

# EMMA'S DILEMMA

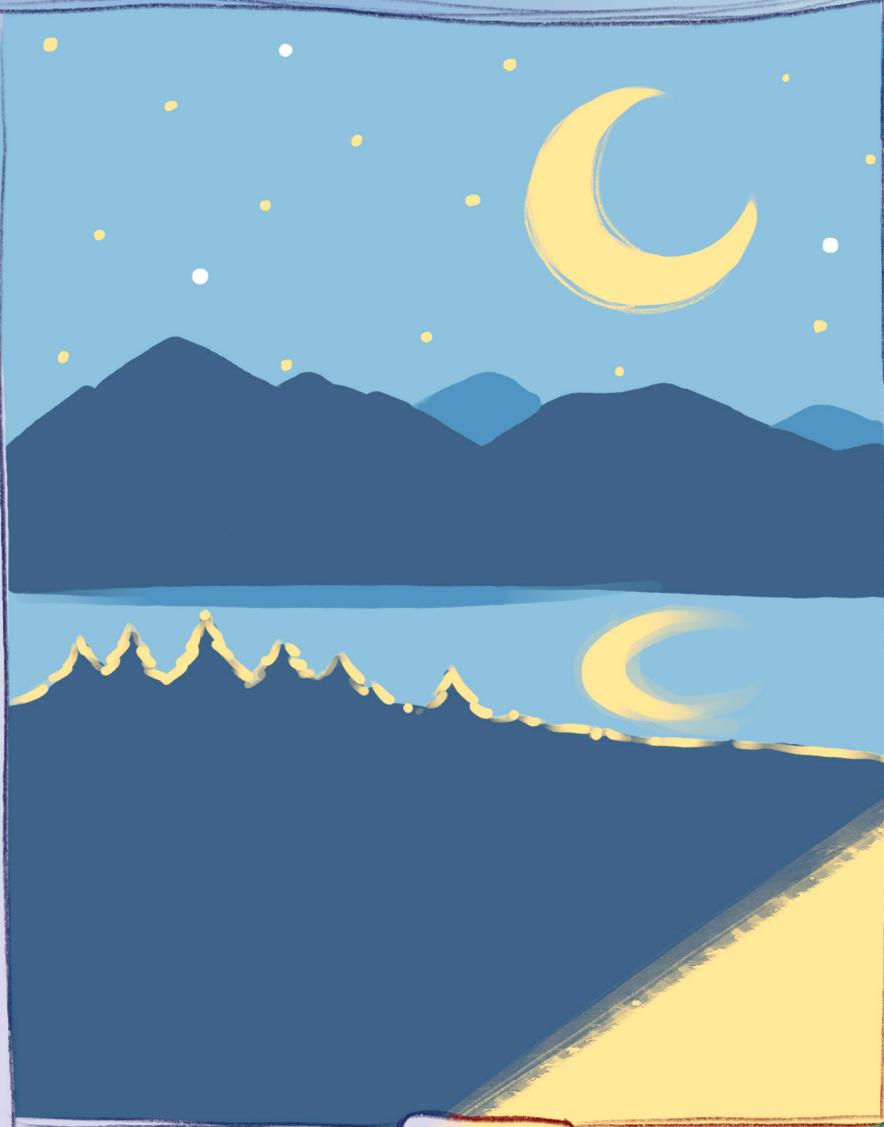
Rightsholder: Iđut  
idut@idut.no  
www.idut.no

Original title: Emma dilemma © Iđut 2023  
Text: Hanne-Sofie Suongir  
Illustrations: Nina Marie Andersen

English sample translation by: Shari Gerber Nilsen © Iđut 2026  
Financial support: NORLA Norwegian Literature Abroad

August 8th

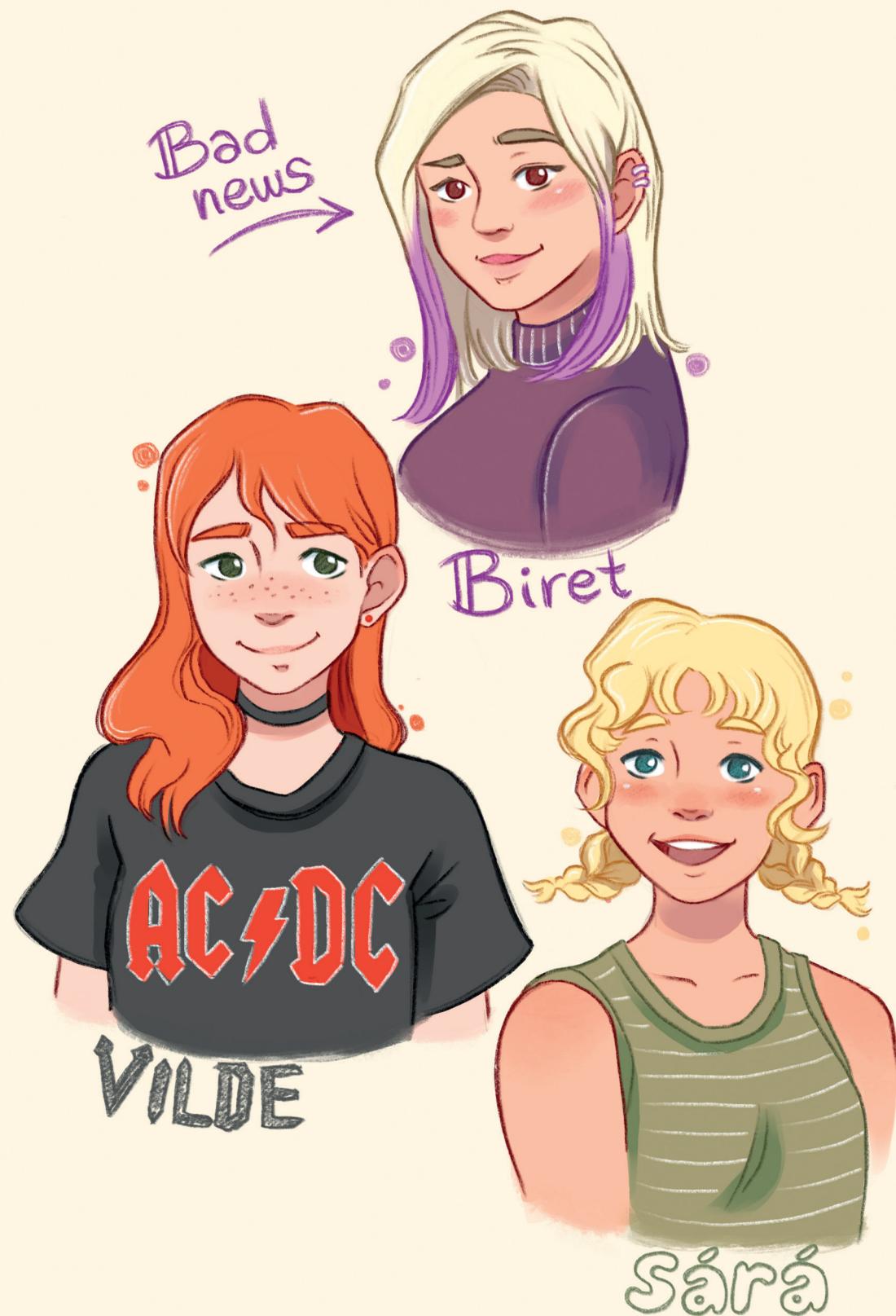
I'm going to try to write in my diary again now.  
If anyone reads it ... then I'll move abroad.  
No worries. In any case, there's no way  
I want to live here in Tana forever.



September 2nd

I've begun to hang out more with Biret. She's one year ahead of me (year 10, the same as Jovvna). Biret likes to break rules. My best friends hate her. Vilde says that Biret is bad news. But I think that Biret is fun. I've never known anyone like her. She dares to be herself. I wish I had that much self-confidence.

But Vilde is also very cool. She listens to old rock music from the 70s and 80s, like AC/DC and Guns N'Roses and things like that. And Sára is also really funny and sarcastic - she always makes me laugh.



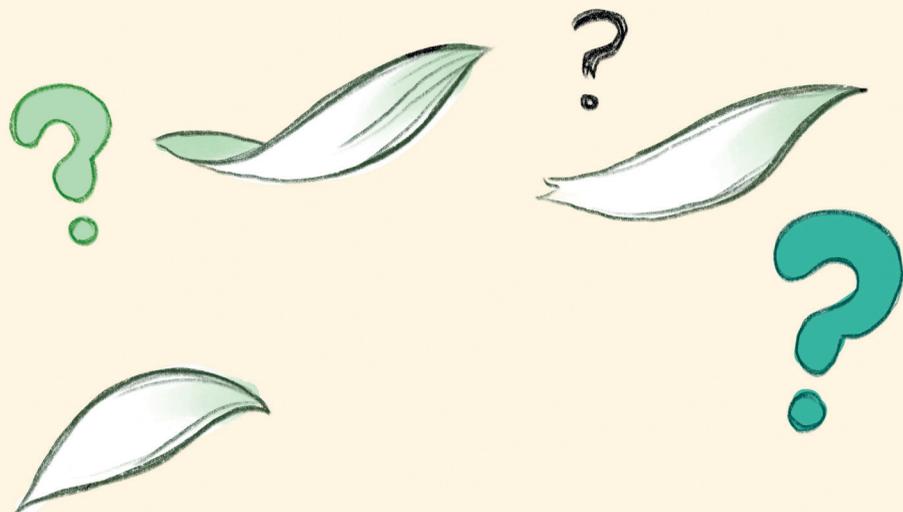
September 3rd 

I talked with Biret at school today. She said that at the class party she had asked Jovvna who he liked. And she had asked him what he thought of me!!!

We were standing at the bus stop when she told me this. But just then the bus came, and she had to leave.

"I'll call you!" I shouted to her. But then she shouted back that her phone's battery was dead.

Biret was taking the bus to Alta to visit her relatives. So I have to wait 8 hours (8!!!) before I can find out: does he like me?



September 7th

I feel so strange and confused. My brother has moved out and begun upper secondary school, and I've begun year 9. Now there are only three of us in the family here in the house. Everything is so strange. Everything!!!

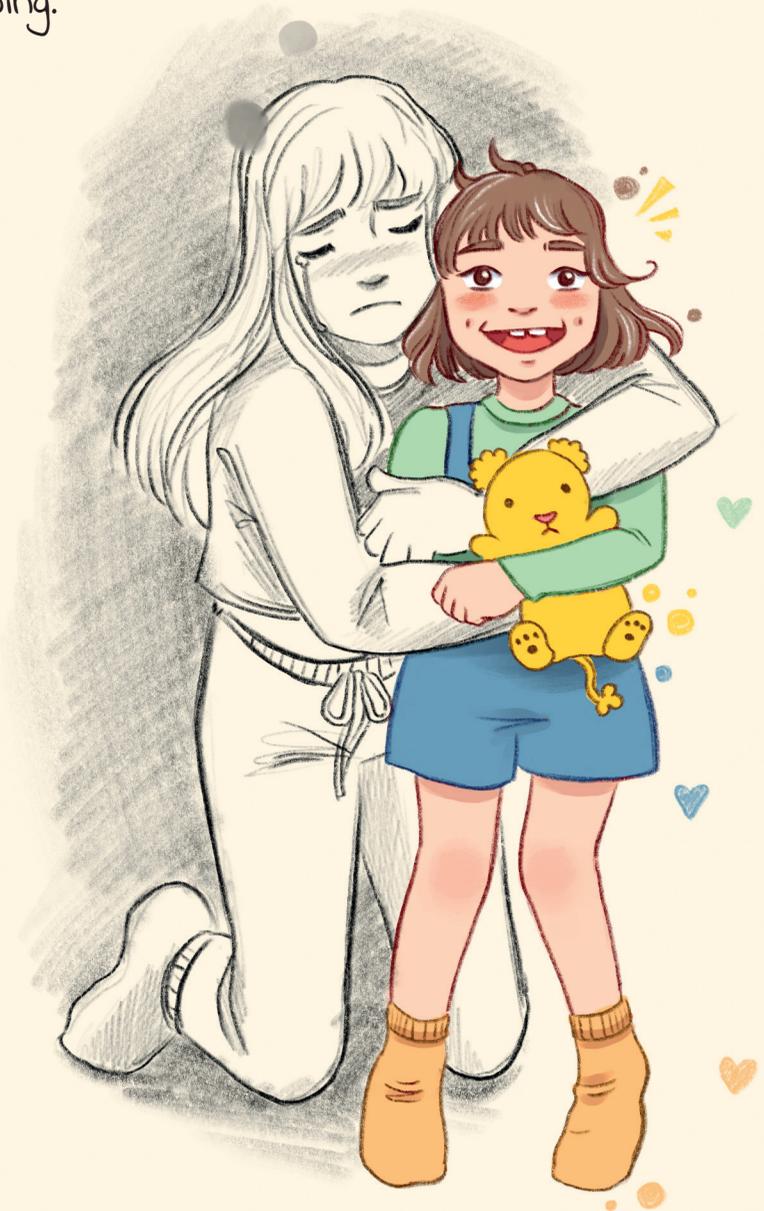


I don't think I've got used to it yet - that my little sister is not here any more. Yesterday it was three years since she died. I cried all day yesterday. Mum too. She couldn't manage to get out of bed, so I made hot chocolate and a grilled cheese sandwich for her. Dad was at work all day.



I wish I could give Kristina one more hug.  
Just one ...

She had the biggest smile. Just like in this drawing.



September 8th

Today I skipped school. Mum just said that I'm not allowed to skip any more days this year. This year. That's what she said. This year.



I made millefeuilles, so I've had "Food and Health" all day. Sometimes you have to take responsibility for your own education, ha-ha. And I was on TikTok a little, too.



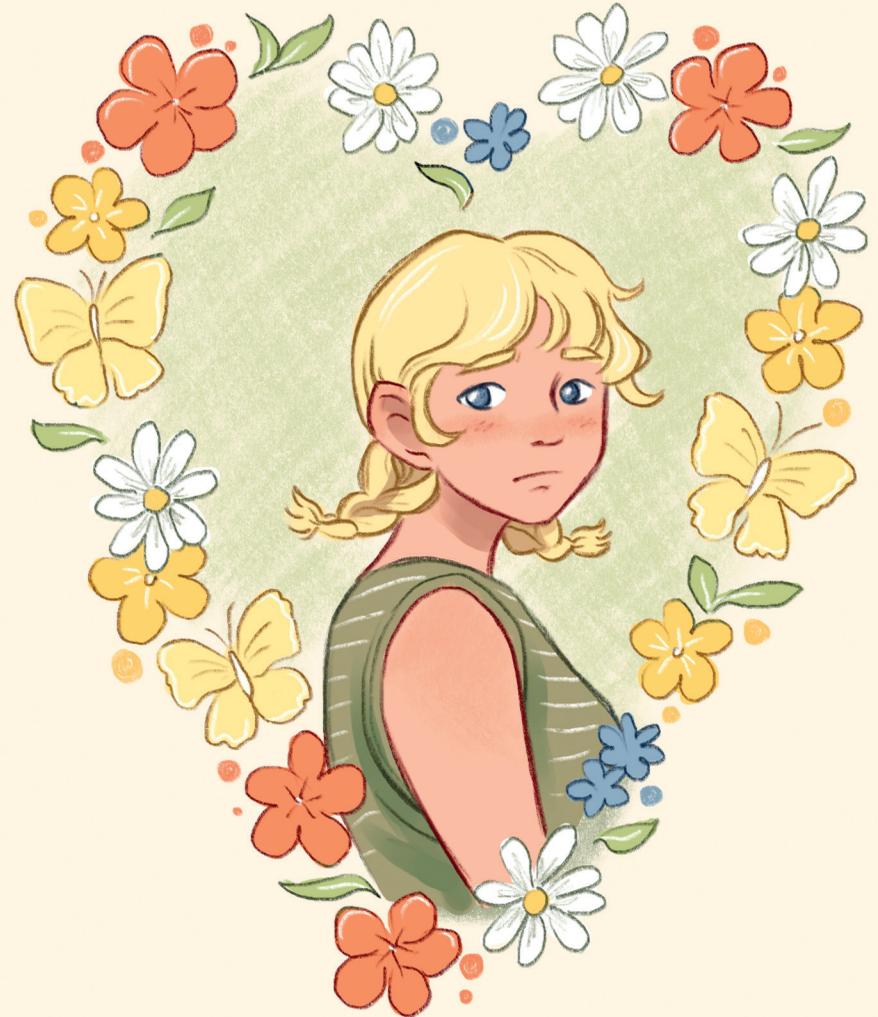
I made millefeuilles, because they were my little sister's favourite cakes. It's so sad and strange that she's not here anymore. And Kristina was only four years old. How can God or the universe let such sad things happen? Why? Why???

**WHY???**



September 10th

Today I'm going to the club after school. They'll have pizza. Btw ... today Jovvna smiled at me! 😊 Not just a normal smile, but he sort of flirted with me. I'm totally confused. Biret said that he didn't like me, didn't she???

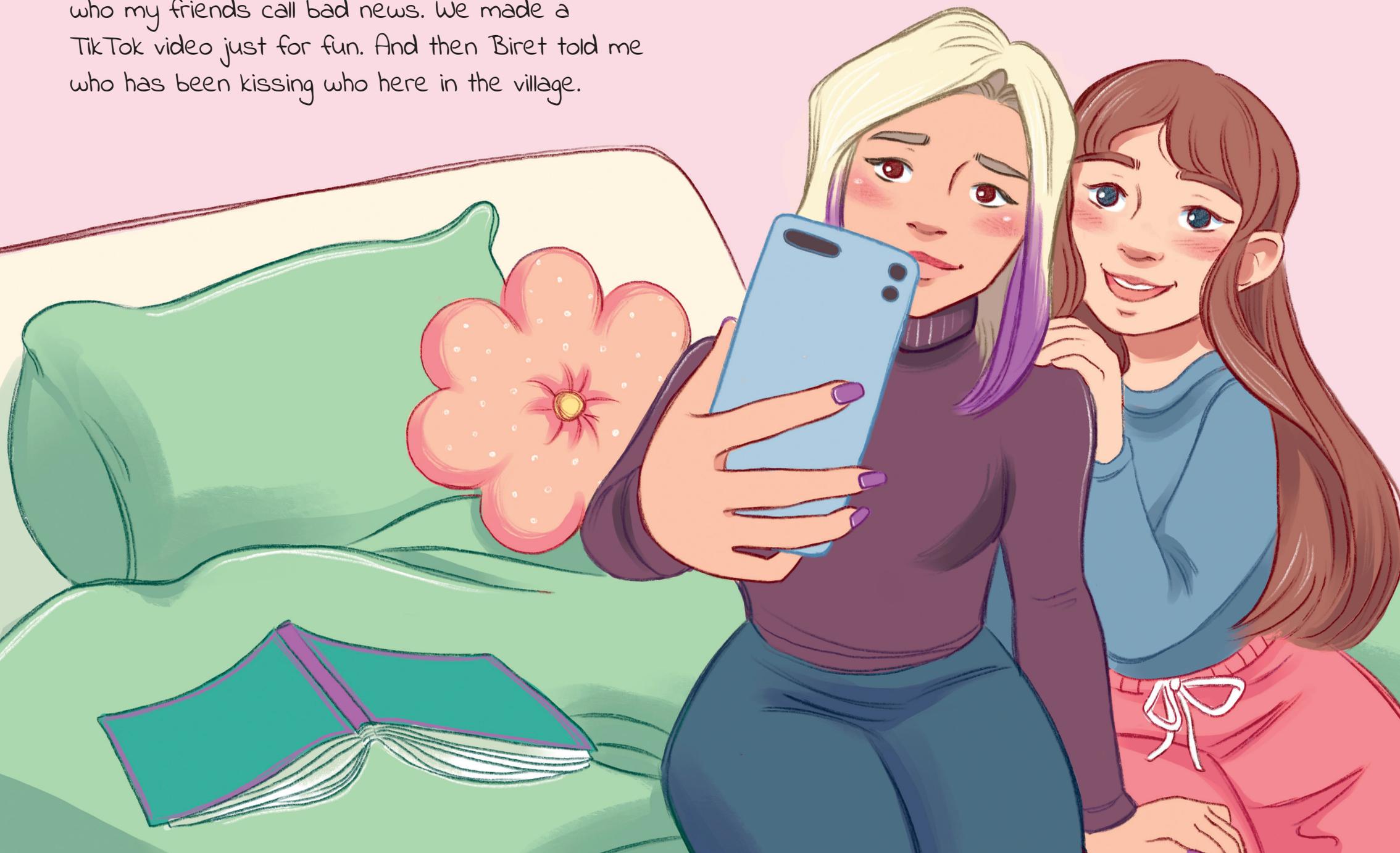


Btw, I've noticed that Sára has stopped eating at breaktime. I've also heard her complain about her body and how she looks. Should I ask her why she has stopped eating? Would it help if I asked? And what should I say?



September 13th

Today after school I was together with Biret, who my friends call bad news. We made a Tik Tok video just for fun. And then Biret told me who has been kissing who here in the village.



## September 14th

Keeping up with Emma's life, and Emma has a little dilemma. Or as Sára says, "is in a bit of a fix", which is what it really means. But if you ask me, it means something entirely different.

Viide and Sára are my best friends! But they don't like Biret. They say I've changed after I started to hang out with Biret. They say I've become more brazen. That I curse more. And that I've begun to skip school. What? I've only skipped ten times.

It seems that every time I talk about Biret, there are bad vibes. Do I have to choose between them?

