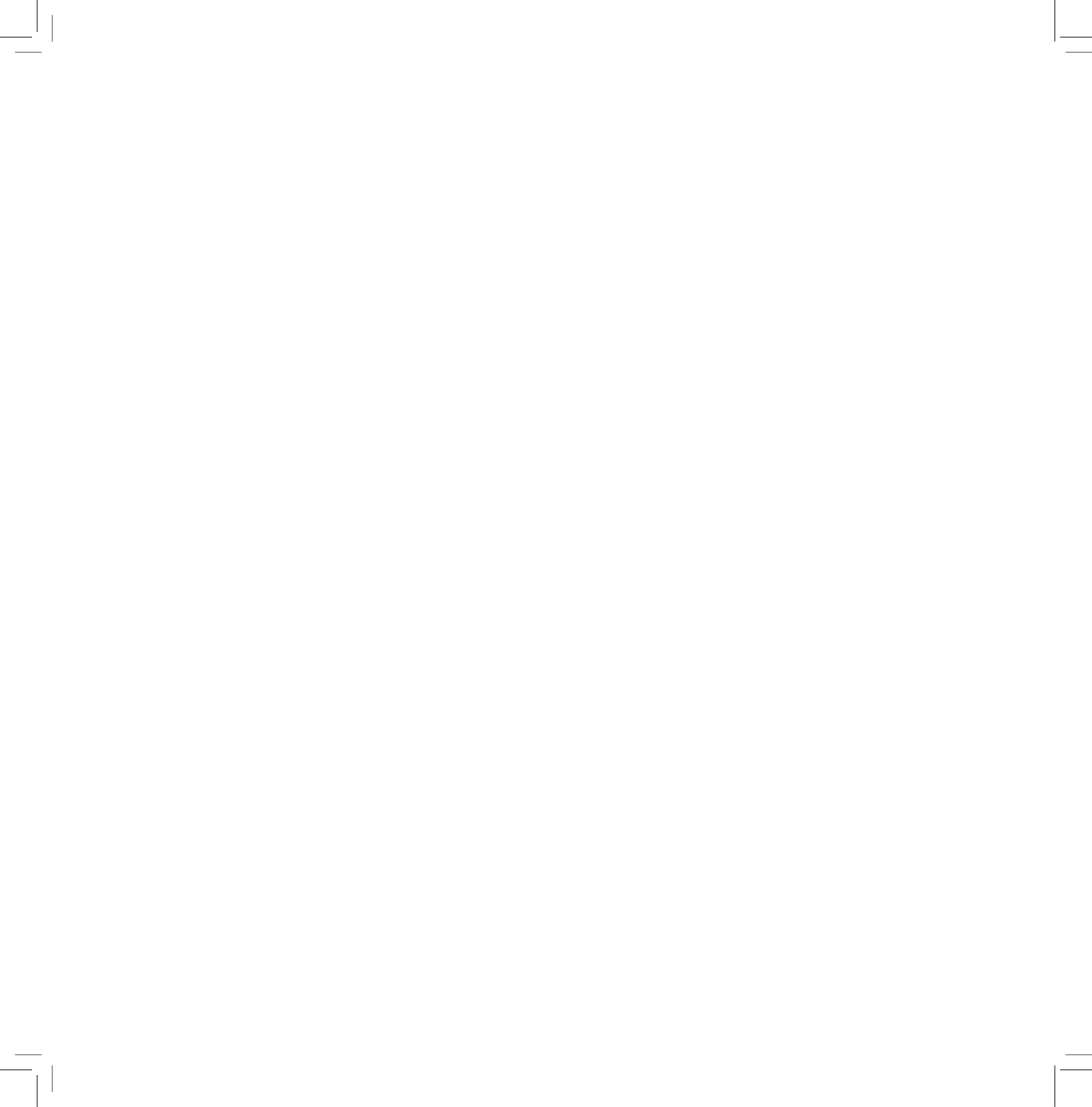




AMERA LIKES BANANA



Mera is a seven year old boy.  
He likes to play soccer and loves to  
eat banana.

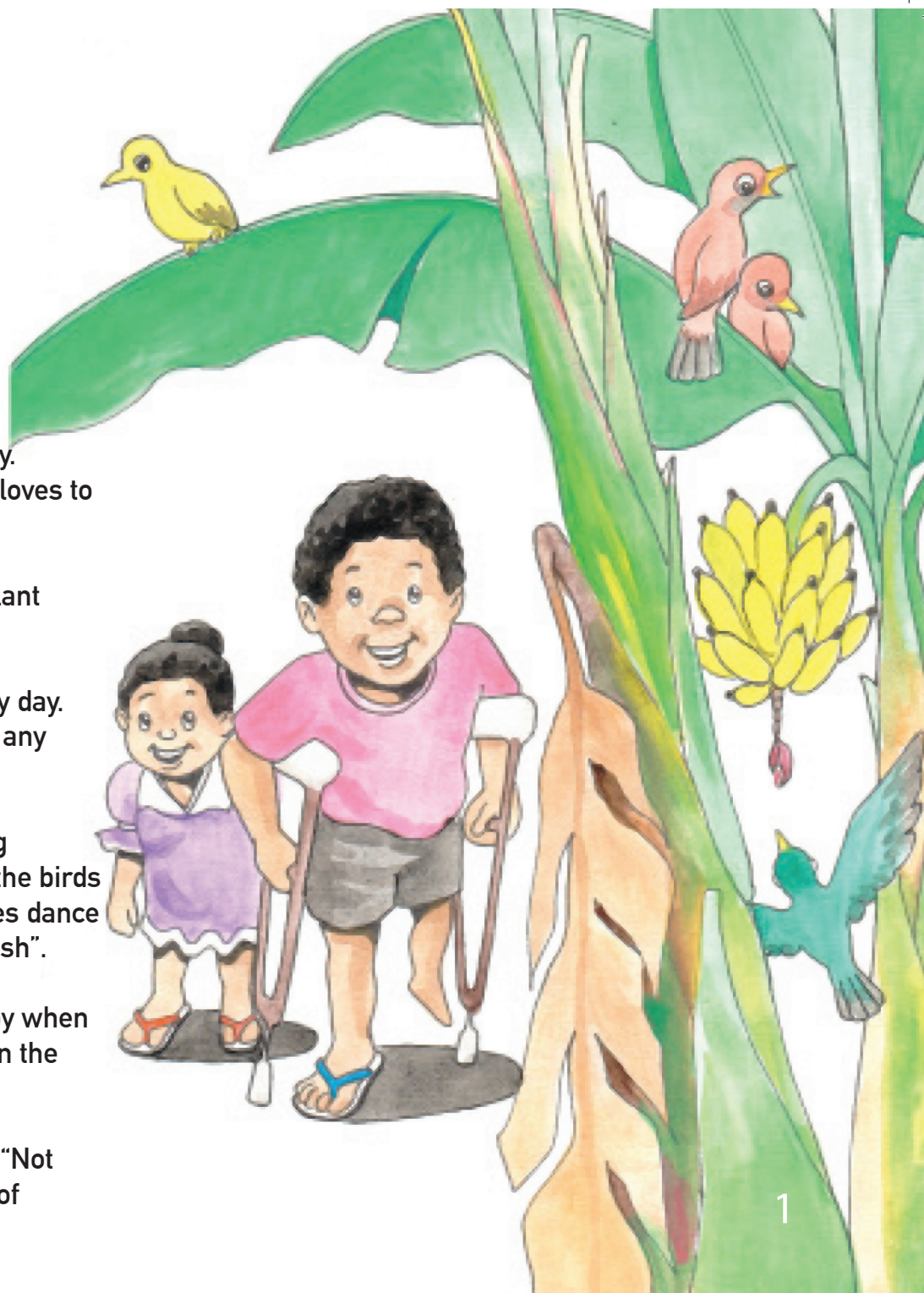
Mera helped his father to plant  
banana trees.

He likes to eat banana every day.  
He likes banana more than any  
other food.

Every morning, while eating  
banana, he would listen to the birds  
singing and watch the leaves dance  
in the wind, "whosh.....whosh".

Mera gets excited and happy when  
he sees the banana fruits on the  
trees going yellow.

"Yummy, yummy", he says, "Not  
very long I will have plenty of  
bananas to eat!"





Mera is a seven year old boy.  
Not long after, a big/powerful/  
strong cyclone came.

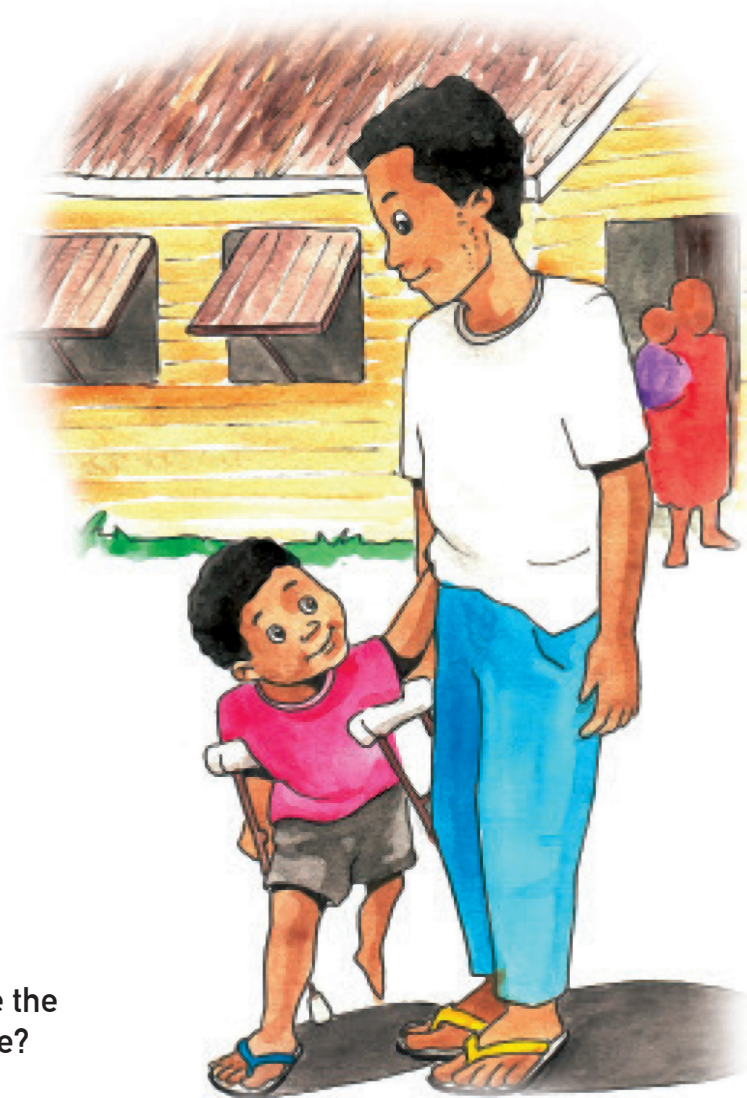
“Boom.....Brrrr.....Sw.....  
ish.....Sw.....ash.....Oo...oo...  
Ba...ng...Ba....ng!

The bananas fell, “Boom,  
Bang!”

After the strong winds  
stopped, Mera’s father  
opened the door, and the first  
thing that was on

Mera’s mind were the  
bananas.





"Daddy can we go and see the banana's behind the house?"

"That's a good idea, let's go!"

Mera got hold of his father's hand and pulled him to go with him to the back of the house

“Dad look! All the bananas have fallen. Oh! No! I don’t like this cyclone. It destroyed/ spoiled everything.

The bananas fell, birds are no longer singing and there are no leaves on the trees. There will be no bananas for me to eat.





Mera cried so hard and hid his face in his mother's dress. His mother comforted him and said, "We are also sad about what had happened. We are all very sad".

The three of them sat down and Mera's father said, "Mera, the cyclone has caused a lot of damage, but you know what? I promise that the bananas will grow again".



When Mera heard this, he cried even more, so his father took him out to play soccer. But Mera continued to cry, until his mother called him to come and look at what she found.

“Look Mera, see what I found”, she said, pointing to banana shoots that continued to stand right throughout the cyclone.

Mera could not believe what he saw.

The bananas are so clever. They lived throughout the cyclone.







Mera had a BIG smile on his face and said, "Does that mean the birds will come back and sing and the leaves will dance in the wind again? And does that mean we will have more bananas to eat?"

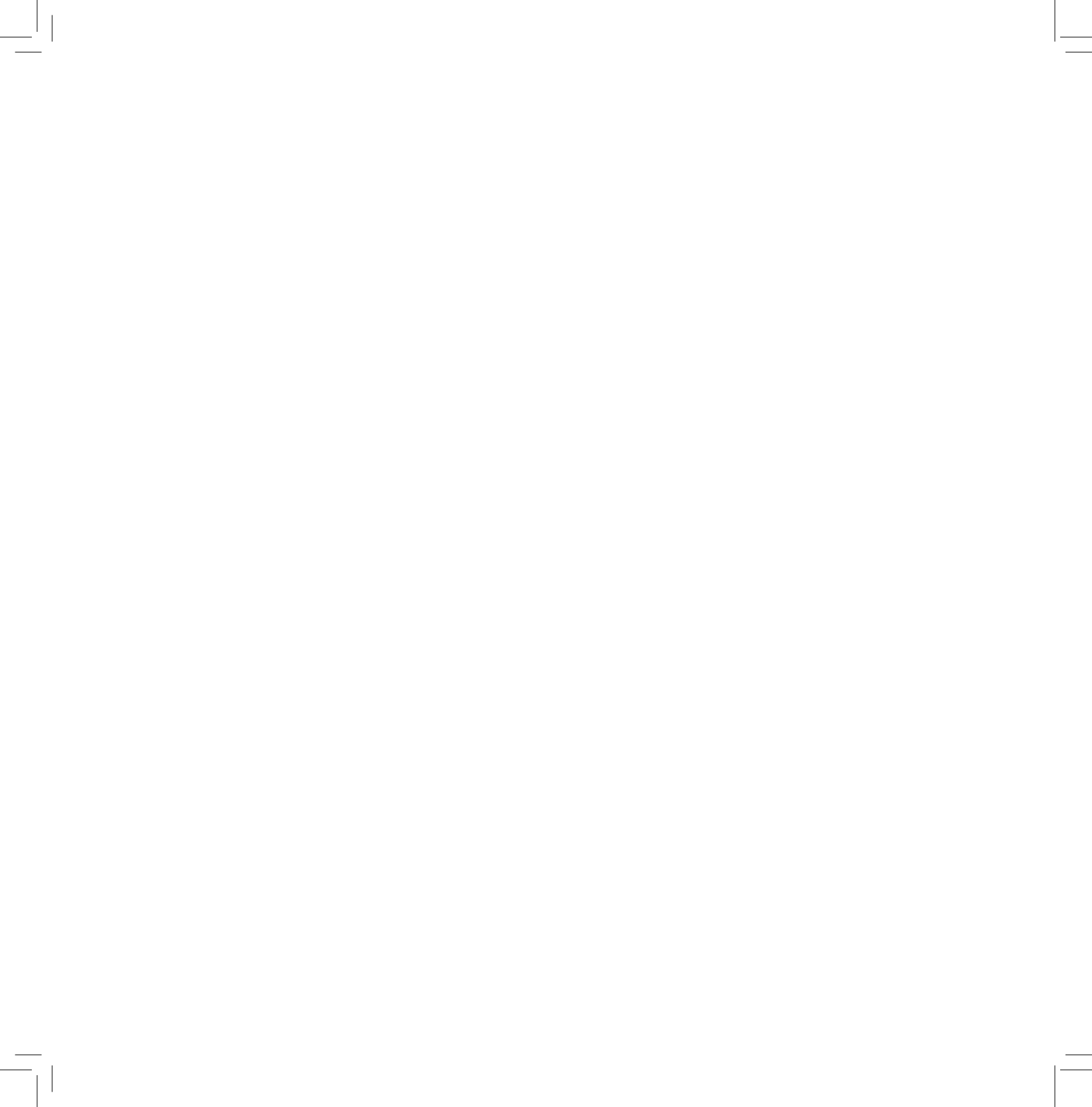
Mera's mother and father said, "Yes, there will more bananas.

And Mera said, "Now I will be the happiest boy in all the world, because I will be eating all the bananas I want".



This book was originally developed by participants in a workshop in Vanuatu after Cyclone Pam to help children deal with the trauma of cyclone and discuss their feelings and thoughts and find ways to better cope. Ministry of Education and Training in Vanuatu and UNICEF Pacific facilitated the development of the book and its distribution to children in affected areas.







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