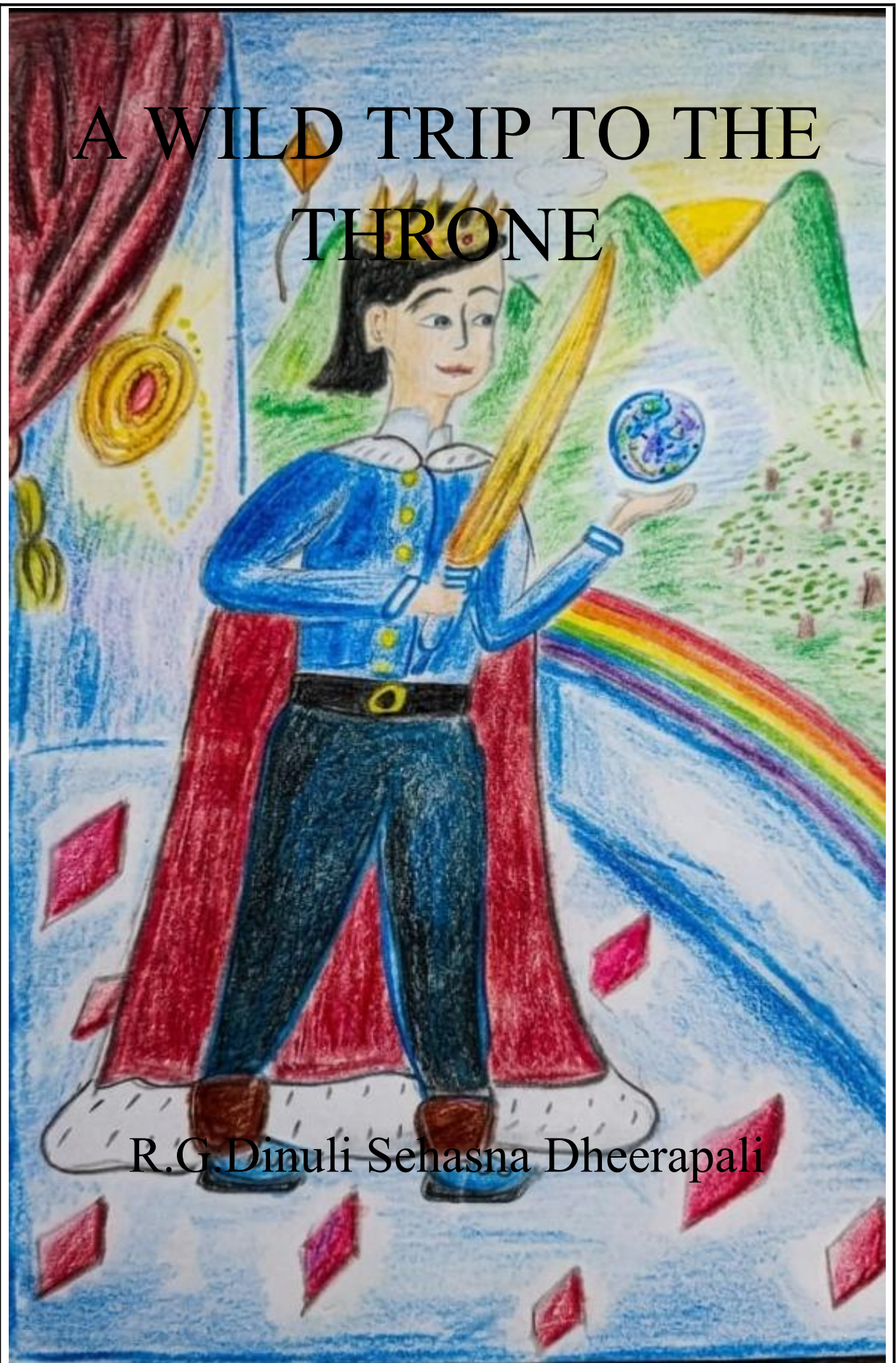


# A WILD TRIP TO THE THRONE



R.G.Dinuli Sehasna Dheerapali

# A wild trip to the throne

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-Author

Royal wings for Rosie

Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy

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# DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to my parents , teachers and friends who helped me to write this book and to the teachers in charge of this program for letting us have an opportunity to become authors and write a book by ourselves to enhance our skills in writing and literacy.

# PREFACE



## Foreword

In an increasingly complex global future, the "Hemamala Upahara" book project, led by Mahamaya Girls' College, stands as a turning point in girls' education. Over a decade, it has successfully nurtured thousands of children to become young authors.

This year, by collaborating with other schools, we aimed to provide students with a wealth of new experiences. The goal was to develop multi-faceted skills, including communication, values, and creative growth. As a result, children have written books that pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic—the supreme symbol of the Buddhist world—to the Hill Country (Kandy).

I extend my gratitude to everyone involved, including the students who contributed their creativity and the teachers who guided them.

Shashikala Senadhira

Principal

Mahamaya Girls' College

## Congratulatory Message

It is a great honor for me, as the Governor of the Central Province, to send a congratulatory message for the launch of the books created through the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project initiated by Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy

Education is the fundamental foundation for the progress of society, and it is further strengthened through books and literary creations. It is clearly commendable that students' talents, creativity, and intellectual abilities are emerging through projects such as this.

Education is the fundamental foundation for the progress of society, and it is further strengthened through books and literary creations. It is clearly commendable that students' talents, creativity, and intellectual abilities are emerging through projects such as this.

I believe that this book creation project will provide valuable knowledge and a precious literary contribution not only to the students but to the entire society. Furthermore, I hope that through such efforts, future writers who will bring pride to Sri Lanka will emerge themselves to this successful endeavor. I wish this project and the book launch ceremony great success.

Sarath B.S. Abeykoon

Governor, Central Province

Emeritus Professor, University of Peradeniya

2026-05-10

## Congratulatory Message

I highly appreciate the noble and outstanding effort of the Principal and the academic staff of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, the student daughters, the students of other participating schools, and everyone who dedicated themselves to plan and implement this book publication project. The project was organized under the leadership of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, with the participation of other schools in the Kandy Zone, with the aim of encouraging children toward book creation within the current school system, as a tribute to Hemamala Kumariya who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic to Sri Lanka.

For several decades, Sri Lanka has been committed to providing free, compulsory, quality, and equitable education to all children, thereby producing a future generation of intelligent and skilled citizens. In such a context, this book creation program for school children helps develop creative ability, critical thinking, and other positive qualities for a balanced and well-rounded personality, and contributes to building a future knowledge-based society.

May all activities of the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project be successful through the blessings of the Sacred Tooth Relic.

Pradeep Nilanga Dela

Diyawadana Nilame,

Sri Dalada Maligawa.

2026.05.10.



Long time ago, in a land where trees talked to each other and fairies granted wishes and also there were wizards which had mysterious powers, ruled a king named Castleton who was very fair and truthful and was loved by everyone. The king ruled very happily and fairly. This kingdom's most sacred thing was a book, which beamed a mysterious light and sparkled like the diamonds in the royal treasury. The book decided the emperor of the kingdom. In that time there lived a boy named Augustine who was about 9 years old and was kind and honest. He lived in the forest with his mother, father and his young brother. Every morning, he would go to pick fresh fruits and flowers. One sunny morning, he got up and went to pick fruits and

flowers in to the forest. There were lots and lots of animals like butterflies, rabbits and deer eating fresh fruits and sipping on nectar. “Good morning my animal friends” said Augustine to the forest animals. And he went on picking fruits until his basket was almost full. Suddenly he heard a noise behind a berry bush. He was scared for a moment but thought to see what it was. He silently walked past the berry bush and he was shocked! It was a person dressed in royal clothes. His left foot was hurt. Augustine quickly ran towards him and picked some herbs and tied them tight to his leg by using a torn off piece of his shirt. Augustine asked “are you okay? what happened” “I just saw someone here and I tried to see who it was and then I tripped over this rock” replied the boy. “what’s your



name” “my name is Augustine. What’s yours” “My name is Harold. I’m the prince. My father is the king.” “Your majesty I am sorry if I said or did anything wrong.” said Augustine a bit scared. “Don’t talk like that. Just call me Harold. And by the way do you want to be my friend?” “Of course I do” replied Augustine. And then on Augustine and Harold became best friends. Often, they would play in the jungle and sometimes the palace. The king too treated Augustine like his own son. Day by day they grew older and closer together. They were now 15 years old. “Augustine, have you heard about the legendary book in our kingdom?” asked Harold. “Yes, I have. Why do you ask?” “Um.... Would you like to see it?” “Okay. But do you think it’s okay, if we go and see it?” “Yeah,

it'll be okay" So Harold and Augustine went to see the legendary book. It was locked behind a door, with guards marching here and there. When they went closer to the room suddenly the king stepped out of the room. Harold looked scared. "Harold, Augustine what are you two doing here?" asked the king. "We were just um.... out looking for you, father" replied Harold. "Very well then, you boys better stay out of trouble okay...?" "Yes, your majesty," said Augustine. "Why did you lie Harold?" "Well, I knew my father wouldn't let us go in." "why did you want to go in the first place?" "Okay I'll tell you after we go in" So Harold and Augustine went near the door. And the guards spoke up, "the king told us not to let anyone in." "But my father just let us have permission to go in." So,

the guards opened the door and the two friends went in. “Can you tell me now what’s going on?” “Okay. You know that this book is the decider of the kingdom’s ruler, right?” “Yes, so?” “So, we can write our names in here. Then we can be the next rulers of this kingdom” “What? Are you crazy? We can’t do that. It’s wrong.” “Yes. But can you do it for me? Your best friend?” “Okay. So, what do we have to do?” “We have to go to the forest on a full moon day and direct the moon light on to the book and simply write our names on it with an ink pen.” “So, we have to steal the book and put it back in here before anyone sees us. Doesn’t that sound a little risky?” “Yes. But we can do it. I’m sure.” “So how are we going to steal the book?” “After sunset they close this door. We can sneak in

without anyone knowing were here,” said Harold in a deep voice. “Okay.” Augustine agreed. Then they came out of the room. Augustine left home. Harold told him to come back at sunset. While he was walking, he thought “Harold’s idea is wrong. It would be a crime if we did that. I wish I could tell him not to. If I do so he will stop being friends with me. And if we get caught everyone will think we are thieves. Would he listen if I told him not to. Oh! What will I do now?” He knew from his heart that it was wrong. He determined himself that he would try his best to stop Harold. After sometime, sunset came. Augustine ran to the castle as fast as he could. Harold stood near the gates expecting his arrival. Augustine ran to Harold and told “I don’t think this is a good idea. Please can we not do this

heist” “No, we are doing this Augustine. Now quickly come with me before they close the gates.” Harold dragged Augustine in through the gates in to the castle. “Please Harold, this will only get us in danger.” “Okay then if you don’t want to do this I will” said Harold angrily and left Augustine. He felt sad because he thought he lost a friend. The sun was gone. Moonlight fell through trees making the place look truly wonderful. Augustine left for his small cottage in the vast jungle. While he was walking home, he saw someone running fast towards the heart of the forest. He followed him in to the forest until he stopped. “Who are you?” asked Augustine. Then he put down his cloak. It was Harold. “Oh Harold” “Augustine, the guards are chasing me. Help!” “Um...Okay. There are big trees in the

heart of the forest you can go there”  
“Aren’t you coming with me?” “I don’t want to do something wrong. You can go alone.” “Please...At least to go and find a shady tree.” “Okay.” So, Augustine and Harold ran across the jungle into the heart of the forest” “I can still hear horses what do we do now? The guards are catching up to us.” Before they could do something, the guards appeared through the trees and cornered them. “Wait, I can explain.” Said Harold and pointed to Augustine. “He stole the legendary book. I’m prince Harold. He was running after he stole the book and I was chasing after him.” The guards quickly went near Augustine and caught him. “Harold what are you doing? Tell them the truth,” whispered Augustine. “I’m sorry but it’s the only way for me to get out

of this.” The moon light fell upon them as the guards dragged Augustine to the castle. Morning came and the sunshine went through the castle as they put the sacred book back at its place. The very next day Augustine was summoned at the court before the king Castleton.

“Augustine is it true that you stole the sacred book? I could never believe you would do such an act” said king

Castleton. “No, your majesty. I didn’t even lay finger on it.” “Then why did

Harold say that you stole the legendary book?” “Because.... Um... I can’t tell

you why” “Okay then. You shall be executed from this kingdom on

tomorrow morning,” announced the king. Augustine didn’t want to tell the

king that his best friend and also the king’s son stole it. Even though Harold was dishonest, Augustine didn’t say



anything about Harold's wicked plan and how he framed him. The next day came and Augustine was executed from the enchanted kingdom. Rumors about him spread throughout the kingdom quickly. Everyone thought he was a lying thief. After being executed, he entered a land of wizards. The people there were rough and not loving, kind or innocent he went through the streets to find some where to work to earn a living. While he was walking, he got thirsty and went in to a shop and asked from the owner, "hello! I am very thirsty. Can you give me something to drink please?" "Okay if you can do a job here, I can give you something to drink," replied the owner. "Yes, I can do a job here. I can work here every day," said Augustine with a smile. One day, while going to work, he saw an old

man walking along the sidewalk very painfully. He went to the old man and asked, “are you okay? Are you hurt?” The old man replied, “no. My back is very sore and I don’t have money to get treatments for it.” Augustine reached out to his pocket and gave all the money he had to the old man and said, “here’s all the money I have. I hope you get better very soon.” “Oh, thank you dear child. You are very kind,” said the old man as Augustine set off to work. Day by day he won people’s hearts by kindness and forgiveness. Everyone loved him. Augustine travelled from place to place and his tale of kindness and honesty spread far and wide. In the meantime, at the enchanted kingdom they had a lot of problems. After they executed Augustine, the legendary book started to beam not a mystical yellow

light but a beam of flaming fire. The crops and cultivations were destroyed. All the plants and creatures began to feel weak. And prince Harold got a dangerous disease. The king couldn't understand what he did wrong. Finally, the king summoned the wisest wizard in his kingdom to talk about this crisis. "Greetings my dear king," said the wizard. "Greetings dear wizard. Can you please tell me what is going on?" "Well dear king, I'll have to examine the great book first." And so, the king took the wizard to the hall where they kept it. The wizard examined the book very carefully and said, "dear king, the great book has been angered. The next ruler of the kingdom has been forced to leave the kingdom forever. And the prince is sick because he said or did a wrong thing to him." "Then who is the

next ruler of the kingdom?” Asked the king. “I don’t know. We’ll have to find that ourselves,” said the wizard.

Meanwhile, Augustine travelled to a small kingdom of fairies. In that kingdom ruled an unfair and unkind king. He was very cruel. And this king has been hearing tales about a young boy who was hard working and kind and sent his soldiers to look for him throughout the kingdom. This kingdom too had a secret. There was metal door which was shut tightly against the stone wall. Legend says that if an honest and kind person who is worthy of the whole seven kingdoms place a hand on it, the door will open. And there will be a sword plunged into a stone. And only he can remove it. The king made all the people in his kingdom try to open it. But no one succeeded. And he made

his soldiers look for Augustine because he thought he would be able to do it. In the meantime, Augustine went into a little forest with small trees and bushes. He worked hard and built a small cottage out of dried leaves, clay and wood for himself. In the night suddenly, he heard a banging noise on the door. He didn't mind it much and he fell into a deep sleep. When he woke up, he was locked up in a dungeon. He heard someone coming. And a few seconds later, before his eyes stood the king dressed in royal clothes. "Guards, release him," said the king. "Why did you bring me here?" Asked Augustine with a trembling voice. "There's a door which can be opened by only the person worthy of all the seven kingdoms. And that person is you. And in that door lies a sword with ultimate power. And you

have to open it whether you like it or not.” “But why?” “Because with it I can be the emperor of all the seven kingdoms.” And with that they entered a dark spooky staircase leading them underground. They stepped carefully along the stone stairs with a chilly feeling. Finally, they reached the bottom of the staircase. There it was. The stone door. It was closed shut. Augustine stepped forward and placed his hand on the stone door. The door’s outline began to shine with a yellow light. And the door slid to the left side slowly and the door was open. And there it was. The great powerful sword of power glistening brightly. It was plunged into a stone tightly. The king made his soldiers try to get it out from the stone, but it was a failure. Finally, the king tried himself but it didn’t work

either. And Augustine went near it and thought, “if I pull this sword out then all of the seven kingdoms will be in danger. So even if I could, I should pretend that I couldn’t pull it out.”

“What are waiting for? Pull it,” shouted the king in an angry voice. He went near the sword and put his both hands on it. He pulled with all his strength and nothing happened. The sword was still stuck. The king got furious. He started to yell. “I’ve got the enchanted crystal ball and the golden amulet but I didn’t get the great sword of power. Magic of the crystal ball and the amulet are weak against power of the sword. Well, I’ll have to invade without the sword now” yelled the king. He pushed Augustine to a corner and marched out of the room closing the door. Augustine stood up straight. He could hear the guards’

footsteps slowly disappear. He told to himself, “Well, if the king is going to invade the other kingdoms, I should at least try to stop him.” And then he pulled out the sword from the stone and sparkling dust spread everywhere lighting up the whole room. And the door slid to left and Augustine came out. He looked like a warrior with the sword in his hand. His sword sparkled with a light that seemed mystical and imaginary. He put his sword in a scabbard because he thought the king would suspect it. Next, he put on a long velvet cloak so anyone wouldn’t suspect it’s him. He slipped away from the castle without the king noticing. The king thought he was still inside that door. The king gathered his army and went to attack the other kingdoms. Augustine quickly ran to the battle. He



could not believe it. Screams filled the air. Everyone begged the king to stop. The king rode on a horse sending evil magic from the crystal ball and the amulet. He captured the kings of the five kingdoms he invaded. Only the enchanted kingdom was left. The king and his soldiers were just about to attack the enchanted kingdom when suddenly a person dressed in a red velvet coat appeared before the king's horse. The king yelled loudly, "who are you? Reveal yourself or it's the end for you." Augustine slowly removed the hood of the cloak. The king was shocked. "How did you come here? I locked you in that room." "You know how the prophecy said that I could pull the sword out of the stone. Well, it came true." Said Augustine pulling the sword out his scabbard. The sword was

shone in a yellow light like a bright sparkling star. Its brightness spread across the place. The magic of the crystal ball and the amulet was weakened. He waved the sword back and forth and flickers of magic spread far and wide. The people were shocked from this scene. The flickers of magic went towards the king and lifted him up into thin air. The king, helplessly, screamed “anyone please help me. Please.” But no one volunteered to help him. And suddenly with a flash the king disappeared into thin air. The battle was over. People looked at one another shouted with happiness. The soldiers were under the magic force of the king before, but now they were free. They looked at Augustine who held the eternal sword of power. The soldiers bowed their heads one by one. And the

people also bowed their heads following them. Augustine wondered what happening. Even the kings of the other kingdoms bowed. And then an old powerful wizard came forward and spoke up, “you are the holder of the most powerful sword in the world. You are the one who is worthy of the seven kingdoms. We shall crown you as our new ruler.” They took Augustine back to the castle and crowned him as their new king. He took over six kingdoms except one, the enchanted kingdom. Meanwhile in the enchanted kingdom, everything turned back to normal. Augustine wanted to visit his old village in enchanted kingdom. But he remembered he was executed from there so he wore the red velvet cloak again then no one would recognize him. He carried his sword of eternal power

in a scabbard. The king of enchanted kingdom, king Castleton, wondered how this miracle happened. He summoned the great wizard again and asked why. The wizard replied, “your majesty, the person who is worthy of the kingdom has returned.” “We must find who it is and hand over the kingdom to him,” said the king happily. Apon hearing this Harold frowned and was angry. He wanted take over the kingdom for himself. But there was nothing he could do now. Augustine was happy to come to his home village again. He wanted to meet Harold but he remembered how he betrayed him. Even though, he couldn’t meet him because he was executed. Augustine roamed around his village bringing back the happy memories he had. Suddenly, he heard an announcement

given by the king. “Today all the young boys in this village must come to the castle as the king is choosing the next emperor of the kingdom” the messenger kept going on. “Everyone’s attendance is compulsory.” Augustine was very scared upon hearing this announcement. “I must leave this kingdom now or the king will be very angered of me coming here.” He ran across the fields the meadows and rushed towards the palace gates. When he was about to go out of the gates, a guard stopped him. “Where are you going? Looks like you’re in a hurry.” Asked the guar. But Augustine stayed quiet. The guards got angry and took him to the king. Meanwhile, in the castle, all the young boys gathered in the palace. The king asked from the wizard, “how are we going to choose?” “Dear king, that person should have a

sword with him. Not just any sword, a sword that gleams and shimmers, the sword of eternal power.” Said the wizard. “Okay,” replied the king. They looked for ones with swords and there were a very few. But not even a single one gleamed and shimmered. And then the guards dragged Augustine into the palace saying, “your majesty, this person was trying to escape the kingdom soon as you gave your announcement. That’s why we brought him here.” The king seems to recognize the person even though he was wearing a red velvet cloak. Augustine stood still because he couldn’t tell what would happen next. “Guards check if he has a sword.” Commanded the king. “Yes, your majesty, he has a sword,” said a guard. “Take it out” said the king to Augustine. He slowly pulled it out his

eternal word of power. It gleamed. It shimmered. It was amazing. Everyone gasped. “Who are you? Reveal yourself,” said the king. He slowly removed his cloak. The king was shocked. It was Augustine. Harold got angry and shocked. “The boy who was in fault for stealing the sacred book is the next emperor?” “I didn’t steel it your majesty, it was Harold. He stole it and framed me.” said Augustine. “What? I didn’t do that father. He is lying.” Said Harold. “Okay then we’ll ask the great book who stole it,” said the king with a strong voice. Augustine and Harold stood before the great book nervously. The great book suddenly beamed a light and turned to a page on the book. ‘It said the person who can touch a plant and make it grow majestically and the tallest is telling the truth.’ They were

both puzzled by this. And they were ordered to go to the dried-up fruit orchard and touch it. While going Harold thought that “if I go then everyone will think I’m a liar. I have to stop this.” And with that Harold slipped away before anyone noticed and went to a wizard and took growing powder. On the other hand, Augustine thought “I am telling the truth. So, the plant I touch will definitely grow.” They reached the orchard and they both held on to a tree. Harold slowly rubbed some growing powder on his hand so the tree came back to life. Everyone thought Prince Harold was telling the truth. Augustine kept holding on. “Come on, let go. It’s over.” Yelled Harold. But just she said that, the plant started to turn green and fresh fruits and leaves began to pop out. The tree grew larger



and larger and beautiful. Everyone realized Augustine was telling the truth. And Harold's plant withered and dried up again. The wizard told it was only going to last a little while. But unfortunately, Harold forgot. They took Augustine to the palace and crowned him king. Now he was the emperor of all the seven kingdoms. And he ruled with fairness and kindness. Everyone loved him. And they all lived happily ever after.

**THE END.....**

### Afterword

With the approval of the Ministry of Education, this research-based project has empowered thousands of student authors for over ten years. Educationists recognize it as a program that significantly enhances the quality of school education.

In alignment with modern educational reforms, encouraging students to author a research work is a milestone in this journey. In this digital age of "Smart" technology, the modern school must demonstrate through research that books and technology should be used together. This is because the unique joy a child receives from a book cannot be replaced by anything else.

To prevent children from drifting away from books—which remain our primary educational tool and storehouse of human knowledge—Mahamaya Girls' College has spearheaded the "Hemamala Upahara" project for many years. Its primary objectives are to foster academic discipline, promote values, and pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who fulfilled a historic mission to empower women.

We express our gratitude to the Principal, teachers, parents, alumni of Mahamaya Girls' College, representatives of other schools, the Diyawadana Nilame, and the staff of the Sri Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic) for their support.

Seneviratne Mahalekam

(Project Creator)