

# The 2019 National WORDS Competition - Storybooks

Volume 2

# WORDS

Future  
of  
Indonesia



 FULBRIGHT  
Indonesia

AMINEF  
American Indonesian  
Exchange Foundation

The 2019 National  
WORDS Competition

# 22 Storybooks

Volume 2

# WORDS

Future  
of  
Indonesia



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All storybooks including illustrations are courtesy of participants of National WORDS Competition 2019.

These storybooks have been lightly edited for clarity.

# 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 series of books, which represents one of the outcomes of the Fulbright English Teaching Assistants (ETA) Program this year, 2018-2019.

American ETAs work together with local co-teachers of English in various secondary schools throughout the archipelago. The program is now in its 15th 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 format was fine-tuned by last year’s cohort into a storybook and storytelling competition instead of a speech and talent contest.

This year’s cohort of 22 ETAs – who by the way come from all over the US and are very diverse in background and interests, and are spread out in 22 schools in eight provinces in Indonesia – together with the AMINEF American Program staff who work closely with them came up with this year’s storytelling theme “The Future of Indonesia.”

The national competition was held in Jakarta on April 4th at @america. Each of the 22 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 a visit to the newly built US Embassy in Jakarta. Other sessions focused on peace education and tolerance building in collaboration with Ayu Kartika Dewi, a Fulbright Visiting Student alumna who is currently Managing Director of the Indika Foundation and co-founder of SabangMerauke.

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 Aziza Noor, a graphic book artist, and Fulbright Visiting Student alumna; Brad Horn, Regional English Language Officer at US Embassy, Jakarta; Peggy Shaw, Education Coordinator, Public Affairs Section, US Embassy, Jakarta; Aditio Tantra Danang of Dongeng Toleransi, and Theresia Pratiwi, Fulbright Visiting Student alumna and English language specialist.

The winning storybooks books were “Big Sharkie and Little Remor” by Tiara Fitra Ramadhani Siregar (SMAN 1 Padang Sidempuan, North Sumatra), who was the grand-prize winner; “Bella, The President” by Carina Hakim (SMA Don Bosco Padang, West Sumatra) who took home the second prize; and “Unexpected Journey” by Laksmi Anindita Kusnanto (SMAN 1 Temanggung, Central Java) who garnered third place.

As a prize for this year’s national competition, AMINEF chose to work with Ferdinandus ‘Nando’ Watu, a Community College Initiative Program alumnus. Nando is involved with ecotourism efforts in his hometown of Detusoko, Ende, East Nusa Tenggara. The winning storybooks were combined in a collection of storybooks that AMINEF donated to the Taman Bacaan Masyarakat Ende and RMC Detusoko libraries in Ende. The three national winners, Tiara, Carina, and Laksmi, and their ETAs traveled to Ende to lead reading and writing workshops for these communities, among other activities.

I want to congratulate here the student winners of the competition and to salute all the 22 student participants for their creativity, enthusiasm, and high spirit. I also want to thank all the judges who gave their time to help make the WORDS competition a success. The 2018-2019 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 Arshelle Carter, and the tireless staff of AMINEF’s American Program led by Astrid Lim: Ceacealia Dewitha, Muhammad Rizqi Arifuddin, Thasia Rayinda.

**Alan Feinstein,**  
Executive Director,  
AMINEF

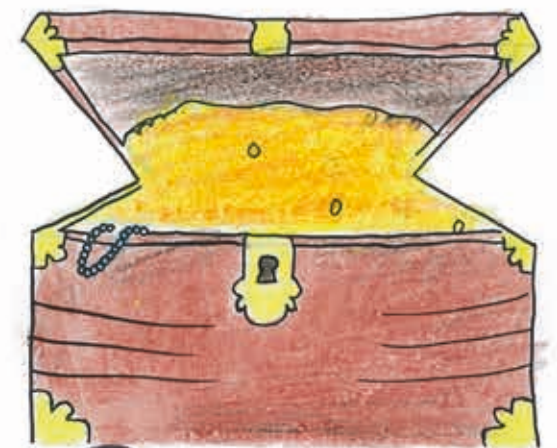
## About the WORDS Competition

In 2007, the fourth cohort of ETAs came up with the idea to hold what they called a “WORDS Competition”. They planned competitions at the schools where they were placed. Then, the first place winners of the local competitions along with their ETA’s gathered in Jakarta for a national competition.

Following this same format for ten years, the WORDS Competition was a speech and talent competition. In 2018, WORDS was revamped as a storybook and storytelling competition and includes a service-learning component.

Since the beginning, the WORDS Competition has always been an exciting part of the AMINEF year. The 10th or 11th grade students demonstrate their prowess in spoken English (helped of course by their ETA and co-teachers during months of preparation) as well as to tell their imaginative stories to show off local cultural riches and their own talents.

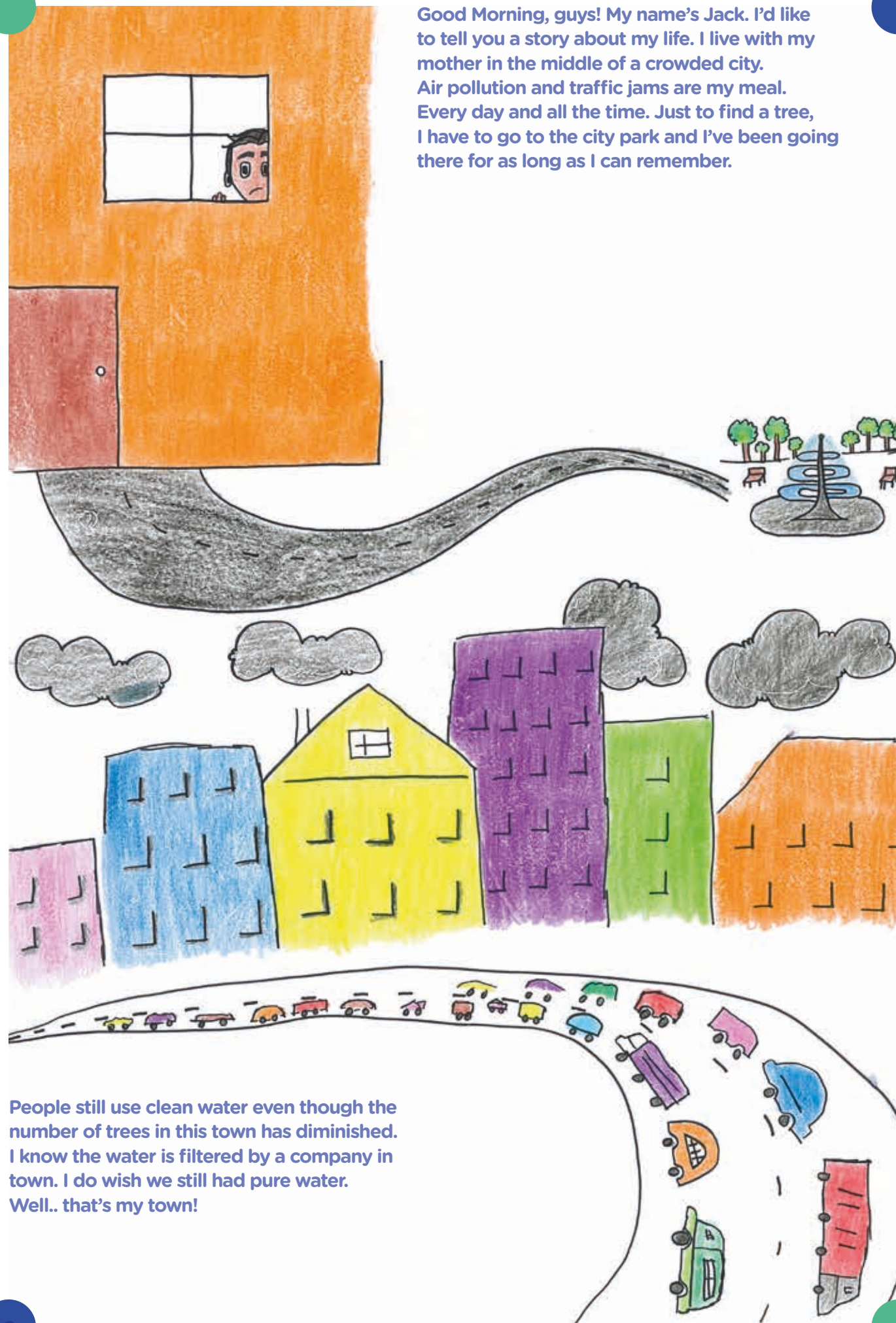
2019 marks another Indonesian presidential election. Capturing this moment, the theme for this year’s WORDS competition is “The Future of Indonesia.” The top 3 winners of the national competition and their ETAs will participate in a service-learning trip to Flores Island. For the service component, the students and ETAs will volunteer their time to share their storybooks and engage with community members in Ende, Flores.



# JACK AND A SPARKLING TREASURE

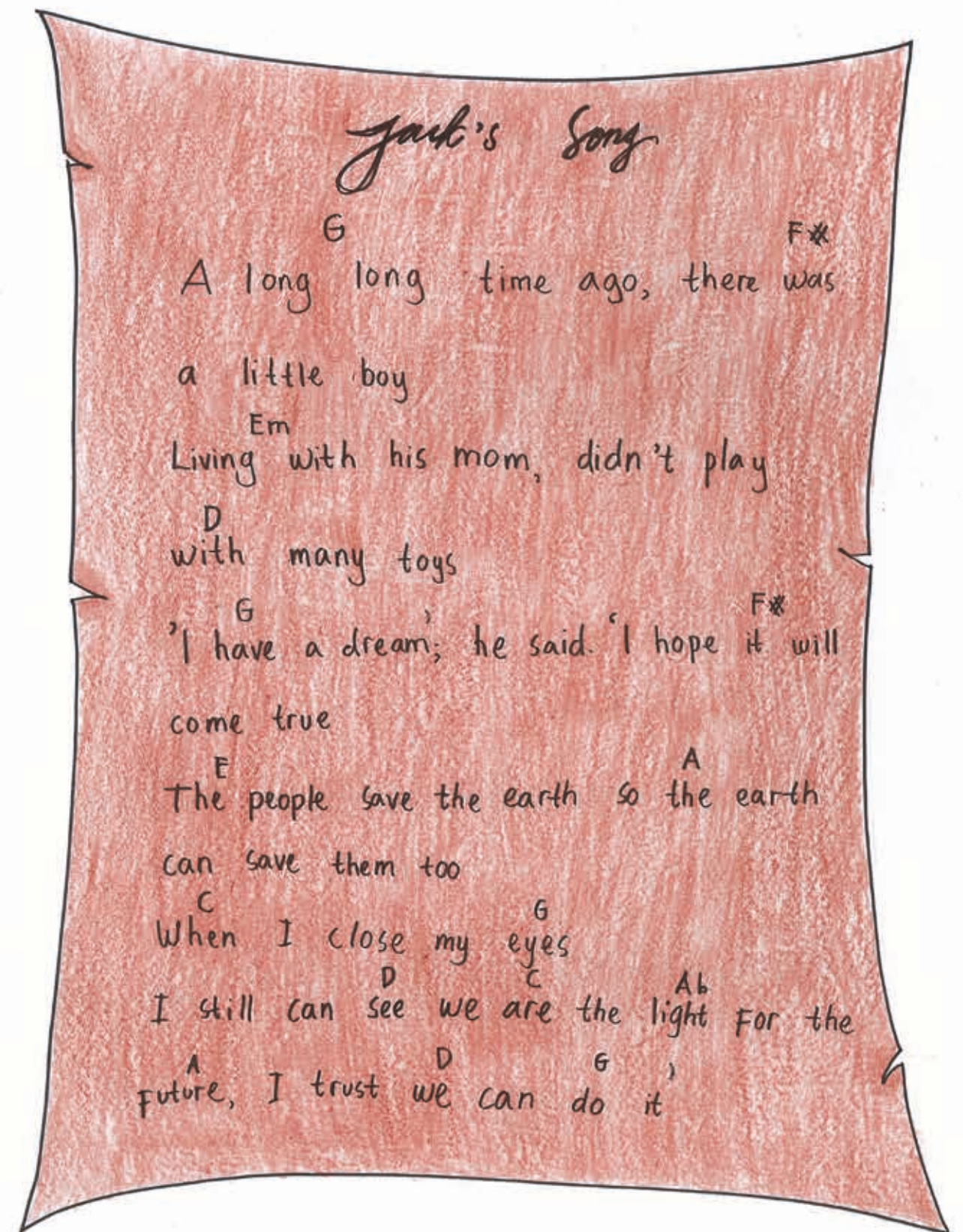
Rachel Qurrotu 'Aini Alexandria





Good Morning, guys! My name's Jack. I'd like to tell you a story about my life. I live with my mother in the middle of a crowded city. Air pollution and traffic jams are my meal. Every day and all the time. Just to find a tree, I have to go to the city park and I've been going there for as long as I can remember.

People still use clean water even though the number of trees in this town has diminished. I know the water is filtered by a company in town. I do wish we still had pure water. Well.. that's my town!

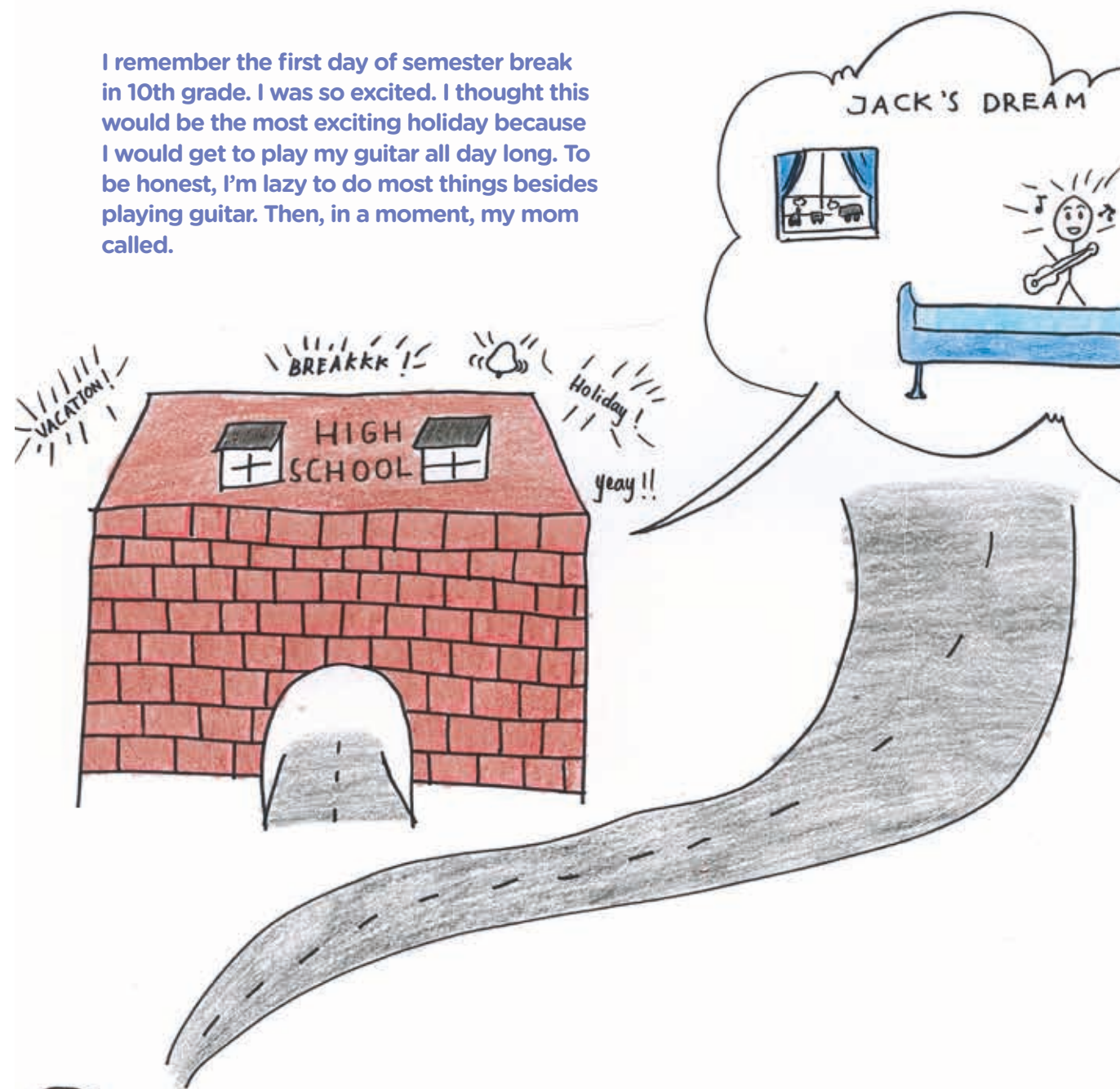


## Jack's Song

<sup>G</sup> A long long time ago, there was <sup>F#</sup>  
<sup>Em</sup> a little boy  
 Living with his mom, didn't play  
<sup>D</sup> with many toys  
<sup>G</sup> 'I have a dream; he said. 'I hope <sup>F#</sup> it will  
 come true  
<sup>E</sup> The people save the earth so the earth <sup>A</sup>  
 can save them too  
<sup>C</sup> When I close my <sup>G</sup> eyes  
<sup>D</sup> I still can see we are the <sup>Ab</sup> light for the  
<sup>A</sup> future, I trust <sup>D</sup> we can <sup>G</sup> do it

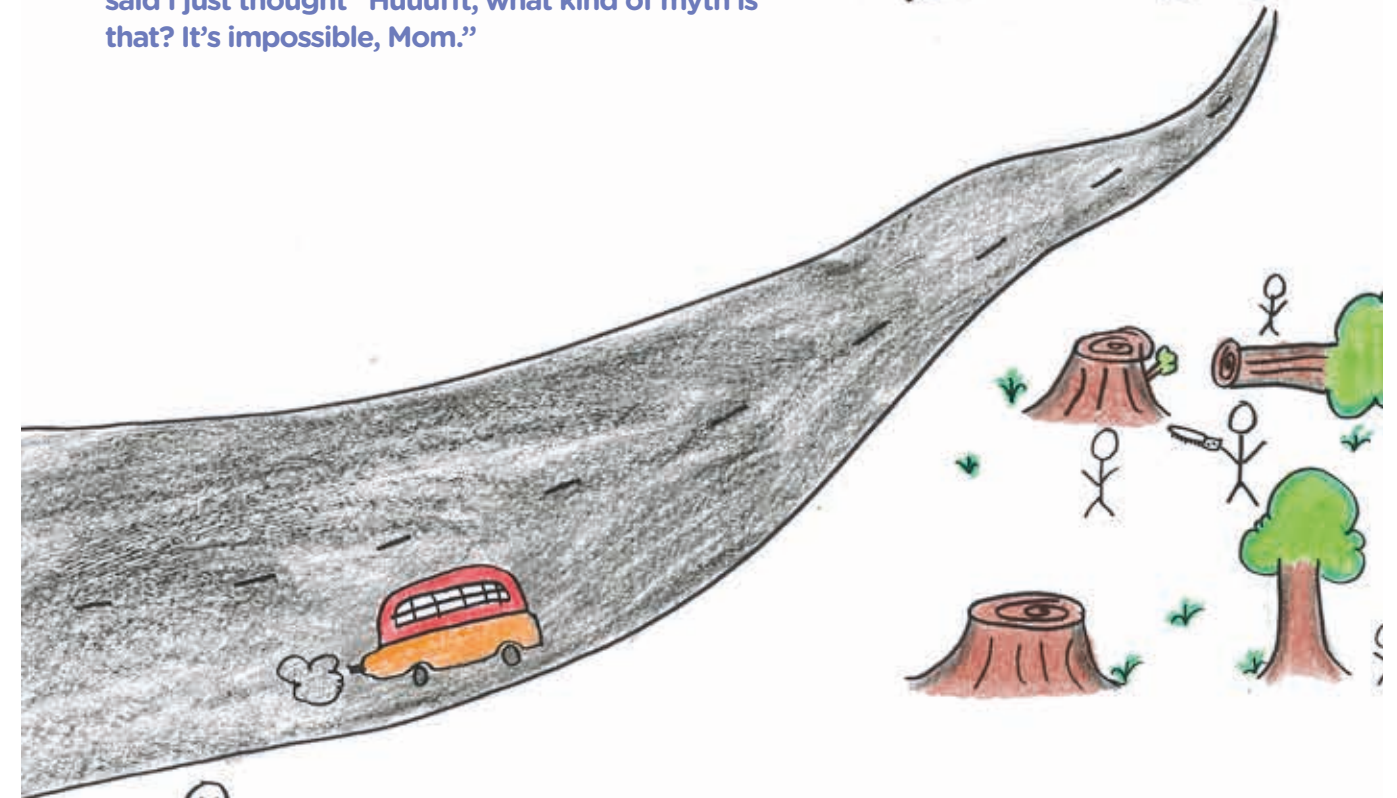


I remember the first day of semester break in 10th grade. I was so excited. I thought this would be the most exciting holiday because I would get to play my guitar all day long. To be honest, I'm lazy to do most things besides playing guitar. Then, in a moment, my mom called.



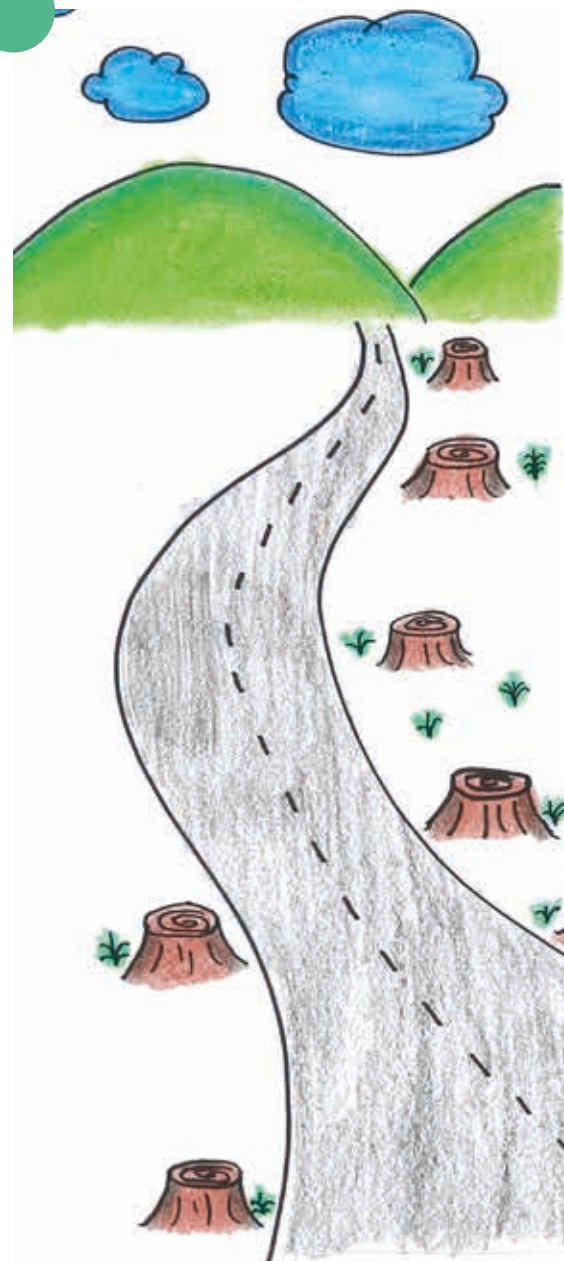
"Jack... Jack... Where are you?"  
 "Here I am, Mom."  
 "We will go to Grandpa's house tomorrow. For your holiday..."  
 "Owh, I feel like I just wanna stay at home. You know it's hard to find water there, Mom."  
 "Oh.. come on Jack, Grandpa is waiting for you!"  
 "But! Alright, Mom."

So, the next day. My mom and dad and I go to Grandpa's house in a village, which is full of myths. My mom told that in that village there was a popular myth, that anyone who can find a case with three seeds of jackfruit inside can see a bright future. When I heard what my mom said I just thought "Huuufft, what kind of myth is that? It's impossible, Mom."



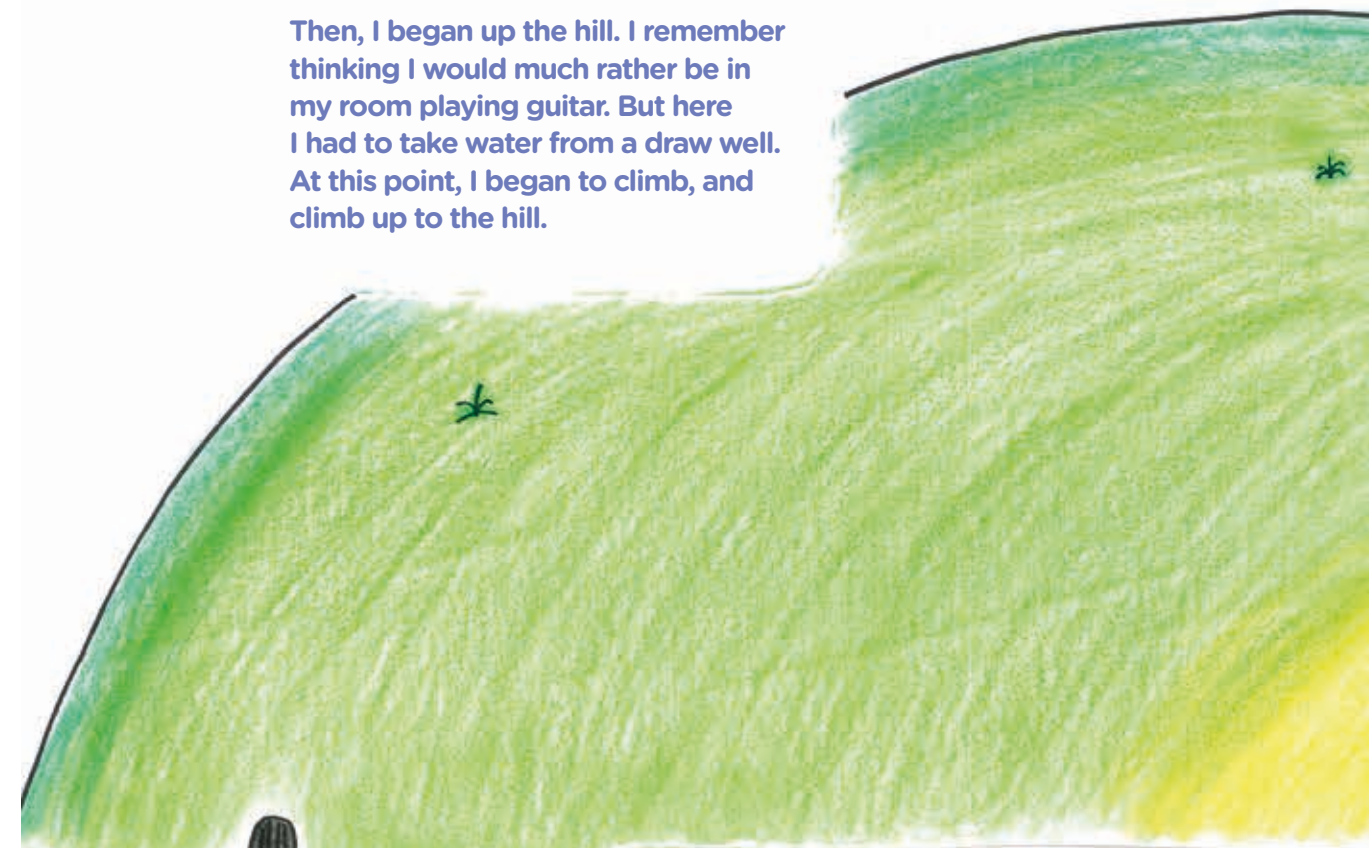
After a long, boring trip, we arrived at Grandpa's house. Three years ago, people in this village started dirtying their water source by throwing their rubbish into the river and now they had a problem. There were using dirty water to grow crops, to clean, to take baths and also to drink dirty boiled water. As a result, they were a lot of people getting sick.



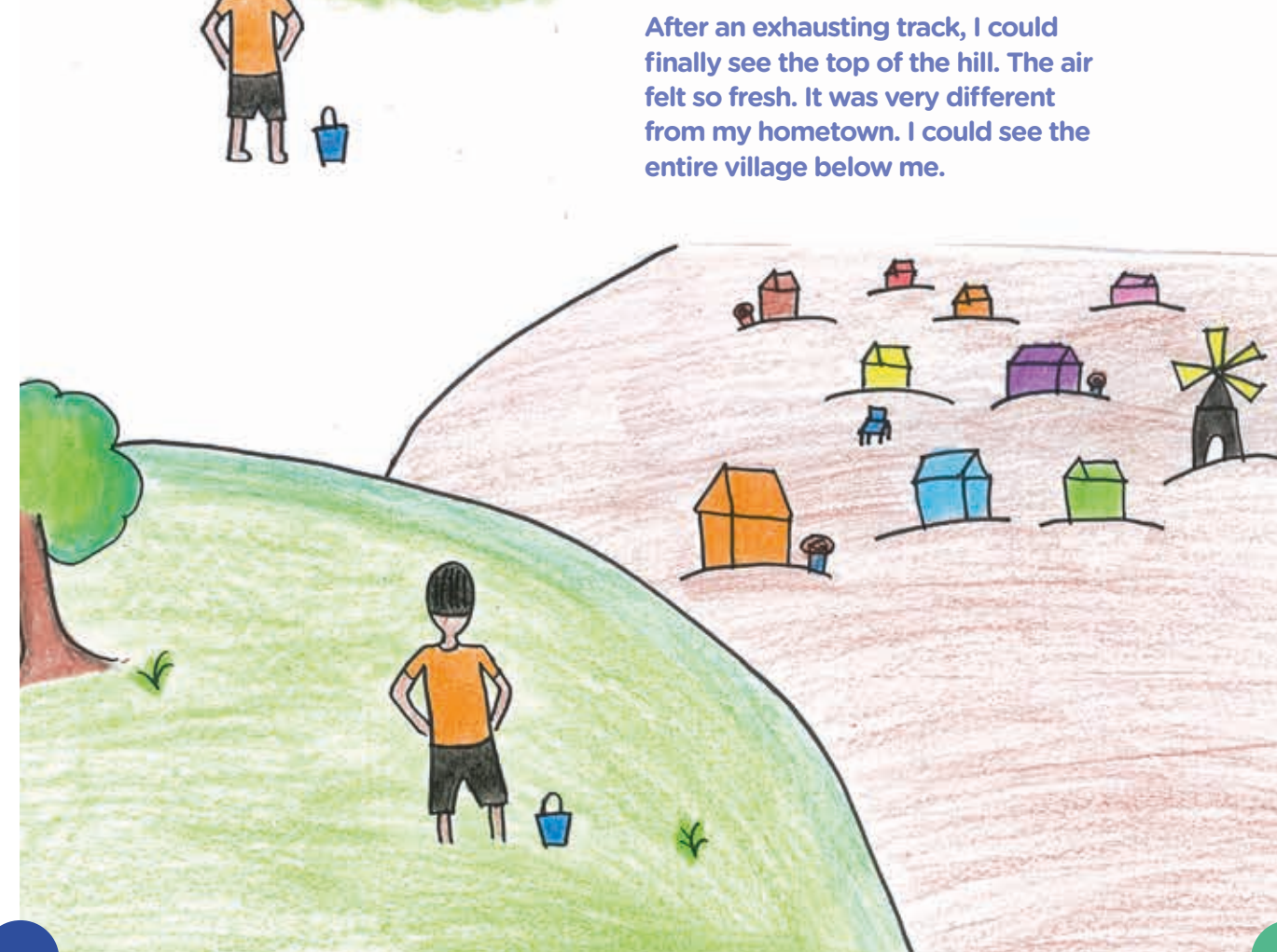


There was only one source of water still untouched by people's habits on a hill. But people were lazy to climb up about a 500 metre hill. One day, I was sitting in my bedroom. Suddenly, my mom called out.

"Jack... Jack... come here"  
 "What's going on, Mom?"  
 "Take this bucket. Go to the hill and fill this bucket with fresh water"  
 "Now, Mom?"  
 "Next year! Of course now, Jack"  
 "But, I'm still... oh alright mom"  
 The way she looked at me reminded me of homework, lazy but I have to do it.



Then, I began up the hill. I remember thinking I would much rather be in my room playing guitar. But here I had to take water from a draw well. At this point, I began to climb, and climb up to the hill.



After an exhausting track, I could finally see the top of the hill. The air felt so fresh. It was very different from my hometown. I could see the entire village below me.

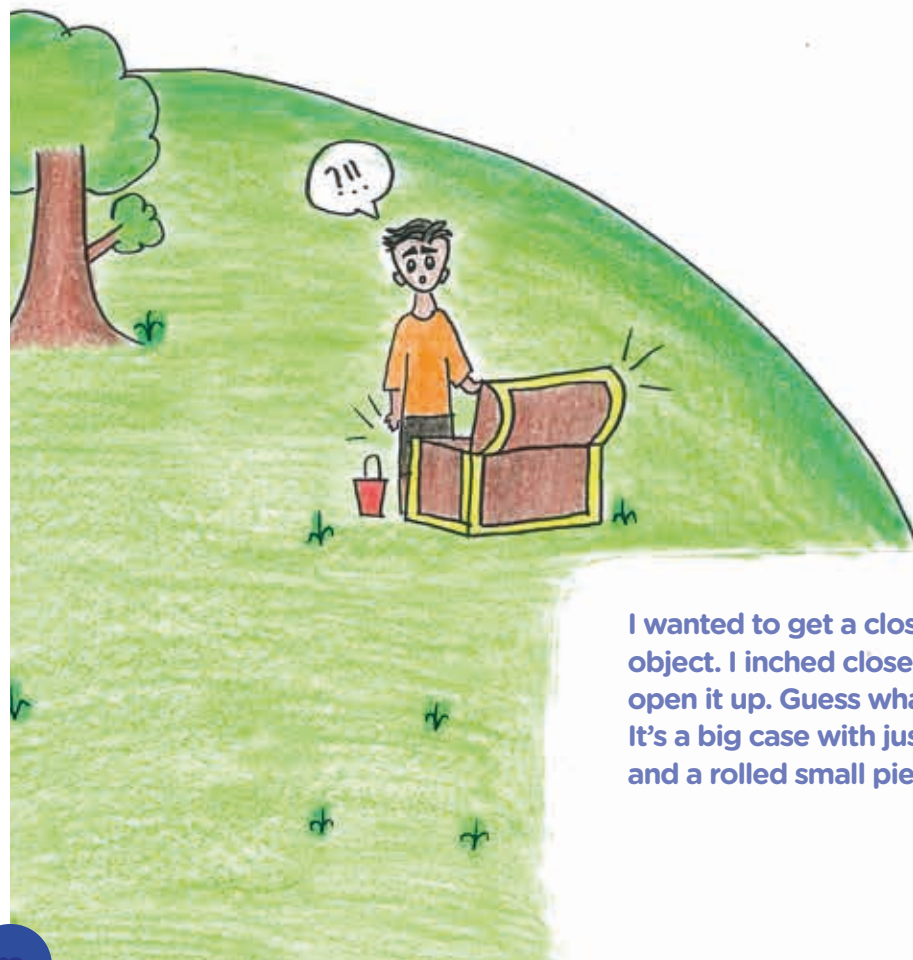


But suddenly I noticed something from the corner of my eye. It was square and sparkling, an unusual thing. I was amazed and whispered



"I've found a treasure."

"Haha... so funny! How can a treasure be way on this hill?"



I wanted to get a closer look at that peculiar object. I inched closer and closer. I began to open it up. Guess what I see. I'm freaking out! It's a big case with just three seeds of jackfruit and a rolled small piece of paper inside?

I took it into my palms and I read the little note.

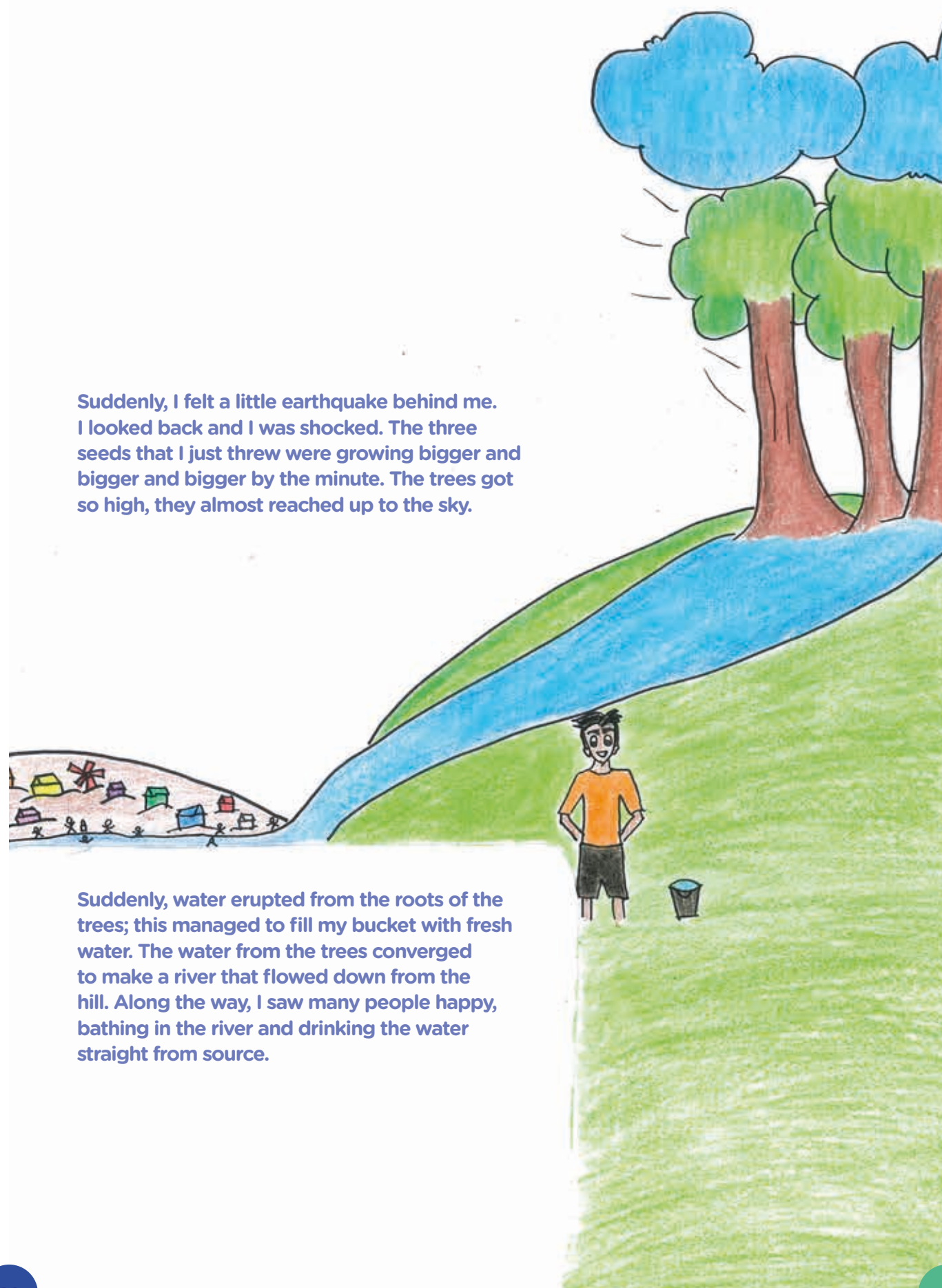


I threw it behind me and I went straight to the well to take water but, it was useless! The well was already dry.





Suddenly, I felt a little earthquake behind me. I looked back and I was shocked. The three seeds that I just threw were growing bigger and bigger and bigger by the minute. The trees got so high, they almost reached up to the sky.



Suddenly, water erupted from the roots of the trees; this managed to fill my bucket with fresh water. The water from the trees converged to make a river that flowed down from the hill. Along the way, I saw many people happy, bathing in the river and drinking the water straight from source.



I was speechless and suddenly I thought about what my mom said. This was our bright future, the legend was true. When I made it back to Grandpa's, my mom asked me what happened and I explained my adventure. My mother's big smile told me she was proud of me.

Over the next few weeks, word traveled about this incident. Over time, I saw trees in my neighborhood beginning to be planted and rubbish disappearing from the street and into the bins.

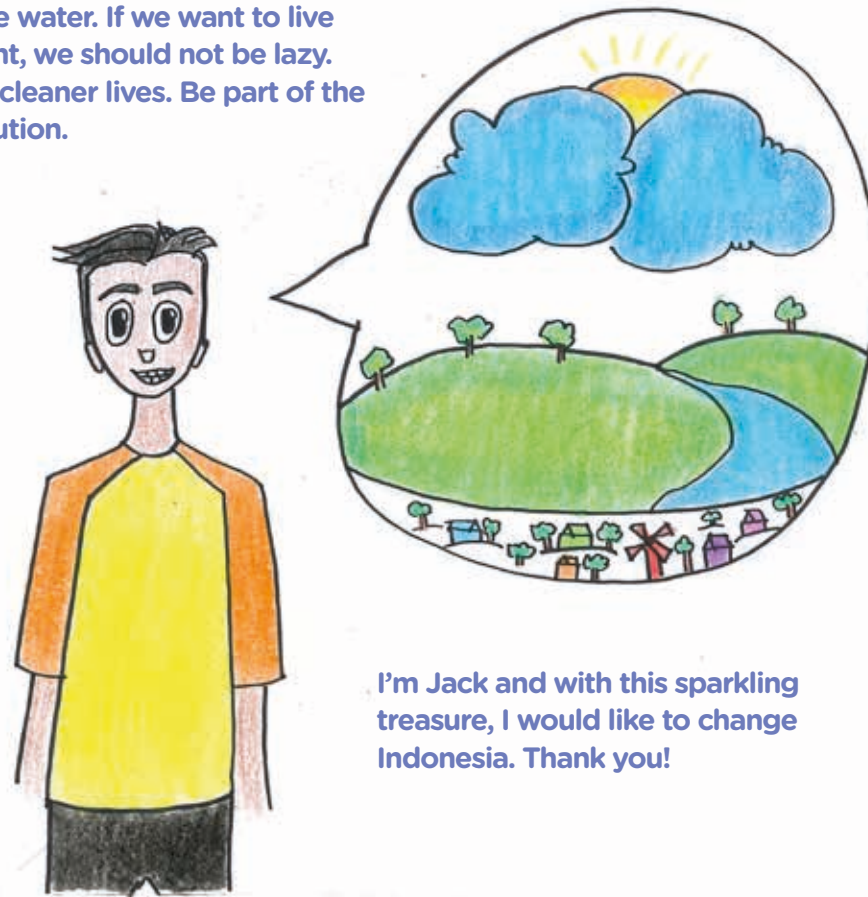


## About the Author



Hi! My name is Rachel Qurrotu 'Aini Alexandria, just call me Rachel or Alexa. I was born in Malang on the 28th of September 2001 and I'm 17. I study in Islamic Senior High School 1 Malang or we call it MAN 1 Kabupaten Malang. My hobbies are editing videos, photography, and sometimes playing guitar. In the future, I want to become an archaeologist or a language professor.

The change was so simple, really. We just realized that we need to take care of our environment because we saw how poor life is without it. Trees can help decrease air pollution and can produce pure water. If we want to live in a clean environment, we should not be lazy. We should try to live cleaner lives. Be part of the solution, not the pollution.



I'm Jack and with this sparkling treasure, I would like to change Indonesia. Thank you!



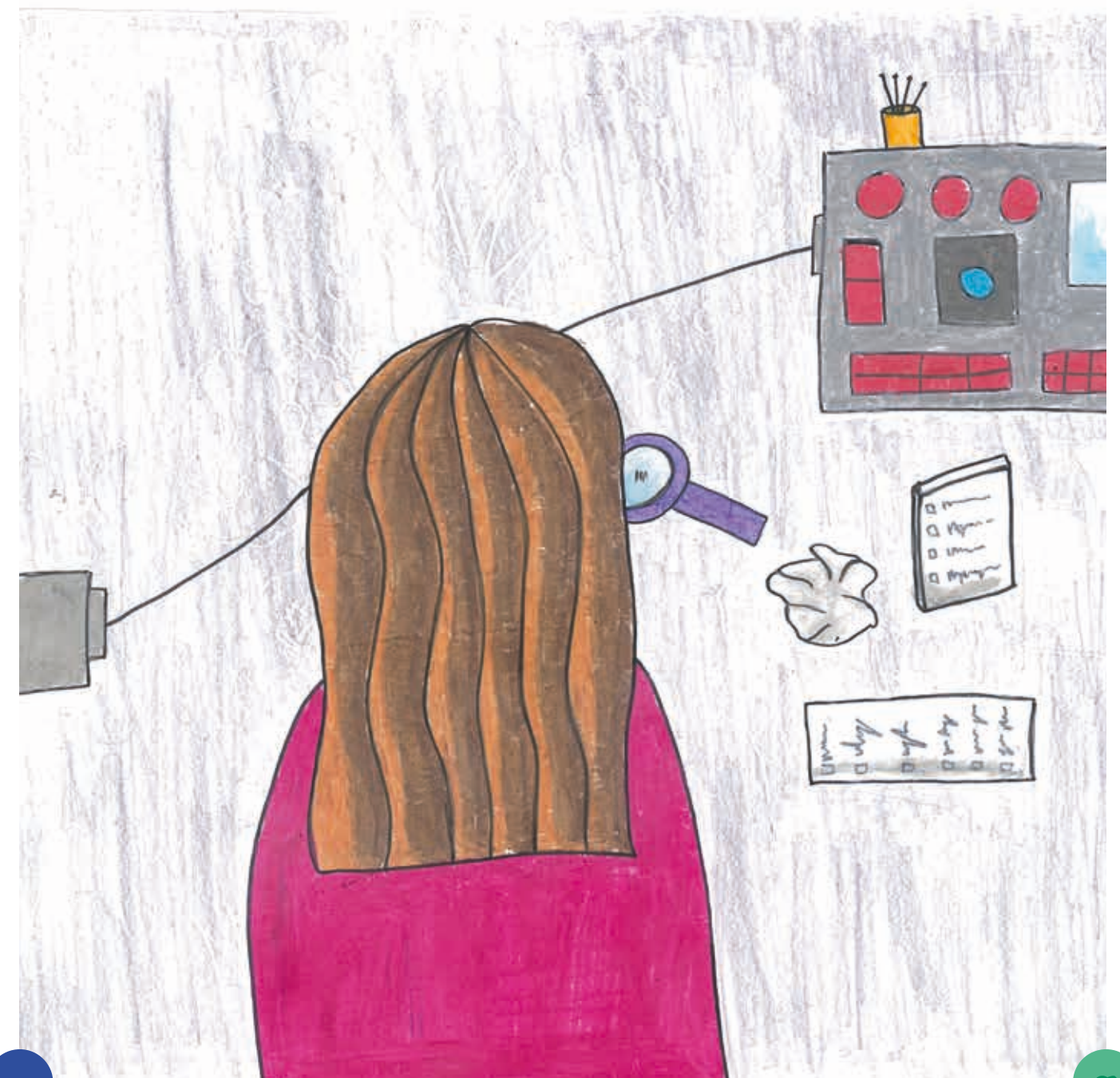
# Jaka and Nani

Alyani Zahrine Sabila

In 2048, there lived a Prof, her daughter, Nani and her dog, Digo.  
 They lived in a small house between two tall buildings.  
 Even though the city only had buildings and a single tree, the air  
 was still fresh.  
 It was because the Prof had found a serum that could boost the  
 oxygen output from the tree in the park.  
 In this city, most jobs were done by robots.  
 There were no beggars. The government did a good job to give  
 welfare to its citizen.



The Prof was a smart scientist. She had become a  
 scientist when she was 30 but she often let her room  
 get messy, because she was a little careless.

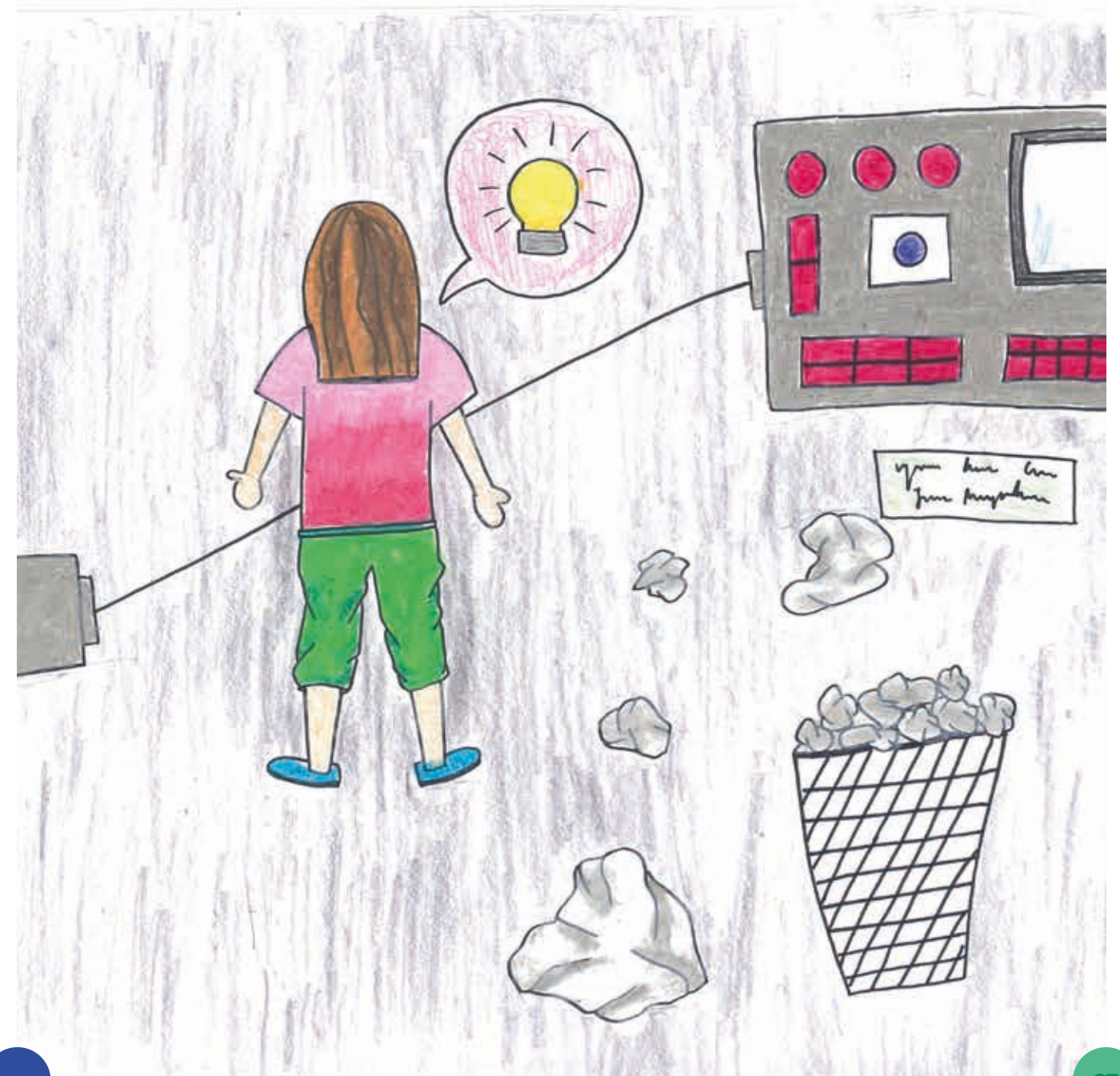




Her daughter Nani was a cheerful girl but she was childish. At the age of five, she had lost her father. She often played with Digo and disturbed her mother's work.

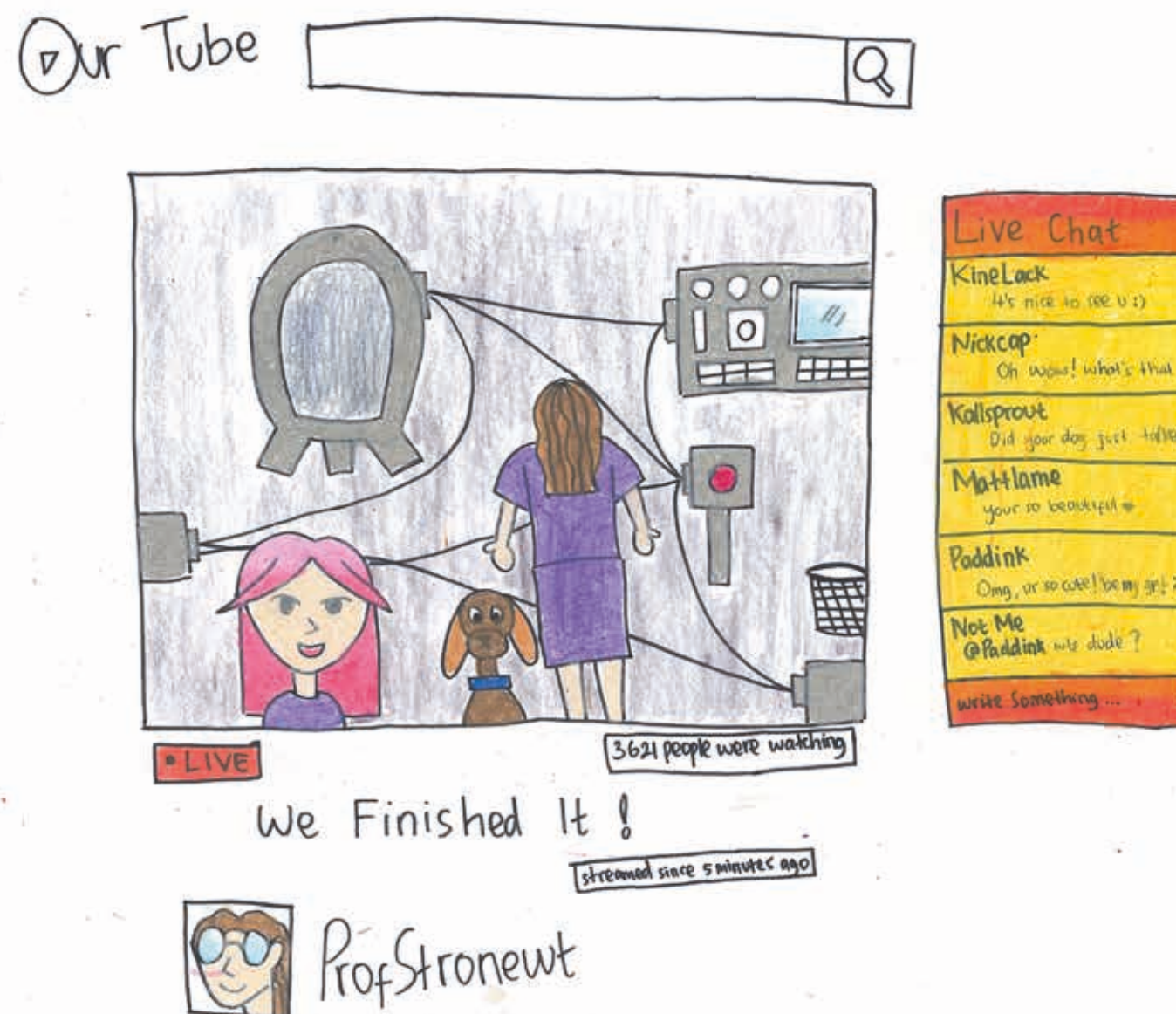


The Prof spent most of her time researching about time machines. It took years until finally she was ready to begin making her time machine. The making of the time machine itself needed months.





Finally, her time machine was complete. She decided to live stream her discovery on 'Ourtube' with Nani and Digo.



The Prof was excited. She couldn't wait to show her machine to her viewers but her cables were disorganized. ACCIDENTALLY SHE TRIPPED OVER ONE OF THEM AND PUSHED THE POWER BUTTON!

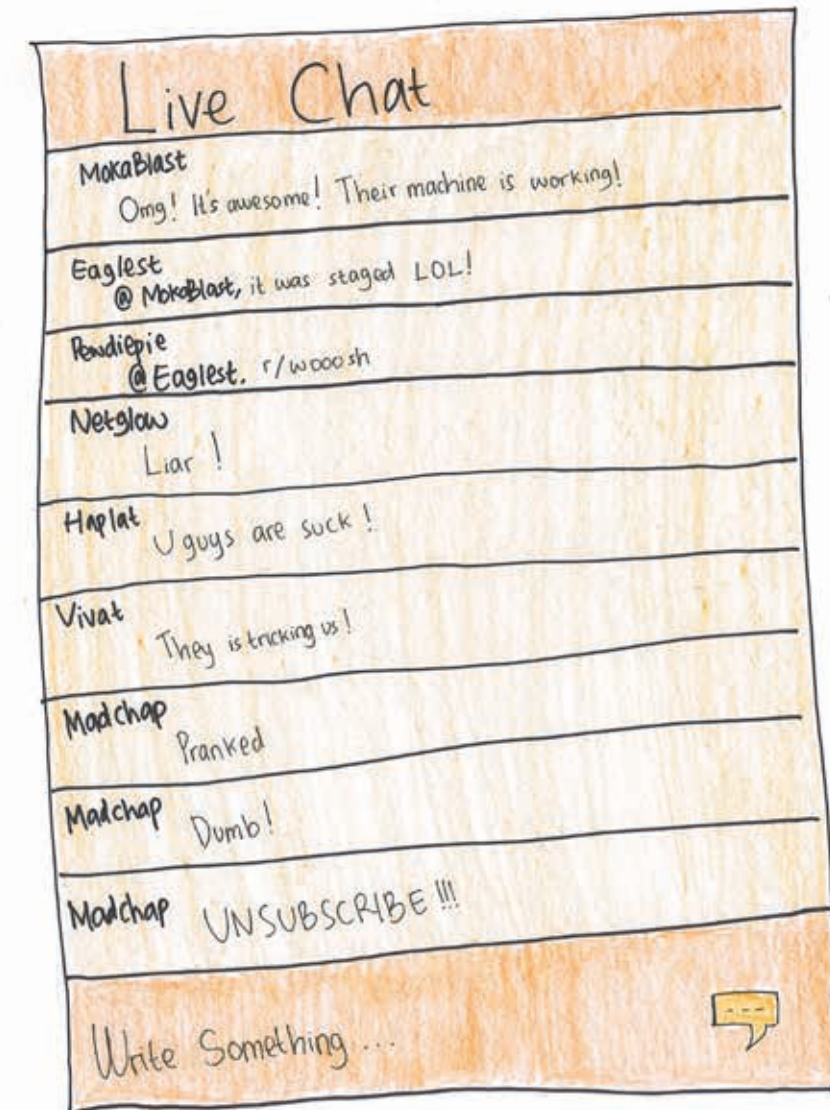




A young boy came out of the portal. Everyone in the room gasped and the Prof almost fainted. To scare the young boy away, Digo started barking.

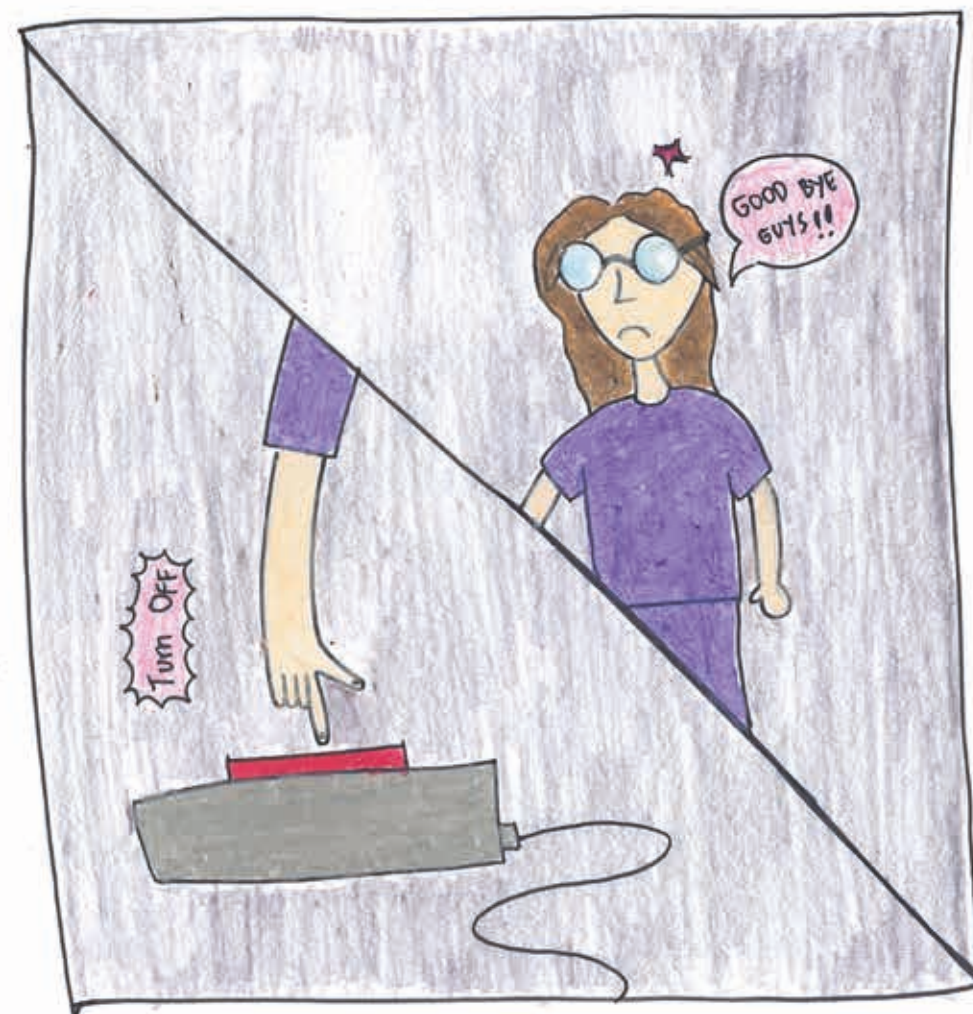


The Prof was still live streaming. People in the comments section went crazy and some said it was a prank but some said it was staged.





The Prof was upset with the negativity in the comments and she never thought people could be that mean. She regretted starting the stream and turned it off.

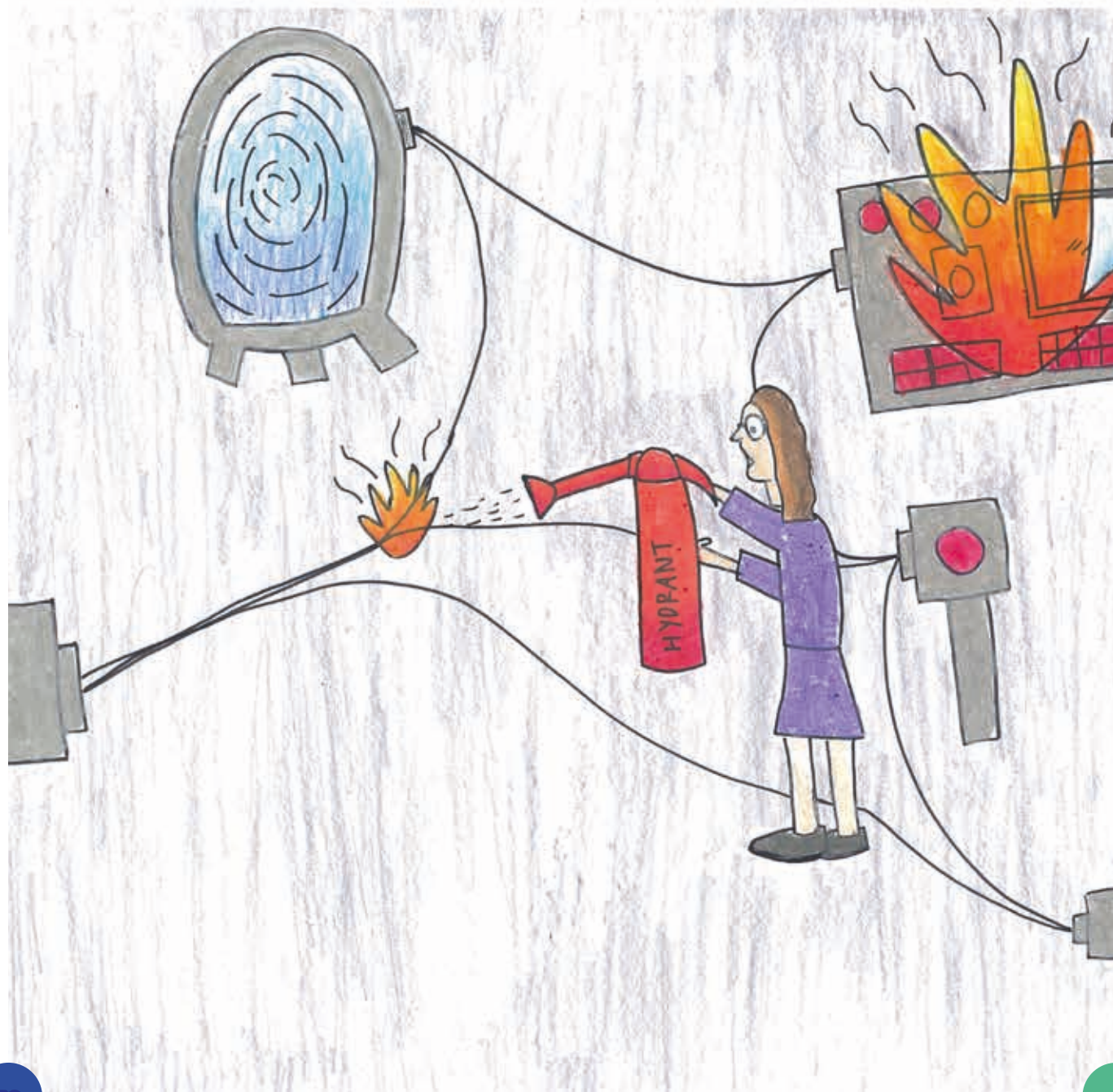


"Who are you?" Nani asked the young boy.  
 He answered, "I'm Jaka Tarub. Who are you?"  
 "My name is Nani. This is my mother, and my dog, Digo", Nani introduced.  
 Jaka asked, "Where is this? It's very different from my home."  
 "This is my lab, welcome", the Prof said.  
 Nani whispered to her mom, "I have read about him before. He's from one of the ancient legends of Indonesia. How did he get here?"  
 The Prof whispered back, "I think something went wrong with my machine. But it's proof that my machine is working."  
 "Jaka, you are from the past. Right now it is year 2048."  
 the Prof explained to Jaka.  
 Jaka exclaimed, "Oh wow, so this is future. It looks really cool!"





Suddenly, the machine caught on fire. The Prof ran rapidly to bring the fire hydrant. She extinguished the fire and everyone in the room got away safely.

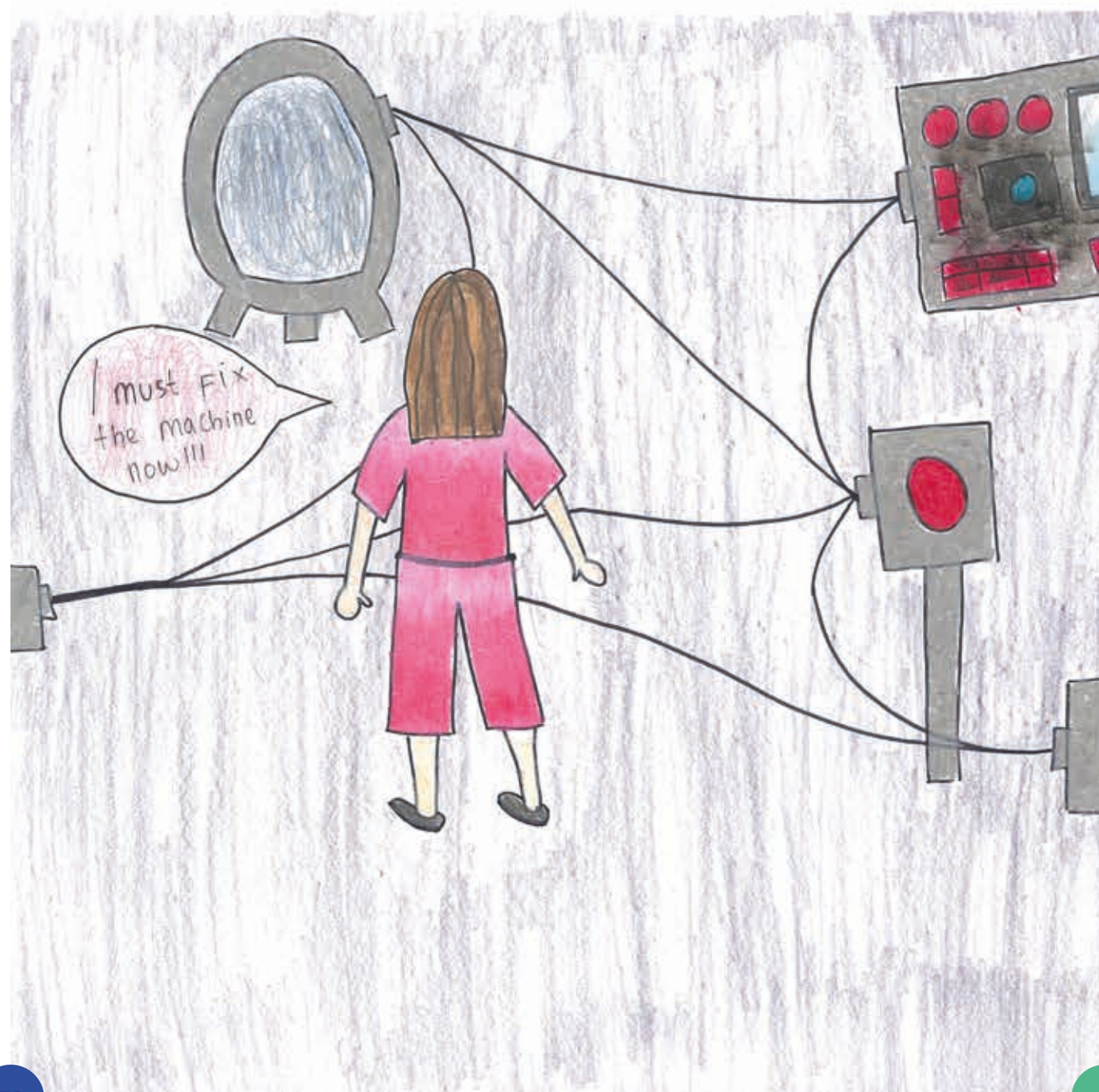


The Prof asked Jaka to live with her until the machine started working again. Jaka agreed. He was happy because he wanted to learn about the future of his country.





The next day, the Prof started fixing the machine so Jaka could go to back to his home.



Jaka asked Nani, "I want to see more of your city, where should we go?"  
 "Let's go to the park." Nani answered.  
 Nani and Jaka went to the park to chat.  
 It was the first time Nani went to park without Digo.  
 The park was not crowded.  
 There were only workers there, like the gardener and the sweeper.





Jaka admired the park. "The air in this city is so fresh, especially in this park. Actually the park is beautiful too."

"Thank you!" Nani responded. Then she explained, "Actually, this is because my mom found a serum that could boost our trees to generate more oxygen."

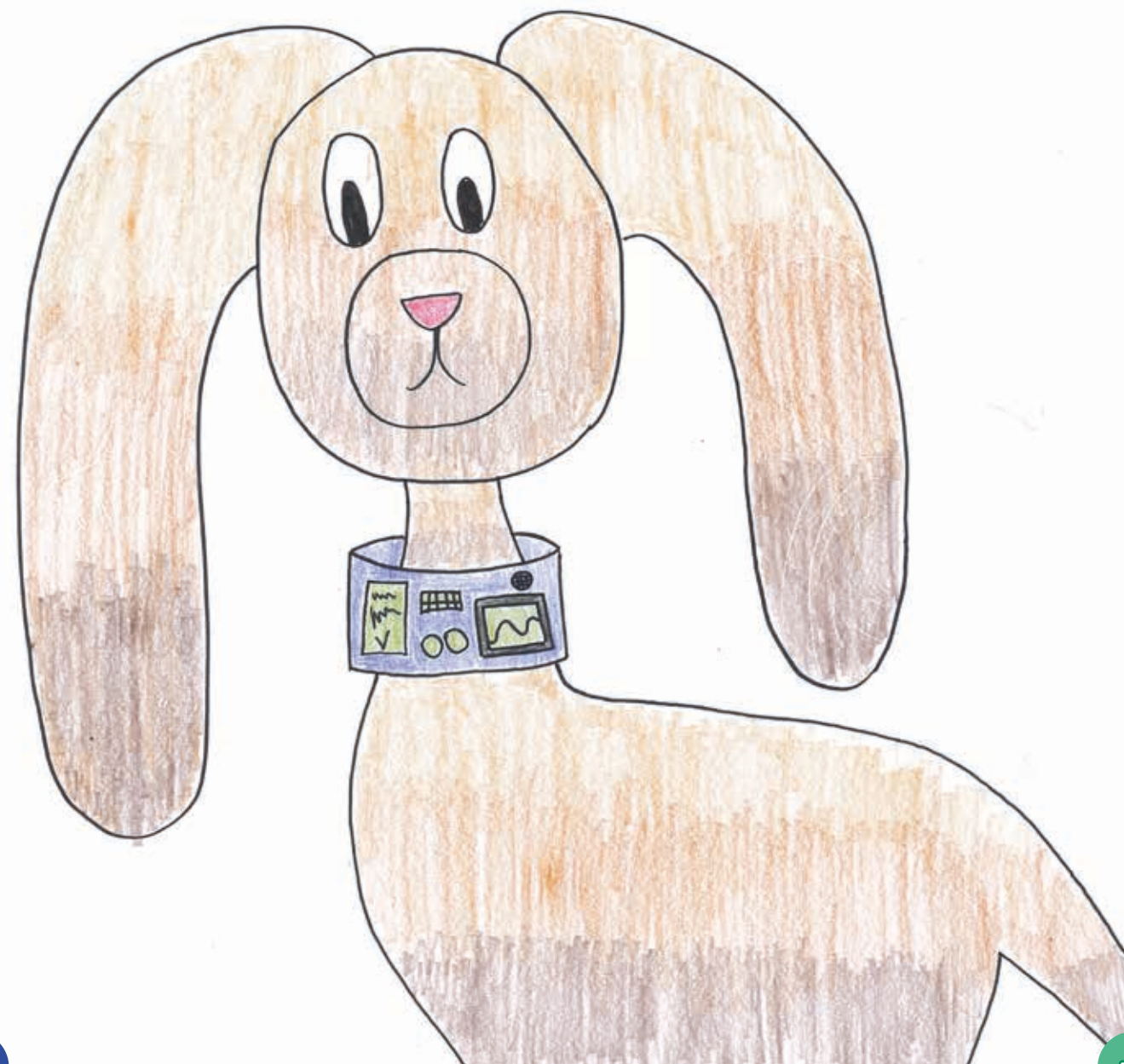
"They are endangered, but we're trying to fix this problem. Actually, my mom made the time machine so she could bring back tree seeds. The government wants to replant forest.", Nani revealed.

Jaka realized that the future was imperfect.



Jaka asked, "And your dog? How does he speak like us?"  
"Isn't it awesome that he could speak like us?", replied Nani.

Jaka disagreed, "He's more scary than awesome."  
Nani laughed, "Hahaha, don't worry, we are developing a small machine that can translate his bark."

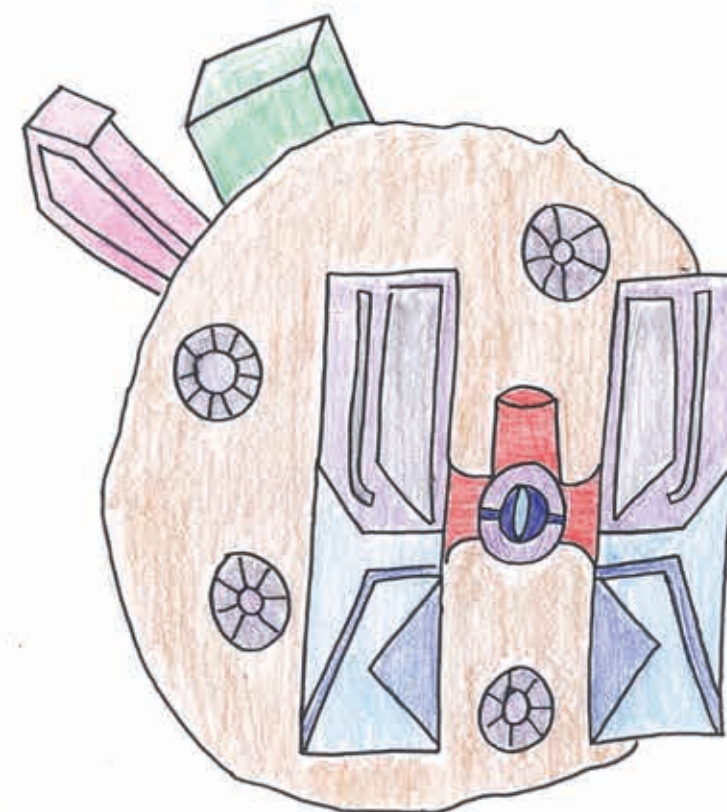




"Jaka, did you know we are the only humans here", Nani told Jaka.  
 Jaka was confused, "What do you mean, Nani?"  
 Nani shook her head, "Everyone in this park is a robot, except for us."  
 "Oh, did you scare them away with your creepy dog?" joked Jaka.  
 Nani frowned, "No, why would you say that? We made the robots so they could help us!"  
 Jaka joked again, "Your people are kind of lazy. It suits me well."  
 Nani continued, "Yes, most people don't want to do disgusting or dangerous job like cleaning and construction. So I think, it's better if we used robots to do them, right?"  
 "So I was right. They're kinda lazy." Jaka agreed. Nani laughed.



They were busy talking until night came.  
 Nani asked Jaka to wait while she went to the lab to bring a small telescope.  
 Jaka looked through the telescope and saw a strange shape in the sky.  
 Nani explained, "That's a settlement on Mars. Now, some of us live in outer space."  
 "Really? Have you ever been to space?" Jaka asked.  
 Nani answered, "No, I haven't gone there yet. It's getting late, so let's go back home."  
 They went back to rest.

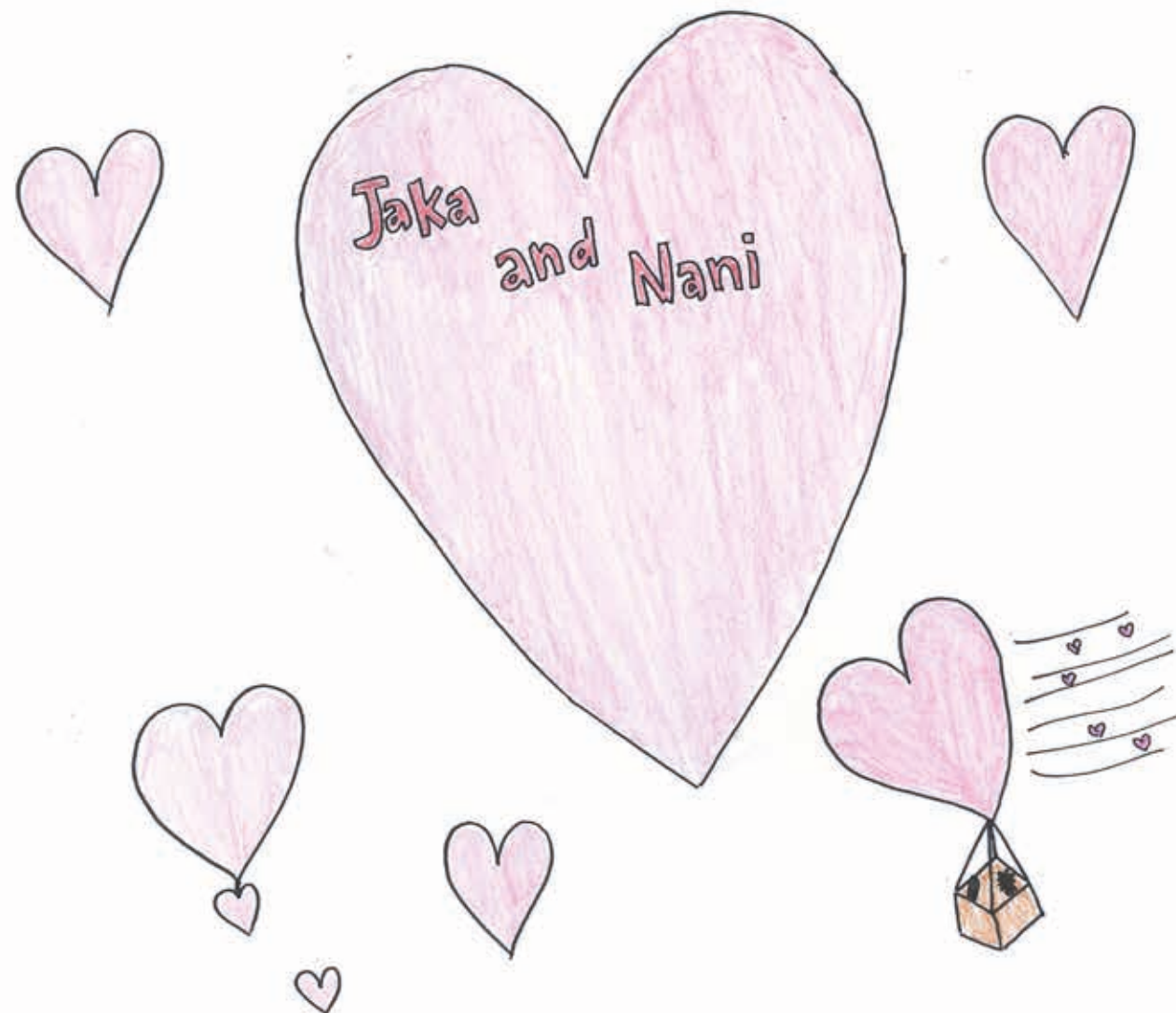


Helios  
 Hyperion's Marsbase

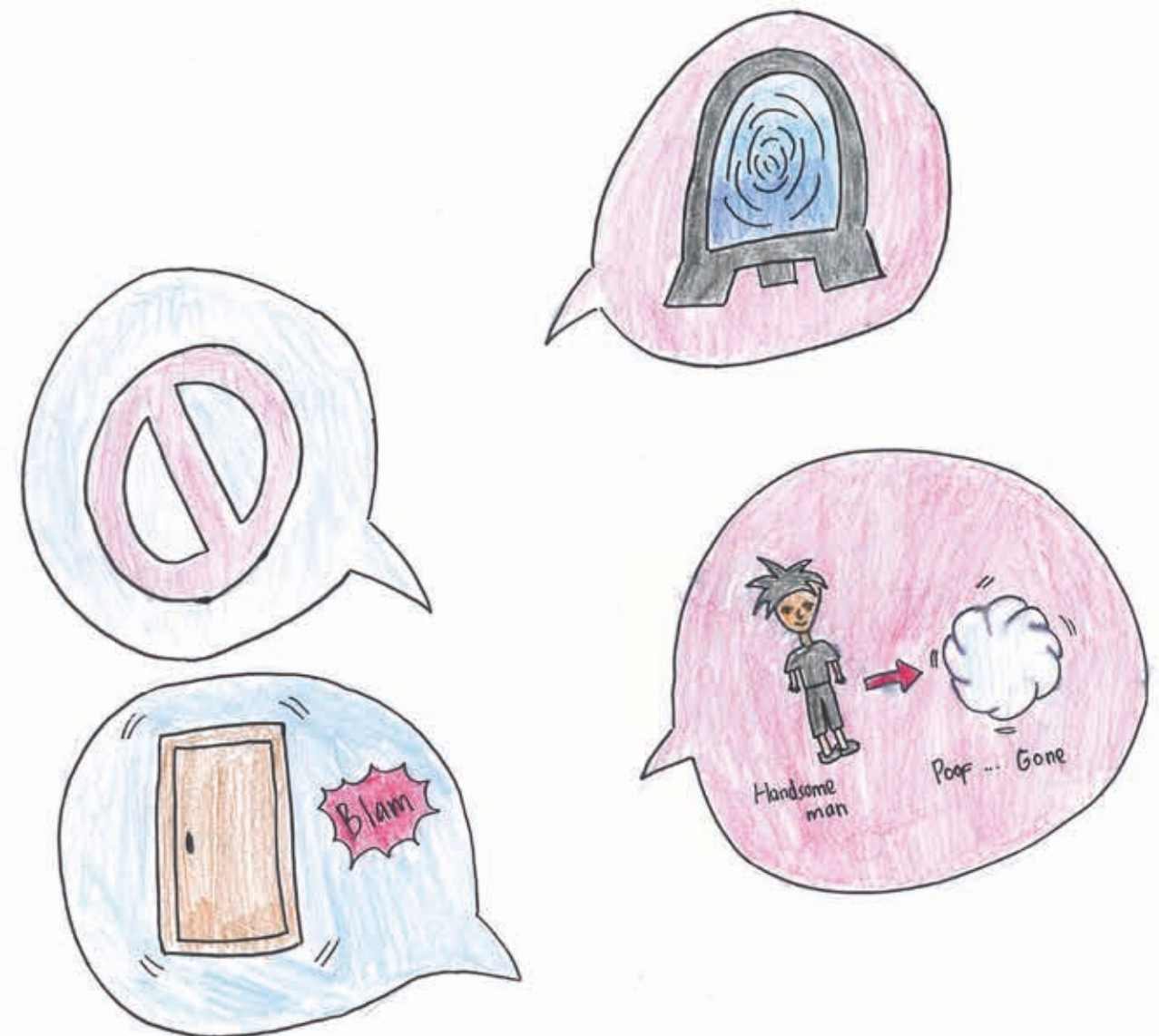




Even though they had only known each other for a few days,  
Jaka and Nani felt safe and comfortable with each other.  
With each passing day, Jaka's feelings grew.  
Nani felt the same.  
She fell in love with Jaka.



A few weeks later, the professor fixed her time machine.  
Now, it was time for Jaka to go home  
The Prof had a conversation with him.  
"Jaka, it's time for you to go."  
Jaka resisted, "I don't want to go! I want to stay here with Nani."  
The Prof explained, "You must go, because if you stay here, you'll disappear.  
You are already dead in the past."  
Jaka still resisted, "Let me take Nani then."  
Once again, the Prof explained, "If she goes with you, she'll disappear too.  
She hasn't been born yet. Stop being stubborn Jaka. It is for your best."  
Jaka was upset. He left the Prof alone in the lab.

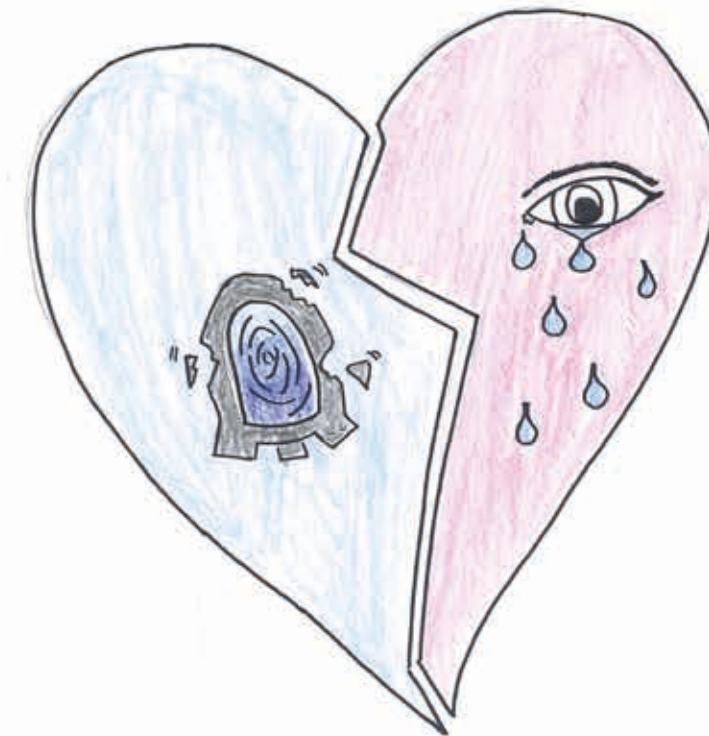




Days later, Jaka spent time with Nani.  
 He pretended like he never had his conversation with the Prof.  
 Suddenly, Jaka's body started fading away.  
 Nani screamed, "Jaka! What is happening to you?"  
 "I'm fine, Nani" Jaka said.  
 "Look at your hand!" Nani shouted.  
 Jaka sighed, "Your mom was right. She told me if I stayed here,  
 I would disappear. And if I take you with me, you'll disappear  
 too."  
 "So we must go to my mom." Nani ordered.  
 Nani ran and pulled Jaka with her.



They found the Prof working in the lab.  
 "Mom, can you turn on the time machine and take him back?" Nani asked.  
 "His body is getting transparent."  
 The Prof agreed to turn on the machine, but Jaka still resisted. He wanted to  
 stay with Nani.  
 "Go Jaka! I don't want to hurt you. But this is the only choice we have. I'm  
 very thankful that we met. But you really have to go," Nani cried.  
 Jaka replied, "But Nani.."  
 Nani came closer and hugged him.  
 "Nani.. I'm sorry. I should've listened to your mom's advice." Jaka then said.  
 "I'll go now. I wish you all the best. I love you. Goodbye, Nani. Tell your  
 creepy dog I will miss him too!"  
 Nani cried louder, "I love you too, Jaka! Goodbye, I promise I will tell him."  
 Digo whispered, "Good bye, weird guy!"  
 Jaka entered the portal and left.  
 Nani ran to her room. She tried to calm herself.





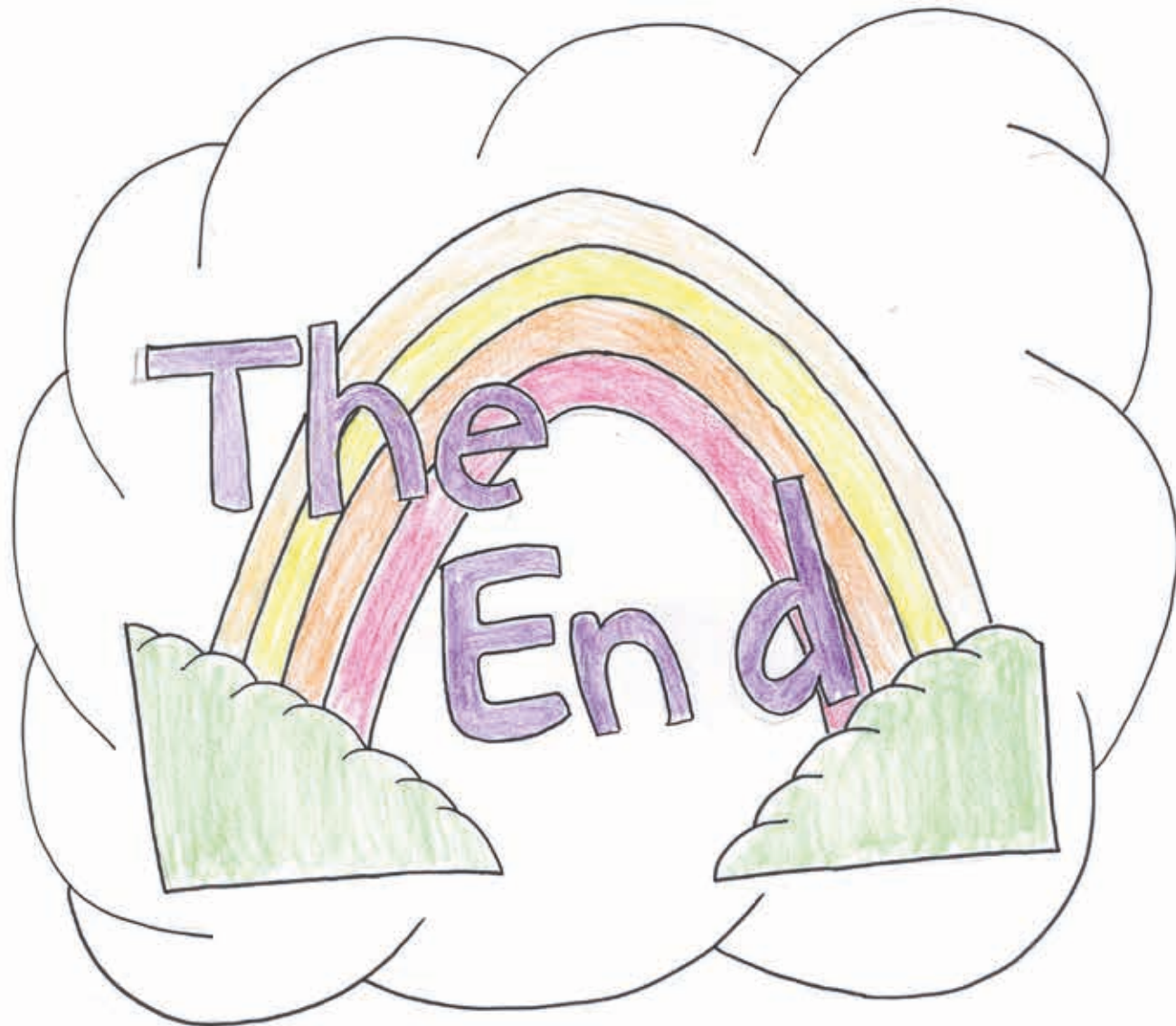
## About the Author



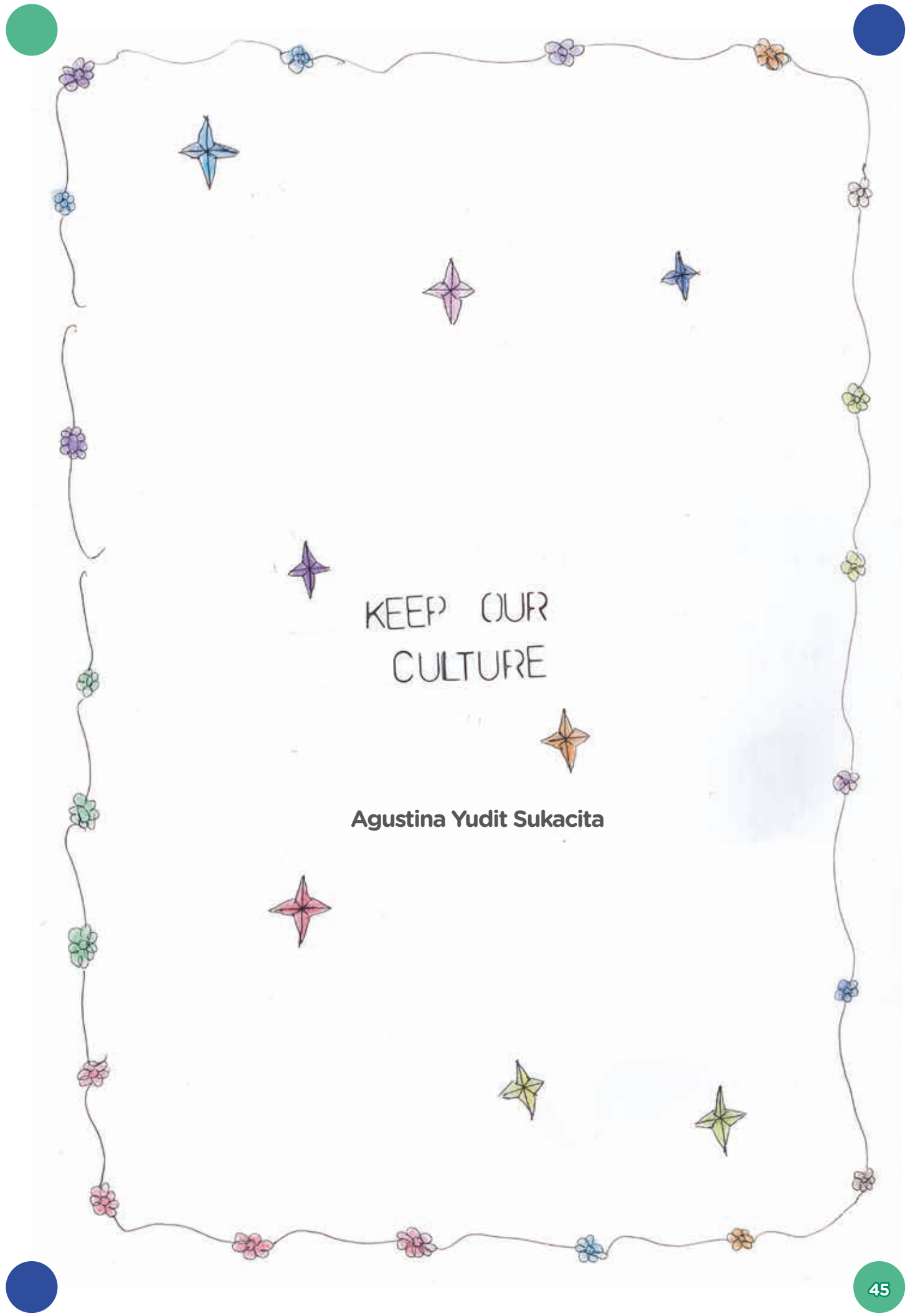
Hi! my name is Alyani Zahrine Sabila. But everyone calls me Yaya. I am 16 years old and the oldest sibling in my family. I'm studying at vocational high school 6 Semarang. My major is culinary. I like to cook, play video games and sleep.

Jaka and Nani never met again.

They learnt that:  
Sometimes you must let people go and continue your life.  
Everything always happens for a reason.  
So you must always be grateful for every miracle.








KEEP OUR  
CULTURE

**Agustina Yudit Sukacita**



Praise to the Almighty God for His blessing  
 we all a good health. For His love and blessing  
 also, I can finish this story.  
 I Don't forget to gratefull of Mr. Andrew for his helping.  
 And also I would like to say thank a lot to all of my friends,  
 My Teachers and my parent's for their support and pray

Labuan Bijo, 24 Maret 2019

  
 Agustina Yulita Sukacita

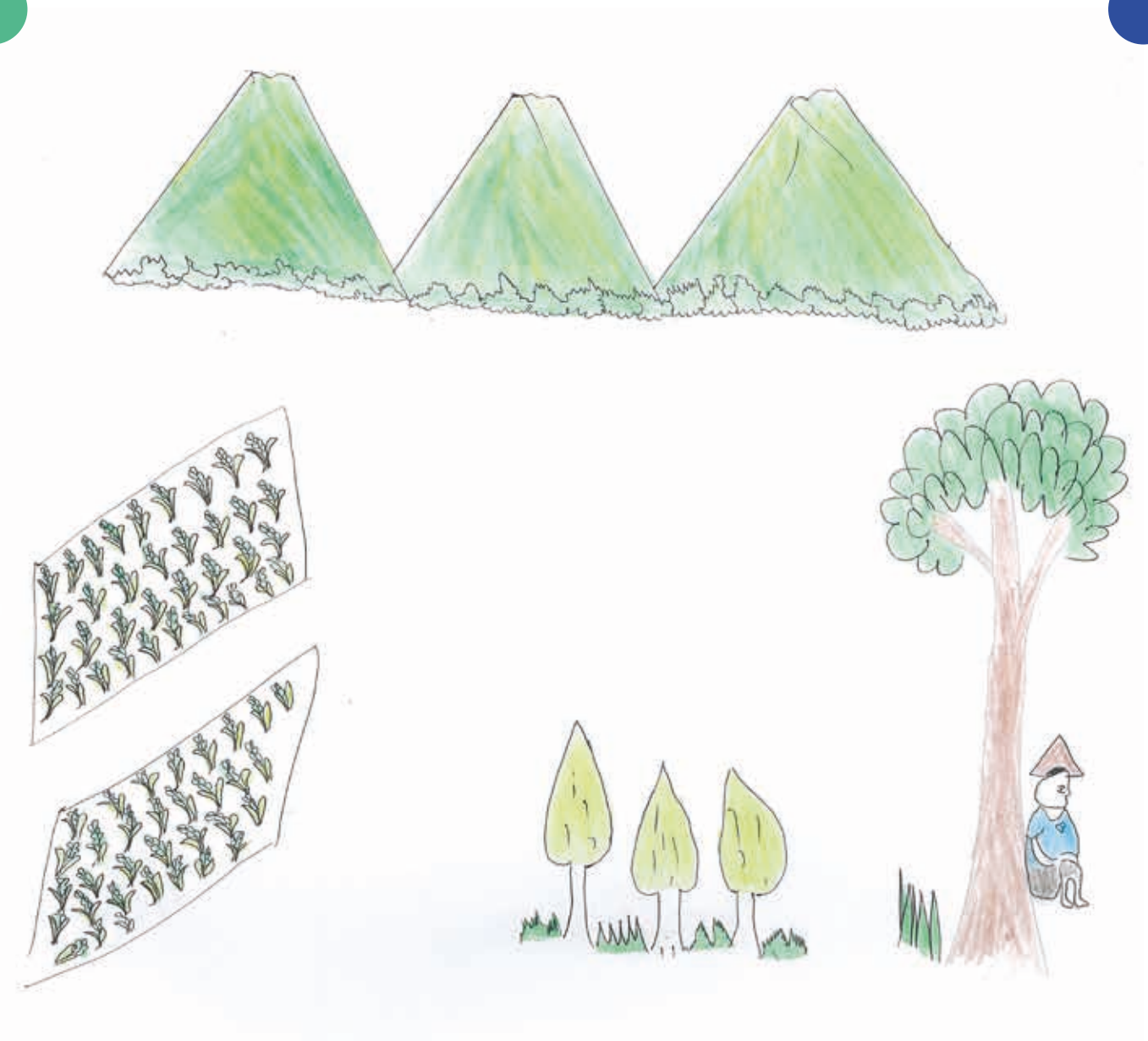


There was a village named Cecer in West Manggarai Regency. The village had beautiful scenery and mountain and also the people of this village were so friendly. Their livelihood was farming but several of them were teachers.





There lived an old-man and Mr. Aleks was his name. He was smart, humble, and hard-working. His job was a farmer such as other villagers. Every day he went to the rice fields for work.



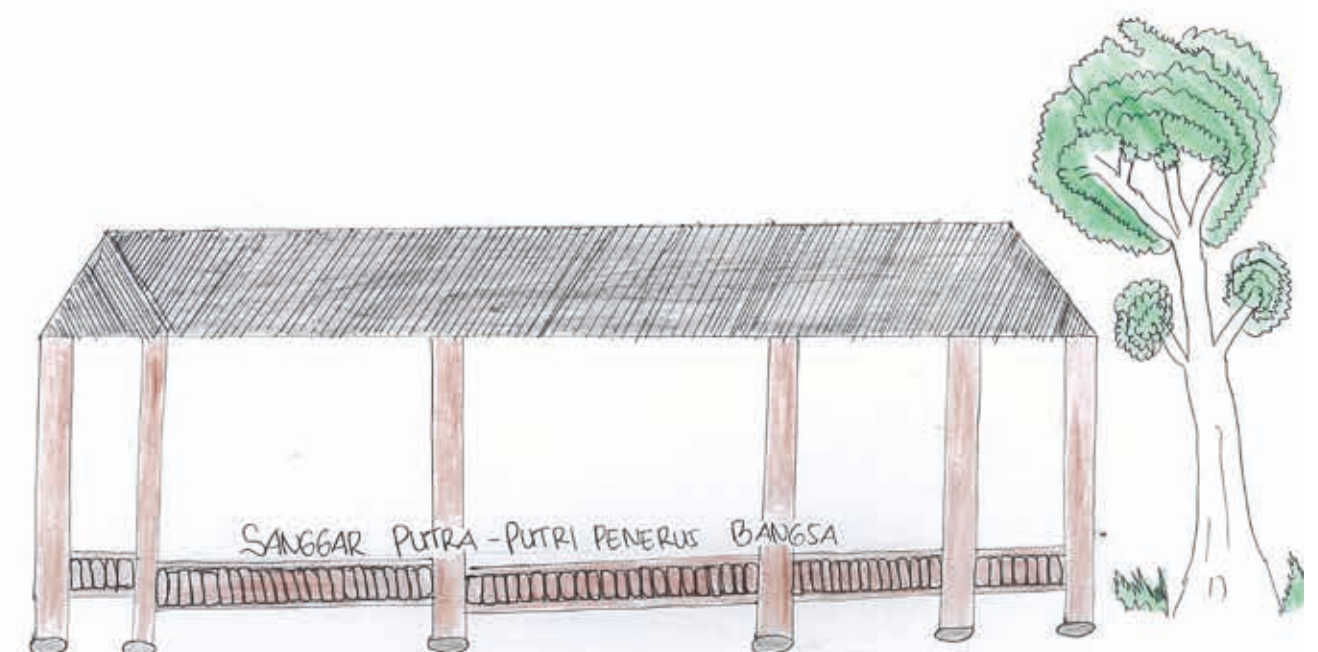
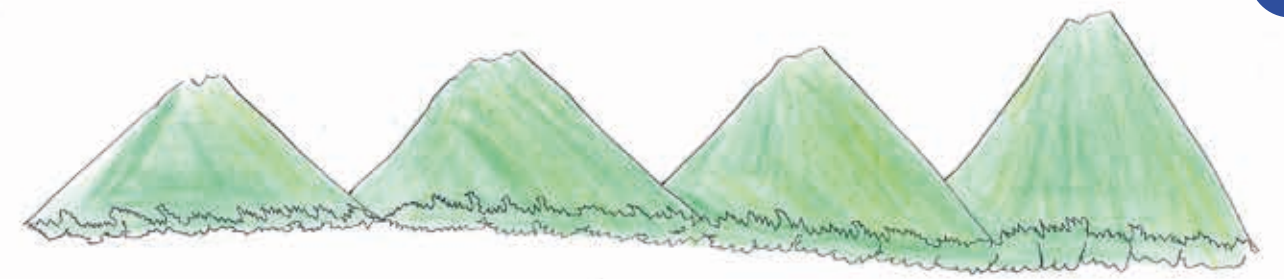
One day when he was tired of work, he took a rest under a tall tree. He was very sad and worried because in his village, younger generations forgot their culture. He wondered how will the culture of Cecer village be in the future? Probably they would lose the culture. Then he began thinking, "In my village, many young boys and young girls don't know about culture or tradition, which was the heritage of our ancestors. I have to do something so that young boys and young girls do not forgot about culture. But, what?"

He thought for a long time in the shade of the tree. Suddenly he got an idea in his mind. "Oh I know, I have to establish the culture *Sanggar* and the members will be young boys and young girls. When he found the idea, he came back home because the day was nearly dark.





The next morning, he gathered on of the young boys and young girls to explain about his idea and they agreed. Then they discussed about how to prepare. One of the boys was named Wiro. He said, "Ok we will have to form a culture *Sanggar* and I want to suggest that Mr. Aleks become a dean." They agreed with the suggestion, "Alright, if that is what you want", said Mr. Aleks.



After that, they formed the culture *Sanggar*. They were given names of the *Sanggar*, namely "Sanggar Putra Putri Penerus Bangsa".



Two days later, Mr. Aleks met with the leader of the village and he talked about his idea. The leader of the village was very happy. He was very proud of Mr. Aleks because Mr. Aleks paid attention to the culture. "I'm very grateful for you and I'm happy because we can defend our culture. So, in the future the culture of Cecer village is permanent and is not lose", said the village leader. "Yeah, I think so, sir", said Mr. Aleks.

Then the leader of the village promoted the Sanggar by means of mass media. And finally many tourists became interested in the Sanggar then they visited Cecer village. But before they visited Cecer village, they called the leader of the village two days before. The leader of the village was very happy with the news, then he told Mr. Aleks to prepare everything. When the tourists came, they received a cordial welcome from Mr. Aleks and also members of Sanggar before watching the performance Mr. Aleks did a ritual to receive guests.



After that, the tourists admired performance and they were very interested. One of the guests was named Mr. Johnson said, "Wow.. Amazing. I like it. This is great guys. Your culture is beautiful. I hope this culture will be handed down to future generations". He said that during the performance of Caci dance by young boys. "Thank you, Mr. Johnson", said Mr. Aleks while watching the performance.





After the performance was finished the tourists came back and paid for the attraction and performance. Mr. Aleks said, "as the representative of the dean Sanggar. I would like to say big thanks to you for visiting our Sanggar. This has been our first visit and we are, of course waiting for your next visit." Mr. Johnson said, "You're welcome, Mr. Aleks and I would like to say thanks a lot to all of you because you have done your best for us with a very interesting performance."

Since then, many young boys and young girls paid attention to the culture and Cecer village became famous throughout the world as a tourist destination.

The End

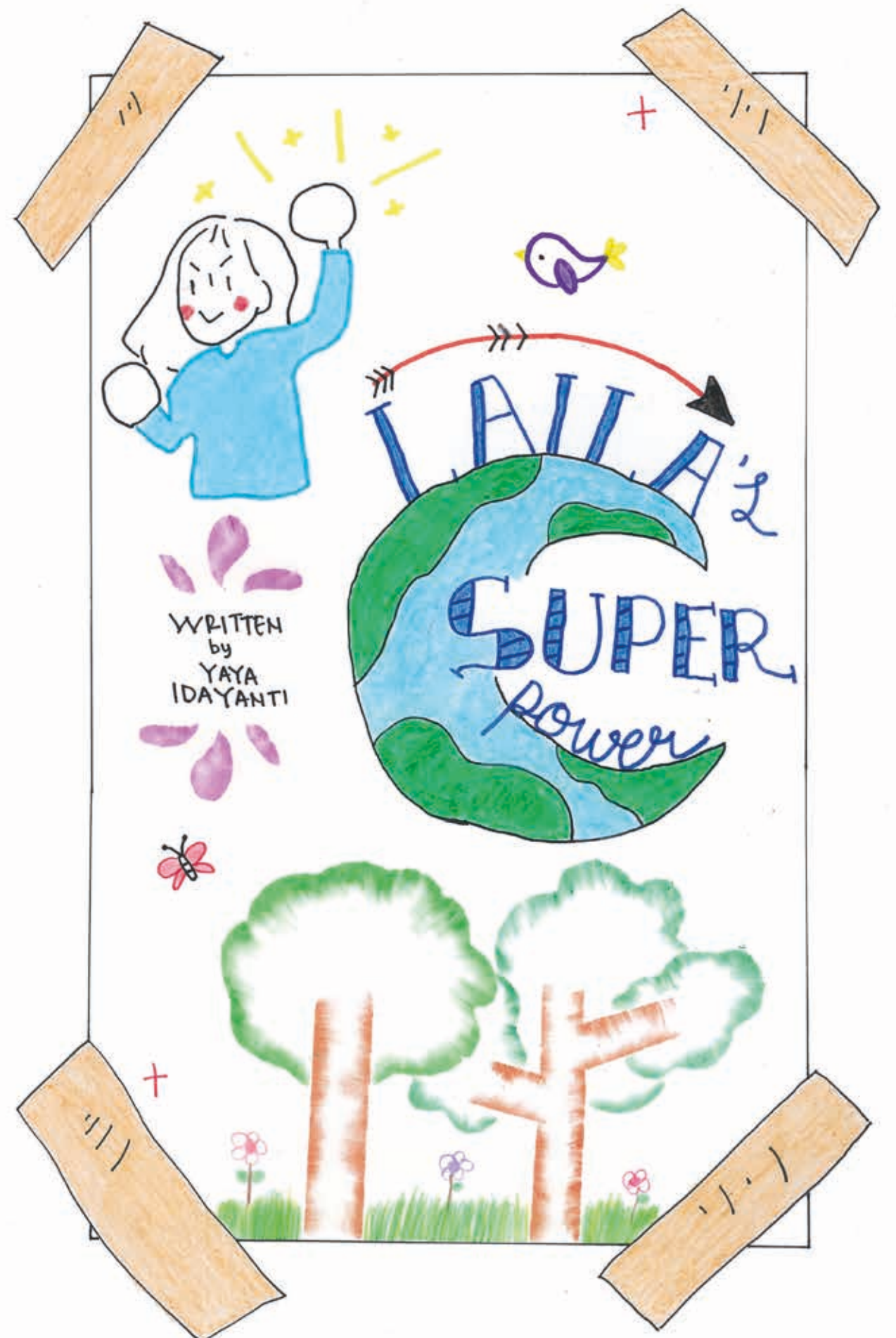


## About the Author



My name is Agustina Yudit Sukacita. You can call me Yudit. I'm from Labuan Bajo, Manggarai Barat. I am 16 years old. My hobby is reading storybooks. I study at SMK Stella Maris. My motivation to join the competition is to learn English and also make my parents, my teachers, and my friends happy.







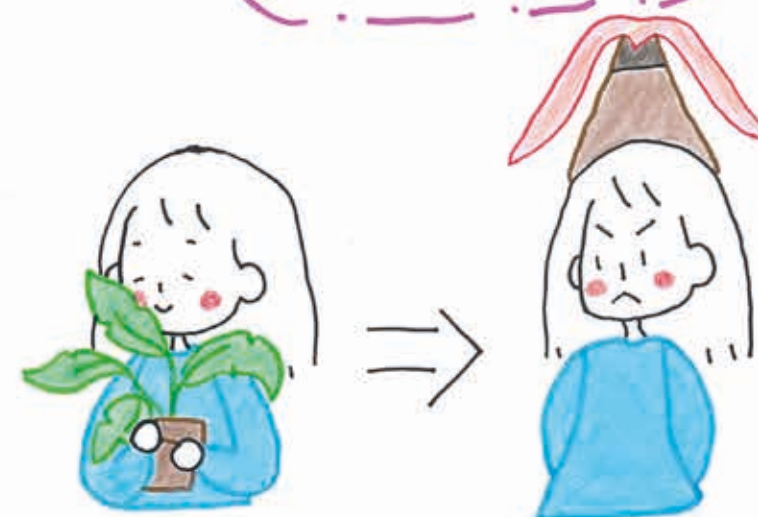
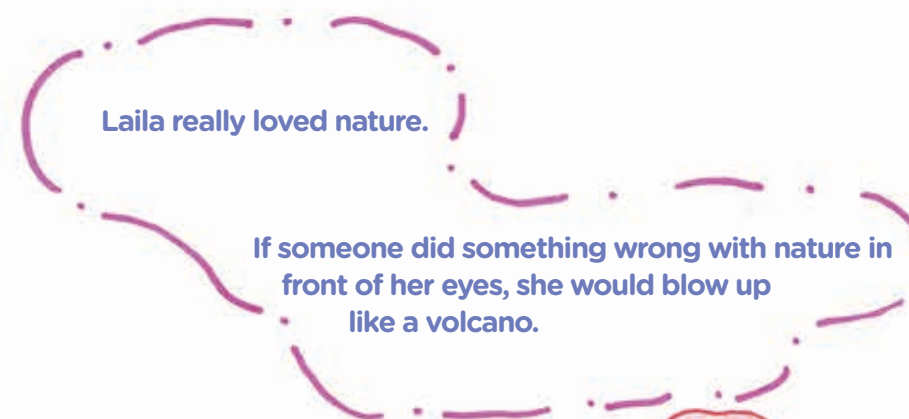


In a small village in Kalimantan Timur, there live a girl named Laila. When everyone saw her, the first thing people thought was perfect. Because why not?

In her school, she was one of the smartest students, not only in academics but also in non-academics. When the teacher gave questions in class, she always answered correctly. She was always the recommended student to join every olympic speech contest and even dance competition.



Laila also had good leadership skills. One of her best achievements was being the leader of the Green Generation or the GG, in her school.

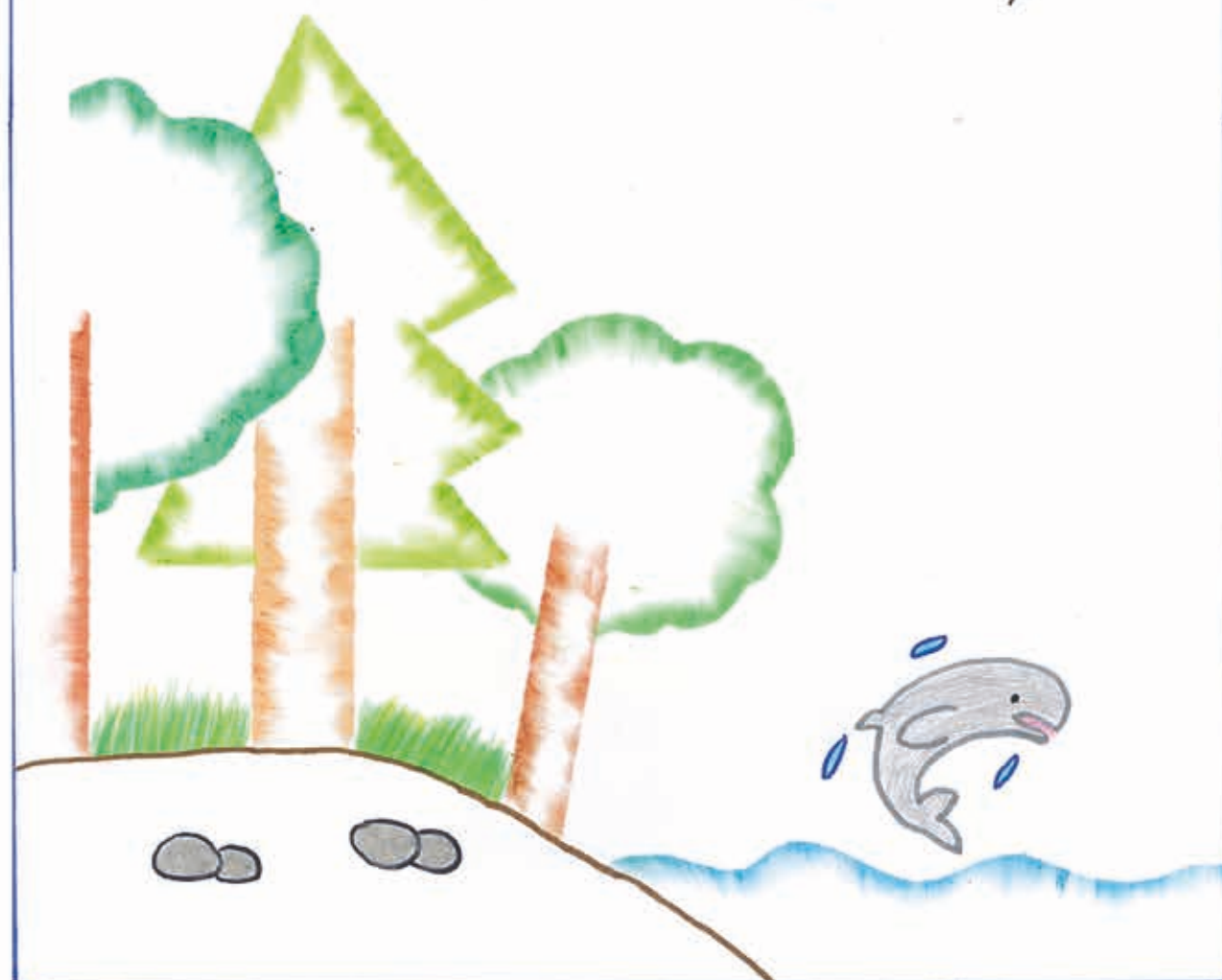




Kalimantan Timur was very famous for its large and leafy forests where various animals and plants grew and lived.

It was there that the villagers were able to get income.

And it was there that the lungs of the world worked.



But one day, something bad happened to all of Kalimantan Timur.

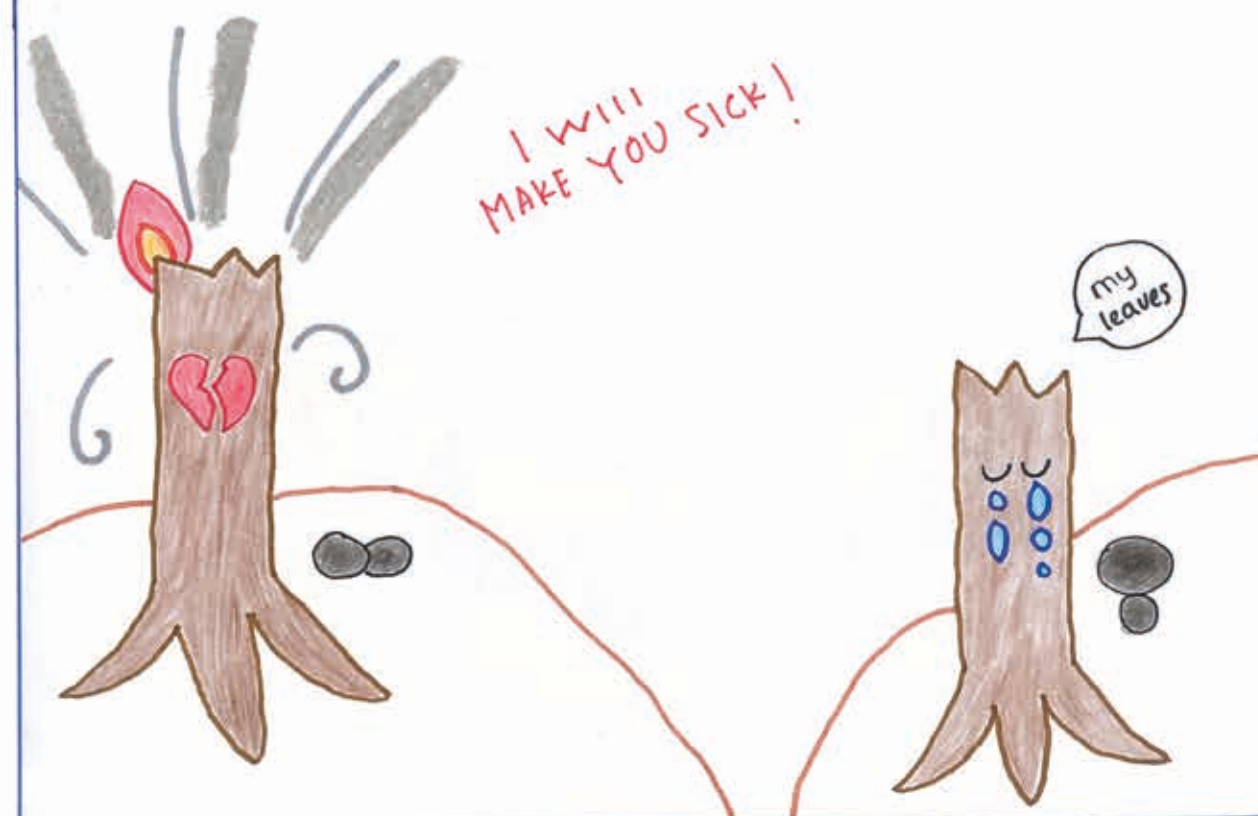
The smoke enveloped the sky.

Even the air was too dirty to risk breathing freely.

No one could see clearly because the air was filled with smoke.

Every school in Kalimantan Timur had to take a break because of the health situation.

It felt like there was no place to hide because wherever, whenever, and however there was smoke that was ready to make them sick.







How it could it happen?  
It happened because someone threw a cigarette on the ground carelessly maybe they did not realize that it would start a wildfire and cause smoke to take over every corner of Kalimantan.

Laila already had fire in her eyes.  
This irresponsible human makes earth feels like a nightmare.



The smoke happened all day, all week and all month. Laila knew she could not keep silent and do nothing. If she just sat and let it be, she would be no better than the person that started the fire.



Laila decided to get all of the members of the Green Generation together. Some of them gave good advice but they chose the best one. Finally, they had a plan "Green is Life, Life is Green"







"I think we should start with elementary school students." Laila said.

"Of course, it is easier to get young people to change."

All of the members of the Green Generation agreed and the next day they went to an elementary school and saw all of students.



The GGs created the sketch and Laila showed it to all of the students and said, "This is how pathetic our forest is right now. You all can see, there is no green, there is no happiness. Our forest is crying every time. Our best friend has fallen in sadness. We must stop this sorrow! We must take back our green lives and the forest will come back smiling and calm everyone."

As Laila explained about the forests, she gave masks to the students for their smoke protection. Finally, she said. "The smoke is very terrible. It is more dangerous than a horror movie. This mask can help protect you from smoke and keep away you from diseases. We must believe that in the future of Indonesia, earth can be better home for all animals if we start caring about nature"



One of the children explained, "I want to fix the forest!"

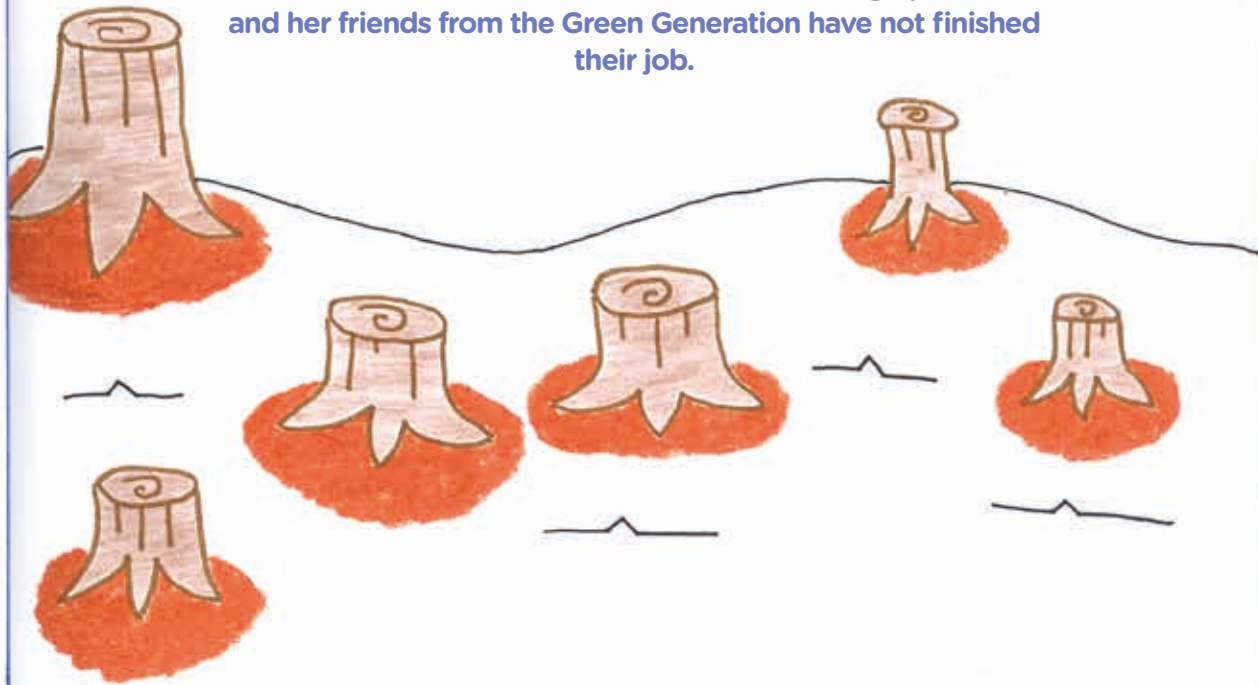
All of the students started saying the same statement. Laila and her friend felt like they found light in the sea of darkness.





The smoke stayed in Kalimantan Timur for a very long time. After a while, the village returned to normal activity but the nightmare still existed.

The forest was so dry. There was not even a little green on the trees. Laila did not want to waste time being upset. She and her friends from the Green Generation have not finished their job.



Laila, all of the Green Generation members and all of elementary school students shared a poster. Plant your tree and create your heaven. They persuaded all of the villagers to plant one tree. If one person could plant one tree, they could save the forest and then save the future of Indonesia.



"Oh this is very good idea, I like it! We must come!" said the villager.

"I really miss our beloved forest. We should solve this as fast as we can."

All of the villagers were very excited. They came to the forest with their plants. They fixed the forest together and finally, they all understood that by saving nature they could save their lives.





## About the Author



Hi! My name is Yaya Idayanti. My friends usually call me Yaya. I was born on the 28th of January, 2003 in Tabalong, but I grew up in Samarinda, East Kalimantan. Have you heard of Tabalong? It is a little town in South Kalimantan. Now, I study at SMA Negeri 10 Samarinda. I usually spend my time baking, cooking, singing, and also writing stories. In school, I am always impressed with my language teachers. In the future, I want to be Bahasa Indonesia teacher because language is so powerful. It helps people express everything, and so I think it's important that people learn.



Laila was very happy.  
And because of the Green Generation members' effort. They were invited to different towns in Indonesia to talk about how important nature was.

At every school that she spoke at, the last thing Laila's group would do was sing, "Waiting on the World to Change" by John Mayer hoping that the students would realize that they must stop waiting because It was their generation that one day would change Indonesia's future for the better.





## 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 15 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.



