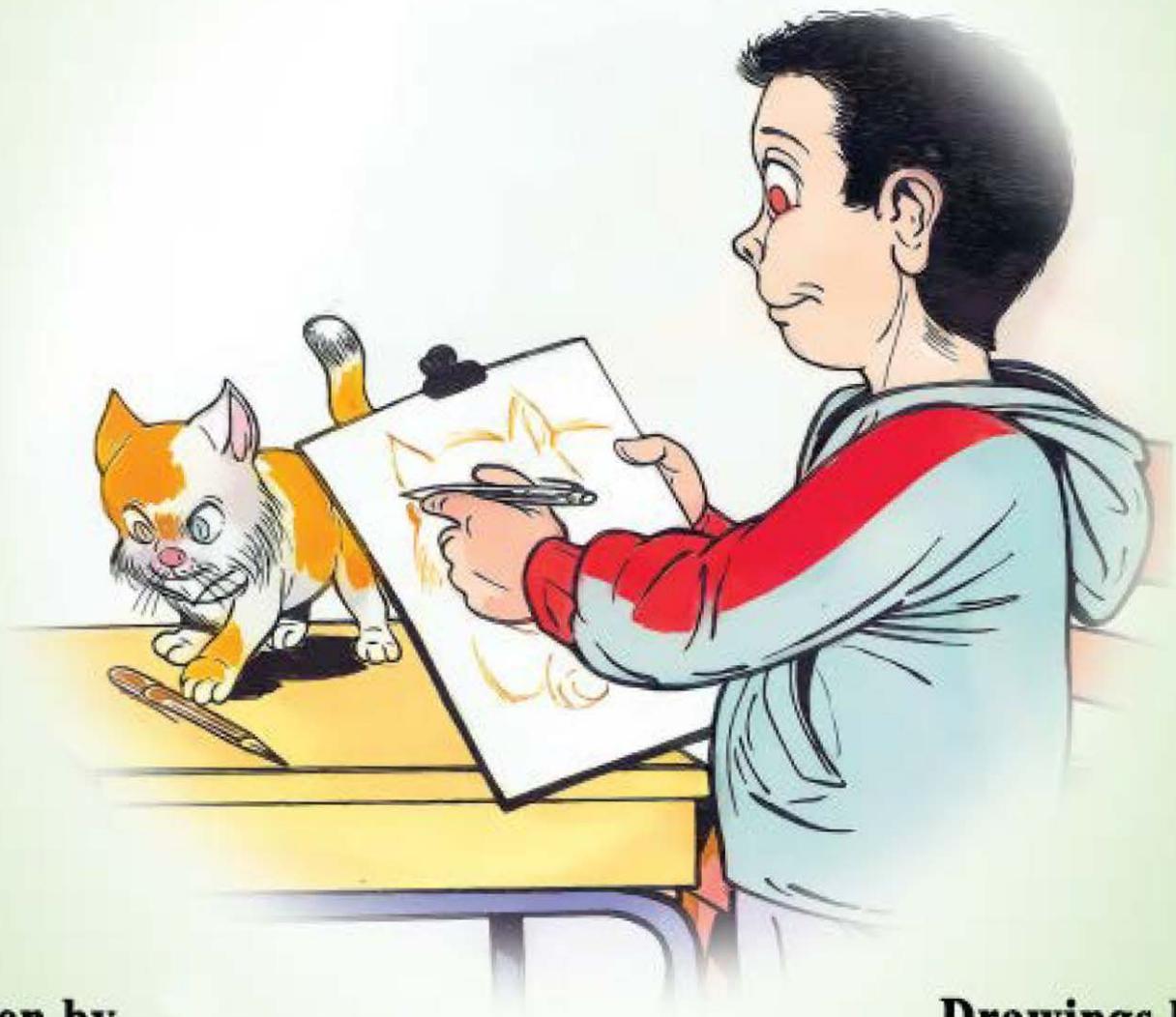


MY FRIEND MIMI



**Written by
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MY FRIEND MIMI

How did Hamou gather his friend to help him search for his missed friend? What did he tell them? Where was Mimi all that time? This is an exciting and educative story meant to develop the imagination of the child and bond him to his ecological environment by discovering various species of animals. Through beautiful and meaningful drawings, it aims at teaching children the values of loyalty and solidarity, as it assists them in the constitution of their scientific thinking and modern personality.

He loved her too much!
More than food and drinks!
More than fun and games!
More than pens and books!

Her name was *Mimi*, white-furred with orange spots and green eyes.

His name was Hammoud, nicknamed Hammou. Hammou was not eating until he poured her milk into a plastic bowl and filled her with fish. He was not sleeping until he made her hear his new song, like:

Mimi, Mimi...The closest loyal friend to me

Mimi, Mimi... The kindest company to me

Every afternoon, Mimi would wait for Hammou come back from school, and then she would jump into his hands and on his shoulder, before she slept in his lap.

Mi-mi! Mi-mi!
My most faithful close friend!



Mom... mom.
WHERE IS MI-MI?



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Yesterday, Hammou returned from school and he did not find her to greet him as usual.

He shouted:

- Mimi! Mimi!

Then, he asked his mother:

- Where is Mimi, mom? Mimi?

She told him:

- She has gone out since the morning. Not back yet.

He waited her comeback at sunset into the darkness, but she did not show up. He thought over her absence, saying to himself:

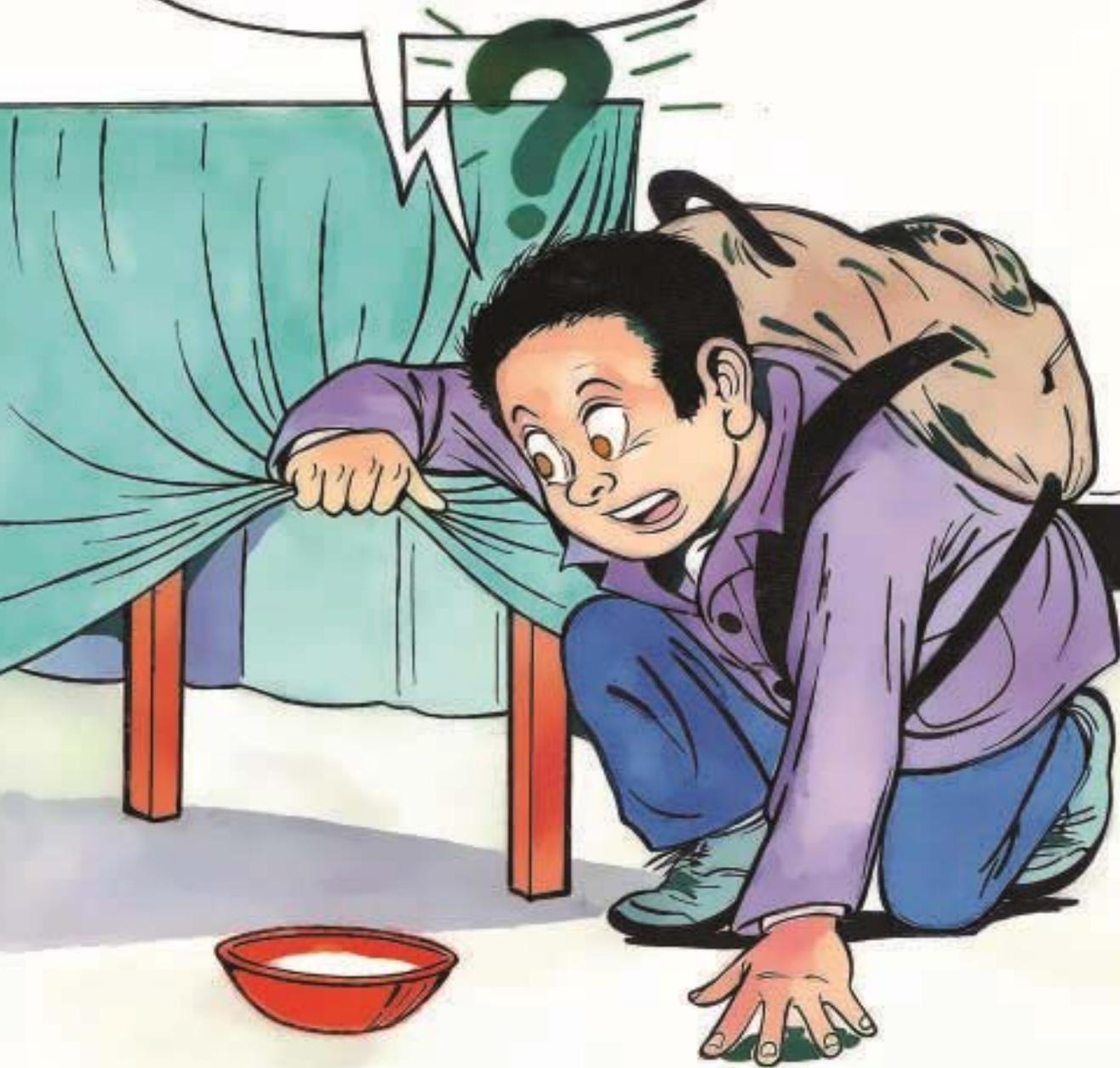
- Maybe Mimi ran to the neighbors or she is just hidden in a cave!

He finally slept anxious, looking forward to the rise of the day. Yet, the day dawned, the noon and the afternoon and sunset had passed by, and the night had fallen, without the return of Mimi. Hammou felt very sad. She missed Mimi, and was afraid she got hurt.

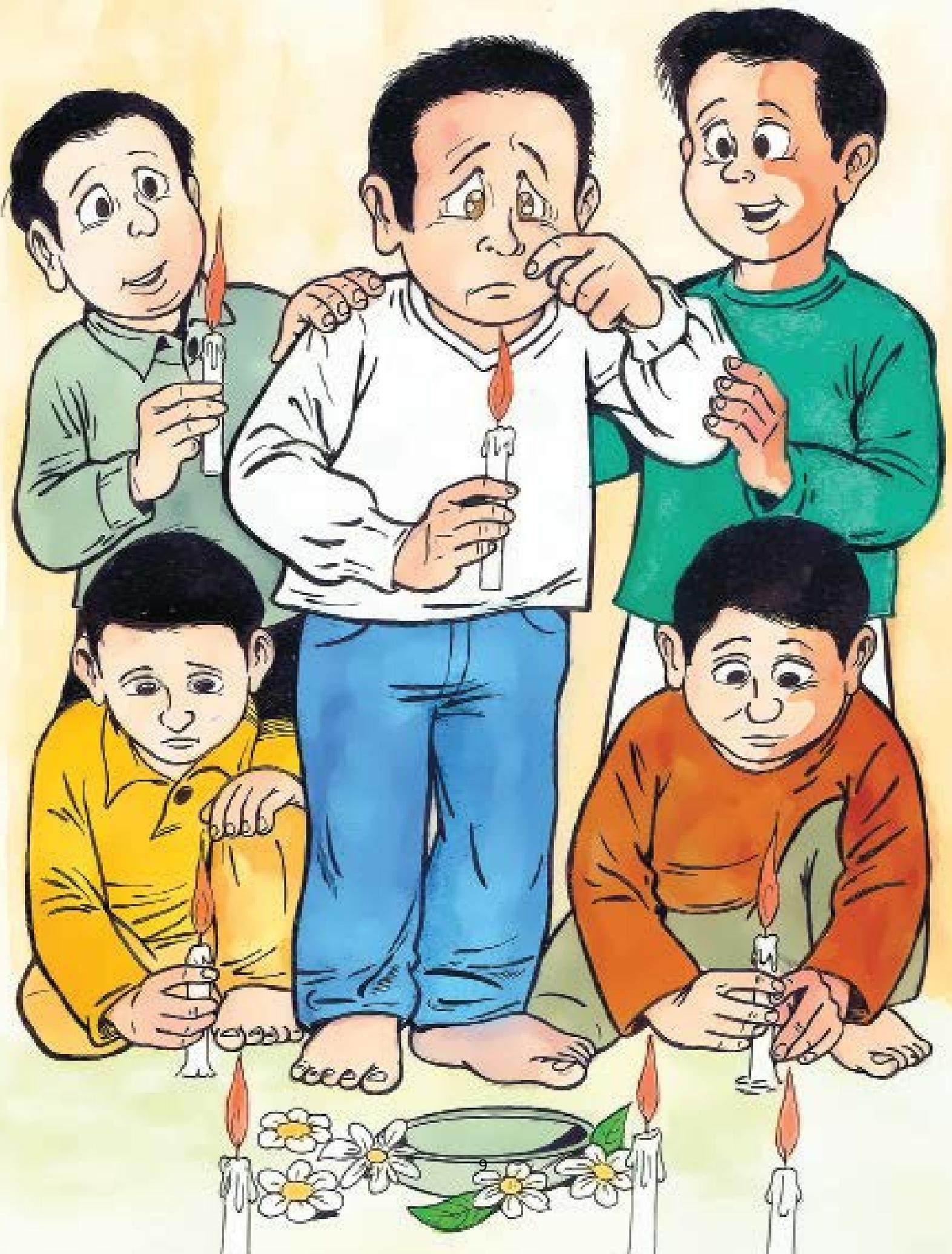
By the end of the week, Hammou had sought for the cat Mimi, helped by his sister Hana and his friends Ameer the poet, Thamer the artist, and Samer the singer.

The neighbors looked for her in the streets of the neighborhood and in the roads of the city, but they failed to find the lost cat.

**WHERE ARE YOU HIDING,
MI-MI?**



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After many months of the absence of the Mimi, Hammou despaired to see her back home again. He gathered his friends and told them:

- We must look for Mimi everywhere! In the cities and villages, even abroad!

His friends were astonished. They said:

- Abroad? How come?

Hammou replied:

- Yes, abroad ! Thamer will search for Mimi in Europe, Ameer in America, Samer in Asia, Hana in Africa, and me in Australia! And this is her picture, a copy for each of you.

They all said:

- This is an impossible mission! Shall we travel by land, or sea, or air?

Hammou gave them an answer:

- You travel as you like. This is my only demand and you should execute it. Are you just my friends by talks!

Hammou paused for a short while, and then he continued:

- You all know the traits of my cat: her color is white with orange spots and her eyes are green.



They all fell silent, embarrassed. Everyone was thinking over the way of travelling, or perhaps each of them should just look for Mimi by means of radio, newspapers or Internet.

All of a sudden, Mimi peered through the door, before she came in, followed by six kittens.

They all cried:

- Mimi is back! Mimi is back!

Hammou rushed to hug the cat, incredibly joyful of her comeback. He did not believe his eyes, though. He then caressed the kittens, one by one. These little cats became his new friends. He said:

- This one is for me. That one, too...



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His mother said:

- Mimi went away because she wanted to deliver her litter of kittens and take care of them.

The sadness of Hammou turned to joy and fun. He asked his cat:

- Where have you been all this time, my dear Mimi?

She gazed at him, her eyes bearing a thousand answers.

- Starting today, I am going to hang a small phone around your neck.

Once you are absent again, I will call you:

- Hello, my friend Mimi. And I will then know your exact position.

His sister Hana warned the boys:

- Be careful! Do not touch the cat and her kittens until the veterinarian will have examined them. You know, many animals do carry contagious diseases...



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