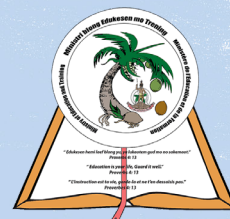


Level 5



THE RAMBIHI AND THE RAT

By Leon Gambetta
Illustrated by Valeria Korshunova



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Don enjoyed spending time with his cousins, Tom and Malcolm. One day, they felt like drinking Rambihi.

"I don't know how to make Rambihi," Don said. "Do you?"

“You don’t know how to make a Rambihi drink?”

Tom and Malcolm fell to the ground laughing. They couldn’t believe him!

“Tomorrow, we’ll come back to help you make the Rambihi drink,” they said. “But first, please gather these ingredients.”







Don wrote down the list of ingredients, which included: three dry coconuts, five green coconuts, five ripe naus, a jug of water, a pineapple, and half a kilo of sugar. He set to work gathering everything.



By the time Don finished, it was dark. He arranged the ingredients on a table on the veranda of his house. Just as he went inside to get a cloth, he heard a loud *Thump! Thump! Thump!* from the ceiling.

He looked up but saw nothing. Don shrugged and grabbed a cloth to cover the ingredients.





The next morning, Tom and Malcolm arrived. They were ready to help Don make the Rambihi drink. "Let's get started." Tom said.



“Wait! There is a piece missing from this pineapple!” said Malcolm.

Don was confused. He thought the pineapple had looked perfect when he picked it up last night.

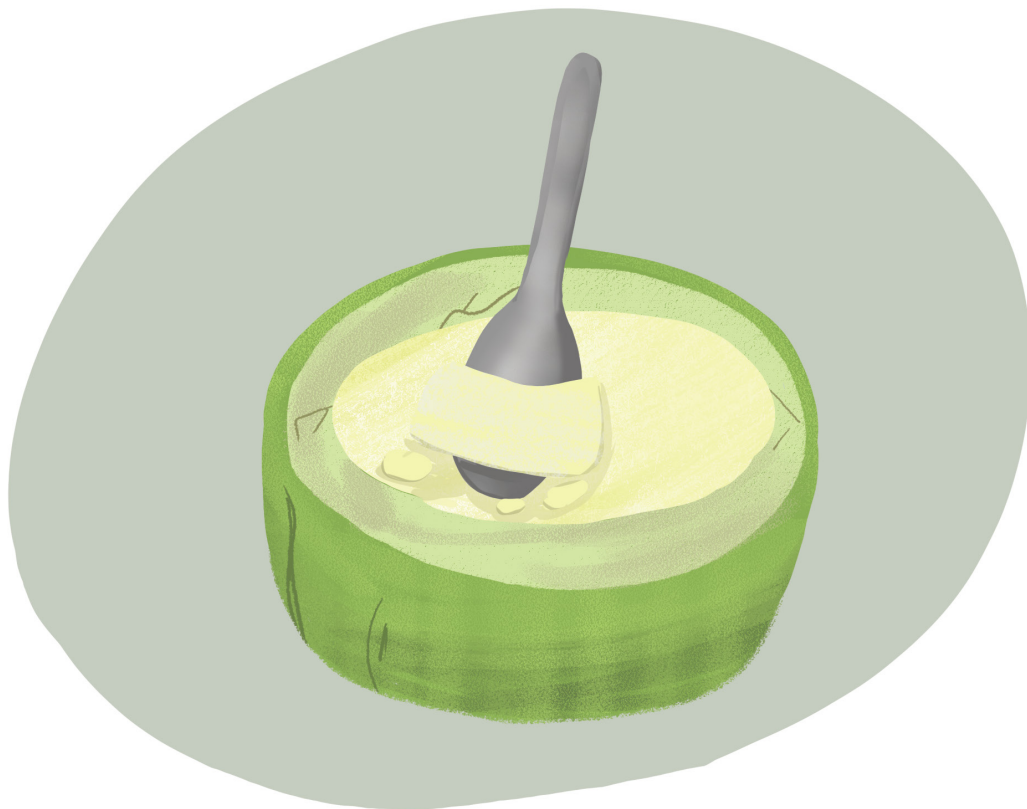


Don listened carefully as Tom and Malcolm showed him what to do next. He peeled and grated the naus, leaving out the crown seeds, then placed the grated naus in a dish.

Tom helped Don break open the dry coconuts with a bush knife, then Don grated the flesh.



Malcolm broke open the green coconuts and scooped out the flesh with a spoon.



After grating the dry coconuts,
Don poured the milk into
the dish of grated naus. Tom
peeled the pineapple, cutting it
into pieces to add to the dish.







Don mixed everything together with a big spoon. Then, Tom added sugar and water, and Don stirred until the sugar dissolved.



The cousins cleaned up and washed the grater, dishes, and big spoon. They covered the dish of Rambihi with a cloth and left it on the table while they went inside to play cards.





As they played, Don was still thinking about the pineapple. Why did it have a hole in it?

Suddenly, he heard the noise again.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

And then,

Bang! Clang! Wang! Swoosh!

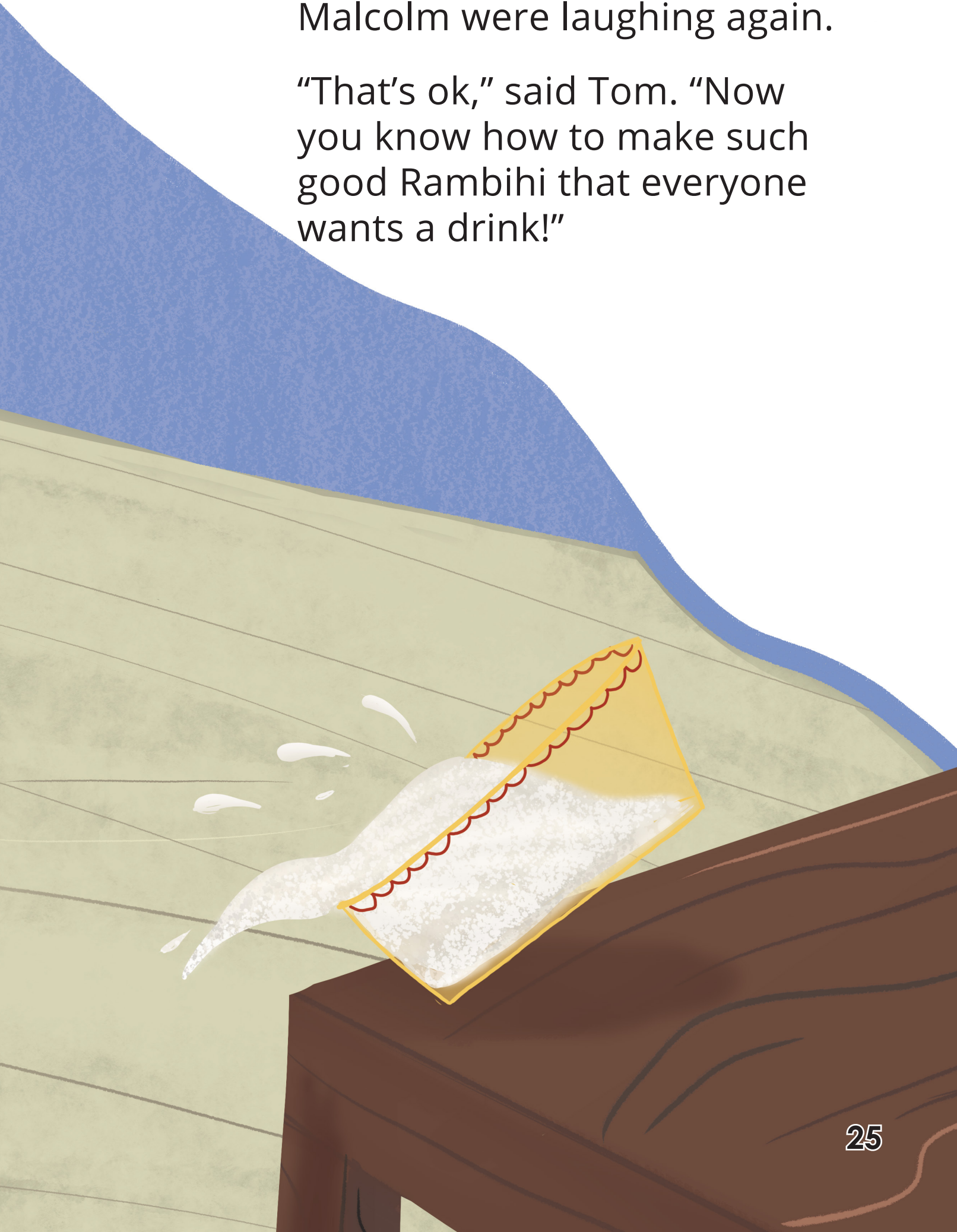


The boys rushed outside to find the Rambihi spilled on the floor, and a wet rat scurrying up the table, climbing to the ceiling!



"Oh no!" Don yelled. Tom and Malcolm were laughing again.

"That's ok," said Tom. "Now you know how to make such good Rambihi that everyone wants a drink!"



**You can use these questions
to talk about this book with
your family, friends and
teachers.**



**What ingredients did Don need to gather
to make the Rambihi drink?**



**How did Don and his cousins prepare the
dry coconuts and the green coconuts for
the Rambihi drink?**



**What was making the strange noise
Don heard?**



**Do you have a favourite drink? Do you
know the recipe?**

**Write down the recipe for Rambihi. Add
some pictures to show the ingredients
and how it is cooked.**

About the author

Leon Gambetta was born in Luganville, Santo, and now lives in Port Vila. He wanted to write children's stories because he remembers his own childhood fondly, as an enthusiastic reader. As a child, Leon's favourite story was a custom story about a man called Majikijiki. He enjoys working on projects with his family like gardening, helping at church, and playing sport.



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Save the Children



Original illustrations by Valeria Korshunova

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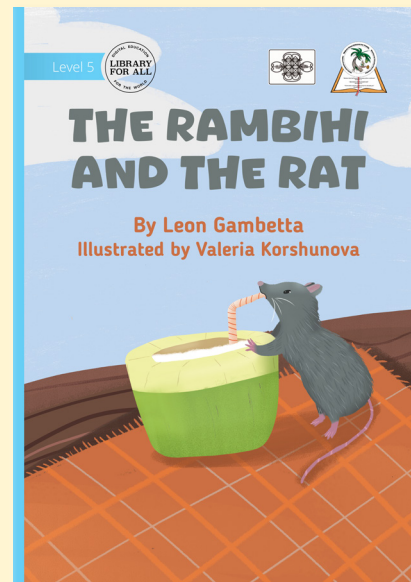
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Don doesn't know how to make Rambihi. His cousins will help him learn. But what is that strange noise they can hear?



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