

FORBIDDEN SECRETS

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Other books from the author

- **Rosige Sihinaya** **2018**
- **Punchi Raja Kumariyo** **2019**
- **Sonduru Pasale Natasha** **2020**

TO

My mom.....

who always supports me in everything I do

My dad.....

who always provides me love and protection

My sister.....

who always stays by my side

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.

Mrs. Shashikala Senadheera
Principal
Mahamaya Girls College - Kandy
2023.11.10

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01

THE GUEST

It was a fine Saturday evening. And I was about to take a sip of coffee while looking at the beautiful view from my balcony, and that's when someone knocked on the front door. I live with my sister Anne, so we both got up to see who it was.

"Were you expecting a guest Chloe?"

Anne asked me.

I nodded my head saying no.

We opened the door to see Michelle standing outside. Michelle is a friend of both of us. Anne and I were surprised to see Michelle so we stared at her until she asked,

"Aren't you going to ask me why I am here?"

"Oh yeah, why are you here?"

"I am moving in with you guys!" Michelle said happily.

Anne and I looked at each other shocked.

"Why all of a sudden?"

"Well, my mom and dad are on a 4 year business trip in Europe. Until then, I am here."

"Oh well, okay then. You can go change in the room on the second floor."

After a while she came out of the room with a strange smile on her face.

"Why are you smiling like that?"

Her smile became even bigger when Anne asked like that.

"I have a great idea."

"Okay, so what's that great idea?"

"We should go on a vacation."

"Yeah I think that's a great idea too."

Anne agreed to Michelle's idea.

I also agreed to Michelle's idea because I've been bored these days since I was home all day doing nothing.

We packed everything we needed and went on the vacation. It was a long journey so we stopped to grab something to eat. The place was really beautiful and we each got a hamburger and a drink. The trip was quite nice. The area was beautiful with trees and flowers all the way through. Then finally after a long journey we reached our destination.

We went into our rented house which was a three storied house that was enormous and looked like an old palace.

"This looks like a big palace, did you rent this whole house for us?"

Anne asked Michelle shocked and happily.

"Yeah, this whole house is for us."

Michelle replied proudly.

We looked around the house and it was a very nice antique looking three storied house, which looked like an old palace. The house had so many windows and the the ceiling and the floor consisted wooden planks. It was beautiful and also spacious. We all loved it.



Since we were travelling all day we were pretty tired so we had our dinner and went to bed early. We fell asleep even before the pillow hit our head. We all slept so well that night but the next morning was quite different...

02

THE BEGINNING

In the morning Michelle and I were woken up by Anne to see something shocking. Our room was messy and our stuff was missing. We looked at each other confused. But there was something that caught our attention; there were some muddy footsteps in our room. We followed the footsteps and it led us to an old book shelf.

"How did the footsteps disappear in front of this old book shelf?"

"I am just as confused as you."

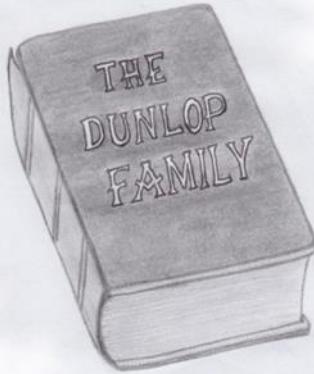
Anne replied to Michelle.

We looked around the bookshelf but we couldn't find anything.

"Let's just have our breakfast first and we'll check this out later."

We had our breakfast and Anne and Michelle went for a walk while I tried to find out the mystery in the book shelf; I

checked out the books on the shelf. There was one book that caught my attention. I had a feeling that it isn't just a random storybook.



It was called "THE DUNLOP FAMILY". I took it out and read few pages of it. I could understand that it definitely wasn't a story book. There were photos of three families; one family had parents and three boys and one of the other families was one of the boys' families after they grew up; he had one daughter and a beautiful wife. The other family was also one of the boys after they grew up; he was married with no children. First photo had the names Katherine Dunlop, Robert Dunlop, Jake Dunlop, Jack Dunlop and John Dunlop written below it; second photo had the names John Dunlop, Madison Dunlop and Emily

Dunlop written below it, third photo had the names Jake Dunlop and Nancy Dunlop written below it.

While I was reading that Michelle and Anne called me to the garden. I went there and saw something really shocking; there was a well that was not covered properly and it had a ladder inside it; we could see the ladder from the uncovered part. Also there were some footprints coming out of the well.

“Should we go in and check it out?”

We all agreed to Michelle’s idea; we got some torches and went inside the mysterious well. It was muddy and dark inside. No one was there. After going a little further we saw a light.

We went there and saw a table with a table lamp on it and an old cupboard. There was a family photo on the table, it looked really familiar. Then I suddenly realized that photo was in the book I read. I took a photo of it.

We looked around some more and opened the cupboard, and what surprised us is that there was our stolen stuff in there, and some more photos but it wasn’t the same family as in the photo that was on the table. I realized that these photos were also in the book I read. But someone has scribbled on the faces in these photos. I took a photo of it too.

“Should we take back our stuff?”

“No don’t, they will know we came here if we take them back, Anne.”

And just then we heard someone coming, we panicked and looked for a place to hide.

“Let’s go up here.”

Anne said, while pointing at a staircase.

03

NEW INFORMATION

There was a door at the top of the staircase, it was locked but luckily we were able to unlock it; so we went in there, and that's when things got much more complicated. We realized that we came through the book shelf of our rented house. We stood there in disbelief for few seconds.

"Did we just come out of the book shelf?"

"Well, now it all makes sense, that's why the footprints disappeared from here."

"But first of all we should lock it again before the person inside notice it's unlocked."

We searched a way to lock it and luckily there was some space in between the door and the closing.

"Anne you have the smallest hands among us I think it can fit through the space; try to lock the door."

Michelle was right; Anne's hands perfectly fit through the space; so we were able lock it. Then after that I remembered something.

"Guys, there is something I need to show you."

I showed them the book of the Dunlop family.

"Wait a second, that's the man I rented this house from."

Michelle said after seeing Jack Dunlop's photo.

"Then this book must belong to his family, but why did he put it in the house that he is renting?"

We read some more of the book and found out that it was Jake Dunlop and his wife in the photo that was on the table and it was John Dunlop and his family in the photos that were inside the cupboard.

There were addresses below every photo and the most shocking part was that John Dunlop's address was the same address as our rented house.

"So, does that mean we're in John Dunlop's house right now?"

"I guess so, and it also means that Jack Dunlop is renting his own brother's house."

I replied to Michelle.

"Maybe his brother moved out and gave him the house and now he is renting it."

"I guess that's the only explanation for it."

"Since there was a photo of Jake and his wife on that table, do you think that maybe the underground bunker belongs to him?"

"Yes, maybe but that also means he is the one who stole our stuff."

"We can't jump into conclusions like that."

I said to Michelle and Anne.

"So how can we find out who stole our stuff?"

"Since our suspect is Jake, should we stalk him a little?"

Michelle asked with a creepy smile.

"Well it's not good to stalk someone out of nowhere but I guess that's our only option."

I replied to Michelle.

"Ok, then should we go to his house tomorrow and follow where he is going?"

"Ok then."

Anne also agreed.

“But we all have to be very careful because what we’re about to do is not legal”

“What he did isn’t legal either, so now we can be even.”

Michelle replied.

04

UNTYING THE KNOT

So it was around 6 am and we went to Jake Dunlop's house and hid behind a bush until he comes out of his house.

"Oh god when will he come out of his house it's almost 7.45"

Michelle started to complain.

Our legs were all numb because of the long wait. And around 8 am he came out of the house. Then we started to follow him while hiding behind the bushes. He went straight to the bus stop and got on a bus, we got on the same bus without him noticing.

First, he went to a coffee shop and had a cup of coffee

"Can we get something to eat as well? I'm starving."

Michelle said while looking at me.

We all got some pieces of cheese cake and some coffee. Then we went back to our mission.

Then he went to a book shop. After a while he went to a shopping mall.

"I feel like we've been walking for ages. Maybe we got the wrong guy."

Anne started to complain.

"Let's just wait a little more"

I said while patting her shoulder.

After Jake was done shopping he went into a house.

"So now what? How can we know what's going on?"

"Let's look through the window."

I suggested.

We looked through the window and we could see that Jake is talking to an old lady.

"Who is she?"

We all had the same question.

Then after a while Jake came outside with the old lady. We were hiding in a bush near the house. So we could hear Jake saying,

"Ok mom, I'll call you later then. Bye."

"Oh so it is his mom"

After that his mom said,

"Ok honey, also why don't you call your brother sometime?"

"Mom I've said this a million times, I've cut ties with him a long time ago."

Then he left without saying another word, and his mom looked really sad.

"What a jerk! He made his mom really sad."

Anne said while frowning.

"But my question is which brother did he cut ties with? John or Jack?"

I said curiously.

After that we started to follow him again. And this time he cured our curiosity.

"He is going in the street to our house, isn't he?"

And as we expected he suspiciously looked around and went to our rented house and slowly he went inside the well.

After that we quickly went into the house.

"Ok so now we know exactly that it was Jake Dunlop who stole our stuff."

We all agreed.

"I know this is none of our business but I am curious to know about why Jake cut ties with his brother."

"I know right, I can't stop thinking about that either."

Michelle agreed with me.

"I kind of have an idea, why don't we go to Jake's mom's house as Jake's friends and talk with her and find out what happened."

"That's actually a great idea."

We agreed to Anne's idea.

05

THE PAST

The next day as we decided we went to Jake's mom, Ms. Katherine's house.

"Let's say we're friends from his high school so we didn't know he moved out, and then we should just start talking to Ms. Katherine."

We planned everything and rang the bell, Ms. Katherine opened door wondering who we were.

"Hello Ms. Katherine! We're Jake's friends, is he there?"

"Oh honey, he moved out long ago, didn't he tell you?"

"Oh, we're actually friends from his high school; we live far away from here, we we're just passing by here so we thought of visiting."

"That's really sweet of you, why don't you come in, it's okay that he is not here I'll keep you company."

Ms. Katherine said with the sweetest smile.

"You three sit down and make yourselves at home while I make some tea."

"She is so sweet, I feel bad for lying to her."

Anne said after she left.

"Me too"

We all felt guilty.

After a while the sweet old woman came back with some hot tea. We all enjoyed the tea. Then we started to talk with her.

"So Ms. Katherine how is Jake's brothers John and Jack?"

Ms. Katherine's smile slowly faded away as Anne asked that question.

"Oh well, I guess you guys haven't talked to Jake in a really long time; Let me go to the beginning of the story then, I hope you guys aren't in a hurry because this is going to be a very long story. Then she started the story we've been waiting to hear.

"Ok so it all started when John's business became a huge success, I didn't show it but I indeed knew the other two were jealous of John, because of that they started to ignore John, I tried my best to make them get along again but it didn't work; that was just the beginning, it all got worse when somehow

John and his family disappeared out of the blue, we filed a case but still the police found nothing, it's already been two years; after that the other two who got along also became enemies because they both wanted John's enormous house.

Ms. Katherine stopped talking for a minute and wiped her tears.

"Then in the end Jack got the house but Jack and Jake haven't talked since then. And after some time my husband who was always there with me also passed away; now I am in this house all by myself, I always remember the happy moment we had as a family; now they are all gone."

The story ended and Anne's eyes were practically a waterfall. Ms. Katherine also wiped the tears off her eyes. Other two were really sad as well.

"Oh we're so sorry for your loss."

We talked for a while and said goodbye to Ms. Katherine and came back home.

"I wonder what happened to John and his family."

"Don't you think it's suspicious how they disappeared right when John's business was starting to become successful? And Ms. Katherine did say that the other two were jealous of him."

"Are you saying that the other two did something to John's family?"

"I'm not sure, I'm just saying because it all happened together."

Michelle replied.

"Well why don't we find out then"

"This is what happens when you love Sherlock Holmes too much."

Anne said while laughing.

"No, I am serious; we find out this much so why don't we find out the rest?"

Michelle looked interested in my idea. Anne also nodded.

06

THE INVESTIGATION

"So to find out what happened, I think we should go back to the underground bunker."

"Guys, we only have two weeks to do anything; I booked this house only for a month, it's already been two weeks."

"I think this could give our vacation an interesting ending."

I said while smirking.

"Let's check out the bunker tomorrow then, this time we should be more careful, remember last time we almost got caught."

"Someone should be a look out."

"I'll be the look out."

Anne volunteered.

The next morning we tried to go inside the bunker through the bookshelf but unfortunately it was locked, so we went inside through the well very carefully so could see if anyone's inside, and to our luck no one was inside. So we went in while Anne was in the house looking out of the window to see if anyone's coming.

"Let's check out the cupboard to see if we missed something last time."

We checked out the cupboard and our stolen stuff were gone but the photos were still there, and this time I noticed something that I didn't see the last time, there were some stains on the photos, but not just some random stains they looked like blood stains.

"Michelle, look at this, do you think maybe this is blood?"

"I'm not sure but it looks like it."

"It looks old; if we scrape it would it come off?"

"Let's try either way."

We scrapped the stains and little parts came off. We got a napkin covered the parts of the stains and put it in the pocket. And just then Anne called and told that Jake is coming, we went back inside and locked the door.

"I think we should test these stain parts."

We sent the stain parts to a lab to get them checked out and after some time they called us and said that they discovered what the stain is; and as we expected it was blood. They said by tomorrow they'll identify whose blood it is.

"Whose blood do you think it is?"

"I think it is going to be John's."

"If it's John's blood, that means he didn't just disappear out of nowhere; something must've happened to him."

"We can't sure that though; let's just wait until the results come."

The next day the results came surprising all of us. We all guessed it'll be John's blood but it was not. It was Emily Dunlop's blood.

"Who's Emily Dunlop?"

"Let's check from the "THE DUNLOP FAMILY" book."

We all gathered around and checked the book; that's when we realized that Emily Dunlop is John's daughter.

"I guess that's explainable, I always thought that something must've happened to John's family because there is no way they just disappear out of the blue like that."

"But seriously, this is a big problem; even the police haven't found out what happened to them yet."

"That's why we're doing their job for them."

"I have feeling that the truth hidden inside that underground bunker."

"Yeah I think so too, we found a lot of things from there."

"We have to check it out some more."

07

THE SECRET

"But before going to the bunker why don't we check the CCTV cameras first?"

"I didn't even realize there were cameras."

"Let's go and check them first."

"But we don't know the exact date of John's disappearance."

"Don't worry about that; I know someone who can help us."

"Who are you talking about?"

"That day just incase I took Ms. Katherine's phone number; let's give her a call."

"Wow you are smart Chloe."

"I know I am."

I replied to Anne while smirking.

We gave Ms. Katherine a call and talked for a while, and then we asked about John's disappearance.

"Ok so now we know he disappeared on June 18th 2014."

"Then let's go and check the cameras."

We went to check the cameras and surprisingly the files of June 18th 2014 has been deleted.

"I guess if someone really did something to John and his family, they planned it well."

"Maybe there are some cameras in the bunker, let's go check it out in the morning."

In the morning, as usual we kept Anne as the lookout and went inside the bunker. We tried to go through the bookshelf but as usual it's locked but we could open it by Anne's small hands. We carefully went inside and looked if anyone's inside and this time, we saw Jake looking for something inside the cupboard. We quickly went back without making a sound.

"Oh my god! We almost got caught."

"Yeah...let's go after a while."

We spent the next two hours discussing about this complicated story, then we went back inside the bunker and luckily Jake wasn't inside this time.

"Now let's look for a camera, but since the footages of other cameras were deleted, there is a possibility of this being the same...but let's try our best to find something."

Michelle and I searched for a camera everywhere but we found nothing.

"Chloe maybe we should go now, it's been almost two hours already."

Just then when we were about to give up, we found the thing that proves the last two hours weren't a waste. We found a hidden camera that looked exactly like a nail on the cupboard."

"Seriously who ever thought of this idea is a genius."

"Let's take it off and get it checked out."

"But what if he notice that it's missing?"

"I don't think he is coming here at night, we'll put it back tonight."

We got out of the bunker with the camera which worth two hours of search. We connected the camera to our laptop and

checked it. Half of this complicated story revealed right in front of our eyes.

"Oh my god! I can't watch it anymore."

Anne paused the video and covered her eyes.

"So this is what happened to John."

Michelle said shocked.

"I knew he didn't just disappear."

"Yeah me too but I never expected something this bad, I feel so bad for him and his family."

"But my question is who would do something like this?"

"When the police was searching for John I guess they didn't check the bunker."

"Maybe this was a place that only he and his family knew about."

"Then how did those people know about this place?"

"Do you think maybe it's his family who did this?"

"But how can his family do that to him?"

"I'm not sure it was just a guess."

This whole conversation started after we checked the camera, so this is what we saw: John was writing something on a book and all of a sudden he looked so shocked and frightened, then two men who were wearing masks came out of the blue and stabbed John, then his daughter came down there, the men did the same thing they did to John to his daughter as well; and just then came John's wife who fell down and started to cry as she saw her lovely husband and daughter lying on the floor, murdered. The men killed her as well; Anne paused the video because she couldn't handle watching it anymore.

"Those men must've come in through the well; if you look closely you can see that they had muddy feet."

"Yeah...now let's watch the other part, we'll be able to find out something more."

One man went out and brought two shovels, it was a wooden floor and they took the wood out and started to dig up some huge holes in the ground; and that's when they did something none of us expected, they buried all three bodies in the ground with John's stuff and also put the knives they used to kill John and the others then put the wood back on top.

"Oh lord! We were on top of John this whole time without even noticing."

"We should definitely dig it up again because they buried John's stuff in there as well and there can be something useful there."

08

THE UNEXPECTED

We went to the bunker through the well and to our luck, there was no one inside. This time we got some small tubes incase we need to collect something like blood that we scrapped last time. Then we started to dig up the dead family.

"We should've worn a mask; it's starting to smell really bad."
Michelle began to complain.

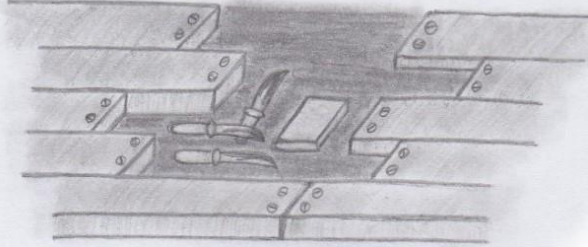
We dug it up and we got the biggest surprise we could've gotten.

"Wait what the heck! How are there four bodies in here!?! Only three people were killed right?"

"Good thing we brought tubes, let's scrape these and get some DNA."

We scrapped all four bodies and put them separately into our tubes. Then we checked what else was in there. We found a book and the knives that were used to kill John and his family

but only two knives were used to kill them; we found three bloody knives.



"Well this should be the knife that was used to kill the other person."

"Michelle, don't touch the knives because you will erase the fingerprints."

"But those men wore gloves right?"

"Yeah...but the other knife might have fingerprints."

"I have a plastic bag let's put the knives inside it without touching them so we can check the fingerprints."

We got everything needed, including the three knives.

"Since there is nothing more, should we go now?"

"Yeah let's go."

We got out of the bunker and sent the DNA samples to a lab. They said the results will come out in a few days.

"Until the results come out, let's read the book we found." We read only a few pages and it seems to be John's diary.

"Guys, is it good to read someone's diary like this?"

"Anne, he is literally dead."

Michelle said while rolling her eyes.

We read some more of it and we saw something really shocking.

"Wait what? Ms. Katherine didn't tell us anything like that."

"Yeah, I wouldn't have believed it if this wasn't a diary." This is the part that shocked us, "Even though I was adopted dad always loved me dearly; but mom never loved me as her own child, she always loved Jack and Jake more than me; she always fought with dad saying that he loves me more than his own children."

"I can't believe that sweet Ms. Katherine was also putting on a fake face."

Anne said angrily.

"Yeah I really thought she is nice."

Michelle also agreed.

"At this point we shouldn't trust anyone but ourselves."

Michelle and Anne nodded to what I said.

Also after reading the book we realized that it was John who put the hidden camera, for security purposes.

A few days later the results came out. And it really managed to shock us a lot.

"Oh my god! We never expected this, did we?"

"I feel so dumb for falling for all those lies."

"We should be proud that we talked to a murderer and came out alive."

Michelle was shocked but still said that proudly.

So this is what the result was the other body belonged to Mr. Robert and the fingerprints on the knife belonged to Ms. Katherine. It means only one thing, and that is Ms. Katherine killed her own husband.

"At this point, I am pretty sure the other two murderers are Jake and Jack."

"I think so too but we need evidence."

"But how can we get evidence? Do you have a plan?"

"I somewhat have a plan but I'm not sure."

"Even if it doesn't work, let's try either way."

"Okay so this is pretty much illegal but shall we break into Jake's or Jack's house so we can get some evidence?"

"Well let's try I guess."

"Okay I think the closest house from here is Jack's."

"Let's go there tomorrow then."

"We can't...his wife must be home."

"Oh well shall we go tomorrow night instead? It's quite risky though."

"But even if we get caught we have nothing to fear, because we have a lot of secrets of them."

Michelle said while smirking.

"You know what Michelle, it's not a big deal to a person who killed his family to kill a stranger."

Michelle's smile disappeared as I said that.

"Don't jinx it Chloe."

She said while giving me a side eye.

And finally we decided to break into Jack's house tomorrow night.

09

THE FAMILY

So that night as we decided, we checked the Dunlop family book and went to Jack's house. We were wearing a mask so we won't get caught. It was a two story house and we thought of getting inside the house from the balcony; to do that we had to climb the huge tree that was right beside the house.

"Ok so how do we open the door?"

"Let's see if the window's open."



We checked if the window is open and it was, we were so relieved. We went in through the window and we were being as quiet as possible. There was a room filled with files and it had a study table. We went in there and searched for some evidence and then Michelle found Jack's diary. We searched the room for a while and it was around 2.00am so we had to leave.

"What about the diary?"

"Let's take it, maybe he'll notice that it is missing but he doesn't know who took it so it won't be a problem to us."

After going back home we started to read the diary and as we expected there was some evidence. So the moral of the diary in Jack's words would be this,

I grew up really happy with my family until John came in. Dad always praised John; it was his idea to adopt him either way. Mom hated John as much as Jake and I did. Our family broke apart because of John, mom and dad always argued because of him and even when we grew up dad only praised him, then John's business became a huge success.

Mom, Jake and I couldn't take it anymore; I'm neither proud nor happy about what we did, I truly regret it now. At that time I felt so angry and felt the need to take revenge, so did mom

and Jake. But we didn't think that our anger will kill John's whole family.

John had a secret underground bunker to keep his money and expensive stuff, when John and his family went on vacation we were able to build a secret passage by connecting the well and the bunker, on that night we used the passage to go to the bunker and that's where we killed John and his family. Even though we hated John, we never thought of killing his little girl and wife, but in the end that's what happened. We hid all of their bodies under the wooden planks. Then after all of this Jake also turned his back on me. He and I had problems in splitting the house so I ended up cutting ties with him after he got the house.

He started renting the house but what he doesn't know is that I still stay in the bunker and steal his customers' stuff so he can lose his business. Jake and I both agreed to never go in that room ever again after what happened, but he doesn't know that I kept the key to the room. Even if I still go in there, the memories still haunt me. But I am really concerned about what happened to dad all of a sudden.

"It seems like Jack really regret doing that."

"Yeah you are right."

I agreed.

"But it seems like Jack doesn't know about Mr. Robert's murder."

"It seems like Mrs. Katherine did it all by herself."

"But Ms. Katherine hid Mr. Robert's body under the wood planks as well, so that means she knew who killed John and his family."

"Oh my god! I didn't realize that."

"Maybe this whole thing was her plan."

"Looks like it."

10

CLOSING THE GATES

"Our vacation ends in two days, we got to do something quick."

"I think we have done enough now, we should let the police handle it from now on.

"Yeah, that would be better. We found out all the evidence and the secrets so I think now it's time we just let police handle it."

"Yeah also we don't have enough time anyways."

The next day we went to the police station with all the evidence. The police thanked us so much for solving a case that they could've never done.

"Thank you so much Ms. Chloe Bellums, Ms. Anne Bellums and Ms. Michelle Smith. You three should be detectives."

"You are welcome Officer, and we will think about your offer."

I said with a grateful smile.

"Don't you guys think that Officer Hudson was right?"

"About what?"

"About us being detectives."

"I think that's a great idea too."

"What about you Anne?"

"I think we'd be great detectives."

"This is not the end, it's just the beginning."

-THE END-

(For Now...)



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 Mahalekam

Founder of Books Publishing Project Among School Children

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