

Harry and Jen

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Foreword

Literary development is a yardstick to measure the development of a country. The Kotte and Dambadeniya eras stand out in the history of the world because they were literary enlightening periods.

If so, this is the golden period in the history of the Mahamaya as well. This is the reason why our daughters have been enchanting through book writing for many years now. It is a special event that our writers have succeeded in building a culture of writing books in the school and spreading it to the entire school system and this time involving the global student community in it.

Beyond this, this time the school community itself has also decided to rebuild the past Yatiwara writing tradition in the country in order to pay tribute to the founder of our school, Karadana Atthadassi Thero.

The Pirivena student monks have also taken up book writing “The Herana Gatkarani “ project was introduced. It is a matter of pride for me as the principal to lead the way in bringing about a qualitative change in the education of schools and Pirivena education through this academic and religious service, and it is also an achievement for the school.

This book, which is the result of recognizing one's innate talent at an early stage in life and turning to writing, will undoubtedly be a help for future education and future life.

Shashikala Senadheera,
Principal, Mahamaya Girls' Collage, Kandy.

Harry was a little boy of eight years old. He had kind parents they had brought him up with very nice manners. Harry was a very sensible and healthy child. He could always be trusted. He was very happy except for one thing he really wanted a pet.

His parents took him to farmer James farm one day. Farmer James sells some of his baby animals to customers. He was very friendly with Harry and help him to choose a pet.

At last Harry chose a bunny. It was brown with pink ears and have a fluffy tail. Harry named it Jane.

As Harry was a kind and sensible boy. He also cared for animals after he took Jen home and let him run in the big field that belong to his house after Jen got very tired. Harry gave him some vegetables to eat and cool water to drink. There was a tall wall around the field and Jen could not escape. Harry lived in the big field and watched him take a barrow where there was no grass.

For one week he let Jen run around the field and when Jen got tired, let him to eat vegetbles and drink cold water. Harry put a collar on Jin and lead him to the stream near their house, he removed the collar for a little while, so that Jen could drink some cold water in the stream and run around the grass near the stream.

After Jen got used to go into the stream and Harry was sure that Jen was not going to do anything dangerous like swimming in the stream, he let Jen go on his own to the stream and back again.

Jen loved going into the stream and also he was an obedient little bunny.

Next day was a school holiday. Harry woke up early in the morning, he went to the garden and made some vegetable beds with carrots, leaks, and many more vegetables. Then he told Jen to eat from the vegetable bed when he was hungry and drink from the stream when he was thirsty, Jane obeyed at once.

Then Harry noticed something without him. Jen was very lonely. Then Harry saw something in the Tentranon field. It was a rabbit burrow he took to visit the other rabbits. Soon Jen made friends with them. After sometime Harry let Jen go alone to meet the rabbits any time.

In the evenings when Harry was free, he played with Jen.

Thanks to Harry's special care Jen led a natural life not a pet's life in the cage. It was similar to lives of wild rabbits.

Then came the summer holidays. Harry started to teach tricks to Jen.

He taught him to stand on its hind legs to tap dance to hop on his hind legs and to run very fast. Every child in Harris's class called Jen clever in the tap, dancing bunny. Everyone loved Jen very much.

One hot day in Harry saw a big post after coming from school. He stopped and read it and it said on 22 August, there will be a pet competition at Percifield. Harry was very excited because Percifield was near their house. He told his parents and they were interested about the competition.

Today was 21st of August.

What fun!

22nd of August at last came. Harry took Jen to the competition. Harry and Jen won many prizes.

They won:

- The kindest master
- The most clean pet
- The most cute pet
- The most playful pet
- The most comfortable pet and the happiest pet

Then the judge announced the grand winner.

“This year’s grand winner is Harry and Jen the bunny”

Harry was very happy. He held Jen in his hands and went on to the stage. The judge gave both of them gold medals. They were very happy.

The next morning when Harry went to school, his friends cheered him. They were proud that one of their classmates won the competition. Harry's class teacher was also very proud of him for taking good care of Jen the bunny.

Let's
all learn
to be
kind
to animals.

The End

Afterward

According to my concept, under the project that has been running since 2014 to direct school children to writing, we have been fortunate to have planted more than sixty thousand writer seedlings in the local literary field. The objectives of this project are to improve the quality of education, to promote literature that will contribute to the future development of the country, to hone the abilities of the future generation, and to build a platform to showcase the creations of children.

It is our social responsibility to create the fertile soil for those seeds to sprout and grow. This is the only project in recent history that has been implemented continuously for several years at the school level, provincial, national and international levels for the sake of the productivity of education.

This time, it is special that the Pirivena student monks have also been involved in this. The nation should be grateful for the dedication shown by the Principal, daughters, teachers, parents and alumni of Mahamaya Balika Vidyalaya.

The printed book is still the main tool of our education. The enjoyment that a child gets from a book cannot be provided by anything else. It is experimentally proven that the use of various electronic devices to store human knowledge and the distancing of children from books has been detrimental to the quality of education and has created various problems in society. This project, which is being implemented as a solution to this, has been adapting the smart younger generation of the digital age to modern technology by writing electronic works for the past two years, together with school children in the country.

To take their creations to international readers, Mahamaya girls have built a digital fiction for their own, literary creative abilities.

My congratulations to the young writers who have entered it through their creative abilities.

Project Founder and Coordinator,
Senevirathne Maha Lekam