



The **PIANO**



Senuli Rashwitha Menon

The Piano

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Other stories

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- All about me - 1
- All About Me - Part 2 & 3

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DEDICATION

With great pleasure and honour,
I present this book, “ **The Piano** ”
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

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.

Chapter 1

Once upon a time, there lived a rich family in New York. There were Mr. Fits, Mrs. Fits, the twins named Avibo and Abeeda, and their pet puppy named Pigo.

They were a happy family. The twins used to take piano lessons from a local pianist. They had their own grand piano at their mansion. They participated in many competitions and won lots of prizes.

They were very talented and made their own piano pieces. Even after university, they became well-known pianists. All they wanted was to make music a part of their lives.

They even taught the children how to move their hands rhythmically on the large, beautiful piano. They won the one and only "Best Musicians" award.





Chapter 2

Years later, no one knew what happened to their family. The big, beautiful mansion was no longer new; it was dusty and old. Everyone in the big city thought it was haunted.

No one dared to look at it; everyone was scared of it. Even though it belonged to a kind-hearted family who never did anything bad, what no one knew was that someday, the mansion would reveal its hidden truth.



Chapter 3

Sometime later, a family who lived in a faraway city came to New York looking for a place to stay. There was a mother, a father, two daughters aged 16 and 12, and a cute little puppy.

The 16-year old, named Bella, badly wanted to do her higher studies in the big city. The younger child was Isabella.



By the way, the puppy was me! Yes, I myself was a good doggy. This is how we got to the mansion: both the mom and dad wanted to live in a place where they could send their kids to the best school in the big city.

With no other options left, they decided to rent the place. Well, it turned out pretty well, actually.

Chapter 4

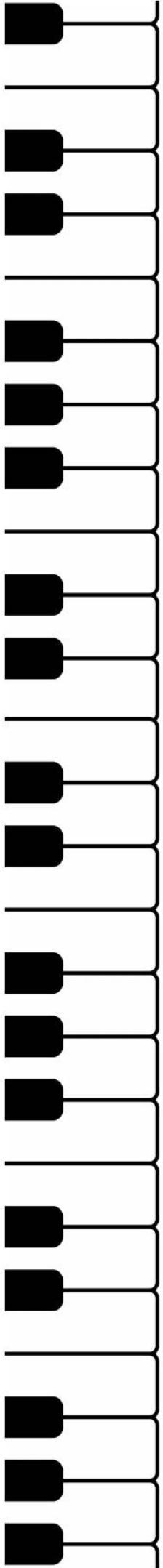
As our car glided into the big garden, the landowner came to meet us. Bella quickly got out of the car, took the keys from the landowner, and ran towards the front door of the mansion. As we went in, the landowner showed us around.

I could tell the kids were very excited by their smiling faces. I was happy, too! Well, I knew a secret. As the landowner left, they all started shouting like crazy—jumping, clapping, and laughing.

Then we decided to check out the rooms. The huge mansion had four floors. The lowest floor had the kitchen and the living room with a fluffy couch and fireplace. The second floor was the master bedroom where Mom and Dad decided to stay, which also had a luxurious bathroom.

Bella stayed in the third-floor visitor's room; on that same floor was the pool. The fourth floor was Isabella's room. It had the piano in it.

Now you might know—it was the famous piano twins' room. They fit in quite easily.



Chapter 5

The family spent their first day unpacking and decorating their rooms. It took four days to unpack, decorate, and get used to it. Bella and Isabella started going to Grey Highway School, while the mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Waltz, worked as scientists. This was their basic, happy life.

One day, Isabella got a bright idea! Now that she had a lovely white grand piano all to herself, she asked her parents if she could learn to play the piano as a hobby. She went to the Fits Music Academy. Even though it was hard to learn the whole musical world of piano as a twelve-year-old kid, she improved rapidly day by day.

Even though none of her relatives played the piano, she was getting the hang of it pretty soon. Plus, it was easier for her to practice at home daily. I loved to hear her play the piano just like in the older days! After five years of practice, she was now one of the best pianists in her school. I was very glad, just like her parents.



Chapter 6

A few years passed and Isabella turned into a sixteen-year-old girl who had mastered the piano. She not only played beautiful rhythms but also got very good grades. She loved going to school. One day after school, she was very tired, so she went to bed early, and I slept right beside her. After about an hour, we heard a loud noise.

Isabella's closed door was open! She freaked out. She thought it was just a dream. Then, after Isabella went right back to bed, we heard a squeaking noise. It seemed that someone or something had opened the piano. Isabella was really scared. She just closed the piano back up.

I sensed something was wrong and wanted Isabella to go to sleep in her parents' room. After all, I was just a dog; I couldn't tell her anything! But she seemed to understand my barks.

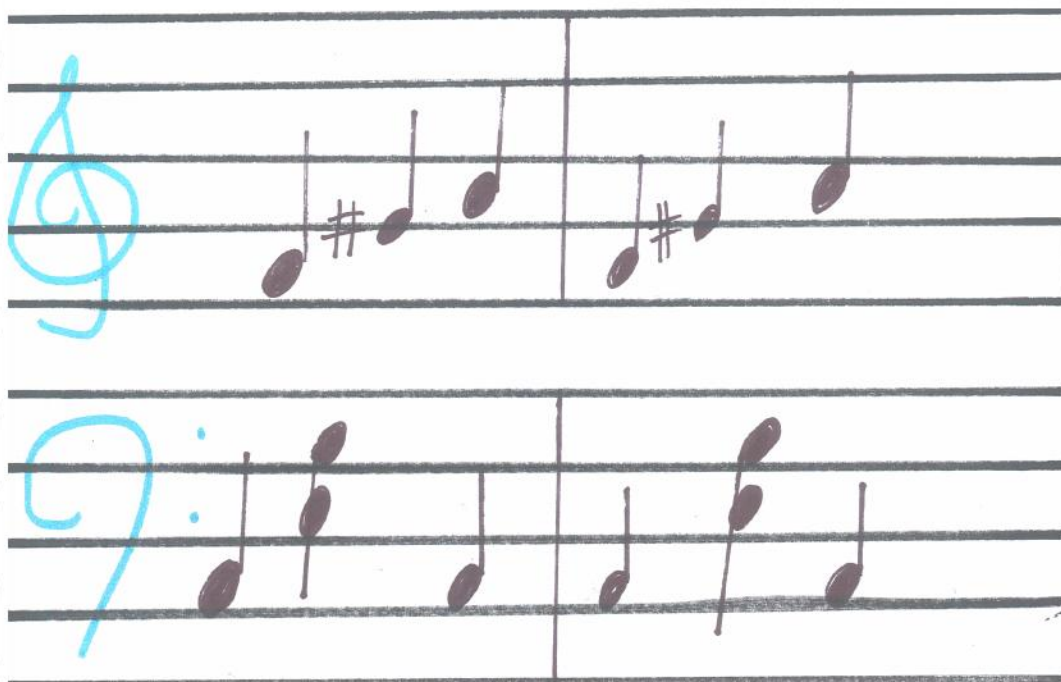
The next day, Isabella told her mom and dad the story. They both said she was probably daydreaming and that there is no such thing as ghosts. Her sister reminded her that every time she sees something unbelievable, she should pinch herself to check if it's a dream. Isabella couldn't explain it any further, but she was so curious.

Chapter 7

The next night, she decided to stay up late. Her parents would never let her stay awake after 8:00 p.m., so she had to use her (not very good) skills of patience and a bit of acting. As it was the holidays, she slept until late in the morning so she could stay up. I was right by her side.

After Mom and Dad came for a bed check, Isabella pretended to be asleep. She stayed up until 10:00 p.m. when she suddenly started hearing a familiar rhythm. She didn't know what was playing it, but what she did know was that this was happening in real life.

Isabella ran towards the piano as the music faded, but that weird yet magical music whispered in her ears for the whole night.



This Letter is
From your great
great great ancestor.
Play the tune
to know the....



Chapter 8

Isabella decided to explore. Even though she did not believe in spirits, she could not say it was unreal. There was an old closet in her room.

Mom and Dad never let her open it, but this brave girl took a risk. She opened the closet—and it was empty. A whole family could have fit in it! She went right in, and suddenly, a pink box with a lovely golden design appeared, sparkling bright.

She tried her best to open the beautiful box, but it was useless. Then, suddenly out of nowhere, a letter appeared in her pocket.

She was amazed.



Chapter 9

As Isabella came out of the closet, she found herself waking up in bed. She decided to do what the letter said.

But as she climbed out of bed, her mom called her downstairs to visit her aunt, who had just come home after a long trip to France. Isabella loved her aunt; she and Isabella were so much alike.

Isabella happily got dressed and went downstairs to have breakfast. Then her mom announced that she would be going out of town for a job interview and her husband would go with her, too.

So, it was just the aunt and Isabella alone in the house. Isabella had a good feeling about this. She had plans.

Chapter 10

After Isabella's parents left, she ran to her room with her aunt. She started explaining what had happened. The piano, the box, the music, the letters—all of it was like a fairy tale.

Her aunt agreed to help her with this strange mystery. They both ran to the piano.



Dear Isabella, by
the time you read
this you won't see
us. We are Lindo and
Llceera. We won't
ghost you. We want to
say you are part of
our family and please
take music to a happy
and loving place. ♥

Lindo. Llceera.

Chapter 11

Isabella opened the piano and started playing the tune from the letter.

She heard the same tune she had heard at night.

At that moment, the back of the piano suddenly opened.

Isabella freaked out! Something that looked like a basket flew out of the piano and landed in her aunt's hands.

Isabella stopped playing. Inside the basket was a piece of paper.

It said: *“Isabella, you finally know the truth.”*



Chapter 12

She didn't tell her mom or dad about it.

It has been kept a secret between Isabella, her aunt, and me.

My name is Pigo.

Since then, the love for music in this family has never faded.



Art
image



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)