

A Mystical Travel



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Author's other books

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- 🌀 Enchanted Present
- 🌀 Little Olga's dream

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This book is
dedicated to
everyone
who helped me.

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

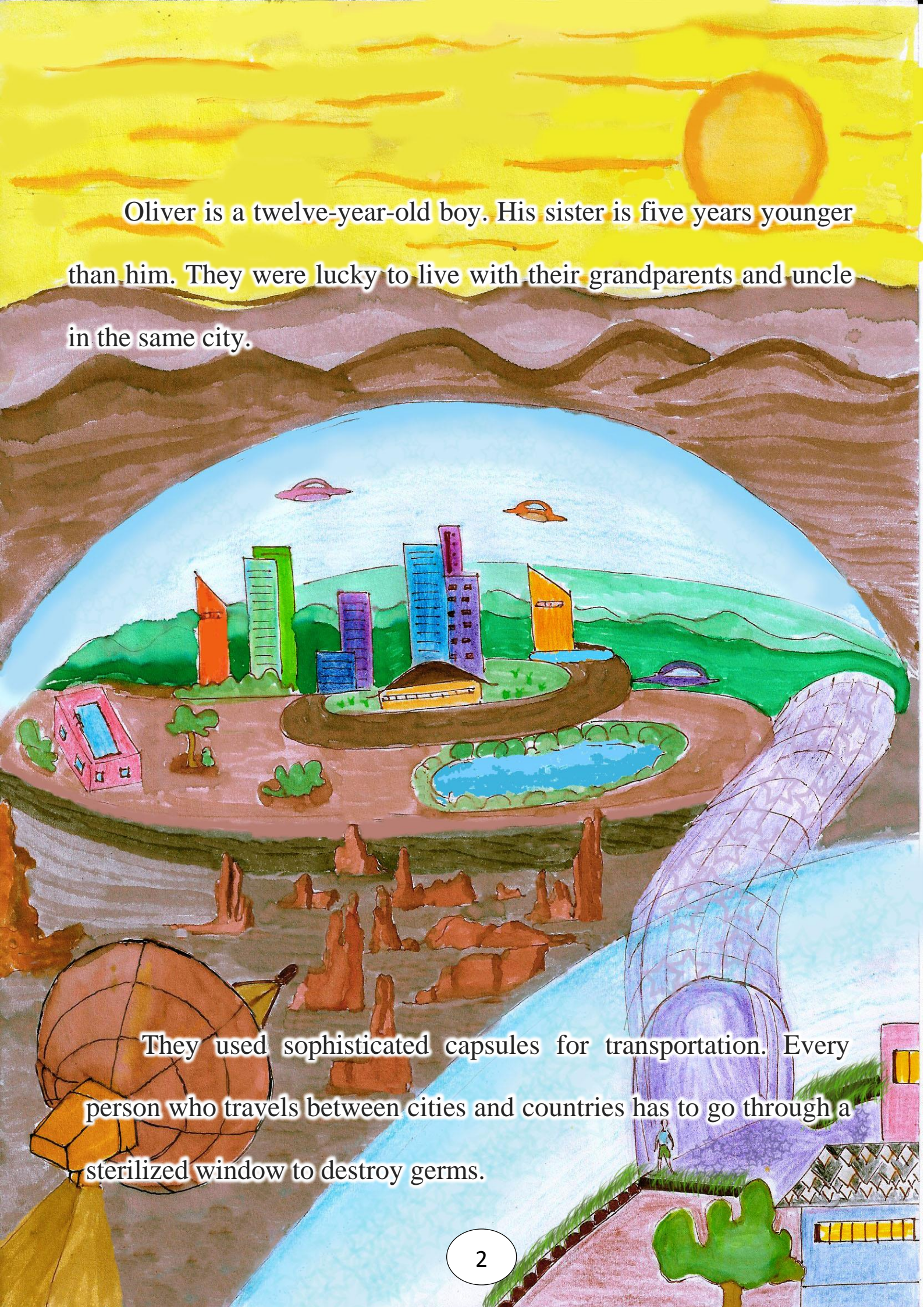
Principal

Mahamaya Girls College - kandy

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This is the year 5023. By this time, thanks to the knowledge of scientists, the earth is able to sustain life under a thick ozone protection system. Under the ozone protection system, scientists created ozone bubbles. Ozone bubbles protect the earth from the sun's harmful rays. They were fitted with a defense system that uses long-range radars. This is capable of detecting, tracking, and destroying asteroids coming towards Earth. This thick ozone bubble system covered the earth and protected it like a very large spider web.

In the past, millions of people died due to diseases and natural disasters. But those who left got very good protection. That happens because now we have a good protection system to handle diseases and natural disasters.



Oliver is a twelve-year-old boy. His sister is five years younger than him. They were lucky to live with their grandparents and uncle in the same city.

They used sophisticated capsules for transportation. Every person who travels between cities and countries has to go through a sterilized window to destroy germs.

This is the month of October. October was reserved for literature. Oliver was assigned the project of finding facts about history. Oliver wanted to find as many facts as possible to make a good project.

Oliver's grandfather lived in a large house near the lake. Oliver thought of meeting his grandfather to learn historical facts from him.

"Mom, I am going to my grandfather's house," said Oliver to his mother, and he got into the blue capsule.

Recognizing his thoughts, the capsule automatically gravitated towards his grandfather's house. Oliver could see the grandfather, who had turned to the other side at the lake junction. Oliver thought that Grandpa was getting immense joy from the gentle waves of the lake while taking his rest.

"Did you come for a walk?" asked Oliver. He sat on the lake bed next to Grandpa.

"Ah, Oliver, why is my son here?" Grandpa turned to Oliver and asked in a clear voice.

Although the grandfather is ninety-five years old, he is not weak. Man was blessed with a long life because of the invention of modern health solutions. Since his grandfather's memory was at a very good level, Oliver often discussed various subjects with him.

"Grandpa, what are your thoughts about our history?" asked Oliver, from Grandpa.

"Hmm... Oliver, how much can people change with the passage of time?" After clearing his throat, Grandpa started to talk about history.

They discussed the evolution of man from the ape and how the first creature that appeared on earth gradually evolved into marine creatures and then land-dwelling creatures. Oliver recorded all the points they had discussed.

"Grandpa, can we really travel through time?" Oliver got a chance to ask the biggest question on his mind from his grandpa.

"If we can travel faster than time or if we can find the secret of the time travel hole, we can do it," said grandpa with a smile.

"I want to learn the truth about the time travel hole," said Oliver to his grandfather. This had been on his mind for some time. Grandpa tapped his forehead with his index finger and thought for a while.

"Yes, there are many stories about it," said grandpa.

The lands that were separated in the past had been gradually pulled together, and now they have only three land areas. They named them North, East, and West. From these, only the northern and eastern lands were good for human habitation. When considering the western land, it is unfit for human habitation. It is populated with many mountain ranges. When you enter western land, everyone must get a special permission wave signal.

Grandpa could remember that the time travel hole was in the western land.

"The time travel hole is situated on the west land," reminded Grandpa to Oliver.

"Can we visit the western land?" asked Oliver.

"It's a place that I've always thought of visiting, but, son, we must get special permission." while taking his automatic mobile screen, said Grandpa.

"Let's ask Uncle Sam," said Oliver with hope, because he could remember that Uncle Sam had traveled between lands several times.

"Let's ask Uncle Sam to join us on our mystical journey too. He will surely get the special permission for us," said Grandpa.

He connected with his automatic mobile screen and talked to Uncle Sam. They were talking about visiting the time travel hole on another day. Oliver listened happily.

Even Uncle Sam was always busy with many responsible tasks; he liked this trip on one foot. He said that, as far as he knows, only ten special permission wave signals are issued per day. Oliver thought he could ask for many unknown historical facts from Uncle Sam.

As they discussed, in the morning that dawned a day later, Grandpa and Uncle Sam boarded Grandpa's blue capsule with Oliver. They left the eastern land and started their journey to the western land. The security guards destroyed the germs on their bodies and checked the special permission wave signal. Oliver saw that the western land was sparsely populated with mountain slopes. After a range of rocky hills, they found a dark forest.

"We need to pass two more mountain ranges," said Uncle Sam.

He was looking at the correct map on his mobile screen. They also found two return capsules. After passing two mountain ranges, they saw a light green ground. After passing the light green ground, they found a blue sandy ground. Gradually, the blue sandy soil converted to a purple sandy soil, and then the purple sandy soil became a light pink sandy soil. There were wild flower bushes in between.

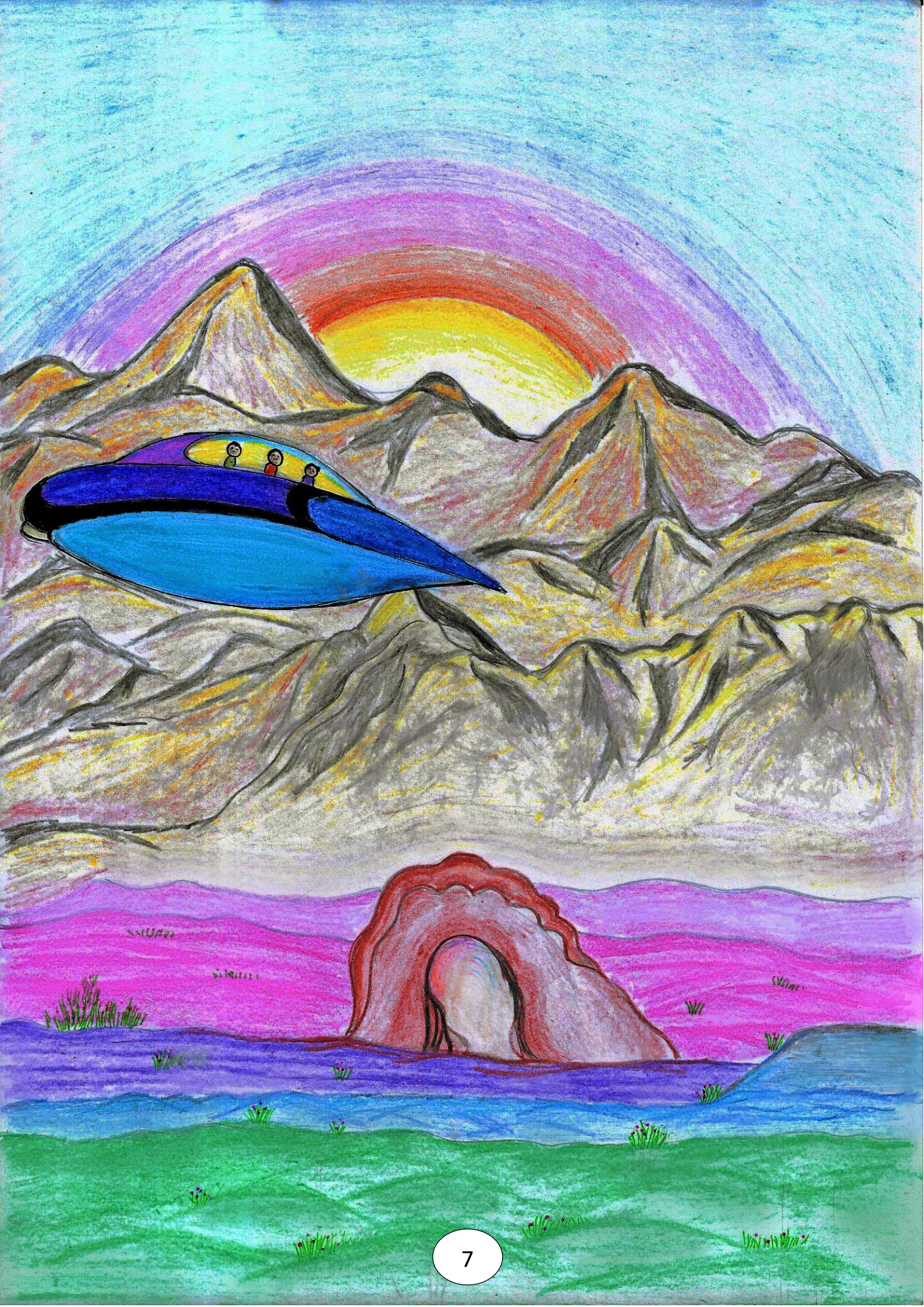
"Oh, this ground looks like a fairyland," Oliver whispered. He remembered the beauty of the northern lights he had seen the other day.

After a short distance of travel, they could see that a large, shell-like rock had appeared.

"Is this the time travel gate?" asked Oliver from Uncle Sam.

"Yes, Oliver, this is the gate to time travel." Uncle Sam dispelled Oliver's doubt.

"Hey... Can you check for a suitable place to land the capsule?" Grandfather looked for a suitable place to land the capsule.



He landed the capsule and stopped it just in front of the time travel gate, at a well-grown flower bush. So they approached the time travel gate and went near the time travel portal.

"This is where the Earth's lowest magnetic field is." Uncle Sam read the nearby screen and explained it to Oliver.

"Don't touch anything that you don't know." Grandpa warned Oliver at first, because either Grandpa or Uncle Sam didn't know what was going on.

They found no notes on how to use the time travel slot.

"Indeed, it is a fairy world here. This shell is very soft. The wall is as clear as a mirror," whispered Oliver to himself.

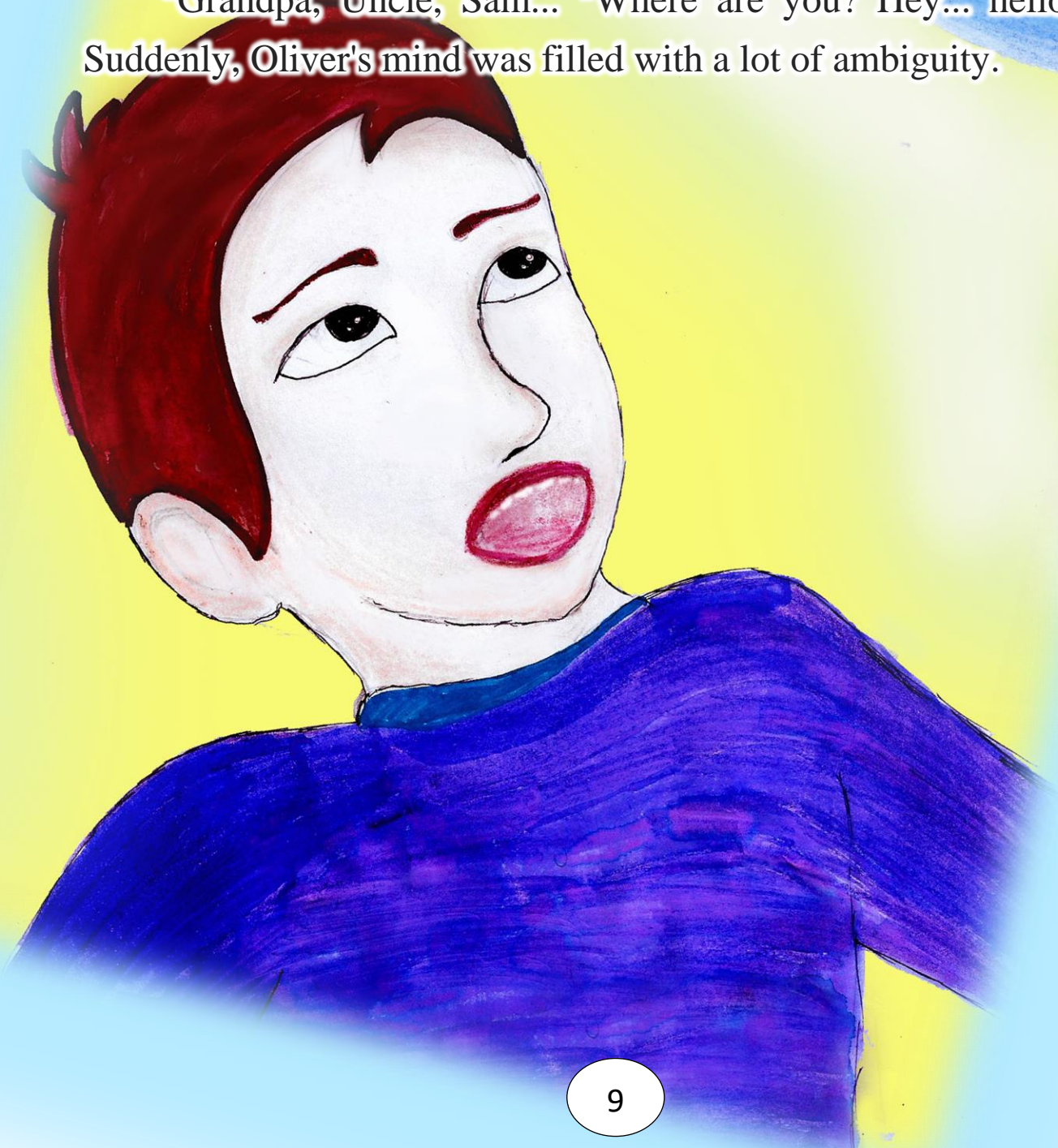
After passing the three small holes, Oliver saw many pillars that were created parallel to each other. Creeping through the pillars, he saw a small platform. Oliver climbed the stage, and he moved his head and looked up to see the shell hole.

Surprise! He saw a mind-blowing blue sky through the shell lids.

"Grandpa, look at this. Here, the sky is very beautiful. I have never seen the sky so beautiful like this," said Oliver.

"Grand... pa..... Gra.. nd..... pa..... Where... are you???. Hey....?" He couldn't find either Grandpa or Uncle Sam there. Oliver searched a little more.

"Grandpa, Uncle, Sam... "Where are you? Hey... hello.....?" Suddenly, Oliver's mind was filled with a lot of ambiguity.



Oliver only stood on the platform to look through the shell hole. He came out of the shell hole and looked around.

He was surprised to see a different environment than the one where he was just minutes before. The capsule was not there near the flower bush, where they stopped. Even the lush flower bush disappeared. The pinkish sandy soil disappeared, and there was fertile ground in front of him, which was covered with dark green grass.

Now Oliver could sense that something miraculous had happened. Because of the fear, he couldn't stand anymore. He sat on the ground and thought for a while.

"Mm...m...m...then there are no ozone bubbles here; that's why the sky is so clear," whispered Oliver softly to himself.

His mind was telling him to see the surroundings, so he got up and went to look around. He saw a mango tree full of ripe mangos.

"So many mangoes," said Oliver with a surprised face. Two little birds flew among the mango branches. A squirrel ran along a mango branch.

"It might have smelled like a ripe mango," thought Oliver.

There was a footpath in front of him. Oliver continued walking along the footpath. When observing the environment, he also found a beautiful little stream flowing by the side.

He moved a little further and saw a small house at the foot of the mountains. That's not all. Oliver saw three little kids who were playing with water.

"Wow, the water in this stream is very clear." He wants to feel the water.

He slowly took off the pair of boots and carefully placed them under the teak tree by the stream.



After going through the rocks, he was able to put his feet into the stream. A cool splash of water inspired Oliver.

He was like that for a while, and he could hear the laughing sounds of the kids very close. Kids ran past Oliver and jumped into the stream. They start to wash mangoes.

He immediately pulled his legs up and thought to wipe the water. Even though he thought to use his small serviette to wipe the water, surprisingly, no water remained on Oliver's legs. He couldn't find even a drop of water. When he picked up the boots, he noticed that there was no mud stain on them either. He inquired further. This time, he saw that his footprints were not printed on the ground.

"Oh..... Mm...mm.....ah... then these little kids might not see me." Oliver understood the situation.

He realized that he could not join the little kids to enjoy this beautiful world. Oliver knew that he had traveled through time and been visited in another time zone. But when he learned the sad truth about this past time zone, a few drops of tears came out of his eyes.

"No matter what, I can enjoy the beauty of the past, and luckily, I can feel it too." Oliver once again dipped his feet in the cold water of the river.

The most important thing he understood was that they had produced a very valuable time machine. And even if we enjoyed the past world, we did not have the opportunity to change the past world.



"Yes, the past should be as it is; it is our own past," said Oliver. He is staring at the children running towards the top of the hill.

He turned back and hurried towards the shell hole. Because he has to go back to his future world and tell everything about the wonderful moments he has found to his grandpa and Uncle Sam.

When he turned back, he saw large black animals walking in front of him. Oliver soon recognized that it's a herd of elephants, which was said to have lived in the past. He carefully observed the appearance and behavior of elephants. He watched carefully the way the mother elephant protected her baby.

Oliver thought that "mother's love is always the same."

Then he starts to find his way back to the future.

"If you have come to the past, there must be a way to go back." Oliver looked for the place where the shell hole was.

After struggling for a while, he found the shell hole. A lot of jungle vines covered the shell hole. Oliver crawled through three holes in front of him and looked for the way to the future. But he was still in the past. Finally, he found the poles in the shell hole covered with jungle vines. After creeping through the pillars, he landed on the small platform.

Oliver remembered what he had done before, and he performed the same action again. He took a deep breath and looked up to see the shell hole. Surprisingly, this time Oliver saw the sky with its thick ozone layer. It was the sky he used to see in the future world. He saw the sky turn dull white. Oliver's mind told him that it looked like a weakened soul because he had seen the vivid blue sky a while ago.

"Hmm, then the earth is getting old too," whispered Oliver to himself.

He looked around immediately and saw Grandpa and Uncle Sam sitting on the ground near the capsule.

"So I'm back again," shouted Oliver. He is bursting with happiness.

"Grandpa, Uncle Sam, I have been able to travel back through time." Oliver jumped up and shouted happily. He was afraid that he might not make it back. Now his fear was gone.

"Oliver, did you travel through time?" asked Grandpa curiously, peering at Oliver.

"Yes, Grandpa. I went back to the past. I went to a very beautiful past time." He started to describe how he went back to the past with Grandpa and Uncle Sam.

They were peeping through the window of the capsule. He said how he opened the time travel gate. Oliver talked about the beautiful environment he found. He told them there was a stream with clear, cool water. And he told them he could not bring even a drop of water. Also, Oliver didn't forget to mention his footprints. He said that footprints were not marked on the earth. And the kids who were there didn't see him either. Oliver said everything in one breath. Grandpa and Uncle Sam did not interrupt Oliver's speech.

"Then they have created a very good time machine" while getting into the capsule, said Uncle Sam.

Grandpa leaned towards Oliver, patted him on the shoulder, and said, "Let's come back another day."

It felt like a mystical dream to travel back in time through the shell hole for Oliver.



"Yes, that past should remain as it is; it is our own past," said Oliver, and he got into the capsule.

He was thinking of completing his history project using the facts stored in the bracelet.

The memory of the children who ran to the top of the mountain left a sweet feeling of happiness in Oliver's heart. That sweet memory of mystical travel was sealed without fading in his heart forever.

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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