

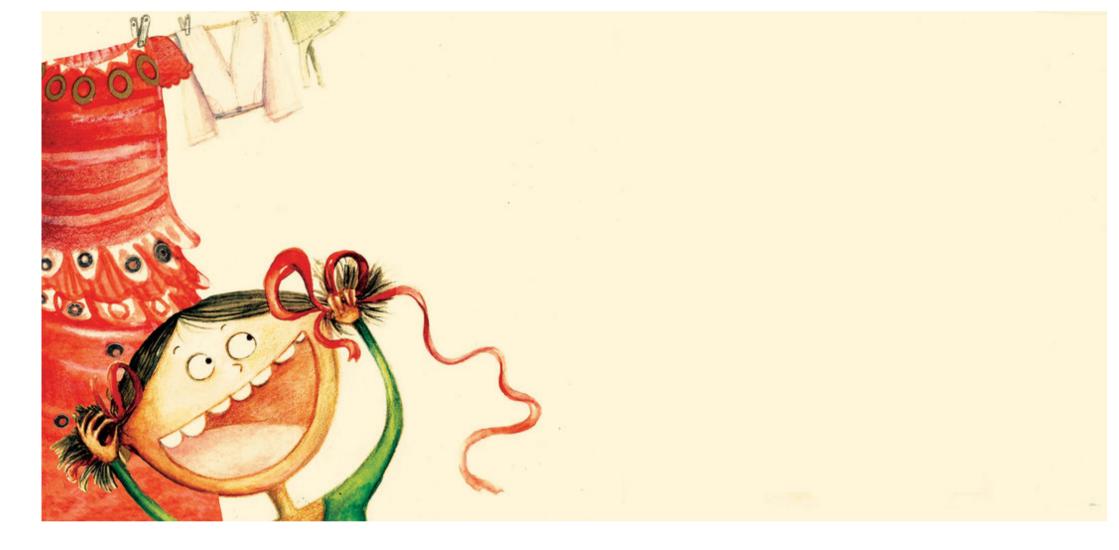


Author: Shamim Padamsee Illustrator: Tanaya Vyas





"Please Ma, may I help you make scarecrows?" asked Gauri. Ma was tying some sticks together to make a scarecrow. She put an old shirt over the sticks, and then stuffed it with hay.



Gauri walked to the clothesline where the washed clothes were drying. She picked up a dress.

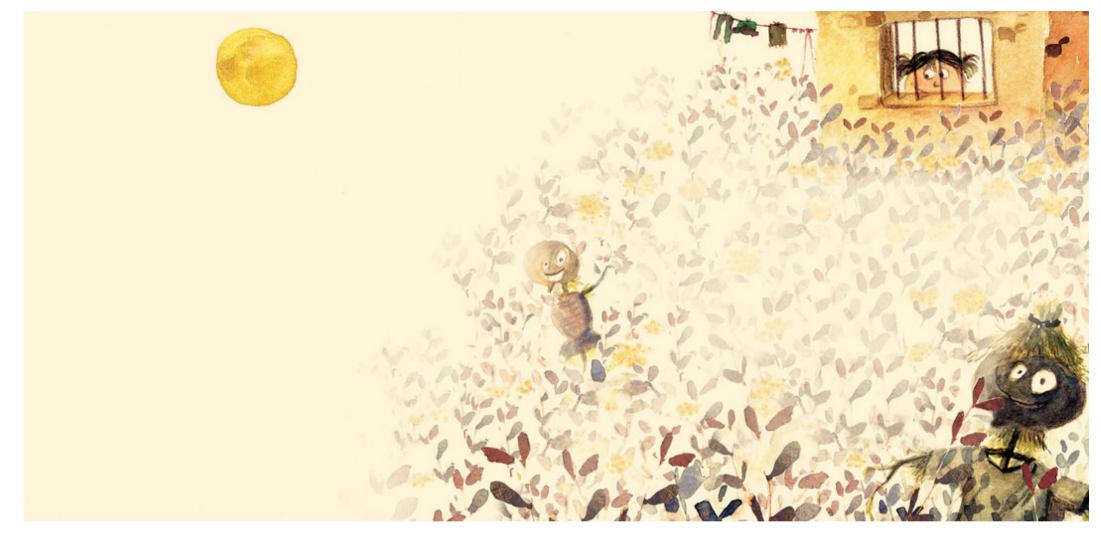
"I will dress her up in my new red frock and tie her hair with red ribbons too! She will look so lovely!"



"You silly girl. You can't have a pretty scarecrow. Scarecrows have to scare the birds away, and so they must look scary! Like this!" said Mother, making a face and waving her arms. Gauri giggled. "You look so funny Ma!"



Mother took the scarecrows into the fields and fixed them amidst the tall stalks of grain. "There now, be good scarecrows and chase the birds away," said Gauri, patting them.



Gauri and her mother returned to their hut. Gauri went inside and lay on her cot. A big yellow moon was rising, bathing the field in a soft, white glow.



Gauri saw a scarecrow look down at its clothes.

"Why do we always have to wear these tattered old clothes?" said a scarecrow with a sigh. "I wish we had something pretty to wear!"

"Yes, me too!" said another. The scarecrows looked around the field. Suddenly, one of them called out, "Hey, look at those lovely clothes flapping in the breeze. Why don't we wear those?"

"Oo-oo! These clothes are so pretty. Let us try them on!" said another.



One scarecrow tried on a lovely red dress with sequins on them. It sparkled in the moonlight. She tied the pretty red ribbons that were flapping in the breeze on her straw hair. Thrilled with her new clothes she began to show them off.

Soon, all the scarecrows were busy dressing up! They began to parade. They walked! They turned! They twisted! They twirled!

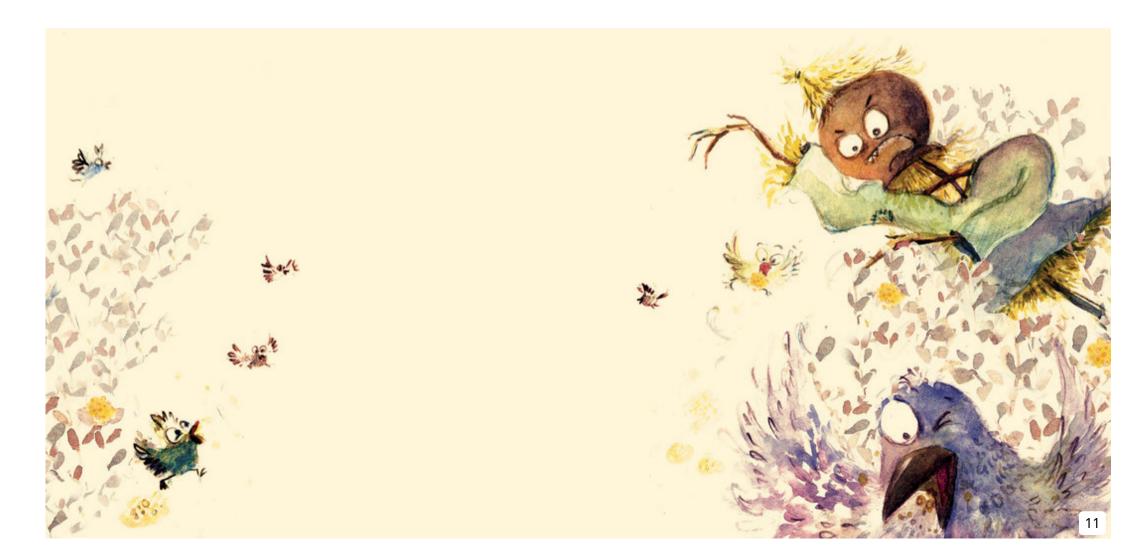
They tossed their empty mud-pot heads, and smiled their crooked mud-pot smiles. They were having a wonderful time!



At the same time, hundreds of birds flew down to the fields. Birds here, birds there, birds everywhere. Beaks smacking! Beaks munching! Beaks chomping! "Mmm! This is delicious!" said one, as she wiped her beak with her wing.



"It is not everyday that we can eat in the fields, without being shooed away by the scarecrows." The scarecrows heard this and looked around. They were horrified! "Shoo! Be gone!" they shouted at the birds, waving their straw hands wildly, to and fro.



Gauri screamed. Her mother came running. "Gauri, Gauri, what is the matter? Wake up!"

"Oh Ma, the birds! They are eating up all the grain."

Her mother held her tight, and said, "Shh, my child! Look at the fields. They are safe! It must be a bad dream."



## Gauri looked out. She saw the scarecrows, standing just where they were placed.





Oh, wait a minute, were they waving to her? She looked closer. She saw a red ribbon fluttering on a scarecrow's hair. She blinked and looked again. Did the scarecrow just wink at her?



This book was made possible by Pratham Books' StoryWeaver platform. Content under Creative Commons licenses can be downloaded, translated and can even be used to create new stories - provided you give appropriate credit, and indicate if changes were made. To know more about this, and the full terms of use and attribution, please visit the following <u>link</u>.

#### Story Attribution:

This story: The Scarecrows on Parade is written by Shamim Padamsee . © Pratham Books , 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

### **Other Credits:**

This book has been published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of the print version of this book has been supported by HDFC Asset Management Company Limited (A joint venture with Standard Life Investments). www.prathambooks.org

#### **Illustration Attributions:**

Cover page: <u>Girl and scarecrow</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: <u>Girl talking to lady</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: <u>Girl looking at dress near clothesline</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: <u>Girl laughing at lady making faces</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: <u>Girl and lady making a scarecrow</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: <u>Girl and lady making a scarecrow</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: <u>Girl looking at scarecrows in a field</u> by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: <u>Girl looking at scarecrows through a window</u> by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: <u>Scarecrow wearing a red dress</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: <u>Scarecrows</u> <u>dancing</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: <u>Scarecrows</u> <u>dancing</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: <u>Scarecrows</u> <u>dancing</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: <u>Scarecrows</u> <u>dancing</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: <u>Scarecrows</u> <u>dancing</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: <u>Scarecrows</u> <u>dancing</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: <u>Scarecrows </u>

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\_and\_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <u>http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/</u>



This book was made possible by Pratham Books' StoryWeaver platform. Content under Creative Commons licenses can be downloaded, translated and can even be used to create new stories - provided you give appropriate credit, and indicate if changes were made. To know more about this, and the full terms of use and attribution, please visit the following <u>link</u>.

#### **Illustration Attributions:**

Page 12: <u>Birds on a cot</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 13: <u>Mother and daughter</u>, by <u>Tanaya</u> <u>Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: <u>Scarecrow winking at girl</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: <u>Scarecrow winking at girl</u>, by <u>Tanaya Vyas</u> © Pratham Books, 2014.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\_and\_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <a href="http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/">http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/</a>

# **The Scarecrows on Parade** (English)

Scarecrows are put up in fields to scare away birds and animals. But little Gauri thinks otherwise!

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child's hand!