

SOPHO KIRTADZE

# ZEBRA'S MISSING STRIPES

Translation  
Ekaterine Machitidze



სოფო კირთაძე  
ზოლეპია  
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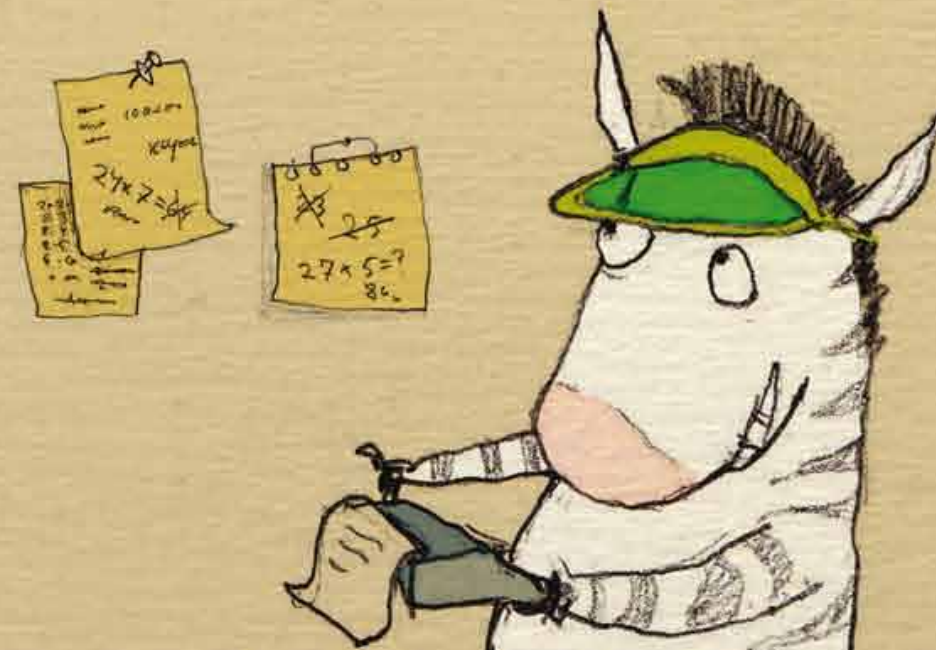
Zebra Father had been out of spirits since the morning. When he looked into the looking glass it seemed to him that one of his stripes was missing. But he was not sure about the lost one. He could not even remember how many stripes he usually wore. He asked Zebra Mother and the latter failed to recollect too.







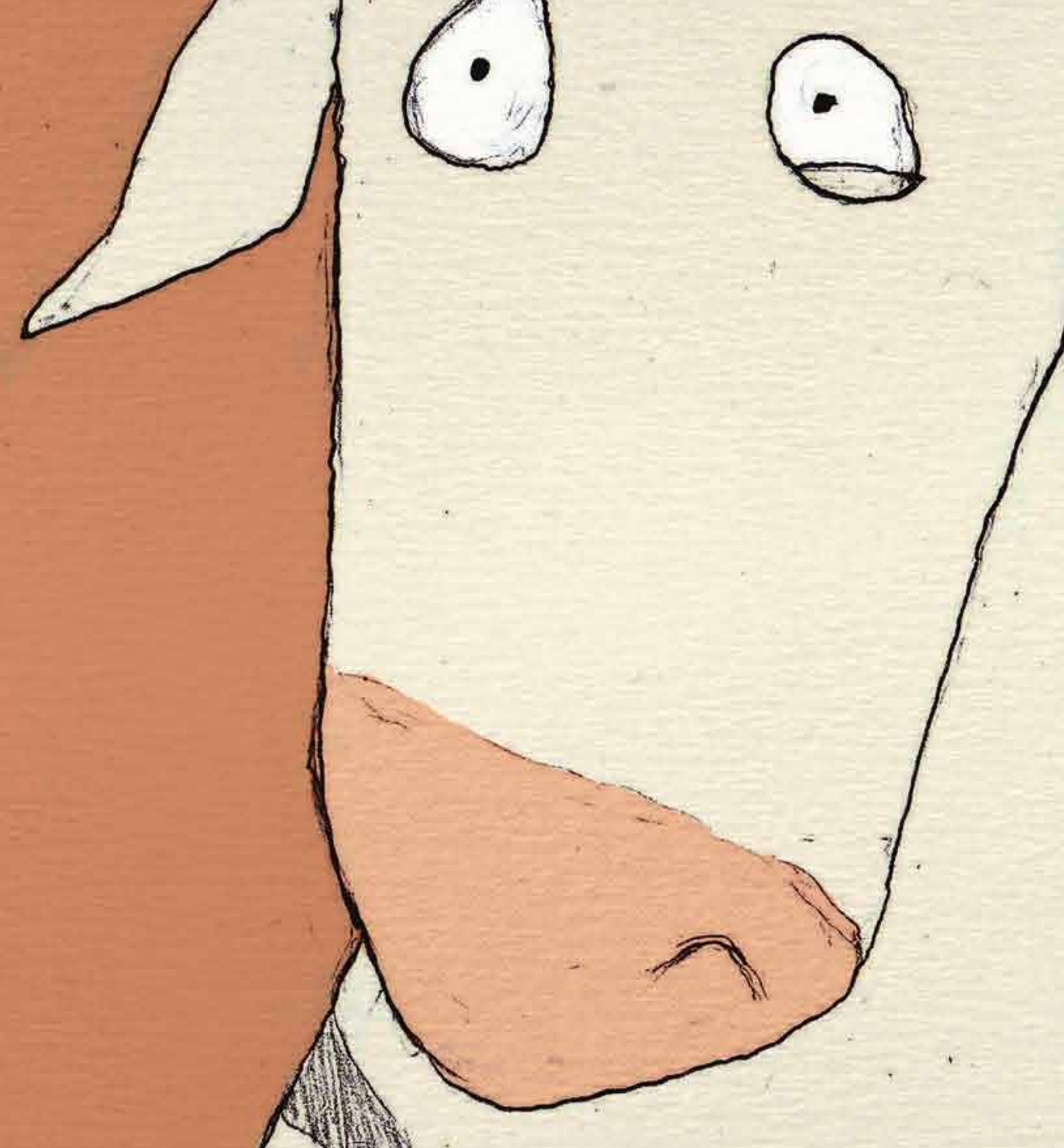
They started to count the stripes but it's too hard to count things like that. The sum turned out to be always different. They worked out a system at last and counted the stripes, but that was not the end for they did not know how many stripes were to be there on the fur.





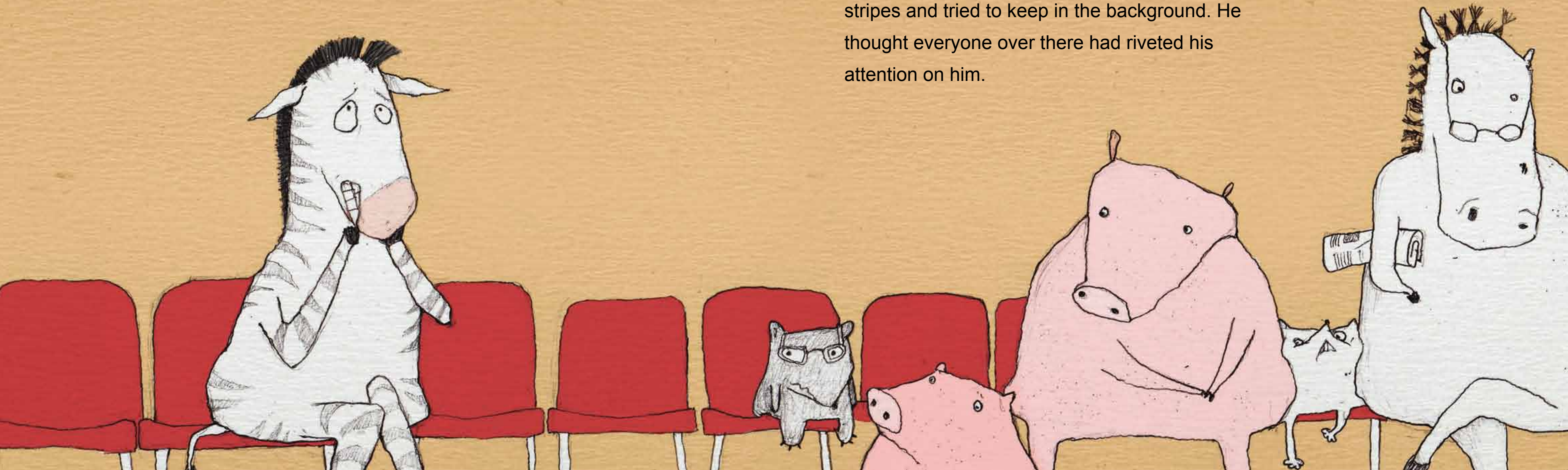


The next morning there really was a missing stripe. Zebra Father was somewhat threatened. He had never heard about things like that before. Zebra Mother thought they had to visit a doctor. A couple of stripes had disappeared the next morning too. And Zebra Father decided to go to a doctor.



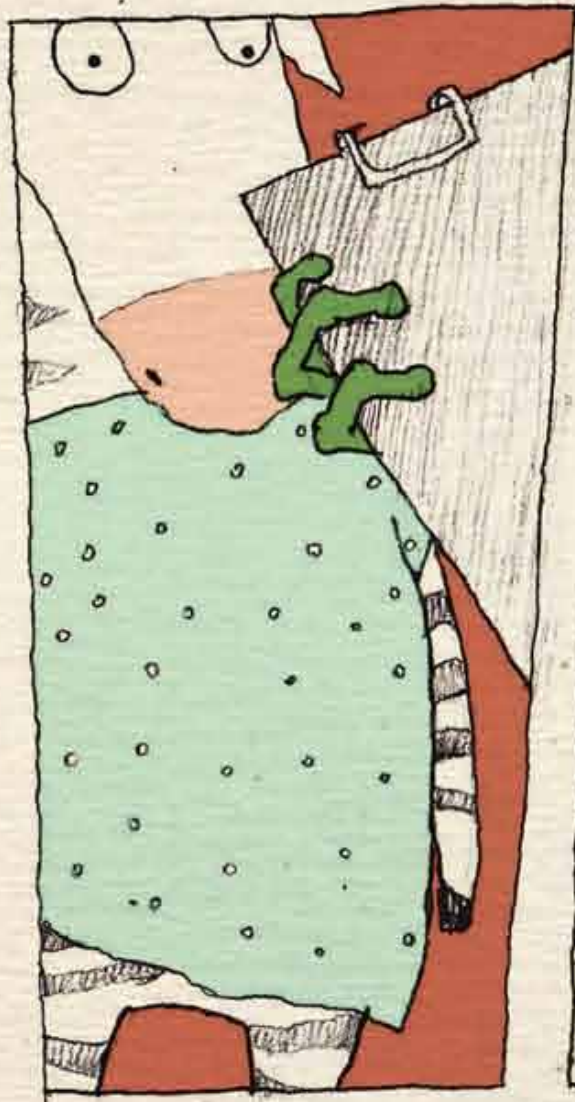


There was a line in the waiting room. Zebra Father did not want anyone to notice his lost stripes and tried to keep in the background. He thought everyone over there had riveted his attention on him.

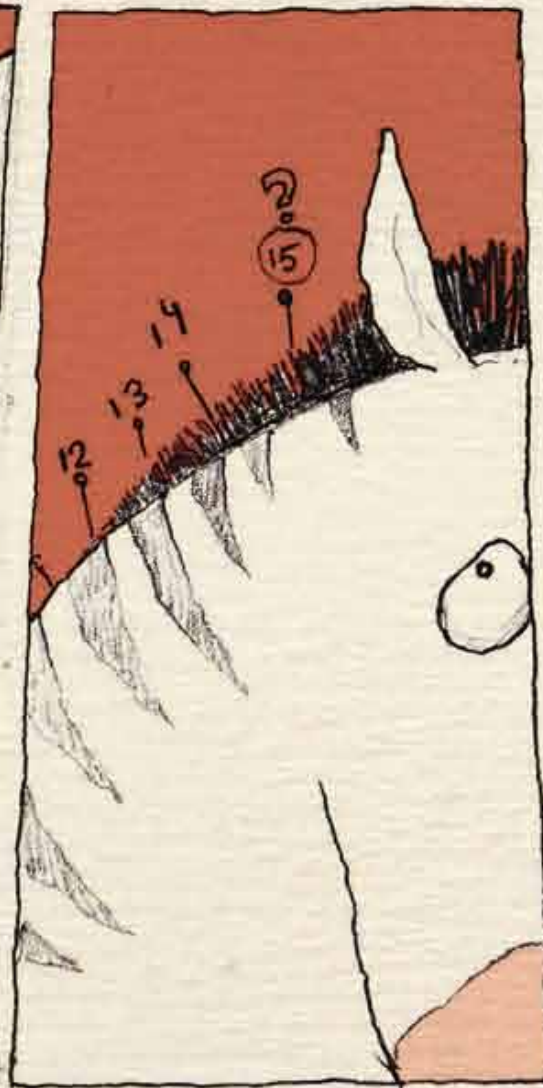




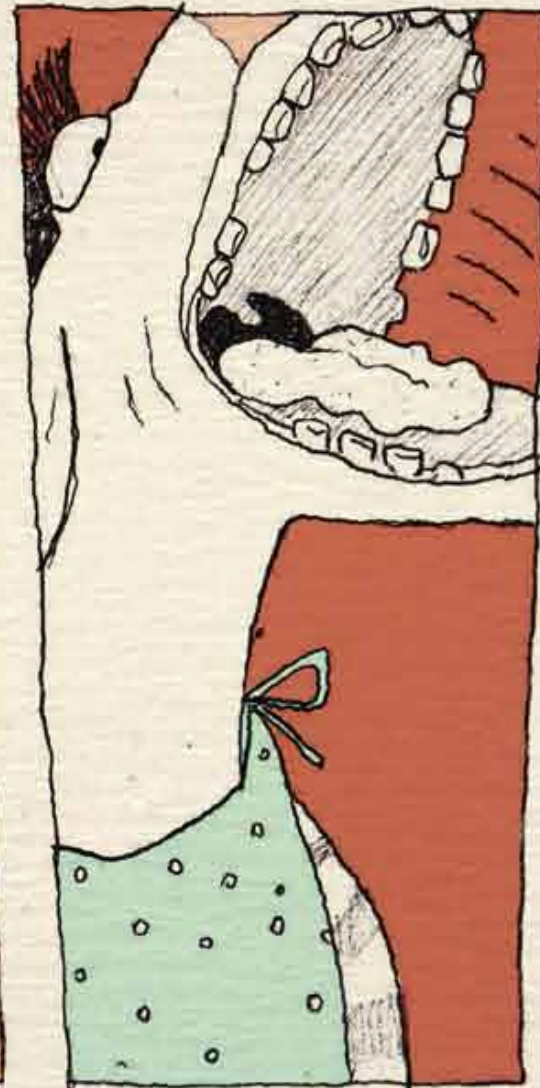
① The doctor listened to him attentively.



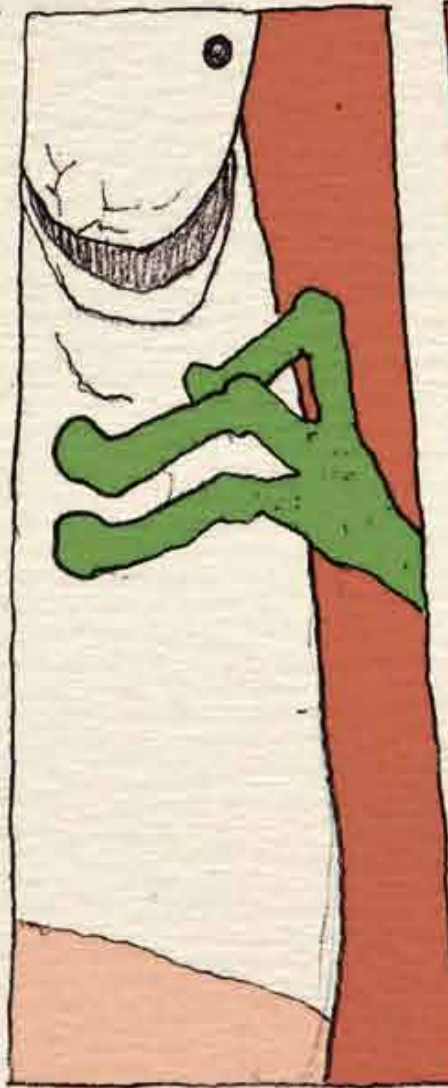
② He counted Zebra's stripes,



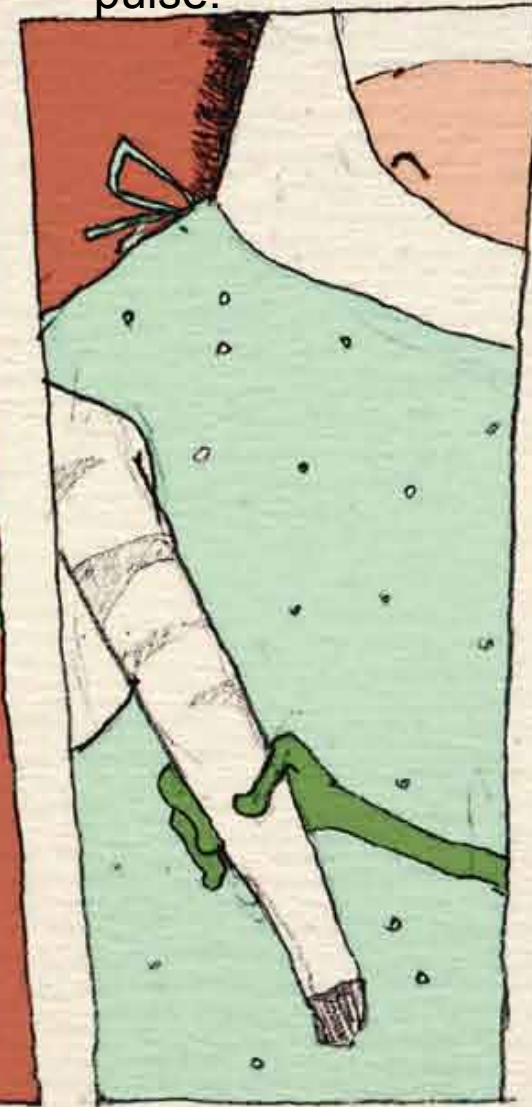
③ looked into his mouth,



④ pulled his eyelids down



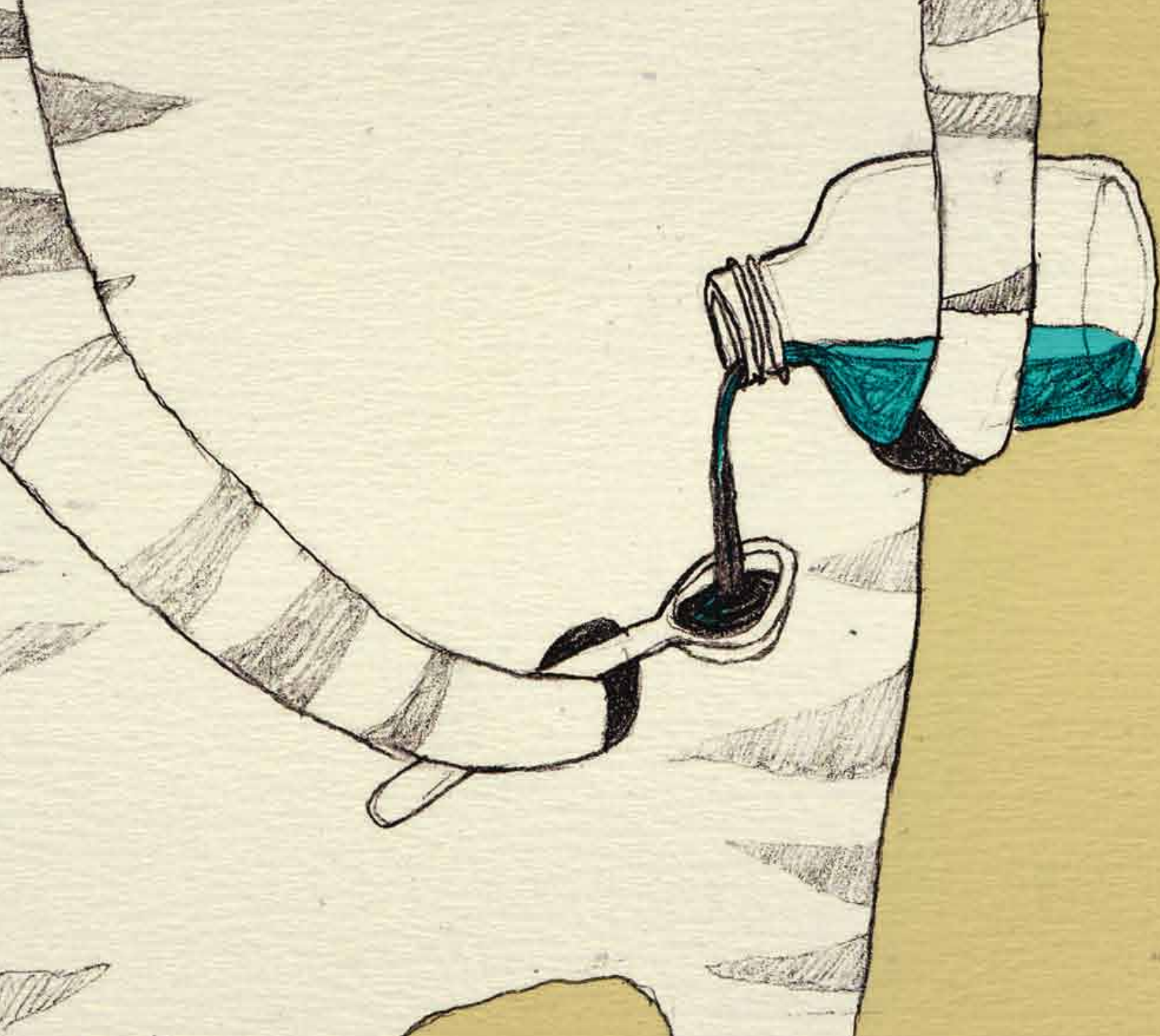
⑤ and tried to feel the pulse.



"Very extraordinary", said the doc finally. He prescribed vitamins and some new drops to strengthen Zebra's immunity.







Zebra Father took his medicines honestly and it even seemed he felt better. Though, there was always a stripe or a couple of stripes that had vanished. Neither his neighbors nor the friends could advise anything to the zebra. Once a neighbor brought him some wonder-working grease, but it was all in vain.

