

Magical Library



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Sudheeni Ahasya

Author's first book

Mahamaya Girls' College Kandy

Grade 8

2026.05.10

ISBN:978-624-211-065-3

Dedication

To Little readers everywhere.



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.

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.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation and blessings to the Principal, the academic staff, the students, and everyone involved who dedicated 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.

Chapters

1. Buldo
2. Birthday Surprise
3. Night Camp Mystery
4. The Library Secret
5. Charlie's Promise

1. Buldo

My name is Charlie, and I am ten years old. You don't know me yet – but my family , my neighbors, and even my relatives know me very well for one special reason. That is – Losing everything.

Yes , it's true. Whenever I take something . I forget where I put it. It's not an illness, but somehow everything I own goes missing. Can you believe that this is the eighteenth water bottle I've used this year alone? And it's not just water bottles. I lose many other things too –pencils,erasers,clothes,shoes, and even socks. I can never remember where I left them.

My mother says that I've been careless like this since I was very small, always loosing things-especially water bottles. My sister on the other hand, is completely different. She never loses anything. She uses her belongings very carefully. She took the same school bag to school for three whole years, and even now it isn't damaged at all. Can you carry the same bag to school for three years? I can't even think about it.

Oh, and there's something else I should tell you. Tomorrow is my birthday. For my birthday, I wish that I'll learn to take better care of my things – and, of course, that I'll receive lots of gifts.

Even though almost everything I own goes missing, there is one thing I have never lost. Do you want to know what is it? It's my lucky "Buldo". It's not an animal or a pet . It's a pencil my sister gave me for my eighth birthday. I never use it, so it stays safe inside my cupboard, quietly watching me lose everything else.

2.Birthday Surprises

Today is my birthday!

I jumped out of the bed before my alarm rang. I didn't even brush my hair properly – I was too excited. When I rang to the living room, I almost slipped on balloons. Colorful balloons were everywhere - on the sofa, on the floor, even on the fan. One balloon suddenly popped and scared me so much that I dropped my toothbrush.

My sister gave me a big hug and said, “Happy birthday and try not to lose your gifts today.” I promised her... but I wasn't very confident.

Soon my friends Lia, Mica and Jak arrived. Lia brought a box of chocolates shaped like stars. Mica brought a storybook and read the funny title out loud. Jak brought a gift that made a strange rattling sound.

“Is it alive?” I asked.

Jak laughed. “Open it and see!”

Inside was a toy robot – but its head was on backward. We laughed so hard that we forgot to fix it.

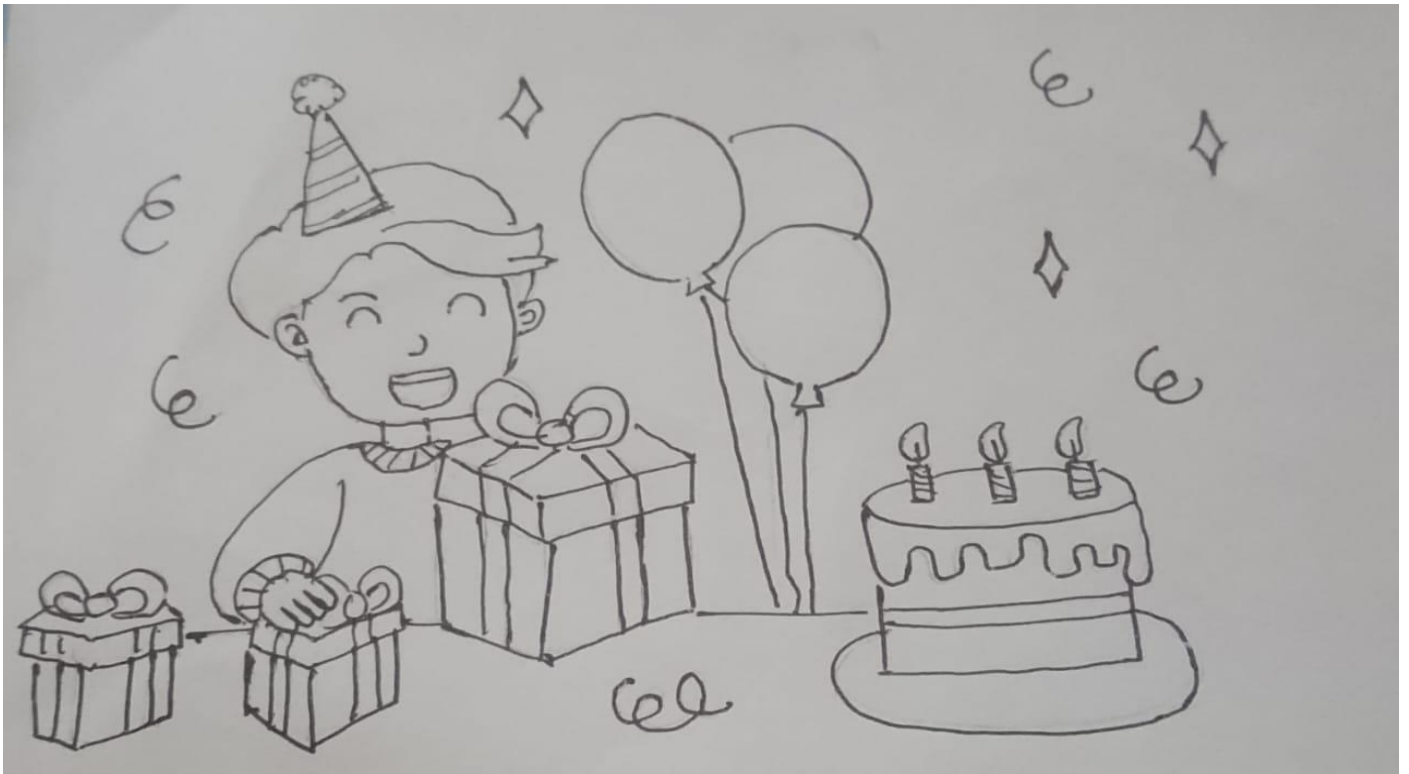
Then Mom gave me a very big box. Inside it was a guitar. A real guitar! I held it like a rock star and strummed it proudly – but it sounded like a crying cat trapped inside a box. Dad covered his ears, and everyone burst out laughing.

We played many mini games. Musical chairs became musical falling when I missed the chair and landed on a cushion. In the balloon popping game, Jak popped three balloons at once and got scared by his own noise. In another game, we had to pass a parcel – but I lost the parcel before the music stopped.

The funniest game was called ‘‘Find Charlie’s things.’’ My friends hid my shoes, my cap and my water bottle around the room. I searched everywhere. I even checked the fridge. I found everything – except the bottle. It was in my hand.

Finally, it was time for cake. It was chocolate with my name written in blue. When I blew out the candles, I wished very hard.

That night, I went to bed smiling, tired and happy, holding my birthday gifts very tightly – so they wouldn't run away.



3.The Night Camp Mystery

The next morning, I woke up early because we have a school night camp today.

While getting ready, I couldn't find my socks. "Mom!" I screamed.

Mom came calmly, pulled a sock from under my pillow, gave it to me, and tapped my head gently. "Careless Charlie," she said with a smile.

At school, everyone was excited about the night camp. When night came we sat around talking and laughing. Suddenly, Lia pointed at the ground.

"Do you see that light?" she whispered.

A strange light was glowing from the ground. Curious and a little scared, we followed it.

The light led us to the old library near the school. Inside, a librarian stood silently. He wore a long coat and looked like a magician from a story book.

My heart beat fast. Jak held my hand. After a few moments, the fear slowly faded – but the mystery stayed.

4.The Library Secret

After school the next day, we went back to the library.

Inside, it was more amazing than before. Tall shelves touched the ceiling. Dusty books whispered when we walked past them. Some dictionaries were so big they looked heavier than Jak.

Mica wanted to read one of the giant dictionaries, but the librarian stopped her.

“Not allowed,” he said sharply.

That made us uneasy. We went home with many questions.

The following day, we returned again. While the librarian was busy, Jak pulled out a dictionary. Suddenly, the floor shook. A secret door opened.

Inside were all my missing water bottles – every single one! There were also lost shoes, pens, toys, and bags from other children.

“The librarian is a thief!” Lia shouted.

The librarian came running and shouted loudly. He raised his hand toward me.

Splash!

Something wet hit my face.

“Charlie! Wake up!”

I opened my eyes. It was morning. My mom was standing there, sprinkling water on my face.

It was all a dream.

I sat up slowly and checked my bag. My bottle was there.

Maybe the library wasn't real. But the lesson was...

I smiled and decided to be more careful.

5.Charlie's Promise

The next morning, sunlight peeked into my room. I sat up slowly and looked around. My school bag was on the chair. My shoes were under the bed. My water bottle was on the table.

Nothing was missing.

At breakfast, mom smiled at me. “Good morning, Careful Charlie,” she said.

Careful Charlie?

I liked the sound of that.

At school, I told Lia, Freya, and Jak about my strange dream again. This time, we laughed about the scary librarian and the secret door full of lost things.

“Maybe the library was teaching you a lesson, they might run away.”

That day, I made a small promise to myself. I wrote my name on my bottle. I checked my bag before leaving class. I even put my socks together.

Was I perfect?

No.

Did I still forget things sometimes?

Yes.

But I was trying.

Before sleeping, I opened my cupboard and looked at my lucky Bulldo pencil.

“Don’t worry,” I whispered. “I won’t lose you.”

Bulldo stayed quietly in its place.

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)