

Moozie's Magic of Kindness



By Shweta Bala
Illustrated by Sahana Bala



"Tag, you're it!" shouted Max as he ran across the school field during recess. It was a nice and sunny day, with so many things to play with in one afternoon.

Max was running around playing tag when all of a sudden, he saw a small girl trip and fall on the ground. All the books she was holding scattered on the ground. The books got soggy from the morning dew on the ground. Instead of helping her up like a kind person, Max started laughing at her and mocking her about how clumsy she was. The girl started crying and she walked away. After an hour, Max was called to the principal's office.



When Max arrived, Principal Huggins made him explain the situation. When he finished, she asked him, "Why did you laugh at her instead of helping her?"

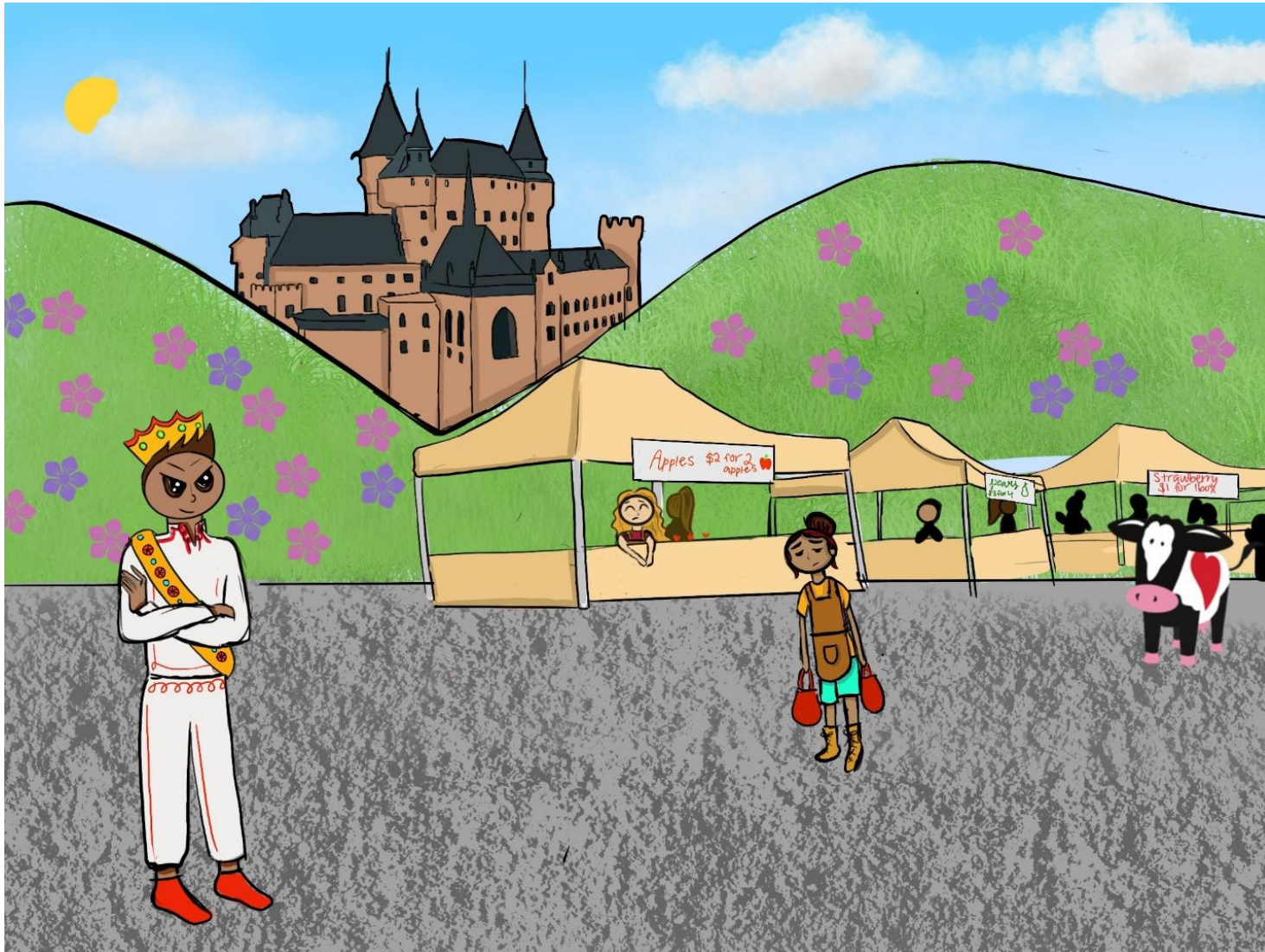
Max replied, "She was really funny when she tripped over the rocks."

"You shouldn't do that Max. If you were in her state, you would have felt very hurt, too. You should show kindness to others. Before you leave, here is a book that I suggest you read. You may go now."

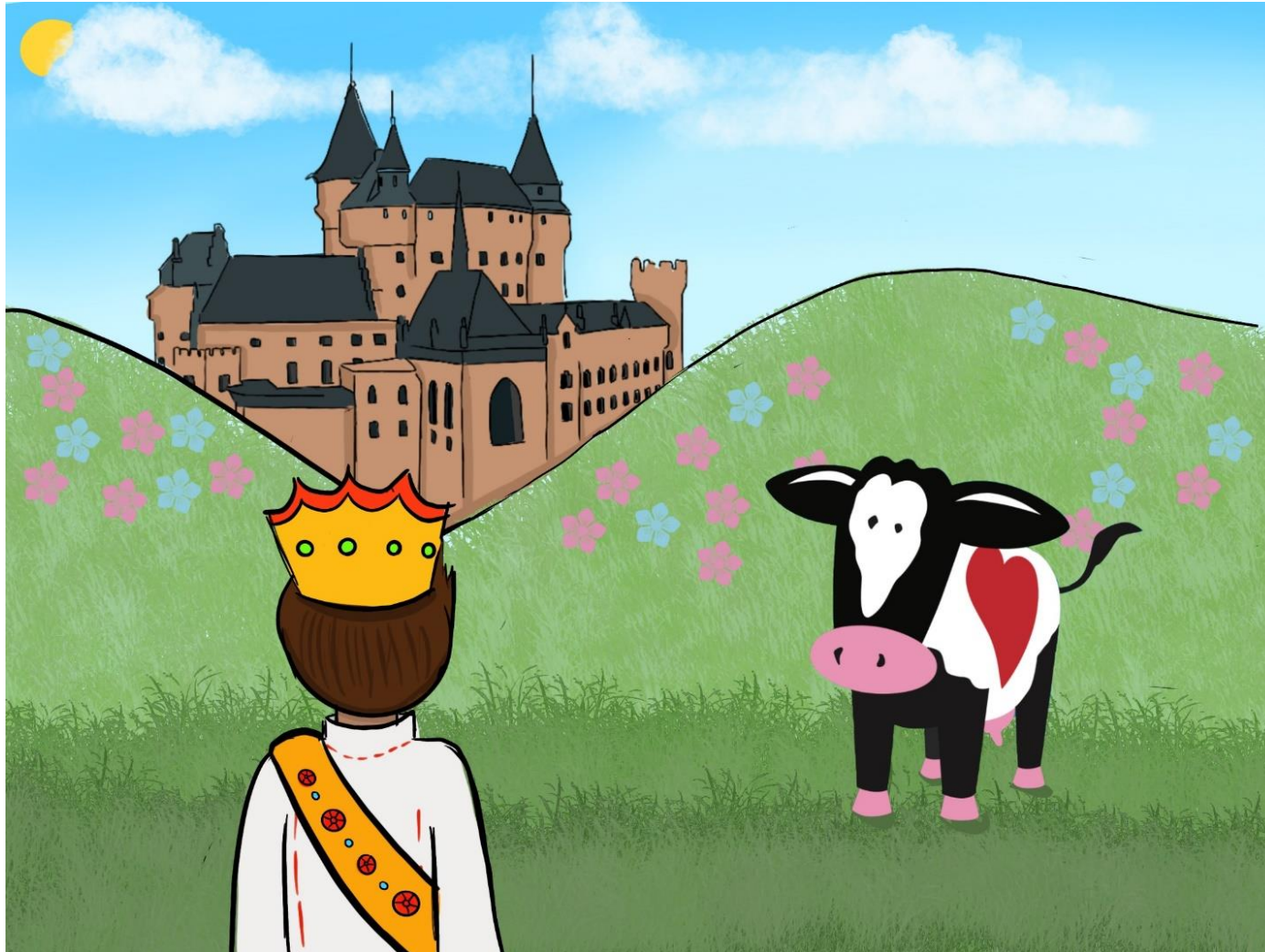
Annoyed, Max left the office and headed back to class.



Later that evening, when Max finished his school work, he was struggling to decide whether to read the book the principal gave. *I guess I will read the book, since I have nothing else to finish.* Max thought. He opened the book and started reading. The story started like this:



Once upon a time, in the Kingdom of Kindness, there lived a prince, named Prince Liam, who thought he was better than everyone else. He used to be very unkind and criticized villagers. Every day, he would boast about the palace, and how he had so many luxuries. Then, he would start to tease people about how dirty the market was. Many people didn't like this behavior of his.

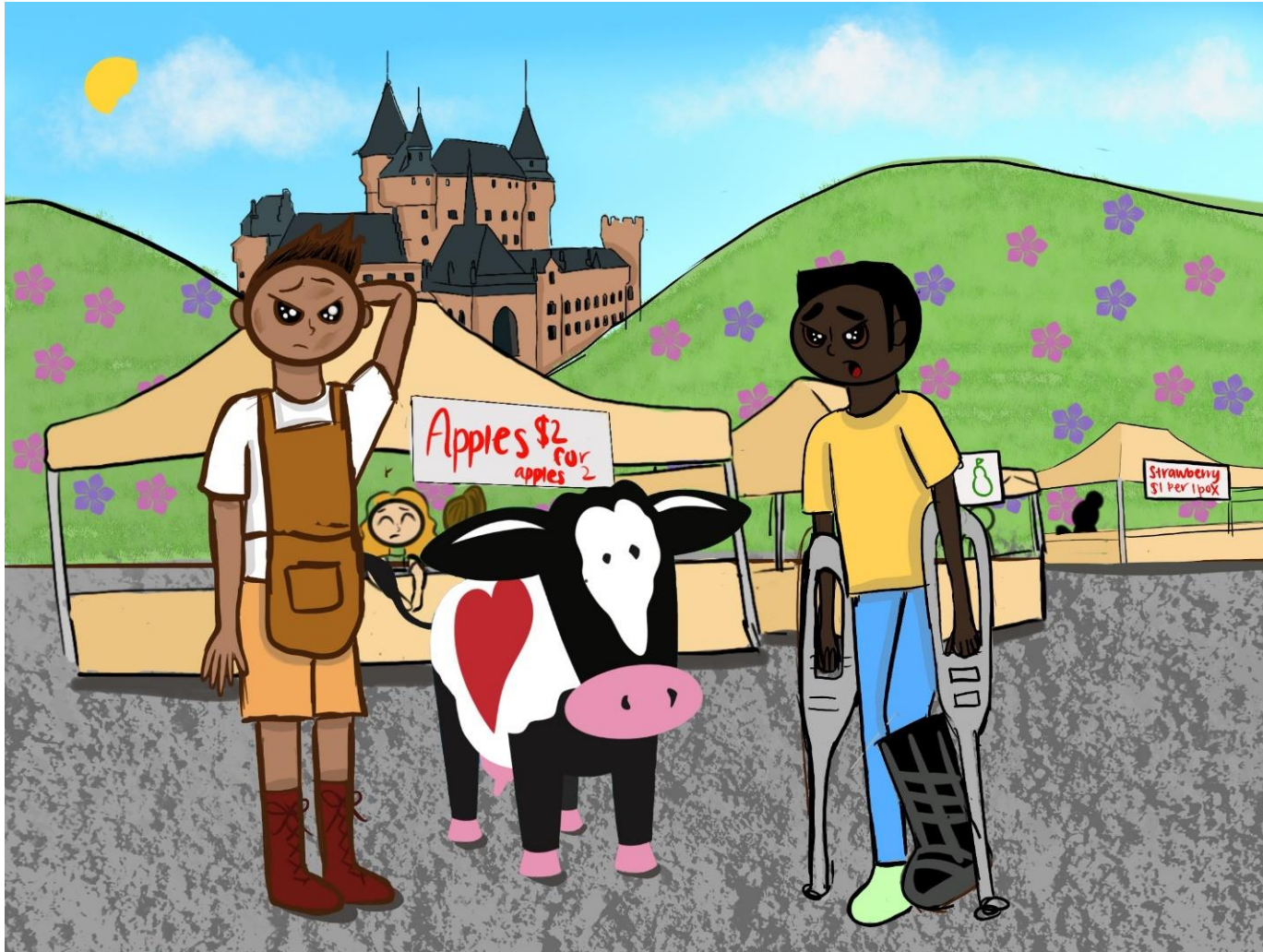


Upon hearing about the prince's behavior, a kind cow named Moozie decided to help him out. When Moozie got there, she said, "Hello Prince of the Kingdom of Kindness! Your villagers are offended by your words. Let's take a stroll around the village as villagers." After some convincing, the prince agreed and they started their stroll around the village disguised as travelers. The first villager they met was Isabella.



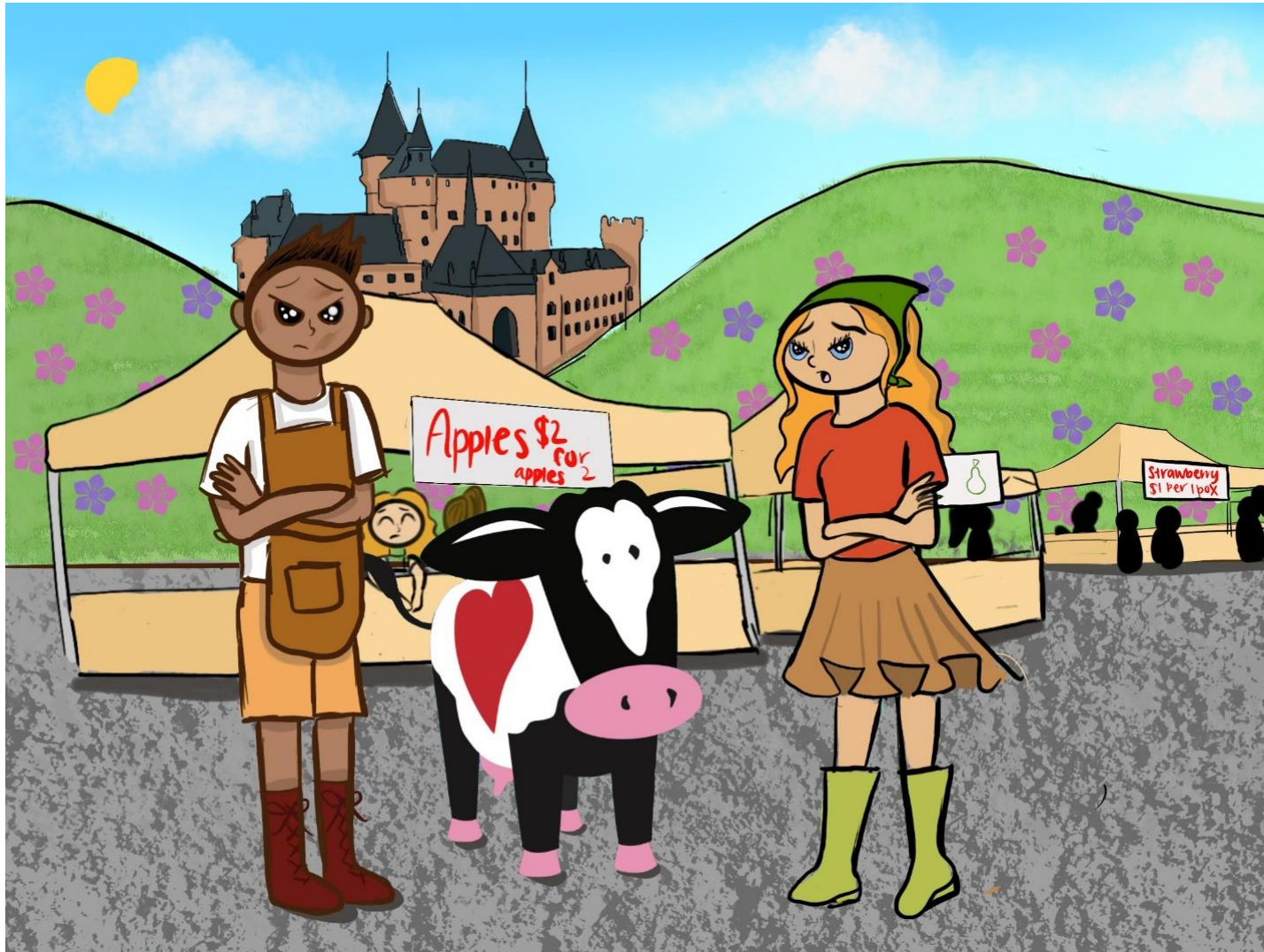
Moozie started a conversation, "What a beautiful day in the kingdom. Don't you agree? How is this kingdom? We are thinking of living here."

Isabella replied, "I love walking down the streets on a sunny day in the Kingdom of Kindness. This kingdom is a wonderful place. The only person I dislike here is the prince. Recently, I met him and greeted him eagerly. He called my clothes drab and dirty. That mean comment really hurt me. It's sad that he cannot look beyond my clothes and looks. As a prince I thought he would know more."



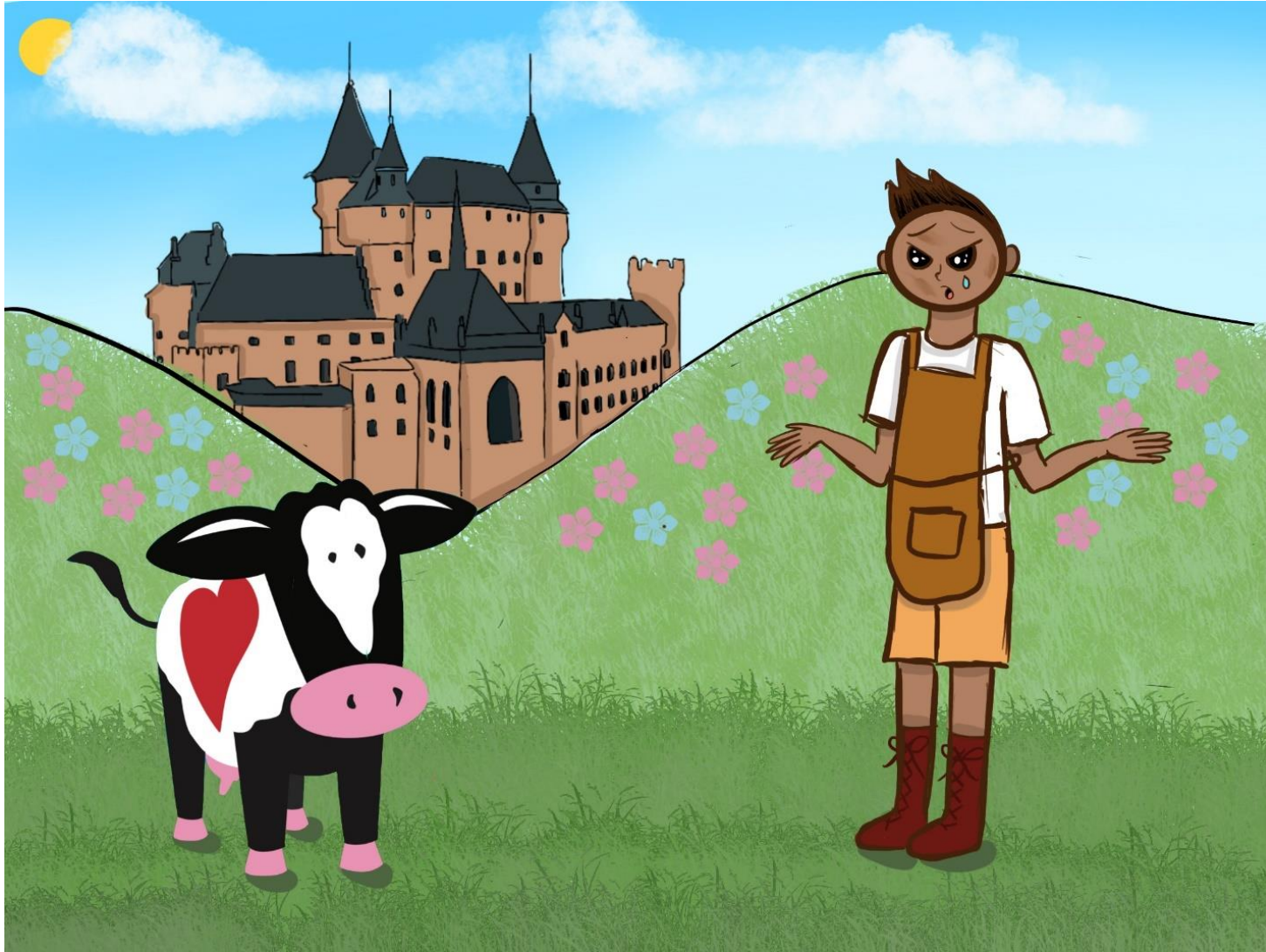
After acknowledging her they walked to another villager, James, and started a casual conversation about life in the kingdom.

James responded to Moozie, "I love the village except the prince. I felt hurt with what he said to me. Last week, when I broke my leg, he called me a rabbit that hops. It pains me to see that our own prince is calling people mean things. It's sad that he is unable to empathize with others pain. As a prince I thought he would know better. Now if you will excuse me, I have to go."



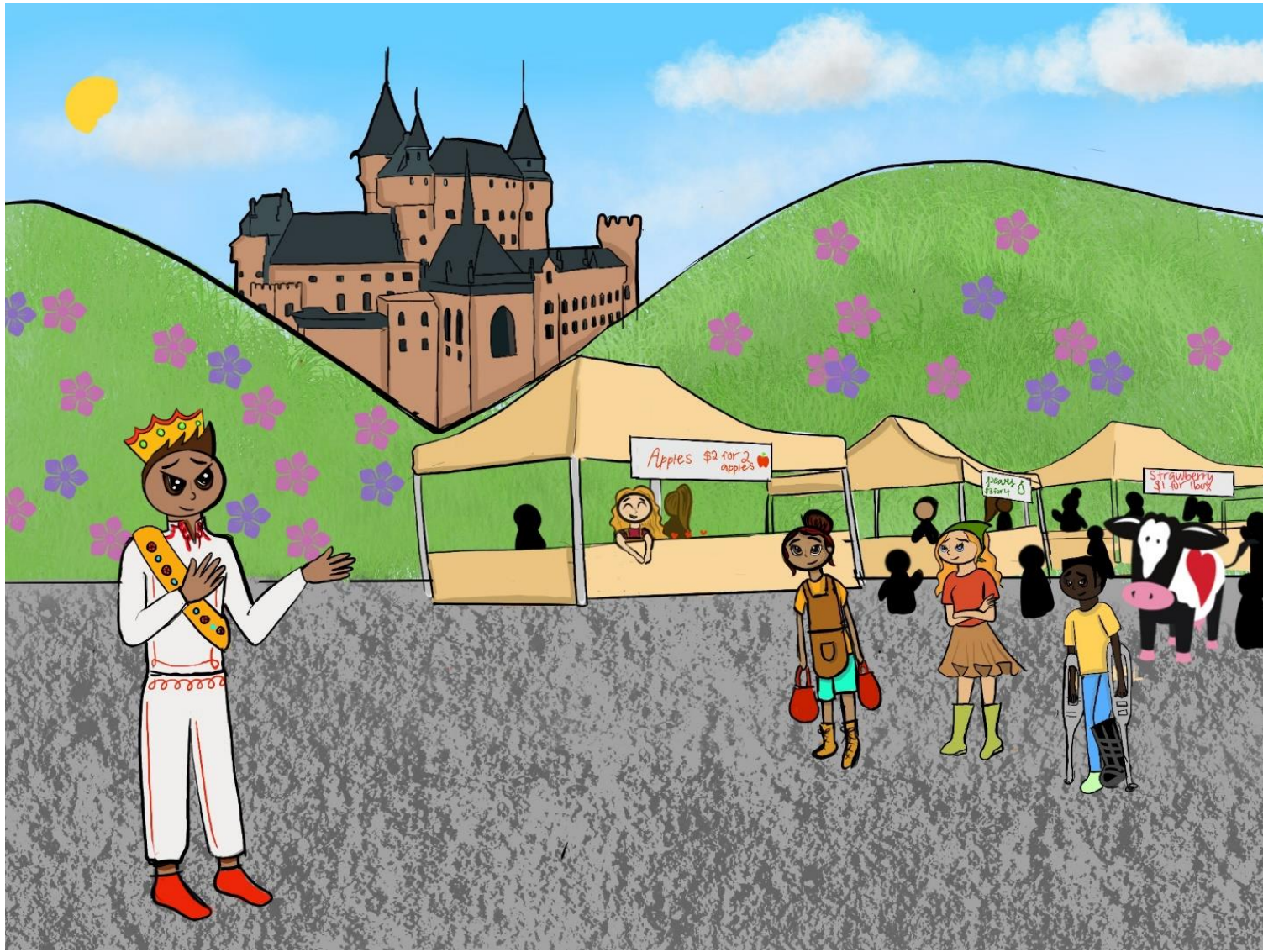
So, the prince and Moozie continued their walk and met Abigail.

Abigail remarked, "Everyone is nice except the prince. He is really mean to others and never kind. When I said that I work for him in the palace kitchen and serve him every day, he told me that he never realized that I worked in the palace and told me that I was meant to be a servant. It's sad that he looks down on people based on the job they do and is unable to appreciate hard work."



By now, the prince had heard enough and asked to return to the palace. Upon return, the prince said, "Sorry Moozie. I shouldn't have been so mean to all the villagers. If I was in their position, I would have felt really upset too. It is not right to call people bad things. That is not respectful. Can you forgive me?"

Moozie forgave him and taught him to always be kind to others.



The next day, the prince apologized to the whole neighborhood, and told them that he had learnt his lesson to be nice and kind to people. The villagers knew that he had learned his lesson and accepted his apology. Everyone in the Kingdom of Kindness lived happily ever after. The end. Max was in deep thoughts for a while.



At school, Max saw the little girl sitting on a bench all alone.

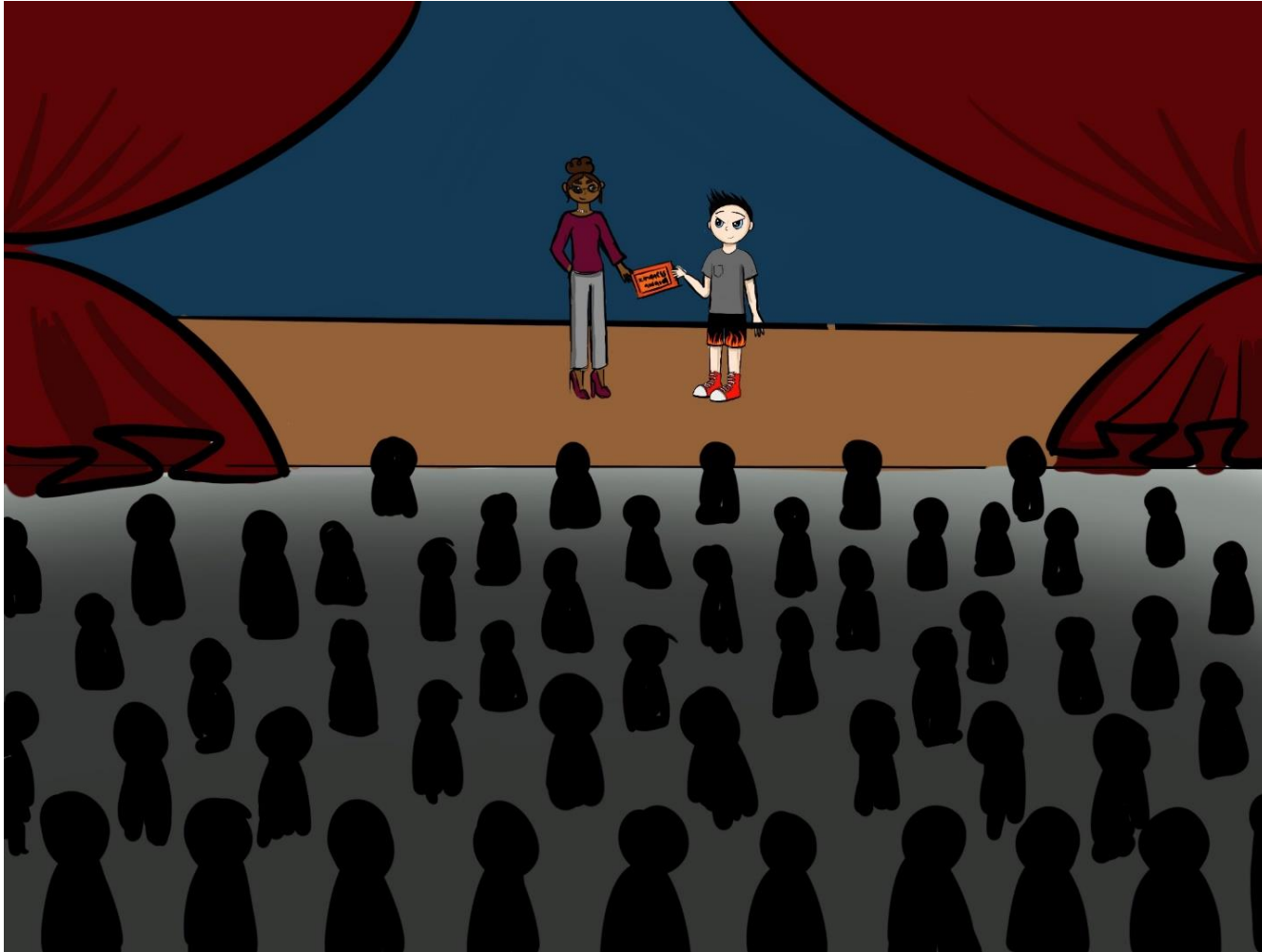
He went up to her and said, "I am sorry for what I did. I didn't know I hurt people so badly. I hope you can forgive me."

The little girl responded, "I am glad you understand. It takes a bigger person to apologize. My name is Amy by the way."

"Nice to meet you Amy. I am Max. Do you want to play together some time?"

Amy chuckled. "Sure. That would be great. Bye, Max!"

"Bye, Amy!"



Ever since that day, Max always remembered the story and was sure to always be kind to others. He helped others when they needed it, and never again teased another person. Everyone was happy that he stopped bullying. That month at school, he was selected for the "Kindness Award".

*****THE END*****

About the creators of Moozie's Magic of Kindness:

Shweta Bala was 10 years old in 2020 when she wrote "Moozie's Magic of Kindness" and a 5th grade student at an online school - Laurel Springs School.

Sahana Bala, Shweta's sister, illustrated the story while 15 years old and a 9th grade student at Lynbrook High School in San Jose, California.

Their kindness works for Moozie and Children's Kindness Network are:

Stories:

- Mia and Moozie
- Moozie's Magic of Kindness
- Moozie's Positive Words
- Moozie and the Circus

Poem:

- Moozie Poem

Puzzles:

- Moozie Word Search
- Unscramble the words

Posters (created early during the Covid pandemic):

- Moozie Says Wear a Mask
- Moozie Washes Hands