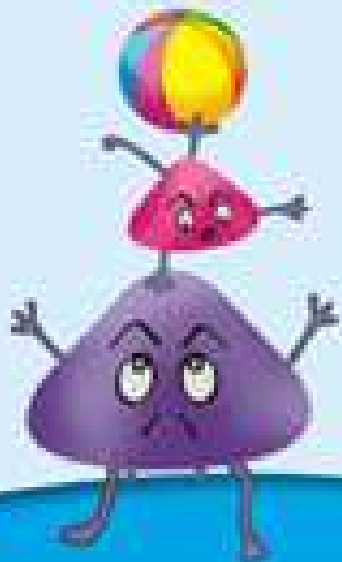





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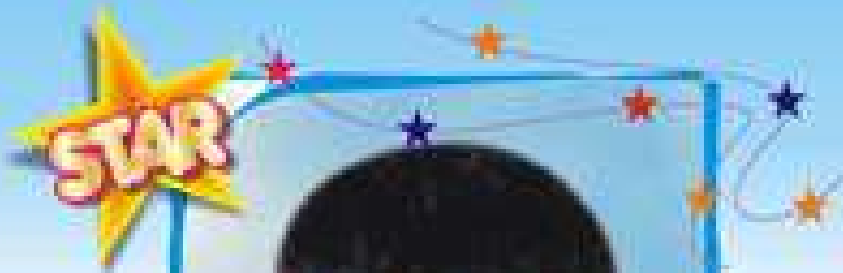
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My Unusual Friend

Pinocchio



Aahan



My Seasonal Friend

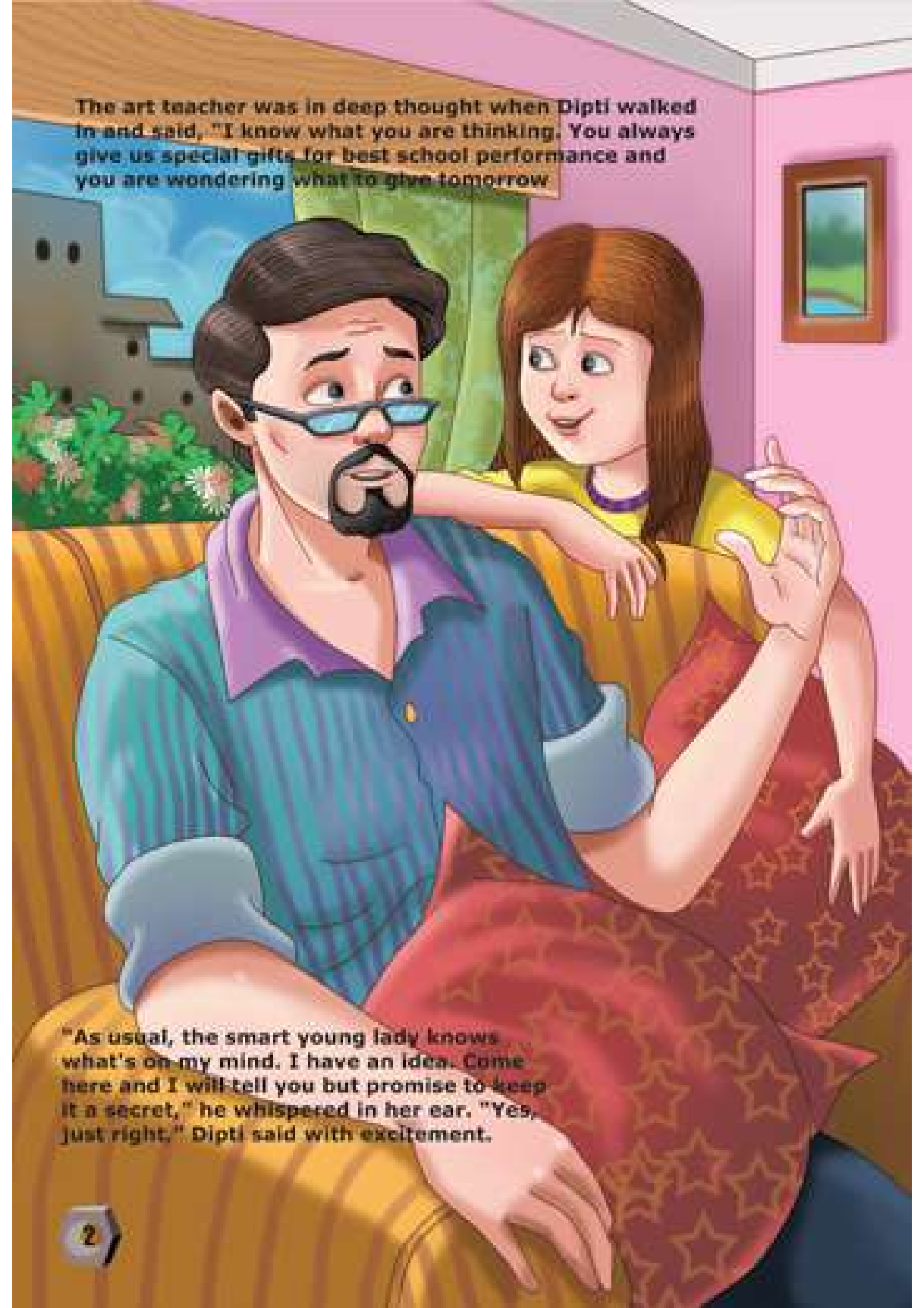
Pinocchio

Dear Aahan

**Wishing you dreams in your
heart, love in your world,
and the beautiful day you
deserve for being
so special!**

**From
Mamma and Papa**





The art teacher was in deep thought when Dipti walked in and said, "I know what you are thinking. You always give us special gifts for best school performance and you are wondering what to give tomorrow"

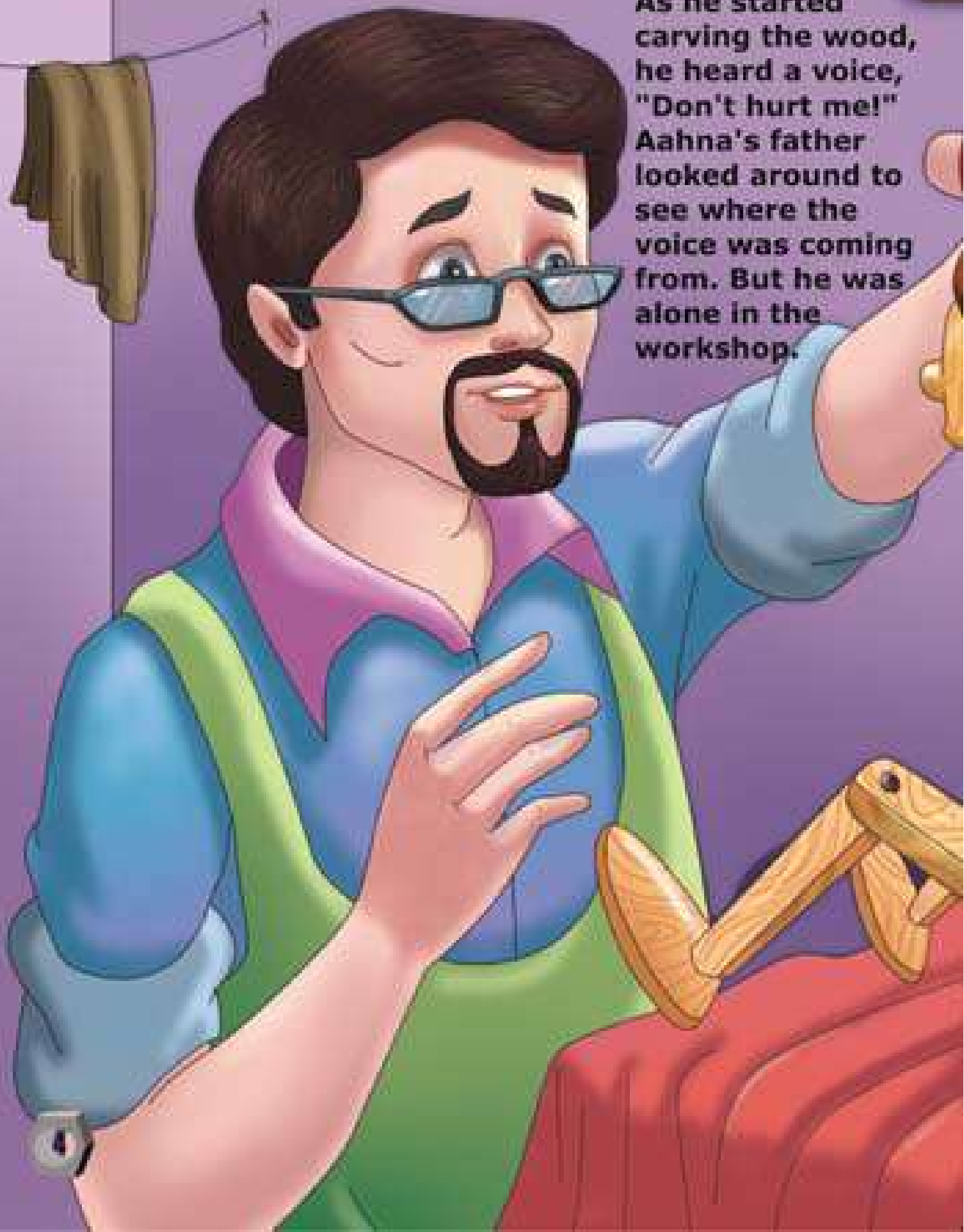
"As usual, the smart young lady knows what's on my mind. I have an idea. Come here and I will tell you but promise to keep it a secret," he whispered in her ear. "Yes, just right," Dipti said with excitement.

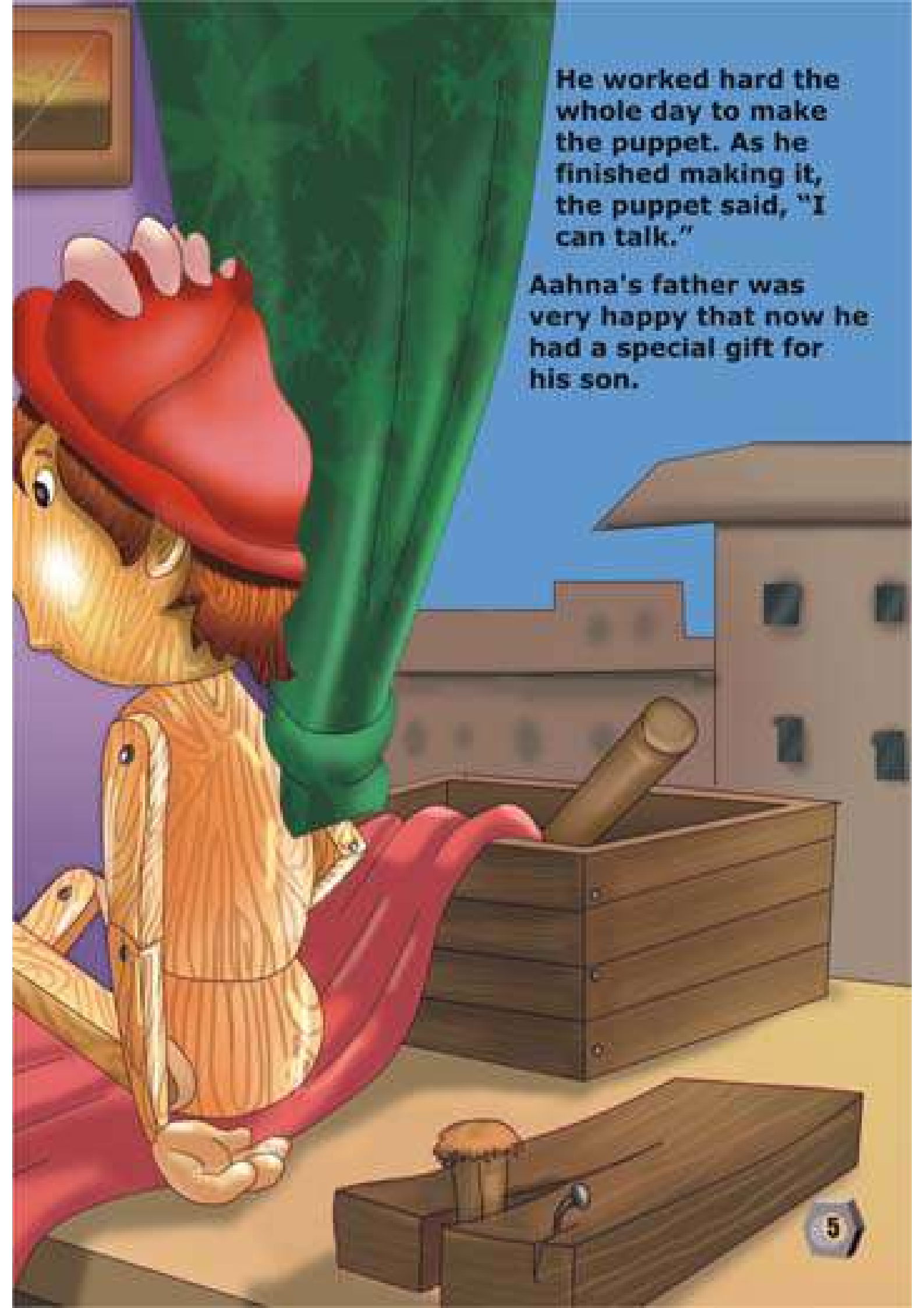
When she met Aahan, he coaxed her, "What has he planned?" "Secret is a secret," replied Dipti. "OK, wait your time will come too, then I will have a secret," Aahan tried again. "Ha, ha, we shall see," said Dipti as she walked away.



Next morning Aahna's father woke up early and went to his workshop. He had planned to make a very smart puppet for his son. He had chosen a special piece of wood to make the puppet.

As he started carving the wood, he heard a voice, "Don't hurt me!" Aahna's father looked around to see where the voice was coming from. But he was alone in the workshop.





He worked hard the whole day to make the puppet. As he finished making it, the puppet said, "I can talk."

Aahna's father was very happy that now he had a special gift for his son.

On his way to the school the next morning with Aahan, Dipti, Divya and Rohan, Pinocchio saw a sign "Greatest Puppet Show of the World". "I want to see this show," he shouted. "But we don't have any money," said Divya. "Also we cannot miss the school," shouted Rohan. "Forget about the show. Let's go to the school," said Aahan. Pinocchio insisted, "I will sell my new books." Before anyone could stop him, he ran away and exchanged his books for the tickets.



As soon as he entered, he got onto the stage and announced, "I can dance and sing better than those puppets and I don't even need the strings." "Get off the stage," shouted the puppet master. But the crowd wanted Pinocchio to perform. Everybody enjoyed Pinocchio's dance. "Here, I must pay you for your show. Take these coins and go straight home to your father," said the puppet master.



Pinocchio woke up in surprise; he found that he had turned into a handsome boy. He ran to Sameer and his father and shouted, "look Sameer, look father, I am a real boy". Sameer cried with joy, "You are a real boy at last! Now we are real friends."



More About Puppets

A puppet is an object or a figure made to move by a person. This person is called the puppeteer. Puppets are made of a wide range of materials like wood, cloth, wool, plastic and even paper. They are used for story telling like a drama in which these puppets are the actors. There are many different varieties of puppets.



Hand or glove puppets

Are usually controlled by one hand on which they fit like a glove. The puppeteer uses his finger to move the puppet's head, mouth, ears or hands.



Marionette or string puppets

Are suspended and controlled by a number of strings. The strings are attached to the head, back, hand and just above the knee. This form of puppetry requires great control and practice.

Human Carnival or Body puppets
Are often used in parades and protests. They are as big as a human and often much larger. One or more person are required to move the body. These puppets are now used for large scale entertainment such as the nightly parades at the various Disney complexes around the world. They are even invited for birthday parties to entertain children.



Shadow puppets

Are cut-out figures held between a source of light and the screen. Only the shadow of the puppet can be seen on the screen.

Mua Roi Nuoc
Is Vietnamese water puppetry. Mua Roi Nuoc means "puppets that dance on water". The puppets are built out of wood and the show is performed in waist-deep pool. A large rod is attached to the puppet under the water, and is controlled by the puppeteer to move the puppets. It seems as if the puppets are moving on the water.



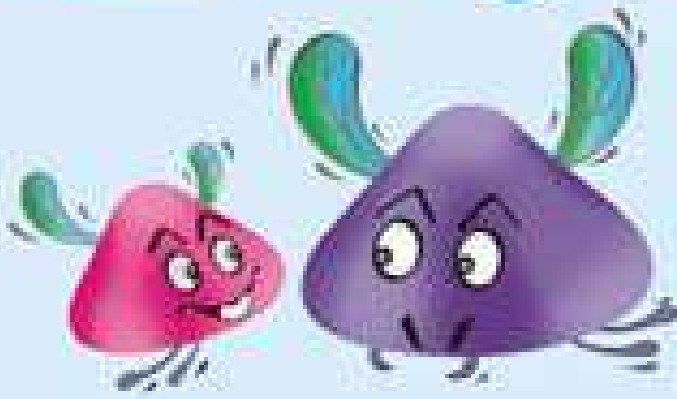
Rod puppets

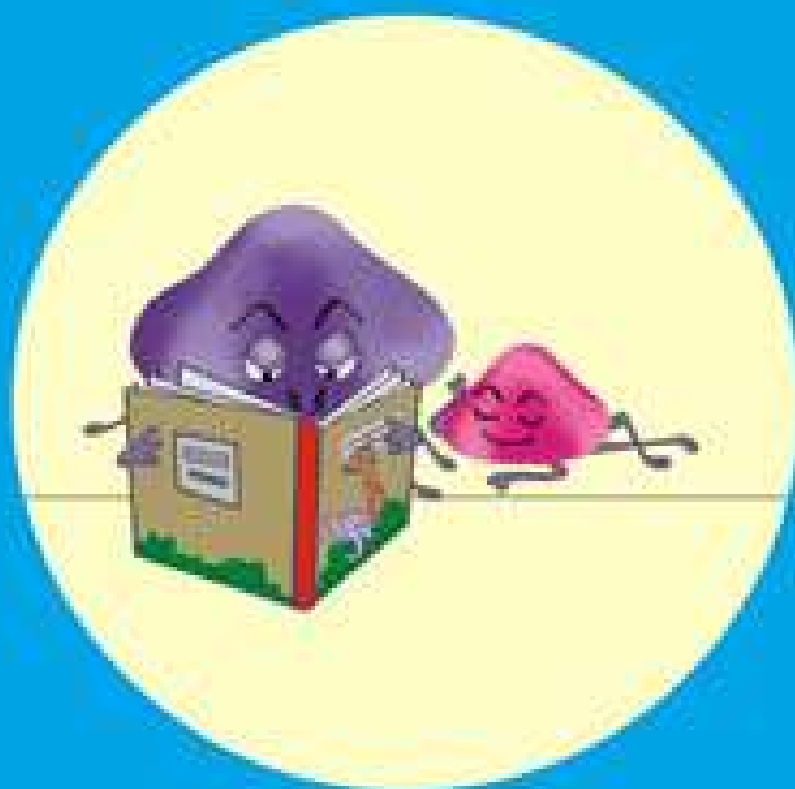
Are made around a central rod attached to the head. They are controlled by moving metal rods attached to the them and by turning the central rod.



Finger puppets

Fit onto a single finger and have no moving parts. They consist primarily of a hollow cylinder shape to cover the finger.





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