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FRONT COVER

MARIA SIBOL: Ang Natatanging Batang Diwata

MARIA SIBOL: A One of a Kind Child Goddess

Kuwento ni / Story by

==

Guhit ni / Illustrations by

==

INSIDE FRONT COVER / BOOKPLATE

Ang aklat na ito ay kay / This book belongs to:

P.1 / TITLE PAGE

MARIA SIBOL: Ang Natatanging Batang Diwata

MARIA SIBOL: A One of a Kind Child Goddess

Kuwento ni / Story by

==

Guhit ni / Illustrations by

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P.3 / NOTES

PARA SA MGA MAGULANG, GURO, AT TAGAPAG-ALAGA NG BATA

Si Maria Sibol ay hindi katulad ng kanyang mga kapwa-diwata na sina Maria Makiling, Maria Cacao, at Maria Sinukuan. Hindi niya pangarap na maging diyosa ng kabundukan, mayroon siyang gustong gawing iba.

Maaari ninyong gamitin ang kuwentong ito bilang lunsaran ng talakayan sa mga batang mambabasa tungkol sa pagtuklas ng pansariling kakayahan at kabuluhan sa buhay.

Sa kuwentong ito, may nais gawin si Maria Sibol na hindi katulad ng mga pangarap ng kanyang mga kapwa-diwata. Nais niyang tuklasin ang hangganan ng kanyang kapangyarihan, nais niyang malaman ang kanyang papel at kabuluhan upang magkaroon siya ng silbi sa iba.

Sa ngalan ng determinasyon, hindi nawalan ng lakas ng loob si Maria Sibol na humingi ng permiso upang isakatuparan ang kanyang misyon. Sa kanyang paglalakbay ay natuklasan niya sa piling ng mga bata ang kanyang hinahanap—isang nakamahahalagang bagay sa buhay: ang haraya.

Si Maria Sibol ay isang magandang huwaran. Mahalaga sa isang nilalang, bata o matanda man, na malaman ang kanyang kakayahan at magkaroon ng Kalayaan na tuklasin iyon upang malaman din niya ang kanyang kabuluhan.

Sa pahina 32 ay mga gabay sa pag-aaral na maaaring gamitin upang mas maunawaan ng mga bata ang nilalaman ng kuwento at para maitimo sa kanilang isipan ang aral at halagahang ibig nitong iparating.

TO PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND CAREGIVERS

Maria Sibol is not like her fellow nymphs Maria Makiling, Maria Cacao, and Maria Sinukuan. She does not aspire to become a mountain goddess, she wants to do somethings else.

You can use this story as a springboard in discussing with young readers about discovering one's abilities and purpose in life.

In this story, Maria Sibol wants to do something that is different from what her fellow nymphs dream. She wants to discover the extent of her powers, she wants to know her role and significance in order to be of service to others.

In the name of determination, Maria Sibol does not lose courage to ask permission to pursue her mission. In her travels, she discovers among children what she is looking for—an important aspect in life: imagination.

Maria Sibol is a good role model. It is important for a person, young or old, to know his or her abilities in order for him or her to know his/her significance.

On page 32 are study guides that can help the children to fully comprehend the story and at the same time to instill in their minds the moral lesson and values it is trying to impart.

4+5

Noo'y mga batang diwata pa lamang sina Maria Makiling, Maria Cacao, Maria Sinukuan, at Maria Sibol. Nagsasanay pa lamang sila sa pagiging diyosang diwata. Hilig nila ang maglaro sa mga ilog at kakahuyan. Hilig din nila ang tumulong sa mga taong nangangailangan at may mabubuting kalooban. Nang dahil doo'y nakilala sila sa mundo ng kadiwatahan.

At that time Maria Makiling, Maria Cacao, Maria Sinukuan, and Maria Sibol were just young nymphs. They were still training to become goddesses. They were fond of playing in the rivers and woods. They were also inclined to assist people who needed help and possessed goodwill. Because of that, they became famous in the realm of nymphs, fairies, and goddesses.

6 + 7

Sa kanilang apat, si Maria Sibol ang pinakapilya.

Pinapahiran niya ng putik sa mukha si Maria Cacao. "Ayan, mukha ka ng hinog na cacao!" Ipagpapatuloy pa niya ang kaniyang pang-aasar.

Itinatago rin niya ang paboritong gintong sandok ni Maria Makiling. "Pahiram lang naman, isasauli ko rin!" Susundan iyon ng kaniyang mga hagikhik habang nagtatatalon sa mga sanga ng puno.

Sinusungkit din niya nang walang paalam ang mga tanim na mangga ni Maria Sinukuan. "Para titikman lang, akala mo nama'y kaysarap!" Mabilis siyang sasakay sa hangin hanggang sa 'di na siya mahabol.

"Wala kang katulad. Napakapilya mo talaga, Maria Sibol!"

Walang ibang magawa ang kaniyang mga kaibigang diwata kundi ang magbuntong-hininga.

Among the four of them, Maria Sibol was the most mischievous.

She would smear Maria Cacao's face with mud. "There, you look like a ripe cacao now." Then she would continue with her teasing.

She would also hide Maria Makiling's favorite gold ladle. "I'm just borrowing it, I will return it!" She would follow this up with an outburst of held-back laughter while jumping on the tree branches.

She would also pick, with a hook attached to a pole, the fruits of Maria Sinukuan's mango trees—without permission. "I just want to taste it, you think they're too delicious?" Then she would quickly ride on the wind until she couldn't be chased anymore.

"You are one of a kind. You are really very mischievous, Maria Sibol!" Her nymph friends could do nothing but sigh.

8+9

Simbilis ng kidlat na nakararating sa kapulungan ng mga diwata ang mga reklamo tungkol kay Maria Sibol. Agad siyang ipinatatawag ng mga ito upang pangaralan at minsang bigyan ng parusa. Gayunpaman, tila walang kahirap-hirap niyang nalalampasan ang mga iyon.

"Kakaiba talaga 'tong si Maria Sibol!" wika ng mga diwata.

"Kagalang-galang na Punong Diwata, hiling ko po sana'y manatili na lang ako bilang isang batang diwata," pakiusap ni Maria Sibol sa Punong Diwata nang minsang ipinatawag ang lahat ng mga diwata. "Sa palagay ko po kasi'y kaysarap maging habambuhay na bata," dagdag pa niya.

As fast as lightning, the complaints against Maria Sibol would reach the assembly of the nymphs. She would be summoned at once by the nymphs to teach her a lesson and at one time given due punishment. However, it seemed she just went through them without any difficulty.

"This Maria Sibol is really unusual!" said the nymphs.

"Honorable Head Goddess, my request is for me to remain a child nymph," Maria Sibol requested from the Head Goddess when at one time all the nymphs were summoned. "I think it would be nice to remain a child all your life," she added.

10

"Alam mo namang kahit na diwata kayo'y hindi kayo maaaring manatiling bata. Iyon ang nakasaad sa batas ng kadiwatahan," paliwanag ng Punong Diwata.

"Alam ko po 'yon pero gusto ko po talagang maging kauna-unahang diwatang nanatiling bata," paglalambing ni Maria Sibol.

"Ayaw mo bang magkaroon ng mas malakas na kapangyarihan?" tanong ng Punong Diwata. "Kung mas matanda ka'y mas marami kang magagawa. Mas malakas ang kapangyarihan mo."

“You know that despite being nymphs, you can't remain as children forever. That is what is stated in the law governing nymphs, fairies, and goddesses,” explained the Head Goddess.

“I know that, but I'd really like to be the first nymph to become a child forever,” said Maria Sibol affectionately

“Don't you want to possess stronger powers?” asked the Head Goddess. “If you get older, there would be a lot more things you can do. Your powers will be a lot stronger.”

11

“May kakaibang lakas at kapangyarihan din naman po ang pagiging isang batang diwata, 'di po ba?” nakangiti pa ring pakiusap ni Maria Sibol.

Natawa na lamang ang Punong Diwata. “Kung iyan ang iyong nais, sige. Pagbibigyan kita. Pero kung ganoon, kailangan ka pa ring bantayan ng iba pang mga diwata.”

Sa sobrang tuwa ni Maria Sibol ay napayakap pa siya sa Punong Diwata.

“Being a child nymph has also its own strengths and powers that are unique, isn't it?” pleaded Maria Sibol, still smiling.

The Head Goddess could do nothing but laugh. “If that's what you want, go ahead. I'll grant your wish. But if that is the case, you still need to be looked after by the other nymphs.”

Overjoyed, Maria Sibol hugged the Head Goddess.

12+13

Nang minsang ipinatawag muli ang mga sinasanay na diwata, humiling muli si Maria Sibol sa Punong Diwata. “Maaari po ba akong mamuhay kasama ng mga tao? Gagamitin ko po ang kapangyarihan ko para pagsilbihan sila.”

“Alam mo namang ang mga diwata ay mga itinakdang maging tagapangalaga ng kalikasan. Iyan ang nakasaad sa batas ng kadiwatahan,” paliwanag ng Punong Diwata.

When once again the nymphs being trained were summoned, Maria Sibol once again asked a favor from the Head Goddess. “Can I live among human beings? I will use my powers to be of service to them.”

“You know very well that nymphs have been designated to protect nature. That is what is stated in the laws that govern nymphs, fairies, and goddesses,” explained the Head Goddess.

14+15

“Pero kayrami na pong mga diwata ang gumagawa ng mga 'yon. Hindi ko naman po kalilimutan ang kalikasan. Gusto ko lang din pong sumubok ng iba. At saka, kasama rin naman po ang mga tao sa kalikasan, 'di po ba?”

Muli, napaisip ang Punong Diwata. Parang mga kuliglig naman ang bulungan ng iba pang mga diwata. “Kung iyan ang iyong nais, sige. Pag-uusapan namin ng kapulungan kung paano ka mapagbibigyan sa hiling mo.”

Nagtatalon sa tuwa si Maria Sibol at ang tatlo niyang matatalik na kaibigang diwata.

“But there are already a lot of nymphs doing those. I will never forget about nature. I only want to try other things. Besides, human beings are also a part of nature, aren't they?”

Again, the Head Goddess thought deeply. The other nymphs' whispers buzzed like crickets. “If that's what you wish, go ahead. The assembly will discuss how to grant your wish.”

Maria Sibol and her three nymph best friends jumped with joy.

16+17

Dumating na ang takdang-panahon ng pagpili ng mga diwata sa mga lugar na kanilang pangangalagaan. Pinili ni Maria Makiling ang isang bundok sa Laguna, na naglao'y tinawag na Bundok Makiling. Ang Bundok Lantoy naman sa Cebu ang napili ni Maria Cacao. Naibigan namang pangalagaan ni Maria Sinukuan ang Bundok Arayat sa Pampanga.

“Ikaw naman, Maria Sibol, anong lugar ang gusto mong pangalagaan?” tanong ng Punong Diwata.

“Kagalang-galang na Punong Diwata, hiling ko po sana'y hindi lamang ako mananatili sa isang lugar para pangalagaan,” sabi ni Maria Sibol.

The designated time for the nymphs to choose their respective areas to watch over and protect arrived. Maria Makiling chose a mountain in Laguna, which in time came to be called Mount Makiling. Mount Lantoy in Cebu was the one chosen by Maria Cacao. Maria Sinukuan was inclined to look after Mount Arayat in Pampanga.

“And you, Maria Sibol, which place would you like to take charge of?” asked the Head Goddess.

“Honorable Head Goddess, may I request that I shall not be confined to one place to look after,” said Maria Sibol.

18+19

Nagtaka ang lahat sa sinabi ni Maria Sibol, lalong-lalo na ang Punong Diwata. “Bakit naman, Maria Sibol?” Napakunot pa ang noo ng Punong Diwata.

“Gusto ko po sanang maglakbay at tuklasin pa ang tunay na taglay ng aking kapangyarihan. Gusto ko rin pong subukan ang ginagawa ng mga mas nakatatandang diwata na malayang nakapaglalakbay,” matapang na paliwanag ni Maria Sibol.

Everyone, especially the Head Goddess, was puzzled by what Maria Sibol said. "Why is that, Maria Sibol?" The Head Goddess' brows even furrowed.

"I wish to travel and discover what my powers truly possess. I also want to try what is being done by the elder nymphs who can freely travel," explained Maria Sibol courageously.

20 + 21

Mas malakas ang naging bulong-bulungan ng iba pang mga diwata.

"Hindi natin masisiguro ang kaligtasan niya sa mga mortal!"

"Naku, maraming masasamang-loob sa kagubatan at kanayunan!"

"Ay, maniwala kayo sa akin, ikapapahamak niya 'yan!"

Nag-isip nang malalim ang Punong Diwata. "Kung hindi natin pagbibigyan si Maria Sibol, paano natin malalaman ang kaniyang tunay na kakayahan bilang isang diwata?"

Sa huli, kahit may pagdududa ay pumayag na ang kapulungan. Subalit nakabantay pa rin ang ibang diwata kay Maria Sibol.

The buzz among the other nymphs was louder than ever.

"We cannot guarantee her safety among the mortals!"

"There are a lot of bad human beings in the forests and villages!"

"Hey, believe me, that will bring her trouble!"

The Head goddess thought deeply. "If we don't give in to Maria Sibol, how can we tell the real extent of her abilities as a nymph?"

In the end, despite doubts, the assembly gave in. But the other nymphs still had to look after Maria Sibol's safety.

22+23

Nagsimula ang paglalakbay ni Maria Sibol sa iba't ibang kagubatan. Tumawid siya sa mga isla, dalampasigan at sa mga nayon. Hanggang isang araw, narating niya ang isang palaruang-burol na may malulungkot na bata.

Bago pa man niya lapitan ang mga batang iyon ay nagpalit muna siya ng anyo bilang isang mortal na batang babae. Mayroon siyang morenang kutis, bilugang mga mata, maalong-itim na buhok, at maliit na pangangatawan; kahawig halos ng iba pang mga bata.

Maria Sibol's travels in different forests began. She crossed between islands, sea shores, and villages. Until one day, she reached a playground on a hill with sad-looking children.

Before she approached the children, she transformed herself into a human little girl. She had brown complexion, round eyes, black wavy hair, and a small frame, very much like other kids.

24+25

“Bakit kayo malungkot?” tanong ni Maria Sibol nang makalapit siya sa mga bata.

“Nalaro na kasi namin ang lahat ng puwedeng laruin. Gusto sana naming makaisip ng bago,” paliwanag ng isang batang matamlay.

Nag-isip si Maria Sibol kung ano ang maaari niyang gawin. Ilang saglit pa’y kinuwentuhan niya ang malulungkot na bata ng kung ano-anong kuwento ng paglalakbay at pagtuklas. Natuwa ang mga bata at sabay-sabay pa nila itong ginawang bagong laro at dula.

“Why are you so sad?” asked Maria Sibol after she had joined the children.

“We have played every game that can be played. We would like to come up with a new one,” explained one of the kids who was listless.

Maria Sibol thought of what she can do. After a while she told the sad kids some stories of travel and discovery. The children were delighted and together they turned it into a new game and play.

26+27

Ginawa nilang kahanga-hangang kaharian ang matatayog na puno at doon nagtagu-taguan. Nakipagpatintero sila sa mga sumasalakay na hangin na animo’y mga kawal. Ginawa nilang malawak na karagatan ang damuhan at doon nag-imbento ng mga bagong kuwento at kanta. Lumikha sila ng isang masayang mundo na sila lamang ang nakauunawa.

“Alam ko na ang gusto kong maging!” Natuklasan ni Maria Sibol ang nais niyang gawin bilang isang diwata. Ang kaniyang kapangyarihan ay ang tulongan ang mga bata na magpasibol ng haraya sa kanilang isipan.

They turned the tall trees into an amazing kingdom and there they played hide-and-peek. They played tag with the wind that was charging forward like soldiers. They turned the spacious grassland into a sea and there made up new stories and songs. They created a happy world that only they could understand.

“I know now what I’d want to be!” Maria Sibol discovered what she wanted to become as a goddess. Her powers would be to help children to develop imagination in their minds.

28+29

“Napakasaya ng mga ginawa natin!” sabi ng isang batang lalaki.

“Oo nga. Salamat...ano nga pala ang pangalan mo?”

Nang lumingon ang isang batang babae ay hindi na nila nakita si Maria Sibol. Dahil pa rin sa kapilyahan, nagtago pala ito sa mga puno at lihim na humahagikhik.

Nagpasya si Maria Sibol na ipagpatuloy ang paglalakbay at palaganapin pa ang haraya, sa mga bata man o matanda.

“What we did are pure happiness!” a boy said.

“Yes, indeed. Thank you... by the way, what's your name?”

When a girl turned to look, they no longer saw Maria Sibol. Still because of mischief, she had hidden behind the trees and was secretly laughing softly.

Maria Sibol decided to continue with her travels and spread the news about imagination, to young and old alike.

30+31

Nakarating sa Punong Diwata at sa kapulungan ng mga diwata ang tagumpay ni Maria Sibol. 'Di nagtagal natutuhan nilang pagkatiwalaan ang natatanging batang diwata, sa nais nitong maging, na iba sa nais gawin ng ibang diwata. Hinirang nila si Maria Sibol na Diwata ng Haraya, na sumisibol sa isipan ng mga batang malayang mag-isip at lumikha.

Walang tala sa mga aklat ang kuwento tungkol kay Maria Sibol. Nananatili ang kuwento sa isip ng mga batang nakakasalamuha ni Maria Sibol, kahit hindi nila nalaman ang pangalan ng natatanging batang diwata.

Maria Sibol's success reached the knowledge of the Head Goddess and the assembly of nymphs. Not long afterwards, they learned to trust the unique child goddess, her dream of what to become, which was different from what other nymphs wanted to be. They elected Maria Sibol as the Goddess of Imagination, that which sprouted in the minds of young people who were free to think and create.

There are no records of the story of Maria Sibol in books. The story remains in the minds of the children who at one time or another were in the company of Maria Sibol, despite them not knowing the name of the unique child goddess.

PAGE 32

(LAMPARA BOOKS PROFILE)

MGA GABAY SA PAG-AARAL / STUDY GUIDES

1. Sino ang pangunahing tauhan sa kuwento? Ilarawan siya ayon sa pagkakaguhit sa kanya sa aklat na ito. / **Who is the main character in the story? Describe her according to how she is illustrated in this book.**

2. Sino ang tatlo pang batang diwata na nakasabay ni Maria Sibol sa pagsasanay para maging diyosang diwata? / **Who are the other three nymphs who were with Maria Sibol as they trained to become nymph goddesses?**

3. Ano ang naging unang kahilingan ni Maria Sibol kay Punong Diwata? Ano ang kanyang dahilan kung bakit iyon ang kanyang hiniling? / **What was Maria Sibol's first request from the Head Goddess? What was her reason for requesting it?**

4. Ano ang pangalawang kahilingan ni Maria Sibol? Bakit pinagbigyan ng Punong Diwata ang kanyang kahilingan? / **What was Maria Sibol's second request? Why did the Head Goddess grant her request?**

5. Saan natagpuan ni Maria Sibol ang mga bata? Bakit malungkot ang mga bata? / **Where did Maria Sibol find the children? Why were the children sad?**

6. Ano ang ginawa ni Maria Sibol para mapasaya ang mga bata? Ano ang naging epekto niyon sa mga bata? / **What did Maria Sibol do that made the children happy? How did it affect the children?**

7. Sa pagkukuwento sa mga bata, anong mahalagang kaalaman o karunungan ang naibahagi ni Maria Sibol? / **In telling stories to the children, what important learning or knowledge did Maria Sibol impart?**

8. Paano napagtanto ni Maria Sibol kung ano ang gusto niyang maging bilang batang diwata? / **How did Maria realize what she wanted to become as a child goddess?**

9. Kung ikaw ay isang diyosang diwata na kagaya ni Maria Sibol, anong makabuluhang bagay ang gagawin mo gamit ng iyong kapangyarihan? / **If you were a nymph goddess like Maria Sibol, what significant thing would you do with the use of your powers?**

10. Ano-anong aral at halagahan ang hatid ng kuwento? / **What are the lessons and moral values derived from the story?**

INSIDE BACK COVER

==writer's profile/photo

==illustrator's profile/photo

BACK COVER

MARIA SIBOL: Ang Natatanging Batang Diwata

MARIA SIBOL: A One of a Kind Child Goddess

Si Maria Sibol ay isang batang diwata na hindi katulad ng kanyang mga kapwa-diwata na sina Maria Makiling, Maria Cacao, at Maria Sinukuan na nagsasanay na maging diyosa ng mga kabundukan.

Gusto ni Maria Sibol na maglakbay upang tuklasin ang hangganan ng kanyang kapangyarihan. Sa mga malulungkot na batang natagpuan niya sa isang burol, nagkuwento siya ng tungkol sa paglalakbay at pagtuklas.

Alamin sa kuwentong ito kung ano ang isang mahalagang kaalaman na natuklasan ni Maria Sibol na magpahanggang ngayon ay naibabahagi pa rin niya sa mga bata at matanda.

Maria Sibol is a child nymph who is different from her fellow nymphs Maria Makiling, Maria Cacao, and Maria Sinukuan who are training to become mountain goddesses.

Maria Sibol wants to travel in order to discover the extent of her powers. To the sad children she finds on a hill, she tells stories of travels and discovery.

Find out in this story a very significant knowledge Maria Sibol discovers,
which until now she is imparting to young and old alike.

colophon
LAMPARA BOOKS
Manila, Philippines

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