

YEW CHUNG COLLEGE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

YCCECE Student Teacher Series

Celebrity Cows

Written by Jethro Dayag Clarke

Illustrated by Eugene Levi Chan



Celebrity Cows

Written by Jethro Dayag Clarke

Illustrated by Eugene Levi Chan

Edited by Suzan Stamper

A Word from the Editor

The 2018/2019 academic year was momentous and will forever be remembered in the history of Yew Chung. The **Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education (YCCECE)** was formally established as the first and only Higher Education institution specialising in Early Childhood Education (ECE) in Hong Kong, and in September 2018, we welcomed 250 students to our new campus in Tin Wan, Aberdeen. Our **new Bachelor of Education (Honours) in ECE** degree programme was also successfully launched, admitting both Year 1 and Year 3 students. In one of our third-year English courses, each Student Teacher was asked to author an original children’s storybook, which resulted in numerous wonderful creations. To commemorate YCCECE’s Inauguration on 31 May 2019, we selected two storybooks for publication, thus launching this new YCCECE Student Teacher Series!

A heartfelt “thank you” to **Dr. Betty CHAN Po-king**, Chairlady of the YCCECE Board of Governors, for her generous contribution to the publication of both storybooks, and for her visionary leadership and unstinting support of our Student Teachers as the next generation of Yew Chung Educators.

Suzan Stamper
(YCCECE Senior Lecturer)

A Word from the Author



Having grown up in the outlying islands of Hong Kong, I have always been a big believer in the need for the appreciation and respect of our wildlife. As a current third year Bachelor student at YCCECE, I hope that the power of storytelling continues to inform and instill empathy in the children who will grow up with wildlife under their care.

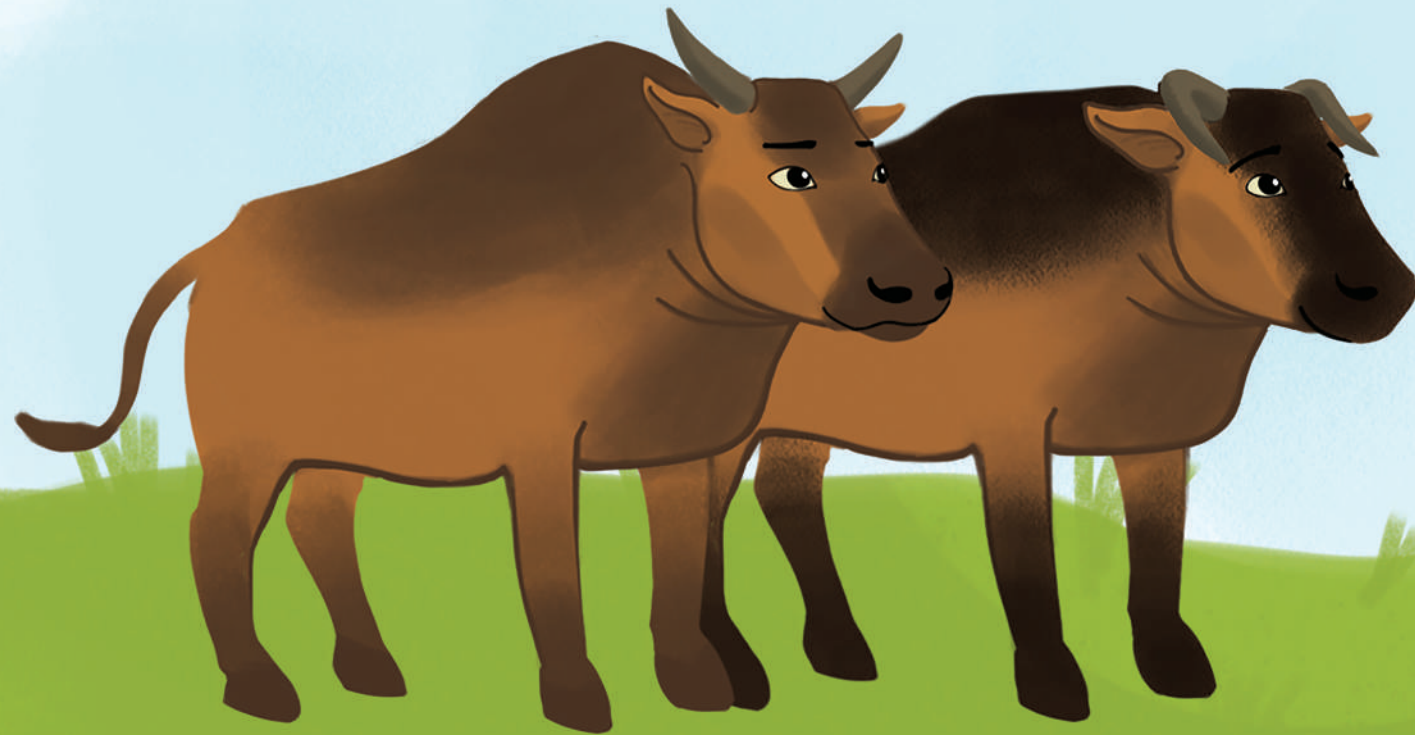
My inspiration for this children’s storybook originated from observations of tourists interacting with the cows on Lantau Island in Hong Kong. While some tourists took care to maintain their distance, many invaded the cows' personal space. Often, tourists surrounded the cows, patting them and snapping photos of them with a blinding flash. Sometimes, the tourists squealed in excitement and startled the cows. The cows have also been forced further inland because they have lost their grazing land to construction sites. This led me to decide to write a children’s story from the perspective of the cows to foster compassion in young children so that they can reflect on how wildlife should be treated with care and respect.

I wish to dedicate this storybook to my father, Steve, who taught me the wonders of storytelling each bedtime.

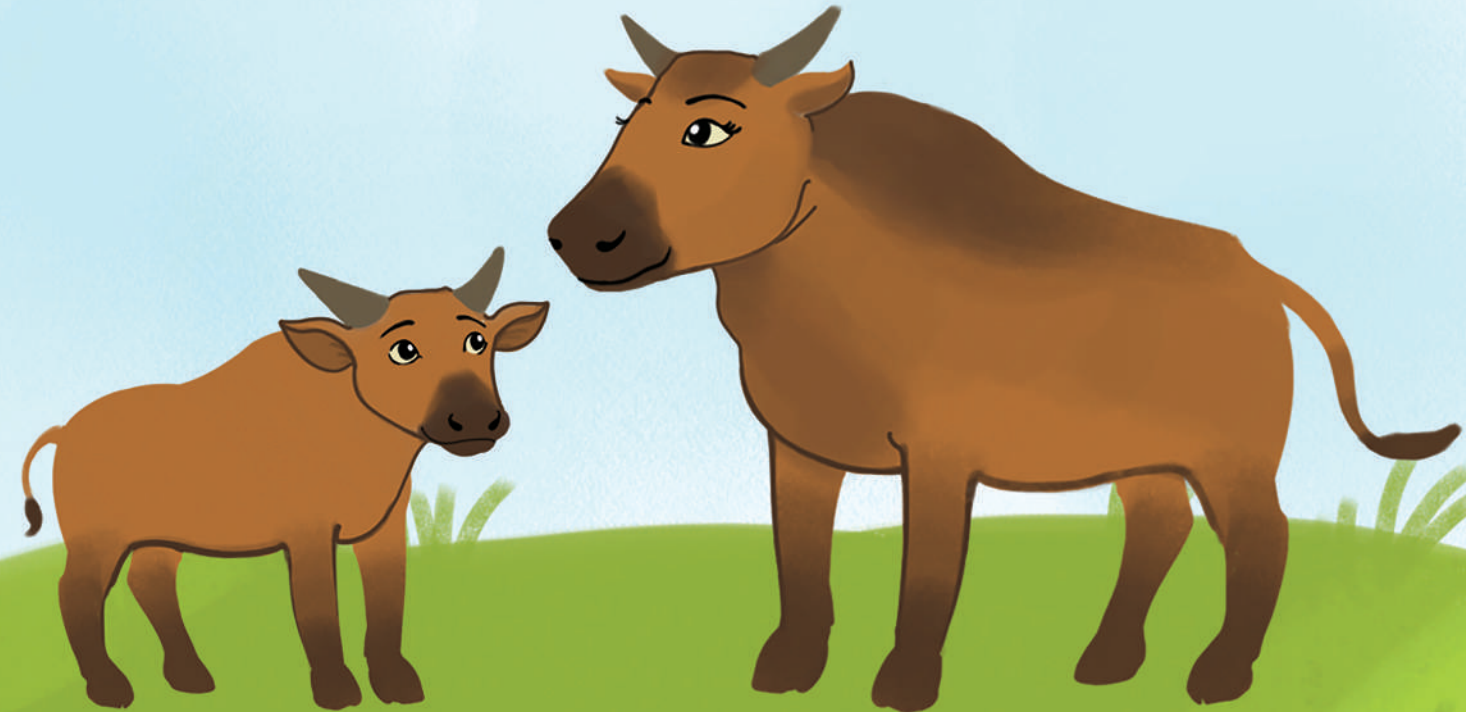
Jethro Dayag Clarke
(YCCECE Year 3 Student Teacher)



**On Sunday,
tourists would come in droves
with their cameras in tow.
When the sun would rise that day,
we would let out a big, loud GROAN.**



**We always try to hide away,
but soon enough the tourists find us.
Though how?
We do not know.**





Why do they use such a bright light
to take our photos? **Flash!**



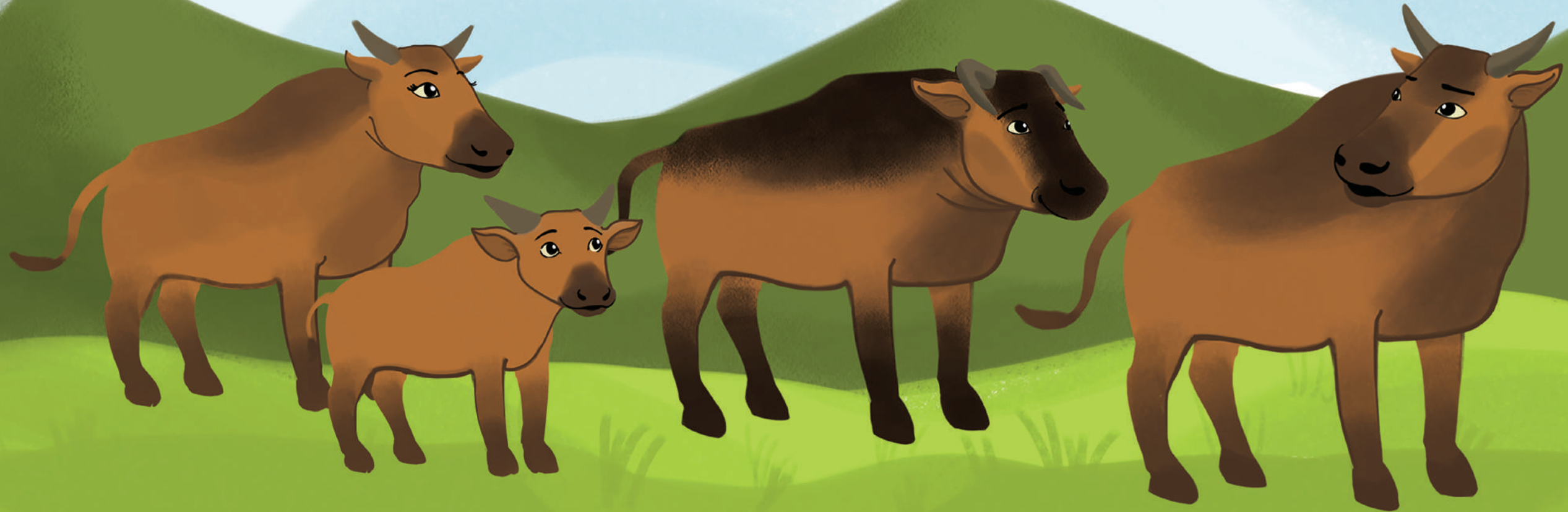
Why do they crowd us?
Why do they touch us?

Push!
Pat!

Do they think we are celebrity cows?

**This Sunday, Bulky Bill roused us up
with his morning
MOOOOOOO!**

**So off we went and
trotted to the grass
we knew was the most delicious!**

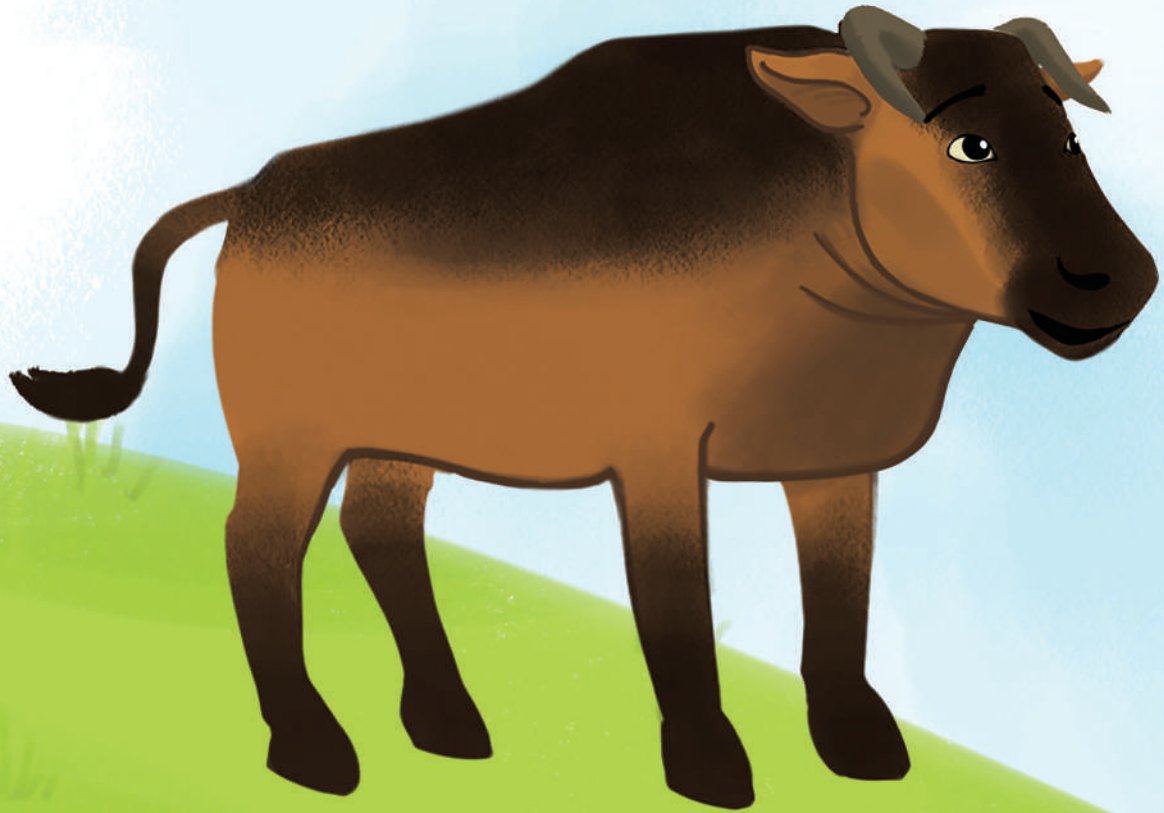


**“Hurry along now,” he told the herd.
“We’d better eat real quick!”**

**Down near the pier,
we made our way
to near where the tourists would
come to play.**

**We chomped and
munched our meals,
gobbling the grass that slid down
our bellies when...**





**Counting Craig let out the news!
“Three! That makes three!”**



**The third ferry had come.
“Soon,” Bulky Bill said,
“we have to be done.”
The tourists were almost here!**



**The ferry was fast approaching.
We heard the whistle
and the engine rev.**

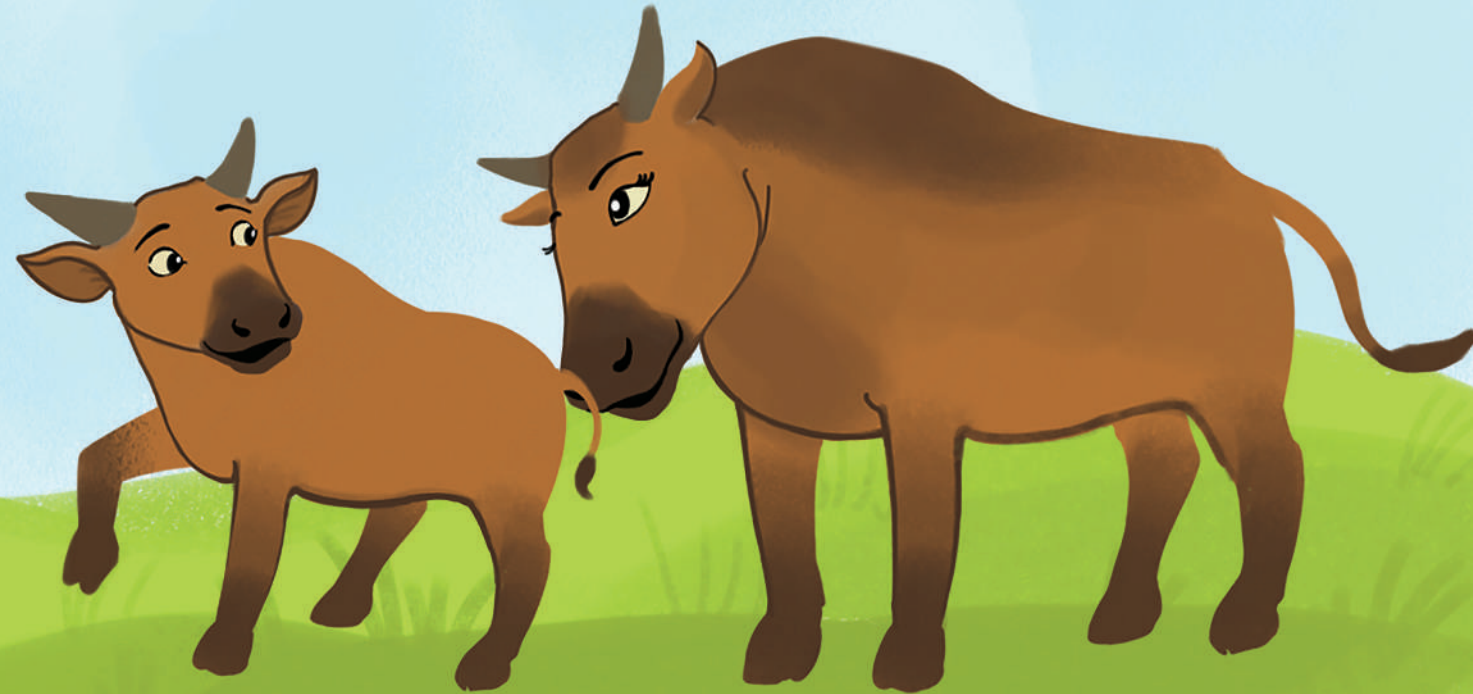
**When we saw the rope thrown to
reel in the boat,
we started to make our way home.**



**Just then, Little Liz moaned.
“Oh, but why do we have to go?
This grass is so delicious!”**

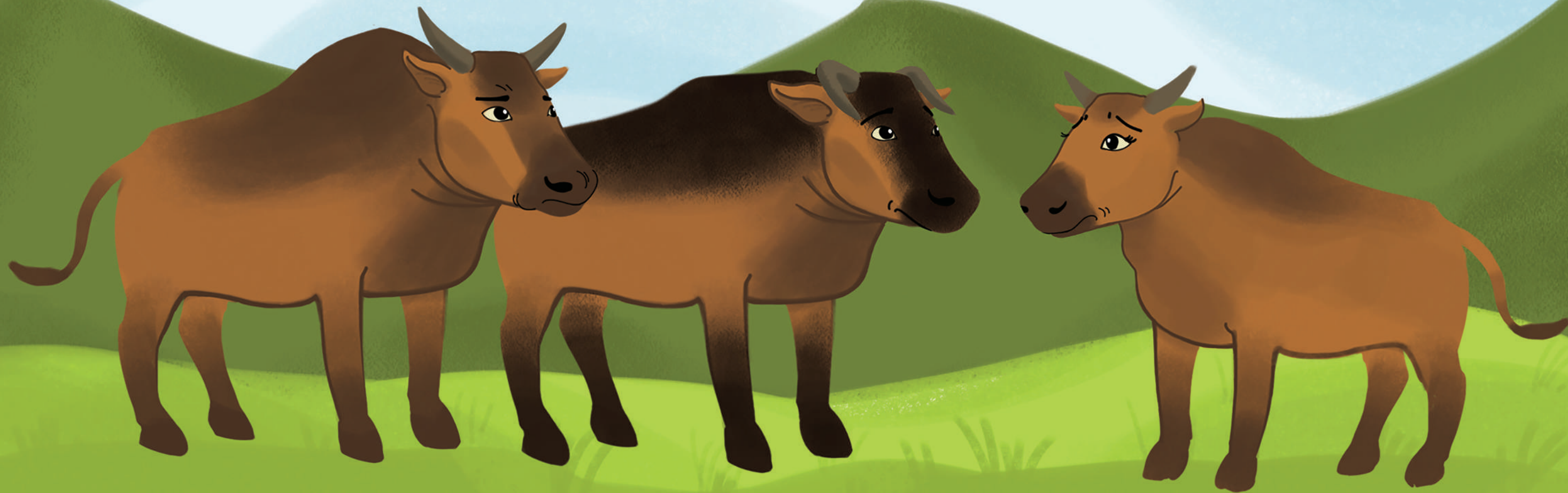


**With no time to explain,
I nudged her forward.
“We’ll come back tomorrow,” I said.**



On and on and on,
we trot through the village,
through the fields,
and far from where we had our
delicious meal.





**It wasn't until we were back that we
realized something was amiss.
Craig counted once.**

**He counted twice
and then told the herd
“something just isn't quite right.”**



**With a sinking feeling,
I turned my back to see...**

**Little Liz was missing!
In a beat, I bolted off.**



back through the fields,
back through the village,

back to the place where
we had our meal.



I was already too late!
Little Liz was trembling.
Little Liz was crying.
PUSH! PAT! SNAP! FLASH!
Tourists were around
her squealing in delight.
“It’s so cute,” they squeaked.
“Let me pet it too,” they shouted.

**As Little Liz backed up,
I let out my loudest
MOOOOOOOOO, startling the tourists
who jumped and gasped in fright.**





For a second,
they paved a way for Liz to pass.
The tourists awwed and cooed.



But as soon as we reunited,
they raised their hands and
cameras once more.
PUSH! PAT! SNAP! FLASH!

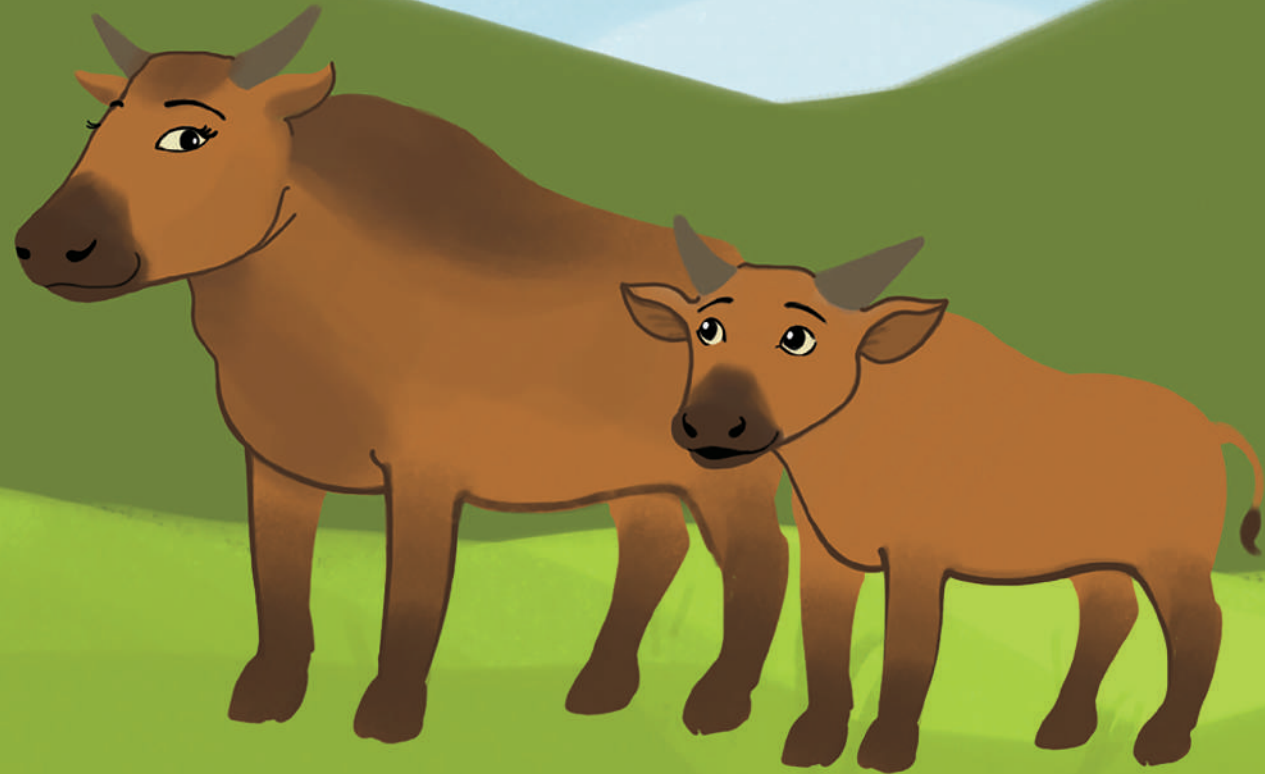
**Already dizzy from the flashes and
with ears ringing from the squeals,
we hurried back to the herd.**

**Oh! How we miss them so!
People are building their houses there.
Our old fields are no longer
ours to roam.**

**We turned left for a shortcut
where we passed our old fields.**

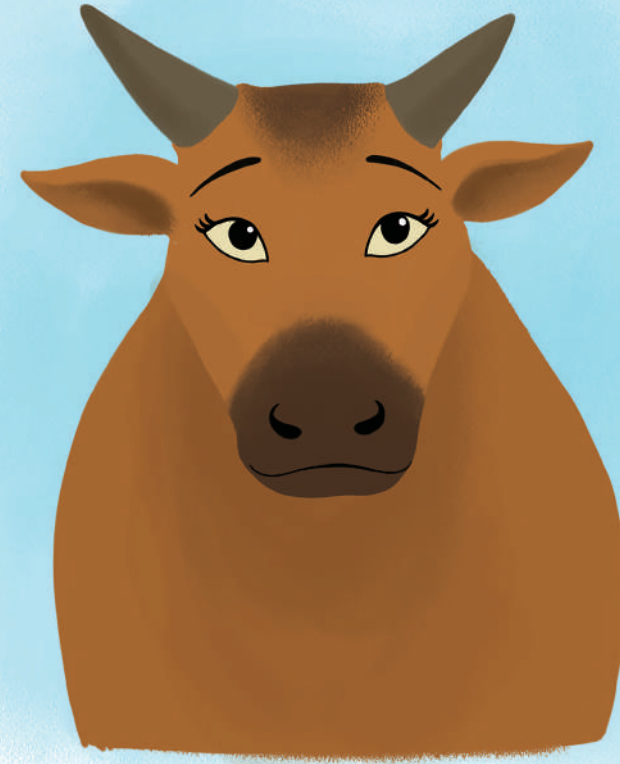


**Just as we were arriving, Little Liz
came to a halt.**



**“Mother,” she asked,
“Why do the tourists treat us so?
Can’t they let us be?
We’re not celebrities!”**

**For a moment, I couldn’t speak.
For a moment, I just froze.**



**When all of a sudden, Counting
Craig called out
“Lizzie and her mom are back!”
and hustled us back to the herd.**



As Little Liz sleeps, I ponder the
question myself.

I want to give her an answer,
but the truth is I do not know.
I do not know why the tourists
treat us so.

We are not celebrity cows.

Why do they treat us so?

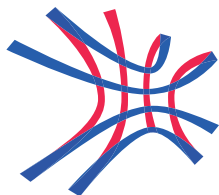
Published by
Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education Limited
2 Tin Wan Hill Road, Tin Wan
Aberdeen, Hong Kong

Copyright © 2019 Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education Limited

Author: Jethro Dayag Clarke
Illustrator: Eugene Levi Chan
Editor: Suzan Stamper

ISBN 978-988-79703-1-6

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this publication are solely those of its author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education. This publication may not be reproduced, in whole or in part (beyond that copying permitted by Hong Kong copyright laws and except by reviewers for the public press) without written permission from the College.



**YEW CHUNG COLLEGE
OF EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION**

耀中幼教學院

ISBN 978-988-79703-1-6



9 789887 970316 >