

Happy Little House



Dulani Sakithma

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Dulani Sakithma Egodahawaththa

Mahamaya Girls' College Kandy Book Publishing Project - 2023

ISBN

05.12.2023

Preface

Happy Little House. This is my first ever eBook. According to a great concept of our principle madam, under supervision of our class teacher, with the guidance of my sister, I was able to complete this book. I think this is a milestone in my life. I take this opportunity to thank each and every one who supported me in completing this eBook.

Dulani Sakithma

Grade 4-A

Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy

Foreword

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 endeavour. 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

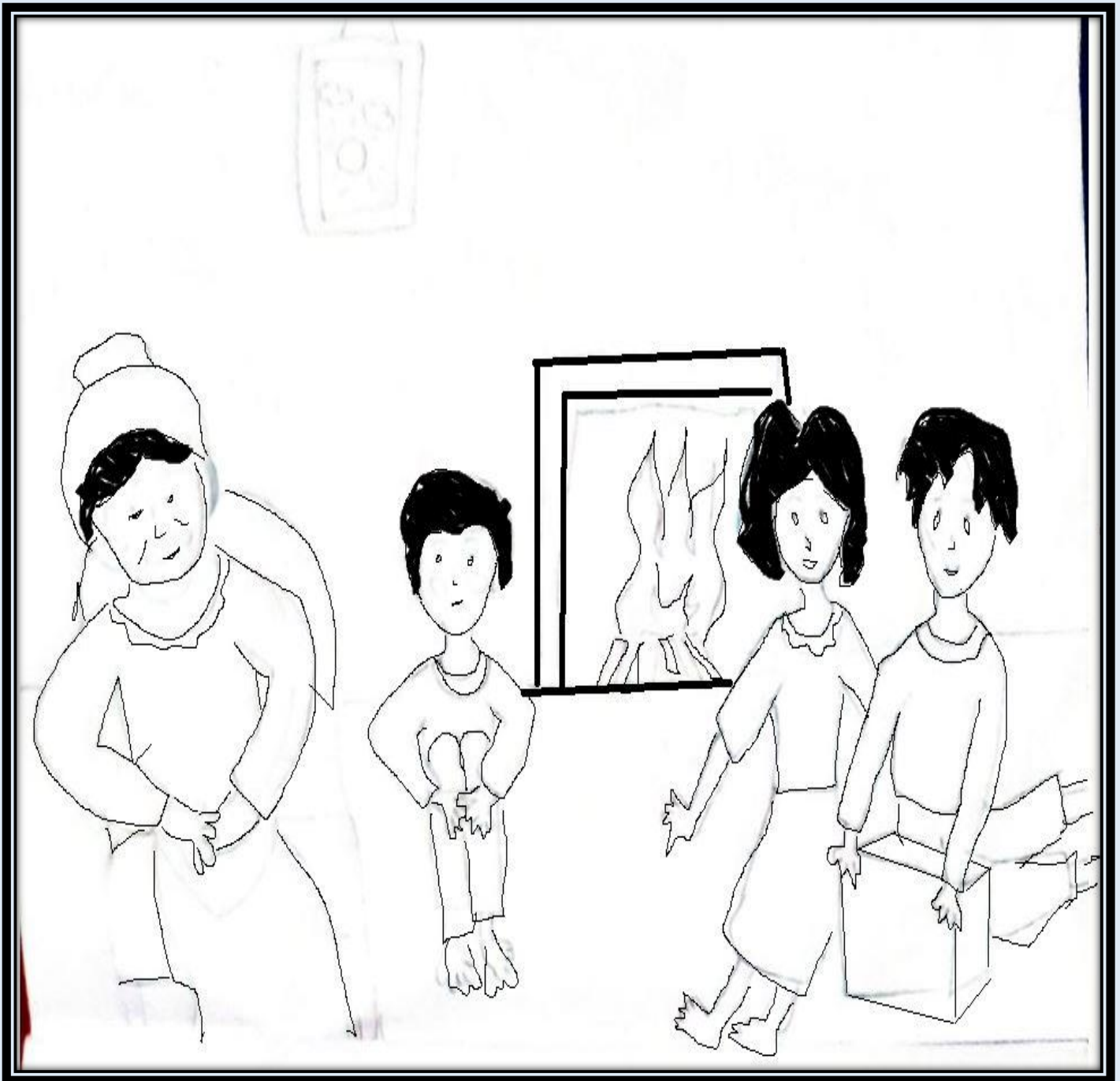
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Fire was blowing at the fireplace. Around it all the children and grandma were sitting comfortably. Children were sitting on the wood floor and it was warm. Grandma was in the swinging chair made by father during the past winter.

Yellowish bright light was distributed by the fire. Mom was making a beans soup for breakfast. Since it was snowing during winter season people want hot meals.

The frozen milk bucket was under the dining table. Smell of the soup was mixed with smell of roasted bread on the table.



“Mom I am starving”. Grumbled little John. He is the youngest.

“Be patient John. Mom's still cooking” commented Martha, the second child.

The oldest Peter was silently building a tower with wooden blocks.

After some time the tower was flattened to the ground by Martha accidentally. She didn't seem to be taking notice of that. Peter was angry. Don't you apologize? Peter just screamed. “For what? You broke my tower intentionally. Don't you remember?”

“Oh is it actually a tower? I thought it was a snake trying to stand on its own feet inside the house” Martha said in a sarcastic manner.

Peter's reaction was only glaring at Martha. He didn't have opportunity to hit her because grandma was nearby there.



“All children. Stop fighting will you. All siblings should stay with peace and harmony. Let me tell you about your father and his brothers. They were also like you three.” Grandma kept her sewing scarf aside on the stool getting ready to tell the story.

The scarf is for mother. Her scarf is old now. So he decided to sew a new one. Its end was with triangular patterns with red and blue colours and the rest of the patterns were zig-zag with red and green.

She started to tell the story. John is on her lap. Others are still on the floor .Peter was still angry but wanted to listen to Grandma's interesting story.

“When your father was 10 years old he was a big boy. He was rude and always fought with his brothers and punished by your grandpa. Your grandpa is his father”

One day the school teacher gave a task to all children that was building an aesthetic bird

nest within a day and all the children must do it with support from friends or siblings.

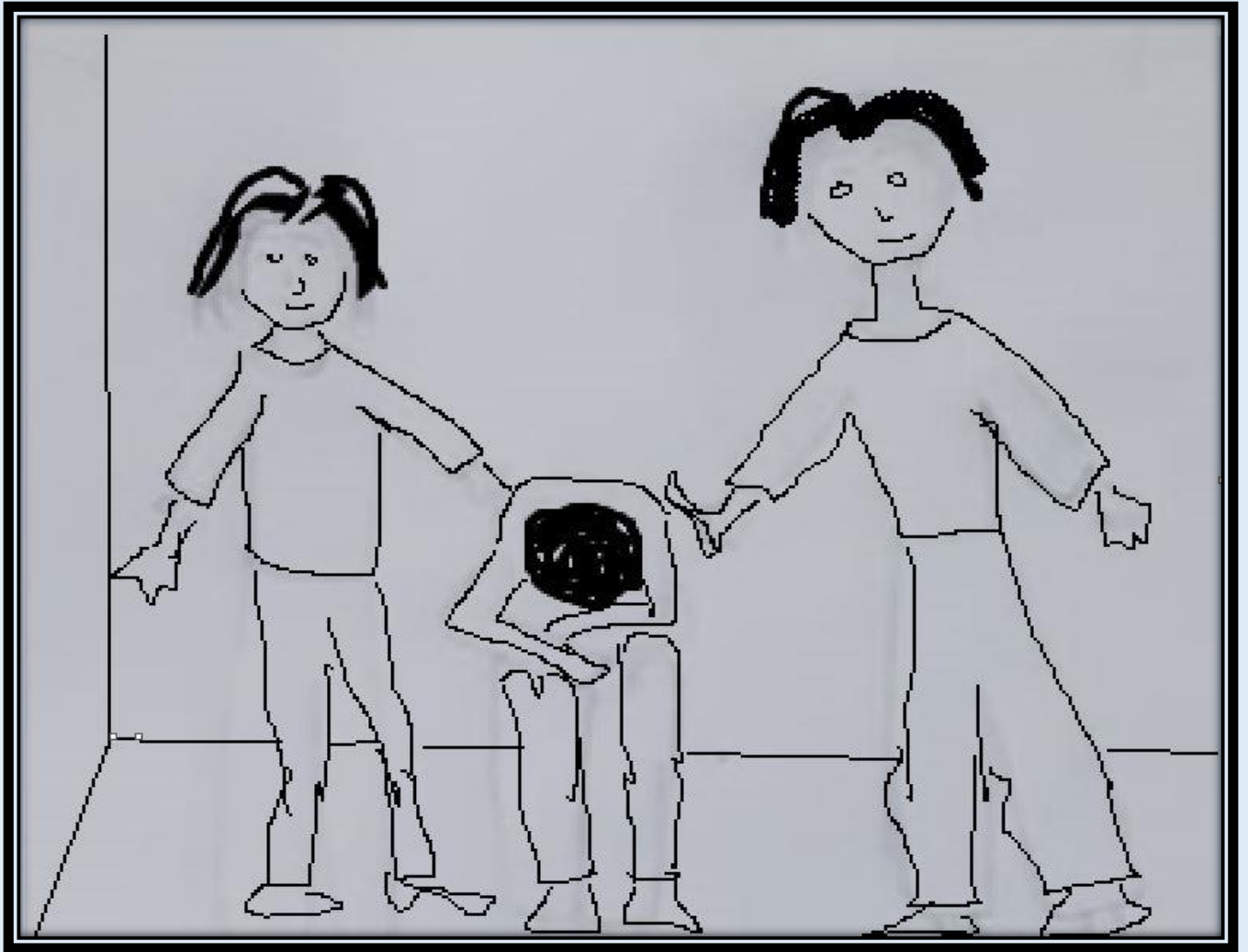
Two of the brothers were very good in working together except your father. They discussed and did their work very well cooperatively. One made the nest by sticks and one made the tree by clay. Both of them decorated the nest by hanging flowers. They made birds and eggs by clay.



What your father did was he attempted to make his nest on his own, but he couldn't finish the task during the time period the teacher gave.

“Poor father” said John softly while making himself comfortable in the grandma’s lap. “Yes he failed because of his unfriendliness and the winners were two brothers. Your father felt really sad and jealous”

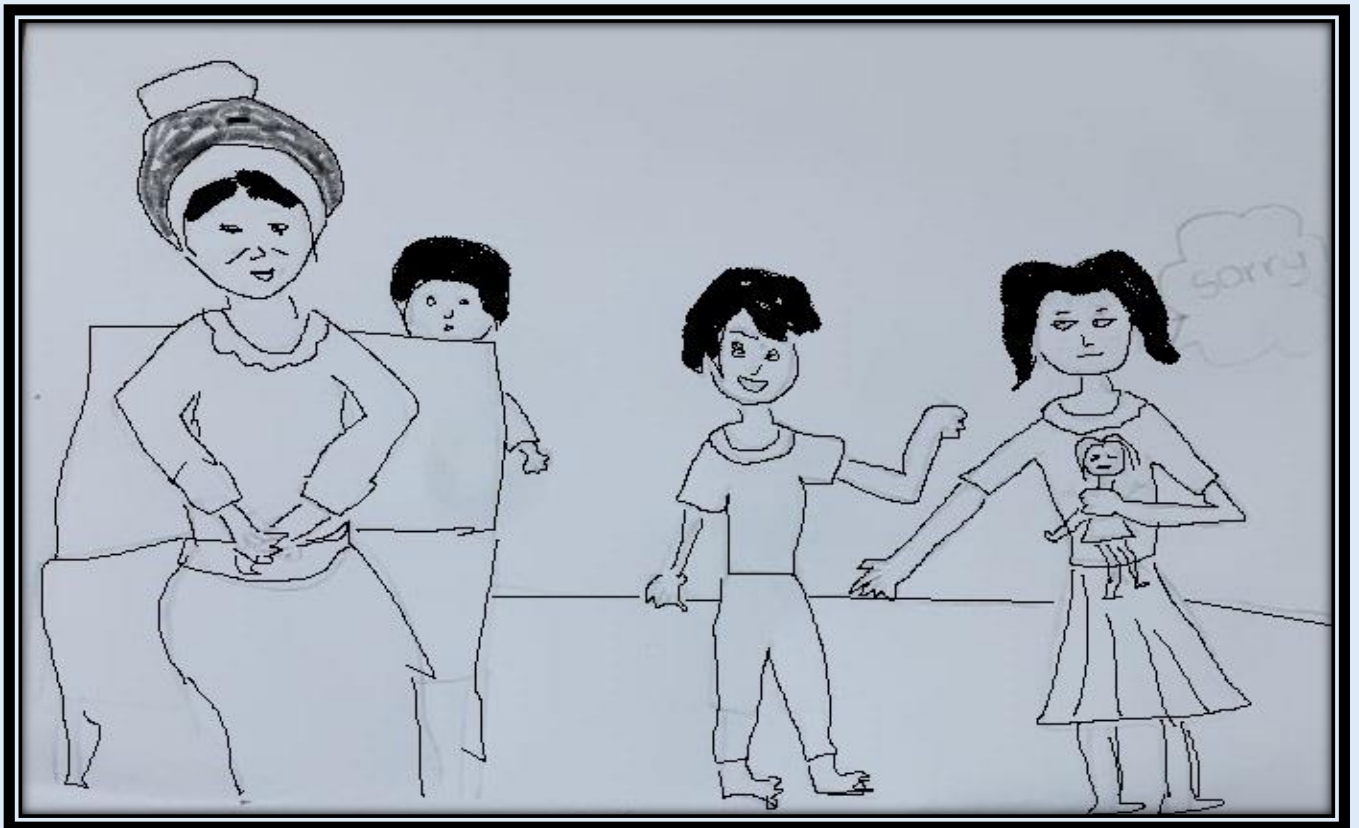
“When he reached home he cried and other brothers tried to console him. Then he realized that being friendly with others is much better rather than being lonely. He remembered how he was rude to them, he apologized them and thereafter no conflicts among them till now.”



Grandma finished the story with a nice smile. Whenever she smiles wrinkles are formed in her cheeks.

“So Martha what should we say if someone hurts anyone accidentally or intentionally?”
Grandma ask patiently.

“Sorry Peter” Martha said in low voice.

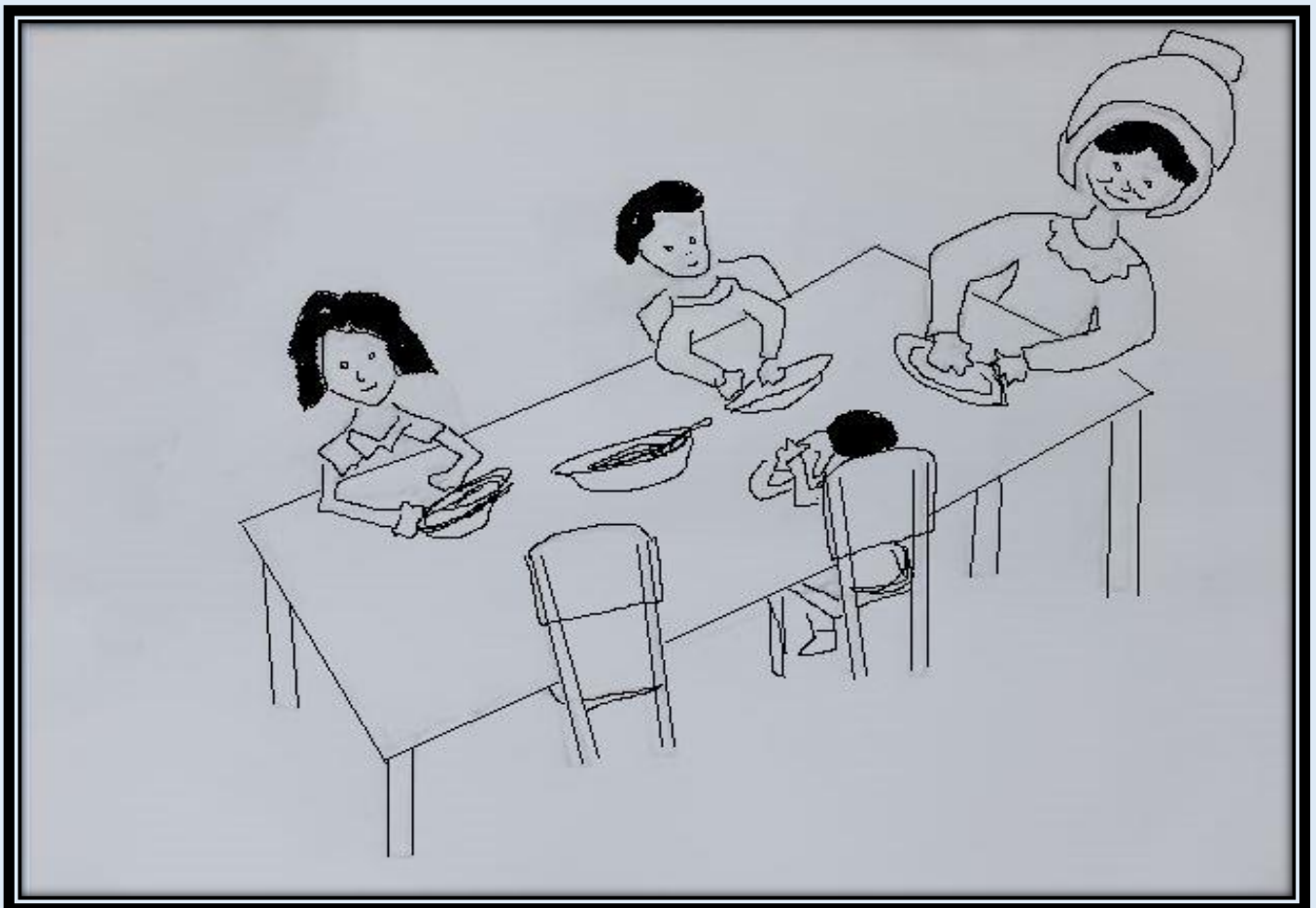


“It is fine. We will build a tower taller than the previous one, together” said Peter in a joyful voice.

“but I'm hungry” Little John complained again.

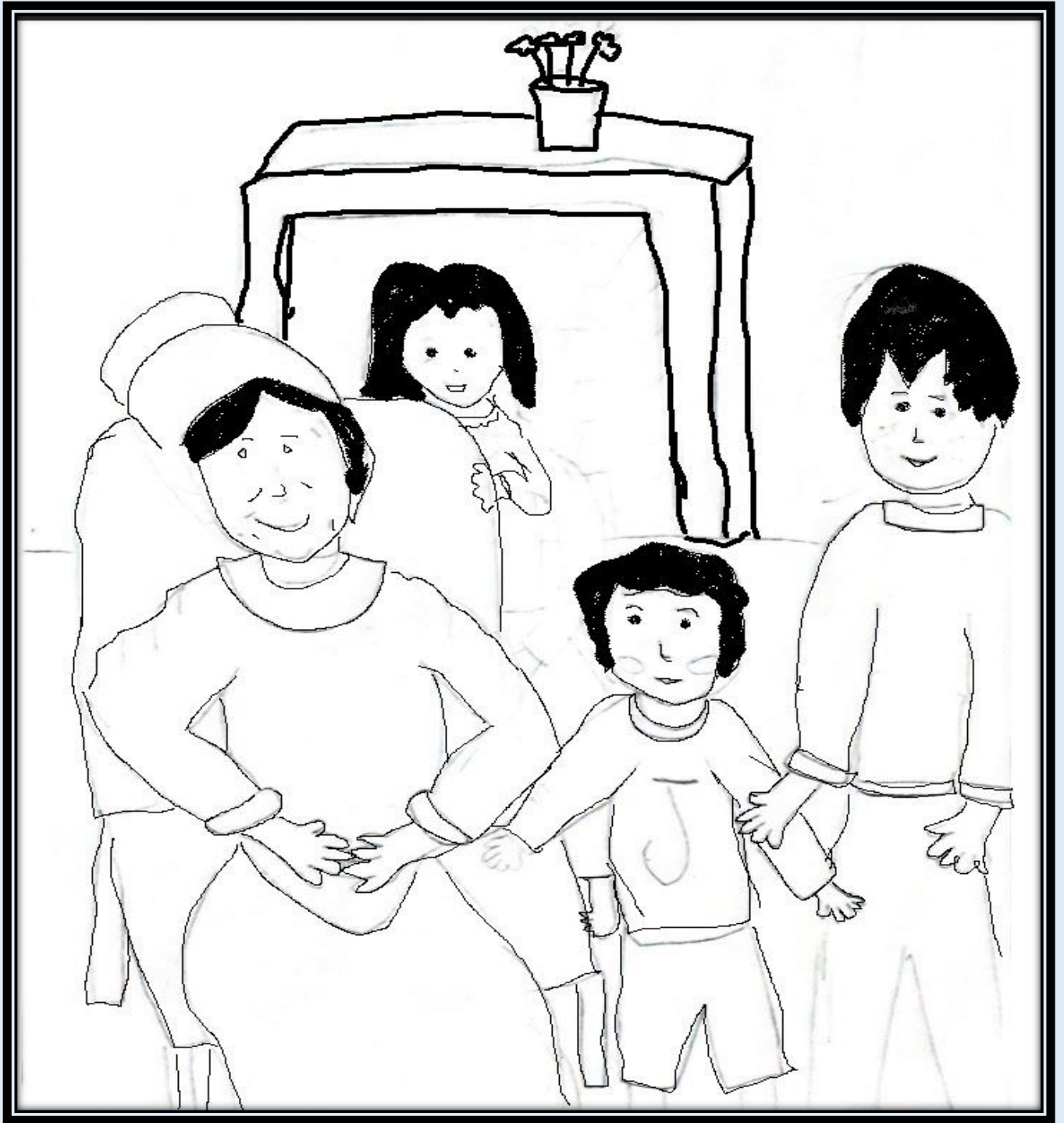
“Children come. The breakfast is ready” mom commented.

“Thanks God” said John and ran to the kitchen. He was too short to sit in the chair, so grandmother kept him on a chair.



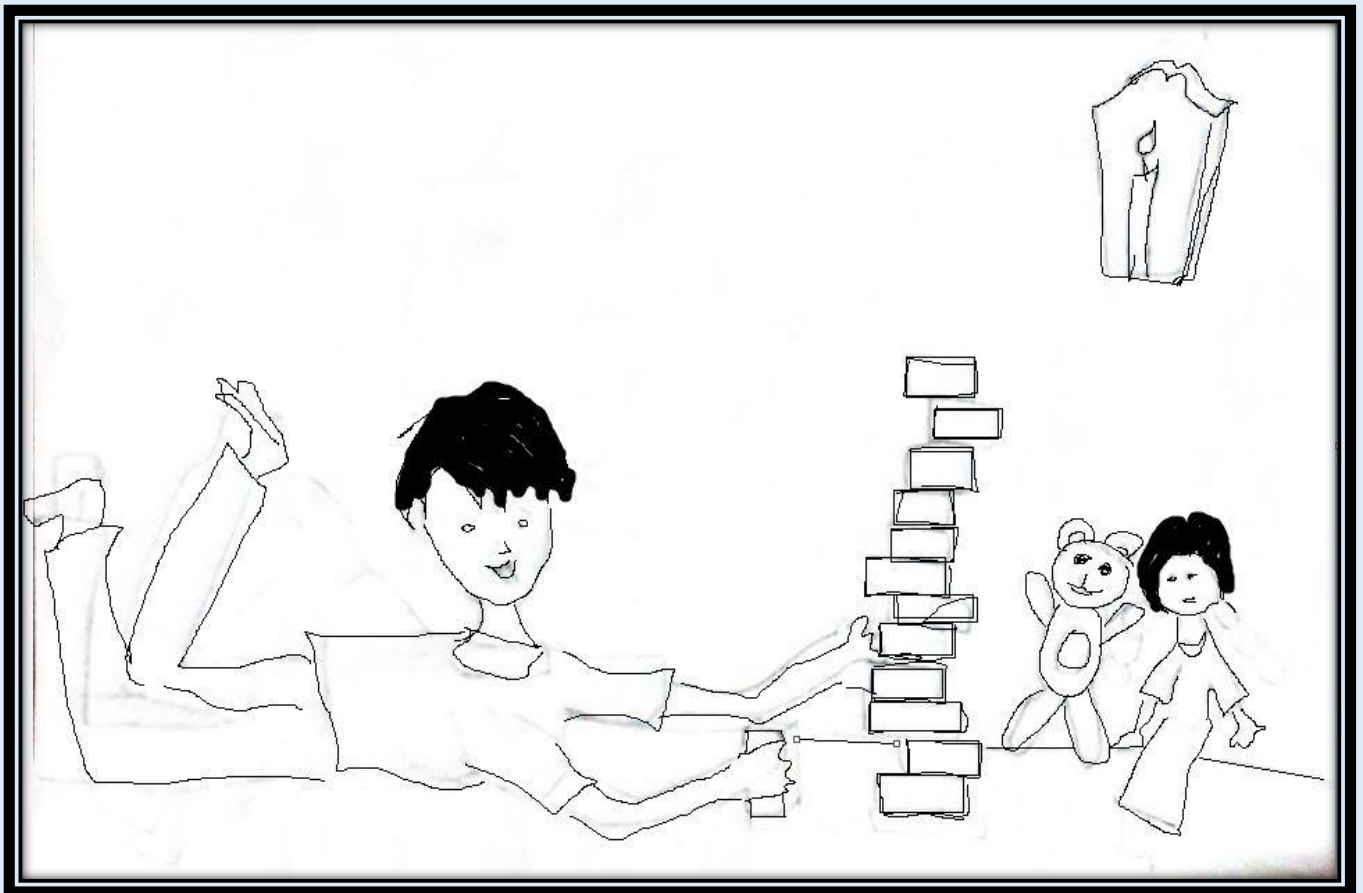
“Isn't father coming mom?” asked Peter.
“No. He's making a hoe in the backyard. I will take him the lunch. Now you eat. But first you should pray”

They all prayed to the god and had the meal. The bean soup was very creamy and beans were well cooked. It was hot. Each of them had two roasted bread slices. They were very crispy and delicious. Finally the boiled milk was given.



“Such a nice meal. Thank you dear. Soup was really good” Grandma's said. Children followed grandma and thanked mother.

Children went to living room and played a game. Grandma helped mother to wash dishes. Peter and Martha together built the tallest tower with the available wooden blocks. John was only helping them.



“See.. When you are in collaboration with others you can do anything”

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 endeavours.

Senevirathna Mahalekm

Founder of Books Publishing Project among School Children
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