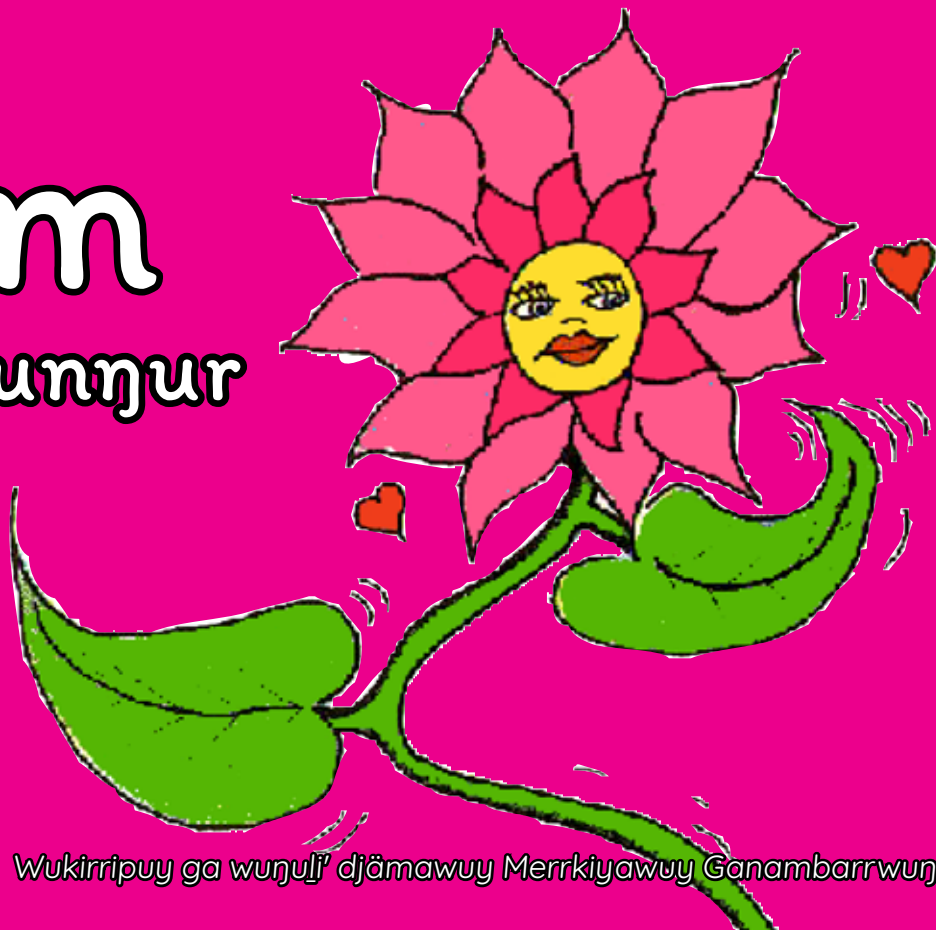




# Datam

## Nuthar Gulunṅur



Wukirripuy ga wunḷi' djāmawuy Merrkiyawuy Ganambarrwun

# Datam Njuthar Gulunḡur

## The Waterlily who Lived in the Billabong

Story and Illustrations by Merrkiyawuy Ganambarr, © 1987.  
Djambarrpuyḡu translation by Daisy Wulumu, 2017.  
Revised by Sherilyn Dhamarranḡji, 2022.

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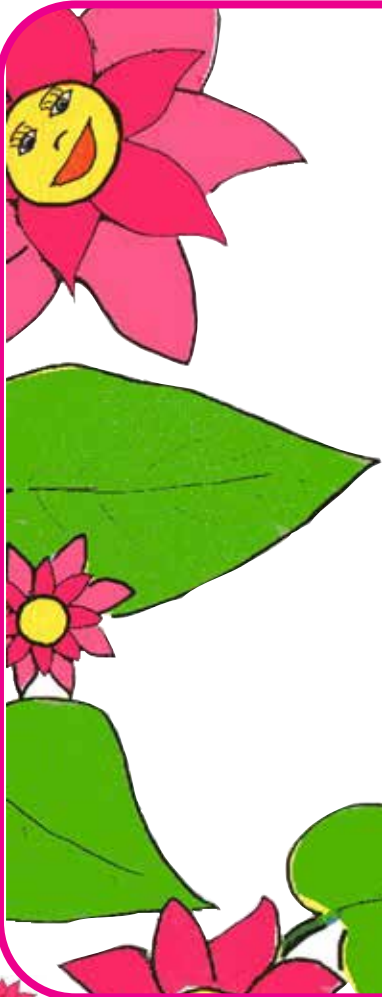
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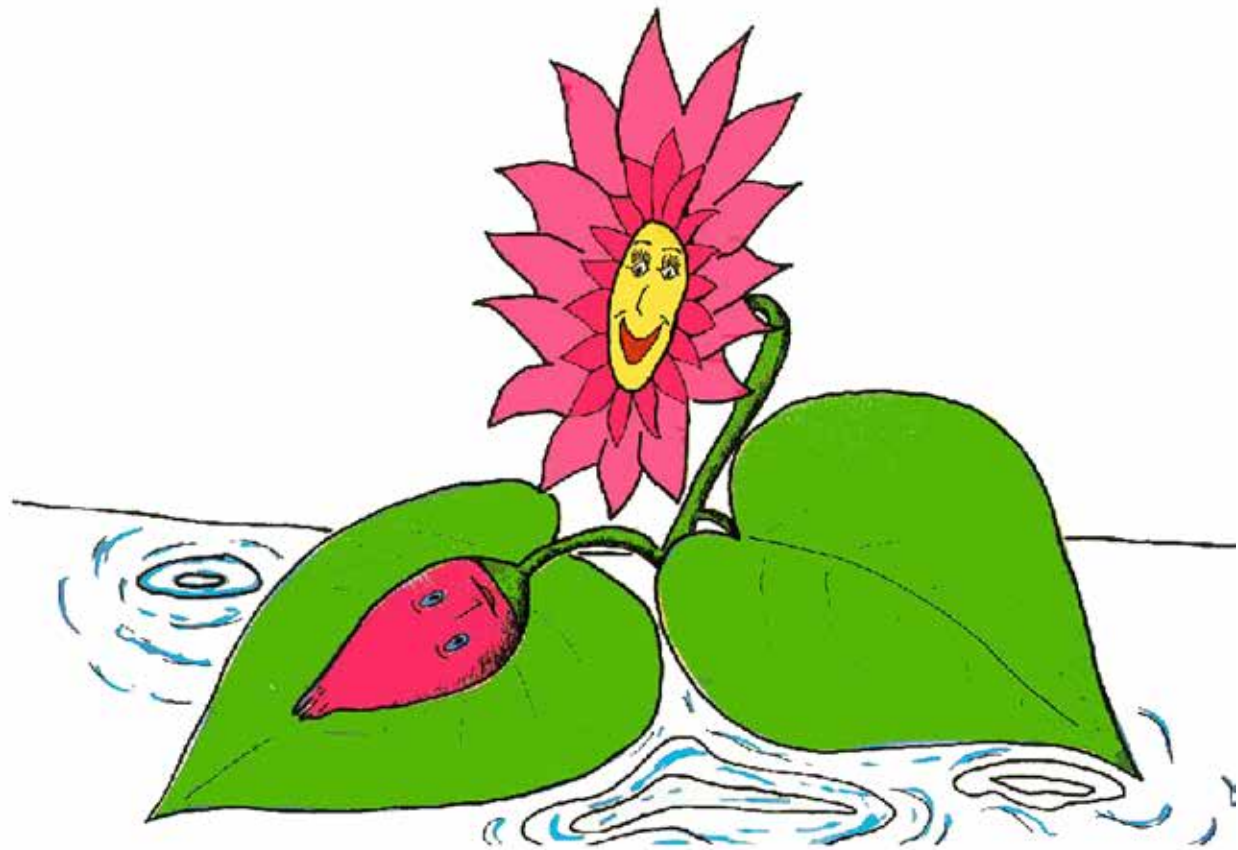
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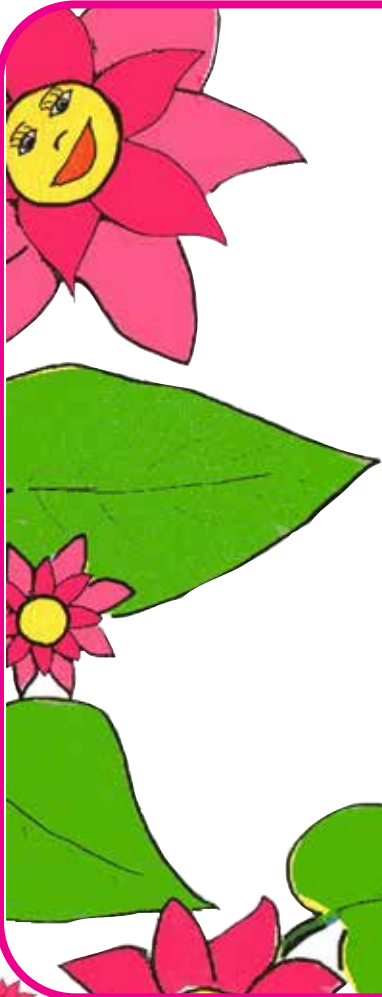


Wukirripuy ga wuñuli' djämawuy Merrkiyawuy Ganambarrwun

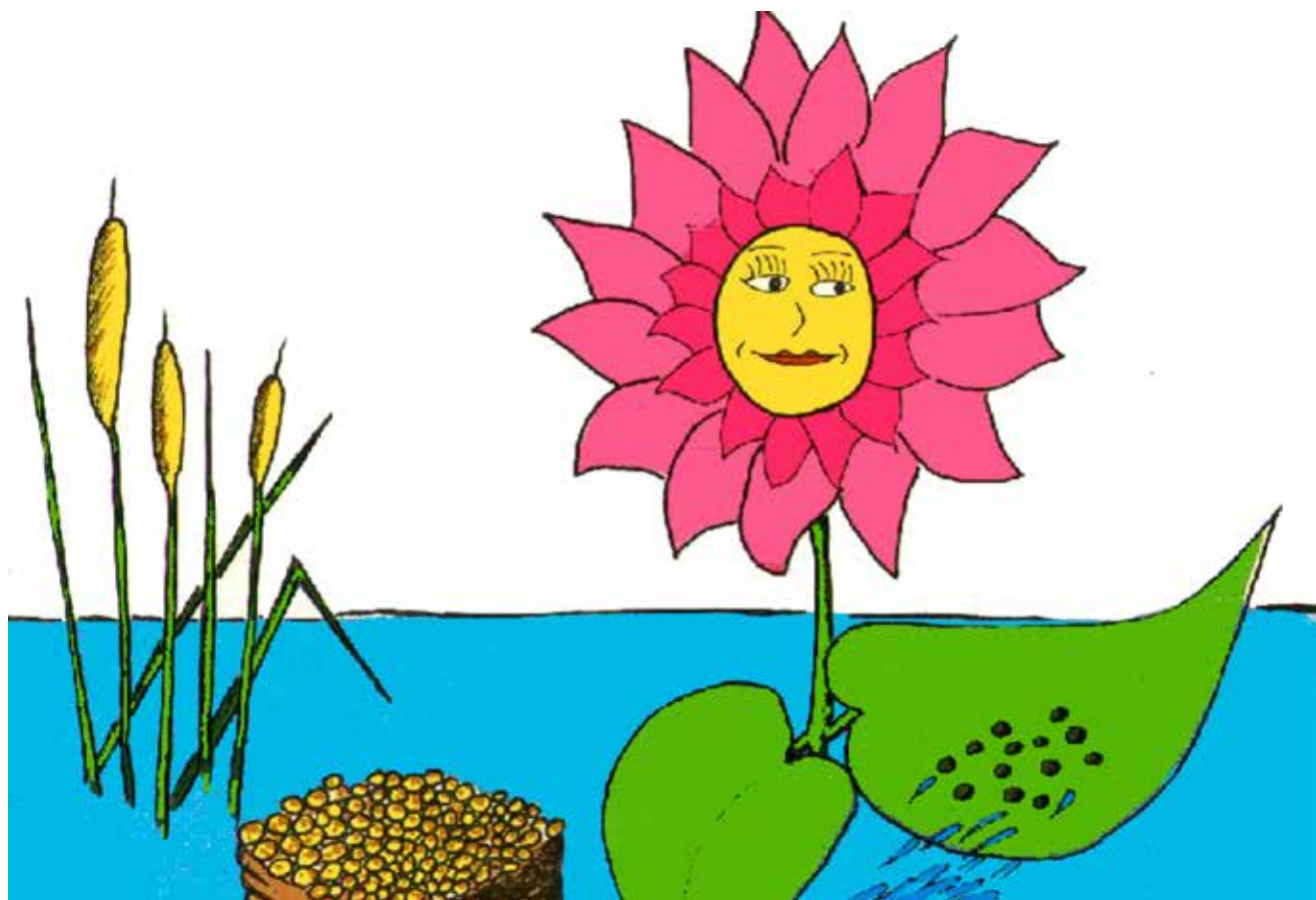


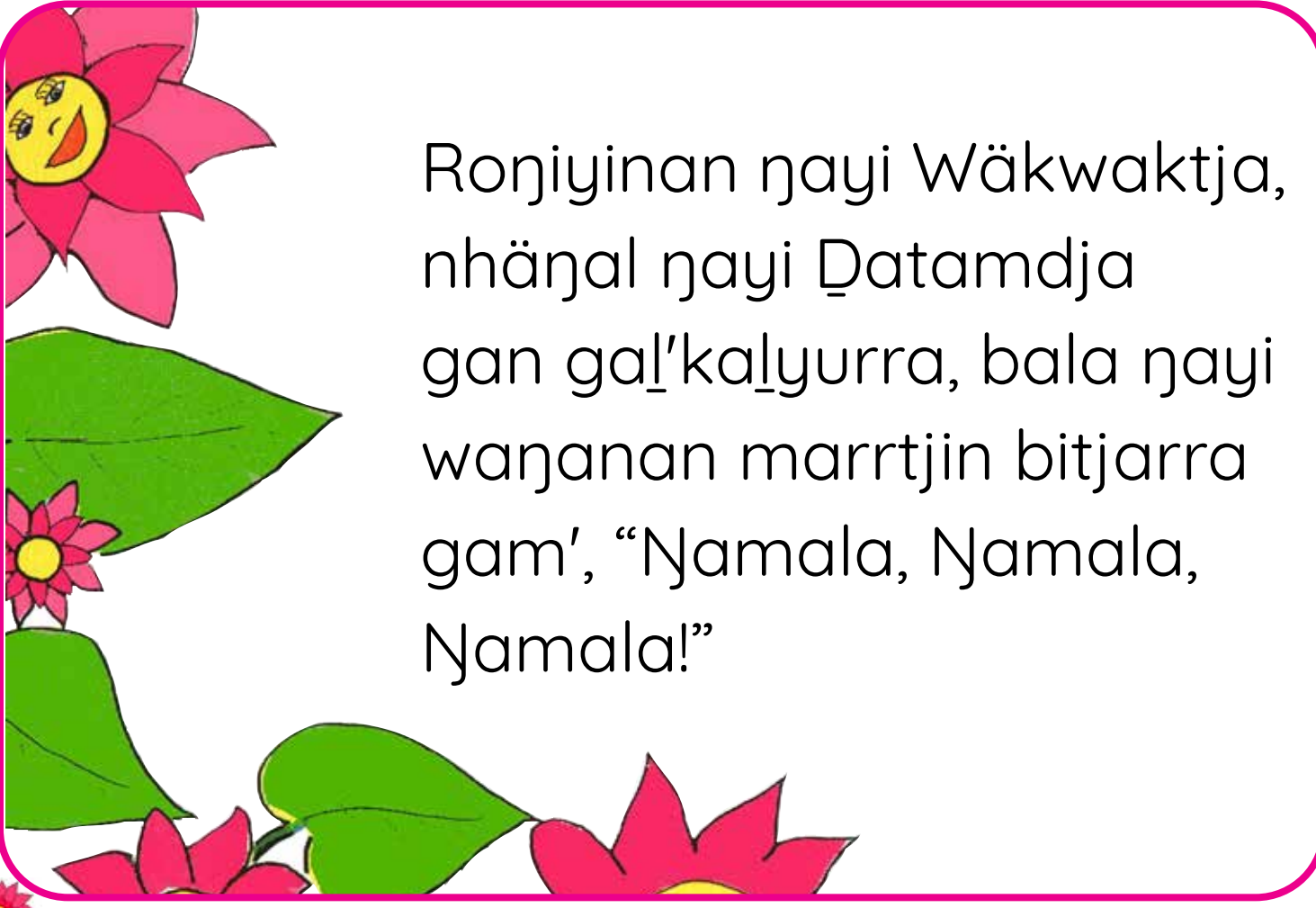
Wanganymirriy waluy  
yothu yäku Datam  
dhawal-guyanin  
Wäkwakkun.





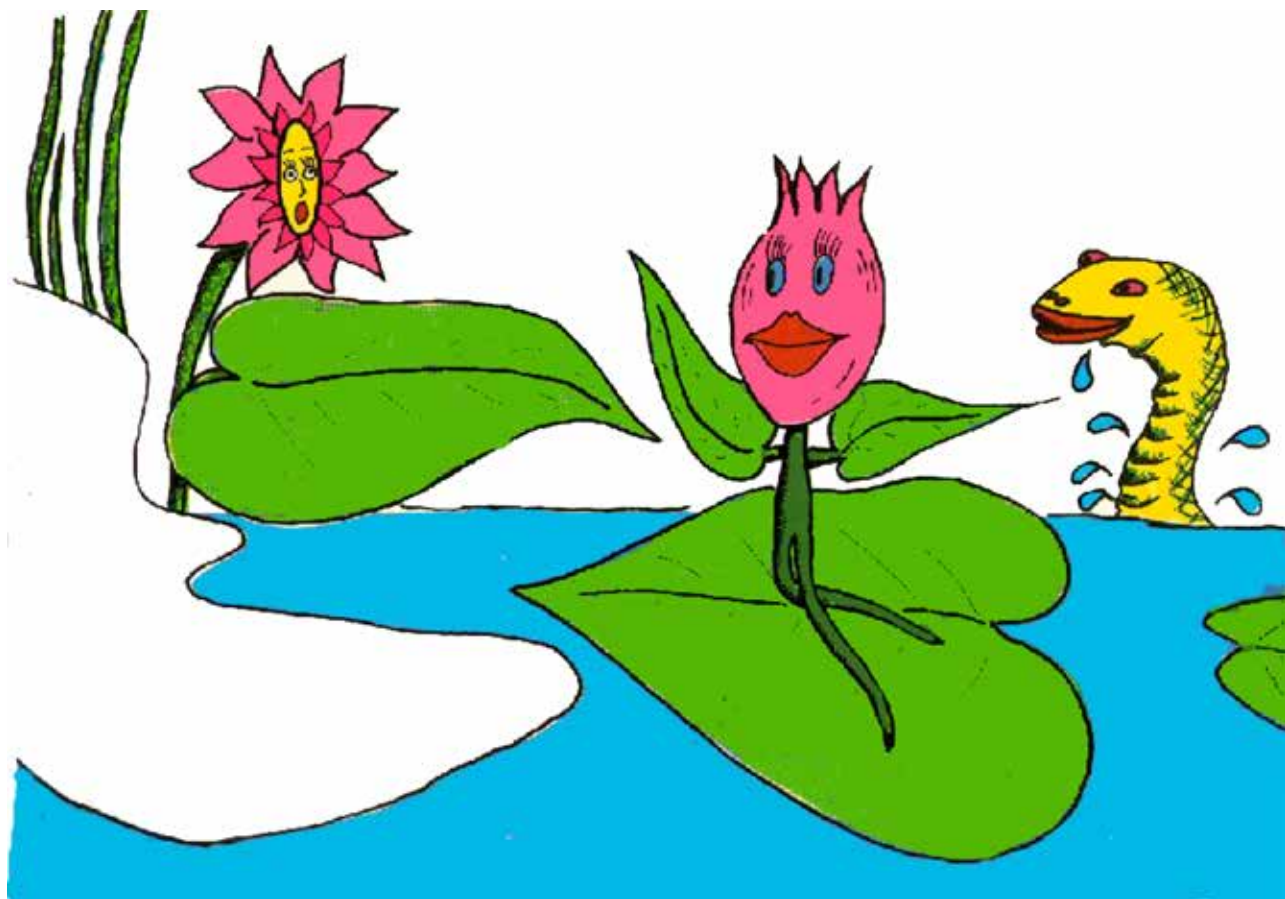
Benurnydja ηayi  
Wäkwaktja marrtjin  
bala bumara räkäynha.  
Bumar ηayi...i...i,  
dhanan.

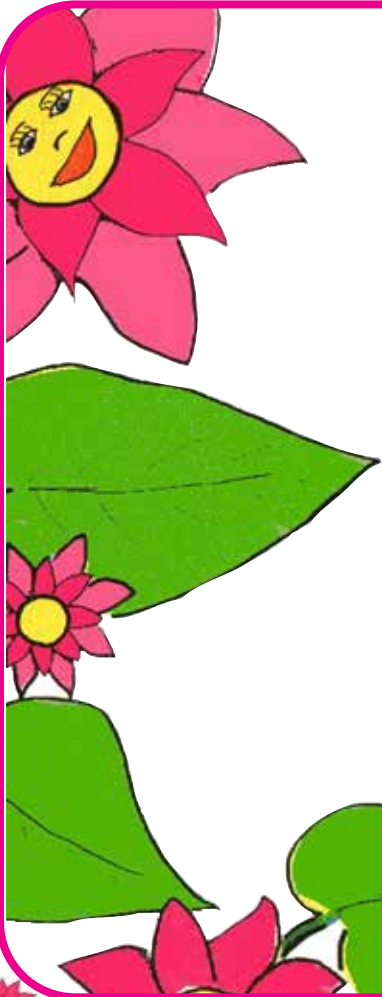




Ronjiyinan nanyi Wäkwaktja,  
nhänjal nanyi D̲atamdja  
gan gal'kalyurra, bala nanyi  
wananan marrtjin bitjarra  
gam', "N̲amala, N̲amala,  
N̲amala!"

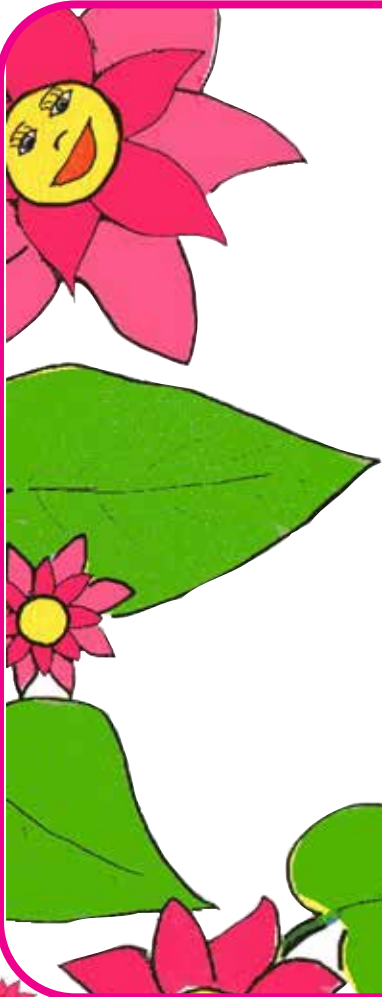






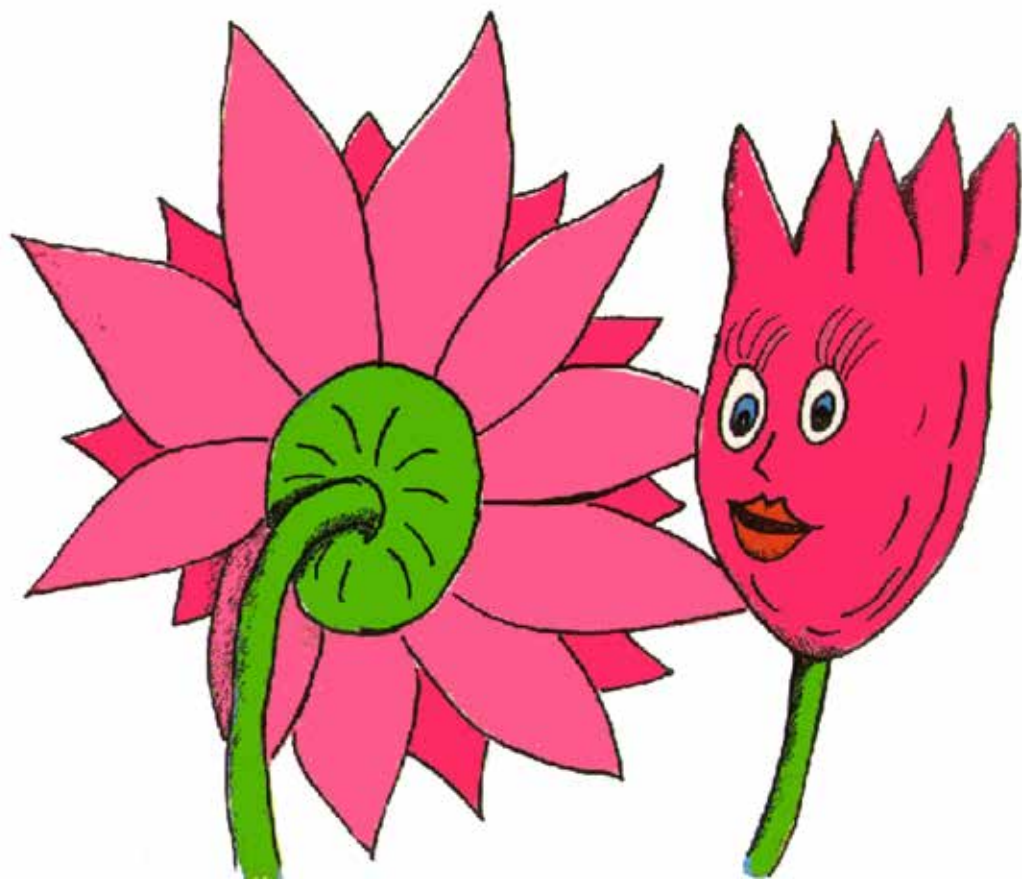
“Way! Waku marrkapmirr,  
dhuwal narra nhunany  
napa-rananmirr  
ganarrthanjal,” bitjarr nayi  
wanan Wäkwaktja.

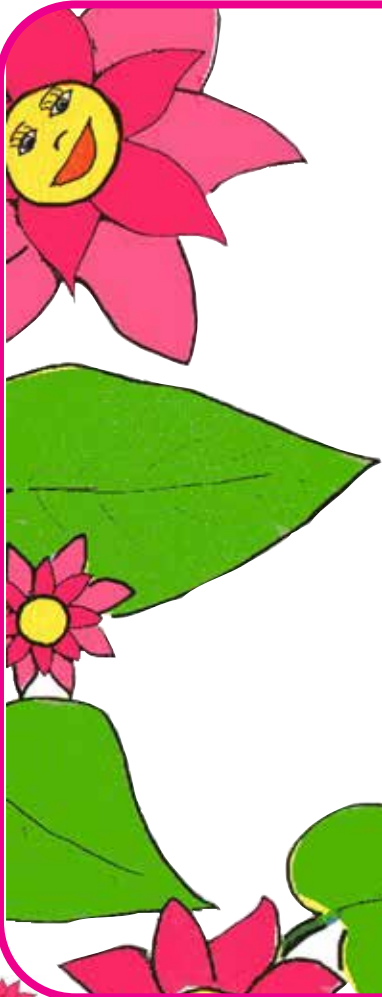




“Namala, barrarirr gurrupar  
ḡarrany Djaykuḡ'thu, bala  
ḡarra nhuḡun ḡäthinany.”

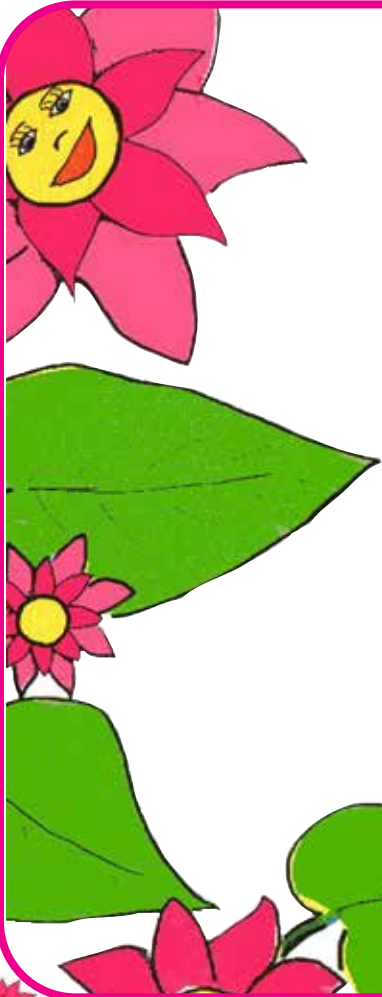
“Ga...a..a, yothuthu  
marrkapmirr! Wanha dhika  
ḡayi Djaykuḡ'tja? ḡarra  
ḡanya yaḡara' birrirri'yun.”





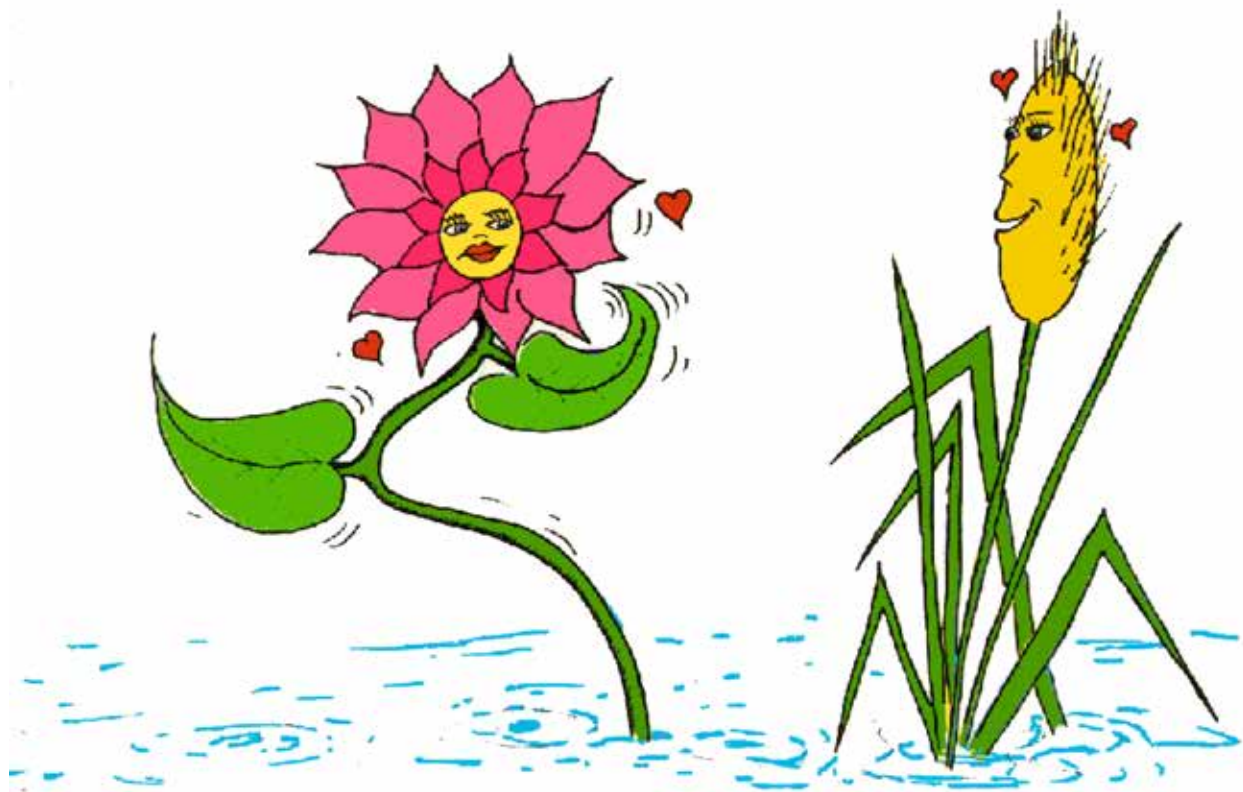
Ŋalindi...i...i ga ŋalindi...i...i  
ga ŋalindi ŋupan maṅda  
nhinanany, ŋayi Ɓatamdja  
wirrkulḍhirra ŋuthan.

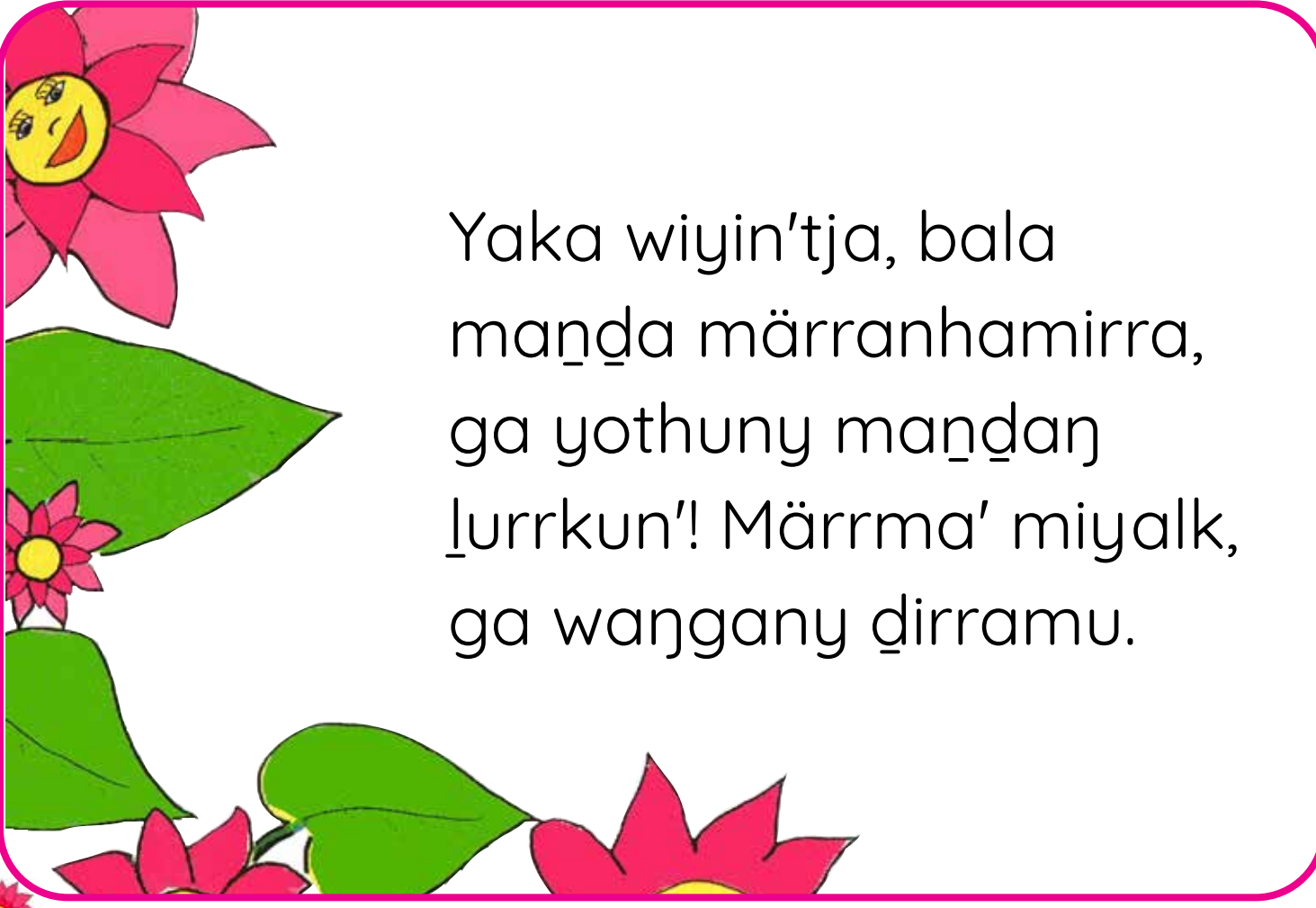




Wanganymirriy waluy  
ṅayi ḍirramu nhanṅu  
djälthin, yäku Gulwanı.  
Ṇayiny nhanṅu Ḍatamdja  
nyarrmaḷṅ'thuna.






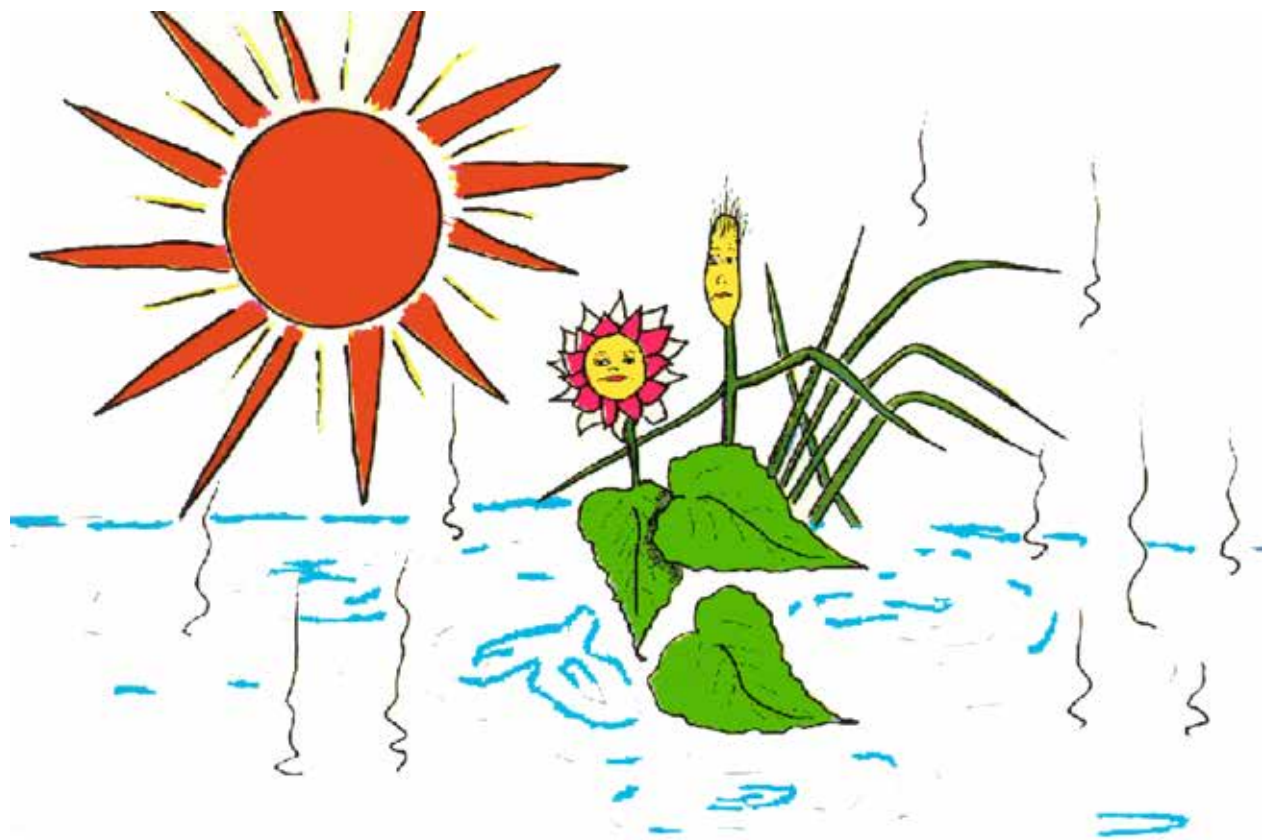


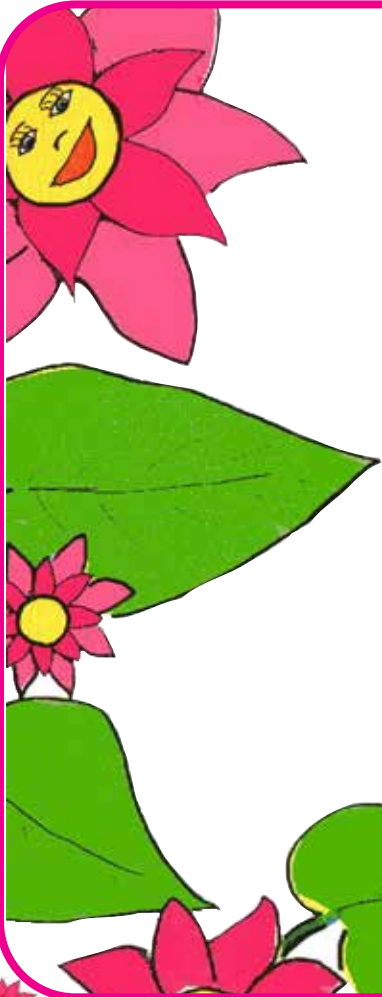
Yaka wiyin'tja, bala  
manda märranhamirra,  
ga yothuny mandan  
lurrkun'! Märrma' miyalk,  
ga wangany dirramu.



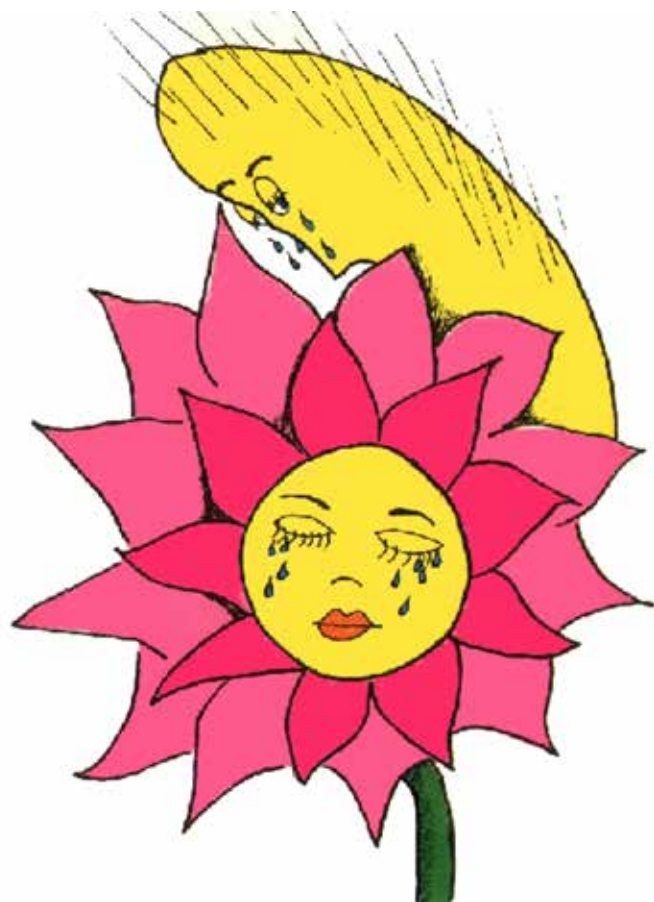



Wanganymirr, n̄ayi waluny  
ḍäl̄nha dhika dhärran, ga  
gormur'thinan gapuny.





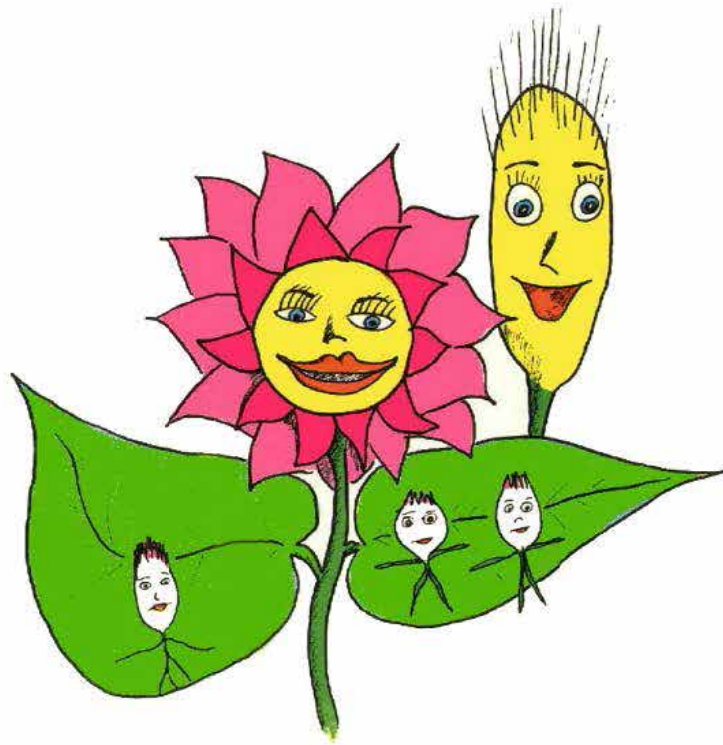
Bala maṅḁan  
djamarrkuḷiny'  
raku-rakunydhinan. Naji  
Ḑatamdja ṅäthin..a..a wiyin'  
nha dhika, bala milkarriny  
djulyurra walalangala  
djamarrkuḷi'wal.





Walalnydja bulu  
walŋa-walŋathinan.  
Maṅdany Ḍatamdja  
ga Gulwaṅi mirithinan  
goṅmirriyinan.





# Datam Nupar Gulunjur

The Waterlily Who Lived in the Billabong

- Page 2 One day a baby waterlily called *Datam* was born to *Wäkwak*.
- Page 4 Soon after, *Wäkwak* went to collect water chestnuts, She got lots and lots of them.
- Page 6 When she came back, she saw *Datam* crawling around calling, “Mummy, Mummy, Mummy!”
- Page 8 “Hey! My dear daughter, you were just a baby when I left you a little while ago,” said *Wäkwak*.
- Page 10 “Mummy, *Djaykun* the File Snake was scaring me, so I cried out for you.”  
“Oh come here my darling baby! Where is Mr *Djaykun* the File Snake? I’d like to twist his tail!”
- Page 12 Months passed and *Datam* grew to be the most beautiful flower in the billabong.
- Page 14 One day *Gulwani* the bullrush fell in love with *Datam*. She fell in love with him too.
- Page 16 Before long, they got married and had three children, two girls and a boy.
- Page 18 One day the sun shone very fiercely and the water in the billabong became very hot.
- Page 20 All *Datam* and *Gulwani*’s children died. *Datam* cried for a long time.
- Page 22 When the tears fell on the bodies of the children, they all came back to life again.  
This made *Datam* and *Gulwani* very happy.





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