

LEVEL

6

Intermediate

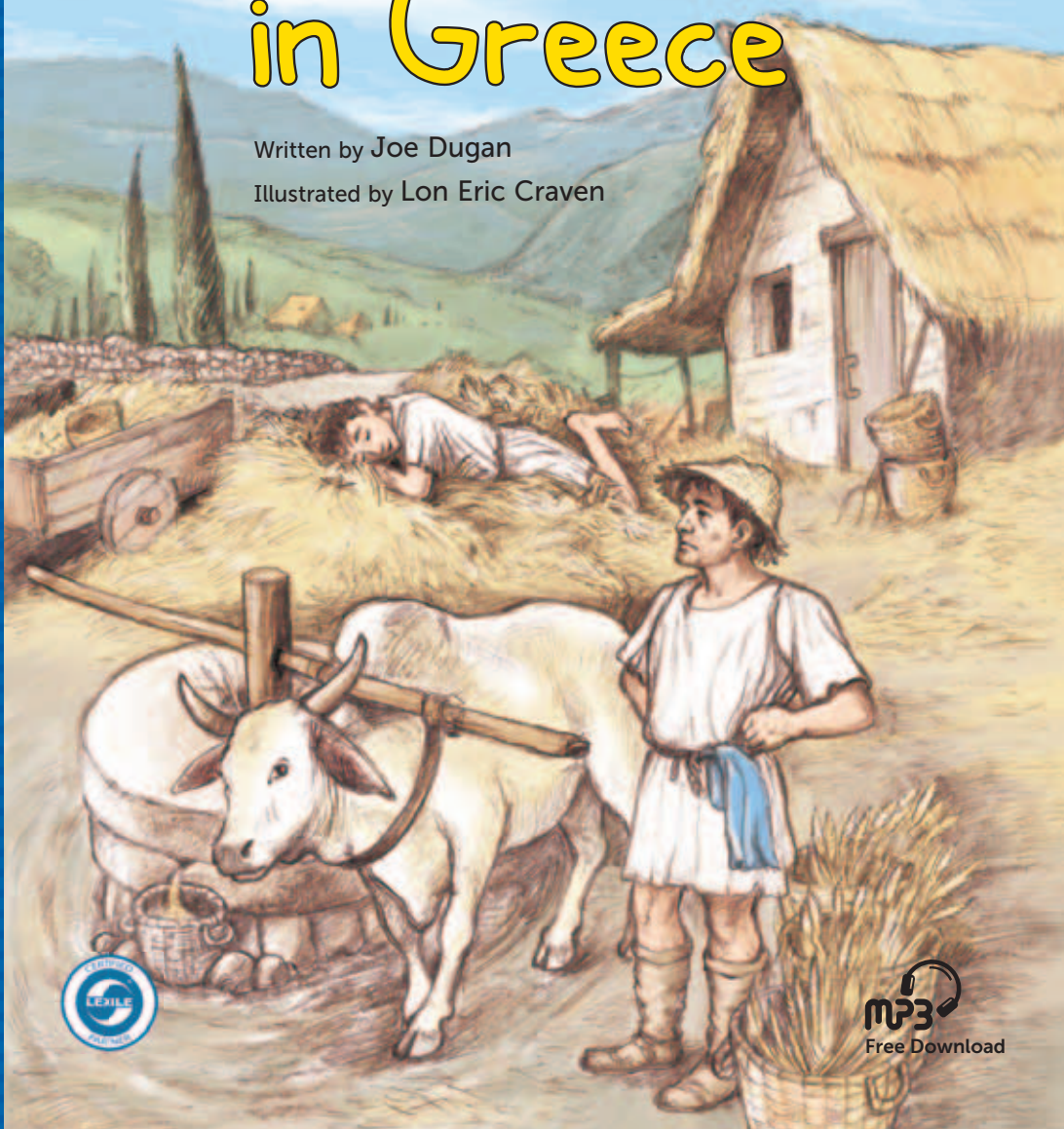
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Fiction 6-9

The Laziest Boy in Greece

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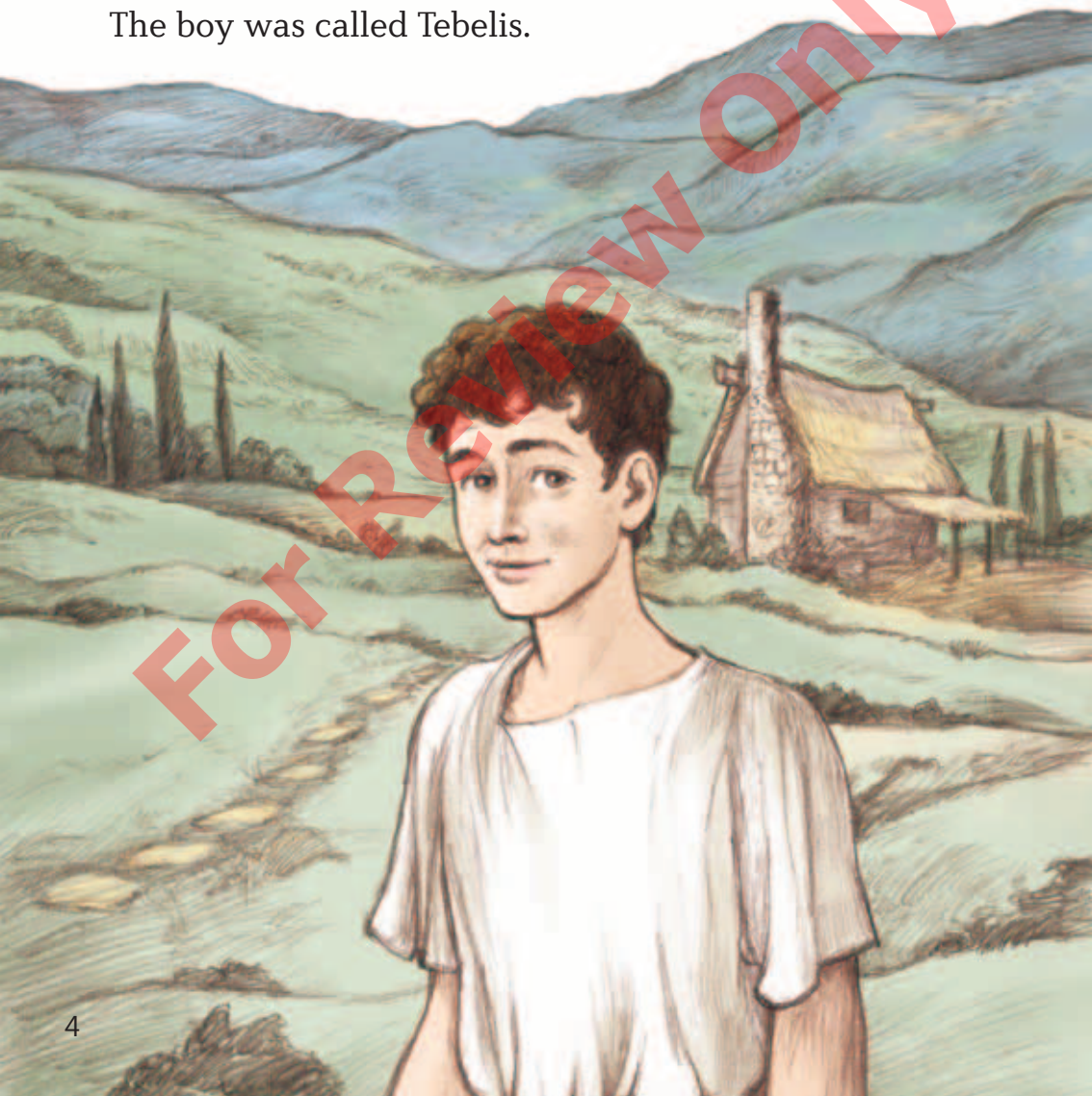
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Agathon's Mill

Long ago, on a quiet **Greek** farm, there lived an old man and his young son. The man was called Agathon, which in Greek means “good and kind.” Agathon was a **miller**, and he worked hard at his **mill** every day.

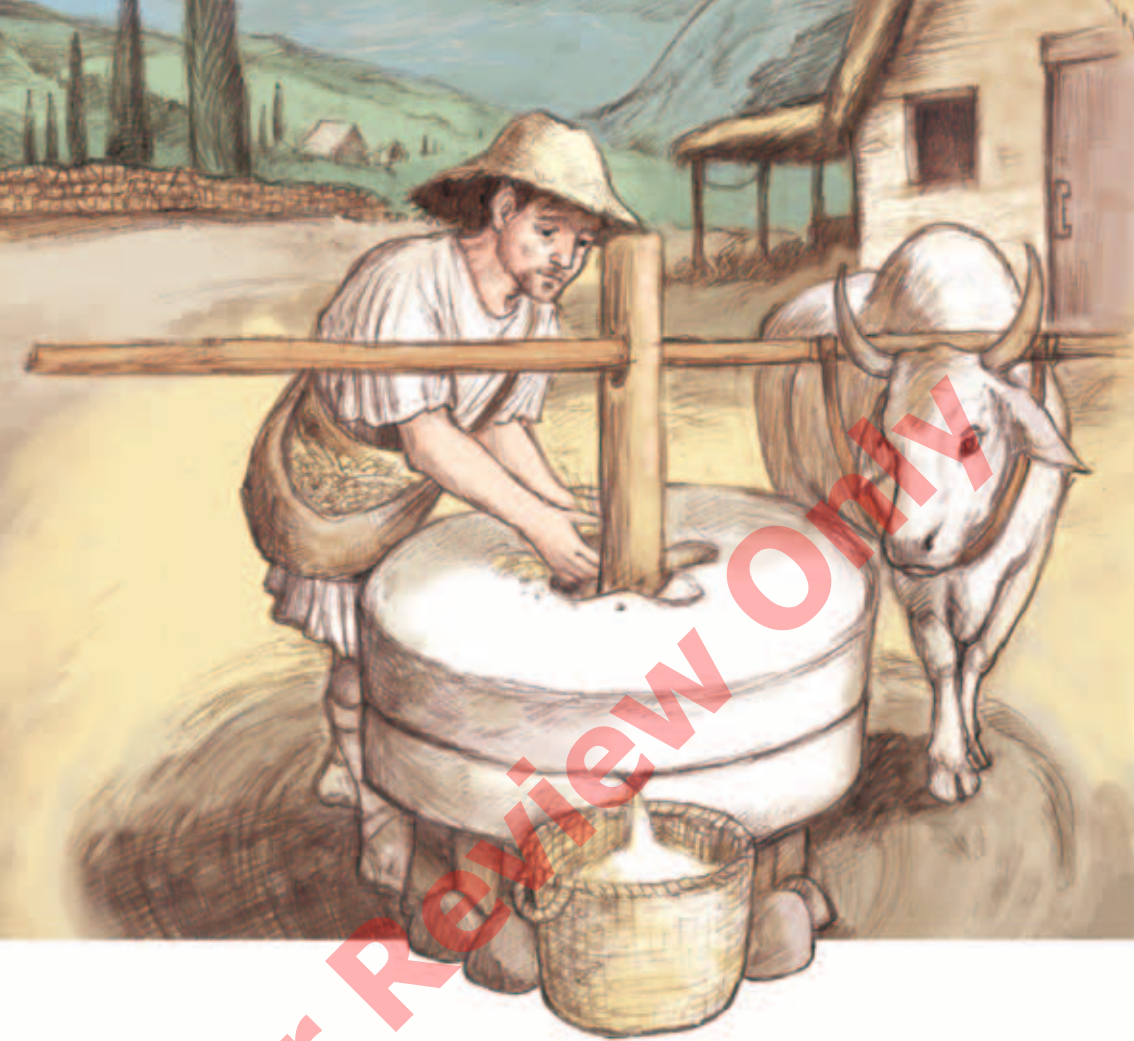
The boy was called Tebelis.





Most boys like to be active—playing with their friends and even helping at home. Tebelis liked none of these things. Instead, he liked to sleep. He slept in the morning, in the afternoon, and in the evening.

People said Tebelis was the **laziest** boy in all of **Greece**. In fact, his very name meant “lazy.”



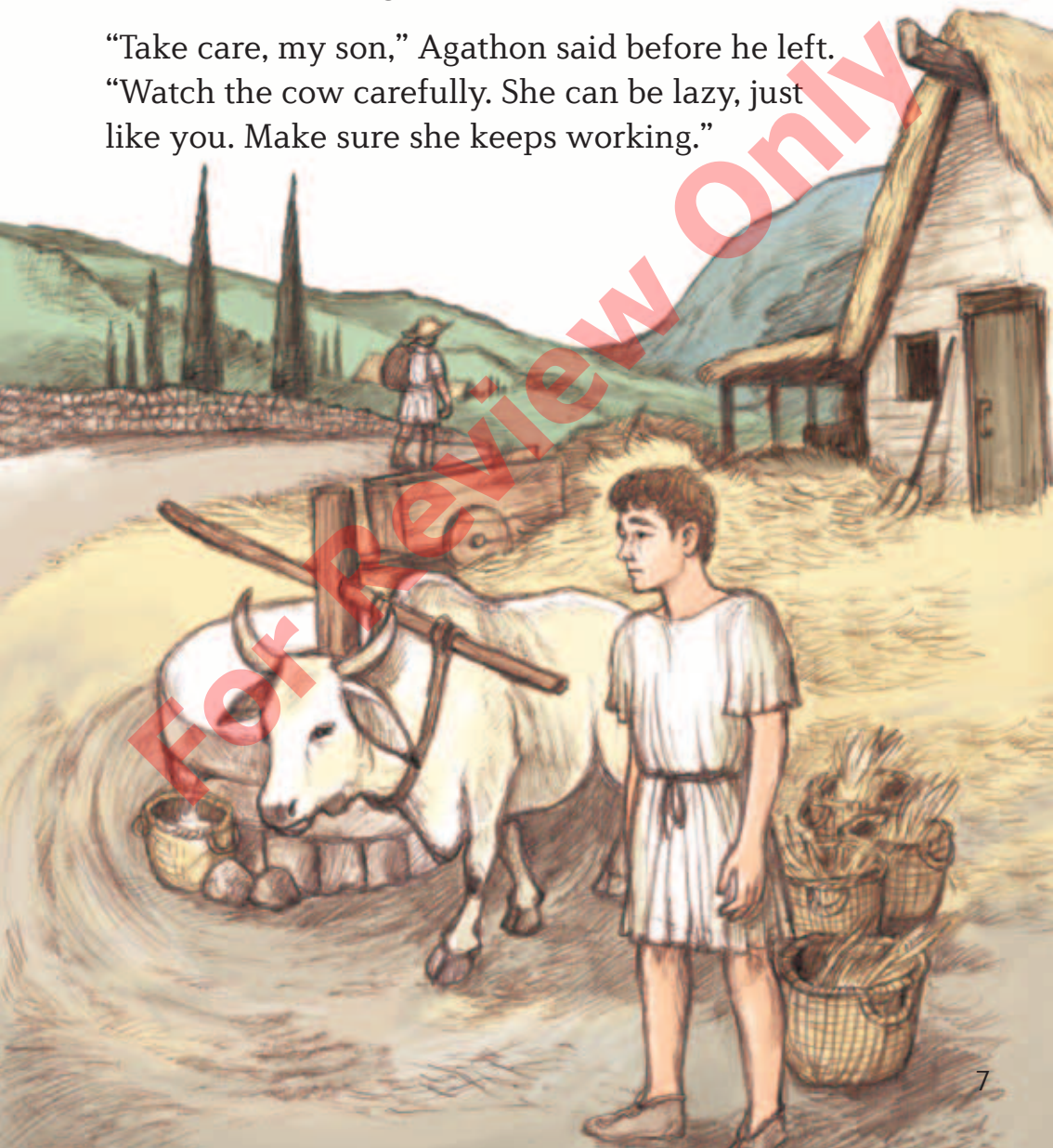
Summer turned to fall, and people began bringing their **grain** to Agathon's mill. Agathon placed the grain on a large, flat stone. He placed another stone, called a millstone, on top. He then tied a cow to the millstone. As the cow turned the millstone, the grain turned into soft **flour**.

Some said that Agathon's flour was the finest in the land.

An Unexpected Guest

One morning, Agathon took a trip to visit a friend. He left Tebelis in charge of the mill.

“Take care, my son,” Agathon said before he left. “Watch the cow carefully. She can be lazy, just like you. Make sure she keeps working.”





Tebelis watched the cow. At first, she turned the millstone quickly. Then she started moving slower, slower, slower . . .

Finally, she stopped moving. The cow seemed tired and sick.

“Well,” Tebelis smiled, “I suppose that’s enough work for one day.” He lay down on the ground and closed his eyes.



“You there, boy!” a deep voice called.

“Mmph,” Tebelis said in his sleep.

“Wake up, quickly!”

Tebelis slowly opened one eye. He saw a man standing beside him, dressed in bright armor.