

Level 5



The Little Island of Malvevaing

By David Malere
Illustrated by Mila Aydingoz



The Little Island of Malvevaing



By David Malere
Illustrated by Mila Aydingoz

Library For All Ltd.



There's a beautiful island in Vanuatu called Malekula. It's the second biggest island in the country. Malekula has some offshore islands of its own. One of these is the islet of Malvevaing. The people of Malekula think of this islet as very powerful.



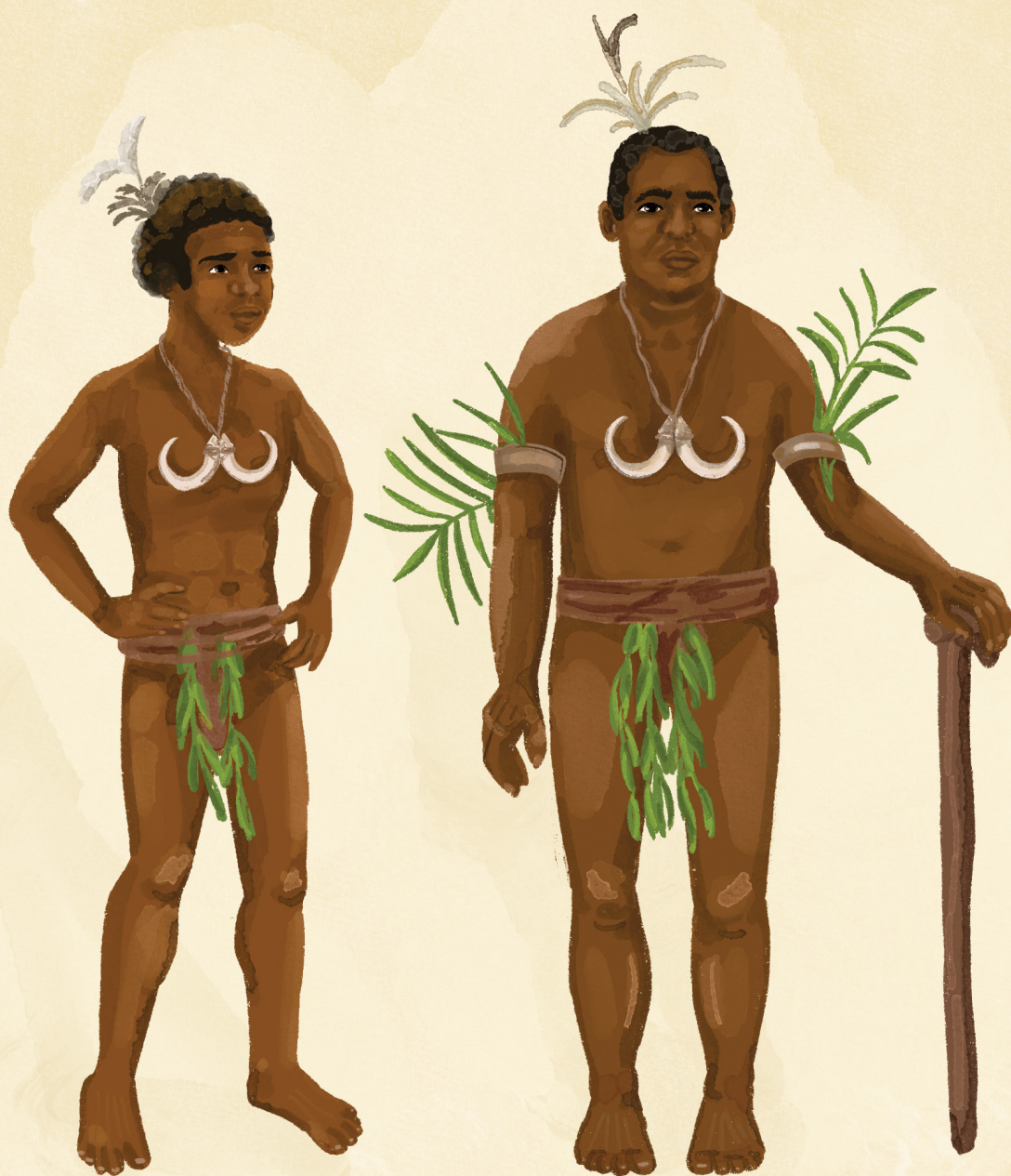


One day, two young people become engaged. The woman was the daughter of the chief of Petelep Village on the mainland of Malekula. The man was the eldest son of the chief of Malvevaing Island.





After some months, the man brought the woman to live with his family in Malvevaing.



The proud chief of Malvevaing organised a traditional wedding for his son. He planned a great feast, with singing and dancing for entertainment.





The chief also gave his son money to set up a house on the islet so the couple could stay in Malvevaing after the wedding.



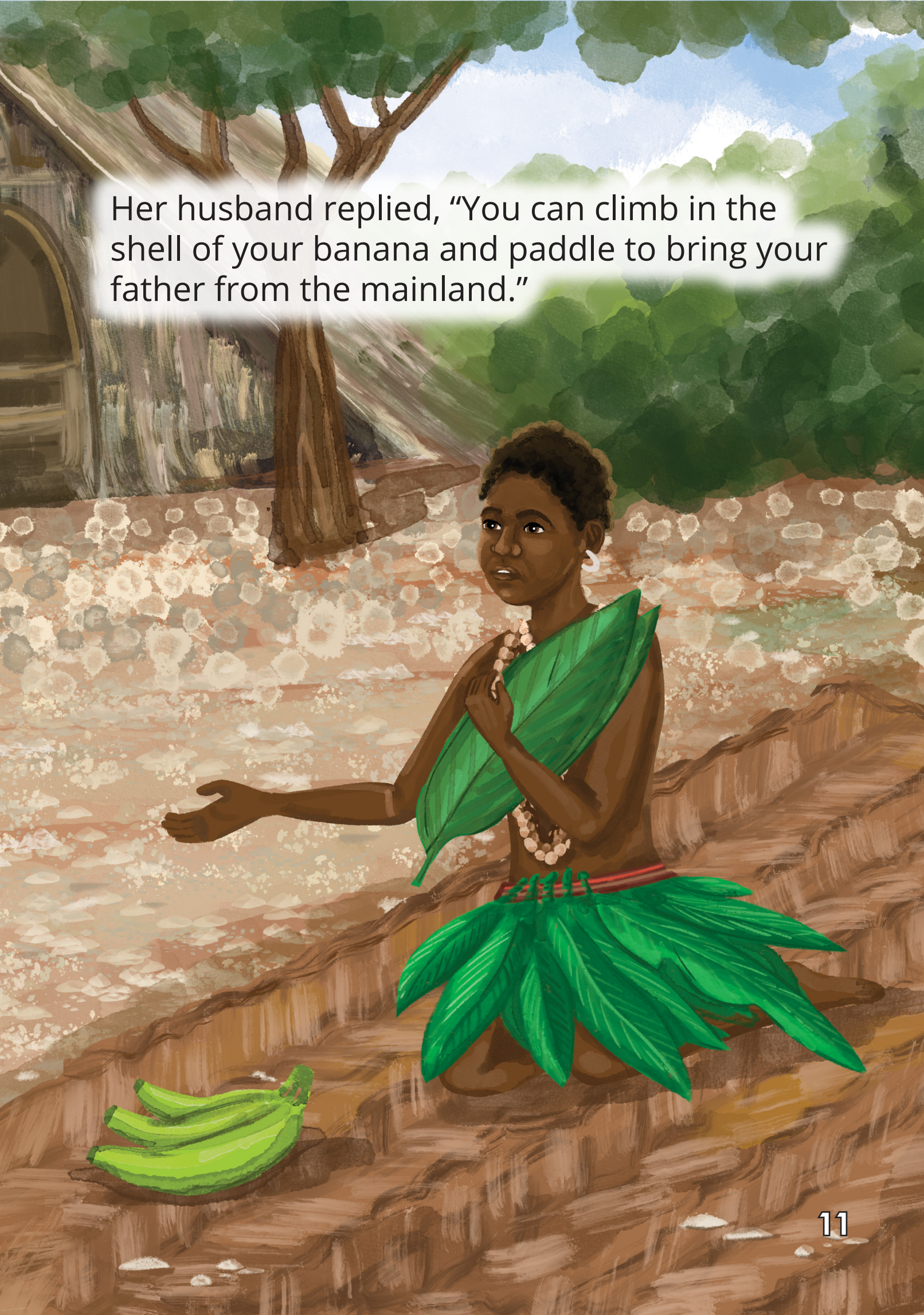


A day before the traditional wedding, the woman was in her bush kitchen grating banana to make laplap. She asked her husband if she could borrow his canoe to bring her father from the mainland Malekula for the wedding.





Her husband replied, "You can climb in the shell of your banana and paddle to bring your father from the mainland."



The woman was very upset at her husband's thoughtless reply. She cried and cried as she continued to grate banana.

Finally, her husband agreed she could use his young brother's canoe to bring her father to Malvevaing.





When the woman arrived on the mainland she told her father everything.

The chief was furious. He asked the villagers to dress in their best clothes and bring enough food for three weeks to the top of the nearby hill.

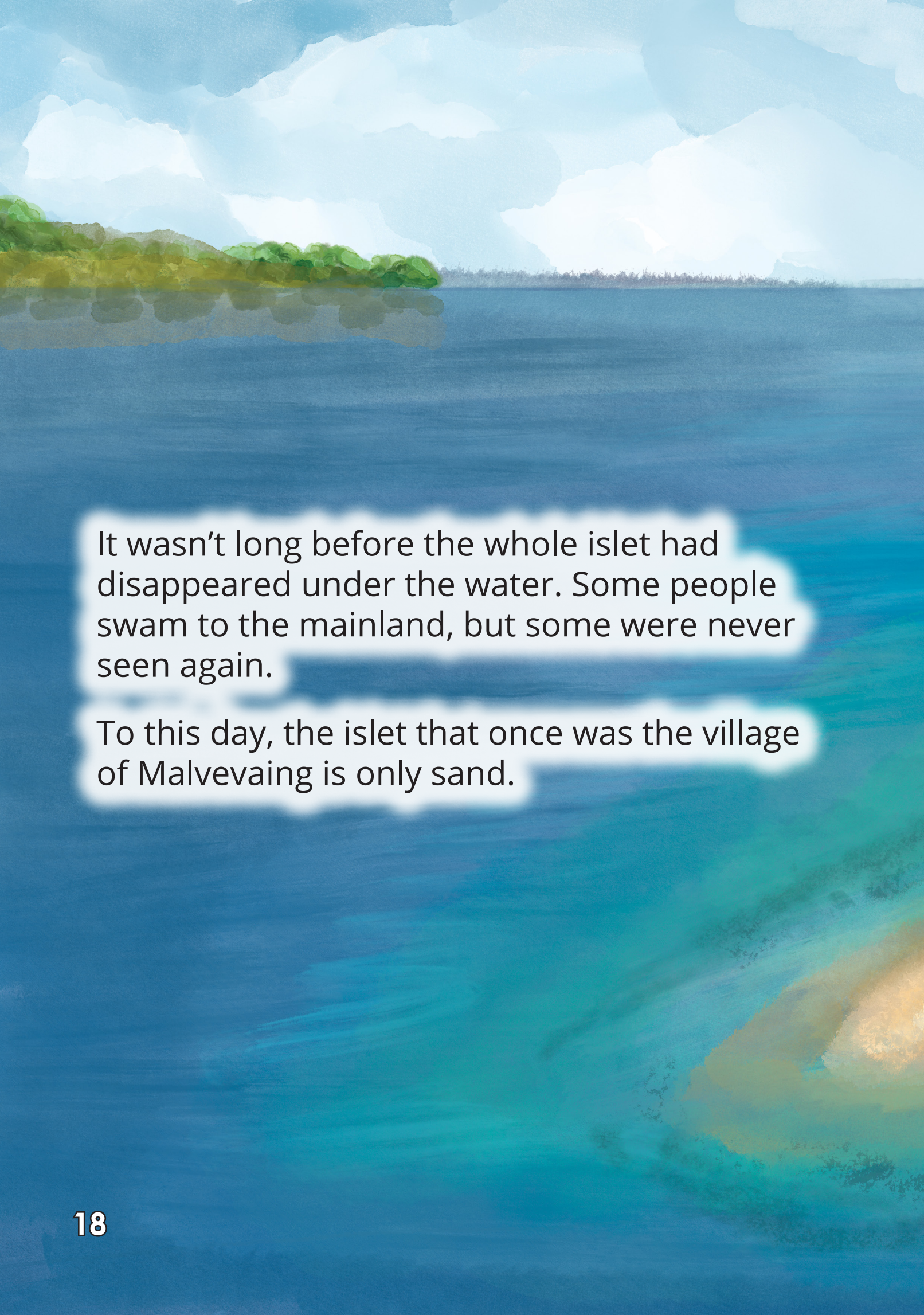






After climbing to the top of the hill, the chief looked down at the islet of Malvevaing and began to do the rain dance.





It wasn't long before the whole islet had disappeared under the water. Some people swam to the mainland, but some were never seen again.

To this day, the islet that once was the village of Malvevaing is only sand.



**You can use these questions
to talk about this book with
your family, friends and
teachers.**



**What was the woman grating as
she cried?**



**Why did the woman want to see
her father?**



Why is the island now only sand?

**What would you do if you were the
village chief?**



**Ask your friends and family to share
their favourite custom story.**

About the author

David Malere was born in Santo and has always loved custom stories since he was a child. By writing this story, he hopes to help children and other people understand the importance of culture. When he is with his family, he likes talking about these stories.



Did you enjoy this book?

We have hundreds more expertly curated original stories to choose from.

We work in partnership with authors, educators, cultural advisors, governments and NGOs to bring the joy of reading to children everywhere.

Did you know?

We create global impact in these fields by embracing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



libraryforall.org

You're reading **Level 5**

Learner – Beginner readers

Start your reading journey with short words, big ideas and plenty of pictures.

Level 1 – Rising readers

Raise your reading level with more words, simple sentences and exciting images.

Level 2 – Eager readers

Enjoy your reading time with familiar words, but complex sentences.

Level 3 – Progressing readers

Develop your reading skills with creative stories and some challenging vocabulary.

Level 4 – Fluent readers

Step up your reading skills with playful narratives, new words and fun facts.

Level 5 – Curious readers

Discover your world through science and stories.

Level 6 – Adventurous readers

Explore your world through science and stories.



Library For All is an Australian not for profit organisation with a mission to make knowledge accessible to all via an innovative digital library solution. Visit us at libraryforall.org

The Little Island of Malvevaing

First published 2025

Published by Library For All Ltd

Email: info@libraryforall.org

URL: libraryforall.org



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>.

This book was made possible by the generous support of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Global Partnership for Education (GPE).



Original illustrations by Mila Aydingoz

The Little Island of Malvevaing

Malere, David

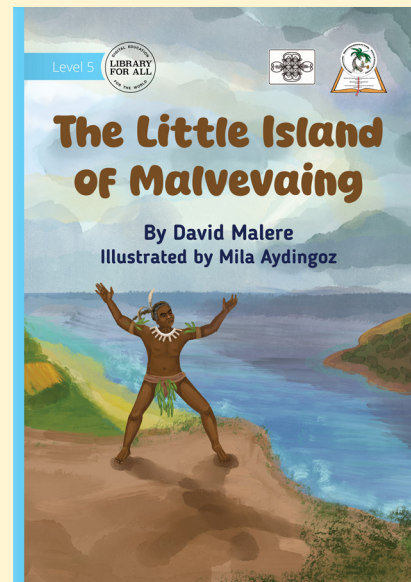
ISBN: 978-1-923554-36-8

SKU04827



The Little Island of Malvevaing

The island of Malekula has an islet known as Malvevaing. When the village chief marries his daughter to a man from Malvevaing and she is treated cruelly, the chief decides to drown the islet.



libraryforall.org
#lettheworldlearn

ISBN 978-1-923554-36-8



9 781923 554368

