

Khansa Ransivania



# The Skunk and The Dam

Copyright © 2020 by **The American Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF)**

All Rights Reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without the permission of American Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF)

American Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF)  
Intiland Tower, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Jl. Jend. Sudirman No. 32,  
Jakarta 10220

Book design by **SUNVisual**  
Printed in the **Republic of Indonesia**

All storybooks including illustrations are courtesy of participants of National WORDS Competition 2020.

These storybooks have been lightly edited for clarity.

Khansa Ransivania



# The Skunk and The Dam



Once upon a time, there was a kingdom located at the base of a waterfall. The kingdom was ruled by King Leon, the mighty lion of Emerald Kingdom.



One day, a skunk named Sydney went to meet the king. He asked the king, "Good evening, Your Majesty. I'm here to ask for permission."

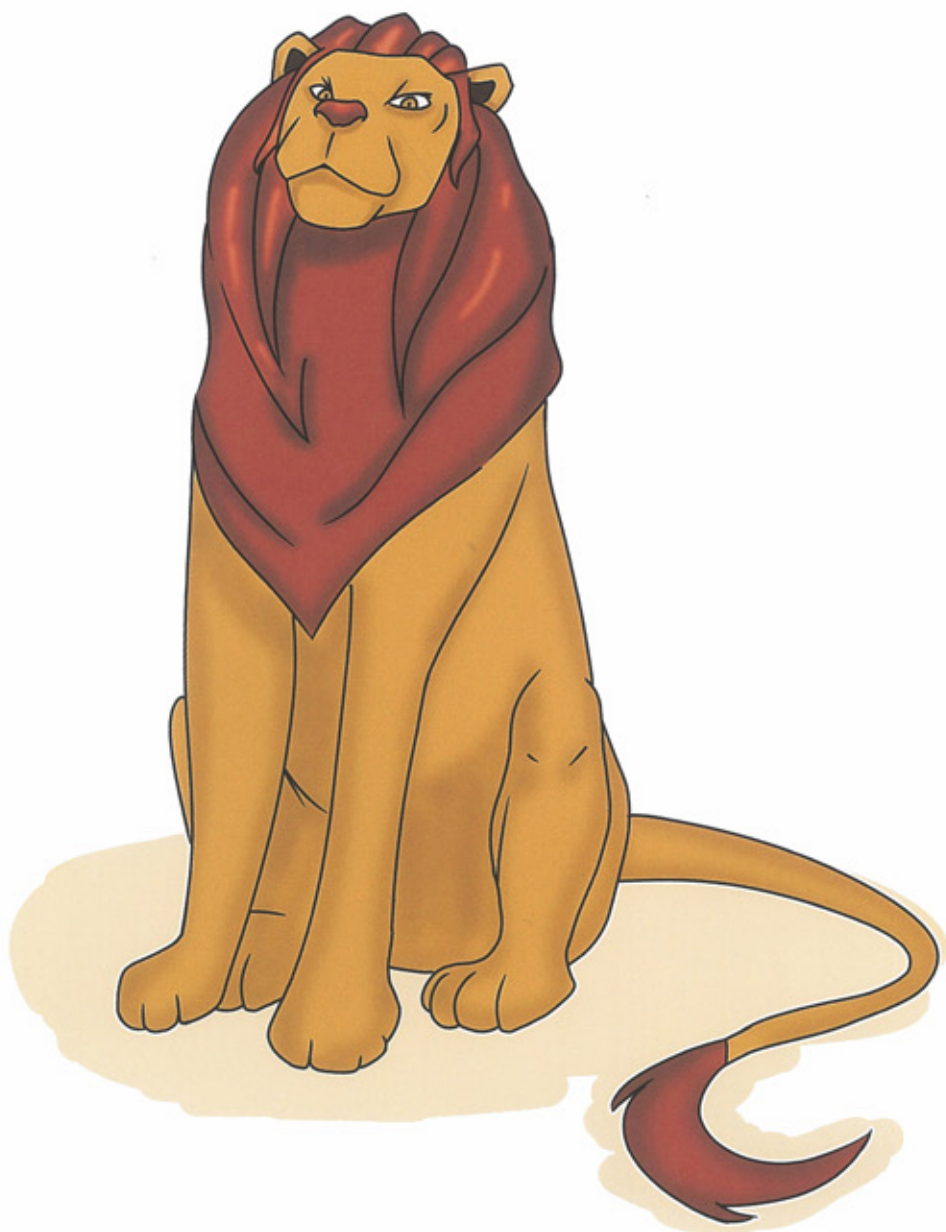
The king replied, "Who are you? And what kind of permission do you want to ask?"

"I'm Sydney, a refugee from another kingdom. I'm here to ask if my family and I could live here," Sydney said.

"And why exactly did you leave your kingdom?" the king asked.

"When I was -" Sydney replied.

"Enough," the king said.



That made everybody who was present started mumbling. Someone then told the king that the people didn't agree because the skunk was stinky. The king told the guards to dismiss Sydney from the kingdom. The news spread throughout the kingdom. Sydney returned to his family and shared the unfortunate news.



Sydney sang,  
“I just want them to know  
That I gave my all, did my best  
Brought someone some happiness  
Left this place a little better just because...”





In the kingdom, there also lived a beaver named Barry. He was responsible for the construction work in the kingdom, including the dam that slowed down the waterfall. Days after the king rejected Sydney, Barry told the king that the wood they used to make the dam was slowly disappearing. The king told Barry to fix it up. But the stream wasn't that big, so it wasn't an urgent problem.





Several weeks later, the kingdom suffered from drought. The people in the kingdom begged the goddess of the moon for rain.

"Oh goddess of the moon, please give us rain and end this drought."





Suddenly, thunder boomed and lightning struck. Their wish came true. But the rain was too heavy.

Barry then told the king that the dam wasn't capable of holding the heavy rain. They could fix it, but they needed a crazy amount of wood.





Just when the king was about to answer, someone opened the door and said :

"Your Highness, the dam can fall at any time! "

Without hesitation, the king ordered the villagers to evacuate.



After hearing that, Barry went to the dam to try to fix it.



There, he found Sydney and his family fixing the dam.

“Oh Sydney! You’re Sydney, right?”

Sydney also brought a lot of wood. Together they fixed the dam and prevented the disaster.

The heavy rain stopped and the whole village saw the dam held strong and didn’t collapse.





The villagers cheered and said:

“You did it, Barry! You saved us! You saved our kingdom!” as Barry and Sydney came up to them. The king then thanked Barry. But Barry said,

“Oh, you shouldn’t thank me, that guy is the real hero here.”

“We were wrong about you, Sydney, totally wrong!” the villagers said.

The king told Sydney that he and his family were welcome anytime in the kingdom.



And they all sang  
"Imagine all the people  
Living life in peace  
You may say that I'm a dreamer  
But I'm not the only one  
I hope someday you'll join us  
And the world will be as one"

(Song: Imagine by John Lennon)



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Hello, my name is Khansa Ransivania, but you can call me Khansa. I was born in Bogor in 2004. My hobbies are singing and drawing. I study at Raden Umar Said Vocational High School. My ambition is to become 3D character modeler.



# WORDS HEROES

2020

**AMINEF**  
American Indonesian  
Exchange Foundation

 **FULBRIGHT**  
Indonesia

**AMINEF**

Intiland Tower, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Jl. Jend. Sudirman No. 32, Jakarta 10220

[www.aminef.or.id](http://www.aminef.or.id)

T. +62 21 5793 9085/86  
F. +62 21 5793 9089

 AMINEF/Fulbright Indonesia

 @FulbrightID

 fulbrightindonesia