. Then she finds Tiri.
Then she finds Umingmak.



But where is Ukaliq?
The friends look and look,
but they can't find him.

“Shhh, I think I hear
something,” says Tiri.

The friends are quiet. They hear something that sounds like snoring coming from behind the berry bush.

Nanuq peeks behind the bush. She sees Ukaliq fast asleep!



The friends quietly giggle. They decide to keep playing quietly while Ukaliq sleeps. He needs the rest. When Ukaliq wakes up, he will be ready to start the day over in a better mood!





Ukaliq did not sleep very well last night, and now he is having a bad day.
He doesn't have the energy to play tag. Even the birds chirping and the bright, sunny day are bothering him! Can Ukaliq's friends help him to feel better?



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