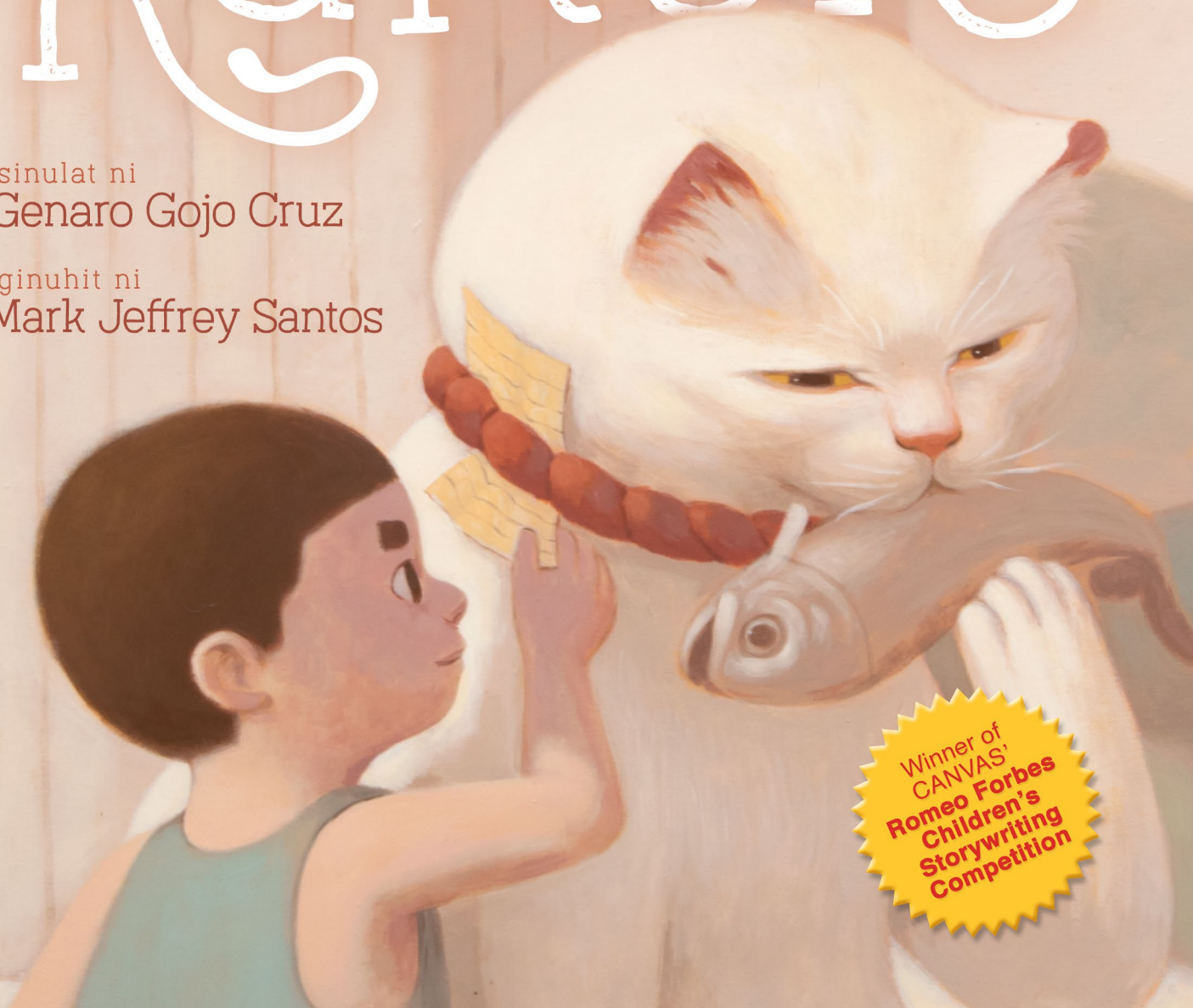


ANG Pusang Kartero

isinulat ni
Genaro Gojo Cruz

iginuhit ni
Mark Jeffrey Santos



Winner of
CANVAS,
Romeo Forbes
Children's
Storywriting
Competition



Ang librong ito ay kay

Philippine Copyright ©2023
by
CANVAS - The Center for Art, New Ventures
and Sustainable Development

Reserbado ang lahat ng karapatan.

Puwedeng ibahagi, kopyahin, at ipamigay ang naritong materyal sa anumang medium o anyo sa layuning hindi pangnegosyo, kung may angkop na pagpangalan at pagkilala na ibibigay sa CANVAS, ang tagapaglathala nito. Hindi pinapahintulutan ang anumang pagbabago, pagsisipi, o paglikha batay sa naritong materyal nang hindi nakukuha muna ang nakasulat na pahintulot ng CANVAS.

Para sa mga tanong, makipag-ugnayan:
CANVAS
No.1 Upsilon Dr. Ext. cor. Zuzuarregui St.,
Matandang Balara, Quezon City, Philippines 1119
info@canvas.ph

Unang limbag na hardcover, 2023
Unang inilathala sa Filipino na may salin sa Ingles
Inilathala ng CANVAS - The Center for Art, New Ventures and Sustainable Development
Inilimbag sa Republika ng Pilipinas

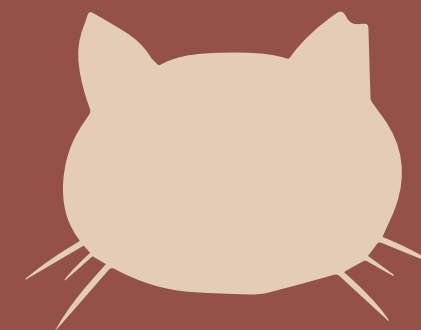
Isinulat ni Genaro Gojo Cruz
Iginuhit ni Mark Jeffrey Santos
Disenyo ng libro ni Kevin Candelaria
Salin ni Annette A. Ferrer

Produkto ng Romeo Forbes Children's Story Writing Competition ang librong ito. Inilulunsad ng CANVAS ang kompetisyong ito dalawa o higit pang beses sa isang taon, bukás sa mga Filipino saan man sa mundo. Una at natatangi sa pamamaraan nito, inaanyayahan ng patimpalak ang mga manunulat na lumikha ng kuwentong pambata batay sa isang pinta o eskultura ng isang lokal na artistang Filipino.

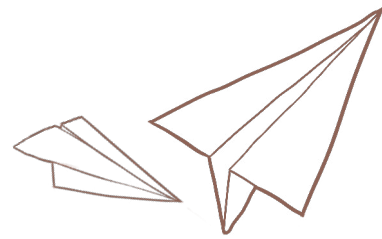
ANG Pusang Kartero

isinulat ni
Genaro Gojo Cruz

iginuhit ni
Mark Jeffrey Santos



May isang pusa na naging kartero
ng dalawang bata.

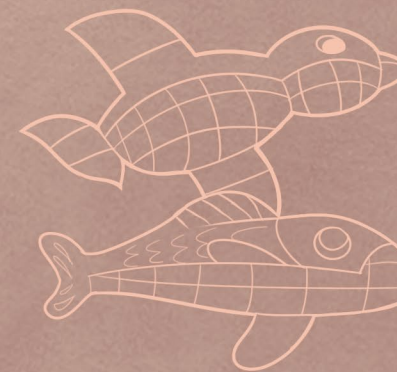


Pumupunta siya sa bahay-na-kahoy.

“Kumusta, alaga naming pusa?” sabi ni Boyet habang pinakakain siya.

Gusto niyang makalaro si Boyet na nagsasabit ng kapirasong papel sa kuwintas niyang pisi.






Pumupunta siya sa bahay-na-bato.
Gusto rin niyang makalaro si Niño.

“Kumusta, alaga naming pusa?” sabi ni Niño
habang pinaiinom siya ng tubig.

Gusto niyang makalaro si Niño na nagsasabit din
ng kapisasong papel sa kuwintas niyang pisi.

Ang totoo, dalawa ang may-ari sa pusa, si
Boyet at si Niño na nakapulot sa kaniya habang
naglalaro ang dalawang bata sa malawak na
bakuran ng kanilang mga bahay.



May malaking problema lang si Boyet at si Niño. Magkagalit ang kanilang mga tatay.

Nagsimula ang alitan nang bakuran ng ama ni Boyet ang lupa.

Arkitekto at guro ang tatay at nanay ni Niño.

Mekaniko at tindera naman ng mga gulay ang tatay at nanay ni Boyet.



“Para namang ibang tao ang tingin mo sa akin,”
sabi ng tatay ni Niño.

“Di naman sa ganoon, pinsan, para na rin ito sa
seguridad n’yo. Iba ang antas ng buhay n’yo sa
amin,” sabi ng tatay ni Boyet habang itinutulos
ang mga sanga ng kakawate sa pagitan ng
bahay-na-kahoy at ng bahay-na-bato.

Mula noon, di na nag-usap ang mga tatay ni
Boyet at ni Niño.

“Ayokong makitang nagpupunta ka sa bahay-
na-kahoy,” sabi ng tatay ni Niño.

Alam niyang bahay nina Boyet ang tinutukoy ng
tatay niya.

“Huwag na huwag ka nang pupunta sa bahay-na-bato,” sabi ng tatay ni Boyet.

Alam niyang bahay nina Niño ang tinutukoy ng tatay niya.

At di na rin nag-usap ang mga nanay nina Boyet at si Niño.

“Marami namang puwedeng laruin dito sa ating bahay, anak,” sabi ng nanay ni Boyet.


“Manood ka na lang ng paborito mong palabas sa TV,” sabi naman ng nanay ni Niño.

Simula nang mailagay ang bakod, di na nakapaglaro ang dalawang bata.

Nadamay sila sa samaan ng loob ng kanilang mga tatay.

Natigil ang pagbibigayan nila ng masasarap na ulam kung hapunan.



A white cat is captured in mid-leap, moving from left to right across the page. The cat is wearing a red collar with a gold bell. The background consists of soft, painterly green trees and a pale, hazy sky with light clouds. The overall style is soft and illustrative.

Pero di natigil ang paghahatid ng mensahe ng pusa.

Sa araw-araw, may mahalagang tungkulin ang karterong pusa.

Pumunta siya sa bahay-na-kahoy.

Sa kuwintas niyang pisi, may palawit na kapirasong papel.

Kumusta, na Boyet? Nandito ako ngayon sa bintana. Gumawa tayo ng mga eroplanong papel.
— Niño

Tumanaw naman sa bintana si Boyet upang makita si Niño.

At gumawa sila ng maraming eroplanong papel. Kailangan nilang mapaabot ang pagpapalipad nito sa bintana ng kanilang bahay.





Pumunta siya sa bahay-na-bato.

Sa kuwintas niyang pisi, may palawit na kapisasong papel.

Nasaan ka, Niño? Nandito ako ngayon sa bubong ng aming bahay. Magpalipad tayo ng saranggola.
— Boyet

At nagpalipad ng mga saranggola sa bubungan sina Boyet at Niño. Parang nag-uusap sa kalangitan ang mga saranggola nila.

Nagpahinga naman ang pusa sa bakod na tinutubuan na ng mga sanga at dahon. Masaya niyang pinagmasdan ang dalawang makulay na saranggola sa kalangitan.

Isang hapunan, pumunta ang pusa sa bahay-na-kahoy.

Sa kuwintas niyang pisi, may palawit na kapisasang papel.

Ano'ng ulam n'yo, Boyet?
Nandito ngayon si Tatay.
— Niño

Pumunta si Boyet sa bahay-na-bato dala ang isang mangkok ng pinakbet.

"Tito, pinabibigay sa inyo ni Tatay," sabi ni Boyet nang pagbuksan siya ng pinto ng Tatay ni Niño.

"Aba, salamat 'ka mo, Boyet!" sabi ng Tatay ni Niño.





Isang hapunan uli, pumunta ang pusa sa bahay-na-bato.

Sa kuwintas niyang pisi, may palawit na kapirasong papel.

Ano'ng ulam n'yo, Niño?

Nandito na rin ngayon si Tatay.

— Boyet

Nagtungo si Niño sa bahay-na-kahoy dala ang isang mangkok ng adobong manok.

“Uncle, ulam, pinabibigay ni Tatay sa inyo,” sabi ni Niño nang pagbuksan siya ng pinto ng tatay ni Boyet.

“Salamat ‘ka mo, Niño,” sabi ng Tatay ni Boyet.

Isang Sabado, pumunta ang pusa sa bahay-na-kahoy.

Sa kuwintas niyang pisi, may palawit na kapisasong papel.

Boyet, sabihin mo sa tatay mo, sira ang aming kotse? Di kami makapunta sa Bayan.
— Niño

Agad na pumunta ang tatay ni Boyet sa bahay-na-bato bitbit ang isang kahon ng mga gamit sa pagmemekaniko.

“Salamat, pinsan! Pa’no mo nalamang sira ang sasakyan ko?” tanong ng tatay ni Niño.

Tahimik lang na umalis ang tatay ni Boyet.

Lihim na nagsenyasan si Boyet at si Niño na ang ibig sabihin, “Ayos!”





Isang Linggo, pumunta ang pusa sa bahay-na-bato.

Sa kuwintas niyang pisi, may palawit na kapisasong papel.

Niño! May malaking problema si Tatay, walang masakyan para madala ang mga gulay sa Bayan.

— Boyet

Agad na pumarada sa harap ng bahay-na-kahoy ang sasakyan nina Niño.

“Salamat talaga, pinsan! Pa’no mo nalamang problema namin ang sasakyang magdadala ng mga gulay sa palengke?” tanong ng tatay ni Boyet habang inilululan ang mga talbos, talong, kamatis, at kalabasa.

“Aba itong si Niño!” sabi ng tatay ni Niño.

Di na nakapagsenyasan ang dalawang bata.

Mula noon, kahit tumaas at lumago na ang bakod sa pagitan ng bahay-na-kahoy at bahay-na-bato, malaya nang nakapaglalaro ang magpinsan.

Masarap na agahan at hapunan lagi ang alay ni Boyet at ni Niño sa karterong pusa!

Salamat sa pusang walang kamalay-malay na naging kartero ng dalawang batang magpinsan na nagawang mapagbati ang kanilang magpinsan ding mga tatay!



THE Cat Messenger

translated by
Annette A. Ferrer

There was a cat who was a messenger to two children.

He would go to the wooden house.

"How is our pet?" Boyet said as he fed the cat.

The cat liked to play with Boyet, who would hang a scrap of paper on his string collar.

--

He would go to the house of stone.

He also liked to play with Niño.

"How is our pet?" Niño said as he gave the cat some water to drink.

The cat liked playing with Niño, who also hung a scrap of paper onto his string collar.

Truth be told, the cat had two owners, Boyet and Niño, who found him while the two boys were playing in the wide yard shared by their two houses.



But Boyet and Niño had a big problem. There was a feud between their dads.

It all started when Boyet's father put up a fence between their lots.

Niño's father was an architect, and his mother was a teacher.

Meanwhile, Boyet's father was a mechanic, and his mother sold vegetables.

"You're making us feel like strangers," said Niño's father.

--

"No, it's not like that at all, cousin. It's for your security, too. Our lives are very different," said Boyet's father, while putting up the fence of madre de cacao branches between the wooden house and the house made of stone.

Since then, Boyet and Niño's fathers no longer spoke to each other.

"I don't want to see you going to the wooden house," said Niño's father.

Niño knew his father meant Boyet's house.

"Don't you ever go to the house of stone," said Boyet's father.

Boyet knew his father meant Niño's house.



And so, Boyet and Niño's mothers also stopped speaking to each other.

"There are many games you can play here at home, son," said Boyet's mom.

"Just watch your favorite TV shows," said Niño's mom.

Since the fence went up, the two boys could no longer play with each other.

They were dragged into their fathers' feud.

The exchange of delicious meals at dinner time stopped.

But the trading of messages did not, through their cat.

Every day, the cat messenger had an important job.

He would go to the wooden house.

On his string collar hung a scrap of paper.

Hey, Boyet! I'm here by the window.
Let's make paper airplanes.
– Niño

Boyet looked out the window to see Niño. And they made many paper airplanes. They must launch them far enough to reach each other's windows.

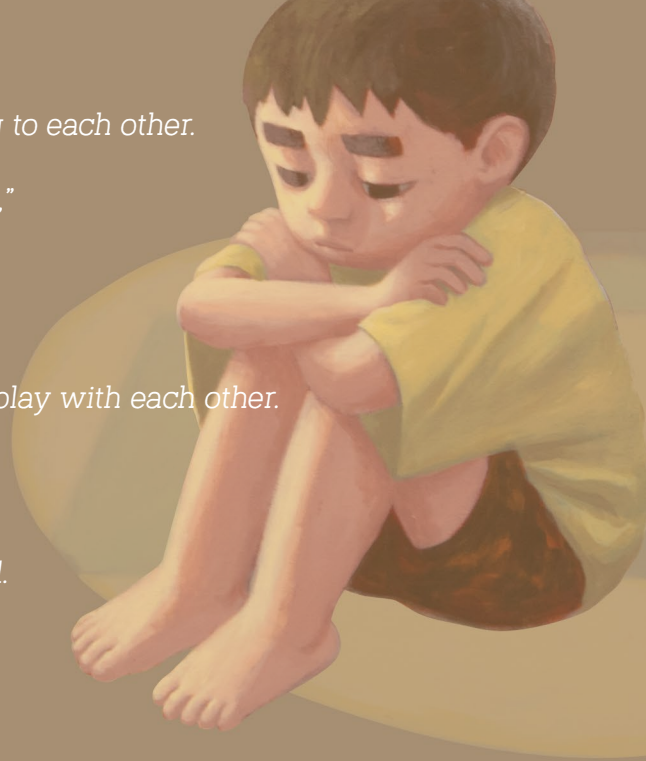
The cat messenger went to the house of stone.

On his string collar hung a scrap of paper.

Where are you, Niño? I'm here on the roof of our house. Let's fly kites.
– Boyet

And so, Boyet and Niño flew kites from their roofs. It was like their kites were chatting up in the skies.

The cat lay resting between the fence that now grew branches and leaves. He gazed happily at the two colorful kites that danced in the sky.



One time at dinner, the cat went to the wooden house.

On his string collar hung a scrap of paper.

Boyet, what are you eating? Tatay is here right now.
– Niño

Boyet crossed over to the house of stone with a bowl of pinakbet.

"Uncle, Tatay said to give you this," said Boyet when Niño's dad opened the door.

"Why, tell him thanks for me, Boyet!" said Niño's father.

--

Another evening at dinner, the cat walked over to the house of stone.

On his string collar hung a scrap of paper.

What are you eating, Niño? Dad is home now, too.
– Boyet

Niño crossed over to the wooden house with a bowl of chicken adobo.

"Uncle, some food—Tatay asked me to bring some to you," said Niño when Boyet's dad opened the door.

"Say I said thank you, Niño," said Boyet's father.



One Saturday, the cat went to the wooden house. On his string collar hung a scrap of paper.

Boyet, tell your dad our car won't start. We can't go into town.
– Niño

Boyet's dad quickly crossed over to the house of stone with a toolbox.

"Thanks, cousin! How did you know that our car wasn't working?" asked Niño's father.

Boyet's father left without a word.

Boyet and Niño secretly exchanged hand signs that meant, "Alright!"

--

One Sunday, the cat walked over to the house of stone. On his string collar hung a scrap of paper.

Niño, Tatay has a big problem. He has no way to bring the vegetables to town!
– Boyet

Right then, Niño's family's car pulled to a stop in front of the wooden house.

"Really, thank you, cousin! How did you know we had a problem bringing our vegetables to the market?" asked Boyet's dad while loading the car with kamote tops, eggplants, tomatoes, and squash.

"Why, because of Niño here!" said Niño's dad.

The two boys could no longer exchange secret signs.

Since then, even with the fence growing higher and thicker between the wooden house and the house made of stone, the two cousins were free to play with each other.

Boyet and Niño always had a delicious breakfast and a delicious dinner for their cat messenger.

Thanks to the cat who was completely unaware of his messenger duties for the two young cousins, they were able to make their fathers, who were also cousins, friends again!





Tungkol sa Manunulat

Si **GENARO R. GOJO CRUZ** ay ipinanganak sa Balut, Tondo, Manila ngunit lumaki sa Pastol, Muzon, San Jose del Monte City, Bulacan. Ito ang kaniyang ikatlong aklat-pambata (*Ang Dyip ni Mang Tomas*, 2009 at *Ipapasyal Namin si Lolo*, 2018) na inilathala ng Center for Art, New Ventures & Sustainable Development (CANVAS). Awtor siya ng mahigit sa 100 aklat para sa mga bata. Kasalukuyan siyang nagtuturo ng sining, panitikan at malikhaing pagsulat sa De La Salle University. Maaari siyang sulatan sa bayanghikahos@gmail.com.



Tungkol sa Ilustrador

May mahika sa mga mundong nililikha ni **MARK JEFFREY SANTOS (Mr. S)**. Parang mula sa panaginip ang mga lugar na ginagalawan ng mga tauhang nanlalaki ang mga mata sa mga higanteng nilalang sa paligid.

Nakilala siya bilang 'Mister Sasquatch' mula sa mga sining niyang pangkalye. Mula 2015, lumahok na siya sa maraming eksibit, sa loob at labas ng bansa, at nakapaglunsad na ng sampung solo exhibition.



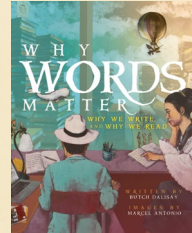
MORE BOOKS FROM CANVAS

Art and culture



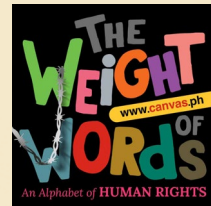
RENATO BARJA'S CHILDREN'S STORIES
a story about supporting one's sister

Retelling by Daniel Palma
Tayona and Gigo Alampay
Art by Renato Barja



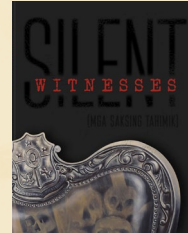
WHY WORDS MATTER
poetic reflection and lyrical art

Text by Butch Dalisay
Art by Marcel Antonio



THE WEIGHT OF WORDS: AN ALPHABET OF HUMAN RIGHTS
an alphabet of human rights

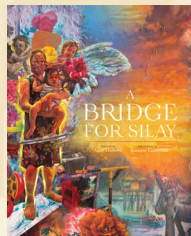
Editing by CANVAS
Art by various artists



SILENT WITNESSES
anecdotes of Martial Law survivors

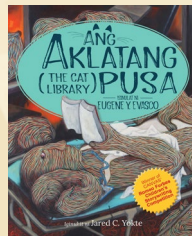
Retelling by Gigo A. Alampay
Art by Renz M. Baluyot

Community



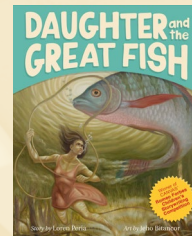
A BRIDGE FOR SLAY
the legend of Talim Island's Devil Bridge

Retelling by Agay Llanera
Art by Ronson Culibrina



ANG AKLATANG PUSA
a story about a librarian and her cats

Story by Eugene Y. Evasco
Art by Jared C. Yokte



DAUGHTER AND THE GREAT FISH
a girl's quest to feed her village

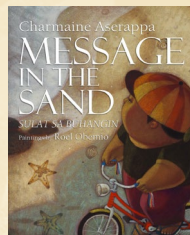
Story by Loren Peria
Art by Jeho Bitancor



KAKATOK-KATOK SA BAHAY NI BENOK
a community saves itself through unity

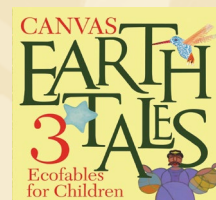
Story by Mon Sy
Art by Faye Abantao

Environment and nature



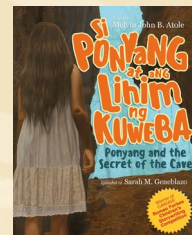
MESSAGE IN THE SAND
a boy is determined to save the seas

Story by Charmaine Aserappa
Art by Roel Obemio



EARTH TALES: 3 ECO-FABLES FOR CHILDREN
three eco-fables for children

Stories by unknown authors
Art by Ivey Olivares-Mellor, Plet Bolipata, Liza Flores

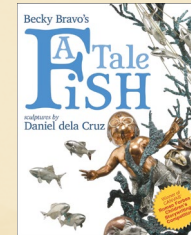


SI PONYANG AT ANG LIHIM NG KUWEBA
two friends discovering nature's wonders

Story by Melvin John B. Atole
Art by Sarah M. Geneblazo

Human rights

Family



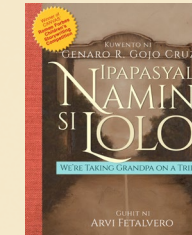
A FISH TALE
a tribute to the family we choose

Story by Becky Bravo
Art by Daniel dela Cruz



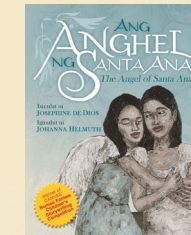
MY BIG SISTER CAN SEE DRAGONS
two sisters and their big imaginations

Story by Rocky Sanchez Tirona
Art by Liza Flores



IPAPASYAL NAMIN SI LOLO
a grandfather's trip down memory lane

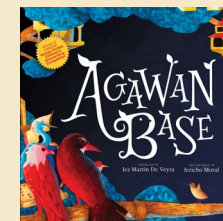
Story by Renato R. Gojo Cruz
Art by Arvi Fetalvero



ANG ANGHEL NG SANTA ANA
a story about supporting one's sister

Story by Josephine de Dios
Art by Johanna Helmuth

Self-care and self-discovery



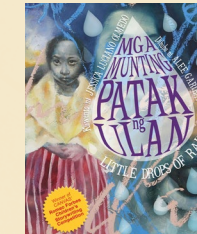
AGAWAN BASE
a bird's self-confidence takes flight

Story by Jez Martin De Veyra
Art by Jericho Moral



MY SUPER HANDS
part of a campaign on handwashing

Written by Annette A. Ferrer
Artworks by BLIC



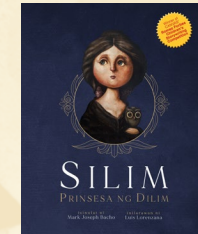
MGA MUNTING PATAK NG ULAN
a child decides on a dream

Story by Jessica Luciano Olmedo
Art by Alec Garibay



I LIKE WEARING RAINBOWS
a boy sees himself in many colors

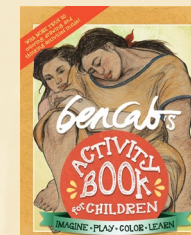
Written by Agay Llanera
Art by Lui Manaig



SILIM, PRINSESA NG DILIM
a diwata finds beauty in darkness

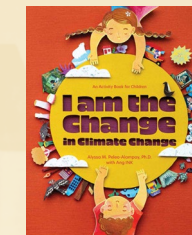
Written by Mark Joseph Bacho
Art by Luis Lorenzana

Activity Books



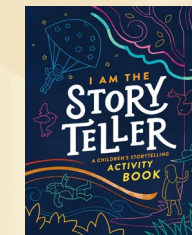
BENCAB'S ACTIVITY BOOK FOR CHILDREN

Activities written by Karen Joy Desamparado-Foronda
Art by Benedicto Cabrera



I AM THE CHANGE IN CLIMATE CHANGE
an activity book for young environmentalists

Written by Alyssa M. Peleo-Alampay, Ph.D.
Art by Ang I.N.K.



I AM THE STORYTELLER
a storytelling activity book

Educational direction by Ana Maria Margarita Salvador
Art by various artists



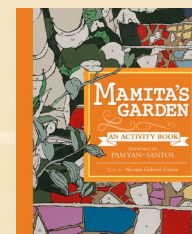
KARAPAT DAPAT
an activity book on the rights of the child

Text by May Tobias-Papa
Art by I.N.K.



LOOKING FOR JUAN
an activity book about the Philippines

Activities by Annette A. Ferrer
and Gigo A. Alampay
Art by John Paul Antido



MAMITA'S GARDEN: AN ACTIVITY BOOK
an activity book about plant care

Text by Nicolas Gabriel Garcia
Art by Pam Yan-Santos



SAFE SPACE
an activity book on internet safety

Text by Gigo Alampay
Design by Liza Flores, Abi Goy, Fran Alvarez, and Jamie Bauza



#YOUTHINK
a zine to combat fake news

Text by Gigo Alampay
Design by Studio Dialogo

More titles available at www.canvas.ph and www.lookingforjuan.com.

**The Center for Art, New Ventures
& Sustainable Development, CANVAS,**
a non-profit organization, works with the
creative community to promote
children's literacy, explore national identity,
and broaden public awareness of
Philippine art, culture, and the environment.



www.canvas.ph

For more information about CANVAS,
and to learn how you can help and participate,
send an email to info@canvas.ph.



Learn more about us at
www.canvas.ph



Buy our books online at
www.lookingforjuan.com



CANVAS.PH



canvasph.art



Looking For Juan



lookingforjuan



*an art for development project of www.canvas.ph

CANVAS' 1 Million Books for One Million Filipino Children Campaign

aims to inspire in children a love for reading
by donating its award-winning books to public schools, hospitals,
and disadvantaged communities throughout the country.

Imagine and believe.

A child with art and stories can change the world.

You can help us!

For more information, email info@canvas.ph,
visit our websites at www.canvas.ph or bit.ly/donatetocanvas,
or find us on social media:

**Facebook: Center for Art, New Ventures
and Sustainable Development (CANVAS.PH)**

Instagram: @canvasph.art

CANVAS, a non-profit organization,
works with the creative community to promote children's literacy,
explore national identity, and broaden public awareness
of Philippine art, culture, and the environment.



Tumaas ang bakod
sa pagitan ng dalawang bahay.
Tumaas din ang bakod
sa pagitan ng dalawang tatay.

Kahit magpinsan, nadamay:
si Boyet, sa bahay-na-kahoy,
at si Niño, sa bahay-na-bato.

Pero walang bakod na tatayo
sa pagitan ng magkalaro,
sa tulong ng pusang kartero.

CANVAS Stories. **Real Life Told Beautifully.**

CANVAS, a non-profit organization, works with the creative community to promote children's literacy, explore national identity, and broaden public awareness of Philippine art, culture, and the environment.

For more information, please visit www.canvas.ph
or follow us at www.facebook.com/canvas.ph.



www.canvas.ph

A child with art and stories can change the world.

ISBN 978-971-9689-68-3



9 789719 689683