

THE BRAVE STORIES

*"Adapted from Experiences of
the Human Trafficking Survivors"*



THE BRAVE STORIES

“ADAPTED FROM ACTUAL EXPERIENCES OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS”

Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, May 2019

PRODUCTION OF:

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

SECOND EDITION: 2019



All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher. The opinions expressed in the IEC material do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).



This material has been funded by UK aid from the UK from UK Government, however the view expressed do not necessarily reflect the UK government’s official policies.

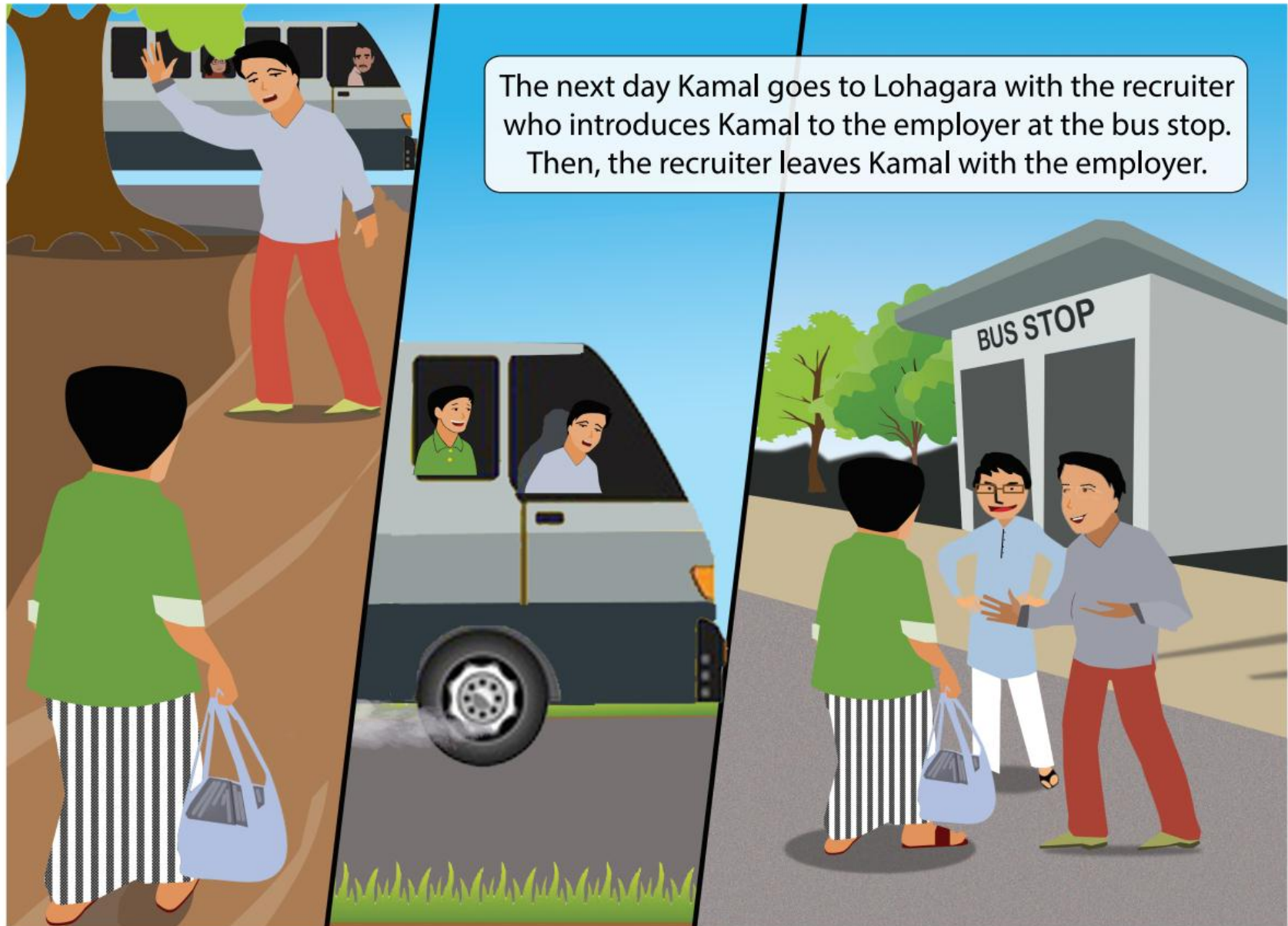
TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE







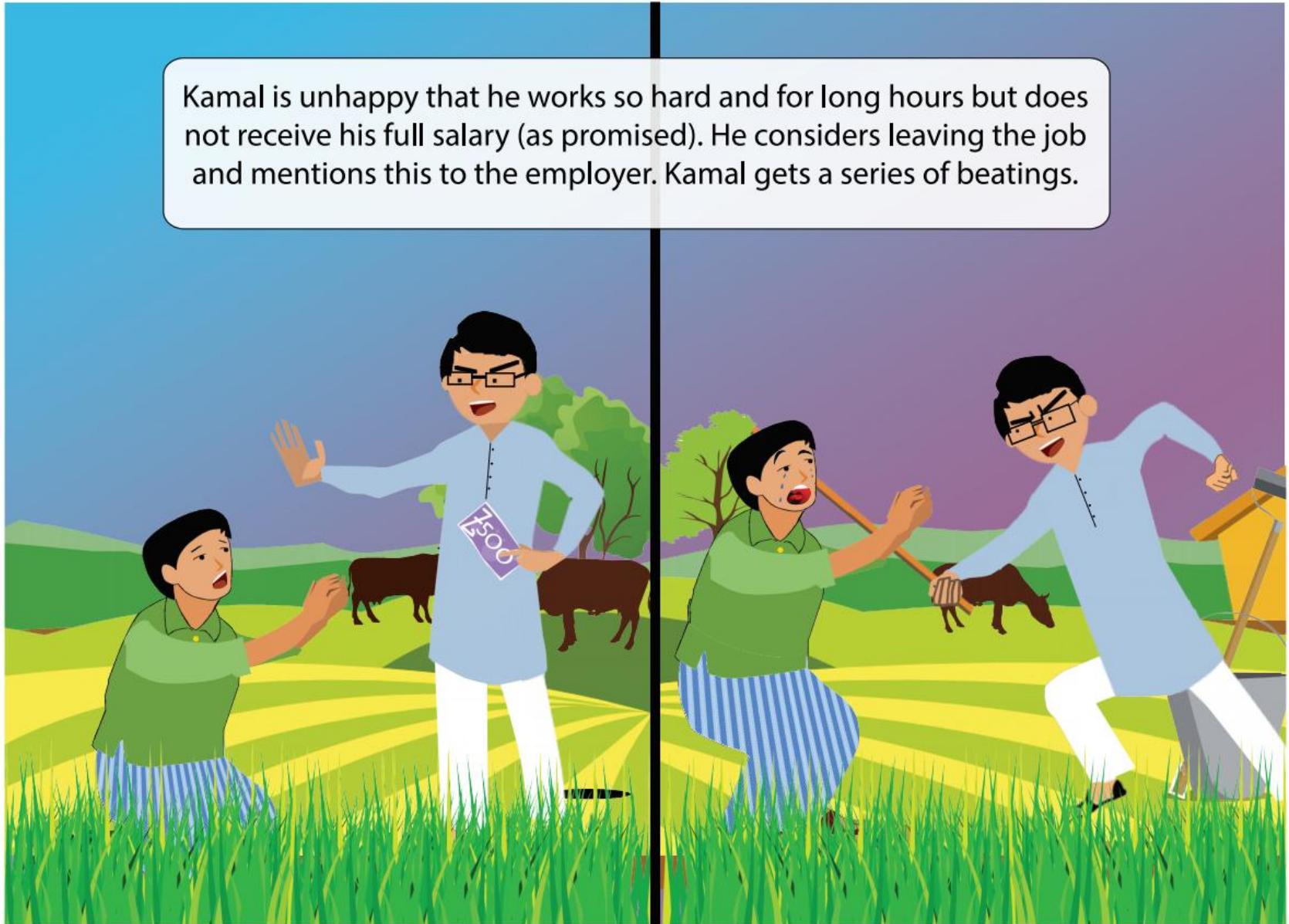
Kamal is excited and shares the good news . He accepts the offer after asking for his parents' and family's permission. "Finally the day has come for a better life."



From the first day Kamal has to work long hours in the field without any rest. He works in the paddy field, harvests vegetables, and is also assigned to do other domestic work.



Kamal is unhappy that he works so hard and for long hours but does not receive his full salary (as promised). He considers leaving the job and mentions this to the employer. Kamal gets a series of beatings.

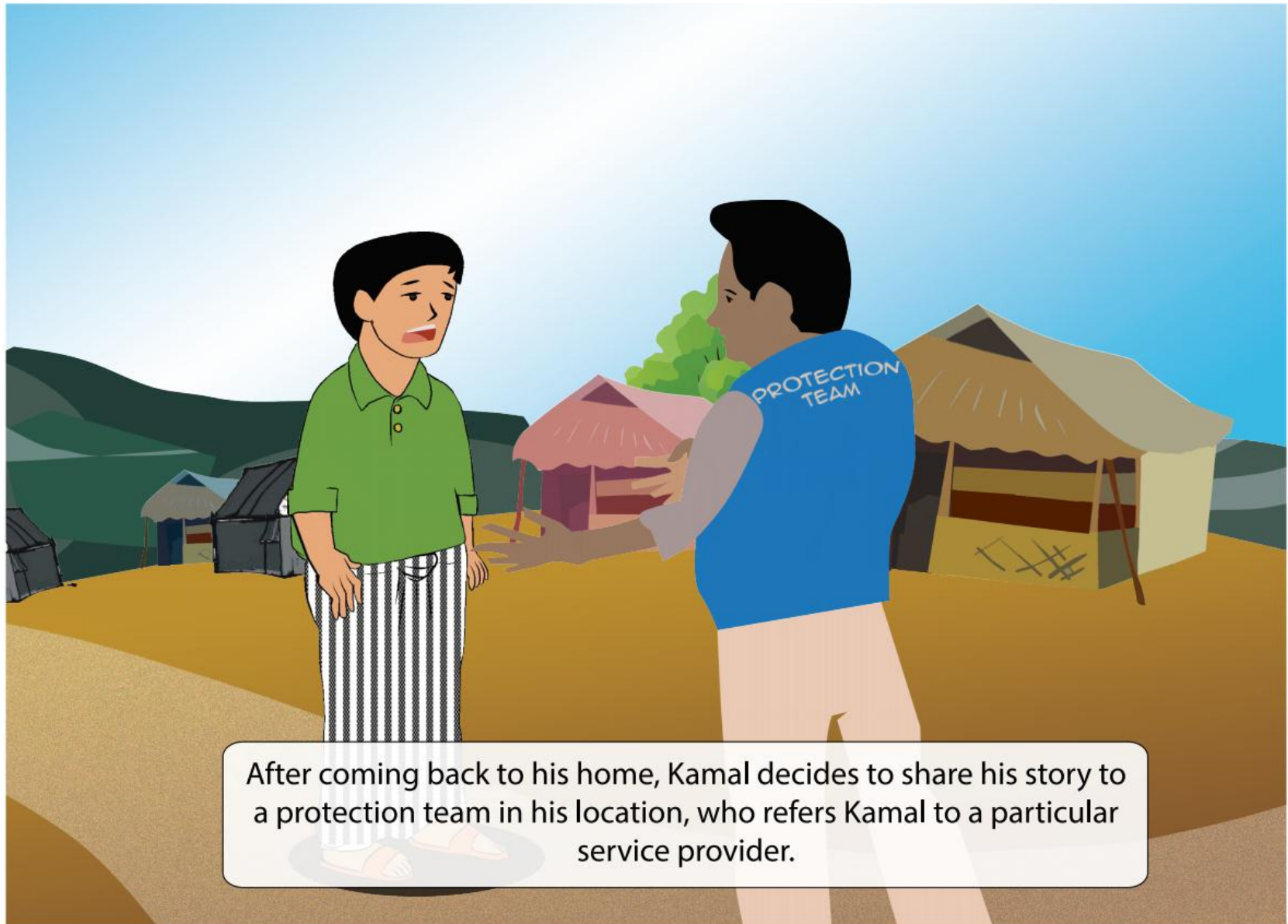


That night Kamal returns to his resting area inside a dirty cattle house, feeling very upset. He knows there is a long day ahead from 5:00 am to 8 pm and not receiving any payment. He is so frustrated with the current situation that he is unable to sleep.



Kamal endures the work for another month, eventually decides that enough is enough. He does not get the salary and he is afraid the employer will beat him again, so he decides to run away.





Kamal talks to the service provider close to his area of residence and immediately receives services based on his needs.



IT WAS NOT AS I EXPECTED...

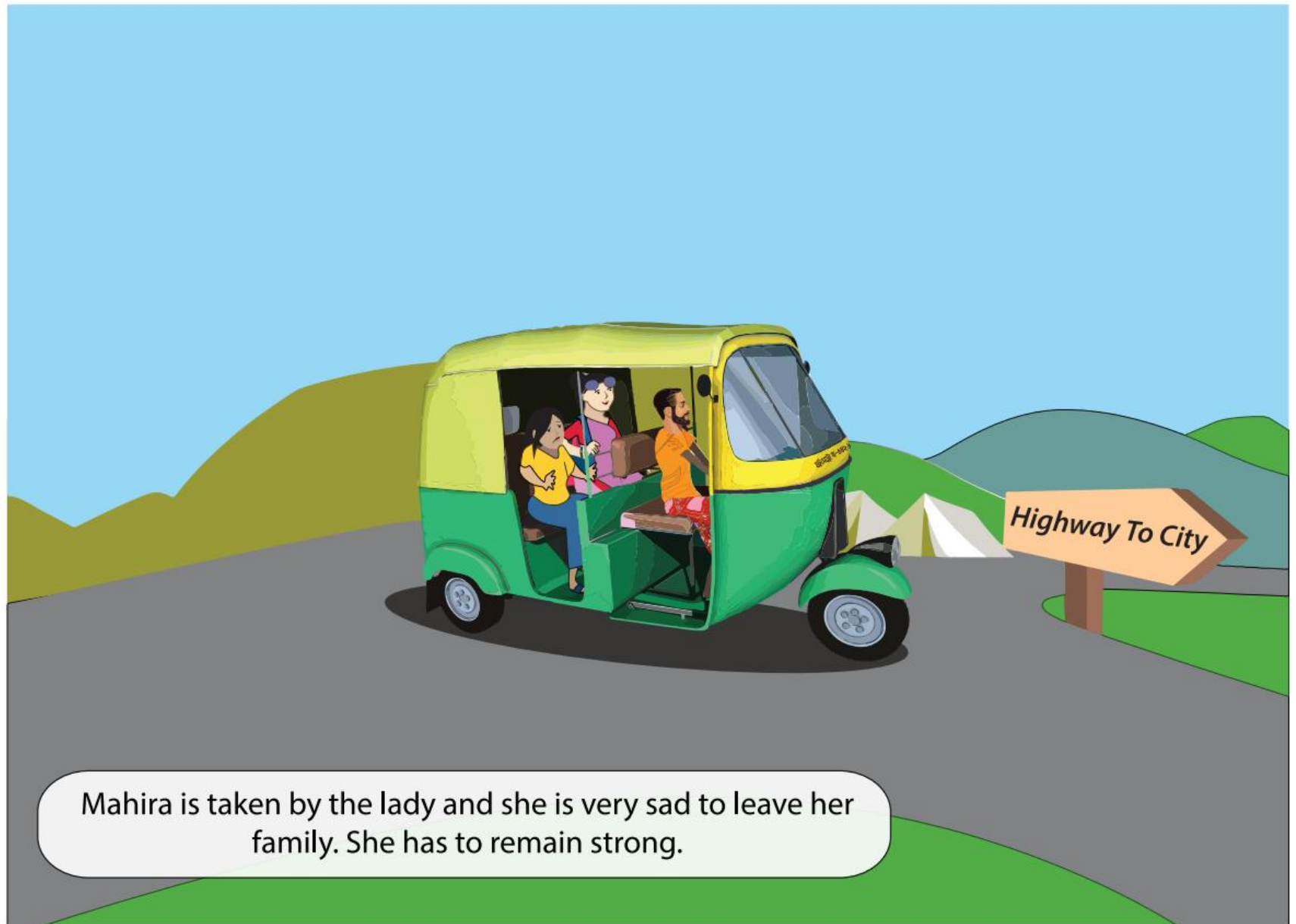








The mother is happy because Mahira agrees. It is a better future and at least she will have proper food, clothes and able to support the family.



When she arrives, she is forced to work long hours without any rest. She has to wake up every single day, as early as 5 AM to start all the household chores. She also needs to take care of the baby and clean the house until very late at night.





If the baby cries, the employer usually beats Mahira because she does not know how to work properly.





After few months, the mother never heard from Mahira. She tries to call her several times but it never goes through. She is getting really worried.



The mother is so worried and she comes to the employer's house in town. She is shocked to see that Mahira has bruises. The employer refuses to give the salary. Instead, the employer threatens to call the police. The mother regrets sending Mahira away.



The mother informs the police and she is taken to a local organization.



They are referred to the closest CHILD FRIENDLY SPACES and receive the support they need.



With the assistance of humanitarian organization, Mahira is sent back to school to continue her studies.

I NEVER IMAGINED



Mariam, a young girl, is approached by her neighbor's aunt who offers a job as a hotel cleaner in a beach resort in Cox's Bazar. The aunt says she will receive BDT 2,500/month in a beautiful beach resort. She mentioned that she will have a better life if she comes with her.



Mariam is very happy. She finally has the chance to earn money to support her family. She thinks that this is her only chance. She decides to go with the aunty right away.



She is very excited to go to work. The aunty takes her on a tom-tom to the work place nearby Cox's Bazar. However, she does not realize that the tom-tom takes her to another direction.



Upon arrival, she is surprised because the place is not what she expected. All of the sudden, a man, also a pimp, pushes and locks her in a room.



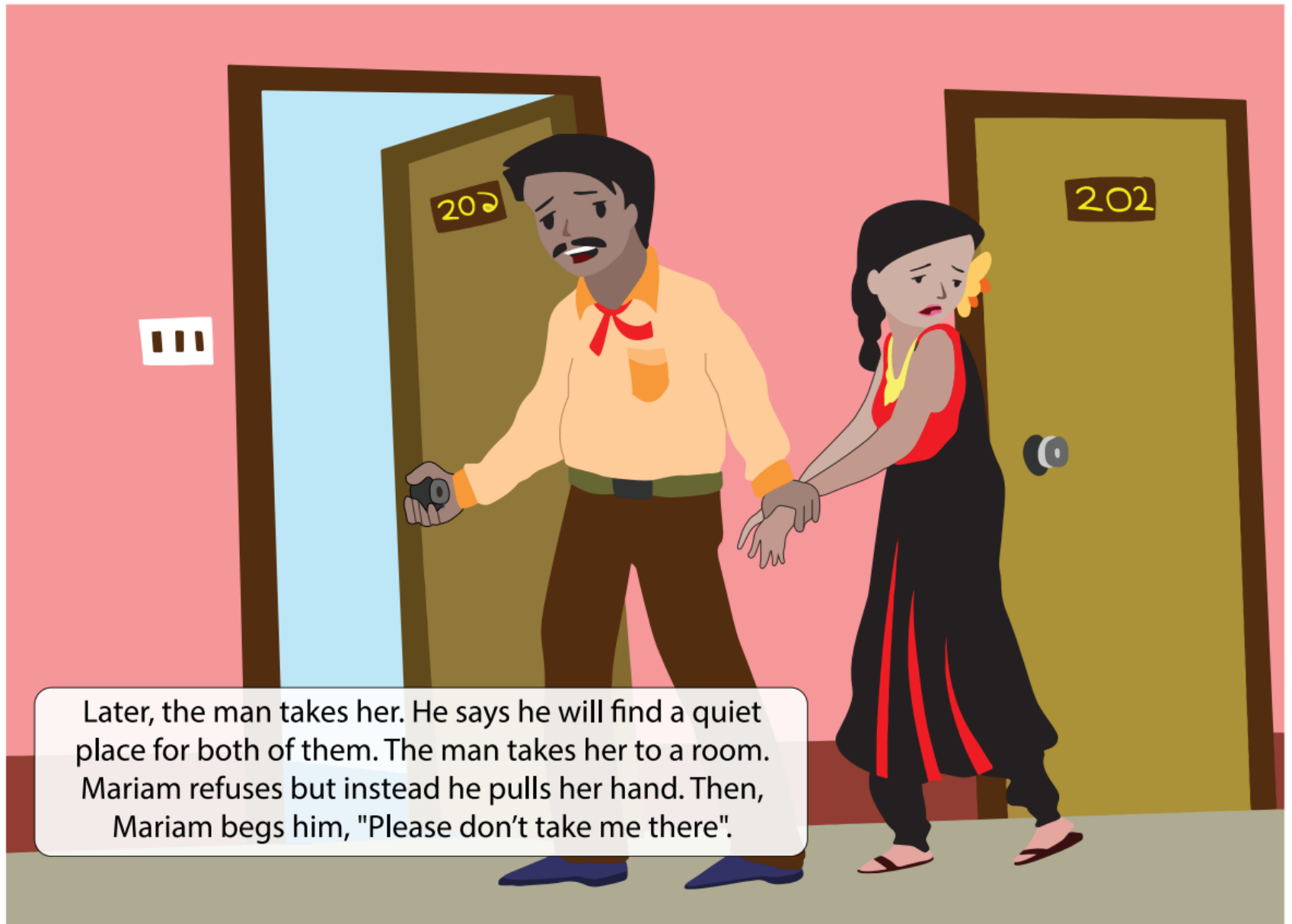
She feels that the aunty has tricked her to come to a hotel with a bad reputation. She notices there are a few girls but not sure why they are there.



Then, a nice looking lady comes to her and says" You don't need to be afraid. I will make you the prettiest girl". She starts applying the make up and gives her a revealing short dress.







Later, the man takes her. He says he will find a quiet place for both of them. The man takes her to a room. Mariam refuses but instead he pulls her hand. Then, Mariam begs him, "Please don't take me there".



The older man is not happy and calls the pimp. Mariam is pulled out of the room and into another room where she is beaten. She screams very loudly but no one comes to help. The pimp says, "You better go with that man, otherwise you will see the consequences".



She has no other options. She is afraid the pimp will beat her again. She is brought back to the room! The older man does something to her that she never imagined.





She is lucky enough to arrive at home. However, she can not forget what has happened to her. She then decides to come a SAFE SPACE to share her burden.



Not all opportunities are real. Strangers, community members, friends or even family can offer false promises.



Stop. Think. Ask. Don't rush! Remember the risks - bad treatment, harm and no payment.



Children are safest with family. Be cautious with opportunities that separate a child from the family.



**STOP
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING!**

STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Call IOM CT Hotline

01872 741 801

Call UNHCR Protection Hotline

01703 593 300

STAY CAUTIOUS - AVOID THE RISK

Get help | Report a case | Find services



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Parjatan Luxury Cottage (1-3), Cox's Bazar,
Bangladesh
www.iom.org.bd / www.iom.int