

Lyra



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Author

The Author's Other Publication

- ගුරුතුමිට තැග්ගක් ISBN 978-624-592-2 (15. 11.2023)
- කවිමුතුකුළු ISBN 978-624-206-593-9 (15. 11.2023)
- අත්තමමගේ දත වැටිලා ISBN - 978-624-208-095-6 (15. 11.2023)
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- මනුකට හමු වූ රාහුල පොඩි සාදු ISBN - 978-624-208-347-6
- පුංචි මගේ කවි සිතුවිලි ISBN - 978-624-208-349-0 (02. 08. 2025)
- හතේ චිත්ති හතක් (15. 11.2023)
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- The life of a chocolate cake ISBN - 978-624-208-352-0
- The Mysterious Door ISBN - 978-624-208-350-6

Mahamaya Girl's College - Kandy
Grade - 4 B
08. 02. 2025

Lyra

This wonderful book is a tribute to all my loving teachers, my dear parents and my family.

Adarshna Gajendra

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.

Tina is a small and pretty girl who has the habit of watching the starry night sky through her window everyday.

She loved to see the moving satellites, shooting stars and the little fire flies adding extra beauty to the starry blue sky.

The silvery moon was playing hide and seek with her beneath the wooly clouds.



one pleasant night, the sky was full of twinkling stars with vibrant colours. Tina's eyes were on a moving star.

It was a sharp and bright light. suddenly she heard a big noise and the bright light started coming towards her backyard .Tina hid behind the window and kept on watching. In no time, she realized that it's spaceship.

she was curious .spaceship slowly landed at the backyard.

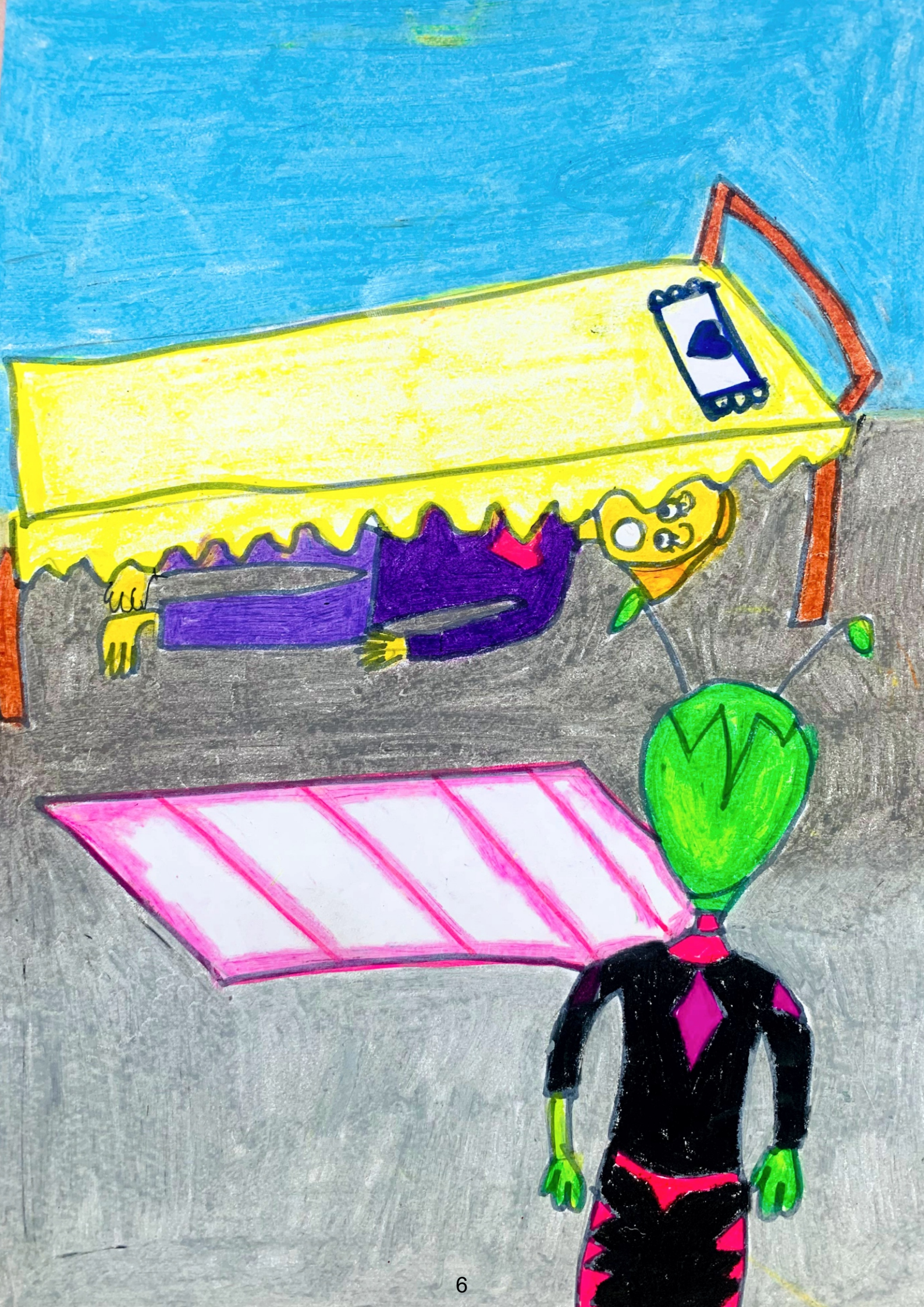
Tina saw a tiny strange creature getting off and coming towards her window. she got scared. She ran and hid under her bed.



The strange creature came in and said

"Hello! Is anyone there? I will not hurt you.
I need help!

"Tina was confused what to do.
She wanted to help the strange creature.
But, at the same time, she was scared to
come out. she decided to watch the creature
carefully. She understood that the strange
creature is an Alien .



Tina slowly came out. Her heart was pounding with excitement .The Alien was shiny light green in colour and had two antennas in head,

big and black diamond shaped eyes, two long hands with long fingers and legs with long and skinny toes. It reminded Tina exactly the Alien she saw in a movie a long time ago. The Alien looked very sad and worried .

"Hi! I am Tina"
she said.

"I am Lyra" said the Alien.

"How did you come here?"

"We the aliens from the planet Mars visit earth once in every five hundred full moons. I came with my family. I was playing hide and seek with the fireflies .I got lost in the jungle. I saw this place. I came here to ask for help. Please! Help me to find my family" Lyra said.



Tina was sad to hear it. She could not imagine living without her family even for a little while. Tina promised Lyra to help her find the family. Tina saw an object like a walky talky in Lyra's hand.

she took it and started pressing some buttons. Suddenly the walky talky started making some strange noises as if a broken radio.



Then they heard someone knocking at Tina's door . She made Lyra hide under her bed and Opened the door carrying her own pocket radio in her hand. It was Tina's mother.

"Tina, is everything alright ?
What's that noise ?" She asked. Oh mom!
Yes! I'm fine.

It's my radio which started making a strange noise. I'm trying to mend it". "Oh! Be careful. Don't stay awake too long. It's already reaching midnight. Remember! You have to go to school in the morning"

"Sure mom, I'll sleep early. Good night!.

? ? ? ?
12 midnight



welcome

when Tina's mother left, Lyra slowly came out and said that the noise heard from the walky talky was the reply from her parents. So, they made sure it's kept switched on.

They spent whole night chatting on Tina's bed. They spoke about their home planets, different planets with life, families, friends, food, likes and dislikes etc.

Lyra laughed at Tina's jokes. During that night they both became very close friends. Tina offered Lyra some chocolate cakes made by her mother and some fruit juice. Lyra seemed enjoying Tina's treat.

Meanwhile Tina didn't forget to click some photographs with her new and the most special friend.



They talked all night. It was almost the morning when Lyra's parents arrived at Tina's backyard .

Then it was time for Lyra to go home. Both of them were very sad to leave eachother.

They hugged and both were in tears. Lyra presented her walky talky to Tina. So that they could talk to eachother. Lyra's patents were very happy.

They thanked Tina for taking care of Lyra. Then, They all got in to the spaceship and disappeared in the star studded sky. Since that day, Tina could talk to Lyra every night.

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



978 624 208 351 3