

SHALL I TAKE A BITE?

STORY BY
HO LEE-LING

ILLUSTRATED BY
DREWSCAPE



HOW THIS BOOK CAN BE USED

Reflectiveness is a learning disposition that prepares children for lifelong learning.

A child who is able to reflect will:

- think back
- learn from it
- do it better

The main character in the story goes through the reflective process. You may want to read the story a few times to the children. The story can be used to guide children through this process. Here are some suggestions:

Think Back

Highlight the phrase “I begin to think back” to show that the boy is beginning to reflect.

Ask: *What is the boy thinking about?*

What did he say about durians (look/smell/taste)?

Learn From It

Ask: *Why was the boy afraid of durians?*

Why did he try durians?

Discuss with children what the boy learnt after trying durians.

Example of a lesson learnt: He should not be afraid to try new things.

Do It Better

Ask: *Why was the boy open to trying different fruits at the end of the story?*

Recap with children the boy's reflective process.

For more information on how to nurture learning dispositions, you may refer to the “Nurturing Learning Dispositions” curriculum resource published by MOE in 2010.



SHALL I TAKE A BITE?

Written by Ho Lee-Ling

Illustrated by Drewscape



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

My family loves durians.

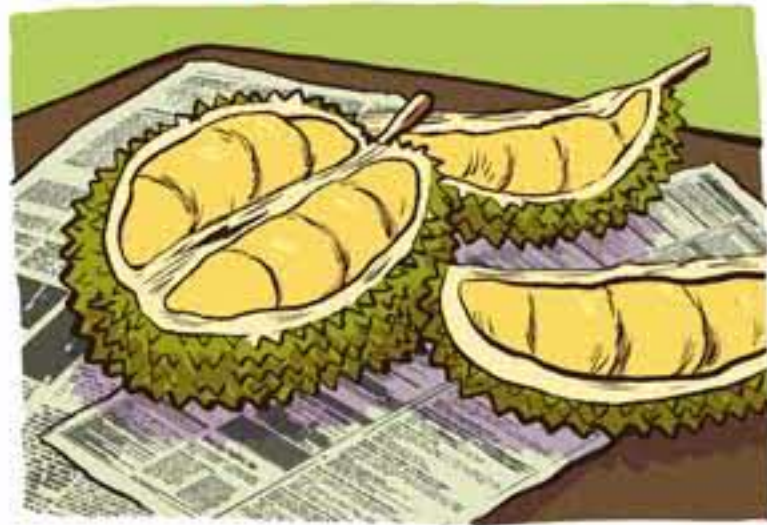




**Mother loves the look.
She says, "Durians are delightful!"**



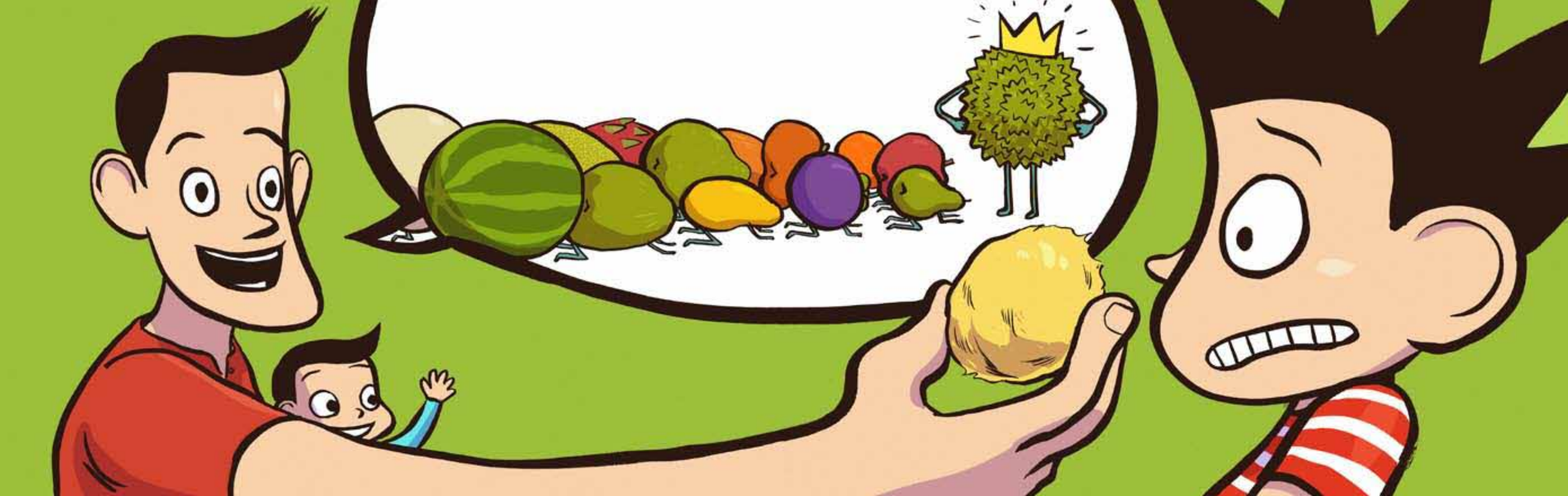
**Father loves the smell.
He says, "Durians are terrific!"**



Sister loves the taste.



She says, "Durians are delicious!"



Father wants me to try it.

“Taste it,” he says. “The durian is the king of fruits!”



But I don't like durians.

I don't like the smell.

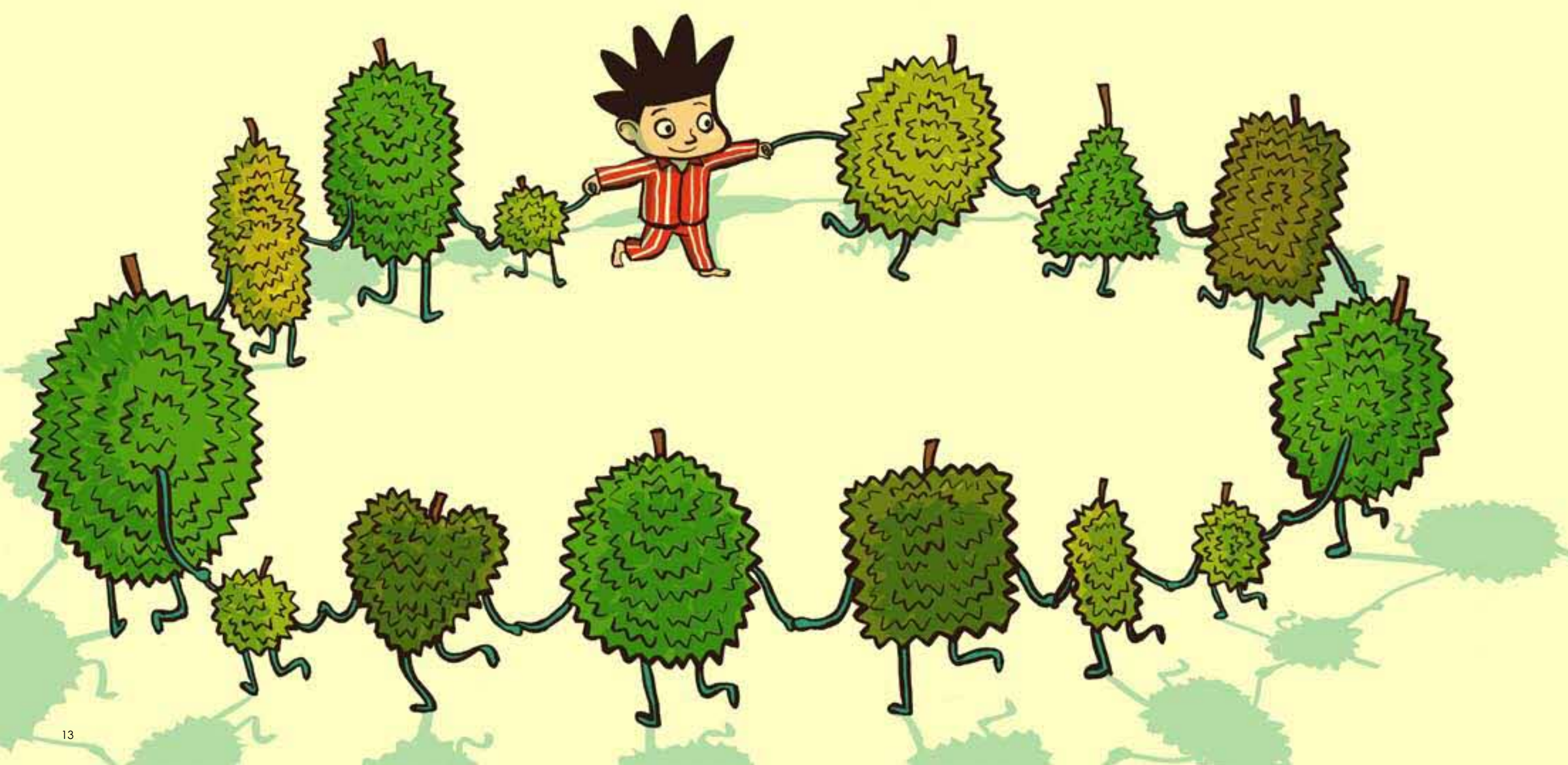
I don't like the look.

**And I don't dare
taste it!**



At night, I dream of durians - Big ones, small ones.

Round ones, square ones.



The durians sing,
“You may not like
our smell,
you may not like
our looks,
but do us right
and take a bite,
don’t put up such
a great big fight!”

When I wake up, I begin to think back.

I don't know what durians taste like.

Shall I take a bite?



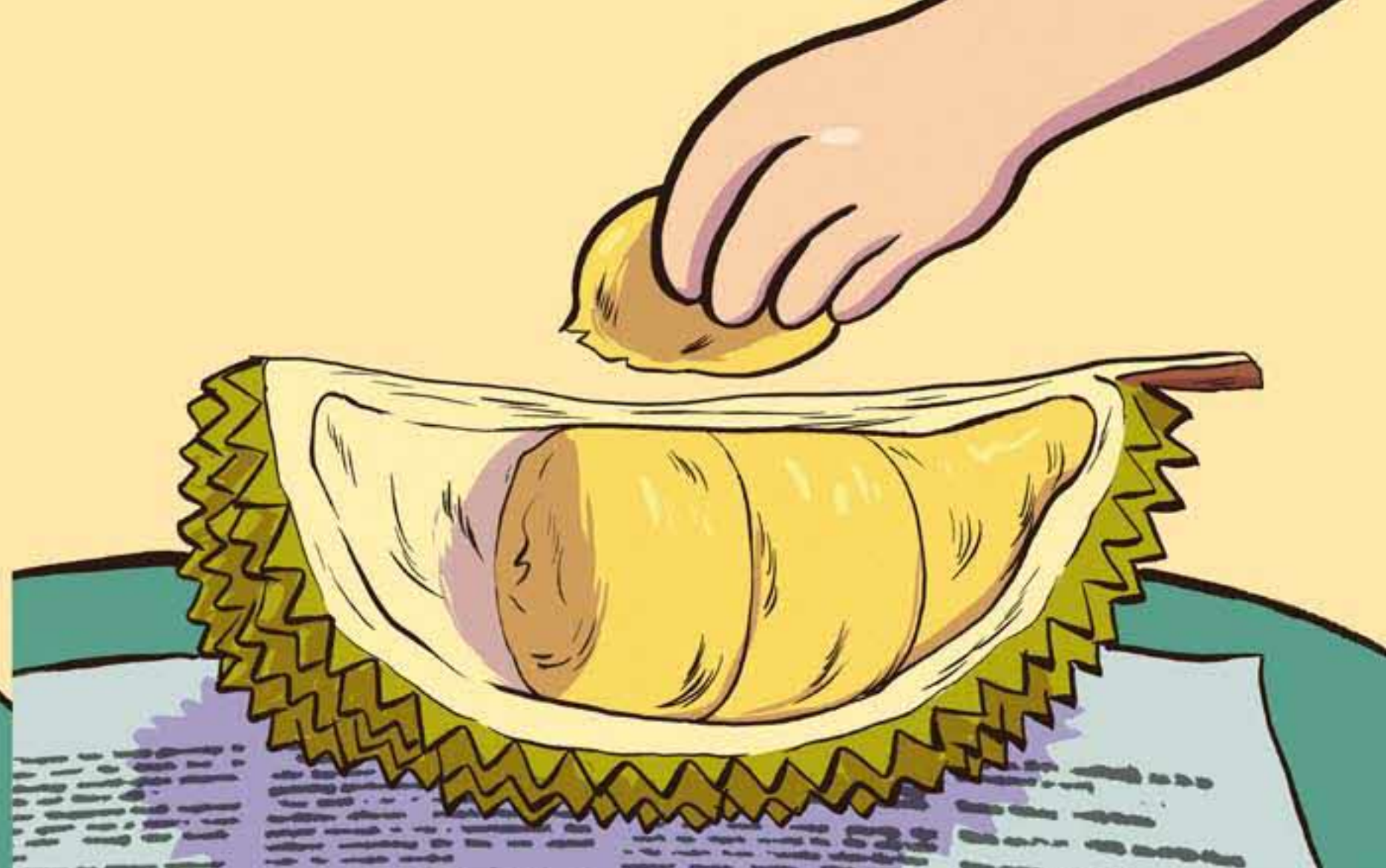


That day, I see durians everywhere.
Many people like durians.

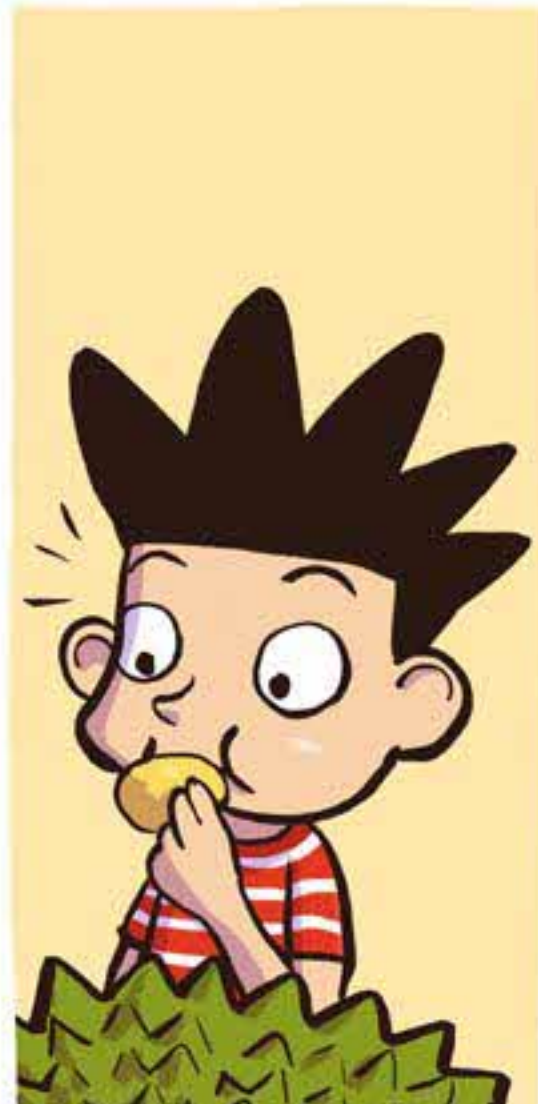
I have not tried them yet.
Shall I take a bite?



That night, father buys durians for dinner.



Shall I take a bite?



I still don't like its smell. I still don't like its look.



**But I love its sweet and creamy taste.
I do like durians after all!**



**The next day, at the fruit stall,
father wants me to try a rambutan.**

**Mother wants me to try a guava.
And sister wants me to try a jackfruit.**



**The fruits look weird. The fruits smell funny.
But they may taste good – like durians!**

Yes! I want to try them all!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lee-Ling is a Singaporean writer and historian. She lives with her two cats, Diva and Princeton.
Her favourite fruits are rambutan, mangosteen and papaya.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Andrew Tan (Drewscape) is an illustrator from Singapore. He enjoys reading and drawing comics just for fun.
His favourite fruits are peaches and also seedless grapes (eaten with cambozola cheese). He once ate too many durians
when he was young and stopped liking it. But now he is learning to like it again.

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**Do you like durians? I don't like them.
But things are happening to make me think again!**



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