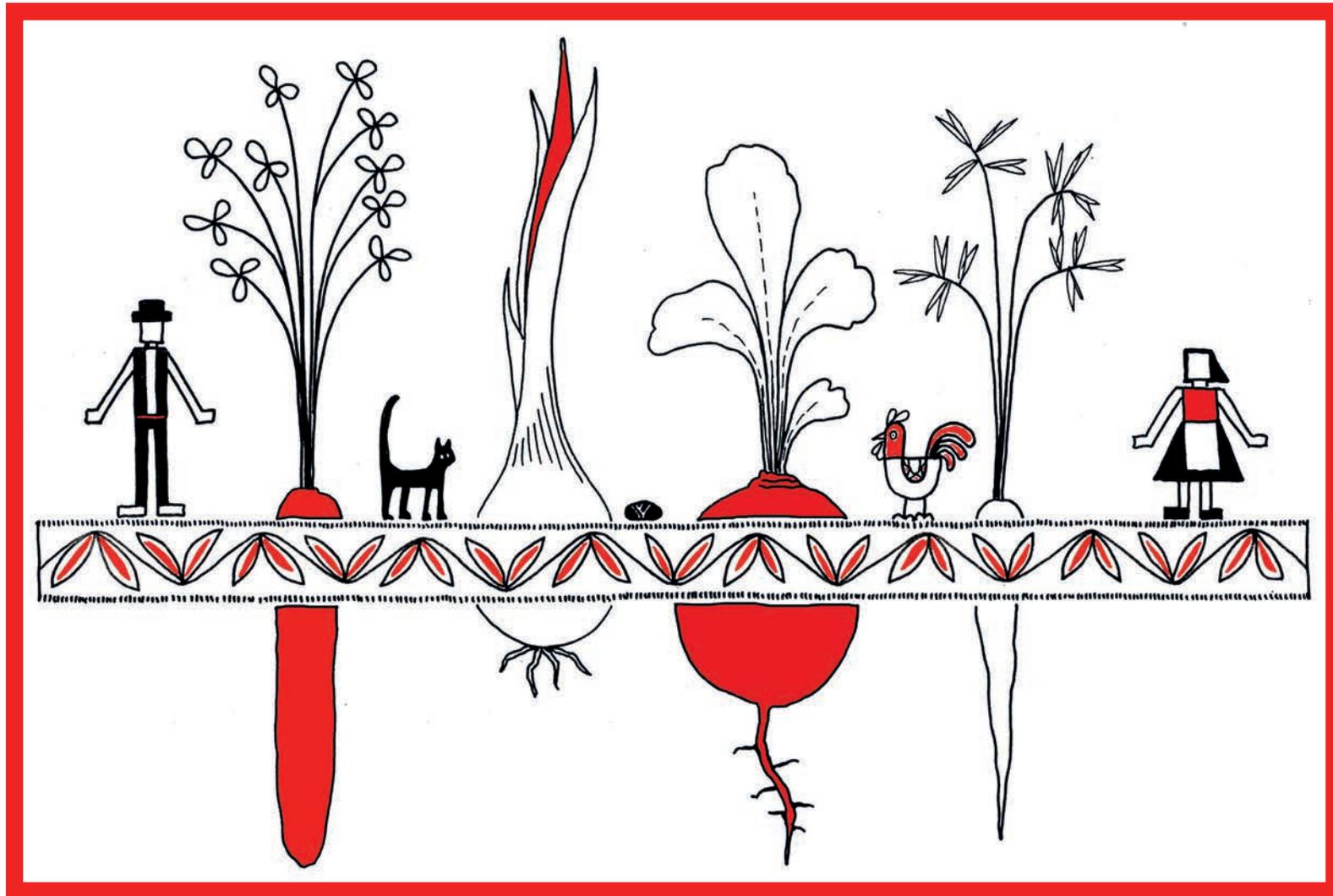


Stone Soup Supă de Piatră

A traditional story O poveste tradițională



What do you need to make a tasty soup?
De ce ai nevoie pentru a face o supă gustoasă?

Introduction by ROMLIT's Project Leader

The inspirational author and civil rights activist Maya Angelou famously said “There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.” Indeed, there’s no person in the world without a story to tell- a narrative about themselves- or a community without its own stories. Stories sculpt our self-image and shape our collective imagination.

Yet, some stories have lasted the test of time, while others have eclipsed. For some communities, their stories are celebrated and recounted at every opportunity. For others, they remain unknown. ROMLIT is an innovative research project that aims to address this imbalance. At ROMLIT, we don’t create stories for our project participants. Instead, our participants co-create, re-create and re-tell their own stories.

As a new research project working with people of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller heritage to develop early years literacies, we are proud to share the version of the story you are holding in your hands. Our ambition is to make new and old stories that are cherished by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities a literacy and cultural staple in every school and household in the country.

This book could not have been made possible without the help of dedicated and inspiring members of staff at Whitehouse Community Primary School, Suffolk, Romani parents and children in this school as well as a team of exceptional ROMLIT researchers.

Our gratitude goes to all of them for gifting us the gift of this new version of the Stone Soup and to you for reading it- and believing in the power of stories.

Dr Spyros Themelis
School of Education and Lifelong Learning, University of East Anglia

ROMLIT project leader

ROMLIT is a research project funded by the Joyce Morris Legacy Fund. Its aim is to develop early years literacies through Gypsy, Roma and Traveller heritage.

Stone Soup is a traditional European folktale well known across different cultures and countries. At its heart is a hungry, travelling stranger who uses wit and ingenuity to break down initial hostility to his request for food.

At Whitehouse Community Primary School we worked with families with Romanian and Roma heritage to re-tell the story in a way relevant to them. The hero becomes a Romani working his way round the countryside. We introduced the story to parents in the Romanian language, asking them to actively participate in “making” the stone soup with props we provided. This activity formed the basis for the Stone Soup story sack we developed which includes the book of the story, items for acting it out, worksheets for early literacy activities and plasticine for modelling.

This specially-produced book of Stone Soup is re-told in English and Romanian with illustrations typical of the Romanian countryside. The language is kept simple and repetitive to support early literacy learning and the story can be fully told from the pictures. Whitehouse School now includes Stone Soup in their reading spine for Early Years children.

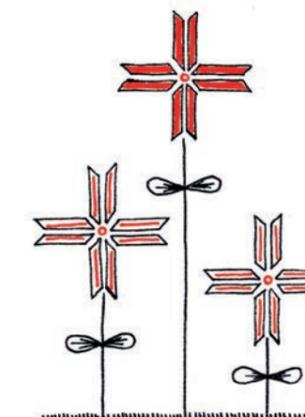
Karen Fairfax-Cholmeley & Clare Meade
ROMLIT research associates
Early Years and Intergenerational Family Learning experts

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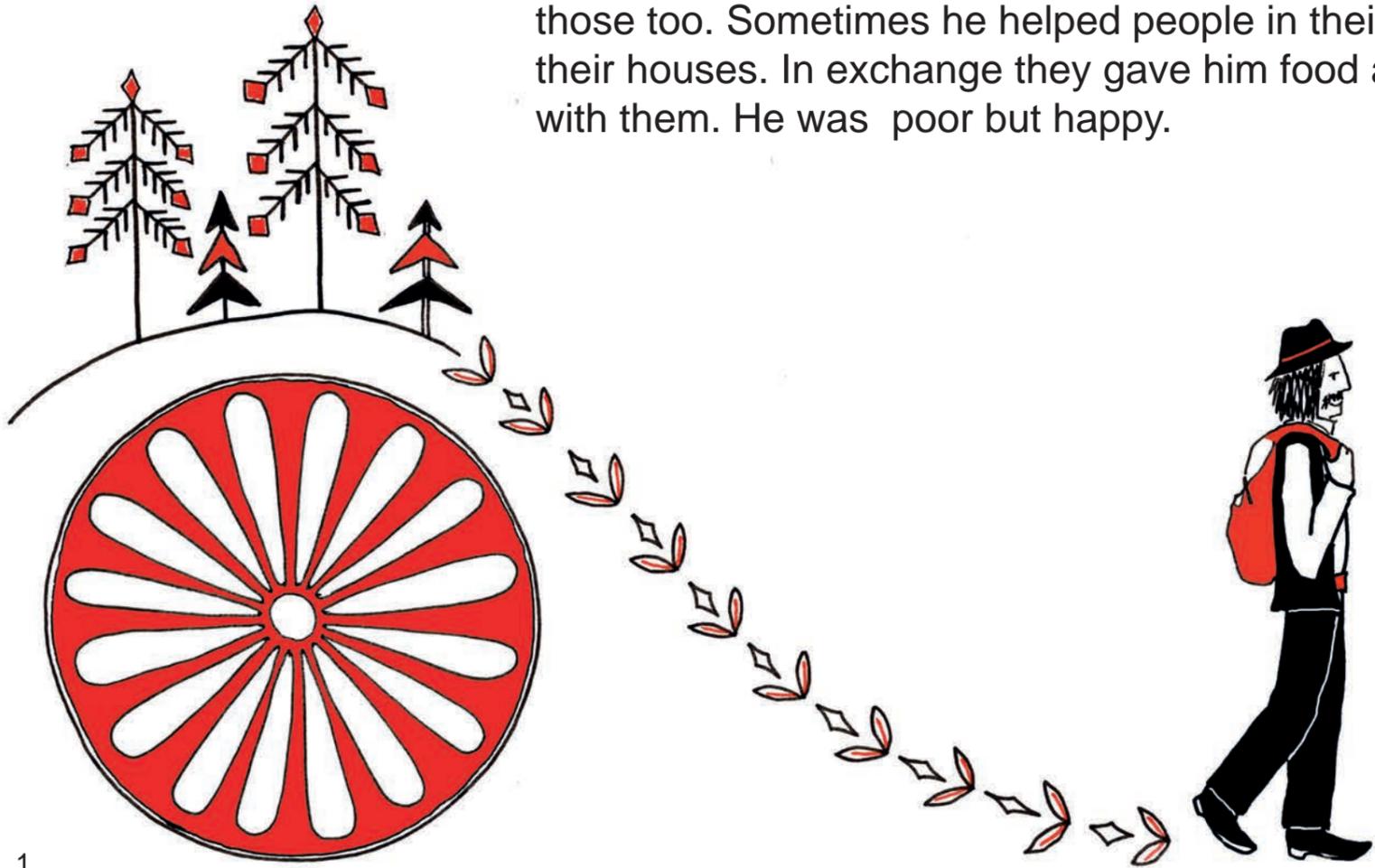
Stone Soup Supă de Piatră

A traditional story O poveste tradițională

Retold in English and Romanian
by ROMLIT researchers and families with
Romanian and Roma heritage
Illustrations by Rosie Fairfax-Cholmeley

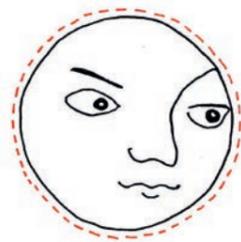


Once upon a time, not so very long ago, there was a young travelling man, a Romani man. He travelled from village to village working at different jobs. Sometimes he made baskets and sold them, sometimes he made wooden spoons and sold those too. Sometimes he helped people in their gardens or their houses. In exchange they gave him food and let him stay with them. He was poor but happy.



Odată ca niciodată, nu cu mult timp în urmă, era un tânăr călător, un bărbat rom. Călătorea din sat în sat, lucrând la diferite slujbe. Uneori făcea coșuri și le vindea, alteori sculpta linguri de lemn și le vindea și pe acelea. Uneori ajuta oamenii în grădinile lor sau în casele lor. În schimb, aceștia îi ofereau mâncare și îl lăseau să stea cu ei. Era sărac, dar fericit.





One day, as summer turned to autumn, he arrived on the edge of a small village. He was very tired and hungry but he had no food. He saw a little house with a garden in front, full of beautiful vegetables.

“I wonder,” he said to himself, “if I can find work and something to eat here.”

He walked up the path and knocked at the door.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

“Go away,” came a voice from inside.

“Excuse me,” said the Romani man, “I’m looking for work in exchange for food.”

Într-o zi, pe măsură ce vara se transforma în toamnă, el a ajuns la marginea unui sat mic. Era foarte obosit și înfometat, dar nu avea mâncare.

A văzut o căsuță cu o grădină plină de legume frumoase.

“Mă întreb,” și-a spus el, “dacă pot găsi de muncă și ceva de mâncare aici.”

A mers pe potecă și a bătut la ușă.

Toc! Toc! Toc!

“Pleacă de aici!”, a venit un răspuns din interior.

“Scuzați-mă,” a spus bărbatul rom, “caut de muncă în schimbul hranei.”





“I have no food and no work,” an old woman shouted out of the window. “Go away!”

The Romani man sadly turned away and walked back to the road.

And then he had an idea. He bent down and picked up a big stone. He put it in his pocket.

“Nu am mâncare și nu am nici de lucru,” a strigat o femeie bătrână pe fereastră. “Pleacă!”

Bărbatul rom s-a întors trist și a pornit din nou pe drum.

Apoi i-a venit o idee. S-a aplecat, a luat o piatră mare și a pus-o în buzunar.





He walked back up the path and knocked on the door again.
Knock! Knock! Knock!

“Excuse me, Madam, but could you lend me a big cooking pot?”

“Why?” asked the old woman.

“To make some stone soup,” replied the Romani man. “It will be delicious and I will share it with you.”

Now the old woman was lonely and she liked the idea of sharing some soup. She opened the door and gave the Romani man a big cooking pot.

S-a întors pe potecă și a bătut din nou la ușă.

Toc! Toc! Toc!

“Scuzați-mă, doamnă, îmi puteți împrumuta o oală mare de gătit?”

“De ce?”, a întrebat femeia bătrână.

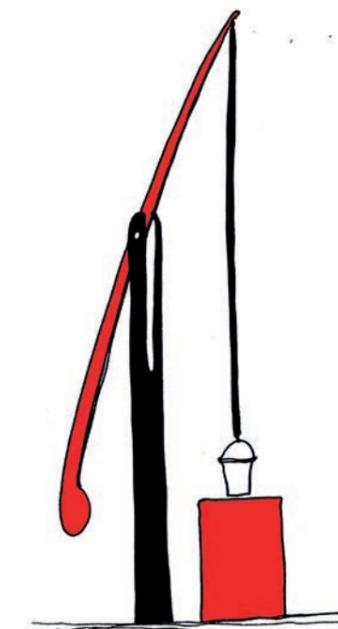
“Ca să fac o supă de piatră”, a răspuns bărbatul rom. “Va fi delicioasă și o voi împărți cu dumneavoastră.”

Femeia era singură și i-a plăcut ideea de a împărți o supă. A deschis ușa și i-a dat bărbatului rom o oală mare.



The Romani man went to the village pump and filled the pot with water. He lit a little fire and took a wooden spoon from his rucksack. He took the stone from his pocket and put it in the pot. He put the pot on the fire and stirred it with his spoon.

Bărbatul rom s-a dus la fântâna satului și a umplut oala cu apă. A aprins un foc mic și a scos o lingură de lemn din rucsacul său. A scos piatra din buzunar și a pus-o în oală. A pus oala pe foc și a început să amestece cu lingura.





After a while the water started to steam. He took a little of the soup onto his spoon, blew on it and sipped it.

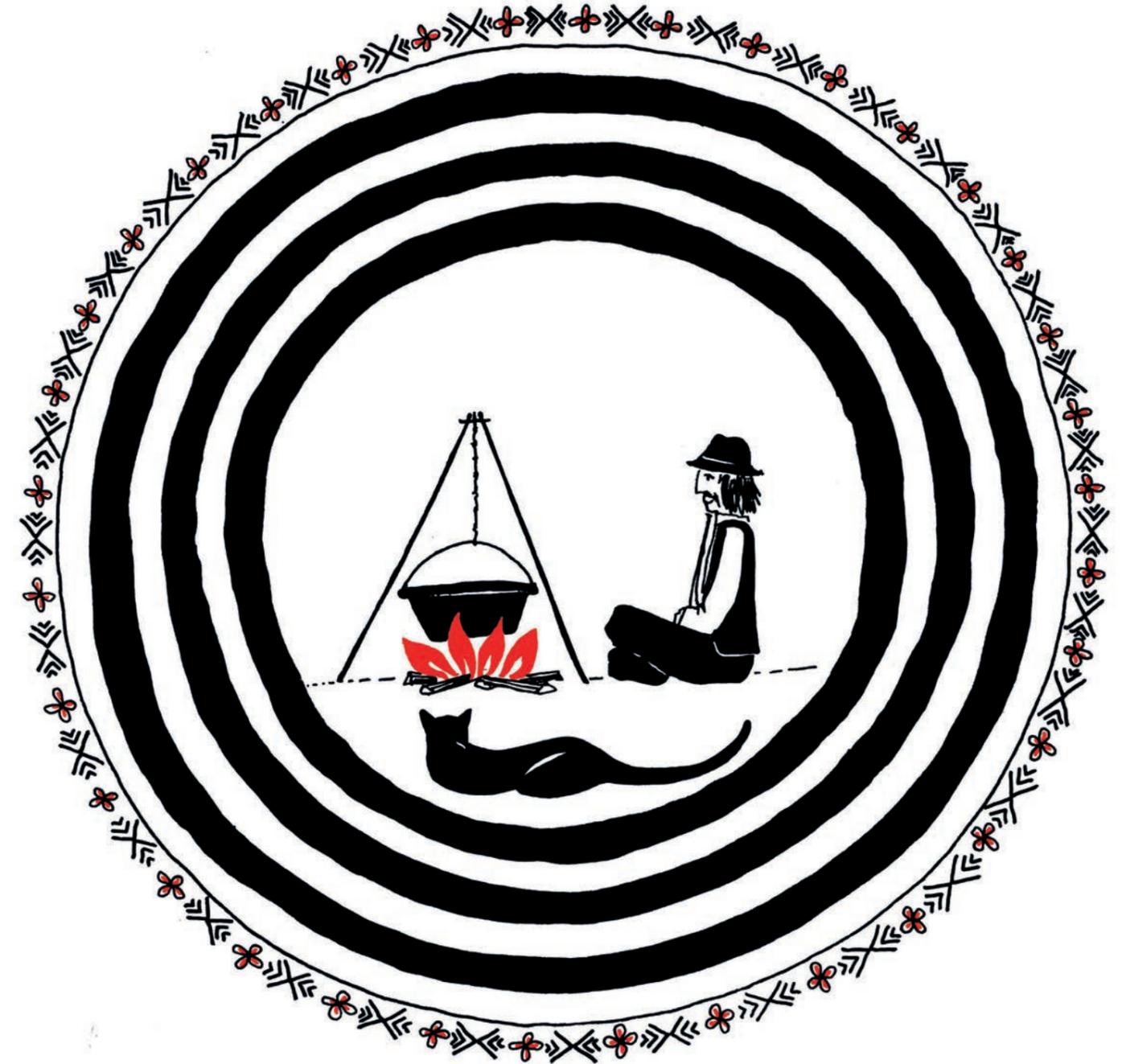
“Um, delicious... but it would taste so much better with... an onion.”

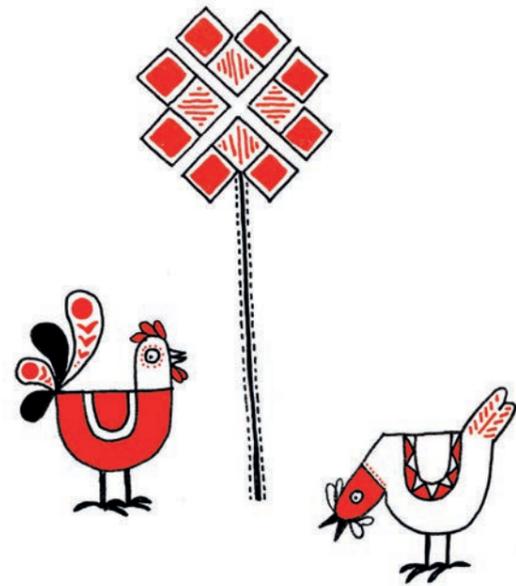
“Wait a minute,” called the old woman and she went into the garden and pulled up an onion. He washed and chopped the onion and put it into the soup.

După un timp, apa a început să fiarbă. Bărbatul rom a luat puțină supă cu lingura, a suflat peste ea și a gustat.

“Mmm, delicioasă... dar ar fi și mai bună cu... o ceapă.”

“Așteaptă un minut,” a spus bătrâna. A intrat în grădină și a scos o ceapă. A spălat-o, a tăiat-o și a pus-o în supă.





After a while he again took a little of the soup onto his spoon, blew on it and sipped it.

“Um, delicious... but it would taste so much better with... a carrot.”

“Wait minute,” called the old woman and she went into the garden and pulled up a carrot. He washed and chopped the carrot and put it into the soup.

După un timp, bărbatul rom a gustat din nou supa.

“Mmm, delicioasă... dar ar fi și mai bună cu... un morcov.”

“Așteaptă un minut,” a spus bătrâna. A intrat în grădină și a scos un morcov. L-a spălat, l-a tăiat și l-a pus în supă.



After a while he again took a little of the soup onto his spoon, blew on it and sipped it.

“Um, delicious... but it would taste so much better with... some cabbage.”

“Wait minute,” called the old woman and she went into the garden and pulled up a cabbage. He washed and chopped the cabbage and put it into the soup.

Bărbatul rom a mai gustat o dată.

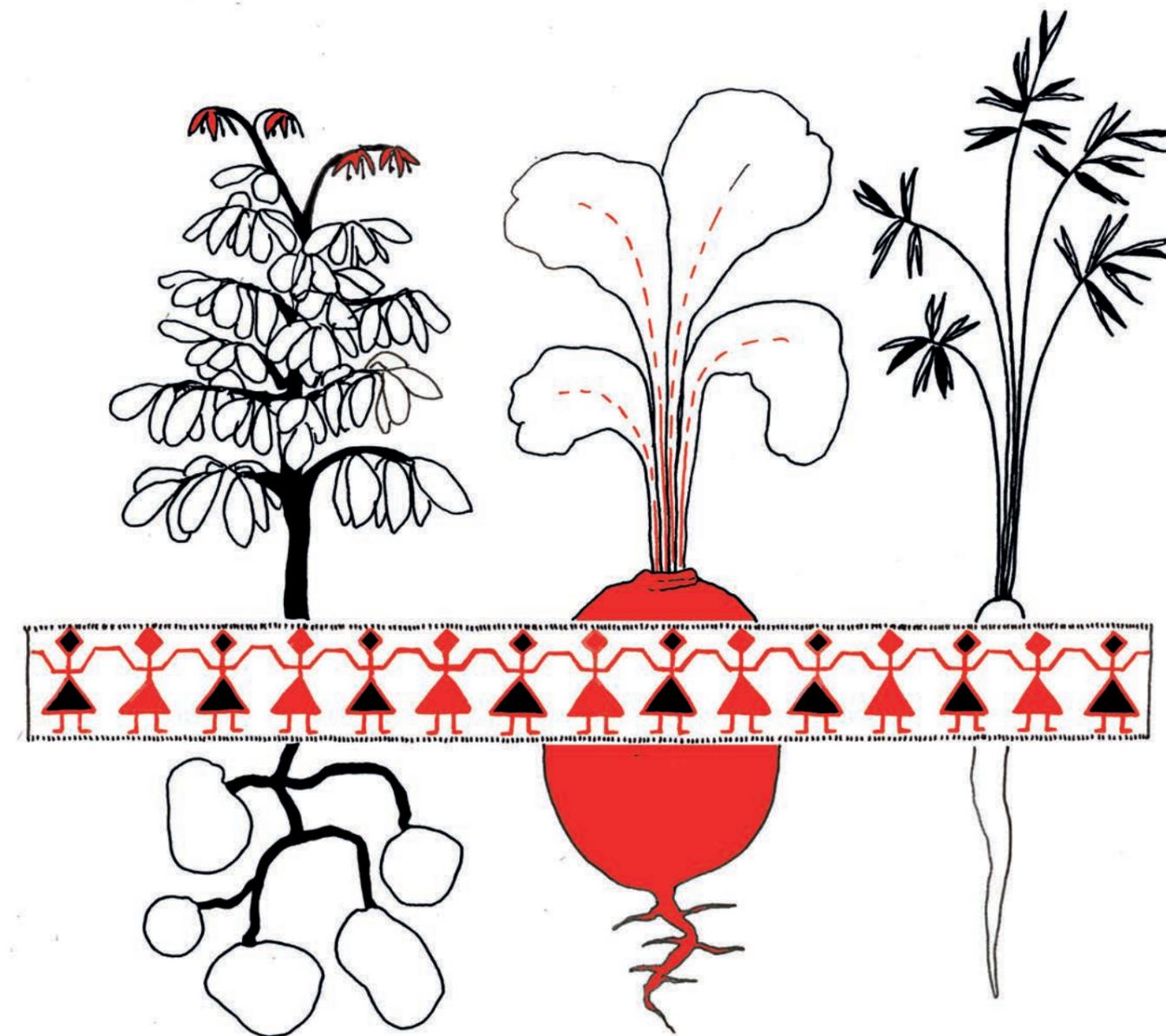
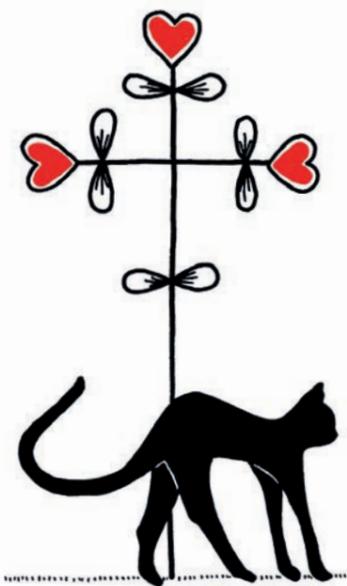
“Mmm, delicioasă... dar ar fi și mai bună cu... niște varză.”

“Așteaptă un minut,” a spus bătrâna. A intrat în grădină și a scos o varză. A spălat-o, a tăiat-o și a pus-o în supă.



By now the old woman was getting very excited about the soup. When the Romani man tasted the soup again and asked for a potato, a beetroot and some parsley. Quick as a flash, the old lady picked these from her garden. He washed and chopped them and put them into the soup, stirring all the time.

Acum, bătrâna era din ce în ce mai entuziasmată de supă. Când bărbatul rom a gustat din nou, a cerut un cartof, o sfeclă și puțin pătrunjel. Ca o fulgerare, bătrâna a cules totul din grădina ei. Bărbatul rom le-a spălat, le-a tăiat și le-a pus în supă, amestecând continuu.



For the last time, the Romani man took a little of the soup onto his spoon, blew on it and sipped it. "This is good," he said. "All we need to make it perfect is a little salt". And sure enough, the old woman ran into the house and came back with some salt.

Pentru ultima oară, bărbatul rom a gustat supa, a suflat peste ea și a sorbit. "E bună," a spus el. "Tot ce ne mai trebuie ca să fie perfectă este un pic de sare." Bătrâna a fugit în casă și s-a întors cu sare.





The Romani man took two bowls and two spoons out of his rucksack. They sat down by the fire and ate the hot soup together. When she had finished, the old woman said, "That was a good soup and you are a cheeky man. I do have some work for you and you can stay with me in my house."

Bărbatul rom a scos două boluri și două linguri din rucsacul său. S-au așezat lângă foc și au mâncat supa fierbinte împreună.

Când a terminat de mâncat, bătrâna a spus, "A fost o supă bună. Ești un om șiret. Am ceva de lucru pentru tine și poți rămâne la mine în casă."



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