

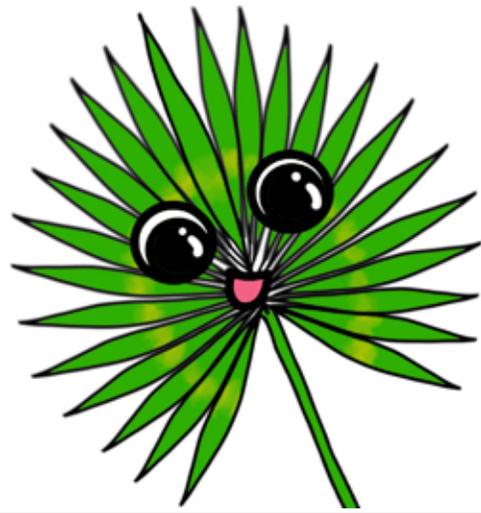


A PALM

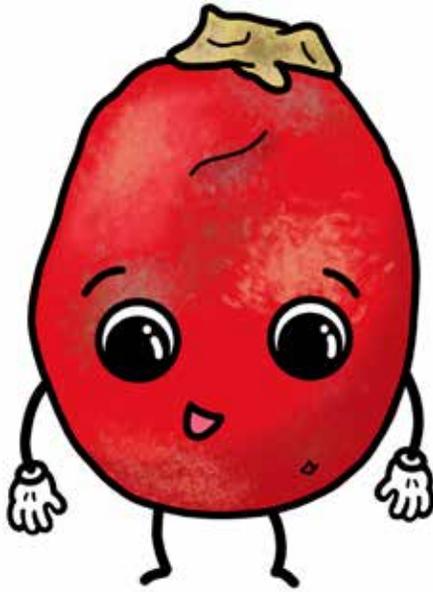
which is NOT a TREE
(but a spine-covered VINE)

Storyboard Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth
Illustrations Adely del Cid

I am indeed in the palm
family *Areaceae*



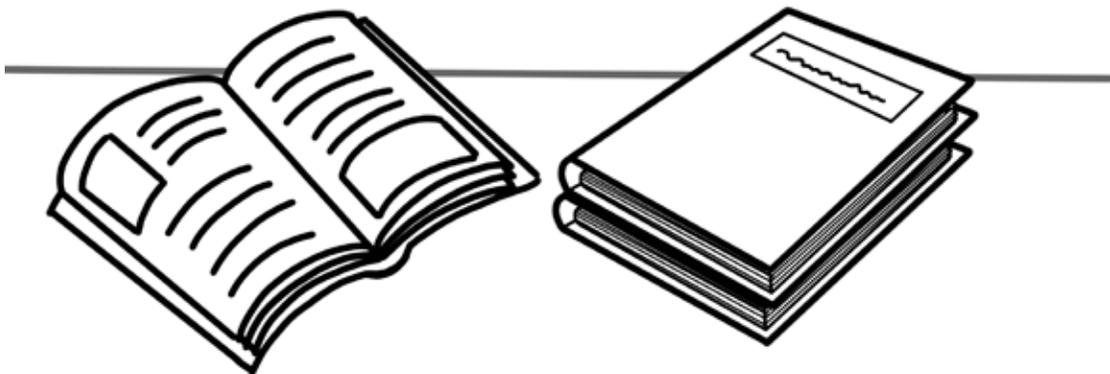
My name is in Q'eqchi'.
Basket palm o liana palm in
English. Bayal in Spanish.
Desmoncus orthacanthos
is my scientific name.



I am eaten by the Q'eqchi' of Guatemala, the Lacandon Maya of Chiapas, and other local people where bayal grows wild.

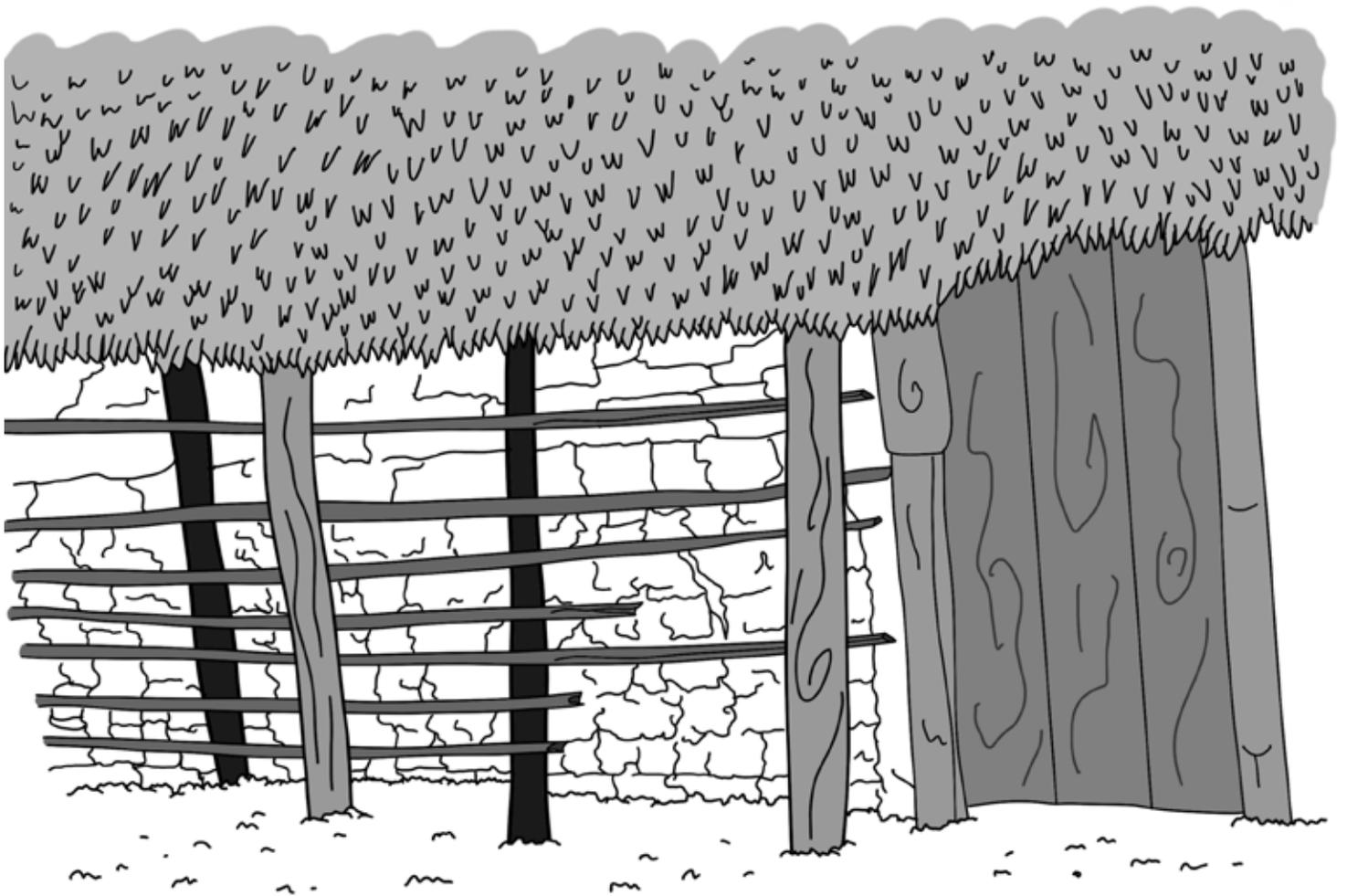
Dr Nicholas learned that I was edible because he does not stay in his research library.

Dr Nicholas gets out into all the different eco-systems of Guatemala to learn about the plants from local people.



After you remove my needle-like spines and bark, my stems are popular for making furniture.

Plus for making bajareque walls for Mayan houses.



For more information on flora: www.maya-ethnobotany.org
For more information on fauna: www.maya-ethnozoology.org

MayanToons are produced by the 100% Guatemalan team of FLAAR Mesoamerica, coordinated by FLAAR (USA). You can see previews on www.MayanToons.org.

You can learn more about our comic book creation and illustrator teams on www.mayan-characters-value-based-education.org