



**PRATHAM  
BOOKS**

A Book in Every Child's Hand

# A Cloud of Trash

**Author:** Karanjeet Kaur

**Illustrator:** Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi

Level 2



Cheekoo was the unhappiest girl among her friends.

She was certainly the unhappiest girl in her entire class.

She was perhaps the unhappiest girl in the world.



Friends? Cheekoo had no friends anymore.

No one wanted to play with Cheekoo.

Because she had a cloud hanging over her head.

**A cloud of TRASH.**



Orange peels and biscuit packets,  
Broken toys and pencil shavings,  
Twisted plastic bottles and colourful plastic bags,  
All surrounded by a swarm of buzzing flies.



No one wanted to play with a girl who had a cloud of trash hanging over her.

What if a rotten banana peel fell on your head? **YUCK!**

Cheekoo couldn't even play hide-and-peek anymore. The cloud would always give her away.



"Let's walk to school together," she said to Sona. Sona ran off in the opposite direction.

"May I borrow your pencil sharpener?" she asked Sweetie. Sweetie made a face and changed her seat to go sit with Asha.

Cheekoo even had to eat her lunch alone.

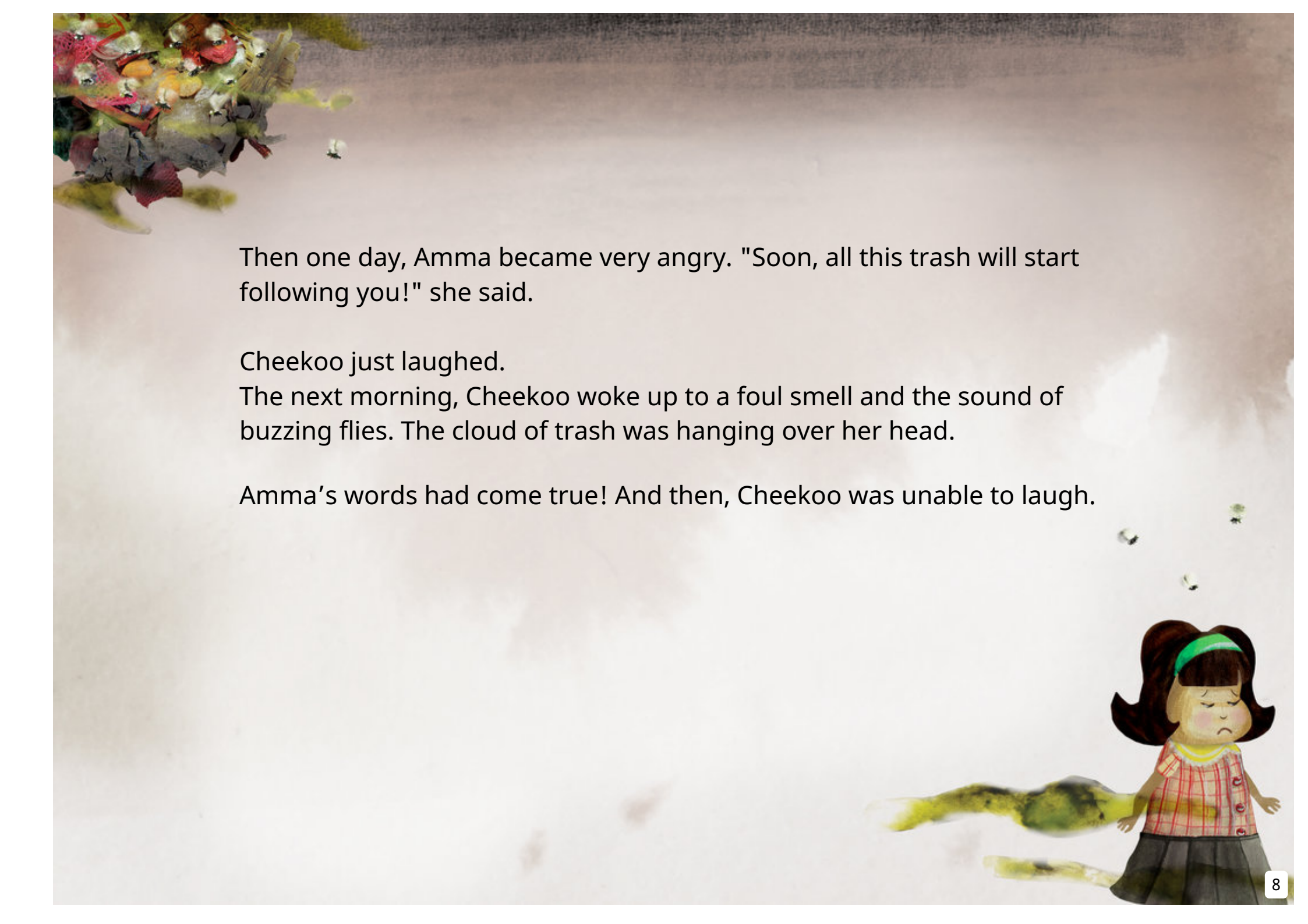
Cheekoo knew that she should have listened to her Amma. Amma always told her not to litter.



"Don't throw the banana peel on the road!"

"Throw the empty biscuit packet in the dustbin."

But Cheekoo never listened. She only laughed and kept littering.



Then one day, Amma became very angry. "Soon, all this trash will start following you!" she said.

Cheekoo just laughed.

The next morning, Cheekoo woke up to a foul smell and the sound of buzzing flies. The cloud of trash was hanging over her head.

Amma's words had come true! And then, Cheekoo was unable to laugh.







Cheekoo tried to run away.  
But the trash cloud followed her everywhere.

Cheekoo took a broom to sweep the cloud down.  
But the trash could not be swept away.





Cheekoo tried **EVERYTHING**.

She screamed and asked the cloud to leave her alone. She even tried throwing the cloud into the dustbin.

But the cloud of trash just wouldn't go. So Cheekoo became very unhappy.



### **Then something happened!**

Cheekoo saw Bala throwing a banana peel on the road.

Cheekoo was annoyed. Could he not see the cloud over her head?

"Oye silly boy!" she yelled.

"Don't throw the peel on the road. Someone will slip!"

Bala, scared of the trash cloud, threw the peel in the dustbin.



The next day, the trash cloud had become smaller!

"How did that happen?" Cheekoo wondered.

Then, Cheekoo saw Reema Aunty throwing away plastic bags.

"Aunty!" Cheekoo said. "Please pick up these bags and reuse them."

Reema Aunty picked up the bags and left.  
The next day when Cheekoo woke up, the cloud was much smaller.

Cheekoo smiled. She knew what she had to do.



When someone threw away a biscuit packet or pencil shavings, Cheekoo stopped them. She picked up every twisted plastic bottle and put it in the dustbin.

The village became cleaner and cleaner. And Cheekoo's cloud became smaller and smaller.

Until one day, it was gone.  
**COMPLETELY gone.**

Cheekoo was now perhaps the happiest girl in the world.

Cheekoo never littered again.

Secretly, she liked living in a clean village.

But she was also scared that the trash cloud  
would come back, some day.

Who knew!









## Let's Talk About Trash

Ever wondered what happens to trash once you throw it away? No, it doesn't become a cloud on your head. The trash ends up in a big garbage bin near your home.

When you litter, the trash collects by the side of the road. Some of it goes into the drains that carry waste water from your house. This clogs the drains and attracts flies which spread nasty diseases! UGH! Nobody likes living in a dirty environment. Ask Cheekoo.



## Here's how *NOT* to make a cloud of trash

- We can start by not littering our surroundings.
- Always, always throw waste into a dustbin – look around for the nearest one.



- After you eat a banana, don't throw it on the road. Put the peel in a small bag until you find a dustbin.

- There are many things that you may think are useless, like the paper bag into which you put the peel. But not everything is waste. So don't throw the bag with the peel! Take it home and reuse it.

- Cover dustbins so that flies can't get inside.

### Story Attribution:

This story: A Cloud of Trash is written by [Karanjeet Kaur](#) . © Pratham Books , 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

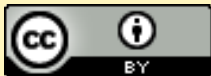
### Other Credits:

This book was first published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by Oracle. Guest Editor: Bijal Vaccharajani, Art Director: Vinayak Varma

### Illustration Attributions:

Cover page: [A girl running away from a cloud of waste](#) by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [A sad girl](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [A girl being teased in school](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [A girl looking at a cloud of trash](#) by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [A girl hiding behind a bench](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [A sad, lonely girl](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [A girl littering](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [An unhappy girl](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [A girl looking scared from under a blanket](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [A girl trying to get rid of trash](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [A girl crushing a plastic bottle](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: [https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\\_and\\_conditions](https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions)



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

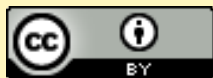
 ORACLE®

The development of this book has been supported by Oracle.

### Illustration Attributions:

Page 12: [A girl scolding a boy for littering](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 13: [A girl eating at the table, a woman throwing away plastic bags](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: [A girl picking up trash from the street](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 15: [A cheerful girl playing](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 16: [Children playing with balloons and a kite](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 17: [A girl crying](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 18: [A girl standing behind a trash bin](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 19: [Mixed trash](#), by [Bhavana Vyas Vipparthi](#) © Pratham Books, 2017. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: [https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms\\_and\\_conditions](https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions)



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

The Oracle logo, which is the word "ORACLE" in a white, uppercase, sans-serif font, set against a red rectangular background.

The development of this book has been supported by Oracle.

# A Cloud of Trash

(English)

A cloud of trash is hanging over Cheekoo's head, making her the unhappiest girl in the world. Read this wonderful story to find out how Cheekoo gets rid of this horrible trash cloud.

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child's hand!