

# KID DETECTIVES & PARISIAN MYSTERY



**HIMANDYA LIYANAARACHCHI**

Kid detectives  
&  
The Parisian mystery

*"Secrets, Suspense, and a Race Against Time—Can the Kid  
Detectives Crack the Case?"*

Himandya Liyanaarachchi

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Grade 8G

Ferguson High School

Rathnapura

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Grade 8 G

Ferguson High School

Rathnapura

***For all who encouraged me to  
write this book and for those  
who made me correct my  
mistakes. Also, my friends  
who are just doing dumb  
things like Joe, Leo, Piper,  
Laisy, Jessica, Anten, and  
Mathew.***

## **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.**

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# **01. A MISSING NECKLACE**

“Anten, come upstairs, dear,” called Mrs. Philip to her daughter.

“OK, Mom,” Anten shouted as she ran upstairs. “What’s up? Did I mess something up?”

“No... No... Your brothers and sisters are coming home. Go to the bus station and welcome them,” said her mother.

“Awesome! What time are they coming?” asked Anten, jumping excitedly. But before Mrs. Philip could reply, Anten dashed to the bus station.

She scanned the bus stop for her siblings. They were finally back from school, and she couldn’t wait to hear about their day.

“Oh, there they are! Hey, everyone! Good to see you all—Leo, Joe, Piper, and Laisy. I’ve been looking forward to this moment!” said Anten.

“Yeah, right,” Leo replied with a smirk, rolling his eyes. “You always say that.”

“Oh, don’t be so rude, bro,” said Joe, hugging his little sister.

Joe, the eldest at 15, is caring, kind, and smart. Leo, at 14, is much different from his brother; he is cheeky and playful. Piper and Laisy, the 12-year-old twin girls, are full of energy and a bit silly. Anten is their loving sister, who is 11.

“Oh, I feel super relaxed because there are no term tests, no homework, and just video games!” said Leo as they headed home.

“Hey Piper, did you get good grades? You too, Laisy?” asked Joe, fully ignoring Leo.

“Actually, my grades are good... at least for me. But not for my dad,” replied Piper.

“I got C, C, D, E, B, and F for science. Can you believe that?” said Laisy while kicking a stone.

“You’ll be grounded,” replied Leo happily.

“By the way... how’s your life going, Anten?” Laisy asked Anten, who was deep in thought, trying to come up with a way to change the subject.

“Oh, me? Actually, mmm... just as usual. Do you remember Mike, our little boss? He learned a new word: 'idiot,’” said Anten.

“Oh, that dude wants a punch! How would he say that to us? Just like you did, Anten. Your first sentence would be, 'You all are idiots...’” Leo said, imagining little Mike using rude words (which he had actually picked up from Leo the most). The others giggled.

“Why??” asked Leo, shooting an angry look.

“Why are you doing such dumb things, Leo?” asked Joe, trying not to laugh.

“Look, there’s someone at the door,” said Anten, pointing.

“He looks like a policeman. What is he doing here?” Leo said. The man in the khaki suit turned and noticed the children.

“Are you guys the Philips?” he asked, sounding unsure. Joe decided to speak up.

“Yeah, what’s up, sir? Is there something wrong?” Joe asked.

“Well, I’m looking for your father,” the policeman said.

“I can tell him,” Said Anten.

“No, young lady. I just want to talk to your father,” the policeman said kindly to Anten. At that very moment, their grandma came outside and shot the kids an angry look. She turned to the policeman and asked, “What’s the problem? Did these little brats do anything wrong?” The policeman shook his head and smiled.

“No, Ma’am. I just want to talk to Mr. Philip,” he said.

“I can give him a message,” said Grandma.

“Oh, thank you, Ma’am,” he replied, pulling out a piece of paper and writing something on it before handing it to her. Then he left.

Leo turned to Grandma and said, “Granny, you look so beautiful. Can I take a look at that note?” He spoke politely.

“Mmmm... thanks, Leo. But no, young sir. Take a bath and go to the post office to mail this letter,” replied Grandma, a bit angrily. Leo turned red at her response.

“Okay, siblings, go upstairs,” he commanded, and the others followed him up. They were all giggling.

“Oh, dude, you should try harder to fool Granny. That old lady is much wiser than you think,” said Joe, struggling to hold back his laughter.

“Of course! Isn’t it strange? First of all, a man wanted to see our father, but he doesn’t want to say it to us,” Leo commented, reflecting on what had happened.

“I wish I could take a look at that note. But we can’t, can we?” Leo said, an awful smile spreading across his face.

“What is your wicked intention?” asked Piper.

“I saw Granny put that letter on the dining table. So, all we have to do is make a plan to take it. Maybe we can grab some cookies, too,” Leo suggested.

“You’re a genius, bro. Does anyone have a plan?” Joe asked, hoping someone would have an idea. An awkward silence followed.

But Piper broke it, saying, “I’ve got one. Anten can act like he has a headache. Laisy and I can check on Granny, while you two go and get that note.”

“And some cookies, too,” Leo added.

“Leo?” Joe groaned. “Focus! Now, this is our plan,” he said, trying to lay it out. Joe halted when he noticed Leo writing with an imaginary pen, mumbling to himself.

“Oh, keep it up, Professor Philip. I want to get an A,” Leo joked, widening his eyes.

“Oh, just shut up,” Joe replied.

“That’s a good plan. Let’s work on it,” said Laisy.

“Oh... Granny...? A little help here,” said Anten.

“Mmmm... try harder,” said Piper. They all headed downstairs.

“There it is. Go, girls,” said Joe. The boys turned their attention to the note.

“MR PHILIP WE NEED YOUR HELP URGENTLY. A  
VALUABLE NECKLACE IS MISSING...  
P.P

“Oh, come on,” Joe exclaimed, his tone sharp and dismissive. “This is a complete waste of time,” Leo said as he finished reading the note before Joe over his shoulder.

“Guys, we’ve got a problem. Granny is on the way,” Piper announced.

The sound of Grandma’s voice echoed through the house, but the children were already plotting their next move in the thrilling adventure of the missing necklace.

# 02. A MURDER

“Oh, just great. Now go for your lives,” said Joe, turning to run, but the problem is Granny is there.

“Well... are your guys up to something?” asked Granny. They all shook their heads.

“No, Granny, just hanging out for Mathew. He said he would come this afternoon,” Joe replied, trying his best to act normal.

“No problem, let’s go,” said Leo.

Granny stopped them, but they made their way upstairs anyway. She was so tired of these silly kids that she lay down on the sofa and took her evening nap.

“There you are. Did you take that note or not?” asked Anten.

“We just took a look at that stupid note. Nothing special, just a stupid note saying a stupid necklace has gone missing,” Joe replied.

“Can I take a look at that note? Maybe I can find a secret message!” said Piper.

“Yeah, but you have to take it from the dining table first,” said Joe.

“No, you haven’t,” Leo said, waving a piece of paper.

Piper started to investigate the note while the others wondered what it could be.

“Mmm... well, I think there are some arrows. Maybe Laisy can find the secret message,” said Piper, handing it to Laisy. Laisy took a ruler and tried to measure something.

“Can someone bring paper and a pen? I found something,” she said.

All of them began searching for paper and a pen. After a while, they found a piece of paper, and Laisy started to write some letters. The others were amazed by her intelligence.

“Finished! Look what I found, guys. This will be an important message,” Laisy said, looking proud of herself.

Leo bent down toward the note and asked, “Rose? What is that?”

“Well, that’s not the word. Look, there are still R, E, M, and Y. What could it be?” Anten wondered.

There was a long silence. Suddenly, Joe broke it. “It may be the community park. It fits well— ROSEMERY,” he suggested.

“You know what, dude? You’re a genius!” Leo exclaimed.

“Mom, can we go to the community garden for a walk?” asked Laisy.

The answer came just in time. “Yes, of course, sweetie. But you have to post that letter that Grandma gave you,” their mother replied.

“Oh, I almost forgot about that! Let’s go, siblings!” Leo said.

They all headed to the post office and posted the letter. On the way to the park, they stopped by the Hunt Munty ice cream shop to get some ice cream

“Hello, sir! May I help you?” asked the waiter.

Joe was pleased to be addressed as “sir” and placed the order. “Five rocky roads, please.”

“Five rocky roads coming right up!” said the waiter as he went to the kitchen.

When the ice creams arrived, they walked toward the park. Suddenly, a man fell on the road with the sound of a gunshot, causing all the people nearby to gather around him. Philips also followed.

But then they noticed another man slowly crawling away from the scene.

“Look at that man! Let’s follow him!” Leo said.

Before the others could respond, he began to follow the man. “Hey, bro! Stop for us; we’re coming too!” Joe hurriedly shouted as he chased after Leo.

The others followed suit. They trailed the man until he stopped at a warehouse.

“Okay, can we stop now? This is nonsense, and it’s simply too much,” Piper said, pointing at the

warehouse.

For the first and last time, I agree with Piper. That smells like a dirty sock because of you, Leo," Laisy complained.

"Hey... how dare you talk about my valuable sock like that?" Leo argued.

But then Joe, "Enough, guys. If you can't come, then don't come."

"I can come with you guys. I am not clumsy as they are. Let's do it... come on fellows. mystery number one here we come" said Anten proudly.

Oh no!! You don't sis. It's a boy's work. Stay here.." said Leo while holding her from pigtails.

"Ouch... will pay for this," said Anten. But the boys were already heading towards the warehouse.

As they went towards the warehouse that man was sitting near a small hut.

"Let's do it, Joe. It's our time to shine." said Leo but he was stopped by Joe.

"Listen up dude if something happens to you or others, our mom will kill me." he said.

"But... I want to come with you. By the way who are you to order me?" said Leo arguing.

Joe gave him that big brother looks. "Ok fine I'll stay. But don't make any trouble" Leo said. Joe nodded and left.

When Joe was hiding behind a car, a voice came." What are you thinking you are doing little brat? "Joe was rather surprised to see a policeman bending towards him.

He can't even speak.

"Just ... n.....o..... thing... sir. Collecting some junk actually" he said finally.

"wouldn't you think you should be staying at home at this time? GO HOME YOUNG GENTLEMAN!!!!!" said the policeman.

"Yeah sure me too," said Joe and ran until he reached Leo.

"Hey dude what's the problem?" said Leo and he ran. They reached for the girls with no time." Hey you took time enough to make 5 cakes "said Anten who's so fond of . " No talking girls follow me" said Leo.

As they reached home "Oh I wish I could be there now. That stupid ." said Joe.

"Oh no you don't young gentleman All of you take me your reports" said their father." yes Dad" said all and went upstairs except Anten.

# 03. GROUNDED

As they presented their report to their dad, Mr. Philip said, “Well, you two have done great, as usual. But Piper and Laisy did very poorly, the opposite of Joe and Leo. I have warned you before... GROUNDED!”

“No... please, you can’t do this. It’s a holiday,” Piper and Laisy pleaded for their freedom.

“Yes, I can, and I am your dad,” Mr. Philip replied firmly.

“Fenton, did you take that note? I put it there,” Grandma asked. Mr. Philip shook his head and replied, “Why? Is it very important?” The boys exchanged a meaningful glance.

“Aha, I remember now! The boys were there at that time. Did you take that note?” Grandma asked again.

“No, we didn't,” they both insisted.

“Look here, boys... if you took that note, just SPLIT IT UP,” Mr. Philip instructed.

“TELL ME THE TRUTH... THIS ISN'T RIGHT... TIME IS RUNNING OUT!” Anten sang the theme song from her favorite k drama My demen. Everyone else looked at her as if she had said something inappropriate for a young girl.

“Why, I was just singing!” she said angrily.

“Just shut up,” everyone else said in unison.

“Now, back to the problem ... Did you take that note?” Mr. Philip asked again.

“Again... I have already told you... no,” said Leo, hoping his sisters would help him. As usual, there was no help at all.

“Okay, that’s enough. Time for bed, kids. Piper, Laisy, upstairs,” said Mrs. Philip.

Anten knew she was next, so she slowly sneaked out of the room. Grandma saw her and said, “You too, young lady.” Anten growled and followed her sisters.

Leo pretended to yawn and said, “I think we should go to bed, too.” He and Joe started to follow the others, but their father stopped them.

“Not you two. I think you have something to tell me,” He said, leading the boys to his office.

“Now, boys, is there something you want to share with me?” asked Mr. Philip.

“Actually, nothing special. Just boring school stuff,” said Leo.

Mr. Philip narrowed his eyes. “Is that all? Come on, you can tell me.”

Leo looked at his brother, who nodded in encouragement. Leo took a deep breath and burst out, “Yes... we took that note, and what about that necklace?”

“I knew it...oh, I mean...I knew it was you two. Can I see it?” asked Mr. Philip.

Leo felt a pang of regret as he handed the note over to his father. Mr. Philip glanced at it and raised an eyebrow. “Mmm... you guys did a great job taking the note while covering Granny's eyes,” he said.

“That was easy because Granny's eyesight is so poor,” Leo replied, proud of their success.

Joe elbowed him sharply, signaling him to be quiet. “I mean... umm... I'm sorry?” said Leo, tears beginning to well up in his eyes.

“Father, when we were at Hunt Munt, a man fell on the road. Is this related? I think that man might be dead. I'm worried because he is Jessica's dad,” said Joe, sounding very concerned.

“Oh... someone's got a girlfriend... uuuuuuuuuuuuh,” teased Leo, making kissing faces at Joe.

Joe turned as red as a strawberry and tried to punch Leo.

“Enough, boys! Joe, you said Jessica's dad? He is my best friend. Now I'll take care of that. YOU TWO ARE GROUNDED...” said Mr. Philip.

“Oh, come on, Dad, it's the holiday,” Leo pleaded.

“You earned it,” Mr. Philip replied as he went to his bedroom. The boys felt frustrated and made their way to their rooms.

“Just great... now we're grounded and there are no mysteries or murders,” Joe lamented, especially worried about himself. “Wait a minute... Anten isn't grounded like we are. Anten, a little help here?” shouted Leo.

No answer.” Anten .... Are you coming or not? I've got something for you..” said Joe rather impatient.

“Sorry... the number you dialed has not responded ... please try again NEVER” a voice came from Anten's room.

” That little jerk.. hey bro if you can't come then don't. I'll tell Mom. Mom...’ said Leo.

“Ok ok, what's this time?” said Anten appearing in front of Joe and Leo.

Joe gave his brother an impressed look. “Oh ... Don't tell me you two are grounded too. I'll ground myself,” said Anten, giggling.

” Oh shut up brat. just listed. We want you to go to the rosemary park and keep an eye on every strange person that enters the garden instead of us,” said Joe.

“But don't get caught or we're all in trouble,” said Leo

. “Ok ... Ok..I will ...now enjoy your grounding time ... bye..” said Anten and ran.

”That little pumpkin head ...you are going down, dude. Let’s see when I’m free Leo.

”Hey bro just calm down. I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU... How did you know about Jessica?” said Joe.’

“About that....You know what a quick nap will make up your mind,” said Leo patiently. So, they went to bed.

While they were sleeping, Piper and Laisy were doing their homework. ‘Hey sis, can you help me with this stupid sum?’ said Piper. Laisy was also struggling with her science paper. But she turns to help her sister.”Let me look ...mmm.. it is easy to look.

	5	(1x	+	5)
=	5x	+	25	

“See ...it’s easy peasy lemons quicy,” said Laisy. Piper was annoyed with herself. She took the paper from Laisy and” It’s not easy or even pity or ...wait a minute ... lemon is not sweet.. I hate lemon” she said.

‘Oh, I help you and you have to help me. What are the animals that have streamlined body shapes? I got the answer it was a horse I got it and the cat also said Laisy finally getting to the answer.

“No it’s not the answer. Fish and birds got streamlined body shapes,” said Piper correcting.

’Yeh, whatever ever let's go to bed” said Laisy giving up and they went to bed

# 04. ROSEMARY PARK

In the morning, Anten woke up early. She went downstairs for breakfast and saw her siblings were the only ones at the table.

“Good morning, everyone! Did you sleep well, or I mean a good grounding time?” said Anten with a laugh.

“Oh, just shut up, jerk. Remember what I said before,” Leo replied, ignoring her.

“Wait a minute... are you guys grounded too?” asked Piper in amazement. Both Leo and Joe nodded.

“Wow, this is family grounding. Dad is so rude,” Laisy muttered to herself.

“No, he is not. He is just disappointed in us,” said Anten, who loved her dad dearly.

“Whatever, just get lost. Shoo...” said Leo, who was angry with his little sister. Anten flipped her hair and walked outside.

When she reached the garden, she said, “Okay... mmmm... who is that? Oh, it's Mr. Pictor. Hey, Mr. Pictor, have a good day!” she called out.

The old man waved back at her. “Wait a minute... what is that, and what the heck...” she exclaimed when she noticed a man placing a paper under the oak tree. After he left, she walked over and picked up the note.

“Hey you... what do you think you are doing, young lady?” a voice called from behind her.

“Oh, nothing, sir... just resting. Bye!” Anten said quickly as she ran away.

“Look what I found!” shouted Anten as she barged into her brothers’ room. Leo was putting on his jacket, and his cheeks were flushed with embarrassment.

“Hey, where are your manners? You have to knock before coming in, you brat! Look, I’m dressing!” Leo said.

“But you’re already dressed... that’s all,” replied Anten. Leo growled and began to chase her. She shouted and ran down the hall, and he forgot he was grounded in his anger.

When they reached the living room, Mom, Dad, and Granny were all there. Leo blushed again.

“Ummm... actually... ah... bye!” he stammered before running upstairs. Anten giggled.

When it was dinner time, Leo and Anten sat together. Leo shot an angry look at her, and she stuck her tongue out at him. After dinner, Joe, Leo, Piper, and Daisy were all sent to their rooms. They all forgot about the note, but not Anten. She took the note to show her brothers.

“Hey, guys, are you asleep? Or not? By the way, did you forget something?” she said, waving the note.

“Oh, can you hear that? It sounds like an ant is speaking. I mean, it’s not a normal ant ... it’s an OPDant,” said Leo while reading his favorite comic, Alex Rider.

“Come on, man, just forgive her this one time. The note? I forgot all about that. Let me take a look,” said Joe as he punched Leo.

“Fine, what’s up, dude?” replied Leo, rubbing the spot where Joe had punched him.

“Well, we should call the girls,” said Joe, knocking on the wall to signal them.

As soon as the girls arrived, they unfolded the note.

COME TO THE  
18,21,19,19,9,1,14,3,1,22,5  
AT H.JJ ON U OF 13,1,25

“What is this nonsense?” Leo exclaimed.

“Maybe we took the wrong note. Let’s go check,” said Laisy.

“Can’t you remember we’re grounded?” Joe replied.

But Laisy ignored him. “Nah... we will be free in 3... 2... 1...” At that moment, their mother announced, “Joe, Leo, Laisy, and Piper, your time is over.”

“Let’s go...” Laisy urged.

But Joe stopped her. “Hey, easy, bro. Can’t you remember it’s night?” he said, playfully tugging at her pigtails. “Ouch!” Laisy shot Joe an angry look.

“We have to stay until morning. But isn’t it a bit strange? First, Dad had a note from a policeman, then a man was killed on the road, and we found—” Joe was interrupted by Anton.

“I’m the one who found that note,” Anton said. “Well, yeah, Anton found that note,” Joe added, only to be interrupted again by Leo.

“Wait a minute, our father is a part of this? No way,” Leo said, deep in thought.

Joe was now very tired of his siblings. “Fine... if you want to hear the other part, just shut up,” he said. They all looked at him as if he had said something completely out of character.

“Okay, you’re the boss,” said Daisy.

“Or captain...” Leo added, saluting.

“No, the boss is better than that,” Laisy said, starting another argument with Leo, as they always did.

“Who said that? Uh... captain is a good term,” Leo asserted.

“Stop, guys,” Piper said, hoping to teach them a lesson. But Leo was too old for her to correct. “Oh yeah? Who are you to tell me what to do, drama queen?” he shot back.

“Oh no, this isn’t good,” Piper worried, knowing she couldn’t win a fight with Leo.

“Enough, guys... just listen. Can’t you stop?” Joe said, glancing at the clock. “Well, you all have to go to bed now. Except for us, because you all have to go to bed at 8:00 p.m. We’re not going,” he said, pointing to himself and Leo.

“Now, dude, act like an older brother. I’m so disappointed in you,” he added, shaking his head. Leo turned red with embarrassment. Eventually, they all went to sleep.

# **05. VACATION IS OVER**

Leo was the first to wake up, so he could do anything he liked.

Then he remembered the sense that had gone between him and Anten, so he slowly peeked out to Anten's room.

She was in the middle of her beauty sleep. Leo took her best paint and spread it all over her face.

An evil smile spread through his face. Then he came back to his room like he hadn't done anything. He crowed up to his bed.

Mrs. Philip went to upstairs to wake up everyone to give them a big news.

When she entered Antens room, she saw Anten, and she screamed in horror.

"Anten Risbery Elish Philip...what are you thinking you are doing young lady? I have told you before.

You are too young for makeup. Now look what you have done." she said pretty angry with Anten.

Anten wakes up. When she saw her face, she screamed too."

Oh, what is this for? I didn't do anything. This was done by Leo. Leo, you are so dead. I'm going to kill you," said Anten and ran to the boys' room. When she reached to room Leo was pretending to be asleep. But he wasn't good at it. He burst into laughing. All the others were walking up because they heard the scream. Even Joe.. because he never wakes up if he won't. He was rubbing his eyes.

" You.. are soooo.... Dead Leonardo Wolfkin Felix Philip ahhhhhhhhh'shout Anten and jumped at Leo who was not ready to fight.

"How dare you to say my full name... you freaking thing..." said Leo and he attacked Anten.

Anten was too strong for a young girl. Soon she stopped the fight, pushing Leo's hair."

Ouchie.. You dork" said Leo in pain.

The whole family was there watching this drama. All of them were trying their best not to laugh.

" So as always I won and Leo lost. Thank you for watching" said Anten and jumped out of Leo's bed.

"That little punk I hate her as long as I live." said Leo." Easy bro she is your sister. You can't do anything to her," said Joe dressing up.

" We've got a big day today." he said.

They went to have breakfast. There was ham and bake and scrambled egg too.

" yum..yum.... Veronica," said Grandma tasting her bake.

. Mrs Philip smiled.

Joe and Leo sat down and took their part.

" Well, I have big news. I have to travel to Angeles for a business trip. Are you coming?" asked Mr.Philip

All the kids were staring at him." What???? You did not tell us "Said Leo, splitting out the food inside his mouth.

” Don’t talk when your mouth is full. And now I tell you are you coming?” said Mr.Philip.

”Joe gulped “When?” he said. ” Oh not so soon, during the school days” said Mr.Philip.”I’m in. If you are going during school days I’m in. Love to cut school “said Leo. “But I have to do my book report, “said Laisy looking rather sad. “Oh, just shut up nerd. You are ruining the plan,” said Joe shooting Laisy an angry look

” Then all settled,” said Mr.Philip.

“Guys we have got work to do. The park” whispered Piper to Joe

” Oh yeah about that. Let's go” said Joe and stood up from the table.

“Hey Joe where are you going,” asked Mrs.Philip.

Joe froze.” Ummm ....for a walk..yeah for a walk,” said Joe like he was not sure and ran.

” Bye,” said Leo and he ran too. All the others followed them.

They went to Rosemary Park and they all searched for that note. But no luck. Leo gave up first

“Oh ... what the heck? This made my collarbones hurt” he said and sat on the bench

. Anten sat and said,” For the first time in forever I agreed with Leo.”

” How dare you copy my lines with Piper?” asked Laisy.

“How dare you copy my lines Lusianaa?” asked Leo standing up. He had forgotten all the collarbone thing.

” Wait for just an hour guys can't you just stop fighting?” asked Joe.

” NEVER,” said all “Let me, “said Piper.

”Guys, I have doughnuts.

”DOUGHNUTS..”SAID all.

"If you stop fighting I can give them." she said... the fight stopped." Good people. Now we can have doughnuts later." said Piper. All the others went nuts.

"Seriously you said you have doughnuts" shouted Leo in horror. "Now guys easy, we too late. Laisy have you got the note that Anten accidentally got?" asked Joe from Piper exchanging the twins.

"Actually, I'm; Laisy that's Piper. I have," said Laisy and she unfolded the paper and put it on the bench.

" Well at least we can find out about that murder." said Joe thinking hard to get a hint.

"But we can't find the job that father was doing...That's our dream when we are children." said Leo.

" Leo let's pose pone that," said Joe.

They all searched for that murderer but had no luck.

" Tomorrow we are going to school .No mystery." said Laisy.

# **06. IN THE WARE HOUSE.**

In the morning, Joe wakes up first. He just had a crazy dream where he and Leo were kicked out of school just because they were late. He decided to wake Leo up too.

“What’s up, bro? Isn’t it too early to wake up?” asked Leo, rubbing his eyes.

“Well, look at the calendar. It’s November 1. Today we have school,” Joe replied.

“Oh no, it’s 9:00 a.m. Did Mom wake up? Or Dad?” asked Leo in horror.

“Easy, bro, easy. It’s only 6:00 a.m.,” said Joe, turning to look at the alarm clock.

“Oh, now I see—we have time,” Leo said, calming down.

They went downstairs and made some cereal for themselves. They finished eating by 7:00. Then the usual morning routine began. Piper and Laisy ran downstairs, made their cereal, and ate. After that, they all took their skateboards and rushed to school. They arrived just in time.

Joe's first period is science, a subject he hates.

"Hey, Matthew, how was your holiday? Mine was just a waste of time," Joe whispered to his best friend.

"Uh, I found an awesome map from the museum. I read that whole summer," Matthew replied. He is pretty good at map reading.

"Now children ... who can tell me what matter consists of?" asked Mrs. Lisa, looking around the class. Jessica raised her hand first, but Mrs. Lisa noticed that Joe and Matthew were talking.

"Joenathan Ropet Philip, I think you can give us the answer. Please stand up," she said. Joe was in shock.

"What ... is ... the ... question, ma'am?" he asked.

"Oh, it's ..." began Matthew, but Mrs. Lisa shot him an angry look.

"I said nothing," he replied.

"Well, my child, aren't you supposed to be listening?" asked Mrs. Lisa.

"Yes."

"Yes, Miss Lisa," she corrected him.

"Out... you too, Mathew," she said.

They left the classroom.

"Now that we're out of class," said Matthew, and Joe nodded in agreement.

"I have something to tell you," He said, referring to the note in his pocket. Just then, the bell rang.

"Let's go! That is the craziest thing I've ever heard," exclaimed Matthew.

On the way home, Leo wouldn't stop talking about how great the day had been.

"Leo, could you please stop talking? Does anyone have homework?" Joe asked.

"Actually, we do. We can finish it quickly if you lend us your grade 3 math book," Laisy said innocently.

"No, not a single equation. My book isn't even complete!" Joe replied. "Okay, you two can stay at home. Anten and I are going to that warehouse to spy on that man," Leo declared.

Once they got home, they had lunch. Laisy and Piper stayed behind to work on their homework. Leo went into their room and started packing some Oreos and a bottle of water in his bag. Joe caught him in the act.

"Leo! What on earth are you doing? We're not going camping; it's just spying!" Joe exclaimed.

"Just in case," Leo replied, continuing to pack.

They made their way to the warehouse. When they arrived at the rough yard, they heard voices whispering.

"GIVE ME THE NECKLACE. CAN YOU SEE THE THING THAT'S ON MY HAND? HAND IT OVER!" one voice said. Leo, Joe, and Anten moved closer to listen.

"Never we all robbed that, I know you killed Patrick. If you try to kill me I'll call the police." said the 2nd voice. "You can call the police. They will come and arrest us you are a robber too" said the voice.

' Fine you won.. I don't like to help the police." said the 2nd voice

." Now be a good boy give me the necklace or die." said the 1st voice and the children heard the footsteps of a running man. Agun sound came. That's all the 2nd voice is dead.

Anten was scared." Oh, guys can't we go now?" she said, Joe put his hand around her and said, "Anten.. I swear I'll protect you."

"Hey, who are your little brats? Oh, h I know you are spying on me. I don't like spy kids. You saw what I did to that man. That means you can't go." said a strange voice. When they turned back, they saw the man who killed the man standing behind him.

Joe and Leo screamed and ran. They forgot all about their sister. Anten was shocked to see how tall that man was. She can't even speak.

"Oh, you are just a little girl. Where is your brother? They left you all alone," said the man. Anten realized what was happening to her, and she screamed. Her voice traveled until it reached the boy's ears.

"Anten!" they both shouted, remembering their little sister.

"Mom will kill me if she hears this. Leo, could you please order a coffin?" said Joe, clearly frightened.

"No, she will be fine. She is smarter than we think. But if you want, I'll order one. Do you want it gold-plated or just a regular coffin?" Leo said, completely misunderstanding the situation. Joe rolled his eyes.

The man bent down to grab Anten, but she was quick. As he leaned forward, she slithered away, hitting him right in a sensitive spot.

"That's not fair!" the man exclaimed as he collapsed onto the floor.

"Heh... too slow," Anten said, rubbing her hands together.

Joe and Leo arrived just as Anten struck the man. Joe was surprised, but Leo was busy sucking on his favorite candy, Mentos.

"Seriously, dude..." Joe said, a bit annoyed with Leo.

“What? I was hungry. Want a Mentos?” Leo replied, offering Joe a piece from his pocket. Anten approached them with an angry expression.

“I heard someone say he will protect me from any danger. I wonder where he is. If he is right about this movement, I'll crash him to death.” she said showing the way she was going to crash Joe.

”WOW, easy dude...Calm down..” said Leo sucking his fingers.

” Easy? Joe said That he'll protect me. Look what just happened. You two left me alone.” said Anten like a train

.” Sorry about that dude..We were scared.” said Joe in a slow voice.

” Oh, wait until mom heard this ... Or maybe if you buy me ice cream I'll shut my mouth,” said Anten.

“Ok, you won. But don't tell mom” Said Joe pretty much satisfied.

On the way home He bought his little sister an ice cream.

” Joe what's the time right now?” asked Anten licking her ice cream. Joe looks at his watch. His eyes widened.

” Oh no we are in big trouble. It's 6.00p.m.” said Joe and looked at Leo.

“Oh, just relax it's only 5.59 p.m. Tea is started at 6.00am.” Leo said ignoring the situation.

“We are sooo late for tea. If mom finds us she will be pretty mad at us.” said Anten. She is the best kid and she doesn't like to break that record.

” Actually she is here..look” said Leo pointing at the doorstep. Mr. Philip was so mad. Her arms are on her hips. Joe, Leo, and Anten are in big trouble.

# **07. FINALLY, TO THE RIGHT WAY**

“Hey, Mom,” everyone called out.

“Well... do you have something to say? Joe, I am pretty disappointed on you. As the older brother, I hope you can be a good example for your siblings,” Mrs. Philip said, shaking her head.

“Mom, we were just—” Joe started to explain, but his words were cut off.

“No more words,” Mrs. Philip interrupted. “Oh, you’re home! Come and see what I've got!” she shouted as she walked into the living room.

“I gotta go,” Joe said quickly as he ran off with Piper, followed by Leo. Anten, however, stopped.

“Sorry, Mom,” she said before rushing off. “Kids,” Mr. Philip remarked.

As they entered the girls' room, Laisy was buried under a mountain of books, papers, and pens.

“You're here! I thought you were dead; you took long enough,” Laisy exclaimed, peeking out from the pile.

“Now, for our discovery: At first, we thought that note might be a code,” Piper said.

“That's all? Wow, what a great discovery,” Leo replied, putting his hands in his pockets.

“Does anyone have an idea?” Laisy asked, completely ignoring Leo. A heavy silence fell over the group.

Then Anten chimed in with an idea. “Can I take that note for a moment? I think I have an idea,” she said. The others allowed her to take the note.

“Does anyone have a piece of paper?” she asked. Leo was busy eating a hamburger, and everyone looked at him.

“What? Oh no, you don't! I'm not giving you all a bite,” he replied, biting into the whole burger.

“Ewww... not that! I mean an oil paper. How did you get that anyway?” Anten asked, taking the paper from him.

“None of your business,” Leo retorted. "Apen?"

“I have one,” Piper said.

Anten began her work. First, she wrote out the alphabet and then marked the letters with numbers.

A1 B2 C3 D4 E5 F6 G7 H8 I9 J10 K11 L12 M13 N14 O15 P16 Q17 R18 S19 T20 U21 V22 W23 Y24 X25 Z26
---

Then she wrote this.

COME TO THE 18,21,19,9,1,14,3,1,22,5 = COME TO THE RUSSIAN CAVE AT H.JJ U OF 13,1,25,
--

“Wow, this is pretty awesome! How did you come up with that idea?” Leo asked, looking rather surprised.

“It's inspired by the Seven Wonders. I thought it would work,” Anten replied, proud of her creation.

“Don’t be too proud just yet. What do you think H, JJ ON U OF 13, 1, 25 means?” Daisy challenged, feeling defeated by her little sister and a bit jealous.

“Oh, about that... I’m not sure,” Anten admitted, looking puzzled.

“Maybe it’s a reverse version of it?” Leo suggested as he took the paper and began to write.

<b>01.</b>	<b><i>H.JJ = 8.00</i></b>
<b>02.</b>	<b><i>u = 21</i></b>
<b>03.</b>	<b><i>13,1,25 = MAY</i></b>

“I got it! It arrived at the Russian cave at 8:00 on the 21st of May,” said Leo, showing the others.

“You’re a genius! Today is the 21st of May. Does that mean it’s happening today?” Joe exclaimed in horror.

“Guys, we have no time now. It’s 7:45. You three stay home; Leo and I can handle the robbers,” Joe said urgently.

“Can we?” Leo asked hesitantly.

“Just go; we’ve got you covered,” Daisy assured them.

The boys climbed down from the window.

After some time, they reached the Russian cave. They heard a familiar voice and hid behind a large rock.

“Gilbert, I know what you did to Patrick and that innocent scientist Malcolm. This is disgusting. Can’t we stop fighting and settle this?” said the second voice.

“I will never give it to you, Victor,” Gilbert replied. Suddenly, a hand grabbed Leo's shoulder, causing him to scream and tumble out from behind the rock, right in front of the men.

The men momentarily forgot their argument and stared at Leo in horror. Finally, Gilbert recognized his face and shouted, “Capture him! I’ve seen him before. He and his friends, or maybe siblings, spied on me at the warehouse.” Victor rushed to catch Leo.

The hand that had grabbed Leo belonged to Jessica.

“What are you doing here, Jessica?” Joe asked slowly, surprised. Jessica was wearing a hood and denim, looking beautiful in her outfit.

“Did you think I would stay home and cry because my father died? That man killed him, I believe. I saw you guys and followed you,” Jessica explained.

Gilbert noticed a small movement behind the rock where Joe and Jessica were hiding and watching them in horror.

“Hey, there they are! You can’t hide from me, IDs. Show yourselves!” Gilbert yelled. For a tense moment, nothing happened.

“I’m warning you!” Gilbert called out again, prompting Joe and Jessica to step out from their hiding place..

# 08. JESSICA JOINS TOO

“Oh, I knew it! Hey, Victor, do you have any ropes? Because we’ve got kids to tie up,” said Gilbert with joy.

“Good luck with my emergency backpack,” replied Victor as he tossed Gilbert a roll of gum tape. Joe and Leo were both shivering, but Jessica was extremely angry. Victor tied up both Leo and Joe before turning to Jessica.

” Oh no you don’t you crackhead. You killed my father. You will pay for that,” she said angrily.

” Look this girl is warning me. I m so scared.” said Victor and he tied Jessica.

“Hey Gilbert what do we do to these kids,” asked Victor finish tieng them. Leo and Jeo are shivering but Jessica is struggling to get rid of the knots.

” Ummm ... Let's leave them here “said Gilbert and he walked away saying

,” Goodbye Victor see you soon tomorrow at that place.” You too” said Victor and they Left. Leo, Joe, and Jessica were all alone in the darkness.

"Did Jess get a plane? You always have a plane," Joe said.

"What? Are you serious? You're asking me for a plane?" Jessica replied, clearly annoyed.

"Joe, are you crazy? She's a girl... we have to rescue her!" Leo exclaimed.

"Wait a minute... I have a penknife. Leo, can you reach it?" Joe suddenly remembered the penknife that Mmaththiwe had given him.

"I think I can... nope, there's no chance. Jessica can reach it," Leo said. "What? No, she can't! It's in my back pocket," Joe exclaimed, his cheeks turning red.

"Not a problem. I can reach it," Jessica said, her cheeks blushing. "I got it finally," she added, pulling a penknife from Joe's pocket.

"Does somebody have hand sanitizer?" Jessica asked playfully. Leo giggled.

"There's nothing funny about this," Joe shot Leo an angry look. Meanwhile, Jessica began cutting her ropes.

"Oh Jess, cut ours too!" Joe, still tied up, urged. "Me too!" Leo chimed in.

"Well, promise me you won't tell anyone about this at school. I want to join you all," Jessica insisted.

"Fine, you win! Now cut these," Joe said, impressed by how quickly Jessica's mind worked. Jessica then cut Joe and Leo's ropes, setting them free.

"Remember, not a word," Jessica warned in a serious tone.

"Got it," Leo replied, pretending to sew his mouth shut. They all left together.

When Leo and Joe got home, Leo said with a satisfied tone, "Oh, thank goodness, no one is here." But he was mistaken. Suddenly, the whole family appeared.

"Well, where were you guys? Nice big brothers," Mr. Philip said, raising his eyebrow. "I've told you before, you two must be good examples for others."

"Come on, tell me! I'm telling you everything," said Mr. Philip.

“No, you’re not. You didn’t tell us what job you have or about that note,” Leo replied, unable to hold back.

“Wait, my job is none of your business. You two know too much. But first things first, where were you?” Mr. Philip asked with a warning tone.

“We went to see Joe’s girlfriend,” Leo blurted out.

“Leo... I’ve told you before, Jessica is not my girlfriend. We went to see Matthew,” Joe said, shooting Leo an annoyed look.

“Well, as a punishment, give me all your electronic devices,” Mr. Philip ordered. Joe took out his phone, but Leo hesitated.

“Leo,” said Mr. Philip, raising an eyebrow.

“Fine...” Leo muttered, handing over his phone to his father.

“Well then, that’s settled. Anten, go to bed. You all go to bed,” Mrs. Philip said to the kids. As the family left, Joe sat down on his bed.

“No phones,” he groaned, collapsing onto the bed as if he had passed out.

“What will happen if Jessica finds out? Your GIRLFRIEND. What if I tell everyone at school what happened at the cave? Jessica put her hand in your pocket—how sweet,” Leo teased. But Joe was already in a deep sleep, growling softly.

“I’ll admit it,” Leo said, an evil grin spreading across his face

# 09. JOE HAS GONE MAD

In the morning, Leo woke up and asked for his phone. "Where is it? Oh, I remember—my precious father took it," Leo

said, recalling what happened the night before. He quickly checked the time: it was 7:00 a.m. He had 45 minutes to get ready. Leo felt confident.

"Joe, seriously, wake up! There's no time," Leo said, shaking his brother's shoulder. When Joe didn't respond, Leo gave up and walked toward the bathroom. He filled a cup with ice-cold water and splashed it all over Joe's face.

"Thank goodness! You woke up. Do you know what time it is? It's 7:00 a.m.," Leo said. They dressed quickly and went downstairs.

Mrs. Philip was in the kitchen. "Well, you two took long enough. Today, Piper and Laisy will not be going to school. You two are the only ones," she said, spreading butter on toast.

"Gotta go, Mom," Leo replied as he grabbed a piece of toast and picked up his skateboard. Joe did the same. Within a minute, they were on the main road.

When they arrived at school, the bell rang. "What the heck is this?!" Leo exclaimed as he took a rest at the gate.

After a while, Leo made his way to class. "Mr. Philip? Why were you so late? The holiday is over," said Mr. Wilson, his class teacher.

"Sorry, sir," Leo said as he took a seat. When the teacher turned away, Leo leaned over to his best friend, Harry.

"Guess what, dude? You'll never guess this—Joe and Jessica like each other!" Leo said. Harry's sister was Jessica, and he looked furious.

"Seriously? Are you crazy or something?" Harry asked in amazement.

"Nope! I was just hanging out with Joe when Jessica appeared. They both turned red—can you believe it? And we got into trouble when Jessica put her hand into Joe's back pocket to get his penknife," Leo explained.

"There's no way," Leo muttered.

Mr. Wilson had poor hearing and eyesight, so anyone could get away with anything around him. When the bell rang, Leo and Harry headed to the cafeteria.

That's when Joe began to lose his composure, overwhelmed by the rumors circulating around him. Everywhere he went, he heard boys making 'uu' sounds and girls gossiping about him and Jessica, saying they made a cute couple.

"That's it I'm going to kill Leo." Joe shouted in the middle of his class. The whole class staring at him now even the teacher

." Joe are you alright." said Mr Lester puzzled. But Joe was lucky that The bell rang at that very moment.

He went to the cafeteria to find Leo. And when he found himself talking with Harry. He was about to explode. But Jessica held him and dragged him towards the school corridor. She pushed him onto the wall and put her hand around his neck.

" Well you are so dead Joe. What did I tell you don't tell that. You tell it all" said Jessica. Joe saw her eyes filled with tears.

"Easy Jess. It's not me it's Leo." said Joe trying to catch his breath.

" What?? That little brat ... Now I'm going to kill you both ..." said Jessica. Her eyes were now full of tears.

" Mmm ... Jess ... we've got a problem here.. look it's the man that tied us together." said Joe and His eyes widened. Jessica looked back the man that tied them was behind her. Jessica was scared too.

“Well you escaped..uh,” said Victor. But he got no time to teas Joe and Jessica. Because the bell rang. The children came from the cafeteria like a tornado. But they froze to see Jessica holding Joe's neck. They all

went crazy. Leo saw Joe and Jessica. He knew that if he were caught he would be finished. So he slowly sneaked off.

When school was over, Leo Joe hoped he had forgotten that incident.

” Joe Let's go..” said Leo, and He walked home with Joe. Lucky for Leo Joe is a forgetful boy. They were talking and Joe said about that man.

” I'm wondering where his now?” said Joe thinking. Leo felt like someone was behind them so he turned.

Back. With a great shock, Leo saw that man.” Ummm ...in our back or something?” said Leo. Joe turned back. They both shouted at the same time.

# **10. ANTEN SAVES THE DAY**

That man bent down and caught them from their colors. "Well, well, well, what do we have here? Two school boys," said that man. "Leave us alone..." Sadly Leo tried hard to get free.

"Chatas..." sounded come and the man fell. "

Let my brothers go," said Anten, holding a brick.

Both the boys were surprised. "Aren't you going to thank me?" asked Anten, rubbing her hands together.

"Well, thanks a lot, sis. But how did you get here?" asked Joe, thanking his sister.

"Well, you two were late, and mom called me to check for you. So, when I came, I saw that man grabbing you from your colors, and I saw a brick there. Then you know the rest. THE END," said Anten.

“Let's go home,” said Leo. “Well, when I was hitting him with the brick, he was talking to you. What's that about?” said Anten, turning to her brothers.

“I'll tell you all about that. But why are we finding that necklace?” Sadly, Leo turned to Joe. Joe was puzzled too. “Well, I don't know... I think that will lead us to the job father was doing,” said Joe.

Leo looked puzzled. “I thought we postponed that.” “I never postpone anything.” “Yes, you do, Joe. You said that.” “No, I did not.” “Yes, you did.” “Now, guys, guys, stop. Look, we are already at home.

Let's go and tell us what happens in the cave,” said Anten, knowing the boys were about to fight. “You are right,” said Leo, and they went upstairs. Piper and Daisy were reading a book as they always do.

“Girls, we got some big news. The scene at the cave. Made by Leo (professional for making stories), Joe, and Jessica (also Joe's girlfriend),” said Leo. “Just stop it, Jessica is also not my girlfriend.

Now hear this,” said Joe, sitting on the floor. Then he began to speak. “That's when Jessica appeared, and Leo fell from the rock. Then we were caught.” “What happens when you three are caught?” asked Piper.

“The robbers tied us,” said Joe. Leo started telling the rest. “Then when they left, Jessica put her hand into Joe's pocket and took his penknife. Then we left,” said Leo, ending the story. “Kids, it's time for dinner,” said Mrs. Philip from downstairs. “Coming,” said all and rushed to the dining room. The dinner was served. Before they started to eat, Mr. Philip stood up and started talking. “Well, the tour I was telling you about before is going tomorrow. Are you coming?” he asked.

“I'm coming,” said Mrs. Philip.

“Me too, son,” said Grandma.

“Umm, I have a lot of work to do. I'm afraid I can't come,” said Joe, turning to Leo, hoping he would understand.

“What? Or yeah,” replied Leo, grasping the situation. “And all the girls rejected it too.”

“Then we are going tomorrow morning,” said Mr. Pilip. That was the end of the conversation. Then all started to eat. After dinner, Joe and Leo did their homework. Suddenly, Leo remembered something. He went straight to the closet and opened it. He took out the jacket he wore that day, put his hand into the pocket, and pulled out a silver button.

“Now we have a clue. Look! I took it from Victor,” said Leo, showing the button to his brother. Joe was surprised at how clever his brother was. “If you found that, maybe there will be more at the Russian cave. Let's check it out, dude,” said Joe, standing up with excitement. His eyes were shining. He walked towards the door, but Leo stopped him.

“Dude, it's getting dark. Let's check it out tomorrow with Matthew and Jessica,” Leo suggested.

With that, they went to sleep.

“Umm I have a lot of work to do I'm afraid that I want to come. And Leo too” said Joe Turning to Leo hoping He would understand.” What. Or yeah.” said Leo understanding the situation. And all the girls reject it too.” Then we are going tomorrow morning.” said Mr. Pilip That's the end. Then all started to eat.

After the dinner Joe AND Leo did their Homework and suddenly Leo remembered something. He went straight into the closet and opened it. Then he took his jacket that he wore today. He put his hand into its pocket and took out a silver button.” Now we have a clue. Look I took it from Victor.” said Leo showing the button to his brother.

Joe was surprised at how clever his brother was.” If you found that maybe there will be more at the Russian cave. Let's check dude.” said Joe standing up. His eyes were shining. He went to the door but Leo stopped him.” Dude it's getting dark. Let's check it tomorrow. With Matthew and Jessica” said Leo. Then they went to sleep.

# **11. A NOTEBOOK??**

In the morning, Mr. and Mrs. Philip went on their tour. The kids didn't go with them. They just gave their parents a big hug each.

When the parents left, no kid could stop himself or herself from going mad, and these guys went mad and also cut school (yeah, get those parents, kids need some time for their own). Finally, Joe remembered the button, and he dragged his brother and went to Matthew's house.

When the doorbell rang, Matthew's mother, Mrs. Andrew, said, "Hey, boys! Want to see your friend? Matthew, your friends are here! Come!" Matthew appeared in no time.

"Morning, guys! Wazzup?" he said and gave Joe a high five. "Hey buddy, can you come for a minute? We have to meet Jess too?" asked Joe, and they all went to Jess's home. Her mom opened the door. "Oh, excuse me, ma'am. Can I meet Jessica?" Joe asked politely. "Well, I'm afraid she can't; she is packing her bags. We are going to Canada," she said. "What?" said both Leo and Joe. "Oh, hey guys," said Jess, coming from upstairs. "Bye," said all, and they went to the community garden.

"So, what's the matter?" asked Matthew. "A big problem! Can you two help us?" asked Joe in a begging voice. "But I'm going to Canada. I will not help you guys anymore," said Jess in a warning voice. "Come on, just this time," begged Leo. "Fine... I'll do it, and I don't want to go to Canada," said Jess. "Now this is what happened," said Joe, starting his story.

“Wow! Then let's go and check; I love adventuring!” said Matthew, ready to go, but Jessica stopped him. “But first, I have to tell mom that I won't be going to Canada. It will be hard,” she said, and she told them that she would meet them soon. While she went home, the others went to Philip's cottage.

After some time, Jessica returned. Her eyes were filled with tears. Others understood how hard it was to leave their mother. “Jess, what happened?” asked Joe, putting his arm around her. “Nothing. No problem, let's go,” she said to the others. They hurried. When they reached the Russian cave, it was 1:00 p.m. They all searched for a clue, but they found nothing. “No use, just some dust... except this box.” “Wait, we didn't look into that box,” said Matthew, and he opened the box. There was a notebook. Leo opened it and tried to read it, but he couldn't. “Give it to me,” said Piper, and she put it into her pocket. “Let's go, guys,” said Joe with a broken heart.

“Do you guys remember those men? We can find out about them,” said Anten, remembering something. So, they all went to the police office of Los Angeles.

When they entered, a police officer was guarding the door. “What do you want, kids?” he asked. “Oh, we are just finding a cap that belongs to our Uncle Fester,” said Leo. But the officer didn't trust him because he always put toilet paper in the chief's desk. Jessica put her hand on his shoulder and pushed him (“Hey...”). “Let me do it... oh hello sir, good morning! Leo is right; we are finding Uncle Fester's cap. Can we go inside?” said Jessica in a polite voice. “This girl talks nicely, but there are seven kids. You all can't go; just two of them can go inside,” said the officer. Joe and Leo went in.

They found the descriptions of the robbers. “Look, it says Victor Melani, brown hair, dark eyes, and stuff,” said Leo, reading a description. “That's the man! And look, there is Patrick,” said Joe, pointing in another direction.

“Hey, aren't you the ones who found that note? Oh, I understand, you are just wasting your time in the post office, and this is not a resting place. If you rest in this place, you will rest in peace,” said the officer from behind them. “GET OUT NOW!” and they ran.

They stopped at Central Park. They were all panting. “What a waste of time! Why didn't we get a description?” said Leo in a sad voice. “Not all of us,” said Jessica, surprising all. “How did you get that? You didn't even come,” said Joe in surprise. “No need to sneak up on police officers, silly,” said Jessica, and she read the paper. It's about Patrick. “Wait, read that part again,” said Leo. Jess read it again. “No. 57/345

Julius Road, Los Angeles. That's near our house. It's the address of Patrick," said Joe, catching on to Patrick's address.

"Well, you four go. Anten and Laisy have to find something in this diary," said Piper, and they went home. The others went to search for the address of Patrick.

When they reached Jessica's house, her mother and brother were out of the house. Harry ran to his sister. "Jess, are you serious? Aren't you coming? I'll miss you," he said, and he hugged her. Jessica hugged him too. "Be a good girl; I arranged for you a house. Your father's friend's home; his name is Mr. Philip, I think," said her mother, unfolding a paper. "That's Joe's father... Mom!" said Jess. Joe was in shock. All year he had to live with Jessica in a house. No way. Leo and Matthew were giggling. "Bye mom, see you soon," said Jessica and said goodbye to her family.

Then they came near Joe's house. They searched for the address. After some time, they found it. They went inside. It was pretty dark inside and dusty. Joe and Leo were allergic to dust. So, they couldn't even stop sneezing. "Hachoo... oh, this is so dusty," said Leo and sneezed again. "Eww, Leo, don't you have a handkerchief?" said Jess in disgust. They searched every bit of that house. All the time, Leo and Joe sneezed.

"It's no use, nothing works; let's go," said Leo, and before he turned, Piper, Laisy, and Anten came panting. "Look what we found... it says 'WHEN THE SUN RISES IT WILL SHINE... THEN THAT IS THE DOOR THAT LEADS YOU IN;'" see it the riddle." said Piper reading the paper.

"Wow, you guys are genius...but what does that mean? WHEN THE SUN RISES IT WILL SHINE. That's stupid," said Leo and sneezed again. They all began to think. There was a long silence. Finally, Matthew broke it. "Look, it says that when the sun rises, it shines. Now the sun is rising from the east. That defines a thing in the east." Then they all searched for shining objects in the east.

After some time, Matthew found a candle hanger. It looked very old and dusty too. But he called others. "Hey guys, found something. Look here... aren't you seeing something strange?" asked Matthew to the others. They all looked at it. It was kind of strange. Joe sneezed and said, "I don't see something odd here." Jessica pushed him and she took hold of that hanger. "It's a lever, I think you silly," said Jessica, and she grabbed it and pulled it. For their surprise, it opened. "It is a secret door to a room," said Leo gazing.

T

hen they all went inside that tunnel. Inside, it looked modern rather than the outside. When they were inside, they saw a glow and they went towards it. It was the necklace. “What the heck is this? I thought

the necklace in the robber's hand is the necklace. But look, this is the necklace,” said Piper puzzled. Others were puzzled too. “Well, well, well, look who’s here ... those stupid kids. Again, I told you they would come. Victor. The robbers were back. And this time the kids had nowhere to go.

# 12. CAPTURED

“I told you Patrick fooled us. These kids have the real necklace. Look... it's glowing,” said Gilbert, showing Victor the necklace in Joe's hand. Joe sneezed again. “Oh kid, don't you have a handkerchief?” said Victor, wiping his face. “Nah... hachchuu,” said Joe and sneezed again. “Enough now, give us the necklace, kid, and the notebook too,” said Gilbert impatiently. “Never,” said Leo, and he passed the notebook to Laisy. She caught it. “Well, you want to play, then let's play,” said Victor, taking a gun out. Laisy passed the notebook to Matthew, and he snatched the necklace from Leo. He captured the notebook too.

Meanwhile, Anten was hiding behind a cupboard. Soon the fight ended. The robbers won. The kids lost. “What do we do to these kids?” asked Victor, and Gilbert thought. “Let's leave them,” he said, and they left the kids alone. Jessica ran towards the door, hoping the robbers had forgotten to lock it. But no luck; it was locked. She sank down to the floor.

“Now what do we do? We are trapped here with no food,” said Anten. She was about to cry. “We shall not be in this,” said Leo, sitting on the floor. “No, we have to do this. These men killed my father, and they are going to pay for that,” said Jessica, standing. Joe joined too. “Does somebody have a phone?” asked Joe as he looked around. “I have one,” said Matthew, showing his phone. “Piper, do you know the number of your father?” he asked. “It's 077 8854... wait, Mom and Dad are on board. We can't call them,” she said, suddenly remembering something. “I don't remember that,” said Leo, thinking. “Joe, tell them he got out of work to do, so he would like to stay, and he forced us all,” said Anten. “Now it's my fault. I said it because it will be good to keep them out of this business,” said Joe to cover his fault.

Oh, it's my fault now.”

“No one said that.”

“Stop, Joe, be a big brother, dude,” said Matthew. “And just think about what we are going to do to escape this house,” said Jessica, coming forward. “Wait, I have read a book named the Hardy Boys. That was fun; I love it. It has ...” said Leo, but all the others shot him an angry look. They all knew that if Leo started to describe a book, it would never stop. “Oh, right, the thing it says that if a room is air-conditioned, it has a tunnel,” said Leo, and he began to search for a tunnel with the others.

After some time, they found it. But it was locked. Joe took a scuba diver out of his pocket and began to remove the nails. Then he took off the net, and the tunnel was small. “We can't go; we will be stuck,” said Matthew. “Then who can?” asked Anten. All the others looked at her. “Oh no, that will never happen,” she said, and she took a step behind. “Yes, that will happen,” said Leo and Joe, and they caught Anten and entered her into the tunnel. “OK, I will. This is the last time,” said Anten, rolling her eyes. “Go through this tunnel and open the door, Anten,” said Jessica kindly. Then Anten crawled along the tunnel and opened the door.

They all went out of the room happily. “Good job, sis. Now what to do?” asked Laisy. They all looked around. “Now we are trapped here with no food,” said Jessica. “Actually, with food,” said Leo, eating a bag of chips. “Where did you find those?” asked Joe. Leo pointed to some chip bags. They all were hungry, so they ate the chip bags.

“Ok, now with food. We have to break this lock. Anten, give me your hair clip. Piper and Laisy, pack some chip bags just in case. Matthew, help me. Jess, go and find where those men are going,” said Joe, commanding all. Then Joe began to unlock. Finally, it worked. At last, they all were ready. Jessica found that the men were going to Paris.

They all rode their bicycles to the airport. “How do we go to Paris? We don't have passports,” asked Laisy. “I know, let's use the first class,” said Leo. So, they all went towards a plane that was supposed to go to Paris, then hid in the first class. Then the plane started to move. Leo's stomach made noises. “Sorry, Laisy, give me a chip bag. I'm starving,” said Leo, and Laisy threw a chip bag to everyone. They ate chips. “Oh, I feel so ... so ... sleepy,” said Jess, yawning and resting her head on Joe's shoulder. Joe blushed. He said that everyone should go to sleep, and then they all did.

After some time, the plane reached Paris. But the gang was still asleep. When the plane reached the airport, it crossed a rock, and our gang jumped up. “What the heck is this?” said Leo, rubbing his head that hit on the floor. Finally, they were in Paris.

# **13. LOST IN PARIS**

“OMG is this Paris? What a huge city...” said Anten, looking out from the window. The others looked out too. The Paris city is ahead of them.

They sneaked from the airport. They looked for their bicycles. But the bicycles are at the Los Angeles airport. So they looked for a place to rent bicycles. “Can anybody speak French?” asked Joe, looking at everybody. Matthew raised his hand. “I can.” They went to the downtown garage. They rented bicycles. “Now it's time,” said Piper to Matthew. “Ahmm ... Haggimemasithe watheshiwa Matthew desh. Dosoyoroshuku,” said Matthew. The man looked at them puzzled. The others looked at Matthew angrily. “That's not French. That's Japanese,” said Jessica, punching him hard. “OUCH that hurt! What's that for? I thought that was French. It's not my fault,” said Matthew, rubbing his hand.

“Just great, now we are lost in Paris with no money and don't know how to speak French,” said Joe.

“Actually, we have money,” said Leo, showing the others money. “How did you get that much money?” asked Laisy. “Oh, they were from the airport. Don't you know that we can exchange money from the airport?” asked Leo, fanning himself like a billionaire. “And look, we can stay at that hotel,” said Piper, showing a big hotel. “We have 700 euros,” said Leo, counting the money. Then all ignored him and went towards the hotel. “I'm just saying,” said Leo, and he followed the others.

When they reached the hotel, the cashier was busy reading his paper. He didn't see them, so they could sneak into the key room without any trouble. "But we can buy a room. We have money," said Jess. She didn't like to steal. "Jess, think about it. We don't have parents," said Joe, describing the problem. "Hey, who are you kids?" asked a voice behind their back. They all looked back and saw the cashier. That man spoke French. The kids didn't understand a word. "What did he say?" asked Anten from her sister. But Piper didn't understand too. "Can't you hear?" the cashier spoke again in French. Joe showed him the keys and said, "We need a room." "Oh, you guys are tourists. I thought you were some of the kids who mess things up," he said. Now the cashier was talking nicely.

"I wonder where are your elders?" he asked Joe. "They are shopping. They sent us to buy a room. How much is that?" asked Joe. "Well, a 1st class one will cost 300 euros," he said, turning the pages of a book. "That will work," said Jessica, and Joe signed for the room. Suddenly, Piper shouted in horror. They all jumped in shock. "What's the matter, Piper?" asked Joe. "Nothing, just... I'm fine," she said, but her eyes were widened. "Thank you, let's go buy," she said, pushing others to the rooms. "Piper, what the heck are you doing?" asked Joe angrily.

"Gilbert and Victor are here," she said when they were inside the room and shut the door. "What..." all the others shouted. "Slow down, yeah, they are in the same hotel we are. I saw their names in the book," she said. "They don't sign their real names," said Laisy. "Wait a minute, you know French?" said Matthew. "How dare you," said Leo. "Not much, just the words," said Piper shyly.

"If they are here, we can sneak to their room and take the necklace and notebook," said Jessica, coming up with an idea. "But we don't have the keys," said Leo, putting his hand on his head. "I can. Anten, I need your hair clip," said Joe. "I gave you one in the Patrick's house. This is my last one," she said, giving Joe her hair clip. "But I changed my mind," said Anten, ready to put the hair clip back into her pocket. Leo dragged it from her and gave it to Joe. "That's not fair," shouted Anten at Leo. He just stuck his tongue out at her.

"We must eat our dinner first," said Piper, putting a question. "But we have to avoid the robbers," said Laisy. "We can do that later. I'm starving; we have to go outside," said Piper, attacking her sister. "How will we describe it to the cashier?" asked Anten, who is the same as her sister. Joe shook his head. "We will decide that later. You three are question papers," he said. Then they went to the elevator and got in.

"Oh no, we are in big trouble. Victor is on the elevator too. Don't look back. He'll recognize us," said Jessica to the others. The others were shocked too. It's hard for Anten. She can't control it. She looked back, and Victor shot her an angry look. Anten looked at Piper. "Oh, she is pretty good at playing roles," she thought.

Finally, the elevator reached the second floor. The kids came out. The cashier was back to his newspaper. "Good luck with that," said Leo to Joe. They all went out without any trouble.

They walked toward a Japanese restaurant. They sat at the table, and Joe and Jessica took the menu. "Mmm... Leo, how much do we have?" asked Joe without even looking from the menu. "It's 300 euros,

Joe,” said Leo, counting the remaining money and saying it to Joe. “Let’s buy dumplings. Seven dumplings, please,” said Matthew to a waiter. “Um, guys, we have a problem. Victor saw me in the elevator,” said Anten, and all the others shouted at her.

“You what?”

“We are in big trouble!”

“Yes, we are,” said Jessica. When the dumplings came, they ate them, paid the bill, and went out to go to the hotel. Piper saw some familiar faces in the crowd. “Joe, are those the robbers? Are they heading to the Eiffel Tower or us?” she asked Joe. He saw them too. “I think they’re heading towards us. RUN...” he screamed. and ran away .

# **14. BEING CHASED**

It's about 9:00 o'clock and people were on the road. As the seven American kids were running, they all started to panic. The two men followed the kids. As Matthew and Leo passed a woman, they shouted at her to call the police.

"Please, ma'am, call the police. These men are going to kill us," Joe thought he had this kind of loose brother and a friend. "Just don't waste your words, bro. These people can't understand a word," he shouted back at them. Leo thought of a movement and said, "Oh, I almost forgot that." They all ran to the hotel, went to their room, and locked the door. Then Jessica looked through the door lock and said, "We lost them."

Then someone knocked at the door. They all jumped. "Joe, open the door," said Jessica. But Joe did not agree to that. "Why me? Look, Matthew is here too," he said, showing Matthew. "Well, I'm not that brave. You open it, dude," he said and slowly sneaked away from the place. "Fine, I'll," said Joe, and he opened the door, remembering his last words. Then he opened the door. The cashier showed up.

“Hi kids, I want to meet your parents,” he said. Joe looked relaxed. “Oh, I’m sorry, Mr. Cashier. They said they will be staying in another hotel. Good night...” said Joe and shut the door in the cashier's face. He turned to the others. “Fellows, we need to go,” he said.

Suddenly they heard some voices. “We should probably go after those ridiculous kids before they find out about the Eiffel Tower,” said Victor. “Shut up, will you? Anyone will think we are robbers,” said Gilbert. “Aren’t we? I thought we were,” said Victor, puzzled. Then the sound faded away. The young heroes looked at each other. “Are you all thinking what I’m thinking?” asked Aten. They all nodded. “We

should follow those men,” said Jessica, and they made a big rope from bedsheets and hung it from the window. Then they went out from that homemade rope.

As they reached for the gate, Laisy saw the thieves at the main entrance. After some time, they followed the robbers to the great Eiffel Tower. Victor sensed that someone was behind them. “Gilbert, I think someone is behind us,” said Victor, stopping the heartbeat of the children. Then for a horror, they turned and saw Anten, Laisy, Piper, Leo, Jessica, Joe, and Joe shivering.

# **15. TOP OF THE EIFFEL TOWER**

“I thought it was you. What should we do with these kids, Gil?” Victor asked Gilbert.

“Um, we’ll take them with us and... think about it later,” Gilbert replied, his eyes shining. So they captured them.

Jess struggled to free herself, but the men were too strong. “Hey, you know I have 19 black belts and I’m super-fast,” said Matthew, demonstrating the karate kick he had learned. But with one of Gilbert’s super punches, he fainted.

he robbers took them to the Eiffel Tower and tied them up with ropes. “Hey, do you know your hair is like a rat's nest? And also, you have pimples. And you are ugly ‘; said Leo to Victor who had just finished tying him. Victor was a quick-tempered guy. he took out his gun and warned them,” If you all speak a word that will be the end of you all.” he said.” Easy dude easy “murmured Leo to himself. Then Victor turned to Gilbert and they began to work.

First, they took out the necklace and opened the locket. There was a metal rod in it. Then Gilbert gave it to Victor and He put it into a hole in the metal. Then it unlocked. There was a big Diamond.” Hey Vill do you know you look ugly as a gorilla? And Gill looks like a grilled chicken.” said Joe stopping the robbers from touching the diamonds.” Enough you are much.” said Victor and took out his gun. Then he filled it with a bullet and was ready to fire it. But there was a huge Bang. Victor lay on the floor.” Don’t ever touch

my....Friend” said Jessica showing up behind Victor.” Jess??? How did you realize?” asked Joe surprised “Well I have had my pen knife since the incident at the cave (so that is a true said Matthew)no it's not” said Jess.

“Umm thank you kid you made the work easy. Now come here,” said Gilbert rubbing his moustache and he caught Jessica. Jessica shouted. Gilbert dragged her towards the hole in the tower and forced her to put her hand into it “Never!” she said, biting the robber's hand. “Oh, you will,” Gilbert replied, aiming the gun at Joe. He felt just great. “If you don't, then your friend will die. Be quick,” he warned. Jessica reached into the hole and pulled out the diamond.

“FROM NOW ON, I WILL BE THE RICHEST PERSON IN THE WORLD,” said Gilbert, an evil grin spreading across his face.

“No, you are not,” replied a voice from the sky. They all looked up to see a police helicopter flying ahead of them. A police officer was leaning out of the helicopter, holding a gun. “Put down your weapon and the diamonds. Raise your hands,” he commanded.

The robbers complied. Soon, police officers arrived and handcuffed the two robbers. The kids were also released and taken to the police station.

“Thanks a lot, kids. Those diamonds belong to Queen Anne. She died during the Trojan War. When her palace was surrounded by enemies, her husband, the great King George, died, and these diamonds were her only valuable possession. She made a map leading to the diamonds and hid them in the Eiffel Tower. These robbers must have read the web documents about the diamonds and found the necklace. But history states that the diamonds belonged to Prince Edmund, who was lost during the Trojan War, and he was never found again. The robbers claimed that a man named Mr. Feston was the owner of the diamonds now, but they killed that man and...” The officer couldn't finish the story when Jessica fainted.

“Jess, come on, wake up,” said Joe, splashing water on her face

“Let me,” said Leo and slapped her.

“Wake up yo. No acting. Jessica awakened, panting.

“Ooh, thanks for catching me, Joe. You mentioned Mr. Feston; that's my dad, which means those diamonds belong to our family,” Jess said in disbelief.

That was true, and Jess decided to send the diamonds to her mother. The police officers arranged for them to have a flight to Los Angeles. Finally, it was all over, and they were on their way home.

# 16. KID DETECTIVES

When they reached the airport, their bicycles were in the same place where they had left them.

“Hey, Laisy, do you remember when Mom and Dad will return?” shouted Joe, the wind rushing past his face as they headed home.

“They said the 2nd of June, and it’s TODAY!” she replied, and they all screamed in horror.

“Hey, do you guys think my mom is also awake and looking for me?” asked Matthew, not fully realizing the gravity of the situation. Leo stopped screaming and looked at him.

“Why?”

“Dude, are you kidding me?”

“Yep, I think I’m correct. Ahhhhh...”

They paddled home faster than ever. Matthew said goodbye to his friends (and also invited them to his funeral).

But they were too late. Their parents were already home. “Joe, Leo, Laisy, Piper, Anten, and Jessica? I think you have some explaining to do,” said Mr. Philip, his arms crossed over his chest.

They had a quick shower and changed into dry clothes before facing the biggest disaster in Philip history. However, when they entered the living room, they were surprised to see the elders' faces filled with pride.

"We are so proud of you all," said Mrs. Philip, and the kids were shocked.

After dinner, they went to their rooms (Jessica shared a room with Anten) and had a good sleep without nightmares.

The next day at school, all the teachers praised them, and every kid was jealous of their achievement. It was the last day of school, and Joe and Jessica would be heading to high school next month.

When Leo went to the bathroom, he saw Joe and Jessica and winked at them. Just as Leo was about to enter the restroom, he bumped into someone, causing books to scatter everywhere.

"Oh, sorry, dude," said Leo, picking up the books and handing them back. That's when he realized it was a girl. She snatched the book from Leo and walked away, leaving him in shock.

At dinner, Joe remembered the surprise they were about to reveal the day before, so he asked his father, "Dad, what is your job?" Mr. Philip looked taken aback.

"Oh, you caught me. I'm a detective," he said before continuing to eat.

That night, Leo and Joe talked about the mystery they had solved.

"We can do more," Leo said.

"Sure! And we will name our gang the KID DETECTIVES," Joe replied.

*And while this chapter may close, the journey continues, promising new adventures ahead!*

**Always chase what sets your heart on fire and never lose sight of your dreams! Keep pushing forward and let your passion fuel your journey!**

MEET KID DETECTIVES AT  
THEIR NEXT ADVENTURE

**KID DETECTIVES AND  
CRAZY SCIENTISTS**

## 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**

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*Seven teens*  
*One necklace*  
*A diamond secret*

“GIVE ME THE NECKLACE. CAN YOU SEE THE THING THAT’S ON MY HAND? HAND IT OVER!” one voice said. Leo, Joe, and Anten moved closer to listen.

” Never we all robbed that, I know you killed Patrick. If you try to kill me I'll call the police.” said the 2nd voice. “You can call the police. They will come and arrest us you are a robber too” said the voice.

“Fine you won.. I don’t like to help the police.” said the 2nd voice.

” Now be a good boy give me the necklace or die.” said The 1st voice and the children heard the footsteps of a running man. Agun sound came. That's all. The 2nd voice is dead.

Anten was scared.” Oh guys can't we go now?” she said, Joe put his hand around her and said,

“Anten I swear I'll protect you.”

“Hey, who are you little brats?”