



# The Firefly

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Level 4

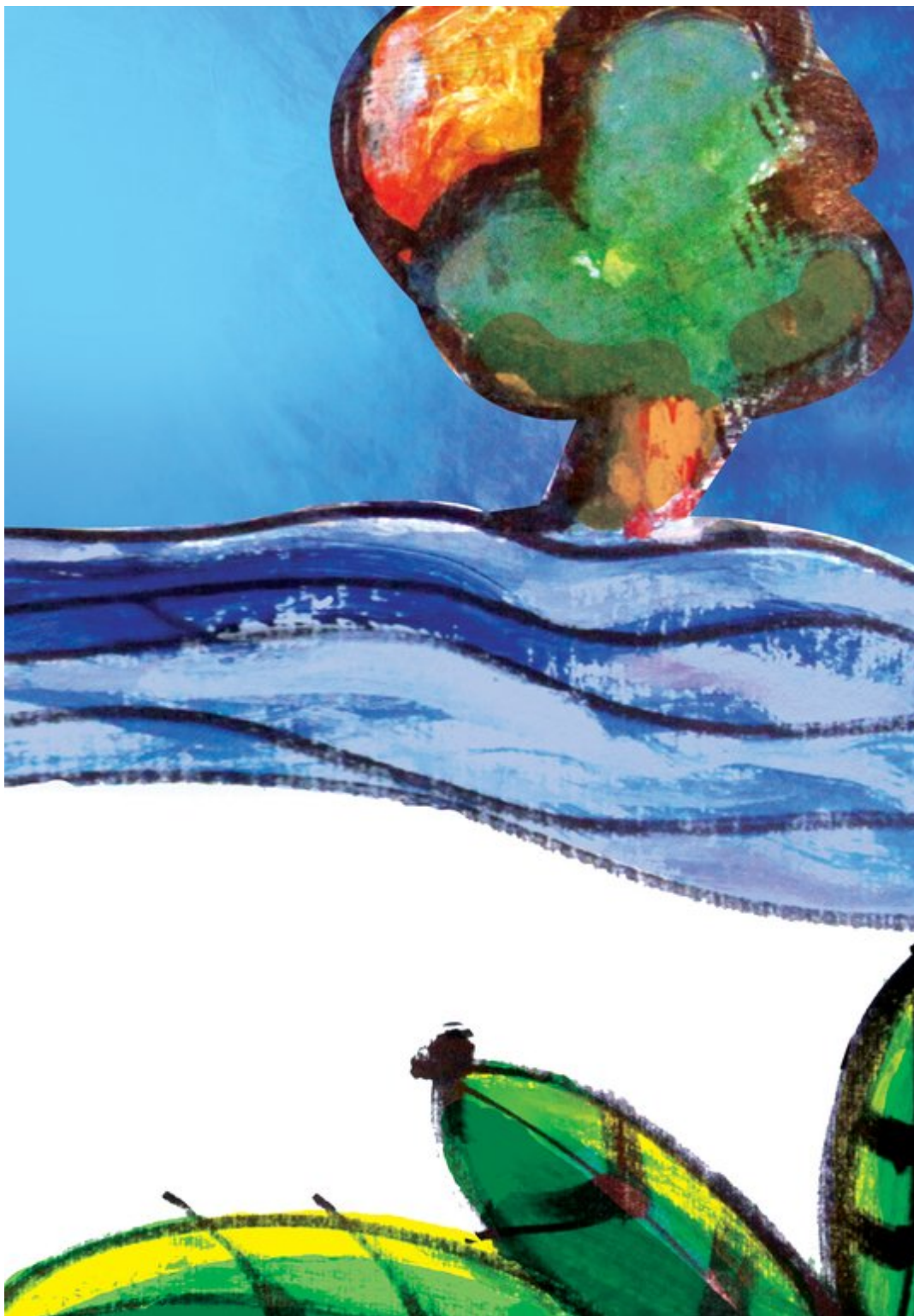


This is the story of a small bug. But a bug who dreamt big. Not only did he dream big he also made them come true by his determination. He was born on the big neem tree in Rahail's garden. When he came out of his egg and looked at the bright daylight, his eyes cringe in disgust. He did not like the brightness around him. He noticed, the world was getting noisier and noisier all around him. He hated it all the more.



When all other creatures got busy searching for feed and doing their normal chores. This one hid in a small hole and refused to step out. He lazed around in the hole saw the world whizzing around him. The bees buzzing, the birds chirping..children hopping around the flower beds, the butterflies flitting from flower to flower. But he just sat there and sulked all day.

Pintu titli saw him and was a little upset. She loved to see happy and gay folks all around her . So she flew up to his hole and asked him "Why was he sulking all day?"Jugnu the bug was angry he said-"Leave me alone I do not want to talk to anyone"



But sweet as she was, Pintu would not stop at that. She collected sweet nectar from the rose plant and visited him the next morning "Hey!! come on have a sip and see what I got for you. Am sure you will love this refreshing drink." Jugnu was angry again. But he was hungry too. So he stuck out his head and took a sip..Hmmm it sure was divine. jugnu loved it.

Pintu titli sat down on the nearest neem flower and said "Jugnu, have you ever tasted the juice of the neem flower? Am sure you have not.It is bitter . You would not like to be like this flower would you? But when you sulk and not eat ,you will soon turn bitter Think about this." said Pinto as she flew away promising to come back to him the next morning.



God , who makes all creatures big and small also saw what was happening to Jugnu .So he went down to the tiny wormy and said "Jugnu,I like to see all my children happy and gay, But I find you are upset.Well ,what do you want ? Ask and I shall grant it to you.But you must make your decision by tonight."God said this and vanished. Jugnu got worried. Oh he did not want to be bitter at all!! he just wanted to be different- he did not want to be colorful like the butterfly . He did not like the busy bees and their angry drones...he just did not like the chirpy birds too!! What did he want then?What was it he pined for?



As he was looking at all these creatures..it became evening .The birds settled in their nests, kids ran away home, the bugs and bees went into deep slumber.

The birds in the nests were still restless and chatting up about the events of the day.No one bothered to turn around and find out what his problem was. Jugnu felt lost and lonely. He had waited all day for Pintu the butterfly. But today she was not there to give him a sweet drink. He was sad. He sulked and withdrew into the hole. And got to think. He saw life slowly grind to a standstill and the garden engulfed in darkness.



When all seemed still, life started ticking once more Jugnu noticed there was a new awakening! The owl fly out of his hole. Jugnu was fascinated, He climbed the highest branch of the neem tree just to see where Mr.Owl went when all was dark. But alas!! in the darkness,Jugnu could see nothing.

As he sat engulfed in the beauty of the night.The soft glow of the moon and the twinkling stars blinking and winking at him made him happy and calm.

Jugnu sat still and heard the crickets creaking The sounds of the night engulfed Jungu in its mysterious world.He was bewildered. He had found an answer for God's question after all.



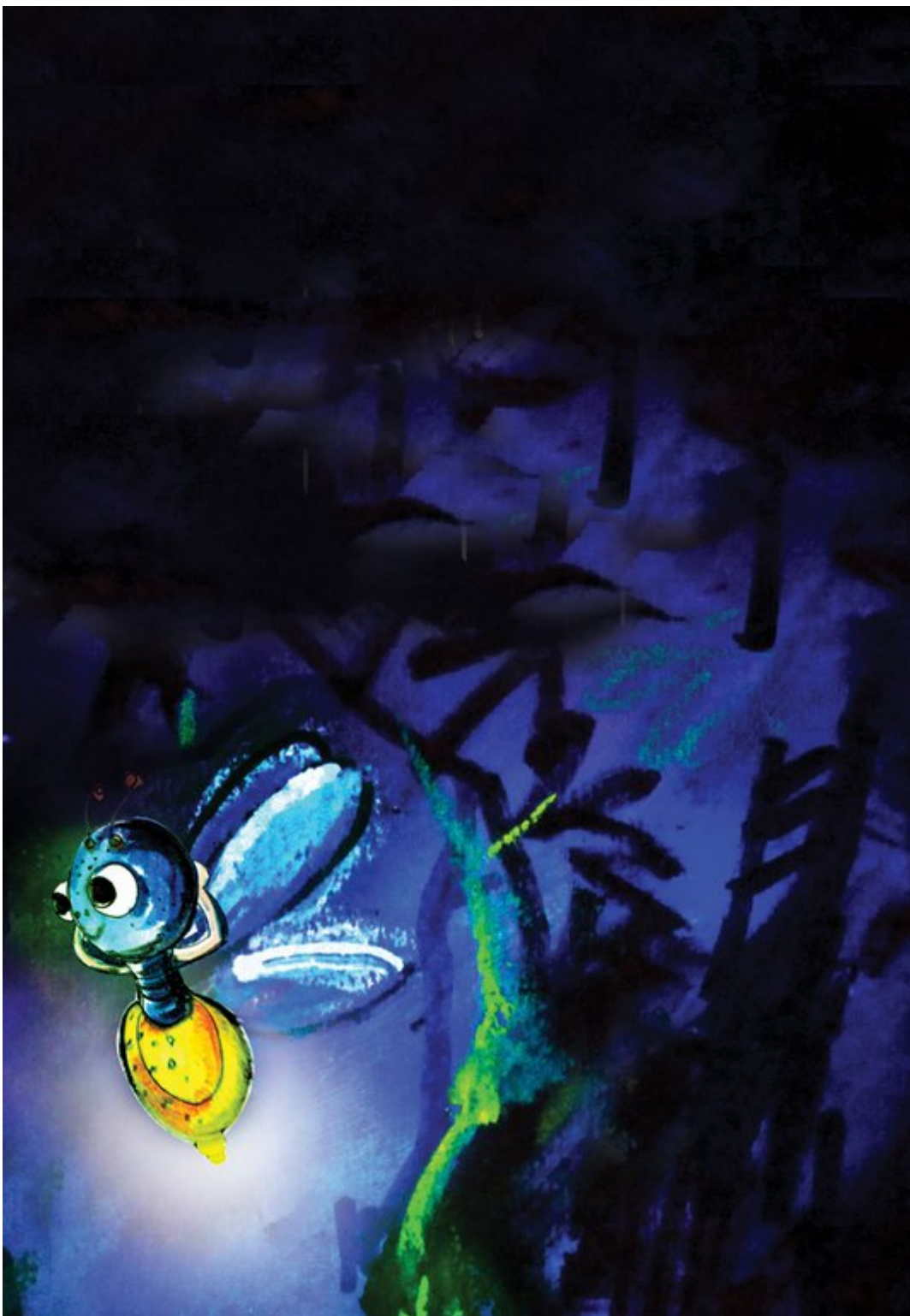
"Yes!! I want to be like these creatures of the night. I want a less noisy world, a world full of mystery and adventure. I want to go deep into the dark woods and fly around. I want to explore! This is what I want. But I cannot fly like the butterfly nor can I see in the dark like the wise owl." He sighed.

He waited for God to come back to him. God came and said, "Well Jugnu your time is up!! tell me what you wish to be?" Jugnu looked up into God's eyes and said "Please give me the power to fly and see through the darkness of the night. I love the world when it is dark and cool and full of mystery."





God was happy and He said-"Jugnu I give you small wings to fly and I also give you the strength to your legs, because what I did to your eyes I cannot undo. From today, if you rub your feet you shall have a torch that will guide you through the darkness and help you take a new adventure trip each night" Before Jugnu could say anything, God was gone. Jugnu rubbed his legs and loo!!It glowed all around him like a candle in the darkness. When he flapped his new found wings!!He could really fly!! Jugnu swerved and took a dive like an airplane. He flew all around the garden enjoying his new found freedom!



All the creatures of the day slept..but Pintu alone was awake..she saw the glow worm and she knew it was Jugnu. No one else could be so beautiful and happy so late in the night. Pintu smiled as she closed her eyes in slumber She knew Jugnu had found a way to be happy and unique as he always wished to be. She was happy for him.

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# The Firefly

(English)

A tale of how we can make dreams come true, if only we know what we want.

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