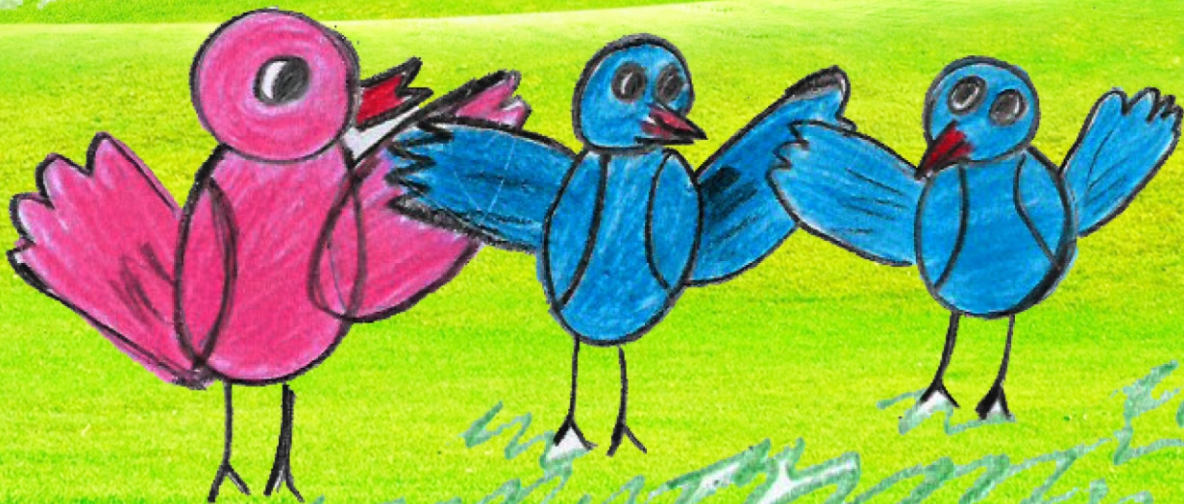
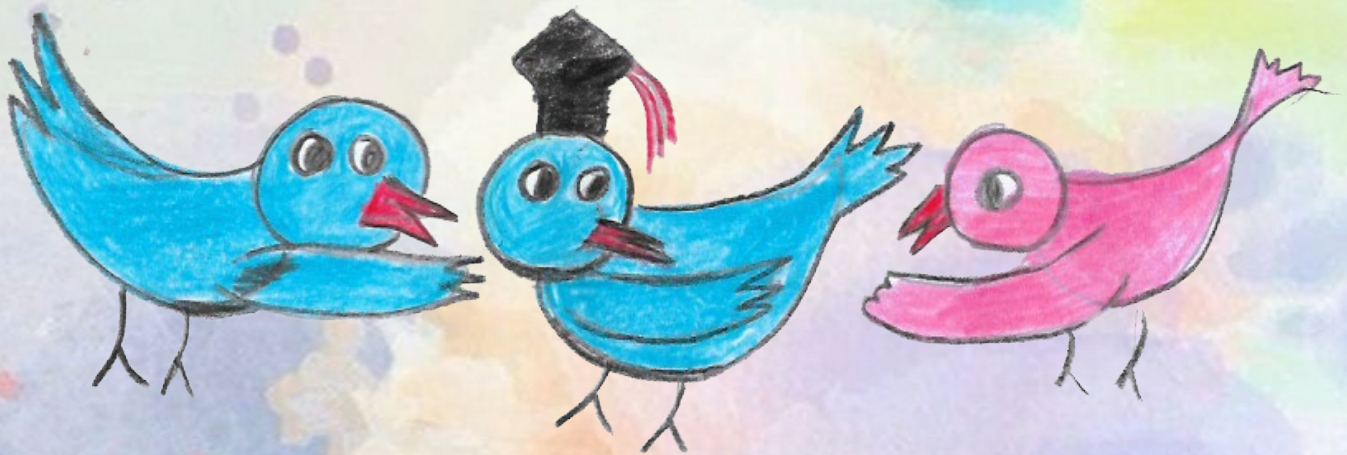


True Friendship  
can  
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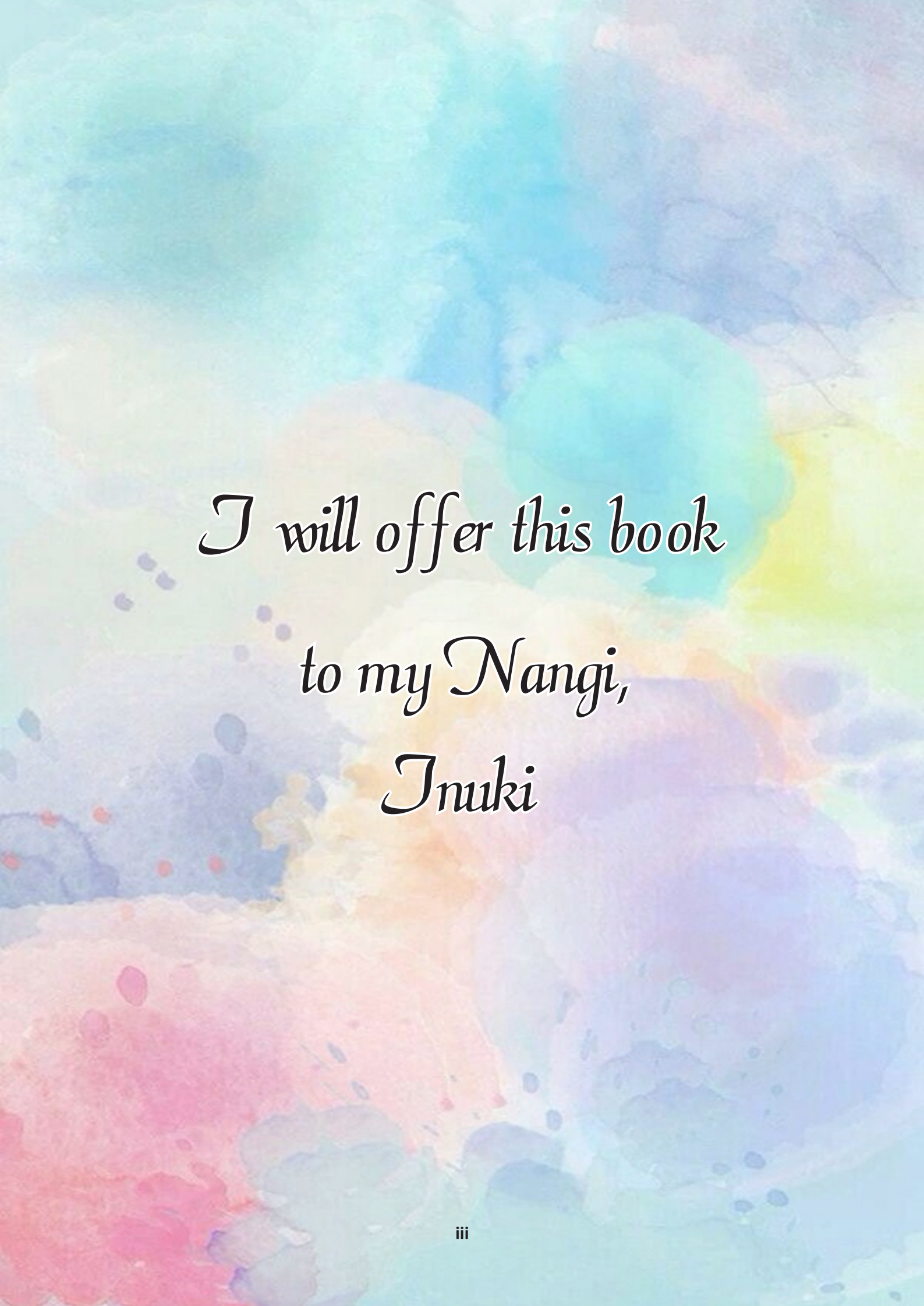
Ashmi Methusari Bandara

# True Friendship can change the world



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**Ashmi Methusari Bandara**



*I will offer this book  
to my Nangi,  
Inuki*

# 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**

Once upon a time there lived two little birds which named Poly and Ben. They were very obedient to their parents and they had lot of friends as well. One-day Ben said to Poly "shall we play in the children's park with our friends". Poly said "OK, let's ask from our Father.



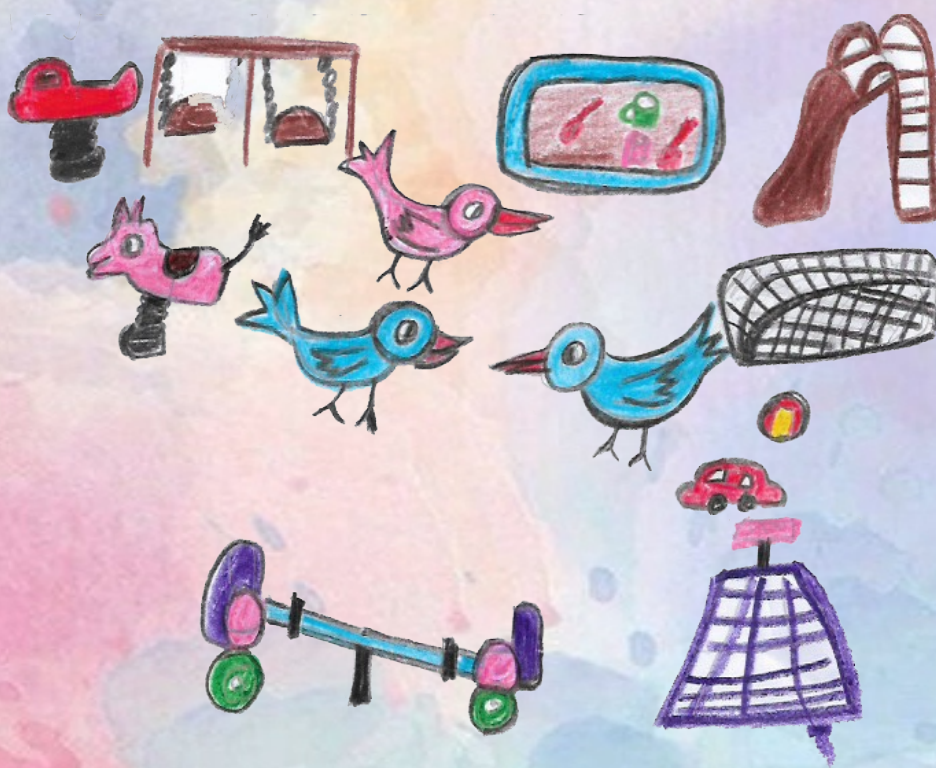
Then they asked permission from their parents. Father said " Sure, but be careful". Both Poly and Ben joyfully said " OK father, we will be careful as always". After that they called their friends to the park as well. Then, all of the friends came and joined with Poly and Ben. In the park, there was a naughty bird called Nik. He disturbs others all the time and Poly and Ben noted his unpleasant behavior.



As Nik is a big and older, Poly and Ben were helpless. They felt sad about their friends who were troubled by Nik. Later, Ben and Poly went back home and tolled about this to their parents. " Father, we saw a naughty boy at the park who didn't have any good manners and always disturbing others who came to play". "We felt sad about others and also fear to play at the Park while he is there". Next day, father went to the playground and observed Nik's bad behavior and advised him kindly not to disturb others. However, Nik didn't listen a word at all.



The next day, again Ben and Poly went to the park with their friends. They found Nik hanging around the garden alone. He didn't have any friends around him. Ben asked " can you become a friend of mine?". Nik said "No". Then, Ben said " OK, it doesn't matter to be friend with us, but please be a good one to the others, but if you be like this you will never ever have friends". Nik waited a second by thinking alone and suddenly said " OK, then I'll be a friend of yours and try to be good with others".



However, the naughty boy lied to Ben and Poly. As Nik became a friend of Ben, Nik was welcomed to the classroom as well. Following day, Ben, Poly, Nik and all their friends went to the school. Once the classroom started Nik scribbled the school books of the others. Following that all were unhappy. In the lunch time, Nik stole the others food. When the classroom had finished, Nik scribbled the blackboard. Ben and Poly were distressed and unhappy of seen this. Everybody looking at Ben and Poly in a bad way as their friend has done these naughty things.



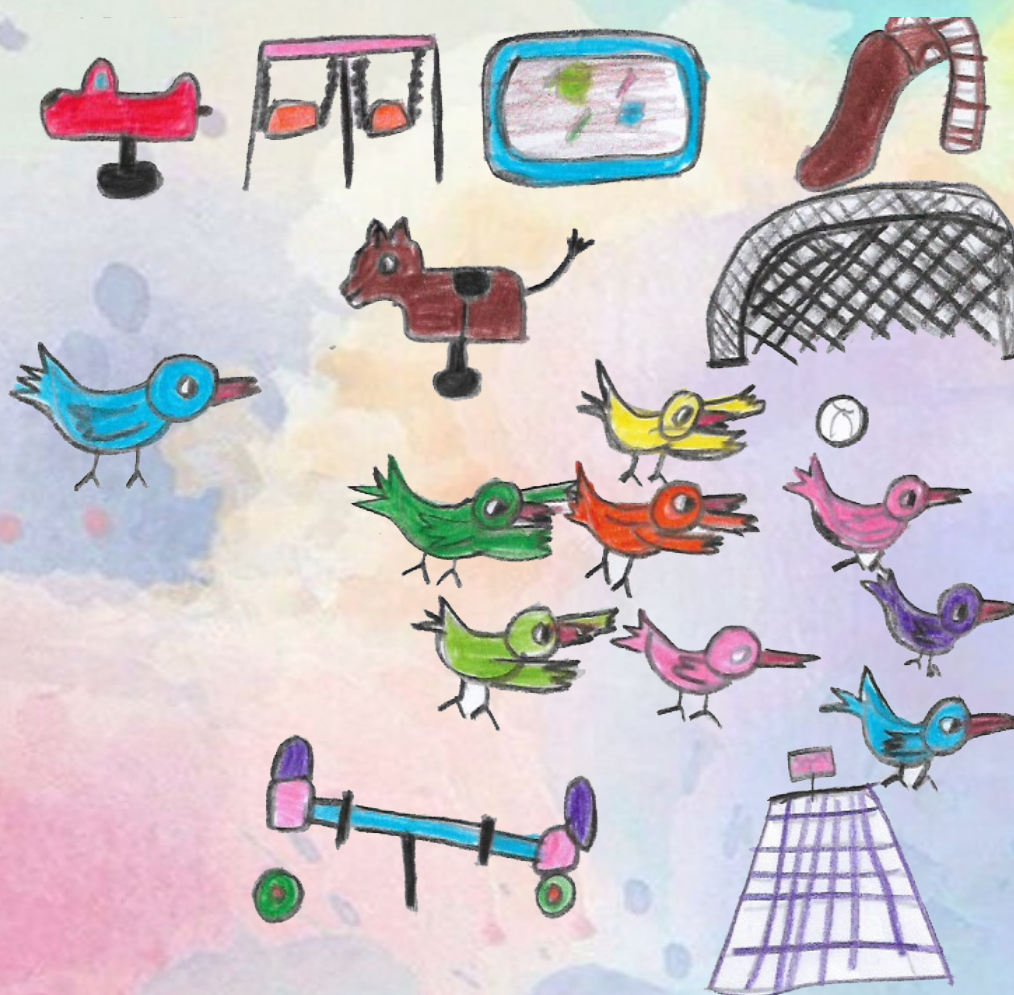
At the flower garden, Nik picked flowers and throw those on to the others faces. In the playground, Nik pushed others and many got injured. Though others did their homework at the correct time, Nik never did his homework. The day by day, Nik become more and more naughty and miserable. Everybody had started to blame on Ben and Poly as their friend had troubled to everyone at



The next day, Poly found one of her friend is crying at the school gait. Poly asked " why are you crying my friend?". She said that "Nik has broken my doll, stolen my lunch box and pushed me on to the ground and I got injured". Ploy was angry and felt sorry for her friend." Nik is going out his way, he should know his limits" said Poly. Poly and her friend complained this to the class teacher. The class teacher kindly asked from Nik to apologies from Polys' friend and to become a good boy hereafter. However, Nik didn't listen to the teacher and flew away from the school.



Everybody has started blaming on Nik. Further, he was not allowed to enter the classroom, playground and any of the friends' houses. Other birds tend to avoid him meeting. Nik become so isolated and live far away from the others home. Many of the parents told their children, not to talk with Nik as he might do harm for them.



Ben and Poly were sad about their friend Nik. Though the others ignored Nik, they were still remained as his friend. Therefore, they went to see Nik in that faraway place where he is living. Ben and Poly found that Nik is crying in all the day. They found that Nik had lived alone as his parents were died in a thunder storm. He didn't have any time to live with his grandparents as well. Nik had no friend or family to teach the good things and bad things in his life. Ben and Poly were very sorry about his friend. They thought that they should help their friend.



Poly and Ben visited Nik's place every day and helped him to become a good one. They told Nik the good manners and how to behave as an obedient student at the school. They invited Nik to come to their home and give food to him. Nik had times to listen stories by Bens grandparents. Ben and Poly's parents also liked Nik very much. With the love, care and good friends Nik has become a smart boy with good manners.



Ben and Poly told the class teacher that Nik has changed into a good boy and asked permission to attend the school. They told the other friends also that Nik has become a good boy and asked to help him to be remain as a good one. Nik also agreed to stop his miserable acts and promised to come to the school every day. Day by day Nik has become a clever school boy and gained many friends. He helped his friends in several times. Nik has become famous among the school as a clever and a very obedient boy.



All the parents and teachers appreciated the works done by Ben and Poly to change Nik into a good person. The true friendship and everyone's love had changed Nik into a good little bird.



After that Ben, Poly and Nik had lived happy ever after.





## 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**  
**2023 10 20**