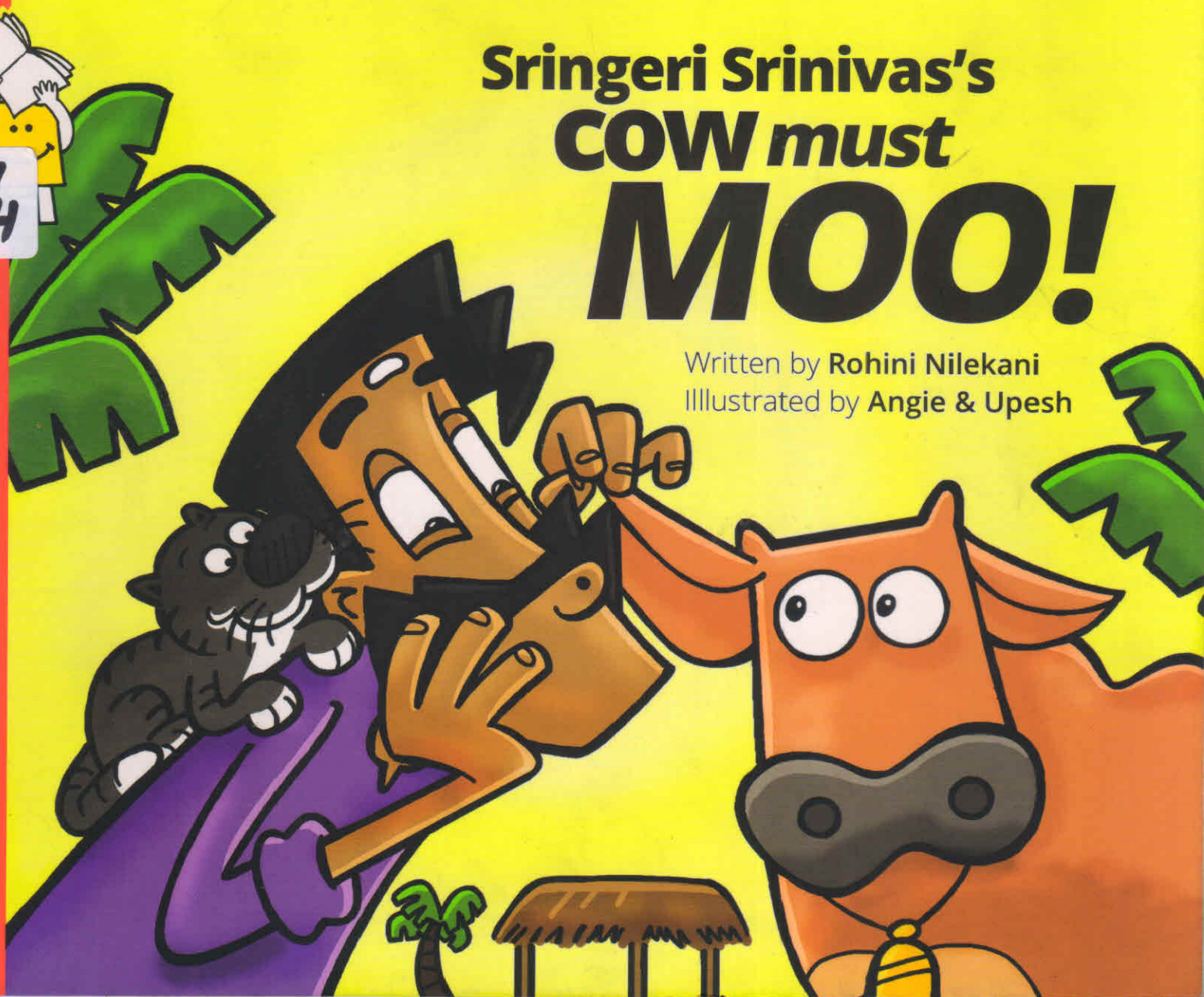


13/4

Sringeri Srinivas's **COW must** **MOO!**

Written by Rohini Nilekani
Illustrated by Angie & Upesh

LEVEL 2





Sringeri Srinivas's **COW must MOO!**

Written by **Rohini Nilekani**

Illustrated by **Angie & Upesh**

One day, Sringeri Srinivas, the banana farmer, came home from the cattle fair with a new cow.



"We will call her Laxmi," said his wife, Parvatamma.



But who was that behind Laxmi?
It was a black and white cat with green eyes.
"She walked with us all the way," said Sringeri.



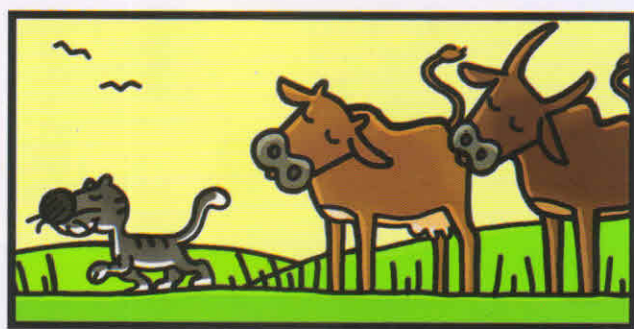
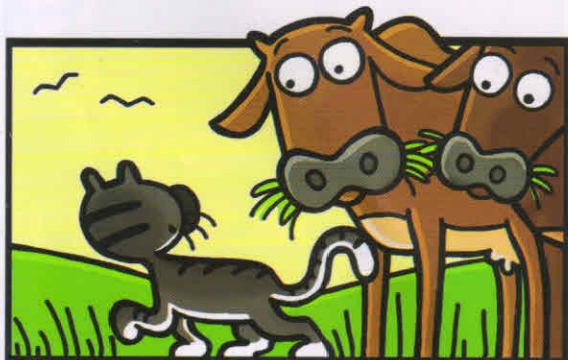
"We will call her Manuli,"
said his daughter, Uma.



The next day, Sringeri took Laxmi to graze in the field. Manuli followed Laxmi. The other cows were curious.



"Miaow," said Manuli to them, softly.



"Mooo," they said to her, swishing their tails.

In the evening, it was time to milk the cows.



Laxmi gave more milk than all the other cows. Sringeri was very happy.



"Good Laxmi," he said, stroking the animal.



Suddenly, Laxmi gave a loud 'Miaow'.



Not a 'MOO'.
A big, cow-sized 'MIAOW'.



All the other cows turned their heads. Who was making this funny sound?



"MOOOOO!" they all
bellowed in surprise.



"Miaow," sang Laxmi.



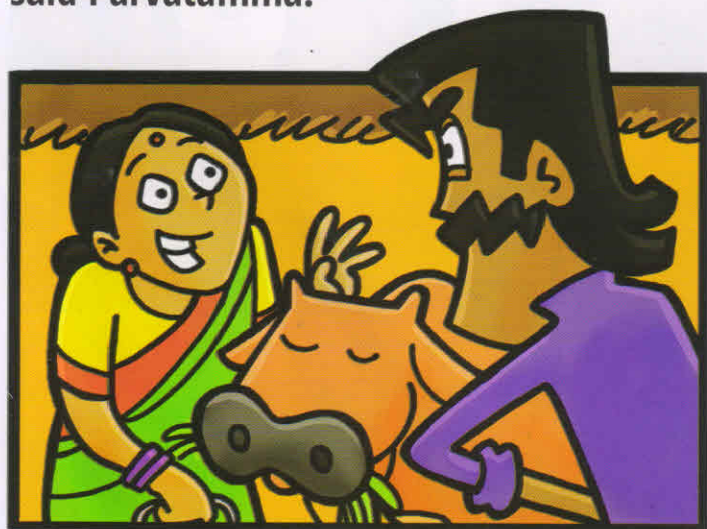
"Miaow," said Manuli.



"Miaow?"
Sringeri was puzzled.
Why does this
cow go 'Miaow'?"



"I do not know. But it is OK!"
said Parvatamma.



**"She is just different. Maybe Manuli
taught her. But see how much milk
she has given!"**

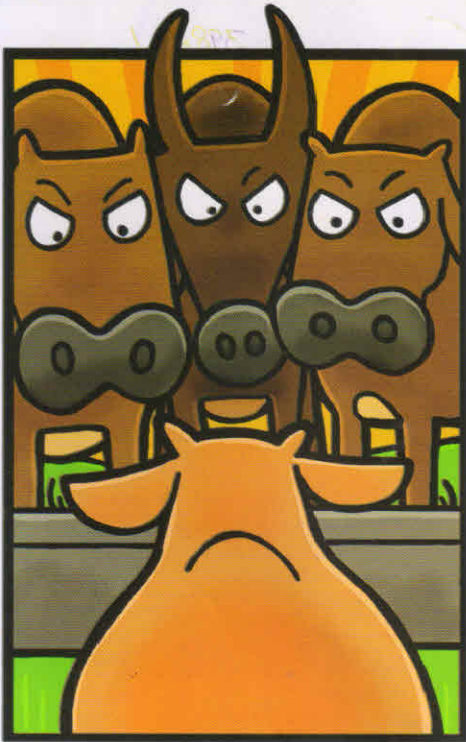


The next day, the same thing happened. Laxmi gave lots of milk.
Then she gave a cow-sized 'Miaow'. Manuli gave a cat-sized 'Miaow' too.



This time the other cows
were not happy.
"MOOOO!" they shouted.
"MOOOO!"

They glared at Laxmi.
And they refused to
give milk.



"Please give milk,"
Sringeri Srinivas
begged the cows.



But the cows turned
away. "NOOOOO," they
seemed to say!



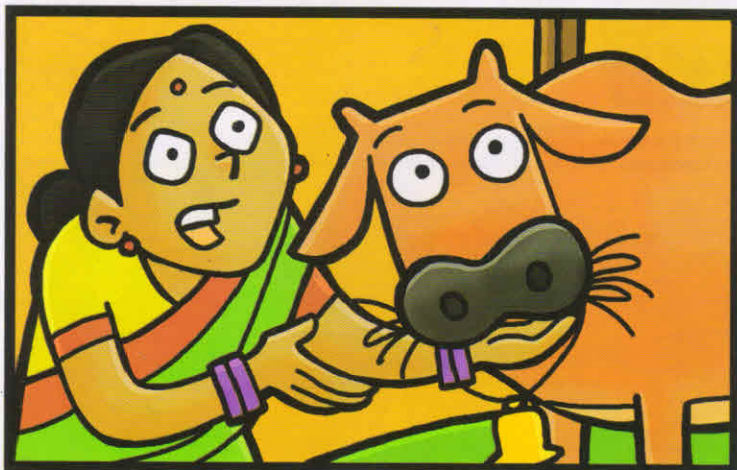
Sringeri was angry at this strange new cow.

"I will take Laxmi back," he said, giving his famous frown.

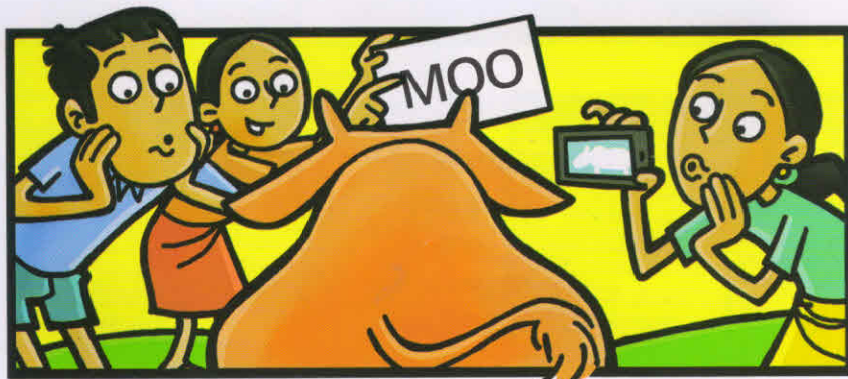


"But she gives so much sweet milk!" said Parvatamma. "Please let us keep her!"

"Well then, teach her to moo by tomorrow," said Sringeri. "Or she MUST GO!"



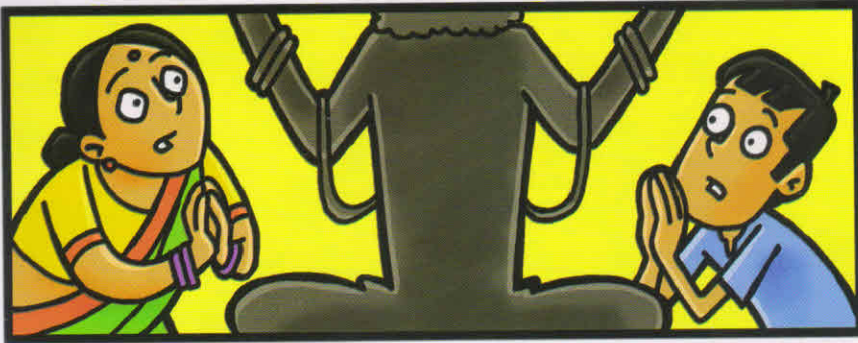
Parvatamma and the children spent the next day trying to make Laxmi moo.



They took Sringeri's new mobile phone. They showed her videos of other cows mooing. They mooed at her too.

They also did an aarti for Laxmi. They fed her sweets.





They prayed to their gods.
"Please make Laxmi moo."

All the neighbours came
to help. Shivanna brought
sugarcane. Shankara
brought cooked rice.



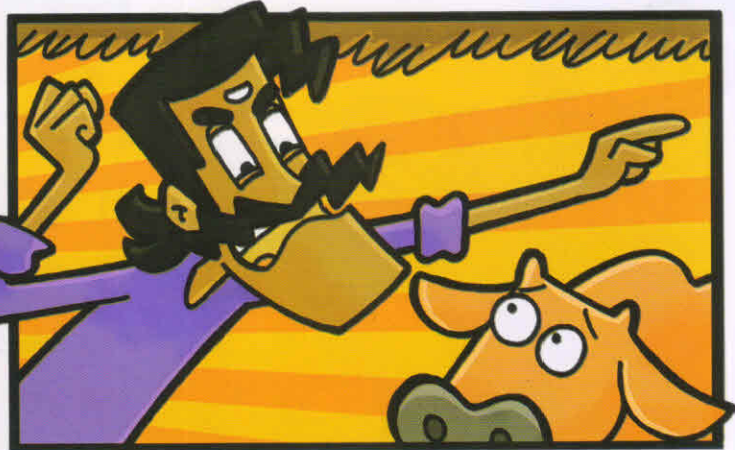
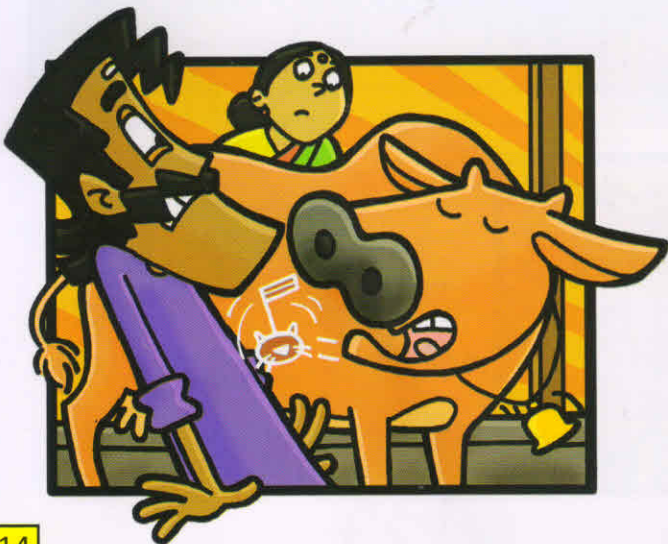
"Moo, Laxmi, moo,"
they all said.

Laxmi liked all the attention. She gave even more milk than usual.



Then she went 'Miaoooww', even louder than usual.

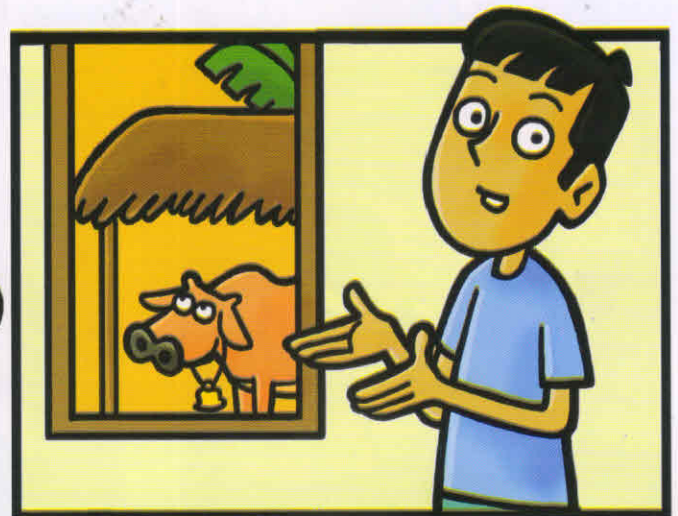
"I will take her back tomorrow!" roared Sringeri Srinivas. "Silly cow!"



Then, Shiva, the eldest son, had an idea.
"Amma, just for now, let us keep Laxmi and Manuli on the other side of the house," he said.



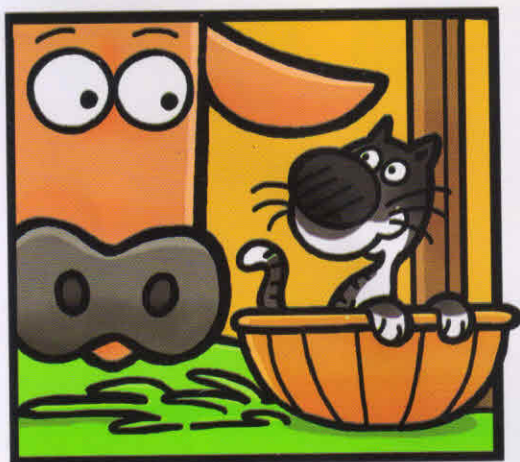
"Then our other cows will not hear her even if she miaows."



So they moved Laxmi to her new home.



Manuli got a new basket near Laxmi.



Once Laxmi was gone, the other cows began to give milk again.



Manuli wandered around the farm, making friends with all the cows.

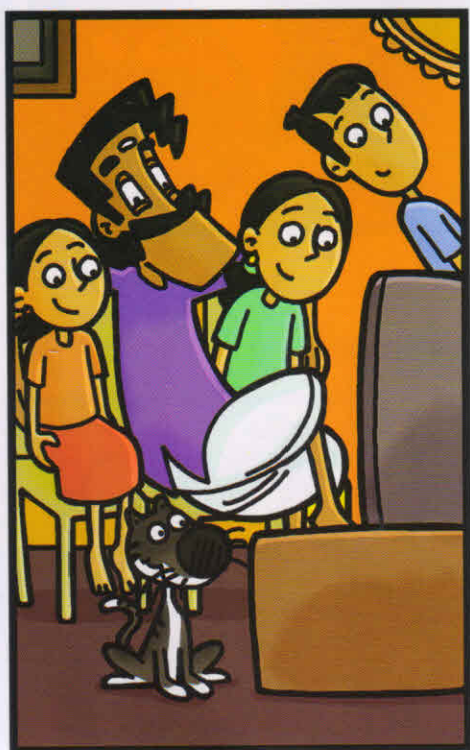


Many people came from everywhere to see the cow that went 'Miaow'. They paid extra to taste her sweet milk. They also bought a lot of Sringeri's famous banana halwa.



Sringeri stopped frowning. He was happy with Laxmi, the special cow. Then all the cows wanted to be friends with her too.

One evening, the family sat down to watch TV.



Suddenly, Manuli said, "Moo!"



It was not a 'Miaow'.
It was a small,
cat-sized 'Moo'.



Moo? Everyone looked at the cat, who was swishing her tail like a cow.



"Moo?" asked Sringeri, getting angry again.
"Why is this cat mooing?"

Ptita Lee Lesson Sr
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Aha! Now that is another story.

