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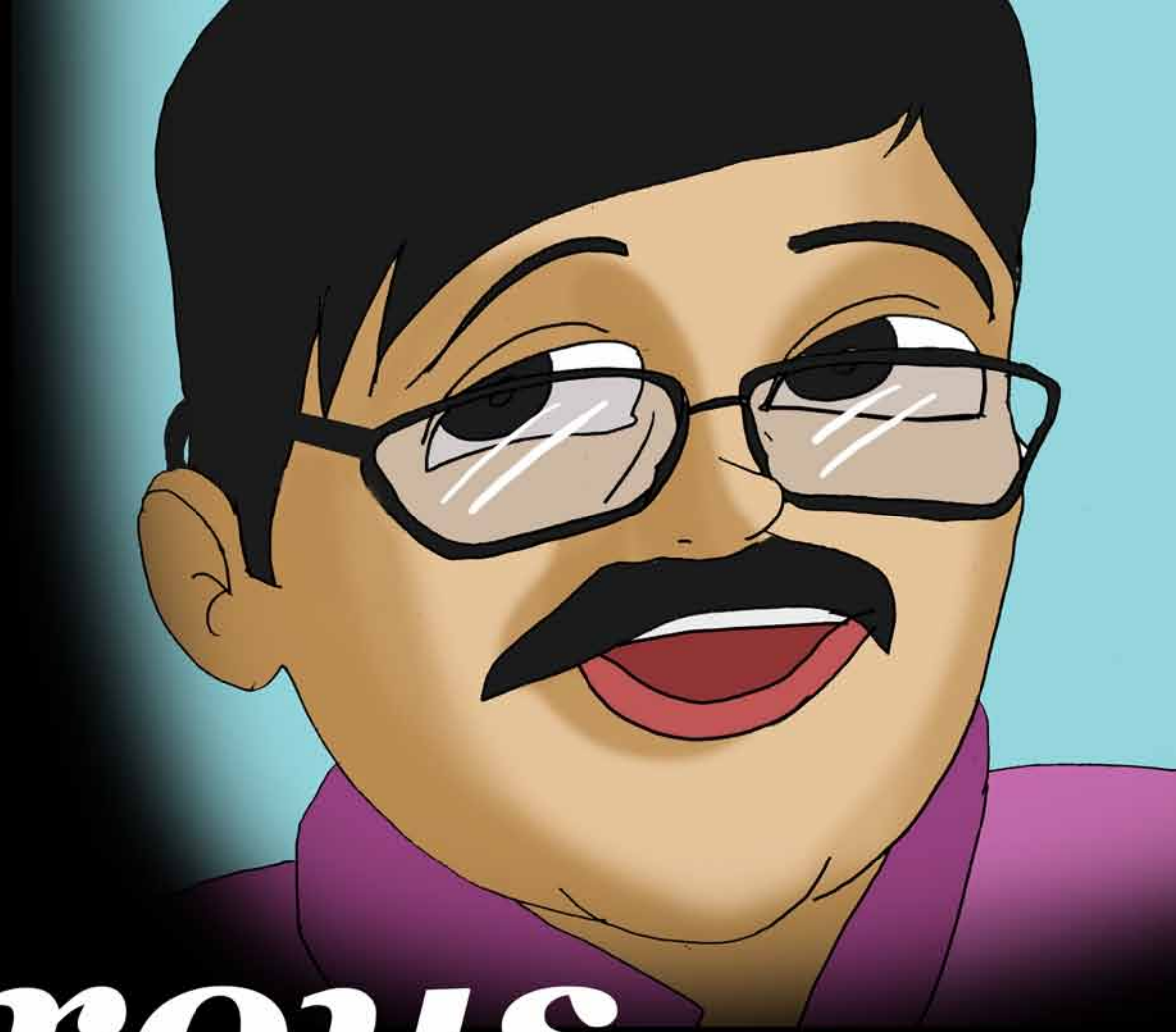

Dangerous Intelligence

One logician went to purchase some flour from a miller.
The miller asked him to wait...
Kindly wait for a few moments, I am just grinding it.
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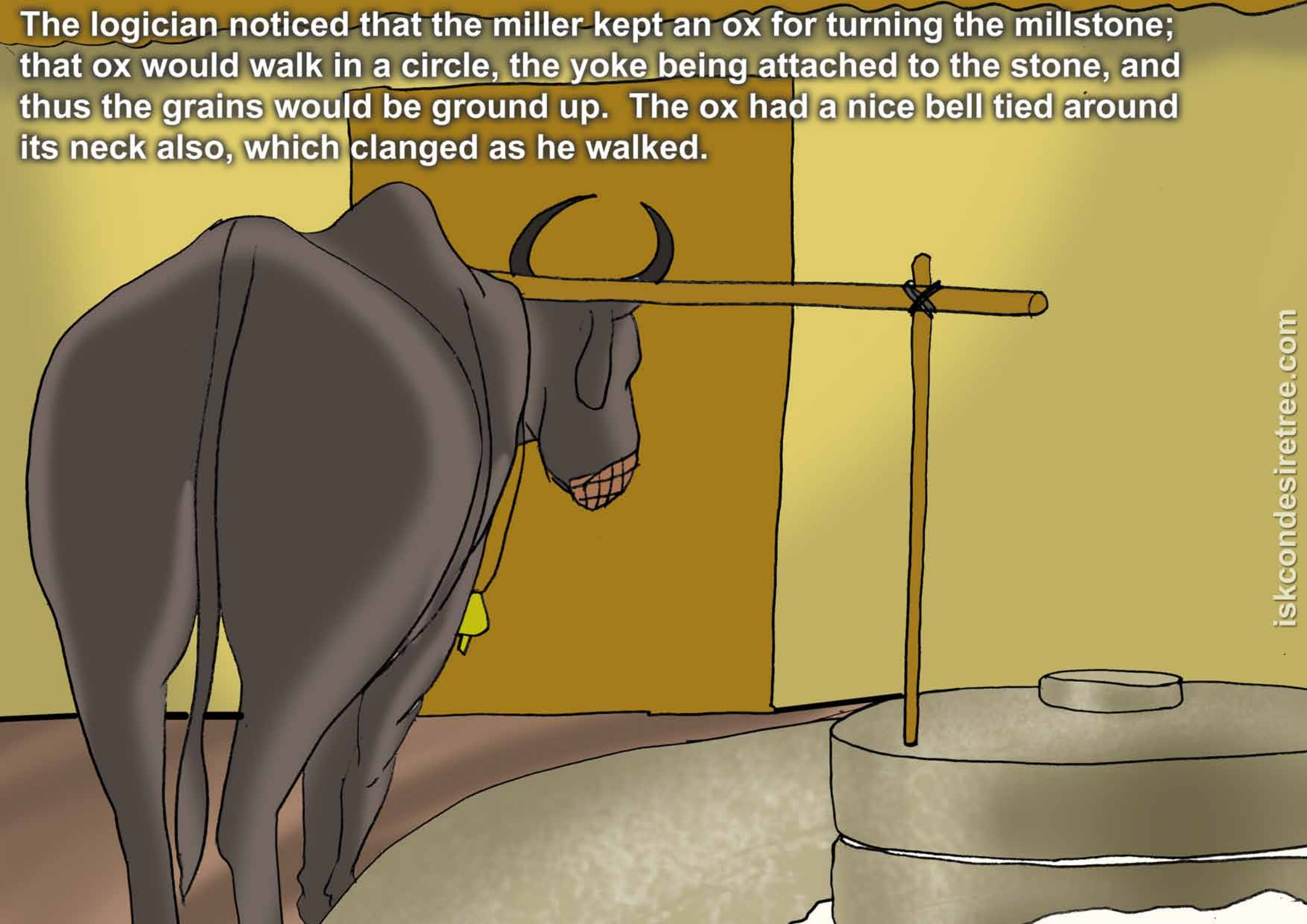
The logician noticed that the miller kept an ox for turning the millstone; that ox would walk in a circle, the yoke being attached to the stone, and thus the grains would be ground up. The ox had a nice bell tied around its neck also, which clanged as he walked.
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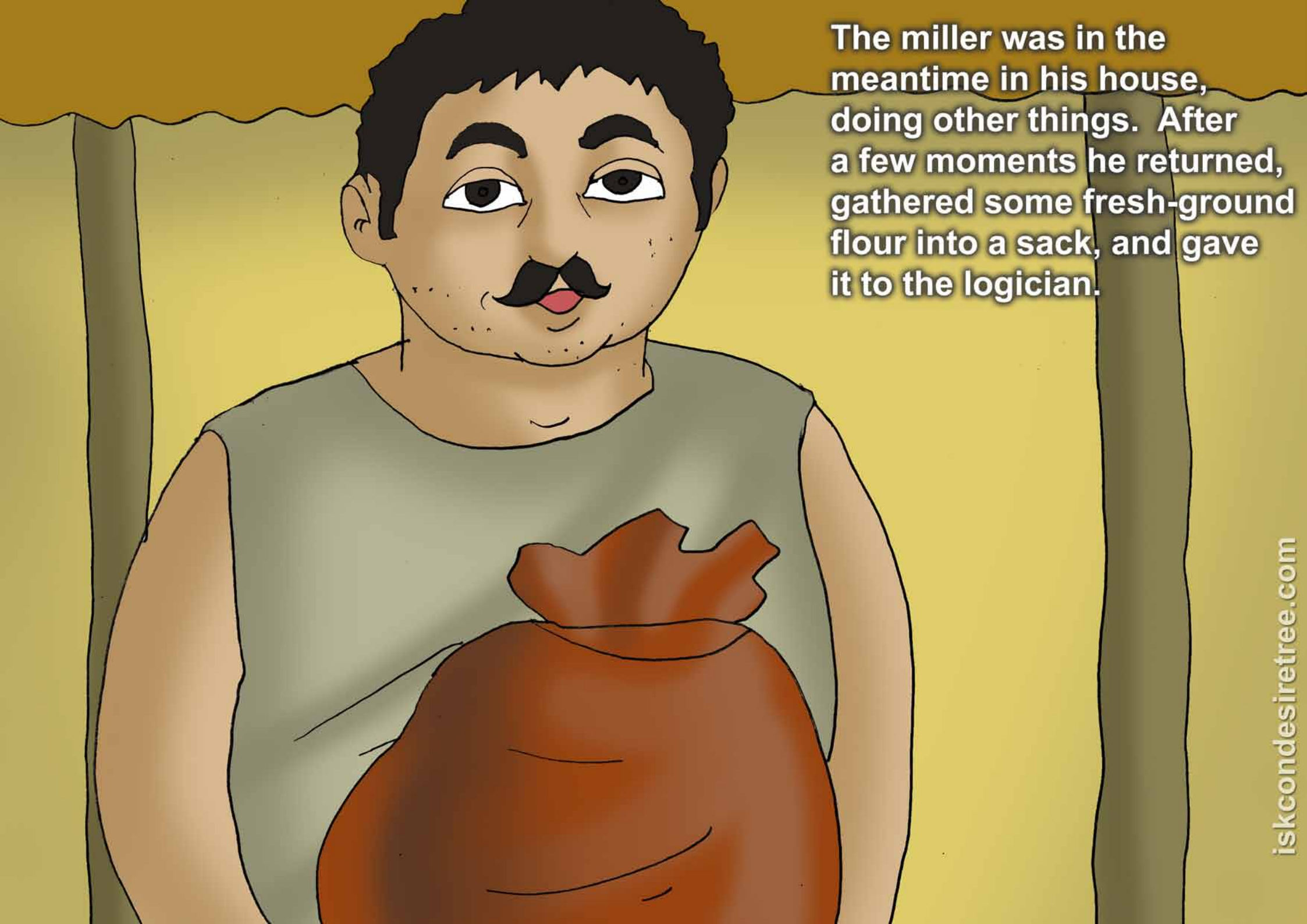
The miller was in the meantime in his house, doing other things. After a few moments he returned, gathered some fresh-ground flour into a sack, and gave it to the logician.
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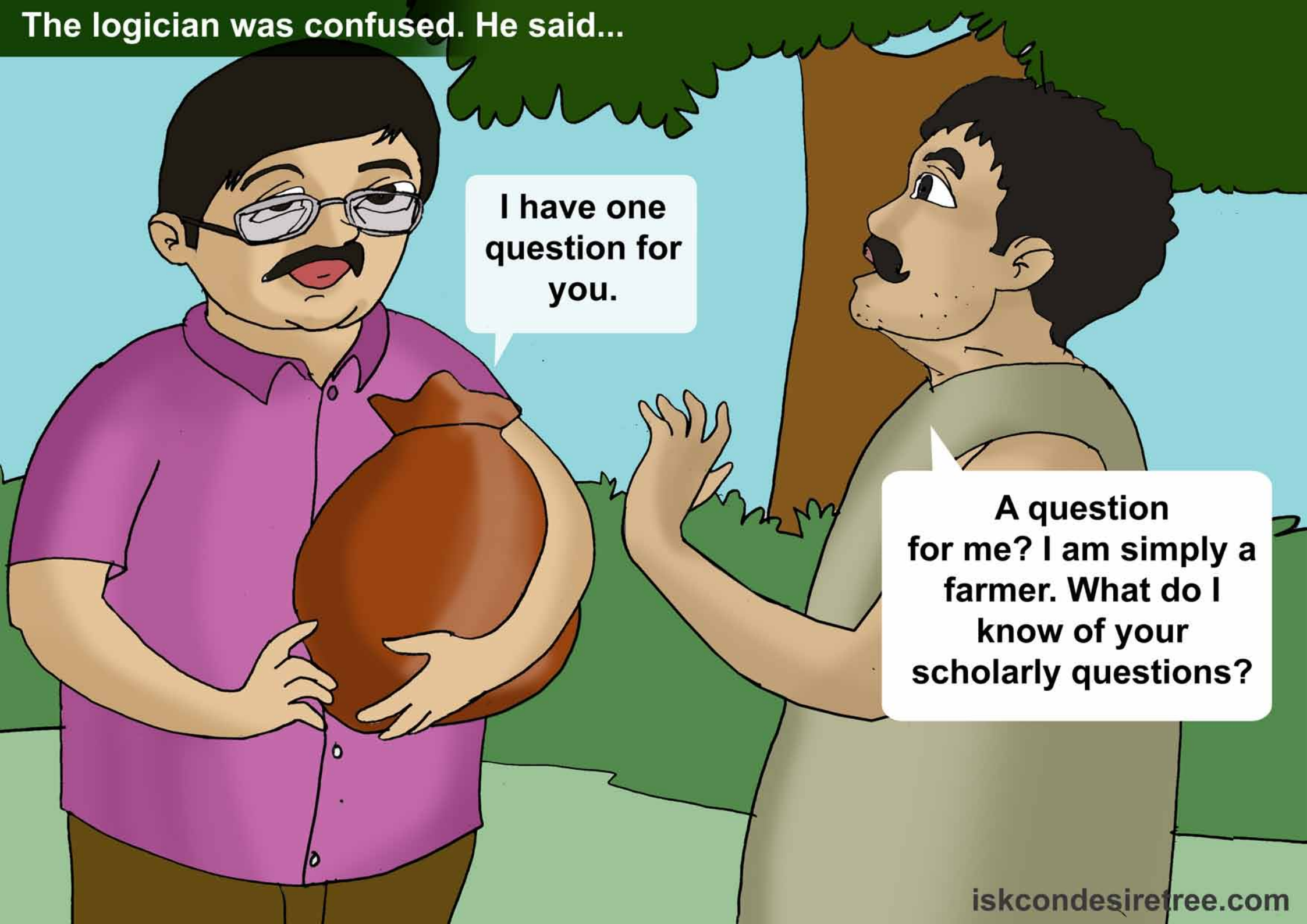
The logician was confused. He said...
I have one question for you.
A question for me? I am simply a farmer. What do I know of your scholarly questions?
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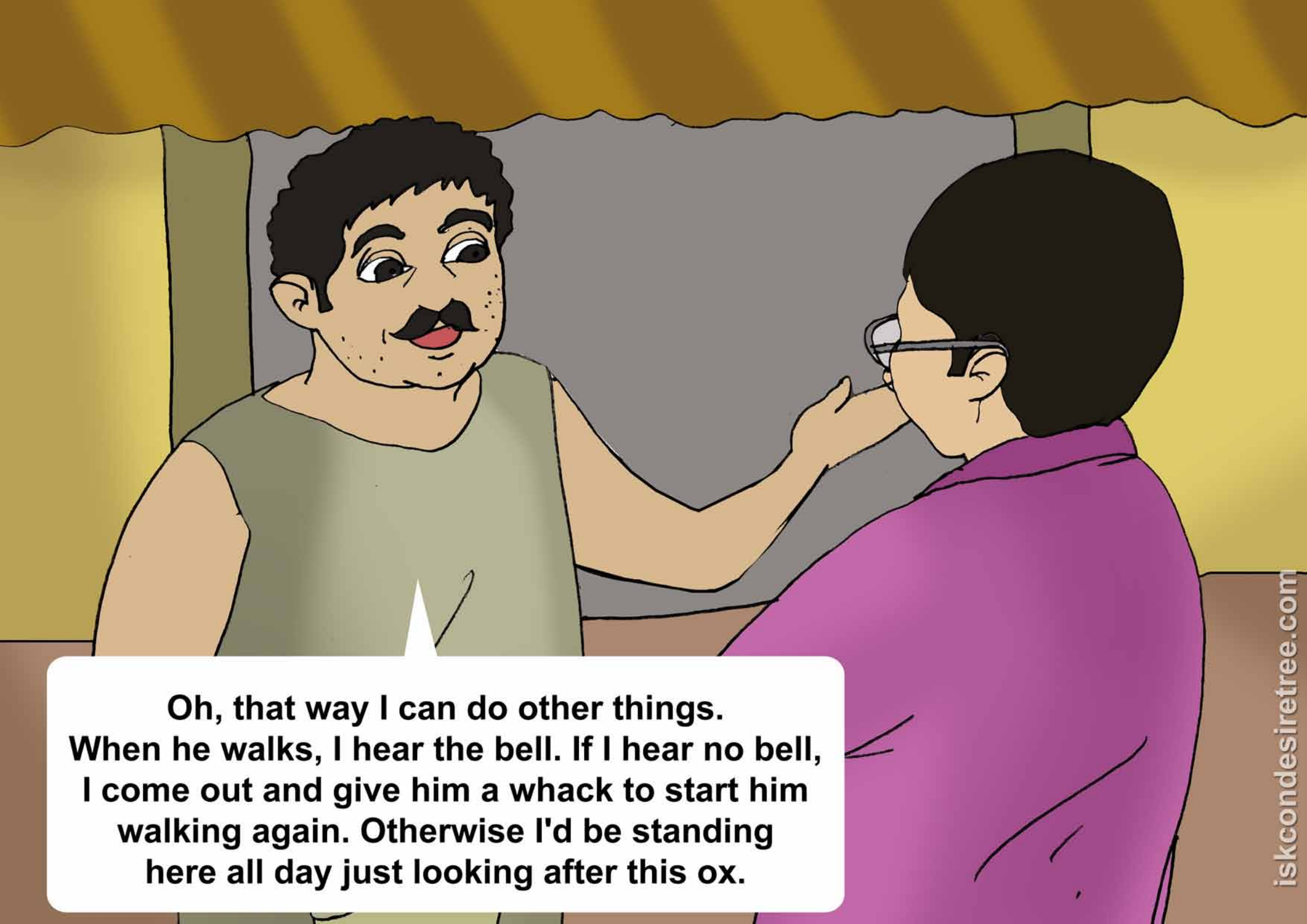
Oh, that way I can do other things.
When he walks, I hear the bell. If I hear no bell,
I come out and give him a whack to start him
walking again. Otherwise I'd be standing
here all day just looking after this ox.
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But what if the ox stands still and just shakes his head so that the bell rings? How would you know if he was working or not ?
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MORAL:

Too much intelligence is sometimes dangerous, because it is used to think how to avoid work. This makes a person lazy. Hence, it is important to use the intelligence in the right direction.

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