

THE ADVENTURE OF THE TWO LITTLE SISTERS



Thyagi Gunawardana



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Written & illustrated by

Thyagi Gunawardana

Mahamaya Girls' Collage

Kandy



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DEDICATION

To Mrs. Kathy,
Who improved my English
and
always encouraged my art work
and writing.

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 creative children. 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 in the 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 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, 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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Once there lived two children with their parents in a beautiful little cottage in the middle of a forest called “THE MAGICAL NIGHT FOREST.” Cherry is the elder sister and Lotus is the younger sister.

They both are very friendly and kind-hearted. Their parents cut wood and sold all the wood in the countryside. That's how they find money for their daily needs.

So, while the children's parents are out Cherry and Lotus walk to their school near the forest. After school, as they come home, they take off their uniforms and jump into the little shallow river that flows next to their house. This was the best part of the day.

After enjoying the bath, they wear soft dresses and begin to do their homework sitting on a rock next to the cold river. Then they start playing with their toys till their parents come back.

Every animal in this forest loved the two children very much and that's because when the girls come to pluck fruits for their breakfast, they do not forget to carry some delicious herbs and some delicious vegetables and also some sweet juicy fruits for their friendly animals.

Some days, Cherry and Lotus go to the meadow which is near their house, and play the whole day with the little rabbits and the little fawns.

Years went by, and then one day, the parents decided to go and see their grandfather who was very ill. But sadly, the two little girls had to stay at home.



The very next morning their parents left Cherry and Lotus in their nearest best friend Sinzy's house. After a while, Sinzy's mother said "Why don't you children go outside a bit and have a picnic?" "Oh, what a splendid idea!" said Sinzy. Then the three little children started to pack the food and drinks that they liked to have a nice picnic. After they were ready, they promised to come home before evening and went happily.

The children enjoyed the walk so much. They plucked a handful of cherries, blueberries, and more. Finally, they came to a very beautiful spot up in the mountains where the beautiful flowers had covered the whole ground. They took out all the things they had brought and began to eat.

Suddenly the children heard leaves rustling behind them. They turned around, but there was nobody to be seen. So, they continued eating. After a while, they heard the same sound again.

"What could it be?" asked Lotus from the others. "I don't know," said Sinzy. "Let's go and see what it is," said Cherry. They all walked close together in the direction where the sound came

from. “Ahhhhhhh!” screamed the children as they saw something jump out of a nearby bush.



“Look it is a bunny wearing a little frock,” said Cherry, pointing at the little rabbit. “I have never seen an animal wearing any clothes!” said Sinzy in surprise.

“Hi, I'm Blossom. My family and I live in a secret bunny village in the corner of this meadow. Please may I have some food? My family and I have been starving for months,” said the little rabbit.

The little children stared at the talking rabbit in astonishment. “I haven't seen a talking rabbit before in my life!” said Cherry. “Yes, no one knows that there are rabbits who live like people. We come out of our secret village once a month and store food.

My parents died a few months before. “So, there is no one to find us some food,” said the little rabbit. I and my siblings are starving.”



“Oh, we are very sorry about your parents. If you like, you can have some leftover food of ours,” said Lotus. “Oh, thank you so much, bless you!” said the little rabbit and went back to her cottage. After a few minutes, she came back with her little siblings. They sat around the picnic basket and started to enjoy the meal.

The little rabbits ate all the sandwiches and fruits. The children gave them lots of berries and food to store. The little family thanked them a lot and whispered “May these kind friends have lots of baskets full of candies by the next morning.” Then they went into their cottage happily.

“Do you think that there will be baskets full of candies next morning?” asked Sinzy. “I don't know. Let's see tomorrow,” said Cherry. As they went home, they had a bath. They had some omelets with rice for their dinner. Then they went to bed very early. The three little children were so excited to see what would happen the next day.

The very next morning to their enormous surprise they saw three baskets full of candies on the doorstep. Not only candies there were toys in the baskets too. They screamed with joy.



They took their baskets and shared some sweets with their friendly animals. But Cherry and Lotus didn't forget their parents and left some candies for them too. The next afternoon the children's parents came to take them home.

The parents said that their grandfather was now well. Cherry, Lotus, and their parents thanked Sinzy's family. Then the children and their families lived happily ever after. But still, the magical bunnies are a top secret between the three little children.

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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