

CHILDREN STORYBOOK WORDS NATIONAL COMPETITION 2018

AMINEF
American Indonesian Exchange Foundation

FULBRIGHT
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WORDS

VOLUME 1



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FOREWORD

As Director of AMINEF, the binational Fulbright Commission in Indonesia, I am pleased to provide a few words of explanation and encouragement for this collection of stories in two volumes, which represents one of the outcomes of the Fulbright English Teaching Assistants (ETA) Program this year, 2017-2018.

American ETAs work together with local co-teachers of English in various secondary schools throughout the archipelago. The program is now in its 14th year in Indonesia.

In 2007, the fourth cohort of ETAs came up with the idea to hold what they called a "WORDS Competition" at the schools where ETAs are placed and then to bring together for a national competition the student winners of those local contests. In previous years, this has mostly meant a speech and talent contest, and has since its beginning always been an exciting part of the AMINEF year. The 10th or 11th grade students got to demonstrate their prowess in spoken English (helped of course by their ETA and co-teachers over the previous months) as well as to tell their personal stories and to show off local cultural riches and their own talents.

This year's cohort of 19 ETAs - who by the way come from all over the US and are very diverse in background and interests, and are spread out in 19 schools in nine provinces in Indonesia - together with the AMINEF American Program staff who work closely with them came up with a new idea for WORDS. This year's WORDS, instead of a speech and talent contest, is focused on story-telling and takes as its story-telling theme "Hometown" or "Home."

The national competition was held in Jakarta on April 5th at the Le Meridien Hotel. Each of the 19 students participating had to first win their local school competition to qualify for the national competition. In addition to the competition itself, there were also evening activities (bowling at a local bowling alley), a trip to Monas, and an English Olympics Activity.

But the real excitement of the event was in the oral presentation of the stories and the judging of the presentations and the physical books themselves. The jury consisted of Americans and Indonesians and included an American book artist and Fulbright researcher, Lisa Miles; best-selling Indonesian author and former Fulbrighter Ahmad Fuadi; Max Harrington of the US Embassy's Cultural Affairs Office; and Christine Manara, a lecturer in English at Atma Jaya Catholic University, who is helping in an evaluation of the Indonesian ETA Program.

Another change in this year's competition concerns the prizes. AMINEF chose to work with Taman Bacaan Pelangi, an NGO that focuses on children and reading this year. The winning story books are combined in a collection of story books that

AMINEF is donating to Taman Bacaan Pelangi's library in Labuan Bajo, Flores, Nusa Tenggara Timur. The three national winners, Sherlia, Ummu, and Anugrah, traveled to Labuan Bajo to volunteer in Taman Bacaan Pelangi's library, among other activities.

I want to congratulate here the student winners of the competition, and to salute all the 19 student participants for their creativity, enthusiasm, and high spirit. I also want to thank Taman Bacaan Pelangi for its collaboration, all the judges who gave of their time to help make the WORDS competition a success. The 2017-2018 ETAs did a tremendous job in conceptualizing and realizing the whole project, and showed dedication and enthusiasm at all stages. Finally, my thanks to this year's ETA Coordinator Shelby Lawson, and the tireless staff of AMINEF's American Program led by Astrid Lim: Ceacealia Dewitha, Muhammad Rizqi Arifuddin, Thasia Rayinda.

Alan H. Feinstein,

Executive Director, AMINEF

ABOUT WORDS COMPETITION

The WORDS Competition is a Fulbright ETA-initiated event that began in 2007. For the first ten years, it was a speech and talent competition. In 2018, WORDS has been remodeled as a storybook and storytelling competition and includes a service-learning component. The three National Winners will participate in a volunteer trip to Flores Island to present and donate the first volume of the National Winners' storybooks to Taman Bacaan Pelangi (TBP) libraries, which is a non-profit organization working to establish children's libraries in remote areas of Eastern Indonesia.



Leena is a shy girl. She never focuses on what she is doing. She doesn't believe in her own abilities.



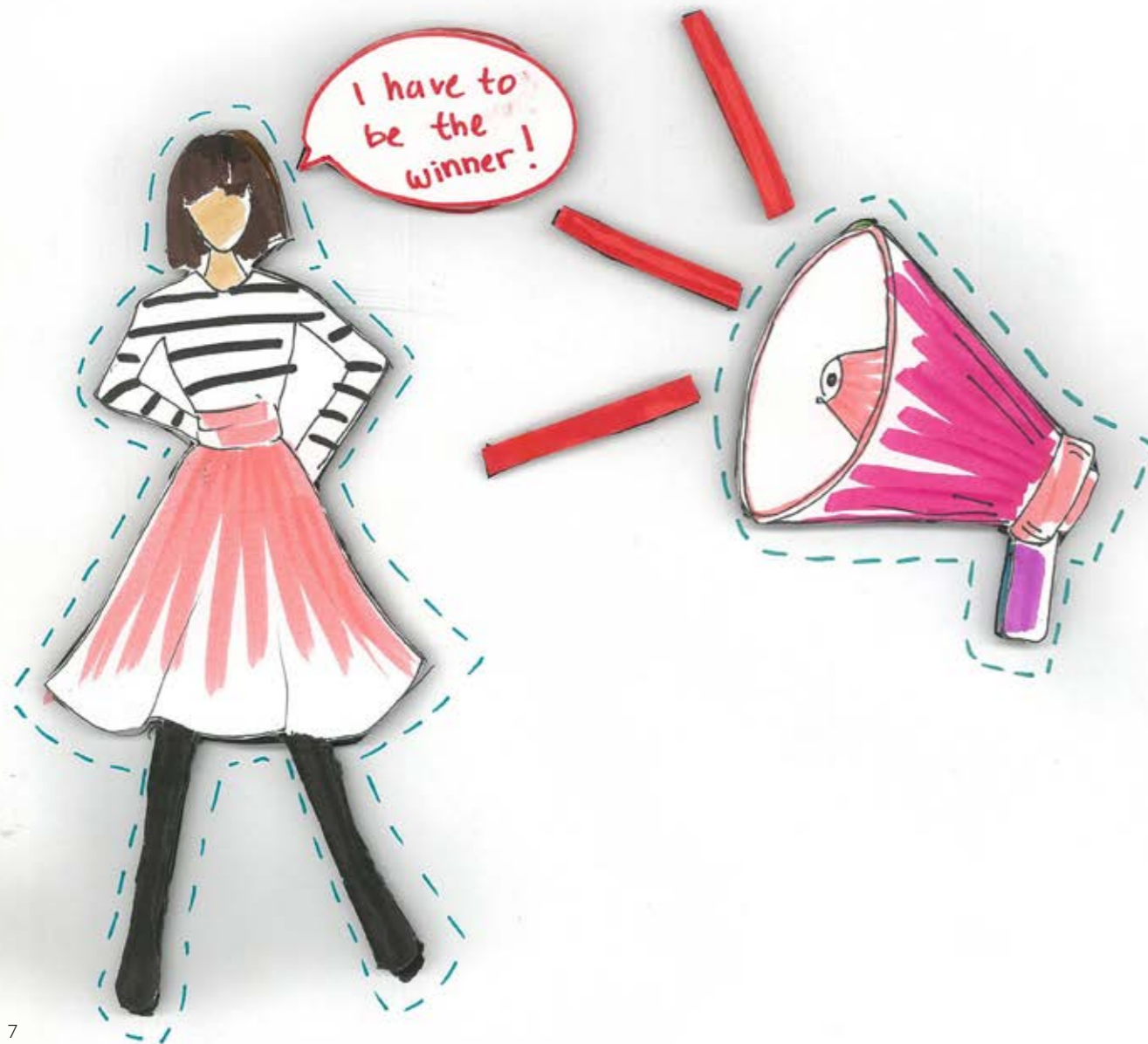
By the way, Leena is a fashion student at vocational high school in Surabaya.



One day, miss Hana who is the head teacher of fashion program announced that there will be fashion design competition for celebrating Surabaya's birthday. And the winners design will be displayed at 'Surabaya Fashion Week' that is the dream of all fashion students!

"Woah! I have to join that competition!" Leena said excited.

"I have to be the winner!"



On the first day, Leena starts looking for ideas for the theme. But she is confused to choose the theme she is going to use.



“What should I use for the theme?” Leena thought, and suddenly she got an idea.

“I’m going to use the theme about Surabaya 200.”

Then Leena started to sketch. BUT, when the sketch was almost done, she was dissatisfied with her sketch and wants to use another theme.

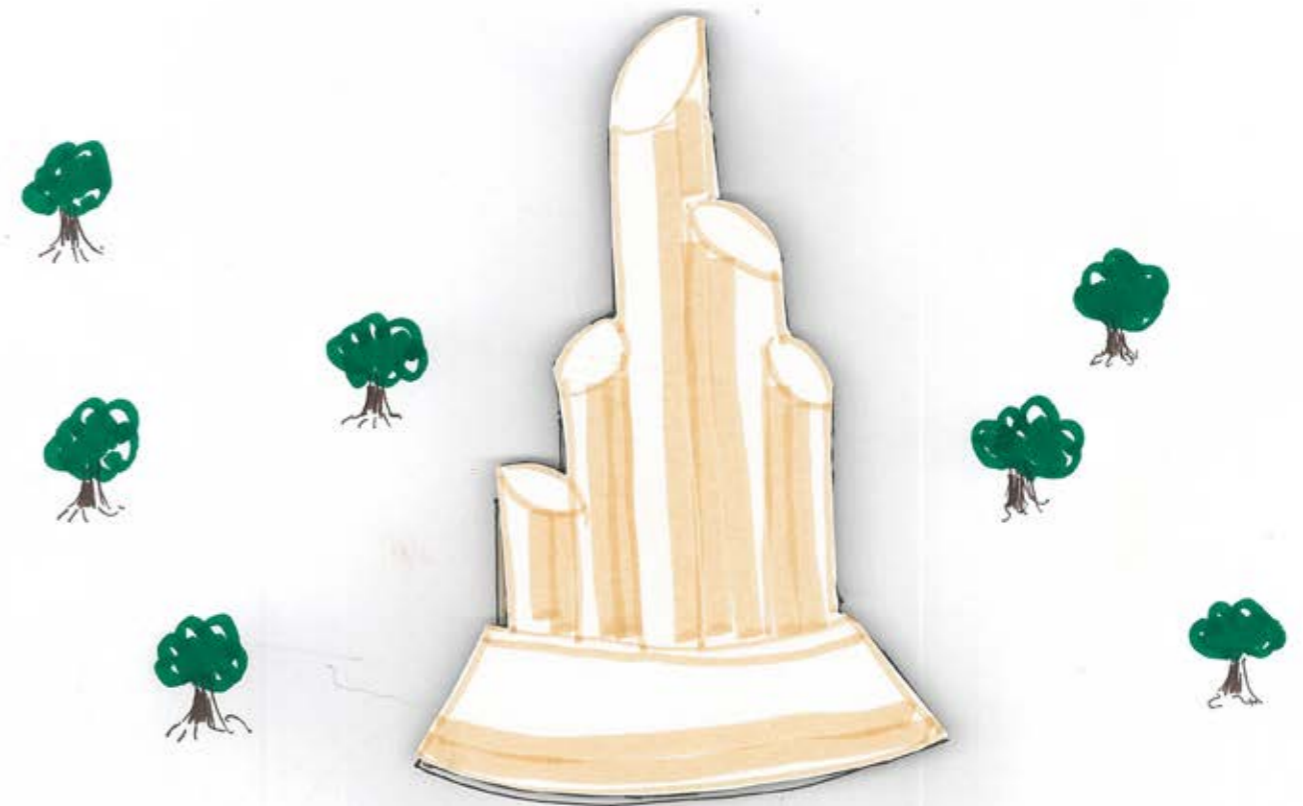
“It’s not good, I’d better make something else, maybe it could be better!”



Then Leena used the theme of a ‘Pointed Bamboo Monument Surabaya’ and ...

Again, when the sketch was almost done, she wanted to try another theme ... again.

“It’s not good, I’d better make something else, maybe it could be better!”



The next day, when the competition was less than 2 days away.
Leena got stressed because her rival has prepared all of the design
while she was thinking about the theme....

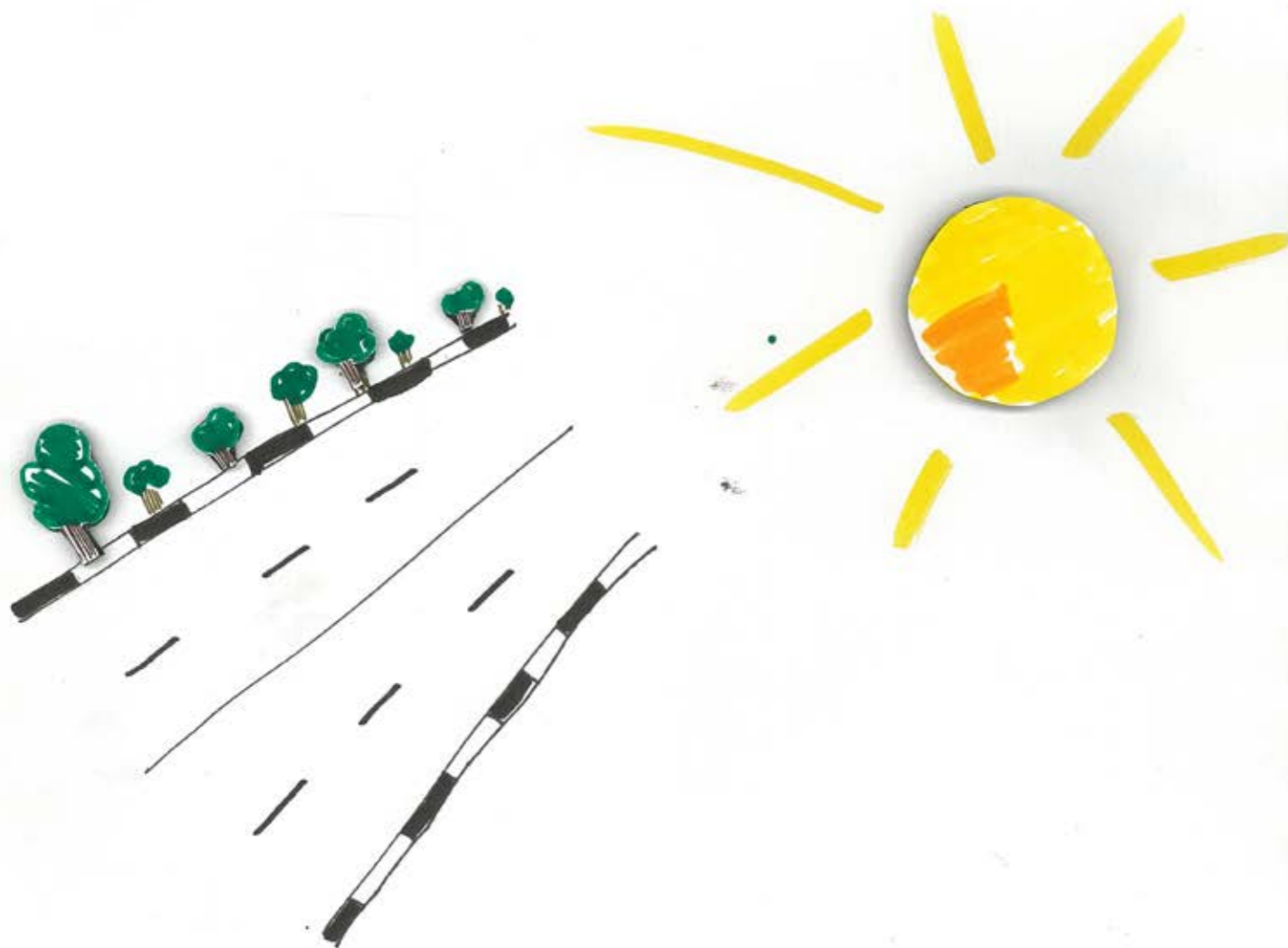
“Oh My God, the competition is
near!” Leena says.



Leena always sees other people's possessions, and when the competition
was 1 day away, Leena was sad and made sure she really,
really was prepared.



In the morning, Leena woke up early, she felt anxious because she still didn't have any idea. And then, she decided to go to car-free day at Bungkul Park Surabaya which is a beautiful park in Surabaya to refresh her mind a bit.



After arriving at Bungkul Park. Leena just sat and saw that many people of Surabaya are creative and diverse. There are people singing, dancing, selling breakfast, and

Wala! She got an idea, and the theme she is going to use is 'Diversity of Society Surabaya'.

She got an amazing idea when she focuses her mind!



Leena was more excited to finish her sketch. Now, she believes in herself.



In the afternoon the sketch must be submitted for the competition, and Leena finished her sketch well.

She did it perfectly!



Then Leena immediately went to Cak Durasim which is the art building in Surabaya to submit her sketch.

GO! GO! GO!



But unfortunately, when Leena was on her way she got stuck in a traffic jam! And yeah, the time was up to submit her sketch. So, she got eliminated.



Leena couldn't do anything. She was disappointed with herself.

But after this accident, Leena got a lesson to believe in herself and Leena has become a better person.



The end....

IKA



Once upon a time,

In the middle of the woods, called

Kalipare at the edge of Malang

Residency, a boy was born named Ika.



He was very different from his friends; he was born like an eagle!

Everybody thought he was cursed by the God. Nobody wanted to be his friend, even his brothers! He grew in a discriminative environment. But he didn't give up. He still had the spirit to live.





Ika grew up. He was a teenager. Then, a group of people came to Kalipare, they called themselves Nihon. In the beginning when they came to Kalipare, it was just fine. When they were more comfortable in the woods, they became
MONSTERS!

They were invaders! They killed almost everyone in Kalipare without mercy. They compelled the indigenous people to be their forced labor. This happened for a long time, for a whole decade!



Where did Ika go? Was he killed? Did he run away by himself? No! Of course not!

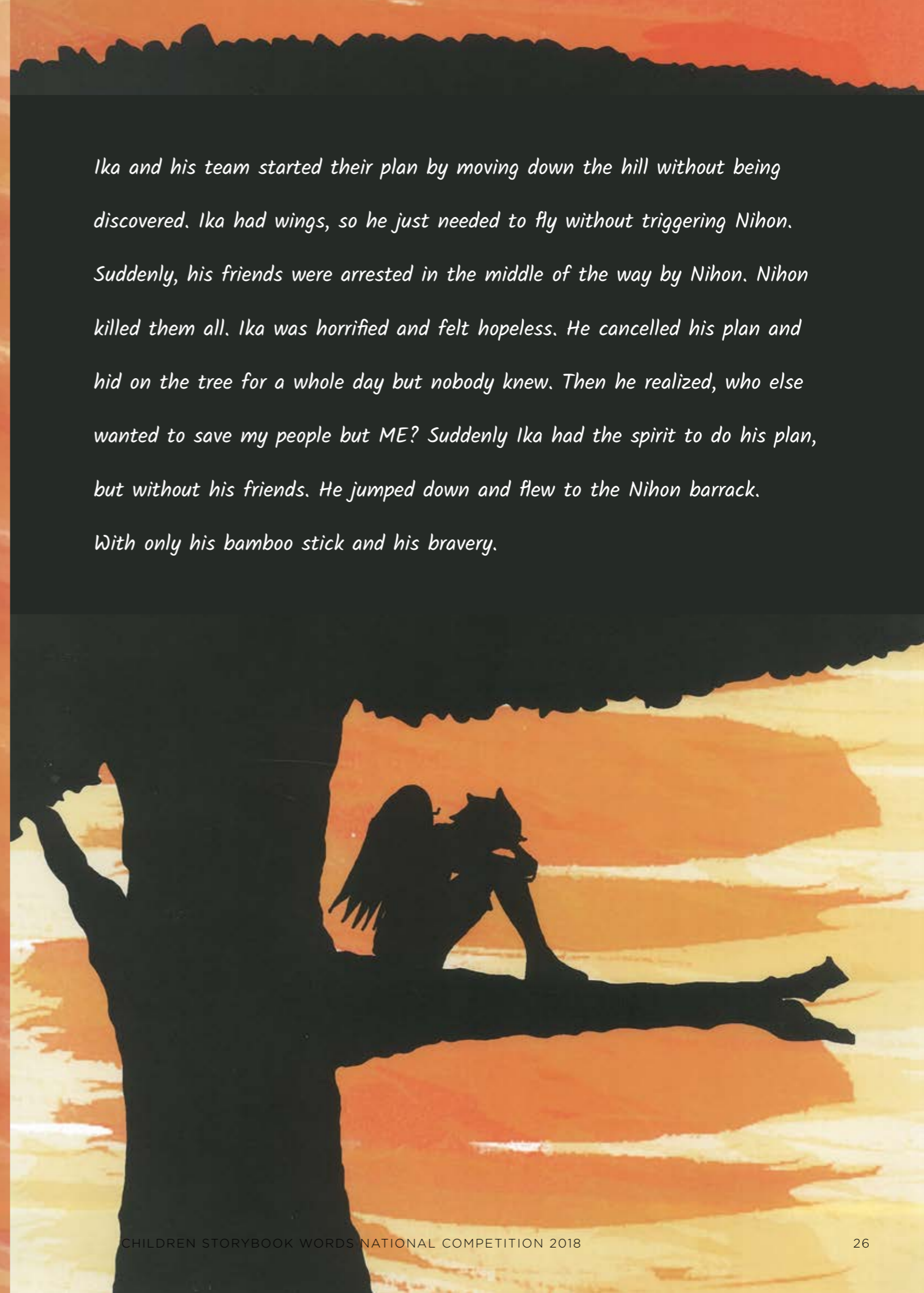
Ika went to the hill, with some of his remaining friends. They survived there, to make a strategy and build power to kick back Nihon.



It also took a long time, they needed about 5 years to make it a really good strategy. When they were ready, they started their guerrilla strategy.

Very sneaky, like assassin, and very fast, like a flash.

Ika and his team started their plan by moving down the hill without being discovered. Ika had wings, so he just needed to fly without triggering Nihon. Suddenly, his friends were arrested in the middle of the way by Nihon. Nihon killed them all. Ika was horrified and felt hopeless. He cancelled his plan and hid on the tree for a whole day but nobody knew. Then he realized, who else wanted to save my people but ME? Suddenly Ika had the spirit to do his plan, but without his friends. He jumped down and flew to the Nihon barrack. With only his bamboo stick and his bravery.



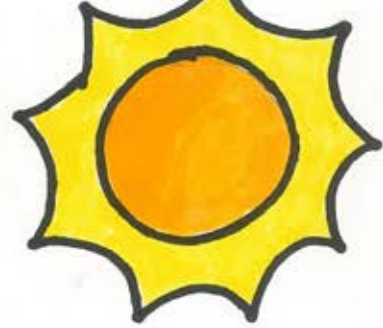


He fought with every Nihon soldier. In his pain, he killed the general of Nihon, ALONE! He was almost dead, but he still tried to kick Nihon back and he succeeded! Nihon had been kicked back.



Everybody was safe! Ika was a hero! He freed the slaves in Kalipare. Nobody hated him anymore. Ika then became the leader of Kalipare. Freedom came to Kalipare. Nobody was hurting now.





PETER VISITS SALATIGA



By: Herlin Tri W.

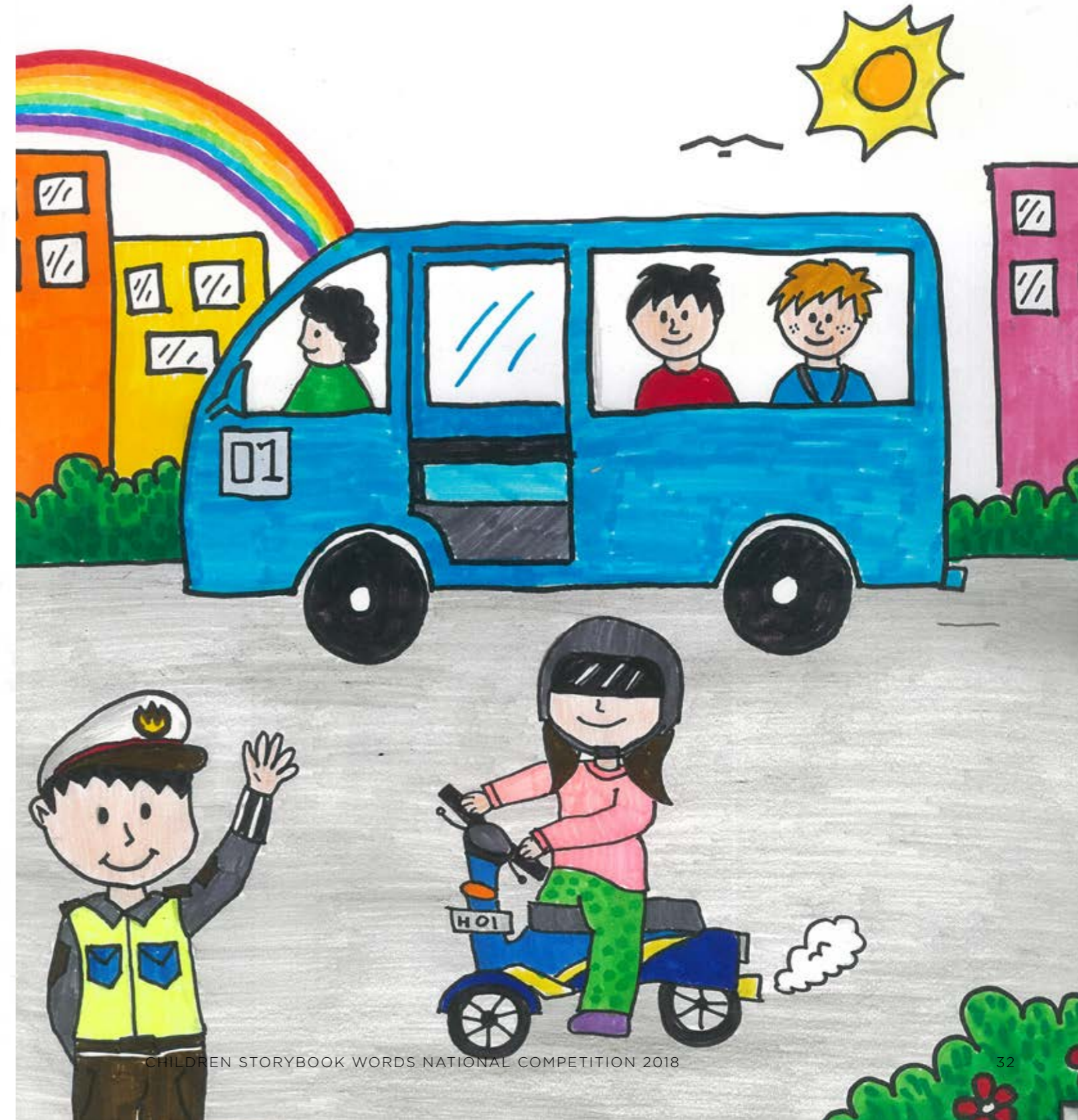
One day Peter came to Indonesia to spend his holiday. He came from America. He had a friend in Salatiaga who is Bima. Bima asked Peter to walk around the city.

“Alright Peter, to reach the city we need a blue public transportation. It’s called angkota.”

It was Peter’s first time going somewhere by angkota. Peter was really curious..



After they waited for several minutes, the angkota passed through and stopped in front of them. Then, they took the angkota. After that, they arrived in the city.



First, they went to a batik shop. Peter was amazed by one batik fabric on display on the statue.

"Oh My God! There are many beautiful batik fabrics here, but this one is the most beautiful. The pattern looks like stones." Said Peter.

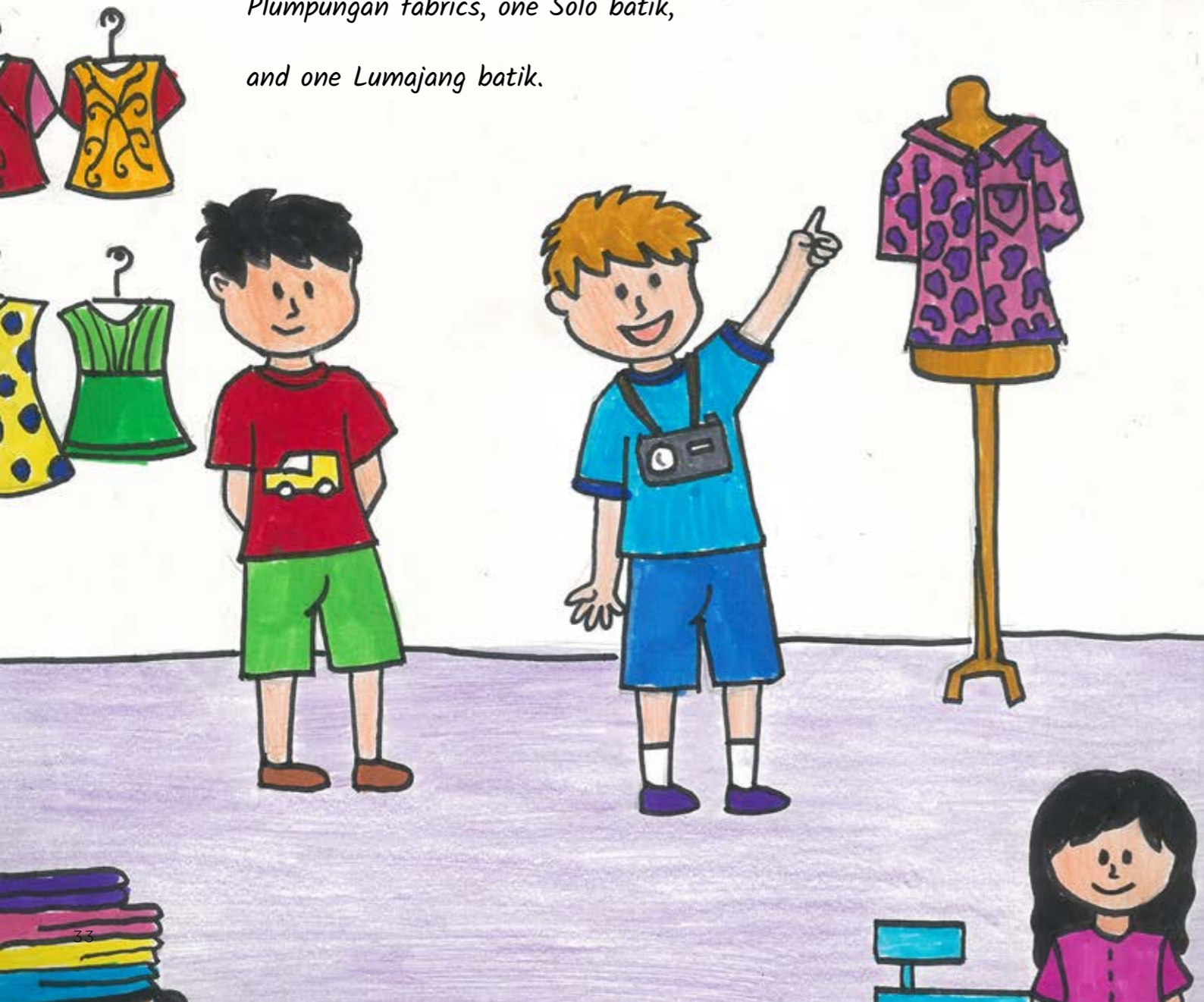
"Sure, this is the most famous batik in Salatiga. It's called batik Plumpungan. It's inspired by an inscription that was found at Salatiga. This inscription was written on a large rock" said Bima.

Peter bought three batik

Plumpungan fabrics, one Solo batik,

and one Lumajang batik.

Ena's Batik Sh



After buying some batik, Bima took Peter to bought jamu.

"Where will we go?" asked Peter..

"I want to show you traditional Javanese beverage.

It's called jamu" said Bima.

Peter thought its taste would be delicious as it sounded.

Bima ordered two glasses of jamu and they drank it.

But, how shocked Peter was, the taste was bitter.



“Do you know jamu song? The title is Suwe Ora Jamu. You should listen to it!” said Bima while playing the song in his phone.

“Wow the song is very good!” said Peter..

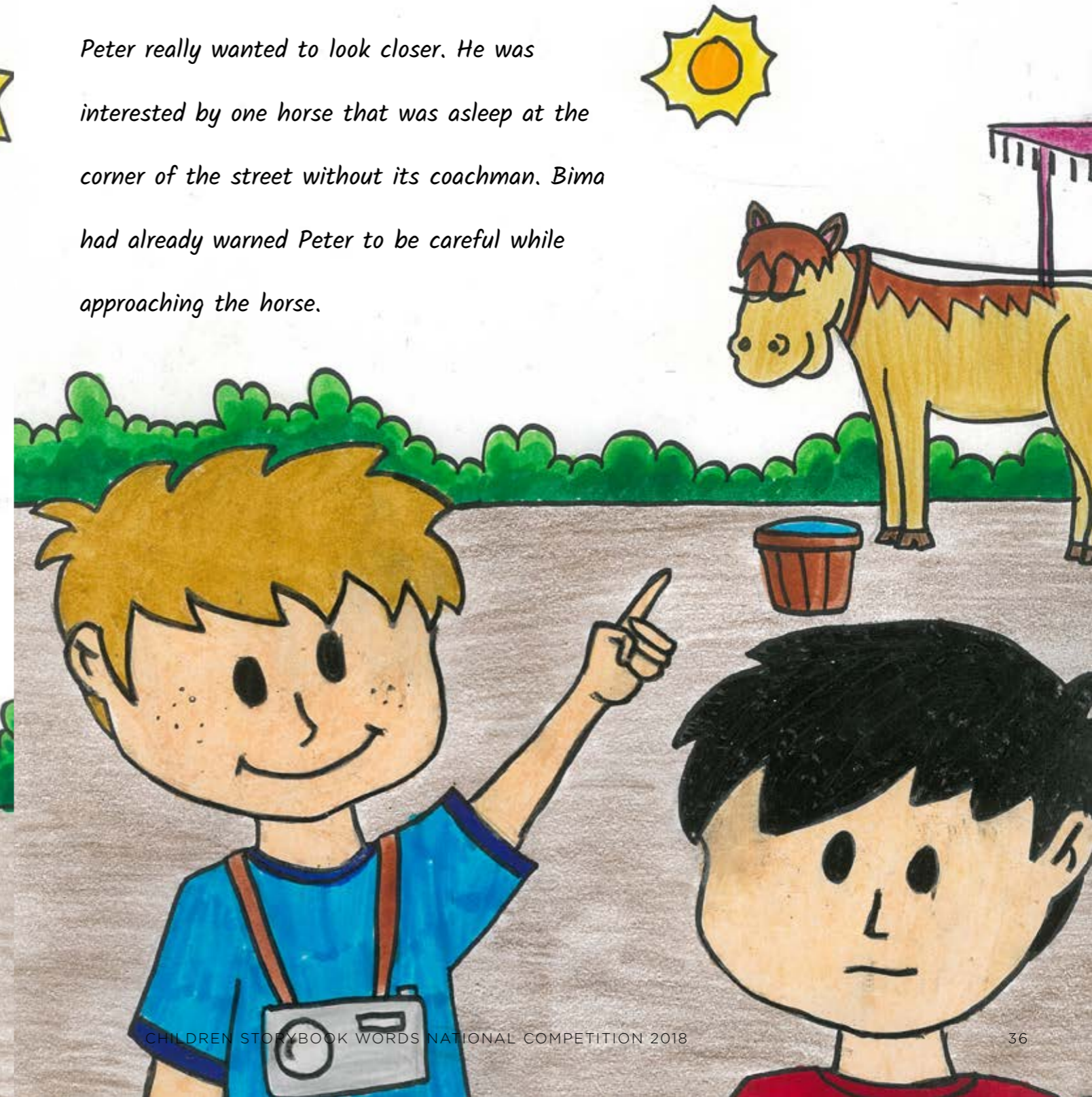


After that, they continued their trip again. While walking, Peter noticed many horses on the street.

“Wow this city has many horses on the street. Is that public transportation as well?” asked Peter.

“Exactly, it’s called andong or dokar” answered Bima.

Peter really wanted to look closer. He was interested by one horse that was asleep at the corner of the street without its coachman. Bima had already warned Peter to be careful while approaching the horse.



But, Peter did not pay attention to Bima. When Peter approached the horse, he accidentally kicked the horse's drinking bucket and the water spilled all over. That made the horse shocked and it began to run away!

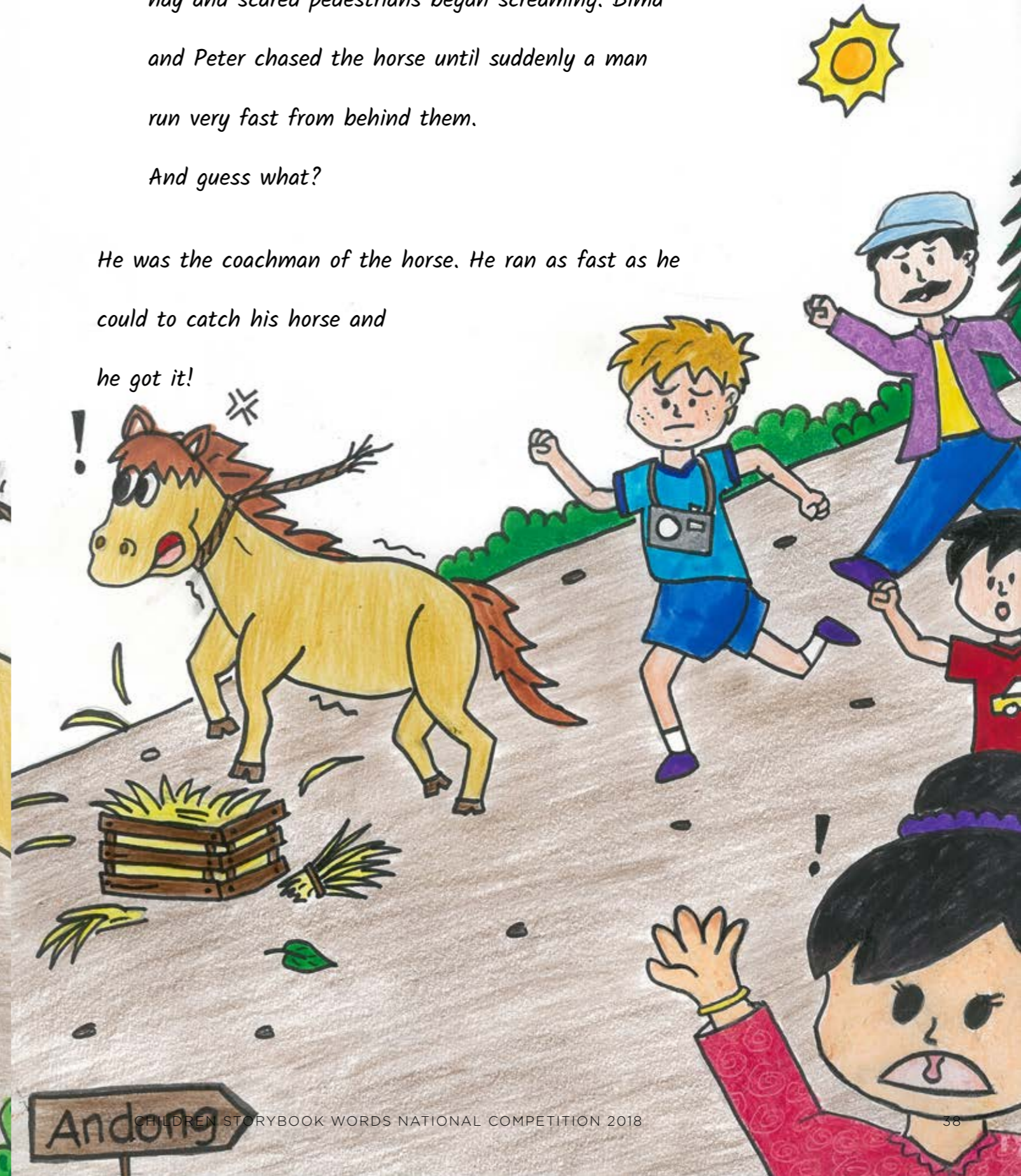


"Oh my God, what have I done?! Come on Bima, chase the horse!" screamed Peter.

The horse messed everything up. It kicked boxes of hay and scared pedestrians began screaming. Bima and Peter chased the horse until suddenly a man run very fast from behind them.

And guess what?

He was the coachman of the horse. He ran as fast as he could to catch his horse and he got it!

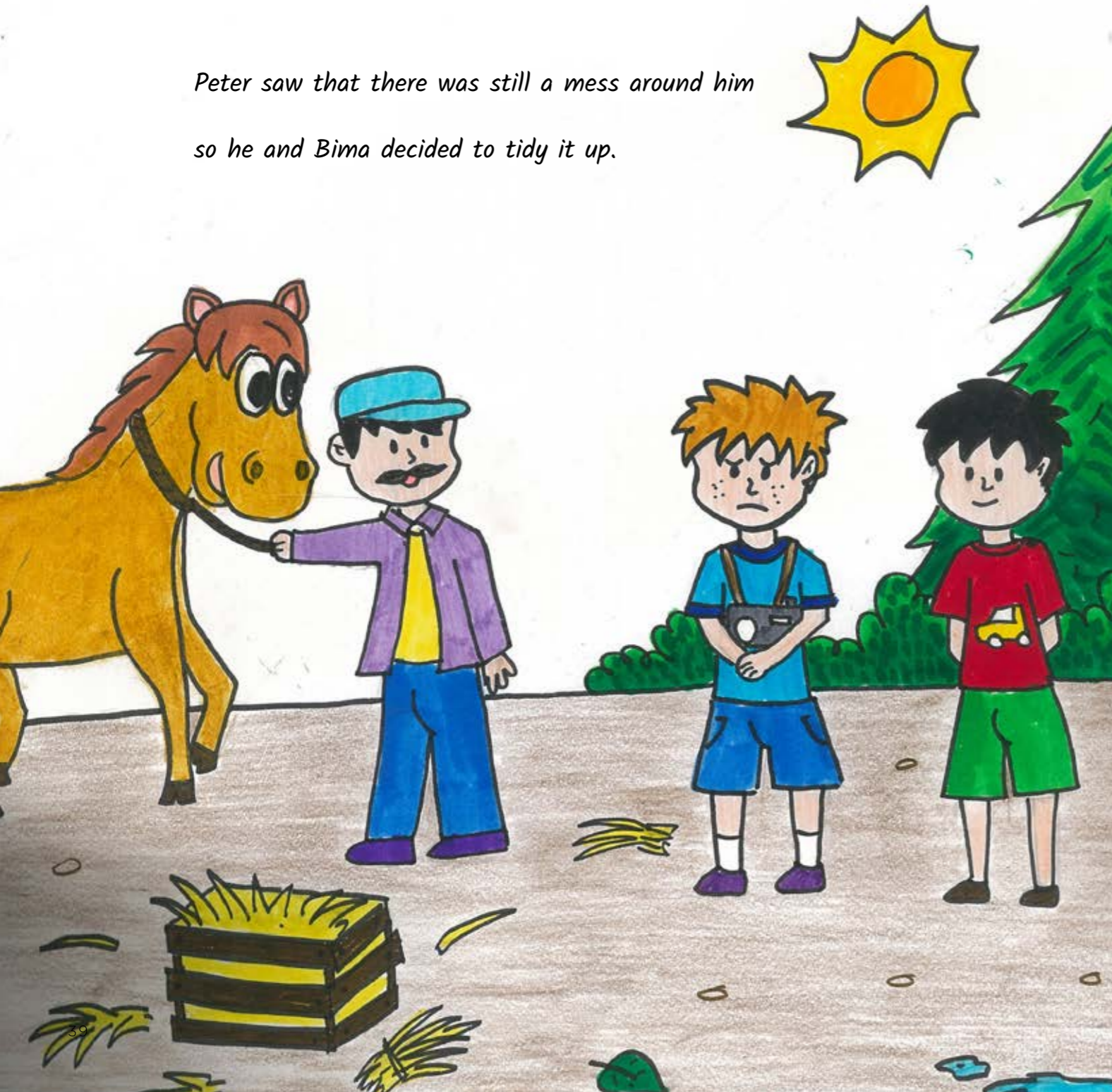


"Oh no, I'm sorry Sir. I made a mistake. It was my fault that your horse ran away!" said Peter while crying.

"I know it happened accidentally, boy. You've realized your mistake. It's okay" said the coachman while smiling to Peter.

"Seriously? Thank you very much, Sir. You're so kind" said Peter.

Peter saw that there was still a mess around him so he and Bima decided to tidy it up.



After they were done, they decided to continue their trip to an oleh-oleh store. Peter bought enting-enting gepuk.

"From what ingredients is it made of?" asked Peter. "It is made from sugar and peanut" answered Bima.

"Wow, I want to buy many enting enting! But wait, what is that?" asked Peter while pointing at another food.

"That is gula kacang, it's very delicious" said Bima.



Peter bought 3 packs of enting enting gepuk and 2 packs of gula kacang.

They were really happy.

“Wow, Salatiga has many unique things. I love it! You are lucky to be a Javanese because it is so unique!” said Peter.

“Thank you, Peter” said Bima.



After spending their time exploring Salatiga all day long, they went back to the hotel and took a rest.



The

End..



ABOUT AMINEF

The American Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF) is the binational Fulbright Commission for Indonesia. For twenty-five years AMINEF has carried forward the vision and mission of the Fulbright program in Indonesia, which in 2017 celebrated its 65th anniversary. AMINEF's many programs for educational exchange have increased mutual understanding between the United States and Indonesia and strengthened the ties that unite our two countries. Since 1950, 2,815 Indonesians and 1,120 Americans have participated in exchanges. Approximately 80 percent of the Indonesians received graduate degrees at the master's or doctoral levels from American universities. The remaining 20 percent participated in non-degree exchanges administered by AMINEF.

ABOUT THE FULBRIGHT ETA PROGRAM

The Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Program, one of US State Department-funded Fulbright programs carried out in many countries throughout the world, places recent college graduates and young professionals as English teaching assistants in primary and secondary schools or universities overseas. The program helps improve foreign students' English-language abilities and knowledge of the United States while increasing the US student's own language skills and knowledge of the many host countries around the world.

In Indonesia, the Fulbright ETAs are placed in high schools (both SMA, SMK and madrasah) where they assist local English teachers. The program has now been going for 14 years and has affected many thousands of Indonesian students and their communities across the archipelago over that period. AMINEF, in charge of the Fulbright program in Indonesia since 1992, works closely with the Indonesian ministries of Education and Culture and Religious Affairs to administer the ETA program in Indonesia.

