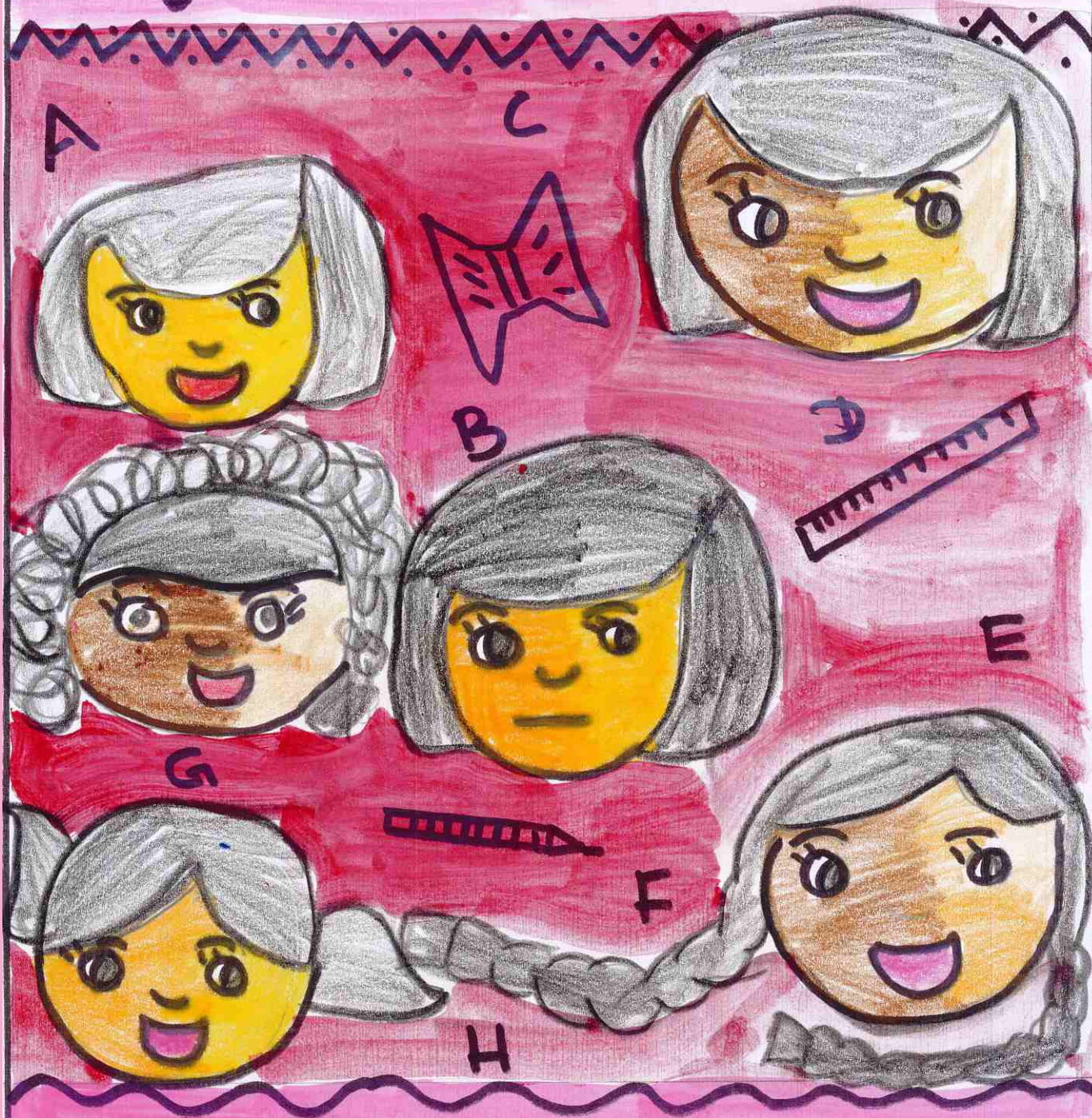


ME and my BESTIES



KAWINI NIHINSA MENON

Me and my Besties

Kawini Nihinsa Menon

Other stories

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- Ginger the cat

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DEDICATION

With great pleasure and honour,
I present this book, “**Me and my besties**”
to my ever-loving mother, father, sister,
and family.

To my dear friends, and the dedicated
teachers and principals who have
shaped my journey,
this work is a testament of my gratitude and
appreciation for the invaluable roles you've
played in my life.

Thank you for your unwavering support,
guidance, and love.

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.

Me and My Besties

I have five best friends at my school. Let me tell you their names first: Sahasya, Ranulya, Konali, Umali and finally, Okithma. These friends of mine are very special.

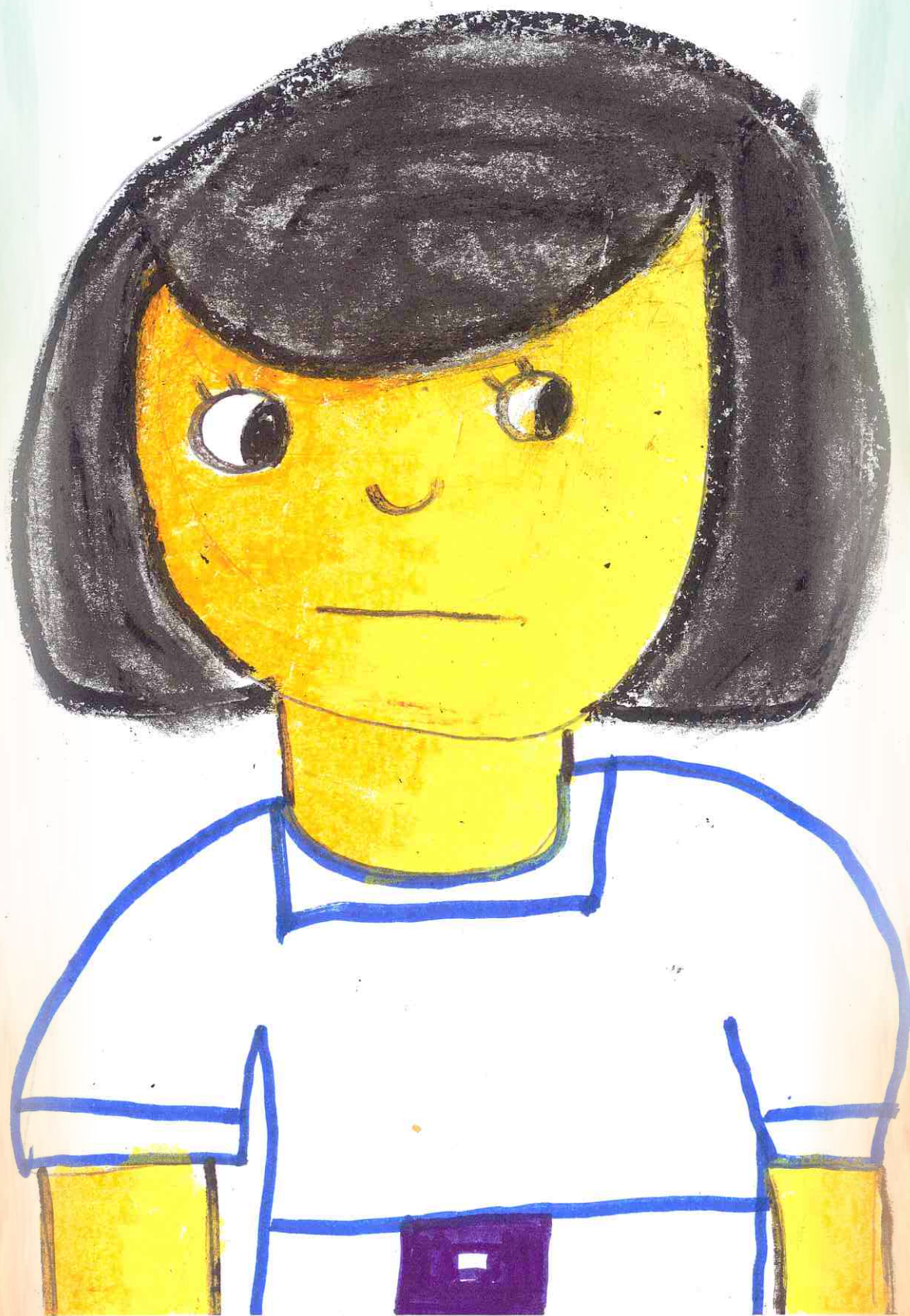
Sahasya is very fair and she feels lonely when school ends. I like her very much. But sometimes, when Sahasya eats, she looks sad and angry with me. Often, when she meets me, she doesn't talk. Sometimes she even shouts at me and walks away. However, my best friend is still Sahasya.

Sahasya is very friendly with me as well. We go to table tennis and practice together, every Monday. One day, after table tennis was over, we were walking out of school to meet our parents. We had to climb a lot of steps and it was raining heavily. Sahasya was smiling. I didn't know why.

When we met our parents, it was very late. Our parents were angry because they thought we might have had an accident. Sahasya's mother was especially angry. Sahasya said, "My mother shouted at me a lot" I told her, "My mother shouter at me too"



Sahasya



Ranulya is my second best friend. She always looks at me, smiles at me, hugs me and runs away. I like her very much. Ranulya's hobby is chess. She likes chess a lot. But I don't think chess is fun. My sister says chess is boring. However, one day I wanted to play chess, so I asked my little sister, and she said okay. My sister taught me how to play chess.

One day, when I was playing chess with Ranulya. I won, and Ranulya was very sad. The next day, Ranulya didn't even talk to me. I said sorry, but she wasn't friendly with me. That day, my mother has packed bread for my snack. I gave a piece of sandwich bread to Ranulya. Then she said, “You said sorry, so it's okay, thank you,” and she hugged me again. I love Ranulya. She has straight hair. So, so straight.



Ranulya



Konali is my third best friend. She's so weird. Every time, she talks like a chatterbox. I don't like her very much when she talks excessively. One day, I told Raulya, but Ranulya said, “Konali never listens” When Konali was not listening and kept talking and talking. I said, “Konali, please can you shut your mouth?”



Konali



Umali is my fourth best friend. She's a little bit fat, but I like her hair. It's so curly. I like her hair very much. It's like a cloud – so soft.

But one day, I got mad at Umali. We fought with each other. I said, “Umali, your hair is so curly, and I don't like it. Your hair is like a crow's nest” Then I shut my mouth. “Oh my gosh, what did I just tell Umali?” I was upset about what I said. Umali cried, and I said sorry, but she was joking. She wasn't really crying. Then we were both happy.

But the next day, Umali didn't even talk to me. I asked why. She said, “Because you told me that my hair is like a crow's nest. I don't like it when you say things like that. Don't tell me that again. My head is hurting now. Go away.”

Then I told Umali, “Somebody told me that my hair is like a mountain, a big mountain, like a monster. I didn't like it, but I didn't cry.” Umali was so surprised to hear that. She asked, “Can I learn how not to cry when somebody shouts at me?” I told her how not to cry. We became friends again.

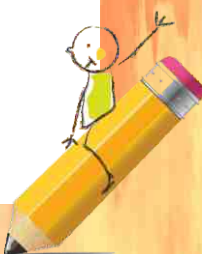


Umali



Okithma is my fifth best friend. I like her too. She has long hair down to her shoulders. One day, Okithma and I were joking around, pretending to be strange humans. One day, I was acting like that, and Okithma laughed at me. I said, “I don't like it. What is that?”

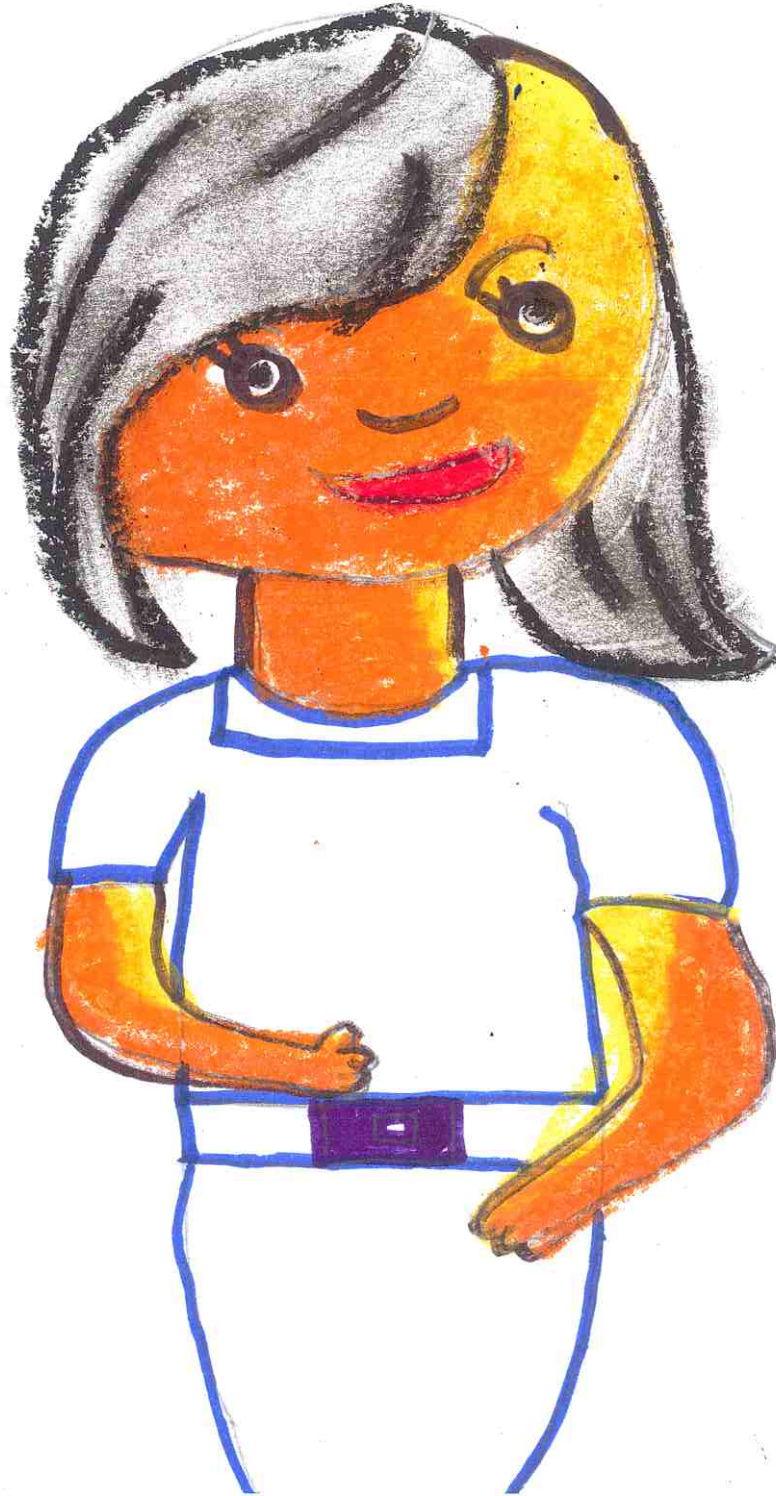
She said, But I don't like it when somebody tells me things like that. “Then I cried. Okithma said, “I'm so sorry.” But the next day, Okithma didn't talk to me. I asked why. She said, “I'm so sorry, but you are still mad at me.” I said, “No, I'm not mad.” After some time, we were happy and friends again.



Okithma



And it's me Kawini



— *The End* —





Afterward

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

It is our social responsibility to create the fertile soil for those seeds to sprout and grow. This is the only project in recent history that has been implemented continuously for several years at the school level, provincial, national and international levels for the sake of the productivity of education. This time, it is special that the *Pirivena* student monks have also been involved in this. The nation should be grateful for the dedication shown by the Principal, daughters, teachers, parents and alumni of *Mahamaya Balika Vidyalaya*.

The printed book is still the main tool of our education. The enjoyment that a child gets from a book cannot be provided by anything else.

It is experimentally proven that the use of various electronic devices to store human knowledge and the distancing of children from books has been detrimental to the quality of education and has created various problems in society. This project, which is being implemented as a solution to this, has been adapting the smart younger generation of the digital age to modern technology by writing electronic works for the past two years, together with school children in the country.

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

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

Project Founder and Coordinator,

Senevirathne Maha Lekam

