

# MY NIGHTMARE...!!



TENULI NUWANGI ABEYSINGHE

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**books by Tenuli Nuwangi Abeysinghe**

Babai, babage diga kondei

Malu babage hodhama yaluwa

TO  
my beloved parents, loving sister,  
grandparents,  
& all my loving teachers  
With lots of love...

I like to give my special thanks to my  
loving sister for sharing her nightmare with  
me.

Tenuli Nuwangi Abeyasinghe

## Preface

The primary goal of the current educational system is to mould a productive citizen and a 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 needs of the nation and the world.

Our Alma Mater is constantly guiding and assisting children who are creative. This 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 writers to field of literature. We regard this as a great victory and a national need at this hour.

To continue this effort, we have adopted 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 the 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 of 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, for my students, administrators, and teachers from other schools who encouraged students to take part in this worthwhile effort.

Ms Shashikala Senadheera

Principal

Mahamaya Girls College - kandy

2023 . 11 . 10

LAL...LA...LAL....LA.....LAL...LAL...LAAA  
AA.....!!!!!!!

....LAL...LAL...LAAAAA.....!!!!!!

Loud screams woke me up from my slumber. I wiped my eyes and got off the bed.

Screaming was coming from the living room. I wondered what's going on...?

I slowly peeked in.

Oh my God...!

The ugliest green snake I have ever seen was in the living room.

She was dancing like nothing. Music was so loud, she didn't even bother my presence.

She was almost like whirling and almost twisted and broke in two.

Wiggly...waggly.... wiggly...waggly...all over the place.

Her skinny hands were in the air wiggling.

Her eyes rolled like little sparkly marbles.



The green snake was so thin her dress looked too big for her and the blouse was hanging loose from the shoulders....!

It reminded me of my baby sister.

If anybody has seen my sister with this skinny green snake, they would think they are twins....!!!

Though I tried, I could not control my laugh....!

Oh God...! My mistake...!

She saw me and looked straight into my eyes.

Her eyes fixed on mine....while her thin body was doing the whirly dance.

I felt dizzy...and I almost vomited.

I noted that my body doing the wiggly... waggly according to her rhythm.

Her eyes were whirling....I almost joined her dance....!!

Suddenly, the bangle that she had worn on her skinny tail came loose and wheeled along the floor.

For a second she blinked and looked at the bangle.

I escaped that hypnotizing gaze.

With a snap of a second, I ran to the office room, to find my dad.

He might chase the skinny green snake away...!

Just as I walked into Dad's office, a brown snake slithered out.

He was standing from his tail. What a horrible sight it was....!

He was wearing a pair of trousers . But his tail was coming out of one leg of that trouser...!

And the other leg of the trouser was just hanging loose, and just empty. And it was wrapping around his trouser leg that had his tail in it.

He almost tripped over. If it was my dad, I would have laughed....!

He had worn one sock. And the other one was on the floor, lying next to a shoe.

He held one shoe from his hand.

And had his office bag on the other hand ...!

A terrible sight I would say ....!

His spectacles were enormous.

He had no ears to hold them right. So they were just hanging loose at his nose.

He was a mess.

But, I would say, he looks quite handsome with that purple tie on.....!

And I remembered my Dad used to call it as his  
""lucky tie ""

Oh... if my Dad could lay his hands on this brown snake...he would be thrown in to the sky...!

And the brown handsome snake would land on the moon....!



The brown tall snake started to slither again...!

Just as he walked out of the room, he kicked at his other shoe from his strong tail.

He tripped over once again but maintained balance after wiggling for a moment...!

And that very moment he saw me and came straight toward me with a smile...!

I gave a scream and ran to find my Mom....!

Mom...!

....Mom...!!

.....Mom...!!!!!!

I shouted on the way...!

There was an enormous gigantic sized Anaconda lying on my Mom's bed....!

She was pink and chubby and looked so soft, I would say...!

She was so big and almost occupied the entire bed.

She looked so pretty....! Sleepy....! And tired too...!!!

she covered herself with my Mom's favorite quilt too...!!!

The quilt was keeping her huge body warm, therefore she was happily sleeping.

Not just sleeping. She was snoring too.

The snoring was so loud, it nearly shattered the glass of water that was on the bedside table.

Water was spilling out as the glass was shaking.

When I last saw her, My Mom was having a nap....

On this same bad...!!!

She called it her ""beauty nap...!""



Where is my Mom...?

Has this pink Anaconda swallowed my Mom...?

I couldn't see my Mom anywhere in the room.

I tried looking for her under the bed, behind the curtains...but Mom was not even there...!!!

I think that the pink snake had eaten my Mom....!

I knew if I made a sound, the snake would gulp me in whole.

So I tried to walk away without making any noise.

But unfortunately, a little cracking sound came from the wooden floor beneath my foot.

She woke up.....!!!

I got scared and shouted.....

Mom...!

....Mom...!!

.....Mom...!!!!!!

The snake looked angry....!!!!

She looked straight at me and made a grumpy little sound.

It clearly gave me the idea that she did not like my presence in her room and especially she hated shouting...!

The pink fat snake tried turning to the other side. Her quilt fell off the body. I guess she got pretty cold too....!

She made another grumpy sound....and waved me to leave the room....!

I realized she did not like my visit.

I tip toed back to the lobby....!

What's going on...? Where have everybody gone...?

I looked up and down. I walked to every room at downstairs.

Mom has gone missing..... or maybe eaten by a giant Anaconda.....!!!!

I could not find Dad either.

But there was a tall brown snake roaming around in the office room.....!!!!

I don't know what it had done to my Dad.

And there is an ugly green skinny baby snake in the living room doing some wiggly ...waggly stuff.

Probably it had locked my sister in the closet...that would not be bad I guess.....!!!!

I could not think straight....I started getting chills... what if they eat me too.....!!!

I slowly walked back upstairs.

I don't know why...? But.... climbing the stairs was a bit uncomfortable than all the other days... so I decided to hop instead of walking.

At the topmost step, I almost slipped and fell...!

Still, I managed to stay without making a whole big scene out of it. If this was a good old normal ordinary day, I would have made a drama out of this.

And everybody would come running to pamper me...!!

But today is different....!

There are 3 snakes roaming downstairs....!

I could be their next tasty meal.....!

So I stayed quietly as much as possible....!

What I saw at upstairs....made me freeze.

I saw the cutest, small, yellow snake, right on my Grandma's favorite cushion chair.....!!

She sat so comfortably and did not pay much attention to me at all.

Believe me, I hate snakes....!!! and already there are 3 of them at downstairs...!

Any way....I rather like this yellow fellow...!

She was so cute with her cotton candy white hair. She had pulled it onto a tiny ball at the back of her head.

She had a red bead necklace on her small neck.

She was eagerly reading a book.

I wiped my eyes to see clearer....!

Is that real, what I saw...!

Oh my God....!

She was reading my grandma's favorite book....!

Oh dear me....if my grandma ever saw this cute yellow snake with her favorite book,....I am sure she will chase her to the forest never to return back....!



But where is my Grandma...?

This yellow snake, though she looked cute and innocent, I think she has stolen my Granny's favorite stuff too...!

I sneakily tried passing her to my Grandpa's room.

Oh no....!

The cute yellow thing saw me move.

" Oh hello little princess....aren't you going to school today...? "

She had my Granny's voice too....!

Surely it had done something to my darling Grandma...

I felt really sad...!

I miss you grandma...tears ran down my cheeks....

" Oh why are you crying my darling...did Mom scold you...? " the yellow snake asked me kindly.

Now I am sure, that is surely my Granny's voice....!!

I cried loudly as I ran to find my Grandpa....!

No time to waste with snakes ...I'd rather find my Grandpa. And that would be my only hope.....!

It did not take much time for my hope to shatter to pieces....I was totally shocked...!

There was a dark brown average-sized snake...!!!! He looked so wise and old...maybe he is a hundred years old...!!!

With a duster in his hand. He was cleaning the family photos...!

The snake was whistling to an old classic song... I remembered I had heard it somewhere...

Oh yes...!

Of course, I have heard it a million times...!

That's my Grandpa's favorite song...he used to mutter it every time...whole day long...! especially when he is cleaning...



This dark brown snake had cotton candy white hair too.  
And he looked wiser than all the other snakes I saw.  
This one probably might be the leader of the group...!  
He wore my Grandpa's green shawl right around his  
neck. And you know...my Grandpa never even allows me  
to wear it, though I believe I am his favorite  
grandchild...!!

"" You will be perished to Mars...if you think you are  
wise enough..... you better hide before my grandpa lays  
his hand on you...!!! ""

I accidentally stomped my feet....

My mistake again...!

The wise-looking old dark brown snake stopped cleaning  
for a minute.

He looked at me straight in the eye.

That look....took the living daylight out of me...

I went purple...then blue...and then paper white I guess....!

I started shivering.....

I ran away as fast as I could...

" Thud....thud....thud...." a funny noise came from my legs....I banged on every piece of furniture I met. And it was pretty difficult to run on the tiled floor. It felt slippery....!

"" come and lend me a hand. You are old enough to help with the chores..."" I heard the wise old snake shouting at my back.

I hurried to the lobby ....

"""" Mom.....!!!, Dad.....!!! """"

I whispered...but nobody came to my help...

I was glued to the floor with what I saw.....will you believe me... if I tell you.....???

I saw this most beautiful girl snake.....she had lovely dark brown curly hair. It was tucked into two cute little pigtails...and she had pretty ribbons on her hair too.

She had pinkish cheeks and a beautiful green-shaded body....!

She looked as if she had come out of a nightmare....!!!

Her blue eyes were wide open.....and she was panting like nothing.....

The poor thing was shivering as if she had seen some ghosts....!!

She was looking straight at me....! May be confused as much as me...!!!

I felt pity for this pretty creature....!!! Maybe she came with the other snakes...but must have lost her way out.

I thought I should make friends with her....at least she would help me to find my Mom and Dad.....

I smiled at her and said "hello"

Exactly at the same time she said the same thing back at me.



I was surprised ...and she looked surprised too....!!

That very moment I realized she was wearing my special frock. I got it for my last year birthday...

Where did she get it from....??? I thought.

I could see this pretty thief was thinking of an explanation too....

I got angry.....my face felt steaming....

I saw the pretty snake's face turning red....!!!

Her face turned pretty ugly...like an overly ripped tomato.

I tried to grab her hand.... But my hand hit a mirror....and the mirror started to shake....

The pretty snake started to shake too....!!!

Suddenly a brain wave passed.

I looked at myself.

I was standing from a green tail. I had no legs. There was only a green tail...A GREEN TAIL...!!!

I realized I was the pretty snake.....and I shouted my head off...

"""" Help.....help help...!!!.....

Mom.....Dad... **help help.....!!** """"

I shouted and STRUGGLED TO FREE MYSELF...I tried to get hold of my tail...and tried to pull it away...

With a loud thump , I fell.

I stayed on the floor for an extra minute. I thought the other snakes would slither their way to me.

I opened my eyes.....!!

I saw this little skinny ugly girl with marble-like glittery eyes. Looking at me with mere surprise.....!!

It took me another minute to realize, that skinny girl was my little sister...

I pushed her to the side and got up from the floor.

I realized I had fallen off the bed.

I ran to the mirror and made sure I was not the snake that I saw.

I had legs...I HAD LEGS...! !!!

Oh, thank God...!!!

I double-checked with my sister... she was in good shape too....

I heard my little sister laughing.....!! and she went on laughing and laughing...

she was enjoying herself...for no good reason...

Oh my God....!!

Then I realized... I had wet the bed...!!!

I did not want others to know what happened. It was so humiliating.

I had to tell my sister about this nightmare.

And that was a mistake too.

She found it so fascinating...and she told me that she would share it with everyone I knew.

Oh...! I had to bribe that little good-for-nothing skinny ugly creature with all my saved candy, to keep it a secret.

But I don't trust her AT.....ALL...!!

She flew away with my candy...and I know she will tell everybody she meets, that I had wet my bed....!!

So I decided to make a note of it, so that anybody  
Whoever decides to read this, will know exactly what happened.....!!!!

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 innovation.

The 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 endeavors

Senevirathna Mahalekm

Founder of Books Publishing Project Among School Children

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