

Imagination

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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.

CHAPTER ONE

THE LETTER

My name is Sophia. I live in LA. Maybe I am bit of a neat freak. And sometimes have anger issues. But it all comes to my imagination. I have a world of my own. I only seek the truth in that world. I was starting to drift away to my imagination. But my idiotic two brothers woke me up from my amazing time. If you didn't know I am dyslexic. And my brothers like me to remind me that every moment they have. "What's the weirdo who can't read a kindergarten book thinking about" said my second oldest brother Mark. "Shut up nuisance, I was trying to forget reality without two monkeys staying in the same house as me". "So, you mean you don't want the most amazing brothers in your stupid dream, and you want someone called Katy in your dream" said Jake, my oldest brother. "You read my diary, I swore I put a lock on it". "Well, you forgot that your two brothers know to pick locks," said both at the same time. Then Jake said, "You also don't have any friends to even keep a secret from, so why did you put a lock on it?". He was right. I didn't have any friends to begin with. I only had Katy as friend, and she was in my imagination. So, I kept quiet. I went

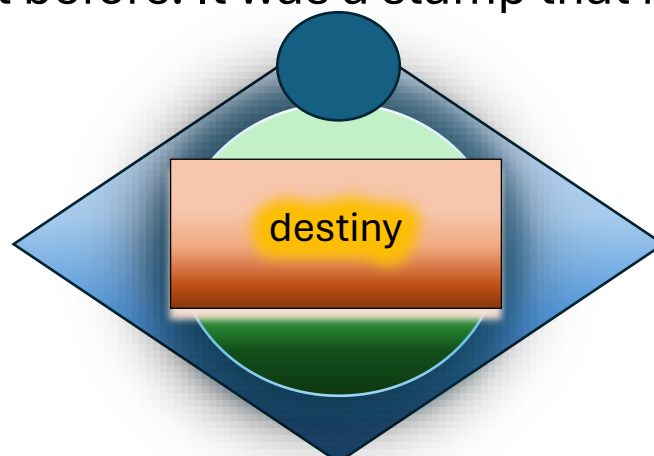
outside. I went along the yard to the beach. It was my favorite place. Calm and nice, ah! what was that. A bird fell on me. It had a letter in it's mouth. I was bit sceptical at first. But after a few seconds I took it and opened it. I saw that it was for me. I looked at the bird. But it was gone. I looked at the letter. It was short and sweet. It said

“Dear Sophia,

If you see this letter, it is a miracle. I am in deep danger. The marines are onto me. I stole the recipe of making God blood. It was worth the risk.

Because you must drink it. Or else you also will be a victim of the marines. Don't think this is a prank. It's very serious. Meet me at the seashore, 5p.m.

I was thinking this was surely a prank from my bothers. But the thing is that I never wrote about the God blood. It was only in my imagination. So technically it can't be a prank from my brothers. I looked at the envelope once again. It had a stamp. I didn't see it before. It was a stamp that had a logo.



CHAPTER TWO

THE ARRIVAL

I wasn't sure about some actual people relying on me. But of course, I had to see if this "person" was waiting for me. But if my brothers are there, I am going to be so humiliated. I am all in for adventure so, I had to take a risk. So, first thing I did was after I came from school, I ran to the seashore. I searched and searched but nothing came into sight. I was feeling devastated and started heading home. But then I saw a girl with long black hair. I slowly started taking steps toward her. She turned towards me. She looked startled at first. But she then looked very calm. She reminded me of the sea. "I was waiting for you Sophia" she said. "Wait are you Katy, sorry but you look oddly familiar" I said shakily. "you're correct, I am Katy bloomer" she said in a calm voice. "So you are in my dream, right". "Those were not dreams, those were messages". She took my hand and took us towards the sea. "Where are we going?" "Underwater" she replied. "What, we cannot go underwater. Do you think I am Poseidon? I cannot

even stop breathing for a second”. “Don’t worry, just drink this”. “Is this the stupid God blood?” I asked. “Yes, and it is not stupid. So please drink it”. So, I did what she asked and drank it. I felt a weird sensation. But before I could do anything we were underwater. I heard a whisper. It said “We await you”.

WE AWAIT

YOU!

CHAPTER THREE

MAL

I was unconscious until, I was awoken by a strange sound. It was like a whale sound. Wait a minute, it was a whale. And I was riding on it. Wow, this was miracle. Hey, hold on minute. Can I breathe underwater. Omg yes, I can. I decided to get off the whale and try swimming with my feet. But when I tried to stand up, I slipped. I looked down at my feet. There weren't feet there anymore, there was a mermaid tail there now. Wow, this was amazing. I moved my mermaid tail, and I shot past the whale. Then I stopped for a minute, for the whale to catch-up. I stroked the whale and asked "Who's a good boy?" then the whale replied saying this. "I am not a dog you know". "You can talk?" "Yeah, all the animals can talk here". "Well then, can you tell me where we are going?" I asked while holding onto the whale. "We are headed to pearl pool". "Where is that?" "You will see". After that we both were silent. I saw that the whale had a name tag. It said "Mal"

MAL

“So your name is Mal?” I asked. “Yeah” he said. “So, are we there yet?” Another question was told by yours truly, me. “No” he answered. “Huh, not much of a talker, eh?”. After I asked That he just, nodded. We saw beautiful Coral-reefs. And many schools of fish. It is nice thinking about it, but at the same time it was a bit crazy. It is because, is this a dream? oh is this reality? I keep asking this question over and over again. Then I saw a sign. It said “ Pearl pool”

Pearl pool

CHAPTER FOUR

PEARL POOL

We arrived to a place with mermaids going everywhere. It was very pretty with many buildings with pearls as decorations. The mermaids were wearing pearls as well. I wished I also had such jewellery. It was a mesmerising sight. “Mal, Is this the place you call it Pearl pool?” “Yeah, this is the capital city of Adva, the sea region we are in”. “Can I ask a question?” “Ok” “Who are called the ‘Marines’?” “Marine is the enemy region of Adva so, the marines are our enemies. Well, I am going to head out towards the ceremonials. And before you can ask that question I will answer it. It is the place we, royal guards hang out. So see yah. By the way I had a fun time with you”. And with that he left. I started to feel scared without Mal. But then I saw my reflection on the shop window I was near. I didn’t look like I was twelve years old. I looked like I was eighteen or so. I felt a wave of panic wash over me. I went inside the shop and went towards the receptionist. I looked at the flag that was neatly put up on some shelves. “Pearl pool saloon”

Pearl pool saloon

CHAPTER FIVE

MISS DIVA

“Hello? Can you help me, I am having trouble navigating pearl pool and...” I was cut off by a loud “How can miss Diva help you sweetheart?” Then she looked at me. She stared at me for almost a minute. Then after that, she screamed and took the life out of me. “Oh my god, madam Denise. What are you doing here?”. “Ummm, I am not Denise. I am Sophia. So can you answer my question” “What are you talking about? And you have the destiny pearl. The person who has that, is surely princess Denise” “And that’s going to be me, not you. That pearl is a fake one”. “Don’t be rude now Denise. What a minute if you are Denise, who is that? But then the girl called ‘Denise’ hit me hard. Then I started to see a back story. I will tell it to you from start to end. There was once queen who’s name was Diana. She wanted a daughter for a long time. But the wish wasn’t granted. So she went to a sea witch, who told her to go and find the destiny pearl. After that she said it will grant her wish but with a bad side. But the queen didn’t care about it and found the pearl. Her wish was granted. The beautiful baby princess was named Denise. But after a month

the daughter went missing. She was devastated. She searched and searched but no sight of her precious daughter. But before she was lost she had a necklace that had her name on it. Maybe this will restore the happiness of the queen.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE REALITY

I was awoken by the sound of the sea. I woke up and saw I had no mermaid tail. Just then I heard my brothers call out for me. “Sophia.....Sophia.....Where are you?” Said Jake solemnly. “We are very sorry for bullying you”. Said mark, crying. “Oh, there you are”. “We were so worried, you were missing for almost a day” “Please don’t abandon us like that” They lifted me up me by my arms. “Thanks you guys, for not forgetting me” “Of course, dude, anything for you” said mark. Then Jake said “By the way we found a necklace in your wardrobe” They gave me a necklace that looked like the necklace Denise had. Could that mean.....

Continues in part two

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