

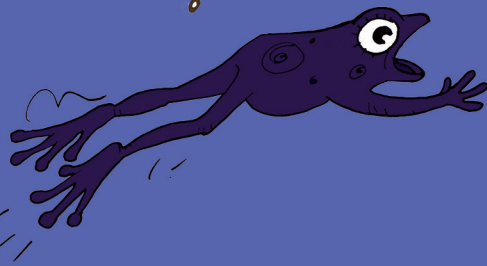


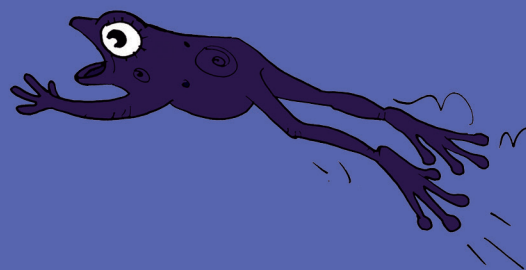
# Isizathu sokungalali kwesikhova

Le ncwadi ngeka

---









bookdash.org

Every child should own a hundred books by the age of five. To that end, Book Dash gathers creative volunteers to create new African storybooks that anyone can freely print, translate and distribute. Then we work with partners to give those books to preschool children to own.

To find out more, and to download beautiful, open-licensed, print-ready books, visit [bookdash.org](http://bookdash.org).

*Isizathu sokungalali kwesikhova*

*(Why the owl never sleeps)*

Illustrated by Gerald Bedeker

Written by Wandile Mathe

Designed by Luke Mateman

Translated by Wandile Mathe

with the help of the Book Dash participants in Johannesburg on 17 August 2024.

ISBN: 978-1-997425-52-6

Typeset in Lato

**This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence**  
(<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

You are free to share (copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format) and adapt (remix, transform, and build upon the material) this work for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the following license terms:

You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. No additional restrictions: You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.







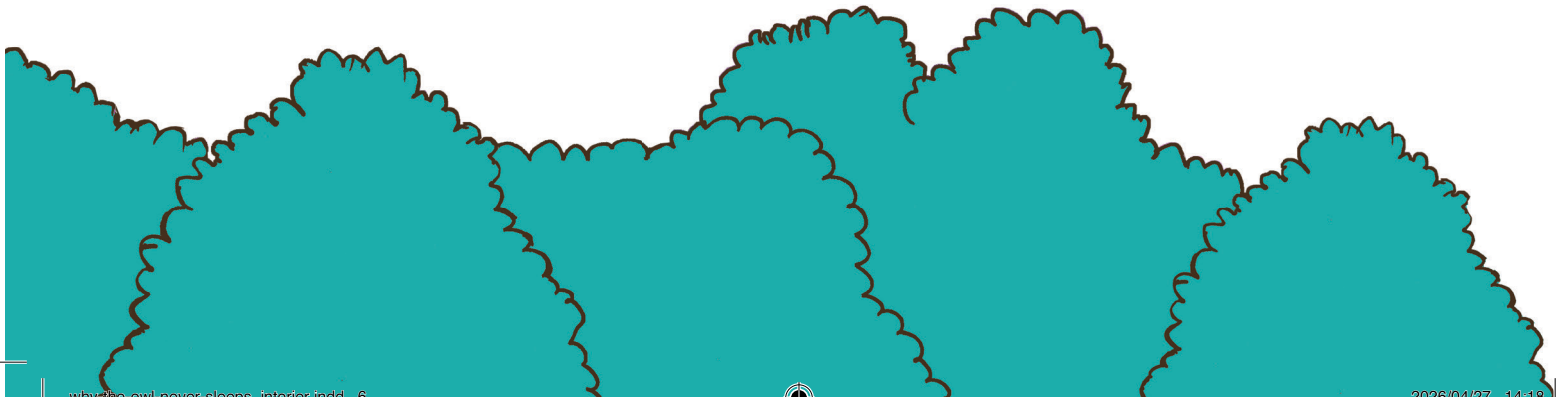
# Isizathu sokungalali kwesikhova

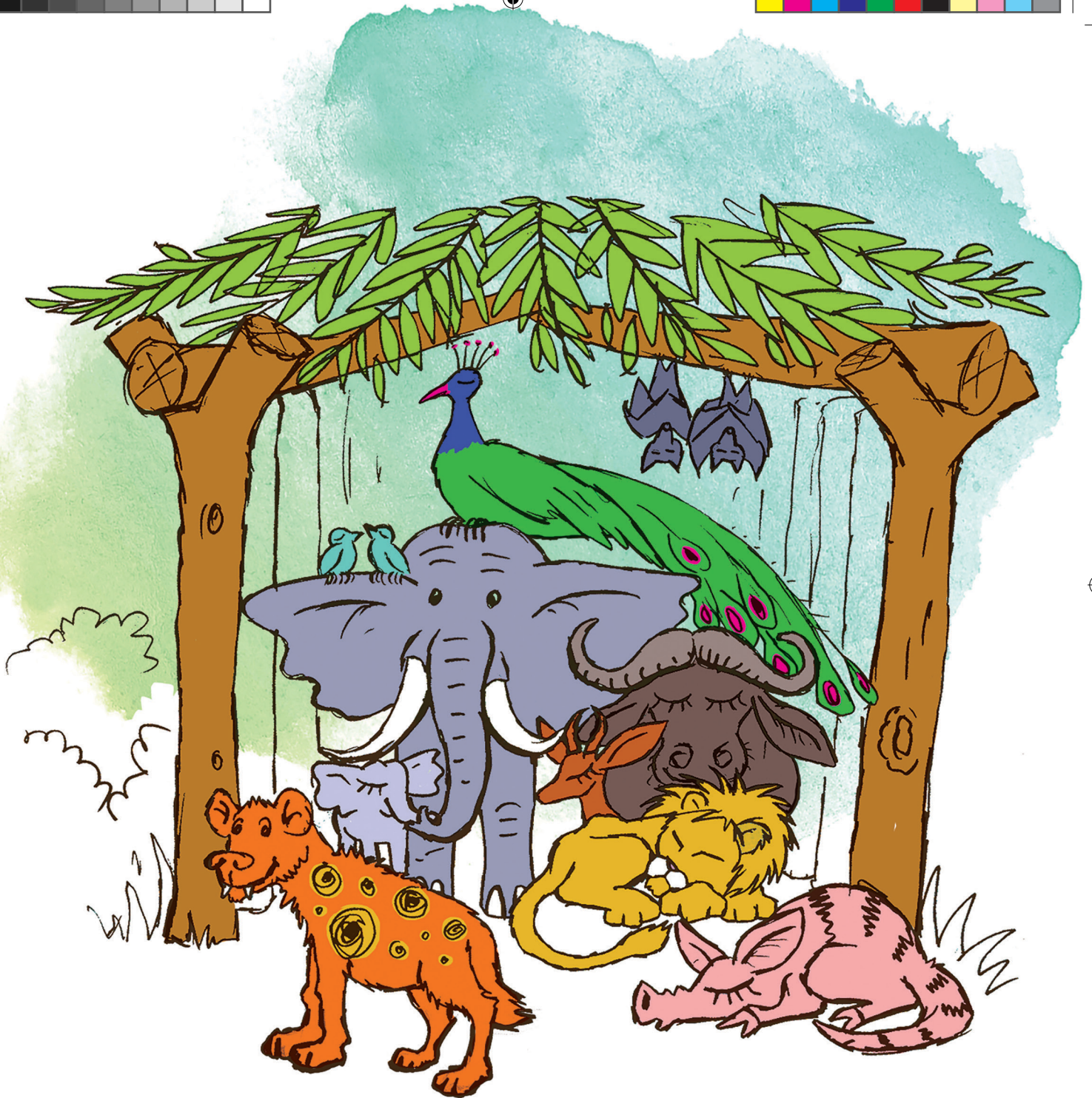
Gerald Bedeker Wandile Mathe Luke Mateman





Emandulo amatshe esathambile, nezihlahla  
zisakhuluma, zonke izilwane zazihlala ndawonye  
emhlabeni ngaphansi kompheme omkhulu.

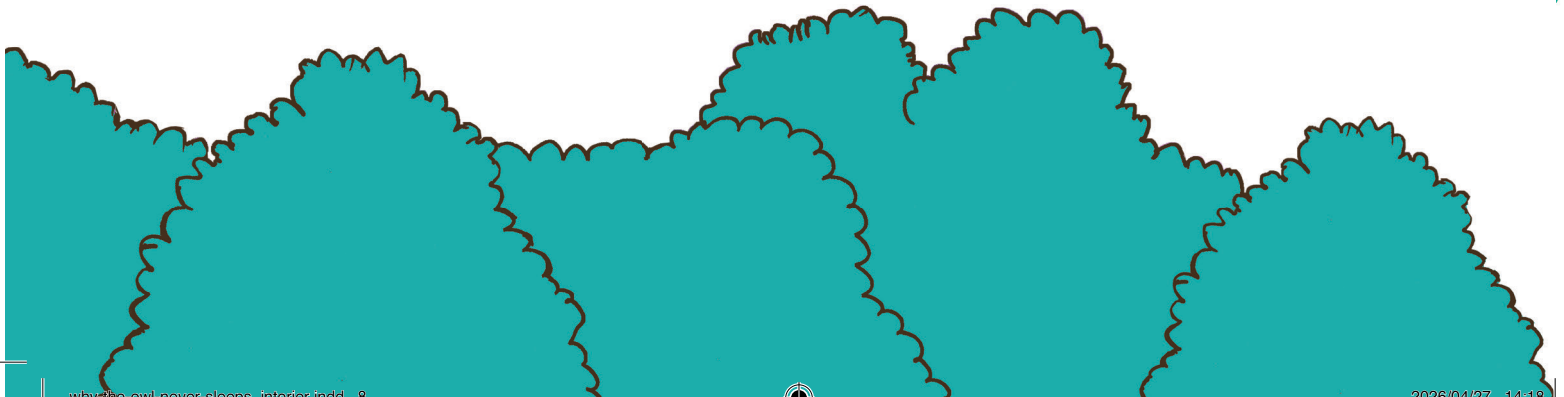








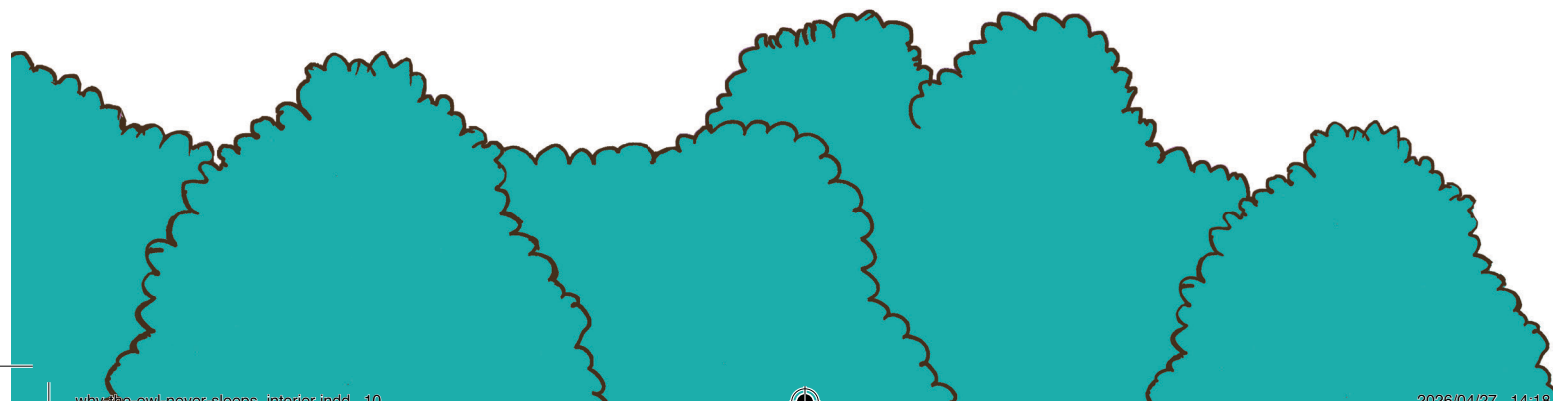
Mihla namalanga zazinakekelana,  
zivikelana ebubini obungase  
bulethwe ngabantu.







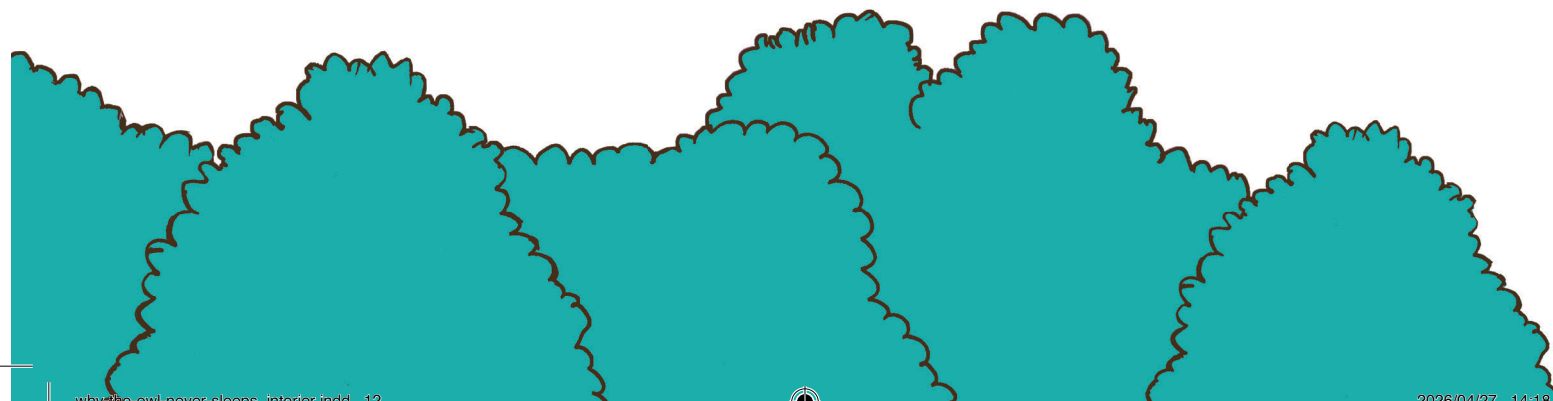
Lapho lishona ilanga izindlovu zazishaya umculo  
oshelelayo ngemiboko yazo, izinyoni zitshiloze  
kamnandi, ipigogo lidanse.



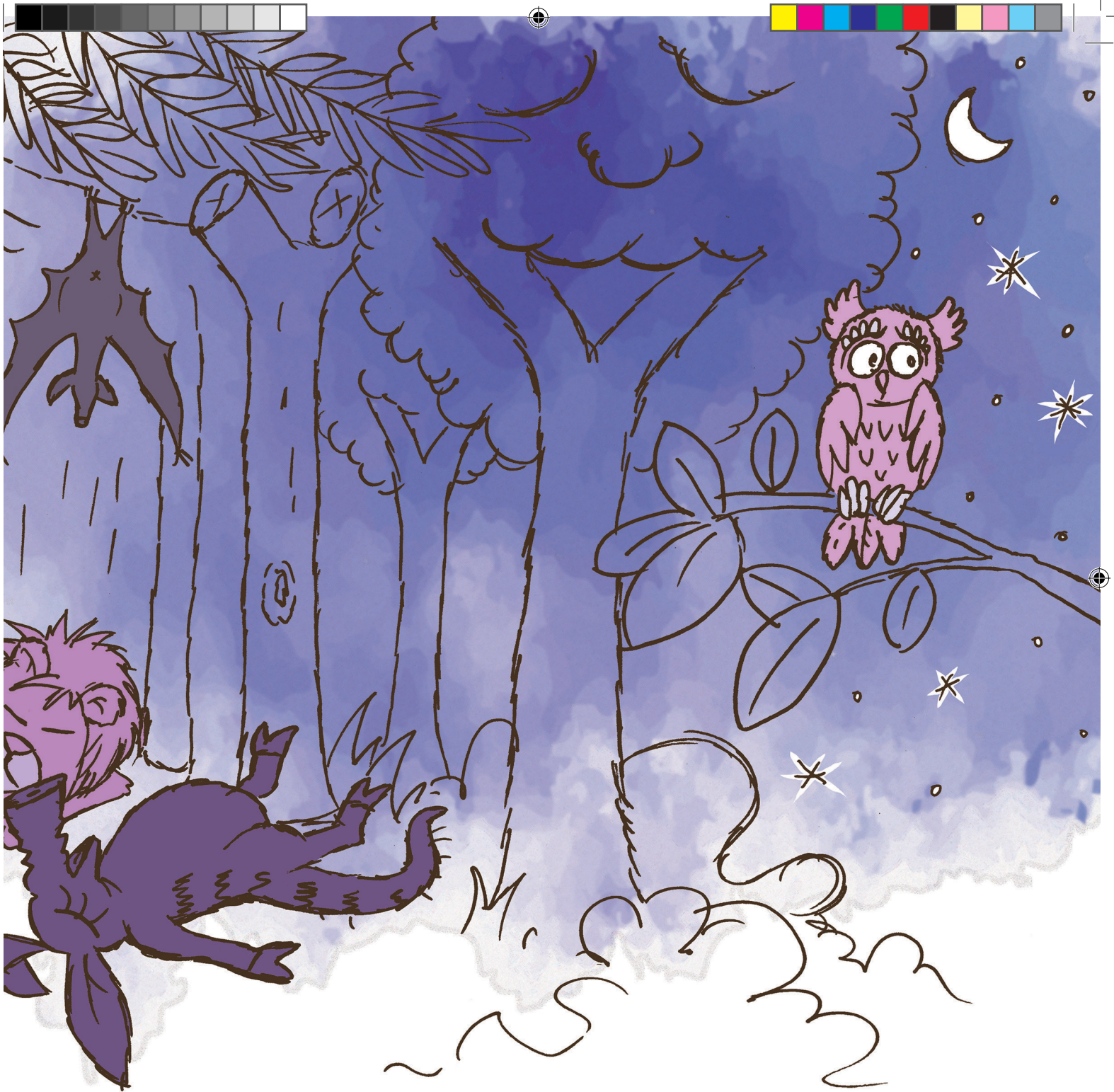




Ngobunye ubusuku yisikhova okwakumele  
siqaphe izilwane sezilele.

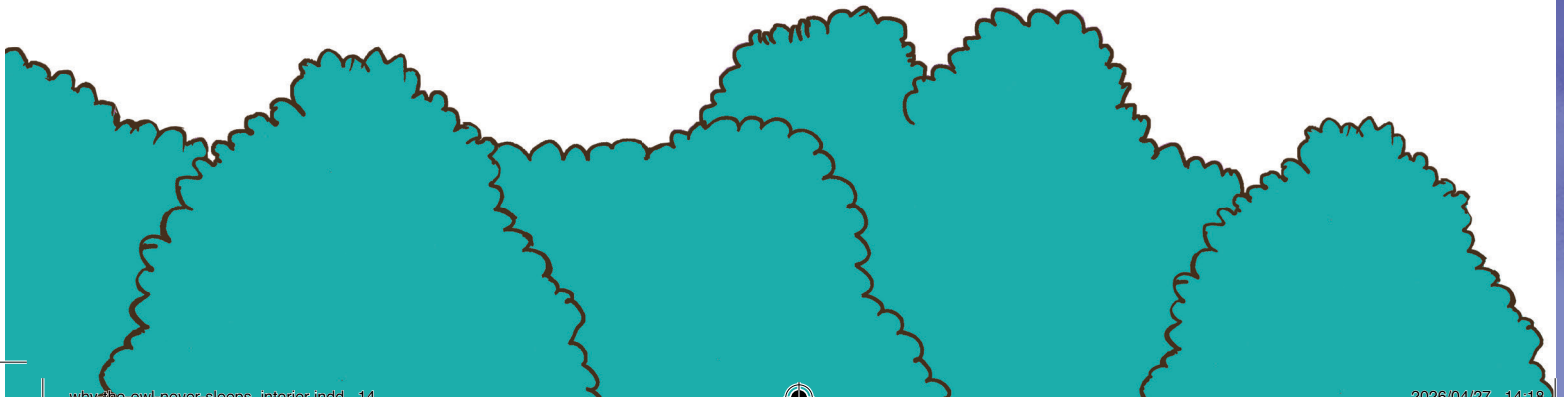








Ngakho-ke saqapha silokhu  
sibheka yonke indawo ukuthi  
abantu abasondeli yini.





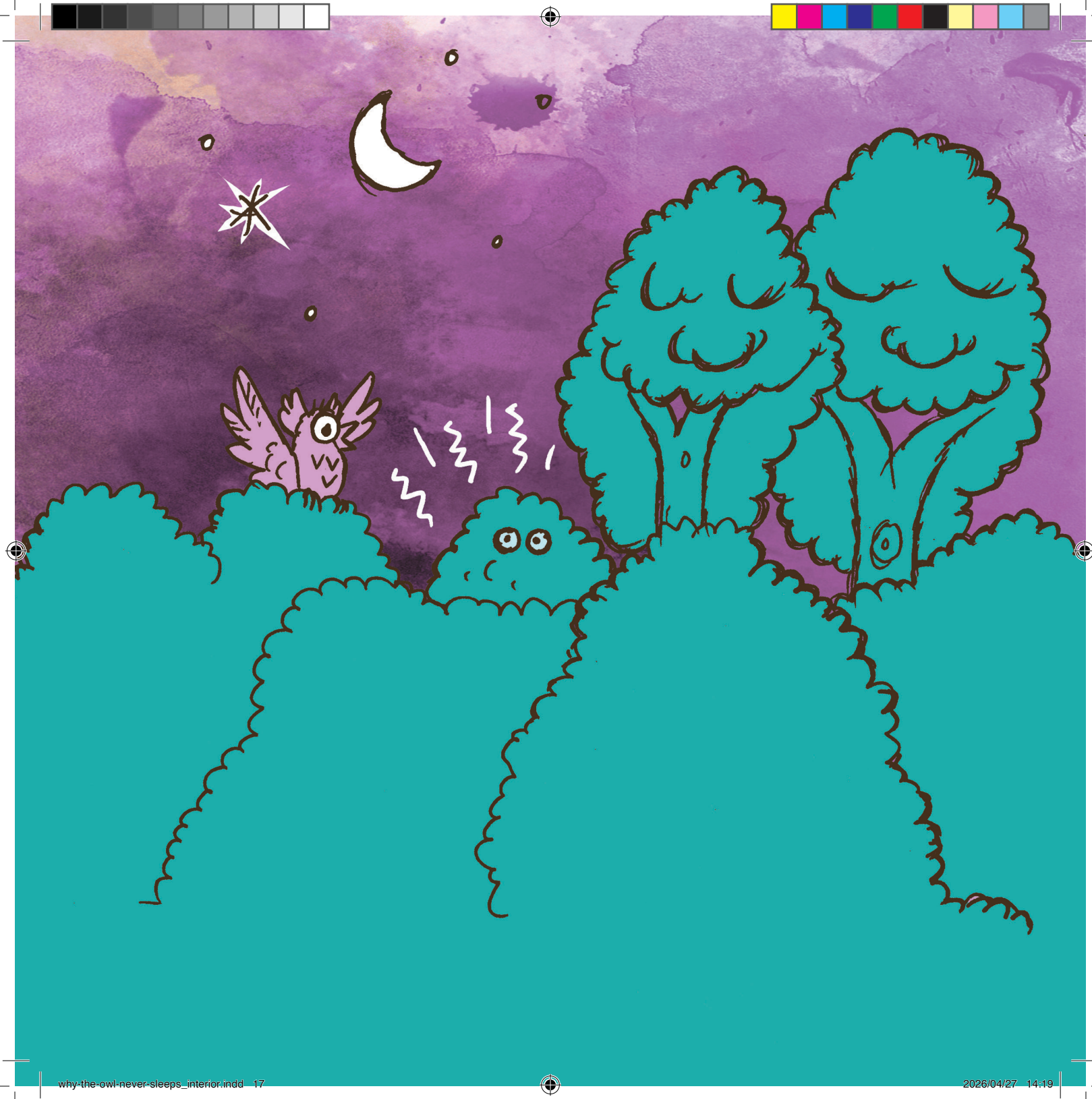






Dukuduku, isihlahla esasingaphambi  
kwesikhova safohloka sashukuma.

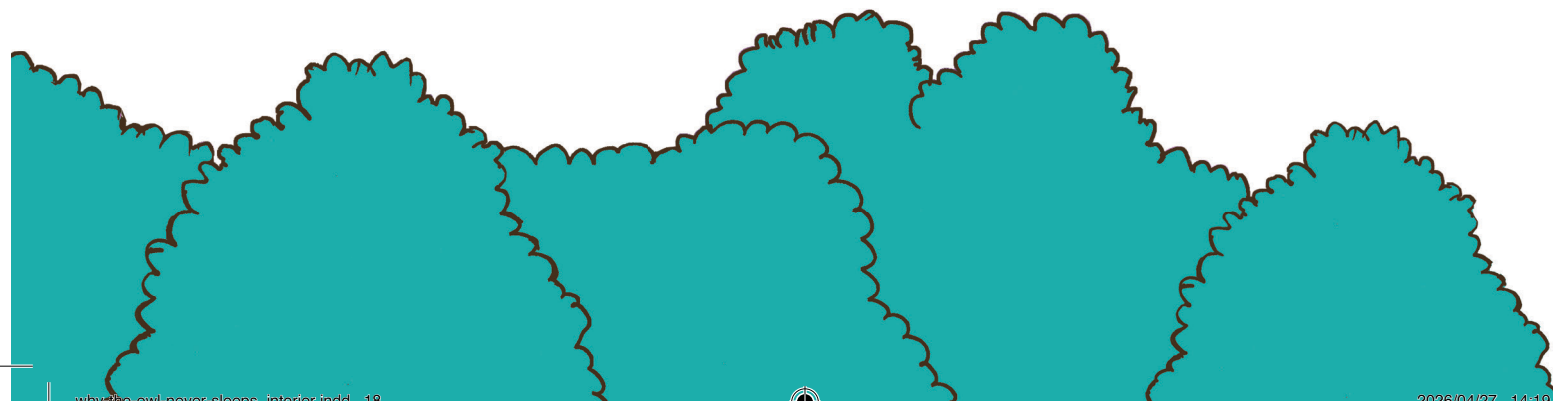






“Awu!” UMnu. Sikhova wayesebanjwe  
ngumfanyana.

Wamemeza, wahlikiza izimpaphe zakhe.  
Kwezwakala nomsindo wokupupuza.



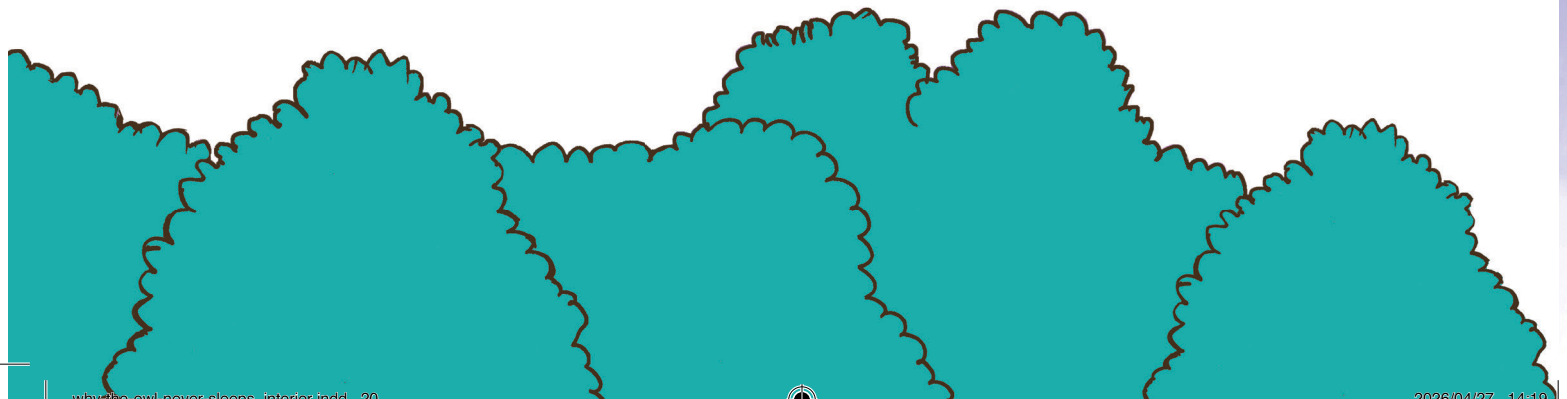








“Ngicela ungangosi bandla!”  
Thatha ezinye izilwane.  
Mina ngihlakaniphe kakhulu  
ukuba ngidliwe –  
angizukuba mnandi neze.

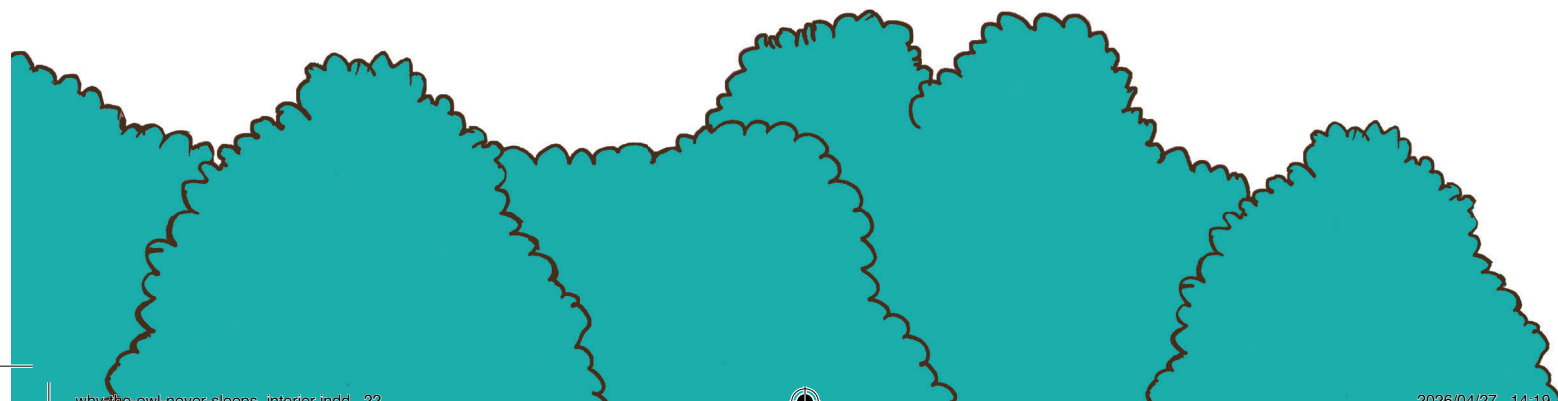






Wavuma umfanyana washona  
khona emphemeni wezilwane.  
Wafike wabasa umlilo, zavuka  
ngokuphazima kweso izilwane.

“Umlilo!” zimemeza, zihlakazeka.





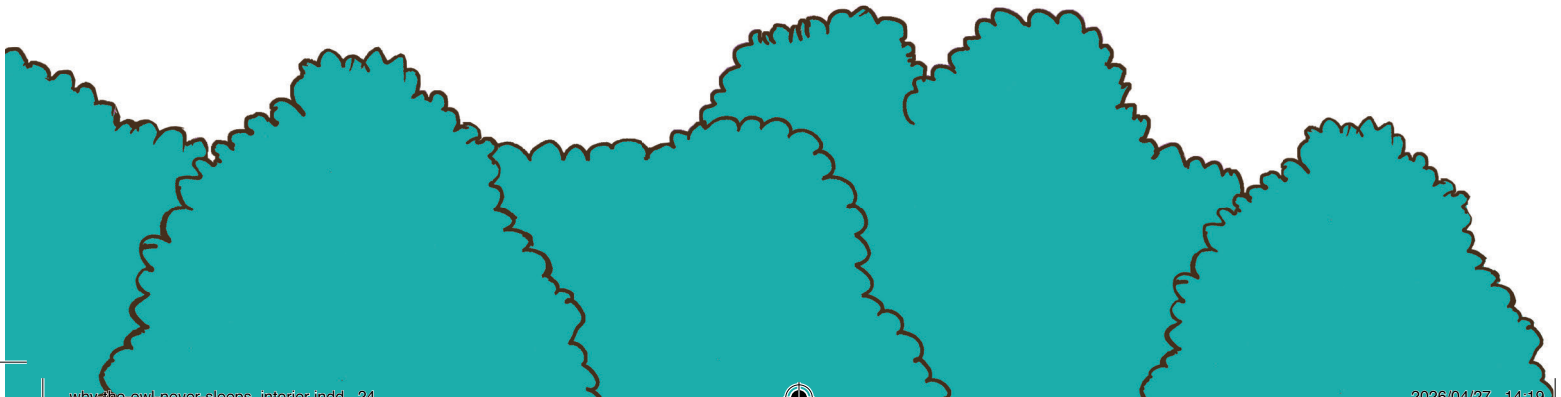




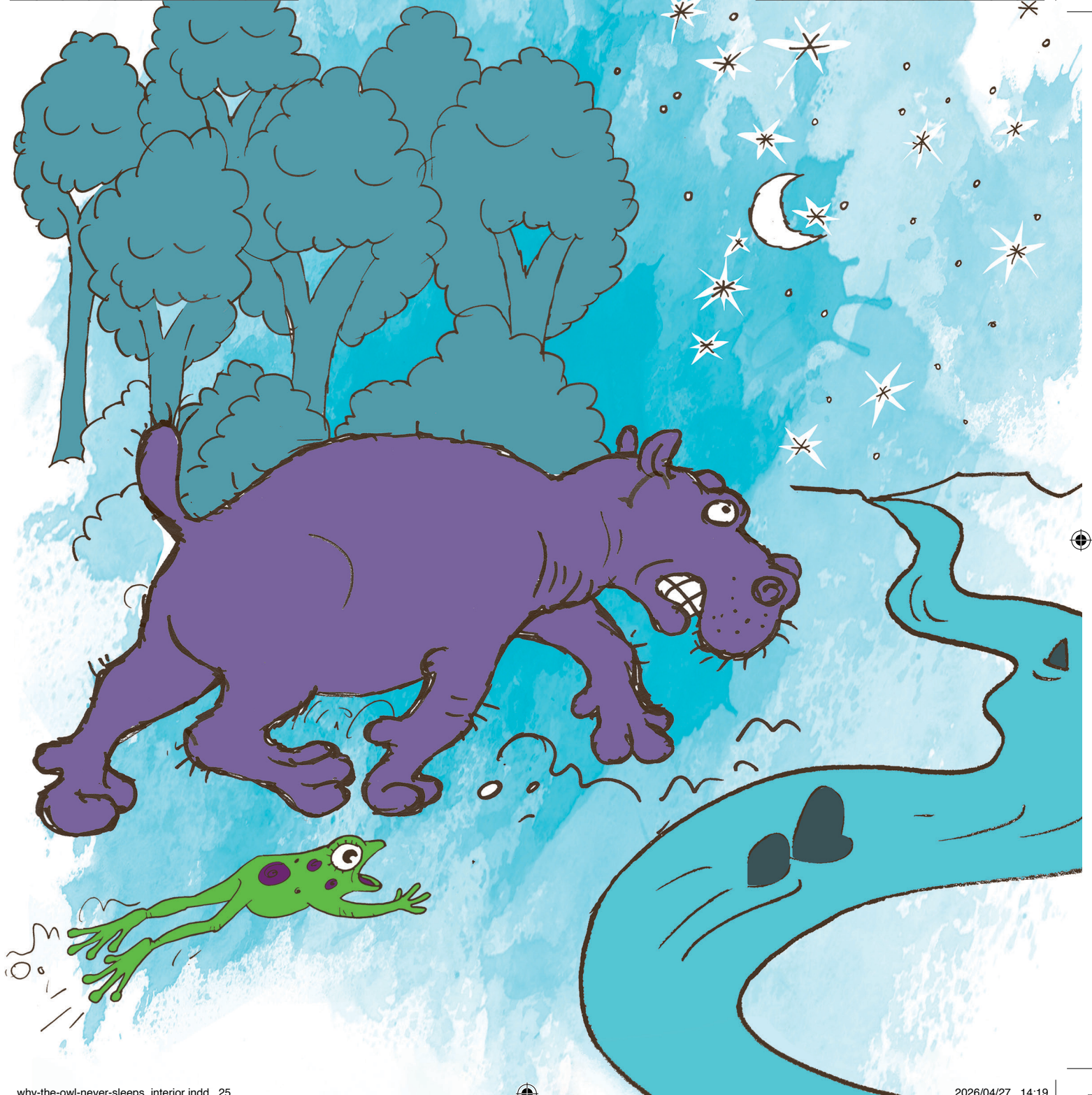
Izinambuzane zacasha ngaphansi  
komhlabathi.

Ezinye izilwane zabalekela  
emfuleni unomphela.

Izinyoni zandizela ebumnyameni  
besibhakabhaka.



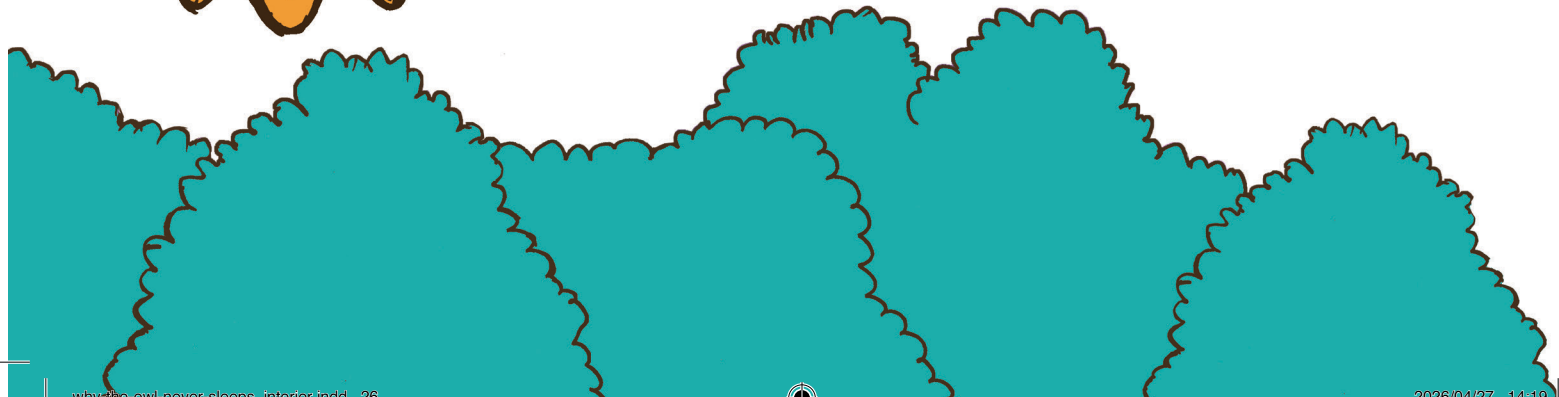








Abantu baphindela ekhaya namakati,  
izinkomo kanye nezinja, bashiya  
uMnu. Sikhova edliwa ngamahloni.  
“Akumele baphinde bangibone.”









Kusukela kulobo busuku isikhova safunga  
ukuthi asisoze siphinde sivele emini ...  
sesiyovela ebusuku kuphela ukuthi sidle  
futhi selule namaphiko aso.







