

# SOULMATES



*Sithumi Sanathchandra*

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*SITHUMI PAHANYA SARATHCHANDRA*

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TO MY DEAR FRIENDS  
WHO ARE ALWAYS WITH ME  
IN MY EVERY SORROW AND JOY

## Preface

The primary goal of the current educational system is to mould a productive citizen and caring family member who is equipped with knowledge and skills. The main responsibility of the school is to identify and recognize children's talents, as well as to sharpen their skills to meet the need of the national and the world.

Our Alma Mater is constantly guiding and assisting children who are creative. The project has been an ongoing process at our school for many years, particularly in terms of writing books. Many skilled and enthusiastic young writers participated in this exercise for years, producing novice in the field of literature. We regard this as a great victory and a national need at this hour.

To continue with this effort, we adapted digital technologies and an e-book project this year. I am confident that this unique event provided youngsters with valuable experience and challenges that will benefit them in future. The Ministry of Education has hailed the project as an important step toward motivating young authors in schools. As principal of Mahamaya Girls' College, I am grateful to all the students throughout the country who contributed to this endeavor. I commend and applaud all of the young authors of these books for their perseverance and devotion in this difficult task.

I would like to thank our school management committee, employees, parents, former students, administrators, and teachers from other schools who encouraged students to take part in this worthwhile effort.

I'd also like to thank Mr. Senevirathne Mahalekam for his tremendous support and assistance in initiating this project.

Ms. Shashikala Senadheera

Principal

Mahamaya Girls' College-Kandy

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# CHAPTER 1

Jennie was an 18-year-old girl. Her parents cared so much about Jennie because she was the only child in her family. They lived in Canada. Jennie moved to London for her studies. Her parents got a pretty small house for Jennie to stay in.

“Beep .... Beep....”

“Urgh”

Jennie woke up by her alarm at 5.30 o'clock. She was so nervous because that was her first day at high school. She was so shy. She didn't even like to chat with others, not even her friends. She remembered about her parents, so she called her mother.

“Good morning my dear...”

“Good morning mom”

“How is your stay? I hope you are keeping well.”

“No mom.. I’m doing pretty good. I miss you so much. I don’t know what to do. I’m so nervous now.”

“Don’t be afraid dear. Don’t be shy. Talk with others. It will help you to make friends.”

“Ok mom I’ll. Bye.”

“Bye”

## CHAPTER 2

Jennie went to school. There were so many buildings. She looked around. There were many students looking at her because she was new to them. Without knowing what to do, she saw a couple of girls at the corner of the basketball court. She went near them and asked;

“Excuse me, can I know where the block D classes are?”

They just laughed and pointed at a big building.

“It looks so nice. I hope the students are also good” Jennie thought.

She went to a small classroom and there were so many students in it. As she walked in,

“You must be Jennie. Come and sit where you like” the teacher told.

Jennie moved her eyes all over the class. She saw a beautiful girl in the front line. She was in a pink dress. There was an empty chair near her. She went and sat there.

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During the interval, Jennie was so afraid. She began to think about her past friends. There were three friends with her. They liked Jennie so much and Jennie too. Julia, Isabella, and Mia were always by Jennie's side in her every joy and even in the sad moments. They spent their every moment together and always cared for each other. And also, she remembered the playful things they did.

“One day, when they walked along a road, they saw a little cat in the corner of the road. They decided to carry the cat to their house. And they began to fight, to decide who would carry the cat to their houses. After, they decided to hide the cat in the park. After a few days, when they came to see the cat, it was missing. They worried about that and a few years later, they recognized their fault. When Jennie's parents told her to leave the city for her studies, the trio of friends cried for a whole day.”

“Hello!” She suddenly woke up by hearing a voice.

“Ah... Hello!” Jennie said.

“I'm Rose. And you?” The girl who sat near Jennie said.

“I'm Jennie. Nice to meet you!”

“Nice to meet you too. Can we be friends?” Rose said.

Jennie was confused by her suggestion. Rose's eyes were full of innocence. Then, she nodded.

“Thank you” Rose smiled.

Jennie was so happy because she was thinking that she wouldn't be able to make friends in high school. She smiled gently at Rose.

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When Jennie was coming from the school, she met another girl named Nancy. She came to Jennie.

“Hi ... um...”

“Jennie” Jennie said.

“You are the new girl, right? Can I come with you?” Nancy asked.

“Yes, of course” Jennie said happily.

They walked to Jennie's home and said goodbye. Jennie was so happy. Now she has two friends. At that evening, Jennie called her mother and said the whole story.

“Oh... I'm so happy to hear that dear.”

“Yes mom, I’m sure that I won’t be alone again” Jennie said.

“I forgot to tell, Mia called me and asked about you.” Mom said.

“She must be worrying about me. I miss her a lot.” Jennie said sadly.

“By the way, how about your studies now? Are they easy or difficult? If it’s difficult you should get a tutor...”

“No mom. I don’t need any tutor. You know I don’t like it.”

Mother laughed.

“Ok my sweetheart. Take care. Goodbye”

“Good bye mom”

Jennie hung up the phone and went to the kitchen to eat something. She didn’t have any idea. So, she boiled some milk and added some cocoa powder to it. While she was stirring, she saw a woman who was walking along the road... Suddenly, she heard the telephone rings. She was shocked. Her hand hit the milk cup, it fell down and broke into hundreds of pieces. The sound echoed all over the house.

## CHAPTER 3

A few days later, Jennie got used to that society. She felt like it was her real home.

“Children, do you understand? Did you get the idea about the topic?”  
The teacher asked.

“Your assignment is on this topic. So, you have to collect details about this and present it to the class.”

*“Actions are more powerful than words”*

During the interval, Jennie thought a lot about the topic, but she couldn't get an idea. She felt hungry and went to the canteen. She saw Rose with some girls. So, she went to Rose.

“Hi Rose, can I sit here with you?” asked Jennie.

“Um... sorry Jennie, one of my friends is here.”

Jennie was worried. But she didn't say anything. She just nodded. At that moment, Jennie saw Nancy sitting alone on a chair. She went to Nancy and asked,

“Hey, can I sit here?”

Nancy's eyes were full of happiness, and they were shining brightly. Her eyes gave her an innocent look.

“Yes Jennie, you can” Nancy said gently.

“Oh. You can remember my name, right? But I can't remember your name.” Jennie was ashamed of herself.

“It's ok Jennie. My name is Nancy”

They talked so many things together and they ate sandwiches. Jennie felt relaxed while she was chatting with Nancy.

## CHAPTER 4

After a few days, in Saturday morning, while Jennie was sitting in the couch and watching the television, she received a phone call.

“Hello! “Good morning, is this Jennie?” the caller asked.

“Um... yeah I’m Jennie and you?” Jennie asked nervously.

“I’m Nancy. Can you come to our home today? We can do lots of things together. Today is my mom’s birthday”

Jennie was confused by Nancy’s invitation. But she accepted her invitation because she needed a friend, and it was the first time she was about to go to a friend’s house after she came to London.

“Ok then sure. At what time we will meet?”

“We will meet at 6.00 p.m. at my home.”

“Ok. Can you send me the location?”

“Sure. So, let’s meet in the evening. Goodbye.”

“Goodbye”, Jennie hung up the phone.

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Jennie carefully searched the best dress for her. She dressed well and brushed her messy hair. She left her home. The weather was so cold. There were so many vehicles on the road because it was the end of the weekend.

Finally, she reached Nancy’s home. It was a big pretty house. The garden was full of red roses and she liked flowers a lot. She went to the doorstep and knocked the door.

“Knock, knock...”

There was no reply. She knocked again and again. But nobody answered. She went to the back of the house. There was nobody. She came to the doorstep again and knocked. There was no reply again. Finally, she was tired from knocking and she sat on the doorstep. She was ashamed of herself. She only needed to make friends but then they were making fun of her. “Why did Nancy do this to me?” She was worried and left to go home. While she was going home, she was stuck with her thoughts. It was about 7.00 p.m. There were no any people in the road. She looked around. At that moment, she was the only girl in the road. She saw a girl walking on the other side of the road. After few minutes, a van came with a big sound and it stopped in front of that girl. The occupants of the vehicle forced her into the van and went. Jennie was afraid and ran to her house. She thought that the van would catch her next and she chose a short cut to go home. The short cut was so dark

and suddenly her leg fell into a ditch on the road. Her leg was hurt. She screamed.

“Oh. Help ... someone, please help me!”

.....

“You will recover soon. Don’t be afraid and get medicine” The doctor said.

Now, Jennie is in the hospital and that evening, she went to her home.

## CHAPTER 5

When Monday arrived, Jennie's shame turned into anger. When she went to school, she saw Nancy talking with a girl. Jennie went towards Nancy.

"How dare you, Nancy? Are you making fun of putting people in trouble?", Jennie screamed.

"What? What are you talking about Jennie? I didn't do anything" Nancy said.

"Don't lie Nancy. I never thought you are such a mean girl."

Jennie said everything to Nancy and Nancy listened carefully. She was surprised to hear that.

"Oh... We went to our grandma's house last weekend. We were not at home." Nancy said sadly.

"Is that so Nancy? Then who called me?"

"We must find the truth Jennie. I'll help you, don't worry."

If it wasn't Nancy, who is she be? Who wants to cheat on me? So many doubts were coming into Jennie's mind.

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When Jennie was going home, she saw Rose near her house. Jennie hid behind a bush and listened carefully. Rose was in a call with someone, and Jennie heard what they were calling about. Her eyes were widely opened. She was confused and regretted her decision to make Rose as a friend.

Jennie said everything to Nancy and they made a plan.

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A few days later, Rose started to ignore Jennie.

One day, when Jennie and Nancy were walking along the road, they saw Kim, one of Rose's friends. Kim was with her boyfriend. Their school is not allowed the students to date. At that moment, Jennie and Nancy got a photo of Kim and her boyfriend. Next day, Jennie sent that photo to Kim at the school. Kim was confused and begged Jennie.

"Please Jennie, delete that photo. I'll do whatever you tell." Kim begged.

"I don't need to put you in trouble, Kim. But we need a help from you."

## CHAPTER 6

One morning, when Kim was going to Rose, Jennie winked at Kim, and she winked back as they had planned.

“Hi Rose, how are you?” Jennie said gently at Rose.

“What do you want Jennie?” Rose said angrily.

“Just nothing, I want you to say sorry for me” Jennie said.

“Ah... Sorry for you? for what”, Rose laughed.

“You called me as Nancy and asked to come to your home, right? Isn’t it you Rose?” Jennie said.

Rose’s face turned pale. So, she knew that she can’t hide it any longer.

“Yes. That’s me and I’ll never say you sorry.” Rose said angrily.

“Rose, please say sorry for her”, Kim said.

“How dare you, Kim? Are you by her side? Are you coming to teach me?”

“Sorry Rose if you won’t recognize your fault, I have to tell about your truth” Kim said looking at the floor.

Suddenly, Rose became calm and began to think. Without knowing, her tears flowed. She remembered about her parents’ accident.

‘One beautiful day, Rose’s parents decided to go on a trip, and they packed their things. Rose loved to travel and she was so excited. They planned to visit a flower garden. While they were going, Rose slept in the car. She heard a big noise. When she woke up, the only thing she could see was blood. The blood was all over the road and she could see her parents lying on the road. Within a few seconds, she recognized that her parents were no more in the world. She screamed and cried. She was left alone in the world. After that incident, she had to stay at her grandma’s house.

“What’s wrong with her?” Jennie asked secretly from Kim.

“She doesn’t have her parents. She became so stubborn after their death.”

After hearing that, Jennie’s heart was broken into millions of pieces. She regretted what she told Rose. Suddenly, Jennie hugged Rose. Jennie recognized that Rose is helpless without her parents, but she doesn’t like to say that.

“Sorry Rose, I didn’t think so. I got angry because you cheated on me”  
Jennie told through her tears.

Rose was ashamed of herself and said sorry to Jennie.

“I’m very sorry Jennie. I thought I would lose you. I got jealous when you talk with Nancy. Sorry for being that selfish.” She burst into tears until her eyes turned red.

“Don’t think so Rose. I am not angry with you.” Jennie said.

Rose smiled through her tears and her eyes were full of love. Jennie helped her to wipe her tears.

## CHAPTER 7

On that day, the teacher came to the class.

“Good morning children, what about your assignment?”

*‘Actions are more powerful than words.’*

“Are you ready to present it? Who is willing to do it first?”

Trio of girls raised their hands.

“Ok. You guys can present it now. Come on and start...” The teacher said.

So, the trio of girls presented their experience and completed their assignment successfully. The teacher praised them.

.....

If someone is in the road, they can see a trio of girls holding their hands and walking along the road. Their faces are full of happiness and love. Their smiles are echoed all over the empty road. It's none other than Rose, Jennie and Nancy.

THE END

## **Afterword**

**As modern technology permeates the social and economic arenas, students tend to distance themselves from the creative process , relying more and more on technological tools. To reduce this risk and help aspiring young writers produce their own books, I sought and presented a research proposal to the Ministry of Education in 2014. It was a fantastic opportunity for children to showcase their enthusiasm and knowledge. The students of Mahamaya Girls' College achieved a record for the most books written, paving the way for a new level of innovations.**

**These e-book project will enable the students to reach international readers, and I am confident that they have gained new experiences and challenges that will enable them to face the future with resolve.**

**I wish all of the young writers the best of luck in their future endeavours.**

**Senevirathna Mahalekam**

**Founder of Books Publishing Project Among School Children**

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