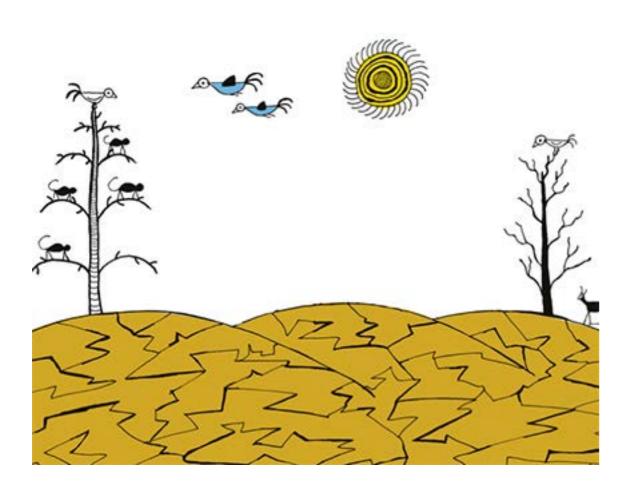


The water seed

The water seed



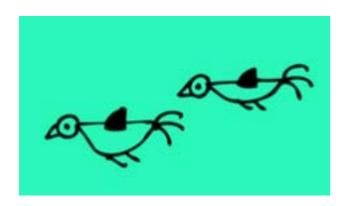
Text : Munda Writers' Group Illustrated : Ramani Ranjan Sarangi

Translated: Amrit Mishra

published by Pratham Books (© Pratham Books, 2014) under a CC BY 4.0 license on StoryWeaver

Adaptation réalisée par Marie-Laure Besson





Long ago, in a village it did not rain for three years.

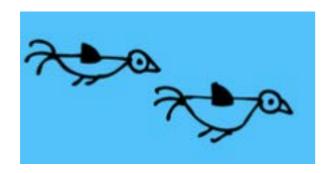
The earth was parched and all the plants dried up.

The dry dust blew into people's eyes.

They were very worried.

They knew they could not live without water.





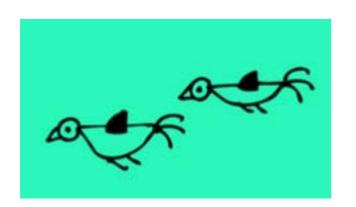
The village chief called for a meeting.

Old and young, everybody came.

The chief asked four young men to come up.

He said, "I want the four of you to go in four different directions to find water."





Three of them returned after some days as they could not walk any further.

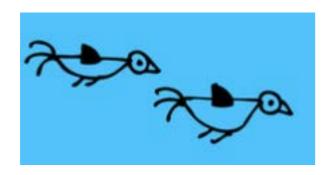
The fourth one who had gone north, reached a white mountain.

As he climbed up the slippery slope, he saw a cave.

There was an old lady in the cave.

"Where can I find water?" the man asked her.





The old lady said, "Go higher up on the mountain."

The man climbed right to the top.

He broke off a piece from the white mountain.

He wrapped it carefully in a sack.

He ran back to his village as fast as he could.









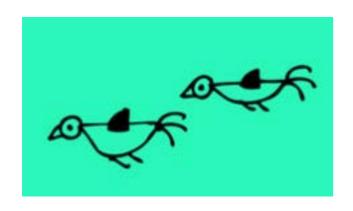
When he got there, everyone ran to him to see what he had got.

He was very tired but happy.

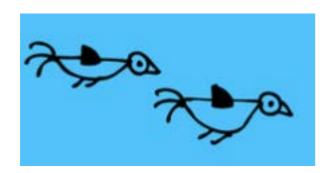
He said, "I've brought back the water seed."

When he opened his sack, the ice had melted into water!

It dripped on to the ground and was absorbed by the soil.







With a cry, the villagers started digging to get back the water seed.

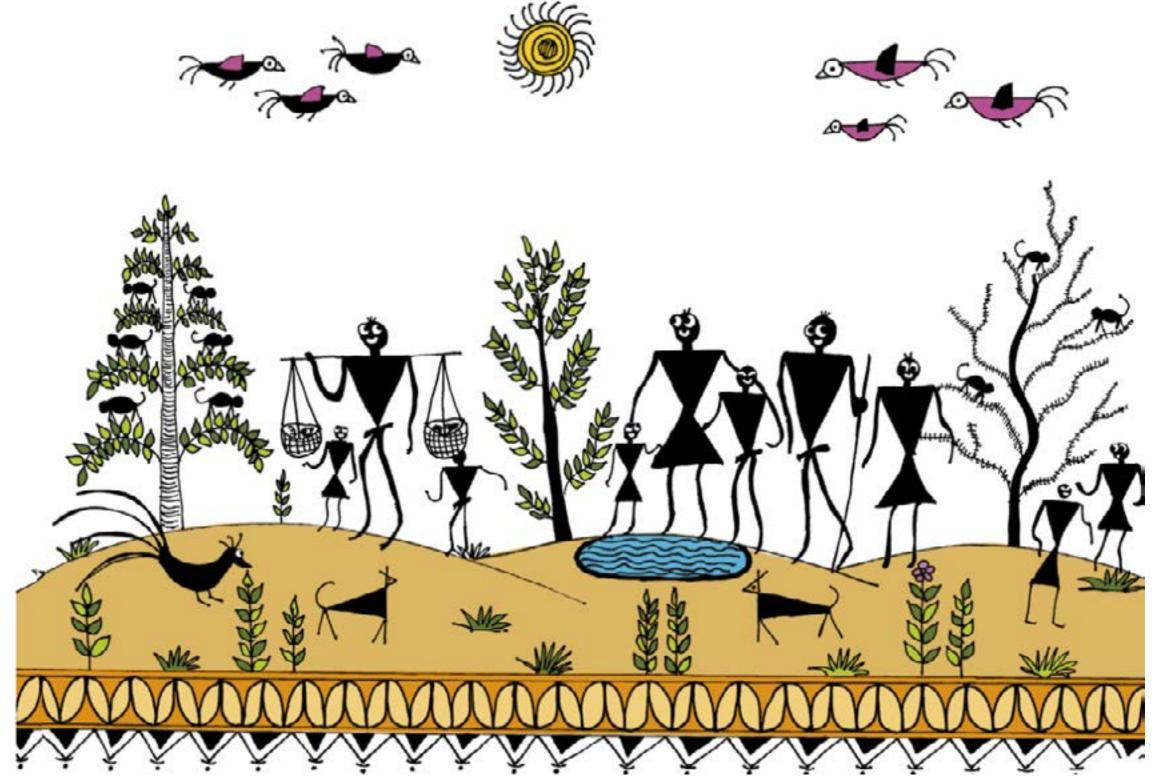
They dug and they dug deeper.

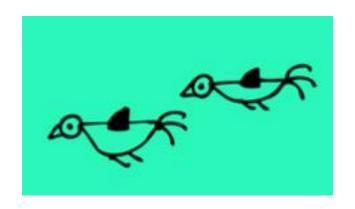
At last, they struck water!

Everyone shouted with joy, "The water seed has given us water!

The water seed has given us water!"

And now the village had water.





They looked after it well.

Now the village has water even if it does not rain.

Have you ever seen a water seed?





This book was made possible by Pratham Books' StoryWeaver platform. Content under Creative Commons licenses can be downloaded, translated and can even be used to create new stories - provided you give appropriate credit, and indicate if changes were made. To know more about this, and the full terms of use and attribution, please visit the following link.

