

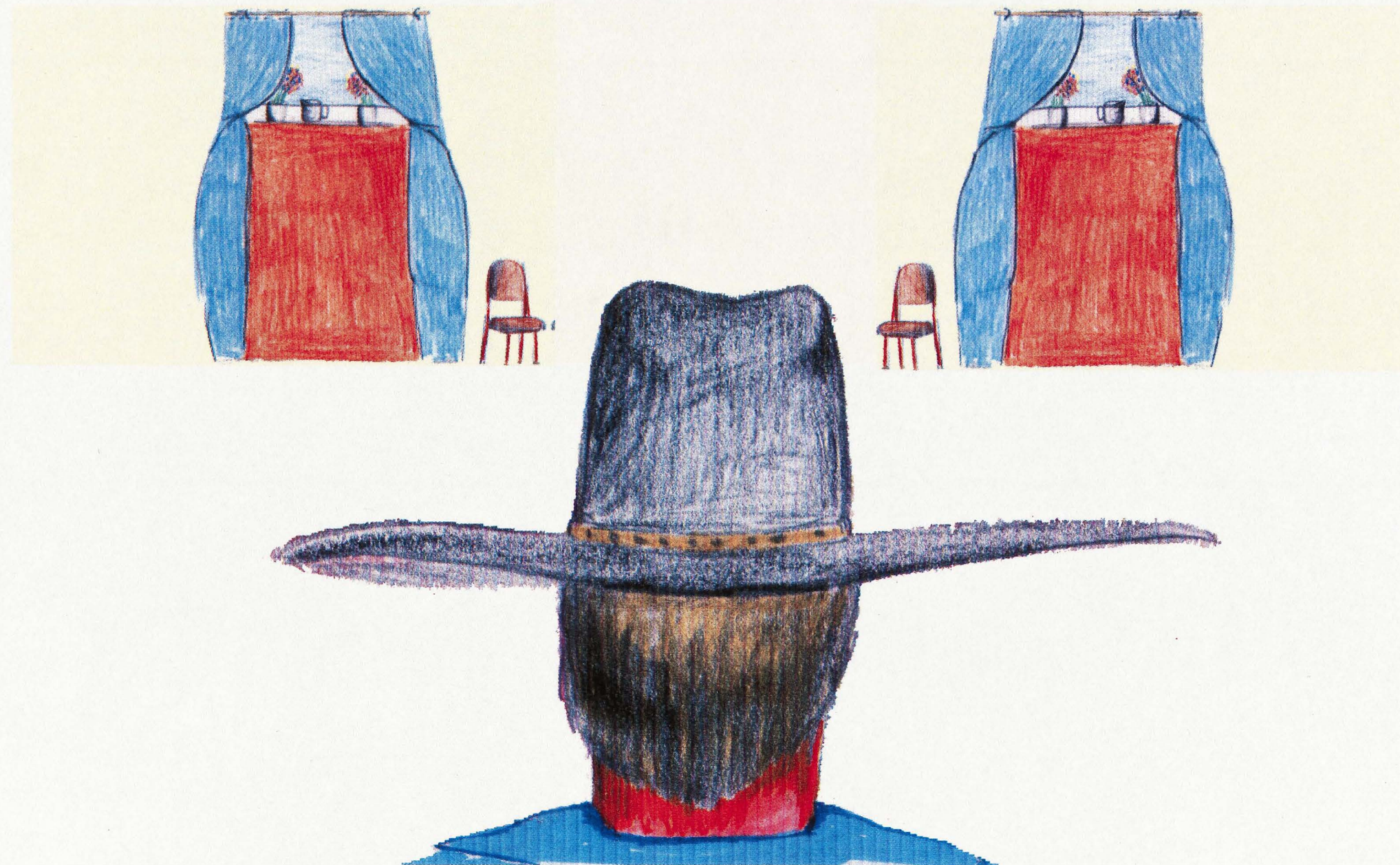
Jirrirtinypurrurla marna Warrkammarnani Jarlu



Merangkakura Wangki

Working at Quanbun Station
told by Merangka Costaine

Jirrirtinypurrurla marna Warrkammarnani Jarlu
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Working at Quanbun Station by Merangka Costaine

This book is dedicated to Merangka Costaine
Merangka worked at the
Wulungarra Community School
for many years and she is sadly missed.

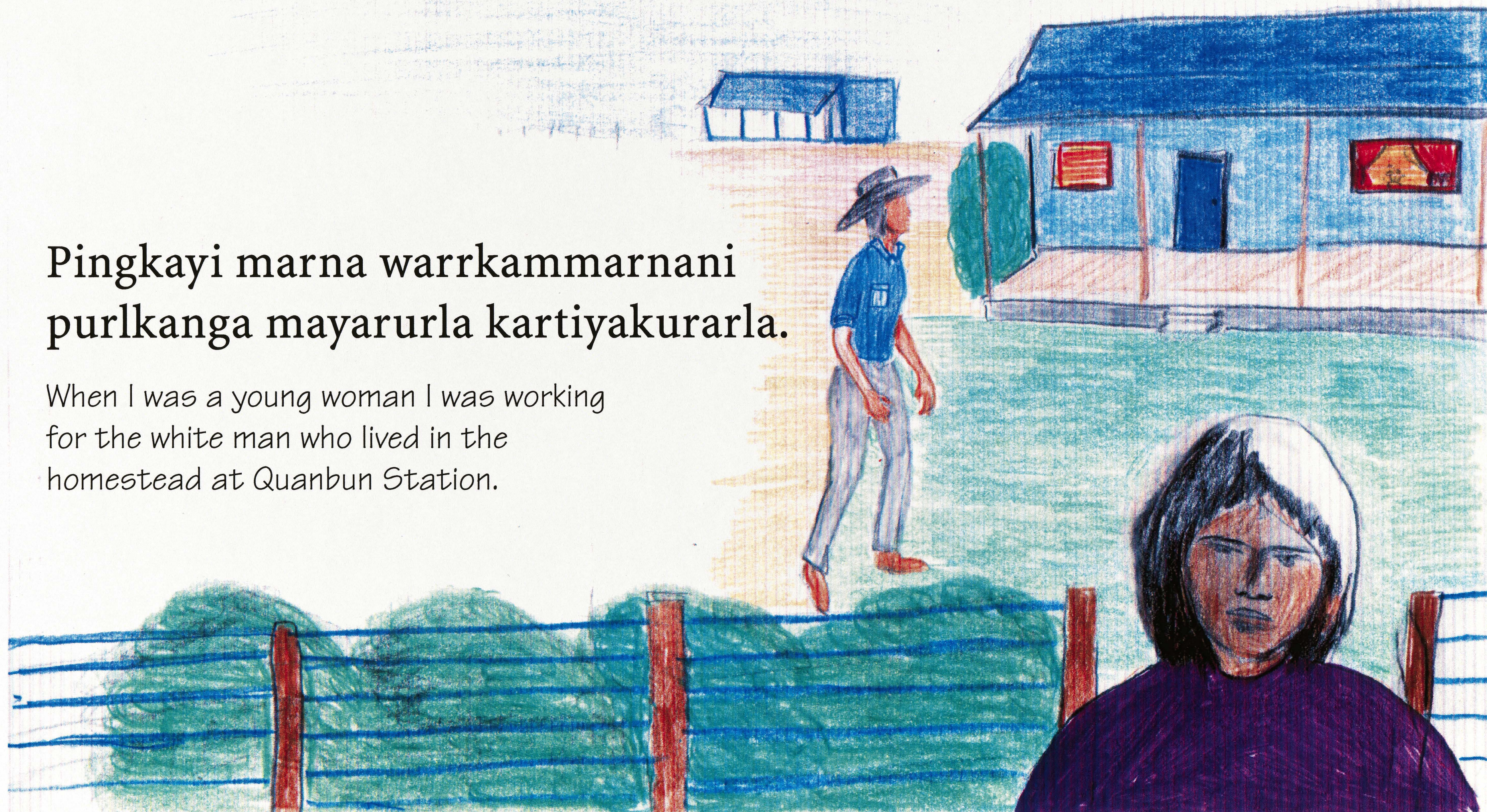


Layi wangki marna julawu jarlujangka.

I'm going to tell you a story from a long time ago.

Pingkayi marna warrkammarnani purlkanga mayarurla kartiyakurarla.

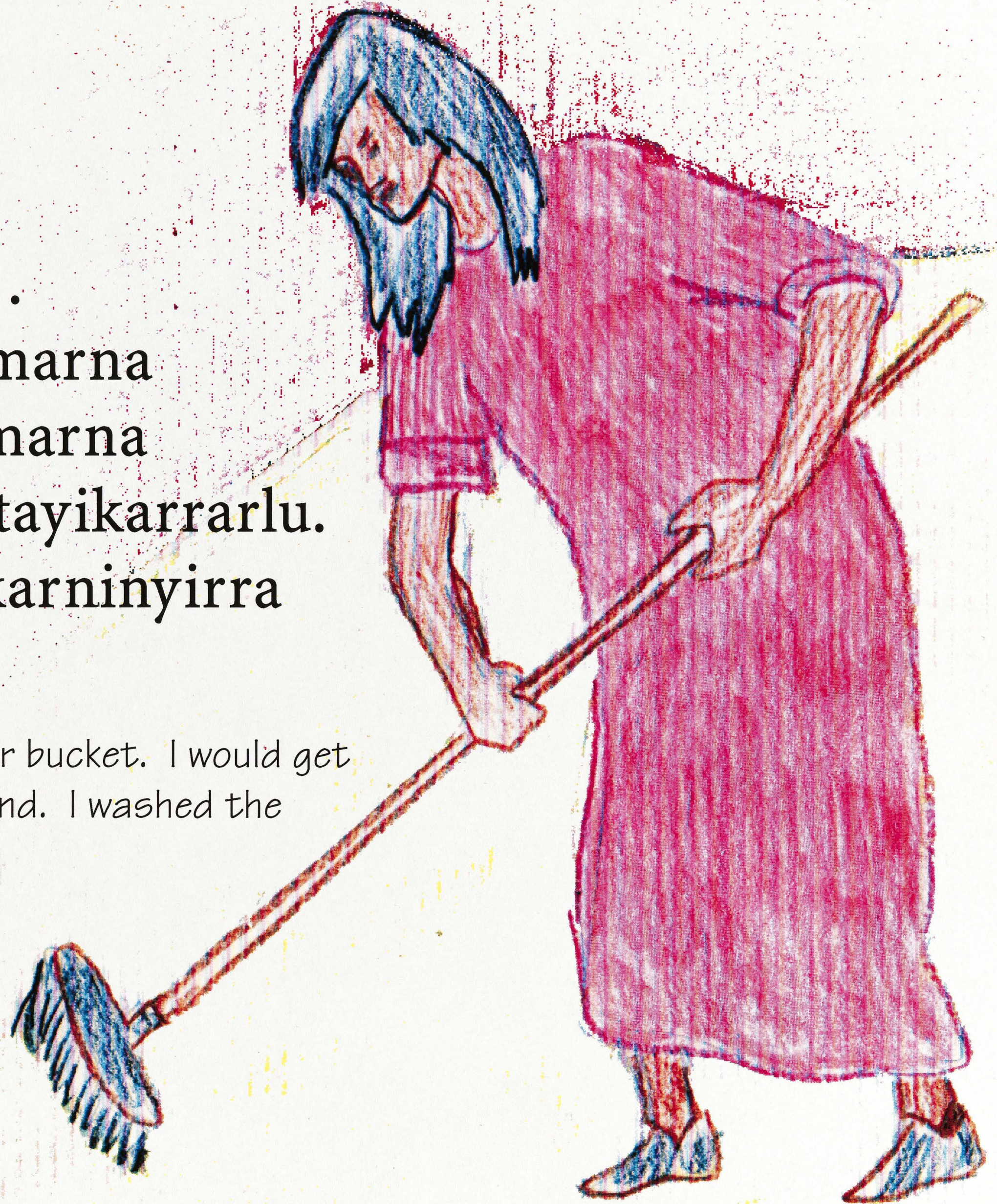
When I was a young woman I was working
for the white man who lived in the
homestead at Quanbun Station.





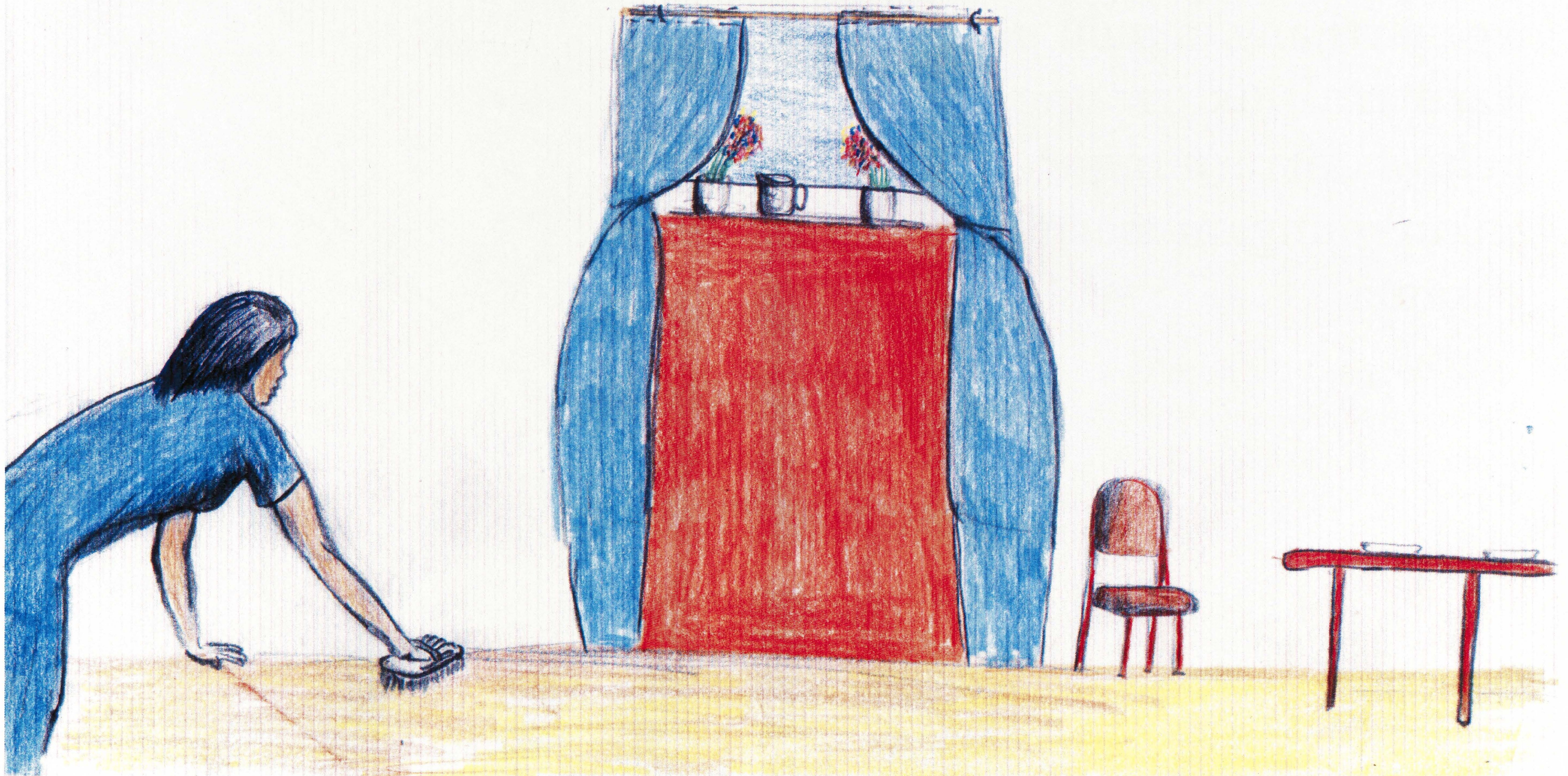
Rarrparnani marna puluwu .
Nyanartijangka pulu pakit marna
warntarni, lukurpungani marna
puluwu kirrarnungurn murtayikarrarl.
Lukurpungani marna kankarninyirra
puranta.

I used to sweep the floor, then I got the floor bucket. I would get
down on my knees and scrub the floor by hand. I washed the
verandah floor like this too.



Nyanartijangka pulparrjarrinyajangka palij marna warntarnani,
nyanartijangka maparnani marna puluwu, puranta kankarninyirra,
ruumwarlany ruumwarlany.

When the floor was dry, I would get the polish to rub on the floor.
I used to do every floor in the house like this.

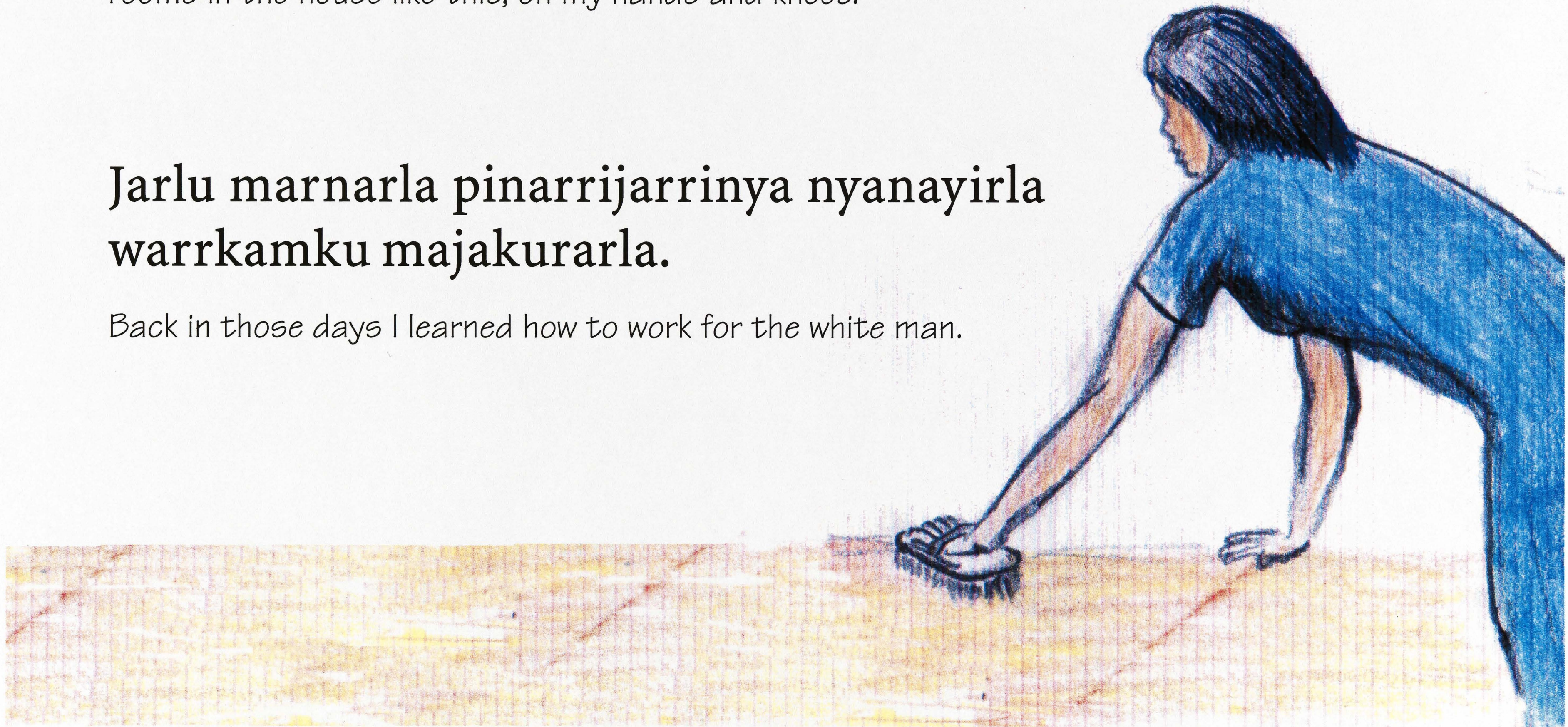


Wali nyanartijangka warntarni marna palya pulparr
turrkarra luwarnupurru. Kirrarnungurn marna wamarn
turrkarra luwarnani murtayimanurla, kitangarni
palypalymanani puluwu ruumwarlany ruumwarlany.

*After that I used to get a dry cloth to polish the floor to make it shine. I used to do all the
rooms in the house like this, on my hands and knees.*

Jarlu marnarla pinarrijarrinya nyanayirla
warrkamku majakurarla.

Back in those days I learned how to work for the white man.

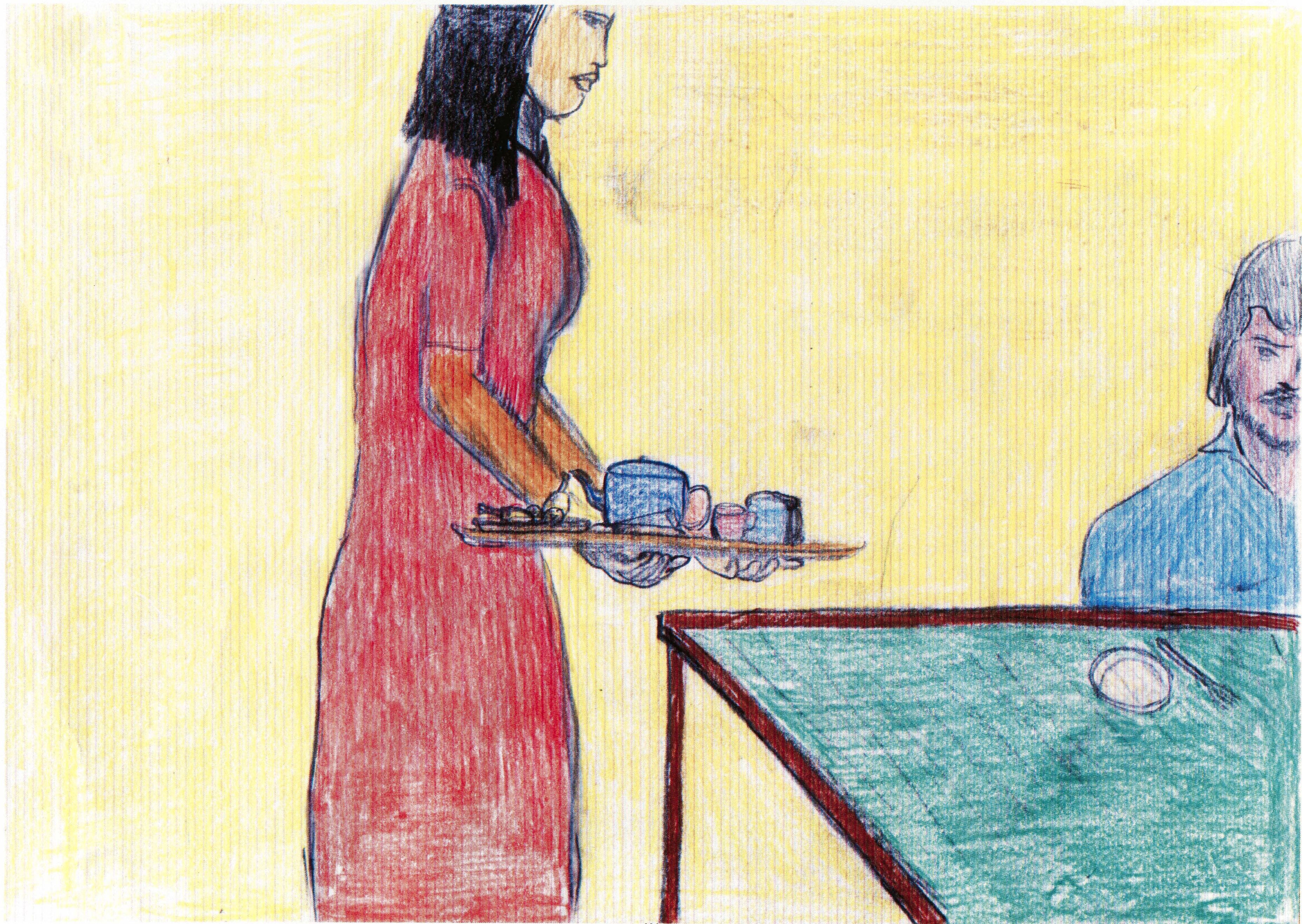




Nyanartijangka marnapanya purpaniny warrkamkarti kurlirra ngurti ngartakkanupurru. Warrkammarnani marnalu nyanayirla. Manawarnti marnalurla yungani ngurti ngartakanupurru kartiya. Purlka marnalu warrkammani ngurti ngartakanukarra.



After working at the homestead, the boss took us to work in the garage fixing cars. We worked there handing the the tools when he needed them.



Nyanartijangka kayilila marna
tikirryani mayarukarti majakurakarti.
Yutukanani marnarla mangarriwarnti
wajpalku majawu.

Then we went back to the homestead to serve meals to the
boss and his family.

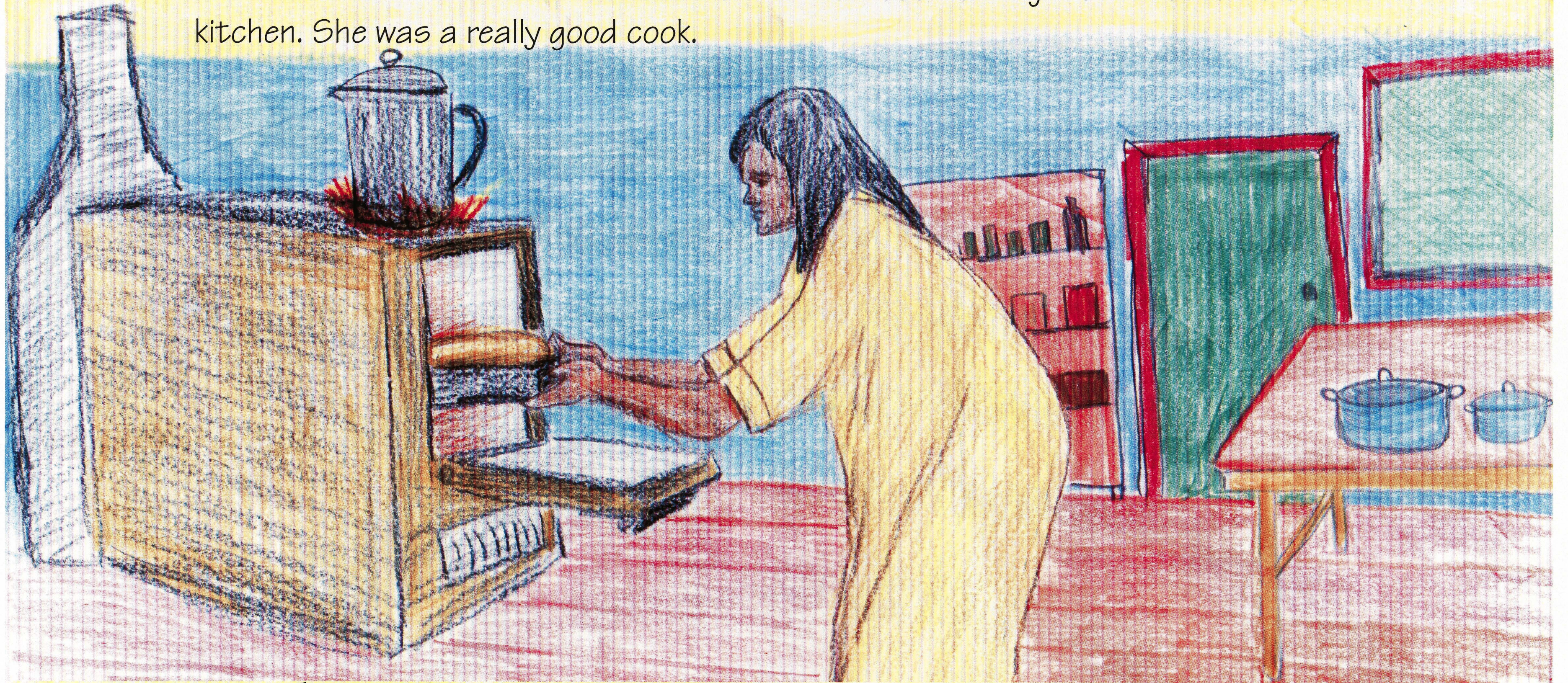
Kurrapa marnanyan lukurrpungani
jatimkujirnupurru tiyipurl. Tiyipurl
marnarla jitimkujirnani kankarninyirra
kartiyawu mangarri ngarnupurru.

First I washed my hands then set the table up in the dining
room for the boss's dinner.



Turtuyani marna, mangarri marna warntarnani kaninyjanga, kijinta manyjirnani kaniny. Ngajukuraru ngamajirlu manyanangu kamparnani mangarri ngarnupurru tina.

I went down to the kitchen where the dinner was cooked. My mother used to cook in the kitchen. She was a really good cook.

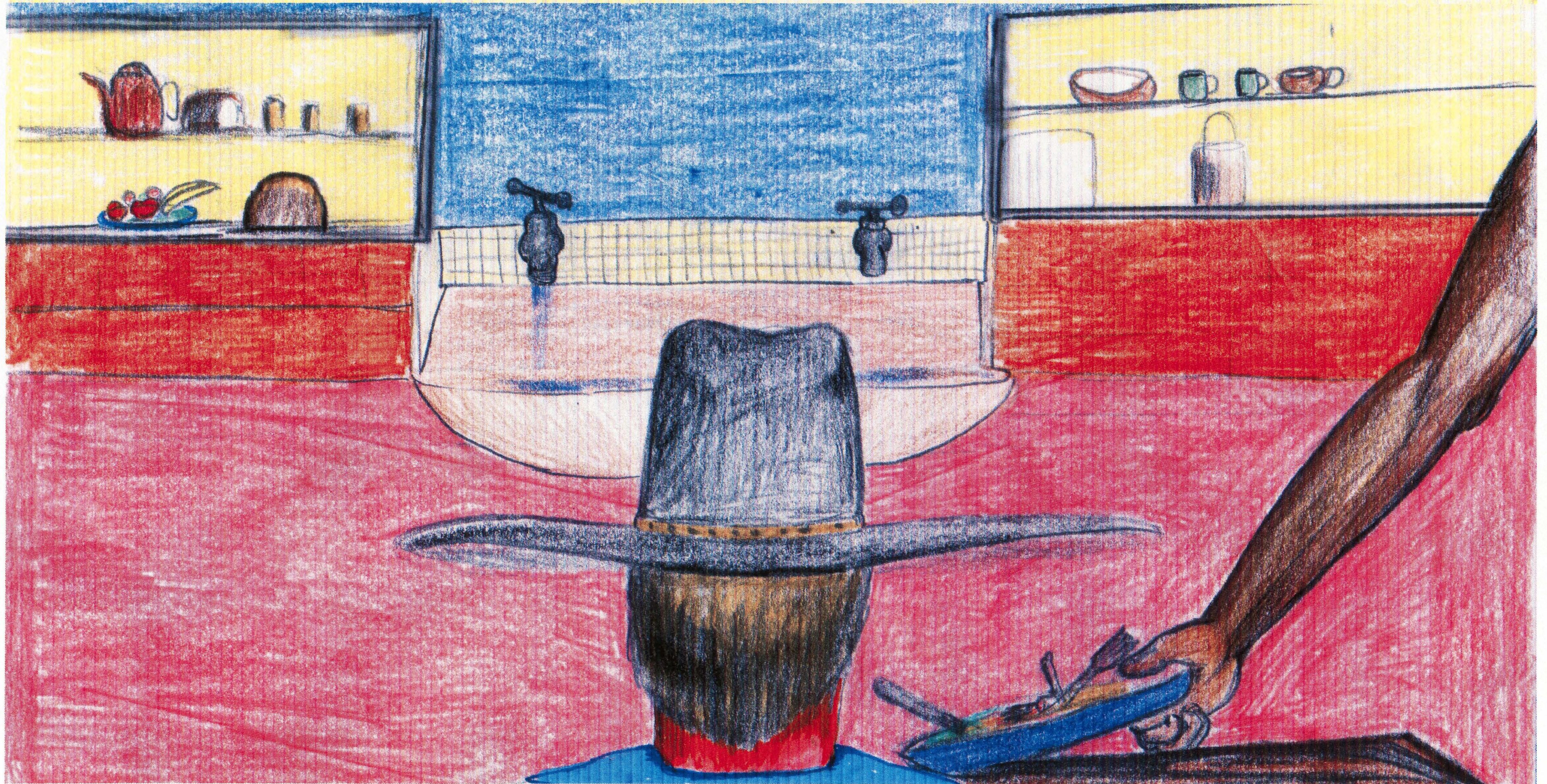


Muntumuntukangani marna mangarri kankarral kartiyakurajawurlu lapi. Yutukanani marnarla tiyipurlla wali.

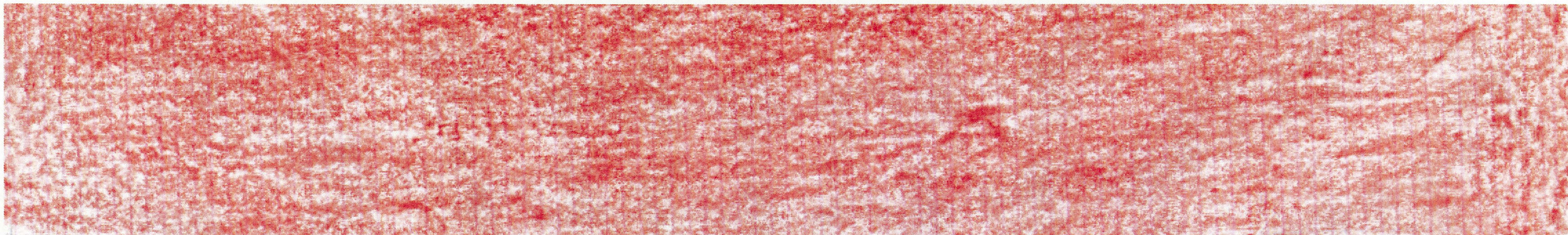
I would take the dishes of hot food up to the dining room on trays and put them on the table for dinner.

Wali nyanartijangka piliyitwarnti kuyijangka ngarnujangka,
warntarni marna. Wali marnanya kayantakujirni
lukurpungupurru.

Later, when they had finished eating, I would pick up the plates, cups, dishes and cutlery and stack them in a room we called a kitchenette, ready for washing up.







Kanarlanyypala mangarri linjarti marnanyanangu yutukananiny ngarnupurru wajpalwarntiwu . Ngarnanila palu mangarri nyanarti jutparni.

Then I would take the sweets to the table. The white people ate this last.

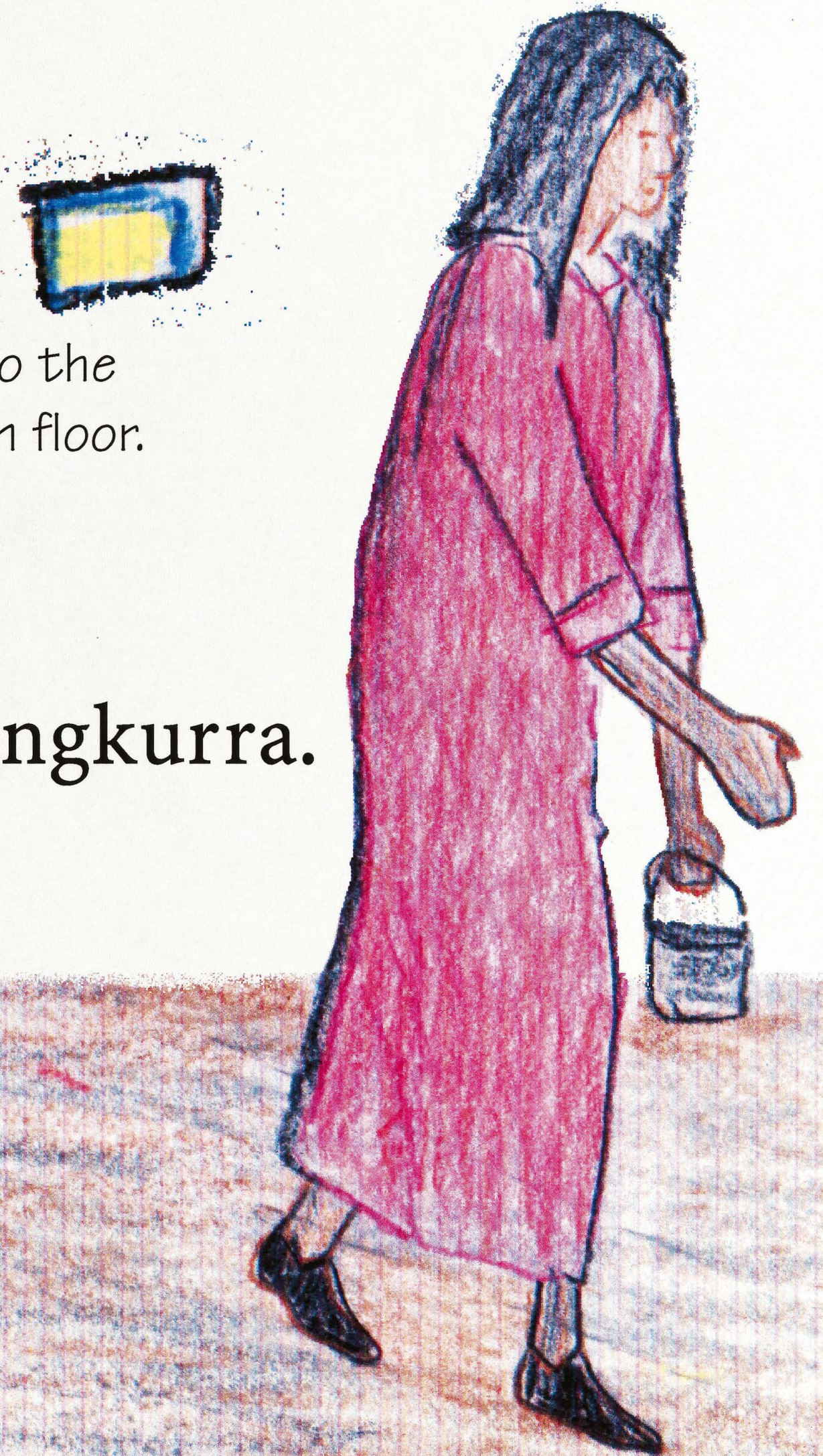




nightime.

Nyanartijangka muntumuntu kangani marnanya
piliyitwarnti lukurpungupurru. Lukurpungani
marnalunya piliyitwarnti.

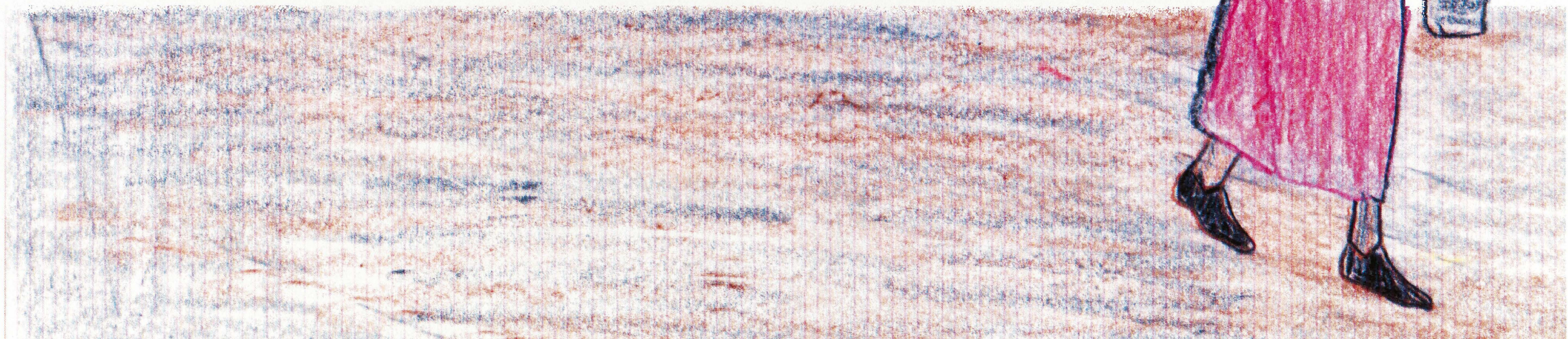
Rarrparnani marna puluwu mangarri palu
ngarnanijangka wajpallu.



*After they had finished, I cleared the table and took all the plates to the
kitchenette and we washed them there. Then I swept the dining room floor.*

Wali turtuyani marnalu pujujangka rarrp.
Ngurrangkurra marnalu tikyananiny ngalungkurra.

When everything was finished we went back home.



Walmajarri Pronunciation Guide (underlined in bold)

a as in but
i as in bit
j as in join
k as in koala
l as in lime
m as in money
n as in nothing
p as in sip
r as in ripe
t as in sit
u as in put
w as in wait
y as in yesterday
aa as in path
ii as in beet
ly as in million
ng as in sing
ny as in onion
rl (no equivalent)
rn (no equivalent)
rr (no equivalent)
rt (no equivalent)
uu as in boot



Alphabet and pronunciation guide from Walmajarri-English Dictionary
compiled by Eirlys Richards and Joyce Hudson, SIL Darwin, 1990.

